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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017



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The big screen is coming to Big Spring

Indie flick 'The Iron Orchard' to begin production

By **ROBERT BARLOW**
 Staff Writer

An independent film being put together by Santa Rita Pictures L.L.C, is coming to the city of Big Spring and is set to begin shooting for the project next month.

The Austin-based production company has chosen Big Spring as the site for their next film "The Iron Orchard", which is based off a book by Tom Pendleton published in 1968.

The film depicts 1940s West Texas and follows the story of a young man's introduction into the hard life of the oilfield and his journey through the ranks until he becomes a "formidable wildcatter."

"It's a West Texas wildcat story that was set in the 1930s and 40s. A rags to riches story," said Producer Van Folger.

Because several of the crew members previously lived in West Texas, the producers said the film has a lot of significance for those involved in production.

"A lot of us grew up in West Texas, which is part of our passion for the project," said Producer Camille Chambers.. "Several of us turned down other projects to be on this because we love this project and we were so excited to spend some time in Big Spring."

"It's a story that close to me because I've seen this happen," Folger added.

The crew has already been around Big Spring

See **ORCHARD**, Page 3

Gone to the dogs



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Big Spring dentist Dr. David Ward, right, and Dr. Ward's office marketing director Donna Payne pose with a collection of dog care supplies the office has collected so far during their ongoing pet drive. The collection, which benefits the Happy Day Humane Society, runs through May 25. One lucky donor will receive a \$50 Wal-Mart gift card at the end of the drive.

Big Spring dentist holds dog supply drive

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

A local dentist is pitching in to help out some of Big Spring's canine orphans.

Dr. David Ward and his office, 1500 Scurry St., are in the middle of a pet supply drive. The giving started on

May 1, and the drive will last through May 25. Donations will benefit the Happy Day Humane Society, 5710 W. Interstate 20.

Donna Payne, marketing director for Dr. Ward's office, said the drive is specifically targeting dogs.

"They don't need cat stuff. Just dog stuff," she said. "They really need toys and sheets for the summer. They take out the blankets and they use sheets. They can be used sheets, it doesn't matter. And then dog shampoo and dog food. All their cats are being

fostered, and Wal-Mart provides supplies for the cats."

Ward said that the drive has been going for more than two weeks and he would like to see the donations multiply.

"We haven't collected

See **DRIVE**, Page 3

Parkview to hold festival for National Nursing Home Week

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

This week is National Nursing Home Week, and one local nursing home is celebrating the occasion with a big festival.

"We're having just a big party. This is National Nursing Home Week, so we've invited the public. We did this last year and we had an incredible turnout," said Kristi Beauchamp, administrator of Parkview Nursing and

Rehabilitation Center. "It kind of goes hand in hand with kiddos toward the end of school, too. We're doing it from 4 to 6 (p.m.) on Friday. Our residents love being around kids and getting to see kids. We've got a big blow-up water slide we're going to have out front. We're doing a cook-out with hot dogs and stuff. We've got a little train ride the kids can do. Dimples the Clown will be here, we'll be doing face painting, and then a lot of our local area hospice and

See **PARKVIEW**, Page 3

Trump claims 'absolute right' to share info with Russia

By **VIVIAN SALAMA and DEB RIECHMANN**
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday claimed the authority to share "facts pertaining to terrorism" and airline

safety with Russia, saying in a pair of tweets he has "an absolute right" as president to do so.

Trump's tweets did not say whether he revealed classified information about the Islamic State group, as published reports have said and as a U.S. official told

The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The White House has pushed back against those reports, but has not denied that classified information was disclosed in the May 10 meeting between Trump and Russian diplomats. The Kremlin dismissed the re-

ports as "complete nonsense."

The news reverberated around the world as countries started second-guessing their own intelligence-sharing agreements with the U.S.

A senior European intelligence official told the AP his country might

stop sharing information with the United States if it confirms that Trump shared classified details with Russian officials. Such sharing "could be a risk for our sources," the official said.

The official

See **TRUMP**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Vicki Jean Brown



Vicki Jean Brown, 65, of Big Spring, died Friday, May 12, 2017 at her residence. No services are planned at this time.

Vicki is survived by her husband Kent Brown of Big Spring; one daughter, Jessica Richardson and husband, Joe of Gardendale; one step-son Michael Brown; six grandchildren; five great grandchildren; three sisters, Brenda

Rawls and husband, Owen of Big Spring, Sherry Newcomb and husband, Robert of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and Debbie Carter and husband, David of Forsan.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Jeanie Marie Rushing, her parents, Page "Rusty" and Margie (Lewis) Clevenger; two sisters, Terry Montgomery and Toni Clevenger; and one brother, Zane Clevenger.

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

Janet Meyer Rouille



Janet Meyer Rouille, 71, of Big Spring, died Saturday, May 6, 2017 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Memorial service will be held at noon, Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at Golden China Buffet.

Janet was born May 17, 1945 in Riverside, California to Laurel Mooneyham Storms and T. A. Storms. She married Gilbert Joseph Rouille on September 13, 1980 in Riverside, California. He preceded her in

death on June 8, 2014. She came to Howard County 20 years ago from California. She earned two Associate Degrees and was a respiratory therapist for more than 30 years. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Dafna Meyer of Big Spring; two step-daughters, Patricia Ruffing and Donna Nelson of Riverside, California; and two step-sons, Joe Rouille of San Jacinito, CA and Terry Rouille of California.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and a son-in-law.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com.

Dean Rawls

Dean Rawls, 72, of Big Spring died Monday, May 15, 2017 in a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Edith Laverne Gary

Edith Laverne Gary, 88, of Bedford, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, May 15, 2017 in Bedford. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will start Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

WEDNESDAY

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

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

THURSDAY

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

• 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.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

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.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police reported the following activity:

• **BRANDON RASHAD SPARKS**, 31, of 1604 Robin Street was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana (2 ounces or less).

• **ORALIA KIMBERLY RAY OCHOA**, 18, of 2008 N. Birdwell Lane was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana (2 ounces or less).

• **FRANKIE LOPEZ JAUREZ**, 48, of 1008 NW 2nd St. was arrested on a warrant for interfere w/emergency request for assistance.

• **RAYNA MARLENE RODRIGUEZ**, 19, of 1413 Wood St was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **ROBERT PAUL NEWTON**, 39, of 715 Dealy Road was arrested on a warrant for theft of property (more than \$100).

• **JOHN TROY RIDDLE**, 35, of 3717 Howard County Airport 3 was arrested on a warrant for theft (\$20 by check with previous conviction.)

• **THEFT was reported** in the 1200 block of E. 11th Place, the 1113 block of Lloyd Avenue, and the 1600 block of Settles.

• **THEFT OF FIREARM** was reported in the 3300 block of Abilene Avenue.

• **CRIMINAL MICHIEF** was reported in the 2000 block of W. Interstate 20.

• **DISTURBANCE was reported** in the area of Birdwell Lane and 11th Place, and the 100 block of Airbase Road.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 500 block of S. Johnson St.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Birdwell and Fourth St.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire/EMS service reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of E. 6th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC).

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of S. Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of S. Aylesford. No transport.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 4100 block of Muir St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Holbert. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Fairchild. No transport.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 7000 block of CR 846. No transport.

Take Note

• Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 3200 Parkway, will hold a celebration from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 19, in observance of National Nursing Home Week. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be served. Dimples the Clown, face painting, a DJ, train rides, game booths, and a bouncy water slide will be available to entertain youngsters, while adults can meet the staff, visit with Parkview residents, and see recent changes to the home. Parkview has recently undergone remodeling and renovation.

• The Big Spring Salvation Army and the Big Spring Center for Skilled Care are holding a fan drive to collect and distribute electric fans to those 55 and older in Howard County. Those wishing to donate can take new or gently used box or pedestal fans to the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; or to the Center for Skilled Care at 3701 Wasson Rd. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors 55 and older who need a fan should call the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239 or the Center for Skilled Care at 432-606-5012 to register and receive the distribution date.

