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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

**JUNE 26, 2013**



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 216

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## Outstanding! Coahoma youth wows 'em at state UIL vocal contest

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer  
 COAHOMA — Richie Ewing was among the best of the best at the recent University

Interscholastic League State Solo and Ensemble contest. Ewing, a sophomore baritone for the Coahoma High School choir, earned a Divi-

son I rating (the highest possible) rating at the state contest, but his excellence didn't stop there — his judge rating him as an "outstanding performer" at the contest, held in Pflugerville. To put that achievement into context, Lewis was among 305 of an estimated 24,000 contest participants to receive that distinction, CHS Choir Director Sandy Wallace said. "It's a pretty great honor," Wallace said. "The judge was pretty blown away by Richie's

performance. She was very, very complimentary." Ewing's performance was even more notable considering he was younger than most of his fellow state contest entrants. "We've never had anyone from Coahoma win that award," Wallace said. "I would say he sang with a maturity beyond his age." "I'm very proud of him," she added. "He's a very hard worker who put in a lot of



Richie Ewing

See **EWING**, Page 3



HERALD photo / Thomas Jenkins

**Kristen Poffinbarger accepts a first-place trophy for the 2013 Ruthe Jackson Youth Leadership Awards from Johnny Womack, environmental services and assistant director of public works with the city of Big Spring, during Tuesday night's council meeting. The award recognizes outstanding efforts made by youth whose accomplishments are bringing about cleaner, more beautiful campuses, parks and communities. In addition to the award recognition, a \$100 cash prize is presented to first-place winners.**

## Influx of debris cuts landfill life

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council received an update on issues surrounding the municipal landfill during Tuesday night's meeting and the prognosis is anything but sunny. According to Interim City Manager Todd Darden, the landfill has reached a critical point where the influx of materials — much of which is coming from construction and commercial entities — is cutting the life of the facility in half. "We're in a crucial time with space (available) at our current site," Darden said grimly. "As we look at future development needs ...



our time and space available there are becoming more and more of a concern. We have to look at ways we can take our

waste stream, analyze it and divert that stream to other

See **LANDFILL**, Page 3

## Concerned about precedence, city nixes incentive request

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council opted Tuesday night not to approve an incentive package estimated at approximately \$1.5 million requested by

Oklahoma-based Grass Roots Enterprises LLC, saying the move would set a precedent the municipality couldn't afford. The requested incentive package — which the city can consider under Chapter 380

of the local government code — would call for the municipality to establish a \$1 million revolving account for the developers to borrow against and the city to pay \$5,000 to

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

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 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.

## Funtastic Fourth days away!

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

If you're looking to get a head start on celebrating Independence Day, or if you're just looking for a good excuse to head downtown and have a good time, you're in luck this weekend. The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Funtastic Fourth, sponsored by the Downtown Revitalization Association in conjunction

with Alon USA/Alon Brands, will be held Friday and Saturday on Scurry and Main streets between Third and Second, organizers said. There will be food, vendor booths, games and children's rides aplenty, but most of all, there will be music — lots and lots of music. Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan, joined by a police department honor guard, will conduct opening ceremonies

at 6 p.m. Friday, followed by a 7-Eleven Hot Dog Eating Contest. Friday's musical entertainment will be provided by three Tejano groups — Extremo, Mad Mexican and Del Castillo. Saturday morning, the musical theme shifts to gospel, as Christian bands Fortismo, Tributary and the Spring Creek Praise

See **FUNTASTIC**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Erma Louise Tolliver



Erma Louise Tolliver, 67, of Llano died Monday, June 17, 2013, in Llano, Texas. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 29, 2013, at the Evergreen Chapel at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton with her nephews, the Rev. Kelly Inman, associate pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Midland, and the Rev. Anthony Inman, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Miami, Texas, officiating.

She was born July 25, 1945, in Carthage, Ill., to Erma (Belknap) and Ralph Inman.

Erma is survived by her mother, Erma Inman of Llano; daughter, Pam Bigger and husband William of Llano; son, Ronnie Campbell of Austin; a sister, Joyce Clark of Midland; and two grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Ralph Inman; and a sister.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Seekers Sunday School Class, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 403, Llano, Texas 78643; or the Llano Food Pantry, P.O. Box 204, Llano, Texas 78643.

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

### Pat McPhaul

Pat McPhaul, 71, of Colorado City died Monday, June 24, 2013, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 27, 2013, at the First Baptist Church of Colorado City. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 27, 2013, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

He was born July 25, 1941, in Socorro, N.M., and married Shirley Ann Thurman on May 2, 1959, in Acuna, N.M. Pat was involved in farming and the oil and gas industry. He retired as a land and ranch appraiser.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Colorado City.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley McPhaul of Colorado City; two sons, Rick McPhaul and wife Tracey of Big Lake and Randy McPhaul of Sheffield; one daughter, Julie Rogers and husband Ronnie of Littlefield; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Pat was preceded in death by his parents, John and Raye McGregor.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

### Douglas E. Beams

Douglas E. Beams, 61, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday, June 20, 2013, in Hawaii. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

- DANIEL RUSSELL QUALLS, 34, of 2602 Dow, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance.

- BILLY BOB ALVARADO, 34, of 1704 Virginia, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal trespass.

- JESSICA RENEE ORSAK, 24, of 701 Settles, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.

- JOHN JOE ATKINSON JR., 28, of Midland, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for bail jumping - failure to appear, driving while intoxicated, failure to appear and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- ANDRES NIETO, 43, of 312 E. Davis Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for evading arrest or detention.

- JIM TRAVIS COKER, 62, of 208 Moore Rd., was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction, failure to maintain financial responsibility and expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.

tion, failure to maintain financial responsibility and expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.

- ARON LEE TEAGUE, 20, of Chillicothe, Texas, was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction and expired registration.

- THEFT was reported:  
In the 1700 block of E. Third Street.  
In the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:  
In the 1500 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.  
In the 1000 block of N. Main Street.

- FORGERY was reported in the 400 block of E. FM 700.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:  
In the 800 block of S. Lancaster.  
In the 1900 block of Johnson Street.

## Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 85 inmates at the time of this report.

- DANIEL RUSSELL QUALLS, 34, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance.

- JOHN JOE ATKINSON JR., 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility, violation of a promise to appear, bail jumping - failure to appear and a Mitchell County warrant for motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

- ANDRES NIETO, 43, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for evading arrest or detention.

- BILLY BOB ALVARADO, 34, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

- JIM TRAVIS COKER, 62, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- ARON LEE TEAGUE, 20, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and expired registration.

- JESSICA RENEE ORSAK, 24, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a Beeville, Texas, warrant for theft by check.

- JOSE TORRES CASTRO, 42, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on a Laredo, Texas, warrant for theft.

## Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of FM 846 and FM 2230. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Leatherwood. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 900 block of Goliad.

## Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

- "A Journey to a New Normal," a grief support network, meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 602 S. Main. For information, call 263-5999.

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

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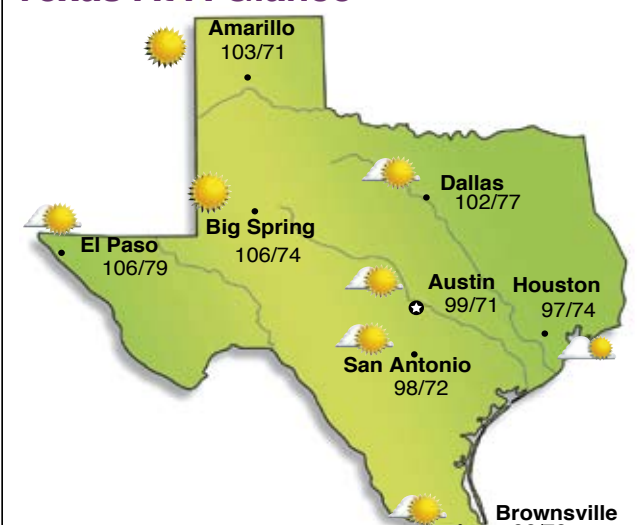
## Today's Weather

### Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 6/27	Fri 6/28	Sat 6/29
 <b>106/74</b> Mainly sunny. Very hot. High 106F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph.	 <b>107/76</b> A few clouds. Highs 105 to 109F and lows in the mid 70s.	 <b>103/75</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs 101 to 105F and lows in the mid 70s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:42 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:57 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:42 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:57 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:42 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:57 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	103	75	sunny	Kingsville	99	74	mst sunny
Amarillo	103	71	sunny	Livingston	98	71	pt sunny
Austin	99	71	mst sunny	Longview	100	75	mst sunny
Beaumont	95	74	pt sunny	Lubbock	102	73	sunny
Brownsville	96	76	mst sunny	Lufkin	98	74	pt sunny
Brownwood	104	73	mst sunny	Midland	105	75	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	96	77	mst sunny	Raymondville	99	74	mst sunny
Corsicana	100	74	mst sunny	Rosenberg	98	73	pt sunny
Dallas	102	77	mst sunny	San Antonio	98	72	mst sunny
Del Rio	101	77	mst sunny	San Marcos	100	72	mst sunny
El Paso	106	79	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	100	77	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	102	69	sunny	Sweetwater	104	74	sunny
Gainesville	101	74	mst sunny	Tyler	101	75	mst sunny
Greenville	100	75	mst sunny	Weatherford	102	74	mst sunny
Houston	97	74	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	105	75	sunny

more information.

