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TUESDAY

JULY 16, 2013



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Housing shortage slams school districts

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Anyone can tell you there's a housing shortage in this area, but nowhere is it more keenly felt than in the public school districts.

The recent oilfield-fueled hiring boom has brought lots of people into this area, but it has also dried up the list of available housing, and officials at Big Spring, Coahoma

and Forsan school districts all agree it is hampering their efforts to hire new employees.

"In the past, we've been able to fill vacancies pretty quickly," Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy Johnson said. "Now, it has become a major issue and in some cases, it has delayed us hiring people for more than a month."

Coahoma ISD Superintendent Amy Jacobs said the

"We have some teachers driving 30 miles to work each day and it's become a major issue for new teachers and coaches to find housing."



Amy Jacobs, Coahoma ISD superintendent

Howard County housing shortage has become so notable it has forced employees to seek homes in other com-

munities such as Snyder or Colorado City.

"We have some teachers driving 30 miles to work each

day and it's become a major issue for new teachers and coaches to find housing," she said. "Not only is there not much housing available in the immediate area, but we have some teachers and staff who are having to drive a long way to work every day. For administrators and extra-duty personnel like coaches

See **HOMES**, Page 3



Municipal Judge Tim Green (left), County Judge Mark Barr and former Big Spring mayor Tommy Duncan unveil commemorative plaques at the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center honoring the work done by Sheriff Stan Parker and newly-retired police chief Lonnie Smith to have the center constructed. A number of officials from the city and county were in attendance for the ceremony.

Parker, Smith honored for cooperation

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker and newly retired Big Spring Police Department Chief Lonnie Smith got a hefty nod from local officials on both sides of the city and county lines Monday afternoon, as the two were honored with commemorative plaques at the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center.



Smith Parker

The plaques — the brainchild of former District 5 Big Spring City Councilman Craig Olson — were ordered to honor the unprecedented level of cooperation between the two law men which eventually led to the two departments not only being housed under the same roof, but also the sharing of resources and information.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, he knew the creation of the law enforcement center would eventually happen, he just didn't believe it wouldn't happen as fast as it did.

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Fan-tastic way to help your neighbor

Take your extra fans or a monetary donation to the Salvation Army at 811 W. Fifth St.

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

While the Crossroads area is enjoying a break from hot temperatures, chances are Mother Nature's sympathy will run out, making it tougher for area low-income residents to stay cool.

As always, Big Spring Area Salvation Army has begun stepping in with its annual fan drive, targeting the elderly and those families with small children.

"The majority of the people who are needing the fans are elderly and on a fixed in-

come," Salvation Army Social Worker Ada Lafler said. "They are trying to use fans to keep their utility bills down. They simply can't handle the spike in energy costs associated with this time of the year and many of them are being forced to choose between essentials — medications, food and water — and electricity costs. It's a horrible position to be in."

Unfortunately, the demand for the fans is far outweighing the supply, according to Lafler.

"The recent drop in temperatures has helped some, but we're still giving away the fans about as fast as we get them in," she said. "The demand is certainly still there, and as long as we have people in need, we'll continue trying

to raise money and collect donations for the annual program."

The annual fan drive collects donated fans and money to purchase new fans, which are then distributed to area residents in need of help in beating the summer heat, according to Salvation Army officials.

"We're trying to target the elderly because they are the most susceptible to heat related illnesses," Lafler said. "We're also trying to target families with children 5-years-old and younger and who are at home through the day during the summer months."

"Donations can be made in several different ways. Donors can bring in their used fans that are in good, service-

able condition, or they can make a monetary donation. The box fans that we normally purchase usually run anywhere between \$20 and \$30. It all depends on what kind of fan that person needs."

Donations can be made by purchasing fans and taking them to the Salvation Army office — located at 811 W. Fifth Street and open from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. with an hour break for lunch at noon — or earmarking monetary donations for the fan drive.

"When the temperature breaks the 100-degree mark, it's not only uncomfortable, it can become downright deadly," Lafler said. "Try turning your air conditioner off for just a day and you'll get just

See **FANS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

DeNeise Bennett Coates



On July 12, 2013, DeNeise Bennett Coates departed this world to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Everyone was touched by her contagious laugh, big heart and willingness to always do for others.

DeNeise was born June 19, 1973, in Big Spring, Texas, to Eugene "Bo" Bennett and the late Linda Bennett. She grew up and attended school in Coahoma, Texas.

DeNeise was self employed. She had a love for her family that was like no other. Her kids were the light of her life. She was an avid Coahoma Bulldog football fan and also had a passion for NASCAR.

DeNeise was survived by her children, Skyler, Brody and Brissa and her father, Eugene "Bo" Bennett.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Jamie Bennett; and her mother, Linda Bennett.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at Midway Baptist Church with the Rev. Mark Winn and the Rev. Jim Binnix officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, 2013, at the funeral home.

Pallbearers will be Brody Coates, Skyler Coates, Gene Hector, Greg Parrish, Pete Acosta, Garrett Parrish, Zak Walton and Kip Williams.

Honorary pallbearers will be Coby Williams and Brent Wright.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the Matt Wynn Scholarship Fund through the Coahoma Exes Assn., c/o Cindy Klaus, P.O. Box 84, Coahoma, Texas 79511.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Frances Faye Vinson Hobbs

Frances Faye Vinson Hobbs, 81, of Big Spring died Sunday, July 14, 2013, in a Lubbock hospice facility. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 18, 2013, at the Family Faith Victory Center with Brother Neil Hall officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at the funeral home.

She was born April 15, 1932, in Hatchel, Texas, and married Johnnie A. Hobbs Jr. on Aug. 14, 1948, in Big Spring, Texas.

Faye moved to Howard County in 1940 and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1949. She started working for First National Bank at the age of 16 and retired after 49 years. She and Johnnie owned Cowboys Restaurant for 11 years.

She was a lifelong member of Cedar Ridge Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband, Johnnie A. Hobbs Jr. of Big Spring; one son, Leon Hobbs and wife Frances of Big Spring; two daughters, Anita Cline and husband John of Big Spring and Karen Leonard and husband Mike of Andrews; eight grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George Burley and Lula Frances Ward Vinson; and a brother, Milton Vinson.

The family suggests memorials be made to Alzheimer's Association — Greater West Texas Chapter, 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite C-32, Midland, Texas 79705.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Carlos Humphrey

Carlos Humphrey, 84, of Big Spring died Tuesday, July 16, 2013, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1300 block of Pennsylvania.
- THEFT was reported: In the 1900 block of S. Gregg Street. In the 200 block of W. FM 700. In the 100 block of N. First Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this report.

• TERESA KAY GASTON, 50, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• JAMES ARTHUR WHITED, 47, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of S. Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Sherrod Road and Highway 33. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Highway 87 and County Road 33. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Lamar. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• Coahoma High School classes of 1952 through 1956 will hold a reunion at Papa Chon's Restaurant at 6 p.m. Friday. Contact Sue Buchanan Tindol at 432-394-4363 for more information or to reserve a seat.

• Coahoma High School will hold an All-School Reunion on Saturday at the Elementary School in Coahoma. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Lunch can still be reserved for \$10 with one of the officers or will be available at the door for \$12. The reunion will last until 3:30 p.m. and will include an auction and opportunities to raise money for college scholarships to CHS students. Items for the auction will be held at Kokapelli's in Big Spring from 6-11 p.m. For further information or to reserve lunch, contact Joyce York Baumann, president, jefnjoyce@yahoo.com or 432-816-1588 or Cindy Parrish Klaus, secretary, cindy.claus@whiting.com or 432-466-1298.

• Spring Creek Fellowship will hold a fundraiser, "We Sent Our Harts to Zambia," Aug. 3 at Big Spring State Park. Pre-registration will guarantee a commemorative T-shirt. Registration and sign in will be at 8 a.m. on top of Scenic Mountain. Entry fee is \$30. Race will begin at 9 a.m. Awards for all participants. Medals for the top three finishers. For more information, contact Shawn Hart at 432-238-0642 or Lauren Hart at 432-213-0790. Proceeds will be used to send the Harts to Zambia.

• Spring of Siloam Christian Women's Job Corps is accepting applications for its fall semester classes through the final week in August. For more information, call 432-517-4627.

• The Howard County Sheriff's Posse will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6 at Crispy's Cafe, located near the intersection of Birdwell Lane and FM 700. The local group is looking for new members and would like to encourage anyone interested in joining to attend the meeting. For more information on the Howard County Sheriff's Posse or the meeting, contact Steve Gray at 432-213-6104 or Bert Sheppard at 432-263-4483.

