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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

AUGUST 27, 2013



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 268

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



Chris Wigington, left, is shown with Big Spring Independent School District Board President Irene Rodriguez after being named interim superintendent of the school district Monday evening.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Chris Wigington named interim superintendent

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees didn't have to look far to find an interim superintendent. Trustees emerged from a 90-minute closed session Monday to name Chris Wigington, the district's director of student services, to temporarily replace former Superintendent Steven Saldivar. Wigington was selected from among four candidates for the position, including BSISD Assistant Superintendent Danny Ferrell and

Executive Director for Personnel and Instruction Ann McClarty. His appointment was approved by a 6-1 vote from the board — the lone dissenter was trustee Pat DeAnda. "Chris, I just wanted you to know my vote wasn't against you personally," DeAnda said after the selection was made. "I just thought we needed to go in a different direction." Wigington has 24 years experience in the education field, the last 10 years as an

See **WIGINGTON**, Page 3

Green to pull double duty as JP

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Bennie Green will be pulling double duty for the foreseeable future. Howard County commissioners learned during their regular meeting Monday that Green, justice of the peace for Precinct 1, Place 1, will temporarily cover Precinct 2, as well. Pct. 2 JP Quail Dobbs verbally informed commissioners earlier this year he would retire from his position at the end of the year. Recently, however, he wrote a letter to County Judge Mark Barr stating he is unable to discharge

his duties, at least for the time being.

In response, Barr and the commissioners' court has appointed Green to "double dip," so to speak, covering both his court and Dobbs', which encompasses Coahoma and Sand Springs. Green will be compensated for his extra duty, however long it takes, Barr said. While it is unknown when Dobbs can resume his JP duties, the court has been busy searching for his eventual replacement. Barr said nine ap-



Green

plicants for the position have been interviewed, although no one can be appointed to the post until Dobbs officially resigns. "Until that happens, our hands are kind of tied," Barr said. Also Monday, commissioners approved renewal of the physician services agreements. Those agreements spell out which local doctors and nurse practitioners will work with the county's indigent healthcare department. Eight percent of the county's budget — about \$900,000 this coming fiscal year — goes toward providing medi-

cal help for this area's poorest residents. "They are the poorest of the poor," said Irene Dominguez, indigent healthcare director for the county. "Not that many people qualify for the program because they have to meet some very stringent standards. If they qualify, they see doctors who participate in our program, and the county pays their costs." Currently, about 100 people are helped through the program, she said. In other business, commissioners approved:

- Records archive fee increases for the district clerk

and county clerk offices.

- An interlocal agreement with the city of Big Spring to allow the Big Spring Fire Department to sell two surplus fire trucks to the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department.
- Authorizing Barr to sign off on the sale of property near the county barn.
- An interlocal agreement between the county and West Texas Centers that will allow WTC to operate the county's mental health center.

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

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HC commissioners back down from 6-cent tax hike

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Howard County property owners apparently won't be in for as big an increase in their tax bills as originally feared. During a budget work session Monday, county commissioners decided to back away from a 6-cent increase for the upcoming fiscal year. Instead, consensus was reached of going with the "effective" tax rate of 36 cents per \$100 valuation, which would raise the same amount of revenue as last year. That figure would still represent a 3-cent increase over the current rate, officials said. Commissioners looked long and hard at adopting a tax rate of 38.7 cents per \$100 valuation, mainly because of the uncertain fiscal climate facing the county. Mineral values, which had been expected to increase this year, instead went down and County Judge

Right now, it's all what-ifs and maybe-sos. If values continue to fall ... I believe we will be able to make our case to the taxpayers if we have to go with the rollback rate or even higher. For this year, I think we should go with the effective rate.

—Commissioner Jimmiy Long



Mark Barr said there was no guarantee they would stabilize in the near future. "If everything was hunky-dorey ... I'd be fine with going with the effective rate," Barr

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

Plum Creek bridge on FM 1785 slated for replacement

The Texas Department of Transportation will begin a project in early September to replace the bridge over Plum Creek on FM 1785 in Howard County. Crews will start the work by building a temporary bridge as a detour. The detour will be open to one lane of traffic and will be controlled by portable traffic signals. Drivers should approach the area with caution and obey all traffic signals and other warning devices. The new bridge should be completed by early 2014. A Greater Austin Development Concrete Construction of Austin was contracted to complete the work for about \$634,000.

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Obituaries

Santos Diaz Lopez



Santos Diaz Lopez, 74 passed away Saturday, Aug. 24, 2013, at his residence. Services for Mr. Lopez will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013, at The Church of the Blessed with Pastor Johnny Perez officiating. Burial will follow at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park under the direction of Broadway Funeral Directors. Mr. Lopez will lie in state at The Church of the Blessed all day today with a Celebration of Life service being held tonight at 7 p.m.

Santos was born Jan. 31, 1939, in Big Spring to Ponciano and Hortencia Lopez. He married Flavia Sanchez on May 29, 1956 in Midland. After working for many years as a concrete laborer, Mr. Lopez opened Southwestern Concrete, which he co-owned

with his son for more than 19 years. He enjoyed fishing, watching the Rangers and Cowboys games and spending time with his family and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Tony Lopez of Shallowater and Felipe Lopez of Lubbock; three daughters, Yolanda Valdivia, Belinda Solis and Melissa Ann Leo, all of Lubbock; one brother, Habacue D. Lopez of Big Spring; four sisters, Martha Sandoval of Nebraska, Maria Luisa Ladesma and Anna Lopez, both of Big Spring, and Rosa Flores of Colorado City; 18 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one son, Santos Lopez Jr.; two daughters, Irene Mendez and Gloria Ann Lopez; three brothers, Lucas Lopez, Ponciano Lopez Jr. and Joel Lopez; three sisters, Manuela Rosales, Maria Elena Gonzalez and Ruth Contreras; and one granddaughter, Amy Vasquez.

Paid obituary

Vicki Lynn Parks



Vicki Lynn Parks, 59, passed away at her home in Colorado Springs, Colo., Aug. 23, 2013, after a battle with brain cancer. She is survived by her husband, Robert Parks of Colorado Springs, Colo.; her daughter, Skydria 'Sky' Hall and husband Tom of Colorado Springs; her son, Jeremy Parks and wife Jessica of Colorado Springs; her son, Daniel "Dino" Parks and wife Joy of Glenwood Springs; her mother, Mattie "Lee"

Turner of Big Spring, Texas; her father-in-law, Walter "Walt" Parks of Albuquerque, N.M.; her sister, Andrea "Andy" Moore and husband Dave of Early, Texas; her sister, Julie Bartlett and husband Jeff of Coahoma, Texas; nine grandchildren; numerous nephews, nieces, cousins; and one great-grandchild due this year.

Vicki grew up in Big Spring, where, in 1972, she met her husband. Vicki was a missionary with her husband and their family. She spent the better part of her adult life working as an office manager for State Farm Insurance in Big Spring, Albuquerque and Colorado Springs.

Services for Vicki will be held Saturday, Aug. 31 at 10 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel - 906 S. Gregg St. Big Spring, Texas 79720, followed by a graveside ceremony led out by procession from the funeral home to Trinity Memorial Park.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations are sent to the Vicki Lynn Parks Living Trust, P.O. Box 76776 Colorado Springs, CO 80970 or to Penrose-St. Francis Health Foundation, in honor of Vicki Parks for cancer research, 2222 North Nevada Avenue Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

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

Police/Sheriff

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

- DANNY RAY ELLIOT JR., 22, of 1302 Mesa, was arrested Monday on a charge of criminal mischief \$500 but less than \$1,500.
- BRITTANY LEE CHRISTIAN, 21, of 2808 Sherman, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- BOBBY LYNN DYKES JR., 22, of 1425 East Sixth, was arrested Monday on two warrants from another agency.
- AMBER NICOLE WILLIAMS, 22, of 3420 Kenwood, Fort Worth, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500 - shoplifting.
- MORGAN VIRGINIA-RAY KNIGHT, 24, of 3810 Roosevelt, Midland, Texas, was arrested Monday on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500 - shoplifting.
- RAUL MENDEZ JR., 34, 2606 Ent, was arrested Monday on a charge of evading arrest/detention and a warrant from another agency.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 100 block of South Broadway, the 700 block of Goliad, the 1800 block of Lancaster, the 300 block of Donley, at FM 700 and Westover and the 1000 block of South Main.
- THEFT was reported at the 1600 block of South Gregg and the 200 block of West FM 700.
- ANIMAL PROBLEM reported at the 1200 block of East 15th Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported at the

400 block of North Gregg.

- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at 1 Courtney Place.
- DISTURBANCE was reported at the 200 block of West FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported at the 1400 block of Mount Vernon.

