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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY EDITION,
 APRIL 13, 2020

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Dr. Steve Ahmed

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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 169

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75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



COVID-19 Updates as of 1 p.m. Friday Howard County had:

- Test performed: 74
- Confirmed Cases: 1
- Fatalities: 1
- Negative Tests: 68
- Pending tests: 5

Cancellations/Closures

Scenic Mountain State Park closed through April 30

Funtastic Fourth has been cancelled for this year.

City Council procedures, policies up for discussion at Tuesday meeting

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring City Council will be convening for a regular meeting Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring City Council Chambers. The meeting can be viewed on Channel 17 with Suddenlink or through live stream on the City of Big Spring website.

Several ordinance readings pertaining to City personnel policies and procedures, Code of Conduct and Ethics for City Council and parliamentary standards of conduct are on the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

Before heading into consent agenda items, the meeting will open with an

opportunity for public comment. As part of the Governor's order temporarily suspending certain open meetings act (OMA) requirements due to COVID-19, those who are wanting to make a public comment can do so by calling

into the conference line at 432-264-2411. Those calling in will still be limited to the five minute allotment.

With the COVID-19 pandemic at the forefront of the nation, as well as local government. The City Council will be holding discussion and possibly appoint a local health authority for the City of Big Spring.

Through the presentation of the City Manager's Report the City Council will be provided with information pertaining to the next Large Item Pickup date

which is set for April 15, as well as the City Attorney's Quarterly Report. This report is considered privileged and therefore the Council will only acknowledge receipt of the report and claims against the City.

As part of Executive Session the City Council will deliberate the employment, duties, and evaluations of the City Manager and the Internal Auditor. The Council will reconvene after the conclusion of Executive Session to take any necessary action regarding Employment of the City Manager and Employment of the Internal Auditor, and the appointment, employment and duties of an Interim or permanent City Manager.

Other items on the agenda to be discussed by the Council include:

- Council Input
- Approval of City Council Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 24, 2020 and Special Meeting March 26, 2020

See **CITY**, Page 3A



Forsan Elementary opens Pre-K and Kindergarten registration early for 2020-2021

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

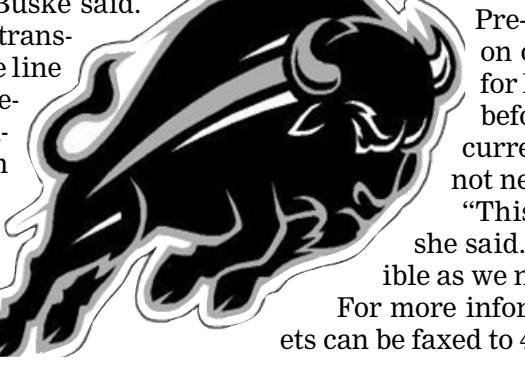
As this school year draws to an end, area schools are beginning to think of the 2020-2021 school year. Forsan Elementary has opened their Pre-K and Kindergarten registration. This year, according to Mandy Buske, Forsan Elementary Registrar, all registration will be completed online this year.

"We are going to have parents and guardians fax or e-mail the packets back to the school," Buske said. "We will still be doing the interviews for transfer applications, but we do not have a time line yet for these interviews or for announcement of acceptance. We will schedule interviews at a later time in alignment with federal, state and county guidelines regarding COVID-19."

A packet can be requested for Pre-K and Kindergarten students, as well as new transfer students that will be in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade next year, by e-mail at abuske@forsan.esc18. When returning the packet, parents need to also include the following: certified birth certificate, social security card, im-

munization record, proof of residency for district students, parent's drivers license and proof of income for those apply for Pre-K.

"We want to remind parents to include contact information so we can follow up if necessary. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail with any questions," Buske said. "We will be able to help anyone who is not able to get us information electronically."



The age requirement for those applying for Pre-K is the student must be four years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020 and those applying for Kindergarten must be five years old, on or before Sept. 1, 2020. Those students who are currently enrolled in Forsan Elementary do not need to pre-register.

"This is an unprecedented time for all of us," she said. "We are thankful for families being flexible as we navigate through this process."

For more information by phone, call 432-457-0091. Packets can be faxed to 432-457-0040.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.



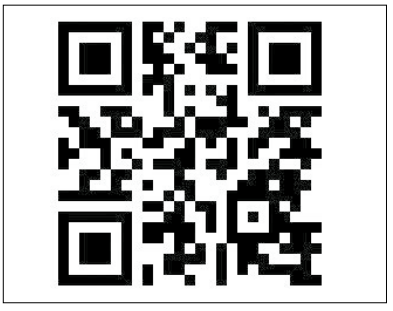
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INDEX

- News 1 & 3
- Obituaries2
- Sports4 & 9
- Comics8
- Classified 5-7
- Keep Big Spring Booming ...10

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City of Stanton to hold regular Council Meeting

Herald Staff Report

The City of Stanton will hold a regular meeting today at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, which are located at 102 W. School Street in Stanton, Texas.

The meeting will start with a public comment section, with comments being limited to five minutes and are to be related to agenda items.

After public comment session has wrapped up the Council will move into possible approval of March 30, 2020 minutes and the Quarterly Investment Report for the First Quarter 2020.

During the meeting the Council will look at approving a Resolution postponing the May 2, 2020 City Election for the reauthorization of the Street Maintenance Sales Tax to the Nov. 3, 2020 election. At the same time, there will also be consideration and possible action on requesting a new expiration date for the Street Maintenance Sales Tax from the Texas Comptroller.

With the current state of COVID-19, the Council is also considering and possibly taking action on renewing the Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disasters Due to Public Health Emergency for 28 days.

See **STANTON**, Page 3

No information to be released regarding COVID-19 case

Editor's Note: The City of Big Spring's Emergency Management Team and Mayor Shannon Thomason issued a statement Friday afternoon regarding the first COVID-19 patient in Howard County. The following is the press release that was issued:

Special to the Herald

On behalf of the City of Big Spring and its Emergency Management Team, I would like to announce the following:

The City of Big Spring will NOT be releasing any information regarding the contacts of or the locations visited by any person diagnosed with COVID-19.

EVERY resident needs to assume that EVERY LOCATION in the City of Big Spring has been visited by someone carrying the Coronavirus and that EVERY person in the city/county/state/nation/world has been in direct contact with someone carrying the virus so take appropriate precautions.

In other words, the virus is everywhere, carried by everyone, and is on every surface that you touch. So, wash your hands often, wear a mask of some sort, disinfect everything, practice social distancing, and stay home unless it is absolutely necessary to leave.

Reporting the social contacts of and locations visited by anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will simply create a very false sense of security for our citizens during a time when we need them to remain extremely vigilant.

TRUST THE HEARING PROFESSIONALS

We're here for you during this difficult time. Our patients are family, please know that we continue to be here for you with the introduction of new remote ways to support and help you through this challenging time. Stay healthy!

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 432-267-3806
 Visit us online at: AllAboutHearing4U.com

Dr. Sally, AuD, CCC-A, Audiologist

Obituaries

Rodney Feaster

Rodney Feaster, 69, of Big Spring died Thursday, April 9, 2020. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park with Clark Tatum, minister of 14th and Main Church of Christ, officiating.

Visitation will be Sunday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rodney was born April 23, 1950, in Colorado City and was a lifetime resident of the Big Spring area. Rodney is survived by two sons: Shannon Feaster (Tarie) of Big Spring, and



Michael Feaster (James Clark) of Coahoma; one daughter: Zundalane Michelle Rodriguez (Luis) of Big Spring; four brothers: Rendle Feaster of Big Spring, Ronney Feaster (Sheri) of Glen Rose, Stan Feaster (Bruce) of Strawn, and Larry Feaster (Mary) of Chicago; two sisters: Belenda Riley of Odessa and Londa Fellows of Midland; 16 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents: Verna Ruth Boen Feaster and Lonnie Almon Feaster; one grandson: Tary Lee Feaster; two great granddaughters: Gabby Baltazar and Elizabeth Grace Flentge.

