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TUESDAY

AUGUST 9, 2011



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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
City Finance Director Peggy Walker, left, listens as City Manager Gary Fuqua speaks during a budget work session Monday evening.

City eyes tax rate cut

But water costs likely to increase, officials warn

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

City Manager Gary Fuqua presented the Big Spring City Council with the proposed 2011-2012 budget during a work session Monday, and much like life in sweltering West Texas has been, it was a good news and bad news fiscal situation.

The proposed budget is based on a 94.95-cent per \$100 valuation tax rate, a drop of 5 cents compared to last year's 99.95 cent rate.

The rate consists of 62.1317 cents toward the municipality's general fund; 8.5 cents for the Big Spring Police Department Narcotics Task Force; 20.7249 cents for general obligation bonds issued in 2007 on voter approval; .7133 cents for certificates of obligation issued in 2007; and 2.8801 cents for certificates of obligation issued in 2010 to finance the newly constructed city aquatic center.

Mayor Tommy Duncan and several of the council members applauded Fuqua and the city staff for the reduction in the tax rate, a priority which was a large part of his political platform when he ran for the office more

See **CITY**, Page 3A

School lunch prices increasing this year

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Students and parents may like some of the changes Big Spring Independent School District Food Services has in store for the coming year.

But one major change won't make anyone happy.

When students return to classes Aug. 22, they'll notice some changes to the fare



Rodriguez

And high school students will be able to take advantage of a build-your-own bur-

rito bar and purchase fruit smoothies before school and during lunch.

On the down side, however, the cost of lunch meals at all campuses is increasing this school year. Lunches at the elementary campuses is increasing 20 cents to \$2, while junior high/high school meals are being raised to \$2.25, a 45-cent hike from the previous school year.

Adult lunch prices will be \$2.75 at all campuses.

BSISD is not the only school district raising meal prices, either. Coahoma ISD will increase the price of its lunches by 25 cents for students this year (breakfast prices will remain the same), while Forsan ISD will institute a 25-cent across-the-board increase for all student meals.

BSISD Food Services Direc-

tor Judi Rodriguez said the state Department of Agriculture was mandating the price increase.

"TDA determined schools with meal pricing between \$1.40 and \$2.40 needed to increase," Rodriguez said. "The Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 addressed equity in school lunch pricing, estab-

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Oncor urges customers to conserve

Demand still putting strain on state electrical grid

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

Electricity and high temperatures are starting to mix together for an unpleasant outcome.

Last week, officials with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) — overseer of the state's power grid — almost ordered rolling blackouts because of low electricity reserves. According to Oncor Area Manager Jim Clement the situation has improved but could worsen in a hurry.

"Due to the weekend we received a reprieve, but we are expecting (demand) to go back up and receive (low electricity reserves) warnings by

"It's a really nice feeling to know there are so many people out there trying to do their part and trying to conserve energy. It's all about cooperation and it's nice to know we have that in the community. As long as we have the cooperation we can control the situation."

Jim Clement
Oncor Area Manager

Wednesday," Clement said.

High temperatures are behind the increased demand for electricity in Texas; as demand increases, so does the possibility of rolling

blackouts. Rolling blackouts would cause residential and commercial customers to be without electricity for 15 to 30 minute intervals and would come with little or no warn-

ing.

"The temperatures aren't good, especially for the elderly, and we understand people aren't happy about the rolling blackouts, but you have to realize if we were to lose the ERCOT system it could be six to nine days before the system would be back up," Clement said. "We don't want to get to that point."

Every little bit of energy saving — including turning off computers, lights and other electrical devices when they aren't being used — can help.

"If you need it then use it,

See **ONCOR**, Page 3A

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Police blotter

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

- ANTONIO PARADEZ FLORES, 49, of 1602 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to appear.
- ROMERO VILLARREAL, JR., 26, of 1412 Wood St., was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- MARIO ROBERT OVALLE, 37, of 305 E. 19th St., was arrested Monday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Runnels Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

- ROMERO VILLARREAL, JR., 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a charge of theft of service more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000.
- ANTONIO P. FLORES, 49, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid and violation of promise to appear on driving while license invalid.
- MARIO ROBERT OVALLE, 37, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a charge of failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 4000 block of Piper Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of Runnels. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Drexel. Service refused.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 432-517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. and noon, each lasting an hour. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

Take Note

- Big Spring Band Boosters will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday. All junior high and high school band parents need to attend. For more information, call Patsy Sanchez at 267-7841.
- Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union is raising money to benefit Maurine Pittman, who is undergoing cancer treatment in a Dallas-area hospital. For more information, call the credit union at 263-8393.
- A benefit fund has been established at Western Bank for Eric Kelly, a 24-year-old Big Spring resident with cystic fibrosis who is recovering from a double lung transplant in Dallas. All donations are appreciated. For more information, call 432-213-0795

- 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.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise) from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

- A benefit fund for Chris Johnson (account 5945033396) has been established at Wells Fargo Bank to help defray expenses from a house fire. All donations are appreciated.

- Big Spring High School Class of 1981 will have its 30-year reunion Sept. 30-Oct. 1. For information, contact Mark Warren at 903-283-3326 or 903-843-5927, or e-mail mwarren@etex.net

- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

- Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

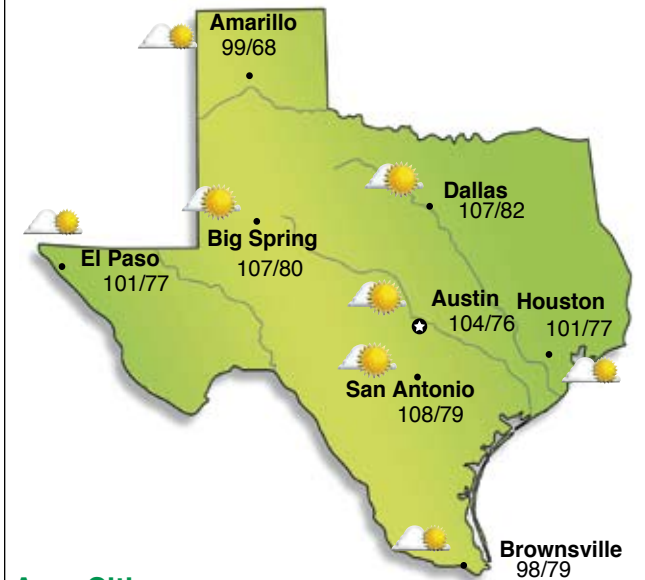
- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 8/10	Thu 8/11	Fri 8/12	Sat 8/13	Sun 8/14
107/80 Mostly sunny skies. Near record high temperatures. High 107F.	106/79 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs 104 to 108F and lows in the upper 70s.	105/78 More sun than clouds. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the upper 70s.	102/78 Times of sun and clouds. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the upper 70s.	102/78 Times of sun and clouds. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the upper 70s.
Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 8:35 PM	Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 8:35 PM	Sunrise: 7:08 AM Sunset: 8:34 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 8:32 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 8:31 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	107	81	mst sunny	Kingsville	102	78	pt sunny
Amarillo	99	68	pt sunny	Livingston	104	75	pt sunny
Austin	104	76	mst sunny	Longview	106	79	mst sunny
Beaumont	98	75	pt sunny	Lubbock	103	75	mst sunny
Brownsville	98	79	pt sunny	Lufkin	105	76	pt sunny
Brownwood	108	78	mst sunny	Midland	106	82	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	99	79	pt sunny	Raymondville	102	78	pt sunny
Corsicana	106	79	mst sunny	Rosenberg	101	77	pt sunny
Dallas	107	82	mst sunny	San Antonio	108	79	mst sunny
Del Rio	107	82	mst sunny	San Marcos	104	77	mst sunny
El Paso	101	77	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	106	82	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	104	78	mst sunny	Sweetwater	106	79	mst sunny
Gainesville	107	80	pt sunny	Tyler	106	78	mst sunny
Greenville	105	79	pt sunny	Weatherford	108	80	mst sunny
Houston	101	77	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	110	83	pt sunny
Miami	90	78	t-storm				

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	92	70	mst sunny	Minneapolis	78	61	sunny
Boston	77	63	rain	New York	89	68	mst sunny
Chicago	77	59	mst sunny	Phoenix	102	80	pt sunny
Dallas	107	82	mst sunny	San Francisco	63	55	pt sunny
Denver	82	58	pt sunny	Seattle	72	57	mst sunny
Houston	101	77	pt sunny	St. Louis	79	65	pt sunny
Los Angeles	75	60	pt sunny	Washington, DC	92	70	sunny
Miami	90	78	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 8/10	Thu 8/11	Fri 8/12	Sat 8/13	Sun 8/14
11	11	11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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GOP slams Obama on credit downgrade

NEW YORK (AP) — The 2012 Republican presidential contenders have roundly criticized President Barack Obama for economic policies they contend helped drive the downgrade of U.S. credit by a major ratings agency.

But they've offered few of their own ideas to ease the current crisis, and analysts warn they could risk a backlash from voters frightened by the market turbulence and weary of partisan finger-pointing.

"Americans are exhausted

with Washington's blame game and are craving anyone who can provide legitimate answers on a path on getting out of this mess," Republican strategist Ron Bonjean said. "The Republican who can rise above and provide a platform of answers, a blueprint — that will set them apart from the rest of the pack."

The Dow plunged 634 points, or 5.5 percent, Monday after Standard & Poor's announcement late Friday that it had downgraded U.S. credit from

AAA to AA+. Obama stepped before cameras during the market sell-off Monday, pledging to work with a bipartisan committee of lawmakers to seek further deficit reduction and to develop policies to reduce the stubbornly high 9.1 percent unemployment rate.

"Markets will rise and fall, but this is the United States of America," Obama said at the White House. "No matter what some agency may say, we've always been and always will be a triple-A country."

ONCOR

Continued from Page 1A

but if you can do without it until the evening then do without it," Clement said. "Every little bit will help at this point."

Clement said the peak time of usage is between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., which is also the times when temperatures are highest.

There are numerous businesses and residents around town who have contacted Clement about measures they are taking to lower electricity consumption.

"It's a really nice feeling to know there are so many people out there trying to do their part and trying to conserve energy,"

Clement said. "It's all about cooperation and it's nice to know we have that in the community. As long as we have the cooperation we can control the situation."

The important thing, he noted, is to curtail usage as much as possible until about 6:15 every evening.

"It's going to be a tough situation until the heat breaks," Clement said.

On top of turning off lights and saving electricity, people can set their air conditioners to 80 degrees during the day. He said the biggest load is coming from air conditioners. Another way would be to do washing and drying in the morning hours instead of the middle of the day.

Last Thursday's possibility of rolling blackouts came when

ERCOT reserves went below 17,000 megawatts. Usage was up and the turbines weren't turning, due to lack of wind.

"As long as the turbines are turning it helps," Clement said. "The turbines aren't going to save the day, but they are going to provide help."

Officials will do what they can to keep rolling blackouts from occurring, but Clement said the cooperation of the community is needed. If the need arises to shut off power to certain areas, that step will be taken in order to keep customers from being without power for an even longer amount of time.

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

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

than a year ago.

Unfortunately, money saved by property owners through the tax rate isn't likely to stay in city residents' pockets, as the base rate for municipal water customers will almost double in the coming fiscal year.

The base rate, which is currently \$16.75 a month, could go as high as \$31.75, according to city officials. The majority of the hike is due to a rate increase from the Colorado River Municipal Water District that adds approximately \$11 to the existing base rate to cover approximately \$140 million in new debt the district has taken on to develop its water transmission lines from the Ward County well field.

According to Fuqua, the city would also add \$4 to the base rate to cover its cost increases, bringing the total base rate up to \$31.75. Consumption rates would also go up under the new fiscal plan, increased from the current rate of \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons to \$3 per 1,000 gallons.

