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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 AUGUST 18, 2021

The Law Offices Of
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BigSpringLaw.com
 1301 S. Gregg St. • (432) 264-1800

VOLUME 116, NUMBER 284

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75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Announcements

Due to staffing issues, Big Spring Senior Center will only serve curbside meals until at least Tuesday, August 24. The center will be closed to congregate meals for the rest of the week. To order curbside meals call 432-267-1628. For questions/concerns please contact the Community Services Office at 432-264-2516.

SMMC will host a Drive-thru vaccine clinic Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m.

Alive After 5 Expedition Royalty Aug. 19 5-6:30 p.m. Great networking opportunity for business owners and community members.

Wishing all area schools - students, teachers and administrators - a great new year as classrooms begin to welcome back students.

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Watch out for kids in school zones

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

Registration for Forsan, Coahoma and Big Spring has been taking place, and families are preparing to head back to school schedules. Big Spring ISD students will be heading into the 2020-2021 school year, on Aug. 18, and with classes starting school zones - which have been stagnant and empty for the past five months - will be seeing increased traffic again, which means it's time to raise awareness for safety precautions. Forsan will be heading back on Aug. 12 and Coahoma will be back in the classroom beginning Aug. 11, each also having their designated school zones.

School lights will once again start flashing serving as a reminder to slow down, be extra cautious, and adhere to school zone laws. School zones will be active Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.



dropping the speed limit in those areas to 20 mph. The lights on School Zone signs will begin flashing again, and the Big Spring Police Department reminds the community while in a school zone the speed limit is strictly enforced during the designated hours.

"Our citizens need to remember during school time hours there will be more vehicle congestion around the schools

and roads adjacent to the schools," Big Spring Police Department Chief Chad Williams, said.

In addition to the reduced speed limits in school zones, use of wireless communication devices is prohibited in school zones. However, according to Chief Williams, wireless communication is allowed in school zones if a hands-free device is used or the vehicle is stopped. Patrol officers will also be watching to ensure seat belts are being worn as required by law.

"While Covid-19 has had an impact on numerous aspects of our lives over the past several months, and it could possibly have an impact on the traffic in the school zones, we are planning and anticipating the increased traffic flow," Chief Williams said. "We want to remind our citizens to be vigilant while driving in and around school zones for children walking to and from school.

See **SAFETY**, Page 3

Savannah's got a brand-new bike

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer



Courtesy photo

Savannah Smalling, center, poses on her new three-wheeled bike. The bike can be powered by pedal, by hand, or both, and has a big basket on the back. With her are parents, Candice and Raymond Smalling.

Big Spring's Savannah Smalling has a brand-new bike.

The 22-year old woman lives with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and has had several surgeries recently to relieve intracranial hypertension. But her infectious smile and wonderful spirit has drawn her a big fan club locally.

"Everybody in town knows her. She's quite popular," Savannah's mom Candice said. "She's loved. We can't make a Wal-Mart trip short because everybody knows her."

Recently, the Big Spring Centennial Lions Club decided to thank Savannah for making Big Spring a better place to live by getting her a new set of wheels.

"We've helped out with the Lions Club before, and they always get a kick out of her," Candice said. "David (Stives) from the Lions Club called me and told me about the program that they had learned about, that San Angelo had bicycles, They give bicycles to the handicapped."

The bicycles available through the program are designed to be easy to use.

"They're three-wheeled bicycles, and they have various ones. They have foot pedaled, hand and foot pedaled, and just hand pedaled," Candice said. "We thought we were just going to get a foot pedaled one, but this bicycle you can do with your feet, or you can (move levers back and forth with your hands) and it powers the bicycle. Or you can do both at the same time."

Savannah has had her new bike - bright red, naturally - for about a month now.

"I like it!" she said. "I'm still trying to get the hang of it. They all have baskets in the back, so I could bring stuff when I go places."

Savannah said she prefers using just her feet on flat or downhill grades, but tackles the uphill slopes with both feet and hands.

"Only on my street...our street. We live on the base, and our road kind of loops around," Savannah said. "I just use it for exercise for now. Maybe when I get really good at it, there's a Dollar General near us and a DK. I could go there if I get really good at it. I can't turn around right now. I just go back

See **BIKE**, Page 3

New Hawk Faculty:

April Langehennig, Theater instructor

Editor's note: This story is part of a series introducing the new faculty members at Howard College for the 2021-22 fall semester.

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Local theater students - and theater fans - are in for a treat this fall.

There's a new theater professor at Howard College, and she has some big plans for the future of the school's theater department as well as for theater



Langehennig

projects in Howard County.

April Langehennig said she grew up in Brownfield and attended South Plains College in Levelland before obtaining her bachelor's degree at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview and her master's de-

gree in Theater from the University of Houston.

Langehennig said she had aspirations for a music-focused career when she started college.

"My sister is actually the one who got me into theater. We've directed shows together. We've actually directed over 100 shows together," she said. "Like most people in rural West Texas, I was in band and choir and ag and everything else. I went to school to be a dual

See **HC**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Ann Posey Brigman

Ann Posey Brigman, 69, was called home to the Lord on Sunday, Aug. 15, 2021. A Celebration of Life will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2021, at Wayne Boze Funeral Home in Waxahachie, Texas.

Ann was born in Big Spring, Texas, on Sept. 3, 1951. She graduated from Big Spring High School and received her bachelor's and master's degrees in Special Education from Texas Tech University. Ann was a true Red Raider for life. She was an elementary special education teacher in Dallas ISD and a high school counselor in Cedar Hill, Waxahachie and Midlothian Independent School Districts. She was loved by many kids and students and was always available for them throughout her career and afterwards. After retiring, she was a real estate agent for Judge Fite in Waxahachie for six years where she received numerous top producer awards.

On Nov. 30, 1978, Ann married the love of her life, Fred Louis Brigman. She lived in Maypearl, Texas and enjoyed spending time at their ranch, Woody's

Clarence "Bud" Elbert Graham Jr.

Clarence "Bud" Elbert Graham, Jr., 78, of North Richland Hills, Texas, passed away Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, at his residence. Graveside services will be 2 p.m., Aug. 20, 2021, at Trinity Memorial Park, Big Spring, Texas.

Bud was born July 27, 1943, in Tom Green County, Texas, to Clarence Elbert Graham Sr. and Laura Isabel Smith Graham. Bud married Ruth A. Griffin Graham, in October 1982 and she preceded him in death in 2013. Bud married Patsy Sue Sorrells (Carr) Graham, June 2014 in Tarrant County, Texas.

Bud was a retiree from the State Hospital in Big Spring, Texas where he worked as a Mechanical Engineer while raising horses as his avocation. He

Double T, in Paducah, Texas (named after her father, Woodrow, and her grandchildren, Tristin and Taylor.) In her spare time, Ann loved making crafts - jewelry, dog treats, wreaths, etc. - which she sold at craft fairs and other establishments. All proceeds were donated to rescue animal groups and the SPCA. In addition, Ann was known to visit the casinos on occasion.