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

Take Note

• Forsan Elementary has opened virtual pre-registration for 2020-21 school year. Due to COVID-19 pre-registration will be done virtually. Contact Mandy Buske with any questions at 432-457-0091 ext. 203 or by email at abuske@forsan.esc18.net. All pre-registration packets will need to be completed and returned to Mandy Buske via email or fax. A copy of the following items need to be returned with the packet: certified birth certificate, social security card, immunization record, proof of residency for district students only (utility bill), parent driver's license and proof of income (pre-k only). Age requirements are: Pre-K – must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020; Kindergarten – 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020. New transfer students (Kinder - 5th) may apply at this time.

• Pre-registration for CISD Kinder, Pre-K3 & Pre-K4 underway. Due to COVID-19, Coahoma Elementary will be handling Pre-K3, Pre-K4 and Kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year a little differently.

For safety precautions, district officials will only take registration by phone at this time. The phone registration does not guarantee your child will be attending CES for the 2020-2021 school year, but it will give the district a starting point until restrictions are lifted.

Pre-registration by phone will continue through Friday, April 17, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. To register, please call 432-394-5000, ext 2 and speak to Jessica. Pre-registration is only open for children who live in the district. Transfer requests will not be processed until after June 1.

For CISD Kindergarten and Pre-K requirements, please visit the CISD website: www.coahomaisd.com

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation and Leading EDG understand the serious challenges our country faces as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. In response to this crisis, the Small Business Administration (“SBA”) has created new programs geared towards financial relief for affected businesses.

The Economic Injury Disaster Loan (“EIDL”), is currently available, but only by applying directly to the SBA via the online portal: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster/apply-for-disaster-loan/index.html>. It only takes a few minutes to fill out.

Another option, The Paycheck Protection Program, (“PPP”), has been approved by Congress. If you want to apply for the “PPP” loan contact your local lender.

Information changes daily so make sure you are checking the SBA website regularly.

• 2020 Advocating for Agriculture Symposium will be hosted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Corpus Christi based specialists is set for Tuesday, April 14, 2020 from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The symposium can be attended from the comfort of your home. To register visit <https://agriferegister.tamu.edu/ag>. For more information email megan.clayton@ag.tamu.edu.

• Effective immediately, to contact the City of Big Spring Water Office, please call 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. The Water Office is temporarily located at 305 South Johnson. Be advised, all City of Big Spring offices, including the Water Office, remain closed to the public and open by appointment and electronic means only. Ways to make your payment: 1. Pay online at www.mybig-spring.com. Click ONLINE BILL PAY; Pay via the automated phone system by calling 833-227-1752; Payment can be placed in the Drop Box at the Polly Mays Annex (501 Runnels). Staff checks the box daily; Pay over the phone by calling 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. Water Office staff are still available to assist customers by appointment and over the phone during normal business hours.

• City of Big Spring offices will remain open by appointment and electronic means only effective Sunday, March 22, at midnight. These offices include: City Hall (432-264-2401); Finance Department (432-264-2513); Public Works Department (432-264-2501); Human Resources Department (432-264-2346); Water Office (432-264-2319); Code Enforcement/Permits (432-264-2505); Community Services Office; Convention and Visitors Bureau (432-263-8235); Facilities (432-264-2322); Cemetery (432-264-2323); Police Department (432-264-2550); Fire Department (432-264-2304); The Big Spring Senior Center will be closed to congregate meals, but those who wish to pick up a to go order can call 432-267-1628, for more information. All City pavilions and playground structures will remain closed until further notice. For any questions or concerns please contact the City Manager's Office at 432-264-2401.

• Permian Basin Multiple Sclerosis Support Group for information, encouragement and support. The group meets monthly on the Second Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 12 PM at the Holiday Inn Express at 5321 John Ben Sheppard Parkway, Odessa. If you or someone you know has been touched by MS, or if you are just interested in more information please feel to contact Gary Tidwell at garylteagle1987@gmail.com.

• Gun and Blade Show for April 4-5 at Horseshoe Pavillion has been cancelled.

• The City of Big Spring will be following CDC guidelines and the executive order by Governor Abbott concerning COVID-19 and will be closing all city park playground structures and park pavilions including: Kidz Zone, Cotton Mize softball field, playground structures at ABC Park, Bert Andries Park, Dr., Morgan Park, and any other city owned playground structure or pavilion until at least April 20th. The date of closure has the possibility to extend. We also ask that you refrain from gathering in groups of 10 or more during this time so we can help stop the spread of COVID-19. For any questions or concerns please contact the City Managers Office at 432-264-2401.

• Big Spring High School will be recognizing the football team, band members and cheerleaders who participated in the first game at Memorial Stadium in the fall of 1956. The recognition will take place Friday, Sept. 4, 2020 at Memorial Stadium. If you are a member of these groups, or know of a member of these groups, and would like to participate, please contact Edward Slate at 432-270-1995, or at 813 Vista Ridge, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

• VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

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Food Pick Up Info

Big Spring ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals will be available at three schools from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. Meals can be picked up at any of the three campuses where they are being handed out, which will be Moss, Marcy and Big Spring Junior High School. At both March and Moss, pick up will be in the bus lane behind the campus. At BSJH, pick up can be made at Door #5 on the east side of campus.

Children in Big Spring ISD can also pick up meals at the following times and locations:

From 9 a.m. to 9:55 a.m., you can pick up at:
Bus 13-Navajo and Choctaw
Bus 14-Bauer
Bus 15: Larry and McDonald
Bus 27: 5th and Abrams
Bus 28: 3rd and Lockhart
Bus 77: Parkway and Hearn
Bus 85: Goliad Elementary
Bus 86: 6th and Circle
Bus 90: Southridge RV Park
Bus 96: Albrook and Randolph

From 10 a.m. to 10:55 a.m., you can pick up at:

Bus 13-Barcelona Apartments
Bus 14-Lakeview
Bus 15: Colby and Drew
Bus 27: 8th and Lorilla
Bus 28: Roy Anderson Complex
Bus 77: Airport and Mobile
Bus 85: Scott and Macausian
Bus 86: Washington Elementary
Bus 90: Oasis and Neill
Bus 96: Anderson School

Lunch is also available at North Side Movement for all children in the area. Meals can be picked up at Ryan Hall, located behind the church, at 605 N. Main St. To comply with Governor Abbott's mandate, all meals will be set-up drive-through style. No meals will be served inside the hall. Deliveries will depend on number of volunteers available. You can follow the North Side Movement Facebook page for additional information.

Coahoma ISD will provide take-home lunches to all students while the campuses are closed. Students can pick up a lunch at the back door of the cafeteria, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. No meals will be provided on the Easter holiday.

Forsan ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals are available at the following three locations: Forsan Elementary at the south entrance of the building, Special Education 87-20 Coop, or “The Pad”. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If your restaurant or organization is helping feed students during this time, please e-mail us information and we will be sure to include it in our listing and let the community know. On behalf of the Big Spring Herald and all those who are able to receive support during this time, we say Thank You for all that you are doing and continue to do. The support is much appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

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Weather



Today: Sunny, with a high near 58. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. East wind 10 to 15 mph.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. East wind around 10 mph.

Monday Night: Increasing clouds, with a low around 38. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 62. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 45.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 76.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 66.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 77.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 81.

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

Game sales and interest rates to determine advertised Powerball jackpot

Guaranteed starting jackpot amounts, minimum jackpot increases to be eliminated

Special to the Herald

URBANDALE, Iowa – The Powerball Product Group today announced its decision to determine Powerball's advertised jackpot based on game sales and interest rates. Following the April 8 drawing, guaranteed starting jackpot amounts and minimum jackpot increases will be eliminated, and future jackpot increases will be determined and announced by the Product Group prior to each drawing. Previously, Powerball® jackpots started at \$40 million (annuity) and increased by a minimum of \$10 million (annuity) between drawings.

"These changes are necessary to ensure that ticket sales can support the Powerball jackpot and other lower-tier cash prizes," said Gregg Mineo, Powerball Product Group Chairman and Maine Lottery Director. "Our number one priority is making sure that the Powerball game

can continue to assist lotteries in raising proceeds for their beneficiaries."