"We started out looking at a \$5 increase in the base rate. However, I'm happy to say after meeting with the mayor, Todd (Darden) and (Peggy Walker, city finance director), we're hoping to bring back something a little different from the \$4 increase we're looking at here," Fuqua said. "What we're looking at is an \$11 per month increase for some of our

large compound meters which are so expensive, which are probably not equitable to the residential (meters).

"What we're looking at is possibly increasing some of the large commercial meters that are an inch or larger at a pro-rated cost and bring (the residential increase) down to about \$3, which would bring it down to \$30.75, which is \$2 cheaper than I really thought it was going to be when we started this."

Water has been something of a sore spot for the city of Big Spring since use restrictions were put in place earlier this year. According to Fuqua, the city has purchased 125 million fewer gallons this year, which has accounted for \$350,000 in lost revenue. And while using less of a utility usually translates into a smaller bill, that hasn't been the case for the city, which has seen its water costs from CRMWD eclipse last year's total cost by approximately \$200,000.

The new water rates — if approved by the council — could be short-lived, however, as Fuqua explained the city is currently looking into a tiered-rate system for its water customers.

"We would try to hold this \$3 rate steady for our lower consumers. We're running reports right now to try to determine how much water the lower users use, and it ranges anywhere from 8,000 to 10,000 gallons per month," Fuqua said. "To give you some idea, however, we do have

some residents who use more than 200,000 gallons a month. So we want to try to keep the rates low for the people who are really trying to conserve water, and for the people who use more and more water, it should be a little more expensive for them."

Another project that found its way into the 2011-2012 budget is efforts to begin the process of permitting and building a new landfill to replace the existing facility, which engineers say has approximately six years before it's at capacity.

The new budget sets aside more than \$600,000 to begin that process, including \$350,000 for an estimated 300 acres necessary to build a landfill that will last approximately 100 years; \$140,000 to begin the permitting process, which can take up to five years to complete; \$36,500 to convert the east cell to a Type IV cell; \$91,300 for permit modifications to the landfill's west cell; for a total of \$617,800.

Fuqua said the landfill closure fund currently has about \$3 million in it, and should be approximately \$2.3 million following the listed projects.

City water customers

won't be the only residents seeing an increase in city fees, as golf enthusiasts could see as much as a 25 percent increase in golf course rates and fees as a result of the proposed budget.

After operating in the red since renovations began in 2005-2006, city officials say the 25 percent increase is the only way to get the Comanche Trail Golf Course from taking an annual loss. Revenue from the facility is estimated at \$404,500 for 2010-2011, leaving a \$76,935 shortfall for the facility.

With the 25 percent increase, the estimated revenue from the facility is \$502,000, compared to the estimated operating expense of \$491,888. Duncan said a committee would be formed to decide how the fee increases should be allotted to achieve the 25 percent increase.

City employees won't have much to sing about

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MEALS

Continued from Page 1A

lishing an average lunch price for a paid lunch that is not less than the difference between the total federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the total federal reimbursement for a paid lunch."

This year's price increase will likely be followed by another one next year to bring BSISD in line with the state standards, Rodriguez said.

Seventy-eight percent of BSISD students qualified for free or reduced-price meals this past school year, she noted.

As for the changes to the food being offered, Rodriguez said they are part of the district's response to First Lady Michelle Obama's Healthier U.S. School Challenge (HUSC), which is urging schools to offer healthier fare to their students.

"There's going to be a little bit of change in everything we offer," Rodriguez said. "But that's going to be good."

Among the definite changes taking effect this coming school year are:

- R/O water will be

available for free to all children.

- Milk will be fat-free flavored or reduced-fat white.

- Cafeterias will be adding more fruits — fresh fruits will be offered weekly and different fruits will be served daily.

- More vegetables will be served and beans and legumes will be served at least once a week.

- Cafeterias also will offer more whole-grain food items (sandwiches will be served on whole wheat bread).

Another change coming at the high school cafeteria will be the opening of the "build your own burrito" bar. Students can select which ingredients they prefer, although Rodriguez promises those ingredients will follow nutritional guidelines.

Also, high school students can purchase fruit smoothies before school or during lunch, she added.

For more information, contact Food Services at 264-3635.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

this year, either, as Fuqua said the proposed budget does not provide for pay raises.

Other projects included in the proposed budget include:

A centrifugal sludge collection system for the city's water treatment plant, \$1.5 million.

Water line replacements for Third Street, Fourth Street and Birdwell Lane, \$1.05 million.

Construction of a joint law enforcement office to house the Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff's Office under the same roof, \$1.7 million.

A second budget work session is scheduled for today at 6 p.m. — it will begin shortly after the regularly scheduled council meeting is adjourned — in the city council chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. Fuqua said he hopes to have the presentation com-

pleted tonight, but has set Wednesday aside, if needed. For more information, call 264-2401.

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

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 8-11-11

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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Detroit loves good mileage

Fifty years ago, Ford unveiled a small-scale model for its atomic-powered car of the future. A capsule in the rear would contain the nuclear power and could be replaced. The engineering challenge would be dealing with the weight required for shielding the radioactivity. That was about the time Ford came out with another shaky idea, the Edsel, which, unfortunately for the company, it put into production.

The Edsel quickly passed into history, but the Edsel's source of fuel lived on through gasoline shortages, price spikes, wars to protect oil fields and fears for a planet warmed by greenhouse gases. And it's with us today, except that our cars already go farther on less of it, and American carmakers plan to build models that will squeeze even more miles out of a gallon of gas.

Those of us trapped in the recent debt ceiling panic may not have noticed President Obama's announcement of a big increase in fuel efficiency standards, as Detroit's Big Three carmakers applauded. Gone were the usual tooth-and-nail fights against any requirement that automakers raise their mileage. Instead, thumbs went up for a near doubling of fuel economy — a fleet average of 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025 versus today's 27 miles per gallon. This is reportedly the biggest increase in fuel efficiency standards since the

government first established them in the 1970s. (Environmentalists wanted more, but they got plenty.)

Quite a change from four years ago, when the auto executives camped out in Washington to protest proposals for tougher fuel economy standards. Why the new posture? Some will argue that the taxpayer bailout of Detroit (though not Ford) has dampened the carmakers' enthusiasm for a fight with Washington. Also, the federal government will be offering the industry credits for making battery-powered and hybrid vehicles, the details to be announced.

But the more romantically inclined will see another reason for the change of heart.

Americans are loving the new fuel-efficient cars that Detroit is offering. In any case, they're buying them.

The Chevrolet Cruze compact powered General Motors' U.S. sales gain in July, dominating U.S. car sales for the second month in a row. Actually, six of the best-selling vehicles in the United States are small or midsize cars. Meanwhile, Ford's F-Series — including a six-cylinder engine that manages to get high mileage — is among the hottest-selling pickups.

The carmakers' concern is this: What happens when gas prices go down? The average price for a gallon of gasoline is near its peak of about \$4 and almost a dollar higher than it was a year ago. Will consumers pay extra for the advanced technology when the total at the pump strikes less awe?

Consumers probably will, because they are older and wiser.

The economic crackup may have created another Depression generation wary of expensive commitments, such as vehicles getting poor mileage. And few believe that cheap gasoline will ever return. The line on the price graph goes up and down, but "up" has become the general direction.

The auto industry is in the business of making cars, not pumping oil. That made Detroit's former reluctance to adopt higher fuel economy standards a bit odd. We appreciate that it made good money years ago producing gas-guzzling SUVs using older, cheaper technology.

With gas prices low, consumers shrugged off the extra costs. Detroit left the market for fuel-efficient cars largely to its foreign competitors, who ate their lunch when demand for them soared.

The companies are now restructured to more nimbly respond to consumer sentiment, which, happily, now coincides with the national interest to reduce dependency on oil, most of it imported.

May the love between American automakers and the American consumer continue to grow for the good of us all.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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An appeal for some GOP unity

Before moving on, I'd like to take one more stab at explaining the differing viewpoints of the opposing sides in the contentious internecine conservative debate over the debt ceiling and also assess the deal's winners and losers.

I honestly believe there were reasonable grounds for disagreement among conservatives concerning the best strategy and tactics to tackle what they agree — if all Democrats don't — to be a national debt crisis. By failing to cut one another slack, we'll only serve to divide our coalition and impede our shared agenda.

Those supporting the deal, recognizing that Republicans control the House but neither the Senate nor the presidency, believed that congressional leaders had negotiated the best deal they could with Democrats and that we should agree to it. If not, they feared, we might face a default with unpredictable fallout, hurting the economy and the GOP's chances in 2012, which both sides agree would have calamitous national consequences.

Opponents were less fearful of a default from a debt ceiling impasse. They believed the decision whether to downgrade our credit rating would be based more on the exploding debt than it would the debt ceiling and that it would be very risky to move on and put all our reform eggs in the 2012 basket. They were less concerned about taking the political hit in 2012 for finally calling Obama's bluff. They weren't convinced the GOP, which had put forth numerous plans, would take the political hit instead of Obama, who never produced a plan. They were also very opposed to the provision that allows Obama to put this issue on the back burner until after the 2012 elections, which will result in less budget scrutiny and more

political cover for him — both of which will be detrimental for the nation.

But the deal is done now, so we must examine who won and who lost. Some have argued that Obama lost, because Republicans secured spending cuts in excess of the debt ceiling increases and staved off Obama's attempt to increase taxes. Some have boasted that Keynesian economics has now been repudiated.

But liberals, especially Obama, will never abandon Keynesian "stimulus" spending. Even now, they still blame the economic failure on too little spending and are salivating over new federal programs. We don't know for sure that they lost the tax issue, because if the economy keeps going south, the bipartisan supercommittee could blame the spending "cuts" and recommend tax hikes.

It's not likely they'd pass, given the Republican majority in the House, but possible. Perhaps a more realistic threat on taxes is the White House's view that the Bush cuts may be allowed to expire under the deal, notwithstanding Rep. Paul Ryan's disagreement.

Of greater concern is that under the deal, we achieve no real spending cuts, only reductions in the obscene rate of increase. The debt will continue to grow at an alarming rate. So we did not stop the bleeding; we barely reduced the rate of flow. Nor did we make any headway on entitlement reform, without which we will flame out more famously than the Roman Empire. We also will have lost if the committee is stacked with liberals and moderates who recommend such things as major defense cuts or if those defense cuts are triggered upon a committee deadlock. And if they were to propose tax hikes and the GOP House properly rejected them, it might hurt Republicans politically — having thus defied a bipartisan group.

Obama also wins political points, not just because the debt ceiling issue will be deferred beyond 2012 but also because

Republicans have now signed on to (and arguably acquired ownership of) another deal that will result in an ever-expanding debt. Despite being the major obstructor, to the point that he was asked by budget negotiators from both sides to leave the room, Obama now gets to appear to be the grand compromiser — the reasonable dealmaker — while tea partiers and other conservatives are being maligned as extremists for taking the debate to the brink.

But I fear that the worst potential consequence in this saga is a relaxation in our sense of urgency about the looming national financial collapse. Far too many keep reporting the deal as if it truly will result in a net reduction in spending or at least have a neutral effect — so that the debt will not keep increasing. That gross misperception couldn't be more harmful if it were to inhibit real entitlement and discretionary spending reform or increase Obama's prospects for re-election by blurring critical distinctions. Those gloating over the compromise would do well to remember that we're still dealing with a Democratic Party that doesn't want to address either problem in a way that can save the nation from financial disaster.

