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THURSDAY

July 18, 2013



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CRMWD

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Colorado River Municipal Water District officials say recent rains, while beneficial, have not significantly raised district reservoir levels.

Rains said helpful to farmers, not so much to area reserviors

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Rains this week were good for farmers, gardeners and almost everyone else seeking a break from drought-like conditions. For the Colorado River Municipal Water District, however, the precipitation was of only modest ben-

Parts of the Crossroads area have received more than 2 inches of rain since the start of the week, thanks to a low-pressure front that brought with it plenty of Gulf moisture. And while

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agriculture producers and will help green up area lawns, they didn't add much ervoirs. "This is a good farmer's

the slow, soak-

ing rains were

almost ideal for

rain, but it won't do much for the water supply," said John Grant, CRMWD general manager. "Unless the ground is already saturated — which it wasn't — we won't get much run-off into our reservoirs from such a slow, steady rain."

Lake level reports back up Grant's claim: The rains raised Lakes Thomas and Spence by only two-tenths of a foot, "and that's basically what fell directly into the lakes," he said. Both reservoirs remain extremely dry — Thomas is at slightly more than 2 percent capacity, while Spence is 5.78 percent full, CRMWD reports show.

The district's largest reservoir, Lake Ivie, fared better, Grant said. Runoff raised the lake's level by about 1.5 feet and it is currently at 17.21

percent capacity. Grant said this area needs to receive heavier showers for the precipitation to have significant impact on reservoir levels.

Unfortunately, such help doesn't appear likely to happen anytime soon. The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center forecasts a less than 50

See CRMWD, Page 3

Former local man gets 15-year term in federal prison By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A former Big Spring resident was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison — to be followed by eight years probation — by a U.S. District Judge this week after pleading guilty to receiving child pornography in March. Christopher Aubrey Har-

lan, 27, formerly of Big Spring and believed most recently to

have been residing in Central Texas, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Sam R. Cummings after pleading guilty to one count of receiving child pornography, according to officials with the U.S. Attornev's Office of the Northern District of Texas.

The hearing was held in Lubbock, with Cummings

See PRISON, Page 3

'Goonies' site up in air but show to go on

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While few in the Crossroads area would complain about

the recent abundance of muchneeded members of the Big Spring Film Society say soggy conditions may force them to move Friday night's screening of the 1985 Richard Donner classic' Goonies."

Part of the local film society's annual outdoor screening series, the film is slated to be shown on an inflatable screen near the shore

of Comanche Trail Lake, just east of the Figure 7 tennis courts, according to Big Spring Film Society Chairman Brandon Johnson. However, due to wet condi-

tions around the local lake, the screening may have to move to slightly higher ground.

"We're hoping to be able to make a determination regarding the location sometime Thursday," Johnson said. "We're really hoping we'll be able to use the location next



to the lake, but everything is so soggy right now, it's looking like we may have to move things to the Comanche Trail Amphitheater. While both of these locations have been fantastic in the past — we screened "Jaws" next to the lake and "Raiders of the Lost Ark" at the amphitheater -I'm really hoping we'll be able

to keep our original choice if

Mother Nature doesn't have

See GOONIES, Page 3

Crimestoppers needs you

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Big Spring and Howard County Crimestoppers are asking local residents for their help in solving a recent structure fire investigators believe may have been set to cover up a burglary. According to Det. Thad

Thomas with the Big Spring Police Department's Street Crimes Unit, the fire was

reported Friday, June 30 at

approximately 7:30 a.m. at a

residence in the 5600 block tion of the fire and the condiof Murphy Road, located east of Big Spring off of Midway Road. "Howard County deputies

were dispatched to a structure fire in the 5600 block of Murphy Road," Thomas said. "Luckily, the home's owners were out of town at the time, so there were no injuries as a result of the fire. Approximately three-fourths of the home was consumed by the Thomas said an investiga-

tions that contributed to it led investigators down a rather nefarious path.

"After further investigation, it was determined several items were missing from the residence at the time of the fire and have been presumed to have been stolen," Thomas said. "We believe the fire to be arson committed in an attempt to cover up the burglary.' Anyone with information on

this — or any other crime

is asked to call Big Spring and Howard County Crimestoppers at 432-263-8477. No caller ID is ever used and tipsters may remain anonymous.

Crimestoppers is authorized to pay up to \$1,000 in cash for information leading to the arrest or prosecution of the guilty parties.

as Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

Contact Staff Writer Thom-



Obituaries

Carlos Neal Humphrey



Carlos Neal Humphrey passed away July 16, 2013, at University Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas. at the age of 84. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, July 19, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Rick Cunningham officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18, 2013, at the funeral home.

He was born Sept. 13, 1928, in Wolfe City, Texas, to E.E. and Mayme Higginbotham Humphrey. He married Willene Duncan on June 3, 1954, in Greenville, Texas.

After graduating from high school in 1946, he enlisted in the United States Navy. Upon his return, he earned a bachelor of science and later a master of education from East Texas State at Commerce. He taught at Runnels Junior High for 35 years.

Carlos was a faithful member of 14th and Main Church of Christ. He made 14 trips to do mission work in Austria, Poland and Scotland. He also traveled in his motor-home to assist the Sojourners working to help churches, children's homes and others. For leisure time, he golfed, hunted, fished and played duplicate bridge.

He was a life member of National Education Association, Texas State Teachers Association and a member of Texas Retired Teachers Association and American Contract Bridge League.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one brother; and one sister.

Surviving are his wife, Willene; daughter, Gay Lynch of Midland; son, Neal Humphrey of Ira; grandchildren, Jennifer Humphrey and James Lynch of Midland and Amber Humphrey of San Angelo; great-grandson, Anthony of Midland; brother, Guy Ray Humphrey of Westminster, Colo.; brother-in-law, Dale and Ann Duncan of Rowlett; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Children's Home of Lubbock, P.O. Box 2824, Lubbock, TX 79408-9973; or the American Cancer Society, 2304 W. Wadley, Midland, TX 79705.

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

Paid obituary

Corbett Hardgrave Corbett Hardgrave, infant son of Lucas and

Jennifer Hardgrave of Knott, died Wednesday, July 17, 2013, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Rodney 'Roddy' Robertson Sr.

Rodney "Roddy" Robertson Sr., 58, of Big Spring died Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch

Patricia 'Pat' Dover

Patricia "Pat" Dover, 67, of Big Spring died Tuesday, July 16, 2013, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- YOSELIN ELIZABETH PINEDA, 20, of 1700 North FM 700, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- JOCABETH VALLES, 19, OF 204 South Lyons, Tyler, Texas, was arrested Wednesday on charges of no drivers license when unlicensed and display fictitious registration insignia.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at the 900 block of Willia.
- MINOR ACCIDENTS were reported at the 700 block of West IH 20 and the 1000 block of East 13th.
- THEFT was reported at the 600 block of Caylor.
- HARASSMENT was reported at the 3800 block of West Highway 80 and the 600 block of Runnnels.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the duck pond.

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

- RENE RODRIGUEZ RAMIREZ, 32, was booked Wednesday by the HCSOfor sentencing on charges of criminal negligence, homicide. • JACOB MONTOYA, 33, was booked Wednesday
- by the HCSO on charges of use or possession of illegal smoking material, hindering a police officer and possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces.
- JOCABETH VALLES, 20, was booked Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of no drivers license and for displaying a fictitious motor vehicle registra-
- STEVEN WAYNE SEIGRIST, 36, was booked

Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intox-

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL reported at the 1900 block of East 25th Street, one patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL reported at the 2500 block of Gregg, one patient transported to SMMC.

