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Highland Parade Monday

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

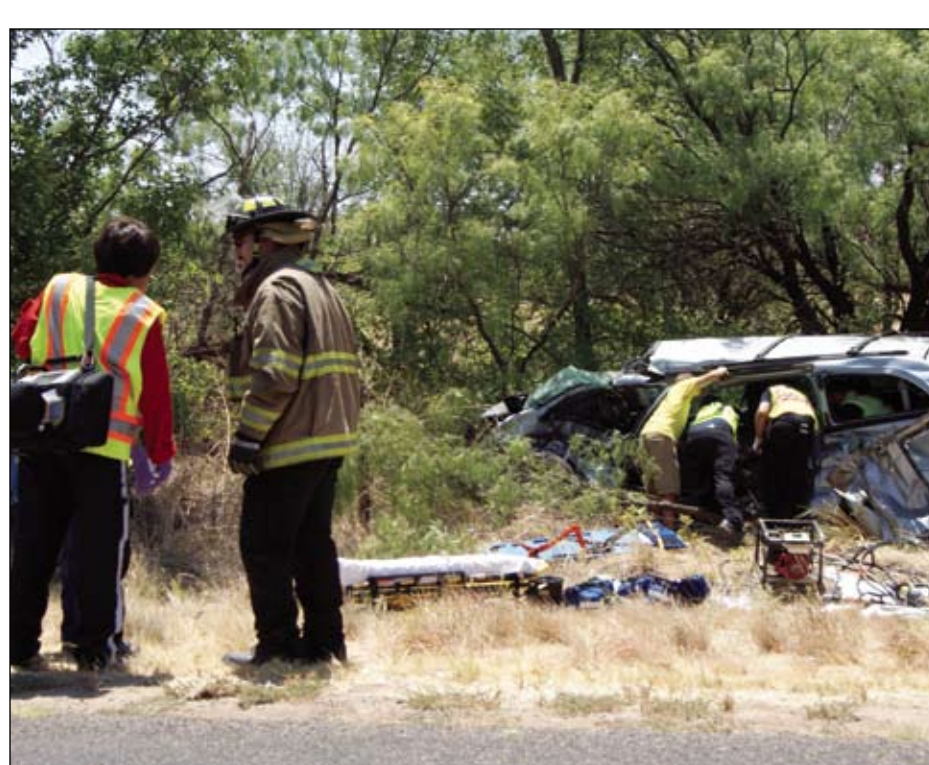
Patriotism isn't just for adults.

For more than 30 years, the Highland July 4 Parade has shown that you don't have to be a grownup to show your love for all things red, white and blue.

The annual parade will be held along Highland Drive Monday morning, said Melanie Lauder milk, one of the event's organizers.

The parade, featuring children decked out in all kinds

See **PARADE**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Emergency response personnel work on the scene of a two-vehicle accident at State Highway 350 and Piper Road around noon Tuesday. A local woman died as a result of the accident. Just a little more than two hours later, an Abilene man was killed in a one-vehicle mishap along Interstate Highway 20 near Big Spring.

2 killed in separate accidents

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

At least two people were killed Wednesday afternoon in a pair of traffic accidents involving tractor trailers, as law enforcement official investigate crashes on Interstate Highway 20 and U.S. Highway 350.

The first accident was reported near the intersection of U.S. Highway 350 and Piper Road shortly after noon.

Lois Rhoton, 84, of Big Spring was pronounced dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center by

See **FATAL**, Page 3A

Downtown Big Spring

Friday night screening will take movie fans back in time

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Area residents will get the chance to travel "Back to the Future" — or at least to 1985 — Friday evening, as the Big Spring Film Society prepares to screen the classic Robert Zemeckis film starring Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd.

Kicking off the film society's 2011 season, the screening is something everyone in the family can enjoy, according to Film Society Chairman Brandon Johnson.

"I don't think anyone who has seen 'Back to the Future' will ever forget that scene when Michael J. Fox's character stands in front of a huge guitar amplifier and gets



blown backward," Johnson said with a smile. "These movies are a part of our culture. I mean, whoever thought of turning a DeLorean into a time machine?"

Johnson "These screenings are a great opportunity for area parents to not only share a classic film with their kids and grandkids, but to make some wonderful memories together. It's something our kids will hopefully carry on with their children."

The film society began its summer screening series more than two years ago, having held a screening of the Hollywood classic "Jaws" near the waters of Co-

manche Trail Lake and "E.T.: The Extraterrestrial" near the top of Big Spring's Scenic Mountain.

Last year, the film society kicked off its season with a screening of "Raiders of the Lost Ark" at the Comanche Trail Amphitheater. Johnson said he hopes to be able to open the 2011 season with the same sort of fanfare.

"Back to the Future" tells the story of Marty McFly, a teenager who is accidentally sent back in time from 1985 to 1955. He meets his future-parents in high school and accidentally attracts his future-mother's romantic interest. Marty must repair the damage to history by causing his parents-to-

See **MOVIE**, Page 3A

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'Pops' getting final touches

Fly-over added to list of happenings during annual fireworks, symphony show

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

Everything appears to be a "go" for this year's Pops In the Park patriotic show at Comanche Trail Park.

Confirmation has been received for a fly-over, which will be conducted by Com-

memorative Air Force Museum. There will be four planes, including a twin Beechcraft bomber, Swift and a T-6.

"The four planes will be doing a fly-over and then circle back around and fly in the missing man formation," said Jan Hansen, Pops in the Park chairperson.

Safety preparations are also taking place in the final days before the main event. According to Fire Marshal Carl Condray, the fire department will be out



HERALD file photo

Dr. Keith Graumann conducts the Big Spring Symphony during Pops in the Park.

termining if any controlled burns need to be performed before Sunday's fireworks display.

"The parks department has already gone out and cleared areas out which may be have been problem areas," said Chad Averette, Pops in the Park board member.

The fire department will be on hand in case any emergencies should arise. Precautions are being taken to ensure the event goes off as

overlooking the area and de-

See **POPS**, Page 3A

BSISD Redistricting Committee meeting canceled today

The Big Spring Independent School District's Redistricting Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for this afternoon has been canceled.

The committee was to have met at 3:30 p.m. in the high school board room. The meeting will be rescheduled at a later date, school officials said.

The BSISD Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. today in the high school board room.



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Obituaries

Dorothy Jean Pearce



Dorothy Jean Pearce, 81, of Garden City died Wednesday, June 29, 2011, in a Big Spring hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 2, 2011, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Claude McKiddy officiating. Interment will follow at Garden City Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, July 1, 2011, at the funeral home.

She was born May 27, 1930, in Royce City, Texas, and married Gaines Pearce on Feb. 28, 1946, in Caldwell, Texas. He preceded her in death on Sept. 18, 1996.

Dorothy worked for Garden City schools and retired after 20 years of service as the manager of food services. She volunteered with the ladies auxiliary at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and was a Methodist.

Survivors include three sons, Gerald Pearce and wife Judy of Sterling City, Mark Pearce of Pandale and Cecil Pearce and wife Lynn of Andrews; one daughter, Debra Anstice and husband Gary of Arlington; one brother, Jim Eastep and wife Chris of Idabel, Okla.; 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

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

Lois Rhoton

Lois Rhoton, 84, of Big Spring died Wednesday, June 29, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- MARGARITA OLIVAREZ RAMIREZ, 28, of 2200 S. Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- KIMBERLY NICOLE GUTIERREZ, 21, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. Apt. 614, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for speeding.
- DEBRA LYNN KNOTT, 49, of 106 E. 22nd St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- PRISCILLA ANN LIVESAY, 24, of Lubbock, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE, 26, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant

for failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information and a warrant from another agency.

- SASHA MARIE TREVINO, 24, of 2530 Hunter, was arrested Thursday on charges of possession of a controlled substance, failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility and driving while license invalid.
- MICHAEL ANDREW MARTINEZ, 26, of 503 E. 17th St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- DAVID BRIAN LOWNES, 51, of 106 E. 22nd St., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 1300 block of E. 11th Place.
In the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 79 inmates at the time of this report.