Ann is survived by her husband Fred; her adopted son, Ivan; daughter-in-law, Tracy; grandkids, Tristin and Taylor of Maypearl. She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Woodrow and Adele Posey.

Although Ann had tremendous medical problems and challenges throughout her life, she always had a positive attitude. She touched many lives as a counselor and as an advocate for rescue animals. She adored her personal pets in a way that no one can believe. Ann was an angel in disguise and will be greatly missed by all who dearly loved her. She was a true West Texas girl, and her final resting place will be at her ranch in West Texas.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to SPCA of Ellis County; <https://www.sPCA.org/ellis-county-sPCA>.

Paid Obituary

Rona K. Thames

Rona K. Thames, 55, of Huntsville Texas, passed from this earth Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021, after losing her battle with COVID and a several other health issues.

Rona was born October 12, 1965 in Snyder Texas to Roy M. Sturdivant and Helen Warden.

She was a devoted Christian woman and a Loving Wife, Mother and Grandmother. Rona left her mark on everyone's hearts who knew her. Nothing brought her more joy than her sons and grandchildren.

Rona spent a vast portion of her years in Gail Texas before she moved to Huntsville.

Rona is survived by her husband; Brandon W. Thames, of Huntsville; sons, Cory A. Teel and his wife Ashley of Big Spring, Christopher E. Teel of Washington; Tyler C. Thames and his wife Robin of Crosby; six grandchildren with one on the way; Mother, Helen Warden; sisters; Schon Shosey and Family, Barbara White and Family, Donna Bias and Family, Brother; Paul Sturdivant and Family, Aunt Beverly Sharp Beatty; Numerous Nieces and Nephews. She is also survived by a very large number of family, friends, and loved ones.

Rona was preceded in death by her father; Roy M. Sturdivant.

Celebration of life to be held in Gail, Texas, on Sept. 4, 2021.

Paid Obituary

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 6600 block of Craig Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2700 block of S. Anderson Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1300 block of Runnels Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2000 block of S. Runnels Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg Street. No transport was required.
- **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 1600 block of Osage. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of S. Benton Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **ROAD FREIGHT/TRANSPORT VEHICLE** was reported on fire in the area of MM 194 I-20. The fire was contained.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a

loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association and The Associated Press.
Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings. All materials copyrighted.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$14.00 monthly; \$149.00 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$17.00 monthly Howard; \$20.00 elsewhere.

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NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$0.236777 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Howard County Junior College District.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.236777 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.237548 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.244764 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Howard County Junior College District from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Howard County Junior College District may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Howard County Junior College District is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 30, 2021 AT 12:30 pm AT Howard College Student Union Building/Fireplace Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Howard County Junior College District is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Trustees of Howard County Junior College District at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:	Dr. John Freeman	Mr. Maxwell Barr
	Mrs. Patricia Bennett	Mr. Adrian Calvio
	Mr. Michael Flores	Mr. Mark Morgan
	Mr. Ben Zeichick	

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

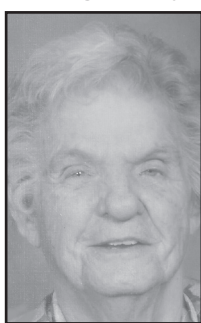
The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Howard County Junior College District last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Howard County Junior College District this year.

	2020	2021	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.216675	\$0.236777	increase of 0.020102, or 9.28%
Average homestead taxable value	\$90,252	\$96,883	increase of 6,631, or 7.35%
Tax on average homestead	\$195.55	\$229.40	increase of 33.85, or 17.31%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$13,574,811	\$13,574,790	decrease of -21, or 0.00%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Howard County Junior College District at (432) 264-2232 or tiffany.sayles@howardcountytx.com, or visit www.co.howard.tx.us for more information.

Obituaries

Margaret Eileen Martin Ridgway



Margaret Eileen Martin Ridgway went on to glory Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2021, at the age of 84. A Memorial Service for Margaret will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 21, at the 14th & Main Church of Christ in Big Spring, Texas.

Margaret was born in Big Spring, Texas to William Boynton Martin (Preach) and Mary Grace Phillips Martin on July 28, 1937.

Margaret attended West Texas State University and graduated with a degree in Physical Education. She met her husband, Roger, while at college and they married Aug. 4, 1956.

Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Roger and her parents.

Margaret had a passion for the Dallas Cowboys and Texas Rangers. She had a long career as a women's softball player and she loved singing with the Heaven Generation Singers and Sweet Adelines.

She leaves behind her three children: Patti La Bombard (David), Nancy Collins (Doug) and John Ridgway (Angela); nine grandchildren: Patrick Hughes, Wesley Burnett, Skylar Farr, India Morris, Robert Bills, Melloney Burnett, Brent Burnett, Latrecia Jordan and Amanda Cullum; 21 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that you send donations to the Alzheimer's Research.

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

Paid obituary

Richard Allan Hall



Richard Allan Hall, 78, died Thursday, August 12, 2021. Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church Chapel.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Linda Hall; daughter, Jodi and her husband, Layne; his sister, Nancy Wagner; and three grandsons; two granddaughters; his in-laws; and three great-grandsons.

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

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 113 inmates at the time of this report.

- **STANISLAUS ELISE HANA**, 20, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of violate promise to appear and consumption of alcohol by minor.

- **JOE LUIS MIRAMONTES**, 49, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of evading arrest detention.

- **ANTHONY ANDREW RIVAS**, 25, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of no driver license when unlicensed, violate promise to appear, bail jumping and fail to appear, disregard stop sign, display fictitious motor vehicle registration, no drivers license when unlicensed, fail to maintain financial responsibility.

- **ADRIAN RODRIGUEZ**, 42, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of probation violation - poss dangerous

- **JOHNNY ALLEN TONN**, 66, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of display fictitious motor vehicle registration, wrong fictitious, altered, obscure, parole violation.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Jimmy Ray Sims, 78, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

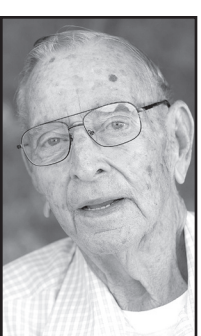
Richard Allan Hall, 78, died Thursday. Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church Chapel.

Clara Hilario, 85, died Friday. Vigil service will be 700 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

George Smith, 84, died Saturday. The family will receive friends 7 a.m. until 8 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Hillcrest Baptist Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Delfina Leos, 91, died Saturday. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

George S. Smith



George S. Smith passed away on August 14, 2021, at the age of 84.

He was born on October 9, 1936, in Roscoe, Texas, to S.E. Smith and Bonnie Younger Smith. George married Elizabeth Largent on February 28, 1958, in Big Spring. He worked at the Cosden refinery for 30 years.