The Powerball Product Group announced plans last week to reduce the starting jackpot to \$20 million (annuity) and minimum jackpot increases to \$2 million (annuity) between drawings. Those changes were scheduled to go into effect after the current jackpot was won. However, due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Powerball Product Group revisited the topic and decided Powerball's advertised jackpot should be determined by game sales and interest rates effective following the drawing next Wednesday.

"Since last week, more states and cities have asked their residents to stay at home, which has affected normal consumer behaviors and Powerball game sales," said Mineo. "In response to the public health crisis, interest

rates have declined. As a result, additional game sales are necessary to fund comparable jackpot amounts."

The advertised Powerball jackpot for Saturday's drawing is a guaranteed \$180 million. If the jackpot rolls, it will grow to a guaranteed \$190 million for the April 8 drawing. If the jackpot is won on Saturday night, it will reset to a guaranteed \$20 million for the April 8 drawing and continue to grow based off sales and interest rates.

Powerball tickets are \$2 per play. Tickets are sold in 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Drawings are broadcast live every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:59 p.m. ET from the Florida Lottery draw studio in Tallahassee. More than half of all proceeds from the sale of a Powerball ticket remain in the jurisdiction where the ticket was sold.

TWC approves \$40,000,000 in supplemental child care distribution in Texas during

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), in an effort to support our working community and families affected by COVID-19, will distribute \$40,000,000 of supplemental child care. These funds will allow local Workforce Development Boards to provide child care to the new COVID-19 Essential Workers, and, pending approval of a federal waiver from the Office of Child Care, make supplemental payments to child care programs to cover lost Parent Share of Cost (PSOC) payments. These measures are part of the State's efforts to address the impact the COVID-19 virus is having on the state's economy and its workforce.

COVID-19 Essential Workers with children under the age of 13 may receive child care financial assistance to cover a portion or, in some cases, all of the costs for child care. TWC has also requested a federal waiver to simplify the eligibility process to more quickly enroll these essential workers' children into child care. Workforce Development Boards administer child care services through Workforce Solutions offices. Eligibility requirements and coverage amounts may vary by service area.

To find information on your local workforce board and updates on their response to COVID-19 please visit the TWC Workforce Development Board page. Hours, virtual openings and contact information is updated daily so please check back before visiting an office.

In addition to resources for new COVID-19 Essential Workers, boards will also have funds to cover lost PSOC payments. Given the broad impact of

COVID-19, many parents enrolled in the child care subsidy program may face financial hardship. Families may be unable to pay the PSOC due to loss of income, inability to leave home due to self-isolation or quarantine, child care program closure, or other COVID-related reasons. Offsetting the PSOC losses to all affected child care programs could help mitigate the financial impacts to programs.

Gov. Greg Abbott's March 19, 2020 order closed schools and other types of businesses, however it did not apply to the state's child care centers. For updated information on child care programs or to find a Texas Rising Star child care center to provide for your children during the COVID-19 outbreak visit the TWC child care COVID-19 resource page.

TWC is committed to providing essential resources to all Texans during the COVID-19 outbreak. In addition to creating central resource pages for employers and job seekers, TWC has also expanded tele center hours, waived the waiting week and job search requirements for unemployment benefits. The agency is committed to ensuring all Texans have access to resources they need.

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our email updates.

Runnels Academy students Learning at Home



Courtesy photos

Runnels Academy students have been using their creativity to stay connected with their teachers during extended learning at home.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

- Vouchers for 03/26/2020, 04/02/2020 and 04/09/2020

- Award bid for seal coat and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute any necessary documents and water line replacement and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute any necessary documents

Reject all bids for parking lot

Presentation and acceptance of Big Spring Economic Development Corporation's Financial Statement for Year End Sept. 30, 2019 by Bolinger, Segar, Gilbert & Moss

Presentation and acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial report for year ended Sept. 30, 2019 by Bolinger, Segar, Gilbert & Moss

Those wanting to view the meeting can do so by visiting <http://mybigspring.com/224/Channel-17-Live>.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Keep up with local, daily news by visiting www.bigspringherald.com

STANTON

Continued from Page 1

Once the above items have been discussed and concluded, the Council will receive reports from the City Administrator and the Chief of Police.

The Economic Development Reports and Projects will also be presented to the Council during this meeting. In addition there is a Planning and Zoning request that will be put up to the Council for consideration and possible action.

Other items on the agenda include:
March bills

To reach the Big Spring Herald staff e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Rodney Feaster, 69, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM Monday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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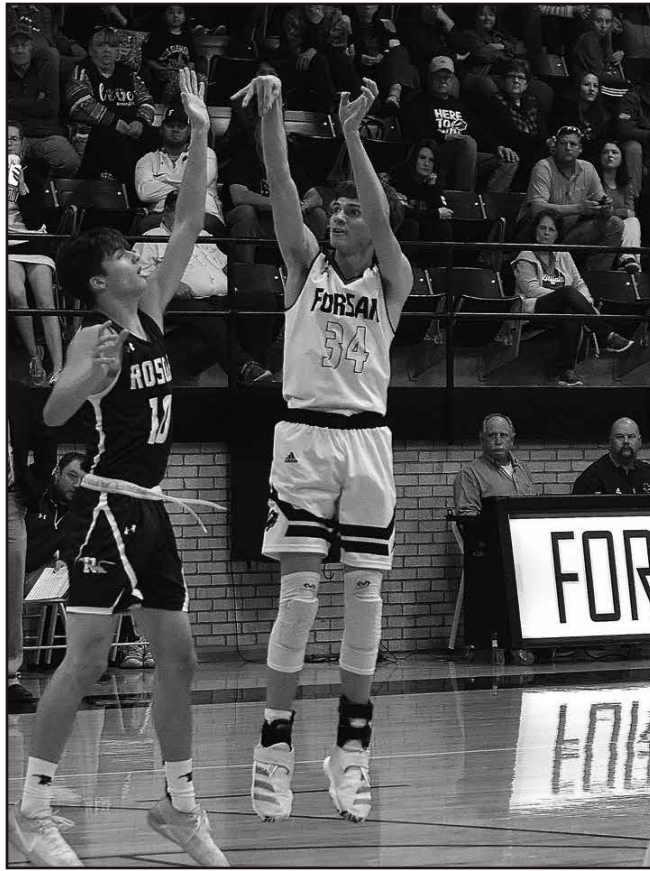
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Several local players named to postseason All-Star basketball team



HERALD File Photos

Pictured above left: Big Spring's Kyler Seymore puts up a shot over a close defender during this past season. Pictured above middle: Forsan's Zane Riffe shows off his mid-range shot in a contest against Roscoe. Pictured above right: Coahoma's Zack Schneider gets close to the basket and shows off his strength over the defense.

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

The Midland Reporter-Telegram named its postseason high school boys basketball team recently and there are a couple of Big Spring and Howard County connections.

Big Spring's Kyler Seymore was named to the first team after an outstanding junior season on the court. Seymore was the District 5-4A Offensive MVP for his work on that side of the court and he finished the season averaging 20.2 points, 5.5 rebounds, and two assists per game.

The guard has a smooth shot that is hard to defend and he will certainly be refining his game over the next few months.

Coach Kris Hise knows what he has in his star player and is not shy about running the offense through him. Next season, Seymore will be the undisputed senior captain of the team and he has the potential to improve even more. The talented high jumper might not have basketball in his future plans beyond high school as of right now, but a strong senior season could change all of that.

On the MRT second team was Forsan's Zane Riffe. The lengthy forward had a tremendous past season and without him, the Buffaloes probably would have not won many games. He was the Forsan leading scorer and rebounder in mostly every game from this last season and his impact on the game was noticeable every time he stepped onto

the hardwood.

The 6-foot-2 forward averaged 11.7 points and 11.1 rebounds per game to finish out his high school career averaging a double-double. He was also a force on the defensive side of the ball as he snatched 2.3 steals per game and swatted away 1.5 shots per game.

"We wouldn't have won many games this past year if it weren't for Zane," Forsan Coach Cory Richardson said.

The Forsan basketball program will surely miss Riffe next year but will try to replicate his effort and skills as best as they can on the court. Even with his injury history, Riffe was the focal point of the opposing team's game-plan almost every game. Although he was double-teamed a lot during the second half of the season, Riffe was still able to make a big impact on the offensive side of the ball.