- KIMBERLY NICOLE GUTIERREZ, 21, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for speeding.
- JOHNNY LARA JR., 22, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a Young County warrant for non-payment of child support.
- VICENTA JULIA SALAZAR, 41, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- ANSELMO ARREDONDO VEGA, 17, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence.
- DEBRA LYNN KNOTT, 49, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- DAVID BRIAN LOWNES, 51, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a municipal warrant for driving while license invalid.
- COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE, 26, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for aggravated robbery and a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information.
- SASHA M. TREVINO, 24, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance and municipal warrants for failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility and driving while license invalid.
- ROBERTO VALDEZ BALTAZAR, 37, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of driving while intoxicated, possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- PRISCILLA LIVESAY, 24, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- MICHAEL ANDREW MARTINEZ, 26, was trans-

ferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• MICHAEL STEVEN RUIZ, 19, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Driver Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of Highway 350 and Piper Road. Two people were transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5700 block of Midway Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported near the intersection of Highway 350 and FM 846. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Tucson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 800 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.

Correction

An article in Wednesday's edition of the Herald on the city council's approval of renovations at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium contained the following statement:

While renovations and repairs to the historic auditorium are expected to be completed, one of the facility's long standing icons — the Statue of Liberty monument donated by the Big Spring Boys and Girls Club many years ago — may not be quite as lucky.

The group donating the monument was the Boy Scouts, not the Boys and Girls Club.

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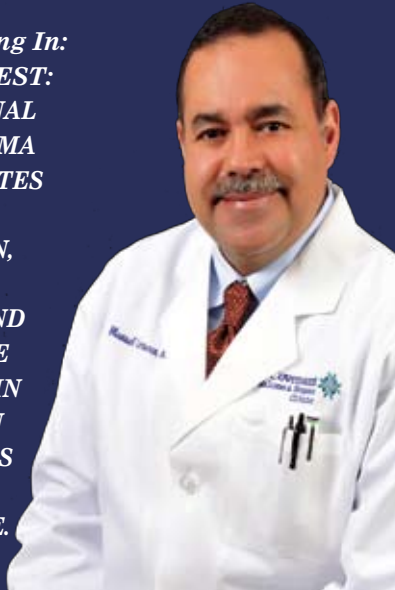
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Take Note

- Sharon Chancy, campus curriculum coordinator at Bauer Elementary School, and her family lost their home and all their possessions to the wildfire that swept South Mountain on the evening of June 20. A fund has been established at the Big Spring Education Federal Credit Union to assist the family as they recover from this loss. To help, call 432-263-8393 or come by the FCU at 1110 Benton.
- The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in dire need of fans. Community members can donate new or used fans. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- A reception for Michael Adams, who has served 33 years in law enforcement, including 25 as Stanton chief of police, will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Friday, July 8, in the Stanton Church of Christ Fellowship Hall at 210 N. St. Mary in Stanton. The public is encouraged to attend.
- Coahoma High School alumni are planning an all-classes' reunion on Saturday, July 23 at Coahoma Elementary. Registration is from 9-10 a.m., followed by visiting, a short business meeting, a fund-raising auction, lunch, and a program honoring CHS Music Through the Years. Please RSVP for the lunch (barbecue by Hog Heaven) and mail checks to: Coahoma Alumni Association, POB 488, Coahoma 79511 by July 1. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children age 8 and under. The Stampede has been reserved for additional visiting that evening for all CHS alumni from 6:30-11 p.m. Music from the 50s, 60s and 70s will be played, and food and sodas provided. For questions, contact Joyce York Baumann at 432-816-1588 or jefnjoyce@yahoo.com.

FATAL

Continued from Page 1A

Justice of the Peace Bennie Green approximately an hour after the accident, according to law enforcement officials.

According to witnesses, the mini van Rhoton and a second occupant were traveling in collided with a tractor-trailer near the intersection, which is located north of Big Spring near the Old Colorado City Highway.

Rhoton was taken by ambulance to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead. The second occupant — who has not yet been identified — was airlifted to a hospital in Midland, according to law enforcement officials. The driver of the tractor trailer was also transported from the scene, but his condition is unknown at this time.

It's unclear at this time if any of the occupants involved in the accident were wearing a safety belt, ac-

ording to emergency officials.

A second accident was reported at approximately 2:20 p.m. on Interstate Highway 20 near the 172 mile marker, according to Midland Department of Public Safety Communications Officer Regina Sutton.

According to the DPS accident report, Gary Blake Truitt, 56, of Abilene, was pronounced dead at approximately 3 p.m. at the scene of the one-vehicle accident.

"Truitt was traveling east-bound on Interstate Highway 20 in a 2008 Freightliner tractor trailer when the vehicle ran off the roadway, striking a guard rail," Sutton said. "The vehicle then traveled down an embankment, where it rolled over."

Big Spring DPS Trooper Tommy Salome investigated the accident, according to Sutton.

"Road conditions were dry and clear, according to the accident report," Sutton said. "The cause of the accident hasn't yet been es-

tablished. According to the report, Truitt was not wearing a safety belt at the time of the accident."

Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker said he and his deputies expect to see an increase in accidents going into the July 4 holiday, but Wednesday's pair of accidents is certainly unsettling.

"Each year you really hope for a quiet holiday, despite all of the people traveling due to the holiday and summer vacation," Parker said. "We're certainly not off to a good start at this point."

Parker encouraged area motorists who will be traveling during the holiday to remain vigilant of other drivers and road construction, and, as always, be sure to buckle up.

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

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

of patriotic regalia, begins at 10 a.m. Monday at the intersection of Highland and Robb drives and will end at the intersection of Highland and Goliad.

Entries will be accepted the day of the parade. Participants are asked to arrive by 9:30 a.m. so the judges will have plenty of time to view the entries, Laudermilk said.

Among the categories to be judged are walkers, strollers, bicycles,

motorized and battery powered vehicles, pets, horses, houses and mailboxes, she said. Prizes to the top entries will be presented immediately following the parade's conclusion.

Music and refreshments will be provided after the parade.

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

"It's really become a tradition with so many families," said Linda Stallings, another parade organizer. "So many people grew up

doing this and now their children are doing it. Plus, it's fun. The kids get a kick out of it and the adults have fun, too."

For more information or to inquire about entering the parade, contact Stallings at 267-8427 or Laudermilk at 213-

4703.

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

MOVIE

Continued from Page 1A

be to fall in love, and with the help of scientist Dr. Emmett

Brown, he must find a way to return to 1985.

Set for downtown Big Spring — near the Heart of the City Park — the screening will have concessions on-site, and, as always, admission to the

screening is free for the entire family.

"Just bring your lawn chairs. That's all you really need to have a great time," Johnson said.

For more information on vol-

unteering or the Big Spring Film Society, contact Johnson at (432) 213-0758 or by e-mail at cruiser1977@gmail.com. More information is also available at <http://www.bigspringfilm.org>

POPS

Continued from Page 1A

safely as possible, according to Hansen.

"The only reason we will not launch the fireworks will be if the wind is too high or if the fire department gets called out to a fire," Hansen said.

As for parking inside the park, vehicles bearing handicap identification will be directed through the Wasson main gate entrance and will be parked between the aquatic center and amphitheater and in designated spots on top of the amphitheater, according to Drew Bavin, patrol lieutenant. General parking will be located in numerous areas throughout the park,

including off U.S. Highway 87, at Kids Zone and overflow will be behind the golf course pro shop. Vendors are asked to park vehicles and trailers behind the clubhouse.

Before the fireworks go off at 9:45 p.m., there will be a 19-minute video tribute to hometown heroes and their families. There will also be a flag ceremony, with the five branches of military being represented as well as 25 Boy Scouts and 12 Girl Scouts carrying the American flag.

This year, there will be an estimated 25 vendors, 20 of which will be food vendors.

Temperatures are expected to be high and attendees are encouraged to bring items to help them stay cool, in-

cluding water, fans and spray bottles. Precautions are being made by the Pops in the Park committee, including two medic stations, shade areas and numerous patrol personnel throughout the park.

"We want to make sure everyone stays safe in these hot temperatures," Hansen said.

"Vendors will also be selling water and other refreshments throughout the day for those needing them," said Debbye Valverde, chamber executive director. "The important thing is everyone needs to keep hydrated, whether it be at Pops or any of the other outdoor events. Drink plenty of water and use an umbrella and sunscreen. We want everyone to

have a safe and fun Fourth of July weekend in Big Spring."

