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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019



VOLUME 114, NUMBER 218 COPYRIGHT 2019 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



Upcoming Events

Today

Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo
Big Spring Rodeo Bowl
Gates open at 7 p.m. each evening. Events start at 8 p.m.

Friday: Jason Boland Concert and Dance, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday: Wade Bowen Concert and Dance, 9:30 p.m.

At the door, ticket prices are \$12 Adults, \$8 Children

Saturday

10 a.m.
Rodeo Parade
Starting at 10th and Main
Registration forms at KBEST Media

June 28 & 29

Funtastic Fourth Downtown

July 3

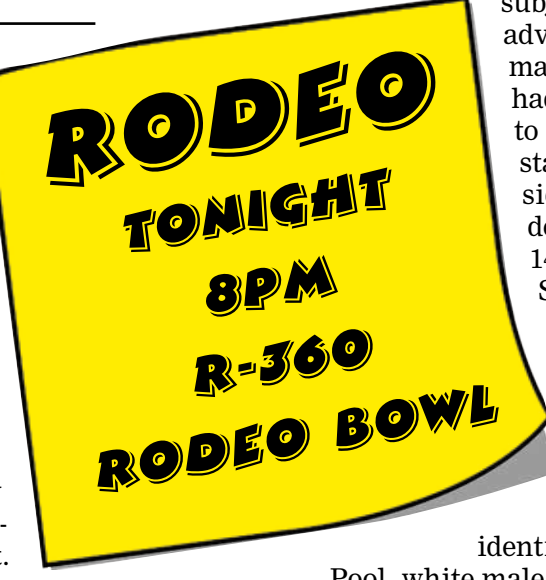
Pops in the Park

BSPD murder investigation; tip line open

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Police Department issued the following press release Wednesday afternoon, regarding a murder investigation that began Tuesday afternoon.

On the 18th of June 2019 at approximately 8:30 p.m., Big Spring Police Department officers were in the area of 15th and Settles on an unrelated call, when they heard screaming and crying coming from a subject. Officers contacted the



subject who advised that a male subject had appeared to have been stabbed inside a residence in the 1400 blk of Settles. Officers responded to the residence and located the victim, identified as Eric Pool, white male, 21 years of

age, inside with gunshot wounds and was deceased. The Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigations Division responded to the scene.

The Detectives are currently following multiple leads regarding this incident.

This is an ongoing investigation and no further information is available at this time.

If you have any information regarding this investigation you are urged to contact CrimeStoppers at 432-263-TIPS (8477).

You can also leave an anonymous tip using the "P3 Tips" mobile application or from web address www.P3tips.com/1277. Remember no caller ID is ever used and all tips are anonymous.

Honoring cowboy tradition at annual Legends and Legacies dinner



HERALD PHOTOS/Anna Gutierrez

Legends and Legacies took place Tuesday evening at the Howard County Fair Barn. This year there were seven honorees. Attendees had an opportunity to experience a piece of history remembered, while enjoying a sit down dinner and opportunity at winning door prizes. The annual event is a way to remember the cowboy heritage in Howard County.

By ANNA GUTIERREZ

Staff Writer

The Heritage Museum of Big Spring hosted their annual Legends and Legacies dinner on Tuesday, June 18, holding to tradition and kicking off rodeo week in Big Spring. A fish-fry dinner with all the trimmings was served to all who attended.

This year, there were seven inductees to the Cowboy/Cowgirl Hall of Fame. In addition to the normal number of inductees, a spot for Cowboy Legend was added.

"Through this recognition, the Heritage Museum seeks to memorialize those men and women who have, through their exemplary lives, careers and achievements, embodied and perpetuated the heritage of the Cowboy or Cowgirl. Each inductee will be honored for their contributions that make up the past, present, and future of Howard County," Tammy Schrecengost, Heritage Museum Director, said.

- This years' inductees included:
- Cowboy Legend Joseph Weir Barnett
 - Theresa (Terri) Ann Lewis
 - Martin Fryar
 - Kenny Thompson
 - R.G. (Glenn) and Cheryl Click
 - Jack Wolf Buchanan
- This event is the annual fundraiser for

the museum. Several baskets that included lotto and scratch-off tickets were available for bidding, and shadow boxes were amongst the items auctioned, during the event, to raise money. One of the highest bid items was a featured shadow box, which sold for \$2,000.

