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Booze plan back on council agenda

To decide whether to allow alcohol consumption in neighborhood parks

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council will revisit the idea of allowing alcohol consumption in neighborhood parks when they meet at 5:30 p.m. today in council chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth.

What: Big Spring City Council.

Where: Council chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

When: 5:30 p.m. today.

Currently, the city doesn't allow either the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverage in its smaller "neighborhood" parks — so-called because of their location adjacent to residential areas. However, an idea to allow sales and consumption at the Mi Familia pavilion at Andries Park was floated before the council this month, and was met with

general support.

Of the council members who spoke on the matter, only Mayor Larry McLellan voiced outright opposition to the idea.

"I don't agree with the idea of alcohol at a public family park close to residential areas," McLellan said at the time. "We already have areas at Coman-



City Council member Carmen Harbour, right, listens to City Manager Todd Darden, left, during a recent council meeting.

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

No sound system, no problem for college graduation ceremony

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
 Staff Writer

The show or, in this case, graduation ceremonies will go on at Howard College.

The installation of a new sound system at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum is moving a little slower than first anticipated, but will be online when area public schools hold commencement ceremonies.

However, the system will not be up and running when

graduates walk the stage on May 15.

"They are not going to have the speakers, however, they are going to be working ahead of that time and will have a temporary system in place for graduation," Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks told trustees Monday during their monthly meeting. "For the Coahoma (ISD) graduation and Big Spring (ISD), we will have that in place."

At the last board meeting, trustees approved a \$123,200 bid to replace the old sound equipment at the coliseum. The majority of funding — \$120,000 — comes from a grant by the Big Spring Conventions and Visitor's Bureau.

The college's coliseum is heavily used by the community for large events beside serving as the home arena of the Howard College Hawk basketball program.

HC trustees vote to eliminate San Angelo campus positions

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
 Staff Writer

Facing significant loss of state funding and declining enrollment, Howard College trustees eliminated seven positions on the San Angelo campus Monday.

"Those are not decisions taken lightly and it grieves me to have to make that rec-

ommendation," Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said to trustees after making the recommendation to cut the positions from the upcoming budget.

Five faculty members — three in general studies, one in career technology

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3

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National Guard called in to Baltimore

By **TOM FOREMAN JR.**
 Associated Press

BALTIMORE — National Guardsmen fanned out across the city, police with riot shields blocked streets, and firefighters doused smoldering blazes Tuesday after looting and arson erupted in Baltimore following the funeral of a black man who died in police custody.

It was the first time the National Guard was called in to quell unrest in Baltimore since 1968, when some of the same neighborhoods were convulsed by violence after the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The rioting started in West Baltimore on Monday afternoon — within a mile of where Freddie Gray, 25, was arrested and placed into a police van earlier this month — and by midnight had spread to East Baltimore and neighborhoods close to downtown and near the baseball stadium.

At least 15 officers were hurt, including six who were hospitalized, police said.

There were 144 vehicle fires, 15 structure fires and nearly 200 arrests, the mayor's office said.

The streets were calm Tuesday morning. Residents came out to sweep up the broken glass and other debris. Firefighters could be seen spraying the burned-out shell of a large building.

"We're not going to leave the city unprotected," Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan vowed during a visit in the morning to a West Baltimore intersection that on Monday was littered with burning cars, a smashed police vehicle and broken glass.

Gray's death under still-mysterious circumstances has become the latest flashpoint in the nation's debate over the use of police force against black men.

The rioting was the worst such violence in the U.S. since the turbulent protests that broke out over the death of Michael Brown, the unarmed black 18-year-old who was

See **GUARD**, Page 3

Repair work to result in low water pressure

Contractors with the City of Big Spring are replacing water valves, beginning Wednesday, April 29, 2015. The following areas will be affected:

- Birdwell Lane east to Baylor Blvd. and;
- Kentucky Way north to I-20 South Service Road

Persons in this area will experience little to no water pressure. Contractors will continue working until all repairs are complete.

For more information, call 264-2501.

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Obituaries

Martha Crittenden



Martha Nixon Crittenden, 87, of Cedar Park, formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, April 24, 2015, in a Cedar Park nursing home. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

She was born Jan. 6, 1928, in Sutherland Springs, Texas and married John D. Nixon Jr. in March 1949. He preceded her in death in March 1963. She then married Morris Crittenden in May 1984 and he preceded her in death in May 2007.

Martha retired from the Veterans Administration Medical Center in 1989 as the secretary in surgical services.

Survivors include two daughters, Luan Kessler and husband, Terry, and Susan Dickens; two sisters, Lela Phillips and husband, Bob, and Mary McCracken and husband, Mel; five grandchildren, Sherry Robinson and husband, Patric, Clinton Kessler, Jewelee Merka and husband, Ken, Joshua

Dickens and wife, Shawna, and Jonathan Dickens; eight great-grandchildren, Tessa Williamson, Tobi and Tara Robinson, Kristi and Kylie Stafford, Hayli Merka and Andrew and Ashton Dickens; and two great-great-grandchildren, Karson and Krislyn Elder.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Asa and Mattie Toerck Hobbs.

The family would like to say a special thanks to everyone who loved and took such good care of our mother at New Hope Manor in Cedar Park, Texas. Not only did she develop good friendships with the other residents there, she loved each and every one that took care of her on a daily basis. Her quality of life for the past few years was so much better because of them. Thank you! Luan and Susan and families

The family suggests memorials to the American Kidney Fund, 6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 1010, Rockville, MD 20852-3914 or to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Police/Sheriff/Fire/EMS reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- GARY MONTEL STEPHENSON, 53, of 1213 Ridgeroad Drive was arrested on a warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- RICHARD HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ, 50, of 805 E. 15th St. was arrested on charges of false alarm or report.
- FORREST HUNTER MCJUNKIN, 20, of 2706 Carol Drive was arrested on two warrants from other agencies.
- RICHARD WAYNE RAINS, 48, of 1207 Settles St. was arrested on a warrant for another agency.
- IDENTITY THEFT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
- THEFT was reported in the

3600 block of W. Highway 80 and the 1100 block of Sycamore St.

• UNWANTED SUBJECT was reported in the 900 block of N. Runnels St.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 77 inmates at the time of this report.

• GARY MONTEL STEPHENSON, 53, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.

• RICHARD WAYNE RAINS, 48, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for two counts of issuance of a bad check.

• RICHARD HERNANDEZ

MARTINEZ, 50, was booked by the BSPD on charges of false alarm or report.

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

• MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 400 block of 11th St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans St. No transport was reported.

• MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• FALSE ALARM was reported in the 700 block of 11th St. No action taken.

Take Note

• Most offices at the Howard County Courthouse building will be closed for business on Monday, May 4 2015, because of software updates and conversions. The law enforcement center, emergency services and tax offices will not be affected and will remain open for business.

• On Saturday, May 2, Papa John's Pizza, 2503 S. Gregg, will hold a veteran's appreciation day from 10 a.m. until midnight. All active duty military and veterans will receive 20 percent off on all menu items. In addition, half of the business' sales that day will go to assist local veterans.

• The "Cancer Throat Punchers" Relay for Life team will hold a "Burlap and Bites" fundraiser from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Washington Elementary. For more information, contact Nichole Negron at 432-296-8570.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May 2014 and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for the fall 2015. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is May 1, 2015. For more information or for an application form, visit www.westtexas.com. The deadline for current A&M students is June 1.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center, along with several other local agencies, will host a Child Abuse Awareness Prevention Ceremony Thursday at 6 p.m. There will be free hot dogs, provided by BBVA Compass bank, local statistics and a proclamation read by the mayor. Please join us as we bring awareness to this growing issue.

• Healthy YOU! Kick-off event has been scheduled for May 7 at the Big Spring County Club. There will be a free health fair from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale now for \$40 a person or \$350 a table. Please RSVP to Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4699 or Anita Cline at 432-268-4721 to purchase tickets.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous will hold a 4th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, May 9, 2015, from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will include food, fun and fellowship along with multiple speakers throughout the day. The group meets at Spring Town Plaza (near Attitudes Hair Salon, down from Bealls).

• The time period to transfer into the Forsan ISD system as a student for the 2015-2016 school year has begun. Students entering grades pre-kindergarten through fifth grade must have their transfer application to the school by May 29. Students in grades sixth through 12 have until July 30. Guidelines, timelines and applications are available at each Forsan ISD campus.

• SOS - Save Our Symphony. The Big Spring Symphony Association needs funds to help pay off debts occurred in this past symphony season. Contributions can be made to the Big Spring Symphony, P.O. Box 682, Big Spring, Texas 79721 or can be directly deposited to the symphony's account at Western Bank, 607 S. Scurry St. For more information, contact Symphony President Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674.

• For information on Garett Parrish's condition, or to post messages of support, visit his Facebook page (#GPSTRONG).

Parrish was seriously injured in a recent sledding accident.

• An account has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank for Briana Mendoza to help with medical cost. Briana was recently diagnosed with cancer.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every second Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street

• The All-School CHS Reunion date has been scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2015. This year's focus will be on recognizing and honoring Coahoma ISD teachers from throughout the years.