The amphitheater will open at 5 p.m. and the Fab 4 Beatles tribute band will take the stage at 6 p.m. The symphony will begin its performance at 8 p.m. and the flag ceremony will kick off the rest of the festivities.

For more information, contact the chamber at 263-7641.

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Lois Rhoton, 84, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

Wise Words For Grads: Choices determine character. Friends influence choices. Integrity is vital. Popularity is not the determining factor of right and wrong. Decisions have eternal consequences. Do not confuse happiness with holiness. Sowing wild oats result in reaping regrets. Hard work is required. Faith must be watered. Alcohol makes promises it cannot keep. Role models must be chosen wisely. Truth is a non-negotiable. Attitude is up to you. A pure heart prompts pure speech. The Bible is the guide for living a life of joy and peace. Obeying God is always the right thing to do. Sin should not be trivialized or rationalized. The love of God is constant. The power of the cross is greater than the power of sin. Prayer is underused. The heart of the matter is the matter of the heart. Honor the past generations by helping the future generations. Procrastination should not be tolerated. Heaven and hell are real.

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EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer		Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OUR VIEWS

A weekend full of fun, family and fireworks

There's a little bit of everything happening this weekend.

Even with the summer heat and high temperatures, this weekend will show a little bit of mercy and temperatures are expected to remain in the 90s and not reach triple digits.

This weekend there will be plenty of opportunities to spend time outside with the family.

Friday night will kick off the weekend with the Big Spring Film Society showing *Back to the Future* downtown. The movie is free, but donations are welcome. There will be concessions available and the movie will begin at dark.

Saturday downtown will turn into a big celebration with the Funtastic Fourth taking over. Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. with opening ceremonies and a Patriotic Pooch Parade and contest. There will also be a hot dog eating contest at 2 p.m. Vendors will be open throughout the day starting at 10 a.m. and a kid area will be available with bouncy houses, a rock climbing wall and mechanical bull.

Throughout the day Saturday there will also be live entertainment, including gospel music, Texas Country and Tejano music. Mark McKinney will take the stage around 10 p.m. and wrap up the night.

Sunday, the amphitheater will open at 5 p.m. with an estimated 25 vendors. The night will include a performance from the Fab4 Beatles tribute band and The Big Spring Symphony.

The symphony will be providing music to the firework display again this year, which will begin around 9:45 p.m. There is no admission for Pops in the Park, but donations will be accepted.

With all the many outdoor activities this weekend, remember to drink lots of water, stay cool and stay safe.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- 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 newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we take Your love seriously, Lord.

Amen

My favorite 4th of July speech

I like the Fourth of July. Almost everyone does. Friends and neighbors gathered in parks and back yards throughout the nation, sharing food and drink and happy thoughts in a festive atmosphere. What's not to like?

Well the patriotic claptrap, of course. That I could do without.

I'm not talking about patriotism. Acts of citizenship and service honor this country's traditions. I'm talking about the empty speechifying, often by politicians wearing faces gleaming with corruption, which passes for patriotism these days.

And the flag-waving. I'm not big on flag-waving.

Not that there's anything wrong with the flag, of course. It's a beautiful symbol of the things we value. But too often it is waved in order to substitute emotionalism for rational behavior.

War, for example. How many times have nations been led into truly stupid wars behind a flowing flag? Does the word Iraq suggest anything to you?

But I digress. I was talking about the Fourth of July. My favorite Fourth of July speech is the one the great 19th-century orator and civil rights leader Frederick Douglass delivered to a Rochester, New York audience

in 1852. The former slave said: "What, to the American slave, is your Fourth of July? I answer, a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim.

"To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciations of tyrants, brass-fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymn, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to Him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy — a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages.

"There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and more bloody than are the people of these United States at this very hour."

That was Douglass' most significant contribution to our "patriotic" holiday — the truth.

We eliminated slavery, of course, and it was a heavy lift that left some 625,000 dead and hundreds of thousands more wounded. We have a right to pat ourselves on the back about that. I don't recall any other nation fighting a civil war on behalf of an enslaved people.

But we shouldn't pat ourselves too hard.

A few weeks ago we commemorated (or rather, failed to commemorate) the 90th anniversary

of the Tulsa race riot, a shameful chapter in our history that we conveniently forgot about for nearly a century.

On May 31, 1921, a black man in Tulsa was arrested on charges of sexually assaulting a white woman (a charge never validated, by the way).

He was taken to jail where a lynch mob made up of white men began to gather. Soon a group of armed black men showed up to protect the suspect.

Predictably, a gun battle broke out and the black men retreated to the "colored" side of town. The Tulsa police chief deputized hundreds of white men who gave chase.

In the hours that followed, the African-American section of town was burned to the ground. As many as 300 people, most of them black, were killed. Thousands were left homeless.

Did you ever read about that in your history books? I didn't think so. You didn't hear it in any Fourth of July speech either. Frederick Douglass had passed away decades earlier.

So I say to you, enjoy your Fourth of July picnic and feel joy that we live in this wonderful country, albeit one with a tragic past.

But don't forget to keep it real.

We've come a long way but we've got a long way to go. Have a happy Fourth.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. www.otherwords.org.



Time to celebrate the Fourth

Bursts of colors in the sky ... the crackle of the fireworks ... the smell of barbecues and outdoor activities.

Yep, that's what the Fourth of July is made of.

Celebrating our independence this year is going to take a different avenue due to recent drought conditions, but I am willing to bet the meaning behind it doesn't have to fade away.

There will be plenty of activities to keep people of all ages busy this weekend in our community.

The Fourth of July is aimed at showing patriotism, expressing the love we have for our country and for enjoying the numerous freedoms that have been paid for numerous times over.

I remember as a little kid being so excited and waiting for the firework stands to open. It was always a highly anticipated event of going and buying fireworks, usually the night before or the day of the Fourth of July. I was always so excited to buy the sparklers, poppers and the fountains. As long as I was seeing bursts and showers of colors and not having to hear too much noise, I was content. My mother on the other hand enjoyed the sound of the bees and the saturn missiles. For some reason she enjoyed the sounds of those fireworks going off, but I never quite understood it. After a couple of them being shot off, my attention was directed at some-

thing else.

However, I am glad that she had her favorites and she was able to enjoy the holiday.

The Fourth was always a holiday that brought enjoyment and one holiday I anticipated, but the reasons seemed to change over the years. It seems the younger I was the more I wanted to be a part of it. I remember always trying and begging to light the fireworks, but of course I was too young and it just wasn't happening.

Well, as I got older and I was able to light the fireworks, the want just wasn't there anymore.

By that point, I was ready to just sit and watch the displays, not be the one lighting them. I guess I realized if I was the person lighting them I wasn't really enjoying the show.

Then again, there came that one experience that I am sure happens to everyone; you know, the one where in some form or fashion the battle between human and firework takes place.

Well, I'm not sure what age I was, but I was still fairly young and I was lighting the sparklers.

Stop laughing because at the time it wasn't funny and even now I am a little bit afraid of the things.

Anyways, I was lighting the sparklers and the morning glories and decided one just wasn't pretty enough — I wanted more sparkle. Of course, my thinking directed me towards lighting about three morning glories and a couple sparklers.

Let's just say I received the amount of sparkles I wanted, but I wasn't able to enjoy them because I ended up getting attacked by the sparks.

No serious injuries were obtained, no physical scars, but I have to say ever since then sparklers and morning glories are the enemy in my eye.

After that experience I was not only done with fireworks for that year, but I was done with anything that made sparks for numerous years to come.

It's been awhile since I have been able to set off fireworks, but the love I have for the holiday hasn't waned. I still enjoy watching the fireworks explode into bursts of color across the night sky. I enjoying seeing the different colors crackle and sparkle against the deep, dark background. There is something about the displays the fireworks make that give an all around good feeling.

With each passing year, I find I am still looking forward to the holiday as I always have, but now I am enjoying it more from an onlooker perspective. For me, it's passed the point of being in the middle of the action. It's not about lighting the fireworks or even selecting fireworks to pop; it's about being able to find a spot, pull out a chair and sit and watch the paintings across the sky.