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

THURSDAY

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

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

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

- Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

## MANUEL R. CARRASCO, MD

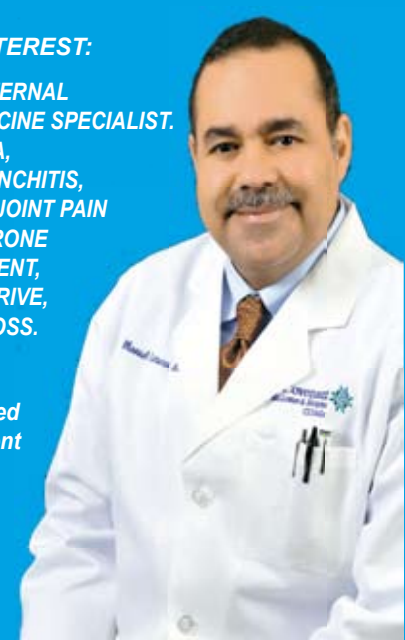
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**EWING**

Continued from Page 1

preparation for this contest. He took it a step or two beyond where most students go and has really developed his singing ability."

Five Coahoma students — four from choir and one from band — participated in the state contest. Vocal students Caleb Daniels and Zach Crabtree joined Ewing in earning Division I ratings, while Shayla Martin and Jessica Goodger received Division II ratings.

**FUNTASTIC**

Continued from Page 1

Band take the stage from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

After that, the music shifts to country and popular, with scheduled acts including headliner Mark McKinney, along with Adrian Calvio, Matt Kimbrow, Clayton Adams Band and Forgotten Road.

Attractions for children will be available both days. Train and water rides, an inflatable bounce house and a climbing wall will be open. There is a charge for these rides, but children who bring two cans of food will receive half-off on ticket prices, organizers said.

A special attraction both

days will be "Through the Can," a painting party featuring 10 artists from across the country.

Through the Can will be an exhibition bordering on performance art.

Ten 8'x12' plywood panels, donated by Harris Lumber and Hardware, will be set up at the corner of Second and Main, in the parking lot adjacent to the gallery. With hip hop and rock music playing in the background, each artist will be supplied with paint and encouraged to create a painting with a patriotic theme.

Food and crafts booths also will be open both days.

For more information, call Allen Johnson at 267-6278.

**LANDFILL**

Continued from Page 1

places which can handle it. One of the most talked about topics during tonight's meeting has been construction and the offshoot of that is the construction and demolition debris, which comes from remodeling or building something new.

"What we've been able to do and what the ordinance allows us to do is administratively divert waste streams where we feel it's a special situation. On the other hand, however, we don't want to hurt our customers who are currently utilizing our landfill, such as a homeowner who might be remodeling his garage to turn it into a bedroom. While we don't want to hurt them, we are aware there are pass-through costs that go along the construction industry, whether it is commercial or residential, and we want to try to minimize them as much as possible, which is the reason the ordinance gives us the latitude to do that."

Darden said the amount of waste being brought into the landfill has doubled, while the city's resources for providing sanitation services for city customers has decreased immense-

ly. "As we know, there is an ever-increasing demand for our services in the way of sanitation," Darden said. "The average weekly waste stream we receive at our landfill, the total consumable products that were brought to us was about 500 tons. We're (currently) pushing 1,000 tons a week in our sanitation department."

"We're visiting with consultants to look at our waste stream management, recycling programs, how we can better strategically place containers and provide the service our customers demand. As you know, in a lot of areas within our community we were offering two-day-a-week pick up. With the expanded service demand that's been placed on our sanitation department today, we're not able to meet those levels of service we've provided in the past. Once you start taking away services that are necessary for the waste stream and what people are disposing of, that just creates a whole other compounded problem for us."

Darden said the diverted waste should not affect household consumers.

"We're going to divert a waste stream that doesn't affect the average homeowner," Darden

said. "Those costs will be passed on to whoever is developing those properties and the construction and demolition materials will be transferred to another landfill in our area by the developer. The homeowner who needs to do the remodeling around Big Spring, we will still accept their waste. However, for the oil industry which is bringing us the commodity leftovers, they are going to have to go somewhere else, as well. We have to find a better way of managing what is coming to us from the outside and take care of the service needs inside the city."

In the meantime, the city council gave the go ahead for Darden to bring in consultants to look at a number of issues related to sanitation, including routes and how refuse is picked up in different areas of the city.

"It's always good to have a fresh pair of eyes on something like this," he said. "They may be able to identify changes in the sanitation routes that could make a big difference in the quality of service we provide our citizens."

Darden said other changes — including the elimination of the current \$5 tipping fee — are also being explored by the city administration.

**COUNCIL**

Continued from Page 1

the developer for each home built.

Grass Roots Enterprises LLC Owner Cody Douglas presented the package to the city council, saying the company is currently considering building 89 homes as part of the Colonial Hills Estates subdivision.

"What we're asking for is that we use the incentive programs that are in place for the city and we put a stipend or an account set aside for the development costs of the Colonial Hills (subdivision)," Douglas said. "We pay the city back every time we sell a lot, back to that fund as we sell the houses. In addition to that, we would like to have a \$5,000 fee paid to the builder or the developer every time we sell a home."

"What that's going to do is instead of us having to sell the lots for \$30,000 — and we make \$5,000 if it's costing us \$25,000 to put in the infrastructure — and we take that \$5,000 and we put it toward the lot and we offer it at \$25,000 instead of \$30,000. We will be able to move those lots quicker and build those houses faster so the city can realize the tax incentives earlier. We will absolutely realize 89 homes in less than 36 months in this market."

Mayor Larry McLellan questioned the use of such an incentive package for a single developer, asking why the city shouldn't offer it to all developers, both local and from other markets.

"How does this separate you from our local builders?" McLellan asked. "I feel like

we'll be opening a can of worms here if we do this for you and there are probably some other builders here who will stand up and say, 'Hey, I'd like the same deal.' Why should we do this for your business and not just do it for everyone?"

According to Douglas, it's rare for a development company to reach outside of its current housing market if they have to pay for infrastructure.

"If there are infrastructure costs involved — putting in the streets and putting in the utilities — you could absolutely offer them an incentive to come in and develop," Douglas said. "What you're going to find now is most builders in this market are not going to come to Big Spring and build infrastructure. It's going to be very, very difficult. Because of the housing shortage around this country today, they are in markets they are going to stay in and that's exactly what I'm finding out in Oklahoma."

"This program works very well and it could work for any developer who wanted to come in. The city of Big Spring has very few (lots that can be built on) right now for the influx of people who are about to hit this market. So that is the incentive you use in order to bring them. I hope there are 15 developers who want to come

here and build homes. You need thousands of homes, not just 89 or 100 homes. You need thousands."

According to Interim City Manager Todd Darden, the municipality has never offered Chapter 380 incentives for a project that builds single-family homes.

"We've used it for a few projects, including the Settles Hotel," Darden said. "However, the Settles project was only about \$20,000. We've also waived permit fees for people. However, the city has never done something like this for a single-family project."

District 5 Councilman Raul Benavides questioned the need for incentives if the housing market — driven by the oil boom surrounding the Cline shale discovery — is going to explode, as asserted by Douglas.

"Therefore, why should we offer incentives?" Benavides asked. "I'm a big believer in supply and demand."

District 4 Councilman Bobby McDonald echoed the same concerns, asking Douglas why the

\$5,000 "rebates" weren't simply being added into the cost of the project and financed by a bank.

"I'd like to wish you every success with what you are doing. It looks very promising," McDonald said. "However, if memory serves me, what's so convoluted about this is the investment of taxpayer money into infrastructure when I can remember when Big Spring had nine subdivisions and every one of the developers went to the bank and put it into their costs. Infrastructure costs were every bit as piercing in 1956 as it is today. It's a matter of money."

Leon Hobbs, a Big Spring native, longtime resident and owner of Colonial Estates, also addressed the council, saying that when he purchased the property his first concerns were for the needs of the city.

"I am concerned about the city of Big Spring. When I bought that land in April, everyone was coming into town and buying acreage on the outskirts and putting in trailer parks. My concern was this isn't going

to benefit Big Spring ... My concern was where could I find enough land where houses could be built and I found Colonial Hills Estates. The trouble is, we're the first. There will be more to come, but it's always harder on the first because you are taking a giant step into something unknown."

McLellan said in the end, he was concerned about the precedence such an incentive could set when the municipality faces fiscal challenges in other areas.

"I really feel like this is going to set a precedence, and the city doesn't have the money to tire up in incentives like this," McLellan said. "Not when we have issues facing us like the closure of the (existing)

landfill and the opening of a new one, or the cost of seal coating the streets. If the city says yes to this, then four more developers are going to be right behind you. How can we say yes to this project and no to the others?"

According to Douglas, the homes planned for the subdivision range in size from 1,500 feet to 2,100 feet, with costs expected to range from \$100 to \$125 per square foot, making the average home slightly less than \$200,000.


The proposal did not receive a motion for approval from the members of the city council and was dismissed. District 1 Councilman Marcus Fernandez was unable to attend the meeting.

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Douglas E. Beams, 61, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

<b>Bill McClellan</b> Managing Editor	<b>Glenn Stifflemire</b> Publisher	<b>Steve Reagan</b> Staff Writer
<b>Brian McCormack</b> Sports Editor	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer	

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Washington, D.C.  
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# Man's limitations revealed in some heartbreaking ways

I pen today's column with a heavy heart. Our eldest son's father-in-law, a man who was also a dear friend to me, passed away this week as a result of the horrible disease, Alzheimer's. He was a loving and extraordinary man who was incredibly intelligent and far too young to die. He was a PhD and spent more than three decades in administration with the largest ISD in Missouri. Yet, in his 50's, he developed dementia and in just a few short years succumbed to this cruel disease, leaving a wife and three precious daughters, the youngest of which is our daughter-in-law.