So we conservatives and Republicans must move forward in unity, recognizing the good faith of both sides of this conservative debate, but with an even greater sense of urgency as the blood of financial stability continues to gush from the national anatomy.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.DavidLimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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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

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- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
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- 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

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Amen

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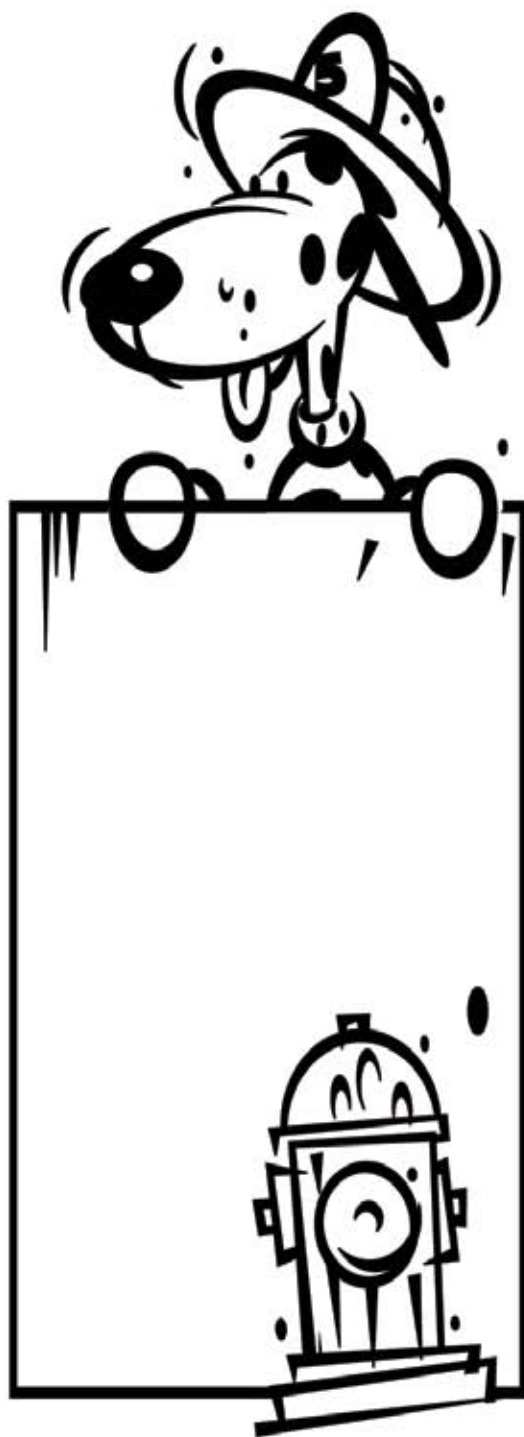
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FRENCH: Sueur

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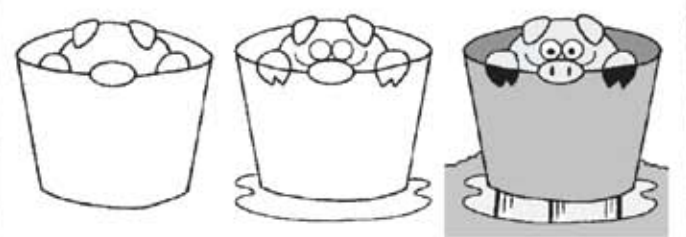
SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

One of these female suspects tried to leave the country with \$50,000 in stolen bills. They both insist the other brought the suitcase. Which one does Slylock Fox think is most likely the criminal courier?



HOW TO DRAW a pig in a bucket



YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Kendall Forester, age 7.



Place these animals in order of fastest-to slowest-running.
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Spot six differences between these panels.



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When the kites came a-calling

Circling our neighborhood for weeks, their graceful presence in late July may have indicated an early departure. With few insects available, migration would hopefully alleviate a stark reality.

Hoping to frighten a cicada into flight, one of the raptors plummeted toward the leafy canopy of a dense red oak across the street. Having calculated exactly when to

pull up from its earthy dive, the gray bird flapped its long, narrow wings. With no insect caught in its talons, it joined the growing kettle of hawks as they slowly ascended in a circle and drifted eastward.

Once I was back in the house, the telephone's insistent ring meant another "bird call." Informing me he worked at a 7-11 store, an employee said an injured hawk was on the ground.

With Big Spring having several locations, we were glad the business was not far from our home.

After letting the young man know we had arrived, he pointed toward the east side of the building.

At the front of the store where a large glass window abutted a brick wall, an adult

Mississippi kite lay with its head in the corner. Gently lifting the bird allowed me to see its badly swollen left eye. The head trauma it had sustained had probably been caused by its flying into the window.

Having described the bird as being "out of it" and "wobbly" when he called, the employee was correct in his assessment of an impact injury. To alleviate the swelling that had incapacitated the kite, medication was given.

After letting the kite rest for a while, we noticed its left wing had also been affected. Having felt no breaks, we could well imagine the bruising that had occurred when it slammed into the glass.

By the next morning, the swelling in the bird's eye had lessened. Progress could be seen daily in its finally accepting and eating food, and its ability to roost. Knowing it wouldn't be long before it had company, we weren't surprised by the next phone call.

On the east side of town, a nestling kite had been found on the ground. One of the homeowners' sons had climbed almost 25 feet up into a tree to place the errant youngster back in the nest. Two days later, the couple found it back on the ground.

After handing me the downy white bird, the man and wife were visibly concerned about the youngster. For 10 years, they had watched adult kites rebuild the nest and raise their young.



The following day, another downy nestling arrived from the same area of town. It also had been too eager to leave the nest. Placed with the first youngster, it adjusted immediately to having a companion.

Then our contact for rehab in San Angelo called. We weren't surprised when Diane Tracy said she had a nestling kite covered with down.

Just before we were to drive to Sterling City to meet her, she called again. The game warden for her county was meeting her as she left to drive north. She would be bringing a second bird, but was unsure what the officer had.

When Diane and husband, Dale, met us in Sterling City's park, we saw their two carriers. The first held the

downy nestling. Telling us the game warden and they did not know what the second bird was, we recognized it as an older kite. Since they had never seen a juvenile, it was no wonder they couldn't tell what it was.

Maturing, the older kite had a white head streaked with black. Marked with rusty-brown hues, its creamy breast was a notable contrast to its gray wings and darker primaries.

With the recovering adult, three downy nestlings, and the juvenile, the Mississippi kite specie was well represented at our home. Two hours later, another downy youngster brought our total population to six.

The ringing of our phone several times during the evening

meal meant our tally was changing. A nestling and an adult shot with a BB gun would soon be arriving. Within the framework of a week had come eight Mississippi kites.

Feeding our octet crickets and baby mice thwarted the dismal outcome they might have had because of drought.

The adults and juvenile were included in this regimen because they were too weak to tear their food.

Already in this summer of 2011, we had handled hawks and owls that no longer could fly because of starvation and dehydration. Without available food, our summer visitors, as well as year-round residents, had been affected by the unrelenting symptoms of nearly a year

without rain. Unable to feed their young, even parent birds had abandoned offspring in order to feed themselves and survive.

Preparing to deliver the Mississippi kites to the wildlife center in Lubbock, I entered their holding area to a greeting of "phee-pheew," "phee-pheew." Their delightful whistling was a call I had often heard from above.

Although the recovery of the two mature kites might be lengthy, the nestlings and juvenile now had an opportunity to attain the skills and graceful maneuvers the adult birds had shown in the summer skies.

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

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Odds and Ends

POQUOSON, Va. (AP) — A 9-year-old boy who left his wallet containing hundreds of dollars

at a Virginia convenience store got it back after he posted a handwritten letter.

The Daily Press reports a woman returned the wallet and its contents to a 7-Eleven store in Poquoson.

The boy, identified only as Charlie, says he left the wallet on the counter while he was getting a drink.

The boy's letter which

contained his photo was posted on the store's front door. It said the wallet contained more than \$300 the boy had saved, along with gift cards he got for his birthday.

The letter ended with, "I hope whoever has it needed it more than me."

...

KENNEWICK, Wash. (AP) — Cheri Schumann would like Kennewick High School's class of 1971 to know she is very much alive.

A story in Saturday's Tri-City Herald about Kennewick High's reunion focused on seven classmates who were slain out of 80 who had died. Schumann — now Cheri Taylor — was included.

But Taylor lives in Mill Creek, north of Seattle, with her husband and four children. She says she's happy, healthy and not ready to be buried.

Blum says another classmate listed in Saturday's story also wasn't murdered.

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

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News in brief

Polygamist leader faces possible life prison term

SAN ANGELO (AP) — Convicted polygamist leader Warren Jeffs is awaiting his punishment from the same Texas jury that convicted him on child sex charges.

Jurors were set to begin deliberations Tuesday in the trial's sentencing phase. Jeffs faces life in prison, where he can still lead the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Prosecutors rested their case Monday after showing photos of Jeffs intimately kissing his young wives. They also played what an FBI agent said was a 2004 audio recording of Jeffs preparing five young girls to have sex with him.

The 55-year-old Jeffs has led the FLDS since 2002. He is considered God's spokesman on Earth among more than 10,000 church followers.

Jeffs was convicted last week of sexually assaulting two underage girls he took as "brides."

Texas hits record 249 counties with burn bans

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — The Texas Forest Service says a record 249 counties have outdoor burn bans as the heat wave and drought continue.

The agency reported Tuesday that the only counties without the burn bans are Willacy and Zapata in far South Texas, and Chambers, Jefferson and Orange in Southeast Texas.

The state's previous outdoor burn ban record, prior to this year's drought, was set in January 2006 with 221 counties imposing the limits. The Texas Forest Service says that mark was passed in June.

Perry heads to early states as he leans toward bid

AUSTIN (AP) — Leaning toward a full-fledged presidential run, Texas Gov. Rick Perry will visit at least two early primary states — South Carolina and New Hampshire — on Saturday at the same time most of his would-be opponents are competing in an important test vote in Iowa.

In recent weeks, the conservative Texan has inched closer to a run, privately telling told GOP donors, leaders and activists that he was likely to enter the race for the GOP nomination. His upcoming speaking schedule — and the timing of it on the day of the Iowa straw poll — confirms as much.

Three Republicans close to Perry, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose his plans, said it's all but certain the governor will run, and his schedule is intended to put to rest doubt about his bid.

A fourth, also with links to the governor, said a formal announcement is tentatively planned for the middle of next week in Houston.

But that Republican said Perry won't go forward with a campaign if he can't secure enough financial commitments by this weekend. The person did not say how much Perry would need to guarantee he'd run, just that big-money donors — called bundlers — were given the go-ahead to start getting people to pledge money.

All four people cautioned that Perry hasn't made a final decision.

School district cuts ties with ex-Atlanta official

DeSOTO (AP) — A Dallas-area school board voted Monday to sever ties with its new superintendent, who was caught in the fallout of a test-cheating scandal in her previous district in Atlanta.

The DeSoto school board voted 3-2 to negotiate the terms of a voluntary exit agreement with Superintendent Kathy Augustine. Two board members

were absent.

The board had the same discussion on the agenda last month but adjourned without settling the future of the former deputy Atlanta school superintendent.

The district of about 9,000 students in the suburb south of Dallas hired Augustine in April for \$188,000 a year. However, the board placed her on paid leave last month while it re-examined her Atlanta tenure. She has denied having knowledge of test cheating in Atlanta.

School board member Sandra Wheeler said the vote was about leadership, ethics and integrity.

"At this time, I don't feel the leadership ability is there," Wheeler said.

DeSoto school district spokeswoman Beth Trimble said Augustine will remain on leave until terms of the settlement are reached by both parties.

The board announced its decision after meeting in executive session for about 90 minutes.

Board member Aubrey Hooper said that while it was "problematic" that it would cost the district money to end the contract, "we have to make the decision that's in the best interest of our kids."

Board president Warren Seay Jr. said that while it has been a "difficult time" for the district, the focus should now be on student success.

"When the media's gone and all the distractions are gone, DeSoto will be successful," he said.

Bail bondsman pleads guilty to bribing judge

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A South Texas bail bondsman charged with bribing a former state district judge has pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting extortion.

U.S. Attorney Jose Angel Moreno says 46-year-old Francisco Cisneros of Brownsville entered his plea Monday.

Moreno says that at Monday's hearing before a federal judge, Cisneros admitted paying \$2,000 to a middle man to bribe former state District Judge Abel Limas to change a cash or surety bond to a personal recognizance bond for a drug defendant. Limas, who pleaded guilty to racketeering earlier this year, has admitted receiving \$700 to issue the order.