This year, the fire danger and dry conditions may be hindering the public's ability to set off their own fireworks, but it doesn't mean the show can't go on. Take this year to sit back, pull up a chair and watch the Pops in the Park. I know I will be there enjoying the scenes and seeing what the night has to offer.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com.

News in brief

House member Brown resigns, moving from district

BRYAN (AP) — A veteran Central Texas legislator has resigned because he has accepted a new job and is moving from the district. Texas House member Fred Brown's resignation is effective Thursday. The Republican from Bryan has spent more than a dozen years in the Legislature. Brown made his announcement Wednesday, the same day that the House ended the first special session of the 82nd Legislature. Brown says he plans to run a car dealership in Temple, which is outside District 14. Gov. Rick Perry will set a date for a special election to replace Brown.

Bank robbery attempt in town where police furloughed

ALTO (AP) — Four people have been caught allegedly trying to rob a bank in an East Texas town where the police force recently was laid off to save money. The Cherokee County Sheriff's Office has handled law enforcement in Alto, located 130 miles southeast of Dallas, since the city council furloughed the five-person police department in mid-June. Sheriff James Campbell says a call came in Wednesday afternoon about masked people trying to enter a bank in Alto. The bank in the town of 1,300 had closed for the day and the door was locked, but employees saw a person with a gun and called for help. Authorities say three men and a woman were caught after a chase to nearby Rusk. All will face charges of aggravated robbery and evading arrest.

Record 236 Texas counties ban outdoor burning

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — The record number of Texas counties with outdoor burn bans has reached 236 as the drought continues.

A Texas Forest Service map Thursday showed southern and northeast parts of the state as the only areas without burn bans. Texas has 254 counties. Texas in January 2006 had a record 221 counties with outdoor burn bans, but that mark was broken earlier this month during wildfires and lingering dry weather. The Texas Forest Service says nearly 3.3 million acres have burned during the current wildfires season.

Walker County Jail fugitive still on loose

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A Texas jail escapee once imprisoned for murder is still on the loose while his girlfriend is held on charges that she helped him flee. The Walker County Sheriff's Department on Thursday said the search continues for Trent De'Ray Archie, who overpowered a guard Tuesday. Investigators on Wednesday announced the arrest of Archie's girlfriend on a charge of facilitating his escape by allegedly providing a getaway car. Bond is \$1 million for Latoya Marsha Wright of Livingston.

Man indicted on 47 sex counts against children

SAN MARCOS (AP) — A Central Texas man is facing dozens of felony sex offense counts related to children. San Marcos police say Larry Joe Reynolds is jailed on 33 counts of sexual performance of a child, 13 counts of online solicitation of a minor and one count of continuous sexual abuse of a child. Police on Wednesday announced the indictment of the 59-year-old Reynolds, who was arrested June 23 and is held on more than \$900,000 bond. Electronic jail records did not list an attorney for the San Marcos man.

Cmdr. Penny Dunn says specific details on the investigation have not been released, due to the sensitive nature of the case.

Couple accused of passing \$500,000 in fake currency

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas husband and wife have been accused of passing \$500,000 in fake money in grocery stores, tanning salons and other Houston-area businesses. A detention hearing is scheduled Thursday for 34-year-old Synaca Thomas and 25-year-old Britany Jordan of Cypress. Federal prosecutors say Thomas and Jordan allegedly obtained real \$5 bills that they reprinted as counterfeit \$100 bills. Thomas and Jordan have been charged with conspiracy to counterfeit currency, making counterfeit currency and passing counterfeit currency. Thomas is also charged with two counts of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. The five-count indictment was returned June 23 and unsealed Wednesday after the couple's arrest. Details were not immediately available on attorneys for the pair.

Officer fired, charged with stealing driver's gun

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas police officer has been fired and charged with theft and evidence tampering after investigators accused him of keeping a handgun confiscated from a motorist during a traffic stop. A Dallas police department statement says Officer Lavar Horne searched the car during an April 28 traffic stop and seized the gun and marijuana. Internal affairs investigators say he discarded the marijuana at the end of his shift and placed the gun in his personal bag.

Republicans blame each other for bill's failure

AUSTIN (AP) — When the Texas Legislature's special session began, Republican majorities in the House and Senate warned Democrats they wouldn't be able to stop an immigration enforcement bill that had sparked one of the toughest partisan fights of the year. The bill would have given police more power to ask anyone they detain about their citizenship status, a measure Hispanic Democrats derided as racist and a tool to harass Latinos. But when the bill died again this week without a vote in the House, Democrats smirked while Gov. Rick Perry and GOP lawmakers angrily blamed each other for its demise. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and the Senate blamed the House. The House blamed the Senate. Perry chimed in, picking on

Sen. Robert Duncan and prompting colleagues of the lawmaker from Lubbock to rally around him. Ultimately, the Republican majorities in both chambers left one of Perry's priority issues for dead and ended the session Wednesday taking aim at each other in a circular firing squad. The Senate "failed," House Speaker Joe Straus said. Dewhurst tweaked the House by noting that twice in the previous week the House failed to get 100 members needed to show up to do work. House Republican leader Larry Taylor of Friendswood had gone to the Bahamas on vacation with his family. Dewhurst noted he cancelled a trip to France for D-Day invasion anniversary celebrations to stay in Austin. Perry, who is considering a run


for president, made the so-called "sanctuary cities" bill one of his top priorities during the regular session and put it on the agenda of the special session. Republicans in both chambers had the muscle to pass any bill they wanted during the regular session if they used it. The Senate, where Democrats were able to block the bill during the regular session, passed the immigration bill on June 15. That sent the bill to the House, where the Republicans hold a 101-49 supermajority big enough to pass bills whether Democrats even bothered to show up to vote. The House had passed the bill by a wide margin during the regular session and was expected to do so again. But this time, the House let the bill languish and die in committee this time.

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Patriotic Pooch Parade & Look-A-Like Contest

July 2 - 10:00 am @ Funtastic Fourth Festival
(Registration @ 9am)
Rotary Park - 200 Block of Main Street

There are no sign-up fees, although we ask you to bring a donation for the Howard County Humane Society. They are always in need of dog and cat food, but at this time, they are especially needing cleaning supplies (paper towels, bleach, disinfectant, etc.)

Name of Owner: _____
Name/Type of Dog: _____
Contact Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Check one or both: Patriotic Pooch 12 & under ___ Adult ___
Look-A-Like 12 & under ___ Adult ___

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- Copy of current rabies certificate required - Dogs must be on a leash less than 6 ft; no retractable leashes
- The pet's behavior is the responsibility of the owner, and control of animals must be maintained at all times. Participants will be asked to leave if dog shows any sign of aggression toward people or other animals.
- All children must be accompanied by an adult - Owner is responsible to pick up after their dog.

WAIVER:

I own or have permission from the owner of my registered pet to participate in the Parade and I have knowledge and can prove that my dog's vaccination records are current. I hereby agree to be responsible for the actions and health of my dog and myself during the Parade. I also further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless Funtastic Fourth, the City of Big Spring, the volunteers, it's sponsors, and it's organizer from any liability arising out of my dog's participation in the parade or rising out of the actions or omission of my pet or myself. I give permission to Funtastic Fourth to use photos taken during the Patriotic Pooch Parade for promotional purposes. I agree to have my dog leashed and under control at all times. I acknowledge that I am responsible for picking up all of my dog's waste.

Signature _____ Date _____

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News in brief

Inside an Indonesian prison, convicted terrorists nurture jihad

PORONG PRISON, Indonesia (AP) — A sweeping crackdown on terrorism is spawning a new problem in the world's most populous Muslim nation. Jailed militants in Indonesia are recruiting other inmates to their cause.

Prisons threaten to undermine the progress made in Indonesia since nightclub bombings killed 202 people on the tourist island of Bali in 2002. The campaign has assumed global importance because of feared links between Southeast Asian terrorist groups and al-Qaida.

A radical cleric who was imprisoned won over three students serving time for a hazing death. They were later re-arrested during a raid on a terrorist training camp in Aceh province. Terrorism expert Sidney Jones calls prisons the weakest link in Indonesia's counterterrorism effort.

Supreme Court justices overrule Scalia's unusual display of power in favor of tobacco industry

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia exercised a rarely used power last fall to let Philip Morris USA and three other big tobacco companies delay making multimillion-dollar payments for a program to help people quit smoking.