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 89 inmates at the time of this report.
- OSCAR ORTIZ JR., 24, was booked by the HCSO to begin sentence for charge of possession of controlled substance.
- BRITTANY LEE CHRISTIAN was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- BOBBY LYNN DYKES JR. was booked by the BSPD on charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle and burglary of a building.
- AMBER NICOLE WILLIAMS was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- MORGAN VIRGINIA-RAE KNIGHT was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.
- SUSAN MICHELLE SALAZAR, 30, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.
- RAUL MENDEZ JR., 34, was booked by the BSPD on charges of bail jumping, failure to appear and evading arrest/detention.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• "A Journey to a New Normal," a grief support network, meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 602 S. Main. For information, call 263-5999.

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

THURSDAY

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

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lu-

theran 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.

• Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

• Overcomer's: Recovery & Restoration (R&R), a Christ-centered recovery program is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the "Green Room" of the East Wing. If you need more information, call 432-264-0015.

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 8-29-13

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 8/28	Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30
89/71 Partly cloudy in the morning followed by scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. High 89F.	96/72 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.	98/72 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise: 7:18 AM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM
Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunset: 8:14 PM

AmericanProfile

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	89	72	t-storm	Kingsville	96	74	t-storm
Amarillo	90	65	mst sunny	Livingston	95	69	pt sunny
Austin	91	71	t-storm	Longview	96	71	pt sunny
Beaumont	93	71	t-storm	Lubbock	89	67	mst sunny
Brownsville	93	74	t-storm	Lufkin	96	70	pt sunny
Brownwood	92	72	t-storm	Midland	90	71	t-storm
Corpus Christi	93	77	t-storm	Raymondville	94	74	t-storm
Corsicana	95	73	mst sunny	Rosenberg	93	71	t-storm
Dallas	96	76	mst sunny	San Antonio	92	73	t-storm
Del Rio	94	75	t-storm	San Marcos	92	72	t-storm
El Paso	90	70	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	96	72	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	87	68	t-storm	Sweetwater	87	70	t-storm
Gainesville	94	73	mst sunny	Tyler	97	73	mst sunny
Greenville	96	72	mst sunny	Weatherford	94	73	t-storm
Houston	93	72	t-storm	Wichita Falls	94	72	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	87	68	mst sunny	Minneapolis	96	70	pt sunny
Boston	79	64	pt sunny	New York	85	72	mst sunny
Chicago	96	73	pt sunny	Phoenix	102	82	mst sunny
Dallas	96	76	mst sunny	San Francisco	68	58	pt sunny
Denver	87	63	sunny	Seattle	73	62	cloudy
Houston	93	72	t-storm	St. Louis	96	74	pt sunny
Los Angeles	85	66	pt sunny	Washington, DC	93	74	pt sunny
Miami	88	77	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 8/28	Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30
10	10	10
Very High	Very High	Very High

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL reported at the 1800 block of Gregg. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL reported at the 1000 block of North Bell. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA reported at the 3700 block of Mountain Shadow. One patient transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL reported at the 1600 block of South Lancaster. One patient transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at North Highway 87 and Interstate Highway 20. No transport.

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The city of Big Spring closed part of a lane on Wasson Road on Monday evening to tackle a water main break which occurred near Comanche Trail Park and Parkway.

HERALD photo/
Lyndel Moody

► Take Note

• A “meet and greet” with light refreshments will be held for Democratic candidate Neal Marchbanks Wednesday from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Cosden Room of the Hotel Settles. Marchbanks is running for the U.S. House of Representatives seat from the 19th District currently held by Republican Randy Neugebauer.

• The Chalet is accepting donations of magazines. They should be brought to the Community Relations office. For more information, call Jamey Stegall at 268-7535 or james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us

• Howard College Foundation Speaker Series and Scenic Mountain Medical Center’s Healthy Woman program present “The Love Chromosome” featuring Derrick Tennant as the Fall Speaker Series on Sept. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coli-

seum. Tickets are free, but a ticket is required for admittance. Tennant is a motivational speaker and comedian. He will be speaking about the challenges in his own life and how people can turn their own obstacles into building blocks instead of road blocks. For more information or to reserve a free ticket, call 432-268-4699 or Jan Foresyth at 432-264-5051.

• Mitchell County Senior Citizen Dance, Colorado City Civic Center, 157 East 2nd Street, Colorado City, Texas, the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., \$5 per person. Bring snacks to share.

• Howard County Fair Association is seeking volunteers to help with the Howard County Fair which will be held Sept. 26-28. To find out more information or to volunteer, contact Jamey Stegall at 214-717-9210 or jamey.stegall@gmail.com. The fair association is also accepting applications for exhibitors at the fair. All booths rent for \$100. Contact Stegall for more information.

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

• Crossroads Hospice is in need of volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of the hospice team, by bringing light and love into people’s lives. For more information on joining, contact Eva Robison at 432-263-5300 or come by 421 S. Main.

• Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone’s life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it’s visiting a patient or working in the office or helping with a craft, you can make a difference. We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Kara Daniels at Compass Hospice, 432-263-5999, or apply in person at 602 S. Main St.

• You don’t have to be a senior citizen to enjoy country-western dancing. The Big Spring Senior Center hosts a dance every Friday from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. A different band will be featured every night. Dancing is a fun way to exercise, so come enjoy the fun and meet new friends. Cost is \$8 per person. For more information, call 267-1628.

WIGINGTON

Continued from Page 1

administrator. He taught and coached at Tahoka, Snyder, Merkel and Sweetwater before becoming assistant principal of Sweetwater High School in 2003. He later served

as high school principal there before coming to Big Spring as secondary curriculum specialist four years ago.

He was named director of student services earlier this year.

School Board President Irene Rodriguez said Wigington’s background in curriculum would be an asset as

the school district attempts to improve its accountability rating.

“I believe the board feels like Chris was the best way to go to bring up our scores and ratings,” Rodriguez said. “It was a very hard decision, but we feel this is a positive step in the right direction.”

For his part, Wigington

said he was excited with the opportunity handed him by the board.

“I always felt like this is the pinnacle of my career — I always wanted to be a superintendent,” he said. “This is a huge challenge, but with the people we have on board here in Big Spring, I expect good things going forward.”

No timeline has been announced for hiring a permanent superintendent, officials said.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

said. “But we have landfill costs coming up and we have roads which we’re going to have to fix and our jail population is going through the roof.”

Barr found support from Commissioner Donnie Baker, who said it was better to be “safe than sorry” when adopting a tax rate.

“I don’t like the idea of raising taxes, but I don’t see a way around it, considering the circumstances right now,” Baker said.

However, commissioners Jimmie Long, John Cline and Oscar Garcia all were of the opinion that the coun-

ty could get by with a smaller tax rate this coming fiscal year.

“I understand there are some clouds on the horizon, but for now, I’d prefer to go with the effective tax rate,” Garcia said.

Long said, in effect, that the county should deal with future issues in the future.

“Right now, it’s all what-ifs and maybe-what-ifs,” he said. “If values continue to fall ... I believe we will be able to make our case to the taxpayers if we have to go with the rollback rate or even higher. For this year, I think we should go with the effective rate.”

That position was echoed by Cline, who — while admitting the

county was gambling that values will rise next year — said he’d “just as soon” stay with the effective rate.

Adopting the effective rate means the county would have to go with a deficit budget this coming fiscal year, but County Auditor Jackie Olson said the shortfall can be handled by reserve funds.

The proposed county budget will feature several new expenditures, including \$500,000 to pay the county’s share of costs for a new landfill and an increase of more than \$240,000 to help pay for ambulance services.

The major increased expense, however, will be in salaries. Olson said all full-time em-

ployees, including elected officials and commissioners, will receive a yearly raise of \$2,600. Sheriff’s deputies will see an even bigger pay increase, as their salaries will be hiked by \$4,472 a year.

Part-time employees will receive a raise based on a sliding scale, Olson added.

She said the pay raises will add approximately \$530,000 to the new budget.

The new budget is expected to be approved Sept. 9, while the tax rate will be adopted later in the month.

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

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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Joe Thomas Swinney, 81, died Saturday. Graveside services were at 10 a.m. this morning at Coahoma Cemetery.

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Bird Poop: Yellow-headed blackbird forced to be flexible

The mornings were becoming cooler. A brief respite on the final days of August reminded me that fall was slowly sneaking into our routine.

The unexpected was to be expected. The departure of purple martins in July, followed by the kingbirds in August, was the signal for nature's relocation.

As back-to-school efforts across the nation were in full swing, so were the urges of migratory birds. Undoubtedly, every fall brought a newcomer seeking help.

A harsh, strident voice filled the fairway as a woman tried to catch an injured bird. Jarring, harsh protests emanated from the wiggling body she finally held in her hand.

Accustomed to bodies of water, such as prairie marshes and lakes, this bird and its mate had required a surrounding shoreline to have a well-established growth of cattails and reeds.

With our arid terrain of dry stock tanks and

ponds, the bird had dared to enter the city limits in search of such an offering. Answering my question as to location, the woman had replied, "At the golf course."