• Registration is now begin taken for cancer survivors/caregivers who will be attending the 2017 Howard/Glasscock County Relay for Life. To register by phone or online call 1-800-227-2345 or www.relayforlife.org/bigspiringtx. For assistance, you may contact Howard Stewart at 432-935-0582 or Beverly Grant at 432-967-0901.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from current A&M students. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. For more information and to find the application, visit https://westexags.com/. Deadline for applications for current A&M students is June 1, 2017.

• The Howard County Fair thanks everyone who has picked up a crossstitch square for the annual quilt

fundraiser. There are still a few squares left, so if you can do one, please see Cheryl at the Heritage Museum during regular hours, Tuesday through Saturday.

• Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

• Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post

Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

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DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

as much as we want to," he said. "It's the first time we've done anything for the Humane Society, aside from personal donations. Probably most of us have made some personal donations. But we try to do a service project every quarter or so, and Donna, it was her idea to see if we could do something to benefit the Humane Society. We were just trying to do a little PR to benefit them and hopefully get some supplies that

they could use out at their new facility."

The Humane Society is always grateful for donations. "They always appreciate donations," Ward said. "We, unfortunately, lost our dogs in the last year, and we ended up donating quite a bit personally out there of stuff that we had. They're always very appreciative of everything we give. And they can use almost anything that's in good shape. We just hadn't done anything through the office before. But we were hoping to encourage our patients to bring stuff in with them, or

community members at large to drop stuff off here to help them out. It doesn't need to be new, but it does need to be clean. They do great work taking care of the animals out there."

Payne said she got the idea when her son went on a school field trip to the newly reopened Humane Society.

"I do the marketing here, so I was just thinking. My son went out there for school. They went out there for a play day when they just had the new one opened," she said. "I knew that they would probably be needing supplies

since they just reopened, and to get them fully stocked. I thought that would be a good idea because I don't know many people that do it."

Dr. Ward's office is offering an incentive for donors.

"We did throw in something for people who do donate," Payne said. "We have a \$50 Wal-Mart gift card. They just have to bring goods here, and we have little slips up front where they can put their name and number."

Payne said a recipient for the gift card will be selected on the 25.

Those wishing to make do-

nations to Dr. Ward's drive can bring supplies by his office during business hours, or leave them on the porch if the office is closed. Monetary donations can be made by check made out to the Happy Day Humane Society, and left in the locking mailbox at the dentist's office.

For more information, contact Dr. David Ward's office at 432-267-1677.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at life@bigspringherald.com.

ORCHARD

Continued from Page 1

and some of the surrounding counties scouting for locations that would fit into the time period and scenes from the film. They mentioned the Hotel Settles among other historical buildings in the area would more than likely be used for filming.

"There's a big hotel scene and the fictitious hotel in the book is the Scarborough Hotel, and when we heard about the Settles we reached out to Brint Ryan," Chambers Continued. "With all the oil businesses, the refinery, and everything that's around here it was just natural fit to come out here."

The producers discussed the possibility of using some other historical buildings located around town as well as partnering with some local businesses.

"We're looking at using the Life Church for part of a hospital, the municipal auditorium, some city offices, maybe the hangar, and the courthouse," said Producer Houston Hill.

Big Spring was the ideal spot for the film because of its resources and its central location to surrounding areas.

"We needed to be somewhere where we could go within a twenty mile radius and have access to all those locations," said Hill.

The producers and the crew have an experience background that spans multiple projects. According to the producers, they are looking forward to shooting a time period film on location in Big Spring.

"The quality of the leadership as well, for an indie (independent movie)...many of the people that hopped on board are extraordinary...amazing resumes," said Folger.

The film crew plans on scouting locations through the end of the month and intends to start shooting for the movie as early as June 1.

According to the producers, they have received a lot of support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals including some help from the Petroleum Museum and the Heritage Museum. The producers mentioned they are still seeking help from people who wish to be involved in the film. "One of our commitments to this project in the area is to spend as much locally as we can," Chambers said.

"We're just looking forward to getting the city involved."

The Iron Orchard producers are currently looking for extras of all ages, as well as some vintage cars from the 1950s and earlier. Anyone interested can send a picture of themselves or their vintage car, along with their information to ironorchardcasting@gmail.com.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at (432) 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

PARKVIEW

Continued from Page 1

home health companies will be here, and they're going to be providing a game and prizes as well. So just a lot of fun."

Beauchamp said the event is open to the public, and free of charge.

"It'll be great for people to stop by with their kids after school, feed them a snack with a hot dog, and let them have some fun as well," she said.

Beauchamp said the weather may be warm, but hopes some cool drinks and the water slide may help take the edge off the rising temperatures.

"We've talked about doing a few little

things inside for those who need to get in," she said.

Last year's celebration was a big highlight for the Parkview residents, Beauchamp said.

"They loved it, they loved it," she said. "A lot of the residents we didn't even know would come or wanted to come, came, and were in line themselves to get their faces painted last year. So they had a big time. I don't think we had any residents go down the water slide, but they enjoyed watching it."

Parkview is a locally owned nursing home and rehab center, said Beauchamp.

"A good 30 percent of our residents actually come here for rehab, and then go home," she said. "We have an entire

wing that is nothing but rehab. And short-term rehab; somebody that's been in the hospital, had surgery, a broken bone, anything like that. They're not quite ready to go home, but getting discharged from the hospital. They can come get rehab. So not only are we a nursing home for long-term care – of course we do that as well – but we do a lot of the short term. And we do outpatient rehab as well."

For more information about the festival or Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation, call the center at 263-4041.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at life@bigspringherald.com.

TRUMP

Continued from Page 1

spoke only on condition that neither he nor his country be identified, because he was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly

At the White House, Trump said in his tweets, "I wanted to share with Russia (at an openly scheduled W.H. meeting) which I have the absolute right to do, facts pertaining ... to terrorism and airline flight safety. Humanitarian reasons, plus I want Russia to greatly step up their fight against ISIS & terrorism."

Trump shared details about an Islamic State terror threat related to the use of laptop computers on aircraft with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Russian ambassador to the U.S. Sergey Kislyak, a senior U.S. official told AP.

The classified information had been shared with the president by an ally, violating the confidentiality of an intelligence-sharing agreement with that country, the official said.

Trump later was informed that he had broken protocol and White House officials placed calls to the National Security Agency and the CIA looking to minimize any damage.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak publicly, would not say which country's intelligence was divulged.

The disclosure put a source of intelligence on the Islamic State at risk, according to The Washington Post,

which first reported the disclosure on Monday.

The CIA and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence have declined to comment.

The U.S. official said that Trump boasted about his access to classified intelligence in last week's meeting with Lavrov and Kislyak.

An excerpt from an official transcript of the meeting reveals that Trump told them, "I get great intel. I have people brief me on great intel every day," he said.

Kislyak has been a central player in the snowballing controversy surrounding possible coordination between Trump's campaign and Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential campaign.

The revelations drew strong condemnation from Democrats and a rare rebuke of Trump from some Republican lawmakers. White House officials denounced the report, saying the president did not disclose intelligence sources or methods to the Russians, though officials did not deny that classified information was disclosed in the May 10 meeting.

"The president and the foreign minister reviewed a range of common threats to our two countries including threats to civil aviation," said H.R. McMaster, Trump's national security adviser. "At no time, at no time were intelligence sources or methods discussed and the president did not disclose any military operations that were not already publicly

known."

The revelations could further damage Trump's already fraught relationship with U.S. intelligence agencies.

He's openly questioned the competency of intelligence officials and challenged their high-confidence assessment that Russia meddled in last year's presidential election to help him win.

His criticism has been followed by a steady stream of leaks to the media that have been damaging to Trump and exposed an FBI investigation into his associates' possible ties to Russia.

The disclosure also risks harming his credibility with U.S. partners around the world ahead of his first overseas trip.

The White House was already reeling from its botched handling of Trump's decision last week to fire James Comey, the FBI director who was overseeing the Russia investigation.