• Diabetes and Nutrition will be the August Healthy Woman event in Room 215 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Paula Sue Sisson, new SMMC dietitian, will be the featured speaker. Find out about inpatient and upcoming outpatient services regarding diabetes and nutritional consultations. The event, set Aug. 8 with a Lunch n Learn at 11:30 a.m. and refreshments and light snacks at 5:30 p.m., is free to the public, as always. For more information or to RSVP, call 268-4842 or 268-4721.

• Parenting classes will be held in room A-10 at Howard College from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. For more information, call 263-2673 and ask for Linda.

• Howard County Fair Association is seeking vol-



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Local 3-Day Forecast		
Wed 7/17	Thu 7/18	Fri 7/19
 76/70	 83/71	 88/71
Sunrise: 6:51 AM Sunset: 8:53 PM	Sunrise: 6:52 AM Sunset: 8:53 PM	Sunrise: 6:52 AM Sunset: 8:52 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities			City			City		
City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Abilene	78	70 rain	Kingsville	92	75 t-storm			
Amarillo	74	61 t-storm	Livingston	89	70 t-storm			
Austin	86	71 t-storm	Longview	89	72 t-storm			
Beaumont	89	73 t-storm	Lubbock	77	65 rain			
Brownsville	88	75 t-storm	Lufkin	89	70 t-storm			
Brownwood	85	71 t-storm	Midland	76	69 t-storm			
Corpus Christi	90	77 t-storm	Raymondville	91	74 t-storm			
Corsicana	88	71 t-storm	Rosenberg	90	73 t-storm			
Dallas	90	73 t-storm	San Antonio	85	72 t-storm			
Del Rio	87	74 t-storm	San Marcos	85	72 t-storm			
El Paso	88	68 t-storm	Sulphur Springs	90	73 t-storm			
Fort Stockton	76	66 t-storm	Sweetwater	77	69 t-storm			
Gainesville	86	70 t-storm	Tyler	89	72 t-storm			
Greenville	88	71 t-storm	Weatherford	87	71 t-storm			
Houston	89	74 t-storm	Wichita Falls	84	69 t-storm			

National Cities			City			City		
City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Atlanta	89	71 pt sunny	Minneapolis	92	74 mst sunny			
Boston	91	70 mst sunny	New York	94	78 mst sunny			
Chicago	91	76 mst sunny	Phoenix	95	82 cloudy			
Dallas	90	73 t-storm	San Francisco	59	53 pt sunny			
Denver	80	57 sunny	Seattle	85	63 mst sunny			
Houston	89	74 t-storm	St. Louis	94	77 mst sunny			
Los Angeles	82	63 sunny	Washington, DC	95	79 pt sunny			
Miami	86	77 t-storm						

Moon Phases			
	First Jul 15	Full Jul 22	Last Jul 29
			New Aug 6

unteers to help with the Howard County Fair which will be held Sept. 26-28. To find out more information or to volunteer, contact Jamey Stegall at 214-717-9210 or jamey.stegall@gmail.com. The fair association is also accepting applications for exhibitors at the fair. All booths rent for \$100. Contact Stegall for more information.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• Crossroads Hospice is in need of volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of the hospice team, by bringing light and love into people's lives. For more information on joining, contact Eva Robison at 432-263-5300 or come by 421 S. Main.

• Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone's life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it's visiting a patient or working in the office or helping with a craft, you can make a difference. We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Kara Daniels at Compass Hospice, 432-263-5999, or apply in person at 602 S. Main St.

• You don't have to be a senior citizen to enjoy country-western dancing. The Big Spring Senior Center hosts a dance every Friday from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. A different band will be featured every night. Dancing is a fun way to exercise, so come enjoy the fun and meet new friends. Cost is \$8 per person. For more information, call 267-1628.

Police blotter

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

• JAMES ARTHUR WHITEHEAD, 47, of 309 W. Fifth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

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Support Groups

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY
 • "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 more in-

formation.
 • 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.

• Overcomer's: Recovery & Restoration (R&R), a Christ-centered recovery program is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the "Green Room" of the East Wing. For more convenient access to the meeting room, park in the back of the church and enter through the metal door across from the fellowship hall. If you need more information, contact the church secretary at 432-264-0015.

• Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more in-

formation, call 263-2501.
 • Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Baptist Temple Church Fellowship Hall, 400 E. 11th Place. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

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.

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 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

HOMES

Continued from Page 1

who have to spend a lot of extra time at the school, that really extends their work day."

Ann McClarty, executive director of personnel and instruction for Big Spring ISD, agreed the housing pinch is making it hard for the district to attract — and in some cases retain — personnel.

"It's just hard right now to find housing for teachers," McClarty said. "There's little housing available and rent is high, so it makes it hard for people new to the district — and all of our people, for that matter."

Johnson said the shortage has become so troublesome that several school districts throughout West Texas are contracting to build homes for their teachers, an option Forsan

and Coahoma are exploring.

Forsan ISD currently owns 14 homes in the district for use by administrators and extra-duty personnel, while Coahoma ISD provides a home for Jacobs.

"It certainly is an option," Johnson said of districts getting into the home construction business. "The problem, however, is that even if you can find money in the budget, it's hard to find contractors to do

the job at a reasonable price."

Jacobs said Coahoma trustees will discuss the possibility of contracting for two or three new homes when they meet tonight at 7 in the elementary school cafeteria, but said budgetary realities leave the district's options limited at this point.

"We're also looking at staff compensation to make sure we are being equitable," she said. "We're trying to put in

place something that can be carried forward in the future, but we're not committing to anything long-term like a major construction project."

Big Spring ISD officials have discussed the possibility of building housing, but McClarty added those discussions are strictly preliminary in nature.

"The biggest problem with that is we need housing now and building homes will take time,"

she said. "Right now, in the short term, building homes is not a viable option."

Instead, BSISD is looking at incentives such as relocation fees to help staffers find housing.

"As we finalize our budget, we will be able to get a definite idea what we can do," she said.

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

HONORED

Continued from Page 1

"Stan and Chief, you've both done an excellent job. You came together when, to tell the truth, it was pretty much a mess beforehand," Barr said. "This is a great thing and it's going to continue to be a great thing for Big Spring and Howard County. We knew we were going to have to tackle this problem sooner or later and it came sooner than I expected. However, with the cooperation between the two of you it all came together. This is a great tribute to the two of you and will be a great deal of help to the community. I appreciate both of you."

Barr said the two departments working together is currently paying dividends, not just for local court and law

enforcement officials, but for the citizens of Howard County and Big Spring.

"By the two departments — the Big Spring Police Department and the Howard County Sheriff's Office — working together, it's made my job as county judge a lot easier," Barr said. "It's also helped make the jobs of other county officials a lot easier and we now have two great facilities, the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center and the County Detention Center, that we can be proud of."

Parker offered his thanks for the gesture and said the law enforcement center — much like the relationship between the two departments — is a work in progress.

"It's very nice. I don't know that it's really necessary, but I really appreciate it. It's nice to have it," Parker said. "I

really don't see the level of cooperation between our two agencies doing anything except getting better in the coming years. We've both been here for about six months now and things are always changing. We're finding new and better ways to do things every day, so I can't see it getting anything except better from here."

Parker said the cooperation between the BSPD and the HCSO couldn't have come at a better time, as the boom in the oilfield continues to fuel more than just prosperity in the Crossroads area.

"With the boom the way it is right now, we're struggling to keep up," Parker said. "However, if we hadn't had this level of cooperation or the joint law enforcement center, I think things would be so much worse right now. I think we'd be struggling even

more if we hadn't come as far together as we already have."

Smith, who has the distinction of being the longest serving police chief in Big Spring's history, said the joint law enforcement center should serve as a beacon of what's possible when law enforcement departments put territorial disputes aside and work together.

"I'm just so proud and overcome by all of this," an obviously emotional Smith said. "I told them early last year, when we really started getting into this — when the commissioners and the city council put their names on the dotted line — that's when

it really started sinking in for me. That's when I could see it was really going to happen. To see the results of it is very satisfying.

"It's something this community has needed for a very long time and I think communities all around the state are going to look at this and see what can be done. Hopefully, other communities will be able to accomplish what we've done here and see the two departments can work together as one. They just have to put their territories aside and work together for the good of the community. That's what it takes to do this."

The plaques can be

viewed in the lobby of the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center, located on the city's west side at 3611 W. Highway 80.

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

FANS

Continued from Page 1

a taste of what these families and elderly people deal with on a day-to-day basis.

"Peopleneed to remember, that elderly person is someone's mother, someone's grandmother. How would they feel if their loved ones were

in that position, just trying to keep cool in 100-plus degree heat? Wouldn't they pray for someone to lend a helping hand?"

Those in need of fans can also apply for assistance at the Salvation Army Office on Mondays through Fridays, during the same hours. For more information, contact Lafler at 432-267-8239.

