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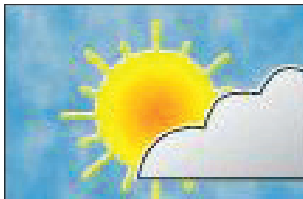
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TUESDAY

AUGUST 25, 2009



Council to take another dip in pool

City's governing body will convene in workshop Thursday evening

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The fate of a proposed \$4.2 million municipal swimming pool will be the focal point of a special meeting Thursday evening, as the Big Spring City Council prepares to hold a work session on the matter. Set to begin at 5:30 p.m. in

the City Council Chambers — located at 307 E. Fourth St. — the meeting will be the council's second stab at solving its pool woes, which began earlier this year when the city was notified the existing pool did not meet minimal federal standards.

The Virginia Graeme Baker Act — often referred to as the

Pool and Spa Safety Act — requires public swimming pools to have measures in place to prevent drain entrapment, a situation where a swimmer becomes trapped by the suction force of a pool drain.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission recorded 74 entrapment incidents between 1997 and 2007, most of

the victims being children.

According to Assistant City Manager Todd Darden, estimates to bring the existing pool — located in Comanche Trail park — into compliance range from \$500,000 to \$600,000. A similar estimate places a \$700,000 to \$800,000 price tag on simply rebuilding a new pool at the existing

site.

The council gave a preliminary go ahead to conduct studies on constructing a \$1.7 million municipal swimming pool — which would include a number of improvements over the existing facility — during a June meeting. Ac-

See **CITY**, Page 3A

Building character

Cub Scout registration planned Sept. 1 in area

By BILL McCLELLAN

News Editor

Parents who are looking for something besides television and video games to help shape their young son's lives may want to talk to them about Scouting — a program which teaches moral and family values and character building.

Sign-ups for Cub Scouting in the Lone Star District are set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, at local elementary schools.

The Lone Start District encompasses six counties: Mitchell, Scurry, Howard, Borden, Sterling and Glasscock, and Cub Scout registration for Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan will all be held Sept. 1. Cub Scouts are for boys in the first through fifth grades.

Registration is \$20, which will cover membership through the end of the year.

"Cub Scouts lays the foun-

ation for young men to lead a life in tune with the Scout law and Scout code," said Greg Hartman, district executive. "In Scouting, we focus on building character, practical skills, physical fitness, developing a spirit of community service — wholesome, All-American values."

Boys learn by various hands-on methods. They typically get together once a week:



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Greg Hartman, district executive for the local Boy Scouts program, plants a yard sign Friday encouraging youngsters to join the Cub Scouts. Sign-ups for Cub Scouting in the Lone Star District are set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, at local elementary schools.

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'E.T.' to beam down on Scenic Mountain

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Big Spring's Scenic Mountain will be getting an alien visitor Saturday, as the Big Spring Film Society prepares to present a free screening of Steve Spielberg's "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" atop the local landmark.

Part of a Steven Spielberg retrospective began last year by the local film society, the screening is set for 9 p.m. at the Big Spring State Park facility located on top of the mountain, according to BSFS



founder Brandon Johnson.

"This is the third film in our Steven Spielberg retrospective," said Johnson.

"The film will probably start a little after 9 p.m. Everyone needs to bring lawn chairs and bug spray, and a concession stand will be available at the screening site.

"Also, everyone planning to attend needs to be aware that once we get 20 minutes

into the film the front gates to the state park will be locked. There's no admission fee, but donations will be accepted. The screening will take place at the playground area."

Saturday's screening of "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" comes on the heels of an immensely successful screening of another Spielberg classic, "Jaws," which the film society held near the waters of Comanche Trail Lake.

According to Johnson, screening the films outdoors brings a whole new aspect to

the viewing process.

"It's just an amazing feeling to be able to kick back in a lawn chair and enjoy the beauty of nature and a film, all at the same time," said Johnson. "And with the beautiful night skies here in West Texas, what could be better than a film about extra-terrestrials landing on Earth? This is a chance to do something most people will never get the chance to do. It's something kids and adults alike will remember for

See **'E.T.'** Page 3A



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Cowboys back on Valley Ranch practice fields

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — A screened chain-link field separates the cleared-out spot where the Dallas Cowboys' indoor facility used to be from two resodded and reconfigured outdoor practice fields.

Gone is all the debris and rubble from the fabric-covered, 80-foot-high tentlike structure that collapsed during a storm May 2 while a rookie minicamp was being held inside. "I'm pretty sure that people that

were here are going to look over and just think about it," rookie linebacker Stephen Hodge said. "But like they tell us, just move on from it. It was a bad thing that happened."

For the first time since the indoor facility collapsed more than 3½ months ago, the Cowboys practiced at Valley Ranch on Monday.

While the covered structure wasn't rebuilt, and the artificial turf field that was under that was removed with the rest of the rubble, the two adjacent outdoor fields had to be

redone because of damage and remnants of flying debris.

The Cowboys held offseason workouts and their full-squad minicamp at a local high school stadium, and spent the first three weeks of training camp at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

"I know everyone is happy to be back here practicing at Valley Ranch," rookie receiver Kevin Ogletree said.

Hodge and Ogletree were among 27 rookie and first-year players inside the facility when it collapsed. None of

them was seriously hurt, but there were 12 injuries, including a team scouting assistant who was paralyzed from the waist down because of a severed spine, and special teams coach Joe DeCamillis, who sustained a broken neck.

During the early portion of practice opened to reporters Monday, DeCamillis was conducting drills at one end of the field.

Two weeks after the accident and

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The Big Spring varsity cheer squad performs a toss as the Big Spring High School band plays behind them at the Community Pep Rally Monday at Memorial Stadium.

Texas' Young keeps hitting

PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — At this rate, Michael Young might just make it to the playoffs.

The Texas Rangers haven't reached the postseason since 1999 — a year before Young made his major league debut with them — but are in solid contention this season.

Texas started Monday a game in back of AL wild-card leader Boston, which was scheduled to play Chicago.

The Rangers flew to New York in an upbeat mood for an off-day Monday. They avoided a three-game sweep with a 4-0 win Sunday at Tampa Bay. Young played a key role, hitting a two-run single in the third that broke a scoreless tie.

Young will begin the three-game series at Yankee Stadium with an 11-game hitting streak. The timing is right, as Texas is in the middle of a nine-game trip that later takes them to Minnesota.

See **YOUNG**, Page 2B

Dallas punter not bothered by screens over Cowboys field

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The punter who will be kicking more in the new Cowboys Stadium than anyone else isn't bothered by the huge video display boards looming over the middle of the field.

"Our game plan is to kick to the sidelines. So for myself it's not in my mind," Cowboys punter Mat McBriar said Monday. "I know it's there, obviously. But it's not something that catches my eye as much as guys who are kicking straight down the field."

The 60-yard-long high-definition screens, one facing each sideline, are only 90 feet above targets.

"We've worked closely with the league establishing the height of the video board," Cowboys spokesman Brett

Daniels said. "We believe in a competitive game situation the height of the board will not be a factor."

McBriar said there is no reason to make any changes or raise the video boards because one punt in one game hit them.

Tennessee rookie A.J. Trapasso punted a ball into the screens in the third quarter of the stadium's first NFL game Friday night, forcing a do-over once the officials realized what happened. That punt didn't count, but there were 12 punts — six by each team — that weren't affected by the screens.

Trapasso and Titans veteran punter Craig Hentrich both punted several balls into the video boards during pregame warmups.

See **PUNTER**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The tuba section of the Big Spring High School band plays during the Community Pep Rally held Monday at Memorial Stadium. The event was used to introduce all junior high and high school athletic teams that will be competing this fall.

Sports in brief

Big Spring City Championship Golf Tournament set for this weekend

The Big Spring City Championship Golf Tournament has been slated for Saturday and Sunday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Any resident of Howard County is eligible to contend for the title.

Players will need tee times both days and must have an established handicap or they'll be placed in the championship slot.

Fee is \$40 to play plus a cart fee, although private carts are welcome. Prizes awarded will be gift certificates for the Pro Shop.

Big Spring Tennis Boosters meeting Thursday at Figure 7

The Big Spring Tennis Booster Club has scheduled a meeting for 6 p.m. Thursday at the Figure 7

Tennis Center.

Any parent that has a child either in the high school or junior high tennis program is encouraged to attend.

Opinions and support for the 2009-2010 tennis teams are greatly needed.

For more information, call 264-1425.

YMCA taking registration for Youth Volleyball League

Any boys or girls entering fourth, fifth or sixth grade interested in playing volleyball can now register for the Big Spring YMCA Youth Volleyball League during operating hours at the YMCA.

The fee is \$50 per child, but financial assistance is available for those who qualify. The deadline is Sept. 1.

For more info, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

End of Summer Ragball Tournament slated for Friday and Saturday

The End of Summer Ragball Tournament has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday at Cotton Mize Field in Comanche Trail Park.

Registration starts at 7 p.m. Friday and players must be at least 14 years old. For info, call Melisa at 935-2960 or Jay at (325) 574-4338.

Big Spring Quarterback Club meeting at ATC Monday

The Big Spring Steers Quarterback Club is meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of junior high and high school football players are encouraged to attend.

For more info, call Denise Carillo at 816-1685.

Obituaries

Jewell Adams

ARLINGTON — Jewell Adams passed from this life to eternal life Aug. 22, 2009.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009, at Wade Family Funeral Home Chapel, located at 4140 West Pioneer Parkway, Arlington 76013.

Memorials may be made to Urban Ministries of Trinity United Methodist Church in Arlington, and Mission Arlington.

She was born March 11, 1919, to Charley and Maude Key in Lingleville, Texas. She and her family moved to West Texas in a covered wagon when she was five years old. She became an excellent tennis player as a girl. She graduated from Big Spring High School, and subsequently from beauty school in Lubbock.

She married Ray Adams in 1940 and lived most of her life in Ackerly. She was very active in that community, serving in PTA, as 4-H Club leader, as a Girls Auxiliary leader in Ackerly Baptist and as a fan at every ball game, track meet, recital and school event that her children participated in. She was a good mother. She often hosted evenings of music in her home with her dad, her children and other musician friends.

Jewell was an excellent cook and gardener, one who loved her roses. She became a Christian at 14 and later belonged to First Baptist Church in Big Spring. She loved her family, her friends, music and sports, becoming a good golfer in her later years.