A European security official said sharing sensitive information could dampen the trust between the United States and its intelligence sharing partners.

"It wouldn't likely stop partners from

sharing life-saving intelligence with the Americans, but it could impact the trust that has been built, particularly if sharing such information exposes specific intelligence gathering methods," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak about such intelligence sharing.

The Royal Court in Jordan said that King Abdullah II was to speak by telephone with Trump later Tuesday.

The revelation also prompted cries of hypocrisy. Trump spent the campaign arguing that his opponent, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, should be locked up for careless handling of classified information. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson also disputed the report.

He said Trump discussed a range

of subjects with the Russians, including "common efforts and threats regarding counter-terrorism."

The nature of specific threats was discussed, he said, but not sources, methods or military operations.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Lennie Smith, 56, of Big Spring, died May 1, 2017. Memorial service was at 10:00 AM this morning at Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

Barney F. Lopez, 85, died Saturday. Graveside services were at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Janet Meyer Rouille, 71 died Saturday. Memorial service will be held at 12:00 noon, Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at Golden China Buffett.

Donna Jean Pace, 59, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gilbert Duron, 84, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Thomas Mindling, 77, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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and
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Friday, May 19th
6 pm
At Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
ALON USA

School sex complaints to federal agency rise - and languish



AP photo

Itza Ayala poses for a photo at a park in Houston on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017. When school administrators didn't investigate her 15-year-old daughter's alleged sexual assault by another student, she says, her family turned to the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights. The office has struggled to keep up with an increase in complaints against school districts.

By **EMILY SCHMALL and REESE DUNKLIN**

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Hector and Itza Ayala sat in a conference room at Houston's prestigious high school for the performing arts, clutching a document they hoped would force administrators to investigate their 15-year-old daughter's claim of a classroom sex assault.

It had been four months since the girl reported being attacked by another student. School district police had been notified, but administrators said they could do nothing else to protect her from the boy, who was still in school. Frustrated, Itza, a teacher in the district, scoured the internet for help.

A Google search led her to the website of the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights.

"As I read more and more," she said, "I thought, 'This is exactly what happened, this is exactly what they're not doing. Somebody can help me!'"

Three years earlier, the office had issued detailed guidance on what schools must do upon receiving reports of student sexual violence in K-12 schools. An elaboration on years of legal and regulatory precedents, the guidance specified that a police investigation did not absolve a school from conducting its own review of whether a student's right to an education free of sex discrimination had been violated.

That 2011 guidance triggered a conservative backlash but also a rise in the number of sexual violence complaints reaching OCR, as the office is commonly known. It did not, however, lead to widespread reforms.

Short-staffed, underfunded and under fire, the office became a victim of its own success as it struggled to investigate the increase in complaints and hold school districts accountable. An Associated Press analysis of OCR records found that only about one in 10 sexual violence complaints against elementary and secondary schools led to improvements. And nearly half of all such cases remain unresolved — the Ayalas' among them.

"The critique is that we've gone too fast. The reality is that we've gone too slow," said Catherine Lhamon, the former head of OCR. "I am painfully aware of the kids we didn't get to reach."

UNEXPECTED BLOWBACK

One month after Donald Trump was elected president, about 200 government employees, lobbyists and advo-

cates gathered at the Education Department to reflect on the civil rights legacy of the Obama administration. The mood was a mixture of pride, nostalgia and apprehension.

Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund, praised the department's Office for Civil Rights — responsible for enforcing a half-dozen civil rights education laws — as among the most effective in federal government. But she warned of "some real bad days ahead."

Many worry the Trump administration and, especially, its education secretary will not support the department's focus on combatting sex assault in schools.

"It is very likely that Title IX sexual assault requirements will be cut back very seriously and probably even eliminated," said John Banzhaf, a law professor at George Washington University.

Best known for ensuring gender equity in federally funded sports programs, Title IX became the government's tool for cracking down on sex assaults in schools. In 2009, OCR began tracking sexual violence as a distinct category of the sexual harassment it already was monitoring.

"We felt a sense of urgency because of the sheer tragedy of the complaints we were learning about," said former OCR head Russlynn Ali, noting a gang rape outside a high school homecoming dance in California in October 2009.

In consultation with the Justice Department, Ali and her staff attorneys spent 18 months talking to counselors at school districts and universities and researching the breadth of their authority to find ways to prevent and respond to school sex assaults.

The result was the 2011 guidance, which specified that elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities must conduct their own investigations of student sexual violence and take "immediate action" to prevent it or address its effects.

The guidance said school administrators should train staff in Title IX and use a preponderance of evidence as the burden of proof in investigations rather than the beyond-reasonable-doubt standard applied in criminal cases.

In 2014, the White House created a task force on student sex assault and launched a website with prevention strategies and legal advice. OCR issued a new round of guidance, reiterating that all public and private elementary and secondary schools, school districts, colleges and univer-



AP photo

This Wednesday, May 10, 2017 photo shows The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston. When school administrators didn't investigate Itza Ayala's 15-year-old daughter's alleged sexual assault by another student at the school, she says, her family turned to the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights.

sities receiving federal funds must comply with Title IX.

Schools under investigation were publicly identified, and reform agreements were posted online.

The backlash was fierce, especially in universities. Opponents charged that the education department was trampling the due process rights of the accused and subverting Congress by making new law. OCR said it was simply explaining how to apply existing law to school sexual violence cases.

"We hadn't exactly expected the flood of complaints, or the blowback," Ali said.

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' private foundation is helping fund a lawsuit aimed at dismantling the department's sex assault guidance. During her January confirmation hearing, the billionaire Republican was asked whether she would support continued enforcement.

"It would be premature for me to do that today," she responded.

Education Department spokesman Jim Bradshaw said OCR officials were not yet ready to comment on the agency's future direction.

INCREASING COMPLAINTS

Unlike the furor in Congress and on college campuses, the 2011 guidance received far less attention in the offices of elementary and secondary schools. Some schools, the AP found, weren't even aware of it.

But still, the department's public awareness campaign bore fruit, with the number of sexual violence complaints against those schools nearly doubling between 2012 and 2013, according to an AP analysis of OCR records. Between 2014 and late 2016, complaints increased roughly fourfold.

Anyone can file a complaint with OCR — victims, families or school personnel. The sharp increase in complaints taxed an already stretched operation and delayed justice for some of the very students the administration sought to help.

Nearly half of the 275 sexual violence complaints filed from October 2008 to mid-November 2016 — 132 — were unresolved, AP found. OCR doesn't specify in

its data if attackers are fellow students, but the Government Accountability Office in 2014 cited OCR officials as saying they received "many more" complaints of student rather than adult attackers — a trend AP also found in records OCR agreed to release under a public information request.

Of the 143 complaints that were resolved, AP found, most were closed or dismissed with no investigation. In OCR terms, a "resolved" investigation is one with any kind of outcome, including complaints tossed for missing filing deadlines or insufficient detail.

Only 31 of the sexual violence complaints filed with OCR resulted in an agreement by a school district to make improvements like overhauling response protocols or paying for victims' therapy. And no district faced the most extreme sanctions possible: a federal funding loss or Justice Department referral.

In the final few years of the Obama administration, OCR prodded fewer school districts to make improvements and took longer to do so, the AP found. Only two improvement agreements with school districts were logged in the fiscal year ending September 2016 — down from 10 in 2013.

Lhamon, who stepped down in January as OCR's top official, noted that because of the increased volume of complaints and lengthy investigations required of sexual violence inquiries, "the time lag between opening an investigation and closing it can take longer than we would like."

The office, which handles tens of thousands of civil rights complaints, also noted that congressional funding had not kept pace with its caseload. In a report late last year, OCR said it had 563 full-time employees compared to 630 in 2006. Its 2017 budget is \$107 million, only slightly up from \$91 million

See **RISE**, Page 5

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Supreme Court rejects appeal over NC voter ID law

By GARY D. ROBERTSON and MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rejected an appeal to reinstate North Carolina's law mandating voter identification and scaling back early voting, which a lower court said targeted African-Americans "with almost surgical precision."

