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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

AUGUST 1, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 245

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

# Cruzing to victory

*Dewhurst defeated on GOP ticket; Sadler wins Democratic nomination*

Staff and wire reports

The vote totals weren't overwhelming, but they were better than expected.

More than 1,100 Howard County voters went to the polls during Tuesday's state primary runoff election that resulted in Tea Party favorite Ted Cruz wresting the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate away from the presumptive favorite, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst.

Although Howard County's vote total of 1,169 represented only 7 percent of the number of registered voters, it still came as a surprise to Election Administrator Saundra Bloom.

"We had more than we expected, actually," Bloom said. "I really didn't expect more than 500 voters. This was a pretty big runoff by past Howard County standards."

Tuesday's ballot included five state-wide runoffs — four Republican and one Democratic.



Cruz



Sadler

In the GOP runoff, almost 55 percent of county voters chose Cruz over Dewhurst, a total that closely reflected state-wide totals which saw the former Texas Solicitor General trounce Dewhurst by 13 percentage points.

County results in other Republican runoffs were:

- Railroad Commission — Christi Craddick received 661 votes, compared to 383 for Warren Chisum.

- Railroad Commission unexpired term — Barry Smitherman received 535 votes, while Greg Parker received 453.

- Texas Supreme Court, Place 4 — County voters selected John Devine over

See **ELECTED**, Page 3



**A group of seniors takes part in the low-impact water exercise at the Big Spring Family Aquatic Center. Each Tuesday, the group meets from 11 a.m. until noon for the exercise program. Admission is \$4.**

HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

## Senior citizens taking advantage of swim park

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Staff Writer

Seniors are taking over the Big Spring Family Aquatic Center every Tuesday morning.

A new exercise option for the older set in the community, low-impact senior citizen water exercise, was started a few weeks ago and has been growing in numbers.

Classes take place from 11 a.m. until noon Tuesday — at which time the aquatic center is closed to the public — and will continue until the closing day of the water park for the year. A lifeguard is on duty during this time. The class is open to senior citizens in the community age 50 and older.

"This is the only place in the community seniors can get this type of water-resistance

exercise," Gloria McDonald, retirement community ex-officio for the Big Spring Chamber, said. "This gives them a chance to get outdoors and exercise instead of having to be on a treadmill inside. It offers another option."

During the class, seniors can take advantage of a low-impact water exercise in the

See **SENIORS**, Page 3

## Get ready to Rock the Desert

Rock the Desert 2012, Don't Stop Believin', will take place at the Rock the Desert Festival Grounds, 2000 N FM 1788, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

For more information on Don't Stop Believin' or on the Shoes For Orphaned Souls/Buckner International Shoe Drive, go to [www.rockthedesert.com](http://www.rockthedesert.com) or call Rock the Desert offices at 432-563-3434.

Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the gate. The ticket price covers the entire weekend. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.rockthedesert.com](http://www.rockthedesert.com) or by calling the Rock the Desert offices.

The lineup includes The Whosoevers, P.O.D., Brian "Head" Welch, Lacey of Flyleaf, Oh Sleeper, Icon For Hire, Demon Hunter, Ashes Remain, The Afters, Shawn McDonald, Ben Rector, Peter Furler, NeedToBreathe, Chris August, Chris Tomlin and Relient K.

## 1989 classic, 'Batman' coming to Big Spring

*Volunteers, sponsors needed for downtown screening*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Polish up your bat suit and keep a keen eye on the night sky for the famous bat signal, as the local film society is gearing up for the Sept. 22 screening of the 1989 classic "Batman" in downtown Big Spring.

The film which relaunched

the famed comic book character onto the silver screen after more than 20 years on the shelf — starring Hollywood heavy hitters Michael Keaton, Jack Nicholson and Kim Basinger and directed by Tim Burton — will be the focus of the Big Spring Film Society's final screening of the season.


"With 'The Dark Knight

Rises' coming out this year and the fact we screened the original 'Superman' film earlier this summer, choosing the 1989 'Batman' just seemed like the next logical step," Brandon Johnson, film society chairman, said. "I can remember when 'Batman' hit theaters, everyone was just so excited. There's still so much to be said for that film and the


performances from the cast." While film-goers will need little more than a lawn chair to enjoy the screening, Johnson said the local film society is still hoping to gather a few key ingredients to make the event a success.

"One of the things that is so important to what we do

See **BATMAN**, Page 3



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## Obituaries

## Donna Sue Franklin



Donna Sue Franklin, 59, of Big Spring died Tuesday, July 31, 2012, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at College Baptist Church. Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born June 9, 1953 in Coleman, Texas to Willie Mae and Elmer Carter. She married Kenneth Franklin on December 27, 1977 in Big Spring, Texas. She worked for Trio Fuels for almost 20 years. After retiring, she enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and dedicating her time to helping people through her faith. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth Franklin of Big Spring; two daughters, Misty Matthies and husband Jimmy and Brenda Franklin, all of Big Spring; her stepson, Ken Franklin of Hurst; five grandchildren, Bree Franklin, Ely Matthies, Krislynn Matthies and Emma Matthies, all of Big Spring and Kenny Franklin of Frazee, Minn.; her mother, Willie Mae Hart of Haskell; one brother, Jim Bob Carter and wife Edna of Rochester; two sisters, Carla Hughes and husband Scott of Big Spring and Debbie Gressett and husband Wayne of Haskell; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Elmer "Don" Carter; and a brother, Terry "Fuzzy" Carter.

Pallbearers will be Ray McKinnon, Chad Tidwell, David Denton, Johnny Franklin, Douglas Franklin and Jerome Phifer.

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

*Paid obituary*

## Annie Pearl Blake



Annie Pearl Blake, 72, of Louisiana died Friday, July 27 at 3:15 a.m. at Odessa Medial Center.

Visitation will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 25, 1938, to Daisy Mae Burns and Ethel Gibson. She married George Lee Blake in 1960 and they lived in Southern

California. Annie worked at Hewlett Packard for 30-plus years and retired to Big Spring, Texas, in 2004.

She is survived by her brother, Johnny Smith of Bakersfield, Calif.; two sisters, Shirley Smith of Florida and Erma-Jean Johnson of Big Spring; a son, Rickey Williams of Big Spring; five daughters, Denise Richards and husband Gene, Charlette Bradford, Stephanie Blake-Richardson and husband Arthur and Yolanda Blake and husband Anthony, all of Big Spring, and Janice Bradford of California; 30-plus grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Annie is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two brothers, Larry Smith and Benny Gibson; a sister, Erma Mae Davis; and a grandson.

## Maria Chavarria

Maria Chavarria, 58, of Big Spring died Tuesday at her residence. A prayer service will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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

## Billy Strickland



Billy Strickland, 54, of Stanton died Tuesday, July 31, 2012, in a local hospital. Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 3, 2012, at Evergreen Cemetery Chapel with pastor Jana Jobe officiating.

Billy was born Oct. 3, 1957, in Terry County, Texas, and married Mary Shiflet on Oct. 27, 2001, in Stanton. He worked as a roustabout and mechanic.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Strickland of Stanton; one son, B.J. Strickland of Lamesa; three daughters, Melissa Ervin of Seminole and Jamie Shiflet and Laura Mullenix, both of Stanton; his mother, Virginia Johnson of Midland; three brothers, James Richardson and Robert Strickland, both of Midland and David Strickland of Channelview; three sisters, Linda Laird and Cynthia Calhoun, both of Midland and Christy Stowe of Brownwood; and seven grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert E. Strickland; and one sister, Diane Richardson.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

## Police blotter

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

- MICHAEL DALE PRESTON, 28, of 401 Young, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency and a warrant for aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury – family violence.

- COLLIN PATRICK WHITESEL, 26, of 2609 Wasson Rd. Apt. 72, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

- VALERIE MIRAMONTES GARCIA, 27, of 411 N. Scurry, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.

- ISALIAH MATTHEW JAMES, 23, of 1210 Lindbergh, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of duty on striking fixture or highway landscape.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: In the 300 block of S. Main Street. In the 1800 block of Wasson Drive. In the 4200 block of Oak.

## Sheriff

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

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

- MICHAEL DALE PRESTON, 28, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault – family violence and revocation of probation for driving while intoxicated.

- COLLIN PATRICK WHITESEL, 26, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- ISALIAH MATTHEW JAMES, 23, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of duty on striking fixture or highway landscape.

- VALERIE MIRAMONTES GARCIA, 27, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a motion to adjudicate for theft of service – more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000.

- MICHAEL ANDREW MARTINEZ, 27, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

## Support Groups

## WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

## THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. 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.

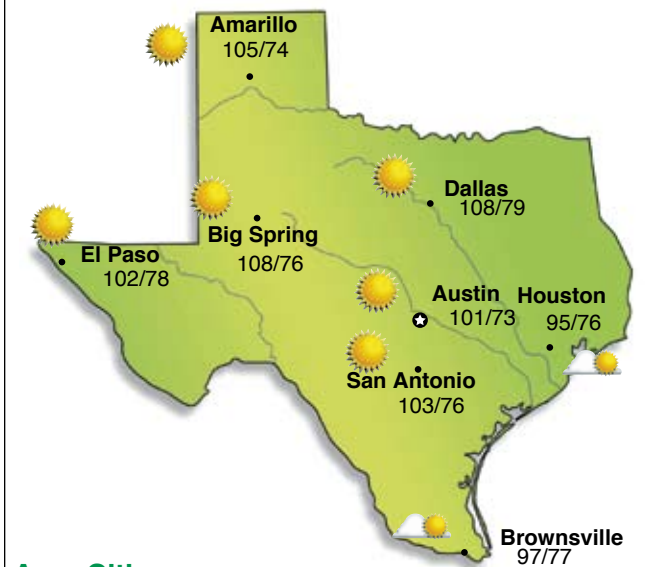
## Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 8/3	Sat 8/4	Sun 8/5	Mon 8/6	Tue 8/7
<b>108/76</b> Sunny. Highs 106 to 110F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>107/77</b> Sunny. Highs 105 to 109F and lows in the upper 70s.	<b>106/76</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs 104 to 108F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/76</b> Mostly sunny. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.	<b>101/76</b> A few clouds. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 70s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:02 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:42 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:03 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:03 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:40 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:04 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:39 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:05 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:39 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



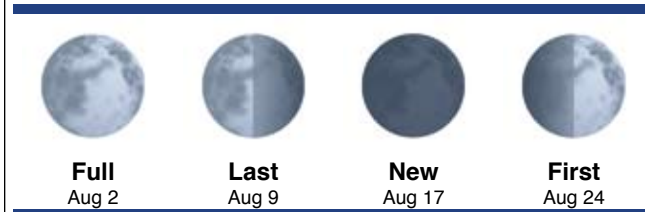
## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	107	77	sunny	Kingsville	102	76	sunny
Amarillo	105	74	sunny	Livingston	98	73	pt sunny
Austin	101	73	sunny	Longview	102	77	sunny
Beaumont	94	75	sunny	Lubbock	106	74	sunny
Brownsville	97	77	pt sunny	Lufkin	99	75	sunny
Brownwood	108	75	sunny	Midland	106	78	sunny
Corpus Christi	97	79	sunny	Raymondville	101	76	pt sunny
Corsicana	105	76	sunny	Rosenberg	96	75	pt sunny
Dallas	108	79	sunny	San Antonio	103	76	sunny
Del Rio	107	80	sunny	San Marcos	101	73	sunny
El Paso	102	78	sunny	Sulphur Springs	106	79	sunny
Fort Stockton	105	75	sunny	Sweetwater	107	76	sunny
Gainesville	109	78	sunny	Tyler	102	77	sunny
Greenville	106	77	sunny	Weatherford	109	77	sunny
Houston	95	76	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	114	81	sunny

## National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	95	73	mst sunny	Minneapolis	90	70	t-storm
Boston	85	68	rain	New York	85	74	t-storm
Chicago	93	71	pt sunny	Phoenix	102	82	sunny
Dallas	108	79	sunny	San Francisco	71	56	pt sunny
Denver	89	61	mst sunny	Seattle	67	56	pt sunny
Houston	95	76	pt sunny	St. Louis	98	80	pt sunny
Los Angeles	81	63	pt sunny	Washington, DC	93	76	mst sunny
Miami	91	79	t-storm				

## Moon Phases



## UV Index

Fri 8/3	Sat 8/4	Sun 8/5	Mon 8/6	Tue 8/7
11	11	11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, 0 being the lowest and 11 being the highest. A higher UV Index shows the need for greater skin protection.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Wallace. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.

- DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 1400 block of Highway 350.

## IN-HOME SENIOR CARE SERVICES



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We the family of

**Donna Jean Arroyo**

would like to express our gratitude to all of you who sent or brought flowers, cards or food. More importantly we would like to thank you for your love and prayers, because this is what has prevailed and has helped us to withstand this unfortunate trial.

We miss Donna on this earth, however we all know where she is now. We praise God for giving us time with her on this earth and we will wait patiently to see her again.

**The Arroyo Family**

Don, Gloria Jean, Kathy & Linda

**Divorced Amarillo couple indicted in 1987 killing**

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — A Texas Panhandle grand jury has indicted a divorced couple in the 1987 shooting death of a friend. Potter County Detention Center records show 63-year-old Rosie Green was being held Wednesday on a murder charge. Bond was set at \$10,000. Investigators say the case involves the shooting death of 23-year-old Arthur Campbell. The *Amarillo Globe-News* reports the indictment returned in May was unsealed Monday after authorities arrested Green at her Henderson, Ky., home. Her ex-husband, 77-year-old Horace Green of Amarillo, is also charged with murder. He's free on \$10,000 bond.

Court records indicate Rosie Green was listed as a beneficiary on Campbell's life insurance policy.

**Man subdued at Houston motel later dies**

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police say a man has died after struggling with officers who then used a Taser to subdue him. Police say the incident happened late Tuesday at a motel. Officers were called to the business after a clerk called 911 to report an agitated man acting in a strange manner. Sgt. Robert Rohling says the man's hair was wet and he appeared to be sweating profusely. Officers subdued the man, who was transported to a Houston hospital and died. Police recovered a

knife from his pocket.

**Opening statements scheduled in sex scandal court-martial**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Opening statements are set for the court-martial of Texas Air Force basic training instructor charged in a building sex scandal at the base. Prosecutors and defense attorneys for Tech Sgt. Christopher Smith are to address the military jury Wednesday at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. Smith is charged with trying to develop a personal relationship with a trainee and obstructing justice at Lackland, which is one of the nation's busiest military training centers.

**ELECTED**

Continued from Page 1

David Medina by a 546-439 margin.

There was only one Democratic race on the Howard County ballot, and again, area voters reflected statewide results as Paul Sadler easily defeated Grady Yarbrough for U.S. Senate nomination. Sadler received 35 votes locally, compared to 24 for Yarbrough.

Cruz will be heavily favored in November to succeed Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, who is retiring. Even though he and Dewhurst have similar ideological views, the primary gained national attention as a test of the tea party's strength.

Devine, who gained notoriety for fighting to keep the Ten Commandments on display in his Houston courtroom, topped Medina and has no Democratic opposition in November for a spot on the Supreme Court. In the Texas Legislature, veteran Republican Sen. Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio lost to emergency room physician Donna Campbell, a tea party leader making her second bid for office. And senior House com-

mittee chairmen Rep. Sid Miller of Stephenville and Rep. Chuck Hopson of Jacksonville were both bounced in anti-incumbent, tea party insurgencies. Miller lost to family doctor J.D. Sheffield, of Gatesville. Hopson lost to Travis Clardy, an attorney from Nacogdoches.

For Cruz, the campaign continues now to November, when he'll square off against Democratic former state Rep. Paul Sadler.

"This is a victory for the grass roots," Cruz told supporters in Houston. "This is how elections are supposed to be decided, by we the people."

Dewhurst touted his 14 years of state government experience in the race against Cruz.

"This is not quite the way I envisioned the evening," said Dewhurst, adding that he had spoken with Cruz, congratulated him "on a hard-fought victory" and offered support.

Cruz looked to match tea party successes elsewhere this year. Richard Mourdock ousted 36-year Senate veteran Richard Lugar in Indiana, and Deb Fischer in Nebraska defeated two better-known Senate candidates. Cruz drew support

from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin and South Carolina Sen. Jim DeMint. Dewhurst dismissed the out-of-state backers as outsiders meddling in state politics.

Tea Party Express Chairman Amy Kremer said Cruz's victory is "monumental" and proof that "the tea party is alive and ready to own 2012."

"We could not be more proud of this historic tea party victory tonight against the Texas establishment," she said.

Texas Democratic Party Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa called the win "the worst thing that could have happened to Texas Republicans."

"It's a tea-flavored mutiny, plain and simple," he said.

Enthusiasm for the Senate race kept turnout higher than normal for a runoff election. Turnout topped the 800,000 voters forecast by experts but still was well shy of the some 13 million who were eligible.

"It's my duty, I know I should and I do," retiree Elizabeth Reagen, 93, said outside a Dallas-area precinct. "I'm not always sure that I'm voting for the right person." She voted for Dewhurst but said she didn't

like all the attack ads that marked both sides of the campaign.

"Of course, that's part of it," Reagen said. "But the older I get, the more it bothers me."

Don Steinway, 76, a retired commercial pilot in Houston and tea party advocate, voted for Cruz.

"I'm tired of these people who promise something for nothing," Steinway said.

Democrats, who haven't won a statewide election in Texas since 1994, picked Sadler, from Henderson in East Texas, over retired San Antonio educator Grady Yarbrough as their choice for U.S. Senate. Neither raised much money and Yarbrough failed to comply with federal election laws concerning where he had raised money or how he has spent it, according to the Federal Election Commission.

In all, there were 25 Republican and 12 Democratic runoffs, including two Railroad Commission races, one Supreme Court, three State Board of Education races, eight U.S. House and 17 Texas Legislature races.

Among them were fierce Democratic congressional races in Dallas-Fort Worth and San

Antonio.

State Rep. Marc Veasey of Fort Worth squeaked out a narrow Democratic victory over former state Rep. Domingo Garcia in a newly created congressional district in the Metroplex, one of four new Texas districts thanks to the state's booming population.

In San Antonio, former U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez failed in his effort to regain his seat from Republican Quico Canseco, falling to state Rep. Pete Gallego, a rising star in the Democratic Party.

Republicans had similar congressional battles.

Roger Williams, a close ally of Gov. Perry, beat tea party-favorite Wes Riddle in an Austin-area district. Along the Gulf Coast, state Rep. Randy Weber of Pearland defeated Felicia Harris, a Republican party activist, to secure the GOP nomination in the district now represented by retiring Ron Paul. Weber will face former Democratic Rep. Nick Lampson in November.

In far Southeast Texas, former Congressman Steve Stockman defeated financial planner Stephen Takach for the GOP nomination in another new district.

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Aristeo Hernandez, 81, of Big Spring, died Monday. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. today at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Donna Sue Franklin, 59, of Big Spring, died Tuesday at her residence. The family will receive friends tonight from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at College Baptist Church. Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park.

Maria Chavarria, 58, of Big Spring, died Tuesday at her residence. A prayer service will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Annie Pearl Blake, 74, of Big Spring, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery in St. Jose, California.

**SENIORS**

Continued from Page 1

lazy river. According to McDonald, the river is turned on a low setting and participants utilize it as a form of resistance as they walk up

stream during the allotted hour.

By taking part in the activity, benefits can effect the lungs, legs, hips and knees. The process serves as a low-impact aerobic exercise.

For those wanting to take part in the classes, the cost is \$4 per visit. Once the allotted

time has concluded and the aquatic center opens back up to the public, participants will be allowed to stay and enjoy the entire facility if they so choose.

Registration can be mailed to P.O. Box 1391 or taken by the Chamber office at 215 W. Third St.

There are still spaces available for those wanting to take part. For more information, call the chamber at 263-7641.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Duforat at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com)

**BATMAN**

Continued from Page 1

each year is the people who volunteer their time and effort," Johnson said. "Enough cannot be said about those men and women. So, here I am, shining the bat signal up into the sky and asking for volunteers to help us make this screening one of our best ones yet.

"The other thing that keeps these screenings rolling each year is the sponsors — local businesses and residents who help us cover the financial side of these shows so we can keep bringing them to the citizens, as always, free of charge. Without sponsors, we wouldn't be able to screen these films."

For more information on volunteering or being a sponsor, contact Johnson at 432-213-0758 or by e-mail at [cruiser1977@gmail.com](mailto:cruiser1977@gmail.com). More information is also available at [www.bigspringfilm.org](http://www.bigspringfilm.org)

Batman was first introduced to the world in May 1939, appearing in Detective Comics No. 27. The character garnered a number of nicknames, ranging from "the world's greatest de-

tective" and "caped crusader" to today's more recognizable "Dark Knight." The comic version of Bruce Wayne's crime-fighting alter-ego was first developed by artist Bob Kane and writer Bill Finger and has remained one of the longest running characters for DC Comics.

The Dark Knight's first trip to the silver screen was in 1966, when actors Adam West and Burt Ward brought Batman and Robin to life for the first time. The same year, the dynamic duo began their run on television, as well, beginning a three-season march on ABC which ended when the show was cancelled.

"To see the evolution of the characters, especially over a 23-year leap, was pretty amazing," Johnson said. "The

1966 film and television show was pretty campy, pretty goofy. It was still a lot of fun, especially for those of us who grew up with Batman, but the 1989 film was able to do something different. It still held on to some of that fun, but it also developed a more serious side to the Batman character.

"If you get Batman fans talking these days, it's inevitable there will be comparisons between the earlier films and the more recent films starring Christian Bale. You'll hear people argue constantly about who played which character better and which version of the story line was better thought out. However, there's one point that's hard for anyone to argue. It's almost impossible to imagine the Christopher Nolan films of today being made if the 1989 'Batman' doesn't get made first."

Johnson said concessions will be available on-site and the only thing movie-goers will need to bring to have a great time is a lawn chair or other seating. The screening will be held in downtown Big Spring, near the intersection of S. Main and E. Second Street.

