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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
JULY 22, 2010

VOLUME 105, NUMBER 195

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HERALD photos/Steve Reagan

Dolores Mosser, chairperson of the Texas Plains Trail Region board of directors and an author of children's books, reads a copy of "Train Story" to children enrolled in the Howard County Library's summer reading program Wednesday morning. At right, Big Spring post office employees Becky Gale Beaver, Louise Rangel and Kyle Ware, left to right, assist customers during a special stamp cancellation event to commemorate the Texas Plains Trail Region historical agency's tour of Big Spring and Howard County.

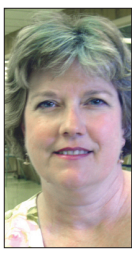
Library a hot topic

Officials hope to have air conditioning unit repaired soon

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

It's been a hot week — literally — for the staff at Howard County Library.

The library has been closed to the public this week because of a faulty air conditioner unit, Librarian Hollis McCright said.


McCright

Library staff has been reporting to work, but conditions inside the building have been uncomfortable at the least, she noted.

"For most of this week, it's been between 85 and 90 degrees in there," she said.

The problem surfaced late last week, McCright said.

"When we left work Wednesday, it was nice and chilly," she said. "When we came to work Thursday, that's when we noticed the air conditioner wasn't working."

Staff worked normal hours that Thursday, but closed early the following day when temperatures began to be uncomfortable.

Since last week, staff has been on hand

See **LIBRARY**, Page 3A

Amigos reunion set in early August here

The 2010 Amigos Del Barrio Reunion is planned for Aug. 7-8 at the La Vedera Club and will include a dance, potluck meal and a talent show.

Scheduled acts for the show include impersonations of Tina Turner, Michael Jackson, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, Dolly Parton, Carmen Miranda, Lola Beltran and others. Prizes are awarded to first ($150), second ($100) and third ($50) places.

The dance is planned Saturday, Aug. 7, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Potluck will be from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 8, and the Barrio Idol Talent Show will begin at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Auditions will be held soon.

For more information on the reunion or the talent show, contact Libby (Holguin) Uribe at 263-4260.

Plains Trail Region tour makes its way through Howard County

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

History and stamp collecting went hand in hand Wednesday as officials with the Texas Plains Trail Region hosted a stamp cancellation event at the Big Spring post office.

The event, part of an effort by TPTR officials to tout the history of this area, is just one in a months-long series of similar events throughout the 52-county region.

"The Texas Historical Commission is divided into different regions and ours is the Panhandle area," said Debbie Wegman, head of the local Convention and Visitors Bureau. "They're going to all the counties in this region, in alphabetical order, and hosting these special stamp cancellation events.

"It's all about promoting historical attractions in our area," Wegman added. "The railroad, the museum … anything that can attract people here to learn about our history."

Region officials weren't just

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Study: Texas math standards trail national ones

APRIL CASTRO
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Texas standards for what students are expected to learn in math are "clearly inferior" to a new set of national guidelines that the state's leaders have rejected, according to a think tank's analysis released Wednesday.

The report by the Washington-based Thomas B. Fordham Institute gave Texas a grade of C for its math standards, saying they were minimal and lacked specificity.

However, the state got an A-minus in English and language arts — one of eleven states that scored in the same range in that subject as the national guidelines called Common Core State Standards.

The think tank analyzed the standards in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. None of the states were better than the national core standards in math.

Texas officials, led by Gov. Rick Perry, were critical of efforts to adopt uniform national standards, rejecting the efforts in favor of allowing the elected State Board of Education to continue crafting state guidelines.

"We had a long way to go from where we were," Perry said Wednesday. "The good news out of that report is that our English is above

See **STUDY**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Tom Stevenson

Tom Stevenson, 70, died Monday, July 19, 2010. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, July 23, 2010, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Chaplain Joe Torres officiating. Burial with Military Honors will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born May 30, 1940, at Lometa to Linny and Joseph Stevenson. He attended school at Lometa and served in the U. S. Navy on the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk. He married Josephine Bradley Dec. 23, 1982. He was a carpenter.

He is survived by his wife, Josephine Stevenson of Big Spring; one daughter, Ginny Feaster of Willis; two sons, George Tom "Butch" Stevenson, Jr. and his wife Trish of Tye, and David Leon Stevenson and his wife Paula of Abilene; two step-daughters, Margarita Hart of Lubbock and Vicky Bradley of Big Spring; one brother, Daniel Stevenson and his wife Sandra of Richland Springs; nine grandchildren; two step-grandsons; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Tony Stevenson; one granddaughter, Kyla Stevenson; five brothers; and two sisters.

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

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-33-45-46-47-49.

Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-10-15-24-36.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: $21,914.

Winning ticket purchased in: Arthur City.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-2-9-8. Sum It Up: 25.

"Dining is and always was a great artistic opportunity."

Weekend Special's
Roasted Dr Pepper Quail
chorizo, blue cornbread stuffing, dr pepper glaze
Blue Cheese Crusted Beef Tenderloin
country mashed potatoes, broccoli, red wine sauce

Starters
Wedge Salad
iceberg lettuce, brown sugar glazed bacon, tomato, red onion & roquefort cheese $6

Crispy Goat Cheese Salad
baby spinach, blueberries, red onion, herb vinaigrette $6

Grilled Gulf Shrimp Caprese
tomato, fresh mozzarella & basil $10

Jalapeno Soup
potato, bacon, red onion, jalapeno $7

Entrées
1 lb. Bone In Rib Eye
poblano potatoes, crispy onion, shiner bock sauce $30
Blackened Red Snapper
white cheddar rice, broccoli & lemon butter sauce $25
Hand Made Fettuccini
garlic marinated & grilled steak, crimini mushrooms, green onions & bleu cheese cream $28
Citrus Marinated Chicken Breast
roasted thigh, garlic mashed potatoes, cajun-jalapeno creamed corn $20
New York Strip au Poivre
brandy-green peppercorn, bacon-green onion-horseradish mashed potatoes, asparagus $27

Add to your Entrée , sautéed mushrooms $3
sautéed onions $2, béarnaise sauce $4, baked potato $3
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Jeanie Coor – Special Event Coordinator / Public Relations

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Wednesday:

• ASSAULT was reported in the 700 block of San Antonio and the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

• BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of S. Gregg.

• BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 500 block of Westover and the 200 block of W. 13th.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1400 block of S. Scurry.

• HARASSMENT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

• FORGERY was reported in the 1200 block of E. Third.

• THEFT was reported in the 400 block of Fourth.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Wednesday (59 prisoners were reported in the county jail):

• JOHN PATRICK LAWLER, 47, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• ADAM ROSS JONES, 26, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid/previous conviction.

• CHRISTOPHER SHAWN JONES, 30, was arrested by DPS on charges of forgery (two counts) and debit card abuse.

• DEANDRE TYRELLE WALTON, 29, was arrested on a parole violation warrant.

• ARIEL ANN FUENTES, 20, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of carrying a prohibited weapon.

• SHANNON ELEANOR LANG, 24, was arrested on a Bexar County warrant charging theft.

• JOANN PUENTE CLAWSON, 38, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct/unreasonable noise.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Wednesday:

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of E. 15th. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Pine. Service was refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Tulsa. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of N. San Antonio. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Timothy. One person was transported to SMMC.

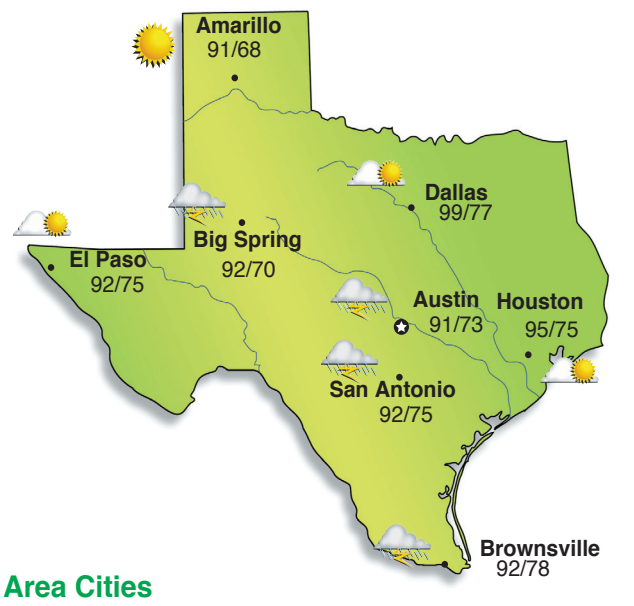
• TRAUMA was reported in the 1200 block of E. 11th. One person was transported to SMMC.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 7/23	Sat 7/24	Sun 7/25	Mon 7/26	Tue 7/27
92/70	93/69	86/69	89/70	89/70
Sun and clouds mixed with a slight chance of thunderstorms during the after.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 60s.	More sun than clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise: 6:55 AM Sunset: 8:50 PM	Sunrise: 6:56 AM Sunset: 8:49 PM	Sunrise: 6:56 AM Sunset: 8:48 PM	Sunrise: 6:57 AM Sunset: 8:48 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 8:47 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	92	73	t-storm	Kingsville	94	77	t-storm
Amarillo	91	68	sunny	Livingston	97	71	pt sunny
Austin	91	73	t-storm	Longview	99	74	pt sunny
Beaumont	94	72	pt sunny	Lubbock	89	70	mst sunny
Brownsville	92	78	t-storm	Lufkin	98	73	pt sunny
Brownwood	95	73	t-storm	Midland	93	73	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	92	79	t-storm	Raymondville	95	76	t-storm
Corsicana	97	74	pt sunny	Rosenberg	95	74	pt sunny
Dallas	99	77	pt sunny	San Antonio	92	75	t-storm
Del Rio	92	75	t-storm	San Marcos	92	74	t-storm
El Paso	92	75	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	99	76	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	94	70	t-storm	Sweetwater	92	72	t-storm
Gainesville	97	75	pt sunny	Tyler	99	73	pt sunny
Greenville	98	75	pt sunny	Weatherford	96	74	pt sunny
Houston	95	75	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	95	74	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	96	75	pt sunny	Minneapolis	86	70	pt sunny
Boston	84	71	rain	New York	89	79	t-storm
Chicago	91	77	t-storm	Phoenix	99	84	t-storm
Dallas	99	77	pt sunny	San Francisco	65	56	pt sunny
Denver	92	62	pt sunny	Seattle	76	58	pt sunny
Houston	95	75	pt sunny	St. Louis	98	79	mst sunny
Los Angeles	76	63	sunny	Washington, DC	98	81	t-storm
Miami	89	82	t-storm				

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jul 18	Jul 26	Aug 3	Aug 10

UV Index

Fri 7/23	Sat 7/24	Sun 7/25	Mon 7/26	Tue 7/27
11	11	11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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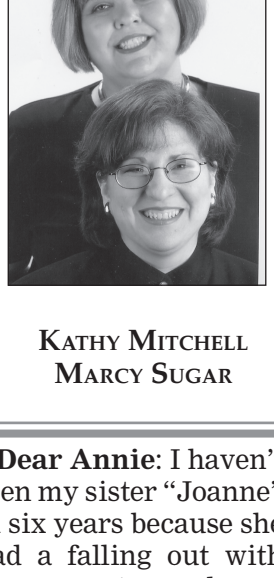

Kathy Mitchell
Marcy Sugar

Dear Annie: I haven't seen my sister "Joanne" in six years because she had a falling out with my parents and my other sister, "Beth." I recently invited Joanne to visit me at my home. When Beth found out, she turned against me and convinced my parents to do the same. My folks even changed their phone number and mailed back the birthday cards I sent.

