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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

AUGUST 24, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 223

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Jan Hansen, left, receives a plaque of appreciation from County Judge Mark Barr commemorating her work with the 2010 Census during Monday's meeting of the Howard County Commissioners Court. Hansen was a vital part of the local census effort.

First day enrollment up at BSISD

Coahoma, Forsan report slight decreases overall

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

It was an up and down day — literally — when assessing first-day enrollment figures for Howard County public schools.

Big Spring Independent School District's opening-day enrollment was up significantly, while both Coahoma and Forsan ISDs' numbers were down, compared to the first day of school last year.

BSISD reported 3,725 students enrolled for classes Monday, compared to 3,649 on the first day of school in 2009.

Enrollment by campus was as follows:

- Bauer Elementary — 271 students, compared to 303 this time last year.
- Kentwood Elementary — 183 students, down 18 from the start of the the last school year.
- Marcy Elementary — 478, compared to 512 last year.
- Moss Elementary — 339 students,

See **STUDENTS**, Page 3

County to Senior Center: Try to attain meals grant

Also supports efforts of Water Control Improvement District to apply for funds.

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners gave their blessings for officials at the Big Spring Senior Center to chase a state grant that would help fund its mobile meals program, but not before at least one commissioner expressed some disappointment for the area the program covers.

Michael Mahaney, coordinator from the Senior Center, met with

commissioners Monday morning to request a resolution supporting efforts to attain the grant, which is part of a program presented by the Texas Department of Agriculture and is expected to disperse \$10 million throughout the state in 2011.

According to Mahaney, the grant would provide approximately 25 cents for each meal delivered to homebound elders, based on the number of Howard County residents 60 years or older. The program currently reaches more than 100 local homes each day.

And while the court readily offered its aid in procuring the grant, Precinct 4 Commissioner

Gary Simer was unhappy with the fact the mobile meals program currently delivers only within the city limits, making it unavailable to many of the needy county residents outside municipal lines.

The county currently has an agreement with the city of Big Spring to supplement the cost of the senior center each year to the tune of \$75,000, an agreement reached several years ago when direction of the center has handed over to the city by county officials.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the amount of money the

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

Change in the wind

The Associated Press

A significant change is coming for Texas after a day of record heat in many parts of the state, according to the National Weather Service.

A cold front was expected to move through the Panhandle today, bringing milder temperatures to the region before the front moves on through the state to break the most intense heat wave of the Texas summer so far.

Record high temperatures were reported Monday in many Texas cities — the highest being 110 at Alliance Airport in far north Fort Worth.

That was to change today, with few 100 degree temperatures expected. Instead, afternoon highs in the low 90s and upper 80s were expected in north, north central and

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www.bigspringherald.com

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Alon USA announces filing of registration statement

Special to the Herald

DALLAS — Alon USA Energy Inc. announced today that it has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission with respect to a \$40 million rights offering of transferable subscription rights to subscribe for up to 4

million shares of the company's 8.75 percent Series A convertible preferred stock.

Alon plans to distribute to its common shareholders transferable rights to subscribe for and purchase up to an aggregate of 4 million shares of its preferred stock at an exercise price of \$10.00 per share.

Officials said it is currently anticipated that the company will distribute one subscription right to purchase one share of preferred stock for every 13.55 shares of common stock held as of the record date for the rights offering. The sub-

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Obituaries

James E. Cape

James E. Cape, 82, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 22, 2010, at his residence. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2010, at the First Presbyterian Church.



He was born May 2, 1928, in Ennis and married Margaret Fariss.

He had lived in Big Spring since 1953. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, a member of the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce where he served as an Ambassador, a member of the Industrial Foundation, the Rotary Club, the Big Spring Model Aircraft Association, served on the Big Spring Independent School Board and was a board member of the Samaritan Counseling Center.

James was a meticulous person, had an extensive model collection and loved flying and building model aircraft.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Cape of Big Spring; two daughters, Amy Christian of Big Spring and Susan Wooldridge and husband Ted of Amarillo; five grandchildren, Clark Wooldridge, Paul Wooldridge and wife Colleen, Kyle Wooldridge and wife Amber, Matthew Christian and wife Holly, and Megan Vizcaino and husband Andrew; and five great-grandchildren, Mallory, Phinley, Phoeby and Cape Wooldridge, and Noah Vizcaino.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George Taylor and Hazel Cape; his stepfather, Joseph Thomas Cape; one daughter; one sister, Elizabeth Cape; and one brother, Gordon Taylor Sr.

The family suggests memorials be made to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo 79174-0001.

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

Paid obituary

Freda Blythe

Freda Blythe, 39, of Midland died Friday, Aug. 20, 2010, at Hospice of Midland Inpatient Unit. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.



Wednesday followed by a vigil service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Midland at 1 p.m. Thursday with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Freda was born Feb. 25, 1971, in Big Spring to Fred and Isabel Garza of Lenorah. She had been employed by the Midland County Sheriff's Office for 15 years.

Freda is survived by her parents, Fred and Isabel Garza of Lenorah; three brothers, Fred Garza Jr. of Midland, Joel Garza and wife Lisa of Big Spring, and Jimmy Garza of Lenorah; two nephews; and three nieces.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be made to St. Jude Tribute Program, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, Tenn. 38148-0142.

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

Charles A. Hood

Charles A. Hood, 82, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 22, 2010, in a Lubbock hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26, 2010, at the Chapel at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Joel Miller officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

He was born July 31, 1928, and married Dot Cauble on Feb. 18, 1956, in Big Spring. She preceded him in death Feb. 25, 1997.

He had worked at the Cosden Refinery for a number of years and then owned and operated Charles Hood House Moving for more than 30 years, until retiring. He was a member of First Baptist Church, Staked Plains Masonic Lodge #598, A.F. & A.M., and a member of the Suez Shrine Temple.

He is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

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

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Sugar Brown

Sugar Brown, 80, of Big Spring died Monday, Aug. 23, 2010, at Parkview Nursing and Rehab Center. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park with Tripp Gibbs officiating.



She was born Jan. 25, 1930, to Pauline and Guy Horn in Stanton. She married L.J. Brown on June 11, 1949. She worked for a number of years as a waitress at the Wagon

Wheel and truck stop. She has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring and a Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, L.J. Brown of Big Spring; one son, Ricky Brown and wife Angela of Big Spring; three brothers, Paul Horn and Claudie Horn of Big Spring, and Larry Horn of Austin; three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Everett Horn; and one sister, Dorothy Hannabass.

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

Billy N. 'Scottie' Scott Sr.

Billy N. "Scottie" Scott Sr., 81, of Big Spring died Monday, Aug. 23, 2010, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 26, 2010, at Baptist Temple Church with the Rev. Jim Wilkerson and the Rev. Jeff Stehle officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

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

Police blotter

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

- GERALD FRED GREEN JR., 45, of 214 Benton Rd., was arrested Monday on a charge of theft.
- LAQUANTHUS LAMAR RANDALL, 20, of 2524 Hunter, was arrested Monday on warrants for driving without safety belt and bail jumping - failure to appear.
- ROSS LOYD MCCORD, 43, of 1602 Harding, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- JENNIFER ANN METCALF, 35, of 201 Colorado, was arrested Monday on a warrant for speeding.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 1200 block of S. Benton.
In the 300 block of E. 19th Street.
In the 600 block of Circle Drive.

Sheriff

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

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

- KRISTAL DYANNE HERRERA, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of no valid inspection certificate.
- GERALD GREEN JR., 45, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- AUBREY STEVEN MCDONALD, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for delivery of a controlled substance.
- LAQUANTHUS LAMAR RANDALL, 20, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on warrants for no safety belt and violation of a promise to appear.
- JUAN MATILDE RODRIGUEZ II, 22, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for criminal mischief.
- ROSS LOYD MCCORD, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous con-

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 8/25	Thu 8/26	Fri 8/27	Sat 8/28	Sun 8/29
82/62 Intervals of clouds and sunshine.	84/64 A few clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	88/66 More sun than clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	89/69 Plenty of sun. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 60s.	89/70 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:19 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:18 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	83	66	t-storm	Kingsville	99	75	pt sunny
Amarillo	78	51	sunny	Livingston	98	69	pt sunny
Austin	95	71	t-storm	Longview	92	71	pt sunny
Beaumont	96	72	pt sunny	Lubbock	80	55	sunny
Brownsville	97	76	pt sunny	Lufkin	97	70	pt sunny
Brownwood	90	68	t-storm	Midland	85	64	t-storm
Corpus Christi	97	77	pt sunny	Raymondville	99	76	pt sunny
Corsicana	92	70	t-storm	Rosenberg	98	73	pt sunny
Dallas	93	72	t-storm	San Antonio	99	74	t-storm
Del Rio	92	74	t-storm	San Marcos	97	72	pt sunny
El Paso	86	66	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	94	71	rain
Fort Stockton	82	63	t-storm	Sweetwater	82	63	t-storm
Gainesville	89	68	rain	Tyler	92	70	pt sunny
Greenville	92	69	rain	Weatherford	89	69	t-storm
Houston	98	74	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	86	63	rain

viction or suspension.