Take Note

- Mitchell County Senior Citizen Dance, Colorado City Civic Center, 157 East 2nd Street, Colorado City, Texas. July 25, (fourth Thursday of each month) 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$5 per person. Bring snacks to share. Mike Porter and friend, Kevin Rainwater will perform.
- The Red Hat Club of Big Spring will meet at 6 p.m. July 25 at 2709 Carol Drive. For more information call 263-0020.
- 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
- Coahoma High School will hold an All-School Reunion on Saturday at the Elementary School in Coahoma. egistration 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 appreciated. A CHS Reunion Social for all classes 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 volunteers 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

POST 506

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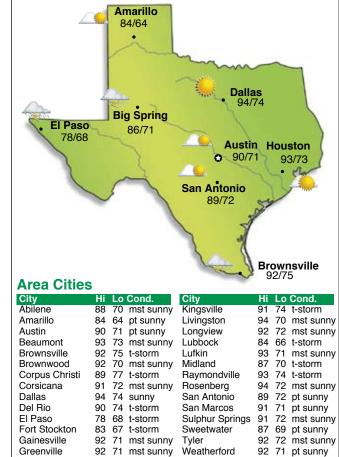
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Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast 7/19 7/20 7/21 91/71 86/71 94/71 Isolated thunder-Abundant sunshine. Abundant sunshine. storms in the morning Highs in the low 90s Highs in the mid 90s Skies will become and lows in the low and lows in the low partly cloudy later in 70s. the day. High 86F Sunrise: 6:52 AM 6:53 AM 6:53 AM Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: American Profile We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories for and about hometowns just like yours Texas At A Glance



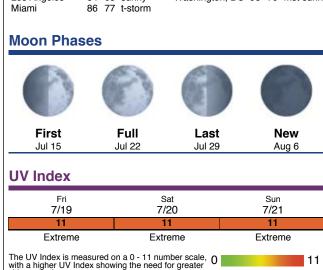
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National Cities													
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.						
Atlanta	89	71	t-storm	Minneapolis	94	75	mst sunny						
Boston	93	73	t-storm	New York	96	80	mst sunny						
Chicago	92	76	mst sunny	Phoenix	102	84	mst sunny						
Dallas	94	74	sunny	San Francisco	66	54	pt sunny						
Denver	89	65	pt sunny	Seattle	80	57	pt sunny						
Houston	93	73	mst sunny	St. Louis	96	78	mst sunny						
Los Angeles	84	65	sunny	Washington, DC	95	79	mst sunny						
Miami	86	77	t-storm	-			-						

Greenville

92

Weatherford

92 71 pt sunny



becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-

- 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.

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West Texas

UTPB hosting art show

Who: The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

What: A student art exhibition entitled 'Off the Wall' will have an opening reception.

When: Friday, July 19 at 6 p.m.

Where: Nancy Fyfe Cardozier Gallery in at the Visual Arts Studios on the UTPB Campus.

Why: This is an opportunity to view the work of UTPB students and for students to sell their artwork.

Bryan Adams photo exhibit

MARFA — For the past 12 years, musician Bryan Adams has sharpened his skills as a professional photographer by capturing intimate images of friends and colleagues in the entertainment, fashion and art indus-

In October 2012, Adams released a comprehensive retrospective of his photographic work in a book titled, "Exposed." Twenty-nine select images from the book will be on public display at the Marfa Contemporary, as the final stop of a 3-city U.S. tour of art venues in Dallas, Oklahoma City and Marfa, Texas. The exhibition runs from 6-8 p.m.

through Wednesday, July 31. The show is free to the public.

Portraits in the exhibition include a cross-section of international celebrities and emerging stars such as Danny Trejo, Victoria Beckham, Lindsay Lohan, Amy Winehouse, Mickey Rourke, Natalia Vodianova, Pink, Mick Jagger, Sean Penn, Queen Elizabeth II, Sir Ben Kingsley and South African rave rapper Yo-Landi Visser. A limited number of the Bryan Adams edition-images and copies of the "Exposed" coffee table book are available for sale at Marfa Contemporary.

NRA banquet upcoming **AP Exchange**

MIDLAND — Up to 35 firearms are up for grabs during the Permian Basin Friends of the NRA's 18th annual banquet next month. The banquet, which features live

and silent auctions, raffles and table games, will take place Aug. 3 at the Horseshoe Arena starting at 5 p.m. Individual tickets cost \$30, with ta-

ble packages starting at \$300. "There's something that will appeal to anybody," said committee chair-

man Robert Ralls. The nonprofit, nonpolitical fundraising arm of the National Rifle Association divides Texas into three regions -- North, South and West -- and

year at local chapters. Half of the banquet's proceeds will benefit NRA national programs such as Eddie Eagle Gun Safety, Women on Target and Refuse to be a Victim. The other half is awarded in local

banquets are held throughout the

grants to Boy Scouts chapters, 4-H programs, shooting sports, conservation efforts, police departments and the development and enhancement of firearm ranges. "Last year, the West Texas region

was able to give out \$211,000 in grants from the money we raised in raffles and banquets," Ralls said. Children can expect to find fish-

ing poles, BB and pellet guns, safety glasses and hearing protection up for grabs at the Permian Basin's banquet, he said.

"We strongly encourage people bring their kids. This is about the future of firearms; they are our future," Ralls said. "We want to make sure the kids go home with something that's supportive of what we do and teaches responsibility on their part."

This year's exclusive merchandise package includes NRA Gun of the Year rifle from Weatherby's Vanguard Series, outdoor gear, hunting knives and artwork celebrating Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War and a special tribute to Sept. 11. The Barn Door Steakhouse, of Odes-

sa, will provide catering. Tickets can be purchased and picked up in advance or held at the door.

Tech to ensure PA program stays in Midland **AP Exchange**

MIDLAND — Together with community members, Texas Tech University will develop a plan to ensure the physician assistant program remains in Midland on the Midland College "Our Chancellor Kent Hance has

been working very closely with Rep. Tom Craddick in the Midland community. They would like to absolutely have the program stay in Midland and what we're going to be doing is we're going to be seeking the input of our folks to see if we can get our challenges covered in a way that is the best for the students, as well as the community of Midland, as well as West Texas in general," said Tedd Mitchell, president of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, during a press conference prior to a private luncheon Wednesday with key stakeholders from Midland and Odessa to address challenges surrounding the PA program.

The program's March issuance of probationary accreditation status from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant is one issue, Mitchell

"I want to make sure that our group, the folks that work with us, are the first ones to have discussions with me," Mitchell said.

plan to meet with key stakeholders to hopefully eliminate the challenges. "That'll give every body time to think through what some solutions may be for some of the challenges, some of

After Labor Day, Mitchell and Hance

which are quite frankly purely economical about the cost of living and the cost of housing and things in the Permian Basin in general," Mitchell said, while declining to detail the specific challenges with media. Mitchell said the PA program "has

been one of the pillars of our health sciences center for providing health care providers in West Texas.' "Our program out here is vital for

providing West Texas with health

care providers. It's vital for us as

a health care university and so it's something we certainly are not going to let falter or fall to the wayside," he TTUHSC decided to evaluate all options for the long-term viability of the

PA program after receiving its probationary status, Mitchell said. Program faculty, staff and students were never told they were moving to

Lubbock but told about the issues surrounding the program, Mitchell said. "What I had told the dean (of Allied Health) early on was that we look at every option we have for it," Mitchell

said.

PRISON

Continued from Page 1

ordering Harlan to surrender to the Bureau of Prisons on Aug. 16. The announcement made by U.S. Attorney Sarah R. Saldaña of the Northern District of Texas.

cess child pornography on various websites. He used those computers, as well as his cellphone, to send and receive numerous images of child through August,

According to docu-

ments filed in the case,

Harlan used his com-

puter — as well as, for

a brief time, his room-

mate's computer — to ac-

to officials with the U.S. Attorney's Office. investigation

pornography, according

was conducted by U.S. Immigrations and Cus-Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations and the Big Spring Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven M.

rosy outlook, Grant said

the situation could be

past few years.

nationwide

tation and abuse.

we were at the first of the year, Thomas and Spence (levels) are up almost four feet," he said.

Sucsy was the prosecut-

ing attorney, according

Saldaña said the case

was brought before the

court as part of Proj-

ect Safe Childhood, a

designed to protect chil-

dren from online exploi-

Project Safe Childhood

to court records.

initiative

"Ivie (which is supplying the majority of water to CRMWD member cities) is down about four feet, but when you consider the drought,

marshals federal, state

and local resources to

better locate, apprehend

and prosecute individu-

als who exploit children

via the Internet, Saldaña

said, as well as identify

For more information

about Project Safe Child-

hood, visit www.justice.

gov/psc. For more infor-

and rescue victims.

mation about internet safety education, visit the same link and click on the tab marked "resources."

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

CRMWD

Continued from Page 1

percent change of average rainfall for this area although those chances increase to more than 60 percent once the calendar page flips into September. Despite the less-than-

a lot worse, especially considering the parched

conditions which have afflicted this area the selves The Goonies, set that," Johnson said. "It fun."

The treasure is hidden in a cavern, but the entrance to the underground formation is lies beneath the house of evil thief Mama Fratelli (Anne Ramsey) and her sons Jake Fratelli (Robli (Joe Pantoliano) and the severely disfigured Lotney "Sloth" Fratelli

Goonies' brings back memories of being a kid and all of the exploring and treasure hunting that goes along with

"Compared to where

on screening, contact bigspringfilm.org

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

that's not bad."

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

GOONIES

Continued from Page 1

other plans."

