

San Marcos Daily Record

111TH YEAR NO. 65

\$1.00

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

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CITY OF SAN MARCOS

City council to hear details of audit report for block grant funds

SHANNON WEST
STAFF WRITER

The San Marcos City Council is scheduled to hear a presentation from the firm, Deloitte and Touche, LLP, regarding the quarterly internal audit report related to the \$34 million Community Development Block Grant

- Disaster Recovery provided by the United States Housing and Urban Development Department. These funds were received based on city needs as a result of flooding that occurred in May and October of 2015.

The council will meet in regular session, at 6 p.m., Tuesday in city council

chambers at City Hall at 630 E. Hopkins St.

That funding was and is subject to numerous federal compliance requirements, among which are quarterly audits to evaluate compliance with national objectives.

According to its published agenda, the council will also discuss and possibly

take action on approving a \$264,074 bid by Blackrock Construction for the I-35S Water Improvements, known as the Clovis project. Work is planned that includes the replacement of a broken water main at Cottonwood Creek, located under a creekbed. Due to its location, city experts de-

termined that repairs were not feasible, requiring the main be rebuilt completely. The new construction will restore an existing loop in the water system that officials said should improve the resiliency of the overall system.

The council will then consider the approval of a \$49,500 Victim Coordi-

nator and Liaison Grant for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. This grant is meant to fund a position for the police department's Victim Services Program. Texas requires that each local law enforcement agency designate a crime victim liaison who is responsible

SEE CITY PAGE 2

HAYS COUNTY



From left, are Kaimi Matilla, and County Court at Law Judge Elaine Brown. Daily Record photo by Shannon West

New Mental Health Specialty Court takes collaborative way of assisting needy defendants

SHANNON WEST
STAFF WRITER

Those employed with the Hays County mental health specialty court are working together to ensure that the program participants are receiving all of the help they need. According to a packet provided on the courts website, it is a "specialized treatment court designed to address the unique needs of individuals with mental health, substance use and intellectual/developmental disability disorders who are also facing pending legal charges.

The court is in its infancy, having started ap-

proximately nine months ago, but there are currently nine people in the program, with two more scheduled to join in the next few weeks. There will be a graduation ceremony this summer for those that successfully complete it. "We want to see them succeed, so we are going to do, as a team, everything that we can to make that happen," said Kaimi Matilla, a licensed social worker and the mental health court administrator.

Matilla said she ensures court participants receive the necessary care and

SEE COURT PAGE 3

SMCISD

STEAMing up



The variety of educational opportunities associated with STEAM were on display Saturday at the annual fair. The San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and National Honor Society students brought time and expertise to the event. Clayton Odam, SMCISD coordinator of CTE in the digital gallery and David Underwood, SMCISD coordinator of Fine Arts, worked together to bring the STEAM Fair magic to life. Photos by San Marcos CISD



TEXAS LEGISLATURE

To be safe, Texas Senate again approves political district maps

ALEXA URA
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

A year and half after it was first approved, the Texas Senate on Monday voted to rubber-stamp a map setting the chamber's political districts, which increased the Senate's Re-

publican majority and undercut the political power of voters of color.

The boundaries of the state's political maps were redrawn in 2021, but the 23-7 vote was a procedural step to meet legal requirements. The state constitution requires legis-

lative districts be redrawn in the first regular session after the results of the decennial census are published. But the delays of the COVID-19 pandemic pushed the release of the 2020 census results past the end of the last regularly scheduled session in

May 2021.

Lawmakers redrew the state's political maps to incorporate a decade's worth of explosive population growth later in the year during a specially called legislative session. The districts were then used during the 2022 elections.

State Sen. Joan Huffman, the Houston Republican who led the chamber's redistricting process in 2021, described the vote on Senate Bill 375 as a "culmination" of the chamber's redistricting work, including meeting constitutional obligations.

No members of the Senate submitted proposed amendments to the map. Several changes proposed by members of the public were rejected, Huffman said, because they did not align with her stated

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SOCIAL



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GAS PRICES

UNLEADED \$2.83
DIESEL \$3.38
Sam's Club
*as of Monday, prices subject to change.

TODAY
Cloudy

WEATHER

90° 63°

TONIGHT
Chance of T-storms

Daily Record



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Beekeepers say expect possible sting from bill that proposes what is, isn't real 'Texas honey'

Jayme Lozano-Carver
TEXAS TRIBUNE

State lawmakers are moving forward with a bill that could potentially land Texas honey producers in jail for mislabeling their products, creating a buzz in the beekeeping community.

