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THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING NOMINEES

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**Big Spring High** School 2012 homecoming queen and king nominees are, from left: Max Pappajohn, Logan Yarbar, Melinda Gonzalez, Rogerick **Brown**, Paige **Knowlton, Tyler** Graves, Belinda Gonzalez, Jason Guevara, Gabriella **Torres and Charles** Anderson. The queen and king will be crowned during halftime of Big Spring's football game vs. Andrews Friday in Memorial Stadium.

**Courtesy photo** 

# Steer fans ready for festivities

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Light the bonfire, strike up the band and don the black and gold — Big Spring homecoming time has arrived.

Big Spring High School 2012 celebrations homecoming kick into high gear tonight and continue with events

scheduled through Saturday.

BSHS students have marked homecoming all week with themed "dress up days," but really get a chance to celebrate tonight at the annual bonfire rally. This year, the bonfire has been moved from the old city compost facility to a vacant lot adjacent to Memorial Stadium. The event is

scheduled to begin around 8

There are several events Friday leading up to the annual homecoming football game vs. Andrews, school officials said.

The school will hold a pep rally at 3 p.m. in Steer Gym, followed by the homecoming parade set to begin at 4:30 p.m. The parade route will be the same as the past few years, beginning in front of the school on 11th Place, heading west to Goliad, north to Eighth, east to Owens, then south to the high school.

Before the game, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Memorial Stadium, a former student will be selected as

coming home queen. Then, at halftime, the homecoming king and queen will be crowned.

This year's queen nominees are: Belinda and Melinda Gonzalez, daughters of Abel and Amy Gonzalez; Paige Knowlton, daughter of

See **STEERS**, Page 3



# **ISD enrollments get an 'A+'**

Big Spring student numbers top 4,000 for first time since 2001

## **INDEX**

**Comics** 13 Classified 10-12 Health 5 **Obituaries** 2 Opinion 4 8,14 **Sports** 

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

#### To reach us: Please call 263-7331.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



#### By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

School enrollment is busting out all over, it seems.

Fueled by the oil industry hiring boom, most area public schools are seeing a surge in enrollment figures, officials confirmed. Nowhere is the increase

more notable than at Big

Spring Independent School District, which is recording enrollment figures not seen in more than a decade.

The latest count shows 4.148 students enrolled at BSISD campuses, an increase of more than 200 from the same time last year — and that figure doesn't take into account more than 80 children

enrolled in pre-kindergarten classes.

This marks the first time the local district has surpassed the 4,000 figure since the 2000-01 school year, officials said. The spike in enrollment

isn't limited to Big Spring, either. Both Coahoma and Stanton districts report increases — Coahoma's student rolls jumped from 819 to 852, while Stanton notes an increase of 48 students from this time last year and Grady ISD reports an additional 10 students from September of last year.

Forsan enrollment, meanwhile is fairly stable — the

See **STUDENTS**, Page 3

# Lots of local events upcoming, chamber notes

By AMANDA DUFORAT Staff Writer

Lots of plans are in the works and events are popping up everywhere for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Board members met for the monthly meeting Wednesday afternoon and discussed upcoming events for the next

several months. Ribbon cuttings at Kitty Ga-

lore's Vintage Store — Sept. 24 at 11 a.m. — and Petticoats on the Prairie — Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. — will begin the festival of activities. Both businesses are recently accepted new chamber members. During Wednesday's meeting, the board approved seven new members, bringing total membership to 347. The Chalet will be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Oct. 18 at 10:30 a.m. with a ribbon cut-

ting, as well.

Fairgrounds.

Other September events include the Healthy Woman and Howard College Foundation Speaker Series featuring Krickitt Carpenter on Sept. 24 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Admission is free, but tickets must be reserved by calling Laura Hughes at 432-264-5063. The Howard County Fair

will also be taking place Sept.

27-29 at the Howard County

October will also be filled with several events, including the fourth state of the community series — Focus on Industrial — on Oct. 23. The event will be held at Dora Roberts Community Center with tickets \$12 per person. Speakers are still being finalized at this point, according to Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde. See CHAMBER, Page 3



**Inside The** Big Spring Mall 267-6335 Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm Surprise That Special Someone With A One Of A Kind Rose Gold Ring!







## **Obituaries**

## Elsie Spurgin

Elsie Spurgin, 66, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012 at her daughter's home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

- Rd., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency and a warrant for speeding in a • AMARIS BERNAL, 25, address unknown, was
- arrested Wednesday on a warrant for theft more than \$50 and less than \$500. • BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:
- In the 2500 block of Langley. In the 3700 block of Dixon. • ASSAULT was reported in the 2300 block of
- THEFT was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson.
  - **Sheriff**

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

- Note Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 60 inmates at the time of this
- JOSE MONTEMAYOR, 45, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a municipal capias warrant for speeding in a school zone.

• RENE NICHOLAS ROBLES, 45, was arrested

- Wednesday by DPS on Midland County warrants for bond forfeiture – resisting arrest, search or transportation and violation of parole for driving while intoxicated. • AMARIS LARRAINE BERNAL, 25, was booked
- into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft – more than \$50 and less
- CRYSTAL RAE PARKER, 18, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of N. Service Road. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of E. Sixth Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Carol. One person was transported to SMMC.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported in the 1500
- block of Gregg Street.
- Big Spring High School Cass of 1952 will be having its 60th reunion Friday and Saturday. Class members will have a float in the parade Friday and meet at Spanish Inn afterward. 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.
- Big Spring Independent School District will host tours of two campuses Saturday as part of 2012 homecoming observances. 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.
- Big Spring Symphony Guild will be hosting its Fall Celebration/Meeting at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. Saturday. The meeting will take place in the fellowship hall, located at 810 Gregg
- Big Spring Health Department will be administering flu shots from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 9-10 at 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28-B. Five dollar donations are welcomed, however, no one will be turned away for inability to pay. Medicare patients, Medicare pays for flu shots and their administration so remember to bring your card. For information, call 432-263-9775.
- 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 by 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 com-

## **Support Groups**

- · Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.
- · Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is • JOSE MONTEMAYOR JR., 45, of 427 E. Davis open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call 263-2501.

#### **FRIDAY**

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org
- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY**

· Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY** Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11

until 8 p.m. MONDAY

a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m.

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.
- PEP Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-
- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) TX 0021 meets at First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weighin starts at 5 p.m. and meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. We have a different program each week. For more information, please call 213-1342 or 263-6819

#### **TUESDAY**

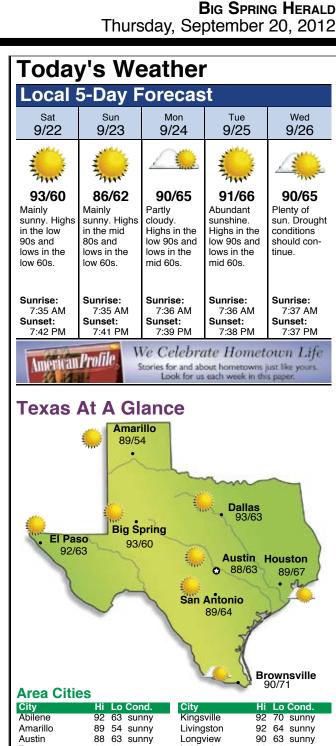
- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m.atElbowElementary.ContactKerriRosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com
- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

## **Take Note**

munity-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.

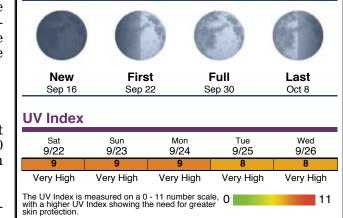
- Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main. Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give 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-
- 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.



Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated

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Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

# Museum hosting Halloween exhibit

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Staff Writer

Heritage Museum is getting in the Halloween spirit.

The Vintage Halloween Costume exhibit is open until Halloween and will feature costumes and masks from the 1950s through the 1970s.

"Here at the museum we are about reminiscing and we figured this was a great opportunity for the parents to remember Halloween from when they

were a kid, while giving the children an opportunity to see what their parents wore for Halloween at their age," Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost said.

According to Schrecengost, the exhibit has been in the works for the past year. Some costumes were donated last vear to the museum, which sparked the idea in her mind. After researching and finding more costumes to display, the exhibit was constructed and

will be featuring 15 costumes and masks. "In a way things have changed

in the past 30 or 40 years, but at the same time they haven't really changed all that much," Schrecengost said. "This exhibit is really just a fun way to make some good memories with the family and bring the fun back into Halloween instead of the scare factor, which has kind of overshadowed the holiday in recent years."

As a closing to the exhibit,

the museum will host a Trunk or Treat on Halloween from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Admission will be free to the exhibit and goody bags and Halloween

To find out more information, contact the museum at 432-267-8255.

treats will be provided.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Duforat at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringher**STEERS** 

Continued from Page 1

Gaylon and Tyna Knowlton; Gabriella Torres, daughter of the late Ricky Torres and Marty and Gina Rice; and Logan Yarbar, daughter of Luke and MiQue Yarbar and Phil and Leslie Whitten.

King nominees are: Charles Anderson, son of Jeff and Candace Anderson; Rogerick Brown, son of Linda Marshall; Tyler Graves, son of Mike and Tonya Graves; Max Pappajohn, son of David and Dawn Pappajohn; and Jason Guevara, son of Mary Ann Guevara.

Following the game, the school's homecoming dance will be held until midnight in the high school cafeteria.

As part of homecoming, the school district will host a pair of open houses Saturday so the public can get a view of improvements made as part of the recent \$60 million construction project. Tours of Washington Elementary will be from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., followed by a tour of BSHS' renovated science labs from 11 a.m. until noon.

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

## Odds and Ends

#### Beagle survives 70-foot fall from N.J. bridge BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — A beagle named Bran-

di survived a 70-foot fall from a New Jersey bridge.

The dog got away from its owner during a walk along the Burlington Riverfront Promenade Friday night.

Bridge officer Rob Bittner saw Brandi walking up the Burlington-Bristol Bridge toward Pennsylvania.

Bittner tells The Courier-Post of Cherry Hill (http://on.cpsj. com/Ps9e2y ) he turned on his emergency lights to slow traffic and followed the dog. Bittner says Brandi was doing fine until she got to the top of the span and her paws felt a steel grate.

The officer says Brandi jumped into the Delaware River as motorists tried to grab her.

The beagle's owner recovered her and took her to a veterinarian. Brandi was bruised around the abdomen, but didn't have any broken bones.

#### Fla. man wanted to cook rare sea turtle TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A rare sea turtle that a Florida fisherman

wanted to cook and eat has been released back into the wild.

Officials at The Florida Aquarium say the fisherman snagged the Kemp's ridley sea turtle in May. Instead of releasing it, he put the 15-pound juvenile turtle in a tank in his backyard in Tampa. Aquarium official Susan Coy tells The Tampa Tribune that the

It's not unheard of for turtle meat to be used in dishes such as

fisherman planned to cook and eat the endangered species, but a

Gary Morse, a spokesman for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, says the fisherman told investigators he didn't know the turtle was endangered.