- JENNIFER ANN METCALF, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, violation of a promise to appear and speeding.
- JONATHON ERIC LANDRY, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property.
- FABYON HARRIS, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property.
- PHILLIP RANDLE JACKSON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property.
- CURTIS DOUGLAS DUGGAN, 45, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 3300 block of E. FM 700. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of 17th Street and Canyon. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 8700 block of W. FM 846. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Second Street and Reynolds. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Benton. One person was transported to SMMC.

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State briefs

Man pleads guilty over UT grad's death

AUSTIN (AP) — A plea agreement means life in prison for a man who admitted killing a University of Texas graduate in a 2009 shooting at a residence near campus. James Richard "Ricky" Thompson on Monday pleaded guilty to murder in the slaying of 22-year-old Stacy Barnett. Also killed was Barnett's boyfriend, 21-year-old John Goosey at a condominium they shared. Both victims were from the Houston area. Investigators have said that Goosey was a drug dealer and Thompson owed him money. Thompson, who also was accused of killing Goosey, has cooperated in the investigation. Two other men were charged last week with capital murder over the double killings.

Video shows man arrested by police

FORT WORTH (AP) — A man arrested on suspicion of DWI is seeking a settlement after Fort Worth police video shows him with his hands restrained behind his back when he is slammed to the floor. The Fort Worth City Council was expected to consider a settlement agreement with 40-year-old Carey Cass Hudson. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reports Hudson suffered a broken nose, a concussion and has brain damage from the 2008 in-

cident at a holding facility. Driving while intoxicated charges were later dropped. Court documents indicate an officer accused of mishandling Hudson be issued a written reprimand and ordered to seek anger-management counseling. Police Chief Jeffrey Halstead, who took office after the incident, says the officer's actions are "disturbing" and he's held the officer as accountable as he can.

Agreement for Atmos to replace steel lines

DALLAS (AP) — A proposed settlement means Atmos (AT'mus) Energy Corp. would replace about 100,000 steel lines that provide natural gas to customers in parts of north Texas. Atmos spokesman Ray Granado (gruh-NAH'-doh) on Tuesday told The Associated Press that the company is constantly replacing lines and the goal is to "further enhance public safety in the state." Atmos initially is expected to charge residential customers 15 cents a month to pay for replacing the steel lines, which can corrode and shift. The agreement would lead to installation of plastic natural gas delivery lines. The agreement announced Monday faces approval from affected cities, including Fort Worth, Plano, Richardson and Arlington. Lawyers for the cities helped negotiate the settlement.

ERCOT reports record peak electricity demand

AUSTIN (AP) — Temperatures of up to 110 degrees caused the fourth peak electricity demand record in as many weeks on the state's biggest electrical grid. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas operates that grid, which covers most of the state. An ERCOT statement said peak demand reached a record of 65,715 megawatts between 4 and 5 p.m. Monday.

STUDENTS

Continued from Page 1
compared to 320 last year.

- Washington Elementary — 372 students, down 12 from the start of school last year.
- Goliad Intermediate — 585 students, up 22 from this time last year.
- Big Spring Junior High — 505 students, down from 514 this time last year.
- Big Spring High

School — 963 students, compared to 936 at the start of school last year. Coahoma ISD, which was hit with an unexpected enrollment drop last year, opened the new year with 744 students, 27 fewer than the first day of school last year, Superintendent Randy Brown said. "Monday's enrollment figures were almost exactly where we finished last year," he said. Elementary enroll-

ment was 414, exactly the same as a year ago, compared to 124 at the junior high (up six from last year) and 206 (down 33 from last year) at the high school. Brown warned not to read too much into first-day figures, as they will fluctuate significantly in the coming weeks. "Sometimes later in the fall, hopefully we will hit our peak," Brown said. "It won't be until after Labor Day that we get a good idea

of where we're at." Forsan ISD also experienced a slight drop in enrollment compared to this time last year. FISD Superintendent Randy Johnson said the district enrolled 686 students for the first day of classes Monday, down 11 from the start of the previous school year. Elementary enrollment was 316, compared to 326 at the start of last year, while the secondary campus reported 370 students, down just

one from this time last year. Johnson also cautioned against drawing too many conclusions from the early enrollment numbers. "Our numbers have been pretty stable the past several years... so I wouldn't read too much into this," he said. *Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com*

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Freda A. Blythe, 39, died Friday. Visitation will be from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday with a Vigil Service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Midland at 1 p.m. Thursday with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. Belen Nunez Gonzales, 74, died Sunday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. Sugar Brown, 80, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

WEATHER

Continued from Page 1
rolling plains, Concho Valley and Big Bend of West Texas. In

some places, those highs were to be reached around midday. Highs in the low 80s with a 30 to 50 percent chance of rain were expected in the Panhandle and South Plains. A 20 percent chance of rain was expected in

north Texas. Skies will be partly cloudy tonight, except for mostly cloudy skies from Waco to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. A 20 percent chance of overnight showers were expected in the Pecos Riv-

er and Rio Grande valleys of West and south Texas. Lows in the upper 70s were expected to be limited to south Texas, with mid-50s in the Panhandle, low 60s in the South Plains and upper 60s and low 70s elsewhere.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1
county provides annually for the senior center isn't expected to change, regardless of whether or not the local agency is able to receive

the state grant. Also Monday, officials with the Water Control Improvement District met with commissioners to ask for support in efforts to apply for a grant to help improve the water lines in the Sand Springs area. "This grant would

provide funding to help maintain and improve the water lines in the Sand Springs area," Barr said. "The application comes from the Water Control Improvement District, which has applied for this same grant in past years, but been unable to get it. It's

hard to say if they will be able to get it this time around. However, they need the county's OK to be able to apply for it." The court approved the application for the grant on a unanimous vote. *Contact Staff Writer*

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

ALON

Continued from Page 1
scription rights are expected to trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ALJ RT.

ers who fully exercise their basic subscription right will also be able to exercise an over-subscription right, subject to the availability and proportional allocation of shares of preferred stock among holders exercising this right. Alon intends to apply to list the preferred stock on the New York Stock Exchange. If approved for listing, trading of the preferred stock is expected to begin shortly after the expiration of the rights offering.

registration statement effective. The prospectus, company officials said, will contain important information about the rights offering and the terms of the preferred stock. Shareholders are urged to read the prospectus carefully when it becomes available. The registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the SEC, company

officials noted, but it has not yet become effective. Securities cannot be sold, nor can offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective.

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Each whole subscription right will entitle the holder to purchase one new share of preferred stock at the exercise price. Rights hold-

ers who fully exercise their basic subscription right will also be able to exercise an over-subscription right, subject to the availability and proportional allocation of shares of preferred stock among holders exercising this right. Alon intends to apply to list the preferred stock on the New York Stock Exchange. If approved for listing, trading of the preferred stock is expected to begin shortly after the expiration of the rights offering. Alon has received an indication of interest from its majority shareholder, Alon Israel Oil Company Ltd., to invest up to \$30 million through participation in the rights offering. Rights offering materials, including a prospectus and other items necessary to exercise the rights, will be mailed to shareholders following the SEC declaring the

registration statement effective. The prospectus, company officials said, will contain important information about the rights offering and the terms of the preferred stock. Shareholders are urged to read the prospectus carefully when it becomes available. The registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the SEC, company

officials noted, but it has not yet become effective. Securities cannot be sold, nor can offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

Don't miss out on museum's newest exhibit

Once again, the Heritage Museum of Big Spring is offering a come-and-go exhibit that's definitely worth spending a little time in downtown by offering residents of the Crossroads a nostalgic look at movie theaters in Big Spring.

The exhibit, entitled "Let's All Go to the Movies," traces the history of movie theaters from 1909 to the 1950s. The exhibit opened Saturday and will continue through Nov. 2.

"Let's All Go to the Movies" is a lot of fun, according to Museum Curator Tammy Schrengost. In addition to one setting, that allows visitors to get the feel of what old silent movie theaters were like, there's also a mock-up of a drive in theater, that allows the visitor to sit in a "car" and watch a documentary on drive ins.

"We have almost 100 press shots of movie stars," Schrengost added. "We have a history of the two movies made in Big Spring, 'Midnight Cowboy' and 'Hangar 18.'"

For those who want to see "Hangar 18," a low-rated B movie, it will be airing upstairs in the museum. "Midnight Cowboy" won't be shown because it was X-rated when it first came out.

Costumes, movie props and other items are on display, as well as a tribute to Big Spring's Jean Porter Dymytrk, Dave (Tex) O'Brien, Betty Buckley and Helon Blount.

A quick bit of history museum-goers can learn from the exhibit, includes the fact that the first motion pictures shown in Big Spring were presented by I.J. Robb in October 1909 in a building at the corner of Third and Main. He opened the Lyric theater at 110 E. Third in 1913.

In 1916, the Robb brothers and childhood friend Ed Rowley formed R&R and, in 1924, R&R added the Queen theater at 206 Main.

In 1928, the family built the Ritz, the first theater in Big Spring built for sound. The first movie shown was a silent film, "Our Dancing Daughters," starring Joan Crawford. On Feb. 17, 1929, the first talking film was shown. It was "Lucky Boy," starring George Jessel.