She had a great sense of humor and loved to tell her tales of old to her family and the wonderful staff and residents of Eden Terrace of Arlington. In her last few days, she had tender, loving care from the medical staff on the third floor at Arlington Memorial Hospital.

Survivors include her son, Bryan Adams, and wife, Cindy, of Austin; a daughter, Sandra Talkington, and husband, Ken, of Arlington; grandsons, Kyle Talkington of Dallas, Bart Talkington, and wife, Jennifer, of Flower Mound, and Ross Talkington of Santa Monica, Calif.; great-grandchildren, Hailee, Brooks and Grace of Flower Mound, and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements under the direction of Wade Family Funeral Home in Arlington, 817-274-9233.

Paid obituary

Wanda L. Oerline

Wanda L. Oerline, 86, of Clyde died Friday, Aug. 21, 2009, in a Clyde area hospital.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009, at the Bailey Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Mike Terrell officiating. Burial will follow in the Clyde Cemetery under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

She was born Dec. 21, 1922, in Big Spring to William and Dolly (House) Horn. She graduated from Big Spring High School. She was the widow of Leonard Oerline, whom she married July 31, 1942, in Big Spring. They moved to Clyde from Topeka, Kan., in 1963.

She was a member of Cherry Heights Baptist Church.

She is survived by two sons, Leon Morgan Oerline and wife, Rita, and George W. Oerline and wife, Michelle, all of Abilene; one daughter, Judy Lynn Sharpton and husband, Jim, of Austin; four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Roberto R. Flores

Roberto R. Flores, 51, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 23, 2009, at his residence. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 5, 1957, in Odessa to Carolina and Juan Flores. He married Gloria Carrillo April 3, 1978, in Big Spring. They moved to Big Spring in 1980. He was a master plumber and a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria, of Big Spring; three daughters, Ledesma C. Flores of Big Spring, Katrina Owen and husband, Michael, of Odessa, and Marissa Simmons and husband, Michael, of Houston; four grandchildren; four brothers, Juan Flores and wife, Lydia, and Reynaldo Flores, all of Lamesa, Andy Flores and wife, Belia, of Odessa, and Ricardo Flores of Minnesota; and two sisters, Esperanza Hernandez and Eloisa Casarez and husband, Fabian, all of Lamesa.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Angelita “Lala” Flores and Valentine A. “Lalo” Flores; and two nephews.

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

Bill Wendall Lawrence Jr.

SAN ANGELO — Bill Wendall Lawrence Jr., 30, died in Cisco Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009. Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009, at Belvedere Cemetery. Arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home.

He is survived by his father, Bill Lawrence Sr. of Odessa; his mother, May Massie of San Angelo; brothers, Elwayne Kelly of San Angelo and Richard Skelton of Cisco; sisters, Sylvia Skelton of Oklahoma and June Marie Skelton of Hobbs, N.M.; and his grandmother, Annie Chappell of San Angelo.

Police blotter

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

Note: According to police officials, no arrests were made for the corresponding time period.

- UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 500 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1100 block of Aylesford.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 87 inmates at the time of this report.

- JAVIER IBARRA DELGADO, 20, was arrested Monday by the HCISO on charges of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- LISA CHAVARRIA LANG, 34, was arrested Monday by the HCISO on charges of no insurance and violation of a promise to appear.
- ROBERT YBARRA, 27, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5200 block of Sterling. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of Village B Apartments. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Apron. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TREE IN CONTACT WITH POWER LINES was reported in the area of Coachman’s Circle and Glenwick.

Take note

- Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

- Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life’s journey. Make a difference in someone’s life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

- All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

- New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 8/26	Thu 8/27	Fri 8/28	Sat 8/29	Sun 8/30
 96/71 Partly cloudy. High 96F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph.	 90/67 Scattered thunderstorms possible.	 88/63 Scattered thunderstorms possible.	 89/65 More sun than clouds. High in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	 86/64 Mix of sun and clouds. High in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM



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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	99	73	pt sunny	Kingsville	101	74	sunny
Amarillo	84	61	t-storm	Livingston	94	70	t-storm
Austin	99	73	pt sunny	Longview	92	72	mst sunny
Beaumont	91	71	t-storm	Lubbock	94	67	pt sunny
Brownsville	98	73	pt sunny	Lufkin	94	72	t-storm
Brownwood	100	73	pt sunny	Midland	97	73	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	98	76	sunny	Raymondville	101	73	sunny
Corsicana	97	74	pt sunny	Rosenberg	94	71	pt sunny
Dallas	98	76	pt sunny	San Antonio	100	75	pt sunny
Del Rio	103	78	mst sunny	San Marcos	100	73	pt sunny
El Paso	90	69	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	94	72	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	96	71	pt sunny	Sweetwater	97	71	pt sunny
Gainesville	97	74	pt sunny	Tyler	92	72	pt sunny
Greenville	94	72	pt sunny	Weatherford	99	74	pt sunny
Houston	94	72	t-storm	Wichita Falls	100	72	pt sunny

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman’s Restaurant.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Numbers matching Two Step drawing five of five: 0.

Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2 - 15 - 19 - 34. Bonus Ball: 8.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 16 - 17 - 19 - 28 – 37.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3 - 5 - 6 - 9. Sum It Up: 23.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0 - 9 - 9. Sum It Up: 18.

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Eagles players say Vick ready

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Michael Vick jogged off the field after another long practice and headed straight for the air-conditioned comfort indoors.

All that extra work could be paying off. Vick's teammates said the quarterback looks ready to play when the Philadelphia Eagles host Jacksonville on Thursday.

"I'm not a quarterback or a quarterback coach so I wouldn't know exactly, but as a defensive guy watching I can tell you that he's ready," safety Quintin Mikell said Monday.

Coach Andy Reid is expected to say Tuesday whether Vick will make his Eagles debut.

Vick is eligible to play the next two preseason games, but not in the regular season. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said he would consider Vick for full reinstatement by no later than Week 6 (Oct. 18-19).

Stoops hopes OU punters can hit scoreboard

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops is taking a unique stance on the controversy involving punts hitting a massive scoreboard in the Dallas Cowboys' new billion-dollar stadium.

The third-ranked Sooners will play their season opener Sept. 5 at the stadium against No. 20 BYU.

Stoops said after practice Monday that it would be a "plus" if punter Tress Way were to hit the scoreboard, simply because that means he'd be "hitting it like you want to."

Stoops joked that last year his punters had trouble hitting the ceiling of the Sooners' indoor practice facility, which is 65 feet above the field.

He says any punt that hits the Cowboys' scoreboard 90 feet above the playing surface would have to be a good punt with a lot of air time and distance.

YOUNG

Continued from Page 1B

"Michael is a pro, and as deep as we go into the season the better he gets," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "That's why they call him a baseball professional because that's exactly what he is. He grinds it out every-day."

Young is hitting .329 with 21 homers and 63 RBIs this season. Since the

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

surgery to repair broken vertebrae, DeCamilllis returned to practice with the Cowboys wearing a neck brace and shouting into a bullhorn. He was without the brace and the bullhorn during practice.

Scouting assistant Rich Behm, now confined to a wheelchair, also returned to work with the team this summer.

About 70 people, including the players, coaches, support staff and media, were in the practice structure when the storm hit. The facility shook violently before ripping apart during a time when winds were clocked at 64 mph.

With pending legal issues and federal and state inquiries ongoing, players who were inside the structure when it collapsed have been instructed by the team to say little about the accident. The rookies have shared little about what they experienced and seem ready to move on.

"I'm looking past that, just moving on and looking toward the future," kicker David Buehler said.

"All that stuff is in the past, I'm not really worried about the sky falling on me," rookie linebacker Jason Williams said. "The first few weeks after it happened, it was kind of like replaying in my mind over and over again. The last couple of months I haven't even thought about it."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones wasn't there during the open portion of practice Monday.

When the two grass fields were redone, they were raised and leveled.

Only the field farthest from the former indoor facility was being used, though team officials said the second field would be ready to use for the regular season in about three weeks.

The practice fields had previously been crowned in the middle, like the field at Texas Stadium, where the Cowboys had played their home games before this season. The field at the new Cowboys Stadium is a flat surface.

Beyond the fence where the indoor facility was, the ground now resembles a flattened empty lot which served Monday as a parking area for a few

Chargers give Rivers contract extension

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Philip Rivers got his big-money contract extension. Now all he needs to do to keep up with Eli Manning and Ben Roethlisberger is to win the Super Bowl.

Rivers signed a six-year contract extension Monday with the San Diego Chargers worth \$93 million, with \$38 million guaranteed.

A person familiar with the contract confirmed the numbers to The Associated Press, but requested anonymity because the team did not release any figures. The deal goes through 2015.

Rivers said he was "thankful to have many more opportunities to suit up and go out there and be the quarterback for the Chargers and short term, to be able to just do all I can to lead us to a championship."

Rivers will always be linked with Manning.

In 2004, with the Chargers coming off an NFL-worst 4-12 finish, Manning's family asked San Diego not to draft him with the No. 1 pick overall. General manager A.J. Smith did anyway, then sent him to the

PUNTER

Continued from Page 1B

McBriar, a 2006 Pro Bowler, said he could boot punts into the video boards "probably 50 percent of the time" if that was what he was trying to do.

Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher, the co-chair of the NFL's competition committee, said the height of the boards "is an issue." The NFL has said it will monitor the situation.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, who has said he's comfortable with the boards, wasn't available for comment Monday when the team returned to practice at Valley Ranch.

Stephen Jones, the owner's son and team vice president, talked to reporters in the hallway after prac-

All-Star break, his batting average is .378 (54 for 143).

"Michael Young is setting a great example for that entire team," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "He's playing with a purpose and a mission, and they're on his back right now. With his example, they're not going away."

The Rangers are 21-15 since July 17.

"I tried to make sure I kept my approach relatively simple, and just try to get a good pitch and hopefully hit it hard," Young said.

trucks and some heavy equipment. There was nothing noticeable in the Irving skyline like the white big top with a blue Cowboys star logo on the side that had been there.

"It is strange because usually you can see it from anywhere within this vicinity," receiver Patrick Crayton said. "Within about two or three miles, you could see that, that's usually been a trademark."

The first practice at Valley Ranch also marked the first time the Cowboys have been outside this preseason, except for their opening game at Oakland. It was sunny and 98 degrees, with a heat index of 103, for the nearly two-hour session.