Coahoma's Zack Schneider also made the second-team after his senior season. The multi-sport athlete averaged 13.0 points per game this past season and was often the only bulldogs player that could get anything going offensively. The big man was a force on defense as well, swatting away two shots per game on average and grabbing eight rebounds per game.

Schneider seemed to shine brightest during the regular season tournaments as he was named to two All-Tournament teams this year. He will be playing football next year at Hardin-Simmons and is sure to leave the hardwood behind following his great last season at Coahoma.

There were also two local players who made the Honorable Mentions part of the list: Big Spring's Abel Clark and Coahoma's Gaige Hill.

Clark referred to himself as the "trash man" for all of the dirty work he did underneath the basket and he was recognized for his hard work by the MRT. The senior center averaged eight points per game along with eight rebounds per game and was also a distributor on the offensive end averaging four assists per contest.

Hill was a three-point specialist who averaged 10.0 points per game and was often one of the Bulldogs' leading scorers. Whenever Coahoma seemed to need a basket, Hill was often the player that delivered. Coahoma will be losing their top two players before next season to graduation and hopefully the underclassmen learned enough from Hill to step in and do a solid job.

All of these players deserved all of the postseason recognition that came their way. They all put together outstanding 2019-20 seasons and improved on the court. Seymore is the only player that will return next season and the entire city of Big Spring is excited to see what he brings to the court next season.

For now, the area should celebrate these players and all that they have accomplished during their high school athletic careers.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Cowboys Corner: Recent updates from America's Team

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

Aldon Smith contract details

The Cowboys reached a contract agreement with the troubled edge rusher last week and is a prove-it type of deal. There is no guaranteed money involved in the deal at signing but he will receive \$90,000 once he is reinstated by the NFL. Thirty days after that, he will receive another \$50,000 and when he shows up to training camp he will be paid \$100,000. There are also two more \$100,000 payments that will be paid out after the first two preseason games and following the final preseason game. That means that even if Smith does not make the final 53-man roster, Dallas will have paid him \$440,000.

ESPN's Todd Archer had even more details regarding Smith's contract. He will earn a \$910,000 base salary and \$40,625 every time he is on the active gameday roster, totaling \$650,000. He has incentives totaling \$2 million. If he reaches eight sacks, he will get \$500,000, 10 sacks will earn him \$1 million, 12 sacks equals \$1.5 million and 14 sacks would net him \$2 million. In addition to the bonus money, it equals a one-year deal worth up to \$4 million.

He is now the fourth former first round pick that the Cowboys have added to their roster this offseason. Smith has recorded 47.5 sacks in his career and his best season came under current Cowboys defensive line coach Jim Tomsula while in San Francisco.

All-Decade Team recognition

Last week the NFL released it's All-Decade Team and two Dallas players made the list: offensive tackle Tyron Smith and guard Zack Martin.

Smith was the No. 9 overall selection in the 2011 draft out of USC and has been named to the last seven Pro Bowls as well as being a four-time All-Pro. Before Smith, the Cowboys had not drafted an offensive lineman in the first round since 1981.

Martin has been a Pro Bowler in each of his first six seasons in the league and has made either first or second team All-Pro six times. He is arguably the most talented guard in the NFL and will look to add even more accolades this upcoming season.

Smith is signed through the 2023 season and Martin is signed through 2024. They are both some of the top paid offensive linemen in the league and both will have their Hall of Fame bust and jacket waiting for them five years after retirement.

Most improved team?

ESPN ran an article on the most improved NFL teams this offseason and the Cowboys are near the top of the list.

Most improved area: Interior defensive line -- Just prior to last season, I ranked Dallas' defensive interior last in the league. The Cowboys seemingly agreed with that assessment as they recently signed one of the league's top defensive tackles over the past decade, Gerald McCoy, and run-stuffer Dontari Poe as running mates for Tyrone Crawford. McCoy and Poe combined for 9.0 sacks last season. The rest of the returning Dallas roster combined for 17.5. This is now a borderline top-10 unit.

Biggest upgrade (player): Ha Ha Clinton-Dix -- Dallas' safety situation has been yet another major concern area -- it ranked 30th in the 2019 unit grades -- so the addition of a reliable and perhaps underrated safety, Clinton-Dix, is significant. He and FS Xavier Woods supply Dallas with what is now a solid duo at the position.

Underrated addition: Greg Zuerlein -- The longtime Rams kicker is coming off a down season in which he hit only 24 of 33 kicks (72.7%), though he was much better the prior three seasons (89.3%). Meanwhile, Dallas kickers have posted a conversion rate below 79% each of the past three seasons. Zuerlein is an obvious upgrade.

Weakest link: Tight end -- Dallas is pretty solid across the board, but we can pick on tight end a bit following the departure of Jason Witten. Blake Jarwin is a candidate for a leap, but he's thus far been no more than a situational player through three pro seasons. Dalton Schultz and Blake Bell are his backups.

Bottom line: The likes of Witten, center Travis Frederick, cornerback Byron Jones and receiver Randall Cobb are gone, but Dallas countered that with improvements at key positions. The roster looks solid or very good at nearly every position, which makes quarterback Dak Prescott's squad a strong contender for the NFC East crown.

Upcoming 2021 free agents

Dallas will have eight unrestricted free agents next offseason and an additional three players that will be restricted free agents.

Quarterback Cooper Rush, wide receivers Noah Brown and Devin Smith, offensive lineman Cody Wichmann, defensive lineman Tyrone Crawford, cornerbacks Chidobe Awuzie and Jourdan Lewis and safety Xavier Woods.

Defensive tackle Antwaun Woods, offensive lineman Adam Redmond and cornerback Deante Burton are to be restricted free agents.

Decisions will need to be made about whether to extend any of these players at some point this offseason to possibly save money next spring. Jerry Jones is not afraid to spend money and it seems like he will need to open up the checkbook next offseason as well.

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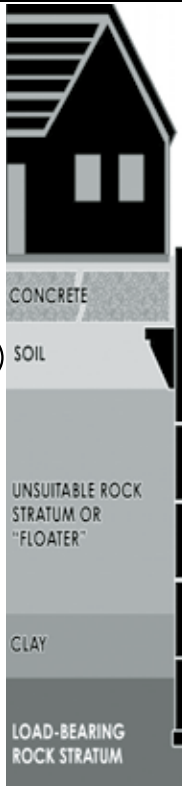


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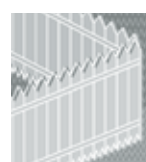
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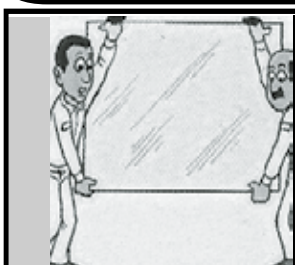
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Annie's Mailbox

Leave the Kids out of It

Dear Annie: Please let Sleepless in Roanoke know about the guided meditations from the University of California, Los Angeles Health center. On the website is a 13-minute Body Scan for Sleep. It is so relaxing I am usually asleep before it's over. -- Already Sleeping

Dear Already Sleeping: Thank you for this tip. With everything going on in the world, quality sleep has never been more important. I hope this meditation helps readers find peaceful dreams.

Dear Annie: This is to add to what you told A Question of Taste, the reader who asked if it is OK to give her grandson's younger half-brother a gift when she gives her grandson a gift. She is absolutely doing the right thing! I agree with you that it is kind and thoughtful, and thank goodness there are people like her in this world.

I am a retired teacher and will never forget one of my students who was having a difficult time, not only with her parents' divorce but with the fact that it seemed her grandparents didn't care about her anymore.

This poor girl was only a third grader, and these were parents of

her stepfather, who had fully accepted her as a grandchild until the divorce. They would come to after-school day care and pick up their biological granddaughter to go to their house or do something special but not my sweet student. This left her absolutely heartbroken, and it broke my heart to hear about it.