Johnson said forecasts for the remainder of the week are calling for the recent rains to stop sometime either Thurs-

day or Friday, just in

time for the screening. "As drought-stricken as our area has been these last few years, we'll take all the rain we can get," Johnson said. "However, forecasts are calling for things to dry up in time for the

screening, so we're still very excited. Not only will we get the opportunity to screen 'The Goonies,' we'll likely be able to do it with cool and comfortable conditions. As far as I'm concerned, that's a gift in itself." Goonies"

which is 114 minutes long — is directed by Donner and written by the team of Steven Spielberg and screenwriter Chris Columbus. In the film, Mikey

"The

Walsh and Brandon

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

young Hollywood stars Sean Astin and Josh Brolin — are brothers whose family is preparing to move because developers want to build a golf course in the place of their neighborhood — unless enough money is raised to stop the construction of the golf course, which seems quite doubtful. However, Mikey stum-

bles upon a treasure map of the famed "One-Eyed Willy's" hidden fortune, Mikey, Brandon, and their friends Lawrence "Chunk" Cohen (Jeff Cohen), Clark "Mouth" Devereaux (Corey Feldman), Andrea "Andy" Carmichael (Kerri Green), Stefanie "Stef" Steinbrenner (Martha Plimpton) and Richard "Data" Wang (Jonathan Ke Quan), calling them-



out on a quest to find the treasure in hopes of saving their neighborhood.

ert Davi), Francis Fratel-(John Matuszak). "It doesn't matter how

old you are, seeing 'The

Retirement Larty

July 19, 2013

1 pm - 3 pm

Darlene Dabney (1958-2013)

Bill Spiller (2006-2013)

Prosperity Bank

1411 S. Gregg St.

Big Spring, TX 79720

was just you and your friends against the world. If only adult life could be that simple."

Johnson said concessions will be provided on-site, with moviegoers only needing to bring a few things to make the evening a fun time. "The main thing peo-

ple are going to need to bring is a lawn chair," Johnson said. "Some folks may also want to bring some insect repellant because you never really know how bad the mosquitoes are going to be. Other than that, just bring the family and get ready to have some

Johnson at 432-213-0758 or by e-mail at cruiser1977@gmail.com. More information is also available at www.

For more information

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Patricia "Pat" Dover, 67, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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"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.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor **Glenn Stifflemire** Publisher

Steve Reagan Staff Writer

Brian McCormack

Sports Editor

Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

Pepfar working resident Bush No. 43 is building an admi-

rable humanitarian legacy. Compare photographs of George W. Bush in the waning weeks of his presidency to recent photos taken in rural Zambia, where George and Laura Bush have been volunteering for a few days at an HIV/AIDS clinic, and you might think you were looking at two different men. Instead of the graying, care-worn president from a few years ago, we see a smiling man in paint-stained khakis and a T-shirt, a maroon "Levelland, Texas" ball cap slapped atop his head.

He's joshing with kids, painting a room in a rundown cervical cancer clinic, helping install a door as the clinic is remodeled.

He looks like a man at ease with himself With good reason. Whatever the overall assessment of his presidency, there's no denying that the program he initiated in 2003 to fight the global HIV_{l} AIDS pandemic has saved countless African lives, as President Obama acknowledged when the two men met last week during a wreath-laying ceremony in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or Pepfar, was a commitment of \$15 billion over five years to provide life-saving drugs to 2 million HIVinfected people, to prevent 7 million new infections and to help provide care for 10 million people by

According to a 2009 study published in the Annals of Internal Medicine, Pepfar has prevented more than a million deaths in Africa and reduced the death rate due to AIDS by 10 percent.

The Bushes also helped form Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon, devoted to curbing cervical cancer and breast cancer. The effort started in Zambia in 2011 and expanded to Botswana in 2012. A clinic the Bushes helped renovate last year in Kabwe, Zambia, has treated nearly 30,000 women, according to the George W. Bush Presidential Center.

The Ohama administration has insisted that its commitment to Pepfar and other development programs for Africa is just as strong as its predecessor's, although a global recession and a recalcitrant Republican-controlled House have made it difficult to fund large-scale foreign-aid programs.

We would hope that the results are so obvious -breathtakingly obvious, in fact - that they're worthy of a bipartisan effort to sustain them. We suspect that the man in the Levelland cap would agree.

—THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE

How to contact us

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

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Daily Prayer

When we get tired, oh Lord, let us rest in your arms.

Media doesn't care about black kids

stream media lavished endless

tion and emotion on the George Zimmerman trial for the killing of Trayvon Martin last weekend, the body of a 17-year-old black boy was discovered on basement stairs, face down, behind a boarded-up house in the Englewood



BEN SHAPIRO

neighborhood of Chicago. His body was so badly decomposed that local news reports originally suggested that he had died of blunt force trauma. An autopsy demonstrated that he had in fact been shot to death. His family blamed his death on his refusal to join a gang at school. The boy's name was Darryl

Green. Thus far, no non-local media outlet has told the story of Darryl Green. That's because Darryl Green was likely killed by another black person. This is the world in which we

now live: a Hispanic man kills a black boy, likely in self-defense, and the media portray the killing as evidence of a brutal white power structure looking to reinstitute Jim Crow. Melissa Harris-Perry of MSNBC laments that the not guilty verdict in the Zimmerman trial means it's OK to kill innocent black children. Commentator Andrew Sullivan suggests that the verdict means a return to "the era of lynching." The cover of the New York Daily News links civil rights martyr Emmitt Till to Trayvon Martin. As John Nolte of Breitbart News tweeted, we now live "in a country with a twice-elected black

president and the media acting like Mississippi is still burning."

The sad fact is that the media do not care about dead black Americans, unless those blacks are murdered by whites. Never mind the fact that blacks constitute 13.1 percent of the American population but 49 percent of murder victims. Never mind the fact that black life in the inner cities is plagued not by white people stalking down black kids, but by black kids hunting down other black kids.

Such facts don't forward the leftist narrative that America is a terribly brutal and racist country requiring endless government interventionism to fix. Such facts don't forward the leftist narrative that white folks, particularly conservative white folks who believe in judging people by the content of their character rather than the color of their skin, are the true threat to black success.

Such facts undercut the liberal agenda of ignoring problems in the black community in favor of cobbling together a coalition of people dedicated to fundamentally changing the system.

The left is committed to changing America in basic ways. But in order to create enough support for changing the greatest and most tolerant nation ever to grace the planet, the left must portray America as an evil, nasty place. Doing that requires promoting the lie that non-black Americans hate black people, and would dig their old white sheets and burning crosses out of storage if given half a chance. Both the media and the Democratic Party are complicit in that propaganda effort. Building on the fact that America used to be a racist place, and ignoring 50-

plus years of American transformation, the left has convinced many Americans, both black and white, that America is a grotesque and monstrous place.

For many Americans, it feels so good to buy into that notion. It provides an easy dose of unearned moral superiority "America is racist, but I'm not, because I believe America is racist." It allows Americans to ignore real and pressing problems in favor of moaning about vague and undefined ones "forget about Darryl Green, let's talk about institutional racism. Most of all, it carries with it an easy and dismissive solution – "let's turn power over to a chosen few who can fix everything.

Meanwhile, more Darryl Greens will die. So will more Trayvon Martins, given the fact that Martin was the product of a broken home, had a criminal history and a history of fighting and was caught up in drug culture — all factors in his death, and all problems the media refuse to talk about. But the media don't care about those deaths. All they care about is the larger goal: fixing America, one fake racial scandal at a time.

Ben Shapiro, 29, is a graduate of UCLA and Harvard Law School, a radio host on KRLA 870 Los Angeles, and Editor-At-Large for Breitbart News. He is the New York Times bestselling author of "Bullies: How the Left's Culture of Fear and Intimidation Silences America." To find out more about Ben Shapiro and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www. creators.com.

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nmerman trial all about race

nyone who thinks the stalking of Trayvon Martin and the trial of ■ his killer, George Zimmerman, was not about race is kidding himself.

We would wish it otherwise. Race is the most important undiscussed issue in

America today. On Monday, Attorney General Eric Holder called the shooting "unnecessary," but did not delve any

deeper into the political morass of race, fear, hatred and violence in

America.

We talk about race only after a tragedy or crisis — Martin's shooting and Zimmerman's acquittal — or after those rare moments when we pat ourselves on the back and tell ourselves we don't need to talk about race because the election of Barack Obama made the United States a "post-racial" society.

ROGER

SIMON

But while Obama's election was significant, historic and even epic, it did not signal an end to racism in America. It didn't even come close.

Martin, 17, was black and unarmed when he was shot to death on Feb. 26, 2012, in Sanford, Fla., by Zimmerman, 28, whom the news media took to calling a "white Hispanic." (His mother was born in Peru.) There were many disputes dur-

ing the trial about what actually happened that rainy night, but both sides agree that Zimmerman was suspicious of Martin, whom he recognized as black, walking around in his neighborhood. Zimmerman left the safety of his truck to search for Martin on foot. Zimmerman was carrying a Kel-Tec 9 millimeter semiautomatic handgun, for which he had a concealed carry permit. There was a confrontation,

and Zimmerman shot and killed **Amen** Martin. Zimmerman was ques-

tioned by police and let go. But many, especially in the black community, were outraged. President Obama said a few weeks later in the Rose

Garden, "If I had a son, he'd look like Trayvon. I think (Trayvon's parents) are right to expect that all of us as Americans are going to take this with the seriousness it deserves, and we are going to get to the bottom of exactly what happened."