The turtle named "Lucky" was rehabilitated at the aquarium until Wednesday, when it was released.

## Man accused of crushing cruisers charged

NEWPORT, Vt. (AP) — A Vermont man charged with driving a tractor over seven police vehicles and crushing them is facing

The Orleans County court says Roger Pion was arraigned Tuesday on a charge of driving with a suspended license.

Pion already faced 14 criminal counts after police say he drove his dad's tractor over six cruisers and a van at the county sheriff's department in Derby on Aug. 2.

Police he had been angry over a previous arrest for marijuana possession. Pion has pleaded not guilty to the charges. He received finan-

cial support from people worldwide after his arrest.

#### NM security official tries to take gun on flight

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Albuquerque airport officials say the second-in-command of New Mexico's domestic security agency was caught trying to bring a loaded gun through a security checkpoint. State Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security Anita Tallarico

told Albuquerque Sunport police that she forgot to leave the weapon at home when TSA agents spotted it in her purse.

## STUDENTS

neighbor reported him to authorities.

Continued from Page 1

district reports an increase of only nine students compared to the same time last year but that can be accounted for in the lack of available housing within the district, officials said.

"I think we only have three homes for sale in the entire district," Superintendent Randy Johnson said. "We had a fair number of move-in students this year, but that was balanced by people who moved out."

Enrollment at Sands Consolidated Independent School District, on the other hand, has

been rock stable — district enrollment at the start of the school year was 217, the same figure as last year.

Anne McClarty, executive director of instruction and personnel for Big Spring ISD, said officials were expecting an enrollment increase, but nothing like the district is currently experiencing.

"I don't think anyone was expecting the increase we've had," she

The local increase is most notable at the elementary schools in general, and specifically at the kindergarten level, which has 59 more students than this time last year. Overall elementary enrollment stands

at 2,163 students, up 121 from a year ago. Districts are not going

to cry about increased enrollment higher attendance means more state money for the schools in question — but the surge is not without its drawbacks.

The biggest concern is a state-mandated student-teacher ratio of 22 to 1 in grades kindergarten through fourth — a exceeded at both Big Spring and Coahoma. Coahoma ISD has had to hire an additional kindergarten teacher, while Big Spring ISD is searching for an instructor at the same grade level.

But with school districts across West Texteachers, needing an instructor and finding one are two separate things, McClarty said. "We're still looking for

as scrambling to find

one," she said. "But it's a hard chore — we're in the same boat as everyone else. We'll probably have to wait for December and the (college) graduates who will be available then."

The district also has standard that has been had to shuffle teachers from one campus to the next — McClarty said teachers had to be transferred from Moss Elementary to Marcy Elementary to deal with increased enrollment at the latter campus.

> The good news is Big Spring is well-equipped for the enrollment in-

four new elementary campuses opened this school year have more than enough classrooms to handle the additional students. "Thank goodness we

crease, space-wise. The

built those new elementaries." BSISD Trustee Phil Furgueron said at last week's school board meeting. "If we hadn't, we'd have to buy portable classrooms." Whether increased en-

rollment is a temporary situation or indicative of a long-term trend is anyone's guess, officials conceded, saying they will keep a close eye on enrollment trends and adapt accordingly.

"We're prepared for additional growth," Coahoma ISD Super-

intendent Amy Jacobs said. "You have to be prepared for a certain amount of volatility in that regard."

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

#### **MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Shirleen Knox, 58, died Monday. Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. today at Spring Creek Fellowship.

Elsie Spurgin, 66, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## CHAMBER

Continued from Page 1

"We had a really good turnout at the last community series, which focused on medical updates. We had almost all the seats filled," Jan Foresyth, president of the area Chamber, said. Ag Appreciation is

coming up Oct. 11. Area producers and farmers will be treated to a lunch provided by local 4H club members. Joe Outlaw will be the

featured guest speaker. All area ag producers and farmers will be able to attend the luncheon for free and all others can purchase a ticket for \$15 at the Chamber office.

"This year as part of our celebration we will be honoring Marion Newton with a special presentation for his contributions, not only to the chamber or the farm and ag communities, but to the community as a whole," ValVerde The chamber will also

be taking part in the Halloween Safe Stop, which is being spearheaded by

Dragon China Buffet,

**5**Uoff Per Child

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Off Per Adult

268-8888

1300 Gregg

H-E-B. For more information, contact H-E-B at 432-263-3000. Halloween night, area

businesses will be handing out candy from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. "This is a safe alterna-

tive to trick or treating," ValVerde said.

Other items on the agenda included: • Plans for a toy drive

benefitting area orga-

nizations at Christmas-

families and children in • Business Before and

time who provide for

After Hours are still in the works and any area businesses interested in hosting one can contact the chamber office. • The 2013 Health Fair

has been scheduled for April 13. To find out more about

upcoming events, visit www.bigspringcham-

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Contact Staff Writer Amanda Duforat at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald. **COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE AND RESTAURANT** 

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**ENCOURAGING** WORD

AN



Christ should become an ever-growing passion as His will is sought for motives, attitudes, words, choices and relationships. Commitment to

freedom as an excuse for selfishness and sin.

Jesus is to be stronger than devotion to family, work, recreation and pleasure. When Christianity encounters a freedom-based culture, there should be an unlimited display of commitment to Christ. There should be deliberate outpouring of salt, light and leaven into a culture that seeks to use

The Christian is called to a life of commitment. Commitment to Jesus

What if Jesus chose convenience over commitment? What if Christians, of previous generations, had chosen selfishness over sacrifice?

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Sunday Class.....9:30 AM Sunday Worship......10:20 AM Sunday Worship......5:00 PM Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

"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."

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

**Bill McClellan** Managing Editor

**Brian McCormack** Sports Editor

**Steve Reagan** Staff Writer

**Amanda Duforat** Staff Writer

**Thomas Jenkins** Staff Writer

## Our Views

# For the love of all the animals

 $\P$  or the love of the animals is the push behind the upcoming St. Mary's the Virgin Episcopal Church dog and cat food drive and blessing of the animals.

Parishioners are joining together in order to not only gather food for the animals at the Howard County Humane Society, but also in hopes of finding some of them a good home while blessing all animals in the community.

Food drive donations can be dropped off at the Humane Society the day of the first community blessing service — Oct. 5 at 10:30 a.m. — or can be taken to St. Mary's Church and the Big Spring Herald office. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad and the Herald office is located at 710 Scurry. Howard County Humane Society is located at W. I H-20 off of the service road.

Another blessing of the animal's service will take place at St. Mary's in the Parish's Bennett Garden on Oct. 7 at 3 p.m.

During both services, animals should be on leashes or in a pet carrier. For those unable to bring their animals, photos of the animals may be brought in their place and will also receive the blessing. Children can even bring their stuffed animals, as the blessing is for the human companion.

The humane society works off of donations for funding and is normally at capacity when it comes to housing animals.

This would be a great time to not only tour the facility, but to take a look at all the animals who are in need of a home.

The entire community is asked to come and take part in the food drive, blessing ceremonies and consider adding a pet to your family.

## How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers'

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

- 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 clari-
- 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 consid-
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringher-

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You, Lord, and Your words improve our overall well-being.

Amen

# Mitt is down, out looms next

he wheels are not coming off the Mitt Romney campaign. They came off some time ago. The press is just beginning to notice.

The Romney campaign is skidding along on its axles and scraping its muf-

fler. Soon, it will be down to the dog on the roof. I hate to say I

told you so. No, scratch that. I love to say I told you so. I just don't get to do it very often.

ROGER But as I have SIMON been saying for a while now, Mitt Romney is a deeply  $\equiv$ flawed candidate who got the Republican nomination by beating a ludicrously weak field. Don't believe me?

You know who came in second? Rick Santorum. Newt Gingrich was third, and Ron Paul was fourth. That's not a field; that's a therapy group.

Romney's defects as a nominee, which I will get to in a moment, were obvious, but considered unimportant because he really did not have to attract voters. Instead, voters would flock to him.

They would be driven to him by a bad economy and a lack of jobs, jobs, jobs. The latter was the Romney campaign's magical incantation that would make up for any of its own faults and deficiencies.

Did Team Romney face a well-funded incumbent, an inspirational orator, who had assembled an experienced, battlehardened campaign staff that understood the electoral map as well as any in history?

Well, yes.

And did Team Romney understand that as much as the media dismissed conventions as meaningless, the Democrats would use their convention to rebrand the party as one that was strong on defense, big on determination and deeply concerned about our fighting forces?

Well, no.

Jobs, jobs, jobs, the Romney team chanted. That would solve everything. That would make

voters desert President Obama in droves. And it did not matter that the evidence suggested otherwise. Unemployment has been above 8 percent for every month of the Obama campaign, and he has beaten Romney in the polls in every month of his campaign.

With its tunnel vision, the Romney campaign assumed an economic downturn would mean Americans would want to elect a businessman to the presidency. Yet the economic downturn

was caused in part by shady business practices, runaway greed and outright dishonesty at the highest reaches of America's corporate community. Did Americans really want to elect the guy on the top of the Monopoly box or throw him in jail?

So how does a wheeler-dealer financier like Romney gain the public trust? By refusing to release a meaningful number of his back tax returns! Just trust him, he says.

Because we know the Masters of the Financial Universe are always trustworthy, don't we?

But wait. Does Romney trust his own vice presidential nominee? No, he does not. Romney demanded 10 years of Paul Ryan's back tax returns before he selected him. So why should we show Romney the trust he would not show his own running mate?

Ronald Reagan had a simple formula: "Trust, but verify.'

We are told to trust Romney about his tax records and his Swiss bank accounts and all the rest. But how do we verify? We can't.

And there is another thing that troubles me, even though some dismiss it as trivial. I am still bothered by Romney attacking that gay kid and cutting off his hair with a pair of scissors when they were in prep school.

A ghetto kid does that, and he gets booked for assault with a deadly weapon. But what does the son of a governor get? A law degree from Harvard.

Republicans accuse Obama of wanting to wage class warfare, but who is more class conscious than Romney? I can summarize what Romney said to a bunch of wealthy donors at a May

fundraiser: America is divided between the deserving rich and bums who want a handout. Vote for me, and I'll keep you rich. Thank you very much. Enjoy the chicken.

And when David Corn of Mother Jones obtained the video of those remarks and Romney was forced to hold a news confer ence, how did he explain them? "That's something which fundraising people who are parting with their monies are very inter ested in," Romney said.

No kidding. But no matter. We still have the debates in October, and the debates can save Romney. Not that he is a masterful debater. At a debate last December, he decided to attack the hapless Rick Perry by betting him that he was wrong. "Rick, I'll tell you what," Romney said, sticking out hand. "Ten thousand bucks? Ten thousand dollar bet?'

