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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2012



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Pipeline 85 percent complete

Should be 'ready to go to work' in January

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With the bulk of the necessary construction nearly completed on the pipeline between the Ward County water well fields and the city of Odessa, officials with the Colorado River Municipal Water District say the new system could be ready for preliminary tests as early as late November.

According to CRMWD General Manager John Grant, approximately 85 percent of the construction of the pipeline has been completed, good news for the drought-stricken cities served by the local water district.

"Work on the Ward County pipeline has gone very well," Grant said. "The main construction on it is approximately 85 percent completed. Also, work on the pump station is also moving along nicely. Right now, we're basically just waiting for equipment deliveries at the pump station. We expect to be able to begin running tests on the system as early as late November or early December, which puts us on track to have the pipeline ready to go to work in January."

The pipeline will ultimately deliver well water gathered from the Ward County fields and pump it into the CRMWD system, which

See **PIPELINE**, Page 3



Courtesy photo

Homecoming queen nominees for Grady High School are from left, Savannah Sawyer, Sara Marshall, Charley Ann Wells and Ellyn Avery. Homecoming is set for Friday night against Midland Trinity at 7:30 p.m. at M.W. Tunnell Field.

Grady set for homecoming

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

LENORAH — Big Spring isn't the only area school celebrating its black and gold pride this week.

Grady High School has several activities planned in conjunction with 2012 Homecoming this week.

Festivities will be highlighted by the crowning of the homecoming queen during halftime of the

Wildcats' game with Midland Trinity, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Tunnell Field, located adjacent to the school.

The four seniors nominated for homecoming queen this year are: Savannah Sawyer, daughter of Tony and Wendy Sawyer of Lenorah; Sara Marshall, daughter of Henry and Lisa Marshall of Tarzan; Charley Ann Wells, daughter of Chad and Maidee Wells of Le-

norah; and Ellyn Avery, daughter of Jimmy and Valerie Avery of Lenorah.

Preceding the game, the school will host its annual homecoming pep rally at 2:30 p.m. Friday in the gymnasium.

In addition, the freshman class will hold a brisket meal beginning at 5 p.m. and continuing after the game in the school cafeteria. Prices are \$7 and \$9 for plates.

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Gardeners: Get ready for produce show

Herald Staff Report

Howard County gardeners, get ready to show your stuff.

The annual county agriculture produce show is set for Sept. 25-29 at the Howard County Fair Barn.

Entries will be accepted for one day only — Tuesday, Sept. 25 — from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Judging will be held Sept. 26, and all entries must be picked up by 8 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29 or they will become property of the clean-up committee.

Judging will be conducted by the Howard County Master Gardeners.

"They'll do the judging and they help me put this on. I could not do it without their help. I really appreciate their hard work," said Tommy Yeater, Howard County AgriLife Extension agent for agriculture and natural resources and produce show director.

All products must be grown by the exhibitor who must be a Howard County resident or in a county adjoining Howard County. There is no age restriction on exhibitors.

An overall grand and reserve champion plaque will be awarded to winners selected from the champions in each of the divisions. All products will receive quality grade ribbons (blue, red, white).

Entry forms for each division may be picked up at the Howard County Extension Office, located in the basement of the Howard County Courthouse.

"I hope to see a lot of gardeners bring in their trophy produce to be showcased in this show," Yeater said.

See **PRODUCE**, Page 3

Want to own a piece of the Big Spring Refinery?

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

How would you like to own interest in the Big Spring Refinery?

That's the very question Alon USA Energy Inc. is getting ready to ask investors, as the oil refining giant has announced it has filed the necessary paper work with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission proposing a \$230 million initial public offering (IPO) for subsidiary Alon

Partners, which owns and operates the Big Spring Refinery.

According to Alon USA officials, the company has filed a registration statement on Form S-1 with the SEC for units representing limited partner interests in Alon Partners. However, Alon's convenience store division — which includes a number of 7-Eleven stores in and around the Big Spring area — is not included in the IPO.

Government records show

Alon Brands — the retail and branded marketing subsidiary of Alon USA — filed a motion with the SEC in May withdrawing a previous IPO it had originally moved forward with in November 2008.

Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and the U.S. Division of Credit Suisse Securities LLC are expected to act as book-running managers, while Jefferies & Company, Inc. is currently serving as lead managing underwriter.

Officials with Alon say the company intends to use the proceeds from the IPO sale to reduce its outstanding debts.

Applications are expected to be made to list the IPO units on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ALDW, according to Alon officials.

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



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Obituaries

Shirleen Knox

Shirleen Knox, 58, of Big Spring died Monday, Sept. 17, 2012, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- **ROBERT VILLIJOS AGUILAR**, 61, of Andrews, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **STACY JANA E AGUILAR**, 20, of 1101 E. 12th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct – language.
- **JAMES THOMAS SMITH**, 57, of 704 W. Eighth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ROBERT GONZALES JR.**, 25, of 407 N.W. Ninth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.
- **THOMAS AGUILAR**, 29, of Garden City, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LUCAS ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 18, of 2517 Albrook Dr., was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- **DEVON MARCUS MUSCHARA**, 21, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 120, was arrested Monday on a warrant for hindering secured creditors – more than \$20 and less than \$500.
- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 3500 block of Gail Highway.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- **DEVON MARCUS MUSCHARA**, 21, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a warrant for hindering secured creditors – more than \$20 and less than \$500.
- **LUCAS ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 18, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- **ROBERT RIVERA**, 41, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a building.
- **ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ**, 48, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of W. 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of W. 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Avenue C. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Wood. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• Big Spring Independent School District will hosts tours of two campuses as part of 2012 homecoming observances Saturday. The public can tour Washington Elementary, one of four new BSISD campuses, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and the renovated science department labs at Big Spring High School from 11 a.m. until noon. For more information, contact the school district central office at 264-3600.

• To honor the ideas of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Mary's the Virgin Episcopal Church parishioners are sponsoring a dog and cat food drive for the Howard County Humane Society through Oct. 5. Donations can be taken to the Humane Society located at West I H-20 off the service road, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or dropped off at the *Big Spring Herald*, 710 Scurry St., Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

At 10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 5, the Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, rector of St. Mary's, will hold a community-wide Blessing of the Animal service at the

Humane Society shelter. The community is encouraged to bring their pets or stuffed animals, tour the shelter and consider bringing home a furry friend during this pet adoption drive event. Please make sure all living animals are secure either by a leash or carrier. Sunday Oct. 7, the church will hold a second community-wide Blessing of the Animals at 3 p.m. in the Parish's Bennett Garden, 1001 S. Goliad. Food donations for the Humane Society will be taken at this time.

• Big Spring Symphony Guild will be hosting its Fall Celebration/Meeting at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. Sept. 22. The meeting will take place in the fellowship hall, located at 810 Gregg Street.

• The Big Spring High School class of 1952 will be having its 60th reunion Sept. 21 and 22. Class members will have a float in the parade and meet at Spanish Inn afterward on Friday. Saturday from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. will be a come and go gathering at Dora Roberts Community Center in the Lake Room. A lunch and evening meal will be catered. There will be entertainment during the evening meal as well. For more information, contact Jay Hester at 263-1755 or Lane Bond at 263-4033.

• Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main.

Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.

• Northside Community Center will be offering after school program from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free ESL or SSL will be offered from 10 a.m. until noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free basic computer sessions will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. until noon and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Call 263-2673.

• An account has been established at Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union in the name of Glenda Berger, who was recently diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Donations will be used to help defer medical costs and mounting bills. All donations are greatly appreciated. Call Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union at 800-299-6761.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliance. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535.

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

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

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

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






• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• The Salvation Army is holding its annual fan drive and is in need of fans. Community members can donate new or used fans. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

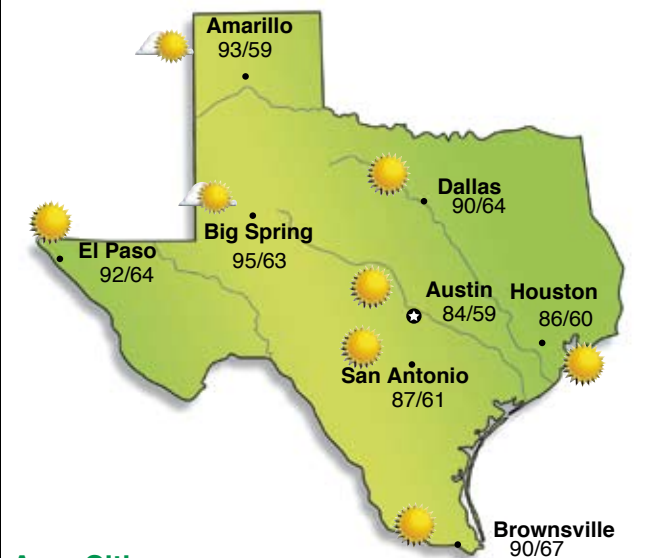
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 9/20	Fri 9/21	Sat 9/22	Sun 9/23	Mon 9/24
 95/63 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 60s.	 91/60 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.	 87/57 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	 82/62 More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 60s.	 88/64 Times of sun and clouds. Drought conditions should continue.
Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 7:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 7:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 7:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 7:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 7:39 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	93	64	sunny	Kingsville	92	64	sunny
Amarillo	93	59	mst sunny	Livingston	86	55	sunny
Austin	84	59	sunny	Longview	86	59	sunny
Beaumont	84	59	sunny	Lubbock	93	60	sunny
Brownsville	90	67	sunny	Lufkin	87	58	sunny
Brownwood	92	61	sunny	Midland	95	64	sunny
Corpus Christi	89	67	sunny	Raymondville	93	65	sunny
Corsicana	89	61	sunny	Rosenberg	86	58	sunny
Dallas	90	64	sunny	San Antonio	87	61	sunny
Del Rio	92	66	sunny	San Marcos	85	58	sunny
El Paso	92	64	sunny	Sulphur Springs	88	61	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	93	62	sunny	Sweetwater	92	62	sunny
Gainesville	89	62	mst sunny	Tyler	86	60	sunny
Greenville	88	60	sunny	Weatherford	89	62	sunny
Houston	86	60	sunny	Wichita Falls	94	64	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	78	61	mst sunny	Minneapolis	67	46	cloudy
Boston	65	50	pt sunny	New York	71	59	pt sunny
Chicago	71	54	pt sunny	Phoenix	99	75	mst sunny
Dallas	90	64	sunny	San Francisco	60	53	pt sunny
Denver	81	49	mst sunny	Seattle	80	53	sunny
Houston	86	60	sunny	St. Louis	78	61	pt sunny
Los Angeles	86	67	mst sunny	Washington, DC	76	63	pt sunny
Miami	86	77	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Thu 9/20	Fri 9/21	Sat 9/22	Sun 9/23	Mon 9/24
9	9	9	9	9
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

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

Support Groups

TUESDAY
• Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

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

BIG SPRING HERALD

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 9-20-12

Cancer No. 1 killer of Hispanics

By MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK — Cancer has overtaken heart disease as the No. 1 killer among Hispanics in the U.S., and the rest of the country may be only a few years behind.