Please, people, these are just children, and if you have been in their lives as a grandparent, from the child's perspective, the divorce doesn't take that away. -- Picking up the Pieces

Dear Picking up the Pieces: Shame on them. My heart goes out to your third-grade student. There

is nothing worse than when adults take out their frustrations about divorce on children, or hold grudges against children during a divorce. It was not your student's fault, and it is terrible that they rubbed the situation in her face. I hope they read this letter and have a change of heart.

Teachers are wonderful, and thank goodness for teachers like you. Don't underestimate the positive effect you had on that third grader's life with your kindness and empathy. Thank you for all you do.

Dear Annie: I was saddened by the letter from Mad About Mice in which the writer

proudly recounted having captured the little animals and released them elsewhere. Many people believe this is a kind solution, but it actually just assures that they will not have to observe the animals' ordeals themselves.

As The Humane Society explains on its website, the relocated animals are no better off than we would be if we were suddenly deposited in an unfamiliar place with no resources. They don't know where to find food, water or shelter, or what dangers to avoid. If they had been working to store food, their supply is lost. If they have a family, they will never see it again, and their children will die.

Please don't perpetuate this misconception, however comforting it may be to well-intentioned people. If they really want to get rid of unwelcome animals compassionately, they need to learn more about their habits and how to keep them away in the first place. -- Mercy for the Mice

Dear Mercy for the Mice: Thank you very much for this information. I encourage everyone to read the tips published by The Humane Society.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

All the King's Moons

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your soul's intelligence will speak to you in the form of curiosity. People who love you will support your investigation of what you are intuitively drawn toward.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you want people to know what you're thinking, you'll tell them with words, actions and other unmistakable signals. When you don't want people to know what you're thinking, they absolutely won't be able to read you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As much as you'd like everything you own to be useful, beautiful or both, the truth is that your relationship to your material possessions goes far beyond these criteria. You'll pare down today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Most scientists agree we don't perceive all of reality. Some say we don't perceive any of it, if there even is an objective reality. Regardless, you're finding points of agreement in your group that matter quite a lot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've an unparalleled instinct for what's important. You'll focus on the heart of what's happening and find that many time-consuming details can be skipped or delegated.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-

Sept. 22).

Would you rather be like Batman with an ever-loyal Robin or be an Avenger with an entire team around to support you? You'll get the luxury of such a choice today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The old "sticks and stones" saying is both commonplace and erroneous, as words do have the power to harm and deeply wound. You'll be so careful about how you wield them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you think about it, one of your dreams has come true, and you're living it, like it or not. The realization may have you carefully considering what to dream next.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The obstacles are tied to your talents. You cannot have an artistic block if you're not artistic, a writer's block if you're not a writer, a creative block if you're not creative. The breakthrough is imminent.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's the

little flubs that make the process or project relatable. Consider leaving them in. They'll give you an opportunity to connect and share stories.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Tonight brings an impulsive mood, which can lead you to boldness or folly. Take pause, and think about reactions and fallout, especially in regard to the written word and email!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Maybe you are denying another person the full story of who you are, and it's your right to do so. It's not their story. You own your journey and have the right to preserve or present it as you see fit.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 13). The excitement is unfolding before you, a picture of a world slightly altered from the one you knew. The solar return has opened possibilities. The doors need only to be pushed, and you are bold enough to do so. Love and adventure are the prizes or your active push to the limits of your bold impetus.

Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 43, 26, 1 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I have four best friends, and we all hang out together. One friend is always saying things that seem really crazy. She told us that her real dad is a rock star and that she once rode in a jet to a concert with him. She told us that her aunt invented Play-Doh. She told us that she has a boyfriend who grows his own herbs on a farm (even though she's only 16, so that seems really strange), that she once won a lottery and that she's somehow related to a British count who could become the future king of England. Could any of this be true? She's an Aquarius, and I'm a Virgo."

Oh, good! Virgos are excellent sleuths, focusing in on the details to get to the truth. Your Aquarius friend has a wild imagination, which can be a lot of fun. She also may need attention, feel insecure and be trying way too hard to fit in. Treat this like a mystery that's yours for the solving. I see a clue having to do with the succession to the British throne, but I don't want to give it away. In this situation, above all, try to be kind!

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 7 4
♥ K J 7 3
♦ K Q 8 4
♣ 10 4

WEST
♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A J 7 2
♣ Q 6 3

EAST
♠ A J 8 5 3
♥ —
♦ 10 9 5 3
♣ K 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ 10
♥ A Q 10 9 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ A J 9 7

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1♠ 2♥
2♠ 4♥ 4♠ 5♥
Dblc

Opening lead — two of spades.

This deal occurred in the London Sunday Times Invitational Pairs some years ago. It features one of the most successful swindles ever perpetrated in this prestigious event.

Hans Kreyns and Bob Slavenburg of the Netherlands were North-South when the bidding went as shown. West led a spade, and Slavenburg, faced with a seemingly hopeless task, played the king from dummy, losing to the ace. East returned a spade, which Slavenburg ruffed.

South's only real chance for the contract was to steal a diamond trick, so at trick three he led a diamond, hoping West would duck. But West took the ace and led another spade, ruffed again by South.

As anyone can plainly see, declarer still had to lose a club trick and go down one. But Slavenburg, well known for his ability to pull a rabbit out of a hat at the bridge table, made the contract! Deliberately ignoring dummy's K-Q-8 of diamonds, Slavenburg played four rounds of trump, ending in his hand in this position:

North
♦ K Q 8
♣ 10 4
West
♦ J 7 2
♣ Q 6
South
♥ 9
♣ A J 9 7

Slavenburg led his last trump, and West, under the illusion that he had to hold his J-7-2 of diamonds to guard against dummy's K-Q-8, discarded a club. Declarer threw a club from dummy, and now East, who likewise felt he had to keep his diamonds, also discarded a club.

Slavenburg then took the last four tricks with his A-J-9-7 of clubs to which Slavenburg ruffed.

Tomorrow: The truth rises to the surface.

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

#AloneTogether

Staying home saves lives.



For more information, visit coronavirus.gov

	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
5:30 PM	Big 2 ABC	Noticiero	Broke Girl Mom	CBS 7 CBS	Tele Noticias	News News	Christ Cost	Intimate History	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Jurassic Park (DVS)	SportsCenter	SportsCenter Spec.	Sports Polaris	Chicago P.D.	Hoad 1 m On	Street-Memphis
6:30 PM	News Wheel	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7 ET	Minuto para ganar	News News	Familias	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Peyton's	E:60	Mavs Parade	Chicago P.D.	Biography: Dolly	Street-Memphis	
7:30 PM	The Bachelor: Listen-Heart	Ringo	9-1-1 (DVS)	Neighbor	Cennet (SS)	The Voice	News	Antiques Roadshow	Andy G.	Whose?	Fam. Guy	Movie: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (DVS)	NFL Football	2019 WSOP	NBA Basketball	WWE Monday Night RAW	Biography: Kenny Rogers	Street-Memphis
8:30 PM	Baker-Beauty	Sin miedo a la	FOX 24 News at 9	Bull	Operación Pacífico	(:01) Song-land	News	Light of Southwest	Heroes	Seinfeld	American	2019 WSOP	2019 WSOP	Honoring Dirk			(:02) Fast N' Loud	
9:30 PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Independent Lens (DVS)	Heroes	Seinfeld	American	2019 WSOP	2019 WSOP	NBA Basketball	Briarpatch	M. Haggard: Legend	(:02) Fast N' Loud	
10:30 PM	J. Kimmel	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias Titulares	Tonight Show	Words of House	Amanpour-Co	Perry Mason	black-ish	Conan	Movie: Hercules: The Thracian Wars	SportsCenter	2019 WSOP			Biography: Kenny Rogers	Street-Memphis
11:30 PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	Funny	James Corden	La Doña (SS)	Seth Meyers	Dollars	Antiques Roadshow	Twi. Zone	Gold	Conan				Mod Fam	Biography: Kenny Rogers	Street-Memphis	
12:30 AM	Extra	Destilando amor	Two Men	Holly	Caso	Late-Lilly	News	Creation	Hitchcock	Live PD	Brooklyn				Mod Fam		(12:01) Driven	
1:30 AM	Mel Robbins	Como dice el dicho	Simpsons	ET	Programa	Programa	Light of Southwest	Independent Lens (DVS)	Hitchcock	Live PD	Brooklyn				NCIS: Los Angeles	M. Haggard: Legend	(:02) Fast N' Loud	
1:30 AM	(:37) The		Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	Programa	Inside Ed.		Mannix	Paid Prg.	Jokers							