Although she had told me prior to our meeting that it couldn't fly, the male, yellow-headed blackbird held his wings evenly. Either a bruised wing, known as a soft tissue injury, or hairline fracture might have grounded the bird.

Once inside, our new guest tried to squeeze out of my hand as we approached his enclosure. His wriggling demonstrated his utter disdain at my involvement.

Extending each of his wings confirmed no visible injury. Coursing over its bone structure, my fingers detected no calcified lumps or irregular areas.

To be inactive for a few days would be difficult but not impossible for the blackbird. His restless nature would have to accept confinement eased by a more than adequate diet.

As we watched him devour insects and grains, we appreciated his colorful attire. His bright yellow head, neck and upper breast were a stark contrast to his coal-black body, and wings that were vividly marked with white patches.

After cleaning his enclosure the next day, we again offered a generous assortment of his favorite foods. As he slowly walked toward a platter of insects, we reminisced. A special gathering of this species in a most unlikely place was locked in our memory.

During a previous first week of September, our return drive from Fort Davis to Balmorhea had taken longer than usual. An early, strong cold front had drenched the area. The familiar twists and turns of the scenic drive had been masked and made extremely dangerous by rain, mist and fog. When we reached the plains, our visibility was still limited.

Almost to the intersection where our road met the highway that leads to Balmorhea and Pecos, the thick curtain of moisture parted. Ahead, gracing the top



Courtesy photo

During summer, the yellow-headed blackbird may be found in the upper mid to western part of our country and Canada. Winters in Mexico and along the western boundary of Texas are common. Its diet includes vegetable matter, such as corn, oats, and grain. When available, beetles, grubs, caterpillars, and grasshoppers are also on its menu.

and middle strands of a barbed wire fence, were 60 to 70 yellow-headed blackbirds. Their migration had been stalled by weather so soupy they could not fly.

The contrast between the males and females had been notable.

Smaller and browner, the females, with just a smidgen of yellow on their throats, were pretty much relegated to the middle wires. Dominating the top strands were the males with their bright yellow heads, necks and upper

breasts. Their brilliant yellow and black decorated the fence for some distance. Of such events are vacations made.

At South Plains in Lubbock, Gail Barnes confirmed the bruising of one of the bird's wings. Although seen during fall and spring migrations in Texas, she said the scarcity of prairie marshes was forcing the blackbirds to be flexible. Availing themselves of everything from cow pastures to golf courses, the birds were choosing new locales to suit their needs.

If at all possible, a water hazard, lush with cattails and reeds, would readily signal a golfer to avoid it. To a bird dependent upon a watery environment, it meant a habitat in which to hide and rest.

News of the yellow-headed blackbird's release brought a vivid picture to mind. Having heard its loud objections in captivity, we knew its squealing notes were anything but musical when described by a volunteer. Although its voice often preceded its presence, its announcement of its return to freedom taught all of us to expect the unexpected.

Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop from Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.



BEBE
MCCASLAND

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Careful Manipulation

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A K 5 2

♥ 7 5

♦ A K 9 4

♣ K Q 6

WEST

♠ Q 8 3

♥ 10 9 8 4

♦ Q 6

♣ J 10 5 3

EAST

♠ J 6

♥ A K 6 3

♦ J 10 7 2

♣ 8 7 4

SOUTH

♠ 10 9 7 4

♥ Q J 2

♦ 8 5 3

♣ A 9 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

4♠

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Even at the highest levels of the game, there is nothing extraordinary about winding up in a contract that has very little chance of making.

But many such contracts can be brought in successfully if you keep your cool and give them your best effort. Sometimes you succeed because of a lucky lie of the cards,

and sometimes because you combined the right amount of luck with the right amount of skill.

Here is a case in point. You are in four spades, and West leads a heart. East cashes the K-A and shifts to a club, taken by dummy's queen. It looks as though you must lose a spade and a diamond and go down one. In fact, after you cash the A-K of trumps, this outcome appears certain.

But when you give the matter further thought — because you're constitutionally opposed to going down in a contract that is possible to make — you come to the conclusion that the situation might not be as hopeless as it seems. All you need is a moderate amount of luck to finish with 10 tricks.

So you cash the K-A of clubs, the queen of hearts and the A-K of diamonds. You then murmur a silent prayer and lead a trump.

As it happens, West wins with the queen and — because he has no diamonds — must return either a heart or a club. Whichever he chooses allows you to ruff in one hand and discard a diamond from the other, and the "hopeless" contract is home.

Tomorrow: First things first.

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John Glenn has a special hero

The world has applauded John Glenn as a heart-stirring American hero. He

lifted the nation's spirits when he was blasted alone into orbit around the Earth; the enduring affection for him is so powerful that even now people find themselves misting up at the sight of his face or the sound of his voice. But for all these years, Glenn has had a hero of his own, someone who he has seen display endless courage of a different kind: Annie Glenn.

They have been married for 70 years. John Glenn and Annie Castor first knew each other when they shared

a playpen in New Concord, Ohio. Their parents were friends and when the families got together, the children played. John excelled in everything and Annie Castor was bright, caring, talented and generous of spirit. But she could talk only with excruciating difficulty.

Her stuttering was severe, but John Glenn loved her. Even as a boy he was wise enough to understand that people who could not see past her stutter were missing out on knowing a rare and wonderful girl.

They married on April 6, 1943. As a military wife, she found that life as she and John moved around the country could be quite hurtful, especially the ridicule. She and John had two children. John, as a Marine aviator, flew 59 combat missions in World War II and 90 during the Korean War.

Every time he was deployed, he and Annie said goodbye the same way. His last words to her before leaving were: "I'm just going down to the corner store to get a pack of gum." And, she would always reply: "Don't be long." On that February day in 1962 when the world held its breath and the Atlas rocket was about to propel him toward space, those were their words, once again.

Many times in her life she attempted various treatments to cure her stutter. None worked. But in 1973, she found a doctor in Virginia who ran an intensive program she and John hoped would help her. The miracle they had always waited for had arrived. At age 53, she was able to talk fluidly, and not in brief, anxiety-ridden, agonizing bursts.

John has said that on the first day he heard

her speak to him with confidence and clarity, he dropped to his knees to offer a prayer of gratitude. He has written: "I saw Annie's perseverance and strength through the years and it just made me admire her and love her even more."

Her voice is so clear and steady now that she regularly gives public talks. If you ever find yourself at an event where the Glenn's are appearing, and you want to see someone brimming with pride and love that you may feel your own tears start to well up, wait until the moment that Annie stands to say a few words to the audience.

And as she begins, take a look at her husband's eyes.

Darrell Ryan is director of school safety for the Big Spring Independent School District.

Sudoku Answer on Page 3

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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Pa. clown couple ties the knot

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — They say only fools rush in, but these two clowns are pretty serious about each other.

Patty Kulwicki reeled Bill Tedeski in — literally, with a fishing pole — as the couple tied the knot Friday at Clownfest 2013, The (Harrisburg) Patriot-News reported.

The bit was one the Pittsburgh couple had performed two years ago at the same festival. When it won first place, Tedeski remembers jokingly suggesting they get married in a similar way.

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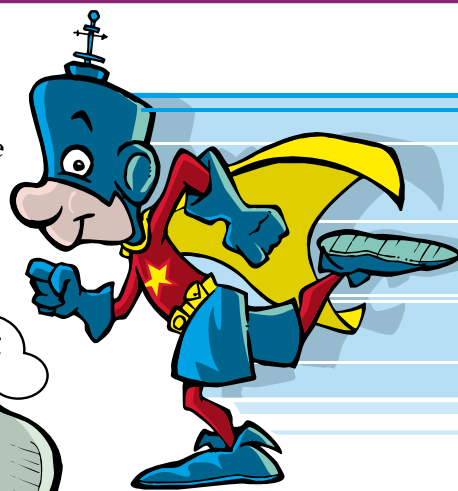
Kid Scoop

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IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! IT'S ...

SUPERYOU!

KID SCOOP readers are super readers! Use your reading **POWER** to ZIP through today's newspaper!

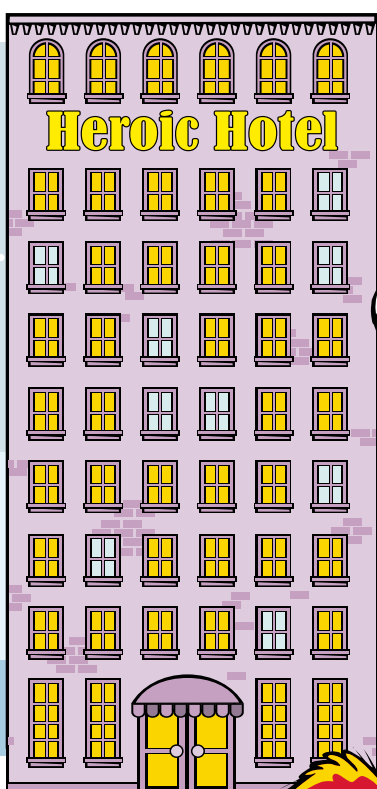


Wow! What a Ride!