The change is not exactly cause for alarm. Death rates for both cancer and heart disease have been dropping for Hispanics and everyone else.

It's just that heart disease deaths have fallen faster, largely because of improved treatment and prevention, including the development of cholesterol-lowering drugs.

Overall, cancer will probably replace heart disease as the nation's top cause of death in the next 10 years, said Rebecca Siegel of the American Cancer Society, lead author of a study reporting the new findings. Government health statisticians think the crossover point could be reached as early as this year, or

Hispanics are the nation's largest and fastest-growing major ethnic group, and many of them are young immigrants from Mexico. Most heart disease deaths are in people 65 and older. The vast majority of Hispanics in the U.S. are under 55.

at least in the next two or three years.

The reason it has already happened among Hispanics is that they are younger on average than non-Hispanic whites and blacks. And cancer tends to kill people earlier in life than heart disease, for decades the nation's top cause of death.

The shift could bring about a change in disease-prevention efforts, government spending priorities and people's attitudes.

"We've been so focused on heart disease mortality for so long. ... This may change the way people look at their risk," said Robert An-

derson, who oversees the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control branch that monitors death statistics.

The study is being published in the September/October issue of a cancer society publication, CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians.

Cancer society researchers looked at federal death data for 2009 and found that 29,935 Hispanics died of cancer and 29,611 of heart disease. It was the first year in which cancer deaths surpassed heart disease in that ethnic group.

Cancer is also the leading cause of death for Asian-Americans and

Pacific Islanders. And it is now the leading killer in 18 states, according to 2009 numbers from the CDC.

Hispanics are the nation's largest and fastest-growing major ethnic group, and many of them are young immigrants from Mexico. Most heart disease deaths are in people 65 and older. The vast majority of Hispanics in the U.S. are under 55.

The story is different in Mexico, which has an older population. There, diabetes is the biggest killer, with cancer No. 2, according to 2009 statistics from the Pan American Health Organization.

Interestingly, none of the states where cancer has overtaken heart disease is in the Southwest, which has large Hispanic populations. Instead, most are in the nation's northern tier, including Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and the four states of upper New England.

Art Association has special guest this evening at library

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Staff Writer

Big Spring Art Association has been going for 58 years and shows no plans of stopping, organizers say.

In fact, it is moving right along with Jo Beth Gillam being featured as the guest speaker at the September meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. this evening at the Howard County Library.

"Each meeting we try to have a guest speaker, whether it be someone local or someone well known from out of town," Jean Money, vice president and program chair, said.

According to Money, many of the association members have attended workshops put on by Gillam.

Gillam is from Lubbock has a 40-year background, including use of oils and her current techniques in watercolor.

Several of Gilliam's paintings are in collections throughout Europe and the United States. She has received numerous awards and is represented by Folger Gallery of Midland, Abilene-n-Art of Abilene and Legacy and Rendr Frame and Gallery of Lubbock.

She has also done training with Christopher Schink and Frank Webb.

"Anyone with an interest in the arts is welcome to attend our meetings," Money said.

For those wanting to become a member, Money said all one needs to do is attend a meeting and pay the \$15 yearly due.

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

PIPELINE

Continued from Page 1

serves a number of West Texas cities, including Big Spring, Odessa and Snyder, as well as its customer cities, including Abilene, Grandfalls, Midland, Pyote, Robert Lee, San Angelo and Stanton.

In years past, the vast majority of the water used to serve the cities has come from the water district's three reservoirs.

However, because of ongoing drought conditions, two of the lakes have already been taken offline and the third — O.H. Ivie Reservoir — is in danger of running dry by Mid 2013.

"Originally, we projected Ivie would no longer be a viable source this December," Grant said. "However, because of the water conservation efforts and the reduced deliveries, we've been able to extend that projection to June 2013."

According to CRMWD reports, Lake Thomas is approximately 0.73 percent full — with an estimated 1,461 acre-feet of water left in the lake — while Lake Spence is currently less than 0.19 percent full, with 1,004 acre-feet available.

Lake Ivey is listed as approximately 12.31 percent full — with 68,238 acre-feet — and is currently the main source of water for the city of Big Spring and all other CRMWD cities.

Grant said recent rains in and around the Crossroads area have helped extend the life of the Ivie Reservoir, however, not in the way most would assume.

"We've had quite a bit of rain during the past several months, however, it's done very little to help replenish the levels in our reservoirs," Grant said.

"We just haven't gotten the needed rain in the area of our watersheds. However, we have still benefitted from the rain in the cities because it helps to drive down water consumption. So, the rains have certainly helped us, but they haven't helped to bring lake levels back up."

And while work on the pipeline has gone fairly smoothly, Grant said the contractors

are seeing their fair share of problems when it comes to housing and labor.

"The boom in the oilfield has really pulled a lot of the labor away from those contractors, so they have had problems finding skilled laborers," Grant said. "The housing shortage caused by the boom has also been a problem for them. Some of the contractors have gone as far as bringing in laborers from other states because of the shortage."

While the pipeline — along with other ongoing CRMWD projects — will allow the water district to continue pumping to area cities, Grant said it still only offers a temporary solution.

"If we lose Ivie Reservoir as a source, we'll have to rely on the pipeline and water from

the Big Spring reclamation plant," Grant said. "Those sources together will allow us to deliver water that generally meets the winter usage levels of most cities. However, once we move into the summer months, it still won't be enough to provide the levels of water we delivered in years past, making water conservation just as necessary as it is right now. The only way we're going to get back to the way things were before deliveries were limited is if we get a substantial amount of rain in our reservoirs. Our other water sources simply aren't enough."

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

PRODUCE

Continued from Page 1

The show is held as part of the Howard County Fair. For more information, call the Extension office at 432-264-2236.

Divisions
Watermelons
Classes: Largest (each entry to be weighed by superintendent at time of entry)
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to Reserve Champion in above classes
Plaques to be awarded to Champion largest watermelons
Ribbons to all participants

Cantaloupes
Classes: Largest (each entry to be weighed by superintendent at time of entry)
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to Reserve Champion in above classes
Plaques to be awarded to Champion largest cantaloupe
Ribbons to all participants

Pumpkins
Classes: Largest (each entry to be weighed by superintendent at time of entry)
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded to Reserve Champion in above classes
Plaques to be awarded to Champion largest

pumpkins
Ribbons to all participants

Peppers
Classes:
a) Hot (6 per entry)
b) Sweet (6 per entry)
c) Ornamental (6 per entry)
Awards: Rosettes to be awarded in Champions
Rosettes to be awarded to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

Tomatoes
Classes:
a) Small - Cherry type (6 per entry)
b) Large (6 per entry)
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champion
Ribbons to all participants

Onions:
Classes:
a) Bunch type (10 per entry)
b) Yellow (4 per entry)
c) White (4 per entry)
d) Purple or Red (4 per entry)
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions

Ribbons to all participants

Okra
Classes:
a) Okra (6 per entry)
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

Peas and beans
Classes:
a) Black-eye (12 pods)
b) Purple Hull (12 pods)
c) Cream (12 pods)
d) Other Peas (12 pods)
e) Pinto (12 pods)
f) Green (12 pods)
g) Other beans (12 pods)
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

Miscellaneous
Open to any garden produce not previously listed.
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

pants
Produce part must fit on a 9-inch paper plate (leaves, seeds, flower, fruit, etc.)

Most Unusual
Open to any unusual garden produce.
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants
Produce part must fit on a 9-inch paper plate (leaves, seeds, flower, fruit, etc.)

Fruit
Open to any type fruit. (4 required per entry of any variety)
Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

Pecans
Open to any type of pecan. (4 required per entry of any variety)

Awards: Rosettes to Champions
Rosettes to Reserve Champions
Ribbons to all participants

Howard County Cotton Show

This show is open to any producer in Howard County only. No entry fees. Plaques will be awarded the Champions of each of the following divisions:
1. Most Unusual Stalk of Cotton
2. Cotton with the Most Formed Bolls. Only bolls that are dime-size or larger will be counted.
3. Best Stripper Type of Cotton Stalk

\$100 will be presented the overall grand champion stalk of cotton by Stoneville Texas Inc. of Big Spring. All exhibitors will receive participation ribbons.
Stalks must be stripped of leaves. There is no limit on the number of entries an exhibitor may enter and there is no age requirement for partici-

ation. However, all entries must be grown in Howard County.

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Shirleen Knox, 58, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we be an enthusiastic supporter of our love and compassion, Lord.

Amen

Buckle up for what could be the robot revolution

Robots don't take bathroom breaks, and that's one reason why, all else being equal, they may make better factory workers than the human version. But all else is getting less equal. New generations of super "smart" robots are doing more and more complex tasks, their needle arms going into tiny spaces the most delicate human hand can't reach. And just as the machines leap forward in sophistication, their price is coming down.

Another industrial revolution bangs at the doors, and as other industrial revolutions have done, this one will change everything. For one thing, factories that moved to Asia for low-wage workers may return to the United States. After all, if machines can do the labor-intensive jobs, it may not matter whether the factory is in Cleveland, Hartford, Nashville or Guangzhou.

In truth, while factory jobs have left the United States, factories never quite did. America still makes lots of stuff that can be produced with a handful of people running computerized equipment. What's different now is that the machines are getting more clever.

There were always some advantages to manufacturing locally, and they remain. For

example, the Flextronics solar-panel plant in Milpitas, Calif., can ship a solar panel to Phoenix more quickly and cheaply than a factory in Jiangsu province can. Courtesy of robots, it can now also compete with the Chinese solar-panel giants on manufacturing costs. Furthermore, the company's creative secrets are safer at home than in China, where protections for intellectual property are notoriously lax.

This trend helps workers in other high-wage countries. In Drachten, Netherlands, a Philips Electronics factory now employs one-tenth as many people as its sister plant in Zhuhai, China, according to a report in *The New York Times*.

Companies operating here won't care as much whether their employees are unionized or not. For one thing, they'll employ relatively few humans. For another, the people who run the robots will have high-level skills that automatically command good pay. Local cost of living and the price of energy may still play a role. But to attract the factories, a community will have to offer a tech-savvy workforce able to keep the robots on task.