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified, F2K fills a sack of food to send home each Friday during the school year. You can help. Volunteers are needed and donations can be sent to Food2Kids - Big Spring, P.O. Box 1641, Big Spring 79721. Find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/Food2Kids

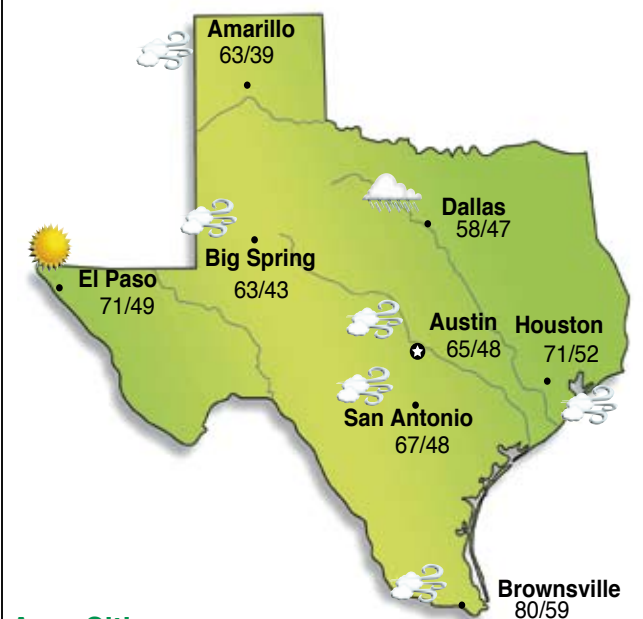
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 4/29	Thu 4/30	Fri 5/1	Sat 5/2	Sun 5/3
63/43	78/48	87/55	91/60	91/62
Chance of a morning shower. Overcast skies and windy. High 63F.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	Sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise: 7:02 AM Sunset: 8:24 PM	Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 8:25 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:27 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:27 PM



Texas At A Glance



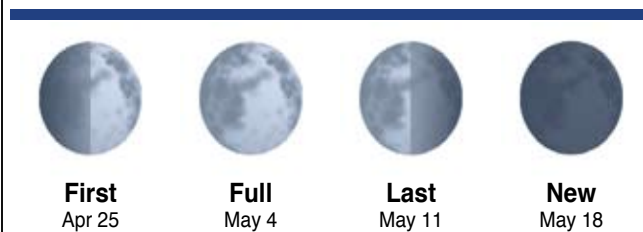
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	59	44	rain	Kingsville	76	53	windy
Amarillo	63	39	windy	Livingston	64	48	cloudy
Austin	65	48	windy	Longview	56	44	rain
Beaumont	68	50	cloudy	Lubbock	65	39	windy
Brownsville	80	59	windy	Lufkin	64	49	rain
Brownwood	57	42	rain	Midland	64	44	windy
Corpus Christi	75	55	windy	Raymondville	80	57	windy
Corsicana	59	46	rain	Rosenberg	69	50	windy
Dallas	58	47	rain	San Antonio	67	48	windy
Del Rio	69	49	windy	San Marcos	66	49	windy
El Paso	71	49	sunny	Sulphur Springs	56	45	rain
Fort Stockton	63	43	cloudy	Sweetwater	59	44	rain
Gainesville	59	44	rain	Tyler	57	46	rain
Greenville	57	45	rain	Weatherford	58	45	rain
Houston	71	52	windy	Wichita Falls	63	43	rain

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	69	50	pt sunny	Minneapolis	68	42	cloudy
Boston	61	47	pt sunny	New York	67	53	mst sunny
Chicago	58	39	sunny	Phoenix	86	61	sunny
Dallas	58	47	rain	San Francisco	63	49	mst sunny
Denver	65	40	sunny	Seattle	57	46	rain
Houston	71	52	windy	St. Louis	66	48	pt sunny
Los Angeles	85	63	sunny	Washington, DC	71	52	mst sunny
Miami	88	77	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 4/29	Thu 4/30	Fri 5/1	Sat 5/2	Sun 5/3
4	10	10	10	10
Moderate	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

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

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GUARD

Continued from Page 1

shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, last summer.

The city was under a 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. curfew beginning Tuesday, and all Baltimore public schools were closed.

"I understand anger, but what we're seeing isn't anger," Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake lamented. "It's disruption of a community. The same community they say they care about, they're destroying. You can't have it both ways."

State and local authorities pledged to restore order but found themselves responding to questions about whether their initial response had been adequate.

Rawlings-Blake waited hours to ask the governor to declare a state of emergency,

and the governor hinted she should have come to him earlier.

"We were all in the command center in the second floor of the state House in constant communication, and we were trying to get in touch with the mayor for quite some time," the governor said at a Monday evening news conference. "She finally made that call, and we immediately took action."

Asked if the mayor should have called for help sooner, however, Hogan replied that he didn't want to question what Baltimore officials were doing: "They're all under tremendous stress. We're all on one team."

Rawlings-Blake said officials thought they had gotten the unrest under control, "and I think it would have been inappropriate to bring in the National Guard when we had it under control."

The rioters set police cars and buildings on fire, loot-

ed a mall and liquor stores and threw rocks, bottles and bricks at police in riot gear. Police responded occasionally with pepper spray.

The governor said he was temporarily moving his office from Annapolis to Baltimore on Tuesday.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch, in her first day on the job Monday, said she would send Justice Department officials to the city in coming days.

Maj. Gen. Linda Singh, adjutant general of the Maryland National Guard, said up to 5,000 troops would be available for Baltimore's streets.

"We are going to be out in massive force, and that just means basically that we are going to be patrolling the streets and out to ensure that we are protecting property," Singh said.

Col. William Palozzi, superintendent of the state police, said a request for up to 500 additional law enforce-

ment personnel in Maryland had been sent. Palozzi added that the state is putting out a request for up to 5,000 more law enforcement personnel from around the mid-Atlantic region.

Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings and about 200 others, including ministers, tried unsuccessfully to quell the violence at one point Monday night, marching arm-in-arm through a neighborhood littered with broken glass, flattened aluminum cans and other debris.

As they got close to a line of police officers, the marchers went down on their knees. They then rose to their feet and walked until they were face-to-face with the police officers, who were in a tight formation and wearing riot gear.

But the violence continued, with looters later setting a liquor store on fire and throwing cinderblocks at firetrucks as firefighters labored to put

out the blazes.

Gray was arrested April 12 after running away at the sight of police, authorities said. He was held down, handcuffed and loaded into a van. Leg cuffs were put on him when he became irate inside. He died of a spinal cord injury a week later.

Authorities said they are still investigating how and when he suffered the injury — during the arrest or while he was in the police van, where authorities say he was riding without being belted in, a violation of department policy.

Six officers have been suspended with pay while the investigation continues.

The riot came amid a national furor over the deaths of several black men at the hands of police — from the Brown case in Ferguson to the chokehold death of Eric Garner in New York and the shooting of Walter Scott in North Charleston, South Carolina.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

education and another in the health science field — did not have their contracts renewed because of the cut. The other two positions were already vacant at the time, Sparks said.

Faculty position on the Big Spring and Lamesa campus will not be affected, Sparks said.

"That's just the normal trend; unfortunately, it is not an easy trend," said HC Trustee Murray Murphy who served as Big Spring ISD superintendent during the early 2000s before his retirement. "It's easy to add (positions) but it's difficult to take away, but I am sure your administration has taken the steps necessary to make sure of this decision. It is probably a good step from a budget sense."

Although the legislative appropriations process is still ongoing,

figures coming out of Austin projects San Angelo may lose from \$1 million to \$1.32 million in state funding over the next two years, Sparks said.

Although college officials remain optimistic as community college presidents across the state are lobbying legislators to place \$130 million more in the appropriation package, Sparks told trustees the college still sees the state funding numbers coming in about the same once the state house/senate negotiation process finishes.

At this point in budget process, the San Angelo campus is projected to have between a \$100,000 to \$259,000 loss of funds, factoring the current cuts and tuition hike and fees trustees made at their March meeting. The Big Spring campus is projected to be \$100,000 in the black to \$219,000 in the red.

House and Senate

committee was expected to have its first meeting today for negotiations on the allocations bill. Sparks did warn the college doesn't know how employee benefits will be impacted in the currently funding discussion. In the recent past, the college has dealt with a \$1 million cut in employee benefits.

Legislators are expected to wrap up the session by June 1.

Howard College has seen a decline in student enrollment the last few years as the West Texas economy has rapidly made gains from the recent oil boon. This occurred after historic increases in enrollments across the state, including at both the Big Spring and San Angelo campuses.

However, it was a mixed blessing for community college, Sparks said. The downturn in the economy left the state unable to provide the funds for the in-

creased student work load. Student enrollment figures at the Big Spring campus are still above the 2007 numbers, the year before the nation's economy was hit with a recession, Sparks said. Enrollment numbers at San Angelo are at the 2007 mark.

"At this point, as the oil industry stabilizes, we see individuals choosing to come back and enrollment in college," she said "There is still a great need for health care professional. It is a growing field."

In other business, trustees:

- Approved a \$281,000 bid for general construction work on the South-West Collegiate Institute

for the Deaf Village, a project to create at least three pods consisting of five 900 square-foot cottages. Each cottage will house a family or four students. The project is funded through SWCID foundation, from the Permian Basin Foundation and private donations. The cottages will replace manufactured housing currently being used on the campus. The project will be the culmination of a three-year process to provide adequate housing at

- Approved bids totally approximately \$218,000 to update technology in math and English classrooms at SWCID to provide classroom time via the internet to students

attending community college across the state of Texas. "We've been working to advance the technology at SWCID so we can deliver courses across the state of Texas to individuals at other community colleges through the virtual college of Texas program in the direct language (sign language) of the students," Sparks said. Currently, SWCID is offering a pilot course — biology — with this real-time technology. Next semester, the college plans to add English and Math courses available.

Contact Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

che Trail where, if someone wants to consume alcohol, they can go there, but do we really want to have alcohol at a family park near where children are playing?"

District 2 Councilwoman Carmen Harbour was quick to counter McLellan's argument by saying the areas of Comanche Trail Park where alcohol consumption is allowed are not exactly isolated.

"At the Old Settlers

Pavilion, there's an area right next to that where children play," Harbour said. "Comanche Trail Park is a family park and people still have beer nearby."

Eventually, the council followed a suggestion by Councilman Bobby McDonald and tabled the idea until city officials could obtain feedback from people living in the vicinity of

Andries Park.

Tonight, the council will hold a public hearing on this issue.

In other business, the council will consider:

- An ordinance prohibiting animals at the city amphitheater during community events.
- An ordinance allowing for extra funds for the construction of T hangars at the city airport.
- Application for a Bureau of Justice assistance grant.

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

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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DAILY PRAYER

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Amen

Go positive, Republicans

A number of GOP candidates are engaging in Hillary-bashing over allegations that she used her office as secretary of state to help her husband's business dealings, prop up speech-making fees and grease the path for foreign governments to donate massive amounts of money to the Clinton Foundation. But here's a warning to my friends on the presidential campaign trail: Bashing Hillary is only going to make the Republican Party look mean-spirited and snarky. It's no road to the White House.