To escape the clutches of evil Dr. Duh's demonic dog, Hex, climb completely around the perimeter (the outside edge) of the Heroic Hotel and measure it along the way. Then you must ZIP your way through today's newspaper to find a photograph with a larger perimeter and complete the information below.

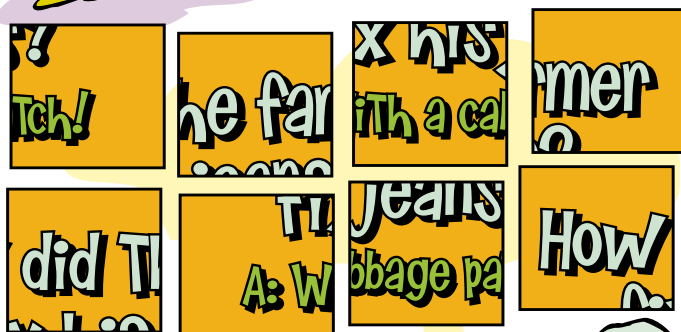
The perimeter of Heroic Hotel is _____ inches.

I found a picture on page _____ that has a perimeter of _____ inches. This is _____ inches larger than the perimeter of the Heroic Hotel.



Dr. Duh is on the loose again and the people of Anytown need your help to avoid the clutches of the man who would have **no one read!**

Complete the activities on this page to help the townspeople thwart Dr. Duh's rotten plans!



Faster Than A Rocket!

ZIP through the newspaper to find the missing letters that spell each of the following spelling demons:

H__GHT BE__TIFUL LIB_A_Y
CAL_ND_R SEP_R_TE



My stun ray has zapped the humor out of this joke! The only way to stop me is put the squares back in order!



ORIGINAL HEADLINE:

OPPOSING HEADLINES!

Find a headline in today's newspaper. Cut it out and glue it in the box at left. Then, re-write the headline in the space below so that it says just the **opposite**.

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Use antonyms.

OPPOSITE HEADLINE:

STRONGER THAN AN ELEPHANT!

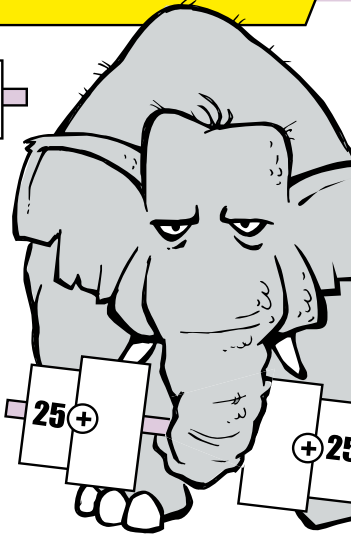
Look through the newspaper for numbers to put on each box on the barbells. Complete the equation. Be sure the numbers add up to show that Super Reader is the strongest!

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums.



Super Reader is lifting: _____ lbs.

The elephant is lifting: _____ lbs.



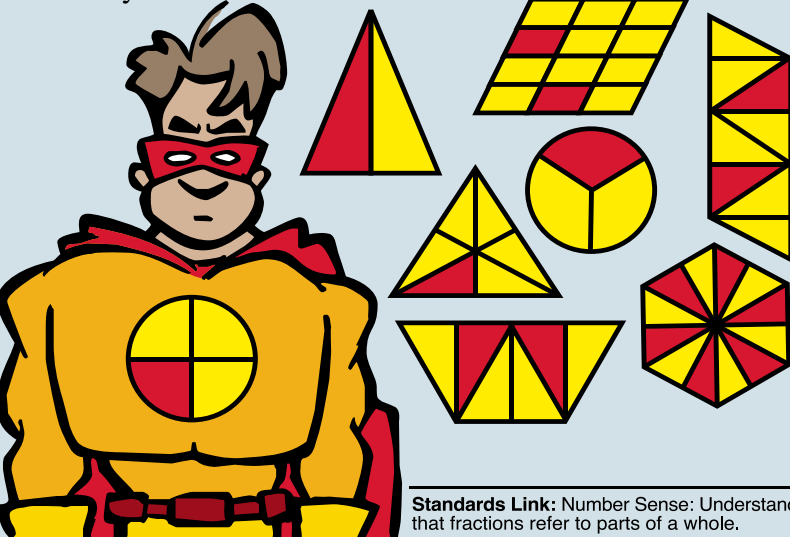
Strong, Stronger, Strongest

Look through the newspaper for three pictures that each show an adjective such as "strong," "stronger" and "strongest." Or, "happy," "happier," "happiest." Or, "good," "better," "best."

Standards Link: Grammar: Recognize comparative adjectives.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Each of the super hero symbols below is a different shape. Each symbol has a matching symbol that has the same fraction of the area in red. Figure out the fractions and then find the symbols that match.

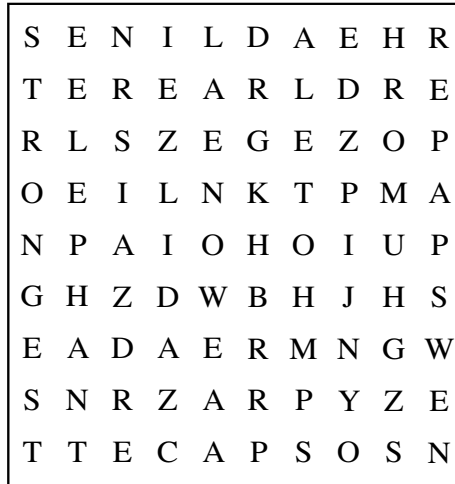


Standards Link: Number Sense: Understand that fractions refer to parts of a whole.

Double Double Word Search

- READERS
- SUPER
- ELEPHANT
- NEWSPAPER
- HOTEL
- THWART
- HEADLINES
- JOKE
- STRONGEST
- READ
- HUMOR
- SYMBOLS
- SPACE
- ZING
- ZIP

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Fill in the Blanks!

Dr. Duh has stolen words right out of this Kid Scoop story! But you can turn the tables on him by filling in the blanks! Find a word in the newspaper for each blank. Then, read the story aloud for zany fun!

Dr. Duh was up to no good

once again. He was

building an atomic

_____, filled with _____

PLURAL NOUN

"With this invention," he

cackled fiendishly, "I shall

take over the entire

_____!"

NOUN

Using his supersonic

listening abilities, Super

Reader heard Dr. Duh's

plan. Super Reader flew

faster than a _____

ADJECTIVE

_____ to Duh's lair.

NOUN

"_____ at once,

VERB

Duh!" cried Super Reader.

"Your little scheme has

been thwarted! You're

going to _____

NAME OF PLACE

for a very long time!"

"You'll never stop me!"

cried Duh. And with that,

he began to _____

VERB

toward his _____.

Just

when it seemed he would

get away, Super Reader

unplugged Duh's getaway

_____ and took

NOUN

Duh off to jail. Good

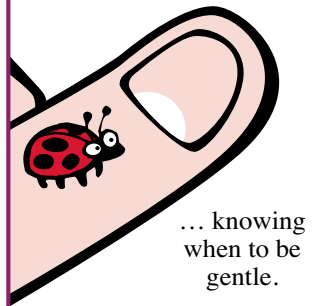
PLURAL NOUN

everywhere cheered!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand the meaning of words from context clues.

What a Character!

Strength is ...



... knowing when to be gentle.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **THWART**

The verb **thwart** means to ruin someone's plans.

Super Reader was able to **thwart** Dr. Duh's evil plans time and time again.

Try to use the word **thwart** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Write On!

If I Were a Teacher

How would you set up your classroom? What rules would you have? What subject would you teach?

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

Super Celebration

Imagine you have \$1,000 to spend on a celebration. Look through the newspaper and make a list of all of the things you would buy to celebrate and their cost. Be sure the items add up to exactly \$1,000.

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Calculate sums to \$1,000 using dollar amounts.