Won't displacing vast numbers of factory workers with plug-in substitutes set off a social revolt? Probably not here, because the kinds of workers who simply glued one part on another were laid off long ago. Today, 9 percent of working Americans are directly employed in manufacturing, way down from 30 percent in 1950.

Will it be a video or just bust?

How can an administration that believes that Islamists need a reason to attack us apart from their default hatred of infidels conduct a coherent foreign policy?

Even if its assessment were correct, how can someone who is presumably sophisticated enough to become the so-called leader of the Free World believe he can convert Islamists overnight into fawning admirers of a new and improved America under his rule?

Yet that is precisely what Obama professed to believe. When campaigning for the presidency, he said: "We will restore our moral standing in the world. ... I truly believe that the day I'm inaugurated, not only does the country look at itself differently but the world looks at America differently. If I'm reaching out to the Muslim world, they understand that I've lived in a Muslim country and I may be a Christian but I also can understand their point of view. ... The world will have confidence that I am listening to them and that our future and our security is tied up with our ability to work with other countries in the world. That will ultimately make us safer."

Obama's lofty confidence on the matter didn't wane once he was in office. He said in April 2009, "I would like to think that with my election and the early decisions that we've made ... you're starting to see some restoration of America's standing in the world."

In his stunningly ambitious and arrogantly naive Cairo speech, Obama said, "I've come here ... to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world, one based upon mutual interest and mutual respect."

And just this year, Obama said, "We've strengthened our alliances (and) restored respect for the United States around the world." Soon thereafter, he said, "One of the proudest things of

my three years in office is helping to restore a sense of respect for America around the world."

But polls reflect that despite Obama's reset of our relations with Muslims, he is less popular in the Muslim world than was the dreaded President George W. Bush, and America is less popular with Muslims under Obama than it was under Bush.

A new survey of the president and his policies in 21 countries by the Pew Global Attitudes Project shows that "global approval of President Barack Obama's policies has declined significantly since he first took office.... In nearly every country where trends are available, support for Obama's international policies has declined over the last three years. ... Among the EU countries surveyed in both 2009 and 2012, a median of 78 percent approved of Obama's policies in 2009, compared with 63 percent now.

Among Muslim nations, the median has slipped from 34 percent to 15 percent. Major declines have also taken place in China, Japan, Russia and Mexico."

Yet Obama continues to maintain the ruse that through his magical rhetorical bouquets to Islamists, he has dramatically reduced their animosity toward us. For him to acknowledge that they attacked us in Egypt and Libya because they still hate us would be an admission that he has failed in his promise to make them love us, so he is scapegoating the anti-Muslim amateur video of an unknown filmmaker.

In response to a reporter's observation that a "growing anti-American sentiment" is occurring in Cairo, State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said, "I would urge you not to draw too many conclusions, because we've also had some very positive developments in our relationship with Egypt." In the "new Egypt," she bragged, "protest is possible."

Nuland's gushy affirmation of free expression rights for Egyptians is in stark contrast to the Obama administration's all-out effort to chill the free speech rights of the hapless video pro-

ducer. Indeed, 99 percent of the administration's outrage over the attacks was dedicated not to the terrorist attackers but to the filmmaker.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice said on ABC's "This Week," "What happened in Cairo, in Benghazi, in many other parts of the region was a direct result of a heinous and offensive video that was widely disseminated that the U.S. government had nothing to do with, which we have made clear is reprehensible and disgusting." Rice added, "We are quite popular in Libya."

Unhappily for the administration, *The Daily Caller* reports that "Libyan officials and locals have shredded (Obama's) defensive claim that a spontaneous protest against a Californian's anti-Islam video caused the Sept. 11 killing of four Americans, including the U.S. ambassador."

Libyan President Mohamed el-Megarif said on NPR, "The idea that this criminal and cowardly act was a spontaneous protest that just spun out of control is completely unfounded and preposterous." It was, he said, a military-style attack.

The *Daily Caller* notes that "accumulating media reports — and Libyans' statements — suggest the administration severely underestimated the danger of jihadis in Libya."

Yes, and the administration remains in denial about the dangers of jihadis throughout the world because, in its narcissistic worldview, Obama has fundamentally transformed Islamist sentiment toward the United States and made us safer.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "The Great Destroyer," reached No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction. Follow him on Twitter @ davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Kid Scoop Together:

CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

Look closely at the bear tracks below. One of them is different from all the rest. Can you find it? Have a parent try, too!



Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Kid Scoop-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word GUIDE in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



MISSION: SAVE GRIZ!

The grizzly bear is on the California state flag. It is a symbol of California.

However, the grizzly bear, one of the largest animals in North America, is in danger of becoming extinct. In 1850, there were around 10,000 grizzly bears living in California alone. Today fewer than 1,000 live in the lower 48 states. None are living wild in California.

Standards Link: Life Science: Changes in the environment cause some animals to survive and reproduce, others die or move to new locations.



Why are grizzlies disappearing?

One grizzly bear needs about 1,500 square miles to roam. When people move into a grizzly bear's living space, the bear can't get enough food to survive. Over the years, some hungry grizzly bears have killed and eaten cattle. Farmers killed the bears to protect their farms.

People are trying to save the grizzly bear by setting aside thousands of square miles of land for the bears. Scientists believe this will help to save the grizzly from extinction.

Standards Link: Life Science: Living things can cause changes in the environment, some of these changes are detrimental.

Hide and Seek

Silly things are hiding in this grizzly bear's fur. Can you find a comb, a fish, a tennis ball, a crayon, a tree and a hat?

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Recognize common objects.

Flagpole Fun

What does a 600-pound grizzly eat? To find out, circle every third letter on the flagpole. Start by circling the letter with the star. Write the words on the menu below.

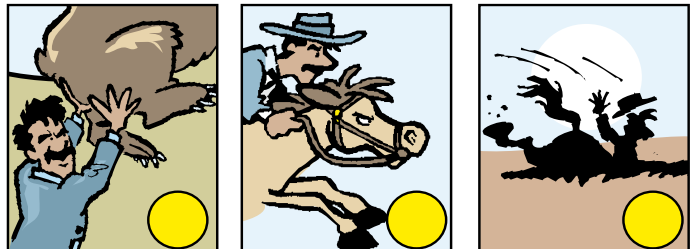
Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



History Mystery

Why did grizzlies disappear from California? Read the History Scoop story. It's true!

Number the pictures from 1 to 3 to show the correct order of events.



Based upon this story, think of one or more reasons why grizzly bears can no longer be found in California.

Standards Link: History: Students recognize primary resources and identify causes and long-term effects of events in the past.

History Scoop July 21, 1883

Don Jose Ramon Pitches Griz

CALIFORNIA – Last week, while Don Jose Ramon Carrillo was out riding his horse, he spotted a grizzly near his adobe ranch house. “Grizzlies have killed some of my cows,” said Don Jose.

Famous for the many grizzly bears he has killed, Don Jose spurred his horse and chased the grizzly bear. Don Jose claims the bear ran and fell into a ditch.

“My horse couldn't stop,” recalled Don Jose. “The next thing I knew, I was in the ditch with hundreds of pounds of angry bear!” There wasn't enough room to fight in the ditch. “The bear was trying like crazy to climb out of the ditch. I wanted him out just as badly. So, I grabbed his behind and pushed him out!”

PRESENT RANGE

Color with green where grizzly bears live today. Color with blue where the bears lived in the 1800's.

HISTORIC RANGE IN 1800's

CHALLENGE: Use a map to find out which states used to be home to the grizzly bear.

Standards Link: History: Students use map skills to locate and interpret data.

Extra! Extra!

Cut a newspaper story into three or more parts. Give the parts to a friend and see if they can put the story back together in the correct order. Now let your friend give you a story to do.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Identify main events and sequence in a story.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

E	E	M	S	H	G	R	F	R	S
V	L	A	A	U	I	L	A	M	T
I	Z	O	V	N	A	E	R	Y	O
V	Z	R	E	G	N	A	D	Y	R
R	F	S	P	R	F	L	I	R	Y
U	D	O	A	Y	I	P	T	G	M
S	L	N	O	W	O	A	C	N	O
E	C	H	N	D	F	L	H	A	A
H	S	E	I	L	Z	Z	I	R	G

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY
www.kidscoop.com

Save Griz!

Look at the advertisements in the newspaper. Find one that really grabs your attention. Try to create a similar ad to “sell” people on the idea of saving grizzly bears from extinction.

Standards Link: Writing: Students write brief, expository paragraphs.

What color socks do bears wear?

ANSWER: They don't wear socks. They have bear feet!

Write On! Bear for a Day

Imagine that you are a grizzly bear for a day. What would you do? What would be the best part about being a bear?

Hawks and humans: A bad mix

After talking with a man who had a hawk at his home for five days, the game warden ended their conversation with a warning. He would make the long drive out in the county in about an hour to take possession of the bird. "You be there!"



BIRD POOP
BEBE
MCCASLAND

Leaving the city limits, he scanned fence posts, telephone poles, and the horizon to see if any more of those hawks might be nearby. South and west from Midland County, the raptors were unique to some of the most desolate areas of the state. Turning off the road, he passed a dilapidated gate that sagged to the ground. The dirt road to the house seemed endless.

Parking beside a well-used truck, the officer opened his door to a menagerie of barking dogs. A sharp whistle from the man on the porch both admonished their behavior and advised them to return to the worn, wooden planks beside his chair.

After listening to the game warden's brief discussion of Texas and federal laws protecting wild, migratory birds, the man led the officer to the back of his home. Inside a weather-beaten cage was a dark brown bird of prey that appeared to be asleep.

In its first year, the Harris's hawk was

beginning to lose the brown streaks on its under parts. Its reddish-brown shoulders and flanks were deepening in intensity, and its chest was darkening.

Having been brownish with narrow blackish bars, its white-tipped tail was becoming a deep brown or blackish. Whether in a juvenile or adult phase, its tail would sport a broad white patch where it joined its body.

Awakening, the hawk extended its wings defensively and displayed its darkening, rusty-colored wing linings. In his bird books, the officer had seen the words "rufous" and "chestnut" used to describe a reddish, characteristic appearance. To a casual observer, the color on both sides of the raptor's wings would be used to label it a "red hawk."

As the game warden held the gate open while I gathered the Harris's hawk between gloved hands, I could feel little resistance. Feeling of both sides of its breastbone detected no body fat.

