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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

**JULY 18, 2012**



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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Big Spring Aquatic Center continues to draw plenty of people wanting to escape 90-plus-degree temperatures. The center is located in Comanche Trail Park. Admission is \$5 per person.

## Senators hear about education centers

**CHRIS TOMLINSON**  
 Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas senators quizzed state officials and school superintendents Tuesday about how Regional Education Service Centers are performing and how districts work together. The state-funded centers help school districts form cooperatives to increase their purchasing powers, and the Senate Education Committee heard testimony on how schools share both academic and operational services. Last year, the Texas Legislature slashed \$4.8 billion in school funding to make up a statewide budget shortfall and schools laid off more than 10,000 workers. Superintendents, par-

See **EDUCATION**, Page 3A

## Nationwide problem...

# Financial woes chop services

**CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER**  
 AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. states face long-term budget burdens that are already limiting their ability to pay for basic services such as law enforcement, local schools and transportation, a report released Tuesday said. Aging populations and rising health care costs are inflating Medicaid and pension expenses. At the

same time, revenue from sales and gas taxes is shrinking. And grants from the federal government, which provide about a third of state revenue, are likely to shrink, the report said. Those challenges are made worse by a lack of planning by many states and the repeated use of one-time accounting gimmicks to cut costs, the report added. The report was issued by the State Budget Crisis Task Force, a non-

profit co-chaired by former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and former New York Lieutenant Governor Richard Ravitch. It focused on six states that encompass about a third of the U.S. population: California, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Virginia. The states' financial problems aren't just a result of the recession and slow recovery, the report said.

See **STATES**, Page 3A

## Aquatic Center to host Under West Texas Skies

Herald Staff Report

Under West Texas Skies, the annual Newswest 9 tour around the Permian Basin, will be at the Big Spring Family Aquatic Center on Friday. Events will begin at 4 p.m. and conclude at 10 p.m. Newswest 9 will broadcast live from the center at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. There will be hot dog and ice cream eating contests sponsored by Sonic. An ugly dog contest will also take place. The YMCA will have a bounce house set up and will be providing different activities inside the aquatic center and outside

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Courtesy photo

## Fire and Emergency Post starting at BSFD here

Herald Staff Report

Interested in learning about a career in firefighting and emergency services? Want to participate in firefighting training and riding along on calls? The Fire and Emergency Service

District executive. "The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within fire and emergency services and to challenge them to become responsible citizens of their communities and country." Those participating will experience firsthand what it's like to be a volunteer or full-time firefighter and emergency service provider through training and ride-alongs during actual fire calls.



Career Exploring program at the Big Spring Fire Department may be for you. Fire and Emergency Service Career Exploring is open to young men and women ages 14 (and who have completed the eighth grade) and not yet 21 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the field. "It is a hands-on program that exposes participants to many career experiences, leadership opportunities and community service activities," said Brian Sweeney, Lone Star

- Participants will develop:**
- Leadership Skills
  - Respect for firefighters and explorers
  - New personal skills
  - Participants will learn:
    - Emergency call protocols
    - Firefighting policies and procedures
    - Team Building
    - Proper Equipment Usage
- See **SCOUTS**, Page 3A



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## Obituaries

### Alice Loraine Baker Rueda

Alice Loraine Baker Rueda, 64, of Big Spring died Monday, July 16, 2012, at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, July 19, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Sept. 29, 1947, in Big Spring, Texas, to Audie and Alvin Baker. She has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She married Johnny Rueda in 2002 in Big Spring. She worked as a nurse's aide at the nursing home and at the Big Spring State Hospital. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, Johnny Rueda of Big Spring; son, Billy Tillapaugh and wife Dara of Denver, Colo.; three step-sons, Johnny Rueda Jr., of El Paso, Anthony Joseph Rueda and William Daniel Rueda, both of Lubbock; three grandsons and one granddaughter; her mother, Audie Baker of Big Spring; two sisters, Susie Roach and husband Jerry and Glenda Bray and husband Speck, all of Big Spring; five brothers. Alvin Baker and wife Edith of Coahoma, Robert Baker, Nathan Baker and wife Trina, Jimmy Baker and Jessie Baker and wife Connie, all of Big Spring; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father and a son, David Tillapaugh.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

### Marlene Riffe

Marlene Riffe, 58, of Big Spring died Tuesday, July 17, 2012, at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Coahoma Cemetery.

## Support Groups

### 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. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. The meeting for this month has been canceled. For more information, call 263-2501.

### FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit [www.cccbigspring.org](http://www.cccbigspring.org)

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

### SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

## Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Tuesday and early today (Note: The county detention center reported 76 prisoners):

- ROBIN LEON JORDAN, 44, was jailed on a charge of public intoxication.
- BRANDON LYNN WHITE, 24, was jailed on a charge of open alcohol container in a motor vehicle.
- RICARDO ARTEMYO URANGA SR., 53, was jailed on a bench warrant.
- WILLIAM JEROD FRANKS, 35, was jailed on a charge of failure to comply with sex offender regulations/registration.
- REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 28, was jailed on charges of bail jumping and failure to appear.
- ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 48, was jailed on a

charge of public intoxication.

- MARK MATTHEW LINDEM, 34, was jailed on charges of displaying expired license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, defective tail lamp, displaying expired registration and two counts of violating promise to appear and two counts of failure to appear.

- CORY JOHN DEWART, 21, was jailed on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.

- ARTHUR LYNN RICHARDSON, 48, was jailed on a charge of public intoxication.

- GUADALUPE DEANDA, 24, was jailed on warrants charging unrestrained child under 18 years of age, driving while license invalid, no seat belt-passenger and three counts of violating promise to appear.

- DOLORES MORA JENNINGS, 25, was jailed on a charge of assault/family violence.

## Take Note

- Orders are being taken through today in a fundraiser for local resident Jaurdin Briscoe, who has been called back to audition for "The Voice." Orders are being taken for homemade chicken enchilada plates, which will be delivered Friday. Deliveries will be confined to businesses and residences within the Big Spring city limits and will begin at 11:30 a.m. Plates are \$8 and will include enchiladas, beans, rice, chips and salsa. Cash only please. Pre-order by calling 432-935-0411 or 432-270-1199. Donations are also being accepted.

- The Howard County Democratic Club will meet a noon Thursday at Crispy's restaurant. All Democrats interested in participating in the club are invited to this Dutch treat meeting. In addition to fellowship, club members enjoy in-depth topical discussions, visiting candidates and speakers who provoke a deeper understanding of current issues. For questions or to speak to a club member, call Walter L. Shipman at 432-264-6660.

- American Legion Post 506 will have a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Everyone is welcome.

- Operation Back 2 School Drive, benefitting the children of Knollwood Heights, is in progress until Aug. 24. We are collecting backpacks and school supplies. Donations may be dropped of at Knollwood Heights office, 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (across from the hospital), or Allans Gallery Furniture, 202 Scurry. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please call Sharon Rich at 432-517-0723.

- Nichols Road is closed for repairs through July 24, according to the Howard County Road and Bridge Department.

- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliances. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Satur-

day. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at [james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us) or 432 268-7535.

- Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.

- An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.

- Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

- Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.

### IN-HOME SENIOR CARE SERVICES



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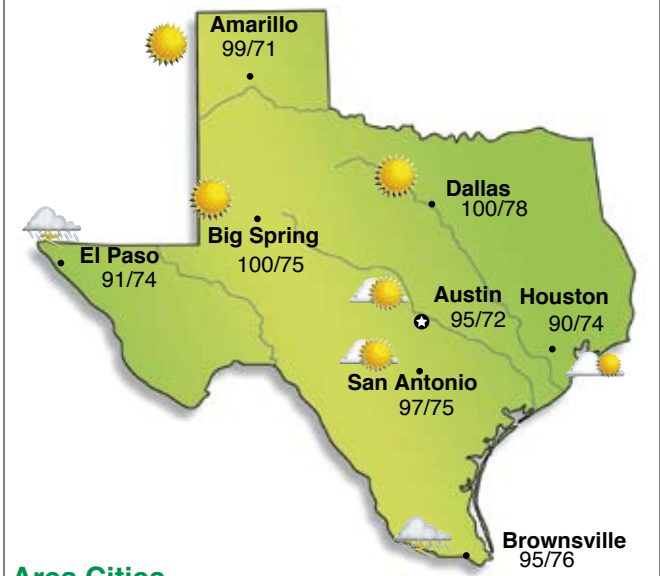
## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 7/20	Sat 7/21	Sun 7/22	Mon 7/23	Tue 7/24
<b>100/75</b> Sunny. Highs 98 to 102F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/74</b> Mainly sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/74</b> Sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/75</b> Mainly sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/76</b> Sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:54 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:51 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:54 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:50 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:55 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:50 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:55 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:49 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:56 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:49 PM



## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	100	75	sunny	Kingsville	95	74	mst sunny
Amarillo	99	71	sunny	Livingston	91	72	pt sunny
Austin	95	72	mst sunny	Longview	94	75	pt sunny
Beaumont	90	74	pt sunny	Lubbock	98	71	sunny
Brownsville	95	76	t-storm	Lufkin	92	74	pt sunny
Brownwood	99	74	sunny	Midland	99	75	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	91	77	mst sunny	Raymondville	98	75	t-storm
Corsicana	97	75	mst sunny	Rosenberg	90	73	pt sunny
Dallas	100	78	sunny	San Antonio	97	75	mst sunny
Del Rio	101	75	mst sunny	San Marcos	95	72	mst sunny
El Paso	91	74	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	98	76	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	95	69	pt sunny	Sweetwater	100	74	sunny
Gainesville	102	76	sunny	Tyler	95	75	mst sunny
Greenville	98	75	mst sunny	Weatherford	101	76	sunny
Houston	90	74	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	107	76	sunny

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	89	72	t-storm	Minneapolis	97	74	sunny
Boston	75	57	pt sunny	New York	75	70	t-storm
Chicago	85	66	mst sunny	Phoenix	103	85	pt sunny
Dallas	100	78	sunny	San Francisco	64	54	pt sunny
Denver	94	65	pt sunny	Seattle	68	57	rain
Houston	90	74	pt sunny	St. Louis	96	76	mst sunny
Los Angeles	80	63	sunny	Washington, DC	84	71	t-storm
Miami	89	80	pt sunny				

### Moon Phases



### UV Index

Fri 7/20	Sat 7/21	Sun 7/22	Mon 7/23	Tue 7/24
<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
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.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Tuesday and early today:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of E. Sixth. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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## BIG SPRING HERALD

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# Odds & Ends

## 600-year-old linen bras found in Austrian castle

VIENNA (AP) — A revolutionary discovery has hit the world of underwear: Women 600 years ago wore bras.

The University of Innsbruck said Wednesday that archeologists found four linen bras dating from the Middle Ages in an Austrian castle. Fashion experts describe the find as surprising because the bra was commonly thought to be little more than 100 years old as women abandoned the tight corset.

Hilary Davidson, fashion curator for the London Museum, says one specimen in particular "looks exactly like a (modern) brassiere."

Archaeologist Beatrix Nutz says the garments were unearthed in 2008 but did not make news until now. She gave a lecture on them last year but the information stayed within academic circles until a recent BBC history program.

## 2 Seattle men stopped at border for illegal candy

SEATTLE (AP) — Two Seattle men say they spent more than two hours in a detention center at the Canadian border after U.S. border agents discovered illegal chocolate eggs in their car.

Brandon Loo and Christopher Sweeney told KO-MO-TV (<http://is.gd/usuy85>) they decided to bring home some treats for friends and family during a recent trip to Vancouver, British Columbia. They bought Kinder Eggs — chocolate eggs with a toy inside.

