

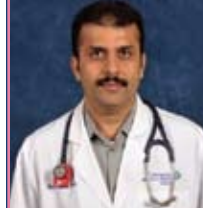
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WEDNESDAY

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Water restrictions tightened

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer
Big Spring City Council members gave the go-ahead for even tougher restrictions on water use Tuesday, as municipal officials continue to describe conservation efforts as "shooting at a moving target."

The council gave the green light to several conservation methods to be implemented by City Manager Gary Fuqua, including another decrease in the number of days allowing outdoor water use — including watering lawns — and implementation of a hotline for city residents to report infractions.

The decision came following a presentation by John Grant, general manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, who delivered dismal news regarding the state of area reservoirs. "Lake Thomas is currently 2.9 percent full. We estimate there

When to water

- Residential customers: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday only.
- Business customers: 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesday only.

Wildfire partially contained

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer
Howard County's long, hot summer continues. A trio of wildfires scorched thousands of acres in the eastern half of the county Tuesday, resulting in two volunteer firefighters being sent to a local hospital.

The largest of the three blazes — in the vicinity of Clay Lease near Garrett Ranch in eastern Howard County — consumed more than 3,000 acres and was only partially contained at midday today.

Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan said a downed oil company power line sparked the fire.

The remoteness of the area is hampering efforts to combat the blaze, Sullivan said, so crews have adopted the strategy of plowing fire breaks and setting up fire guards in an attempt to have the blaze eventually consume itself.

"Hopefully, at the end of the day, we'll have all our fire guards in place," said Sullivan, who estimated the fire was 45 percent contained as of this morning. "But this is probably going to burn for



HERALD Photos/Amanda Moreno and Thomas Jenkins
Firefighters were kept busy all day and through the night battling blazes in eastern Howard County.

the next couple of days." The scariest moment came Tuesday afternoon when a HCVFD unit was overtaken by the fire. The truck sustained heavy damage, but the two firefighters assigned to the unit were able to escape the situation and were later transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, where they were treated and released.

Crews from Glasscock and Mitchell counties and the Texas Forestry Service, along with privately owned bulldozers and water trucks, joined the Howard County firefighters in battling the blaze.

Two smaller fires ignited in the vicinity of Kenneth and Jill roads in Sand Springs just before 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Those blazes, which scorched about 15 acres but

See **FIRES**, Page 3A



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Ready for something different? Moonlight run set at state park

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

It's time to conquer the mountain in the moonlight.

The first Scenic Mountain Moonlight Rave Run will be Saturday starting at 11:55 p.m. Two others are scheduled Aug. 12 and Sept. 16.

"This is something we've never



Alton

done before and it will be a different experience than running in the daylight," Park Manager Ron Alton said.

Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the race will start at 11:55 p.m. The race will not be

timed and walkers are welcome. "Even though the event says it's a run, it's really just going to be a chance to come out, experience the mountain trail at night and just have fun," Alton said.

In order to help visibility, par-

See **RUN**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Glen Forgus

Glen Forgus, 88, of Big Spring died Wednesday, July 13, 2011, in a local nursing home. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- GLORIA KATHLEEN LUNA, 43, of 637 Manor, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- EUGENE DAVID MANRIQUEZ, 51, of 637 Manor, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 71, transient, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1800 block of Duquoin Place.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3600 block of Calvin.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 1400 block of E. Second Street.
In the 500 block of Westover Road.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 67 inmates at the time of this report.

- SHALYON TOBIAS CERDA, 33, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of injury to a child/elderly/disabled with intent to cause bodily injury – count two.
- SHANNON BOUDREAUX, 40, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication, possession of open container, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.
- KELLEN CRUZ PADRON, 20, was arrested Tuesday on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 71, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- BRIAN WILLIAM BAXTER, 36, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a pre-revocation from the Austin Parole Division, parole violation – manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance and a Cochran County warrant for intoxicated assault with a vehicle causing serious bodily injury.

- ERICK DAVE HERNANDEZ, 32, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHRISTINA MARTINEZ, 28, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- BELEN OLIVAS, 34, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of speeding and violation of a promise to appear.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Apache. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2200 block of Grace. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2400 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Albrook. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of Forsan. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

* The Big Spring Independent School District Redistricting Advisory Committee will meet at 10 a.m. Friday in the high school board room for the purpose of discussion and consideration regarding the redistricting of the school district's single-member trustee election districts after the 2010 U.S. Census. The committee will meet with the school district's attorney regarding redistricting options. The public is invited.

• American Legion Post 506 will have a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Carry outs are available. Plates are \$10 each. Delivery is available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084.

• Big Spring resident Matt Fowler was involved in a vehicle accident June 20 and is listed in critical, but stable condition at Odessa Medical Center. He has undergone two procedures and two surgeries,

with more to come. The family is in need of assistance with medical expenses. They ask for anyone wanting to help to send donations to P.O. Box 3315, Big Spring, 79720, Attn: Angela Morrow. The family extends its gratitude for all gifts.

• The Texas Department of State Health Services, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28B, will be offering "Back to School" immunizations from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 25 through Wednesday, July 27. Bring your child's immunization record. If you have the letter your child received from school, bring that also. No immunizations will be available July 18 through July 22. Normal immunization hours, Monday through Wednesday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., will resume Aug. 1.

• 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.

• A medical fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employee FCU for Maurine Pittman, who has been diagnosed with leukemia. She and her husband Gale are both off without pay at this time and may be for quite a while. Maurine is at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas at this time. To donate to the fund, 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.

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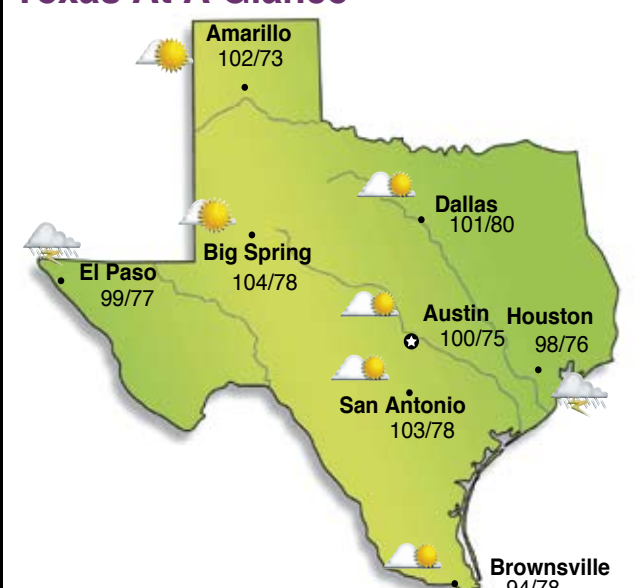
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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast				
Thu 7/14	Fri 7/15	Sat 7/16	Sun 7/17	Mon 7/18
104/78 Mostly sunny skies. Near record high temperatures. High 104F.	105/78 Mainly sunny. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.	104/76 Abundant sunshine. Highs 102 to 106F and lows in the mid 70s.	104/75 Sunshine. Highs 102 to 106F and lows in the mid 70s.	104/77 Sunny. Highs 102 to 106F and lows in the upper 70s.
Sunrise: 6:49 AM Sunset: 8:54 PM	Sunrise: 6:50 AM Sunset: 8:54 PM	Sunrise: 6:51 AM Sunset: 8:53 PM	Sunrise: 6:51 AM Sunset: 8:53 PM	Sunrise: 6:52 AM Sunset: 8:52 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	104	80	pt sunny	Kingsville	99	74	t-storm
Amarillo	102	73	mst sunny	Livingston	99	73	t-storm
Austin	100	75	pt sunny	Longview	99	78	t-storm
Beaumont	94	76	t-storm	Lubbock	102	76	pt sunny
Brownsville	94	78	pt sunny	Lufkin	99	75	t-storm
Brownwood	106	78	pt sunny	Midland	104	80	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	97	77	t-storm	Raymondville	98	76	pt sunny
Corsicana	99	77	pt sunny	Rosenberg	98	75	t-storm
Dallas	101	80	pt sunny	San Antonio	103	78	pt sunny
Del Rio	104	80	pt sunny	San Marcos	100	75	pt sunny
El Paso	99	77	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	99	79	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	101	77	mst sunny	Sweetwater	104	79	mst sunny
Gainesville	101	78	pt sunny	Tyler	100	77	t-storm
Greenville	100	77	pt sunny	Weatherford	103	78	pt sunny
Houston	98	76	t-storm	Wichita Falls	108	81	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	92	74	t-storm	Minneapolis	76	70	t-storm
Boston	77	60	sunny	New York	84	67	sunny
Chicago	79	66	pt sunny	Phoenix	99	73	sunny
Dallas	101	80	pt sunny	San Francisco	55	50	pt sunny
Denver	88	63	t-storm	Seattle	62	57	rain
Houston	98	76	t-storm	St. Louis	88	73	t-storm
Los Angeles	71	59	pt sunny	Washington, DC	86	70	sunny
Miami	90	79	rain				

WATER

Continued from Page 1A

is approximately 5,800 acre-feet of water left in the lake," Grant told the council. "Lake Spence is currently 0.8 percent full. We're still pumping from Spence, but very little. Lake Ivie is currently 25 percent full. That is where most of the water being delivered to Big Spring is coming from.