Giants for Rivers — who was taken at No. 4 — and a handful of picks.

Roethlisberger was the 11th pick overall that year and was the first of the Big Three QBs of the 2004 draft class to win a Super Bowl, following the 2005 season. Manning got his Super Bowl ring two seasons later by leading the Giants to an upset over the previously undefeated Patriots. Roethlisberger won his second Super Bowl in February.

Rivers said there's no extra pressure to win the Super Bowl.

"I don't think there can be any more pressure added, commitment added, determination from my side or from anybody in that locker room to want to go win a championship," he said. "There's no outside or monetary driving force that can make me want to win any worse than I do. I've always hated losing and don't know if I can hate it any more, so there's really nothing that can give me any extra drive."

Rivers is coming off his best pro season, when he threw 34 touchdown passes to tie former teammate Drew Brees for the NFL lead and

tice about several subjects, but declined to answer questions about the video boards.

Among the things Stephen Jones did address were contract negotiations with Pro Bowl linebacker DeMarcus Ware, who led the NFL with 20 sacks last season. Jones said the Cowboys remained hopeful of getting a new deal done, though there have been no discussions with Ware or his agent since training camp opened last month after both sides exchanged several proposals.

Coach Wade Phillips believes the massive video boards could provide an edge for his team's kick returners as they get used to the nearly \$1.2 billion stadium.

"It might even be an advantage for us to work in there enough to where we have a feel for where the ball is and seeing it with the screen up there and all those things," Phillips said.

"All season long our club has been really resilient and we've found ways to learn from games we've played in," he said.

Young recorded his third consecutive three-hit game on Saturday night, becoming the first AL player since Johnny Damon, then with Kansas City in 2000, to have a pair of three straight games with three or more hits in the same season.

His 11-game hitting streak is the 19th double-digit run during his career, and ties him for the Texas record with teammate Ivan Rodriguez.

break Hall of Famer Dan Fouts' Chargers record. He also led the NFL with a quarterback rating of 105.5, another team record. He had 4,009 passing yards, joining Fouts as the only QBs in team history to throw for more than 4,000 in a season.

"This is a great day for the Chargers and Chargers fans," team president Dean Spanos said in a statement. "Philip has proven he has all of the necessary qualities to be a successful quarterback in the NFL. He's a proven winner and an unquestioned leader for this football team."

Indeed, Rivers led San Diego to the AFC championship game following the 2007 season, where they lost to New England. He played that game despite having a torn ACL in his right knee.

Manning recently signed the biggest contract in the league, a six-year extension worth \$97 million, with \$35 million guaranteed and an average salary of \$15.3 million starting next season. Roethlisberger signed an eight-year contract extension worth \$102 million in 2008.

Cowboys returner Patrick Crayton muffed his first punt return in the new stadium Friday night. He refused to blame that on the screens, though acknowledged he needed to adjust to them.

"It's a little different because the lights are at different angles, too," Crayton said. "You've just got to kind of watch the ball the whole time, because it will almost like it's going to hit every time."

Daniels said work done on the video boards over the weekend was the installation of equipment to lower them even closer to the stadium floor to maximize their use for other events. When the boards are raised to accommodate the stage for a U2 concert Oct. 12, they will be disconnected and inoperable.

"Following U2, the boards will return to the standard height of 90 feet above the playing field," Daniels said.

Young has 47 multihit games this year, including five over his last seven games.

"He's one of the best hitters in the game," Rays pitcher Matt Garza said.

The AL Gold Glove shortstop last year, Young has one error in his last 50 games at his new position at third base.

And best of all, the big goal remains in reach for the six-time All-Star.

"Things get tougher, he gets tougher along with it," Washington said. "That's what so special about him."

sudoku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Error Prevention

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 9 2		♠ A 5	
♥ K J 7 2		♥ Q 10 4	
♦ K J 8 4		♦ Q 10 7 6 3	
♣ 9 6		♣ A 5 2	

The bidding:
South 1 ♠
West Pass
North 1 NT
East Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Assume you're East and that partner leads the queen of clubs against South's four-heart contract. You win with the ace, and the question is what to return at trick two.

When the deal occurred, East returned the five of clubs. South won with the king and led a diamond toward dummy at trick three. West followed low, hoping declarer would misguess and play the jack from dummy. But South went up with the

king and wound up making four hearts, losing only a spade, a heart and a club.

East berated his partner for not putting up the ace when the diamond was led. West defended himself by contending that South might have held two diamonds instead of only one, in which case rushing up with the ace could have handed declarer the contract.

In fact, East was at least as much at fault as West. East could see three sure defensive tricks in his hand, and so needed to find West with one trick, most likely to be the king of spades, ace of hearts or ace of diamonds.

East should therefore have shifted to a diamond at trick two to head off a possible mistake by West. The diamond return by East could do no harm if South had the ace, but could do a great deal of good if West had the ace.

The secret of good defensive play lies not only in avoiding mistakes yourself, but also in attempting to minimize the chance of your partner making a mistake. Good defense is usually a matter of close partnership cooperation, and the diamond return by East at trick two certainly falls under that heading on this deal.

Tomorrow: It pays to plan the play.

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Medical robot makes rounds at Texas Army hospital

MICHELLE ROBERTS

Associated Press Writer
SAN ANTONIO — Staff Sgt. Juan Amaris laid in intensive care recovering from life-threatening burns when he got a peculiar visit from his doctor. Dr. Kevin Chung — rather, a 5-foot-tall (152 centimeters tall) camouflage-clad robot with Chung's face on a monitor — rolled in to check on him.

With his proxy's cameras zooming and wireless antennas beaming, Chung stood in a kitchen in Virginia and examined Amaris from 1,500 miles (2,413 kilometers) away, providing a connection between doctor and patient even as Chung was on vacation.

Use of the robot began as an Army telemedicine pilot project several years ago. But its success in allowing Chung to check on patients while deployed and in training nurses far away means the Chungbot — as it's been nicknamed around Brooke Army Medical Center — is here to stay.

"It became so clinically useful, it was no longer a research tool," said Chung, who oversees the Army's only burn ICU.

Using the robot allows Chung to examine wounds

and interact with the patient, though someone else at the bedside takes vital signs and provides hands-on care at the doctor's instruction.

The robot arrived at Brooke three years ago after Chung sought grant funding to lease the device. Since then, he's checked on patients via robot from as far away as Baghdad.

One badly wounded soldier was brought here after Chung and others treated him in Iraq, and the staff in Baghdad wondered how he was doing. Instead of calling for an update from a doctor here, Chung was able to log in and roll the robot over to the patient with the Baghdad staff looking on.

"This patient was very, very sick. To be able to see that this patient was breathing was powerful," he said.

The robot is controlled with a laptop and joystick and wirelessly transmits images and sound between doctor and patient. Two camera lenses and antennas sit above the screen. Sensors along the bottom keep Chung from running the robot into walls and warn him when someone is approaching it from behind.

About 250 similar robots are being used by civilian hospitals, primarily to connect sat-



AP photo/Eric Gay
Dr. Kevin Chung moves a medical robot, nicknamed the "Chungbot."

ellite facilities with specialist doctors, said Jennifer Niese, a spokeswoman for InTouch Health, the Santa Barbara, California-based manufacturer. Most are leased, and she declined to say how much they cost.

The Chungbot recently began a rotation as a trainer, allowing deploying nurses from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio to get more specialized burn injury training at a patient's bedside. Chung said without the robot, some trainees might have flown in, but many would have been forced to rely on photos and more basic instruction.

Since the arrival of the Chungbot, other military doctor-bots have been tried at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, for laproscopic surgery training, and at Ryder Trauma Center in Miami for remote trauma consultations. The results have generally been good but decisions on long-term use have been left to local hospital commanders, said Col. Ron Poropatich, deputy director of the Army Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center.

Chung said the robot doesn't replace real-life interaction with patients and won't eliminate the need for specialists deployed to hospitals in war zones, but it can provide extra access.

"It's not going to replace real presence. It extends your capabilities," he said.

Even if the robots were widely used in field hospitals, severely wounded soldiers would continue to be transported to major military medical facilities with specialists for treatment, but Chung noted that much of the work done by Army doctors and nurses involves treating wounded civilians, who aren't typically transported.

Consultations with special-

ists in those cases are often done over the phone, leaving the specialist without the ability to see the patient and injury — something that could change with this type of technology, he said.

Many of Chung's patients at Brooke have been too sedated to interact through the Chungbot, but overall, family and patient responses have been positive, he said.

Amaris, who suffered third-degree burns over three-quarters of his body in a Mosul fuel truck explosion, said his Chungbot encounter was definitely strange, but good.

"You never see no stuff like that," said Amaris, a 27-year-old originally from Colombia. "It shocked me when (Chung) said he was in Virginia."

Amaris' wife, Jazmin, did a double-take when she saw the robot rolling down the hall with two soldiers following behind. But she said it was reassuring to see Chung, who had been overseeing treatment of her husband's disfigured arms and scarred upper body, even from a computer screen atop a robot.

"You feel more calm. You see so many doctors, so many people every day. It was really important to see him," she said.

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

According to Mayor Russ McEwen, funding for the \$1.7 million project would come through a municipal bond the city paid off earlier this year.

"We have a bond that was paid off in February of 2009. The current rate on that bond (as applied to the tax rate) is 2.9016 cents, which will free up 3 cents on the tax roll. That generates \$150,000 a year. On a \$3 million bond, the annual pay-

ment would be right at \$237,000, which means we would be looking at a difference of \$87,000 a year."

McEwen encouraged the city staff to come up with budget cuts that would fund the remaining \$87,000 a year. However, with the proposed design — which includes an enlarged kiddie pool area and a lazy river around the facility — coming in at \$4.2 million, Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said the city will have to look for other ways to finance the project.

"The council could decide to use money from the general fund to pay for the new pool," said Darden. "However, it's totally up to them what direction we move in from here."

Councilwoman Gloria McDonald supported moving forward with the process, but warned against getting in too big of a hurry.

"I really like the idea, but at the same time I don't want us to just go along with the first drawing we see," McDonald told the council. "I'd like to see what else

is out there."

McDonald also said she'd like to see some consideration given to the prior pool's demographics when planning a new facility.