Thousands of people die every day. I know that. But when things like this come close to home for any of us it naturally seems more significant and touches us deeper. I have a deep abiding respect for the medical professionals who are so dedicated to human wellness and health, but reflecting on my friend's death has caused me to think about the more than \$140 billion dollars invested in 2012 for research and testing to discover cures for diseases. When you consider that the common cold joins cancer, ebola, lupus, diabetes, influenza, HIV, asthma and Alzheimer's as some of the world's leading diseases that still have no cure, it is sobering to say the least. With sincere respect for the medical research community and medical personnel at every level, I wonder what more could be done to eradicate more of these afflictions of the human race.

I certainly do not propose to have any personal insight into any shortcomings that may exist in the field of research, and I am absolutely certain that an immeasurable degree of commitment to finding cures is a driving passion in the research community. The more I ponder it, there's one thing that seems to keep finding its way to the

forefront of my thinking; the limitations of mankind. When the brightest and most intelligent of all mankind is given basically limitless resources to discover and develop an elixir for various medical banes, why isn't there a cure for them all? Again, the only answer that fits is that man has boundaries. Even with more time and money there will always be something he can't fix.

I don't want to even imagine life without medical professionals and their amazing knowledge and insight into our multitude of maladies, and I know progress is being made in some areas. I am reasonably certain that medicines and treatments are being developed with as much expediency as is possible. In fact, Alzheimer's disease is on the rise, but researchers such as Dr. Michael Devous expect those numbers to shift into reverse.

"I think we're going to cure Alzheimer's disease, and we're not far away from it," says Devous, a professor and director of the neuroimaging core for the Alzheimer's Disease Center at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"Ten years ago I didn't think so, but we've made tremendous progress," he says. "We haven't done it. We haven't cured anyone from this disease yet, but I'm hopeful that the trials we've started will change the course of this disease in a positive way."

It's a rare report of good news concerning this disease. According to an April study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, Alzheimer's, the most common form of dementia or memory loss that typically worsens over time, is now the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States. It has surpassed cancer and heart disease to become America's costliest disease, affecting more than 5.4 million Americans with about 4.1 million requiring intensive care that totals \$200 billion a year. Patients live an average four to eight years after an Alzheimer's diagnosis, but some live as long as 20 years, with 75 percent of those with Alzheimer's going to a nursing home by age 80. Tragically, it has claimed the life of

my friend during what should have been the most enjoyable years of enjoying the fruits of his many years of faithful service in his vocation.

I am encouraged that money and minds are indeed penetrating the darkness and my pastoral experience involving thousands of hospital visits has been an inspirational journey as I have witnessed miracles through medical intervention. Yet, there remains a multitude of unconquered enemies of our health and I guess there always will be, no matter how much money and research is invested. So, it leads me back to the matter of man's limitations.

Our generation has been fed a steady diet of "Just do it" and a plethora of other self-motivational catchphrases. Yes, I believe in building one's self-worth and feeding the inner man a belief that he has the ability to go higher and deeper, but man does have limitations, regardless of motivational songs and shibboleths. The inability to control, or even accurately predict when and where natural disasters will strike and the widespread continuation of fatal diseases, make the case. Man doesn't have the intelligence, education, or resources to make life perfect or to control circumstances that ultimately impact every one of us.

If I could have the ear of the medical community I would encourage them to continue doing what they are doing with an unfettered passion. Keep learning, keep trying, keep making progress. But I would also encourage them to remember they can't do it alone. They need help that comes only from acknowledging dependency upon God and His infinite wisdom. After all, if you need to know something about a product, why not get your information from the manufacturer? It just makes sense to me.

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

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



EDDY PRINCE

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## DAILY PRAYER

When life gets us down, dear Lord, let us remember to look up at you.

Amen

# Whistle-blow a happy tune

National Journal's Ron Fournier wrote a strong column about why he doesn't care whether National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden is a hero or a traitor. To Fournier, that's "the wrong question. The Snowden narrative matters mostly to White House officials trying to deflect attention from government overreach and deception, and to media executives in search of an easy storyline to serve a celebrity-obsessed audience."

Me? I can't take my eyes off Snowden and his mentor, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange. Snowden is smart enough to have amassed huge amounts of U.S. intelligence but dumb enough to run to Hong Kong — and then Moscow — to out himself as a whistle-blower. (As of my deadline, his final destination is unclear.) He's smart enough to have won a top-security clearance from a government dumb enough to give it to him.

How does Snowden know that Chinese and Russian officials haven't tapped into his four

laptops and downloaded all his thumb drives? Maybe he doesn't care, but he should.

In China or Russia, if authorities determine they want your hardware, they can take it. If they want your freedom, they can take it. If they want your fingernails, they can pull them. And there won't be any whistle-blowers to expose what happened.

Snowden's lawyer told The New York Times that Snowden left Hong Kong because he could not face the possibility of being held in prison without access to a computer for long periods of time.

If this is true, the tech-savvy Snowden actually needed a lawyer to tell him they don't let you email your pals from Chinese prisons.

The former Booz Allen Hamilton consultant left it to The Guardian and The Washington Post to decide which secrets to publish and which not to. He wasn't sure which information should or should not be made public, but he went to China with his laptops anyway.

On Monday, Assange held a telephone news conference from the Ecuadorean Embassy in London, where he has been holed up while fighting extradition to Sweden, where he has been

charged with sexual assault. It was an ironic setting — given that Assange hit the Obama administration for stifling investigative journalism from the embassy of a country where the National Assembly just approved a bill to regulate news content. President Rafael Correa praised the new law because it means the "party is over" now that his government can "create a good press."

The BBC's Paul Adams asked Assange whether he appreciates the "obvious irony" of Snowden's fleeing to China and Russia, given their "problematic relationship with the sorts of values of privacy and freedom of speech" that he holds dear.

Assange replied: "I simply do not see the irony. Mr. Snowden has revealed information about mass unlawful spying which has affected every single one of us." It would seem the Ecuadorean Embassy is an irony-free zone.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS



# News in brief

## Supreme Court to issue gay marriage decisions Wednesday in last session before summer break

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is meeting to deliver opinions in two cases that could dramatically alter the rights of gay people across the United States.

The justices are expected to decide their first-ever cases about gay marriage Wednesday in their last session before the court's summer break.

The issues before the court are California's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage and the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which denies legally married gay Americans a range of tax, health and pension benefits otherwise available to married couples.

The broadest possible ruling would give gay Americans the same constitutional right to marry as heterosexuals. But several narrower paths also are available, including technical legal outcomes in which the court could end up saying very little about same-sex marriage.

If the court overturns California's Proposition 8 or allows lower court rulings that struck down the ban to stand, it will take about a month for same-sex weddings to resume for the first time since 2008, San Francisco officials have said.

## Southern states promise quick action on election laws after Supreme Court ruling

ATLANTA (AP) — Across the South, Republicans are working to take advantage of a new political landscape after a divided U.S. Supreme Court freed all or part of 15 states, many of them in the old Confederacy, from having to ask Washington's permission before changing election procedures in jurisdictions with histories of discrimination.

After the high court announced its momentous ruling Tuesday, officials in Texas and Mississippi pledged to immediately implement laws requiring voters to show photo identification before getting a ballot. North Carolina Republicans promised they would quickly try to adopt a similar law. Florida now appears free to set its early voting hours however Gov. Rick Scott and the GOP Legislature please. And Georgia's most populous county likely will use county commission districts that Republican state legislators drew over the objections of local Democrats.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the 5-4 opinion that struck down as outdated a key provision of the landmark 1965 law credited with ensuring ballot access to millions of black Americans, American Indians and other minorities. Roberts' opinion gives Congress an opportunity to retool the law's so-called preclearance sections that give the U.S. Justice Department veto power over local elections. But the prospects of a quick fix seem uncertain, at best, given stark ideological divides on Capitol Hill on a host of matters.

Southern Republicans largely hailed Roberts' opinion as recognition of racial progress since President Lyndon Johnson signed the law at the apex of the civil rights movement.

## Al-Qaida, other militants said to be changing procedures to avoid surveillance after NSA leaks

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. intelligence agencies are scrambling to salvage their surveillance of al-Qaida and other terrorists who are working frantically to change how they communicate after a National Security Agency contractor leaked details of two NSA spying programs. It's an electronic game of cat-and-mouse that could have deadly consequences if a plot is missed or a terrorist operative manages to drop out of sight.

Two U.S. intelligence officials say members of virtually every terrorist group, including core al-Qaida, are attempting to change how they communicate, based on what they are reading in the media, to hide from U.S. surveillance — the first time intelligence officials have described which groups are reacting to the leaks. The officials spoke anonymously because they were not authorized to speak about the intelligence matters publicly.

The officials wouldn't go into details on how they know this, whether it's terrorists switching email accounts or cellphone providers or adopting new encryption techniques, but a lawmaker briefed on the matter said al-Qaida's Yemeni offshoot, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, has been among the first to alter how it reaches out to its operatives.

The lawmaker spoke anonymously because he would not discuss the confidential briefing by name.

## 20 bodies recovered after helicopter on mission to rescue India flood survivors crashes

GAUCHAR, India (AP) — Paramilitary soldiers on Wednesday recovered 20 bodies from a steep hillside in northern India where a helicopter crashed while on a mission to rescue people stranded in monsoon floods, the country's air force chief said.