"We are currently pumping from the Ward County well field at full speed, but the biggest factor in our situation right now is the fact we've received absolutely no rain to help replenish our surface water."

Grant said efforts to bring a second pipeline from the Ward County fields online are under way, with the project expected to be completed by Jan. 1, 2013. The project, which he estimated at \$140 million, along with efforts to build a water reclamation plant in Big Spring could generate 45 million gallons of water per day for the Crossroads area.

Unfortunately, time is

quickly running out for the water district's long-standing reservoirs, according to Fuqua.

"If we don't receive rain to replenish our reservoirs, it's estimated we will run out of surface water completely by December of 2012," Fuqua said. "With the new pipeline expected to be completed by January 2013, you can see what a crunch for time we're currently in. That's one of the reasons it is so important we meet these water quotas."

Until the first of July, Big Spring had been meeting its mandatory 20 percent decrease in water deliveries, according to Fuqua. However, data gathered since the first of the month suggests that lucky streak has officially come to an end.

"We did really well the first few months," Fuqua said. "However, with the 20 percent decrease we need to stay at approximately 6.4 million gallons each day. Sunday, which was a watering day, we used about 8 million gallons.

"Once we add into

our daily average the 17 percent which is being used by the (Big Spring) Refinery, we're at about 7.2 million gallons a day, which is well over our quota. We simply can't meet the quota with two watering days each week. We're going to have to go to a one-day per week schedule."

The new schedule — implemented Tuesday — calls for residential water customers to restrict outdoor water use to Saturdays from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Businesses are also required to abide by the one-day policy, restricting outdoor water use to Tuesdays from 6 a.m. until 10 a.m.

Fuqua said variances will be considered, however, but those seeking such waivers will have to show more than just an inconvenience.

"These restrictions are inconvenient to everyone, so that's certainly not going to be a reason to issue a variance," Fuqua said.

A hotline for area residents to call and report violations of the conservation regulations has also been established, according to Fuqua.

"People can call 432-264-2548 to report misuse of water," Fuqua said. "This hotline is available 24-hours a day.

According to Police Chief Lonnie Smith, city officials will be checking the hotline — which allows callers to record a message with details regarding the violations — daily. Code enforcement officers, as well as

police officers, will also be on the lookout for offenders throughout the day.

City officials said they will do their best to work with those abusing the conservation regulations, however, those caught violating the ordinance repeatedly will face consequences, which could include a stiff fine in municipal court.

"We don't want to pull your water meter, but we can't let that water run down the street," Mayor Tommy Duncan said during the meeting.

One change the council was unable to make during Tuesday's meeting is to abolish a rule that allowed water customers to water their lawns — regardless of day or time — as long as it was being done by hand. That loophole was expected to be closed during a special meeting Friday; however, city officials announced this morning that the meeting has been canceled.

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

Support Groups

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.

• Parents Empowering Parents, first and third Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m. Northside Community Center. Support group for parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, adoptive-foster parents or stepparents. Professional facilitator, parent-led discussions on variety of topics.

• Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.

FIRES

Continued from Page 1A

resulted in no significant property damage, drew the attention of firefighting crews from the city of Big Spring, along with units

from Howard and Mitchell counties.

Sullivan said the fire was mostly contained to an area south of Interstate 20, although it briefly jumped north of the highway around 7 p.m. Prompt response by a Forestry Service helicopter water tanker unit prevented the

blaze from spreading further, he added.

The cause of the Sand Springs fire is still under investigation, Sullivan said.

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

RUN

Continued from Page 1A

Participants are asked to wear neon colors or light-colored shirts. There will be a car in front of the runners in order to watch for any night visitors, including foxes, skunks or snakes.

"Skunks and snakes are able to be seen in the moonlight and the foxes tend to stay away, but it is always a good thing to have the vehicle ahead in order to spot them early," Alton said.

According to Alton, this will be a good opportunity for area resi-

dents to take a run or a walk in an interesting environment.

"It's amazing how much light comes from the moon. The outdoor setting and twinkling lights make for a relaxing experience," Alton said.

Registration will be \$20 for each run/walk, \$35 for two and \$40 for all three runs. The registration price includes one T-shirt.

Go to timingspecialist.com for more details.

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

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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

Time to rock the amphitheater

Saturday, more than 10 West Texas bands and musicians will take over the Comanche Trail Amphitheater for West Fest — an all-day music festival.

The acts will come from Big Spring, Midland and Odessa.

The first band will take the stage at 11 a.m. and the music won't stop until the last band decides to leave the stage.

According to Chris Mason, the brainchild behind West Fest, each band will have the stage for an hour, including their breakdown time.

Admission to the event is free and Crossroads residents are invited to make a day out of it. There will be barbecue sandwiches and other items available for purchase, provided by David Baird from The Wish List.

Considering the music venues in Big Spring are limited, West Fest is an opportunity for residents to hear original music and for the bands to get out in the public eye.

This is the first year for West Fest to occur, but is an event hoped to be accepted well by the community and turned into an annual event.

A list of entertainment performing at West Fest are:

- Waiting for Sunday, Odessa
- Cure the Infection, Odessa
- The Dusty Roads Band, Midland
- Fatal Flaws, Big Spring
- Adrian Calvio, Big Spring
- Brandon Falkner and Adam Hyatt, Big Spring
- Keith Hilario, Big Spring
- Cheridan Fulgham, Big Spring
- Scott Jones, Odessa
- Read Them A Riot, Big Spring.

Of course, West Fest isn't all there is to do this weekend. Don't forget about the screening of Ghostbusters downtown Friday night, a preview of the bands from West Fest and Under West Texas Skies. Saturday will also start off with a Gregg Street cruise and the Golden Ticket Giveaway.

This weekend there will be plenty to do for the entire family. It's a great time to showcase Big Spring and all that it has to offer.

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

With You, Lord, we can find opportunities for advancement.

Amen

Harry Potter and the wizardry of engaging numerous readers

As "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows — Part 2," is set to hit theaters Friday, consider J.K. Rowling's villains.

Nasty boy Draco Malfoy's first name is downright draconian; any last name that starts with Mal does not bode well. His aunt Bellatrix (female warrior) is also LeStrange. The sibilant-rich and spiteful Severus Snape possesses a name that needs no explanation. Dolores Umbridge? The senior undersecretary of the Ministry of Magic takes constant umbrage at any and all who challenge her authority.

Even if young readers did not realize it, Rowling infused her characters with context and linguistic markers. Rowling was a French and classics major at Exeter University. Hence the Latin derivatives, old-school Briticisms and French panache.

Of course, it is the story of an ordinary 11-year-old boy who discovers he is a wizard that reels in readers. Harry is not just any wizard; he is "the boy who lived" after a fatal battle between his parents and a dark lord.

At the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry,

Harry befriends Ron and Hermione. For the first time, the orphan feels a sense of family. Draco Malfoy does his best to make the three feel inferior, but Harry, Ron and Hermione discover and develop their own talents. They must learn how to harness magic without being corrupted by it. And they must destroy the dark Lord Voldemort (French for "flight from death") before he annihilates them.

Adults can appreciate that, without lecturing, Rowling makes a strong case for kindness — without which knowledge is hollow.

Harry's father, James, used magic for frat-boy pranks, but mother Lily's love gave her the strength to protect her son from Voldemort.

While waiting for a delayed train in King's Cross Station in 1990, Rowling conceived the idea for the books. A divorced single mother on welfare, she began to write. She was rejected. She didn't give up. She found an agent — and more rejections. In 1997, Bloomsbury bought "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" with an advance of 1,500 British Pounds.

In 2004, Forbes dubbed Rowling the first billion-dollar author. (I like to think that's the power of Latin. I know it is the power of creativity.)

In a sense, J.K. Rowling is Harry Potter. But for Rowling, words are the magic. Pages

became the canvas on which she transformed the everyday world. While the movies convey the author's bounty of imagination, the books convey the long slog and pangs of doubt that plague the high-stakes quest.

Now that the last Harry Potter movie follows the last Harry Potter book, tomorrow's children will not know the excitement that greeted the release of a new Harry Potter book or movie. But it is a tiny miracle that so many children in a generation weaned on TV, the Internet and video games one day decided to pick up a book and engage in the solitary pursuit of reading.