The justices left in place last summer's ruling by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals striking down the law's photo ID requirement to vote in person. The 2013 measure approved by Republicans also reduced the number of early voting days and prohibited same-day registration during the early voting period.

While Democrats and their allies who sued over the law praised the denial as a victory for voting rights, the door appears open for the GOP-controlled legislature to take another crack at a voter ID requirement and other election changes that can pass legal muster.

Chief Justice John Roberts cautioned Monday in the two-page order that the rejection of the appeal is not a comment on the court's view about the substance of the law. Thirty-two states already have some kind of voter ID law in force, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Citing Roberts' words in the order, state House Speaker Tim Moore and Senate leader Phil Berger said that "all North Carolinians can rest assured that Republican legislators will continue fighting to protect the integrity of our elections by implementing the commonsense requirement to show a photo ID when we vote."

The order was complicated as Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper and Attorney General Josh Stein tried to withdraw the appeal, which was first filed when Republican Pat McCrory was governor. Roberts wrote the political situation created uncertainty over who is authorized to seek review of the lower court ruling.

Cooper, Stein's predecessor as attorney general, opposed the law personally while state attorneys he oversaw defended the law on behalf of the state until the 4th Circuit ruling. Cooper could use his veto stamp to block any new law, although Republicans have veto-proof majorities in both General Assembly chambers to override him.

Monday's announcement is good news for North Carolina voters. We need to be making it easier to vote, not harder," Cooper said in a release, adding that he "will continue to work to protect the right of every legal, registered North Carolinian to participate in our democratic process."

The Rev. William Barber, president of the North Carolina NAACP, a lead plaintiff in the lawsuit, said it's time for Republicans to stop proposing new restrictions.

"We urge the General Assembly to finally accept that racially discriminatory laws have no place in our democracy, and certainly not when



In this April 7, 2017 file photo, visitors arrive at the Supreme Court in Washington. The Supreme Court on Monday, May 15, 2017, rejected an appeal to reinstate North Carolina's voter identification law that a lower court said targeted African-Americans "with almost surgical precision."

AP photo

it comes to the sacred right to vote," Barber said in a release.

The North Carolina dispute is similar to the court fight over Texas' voter ID law, also struck down as racially discriminatory.

Republicans in both states moved to enact new voting measures after the Supreme Court in 2013 struck down a provision of the federal Voting Rights Act that had required them to get advance approval before changing laws dealing with elections.

Voters, civil rights groups and the Obama administration quickly filed lawsuits challenging the new laws. The Trump administration already has dropped its objec-

tions to the Texas law.

Shortly before Trump took office in January, the Justice Department urged the Supreme Court to reject the North Carolina appeal.

When the law passed in July 2013, North Carolina Republicans said voter ID is a sound requirement to increase the integrity of elections. But the 4th U.S. Circuit said last July the state provided no evidence of the kind of in-person voter fraud the ID mandate would address.

The Richmond, Virginia-based court said the law was enacted with intentional bias against black voters. The law had been amended in 2015 to include a method for people unable to get a photo ID to

still vote.

Following the appellate ruling, the state asked the high court to allow the challenged provisions to remain in effect in November's election. The justices rejected the request by virtue of a 4-4 tie on most of the challenged provisions, with the four more conservative justices supporting the state's bid.

The State Board of Elections reported last month that about 500 ineligible voters cast ballots out of the 4.8 million recorded in North Carolina during the November election. Most of the number involved felons unable to vote because they had not completed their punishments.

RISE

Continued from Page 4

in 2007, though OCR said its caseload increased 188 percent during that time period.

LOSING FAITH

Tired of waiting or losing faith in both schools and the government, students who file sexual assault complaints sometimes turn to the courts, as the Ayalas did last year.

The couple's daughter, whom the AP is not identifying because it does not name sexual abuse victims, had been ecstatic to enroll in Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, which counts Beyonce among its alums. In 2013, she joined the visual arts program.

A few weeks before her sophomore year, she was on campus helping with student orientation. So was Sharif Stallworth, an incoming junior she had exchanged texts with over the summer.

"The texts began pretty innocently but the last few texts included some mature remarks on the part of both students," school counselor Travis Springfield said in a statement obtained by AP. The final text from Sharif was sexually graphic.

"Wow. LOL," the girl responded. The next day she wrote, "I don't think this is going to work. I don't want a person in my life right now."

On the morning of the Aug. 15, 2014, orientation, Stallworth asked the girl to help him find an amplifier for a school performance.

Inside an empty music room, according to a police probable cause affidavit, he pushed her to the floor, pulled down her pants and, despite

her protests, raped her with his finger.

The assault lasted four to five minutes and was interrupted by a staffer and student entering the room, according to police and school records.

In the school counselor's office, the girl gave a statement and shared the text exchanges.

At Texas Children's Hospital, she was diagnosed with "sexual abuse of child or adolescent, initial encounter," according to medical records the family shared with AP.

In the weeks that followed, she began to have seizures and was diagnosed with epilepsy. She regularly missed school, and her grades suffered.

The school rejected the family's requests for special accommodations or escorts during class changes, saying it could do nothing pending the police investigation. So the girl memorized Stallworth's class schedule and charted alternate routes to avoid bumping into him. But in February 2015, she did.

The "brief but powerful encounter" triggered a seizure, the family's lawsuit said. And later that day, as her father drove her home, the girl jumped from the car, fracturing her skull and shoulder, the family said.

She finally was allowed to transfer to another school and graduated last summer. Her parents declined AP's request to interview her, saying it would be too stressful, but did allow contact by email.

"People who have gone through the same thing should remember that even though we get hurt we can always come back," the girl wrote. But rather than a career in the arts, her goal now is to live "a simple life."

Stallworth, now 19, was indicted on

a felony sexual assault charge and is awaiting trial. He graduated in 2015 and enrolled in college. His lawyer did not respond to repeated requests for an interview.

School officials also did not respond to requests for comment, and it is not clear if the school took any action or changed any policies.

An assistant principal said in an initial incident report that school district police told her not to notify Texas Child Protective Services and that the school would "follow up" after police finished investigating.

OCR would not comment on its investigation of the school's handling of the incident, which began in March 2015, except to say it was ongoing.

The family wants damages and accountability.

Hector Ayala, an Army Iraq War veteran and offshore oil rig tech-

nician, says he has had to turn down jobs that would have taken him far from home. Itza quit her teaching job. They've spent untold hours in therapy.

"It's frustrating to see that the adults who were supposed to protect her and help us out didn't do anything," Itza said.



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Gurriel's grand slam in 6th helps Astros beat Marlins 7-2

By STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Short on sleep, the Houston Astros were listless and hitless until the fifth inning. Then their lumber stirred from its slumber.

Yuli Gurriel hit a grand slam and Jose Altuve homered and drove in three runs as Houston overcame a slow start to beat the Miami Marlins 7-2 Monday night.

The Astros arrived at their hotel at 5 a.m. after a doubleheader in New York against the Yankees, and Dan Straily shut them out for five innings.

"Sometimes it takes a little while to get untracked," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "Credit to the pitcher when he does that against an offense like this."

Straily left the game after a comebacker bruised his right arm, and the Astros' bats soon came to life. Josh Reddick doubled in

the sixth off Junichi Tazawa (1-1), and after a walk and a hit batter loaded the bases, Gurriel pulled a 94 mph fastball over the fence with two outs for a 4-1 lead.

The Astros' second grand slam of the year was also their second in two games. Alex Bregman hit one in Sunday night's win at Yankee Stadium.

It's the first time Houston has ever had slams in consecutive games.

Altuve shook off a fastball to the hand in the first inning and homered into the Marlins Park home run sculpture in the ninth.

"It was a long day Sunday," Altuve said. "But we got some rest and did what we've been doing — playing really good ball."