The two men say border guards searched their car and said the eggs are illegal in the United States because young children could choke on the small plastic toys. Importing them can lead to a potentially hefty fine.

Sweeney says the bust was a waste of his time and the agents' time. The men eventually got off with a warning.

A U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman declined to comment about the case Tuesday night.

The agency warned on its website around Easter that the treats can't be imported legally.

The agency says it seized more than 60,000 Kinder Eggs from travelers' baggage and international mail shipments in fiscal 2011.

## Utah man uses obituary to confess indiscretions

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A 59-year-old Utah man who wrote his own obituary before he died last week used the opportunity to come clean.

Friends and family of Val Patterson learned Sunday that the man they thought held a doctorate from the University of Utah received the degree thanks to a paperwork mistake and that he never even graduated.

Patterson died from throat cancer on July 10. KSL-TV reports he wrote his own death notice in the first person last fall.

The light-hearted obituary published in the Salt Lake Tribune (<http://bit.ly/NDqHRp>) also includes a confession to stealing a business' safe. He wrote: "As it turns out, I AM the guy who stole the safe from the Motor View Drive Inn back in June, 1971."

His widow, Mary Jane, told KSL-TV the confessions are true.

## Emu seen wandering in northwestern Pa. county

BRADFORD, Pa. (AP) — Residents of one northwestern Pennsylvania county have seen an Australian emu wandering through their yards and streets.

The Bradford Era (<http://bit.ly/Q5QhEM>) on Wednesday reports the bird has been seen since at least Friday, when it was spotted near Marilla Reservoir. The bird was reportedly seen near Glendorn and in several locations in and around Bradford in McKean County. That's about 130 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

Police have been warned to keep pets and young children inside if they spot the bird, because emus are known to attack in some situations.

The birds are typically brought to the United States so they can be raised for their meat or other byproducts, but are native to Australia.

# EDUCATION

Continued from Page 1A

ticularly in small school districts, have increased their reliance on the service centers, sharing specialist teachers and information technology to work more efficiently.

State Sen. Kel Seliger, the hearing chairman, asked how often the districts use online and distance learning and how much the centers are involved in those methods, which provide classes that many smaller districts wouldn't be able to afford on their own.

"I think that's going to be a tremendously important thing in the future," Seliger, R-Amarillo, said.

Curtis Cullwell, superintendent of the Garland Independent School District, said Garland schools participate in six service-center cooperatives that help keep costs down. He said the district's teachers have been using more self-paced and teacher-led online classes.

Other superintendents testified that service centers helped establish cooperatives in such areas as special education and curriculum development.

Mel Waxler, chief of staff for the Austin Independent School District, said service centers helped the district save \$1 million last year.

The centers, which also rely on federal funds and fees charged to districts, provide ongoing training to teachers to ensure they understand evolving standards.

State Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, questioned whether the centers are having too much influence over districts and whether districts are losing workers to center jobs because of salary. Officials testifying Tuesday said they didn't see those situations occurring.

Patrick also asked whether the centers should become self-sustaining and charge districts for services instead of relying on state funding.

Jack Damon, executive director of the Region 1 center in South Texas, said having districts face additional charges would create a burden for them following state funding cuts.

Lawmakers expect similar budget shortfalls when they meet again next year. The Republican leadership has pledged not to raise government spending, and therefore must find additional savings.

# STATES

Continued from Page 1A

They have built up over years.

Increased spending on health care and pensions are crowding out other funding. Many states have already cut spending on public universities and infrastructure such as roads and public transit, Ravitch said at a press conference Tuesday.

California has cut its spending on state universities 12.5 percent in the past five years, the report said. South Carolina has reduced its support 30 percent in that period, the deepest cuts in the country. Florida and Iowa have cut higher education spending about 25 percent.

All that is making it harder for poorer Americans to attend college, Ravitch said.

"That does not augur well for economic growth in the future," he said.

Diminished aid from states has pushed up

tuition. Concerns are rising that some leading public universities, such as the universities of Michigan and Virginia, "are moving toward de facto privatization with high fees that effectively exclude many highly qualified lower income students," the report said.

To ease that burden, some states are providing more aid to needy students rather than spending directly on colleges and universities.

Long-term trends are squeezing state finances, the report said. Spending on Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for the poor, is growing much faster than state tax revenue. The Obama administration's health care reform will likely accelerate that growth, it said. Medicaid already consumes a bigger portion of state budgets than does spending on elementary and high school education.

In addition, state and local government pension plans are at least \$1 trillion short of what

they need to pay for their pension promises. Even that figure is based on dubious assumptions by many states about the investment returns their pension funds will earn, the report said. Some studies using more realistic assumptions put the shortfall as high as \$3 trillion.

Meanwhile, more Americans are buying goods online, which in many cases means they don't pay state sales taxes. A rising number of states are demanding that online retailers collect the taxes. And consumers are spending more on services, such as medical care, that don't pay sales taxes, and less on goods.

Higher gas prices and more fuel-efficient cars mean Americans are buying less fuel, thereby reducing gas tax revenue.

Volcker acknowledged that despite these challenges, most states can still borrow by issuing bonds at low interest rates. That's mostly because many states have constitutional require-

ments that they pay bondholders before they pay other bills.

The report recommends that states do more long-range budget planning. They should also be more transparent about pension promises made to state and local employees. That would make it easier for voters to understand what those promises entail. And they should build up bigger "rainy day" funds when the economy is healthy to limit the need for cuts and tax increases in recessions.

But the task force's primary goal is to raise pressure on policymakers to shore up states' finances.

"It isn't going to get the attention it deserves until there are serious expressions of public unhappiness," Ravitch said in an interview.

Resolving the problem is mostly a matter of political will, he said. Ravitch has had a long career dealing with state and local finances in New York. He helped revive New York City's

subway system as chairman of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in the early 1980s. That involved delicate negotiations between transit unions and state lawmakers.

But now, in most states, the two parties are sharply divided on how to solve their long-term fiscal challenges, he said. Republicans are largely focused on cutting pensions; Democrats are mostly concerned with raising tax revenues.

"There isn't any negotiation going on," Ravitch said. "To the best of my knowledge, no one is communicating with each other."

Ravitch said he met with Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and Treasury Secretary Timothy Gei-

thner last week to brief them on the report's findings.

The task force plans follow-up reports that look at each of the six states it studied. It will also issue reports on the specific budget challenges the states face.

## MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Alice Loraine Baker Rueda, 64, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 6:00 PM until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Marlene Riffe, 58, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Coahoma Cemetery. Ulysses Mathews Jr., 55, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

# SKIES

Continued from Page 1A

the facility.

Admission to the aquatic cen-

ter will be the same as usual — \$5 — and patrons will be expected to follow the same rules. The attire code will be the same and concessions will be available.

Read Them a Riot — local resi-

dent Chris Mason's band — will be performing at the aquatic center from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. with a preview taking place at 6 p.m.

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

# SCOUTS

Continued from Page 1A

Those taking part will have an opportunity to participate in:

- Fire fighting training scenarios i.e. buildings
- Ambulance calls
- National and Regional Events

It's an opportunity to discover if this is a future career for you.

You will learn about the educational requirements for a career in fire and emergency service.

The program provides the following benefits:

- Improved self-confi-

dence

- Leadership experience and social network development
- Fun and Exciting "hands-on" career experiences
- Community service opportunities
- College and career readiness preparation
- Scholarship opportunities

## When do meetings take place?

Posts typically meet on a monthly basis during the school year. Most programs parallel the high school calendar and begin in the fall. There are a number of

programs that start at other times during the year to meet the needs of the host organization and participants. Programs are flexible enough to fit in with other activities.

**Program Costs:** Participation fees are \$15 per year.

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For more information about Exploring, contact Sweeney at 432-212-3577 or Brian.Sweeney@Scouting.org

**Devotion To Saint Jude**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved & glorified throughout the world now and forever. The sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered.

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# EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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<b>Adam Coleman</b> Sports Editor		<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer

## OTHER VIEWS

# Beware collection agencies

Threats of arrest, lawsuits and unending harassment seem to fill the playbooks of Central Asset Bureau, a debt collection agency in San Antonio.

Better Business Bureau is issuing a warning to consumers after receiving numerous complaints about the company's debt collection tactics. Most of the consumers allege the debt Central Asset Bureau is attempting to collect is not even valid.

In addition, the debt collection agency has provided fake addresses and, consumers allege, has refused to provide documentation on the debts it is trying to collect.

BBB attempted to contact Central Asset Bureau about the disputes, but phone calls were not answered and mail was returned.

One of the addresses on file was on Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway — a highway that does not exist in San Antonio. When a BBB representative visited another address on file, she found no listing for Central Asset Bureau in the building's directory. Another business occupied the suite number the company provided.

Candice Havemann, of Bellville, Texas, said she has been receiving calls from Central Asset Bureau for four years.

She has changed her phone number, her mailing address and her bank information. She has had family members call posing as an attorney. She asked for supervisors and written proof the company owned her debt.

The phone calls continued despite her efforts.

She said Central Asset Bureau claimed it was collecting on an unpaid payday loan. And, while she admits to taking out such a loan 10 years ago, she said she paid it in full with the very first paycheck she received after taking out the loan.

She even called the company that provided the loan and obtained proof the debt was paid, but that did not stop the calls, either.

"They've been leaving messages with my employer, with my parents, with my husband, with my in-laws," Havemann said. "They're saying that I have a restraining order against me and they'll be sending someone to pick me up and take me to jail."

She finally filed complaints with BBB, the Austin County Sheriff's Department, the Federal Trade Commission and her local police department, among other agencies.

"I've got a whole packet of information about people I've reported them to," she said.

The last time the company called, she added, was in May, around the time she filed her complaint with BBB.

"When the sheriff's department called them, I think that scared them," she said.

She hopes it will be the last time she ever hears from Central Asset Bureau.

BBB offers the following advice to consumers who receive suspicious telephone calls about an outstanding debt:

- Demand proof. Ask the debt collector to provide official documentation which substantiates the debt.

- Avoid providing personal information over the phone. Do not provide or confirm any bank account, credit card or other personal information over the phone until you have confirmed the legitimacy of the call.

- Report all suspicious behavior. File a complaint with BBB or the Texas Attorney General's Office if the caller is abusive, uses threats or otherwise violates federal telemarketing laws.

To check the reliability of a company and find trustworthy businesses, visit BBB.

—Better Business Bureau

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we never overlook a chance to bring someone to You, Lord. Amen

# DISCLOSE act stifles speech

Democrats are pushing the DISCLOSE Act again.

"DISCLOSE" stands for "Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections." The American Civil Liberties Union and the National Right to Life Committee oppose this bill because they fear it would chill free speech. As far as the anti-abortion group is concerned, "DISCLOSE" stands for "Deterring Independent Speech about Congress except by Labor Organizations and Selected Elites."

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., frames this year's bill, which failed to win a floor vote in the Senate on Monday, as a reform made necessary by the U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 decision to allow independent expenditure campaigns to spend unlimited money from corporations, plutocrats and unions.

Problem: In the name of good government, DISCLOSE authors used every dirty trick in the dirty trick book. They deserved to fail before and deserved to fail Monday.

Whitehouse even dubbed his bill "DISCLOSE 2.0" in order to distance himself from the 2010 DISCLOSE bills. The 2010 Senate bill barred "electioneering communications" by corporations with federal contracts worth



DEBRA SAUNDERS

more than \$10 million — which suggested a mind frame more committed to censorship than transparency. The 2010 House version imposed restrictions on corporations but exempted labor unions. After powerful lobbies complained, Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., and Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., exempted the National Rifle Association and the Sierra Club from their bills.

Also, the 2010 bills would have made DISCLOSE the law in 30 days — in time to help Democrats before the 2010 elections.