I would suggest laying off Hillary and instead showing us what you got in the way of economic-growth policies that will foster 4 to 5 percent growth and maybe another 12 million jobs. The GOP needs a positive growth message, along with a strong national-security message, because the party needs a positive rebranding and a positive vision. But Hillary-bashing will drown that out.

Snarking your way to the presidency is not likely to happen. And if you go that route, slamming Hillary at every turn, you're going to lose female voters, minority voters and young voters — constituencies that the GOP desperately needs to win. It might even help Hillary.

As far as the Clintons' alleged cash-raising misdeeds — what the New York Post has dubbed “quid pro dough” — it looks like the whole rest of the world is jumping on the case. It's being covered by no less than the New

York Times and Washington Post, a bunch of liberal magazines and of course the conservative Wall Street Journal. You've got Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times reporter Jo Becker working the story daily. She's doing her own research and not relying solely on Peter Schweizer, the author of the forthcoming “Clinton Cash” book that set this latest Clinton scandal in motion. I think Schweizer is a very good investigative reporter. We'll have to see if he has connected all the dots when his book hits shelves on May 5. But when you have the liberal media and its top reporters digging deep, there's really no need for the GOP presidential candidates to pile on.

If the charges against Hillary and Bill are true, if the evidence is there and if laws have been broken, why not let the Clintons hang themselves? They won't need any help.

And the country already knows that Hillary Clinton lacks good judgment. Whether it's the secret email servers, or the Colombian trade agreement, or the Russian uranium deal, polls say Americans are losing confidence in her ability. Bill and Hillary have long been branded with ethical miscues and moral lapses.

Watching the GOP presidential candidates at last week's New Hampshire Republican Leadership Summit, there was frankly very little discussion of growth. While several candidates have tax-reform plans, both good and bad, there were no specifics in the Granite State. Ditto for rolling back regulations, replacing Obamacare or immigration reform. I also don't recall a discussion of free trade, even though there's a big trade bill coming up

in the House and Senate. And I heard no mention of a stable and sound dollar.

I did hear this idea of not wanting to go back to yesterday, contrasting the past with the future. As Newsmax founder Christopher Ruddy put it, it's a clever rhetorical device, but it does not present real solutions. In fact, there are quite a few pretty good ideas from the past.

For example, Ronald Reagan slashed marginal tax rates and promoted a sound dollar.

Democrat Jimmy Carter, believe it or not, started a deregulation movement that Reagan continued on his first day in office by decontrolling oil prices. John F. Kennedy cut tax rates in the 1960s and launched a huge economic boom. And if you go way back to 1776, there's Adam Smith, the man who launched free-market economics with his book “The Wealth of Nations.” That was a long time ago, but that shouldn't mean we neglect his principles.

What the Republican Party needs is a clear and strong vision for getting the American economy out of the doldrums. If you want to nail Hillary, slam her issues and policies. Looks like she's going Obama Third Term: redistribution, not growth.

Go positive, GOP. Go for positive economic- and foreign-policy solutions.

That's a winner.

To find out more about Lawrence Kudlow and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Gingrich is right

Newt Gingrich recently recalled the bipartisan deal that doubled the budget for the National Institutes of Health — with fondness. This was about 20 years ago, when Bill Clinton was president, and Republicans under Gingrich had just taken over Congress.

Never a member of the Gingrich fan club, I nonetheless join other liberal-minded observers in hailing the former House speaker not only for not disowning that investment in national greatness but for urging an encore. Gingrich, bless his black little heart, wants the budget doubled again.

About the National Institutes of Health: The NIH is the U.S. agency in charge of biomedical and health-related research. It has 27 institutes and centers, each specializing in its own area — cancer, eyes, allergies, the list goes on.

The NIH has about 6,000 of its own scientists and provides grants for about 300,000 research workers across the country. Its in-house research makes it the biggest biomedical research facility in the world. The list of NIH triumphs

is long. More than a century ago, its scientists developed a diphtheria antitoxin. More recently, they won the international race to crack the genetic code. They've fostered vaccines against hepatitis.

So why has funding for NIH been flat since 2003? Because conservative ideologues, in their quest to cut government, don't much care to distinguish between things that should be cut and things that should not be cut.

The NIH budget over the past 12 years has, in effect, fallen 20 percent. Seeing as over 90 percent of the money goes directly to research, that's a huge hit on America's ability to compete in the biomedical sciences. No, the private sector won't pick up the slack. This is basic research.

Gingrich makes the case that federal support for medical research is a moral, as well as financial, issue.

Good man, and guess he's not running for president this time around.

But the financial piece of the argument is not insignificant. The biggest item in the federal budget is health care. Medicare and Medicaid alone cost taxpayers over \$1 trillion a year. An investment in research could bring a high return in savings.

Gingrich offers this example: Over the next four decades, the cost of caring for Alzheimer's

patients is expected to jump 420 percent for Medicare and 330 percent for Medicaid.

“Delaying the average onset of the disease by just five years,” he writes, “would reduce the number of Americans with Alzheimer's in 2050 by 42 percent, and cut costs by a third.”

Note that these calculations don't assume a cure for Alzheimer's disease. That would be wonderful and could happen only if the dollars are spent on research. Today even a billionaire is fairly helpless against the ravages of Alzheimer's.

NIH-sponsored research could address diabetes, heart disease and cancer, as well.

Set aside the potential savings in health care dollars. These therapies can free patients from the grueling treatments now deemed the only hope for containing dread diseases.

Still, there remain ideologues in Congress who would shrink the NIH in service of some simple-minded belief that government is bad.

We should ask them to explain themselves.

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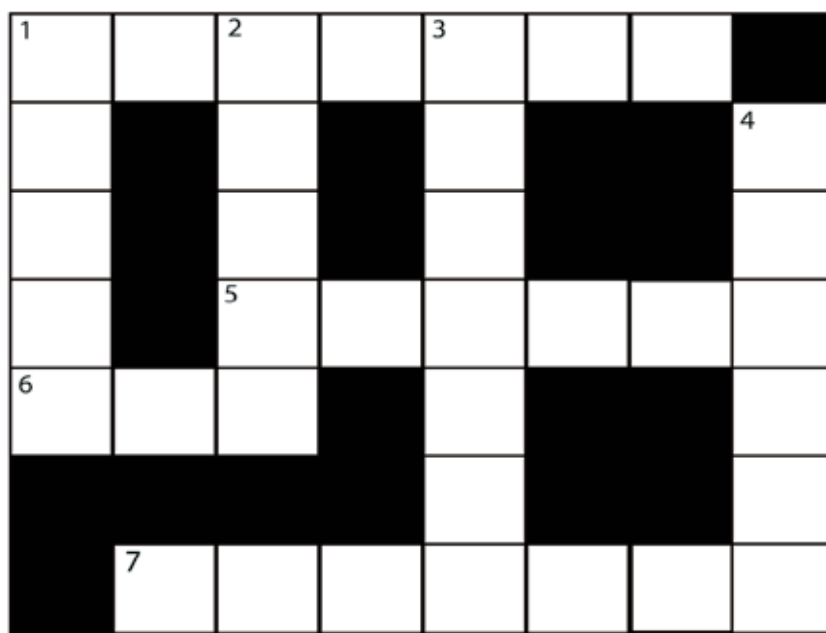
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Houses books
- 5. More polite
- 6. Short for "sister"
- 7. Taking in information

DOWN

- 1. Likes a lot
- 2. Things to read
- 3. Changed
- 4. Affectionate

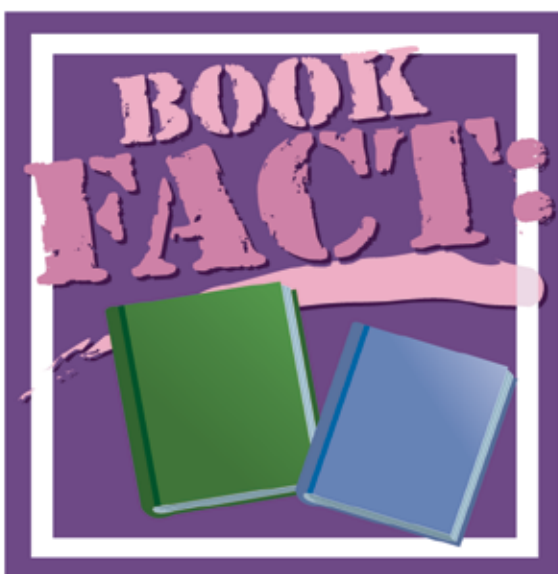
Down
1. Loves 2. Books 3. Amended 4. Caring

Across
1. Library 5. Kinder 6. Sis 7. Reading



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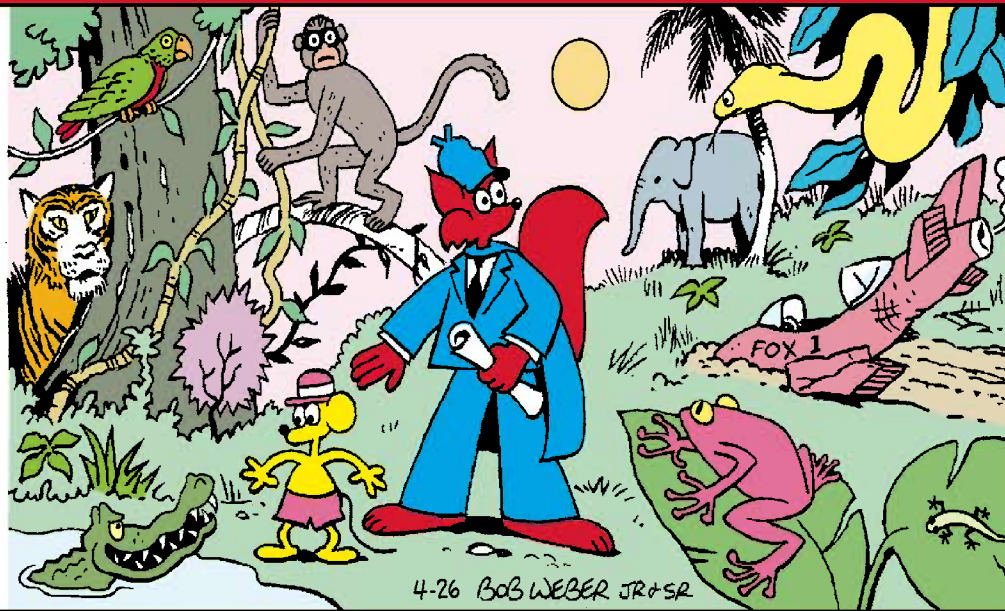
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ANSWER: STACK OF BOOKS

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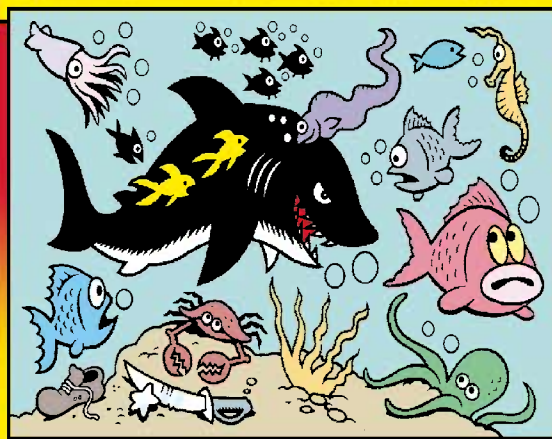
BY BOB WEBER JR.