George was a devout Christian with a generous heart who loved helping others. He was an avid woodworker and handyman, and enjoyed spending summers at his mountain cabin in Cloudcroft.

George is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Smith; son, Danny Smith and wife, Dana; daughter, Kim

Bradberry and husband, Bob; daughter, Lisa Barber; grandson, Matthew Bradberry and wife, Taylor; grandson, Christopher Bradberry; grandson, John Barber and wife, Summer; three great-granddaughters; brother, Chester Smith and wife, Terri; and sister, Glenna Hampton and husband, Robert. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Michael Smith.

Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, August 20, at Hillcrest Baptist Church. Viewing is Thursday, August 19, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home (301 East 24th Street) and visitation with the family is from 7 to 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Hillcrest Baptist Church, 2000 West FM 700, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

Paid obituary

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1

Some children may be hard to see due to their size and may not be watching for cars, and as drivers we need to be cognizant of that."

Drivers are encouraged to not only be on high alert when driving through school zones, but also to exercise patience as they travel through or around school zones, especially during the first few weeks back. During the first few weeks, parents and students may be adjusting to a new campus, new routine and/or new traffic routes which could lead to increased congestion.

"The community can help us as this new school year approaches by making sure they are giving themselves plenty of time when leaving for work, especially if their route includes traveling through one or more school zones," he said. "Also, regardless if there are other vehicles or children around, adhering to the school zone speed limit of 20 and removing all distractions

while driving through school zones to ensure everyone stays safe."

According to Chief Williams, police officers will be patrolling school zones throughout the school year and drivers are expected to adhere to school zone laws while driving in the area.

"Each year we see traffic complaints from citizens as the new school year starts. Again, this usually works itself out within a couple of weeks," Chief Williams said. "We do work with BSISD to assist with any traffic issues each year."

The BSPD also offers a few safety tips for those students who will be walking to and from school:

- Parents should plan a safe route for their children

- Young children, if possible, should walk with an adult or older students

- Children should not horseplay while walking to or from school including pushing or shoving each other or chasing each other when near the street

- Children should be reminded not to take rides from strangers or anyone if it was

not arranged with their parents first

Watch for cars while crossing the street, driveways and intersections. Children crossing the street should always stop at the curb or edge of the street, look in all directions for traffic and do not cross until the roadway is clear. While crossing, continue watching traffic.

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

BIKE

Continued from Page 1

and forth on the straight. Right now it's hard to get up the hill, even with feet and hands."

Savannah, a graduate of Big Spring High School, attends daytime rehab and vocational training regularly. She also operates a her own business selling Paparazzi Jewelry, and volunteers with the Symphony Guild, helping out with fundraising at Symphony concerts.

"I like to do crafts and I like hanging out with friends," she said.

"In the summer I like to go swimming."

Candice said she values the potential for increased independence the bike offers Savannah.

"As she works up to being able to go further and further, she could get a little more independence, because she can't go anywhere without me," she said. "That's kind of what that kind of bicycle is meant for, people who can't drive."

Savannah is featured on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/My.Sweet.Savannah.Smalling>. The local Lions Club can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lionsbig-spring/>.

HC

Continued from Page 1

Music and Instrumental major, and then when it sort of came down to it, the question was asked, 'Do you want to be on stage or in the pit?' and I was like, 'I want to sing and dance, of course I want to be on stage.' Then I realized that if I did theater, that every aspect that I was trying to figure out in college, what I was enjoying doing, would finally come together if I did theater."

Langehennig returned to college, this time at Texas Tech University, where she obtained her Master of Fine Arts degree.

She's excited to be taking the theater reins at Howard, she said.

"I think junior colleges are so important. It's where I've always wanted to end up," she said. "I know some people think, 'Oh, a junior college is a stepping stone to university,' and I'm like, 'Whatever! That's not at all what it is.' I think the junior college is so important, especially for students who are from smaller schools and especially in the arts. Because you do come from backgrounds like myself, that I did everything. I was in 5 million things. Then once you get to college, you really have to start focusing down."

Langehennig explained that junior colleges can help students focus in on their dreams.

"When I was at Wayland, we would have, like, 38 majors come in as freshmen from all the little schools up in the pan-

handle. They would come in to be majors," she said. "Then it was like, 'You can't do this and this and this and this and this. You're in theater now, so now you've got to do theater.' Instead of having a bridge to understand how to do theater, because it's very time consuming, a lot of them would just go, 'Okay then, never mind. I'm not going to do it,' and lose that passion, because they just became overwhelmed. So I'm super excited to be able to not only grow and facilitate our own students that we already have, but also be able to open up the college to be able to bring in high school One-Acts for a festival. That's one nice thing about being an adjudicator. They can come in and we can work on their shows, and they get to see what Howard College is all about, as well as my students being able to help them in the long run."

She plans to have her theater students jump in with both feet, as well as begin to incorporate students from throughout the college, she said.

"We'll be doing a week of short plays at the very

beginning of the semester," Langehennig said. "We'll audition on a Friday, and start rehearsals on Monday, and the show will go up on Friday. It'll be small duets and trio scenes. They're cool plays, but they're really short. Some of them are just absolutely hilarious. I like to do a lot of David Ives' stuff. He understands that art for really well."

After that, she's got a big Christmas play cooking for the end of the fall semester.

"For our fall show, we're looking to do one right after Thanksgiving at the beginning of the Christmas season, and doing a Christmas show," she said. "I'm not saying which one we're doing just yet because I haven't gotten to meet all my students. I try never to choose a show without making sure I'm serving all my students first and foremost. We're hoping to bring in actors from the community as well. I know that's something people have been wanting."



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No. 6 Texas A&M will replace Mond at QB with King or Calzada

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — For the first time since arriving at Texas A&M, coach Jimbo Fisher doesn't have Kellen Mond at quarterback.

But with a veteran-laden defense and a powerful running game the sixth-ranked Aggies believe they can contend for their first national title since 1939 despite a new face at QB.

Fisher returns for his fourth season at Texas A&M after leading the Aggies to a 9-1 record last year with their only loss coming to national champion Alabama in the second game of the season.

Haynes King and Zach Calzada have both been taking snaps with the first team since camp started and Fisher wouldn't say whether one of them leads the QB competition so far.

"We're in a really, really good situation," he said. "I love our (quarterbacks) room, however that situation turns out."

Offensive coordinator Darrell Dickey also didn't indicate who he favors for the job and raved about both players.

"Haynes is probably one of the best pure athletes on the team, but Zach has also got some athletic ability of his own," Dickey said. "Zach may be one of the best throwers of the ball that I've worked with. He's a very

gifted thrower. Haynes is also a very gifted thrower. Both are very competitive."

Regardless of who wins the job, Fisher and Dickey are counting on the team's veterans to help make his transition to starter easier.

"The one thing you have to guard against with a new quarterback is the feeling they have to make every play, and everything is all on their shoulders," Dickey said.