"We had another successful event. We seem to see more and more people every year," Schrecengost said. "We are thankful for everybody who comes out to support the event."

Congratulations to the inductees, and thank you to everyone who came out to support the Heritage Museum of Big Spring.

The 86th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo kicks off tonight, with gates opening at 7 p.m. and the rodeo starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the gate for \$12 per adult and \$8 per child. After the rodeo on Friday night, Jason Boland will be the headline performer and Saturday night, Wade Bowen will take the stage. Tickets are available for the dance as well.

Saturday will wrap up rodeo week with the Quail Dobbs Memorial Rodeo parade, which will begin at 10th and Main at 10 a.m.

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

Traveling Comic Book Store coming to town

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

A little flash back in time will be rolling into Big Spring this weekend, with the arrival of the Traveling Comic Book Store. The show is scheduled for June 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in the East Room.

"This show offers a relaxed atmosphere for those wanting to peruse tens of thousands of comic books, toys, statues, manga and books," Kenneth Simpson, owner of Kenny's Comics and promoter of the Traveling Comic Book store, said.

Admission to the show is \$5 for adults and children 12 and under are free. During the event, attendees will have an opportunity to register for a chance to win a \$100 shopping spree.

"The main idea behind the Traveling Comic Book Store is to bring a comic book store to places that don't have one," he said.

He continued, "I've been visiting a lot of places over the past year and a half now, but this is our first time in Big Spring."

While this is the first time Big Spring has been marked as a stop, the Traveling Comic Book Store has made returns trips to Midland. The physical store - Kenny's Comics - is located in Odessa.

In addition to a wide selection of comic books and other collectibles, there will be an opportunity to sell a collection.

To find out more about the Traveling Comic Book Store stop by the event on Saturday, or visit the Facebook event Big Spring-Traveling Comic Book Store.

Howard College is located at 1001 Birdwell Lane. The East Room can be accessed by entering the east doors of the Coliseum.

Amanda Duforat is the managing editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Weather



Today: Sunny and hot, with a high near 104. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 74. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. South wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 96. South wind around 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 72. Chance of precipitation is 10%.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 97.

Sunday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 94.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)

Recognizing cowboy history



HERALD photos/ Anna Gutierrez

Families of the seven Cowboy and Cowgirl Hall of Fame inductees were on hand for the annual Legends and Legacies event on Tuesday evening at the Howard County Fair Barn. The dinner is the annual fundraiser for the museum, which honors the cowboy heritage and foundation in Howard County.

Take Note

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month. We meet at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you.

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies, as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training,

an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvino at 432-263-3312.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Balsaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

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Texas state briefs

DFW-bound flight diverted to Oklahoma City due to unruly passenger

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Police say an American Airlines flight from Pittsburgh to Dallas/Fort Worth was diverted to Oklahoma City because of a drunken, unruly passenger.

The airline says the flight landed in Oklahoma City at about 11:30 p.m. Sunday and departed less than an hour later for Dallas/Fort Worth.

Police body camera footage shows one apparent passenger saying "go get him" as three officers enter the plane to take 32-year-old Brandon Ganus into custody. Passengers applaud as the Weatherford, Texas, man is led away in handcuffs.

A police report says Ganus was arrested on misdemeanor complaints of public intoxication, resisting arrest, assault and battery, and disorderly conduct.

The report says Ganus used a "variety of ... colorful obscenities" to threaten the officers and their families, and that he was eventually taken from the airport in a wheelchair because he had dropped to his knees to resist arrest.

Police arrest 2 teenagers accused of shooting El Paso man

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Police in North Carolina have arrested two teenagers after a man was found with at least one gunshot wound in his back.

Winston-Salem police say the two suspects, ages 13 and 15, are charged with attempted first-degree murder after 28-year-old Tevin Lamar Bonner of El Paso, Texas, was found unresponsive and lying on the ground on a local street late Monday night. A statement from police said the two teens are being held at a juvenile detention center.

According to police, Bonner is hospitalized with life-threatening injuries.

The Winston-Salem Journal reports that police Lt. Gregory Dorn said the teens and the victim appear to have known each other. Police said Bonner was in Winston-Salem installing alarm systems, and had worked previously in High Point and in Louisiana.

Dallas Zoo giraffe named after Cowboys' Jason Witten dies

DALLAS (AP) — Officials say a 1-year-old giraffe at the Dallas Zoo that was named after Cowboys tight end Jason Witten died during a medical exam.