The helicopter crashed late Tuesday when its rotor blades hit the hillside while returning with survivors of flooding and landslides that have killed more than 1,000 people and washed away thousands of homes, roads and bridges since mid-June in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand.

Soldiers using ropes reached the crash site early Wednesday and found the bodies of 20 people, including five air force crew members, Air Chief Marshal N.A.K. Browne told reporters.

The helicopter's cockpit voice recorder was recovered and an inquiry has been ordered to determine the cause of the crash, Browne said.

## South African archbishop prays for Mandela, wishes for peaceful "end" for former president

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A South African archbishop who visited Nelson Mandela in a hospital has offered a prayer in which he wishes for a "peaceful, perfect, end" for the former president and anti-apartheid leader.

There was no word early Wednesday on 94-year-old Mandela's condition, which was critical a day earlier, according to the government. Outside the Pretoria hospital where he was being treated, well-wishers have left flowers, drawings and messages of support for a man regarded as a symbol of sacri-

fice and reconciliation in a country that emerged from white minority rule to become a democracy two decades ago.

"Let's accept instead of crying," said Lucas Aedwaba, a security officer who described Mandela as a hero. "Let's celebrate that the old man lived and left his legacy."

Thabo Makgoba, the Anglican archbishop of Cape Town, posted a prayer on Facebook on Tuesday night after visiting the hospital where Mandela is being treated.

## Financier Marc Rich, who fled to Switzerland in 1983 and was pardoned by Clinton, dies at 78

GENEVA (AP) — Marc Rich, the trader known as the "King of Commodities" whose controversial 2001 pardon by President Bill Clinton just hours before he left office unleashed a political firestorm of criticism in 2001, died on Wednesday. He was 78.

Rich died in Switzerland, where he lived, according to his Israel-based spokesman Avner Azulay. He did not give further details, but said Rich would be buried in Israel on Thursday.

Rich fled from the United States to Switzerland in 1983 after he was indicted by a U.S. federal grand jury on more than 50 counts of fraud, racketeering, trading with Iran during the U.S. Embassy hostage crisis and evading more than \$48 million in income taxes — crimes that could have earned him more than 300 years in prison.

Rich remained on the FBI's Most Wanted List, narrowly escaping capture in Finland, Germany, Britain and Jamaica, until Clinton granted him a pardon on Jan. 20, 2001 — the day he handed over the keys to the White House to George W. Bush.

## Backed by Obama, Dems exorcise Scott Brown's ghost in Mass. special election victory

BOSTON (AP) — Drawing on the political might of the White House, Democrats have exorcised the ghost of Scott Brown.

Three years after the little-known Republican state senator shocked the political world with an unlikely victory here, veteran Democratic Congressman Ed Markey won the special election for U.S. Senate to replace John Kerry on Tuesday, defeating a Republican political newcomer with an all-star resume who failed to inspire Massachusetts voters and Washington's Republican leaders alike.

It was a resounding victory in a low-turnout election for a national Democratic Party still haunted by Brown's 2010 special election stunner.

"To everyone in the state, regardless of how you voted, I say to you tonight this is your seat in the United States Senate," Markey, 66, declared in his victory speech.



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## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



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# Why not check this out at the library?

Some sad news was posted last week on MSNBC for all of us Mitch Rapp fans. One of my favorite authors, Vince Flynn, died after battling an aggressive form of prostate cancer for more than two years at age 47. The St. Paul native sold more than 15 million books in the United States. His 14th novel, "The Last Man," was published last year. He was working on "Invisible Man" at the time of his death. All of us will miss him.



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Another writer who died before writing all the books he had left in him was Robert B. Parker. A writer who has taken up his mantle is Ace Atkins, who wrote "Lullaby," a Spencer novel; has also written "Robert B. Parker's Wonderland" (M ATK A), and yes, that is the title.

It does read as if Parker actually penned the book. Henry Cimoli comes to Spencer and almost the first words out of his mouth are "Have I ever asked you for a favor," and the answer is "Nope." This is the start of a story of corruption, gambling and gangsters and ocean front property — who has it, who wants, and what it takes to get it? Pure D Spencer all the way, with Z Sixkiller at his side.

When Ace Atkins is not writing Parker's Spencer novels, he is also a New York Times best-selling author in his own right. This is the third in the Quinn Colson series: "The Broken Places" (M ATK A), where, only a year after becoming sheriff, Quinn Colson is faced with the release of an infamous murderer from prison.

Jamey Dixon comes back to Jericho preaching redemption, and some believe him, but for the victim's family,

the only thought is revenge.

There is another group which doesn't believe him — the men in prison from Dixon's last job, an armored car robbery. They're sure he's gone back to grab the hidden money, so they do the only thing they can: break out and head straight to Jericho. Colson and his deputy, Lillie, know they've got their work cut out for them. But they don't count on one more unwelcome visitor — a tornado that causes havoc just as events come to a head. Communications are down, the roads are impassable — and the rule of law is just about to snap.

This sounds like a very interesting book to read: "A Curious Man: The Strange and Brilliant Life of Robert 'Believe It or Not' Ripley" (B THO N), by Neal Thompson. "Curious Man" is a compelling biography of Robert Ripley, the cartoonist turned globetrotting millionaire who won international fame by celebrating the world's strangest oddities and whose outrageous showmanship taught us to believe in the unbelievable.

As portrayed by Thompson, Ripley's life is the stuff of a classic American fairy tale. Buck-toothed and cursed by shyness, Ripley turned his sense of being an outsider into an appreciation for the strangeness of the world.

After selling his first cartoon to "Time" Magazine at age of 18, more cartooning triumphs followed, but it was his "Believe It or Not" conceit and the wildly popular radio shows it birthed that would make him one of the most successful entertainment figures of his time and spur him to search the globe's farthest corners for bizarre facts, exotic human curiosities and shocking phenomena.

Ripley delighted in making outrageous declarations that somehow always turned out to be true and simultaneously embodied the spirit of

Peter Pan, the fearlessness of Marco Polo and the marketing savvy of P.T. Barnum. In a very real sense, Ripley sought to remake the world's aesthetic.

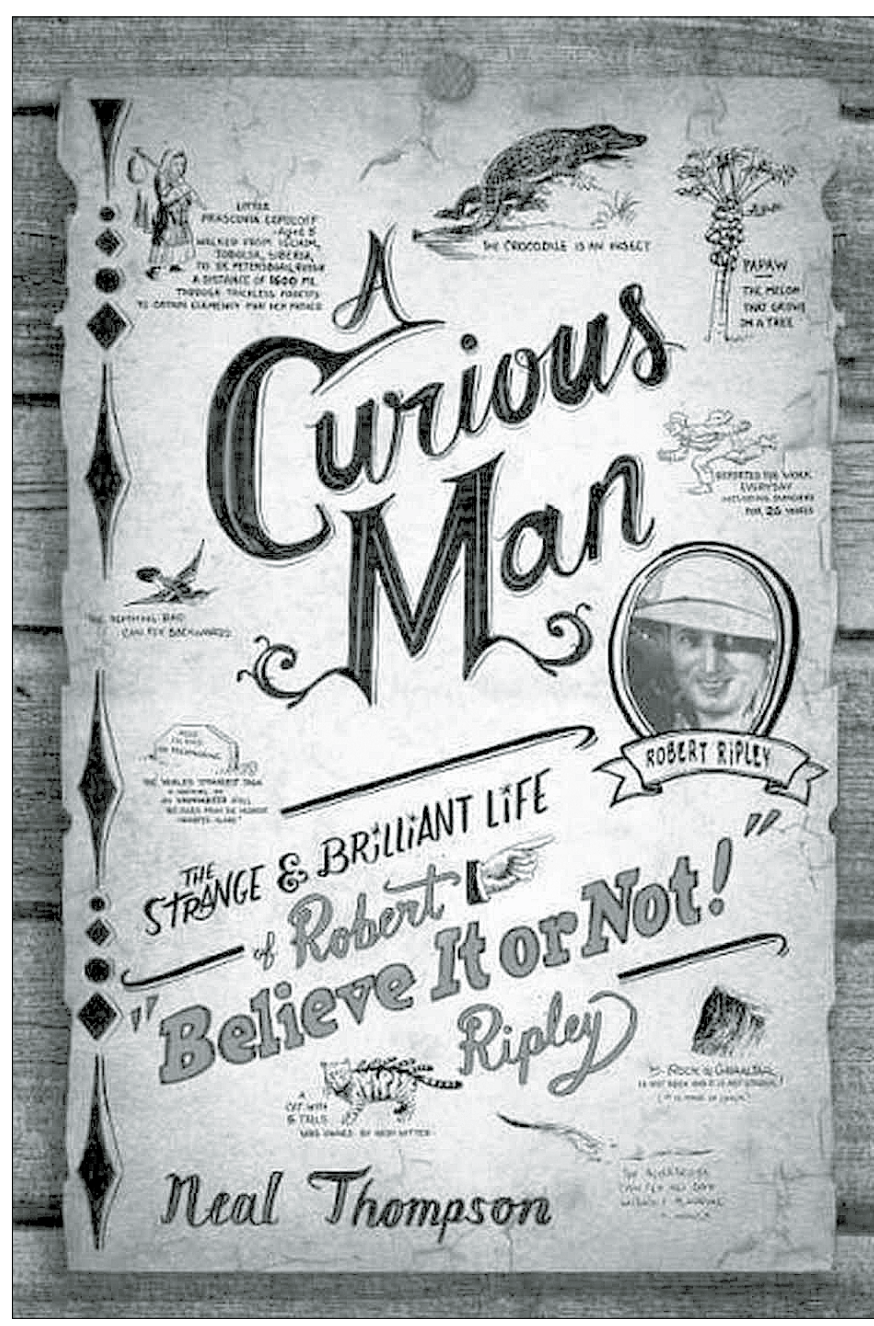
He demanded respect for those who were labeled "eccentrics" or "freaks," whether it be E. L. Blystone, who wrote 1,615 alphabet letters on a grain of rice or the man who could swallow his own nose. By the 1930s, Ripley possessed a vast fortune, a private yacht, and a 28-room mansion stocked with such oddities as shrunken heads and medieval torture devices. His pioneering firsts in print, radio, and television were tapping into something deep in the American consciousness — a taste for the titillating and exotic and a fascination with the fastest, biggest, dumbest and most weird.