A massive storm severely damaged the navigational instruments aboard Slylock Fox's jet. Slylock and Max were forced to ditch their aircraft in an unknown location. Max believes they are in Africa, but Slylock Fox disagrees. Why?



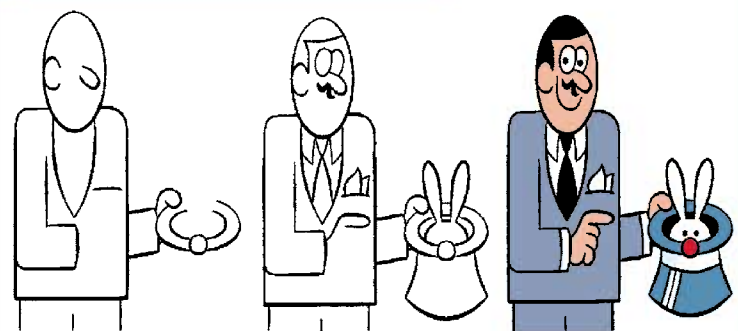
Solution -- Among the creatures in the crash area is a tiger. The big cat does not live in Africa. Tigers are found in Southeast Asia, India, China, Korea and Russia.

Spot six differences between these panels.



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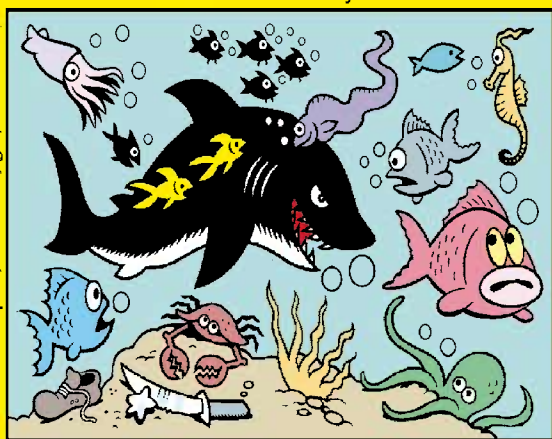


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Scientists believe the prehistoric shark Megalodon probably grew to a length of ...

- a) 25 ft.
- b) 45 ft.
- c) 60 ft.
- d) 100 ft

Answer - c)



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Bird Poop: Riders of the storm

Early during an April morning, his song suddenly punctuated the quiet. Having heard others, namely doves, cardinals, and thrashers voice their courting renditions, made me hopeful that this male, and the lady he attracted, would nest nearby.

Unable to see him in the interwoven mesquite limbs above led me to pick up the paper and walk back inside our house. Two days later, he landed on a limb close to our elevated water basins.

His bright red crown, throat, breast, and rump were a sharp contrast to the rest of his grayish-brown attire. He made other males look dull by comparison.

In the coming days, with his tail pointed upward and wings fluttering, he might announce his intentions to a female perched on a limb a few

feet away. He would sidle in her direction.

Her gray-brown wings, tail, and body, with dull streaking on her under parts, would reflect nature's camouflage to insure secrecy during nest building, incubation and the raising of her young. After accepting his proposal, she would begin with whatever nesting materials were available.

If they chose our property, the male would encourage his mate by sharing partly digested food from his crop. Having brought some pieces of broken limbs and dried wildflowers, he would sing as she carefully interlaced each piece.

Soon, twigs, grass stems, leaves and other debris were woven into a cozy nest that might even be used the following year.

When she finally ceased her creative effort, the nest would be about five inches in diameter and three inches deep. Their comings and goings would be an added treat to our side yard's environment.

After hearing and seeing the male house finch, I tried to antici-

pate what might happen next. His daily repertoire of cheerful songs would continue as the female incubated her eggs. Once they started to hatch, both parents would be very active in securing food.

The most critical time would be approaching, if the past were any indication. Imbedded in my memory was a storm on April 29, 1993. A clear day turned into a howling, turbulent event that destroyed numerous avian creations.

Blown from a tree, one nest held three infants when it landed on the ground. Pummeled by rain and hail, it lay undiscovered until a homeowner surveyed his yard. As he gathered broken branches, he uncovered the battered, but still intact abode.

With the ring of our phone came an urgent request. "Can we bring them to you?"

In spite of having been cold and wet, the nestlings had indicated by their peeping and gaping mouths that they were hungry.

After quickly warming them with the body heat in my hands, they

snuggled in layers of bedding warmed by a heating pad.

From the shape of their beaks and the construction of their nest, I assumed they were finches. Their parents would have been feeding them regurgitated food consisting of weed seeds and insects.

Designed for this type of diet, my formula was readily accepted by each baby bird. Cuddled together, they soon slept. It wouldn't be long before they once again extended their necks with mouths wide open.

As we discovered them anew with each feeding, we couldn't help but laugh. Typical, with their first few days of growth, the recently hatched had been covered with long, grayish-white filoplumes. Each of these tiny, delicate hair-like feathers stood erect and distinct from its neighbor. On these three little bodies, and especially on their heads, it had looked like static electricity at its worst.

With more casualties expected, we had arranged to meet Midge Erskine in Stanton. Her wildlife sanctuary in



Midland was far better equipped to handle newborns, and enabled us to accept other species affected by the storm.

Several days later, she called. Unfortunately, the smallest house finch had not been able to overcome the trauma it had suffered because of the storm. The remaining two appeared healthy.

Now into another spring comes the hope

that no violent storms will interrupt the courtship of the recently seen male house finch. If he only comes for water in the coming days, he will have enhanced our pleasure in discovering what is within our own neighborhood.

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

Players from politics, Hollywood mix it up at 'nerd prom'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two secretaries of state, Tea Leoni and Madeleine Albright, arrived arm in arm Saturday as a wide mix of Hollywood and Washington players gathered for the national "Nerd Prom."

The White House Correspondents' Association dinner has become a celebrity magnet, this year drawing some big names from television, sports and movies to rub shoulders with members of Congress and to hear the president speak. It has grown to become one of Washington's biggest events since its smaller origins in 1914 when journalists gathered to push for greater access to the president.

Leoni, who plays the nation's chief diplomat on TV's "Madam Secretary," was part of an entourage with Albright, the first female secretary of state.

The two joked that they trade notes on acting. They arrived with CBS' Bob Schieffer and Leoni's TV husband, Tim Daly. But Daly

claimed Albright as his own.

"She's my White House Correspondents' Dinner girlfriend," he said. "We met here, and we sat together one year, and now she's officially my date, so I'm a lucky guy."

The wide array of celebrity guests included actors from other popular political dramas as well, including Kerry Washington and Darby Stanchfield from ABC's "Scandal." The mix of politicians, the media and Hollywood celebrities was surreal, Stanchfield said.

"I've been taking notes, actually," she said.

Alfre Woodard, who plays the president on NBC's "State of Affairs," said she enjoys hearing President Barack Obama's humor because "with him, it comes out of nowhere and it's very dry, and he does have a wicked sense of humor."

Much of ABC's "Modern Family" cast also joined the party, along with would-be presi-

dential candidate and reality TV star Donald Trump.

Recent news was also the talk of the red carpet, including the TV special where Olympic athlete Bruce Jenner revealed on national television that he identifies as a woman. Laverne Cox, a transgender actress known for her role on "Orange is the New Black," said viewers who saw Jenner's story saw "a beautiful human being who cares deeply about their family, who's a parent and at 65 can no longer live a lie."

"I think that's someone everyone can relate to," Cox said. "Stepping and living into our truths is something all of us must do."

Politics was also on the mind for attendees as another presidential election approaches. Jane Fonda said she thinks it will be a tough campaign but that Hillary Clinton is strong, "and she can take it."

News anchor Katie Couric said she warned her husband the dinner would be a crazy

mob scene "full of a lot of great people, a lot of self-important people, some celebrities, and it's fun."

Gayle King of CBS This Morning said she doesn't understand why people call this the "nerd prom," though.

"I'm thinking 'where are the nerds?'" she said. "These are people who are at the top of their game who really enjoy meeting other people. It's great."

Olympians Tara Lipinski and Johnny Weir, who have become popu-

lar commentators for NBC's Olympic coverage, joined the peacock network for the Washington event for the first time and walked carefully on the red carpet. Lipinski said she was honored to attend, and Weir said the entire spectacle was "pretty amazing."

"We're just so excited to be here to celebrate being one with our media brothers and sisters and really celebrating the spirit of the night and the spirit of what we all do in entertain-

ing and educating the world," Weir said.

The featured performer for the night was Cecily Strong from "Saturday Night Live." She poked fun at many media organizations in the room, but when it came to NBC's Brian Williams, she stopped short and said she had "nothing — because I work for NBC."