Finally, 46 days after the shooting and the intervention by Florida's governor, who appointed a special prosecutor, Zimmerman was arrested and charged with second-degree murder, the highest charge prosecutors could bring.

Which was the problem. It was a classic case of overcharging. Prosecutors routinely overcharge to persuade defendants to plead guilty to lesser charges, get lighter sentences, and save the court time and expense.

But to prove murder in the second degree in Florida, the prosecutors would have to prove that Zimmerman had acted with "a depraved mind without regard for human life" when he shot Martin, and they would have to prove it beyond a reasonable doubt.

Did the racial atmosphere in Florida and elsewhere force the prosecutors to bring a charge they knew they would have a tough time proving?

They say no. In his opening statement to the jury, prosecutor John Guy said: "We are confident that at the end of this trial you will know in your head, in your heart, in your stomach that George Zimmerman did not shoot Trayvon Martin because he had to. He shot him for the worst of all reasons, because he wanted to."

But Zimmerman's legal team presented a different scenario: An innocent man is attacked by an aggressive teenager, knocked to the ground, his nose broken and his head beaten against the concrete several times. Zim-

merman was in fear for his life and responded with justifiable deadly force.

The judge made sure race was downplayed during the trial. She ruled that the prosecution could accuse Zimmerman of "profiling" Martin, but not "racially profiling him.

In the end, the jurors did not find Zimmerman innocent, only that the prosecution had failed to prove Zimmerman guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. The jurors also did not find Zimmerman guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter, which they might have done had prosecutors concentrated on that charge

in the first place. Martin was breaking no law by being a black teenager walking through a neighborhood wearing a hoodie. He had as much right to be in that neighborhood as Zimmerman did.

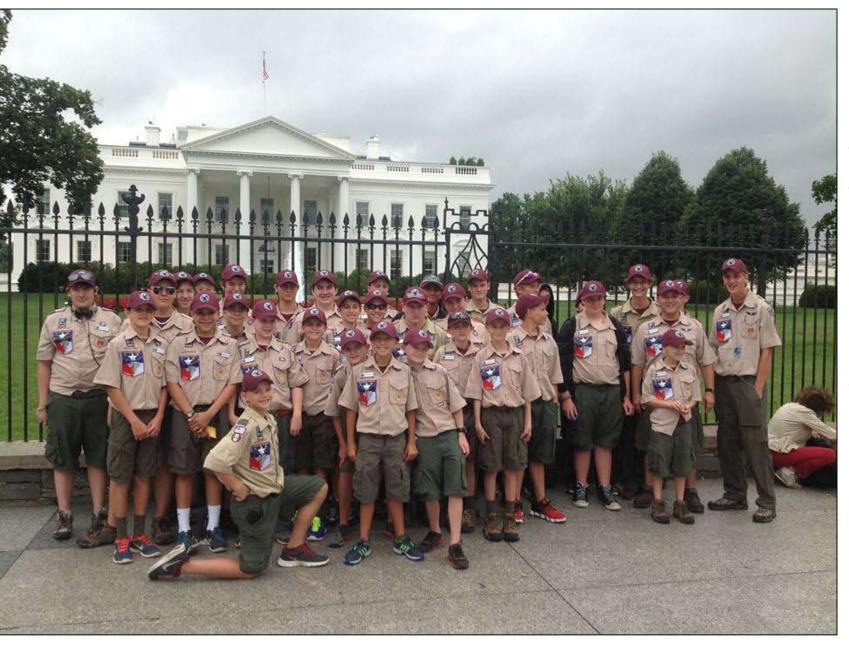
But Zimmerman, under Florida's demented gun laws, had a right to be carrying a concealed handgun that was ready to be fired. As his attorney, Mark O'Mara, said on CNN Monday, "If you have a gun and don't have a round in the chamber, it's a paperweight."

Oh, how I wish George Zimmerman had been carrying a paperweight that night. Trayvon Martin might be alive today and his family spared the agony they are now going through.

And it would be good to be able to talk about race in America without agony. But that day has not yet arrived.

Roger Simon is POLITICO's chief political columnist. His new e-book, "RECKONING: Campaign 2012 and the Fight for the Soul of America," can be found on Amazon, BarnesandNoble. com and iTunes. To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators webpage at www.creators.com.

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Scouts from the **Buffalo Trail Council** including Stanton, **Odessa and Midland** — has been participating in the 2013 **National Scout** Jamboree in West Virginia this week. Prior to arriving Monday, the Scouts and adult leaders visited Washington, D.C. Bush Gardens, the Smithsonian **National Air and** Space Museum and **Andrews Air Force** Base. Here, they are pictured outside the White House.

Courtesy photo

Area Scouts at 2013 National Jamboree

MIDLAND, Texas — Thirty-six Scouts and four adult leaders from the Buffalo Trail Council are participating in the 2013 National Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia.

Prior to arriving at the National Scout Jamboree on Monday, the Scouts spent five days sightseeing in Washington, DC; visiting Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va. and Jamestown, Va.; and touring the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and Andrews Air Force Base.

Members of this year's

Troop D322 are from all over West Texas. Of the 36 members, three are from Stanton, 19 are from Odessa, 16 are from Midland, one is from Alpine and one is from Monahans. Adults leading this year's contingent are Paul Lucas, Chris Gregg and Chance Houston all from Odessa; and David Baker from Midland.

Since 1981, the National Scout Jamboree has been conducted at Fort AP Hill. In 2009, the BSA purchased 10,600 acres of property adjacent to West Virginia's New River Gorge National River area in order to create the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve. The Summit is the new home of achievement, adventure and innovation in Scouting. With world-class facilities and a focus on outdoor action sports, the Summit will welcome Scouts to a whole new jamboree experience.

The excitement of the jamboree isn't limited to Scouts. The Summit will feature a large visitor area, where dayusers can try out some of the activities that the Scouts are dialing in around other parts

of the Summit.

Also, this is the first year that Venturers, a branch of the BSA that includes young women, will be part of the jamboree. Whitewater rafting and kayaking, rock climbing and bouldering and mountain biking are just a few of the activities offered at the Summit. There's also skateboarding, BMX, shooting sports, and zip-line challenge courses.

The first Boy Scouts of America national jamboree was scheduled to be in Washington, D.C., in 1935 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Scouting in America. Unfortunately, the jamboree was canceled due to a polio outbreak in Washington.

When the first jamboree finally happened in 1937, Dan Beard lit the opening campfire using flint and steel. Scouts from all 48 states brought the wood that was used in the campfire.

There were some 27,232 Scouts camped on the National Mall under the Washington Monument. Since that time, there have been 16 national jamborees.

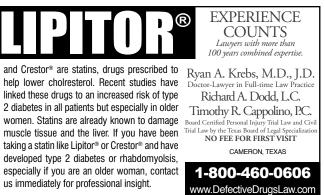


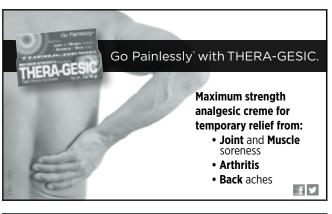
HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

While most folks were pleased with the rainfall West Texas received this week, it did keep them away from the city park. These ducks, however, were more than happy with the soggy conditions.

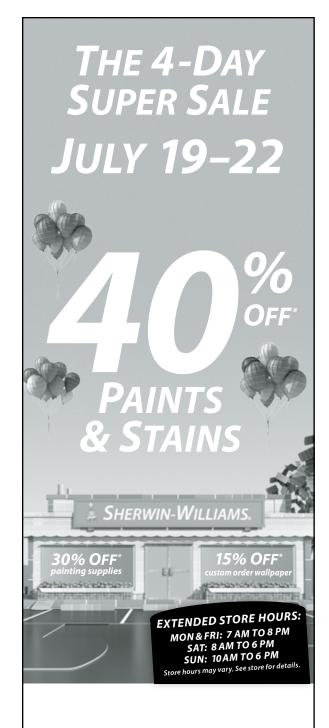


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NASA perplexed by astronaut's flooded helmet

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The spacewalking astronaut who came close to drowning in a flooded helmet searched for clues in his spacesuit Wednesday, in hopes of understanding the unprecedented water leak.

Engineers in Houston, meanwhile, conducted their own investigation into what should have been a routine, yet still risky, maintenance iob outside the International Space Station.

But a day after one of NASA's most harrowing spacewalks in decades, answers eluded the experts.

"There still is no smoking gun or definite cause of what happened or why that water ended up" inside Luca Parmitano's spacesuit, said spokesman Kelly NASA Humphries.