House Bill 590, authored by Rep. Ernest Bailes, R-Shepherd, states that a product cannot be labeled as “Texas honey” unless the product consists “exclusively” of honey produced from apiaries in the state.

While the concept of the bill seems simple, Texas beekeepers say it could sting producers and their livelihood. According to Texas A&M’s AgriLife agency, Texas contributed 8.9 million pounds of honey — worth \$17 million — to the national honey production.

“There’s a lot of things out there we need to address in labeling honey; this one is just not quite where it needs to be,” said Dodie Stillman, president of the Texas Beekeepers Association.

Running one of Texas’ 157,000 honey-producing colonies can get complicated. Weather conditions could make it difficult to produce enough honey for a business, so some will create a Texas-heavy blend with honey from other states. Relabeling products can get expensive or even lead to a loss for some producers. Beekeepers on



In San Marcos, with so much in bloom, one sees the bees out in force. Statewide, beekeepers are watching House Bill 590 which codifies just what can be called Texas honey. Daily Record photo by Barbara Audet

border territories can have nectar DNA that inevitably blends between the two states.

But even with all the room for error, HB 590 would effectively make mislabeling Texas honey products a class B misdemeanor and potentially send a producer to jail for up to 180 days.

In an effort to soften the legislation, Rep. Cecil Bell Jr., R-Magnolia, proposed an amendment that would allow honey producers to label their product “made in Texas” as long as it consisted of “predominantly” Texas honey.

“This bill is not a bad bill

inherently, but I do think if we don’t pay attention to what’s going on, there may be some consequences,” Bell said during a recent debate on the House floor.

Rep. Brian Harrison, R-Midlothian, spoke in support of Bell’s amendment, explaining how his constituents could also be affected because of how the bill is tailored.

“How many of our constituents do you think we should subject to ... Texas prisons, who have done nothing more than make and sell honey?” Harrison asked.

Bell answered, “If we have one in jail, that’s

more than we need to have in jail for producing Texas honey.”

The amendment ultimately failed.

The bill’s genesis came from a constituent in Bailes’ district. The state’s beekeepers association is neutral on the bill, an association spokesperson said.

“I think everybody agrees helping consumers know where their honey is from is a good idea,” said Leesa Hyder, the association’s legislative committee leader. “The question is, does this bill really do that?”

Hyder added there’s

also a concern about how producers can prove their honey was made in the boundaries of the state.

Hyder said there was not time or opportunity for the association to address the problems with the bill — such as potential for consumer confusion, legal battle for producers and the uncertainty on whether this will even help make Texas honey more profitable. The association will remain neutral on the bill as it moves over to the Senate in coming weeks.

During the debate, Bailes compared it to his ranching business in defense of the bill.

“If we have a drought, and I have cattle grazing on grass, for grass-fed beef, and I start feeding them grain, it’s no longer grass-fed beef,” Bailes explained. “That’s as simple as it gets. We are better than simply saying it should be ‘predominantly’ and dilute ourselves for the almighty dollar.”

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texas-tribune.org/2023/04/03/texas-beekeepers-new-labeling-law/>.

MAPS FROM PG. 1

redistricting objectives, including “partisan considerations,” equalizing population across the districts and preserving communities of interest.

The Senate map is one target of broad federal litigation challenging how the Republican-controlled Legislature used the once-a-decade redistricting process to draw maps solidifying the GOP’s political dominance while weakening the influence of voters of color.

A large collection of individual voters and organizations representing voters of color argue Texas lawmakers discriminated — in some cases intentionally — against them. Texans of color were behind 95% of the population growth captured in the 2020 census, but their power was actually diminished in the maps when measured by their ability to meaningfully affect elections. They are joined by the U.S. Department of Justice in their legal challenge.

The new maps for Con-

gress and the Texas House shrink the number of districts in which eligible Hispanic and Black voters can realistically sway election outcomes. In the Senate map, Senate District 10 in the Fort Worth area was altered so that some Black and Hispanic populations previously in District 10 were split into two other districts.

The Black and Hispanic voters that remained in District 10, in urban areas of south Fort Worth, were lumped in with several rural, mostly white counties to the south and west, driving up the district’s population of white eligible voters while diminishing the number of voters of color.