Cisneros faces up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. He's set to be sentenced on Nov. 14.

Mexico says immigration outflow 'almost nothing'

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's net outflow of migrants has fallen to "almost nothing," as fewer migrants entered Mexico, but the number leaving dropped even faster, the government's statistical unit said Monday.

A report by the National Statistics Institute says Mexico lost about 0.09 percent of its population to migration as reflected in quarterly surveys carried out between March 2010 and March 2011.

That was 83 percent lower than the outflow of 0.53 percent of the population in 2006 and early 2007, near the end of Mexico's migration boom.

"In the first quarter of 2011, there was practically

no net loss of population due to international migration," the institute said. "As a result, in relative terms the net migration balance was almost nothing."

About 0.38 percent of the country's 112.7 million people migrated abroad in the most recent period studied, while about 0.29 percent immigrated to Mexico.

That was down from the 2006-2007 period, when almost 1 percent of the population left in a year, and about 0.46 of the population were newly arrived migrants from elsewhere.

Nearly 3,400 tickets for Houston red-light runners

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police have issued nearly 3,400 citations to red-light runners since the cameras were turned back on July 24.

The figures were released Monday by the company that operates the intersection cameras, Arizona-based American Traffic Solutions.

U.S. District Judge Lynn Hughes on July 22 ruled that Houston may not appeal his June decision invalidating the 2010 election when voters said the cameras should be turned off. Hughes decided camera opponents waited too long to put the matter on the ballot and violated the city charter governing timing for repeal of an ordinance.

A Texas Transportation Institute study, released Aug. 1, found that red-light accidents fell 25 percent at hundreds of the state's intersections after traffic cameras were installed.

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.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

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♥ K Q 10
♦ A Q 10 9 7 3
♣ Q 4 2

WEST
♠ A K J 9 7 3
♥ A 9 7 2
♦ 5
♣ 10 6

EAST
♠ 6 4 2
♥ 6 5 3
♦ K 4
♣ K J 9 8 5

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 8
♥ J 8 4
♦ J 8 6 2
♣ A 7 3

The bidding:
West North East South
1♠ 2♦ Pass 2NT
Pass 3NT Dble
Opening lead — king of spades.

The poker player who boasts that he's never been bluffed has his counterpart in the bridge player who claims that he's never missed a game. Both styles of play are expensive luxuries, largely because strict adherence to this philosophy is bound to result in substantial losses over the long haul.

In the accompanying deal, South lived up to the highest traditions of this school of players. Though his two-notrump bid might conceivably

have led his side to a sound game contract had North held a somewhat better hand, his skimpy values nevertheless did not justify his optimistic outlook.

South could have passed two diamonds without criticism, or he could have raised to three diamonds. Either action would have been reasonably acceptable. But his actual two-notrump bid was too gross an exaggeration of his values. He should have had at least three points more for this bid.

Declarer was severely punished for his optimism, which often happens to players with rose-colored glasses who push the envelope on just about every deal.

West led the king of spades and shifted to the ten of clubs, East covering with the jack when declarer followed low from dummy. South took the ace, led the king of diamonds and finessed. East won with the king and returned a spade, and the walls came tumbling down. East-West cashed all their remaining spades and clubs, as well as the ace of hearts, and the outcome was that South was down eight — 2,300 points!

All of which goes to prove that if you venture into space without wearing a spacesuit, you'll frequently end up with something more than a touch of frostbite!

Tomorrow: Making the most of your chances.

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News in brief

Global stocks in retreat again as markets enter bear market territory

LONDON (AP) — Stocks tanked again Tuesday as many global markets entered official bear market territory after one of the worst days on Wall Street since the collapse of Lehman Brothers in 2008.

Asian markets briefly recouped many earlier losses and European stocks opened higher. That rally proved short-lived, as investors worried about the consequences of the U.S. credit downgrade, Europe's debt crisis and mounting expectations of a global recession.

Many investors are looking for relatively safer assets to park their cash and the price of gold and the Swiss franc continued to rise to record levels.

"Many global equity markets have now entered bear market territory having fallen by over 20 percent from their recent peaks," said Lee Hardman, an analyst at The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ.

Plunge on Wall Street threatens to further weaken the economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's the last thing a nervous consumer and a fragile economy needed: a confidence-killing nosedive on Wall Street.

Americans struggling with lean wages, job insecurity and high gasoline prices have seen a 15-percent plunge in stock prices shrink their 401(k) accounts over the past 2½ weeks. When consumers feel less wealthy, they're less likely to buy new furniture, new appliances or new cars. And their spending drives about 70 percent of the economy.

Murray Spektor, 58, a retired Northwest Airlines pilot, says he has enough money tucked away to support himself in retirement. But after the stock market's plunge, he's taking further precautions.

"No expensive meals out," he says. "Entertainment's going to get cut back. Until I see where this is going, I've just got to preserve capital and try to get my comfort level up."

The drop in the stock market, through Friday, could cut overall spending by \$140 billion, or 1.3 percent, over the coming year, says Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. Dales forecasts that the stock market turmoil could reduce the economy's annual growth rate by half a percentage point through 2012.

Fed may react to market with new rescue efforts

WASHINGTON (AP) — A plunging stock market and a stalled U.S. economy may force the Federal Reserve to use the dwindling number of tools it has left in an effort to boost growth and keep the coun-

try from sliding back into recession.

At the very least, the central bank is expected to acknowledge all the adverse things that have occurred since its policymaking committee last met in June.

But many private economists say they believe that the situation has grown so dark in recent days that Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues will be forced to do more.

On Monday, the Dow Jones industrial average suffered its sixth-worst point drop in history, falling 634.76 points. That decline came after credit rating agency Standard & Poor's on Friday downgraded the United States' long-term debt because of what it saw as political gridlock that is preventing Washington from making meaningful cuts in the country's soaring budget deficits.

Adding to all the uncertainty, Europe is facing huge debt problems of its own. European officials are scrambling to prevent Italy and Spain from being consumed by a 21-month debt crisis that continues to roil global markets and has already forced Greece, Ireland and Portugal to seek large bailouts.

Britain set ablaze as unrest sweeps through UK cities in 3 days of riots

LONDON (AP) — A wave of violence and looting raged across London and spread to three other major British cities, as authorities struggled to contain the country's worst unrest since race riots set the capital ablaze in the 1980s.

In London, groups of young people rampaged for a third straight night, setting buildings, vehicles and garbage dumps alight, looting stores and pelting police officers with bottles and fireworks into early Tuesday. The spreading disorder was an unwelcome warning of the possibility of violence during London's 2012 Summer Olympics, less than a year away.

In rare move, England's soccer match Wednesday against the Netherlands in London's Wembley stadium was cancelled, preventing unruly crowds from gathering and freeing up police officers who would have protected the game.

Police called in hundreds of reinforcements and volunteer police officers — and made a rare decision to deploy armored vehicles in some of the worst-hit districts — but still struggled to keep pace with the chaos unfolding at flashpoints across London, in the central city of Birmingham, the western city of Bristol and the northwestern city of Liverpool.

Japan ignored own radiation forecasts

NAMIE, Japan (AP) — Japan's system to forecast radiation threats was working from the moment its

nuclear crisis began. As officials planned a venting operation certain to release radioactivity into the air, the system predicted Karino Elementary School would be directly in the path of the plume emerging from the tsunami-hit Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant.

But the prediction helped no one. Nobody acted on it.

The school, just over six miles (10 kilometers) from the plant, was not immediately cleared out. Quite the opposite. It was turned into a temporary evacuation center.

Reports from the forecast system were sent to Japan's nuclear safety agency, but the flow of data stopped there. Prime Minister Naoto Kan and others involved in declaring evacuation areas never saw the reports, and neither did local authorities. So thousands of people stayed for days in areas that the system had identified as high-risk, an Associated Press investigation has found.

At Karino Elementary in the town of Namie, about 400 students, teachers, parents and others gathered in the playground at the height of the nuclear crisis stemming from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. Many ate rice balls and cooked in the open air.

Syria comes under global reproach for crackdown on uprising

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's president held talks with neighboring Turkey's foreign minister Tuesday as the regime faced a chorus of global reproach, with envoys from India, Brazil and South Africa also heading to Damascus to press for an end to the violent crackdown on a five-month-old uprising.

The visit by Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu was significant because Turkey until recently had close ties to Damascus. But Ankara has become increasingly critical of its neighbor over the bloodshed.

Turkey's state-run news agency confirmed that Assad was meeting Davutoglu, but there were no details.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner lauded the visit and said Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had spoken to Davutoglu.

"They did talk about the situation in Syria, you know, and we believe it's another opportunity to send yet another strong message to Assad that this crackdown on peaceful protesters cannot stand," Toner said Monday.

Obama to announce first-ever fuel standards for heavy duty vehicles

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fire trucks and concrete mixers, semis, heavy-duty pickups and all trucks in between will, for the first time, have to trim fuel consumption and emissions of heat-trapping gases under new efficiency standards being announced Tuesday by President Barack Obama.

The White House says the standards the president was announcing will save businesses billions of dollars in fuel costs, help reduce oil consumption and cut air pollution.

The standards apply to vehicle model years 2014 to 2018.

Senior administration officials said the new targets affect three categories of vehicles.

Big rigs or semis will have to slash fuel consumption and production of heat-trapping gases by up to 23 percent. Gasoline-powered heavy-duty pickups and vans will have to cut consumption by 10 percent, or by 15 percent if the vehicles run on diesel fuel.

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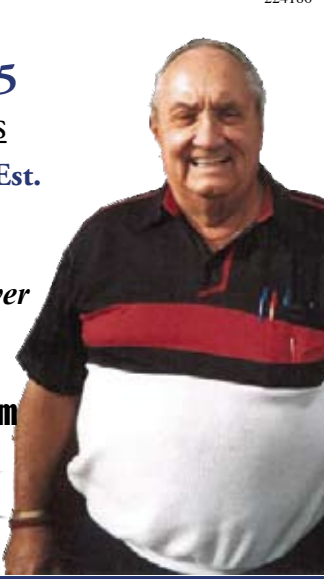
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Lady Steers in Abilene tonight to open season

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**
Sports Editor

Fresh off of a weekend filled with scrimmage action, the Lady Steers will be on the road tonight as they head east to take on the Eagles of Abilene High School. The game is scheduled for a 5 p.m. start in Abilene, preceded by JV and freshman games.

The Lady Steers take the court this year with an experienced team, having lost only three players to graduation this last summer. Head Coach Lynn Osborne said she was ready to get the girls on the court and see what they could do.

"We have some leadership and experience on the team this year," Coach Osborne said. "That should prove to be one of our strengths during the season."