I'm terribly upset by their behavior. They asked me to have nothing to do with Joanne, but I am not willing to cut her off like that. Why does their problem have to be mine? Am I off base for wanting a relationship with my long-lost sister? How do I get over the hurt? —*Baffled in Bonita*

Dear Bonita: You are not wrong to reach out to Joanne, but you must understand the consequences. We don't know what she may have done to make your family cut her off so completely, but even so, it is quite harsh for them to punish you for maintaining contact. They have given you an ultimatum — Joanne or them. As sad as it is, you apparently cannot have both.

Dear Annie: We own a small lake cabin. My husband has a stressful job, and the cabin serves as a relaxing retreat that helps keep him out of the doctor's office.

I have relatives who, for the past 18 years, have invited themselves to take up residence at our cabin every summer.

They like to stay for three weeks. When we've tried to limit their stay to two weeks, they say we are "nasty." Even though we don't live year-round at the cabin, we want it to be available for us. They say we're still welcome to come while the five of them are staying there, but it's hardly the same.

We have other relatives in the area, but none of them offers or is able to host overnight guests. If we say "yes," it puts my husband and me in a foul mood. If we say "no," we are the bad guys and it upsets all the other relatives. We enjoy these people. We just don't want to give up our space for such an extended time. What do I do? —*Michigan Molly*

Dear Michigan: If you don't want people to take advantage, you must be willing to be the "bad guys" until they get the message. They are counting on you to feel guilty and give in. Don't do it. This is your cabin.

It is your relaxation space. You are under no obligation to let other people stay there for any reason. You have been extremely kind to allow these relatives to barge in on you every single summer for 18 years.

If they are not appreciative and respectful of the exceedingly generous two-week limit, you should tell them they cannot come at all. Period.

Dear Annie: I was deeply saddened to read the letter from "Lonesome," whose wife survived breast cancer, but lost her libido.

I recommend that both of them seek out the Cancer Support Community, an international organization formed by the recent merger of The Wellness Community and Gilda's Club. It is now the largest cancer support service organization in the world.

The CSC can provide them with free professional counseling and support services to get them through this difficult time. Our nationally recognized program "Frankly Speaking About Cancer: When a Woman You Care About has Breast Cancer" was designed for men just like "Lonesome." And our Live Well program (made possible through the Lance Armstrong Foundation) will help his wife "live well and beyond her breast cancer."

Cancer affects the entire family. Please tell "Lonesome" to visit our website at cancersupportcommunity.org for information and the location of a facility near his home. —Charlie Ann Syprett, Board of Directors, Cancer Support Community, Sarasota, Fla.

Dear Mr. Syprett: Thank you for the excellent recommendation. We hope "Lonesome" will check out your website today.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Contact the Herald at 263-7331

Odd news

Utahn charged for mailing letters to cat

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Prosecutors say a South Salt Lake man facing charges in the assault of his wife has been mailing letters from jail to her cat begging the woman not to testify.

Authorities say 32-year-old Ronald Charles Dallas has been ordered to have no contact with his wife, who is the alleged victim in a domestic violence case against him.

Prosecutors allege Dallas has asked her not to testify by mailing 11 letters intended for her to her cat, Molly Judge, and a neighbor.

Dallas now faces 11 counts of violation of a protective order and two counts of tampering with a witness. All are third-degree felonies and were filed Tuesday.

Trent Ricks, Dallas' court-appointed attorney in the domestic violence case, told The Associated Press he couldn't comment until speaking to his client.

Thrift store gets laptop back after mistaken sale

COEUR d'ALENE, Idaho (AP) — An Idaho thrift store manager has her laptop back after it was accidentally sold for $5 last week.

Sandra Bechthold says she was stunned when a customer returned the computer to the store Tuesday. the man refused her offer of a reward and wouldn't even give them his last name.

The man explained that his wife had heard about the mistake through the news and he decided to return the computer to the Women's Center Thrift Store.

Bechthold told the Coeur d'Alene Press she didn't know how her laptop ended up among the items in the donation receiving room or how it ended up being sold without having a price tag. She ran a classified ad in the paper seeking its return but had nearly given up when the man returned the computer.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

to check in books, but no other library services are being offered until the problem is cleared up. McCright added that anything due back at the library this week will not be subject to a fine.

The summer reading program, held in the library basement, has been unaffected because that section of the library is on a different chilling system, McCright said.

She added that she is "optimistic" the air conditioning problem will be repaired today and urged people to call the library at 264-2260 for more information.

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

TOUR

Continued from Page 1A

aiming their efforts toward history buffs or stamp collectors, either. Dolores Mosser, chairperson of the TPTR board of directors and the author of children's books, kicked off the tour by reading one of her books to a group of children gathered at the Howard County Library's summer reading program.

Debra Sue McDonald, executive director of TPTR, said the tour of the different counties in the region has been fun for all involved.

"I've got a really plush job," she said. "I get to find out about all the cool, neat historical facts about this region … and I get to promote this to the rest of the world. I get to see firsthand all the neat things in this region that a lot of people might not be aware of."

Aside from attracting visitors to the area, the tour also benefits local residents, McDonald added.

"This whole tour is something very special," she said. "Sometimes, people who live in a town are the last ones to know about some of its attractions … I've been very wowed by the whole thing."

The special stamps will be available through the local post office for 30 days, Wegman said.

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

STUDY

Continued from Page 1A

the national standards. But math and science, we've got a ways to go, there's no doubt about it. For us to be competitive in this global marketplace, we must improve our math and science standards, academies and getting our kids in these programs."

Teacher groups, however, were critical of the analysis.

"The Fordham study represents the views of one group and I'm not sure that Texas teachers would agree with all of their rankings," said Brock Gregg, a lobbyist for the Association of Texas Professional Educators.

In fact, Gregg says many teachers in his 115,000-member group believe the opposite from what the analysis found. They think the state's math standards are sufficient but the English and language arts standards aren't, he said.

The math standards were adopted in 1997 and are expected to get a rewrite later this year. Language arts standards in Texas were adopted by the State Board of Education in 2008.

The Common Core standards have been adopted by 25 states. The state-led initiative aims to establish a uniform set of expectations on what students should know by the time they graduate high school.

The sweeping education benchmarks released in May aim to replace a hodgepodge of academic goals varying wildly from state to state with a uniform set of expectations for students.

The common academic standards many states will adopt this fall are clearer and more rigorous than those currently used by three-quarters of all states, according to an analysis by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute.

The study found the Common Core standards were stronger than 37 states in English and 39 states in math. A handful of states had academic standards in both subjects that were similar to the uniform ones.

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James West, 67, died Thursday. Military Graveside services were at 11 a.m. today at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Jessie Joann "Jo" Wyatt, 72, died Sunday. Funeral services were at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Tom Stevenson, 70, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Chester D. Urban, 90, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Brenda's Bar-B-Q & More
and also all of the parents,
grandparents, friends
and relatives.
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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his ways, and the unrighteous man his thoughts. Let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:6-7 ESV).

"Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear." (Isaiah 59: 1-2).

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father except through me." (John 14:6).

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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OUR VIEW

Salvation Army supplies effort still needs help

Chances are most us of remember the public service announcement on television that told us "a mind is a terrible thing to waste." And there's no doubt in our minds that's as true today as it was the day it was first coined.

A mind definitely is a terrible thing to waste. And that's why we should all be thinking about the new school year's arrival. After all, we should all remember that one of the most important things we can give children is an education.

And with that in mind, it's time for all of us to be thinking about making sure our children have everything they need when school bells begin ringing in August. That's right, all of us — not just parents with school-age children.

The reason that all of us need to remember, to paraphrase the advertising campaign, just how important a child's mind is, there will be too many families in Big Spring who simply cannot afford what many of us take for granted — providing their children with the necessities such as paper, pencils, notebooks, crayons, scissors, rulers and the like.

That's where the Salvation Army steps in. Every year, the organization hands out school supplies to several hundred Big Spring children from kindergarten through the eighth grade and this year Capts. Ed and Terry Cheshire expect they'll need to provide supplies for even more.

And that means the call is now going out for donations for the program. While donors can purchase school supplies and bring them to the Salvation Army offices for distribution, it should be noted that monetary donations are preferred. The Salvation Army is a tax-exempt organization and therefore can purchase more supplies with the same money than individuals.

While parents or guardians of students in need of school supplies have had a week to register their children for the program, this year there will be just one day for registering — Aug. 2.

"This year, we'll be taking applications on just one day — from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.," said Capt. Terry Cheshire. "And we'll be giving out the supplies the same day."

So prospective applicants should begin preparing to have the information they will need when registering for the program.

Information applicants will need to bring with them when they register include a birth certificate or Medicaid card and Social Security card for each child, as well as proof of residency, income, expenses and a photo ID for the person applying for the program.

"We also need to know what school the child is going to and what grade they will be in," Cheshire added.

If you know of a family in need of help, encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity and to get prepared by putting together the information they'll need to apply. Without those supplies, children will be at an immediate disadvantage.

And please remember, if you can help out by donating money for the effort, please do so.

As we have noted before, donations to the Salvation Army school supplies program are an investment. They are an investment in education, an investment in a child's future and an investment in our community's future.

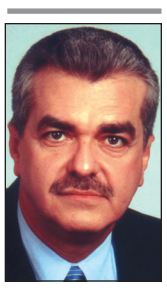
That's something we dare not waste.