Today, that legacy continues and can be seen in reality TV, YouTube, "America's Funniest Home Videos," "Jackass," "MythBusters" and a host of other pop-culture phenomena.

Here is a light, poolside book for the summer. Sophie Kinsella is an English author and I find her books really adorable because, 1. They are English mannered; 2. English people act so different than people in Texas (or at least people I know); and 3. They are funny.

In "Wedding Night" (F KIN S), Lottie just knows that her boyfriend is going to propose during lunch at one of London's fanciest restaurants. But when his big question involves a trip abroad, not a trip down the aisle, she's completely crushed.

So when Ben, an old flame, calls her out of the blue and



reminds Lottie of their pact to get married if they were both still single at 30, she jumps at the chance. No formal dates — just a quick march to the altar and a honeymoon on Ikonos, the sun-drenched Greek island where they first met years ago. Their family and friends are horrified. Fliss, Lottie's older sister, knows that Lottie can be impulsive — but surely this is her worst decision yet. And Ben's colleague Lorcan fears that this hasty marriage will ruin his friend's career.

To keep Lottie and Ben from making a terrible mistake, Fliss concocts an elaborate scheme to sabotage their wedding night. As she

and Lorcan jet off to Ikonos in pursuit, Lottie and Ben are in for a honeymoon to remember, for better . . . or worse. See what I mean?

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## Big Spring Little League All-Stars earn wins, wait out weather

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

After a tough day Monday, Big Spring's Little League All-Star squads bounced back in a big way Tuesday, with three teams coming away with wins.

The nine and 10-year-old All-Stars traveled to Odessa to face South Odessa in their second game of district round action. After being blanked 10-0 in their first outing, Big Spring decided it wanted to keep its postseason alive.

A power outage struck the field in the third inning, causing a delay. When the lights came back on, the bats away as Big Spring, who trailed 5-3, racked up 10 runs during the next two innings.

Holding a 13-8 lead in the sixth inning, Odessa rallied, adding four more runs to cut Big Spring's lead to one. The comeback fell short, however, and Big Spring won the hard-fought battle, 13-12.

The 9-10 All-Stars, who are managed by Isaac miramontes and coached Chris Martinez and

See ALL-STARS, Page 13



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton/order pics at www.claxtonphotography.com

Big Spring's Jack Everett slides home to score one of 22 runs during Tuesday's rout of South Odessa. Three Big Spring teams won yesterday, with one squad (junior league) being rained out. All four teams are back in action either today or Thursday.



Courtesy photo

4-H shooting sports held an archery event in Callahan County over the weekend, with (from left) A.J. Gonzales placing second, Jared Paredes coming in fifth and Andrew Paredes taking first. Under the direction of Keith Bagnall, the contest included 3-D range shooting and field shooting. The trio of archers, along with others, will be competing at an upcoming state sanctioned event in San Antonio.

## Rangers give up four homers in loss to Yanks

NEW YORK (AP) — Tanner Scheppers wishes he had mixed up his pitches against Ichiro Suzuki. Rangers manager Yu Darvish would like to have a few back, too.

Scheppers gave up Suzuki's game-ending homer with two outs in the ninth inning that lifted the New York Yankees to a 4-3 victory over the Texas Rangers on Tuesday night.

"I think it was just the wrong pitch at the wrong time," said Scheppers, whose fastball reached 98 mph. "I probably showed him too many fastballs in that at-bat. Probably should have went with something different."

Scheppers (5-1) pitched a perfect eighth before being touched up by Suzuki in New York's first walk-off win this year.

Darvish gave up homers to Travis Hafner, Brett Gardner and Jayson Nix, the most he's allowed in 45 major league starts. The Japanese ace is winless in seven starts since May 16, when he beat Justin Verlander and the Detroit Tigers.

"He left some pitches in the wrong spot, two breaking

balls and a cutter he tried to get down and in on Gardner and he just dropped the head on in there," Washington said. "He's pitching. I don't see any difference in what he's been doing. Maybe at times he throws pitches he can get away with, but he didn't get away with it tonight."

Leonys Martin connected twice off Yankees starter Hiroki Kuroda.

Mariano Rivera (1-1) worked a scoreless ninth for New York, which ended the Rangers' five-game winning streak.

The anticipated matchup between Darvish and Kuroda, Japanese aces with ERAs under 3.00, fizzled on a hot and sticky night when a four-inning stretch produced five home runs.

The 11th major league matchup between starters from Japan got off to a sharp start. Even when the Yankees loaded the bases in the first on three straight singles that just cleared the gloves of leaping outfielders, Darvish easily got out of the

See RANGERS, Page 7

## Report: Yankees' GM Cashman angry at Alex Rodriguez over Twitter update

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees are not seeing eye to eye on his hip injury.

The star third baseman tweeted Tuesday night that his hip surgeon has cleared him to play in rehabilitation games, a move that angered Yankees general manager Brian Cashman, according to ESPN.com.

"You know what, when the Yankees want to announce something, (we will)," Cashman told the website.

"Alex should just shut ... up," the GM said, punctuating his comment with a profanity.

Cashman added that he planned to get in touch with Rodriguez right away.

The general manager did not respond to calls from

The Associated Press.

Rodriguez had left hip surgery on Jan. 16 and has been working out since May at the Yankees' complex in Tampa, Fla. The three-time AL MVP took swings in a simulated-game situation for the first time on Monday.

On Tuesday night, he posted a message on Twitter: "Visit from Dr. Kelly over the weekend, who gave me the best news - the green light to play games again!" Rodriguez also posted a photo of himself and Dr. Brian Kelly, who performed the operation in New York.

Cashman recently said Yankees doctors have not yet cleared A-Rod for minor league rehab games.

"I don't tweet, and I really don't follow Twitter.

So I probably don't really know much of what is going on. As far as I know he has not been cleared," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said Tuesday night after his team's 4-3 victory over Texas.

"There's always a chain of command with injuries. There has to be and that's the process. It goes through our training staff, our doctors and our GM, and then it goes to me. I'm down on the totem pole."

Before the game — and Rodriguez's tweet — Girardi said Rodriguez "is making progress, which is good."

"He's in sim games until they decide he's ready to go out on a rehab. It's not yet," the manager said.

New to Twitter, Rodriguez sent his first tweet on

May 31. He is expected to return to the Yankees around the All-Star break, shortly before he turns 38.

Benched by the team as he slumped through last year's playoffs, A-Rod has been in the news a lot lately even though he has spent almost no time with the Yankees this season. He is among the 20 or so players who may be disciplined by Major League Baseball for their links to the now-closed Miami anti-aging clinic, Biogenesis of America. MLB could possibly seek a 100-game suspension.

Rodriguez admitted in 2009 that he used performance-enhancing drugs while with the Rangers from 2001-03. As baseball's highest-paid player, he would lose \$7.65 million during a 50-game ban.

## Cleveland rookie facing attempted murder charges

PASSAIC, N.J. (AP) — A Cleveland Browns rookie is charged with attempted murder for allegedly punching a man outside a club in northern New Jersey.

Ausar Walcott turned himself in to Passaic police Tuesday after he was identified as a suspect in the incident that happened around 3 a.m. Sunday.

Authorities tell The Record (<http://bit.ly/19t3uSU>) newspaper the 23-year-old Hackensack native and former University of Virginia player punched 24-year-old Derrick Jones in the head just after The Palace Gentlemen's Club closed.

Police say Jones, who is from New York City, is in critical condition.

Walcott is held on \$500,000 bail. It's not clear if he has a defense lawyer.

The linebacker was signed by the Browns last month. In a statement, the team says it is "aware of the situation."



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7	6	1	9	8	3	5	4	2
3	2	4	7	5	6	1	9	8
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TAMI L. DAVIS  
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY  
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**Legals**

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AN ORDINACNE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER NINE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION" BY AMENDING SECTION 9-1 IN ORDER TO ADOPT THE 2012 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC. FIRE CODE ALONG WITH CERTAIQN AMENDMENTS THERETO; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION.  
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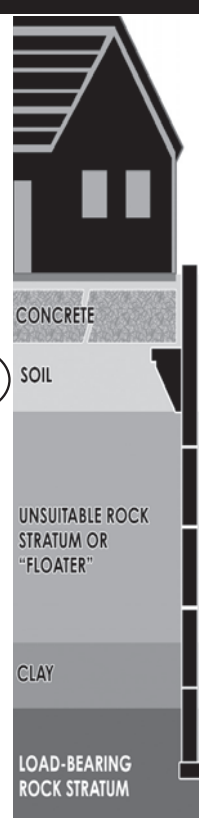
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Annie's Mailbox®

**Dear Annie:** We live in a quiet family neighborhood. Recently, a neighbor tried to locate the owner of a rental home next door in order to discuss a shared fence issue.