Joe Musgrove (3-3) allowed one run in 5 2/3 innings for the Astros (27-12), who climbed 15 games above .500 for the first time since 2005. They have the best

See **ASTROS**, Page 12



Houston Astros' Yuli Gurriel (10) is congratulated by Josh Reddick (22) and Carlos Correa (1) after Gurriel hit a grand slam scoring Reddick, Correa and Evan Gattis during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Monday, May 15, 2017, in Miami.

AP photo

Streak of comebacks for Rangers in winning MLB-best 6 in row



Texas Rangers' Carlos Gomez (14) and Rougned Odor (12) celebrate with Elvis Andrus, center, who scored on a two-run double by Nomar Mazara during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics on Saturday, May 13, 2017, in Arlington, Texas.

AP photo

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Elvis Andrus and the Texas Rangers are starting to make quite a comeback.

Their six-game winning streak is the longest in the major leagues, and they took the lead in the seventh inning or later in each of the last five games, a run that included game-ending homers on consecutive nights against different teams that capped, four-run ninth innings.

"This past week has been amazing," said Andrus, at nine seasons the team's longest-tenured player. "We know that we didn't start the season the way we wanted, but there's plenty of season ahead, and I think we're try-

ing to find that consistency as a team."

Those five late rallies, all since getting home a week ago after an 11-0 win at San Diego, have gotten Texas within a game of reaching .500 for the first time this season after winning the AL West title each of the past two years.

"We know we're good, but sometimes teams get in ruts," first baseman Mike Napoli said. "I knew once we got a little momentum, things started going right, things would iron out. We're just starting to play really good baseball, and just build off of it on a daily basis."

Texas (19-20) had a day off Monday after playing 17 days in a row and 33 of 34 since an off day at the end

See **TEXAS**, Page 12

Celtics power past Wizards in Game 7, 115-105



Boston Celtics forward Jae Crowder (99) celebrates his basket against the Washington Wizards during the fourth quarter of Game 7 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Monday, May 15, 2017, in Boston.

AP photo

By KYLE

HIGHTOWER

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Isaiah Thomas said he didn't feel any pressure entering the first Game 7 of his career.

His play backed up his confidence and with the help of Kelly Olynyk and the Boston Celtics bench, Thomas earned the biggest win of his career.

Thomas scored 29 points and had 12 assists, Olynyk scored a career-playoff high 26 points and the Celtics used a big fourth quarter to outlast the Washington Wizards 115-105

in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinals Monday night.

"I knew it would be a big time game tonight. I knew it wouldn't be easy at all," Thomas said. "And we came out on top."

Led by Olynyk the Celtics got a huge lift from their bench, outscoring their Wizards' counterparts 48-5. Boston also connected on 11 3-pointers, including 8 of 13 in the second half.

"We needed it," Olynyk said. "That's a tough team that we played seven tough games against and they can score. We needed to help out the starters,

help out Isaiah."

Boston advances to the Eastern Conference finals, where it will host the Cleveland Cavaliers in Game 1 on Wednesday. It's the Celtics' first appearance in the conference finals since 2012.

"What a special opportunity to get a chance to compete against them," Boston coach Brad Stevens said.

For Thomas it serves as the ultimate validation for a team that many felt was unworthy of the conference's top seed. It also marked the latest big performance

See **CELTICS**, Page 12



Fernando Alonso, of Spain, walks in front of his car during a practice session for the Indianapolis 500 IndyCar auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Monday, May 15, 2017, in Indianapolis.

AP photo

Andretti posts fastest speed in Indianapolis 500 practice

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Marco Andretti posted the fastest lap in Monday's first Indianapolis 500 practice. He completed the 2.5-mile oval in 226.338 mph.

Scott Dixon was second at 225.296 mph. Andretti and Dixon both use Honda engines.

Two-time Indy pole winner Ed Carpenter had the top Chevrolet car, finishing third at 224.969 mph on a warm, sunny day. Honda drivers Sebastien Bourda-

is and Ryan Hunter-Reay rounded out the top five.

Andretti attempting Michael Andretti is attempting to put six cars on the 33-car starting grid, one of them being his son.

Another of Andretti's drivers, rookie Jack Harvey, was not seriously injured in the first crash of the month.

Qualifying is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. The 101st running of the 500 is set for May 28.

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Public Notice

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CAUSE NO. 6668

HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS JAY ROBINSON, ET AL

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JAY ROBINSON
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EXHIBIT 2
JAY ROBINSON
THE W/50' OF THE N/75' OF LT 1 BK F, AMENDED MOORE'S HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 807 SARGENT PAREDEZ R7404

EXHIBIT 3
LATISHA MCGREGOR
LT 2 BK 31, GOVERNMENT HEIGHTS TO BAUER ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 909 N GREG R581

EXHIBIT 5
MARK STRATTON
WILLIE J. GOODMAN
LT 6 BK 78, ORIGINAL TOWN ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 910 GOLIAD R8479

EXHIBIT 6
FELIPE R. MUNOZ AND MARIA G. MUNOZ
W/70' OF THE S/100' OF THE SE/4 (SAVE AND EXCEPT THE E/8' THEREOF) OF BK 37, COLLEGE HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 107 E 22ND R2970

EXHIBIT 7
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DEBRA DEE CASEY
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AS REGISTERED AGENT FOR JPM EOC MINERALS, LLC
LT 4 BK 7, CEDAR CREST ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 821 W. 8TH R1935

EXHIBIT 8
RONALD JANNAMON
ALL OF LT 9 (SAVE AND EXCEPT THE S/75') BK 5, CEDAR CREST ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 701 SAN ANTONIO R1913

EXHIBIT 9
MARIE GILLIHAM
THE N/2 OF LTS 7 AND 8 BK 23, BOYDSTUN ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 407 SETTLES R1075

EXHIBIT 10
BOBBY GENE WHITE AND AND SHARON ANN WHITE
LT 2 BK 7, CEDAR CREST ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 813 W. 8TH R1933

EXHIBIT 11
FREDRICK S. SCOTT AND DELORES M. SCOTT
S/40' OF THE E/130' LT 3 BK 18, CEDAR CREST ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 906 BELL R1998

EXHIBIT 12
DAVID STEPHENS AND KATHRYN STEPHENS
LT 4 BK 1, RICE ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS R9114

Public Notice

EXHIBIT 13
DAVID STEPHENS AND KATHRYN STEPHENS
LT 3 BK 1, RICE ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS R9113

EXHIBIT 14
DAVID STEPHENS AND KATHRYN STEPHENS
LT 2 BK 1, RICE ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS R9112

EXHIBIT 15
DAVID STEPHENS AND KATHRYN STEPHENS
LT 5 BK 1, RICE ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS R9115

EXHIBIT 16
DWAYNE KEY AKA EDWARD D KEY ANDANESTACIA KEY
THE N/2 OF LT 7 BK 111, ORIGINAL TOWN ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS 310 N SCURRY R8766

EXHIBIT 17
DWAYNE KEY AKA EDWARD D KEY ANDANESTACIA KEY
S/60' OF LT 7 BK 111, ORIGINAL TOWN, CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 306 N SCURRY R 8767

EXHIBIT 18
D. W. HOLSENBECK
LT 4 SUBDIVISION B BK 16, FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS R4668

EXHIBIT 19
ARMEY RHYMES AKA ARMY RHYMES
LT 6 BK B, MOORE'S HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 911 NW 5TH R7372

EXHIBIT 20
IVA GLASS
JIM BROWN
N 1/3 OF LT 9 AND ALL OF LT 10 BK 2, EARLE'S ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 605 AYLESFORD R4159

EXHIBIT 21
JIM BROWN
LT 6 BK 1, BOWSER ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 1202 W 2ND R859

EXHIBIT 22
STELLA M MARSHALL
LT 9 BK 14, JONES VALLEY ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 904 W 8TH R5636

EXHIBIT 23
STELLA M MARSHALL
LT 10 BK 14, JONES VALLEY ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 906 W 8TH R5637