The federal three-judge panel overseeing the redistricting case previously denied a request by Tarrant County residents to block the reconfiguration of SD-10 from being used in last year’s elections while they pursued their legal challenge.

The state has argued

that the reconfiguration was motivated by partisanship, not race, and that the plaintiffs were unable to prove that race was the predominant factor motivating the Legislature’s action. The changes to the district offered Republicans an easier path to pick up the seat in the Republican-controlled chamber.

Huffman, the chamber’s chief map-drawer, said throughout the 2021 redistricting process that the maps were drawn “race-blind” and were presented to legal counsel who cleared them as compliant with federal law meant to protect voters of color from discrimination.

She has repeatedly declined to disclose how they reached that conclusion, though. In a deposition for the SD-10 challenge, Huffman invoked legislative privilege to shield herself from answering questions about her considerations while redrawing the district.

The Senate reapproved its map while the chal-

lenge to the Legislature’s redistricting work remains in legal limbo. The three-judge panel in charge of the case has yet to reschedule a trial over the new political maps after delaying a September 2022 trial because of disputes over discovery that left both the state and the various plaintiff groups questioning whether they’d have enough time to prepare to make their cases in a federal court in El Paso.

The Senate map now heads for reapproval in the House, where its redistricting committee is just beginning its work to reapprove the map it adopted in 2021 for the House’s 150 districts.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2023/04/03/texas-senate-redistricting/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy. Learn more at texastribune.org.

Aquifer & Spring Flow conditions

Area Index	Daily Readings	10-day Average
Bexar	635.5 msl	635.7 msl
Uvalde	846.7 msl	847.2 msl
Comal Springs	121 cfs	120 cfs
San Marcos Springs	83 cfs	82 cfs

Readings from April 3
edwardsaquifer.org

San Marcos Daily Record

4 DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
High - 90° Low - 63° Rain - 40%	High - 77° Low - 53° Rain - 40%	High - 62° Low - 54° Rain - 80%	High - 62° Low - 56° Rain - 80%

weather.gov

San Marcos Daily Record

Published every Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 1910 I 35 South, San Marcos, Texas 78666. Combined with the Hays County Citizen on July 6, 1978. Entered as second class matter June 21, 1973 at the Post Office in San Marcos. Member Texas Daily Press Association and The Associated Press.

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CITY FROM PG. 1

for providing survivors and their families resources and referrals, helping to apply for protective orders or Crime Victims’ Compensation, and accompanying them through the criminal justice system, counseling and advocacy.

The council will then consider the contract proposed with Don Jackson Construction to build a 55,100 square foot hangar at the San Marcos Regional Airport.

Also on the agenda for the council is the consideration of the city’s participation in a settlement of additional class action lawsuits filed by the state of

Texas and 40 other states against opioid distributors and manufacturers, including Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart. The council must take action on this participation before an April 18 deadline. As currently proposed, the settlements would require Walgreens to pay \$340 million, Allergan, \$135 million, CVS, \$304 million, and Walmart to pay \$170 million to Texas and those political subdivisions choosing to be part of the settlement. By opting into this settlement, the city could possibly receive approximately \$300,000 in monetary relief. This re-

lief could be used by officials to fund various drug treatment and diversion programs, according to the published agenda.

The council will discuss approval of a \$3,152,030 contract with Aaron Concrete Contractors to implement the Hills of Hays Drainage Improvements and alleviate reported flooding. The project will add new underground storm sewer systems, storm water inlets, curbs and gutters, adding an off-site drainage channel and improving the existing stormwater detention basin.

The council will review

appointments for vacancies on the following boards: Cemetery Commission, Ethics Commission, Main Street, Neighborhood Commission, Parking Advisory Board, Senior Citizen Advisory Board and Zoning Board Adjustments.

The council will discuss approval of appropriate purchasing documents for \$1,027,778 submitted on behalf of the San Marcos Fire Department. The funding is for the purchase of a 2024 Spartan Pumper Truck from Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists, Inc.

The full agenda is posted online at sanmarcostx.gov.