Although products and amusement rides followed, the Potter plot wasn't constructed around merchandising. Rowling invented a complex world, with layered individuals and rough consequences. She wrote with a robust vocabulary — Latin included — and children ate it up. There has to be a lesson in here somewhere.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Obama meets the 'Tweeple' at the first Twitter town hall meeting

Watching Barack Obama at the world's first Twitter town hall was like watching a slugger in a batting cage.

If anything came even near the plate, he smacked it for a hit.

Not even a high, inside fast-ball directed at his head by Republican House Speaker John Boehner brushed him back much. "After embarking on a record spending binge that's left us deeper in debt, where are the jobs?" Boehner tweeted.

That's the corrected version, anyway. The real version had some typos or electronic hiccups like a lot of tweets do. Tweeting is a little like appearing on live television:

You can take a long time to think about what you want to say, but it's real tempting not to.

In any case, Obama fouled off the first pitch — "First of all, John obviously needs to work on his typing skills" — but then made solid contact. "This is a slightly skewed question," the president said. "Republicans are resistant" to making necessary changes, and he has not "gotten the cooperation I'd like to see."

And then the kee-rack of the bat: "Eventually, I'm sure the speaker will see the light."

The speaker was not there to respond. Nobody who asked a question was. Which is why the president never struck out. Twittering — typing questions of 140 characters or fewer on the Internet — has become a national mania, with some 110 million tweets being sent by tweeple into the twitterverse each day.

I have been tweeting for less than eight weeks under the name @politicoroger and am totally hooked. It is a medium made for the wisecrack kid who was always made to stand in the

hall because he talked too much in class.

But the tweets that got through to the White House Wednesday were carefully "moderated" by, in the words of the official White House release, a "team of seasoned Twitter users." Not that they were White House skills. Drew Cline, tweeting under @DrewHampshire, was a moderator, and he is the conservative editorial page editor of the New Hampshire Union Leader.

The idea of the Twitter town hall, similar to presidential debates in which questions are submitted by email, is based on the "wisdom of crowds" notion that if enough ordinary citizens ask questions, they will be superior to or, at least equal to, the questions asked by "experts," in this case the White House press corps.

Did it succeed? Well, sometimes. Because the tweets were moderated — and some 169,000 were submitted — it is hard to know exactly what the vast "crowd" really wanted to know if it could get any question to the president.

Further, expertise is not something to be sniffed at. For all the grief they take — much of it from the twitterverse — most White House reporters are extremely knowledgeable, hard-working, and often lay experts on domestic and foreign affairs.

When Slate, one of the best sites on the Internet, was founded in 1996, it drew a lot of negative reaction because it was using paid, professional writers, which was contrary to the ethos of the early Internet. Anybody can write, critics said, so why use professionals?

Slate's first editor, Michael Kinsley, responded that anybody could cook, but when he went to a restaurant, he wanted a professional chef in the kitchen. (Kinsley probably said it better than that.)

And the tweeters were at a disadvantage Wednesday: They were limited to questions of 140 characters. A White House reporter can take 140 characters

to clear his throat.

The real problem, as with all Internet town halls, is that there was no opportunity for follow-up questions. The follow-up question is the key to good interviewing, pinning down the subject after he tries to slither away with a non-answer to the initial question.

Which is why presidents often hate follow-up questions and have tried to limit or even eliminate them from news conferences.

The other problem was that Obama was not limited to 140 characters in his answers. He should have been. That could have made for a spectacular event. (According to Michael Shear of The New York Times, Obama averaged 2,099 characters in his answers, which equaled 14.99 Twitter messages.)

As it was, the president often gave very long answers, and after about an hour, the cable channels cut away from him, some preferring to have talking heads talking about the live news conference rather than continuing to broadcast the live news conference.

With no follow-up questions and unlimited time to answer, Obama often fell into his "professor" mode. Asked about education, Obama began with: "Look, when America went to an industrial economy from an agrarian economy ..." and then went on for quite some time, concluding that "education has always paid off," but we can't pay teachers "poverty wages" or have schools "with rats running around."

By the time he had finished the answer, you had forgotten the question. Home run!

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS



ROGER SIMON

Why not check this out at the library?

The Library really does benefit from donated items. We look them over, check the publishing date, look at the condition, and, of course, the content.

While rearranging the collection, it was noted the cooking section was a little dated.

Then "what to my wondering eyes should appear" (not Santa in his sleigh), but a whole box of cookbooks were donated to us. Get ready to check out some excellent cookbooks to spice up your repertoire.



HOLLIS
McCRIGHT

Stephen Pyles is the award-winning chef at Star Canyon, a nouveau Texan restaurant in Dallas. When you think of Texas food, chicken-fried steak, chili, Tex-Mex and barbecue come to mind. That really does not do justice to the eclectic nature of Texans and their roots.

When visiting the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio, you soon realize people from many, many countries immigrated to Texas. Germans, Alsatians, French, Scotch, Irish, Spanish, Mexican, Native Americans, Chinese, Hmong ... the list could go on forever.

Pyles' "The New Texas Cuisine" (641.597 PYL S) gives homage to many cultures. His book is split up into 15 chapters, each dealing with a different "part" of the meal. Be sure to check out chapter 14, desserts. Excellent!

To Jacque Pepin, every meal is a celebration and he delights in creating delicious offerings. In "Jacques Pepin Celebrates," (641.5 PEP J) he takes you on a journey through his

heritage, from breads, to meats, roux, sauces, desserts, foie gras and many other delicacies. It's not "home" cooking like Mama used to make in my family, but I do feel you can glean some good recipes to introduce to your family.

From Williams-Sonoma, comes "Savoring Soups & Salads" (641.813 WIL C), recipes compiled by Chuck Williams.

It gathers from diverse countries favorite salads and soups. North America contributes Corn and Black-eyed Peas Salad; from Asia comes Spicy Chicken Soup; France contributes Melon and Fig Salad with Basil Cream; and there are many other recipes that sound delicious. Plus, with a soup you are not so committed to it, so to speak.

From the editor's of Cook's Illustrated is a series of cookbooks with Italian Classic, the Best Chicken Recipes, Make-Ahead Recipes and several others.

You can find the titles to all of these in the New Book Binder at the front desk.

OK, after cooking and eating all the delish recipes from above, you may need this next book: "The Carb Lovers Diet" (613.283 KUN E) from the editor of Health magazine, Ellen Kunes.

It says on page 59 that "your longing for real food" will end; "you'll feel more energized" and so on and so on.

Try it, it seems not to be very radical; you will change what you have for breakfast and adjust portion sizes to what are appropriate for you.

Jonathan Franklin has written "33 Men" (363.119 FRA J), a story about the 33 Chilean miners and how they were rescued.

On the morning of Aug. 5, 2010, men gathered at the entrance of a copper mine in Chile, for their 12-hour shift. About 11:30 a.m., the earth cracked and the miners scrambled to the safe room.

This is their story of survival and resilience in a horrible situation.

Have you ever wondered why you did a stupid thing? William B. Helmreich, has written "What Was I Thinking?: The Dumb Things We Do and How to Avoid Them" (155.92 HEL W).

Based on hundreds of interviews and research, Helmreich, concludes road rage, shoplifting, cheating, etc is not only psychological, but also part of our culture, history and values. When you can understand these causes, we can then address our behavior and improve our lives.

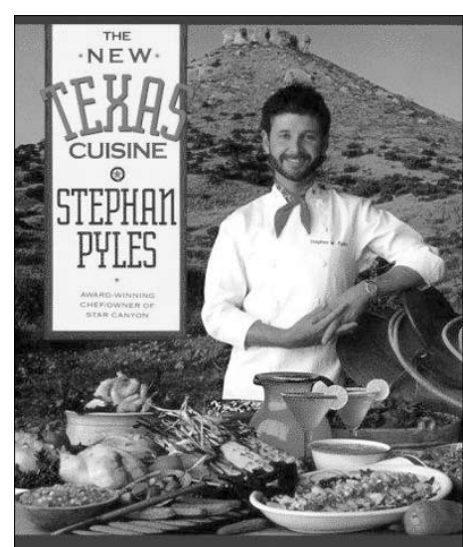
Don Pipe wrote "90 Minutes in Heaven" and he has come out with a new book, "Getting to Heaven: Departing Instructions for Your Life Now" (248.4 PIP D).

His message of hope and love draws from Piper's personal experience and words from the Gospel. Don distills your departing instructions for life in the here and now.

We have been taking out some of our old, tattered Westerns and replacing them with new titles.

William W. Johnstone is a prolific writer of the Last Mountain Man Series and we now have "Dakota Ambush" (LP W JOH W) available.