Zoo officials tweeted that Witten the giraffe stopped breathing Monday during a medical exam to prepare him for transfer to a zoo in Canada for a breeding program. It says he had been anesthetized for the exam and had been healthy going into it. Efforts to revive him failed.

A necropsy has been ordered.

Witten was born in April 2018 and named in honor of the Dallas Cowboys player who had recently retired.

Jason Witten announced he is returning to the Cowboys this year following one season as a TV sportscaster.

Dallas courthouse shooter honorably discharged from Army

DALLAS (AP) — The FBI says a 22-year-old man who opened fire on a federal courthouse in Dallas was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army.

The Army says Brian Isaack Clyde served as an infantryman from August 2015 to February 2017 and achieved the rank of private first class. He never deployed to a war zone.

Clyde's period of service was shorter than a typi-

Gov. Abbott signs law to increase seizure awareness in public schools



Courtesy photo

Texas Governor Greg Abbott, seated, signs House Bill 684, also known as "Sam's Law" in honor of Samantha Watkins, a Kilgore ISD student who passed away from complications of a seizure in December 2016. The law will mandate training and education for school employees statewide on seizure recognition and first aid.

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — On Tuesday, July 11th, Governor Greg Abbott signed House Bill 684 (HB 684), Sam's Law, which was authored by State Representative Travis Clardy. HB 684 honors the memory of Samantha Watkins, a Kilgore ISD student who passed away from complications of a seizure in December 2016. Sam's Law will ensure school district employees receive training and education about seizure recognition and first aid.

"Sam's Law started off as a conversation between myself and constituent Shari Dudo last summer at a town hall meeting, and now we are in the Governor's office for a signing ceremony," Rep. Clardy said. "This bill would not have passed, if not for the determination of Mrs. Dudo, the Epilepsy Foundation of Texas, and so many others. I am grateful to have worked with Senator Bryan Hughes and my colleagues to ensure our public schools are seizure smart."

cal Army contract, suggesting he left the military earlier than planned.

Clyde was shot and killed by courthouse security Monday after opening fire on the Earle Cabell Federal Building with a high-powered rifle. He approached the downtown courthouse dressed in a black mask and heavy vest, carrying more than 150 rounds of ammunition.

Investigators haven't determined a motive. The courthouse reopened for regular business Wednesday.

Man remains jailed as suspect in stabbing death of Texas boy

HOUSTON (AP) — A man re-arrested in the fatal stabbing of an 11-year-old Houston boy as he walked home from school in 2016 remains jailed on a \$500,000 bond following a court hearing.

Andre Jackson Jr. was not brought into the courtroom during Wednesday's brief court hearing. He was later seen in the hallway outside the courtroom as he was taken away by deputies.

Jackson's attorney, Jerome Godinich, declined to comment after the

hearing.

Jackson was indicted Tuesday for murder in Josue (hoh-SWAY') Flores' death.

Prosecutors say newly tested DNA evidence implicated Jackson, but they have declined to discuss it.

Jackson had previously been charged with murder in the boy's death. But prosecutors dropped the charge, citing insufficient evidence.

In a YouTube video last month, Jackson said he was not Josue's killer.

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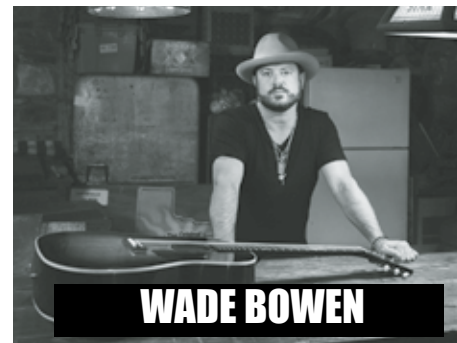


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Kobe Richardson and Mikal Banks will join forces in the 4th annual West Texas Basketball Coaches All-Star Game



Courtesy photo

Forsan coach Cory Richardson and his son and MVP guard Kobe pose together after winning their second straight district title together at Forsan this year.