"It's the same location we used to screen 'Ghostbusters' last year," Johnson said. "It worked out really well for us and was pretty comfortable, even in spite of the heat."

Contact Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

**sudoku**  
ANSWERS


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

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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Lord, thank You for focusing on our projects and ideas as we focus on Your love and kindness.

Amen

# Bill Clinton and the new best friends he is making

It doesn't matter who wins in November; Bill Clinton will end this year on top.

The former president will introduce Barack Obama on the penultimate night of the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.

That's prime placement for the man who dismissed Obama's campaign as "a fairy tale" four years ago.

In the new USA Network series "Political Animals," Ciaran Hinds plays the lovable coot ex-president ex-husband of Sigourney Weaver's secretary of state, who was appointed by the Democrat who trounced her in a contentious primary.

Sunday night, viewers learned that the Big Creep-like Bud Hammond made crazy-talk statements during the race not to sabotage his wife's electability, but because he knew she would lose, and he wanted Democrats to blame him for the loss, not her.

A selfless Bubba? Only on cable.

Obamaland hasn't always played well with Clintonia.

In his 2009 book, "The Audacity to Win," senior Obama adviser David Plouffe wrote that he signed on with Obama in part because he thought "twenty-

eight years of Bushes and Clintons would be too much. Our country needed a fresh start."

On Sunday, Team Obama sang a different tune.

Explaining the prime-time slot to The New York Times, Obama guru David Axelrod gushed, "There isn't anybody on the planet who has a greater perspective on not just the last four years, but the last two decades, than Bill Clinton."

Republicans have been feeling the love, as well.

During the GOP primary, Newt Gingrich practically attached himself to Clinton's hip.

The former House speaker frequently boasted that the two frenemies delivered budget surpluses and welfare reform.

On Monday, Gingrich told reporters that "Barack Obama is no Bill Clinton."

Team Romney also likes to quote Clinton.

The real-life secretary of state's spouse praised Romney's business career as "sterling."

In June, Clinton told CNBC that Washington should "find some way to avoid the fiscal cliff, to avoid doing anything that would contract the economy," by passing all of the Bush tax cuts temporarily.

Clinton later apologized, but not until after he had made clear what he thinks the smart move would be.

Obamaland believes that Clinton can serve as living proof that Washington can levy a 39.6

percent income tax rate on top earners without weakening the economy.

But as the recovery teeters, Clinton certainly doesn't seem to think so.

The Romney campaign sent out a press release Monday that credited Clinton for presiding "over balanced budgets and economic growth."

CNN aired a deadly graphic that showed the creation of 9.9 million jobs in America under Clinton by this point in his presidency. Under Obama, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, America has lost 473,000 jobs.

I am no Gingrich. I lack the nostalgia that many Republicans now exhibit for the Clinton years.

So I figure that the Democrats' decision to recruit Clinton as a featured speaker does not bode well for Obama.

What Clinton said about the iffy economy applies to an iffy re-election effort:

If you want to avoid going off a cliff, don't stand so close to the edge.

*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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# To be in a miserable state isn't something anyone truly wants

I don't know anyone who truly wants to be miserable.

I never get out of bed hoping my day is a disaster, but so much of our happiness and contentment is going to be determined by our perspective. How we look at things is a very powerful rudder to determine the course of our lives.

Another word closely akin to perspective is perception.

The dictionary defines perspective as "the state of one's ideas, the facts known to one, etc., in having a meaningful interrelationship."

Perception is "the act or faculty of apprehending by means of the senses or of the mind; cognition; understanding; an immediate or intuitive recognition or appreciation, as of moral, psychological, or aesthetic qualities; insight; intuition; discernment."

Now, if you didn't abandon me during that brief journey through Webster's, I'll connect the dots on what's going on in my head and heart as it applies to those two aforementioned words.

If you read last week's "I Column as I see 'em'" you probably zeroed in on the fact that I am riding a hobby horse of sorts about being proud of our city. I want to address that subject again today in even greater depth, so as Paul Harvey would say, "And now, Page Two."

For the past couple of months I have really been passionate about this and have even challenged my church family to share the vision of making our city a more special place than it already is.

They have responded with fervor and we are getting actively involved in doing what we can to make Big Spring more beautiful and a better place to call home.

There's so much to be proud of in Big Spring, but it is impera-

tive that our perspective and our perception are properly activated if we are going to recognize and appreciate it.

I doubt that anyone would declare Big Spring to be a perfect place. Sure, there are things that could be changed for the better, but you can be assured that's the case in every city on the planet. But we have so many things to be excited about if we would look at it through the right lens.

I was telling my congregation a personal story this past Sunday morning about how I learned one of my most valuable lessons related to seeing things in proper perspective.

It's a story about flies. Growing up I didn't care that much when they buzzed around because all they really were to me were just little insignificant pests.

Then I saw a documentary on The Discovery Channel about flies and as their cameras magnified those little rascals to larger than life my opinion of them changed dramatically.

Suffice to say that as I observed in high definition what they were doing on my food and skin I no longer viewed them as insignificant. My entire opinion of flies was changed by seeing them from a different perspective.

That principle can be applied to anything in our lives. When the good, or bad, is magnified it determines our opinion.

Let's take a quick look at Big Spring through positive eyes.

We have a great college, a wonderful symphony, beautiful new schools all over town, great churches, excellent restaurants, two golf courses, an extraordinary sports complex, parks, entertainment and shopping, a legendary hotel that is about to once again be a shining star on our horizon, a fine radio station, some of the best hotels around, and much, much more. Through my eyes, that's pretty amazing for a town our size.

Being in the ministry for more than four decades has taken me all over the country and even

though I have lived here less than two years I have established some treasured friendships that will last a lifetime because this town is full of great people. Sure there may be a few grumps, but here again, perspective becomes important. Taking a chapter from the world I live in, for every preacher who may be a fraud, there are thousands who are absolutely and positively genuine and 100% real. To keep things in proper balance you just have to stay focused on the good.

Like any city, we probably have some who don't care at all and won't lift a finger to help. There are more than likely some who would rather complain about all that is wrong than to acknowledge all that is right about our city and work to make it better. However, you can bet there are many fine folks already hard at work bringing positive change but the vision for excellence needs to be embraced by each and every citizen before Big Spring will be all it can be.

The late Steve Jobs said, "Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren't used to an environment where excellence is expected."

Way back about 750 BC the Greek poet Hesiod stated, "Badness you can get easily, in quantity; the road is smooth, and it lies close by. But in front of excellence the immortal gods have put sweat, and long and steep is the way to it."

Go back to the beginning of this article and reread those definitions. Then as you drive around our fine city look for something you can do to share the vision of a better Big Spring. There are plenty of opportunities to make a difference if we care enough to get involved.

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 reached by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com)*



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*\*Please see: <http://www.texasefficiency.com> for more information about the energy efficiency programs being conducted around the state.*



# Why not check this out at the library?

This book reminds me of some of the fiction that I used to read when I was in high school — M.M.

Kaye, Helen McInnes, authors like that: Julia

Gregson's first novel was "East of the Sun," a novel set in India in the

1920s; and her newest is "Jasmine Nights" (F GRE J), a World War II novel whose setting is wartime Egypt.

Saba Tarcan is a Welsh girl who knows her only hope of leaving Cardiff Bay, Wales is her voice. While traveling Britain, singing for wounded soldiers, she is recruited to sing for troops in far-off lands.

When Saba learns her position makes her uniquely suited for a secret mission for the British Secret Service, she agrees to help. This is based on true accounts on female entertainers used as spies

during WW II.

In our large print area, we have Fern Michaels' "Tuesday's Child" (LP F MIC F). Nurse Sophie Lee was accused of murdering Audrey Star 10 years ago and has spent those years in a Georgia prison.

Attorney Mikala Aulani's retirement party is interrupted by Adam Star's confession that he was the one who murdered his wife and that Sophie was wrongly convicted. Or was she?

In "Island of Vice: Theodore Roosevelt's Doomed Quest" (363.230 ZAC R), Richard Zacks paints a vivid portrait of the lewd underbelly of 1890s New York,

and of Theodore Roosevelt, the puritanical, cocksure police commissioner resolved to clean it up.

Writing with great wit and zest, Zacks explores how young Roosevelt goes head to head with Tammany Hall, takes midnight rambles with muckraker Jacob Riis, and tries to convince two million New Yorkers to enjoy wholesome family fun.

When Roosevelt's

crackdown succeeds too well, even his supporters turn on him and Roosevelt discovers that New York loves its sin more than its salvation.

With cameos by Stephen Crane, Mark Twain and a horde of very angry cops, "Island of Vice" is an unforgettable snap-shot of turn-of-the-century New York in all its seedy glory and a brilliant miniature of one of America's most colorful presidents.

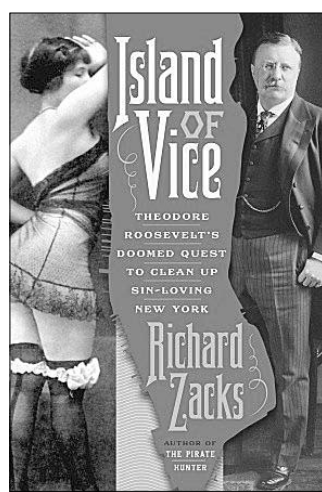
Have you ever wondered how your frozen peas and carrots came to be in your freezer?

It is because of a remarkable man, Clarence Birdseye, the eccentric inventor whose fast-freezing method revolutionized America's diet.

Mark Kurlansky's "Birdseye: The Adventures of a Curious Man" (338.766 KUR M) is the story of Birdseye, who while trapping in Labrador, became dissatisfied with the only food available during the long winters.

It was heavily preserved and salted.

He found this diet unhealthy and unappealing, especially for



his wife and son.

However, he observed, that if he left outside in the Arctic wind while wet, fresh vegetable froze in a way that main-

tained their integrity after thawing. Thus began his fascination with food preservation.

Birdseye's breakthrough forever changed the way we preserve, store and distribute food.

He was the classic Yankee tinkerer and inventor and his many patented inventions are still in use today. Kurlansky's other books on cod, salt and oysters are also fascinating to read, according to the reviews online.

A new McNaughton book just in: Harry Turtledove, he of alternate history fame, supposes a mesmerizing alternate history of World War II in "Coup D'

Etat" (McNAUGHTON).

Now it is the winter of 1941. As Germany, with England and France on its side, slam deep into Russia, Stalin's terrible

machine fights for its life. But the agreements of world leaders do not touch the hearts of soldiers.

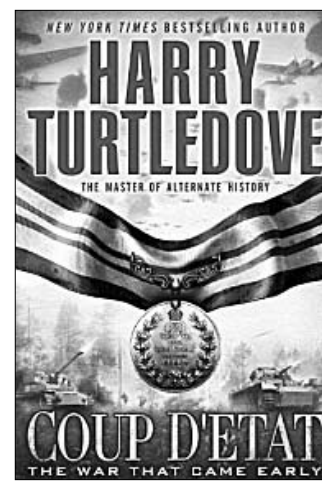
The war between Germany and Russia is rocked by men with the courage to aim their guns in a new direction. England is the

first to be shaken.