When I asked what the man had been feeding the bird, the officer said some raw hamburger and baloney. Extremely thin and weak, the hawk was to the point of not being able to eat or stand. It was slowly starving to death.

After Art helped me

get the raptor into a carrier, I turned to the game warden to thank him for the delivery.

"Why do people think hawks can live on 'people food?'" I asked.

Shaking his head, he didn't have an answer.

Since the bird did not have the strength to stand very long and tear its food, we spent several days tube-feeding it. Then force-feeding of minced mice began. Because it was able to digest baby mice, we were encouraged.

Three days later, the hawk started eating on its own.

At the wildlife center in Lubbock, volunteers maintained a close watch, and called frequently about the bird's

progress. We all knew it would have a lengthy recovery.

With strength and energy increasing, the hawk grew restless in its carrier. Moved to a mew in the barn for exercise, it was eager to attain the first perch. Soon it had mastered the highest one.

Because of little human exposure except for the placing of mice inside the mew, the raptor started exhibiting the typical mean and aggressive attitude of a bird of prey. Finally, the Harris's hawk was ready for the flight cage. After demonstrating an ability to hunt, kill live prey, and fly effortlessly, it was ready for release.

Although we would

never know the story of how the man had come to possess the Harris's hawk, we did know that often the young have difficulty in becoming hunters of small birds and mammals. Dependent upon family groupings, whether during nesting season or migration, this hawk required older birds to support its efforts.

Since the raptor was a member of a unique social and familial species, the search for a large flock began.

Only a release in an area with other Harris's hawks could assure success.

In what seemed like endless sections of land, mesquite, creosote, yuccas, and cactus dominated by flats and

arroyos, the raptor was given its freedom. Close by, a gathering of adult pairs and juveniles rose on thermals so they could practice diving toward the desert floor after imaginary prey. Frolicking as if at a family reunion, their social inclusion of all ages in the aerial display was a time worn tradition.

After flying to a mesquite, our hawk calmly fluffed its feathers. Watching its kind enjoy the early fall day, it could not resist the urge to join them.

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



Courtesy photo

Hunting during early mornings and late afternoons, the Harris's hawk is a raptor of southwestern, arid terrain. Mice, small birds, lizards, cottontail rabbits, rats and snakes are an integral part of its diet. Fall migration may take it anywhere from Mexico to Central America, Argentina and Brazil.

When the truckers did something for Stevie

Never underestimate the ability of other people.

Allow me to share the following remarkable story about a challenged

young man as told by the owner of a truck stop café.

He commented: "I try not to be biased, but I had my doubts about

hiring Stevie. His placement counselor assured me that he would be a good, reliable busboy. But I wasn't sure how my customers would react to an employee with Downs Syndrome. I knew people would be uncomfortable

around Stevie so I closely watched him for the first few weeks. I shouldn't have worried.

"After the first week, Stevie had everyone wrapped around his finger and my truck regulars had adopted him as their official truck stop mascot. Stevie was so eager to laugh and eager to please, but fierce in his attention to his duties.

"Every salt and pepper shaker was exactly in its place, not a bread crumb or coffee spill was visible when Stevie got done with the table. Our only problem was persuading him to wait to clean a table until after the customers were finished.

"He would hover in the background, shifting his weight from one foot to the other, scanning the dining room until a table was empty.

Then he would scurry to do his job and meticulously clean the table. He took pride in doing his job exactly right, and you had to love how hard he tried to please each and every person he met.

"Over time, we learned that he lived with his mother, a widow who was disabled after repeated surgeries for cancer.

"They lived on their Social Security benefits in public housing two miles from the truck stop.

"Money was tight, and what I paid him was probably the difference between them being able to live together and Stevie being sent to a group home.

"That's why the restaurant was a gloomy place that morning last August, the first morning in three years that

Stevie missed work. One of the truckers asked where Stevie was and I replied that he was at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester getting a new valve or something put in his heart. However, he should be OK in a couple of months, but I don't know how he and his mom were going to handle all the bills.

From what I hear, they were barely getting by.

"Later that morning, one of the waitresses stopped by my desk. She had a couple of paper napkins in her hand and a funny look on her face.

"What's up?" I asked.

"This was folded and tucked under a coffee cup."

"She handed the napkin to me and three \$20 bills fell onto my desk when I opened it. On the outside, in big, bold letters, was printed 'Something For Stevie.' Then she handed me another paper napkin

that had 'Something For Stevie' scrawled on its outside. Two \$50 bills were tucked within its folds. She looked at me with wet, shiny eyes, shook her head and said simply: 'truckers.'

"That was three months ago. Today is the first day Stevie is supposed to be back to work.

"His placement worker said he's been counting the days until the doctor said he could work. He called 10 times in the past week, making sure we knew he was coming, fearful that we had forgotten him or that his job was in jeopardy.

"I arranged to have his mother bring him to work. I then met them in the parking lot and invited them both to celebrate his day back. Stevie was thinner and paler, but couldn't stop grinning as he pushed through the doors and headed for the back room where his apron and busing cart were waiting. I grabbed him and his mom by their arms and led them toward a large corner booth at the rear of the room. I could feel and hear the rest of the staff following behind as we marched through the dining room.

"Glancing over my shoulder, I saw booth

after booth of grinning truckers joining the procession. We stopped in front of the big table. Its surface was covered with coffee cups, saucers and dinner plates, all sitting slightly crooked on dozens of folded paper napkins.

"First thing you have to do, Stevie, is clean up this mess," I said. I tried to sound stern.

"Stevie looked down at the table and saw napkins marked 'Something for Stevie' printed on the outside. As he began picking them up money began to fall on the table.

"There's more than \$10,000 on that table, all from truckers and trucking companies that heard about your problems. 'Welcome back, Stevie!' we all shouted, as tears filled our eyes.

"But you know what's funny? While everybody else was busy shaking hands and hugging each other, Stevie, with a big, big smile on his face, was busy clearing all the cups and dishes from the table. Best worker I ever hired."

Plant a seed and watch it grow.

Darryl Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.



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ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

News in brief

Romney says remark that Americans believe they are 'victims' was 'not elegantly stated'

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) — Republican Mitt Romney is trying to head off a new distraction for his campaign after a video surfaced showing him telling wealthy donors that 47 percent of all Americans "believe they are victims" entitled to help from the government that permeates their lives.

At an impromptu news conference Monday, Romney offered no apologies, conceding the comments were not "elegantly stated" and were spoken "off the cuff." The Republican presidential nominee said the remarks showed a contrast between President Barack Obama's "government-centered society" and his belief in a "free-market approach."

"Of course, I want to help all Americans, all Americans, have a bright and prosperous future," Romney told reporters.

Obama's campaign pounced on the video, which was obtained by the magazine Mother Jones and released only hours after Romney's campaign outlined a new strategy to try to rejuvenate a struggling campaign. The video's emergence came as advisers to the former Massachusetts governor tried to reassure party leaders and donors about Romney's strategy amid concerns that the race could be slipping away.

"There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what," Romney is shown saying in the video of a May 17 fundraiser in Boca Raton, Fla. "There are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe that government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you name it."

Afghan insurgent group says it carried out Kabul suicide attack to avenge anti-Islam film

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A suicide bomber rammed a car packed with explosives into a minibus carrying foreign aviation workers to the airport in the Afghan capital early Tuesday, killing at least nine people in an attack that a militant group said was revenge for an anti-Islam film that ridicules the Prophet Muhammad.

The criminal director for the Kabul police department, Mohammad Zahir, said eight men believed to be civilian foreign nationals working for an aviation company at the airport died in the blast and 10 Afghan bystanders were wounded. The nationalities of the eight were not immediately known. The ninth person killed in the attack was believed to be Afghan.

Haron Zarghoon, a spokesman for the Islamist militant group Hizb-i-Islami, claimed responsibility for the dawn attack in telephone call to The Associated Press. He said it was carried out by a 22-year-old woman named Fatima. Suicide bombings carried out by women are extremely rare in Afghanistan — and few if any women drive cars.

Zarghoon threatened more attacks against foreigners working for NATO and said the group had been seeking targets since a video clip of the film was posted on the Internet last week. The bombing was a worrisome escalation of violence in the capital, where most attacks are usually blamed on the Haqqani network — a Pakistan-based militant group affiliated with the Taliban and al-Qaida.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said they had nothing to do with the attack.

Coptic Christians, Muslims unite to denounce film, violence as filmmaker and his family hide

LOS ANGELES (AP) — California Coptic Christian and Muslim leaders on Monday denounced an anti-Islamic movie that has sparked violence in the Middle East, as the filmmaker and his family left their suburban home and went into hiding.

The Southern California religious leaders joined a chorus of condemnation about last week's killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other

Americans as violence continued and the leader of the powerful militant group Hezbollah called for more protests.

At the center of the controversy is Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, a Cerritos man and self-described Coptic Christian who made "Innocence of Muslims," a crudely produced film ridiculing the Prophet Muhammad as a fraud, philanderer and child molester.

Nakoula left his home Saturday and was interviewed by officials to determine if he violated a five-year probation term for bank fraud. Sheriff's deputies helped the family leave the home before dawn Monday to join him at an undisclosed location, a spokesman said.

In a show of unity, a Muslim leader and a Coptic orthodox bishop held a news conference on the steps of Los Angeles City Hall to condemn the film and attacks against any religions.

Chicago teachers to weigh in on support for latest offer, consider calling an end to strike

CHICAGO (AP) — Teachers across the nation's third-largest city will be poring over the details of a contract settlement Tuesday as the clock ticks down to an afternoon meeting in which they are expected to vote whether to end a seven-day strike that has kept 350,000 students out of class.

Some union delegates said they planned to take a straw poll of rank-and-file teachers to measure support for a settlement that includes pay raises and concessions from the city on the contentious issues of teacher evaluations and job security. But many warned the outcome was still uncertain two days after delegates refused to call off the walkout, saying they didn't trust city and school officials and wanted more details.

"It takes a lot to start a strike. You don't want to prematurely end it," said Jay Rehak, an English teacher and union delegate who planned to survey his colleagues at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School before voting at a meeting scheduled for 3 p.m.

Pressure has mounted on the teachers to come to a decision quickly on the tentative contract, which labor and education experts — and even some union leaders — called a good deal for the Chicago Teachers Union.

Researchers lure great white sharks onto boat platform for up close tagging off Cape Cod coast

CHATHAM, Mass. (AP) — The scientists and fishermen on board the Ocearch, a repurposed crabbing vessel, received word that their scouting boat had hooked a great white shark, sparking a flurry of activity.