Whitehouse wisely stripped down the bill. Gone are the NRA exemption, the too-soon starting date and the ban on contractor donations.

Instead, Whitehouse's bill requires organizations that spend \$10,000 or more during an election to identify big donors to the Federal Election Commission within 24 hours, starting in 2013. It seems simple.

But it's not that simple. In a letter, the ACLU explained two big problems in the new bill: One, it strips donors to public advocacy groups of their anonymity, "subjecting them to harassment and potentially discouraging valuable participation in the political process."

Californians may recall that some donors to the 2008 Proposition 8 campaign, which banned same-sex marriage, were subject to harassment.

Melanie Sloan of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington doesn't buy the

ACLU's argument. "There is no First Amendment right to be free of the consequences of what you say," Sloan said. "There's just the right to say it."

Two, Whitehouse's bill has intrusive reporting requirements, even for "pure nonpartisan issue advertising that happens to mention a presidential or vice presidential candidate."

David Keating, president for the Center for Competitive Politics, believes that the reporting requirements are onerous. As he sees it, the Whitehouse bill means that "if you want to say anything about the government, you have to register with the Federal Election Commission to do it."

Also, because Whitehouse lengthened the reporting period, the ACLU warned of "a chilling effect on public criticism of the president or vice president, including truly nonpartisan criticism on specific policy issues, during more than a fourth of a president's first term."

Mitt Romney may be president in 2013. So liberals shouldn't be too upset that the bill failed.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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# Help yourself by helping others

I always try to approach any subject matter, pleasant or not so much so, from a positive angle. Therefore, in a valiant attempt to be faithful to that concept I begin by stating that I am very fortunate to be surrounded by many unusually wonderful and generous people, both in my personal life and in my vocation. I have an extraordinarily loving and giving wife and family and many treasured friends who have poured an immeasurable ocean of love and support into my life every day that I have been privileged to breathe God's good air.

I wish I could personally express my heartfelt love and appreciation to each and every individual who holds a special place in my heart for all the love, support and concern they have ever shared with me. Even in recent days I have been overwhelmed by expressions and actions of generosity that deeply touched my heart and life, vividly reminding me once again that the world is not devoid of loving and benevolent people.

Winston Churchill stated it beautifully when he said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." If you are blessed to be one who has a giving heart you know exactly what he meant by that statement. Of course if anyone doubts the power of this truth, remember what Jesus said about it, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38)

There are countless stories of human giving and generosity that inspire and encourage us. According to the organization, Atlas of Giving, Americans gave a total of nearly \$347 billion to

charity in 2011, which includes donations to education, human needs, disaster relief groups, churches and other types of organizations. That speaks volumes about the true heart of a large percentage of our citizenry.

Make no mistake about it, there are still more than enough selfish self-centered folks out there to keep the waters troubled and the scales of righteousness tilted. As Vernon McLellan said, "When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing." There are plenty of people who have much and are determined to hang onto it at any cost, never considering others and the good that could be accomplished by sharing their blessings.

Part of the problem is that we are constantly being exposed to a generation of narcissistic celebrities, politicians and sporting figures who have fueled the flame of materialism which is poisonous to a generosity mindset. Far too many people want to get rich quick without putting forth any personal effort to accomplish it and, sadly, many of them are more than willing for it to be someone else's hard-earned money in their pockets. There are even millions of misguided people who actually feel it is owed to them.

Generosity, a servant's heart, and a sharing spirit are foundational stones upon which America was built and there needs to be a revival of these principles in every city and community in our nation. What a difference it would make even in our own hometown if everyone would be mindful of how to be more concerned about others than ourselves.

In recent years, the "pay it forward" and "random acts of kindness" movements have been instrumental in changing many lives and affecting society for the good. Amelia Earhart said, "No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all direc-

## I column as I see 'em

tions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves."

Bob Hope was right on target when he said, "If you haven't any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble."

One of the most priceless gifts anyone can give is forgiveness. If you have ever been forgiven you know that is true, and if you have ever struggled with unforgiveness, you have a very real understanding of imprisonment. An unwillingness to forgive even the most grievous and undeserved hurt enslaves a heart and places a weight on the soul that becomes unbearable and calamitous if left unresolved.

I daresay everyone reading this, along with the writer, has needed forgiveness extended to them along the pathway of life. I wish my vocabulary was adequate to express the depth of my thankfulness for everyone who has ever forgiven me for anything and the passionate desire residing in me to repay it. C.S. Lewis said, "To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."

Maybe it's inventory time for all of us. Only you and God know what's in your heart. Today would be an excellent day to share the very heart of your Creator by following His example of loving and giving something of great value to someone undeserving. I can tell you from experience, you will not regret it.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

*Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church in Big Spring. He can be contacted by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com).*

# Check this out at the library

Journalist Laurie Sandell was granted unprecedented access to the family of Bernie Madoff (wife Ruth, son Andrew and his fiancée Catherine Hooper) and reveals the "truth" behind the headlines of the Madoff financial debacle. "Truth and Consequences: Life Inside the Madoff Family" (364.163 SAN L) is a story of a tight-knit clan, who stuck together through everything. They stuck together through marriages, divorces and enduring to their of all son followed the answer have been broke in The of Nor-Stephanie of Mark Madoff, the oldest son who committed suicide. There is quite a difference in how the story is told from Stephanie's viewpoint and that of the above book. You almost need to read both of them to perhaps get a balanced view of the Madoff scandal. However, any way you look at it, Bernie Madoff is a piece of scum.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

But the pressures of the scandal pushed them breaking points, most Mark, whose suicide scandal. This book is the to all the questions that asked since the case December 2008.

second book is "The End mal" (364.163 MAC S) by Madoff Mack, the wife of Mark Madoff, the oldest son who committed suicide. There is quite a difference in how the story is told from Stephanie's viewpoint and that of the above book. You almost need to read both of them to perhaps get a balanced view of the Madoff scandal. However, any way you look at it, Bernie Madoff is a piece of scum.

On April 12, 2012, Charles Manson was denied parole for the 12th time for his role in the 1969 Sharon Tate/LaBianca murders in Hollywood. He is now 77 years old; the next time he will be eligible for parole will be 2027. For the first time in more than 40 years, the family of Sharon Tate has agreed to come forward with their story, in "Restless Souls: The Sharon Tate Family's Account" (364.152 STA A) by Alisa Statman with Brie Tate. Brie Tate is the niece of Sharon Tate and as such, was able to contribute personal letters, home movies, private journal entries etc., which shed new light upon Sharon herself and upon the investigation itself. Sharon's father was a retired army intelligence officer who played a role in solving the case and his reaction when he is faced with his daughter's killer is sobering indeed. True crime aficionados will truly enjoy reading "Restless Souls."

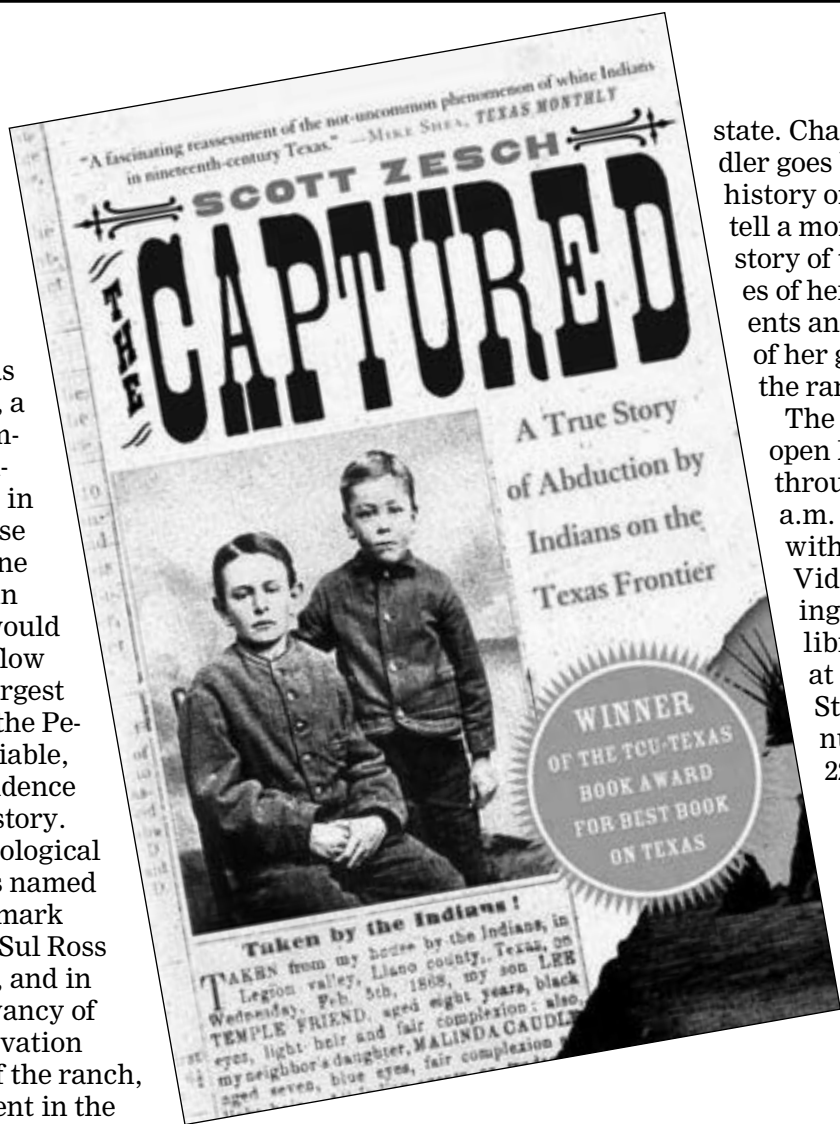
"The Miracle of St. Anthony" (796.323 WOJ A) by Adrian Wojnarowski is similar to "Friday Night Lights," the story of Odessa Permian. Anyone who grew up in the streets of Jersey City will relate to the stories told about Coach Hurley, his teams and the people he came into contact with in his role as a probation officer in Jersey City. It's easy to see the love Coach Hurley has for "his kids" and you find yourself rooting for them to not just be successful at Saint Anthony's but, more important, in their lives outside of St. Anthony's. You sometimes shudder at the tactics and language Coach Hurley uses until you realize that his tough love is the only way to make things work at St. Anthony's. The empathy between the players, Coach Hurley and the nuns at St. Anthony's is truly heartwarming and could well make this one of the best books of 2005. I guess you could call this a New Jersey version of "Hoosiers."

Scott Zesch Scott, in "Captured: A True Story of Abduction by the Indians" (976.400 ZES S), writes about his ancestor, Adolph Korn, who was captured by three Apaches near the family's home in Mason, Texas. Adolph was 10 years old when he was captured and from Jan. 1, 1870, until November 1872, he lived as an Apache. Adolph was irrevocably changed by his ordeal. He considered himself Indian and he lived in a cave until he died alone in 1900.

Zesch became interested in Korn's life, and it led him to investigate eight stories about children who were captured in Texas between 1865 and 1871. Drawing on research and interviews with the captives' descendants, Zesch compiled a gripping account of the lives of these children as they lived and traveled with their Indian captors. He delves into the reasons of their "Indianization," (which lasted the rest of their lives) and he discusses why they could not adjust back to white society and more importantly, why white society could not adjust to them.

Charlena Chandler wrote "On Independence

Creek: A Story of a Texas Ranch" (508.764 CHA C), a love story, about her family's ranch located on Independence Creek, deep in southwest Texas. Because it flows from the west, one might expect that even in the rainiest of years it would be intermittent, but its flow is steady, and it is the largest freshwater tributary of the Pecos. As a result of its reliable, spring-fed flow, Independence Creek has had a long history. Because of its unique ecological situation, the ranch was named a potential natural landmark by James F. Scudday of Sul Ross State University in 1977, and in 1991 the Nature Conservancy of Texas obtained a conservation easement on 700 acres of the ranch, the first such arrangement in the



state. Charlena Chandler goes beyond the history of the ranch to tell a more personal story of the experiences of her grandparents and parents and of her growing up on the ranch.