Parmitano, Italy's first and only spacewalker, could not hear or speak by the time he re-entered the space station on Tuesday, 1½ hours after stepping out. He also had difficulty seeing because of the big globs of water in his

"We still don't know what happened, and so in terms of how that's going to impact our flight, we still don't know. We're ready for whatever might get thrown our way."

> Michael Hopkins NASA astronaut

He'd worn the same suit on a spacewalk a week earlier, without mishap.

NASA aborted the second spacewalk because of the deluge and later acknowledged it was a serious situation in which Parmitano could have choked or even drowned. He looked all right, although wet, when his crewmates pulled off his helmet, and was reported to be in fine shape.

"Back to normality on the ISS - Cupola is still a fantastic sight, even after a (very short) EVA," Parmitano wrote Wednesday in a tweet. EVA is NASA shorthand for spacewalk: extravehicular activity. He followed with photos of Italy's Lake Como,

from the station's cupola, or observation deck.

NASA astronaut Karen Nyberg, a crewmate, added via Twitter: "Just happy Luca's safe!"

Wednesday, Parmi-On tano shined a long flashlight through the ring collar of his suit, while his colleague, American Christopher Cassidy, examined other equipment used Tuesday.

Nothing suspicious popped up, Humphries said.

There are only two sources of water in the suit: a 32-ounce drink bag and a 1-gallon cooling system embedded in long underwear.

NASA has pretty much ruled out the drink pouch. That leaves the cooling system. Specialists detected a higher than normal usage of water from the system's tanks, which could be consistent with Tuesday's leakage, Humphries said. "No real theory yet on ex-

actly where this water came from or why, but they are doing a very deliberate step by step process of troubleshooting to try to identify what's going on," he said.

Tuesday's close call points out the ever-present dangers of spacewalking, Mission Control managers acknowledged to reporters following the episode.

The next NASA astronaut set to fly to the space station, Michael Hopkins, said the important thing is that the spacewalkers got back in safe, thanks to everyone's

quick, appropriate reactions. While "certainly concerned" by Tuesday's events, he said he's confident the mystery will be solved before NASA sends anyone else out the hatch.

"We still don't know what happened, and so in terms of how that's going to impact our flight, we still don't know," Hopkins told reporters. But he added: "We're ready for whatever might get thrown our way."

NASA plans no spacewalks during Hopkins' half-year mission, scheduled to begin in September. Hopkins' two Russian crewmates, on the other hand, are aiming for seven spacewalks before and after December's launch of a new Russian lab.

Russian spacesuits are entirely different than their American counterparts.

Barring an emergency, no further NASA spacewalks are planned anytime soon. The work left undone Tuesday involved a variety of minor chores that had piled up over the past couple of years. Officials said there's no hurry to finish the job.

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With cameras watching, you car isn't your castle WASHINGTON (AP) a judge's approval is forming a picture of the

— You can drive, but you can't hide.

A rapidly growing network of police cameras is capturing, storing and sharing data on license plates, making it possible to stitch together people's movements whether they are stuck in a commute, making tracks to the beach or up to no good.

For the first time, the number of license tag captures has reached the millions, according to a study published Wednesday by American Civil Liberties Union based on information from hundreds of law enforcement agencies. Departments keep the records weeks or years, sometimes indefinitely, saying they can be crucial in tracking suspicious cars, aiding drug busts and more.

Attached to police cars, bridges or buildings — and sometimes merely as an app on a police officer's smartphone — scanners capture images of passing or parked vehicles and pinpoint their locations, uploading that information into police databases..

Over time, it's unlikely many vehicles in a covered area escape notice. And with some of the information going into regional databases encompassing multiple jurisdictions, it's becoming easier to build a record of where someone has been and when, over a large area.

While the Supreme Court ruled in 2012 that needed to use GPS to track a car, networks of plate scanners allow police effectively to track a driver's location, sometimes several times every day, with few legal restrictions. The ACLU says the scanners are assembling a "single, high-resolution image of our lives."

"There's just a fundamental question of whether we're going to live in a society where these dragnet surveillance systems become routine," said Catherine Crump, a staff attorney with the organization. The group is proposing that police departments immediately any records of cars not linked to any crime.

Although less thorough than GPS tracking, plate readers can produce some of the same information, the group says, revealing whether someone is frequenting a bar, joining a protest, getting medical or mental help and much more.

In Minneapolis, for example, eight mobile and two fixed cameras captured data on 4.9 million license plates from January to August 2012, the Star Tribune reported. Among those whose movements were recorded: Mayor R.T. Rybak, whose city-owned cars were tracked at 41 locations in a year.

A Star Tribune reporter's vehicle was tracked seven times in a year, placing him at a friend's house three times late at night, other times going to and from work —

dates, times and coordinates of his daily routine. Until the city temporarily classified such data late last year, anyone could ask police for a list of when and where

a car had been spotted. As the technology becomes cheaper and more widespread, even small police agencies are able to deploy more sophisticated surveillance systems. The federal government has been a willing partner, offering grants to help equip departments.

Law enforcement officials say the scanners are strikingly efficient. The state of Maryland told the ACLU that troopers could "maintain a normal patrol stance" while capturing up to 7,000 license plate images in a single eighthour shift.

"At a time of fiscal and budget constraints, we need better assistance for law enforcement," said Harvey Eisenberg, assistant U.S. attorney in Maryland.

Law enforcement officials say the technology automates a practice that's been around for years. The ACLU found that only five states have laws governing license plate readers. New Hampshire, for example, bans the technology except in narrow circumstances.

"There's no expectation of privacy" for a vehicle driving on a public road or parked in a public place, said Lt. Bill Hedgpeth, a spokesman for the Mesquite Police Department in Texas.



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Page 7 Thursday, July 18, 2013

Beltre keeps rolling

Quirky Texas third baseman having another solid season

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Adrian Beltre certainly has his quirks.

Beltre appeals his own checked swings. He has a strange dance of short shuffle steps in the batter's box when a pitch is inside or at his feet. And the Gold Glove third baseman really hates being touched on the head - a fact that gets mercilessly exploited by his Texas Rangers teammates.

"It's just part of who I am," Beltre said. "The thing is, they do it when I do something good. ... That moment, I'm expecting that. I'm kind of happy because I've done something good for the team. But I still don't like it."

Though Beltre was left off the American League All-Star team for the first time in four seasons, he is hitting .316 with 21 home runs and 55 RBIs. He has seven homers in 13 games this month, each time scrunching his shoulders going into the dugout ready for the playful taps coming his way.

"We're a fun-loving team, and that's just one of those enjoyable moments that we have every single time that he hits a home run," David Murphy said. "As much as he hates it, he seems to enjoy it at



Texas Rangers third baseman Adrian Beltre, left, drops to a knee while hitting a home run during the 2011 World Series. The Gold Glover is having another strong season for the Rangers.

the same time."

The 34-year-old Beltre is already in his 16th major league season — he was only 15 in the Dominican Republic when signed by the Dodgers in 1994, four years before his debut for Los An-

"He's still the same kind of kid, plays the same way," said Chicago White Sox manager Robin Ventura, Beltre's teammate with the Dodgers in 2003-04. "He was mature even as a kid. He was a great teammate. He had the respect of the clubhouse, that's for sure."

Beltre is now nearly halfway into his \$96 million, six-year deal with the Rangers.

"He's a big-time leader," general manager Jon Daniels said. "He's intense, but he's always been playful. The guy has fun playing the game."

The Rangers were coming off their first World Series when Beltre signed in 2011, and he got to his first that season when they won another AL pennant. He was third in the AL MVP voting last season, and the Rangers begin the post All-Star break Friday against Baltimore in playoff contention again.

"I don't think I could have made a better decision than what I did," Beltre said of signing with Texas after being a first-time All-Star his only season in Boston. "Since the first week I got here, it's been a blast. ... The guys have fun, they play hard, we're winning. All of the above makes it easier for you to be comfortable and want to stay here."

Beltre has had a big part in the Rangers' success — they are an incredible 74-10 when he hits a home run, a few of them coming even when dropping to his right knee while swinging. There have also been plenty of spectacular defensive plays that he makes look routine.

"He makes the hot corner look cold," Cincinnati manager Dusty Baker said, who was managing San Francisco and in the NL West with the Dodgers during Beltre's first five major league sea-

"He can throw from different angles and different ways, and he doesn't miss anything," Baker said. "He was always good. It was just a matter of how good."

Ventura, a former third baseman, considers Beltre the best defensive player in the league at any position.

"He has range, he has great hands,"

See **BELTRE**, Page 12

Manziel draws crowd at media day | NCAA cuts ties

Johnny Manziel strode into Southeastern Conference Media Days and was swarmed by hundreds of reporters and dozens of television cameras.

He shook some hands and the cameras flashed as he settled into his seat, the star of the SEC's latest must-see TV show.

If the Texas A&M quarterback was troubled by all the attention, he didn't show it.