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we trust in Your strategy, Lord, for our life.
Amen

If they quack like racists, they're probably not ducks



MIGUEL PEREZ

You would have to be blind not to see it, deaf not to hear it. You don't even have to go to a tea party rally to know that there are many racist people in its ranks. All you have to do is turn on your radio or television, and if you are not offended by the signs they carry and the things they say, you are in denial about racism in America. It's on display!

Yet when the NAACP rightfully called on the tea party to denounce and root out the bigots in its ranks, some people had the gall to flip the accusation. In their warped minds, it was the NAACP that was promoting racism. Their audacity is remarkable.

Of course, not all tea party activists are racists. Most of them are legitimately concerned about big government and our skyrocketing national debt. But when they attend these rallies and stand next to right-wing extremists and white supremacists who use racial slurs, spew the N-word, spit at black lawmakers, bash immigrants and carry stuffed monkeys and images of witch doctors in tasteless efforts to depict President Barack Obama, they are all guilty by association. This is not something about which to be complacent. It's un-American simply to look the other way.

I support immigrant rights activists and their efforts to gain some kind of amnesty for undocumented immigrants. But I don't go to their rallies because I refuse to stand next to left-wing extremists who carry pictures of the murderer Che Guevara, threaten to retake the Southwest or wave foreign flags, giving the stupid impression that they are invading this great nation.

Yet under the banner of the tea party, wackos are allowed to get away with blatant racism. And if you complain, they will say you are the racist!

The NAACP resolution didn't accuse the tea party of racism; it simply asked its leaders to weed out those who are giving their movement a terrible image. "What we take issue with is the tea party's continued tolerance for bigotry and bigoted statements," NAACP President Benjamin Jealous said. "The time has come for them to accept the responsibility that comes with influence and make clear there is no place for racism and anti-Semitism, homophobia and other forms of bigotry in their movement."

Yet instead of heeding the request, some tea party leaders spewed even more of the hatred we see on display at their rallies. Others tried to cover the sun with one finger.

Some said there is simply no proof to support the NAACP's claims. Sarah Palin called the NAACP resolution "false, appalling and ... a regressive and diversionary tactic." She said it is an example of "typical divisive politics that is so absolutely unnecessary." Instead of admitting there are at least some racist "tea baggers" and condemning their behavior, the former Alaska governor and GOP vice presidential candidate actually called on President Obama to repudiate the NAACP resolution and "set the record straight."

Some tea party leaders with obvious political aspirations say this resolution was not passed because minorities have legitimate concerns, but because they are driven by political motivations.

The word hypocrisy is somehow not enough to describe some of these people. And the word racist is the perfect word to describe some others. Take Mark Williams, the national spokesman of the Tea Party Express, who posted a "parody letter" on the Internet pretending to be Jealous, the NAACP's president, writing to Abraham Lincoln.

"We (National Association for the Advancement of) Colored People have taken a vote and decided that we don't cotton to that whole emancipation thing," Williams wrote in his pathetic satirical letter. "Freedom means having to work for real, think for ourselves, and take consequences along with the rewards. That is just far too much to ask of us Colored People and we demand that it stop!"

If this man is not a racist, no one is!

In interviews last week, Williams also claimed the NAACP members are "professional race baiters" who make "more money off of race than any slave trader ever." Since 1909, no other organization has done more to fight racism and discrimination against all Americans. But Williams said the NAACP belongs in "the trash heap of history where they belong with all the other vile, racist groups that emerged in our history."

Again, the word hypocrisy is not enough!

Williams went so far that the National Tea Party Federation was left no choice but to do what the NAACP requested. Although he had removed his letter to Lincoln from his website, he was booted from the federation.

Some tea party leaders also have spoken out against racism in their movement. But it's clearly not enough to dissuade the most radical racist elements from using the movement as the new Ku Klux Klan. There is no denying that white supremacist organizations have participated in tea party rallies and that they represent a dangerous threat to democracy.

If tea partyers were only about cutting taxes and limiting government, perhaps they would have much more support. But when they scoff at charges of racism and resist repudiating the white supremacists among them, when they dismiss the problem as a minor issue created by "fringe elements," they do a terrible disservice to their movement.

Unfortunately, it's becoming evident that the glue that holds tea baggers together is not their quest for lower taxes and smaller government, but their resentment for what the majority of us did in 2008, when we elected our first black president.

Remember when some naive people thought that the election of Barack Obama marked the end of racism in America? Au contraire! It marked the beginning of a new wave of bigotry that now is showcased at tea party rallies. When they talk about "taking our country back," they are really talking about preserving their white privileges.

When they are asked to expel the bigots from their ranks, they conveniently claim that the tea party is not a party, but a patchwork of small, local groups that are hard to control.

But we all know the old duck test: "If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck." However, if they quack like racists, they're probably not ducks.

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Sad to say, someday is now!

ANNETTE BRIDGES

I bought a Curly Girl Design greeting card recently that sits on my desk. I can't seem to part with it, although there are many friends and family members I can imagine giving it to. The phrase on its cover is one that I read every day. In fact, I usually read it several times a day: "One of the hardest things to realize," she said, "is that someday is right now."

Yesterday, my husband and I experienced one of our "someday" moments and went to a movie. I say "someday" because usually when we talk about wanting to go see a certain movie, we never end up going to see it. Interestingly enough, there was a line in the movie about when people say "someday" as they speak of things they plan to do. One of the actors said "someday" is often another word for "never" — that people often speak of the things they will never do.

I don't want this to be me!

I've been carrying around another quote from a Curly Girl Design notepad page. It reads, "The world is full of people who will go their whole lives and not actually live one day. She did not intend on being one of them."

This little piece of paper is tucked neatly away in my wallet so that I come across it frequently as a reminder.

I seem to be obsessed with these two quotes. But it has occurred to me that perhaps I'm so focused on worrying about not reaching the full potential of my life, that I am not living each day of my life to its fullest.

I once said that I felt like I was living from one vacation to the next. And I seem to be guilty of this again.

That said, I'm not going to stop planning vacations — and as many as possible, too! But I do think I need to value each day inbetween and give more consideration to the possibilities that each day has to offer.

I remember being a starry-eyed teenager who spent many hours and days dreaming about someone, someday and somewhere. After I met my "someone," another "someday" arrived a couple of years later when we had a baby. Before I knew it, many more "somedays" had come and gone — or maybe that's what all empty-nesters say.

How can people go their whole lives and not actually "live" anyway? What does this mean? One dictionary defines "those who truly live" as those who "enjoy life to the full" -- as those who "pursue a positive, satisfying existence."

I think it's possible to go through the motions of what's expected or needed each day and not be fully engaged in each moment. And if we're not fully engaged as active participants in the day, we are not being aware and appreciative of all there is to enjoy — we're not "living" the day.

It's no wonder we can find ourselves not satisfied with our lives. If we think that satisfaction or joy is dependent on "someday" or "somewhere" in the future, we limit the satisfaction and joy we can experience right now. Indeed, it can become impossible for us to be satisfied and happy. This describes me lately.

I've been worrying that my life will reach its final chapter before all of my "somedays" come to fruition and all my "somewheres" have been visited.

I suspect I need to be more appreciative of what I have accomplished and experienced up to this point. I don't think I have valued my life enough. Gratitude has a way of reminding us of all that's good in our lives.

Because I've been concentrating on all the "somedays" and "somewheres" I've not seen yet, I've neglected to appreciate all the ones that I have.

Do you have a someday — or a someone or somewhere you're looking forward to?

One thing is certain, my friends.

If we look only to something in the future, we will miss something in our present.

Don't miss the joy of this day and every day. Life really is what we make it. So let's make it the best it can be one day at a time. We can make our someday right now.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. A mother and former public and homeschool teacher, she column was first published by the Dallas Morning News in 2001. She has since written weekly columns for numerous newspapers.

News in brief

Agriculture Dept. tries to move past uproar over race

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House apologized to Shirley Sherrod. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack offered her a new job. But after a whirlwind week, Sherrod says she needs to think about it.

It has been an emotional roller coaster ride for Sherrod, who until this week had been the Agriculture Department's director of rural development for Georgia. First she was branded a racist by conservative pundits, then attacked by the NAACP for alleged racist remarks, followed by a demand for her immediate resignation from her bosses in Washington. On Wednesday there was finally an admission that she had been attacked falsely, followed by a plea from Vilsack — and the White House — for forgiveness.

"This is a good woman. She's been through hell. ... I could have done and should have done a better job," Vilsack told reporters after he had talked to Sherrod by phone.

Sherrod accepted Vilsack's apology.

But on Thursday she was still pondering whether to return to the Agriculture Department, where Vilsack said he is ready to offer her "a unique opportunity" for a new job.

Extension of jobless benefits likely after House vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House vote Thursday is expected to send President Barack Obama a long-sought measure to resume unemployment payments to millions of people whose benefits have lapsed.

Obama is set to sign the bill as soon as Congress can ship it to him. The Senate broke through months of stalemate in passing the measure Wednesday by a 59-39 vote. The House planned to vote around midday Thursday.

Some 2.5 million people who been out of work for six months or more and have seen their jobless benefits lapse would receive back payments within a few weeks.

Obama promised to sign the measure quickly once the House acts and denounced the "weeks of parliamentary roadblocks by a partisan minority" that had stalled approval in the Senate.

"Americans who are working day and night to get back on their feet and support their families in these tough economic times deserve more than obstruction and partisan game-playing," Obama said in a statement Wednesday night.

Triumphant Obama signs financial overhaul

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reveling over a new milestone in his presidency, a triumphant Barack Obama on Wednesday signed into law the most sweeping overhaul of lending and high-finance rules since the Great Depression, adding safeguards for millions of consumers and aiming to restrain Wall Street excesses that could set off a new recession.

The president's signing ceremony capped nearly two years of intense and partisan debate over how to avoid a recurrence of the 2008 financial meltdown that buckled the U.S. economy and left sharp, lasting imprints on the nation's politics and in Americans' homes.

"Because of this law, the American people will never be asked again to foot the bill for Wall Street's mistakes," Obama said.

In a heated midterm election season that has dented his public support, Obama sought to put the complex law in pocketbook terms. Emphasizing provisions that guard borrowers from abusive lenders, he claimed "the strongest financial protections for consumers in the nation's history."

Not everyone agreed. Republicans portrayed the bill as a burden on small banks and the businesses that rely on them and argued that it will cost consumers and impede job growth.