The Lady Steers are com-

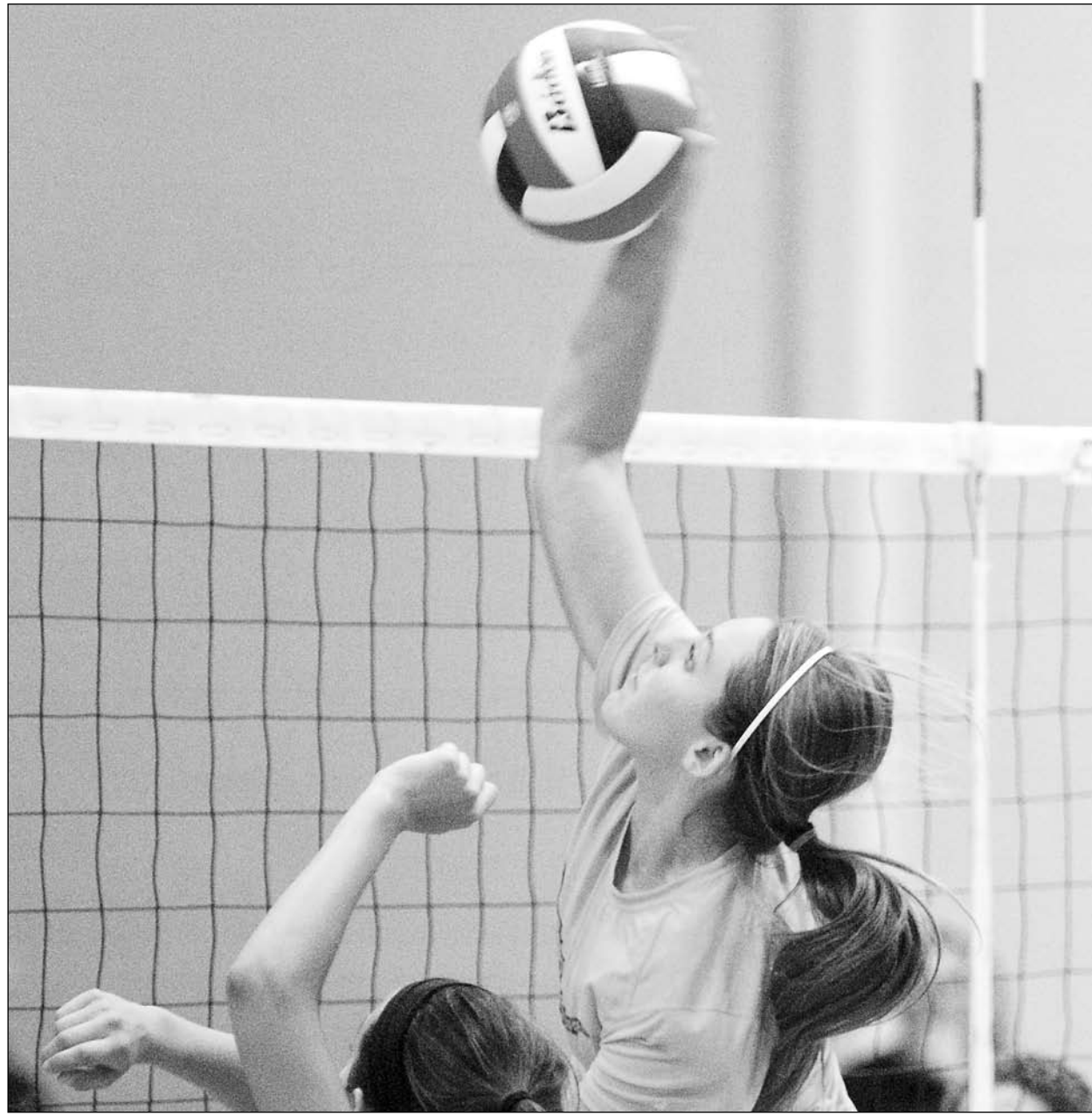
ing off of a 21-18 (7-2 league) season that was good enough to earn them a brief visit to the playoffs where they fell to the Vernon Lions.

Tonight, they face an Eagle squad that is starting from scratch. Seven Eagles that were on the court last year when Abilene defeated Big Spring in three matches (25-15, 25-21 and 25-20) have graduated, leaving only five returning leaders.

Tonight's season opener sets up a classic youth versus experience scenario.

The Lady Steers will not be showcasing their game before a home crowd until Aug. 16, when they will host Friendship.

The team will begin the district portion of their schedule Sept. 24. That game also will be a home game, as the girls defend Steer Gym against visiting Sweetwater.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Lady Steer Haley Dimidjian (right) spikes the ball in a recent scrimmage game against Crane.

Upcoming Varsity Events

Steers football

The Steers will play a scrimmage game at Andrews Aug. 13. The Saturday game is set for a 10 a.m. kickoff.

The Steers will play a scrimmage game against Lubbock Estacado in Big Spring Aug. 19. The time for this game has not been announced.

The Steers will kick off their regular season with a home game versus Fort Stockton Aug. 26. That game is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.

Lady Steers volleyball

The Lady Steers open their season in Abilene tonight at 5 p.m., before heading to Monahans for a tournament Aug. 11-13.

The home opener for the Lady Steers will be Aug. 16 versus Friendship. The varsity plays at 5:30 p.m.

Cruz leads Texas past Mariners

ARLINGTON (AP) — Matt Harrison needed 31 pitches to work through a shaky third inning.

Then Harrison regained his composure, allowing two hits in the final four innings of his 102-pitch outing to get his career-high 10th victory in the Texas Rangers' 9-2 win over the Seattle Mariners on Monday night.

Harrison allowed two runs and five hits with six strikeouts and no walks in 104-cruz heat, and Nelson Cruz backed him with a homer.

Harrison (10-8) surpassed his nine-win rookie season in 2008.

"I think it's just a matter of staying mentally tough and when I get into tough situations, I tell myself, 'You're one pitch from getting out of this,'" Harrison said. "So far, I've been

lucky it doesn't happen every time, but for the most part, I've been able to minimize the damage and make a pitch when I have to."

After his strong rookie season, Harrison went 7-7 the following two years, spending three stints on the disabled list during that span.

This season he's been healthy and in better shape, and the results have been obvious.

All five members of the Rangers rotation now have double-digit wins, the first time in team history that five starters have reached 10 wins in a season.

"You don't always get that, so we're very lucky," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "And we're lucky in the fact that they've stayed healthy. Those guys have taken the ball each time it's come to

them and they've given us some great ballgames. They've given me resiliency and I just hope they continue it."

Cruz, Mitch Moreland and Yorvit Torrealba all had three hits for the AL West-leading Rangers, who stretched their lead over second-place Los Angeles 1½ games. The Angels had the night off.

The Rangers scored twice in the second against rookie Charlie Furbush (1-1) with the help of the Mariners' second error of the night.

Cruz snapped an 0 for 15 slide when he led off the second with a homer to left, and Mike Napoli reached second on third baseman Adam Kennedy's fielding error.

Napoli went to third on a groundout and scored on Moreland's single.

Jack Wilson's two-out, two-run double in the third tied it at 2, but the Rangers answered with two runs in the fourth on RBI groundouts by David Murphy and Ian Kinsler.

Napoli was Harrison's catcher, and he was impressed with the way Harrison bounced back in the fourth.

"He was great, had a little hiccup in the (third) inning and came out the next inning and threw up a zero, to give us a chance to get the lead back," Napoli said. "We put up a couple of runs and he was great from there on. He had a good sinking fastball and mixed in his offspeed when he had to, just executed pitches when he needed to."

Furbush allowed seven

See **TEXAS**, Page 2B

Astros explode for nine runs, take down Arizona 9-1

PHOENIX (AP) — Houston right-hander Wandy Rodriguez's breaking ball was less than perfect but more than good enough Monday night.

Rodriguez allowed two hits over six innings and J.D. Martinez homered to lead the Houston Astros over the Arizona Diamondbacks 9-1.

Jimmy Paredes had a two-run single and Rodriguez drove in his first run of the season for the Astros, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Rodriguez (7-9) walked four and struck out five.

"I was trying to make quality pitches," Rodriguez said.

"My breaking balls, I threw good ones then I threw bad ones. I threw more bad tonight. Locating my breaking ball, that's my key."

Rodriguez pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the first and left two more runners stranded in the second. Catcher Carlos Corporan said he talked to Rodriguez about raising his arm angle between innings and, with that little tweak, Rodriguez went on to retire 11 of the last 12 batters he faced.

"You could just see in his body language out there that he couldn't get the pitches right where he wanted to," said Astros manager Brad Mills. "He worked out of a lot of jams while he was finding his rhythm."

Henry Blanco homered in the seventh for the Diamondbacks, who have dropped four of five.

"You can't take these guys lightly," said Diamondbacks manager Kirk Gibson. "They have been swinging the bats like this. They are very aggressive and they find

plenty of holes."

Martinez's three-run homer off Arizona starter Daniel Hudson (11-8) gave Houston a 3-0 lead four batters into the game. Corporan added an RBI double later in the inning and Rodriguez hit a run-scoring single to left to make it 5-0.

The Astros added two more runs in the second on an RBI double by Matt Downs and a run-scoring infield single from Clint Barmes.

"Everything's fun when we win," Corporan said. "We took advantage of that guy over

there. He left a couple of pitches up in the zone and we swung the bats well."

Hudson allowed seven runs — four earned — on a career-high 11 hits over a career-low three innings. He struck out only one, matching a season low.

"They don't have a ton of experience over there but they did a good job of battling it, battling me and making me throw pitches over the plate," Hudson said.

In three career starts against the Astros, Hudson has allowed 11 earned runs on 26 hits

in 16 innings for a 6.19 ERA. He has a 3.10 ERA against everyone else.

"I don't really know how to explain it," Hudson said. "I have never really pitched well against them. That team has my number I guess."

Paredes added his two-run single in the sixth off Zach Duke to put Houston in front 9-0, matching the number of runs the Astros had scored in their past three games combined.

Blanco homered off Jeff Fulchino with one out in the seventh to make it 9-1.

Swimmer stops midway through Cuba-Florida trip

HAVANA (AP) — Wind conditions and "less than ideal currents" prompted marathon swimmer Diana Nyad to end her second bid to swim from Cuba to the Florida Keys about halfway through her journey early Tuesday.

Elaine Lafferty, who was on the boat according to Nyad's blog, posted on Twitter: "It's over." Lafferty said "the com-

bination of factors was too much to safely continue."

According to the Twitter feed, Nyad was pulled from the water early in the morning after swimming for 29 hours. The swim was expected to take 60 hours to cover at least 103 miles (166 kilometers).

"It felt like this was my moment," a quote attributed

to Nyad on her Twitter feed said. "I don't feel like a failure at all. But we needed a little more luck."

The Twitter account reported she decided to end the swim herself, after "realizing the conditions of 5 to 10 knot winds and less than ideal currents." An online chart plotting the swim's track showed the Gulf Stream currents

pushing Nyad to the east of the intended course. Nyad had hoped to end her swim at the Southernmost Point in Key West, Fla.

According to the Twitter feed, Nyad was on a support boat after ending the swim and wrapped in blankets. The boat was headed to Key West.

In her second attempt, Nyad tried to accomplish at 61 years

old what she failed to do at 28 in 1978. This time, she even attempted the swim without a shark cage, relying instead on an electrical field from equipment towed by kayakers to keep them at bay.

In her first attempt in 1978, she quit after being in the water for 41 hours and 49

See **SWIM**, Page 2B

TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

runs — six earned — and eight hits over four-plus innings in his second start for the Mariners since he was acquired from Detroit in a trade on July 30.

The Mariners are converting Furbush from relief to starter, and they know there will be growing pains along the way.

“You’ve got to like his arm, you’ve got to like his stuff, but being comfortable and being familiar with those type situations, that’s the kind of hump you’ve got to get over,” manager Eric Wedge said.

When the Rangers loaded the bases with nobody out in the fifth on two walks and a single, Wedge brought in ex-Ranger Jamie Wright from the bullpen.

The Rangers kept up the pressure in the inning with RBI singles by Napoli and Torrealba, and a bases-loaded walk to Moreland for a 7-2

pad. In the sixth, Cruz’s RBI double and Napoli’s run-scoring single off Tom Wilhelmson made it 9-2.

The Mariners, 2-9 against the Rangers this season, have lost 22 of 28. But they had been on a decent run lately, winning six of 10 entering Monday night.

NOTES: Seattle 1B Justin Smoak missed his fifth straight game with a left thumb injury. Smoak took early batting practice on Monday and was confident he could return to the lineup soon. ... Rangers RHP Alexi Ogando was back with the team after spending the weekend in the Dominican Republic for the birth of his child. Ogando will be activated off the paternity list to make Tuesday night’s scheduled start against Seattle.

The Mariners will start RHP Michael Pineda, the AL rookie leader in innings pitched (130), strikeouts (133) and opponent batting average (.205).

Victorino appeals suspension for part in San Francisco brawl

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Philadelphia Phillies center fielder Shane Victorino is appealing a three-game suspension imposed Monday for his part in a weekend brawl at San Francisco.