EXHIBIT 26
JAY ROBINSON
OUT OF AND PART OF BK 30, GOVERNMENT HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS (further described by metes and bounds)

Out of and part of Block No. 30 of GOVERNMENT HEIGHTS TO BAUER ADDITION to the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas according to the map or plat of record in Envelope 7/B, Plat Records of Howard County, Texas; said tract herein conveyed being more particularly described as follows:
Beginning at a point in the West boundary line of Block No. 30, 100' Northward from

the SW corner of said block for beginning corner; THENCE Eastward, parallel with the North and South boundary lines of said block, for a distance of 140', more or less, to the alley; THENCE Northward, along said alley, for a distance of 50' for corner; THENCE Westward, parallel with the North and South boundary lines of said Block No. 30, for a distance of 140' to a point located in the West boundary line of said Block No. 30 for corner; THENCE Southward, along the West boundary line of said Block No. 30, a distance of 50' to the PLACE OF BEGINNING.
904 N GREGG R571

EXHIBIT 27
LLOYD PAT IRVIN
SUZANNE M. IRVIN
APRIL IRVIN
LT 18 BK 1, AVION ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 1600 AVION R99

EXHIBIT 28
W. T. COATES AKA WILLIAM T. COATES, DECEASED
BERNIECE COATES AKA BERNIECE COATES AKA BERNIECE COATES AKA BERNIECE COATES AKA EDITH BERNIECE COATES, DECEASED
LT 7 BK 1, BOWSER ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 1204 W 2ND R860

EXHIBIT 29
VIRGINIA DIAZ
DORA JUAREZ
LT 7 BK G, MOORE HEIGHTS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 910 NW 2ND R7418

EXHIBIT 30
W. J. SHANK
S. J. SHANK
LTS 2 AND 3 BK 17, JONES VALLEY ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 1107 W 5TH R5658

EXHIBIT 31
SAMMIE HUNT
NAPOLEON SMITH, JR. DECEASED
ROBERT SMITH
NAPOLEON SMITH III
ADDIE OLIVER, DECEASED
LT 8 BK 7, BANKS ADDN., CITY OF BIG SPRING, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 803 CHERRY R269 AND R270

Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Witness my hand this 15th day of May, 2017.

STAN PARKER
SHERIFF OF
HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

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1	7	2	6	8	4	3	5	9
3	8	5	9	2	7	4	6	1
4	6	9	5	3	1	7	8	2
7	2	1	8	4	9	6	3	5
6	9	3	1	7	5	2	4	8
8	5	4	3	6	2	9	1	7
2	1	8	4	9	6	5	7	3
5	4	7	2	1	3	8	9	6
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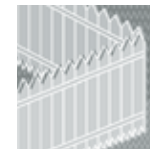
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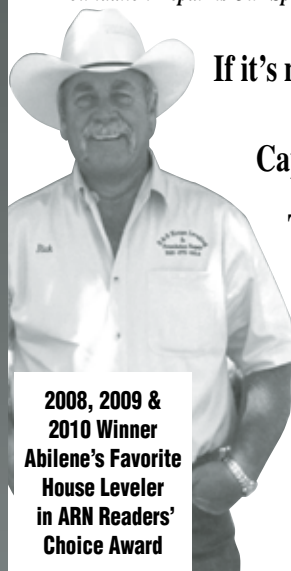
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Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Mercury Makes a Move

Mercury makes a move from the headstrong, youthful impudence of Aries to the tenacious Taurus-an realm of the sky. Taurus is the financial sector and many dollars will trade hands in the weeks to come. Today the messenger wastes no time digging in those winged heels and ringing the bell, Wall Street style, commencing a flurry of transactions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It does absolutely no good to be irritated by every little thing that happens. Being sensitive is a blessing and a curse and is helpful only in so far as the sensitivity can be adjusted appropriately to the situation at hand.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you go to new places, you aim to go as a traveler and not a tourist. You want to experience a place for what it is, not what it pretends to be for the money. Your plans will reflect this aim.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't expect to come to a certain conclusion today, and this is why you'll learn a lot more than those who are seeking definitive answers. You'll be made knowledgeable by your willingness to dance in the shadows of probability.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you can't seem to improve

your external conditions to the level that matches your goal, try changing how you experience these conditions instead. Some things have to be accepted before they can be changed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Go on the quest: You can't lose now. In the search for the greater truth and more profound beauty, you will find yourself. In the search for yourself, you will find greater truth and more profound beauty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No one is the same as anyone else. We are all different. The evolved way is to stop comparing, shaming and blaming and start working together for mutually satisfying results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Everything is emotional. Business is emotional. People buy and sell things for emotional reasons. Emotional intelligence isn't just a skill for your personal life; it touches everything you do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Think about turning some of your recent experiences into a story. Stories are a key way we make sense of the world, so it only makes sense that we should get good at telling them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To get clean, you must withstand some scrubbing. It's the friction that makes for good results. You'll tolerate another person's vigor, as it will lead to your transformation to becoming polished and shiny.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People should not be made to feel less than just because they do not have the same gifts as others. Even twins with the same DNA have different gifts. Find out what's

there; put it to use; honor and celebrate it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Return to the project you had to leave incomplete. You'll have a better perspective now. You don't need the extra stuff you thought you needed in order to finish. You'll be able to shape what's there into something new.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You know that you're not going to magically end up with your big reward in hand. However, with the right plan and the strength to work it, much will be achieved and rewards will come. Today is about investigating the plans.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 16). Truly, your tenacity is unparalleled; you'll hit more than one unforgettable milestone this year. Through July you'll need to make a conscious effort toward moderation, as personal connections will have great intensity and situations will bring out heightened emotions. Big, glamorous events go down in August and November. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 44, 6, 27 and 31.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I used to be a designer who worked alone most of the time, and now I am suddenly in a swirl of five different projects with several team members reporting to me. People are constantly bombarding me with questions. The deadlines are punishing, and the pressure is overwhelming to me. But how can I

quit? This was supposed to be a promotion! What is a Capricorn to do?"

It would seem that two needs are clashing in your psyche now. One is the need to feel like you are progressing along a career path and growing in power and viability in the process. Capricorns are always striving for the next mountain peak, and your sign loves the idea of being a power player. The other need is for tranquility and solitude. When it was just you and your work, you actually had far more control over your environment and therefore felt a greater sense of power. A prestigious title and the fact that people are reporting to you does not make you more powerful unless you feel more powerful. Strongly consider asking for your old position back. It's not a step down if it makes your life better.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Transformers" star Megan Fox is a sensual Taurus with Mercury, the communication planet, in Taurus, too. Taurus people are deliberate and confident, qualities that shine through for Fox whether she's saving the world from mechanical monsters or modeling for one of the many "hot" lists she's topped in recent years. A Leo moon spices up her natal chart with special charisma.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

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♥ K 8 2
♦ 10 8 4
♣ K 7 5 2
WEST
♠ 2
♥ Q J 9 4
♦ J 7 5 3 2
♣ Q 10 4
EAST
♠ K 6 5 4
♥ A 10 6 3
♦ 9 6
♣ J 9 3
SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 9 7
♥ 7 5
♦ A K Q
♣ A 8 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass
4♣
Opening lead — queen of hearts.
When a player holds cards equivalent to each other in rank, such as K-Q-J or J-10-9, they are said to be "equals." On most occasions, it does not matter which card is played from equals, but sometimes, as in today's deal, one equal might prove to be more equal than another.
West's Q-J of hearts won the first two tricks, declarer hoping to find the singleton or doubleton ace in the East hand. After that possibility failed to materialize, South ruffed West's heart continuation with the seven. A club

had to be lost eventually, so the success of the contract depended solely on the favorable location of the king of trumps.
Accordingly, South crossed to dummy's king of clubs and led the jack of spades, which held after East played low. Declarer then led a second spade from dummy toward his A-Q-10 and repeated the finesse. But when West showed out, South had no way to get to dummy for a third finesse, and he finished down one.
Although South was unlucky to find East with four trumps once he turned up with the king, he was in fact a victim of his own carelessness. Had he handled his trump equals correctly, he would have scored 10 tricks easily.
Declarer's undoing occurred at trick three, when he ruffed the third heart with the seven. If he had ruffed with the nine instead, he could then have led dummy's eight for the first trump finesse and followed from his hand with the seven. The jack would be finessed next as declarer followed with the ten. This sequence of plays would have allowed South to remain in dummy for the third finesse that would trap East's king and so seal the contract.
Cards might be equal to each other, but that doesn't mean they're exactly the same.
Tomorrow: Lethal defense.
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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