Ships ready to evacuate Gulf cleanup effort

ON THE GULF OF MEXICO (AP) — Crew members aboard dozens of ships in the Gulf of Mexico prepared Thursday to evacuate as a tropical rainstorm brewing in the Caribbean brought the deep-sea effort to plug BP's ruptured oil well to a near standstill.

Though the rough weather was hundreds of miles from the spill site and wouldn't enter the Gulf for at least a few more days, officials ordered technicians trying to plug BP's well to stand down because they needed several days to clear the area.

Anxiety built among the 75-member crew aboard the cutter Decisive, the Coast Guard's primary search and rescue vessel that would be the last of about 65 ships to leave in the event of an evacuation.

"It's a controlled chaos out there," Lt. Patrick Montgomery told an Associated Press reporter aboard the cutter heading from Pascagoula, Miss., to the spill site.

Just days before the expected completion of a relief well designed to permanently throttle the free-flowing crude, the government's spill chief said Wednesday that work was suspended.

N. Korea warns U.S. should halt sanctions, military exercises

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — North Korea warned the United States and South Korea on Thursday to call off military exercises scheduled for this weekend and to back off any new sanctions against the communist country or risk placing the entire region in danger.

The warning issued on the sidelines of a meeting of Southeast Asian nations in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi, came as tensions on the peninsula simmer over the sinking of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors. The North was blamed for the attack, but has denied any responsibility.

"Amid growing concerns by the international community, South Korea and the United States have announced they would hold joint naval exercises," said Ri Tong Il, a North Korean spokesman, according to Yonhap news agency. "Such a move presents a grave threat to the peace and security not only to the Korean peninsula, but to the region."

On Wednesday, Washington announced it would impose new sanctions aimed at stifling the North's nuclear activities. Ri said any new sanctions would be in violation of a U.N. Security Council statement approved earlier this month that condemned the sinking but stopped short of directly assigning blame.

"If the U.S. is really interested in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, it should halt the military exercises and sanctions that destroy the mood for dialogue," Ri told reporters.

Poll: Financial worries make economy a hardship for Hispanics

MIAMI (AP) — For Hispanics in America, the ravaged economy has been a personal nightmare.

While the stubborn downturn has rocked the country, an extensive Associated Press-Univision poll of the nation's Hispanics fleshes out the disproportionate toll on the fastest-growing minority group.

Nearly half or more express intense worry over losing their jobs, paying bills or saving for college, and similar numbers say they or a relative were unemployed recently — all of it worse than the general population's experience.

"There's nothing stable," said Alberto Alvarez, 49, a Cuban immigrant and construction worker in Miami.

"Today there's a job. Tomorrow there's another. And the next, there's nothing."

More than 1,500 Latinos were interviewed for the poll, which was conducted as the nation's unemployment rate hovered near 10 percent and the economy struggled to recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression.

Ford says hybrid Lincoln sedan will cost the same as gas version

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) — For the first time, an American automaker plans to sell a hybrid car for the same, lower price as its gas-powered counterpart, removing at least one obstacle for drivers who want a greener ride.

At a little more than $35,000, the 2011 Lincoln MKZ sedan won't be cheap, but the decision by Ford to match the prices of the two styles could lead competitors to follow suit with future models.

The hybrid MKZ, debuting this fall and running on both gas and electric power, will be a bargain after factoring in savings at the pump. It gets more than double the mileage of the traditional version in city driving.

While automakers won't reveal what they spend to install a hybrid system in a car, the final product usually costs several thousand dollars more than a gas-powered version of the same car.

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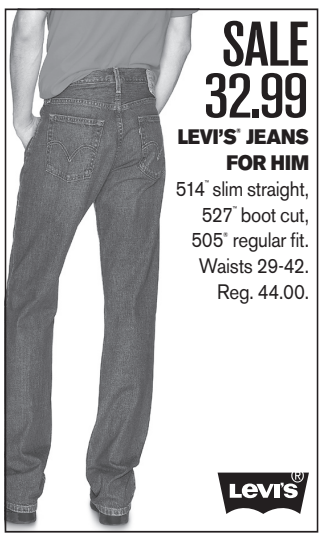

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News in brief

Texas mom tells 911 she used wire to kill children

DALLAS (AP) — A suburban Dallas woman accused of killing her two young children told a 911 operator that she first tried to poison them because they were autistic and she wanted "normal kids," then choked them with a wire until they stopped moving, according to the recorded call.

Irving police on Wednesday released recordings of the 911 call after Saiqa Akhter was charged with capital murder in the death of her 5-year-old son, Zain Akhter. Police said the children were attacked at the family's apartment Monday night.

Another capital murder charge is pending in the slaying of her 2-year-old daughter, Faryaal Akhter, who died Tuesday night, police spokesman David Tull said.

In the recording released Wednesday, the woman identified herself as Saiqa Akhter and repeatedly told the operator she killed her two children. At one point, the woman hung up and the dispatcher called her back.

"I killed both of them. I told you," she told the operator. Later, she explained that both children were lying motionless on the bed in the master bedroom.

"They are not doing anything. They are just blue and they are not taking any breaths and ... their heart is not beating," she said.

She told the operator she initially tried to poison the children with bathroom cleaner but they refused to drink it. When that didn't work, "I used a wire on their necks," she said.

When the operator asked the woman why she attacked her children, she said, "They're both not normal, not normal. They're autistic. Both are autistic." Pressed further, she said, "I don't want my children to be like that. ... I want normal kids."

Girl burned in Alaska crash to head home to Texas

SEATTLE (AP) — A 16-year-old girl who survived the fiery crash of a light plane in Anchorage last month said Wednesday that she is profoundly grateful for bystanders who saved her life by pulling her and the other victims from the burning wreckage.

"They didn't have to do it, but they did," said Rachel Zientek (ZEN'-tek).

Rachel is being discharged Thursday from Seattle's Harborview Medical Center, where she has been treated for extensive burns since the June 1 crash.

The Houston teen was aboard a single-engine plane that clipped the roof of a motel and crashed at the edge of downtown Anchorage shortly after takeoff from Merrill Field. Dozens of bystanders ran to help rescue those aboard the Cessna 206 by lifting the wreckage, spraying it with fire extinguishers and reaching inside the burning aircraft to pull victims out.

Three others in the plane were critically burned, and a 4-year-old boy died.

Rachel and her parents, Mike and Tammy Zientek, said it's difficult to find words for how thankful they are for the spontaneous bravery.

Texas company pays $93K for oil spill in Montana

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A Texas company has paid a $93,100 fine for spilling 3,300 gallons of oil into a southeastern Montana creek when an underground pipeline failed.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality announced Wednesday that Fort Worth-based Encore Operating LP had paid the fine to settle claims the spill violated state water quality rules.

The November 2009 pipeline failure dumped an estimated 80 barrels of oil and 800 barrels of production water into Belle Creek in Powder River County.

Tests of water samples collected from the creek showed concentrations of toxic benzene that exceeded pollution limits, in one case by more than 11 times the state's standard.

Governor says border security plan inadequate

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry says Washington isn't sending enough troops to protect the U.S-Mexico border.

Perry, speaking to reporters Wednesday, said the plan to send 1,200 National Guard troops next month to border areas — including 250 slated for Texas — won't get the job done.

"I guess it's better than nothing, which is what we've had for a long time," Perry said. Perry estimated that 3,000 or more new agents were needed along the border to adequately secure it. He also said he would welcome a meeting on border security with President Barack Obama, who is planning to raise money for Democrats in Texas in early August.

El Paso land owner charged in hit-and-run death

EL PASO (AP) — A well-known El Paso landowner has been arrested in a fatal hit-and-run case.

Police spokeman Darrel Petry said William "Billy" Abraham was arrested Tuesday night after hitting a pedestrian with his car and fleeing the scene. The 54-year-old was arrested on charges of intoxicated manslaughter and being involved in an accident causing personal injury or death.

Petry said Abraham's car struck Jay Grady, 47, as Grady walked across a busy road about 9:40 p.m. Tuesday. Petry said a U.S. Border Patrol agent followed Abraham, the owner of several downtown El Paso buildings, for more than five miles before he finally pulled over.

Abraham is free on $60,000 bail. Petry did not know if Abraham had a lawyer and a telephone number listed for him was disconnected.

West Texas tot dies after being hit by SUV

EL PASO (AP) — Authorities say an El Paso County toddler has died after being accidentally run over by an SUV driven by his grandmother.

El Paso County Sheriff's Spokesman Jesse Tovar says the traffic fatality occurred Tuesday night in the far West Texas border town of Tornillo.

Officials identified the child as 15-month Javier Fabian Ortiz and the driver as 44-year-old Maria Tarango.

Tovar says the woman got into her parked SUV in front of her home and drove a few feet forward when she felt that she had run over something. She got out of the vehicle and discovered her grandson.

No charges have been filed.

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Possible 6A good for area coaches

File Photo

With the UIL comtemplating the creation of a possible Conference 6A, Big Spring High School Athletic Director and head football coach Phillip Ritchey said he is in favor of more teams in the postseason outside of 5A and 4A.

BY ADAM COLEMAN
Sports Editor

All the talk out of San Antonio has everything to do with changing the Texas high school football landscape, again.

The Associated Press reported this week the UIL's decision to contemplate the creation of a Conference 6A. The report came in the midst of the Texas High School Coaches Association convention in San Antonio, a chance for high school coaches to meet before the season.

The AP report states high schools in Texas would be split up into six classes of equal size, The move, according to the AP report, would help carry out the UIL's plan to put more teams in the postseason — four from each district of every size, to be exact. Only 5A and 4A allow four teams in the postseason from every district.

The AP report also states the creation of 6A would make the six-man divisions 1A in all sports, 1A would become 2A and every other class would be bumped up.

It reminds Big Spring Athletic Director and head football coach Phillip Ritchey of the time 5A was created.

"Personally, I think it'll be just like back when they went from a 4A to a 5A," he said. "Everybody just kind of bumped up one class. I think the same thing would happen. I think if they go to a 6A super-whatever they're going to call that, the 4As would bump up, a lot of them would bump up to 5A."

But if this went through, how would it change local teams.

Ritchey said not much should change on the Steers' end because they've already been in bigger schools. He said where it could have impact, for example, is on a big 4A school that would suddenly be a small 5A school.

What excites Ritchey about this news is the number of teams in the playoffs from each district with the creation of 6A.

Ritchey said it is, after all, about the students.