The library is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 6p.m., with the Internet/Video room closing at 5:30. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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## News in brief

### Dewhurst, Cruz trade attacks in U.S. Senate debate

DALLAS (AP) — The Republicans vying to fill Texas' open U.S. Senate seat traded increasingly pointed attacks during a debate Tuesday night, as their already fiercely contested race enters its final two weeks.

But the best news of the night for Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst came moments after the debate, when former Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert endorsed him over ex-state Solicitor General Ted Cruz. Leppert finished third behind Dewhurst and Cruz in the Republican primary on May 29, and had refused to back either.

It was a high point for Dewhurst who had struggled at times during the debate with Cruz. He said at one point that he believed the American health care system was deficient in many areas as compared to that of countries in Europe and elsewhere, allowing tea party favorite Cruz to pounce.

Cruz boasted that the U.S. has the finest medical care system in the world — though he concurred with Dewhurst in slamming the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that largely upheld the White House-backed health care reform.

But Cruz himself then struggled through an answer when he said he would support the federal government seizing some private property in order to build a fence stretching the entire length of the U.S.-Mexico border.

When pressed that such a fence could cost \$7.3 billion, Cruz insisted that such a large price tag was consistent with his tea party values of limited government. Dewhurst ducked a chance to attack then, saying he too was in favor of spending billions to triple the size of the U.S. Border Patrol.

Still, the lieutenant governor kept the heat on his opponent in other areas, dismissing Cruz as a simple debater who had only argued cases for the state of Texas "when his bosses told him to."

Cruz responded that Dewhurst had been too moderate for sometimes compromising with Democrats while overseeing the state Senate since 2003. Dewhurst shot back, "you won't find anyone at this table more firm or more of a fighter than me."

### San Antonio man gets life over forced prostitution

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A South Texas man has been sentenced to life in prison without parole for rape and forcing a 13-year-old girl into prostitution.

A jury in San Antonio on Tuesday sentenced

Bobby "Spider" Moreno. Jurors convicted Moreno of human trafficking, super aggravated sexual assault of a child, compelling prostitution and aggravated kidnapping.

Records show Moreno has prior convictions for drugs, burglary and family violence.

His brother, Juan Moreno, was sentenced to life in prison in 2010 for convictions related to the girl, who says she was drugged during about two weeks of captivity. The victim, who's now 17, testified the brothers in 2007 raped her and forced her to have sex with about a dozen men.

### Mom, daughter shot at Houston-area trailer park

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators say gunfire at a Houston-area mobile home park has left a mother and a daughter wounded and a suspect on the run.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office says the shootings happened early Wednesday. Deputies are looking for a female suspect.

Authorities are trying to determine what led to the argument and shootings that left a woman and her 17-year-old daughter hospitalized in stable condition. Officials say the girl was shot twice in the back, while her mother sustained a facial wound.

Names of the victims and further details weren't immediately released.

Texan who fled to Canada gets prison over US taxes

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — A Texas lawyer who fled to Canada to avoid paying U.S. income taxes must serve more than three years in prison.

A federal judge in Amarillo on Tuesday sentenced John Lewis Lesly and ordered him to pay more than \$847,000 in restitution.

Investigators say Lesly had not filed an income tax return since 1976. He pleaded guilty in April to four counts of failure to file tax returns from 1999 through 2002. Lesly had more than \$2.7 million in income during that time frame.

Prosecutors believe the Amarillo attorney fled to Canada in October 2005, one month before he was indicted. Internal Revenue Service agents in February arrested Lesly at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

### South Texas lawyers seek dismissal of charges

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A federal judge in Brownsville is to hear defense arguments for the local prosecutor and another lawyer who want corruption charges against them dismissed or explained in greater detail by federal prosecutors.

A federal grand jury in Brownsville indicted Cameron County District Attorney Armando Villalobos and lawyer Eddie Lucio in May on racketeering charges. The indictment alleges the pair schemed to make money gaming the local legal system.

Lucio and Villalobos have pleaded not guilty. Both say the indictment is too vague to defend against. Villalobos also also renewed his request that their trial, now set for late August, be delayed

until at least mid-February.

They're among a dozen swept up in a federal investigation of former state district Judge Abel Limas, who already has pleaded guilty to similar charges.

### Reconstruction of Governor's Mansion complete

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry is giving a tour of the recently rebuilt Texas Governor's Mansion after five years of renovation and reconstruction.

Perry and his wife Anita are scheduled to show the media around the building in downtown Austin on Wednesday.

Perry's family moved out in 2007 for a \$10 million renovation project to upgrade mechanical systems, including fire alarms, sprinkler systems, plumbing and wiring.

The mansion was severely damaged in June 2008 when police say a person threw a Molotov cocktail that landed near the front door and ignited the building. Parts of the roof collapsed, and the majestic columns at the front of the mansion were charred. No one was injured.

Part of the restoration project focused on enhancing security, including installing a new surveillance system.

### Women describe alleged assaults on Texas base

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Fighting back tears, a woman testified Tuesday that a Texas Air Force base instructor facing charges in a widening military sex scandal refused her pleas of no after luring her into his office and then sexually assaulted her on a bed.

The alleged victim said after the attack, Staff Sgt. Luis Walker told her not to tell anybody about what happened.

"I said no several times, in several different ways. He didn't accept that answer," the female airman testified, wiping away the tears that eventually came.

She was the first of four alleged victims who took the witness stand on the opening day of testimony at Walker's court-martial at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

The women told jurors that Walker gained their trust to get them alone in his office or an empty dormitory and forced them into kissing, touching and sex.

They said they didn't tell anybody at first because they feared being booted from the Air Force. The Associated Press is not naming them because they are alleged sexual assault victims.

Walker is among 12 instructors at the Lackland base who are facing charges or being investigated. His charges — 28 counts including rape, aggravated sexual contact and multiple counts of aggravated sexual assault — are the most serious in the case. He faces up to life in prison and a dishonorable discharge if convicted by a seven-person jury comprised of military personnel.




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# News in brief

## UN schedules Wednesday vote on new Syria resolution

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Russia remained at loggerheads with the U.S. and its European allies ahead of a scheduled vote Wednesday afternoon on a new Syria resolution and there appeared to be little hope that the U.N.'s most powerful body would unite behind a plan to end the 17-month civil war in the Mideastern country.

The key stumbling block is the Western demand for a resolution threatening non-military sanctions and tied to Chapter 7 of the United Nations Charter, which could eventually allow the use of force to end the conflict in Syria.

Russia is adamantly opposed to any mention of sanctions or Chapter 7. After Security Council consultations late Tuesday on a revised draft resolution pushed by Moscow, Russia's deputy U.N. ambassador Alexander Pankin said these remain "red lines."

Russia has said it will veto any Chapter 7 resolution, but council diplomats said there is still a possibility of last-minute negotiations.

## Obama administration plans \$1 billion to reward top teachers in math, science and engineering

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration unveiled plans Wednesday to create an elite corps of master teachers, a \$1 billion effort to boost U.S. students' achievement in science, technology, engineering and math.

The program to reward high-performing teachers with salary stipends is part of a long-term effort by President Barack Obama to encourage education in high-demand areas that hold the key to future economic growth — and to close the achievement gap between American students and their international peers.

Teachers selected for the Master Teacher Corps will be paid an additional \$20,000 a year and must commit to participate multiple years. The goal is to create a multiplier effect in which expert educators share their knowledge and skills with other teachers, improving the quality of education for all students.

Speaking at a rally for his re-election campaign in San Antonio on Tuesday, Obama framed his emphasis on expanded education funding as a point of contrast with Republican challenger Mitt Romney, whom he accused of prioritizing tax cuts for the wealthy over reinvestment in the nation.

"I'm running to make sure that America has the best education system on earth, from pre-K all the way to post-graduate," Obama said. "And that means hiring new teachers, especially in math and science."

## FDA approves Vivus' anti-obesity pill

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new weight-loss pill that many doctors consider the most effective of a new generation of anti-obesity drugs got the approval of the Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday.

The pill, called Qsymia, was approved for patients who are over-

weight or obese and also have at least one weight-related condition such as high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol.

The drug offers hope for those who have failed to lose weight in other ways, but its path to approval also underscores how difficult it has been for drugmakers to find obesity treatments that are safe and effective.

The drug's maker, Vivus Inc., said it plans to bring the drug to market in the fourth quarter of this year. It hasn't yet decided what the pills will cost.

In testing, the drug made led patients to lose more weight than two other weight-loss pills recently reviewed by the FDA. Patients taking Qsymia for a year lost 6.7 percent of their body weight in one study and 8.9 percent in another study, the FDA said. The company said patients on the strongest formulation tested lost nearly 11 percent of their weight.

## Bernanke returns to Capitol Hill after warning that budget impasse could lead to recession

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke will return to Capitol Hill on Wednesday, one day after sketching a bleak picture of the U.S. economy and warning it will darken further if Congress doesn't reach agreement soon to avert a budget crisis.

Bernanke is giving his twice-a-year report to Congress on the state of the economy. He will testify to the House Financial Services Committee. On Tuesday, he spoke to the Senate Banking Committee.

Without a congressional agreement, tax increases and deep spending cuts would take effect at year's end. Bernanke noted Tuesday what the Congressional Budget Office has warned: A recession would occur, and 1.25 million fewer jobs would be created in 2013.

The Fed is prepared to take further action to try to help the economy if unemployment stays high, he said. Bernanke didn't signal what steps the Fed might take or whether any action was imminent. And he noted there's only so much the Fed can do.

But the Fed chairman made clear his most urgent concern is what would happen to the economy if Congress can't resolve its budget impasse before the year ends.

## More states passing laws against prosecuting people who call 911 to report drug overdoses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The morning after Salvatore Marchese left his mother's house for a session of outpatient treatment for his heroin addiction, he was found slumped behind the wheel of her car, dead of an overdose. He apparently hadn't been alone: His wallet was missing and the car's passenger seat left in a reclined position. But whoever was with him when he was using drugs was long gone by the time the police arrived.

When Patty DiRenzo learned what happened to her son, she wondered: "How could somebody leave somebody to die?"

Now, DiRenzo, of Blackwood, N.J., is part of a nationwide push to make sure people won't be too afraid of be-

ing arrested to call 911 when they or someone they're with has overdosed. Eight states have passed laws in the past five years that give people limited immunity on drug possession charges if they seek medical help for an overdose. A similar proposal is being considered in the District of Columbia but faces uncertain prospects because of opposition from police and prosecutors.

"It's really common sense — just to make it easier for people to call 911 by addressing what people have said is sort of their single-greatest fear in delaying or not calling 911 at all," said Meghan Ralston, harm reduction coordinator of the Drug Policy Alliance, a New York-based nonprofit that works to change current drug policies.

The measures have encountered resistance from some police officials and law-and-order legislators, who say the proposals are tantamount to get-out-of-jail-free cards, condone drug use, and could prevent police from investigating illicit drug dealing or juvenile drug use.

## Legal group drafts law to make child custody rules work better for deployed military parents

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A national legal panel that works to standardize state laws wants to simplify child custody rules for military service members, whose frequent deployments can leave them without clear legal recourse when family disputes erupt.

The Uniform Law Commission, an influential group of some 350 attorneys appointed by all the states, is meeting in Nashville on Wednesday to give final approval for the Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act, a set of uniform codes that state legislatures can adopt to standardize custody rights for parents who are deployed.