Dressed in a dark blue suit, checkered shirt and striped tie, Manziel answered every question thrown his way during the 30-minute Q&A, some were even

HOOVER, Ala. (AP) — about football. He said trending topic. he largely enjoys the spotlight that comes winning with the Heisman Trophy

> even if it sometimes includes unsavorv headlines. "This just another

with a grin. The 20-year-old sophomore and face of college football spent most of his three-hour stay at the Wynfrev Hotel, bouncing from one interview session to another. He mostly talked about an eventful offseason that has frequently made him a

day,"Johnny

Football said

"I don't feel like I've done anything that's catastrophic," Manziel said. "Of course, I've made my mistakes. It's time to grow up."

Themostrecentmisstep came last weekend at the Manning Passing Academy. Manziel was one of many college quarterback counselors at the camp for high school prospects run by Archie, Peyton and Eli Manning in Louisiana, but he left before it was

He says he missed activities because he "overslept," and his absence had nothing to do with being out the night before.

leave. It was a mutual decision," Manziel said. He said that while there were social events every night with the

Mannings, he did not

meetings

his

miss

because of too much partying. "The speculation of me being too hung over and that's the reason I missed the meetings is

absolutely incorrect,"

he said. Manziel said he fell asleep without setting his alarm and his phone died during the night. He saidhewasroomingwith Alabama quarterback AJ McCarron, but that McCarron didn't wake him up.

"I was not asked to See MANZIEL, Page 12

/ITN ŁA SPOPTS

NEW YORK (AP) — Hang on to NCAA Football 2014, all you video game fans. It will be a collector's

The NCAA said Wednesday it will no longer allow Electronic Arts Inc. to use its logo starting next year. The move ends a lucrative business deal

withthegaming industry giant and comes as the NCAA fights a highprofile lawsuit that says the governing body owes billions of dollars former to players for allowing their likenesses to be used for free.



The NCAA said it won't seek a new contract with EA Sports, which manufactures the popular game, beyond the current one that expires in June 2014. However, that won't stop EA Sports from producing a college football video game depicting powerhouse schools like Alabama, Ohio State and Oregon, and the Redwood City, Calif.-based company made that clear. "EA Sports will continue to develop and publish

college football games, but we will no longer include the NCAA names and marks," said Andrew Wilson, executive vice president. "Our relationship with the Collegiate Licensing Co. is strong and we are already working on a new game for next generation consoles which will launch next year and feature the college teams, conferences and all the innovation fans expect from EA Sports.'

The company reported \$3.8 billion in net revenue during its last fiscal year and, aside from its NCAA Football franchise, is well known for Madden NFL, FIFA Soccer and other games.

EA Sports first began making an NCAA Football game in 1998.

Todd Mitchell, senior analyst with New Yorkbased Brean Capital, LLC, said losing the NCAA brand isn't likely to hurt EA Sports.

He estimated NCAA Football accounts for only about 5 percent of EA Sports' revenue, or about \$125 million.

Johnson takes early lead at British Open

over.

GULLANE, Scotland (AP) -Zach Johnson quickly shook off that defeat last weekend.

Johnson seized the early lead at the British Open on Thursday, shooting a 5-under 31 on the front side only four days after losing the John Deere Classic in a playoff.

Among those already in the clubhouse, Spain's Rafael Cabrera-Bello posted a 4-under 67, countryman Miguel Angel Jimenez got off to a blistering start on the way to 68, while 2004 Open champion Todd Hamilton put up a surprising 69 — his lowest round in the tournament since that improbable victory nine years ago.

"This game is a lot about confidence," said Hamilton, who

now plays on a minor-league tour in the U.S. "I didn't really know what to expect. I hit a couple of drives early with the driver and made a few putts and that kind of settled me down, and I didn't try to do a lot of stuff that I didn't feel comfortable doing." Johnson didn't arrive at

Muirfield until Monday morning after playing in the John Deere, where he made bogey on the 72nd hole and wound up losing in a three-man playoff. Nineteenyear-old Jordan Spieth captured the title on the fifth extra hole, becoming the youngest winner on the PGA Tour since 1931.

If Johnson was still kicking himself over that result, it didn't show. The 2007 Masters champion made an eagle at the par-5 fifth,

then birdied the next two holes to claim the top spot on the board.

The tournament began with the sun poking through big, puffy clouds along the Scottish coast. The forecast hardly seemed fitting for a British Open: mostly sunny with temperatures climbing into the mid-70s.

There was a bit of a breeze at the course off the Firth of Forth — the wind is always the main line of defense for a links course but not enough to be much of a problem.

"If the wind stays like it is, it's really not too difficult," Hamilton said. "If you can take advantage of the par-5s and throw some other birdies in, and stay away

See OPEN, Page 12

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GARDEN OF Meditation, Trin-Memorial Park. Shaded, Spaces 1 & 2, Lot 41. Call (432)816-7217.

Garage Sales

4024 VICKY- Saturday Only 8-1. Sewing machines, bikes, gas BBQ, exercise/weight equipment, collectible barbies, Coke items, Boyd's bears, vintage platters, X-mas decorations and tree, copier, printers, fax machine, many VHS, teen girl clothing, tons of misc. items. CASH ONLY!!

BIG GARAGE Sale: 601 Ed-Saturday Circle. wards 7:30-12. Lots & Lots of Misc. Items....

CARPORT SALE: 2504 Broadway, Saturday 8-?, Lots of women and men clothes, coffee maker, movies, books seasonal decor., sand box, and some tools.

ESTATE/MOVING 1404 Johnson, Thursday July 18th, Friday July 19th, and Saturday July 20th. Starting at 8:00am. Furniture, tools, electrical appliances, clothes.

GARAGE SALE: 115 S. Moss Lake Road, Saturday 7-12. Furniture, clothes, scrubs, toys, home and kitchen decor and much more.

Downsizing Big Clean-Out: 2203 East 25th (Kentwood), Open Gates Saturday 8:00-Noon. Kids clothes, toys, books, household, collectibles, bedding, charcoal grill.

GARAGE SALE: 3800 Connally, Saturday 7:30-? Lots of winter jackets, tire rimes (new), jewelry, purses, lots of clothing, misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 4042 Vicky, Saturday 8-12. Household items, TV's, clothes for the whole family, tons of toys, and much more.

MOVING SALE: 2807 Goliad, Saturday 7:30-? Furniture, lamps, lots of misc. items.

MOVING/ INSIDE Sale: 2511 Carleton, Friday Only 8:00-12:00. Kitchen items, lots of clothing, furniture and more...

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 6805 N. Service Road. Friday & Saturday. Lots of misc. items.

YARD SALE: 1025 Stadium, Saturday 8-1. Living room set, washer, dryer, tires, women & mens clothing and shoes.

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NEED EXPERIENCED Farm Hand. Call (432)213-4332.

APPLICATOR DRIVER Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural- chemical company, has an immediate opening for spray applicator driver. Class A-CDL license and farm experience helpful; but will consider training. Requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

Helen Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

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ATHLON ENERGY is hiring lease operators in Howard County. Please send resume to grich@athlonenergy.com call Gary Rich at 0-0048

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ENTRY LEVEL Operators and Team Leaders needed for a Pipe Inspection Crew in Big Texas, Fort Worth Spring, Pipe, a Savage Company, is offering stable positions with great health benefits, 401k with matching, profit Sharing and more. Full job descriptions and applications can be found at www.savageservices.com

EXPERIENCE FARM Hand Wanted! Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

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FORT WORTH Pipe, a Savage Company, needs Drivers. Those with Class A CDL will deliver pipe from Big Spring, TX to well sites in the area. Fort Worth Pipe offers great benefits, stable work, opportunity for growth, bonuses, 401k and profit sharing. Applicants can apply online at savageservices.com.

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NEED EXTRA Income. Looking for a second job. Available to work a few hours a week. Dismas Charities Midland a Residential Reentry Center. Is hiring full/ part time and relief staff for the position as resident monitor & cook. Program operates 24/7. Flexible hours & shift available. Apply online at www.dismas.com

Walk In applicants are welcome at 24 West Industrial Loop.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.



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THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting for applications following position *Electricain-*Responsible

maintaining the District's control panels, motors, electric substations and power lines. Intermediate level position, good understanding of electricity required.

Electronics Technician-Responsible for installing, repairing, and maintaining communication equipment including mobile radios and communication microwave equipment, supporting the District's SCADA system. Intermediate level positon, prior experience with PLCs and programming preferred. CRMWD is an equal opportu-

nity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 www.crmwd.org

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED for Local Firm. Call 432-263-1324 ext. 21.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

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Legals

Sealed Bids addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until Thursday, August 8, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. for:

Contract E: Rehabilitation of Existing Pipeline The Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place. Any Bids received after closing time will not be accepted and will be returned to sender unopened.