"I think it should be that way anyway," he said of allowing four teams from each district in the playoffs. "I think the 5As and 4As do it. To me it'll totally make sense up and down. It kind of, to me, punishes kids that might be in a 3A school, because they only get to take three. To me, there's no good justification for it.

"If it's good enough for the 4As and 5As, it ought to be good enough for the 3As and on down."

Some coaches have the mindset to roll with whatever the UIL rules and new Coahoma football coach Trey Gardner is no exception.

The coach also said the upside of the new 6A conference is that it allows more student-athletes to experience the playoffs.

But the question for Gardner is if the creation of 6A would be a permanent fix, and he said he is not sure that would be the case.

"They're trying to get it to where it's more and more equitable," he said form the THSCA convention in San Antonio. "I don't know if there'll be a perfect solution. That's the deal. They lay the rules out there and we've got to play by them."

Maybe the most excited group of coaches about the news is six-man football coaches.

Vance Jones, head coach at Garden City, said it's not six-man football that would be impacted by the creation of 6A — that part is perfect in his mind.

It's other sports, such as track and field or basketball that will even things out for six-man schools.

While schools with larger enrollments

See **6A**, Page 12

Michaels leads 'Stros past Cubs in 12 innings

CHICAGO — Both bullpens were spent, runs were scarce and the Houston Astros had trouble making a quick getaway Wednesday. That's OK. They'll take it. Their 12-inning victory over the Chicago Cubs made it all worth it.

"It did take a while," manager Brad Mills said after the 4-3 victory. "We kept battling. In a game like this our bullpen was on fumes."

Pinch-hitter Jason Michaels delivered a two-out, two-run double in the 12th and scored on Angel Sanchez's single, giving the Astros a 4-1 lead. They needed all of it after Geovany Soto hit a two-run homer off Gustavo Chacin in the bottom half.

Ryan Theriot followed Soto's 13th homer with a base hit and pinch-hitter Jeff Baker walked before Tyler Colvin lined out to right, giving Chacin his first career save.

The Astros took two of three in the series at Wrigley Field, bouncing back after Tuesday's difficult 14-7 loss that featured 13 unanswered runs by the Cubs and a three-homer night by Chicago slugger Aramis Ramirez.

"To get that series win feels great," Michaels said. "Two outs, second and third, I was just trying to have a good at-bat and get myself in position. I got lucky and found the gap."

Jeff Keppinger and Chris Johnson started the 12th with consecutive singles. After Jason Castro forced Keppinger at third with a bunt back to Bob Howry (1-3), James Russell relieved and Michael Bourn's grounder moved the runners to second and third.

Michaels greeted Jeff Stevens, the seventh Chicago reliever, with a drive into the alley in left-center.

Chicago threatened in the eighth, ninth, 10th and 11th but couldn't get the big hit, leaving 16 runners on base for the game.

"We scored 14 last night," manager Lou Piniella said the day after he announced his retirement at the end of the season. "If we would have got all the guys we left on today, we would have scored 14 today. We just didn't get them in."

The Cubs had second and third in the 11th before Brandon Lyon (6-4) got Derrek Lee to fly out. Chicago loaded the bases with one out in the 10th on a double by Starlin

See **ASTROS**, Page 12

Tigers beat Texas Rangers 4-1

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Tigers desperately needed a strong pitching performance to snap their longest losing streak of the season.

Max Scherzer came through for them.

Scherzer threw seven scoreless innings to help Detroit beat the Texas Rangers 4-1 on Wednesday night, ending a seven-game skid.

"He pitched a great ballgame," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. "That's what it normally takes to break a string like this."

Offense helps, too.

Gerald Laird hit a two-run homer in the second inning then Magglio Ordonez and Miguel Cabrera drove in runs in the seventh.

Scherzer (7-7) gave up four hits and three walks — throwing a career-high 123 pitches — and won his sixth straight start at home.

"It was important for me to end the streak," Scherzer said.

Phil Coke pitched a perfect eighth and Jose Valverde had a shaky ninth. The All-Star closer walked Ian Kinsler, hit Vladimir Guerrero and allowed both to advance on a wild pitch. Josh Hamilton's groundout pulled Texas within three, but the threat ended when Nelson Cruz struck out and David Murphy grounded out.

"I was worried," Leyland said. "That's not like him, but he bounced back."

Colby Lewis (9-6) allowed four runs and nine hits over seven innings for the AL West-leading Rangers, who had won three straight.

"We went 5-2 and won two series against Boston and Detroit, so we're going home with our heads high," manager Ron Washington said. "Those aren't two teams that you can just expect to beat every night, and we won both series. Now we've got to go home and play four good games of baseball against the Angels and see what happens."

Texas will host second-place Los Angeles on Thursday night — with Cliff Lee facing Jered Weaver — and the newly acquired Lee is scheduled to start again against the Angels on Aug. 1 on the road.

Lewis walked Carlos Guillen to start the second inning, then allowed the light-hitting Laird to hit his fourth homer of the season and first in nearly a month on a 1-0 slider.

"When you hit that pitch out, I think there's some luck involved," Lewis said. "But he put a good swing on it."

Ordonez, who failed to drive in runs when he had chances in each of his first three at-bats, hit an RBI single and Cabrera followed with a sacrifice fly in the seventh.

Scherzer shut down the middle of Texas' lineup in the fourth af-

See **RANGERS**, Page 12

Sports in brief

State Representative Joe Heflin Golf Tournament

This golf tourney will make its way to Big Spring on July 24 at the Comanche Trail Municipal Golf Course. Scramble is scheduled for 9 a.m. and lunch will be provided. RSVP to CassiDe Street at Heflin2010@yahoo.com or at 806-675-1583.

2-Person Low Ball

The Big Spring Country Country Club invites the community to participate in this event, which takes place July 24 through 25. The entry fee is $60 per player plus the golf cart. Private carts are welcome. Entry includes barbecue on the course July 24. Field will be flighted by the first round score. Number of flights determined by number of entries. Call the Pro Shop at 267-5354 for more information or to enter a team.

Youth Basketball Tournament

The 2010 San Antonio Youth Basketball Championships will be conducted Aug. 6 through 8. This tournament is for boys and girls, third through 12th grade. Visit www.otcybc.com, email risingstars07@yahoo.com or call (979)417-3721 for more information.

Co-ed Softball Tournament

There will be a co-ed softball tournament Aug. 7 in Ozona. The entry fee is $125 per team and the deadline to enter is Aug. 2. There will be prizes for first, second and third place winners. For more information call Chris at 325-763-6630 or e-mail him at CARDENAS_CHRIS@YAHOO.COM.

Big Spring Football Season Tickets

Get season tickets at the ATC. Previous season ticket holders can purhase tickets from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday starting July 26 and ending Aug. 9. General public ticket sales are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday starting Aug. 10 and ending Aug. 18. The cost is $25 dollars per ticket book, which includes five home games. The last day to purchase will be Aug. 18. Any questions should be directed toward Kay Cook at 264-3662.

Athletic Physical Exams notice

Athletic physical exams are required by the University Interscholastic League for all athletes entering the seventh, ninth and 11th grades. This also includes any new person to athletics who has never completed a physical exam. Forms can be picked up at the Athletic Training Center. Once completed, the physical form must be turned in to coach Campbell in the training room or to Kay Cook, the athletic secretary. Prior to Aug. 2, equipment will not be checked out until physical is complete and on file in the training room. For more information. call 264-3662.

Over 80 Scramble

The Big Spring Country Club invites everyone to participate in its over 80 scramble on Aug. 14 and 15. It benefits the Big Spring Shirne Club. Cominbed ages of the 2-person team must be 80 or higher. Entry fee is $60 per player plus the golf cart. Private carts are welcome. There is a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days. Entry includes barbecue on the course both days. For more information call the Pro Shop at 267-5354.

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Garage Sales

1811 RUNNELS Thursday & Friday 7AM to noon. (Inside-rear) "Emergency" rummage sale. Need to make space for other things.

3 FAMILY Garage sale: 210 Grimes Rd Friday & Saturday 7am-? Bowflex, dressers w/mirrors, living Rm furniture, new born girls clothes, girls & womens clothes, sm. desk, dinning table & chairs, comforters & sheets, many household items, and leather saddle & pads. 432-816-6273.

BLOCK GARAGE Sale: 100 Block Jefferson St., Saturday 8:00-??? Furniture, tools, kid clothes, back-to-school items, holiday items. Too much to list. Come See Us!!!

CARPORT SALE: Saturday Only 7:00am thru 2:00pm, 905 North Scurry. From 1 to 2, almost everything 1/2 price. Very Cheap Prices.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday, 503 Todd. Shop, Smith saws, Ammo re-loading equipment, exercise equipment, children clothing.

GARAGE SALE: To Benefit Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. 1702 Harvard Ave., Saturday 8:00-? No Early Birds. New Avon Products, luggage, dishes, baby items & clothing and much more.

GARAGE SALE: 2704 Apache Drive, Saturday 9am-5pm. Handicapped Equipment, scooter-$200, power chair-$200, walker w/seat-$50, baking pans, pitchers, glasses, antique singer sewing machine, vases, and more.

GARAGE SALE: 5106 Midland Dr in BIG SPRING off Wasson Rd. & Longshore Rd. Furniture, Bed, New Clothes, Electronics. Saturday Only 8-2. From Wasson Rd turn West on Howard Rd.. From Longshore turn East on Howard Rd.

GARAGE SALE: 513 Hillside 8am-3pm Saturday only. 3 Family sale-too much to list, also have 93V6 Chevy motor.

GARAGE SALE: 5614 East Midway Rd., Friday & Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm. Furniture, clothing, knick-knacks and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: Baby crib, high chair, pack and play. Old glass, miscellaneous. Saturday 8-?, 105 Washington Blvd.