Scalia, a cigarette smoker himself, justified acting on his own by predicting that at least three other justices would see things his way and want to hear the case, and that the high court then would probably strike down the expensive judgment against the companies.

This week, the court said he was wrong about that.

On a court that almost always acts as a group, Scalia singlehandedly blocked a state court order requiring the tobacco companies to pay \$270 million to start a smoking cessation program in Louisiana. The payment was ordered as part of a class-action lawsuit that Louisiana smokers filed in 1996. They won a jury verdict seven years ago.

Scalia said in September that the companies met a tough standard to justify the Supreme Court's intervention.

Obama, Congress work with, against the clock in search of deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — In prodding Congress to act swiftly to avoid a government default on its financial obligations, President Barack Obama has

Isaac Bassett and a long history of procrastination conspiring against him.

From 1844 until his death in 1895, Bassett, the Senate's stately assistant doorkeeper, would lift a long pole and turn back the hands of the Senate clock at the close of every annual session, lengthening the official day so lawmakers could finish their work within the prescribed time.

Obama on Wednesday insisted there is no more time to add now. And he beseeched and badgered lawmakers to complete a deal to cut long-term deficits and lift the nation's debt ceiling before Aug. 2 to avoid what his administration says would be a calamitous government default.

"There's no point in putting it off," he said. "We've got to get this done."

But neither Obama nor the divided Congress is making it easier. The White House has identified at least \$1.3 trillion in spending cuts over 10 years and is proposing up to \$400 billion in new tax revenue. Republicans want more spending cuts and no tax increases.

'Flying laboratory' dispatched to monitor air as crews battle wildfire near N.M. nuclear lab

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. (AP) — Los Alamos nuclear laboratory officials say it could be a few days before they'll know the extent of how experiments at the facility that created the first atomic bomb have been affected by a shutdown caused by a 125-square mile wildfire.

Lab Director Charles McMillan, who last month took over management of the lab that sits atop desert mesas, said Wednesday that teams will quickly figure out how things stand as soon as they're able to return.

The lab has been shut down since Monday, when all of the city of Los Alamos and some of its surrounding areas — 12,000 people in all — was evacuated.

There was no word on when it will reopen, but it was expected to remain idle at least through Friday.

Officials said the Los Alamos National Laboratory has some 10,000 experiments running at the same time that have been put on hold.

AP Exclusive: Older workers would pay more due to unintended consequence of health care law

WASHINGTON (AP) — Older adults of the same age and income with similar medical histories

would pay sharply different amounts for private health insurance due to what appears to be an unintended consequence of the new health care law.

Aware of the problem, the administration says it is exploring options to address a potential disparity that could mean added controversy for President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. The law expands coverage to more than 30 million uninsured people and would require most Americans to carry insurance.

The glitch mainly affects older adults who are too young for a Medicare card but have reached 62, when people can qualify for early retirement from Social Security.

Sixty-two is the most common age at which Americans start taking Social Security, although their monthly benefit is reduced.

As the health care law is now written, those who take early retirement would get a significant break on health insurance premiums.

That's because part or all of their Social Security benefits would not count as income in figuring out whether they can get federal subsidies to help pay for coverage until they become eligible for Medicare at 65.

New college cost reports allow students and parents to compare schools, track tuition hikes

Looking for a college bargain? Try any of nine University of Puerto Rico campuses, where annual tuition hovers at or below \$2,000.

Counting pennies? Avoid Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, a private school where tuition, fees and room and board exceeds \$50,000, making it one of the five most expensive schools on a new U.S. Department of Education guide to college costs.

The federal agency released its College Affordability and Transparency lists on Thursday to fulfill a reporting requirement passed into law in 2008. The online lists track tuition costs among the top and bottom 5 percent of four-year and two-year schools. The measures include public, private and for-profit colleges and universities.

Separate lists show the most and least affordable schools when scholarships and other financial factors are considered.

The Education Department says those "sticker prices" better reflect out-of-pocket attendance costs. Two other lists track the rate of tuition increases as well as the rate of increase in the average net price. And career college users interested in a specific track can search by their area of interest, such as cosmetology or automotive repair.

POPS IN THE PARK

Sunday, July 3rd

Comanche Trail Amphitheater

Big Spring, Texas

Featuring Music By
The Big Spring Symphony And Chorus
FAB-4 Beatles Tribute Band

Schedule Of Events:

5:00 P.M. ~ Gates Open at Amphitheater

5:00 P.M. ~ Food and Novelty Booths Open

6:00 P.M. ~ Performance by

The Fab 4 Beatles Tribute Band

7:45 P.M. ~ Welcome and Announcements

8:00 P.M. ~ Symphony Concert and

Flag Ceremony

9:25 P.M. ~ Video Presentation Recognizing

Servicemen & Women

9:45 p.m. ~ Fireworks Display

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Playoffs come down to who wants it more

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**
Sports Editor

Another, another short season. That is what the experts at Texas Football Magazine have predicted for the boys that make up Big Spring's football team. But one man is not convinced of that prognosis.

Steers' head coach Phillip Ritchey thinks the boys in black and gold may have some surprises in store for what has been billed as one of the toughest 3A districts in Texas.

"Yes, we are a very young team with a lot of kids who have not played much time on the varsity level," Coach Ritchey said. "But I think they may prove to be better than people are giving them credit for."

Young is right. The team returns one starter from last season. Yes, one.

Wide receiver and defensive back Toby Rodgers will stand alone with that distinction, but Coach Ritchey

hopes that the group of sophomores, that got a lot of playing time last year, will be able to step up and provide plenty of help defensively.

"We had eight sophomore that played a lot last year," he said. "I think they will be a big boost as juniors and should make us pretty strong on that side of the ball, with Max Pappajohn and Chris Nunez leading the charge"

On offense, the coach is handing the ball over to Garrett Stuteville. Though the new Steer quarterback took less than 10 snaps last season, Phillips expects him to take over as a leader of the team and make some things happen.

That may prove difficult at first, given the Steers lost the majority of their offensive line to graduation.

With an unproven line, an unproven quarterback, only the football gods know what will happen.

Still, the biggest fan of the Big Spring Steers continues to be their

head coach.

"There are a lot of uncertainties going into this season," Coach Phillips said.

"But the thing with that is that it can go both ways. I refuse to sell these boys short. I am excited to turn them loose and see what they can do."

The district might not be as top heavy as some might think, giving hope to several teams, Big Spring being the most likely.

Brownwood graduated a ton of players. and Abilene Wylie is starting over with a new quarterback. Last season, the Steers came within 11 points of defeating the powerhouse Bulldogs.

Snyder does look to be very strong this year and should make the playoffs easily.

However, the other two playoff spots are there for the taking.

Ritchey said if the Steers want one of those spots more than Brownwood or Wylie, then all they had to do is take it.

Kinsler homers twice, Rangers defeat Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Ian Kinsler was upset in the third inning on Wednesday night after he was hit in the stomach by a pitch, but charged with a strike when the umpire ruled it a missed bunt attempt.

He argued and Texas manager Ron Washington came out to argue, too, before he continued his at-bat.

When he launched his second homer in as many at-bats four pitches later, Kinsler changed his tune on the call.

Kinsler homered twice for the first time in almost two years and Colby Lewis had another solid start to lead the Rangers to a 3-2 win over the Houston Astros.

Kinsler hit a leadoff homer and also went deep in the third inning to help Texas to an early 3-0 lead. It was

the eighth multi-home run game of his career and his first since August 2009 against the Yankees.

"We won the game by one run, so I'll take it. He got the call right," Kinsler said of the play where he was hit before breaking into a huge smile.

In the end, Washington was also glad home plate umpire Bob Davidson called it a strike.

"He said the strike supersedes the hit by the pitch and it worked in our favor because he ended up getting us another run," Washington said.

Lewis (7-7) pitched six scoreless innings in the seventh inning to cut the Rangers lead to one.

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

Clemens trial to heat up

WASHINGTON (AP) — Baseball star Roger Clemens is arguing he should be allowed to introduce evidence during his upcoming steroid trial that the leading witness against him raped an unconscious woman and lied to police investigating the assault.