"We don't want to end up in a situation where our kiddie pool isn't big enough and our swimming pool is too big," said McDonald. "We can look at the demographics from our previous pool to get a better idea how this should be divided up. However, we also have to keep in mind some groups may not have been using

the old pool because it didn't meet their needs, so demographics aren't everything in a situation like this."

The proposed pool would be able to serve 500 swimmers at a time, according to city officials, while the city's existing swimming pool only averaged approximately 300 patrons.

"We want to plan for the future," said City Manager Gary Fuqua. "And planning for growth in the city is a big part of that. We've had the existing pool since it was constructed

sometime in the 1930s, and we would be expecting a new pool to last us a very long time as well."

Darden said the likelihood of being able to have a new pool facility up and running in time for next year's swimming season was "not ideal," due mainly to the short time span and the availability of qualified contractors.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

SCOUTS

Continued from Page 1A

three times a month in Den meetings with boys their own age and once a month in Pack meetings, with other Dens.

Dens are usually made up of five to eight boys in the same grade. Those grade levels are:

- Tiger Cubs. First-grade boys join a Tiger Cub den, where each boy works with an adult partner on the requirements to earn his Tiger Cub badge.
- Wolf Cub Scouts.

Second-grade boys graduate into a Wolf den. They go to weekly den meetings on their own, but their families still help them work on the requirements for the Wolf badge.

- Bear Cub Scouts. Boys in the third grade are members of a Bear den. They also work with their families to do the requirements for the Bear badge, but boys this old have enough knowledge and skill to take on more of the work by themselves.
- Webelos Scouts. Boys in the fourth and fifth grades become Webelos

Scouts. Webelos Scouts do more advanced activities to get ready to graduate into Boy Scouting.

Scouting is designed to be fun and educational, Hartman said.

"This past July we had a day camp on Lake Colorado City where boys got to shoot BB guns, practice archery skills, play table tennis and volleyball, launch water balloons and go fishing," he said. "On the Fourth of July Scouts participated in parades and picnics. Some units participated in the flag ceremony at Pops in the Park here. During the

year, we have monthly themes the boys concentrate on, plus the pinex derby races and push mobile races."

Other activities include Mom and Me and Dad and Dad campouts, where boys go camping with a parent at the Hughes Aquatic Base at Colorado City or the Buffalo Trail Scout Reservation near Alpine. There, many of the boys will get their first experience pitching a tent, cooking over a campfire and other activities.

There are also Scouting Nights at select Rockhounds and Jack-

lopes games in Midland and Odessa.

Parents and youth interested in Cub Scouts can get more information at the Buffalo Trail Council Web site, www.buffalotrailbsa.org. Those interest but who cannot register Sept. 1 can call Hartman at

(432) 212-3577 or the Big Spring Boy Scout office at (432) 263-3407.

Registration for Boy Scouts will be held in October.

'E.T.'

Continued from Page 1A

many years to come."

"E.T." — which is Rated PG — won four Oscars and countless other awards after its debut in 1982. The film also introduced the world to actress Drew Barrymore and actor Henry Thomas, who would both go on to establish themselves as mainstays in Hollywood.

The film also got a thumbs up from the White House, as Spielberg personally screened it for then-President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan.

And though "E.T."s voyage on the big screen must come to

an end after approximately 115 minutes, Johnson's and the film society's voyage is far, far from over.

"We will be screening Raiders of the Lost Ark,' hopefully in the Comanche Trail Park Ampitheatre, next," said Johnson. "Then we'll wrap up our Spielberg retrospective with 'Jurassic Park' back at the excellent screening site by the water in Comanche Trail Park.

"There was a lot of talk of us screening 'Star Wars,' but currently the rights are not available, so after the Spielberg films we will most likely continue with films from the late 70's and 80's like 'Ghostbusters,' 'The Goonies,' 'Back to the Future' and who knows what else.

"We would also like to try and work with Howard College during the winter to do a weekend of Alfred Hitchcock — 'Psycho,' 'The Birds,' 'North by Northwest' and maybe even 'Vertigo.' The Film Society is still working on getting its non-profit status and plans on an organizational meeting in the fall.

"After the success of 'Jaws' with 600-plus people showing up, we are seeing that there are film enthusiasts in Howard County and that encourages us to move forward."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

School’s now open, please drive carefully

Classes started at most of the Crossroads area’s schools Monday, and that means it’s definitely time for all of us to remember to drive safely in and around school zones.

Many of us have spent the summer driving past area schools not having to concern ourselves with those flashing lights and reduced speed limits imposed during school months.

But all that changed yesterday and that’s why school officials and local law enforcement agencies are advising motorists to take extra caution when driving these first few days of the school year.

Of course, we should all exercise caution whenever we’re driving. And regardless of where we are during those times just before or after school hours, we should remember that many high school students will be driving or walking to school.

Furthermore, we should all remember to obey the law and stop for school buses when they’re loading and unloading students.

None of us are so busy, nor is there any emergency so important that we can afford to put the young people of our communities at risk by driving in an unsafe manner.

It’s something we try to remind readers of each year at this time. That’s because it’s important, very important.

The bottom line, of course, is that none of us would want our own children endangered by a careless motorist.

We all need to remember that when we get behind the wheel.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers’ opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, we can climb the hardest emotional mountain.

Amen

How to die when you’re ready

If you’re unlucky enough to contract an affliction that promises terminal agony or humiliation, you might want to start planning now. A brief visit to a local nursing home can provide motivation. Close contact with Alzheimer’s, ALS, or other wasting diseases is often enough to spur action.

The best solution, as usual, is to squirrel up money.

You may have read recently about a prominent but decaying British symphony conductor who flew off to Zurich with his dying wife to pull the plug together.

Yes, the Swiss run behind the curve on a few things, but with death they are way ahead. Adjoining beds awaited the pair, along with two potions of barbiturates. Family attended and handholding dignity filled the air.

Of course it was expensive. All this was too much for many stiff-upper-lipped British officials who felt that the couple had let down the side. You’re supposed to suffer through to the end, you know.

They’re looking for someone to prosecute.

Surely any suicide who would name his son Caractacus must



WILLIAM A. COLLINS

be part of a vile conspiracy.

In this country we’re a lot like the Brits. Not as traditional perhaps, but more Catholic and more evangelical. We too believe that all should suffer terminally whether they care to or not, and whether they’re Catholic or evangelical or not. It’s God’s way.

Luckily for us heathen, there are two states in the far Northwest which are neither Catholic nor evangelical, and whose constitutions allow for voter initiative.

The citizens of both states voted to allow assisted suicide, so if you’re nervous about your demise you might want to establish residence in Oregon or Washington.

Voter initiatives are ordinarily very dicey affairs — witness California — but these happened to work well.

Thus, if you’re diagnosed with a horrific disease, you might want to quickly buy a cabin on Puget Sound. The market’s down just now.

In the 48 less enlightened states our national fetish for outlawing death with dignity offers sheriffs and publicity-seeking prosecutors a great opportunity to grandstand. Some courageous Georgia crime fighters just demonstrated this. They had their bravest warrior pose as a terminal cancer patient and get advice from Final Exit on how to call it quits when things got too

bad. Then the cops arrested all the principals and called them a “ring.” I guess that’s easier than chasing crooks. (Disclosure: I’m a dues-paying member of Final Exit.)

Of course if you want to be truly prepared to fend off a bad end, there are other things you jolly well ought to be doing right now. The obvious one is a living will, constructed in considerable detail. This needs many copies so that anyone likely to be involved in your care has one. It goes to all doctors, nurses and near kin with an extra copy stuck to the fridge for the ambulance driver.

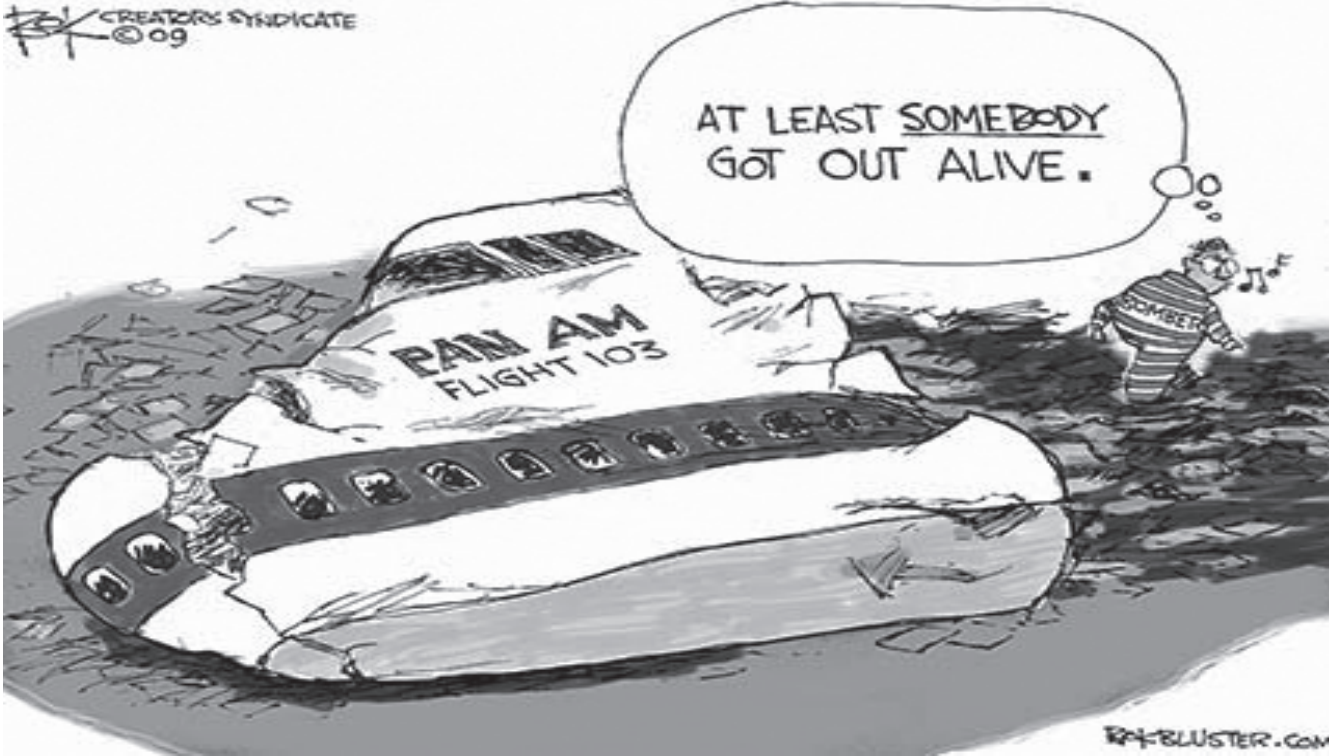
Even so there is no certainty of success.