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

sudoku
 ANSWERS

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

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EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OTHER VIEWS

Unseemly rush to voter suppression

What's the rush? The ink was barely dry on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the Voting Rights Act, and there was Attorney General Greg Abbott saying Texas' voter ID law would go into effect immediately.

The problem: the ink has been quite dry for a while on another federal court ruling. This one, in August 2012, said discrimination and voter suppression was written all over Texas' voter ID law.

Yet, the state is now gearing up to implement this law, and county election officials around the state are surely scratching their heads. Why would a state, whose voting numbers are nothing to write home about, want to diminish them further? Particularly since this is ostensibly to address voter fraud — a problem that substantially doesn't exist.

Abbott wants to be governor, by the way. And he likely sees campaign gold in Texans' anti-federal sentiments.

But here's what happened last year. Circuit Court Judge David Tatel in Washington, D.C., wrote an opinion in which he called out Texas on its requirement of photo ID for voting.

“It imposes strict, unforgiving burdens on the poor and racial minorities in Texas,” he wrote, joined in the opinion by two other judges.

Last week, the Supreme Court, 5-4, found Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act unconstitutional, which renders Section 5 dormant. Section 5 requires federal preclearance of changes in voting law for states with histories of voter discrimination. Section 4 determined which states were covered. Texas is among them.

The successful challenges to both the state's voter ID law and the Legislature's original redistricting maps were based on Section 5.

In arriving at its ruling, the Supreme Court essentially ignored the congressional record compiled when the section was extended for 25 years in 2006. Those states covered by the section discriminated far more than other jurisdictions, justifying the special attention. Moreover, the high court, ruling on an Alabama case, didn't say that the U.S. District Court's findings of discrimination in the case of Texas were wrong.

Another challenge to voter ID has already been announced, this one based on another section of the act. And on redistricting, federal judges in San Antonio on Monday refused the state's request that they end the legal challenges to the 2011 maps.

Things remain highly unsettled — all except Texas' desire to get as much mileage out of voter ID as soon as possible and to set in concrete redistricting lines that do not yet do justice to minority growth.

Unseemly doesn't describe half of what's going on here.

— *San Antonio Express-News*

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.

Health reform will happen

Obamacare is going ahead. It's happening, and concerted efforts by its foes to scare the public and otherwise delegitimize the health care reforms will be ultimately futile. That doesn't mean that Republican opponents won't try. The question is why, other than crude political posturing, would they want the Affordable Care Act to fail?



FROMA HARROP

Our health care system has been milking the taxpayers, the government and individuals for decades. The United States spends two times the rich-country average per person on health care. We're talking rich countries — the Switzerlands and the Germanys. And this average spending is enormous, given that it includes millions of Americans with no health insurance at all.

Health care costs are eating the American economy alive, and these reforms represent the first serious attempt to address the crazy waste and overcharging. In the United States, for example, the average amount paid for childbirth is nearly \$10,000, versus just over \$4,000 in Switzerland — a country offering the highest-tech care and where a McDonald's Big Mac costs \$6.81.

From 2004 to 2010, the price insurers paid for vaginal births rose 49 percent in this country. And the average out-of-pocket expenses for the parents jumped 400 percent.

This is done by billing sepa-

ately for every blood test, ultrasound and other routine service, prescribing too many of them and overcharging at the same time. Women whose ultrasounds show healthy babies at 20 weeks report being told to have expensive scans every week afterward, though medical guidelines don't call for them.

Prominent conservatives keep talking about health reforms as some kind of moonshot to Jupiter's Io, though every other modern country has done it. They shake their heads in wonderment at the prospect of government regulating 17 percent of the economy.

First off, the federal government is already paying 55 percent of the country's health care bills.

Secondly, the rest of health care is highly regulated by both the feds and the states. The one thing that isn't well regulated is the waste. Health care is 17 percent of the economy precisely because we throw so much damn money at it without question.

Oh, no, the delegitimizers moan, companies will use Obamacare to drop their workers' coverage. They'll prefer paying the penalty to providing health insurance.

But in Massachusetts, which supplied the model for Obamacare, the opposite happened. In the seven years since the Massachusetts law went into effect, the number of residents covered by their employers actually rose 1 percent. (Nationally, employer-based insurance fell 5.7 percent.)

No one expected this, including the economists who help design the plan. Furthermore, Obamacare's large-employer penalty of up to \$3,000 per un-

insured employee is far higher than the \$295 penalty in Massachusetts, giving employers there even less incentive to provide coverage.

But two things happened, according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers study. The individual mandate prompted many people who didn't join their employers' health plans to do so.

And companies found that health benefits were essential to attracting and keeping good workers. Between 2005 and 2011, the percentage of small companies offering coverage in Massachusetts rose from 49 percent to 59 percent.

Heaven knows, the Obama administration has done a miserable job of pushing, promoting and explaining its health care reforms. Its decision to delay for a year the penalties to be charged large companies (more than 50 employees) for each uninsured worker affects relatively few people and is not a big deal. The vast majority of big companies already provide such benefits.

But the delay has created opportunity for further eroding of public confidence in Obamacare. There will be other mishaps along the way, but there must be no stopping the health-reform train. Otherwise, medical spending will sink us.

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

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We need a uniter, not a divider

On the heels of the George Zimmerman verdict, when this nation deeply needs a tense situation defused and soothing, reassuring words of racial unity, the president and attorney general give us just the opposite.

We desperately need to strive for racial harmony and unity, but our task is exceedingly more difficult when President Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder repeatedly invoke race and stir racial tensions.

Trayvon Martin's death was terribly tragic, but Obama's and Holder's racially charged statements (and sometimes actions) are damaging. Even if Obama hadn't promised to be a uniter, he'd have a duty, as do all political leaders, not to stir tension between blacks and whites.

When Obama became a serious presidential contender, I was concerned about his apparent attitude toward race. There were the candid admissions in his books, his long attendance at a race-oriented church and certain statements that he had made that indicated that racial bitterness was part of his makeup.

All of this was completely at odds with the public image Obama carefully sought to project and with the promise that he would inaugurate a new era of post-racial politics.

The mere suggestion that Obama had racial hang-ups brought condemnation from those who a) love to characterize conservatives as racist, b) believe that, by definition, blacks can't be racist toward whites, c) glow in feelings of self-congratulation when they point the accusatory finger of racism at others, and d) were idealistically invested in the idea that racism would be extinguished upon the election of the first African-American president.

I hoped I was wrong about Obama, but in office, he has steadily removed any doubt.

He began employing identity politics from the get-go and encouraging his supporters to brand any opposition to his policies as including a racist component.

Holder said Americans are cowards on the race issue. Obama let stand the suggestion that many of his opponents have a “subterranean agenda” concerning race. He appealed to blacks and Hispanics in explicitly racial terms, telling them they had to elect Democrats.

In its report to the United Nations Human Rights Council, the administration chastised America as racially discriminatory. It expressly condemned Arizona's immigration law as racist.

The entire liberal establishment has smeared supporters of voter ID laws as racists. Holder attempted to deflect attention from his own wrongdoing over Operation Fast and Furious by saying that his accusers were pursuing him as a way of getting at President Obama because they are both African-Americans.

There is no excuse for the president of the United States and his attorney general to foment or contribute to racial tensions in America, but that is exactly what they have done, whether intentionally (for political gain) or because they just can't help themselves.

When a reporter asked Obama about the arrest of Harvard professor Henry Gates, an African-American friend of Obama's, Obama said the Cambridge policemen who arrested Gates had acted “stupidly.” This, despite his admitting he wasn't aware of all the facts.

Concerning Martin, even The Washington Post reported that Obama decided to “assertively insert himself into” the “controversy” when he said: “When I think about this boy, I think about my own kids.

... If I had a son, he'd look like Trayvon.”

I ask you: Was that a proper statement from a president of all the American people, let alone one professedly committed to uniting the races?

How can the chief executive of the United States possibly justify such a racially charged comment, which could have poisoned the jury pool, especially when, as was the case with the Gates incident, he couldn't have known all the facts?

In the wake of the jury's acquittal of Zimmerman, Obama weighed in again, this time exploiting the entire event, just as he had the Sandy Hook shootings, to promote gun control. “That's the way to honor Trayvon Martin,” he said, unmistakably signaling that he is still heavily invested in the case as a matter of race.

Then there was the additionally disturbing revelation by The Daily Caller — and other outlets — that the Community Relations Service, a division of the Justice Department, “was deployed to Sanford, Florida (in 2012) to provide security for anti-George Zimmerman protests, including a rally headlined by activist Al Sharpton.”

So now we have not just our political leaders making overtly divisive statements on race but the administration spending taxpayer money for the purpose of agitation.

Just when you think things can't get much worse.