The move is part of Clemens' attempt to discredit his former trainer Brian McNamee, who was never charged in the assault investigation but admits he lied when questioned by Florida police in 2001. In a filing late Wednesday night, Clemens' attorneys argued the experience gave McNamee a motive to falsely accuse Clemens of using drugs to save himself from becoming a target of a federal criminal investigation in 2007.

That's the year McNamee told federal agents and investigators examining the role of performance-enhancing drugs in Major League

Baseball that he repeatedly injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone. The standout pitcher has steadfastly refuted McNamee's allegations and is going on trial next week on charges he lied to Congress about using drugs.

Prosecutors filed a motion last week asking U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton to restrict Clemens' attorneys' questioning of McNamee about the investigation during cross-examination or introducing evidence that the trainer assaulted the woman. Prosecutors said the issue could become a "sideshow" that would unfairly prejudice the jury against their leading witness.

The Florida investigation occurred in October 2001, when McNamee was an assistant strength and conditioning coach with the New York Yankees and had accompanied the team

to a series against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Police reports said McNamee was seen having sex with an incoherent woman in a St. Petersburg hotel pool and witnesses reported hearing her say, "No." The woman told police she could not remember what happened — the date rape drug GHB was found in her system — but said she did not give McNamee permission to have sex with her.

The Yankees did not contract after the investigation, but Clemens continued to work out privately with McNamee for years. Clemens' attorneys have said he was falsely accused and had only been trying to pull the woman out of the pool.

Clemens' attorneys argued it's a vital part of their case to introduce evidence that McNamee

See **TRIAL**, Page 2B

Briefs

Area sports-related camps, events and happenings.

Free junior tennis clinics

Free Junior Tennis Clinics will be held every Monday night from 5:30 to 6:30 at Figure 7. The cost is free and will be conducted by local coaches, players and pros.

Just bring a racquet (some can be provided if needed). Balls and water will be provided. For more information, call Dana Jones at 432-557-3831.

Howard County A&M Club Westexags shootout July 16

A golf tournament with a four-man Sherrill scramble format will be held July 16 at the Comanche Trail Golf Course. The start time will be 8 a.m. The cost is \$75 per person (carts not included). Respond by July 1 to westexags@hotmail.com or by calling 432-263-7969.

Volleyball camp July 25-28

BSISD's volleyball camp will be held July 25-28, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The camp is open to students in grades 3-8 for a fee of \$25. T-shirts can also be purchased for \$10. Call 432-264-3662 for information.

Football skills lineman camp July 16

Coach Tony Johnson, former TCU line coach, will be hosting a one-day camp for linemen in Big Spring July 16. The camp, which will run from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., will cost \$55 per player and is open to players 9-18 years-old.

For more information, contact Coach Johnson at 913-620-0167.

BSHS cheerleader rag ball tournament July 8-9

Big Spring High School Cheerleaders will be having their ragball tournament at Roy D. Anderson Complex July 8 from 6 p.m. until midnight and July 9 from 8 a.m. until the last game is played.

To register contact Kelli Wash at 213-3206, Brandi Borchardt at 816-2334 or Val Robertson at 213-8315.

Registration deadline will be July 8 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the complex. Fees are \$10 per person. Remember to get your receipt.

A full concession will be open.

Big Spring All-Stars rag ball tournament July 1-3

Big Spring softball all-stars are hosting their annual rag ball tournament July 1-3 at Roy Anderson Complex.

The cost is \$10 per person and the teams will consist of 10-16 players. Registration is July 1 from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Marie at 432-213-1208 or Lain at 432-213-5334.

Full Tilt Poker loses license

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Casino regulators on the British Channel Islands on Wednesday suspended the gambling license of Full Tilt Poker, halting the company's online card games and intensifying its legal problems in the U.S.

The Alderney Gambling Control Commission said in a statement it was immediately suspending Full Tilt's license after an investigation prompted by earlier federal indictments in New York, accusing company executives and associates of bank fraud, money laundering and other crimes.

Full Tilt officials did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

Online poker operations are illegal in the U.S. under a 2006 law that forbids financial institutions from processing payments related to illegal online gambling. Prosecutors in New York say employees of Full Tilt, Poker Stars and Absolute Poker skirted this law by disguising payments, creating shell retailers online and pushing money through as sales

for things like golf balls and flowers.

The Alderney commission said its internal investigation showed that Full Tilt employees and associates operated contrary to its gambling laws. It set a hearing on the matter for July 26 in London.

"The decision to suspend the eGambling license was in the public interest and, because of the seriousness and urgency of the matter, it required that immediate action be taken ahead of the regulatory hearing," said Andre Wilsenach, the commission's executive director.

PokerScout, a website that tracks online poker traffic worldwide, showed zero users playing on Full Tilt for real money Wednesday, down from an average of 9,000 at any given moment during the past week.

The commission's move prompted gambling regulators in the Isle of Man to reaffirm the licensing status of PokerStars, the world's largest online poker site that has faced the same legal trouble as Full Tilt.

"PokerStars continues to demonstrate compliance conditions in the Isle of Man," the Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Commission said in a statement. "PokerStars continues to offer withdrawals to any players who wish to withdraw their funds, including players in the USA to whom PokerStars does not currently offer real-money gaming."

Withdrawals have been a sticky topic for players loyal to the sites.

PokerStars, Full Tilt and Absolute Poker have all taken steps toward agreements with the U.S. Department of Justice to repay players who deposited online funds with the sites. But only PokerStars has begun actually repaying funds.

The site said in a statement it has repaid about \$120 million to Americans, keeping funds segregated from operating accounts.

PokerStars said it also remains in compliance with regulators in other jurisdictions including France, Italy and Estonia.

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1B

drugged and raped the woman. They also said they want to offer evidence — including excerpts of McNamee's unpublished autobiography, obtained through a defense subpoena — that show McNamee was "obsessed" by the investigation and felt he was mistreated by police and

the media.
"At the very least, this pattern of behavior establishes a motive and plan by Mr. McNamee to lie in 2007 when pressured by federal law enforcement personnel to name Mr. Clemens as a steroid user," Clemens' attorneys wrote. "As Mr. McNamee's own words make clear, his experience with Florida law enforcement did grave damage to his career and his relationship with his

family. Caught once again in an investigation of his own criminal behavior — this time his involvement with a drug dealer named Kirk Radomski — he was prepared to do anything to shift the focus from himself to others."
Clemens also has been trying to limit what jurors will hear in the case. He wants the judge to prevent his former New York Yankee teammates from testifying they got performance-enhancing drugs from McNamee because he said it could lead to "guilt by association."

But prosecutors responded Wednesday that they need the testimony from players like Andy Pettitte, Chuck Knoblauch and Mike Stanton to show that McNamee had access to drugs and knew how to inject them.

The prosecutors urged Walton to follow the lead of the judge in the Barry Bonds trial, who allowed evidence to be introduced that Bonds' alleged supplier gave drugs to other athletes.

"Just as a burglar's access to burglary tools would be relevant to a case involving a break-in, or an accountant's access to business checks would be relevant to a case involving embezzlement, Mr. McNamee's access to performance-enhancing drugs is relevant to whether he could possibly have supplied the drugs to defendant," assistant U.S. attorneys Steven Durham and Daniel Butler wrote in their filing. The prosecutors have said they plan to call about 45 witnesses, but have yet to reveal all the names.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

He allowed six hits and struck out six as the Rangers won their eighth straight game in Houston. "Colby was great tonight," Washington said. "He just got into that seventh inning and two pitches made me have to make a decision to get him out of that ball game. But up until that point he was just outstanding, had everything working."

Carlos Lee had a solo homer for the Astros, who have dropped five straight, eight in a row at home and have the worst record in the majors at 28-53.

"You never want to have that at any time," Houston manager Brad Mills said of his team's skid at Minute Maid Park.

"Home is the place where you want to get yourself right. Right now, we are going through a tough time. There's no doubt about it."

Neftali Feliz had a scoreless ninth for his 16th save.

Houston starter Brett Myers (3-7) allowed six hits and three runs in seven innings. He has given up a Major League-high 22 home runs, which are two more than he allowed last season.

Andres Blanco doubled after Kinsler's fourth leadoff homer of the season and the 17th of his career. Adrian Beltre's single to right field with one out scored Blanco to make it 2-0.