With deployments on the rise from the first Gulf War through the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, especially for National Guard and Reserve members, a majority of the states have implemented a patchwork of laws designed to protect them in child custo-

dy and visitation cases. But the rules aren't consistent across the country, says Eric Fish, legal counsel for the Uniformed Law Commission.

Some of the issues state courts have struggled with include how to determine jurisdiction when a military member is assigned to a base in another state, whether a step-parent or grandparent can have visitation rights when a parent is deployed, and whether a temporary custody arrangement should be made permanent when a parent returns from deployment.

## Viennese up in arms over movement to charge for tap water at cafes and restaurants

VIENNA (AP) — In Vienna's legendary coffee-house tradition, a free glass of tap water with your coffee has been a cherished part of everyday life.

Now many Viennese are up in arms over a movement by restaurateurs to start charging for tap.

It amounts to cultural sacrilege in a city where delicious tap water — fed by Alpine springs — is seen as a birthright, and part of the whole experience of lounging in centuries-old cafes or savoring young wine at one of the Austrian capital's many leafy outdoor eateries.

For now, payment is voluntary, with 11 restaurants participating in a charity campaign meant to collect funds for clean water-starved Sierra Leone. But the establishments pocket half the water fee and prominent restaurateurs are starting to lobby for an obligatory tap water charge, unrelated to aid for Africa, just as the charity program has begun.

Many Viennese suspect that the Sierra Leone campaign and industry calls to charge for water cannot be pure coincidence. Some see a cynical ploy to take advantage of charitable feeling for extra profit.

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Marine Cpl. Orin Romine, wife Jennifer and son Kelton pose for a photograph in November 2011 before Orin was deployed to Afghanistan. He should be home soon.



Courtesy photo

# Veterans fund assists family

**Special to the Herald**

A \$500 check was recently presented to the Marine Cpl. Orin Romine family from the Veterans Family Fund.

The fund is made possible through donations from the Big Spring area to assist active service personnel and their families.

Below, Cpl. Romine's wife, Jennifer, writes: "Orin Romine is and

always will be just a good 'ol country boy. His 'redneck ingenuity' earned him the nickname 'Hillbilly' to many. While he had what most would call a 'good' life (a wife, good paying job, a home, nice vehicles, etc.) he couldn't help but feel he was missing out on something. After a couple months of tossing around the idea with me and the rest of his family, he decided serving his country would help him to fill the void of a greater calling. We all stood by his decision. Orin joined the Marine Corp in September 2009 at the age of 26 — much later in life than the majority of the men and women who enlist. On March 15, 2010, he left the Amarillo, Texas, MEPS station, headed for 13 weeks of boot camp at MCRD San Diego in San Diego, Calif. After boot camp and other training for his occupation specialty as a tank mechanic, he was stationed to Marine Corp Air Ground Combat Center in Twenty-

nine Palms, Calif.

"Currently, Cpl. Orin Romine is deployed to Afghanistan and due to return soon. Like many other service members, Orin feels he is just doing his duty as an American. As his family, we are especially proud of him and the sacrifices he has made for this country. While it may be easy to focus on the sacrifices of Orin, myself and our son. Let us not forget the sacrifice of Larry and Vietia Romine (Orin's parents). They raised three amazing children; two of them became Marines. To them, as well as Cpl. Orin Romine and Lance Cpl. Rachel Romine, we should all say 'Semper Fi!'"

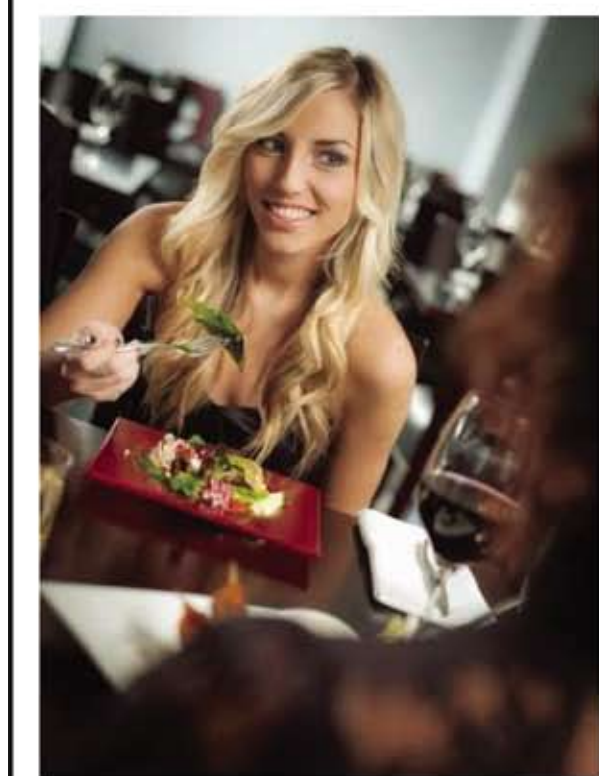
Anyone interested in making a donation to the Veterans Family Fund may do so at The Wood Forest National Bank, Veterans Families Account No. 5901848, 201 Marcy Drive, Big Spring, TX 79721.

All donations will be presented to veterans in the Crossroads area and their families.

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HERALD file photo

**Big Spring quarterback Garrett Stuteville scores a touchdown with the help of a block by Sawyer Roberts during a game against the Brownwood Lions last season. Season tickets for the year will go on sale Monday. The first BSHS home game is slated for Sept. 7 against Midland Christian.**

## BSHS season tickets to go on sale Monday

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

It's that time of year again.

Big Spring Steer football is around the bend and season tickets are going on sale July 23 and will be available until Aug. 17.

You can pick up your season passes at the Athletic Training Center from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The cost will be \$30 per ticket book, each ticket book contains six tickets — one for each home game.

According to Kay Cook, athletics secretary, the cost per ticket will be \$5 per game, even for non-season ticket holders.

The advantage to purchasing a book, Cook said, is avoiding having to wait in line to buy tickets every week.

Section C at Memorial Stadium, which is in front of the press box, is reserved for season ticket holders.

BSHS home games this season are as follows: Midland Christian, Sept. 7; Andrews (Homecoming), Sept. 21; and Seminole, Sept. 28. District play at home includes games against Abilene Wylie on Oct. 12, Sweetwater on Oct. 26 and Greenwood on Nov. 2.

For more information, contact 264-3662.

## Steer football equipment pick up dates announced

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

When going into battle, a warrior needs his armor.

Equipment for Big Spring Steer football players will be handed out next week at the Athletic Training Center.

Seniors can pick up their gear on Monday, juniors on Tuesday, sopho-

mores on Wednesday and freshman on Thursday. If you miss your day, anyone can grab their gear on Friday.

All athletes expecting to receive equipment must have all physicals completed and necessary paperwork turned in. There must be no missing items on record. For more information, call 264-3662.

## Oswalt, Rangers shut down Athletics 6-1

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Josh Reddick's home run is the one pitch Roy Oswalt wants back.

Reddick might want his postgame remarks back, too.

After Oswalt allowed only three Oakland hits in a 6-1 win for the Texas Rangers on Tuesday night, Reddick made it clear he thought the A's did themselves in against the veteran pitcher.

"I don't feel like he was very good. I felt like we had a lot of swing and misses," Reddick said. "We had a pretty good go at him. We saw a lot of pitches early. Just bad swings in front of the ball. I don't feel like his stuff was very far out there."

In vintage Oswalt style, the right-hander used his wide-ranging repertoire to baffle Oakland's batters and beat the Athletics for the first time, and Josh Hamilton and Adrian Beltré each hit solo home runs to back his cause.

Reddick homered for the A's, who had some momentum after a three-game sweep at Minnesota only to come home and face the two-time reigning AL champions. Oakland missed an opportunity with the bas-

es loaded in the eighth.

Oswalt worked ahead and painted the corners the like pitcher of old at age 34.

"That's me, that's my game," Oswalt said. "I'm the same pitcher I've been the last 12 years."

Elvis Andrus, Craig Gentry and Mike Napoli hit RBI singles off Bartolo Colon (6-8) for the AL West-leading Rangers, who snapped the A's four-game winning streak and avenged a June loss to Colon in the Coliseum.

Oswalt (3-1) struck out six and didn't walk anyone in 6 1-3 innings, retiring 15 of the final 17 hitters he faced in his fifth start of the year and first against the A's. The crafty right-hander had never beaten Oakland in two previous outings, including a loss at the Coliseum on June 7, 2002.

This time, he did it by mixing speeds and pitches to keep Oakland's hitters off balance. He struck out Seth Smith to end the sixth on a 71 mph off-speed offering.

The Rangers won for the fifth time in six games but just the third time

See **RANGERS**, Page 3B

## Astros can't get elusive win on road, fall to San Diego 8-2

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jordan Lyles is still waiting for his first road win. The Astros haven't had one in a while, either.

The rookie was hit hard by the San Diego Padres in Houston's 8-2 loss Tuesday night, the Astros' 13th in their last 14 away games.

Lyles gave up five runs and 11 hits over six innings, and has yet to win a game on the road in his career. The right-hander walked two and struck out three.

"I didn't make pitches," Lyles said. "I need to just attack each game like it's a new game, put everything behind you.

I've just got to get a little more consistent."

Yonder Alonso hit a two-run homer and had three RBIs and Ross Ohlendorf pitched six innings. Alex Amarista and Cameron Maybin each had three hits for the Padres, who have scored seven or more runs in three of four games, all wins.

"I think the past month has been a lot better," Alonso said. "The younger guys, especially myself, are more comfortable. You're seeing it from the younger guys, we're having better at-bats. If you have a group of guys having good at-bats against a

pitcher, any time you do that, it just gets better and better."

Alonso sent a 2-0 pitch from Lyles (2-6) a few rows deep in the left-field stands in the second to put San Diego on top 2-1. The homer was Alonso's fourth of the season, but his first at Petco Park.

"It only took what, three months?" Alonso said. "Hopefully I don't go that long without one, but that's really not what I'm looking to do. My thing is more doubles and driving guys in, but if it comes, so be it."

See **ASTROS**, Page 2B

## QB Griffin signs 4-year deal with Redskins

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Robert Griffin III and the Washington Redskins ended their contract impasse Wednesday when the rookie quarterback signed a four-year, fully guaranteed deal worth \$21.1 million.

It also includes a club option for a fifth year.

Griffin's agent, Ben Dogra, told The Associated Press that the Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback agreed to terms and will be in Redskins rookie camp on Wednesday.

The latter stands for "Hail To The Redskins," the team's fight song.

Griffin will be on the field Wednesday for the third day of a five-day rookie camp. He wasn't considered a holdout because training camp doesn't officially begin until July 26.