As I wrote at the time: That's right, Mitt. Remind the American people that \$10,000 is chump change to you.

Romney won most of his primary debates, however, by staying above the fray and looking presidential. But that won't work against Obama, who is, after all, an actual president.

Since Romney can salvage his campaign only by a stunning victory in these debates, he is going to have to attack Obama relentlessly. But you can bet on two things: Romney will be intensely uncomfortable in that role, and Obama will be well prepared for it.

I do not want to give the impression that Romney and Obama are polar opposites. They are not. Both are politicians. Both want power.

But after Nov. 6, only one of them is going to have any.

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

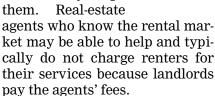
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# Understanding renter rights and the responsibilities as well

The annual fall migration of students to college towns and cities across Texas can be intimidating for students who are renting their own place to live for the very first time. Knowledge about

the legal protections afforded to renters can help protect their pocketbooks and take some stress out of the process.

Most landlords require a tenant's signature on a lease. Renters should read their carefully before they sign



Renters who want to change a part of their lease should discuss the changes with the landlord. If the landlord agrees, the two should decide how they want to phrase the change and write it into the agreement. Both parties should then initial the agreedupon change. For example, while many standard leases prohibit pets, some landlords may be willing to accept a pet if the tenant pays an extra security deposit. Once renters have signed their

leases, moved in and unpacked, they can expect to enjoy certain rights which include:

 Peace and quiet – A landlord cannot evict renters without cause nor can they disturb ten-

ants' right to enjoy their resi-

GREG

**A**BBOTT

- Privacy Tenants should study their leases carefully to determine the circumstances under which a landlord may enter their homes. Unless a lease agreement says that the landlord can enter the unit, the landlord has no right to do so, except perhaps in case of emergency or to conduct repairs the tenant has requested.
- Locks and security Although there are some specific exceptions, under Texas law, a residence must be equipped with security devices such as window latches, keyed dead bolts on exterior doors, sliding door pin locks and sliding door handle latches or sliding door security bars. These devices must be installed at the landlord's expense. If these devices are missing or are defective, a tenant has the right to request their installation or repair.
- Smoke detectors The landlord must provide smoke detectors. A tenant may not waive that provision and may not disconnect or disable the smoke detec-Freedom from discrimination
- Landlords are clearly prohibited from discriminating against renters because of their race, national origin, religion, gender, familial status or disability.
- Freedom from retaliation Under Texas law, it is illegal for a landlord to retaliate within six months against a tenant who complained in good faith about necessary repairs. Tenants also have a number

of responsibilities of their own. These obligations may include:

time in accordance with the lease

Paying rent in full and on

- Appropriate upkeep of the rental property. The landlord may not charge the renter for normal wear and tear on the premises and may only charge
- for extraordinary damage. Notifying the landlord of necessary repairs in writing. If the landlord fails to make repairs that materially affect tenants' health, safety or security, and tenants follow the procedures required by law, tenants may be entitled to end their lease, have the problem repaired on their own and deduct the cost of the repair from their rent. Tenants also could take legal action against a landlord who refuses to make required repairs. If possible, renters should consult with an attorney or legal aid clinic before deciding how to pro-
- Giving notice of a tenant's intent to move out. Many leases require 30 days' notice as a condition of returning a renter's deposit – though some agreements require more than 30 days' no-
- Giving a landlord notice of a tenant's forwarding address. Landlords are required to return tenants' security deposits or explanations of deductions within 30 days of their departure.

Property codes can be confusing. Texans who have questions about their specific situations can contact their local tenants' councils.

Gregg Abbott is the Texas ATtorney General. More information can be found by caling the Office of Attorney General at 800 252-8011.Also send email to www.texasattorneygeneral.gov

HEALTH **BIG SPRING HERALD** Thursday, September 20, 2012

# Chicken and pear salad good, nutritious

American Institute for Cancer Research

Chicken and pears pair perfectly, producing a wonderful taste in a fresh healthy salad. Pears, which are actually a member of the rose family, are a great source of fiber and they add some vitamin C to your diet too. This ancient fruit has been enjoyed for centuries and today, there are over 3,000 varieties grown in the world.

The delectable dressing uses honey to balance the tartness of vinegar and lemon. People have been enjoying nature's sweetener for over two millennia. According to legend, Cupid dipped his arrows in honey before striking unsuspecting lovers.

Mint completes the fresh aromatic quality. Mint is indigenous to Europe and the Mediterranean and has long been regarded as the symbol of hospitality. The Romans even scattered it about the site of feasts as a welcoming sign. They also added it to wines and sauces to enhance flavor. The word "mint" derives from the Latin Mentha. But no matter its name, this

salad makes a great entrée

for lunch or a satisfying, yet

light dinner. It's a fresh way to enjoy chicken and, of course, pears, which are at their peak in early au-

#### Chicken and **Pear Salad**

3 firm ripe pears, cut into approximately 1-inch cubes Juice of 1/2 lemon 2 cups cooked chicken

breast, cut into 1-inch cubes 1 cucumber, peeled, sliced thin and coarsely chopped

4 tbsp. red onion, finely chopped

#### **Mint Dressing**

1/4 cup white vinegar (white wine vinegar works

1 tsp. lemon juice 1-2 Tbsp. honey 1/3 cup minced fresh mint 1/8 tsp. salt

1/8 tsp. black pepper 1 tsp. cinnamon 4 large lettuce leaves

Drizzle fresh cubed pears with lemon juice. In large mixing bowl combine pears, chicken, cucumber, and onion and set aside.

Blend vinegar, lemon juice, honey, mint, and salt and pep-



per in food processor/blender until smooth.

Drizzle dressing over fruit and chicken mixture and toss gently to coat. If not serving immediately, cover and refrigerate. To serve, re-toss gently, sprinkle with cinnamon and arrange on plates with beds of lettuce.

Makes 4 servings.

Per serving: 231 calories, 3 g total fat (<1 g saturated fat), 31 g carbohydrate

23 g protein, 5 g dietary fi-

ber, 131 mg sodium.

## HEALHTALK HEALTHTALK HEALTHTALK HEALTHTALK

Q: I've heard too much time watching TV is linked with weight gain, but how much is too much? A: General recommendations for

adults are the same as for children: no more than two hours of television per day. Most of us spend too much time sitting, which burns few calories and when continued for extended periods of

time seems to produce metabolic changes that increase risk of heart disease, diabetes and possibly cancer.

Long periods of TV time may have undesirable effects on weight and health by reducing physical activity and for several additional reasons.

Over six years of follow-up in one large study of women, each additional two hours spent sitting at work was linked with a 5 percent increase in

obesity and a 7 percent increase in diabetes, whereas each additional two hours of TV watching was associated with a 23 percent increase in obesity and a 14 percent increase in risk of diabetes. For many people, more time in

KAREN

**C**OLLINS

front of the TV means more time spent eating, and this is usually "mindless" eating without paying attention to portion or even really enjoying foods' flavor fully, making it easy to overeat. Finally, if settling down with TV leads you to stay up late and get too little sleep, that too seems to impact weight and health.

For a strategy to manage weight, consider your total sedentary time, including commute time, time watching videos and playing video games, and time spent in front of computers and other screens and then find ways to incorporate more movement into your day. Several expert organizations recommend that television time for children under two years of age should be zero.

#### Q: Is giving up regular soda really enough to make me lose weight without going on a diet?

A: "Going on a diet" is not associated with long-term weight loss for most people, whereas working on a permanent change in one particular habit, such as reducing or eliminating sugary drinks, could be a great start for weight management.

Controlled studies show that when people consume more calories from drinks, they don't compensate for those calories by eating less of other foods, and total calorie consumption tends to be higher. Changes in drink consumption alone can produce modest weight loss. In some cases, substituting water or diet (zero-calorie) beverages for sugar-sweetened soda is even enough to achieve the

5 percent weight loss linked with significant health improvement.

About 25 percent of Americans consume more than 200 calories a day in sugar-sweetened drinks. If you are in this group, you are among those most likely to notice a weight change if you give up sugar-sweetened soda. Of course, this is assuming that you don't replace these drinks with juice or sugar-laden coffee or tea specialties or "reward" yourself for giving up soda by eating more cookies or other treats.

Once your healthier drinking choices are an established habit, if you want to lose more weight, you can then look for other eating habits for which you can substitute lower calorie choices or smaller portions. On the other hand, if sugar-sweetened soda is something that you have only once a week or less, you can still focus on just one change in your eating habits to start losing weight, but you'll see more results by changing something other than soft drinks.

#### Q: Is there a difference between seltzer, club soda and tonic?

A: All three drinks are clear and fizzy, but there are differences. Tonic water is the clear standout because it is the only one with calories. Despite the slight bitter taste from added quinine, it is a sugar-sweetened drink with almost as many calories as regular cola. Diet tonic is available with zero-calories because of artificial sweeteners.

Seltzer is a zero-calorie drink because it is simply water fizzed up with carbon dioxide. Sodium content is essentially zero.

Club soda is similar to seltzer, except for various "salts" added to enhance flavor. In this case, "salts" does not refer only to sodium chloride (table salt), but to a variety of different mineral mixtures, that may be sodium-, potassium or magnesium-based. Therefore, sodium content of club soda varies among brands. An eight-ounce glass may contain as little as 10 milligrams (mg) of sodium, which is negligible, or as much as 80 mg. Even the latter isn't a lot out of a daily maximum of 1500 or 2300 mg (depending on your age and health), but if you drink much it can add up.

#### Q: Is there any benefit to what look like ski poles that I see people walking with in the park?

A: These poles are called walking poles or trekking poles and they offer several possible benefits. You can work more muscles in your walk with the increased arm movement, such as your chest and abdominal muscles a bit. If you have difficulty with balance, especially walking on uneven outdoor terrain, walking poles can be a big help making those walks safer.

These poles can be especially helpful if you like to walk hills. As you climb up, the poles can transfer some weight to your upper body, reducing leg fatigue; as you go down hills, they can help you keep your balance and reduce stress on knees and other joints. Walking poles differ in weight and features. Some have an antishock feature, which can be especially helpful for people with weak ankles, knees or hips. But it does add to the poles' weight and price, so may not be worth it

It's important to learn how to

adjust the poles to proper length for your body.

For walking on flat ground, your elbow should bend at a 90-degree angle with your forearm flat and parallel to the ground. You may want to shorten them a bit for more support on an uphill climb, or lengthen them a bit for better balance as you go down a

All in all, the poles aren't fitness magic, but the right type can be a fun addition to hiking and may make those walks safer for people with balance problems.

You deserve a factual look at . . .

#### The Myth of "Settlements"

One of the enduring myths about the Arab-Israeli conflict is that the "settlements" in Judea/Samaria (often called the "West Bank") are the source of the conflict between the Jews and the so-called "Palestinians." If that problem were solved—in other words, if Israe would turn Judea/Samaria over to the "Palestinians"—peace would prevail and the century-old conflict would be ended.