A pair of Giants players who expected one-game suspensions only received fines after playing key roles in the benches-clearing brawl between NL division leaders Friday night. Nobody was injured.

Major League Baseball also fined Victorino an undisclosed amount. Victorino declined to address the suspension Monday night as the NL East-leading Phillies opened a three-game series at Dodger Stadium.

Phillies third baseman Placido Polanco, Giants pitcher Ramon Ramirez and catcher Eli Whiteside were fined as well. Victorino, Ramirez and Whiteside were ejected.

“Victorino’s aggressive actions prolonged the bench-clearing incident between the Clubs,” the commissioner’s office said in announcing the penalties.

Victorino can continue to play until the appeal process is complete.

Philadelphia was eliminated by San Francisco in six games last fall in the NL championship series. The Giants went on to win the franchise’s first World Series title since moving West in 1958. “I thought it was well done,”

Giants manager Bruce Bochy said of MLB’s decisions. “And I’m not saying that because we didn’t have any suspensions. It was pretty clean out there.”

The trouble broke out Friday night in the sixth inning after Ramirez hit Victorino in the lower back with a pitch, moments after Jimmy Rollins stole second with a six-run lead — a move Giants outfielder Carlos Beltran criticized afterward. Victorino began walking toward the mound as the benches cleared. Victorino later pushed plate umpire Mike Muchlinski trying to get back into the fracas.

Victorino was held back by Giants bench coach Ron Wotus and Phillies hitting coach Greg Gross, then also escaped the grasp of manager Charlie Manuel. Polanco said afterward he was trying to protect Victorino.

Victorino and Manuel thought Ramirez plunked the center fielder on purpose, something Ramirez denied Monday in his first comments about the brawl. He did expect to receive a one-game suspension.

Whiteside tackled Polanco in the skirmish after Polanco came charging in from second base.

“They were the ones that provoked it,” Manuel said Monday. “Vic probably felt like he had to stand up for himself. Usually when you get into things like that on the field, and you get

into a little pushing and fighting, whatever you want to call it, somebody gets suspended. And when you get one of your front-line players suspended, it hurts the team or course because of the games they miss. But it’s good that it was just one guy.”

Neither Ramirez nor Whiteside knew the amount of their fines. Ramirez said he figured he would be suspended for at least one game based on the perception that he had plunked Victorino on purpose.

“I didn’t try to hit him,” Ramirez said before the Giants opened a three-game series against the Pirates. “It’s a surprise (not to be fined). I was waiting for a suspension. They thought it was on purpose but it wasn’t. Now, it’s important to focus on pitching. I want to help the team win games.”

Whiteside, a former football player, said he has long been taught to protect the pitcher — and that’s all he had in mind when he saw Polanco coming and began bouncing around to defend Ramirez.

“That was my intention, to go protect Ramon,” Whiteside said. “I’m happy with the outcome. A lot of guys are getting suspended for things like that. I thought I might get a game. I’m happy not to miss any time. I felt like I didn’t take a swing at anybody. I didn’t throw any punches.”

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Lebron optimistic about season

AKRON (AP) — LeBron James stood before 360 third-graders on Monday, telling them their futures are bright.

Plenty of ominous signs notwithstanding, he believes the same is true for the NBA.

In an interview with The Associated Press, the Miami Heat forward said he is not considering offers to play internationally during the NBA lockout — with one catch. He’s committed to the 2012 Olympics and trying to help the United States defend the gold medal he helped win at the Beijing Games.

“I’m optimistic that we will have a season this year,” James said. “Very optimistic.”

A little anxious, too.

He’s working out twice a day, trying to erase some of the sting that’s still there after the Heat lost to the Dallas Mavericks in the NBA finals.

“Right now I’ve just been focusing on being

a better player, working on my game every single day,” James said at a news conference before the AP interview. “Like I said, the Dallas Mavericks were a great team and they deserved to win that championship. And I’ll just use that as motivation coming into this season.”

He’s also trying to deliver on his vow to be even better whenever the Heat resume play, saying he’s been in Houston at times this offseason to learn post play from one of the game’s all-time greats, former Rockets star Hakeem Olajuwon.

“I look at what he was able to do throughout his career,” James said. “Unbelievable talent. Multiple champion. Just to see how he was able to dominate in the low post, for me as an individual, I just try to look at some of the things I feel I need to get better at and hit home at it. Our team becomes better if I continue to get better and that’s what it’s about.”

So even with signs of major trouble afoot in the NBA — union chief

Billy Hunter told a conference of attorneys in Baltimore last week that he would bet against there being a 2011-12 season “at this moment” — James remains hopeful.

He said he understands why someone like star guard Deron Williams would feel compelled to seek a deal overseas and why Kobe Bryant appears to be flirting with the notion. It’s just not for him, he said.

“We all love the game of basketball so much,” James said. “And the love of the game is always going to be there. Guys love the game.”

The Olympics count as a motivating force as well. And in time, he hinted he may even try recruiting some of his NBA pals in an effort to convince them to play in London next summer.

Not yet, though.

“I love representing my country and doing it the way I love to do it and that’s playing the game of basketball,” James said. “So I would love to be a part of the 2012 team traveling to London and defending our gold medal.”

James was in his

hometown Monday to open “Wheels for Education,” a program he’s doing in conjunction with corporate partners State Farm, HP and Nike to provide hundreds of third-graders from Akron Public Schools academic tools they need. The program will follow those kids through their high school graduations in 2021, and James wants the initiative to continue growing annually — plus even sees a chance to take it beyond his hometown, maybe to South Florida, maybe even internationally.

Doused by rain on his 2-mile bike ride through Akron with 22 children ambassadors for the program pedaling alongside him, James said it still resonates deeply within in when he hears screams of joy in his hometown. Some people carrying signs in support of James showed up at the event more than two hours beforehand, hoping just for a glimpse of the two-time NBA MVP.

“He just lives in Miami,” said Doris Thomas, who brought her grandson.

SWIM

Continued from Page 1B

minutes due to strong currents and rough weather that banged her around in the shark cage.

Had the latest attempt been successful, Nyad would have broken her own record of 102.5 miles (165 kilometers)

for a cageless, open-sea swim, set in 1979 when she stroked from the Bahamas to Florida.

Before the swim, Nyad told journalists she hopes her swim will inspire others her age to live active lives. She said she also hopes it can help improve understanding between Cold War rivals Cuba and the United States, even if just symbolically.



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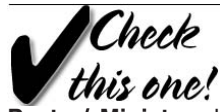
710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Announcements

*******WANTED*******
Old High School Yearbooks. I'm looking to buy any Old High School Yearbooks. I'll pay from \$3-\$5 a yearbook. Call (325)436-1430.



New Pastor/ Minister looking for a House to **Rent**. Prefer to be in Forsan or Big Spring School District. Need 3-4 bedrooms, 2 baths and garage. Have Good References. Call Michelle (469)247-4458.

Cemetery Lots

SAVE\$ MONUMENTS/Markers. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

SAVE\$ CEMETERY Lots. Pay-outs welcome. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

TRINITY MEMORIAL Park-Garden of Bethany- Lot 240, 4 spaces. Call (512)330-0045.

Garage Sales

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday,
August 13th @ 9:00am,
240 East Currie St.,
Garden City.

All contents of storage unit will be sold. (432)270-0544 FMI

Help Wanted



NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS

Domino's Pizza needs YOU!

- We need drivers now
- Make cash everyday
- Great part time & full time shifts
- Starting wage - \$7.25 an hour (no tip wage here) plus delivery reimbursement, plus tips
- We more than reimburse for high gas prices
- Got experience? Work for Papa or the Hut!...Come on over!
- Senior citizens and stay at home Moms always welcome.

Apply at **Domino's Pizza**
2111 S. Gregg St.
Big Spring



JOB FAIR

Company Drivers and
Owner Operators Needed

August 14-15-16
Sun.-Mon.-Tues.
8:00am-5:00pm

1733 East Hwy. 80
Abilene, TX
(888) 527-7221

Help Wanted

LVN

Needed to join Big Spring's number one home health agency. This is a fulltime position with an array of great benefits.

We offer:

- Great working environments
- Vacation and Sick Time paid
- Paid Health Insurance
- Paid mileage

Please come by or send resume to:

InHome Care Inc.
1104 Scurry
Big Spring, TX 79720

Help Wanted

Coastal Transport

We now have a **\$2000.00**

Sign On Bonus!

We are now hiring drivers to deliver petroleum products in and around the Permian Basin. Qualifications:

- *Class A CDL drivers w/hazmat and tanker endorsements
- *23 years of age or older
- *1 year verifiable tractor/trailer experience
- *Scheduled Days Off
- *Home Everyday

Please contact
1-888-527-7221

CROSSROADS HOSPICE is hiring for the position of HME/DME tech pt/ft. On-call is required with this position. Please come by our office at 421 S Main to apply. (EOE)

DAY'S INN needs Housekeeping person and part-time maintenance. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Professional Transportation, Inc. is seeking local drivers for 7-passenger mini-vans in the Big Spring, TX area. Drug screen, driving record and criminal background check required. 432-923-1363. www.professionaltransportationinc.com

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. \$550.00 Weekly plus Bonus. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

Full-time RN Case Manager, LVN, Social Worker & Certified Nurses Aid needed in Big Spring and surrounding areas with a fast growing Hospice agency. Apply @: Interim HealthCare, 1031 Andrews Hwy. Suite 200, Midland, TX 79701 or fax resume to 432-618-0307.

Great Horn Carriers, Inc.
Tanker Driver Needed

REQUIRES:
Class A CDL with HasMat
2 years Fuel Hauling Preferred
Local Hauling, No Nights.
\$400.00 Sign-On Bonus,
Good Pay with Benefits.

FMI:
(432)683-2868, (432)288-3761

HILLCREST CDC has a Part-time Position Available, Mon.-Fri. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Must have high school diploma or GED. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.



HIRING EXPERIENCED CDL drivers. 1-2 yrs experienced required, with clean driving record. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.

LINEMEN/FOREMAN/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WANTED, must have experience. CDL license required. Top pay. 401K, vacation, insurance, uniforms. Must pass drug test. DOT background review. Apply at TESSCO 3217 E. FM 700 between 8am-4pm or call 432-263-0633.

Help Wanted



HIRING EXPERIENCED heavy equipment operators. 1-2 yrs experienced required. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.

HOUSEKEEPERS WANTED at Super8. Apply in-person. Looking for detail-oriented person, team player with minimum 6-mos experience in housekeeping. Starting \$7.50 per hour. Accepting Interviews.



IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!
Crude Oil Drivers in Midland TX

Safety & Performance
Bonus quarterly,
Paid Every Friday,
Paid Vacation/Holidays/
Jury Duty

Company benefit package:
Medical/Dental/Vision/Life,
401K with Company match;
Paid Orientation/Training
Referral Bonus

Class A-CDL-X Required
2 yrs Tractor/Trailer Exp.
In the last 5 yrs or
1 yr Exp. W/accredited
semi-truck driving
school diploma
Minimum Age: 23

Contact:
DeAnna Bales @
1-800-737-9988 ext 1207
Johnny Tidwell @
1-806-495-3254
or visit us
www.mipe.com
Monday-Thursday 8am-3pm
EOE

Join **BUSY BEE'S** professional cleaning team! Enjoy an independent work environment and \$10/hr. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies and uniform. Must have own transportation and speak English. All cleaners are drug tested and background checked. Bonded and insured. Call J. Williams Management at 432-699-2090 M-F 8-4.

LOCAL COMPANY seeking General Labor, oil field experience helpful. Must have current drivers license. Call (432)264-7005 or 270-7473.

NEED A Pusher, Roustabout & Backhoe Operator. Must have years of experience, pass a drug test & a valid drivers license. Apply at 2000 North Birdwell Lane.