Frank Leslie is another award winning writer who has written "Bullet for a Half-Breed" (LP W LES F), Peter Brandvold's "The Devil's Winchester" (LP W BRA O) features Lou Prophet, bounty hunter and "The Naked Range" (LP W LAW S)



from Steven C. Lawrence is now in.

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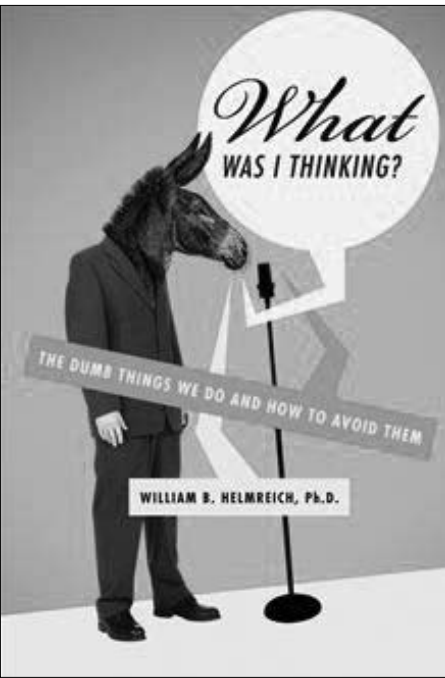
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Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



Texas' official tall ship no longer seaworthy

By HARVEY RICE

HOUSTON CHRONICLE
GALVESTON — The official tall ship of Texas is in trouble.

The iron and steel bottom of the three-masted 1877 Elissa is nearly rusted through in places, prompting the U.S. Coast Guard to declare that the vessel is not seaworthy.

Officials at the Texas Seaport Museum in Galveston where the Elissa is berthed were astonished when a Coast Guard inspection earlier this year revealed the rotten hull.

The tall ship is inspected twice every five years, said John Schaumburg, museum assistant director. The latest inspection uncovered the worst rot since the tall ship was rebuilt in 1982, he said.

Very little corrosion was discovered during the previous dry dock in 2008, prompting surprise that the bottom could have deteriorated so quickly, Schaumburg said.

"Everyone's jaw just dropped," said Ed Green, one of about 100 volunteer crew members from Houston. About half of the volunteers are from Houston, as are most of the ship's visitors,

Schaumburg said.

No one knows for sure what caused the rapid deterioration, but officials suspect that Hurricane Ike might be the culprit. Elissa rode out the September 2008 storm at a special mooring designed for violent storms, losing a sail, a spar and suffering some other minor damage.

The worst damage was unseen, Schaumburg said. Sea water eats into any metal, so 15 zinc "anodes" are fastened to the hull to draw off the corrosion. Naturally occurring electrical currents draw the corrosion to the anodes, Schaumburg explained.

Officials believe that an electric current, possibly caused by an electric line dislodged by the storm, may have caused the rapid erosion, he said.

The series of inspections were conducted at the Bollinger Texas City LP ship yard. Enough repair was done to allow the Elissa to sail back to Galveston, where it will remain until it celebrates the 30th anniversary of its reconstruction at a Greek shipyard.

By then the museum hopes to have raised \$3 million to replace

the hull as well as do a long overdue replacement of the fir deck and deck furniture, such as the companionway and skylight.

Schaumburg said officials won't know until refitting begins whether the entire hull below water will need replacement or only the 54 corroded steel plates, each 4 feet by 10-12 feet. If all goes according to plan, the Elissa will be sailing again in 2012, he said.

The museum is negotiating with a professional fundraiser and has established a system that allows \$10 donations to be made by texting 50555.

Green, a 7-year volunteer, said it is vital that the Elissa keep sailing.

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News in brief

Debt talks grind on, clock ticks toward default

WASHINGTON (AP) — Budget talks between President Barack Obama and his GOP rivals are at a frustrating standstill, leading a top Republican to launch a long-shot proposal to give Obama sweeping new powers to muscle through an increase in the government's debt limit without the approval of a bitterly divided Congress.

Lawmakers return to the White House for another negotiating session Wednesday. A two-hour session Tuesday

produced no progress after a day of poisonous exchanges between Democrats and Republicans.

Saying he didn't see a path to an agreement so long as Democrats insist on revenue increases, Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky offered a backup plan that would, in effect, guarantee Obama requests for new government borrowing authority unless Congress musters veto-proof majorities to deny him.

McConnell's plan immediately ran into stiff opposition among tea party conservatives and seemed unlikely to pass

the House, but neither the White House nor House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, dismissed it out of hand.

"I think everybody agrees there needs to be a backup plan if we can't come to an agreement," Boehner said in a Fox News Channel interview Tuesday afternoon. "And frankly, I think Mitch has done good work."

Prosecutors eye CIA officer in prisoner's death

WASHINGTON (AP) — A CIA officer who oversaw the agency's interrogation program at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq and pushed for approval to use increasingly harsh tactics has come under scrutiny in a federal war crimes investigation involving the death of a prisoner, witnesses told The Associated Press.

Steve Stormoen, who is now retired from

the CIA, supervised an unofficial program in which the CIA imprisoned and interrogated men without entering their names in the Army's books.

The so-called "ghosting" program was sanctioned by CIA headquarters. In fact, in early 2003, CIA lawyers expressly prohibited the agency from running its own interrogations, current and former intelligence officials said. The lawyers said agency officers could be present during military interrogations and add their expertise but, under the laws of war, the military must always have the lead.

Yet, in November 2003, CIA officers brought a prisoner, Manadel al-Jamadi, to Abu Ghraib and, instead of turning him over to the Army, took him to a shower stall. They put a sandbag over his head, handcuffed him behind his back and chained his arms to a barred window. When he leaned forward, his arms stretched painfully behind and above his back.

The CIA interrogated al-Jamadi alone. Within an hour, he was dead.

Poll shows baby boomers upbeat about their age

WASHINGTON (AP) — Baby boomers say wrinkles aren't so bad and they're not that wor-

ried about dying. Just don't call them "old."

The generation that once powered a youth movement isn't ready to symbolize the aging of America, even as its first members are becoming eligible for Medicare. A new poll finds three-quarters of all baby boomers still consider themselves middle-aged or younger, and that includes most of the boomers who are ages 57-65.

Younger adults call 60 the start of old age, but baby boomers are pushing that number back, according to the Associated Press-Life-GoesStrong.com poll. The median age they cite is 70. And a quarter of boomers insist you're not old until you're 80.

"In my 20s, I would have thought the 60s were bad, but they're not so bad at all," says 64-year-old Lynn Brown, a retired legal assistant and grandmother of 11 living near Phoenix in Apache Junction, Ariz.

The 77 million boomers are celebrating their 47th through 65th birthdays this year.

Bipartisan tribute to Betty Ford at Calif. memorial

PALM DESERT, Calif. (AP) — She was more than just a first lady, admirers said of Betty Ford. She was a role model for every presidential wife who followed her into the White

House, not to mention a tireless advocate for women's rights and other causes that improved the lives of millions.

Ford, who died Friday at age 93, was memorialized Tuesday by some 800 friends and family members, including no fewer than four current and former first ladies and one ex-president.

On Wednesday she was to leave her adopted Southern California home for the last time, headed to Grand Rapids, Mich., where her husband, President Gerald R. Ford, who died in 2006, is buried.

A second service was scheduled Wednesday in Michigan at which Lynne Cheney, wife of former Vice President Dick Cheney, was to speak. Among those expected to attend was former first lady Barbara Bush.

Thousands join Afghan president for funeral

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — Thousands of people joined Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday in a dramatic funeral ceremony for his slain half brother, assassinated the day before in his home by a close associate.

Ahmed Wali Karzai was gunned down Tuesday by one of his closest confidants — an assassin from his own tribe and hometown, whom he traveled with and worked beside for seven years.

The slaying left a dangerous power vacuum in the south as the Afghan government pursues peace talks with insurgents ahead of a U.S. troop withdrawal.

Democrat wins hotly contested California race

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Democrat Janice Hahn has defeated Republican Craig Huey in a bitter contest for a Southern California House seat, preserving her party's hold on the district and surviving an unusually tough race in a longtime stronghold.

With all reporting, Hahn, a Los Angeles city councilwoman, had 41,585 votes, or about 55 percent, to 34,636, or about 45 percent, for Huey, who owns marketing and advertising companies and largely bankrolled his campaign with nearly \$900,000 in personal funds.

Huey campaign spokeswoman Jennifer Jacobs says her candidate has left a message with Hahn's office to concede the race.

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News in brief

Snyder policeman wounded, suspect killed in shooting

SNYDER (AP) — Residents of this small West Texas town gathered outside the town's courthouse Tuesday night to pray as a police officer fought for his life after he was shot in the head.

The prayer vigil outside the Scurry County Courthouse in Snyder honored Snyder police Cpl. Darrell Campbell, who was in critical condition in University Medical Center in Lubbock after the Tuesday morning shooting. Another officer shot and killed the gunman, whom police identified as Dwayne Birmingham.