Here is a thought: How about a deal by

which the "settlements" were indeed

abandoned, all the Jews were to move to

"Israel proper" and all the Arabs living in

or to wherever else they wanted to go?

#### What are the facts?

Erroneous Assumptions: Various fallacies and erroneous assumptions underlie that belief, so often repeated that even those who are friendly to Israel, even many Jews in Israel and in the United States, have come to accept it. Our government, generally friendly to and supportive of Israel, has bought into the myth of the "settlements;" it has regularly and insistently requested that the "settlements"

be abandoned and, one supposes, be turned over lock, stock, and barrel to those who are sworn to destroy Israel.

The very designation of the inhabitants Judea/Samaria as "settlers" is inappropriate, because it connotes something foreign, intrusive and

temporary, something that is purposefully and maliciously imposed. But that is nonsense of course. Why would the more than guarter-million Jews who live in Judea/Samaria be any more "intrusive" or any more "illegal" than the more than one million Arabs who live in peace in what is called "Israel proper" or west of the so-called "green line"? Nobody considers their presence as intrusive; nobody talks of them as an obstacle to

Most of us, regrettably perhaps, are too worldly and too "sophisticated" to put much stock in the argument that the territories in question, Judea and Samaria, are indeed the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people and that they were promised by God to Abraham and his seed in perpetuity. Jews have lived in that country without interruption since Biblical times. There is no reason why they shouldn't live there now. Why should Judea/Samaria be the only place in the world (except for such benighted countries as Saudi Arabia) where

**Legal Aspects:** But how about the legal aspect of this matter? Isn't the "West Bank" "occupied territory" and therefore the Jews have no right to be there? But the historic reality is quite different. Very briefly: The Ottoman Empire was the sovereign in the entire area. In 1917, while World War I was still raging, Britain issued the Balfour Declaration. It designated "Palestine"—extending throughout what is now Israel

(including the "West Bank") and what is now the Kingdom of Jordan—as the homeland for the Jewish people. In 1922, the League of Nations ratified the Balfour Declaration and designated Britain as the mandatory power. Regrettably, Britain, for its own imperial reasons and purposes, separated 76 percent of the land—that lying beyond the Jordan River—

to create the kingdom of Trans-Jordan (now Jordan) and made it inaccessible to Jews. In 1947, tired of the constant bloodletting between Arabs and Jews, the British threw in the towel and abandoned the Mandate. The UN took over. It devised a plan by which the land west of the Jordan River would be Israel would be transferred to Judea/Samaria split between the Jews and the Arabs. The Jews, though with heavy

heart, accepted the plan. The Arabs virulently rejected it and invaded the nascent Jewish state with the armies of five countries, so as to destroy it at its birth. Miraculously, the Jews prevailed and the State of Israel was born. When the smoke of battle cleared, Jordan was in possession of the "West Bank" and Egypt in possession of Gaza. They were the "occupiers" and they proceeded to kill as many Jews as they could and to drive out the survivors. They systematically destroyed all Jewish holy places and all vestiges of Jewish presence. The area was "judenrein"—free of Jews.

In the Six-Day War of 1967, the Jews reconquered the territories. The concept that Jewish presence in Judea/Samaria is illegal and that the Jews are occupiers is bizarre. It just has been repeated so often and with such vigor that many people have come to accept it. Even our president seems to have

How about the "Palestinians," whose patrimony this territory supposedly is and about whose olive trees and orange groves we hear endlessly? There is no such people. They are Arabs the same people as in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and beyond. Most of them migrated into the territories and to "Israel proper," attracted by Jewish prosperity and industry. The concept of "Palestinians" as applied to Arabs and as a distinct nationality urgently in need of their own twenty-third Arab state, is a fairly new one; it was not invented until after 1948,

But here's a thought: How about a deal by which the "settlements" were indeed abandoned and all the Jews were to move to "Israel proper." At the same time, all the Arabs living in Israel would be transferred to Judea/Samaria or to wherever else they wanted to go? That would indeed make Judea/Samaria "judenrein," and what are now Arab lands in Israel would be "arabrein." The Arabs could then live in a fully autonomous area in eastern Israel and peace, one would hope, would descend on the holy land. What is wrong with this plan is that very few if any Israeli Arabs would accept it—life is too good for them in Israel.

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Facts and Logic About the Middle East P.O. Box 590359 ■ San Francisco, CA 94159 Gerardo Joffe, President

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## News in brief

# FBI agent's gun, ID stolen at Houston gas station HOUSTON (AP) — The FBI is

searching for two men who it believes stole an agent's handgun and ID from her car at a Houston gas station. FBI spokeswoman Shauna Dunlap

said Thursday that no one has been arrested and the investigation continues.

The theft happened Wednesday as the car was parked and the agent was conducting business at the gas station.

Investigators say one man stole the government-issued weapon and ID from the car while the second suspect waited in the getaway vehicle. Security videotape shows the two suspects fleeing in a white SUV.

The name of the FBI agent has not been released.

Crime Stoppers of Houston has offered up to \$5,000 for information leading to arrests and charges in the

#### Cheerleaders told no Bible verses on signs

KOUNTZE, Texas (AP) — Some Southeast Texas cheerleaders have been told to stop putting Bible verses on banners for high school football games.

The Texas Association of School Boards this week advised the Kountze (koontz) Independent School District not to allow such signs.

Superintendent Kevin Weldon contacted the association after the Freedom from Religion Foundation notified him that a resident complained about the signs.

Weldon then told parents that student groups are not allowed to display religious signs at school-sponsored events. Weldon says the ban includes run-through banners at football games.

Chaorloader Macy Matthews says no

Cheerleader Macy Matthews says no school money was used and the signs weren't made on school property.

The conservative Liberty Institute on Wednesday said banning religious speech on student-made signs is discriminatory.

Kountze is 85 miles northeast of Houston.

## Engine failure suspected in Texas helicopter crash

KOPPERL, Texas (AP) — Investigators blame apparent engine failure for a Central Texas helicopter crash as the pilot was surveying cattle and

fences

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Lynn Lunsford says the pilot wasn't hurt during Wednesday's crash in Bosque (BAHS'-kee) County.

The Hiller UH-12B ended up in a field near Kopperl (KAHP'-ral), about 55 miles south of Fort Worth. The two-seat chopper lost its tail rotor and sustained other damage.

The name of the pilot, who was alone on the helicopter, wasn't immediately released.

## Man pleads guilty to hacking school system

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A man from Mississippi has pleaded guilty to hacking the computers of a West Texas school district.

A federal judge in El Paso on Wednesday accepted the fraud pleas from 21-year-old Kaleb Harper Ketchens of Meridian, Miss.

Investigators say Ketchens in August 2011 illegally accessed the El Paso Independent School District computer system, obtained information on some individuals and posted details online.

\*\*Note here, were arrested in April of

Ketchens was arrested in April after a computer security company noticed someone bragging online about the breach.

Ketchens pleaded guilty to two counts of computer fraud and one count of fraud and related activity with identification documents, authentication features and information.

He faces up to five years in prison on each count. Sentencing has been set for Dec. 12 for Ketchens, who remains in custody.

# Feds say 27 indicted in Texas marijuana raids

HOUSTON (ÅP) — Prosecutors in Houston say more than two dozen people have been indicted in the seizure of nearly 14,000 marijuana plants.

The drug raids were carried out Aug. 21 at about 60 sites in Harris, Fort Bend and Montgomery counties. U.S. Attorney Kennedy Magidson says 27 suspects were indicted Wednesday in cases involving hydroponic marijuana growing sites.

The charges include conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance and conspiracy to maintain a place for manufacturing, distributing and using controlled substances.

Magidson says all but two suspects have been arrested. The defendants

are from Houston, Conroe, Spring, Richmond and Tomball.

## Killer of 5 at Dallas-area car wash set to die

HUNSTVILLE, Texas (AP) — An ex-con who confessed to killing five people at a suburban Dallas car wash a week after he was fired from his job there is looking to the U.S. Supreme Court to spare him from the Texas death chamber.

Forty-year-old Robert Wayne Har-

ris is to die Thursday evening for two of the five slayings 12 years ago at the Mi-T-Fine Car Wash in Irving. He also led police to the remains of a woman killed months before the March 2000 rampage.

Harris didn't deny the slayings but

Harris didn't deny the slayings but his lawyer contends he's mentally impaired, making him ineligible for the death penalty. His attorney also questions the jury makeup at Harris' trial in Dallas, contending prosecutors improperly removed black prospective jurors from serving on the panel.

## Texas doctor re-arraigned in Medicare fraud case

DALLAS (AP) — A new plea is scheduled from a North Texas doctor accused of running a scheme to defraud Medicare and Medicaid of nearly \$375 million.

Dr. Jacques Roy is scheduled to be in federal court in Dallas on Thursday for a re-arraignment. He's now charged in a federal indictment with multiple counts of conspiracy, obstructing justice, fraud and making false statements. The counts accuse him of signing off on thousands of claims to bill the federal government for unnecessary or unfilled services.

In June, the Texas Medical Board said Roy had agreed to surrender his license to practice medicine in the state. The order says the 54-year-old Roy does not admit or deny the federal allegations against him, but agreed to a settlement to avoid a possible lawsuit.

#### Mexico detains 16 guards in border prison break PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico (AP)

— A judge ordered the detention Wednesday of 16 officials and guards at a prison near the U.S. border where the brutal Zetas drug cartel orchestrated a mass escape of 131 inmates.

The judge ruled that the prison director, two top aides and 13 other prison employees be held for 40 days under a form of house arrest pending possible charges. The judge said there was credible evidence prison employees aided the escape.

Jorge Luis Moran, public safety secretary for the northern border state of Coahuila, told the Milenio television news channel that authorities had determined that not all the escapees got away through the tunnel. Some left through the main door, he said.

Authorities on Wednesday captured one of the inmates who fled, identified as Pablo Sanchez Campos, who was in prison on an auto-theft charge. Investigators were questioning him about how one-fifth of the prison population was able to escape.

Two escapees were detained Tuesday following a shootout with police.

The federal police, army and navy

The federal police, army and navy were mounting a wide search in the northern Mexico region for the missing inmates.

# Ex-official gets probation for vehicle scheme

WACO, Texas (AP) — A Central Texas county official has been sentenced to five years' probation for trading a county-owned truck for thousands less than its value so his friend could buy it.

Jurors deliberated about three hours Wednesday before recommending the sentence for former McLennan County Tax Assessor-Collector Buddy Skeen.

The Waco Tribune-Herald reports (bit.ly/QmEf6U) the judge also ordered Skeen to spend six months in

jail and pay a \$10,000 fine.

Skeen interrupted jury selection for his trial Tuesday when he pleaded guilty to misapplying county resources. Authorities say Skeen traded in county-owned trucks for thousands less than their value, passing the savings to other employees or their relatives.

Skeen was in office for 23 years before resigning Tuesday. He could have been sentenced to up to two years in a state jail.