Advertisement, bid phase information and complete Contract Documents can be downloaded free of charge at the following web site: http://construction.freese.com Printed copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased at the website for the cost of printing. The cost for printed Contract Documents is not refunded. COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

John Grant, General Manger #7873 July 18 & 25 and August 1,

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, B&H Storage which is located at 1601 East 3rd, Big Spring, Tx 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on August 1st, 2013, at B&H Storage, 1601 East 3rd, Big Spring, Tx 79720. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants. Unit: #1 David & Lucy Garza

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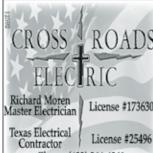
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Moody scorpio moon

Every summer, someone is bound to say, "It's not the heat; it's the humidity." Before you roll your eyes, the

Scorpio moon, void of course, urges us to apply this to our personal lives today: It's not that a loved one has a bad temper, but that the atmosphere



HOLIDAY **MATHIS**

lately has pushed some of us to the brink. Open a window or two and let in a fresh mood

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Work or school might feel like an albatross around your neck, but don't despair: An unexpected encounter will remind you that you have wings of your own, and you're just waiting for the right moment to take flight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you've ever actually sung the blues, you know how the things that make you sad can be the very same things that lift your spirits once expressed. Try it. If you don't sing, at least talk about what's troubling

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your network of farflung friends and relations maybe doesn't feel exactly like a net, but rather more like an exhausting trap of obligations and duties. Let everyone know that you're taking a welldeserved break.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don't need to have a thrilling time to have a good time. You'll be more reasonable than your friends in this regard. You have a charming way of projecting the voice of reason.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You hate to feel indebted to people. You'll return favors, give gratitude and contribute big. But there's a sense that you can't get even with some people who always want to give you more. Perhaps because they need the upper hand?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You strive for a pure heart, clear mind and devout soul. It doesn't always work out that way. On the bright side, vice in moderation can be a bonding agent between people.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Pleasant surprises are still surprises, and today you're just not in the mood to be startled in any way. Luckily, you will be able to control your environment to a large degree.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Good fortune is the result of good planning. Of course, for a plan to work, you have to follow it, which you will with a few exceptions. Today you're the perfect mix of being structured and in the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When it comes to the daily dance of juggling work and family, you've often felt as if you have two left feet and a bad case of vertigo. But others only see how well you can spin those plates without dropping them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Older people tend to project an illusion of happiness onto younger people who may or may not feel that way. This moon helps you tune in to the truth of the matter, though, and reach out as needed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You love mischievous and playful people, but not dishonest people. The distinctions can get a bit murky.

Don't be afraid to clear them up, though, and sooner rather than later.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Even when you are not among your true and sincere friends, you can still be yourself. In fact, that's the best person to be to attract new true and sincere friends.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 18). You prefer slow, steady change to jarring transformations this year and will get your wish. Because of this style, you'll enjoy the unfolding of who you are becoming. Children figure into your professional and personal life in September. A savvy investment pays off in December. Libra and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 43, 11 and 16.

DEVELOP YOUR INTUITION **SAGITTARIUS:** Sagittarius is the sign of travel. It's not just the idea of travel that gets this sign's mind spinning, it's a drive to

go see for oneself: to get

proof that strange lands do exist and to lay hands on the rocks, water and trees that are there; to see what's inside the buildings and eat what's on the plates; to touch and smell and know, really know, the experience "over there."

In this light, Sagittarius people tend toward the gift of psychometry. Holding an object in their hands is a way of channeling information about that object, the people who owned it and other relevant information. Sagittarians who want to further develop this talent need only sit quietly holding an object and express the images that come to mind. These images don't have to make sense and often won't, but go with whatever thought pops up while in contact with the energetic field of the object. Make note of the mood, emotions, temperature, sounds and accompanying visuals and associations. This exercise is best done

completely blind, meaning with objects the Sagittarius knows absolutely nothing about. Sagittarius might be amazed at how many associations resonate with meaning for the person who owns the object.

ČELEBRITY PROFILES: Country music star Luke Bryan channels his water-sign energy into songs such as "Rain Is a Good Thing," "It's a Shore Thing" and "Shake the Sand." Bryan was born when the sun and Mercury were in the soulful sign of the crab and lucky Jupiter was in Taurus, the sign of interesting and powerful voices. His Venus and Saturn in Leo lend an entertaining edge.

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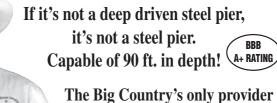
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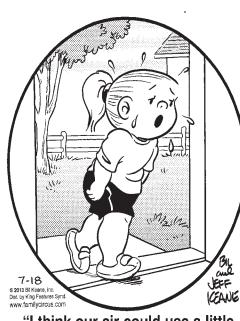
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"I think our air could use a little more conditioning."







I'M YOUR MAN! WHAT IS IT?



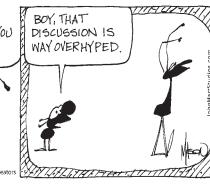
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SON, IT'S TIME YOU KNOW

WHICH WILL EAT YOU FOR LUNCH

EITHER ONE OF



WIZARD OF ID















THE OTHER COAST









SNUFFY SMITH









This Date In History Today is Thursday, July 18,

the 199th day of 2013. There are 166 days left in the year. Today's Highlight History:

On July 18, 1863, during the Civil War, Union troops spearheaded bv the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, made up of black soldiers, charged Confederateheld Fort Wagner on Morris Island, S.C. The Confederates were able to repel the Northerners, who suffered heavy losses; the 54th's commander, Col. Robert Gould Shaw, was among those who were killed.

On this date: In A.D. 64, the Great Fire of

Rome began. In 1536, the English Parliament passed an act

declaring the authority of the pope void in England. In 1792, American naval hero John Paul Jones died in Paris

at age 45. In 1872

In 1913, comedian Red Skelton was born in Vincennes,

In 1932, the United States and Canada signed a treaty to devel-

op the St. Lawrence Seaway. In 1940, the Democratic National Convention at Chicago

Stadium nominated President

Franklin D. Roosevelt for an unprecedented third term in office. In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed a Presidential Succession Act, which placed the speaker of the House and

the Senate apresident pro tem-

pore next in the line of succes-

sion after the vice president.

In 1969, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., left a party on Chappaquiddick Island near Martha's Vineyard with Mary Jo Kopechne (koh-PEHK'-nee), 28; some time later, Kennedy's car went off a bridge into the water. (Kennedy was able to escape, but Kopechne

In 1976, at the Montreal Olympics, Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci received the first-ever perfect score of 10 with her routine on uneven parallel bars. (Comaneci would go on to receive six more 10s at

Montreal.)

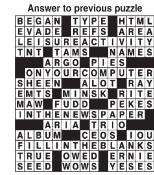
TO BED ...

In 1984, gunman James Huberty opened fire at a McDonald's fast food restaurant in San Ysidro (ee-SEE'droh), Calif., killing 21 people before being shot dead by police. Walter F. Mondale won the Democratic presidential nomination in San Francisco. In 1988, Texas Treasurer Ann

Richards, delivering the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta, skewered presumed Republican nominee George H.W. Bush as having been "born with a silver foot in his mouth." Today's Birthdays: Former

South African President Nelson Mandela is 95.

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ACROSS

- 9 Gallery display
- 15 Distracted
- greeting
- 17 Natural
- 19 Spoke sweet
- nothings 20 Safe
- 25 Stream's path
- 28 The Big Dipper
 - its flag
- 30 Brave
- 33 Miles off 34 Be begrudging

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- 44 In a frenzy
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Newsday Crossword

63 One capful,

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- 23 Comic bit
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65 Predatory

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68 Fully

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69 Places to relax

1 Dumas dueler

2 Prepare to play

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3 Shopworn

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4 Beginnings of

5 "World Series"

- 1 When Romeo
- meets Juliet
- 5 Toppers
- 14 Chance to play
- 16 Blazing
- 18 In fighting trim

- 27 Stop up
- 38 Another helping

- **47** Prepare
- 56 Numerical
- 62 Dinghy duo

RANGED ALL OVER by Billie Truitt

- 6 Yet to come
- 7 Compared with
- 8 Spill the beans 9 Keyboard
- shortcuts
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- Chihuahua 12 Fields of study
- 13 Possible pigeon
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- 28 In progress
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- counter display 31 GI hangout

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32 Place to sip alfresco

- Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 33 High point
 - 35 11/11 marcher 36 "By all means" 39 Snap class
 - 40 Spa amenity 43 Fresh
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Cuban baliplayer says he's defecting

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Cuban pitcher Misael Siverio told a Spanish-language newspaper he has defected to the United States and is going to try to make it to the major leagues.

Siverio was part of the Cuban national team that traveled to Iowa for an exhibition game against a collegiate all-star team from the U.S. But he apparently left the delegation at some point after it arrived in Des Moines on Tuesday afternoon.