April 3-9 is National Public Health Week in Hays County



The Hays County Commissioners Court proclaim April 3-9 as National Public Health Week. Shown, sixth from left, Judge Ruben Becerra shares the official proclamation with Matthew Gonzales, health equity and community engagement program manager and members of the Hays County Local Health Department and commissioners. Photo by Hays County Commissioners Court

COURT FROM PG. 1

resources that they might not otherwise have access to. According to Matilla, Lisa Welsh, the mental health court caseworker, works individually with each participant to develop a treatment plan with input from Hill Country, the mental health and developmental disabilities center. Then the two of them collaborate to join the individual's psychiatric treatment goals, life skills, and any other goals they are working toward such as employment, higher education, volunteer work, and sobriety support into one central document. This court is a team effort which is "a different dynamic than what you usually see in the courtroom. The courtroom is usually adversari-

al. This is more collaborative," County Court at Law Judge Elaine Brown said. Mattila said their vision for the future of the court, which is in the works, is to include a pretrial diversion track. Currently, those in the program must make a plea to enter, even if that plea is a no contest plea, then they make an additional agreement with the mental health court to follow the necessary steps for completion. The addition of pretrial services will mean that those with low level crimes or first time offenders, that otherwise qualify for their program, could have their charges dropped if they successfully complete the program. In some cas-

es, the program may still happen on the backend, but this will be "at the discretion of the prosecution and the defense lawyers," Brown said. According to Brown, the court is beneficial because it provides "an opportunity to increase public safety by having individuals go through the mental health court treatment program." Safety is a chief concern, but not the only benefit provided. The court is valuable to the community because "instead of housing these people in jail, like we've been doing in large part, these individuals are now getting supervision" from the court which has been "shown statistically to improve their success in getting the treatment

that they need, to support themselves and find jobs," Brown said. Mattila said the court recently obtained additional funding which will help provide uninsured participants with counseling and help cover copays when needed. They also received funding to help cover the costs of a transitional, sober living home for men. Brown said so they are continuing to seek options for women as well, but "housing options are limited in Hays County." For more information, go to hayscountytexas.com/courts/hays-county-mental-health-court/.

TXST graduate student wins NSF funding for doctoral research into blast event trauma

TXST NEWS SERVICE

The National Science Foundation's Biological Anthropology Program has awarded Texas State doctoral student Petra Banks a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG). It's the first time a TXST student has won a highly competitive DDRIG in 18 years and the first such grant received by the Department of Anthropology since the creation of its Ph.D. program in applied anthropology in 2018. The \$31,000 grant will support Banks' dissertation research under the direction of Dr. Nicholas Herrmann, principal in-



Petra Banks

investigator for the project. Banks is investigating skeletal trauma through experimental blast research on pig and human cadav-

SEE TXST PAGE 4

WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.

Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.

2 OUT OF 3

U.S. adults read a newspaper in print or online during the week.

?

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Texas leads nation in numbers for new jobs, employment



Texas leads nation in jobs added

The Lone Star State continues to lead the nation in jobs added with 58,200 new positions in February, bringing the state to nearly 14 million total nonfarm jobs, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. February also marked two full years of uninterrupted job growth in the state.

"The past 24 months of uninterrupted job growth show the strength of the Texas economy and ongoing economic opportunities for Texans," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel.

The state's jobless rate in February was 4.5%, which is higher than the national rate of 3.9%, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The highest jobless rate in a Texas metropolitan statistical area is 6.8% in McAllen-Edinburg-Mission. The lowest rate in an MSA is 3.0% in Midland.

Rainy Day Fund hits cap for first time

The state's piggy bank is nearly full.

Comptroller Glenn Hegar predicts the state's so-called Rainy Day Fund, officially the Economic Stabilization Fund, will reach its statutory limit by 2025, which is 10% of what is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. Rising revenues fueled by spikes in energy prices and inflation have filled the state's coffers, Hegar said.

"The revenue increases that we have seen truly have been historical and unprecedented. We have never seen anything like this in the past, and I don't think we'll see anything like this in the future," he said.

The state experienced record growth in tax collections in 2022 of 25.6% from the previous year, filling the state's coffers with a surplus of \$32.7 billion.

"I am glad to see that lawmakers are giving careful thought to how this tremendous asset can be best put to work for Texans," Hegar added.

Senate passes bill to limit governor's powers

The Texas Senate unanimously passed a bill to rein in the governor's authority

during emergencies or disasters, the Austin American-Statesman reported. A matching proposal in the House is awaiting a committee hearing. The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, would require the governor to call the Legislature into special session if the executive office wants to extend a disaster or emergency declaration past 30 days. Only the Legislature would be able to put restrictions on businesses such as those imposed during the initial weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We must no longer allow a 19-month legislative interim to be leveraged against the Legislature, especially during times of emergency disasters that affect a significant number of Texans," Birdwell said.