Following the suspicious death of Winston Churchill, with his staunch anti-Nazi views, a small cabal begins to imagine the unthinkable in a nation long famous for respecting the rule of law.

With civil liberties hanging by a thread, a conspiracy forms against the powers that be.

What will this daring plan mean for the European war as a whole?



Meanwhile, in America, a woman who has met Hitler face-to-face urges her countrymen to wake up to his evil. For the time being, the United States is

fighting only Japan and the war is not going as well as Washington would like.

Can Roosevelt keep his grip on the country's imagination?

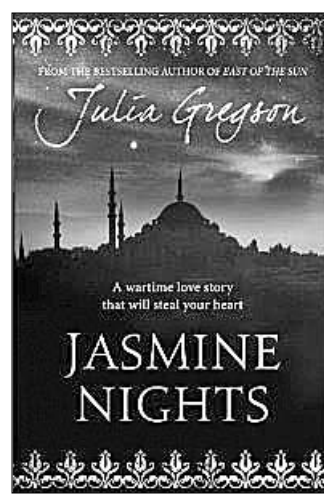
Odds and Ends of Books on My Cart: For you Odd Thomas fans, on the McNaughton shelves, is "Odd Apocalypse" by Dean Koontz.

Here is a book by Glenn Beck: "Cowards: What Politicians, Radicals, and the Media Refuse to Say" (320.520 BEC G); and then "Spiritual Solutions: Answers to Life's Greatest Challenges" (204 CHO D) by Deepak Chopra.

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## Is your problem gluten? Or is it faddish eating?

By MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA — It sounds like an unfolding epidemic: A decade ago, virtually no one in the U.S. seemed to have a problem eating gluten in bread and other foods. Now, millions do.

Gluten-free products are flying off grocery shelves, and restaurants are boasting of meals with no gluten. Celebrities on TV talk shows chat about the digestive discomfort they blame on the wheat protein they now shun. Some

churches even offer gluten-free Communion wafers.

"I don't know whether there's more people getting this or that more people are noticing" they have a problem, said the Rev. Richard Allen, pastor at Mamaroneck United Methodist Church, north of New York City.

Or is it just another food fad?

Faddishness is a big part of it. Americans will spend an estimated \$7 billion this year on foods labeled gluten-free, according to the

market research firm Mintel. But the best estimates are that more than half the consumers buying these products — perhaps way more than half — don't have any clear-cut reaction.

They buy gluten-free because they think it will help them lose weight, or because they seem to feel better, or because they mistakenly believe they are sensitive to gluten.

"We have a lot of self-diagnosing going on

See GLUTEN, Page 7

## Charles Myers

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**GLUTEN**

Continued from Page 6

out there," said Melissa Abbott, who tracks the gluten-free market for the Hartman Group, a Seattle-area market research organization.

Fads aside, research suggests more people are truly getting sick from the gluten found in wheat, rye and barley, but the reasons aren't clear.

In the most serious cases, gluten triggers celiac disease. The condition causes abdominal pain, bloating and intermittent diarrhea. Those with the ailment don't absorb nutrients well and can suffer weight loss, fatigue, rashes and other problems.

It was once considered extremely rare in the U.S. But about 20 years ago, a few scientists began exploring why celiac disease was less common here than in Europe and other countries. They concluded that it wasn't less common here; it was just under-diagnosed.

More recently, a research team led by the Mayo Clinic's Dr. Joseph Murray looked at blood samples taken from Americans in the 1950s and compared them with samples taken from people today, and determined it wasn't just better diagnosis driving up the numbers. Celiac disease actually was increasing. Indeed, the research confirms estimates that about 1 percent of U.S. adults have it today, making it four times more com-

mon now than it was 50 years ago, Murray and his colleagues reported Tuesday in the American Journal of Gastroenterology.

That translates to nearly 2 million Americans with celiac disease.

Celiac disease is different from an allergy to wheat, which affects a much smaller number of people, mostly children who outgrow it.

Scientists suggest that there may be more celiac disease today because people eat more processed wheat products like pastas and baked goods than in decades past, and those items use types of wheat that have a higher gluten content. Gluten helps dough rise and gives baked goods structure and texture.

Or it could be due to changes made to wheat, Murray said.

In the 1950s, scientists began cross-breeding wheat to make harder, shorter and better-growing plants. It was the basis of the Green Revolution that boosted wheat harvests worldwide. Norman Borlaug, the U.S. plant scientist behind many of the innovations, won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work.

But the gluten in wheat may have somehow become even more troublesome for many people, Murray said.

That also may have contributed to what is now called "gluten sensitivity."

Doctors recently developed a definition for gluten sensitivity, but it's an ambiguous one. It's a label for people

who suffer bloating and other celiac symptoms and seem to be helped by avoiding gluten, but don't actually have celiac disease. Celiac disease is diagnosed with blood testing, genetic testing, or biopsies of the small intestine.

The case for gluten sensitivity was bolstered last year by a very small but often-cited Australian study. Volunteers who had symptoms were put on a gluten-free diet or a regular diet for six weeks, and they weren't told which one. Those who didn't eat gluten had fewer problems with bloating, tiredness and irregular bowel movements.

Clearly, "there are patients who are gluten-sensitive," said Dr. Sheila Crowe, a San Diego-based physician on the board of the American Gastroenterological Association.

What is hotly debated is how many people have the problem, she added. It's impossible to know "because the definition is nebulous," she said.

One of the most widely cited estimates comes from Dr. Alessio Fasano, a University of Maryland researcher who led studies that changed the understanding of how common celiac disease is in the U.S.

Fasano believes 6 percent of U.S. adults have gluten sensitivity. But

that's based on a review of patients at his clinic — hardly a representative sample of the general public.

Other estimates vary widely, he said. "There's a tremendous amount of confusion out there," Fasano said.

Whatever the number, marketing of foods without gluten has exploded. Those with celiac disease, of course, are grateful. Until only a few years ago, it was difficult to find grocery and dining options.

"It's a matter of keeping people safe," said Michelle Kelly, an Atlanta-area woman who started a gluten-free, dairy-free, soy-free, nut-free bakery in 2010 after her son was diagnosed with celiac disease. While conventional bakers use wheat flour, she uses such ingredients as millet flour, sorghum flour, brown rice flour and tapioca starch.

At one of Atlanta's largest and busiest health food stores, Return to Eden, manager Troy DeGroff said over a third of his customers come in for gluten-free products for themselves or their family.

"Thank you, Elisabeth Hasselbeck," he said, referring to one of the hosts of the daytime talk show "The View" who helped popularize gluten-free eating.

It's hard to say how many of his customers

have a medical reason for skipping gluten. But "they're at least paying attention to what they're sticking in their mouth," he said.

On a recent Friday afternoon, several customers bought gluten-free, though none had been diagnosed with celiac disease or had digestive problems from eating wheat.

Julia White said she picks up gluten-free items when her granddaughters visit. They've been diagnosed with problems, she said. "They don't just make this up."

Another customer, Meagan Jain, said she made gluten-free cupcakes with a school friend and liked the taste. But she doesn't buy gluten-free often because "it's expensive."

For her, "It's a fad. It's part of the eclectic, alternative lifestyle."

**Woman sets 'bearish' record**

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — As a child growing up in foster care in Minnesota, Jackie Miley never had the quintessential childhood toy: the teddy bear.

The 63-year-old resident of Hill City, S.D., has made up for that — and then some. With 7,790 different teddy bears, Miley holds the Guinness World Record for largest teddy bear collection.

Her collection resides in a small home along Main Street in Hill City, a town of fewer than 800 people in western South Dakota's Black Hills. Teddy Bear Town is filled to the brim with every bear imaginable — Beanie Babies, the talking Teddy Ruxpin and porcelain bears.



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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Back to School Issue

Help your students of any ages get their after-school homework engines humming with these eight easy recipes for filling, nutritious snacks.

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**sudoku**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker

**100 Percent Efficiency**

West dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 8 6 5  
♥ 6  
♦ A J 7 6 5  
♣ A Q J 3

**WEST**  
♠ 10 9 3  
♥ A 10 2  
♦ 10 9 8 3  
♣ 10 8 2

**EAST**  
♠ K J 7 4  
♥ K 9 4 3  
♦ K 4  
♣ 7 6 5

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q 2  
♥ Q J 8 7 5  
♦ Q 2  
♣ K 9 4

The bidding:  
West North East South  
Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥  
Pass 2♣ Pass 3NT

Opening lead — ten of spades.  
**This deal occurred** in a high-level pair championship. At all five tables where the hand was played, the contract was three notrump, with South as declarer, and at each table South found the winning line of play to make the contract.

**Despite the identical outcome** at each table, it is safe to say that many declarers facing exactly the same situation would have gone down. Superficially, there seems to be nothing to the play, but that's exactly what makes it so easy to go wrong.

**It appears to be normal** to win the opening spade lead with the queen, play the queen of diamonds

and finesse. But in the actual deal, this approach proves fatal after East takes the queen with the king and returns a spade. When the diamonds turn out to be divided 4-2 rather than 3-3, South can do no better than go down one.

**But the correct method of play** — adopted by all five expert declarers — makes the contract and, in fact, produces 10 tricks. Instead of leading the queen of diamonds at trick two, South should enter dummy with a club and lead a low diamond toward the Q-2!

**What can East do in that case?** If he rises with the king, South scores four diamond tricks. If East plays low instead, declarer wins with the queen and leads a diamond to the ace, felling East's king. South then continues with the jack and another diamond, and once again scores four diamond tricks.

**Declarer should reason** that if the opposing diamonds are divided 3-3, it makes no difference whether he starts the suit from his own hand or from dummy. But if the diamonds are 4-2, South does better in the long run by initiating the suit from dummy.

**True**, if either opponent has four diamonds to the king, declarer's play does not matter — he goes down either way. But if West has four without the king, as in the actual deal, leading the first diamond from dummy is an absolute must.

Tomorrow: Partnership rapport.  
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## News in brief

### Power restored across India after historic blackout affected more than 600 million people

NEW DELHI (AP) — Factories and workshops across India were up and running again Wednesday, a day after a major system collapse led to a second day of power outages and the worst blackout in history.

An estimated 620 million people were left without electricity after India's northern, eastern and northeastern grids cascaded into failure Tuesday afternoon. It was the second massive outage in as many days, coming just after the country had recovered from Monday's failure of the northern grid, which had left 370 million people powerless.

Electricity workers struggled throughout the day Tuesday to return power to the 20 affected states, restoring most of the system in the hours after the crash. India's new Power Minister Veerappa Moily told reporters that by Wednesday morning power had been fully restored across the country.

Moily, who took over the top power position Tuesday, said an investigation into the crisis has been launched and he did not want to point fingers or speculate about the cause.

Other officials said the blackout might have been the result of states drawing too much power from the grid. Some analysts dismissed that explanation, saying that if overdrawing power from the grid caused this kind of collapse, it would happen all the time.

### Gore Vidal, celebrated author, playwright and commentator, dies in Los Angeles

In a world more to his liking, Gore Vidal might have been president, or even king. He had an aristocrat's bearing — tall, handsome and composed — and an authoritative baritone ideal for summoning an aide or courtier.