Medical folks are scared of legal and professional repercussions if they fail to keep you going to the last gasp. They can get in federal trouble for giving you adequate terminal pain relief. Pitfalls abound.

Savvy sufferers know this, which is why there are clinics in Zurich, prescriptions in Oregon and advisers like Final Exit.

Even with careful planning and compassionate care, however, there are always influential busybodies out there who believe life is so sacred that you ought to endure every last second of its final agony.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.



Cap and Trade job killer for Texas

As the summer winds down and the fall picks up, the Senate will return to a legislative agenda marked with more massive and misguided proposals being pushed by the administration and Democratic leadership. One that all Texans should pay close attention to is “Cap and Trade” legislation. The proposal could level a deeper impact on our state’s economy and the financial well-being of Texas families than any bill in recent memory.

The concept of Cap and Trade is based on the idea that total national emissions are capped at a predetermined amount, thereby limiting the amount of greenhouse gases that companies can emit. Emitting companies are provided a set of allowances on an annual basis for every ton of carbon dioxide they plan to release into the atmosphere.

Over time, the total greenhouse gas emissions allowed are reduced until the ultimate pollution-reduction goal is met. Businesses whose emissions will exceed their cap in any given year must purchase emission allowances from those who are releasing less carbon and are not utilizing their full allotment.

I am concerned about the impact this bill would have on Texas, which would be disproportionately affected by Cap and Trade legislation because it is an energy and manufacturing state.

In fact, Texas provides the nation with more energy than any other state. It is the leading crude oil-producing state in the nation, as well as the leading natural gas producer. Texas’s 26 petroleum refineries account for



KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

more than one-fourth of all U.S. refining capacity.

Because energy and manufacturing is prevalent in Texas, we have a disproportionately high level of greenhouse gas emissions compared to states that utilize our energy production rather than producing their own. By its nature, the cap and trade system is designed to raise the cost of conventional energy by requiring emission allowances for its usage.

When manufacturers face excessive costs for the right to produce their goods (run their plants), they will have to pass those costs down to consumers.

Every time a consumer switches on a light, turns on the air conditioner, or runs a load of dishes, he will feel the residual effects of taxes on the energy industry for producing this power.

If Cap and Trade becomes law, it is estimated that the average Texas household income will shrink by \$1,136 a year in 2012, the year the legislation would take effect, due to increases in utility bills, groceries, transportation costs and more. This could result in a total potential cost of nearly \$7 billion for Texas families.

The legislation is also a job killer because some American companies will not be able to maintain operations under the Cap and Trade system’s cost burdens and stringent regulations.

Studies show that Cap and Trade would result in the loss of 2 million U.S. jobs. The jobs will move to other countries, thereby increasing our dependence on foreign energy supplies (which already is 60 percent of all the energy America needs). In our state, up to 277,000 Texans could lose their jobs in 2012. By 2030, the number of lost jobs in Texas could rise to 400,000.

While reducing greenhouse gases is an important goal, a better approach is to reduce carbon

emissions while simultaneously creating jobs and growing the economy.

One way is to expand emission-free nuclear energy. Nuclear energy is clean, safe, reliable and cost-effective. Today, we have 17 applications at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for 26 new nuclear reactors. Congress must work to get these reactors online and in production.

Another technology we should be pursuing is Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS). This technology holds great promise for reducing pollution because it sequesters carbon, thus preventing its release into the atmosphere. It will also help increase oil production through enhanced oil recovery.

In Texas, we are already working on some of America’s largest CCS projects. We can lead the nation in commercializing this innovative technology.

These are just a few examples of how we can do something positive for the environment without hurting the economy. We can put America at the forefront of technology development, while creating jobs and stimulating the economy.

Moreover, we can move America forward rather than subject it to a competitive disadvantage to countries such as China and India that do not impose pollution mandates on their businesses and manufacturers, thereby making their products cheaper on the global market.

I believe the goal of carbon reduction through the development of technology is one that we can achieve. But we must be wise in how we choose to meet the challenge.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and the Ranking Republican on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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Bird Poop:

Burrowing owl gives wild dogs a lesson

As she hung towels and sheets on the clothesline to dry, the woman noticed a movement in the pasture beyond the barbed wire fence. Since rabbits had devastated her spring plantings, she thought it was another cottontail until the figure suddenly took flight.

Flying close to the ground, the bird had rather long wings for such a small body. After several short flights and landings, the bird perched on a fence post. As it turned its head from side to side, the woman was now close enough to see its large, yellow eyes.

Even without tufts on the top of its head, the bird's long legs and stubby tail were clues as to its identity.

"What's a burrowing owl doing out here? Don't they live in prairie-dog holes?" she asked her husband during their evening meal. Having lived on a ranch, he answered, "Convenience."

The owls, he assured her, would call home almost any abandoned hole, whether made by rabbits, armadillos or prairie dogs.

During late summer, the couple often saw the bird standing at the entrance to a burrow. Since it hunted during the day and in the early evening, they were grateful for its love of insects and mice.

If they came too close to the fence line, it would bow, then rise and sometimes bend so far forward its chest seemed to touch the ground. Turning quickly, it would dart into the hole, then "peekaboo" by returning to show only the top of its head



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Courtesy photo

From southern Canada, through the western half of the United States and into Mexico, the burrowing owl is the only small owl that will be seen on the ground, in an open area, during daylight.

and eyes.

As September approached, they saw less of what they considered another member of their family. When her husband came in from town with news of wild hogs and dogs, they began to discuss what they would do to protect their livestock and garden. So far, their area of West Texas had been spared.

After breakfast, while her husband was in town, she decided it was time to start her fall garden. Changing into her old jeans and long sleeved shirt, she grabbed her hat. Just as she reached for the door knob, she heard the ruckus.

Since their border collie had wanted to ride along with her hus-

band, she instinctively sensed, from the ferocious barking, what she had dreaded. No longer would they be immune from the savagery of wild dogs.

Running toward the fence line, she saw three medium sized dogs trying to get at something in the field beyond. So intent on cornering their prey and tearing it to shreds, the dogs did not see her climb through the fence.

Aiming the shotgun her husband had placed by the door in case this day ever came, she suddenly realized the barking, attacking canines were not after a rabbit. On its back, striking at each lunging dog, was the burrowing owl.

Its shrill screams were nothing compared to the rapidity of its slashing talons. As one dog would retreat with blood oozing from the end of its nose, another would try from a different angle.

If she fired, not only would she hit the dogs but the owl as well. Holding the barrel in one hand, while gripping the stock with the other, she slammed the butt of the weapon into one dog's hindquarters.

Yelping in pain and stunned, the dog moved back while she hit, as hard as she could, the shoulder of the next dog. Since two of the animals had retreated from the owl, the bird righted itself. As the third animal growled menacingly, and started toward her, the woman pulled the trigger.

When a woman called to say she had rescued an owl by hitting dogs with a shotgun, I asked, "With the barrel?" Following a slight pause, she replied, "No, the other end." As she related more of the story, she added, "It can't fly. Looks like a hole in one wing."

Willing to bring it to us from the

far side of Odessa, we met her half-way.

After removing dirt and dried blood from the wound, we felt for broken bones.

Finding no other injuries, we enjoyed seeing once again the distinct markings of a burrowing owl.

Its brown upper parts were spotted with white. Its white eyebrows and upper throat accented its colorful eyes. Buffy underparts were barred with brown.

Given time to recover from the trauma of being attacked, the bird of prey had a chance to recover.

With another cleansing of the wound, Gail Barnes, volunteer at South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Lubbock, called to say the bird was thin, but OK. With the healing of the puncture, and time to regain its strength for flight, it would be released.

Working with this owl had reminded us of a tour of the west side of Webb Air Force Base in the early 1970s.

A friend, who was an airman, had wanted us to see the burrowing owls inside the facility.

Introducing us to a specie we had never seen, Mack and his wife, Sally, allowed us not only to see the birds in flight, but to hear their warning as we closely approached on foot.

Buzzing like muted rattlesnakes, the owls had warned other owls of our intrusion. Ground squirrels and coyotes readily would have understood this sound of caution. Obviously, the wild dogs so many years later did not heed the buzz that warned of the fury to follow.

Bebe McCasland is federally and-state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The stars echo what smart families know -- when "mama" is happy, everyone is happy. Feisty, forceful Mars enters the maternal realm of Cancer, giving energy and urgency to the requests of dear mom, wherever she may be. Even those who are not close to their mothers will pay attention to the impact that the role has had on their lives.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because your mind is spinning on important matters, you're not so easy to get to know right now. The new people you meet will probably find you to be complex and enigmatic.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There is excitement in the air. Intriguing offers come your way, but you must act quickly or they disappear. Keep in mind that if something is meant to be, it happens quickly. Avoid going on a wild chase.

GEMINI (May 21-June



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

21). A relationship takes your focus. You may be content with the way things are, but that doesn't mean you don't want to make them even better. When both people feel this way, you will create something marvelous together.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don't take yourself too seriously, which is why others will do just that. Your irresistible charm seems to happen without you being conscious of it. You're not trying hard, but you're winning anyway.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't let the demands of work get in the way of your freedom-loving spirit. There is a way to have your cake and eat it, too -- it just requires that you get very creative and perhaps a bit sneaky, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may feel drawn to studying obscure topics. You can't currently imagine how such intellectual pursuits will broaden your social horizons. There are those out there who will love to learn your views and share their own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). Even though you are quick to laugh, relatively easy to please, and generally low-maintenance emotionally, you are still a complex individual. The one who understands that will steal your heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You trust the experts. You don't need or want to know how everything comes together, but some people will want to explain every detail to you anyway. If you can grin and bear it, there will be something interesting in it for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When a couple is not getting along well, it affects everyone else around them. The tension is palpable. Steer toward those who are in harmony with each other and you'll feel happy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You enjoy jigsaw puzzles, just as long as they have all their pieces. There's something to figure out today. It will be a bit of work. Before you start, make sure the end result will be worthwhile.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your free time is

yours alone. Let no one lay claim to your schedule. And you really shouldn't have to account for your whereabouts at every turn either. Reclaim some of your autonomy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your communication skills will be tested. You may encounter someone who makes you nervous and then it's more difficult to send a clear and strong message. Think of this as a drill. You're constantly improving.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 25). You won't take "no" for an answer. You find a way to do the undoable and attain the unattainable. January amps up your physical strength and endurance. With great self-discipline, you'll accomplish both short- and long-term goals. In February, you'll be inspired to give your heart and will receive one in return. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 33, 20, 19 and 11.