# American cancels 300 flights this week DALLAS (AP) — American Airlines

cel 300 flights this week to cope with a high number of pilots reporting sick and an increase in maintenance reports filed by crews.

That's 1.25 percent of the 24,000 flights that were scheduled by the two

and American Eagle say they will can-

That's 1.25 percent of the 24,000 flights that were scheduled by the two airlines, which are owned by AMR Corp.

The two airlines had already can-

celed 249 flights this week by Wednesday afternoon, a flight-tracking service said, suggesting that cancelations might far exceed American's estimate.

AMR said Wednesday that it can-

AMR said Wednesday that it canceled the flights in advance to avoid inconveniencing passengers. Earlier this week, American said it would cut its schedule through the end of October by up to 2 percent.

American has seen an increase in

flight cancelations since early this month, when a federal bankruptcy judge allowed the company to impose new pay and work rules on pilots. The pilots had rejected the company's last contract offer in August.

Each day this week. American has

Each day this week, American has canceled more flights than any U.S. airline, according to flight-tracking service FlightAware.

By late Wednesday afternoon, American and Eagle had canceled 73 flights, more than the next five airlines combined. They canceled 104 flights on Tuesday and 72 flights on Monday, FlightAware said.

In a note to operations managers, American said it was telling frequent fliers why it's been experiencing cancelations and delays. It is letting customers fly standby for earlier flights at no extra charge, and giving crews more leeway to hand out light snacks to delayed passengers.

# North Texan at least 55th Texas West Nile death

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A suburban Dallas county has reported its fourth West Nile-related death and at least the 55th reported in Texas.

A Plano health department statement says a Plano resident is the Dallas suburb's second West Nile death. Collin County officials say the death is the fourth in the county, all of whom have been older than 80 years old and with other medical problems.

The death brings to at least 29 the number of West Nile deaths reported from the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area.

Federal health officials say this is the nation's worst year for the mosquito-borne virus since it was discovered in New York 13 years ago. Texas has about half of the U.S. deaths from the illness.

## Son gets life for hitting, killing mom with truck

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A jury has found an Austin-area man guilty of capital murder in the death of his mother, whom he hit with his truck as she was being loaded onto an ambulance stretcher.

Shaun Samuelson received a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without parole on Wednesday since Travis County prosecutors weren't seeking a death penalty.

The 46-year-old Buda man was con-

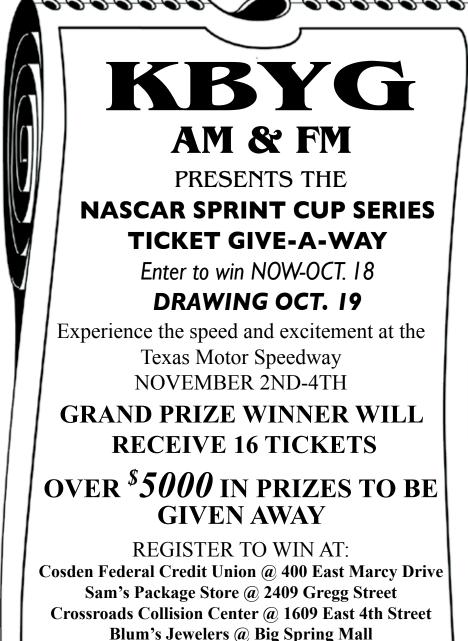
The 46-year-old Buda man was convicted of killing 72-year-old Virginia Samuelson in a parking lot on southern Austin.



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## News in brief

#### Controversy around Romney fundraising remarks shines light on power of viral videos

NEW YORK (AP) — After this, politicians everywhere should surely get the message. Mitt Romney's secretly recorded remarks at a Florida fundraiser - and the uproar that has followed reinforce a key reality of the digital media era: the power of viral video to disrupt and potentially alter a high-stakes political contest.

The amateur video of Romney casting 47 percent of Americans as believing they are "victims" who feel entitled to government assistance has burned up the Internet and aired continually on cable television since its release Monday by Mother Jones magazine. It's thrown his campaign off track in a tight race with President Barack Obama and with less than seven weeks until Election Day. Mother Jones has not disclosed who recorded the

remarks. A spokeswoman said that by Wednesday afternoon, the full video and a series of clips had received 5 million page views on the magazine's website and 3 million more views on YouTube. In a presidential race noteworthy for the intensity

of its televised advertising — Obama, Romney and their allies are on track to spend about \$1.1 billion on campaign commercials this year — the impact of the leaked video has been particularly stark.

While both sides have deployed scores of highly produced ads aimed at swaying a small group of undecided voters in a handful of battleground states, the decidedly low-tech Romney video has done far more than any one commercial to sway the national political conversation.

#### Census: Signs of economy bottoming out as mobility rises, fewer young adults live with parents

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy is showing signs of finally bottoming out: Americans are on the move again after record numbers had stayed put, more young adults are leaving their

parents' homes to take a chance with college or the job market, once-sharp declines in births are leveling off and poverty is slowing. New 2011 census data being released Thursday of-

fer glimmers of hope in an economic recovery that

technically began in mid-2009. The annual survey, supplemented with unpublished government figures as of March 2012, covers a year in which unemployment fell modestly from 9.6 percent to 8.9 percent. Not all is well. The jobless rate remains high at

8.1 percent. Home ownership dropped for a fifth straight year to 64.6 percent, the lowest in more than a decade, hurt by more stringent financing rules and a shift to renting. More Americans than ever are turning to food stamps, while residents in housing that is considered "crowded" held steady at 1 percent, tied for the highest since 2003. Taken as a whole, however, analysts say the lat-

est census data provide wide-ranging evidence of a stabilizing U.S. economy. Coming five years after the housing bust, such a leveling off would mark an end to the longest and most pernicious economic decline since World War II. "We may be seeing the beginning of the American

family's recovery from the Great Recession," said Andrew Cherlin, a professor of sociology and public policy at Johns Hopkins University. He pointed in particular to the upswing in mobility and to young men moving out of their parents' homes, both signs that more young adults were testing out job prospects.

#### Anti-Islam movie puts spotlight on U.S. Copts, a little-known **Egyptian Christian community** LOS ANGELES (AP) — The anti-Islamic movie

trailer inflaming the Middle East opens with Muslims ransacking a Christian medical clinic and then segues into a flashback of Muhammad's life. "Set the place on fire! We'll burn out these forsaken Christians!" cries one Muslim character.

The opening scene from "Innocence of Muslims," although crude, resonates with some Egyptian Christians, who have suffered years of persecution and attacks by Islamic militants. The 14-minute trailer on YouTube enraged Mus-

lims worldwide with its depiction of Muhammad as a womanizer, religious fraud and child molester. Most Egyptian Christians in the U.S. have rejected the movie and say the man and the nonprofit tied to the film are fringe players who are not well-known in the Coptic Orthodox Church, the church for the vast majority of Coptic Christians in America.

A tiny minority of U.S. Copts, however, have used their adopted nation's free speech protections to speak out against Islam in a way that would not be tolerated in their native Egypt. The few who

engage in this anti-Muslim, evangelical activism — including those behind the movie trailer — are fueled by that history, said Eliot Dickinson, an associate professor of political science at Western Oregon University who has written a book on U.S.

"Whoever made this film is such an outlier in their community that it's completely unrepresentative," Dickinson said. "But what it does is, it taps into this frustration of always being persecuted back in Egypt and let's not downplay that. To be a Copt in Egypt now is a very, very difficult life because, especially after the Arab Spring, it's open

#### Space shuttle Endeavour makes pit stop in Houston en route to California for permanent display HOUSTON (AP) — The space shuttle Endeavour

is scheduled to leave Houston early Thursday after giving locals a brief glimpse of what might have Hundreds lined the streets and crowded the air-

port Wednesday to see the retired shuttle land before it was to head to California where it will be permanently displayed, a fact that doesn't sit well with many Houston residents who feel Space City was cheated out of an artifact that should have been theirs to keep. "I think that it's the worst thing that they can do,

rotten all the way," said 84-year-old Mary Weiss, clinging to her walker just before Endeavour landed after flying low over Gulf Coast towns, New Orleans and then downtown Houston and its airports. Space City, partly made famous by Tom Hanks

when he uttered the line "Houston, we have a problem" in the movie "Apollo 13," has long tied its fortune to a mix of oil and NASA. Astronauts train in the humid, mosquito-ridden city, and many call it home years after they retire. The Johnson Space Center and an adjacent museum hug Galveston Houston's bid for a shuttle was rejected after the

White House retired the fleet last summer to spend more time and money on reaching destinations, such as Mars and asteroids. Instead, Houston got a replica that used to be displayed at the Kennedy Space Center.

#### House Republicans see vindication in inspector general's report on 'gun-walking,' but is it?

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans investigating a bungled gun-trafficking probe in Arizona see vindication in a long-awaited watchdog report that criticizes one of their favorite targets: Attorney General Eric Holder's Justice Department. But Justice's inspector general absolved Holder him-

The department's internal watchdog, Michael Horowitz, will be the only witness Thursday before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, a day after he faulted the department for misguided strategies, errors in judgment and management failures in an operation that disregarded public safety and allowed hundreds of guns to reach Mexican drug gangs.

"The inspector general's report confirms findings by Congress' investigation of a near total disregard for public safety in Operation Fast and Furious," said Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., the committee's chairman.

However, committee Republicans will have to tread carefully. The IG's report knocks down some of the many accusations Republicans have made about the Obama administration during their year-and-a-half-long investigation of the operation by the Justice Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. In places, the report reads like a rebuttal of House Republicans' past statements.

"We found no evidence" that staff at the department or at ATF informed the attorney general about Operation Fast and Furious before 2011, the report says.

#### Poland helps Belarusian democracy movement, remembering legacy of its own repressive past WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Volha Starastsina saw

no choice but to flush her work down the police station toilet.

That was the only place the Belarusian journalist could hide TV footage after being detained for interviewing people on upcoming elections in the repressive state. Her risky independent journalism is part of a

Polish-funded effort to get uncensored news to Be-

larusians, one of several projects Poland supports in a drive to encourage democratic change in its troubled eastern neighbor.

Poland has many reasons for wanting Belarus to embrace democracy, but it largely comes down to this: When Poland looks east, it sees its own past. The censorship, secret police spying and harassment of political opponents under authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko remind Poles of what Lech Walesa's Solidarity movement endured

Today's Polish government is led by many former

Solidarity activists, and they want to give Belaru-

sians the same kind of Western help that proved crucial in toppling their former Soviet-backed re-"It's emotional. It's a Polish thing to be anti-re-

gime," said Tomasz Pisula, a Pole who heads Freedom and Democracy Foundation, a Warsaw-based group working for democratic change in Belarus.