Amy Sartain is a close friend of the wounded officer's family and is caring for Campbell's two children while his wife maintains her hospital vigil. Sartain tells KCBD-TV of Lubbock that the crowd gathered to support a man who had protected them for years.

Snyder police said the 41-year-old Campbell and another officer responded to a call of shots fired about 12:35 a.m. Tuesday, when one of the men they were talking pulled out a handgun and fired at Campbell. He was struck in the head, police said.

The other officer, Lee Ortiz, then fatally shot the suspect, identified by police as Dwayne Birmingham.

Campbell was airlifted to University Medical Center in Lubbock, where a spokesman said he was in critical condition late Tuesday night after surgery.

The Snyder Daily News online edition Tuesday reported that Campbell was scheduled to be off work at 11 p.m. Monday but stayed on duty to help answer calls. He previously had been an officer in Sweetwater, the paper reported.

4 Dallas firefighters injured battling house fire

DALLAS (AP) — Four Dallas firefighters have been injured battling an early morning house fire.

Dallas Fire Rescue spokesman Jason Evans said when firefighters arrived at the vacant,

one-story wood-frame house shortly after midnight Wednesday they saw flames rising from the back of the roof.

Evans said a firefighter working on top of the house was injured when the roof collapsed beneath him.

He landed near a fire-fighting team working inside the house and was immediately helped out.

Evans said that firefighter suffered facial burns and smoke inhalation and was taken to Parkland Hospital where he was in stable condition.

Dallas hospital fined \$50,000 in ER tragedy

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas hospital must pay a \$50,000 fine for failing to properly treat a patient who died of a heart attack after waiting 17 hours for care in the emergency room.

Federal health regulators slapped Parkland Memorial Hospital with the maximum fine allowed in the case of Mike Herrera who died in 2008.

The Dallas Morning News reports Wednesday that the hospital violated the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act by failing to provide timely and proper medical treatment for Herrera who had extreme abdominal pain.

Parkland president and chief executive Dr. Ron Anderson called Herrera's death a tragedy. He said the hospital has reached a settlement and taken

several steps to improve its quality including reducing emergency room wait times.

Rep. Ron Paul of Texas to retire from Congress

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. Rep. Ron Paul said Tuesday he will concentrate on running for president and will not seek re-election to Congress, ending a 24-year career as one of the more colorful members of the House of Representatives.

The 75-year-old Republican said he will serve out his term through December 2012, whether his presidential campaign is successful or not. He told The Associated Press he has been criticized for running for Congress while seeking the presidency in the past.

Paul said the growing support for his 2012 presidential bid convinced him he should not divide his energies. He won a straw poll at the Republican Leadership Conference held in New Orleans last month.

"I think that you have more credibility if you run for only one office at a time," Paul said. He acknowledged that he may miss some House votes because of the presidential campaign, but that his staff would continue to provide constituent services.

As for the issues he feels passionately about, including U.S. foreign and economic policy, he said he will continue to fight for those either as president or from out-

side government.

Autopsy: Toddler swallowed gasoline

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Preliminary autopsy results show that a 2-year-old South Texas boy died after swallowing gasoline.

Cameron County Sheriff Omar Lucio revealed the results Tuesday of the autopsy on Leonardo Silva, who died after the June 27 incident.

Lucio tells The Brownsville Herald that the child apparently swallowed the gasoline while momentarily without parental supervision. Lucio says the pathologist said the fumes from the ingested gasoline burned the child's lungs.

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Texas plants will get air permits

HOUSTON (AP) — Nearly 140 Texas plants, including some of the nation's largest refineries, have reached a deal with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to receive new permits even though a long-standing battle between the Lone Star State and the federal agency is far from over. The EPA's announcement Tuesday that it reached a deal for all 136 companies to apply for

new permits came more quickly than initially expected when the agency ruled last year that Texas' so-called "flexible permits" violated the federal Clean Air Act. At the time, Texas blasted the EPA ruling, challenging it in court and saying it could hurt the companies' bottom-lines, lead to layoffs or even force some facilities to go bankrupt. The EPA, however, determined to move

quickly despite stiff state opposition and worked directly with the companies to reach the deals — an unusual move for a federal agency that has often taken a broader view of environmental regulation, leaving permitting for the states to handle. The long-running tit-for-tat between Texas and the EPA, which has evolved from one over environmental regulation into a fight over

states' rights, led the federal agency to take an unusual hands-on attitude in the Lone Star State, even as the battle continues. Gov. Rick Perry frequently uses the EPA as an example of the Obama administration meddling in state affairs, an issue he could push more forcefully as he considers a GOP presidential run. Just last week, Perry slammed the EPA for including Texas in new rules that will require the state's coal-fired power plants to cut down on smog and acid-rain causing pollution. For the companies, however, operating stability is key, and so they worked directly with the EPA to resolve the thorny issue that could have forced them out of business. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality insisted Tuesday its permits were acceptable, saying the EPA had forced businesses into "this additional, unnecessary permitting process ... even though existing permits were legal and protective of the environment." Perry spokeswoman Katherine Cesinger said the agreements reinforce the governor's argument of federal intrusion into state affairs. "Texas' flexible permitting process was already in full compliance with the federal Clean Air Act, and the unnecessary processes the EPA strong-armed Texas businesses into undertaking will result in zero environmental benefit."

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Courtesy photo

The Big Spring Little League Senior Division All-Stars will compete in the State Tournament in Ft. Worth, which starts July 20. Kneeling from left to right are: Marcus Lopez, Austin Mize, David Juarez, Roy Gomez and Sagar Patel. Standing from left to right are: Coach Jim Crenshaw, Luke Still, Tucker Durham, Taylor Heckler, Coach Bryan Kligore, Austin Cantu, Case Harrison, Caleb Stanley and Coach Richard Gomez.

Fielder hits 3-run homer to give N.L. 5-1 All-Star victory

PHOENIX (AP) — Heath Bell sprinted in from the bullpen and slid across the infield grass, tearing up the turf just short of the mound. It was that type of night: The National League never stopped moving.

"I told some guys I wanted to have fun this All-Star game and needed some ideas," Bell said.

The NL had all the good ideas Tuesday night. Prince Fielder hit a three-run homer and Roy Halladay combined with nine relievers on a six-hitter in a 5-1 victory Tuesday night, giving the senior circuit its first two-game winning streak since the mid-1990s.

"It's hard to beat great pitching and a three-run homer," NL manager Bruce Bochy said.

Brian Wilson got two outs and earned the save, just as he did for the Giants skipper when San Francisco won the championship last November.

"It felt like a little bit like last year when you come into a pressure situation and you try to do as clutch a performance as you can," Wilson said.

Wilson sounded more impressed with Bell's theatrics.

"I think he nailed it," Wilson said. "I don't know if I'd

See **ALL-STARS**, Page 2B

Little doubt left that NFL will start season on time

NEW YORK (AP) — Think back to that disappointing day in March when the NFL lockout began. The general opinion was the owners and players would reach a new labor agreement long before training camps opened. They had plenty of

time and about 9 billion reasons to get it done.

Well, some training camps open at the end of next week, and the two sides have not yet gotten it done. Yes, they are closer than ever, with several key issues — particularly how to split more than \$9 bil-

lion in revenues — just about settled.

But there is serious doubt that a disruption to the preseason can be avoided. Although the regular season still appears safe, the situation isn't as simple as shaking hands and going back to business

as usual, even assuming owners and players patched everything up when face-to-face talks resume Wednesday — an unlikely scenario.

Once an agreement in principle on the core economic issues is drawn up, there will be more work to be done.

That's because there are certain issues that won't be addressed in full until after the NFL-PA re-establishes itself as a union — a process that might take a couple of days — and can then serve once again as a collective bargaining unit for the players.

Items that could fall under that umbrella include the league's drug-testing program, health insurance, retired players' pensions and other benefits — none of which is likely to be resolved completely.

See **NFL**, Page 2B

Briefs

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.

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 more information.

Football skills lineman camp

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.

O.H. Ivie Reservoir public hunting permits July 15-Aug. 15

Applications for public hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Reservoir wildlife management areas will be accepted by mail only, beginning July 15 and ending Aug. 15.

Permits will be limited and requests for information and application packets should be made by calling Colorado River Municipal Water District at 432-

267-6341 or writing to:

CRMWD

Attn: Public Hunting

P.O. box 869

Big Spring, Texas 79721

A public drawing for the WMA public hunting permits for the 2011 hunting season will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 16 at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir field office, located near the north end of the dam.

Big Spring Country Club 2-person low ball tournament July 23-24

Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 2-person low ball tournament July 23-24. Entry fee is \$60 per player, plus golf cart. Private carts are welcome.