The first local drive in movie theater was the Terrace, which opened Aug. 15, 1947, on City Park Road, now Wasson Road.

"There's a lot of interesting, fun information in this exhibit. It's entertaining and for some people will bring back lots of memories," said Schrengost. "Come join us!"

We agree. The Heritage Museum, located at 510 Scurry, is always worth a visit, but it seems to us that "Let's All Go to the Movies," is nothing short of a "must see."

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we start anything important, Lord, may we include You.

Amen

A federal law against lying

In 2005, Rep. John Salazar, D-Colo., sponsored the Stolen Valor Act that made it a federal crime to lie about receiving military medals or honors from the military. Breaking the law could lead to a fine and a sentence of six months. Lying about being awarded the Medal of Honor, a Purple Heart or other top honors could carry a prison sentence of up to one year.

In 2006, the bill passed easily through the House and unanimously in the Senate. Last week, however, the Stolen Valor Act ran smack into the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals — insert your favorite Ninth Circuit joke here.

A three-judge panel in San Francisco ruled that the law violates the First Amendment and is unconstitutional. Consider this tale the latest example of how impossible it is to get a simple law enacted, prosecuted and upheld in the American criminal justice system.

The beneficiary of the court's ruling: One Xavier Alvarez, the first known man to be charged and convicted for breaking the new law. In 2007, as a newly elected Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member, Alvarez announced publicly, "I'm a retired Marine of 25 years. I retired in the year 2001. Back in 1987, I was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. I got wounded many times by the same guy. I'm still around."

As U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Milan D. Smith noted, Alvarez never served a day in his life in the military, never was awarded a medal and has a rich history of telling lies about himself — also having claimed falsely to have played pro hockey, to have

worked as a cop and to have been married secretly to a Mexican starlet.

Alvarez is now serving a five-year sentence in state prison for misappropriating public funds by signing up his ex-wife for health insurance benefits.

Before the state conviction, Alvarez pleaded guilty to one count of violating the Stolen Valor Act and was sentenced to community service and probation and a \$5,000 fine. Unfortunately for the taxpayers, Alvarez retained the right to appeal the law. A spokesman for the California Central District U.S. Attorney explained that conditional plea agreements are not unusual for convictions with "novel legal issues."

The approach paid off. As Smith wrote, if the courts upheld the law, "then there would be no constitutional bar to criminalizing lying about one's height, weight, age or financial status on Match.com or Facebook, or falsely representing to one's mother that one does not smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, is a virgin, or has not exceeded the speed limit while driving on the freeway.

The sad fact is, most people lie about some aspects of their lives from time to time."

It was of special concern to the court that the Stolen Valor Act imposes a criminal penalty "for the mere utterance or writing of what is, or may be perceived as, a false statement of fact." The law isn't limited, for example, to lies on job applications, but lies anywhere. For Americans wary of the government acting as thought police, Smith laid out a compelling argument. But in so doing, he essentially held that lying about yourself is a free-speech right.

Judge Jay Bybee wrote a spirited dissenting opinion in which he noted, "I can see no value in false, self-aggrandizing statements by public servants ... If the Stolen Valor Act 'chills'

false autobiographical claims by public officials such as Alvarez, our public discourse will not be the worse for the loss."

"From a nonlegal perspective, I don't necessary disagree with that," Alvarez attorney Jonathan Libby told me. But as an attorney, Libby said he believes the new law "is beyond the Constitution."

George Washington University law professor Jonathan Turley made a similar argument in a piece for USA Today. Turley didn't disagree with those who would call Alvarez and others "valor thieves" and "semper frauds." He wrote, "We can all agree that false claims of military honors are repugnant and worthy of social condemnation. These men deserve to be social pariahs, but there remains a serious question over whether they deserve to be criminal defendants."

I should point out that if Alvarez had lied about his military record for financial gain, then other laws would have taken care of him nicely.

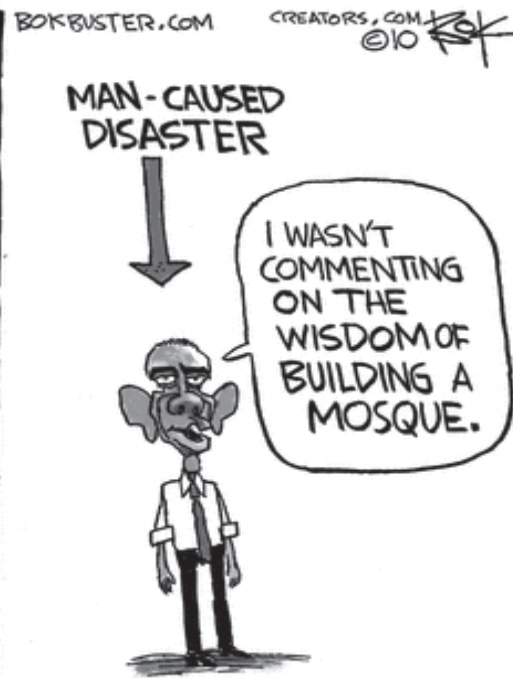
And: Smith, Bybee and Judge Thomas Nelson were appointed by Republican presidents, so you could call this issue an honest, if spirited, disagreement inside the right.

As Libby noted, "The point of the case was whether Congress, consistent with the First Amendment, can pass a law determining what lies are criminal and what lies are not."

For his part, Bybee argued that knowingly false statements deserve no First Amendment protection. But in this complicated age, nothing is simple. Think about it. I don't think this lying, cheating poseur would have been caught if he hadn't won an election.

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Were you somebody's angel today?

Perhaps you remember the song by the country band, Alabama, titled "Angels among us."

The song lyrics include lines such as "a kind word from a stranger to lend a helping hand" and "a phone call from a friend just to say I understand" as a couple of examples of what the angels among us look like.

Could it be that you and I have the potential to be somebody's angel?

My mom called me one Sunday to tell me about all the angels who helped her that day. And since good deeds should not go unnoticed, it seemed appropriate to write about them.

Actually, she has two little angels who help her every Sunday. They eagerly wait for her arrival as they watch out their Sunday School window. When they see her car pull up and stop, these two little angels rush out to greet her and help her get out of the car and walk into the building — one angel on each side.

I wonder if they know they are her Sunday angels.

But this particular Sunday, she met another angel. When she and her companions were going to be seated at the restaurant they went to for lunch, the wait-

er offered his arm to walk her to their table. Then, when she stood up after her lunch to leave, this angel suddenly appeared to offer his arm again. And his help wasn't limited to inside the restaurant. He walked her all the way to her car, helped her get in and then cranked it up to get the air conditioning cooling for her and her friends.

Did this waiter know he was being her angel?

His actions as well as those of her two little Sunday angels epitomize these words by Luciano de Crescenzo: "We are each of us angels with only one wing. And we can only fly embracing each other."

My mom has many angels.

There's the son who is always there for her and drives her wherever she needs to go.

There's the husband who rubs her feet when they hurt and helps her in any way he can.

There's the puppy who keeps her company.

There are the grandchildren and great-grandchildren who call her and lift her spirits and make her forget her pain for a little while.

And there have been many wonderful neighbors and friends along the way who have offered their assistance and companionship and who have given her many happy memories.

It doesn't surprise me that my mom has always had an abundance of angels at her side. The old adage, "One good deed

deserves another" is true. My mom has walked that extra mile for her friends, and she has done everything she could for her children. So I'm not surprised that angels come to her in her hours of need.

It's also no surprise, my friends, that each of us is somebody's angel. With the same Father-Mother God, we are all the reflection of God's love. And this means that the things we do and say have the power to help, heal, inspire, comfort, guide, encourage, lift up and bring joy and laughter to everyone we meet.

Have you ever considered that you were somebody's angel today?

Your smile meant more than you know, the kindness you showed by opening the door for someone, made that someone feel special, and the call you made to a friend was just what was needed.

Perhaps we should not take so lightly what we say or do — because it may be that we were somebody's angel today!

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. A mother and former public and homeschool teacher, she was first published by the Dallas Morning News after becoming an empty nester when her daughter left for college in 2001, and has since written weekly columns for numerous websites, newspapers and magazines.

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What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

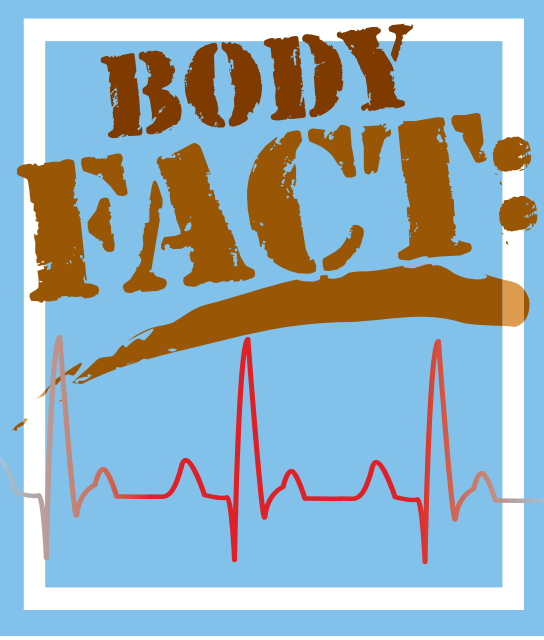


THIS DAY IN...