But Vidal made his living — a very good living — from challenging power, not holding it. He was wealthy and famous and committed to exposing a system often led by men he knew firsthand. During the days of Franklin Roosevelt, one of the few leaders whom Vidal admired, he might have been called a "traitor to his class." The real traitors, Vid-

al would respond, were the upholders of his class.

The author, playwright, politician and commentator whose vast and sharpened range of published works and public remarks were stamped by his immodest wit and unconventional wisdom, died Tuesday at age 86 in Los Angeles.

Vidal died at his home in the Hollywood Hills at about 6:45 p.m. of complications from pneumonia, his nephew Burr Steers said. Vidal had been living alone in the home and had been sick for "quite a while," Steers said.

### Fed officials, worried about weak U.S. economy, could be moving toward providing more help

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve concludes its two-day policy meeting Wednesday with a big question looming: Will it take some new action to jolt the U.S. economy out of its slump?

Investors are hoping the Fed will announce another round of bond purchases, known as quantitative easing. The goal is to lower long-term interest rates and encourage more borrowing and spending.

But economists say the Fed is likely to hold off until September to wait and see if job growth and consumer spending to pick up.

U.S. growth slowed to an annual rate of just 1.5 percent from April through June, down from the 2 percent pace in the first quarter. And consumers spent no more in June than they did in May, even though their income grew by 0.5 percent.

Fed officials have signaled their concern about weakening job growth and consumer spending, which have brought the economy closer to a standstill. And Chairman Ben Bernanke has said the Fed is prepared to take further action if unemployment stays high.

### Syrian president to army: Internal agents helping foreign enemies to undermine the nation

BEIRUT (AP) — In a rare public comment, Syrian President Bashar Assad said foreign enemies are using internal agents in plots to undermine the country's stability.

The comments, carried by the state news agency

but not broadcast on television, break with the low profile Assad has kept over the past three weeks after rebels mounted attacks first on Damascus and then on the commercial hub of Aleppo.

The speech, given to the army, seemed intended to encourage soldiers in their battle against the country's rebellion, which has brought the 17-month-old uprising to Syria's two biggest cities in the fiercest fighting to date.

"In the war in which the country is embroiled and the battle against criminal and terrorist gangs, the army has proven its mettle," he said, adding that the Syrian people have shown themselves not easily "tamed" by foreign plots.

Assad was speaking to the army on the 67th anniversary of its founding. He called it the "homeland's shield" against foreign plots.

### Obama pitching middle-class tax cuts in Ohio as part of pocketbook argument with Republicans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dueling with Republicans on taxes, President Barack Obama is urging the House to pass a tax cut for households earning less than \$250,000 a year and drawing a bright line with rival Mitt Romney on a pocketbook issue for voters.

Obama was making campaign stops in Republican-friendly Mansfield and the Democratic stronghold of Akron on Wednesday, rallying voters after a week of low-profile fundraisers and formal speeches in the aftermath of the deadly shooting at a movie theater in Aurora, Colo.

The president looked to reprise the middle-class tax debate as Romney wrapped up a three-country foreign trip and the monthly jobs report loomed on Friday. The House on Wednesday is expected to consider Obama's plan to extend President George W. Bush's tax cuts for individuals earning less than \$200,000 and couples making less than \$250,000, along with a Republican proposal to extend the tax cuts for everyone.

Taxes have become a defining issue in the presidential race, and the outcome of the tax debate isn't expected to be decided until after November. With less than 100 days before the election, the campaign remains tight, with both campaigns trying to pump up their core supporters while competing for a narrow slice of undecided voters in about eight states that could tip the election.

Obama's campaign released a new ad Tuesday focused on taxes and the deficit, calling Romney's approach a way to provide a "new \$250,000 tax cut for millionaires." The ad said Romney's approach on tax cuts, coupled with increased military spending, would add "trillions to the deficit."

### Apple claims Samsung copied iPhone technology

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Apple Inc. designer Christopher Stringer spent many of his 17 years at the company developing the company's iconic iPhone and iPad.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Apple designer wrapped up the first day of testimony in a closely watched patent trial proudly discussing his accomplishments in support of his employer's lawsuit alleging Samsung Electronics Co. ripped off Apple's technology to market its own products.

Dressed in a tan suit, the bearded and long-haired Stringer said because of Apple's desire to create original products, he and his co-workers surmounted numerous engineering problems such as working with the products' glass faces in producing both products over a number of years. Stringer said he was upset when he saw Samsung's Galaxy products enter the market.

"We've been ripped off, it's plain to see," Stringer said. "It's offensive."

In his opening statement moments before, Samsung attorney Charles Verhoeven countered Apple's allegations by arguing that the South Korean company employs thousands of designers and spends billions of dollars on research and development to create new products.

"Samsung is not some copyist, some Johnny-come-lately doing knockoffs," he said.

Verhoeven asserted that Apple is like many other companies that use similar technology and designs to satisfy consumer demands for phones.



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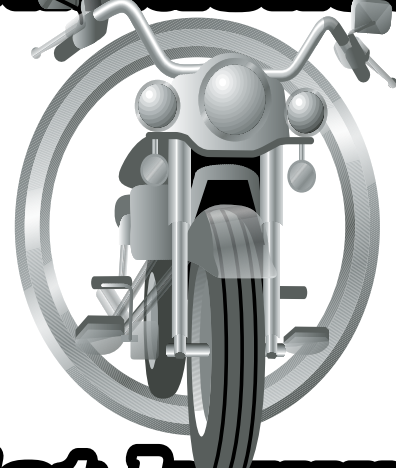
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HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

**Patrick Stocks, 18, of Nottinghamshire County, England stopped in Big Spring on Monday during a trek across the U.S. Stocks began his journey in Miami about 45 days ago and it will conclude in Los Angeles in approximately another 45 days.**

## Brit backpacking across U.S. stops here in Big Spring

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**  
Sports Editor

After about 45 days of walking, hitching rides and hopping on Greyhound buses, 18-year old Patrick Stocks of England landed in Big Spring on Monday. The Nottinghamshire County (think Robin Hood) native is traveling across the United States. He began his trek in Miami and he plans to end up in Los Angeles.

"It's working out pretty perfect," Stocks said. "I have a three-month tourist visa and Texas is the midway point."

Equipped with a backpack that must weigh half of his body weight, Stocks has a loosely laid plan, but has left plenty of room for spontaneity.

"I didn't plan on going to Tennessee," Stocks said. "But I did. I went to Nashville to check out the music scene. I'm a country music fan."

Stocks hopes to go north to Colorado and further into the southwest to visit Carlsbad Caverns and the Grand Canyon.

So far, Stocks has enjoyed the experience. He admits to being surprised at the kindness and generosity of Americans.

"Everyone is a lot friendlier than I expected, to

See **BACKPACKER**, Page 15

## Texas acquires Dempster as trade deadline neared

The team with the newest owners was the busiest ahead of the trade deadline.

The Los Angeles Dodgers acquired Shane Victorino on Tuesday as the trade window closed, adding the outfielder to a roster that includes newly arrived Hanley Ramirez and Brandon League.

"We're in it to win it," Dodgers partner Magic Johnson said. "We don't want to wait till next year. We want to win right now."

Victorino was obtained from Philadelphia, which also sent Hunter Pence to San Francisco. Ryan Dempster was dealt from the Chicago Cubs to the Texas Rangers and Jonathan Broxton from Kansas City to Cincinnati.

Matt Garza, Josh Johnson and Joe Blanton stayed put for now as the window closed for clubs to make trades without having players pass through waivers.

Four days after the AL

West rival Los Angeles Angels acquired former Cy Young Award winner Zack Greinke, the Rangers obtained Dempster for infielder Christian Villanueva and pitcher Kyle Hendricks. Texas also acquired catcher Geovany Soto from the Cubs for right-hander Jake Brigham.

"It's a great opportunity over there," Dempster said. "It's not going to be easy. There are a lot of teams out there that are really good. I think they have as good a chance as anybody."

Dempster, who will replace Roy Oswalt in the rotation, had power to block deals and refused to approve a trade to Atlanta last week.

"I just never said no," he explained. "The last few days, I had to give it a lot more thought to the teams I might possibly be traded to."

Dempster was 5-5 with a 2.25 ERA in 16 starts for the Cubs and can become a free agent after the season.

"He's a veteran. He's

been through some wars before," said Rangers general manager Jon Daniels, whose team has won two straight AL pennants but no World Series.

The faded Phillies, last in the NL East and their run five straight division titles all but over, sent Victorino to the Dodgers for right-handers Josh Lindblom and Ethan Martin and cash. They also shipped Pence to San Francisco for outfielder Nate Schierholz, catching prospect Tommy Joseph and right-hander Seth Rosin.

"When you're in last place, you can try any damn thing," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "You don't have nothing to lose."

The deals capped a busy two-week period that also saw Ichiro Suzuki, Anibal Sanchez and Francisco Liriano change teams as general managers assessed whether they had a chance to make this

See **TRADE**, Page 16

## Steer football practice begins Monday

Big Spring High School football officially begins Monday.

All Steers are to report to Memorial Stadium for the first day of practice.

Grades 10-12 are slated to practice from 8-11 a.m. Freshmen are to report at 7:45 a.m. and will practice until 9:45 a.m.

Athletes entering 9<sup>th</sup>

or 11<sup>th</sup> grades must have a current physical examination completed. For more information, contact the Athletic Training Center at 264-3662.

## Rangers fall to rival Angels 6-2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers traded for Ryan Dempster, confident that the veteran pitcher can stabilize a rotation hit by injuries, inconsistency and, recently, an inability to get people out in the sixth inning.

He couldn't help the Rangers on Tuesday night in their 6-2 loss to the Los Angeles Angels.

Mike Trout and Albert Pujols hit home runs in a three-run sixth to help make a winner out of Jered Weaver.

The Angels followed up a nine-run sixth inning on Monday by sending seven hitters to the plate in the sixth on Tuesday.

They chased Rangers starter Derek Holland and opened a decisive

six-run lead.

"It was one inning," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "If we can get to the point where we're minimizing damage in that inning, we'll be OK."

The top of the Angels' order: Trout, Torii Hunter and Pujols each had two RBIs in topping the Rangers for a second consecutive game in a series between two of the AL West's front-runners.

Weaver won his eighth consecutive start, giving up two runs and five hits, a walk and three strikeouts over 6 1-3 innings in becoming just the eighth AL pitcher since 1921 to win at least six games without a loss in July.

"But he pitched a heck of a game," Angels manager Mike Scioscia

said. "He had a great game plan and went out there and executed it."

Trout went 2 for 4, including a two-run home run, and two runs scored, tying the major league rookie record for runs in July with 32.

He has scored 80 times in 81 games this season.

His 10 home runs in July also set an AL record.

"I just went out there and played my game," Trout said of his month. "It's being more comfortable out there."

Holland (7-6) took the loss for the Rangers, whose lead over the Angels in the West was cut to three games.