The Redskins traded their first-round choices in 2012, 2013 and 2014 as well as their second-round pick this

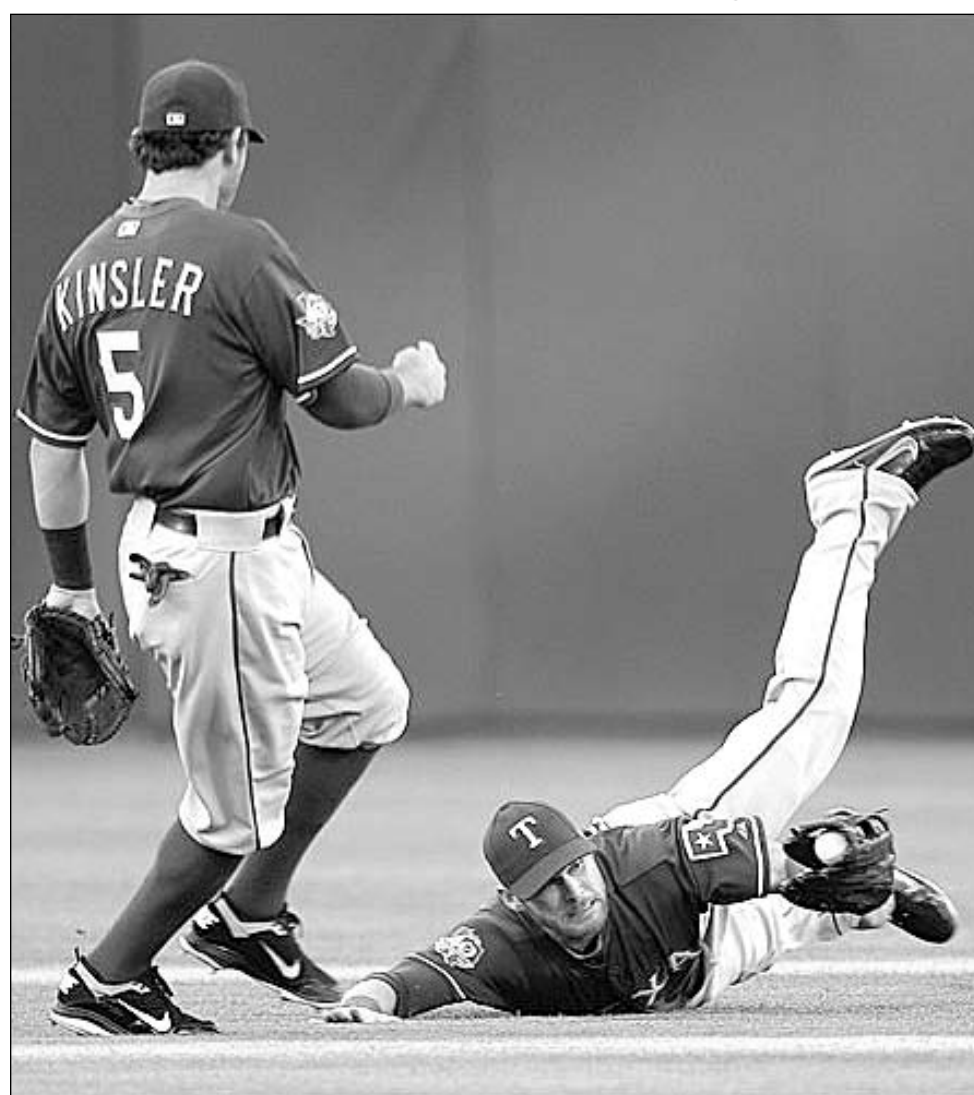
year to the St. Louis Rams on March 10 for the right to move up four spots to take Griffin.

Coach Mike Shanahan orchestrated the trade for Griffin, who threw for 4,293 yards and 37 touchdowns with just six interceptions and ran for 699 yards and 10 touchdowns in 2011 while leading Baylor to the Alamo Bowl.

Washington made the big move after finishing last in the NFC East for a fourth straight year with a 5-11 record in 2011.

That was the 16th season in the past 19 in which the Redskins didn't make the playoffs. During that span, they have started 21 quarterbacks. The most recent, Rex Grossman, committed 25 turnovers in 13 starts last season.

Offensive lineman Josh LeRibeus, Washington's third-round choice, remains unsigned.



AP photo

**Texas' Craig Gentry catches a fly ball as Ian Kinsler backs up the play during the Rangers' 6-1 victory over the Oakland A's on Tuesday.**

# NCAA waiting for information from Penn State regarding scandal

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — As the NCAA considers whether Penn State should face penalties following the Jerry Sandusky child sex abuse scandal — including a possible shutdown of its celebrated football program — the university says it will respond within days to the governing body's demand for information.

The head of the NCAA has declared that the so-called death penalty has not been ruled out for Penn State, but university president Rodney Erickson said Tuesday he doesn't want to "jump to conclusions" about possible sanctions.

The NCAA is investigating whether Penn State lost "institutional control" over its athletic program and violated ethics rules. Its probe had been on hold for eight months while former FBI Director Louis Freeh conducted an investigation on behalf of the school's board of trustees. Freeh's 267-page report, released last week, asserted that late football coach Joe Paterno and three top officials buried allegations against Sandusky, his retired defensive coordinator, more than a decade ago to protect the university's image.

Sandusky was convicted last month of sexually abusing 10 boys over a 15-year period. He awaits sentencing.

Erickson said now that Penn State has the results of its own investigation in hand, it can turn its attention to the NCAA.

"The NCAA has indicated that they'd like me to respond ... as quickly as possible now

that we have the Freeh report," he said. "So we've already started the process of starting to compose that response. We'll do so over the course of the next few days and get that response back as soon as possible, and we'll then engage in discussions with the NCAA."

In a PBS interview Monday night, NCAA President Mark Emmert said he's "never seen anything as egregious as this in terms of just overall conduct and behavior inside a university." He said he doesn't want to take "anything off the table" if there's a finding that Penn State violated NCAA rules.

The last time the NCAA shut down a football program was in the 1980s, when Southern Methodist University was forced to drop the sport because of extra benefits violations.

After the NCAA suspended the SMU program for a year, the school decided not to play in 1988, either, as it tried to regroup.

Erickson would not say whether he thought Penn State deserved to have its football program yanked.

"Let's not get ahead of ourselves here," Erickson told The Associated Press as he conducted a round of media interviews in his office on Tuesday. "Let's wait for this process to unfold. President Emmert has said that the NCAA will take a deliberate and deliberative process in addressing this, so I don't think we should jump to any conclusions at this point."

Schools often propose sanctions to the governing body.

Erickson pointed out that Penn State has already given \$2.6 million in bowl revenues to its new center for child abuse research and treatment and to the Pennsylvania Coalition against Rape, a group that operates rape crisis centers across the state.

"We've already started to impose sanctions in the sense that we took away \$2.6 million of athletic department funds," Erickson said. "Surely we'll have to do more, but we're already on that road."

Erickson also addressed the controversy swirling around the statue of Paterno outside Beaver Stadium, saying that no decision has been made on whether to take it down. The bronze statue had been a rallying point for students in the months since Sandusky's November arrest.

"I'm still in the process of talking with members of my leadership team," Erickson said. "I'll want to talk with members of the board and others. And we will make a decision, and we will make the right decision based on what we believe is the best course of action for the university."

University spokesman David La Torre said a decision on the matter would be made in seven to 10 days.

Regardless of Penn State's decision on the statue, it's clear that Paterno's name is losing its luster.

Paternoville, a tent city outside Beaver Stadium where students camp out for prime football tickets, was scrapped Monday in favor of Nittanyville.

Nike took Paterno's name

off a child care center on its corporate campus on Thursday, the day the Freeh report was released. The halo that had floated above Paterno's head in a State College mural was removed Saturday. In its place the artist added a blue ribbon in support of child abuse awareness.

Brown University in Rhode Island, the late coach's alma mater, said that not only had it removed Paterno's name from its head football coaching position and a student award, but it's also reviewing whether to remove him from the school's athletic hall of fame, too.

And a Connecticut middle school said it would paint over its own mural of Paterno.

Although there was some negative reaction to Paterno immediately after Sandusky's arrest — the Big Ten dropped Paterno's name from the conference championship trophy where it had been next to that of Amos Alonzo Stagg, who won almost 100 fewer games — the pace has picked up since the Freeh report was released.

The Paterno statue, in particular, has been a point of much contention. Critics have called for the sculpture to be taken down after the Freeh report concluded that Paterno was aware of a 1998 allegations against Sandusky — in contrast to his grand jury testimony and an interview given after his firing — and that he was involved in the decision to hide a 2001 incident from the authorities.

On Tuesday, a small plane pulled a banner over State Col-

lege reading, "Take the statue down or we will." The plane is licensed to Air America Aerial Ads of Genoa, Ohio.

A person who answered the phone at Air America declined to give his name or identify who paid for the flight.

Federal Aviation Administration records show the agency grounded a plane from the company after it towed banners taunting Tiger Woods during the 2010 Masters golf tournament.

The Freeh report raised the culpability of Paterno and former university President Graham Spanier to the same level as two other key figures: former Vice President Gary Schultz and athletic director Tim Curley.

Schultz and Curley await trial on charges of perjury and failure to report suspected child abuse. They deny the allegations against them.

Spanier is not charged, and his attorneys have criticized the Freeh report, saying it contains inaccuracies. Paterno's family denies he participated in any attempt at a cover-up.

Erickson, who pledged greater transparency after he was named Spanier's successor, called the past eight months "the most difficult and saddest chapter in the university's history" but vowed to make it right.

"We can't rewrite that chapter in terms of what happened in the past, but we are taking responsibility for what happened," he continued. "We're determined to emerge from all of this as a stronger, better university."

# Police: Cowboys WR Bryant's mom reported assault

DALLAS (AP) — With training camp just two weeks away, Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant is in trouble again.

The talented wide receiver was arrested Monday after being accused of attacking his mother during an argument, hitting her arms and face.

He faces a charge of family violence, a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

The Cowboys had no comment on the latest stumble by Bryant since the Cowboys drafted him out of Oklahoma State in 2010.

Bryant had spent this offseason watching film, working on his conditioning and staying out of trouble off the field. Others noticed he was in better shape and more focused.

The 23-year-old Bryant surrendered Monday after police in DeSoto, south of Dallas, issued a warrant. Police said Angela Bryant called 911 Saturday to complain her son was assaulting her.

Police arrived to find her with a swollen wrist and thumb and bruising on her upper arms, police Capt. Ron Smith said. She told police she had grabbed Dez Bryant's shirt and he forcefully knocked her arms away, Smith said. Police say he hit her on the face with a ball cap and pushed her in the chest.

Bryant was released a few hours later without talking to detectives, Smith said. His attorney, Royce West, said Bryant posted \$1,500 bond.

Smith declined to say Tuesday what caused the

argument.

"I don't know what the exact startup was, what caused everything," Smith said. "I just know that his mother got involved and got injured."

Police plan to send their case later this week to Dallas prosecutors, Smith said.

West said Tuesday that he was still investigating the circumstances of Saturday's incident. One of his primary goals, he said, was to "make certain that the family heals."

"I know that Dez loves his mother," West said. "I know his mother loves him."

West declined to say if Dez and Angela Bryant have spoken since Saturday or what may have caused their argument.

Drafted by the Cowboys in the first round, Bryant entered the league having his last year of college nearly wiped out by an NCAA suspension for lying about having dinner with Deion Sanders. He ran up hundreds of thousands of dollars in bills on

See **BRYANT** Page 3B



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## ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

Maybin drove a ball to the left-center field wall in the eighth that was caught by a fan who reached over the fence. Umpires reviewed the play and ruled it a double. Two runs scored on the play.

"I saw the catch and I knew it was going to be ruled a double," Padres manager Bud Black said. "I saw it live but I haven't seen the replay yet."

Ohlendorf (3-0) allowed two runs, one earned, in his longest

outing of the season and gave up six hits while striking out six and walking one. The right-hander has also made four relief appearances but picked up his first victory as a starter this season.

"In the beginning my slider wasn't as good as it was later in the game," Ohlendorf said. "I was really happy with the way I pitched, especially going deeper in the game."

"Ross made some pitches when he needed to," Black said. "We needed a good effort from him based on our bullpen use the last cou-

ple of days."

San Diego strung together four consecutive hits against Lyles in the fifth to build a 4-2 advantage. Chase Headley doubled home Logan Forsythe, and Yasmani Grandal had a run-scoring single.

"We left him out there to try to finish that inning because we felt he still had good enough stuff do to that," Astros manager Brad Mills said.

Fernando Abad hit Chase Headley with a pitch in the seventh before Alonso doubled to left-center to score Headley.