The event will kick off to a shotgun start at 1 p.m. each day with a field that will be pre-flighted. The number of flights will be determined by number of entrants.

Entry fee will include barbecue, which will be served on the course both days.

For more information or to enter your team, call the pro shop at 432-267-5354.

Steer season tickets on sale July 18

The athletic department of the Big Spring Steers has announced the dates for season ticket sales. Those previously holding season tickets can purchase tickets for the 2011-2012 season July 18-Aug. 4 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

New purchasers of season tickets can purchase their ticket books Aug. 8-Aug. 17 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The ticket books are \$25 and include all five home games. For more information, contact Kay Cook at 432-264-3662

Jury to hear evidence in trial of Roger Clemens

WASHINGTON (AP) — A jury dominated by women is ready to begin hearing the evidence of whether baseball's Roger Clemens lied about using performance-enhancing drugs.

U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton welcomed the newly seated jury of 10 women and two men Wednesday before opening arguments.

Prosecutors say Clemens lied under oath three years ago when he denied using steroids and human growth hormone during congressional testimony.

Clemens maintains that he didn't use drugs during a 24-season career that set several pitching records.

In preliminary discussions before the jury arrived Wednesday, Walton reacted sharply when Clemens' lead lawyer, Rusty Hardin, appeared to refer to the proceedings as a "circus."

Walton said, "This is not a circus." Hardin quickly assured the judge he was talking more broadly about the congressional hearings at the heart of the case against the standout pitcher as well as the prosecution. "Do I look suicidal?" Hardin said.

On Tuesday, Clemens' other principal attorney, Michael Attanasio, said the defense will begin by questioning whether the House of Representatives' investigation into whether the pitcher used drugs was a proper legislative inquiry. The defense argues it was not since it didn't concern any legislation and aired a personal dispute between the baseball star and the trainer who accused Clemens of using.

The jury took shape after four days of questioning by Walton and lawyers for both sides.

Both sides seemed to want to start with a blank slate, with most of the jurors who were picked saying they know little about baseball or one of its most accomplished pitchers.

When one woman said during questioning that she didn't know a thing about the sport, Hardin responded, "That's a plus."

The jurors were told to avoid news and sports programs, but they can read newspapers that have been screened at the courthouse to remove any reference to the case. To keep the panel from encounter-

ing the dozens of journalists at the courthouse, the judge told them they will meet off site each day, ride a bus to a back entrance and use nonpublic corridors.

They will be served breakfast and lunch in what was once a judge's chambers so they don't have to use the cafeteria where reporters, attorneys and Clemens himself take their meals.

Clemens sat and watched final jury selection but didn't weigh in and left it to his lawyers to pick who will decide his fate.

Attanasio argued before the jury was seated that the hearing held by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee in February 2008 had nothing to do with Congress' responsibility for legislation.

He said the hearing was only concerned with airing a "credibility contest" between Clemens and his longtime trainer, Brian McNamee, who said he injected the pitcher with steroids and human growth hormone.

Assistant U.S. attorney Daniel Butler responded that the committee has responsibility for oversight that is broad and goes beyond legislation.

He said steroid use in baseball is a drug matter, and pointed out that a 2005 hearing into the issue led to legislation to regulate steroids.

It also triggered Major League Baseball to commission a report by former Sen. George Mitchell into the extent of the problem in the league. Clemens was named as a user in the report.

U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton said if "one of the icons of baseball" was taking exception to the Mitchell report, "it seems to me that Congress has the authority to hold hearings to determine which view is correct."

Attanasio said the issue will be addressed in testimony from the first two witnesses prosecutors plan to call after opening arguments Wednesday morning.

He said the first will be retired House Parliamentarian Charles Johnson, followed by Phil Barnett, who was chief counsel for the committee at the time it investigated Clemens.

NFL

Continued from Page 1B

while the union is still dissolved.

Yet without a collective bargaining agreement in place soon, many teams will need to delay training camp.

The New York Giants and Jets and Baltimore Ravens already have canceled out-of-town camps and will do all their preseason work at their home facilities, at a significant cost to the communities where they normally would have gone.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame inductions will go on as scheduled on Aug. 6. But the game the following day between the St. Louis Rams and Chicago Bears is in jeopardy, which certainly would put a damper on the festivities.

And with owners and players haggling over the rookie wage scale, guidelines for free agency and how benefits for retired players will be funded, the next few days are critical. Should the differences remain strong and prevent a timely deal, the first full weekend of preseason games could be canceled — at a cost upward of \$60 million.

Even when an agreement is reached, it needs to be ratified by players and owners, a potentially time-consuming process.

There are a few court cases that must be resolved, including the antitrust lawsuit brought against the league by Tom Brady, Peyton Manning, Drew Brees and seven other players. Those plaintiffs were updated by the NFLPA on a conference call Tuesday.

There's even a chance the players still

could pursue a lockout injunction for rookies and free agents after an appeals court ruled last week that the work stoppage could continue.

It might seem odd that the two sides are so close on sharing revenues, the most contentious issue back in March, yet are being held up by other topics. But the owners have been seeking more right-of-first-refusal tags for unrestricted free agents, and they want a rookie salary system to extend about halfway into the first round of the draft. They also seek longer rookie contracts for first-rounders.

The players are adamant about getting back to free agency rules similar to 2009, when a four-year veteran whose contract expired was unrestricted.

That changed to six years in 2010 because there was no salary cap.

Extensive talks last week produced little progress on either issue.

While attorneys for both sides spent the last two days clarifying language for a potential CBA, the owners and players will be discussing those same subjects again Wednesday.

Those negotiations do not include the mediator, U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan, who is on vacation this week.

ALL-STARS

Continued from Page 1B

make it. I think I'd slip, ankle, flip, next thing you know I can't pitch."

The NL claimed home-field advantage in the World Series, its only blemish being Adrian Gonzalez's homer in the fourth off Cliff Lee. Fielder connected in the bottom half of the inning against C.J. Wilson.

With several big names as no-shows, the AL lost more than the game.

Boston right-hander Josh Beckett warmed up, then bowed out because of a sore knee. Detroit slugger Miguel Cabrera left after hurting the oblique muscle in his side while swinging.

"We are not going to use not having Josh as an excuse," AL manager Ron Washington said. "I think when you look at the ballgame, the bottom line is the National League pitching was outstanding. You know, we ended up giving up one big inning and they didn't give up any."

Even before the injuries, many stars were missing. Justin Verlander, Felix Hernandez, CC Sabathia and other aces who started Sunday were ineligible, Alex Rodriguez was among those on the disabled list and Derek Jeter wanted a break. In all, 16 of 84 All-Stars dropped out.

Tyler Clippard got the win despite allowing a single to his only batter, Adrian Beltre. Clayton Kershaw, Jair Jurrjens, Craig Kimbrel, Jonny

Venters, Joel Hanrahan also relieved and combined to keep the NL ahead.

Fielder won the MVP award after becoming the first Brewers player to homer in an All-Star game. The World Series edge could help him later, with Milwaukee and St. Louis tied for the Central lead at the break. A half-hour after the win, the Brewers announced they had acquired former All-Star closer Francisco Rodriguez in a trade with the New York Mets.

"That was part of the message, how important it was for us, and how important the game was: Do it again for the National League champion," Borchy said.

Fielder, son of former All-Star Cecil Fielder, was booed during the Home Run Derby a day earlier. He was the NL captain for the Derby, and local fans were angry he didn't select Arizona's Justin Upton.

"I didn't take it personal at all," Fielder said. "I understood it. No hard feelings."

Andre Ethier singled in a run off rookie reliever Jordan Walden in the fifth, and slimmed-down Pablo Sandoval had an RBI double off Brandon League in the seventh.

The NL dashed around the bases and swiped three bags, all in one inning and two by Starlin Castro. In all, the Nationals have enjoyed their best run since taking three in a row from 1994-96 — they had lost 12 straight games played to a decision before a 3-1 victory at Anaheim last year.

Before a crowd of 47,994 that included Muhammad Ali, this was no desert classic — except for fans of pitching, which has become resurgent as the Steroids Era has receded. Scoring in the first half dropped to its lowest level in 19 years and the major league batting average shrunk to its smallest midseason figure since 1985.

The All-Star homers were the first since J.D. Drew connected at Yankee Stadium three years ago. The AL finished with six hits for the second straight year and its two-year total of two runs is its lowest since 1995-96.

"Just a coincidence," Curtis Granderson said.

NOTES: There was a moment of silence before the game for the victims of the Tucson shootings in January, among them Christina-Taylor Green, the 9-year-old daughter of Dodgers scout John Green and granddaughter of former major league manager and GM Dallas Green. Her parents and brother brought the lineup cards to home plate.

sudoku

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.