Under current law, disaster declarations last 30 days but can be renewed by the governor. For example, Gov Greg Abbott has extended a disaster declaration relating to illegal border crossings each month since May 2021, according to the Statesman.

Abbott expressed support in his State of the State address in January for involving the Legislature in disaster declarations that deal with public health crises.

Senate backs boost for retired teachers

The Texas Senate also unanimously approved a package that allocates \$4.7 billion from the budget surplus to increase monthly payments for retired teachers and gives a one-time bump to retirees over 75, the Statesman reported. The bill is now headed to the House for consideration.

The measure calls for a 2% raise for teachers who retired between Sept. 1, 2013, and Jan. 1, 2022, and a 4% raise for those who retired before Sept. 1, 2013. Senate Bill 10 also provides a one-time stipend of \$7,500 for retirees older than 75. The bill affects nearly a half-million retired teachers.

"This is a significant financial commitment from the state," state Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, said. "Many TRS retirees have been struggling for so long. We needed to do this."

Retired teachers on average make \$2,100 a month through the Teachers Retirement System.

Boaters, anglers urged to avoid coastal rookeries

Anglers and boaters along the Texas coast are urged to watch out for nesting birds during this peak breeding and nesting season, ac-

ording to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Brown pelicans, roseate spoonbills, black skimmers and reddish egrets are among the birds nesting in dense colonies, called rookeries. TPWD encourages folks to watch out for these nesting birds so they are not disturbed during a sensitive time.

"With too many disturbances, an entire colony of thousands of birds may abandon an island and give up on breeding for the year, which can potentially lead to drastic population declines," said Trey Barron, a diversity biologist with TPWD. "When approached too closely by boaters or people wading nearby, birds are frightened off their nests, leaving eggs and chicks exposed to the summer sun, which can cause them to overheat. The abandoned nests also allow opportunistic predators like gulls and grackles to quickly swoop in and feed on them."

Boaters and anglers are also encouraged to properly dispose of fishing line, tackle and other waste to ensure it does not harm birds, turtles or other marine life.

"The habitats that waterbirds use are the same habitats in which we — including myself — enjoy fishing, hunting and photographing wildlife," Barron said. "We just have to remember to give them their space, especially during the nesting season, and pick up after ourselves. If you're out on the water, look for the yellow signs that identify rookery islands and keep your distance. We can all enjoy the same places, as long as we do it responsibly."

House passes diaper, period products bill

The Texas House last week overwhelmingly passed a bill repealing the state sales tax on diapers, period products, baby wipes and similar items. The measure now heads to the Senate.

Its sponsor, state Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin, has tried for several sessions to get the measure passed.

"This bill provides an opportunity to help Texas families at every stage of life," Howard said Tuesday, as reported by The Dallas Morning News. The measure also exempts adult diapers.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

TXST FROM PG. 3

ers. She's comparing her findings with trauma data about blast victims from the federal Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and medical examiner's/coroner's offices.

"The goal of my research is to broaden our understanding of skeletal trauma in general and blast trauma in particular through experimental research and the comparison of skeletal blast trauma distribution with other forms of trauma," Banks said. "This grant will help fund a data collection trip to the Defense POW/MIA

Accounting Agency, experimental research equipment, and an undergraduate research assistant."

Banks' reviewers praised her project's potential "to improve the methodologies for understanding the impact that trauma has on bone," in particular "how both extrinsic and intrinsic factors impact changes by using both animal proxies and postmortem human subjects in the experimental design."

In addition, one reviewer wrote, "This project has wide-ranging impacts for both academic training of

graduates and undergraduates in anthropological research and the collaboration between academic institutions, first responders, and industry partners."

"Petra is one of our most highly awarded graduate students," said Dr. Andrea Golato, dean of The Graduate College at TXST. "She has received several external awards during her doctoral program at Texas State: NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship, Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Research Grant, and Phi Kappa Phi Dissertation Fellowship."

COMMUNITY NEWS MATTERS

90%

of respondents say their community newspaper keeps them informed

70%

respondents said their hometown paper provides valuable local shopping and advertising information

64%

respondents said they read a community newspaper in print or online... other news sources didn't fare as well:

- Radio & Satellite Radio – 8%
- Internet – 14%
- Social Media – 4%



San Marcos Daily Record

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SOURCE: National Newspaper Association and Susquehanna Polling and Research

Woman has held MIL's secret for 20 years



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: About 20 years ago, my mother-in-law confided something shocking to me. Some background: My husband has two sisters. One is a year older and looks just like him. They both resemble their dad. The younger one looks nothing like the other two or their dad.