By JORDAN PARR

Sports Editor

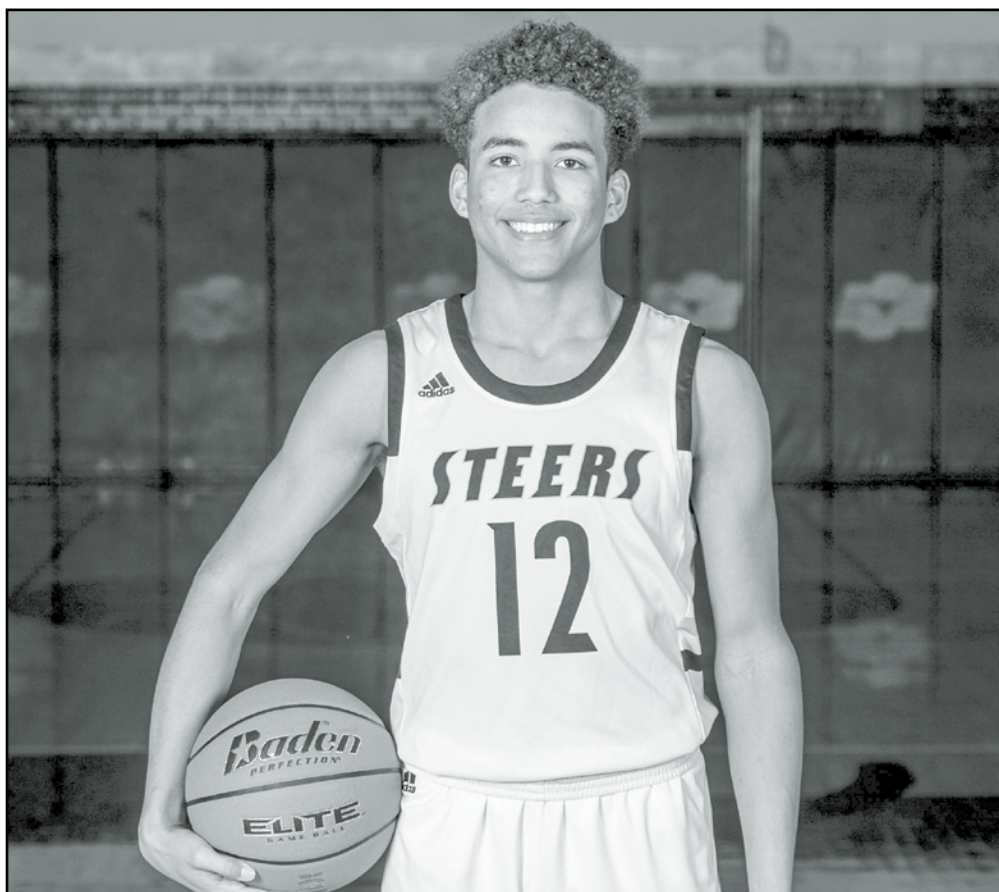
SAN ANGELO – Forsan's district MVP guard Kobe Richardson will play in his final All-Star game this Sunday at Angelo State University. Kobe will be playing up in the Big School division for the game pairing him with Big Spring's standout shooting guard Mikal Banks. Kobe and Mikal will not only finally get a chance to play with one another on the same team, but will do so under the guidance of their coach and Kobe's father Cory

Richardson.

Cory, the head coach for Forsan basketball, has coached Kobe throughout his high school career and will get one more chance to share the court with his son in his last All-Star game.

"I'm really honored to be asked to coach this game. Kobe and I will both really enjoy and cherish this opportunity to be on the court together one last time," said Coach Richardson.

Kobe will enter this last All-Star game still uncommitted to a school, but looking to increase his stock while Mikal, who has already signed his let-



Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring All-Star shooting guard Mikal Banks will join Forsan's Cory and Kobe Richardson in his last All-Star game before heading off to start his college career at Sul Ross.

ter of intent to Sul Ross, will look to show everyone in the area what he's made of one last time. Congratulations to both of these young men for being catalysts for change in their own programs and for their individual accomplishments as well.

Mikal and Kobe were selected from nominees state wide for this opportunity and will combine skill sets to try to add one more win to their resume. The pair will play in the big school boys game at the Junell Center June 23 at 4:15 p.m. in San Angelo at Angelo State University.

Texas Tech's 4-1 CWS win sends FSU's Martin into retirement

By ERIC OLSON

AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — When Texas Tech's Taylor Floyd struck out Reese Albert to end the game — and Mike Martin's career — the Florida State coach walked up the dugout steps, took off his glasses and strode across the field to shake hands with the opposing coach one more time.