SPEEDY SPILLER

Running back Isaiah Spiller is expected to power Texas A&M's offense after running for 1,036 yards as a sophomore last season. Spiller was a Doak Walker Award finalist in 2020 after ranking third in the SEC by averaging 103.6 yards rushing a game in a year where the Aggies ranked second in the league in yards rushing a game.

"He's as good a running back as there is, as far as making people miss, running between the tackles, catching the ball out of the backfield, and then we can line him up in the slot," Dickey said. "He's a playmaker out there."

Texas A&M's running game should get a boost this season with the development of Devon Achane, a sprinter on the track team, who ran for 364 yards on just 43 carries as a freshman last season.

LEAL LEADS

Athletic Overview for Howard County

Herald Staff Report

Fall Athletics are ramping up.

Meet the Bulldogs will be taking place Thursday, following the Coahoma - Post football scrimmage at the Bill Easterling Memorial Stadium. This will be an opportunity to meet all the students taking place in Fall sports - cheerleading and band. Meet the Bulldogs will begin around 8:15 p.m.

The Big Spring Steers will be holding a community pep rally on Aug. 23. The community pep rally will take place at Memorial Stadium from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.

On Thursday, the Steer Tennis Team will be taking to the court to play in Big Spring.

Forsan Buffaloes will be facing off against Roscoe at 6:30 p.m. at Forsan and the JV Buffs will face off at 5:30 p.m. There will also be a Forsan Volleyball Tournament taking place for JV and Varsity from Aug. 19-21 at Forsan.

The Forsan Trail Booster Club will be holding a Golf Tournament on Aug. 21 at Comanche Trail Golf Course, with a shotgun start at 8:30 p.m.

Forsan JH and High School Cross Country will also be competing in the Tall City Meet in Midland on Saturday, Aug. 21.

DeMarvin Leal leads a defense that returns nine starters, and the defensive end is projected to be one of the top players in the country. The junior led the Aggies last season with eight quarterback hurries and had 37 tackles. At 6-foot-4 and 290 pounds, Leal is a disruptive force whose fumble recovery against Florida last season set up Texas A&M's game-winning touchdown.

ANCHORING THE LINE

Left guard Kenyon Green is the only returning starter on the offensive line. Green had a great 2020 season where he was named first-team All-America by FWA and The Sporting News after helping the Aggies allow just seven sacks all year and rush for 205.1 yards a game. The 6-4, 325-pound

Green started each game last season and has 23 starts in his career.

SCHEDULE STUFF

The Aggies open the season Sept. 4 against Kent State before playing Colorado in Denver on Sept. 11. They open SEC play Sept. 25 when they face Arkansas at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

The game already circled on many calendars is Oct. 9 when Texas A&M hosts top-ranked Alabama. The Aggies will try to snap an eight-game skid to the Crimson Tide and get their first win in the series since a 29-24 victory in 2012 in Johnny Manziel's Heisman Trophy-winning season.

The schedule also includes home dates against Auburn and South Carolina and visits to Missouri and LSU.

Prescott's preseason plan cloudy as Cowboys bring camp home

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Dak Prescott's only chance to play in the preseason will be this week, and the star quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys still isn't fully cleared after pulling himself from practice at training camp in California on July 28 with a right shoulder injury.

There's a chance Prescott will go into the opener against Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay without having taken a snap in a game since the severe ankle injury that ended his 2020 season in Week 5.

Before the club's first camp practice at team headquarters Monday night after three weeks on the West Coast, coach Mike McCarthy said Prescott won't play in the preseason if he doesn't get into the home exhibition opener against Houston on Saturday night.

"We'll see how the week goes, but there's no urgency from my perspective to see Dak play against Houston," McCarthy said. "This is more about we don't want to create a setback possibly."

Prescott, who signed a club record \$160 million, four-year contract in March, is throwing more in practice than he did for the first two weeks after feeling pain in his throwing shoulder while warming up for practice.

The 2016 NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year made

about two dozen throws during individual work at the team's indoor practice facility on Monday before sitting out the 11-on-11 work again.

Prescott had his second MRI over the weekend, and the injury is progressing as planned after the Cowboys consulted the medical staffs of the New York Yankees and Texas Rangers and followed their recommendation of rest.

Before the Cowboys left California, Prescott said he hoped to play against the Texans. That appeared less likely with him still watching team drills Monday.

"I'm a go-go-go guy. I always want to be in the action," Prescott said last week. "I think the more reps are better, better for me. But something like this you can't stress it too fast. It's just the risk versus the reward at this point, and I've got to know what I'm playing for, and that's to be ready for this season."

Prescott said doctors believe the injury "was a little bit of a freak thing," although the two-time Pro Bowler also says it could have been an aggressive plan with throwing, including in the early stages of rehab from the compound fracture and dislocation of his ankle that led to two surgeries.

Receiver CeeDee Lamb isn't concerned about missing quality time with Prescott, who will go at least three weeks without team work in practice. The team changed the schedule for the first week of

camp at home and won't practice Tuesday.

For Lamb, the presence of Prescott matters as much as anything after the injured QB missed most of last season.

"He's definitely done a great job of just being around us in the locker room," Lamb said. "His presence is there. His leadership is evident. Everything remains the same. It's just not having him out here. It's tough, but I'm sure I'll see him again soon."

The first camp practice for fans at home in two years included the return of receiver Amari Cooper, who had offseason ankle surgery. Defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence joined Cooper on the physically unable to perform list at the start of camp and still hasn't worked back into team drills.

Cooper had one catch in team drills that drew a "Coooooop" call from a crowd that filled about half of the team's 12,000-seat indoor practice field, which also serves as a high school stadium.

"I know for a fact that he wishes he could be out there in Oxnard also," Lamb said. "Just going out there, playing for him, playing through him, and whatever he sees, he'll help me be better."

NOTES: DT Neville Gallimore and TE Sean McKeon are expected to miss significant time after getting injured in the second preseason game against Arizona. Gallimore dislocated his left elbow, and McKeon has a high ankle sprain.

Rockets' Brooks closes Summer League by making 9 3-pointers

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Armoni Brooks made nine 3-pointers and scored 30 points to help the Houston Rockets close out their NBA Summer League schedule with a 95-92 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Tuesday.

Brooks shot 9 of 17 from 3-point range and 10 of 19 overall. His final 3-pointer broke a 90-all tie and put the Rockets ahead for good with 40.1 seconds left.

The 23-year-old Brooks played 20 games for the Rockets this past season and averaged 11.2 points.

Houston went on a late 12-0 run to take control after trailing for most of the game.

Josh Christopher scored 20 points and Justin Anderson added 19 for the Rockets. Antonio Blakeney scored 23 and Michael Beasley had 16 for the Trail Blazers. Portland's CJ Elleby had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

MAVERICKS 83, HEAT 82
Feron Hunt's follow shot with 12.4

seconds remaining gave Dallas a victory over Miami that assured the Mavericks didn't finish Summer League play winless.