They were about to get up close and personal with the animal, more than 2,000 pounds and nearly 15 feet long.

"I'm nervous," said state shark expert Greg Skomal, who has tagged great whites, but never like this, never this close.

The Ocearch crew tags great white sharks in an unorthodox way. Unlike Skomal's team, which has tagged a dozen great whites off the Massachusetts coast with harpoons, Chris Fischer's Ocearch crew baits the fish and leads them onto a large platform that lifts them out of the water for tagging and collecting blood, tissue and semen samples.

Ocearch, a nonprofit research organization named for a combination of "ocean" and "research," is crewed mainly by sport fishermen. It is funded by sponsors and donors, and a South Africa expedition was the subject of History channel's "Shark Wranglers."

Romney tries to contain fallout from unexpected video, Obama heads to Beyoncé fundraiser

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney is trying to steady a shaky campaign as President Barack Obama, enjoying a

burst of momentum, heads to New York for a celebrity fundraiser with Beyoncé and Jay-Z and a star turn on David Letterman's couch.

Romney is trying to contain the political fallout of an unauthorized video of him telling donors that almost half of all Americans "believe they are victims" entitled to extensive government support and adding that as a candidate for the White House, "my job is not to worry about those people." Romney was also trying to shake stories that his campaign was in disarray and looking for a change in direction seven weeks before Election Day.

In a hastily arranged meeting with reporters late Monday, Romney said that while his comments were "not elegantly stated," he stood by his remarks about Americans who do not pay taxes.

"Those who are reliant on government are not as attracted to my message of slimming down the size of government," Romney said in Costa Mesa, Calif., doubling down on his statement.

The former Massachusetts governor did not have public events Tuesday and planned to raise money in Salt Lake City and Dallas.

Furious China protests mix old anger over Japanese occupation with modern dispute over islands

BEIJING (AP) — Old wounds amplified outrage over a burning territorial dispute Tuesday as thousands of Chinese protested Tokyo's purchase of islands claimed by Beijing and marked the 81st anniversary of a Japanese invasion that China has never forgotten.

China marks every Sept. 18 by blowing sirens to remember a 1931 incident that Japan used as a pretext to invade Manchuria, setting off a brutal occupation of China that ended only at the close of World War II.

Demonstrations are not routine, but this year, as Chinese fume over last week's Japanese purchase of long-contested islands in the East China Sea, they spread across the country.

Outside the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, thousands of protesters shouted patriotic slogans and demanded boycotts of Japanese goods. Some burned Japanese flags and threw apples, water bottles and eggs at the embassy, which was heavily guarded by three layers of paramilitary police and metal barricades.

"I came here so our islands will not be invaded by Japan," said Wang Guoming, a retired soldier and seller of construction materials who said he came to the embassy from Linfen in Shanxi province to vent his frustration.

Ohio inmate seeks delay in execution; at 480 pounds, says he's too heavy for lethal injection

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A condemned Ohio inmate who weighs 480 pounds and has a history of difficulty losing weight argues he would face a "torturous and lingering death" if executed in January.

Ronald Post, who shot and killed a hotel clerk in northern Ohio almost 30 years ago, said his weight, vein access, scar tissue, depression and other medical problems raise the likelihood his executioners would encounter severe problems. He's also so big that the execution gurney might not hold him, lawyers for Post said in federal court papers filed Friday.

"Indeed, given his unique physical and medical condition there is a substantial risk that any attempt to execute him will result in serious physical and psychological pain to him, as well as an execution involving a torturous and lingering death," the filing said.

Mexico: 132 inmates escape from border prison

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico (AP) — More than 130 inmates escaped through a tunnel from a prison in northern Mexico on Monday, setting off a massive search by police and soldiers in an area close to the U.S. border.

Authorities in Coahuila state said the 132 inmates fled the prison in Piedras Negras, a city across the border from Eagle Pass, Texas, through a tunnel that was 21 feet long and 4 feet in diameter, then cut their way through a chain link barrier and escaped onto a neighboring property.

Coahuila Attorney General Homero Ramos Gloria said the director and two other employees of the state prison have been detained for an investigation into the escape and are being questioned about possible involvement by authorities at the penitentiary.

The prison houses about 730 inmates and the escape represented almost a fifth of its population.

The tunnel "was not made today. It had been there for months," Ramos told the Milenio TV station. "The prison was not overcrowded, none of our prisons are. We have 132 inmates escaping through a tunnel, and it doesn't make sense."

Federal police units and Mexican troops were deployed to search for the inmates and authorities in Coahuila state offered rewards of up to \$15,000 for information leading to the arrests of each prisoner.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Scintillating Play

West dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 6
♥ J 10 9 8 5 2
♦ A 10
♣ A K Q

WEST

♠ Q 8
♥ A K Q
♦ 9 4 3 2
♣ 9 6 4 3

EAST

♠ A 3
♥ 7 4
♦ J 7 6 5
♣ 10 8 7 5 2

SOUTH

♠ K J 10 9 5 4 2
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q 8
♣ J

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.
This deal occurred in a pairs championship. Most of the South players wound up in four spades, and South then either made the contract or went down one.

West usually started by cashing the K-A of hearts, then shifted to a diamond. Declarer won in dummy, led a spade and, when East followed low, went into a trance.

Those declarers who played the king made four spades, losing only

two hearts and a spade. Those who finessed the jack of trumps lost to the queen and went down one.

A good case can be made for playing the king instead of the jack, but whether this is technically the correct play is debatable. It can be argued that West, having shown up with the A-K of hearts, is unlikely to have the ace of spades also, thus making the king a better play than the jack. But against this it can be argued that East might have the A-Q-x, making the jack the winning play.

At one table, the argument for or against the king play was entirely academic. South went down one, and there was nothing he could do about it. Here, after cashing the A-K of hearts, West decided that there was no good reason to shift to a diamond and so continued with the queen of hearts.

East put on his thinking cap at this point and emerged with the killing play. He trumped his partner's high heart with the ace (!), after which declarer could not avoid losing a second trump trick to West's queen.

East reasoned that by ruffing with the ace, he could defeat the contract if his partner had either the Q-x or J-x-x of spades. East couldn't have been more right.

Tomorrow: Bid better, play better.

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Sports Calendar

TODAY

Volleyball
• Lubbock Estacado at Big Spring, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Swimming
• Black/Gold Intrasquad.

FRIDAY

Football
• Andrews at Big Spring (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
• Forsan at Jim Ned, 7:30 p.m.
• Coahoma at Denver City, 7:30 p.m.
• McCamey at Stanton, 7:30 p.m.
• Garden City at Ira, 7:30 p.m.
• Midland Trinity at Grady (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
• Highland at Sands (Homecoming), 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Volleyball
• Greenwood at Big Spring (District), 1 p.m.

Tennis
• Odessa High at Big Spring, TBA.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring quarterback Toby Tannehill (12) leaps over a mound of Steers and Chiefs to gain a first down during Friday's game against San Angelo Lake View. The Steers will host Andrews on Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. It will be Big Spring's homecoming.

AL West title within Rangers' reach

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Texas Rangers manager Ron Washington held out one hand, when the other.

Another division title is within reach for the two-time defending American League champions, and that is Washington's way of demonstrating how they have their destiny in their own hands.

As long as they can stay ahead of the surprising Oakland Athletics in the AL West.

Even with the AL's best record and being a season-high 28 games above .500, the Rangers (87-59) are still in a tight division race — with the young A's the closest chaser instead of the expected Los Angeles Angels.

"Everything is in front us," Washington said. "Oakland, everybody thought they were going to go away. They don't seem to be going away."

With 16 games left after their final off day of the regular season Monday, the Rangers lead the A's by three games. The Angels, who added slugger Albert Pujols and former Texas lefty C.J. Wilson last winter, were 7 1/2 games back.

"Hopefully for the rest of the season, we'll be able to just win series," said outfielder David Murphy, sixth in the AL with a .314 batting average after becoming an everyday player. "And we'll be in a good spot."

Texas has won eight of its last nine series, and 11 of 13, after taking two of three games against Seattle over the weekend. The Rangers haven't lost consecutive games in more than a month.

And yet their division lead shrunk to two games — the smallest in more than five months, since the first week of the season — when the A's won eight of nine

games. Oakland lost at home to Baltimore on Sunday, the first time in 10 days Texas was able to add a game to its division lead that was 5 1/2 games at the start of that stretch.

The Rangers play seven of their last 10 games against Oakland, which is 41-19 since the All-Star break. But they play at Los Angeles and Seattle this week before coming home for four games against the A's, then three more against the Angels. The season-ending series at Oakland is in two weeks.

"They're feeling good about themselves and the way they're playing," Washington said about the A's before pointing to the schedule on the wall in his office listing probable pitchers with an Angels trio. "On the board, Weaver, Wilson, Greinke. Come

See **TITLE**, Page 14

Local briefs

Chicano Golf Association to hold meeting

The Chicano Golf Association will be holding a member meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Comanche Trail Golf Course club house. All members are asked to attend.

Tickets on sale now for Big Spring's homecoming

Tickets for Friday's homecoming game — the Steers vs. Andrews — are on sale throughout the week at the athletic training center from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Advance tickets will be \$3 for students and \$5 for adults. All ticket sales at the gate will be \$6.

Cowboys 1-1 after two very different games

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Just like that, the Dallas Cowboys are a .500 team again.

While only two games into the new season, this team has insisted things had to be different after being distinctly average for so long.

So who are these Cowboys? The team that opened the season by winning on the road against the defending Super Bowl champion New York Giants, or the team that seemed so listless in Seattle in a 27-7 loss?

"We want to be a team that can go out there and win and be consistent every week," linebacker Sean Lee said Monday. "That's the identity we're working toward, tough, relentless, hard-nosed football team that's going to be there. We didn't do that. We didn't execute and that's why we lost."

The Cowboys were down 10-0 less than 5 minutes into Sunday's game after Felix Jones fumbled away the opening kickoff and Seattle returned a blocked punt for a touchdown. And those were just some of their many mistakes.

There also was an early interception thrown by Tony Romo right to a Fonder, and several dropped passes by usually reliable tight end Jason Witten.

And the production varied greatly from the opener to game two for running back DeMarco Murray (131 yards rushing to 44) and receiver Kevin Ogletree (eight catches, 114 yards and two TDs to one catch for 26 yards).

Not exactly what was expected for the Cowboys and coach Jason Garrett, who so often talks about consistency and stacking good days on top of each other. He also talks about taking care of the football, playing relentlessly and being physical.