My MIL told me she and her husband stopped having sex after my husband was born. When I asked, "What about the younger sister?" she said she made a "mistake" with someone. We talked, and I suggested how important it was to tell the kids about this, but she never did. She always told people the younger one looked so different because she was so many years younger than the other two.

Both of my in-laws have passed away now. Why did she tell me this? She was too much of a coward to tell her kids. Did she think I'd tell them? Knowing this really

bothers me, but I still can't bring myself to tell them. It would change their lives and crush them. Any advice would help so much. — WISH I DIDN'T KNOW

DEAR WISH: Your sister-in-law deserves to know the truth. Tell her privately, in circumstances where you can talk this through. Explain that you have kept this secret because it was her mother's wish, and you don't plan on sharing the information with anyone else.

She may have quietly wondered for years why she didn't resemble the rest of the family. She may or may not wish to tell her siblings, but she should be free to handle this any way she chooses. Because you are all mature adults, this information should not crush them.

DEAR ABBY: I am a senior woman who never married or had children. I met a senior man, "Warren," on an online dating site, and we have been dating for a year and a half. It's a platonic relationship; we go out twice a week. I have slept over but always in separate bedrooms. We are good friends.

My sister is selling her house. I have lived with her for 32 years and I pay rent. She wants me to move out in a

year. I'm on Social Security and can't afford an apartment, and government aid is not promising. Warren asked me to move in with him to help each other out. He will rent me a bedroom. My sister and a friend of mine are against it. Their concern is he wants a live-in maid, and if it doesn't work out, where would I go?

Having no other choice, I'm seriously thinking of moving in with Warren. I really like him. He's a very nice companion and treats me well. Should I listen to my sister and friend and try harder to find a place to live? — IN LIMBO IN FLORIDA

DEAR IN LIMBO: Talk to Warren and find out what, if anything, he will need from you besides rent if you take him up on his offer. You might want to draw up an agreement with him in writing so there are no misunderstandings later.

You didn't mention if the rent you will be paying is as high as what you have been paying your sister. If it isn't, consider banking the difference so you will have a little more independence if things don't work out. From what you have told me, the arrangement you are considering could be rewarding for everyone involved.

Today's horoscopes

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

Born today, you are supremely talented. You are both highly talented and deeply troubled, and these two defining traits go together so closely that it is virtually impossible to consider them separately. The one is fueled by the other, surely, and this is something you will have to get used to and learn to control as you mature, and finally — with luck and persistence — come into your own and claim victory over the more difficult aspects of your personality.

If you're going to fulfill your remarkable potential and steer clear of the dangerous obstacles that are sure to appear before you again and again, you're going to have to eschew the kinds of self-help that is the downfall of so many. This means, of course, that a sober and responsible approach to each day is essential to your overall success and happiness.

Also born on this date are: Robert Downey Jr., actor; Heath Ledger, actor; Maya Angelou, poet; Anthony Perkins, actor; Muddy Waters, musician; Craig T. Nelson, actor; Nancy McKeon, actress; Christine Lahti, actress; Barry Pepper, actor.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You can be realistic and still indulge in fantasy ideation today. What you come up with may be a way to double your returns very soon.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The courage you display by facing a certain obstacle head-on while also speaking truth to power will inspire many throughout this busy day.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) If it's worth doing, it's worth doing well — and this basic feature of your overall philosophy is something others can benefit from today.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Tales from the past are both intriguing and inspiring today. You may discover an idea that didn't work before isn't dead in the water.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Prepare yourself for the usual difficulties today — but know that if you make a certain change, you can avoid much that has held you back.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Like anyone else, you prefer to have your cake and eat it too — but unlike some others, you know that it is not likely to happen. Move on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are eager to come into your own — and the sooner, the better. Meanwhile, you must continue to work toward the common good if you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You are not afraid of the difficulties you anticipate, and you can afford to adopt a more aggressive, forward-thinking strategy today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You needn't succumb to the kind of negativity that is all around you today. Look forward and maintain your usual positive attitude.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You can take a stronger stance than usual, especially when it comes to a popular way of thinking that you simply cannot adopt or support.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) The more willing you are to share your true feelings with another, the more likely you will be to gain from the relationship. Let it all out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Don't ignore the obvious today, as it can help you calibrate your thinking as you consider making a change that will affect others as well.