ANDY CAPP

1. THERE WAS A BIG DRAMA AT BETTY'S WEDDING, PET

2. SHE SAID NO AT THE ALTAR

3. BOOH! I'D BETTER GO AND FIND THE FELLA AND CELEBRATE... I MEAN, COMMISERATE WITH HIM

AGNES

1. THE TOAD'S TRAIL LEADS RIGHT TO THE KITCHEN! I'M GOING IN!

2. YOU'LL GET BUSTED! OLD LADY HEMSTED WILL GET YOU SUSPENDED!

3. IT WOULD BE WORTH IT TO SAVE MYSWEET, SWEET MANDALOO!

4. YOU NAMED YOUR TOAD MANDALOO?

5. WHAT?... TOO DISNEY?

6. TOO ETHNIC.

ARCHIE

1. WHAT MAKES YOU QUALIFIED TO WRITE AN ADVICE COLUMN?

2. NOTHING, REALLY, BUT I HAVE TO CONFESS I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!

3. IT MIGHT EVEN BE REASSURING! I WONDER IF OTHER PEOPLE HAVE GOOFY PROBLEMS LIKE MINE.

4. IF THEY DON'T, I'M SURE THEY WILL BY THE TIME YOU GET THROUGH WITH 'EM!

ONE BIG HAPPY

1. DEAR GOD, I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY LETTING PEOPLE INTO HEAVEN AND ALL...

2. AND YOUR SON IS BUSY HELPING SICK PEOPLE.

3. SO I DECIDED TO PRAY TO BABY JESUS. HE'S YOUNG BUT SMART FOR HIS AGE.

4. IF HE'S NOT AVAILABLE, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO HIS MOTHER BECAUSE MOMS ALWAYS KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU.

NEST HEAD

1. PROFESSOR, ARE YOU AWARE THAT MAKING OUR TERM PAPER DUE RIGHT AFTER SPRING BREAK PUTS A DAMPER ON OUR TIME OFF?

2. I AM, MR. STEVENS.

3. ARE YOU AWARE THAT MY TAX RETURNS ARE DUE AT ROUGHLY THE SAME TIME?

4. FOR A HUMANITIES PROFESSOR, YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT PAYBACK.

MOMMA

1. FRANCIS, YOU'RE MUCH TOO SKINNY.

2. AH, BUT THEY SAY YOU CAN'T BE TOO RICH OR TOO THIN..

3. SO?

4. SO, I'M BATTING .500! IS THAT SO BAD?

This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, April 15, the 106th day of 2020. There are 260 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 15, 1913, two bombs made from pressure cookers exploded at the Boston Marathon finish line, killing two women and an 8-year-old boy and injuring more than 260. Suspected bomber Tamerlan Tsarnaev (TAM'-ehr-luhn tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) died in a shootout with police; his brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv), was tried, convicted and sentenced to death.

On this date: In 1452, artist and inventor Leonardo da Vinci was born in or near the Tuscan town of Vinci.

In 1850, the city of San Francisco was incorporated.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln died nine hours after being shot the night before by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington; Andrew Johnson became the nation's 17th president.

In 1912, the British luxury liner RMS Titanic foundered in the North Atlantic off Newfoundland more than 2 1/2 hours after hitting an iceberg; 1,514 people died, while less than half as many survived.

In 1945, during World War II, British and Canadian troops liberated the Nazi concentration camp Bergen-Belsen.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died on April 12, was buried at the Roosevelt family home in Hyde Park, New York.

In 1947, Jackie Robinson, baseball's first black major league player, made his official debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers on opening day at Ebbets Field. (The Dodgers defeated the Boston Braves, 5-3.)

In 1955, Ray Kroc opened the first franchised McDonald's restaurant in Des Plaines, Illinois.

In 1959, Cuban leader Fidel Castro arrived in Washington to begin a goodwill tour of the United States. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles resigned for health reasons (he was succeeded by Christian A. Herter).

In 1974, members of the Symbionese Liberation Army held up a branch of the Hibernia Bank in San Francisco; a member of the group was SLA kidnap victim Patricia Hearst, who by this time was going by the name "Tania" (Hearst later said she'd been forced to participate).

In 1989, 96 people died in a crush of soccer fans at Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield, England. Students in Beijing

launched a series of pro-democracy protests; the demonstrations culminated in a government crackdown at Tiananmen Square.

In 1998, Pol Pot, the notorious leader of the Khmer Rouge, died at age 72, evading prosecution for the deaths of two million Cambodians.

In 2007, riot police beat and detained dozens of anti-Kremlin demonstrators in St. Petersburg, Russia, on a second day of protests against the government of President Vladimir Putin.

Ten years ago: An ash cloud from an Icelandic volcano drifted over northern Europe, causing the largest disruption of flights since the 2001 terror attacks. President Barack Obama, visiting the Kennedy Space Center, predicted his new space exploration plans would lead American astronauts to Mars and back in his lifetime. Civil rights leader Benjamin Hooks, onetime executive director of the NAACP, died in Memphis, Tennessee, at age 85.

Five years ago: Douglas Hughes, a postal carrier from Florida, flew a one-person gyrocopter onto the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol as a protest against money in politics; he later pleaded guilty to operating a gyrocopter without a license, a felony. Former New England Patriots star tight end Aaron Hernandez was convicted in Fall River, Massachusetts, of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison for a late-night shooting that claimed the life of Odin Lloyd, a 27-year-old landscaper who was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée. (Hernandez killed himself in his prison cell in 2017.)

One year ago: A fire swept across the top of the Notre Dame Cathedral as the soaring Paris landmark underwent renovations; the blaze collapsed the cathedral's spire and spread to one of its landmark rectangular towers, but fire officials said the church's structure had been saved. The South Florida Sun Sentinel and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette won Pulitzer Prizes for their coverage of mass shootings at a high school and a synagogue; also recognized was the Capital Gazette of Maryland for its coverage and courage in the aftermath of a deadly shooting in its own newsroom. Aretha Franklin

received an honorary Pulitzer Prize as judges praised the late Queen of Soul for her indelible contribution to American music and culture."

Today's Birthdays: Actress Claudia Cardinale is 82. Author and politician Jeffrey Archer is 80. Rock singer-guitarist Dave Edmunds is 77. Actor Michael Tucci is 74. Actress Lois Chiles is 73. Writer-producer Linda Bloodworth-Thomason is 73. Actress Amy Wright is 70. Columnist Heloise is 69. Actor Sam McMurray is 68. Actress-screenwriter Emma Thompson is 61. Bluegrass musician Jeff Parker is 59. Singer Samantha Fox is 54. Olympic gold, silver and bronze medal swimmer Dara Torres is 53. Rock musician Ed O'Brien (Radiohead) is 52. Actor Flex Alexander is 50. Actor Danny Pino is 46. Actor Douglas Spain is 46. Country

singer-songwriter Chris Stapleton is 42. Actor Luke Evans is 41. Rock musician Patrick Carney (The Black Keys) is 40. Rock musician Zach Carothers (Portugal. The Man) is 39. Actor-writer Seth Rogen is 38. Actress Alice Braga is 37. Americana singer-songwriter Margo Price is 37. Rock musician DeMar Hamilton (Plain White T's) is 36. Actress Samira Wiley is 33. Actress Leonie El-

liott is 32. Actress Emma Watson is 30. Actress Maisie Williams is 23.