"Identity is an ongoing thing. It's an ongoing thing for players, it's an ongoing thing for a football team," Garrett said. "At times, we've done a really good job playing to that identity and other times we haven't, but it's emphasized to our team a lot and we're trying to get better and better in that."

See **COWBOYS**, Page 14

NFL replacement refs taking heat

One official was pulled from duty because he's a fan. Another negated a touchdown without ever throwing a penalty flag. Several others had difficulty with basic rules.

Upon further review, the NFL's replacement officials came up short in Week 2.

Coaches and players around the league are losing patience and speaking out against the fill-in officials following a slew of questionable calls in the games Sunday and Monday night.

Some players are even joking about dipping into their own pockets to settle the contract dispute and get the regular officials back on the field.

"I don't know what they're arguing about, but I got a couple of (million) on it, so let's try to make it work," Washington defensive back DeAngelo Hall said, kiddingly, on Monday. "I'm sure the locker room could put up some cash and try to help the cause out."

The NFL locked out the regular officials in June after their contract expired. Negotiations with the NFL Referees Association broke down several times during the summer, including just before the season, and the league is using replacements for the first time since 2001.

The results have been mixed.

Just hours before kickoff Sunday, the NFL removed side judge Brian Stropolo from the New Orleans-Carolina game because it was discovered he's a Saints fan.

Then came the on-field problems.

In Philadelphia's 24-23 win over Baltimore, two game-altering calls left quarterback Joe Flacco and linebacker Ray Lewis fuming, though it appeared on replay that both calls were accurate. That didn't

See **REFS**, Page 14

Affadavit: Saints' Vilma offered \$10k to hurt Favre

NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL presented Jonathan Vilma and his attorney with a sworn statement from former Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams placed a \$10,000 bounty on Brett Favre.

Vilma met with Commissioner Roger Goodell on Monday in New York about his suspension, which has been temporarily lifted. Attorney Peter Ginsberg said they were given an affidavit at the meeting.

"What Gregg Williams said in his most recent affidavit is the same falsity he has previously provided," Ginsberg said.

"I don't know what Gregg Williams' motives are, but I do know that any suggestion by Williams that Jonathan put up \$10,000 as an incentive for his teammates to injure another player is absolutely false."

Vilma tweeted on Monday night that

Williams was "bullied to sign the affidavit," saying Williams signed it on Friday.

Williams is now with St. Louis, though he has been suspended indefinitely. An associate of his said Williams did not want to talk to the media.

Vilma, who denied in court that he offered money in exchange for injuring the former Vikings quarterback, was one of four players suspended by Goodell in the bounty scandal.

"Today everyone was afforded an opportunity to start over," Vilma said outside the NFL's Park Avenue offices more than three hours after he went in. "It was in our best interest to meet today. We spoke truthfully, honestly, bluntly."

An appeals panel earlier this month said Goodell must clarify his rulings to ensure no part of his decisions was based on salary cap violations.

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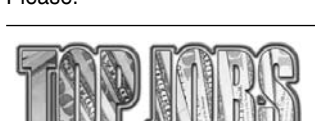
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Older drivers face confusing array of license laws

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — Jerry Wiseman notices it's harder to turn and check his car's blind spots at age 69 than it was at 50. So the Illinois man and his wife took a refresher driving course, hunting tips to stay safe behind the wheel for many more years — a good idea considering their state has arguably the nation's toughest older-driver laws.

More older drivers are on the road than ever before, and an *Associated Press* review found they face a hodgepodge of state licensing rules that reflect scientific uncertainty and public angst over a growing question: How can we tell if it's time to give up the keys?

Thirty states plus the District of Columbia have some sort of older-age requirement for driver's licenses, ranging from more vision testing to making seniors renew their licenses more frequently than younger people. At what age? That's literally all over the map. Maryland starts eye exams at 40. Shorter license renewals kick in anywhere from age 59 in Georgia to 85 in Texas.

The issue attracted new attention when a 100-year-old driver backed over a group of schoolchildren in Los Angeles late last month. That's a rarity, but with an imminent surge in senior drivers, the federal government is proposing that all states take steps to address what the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration calls "the real and growing problem of older driver safety."

Here's the conundrum: "Birthdays don't kill. Health conditions do," said Joseph Coughlin, head of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's AgeLab, which develops technologies to help older people stay active.

Healthy older drivers aren't necessarily less safe than younger ones, Coughlin points out. But many older people have health issues that can impair driving, from arthritis to dementia, from slower reflexes to the use of multiple medications. There's no easy screening tool that licensing authorities can use to spot people with subtle health risks. So some states use birthdays as a proxy for more scrutiny instead.

Senior driving is a more complicated issue than headline-grabbing tragedies might suggest. Older drivers don't crash as often as younger ones. But they also drive less. About 60 percent of seniors voluntarily cut back, avoiding nighttime driving or interstates or bad weather, said David Eby of the University of Michigan's Center for Advancing Safe Transportation throughout the Lifespan.

Measure by miles driven, however, and the crash rate of older drivers begins to climb in the 70s, with a sharper jump at age 80, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Only teens and 20-somethings do worse.

That rising risk reflects the challenge for families as they try to help older loved ones stay safe but still get around for as long as possible, which

itself is important for health.

The good news: Fatal crashes involving seniors have dropped over the past decade, perhaps because cars and roads are safer or they're staying a bit healthier, said the Insurance Institute's Anne McCartt.

Yet the oldest drivers, those 85 and up, still have the highest rate of deadly crashes per mile, even more than teens. More often than not, they're the victims, largely because they're too frail to survive their injuries.

And seniors are about to transform the nation's roadways. Today, nearly 34 million drivers are 65 or older. By 2030, federal estimates show there will be about 57 million — making up about a quarter of all licensed drivers. The baby boomers in particular are expected to hang onto their licenses longer, and drive more miles, than previous generations.

Specialists say more seniors need to be planning ahead like Jerry Wiseman and his wife Sandy.

"Absolutely we want to be as good drivers as we can possibly be for as long as we can," said Wiseman, of Schaumburg, Ill.

At an AARP course, Wiseman learned exercises to improve his flexibility for checking those blind spots. He takes extra care with left-hand turns, which become riskier as the ability to judge speed and distance wanes with age. He knows to watch for other changes.

"We'll be ready when it's time for one of us to stop," he said.

Where you live determines what extra requirements, if any, older adults must meet to keep their driver's license.

Among the most strict rules: Illinois requires a road test to check driving skills with every license renewal starting at age 75 — and starting at age 81, those renewals are required every two years instead of every four. At 87, Illinois drivers must renew annually.

In Washington, D.C., starting at age 70, drivers must bring a doctor's certification that they're still OK to drive every time they renew their license.

New Mexico requires annual renewals at 75.

Geographic variability makes little sense, said Jake Nelson, AAA's director of traffic safety advocacy and research. "Either I'm safe to drive or I'm not. Where I live shouldn't matter," he said.

Yet when Iowa drivers turn 70, they must renew their license every two years instead of every five. Neighboring Missouri lets the 70-year-olds renew every three years instead of every six.

Some states introduce age requirements after high-profile accidents. Massachusetts now requires drivers to start renewing licenses in person at age 75, with proof of an eye exam. The change came after an 88-year-old driver struck and killed a 4-year-old crossing a suburban Boston street in 2009.

This summer, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration proposed a national guideline for older driver safety that, if finalized, would

push states to become more consistent. Among the recommendations: Every state needs a program to improve older driver safety; doctors should be protected from lawsuits if they report a possibly unsafe driver; and driver's licenses should be renewed in person after a certain age, tailored to each state's crash data.

Still, many states say their main focus should be on inexperienced teen drivers and problems such as texting behind the wheel.

"Teens are risk takers. Our older drivers are risk avoiders," said Alabama state Rep. Jim McClendon. Alabama drivers renew licenses every four years, with no older age requirements.

New Hampshire last year stopped requiring road tests when 75-year-olds renewed their licenses. The law was repealed after an 86-year-old legislator called it discriminatory.

It's not the only state worrying about age discrimination.

"You don't want to go around and say, 'This person is 85. We've got to take them off the road.' That wouldn't be fair," said Assemblyman David Gantt of New York, where licenses last for eight years.

On the other side is the family of a Baltimore college student who died last year after being run over by an 83-year-old driver who turned into his bike lane. Maryland next month begins issuing licenses that last longer — eight years instead of five — despite an emotional appeal from the mother of Nathan Krasnopoler that that's too long for the oldest drivers.

"You should be looking at your drivers to be sure they're able to safely drive. There's plenty of research that as we age, things do change and we may not be aware of those changes," said Susan Cohen, who now is urging Maryland officials to study adding some form of competency screening, in addition to the required eye exams, to license renewals.

"Do we have to lose a 20-year-old with an incredible future ahead of him in order to determine that this particular driver shouldn't be driving?" she asked.

Traffic challenges change for older drivers, who are less likely than younger ones to be in crashes involving alcohol or speeding. Instead, they have more trouble with intersections, making left turns, and changing lanes or merging, because of gradual declines in vision, reaction times and other abilities, according to the National Institutes of Health.

Scientists are hunting screening tests to check for such things as early warning signs of cognitive problems that might signal who's more at risk. But such screenings are a long way from the local license office. In a closely watched pilot project, California tried a three-step screening process to detect drivers who might need a road test before getting their licenses renewed. But it didn't reduce crashes, sending researchers back to the drawing board.

Today, AAA's Nelson said in-person renewals are "the single most effective

thing states can do to improve safety."

That's because workers in the driver's license office can be trained to look for signs of confusion or trouble walking as people come in — two big clues that they may have trouble behind the wheel — and refer those drivers for a road test or a medical exam to see if there's really a problem.

Virginia, for example, lets even the oldest drivers hold a license for eight years, but starting at 80 they must renew in person and pass an eye test. California has five-year renewals, and starting at 70 they must be in person with both a written test and eye check.

Those eye tests can make a difference. In senior-filled Florida, 80-year-olds renew their licenses every six years instead of every eight, with a vision check each time. A study found highway deaths among Florida's older drivers dropped 17 percent after the vision test was mandated in 2003.

How long between renewals is best? There's no scientific consensus, but Nelson recommends every four to six years.

Another big key: Programs that make it easy for doctors, police and family members to alert licensing officials to possibly unsafe drivers of any age, so the experts can investigate. But in states that don't allow confidential reporting, families in particular hesitate in fear of backlash if upset relatives learn who turned them in.

Utah adopted confidential reporting in 2008 "to encourage more people to report problematic drivers without the risk of retaliation of repercussion," said Chris Caras of Utah's Department of Public Safety.