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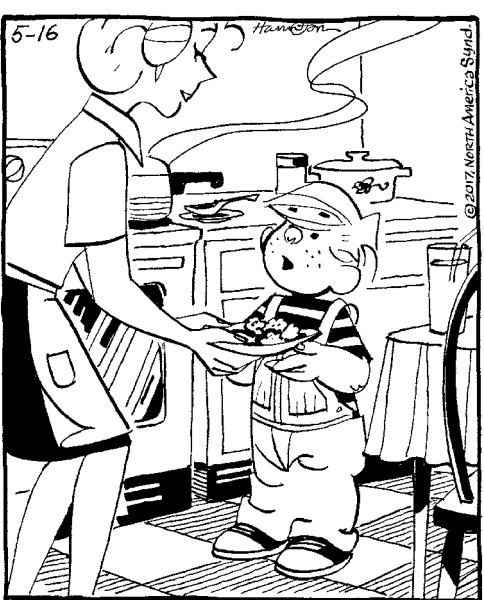
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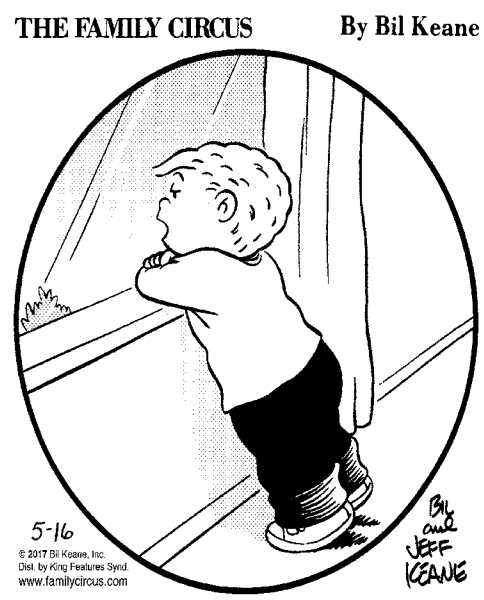
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Shofar	Focus	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	ers, Josh Duhamel (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around	Swing	Mod Fam	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de la Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Perspect	Our Mess	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld		NBA Countdown	2016 Poker	Texans	Mod Fam	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
7:PM	Middle House	La Reina de la	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	NCIS (DVS)	El Capo (SS)	The Voice	News	Victorian Slum	Griffith	The Flash	Big Bang	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Draft Lot	30 for 30	MLB Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies at Texas Rangers	WWE SmackDown!	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
8:PM	Fresh Mary	Vida E Carrillo	Prison Break	Bull	Guerra de idolos	Great	Light of Southwest	American Epic	MacGyver	iZombie	Big Bang		NBA Basketball	30 for 30	MLB Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies at Texas Rangers	Team Ninja Warrior	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
9:PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	La Piloto	News	NCIS: New Orleans	La Querida	Chicago Fire	Light of Southwest	Frontline	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Movie: Rudy, Charles S. Dutton		NFL Live	Postgame	Chrisley	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	Aleph	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt	30 for 30	Spotlight	Chrisley	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto	Two Men Cleveland	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	Newsline	Perry Mason	King	Conan				Island House	Chrisley	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch
12:AM	Nightline	Deportivo	How I Met James Corden	La Querida	Seth Meyers	Vida	On the	T. Smiley	Tw. Zone	Rules	Conan				MLB Baseball: Team Ninja Warrior	Born This Way	Deadliest Catch	
1:AM	Extra	La Mujer del	How I Met James Corden	La Querida	On the	Inspired	Programa	News	Alfred Hitchcock Hr.	Raising Cheaters	Seinfeld		Jalen	MLB Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies at Texas Rangers	Law Order: CI	Hoarders	Deadliest Catch	
2:AM	Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Cheaters	Broke Girl		Mike and Mike					
3:AM	Paid Prg.																	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"THE ONLY WAY I CAN EAT BROCCOLI IS IF YOU GIVE ME SOME MAPLE SYRUP TO GO WITH IT!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I think this is one of those days I just wanna SEE outside and not BE outside."

HAGAR



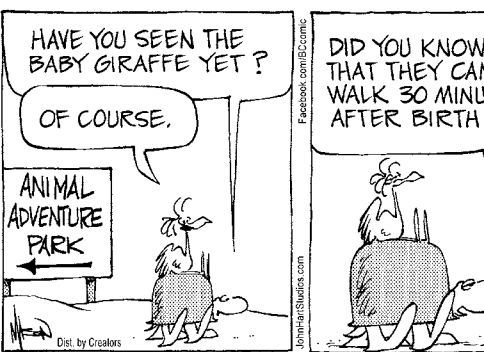
"I ENVY YOU GOING TO FRANCE! SIGH!"

BLONDIE



"WHAT'S WITH PEOPLE COMBINING WORDS THESE DAYS LIKE 'BREXIT'?"

BC



"HAVE YOU SEEN THE BABY GIRAFFE YET?"

WIZARD OF ID



"RODNEY, PUT A WORM ON MY HOOK!"

AGNES



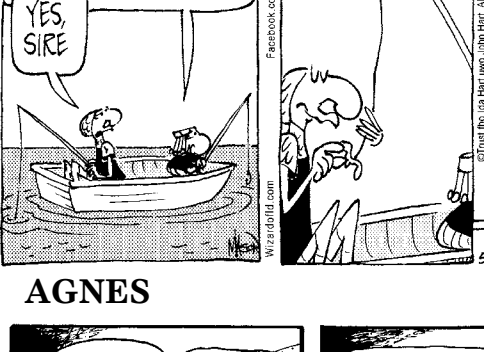
"I HAVE TO START A GARDEN THIS YEAR."

HI AND LOIS



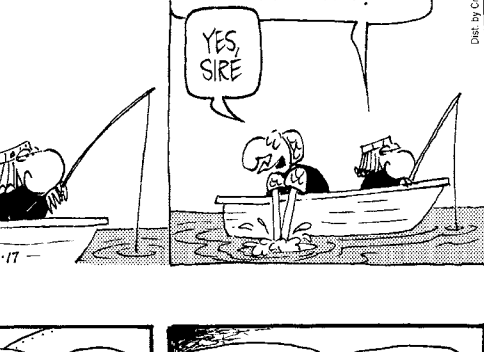
"DID THE BOSS READ YOUR REPORT?"

THE OTHER COAST



"OOH, ONE OF MY PUPPY TEETH HAS FALLEN OUT."

SNUFFY SMITH



"CLEANS OUT YOUR WATER BOWL, SCARFS DOWN YOUR SNACKS AND LEAVES WITH ALL YOUR DOG TOYS."

BEEBLE BAILEY



"WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, SARGE?"