Pujols hit a solo home run in the fourth inning and another in the sixth that increased

See **RANGERS**, Page 15

## 'Fierce Five' U.S. gymnasts take home gold, soar into Olympic history

LONDON (AP) — For 16 years, the Magnificent Seven defined the U.S. women's Olympic gymnastics program, setting the standard by which every American team is judged.

There is gold. And there is everything else.

Now — finally — there is the team known as the "Fierce Five."

Jordyn Wieber. Gabby Douglas. McKayla Maroney. Aly Raisman. Kyla Ross.

Teenagers. Champions. And maybe — just maybe — the greatest team of all time.

"Others might disagree, the '96 team might disagree," coach John Geddert said. "But this is the best team. Difficulty-wise, consistency-wise, this is USA's finest."

It's certainly the world's fiercest.

Intimidating the rest of the eight-team field with an eye-popping vault set in which

the Americans soared so high they may have been picked up on radar at Heathrow Airport, the U.S. stormed to an emphatic victory that put them atop the podium for the first time since Kerri Strug and company hobbled to gold in Atlanta.

Strug became a pixie-cut icon after her gusty one-legged vault sealing the country's first gold. The image of her being carried onto the medal stand by coach Bela Karolyi is a fixture in Olympic montages.

No drama this time. Just dominance. A good old-fashioned whipping by a program determined to return to the top. The U.S. posted a score 183.596, more than five points ahead of Russia and seven clear of Romania.

"They're just so far ahead of anyone else," said Britain's Rebecca Tunney. "They definitely deserve it."

They certainly earned it.

The Americans have spent the last nine months competing with a target on their back after running away with the title at last year's world championships.

It happened, however, on the other side of the planet. In a non-Olympic year no less. Russia was hobbled. The Romanians were a mess. And the Americans was still largely anonymous.

Not anymore. Not by a long-shot.

Led by a rejuvenated Wieber, who shook off her disappointing performance in qualifying to compete with the tenacity that's become her trademark, the U.S. led after the first rotation and never trailed.

There were no major miscues in any of their 12 routines. Wieber, who missed out on the chance to contend for the individual all-around

title after finishing as the third-best American, used a gentle pep talk from good friend Maroney and a challenge from Geddert to return to her world championship form.

"I had to put it together mentally, especially for this team," Wieber said. "A team gold medal was also officially a goal of mine."

The U.S. has spent the last 16 years trying to find the right combination of talent and experience to climb back to the top. Team coordinator Martha Karolyi overhauled the program, attempting to create a sense of togetherness and chemistry after the U.S. slumped to a lackluster bronze in Sydney in 2000.

The current crop meets together for training once a month. They Skype and text and chat whenever they get the chance.

And in front of the world

with all the pressure on their tiny — but well-muscled — shoulders, they left no doubt.

When the Americans ripped through three beam routines and took a 1.2-point cushion into the final rotation — the floor, perhaps their second-best event — even Karolyi could feel the gold being draped over their shoulders.

"At that moment, I already could envision that we have the medal in our hands," Karolyi said.

A Russian collapse by the Russians meant the U.S. needed only to stay upright to claim the title.

They did it with style. Wieber, Douglas and Raisman were flawless, and Raisman burst into tears midway through her routine knowing years of sacrifice, hard work and determination were finally within reach.

See **GYMNASTS**, Page 15

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Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

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# Jackson Galaxy understands cats

SUE MANNING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Many cats are tail talkers. If those tails start to twitch and wag, watch out for fangs and claws, warns cat behaviorist Jackson Galaxy.

If you try to pet a cat when its tail is wagging and get bitten, “You had it coming,” says Galaxy, who helps solve behavior problems, both human and feline, on his Animal Planet TV show, “My Cat From Hell.”

When a cat’s angry enough to wag its tail or the fur on its back stands up, its ears flatten and eyes dilate, the owner needs to figure out what’s wrong, he says.

Galaxy figures cats and owners equally share the blame for relationships gone wrong, but when it comes to changing behavior, cats are the easier students — by a wide margin.

His house call kit is a guitar case loaded with cat toys and treats. But there’s no magic wand in the box, he says. It takes time and hard work. “You get what you give.”

Galaxy, 46, has an usual job, and he’s an unusual guy. He’s 6-foot-5, bald, wears specs and ear hoops, sports a long goatee, prefers bowling shirts and sneakers, has tattoo “sleeves” and has started tats on his legs so that he’ll one day have a “full suit.”

He plays the guitar, has a degree in acting and has been addicted to drugs, alcohol and food. He’s also written an autobiography, “Cat Daddy.”

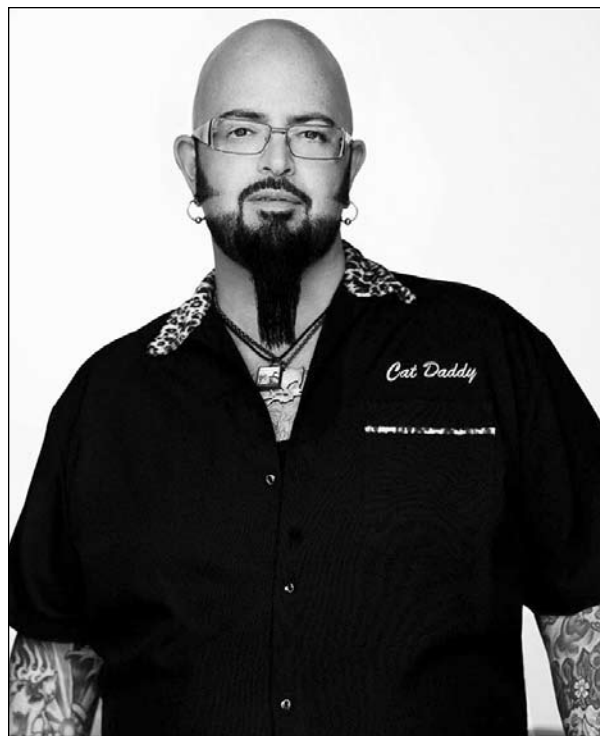
Galaxy was working at an animal shelter in Colorado more than 15 years ago when a man walked in with a cat in a cardboard box. The cat, named Benny, had been hit by a car and was “unbondable,” the man said. Benny and Galaxy spent the next 13 years bonding and developing what Galaxy calls “cat mojo.”

He had a practice with a holistic vet before moving to Los Angeles in 2007 and opening a private consulting firm. He was at a pet adoption fair when he met the friend of a friend who introduced him to reality TV producer Adam Greener (“Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss Edition”). “My Cat From Hell” began airing in spring 2011. In each episode, viewers witness owners struggling to find domestic harmony with their cats.

Emilie Bandy and Mike Petriello are fans of Galaxy’s show. For seven months, they tried to turn their New York City

apartment into a peaceful place for their cats, Olive and Pepper, but Olive attacked Pepper every chance she got. They went to the vet, gave Olive doses of Prozac, searched for answers online and in bookstores, slept in separate rooms so they could each care for one cat, and put planning for their September wedding on hold.

“We were genuinely afraid for the cats’ lives if we left them together,” Bandy said.



When they learned Galaxy was filming season three of “My Cat From Hell” in Manhattan, they made a video and submitted it. Their problem with Olive and Pepper became the summer’s first episode. In it, Galaxy:

- Gives Olive a food dish with a middle bump so she has to eat around it, ensuring that Pepper finishes and leaves first.

- Shows the couple how to build trees and platforms where Pepper can escape if Olive starts to attack. “Build a vertical world,” Galaxy says.

- Tells them to stop running every time Olive whines, scratches or throws a temper tantrum. “Don’t positively reinforce bad behavior,” he says.

It’s been three months since the last catfight. Bandy and Petriello are back in the same bedroom, wedding planning is again in full swing, and the couple spends hours each day playing with both cats in the same room.

The cats may never be fast friends, but they are coexisting — and Pepper’s confidence is growing.

Karen “Doc” Halligan of Los

Angeles calls Galaxy “fabulous,” but acknowledges that he’s playing to a tough crowd.

“People do not understand the need to train cats and that they need socialization just as much as dogs. Since they have not been domesticated that long, people just think they are independent and don’t need it,” says the veterinarian, author, TV consultant and director of veterinary services for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Los Angeles.

Besides the show and his consulting work, Galaxy sells his own line of essence oils and is a board member for Stray Cat Alliance and FixNation in Los Angeles and Neighborhood Cats in New York.

Early on, there were a handful of cases that stumped him, but Galaxy believed then that psychotropic drugs were inappropriate for pets. He’s changed his mind.

“Why not use holistic, homeopathic measures? Why not use empathic measures? Why not use traditional Western measures? Why not use acupuncture and Prozac on the same cat?” he asked.

Cats have an attention span of about 3 seconds, so Galaxy believes punishment is pointless. “Count to 10, clean up, forgive and move on,” he says. Air in a motion-detecting can is great for disciplining cats the instant they misbehave, he says.

Despite cats’ short attention span, there is nothing wrong with their memory, he says. Most cats can be taught almost anything, he says, but he doesn’t believe a cat should be taught to walk on a leash or jump through hoops just to satisfy an owner. Most cats will feel the same way, he says, but some will enjoy the lessons and the activities.

Galaxy’s tattoos include 15 cats (Benny will be on his leg) but he also has three real ones, along with a blind dog.

Does he think cats will one day become doglike and gather in parks, take obedience classes, share play dates and go surfing?

“I totally hope not,” he says. “I love cats for who they are. I want everyone to embrace what I call the raw cat.”

Online:

<http://www.jacksonsgalaxy.com>  
<http://animal.discovery.com/>

## Annie’s Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

**Dear Annie:** My parents and siblings often complain that they can’t lose weight. However, they douse their food in salt and sauces, drink alcohol before bed, and have no qualms about pulling out the potato chips or chocolate candy. I used to be like them, but I’ve lost a great deal of weight and feel fantastic.

When my family complains about their weight, I suggest that they accompany me on my walks or eat the same foods I eat, but they decline.

They tease me when I measure out portion sizes or choose healthier options for my meals. They congratulate me when they notice my continuing weight loss, but then they urge me to “slow down.” What does this mean? Are they jealous of my success?

Annie, I can’t stand to watch them put unhealthy things into their mouths anymore. What do I do? — *Healthier and Happier*

**Dear Healthier:** Nothing. You have discovered that losing weight is important for your health, but you didn’t do it because someone told you to. Your relatives must be self-motivated. The most you can do is set a good example by modeling the type of behavior that will help them.

When they are ready, they will take the next step. It’s possible they are jealous, or they may be genuinely concerned that you have some type

of eating disorder. But if your diet is healthy and well-balanced, you should continue to focus on your own good habits and do your best not to lecture them on theirs. If eating around them is too difficult, take your meals elsewhere.

**Dear Annie:** Throughout my life, whenever I’ve been in a mixed group of men and women, the men frequently talk over the women or interrupt them before they are finished. Now that we are over 60, the problem is worse, as many of our male friends are hard of hearing. Do you have any suggestions about how to get a word in edgewise or finish a sentence tactfully? — *Pat*

**Dear Pat:** We hate to say it, but some men are simply dismissive of women’s conversation. If you are close friends, you should mention it, asking them to be more considerate and reminding them when they forget. Otherwise, there’s not much you can do other than talk over them, ignore them or direct your conversation to a more amenable listener.