Carlik Jones, an undrafted rookie free agent from Louisville, scored 21 points for the Mavericks. Robert Franks had 18 points and Devontae Shuler added 16.

KZ Okpala had 16 points for the Heat. Micah Potter, an undrafted rookie free agent from Wisconsin, provided 15 points, 10 rebounds and five blocks.

Miami rallied from a 17-point deficit to grab an 80-79 lead on Okpala's 3-pointer with 1:29 remaining. Hunt

sank a pair of free throws to put Dallas back ahead with 44 seconds left, but Miami

regained the lead on Potter's putback with 26 seconds left.

Dallas then pulled ahead for good when Hunt converted an offensive rebound off a missed shot from Carlik Jones.

76ers 103, JAZZ 98

Jaden Springer, the 76ers' first-round draft pick from Tennessee, scored 21 points to help Philadelphia beat Utah.

The 28th overall draft pick shot 8 of 14 from the floor and 5 of 6 on free-throw attempts.

Utah's Paul White injured his knee in the first quarter. White slipped on the floor and had to be helped off the

court.

Jarell Martin had 23 points, 12 rebounds, four assists and four steals for the Jazz. Dakota Mathias scored 22 points. MaCio Teague added 17 points and 12 assists.

Aaron Henry and Paul Reed scored 17 apiece for the the 76ers. Frank Mason III scored 15.

RAPTORS 86, NETS 72

Matt Morgan scored 24 points and Toronto beat Brooklyn despite committing 22 turnovers.

The Raptors didn't play Scottie Barnes, the No. 4 overall pick in the

See **SUMMER**, Page 10

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5:30	Big 2 Good Morning Basin	Como dice el dicho	Paid Prg. Business	CBS7 Wake Up	Al rojo vivo (SS)	Newsweek 9	Hidden Restaura	Cat in the Hat Ready Jet	Paid Prg.	More Hair Paid Prg.	Matters George	Charmed	SportsCenter	Keyshawn, JWill and Zubin	Kill Lock	NCIS: Los Angeles	Jeremiah Joyce M.	Underground
6:30		¡Despierta América!	Les Feld Robison	CBS7 Wake Up	Hoy día (SS)	Newsweek 9 Today	Truth for Life	Peg & Cat Super	Paternity Court	Millionaire	George	Charmed	SportsCenter		MLB Baseball: Mariners at Rangers	NCIS (DVS)	Huckabee Paid Prg.	Underground
7:30	Good Morning America		Space Wom	CBS This Morning			Light of Southwest	Tiger	CBS7 Wake Up	Jerry	Broke Girl	Charmed	Get Up	SportsCenter		Law & Order: SVU	The Inside Story: The Silence	Underground
8:30			Fox 24 News AM				Light of Southwest	Sesame Elinor	CBS7 Wake Up	Steve Wilkos Show	Broke Girl	Charmed		SportsCenter	Camp Sports	Law & Order: SVU		Underground
9:30	The 700 Club		Wendy Williams	Kelly and Ryan	Caso cerrado (SS)	Today 3rd Hour	Issues4 Our Mess	Clifford Dinosaur	Kelly Clarkson Show	Steve Wilkos Show	Friends	Supernatural	First Take	Get Up	Kickboxing	Law & Order: SVU	Invisible Monsters: Serial Killers	Underground
10:30	The View	Como dice el dicho	The Real	The Price Is Right	Caso De'siones	Today-Hoda	Families of Nature	Go Luna	Drew Barrymore	Mauri	Friends	Supernatural				Law & Order: SVU		Expedition Unknown
11:30	Jeopardy	Noticiero	Tamron Hall	Young & Restless	Más sabe Noticias	The Dr. Oz Show	Shepherd's Heart	Nature	The Doctors	Mauri	Friends	Supernatural	SportsCenter	First Take		Law & Order: SVU	Invisible Monsters: Serial Killers	Expedition Unknown
12:30	GMA3: What	Hoy (SS)	TMZ Live	News Bold	Pasión de gavilanes	Days of our Lives	You Need The China	Molly Hero	Dateline	Hot	Friends	Supernatural	SportsCenter		ATP/WTA Tennis: Western & Southern Open, Second Round.	Law & Order: SVU		Expedition Unknown
1:30	General Hospital	La madrastra	The People's Court	The Talk	En casa con	Blast	Eye on	Cyber	The First 48	Paid Prg.	Friends	Supernatural	Jalen	SportsCenter		Law & Order: SVU	Invisible Monsters: Serial Killers in America	Expedition Unknown
2:30	Rachael Ray	Rosa de Guadalupe	Judge Mathis	Let's Make a Deal	(1:58) Suelta la sopa	Ellen DeGeneres	Light of Southwest	Pink Elinor	Monk	Jerry	Friends	Movie: Geostorm (DVS)	NBA: The Jump	Daily Wager		Law & Order: SVU		Expedition Unknown
3:30	Jdg Judy	El gordo y la flaca	The List	Kelly Clarkson	(2:58) Al rojo vivo	Dr. Phil	Light of Southwest	Donkey Curious	Mauri	Jerry Springer	American	Movie: Pacific Rim, Idris Elba (DVS)	NFL Live	Baseball Tonight		Law & Order: SVU		Expedition Unknown
4:30	DailyMail Jeopardy!	Primer impacto	Broke Girl	CBS 7	En casa con	News	Ignite	Curious	25 Words	black-ish	American	Movie: Need for Speed, Imogen Pools (DVS)	Little League Softball	Around Pardon	Inside Life	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Noticias	News	The Gath	Molly King	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Burgers	Movie: Need for Speed, Imogen Pools (DVS)	MLB Baseball: Boston Red Sox at New York Yankees.	Fantasy Football Draft	Rangers Pregame	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
6:30	News	Fútbol	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatión Estados Unidos (SS)	News	Israel	Wild Kratt	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite		Track and Field: American Track League.	MLB Baseball: Seattle Mariners at Texas Rangers.	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
7:30	Press Your Luck	Fútbol Mexicano Primera División	MasterChef	Big Brother		America's/ Talent	News	Odd	Dateline	Riverdale	Big Bang					Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
8:30	\$100,000 Pyramid		(01) Beat Shazam	House Calls	Hercari: amor	Family Game Fight!	Light of Southwest	Arthur	Dateline	In the Dark	Big Bang					Law & Order: SVU	Killer	
9:30	Superstar	Fútbol Mexicano Primera División	FOX 24 News at 9	The FBI Declassified	Café con aroma de	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	Cyber	Mike	News	Big Bang	Movie: Need for Speed, Imogen Pools (DVS)	SportsCenter			Law & Order: SVU	The Critical Witness	(:11) Hunting Atlantis
10:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Dr. Wil	Donkey	CBS 7	Gold	George		SportsCenter	Women's International Champions Cup	Postgame Camp World Poker	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
11:30	Nightline	Noticiero	Funny	James Corden	Sin Senos Si	Seth Meyers	Issues4	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	George	Movie: War of the Worlds, Miranda Otto (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers.	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
12:30	Extra	Contacto deportivo	Two Men	Simpsons	Drew Barrymore	News	Jesus IS	Xavier	Forensic	Short List	George		SportsCenter	NFL Live		Law & Order: SVU	Killer	
1:30	Paid Prg. Healthy	Un gancho al	Pawn	Dr. Carras	Programa	Programa	Light of Southwest	Molly Hero	Jerry Springer	Seinfeld	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	UFC Unleashed		Law & Order: SVU	The Critical Witness	(:11) Hunting Atlantis
2:30	(.06) ABC World News Now	Vecinos	Paid Prg.	(.07) CBS Overnight News	Programa	Programa	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Minute	Homeown	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	MLB Baseball: Red Sox at Yankees	SportsCenter	Postgame AVP Pro Beach Vol H2O X5	Dateline	Paid Prg. Lock	Shipwreck Men
3:30		El gordo y la flaca	Paid Prg.		Noticias	Film Fic	Cost	Odd	Paid Prg.	Grow Hair	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans				Dateline	Paid Prg.	Shipwreck Men
4:30	Morning	Noticiero	Two Men	News	Programa	Programa	Early Tdy	Heritage	Arthur	Paid Prg.	RELIEF	Matters				Dateline	Paid Prg.	Shipwreck Men