If there is any authenticity in Obama's claims to seek racial harmony in America, now is the time for him to make a 180-degree turn and use his bully pulpit to promote racial harmony. I am under no illusions that he will do so, but I can nevertheless pray that he will.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, “The Great Destroyer,” reached No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction.

Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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EXPLODING HISTORY!



A Big Blast from the Past

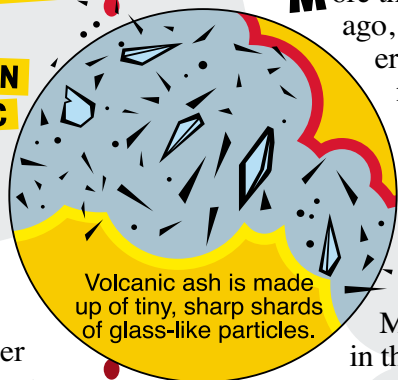
More than 11 million years ago, a huge volcanic eruption in what is now Idaho blanketed northeastern Nebraska with about a foot of ash.

they breathed in the fine, deadly ash. Within a few days, their lungs had filled with ash, and they suffocated.

Over the next few days, winds blew the loose ash around. Eventually the ash settled in the lowest places. The fossils that Voorhies found were in an ancient watering hole that got covered by about eight feet of ash. The ash covered the animals completely, keeping their remains safe from predators and other destruction for millions of years.

Ash has covered some of the words in the story below. Can you decide where each word here belongs?

- FOUND
- FOSSIL
- CLASSROOM
- LAYERS
- SKELETON
- VOLCANIC



Volcanic ash is made up of tiny, sharp shards of glass-like particles.

It Happened in Nebraska!

It isn't unusual for a hunter to occasionally find a fossil or two, but when paleontologist Dr. Michael Voorhies was looking for fossils near Orchard, Neb., he found a lot more!

"Near sundown on a long day of fossil prospecting," Voorhies remembers, "I was walking along the valley rim above a creek. In cuts and slopes, erosion had laid bare a bed of silvery gray ash—the fossil-bearing kind—sandwiched between layers of sandstone."

Voorhies discovered part of a baby rhinoceros skull sticking out of the ash. As Voorhies dug deeper, he found an entire baby rhinoceros skeleton! The skeleton was fully articulated, which means that all the bones were still intact and neatly laid out in order.

Over the next few days, Voorhies and his team discovered 12 more complete skeletons from an area no larger than your classroom.

Animals of Ashfall

There is no other site in the world like Ashfall. Rhinos, horses, camels, birds, and turtles were all caught in the falling ash. Their quick death and burial preserved not only their skeletons, but in some cases the food in their stomachs when they died. The remains of undigested food help scientists understand the plant life and eating habits of animals that lived millions of years ago.

Many of the animals in the area, which later came to be called Ashfall, were grass eaters. As they foraged through the ash to find and eat grass,

Standards Link: Life Science: When the environment changes, some animals survive and some die or move to new locations.



Giraffe camel

Eubelodon

Bone-crushing dog

Here are three of the seventeen species of ancient animals whose fossils were found at Ashfall. Can you find each animal's identical match on this page?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Q: How do we know where the ash came from?

ANSWER: Volcanic ash is a lot like a fingerprint. The ash is made up of combinations of chemicals that are unique to each volcano. Scientists matched the chemical composition of the ash that covered the fossils with the chemical makeup of the ash near the crater of an ancient Idaho volcano. They also checked to see that the ash at the watering hole was the same age as ash from the volcano at the time it erupted.

A BIG FIRST!

Nebraska was the first state to choose a state fossil. Use the code to uncover the name of the state fossil.

▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲

SECRET CODE

▲ = A ▲ = H ▲ = M ▲ = O
★ = T ↓ = W

Extra! Extra!

Dig Into the News

Look through today's newspaper to find:

- four common nouns
- four proper nouns
- four pronouns
- four adjectives
- four verbs

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify nouns, pronouns, adjectives and verbs.

Noun Time

Do the math to match each kind of noun with its definition.

Common Noun = 23

Proper Noun = 17

Pronoun = 27

11 + 7 + 5

A noun that names a person, place or thing in the general sense.

9 + 9 + 9

A word that takes the place of a noun. It often refers to a noun that has already been mentioned.

6 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3

A noun that names a specific person, place or thing.

Hints:

The word *paleontologist* is a common noun.

Proper nouns always start with a capital letter. For example *Dr. Voorhies* is a proper noun.

The pronoun *he* refers to Dr. Voorhies in the sentence *When Dr. Voorhies went looking for fossils, he found a lot more.*

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify kinds of nouns.

BONUS WORD SEARCH!

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

Fossil remains of these creatures have been found in Nebraska. Find each animal in the wordsearch puzzle.

- Turtles
- Camels
- Cranes
- Horses
- Rhinos
- Mice

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

KidScoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
NOUN

A **noun** is a word used to name a person, animal, place or thing.

The nouns in the following sentence are in bold.

Over the next few **days**, **Voorhies** and his **team** discovered more complete **skeletons**.

How far away?

Voorhies had discovered the remains of mammals that were more than 11 million years old. These animals had died at a watering hole following a massive volcanic eruption in what is now the state of Idaho.

Color each odd-numbered square red and each even-numbered square yellow to find out how many miles from the volcano the Nebraska fossil site is located.

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

Standards Link: Life Science: Some kinds of animals that once lived on Earth have disappeared and some resemble others that are alive today.

Double Double Word Search

- ASHFALL
- VOORHIES
- SUNDOWN
- FOSSIL
- VOLCANO
- NOUN
- CAMEL
- EUBELODON
- GIRAFFE
- SKULL
- IDAHO
- PLANT
- BABY
- DOG
- LAID

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

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

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

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

News from the Past
Read the newspaper to find out about something new that has happened in your community. Write a letter to your future grandchildren about this news. Be sure to tell who, what, when, where, why and how.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write friendly letters.

RIDDLE RHYMES

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THERE'S A MONSTER,

IN THIS RHYME,

FOUND IN ROCKS,

OF FROZEN TIME!

What am I?

ANSWER: Dinosaur fossil

Write On!

Fossils

What can you learn from a fossil?

Bird Poop: It's not nice to have lice

One knee at a time, with elbows to my side and in a huddled crouch, I inched backwards through the narrow door of the dilapidated cage. Once over the wooden threshold meant I could try to straighten up again. No longer did the red-tailed hawk require being held tightly against my chest. Relaxing and allowing my arms their freedom were the signals the raptor had awaited. Flapping its broad wings in relief, the bird of prey seemed as glad to be out of the cage as I.

Over the years, Art and I had extracted many an owl, hawk, and falcon from the old wire and wood structure. A leftover from the early days of the veterinary clinic, the container had been a temporary holding pen when needed.

While I had been inside the restraining relic with the red-tail, the bird had given little indication of its potential power. At the opposite end, it had stood stoically, silent in its diminished strength.

Found in the dry grasses of a nearby ranch, the bird had not flown away from an approaching horse and rider. Sensing

something was wrong with the large raptor, the foreman had dismounted and walked toward it.

After turning and trying to get away, the bird had stopped. No more energy could be mustered to outrun the presence of the man.

The drive home from Andrews always gave us time to appreciate open land and wide horizons. In season, we would count the number of ravens' nests. Secure in the largest mesquites, they were reminders of our migratory visitors that choose the desolate plains as a breeding Mecca for their young.

Our way past Grady and its pristine school system was always a reminder of the importance of providing an education for the young. Then, as we drove down through a familiar draw, we could imagine the torrents of water that would course through the area after a West Texas cloudburst.

"Uh oh," was my first reaction to feeling something crawling up my arm. Sensing what it was before I saw it signaled an unwanted passenger.

"What's the matter? What is it?" asked Art. "A louse," was my reply as I quickly grabbed the wriggling body.

Suddenly it dawned on me why the red-tail was so thin and too weak to fly. Hidden deep in the bird's plumage, the parasite was probably one of many that had feasted on fragments of feathers, flakes



Courtesy photo

Weighing two and a half to three pounds, the red-tailed hawk frequents open country, mountains, rangeland and desert terrain. Its diet includes rabbits, mice, rats, snakes and carrion. During times of drought, the specie has a difficult time when its environment can no longer sustain the food it seeks.

of the bird's skin, and possibly tissue fluids. To see a louse was to anticipate even more.

Fortunately for me, the downy depths next to the bird's skin were the preferred locale for bird lice. They were bird specific, and their entire life cycle was in the plumage of their host.

Not the most welcome sight, the flat crawlers were at least 10 mm in length. Not quite half an inch, they could scurry rapidly over feathers before diving beneath to avoid the light of day. At least, with no wings, they would not be flying around the interior of our vehicle.

Once home, the removal of the hawk

from its carrier to a large container caused a few more lice to make a brief appearance.