ASTROLOGICAL INSIGHTS: So what do you like to talk about? It's been said that you can assess a person's spiritual

resonance by their topic of conversation. The natural evolution goes from talking about oneself, to talking about others, to talking about ideas. Bouncing between those topics shows spiritual agility and buoyancy, but getting stuck on the "me" and "them" realm is indicative of a heavy heart. The reason I bring it up is, soon after Mars enters Cancer, another important transit occurs. Mercury, the messenger of the gods, enters the sign of diplomacy, Libra. Libra is a lithe and high-minded placement for the messenger and should serve as a kicker to our conversations, popping them more frequently into the realm of ideas. It's likely those ideas will have to do with creating harmony in our relationships and our world at large, as well as following our own bliss. Those ideas intermingle in the most delightful ways through Sept. 17. And if that seems too short a period for this peaceful placement of Libra, don't worry. Because of this year's Mercury retrograde

pattern, the good vibes return in October.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Billy Ray Cyrus brings down-home charm to "tweens" everywhere in his role as the father of Hannah Montana. And in the real-life role of father to Miley Cyrus and her five siblings, he's likely as charmingly strict as he is on screen. Orderly Virgos have an easygoing way of taming the chaos of family life. Virgo is also an ideal sign for a country musician because the energy is rootsy and grounded.

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.

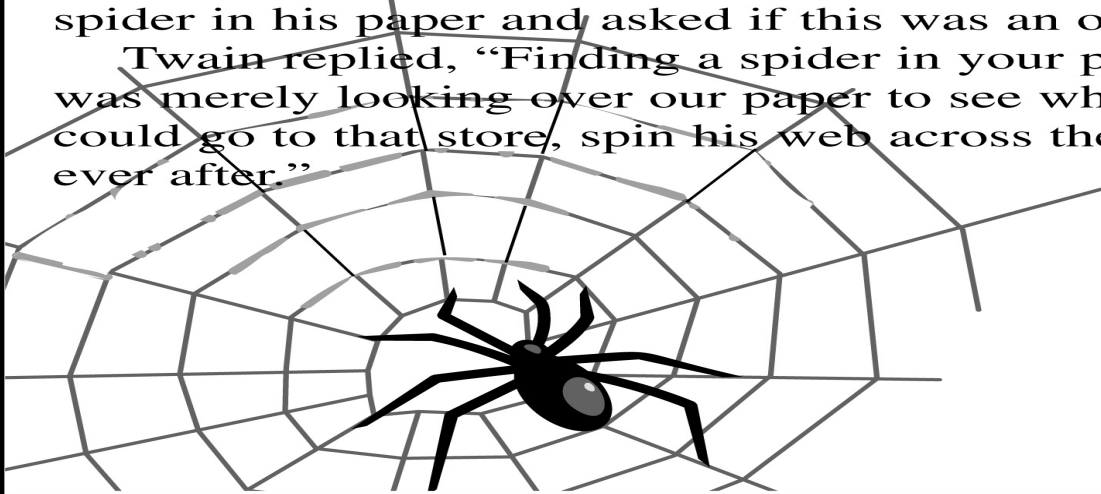
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The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. missing shadow in bottom corner
2. missing bat 3. smoke in chimney 4. scoreboard
says "team"

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1718: NEW ORLEANS WAS FOUNDED BY FRENCH SETTLERS.
- 1944: PARIS WAS LIBERATED FROM NAZI OCCUPATION BY THE ALLIED FORCES.
- 2003: NASA LAUNCHED THE INFRARED SPITZER SPACE TELESCOPE.

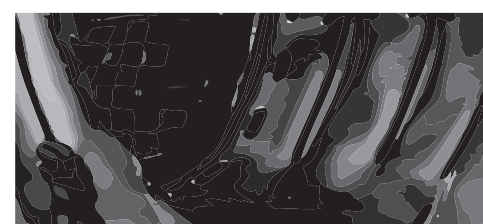
New
word

BASE

one of the 4 stations
that must be reached
in baseball to score

How they
SAY that in...**ENGLISH:** Run**SPANISH:** Funcionamiento**ITALIAN:** Esecuzione**FRENCH:** Fonctionner**GERMAN:** LaufenDid You?
Know?

A REGULATION LITTLE
LEAGUE GAME IS SIX
INNINGS LONG. BUT A
GAME CAN GO INTO
EXTRA INNINGS.

GET THE
PICTURE?

Can you guess what
the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BASEBALL GLOVE

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Vision: Every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the cleanest, most beautiful city in Texas.

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Projects For September 2009

★ **FM 700 Cleanup • September 12th**

(9 a.m. at North entrance to fairgrounds)

★ **General Meeting • September 14th**

(Meet at Cactus Room, Howard College.)

★ **Howard County Fair • September 30th**

Contact President Walter Ward

(432) 935-6455www.keepbigspringbeautiful.org

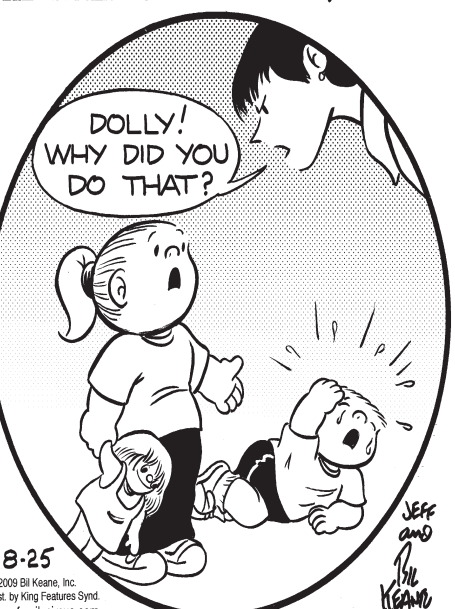
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	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Raymond	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	wall, Virginia Madsen	(:09) Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	Little League Baseball: World Series	SportsCenter
6:30	News Entertainment	Jeopardy! Fortune	Gancho	Two Men	News Entertainment	12 Cora-zones	News Millionaire	Friends Seinfeld	Uri Harel	Business Seinfeld	Cash Cab Made			Bones		Wizards	World Series	E:60
7:30	Shaq Vs.	Shaq Vs.	Nombre Amor	Hell's Kitchen	NCIS	Más Sabe el Diabolo	America-Talent	Fam. Guy	Israel	Nova (DVS)	Swords: Life	Movie: GoodFellas, Joe Pesci		Bones	Movie: Honey, Lil' Romeo	Movie: Dadnapped	Little League Baseball: World Series	World Series
8:30	Shaq Vs.	Shaq Vs.	Mañana es	More to Love	(:01) Big Brother 11	Pobres	America's Got Talent	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Nova sciencenOW	Swords: Life		(:21) Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Bones		Phineas		
9:30	Primetime	Primetime	Aquí y Ahora	TMZ	The Mentalist	Victorinos		Office		P.O.V.	The Colony			Hawthorne	Tiny-Toy	Wizards	WNBA Basketball: Sky at Sparks	Baseball Tonight
10:30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Israel	Charlie Rose	Swords: Life	Movie: Mobsters, Richard Grieco		Saving Grace	Frankie	Montana		SportsCenter
11:30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Escuelita VIP	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones de	Decisiones de	Sex & Sex &	Ministerio-Vida	BBC Smiley	Swords: Life		CSI: Crime Scn	Hawthorne	W. Williams	Suite Life So Raven	SportsNation	Baseball
12:30	News	Extra	Contra Viento	RENO 911	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	News	Movie: The Truman Show	Israel	(Off Air)	The Colony	(12:15) Mad Men	CSI: Crime Scn	Saving Grace	Movie: Honey, Lil' Romeo	Life De Cory	World Series	NFL Live
1:30	Paid	Paid	Mujer...	Friends	Insider	Pagado	News	Church	Light of the Southwest	Investigation X		(:17) Movie:	Disorderly Con.	Cold Case	W. Williams	Emperor Dragon	World Series	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I CAN'T WAIT TILL SCHOOL STARTS. MY MOM'S DRIVIN' ME CRAZY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

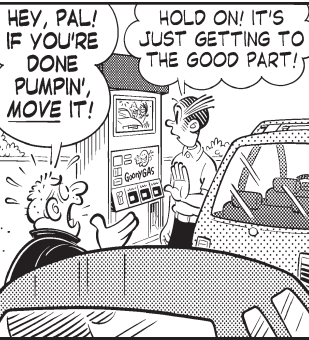
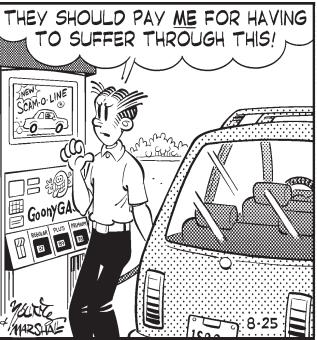


"I think it was self-defense."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