Universal Crossword

04/04

GOING THROUGH HOOPS

Jess Rucks

- ACROSS**
- 1 ___ up (get loose before a game)
 - 5 Ogre who loves Fiona
 - 10 Fedora, for one
 - 13 Notion
 - 14 Everycity, USA
 - 16 Space oddity, briefly
 - 17 Baller known for speed?
 - 19 Isle of ___
 - 20 CPR pro
 - 21 Messages
 - 22 Estrogen producer
 - 24 Bro's kin
 - 25 Garment that may say "When I said 'I do' I didn't mean the dishes"
 - 27 Baller known for hitting the books?
 - 32 "Schitt's Creek" character Rose
 - 33 Chooses
 - 34 Greek god of love
 - 36 "Life of Pi" director Lee
 - 37 Brown eyes or curly hair
 - 38 Regret
 - 39 Bank claim
 - 41 Environmentalist
 - 42 Small steak
 - 44 Baller known for dribbling from sideline to sideline?
 - 47 Factions
 - 48 So last year
 - 49 See 18-Down
 - 51 Baby bears
 - 53 Nintendo Switch precursor
 - 56 Apple pie mode
 - 57 People who put group success before their own, or what 17-, 27- and 44-Across have become?
 - 61 "Madness"
- DOWN**
- 1 Eve, for
 - 2-Down
 - 2 First husband?
 - 3 Sit on a bench, perhaps
 - 4 Yoga pad
 - 5 Other half
 - 6 Cilantro or sage
 - 7 Seating divisions
 - 8 Historical period
 - 9 White-wine aperitif
 - 10 Our fallibility
 - 11 In the distance
 - 12 Best Play award, say

SUNDAY PUZZLE ANSWER

ELUDE	DATA	AMFM
DOMES	SOLID	BARE
INNER	TUBES	BIEN
EGO	GOBAD	CODED
MAUL	MUTES	
LOBSTER	BIB	NPR
PANAM	THOSE	NIJA
EYES	PEONS	SARI
TEA	PRADA	TIMID
ART	HOME	PLANET
CARDS	PECK	
RATES	BLEAT	MLK
AKIN	HEAT	VISION
MEME	MARIE	CURIE
ISEE	MUST	SPANX

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- 15 Decorate
- 18 With
- 49-Across, Mexican painter known for her self-portraits
- 23 Show of hands
- 24 California's Big
- 25 Performing in a play
- 26 Flea, e.g.
- 27 ___ boom
- 28 Striped predator of the sea
- 29 Martial arts legend Chuck
- 30 Noted Auto-Tuned rapper
- 31 Like a basketball
- 32 Prefix for "adjusted"
- 35 The Who's "I Can ___ for Miles"
- 37 Class struggle?
- 40 Christmas, in French
- 42 Oral Roberts University's Oklahoma city
- 43 Not good
- 45 Many kilt wearers
- 46 Stemmed glass
- 49 ___ Sutra
- 50 "Sadly ..."
- 51 "Stop dawdling!"
- 52 Hairstyle such as a topknot
- 53 With skill
- 54 Cookbook writer Rom-bauer
- 55 "Goodness me!"
- 58 GPS guess
- 59 Spot for a shot
- 60 "___ queen!"

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		
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32						33				34	35
36						37					38
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				44					46		
				47					48		
49	50							51	52		53
56						57	58	59			60
61						62					63
64											66

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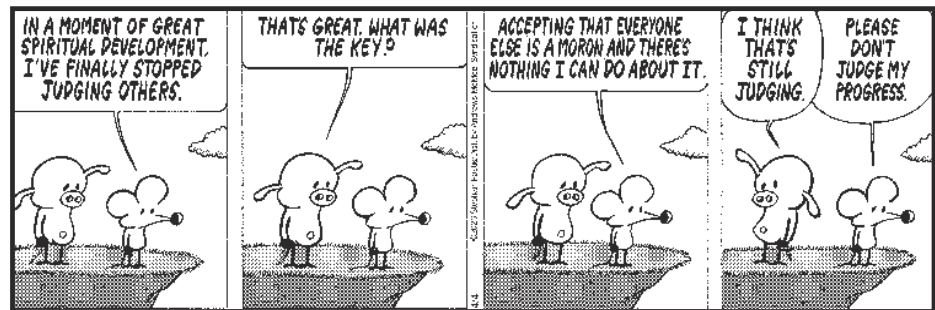
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Difficulty: ★★ 4-4