When our neighbor could find no contact information through the city department of housing, he searched the Internet. He was shocked to discover that for the past 10 years, the owners have had a porn site registered at that rental home address.

None of us wants a porn site associated with our neighborhood. How should we handle this? — *No Name or Location, Please*

**Dear No Name:** While we certainly understand your moral objections, these owners seem to be running a legal operation. Most web-based or home-based businesses are fine unless there are customers or employees coming to the house. There may be a requirement to have a business license, but that's about it. You can contact a lawyer in your city to find out whether there are other possibilities, but we suspect there is nothing you can do, legally, about this. Sorry.

**Dear Annie:** I share a small workspace with someone who constantly coughs, sneezes, clears her throat, blows her nose and grunts. Worse, she never covers her mouth, so I am surrounded by airborne germs all day. It's extremely annoying and interferes with my ability to concentrate on my work. I know some of this is allergies, as well, but she also doesn't stay home when she is sick.

I have offered cough drops and antihistamines, which she has refused. I suffer from allergies, as well, but try to keep my symptoms to myself. I have talked to my boss, but she won't deal with it. Other co-workers are unwilling to switch desks with me (understandably). I used to like going to work, but I am ready to hand in my notice. What do you suggest? — *Had It with the Hacking*

**Dear Had It:** First be more direct with this co-worker, explaining your discomfort and asking her to please cover her nose and mouth. If that doesn't help, can you complain to the human resources department or a higher-up? Is it possible to move your desk?

Would you be willing to wear a surgical mask or filter? Allergies can't always be helped, but people should be considerate of one another.

**Dear Annie:** I read your advice to "Nervous in Vermont" with much interest, being the parent of a transgender child myself.

Even if an initial conversation may have seemed encouraging, it can be dangerous for trans kids to come out to their parents.

Half of all homeless kids are LGBT, some as young as 12, and were kicked out of their parents' home after coming out to their families.

And a staggering number of trans kids end up committing suicide if met with scorn, shame or parental refusal to accept or discuss the subject.

Coming out must be done eventually, but unless the child is nearing 18 or has contingency plans, one must take into consideration the things that can go wrong.

I'd like to offer a couple of parental resources for such situations:

Trans Youth Family Allies (imatyfa.org) is a wonderful group of parents of trans kids that includes a support email list, as well as organized trainings for schools and other organizations.

Gender Spectrum (genderspectrum.org) holds a yearly Gender Spectrum Family conference in Oakland, Calif., as well as a trans-masculine oriented Gender Spectrum conference in Seattle, Wash.

These two groups can be of incredible assistance to parents after their kids have come out. We've found

that going through the process of accepting our kids is not dissimilar to the grieving process.

What is lost is not the person (thank goodness), but our hopes, dreams and plans for our child. We fear for them and their future. But we

support each other and learn to move on, create new dreams and celebrate our children's true identities. — *Sara*

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to*

*anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2013 CREATORS.COM*



PET TALK: Pet therapy in nursing homes: Assisted living may never be the same



VETERINARY MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

When the time comes for a family member to move into a nursing home or retirement community, many worry that their loved ones will begin to feel lonely and unneeded as time goes by. Fortunately, thanks to people such as Kit Darling and Dr. Karen Snowden and their work with organizations like Aggieland Pets With A Purpose, many elderly residents are getting the chance to experience the unconditional love of a pet.

"People in nursing homes usually face a lot of physical challenges, and having a pet live with them is not an option," said Kit Darling, infection control coordinator at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Science (CVM). "But many nursing homes now will allow personal pets to visit or may schedule pet visits with an animal-assisted therapy group."

Aggieland Pets With A Purpose, or APWAP, is a local non-profit animal-assisted therapy organization. APWAP members and their pets, usually dogs or cats, visit many assisted-living and nursing home facilities in the Bryan, College Station community.

"It is always very rewarding to see a person smile or talk about their pets when one of my APWAP certified dogs like Dexter or Daschle visits a nursing home facility," said Darling.

Each animal involved in APWAP has passed a temperament test and receives regular veterinary care with parasite control and vaccinations in order to be a part of the program," said Darling. "It is also important for the animals that visit to be healthy and clean, so all of our ani-

mals have a bath within 24 hours prior to a visit, including having their nails filed and ears cleaned."

Some retirement communities and assisted living facilities allow their residents to have pets live with them. In these communities, the residents usually have an apartment and must be physically able to care for their pet's daily needs. The pet

must also be friendly towards other people and animals, and should have regular visits with its veterinarian to ensure that it is healthy. There may also be restrictions on the type and size of pets allowed depending on the facility.

Having a pet can be greatly beneficial to the health of the older population," said Dr. Karen Snowden, professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Science (CVM). "A pet can provide companionship and social opportunities for the elderly population, as well as physical, psychological, and emotional health benefits."

"After children are grown and maybe a spouse has passed, a person may feel isolated and inessential," said Snowden. "Having to care for a pet provides a sense of need, and having regular interactions with a pet has shown to lower blood pressure, decrease anxiety, increase physical activity, and enhance social opportunities."

*About Pet Talk*  
*Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University.*

*Stories can be viewed on the Web at vetmed.tamu.edu/pettalk. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu*

*cs may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu*

Tomorrow's Horoscope

read, "You are here." A mentor can act as an objective observer and shed some light on this.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your success is not a function of ability or talent. You have plenty of both, but that is not the magic ingredient. You are competent and work hard, and that is the real reason you will succeed.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't attempt to wing it today. Although your instincts are terrific, you will still do best when you have a structure that supports your goals. Turn to what has worked before. It will work again.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Does your soul have an agenda that your mind doesn't know about? Today's evidence strongly indicates that this is the case. What you want doesn't make sense, but you can't change that you want it.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Simplify, prioritize and eliminate what's been cluttering your view. Once you define your values, much of what you prize will be represented in the physical world.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Meet your own needs. Once your needs are met, you won't feel the need to grip the controls of life so tightly. You'll be still and centered while those around you are caught up in a swirl of high drama.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be recognized for an achievement. This won't feel the way you anticipated it would. Consider why this is so. Perhaps you are being called to a different kind of achievement.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (June 26). This year features your strong sense of your unique talents. You'll stand out from the group and be comfortable in this as you realize you're headed for big things. You'll gain expertise in July. In August, you'll be the recipient of a grand gesture. In October, you'll protect the integrity of something you hold sacred. Pisces and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 22, 35 and 18.

**MERCURY RETROGRADE IN CANCER:** What does it mean for you? Though it's impossible to take back words that have already left your lips, Aries will have the opportunity to reverse the impact of regrettable utterances through action. When all is said and done, what is done is always more impactful than what was said.

Taurus will be replaying the events of an important friendship during this Mercury retrograde. Recent events have set an unfavorable precedence, but all can be put right with mindfulness. Instead of being inconvenienced by the retrograde, Taurus may wind up being grateful for it. Mercury's movements keenly affect Gemini, as it is Gemini's guiding planet. However, Gemini is also remarkably adaptive and can shift quickly to avoid whatever obstacles are thrown in the path. Gemini will be doing quite a lot of darting and dancing to keep life rolling smoothly over the next three weeks. Cancer may feel that Mercury is undermining his or her authority at home during this retrograde. Cancer will have to take a different approach to get the same respect that came so easily before this transit started. The lesson: The best way to earn respect is to give it.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** In addition to starring in a new television series built around her popular character Cat Valentine of Nickelodeon's "Victorious," Ariana Grande is fast becoming a pop superstar with her first solo single "The Way" already certified gold. The talented Cancer was born when love planet Venus was in Taurus, which rules the throat and unique voices. Mars in Virgo shows a hard worker.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Rare Finesse

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 8 2  
♥ J 10 9 2  
♦ 7 3 2  
♣ K Q 9

**WEST**  
♠ Q 6 4 3  
♥ 7 6  
♦ A K Q J 10  
♣ 8 2

**EAST**  
♠ 10 7 5  
♥ A 4  
♦ 8 5 4  
♣ 10 7 6 4 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ K J 9  
♥ K Q 8 5 3  
♦ 9 6  
♣ A J 5

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1♦ Pass Pass 1♥  
Pass 2♥ Pass 3♥  
Pass 4♥

Opening lead — king of diamonds. The "backward" finesse is a play that is rarely used because it is much less likely to succeed than an ordinary finesse. However, when a backward finesse offers the only realistic chance to make the contract, it must be risked.

Consider this deal where South gets to four hearts as shown and West leads the K-Q-A of diamonds. Declarer ruffs the third diamond and forces out the ace of hearts. South wins East's trump return and, having already lost three tricks, must avoid a spade loser.

With this spade combination, declarer would normally lead to the ace and then back to the jack, hoping East had the queen. This would win about half the time.

In this deal, though, declarer knows from the bidding that the normal spade finesse is doomed to fail. East has already shown up with the ace of hearts and presumably would not have passed his partner's opening bid if he also held the queen of spades. Furthermore, West would not have enough points for an opening bid without the spade queen.

Fortunately, South has the necessary spot cards in spades to make a backward finesse feasible. So he initiates the suit by leading the jack from his hand. If West ducks, the jack is allowed to ride, and the contract is home.

If West covers the jack with the queen, dummy wins with the ace and a spade is returned toward the K-9. After East follows low, the nine is played, and, because East has the ten, again declarer is home.

When the location of a missing queen is not known, a backward finesse in that suit will succeed only 25 percent of the time, since it depends on two cards — the queen and ten — being favorably placed. For this reason, the play is seldom used. But when the usual approach seems certain to fail, the backward finesse might offer the only hope.