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- **1939:** THE FIRST MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME IS TELEVISED WHEN THE CINCINNATI REDS TAKE ON THE BROOKLYN DODGERS.
- **1978:** POPE JOHN PAUL I IS ELECTED TO THE PAPACY.



AN ABSENCE OF SWEAT COULD BE A SYMPTOM OF THIS MEDICAL CONDITION.

ANSWER: HEAT STROKE



dog days

the hottest days of summer

Answers: 1. missing sunglasses 2. missing fish on chair 3. beach ball 4. sun is larger

How they SAY that in...

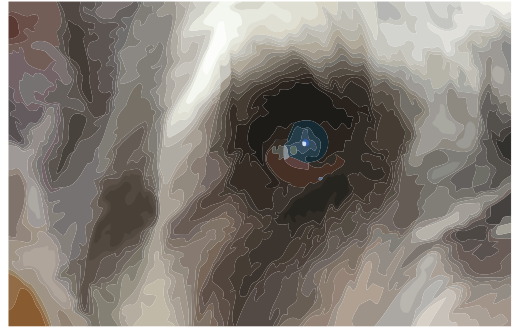
- ENGLISH:** Swim
- SPANISH:** Nadar
- ITALIAN:** Nuotare
- FRENCH:** Nager
- GERMAN:** Schwimmen

Did You Know?

KIDS ARE OFTEN REPORTED MISSING WHILE AT THE BEACH. MANY WALK AWAY FROM THEIR PARENTS AND GET LOST.



GET THE PICTURE?

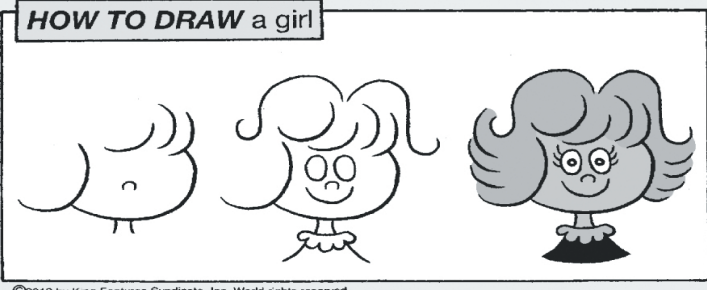


Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: DOG'S FACE

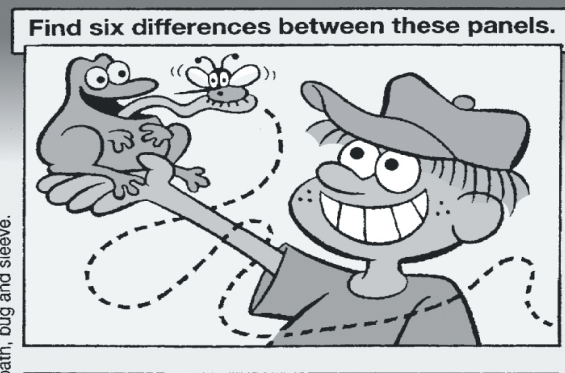
SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR



YOUR DRAWING
Today's terrific artist is Dominique McGrath, age 10, of Linden, NJ
Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

I hatched from an egg. As a youngster, I swam, breathed water and ate algae. As an adult, I breathe air, spend nearly all my time on land and feast on bugs. What kind of animal am I?
Answer -- I am a toad.



Find six differences between these panels.
Answer -- Freckles, hair, finger, flight path, bug and sleeve.
The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to **Six Differences No. 4**, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Bird Poop:

Young hummingbird survives trying journey

swooping upward some 15 feet, he paused for maybe half a second. Plunging downward, the blurred shape ascended again, only to swing back down in his aerial courtship. Perched on a limb, his intended feigned indifference.

Changing his approach, he then buzzed in horizontal loops as he sought her attention. Successful in his amorous antics, the male soon left the female to build her nest, incubate, feed and raise their offspring.

As she gathered tiny leaves, plant down and spider webs, she created a future home by pressing and shaping the inside with her body. Using her bill to finish the outside, she left an opening the size of a 50-cent piece. About an inch deep, the nest would protect both eggs and newborns from falling out by its inwardly curved rim.

After nearly two weeks of incubation, the eggs hatched. Returning to her young almost every 15 minutes, she hurriedly fed the nestlings by plunging her bill into their waiting throats.

Since spider webs, with their elasticity, had been used as an integral part of the nest, the structure expanded as her young increased in size. Soon, while perched on the edge of the nest, the birds tried their wings.

As their mother lengthened the time between feedings, the young birds were tempted to seek their own food. By the end of the third week, the nest was empty.



BEBE
MCCASLAND



Courtesy photo

In search of nectar, the black-chinned hummingbird frequents red yucca, desert willow, coral honeysuckle, trumpet vine, palo verde, ocotillo, agaves, redbud, Texas buckeye and tree tobacco. The tiny insects often found on mesquites, or attracted to nectar producing plants, are a major part of its diet.

Free to explore the surrounding terrain and hunt for small insects and nectar, one of the birds flew beyond the mesquites and scrubs. Not completely oriented or adept in having to make sudden maneuvers to avoid mishaps, the youngster flew into the cab of a pickup.

When I answered a call from Sonora, I listened carefully to Patti Strauch, a veterinarian who works

at Animal Care Clinic. Having been given a hummingbird that had flown into a vehicle, she realized the time involved in feeding the young bird. She was searching for someone to rehab it.

Telling her we had such a person in Big Spring, I asked if she could deliver the hummingbird to Diane Tracy in San Angelo. Covered under our permit, Diane would then drive

to Sterling City to hand off the bird to either Ocoee Moore or us.

With "Dr. Patti" eager to use our method of transferring birds, I called Ocoee. Having worked for years in feeding and nurturing hummingbirds with her husband, Mike, she eagerly volunteered to meet Diane.

Earlier in the year, I had talked with Ocoee about Mike's death and asked if she would consider continuing to care for hummingbirds. Perhaps the Sonora hummer could help with her decision.

As another school year begins, the black-chinned hummingbird remains with Ocoee.

Although its release is desired, its recovery may be lengthy. Its fall migration may have to be delayed.

At present, it is the typical drab juvenile. Grayish and greenish above, while a dull white below, it is similar to an adult female. Some day, if a male, it will be metallic green above. Below, a black chin and upper throat may be accented with a violet band.

While one wing seems to work better than the other, it is gaining muscle tone and some flight ability. Often we see species slow in development. Lacking proper nutrition, they become victims of their own environment.

Instead of migrating south, the black-chinned hummingbird was transported 155 miles north. Through the efforts of "Dr. Patti," Diane Tracy and Ocoee Moore, the hummer now has a chance.

Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop from Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Parent's Corner: Strange tale of the heat and a purloined bag

My cousin called me the other day and in our discussion the current weather situation became a topic of our conversation. She told me that talking about the heat reminded her of a story that she had been given recently about a lady and her friend who had been shopping in a mall and had returned to the car to put their bags away before returning to the mall eatery for lunch.

She said she had no idea if the story was true but it was funny.

It seems as the two ladies were going to the car they gazed down at a dead cat in the parking lot. Obviously it had been recently hit since there were no flies or no smell.

She stopped and told her friend that she would like to place the cat in a bag instead of leaving it on the parking lot, so she dumped her purchases into her friend's bag and then used some tissue paper to place the feline into her own shopping bag and covered it.

They continued the short trek to the car in silence, stashing their goods in the trunk. But it occurred to both of them that if they left the burial bag in the trunk, warmed by the Texas sunshine while they ate, the car would soon take on a new smell.

They decided to leave the bag beside the car and they headed over to the cafeteria. After they cleared the serving line and sat down at a window table, they had a view of the car with the shopping bag still as they had placed it.

As they ate, they noticed a woman in a red gingham shirt stroll by their

car, look quickly this way and that and then grab the bag without breaking stride and quickly walked out of their line of vision.

Both women watched in wide-eyed amazement. It all happened so fast that neither them could think how to respond.

"The nerve of that woman!" the first lady said, but inwardly laughing as she thought about the grand surprise awaiting the red-ingham thief.

Moments later she noticed her friend's eyes freeze in the direction of the serving line.

Following her gaze, she saw the woman with the shopping bag, hanging from her arm, brazenly pushing her tray toward the cashier.

Helplessly they watched the scene unfold: After clearing the register, the woman settled at a table across from theirs, put the bag on an empty chair and began to eat. After a few bites, she casually lifted the bag into

her lap to survey her treasure.

Her eyes widened and she began to make a sort of gasping noise as the bag slid from her lap. As she sank to the floor, wheezing and clutching her upper chest, the beverage cart attendant quickly recognized a customer in trouble and sent the busboy to call 911, while she administered the Heimlich maneuver.

A crowd quickly gathered as the ambulance arrived.