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# Linsanity to Houston as Knicks pass

HOUSTON (AP) — The New York Knicks decided that Linsanity would have only a one-season run on Broadway.

Lin is headed back to Houston after the Knicks decided on Tuesday that they wouldn't match the Rockets' three-year, \$25 million offer for the restricted free agent.

The 23-year-old point guard, who went undrafted out of Harvard, became an international phenomenon and the biggest story in sports during one dazzling month in the Big Apple. But the Knicks decided keeping the show in town was too costly.

"Extremely excited and honored to be a Houston Rocket again!" Lin posted on his Twitter account.

"Much love and thankfulness to the Knicks and New York for your support the past year...easily the best year of my life."

Lin will return to Houston, where he spent two weeks in training camp in December, before the Rockets waived him. General manager Daryl Morey later regretted the move and alluded to the mistake as he celebrated the re-acquisition of Lin on Twitter late Tuesday:

"Welcome to Houston (at) JLin7. We plan to hang on this time. You will love (hash)Red-Nation."

The Knicks said they would match any offer to retain Lin, but the Rockets made it tough for New York to keep him by backloading their offer sheet with a \$15 million salary in the third season of the deal. If the Knicks agreed to match, they would have faced a hefty luxury tax in the 2014-15 season because of other big contracts on their books — between \$30-40 million.

One sports consultant said the

adjustment to the offer sheet was a stroke of genius by Morey.

"The Rockets deserve a lot of credit for the way they've gone about this," said Marc Ganis, president of Chicago-based SportsCorp. "It was extremely intelligent — with an assassin's touch."

Houston initially released Lin because it already had Goran Dragic and Kyle Lowry on the roster. The Knicks picked him up, and coach Mike D'Antoni put him in the lineup out of desperation, with the Knicks floundering at 8-15.

Lin scored a career-high 25 points in a 99-92 win over the New Jersey Nets, and "Linsanity" was born in the bright lights of New York.

The stock price for Madison Square Garden Inc. surged as Lin proved to be more than a one-game wonder.

# BRYANT

Continued from Page 2B

game tickets and jewelry — and was sued by alleged creditors. Last year, he was kicked out of an upscale Dallas mall for wearing sagging pants. In January, he was reportedly involved in a fight with the rapper Lil Wayne at a Miami nightclub.

"All of us have had some youthful indiscretions," West said, adding that he questioned the truth behind some of the allegations. "We learn from those indiscretions and we move forward."

Bryant's potential has always been clear. A standout at Oklahoma State, Bryant caught 45 passes for 561 yards in 12 games in his rookie season. Last year, he had 63 catches for 928 yards and nine touchdowns.

# RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

in their last seven road contests.

Hamilton struck out three times before connecting for his 28th home run to lead off the eighth. He added a sacrifice fly in the ninth. The All-Star slugger kept his average right at .300, and hasn't dipped below that mark all season.

"I hadn't really paid attention to it. I knew I was going down the last month to month and a half," Hamilton said. "I'm not really panicking at all."

Colon, who tossed eight scoreless innings to beat the Rangers on June 6 in the Coliseum, was tagged for eight hits and four runs in seven innings.

He remained winless in three starts since coming off the disabled list from a strained oblique muscle. He fell to 2-6 at home this season and hasn't won in four outings since June 12 at Colorado.

The right-hander is 18-7 against Texas in 29 career starts for his most wins against any opponent — and 19 would have matched Hall of Famer Bert Blyleven, Dennis Leonard and Jack Morris for most by any pitcher.

In Texas' three-run fourth started by Bel-

tre's 17th home run, the Rangers scored on a squeeze when Colon fielded the ball and opted not to throw to first when second baseman Jemile Weeks was working to cover.

"In the third inning I was tight a little bit and the fourth was a bad inning," Colon said. "I don't make excuses. I was late a little bit on that ball over there."

Oakland, 9-2 in July, failed to move four games over .500 for the first time since May 31, 2010. The A's have never won their first four games after the All-Star break.

Oakland slugger Yoenis Cespedes, nursing a sprained left thumb, doubled among his two hits as designated hitter and hopes to be back in the outfield Wednesday afternoon if he is able to put his hand in the glove without discomfort. He struck out for the second out of the eighth.

Oswalt struck out the side in the fourth, when he gave up only a single to Cespedes.

The bottom of Oakland's order isn't producing.

"You have to stick with guys," manager Bob Mel-

vin said. "We've been pretty good offensively even though some guys have been struggling. When guys aren't hitting you expect the rest of the lineup to be able to pick you up."

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

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ANSWERS

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

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By Steve Becker

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West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K 7 2  
♥ 2  
♦ K Q 5 4 3  
♣ A K 7 4

**EAST**  
♠ 9 6  
♥ A J 4  
♦ A J 7 6 2  
♣ 10 5 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ 10 8 5 4  
♥ K 9 6 5 3  
♦ 10  
♣ 9 6 3

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♣ 1 ♦ Pass Pass  
Dble Pass Pass 1 ♥  
Dble Redble Pass 1 ♠  
Dble Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead — queen of spades.

The value of a hand is often affected by bids the other players make, and a good part of what is called bidding skill rests on how well one re-evaluates the worth of a hand as the bidding progresses. Here is a case in point. The deal occurred in a national team-of-four championship. Some players might pass initially with the West hand, but Mike Becker opened the bidding with one club.

**Tomorrow:** Musical chairs.  
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**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #7444 July 18, 2012

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

The new moon in Cancer focuses on the maternal relationship, which so much of life beyond childhood reflects. Coming to terms with the good, the bad and the unique parts of your childhood will be the key to getting a fresh start during this lunar phase. The dark sky represents a clean slate for you to write your future upon.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Growth, by definition, is change. Staying the same simply isn't an option for you, though you may feel slightly anxious about what shape your new life will take. Trust.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You will fall in love many times, always with the same activity. This is how you know it's a fine match for you and something you were surely meant to be doing with your life.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You touch people's lives in ways you don't really understand. Your spirit, the way you talk, the excitement you show when certain things are happening, it's all registering in the mind of someone special.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). When people think of you, the word "encouragement" comes to mind. To nurture others comes naturally to you. You'll give a kindly prop to your friends and boost them in the direction they seem to want to go.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Life is an endless opportunity. So trust your decisions. They're either wrong or right, but committing to them will feel better than going in halfheartedly. And there always will be another opportunity.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's easy to see where you're blocked, but what can you do? Doing one

thing you "can" do will be better than noting a hundred things that you can't. Keep your focus right in front of you.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't always get the chance to embody the qualities of honesty, bravery and loyalty in a big way that everyone can see. But you will wear them in dozens of small ways today.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a special occasion coming up, and you might seriously consider doing something personal and artful to commemorate the moment. What you make with your hands you also make with your heart.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A famous song states that love makes the world go round. Scientists suggest it's actually angular momentum that does the job, though few would disagree that love makes the ride more fun.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Being kind requires very little effort, though people can be so wrapped up in themselves that it helps to have a good example to remind them how to contribute to the world in a positive way. You'll provide this today.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It is not true that there is purpose and beauty in each thought you have. Some thoughts are rotten and ugly and probably popped into your head by mistake. Ignore them or shun them, and they'll quickly go away.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your hands will be busy doing the work they were always meant to do: helping yourself and then helping others. You will touch someone's life with your gift of timely assistance.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (July 18). This year is marked by your desire to do what's new and different. The next 10 weeks bring adventure. You'll trade in some aspect of your job for a better deal in August. September brings social fun. November is your chance at a professional goal. Sweet sentiments and gifts come from out of the blue in May. Gemini and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 24, 38 and 18.

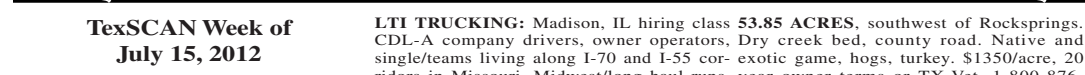
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ful to me. She somehow manages to take several vacations a year. Now she wants my husband to foot the bill for an expensive wedding, and he's agreed.

He also agreed to continue supporting her after she marries. Because the wedding is in our state, Effie wants to stay in our house for several weeks before the wedding. I don't think I can take it.

My husband is entirely in her corner and believes his relationship with her is perfectly normal.

He's been unwell, and I hate making things worse for him, but I can't hold in this anger and disappointment much longer. I keep asking myself whether I'd be better off without him, but I don't know the answer. — *Torn in Tallahassee*

**Dear Torn:** Many parents find it difficult to cut the financial apron strings, and divorced parents often are particularly indulgent in an attempt to compensate. This hurts the kids in the long run, creating dependence and prolonged adolescence. Nonetheless, if your husband refuses to change his tactics with Effie, there is nothing you can do about her. Counseling is often helpful, but you also might consider taking your own vacation while Effie is in your house.

**Dear Annie:** I was surprised that "Single" wrote in saying he has trouble meeting women who don't have a lot of baggage. I am a single parent with two amazing children, and I have the same problem. Men on Internet dating sites all seem to be infatuated with the physical side of the relationship, which is secondary to me. I want a decent guy who is willing to be my friend first.

In five years, my children will be out of the house, and I would love to have an established relationship going into the empty nest syndrome. — *Patient in Arizona*

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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**Three Canadian elephants to fly to new retirement home in California**

**SUE MANNING**

*Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — For elephants to fly, you have to do more than load trunks on a plane.

Pat Derby, co-founder of the Performing Animal Welfare Society, has been working for two years to get three 10,000-pound elephants in the air. The elephants are scheduled to take off on Aug. 2 in what could be a million-dollar move.

The African elephants, Iringa, 42, Toka, 41, and Thika, 31, are being retired from the Toronto Zoo and moved to PAWS' 2,300-acre sanctuary in San Andreas.

To get the elephants ready to fly, the animals had to undergo crate and noise training. A Russian cargo jet and two fleets of trucks had to be rented; pilots, drivers and crews hired; crates built and fitted for each elephant; hydraulic gates reinstalled at the sanctuary; and barn space cleared.

The amount of red tape rivaled only the green involved, but former game show host and animal activist Bob Barker is paying the bill, expected to be between \$750,000 and \$1 million.

Zookeepers have been teaching the animals to walk in and out of their travel crates, finished in January. "We rattle the crates and make all kinds of sounds so they are used to noise," Derby said, because "there are no test flights."

Iringa and Toka do have past plane experience — they were flown to Toronto from Mozambique 37 years ago. Would an elephant forget?

"It would be the way we remember some gut feelings," Joyce Poole, an elephant behaviorist and co-founder of ElephantVoices, said in a phone interview from Norway. "They are used to going in and out of cages and being in small confined spaces. Otherwise, getting back into a truck could bring back some scary feelings. Obviously, they were captured and taken from their families

and had some pretty terrifying experiences, but they've been captive for a long time. I think they'll be fine with it."

The elephants fit snugly in their crates and will be tethered so they don't get hurt if they hit ruts in the road or turbulence in the air, Derby said. The Russian cargo plane is bigger than a C-17 so will fit all three elephants easily, along with keepers from Toronto and crews from PAWS.

There may not be on-board movies for the pachyderms, but there will be carrots and other treats in case they get the munchies.

Poole said an elephant's ears will also probably pop just like a human's on takeoff and descent.

Anti-anxiety pills would be dangerous, Derby said. "You want them to have full capacity and be fully aware of everything that's going on. It's not a good idea to tranquilize any animal because they can flop around and get sleepy and go down. They need to be awake and conscious and able to shift their weight and behave normally."

What if they get bored? "The experience itself will stimulate them," Derby said. "They will be talking to each other and it probably will be the equivalent of us wondering, 'Where are we going?' and 'What is this?'" she said.

Traveling together will also help, she said. "They make sounds we can't even hear, low rumbles and sonic sounds. They will be talking to one another through the whole flight, I am sure," Derby said. There could even be some trumpeting.