Nor should the question be only whether someone should drive or not. Iowa is leading a growing number of states that customize license restrictions to allow people to stay on the road under certain conditions. People with early-stage Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease, for instance, may qualify for a one-year license; people with other health conditions may be allowed to drive only during the day or within a few miles of home.

In California, older drivers who fail a regular road test sometimes get a re-test on familiar neighborhood roads to qualify for a restricted license. State traffic researchers expect demand for that option to grow, and are preparing to study if that tailored testing really assures safety.

Meanwhile, how can people tell how they do on the road?

- The University of Michigan developed an online self-test to help drivers detect safety changes: <http://um-saferdriving.org/>.

- AAA and AARP offer websites with similar tools and links to driving courses: <http://seniordriving.aaa.com/> and http://www.aarp.org/home-garden/transportation/driver_safety/.

But ultimately, "the only way you can assess any driver at any age is to sit in the seat next to them and watch them drive," said Coughlin.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Small matters have large implications on this peak of Uranus in Aries square Pluto in Capricorn. These heavy-hitting planets govern the wide-angle view. Of course, everything about the big picture can be felt on a personal level, too. Uranus focuses swift turns and jarring disruptions on the power structures regulated by Pluto in Capricorn.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Loved ones have angered, irritated and frustrated you. You think that's what pushes you away, and maybe that's true. But it's also what draws you close. Revisit the situation with fresh, forgiving eyes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll become someone's informal mentor. With every piece of assistance and advice you offer, you'll grow just as enriched and educated as the one you're helping.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may secretly feel that certain work is below you, but you do it anyway, mostly because it needs to be done. This ethic will hold you in good stead in an organization and among your loved ones, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People will listen carefully to what you say and will take you quite literally. This might not be as nice as it sounds. Be very careful how you word things. Figure out what you want before you talk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your natural, easy-going pace will give you an increased immunity to stress. You progress without pushing yourself or anyone else. Others learn from your example. Their lives improve, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may feel that agreeing with those around you is part of your job: It's what's expected, and it will be easier than disagreeing. And yet, you won't always do so. That's what authenticity is all about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be offered a challenge, and you're not one to back down. You might initially be stumped, but not for long. In the evening, you'll go at the problem from a new angle and solve it immediately.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Thinking is all well and good, but thinking can't make it so. You won't be able to force yourself or the entirety of the world to do what you think. But when you start to move, so does everything.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In the area of romance, you'll get as much attention as you give. The equality is comforting. You can relax into the idea that fair is fair. Enjoy this rare moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Humanity has come far from its primitive stage, and yet it's likely that the day will be shaped by the age-old question of what to eat. What's simple and true never changes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The same thing can be said in hundreds of ways, but there are more than a few people who like the way you say it the most. That's why you'll have followers and fans today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When people copy your style, it doesn't always feel like a compliment, and yet it always is. They wouldn't bother to emulate you if there wasn't something irresistibly appealing about what you do.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 18). If people want to know what you're thinking about (and they often will), they need only look at what you're doing. You put your mind in motion this year. The next five weeks bring about a healing. November turns strangers into friends. Your work in January will be like a well-choreographed dance. Cancer and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 4, 1, 30 and 15.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Holiday, I've called myself a writer since I was in the third

grade. I still live with my parents, and I write all of the time: novels, short stories and articles. But I've never been published, and I'm terrified of rejection. If I send off my work now, and it's not accepted, I will be a complete failure who still lives with her parents for no good reason. What do you have to say to a fellow Leo? Birthdate: July 31, 1987."

Did you know that you share the same birthday, different year, with the author J.K. Rowling? In a Harvard commencement address, the "Harry Potter" creator talked about the benefits of failure and suggested, "You will never truly know yourself or the strength of your relationships until you both have been tested by adversity." Since you have admitted that your life is comfortable enough, your job is to keep daring adversity to test you by putting yourself out there. You are lucky that you don't have to risk home and survival at this point. With a roof over your head and hot meals aplenty, you owe it to yourself and your parents to be courageous in other ways. Best of luck!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Multitalented Virgo Jada Pinkett Smith has been an actress, producer, director, author, singer/songwriter and more. Having worn so many hats, she has great wisdom to offer her children, who are quickly rising to superstar status in their own right. With her sun, moon, Mercury and Pluto all in Virgo, Smith's work ethic combined with her down-to-earth values will keep her all-star family grounded.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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HOLIDAY
MATHIS

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men CBS	News	Noticias	News	King	Justice	Charlie Rose	King	Deadliest Catch	Kevin Bacon	Flop Men	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Refugio	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana Yohan	PBS News-Hour	Rules	Deadliest Catch		The Mentalist	Bones	Code 9	NFL Live	E:60	
7:PM	Middle	Por Ella Soy Eva	So You Think You Can Dance	NCIS (DVS)	Rosa Dia-mante (SS)	The Voice	Big Bang	Upd	Death and the Civil War-Experience	Hart of Dixie	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Tombstone, Michael Biehn	(7:53) Bar Rescue	Bones	Bad 25	Good	WNBA	World/Poker
8:PM	Last Man	Abismo de Pasión		NCIS: Los Angeles (DVS)	Corazón Valiente	Go On	Big Bang	Alewine	The Next	Deadliest Catch		(7:53) Bar Rescue	Bones		Gravity Vampire Austin	Basketball: Liberty at Silver Stars	World/Poker	
9:PM		Amor Bravo! (SS)	Simpsons		Escobar	Parenthood	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Frontline	Seinfeld	Deadly Seas		(7:53) Bar Rescue	Rizzoli & Isles	Michael Jackson: The Life of an Icon	ANT Farm	CrossFit	Baseball Tonight
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Til Death	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Big Jake, Maureen O'Hara	(11) Bar Rescue	CSI: NY	Jessie	CrossFit	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Decisiones (SS)	Jay Leno			World	'70s	Deadly Seas		(20) Bar Rescue	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Conan	Upd	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Browns	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Cable Guy, Leslie Mann	(29) Bar Rescue	CSI: NY	Movie: Streets, Chico Benymon	Deck	World/Poker	SportsCenter
1AM	Paid	La Jaula	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News		McGee		Browns	Deadliest Catch		(38) Entou-	The Great Escape	Good	World/Poker	SportsCenter	
1:30	Paid	Par Ases	American	Ent	Pagado	(05) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest		Cops	Deadliest Catch				Good	World/Poker	SportsCenter	
			TMZ	Paid	Pelicula:		Seinfeld			Gaither	Catch							

DENNIS THE MENACE



"OF COURSE I CAN KEEP A SECRET! IT'S THE PEOPLE I TOLD IT TO THAT CAN'T."

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



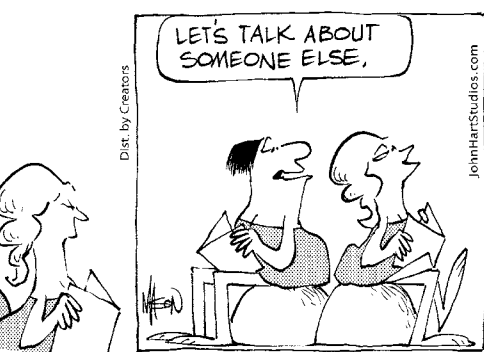
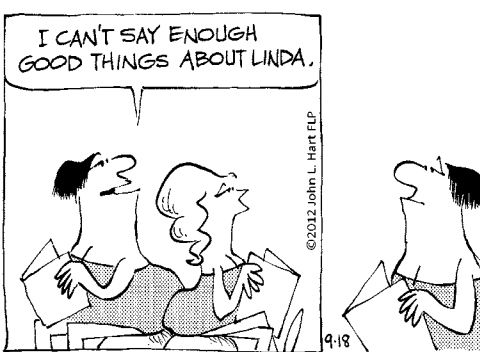
"Don't worry, that's just our smoke alarm. My dad must be cooking dinner tonight."

By and with JEFF KEANE

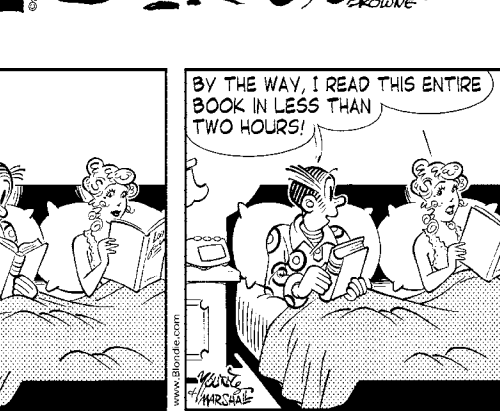
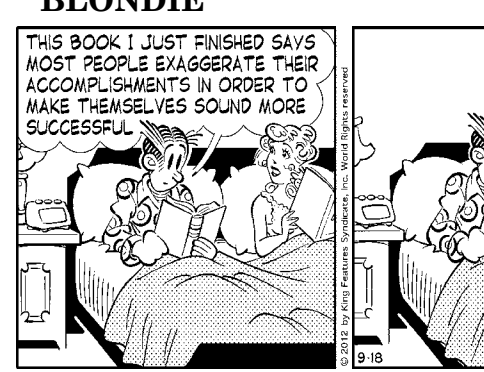
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 18, the 262nd day of 2012. There are 104 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 18, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a commission naming Rabbi Jacob Frankel of Rodeph Shalom Congregation in Philadelphia the first Jewish chaplain of the U.S. Army.

On this date:

In 1759, the French formally surrendered Quebec to the British.

In 1793, President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.

In 1810, Chile made its initial declaration of independence from Spain with the forming of a national junta.

In 1850, Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act, which created a force of federal commissioners charged with returning escaped slaves to their owners.

In 1927, the Columbia Phonograph Broadcasting

System (later CBS) made its on-air debut with a basic network of 16 radio stations.

In 1931, an explosion in the Chinese city of Mukden damaged a section of Japanese-owned railway track; Japan, blaming Chinese nationalists, invaded Manchuria the next day.

In 1947, the National Security Act, which created a National Military Establishment, went into effect.

In 1961, United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld (dah HAWM'-ahr-shoold) was killed in a plane crash in northern Rhodesia.

In 1970, rock star Jimi Hendrix died in London at age 27.

In 1975, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was captured by the FBI in San Francisco, 19 months after being kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.

In 1981, a museum honoring former President Gerald R. Ford was dedicated in Grand Rapids, Mich.