While the fans at TD Ameritrade Park showered Martin in applause, his wife of 55 years, Carol, greeted well-wishers in the stands. Martin then waved to and thanked fans who gathered above the dugout.

After the 4-1 loss in the elimination game, Martin heads into retirement with 2,029 career wins — most by any coach in any college sport. Each of his 40 teams won at least 40 games and played in the NCAA Tournament.

But, he never won a national championship.

"I can fake a smile with the best of them and I'll get through the rest of this night with a smile because I got to watch young men grow up," Martin said. "I got to work for Florida State for 45 years and I'll never forget the times I've had out here in Omaha."

Brian Klein broke a 1-1 tie in the sixth with his second homer in three games, and third of the season, and Texas Tech (46-19) won a second game

at a CWS for the first time in its four appearances.

"In the back of your mind, obviously, you're thinking about '11' a little bit," Tech coach Tim Tadlock said, referring to Martin by his nickname. "All the respect in the world for him. Love him, and just appreciate everything he's done for college baseball."

FSU (42-23) had no trouble scoring while sweeping through a regional in Athens, Georgia, and a super regional at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to earn Martin his 17th trip to the CWS. The Seminoles beat Arkansas 1-0 here Saturday, but lost 2-0 to Michigan before the Red Raiders eliminated them.

Martin's last team was one of the final four squads awarded at-large bids to the 64-team national tournament after struggling for stretches of the regular season.

"To have the success we've had the last three years, the ACC championships, two trips to Omaha, 40 wins every year," third baseman Drew Mendoza said. "To experience that with him and be part of his legacy is a dream come true."

The Seminoles batted .124 in Omaha (11 of 89) and their two runs in three games tied a CWS record low. Their 0-for-17 batting with runners in scoring position was the lowest by a team in at least 20 years, according to ESPN. Florida State also struck out 15

times against Texas Tech.

"Who would have ever thought six weeks ago that we would even get to Omaha?" Martin said. "The young men are disappointed now. What they accomplished will not go unnoticed — to get to Omaha and have an opportunity."

Cameron Warren put Tech up 1-0 in the fourth when he chopped a grounder past diving Mendoza at third, allowing Dylan Neuse to score from second.

The Seminoles' only run came in the bottom half thanks to Tech mistakes. Bryce Bonnin (7-1) walked Robby Martin on four pitches and hit Matheu Nelson in the bill of his batting helmet. The runners moved over on a bunt, and Martin came home when catcher Braxton Fulford threw into center field trying to pick off Nelson at second.

The Red Raiders went ahead for good when Klein lofted an off-speed pitch from Conor Grady (9-6) into the right-center bleachers for his ninth homer in 150 career games.

"I have no idea where the home runs started to come from, but today it happened that it gave us a really big run, and I'm super thankful for it," Klein said.

Chase Haney pitched two shutout innings in relief of Grady, and then Martin went to J.C. Flowers. Texas

didn't record an out and gave up three singles, with Klein reaching on a dropped third strike.

Flowers left with the bases loaded, and it was a run when Antonio Velez walked in a 4-1.

The Seminoles had at least one runner on base each inning and looked as though they might get something going in the eighth when, with a man aboard, Carter Smith sent a drive into the right center gap. But center fielder Dylan Neuse laid out to make the catch.

Floyd pitched one-hit shutout relief over the last four innings for his fifth save.

"Probably the biggest thing, this group, they really like to play," Tadlock said. "They're not going to let some type of circumstance, the results dictate their effort and their preparation. They've been really good about respecting the game and trying to play the game the right way. Not saying we always get great results, but as long as the preparation is right, we're happy with them."

UP NEXT

Texas Tech plays Friday against Michigan. The Red Raiders would have to beat the Wolverines and again Saturday to reach the best-of-three finals next week.

LEADING OFF: Marlins' Gallen makes debut, Astros meet Yanks

Associated press

A look at what's happening around the majors. WELCOME

Zac Gallen is set to make his major league debut when he starts for the Marlins at St. Louis. The 23-year-old righty was 9-1 with a 1.77 ERA at Triple-A New Orleans, striking out 112 in 91 1/3 innings.

Gallen might see some familiar faces at Busch Stadium. He was traded by the Cardinals to Miami in the deal for outfielder Marcell Ozuna after the 2017 season.

DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS

Alex Bregman and the Astros have lost a season-most four straight as they open a four-game series between AL division leaders at Yankee Stadium.