#### Starbucks turns up heat on market with \$199 'Verismo' brewer

NEW YORK (AP) — Starbucks Corp. is about to turn up the heat on the single-serve coffee market, and someone might get burned. The Seattle-based company says it will start sell-

ing its new single-serve brewer online this week for \$199. It plans to start selling the machine in its ubiquitous cafes next month. The arrival of the Verismo, which was announced

earlier this year, comes amid intensifying competition in the rapidly growing market for single-serve brewers and the coffee pods they use.

The market was pioneered by Green Mountain Coffee Roasters Inc., which enjoyed soaring sales after its acquisition of the Keurig brand machine in 2006. But this month, the company's patent on its K-cup technology expired, which prompted supermarkets to roll out store-brand versions of coffee pods that can be used in Keurig machines.

Starbucks' decision to sell its own brewer comes just about a year after it struck a deal with Green Mountain to make coffee pods for Keurig machines.

# 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



www.sudoku-puzzles.net



## A Delicate Deduction

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH **♦** K J 8 6 ♥ A 4 WEST **EAST ↑**72 **♥**Q732 **♥**Ĵ 10 9 6 **♦** J 10 9 6 ♦ K Q 8 7 5 **4**7642 SOUTH **↑** A Q 10 9 4 3 **♥**K85 The bidding:

West North East South 3 💠 Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass 4 NT Opening lead —?

Let's say you're West and South gets to six spades on the bidding shown. You're on lead, and the question is whether to lead the jack of hearts or the jack of diamonds. The

suits are exactly the same, and offhand, your choice of which jack to lead would seem to be a tossup However, as in many similar situations, there is an inference you can

slam, rather than a heart, which lets declarer make it. The reason for the diamond lead

lead a diamond, which defeats the

lies in East's pass of North's fiveheart bid. The pass is significant in a negative way: If East had desired a heart lead against the slam toward which North-South seemed headed, he presumably would have doubled five hearts. East's failure to double suggests lack of interest in a heart lead To illustrate the point in a differ-

ent way, let's suppose East held the K-Q-8-7-5 of hearts instead of diamonds. In that case, he surely would have doubled five hearts to induce West to lead a heart. Of course, East might have no

preference at all for either red suit, in which case his pass of five hearts would be meaningless. But in the long run, East's silence is more likely to imply diamond strength than heart strength, so West would do better to choose a diamond lead if he has no good reason to do otherwise. South should probably have bid

six spades directly, without bothering with Blackwood. North was certain to have either one or two aces for his jump-shift to three clubs, so the inquiry for aces had the potential to be more helpful to East-West than to North-South.

draw that should persuade you to Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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Page 8
Thursday, September 20, 2012

**Holland outpitches Wilson as Rangers** 



Texas' catcher Geovany Soto smacks a three-run home run during Wednesday's game against the Los Angeles Angels. The Rangers won 6-2.

top Los Angeles ANAHEIM, (AP) — Michael Young thinks the Texas Rangers have done more than enough winning over the past few Septembers to know how to pay attention to what's happening on the scoreboard and in their own

The Rangers got great news in both areas Wednesday night.

game.

Derek Holland pitched seven innings of six-hit ball, Geovany Soto hit a late two-run homer and Texas hurt the Los Angeles Angels' wild-card chances with a 6-2 vic-

One night after the Angels scored 11 runs

without Albert Pujols, the Rangers dominated offensively and improved the AL's best record to 88-60 without sluggers Josh Hamilton and Adrian Beltre, who sat with injuries. Texas also moved 7½ games ahead of Los Angeles — and four ahead of

(84-64) in the AL West standings with the Athletics' loss at Detroit. "Of course we look at the scoreboard," said Young, who has an eight-game hitting

second-place Oakland

See RANGERS, Page 14

streak. "It's that time

of year. I'm a baseball

fan. You can do both,

## NFL replacement refs affecting Vegas bets

Las Vegas casinos think this weekend's NFL games will be the highest-scoring ever thanks to the league's replacement officials.

Oddsmakers say casinos are changing their expectations as interim referees add new variables to the game, changing its pace and the approaches taken by players and coaches.

Casinos haven't fully changed lines yet because there have been only two weeks of games and referees might adjust how they call games based on weekly feedback from the league. But oddsmaker Mike Colbert of Cantor Gaming says home teams will deserve an extra half-point in their favor if games are called all year the way they were officiated in Week 2.

"It's starting to concern us a bit," Colbert said. "(Officials) should have no influence on the total or the side."

Penalties were skewed in favor of home teams during the first two weeks this year, with visitors getting 55.1 percent of 419 penalties. Last year began in a similar fashion— visitors took 54.8 percent of 407 total penalties through the first two games — before evening out over the rest of the season. Penalties were relatively even between home and road teams for all of 2010 and 2011, and it's anybody's guess how this year's penalties will split.

Sports books make money by encouraging balanced betting action; they get it by using point spreads to account for the advantage one team has over another. In Week 2, home teams went 11-4-1 after going 8-8 in Week 1.

Future lines with interim officials will take a lot of guesswork, said Colbert, whose company runs sports books in six Las Vegas casinos and provides betting lines for the vast majority of Nevada sports books.

"You've got to use prior experience — I don't know if anyone has

See **REFS**, Page 14

# Steers prepare for Andrews as homecoming approaches

#### By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Prior to the start of the season, Big Spring Head Coach Phillip Ritchey said he and his staff were "Shooting for having one of the greatest turnarounds in state history," when asked about his expectations after a winless 2011 season. He also said the goal was to go 10-0 this year — a lofty expectation for any team.

It may be early yet, but so far, Ritchey's predictions have rang

The Steers opened up the season on the road by thrashing the Fort Stockton Panthers 49-0 under the steady guidance of sophomore quarterback Tobyn Tannehill in his varsity debut.

They followed suit the next week after a 17-12 victory at home against defending TAPPS 4A state champs Midland Christian.

Proving they aren't a fluke, Big Spring went on the road last Friday to face a retooled

San Angelo Lake View squad also a 4A program — and came home with 22-14 victory over the Chiefs.

Friday, the Steers will attempt to improve their record to 4-0, but it won't be easy, as the 3-0 Andrews Mustangs will travel to Big Spring for its homecoming

Ritchey believes the Mustangs may pose a challenge unlike any they have seen so far this

"Andrews is spread out more (on offense)," Ritchey explained. "You have to defend the whole field. They have a dangerous passing game and of good as a quarterback as we will face all throw deep and he can throw quick. Stopping him will be the homecoming." challenge."

Ritchey is optimistic about his team, however. The Steers have risen to every challenge they have faced and overcome obstacles to earn their 3-0 record. The unsung heros — as it so

often goes in football — may be the defense.

"We believe our defense can match up with (Andrews). We just need to keep those receivers in front and make them get rid of the ball quickly. We will have to make good tackles."

Andrews has defeated Brownfield 35-22, Sweetwater 20-16 and Lake View 55-41.

On paper, the Mustangs and Steers look evenly matched and the rivalry element could be the wild card factor as to who comes out on top.

"It's going to be a big game," Ritchev added. "It should be a good one. Big Spring and Andrews have a lot of history. year. He can throw short, he can We will go out there and try to get another big win for

> Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@ bigspringherald.com

## **Sports** Calendar

#### **TODAY**

## **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

#### 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

# **Bulldogs look to rebound, Buffs** try to stay perfect Friday on road

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

#### COAHOMA -

So far, the Bulldogs (1-2), have struggled on the gridiron, but have also shown flashes of greatness. Coahoma opened the season against rival Forsan in Midland and lost 30-27 after a grueling game. The following week, the 'Dogs avenged the flub with a 27-8 win over Coleman, but then dropped a game to Colorado City last Friday by a score of

This week, Coahoma will travel to Denver City to take on the Mustangs, another 1-2 team which has lost to both Pecos and Levelland, but has defeated

According to Coahoma head Coach Trey Gardner, overcoming the obstacles and finding a way to win is the plan in Denver City.

"They are big and fast," Gardner said. "They run a spread offense and 3-4 defense. After last week - it may sound bad — we're more concerned with what we are going to do, not what Denver City is going to do. Physically, the effort has been there. Mentally, we just weren't very smart. Not just the kids either — I could have made some better calls. The injuries have forced us to make a lot of changes and we have some guys who don't have much experience out on the field. We are big on taking responsibility for our actions. We can compete with any of these teams. We just need to play smarter. If three plays in (last week's) game will keep working.'

went the other way, we could have beat them. We Figuring out who the real Bulldogs are is the challenge facing Gardner. Under Gardner's

guidance, the Bulldogs have appeared in back-to-

back postseasons. This year, the goal was to make it past bi-district and make a deeper run against

Texas' best teams. It could still happen — the season is young though Gardner is dealing with numerous injuries which have hindered his squad's progress, beginning with the loss of senior running back Aaron Acevedo, who Gardner said the offense was originally tailored for. Gardner is also missing senior lineman Daniel Solis as well as receiver Ryan Reid. The banged up Bulldogs are playing with heart, but must get healthy if they expect to make a strong showing during district play.

#### FORSAN -

The Buffaloes are on a roll. Head Coach Jason Phillips has led his team to a 3-0 record so far, dispatching rivals Stanton and Coahoma and

defeating Plains on the road. The next challenge comes in the form of the Jim Ned Indians (0-3), which is who Forsan will be

meeting Friday in Tuscola. It is business as usual for Phillips, who believes

his team will fare well against Jim Ned. "I think we will match up pretty well," Phillips

said. "They throw the ball 30 or 40 times a game. That will be something we haven't seen. I also think they are a better team than their record shows. We aren't looking past them, especially since we are playing at their place."

The Indians have lost to Anson, Albany and Jacksboro, but have played each team tough.

It will also be the first time Forsan and Jim Ned have met in recent years.

"We haven't played them in the eight years I have been here," Phillips added.

"We are just focused on getting another win."