In 1990, the city of Atlanta was named the site of the 1996 Summer Olympics. The organized crime drama

"GoodFellas," directed by Martin Scorsese, had its U.S. premiere in New York.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Jimmie Rodgers is 79. Actor Robert Blake is 79. Former Sen. Robert Bennett, R-Utah, is 79. Actor Eddie Jones is 78. Actor Fred Willard is 73. Singer Frankie Avalon is 72. Rock musician Kerry Livgren is 63. Actress Anna Deavere Smith is 62. Basketball coach Rick Pitino is 60. College Football Hall of Famer and retired NFL player Billy Sims is 57. Baseball Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg is 53. Actor James Gandolfini is 51. Alt-country-rock musician Mark Olson is 51. Singer Joanne Catherall (Human League) is 50.

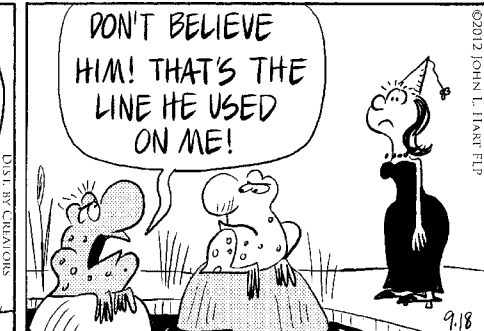
Answer to previous puzzle

SLAMS	BRAN	PUPS
CARAT	AOANE	ABUT
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BABYBOOMER	EASE	
LPN	MANTEL	
BIGBET	STINT	
EDIT	TERSE	CPA
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SNUFFY SMITH



BEEETLE BAILEY



BEEETLE BAILEY



BEEETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Battlefield healer
 - 6 Radar screen images
 - 11 Sesame Street network
 - 14 "Well done!"
 - 15 Cowboy contest
 - 16 Lab maze runner
 - 17 Soldier's clothing
 - 19 Long-term svgs. plan
 - 20 Little litter members
 - 21 Angled edge
 - 23 Falling behind
 - 27 Comment
 - 28 Weds secretly
 - 29 Enthusiasm
 - 31 "Are you calling me ___?"
 - 32 "___ the night before..."
 - 33 Exam
 - 36 Mom and Dad's boy
 - 37 Piece of the action
 - 38 Evergreen tree
 - 39 Therefore
 - 41 Window glass
 - 42 Sparkle, as shoes
 - 44 Baseball and golf
 - 46 Hard to find
 - 47 In recent days
 - 49 Sent unwanted email to
 - 50 Make better
 - 51 Annoy
 - 53 Espionage org.
- DOWN
- 1 CEO's degree, perhaps
 - 2 Slip up
 - 3 Beaver's work
 - 4 Climbing vine
 - 5 Deliveryperson
 - 6 Tote with you
 - 7 Church balcony
 - 8 Wedding vows
 - 9 Part of mpg
 - 10 Gloomy
 - 11 Closely held business
 - 12 Less decorated
 - 13 Piece of celery
 - 18 Convent residents
 - 22 Give off
 - 23 Rental agreement
 - 24 "It's ___ nothing!"
 - 25 In an exclusive relationship
 - 26 Coll. student's stat
 - 27 Move upward
 - 29 Graceful birds
 - 30 Whittle down
 - 32 "___ does it!"
 - 34 Starting from a branch
 - 37 Agile
 - 40 Ready for business
 - 42 Strew randomly
 - 43 Sandwich meat
 - 45 Trite
 - 46 Hot tubs
 - 47 Shoestrings
 - 48 Acid in proteins
 - 49 Cattle drive animal
 - 51 Ireland, poetically
 - 52 "It comes ___ surprise..."
 - 55 Bullring cheer
 - 56 In the past
 - 57 Sis' sibling
 - 58 Allow
 - 59 Sci-fi creatures: Abbr.

CONSTANTLY by Billie Truitt

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
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63				64						65			

REFS

Continued from Page 8

make them any less controversial.

Flacco's scoring pass to receiver Jacoby Jones in the fourth quarter was called back because of offensive pass interference. The official who made the call didn't throw the yellow flag, though he immediately signaled a penalty.

"I might sound like a little bit of a baby here," Flacco said, "but for them to make that call, I think, was a little crazy."

There was confusion later during Philadelphia's go-ahead drive. First, the two-minute warning occurred twice. Then, quarterback Michael Vick's forward pass was called a fumble inside the Ravens 5. It was ruled incomplete following a replay, and Vick scored on the next play after a few anxious moments.

"It's extra stress when you have to sit there and wait," Vick said. "The one thing you don't want to do, you don't want to put the game in the officials' hands."

Lewis, like many players around the league, has seen enough.

"The time is now," he

said. "How much longer are we going to keep going through this whole process? I don't have the answer. I just know across the league teams and the league are being affected by it. It's not just this game, it's all across the league. And so if they want the league to have the same reputation it's always had, they'll address the problem. Get the regular referees in here and let the games play themselves out.

"We already have controversy enough with the regular refs calling the plays."

The problems continued Monday night when Peyton Manning led the Denver Broncos against the Atlanta Falcons.

The officials missed a call on Denver's first touchdown, ruling that Demaryius Thomas was pushed out of bounds. The replay clearly showed he got both feet down, and the call was reversed after a review.

The Falcons' first score also was reversed, this time with the officials ruling, with help from a replay, that Michael Turner actually landed short of the goal line. He wound up scoring on the next play.

In the second half, the officials got mixed up on where to place the ball

after a defensive holding penalty on Champ Bailey. The crowd booed while the officials conferred, finally moving it a few yards forward to the proper spot.

It was those sort of delays that helped the game drag on for nearly 3½ hours.

Despite the public outcry, the league backed the replacement crews, a collection of small-college officials who have been studying NFL rules since the summer.

"Officiating is never perfect. The current officials have made great strides and are performing admirably under unprecedented scrutiny and great pressure," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said in an email to The Associated Press. "As we do every season, we will work to improve officiating and are confident that the game officials will show continued improvement."

While some of the mistakes on Sunday were judgment calls — such as a pass interference penalty on Pittsburgh defensive back Ike Taylor in which he appeared to miss a New York Jets receiver — the more egregious errors appear to be misinterpretations of rules.

Falcons beat Manning, Denver 27-21

ATLANTA (AP) — Peyton Manning knew there would be some stumbles along the way.

There had to be after four neck surgeries, a year away from the field, and the transition to a new team.

But even at his most pessimistic, Manning surely never envisioned a quarter like this.

One pick. Then another. Then a third.

All before he made it through the opening period Monday night.

Manning's three interceptions in the first 8 minutes helped the Atlanta Falcons build a big lead, and they held off the Denver Broncos for a 27-21 victory.

"Just a really tough start," Manning said. "I won't make any excuses for it. We made poor decisions. We have to eliminate those mistakes."

Matt Ryan threw the 100th touchdown pass of his career, Roddy White had 102 yards receiving and the Falcons (2-0) made an early 20-0 lead stand up, if just barely. Denver (1-1) rallied for a couple of touchdowns in the fourth quarter and were a defensive stop away from getting one last chance to pull it out.

Thomas DeCoud and Robert McClain also had interceptions as new defensive coordinator Mike Nolan kept mixing up his formations and moving players around the field, confusing Manning enough to put the Falcons in position to pick off passes that seemed a bit wobbly and lacking the zip he had during his glory days in Indianapolis.

"Each turnover has its own story that no one

really wants to hear," Manning said. "I've just got to take care of the ball better."

He finished 24 of 37 for 241 yards, including a 17-yard touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas just before halftime. Willis McGahee rushed for 113 yards and scored on a pair of 2-yard runs in the final 12 minutes.

Ryan was much more efficient than the four-time MVP, completing 24 of 36 for 219 yards. He hooked up with Tony Gonzalez for a 1-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter, then went to White on a 4-yard score in the third period.

Michael Turner scored Atlanta's first TD on a 1-yard run, the play set up by the first of Manning's picks. Matt Bryant kicked two field goals for the Falcons.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 8

Especially after the kind of game they had against the Seahawks, who as Witten put it more strongly, kicked their rear ends.

The Cowboys play their home opener Sunday against Tampa Bay (1-1).

"Sunday can't get here fast enough," Witten said. "Today's an important

day of never really getting too high after a big win or too low after a loss. You got to be critical of yourself, you have to evaluate it, win or loss, and get better. I think that's the approach our team is taking."

It was the seven-time Pro Bowl tight end who said at the start of training camp that this year "can't be the same old story." The Cowboys were 8-8 last season, making them 120-120 over a 15-season span before this year when they had only one playoff victory.

TITLE

Continued from Page 8

on, I certainly ain't thinking about Oakland."

Ryan Dempster, who has won five consecutive starts with a 1.91 ERA and 36 strikeouts in 33 innings, starts the Tuesday night series opener against the Angels and Jered Weaver (17-4).

The right-hander is 6-1 since getting traded from the Chicago Cubs just minutes before the July 31 non-waiver deadline. His first start for Texas was at home two days later against the Angels, when he gave up eight runs in 4 2-3 innings — the same number of runs the Rangers scored in 5 1-3 innings off Wilson that night in a game they eventually won 15-9.

Dempster, who also allowed eight runs in a loss at the Yankees before his current winning streak, called it exciting to be in a pennant chase with a team that has been to the last two World Series. He has a sense why the Rangers have been able to have that kind of success.

"Just a bunch of guys who work really hard to be prepared and go out there and

take their job really seriously and want to win really bad, but have a lot of fun," Dempster said. "It's a loose group of guys that go out there and realize that really the easiest way to be successful at your job is to have fun doing it."

When asked what most satisfied him about the way he is pitching now, Dempster talked about making adjustments and doing a better job of executing pitches. Then came the follow-up question about his most significant adjustment, and his answer that showed just how well he fits in with this team.

"Probably changing my underwear," he said. "They were definitely really unlucky."

Derek Holland (10-6) is scheduled

to face Wilson on Wednesday and Yu Darvish (15-9), the Japanese rookie who surpassed 200 strikeouts during his last start, goes against Zack Greinke on Thursday.

The Rangers have made one change in the rotation, replacing struggling Scott Feldman (0-5, 6.99 ERA his last seven starts) with rookie Martin Perez (1-1, 3.38) for the opener Friday night in Seattle. All-Star lefty Matt Harrison (17-9) pitches again Saturday.

Texas had only 1 1/2-game division lead at the same point last season, then won 14 of its last 16 games to finish 10 games ahead of the Angels. The Rangers were 40-17 against division opponents last season; they're 21-20 this year.

"That's where you win, when you can run away in your division, or do well in your division," Washington said. "I'll take our best game against any one of those teams' best game."

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