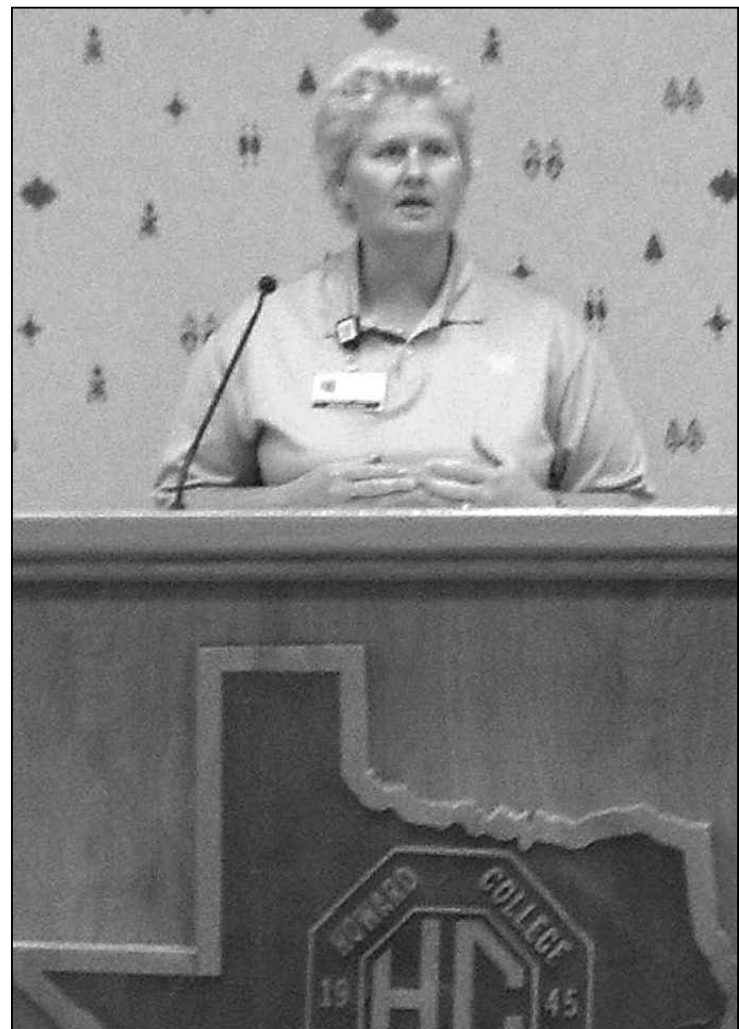
WHY DOES DR. DUH LOOK FOR EVERYTHING TWICE?

ANSWER: He's a scientist, so he likes to re-search everything.



Courtesy photo

Malinda Flenniken, Greater Big Spring Rotary president, installed new member Lance Deal during the Friday Rotary meeting.



Catie Wiedenhofer, with Safe Kids San Angelo, speaks at Rotary about her passion for child safety and the different ways her organization has become involved in the Howard County community.

Courtesy photo

2013 Property Tax Rates in City of Big Spring

This notice concerns 2013 property tax rates for City of Big Spring. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$3,709,770
Last year's debt taxes	\$1,329,654
Last year's total taxes	\$5,039,424
Last year's tax base	\$582,563,410
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.865043/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$4,994,788
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$654,853,252
= This year's effective tax rate	\$0.762733/\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$5,866,066
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$654,853,252
= This year's effective rate	\$0.895783/\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.967445/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$0.222522/\$100
= This year's rollback rate for each fund	\$1.189967/\$100
- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$0.333324/\$100
= Rollback Tax Rate	\$0.856643/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If City of Big Spring adopts a 2013 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.762733 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2012 taxes by \$-31,318.

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
M & O (General Fund - Unrestricted)	\$7,622,552
I & S 2007 Series G.O. Bonds	367,612
I & S 2007 Certificates of Obligation	20,943
I & 2 2010 Certificates of Obligation	65,954

Schedule B - 2013 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment To Be Paid From Property Taxes	Interest To Be Paid From Property Taxes	Other Amounts To Be Paid	Total Payment
General Obligations Bonds- 2007 Series	\$605,000	\$500,156	500	\$1,105,656
Certificates of Obligation- 2007 Series	\$20,000	\$14,913	250	\$35,163
Certificates of Obligation- 2010 Series	\$165,000	\$138,688	500	304,188
Total required for 2013 debt service		\$1,445,007		
- Amount (if any) paid from Schedule A		\$0		
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources		\$0		
- Excess collections last year		\$56,978		
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2013		\$1,388,029		
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95.00% of its taxes in 2013		\$73,054		
= Total Debt Levy		\$1,461,083		

Schedule C - Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax

In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$2,188,602 in additional sales and use tax revenues.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 315 Main Street (County Annex Bldg.) Big Spring, Tx.

Name of person preparing this notice: Diane Carter

Title: Tax Assessor Collector

Date prepared: 08/26/2013

247327



Courtesy photo

Army Sgt. Gator Weston, his wife Kasa and their son Jace pose for a photo. The Weston family recently received a \$500 check from the Veterans Families Fund.

Couple gets some assistance from Veterans Families Fund

Herald Staff Report

The Veterans Families Fund, using money donated by Big Spring area residents, recently provide a \$500 check to the family of Army Sgt. Gator Weston.

His wife wrote this note about the family.

"My name is Kasa Weston and I am married to an amazing man who has been in the military for more than 10 years now.

"My husband, Gator Weston, is currently stationed in Afghanistan and due to return home in the next few weeks. This is his third deployment overseas. He is a sergeant in the Army and is a mechanic who can fix just about anything, but his babies are Chinook helicopters.

We have a 16-month-old son, Jace, who is a handful and a half, and acts just like his dad! Jace and I have been living with my mom and dad here in Big Spring the last seven months while Gator is deployed and we can't wait for him to get home."

The Veterans Families Fund routinely provides funds to the families of veterans serving the country.

"Thank you, Big Spring area, for giving the donations. You know the veterans and their families appreciate the check," said J. Gale Kilgore, VFF administrator.

Those who would like help are invited to send or donate a check to Woodforest National Bank, Veterans Families, Account 5901848, 201 W. Marcy Drive, Big Spring, TX 79721.



HERALD Photo/Andria Medlin

Salvation Army Lieutenant Jeremiah Romack packs school supplies for the grandchild of Sue Williams. The organization in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club gave away more than 50 backpacks with basic essentials for children in need that are returning to school. The Salvation Army is located at 811 West Fifth Street. For more information about the Salvation Army and Boys and Girls Club call 267-8239.

Forsan X-Country looking to repeat

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

FORSAN — Everyone knows football is king in West Texas and fall is football season. Each Friday, fans pack the stands to see their local team battle it out on the gridiron. For the girls, volleyball is in full swing. But behind the scenes, there is another group of athletes working just as hard as anyone else — the athletes working who compete in cross country.

Just about every area school has a cross country squad, but in Forsan, big things are happening within what some might call the forgotten sport. FHS Head Coach Robert Hillger's runners have been picked to finish No. 1 in the state at the 1A level.

Last year, the Buffs took their first state championship after edging Port Aransas with a low score of 68. Though certainly not Aransas as a state champs in any sport, Forsan has what it takes. Jeremy Cervantes took third overall as a freshmen and returns as a sophomore. Tyler Evans — who finished fourth right behind Cervantes — also returns as a senior. Mix in a talented batch of teammates mentored by two of the best runners in the state and you have a recipe for a repeat.

"Coaching cross country is a lot about motivation," Hillger, a 10-year Forsan coach said. "Can I get the kids to do what I want them to do and can I get them to picture in their mind that they can accomplish it? That's what's hard about cross country. Running is hard, it's not very popular. What we try to focus on



Courtesy photo

The 2012 Forsan cross country team poses for a picture after winning the Class A state championship in Round Rock. The 2013 Buffs also look strong, with two Top 4 runners in the state returning to lead the way. Both Forsan and Big Spring open their season this weekend in Midland.

See FORSAN, Page 12

Pierzynski homers as Rangers beat Mariners 8-3

SEATTLE (AP) — When August started, Travis Blackley was a reliever on the worst team in the majors. Now he's starting for the AL West leaders.

Blackley pitched six effective innings and A.J. Pierzynski hit a three-run homer, leading the Texas Rangers to an 8-3 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Monday night.

It was Blackley's first win since he

was acquired in a trade with Houston on Aug. 14.

"It's a good feeling," Blackley said. "I'm really excited about the rest of the way."

Alex Rios had two hits and two RBIs as the Rangers picked up their fifth win in seven games. Elvis Andrus celebrated his 25th birthday with three hits and an RBI.

It was more than enough run sup-

port for Blackley (2-1), who allowed three runs and five hits in his second start of the season.

"With all the injuries we've had, especially pitching injuries, anyone we can get that can come in and give us six innings and a quality start and give us a chance, that's an added bonus," Pierzynski said. "We've had a bunch of guys step in kind of from out of nowhere and done some good

things for us."

Kyle Seager hit his 20th home run of the season for the Mariners, who have lost four in a row.

It was Blackley's longest outing since Oct. 2, 2012, after making 42 relief appearances for Houston this season. He had a similar experience last year, when he joined Oakland

See RANGERS, Page 12



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton/see more at www.claxtonphotography.com

The Big Spring varsity cheerleaders perform an aerial stunt for the crowd at the community pep rally Monday at Memorial Stadium.

Ex-Cowboys say scrutiny is same for modern players

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Members of the Dallas Cowboys' championship Monday that the scrutiny professional athletes face in the modern era is similar to what they went through in the days before every move was recorded on a smartphone and spread around the world by social media.

Roger Staubach, a quarterback who won two Super Bowls with the Cowboys after winning the Heisman Trophy at Navy in 1963, said in an interview with The Associated Press that temptations increase with the amount of money an athlete makes — and that those who are paid to play must be cautious to maintain a proper

balance.