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

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If you are not exactly sure what sexual abuse is, you're not alone. All sexual touching between an adult and a child is sexual abuse. Sexual touching between children can also be sexual abuse when there is a significant age difference (often defined as 3 or more years) between the children or if the children are very different developmentally or size-wise. Sexual abuse does not have to involve penetration, force, pain, or even touching. If an adult engages in any sexual behavior (looking, showing, or touching) with a child to meet the adult's sexual needs or interest, it is sexual abuse.

Most often child sexual abuse is a gradual process and not a single event. By learning the early warning signs and how to effectively step in and speak up, sexual abuse can be stopped before a child is harmed. **Adults must take the primary responsibility for preventing child sexual abuse by addressing any concerning or questionable behavior which may pose a risk to a child's safety.**

WARNING SIGNS:

Behavior you may see in a child

- Has nightmares or other sleep problems without an explanation
- Seems distracted or distant at odd times
- Has a sudden change in eating habits
- Refuses to eat
- Loses or drastically increases appetite
- Has trouble swallowing.
- Sudden mood swings: rage, fear, insecurity or withdrawal
- Leaves "clues" that seem likely to provoke a discussion about sexual issues
- Writes, draws, plays or dreams of sexual or frightening images
- Develops new or unusual fear of certain people or places
- Refuses to talk about a secret shared with an adult or older child
- Talks about a new older friend
- Suddenly has money, toys or other gifts without reason
- Thinks of self or body as repulsive, dirty or bad
- Exhibits adult-like sexual behaviors, language and knowledge

Signs more typical of younger children

- An older child behaving like a younger child (such as bed-wetting or thumb sucking)
- Has new words for private body parts
- Resists removing clothes when appropriate times (bath, bed, toileting, diapering)
- Asks other children to behave sexually or play sexual games
- Mimics adult-like sexual behaviors with toys or stuffed animal
- Wetting and soiling accidents unrelated to toilet training

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Declarer Scores a Bull's-Eye

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 9 3
♥ K Q 6 4
♦ A K 8
♣ J 7 4
WEST
♠ 6
♥ J 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 10 7 5 2
♣ A 6
EAST
♠ A Q 10 8 7 5 2
♥ 10
♦ J 9 6 3
♣ 2

SOUTH
♠ K 4
♥ A 8 5
♦ 4
♣ K Q 10 9 8 5 3

The bidding:
East South West North
3♠ 4♣ Pass 5♣
Opening lead — six of spades.

Adjectives such as "brilliant" are used far too often in bridge. After all, if someone makes the correct play, one that everyone should make, he is hardly deserving of unbridled adulation. All he has done, really, is make the right play.

Take this case where South wound up in five clubs after East had opened with three spades. West led the six of spades to East's ace, and the contract seemed destined to go down one, since West could ruff the spade return.

But South, who was perfectly

aware that West could ruff the second spade, was not about to give up without a fight. And so, when East took the ace of spades at trick one, South casually dropped the king!

This left East in a quandary. From where he sat, South appeared to have started with the singleton king of spades and West with the doubleton 6-4. It therefore seemed pointless to return a spade, particularly with the jack in dummy.

So East turned his attention instead to his singleton heart. If West happened to hold the ace — certainly not an impossibility — a heart ruff would sink the contract. Accordingly, East shifted to the heart ten.

Having gained a reprieve, South won the heart, cashed the A-K of diamonds — discarding his remaining spade — and then led a club. West won with the ace, but when East was unable to ruff the heart return, declarer had the rest of the tricks.

South's play at trick one is certainly worthy of admiration. East was highly likely to have a seven-card spade suit, and a ruff was imminent. East would have had no trouble diagnosing the situation if declarer followed to the ace with the four, so the only chance was to try to fool East by dropping the king.

But was this play brilliant? Hardly, because it was the right play under the circumstances.

Tomorrow: Believe it or not.

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INSIDE SALE: 1209 South Monticello. Lots of ladies large sizes, seasonal decorations, occasional cards, aluminum cookware, cleaning supplies and lots of misc.. Cheap Prices. Saturday 8am-?

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QUINN PUMPS Inc. has an opening for a full-time Pump Tech.. Experience preferred but not required. Salary DOE. Benefits included. Apply at 3313 East FM 700 Big Spring.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for CDL Driver, roustabout pushers and helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W 120 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

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602 GEORGE Three bedroom, one bath house. CH/A, One Year Lease, \$850. month. No HUD. No Pets. No Bills Paid. (432)267-2296.

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Legals

Notice of Abandoned Vehicles 1988 Honda Prelude Vin#JHMBAA411JC033876 6N Ford Tractor Serial# 193706 These vehicles are located at Westwind Transport 212 NE 12th, Big Spring, TX, 79720. For more information please (432)263-3438. #7044 July 13 & 14, 2011

Tomorrow's Horoscope

It is the eve of the full moon in Capricorn and the perfect time to think about the power structures in your family, community and workplace. Those who seek a greater influence over their environment will observe what is wanted and needed by the key players and find a way to deliver these things and gain position.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are so creative now because you are not afraid to look foolish. You will experiment and investigate. You will go where most adults wouldn't think to go.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are complex. Simplistic black-and-white notions don't apply to you and could actually cause psychological pain. So make an effort to see all the shades of gray.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your list of abilities is quite long, and it's about to get longer. Effortless learning is your specialty now. You're a sponge, picking up new skills by simply being near the people who possess them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're headed toward sudden and acute disillusionment. This is

quite positive, as it will bring you to what's real and make you more powerful than ever.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your discretion will be needed, and it won't be entirely clear how much you should say. Telling the truth is never the wrong thing to do. But you won't be a liar if you keep your mouth shut.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You always have a choice about how curious to be, and you usually choose to be absolutely fascinated. You recognize boredom as a state of mind that cannot be imposed on you by anything outside of yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Instead of dreaming impossible dreams, you focus closer to real life. You imagine what you can do to make the best of your time today, and you fully engage in life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will consider making a big change. Think it over for a long while. And you don't have to tell anyone what you're thinking, either. You are entitled to your thought processes and are not obligated to share them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People look out for their own needs. You'll try to understand the wants and needs of those around you so that you may anticipate what is likely to happen next.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Having to be absolutely right all the time is a punishing imposition. It only leads to feeling like you are usually wrong. That's why you refuse to worry about it. You know what you know, and you do your best with that.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You want to move a mountain, and move it you will. It will happen little by little. Commit to one simple action. Other changes will happen naturally as the world adjusts to accommodate your action.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You will be drawn to esoteric pursuits, the likes of which could be considered "frivolous nonsense" by some standards. You know better. Your "frivolous nonsense" will be life enhancing in some practical way.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 13). You'll pursue higher education and develop your keen mind. You have an excellent memory for names and

faces and will use it to further political and professional interests. Financial barriers drop in September. November highlights relationships. New business in December is both challenging and fulfilling. Leo and Aquarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 18, 19, 16 and 37.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I swear that my husband doesn't notice anything about me. I change my hair color, and he doesn't even say anything about it. I've long ago stopped caring that he never sees that I'm wearing a new dress or shoes. Sometimes I think I've turned invisible. Sure, we've been married a long time — 15 years. His lack of observation and complete nonchalance about my appearance makes me wonder why I even make an effort at all. Our marriage could be better, maybe, but it could also be much worse. I'm more or less happy, so do you think I should make an issue of this? Am I just being vain?" — Vain Libra Yes, you should make an issue of this, but not to him. This is about you and your own self-concept, dear Venus-ruled Libra. Beauty is important to you. The idea that you're making an effort with your appearance solely so that your husband will pay attention to you is absurd. You do your hair or buy a new dress because it makes you feel good. Remind yourself that your opinion matters most, and give yourself plenty of praise, pampering and props. He'll subconsciously feel the shift in you and start to take notice.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Charismatic movie star Harrison Ford lights up the big screen with the exciting characters he plays, but he'd rather not be interviewed about his work, claiming, "Certainly I reflect on life, but I don't feel I owe it to anybody to share my reflections on myself." Ford has his sun, moon, Mercury and Jupiter all in the sign of the crab, so the outer shell of his personality is a social veneer that's hard to crack.