**Dear Annie:** Your response to “At a Loss,” the grandmother who was afraid of losing her grandson, missed the point. You said to check grandparents rights in her state, but that her best bet is to get back into her daughter-in-law’s good graces. I think that is unrealistic.

As a trial lawyer and grandfather, I would have advised her to call a family lawyer. They also should be advised to document everything they have done, and continue to do, for their grandchild, as well as every occasion on which they are denied visitation. They need to understand that the grandson has the right to see loving grandparents, as well.

One consultation with the lawyer would suffice to tell them what their rights are. — *Louisville, Ky.*

**Dear Louisville:** True, but not so simple. In fact, recently, courts in several states have ruled that statutes providing for grandparent visitation violate either federal or local state constitutions. Plus, there are multiple requirements that must be met before visitation is granted, and if the parents are still married and neither wants the grandparents to see the child, visitation is tremendously difficult.

We appreciate your encouragement for “At a Loss” to seek legal redress, and we hope it helps. But we still believe her best chance is to reconcile with her daughter-in-law.

*Annie’s Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime 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](http://www.creators.com).*

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## Tomorrow’s Horoscope

The fully ripened Aquarius moon poses as low-hanging fruit waiting to be plucked and savored. You may feel the same way about a juicy opportunity. Don’t wait! With today’s cosmic momentum on your side, you have a chance to learn, connect, progress and be in a completely new place by tomorrow.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You’ll be willing to open new doors and enter foreign territory in the pursuit of fun. And you don’t have to wonder what will bring you pleasure, because you’ll be drawn inexplicably to such things.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You know what your threshold for frustration is, and if you see that a task is likely to cross the line, you are wise to either delegate it or take it on as a conscious exercise in personal expansion.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Engaging, entertaining people are said to have “a lot of personality.” There are instances when “a lot of personality” gets tiring, though. Small doses are the secret to finding enjoyment with everyone you encounter.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Success could come from any-

where, so stay open-minded. Something that starts out as a small but good idea will rapidly snowball into a pretty big deal as long as you don’t do anything to stop it.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Few people are so satisfied with the example of relationships they have seen in their family of origin that they would hope to re-create the exact same dynamic. You’ll get clear on what you want from your inner circle.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Ask yourself why you want to do, have and be what you want to do, have and be. The answer to “why” will open a full range of options to save you time, energy and money.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you think of all the things you’ve done while wearing your shoes, you’ll have an excellent idea of what it really would mean to walk a mile in someone else’s.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Whatever got your mind reeling last night, it’s all over now. Your inner sea is tranquil, dear water sign, and there’s just enough of a breeze for smooth sailing.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The Zen Master Suzuki Roshi suggested, “To control your cow, give it a bigger pasture.” You need room to roam. If you’re having trouble sticking to the plan, it’s because the

plan isn’t expansive enough for you.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Having no expectation of what is to happen will make what does happen more magical for you. Things will work out, and all you have to do is smile and watch.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Research, questions and theoretical explanations will not help you figure out the puzzle before you. To learn how things work, watch them in action.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You may be able to shape someone’s opinion or change a person’s mind. This won’t happen by force. Sit back, and watch how things develop. You’ll soon see your perfect opening.

**TODAY’S BIRTHDAY** (August 1). You refuse to let others define your life. You do it your way and are not only satisfied with the result; you’re also well compensated for your effort. This month brings free and fearless moods. What you do on your own for the first time will bring a giant thrill. Family makes you proud in December. Travel in May. Aries and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 4, 22, 39 and 16.

**ASTRO-LOGICAL QUESTIONS:** “He says he loves me, but he belittles me in front of my friends, embarrasses me in public and seems to make a

point of keeping me from doing what I want to do. When I say I’m going to leave, he cries and tells me he can’t live without me and that he can change. This has happened twice —and I still haven’t left him. Will I be able to, and if so, when? I’m a Cancer, and he’s a Gemini.”

Because you are a deeply caring Cancer, you are swayed by tears. But reach deep into that well of intuition of yours, and you’ll realize that this relationship is over and you have to leave now. There are, of course, many wonderful Geminis, so please don’t let what I reveal about this particular person bias you against future Gemini relationships. The particular person you are with is an abuser. He may not physically hurt you, but he is emotionally abusive, and he does not love you. Love does not seek to embarrass you, nor does it try to belittle you or stop you from thriving. I repeat: You are in an abusive relationship. The time to leave is now.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on “Write the Author” on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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HOLIDAY  
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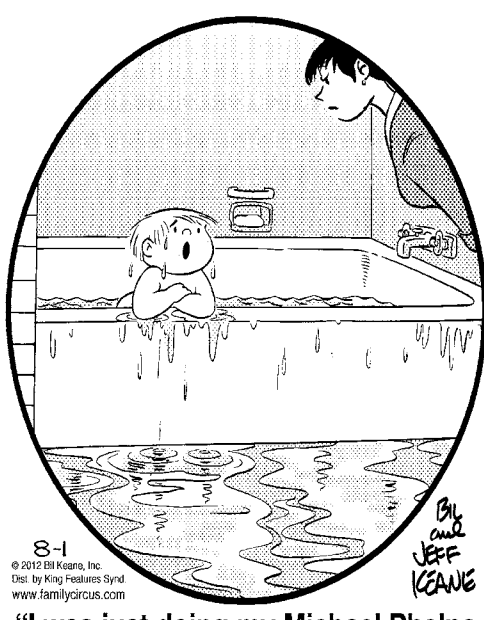
Table with 20 columns (KMGD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWTT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and 13 rows (5:PM, 6:PM, 7:PM, 8:PM, 9:PM, 10:PM, 11:PM, 12:AM, 1:AM) listing various TV programs and channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DENNIS, YOU PICK UP MORE DIRT THAN FIVE VACUUM CLEANERS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

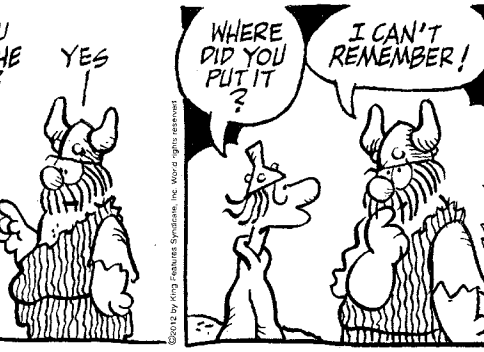


"I was just doing my Michael Phelps imitation."

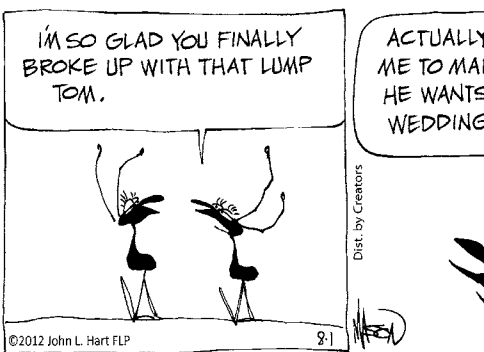
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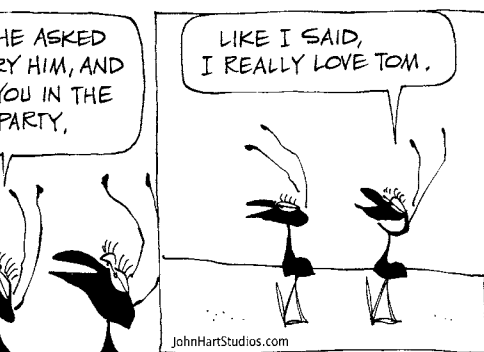
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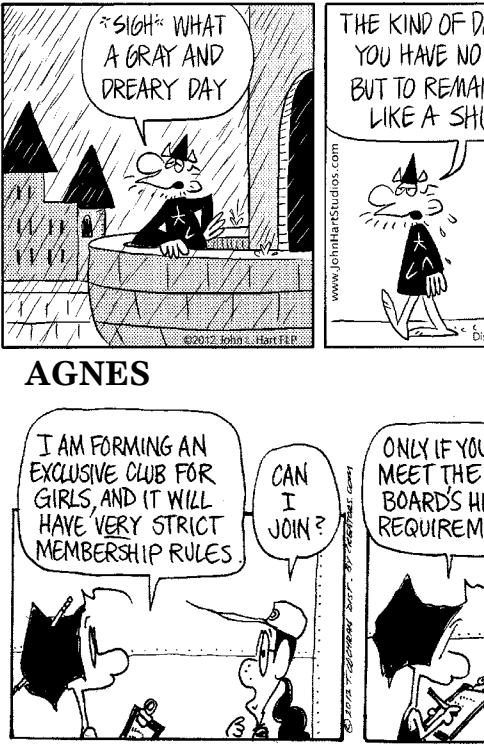
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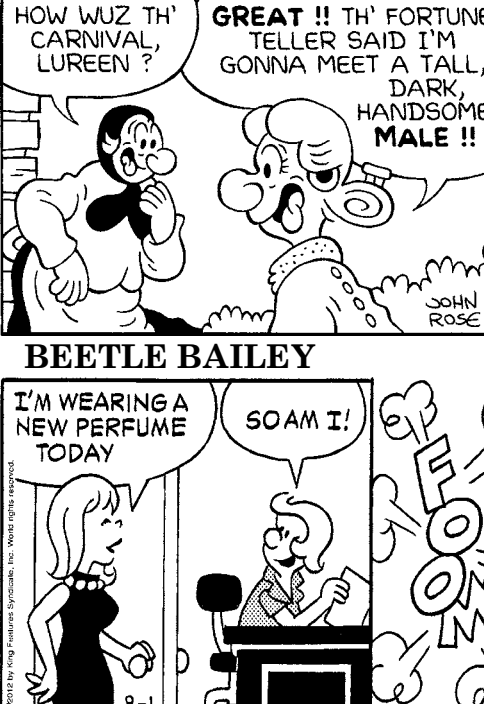
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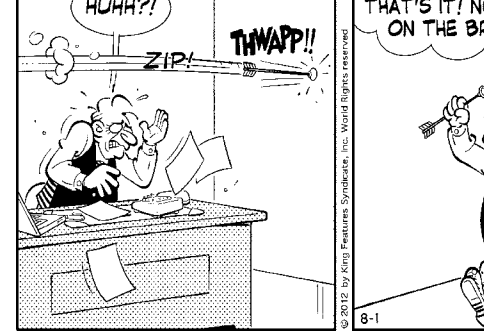
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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 1, the 214th day of 2012. There are 152 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Aug. 1, 1912, the U.S. Marine Corps' first pilot, 1st Lt. Alfred A. Cunningham, went on his first solo flight as he took off in a Burgess/Curtis Hydroplane from Marblehead Harbor in Massachusetts.

In 1936, the Summer Olympics opened in Berlin with a ceremony presided over by Adolf Hitler. In 1944, an uprising broke out in Warsaw, Poland, against Nazi occupation; the revolt lasted two months before collapsing. In 1946, President Harry S. Truman signed the Fulbright Program into law. The Atomic Energy Commission was established.