"Leaving behind your country is not easy, but this was a decision that I gave a lot of thought," Siverio told El Nuevo Herald in Miami. "Of course, my dream is to play in the majors, and from now on I will start taking the first steps to make it happen."

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida also welcomed the 24-year-old Siverio to the U.S. in a

post on her Twitter account on Wednesday. A message was left by The Associated Press seeking comment from the Cuban-American Repub-

Siverio was not listed when Team USA released an updated roster for Cuba on Wednesday. Team USA CEO Paul Seiler told the AP that, from Cuba's perspective, Siverio is no longer in their delegation.

The Cubans are in Iowa to play a team of American college stars in the opener of a five-game set spanning three cities. The set starts Thursday night in Des Moines at the home of the Triple-A Iowa Cubs, marking the first extended series between the two countries in American ballparks since 1996.

Siverio is the latest in a long line of Cuban players who defected to the

MANZIEL

Continued from Page 7

"I'm definitely not going to pin it on him," Manziel said. "It's my fault — 115, 120 percent."

He said he was disappointed he missed camp activities, but that there were "no hard feelings' between him and the Mannings. He said he's already been invited back to next summer's camp and looks forward to attending.

The early exit from the Manning camp is just part of Manziel's offseason in the public eye.

- He pleaded guilty on Monday to a misdemeanor of not identifying himself to a police officer following a 2012 altercation at a bar near campus in College Station. — He sent out an update on Twitter in June say-
- ing that he "can't wait to leave" College Station, before quickly deleting the updated. He later apol-- He also created a minor stir in February
- when he said he took most of his classes online and didn't go on campus very much. None of the transgressions were huge, but they

combined to keep Johnny Football in the news and raise questions about his character. Every move Manziel made on Wednesday was shadowed by a media throng. At one point, the

quarterback said he felt like pop star Justin Bie-He talked about his friendship with NBA star LeBron James, his upcoming trip to the ESPYs and all the other positives that comes from his

He said his carousing has been at times "blown out of proportion," though he did acknowledge that he needs to make better decisions because

he's such a public figure.

"My offseason, all the stuff's that's gone on will have no effect on this season," Manziel said. "I'm ready to stop. No more talk after this. Let's play football."

Manziel is the first freshman to win the Heisman and undeniably a unique talent on the field. He led Texas A&M to an 11-2 record, including a 6-2 mark in its first Southeastern Conference sea-

Second-year coach Kevin Sumlin's hurry-up offense was a perfect match for Manziel, who finished with 3,706 yards and 26 touchdowns passing and 1,410 yards and 21 touchdowns on the

His 5,116 total yards were an NCAA freshman record and No. 9 on the NCAA's all-time list.

Sumlin and Texas A&M defensive back Toney Hurd Jr. both praised Manziel on Wednedsay. "Johnny Football is a great guy," Hurd Jr. said.

"He works hard. He's dedicated to his craft. I can't make any predictions on what he'll do, but I can tell you if you want to stop him, you might want to put 22 men on the field. Said Sumlin: "I think (handling the Heisman

spotlight is) a learning experience, a growing experience, because, quite frankly, it's something that nobody's ever been through at that age." Mississippi quarterback Bo Wallace was also

at the Manning passing camp and said the other quarterbacks enjoyed their time with Manziel. Wallace said Tuesday Manziel is "a fun kid" and "may catch more slack than he should." "It's difficult — you want to go out and do 20,

21-year-old things," Wallace said. "But at the same time, you've got to know that you're the face of a brand. Ole Miss is a huge brand, A&M's a huge brand and you've got to have that in the back of your mind with every decision that you make."

OPEN

Continued from Page 7

from the high numbers, I think somebody is going to shoot a good

Then there was Lloyd Saltman, a 27-year-old Scotsman who competes on the European Tour.

Playing in the first group of the day with Peter Senior and Oliver Fisher, Saltman sent his

opening tee shot into a compound of hospitality tents far right of the fairway.

immediately He reached for another ball, teed it up again, and knocked another one out of bounds. Finally, with his third attempt and taking what was officially his fifth shot of the hole, he got one in the fairway. He wound up taking a quadruplebogey 8 and finished

with a 79.

Saltman wasn't the only one who had trouble at No. 1. Promising young American Brooks Koepka also opened with an 8. Bud Cauley and Chris Wood both walked away with 7s.

Tiger Woods is the overwhelming favorite, as always. But the world's top-ranked player is mired in the longest drought of his career in

golf's premier events, a stretch of 20 tournaments going back to the 2008 U.S. Open.

"I feel very good about my game," said Woods, who had an afternoon tee time. "Even though I haven't won a major championship in five years, I've been there in a bunch of them where I've had chances. I just need to keep putting myself there and eventually I'll get some."

When Woods won his 14th major at Torrey Pines more than five years ago, he seemed a lock to break Jack Nicklaus' record of 18.

Now, it's not so cer-

A messy divorce, injuries and a swing change have chipped away at Woods' dominance. He's still the best player in the world, with four

of flock to him, that's

the sign of a good team-

mate," said Cleveland

manager Terry Fran-

cona, who was then in

"He plays the game

the right way. He shows

up every day and plays

hard," said Dustin Pe-

droia, Boston's

Boston.

victories already this year on the PGA Tour, but he hasn't been able to finish the job on the biggest stages.

"The self-belief you have to have, maybe there's a little dent in there," said three-time Open champion Nick Faldo. "He hits the wrong shot at the wrong time, where before Tiger would hit the right shot at the right time.'

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

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BELTRE

Continued from Page 7

Ventura said. "When you start talking about defense, people bring up his name quite often just because he sticks out that much for people that play the game."

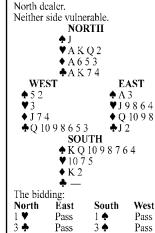
After Beltre hit .334 with a league-leading 48 homers and 121 RBIs for the Dodgers in 2004, he was just 25 when he signed a five-year deal with Seattle. Then in his only season with the Red Sox, he hit .321 with 49 doubles, 28 homers and 102 RBIs.

"You see how guys sort



By Steve Becker

What Can Defeat Me?



This deal occurred in a national pair championship. As usual, with several hundred pairs playing the same hand, there were many different results

three of hearts.

Pass

Opening lead -

The most popular contract by far was six spades. However, some pairs climbed all the way to seven spades a tad ambitious lacking the ace of trumps - while still others got no higher than four spades. The hand is somewhat difficult

to bid, especially from South's view-

point. Thus, if South uses Blackwood, he learns that his partner has three aces. This alone should persuade him to undertake six spades, but it might leave him with a gnawing doubt about whether North could have the right three aces, in which case there might be a grand slam.

Surely the most disappointed

players were those who got to six spades and went down one. This occurred at more than a few tables where declarer played the hand too quickly and lost the slam as a result. At all these tables, West's opening

lead was a heart. South won in dummy and led the jack of trumps. East went up with the ace and returned a heart, and that was the end of that. Down one The declarers who went down in

the slam were certainly unlucky to run into a heart ruff, but, even so, they had only themselves to blame. The possibility of a heart ruff should have been apparent to these declarers, and they could have taken a simple step to prevent it. All they had to do was to cash dummy's A-K of clubs and discard two hearts before leading a trump. Obviously, those declarers who

went down in six spades had neg-lected to ask themselves "What can defeat me?" Had they done that, the answer would not have been long in forthcoming. Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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Star second baseman. "Adrian Beltre's a force. .. When you play with him, just seeing it every day, it's pretty darn impressive what he does."

Francona said about the only way to really aggravate Beltre, other than touching his head, is to tell him he's not playing. "When I don't put him

in the lineup, I've got to hide under my desk," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "You think I'm going to mess with Beltre? No way."

Beltre played games last season, and hit .321 with 36 homers, even while dealing with left leg inflammation, a sore left hamstring and a strained left shoulder. He has played in 93 of the Rangers' 95 games this year.

With that, it's a good bet that the Rangers won't have to even consider voiding the sixth year of Beltre's deal which can only happen if he fails to have 600 plate appearances in 2015 or 1,200 combined

in 2014 and 2015. Just don't expect him to be wearing a cup.

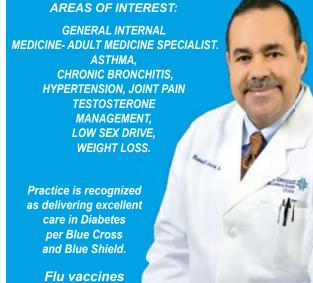
"I know his hands are good ... but I barely can watch a game on TV without wearing a cup," Francona said. "I don't know if I understand

that one." Beltre wore one late in the 2009 season, only after returning from the disabled list because he took a wicked one-hopper into the groin. That

was only temporary. "I just never felt comfortable," Beltre said. "I didn't use it when I was young and in my prime. I say why now. I already have three kids, so I'm good in that department."

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