Houston was swept in Cincinnati this week, but former AL MVP Jose Altuve returned to the lineup after missing 35 games with a hamstring strain. He went 0 for 4 and grounded into a double play Wednesday.

Big-hitting Gary Sánchez and the Yankees have won five in a row, capped by a sweep of the second-place Rays. Slugging outfielder Aaron Judge is expected to rejoin New York on Friday after being sidelined in late April by a strained left oblique.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Swept in a doubleheader Wednesday at Washington, the Phillies try to rebound in the series finale behind Aaron Nola (6-1, 4.89 ERA). The right-hander has hit a rough patch lately, going 0-1 with a 7.71 ERA in three starts this month. The Nationals changed pitching plans, bumping Stephen Strasburg to Friday against the Braves. Erick Fedde (1-1, 3.68) will start instead. After losing three straight and seven of 10, Philadelphia is suddenly four games behind first-place Atlanta in the NL East.

MEDICAL UPDATES

Rockies shortstop Trevor Story is scheduled for an MRI after jamming his right thumb on a head-first slide into second base Wednesday night. Colorado manager Bud Black said X-rays were negative. "I'm always nervous if you have to get an MRI," said Story, who leads the majors with 65 runs and is one of two players with at least 15 homers and 10 steals. "You never know." ... Dodgers pitcher Rich Hill also will get an MRI. He left Wednesday's outing after one inning because of left forearm discomfort. He said he had elbow tightness in his two previous starts and "everything tightened up" after his third warmup pitch before the second inning. "I didn't feel it would be a wise move to continue," Hill

said. "The MRI will probably show something, but I don't think it will be in the concerning category."

HALFWAY TO 100

Julio Urias (3-2, 3.05 ERA) comes out of the Dodgers' bullpen to make a spot start in place of Walker Buehler, who gets extra rest. Urias hasn't pitched longer than three innings since April 18.

Madison Bumgarner (3-6, 3.87) seeks his first win against the rival Dodgers since Sept. 23, 2017. He's 0-3 with a 2.43 ERA in his last six starts against them.

The Dodgers (50-25) became the first 50-win team in the majors Wednesday night and improved to a big league-best 30-9 at home. The NL West leaders are tied with the 1977 club for the second-best start in Los Angeles history. It's the first time since that year the team has compiled 50 wins by its 75th game.

"We're playing free and easy," Chris Taylor said. "We're playing our best baseball."

RUGGED

The Orioles have dropped a season-high eight in a row and have the worst record in the majors at 21-53. They'll try to break the skid when Dylan Bundy (3-8, 4.44 ERA) pitches at Seattle — he's made it past six innings only twice in 14 starts this year.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

By HOLIDAY MATHIS self.



whatever stage you're in is to welcome greater vitality.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People who feel the situation has gotten out of their control will lash out. You can reel it back in with a question, as long as you avoid one that starts with "why?" Ask a "how" question instead such as, "How can we solve it?"

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Restlessness isn't always best addressed by indulging your wanderlust. If you let distraction win, or keep running to the next thing, you won't get anything done. It's time to buckle in and finish what you started.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Relationships have costs, just like other things. The time you spend together,

the attention you give, the ways you acknowledge one another -- these are all outlays of effort. Some people are more expensive than others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get bored quickly, not because you're "boring" but because you feel that you are, in some way, trapped with a problem that's too easy or familiar to be interesting to you. Don't stay there. Free your-

self. **SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Verify your sources and don't talk about anything of which you don't have firsthand knowledge. If you can steer clear of miscommunication and stick with the original route you mapped out, you'll be ahead in the race.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You may understand your position, resources and the conditions around you, but until you also

know what the competition is bringing to this game, you don't have enough information. Find out what you're up against.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There will be big opportunities around you today. You can tell who the important people are. They don't talk much about themselves; they don't have to. You hardly ever hear them say, "I," as they act on behalf of many.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't want to be universally attractive. Universal attraction brings all sorts of trouble and sorting with it. You want to be attractive to the small margin of people you can serve the best. Aim your offerings there.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've

no problem expressing yourself now. Circumstances have culminated to give urgency to the emotions inside you. It's actually easier for you to do the surprising thing than to do the expected thing.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 20). What starts as a mere curiosity becomes a full-blown mission. The months to come show you collecting clues, skills and team members. September brings a trophy. Domestic changes will ultimately support and inspire you as you daringly adapt to trends and welcome influences. An investment pays in November. Virgo and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 30, 19, 33 and 5.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Talking Over a Loud Speaker