Using a product recommended by the wildlife center, we rubbed the substance on several appropriate places to achieve the best results.

Preening of feathers by healthy birds helps eliminate lice or keep infestations in check. Bathing in water, or in dust, and in some cases "anting" also reduces or rids a bird of these external nuisances. A weakened raptor, such as this one, however, was overwhelmed and unable to fend off so many opportunists.

Its background might include starvation and stress. Available prey may not have been

found along its migratory route. Emaciated, it would have died without the intervention of the horseman.

For the next three days, our guest was offered an ample supply of its natural food. In addition, the red-tail was watched carefully for further signs of lice.

Taken to Gail Barnes in Lubbock, the hawk was given another application to interrupt and destroy the pesky aliens. Until the bird successfully regained its strength and displayed an absence of lice, it would be retained.

Once again, the red-tailed hawk could become a formidable hunter. After a molt and renewed plumage,

its brown upper parts, creamy under parts, streaked belly, and rufous tail would heighten its magnificence in coloration and size.

Much later, we would learn its indomitable spirit was being exhibited as it exercised in the flight cage.

Having met the challenge of infestation and starvation, the raptor was finally given its freedom. As it rose gracefully in elevation to soaring heights, the red-tailed hawk's distinctive call pierced a silent sky.

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

Love from the head, love from the heart

Last week we began studying the English word "love" and found that throughout the years we have incorporated several variables of emotion.

This week, I would like to continue this study.

Earlier we looked at two types of love: philia and ludus. The next form of love I would like to pursue is pragma, which is the mature love that develops over a long period of time between long-term couples and involves actively practicing

goodwill, commitment, compromise and understanding.



DARRELL
RYAN

Pragmatic lovers think rationally and realistically about their expectations in a partner and select them accordingly. Pragmatic lovers want to find value in their partners and ultimately want to work with their part-

ner to reach a common goal.

Pragmatic lovers will avoid infidelity to avoid adverse consequences and carefully weigh the costs and rewards of a relationship. Pragmatic lovers view sex as a reward or a means of procreation and view marriage and children as potential liabilities and assets.

The advantage of pragmatic love is practicality and realism. The disadvantage is lack of demonstrativeness and lack of emotion.

In collectivist cul-

tures where arranged marriage is practiced, pragmatic love is very common and is part of the process of mate selection. One must be culturally sensitive to have an understanding regarding pragmatic love.

There is also another form of love called philautia. Philautia is self-love, which isn't as selfish as it sounds.

As Aristotle discovered, self-love is important for emotional health and, as any psychotherapist will tell you, in order to care for others you need to be able to care about yourself.

The next form of love I would like to discuss is eros, which is liter-

ally the love of beauty. It is a highly sensual style of love.

Erotic lovers choose their lovers by intuition or "chemistry." They are more likely to say they fell in love at first sight than those of other love styles.

Eros is about passion and desire. Unless it morphs into a deeper form of love, eros will burn itself out.

Erotic lovers view marriage as an extended honeymoon and sex as the ultimate aesthetic experience. They tend to address their lovers with pet names, such as "sweetie" or "sexy".

An erotic lover can be perceived as a hopeless romantic. Those of

other love styles may see erotic lovers as unrealistic or trapped in a fantasy.

The advantage of erotic love is its sentimentality. It is very relaxing to the person doing it. The disadvantage is the inevitability of the decay in attraction and the danger of living in a fantasy world.

In its extreme, eros can resemble naïveté.

There are three other types of "love" I'd like to discuss as we continue into another week. Next week I will conclude with storgic, manic and agape love.

Darrell Ryan is director of school safety for Big Spring Independent School District.

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Cespedes wins derby

NEW YORK (AP) — Yoenis Cespedes certainly made his mark at the All-Star game — and he's not even on the roster.

Actually, it was a dent.

Oakland's second-year slugger won baseball's Home Run Derby with a dazzling performance Monday night, becoming the first player left out of the Midsummer Classic to take home the crown.

Cespedes beat Bryce Harper 9-8 in the final round at reconfigured Citi Field, hitting the decisive drive with five swings to spare. The outfielder from Cuba flipped his bat aside and raised his left arm in triumph when he sent his 32nd homer of the night some 455 feet to center field, where it caromed off the back wall of the black batter's eye.

He was swarmed by

the American League All-Stars near the third base line.

"You come for a show in New York. He put on a show," said Detroit Tigers pitcher Max Scherzer, set to start for the AL on Tuesday night.

The final addition to the field, Cespedes was the fourth player not selected for the All-Star game to compete in the event.

Right off the bat, he proved he belonged. With family in the stands, Cespedes hit a whopping 17 home runs in the first round — more than any other player managed in their first two trips to the plate.

"I felt that I was getting into a very good rhythm, and that as long as the ball was right over the plate, I felt like I was in a good groove," he said through a

See **DERBY**, Page 12

Oakland's Yoenis Cespedes belts one into the stands during Monday's Home Run Derby. Cespedes hit 32 homers and is the first player not included on an All-Star roster to win the event.

AP photo

Manziel pleads guilty to misdemeanor

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel pleaded guilty Monday to a misdemeanor stemming from a 2012 bar fight near campus, closing a case that had dogged his Heisman Trophy-winning season.

Manziel admitted he failed to identify himself to police following the altercation. As part of a plea deal, other charges against the 20-year-old, including disorderly conduct, were dismissed.

Brazos County Attorney Rod

Anderson says Manziel was ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine, about \$230 in court costs and was credited with the overnight jail time he served following his arrest. He had faced up to 180 days in jail for the June 2012 incident.

Police said an officer on bike patrol had intervened to break up a fight between Manziel and Marvin McKinney just after 2 a.m. in a street in the Northgate entertainment district. McKinney told police that a friend of Manziel's had called

him a racial slur. He said Manziel shoved McKinney as he approached the two, and then they exchanged punches.

When officers asked Manziel for an ID, he produced a phony Louisiana driver's license that showed his birthday as Dec. 6, 1990. Police checked Manziel's wallet and found two more ID cards — a fake Texas driver's license and Manziel's real driver's license that listed his date of birth as Dec. 6, 1992.

See **GUILTY**, Page 12

Broncos reprimand execs arrested for DUI

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — The Denver Broncos came down hard on their two executives facing drunken driving charges, suspending them without pay and making it clear they must straighten out their lives if they want to work in the NFL again.

Director of player personnel Matt Russell was suspended indefinitely, and director of pro personnel Tom Heckert was suspended for a month.

Team president Joe Ellis said both men expressed remorse. But "this in no way excuses their conduct," Ellis said.

Russell and Heckert will be provided with confidential treatment, rehabilitation and counseling services and must comply with these programs before they're allowed to return to work, Ellis said.

While the two "will be punished and held accountable, our first priority is their health and well-being," Ellis said.

While some critics were calling for the executives'

ouster, Ellis emphasized, "We're not inclined to tear down lives even further. We're inclined to help people rebuild themselves."

The Broncos issued the penalties Monday after consulting with the NFL commissioner's office, which informed them it has no plans to impose additional discipline.

However, both men still face legal ramifications for their actions that could affect their future employment with the Broncos, who said they "will give careful consideration to the legal proceedings in determining their future standing with the organization."

Executive vice president John Elway's top two advisers were arrested and jailed on suspicion of drunken driving in separate incidents within a month of each other this summer, resulting in the biggest black eye for the organization since a videotape scandal cost former coach Josh McDaniels his job in 2010.

Selig insists MLB is 'cleaner than ever'

NEW YORK (AP) — With his staff pursuing yet another investigation into performance-enhancing drugs, Commissioner Bud Selig defended baseball's drug-testing program on the eve of the All-Star game and insisted "this sport is cleaner than it's ever been."

Selig declined to detail timing for decisions in the probe of the closed anti-aging clinic Biogenesis, ac-

cused of distributing performance-enhancing drugs. MLB could attempt to discipline former MVPs Alex Rodriguez and Ryan Braun along with other players.

Baseball began drug testing for the 2003 season, added penalties the following year, banned amphetamines in 2006 and started HGH blood testing last year. Critics said baseball didn't move quickly enough.

"People say, 'Well, you were slow to react.' We were not slow to react," Selig said Monday. "In fact, I heard that this morning, and it aggravated me all over again."

There were eight violations of the major league drug program last year, and All-Star game MVP Melky Cabrera was among those who served a 50-game suspension following a positive PEDs test. There have been no

suspensions in the big leagues this year.

During a question-and-answer session arranged by Politico, a question was sent by Will, identified as an 8-year-old in Los Angeles. He asked: "How old will I be when ... you can say that there are no more cheaters in baseball, not one?"