Newsday Crossword

PRESIDENT'S DAY by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Long, deep cut
- Two-band, as a radio
- Cavalry outpost
- Beast of a guy
- Wild animal's home
- Cleveland's state
- Of an ocean's rise and fall
- Give a shove to
- Baseball arbiters, for short
- With 56 Across, school founded by 39 Across
- Sandwich breads
- Compass point opposite WSW
- Court prosecutors: Abbr.
- "Now I get it!"
- Caribbean or Mediterranean
- Tooth care specialist
- Weeps audibly
- Guy, in current slang
- Small sample of food
- The third president, born this day in 1743
- More impolite
- Software purchaser
- Centers of solar systems
- Brunch orders with eggs and cheese
- Get ___ of (throw out)
- Hurricane's center
- Room with test tubes
- ___ Force (military pilot's employer)

DOWN

- Big smile
- German auto
- ___ off (keep from happening)
- Mount St. ___ (Washington volcano)
- Pollution in the sky
- See 19 Across
- Chauffeur-driven car
- Tidy
- Tablets from Apple
- Black-and-white cookie
- "If all ___ fails . . ."
- Songs
- ___ over backwards (try hard)
- Flower stalk
- Resorts with hot springs
- Mountains of Switzerland
- Island near Oahu
- Boxer's weapon
- Dr. Jekyll's alter ego
- Top rating for films, usually
- "Good heavens!"
- Ready to harvest
- Throw gently
- A/C measure
- Swamp grasses
- Cost to play a poker hand
- Houston baseballer
- Yawn sound
- One's house
- With gravy, on a steakhouse menu
- Reschedule for later
- Magazine edition
- Rocklike
- Very nervous
- Have a pleasing aroma
- ___ Moines, IA
- Vicinity
- Robin Hood pal ___ Tuck
- Steak selections
- Numbers from 0 to 9
- Tear to shreds
- Messy person
- Boggy ground
- Sign of things to come
- Pool table fabric
- Bouquet holder
- Line on a shopping list
- Granny
- ___ of March (March 15th)
- Donkey

Answer to previous puzzle

WASPS WILY MINE
OREO COOKIE INOC
OIL TANKERS SEND
LAMARR AMASSES
FLAB EBB BUSS
LIQUID ASSETS
TILE CUTTER ANON
EEO EEL BCD CGI
RAGS SENATE SEAT
ILLUSTRATIVE
LOIS PEC AARP
NEATEST FALTER
ODDS NOT FOR SALE
DIEM ADMIXTURES
ETRE GOIN SPITS

4/13/20

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Clemson star Isaiah Simmons a do-it-all talent for the NFL

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**

AP Pro Football Writer

Several years before building a Super Bowl roster in San Francisco, John Lynch the broadcaster was pining for a new kind of defensive playmaker.

What the NFL needed to counter all the offensive innovations driving up scores, he said back in 2013, was a hybrid linebacker/safety who could stay on the field no matter the down and distance, regardless of the pace or the play.

Some players have started to fit that bill, none the likes of Isaiah Simmons. The 6-foot-4, 238-pound Clemson captain lined up at linebacker, over the slot and in the deep middle for the Tigers. He projects as an even more all-purpose pro.

"Simmons is built for today's NFL," said NFL Media analyst Daniel Jeremiah, "and his role could change week to week, depending on the opponent."

Simmons' specialty is his versatility.

"I can fit in anywhere," Simmons said.

Clemson defensive coordinator Brent Venables lined him up all over the field except nose tackle and defensive tackle.

Back in Lynch's playing days and even during most of his time in the broadcast booth, NFL teams leaned toward prototypical prospects who fit the mold as much as the scheme.

"Tweeners," as they were referred to — sometimes derisively — were typically downgraded for their lack of specialization.

Now, adaptability and ambidexterity are attributes.

"I think it's really beneficial for me," Simmons said. "I know years ago it wasn't good to be a position-less guy. But now it's become a benefit for me just because of all the versatility I'll be able to (provide)."

Although he's had some multi-talented predecessors in recent years such as Chargers strong safety Derwin James, there's not been anyone quite like Simmons, who can't even count himself a genuine acolyte of any specific NFL player.

"I don't know if I truly have one person you could compare me to just for all the different things I do," Simmons explained.

That said, he does have a trio of superstars he models.

"If I have to go look at film of somebody to get something, it would be Von

Miller just for pass rush, Jalen Ramsey for man techniques and Tyrann Mathieu just because he plays around everywhere, as well," Simmons said.

While Mathieu can play anywhere in the back seven, Simmons produced at all three levels on defense at Clemson. He seamlessly transitioned from defending the deep pass to covering tight ends over the middle, thwarting running backs in the box and rushing the passer off the edge.

Playing up to five positions on an afternoon wasn't uncommon nor physically too demanding for Simmons.

"The hardest part about it is just the mental aspect, having to know what everybody else has to do," Simmons said. "That was the most complicated thing I had to deal with. But I learn everything very fast. ... At Clemson our back seven, we all meet in the same room, so I'm able to hear everything all at one time as opposed to having to go from room to room."

He doesn't have a position preference in the NFL.

"I like an interception just as much as I like getting a sack," Simmons said. "I don't think I have a favorite."

Although he worked out with the linebackers at the NFL scouting combine, Simmons had a quick retort for anyone asking what position was in his blood.

"Defense," he'd say with a million-dollar smile.

It's not as if he'll have to choose one position or another in the pros, either.

"He can do anything," Jeremiah said. "... So with a guy like Isaiah Simmons, whether you want to list him as a linebacker or safety, I know you plug him into that defensive scheme and week by week you can deploy him in different ways depending on what the strength of your opponent is.

"That's why he has so much value."

Simmons believes NFL coaches will prove just as creative as Venables and Dabo Swinney in capitalizing on his many skills.

"Mentally I feel like there isn't anything I can't do," Simmons said, suggesting he's the remedy for all those terrific tight ends winning so many mismatches on Sunday afternoons.

"The game is evolving," Simmons said, "Something has to be done to stop these Travis Kelces and George Kittles out there."

And he's just the man for the job.

Or jobs.

Virus costly to draft prospects needing face time with teams

By **ERIC OLSON**

AP College Football Writer

The NFL's shutdown because of the coronavirus pandemic is denying teams the opportunity to get face time with draft prospects who have been injured, have checkered pasts or are under the radar.

Those players are at risk of being selected lower in the draft than they would be in a normal year.

"That's definitely a factor for some of these guys," Baltimore Ravens general manager Eric DeCosta said. "It's really been up to the individual teams, and the agents and the players to find a way to get us all of the information that we require."

Those who performed poorly at the scouting combine in February won't get another opportunity. Those who skipped drills at the combine because of injury or other reasons won't get a pro day or private workout.

And those who had off-field issues during in-person interviews that are more in-depth than meetings at the combine.

The NFL on March 13 barred all in-person pre-draft visits, effectively canceling pro days and prospects' visits to team headquarters. Only a handful of pro days had been held.

Prospects and their agents have gotten creative, sending teams videotapes of workouts. Zoom or Skype has been the medium for interview, and teams have worked with college

athletic training staffs to procure as much detailed medical information as possible.

"This is such a strange draft," said NFL.com analyst and former Dallas Cowboys player personnel director Gil Brandt a Pro Football Hall of Famer. "Where you used to be able to accumulate numbers to predict success or failure, there's a limited amount of those numbers available. There are some good players in the draft who all look alike, and that's where the more information you get, the better off you are as far as picking one over another."

Some players who could have been well-served with more personal contact with teams:

QB TUA TAGOVAILOA, ALABAMA

If not for the gruesome hip injury he suffered Nov. 16, Tagovailoa would be the first or second overall pick. Now there's debate whether he or Oregon's Justin Herbert will be the second quarterback taken after LSU's Joe Burrow.

"He's a left-handed Drew Brees," Brandt said, "so I don't think you have to worry about his ability. You have to worry about him medically."

Medical reports were upbeat at the combine. Though it's been suggested he'll need to sit out the 2020 season to truly get back to full strength, agent Leigh Steinberg told the AP: "His health is just fine. There's two doctors that have seen him, Dr. Lyle Cain

(Alabama's orthopedic surgeon), and Dr. Chip Routt, who performed the surgery. Both have said that he is healthy and he'll be lively and ready to go for training camp and the likelihood of recurrence is very low."

But he also has had two ankle injuries and played through a broken finger and knee injury. It would have helped for him to get in front of team doctors.

No one will see him work out in person, either, though his prodigious on-field production speaks for itself. Alabama's March 24 pro day was canceled, and he had to call off an April 9 workout he planned for scouts.