When he finally took the stage, Obama joked it was the night when "Washington celebrates itself. Somebody's got to do it."



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Lady Steers to face Borger in bi-district round

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

After months of games, the Big Spring High School Lady Steers will kick off the most important part of their 2015 softball campaign on Friday.

The postseason. The Lady Steers, fresh off a win over Sweetwater that secured Big Spring the District 2-4A runner-up honors, the BSHS team will return to the field on Friday for a bi-district showdown against the Borger Lady Bulldogs. The game is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Lowrey Field in

Lubbock.

Big Spring enters the game as the odds-on favorite to claim the bi-district championship. The Lady Steers went 8-2 in the final 10 games of the season with their only losses in that stretch coming to state-ranked Snyder. Borger is the third-place team in the District 1-4A race.

The Lady Steers' matchup will highlight a busy weekend of games for teams in District 2-4A. In addition to Big Spring, Snyder, Sweetwater and Levelland will also be playing first-round playoff games on Friday.

Steers close out season tonight

The Big Spring High School Steers will try and claim the District 2-4A championship tonight when they close out the 2015 season with a matchup against the Lamesa Golden Tors.

Big Spring, 11-7 overall and in first in the 2-4A race, will begin play at 7 p.m.

The JV Black team will begin play at 4 p.m.

Snyder, the reigning dis-

trict champion, will kick off its postseason run with a one-game series against the Perryton Lady Rangers, the fourth-place team from District 1-4A.

Snyder's playoff game is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. on May 1 in Plainview.

Sweetwater and Levelland will also begin their playoff runs this weekend. Each will be competing in a best-of-three series starting on Friday.

Sweetwater, the third-place team from the 2-4A race, is scheduled to face Pampa at Rosenaw Field at Lubbock

Coronado starting at 6 p.m. Game 2 of the series will be played at noon on Saturday. A third game will start at 2 p.m., if needed.

Levelland will face off against District 1-4A champion Bushland starting on Friday afternoon, at 5 p.m. at Lubbock Christian University. Game 2 will be at noon on Saturday with a deciding Game 3, if needed, being played at 2 p.m.

The winner of the Big Spring-Borger bi-district playoff matchup will face either Fabens or Andrews in the second round.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Home finale ...

Several members of the Big Spring High School baseball program will be making their final home appearances tonight when the Steers close out the regular season with a game at Steer Park against Lamesa. Seniors making their final appearance will be (back row, left to right) Ryan Armstrong, Brycen Kiker, Gary Watkins, and Jordan Myers, (middle row) Victor Paniagua, Alex Franco, Matthew Yanez and Hunter Hill, and (front) managers Marissa Garcia, Alyssa Armentrout and Julianna Rodriguez.

Rangers complete trade for Hamilton

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Josh Hamilton knows he never was the player the Los Angeles Angels wanted and expected him to be.

"I worked my butt off to be that guy this year," Hamilton said. "They just didn't want that to happen for some reason."

The Angels traded Hamilton back to AL West rival Texas, a deal completed Monday less than halfway through a \$125 million, five-year contract for which Los Angeles will pay most of the \$80 million he is owed.

After a disappointing stay on the West Coast, where Hamilton struggled with his performance and injuries, and had a self-reported alcohol and cocaine relapse this off-season, the 2010 AL MVP is back home with the team for which he had his greatest success.

And he's ready to finally start his spring training.

"I've been working in the cage and doing all the things that I need to do to get prepared for a season and feel really good

as far as my mental state of mind and my physical well-being," Hamilton said during a news conference in Texas before flying to Arizona.

Still on the 15-day disabled list recovering from offseason shoulder surgery, and several weeks away from playing again in the majors, Hamilton reports Tuesday to the Rangers' spring training complex in Surprise. He will spend about 10 days in Arizona before another 10-14 days playing for Triple-A Round Rock.

"I feel good about our chances to get a productive player," said Rangers GM Jon Daniels. "This guy has been counted out a lot of times, and he sat out four years and came back and was the best player in the game."

Hamilton was an All-Star in each of his five seasons in Texas (2008-12), and part of the franchise's only World Series appearances in 2010 and 2011. He hit .305 with 152 homers and 506 RBIs in 647 games for the Rangers.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Great play ...

Kylee Keller makes a diving stop at second base during the Lady Hawks' win over El Paso Community College on Saturday. The HC women will begin play in the Region V West tournament on Friday.

HC draws bye in first round of Region V West tourney

The Howard College Lady Hawks will begin play in the Region V West Softball Tournament on Friday afternoon.

The Western Junior College Athletic Conference champion, the Lady Hawks will join Midland College, Odessa College, Luna Community College, Clarendon College and Western Texas College at the tournament, which gets under way on May 1 at the Rocky Johnson Softball Complex in Lubbock.

The Howard College Lady Hawks, by virtue of its No. 1 seed, will enjoy a bye in the first round.

Clarendon and Western Texas will open the tournament at 12:30 p.m. on Friday. The winner of that game will advance to play HC at 5:30 p.m.

In the other first-round game, Midland College will face Luna beginning at 3 p.m. The winner of that game will face off with Odessa College at 8 p.m.

Forsan wraps up 6-2A title with victories

The Forsan High School Buffaloes wrapped up the District 6-2A championship with two wins over Hermleigh in Forsan this past Saturday. Forsan was able to use a combination of 19 base hits, 24 walks and 15 hit batters to in the two games

Game 1 was a 18-1 win for the Buffaloes with Ethan Rocha going the distance on the mound for Forsan. The FHS standout gave up just one run on three hits as he held the Hermleigh offense at bay.

Kaleb Stanley lead the Buffaloes with two hits. Garrett Kligora, Ehren Hillger, Oscar Barraza, Jesse Cervantes, Blaze Yeater and Rocha each added another base hit for the Buffaloes.

Yeater led the Buffaloes with three runs batted in the first game.

Game 2 saw the Buffaloes pound out 12 hits en route to a 28-3 rout of Hermleigh.

Stanley and Hillger combined to throw a 4-hit victory for Forsan.

Hillger picked up the win. See BUFFS on Page 14

Rangers lose 3-1 to Mariners

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers could certainly use a bat like Josh Hamilton's, even if not at his MVP form of five years ago.

They will have to wait a few more weeks before Hamilton can bring a possible boost to the AL's worst-hitting team — .213 — and the only team still without consecutive wins this season.

Taijuan Walker allowed only an unearned run over seven innings, Nelson Cruz had an RBI single against his former team and the Seattle Mariners won 3-1 over the Rangers, who earlier Monday reacquired Hamilton from the Los Angeles Angels.

"I believe that these guys are, they're continuing to grind it out. They're obviously not getting the results that we want," manager Jeff Banister said. "We're talking about controlling the at-bats, controlling the emotions."

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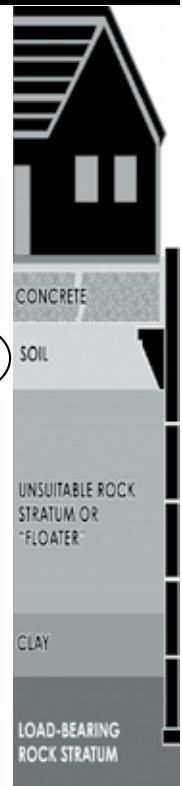
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HERALD

Legals

Legal Notice
Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beverage Cartage Permit; a Food and Beverage Certificate; a Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by R2CC, LLC dba Big Spring Country Club, to be located at 2401 Driver Road, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. Officers of aid limited Liability Company are: Russell P. , President; Clifford D. Fox, Chief Financial Officer; and Tina F. Earls, Secretary/Treasurer.
#8699 April 28 & 29, 2015

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Virgo Moon Rollercoaster Ride

First, the Virgo moon forms a square to Saturn and then later makes up for the tension with an auspicious angle to the Taurus sun. As a finale, the Virgo moon challenges our hopes and dreams with an opposition to Neptune. The result is something of an emotional rollercoaster, but, as it is with most rollercoasters, the ride will be over soon enough.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Full-grown people need full-grown love. You won't dignify childish antics with attention unless the perpetrator is actually a child. Adults acting childish will stop when they see that their behavior doesn't sway you in the least.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may seem that you have to do everything on your own, but you don't. If you're not accepting help, you're working too hard. You don't even have to ask for help. All you have to do is less, and others will fill in the gaps.

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). People usually live to the limits of their thinking. Exposures to new influences will help break through those limits. One of the most enjoyable ways to change your life is to fantasize your way into a different one.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Hollow and false encouragement will be experienced as such. One person can only encourage another insofar as they actually believe the aim can be accomplished. What do you believe is possible?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When your people count their blessings, they count you as one of them. Maybe it's the way you see the potential in them and envision a better future for them than the one they see.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's difficult not to project your patterns and desires onto those who are so much like you, but because you believe in the sacredness of each human being, you resist.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not sure how to deal kindly with a certain difficult individual. Start by dealing kindly with someone dear to you. "To love deeply in one direction makes us more loving in all others." -- Madame Swetchine

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Worry is like the late afternoon sun: It gives a long shadow small things. One of your more practical friends (perhaps a Virgo or Capricorn) will help you keep things in perspective.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Balancing solitude and sociability is tricky for you now because people keep asking you to do things with them, and you keep saying yes. That's why you have to schedule solitude on the books as you would any other date.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It may feel like the train is moving, you're already on board and there's no getting off. But that's not the way it really is. This is your life, time and schedule. If it oppresses you, change it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have reached a level of true friendship with some that allows you to stand comfortably together in silence. That doesn't mean you should let this happen too often, though. Conversational effort will be rewarded.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Niceties are the very least of what you expect from a good relationship. You want poetry. These high hopes and optimistic wishes will keep you

from landing in a rut.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 28). You have many advantages, and you play them this year. In May, you'll make money as a result of reestablishing contact with enthusiastic people. Your timing is impeccable in June, especially when it comes to love. You'll show up right when you are needed and will be appreciated and adored for it. Scorpio and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 14, 3, 33 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I am a Cancer born on July 11, 1978. For the past eight years, I have been happily single. At the beginning of the year, I decided to look for a serious romantic relationship and have "put myself out there" to no avail. I even tried the online dating thing. Am I destined to be single forever?"