81. Former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., is 75. Actor Giancarlo Giannini is 70. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Roy Williams is 62. Blues singer-musician Robert Cray is 59. Singer Michael Penn is 54. Rock singer Joe Elliott (Def Leppard) is 53. Rock singer-musician Suzi Gardner (L7) is 52. Rapper Chuck D (Public Enemy) is 50. Actor Jesse Borrego is 50. Actor Demian Bichir is 49. Rapper Coolio is 49. Actor John Carroll Lynch is 49. Rock singer Adam Duritz (Counting Crows) is 48. Movie director Sam Mendes is 47. Country singer George Ducas is 46. Country musician Charlie Kelley is 44. Actress Jennifer Gareis is 42. Actor Charles Malik Whitfield is 40.

Newsday Crossword

HOME WORK by Norma Steinberg

- ACROSS 1 Alternatively 5 Pasta shape 10 Each, so to speak 14 Formal dress of literature 16 Speaker's platform 17 Takes off 18 Small whirlwinds 20 Malodorous 22 Not favoring 23 Be worthwhile 24 Some Scottish musicians 26 Intrepid 28 A person 29 Highly original 33 Went up 34 Accelerate, with "up" 35 Poncho relative 36 Pierre's pal 37 Placated 39 Leon Panetta's org. 40 Gizmo 42 "That's awesome!" 43 Nip's partner 44 Villainous expression 45 Payable 46 Quiet and timid 47 Parented 49 Ne'er-do-well 50 Staying power 53 Russian chessmaster 56 Fluctuate in intensity 59 Musical group 60 Solemn assent

Crossword grid with numbers 1-65 and a list of words to be placed in the grid.

Answer to previous puzzle: STEAM SHAM VAST HEAVY TOGO OHNO OASES AROW LEAN WRESTLING BLARE AIRS SEEDIED TENURES SWAY IRONS ROADBIKE LIVE COAST ACES LEAVEOUT BLEEP EVER WORLDLY ATONED TADA BARBS POLEVAULT USDA BOWL ENSUE SEER ISEE STERN ERRS BELT TIRED

# Astros pounded by Brewers 10-1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — After an impressive stint for the Houston Astros in June, starter Dallas Keuchel has taken a step backward. Keuchel was charged with seven runs and seven hits with six walks in four-plus innings, and the Astros were pounded by the Milwaukee Brewers 10-1 on Tuesday night. "I was battling all night," Keuchel said. "I'd just like to cut the walks down and get back to pitch-

ing like I did the first four starts up here." Keuchel (1-4), who has split time between the big league club and the minors this season, had three starts for the Astros in June and didn't give up more than one run in any of them — including a complete-game victory. But he has had a tougher time since then. "I think it's command," Astros manager Brad Mills said. "When he first got here he was

right on top of everything and now since he's been back it just hasn't been quite as crisp so we're going to work back and try to make sure we can get him back to where he has that comfort level of being crisp." Aramis Ramirez and Corey Hart each hit a three-run homer for Milwaukee. Ramirez had three hits and four RBIs, including his 13th homer of the season in the third inning. Hart hit his three-run shot in

the fifth, his 20th homer. "You can't give them hitters' counts," catcher Chris Snyder said of the Brewers. "They've still got plenty of power, they've got plenty of good hitters and they were in hitters' counts all night long." Snyder hit his fifth home run of the season for Houston. Brewers starter Yovani Gallardo (9-8) went seven innings, giving up one run and three hits with a walk and five strikeouts.

# GYMNASTS

Continued from Page 9

"We knew we could do it," she said, "we just had to pull out all the stops." They did, leading to a final destination years in the making. They shook hands with their competitors then could barely contain themselves as the national anthem played. It's a moment they'd envisioned their entire lives. The reality proved to be even better. "It was the best feeling to be up there and watch that flag go up," Maroney said. "I've pictured it. And it was pretty close to what I pictured. It was just the best feeling." And it probably won't be the last time Maroney will experience it. Some of her teammates either. The world champion on vault is heavily favored to add an Olympic gold to her trophy case. Her Amanar — the tricky, high-difficulty skill that can only be done by a handful of gymnasts in the world — is so exquisite Karolyi believes it should have received a perfect score. "It. Was. The. Best. Vault. Ever," she said. Maybe, but Maroney will get another opportunity in the event finals. For all their collective brilliance, the Magnificent Seven won just three individual medals. Maroney's gold is almost assured. Douglas and Raisman could hit the podium during Thursday's all-around competition. Wieber could add another on floor. By the end of next week the "Fierce Five" could set a new benchmark and become the team all others are compared to. History, however, can wait. The Americans have spent the better part of a year proving they're legit. That they could turn the silvers earned by their predecessors in Athens and Beijing into gold. The proof laid on their chests Tuesday night.

# RANGERS

Continued from Page 9

Los Angeles' lead to 4-0. It was Pujols' 43rd multi-homer game. Holland didn't help himself, walking No. 9 hitter Chris Iannetta to begin the inning. Trout compounded that error by smacking a two-run home run — his 18th of the season — into the Angels' bullpen in left-center field. Holland has allowed seven home runs in his

past three starts. "They're a good ball team," Holland said. "If you make a mistake, they're going to hit it." "The main thing was I felt good about the start. I made a great pitch to Trout, but he was ahead in the count." Hunter's two-run double in the seventh extended the Angels' lead to 6-0. David Murphy's double scored Josh Hamilton, who was 1 for 4, and Michael Young. The Rangers had a chance to get to Weaver

by putting two on with no outs in the bottom of the sixth, but Ian Kinsler popped out to Pujols at first. Elvis Andrus grounded into a fielder's choice, and Adrian Beltré's grounder to second ended the inning. During his run of eight consecutive victories, Weaver has a 2.01 ERA, despite giving up five runs to the New York Yankees on July 15. "You have to give Weaver credit," Washington said. "He kept us off-balance. That's why he's 14-1. I tip my hat to

# BACKPACKER

Continued from Page 9

be honest," he said. "Many have offered me rides. Lots of people give me T-shirts — in Lafayette, La, people working at a Harley shop gave me a T-shirt and hat. Everywhere I have been, people have been helpful. They show a real interest. I don't think you can find experiences anywhere else like you can here. The people are what has made it great." There have been a few tribulations along the way. "In Florida, I was in a tropical storm," Stocks explained. "I walked 12 miles through a torrential rain. It destroyed my phone and my camera. It's definitely not easy, but once I have done this, I can go anywhere and do anything." Though Stocks may be accruing life experience on his sojourn across the country, he says it's more of an adventure to him than a zen-like journey.

"I always wanted to do this," he said. I thought I may as well do it while I am young. I wanted to travel and see the world. It's just a journey, I am not a very deep person, I guess." As Stocks fueled up on calories at Whataburger, he said he was going to head to the bus stop and catch a ride to Van Horn, Texas. After walking for miles, Stocks was ready to enjoy a seat on a bus for the next portion of his trip. "It's hot, real hot," Stocks added. "It's a big change from the cold, England rain to this heat." So far, Stocks has voyaged across his home continent of Europe and took a tour of Australia, where he may temporarily move for work upon completing his American odyssey. The young Brit certainly seems to have a case of wanderlust. But, in all of his travels, Stocks said of his half-complete U.S. Expedition, "It's just been the best time of my life. I have enjoyed every minute of it." Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

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# It's No. 19 and counting for Phelps as swimmer wins another gold medal

LONDON (AP) — Michael Phelps has always said he wanted to do something that no one has ever done before. He's all by himself now, and ready to go for more. The world's greatest swimmer cruised through the anchor leg of the 4x200-meter freestyle relay to earn his record 19th career Olympic medal and 15th gold on Tuesday night, etching a place in history as the most decorated

Olympian of all time. "It has been a pretty amazing career but we still have a couple races to go," he said. Now his remaining four days in the pool at the London Games are all about putting that mark even further out of reach. Phelps has three events to go — the 200 individual medley, the 100 butterfly and the 4x100 medley relay. He won't be racing for a medal on Wednesday,

when he competes in the preliminaries and semifinals of the 200 IM. The big race on Day 5 of the swimming competition will be the men's 100 freestyle. James "The Missile" Magnussen of Australia owns the leading time going into the final. Nathan Adrian of the U.S. is next on the list, followed by Cuba's Hanser Garcia. Other top contenders are world record-holder Cesar Cielo of Brazil

and Yannick Agnel of France. Kosuke Kitajima will try to make some history of his own in the 200 breaststroke. The Japanese star could become the first male swimmer to win the same event at three consecutive Olympics, although he's a long shot after qualifying fifth-fastest for the final. Kitajima's earlier attempt at a threepeat in the 100 breast fell short. Leading qualifier

Kathleen Hersey goes for the first U.S. gold medal in the women's 200 butterfly since 2000, when Misty Hyman stunned Susie O'Neill in Sydney. Hours after Phelps earned his 18th medal — a silver in the 200 fly — and his 19th with the relay gold, well-wishers ranging from soccer great Pele to Los Angeles Lakers star Pau Gasol to fellow Olympians and teammates past and present tweeted their

congratulations. "To be a part of that is something I'll tell my kids about," relay swimmer Ricky Berens said. "It's just incredible to go down with him." Phelps tied the record for career medals held by Soviet gymnast Larisa Latynina by finishing second in the 200 fly, getting out-touched by South African Chad le Clos at the wall. Phelps angrily tossed his cap in the water, a scowl on his face.

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## TRADE

Continued from Page 9

year's expanded 10-team playoffs or whether to focus on rebuilding for 2013. After winning a franchise-record 102 games last year, the Phillies never recovered from Ryan Howard's stumble on the last out of last year's NL division series against St. Louis. Howard, the 2006 NL

MVP, tore an Achilles tendon and didn't come off the disabled list until July 6. All-Star second baseman Chase Utley missed the first 76 games because of a chronic problem in both knees. Pence is batting .271 with 17 homers and 59 RBIs this season. He fills a major need for the Giants, giving them a right-handed hitter with power. "I don't think anyone

really anticipated the season that's gone on," Pence said in Washington after the trade. "It was the perfect storm of injuries and things didn't go right for us, so that's the way the business of the game is and you have to understand that. Everything is understood. The Phillies are going in a different direction. We had a great run at it. Now I'm going a different way." Victorino, nicknamed the Flyin' Hawaiian, is batting .261 with nine homers, 40 RBIs and 24 steals.

Marlins traded pitcher Edward Mujica to St. Louis for infielder and sent former All-Star first baseman Gaby Sanchez and right-hander Kyle Kaminska to Pittsburgh for outfielder Gorkys Hernandez and a 2013 draft pick. Washington has emerged with young talents Stephen Strasburg and Bryce Harper and leads the NL East as the Nationals try to bring postseason play to the capital for the first time since 1933. "Our division has undergone a real sort of metamorphosis," Mets general manager Sandy Alderson said. Houston and the nearly as awful Cubs also shed salaries. Jed Lowrie at \$1.15 million is now the highest-paid player on the Astros, who started the season with a payroll of nearly \$61 million. Chicago, in its first season under new baseball head Theo Epstein, also dealt pitcher Paul Maholm and outfielder Reed Johnson to Atlanta on Monday.

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