Dear Annie: I need to vent here. I have a group of girlfriends, and there is one, "Melanie," who dominates the conversation. Melanie's voice is louder than mine so if I am telling a story or asking a question, she will just blare out whatever is on her mind. Another annoying habit: Even if someone is talking directly to Melanie, she often starts turning her head away from that person and trying to listen to the other girls' conversations. Last night was the final straw. I am finding myself not

wanting to participate in lunches or dinners out when she is there. How do I tell her to "shut up"? A few of the other girls feel the same as I do. -- Timid Voice

Dear Timid Voice: The thing about loud people is that they usually don't realize they're being loud. Sure, they might know that they have a tendency to be loud, as some friends and family have likely pointed this out to them over the years. But in the actual moment when they are raising their voices 10 decibels above the rest, they lack self-awareness. All that is to say, Tim-

id Voice, that it's time to speak up. If you're sharing a story and Melanie starts in, take a deep breath, smile and say: "Hold that thought, Melanie. As I was saying..." Repeatedly and kindly bringing Melanie's attention to the fact that she's interrupting should -- hopefully -- quell the behavior, in time. If not, a candid conversation should do the trick: Ask if she realizes that sometimes she interrupts you, and that it makes you feel less heard. Any friend worth having would make an effort to dial it down after that.

Dear Annie: Please remind people to choose their words carefully with someone who grieves. What you think they need to hear may be what you needed when grieving. Saying, "I'm sorry for your loss" may seem inadequate, but it is OK. You don't know what they need, or want. I had two different pastors say things with no malicious intent that I found difficult. Everyone's grief is on a different timeline. Telling someone they "need to pull up their big boy or girl pants" may wound, giving them the added burden of forgiving you.

If they ask for something, please consider it, even if you say no. If you say no, do it gently, or maybe ask someone else to help. One pastor hesitated about my request for small meals. When I called her to say it was OK if she didn't, she said: "Good. That's really a matter of self-care." When she experienced loss, she had a loving husband and family around her. I do not. And please, if you cannot cope with someone's display of emotion, don't say, "Get a hold of yourself." Again, a simple, "I am so sorry for your sorrow" will suffice.

I will forgive, and prayerfully forget. We all must when words hurt that were not meant to do so, but I hope your readers will be a bit more aware of what I'm writing about. Thank you. -- 20 Days Into Grief.

Dear 20 Days: I am so, so sorry for your loss. Your letter might lessen the suffering of at least one person by teaching others how best to be compassionate. Thanks for your honesty.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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Contract Bridge
Imaginative play

By Steve Becker

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K 9 8 7 3
♥ A 10 5 4 2
♦ A K
♣ 6
EAST
♠ A Q 4
♥ Q 8 3
♦ 6 4 3
♣ Q 10 8 2
SOUTH
♠ 5 2
♥ 9 7
♦ Q J 10 9 7 2
♠ A K 4

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

Opening lead — five of clubs.
An annoying situation that occasionally confronts declarer arises when he has all the tricks he needs for the contract and yet is unable to take them because of a lack of communication between his own hand and the dummy.

Consider this deal where South was declarer at three notrump. West led a club, on which East played the queen, and there was poor South, looking at nine tricks and no legitimate way to collect them.

One possibility was to win the club lead, cash dummy's A-K of diamonds and then play a spade or a heart and hope the opponents would be kind enough to put him back in his hand by leading a second club. That would allow him to score his remaining diamonds and so make his contract.

However, South realized that this line of play would probably not succeed. There was too much chance that, once he telegraphed his intentions by cashing the A-K of diamonds, the opponents would recognize his communications problem and arrange to keep him out of his hand.

So South hit upon a better scheme that might allow him to steal the hand. Instead of taking the first club, he let East's queen hold the first trick!

Without giving the matter much thought, East returned a club, and that was that. South took the A-K, discarded the A-K of diamonds from dummy and then cashed six diamonds and the ace of hearts to finish with a neat nine tricks.

Perhaps East should have seen through the ruse and not returned a club, but that does not diminish the beauty of declarer's imaginative play. He was certainly entitled to his victory.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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SUDOKU

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

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

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