"In your life, you have to overcome temptations," Staubach said. "If you look at sports, the more money that gets involved, it's harder to keep your perspective, your balance, but you should. It shouldn't be all about the money."

Staubach, cornerback Mel Renfro and defensive back Charlie Waters were among a number of ex-Cowboy players and coaches who visited Arkansas to honor safety Cliff Harris at the Little Rock Touchdown Club. They agreed to meet with the AP after a ceremony announcing that Harris' name will be on a new award that will

See SCRUTINY, Page 12

Stallworth, Edwards and McKnight among those cut

(AP) — Donte Stallworth's NFL comeback from a hot air balloon accident might have ended Monday when he was released by the Washington Redskins.

Stallworth could catch on with another team, especially with so many injuries at wide receiver throughout the league during the pre-season. But, for now, the 32-year-old veteran of 10 NFL seasons is unemployed.

"I thought in his best interest, since I know he wasn't going to be on the football team, was to tell him early," coach Mike Shanahan said. "Give him a chance, possibly, to get with another football team."

Also cut Monday as NFL teams reduced their rosters — they must be down to 75 on Tuesday — were receiver Braylon Edwards and running back-kick returner

Joe McKnight by the Jets; receiver Derek Hagan and fullback Spencer Larsen by Tampa Bay; linebacker and special teams ace Niko Koutouvides by New England; and receiver Jordan Norwood by Cleveland.

The New York Giants activated defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul from the physically unable to perform list. Paul had disk surgery on his back in June, and it's uncertain if he will be ready for the season opener at the Cowboys in less than two weeks.

"I'm not playing any pre-season games and I don't even know about the Dallas game," Pierre-Paul said.

"I just want try to get better and test it out and see how it is taking on double teams and all that."

See CUT, Page 12

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Announcements

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Mars says: new rules!

Some rules have rather obvious reasons for being created in the first place. Safety, security, health and well-being are among the best of those reasons. The rules created to make people feel good and get along are not usually stated on road signs or enforced by police, but considering today's Mars transit, maybe they should be.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You like to have a detailed understanding about all that's in your environment, and today you'll connect with someone who can help you broaden your knowledge. The more you know the more comfortable and confident you feel.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Have a talk with your thoughts. The unsupportive ones have been taking up too much real estate in your brain. Ask for all supportive notions to come forward.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It does no good to dwell on your dissatisfaction with the way things are. An ailing situation can and will get better once you land on a vision of the way you want it to be. Think about what a long-range solution would look like.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Something you understand, dear crab, is that the waves are not influenced by the wishes of man or mermaid or fish. They are obedient only to the pull of the moon. Likewise, you'll respond to a higher force.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You may suddenly realize that your situation calls for a different kind of energy than the kind you've been applying to it. You'll cause a shift by demonstrating a different mood and tone. Others will follow your lead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Explore your curiosities. Today it's as futile to resist a natural attraction as it is to defy a physical force like gravity. Besides, maybe there's a good reason you want what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't have many regrets, because you realize that you can, at any point, make a new choice. Even if you can't take on a new venture at this time, it's never too late to be who you want to be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Recognize that even though your feelings are real, they may not pertain to the current situation. Triggers from the past may still be influencing your reaction to the present.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be excellent at doing what's right in front of you. If it's next to you or behind you, you're going to assume someone else is handling it or that it's already been dealt with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Today is a bit of a travesty, but don't worry. The commonly mistaken definition of "travesty" — an unfortunate event — will not apply. It's the real meaning — a false or distorted representation — that will apply.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). "Do your best" is a cliché at risk of losing real meaning if left unexamined. How do you do your best? You apply yourself, and all you have and know, with full respect and attention to the task at hand.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What you put your money into is the least of your investments. Your time and attention are far more precious than money, and your loved ones know this.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 27). You'll get to know an interesting new someone, and this changes the flow of your year. September brings funding for an important goal. You'll be involved with a special event in November and will be credited with its success. Practice and prepare, because January is your chance at a high position. Aquarius and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 33, 25, 48 and 15.

MARS ENTERS LEO: The old saying advises to fight fire with fire. And while a water hose, blanket or extinguisher may seem more appropriate for small fires, one of the chief ways of containing a large fire such as a forest fire is a controlled burn of anything around the fire that is likely to set flame. Unburnable boundaries. Fire can't spread where there's nothing left to

ignite. These are the types of tactics that can help us keep cool and in control during the six-week passage of Mars in Leo.

Mars is already a hothead. He's the angry red warrior planet who rules the fire sign Aries: intensity, passion and testosterone. Mars doesn't need anyone to egg him on, but Leo cannot resist. The proud lion tends to puff up the chest of any planet in his zone, and Mars is no exception. With this aggressor in the exaggerated realm of the sky, it's a good time to actively head off potential conflict. Stay away from hot topics like religion, politics and anyone else's mom. Watch team sports with people who are rooting for the same team. Make a conscious effort to stay on the good side of your hot-tempered family members. If everyone plays nice, it will be nice to play.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Spy Kids" star Alexa Vega has more than 50 titles in her filmography and several projects coming out over the next few years. Hard work is what Virgo people enjoy, and Vega has both her sun and Mercury in that diligent station. A soulful Pisces moon favors both acting and music. Vega, who is also a pianist and recording artist, could have great success with a role that encompasses all of these talents.

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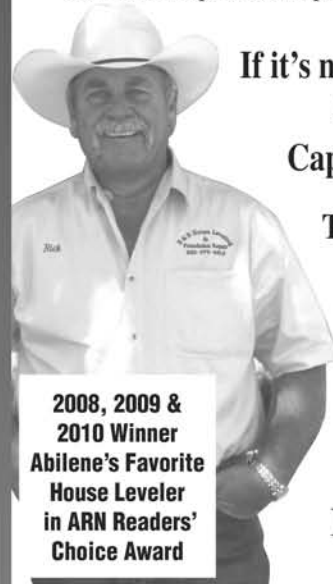
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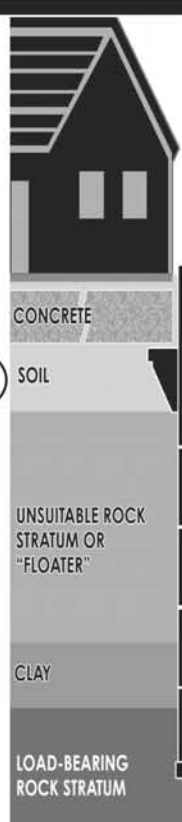
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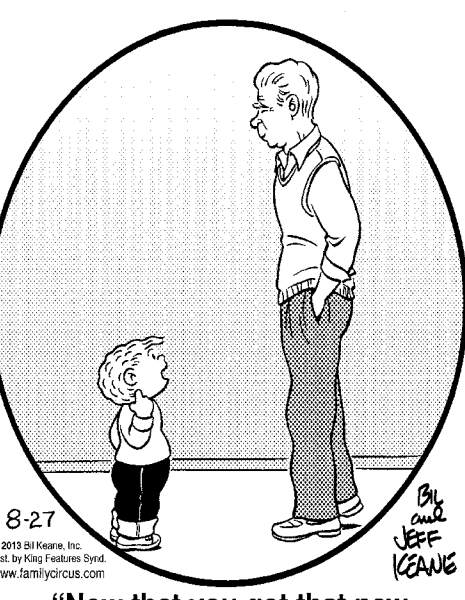
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men CBS	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King Seinfeld	Justice Called	Charlie Rose	King Seinfeld	Amish Mafia	Scream, Courtney Cox	Ink Master	Castle	106 & Park: Top 10	Good Jessie		SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Corazón Indomable	Big Bang Entertainment	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Door-Wis-dom	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Amish Mafia		Ink Master	Castle	Movie: Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself	Good Austin	2013 U.S. Open Tennis: First Round.	FGIII: Will to Win
7:PM	Extreme Weight Loss	Porque el Am.	So You Think You Can Dance	NCIS (DVS)	Dama y Obrero (SS)	Game Night	Fam. Guy	Upd	In Perform-ance...	Whose? Whose?	Amish Mafia	Movie: The Mummy, John Hannah	Ink Master	Rizzoli & Isles		Jessie Fish		Nine for IX
8:PM		La Tempes-tad (SS)		NCIS: Los Angeles	Marido en Alquiler	America's Got Talent	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	The March	Capture	Amish Mafia		Ink Master	Rizzoli & Isles		Dog		World Series
9:PM	Body of Proof	Qué Bonito Amor	Simpsons How I Met	Person of Interest	Santa Diabla (SS)		Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Independent Lens	Cops	Tickle		Ink Master	Perception	Game	Gravity		World Series
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules	Amish Mafia	(9:46) Movie: The Mummy, John Hannah	Tattoo	(:02) Rizzoli & Isles	Husbands	Good	Olbermann	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	De'siones	Jay Leno	Office	Ministerios Vida	World	King	Tickle		Ink Master	(:02) Perception	Wendy Wil-liams	Good	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra	Zacatillo, un	Raymond	Ferguson	De'siones	Jimmy Fallon	Conan	Upd	T. Smiley (Off Air)	'Til Death Browns	Amish Mafia	(:32) Movie: Scream, Courtney Cox	Ink Master	(12:04) The Mentalist	Movie: Preacher's Kid, Sharif Atkins	Shake It ANT Farm	Nine for IX	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Conducta	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	(:06) Today	Office	Chevalme		Browns	Amish Mafia		Tattoo	(:02) The Mentalist	Deck	NASCAR	SportsCenter	
1:30	Paid	Casa	TMZ	Paid	De'siones		De'siones	Light of the Southwest		Paid			Tattoo		Deck	Poker		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"How long have you guys been living happily ever after?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Now that you got that new hearing aid, Granddad, I can hear you a lot better."