"Trumpets are like exclamation points," Poole said. There are trumpets for play, socializing and alarm. "The one you are most likely to hear is the social trumpet, given in the context of greetings or when groups come together," she said.

The elephants will be in their crates when they leave the Toronto Zoo on trucks, during the flight and during the truck trip from San Francisco to San Andreas, 125 miles northeast.

That could be a 10-hour trip.

A truck trip would have cost less but would have taken over 40 hours without stops or traffic. Barker said he would rather spend the extra money than make the elephants spend that much time confined in their crates.

At the sanctuary, they will meet their new companions Lulu, 47, Maggie and Mara, both 28, from zoos in San Francisco, Alaska and San Jose, respectively.

"You have to provide them with the opportunity to socialize, as well as the ability to retreat if frightened," Derby said.

There are also three female Asian elephants and two Asian bulls at PAWS but the Africans and Asians are separated, as are the 26 tigers, six bears and five lions at the preserve. Derby has seen video of the Toronto elephants and thinks the group of six will get along.

"They appear to be sweet, lovely, tractable elephants and I'm just excited to get them integrated into our group so they can have a wonderful social life. Our three girls have missed being in a larger group," she said.

It's hard to know how long retirement will last. Africans live to be 60 or 70 in the wild but in captivity, they don't survive well past 50, Derby said.

In the wild, 50-year-old female elephants are still having calves, but none of the animals at PAWS will ever be bred.

"To breed them in captivity is criminal," Derby said.

"I'm sure in the zoo world, it's a big issue. Not in our world. It's very sad to see calves born in captivity and be doomed to a life of living in what is virtually a prison. No captive facility can really provide everything that an elephant needs. We provide a lot but we can't provide everything. We have huge habitats, but it's nothing like the size of their territory in the wild. It just doesn't compare," she said.

Online: <http://www.pawsweb.org>

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

*Local News • Sports • National News*

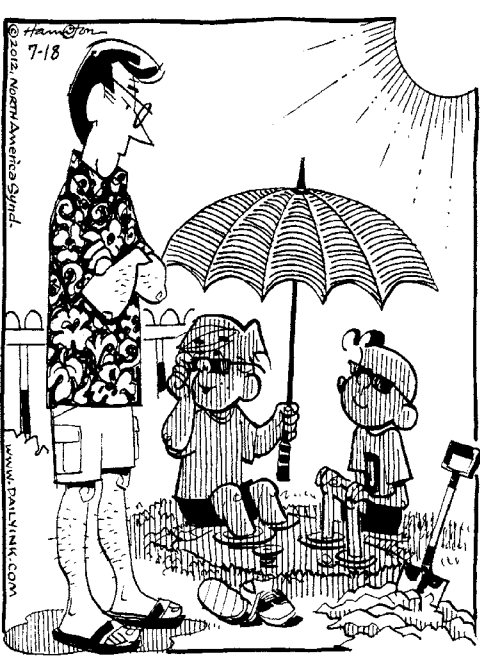
**263-7331**

[www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)



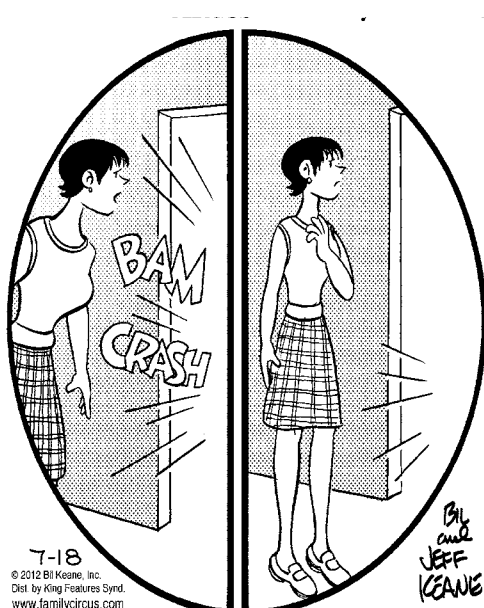
Table with 20 columns (KMGD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWTT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and 24 rows of TV listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WE DON'T WANT OUR PUDDLE TO DRY UP."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"What happened in there?" "Nothing, Mommy, but I can fix it."

HAGAR

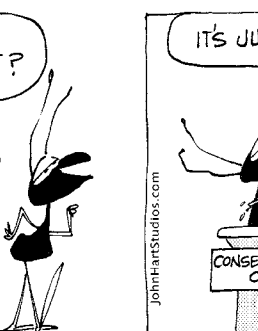


I KNOW THEY SAY IT'S BAD LUCK TO HAVE A WOMAN ABOARD SHIP...



... BUT WHO CARES ABOUT A LITTLE BAD LUCK ?!

BC



WIZARD OF ID



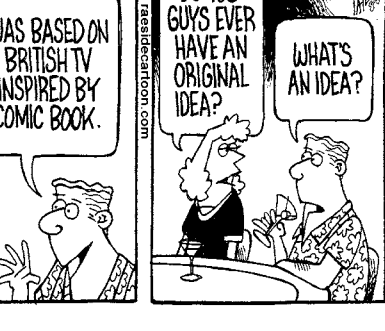
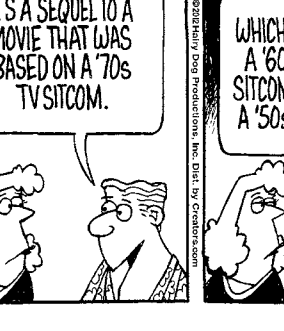
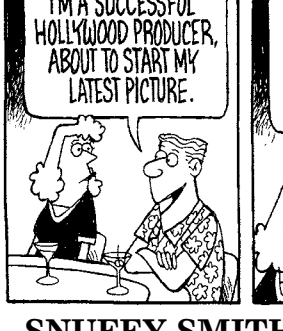
AGNES



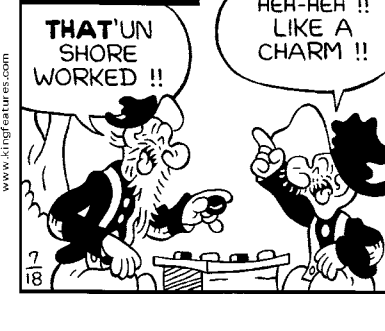
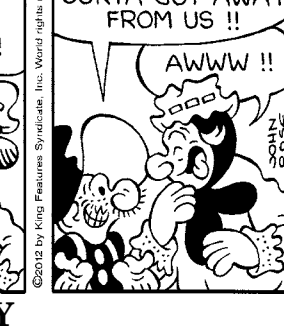
HI AND LOIS



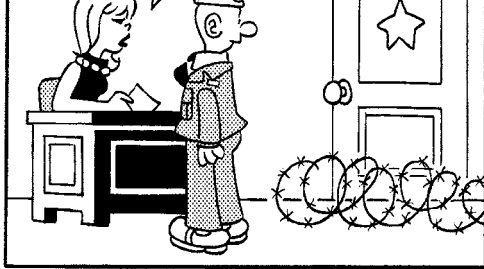
THE OTHER COAST



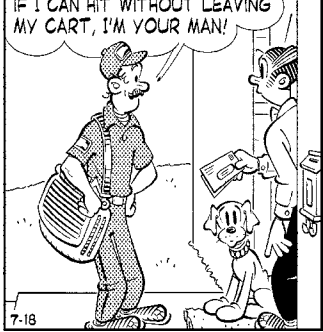
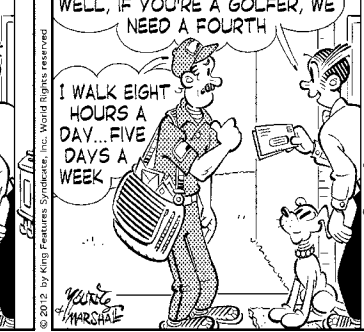
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, July 18, the 200th day of 2012. There are 166 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 18, 1882, Guatemalan soldiers aided by members of civilian patrols stormed the highland village of Plan de Sanchez in search of leftist guerrillas, killing some 200 people. (In July 2005, the government of Guatemala accepted responsibility for the massacre, and apologized.) On this date: In A.D. 64, the Great Fire of Rome began. In 1536, the English Parliament passed an act declaring the authority of the pope void in England. In 1610, highly influential Italian baroque artist Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio died in Porto Ercole at age 38. In 1792, American naval hero John Paul Jones died in Paris at age 45.

In 1872, Britain enacted voting by secret ballot. In 1932, the United States and Canada signed a treaty to develop the St. Lawrence Seaway. In 1940, the Democratic national convention at Chicago Stadium nominated President Franklin D. Roosevelt for an unprecedented third term in office. In 1944, Hideki Tojo was removed as Japanese premier and war minister because of setbacks suffered by his country in World War II. In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed a Presidential Succession Act which placed the speaker of the House and the Senate president pro tempore next in the line of succession after the vice president. In 1969, a car driven by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., plunged off a bridge on Chappaquiddick Island near Martha's Vineyard; his passenger, 28-year-old Mary Jo Kopechne (koh-PEHK'-nee), drowned. In 1976, at the Montreal Olympics, Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci received the first-ever perfect score of 10 with her routine on uneven parallel bars. (Comaneci would go on to receive six more 10s at Montreal.) In 1984, gunman James Huberty opened fire at a McDonald's fast food restaurant in San Ysidro (ee-SEE'-droh), Calif., killing 21 people before being shot dead by police. Walter F. Mondale won the Democratic presidential nomination in San Francisco. Today's Birthdays: Former South African President Nelson Mandela is 94. Former Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, is 91. Skating champion and commentator Dick Button is 83. Movie director Paul Verhoeven is 74. Musician Brian Auger is 73. Singer Dion DiMucci is 73. Actor James Brolin is 72. Baseball executive Joe Torre is 72.

Answer to previous puzzle: MAPLE DASH AREA ISLAM ITOO DELI STOMP SOFT AMID TOP BANANA EMOTE TIRE GASPED ONAWHIM FETA MONEY TENSPEED INNS ASIDE PRAY TEATABLE SLAVE OILY CHEESES GNARLY FLEE LAMAS BLINDDATE OVEN SOUP BONER BANG UNTO ENTER ELSE EDEN DEEDS

Newsday Crossword

IT'S ALL GOOD by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Stage accessory 5 Playwright Chekhov 10 Kitchen herb 14 Counts in the gym 15 Calligrapher's adornment 16 Took advantage of 17 Big wave 19 Cherry variety 20 Kids' card game 21 Caravan stops 22 Ashen-looking 23 First of a series 25 Row your boat 26 Apartment 1A dweller, perhaps 33 Piece of statuary 34 Russian starchy 35 Notable time 36 Clump of hair 37 Boss' summons 38 Major hassle 39 Yuletide worker 40 Speak one's piece 41 Race loser of fable 42 One-time water source 45 Thus far 46 Lancelot's outerwear 48 Cries loudly 51 Houston baseballer 54 Filbert, for instance 56 Recording studio effect 57 Scofflaw's arrears

- DOWN 1 Front of a ship 2 Postgame ritual 3 Marriage of Figaro, e.g. 4 Free TV spot 5 Lay into 6 The latest 7 See 38 Down 8 Portraitists' buys 9 Lions' and Panthers' org. 10 Honda competitor 11 Sale condition 12 Fellow 13 Stressed out 18 Tag declaration 22 Don't bid 24 Oxidized coating 25 Give the eye to 27 Expected to land 28 2011 hurricane 29 Dubbed 30 Succotash ingredient 31 Cleveland's lake 32 Sought a Senate seat 33 30 Down, for one 36 Earl Grey, e.g. 37 Locality

Crossword grid with numbers 1-64 and corresponding clues.