Kinsler's second homer opened the third inning and landed in the Crawford Boxes in left field to make it 3-0.

Lee's homer to left field that made it 3-1 came with one out in the seventh inning. Matt Downs doubled to the left field corner on the next pitch before Brett Wallace struck out.

Clint Barmes' single to shallow center field scored Downs and got Houston within 3-2.

"It was just a situation where they took advantage of my misses," Lewis said of the seventh inning. "They hadn't in previous innings and in that inning they kind of caught up to me."

Carlos Corporan's double to right field chased Lewis. He was replaced by Darren Oliver, who retired pinch hitter Jason Michaels to escape the jam.

Washington said it wasn't a difficult decision to pull Lewis when he did.

"He had come too far for me to let him throw one more pitch up there and let one of those guys come through with a base hit and there's the game, we're behind," Washington said.

"I felt like Colby didn't deserve that, so I went to the bullpen."

The Rangers' offense cooled off after the first few innings and Houston retired 15 straight after Lewis hit his first career double to start the fifth inning.

Lewis pitched a two-hitter for the first complete game of his career last June in a 5-1 win over the Astros at Minute Maid Park.

It looked as if he might be headed for another one before his seventh-inning breakdown after he yielded just two hits — both singles — and had thrown just 58 pitches through six.

Lewis sailed through the first three innings and didn't allow a hit until Hunter Pence singled to right field with two outs in the fourth inning.

He retired the next six in a row before Michael Bourn singled with two outs in the sixth inning, but Jeff Keppinger's pop fly ended the inning.

Bourn singled with no outs in the eighth inning, but was caught stealing. Oliver retired Keppinger before Mark Lowe struck out Pence to send it to the ninth.

Lee walked in the ninth inning, but was caught stealing on a strikeout by Wallace to end the game.

NOTES: Texas SS Elvis Andrus missed his fourth straight game after leaving Friday's game with a sprained left wrist.

Washington said he's OK, but he might give him another day off on Thursday.

Houston claimed OF Luis Durango off waivers from San Diego and optioned him to Triple-A Oklahoma City.

The team transferred reliever Alberto Arias to the 60-day disabled list to make room for Durango on the 40-man roster.

RHP David Carpenter was recalled by the Astros from Oklahoma City and C Brian Espinoza was optioned there.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



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A resource for newcomers to Big Spring and Howard County

**Publication Date: July 31, 2011
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Tomorrow brings the first new moon of the season, accompanied by a partial solar eclipse. This auspicious omen lends a clean slate to the area on which you focus. If you're unsure of where to aim your concentration, consider starting with your domestic environment. A renewed emotional climate at home will improve the rest of your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are many different ways to handle a tricky situation, though your prior conditioning may bring only one to mind. So go deeper. Ask "what else?" and let the brainstorming begin.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Telling someone who is frustrated to calm down is like telling a scared person to be brave -- a fine suggestion that's likely to be met with big-time resistance. Let people move through their feelings while you move through yours.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The smallest situation to the biggest, now is the time to make a plan for how you want to resolve each one and

write those plans down. Tomorrow's moon will bring luck to all who do the preliminary work.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Someone will ask you a question that, in some subtle way, encourages you to commit to a position. Consider that it may not benefit you to take a position or even answer at all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though you may turn to the world of celebrity as a fun escape, be careful not to wish to have the lives of others. Your own world is more enjoyable in so many ways and is definitely better for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Just as a loving parent will seek outside expertise to develop a child's abilities or help a child get healthier, you may need some outside help to solve a current problem. Be your own loving parent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you accept information that supports your point of view and reject information that doesn't, you are doing what is only natural and human. That doesn't make it right, though. Try to have an open mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Even the most dependable and balanced parts of your life are not entirely under your control -- something to admit, accept and

possibly even enjoy now that the surprises are likely to please you greatly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll do quite a lot with your day, but is it enough? That's the question that will stick with you even after you've closed your eyes to go to sleep, and your ambitions will fill your dreams.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will master the art of being easygoing. You can be high maintenance when you think it's appropriate. But for now, you're content to master the art of being

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Relax. Recharging your brain is as important as any of the other activities you do to maintain your health and well-being. It's as vital as brushing your teeth, eating nutritious food or taking a shower.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The one who puts you on the defensive has something to teach you, as well. It's not so easy to find the lesson when you're in the middle of the fight, but later you can look back and see it very clearly.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 30). You'll happily do more of what you're best at this year. You'll harmoniously co-exist with loved ones for the vast majority of the time. You'll enjoy independent work in July and be a valuable part of a group effort in August. October brings a financial opportunity, and you'll be able to help family with your new resources, too. Leo and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 24, 35 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Both my parents had a midlife crisis around 40, and I fear I'm heading for the

same. I don't want to divorce like my parents did or join the military like my mom. But I do feel like if something doesn't change, my life is all downhill from here. I haven't realized many of my dreams, and I feel like a major loser. I'm married with children and ordinary in every way, while some of my friends have done truly amazing things. What should a Virgo do to avert crisis?"

Virgo's critical inner voice can be what pushes Virgo past ordinary realms of mastery and into sublime levels of achievement. Or it can be a tormentor, nagging on every shortcoming, pointing out every mistake and generally making inner life miserable while you go through the motions of living. Resolve to befriend, parent and love yourself. Be a cheerleader instead of a tormentor. Give yourself credit for your accomplishments and all that is extraordinary about you -- there is much -- instead of constantly comparing yourself to others. You may not be able to get around this midlife crisis, but you can create a better relationship with yourself as you move through it.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Mike Tyson appears in the blockbuster hit "The Hangover 2," in which another character in the movie wakes up with Tyson's trademark facial tattoos. A sensitive Cancer with a tough outer shell, Tyson's led a life of extreme highs and lows. He's had nothing, then everything, then lost it all again. Mercury in Leo gives an instinct for entertainment and a need and ability to fascinate the public.

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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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

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♥A J 5
♦8 3
♣K J 9 4 2
EAST
♠K J 7
♥4
♦10 9 7 4 2
♣8 7 6 3
SOUTH
♠A 10 3
♥K Q 8 7 2
♦Q 5
♣A Q 5

The bidding:
East 1♥ **South** 4♥ **West** Pass **North** 4♥

Opening lead — four of spades.
This deal occurred during the 1986 world team championship in a match between England and Denmark. The final contract at both tables was four hearts, and both Wests found the only lead to pose a potential threat to declarer, a low spade.

At the first table, with an English pair North-South, declarer won East's jack with the ace and immediately played the Q-K-A of diamonds, discarding a spade on the third round. However, West ruffed the third diamond with the five of hearts

and led a low spade to East's king. **East thereupon** returned a fourth diamond, ruffed by declarer with the king. But the Danish West, Dennis Koch-Palmund, did not make the mistake of overruffing with the ace. He discarded a club instead, thereby assuring that he would eventually score a trick with the jack of hearts as well as the ace to put the contract down one.

At the second table, there was a seemingly minor variation in the play, but it made all the difference between the success and failure of the contract. Here the Danish South, Stig Werdelin, allowed East's jack to hold the first spade trick, and from that point on, there was no way the defenders could score more than three tricks.

In practice, East continued with a spade to South's ace, after which the Q-K-A of diamonds were played, declarer discarding his last spade as West ruffed. But now, thanks to South's duck at trick one, West could not put his partner on lead with a spade for the killing diamond return that would promote his jack of hearts.