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A horrible nightmare

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠AK4
♥A5
♦A7654
♣Q64
WEST
♠—
♥KQJ1098
♦KQJ1098
♣J
EAST
♠J97532
♥42
♦—
♣K932
SOUTH
♠Q1086
♥763
♦3
♣A10875

strong two-bid — even though he has 10 sure tricks in his hand — but that's beside the point. The bidding thereafter doesn't go the same way every time, but somehow South always winds up playing the hand in seven spades!

I always double him — call it a compulsive double if you will — and he always redoubles and makes the grand slam. This comes to a tidy 3,140 points, and, frankly I can't afford to lose that many points on one deal, even when I'm asleep.

West invariably leads the king of hearts. Declarer takes it with the ace and returns the queen of clubs. I cover with the king, and South wins with the ace, catching my partner's jack. He then enters dummy with a diamond, leads the six of clubs and lets it ride.

South next repeats the finesse against my nine, cashes a high club, discarding a heart from dummy, and ruffs a heart with the four of spades. After that, with six tricks to go, he crossruffs the hand as I sit by helplessly undertrumping everything he plays.

My hope is that by writing to you about my terrible dilemma, perhaps it will somehow go away.

Expectantly, Earl E. Rizer.

Tomorrow: Diabolical defense.

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Annie's Mailbox

Regaining Trust Takes Time

Dear Annie: I love reading your column. I found out three years ago that my husband of 33 years was having an affair with his bookkeeper. We have a business together, but I stepped out of the business part years ago to become a nurse.

Supposedly, the affair has ended, but he refuses to let her stop being his bookkeeper. It's been three long years of wondering. I have no idea about the financial part of the business.

My heart breaks because we have been together since high school, but I can't continue to have all these doubts. Any suggestions without tearing my world apart? -- Heartbroken

Dear Heartbroken: Doubting and not knowing for sure is one of

the most difficult positions to be in. It's better to know for sure than to constantly doubt. What your husband did made you lose your trust, and once trust is gone from a relationship, it takes a lot of steps to regain that. Keeping the woman who he had an affair with employed is unacceptable. You have every right to feel heartbroken, but know that you will heal from this. Consult the help of a professional therapist to help you deal with the betrayal of your husband. From there, you can decide if YOU want to stay with him and what YOUR terms are for keeping this relationship going.

Once a decision is made, you will start to feel better and heal from the trauma that you suffered.

Dear Annie: I am a real estate broker responding to "Middlewoman," who expected

a referral fee for recommending a friend for web design.

Any expectation of a referral fee needs to be communicated up front. If a referral fee is going to be paid, the person providing goods or services needs to know the amount ahead of time so they can take that into consideration when bidding on the job.

"Middlewoman's" friend may have quoted a lower price for a friend of a friend. If she later learns she is expected to pay a referral fee, that could mean she makes no profit at all.

Communicating expectations is the key. I agree with you that a friend should not charge a fee for recommending a friend. If the two friends are in the same line of business and one refers a client to another because,

for some reason, they cannot do the job themselves, then a referral fee might be appropriate. That does not seem to be the case here. It did not cost "Middlewoman" anything to mention a name. -- Need to Be Clear

Dear Need to Be Clear: Thank you for your letter. Communication from the beginning is always a good way to ensure smooth sailing down the road, and expecting others to read your mind is always a prescription for misunderstanding.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book -- featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information.

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

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- ### WORDS
- AQUEOUS HUMOR
 - BROW
 - CATARACTS
 - CONJUNCTIVA
 - CONTACTS
 - CORNEA
 - CORRECT
 - DUCT
 - EYEGLASSES
 - FOVEA
 - IRIS
 - LASHES
 - LENS
 - LIDS
 - MACULA
 - NERVE
 - OPTIC
 - PUPIL
 - RETINA
 - SCLERA
 - STYE
 - TEARS
 - VISION
 - VITREOUS

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

White House: Taliban allowing 'safe passage' Kabul airlift

By **ROBERT BURNS, ELLEN KNICKMEYER and ZEKE MILLER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Taliban have agreed to allow "safe passage" from Afghanistan for civilians struggling to join a U.S.-directed airlift from the capital, President Joe Biden's national security adviser said Tuesday, although a timetable for completing the evacuation of Americans, Afghan allies and others has yet to be worked out with the country's new rulers.

Jake Sullivan acknowledged reports that some civilians were encountering resistance — "being turned away or pushed back or even beaten" — as they tried to reach the Kabul international airport. But he said "very large numbers" were reaching the airport and the problem of the others was being taken up with the Taliban, whose stunningly swift takeover of the country on Sunday plunged the U.S. evacuation effort into chaos, confusion and violence.

Pentagon officials said that after interruptions on Monday, the airlift was back on track and being accelerated despite weather problems, amid regular communication with Taliban leaders. Additional U.S. troops arrived and more were on the way, with a total of more than 6,000 expected to be involved in securing the airport in coming days.

Pentagon spokesman John Kirby disclosed that U.S. commanders were speaking with Taliban commanders "multiple times a day" about avoiding conflict at the airport.

This suggested that the new rulers of Afghanistan, who swept to power after 20 years of war against the U.S.-supported Kabul government, plan not to disrupt the evacuation. Kirby would not discuss details of the Taliban arrangement, and Sullivan said the question of how much time the Taliban will give the evacuation was still being negotiated.

Biden has said he wants the evacuation completed by Aug. 31. Sullivan declined to say whether that deadline would hold.