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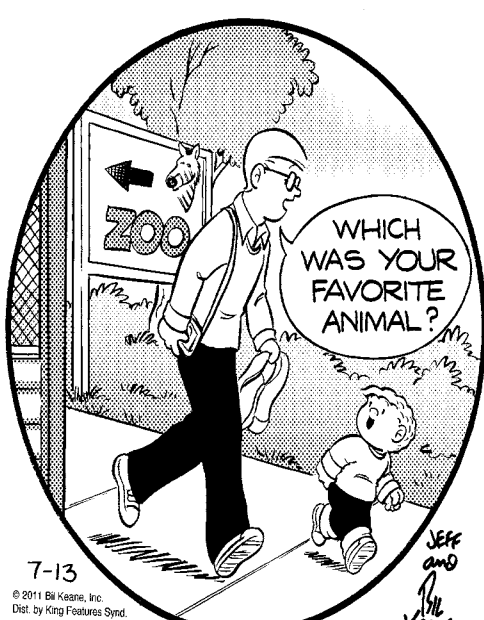
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News King	King	Swallow House	News Business	70s Show	Cash Cab	Movie: From Dusk Till Dawn	Deadliest Warrior	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	Around Pardon	SportsCenter	
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Quando Me	Two Men	News CBS	Caso Cer-rado	News King	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Sons	Movie: Kill Bill: Vol. 1, Vivica A. Fox	Deadliest Warrior	The Mentalist	The BET Awards 2011	Vampire	Football	2011 ESPY's Countdown	
7:PM	Lucy	Teresa (SS)	So You Think You Can Dance	Big Brother	Mi Corazón Insiste	Minute to Win It	Browns	Upd	Nature	Top Model	Sons	NOVA (DVS)	Deadliest Warrior	The Mentalist	ANT Farm	Soccer			
8:PM	Family Happy	Triunfo del Amor		Criminal Minds	Herederos-Monte	America's/ Talent	Payne	Light of the Southwest			Sons of Guns		Deadliest Warrior	Franklin & Bash	Movie: Lemonade Mouth			2011 ESPY's	
9:PM	Primetime Nightline	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons	CSI: Crime Scene	La Casa de al Lado	Love in the Wild	Payne		JM Cous-teau: Ocean	Payne	One Man Army	Movie: Kill Bill: Vol. 2, Michael Madsen	Deadliest Warrior	Franklin & Bash	The Mo'Nique	Vampire	SportsCtr		
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Bill Cloud	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Sons of Guns		Ways Die	Leverage	Wendy Williams	Wizards	SportsNation		
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Lopez	Cortes	World	Sala	T. Smiley (Off Air)		Ways Die	MAN	Movie: The Bone Collector, Queen Latifah	Wizards	SportsCenter	2011 ESPY's	
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	Light	Cops	Sons		MAN	Hawthorne		Hannah	SportsCenter		
1:AM	Paid	Mujer	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez	Light of the Southwest		Gospel	Overhaul'	Tripp	MAN	MAN	MAN	MAN	MAN	MAN	MAN

DENNIS THE MENACE



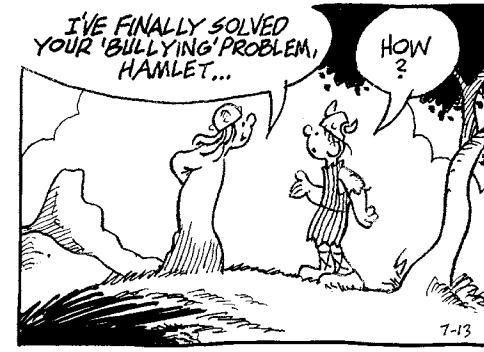
"MR. WILSON TOOK MY DRUMSTICKS, SO I TOOK HIS HOE!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"The hot dog!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



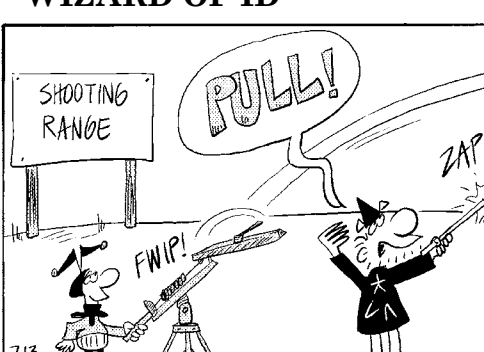
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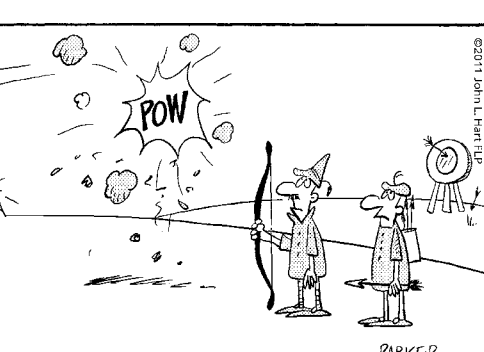
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



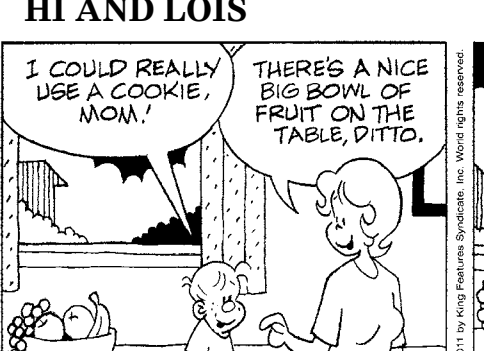
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

ACROSS
1 Competed in a slalom
6 Food, so to speak
10 Apprehends
14 "I can do that for you"
15 Ominous
16 Mideast sultanate
17 From the keg
18 Happy expression
19 Lone Ranger exclamation
20 Flirtatious looks
22 Frankenstein's assistant
23 Payroll ID, at times
24 Untangle
26 Selfish one
29 Spruce up a story
32 Jury- (improvise)
33 Bath powder
35 Letters on a brandy bottle
37 Jim who does Garfield
41 "Anti-art" art of yore
44 Party drink
45 Used to be
46 Caesarean rebuke
47 "A likely story!"
49 Parodied, with "up"
51 Weep audibly
52 Birth-announcement phrase
56 Copper source
58 Ruffin variety
59 Rum cocktail
65 Compete on American Idol
66 Ran in the rain

DOWN
1 Trudge through mud
2 Casino game
3 "Suffice say..."
4 Paperless periodicals
5 Topple, as a ruler
6 Brink
7 Well ventilated
8 Gives it a whirl
9 Motion detector, e.g.
10 Pitcher's dream
11 Chihuahua chum
12 Sluggish inlet
13 Horse sound
21 How movies are often viewed
25 County-fair feature
26 Internet address starter
27 Hawaii Five-O locale
28 Small valley
30 "Was it a cat?" (palindrome)
31 Weighty books
34 Dashboard device
36 Scrutinize, with "over"
38 Hound healers
39 Fascinated by
40 Ticket remnant
42 Melville mariner
43 Copperhead's weapon
48 Walk haltingly
50 Sunday newspaper section
52 A Doll's House playwright
53 Banal
54 Frequent December addressee
55 Ivy Leaguer
57 Author Zola
60 Bread-loaf end
61 Annexes
62 Himalayas' home
63 Emotional tone
64 Cultural pursuits

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, July 13, the 194th day of 2011. There are 171 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On July 13, 1923, a sign consisting of 50-foot-tall letters spelling out "HOLLYWOODLAND" was dedicated in the Hollywood Hills to promote a subdivision (the last four letters were removed in 1949; the sign itself was replaced in 1978).

On this date:
In 1787, Congress enacted an ordinance governing the Northwest Territory.
In 1793, French revolutionary writer Jean-Paul Marat was stabbed to death in his bath by Charlotte Corday, who was executed four days later.
In 1863, deadly rioting against the Civil War military draft erupted in New York City. (The insurrection was put down three days later.)
In 1886, Father Edward Joseph Flanagan, the founder

BABY BATTLE by Fred Jackson III

Byrds) is 69. Actor-comedian Cheech Marin is 65. Actress Daphne Maxwell Reid is 63. Actress Didi Conn is 60. Singer Louise Mandrell is 57. Actor-director Cameron Crowe is 54. Tennis player Anders Jarryd is 50. Rock musician Gonzalo Martinez De La Cotera (Marcy Playground) is 49. Comedian Tom Kenny (TV: "SpongeBob SquarePants") is 49. Country singer-songwriter Victoria Shaw is 49. Bluegrass singer Rhonda Vincent is 49. Actor Kenny Johnson is 48. Actor Michael Jace is 46. Singer Deborah Cox is 38. Actress Ashley Scott is 34. Rock musician Will Champion (Coldplay) is 33. Actor Steven R. McQueen is 23.

Answer to previous puzzle

ADAMS	SHAG	HALO
REMOVE	LOSE	IRAN
OLIVE	IMIN	GETS
WIDEAPPEAL	HATE	
RUBY	ASSET	
ABILITY	CIRC	
LEDON	PURCHASE	
PEEN	SPITE	OHNO
STAGNATE	ROMAN	
IOWA	SEALEGS	
BLAST	HALT	
RAIL	DEEPFREEZE	
AURA	RAMP	ARROW
WREN	ISEE	CRANE
LARD	PEND	ESSES

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