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PRE MOVING Sale: 309 Colorado Road, Exit 184, South Service Road, Follow Signs. Friday 6pm-9pm and Saturday 7am-6pm. Womens plus size, XXL mens, 4-10 girls, 8-18 boys clothing and scrubs, tons of crafting, furniture, blue willow collection, lumber, tools, grills, tons, tons more.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

HOLIDAY MATHIS

The sun bids adieu to Cancer, the crab, and goes home. Leo is the area of the sky he claims as his own, and it's a proud place for him to settle into. The solar exploration of this realm inspires drama and playful fun. Self-development missions are favored, and many will discover how to bring more style to the various roles they play in life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A scene you recently witnessed lingers with you. Something there resonated with an unexpressed need. Guess what this need is. Explore your feelings in this area.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can't judge a book by its cover. But still, there's often something in a person's face that reflects who he or she is inside. Your gut feeling about a new acquaintance is spot-on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Commitment issues arise. People ask you to join them in this or that, and you are happy to oblige — for a moment. Your reluctance to stay any longer than that is a mystery, even to you. It's worth pondering, though.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Hindsight might be 20-20, but foresight can see a pothole before you run over it. You will see a hazard ahead and sidestep it just in time. Call out a public service announcement to other passers-by.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have an uncanny ability to find your way in and out of trouble. That's why you're so much fun. You may get yourself into a bit of a sticky situation today, but you'll get yourself unstuck while there's still humor in it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Resourcefulness is not as common a virtue as it once was, but you have it. It's second nature for you to conserve. You also know how to cut loose now and then, which is what you do tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're doing the best you can. Sometimes that doesn't seem like enough. Usually, the sensation of "lack" comes after you've compared yourself to someone who appears to be doing better. Stop that.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're a giver, and you would rather err by giving too much than too little. And if there is a question about what you owe, you'd rather pay more than squabble over petty details. This attitude will make you wealthy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can't stand watching people who are in disharmony with one another. However, this isn't always a negative occurrence. A dispute you witness ends with your professional advancement.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You like to collect things, but you're no hoarder. The critical difference between an artifact and a piece of junk is whether or not you can use it. You will come across something that appears useful. It isn't.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). On the way to being well-informed, you could accidentally find cause for feelings of jealousy. Your situation is completely different from that of anyone you know. Focus strictly on improving your own situation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A chance meeting will have lasting consequences. You will parlay a short conversation into a whole life chapter. It's an exciting time for you. Sagittarius may be a key character in this scenario.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 22). In the past, you haven't always felt strong. This year you realize just how "together" you really are, and you finally give yourself well-deserved and overdue credit. August brings passion into your world. The recreational activities you choose in September will be a bonding agent for your family. October brings a windfall. Libra and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 14, 33, 20 and 11.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "On my horoscope chart, there is a "PF" symbol located in my second house. What does this mean?"

Lucky you! PF stands for "Part of Fortune." Look at your natal chart, and find your moon and your sun. The longitudinal midpoint between these two planets and your rising sign (ascendant) is your Part of Fortune. Another way of looking at it is: Add your ascendant's longitude to your moon's longitude, and then subtract your sun's longitude to find your Part of Fortune. (For PM births, add the ascendant, plus the sun, minus the moon.) This point on your chart indicates where you are likely to find great worldly success. A PF in your second house benefits your financial security. You're liable to find wealth through your employment, your property and influential friends who protect and promote you. You will also never want for possessions. Do you know what sign your PF is in? This sign would be significant to you, in the same way that your sun sign and rising sign are significant to you. The Part of Fortune is one of the 97 so-called "Arabic Parts" of astrology, which can provide much deeper insight into your chart.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: She plays Alex Russo on Disney's comic series "Wizards of Waverly Place," and Selena Gomez is a fast-rising singing star, as well. Her sun, Mercury and Venus are all in the attention-getting sign of Leo, giving her a natural ease in the spotlight. Her Mars is in Taurus, the sign of singers, indicating that this fledgling pop star could eventually win Grammys with her musical efforts.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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su|do|ku

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

"CLASSIC" ANN LANDERS ®

Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: Recently, my college sweetheart and I got together again after not seeing each other for 45 years.

"Ed" does not understand why I am reluctant to marry him. I believe we have some issues that need to be resolved first.

Ed has had a triple bypass heart operation. He also has emphysema from long-term smoking.

When we go out to eat, he will have two drinks before dinner, wine with dinner and occasionally an after-dinner drink.

He then becomes overly friendly and talks to everyone in the place. On several occasions, he has arrived home half-potted and argumentative.

I have never associated with people who hang out in bars and told him so. He says I am a snob and calls me "Mother Superior."

Ed has barely enough income to pay his living expenses and spends several hundred dollars a month on his addictions.

He tells me that everyone he knows drinks moderately (like him) and that I am the one with the problem.

When I remind him how harmful cigarettes are, he becomes defensive and says he will cut back "after we get married." Should I marry him? What do you think, Ann? — *Mother Superior in Oregon*

Dear Oregon: Your relationship with Ed, as you describe it, does not sound as if it has the ingredients of a happy marriage.

First and foremost, I believe he has a booze problem that would be a continuing source of trouble.

And then there are the cigarettes. Although you didn't go into detail, I get the impression that Ed has money problems, as well. You need this man in your life like a moose needs a hat rack.

Dear Ann: When I married "Dwayne," he had two grown daughters from his first marriage, and I had a grown son. We are very happy together, and I want to keep it that way.

I brought more money into this marriage than Dwayne did. Since much of my money was inherited from my parents, I feel it is perfectly OK if I give special gifts to my son and daughter-in-law.

However, I do not want to create problems by making my stepdaughters jealous.

Both of Dwayne's daughters are lovely people, but I did not raise them and do not feel the same closeness with them as I do with my son.

Am I asking for trouble by showing favoritism? Please help. — *Austin, Texas*

Dear Austin: Your stepdaughters are part of your family now, and I assume you remember them on their birthdays, anniversaries and holidays. If so, you should not feel guilty about giving additional gifts to your son and his family.

What's the truth about pot, cocaine, LSD, PCP, crack, speed and downers? "The Lowdown on Dope" has information on drugs. Send a self-addressed, long, business-sized envelope and a check or money order for $5 (this includes postage and handling) to: Lowdown, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Two Ways to Skin a Cat

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 5 2
♥ A J 4
♦ A J 9 6
♣ 7 3

WEST
♠ 3
♥ 10 8 5 2
♦ 7 3 2
♣ J 10 8 5 4

EAST
♠ J 9 6 4
♥ 9 7
♦ 10 8 5
♣ Q 9 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 7
♥ K Q 6 3
♦ K Q 4
♣ A K

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	7 ♠	

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Bridge is a game of endless refinements, which is one reason it has so many millions of adherents. There is always something to learn, as shown by this hand where South was in seven spades.

West led a club, and South could see 13 tricks, provided he did not lose a trump trick. This would happen only if one opponent had all five missing trumps, or if West started with the J-9-x-x. Declarer can protect against J-9-x-x in the East hand by cashing the king and then leading to dummy's ace. After West shows out, he can then take the proven finesse against East's jack.

The safety play would have worked perfectly in the actual deal except for one small detail. When South cashed the king of spades, East played the nine on it, and the appearance of the nine diverted South from his original plan. He naturally thought the nine might be a singleton, which would mean that West had started with the J-6-4-3.

To guard against this possibility, South continued with the queen, planning to next finesse against West's jack if East showed out. But West showed out instead, and South went down one.

Declarer could have improved on his chances significantly if he had crossed to dummy initially with a heart or a diamond and then led a low spade from dummy. It is unlikely that East would have played the nine in this case, fearing that West might have the singleton ten and that the nine play would jeopardize a sure trump trick for his side.

Once East played low on this basis, declarer would surely have made the contract. After West followed to the king, South would have led a low spade to the ace, and the cat would have been out of the bag.

Tomorrow: Two double-dummy problems.

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su|do|ku

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ANSWERS

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

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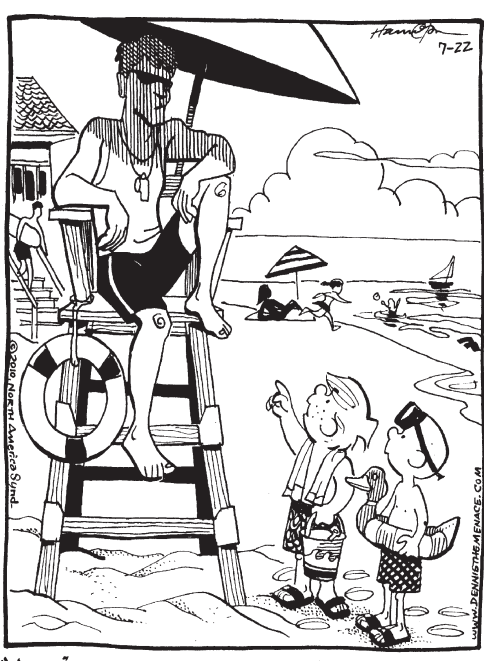
5 :PM	News	Vida	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	King	Granger	World	King	Cash Cab	Morgan Freeman	Sports	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Deck	SportsNation	SportsCenter
:30	ABC	Notic.	Lopez	CBS	Noticiero	News	King	Brad	Business	King	Cash Cab		Knockout			Phineas		
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men	News	A Corazón Abierto	News	Seinfeld	Sala	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	Ratzilla		Ways Die	Bones		Wizards	WNBA Basketball: Sparks at Fever	
:30	Wheel		Two Men	Ent		Millionaire	Seinfeld	Charles		70s Show			Ways Die			Hannah		NFL Live
7 :PM	Wipeout	Hasta que el Dinero	Glee	Big Brother	El Clon	Commun	Movie: Guess Who, Zoe Saldana	Upd	Texas	The Vampire Diaries	River Monsters	Movie: Blood Work, Anjelica Huston	Pros vs. Joes	Bones	Trey	Movie: Jump In!		Softball
:30						30 Rock		Sprna	Parks						Trey			
8 :PM	Rookie Blue	Soy Tu Dueña (SS)	So You Think	CSI: Crime Scene	El Fantasma de	Office		Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Moonlight	River Monsters		TNA Wrestling	Bones	Movie: Half Baked, Jim Breuer		Football	
:30						Parks										Deck	SportsNation	
9 :PM	Boston Med	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons	The Mentalist	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	Law & Order: SVU	Fam. Guy		Ribbon	Married...	Deadliest Catch			Movie: 300, David Wenham		Wizards		Baseball Tonight
:30			Friends				Fam. Guy		Circus	Married...		Movie: Heartbreak Ridge, Everett McGill				Wizards	MLS Soccer: Earthquakes at Galaxy	
10 :PM	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Alewine	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	River Monsters		Jail		The Mo'Nique	Deck		SportsCenter
:30	Nightline	Noticiero	TMZ	Letterman	Titulares	Jay Leno		Van Impe		Roseanne			Jail			Deck		
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Corazón Salvaje	Law & Order: SVU	Late	A Corazón Abierto	Late Night	Name	Bill Cloud	World	Bernie	River Monsters		MAN	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah		Baseball
:30							Name	Swallow	T. Smiley	Cops			MAN			Hannah		NFL Live
12 :AM	Extra	Amar sin Límites	Paid		Deci		Sex &	Upd	(Off Air)	Cops	Deadliest Catch		MAN	Rizzoli & Isles	Movie: Half Baked, Jim Breuer	Wizards	MMA Live	SportsCenter
:30	Paid		King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Sex/City	World		Video		Movie: Speechless	MAN			Wizards	Softball	
1 :AM	Paid	Mujer...	Paid	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Videosomnia	Overhaulin'		Disorderly Con.	HawthoRNe		Suite Life		SportsCenter
:30	Paid	Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado											Suite Life		