Gen. Frank McKenzie, head of U.S. Central Command and overall commander of U.S. troops in Kabul, made an unannounced visit to the Afghan capital on Tuesday. In a written statement, he said he found that military air traffic controllers and ground handlers were "rapidly scaling up" airlift operations.

McKenzie on Sunday negotiated the safe passage agreement with Taliban leaders in talks held in Doha, Qatar.

"I cautioned them against interference in our evacuation, and made it clear to them that any attack would be met with overwhelming force in the defense of our forces," McKenzie said. "The protection of U.S. civilians and our partners is my highest priority and we will take all necessary action to ensure a safe and efficient withdrawal."

At the White House, Sullivan said U.S. officials were engaged in an "hour by hour" process of holding the Taliban to their commitment to allow safe passage for civilians wishing to leave the country. Asked whether the Biden administration recognizes the Taliban as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan, Sullivan said it was too soon to say and that the Taliban's record of adhering to international human rights standards "has not been good."

Overnight at the airport, nine Air Force C-17 transport planes arrived with equipment and about 1,000 troops, and seven C-17s took off with 700-800 civilian evacuees, including 165 Americans, Army Maj. Gen. William Taylor told a Pentagon news conference. The total included Afghans who have applied for Special Immigrant Visas and third-country nationals, he said.

The goal is to ramp up to one evacuation flight per hour by Wednesday, with potentially a total of 5,000 to 9,000 evacuees leaving per day, Taylor and Kirby said. Taylor said that more than 4,000 U.S. troops are now at the airport.

That number is expected to top 6,000 in coming days, with airport security to be headed by an

82nd Airborne commander.

On Monday the airlift had been temporarily suspended when Afghans desperate to escape the country breached security and rushed onto the tarmac. Seven people died in several incidents.

Kirby, said U.S. commanders at the airport are in direct communication with Taliban commanders outside the airport to avoid security incidents. He indicated this communication was in line with the arrangement that McKenzie worked out with the Taliban on Sunday.

Kirby said there have been no hostile actions by the Taliban, and that several hundred members of the now-defeated Afghan army are at the airport assisting in the evacuation.

Kirby said during television interviews that plans were being made to house up to 22,000 evacuated Afghans and their families at three U.S. Army installations in the continental United States. Those locations are Camp McCoy, Wisconsin; Fort Bliss, Texas, and Fort Lee, Virginia.

On Monday, a defiant Biden rejected blame for chaotic scenes of Afghans clinging to U.S. military planes in Kabul in a desperate bid to flee their home country after the Taliban's easy victory over an Afghan military that America and NATO allies had spent two decades trying to build.

Biden called the anguish of trapped Afghan civilians "gut-wrenching" and conceded the Taliban had achieved a much faster takeover of the country than his administration had expected.

The U.S. rushed in troops to protect its own evacuating diplomats and others at the Kabul airport.

But the president expressed no second thoughts about his decision to stick by the U.S. commitment, formulated during the Trump administration, to end America's longest war, no matter what.

"I stand squarely behind my decision" to finally withdraw U.S. combat forces, Biden said, while acknowledging the Afghan collapse played out far more quickly than the most pessimistic public forecasts of his administration. "This did unfold more quickly than we anticipated," he said.

Despite declaring "the buck stops with me," Biden placed almost all blame on Afghans for the shockingly rapid Taliban conquest.

At home, it all sparked sharp criticism, even from members of Biden's own political party, who implored the White House to do more to rescue fleeing Afghans, especially those who had aided the two-decade American military effort.

"We didn't need to be seeing the scenes that we're seeing at Kabul airport with our Afghan friends climbing aboard C-17s," said Rep. Jason Crow, a Colorado Democrat and Iraq and Afghanistan military veteran.

He said that is why he and others called for the evacuations to start months ago. "It could have been done deliberately and methodically," Crow said. "And we think that that was a missed opportunity."

Associated Press writers Darlene Superville, Matthew Lee, Eric Tucker and Mary Clare Jalonick in Washington and Kirsten Grieshaber in Berlin contributed to this report.

50-280 (Rev. 8-19-15)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Forsan Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM CST, August 30, 2021 in Board Room, Forsan JH/HS, 411 W 6th. St Forsan, TX

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ <u>0.9634</u> /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$ <u>0.28</u> /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	<u> </u> % increase	or	<u>4.34</u> % (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0.31</u> % increase	or	<u> </u> % (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u> </u> % increase	or	<u>3.75</u> % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>875,094,262</u>	\$ <u>799,553,842</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>4,079,661</u>	\$ <u>4,870,767</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>661,205,215</u>	\$ <u>562,756,379</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>4,549,092</u>	\$ <u>4,732,153</u>

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 12,365,257.36

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 8-19-15) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.9664	\$ 0.30 *	\$ 1.2664	\$ 11,558	\$ 1,739
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.02274	\$ 0.23579 *	\$ 1.25853	\$ 10,025	\$ 2,410
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.9634	\$.28 *	\$ 1.2434	\$ 9,942	\$ 2,574

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 138,535	\$ 147,914
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 85,828	\$ 93,332
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.2664	\$ 1.2434
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,086.93	\$ 1,160.49
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 73.56

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.2434 . **This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of** \$1.2434 .

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 7,262,256
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 2,388,537

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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Yanks overtake Red Sox for wild card with doubleheader sweep

By JAKE SEINER

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Luis Gil posted his third straight scoreless start to begin his career, Luke Voit and Giancarlo Stanton homered, and the New York Yankees beat Boston 2-0 Tuesday night to sweep a doubleheader and move percentage points ahead of the Red Sox for an AL wild-card spot.

In the opener, Jonathan Loaisiga stranded the bases loaded in Boston's final at-bat for a gutsy two-inning save after New York capitalized on a wild outing by Red Sox relievers for a 5-3 victory.

The Yankees have won five straight and 12 of 15 to narrowly overtake Boston for second in the AL East — New York is 68-52 and the Red Sox 69-53, a difference of .001 percentage points. The Yankees were 10 1/2 games behind first-place Boston on July 5 but have gone 26-11 since.

The Red Sox had seemingly snapped out of a 3-11 slump when they swept last-place Baltimore for three games over the weekend. Now, Boston is suddenly out of postseason position after leading the division for much of the season.

Gil (2-0) allowed three hits and four walks and struck out four over 4 2/3 innings. He has yet to allow a run in 15 2/3 big league innings, the longest stretch to start a career by a Yankees pitcher since at least 1961, according to Elias. The previous best was Joba Chamberlain at 15 1/3 innings in 2007.

Gil is the only major league pitcher since at least 1901 with no runs allowed and 15 or more strikeouts through his first three games, according to YES Network.

The 23-year-old Gil — pronounced like "heel" — cruised into the fifth before allowing two singles and a walk. Left-hander Wandy Peralta relieved and retired lefty-hitting Rafael Devers on an inning-ending fielder's choice, preserving the 2-0

lead.