# Pigskin Picks Football Contest

Brought to you by Big Spring Herald



Blum's **Jewelers** 

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton 5. Grady
- 6. Dallas
- 7. Houston
- 8. Miami
- 9. 49ers
- 10. Texas A&M



**Bargain Mart Discount Store** 

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady 6. Dallas
- 7. Houston
- 8. Miami
- 9. 49ers
- 10. Texas A&M



**Buckeasy's** 

- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady 6. Dallas
- 7. Houston
- 8. Miami
- 9. 49ers
- 10. Texas A&M



- 1. Big Spring
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Dallas
- 8. NY Jets
- 9. 49ers
- 2. Coahoma

- 7. Denver
- 10. Texas A&M



**Avis Lube** 

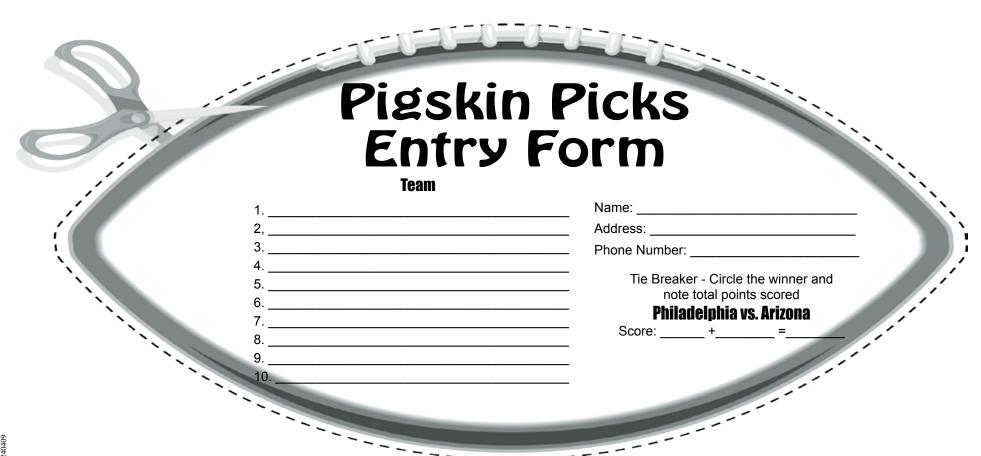
- 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Dallas
- 7. Houston
- 8. NY Jets
- 9. 49ers 10. Texas A&M



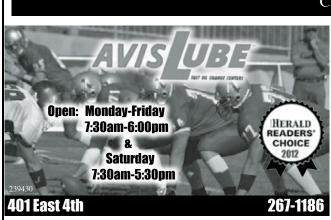
- 1. Big Spring
- 2. Coahoma
- 3. Forsan
- 4. Stanton
- 5. Grady
- 6. Dallas
- 7. Houston
- 8. Miami
- 9. 49ers 10. Texas A&M

## **Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants** Rules: Find this week's games between the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry

blank on this page with your team choices. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. No Photo Copies Accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win. If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and family of *The Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the **Big Spring Herald** the Wednesday following the games.



Winner For Week #3 CHECK MAY BE PICKED UP FRIDAY AFTER 12 PM



1. Big Spring vs. Andrews

3. Forsan vs. Jim Ned

2. Coahoma vs. Denver City

## Bargain Mart **Discount Foods**

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Open Mon.-Sat. 9 am - 6:30 pm (Closed Sundays)

- 4. Stanton vs. McCamey
- 5. Grady vs. Midland Trinity
- 6. Dallas vs. Tampa Bay



- 7. Denver vs. Houston
- 8. Miami vs. NY Jets
- 9. 49ers vs. Minnesota
  - 10. Texas A&M vs. South Carolina State







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For complete details and job applications, please visit your local WIC Clinic or online at www.spcaa.org SPCAA is an EŎE

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## Tomorrow's Horoscope

It's said that in the non-Euclidean universe, parallel lines sometimes meet diverge. And in real-life relationships, a straight line isn't always the

distance between two people, because people are far too complicated define to with logic. As Mercury squares Pluto,

shortest



HOLIDAY MATHIS

all of your faculties, including empathy, to

make a connection. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Even though you hope for the fortunes to favor you, you realize

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things in your life will not happen by chance. You must decide what to do and take a step.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It won't go as you imagined. This might be good news, as your imagination has a way of filling out a fearful picture sometimes. Anyway, it sharpens your skills to deal with unexpected realities.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Enjoy the privileges given you, but know that they come with a burden. You have a responsibility to aid the deprived and be an advocate for those who cannot themselves.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Because there are many factors beyond control your to considered for any endeavor to work, the most determined efforts fail. However, intentional efforts made with an open mind will be a success.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't be deceived into thinking everyone else in the room knows one another, and that no one else is feeling uncomfortable or scared. You're not the only one acting. Try to make someone else feel at ease, and you'll relax, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will make choices that, strictly speaking, aren't logical.

You may be able to rationalize the actions after the fact, but that's beside the point. There's an instinctual reason for why you act.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If it's love you seek, it's love you find. The same goes for friendship and romance. Love has many forms, after all, so it's important to be specific about the version that would best suit your life now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You may be skeptical about people's ability to make good on their end of a deal. Tangible material gains are en route; it's true. That's just another way of saying, "The check is in the mail."

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a tremendous difference between how you perform when you're tired and how you perform when you're rested. Try it both ways, and you'll be reminded that relaxation is a vital element to being your best.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are conflicting messages in the stars. Some indicate of least path the resistance, while others insist that a problem-free day means you're on the wrong path.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your sense of humor is enchanting to

anyone who wants to make you laugh. But to those who expecting laughter, your sense of humor may be a startling surprise.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March There are Sometimes absolutes. giving up is the best choice, and other times there's honor in staying the course. Knowing this helps you have compassion instead of judgment for the choices of another.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 20). An element of glamour makes the next three weeks most October's enjoyable. financial boost is best saved. A challenging partnership invigorates the start of 2013, and you'll be richer for the struggle. You'll create something better together than either of vou could alone. Sensational news comes in March. Taurus and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 1, 24, 39 and 18.

**ASTROLOGICAL** QUESTIONS: "Do you think I'll ever make it

back to my home? I can't tell you where it is. I am in exile and have been living under a different identity for the past five years. I miss my friends and family, but I fear what would happen if I were ever to return. What are the prospects for

someone born on April

18, 1940?"

Your letter is most mysterious, dear Aries. With your sun, Mercury and Jupiter in the fiery sign of the ram, I believe it would be difficult for you to return to your native land undetected. You have a high energy level that tends to draw attention. Your intensity — and perhaps its accompanying passionate temper — may be what caused your exile in the first place, yes? Venus and Mars in Gemini indicates that your communication skills are strong and you exceedingly clever. Your best choice would be to come to an agreement with the people responsible for your relocation. If enough time has passed, you may be able to reach a treatise of some kind. It would be better and safer for you if this were a public arrangement. Lawyers certainly will Diplomatic involved. ventures will be favored when Mars squares your natal Venus from May 27 through June 2, 2013.

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 Web www.creators.com.

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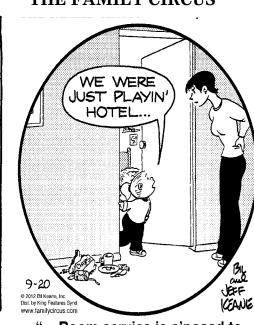


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DENNIS THE MENACE THE FAMILY CIRCUS HAGAR																			





"... Room service is s'posed to pick 'em up.'

Dist, by Creator





#### WIZARD OF ID

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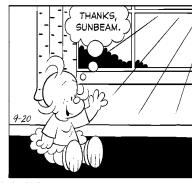






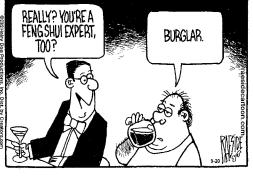
## HI AND LOIS









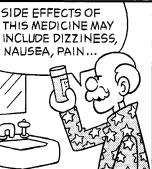


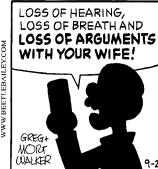
#### **SNUFFY SMITH**





## **BEETLE BAILEY**











#### **BLONDIE**







## This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 20, the 264th day of 2012. There are 102 days left in the year. Today's Highlight

History: On Sept. 20, 1962, James

Meredith, a black student, was blocked from enrolling at the University of Mississippi by Democratic Gov. Ross R. Barnett. (Meredith was later admitted.)

On this date:

In 1519, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan and his crew set out from Spain on five ships to find a western passage to the Spice Islands. (Magellan was killed enroute, but one of his ships eventually circled the world.) In 1870, Italian troops took

control of the Papal States, leading to the unification of Italy. In 1873, panic swept the floor

of the New York Stock Exchange in the wake of railroad bond

defaults and bank failures. In 1884, the National Equ Rights Party was formed during a convention of suffragists in San Francisco; the convention nominated Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood for president. In 1911, the British liner RMS

Olympic collided with the

Royal Navy cruiser HMS Hawke off the Isle of Wight; although seriously damaged, the Olympic was able to return to Southampton under its own power. In 1947, former New York

City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia died. In 1958, Martin Luther King

Jr. was seriously wounded during a book signing at a New York City department store when Izola Curry stabbed him in the chest. (Curry was later found mentally incompetent.) In 1967, the Cunard liner RMS Queen Elizabeth 2 was

Elizabeth II in Clydebank, Scotland. In 1973, in their so-called "battle of the sexes," tennis star Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3,

christened by Britain's Queen

6-3, at the Houston Astrodome. In 1979, Jean-Bedel Bokassa (boh-KAH'-sah), self-styled head of the Central African

Empire, was overthrown in a French-supported coup while on a visit to Libya.

In 1980, Spectacular Bid, ridden by Bill Shoemaker, ran as the only entry in the Woodward Stakes at Belmont Park in New York after three potential challengers dropped out in horse racing's first walkover since In 1996, President Bill Clinton

announced that he was signing the Defense of Marriage Act, a bill outlawing same-sex marriages, but said it should not be used as an excuse for discrimination, violence or intimidation against gays and lesbians.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Gogi Grant is 88. Actresscomedian Anne Meara is 83. © 2012 The Associated Press.

#### Answer to previous puzzle TOTAL CAPS BOAT ARENA RIOT ONTO



## **Newsday Crossword**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Military rounds
- 5 Chocolate
- shape 9 Family
- members 14 Rhinelander's
- refusal
- 16 Cricket sound
- home 18 Lawn-Boy rival
- **19** Copy room
- 20 Biblical epic film
- of 1959 23 Slate, for one
- connector
- 25 Aladdin prince 26 Very long time
- 27 Soft mineral
- 30 Bizet opera
- 33 What you eat
- **36** Tumult
- pennies
- 43 Antagonist
- 44 Eleanor
- amount
- book
- 53 Printer's widths 55 Photo finish
- tune

- 63 Barrel of laughs

- **65** Tie-up

- 70 Cozy places

#### **DOWN**

- 2 Era when

14

17

20

23

26

68

- 35 NASCAR stat

- Roosevelt
- 46 Select
- 49 Prescribed
- 57 Overexertion 62 End of a kindergarten

- 64 Computer

- 15 Foot part
- 17 Castaway's
- supply
- 24 Three-way pipe

- 37 Watches one's
- Roosevelt,
- 45 Tomato type
- 51 Sort of record
- 52 Cry of contempt

- accessories
- 66 "\_\_ hollers, let . . ."
- 67 Cupid alias 68 Overly full
- 69 Miles away
- dinosaurs were dominant

- 4 Two-run homer
- ingredient

#### 1 Sambuca

- 3 Hat designer
- requirement **5** Green Hornet's
- aide
- day-shift start 12 High-pitched
  - 22 Very long time 28 Current
  - measures 29 DJ's inventory
  - 31 Paid notices
  - 32 Surf sound 34 Spat
  - 38 Speak with a
  - Jersey accent?

"recent" 7 Microfragrance technology 8 Was brilliant

6 Nutritive mineral

performances

9 Variety

over!'