S ASHTYN DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

Surgery for a groin injury kept Davis out of the Senior Bowl and from drills at the combine. He went through medical checks in Indianapolis and planned to flash his speed at Cal's pro day on March 20 and in private workouts. The cancellations cost the Pac-12 hurdle champion a chance to challenge Javelin Guidry's 4.29-second 40, the fastest by a defensive back at the combine.

TE C.J. O'GRADY, ARKANSAS

O'Grady comes with baggage, and he didn't distinguish himself at the combine. Then he chose to not participate in a pro day March 11. He set the Arkansas career record for touchdowns by a tight end and meets the eye test. But he has a drunken-driving arrest and was suspended three times before he was dismissed in early November.

He's unable to personally show teams he's cleaned up his act, though he did say at the combine his dismissal stemmed from his immaturity.

WR TEE HIGGINS, CLEMSON

Higgins' 6-foot-4 frame and superb hands stand out in a deep pool of receivers. Speed is the question, and a private workout might have helped. He sat out drills at the combine, saying he hurt his groin two or three weeks earlier, and he said he aggravated the injury while running a 4.54 40 at his March 12 pro day.

OL KEVIN DOTSON, LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE

The first-team All-American wasn't invited to the combine and had his April 1 pro day canceled. The 6-4, 321-pound guard has raw power and a high ceiling. Even though he got a long look from scouts at the East-West Shrine Game, he surely would have benefited from a pro day and team visits.

WR LAVISKA SHENAULT, COLORADO

Shenault had surgery to repair a core muscle injury a few days after he ran a 4.58 40 at the combine, and he wasn't able to do drills at Colorado's pro day March 11. He's also had shoulder and toe injuries, so there are durability questions. The versatile playmaker looked like a first-round pick after his breakout season in 2018. His health, coupled with his production falling off last year, might keep him on the board longer than he expected.

Game off: Youth baseball leagues scrambling amid pandemic

By **WILL GRAVES**

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The end to months of fundraising, planning and practice ended with a press release and tears.

Mike DeLuca envisioned his youngest son, John, capping his baseball career the same way most 12-year-old All-Star squads from Monroeville, Pennsylvania, had for the last two decades: with a week spent playing teams from all over the country at Cooperstown Dreams Park in early August.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in the United States and the shutdowns began. The sprawling complex near the Baseball Hall of Fame in central New York was no exception. Park officials announced in March they had canceled the entire 2020 summer tournament season.

When Mike DeLuca told his son, the boy cried.

"It's devastating," said DeLuca, who is also the team's coach. "But it also is a hard lesson in life and unfortunately thousands upon thousands of 12-year-olds are learning this lesson right now. It's still a kids' game. They should always play like the cliché says: Play it like it's your last game, because you never know."

No one does.

Youth sports leagues and businesses all over the country are scrambling, though baseball and softball are feeling immediate effects more acutely than most. Basketball and hockey seasons are over, their tournaments called off. Soccer runs year-round in many places. Football for many seems months away.

Baseball and softball had an estimated 4.5 million players between the ages of 6-12 in 2018, according to the Aspen Institute. Yet fields normally filled with the familiar "ding" of aluminum bats this time of year now sit silent — a particular sting as winter finally gives way to the warmth of spring.

"It's like Mother Nature is mocking you," said Lefe Hermansen, treasurer of North Shore Little League in the northern Seattle suburbs.

Hermansen's sons, ages 14 and 11, are trying to fill the void with games of catch in the yard and batting practice in the garage. It will have to do for now even as their patience is being tested while they wait until at least May 11 — the date until which Little League International has (for now) suspended all league activities.

President Donald Trump tweeted he hopes youth baseball returns "soon." Soon enough to salvage some semblance of a season? That's where things start to get tricky.

Even if federal guidelines limiting crowd size are eased, it doesn't mean teams will sprint to the field to play. Some leagues are already offering refunds to families wary of having their kids put back in a team setting.

Others are concerned about the potential financial fallout.

The cost for returning sponsors in the Capitol Hill Little League in Washington, D.C., is \$800. Most are small businesses, many of which have been hit hard by the slowing economy. League president David Fox wonders if those businesses would be better served asking for their donations back.

"That \$800 might go to pay and, quite honestly, should go to pay people who need it rather than a logo on the back of a T-shirt," Fox said.

Which might produce a ripple effect a year from now. Capitol Hill LL needs to pay three different entities for field permits, an expensive proposition even for a league whose participation levels increased dramatically this year following the Washington Nationals' World Series triumph. A drop in sponsorship could curtail momentum.

"We couldn't do anything else," Fox said. "Couldn't do tournaments. Couldn't do any fun activities. We were actually starting a pretty robust fundraising effort. But we can't do clinics, can't pay beyond fields and equipment if we lose 15% to 20% of our sponsors."

The stakes are higher for Matt DeSantis, president and CEO of AC Baseball, which organizes

baseball and softball tournaments in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and South Carolina.

With the calendar seemingly changing by the day, DeSantis and his handful of full-time employees are scrambling to find a way to accommodate more than 1,400 teams that registered to play this spring and summer. He hopes the \$2.2 trillion federal stimulus package helps him avoid layoffs.

DeSantis is offering teams scheduled to play in May the option to find a tournament later in the summer. While a Canadian club has bailed, no one else has taken him up on it.


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We don't ask for an arm or a leg, but we DO want your tows!
Remember To SHOP Local!

5715 W-I-20 (432) 267-3747

Tita's MEXICAN KITCHEN
We are open for take-out orders!
Please remember your friends & neighbors that own businesses during this challenging time!
Live Local • Eat Local Shop Local!
(432) 517-4455
904 E. 3rd St.

Full Spectrum CBD & Hemp Products
We may not be able to cure the CORONA VIRUS...
But we can cure the ANXIETY IT CREATES!
Highest quality CBD & Hemp products in West Texas
Oils, Relief Creams, Gummies, Pet Treats, Hemp Flower AND MUCH MORE!
1000 S. Main St. (325) 575-9202

As our country deals with the many changes in store, we ask that you be kind & considerate of your neighbors. Remember, we are in this together!

Mique Yarbar
Cell: (432) 213-5259

Support Big Spring Businesses!
HOME REALTORS

Franklin & Son, Inc.
Join us in supporting Our local, home-owned businesses during this difficult time!
Live Local, Eat Local, Shop Local!
(432) 267-6337 408 Runnels St.

WILD WINGZ WEST WEST
BIG SPRING, TX
Our dining room is unavailable, but we are still happy to serve you by Carry-Out, Delivery or Drive-Thru!
Remember To Support Family Owned Businesses!
(432) 517-4368 1506 E. 4th St.

Fowler Insurance Agency
Please remember our hometown businesses during this period.
SHOP LOCAL!
In God We Trust!
108 South Salem Rd. Big Spring, TX
(432) 393-5712 Fax: (432) 393-5773

DCSS
BIG SPRING, TX
603 S. Gregg
(432) 264-7584
www.DrugSafety.com
Accessories for TDCJ & GEO
• Handcuff Holders
• Gas Holders
• SWAT Boots
• Smocks/Vests
• Hats

AMERICAN Towing & Roadside
Support your local towing companies!

Paul & Shea Chapman
Owner
432-466-5080
12407 E. Interstate 20 Coahoma TX. 79511
americantowingandroadside@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook & Google

Tony's Paintless Dent Repair
Remember to support your local business and restaurants!
Thank you Big Spring for your continued support!

1010 E. 4th St. (432) 263-7831

PHARMACY BAR & PARLOR
Serving Carryout Menu 11am-8pm
432-267-7500

HOTEL SETTLES
Settles GRILL

Kelly Newton Insurance
This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider.
We ♥ Big Spring
Let's Keep Big Spring Booming By Supporting Our Local Businesses.
(432) 263-5517

603 S. Gregg St. (432) 264-7584

• Drug Testing
• Safety Supplies
• FR Clothing
• GA S Monitors
• H1-VIS Safety Vests

www.DrugSafety.com

Pizza Inn
We are still open!
While our dining room is closed, we are still serving you via our delivery and curb-side services.
Thank you for your continued support!
(432) 263-1381 700 E. FM 700