NOW HIRING experienced Class A CDL Drivers with tanker endorsement, Big Spring area. Great Pay. Contact SJO Services (432)213-0908.

OFFERING a rare opportunity for a Licensed Nursing Facility Administrator for Sterling City Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. This Community offers a unique family oriented facility. For consideration, please call (903)571-3872 You may Fax resume to (903)657-8960.

Help Wanted

PART-TIME MAINT Tech needed for property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. 20 hrs/week plus Vacation. Fax resume to (432)264-1761.

PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS. MUST HAVE CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND INSURANCE. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST. MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position in Big Spring area.

Meter Technician/ Electronics Assistant-

Responsible for installing, repairing, and calibrating flow, level, and pressure metering equipment. Position also provides assistance in repair of communication equipment supporting the District's SCADA system. Intermediate level position, basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or www.crmwd.org



SCHOOL BUS Drivers needed. Must have CDL with Passenger and School Bus Endorsements. Competitive pay. Fill out application online at bsisd.esc18.net For further info please call (432)264-4108.

SECURITY OFFICERS Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN.

Physical Requirements: Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required. **Other Requirements:** Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

Experience Requirements: One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience. Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

SHOP HAND needed preferred construction experience. Call (432)267-4700.

Help Wanted



Store Routes Open

2 hrs. per day.
Great opportunity for extra income.

Ideal for Stay at Home Moms and Retiree's.

Must have reliable transportation, drivers license and insurance.

Stop by the Big Spring Herald,
710 Scurry St.
for application.

No Phone Calls Please

UTILITY

Locate Technicians Needed
No Experience Required
Must Have

Valid Driver's License
Paid Training / benefits
1-877-270-8742
Job Code: QANRC
Media Code: MDB

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2011 SPA Close Out. Call (432)563-1807.

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Pets

FREE KITTENS to good home about 8 weeks old. Call (432)213-1056.

FREE PUPPY to good home with fenced yard. 1/2 Husky & 1/2 Lab about 4 months old, female, all shots. Call 270-5807.

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FOR RENT large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry-B. All bills paid. \$575. month, \$500. deposit. Call (432)212-3646.

FOR RENT large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry-B. All bills paid. \$575. month, \$500. deposit. Call (432)212-3646.

2 MOBILE HOMES- 1 Bdrm. \$300. plus deposit and electric. Small 2 Bdrm \$300 month plus deposit and utilities. No pets. Available now. Call (432)268-1684.



FIELD MECHANICS

Exline, Inc., Odessa Field Services Division a national leader in the repair of large stationary engines (1,500hp to 15,000hp) and reciprocating compressors is expanding its Field Service Division.

We have immediate openings for **Mechanics** at all skill levels. Experience on Low & High Speed Engines Helpful. **This position requires extensive travel.**

Does this interest you?

- Working at different locations across the United States instead of the same service bay.
- Competitive salary with pay increases after your first three months, and six months, then annually.
- A **comprehensive benefit package**, including cafeteria plan, medical and dental insurance at no cost for single coverage.
- **Other benefits include**, sick leave, personal time off, vacation, Uniforms, 401 K program, annual bonus, and annual pay for any sick time allowed and not used.
- Being paid for your travel time.
- Earning a generous per diem.
- Having Exline provide the tools...not you.
- Advancement opportunities.
- Drivers license is required
- Base of operations is Odessa

If you meet the requirements, we would like to visit with you about becoming a member of our team. Drug screen required. Send resume to **EXLINE INC., ODESSA FIELD SERVICES DIVISION, P.O. BOX 69239, 3524 N. FM 1936, ODESSA TEXAS 79769-0239** or Exline, Inc., PO Box 1487, Salina, Kansas 67402. You can apply on-line at www.exline-inc.com or by e-mail to s.sizemore@exline-inc.com or FAX 785-826-4425. E.O.E.



FIELD MECHANICAL FOREMAN

Exline, Inc., a national leader in the repair of large stationary engines (1,500 hp to 15,000 hp) and reciprocating compressors is expanding its Field Service Division.

We have an immediate opening for a **Field Mechanical Foreman** who not only has mechanical knowledge, but can lead a crew to ensure the job is done right. **This position requires extensive travel.**

Does this interest you?

- Working at different locations across the United States.
- Salary reviews after your first three months, and six months then annually.
- Being paid for your travel time
- Earning a daily per diem
- Having Exline provide the tools...not you.
- Compensation based on mechanical and leadership experience
- A comprehensive benefit package, including medical and dental insurance.
- Base of operations is Odessa

Pre-employment physical and drug screen required. Send resume to Exline, Inc., PO Box 1487, Salina, Kansas 67401 or e-mail to s.sizemore@exline-inc.com 785-826-4477 FAX 785-826-4425 EXLINE, INC. IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

227018



Globe Energy Services is seeking Motivated and Hard Working Vacuum & Kill Truck Operators, for our Big Spring and Westbrook locations.

Seeking full time class A CDL drivers with a clean record that has experience or is willing to learn vacuum or pump truck skills in the oil and gas industry. Competitive pay, health insurance, vacation and retirement benefits are all included. Hiring immediately, training provided.

Apply at **3112 N. Hwy. 87 Big Spring, TX 79720**
or call **325-575-9907**
or at **306 W. THORNE ST. WESTBROOK, TX 79565**
or call **325-575-9919**

227016

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1908 MORRISON. Nice Newly Remodeled- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, carport. \$900. Month, \$600. deposit. No HUD, No pets non-smokers preferred. References required. Call (432)270-3849.

817 TIMOTHY Lane, 3 Bdrm, 2 bath w/stove & refrigerator Central Heat. \$600. Month, \$400. deposit. Forsan School District. MUST have Rental Reference. (432)517-8039.

820 TIMOTHY Lane., Forsan ISD. 2 bdrm, 1 bath. CH/A, Stove & refrigerator. \$500. month, \$300. deposit. Water, Cable and Trash Paid. Call (432)268-6424.

BUILDING FOR rent @ 1307 Gregg Street (former Dibrell's Gunshop). \$450 per month and 1 year lease. Contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000.

BUILDING FOR rent @ 1309 Gregg Street. Busy Gregg Street location with plenty of parking. 4 offices, reception & kitchen area, plus storage room. \$1500 per month and 1 year lease required. Contact Lucy @ 432-263-5000 for more information.

DOWNTOWN LOFT for Rent. \$1300.00 month, 1 year lease required. No pets. Call (432)263-6514 Owner/Broker

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BUY/ RENT 2 thru 6 bdrm Homes, 24Hr. maintenance, Central Heat/Air, Pool, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, Washer/dryer connections, also 1 & 2 bdrm Apts, available, (432)263-3461-Rosa.

NOW LEASING 1, 2 & 3 Bdrm Apts. Built in microwave, full-size Washer & Dryer included, private patio/balcony w/storage area, playground area, fitness center, and community center. Open Monday-Friday 9am-6pm. Call Knollwood Heights (432)264-1735.

One Bedroom- Furnished Apt.. Monthly Rental \$700.00. All bills paid including cable & wireless Internet. Call **623-606-5898.**

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EQUIPMENT YARD with small office for Rent. Call (623)606-5898.

Real Estate for Sale

2011 JOHNSON- 2/1, \$25,000.. Call (432)212-3646.

COAHOMA ISD- 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, 1 carport, 1/2 acre. Totally fenced. \$74,950.. Call (432)268-3571.

FORSAN ISD- 815 Angela Road. 'Secluded'- 4/3, 2600 square feet, 16+ acres, granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors. \$245,000.00. NO OWNER FINANCE. (432)466-3880.

HERE'S FLORIDA! Florida Manufactured Home Magazine. A guide to finding and buying a manufactured home in the Sunshine State. Call to request your FREE copy today! Toll Free: 1-888-739-3530 Or Visit our website www.flmanufacturedhomes.com

LAKE FRONT Home, Lake Hinkle Waldron Arkansas. \$118,000.00. Evenings (479)923-4236.

MUST SEE- 4214 Theo Street. 3 bedroom home. Move in condition. \$137,500. Call (432)268-3846

PRICE REDUCED..... Owner will finance 4/1 new paint, new carpet, new ac unit was \$55k now \$50k. 4207 Dixon. Call 325-277-4923

REMODELED- 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. 1447 sq. feet. New AC/Heat pump. Beautiful back yard with pecan tree. \$115,000.00. Cathy (432)264-0585, 816-6074. View pictures at zillow.com

RENT to OWN- 1204 Stanford 3/1, \$5000.00 Down, \$468. month. Under Remodel. Call (432)212-3646.

WATERFRONT LAKE LBJ in granite shoals 700ft open water peninsula lot. Approximately 1.1 acres. Price to sell by owner 512-755-1978.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars and Uranus are the baddest bad boys of the solar system. These planets square off in a cosmic barroom brawl. The damage could be as minimal as a few knocked-over chairs, though it's not an energy to be underestimated. The streetwise way is to steer clear of conflict. Don't like someone's vibes? Cross to the other side of the street.



ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your big idea is becoming a full-blown ambition. Stay theoretical. It's not time to act yet. Seek patient, understanding and flexible teammates to help you work out the details.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Needing everything to be smooth is a detriment to success. The better you can tolerate small, bothersome details, the farther you will go in business and pleasure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may find that you are easily distracted by things that don't really matter. Take it as a sign to change tracks. Go for a walk, call a friend, or do something else on that lengthy to-do list of yours.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your will is not the same as what the others want from you, though a certain loved one is so slick that you may not notice this right away. Do not make any decision when you are feeling overloaded or pressured.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though you try not to expect too much from

loved ones, you also know that patterns are likely to repeat. The one who has impressed you before will soon impress you again.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are willing to take a risk when it comes to love, but not when it comes to commerce. Keep your money where it is until you completely and thoroughly understand and trust the investment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Love erases discomfort. This afternoon, knowing that you are accepted and adored will come as a psychic relief. And tonight, you will in turn give similar emotional support to someone else.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Children want to be grownups, and grownups want to return to a life of few responsibilities and limited liability. Make the novel choice -- enjoy your age. You could start a trend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll plan your workout well, though unpredictable events will challenge that plan. Your strength is your astounding adaptability. You could even be promoted for this talent in the weeks to come.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Just because someone is a supporter of yours doesn't mean that an exchange will be easy. Dealing with good friends could cause you much more stress than it's worth now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There is little to be gained from fame. Pursue usefulness instead. That is what will make you happy and wealthy. Capricorn and Virgo people will be helpful business partners.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Get on top of the wave, and you'll glide like the freest of beings. Get underneath it, and you'll be pummeled and dragged down. So make a strong effort to leap up and take the ride that's offered.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (August 9). You have serious projects to complete this year, so you plan well, guard your time and keep everything on course. October brings a victory. Your personal life sparkles with opportunity and surprises. You'll journey with a kindred spirit in December. There will be

many amusements. You'll close a deal in May. Aquarius and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 25, 2, 24 and 35.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I would be thrilled if a certain Gemini returns my feelings. I've had a crush on him for almost three years. The reason I haven't acted on it is that he was in a relationship. Actually, he still is, but I have reason to believe they are on the outs. Should I sit around and wait for him to become single, or should I let him know that I like him in hopes that it will speed up the process? He's a Libra."

Two air signs have an easy rapport, and I'll bet you clicked together with this Gemini so easily when you first met that you immediately had the feeling you were meant to be friends, if not more. However, you should take into account the absolute devotion that Libra tends to have to his sweetheart. He doesn't take his commitments lightly. Even if he is the one to break up a relationship, he will need space in between to grieve the bond. Libra feels that love is sacred. Cheating is not something that comes easily to him, and if something like that were to happen with you, he would feel so much guilt that it would tarnish his feelings for you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Whitney Houston is a Leo with a lion-sized voice. With well over 400 career awards, including Grammys, Emmys and American Music Awards, and more than 170 million records sold, Houston is one of the world's best-selling recording artists. Houston's passionate moon and Jupiter in Aries signifies a warrior spirit, and Venus in Leo shows a love of entertaining that will never fade.