The emergency crew strapped the gasping woman on a gurney and steered her to the waiting ambulance, while a third scooped up her belongings with the shopping bag perched on her stomach.

One can only imagine what happened later and my curiosity is getting the best of me!

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



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MEMBER

No no-hitter, but win for Rangers

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers flirted with the sixth no-hitter in the majors this season. Joe Mauer turned it into another near no-hitter.

Mauer became the fifth no-hitter this season to spoil a no-hit bid in the ninth inning, ruining the effort of starter Rich Harden and three relievers with a clean single off All-Star closer Neftali Feliz in the Rangers' 4-0 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Monday night in a meeting of division leaders.

Rangers president Nolan Ryan threw two of his record

seven no-hitters for Texas, and he was in the owner's box rooting for another one.

Then he saw Mauer, hitting .330, in the batter's box.

"When I looked at who was hitting in the ninth I worried about Mauer because he's a good hitter and with Feliz's fastball you feel like if he leaves a ball in the hitting zone that he's going to have a shot at it," Ryan said.

Harden, who was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day, went 6 2-3 innings before being lifted after throwing 111 pitches. Matt Harrison got the final out of

the seventh. Darren O'Day pitched the eighth and Feliz got one in the ninth before Mauer broke through.

"I felt like I made a great pitch but he was able to make the adjustment and hit it," Feliz said through an interpreter.

Mauer broke up a no-hit bid by Gavin Floyd of the Chicago White Sox on May 6, 2008 with a one-out double in the ninth.

"We had some opportunities where Harden walked a couple guys and we just couldn't get that hit to get a couple runs across the board," Mau-

er said. "But you definitely don't want to get no-hit. It's nice to get a hit up there but we want runs."

Harden had the longest no-hit outing in Rangers history among starters who didn't finish the game.

Afterward, he was philosophical rather than angry.

"That's baseball," he said. "We had Feliz, who's one of the best closers in the game facing Mauer, who's one of the best hitters in the game. That's the way it goes."

Texas fell two outs shy of its first no-hitter since Kenny Rogers' perfect game against

California on July 28, 1994.

There have been five no-hitters this season, including perfect games by Oakland's Dallas Braden and Philadelphia's Roy Halladay. The last no-hitter was Matt Garza of Tampa Bay against Detroit on July 26.

The home plate umpire Monday night was Jim Joyce. He was the first base umpire who made the incorrect call with two outs in the ninth inning that cost Detroit Armand Galarraga a perfect game.

The Twins went through

See **RANGERS**, Page 12

Lee's clutch hit makes Myers winner against Phils

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — So, what's the baseline?

Brett Myers threw seven sharp innings against his former team, Carlos Lee hit a go-ahead two-run single in the eighth and the Houston Astros took advantage of a controversial call to beat the Philadelphia Phillies 3-2

on Monday night.

The wild card-leading Phillies, who entered 2½ games behind Atlanta in the NL East, lost for just the sixth time in their last 30 home games.

Down 2-1, the Astros rallied in the eighth against Ryan Madson (4-2). Another pair of former Phillies got things

started, helping Myers (9-7) win his first start against Philadelphia.

Pinch-hitter Jason Michaels led off the eighth with a single. Michael Bourn then reached on a drag bunt, barely avoiding Ryan Howard's diving tag and causing manager Charlie Manuel to get ejected by first-base

umpire Greg Gibson.

With a sellout crowd chanting "Charlie! Charlie!" and second baseman Chase Utley pointing to the spot where Bourn appeared to step out of the baseline, Manuel got tossed for making his case. Utley, who rarely argues, then briefly exchanged

words with Gibson.

After Angel Sanchez sacrificed the runners, Madson fanned Hunter Pence for the second out. But Lee lined a single to left to give the Astros a 3-2 lead.

Afterward, Manuel and some of his players were fuming that Bourn wasn't called out

of the baseline. Making it worse, Gibson tossed Manuel from a game against Cleveland on June 24 for arguing a similar play the opposite way. Gibson called Shane Victorino out of the baseline as he dove into first base to avoid a

See **ASTROS**, Page 12



Photo Courtesy of Tony Claxton

Bridgette Tuitt spikes the ball during one of the Big Spring Lady Steers' volleyball scrimmages earlier this season. The varsity team is at home for the first time this season, facing San Angelo Central and Lamesa at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., respectively, today at the Big Spring Junior High School gym instead of Steer Gym. The 9th grade team plays at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the little gym at the junior high. The junior varsity plays at 4:30 p.m. in the big gym and 6:30 p.m. in the little gym.

Tiger Woods, wife officially divorced, terms undisclosed

(AP) — Divorced. Single dad. Golf game still to be determined.

And so, after nine months of turmoil over his extramarital affairs, now begins the next chapter in the life and times of Tiger Woods.

In a hearing that lasted no more than 10 minutes in a Florida judge's chambers, Woods and his Swedish-born wife officially divorced Monday.

"We are sad that our marriage is over and we wish each other the very best for the future," Woods and Elin Nordegren said in a joint statement released by their lawyers.

The divorce was grant-

ed shortly after 2 p.m. in Bay County Circuit Court in Panama City, Fla., about 375 miles from their Isleworth home outside Orlando, where Woods drove his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree on Thanksgiving night. That set off shocking revelations that sports' biggest star had been cheating on his wife through multiple affairs.

Woods' life and golf game have been in disarray ever since.

He and Nordegren were married Oct. 5, 2004, in Barbados and have a 3-year-old daughter, Sam, and an 18-month-old son, Char-

lie.

Terms of the divorce — such as how much it will cost Woods — were not disclosed. They said only that they will "share parenting" of their two children.

Nordegren, who for years tried to stay in the background, was captured on video by celebrity websites eating lunch or picking up her daughter from school.

"We love Elin, and we are so proud of the girl and strength she has shown during this difficult time," her father, Thomas Nordegren, a talk show host at national broadcaster Swedish Radio, told The Associated Press.

Brady no fan of show about Jets

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Tom Brady hates the New York Jets. Rex Ryan doesn't like the New England Patriots.

The verbal sparring has returned again and there's still nearly three weeks to go before the fierce rivals begin their seasons.

During his contractually mandated weekly appearance on WEEI radio on Monday, Brady was asked about "Hard Knocks," the HBO show giving an inside look at the Jets training camp.

"Honestly, I haven't

turned it on," he said in a casual manner. "I hate the Jets, so I refuse to support that show."

The question and answer lasted just 42 seconds and came two-thirds of the way through a 19½-minute interview.

But it didn't take long for the Jets to hear about the words from Brady, who usually is more guarded in his comments.

Ryan's, whose tongue is a lot looser, liked Brady's remark.

"It's great. Hey, join the club," Ryan said

with a laugh.

The back-and-forth may be calculated to stir emotions.

It may be the true feelings of the star quarterback and the brash coach.

Or it might be just good-natured, off-the-cuff banter. But their words enlivened the often boring preseason routines.

Ryan isn't a big fan of Brady or the team that has dominated the AFC East, a status that seems threatened by the Jets' addition of key veterans in the offseason.

Sports in brief

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 Saturday 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. Saturday and games start at 10 a.m. that day. For more information, call Rodney Jones at 213-

3750 or James Statham at 213-7669.

CYFA Football sign-ups

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

Flag football league

The West Texas NFL Flag Football League is having sign-ups from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Aug. 28.

The location Saturday is at the Coahoma Community Center. Ages are from 9 to 11 and this is a co-ed league.

Cost per player is \$40 and discounts are given for multiple children families.

This covers an NFL jersey, flags and there is no

fundraiser. Call Adam at 213-7186 or Leslie at 213-7157 for more information.

Railroaders Golf Tournament

This tournament takes place Saturday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course. Prizes go to the first-place team, longest drive for man and woman and closest to the pin for man and woman.

Each player has a \$10 fee to play that will go to the BLET Auxiliary.

The organization also is accepting donations. Call Sandy Shifflett at 816-1606 for more information.