Later, after the king of hearts had driven out the ace, declarer was able to pick up West's jack with the queen, giving the Danes a gain of 12 IMPs on the deal.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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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

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

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ANSWERS

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

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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King	Israel Alan Lee	News Business	70s Show Cash Cab	Beckinsale							
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me Wheel	Two Men Ent	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	Dr. Denis CCM	PBS News-Hour	Deadliest Catch			(:20) Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	Racing Around	SportsCenter
7:PM	Wipeout	Teresa (SS)	So You Think	Big Bang Rules	Mi Corazón Insiste	Commun 30 Rock	Movie: RV, Cheryl Hines	Dr. Denis Brad	Daytrip Parks	The Vampire Diaries	Deadliest Catch	Movie: A Few Good Men, Demi Moore	(:20) Jail	Bones	The BET Awards 2011	Random Good	Football	SportsCenter
8:PM	Expedition Imp.	Triunfo del Amor	Glee	CSI: Crime Scene	Herederos-Monte	Office Parks	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Pioneers, Television	Payne Browns	Swords: Life	IMPACT Wrestling	Bones			Shake It Movie: Sky High	The Complete Wimbledon	Football
9:PM	Rookie Blue	El Equipo (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	The Mental-ist	La Casa de al Lado	Love Bites	Fam. Guy									Fish	NFL Yrbk.	Baseball Tonight
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met	News	Noticias Titulares	News Update	Conan	CCM Van Impe	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Swords: Life	Movie: A Few Good Men, Demi Moore	UFC Countdown	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Vampire	NFL Yrbk.	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	El Cartel	Jay Leno	Lopez Tonight	Scrivner Schwarz	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	Swords: Life		Making MAN	Franklin & Bash	Wendy Williams	Wizards	Sports	Baseball
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Moving for Christ		Cops	Deadliest Catch		Trailers MAN	CSI: NY	Movie: Life, Obba Babatundé	Hannah	NASCAR	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Mujer Cero	King-Hill	(:37) Up to the Minute	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Influence Born	Cook County Jail	Movie: The Ladykillers	The Shield	Rizzoli & Isles		Deck Deck		SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



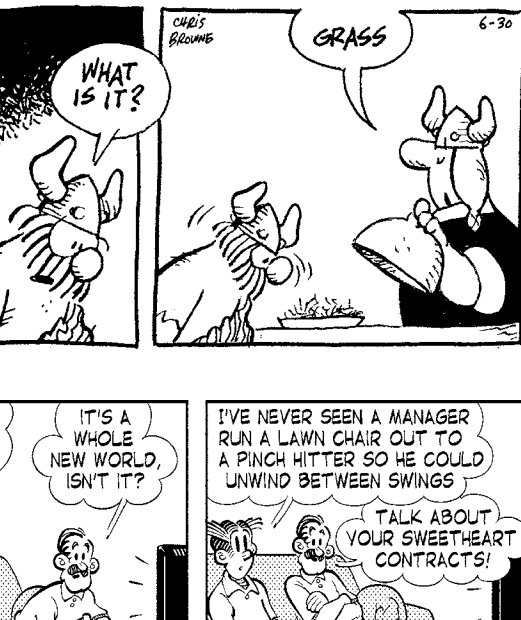
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



HAGAR



BLONDIE



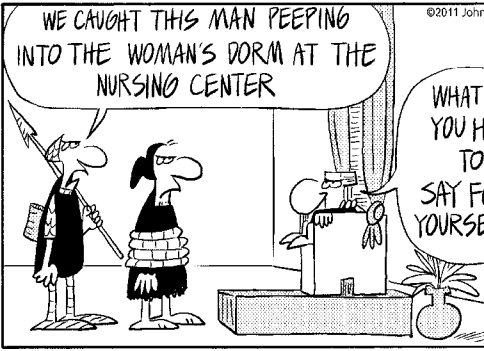
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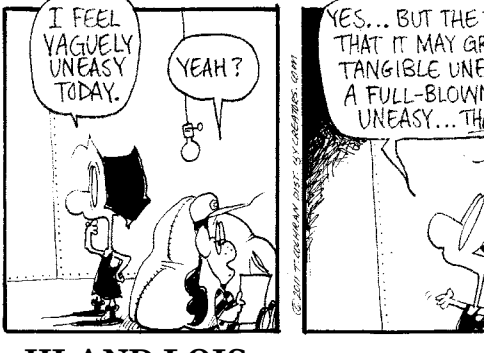
AGNES



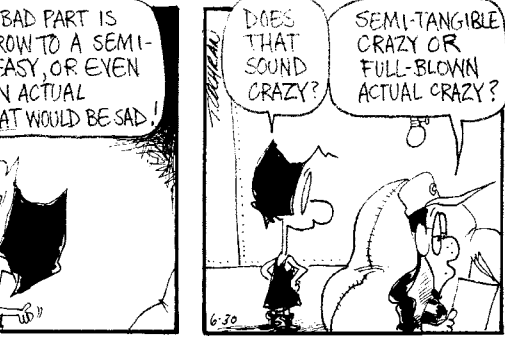
HI AND LOIS



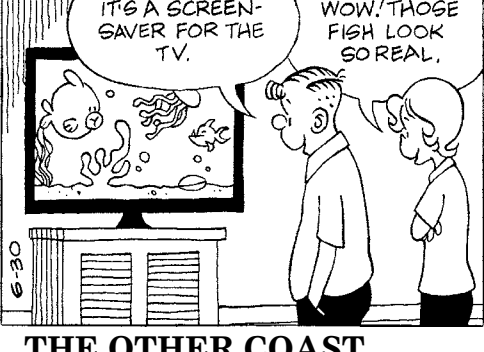
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

CHIC TO CHIC TO CHIC by Fred Jackson III
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Laudatory lines
5 Goes ballistic
10 Surfing surface
14 Sloping access
15 WWII vessel
16 Bearded flower
17 Actress Jessica
18 Reduce, with "back"
19 Dostoyevsky denial
20 Dapper Dan
23 Catch, as a calf
24 Made sounds in a stable
28 Three dots, to Morse
29 Sound of thunder
33 Broadcast as it happens
34 Convention
36 Say it's so
37 Dapper Dan
41 Close associate
42 Facilitators
43 Wiped out
46 Slight advantage
47 Campaign funding grp.
50 Ladies of Spain
52 ___ Day (April 22)
54 Dapper Dan
58 Goat cheese
61 One driving for dough
62 "Jabberwocky" starter
63 Completely wowed
64 "Hasta la vista!"
65 Taking care of business

DOWN

6 Off-white
67 Visit again
68 9-digit IDs
11 Custom conclusion
12 Be a contender
13 DC clock setting
21 Amplify, informally
22 Go astray
25 Busy place
26 Always
27 ___ Rosenkavalier (Strauss opera)
30 Medium's claim
31 "Right back ___!"
32 Register, as a complaint
34 Matured
35 Talking palomino of '60s TV
37 Accessory for 35 Down

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, June 30, the 181st day of 2011. There are 184 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 30, 1936, the epic Civil War novel "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell was first published by The Macmillan Co. in New York.

On this date:

In 1859, French acrobat Charles Blondin (blahn-DAN) walked back and forth on a tightrope above the gorge of Niagara Falls as thousands of spectators watched.

In 1860, the famous Oxford University Museum debate on Darwin's theory of evolution took place as Anglican Bishop Samuel Wilberforce led his side in denouncing the concept, while biologist T.H. Huxley rose to defend it.

In 1908, the Tunguska Event took place in Russia as an asteroid exploded above Siberia, leaving 800 square miles of scorched or blown-down trees.

In 1921, President Warren G. Harding nominated former President William Howard Taft to be chief justice of the United States, succeeding the late Edward Douglass White.

In 1934, Adolf Hitler carried out his "blood purge" of political and military rivals in Germany in what came to be known as "The Night of the Long Knives."

In 1958, the U.S. Senate passed the Alaska statehood bill by a vote of 64-20.

In 1961, electronics inventor Lee DeForest died in Hollywood at age 87.

In 1963, Pope Paul VI was crowned the 262nd head of the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1971, the Supreme Court ruled, 6-3, that the government could not prevent The New York Times or the Washington Post from publishing the Pentagon Papers. A Soviet space mission ended in tragedy when three cosmonauts aboard Soyuz 11 were found dead of asphyxiation inside their capsule after it had returned to Earth.

In 1985, 39 American hostages from a hijacked TWA jetliner were freed in Beirut after being held 17 days.

Answer to previous puzzle

BASRA	LATTE	MAG
ACTON	ONION	IRA
RHETT	BUTLER	NOT
NEWHOUSE	AMUSE	
INE	BIGOTED	
CANONS	SECEDE	
INAWAY	RAVED	MEW
TORE	LIVED	FARE
INN	REPEL	TRITE
YEAGER	CHIDED	
MEGATON	FEW	
AMORE	ALLATSEA	
NBA	COOKIE ISLANDS	
GET	ARKIE	PRANK
ORS	PEENS	SAGAS