DENNIS THE MENACE



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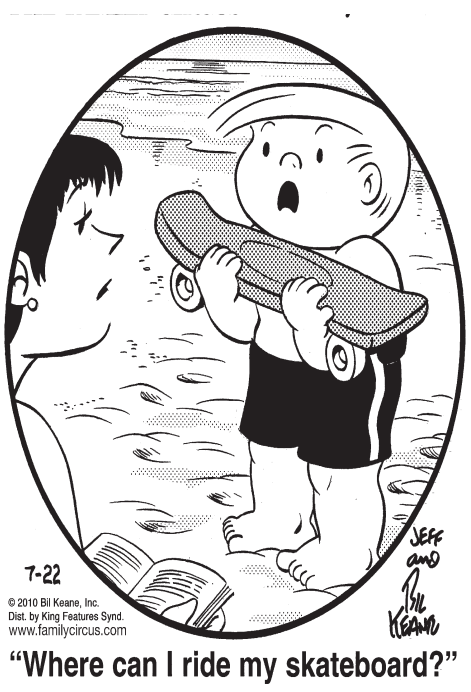
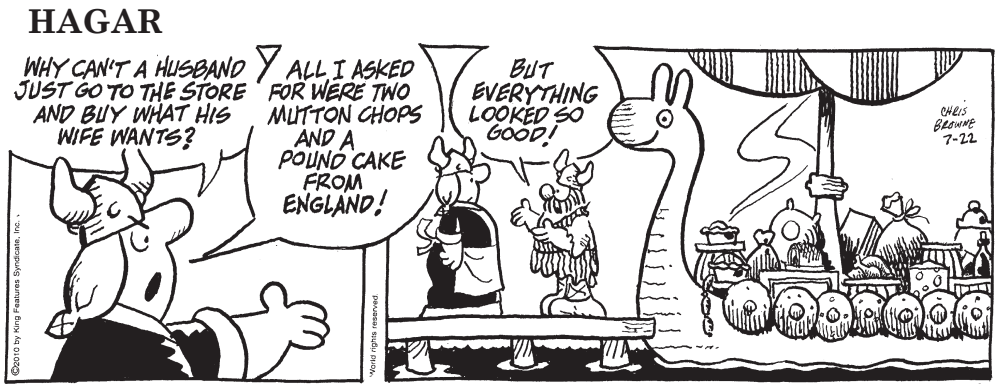
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

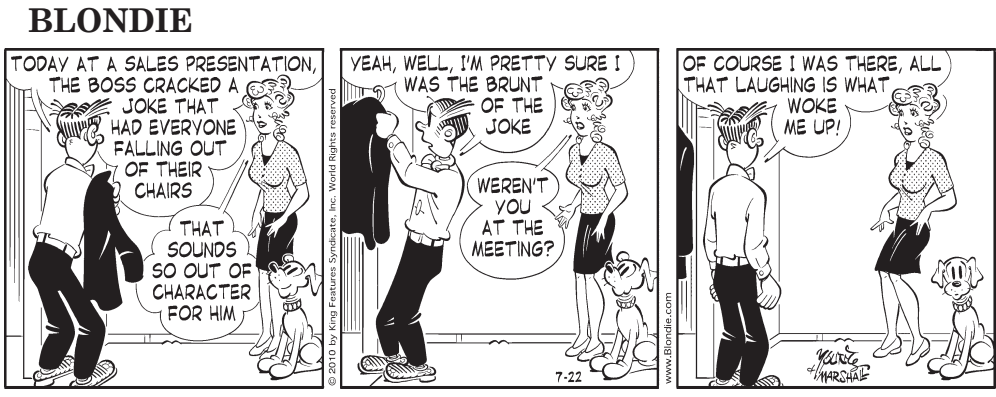


"Where can I ride my skateboard?"

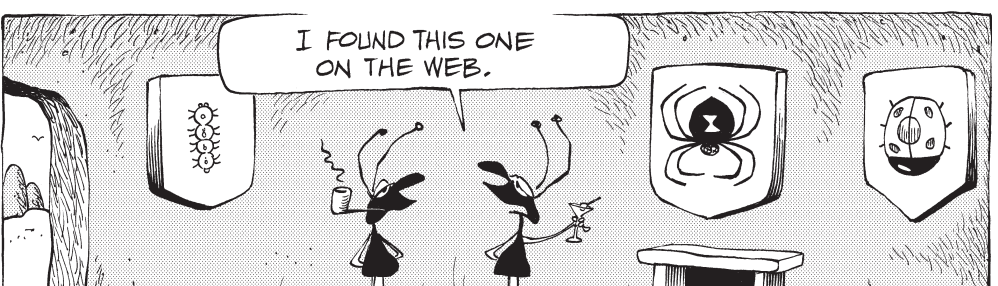
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID

AGNES

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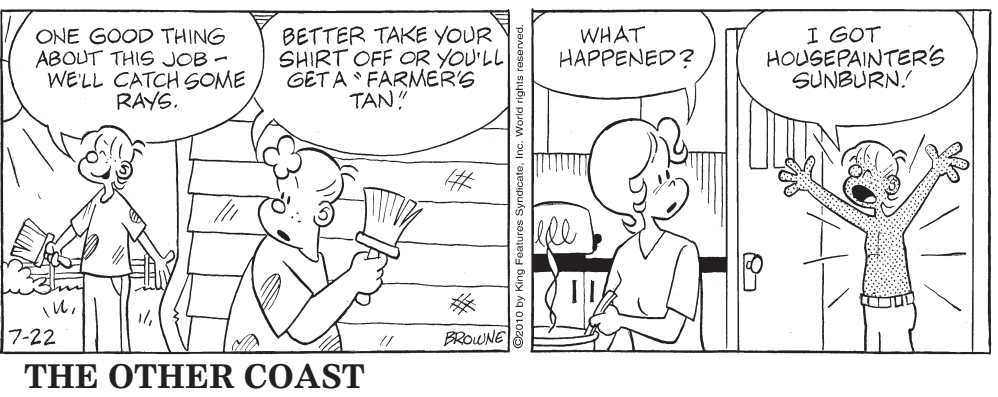
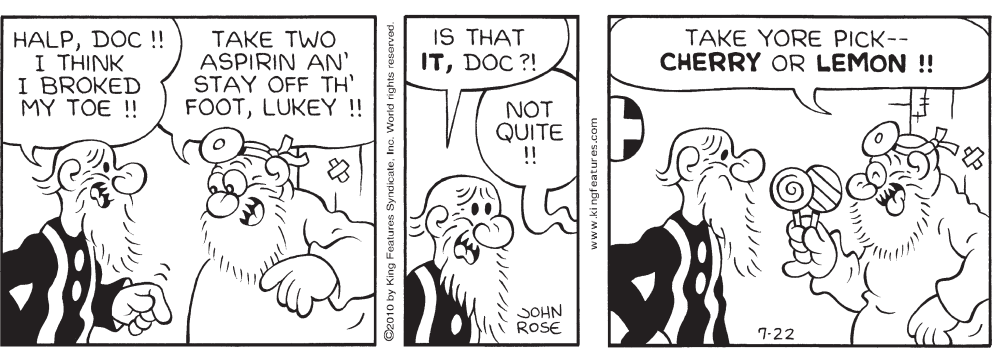
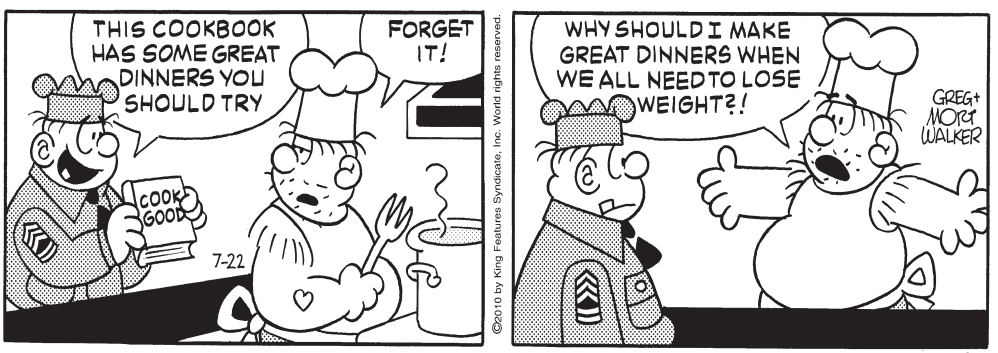


THE OTHER COAST

SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, July 22, the 203rd day of 2010. There are 162 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 22, 1934, bank robber John Dillinger was shot to death by federal agents outside Chicago's Biograph Theater, where he had just seen the Clark Gable movie "Manhattan Melodrama."

On this date:

In 1587, an English colony fated to vanish under mysterious circumstances was established on Roanoke Island off North Carolina.

In 1796, Cleveland, Ohio, was founded by General Moses Cleaveland (correct).

In 1916, a bomb went off during a Preparedness Day parade in San Francisco, killing ten people.

In 1933, American aviator Wiley Post completed the first solo flight around the world as he returned to New York's Floyd Bennett Field after traveling for seven days, 18 and 3/4 hours.

In 1937, the Senate rejected President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposal to add more justices to the Supreme Court.

In 1942, the Nazis began transporting Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto to the Treblinka concentration camp.

In 1943, American forces led by General George S. Patton captured Palermo, Sicily, during World War II.

In 1946, Jewish extremists blew up a wing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, killing 90 people.

In 1975, the House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to restore the American citizenship of Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

In 1995, Susan Smith was convicted by a jury in Union, S.C. of first-degree murder for drowning her two sons. (She was later sentenced to life in prison, and will not be eligible for parole until 2024.)