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
 1 Papas' partners
 6 Workplace safety agcy.
 10 Splinter group
 14 Be very fond of
 15 Owl's cry
 16 Prefix for chute
 17 Charged toward
 18 Ink stain
 19 "On the double!"
 20 Clever person
 23 First woman
 24 Friend in war
 25 Staggered
 27 Throat-soothing beverage
 30 Turtle's covering
 32 Sci-fi vehicle: Abbr.
 33 Nonsensical
 35 Eastern European
 39 Being forced to apologize
 43 Snooty person
 44 Spry
 45 Guard dog's warning
 46 Sailboats' poles
 49 A bit nervous
 51 Total failure
 54 Z__ "zebra"
 55 Hatchling's former home
 56 Be the most outrageous
 62 "That's a shame"
 64 Ready to harvest
 65 Peace Prize benefactor
 66 Farmer's earth
 67 Lambs' moms

SWEET TALK by Billie Truitt

- DOWN**
 1 "The Red Planet"
 2 First man
 3 __ Lisa
 4 Where Noah landed
 5 Get comfortable
 6 "Goody, goody!"
 7 Fishing for one
 8 Song line attachment
 9 Clothing
 10 Relaxing resort
 11 Flip-chart holder
 12 Long for

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

5/16/17

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5/16/17

Rory McIlroy says tests show no new injury to his back



Rory McIlroy reacts to his putt on the second green, during the final round of The Players Championship golf tournament Sunday, May 14, 2017.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Rory McIlroy says tests indicate no new injury to his back, only what he described as a "low-grade response" to his rib injury in January.

McIlroy had an MRI upon returning to Northern Ireland because of mild pain he felt during The Players Championship. He said in a statement Monday that he is entered in the BMW PGA Championship next week at Wentworth and will decide early next week if he can play.

The four-time major champion had a hairline rib fracture in January and missed seven weeks.

McIlroy played four times in six weeks through the Masters before taking a three-week break to get married. He says he might have aggravated the injury by practicing three days in a row to get ready for The Players.



Houston Astros second baseman Jose Altuve, left, tags out Miami Marlins' JT Riddle (39) during the third inning of a baseball game, Monday, May 15, 2017, in Miami.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 6

record in the majors and are off to the best start in franchise history. Houston began the game leading the American League in hits and batting average but managed only one hit in five innings against Straily.

The right-hander left the game as a precaution after he was hit near his pitching elbow by a line drive off Evan Gattis' bat to start the fifth. A bruise just below the elbow was visible almost immediately, but after consulting with a trainer and manager Don Mattingly, Straily finished the inning.

Straily said he expects to make his next start despite the bruise.

"The ball caught me right on a muscle on my forearm," he said. "I'm very fortunate that it wasn't at my face or hitting any bones in my arm. I got pretty lucky in that regard. Hopefully it's just a sore muscle in my arm."

Altuve was hit on the left hand by a 92 mph fastball from Straily but stayed in the game and contributed a two-run single in the seventh, then hit his sixth homer in the ninth.

"In the moment I felt it a little, but then it went away," Altuve said. "I was able to swing the bat,

so I feel good, especially because we won."

The Astros' George Springer went 0 for 5, ending his 13-game hitting streak.

Justin Bour homered and had three hits for the Marlins. They outthit the Astros 12-8 but went 1 for 10 with runners in scoring position and fell to 1-6 on their homestand.

BULLPEN WOES

Three Miami relievers combined to allow seven runs in four innings. Tazawa's ERA rose to 6.60, and he has allowed four homers in 16 innings.

"I don't want to make excuses," he said. "I'll continue to work hard and hope I can help this team."

BAD BASERUNNING

The Marlins had two runners thrown out on the bases in the third. J.T. Riddle was out trying to stretch a single when left fielder Norichika Aoki made a strong throw to second. Dee Gordon singled with two outs and was picked off.

Straily has allowed only 24 hits in 43 innings this year, but is winless since April 11 and 1-3 overall.

Houston LHP Dallas Keuchel (6-0, 1.69 ERA) tries to become the first seven-game winner in the majors when he starts Tuesday night against RHP Tom Koehler (1-1, 5.60).



Boston Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas (4) celebrates his basket with Jae Crowder, left, during the fourth quarter of Game 7 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Washington Wizards, Monday, May 15, 2017, in Boston.

CELTICS

Continued from Page 6

by Thomas, in a playoff run that began in the haze of his younger sister's death in a car accident. The 28-year-old All-Star has called the basketball court his sanctuary, and he continues to credit his teammates for giving him the strength to perform at a high level.

"That says a lot about the team we are and we believe in each other," Thomas said. "The game wasn't always what we wanted it to be and it wasn't a perfect game. But we kept going and stayed the course."

Bradley Beal led the Wizards — which was playing it

its first Game 7 since 1979 — with 38 points, including 24 in the second half.

"I don't care how well I played," Beal said afterward. "I don't care if I played bad. The end result...The only thing that matters is getting a win."

Otto Porter added 20 points. John Wall and Markieff Morris each finished with 18. But Washington also had 15 turnovers, leading to 17 Celtics' points.

Boston trailed 76-72 late in the third quarter before ending the period on a 13-3 spurt. The run grew to 22-5 in the opening minutes of the fourth as the Celtics' lead became 94-81.

But Washington quickly responded, scoring seven

straight in just 51 seconds to get back within six.

Washington stayed close as Beal continued to score, including a four-point play. But Olynyk then took over. He scored 11 of 13 points for Boston as the Celtics stretched their advantage to 110-100.

"He just made shots," Marcin Gortat said of Olynyk. "He was the difference today — a huge difference."

Brooks played Beal and Wall 46 and 45 minutes, respectively, but said it was necessary to try to stay in the game.

"I knew it would come down to the last six minutes of the game," Washington coach Scott Brooks said. "They had that little run at the start of

the fourth quarter."

The Celtics had the largest lead of the first half at 10-2, but that gap was quickly erased by Washington as Boston started to accumulate fouls.

Marcus Smart, Amir Johnson and Olynyk all were whistled for three fouls in the opening 24 minutes, though Smart did inject some life into a second unit that outscored their Wizards' counterparts 19-5.

Wall and Beal each were beneficiaries scoring eight and nine points, respectively in the second quarter to help the Wizards take a two-point lead into halftime.

"It's tough. We came out here Game 7 and gave everything we had. Just came up

short," Wall said. "Our goal was to get to Eastern Conference finals and we came up one game short. So it's a not a satisfied season to me."

Wizards: Dropped to 6-4 all-time in Game 7s. ... Still have not reached a conference final since 1979. ... Outrebounced the Celtics 43-31.

Celtics: Improved to 22-8 all-time in Game 7s and 19-4 all-time at home. ... Outscored the Wizards 58-40 in the paint. ... Lost season series to Cleveland 3-1.

The Wizards came up short of becoming the first team in this matchup to win on the opponent's home floor in 2016-17. All 11 meetings this season (four in regular-season and seven postseason) were claimed by the home team.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 6

of the opening week. The Rangers open a three-game interleague series at home Tuesday night against Philadelphia.

"You need streaks to get back to where you need to be," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "For me, it's winning series. That's probably a more important portion of it, because that keeps you on the positive side in everything."

Exactly a year ago Monday, the Rangers were 22-16 after a win over Toronto in the game that Rowned Odor punched Jose Bautista following a hard slide that ignited a benches-clearing brawl. The Rangers went on to an AL-high 95 wins last season before getting swept by the Toronto in the AL Division Series.

Texas is coming off a three-game sweep of Oakland after overcoming 4-2, seventh-inning deficits in each of the last two games. Andrus had a tying RBI double and scored the go-ahead run on a single by Nomar Mazara in a 6-4 win Sunday, a day after Andrus' tying two-run single and Mazara's two-run double in a 6-5 win.

That followed consecutive 5-2 wins ended by

three-run homers. Joey Gallo went deep to end the series opener against the A's after Napoli had a big blast Thursday night to beat the Padres. Napoli had also homered the inning before his game-ender.

This is the first time since the franchise moved to Texas in 1972 that the Rangers have won five straight games decided in the seventh inning or later, according to STATS. The previous major league team to accomplished the feat was the 2013

San Francisco Giants.

Even with the six-game winning streak, Texas hasn't been able to make up a lot of ground on Houston, a big league-best 26-12 going into Monday's game at Miami. The Rangers were 7 1/2 games back, only one game closer than when they started their streak. But with 123 games left in the regular season, including 15 against the Astros, the Rangers aren't getting too caught up in the standings.

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