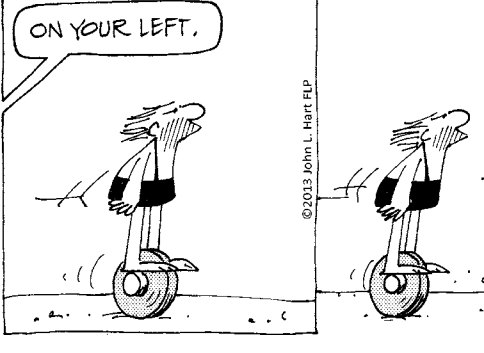
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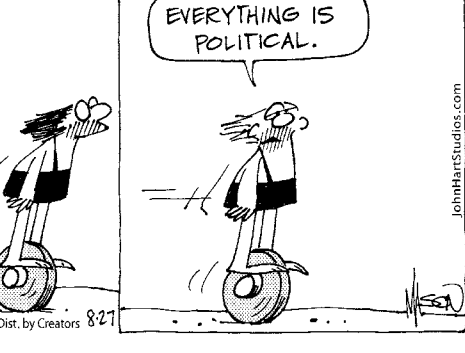
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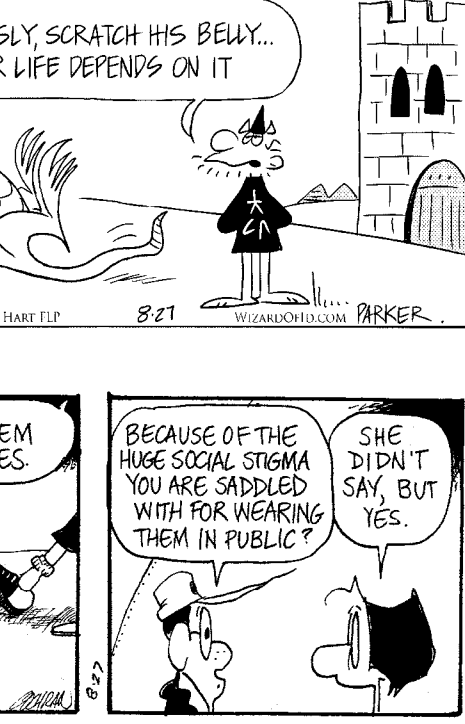
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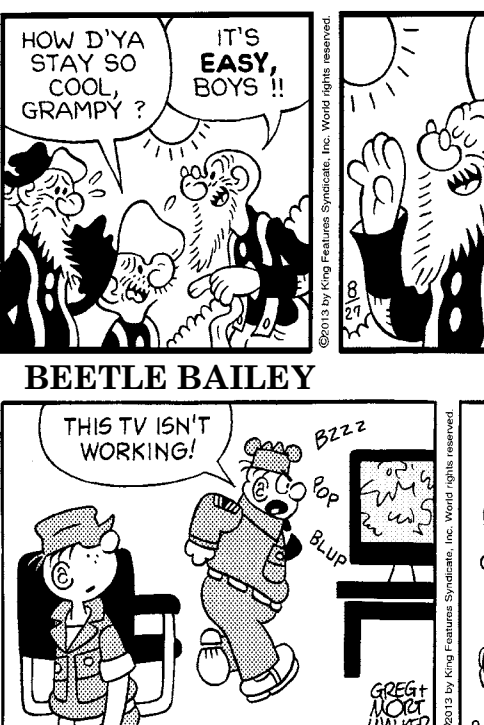
THE OTHER COAST



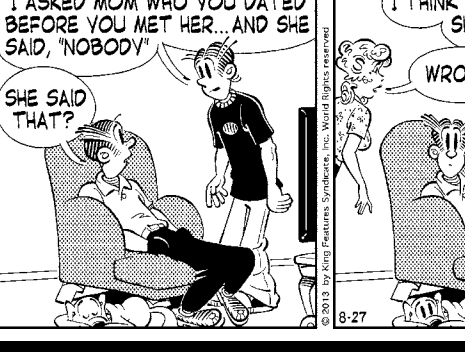
SNUFFY SMITH



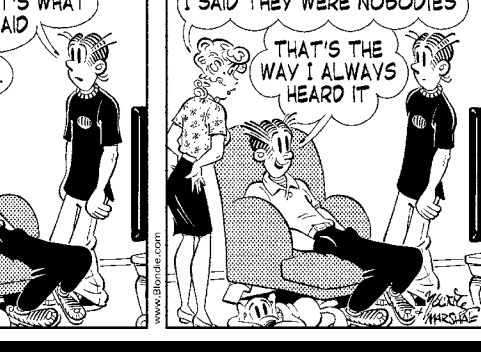
BETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 27, the 239th day of 2013. There are 126 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On August 27, 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa erupted with a series of cataclysmic explosions; the resulting tidal waves in Indonesia's Sunda Strait claimed some 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra.

On this date:
 In 1776, the Battle of Long Island began during the Revolutionary War as British troops attacked American forces, who ended up being forced to retreat two days later.
 In 1859, Edwin L. Drake drilled the first successful oil well in the United States, at Titusville, Pa.
 In 1908, Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th president of the United States, was born near Stonewall, Texas.
 In 1928, the Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed in Paris, outlawing war and providing for

the peaceful settlement of disputes.

In 1939, the first turbojet-powered aircraft, the Heinkel He 178, went on its first full-fledged test flight over Germany.

In 1942, the Times of London published an editorial calling on the British government to promote the production of penicillin, the first mention of the antibiotic by a newspaper.

In 1957, the USS Swordfish, the second Skate Class nuclear submarine, was launched from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Maine.

In 1962, the United States launched the Mariner 2 space probe, which flew past Venus in December 1962.

In 1963, author, journalist and civil rights activist W.E.B. Du Bois died in Accra, Ghana, at age 95.

In 1967, Brian Epstein, manager of the Beatles, was found dead in his London flat from an overdose of sleeping pills; he was 32.

In 1979, British war hero Lord Louis Mountbatten and three other people, including his 14-year-old grandson Nicholas, were killed off the coast of Ireland in a boat explo-

sion claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

In 1989, the first U.S. commercial satellite rocket was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla. — a Delta booster carrying a British communications satellite, the Marcopolo 1.

Today's Birthdays: Cajun-country singer Jimmy C. Newman is 86. Author Dame Antonia Fraser is 81. Actor Tommy Sands is 76. Bluegrass singer-musician J.D. Crowe is 76. Musician Daryl Dragon is 71. Actress Tuesday Weld is 70. Actor G.W. Bailey is 69. Rock singer-musician Tim Bogert is 69. Actress Marianne Sägebrecht is 68. Country musician Jeff Cook is 64. Actor Paul Reubens is 61.

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Answer to previous puzzle

SEAM	SPAS	ACORN
CEDE	PANT	ARGUE
AREA	ALTO	HORSE
DINNER	MENU	SEED
SET IN	SEARS	
TABS	LETSAT	
ADO	MOOD	NIECE
TABLE	OF	CONTENTS
INOIL	TO	SEED
TEEN	ER	ETDS
ODORS	TASTE	
SILL	TEAM	ROSTER
ARIES	ASIA	HEAR
GAMUT	ISNT	EASE
ENEMY	RYES	SLED