Today's Birthdays: Former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) is 87. Singer Margaret Whiting is 86. Actor-comedian Orson Bean is 82. Fashion designer Oscar de la Renta is 78. Actress Louise Fletcher is 76. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chuck Jackson is 73. Actor Terence Stamp is 72. Game show host Alex Trebek is 70. Singer George Clinton is 69. Actor-singer Bobby Sherman is 67. Movie writer-director Paul Schrader is 64. Actor Danny Glover is 63. Actor-comedian-director Albert Brooks is 63. Rock singer Don Henley is 63. Movie composer Alan Menken is 61. Singer-actress Lonette McKee is 57. Jazz musician Al Di Meola is 56. Actor Willem Dafoe is 55. Rhythm-and-blues singer Keith Sweat is 49. Actress Joanna Going is 47. Actor Rob Estes is 47.

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Answer to previous puzzle

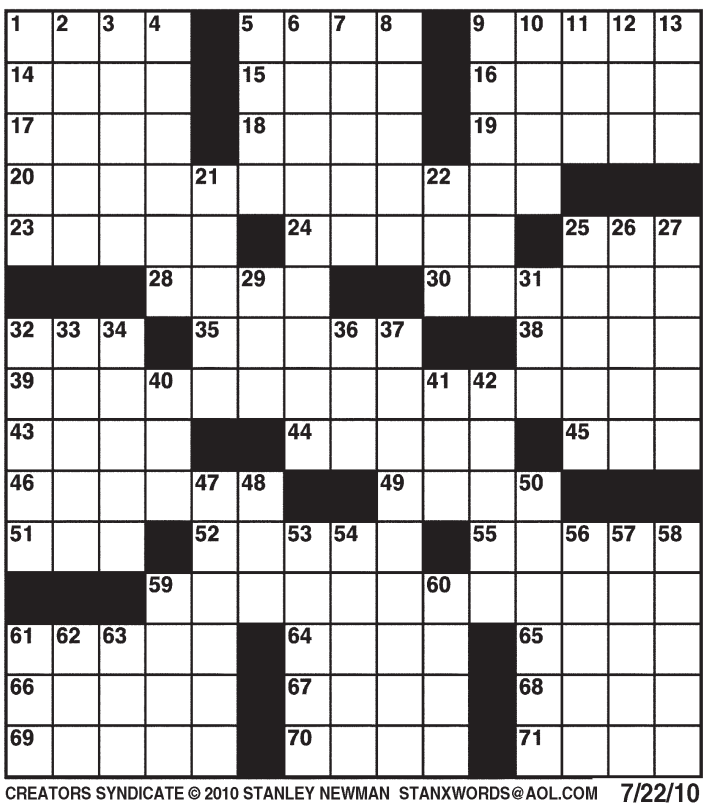
K	N	A	V	E		C	L	O	P		C	A	S	T
F	E	L	I	X		R	A	V	E		A	L	T	O
C	A	D	E	T		U	S	E	R		S	O	O	N
	P	O	W	E	R	S	T	R	U	C	T	U	R	E
			N	U	T				A	L	D	E	R	
R	E	L	A	T	E		D	R	A	P	E			
O	P	U	S			S	U	E	D	E		O	T	S
M	I	G	H	T	M	A	K	E	S	R	I	G	H	T
A	C	E		W	A	V	E	D			T	R	E	E
			T	I	N	E	S		A	S	S	E	N	T
S	E	O	U	L				A	L	I				
M	U	S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

Newsday Crossword

CENTER PIECE by Fred Jackson III
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Loads
5 Some dwellings: Abbr.
9 Ice-cream treats
14 Denny's alternative
15 Precisely
16 In the know
17 Kismet
18 Taj Mahal locale
19 Not fixable
20 Home accessory
23 Like the Sahara
24 Noble mount
25 Grp. that likes good breeding
28 Little quarrel
30 Number with 100 zeroes
32 It's often followed by "fi"
35 Polishes for the press
38 Grumpy boss
39 NFL player
43 Able to see through
44 Pay homage, in a way
45 Work on a submarine?
46 Mythical dreamboat
49 Larger than life
51 In need of replenishing
52 Nightclub singer's prop
55 Big Apple player
59 Open ocean
61 Chocolate alternative
64 You might bounce it off someone
65 __ cheese dressing
66 *My Fair Lady* heroine
67 "__ *la vie!*"
68 Working hard
69 Part of a repair bill
70 Art Deco designer
71 Landlocked Asian country

DOWN
1 Little quarrels
2 *Pal Joey* author
3 Preempted, perhaps
4 Passes, as time
5 Slightly
6 Bouncing toy
7 Fortune-teller's business card
8 Glower
9 Get by somehow
10 To another place
11 Place for a cat nap
12 Broadway show about Capote
13 Head or mind follower
21 Workaholic's personality pattern
22 Frat-party delivery
25 Texas A&M athlete
26 Source of Seoul food
27 Crevice
29 Some computer pop-ups
31 Stunned response
32 Danish toast
33 "No problem!"
34 Following closely behind
36 Pewter ingredient
37 Most unemotional
40 Heir, often
41 "I reckon"
42 Resist letting go
47 Weather-map line
48 "Alphabetical" nickname
50 Part of a drum kit
53 In the cooler
54 Less conventional
56 Country south of Sicily
57 Children's-song refrain
58 Fastening devices
59 Clown of renown
60 Archibald of basketball
61 Animation buff's prize
62 In the style of
63 Give the business to



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Bush could lose Heisman

NEW YORK (AP) — Southern California has already sent back its copy of Reggie Bush's Heisman Trophy.

The Heisman Trust, however, has yet to decide whether it will be asking the former USC star to return the famous bronze statue he won in 2005.

The president of the Heisman Trophy Trust, New York-based attorney William J. Dockery, said in a statement Wednesday that the organization has not determined when it will decide whether Bush should be stripped of his Heisman.

"The Trust will be considering the issues raised in the USC/Reggie Bush matter, and after reaching a decision will publish it, but due to the complex issues involved and the Trust's desire to reach an appropriate decision, no definitive timetable has been established," Dockery said.

Courtesy Photo

This is the first-place team from the A.M. Co-ed Ragball Tournament and Cancer Benefit honoring Adriana Martinez on July 16 and 17 at the Big Spring City Park. This year's proceeds, totaled at $3,904, went to Sylvia Rodriguez.

Nebraska, OU picked first in Big 12

DALLAS (AP) — Nebraska has been picked to leave the Big 12 in style.

The Cornhuskers, who are bolting for the Big Ten in 2011, are the unanimous choice to repeat as Big 12 North champions in the league's preseason media poll.

Oklahoma was picked to win the South division in the poll released by the league on Wednesday.

Nebraska, which lost a heartbreaker to Texas in last year's Big 12 title game, received all 26 first-place votes from media members who cover the league. The Sooners got 16 first-place votes in the South, while the Longhorns received the other 10 votes.

Missouri was picked second in the North, followed by Kansas State, Kansas, Colorado and Iowa State. Texas A&M was picked to finish third in the South. Texas Tech, Oklahoma State and Baylor round out the Big 12 South field.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

Castro and two walks before Lyon struck out Kosuke Fukudome and retired pinch-hitter Soto on a fly to left.

Houston tied it at 1 in the eighth. Pinch-hitter Pedro Feliz started the inning with a drive into the left-field bleachers off Chicago starter Ted Lilly.

"I made a bad pitch to Pedro Feliz. I feel it cost us the game," Lilly said.

After the teams combined for 37 runs in the first two games of the series, the finale was a contrast for most of the day with a light wind blowing in at Wrigley Field as Lilly and Brett Myers locked up in a pitchers' duel.

Myers allowed five hits in seven innings, including Lilly's single in the fifth that snapped the pitcher's skid at 0 for 33 dating to last season. Lilly then motored all the way from first to score on Starlin Castro's two-out double to left.

Lilly, the subject of trade speculation, yielded seven hits in 7 1-3 innings, including two singles by Myers.

"I don't know," Lilly said when asked if expected to be around for the rest of the season. "There is a lot of speculation and rumors that are thrown out there. From my experience, they don't necessarily mean something is going to happen."

NOTES -- Cubs bench coach Alan Trammell said he appreciates having his name mentioned as a possible successor for Piniella, adding it's too early to talk about that with more than two months left in the season. Trammell managed Detroit from 2003-05 and compiled a 186-300 record, including a 119-loss season in his first year. "Losing 119 games and you're almost part of baseball history in a negative way that certainly tests you in a lot of ways," Trammell said. Trammell, a star shortstop for the Tigers who also works with Cubs infielders, said he does want to continue to be involved in the game, whether it be coaching or managing. ... Astros ace Roy Oswalt, also rumored to be moving at or before the trade deadline, said after the game his preference would be to join a good team.

6A

Continued from Page 7

play each other in football and small schools do the same in six-man, it's all mixed together with 1A when other sports are in play.

Moving six-man up to to 1A ensures the schools will compete against each other in all sports, not just football.

Jones said it leaves an unfair disadvantage for the smallest six-man school having to play a fairly large 1A school in basketball, for example.

"Where we have objections to the way its been is, when you get into basketball or actually track in the spring and other spring sports, where the six-man schools have to go up against the bigs. Especially if you've got a school that's got 35 or so and they're going up against schools with 100 and 60 and 70. That's kind of hard in track and other things."

Whatever a coach's opinion might be, they'll have a chance to voice it to the UIL. The AP report stated schools will be surveyed on the expansion and, if there is a lot for support for it, it could be approved by January.

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331, ext. 237 or at sports@bigspringherald.com.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

-ter Michael Young led off the inning with a triple.

He stranded him by retiring Kinsler, Guerrero and Hamilton. Guerrero's strikeout might have been the worse, as he flailed on a nasty slider that started in and tailed low and away.

"When Mike leads off with a triple and we've got 3-4-5 coming up, we always think we're going to get at least one run out of it," Washington said. "You expect one of those three guys to do something, but give Scherzer credit.

He got out of that. That could have changed the whole game, but good pitching stops hitting."

MIDLAND RockHounds™

Howard County Night 2010

July 25, 2010

The Midland Rockhounds and West Texas United Sockers are proudly announcing our "Howard County Night" special for the 2010 Baseball and Soccer Seasons. The aim is to foster community spirit and pride by hosting a night at Citibank Ballpark and Grande Commnications Stadium (home of the RockHounds and Sockers, respectively) to recognize the essential members and organizations in the Howard County community.

Merchants may purchase specially printed "Howard County Night" tickets to distribute to employees and customers throughout the community. Merchants will also receive advertisement over PA announcements throughout the game as well as via local media.

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Fax: (432) 520-8326

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_____ (# of tickets) @ $5.00 = _____(total) Phone: _____

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Picnic option includes Hot Dogs, Peanuts, Popcorn, Soda and Cookies

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