Tomorrow: Putting it all together.  
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sudoku

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

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

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

**Mercury Retrograde in Cancer**  
Mercury digs in his heels and brings his journey through Cancer to a screeching halt before kicking it into reverse and backtracking through the ocean of Cancer. This opportunity to rewind past events and review our behavior will bring keen insights, if not revelations, about what we can do to improve our domestic scene.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). If you create a habit, you no longer have to use your precious and limited daily reserves of willpower to execute that activity. Do it consistently until it becomes a natural process for you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Acting on behalf of another person, you will meet many interesting people. You're a true friend, and you will try to connect your loved ones with the people who will be good for them to know.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Timing is crucial to your success. It's not something you have to sense, it's simple science. You know when you feel most alert, and you'll make those times count by doing your hardest work then.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). The people you love will try your patience. The reason they are able to do this so effectively is that they are the people you love. Your caring makes you vulnerable, and you wouldn't have it any other way.

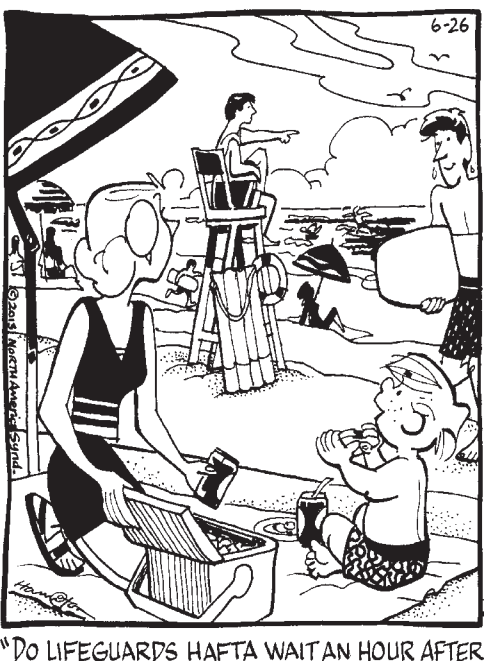
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). There is such a thing as too much inspiration. Ultimately what inspires and motivates you the most isn't people trying to inspire and motivate you, it's "you" taking action and enjoying it.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You require an overview perspective that will help you understand where you are. If only life were like those signs at the mall that

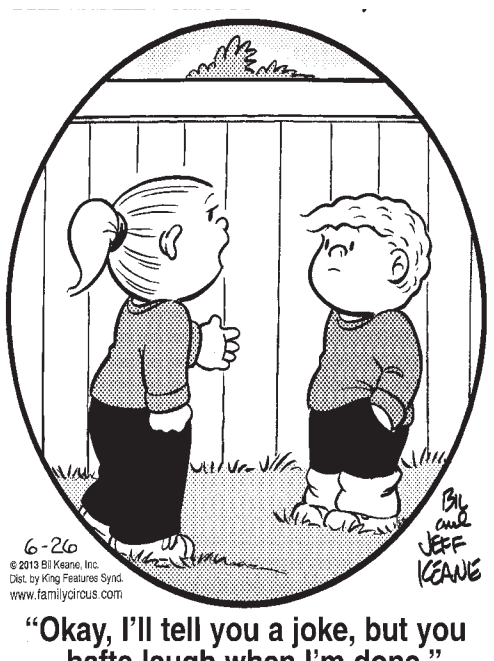


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6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Two Men	News	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Mani	PBS News-Hour	MythBusters	Movie: The Sons of Katie Elder, Martha Hyer	Castle		Jessie	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	Draft Preview	
7:PM	Wheel	Porque el Am.	Big Bang	Ent	Caso Cerrado	News	Seinfeld	Chevalme	Upd	Nature (DVS)	MythBusters		Castle	Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor	Gravety	College Baseball		
8:PM	Middle Family	Amores Verdaderos	MasterChef (DVS)	Big Brother	Dama y Obrero (SS)	2013 Stanley Cup Final: Boston Bruins at Chicago Blackhawks.	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	NOVA	Supernatural	MythBusters	Fight Master	Franklin & Bash		Austin		
9:PM	ABC's The Lookout	Qué Bonito Amor	Simpsons	Criminal Minds	El Señor de los	Big Bang	Conan	Rik R. Shap	Charlie Rose	Cops	MythBusters	Movie: The Shootist, James Stewart	Fight Master	Castle	Real Husbands	Jessie	SportsNation	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Office	Charlie Rose	Seinfeld	MythBusters	(:15) Movie: Liar Liar, Jennifer Tilly	Fight Master	Franklin & Bash	Wendy Williams	Movie: Zenon: Girl of the 21st Century	Baseball Tonight	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Familia-Suerte	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	De'siones	Jay Leno	Office	Alewine	T. Smiley	'70s	MythBusters	(:15) Movie: Ways Die	Fight Master	Falling Skies	Movie: Getting Played, Vivica A. Fox	Deck	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra	Zacatillo, un	Raymond	Insider	De'siones	News	Office	McDonald	T. Smiley	'Til Death	MythBusters	(:15) Movie: Ways Die	Ways Die	The Mentalist	Movie: The Truman Show, Noah	Deck	Nation	
1:AM	Paid	Conducta	American	Ent	Pagado	News	Office	Upd	(Off Air)	Browns	MythBusters	(:15) Movie: Focus 4	Ways Die	The Mentalist				

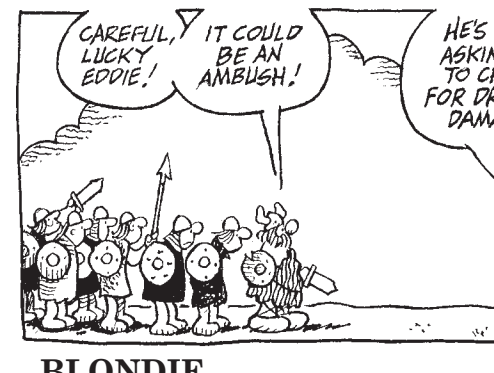
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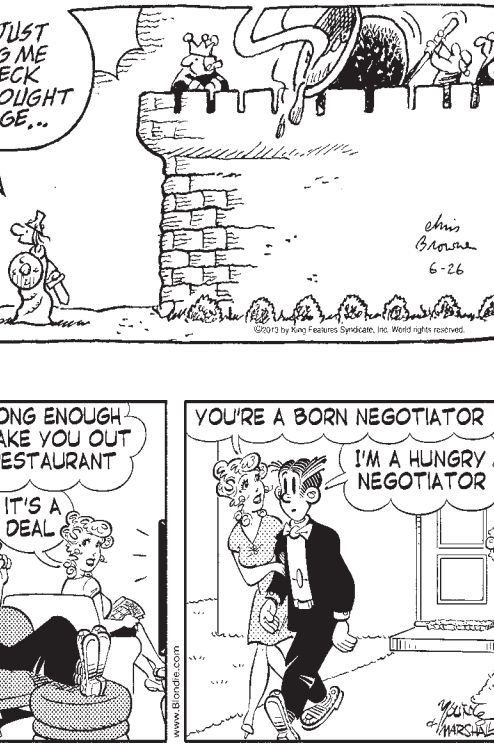
**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**



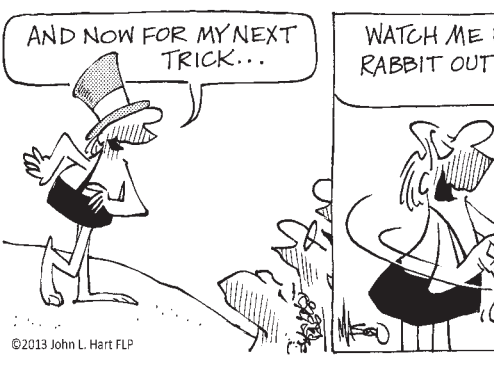
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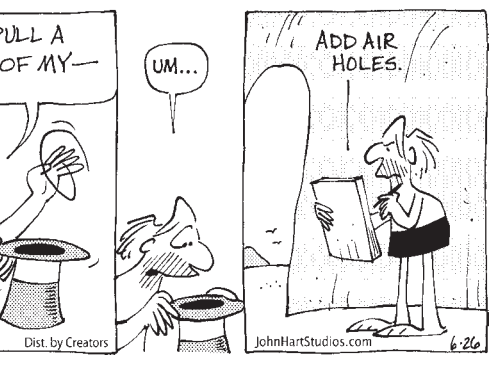
**BLONDIE**



**BC**



**WIZARD OF ID**



**AGNES**



**HI AND LOIS**



**THE OTHER COAST**



**SNUFFY SMITH**



**BETLE BAILEY**



**This Date In History**

Today is Wednesday, June 26, the 177th day of 2013. There are 188 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On June 26, 1963, President John F. Kennedy visited West Berlin, where he delivered his famous speech expressing solidarity with the city's residents, declaring: "Ich bin ein Berliner" (I am a Berliner).

On this date:

In 1483, Richard III began his reign as King of England (he was crowned the following month at Westminster Abbey).

In 1870, the first section of Atlantic City, N.J.'s Boardwalk was opened to the public.

In 1915, following a whirlwind courtship, poet T.S. Eliot married Vivienne Haigh-Wood in London. (The marriage proved disastrous, but the couple never divorced.)

In 1925, Charlie Chaplin's classic comedy "The Gold Rush" premiered at Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood.