Newsday Crossword

PET SUPPLIES by Billie Truitt

- Edited by Stanley Newman
 www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 Unit of heredity
 - 5 Graceful birds
 - 10 Chore list heading
 - 14 Gibbons and gorillas
 - 15 Group of experts
 - 16 Neighborhood
 - 17 Skewed view
 - 18 "How much ___ much?"
 - 19 Penny
 - 20 Cat owners' purchases
 - 23 "Whoopie!"
 - 24 Bottom-line number
 - 25 Easy putt
 - 28 Sibling for sis
 - 31 Dashboard device
 - 35 With no warranty
 - 36 Puncture
 - 38 View from the shore
 - 39 Dog owners' purchases
 - 42 Away from the office
 - 43 American ___ (veterans' group)
 - 44 Entice
 - 45 Cause to tilt
 - 47 Sci-fi characters: Abbr.
 - 48 Stares open-mouthed
 - 49 Snaky fish
 - 51 Guy
 - 52 Fish owners' purchases
 - 61 Ventilation passageway
- DOWN**
- 1 Shoots the breeze
 - 2 Grand-scale tale
 - 3 Close to
 - 4 Editorial writer
 - 5 Highly seasoned
 - 6 Launder
 - 7 Prefix for freeze
 - 8 Sign gas
 - 9 Trudges along
 - 10 City near Seattle
 - 11 Metal-yielding rocks
 - 12 Fender bump
 - 13 Feedbag fillers
 - 21 Color close to beige
 - 22 ___ Sound (Seattle's water)
 - 25 Mexican fast food
 - 26 "Don't tell ___!"
 - 27 One of Columbus' ships
 - 28 Buying spree
 - 29 Send, as payment
 - 30 Sandwich cookies
 - 32 Deplete
 - 33 Literary category
 - 34 Uncomplicates
 - 36 Crusty dessert
 - 37 *Situation Room* ailer
 - 40 Make changes to
 - 41 Bananalike fruit
 - 46 In an orderly manner
 - 48 Four qts.
 - 50 Soda bottle size
 - 51 Teary-eyed
 - 52 Totals up
 - 53 Resign
 - 54 West Coast sch.
 - 55 Press for
 - 56 Insignificant
 - 57 Supply supper to
 - 58 "So what ___ is new?"
 - 59 Actor's part
 - 60 Watermelon bit

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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67					68							69	

CUT

Continued from Page 7

Stallworth was hindered through most of training camp by a hamstring injury. He caught two passes for 33 yards in preseason games.

"You could see with the setback with his hamstring, he just wasn't ready," Shanahan said.

Stallworth has played for six teams over 10 NFL seasons. He ap-

peared in only one game last year with the New England Patriots before an ankle injury ended his season.

He was suspended for the 2009 season by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell for violating the league's personal conduct policy for a DUI vehicular manslaughter charge.

Edwards was dealing with a leg injury that kept him out of the Jets' preseason game against the Giants. Edwards was signed just before training camp.

SCRUTINY

Continued from Page 7

be presented to the top small-college defensive player.

The ex-Cowboys said headline-generating scandals in a variety of sports, including the recent suspensions of baseball players for using performance-enhancing drugs, overshadow the recognition due athletes who play fairly, volunteer in their communities and, as Waters said, live as a "well-behaved member of society."

"There's always been pressure. It's part of the job," Waters said. "If you don't want that, then you don't want to be playing professional sports or even college sports."

"Unfortunately a lot of players think they can do a lot of stuff. Play-

ers need to be great on the gridiron. That's it. When they get off that, they don't have to be anything but themselves. ... There's got to be a separation," Waters said.

The former players didn't talk about specific players in scandals, though Staubach called the murder allegation against former Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez "beyond belief." He said athletes should exercise peer pressure against rule-breakers and that the media and the public should find a taste for happier stories.

"I'm a bit surprised at the steroid stuff that the players who don't use it don't do something about it," Staubach said. "You want to compete against the other play with an equal advantage as far as your phys-

ical size, not someone who is drugged up. I'm hoping that more players who have not used drugs: Why aren't they doing something about the guys that do?"

He said if the public was willing to read positive stories and the media were willing to provide them, perhaps the state of sports wouldn't appear to be so bad.

"Why don't they write stories about the guys who are sacrificing their weekend because they're out with a children's charity or helping kids do something? Our society wants more negative information than positive information. Why is that?" Staubach asked.

"If they appreciated positive information you guys would have more content."

"The greater amount of athletes do a tre-

mendous amount of good things. They're not getting in trouble," Staubach said.

Renfro said that, now as then, players have to rely on their own good character to stay out of the headlines for the wrong reasons.

"You know that your every move and your every word is going to be recorded. And if your character is good enough, and you are a good enough person, you're not going to do those things that are going to bring attention to you that isn't good," Renfro said. "It's just a matter of keeping your nose clean. Some of these guys nowadays they think they're above the law and they really don't care."

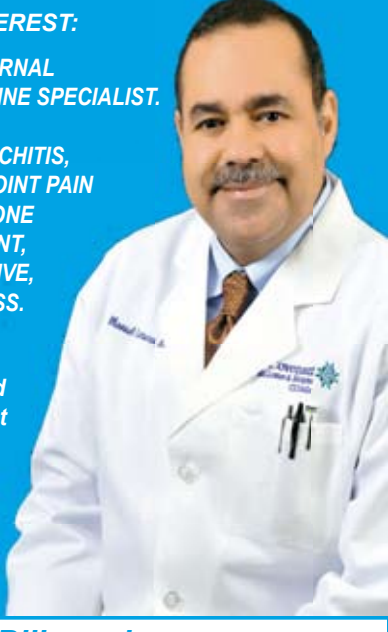
"Of course, you have the good ones who are going to do the right thing," he said.

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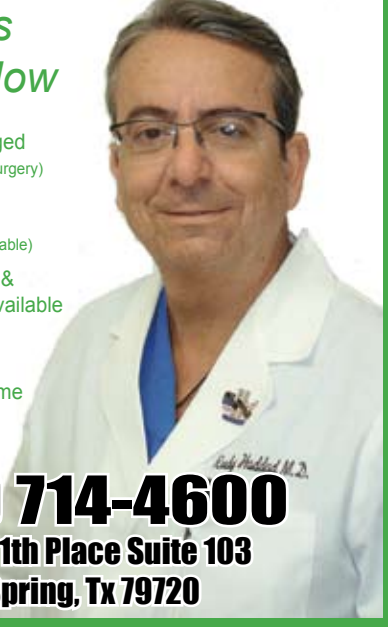
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RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

mid-season and made 15 starts for the A's during their playoff run.

"Coming back here with another chase and another go at the postseason, a little older and I've been through it — it's really not as hard when you've got this team behind you," Blackley said. "They play so well and they score a lot of runs most of the time."

Blackley was designated for assignment by Houston on Aug. 9. He was sent to Triple-A Round Rock after the trade, but he came up when right-hander Alexi Ogando went on the disabled list.

"I don't know what the Astros

were thinking, I think they just wanted to try out young guys. I wasn't having the best season in that role, but it was a blessing in disguise," Blackley said. "I wanted to start all year and they didn't have a spot for me to do that, and a spot opened up here, picked me up and I'm trying to run with it."

It was a much different night for Seattle starter Joe Saunders (10-13), who turned in another sluggish outing. The left-hander allowed seven runs and nine hits in seven innings to fall to 1-5 with a 7.71 ERA in his last seven starts.

"It was one of those weird nights where I thought I pitched better than the results," Saunders said. "I've just been having some bad luck."

The Rangers led 4-3 before Pierzynski hit a drive to right after

Adrian Beltre was intentionally walked with two out and a runner on second in the seventh. It was Pierzynski's 15th homer in his first season with Texas.

Mitch Moreland added his 19th homer in the eighth, giving the Rangers an 8-3 lead.

Saunders got off to a slow start, and the Rangers took advantage. Saunders hit Craig Gentry leading off the game and Andrus followed with a single. The runners moved up on Ian Kinsler's sacrifice before Beltre was walked intentionally to load the bases.

After Pierzynski bounced into a fielder's choice, Rios singled to center to lift Texas to a 2-0 lead.

The Mariners rallied in the third on Brad Miller's tying two-run single. Seager hit a drive to right with one out in the fourth, but that was all for Seattle.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 7

is 'do you like winning more than you dislike running?'. Our kids have really adopted that philosophy and ran with it."

With a unique sport comes a unique athlete who participates in it.

Good cross country runners push themselves year 'round — there is no offseason.

"It's not about how fast you run, it's about how long you run fast," Hillger explained. "A big part of that is running in the summer. Because we did so well last year, our kids have really bought into the

summer running. They have a summer running workout program that they run. We have so many kids who are successful because of this dedication. It's so much different that football and basketball and everything else where they just train during that time. They may go to football or basketball camps, but it's not the same as distance training. Our kids do so well because they do so much in the summer."

With the average meet for boys averaging three miles, give or take a couple tenths of a mile, and two miles for girls, conditioning is everything. Hillger believes his current team is more than capable of taking back-to-back titles.

"Winning the state championship is about how deep you are," Hillger said. "Of the four returning kids we have, two finished in the top four last year. Matthew

Mims is coming back, he's a senior, he had an ACL injury last year and didn't get to run. He'll do very well this year. The other kid is Justin Goff, he'll be very good, too."

It's obvious Hillger has the talent and the experience. Now he just needs a bit of luck.

"I expect big things from all of them," Hillger added. "As long as we stay healthy, we should have another strong year."

Forsan cross country will make its debut at the Tall City Invitational at Beal Park in Midland on Saturday. Big Spring will also be competing in Midland Saturday for its season opener. Coahoma will be at the Angelo State Invitational in San Angelo Sept. 7.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@big-springherald.com

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