11 Frequent

21 Ran into

10 "The party's

13 Ankle mishap

40 Candide author

SHIFTING SANDS by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

39 It means

- 41 Virtual face
- 42 Wisdom 46 Dwell (on)
- 47 Antique coating,
- perhaps 48 Ultimatum
- 50 Paramedic. for short
- 54 Sound of Music
- heroine 56 Not "clean"
- 58 Word on Irish euros 59 Auctioneer's
- last word 60 Capital of
- Qatar **61** Occupational suffix

10

70

11 12

15 16 18 19 24 25 31 32 28 29 30 36 35 38 40 41 42 44 45

33 34 37 43 49 46 47 48 51 52 55 56 57 58 59 60 61

62 63 64 65 67 66

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69

## Penn State: Process in works to settle lawsuits

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Penn State is developing a process for settling civil lawsuits filed against the university by people who claim they were sexually abused by former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky, university president Rodney Erickson said Wednesday.

Erickson said after a student forum the university wants to develop a process "fair to everyone and much so (that) the victims are dealt with in a just manner." He said the university hopes to release details soon.

Any settlements won't be paid with money coming from tuition, state appropriations or private donations but will come from other internal sources including insurance funds, Penn State has said.

Sandusky, an assistant under coach Joe Paterno, was convicted in June of sexually abusing 10 boys, some on campus. He's jailed awaiting sentencing

and maintains his innocence, acknowledging he showered with boys but denying he molested

Erickson had said the night Sandusky was convicted that the university planned to contact the lawyers for the victims and invite them to participate in a program to "facilitate the resolution" of claims against it.

Lawyers for Sandusky's accusers and other potential claimants said last week they had very limited contact with the university and, if that continues, more lawsuits may follow the four now under way.

Penn State Board of Trustees chairwoman Karen Peetz said last week the trustees "don't want to put these victims, who have been through so much already, through anything more in terms of what we need to do to get it resolved."

Ten months after Sandusky's arrest, the massive scandal and its aftermath remain a sensitive

About 60 students attended a forum Wednesday organized by student leaders, the third in a series of town hall-style events to interact with Erickson and other administrators. The forum was broadcast on a state public cable network, and questions were submitted by email from other Penn State campuses throughout the

Most of the roughly 20 questions asked, including those from the audience in a student union auditorium, were related to the scandal. Interactions were civil.

Senior RJ Fazio, an architectural engineering major, grilled Erickson about whether a university-sanctioned report by former FBI director Louis Freeh into the abuse scandal will be reviewed in response to NCAA sanctions against the university.

Freeh's report accused Paterno and three university officials of hiding abuse allegations to protect the university and its football program, claims denied by the family of Paterno, who died in January,

and by the officials. The NCAA slammed the university with a four-year postseason ban, steep scholarship cuts and a \$60 million

Fazio said he doesn't believe all the findings in Freeh's report are true and the sanctions hurt the "(NCAA President) Mark Em-

mert has the audacity to blame our culture, which is a very scary statement," Fazio said. "Academics and athletics have been so evenly paired." Erickson reiterated that agree-

ing to the NCAA sanctions was one of the hardest decisions he's ever had to make. "When you belong to a member-

ship organization, you play by the rules established," he said. "I would say the NCAA would say, 'If you don't want to play by house rules, you're free to drop out at any time." Senior Kevin Berkon, a criminal

justice major, said university leadership has tarnished Paterno's reputation by removing a bronze statue of him from outside Beaver Stadium. "All I can say is you guys have

pretty much torn this university apart," he said. "I cannot be more disappointed in the leadership

Trustee Marianne Alexander responded by saying trustees have to take into account decisions that will benefit the university and can't make decisions based on what would be popular.

## **REFS**

Continued from Page 8

prior experience with something like this," he

NFL teams generally get a 3-point edge in sports books just for playing at home. An extra half-point added to that would be the equivalent of a team having a superstar receiver or running back on the field or an opponent missing its star because of injury, gambling expert RJ Bell of Pregame.com said. "That's a strong statement that the people

are really considering this to be a legitimate phenomenon," Bell said. "When you're taking hundreds of thousands of dollars per game, those half-points are really meaningful." In the two weeks leading up to the Super Bowl earlier this year, oddsmakers said Patri-

ots tight end Rob Gronkowski would shift the line a half-point depending on whether he appeared in the game. He played but caught only two passes in the loss to the Giants. Public perception makes a big difference in

a sports betting world built on complex math and opinion markets — even if popular opinions don't entirely match what's happening on the field.

Statistically, there were few differences from last year in the way the first two weeks of this season were called. The average number of penalties is down and player safety calls like roughing the passer have been about the same. But defensive pass interference calls are up; there were 44 defensive pass interference calls in the first two weeks this year compared with 30 in the first two weeks last year. And games are taking about six minutes longer on average.

Casinos expect an average of 46.1 points scored per game for Week 3 — the highest projected total ever for Vegas casinos, Bell said.

Bell said the jump can't just be another sign of a pass-happy league with rules designed to foster offense.

"What else has changed other than the referees," he said.

SportsBettingOnline.ag, a Costa Rica company that takes bets online, is taking referee bets directly to fans, allowing them to wager on different kinds of penalties league-wide, including the number of pass interference calls, how long games will last and whether home teams will take fewer penalties than visitors. Online sports gambling is illegal in the United States, and such bets wouldn't likely fly in Las

Vegas. Colbert said Cantor plans to allow bettors to wager for the first time ever on total points for the entire league. The over/under line was set to open Thursday morning at 732.5 points, an

average of 45.8 points per game. Colbert said that while it's high, it's lower than the totals of each of 16 games added up, in part because he thinks some casinos are overreacting to the referees and inflated their

But he said that might not matter to bettors, who notoriously love high scores.

"My gut instinct is they'll bet over," he said.

#### Astros' dismal season drags on as Cards win 5-0 ST. LOUIS (AP) has won three straight the season," Lynn said. "I the rotation last Thurs-

Lance Lynn learned a lot from his 18-day stint in the St. Louis bullpen.

Lynn, making his second start since an Aug. 25 demotion, tossed 6 1-3 innings and David Freese and Yadier Molina both hit their 20th home run of the season to lead the Cardinals to a 5-0 victory over the Houston Astros on Wednesday night.

The Cardinals, who have won seven straight against Houston, moved two games ahead of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the race for the second wild card in the Nafor the first time since a four-game streak from Aug. 21-24. The Cardinals have

five players with at least 20 homers for the first time in franchise history. Carlos Beltran (29), Matt Holliday (27) and Allen Craig (21) already hit the milestone.

Lynn (16-7) allowed three hits, struck out five and walked two in a 102-pitch stint. It was his second successive strong effort since posting a 6.56 ERA in five August

"I got away from what I tional League. St. Louis was all about early on in

got off track, and tried to start nibbling and throwing breaking pitches.

Lynn is 2-0 with 12 strikeouts, four walks and one earned run in 12 1-3 innings since his return.

Lynn, who leads a talented staff in wins, retired nine straight batters after Jose Altuve's double to start the game. The All-Star was removed from the rotation after an Aug. 24 outing in which he gave up four earned in two innings at Cincinnati. He made six appearances in the bullpen before returning to day at Los Angeles. He gave up one run and five hits in six innings of a 2-1 win. Freese hit a two-run

homer off Lucas Harrell (10-10) in the second inning. Harrell, winless in six starts, gave up three runs and five hits in 52-3 innings. He struck out seven and walked one.

Craig led off the second with a single to set the stage for Freese's shot. The Cardinals are 16-3 when Freese homers.

Molina homered in the fourth with one out to push St. Louis' lead to

# RANGERS

Continued from Page 8

Obviously, though. what we do on the field trumps scoreboardwatching, but you can be aware of what's going

Young, Elvis Andrus

and Mike Napoli had run-scoring extra-base hits in the third inning as the Rangers chased former teammate C.J. Wilson, who flopped in his second-shortest start for Los Angeles.

Hamilton, the majors'

leader with 42 homers, sat out with a recurring sinus condition that affects his vision, while Beltre had abdominal trouble. Hamilton and Beltre both had MRI exams, but the results won't be available until Thursday.

But Soto homered and Nelson Cruz had an RBI double in a three-run eighth for the majors' most potent offense.

Holland (11-6) struck out four and walked just one batter to remain unbeaten since July 31 while getting his first victory of the season

over the Angels. Working in harmony with Soto, the catcher with a curious habit of singing to his pitcher, Holland went at least seven innings for the fourth straight start.

"We didn't have Ham-

ilton, we didn't have Beltre, but I knew if I made my pitches, the other guys would make plays for me," Holland said. "I'm really happy with my teammates. They've been carrying us, and now I feel like I've got to step up."

Alberto Callaspo hit a two-run homer for the

Angels (81-68), who had won 15 of 20. Wilson and his teammates blew a chance to pull within  $2\frac{1}{2}$ games of the slumping A's for the second AL wild-card slot, instead sitting 3½ back with 13 games to go.

"You can make it whatever you want to," said Mark Trumbo, who went 0 for 3.

"I mean, if you treat it like a dire situation, I doubt that's going to do too much good for us. We're actually pretty loose right now, and I think that's the right way to go about it, as

opposed to stressing out and trying to do too much."

Wilson (12-10) went winless in five starts this season against the Rangers after leaving Texas to sign a \$77.5 million deal with his hometown team last December.

He walked the bases loaded in the first inning and gave up three runs on four hits in the third, forcing Angels manager Mike Scioscia to pull him early for Jerome Williams. "I wasn't happy to get

pulled out of the game, but I wasn't doing well, either," Wilson said. "So it's my own fault. We're trying to win the game, so I understand. ... You've seen their lineup, right? They have a lot of good hitters, not just two guys. Everybody can drive in runs on that team and everybody can go deep."

The high-priced lefthander had pitched at least three innings in every outing for Los Angeles except his first start of the season against

Texas, when he didn't return after a nearly

two-hour rain delay. "We know C.J. knows that we are a very aggressive bunch of guys,3 Texas manager Ron Washington said. "Tonight, we waited and made him throw the ball in the strike zone, and it

worked for us." Williams yielded one hit over 4 1-3 innings of excellent relief.

Pujols went 2 for 4, but made two significant mental blunders in his return to the Angels after missing Tuesday's game to be with his wife, who delivered their fifth child Sunday morning.

Pujols hit a long sin-

gle in the sixth, but got thrown out by 15 feet foolishly trying to stretch it into a double a decision made even worse when Torii Hunter doubled immediately afterward. Pujols then dived in front of second baseman Howie Kendrick to field a routine grounder in the eighth, allowing Young to reach and eventually base score. **Howard County** 

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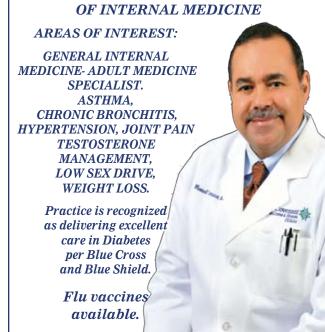


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