Let's see... You spent eight years happily single, it's been eight months since you began looking for love, and you're already contemplating retirement?! Try looking for love closer to home -- better yet, around food, like bumping into someone at the farmer's market. For Cancer, putting yourself out there

is less about "out there" and more about "in here." You work your best love magic internally by preparing the ground for love to come, i.e., listening to your intuition about this or that guy and remaining dewy and come-hither. With Venus and Saturn joined in your chart, love will be lasting and true, eventually. However, you may need to work through self-doubts and confidence issues first. Also, this is a classic spring-winter combination, so be open to dating mature men.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jessica Alba will appear in the highly anticipated "Entourage" movie, one of her many projects that will be released in 2015. Alba was born under the Venus-ruled sign of the bull and has Mercury, Venus and Mars in Taurus, too, amplifying the sensual qualities of the sign. This is the chart of unstoppable determination wrapped in a lovely package.

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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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I believe my sister's husband, "Roy," is having an affair. He and I have been flirting for several years, and we've had several occasions where we could have been together, but because of my sister, we never have.

My sister's marriage has been troubled for years. The two of them live together, but in separate rooms. They haven't been intimate for ages. My sister also has some health issues. Roy has said many times that the two of them should be able to see other people. Recently, I saw Roy with some younger woman, and the way they were looking at each other, I knew they were more than friends. He has never looked at my sister that way.

We do a lot of things together as a family. During our most recent family weekend, Roy kept taking off alone. I believe

Roy knows that I'm aware of his affair, even though he hasn't said anything. I'm pretty sure my sister already knows and is hurting. She barely speaks to him and spends most of her time with her grandchildren. They both act as though nothing has happened.

Roy has cheated before. I don't want my sister to be hurt again, but I also don't want to make things awkward between the two of us. I think it's time for my sister to let Roy go and move on. How do I handle this? -- Hurting, Too

Dear Hurting: We think you are overly involved in your sister's marriage. You have no proof of anything, only suspicions, and the fact that you have flirted with your brother-in-law in the past raises questions about your motives now.

Your sister may be choosing not to confront

her husband's behavior, and that is up to her. Please try to be emotionally supportive of whatever path she takes to deal with this. Be a shoulder to lean on when she needs one. You don't have to do more.

Dear Annie: I have liked this boy for almost a year. When I first started hanging out with him, one of his friends told me he liked me, too. He eventually asked for my phone number at church, and I gladly handed it over.

But we soon stopped hanging out, which left me feeling hopelessly confused. My friends say I should just go for it and ask him for his number. What should I do? -- Hopeless

Dear Hopeless: This boy may have needed a lot of courage to ask for your number and didn't have enough in reserve to

actually call. Or he may have been teased by his friends and pretended that it was a joke to save face. Or he may be less interested than you hoped. There's no way to know unless you take the next step yourself. We know it's difficult, so imagine a negative result -- he turns down your request for his number. So? At least you'll know he's not the guy for you, and you can put it behind you. It's better than hanging in limbo indefinitely. Good luck.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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.

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

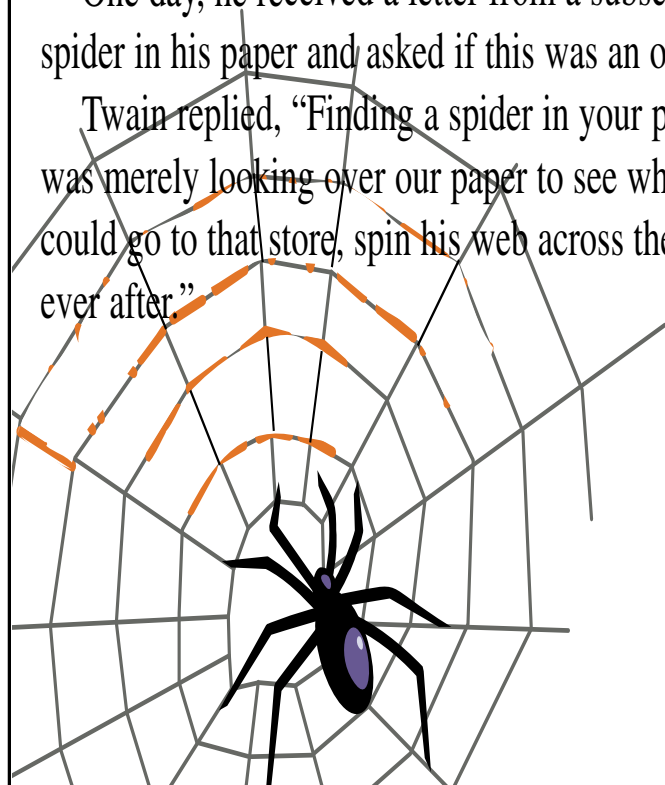
www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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."



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.

Call today
(432) 263-7331

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Life on the Edge

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦K 7 4 2
♥J 8 3
♦A 9 6 4
♣K 9

WEST
♦Q 10 3
♥10 4
♦J 8 5 2
♣Q J 8 3

EAST
♦A J 9
♥K 9 6
♦Q 10 3
♣6 5 4 2

SOUTH
♦8 6 5
♥A Q 7 5 2
♦K 7
♣A 10 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass
2♥ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — queen of clubs.
Anyone who has spent enough time at the bridge table can tell you that a defender's life is not an easy one. The slightest slip, no matter how inconsequential it may seem at a particular moment, can spell the difference between success and failure.

Take this case where West led the queen of clubs against four hearts. Declarer won with dummy's king, led a heart to the queen and, after it held, cashed the ace.

South then played the king of diamonds and a diamond to the ace, ruffed a diamond in his hand, cashed

the ace of clubs and ruffed a club in dummy. Next came another diamond ruff, on which East discarded a spade, carefully retaining his remaining club. East did this so that if declarer next put him on lead with the king of hearts, he could exit with a club and not be forced to yield a trick to dummy's king of spades.

All would have been well had West been paying closer attention to his knitting. When declarer did in fact lead his last heart after ruffing dummy's last diamond, West had to decide what to discard. He knew from the play thus far that declarer had started with five hearts, three clubs and two diamonds, and so had three spades left. West therefore elected to keep his three spades, discarding his last club, the eight.

Disaster! When East won the heart lead with the king and returned the six of clubs, South simply discarded a spade. East then had to yield the last trick to dummy's king of spades, handing South the contract.

Of course, if West had retained his "worthless" eight of clubs, he would have won East's club return and led a spade through dummy's king to defeat the contract. What had at the time seemed a harmless discard cost him 720 points and a great deal of grief in the post-mortem.

As we said, a defender's life is not an easy one.

Tomorrow: Two shots are better than one.

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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men Notic.	News CBS	Tele Noticias	News News	Seinfeld Called	Justice	Focus Business	CHiPs	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Godfather, Part II, Diane Keaton	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Being Mary Jane	Awards	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	La Sombra del	Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cerado	Newswest 9 at 6P	Seinfeld	McGee HaYesod	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Deadliest Catch	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Madea's Big Happy Family	Austin Girl	SportsCenter	2015 Draft Academy	
7:PM	Dancing With Stars	Amores con Trampa	Hell's Kitchen	NCIS (DVS)	Avenida Brasil (SS)	The Voice	Big Bang	Upd M:25	Day '60s Died	Griffith Griffith	Deadliest Catch	Bar Rescue	NBA Basketball: First Round: Teams TBA.		Movie: Zapped	SportsCenter Spec.	SportsCenter Spec.	
8:PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	Hasta el Fin	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Undate Big	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Last Days in Vietnam: American	Heroes	Deadliest Catch	Bar Rescue			Mickey	SportsCenter Special	SportsCenter Spec.	
9:PM	(:01) 20/20	Que te Perdona	Mod Fam	Person of Interest	El Señor de los	Chicago Fire	Family Big Bang			Taxi	Sons of Winter	Bar Rescue	NBA Basketball: First Round: Teams TBA.	Single Ladies	Jessie	2015 Draft Academy		
10:PM	News	Impacto	Cleveland	News	Tele Noticias	News	Conan	With Scholars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	(:01) Deadliest Catch	Bar Rescue		Single Ladies	Dog I Didn't	2015 Draft Academy	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto	How I Met	Letterman	Tierras de Reyes (SS)	Tonight Show	Family	Ministerios Vida	T. Smiley (Off Air)	McMillan and Wife	(:01) Sons of Winter	Bar Rescue		Wendy Williams	Good Good	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra	Un Refugio	TMZ	James Corden	El Señor de los	Seth Meyers	Conan	Upd		Gallery	Deadliest Catch	Bar Rescue	Inside the NBA	The Real	Deck Deck	NBA Combine	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paid	Alma	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Paid	(:07) Today	Movie: Duplicity, Tom	Light of the Southwest		Gallery	To Be Announced	Bar Rescue	NBA Basketball:	Being Mary Jane	Wizards Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"BUT DO YOU HAVE ONE WITH A GPS IN IT, SO IT CAN'T GET LOST?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

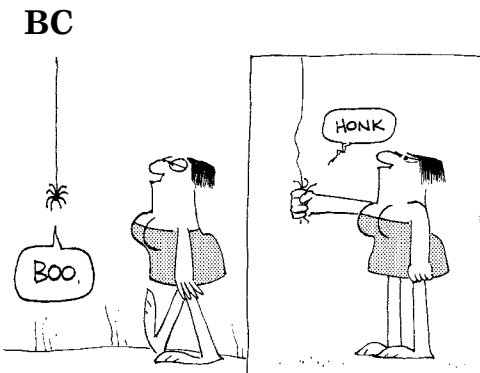


"What's the healthiest kind of donut?"