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.

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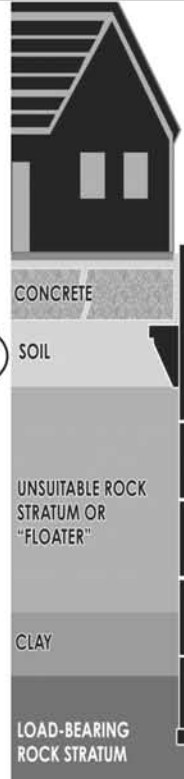
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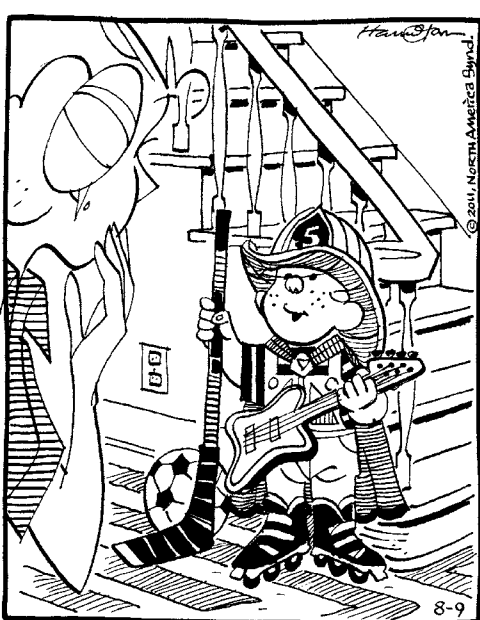
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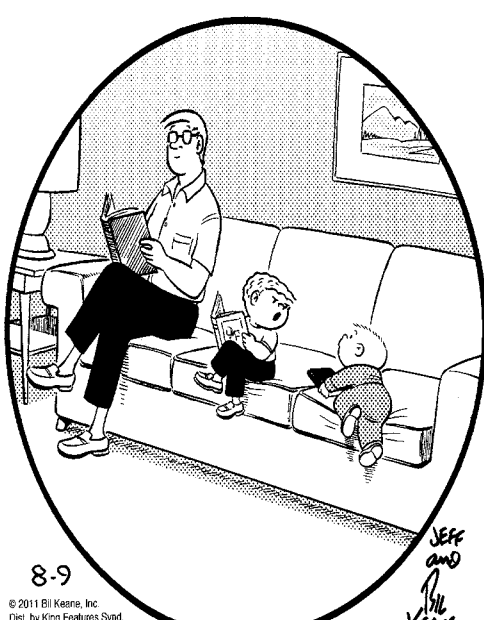
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	King	Scrivner	News	King	Auction	Movie: Marked for Death, Keith David	Ways Die	Law & Order	Live		Phineas Good	Little League Baseball	Sport
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me Wheel	Two Men	News	Caso Cerado	News	Seinfeld	McDonald	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Auction	Seinfeld	Auction	Law & Order			Vampire		E:60
7:PM	Wipeout	Teresa (SS)	Hell's Kitchen	NCIS (DVS)	Mi Corazon Insiste	It's Worth What?	Office	Upd	Country Pop Legends (My Music)	90210		Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	Auction	Rizzoli & Isles	Movie: Bringing Down the House		ANT Farm	WNBA	World
8:PM	Take the Money and Run	Triunfo del Amor	MasterChef	NCIS: Los Angeles	Flor Salvaje (SS)	America's Got Talent	Office	Light of the Southwest				Movie: Flight of the Phoenix, Tyrese Gibson	Auction	Memphis Beat	Born to Dance		Good	Basketball: Storm at Liberty	World
9:PM	Combat Hospital	Aqui y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	The Mentalist	La Casa de al Lado		Office	Conan	Suze Orman's Money Class	Payne Browns	D. Money	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	Repo	The Mo'Nique		ANT Farm	Base	Tonig	
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Brad New		Roseanne	Auction		Repo	Wizards	E:60	Sport			
11:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	El Cartel II (SS)	Jay Leno				Roseanne	Auction		Repo	Wizards					
12:AM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Ministerio-Vida	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	D. Money	Movie: Flight of the Phoenix, Tyrese Gibson	Ways Die	Hawthorne	Wendy Williams		Wizards	World, Poker	Base
1:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd		South Pk	D. Money	MAN	Ways Die	Franklin & Bash	Movie: Weapons, Mark Webber		Wizards	World, Poker	Sport
2:AM	Paid	Mujer	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	News After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Cops	Auction	MAN	Ways Die	Franklin & Bash	Movie: Weapons, Mark Webber		Wizards	World, Poker	Sport
3:AM	Paid	Conducta	King-Hill	(.37) Up to	Pelicula: La					TBA	Auction	MAN	Ways Die	Franklin & Bash	Movie: Weapons, Mark Webber		Wizards	World, Poker	Sport

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I COULDN'T DECIDE WHAT I WANTED TO BE TODAY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Stop it, PJ! ... Stop copying me!"

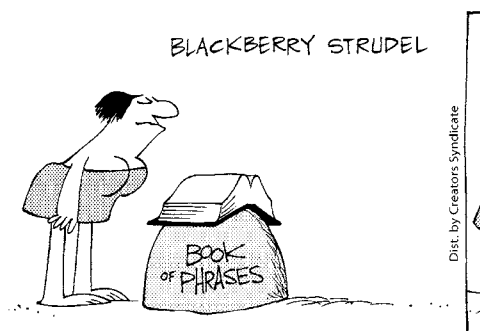
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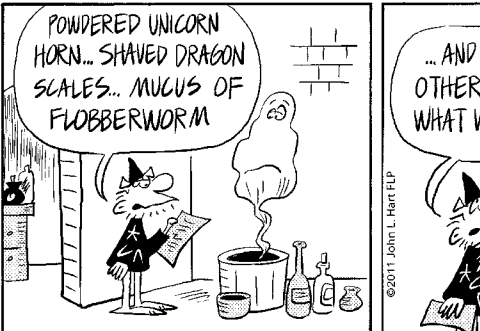
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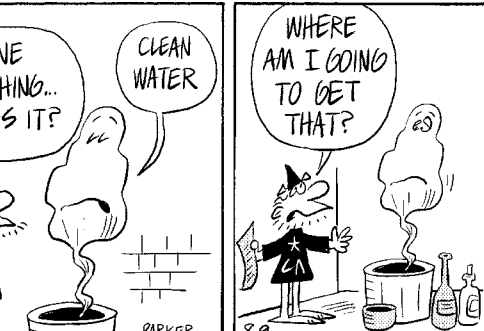
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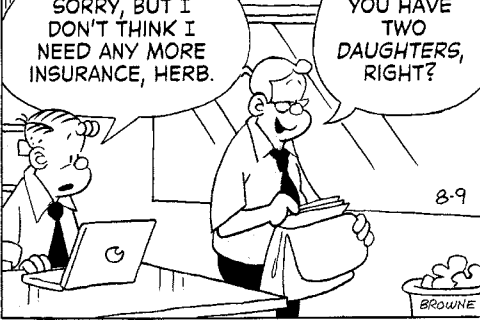
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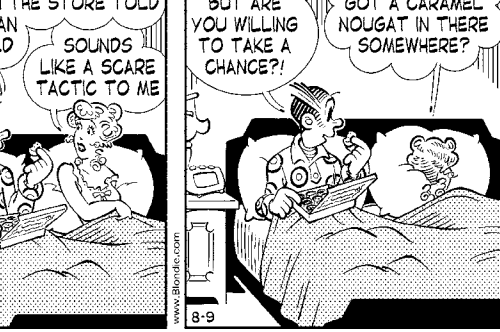
BEELE BAILEY



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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 9, the 221st day of 2011. There are 144 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 9, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt received British Prime Minister Winston Churchill aboard the USS Augusta off Newfoundland; although the two had once met briefly years earlier, this was their first encounter as the leaders of their respective countries. (The next day, Roosevelt visited Churchill aboard his ship, the HMS Prince of Wales.) The talks resulted in the Atlantic Charter defining goals for a post-war world.

On this date:

In 1842, the United States and Canada resolved a border dispute by signing the Webster-Ashburton Treaty.

In 1854, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," which described Thoreau's experiences while living near Walden Pond in Massachusetts, was first published.

In 1902, Edward VII was crowned king of Britain following the death of his mother, Queen Victoria.

In 1910, the U.S. Patent Office granted Alva J. Fisher of the Hurley Machine Co. a patent for an electrically powered washing machine.

In 1936, Jesse Owens won his fourth gold medal at the Berlin Olympics as the United States took first place in the 400-meter relay.

In 1944, 258 African-American sailors based at Port Chicago, Calif., refused to load a munitions ship following an explosion on another ship that killed 320 men, many of them black. (Fifty of the sailors were convicted of mutiny, fined and imprisoned.)

In 1945, three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, the United States exploded a nuclear device over Nagasaki, killing an estimated 74,000 people.

In 1969, actress Sharon Tate and four other people were found brutally slain at Tate's Los Angeles home; cult leader Charles Manson and a group of his followers were later convicted of the crime.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon and his family left the White House as his resignation took effect. Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the nation's 38th chief executive.

In 1995, Jerry Garcia, lead singer of the Grateful Dead, died in Forest Knolls, Calif., of a heart attack at age 53.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Cousy is 83. Tennis Hall of Famer Rod Laver is 73. Jazz musician Jack DeJohnette is 69. Comedian-director David Steinberg is 69. Boxing Hall-of-Famer Ken Norton is 68. Actor Sam Elliott is 67. Singer Barbara Mason is 64. Former MLB pitcher Bill Campbell is 63.

Answer to previous puzzle

SODA	WRAPS	SEAT
EBAY	HOVEL	TALE
TONE	ATONE	ASAN
SEC	SLOWNUMBERS	
ENTER	TEELME	
RABIES	TEHEE	
PSALM	BOAST	POT
MINE	AIR	COVE
SAD	RAILS	TOKEN
	LULLS	RODENT
ASCENT	SEWER	
CHANGEHANDS	FIB	
TAPS	RATIO	NASA
ACRE	ELOPE	ACES
SKIS	DOMES	BEEES

Newsday Crossword

THREE CHORES by Billie Truitt
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ACROSS

1 Foundation

6 Minor quarrel

10 Computer programs, for short

14 Stadium

15 Become weary

16 Writer of rhymes

17 Suspicious (of)

18 Genuine

19 Nest site

20 Parent's morning request

23 Night before a holiday

24 Gobble up

25 Ship or boat

27 Lend a hand

31 Damp

33 Do a double-take

34 Life stories, for short

35 Part of the eye

39 Parent's after-supper request

42 Originate (from)

43 Cashews and pecans

44 Long gun

45 At ___ for words (speechless)

47 Kicked on a fourth down

48 Short snooze

51 Bro's sibling

52 Ripen

53 Parent's before-supper request

60 Fork prong

62 "Me neither"

63 Special talent

64 Drain problem

65 Ireland nickname

66 Employing recipient

67 Medal of Honor

68 Bowl-shaped roof

69 State-run game

9 Broadcast on the tube

10 Skin openings

11 Skin openings

12 "Pet" annoyance

13 Iron alloy

21 Granola grain

22 ___ Moines, IA

26 Add while cooking

27 Crafts' partner

28 Chair or sofa

29 "For Pete's ___!"

30 Pre-refrigerator home deliverer

31 Oven gloves

32 ___ and aahs

34 A/C measures consent for

36 Huck Finn's transport

37 Castaway's home

38 Backyard building

40 Still in the package

41 Not at all suspicious

46 ___ Vegas

47 Fruity dessert

48 Capture

49 Light on one's feet

50 Man in the choir

51 Give off light

54 Matador's opponent

55 Quick haircut

56 And

57 Angler's buy

58 Dryer-trap contents

59 Therefore

61 Self-esteem

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