"Will, this is what I would say to you," Selig responded. "I

See **SELIG**, Page 12

Local briefs

Big Spring to host Retro Series Triathlon on Saturday

U.S.A. Triathlon is holding its first-ever series of "Retro" triathlons — triathlons which involve the classic biking, running and swimming — but are open to all age ranges and nearly every level of physical fitness.

The race will be held Saturday at Comanche Trail Park and includes a swim around the lazy river at the Russ McEwen Aquatic Center, a bike ride around the trails and a one-kilometer run. According to Craig Felty, event coordinator, all that is needed to compete is a pair of running shoes, any bicycle and a swimsuit.

Registration is \$25 per person, plus a one-day U.S.A. Triathlon membership. About 100 spots are available. To learn more, call Felty at 213-0409.

Coahoma volleyball camp begins Wednesday for grades 6-9

Coahoma Volleyball Coach Jessica

Weynand will be holding volleyball camps July 17-18 for junior high students (grades 6-9) and July 23-24 for elementary students. (grades 1-5).

The junior high camp is \$40 per student and will be held 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. both days. The kids' camp is \$30 and will be held 9 a.m. until noon both days.

Registration forms can be picked up at the Coahoma ISD administration building or call Weynand at 979-251-1902 to reserve a spot.

BSHS season tickets going on sale soon

Beginning Monday, Steer football fans can pick up their season tickets at the Athletic Training Center.

The books — which can be purchased Monday through Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. — cost \$20 apiece and includes admission to all four home games, rapid access to the stadium and guaranteed seating in Section C.

Call the athletic office at 264-3662 for more information.

Country Club to host low ball tourney

The Big Spring Country Club will be hosting a two-person, low ball tournament July 27-28. The \$100 entry fee (plus cart costs, private carts welcome), includes registration for tourney, Mulligans and barbeque on the course Saturday.

Field will be pre-flighted with handicaps required at entry. Number of flights determined by number of participants.

For more information, call the Pro Shop at 267-5354.

BSHS football equipment fittings coming up

Equipment fittings for Big Spring football players will be held July 29-Aug 1, at the athletic training center.

All students playing football are to report to the ATC on one of those dates between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to receive their gear.

Sports physicals due by Aug. 5, the start of two-a-day practices

If your son or daughter is in grade 7, 9 or 11 and plans to participate in a fall sport, completed physical examination records must be turned in by Aug 5.

The fifth also marks the start of two-a-day practices for most fall sports in the area. Big Spring parents can contact Jim Campbell at 264-3627 for more information.

BSHS Volleyball Camp set for late July-August

Big Spring Athletics will hold a summer volleyball camp July 29-August 1 for grades 3-9 at the junior high gymnasium. Grades 3-6 will be instructed from 8:30 a.m. until 10 a.m., while the 7-9 camp will be from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Registration is \$25 per child with T-shirts available for \$10 apiece.

Big Spring athletic camps are open to children enrolled in other schools.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Poor listeners are interested only when they get to speak. They interrupt often, are easily distracted and give little energy to others. At least you'll find that some poor listeners are teachable. The Scorpio moon suggests that if you dare to call one out today — as tactfully as possible, of course — you'll be doing the world a favor.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Sometimes you wonder whether you were cut out for the job you are doing. Are you strong enough? Probably not initially, but it's the job that makes you

strong as you do it. Every day you are gaining strength. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You're going to give your time away to the things that interest and fascinate you. You try to do so mindfully, but overly seductive electronics and media make this very challenging for you today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Sure, maybe they are competing with you. But at least your friends and neighbors make you aspire to be your best self. You'll walk that fine line between encouragement and competition today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can be afraid of something and want it at the same time. But if you're going to get it, your want has to outweigh your fear. Immerse yourself in thoughts of what you want — it will make you courageous.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Ancient man regarded volcanoes as god's anger. Modern man understands it's just nature's way of letting off pressure. But that doesn't make it any less destructive. When you come across emotional volcanoes, flee the danger zone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You desire to become more self-sufficient, and you will. You only have to put more of yourself into the projects you know will forward your interests. You'll benefit from being a bit more serious about this now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are successful in part for your ability to make snap decisions. However, this is a day to avoid jumping to conclusion or

judgment. Wait until the whole story comes out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's some conflict that comes with the day. You feel as though you're doing better in one area and worse in another. Just know that growth can be strange like this, but all is building in a positive way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Love yourself enough to give yourself the things you want. It will take sacrifice. But be a good coach to yourself, the kind who keeps an eye to the long view. Don't let yourself give up too soon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You hold yourself to a different standard from that of the others around you, mostly because it never occurred to you that you should do what they are doing. You are your own person, and that's working for you now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll enjoy your setting. It's the sparkle of windows, a shimmer in the air, the intrigue of strangers... It all brings a strange mix of feelings. You may feel nostalgic for this time even as you experience it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have to be a charming conversationalist if you are a charmed listener. This is such a rare gift that it trumps many of the other social graces. Your deep wells of empathy will help you develop this skill.

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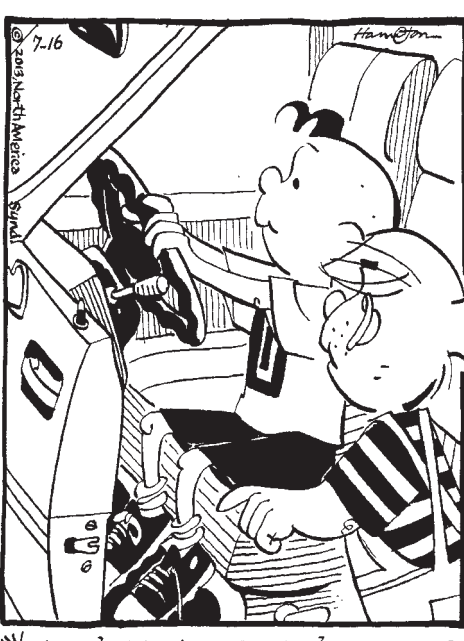
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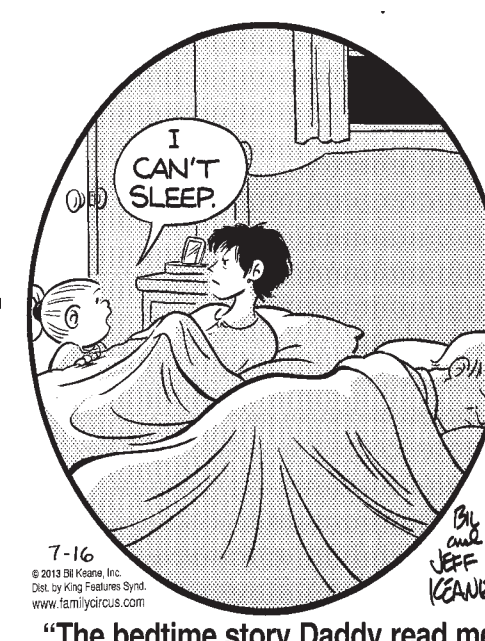
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King Seinfeld	Justice Called	Charlie Rose	King Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch	Brother, Where Art Thou?	Ink Master	Castle (DVS)	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Jessie	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Corazon Indomable	Big Bang 2013 MLB All-Star Game	News CBS	Caso Cer-rado	News News	Seinfeld	Door-Wis-dom	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch	Ink Master	Castle (DVS)	Game Shake It	Good Jessie	Austin NFL Live	Poker	Nine for IX
7:PM :30	Extreme Weight Loss	Porque el Am.	Amores Verdaderos	NCIS (DVS)	Dama y Obrero (SS)	Game Night	Fam. Guy	Upd	Lewis & Clark: Journey of Discovery	Fam. Guy	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Smokey and the Bandit	Ink Master	Rizzoli & Isles	Game	Good Jessie	2012 World Series of Poker	Nine for IX
8:PM :30	Body of Proof	Que Bonito Amor	How I Met	NCIS: Los Angeles	Marido en Alquiler	America's Got Talent	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Frontline	Alewine	Deadliest Catch	(-15) Movie: Smokey and the Bandit II, Sally Field	Ink Master	Rizzoli & Isles	Game	Good Jessie	Nine for IX	Nine for IX
9:PM :30	News ABC	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules	Deadliest Catch	Tattoo	Rizzoli & Isles	Husbands	Jessie	Nine for IX	SportsCenter	
10:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Familia-Suerte	Law Order: CI	Letterman	Marido en Alquiler	Jimmy Fallon	Office	Ministerios Vida	T. Smiley	King	Blood & Oil	Tattoo	Perception	Wendy Williams	Good	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
11:PM :30	News ABC	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules	Deadliest Catch	Tattoo	Rizzoli & Isles	Husbands	Jessie	Nine for IX	SportsCenter	
12:AM :30	News ABC	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules	Deadliest Catch	Tattoo	Rizzoli & Isles	Husbands	Jessie	Nine for IX	SportsCenter	
1:AM :30	News ABC	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules	Deadliest Catch	Tattoo	Rizzoli & Isles	Husbands	Jessie	Nine for IX	SportsCenter	