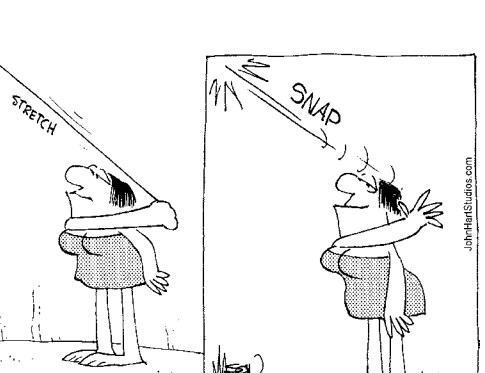
HAGAR



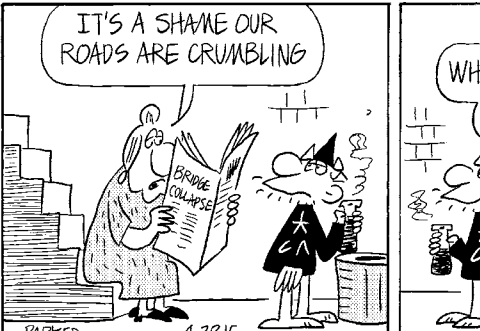
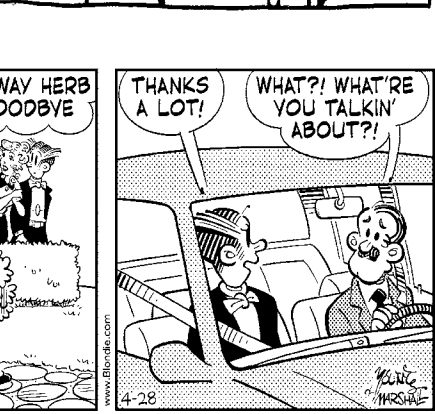
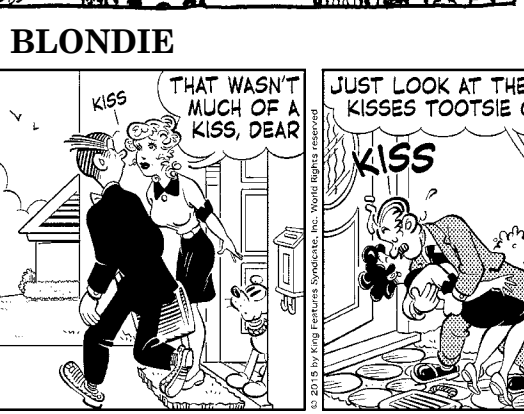
BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



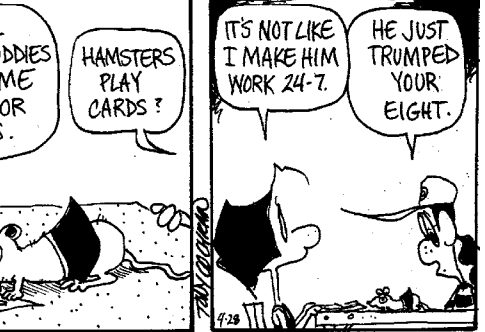
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, April 28, the 118th day of 2015. There are 247 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 28, 1945, Italian dictator Benito Mussolini and his mistress, Clara Petacci, were executed by Italian partisans as they attempted to flee the country.

On this date:

In 1758, the fifth president of the United States, James Monroe, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

In 1788, Maryland became the seventh state to ratify the Constitution of the United States.

In 1789, there was a mutiny on the HMS Bounty as rebelling crew members of the British ship, led by Fletcher Christian, set the captain, William Bligh, and 18 others adrift in a launch in the South Pacific. (Bligh and most of the men with him reached Timor in 47 days.)

In 1817, the United States and Britain signed the Rush-Bagot Treaty, which limited the number of naval vessels allowed in the Great Lakes.

In 1918, Gavriilo Princip, the assassin of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and the archduke's wife, Sophie, died in prison of tuberculosis.

In 1925, the International Exposition of Modern Industrial and Decorative Arts, which gave rise to the term "Art Deco," began a six-month run in Paris.

In 1940, Glenn Miller and his Orchestra recorded "Pennsylvania 6-5000" for RCA Victor.

In 1952, war with Japan officially ended as a treaty signed in San Francisco the year before took effect. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower resigned as Supreme Allied commander in Europe; he was succeeded by Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway.

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered U.S. Marines to the Dominican Republic to protect American citizens and interests in the face of a civil war. Barbra Streisand's first TV special, "My Name Is Barbra," aired on CBS.

In 1974, a federal jury in New York acquitted former Attorney General John Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans of charges in connection with a secret \$200,000 contribution to President Richard Nixon's reelection campaign from financier Robert Vesco.

In 1988, a flight attendant was killed and more than 60 persons injured when part of the roof of an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 tore off during a flight from Hilo (HEE'-loh) to Honolulu.

In 1990, the musical "A Chorus Line" closed after 6,137 performances on Broadway.

Thought for Today:

"It takes a long time to understand nothing."
Edward Dahlberg, American author and critic (1900-1977).

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Answer to previous puzzle

MESA	SCARE	CPAS
IRON	CORES	RILE
LANE	AURAS	ICON
DOG	COLLAR	ASKED
	DADDY	SLIP
ABHORS	DOES	OK
CLOTS	SEALS	COB
HATE	STATE	OKRA
EBB	AWARE	TWEET
SUBWAY	SANTAS	
TEEN	PEELS	
PITAS	HAND	CUFFS
ODOR	PASTA	PLEA
LEND	ASSET	TOES
LASS	THERE	OWLS

Newsday Crossword

WHAT'S COOKING by Billie Truitt

- Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 Dust or grime
 - 5 Gourmet cook
 - 9 Christmas carols
 - 14 Consumer
 - 15 Keep out of sight
 - 16 Turn out to be
 - 17 Additionally
 - 18 "Be that ___ may ..."
 - 19 Chunk of cheese
 - 20 Vent one's emotions
 - 23 Tree that sounds like "you"
 - 24 Mice, to owls
 - 25 Peas' container
 - 27 Response to "Am not!"
 - 30 Long-legged pink bird
 - 35 Sheep's sound
 - 36 Fanatic
 - 39 Biblical shipbuilder
 - 40 More important matters
 - 43 Norway's capital
 - 44 Self-sacrificing type
 - 45 Lincoln's nickname
 - 46 Casual top
 - 48 Choir voices
 - 50 Darlin'
 - 51 Stubborn beast
 - 53 Leno of TV
 - 56 Becomes anxious
 - 62 Go ___ for the ride
 - 64 Apple tablet computer
 - 65 Bubbly beverage
- DOWN**
- 1 Twofold
 - 2 Bit of land in the ocean
 - 3 Remainder
 - 4 Army units
 - 5 Irritate by rubbing
 - 6 ___ fit (tantrum)
 - 7 Prepare for publication
 - 8 Elaborate party
 - 9 Her first child was just born
 - 10 Hour after midnight
 - 11 Swirling current
 - 12 Winter Olympics sled
 - 13 Gush out
 - 21 Turned to ice
 - 22 Lack of interest
 - 26 T. Rex, for short
 - 27 Monastery head
 - 28 Lift up
 - 29 National bird
 - 30 Trifle (with), as an idea
 - 31 Misplaced
 - 32 Like skim milk
 - 33 Movie legend
 - 34 "Now I remember!"
 - 37 Royal fur
 - 38 Way over yonder
 - 41 "Gee whiz!"
 - 42 Singing syllables
 - 47 Wouldn't share
 - 49 Apartment-check recipient
 - 51 South Florida city
 - 52 Beneath
 - 53 Pickle containers
 - 54 Very much
 - 55 Meditative exercise
 - 57 Pie pans
 - 58 Dalmatian marking
 - 59 Weighty book
 - 60 Biblical garden
 - 61 Feel a need for
 - 63 Convent dweller

Thought for Today:
"It takes a long time to understand nothing."
Edward Dahlberg, American author and critic (1900-1977).

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22		23		
			24					25		26		
27	28	29				30	31			32	33	34
35				36	37	38				39		
40			41							42		
43						44					45	
46				47				48	49			
			50					51	52			
53	54	55		56		57	58			59	60	61
62			63			64				65		
66						67				68		
69						70				71		

Scoreboard

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	12	8	.600	—
Boston	11	9	.550	1
Tampa Bay	11	9	.550	1
Baltimore	9	10	.474	2½
Toronto	9	11	.450	3

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	14	6	.700	—
Kansas City	13	6	.684	½
Chicago	8	9	.471	4½
Minnesota	8	11	.421	5½
Cleveland	6	12	.333	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	12	7	.632	—
Los Angeles	9	10	.474	3
Seattle	8	11	.421	4
Oakland	8	12	.400	4½
Texas	7	12	.368	5

Los Angeles 12 7 .632 —
 Colorado 11 8 .579 1
 San Diego 11 10 .524 2
 Arizona 8 11 .421 4
 San Francisco 8 12 .400 4½

Monday's Games

Cincinnati 9, Milwaukee 6
 N.Y. Mets 3, Miami 1
 Atlanta 8, Washington 4
 Chicago Cubs 4, Pittsburgh 0
 Philadelphia 4, St. Louis 1
 Colorado 5, Arizona 4
 Houston 9, San Diego 4
 L.A. Dodgers 8, San Francisco 3

Tuesday's Games

Milwaukee (Lohse 1-3) at Cincinnati (Cueto 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
 N.Y. Mets (R.Montero 0-1) at Miami (Phelps 1-0), 7:10 p.m.
 Washington (A.Cole 0-0) at Atlanta (Teheran 2-1), 7:10 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (Locke 2-0) at Chicago Cubs (T.Wood 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
 Philadelphia (S.Gonzalez 0-0) at St. Louis (Wacha 3-0), 8:15 p.m.
 Colorado (K.Kendrick 1-2) at Arizona (Bradley 2-0), 9:40 p.m.
 Houston (R.Hernandez 0-2) at San Diego (T.Ross 1-1), 10:10 p.m.
 San Francisco (Bumgarner 1-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 1-1), 10:10 p.m.

leads series 3-1
 Golden State 109, New Orleans 98,
 Golden State wins series 4-0
 Memphis 115, Portland 109,
 Memphis leads series 3-0

Sunday, April 26

Cleveland 101, Boston 93, Cleveland wins series 4-0
 L.A. Clippers 114, San Antonio 105, series tied 2-2
 Washington 125, Toronto 94, Washington wins series 4-0
 Dallas 121, Houston 109, Houston leads series 3-1

Monday, April 27

Brooklyn 120, Atlanta 115, OT, series tied 2-2
 Milwaukee 94, Chicago 88, Chicago leads series 3-2
 Portland 99, Memphis 92, Memphis leads series 3-1

Tuesday, April 28

Dallas at Houston, 8 p.m.
 San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

BOXING
Fight Schedule
April 30

At Palms Casino Resort, Las Vegas (ESPN2), Mickey Bey vs. Denis Shafikov, 12, for Bey's IBF lightweight title.
 At Fantasy Springs Casino, Indio, Calif. (FS1), Mercito Gesta vs. Carlos Molina, 10, junior welterweights.