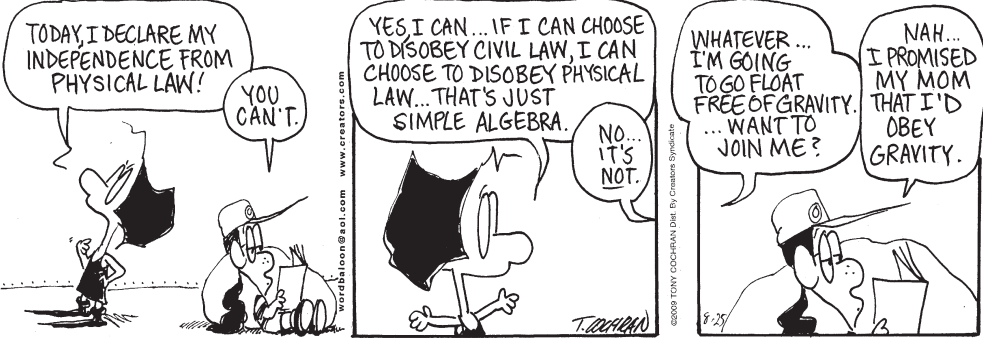
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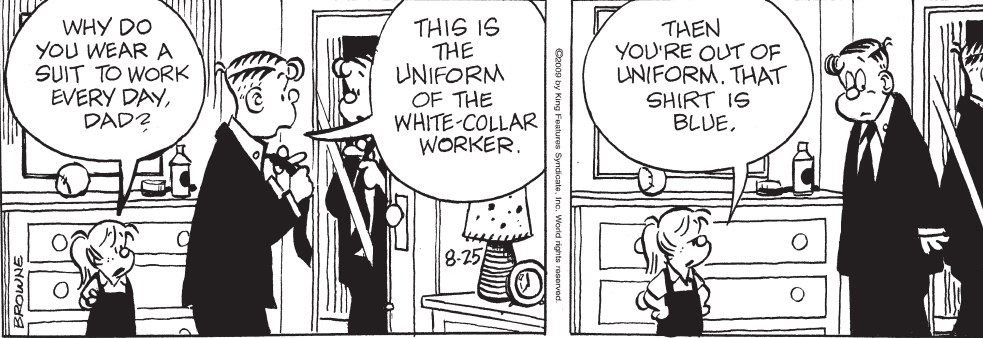
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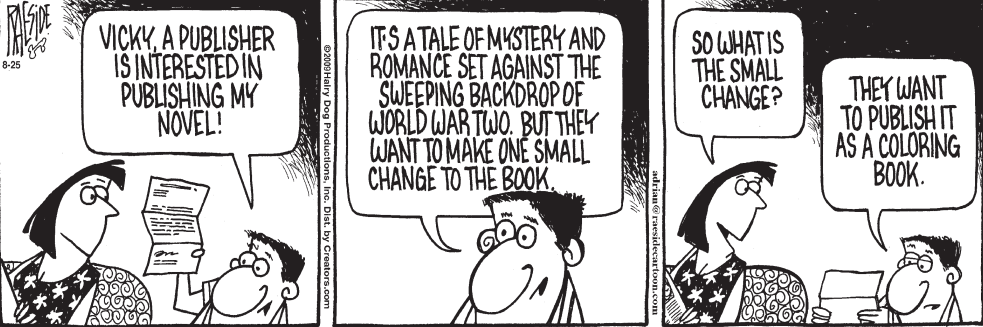
AGNES



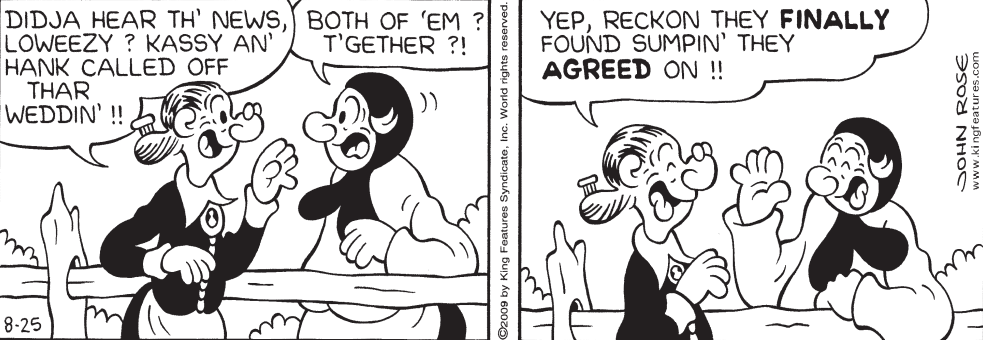
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 25, the 237th day of 2009. There are 128 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 25, 1944, during World War II, Paris was liberated by Allied forces after four years of Nazi occupation.

On this date: In 1825, Uruguay declared independence from Brazil.

In 1875, Capt. Matthew Webb became the first person to swim across the English Channel, getting from Dover, England, to Calais, France, in 22 hours.

In 1916, the National Park Service was established within the Department of the Interior.

In 1921, the United States signed a peace treaty with Germany.

In 1928, an expedition led by Richard E. Byrd set sail from Hoboken, N.J., on its journey to Antarctica.

In 1943, U.S. forces liberated New Georgia in the Solomon Islands from the Japanese dur-

ing World War II.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a measure providing pensions for former U.S. presidents and their widows.

In 1985, Samantha Smith, 13, the schoolgirl whose letter to Yuri V. Andropov resulted in her famous peace tour of the Soviet Union, died with her father in an airliner crash in Auburn, Maine.

In 1998, retired Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell died in Richmond, Va., at age 90.

Today's Birthdays: Game show host Monty Hall is 88. Actor Sean Connery is 79. Actor Page Johnson is 79. Talk show/game show host Regis Philbin is 78. Actor Tom Skerritt is 76. Jazz musician Wayne Shorter is 76. Movie director Hugh Hudson is 73. Author Frederick Forsyth is 71. Actor David Canary is 71. Movie director John Badham is 70. Filmmaker Marshall Brickman is 68. R&B singer Walter Williams (The O'Jays) is 67. Actor Anthony Heald is 65. Rock musician Danny Smythe is 61. Rock singer-actor Gene Simmons is 60. Actor John Savage is 60. Country singer-musician

Henry Paul (Outlaws; Blackhawk) is 60. Rock singer Rob Halford is 58. Rock musician Geoff Downes (Asia) is 57. Rock singer Elvis Costello is 55. Movie director Tim Burton is 51. Actor Christian LeBlanc is 51. Actress Ally Walker is 48. Country singer Billy Ray Cyrus is 48. Actress Joanne Whalley is 48. Rock musician Vivian Campbell (Def Leppard) is 47. Actor Blair Underwood is 45. Actor Robert Maschio is 43. Rap DJ Terminator X (Public Enemy) is 43.

Thought for Today: "No matter what accomplishments you make, somebody helps you." — Althea Gibson, American tennis champion (born this date in 1927, died 2003).

© 2009 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle			
MATS	ODDS	BASIC	
ALIT	BRIE	INAW	
ROMA	EAVE	NYLON	
CHERRY	BOMB	WENT	
HASTE	TEETH		
SLAB	TEESUP		
ASH	OMAHA	ARENA	
PLUM	ASSIGNMENTS		
PAGED	STEAM	DOT	
SYSTEM	SPAR		
ADOPT	TODOS		
HALL	ORANGEBOWL		
ATALL	ISON	ISLE	
MOVIE	MENU	NEED	
SPACE	PROS	SSTS	

Newsday Crossword

DON'T GIVE UP by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Desertlike
- 5 Young horses
- 10 Burn slightly
- 14 Manufactured
- 15 Calcutta's country
- 16 Doily fabric
- 17 Look impolitely at
- 18 Evil spirit
- 19 "My treat!"
- 20 Stays the course
- 22 Like fine wine
- 23 Paid out
- 24 Library inventory: Abbr.
- 25 Find another chair for
- 28 Spanish celebration
- 31 Church platform
- 32 Modify, as a law
- 34 Light-switch settings
- 36 1006, in Roman numerals
- 37 Fuss in front of a mirror
- 38 Luau instrument, for short
- 39 Part of a minute: Abbr.
- 40 Religious groups
- 41 "Bald" bird
- 43 Quick drawing
- 45 Prepared, as potatoes
- 46 Verbalize
- 47 Take care of
- 49 Makes a wager
- 51 Stays the course
- 56 Moisturizer ingredient

- 57 Courtroom event
- 58 Piano key
- 59 Train-track part
- 60 Fraction of a pound
- 61 Has outstanding bills
- 62 Crunchy sandwiches, for short
- 63 Small-minded
- 64 Do the laundry

DOWN

- 1 Run (go wild)
- 2 Intense anger
- 3 Doing nothing
- 4 Type of diving or fishing
- 5 Behave nervously

- 6 Result of a leadoff single
- 7 Own up (to)
- 8 King of beasts
- 9 Was in the choir
- 10 Disguises
- 11 Stays the course
- 12 High point
- 13 Marsh plant
- 21 Train for a match
- 24 Crib or cot
- 25 Ewes' mates
- 26 North Pole
- 27 Stays the course
- 28 Professional charges
- 29 Rural hotel
- 30 Lower-leg joint
- 32 Part of the foot

- 33 Got together
- 35 Parakeet food
- 37 Chest muscle, for short
- 40 Pigpen
- 41 Has a snack
- 42 Up to this point
- 44 Flip-chart holders
- 45 Musical potpourri
- 47 Canonized one
- 48 Pass, as legislation
- 49 Unkind comment
- 50 Airline to Israel
- 51 "Knock it off!"
- 52 Not false
- 53 Where Des Moines is
- 54 Numbered roads: Abbr.
- 55 Netlike material

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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62				63					64			

News in brief

AP source: Obama plans to keep Bernanke as chairman of Fed

OAK BLUFFS, Mass. (AP) — President Barack Obama plans to reappoint Ben Bernanke to a second term as chairman of the Federal Reserve, a position from which he guided the economy away from its worst recession since the 1930s and, the White House hopes, toward an economic recovery critical to its legacy.

Widely credited with taking aggressive action to avert an economic catastrophe after the financial meltdown last year, Bernanke will be nominated for another term as the helm of the central bank on Tuesday. Obama plans to make the announcement on Martha’s Vineyard, the Massachusetts island where he is vacationing for the week with his family.

Bernanke is expected to be at his side, said a senior administration official who discussed the nomination only on condition of anonymity because the news was not yet public.

By announcing he wants Bernanke for another term and not changing horses in midstream, Obama removes a sense of uncertainty on Wall Street.

Bernanke masterminded what is now seen as a successful strategy to lift the economy out of recession, unlock credit and stabilize financial markets, in part by using unconventional and unprecedented lending programs. But he’s not without his detractors, and the top Democrat on the Senate banking committee warned of a thorough hearing before Bernanke would take his post for a second time.

Documents: Interrogation was patchwork program, with policies written on the fly

WASHINGTON (AP) — With just two weeks of training, or about half the time it takes to become a truck driver, the CIA certified its spies as interrogation experts after 9/11 and handed them the keys to the most coercive tactics in the agency’s arsenal.

It was a haphazard process, cobbled together in the months following the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington by an agency that had never been in the interrogation business. The result was a patchwork program in which rules kept shifting and the goals often were unclear.