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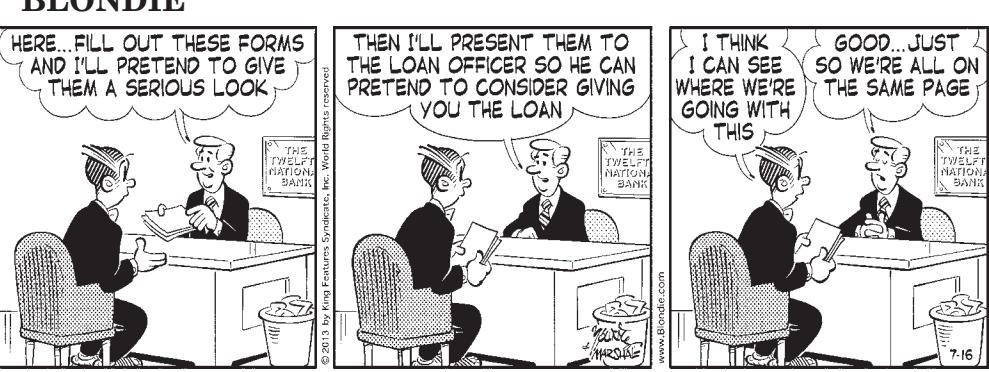
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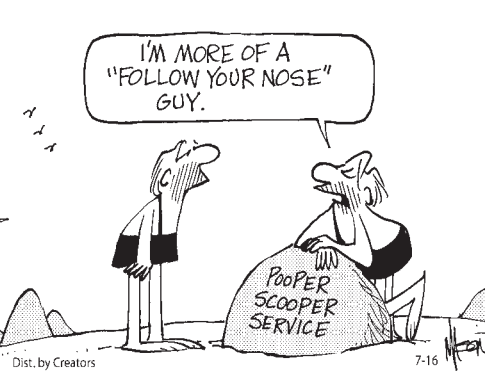
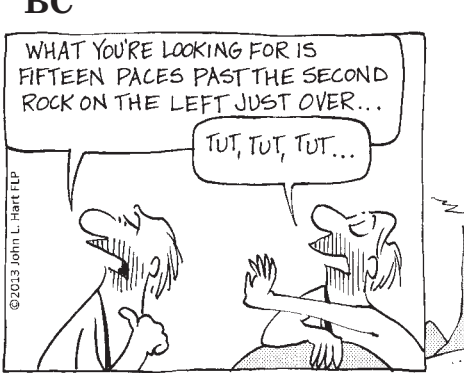
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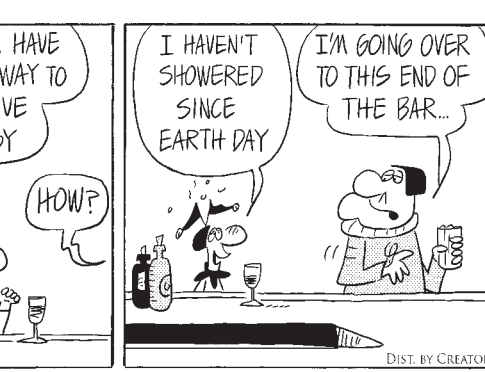
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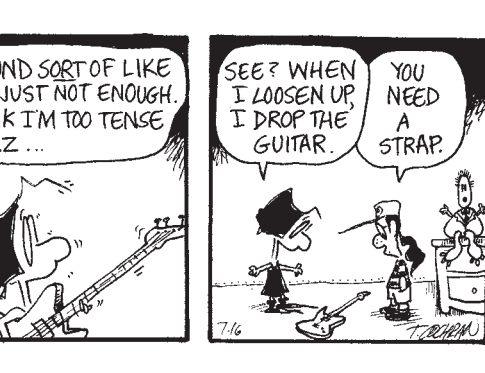
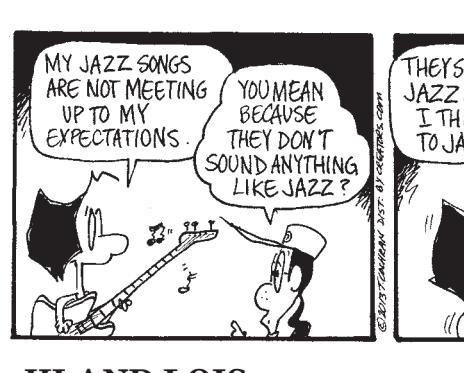
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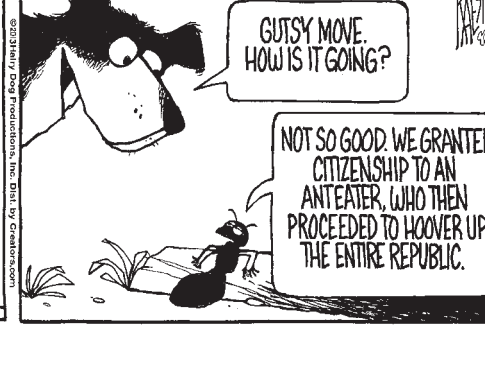
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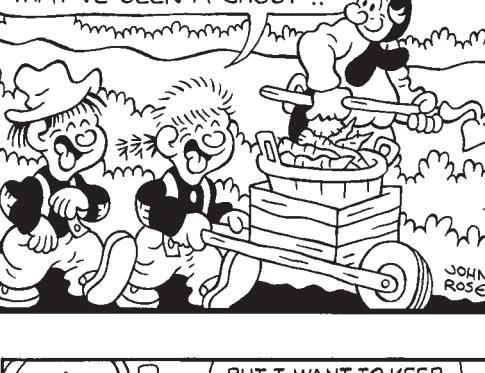
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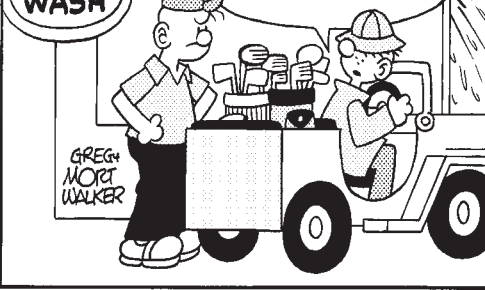
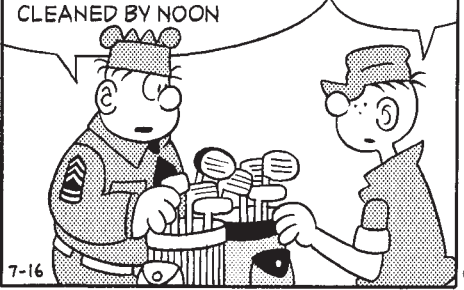
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, July 16, the 197th day of 2013. There are 168 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 16, 1973, during the Senate Watergate hearings, former White House aide Alexander P. Butterfield publicly revealed the existence of President Richard Nixon's secret taping system.

On this date:

In 1790, a site along the Potomac River was designated the permanent seat of the United States government; the area became Washington, D.C.

In 1862, Flag Officer David G. Farragut became the first rear admiral in the United States Navy.

In 1912, New York gambler Herman Rosenthal, set to testify before a grand jury about police corruption, was gunned down by members of the Lennox Avenue Gang.

In 1935, the first parking meters were installed in

Oklahoma City.

In 1945, the United States exploded its first experimental atomic bomb in the desert of Alamogordo, N.M.

In 1951, the novel "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger was first published by Little, Brown and Co.

In 1964, as he accepted the Republican presidential nomination in San Francisco, Barry M. Goldwater said "extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice" and that "moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

In 1969, Apollo 11 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on the first manned mission to the surface of the moon.

In 1979, Saddam Hussein became president of Iraq.

In 1980, former California Gov. Ronald Reagan won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Detroit.

In 1981, singer Harry Chapin was killed when his car was struck by a tractor-trailer on New York's Long Island Expressway.

In 1999, John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife, Carolyn, and her sister, Lauren Bessette, died when their single-engine plane, pilot-

ed by Kennedy, plunged into the Atlantic Ocean near Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

Today's Birthdays: Former Attorney General Dick Thornburgh is 81. Soul singer Denise LaSalle is 79. Soul singer William Bell is 74. International Tennis Hall of Famer Margaret Court is 71. Violinist Pinchas Zukerman is 65. Actor-singer Ruben Blades is 65. Rock composer-musician Stewart Copeland is 61. Playwright Tony Kushner is 57. Dancer Michael Flatley is 55. Actress Phoebe Cates is 50. Actor Daryl "Chill" Mitchell is 48. Actor-comedian Will Ferrell is 46. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Barry Sanders is 45. Actress Rain Pryor is 44.