May 1

At Tokyo, Takashi Miura vs. Billy Dib, 12, for Miura's WBC junior lightweight title; Ryota Murata vs. Douglas Damiao Ataide, 10, middleweights.
 At The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas (truTV), Takahiro Ao vs. Raymundo Beltran, 12, for the vacant WBO lightweight title; Mikael Zewski vs. Konstantin Ponomarev, 10, welterweights.

May 2

At MGM Grand, Las Vegas (PPV), Floyd Mayweather vs. Manny Pacquiao, 12, for Mayweather's WBC-WBA Super World welterweight titles and Pacquiao's WBO World welterweight title; Vasyl Lomachenko vs. Galamier Rodriguez, 12, for Lomachenko's WBO featherweight title; Jesse Hart vs. Mike Jimenez, 10, for the vacant USBA super middleweight title; Christopher Pearson vs. Said El Harrak, 10, super welterweights.

Monday's Games

Kansas City 6, Cleveland 2
 Boston 6, Toronto 5
 N.Y. Yankees 4, Tampa Bay 1
 ChiSox at Baltimore, p.p.d., public safety
 Seattle 3, Texas 1
 Detroit 5, Minnesota 4
 Houston 9, San Diego 4

Tuesday's Games

Kansas City (Guthrie 1-1) at Cleveland (Bauer 2-0), 6:10 p.m.
 Toronto (Hutchison 2-0) at Boston (Buchholz 1-2), 6:10 p.m.
 Chicago White Sox (Samardzija 1-1) at Baltimore (U.Jimenez 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
 Tampa Bay (Odorizzi 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Whitley 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
 Seattle (Happ 1-1) at Texas (Detwiler 0-2), 8:05 p.m.
 Detroit (An.Sanchez 1-2) at Minnesota (Pelfrey 1-0), 8:10 p.m.
 L.A. Angels (Weaver 0-2) at Oakland (Gray 2-0), 10:05 p.m.
 Houston (R.Hernandez 0-2) at San Diego (T.Ross 1-1), 10:10 p.m.

BASEBALL'S TOP TEN
NATIONAL LEAGUE

	G	AB	R	H	Pct.
LeMahieu Col	19	65	5	27	.415
DGordon Mia	20	86	10	34	.395
AGonzalez LAD	19	76	18	29	.382
MCarpenter StL	18	75	15	28	.373
Holliday StL	17	55	7	20	.364
Pagan SF	20	80	6	28	.350
Kemp SD	21	84	16	29	.345
Rizzo ChC	18	61	15	21	.344
Galvis Phi	19	64	7	22	.344
Dickerson Col	19	68	13	23	.338

Home Runs

AGonzalez, Los Angeles, 7; Votto, Cincinnati, 6; Dickerson, Colorado, 5; Frazier, Cincinnati, 5; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 5; Guerrero, Los Angeles, 5; Harper, Washington, 5; Marte, Pittsburgh, 5; Stanton, Miami, 5; Upton, San Diego, 5.

Runs Batted In

AGonzalez, Los Angeles, 18; Stanton, Miami, 17; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 16; Hechavarria, Miami, 16; Dickerson, Colorado, 15; Votto, Cincinnati, 15; Frazier, Cincinnati, 14; Kemp, San Diego, 14; DanMurphy, New York, 14; Myers, San Diego, 14.

Pitching

Harvey, New York, 4-0; BColon, New York, 4-0; McCarthy, Los Angeles, 3-0; Cole, Pittsburgh, 3-0; Greinke, Los Angeles, 3-0; Wacha, St. Louis, 3-0; SMiller, Atlanta, 3-0.

TEXAS LEAGUE
North Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arkansas (Angels)	12	5	.706	—
Tulsa (Dodgers)	10	7	.588	2
NW Arkansas (Royals)	8	9	.471	4
Springfield (Cardinals)	5	12	.294	7

South Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Corpus Christi (Astros)	12	5	.706	—
Midland (Athletics)	9	8	.529	3
Frisco (Rangers)	6	11	.353	6
San Antonio (Padres)	6	11	.353	6

Monday's Games

Midland 9, Corpus Christi 8
 Northwest Arkansas 5, Springfield 3
 Frisco 8, San Antonio 6
 Arkansas 1, Tulsa 0, 12 innings

Tuesday's Games

Corpus Christi at Midland, 12 p.m.
 Springfield at Northwest Arkansas, 8:05 p.m.
 Frisco at San Antonio, 8:05 p.m.
 Tulsa at Arkansas, 8:10 p.m.

BASKETBALL
NBA Playoff Glance
FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Saturday, April 25

Brooklyn 91, Atlanta 83, Atlanta leads series 2-1
 Milwaukee 92, Chicago 90, Chicago

Dodgers' McCarthy out for season with injury

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Dodgers pitcher Brandon McCarthy will miss the rest of the season with a torn elbow ligament, creating a hole in the middle of the rotation for a Los Angeles team with World Series aspirations.

"This is kind of abrupt. But that's where your depth is tested, and we have a lot of viable options for that spot," manager Don Mattingly said Monday.

McCarthy left Saturday's game at San Diego in the sixth inning when he gave up his third home run of the night in an 11-8 victory. The slim right-hander had an MRI that revealed a torn ulnar collateral ligament, ending his first season with the Dodgers after four starts.

"To be fair, 31 years of use is a lot to ask for from a ligament," McCarthy

posted on Twitter.

He sounded resigned to having Tommy John surgery, which would likely sideline him for 12-18 months.

"It certainly looks one direction, but I don't want to stretch it out for several months and waste everyone's time. If this is what we need to get done, we're going to get it done — and done soon," McCarthy said. "I did everything I could to keep myself healthy. I felt fantastic for a year and a half."

McCarthy was 3-0 despite a 5.87 ERA and nine home runs allowed in 23 innings. The 10-year veteran, who turns 32 on July 7, signed a \$48 million, four-year contract with the Dodgers in December after spending last season with Arizona and N.Y. Yankees.

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NBA suspends 2 players

CLEVELAND (AP) — The NBA has suspended Cavaliers guard J.R. Smith and Celtics center Kelly Olynyk for their roles in incidents during a playoff game. The NBA announced the suspensions Monday night. Smith swung backward and smacked Boston's Jae Crowder in the face. Smith was ejected and Crowder sustained a sprained knee ligament. Smith will miss Games 1 and 2 of the Cavs' next series. Olynyk hurt Kevin Love, grabbing and pulling his arm. The league said Olynyk will serve his suspension in the first game of the 2015-16 regular season.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Barely missed ...
A young girl misses a pitch while batting during a game at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex. Games will be played tonight, weather permitting.

UFC champ booked in hit-and-run crash

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Champion UFC fighter Jon Jones turned himself into authorities Monday night in connection with a hit-and-run crash, officials said. Bernalillo County said that Jones was booked into the Metropolitan Detention Center and released a while later. An arrest warrant signed by police said

Jones faced a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident involving death or personal injuries. According to police, witnesses said that Jones ran from a crash Sunday that hospitalized a pregnant woman but quickly came back to grab "a large handful of cash" from the car. The accident occurred

in southeastern Albuquerque just before noon Sunday when the driver of a rented SUV ran a red light, police said. The driver, whom an off-duty officer identified as Jones, ran from the scene but then returned for the cash before fleeing again. "Witnesses stated he shoved the cash into his pants and ran north," the report said.

BUFFS

Continued from Page 7
going 3 2/3 innings. Braden East led the Buffaloes with two hits in the second game and Yeater had an inside-the-park home run. Hayden Tubb, Bryce Gartman, Cervantes, Rocha, Trevor Williams, Ryan Pear-

son, Kligora, Stanley and Hillger each added a hit for Forsan. Pearson, a senior, had 4 RBI, while Tubb, Yeater and Kligora each added three more for the Buffaloes. Blake Rosenbaum knocked in two runs and Oscar Barraza, Bryce Hergert, Stanley, East, Cervantes, Rocha, Williams and Hillger

each added another. Forsan will finish off its district schedule with a doubleheader against Westbrook in Forsan this afternoon. The first pitch will be at 4:30 p.m. Game 2 will follow 30 minutes after the conclusion of Game 1. Forsan is now 17-3 on the season and 10-0 in district play.

West-leading Astros beat SD, 9-4, for fourth straight victory

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Houston Astros continued their winning ways thanks to some timely home runs. Colby Rasmus homered and drove in three runs as the Astros beat the San Diego Padres 9-4 Monday night for their fourth straight victory. Jed Lowrie and Jason Castro also homered for the AL West leaders, who have won nine of 10. Jose Altuve had two hits and an RBI double against San Diego ace James Shields in the opener of a three-game interleague series. "It was good to see the resiliency of our ballclub," Astros manager A.J. Hinch said. Pat Neshek (1-0) retired the only two hitters he faced to earn the win. "I think if you play the

game as well as we have, you expect to win," said Lowrie, who left in the eighth inning after injuring his right thumb on a slide. The game was tied at 4 in

the eighth before Joaquin Benoit (3-1) yielded three runs as Houston took the lead for good. Rasmus and Chris Carter each drove home a run in the inning.

All Sports Banquet set for May 7

The Big Spring High School All Sports Banquet will be held on May 7 in the BSHS cafeteria. "Evening of the Stars," will start at 7 p.m.

Tickets to the banquet are \$10 each and will be on sale from April 27 to May 5 at the ATC and the front office at the high school.



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