Boston had runners at first and third in the sixth with two outs when pinch-hitter Bobby Dalbec ripped a comebacker that appeared to hit Peralta in the shoulder. Peralta scrambled for the ball near the third-base line and fired to first just in time to retire Dalbec.

Chad Green closed out the ninth for his fifth save and second in two days.

Voit poked a 98 mph fastball from Nathan Eovaldi (10-8) over the wall in right for a solo homer in the second. It was Voit's sixth homer of the season and second in three days.

The 2020 big league home run leader seemingly lost his job at first base when the Yankees acquired Anthony Rizzo from the Cubs on July 29, but he's taken advantage of steady playing time with Rizzo on the COVID-19 injured list. Rizzo is expected back in the next couple of days.

Stanton led off the fourth with his 19th home run. Eovaldi worked five innings and was charged with two runs, seven hits and a walk with six strikeouts.

FOR STARTERS

Loaisiga pitched a perfect sixth in the first game before Boston loaded the bases with no outs in the seventh on three singles — two of them soft, well-placed grounders. Pinch-hitter Travis Shaw lined out to left in his first at-bat since being claimed off waivers Sunday, but the ball wasn't deep enough for a sacrifice fly.

The 26-year-old Loaisiga then struck out Kiké Hernández and Hunter Renfroe — the latter on a caught foul tip — and let out a vicious yell following his fifth save.

"He didn't flinch," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "You could just see his confidence out there, like, 'I got this.' He was able to execute and wiggle out of it."

The Yankees have played a majors-most 68 games decided by two runs or fewer. Their .661 winning percentage (45-23) in those games is best in the big leagues.

Red Sox relievers Garrett Whitlock (4-2) and Josh Taylor combined to walk the bases loaded with one out in the fifth inning before Voit floated a two-run single to shallow center for a 4-3 lead.

Boston issued six walks over the final two innings.

Albert Abreu (2-0) got the final out of the fifth and the win.

STRIPE EARNED

Bronx-born Yankee Andrew Velazquez got his first RBIs in pinstripes with a two-run single off starter Tanner Houck in the second inning for the first game that put New York ahead 2-0.

"Just another day, better seats," the Fordham Prep grad joked. "No, it was a culmination of a lot of things. ... That hit alone made everything worth it."

TRAINER'S ROOM

Red Sox: INF Christian Arroyo (left hamstring strain) was set to start a rehab assignment with Triple-A Worcester. ... OF Danny Santana (left groin strain) could start a rehab assignment this week.

Yankees: RHP Luis Severino will be shut down from throwing this week while he awaits a second opinion for his tight right shoulder. Severino had an MRI on Monday, but Boone declined to share details on the diagnosis until the second opinion came back, likely on Wednesday or Thursday. ... INF/OF Miguel Andújar (left wrist strain) was scheduled to start a rehab assignment with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

UP NEXT

The rivals conclude the three-game series with Boston RHP Nick Pivetta (9-5, 4.20 ERA) facing Yankees LHP Andrew Heaney (7-8, 5.78).

Big 12 teams face forfeits if virus keeps them from playing

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Big 12 teams unable to play a game this fall because of COVID-19, or any other reasons, will have to forfeit and be given a loss in the conference standings.

The Big 12 released its game threshold policy Tuesday. A no contest would be declared only if both teams are unable to compete, and there are no plans to make up any games not played as scheduled.

Roster thresholds that were in effect for the Big 12 last season are no longer in play. Teams without at least 53 available players, and a minimum number at certain positions, could get a no contest declared last year if unable to play and unable to reschedule the game.

The Big 12 said a forfeit can happen at any point before a completed contest, and when possible would occur prior to the visiting team traveled to the game site.

Both teams would be deemed to have played the game for the purposes of conference standings only, with the team not forfeiting being credited with a win.

Pac-12 officials said last week that its teams that cannot play because of COVID-19 issues will likely be forced to forfeit games, with the conference reinstating its forfeiture policy after it modified its rules last season because of the pandemic. SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey has been clear that forfeits — not postponements, like last year — were on the table in his league.

The Big 12 last season got 43 of its 45 scheduled conference games played.

A's right-hander Chris Bassitt struck on head by line drive

Oakland Athletics right-hander Chris Bassitt was carted off the field Tuesday night after he was struck on the side of the head by a line drive in the second inning against the Chicago White Sox.

With two on and no outs, Bassitt threw an 89.5 mph cut fastball that Brian Goodwin drove right back up the middle. Bassitt went down on the mound right after he was hit, holding his head, and his teammates quickly waved to the dugout for assistance.

As players on each side looked on, Bassitt was attended to by an Oakland trainer and other personnel before he was helped into the back of a cart while holding a towel to his face. A's center fielder Starling Marte had his hands on his head as Bassitt was driven by him.

The team said Bassitt was "conscious and aware," and was taken to a hospital.

The 32-year-old Bassitt, who broke into the majors with the White Sox in 2014, is in the midst of a breakout season for Oakland. He was 12-3 with a 3.06 ERA in 24 starts heading into the game, leading the AL in victories.

Burch Smith replaced Bassitt on the mound.

SUMMER

Continued from Page 4

draft. The Nets rested rookie first-round draft picks Cam Thomas and Day'Ron Sharpe.

Morgan shot 9 of 12 overall and 4 of 6 from 3-point range.

Brandon Knight scored 15 points for the Nets, who shot just 31.7%. Knight, the No. 8 pick in the 2011 draft, has scored over 6,000 career points but wasn't part of any NBA team this past season.

LAKERS 84, WARRIORS 76

Trevelin Queen scored 21 points and Los Angeles rallied from a 17-point deficit to beat Golden State.

The Lakers outscored the Warriors 34-13 in the fourth quarter.

Justinian Jessup scored 18 points, Kyle Guy had 16 and Moses Moody added 14 for the Warriors. Golden State selected Moody out of Arkansas with the 14th pick in last month's draft.

The Warriors didn't play rookie Jonathan Kuminga, the seventh overall pick in the draft.

Los Angeles rallied to take a 74-72 lead on Vic Law's jumper with 2:31 left. Moody tied the game by dunking with 2:09 remaining, but Law scored to put the Lakers ahead for good with 1:34 left.

PELICANS 87, TIMBERWOLVES 59

Naji Marshall had 10 rebounds and 10 assists to

go along with five points as New Orleans rolled past Minnesota to finish Summer League action unbeaten.

The Pelicans didn't play rookie first-round draft pick Trey Murphy.

The Pelicans and Timberwolves both headed into this game with identical 4-0 records. The Boston Celtics and Sacramento Kings reached Tuesday night's Summer League championship game instead because they also were unbeaten and had bet-

ter point differentials.

Daulton Hommes scored 17 points for the Pelicans. Isaiah Miller had 13 points for the Timberwolves, who shot just 29.2%.

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