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Answer to previous puzzle

FETA	MESA	ALTO
MOVED	AGED	COOP
GRINDING	TOAH	HALT
MELT	NEST	LEADS
ASKS	LOUD	
MECCAS	GERM	NOR
ABALL	SODA	ODE
COMETO	AFULL	STOP
HOP	PLOP	OPERA
OKS	LEER	DRESSY
	PINS	RUDE
SHARE	TOIL	DAMS
WECAN	HARDLY	WAIT
ARMY	GLEE	EARLY
BEEBS	TKOS	TYPE

Newsday Crossword

FREEBIES by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Belittle
- 6 S&L devices
- 10 Wild guess
- 14 St. __, MO
- 15 Informal turndown
- 16 "Tall" story
- 17 Choral program
- 18 For eating elsewhere
- 19 Informed about
- 20 For free
- 22 Feat
- 23 Airport screening agcy.
- 24 __-fi
- 26 Is the owner of
- 28 Used to be
- 31 Laundry worker
- 35 Wigwam relative
- 37 Fabric in a medicine chest
- 39 Yale student
- 40 For free
- 43 __-Ray Disc
- 44 Tries out
- 45 Small pies
- 46 "Already?"
- 48 Shirt sleeve
- 50 Direction opposite NNW
- 51 Crunchy sandwich, for short
- 52 Perform in a cast
- 54 Ship's pole
- 57 For free
- 64 Opera solo
- 65 Well-behaved
- 66 More or less
- 67 Penne cousin
- 68 Not fooled by
- 69 Mediterranean island nation

- 70 Home for Adam and Eve
- 71 __-do-well
- 72 Do laundry work
- DOWN
- 1 In addition
- 2 Timely blessing
- 3 Mom's sister
- 4 Do touristy stuff
- 5 Double-curve letters
- 6 Coupe or convertible
- 7 \$1000, for short
- 8 Coffee containers
- 9 9EE, for example
- 10 Artist's workshop
- 11 Gift wrapper's roll
- 12 Natural balm
- 13 Flex restaurant amenity
- 21 Hem and __ amenity
- 25 Top of a wave
- 26 Conversation starter
- 27 Best grade
- 29 Long time
- 30 December temp
- 32 Approaches
- 33 Privileged group
- 34 Gets free (of)
- 35 Keep __ on (watch)
- 36 Praise
- 38 Cold War opponent: Abbr.
- 41 Defense Department headquarters
- 42 Italian
- 47 Acquire
- 49 Apple computer
- 53 First-prize winner
- 54 Puzzle in a cornfield
- 55 Desert-dry
- 56 Location
- 58 Sound quality
- 59 Observe carefully
- 60 Aroma
- 61 Cast member's performance
- 62 Courage, so to speak
- 63 When planes are due: Abbr.

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GUILTY

Continued from Page 7

The quarterback dubbed Johnny Football piled up 4,600 total yards last season and helped the Aggies knock off No. 1 Alabama on the road. He became the first freshman to win the

Heisman Trophy and has continued to garner headlines in the offseason.

He has been famously photographed partying and gambling, and even his decision to take classes online last semester became controversial. Manziel said his decision to limit himself exclusively to the

virtual classroom was a reaction to the attention he was receiving on campus, though he expects to return to regular classes this summer and next fall.

Manziel even drew attention this weekend after leaving the Manning family's football camp in Louisiana a day early,

citing illness.

"After missing and being late for some practice assignments, Johnny explained that he had been feeling ill. Consequently, we agreed that it was in everyone's best interest for him to go home a day early," camp spokesman Greg Blackwell said Sunday.

SELIG

Continued from Page 7

used to object way back when, when people would talk about steroids. They're not a baseball problem or a basketball problem. They're a societal problem."

Selig, who turns 79 on July 30, also denied his willingness to combat steroids has

increased during his time in office, which started in 1992.

"Some people say now that I'm over-vigilant because I'm worried about my legacy," he said. "That's nonsense. That's the silliest thing I've ever heard. This is in the best interests of baseball. I was brought up to understand that you are to do what's in the best interest of this sport no matter what, even if it's painful, and we're going to do that."

DERBY

Continued from Page 7

translator. "That was the key."

Baseball's big boppers took aim at two trucks parked beside the home run apple behind the center-field fence, a

popular staple at Mets games dating to their days in Shea Stadium.

With a shiny prize to shoot for, Cespedes dinged the hood on one and elicited a rousing cheer.

Cuban reliever Aroldis Chapman of the Cincinnati Reds brought Ces-

pedes water and a towel during the first round, and 2010 champion David Ortiz strolled over to offer encouragement and advice.

The Rockettes danced atop the dugouts and did their famous kickline between first-round batters.

"It's far different from in Cuba," Cespedes said. "There might be two people at our games. There's only one photographer, and this is completely different and foreign to me. But I'm very happy to be here."

His first-round outburst was enough to send him straight into the finals, though he

added six long balls in round two for good measure. Some of his drives were especially impressive, too.

Cespedes hit about a half-dozen balls into the upper deck in left, never reached by anyone in a game, and banged another couple of shots off the restaurant windows in the corner just below.

The 27-year-old Cespedes has struggled as a sophomore, batting .225 with 15 home runs, but hardly anyone in the game doubts his ability.

"This trophy will motivate me so that things continue to go well for me, and I just want to

thank the people that believed in me, that thought I could play at this level," he said.

The 20-year-old Harper, wearing shiny gold spikes as his father pitched to him, hammered eight homers in all three rounds. But the Washington Nationals phenom couldn't keep up with Cespedes.

"He's incredible," Harper said. "He's an absolute machine."

Colorado outfielder Michael Cuddyer and Baltimore first baseman Chris Davis, who leads the majors with 37 homers, were eliminated in the second round. Davis tied Reggie Jackson (1969) for the AL record before the All-Star break.

Citi Field opened in 2009 with a cavernous outfield and yielded the fewest home runs in the majors over its first three seasons, according to STATS. But the Mets erected a new fence in front of the old one, dubbed the Great Wall of Flushing, before last season. That trimmed dimensions by up to 12 feet and lowered the height of the wall from as high as 16 feet to 8 all around.

Since then, the ballpark has ranked closer to the middle of the pack in home runs, 18th

out of 30. But it's still no hitter's haven. In fact, hometown favorite David Wright had joked he would take his Derby swings from second base.

Cespedes, however, and most of the other sluggers had little trouble clearing the old wall. When they got good wood, it was long gone.

"This stadium may be very difficult, but it's not as difficult as Oakland. And if I can do it in Oakland, I thought, why can't I do it here?" Cespedes said.

Wright and another hometown darling, Pirates slugger Pedro Alvarez, were both eliminated in the first round. Alvarez went to high school in New York City and grew up in the same Manhattan neighborhood as Manny Ramirez.

Wright managed five home runs as the sellout crowd of 43,558 chanted "Let's Go Mets!"

"I ran out of gas," he said.

Also knocked out early were defending champion Prince Fielder, the only player besides Ken Griffey Jr. to win multiple times, and American League captain Robinson Cano of the New York Yankees, who made Cespedes his final pick.

Sudoku Answer on Page 3

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.

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers and empty cells.

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Disrupting Communications

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: ♠972, ♥KQ96, ♦AJ93, ♣A4. WEST: ♠AQ6, ♥542, ♦Q62, ♣KQ85. EAST: ♠108543, ♥7, ♦875, ♣J1092. SOUTH: ♠KJ, ♥AJ1083, ♦K104, ♣763.

The bidding: North 1♦, East Pass, South 1♥, West Pass. Opening lead — king of clubs.

Assume you're in four hearts and West leads the king of clubs. Let's say you win with the ace, East signaling with the jack, and that you draw three rounds of trumps, ending in dummy.

Now, in an effort to stop East from gaining the lead, you lead dummy's nine of diamonds and finesse. Unfortunately, West wins with the queen

and leads a low club to his partner's nine, and East returns a spade. It doesn't matter whether you play the jack or the king; either way you go down one.

If you played the hand this way, you could say the gods had failed to smile on you. Nevertheless, you would have to take a giant-size share of the blame. The chief fault would be in your play at trick one, when you should have allowed West's king of clubs to hold the trick!

By ducking the opening lead, you would have made it impossible for East ever to gain the lead for a spade return through the K-J. East is clearly the dangerous opponent, and he can be prevented from obtaining the lead in clubs by the simple expedient of ducking West's king at the outset.

Assume West continues with a club, which is the best he can do. You win with the ace, draw trumps as before, lead the nine of diamonds from dummy and finesse. Win or lose, the contract is assured.

In the actual case, after the nine loses to the queen, West would find that whatever he returned, you would be able to discard a spade on dummy's fourth diamond and so finish with 10 tricks.

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