Three-person scramble

The Gaines County Golf Course is hosting this event Sept. 11 and 12. Entry fee is \$80 per person plus the cart. Shotgun starts at 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Call 432-758-3808 to enter.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The full moon in Pisces is associated with psychic intuition, the spirit world and an increased awareness of the energetic grid that holds us together in our operation as a single entity. But if all that sounds a little too "out there" to you, as it will to many



HOLIDAY MATHIS

under the Virgo sun, just think of this as the moon of heightened imagination.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's frustrating to get a few steps into a project only to realize that you don't quite have everything you need. But you won't know what you need until you find yourself in that position. So dive in. You'll figure things out along the way.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are friends you've lost touch with along the way. The

longer you go without talking, the harder it is to get back into communication. This is a fine day to end the silence.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It will be tricky figuring out exactly how to help that troubled soul you know. Your ideas about fixing the situation are valid, but it won't work unless the other person thinks so, too. Your best bet is to sit back and listen.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your original vision gets another look. Now you know more about the job at hand and about your own preferences. There is quite a lot you don't want to do because you don't need the pressure of it.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You feel so strongly about your vision that you almost don't care that there might be a quicker, cheaper way to accomplish it. Indeed, there is something important in what you are doing and the way you are doing it.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Join with someone you admire -- you could use the inspiration. When you get together with this person, you feel the disparate parts

of yourself coming together, as well.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're a great friend and an even better sweetheart. You genuinely hope that your dear ones always receive the best things in life. And you'll be part of the reason this comes true.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're already a winner, but the prize you net this week will drive the point home. As long as you keep going and maintain your stellar attitude, you'll come out on top.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Personally, you may feel a bit out of balance or off your game. But a loved one still sees the best in you and cheers you on. In this person's eyes, you may not be completely right, but you are never wrong.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Be careful not to blame a new love for the things done by an old love. Patterns will repeat when you expect them to. You can break the cycle by expecting something else to happen instead.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes with maturity comes

cynicism. Don't let that happen to you. Being jaded is a choice, not an inevitability. If you're open to it, your experiences can teach you to be more optimistic.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's true that time flies when you're having fun. But it can also stand still. Take a picture. Take lots of them now. Later, you'll be so happy you documented this part of your life.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (August 24). You'll put a great deal of yourself into your friendships and find them to be extremely rewarding this year. One special relationship creates many opportunities for adventure and financial gain throughout the year. Your family celebrates you in November. There will be a contest in February -- get busy honing your skills. Aquarius and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 15, 43, 50 and 5.

It's an odd feeling, suddenly glimpsing your familiars from a distant point of view. You may even notice characteristics in your loved one that you don't usually see in your normal daily interactions with the person. Sometimes you have to back off from people to fully appreciate them. That's what's going on with the moon and the sun today. They pull away from each other from across the heavens -- the sun in Virgo and the moon in Pisces. Only when these two luminaries are in opposition do we get to see the moon's full, gorgeous face. The full moon in Pisces is associated with the spiritual realms, so our awareness of the multidimensional nature of our lives will be turned up. We are souls intertwining to weave a common existence. We are not only connected; we are one. Warning: People can be extremely susceptible to catching one another's attitudes and beliefs during this moon, so hang out with those whose attitudes and beliefs you would want to catch!
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su | do | ku

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Snug as a Bug in a Rug

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♦K 6 2
♥9 4
♦K 6
♣K Q 9 7 5 3
WEST
♦J 10 7 4
♥A 10 8 6 2
♦9 5 2
♣6
EAST
♦Q 8 3
♥Q 5 3
♦Q J 8
♣J 8 4 2
SOUTH
♦A 9 5
♥K J 7
♦A 10 7 4 3
♣A 10

simply by adopting a more cautious approach to both the bidding and play.
Take this deal where South's performance left something to be desired. He won East's queen of hearts with the king and played the A-10 of clubs, on which West showed out. Now, regardless of how he continued, he was sure to go down at least one against perfectly normal defense.
However, declarer could have ensured the contract by adopting a different line of play. He should have realized that the only threat to the contract was the possibility that East might have four (or five) clubs to the jack, and he should have taken steps to deal with that possibility. All South needed to do to assure the contract was to develop the clubs without allowing East to gain the lead for a potentially killing heart return through the J-7.
South could have accomplished this task quite easily by leading a diamond to dummy's king at trick two followed by a low club to his ten. This would have guaranteed the contract, no matter how the clubs proved to be divided.
In the actual case, the safety play would have succeeded, and South would have made at least five notrump.

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead -- six of hearts.

When you consider that there are 635,013,559,600 different 13-card hands one can be dealt, it would be foolish to assume that anyone could be expected to bid and play them all perfectly.
Indeed, the chance of making a mistake in a given deal is quite substantial, and most players would be happy to get by two or three deals in a row without error. But what makes the game so intriguing is that the overwhelming majority of errors made by most players can be avoided

Tomorrow: The one and only way.
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Dear Annie: My husband and his brother are very close. Too close. "Chris" calls his brother every day, sometimes twice a day, and talks for an hour or more each time. Whenever we go out, it is to his brother's house two hours away.
Recently, Chris and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We reserved a room in a nice hotel, which just happened to be near his brother.
Shortly before we arrived, his brother called to say he'd meet us at the hotel and take us out to dinner for our anniversary.

I was really upset.
Chris insists his brother was being nice and I am being selfish and jealous. He says families should celebrate together on anniversaries. I think it should have been a private time for my husband and me. Am I overreacting? I am still upset. — *Coming in Second*



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

This was a nice gesture, but we had already made other plans, which we then canceled. After dinner, his brother came back to the hotel and spent most of the evening with us. In the morning, we immediately went to my brother-in-law's, where we spent the next few days.

Dear Second: You are not overreacting. Chris and his brother seem quite enmeshed, and that relationship is more important to him than the one he has with you.
But we don't understand why it has taken you 50 years to decide it bothers you. At this point, it may not be possible to change your husband's behavior, although you might discuss it with him and see if he would be willing to make anniversaries private celebrations -- for your sake.

Dear Annie: There are so many articles written on how to get the spark back into a relationship, but I've never seen the obvious

one -- committing to taking care of the way you look, for yourself, your health and your partner.
During my 18 years of marriage, I have worked hard to maintain my weight. I am still in good shape. I think everyone has an unwritten expectation that their partner won't go to pot, but some people take better care of their cars than their bodies.
My husband is 60 pounds overweight, and his doctor told him he qualifies as obese. I know how very hard it is to lose weight, but if couples took pride in their health and looks, there would be a lot more excitement in the bedroom.
Turning out the lights is not what I had in mind.
I know I cannot make my husband lose weight, but maybe if you print this, he will understand my point. And maybe a few others will, as well. — *Married to Tubby*

Dear Married: It's true that some folks decide that marriage means never having to take care of themselves again, but it usually is

more complicated.
Pregnancy can make future weight loss difficult, stress can cause people to compensate with food, and heavy workloads limit exercise time.
Sometimes severe weight or hygiene problems can indicate depression. Please talk to your husband about this and see if you can interest him in eating healthier and getting some exercise -- because you love him and want him to be around for a long time.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Stiffed in Iowa," whose parents are giving half of their estate to their alma mater and the rest to their three children.
"Stiffed" thinks she and her siblings are entitled to all of her parents' estate.
I hope her parents see that letter and are able to teach one more lesson: It would be beneficial to their greedy child to take her share of the estate and donate it to a charitable cause, leaving that child only their best wishes.
How proud I would be if my parents had the foresight to do something so wonderful. — *Grateful in North Dakota*

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ANSWERS

8	7	3	6	1	2	5	4	9
9	4	1	5	7	3	8	6	2
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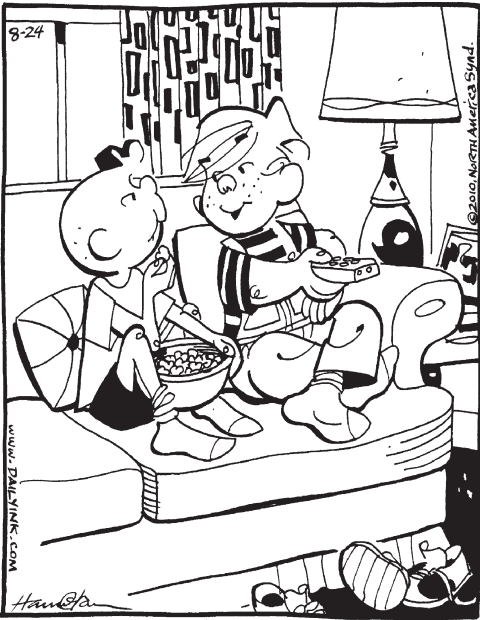
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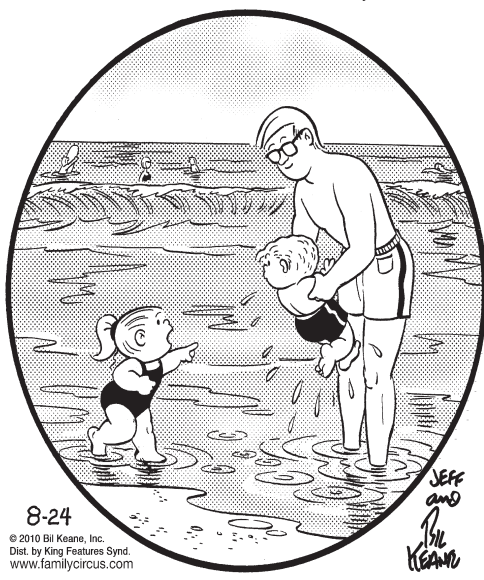
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5:PM ABC	News	Vida	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	King	Scrivner	BBC	King	Cash Cab	Movie: On Deadly Ground, Joan Chen	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Deck Phineas	Little League Baseball	SportsCenter
6:PM Fortune	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men	News	El Cartel II	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	Business	King	Swamp Log- gers	Movie: The Pledge, Aaron Eckhart	DEA	Bones		Wizards		SportsCenter Spec.
7:PM ABC	Wipeout	Hasta que el Dinero	Glee	NCIS	El Clon	Minute to Win It	Office	Upd	NOVA (DVS)	Plain Jane	Swords: Life	DEA	Bones	Movie: The Wood, Richard T. Jones	Deck Deck	Little League Baseball	30 for 30	
8:PM ABC	(:01) Shaq VS	Soy Tu Dueña (SS)	Glee	NCIS: Los Angeles	El Fantasma de	America's Got Talent	Office	Light of the Southwest	Carrier (DVS)	18 to Life	Swords: Life	DEA	Hawthorne		Movie: 16 Wishes		2010 Poker	
9:PM ABC	Primetime: What	Aquí y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	La Diosa Coronada		Office		POV	Married Married	The Colony	Scrapers	Memphis Beat	Trey Game	Phineas	Baseball Tonight	2010 Poker	
10:PM ABC	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez	Mark	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Swords: Life	Movie: Inside Man, Jodie Foster	The Comedy Central Roast	Hawthorne	Hannah	SportsCenter Spec.	SportsCenter	
11:PM ABC	Jimmy Kim- mel Live	Corazón Salvaje	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Sex & Sex	Ministerio- Vida	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Cops	Swords: Life	Chappelle CSI: Crime Scene	Memphis Beat	Wendy Wil- liams	Hannah	SportsNation	Baseball	
12:AM ABC	Extra	Tontas Cielo	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Sex & Sex	Church	Momma	Cops	The Colony	Movie: The Ladykillers	Dark Blue	Movie: The Wood, Richard T. Jones	Wizards	2010 Poker	SportsCenter	
1:AM ABC	Paid	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pelicula: El	Poker After Dark	Lopez	Light of the Southwest	Overhaul	Movie: The Ladykillers	Star Trek: Voyager	Leverage	Suite Life Suite Life	2010 Poker	SportsCenter			