**congressional negotiators.**

In 1993, President Bill Clinton announced the U.S. had launched missiles against Iraqi targets because of "compelling evidence" Iraq had plotted to assassinate former President George H.W. Bush. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Roy Campanella died in Woodland Hills, Calif., at age 71.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Eleanor Parker is 91. Jazz musician-film composer Dave Grusin is 79. Actor Josef Sommer is 79. Singer Billy Davis Jr. is 73. Rock singer Georgie Fame is 70. Actor Clive Francis is 67. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brenda Holloway is 67. Actor Michael Paul Chan is 63. Actor Robert Davi is 62.

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**Answer to previous puzzle**

S	P	A	T	A	B	L	E	D	R	A	I	N
L	U	S	H	C	L	O	D	R	A	I	S	E
A	R	I	A	C	A	G	E	R	E	T		
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S	A	F	E	S		B	O	G	S			
P	R	O	N	E		A	L	O	E			
N	E	S	T	S		Y	E	N	S			

**Newsday Crossword**

**PERCENTAGE BASIS** by Charles Slack Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lubricates
  - 5 Warren Buffett's home
  - 10 Healthful resort
  - 13 Judge's orders
  - 15 Computer "infection"
  - 16 Ancient
  - 17 In spite of that
  - 19 Enraged
  - 20 The Big Apple
  - 21 Sixes on par-fives
  - 23 Bride's title, perhaps
  - 24 Son of Isaac
  - 25 Sphere of activity
  - 29 Chip off the old block
  - 30 Solemn promises
  - 33 Fill with joy
  - 34 Care for
  - 35 Stamping tool
  - 36 Prime-time hour
  - 37 Acknowledges the crowd
  - 38 Very unpleasant
  - 39 Wall-climbing plant
  - 40 Hatchet relatives
  - 41 Use effectively
  - 42 Allocate, with "out"
  - 44 Metal in pewter
  - 45 In-your-face
  - 46 Rabbit relatives
  - 48 Part of TGIF
  - 49 Check payee, at times
  - 51 Snob
- DOWN**
- 1 Have title to
  - 2 Smooth (out)
  - 3 Queue
  - 4 Goulash, for instance
  - 5 Do\_\_\_ (second chances)
  - 6 Cereal partner
  - 7 Live and breathe
  - 8 Fiancés, in the future
  - 9 Trade grp.
  - 10 Important individuals
  - 11 Engage in a sport
  - 12 Sums up
  - 14 Frustrate
  - 18 Cornet, for one
  - 22 End of Wyoming's website
  - 24 Common surname
  - 25 Jeans material
  - 26 Greek salad tidbit
  - 27 Expression of gratitude
  - 28 Scarfed down
  - 29 \_\_\_ Hills of Rome
  - 31 British prince, in headlines
  - 32 Run-down
  - 34 Cars for hire
  - 37 Napoleon's undoing
  - 38 By way of
  - 41 Composes
  - 43 Thing that may be lent or bent
  - 45 Ship's lockup
  - 47 Show one's emotions
  - 48 Dentist's advice
  - 49 Mule's sound
  - 50 Lessen
  - 51 To be, in Paris
  - 52 Longing
  - 53 Brake part
  - 54 School session
  - 57 Building site
  - 58 Salesperson, for short

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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62				63							64	





HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Jason Miramontes tags a runner out at second during Tuesday's 13-12 win over South Odessa.

**ALL-STARS**

Continued from Page 7

Tony Sarmiento, will be in Odessa again today, taking on Jim Parker at 6 p.m.

Sharp pitching and hot bats led to a huge win by the 12-year-old All-Stars, as they shelled South Odessa, 22-1 after a two hour weather delay forced a 10 p.m. start at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex.

Big Spring surrendered a run in the top of the first inning, but from then on, the game slipped away from South Odessa.

A 15-run first inning for Big Spring took the wind out of Odessa's

sails, as they were stymied at the plate by Jeremy Gonzales and Deryk Renteria, who combined for 10 strikeouts and recorded zero walks.

Jack Everett, Edward Aguilar and Gonzales went 8-8 between them, with three doubles, a triple and four singles. The trio accounted for 10 runs and 12 RBI.

The game was cut short via the 10-run rule in the fourth inning, likely to the relief of South Odessa, who couldn't generate any offense.

The 12-year-old All-Stars will take the field Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex against an opponent to be deter-

mined.

The lightning and threat of rain led to the postponement of the game the 14-year-old All-Stars were slated to play at Steer Park on Tuesday.

Big Spring will try to stay alive as they meet Floyd Gwin today at 7 p.m. at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex.

The 15-16 year-old All-Stars will also return to action today at Steer Park at 8 p.m. against Odessa East.

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

**Cowboys sign last unsigned pick**

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have signed first-round pick Travis Frederick, the last of their unsigned draft choices.

The center from Wisconsin signed a four-year deal with a club option for a fifth on Tuesday. The Cowboys now have all seven draft picks under contract. Training camp starts July 21.

Frederick was the first-team center throughout offseason workouts,

but is expected to battle fourth-year pro Phil Costa for the starting job in training camp. Frederick also will get work at guard, his previous position in college.

The Cowboys traded down 13 spots and picked Frederick at No. 31. They said the offensive line was a top priority after one of the worst rushing seasons in club history.

**RANGERS**

Continued from page 7

jam with a strikeout and an easy grounder.

But Martin started the home run barrage with a shot that landed a couple of rows back in the short right-field porch.

After the Rangers went up 2-0 on an unearned run in the fourth aided by rookie third baseman David Adams' throwing error, Hafner led off the bottom half with a long ball into the New York bullpen. Martin then started the fifth with a shot that landed several sections to the left of his first homer for his fifth of the year.

Not to be outdone, Gardner led off the Yankees' half with a

line drive deep into the seats in right field to pull New York to 3-2.

Kuroda had his first perfect inning since the second in the sixth. And Nix promptly tied it with a soaring fly to left field that cleared the wall by several rows, snapping his homerless string at 202 at-bats. Nix last homered on April 7.

"My approach stays the same, no matter who I face and what number they are hitting in the lineup I face," Darvish said through a translator.

Pitching on extra rest because Texas chose to bring up top pitching prospect Martin Perez to start against St. Louis on Saturday and push everyone back a day, Darvish struck out

six. He yielded seven hits and three runs.

Texas took advantage of Adams' throwing error on Adrian Beltre's grounder to go up 2-0 in the fourth. Beltre reached when Adams' long throw skidded past first baseman Lyle Overbay with one out. A.J. Pierzynski and Lance Berkman each singled to load the bases before Mitch Moreland's grounder to second base was too slow for Robinson Cano to start a double play, allowing a run to score.

With runners on first and third, David Murphy then hit a grounder that shortstop Nix fielded deep behind second base.

He made a strong throw for the third out.

To submit a summer sports item, call 263-7331 ext. 237, or email sports@bigspringherald.com

**Dr. Rudy Haddad**  
Board Certified in Urology  
Fellow American College of Surgeons

**Adults and Pediatrics Urology**

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- Office Treatment of Enlarged Prostate Profile (instead of Surgery)
- Urinary Bladder Control Problem with Medication (Simple Outpatient Procedure Available)
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- Sexual Dysfunction
- Low Testosterone Syndrome
- Vasectomies

**(432) 714-4600**  
1501 W. 11th Place Suite 103  
Big Spring, Tx 79720

4th of July Washer Tournament

Downtown Big Spring Texas

Date: **Saturday, June 29th**

Registration: **2:00 P.M.**

Cost: **\$25 A Team**

Prizes: **1st, 2nd, 3rd Trophies**

Contact: Manuel (Meme) Ontiveros Sr. (432)816-7808

**RIGHT ON THE Corner ON THE Price!** 1972 **87** 2013 **RED HOT SUMMER SALE!**

**2004 F350 Powerstroke Lariat** **SOLD** **\$13,950** **Special Of The Week!**

**2005 Honda Accord V6** **SOLD** **\$10,950**

**2007 Nissan Murano S** **\$9,950**

**2007 Nissan Altima** **SOLD** **We Finance**

**2006 Dodge Cummins Diesel** **\$19,950**

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# ALON-USA



## Funtastic Fourth

**Mark McKinney**

**Del Castillo**

**Mad Mexicans**

**Adrian Calvio**

**Matt Kimbrow**

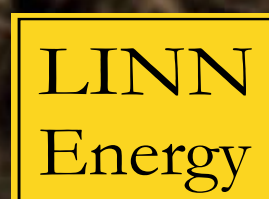
**Extremo**

**Clayton Adams Band**

**Forgotten Road**

**June  
28-29**

## Downtown Big Spring Tx



**Opening ceremonies by Mayor Larry McLellan 6:00, Friday evening. Color Guard, Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem and prayer by Dean Thomas followed by The 7-11 Hot Dog Eating Contest, many prizes available.**

### Activities:

**Volunteer Fire Department will hose you down to cool off, Kids Zone, Train Rides, Water Rides, Inflatable Bounce House, Climb Wall. Any Child that brings 2 cans of food to donate to local food bank gets 1/2 off rides.**

Friday Bands: Extremo, Mad Mexicans and Del Castillo

Saturday Bands: Mark McKinney, Adrian Calvio, Matt Kimbrow, Clayton Adams Band, Forgotten Road

Gazabeo Stage: Saturday 11-6 local artist performing

Saturday Morning 10-2 Gospel Concert featuring: Fortismo, Tributary and Spring Creek Praise Band

Saturday Afternoon Live Graffiti Artist Theme "Through the Can"

Saturday 2:00 Washer Tournament

Many, Many Vendors Food Crafts.....Much, Much More

**DON'T MISS THIS EXCITING EVENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**