At times, the interrogators went too far, even beyond the wide latitude they were given under the Bush administration’s flexible guidelines, according to newly unclassified documents released Monday. Interrogators took the simulated drown-

ing technique of waterboarding beyond what was authorized. Mock executions were held. Family members were threatened. There were hints of rape.

If it was a terrifying process for the detainees, it was a bureaucratic nightmare for the interrogators. Until 2003, the agency provided its interrogators with rules on a case-by-case basis, sometimes giving permission by e-mail or even orally from CIA headquarters.

Afghan government says it’s ready for any postelection violence

KABUL (AP) — The Afghan government is prepared to respond to any violence in reaction to the results of last week’s election, the president’s spokesman said Tuesday, just hours ahead of the release of partial voting returns.

Low voter turnout and allegations of fraud have cast a pall over Thursday’s vote, and there are fears that supporters of some candidates may take to the streets. Some worry that supporters of former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah could vent fury if he comes in second with no chance at a runoff, triggered only if no candidate wins more than 50 percent.

Humayun Hamidzada, a spokesman for incumbent President Hamid Karzai, said the government had the resources to respond to any unrest.

“If there are some people who try to violate the situation, I should say that today Afghanistan has its own security institutions, today Afghanistan has a constitution and has its own rules and law,” he told reporters at a briefing in the capital, Kabul. “If anyone tries to break the law, they will face the legal process.”

AP source: Jackson died from lethal mix of drugs, death ruled homicide

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles County coroner’s finding that the death of Michael Jackson was a homicide could mean criminal charges for his doctor, who told investigators that he administered a mix of powerful drugs to treat the pop star’s insomnia hours before his death.

The homicide ruling was based on forensic tests that found the anesthetic propofol combined with at least two sedatives to kill Jackson, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press on Monday, speaking on condition of anonymity because the findings have not been publicly released.

While the finding does not necessarily mean a crime was committed, it means more likely that criminal charges will be filed against Dr. Conrad

Murray, the Las Vegas cardiologist who was caring for Jackson when he died June 25 in a rented Los Angeles mansion.

Through his lawyer, Murray has said he administered nothing that “should have” killed Jackson.

Government deadline extended for dealers to submit Cash for Clunkers paperwork

WASHINGTON (AP) — Car dealers will have a bit more time to get reimbursed for their Cash for Clunkers deals after the government extended the deadline for filing applications for the \$3 billion government incentives into Tuesday.

All sales under the program ended Monday evening. But after already pushing back the deadline to submit records for the car rebate deals to noon Tuesday, the Transportation Department said late Monday that dealers may have more time to submit pending claims, due to continued problems with its Web site.

Government computers set up to handle the filings were deluged by dealers trying to send in their sales agreements at the last minute. Before the extension, all the paperwork was supposed to be submitted by Monday night, but the big rush of submissions shut down the government’s computer filing system temporarily. That raised concern among dealers that they wouldn’t be repaid for the \$3,500 or \$4,500 per vehicle incentives, and prompted them to push for an extension.



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ANSWERS

- 1. False.** A slap is a form of assault. Texas law specifies that assault of another person, *including one's spouse*, is illegal.
- 2. False.** Battering (the same as assault) means causing bodily injury. Under Texas law, that includes causing pain. There does not have to be any visible injury at all.
- 3. False.** Many people who are violent toward family members never drink or use drugs. Others drink or use drugs but never batter. So we cannot say that alcohol or drugs cause family violence. However, about 60% of family violence cases also *involve* substance abuse; and when both are occurring, both are harder to stop.
- 4. True.** Children learn from their experiences-including violence. It is more likely that an adult man who was abused as a child or saw his mother being battered will abuse his wife or girlfriend.
- 5. False.** Of all the abused adults with visible injuries, 95% are women. While it's true that some women do hit men, it's the other way around in most cases.
- 6. False.** Battering causes more injury to women than auto accident, street mugging, and rape combined. More than one-third of women seen in emergency rooms have been recently battered.
- 7. False.** Threats, harassment, and assaults often escalate just after a battered woman leaves her abuser. Leaving can be the most dangerous time in the relationship. That's why it's important for her to go to a safe, secure place such as a battered women's shelter.
- 8. False.** Texas law permits immediate arrest for suspected family violence, and many police departments now make such arrests. An average of 75% of urban police time and 35% of rural police time is spent responding to family violence.
- 9. False.** Arrest and jail alone are not usually enough to make a batterer permanently stop being violent. Counseling is also necessary. However, arresting and jailing batterers is important because it temporarily stops their violence and lets them know that our society does not tolerate battering.
- 10. False.** One-half of American females experience family violence at some time in their lives; your daughter, sister, or neighbor could be next. That makes it your business. Family violence also touches your pocketbook. As a taxpayer, you are affected every time police answer a family violence call or a woman visits an emergency room because of battering.

What You Can Do To STOP Family Violence

- ▶ Call police *immediately* if you are aware of a battering in progress.
- ▶ Don't laugh at jokes that involve adults hitting each other. They're not funny anymore.
- ▶ Support your local battered women's shelter through contributing or volunteering.
- ▶ Tell your local, state, and national elected officials that you support strong laws against family violence and you want those laws enforced.
- ▶ Stay informed by joining the **Texas Council on Family Violence**. Call our office for a membership application.

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News in brief

8-foot tall artwork rocking chair stolen in San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Thieves in San Antonio made off with an 8-foot tall rocking chair carved by an artist who says the item is part of the neighborhood.

Buddy Rasmussen says the wooden rocking chair weighs as much as 300 pounds and is 4 feet wide.

Rasmussen says it took him more than a week to carve the chair, which he estimates is worth \$2,000. He says the theft happened Saturday morning.

The massive chair, sometimes used by children for playing, was in front of the Gevers Street Studio.

Rasmussen says he'd like the thieves to pay for his artwork, or return it.

Identification made on 2 dead teens near Dripping Springs

DRIPPING SPRINGS (AP) — Autopsy results are pending on two teenagers found dead in a house near Dripping Springs.

The Hays County Sheriff's Department identified the pair as 18-year-old Cody Straus and his girlfriend, 17-year-old Sarah Carman. The bodies were discovered Saturday afternoon.

Both teens were in a car accident last fall, leaving Straus with severe head injuries. His recovery efforts were detailed in blogs by his family and by Carman.

Detectives on Monday declined to say how the teens died. The sheriff's department says there does not appear to be a suspect on the loose.

A funeral was planned Thursday in Austin for Carman. A service for Straus was scheduled Saturday in Dripping Springs.

Fire damages Laotian temple in Fort Worth

FORT WORTH (AP) — Investigators will try to determine what sparked a fire at a Buddhist temple in Fort Worth.

Firefighters remained on the scene Tuesday to monitor hot spots at the place of worship and meditation.

The blaze was reported late Monday night in a large ornate structure at the Wat (waht) Lao Thepnimith. No injuries were reported.

Fire department Lt. Kent Worley says the unique design of the temple made it difficult for crews to battle the blaze. Worley says it was "extremely dangerous" for firefighters to go inside the structure.

Ike-damaged trees become art

GALVESTON (AP) — Some trees that died after Hurricane Ike swamped parts of Galveston are getting new lives as artistic carvings.

Members of a citizen-led tree committee hope dozens of sculptures, crafted from saltwater-devastated trees, will grace the coastal city.

Galveston is attempting to salvage beauty from the destruction of about 40,000 trees related to the Sept. 13, 2008, storm.

Committee member Donna Leibbert says dozens of Galveston residents are seeking to have trees on their private property turned into sculptures.

The Houston Chronicle reports only six dead trees on city property are so far scheduled to be transformed into art.

Artist Jim Phillips of Clear Lake donated his labor and carved a Dalmatian, a firefighting-known mascot, that was placed outside a Galveston fire station. A donor paid the cost of equipment rental.

Report: Texas banks outperforms others

AUSTIN (AP) — A new report says Texas banks are more profitable and healthier than most nationwide.

An Austin-based financial industry consulting firm, Sheshunoff & Co. Investment Banking, issued the report Monday.

The report did not name individual banks. It said Texas banks are well-diversified, doing significant business in energy, health care and agriculture, all of which have fared better than most other sectors.

Only two banks have failed in Texas this year.

Austin-based Guaranty Bank on Friday became the second-largest U.S. bank to fail and Millennium State Bank of Texas in Dallas failed earlier in the year.

The recession has led to 81 bank failures nationwide this year.

Infants' remains found under trailer porch

FORT WORTH (AP) — The skeletal remains of two infants have been found in a box and a storage container under an abandoned mobile home porch in rural northern Texas — a year after another baby's remains were discovered in a suitcase in a nearby field, officials said Monday.

The son of the land owner who rents mobile homes to several people on his 5-acre lot said he was cleaning Sunday when he found some bones in a box in a plastic bag and others in a plastic storage bin.

Authorities plan to compare the infants' DNA samples to that of the other baby whose remains were found last year in a suitcase in a field on the same lot, said Tarrant County Sheriff's Office spokesman Terry Grisham. In that case, the medical examiner was unable to determine a cause of death, and authorities had no leads because they could not identify the baby or say whether a crime had occurred, Grisham said.

Justin Southern said that when he saw the bag and storage container under the stairs, he remembered his father's gruesome discovery.

"That thought just flashed in my head, and I thought, 'Surely Lord, no — please' and I jerked that trash bag open," Southern said. "It's overwhelming. It's sad someone could even think about doing that to a baby."

The brother and sister who lived in the mobile home for about three years before recently moving out denied knowing anything about the remains found Sunday and said they were surprised to hear about the discovery, Grisham said. They have been cooperating with authorities and have not been charged with any crime, officials said.

Detectives also were trying to find out if anyone else stayed at the mobile home or lived there before the siblings, Grisham said.

Lubbock Co. field protest of health care

LUBBOCK (AP) — A former art teacher used a field in Lubbock County to carve out a protest about the Obama administration and health care reform.

Sam Bates recently plowed some weeds and left behind the message "Say no to Obama!"

Bates, who said he laid out the visible-from-the-air sign, says he had some "free time" and wanted to offer his unhappiness with what's been going on in Washington.



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Wed. 9/02 - Ladies Day - Ladies bowl one free game
Thur. 9/03 - Seniors Day - 60 and over bowl free
Fri. 9/04 - City Employees show ID for two free games
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