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S MORE FUN CHANGIN' THE CHANNELS THAN WATCHIN' THEM."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

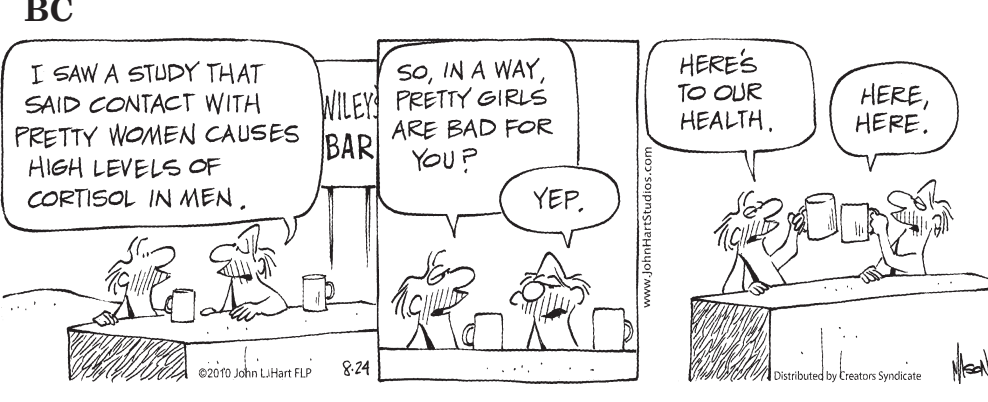


"You've had Daddy long enough, Jeffy. Let somebody else have him for a while!"

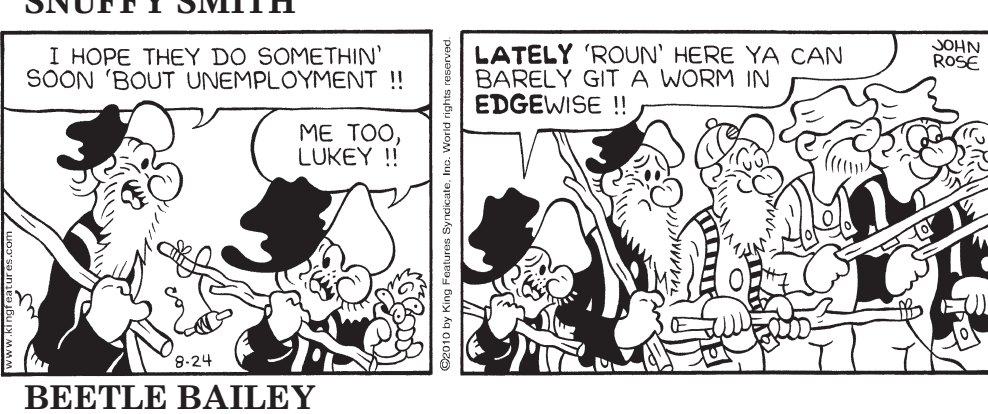
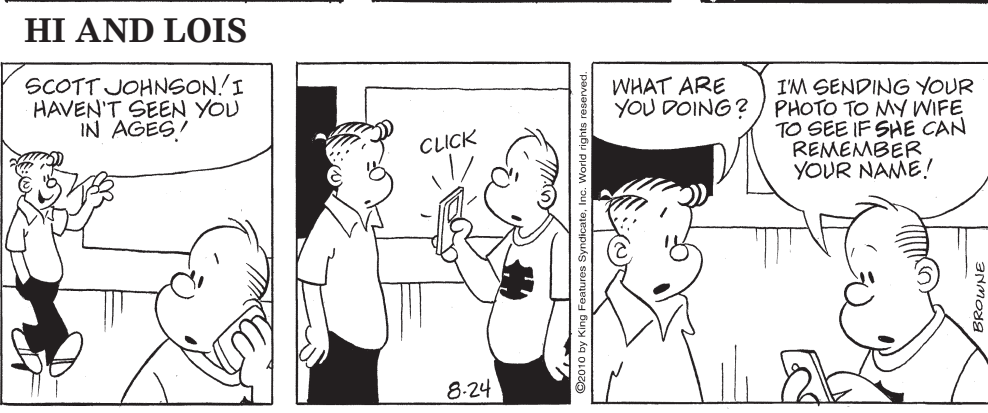
HAGAR



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 24, the 236th day of 2010. There are 129 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 24, A.D. 410, Rome was overrun by the Visigoths, a major event in the fall of the Western Roman Empire.

On this date:

In A.D. 79, long-dormant Mount Vesuvius erupted, burying the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum in volcanic ash; an estimated 20,000 people died.

In 1572, the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre of French Protestants at the hands of Catholics began in Paris.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces invaded Washington D.C., setting fire to the Capitol and the White House, as well as other buildings.

In 1932, Amelia Earhart embarked on a 19-hour flight from Los Angeles to Newark, N.J., making her the first woman to fly solo, non-stop, from coast to coast.

In 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty came into force.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Communist Control Act, outlawing the Communist Party in the United States.

In 1968, France became the world's fifth thermonuclear power as it exploded a hydrogen bomb in the South Pacific.

In 1970, an explosives-laden van left by anti-war extremists blew up outside the University of Wisconsin's Sterling Hall in Madison, killing 33-year-old researcher Robert Fasnacht.

In 1989, Baseball Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti (juh-MAH'-tee) banned Pete Rose from the game for betting on his own team, the Cincinnati Reds. The Voyager 2 space probe flew by Neptune, sending back striking photographs.

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew smashed into Florida, causing \$30 billion in damage; 43 U.S. deaths were blamed on the storm.

Today's Birthdays: Former education secretary Shirley Hufstедler is 85. Actor Kenny Baker ("Star Wars") is 76.

Answer to previous puzzle

ALPHA	SEAS	BLIP
SAVES	POLO	RODE
SMART	MONEY	IRON
TEL	OARS	BAGELS
QUIT	MESH	
AROUND	TOASTED	
TEPID	REIN	CLOD
OPEC	ONS	OBEO
PORK	PLOT	CLONE
TATTLER	CROWD	
ERAS	HAIR	
OILMAN	FERN	PAS
FATAP	SHARP	KNIFE
ASEE	TODOR	LILAC
SEER	ONES	EXERT

Newsday Crossword

- FLYING HIGH by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 Film award
 - 6 Box-office flop
 - 10 Passing crazes
 - 14 Sparkle
 - 15 Phone-button abbr.
 - 16 At the peak of
 - 17 Lies in wait
 - 18 Make over
 - 19 Largest continent
 - 20 Very happy
 - 23 Conclude
 - 24 "If all ___ fails..."
 - 25 Ranch measurement
 - 27 Sound booster
 - 30 College housing
 - 32 Buffoon
 - 33 Tie at the dock
 - 35 "There's ___ in 'team'"
 - 36 Hanging loose
 - 40 Very happy
 - 44 Greet casually
 - 45 Coffee alternative
 - 46 Ocean motion
 - 47 Commercials, e.g.
 - 49 Grounded jets, for short
 - 51 Morning moisture
 - 52 Ray of light
 - 56 Cools down
 - 58 Whichever
 - 59 Very happy
 - 64 Window ledge
 - 66 Opera solo
- DOWN**
- 1 Norway's capital
 - 2 Cold-shoulder
 - 3 Newspaper sales fig.
 - 4 Lower-leg joint
 - 5 Auctioned again
 - 6 Abut
 - 7 Receptive
 - 8 Newspapers, radio, etc.
 - 9 Rodeo horse
 - 10 Airport safety agcy.
 - 11 Between ports
 - 12 Accomplishing
 - 13 Garden shovel
 - 21 Maine-to-Fla. highway
 - 22 Wipe clean
 - 26 D sharp's equivalent
 - 27 French friends
 - 28 ___ Lisa (da Vinci work)
 - 29 Small bouquet
 - 31 Catchers' gloves
 - 34 Back-to-health regimen
 - 37 Gung-ho
 - 38 Hand over
 - 39 Was sure of
 - 41 The "V" of DVD
 - 42 Be indecisive
 - 43 Trapdoor opening
 - 48 Barbarian
 - 50 Playground fixture
 - 52 Smart-alecky
 - 53 Join forces
 - 54 Parachute material
 - 55 Be worthy of
 - 57 Anvil user
 - 60 Estrangement
 - 61 Folklore monster
 - 62 Leave out
 - 63 Siestas
 - 65 Record albums, for short

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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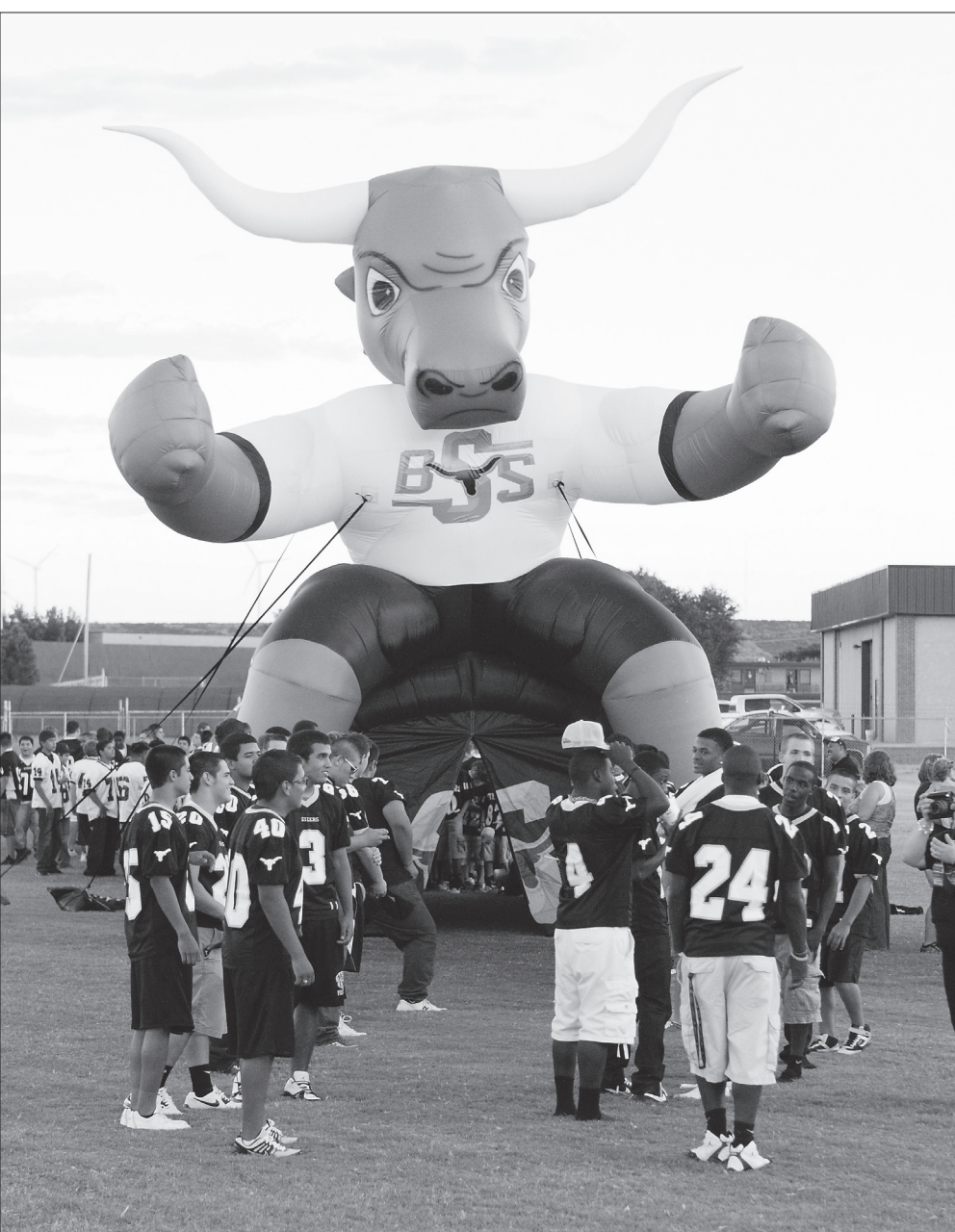


Photo Courtesy of Tony Claxton

The Big Spring High School varsity football team waits behind the tunnel at the community pep rally Monday. The Steers are preparing for a trip to Fort Stockton for the season opener at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Shanahan meets with Haynesworth

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan met with Albert Haynesworth on Monday and kept the conversation to himself, saying it's "completely ridiculous" to keep talking about it publicly.

"If you guys want to talk about football, we'll talk about football," Shanahan said. "But to keep on talking about things outside of football to me is completely ridiculous. I did have a conversation with him. If you want to talk about football, we'll talk about football."

So Shanahan gave no response to the strong words uttered by the disgruntled nose tackle following Saturday's loss to the Baltimore Ravens. Haynesworth accused the coach of mischaracterizing the reason he missed practice last week and said he will stay away from the Redskins' offseason

workout program again next year.

Reports say Haynesworth was suffering from a muscle condition called rhabdomyolysis, but Shanahan told AOL Fanhouse on Sunday that he was "not aware of that." Shanahan had given various reasons for Haynesworth's inability to practice, eventually attributing it to a headache.

Haynesworth did not talk to reporters Monday, but was back at practice for the first time in a week.

Shanahan has maintained that the two-time All-Pro tackle must practice regularly to play and work his way back to a starting role. He has made Haynesworth practice and play with the backups.

Haynesworth, who failed a conditioning test and missed the first nine days of training camp practice, said Saturday he shouldn't

have been playing with the reserves during the Ravens game.

"We're going to practice him as much as we can and get him ready to play," Shanahan said Monday. "Hopefully he doesn't miss any practices, and when he plays he plays well."

Defensive coordinator Jim Haslett, who has worked closely with Haynesworth amid the player-head coach feud, said Haynesworth is "in the mix" to become a starter before the regular season opener Sept. 12.

"Obviously he's a good football player when he's in shape, healthy, ready to go," Haslett said. "We need to find that out here in the next three weeks. ... He just has to get going, that's all. It's time to stop all this and just go."

Haynesworth's teammates are looking forward to putting the dispute behind them.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

a similar situation to Harden's on Aug. 15, when Kevin Slowey was lifted after seven innings without allowing a hit. Reliever Jon Rauch gave up a hit with one out in the eighth.

Harden (5-4) struck out six. His fifth walk was of Michael Cuddyer and it brought manager Ron Washington to the mound for a lengthy discussion. It wasn't until Joyce came to the mound, where the entire Rangers infield was already patting Harden on the back, that the pitching change was made.

"I wasn't going to sit around and let him

throw 120 pitches out there," Washington said. "The seventh inning was going to be his last one anyway."

Day, a submarine-throwing right-hander, got a fortunate bounce for an out when Delmon Young's leadoff grounder in the eighth ricocheted off first base. Rookie Mitch Moreland retrieved the ball and flipped to O'Day covering first.

Feliz had walked a batter in the ninth before Mauer broke up the no-hit bid.

Harden, who had been on the disabled list with shoulder tendinitis, walked the leadoff hitters in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, but his infield turned double plays in the fifth and

sixth.

Harden's last major league start was Aug. 7 at Oakland, taking the loss while allowing three runs in 2 1-3 innings. Harden showed he was ready to be activated when he allowed one run and struck out 10 in a six-inning minor league rehab start for Triple-A Oklahoma City on Wednesday.

Harden has been mostly a disappointment for the Rangers after signing as a free agent last winter for a guaranteed \$7.5 million. That includes a \$1 million buy-out if an \$11.5 million mutual option for next season isn't exercised.

Harden has been on the disabled list twice this season and nine times in six seasons.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

tag.

"He went out of the baseline, but (Gibson) didn't see it that way," Manuel said.

When Gibson was asked for a comment by a pool reporter, crew chief Sam Holbrook said umpires are not allowed to talk per major league baseball's instructions. However, umpires have discussed controversial calls several times this season.

Howard said players have a difficult time understanding the baseline rule. Rule 7.08 states: A runner's baseline is established when the tag attempt occurs and is a straight line from the runner to the base he is attempting to reach safely.

"They have to come up with some kind of consistency for the rule," Howard said. "Everybody isn't sure. There's a lot of gray area. There is no understanding."

Pitching in a steady drizzle, Myers gave up two runs and nine hits, striking out nine. Myers has pitched at least six innings in each of his 26 starts, tying Larry Dierker's franchise record.

It's the longest streak to start a season since Curt Schilling had 35 straight in 2002.

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