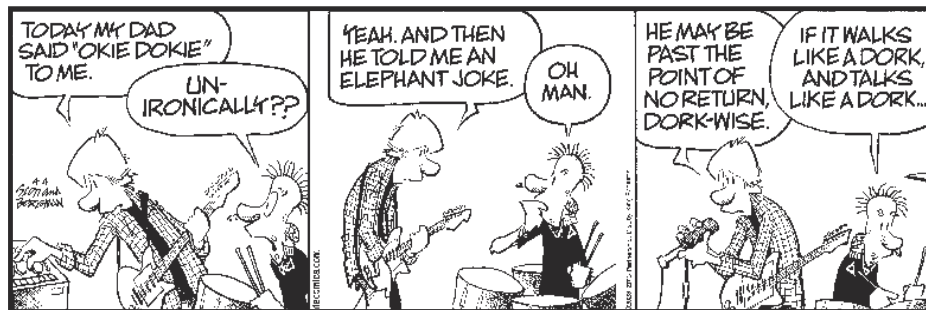
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9	8	5	2	4	3	6	1	7
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7	3	6	4	9	5	2	8	1
5	4	8	6	1	2	7	3	9
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Difficulty: ★★★★★ 4-2

Pearls Before Swine



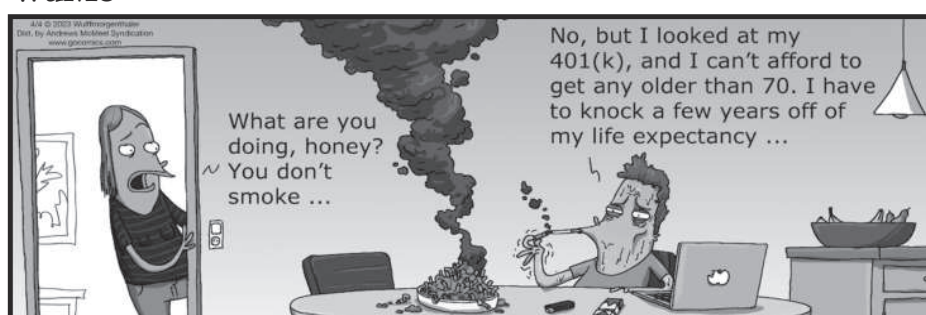
Zits



Garfield



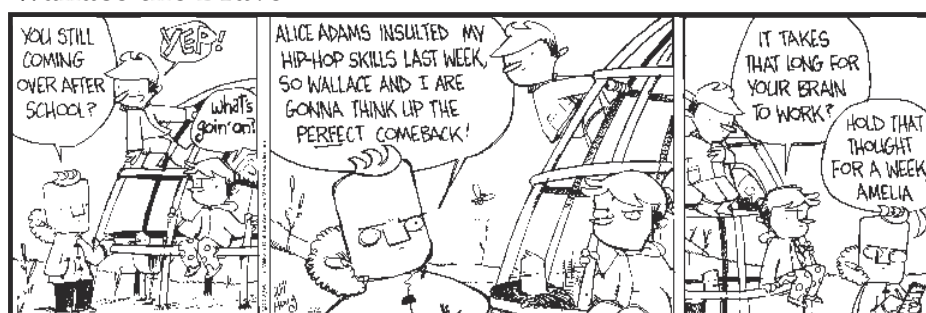
WuMo



Blondie



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Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Ruthann Wicker, were issued on March 14, 2023, under Docket No. 22-0188-P pending in the County Court at Law of Hays County, Texas, to Holly Wicker.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Estate of Ruthann Wicker, Deceased
c/o Holly Wicker
237 NE Moody St.
Burlleson, TX 76028

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED April 1, 2023.

By: /s/ Megan D. Rogers
Attorney for Administrator
State Bar No.:24040786

Notice to Creditors: Notice is given that Letters Testamentary were issued in the Estate of Jonathan Nicholas Klist, Deceased, in Cause No. 23-0106-P, in the County Court-at-Law No.1 of Hays County, Texas, Joelle Vanessa Cousins on March 29, 2023. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the following attorney within the time and in the manner prescribed by law: c/o Cristina Nelson, 2440 E. Hwy. 290, Bldg. B, Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

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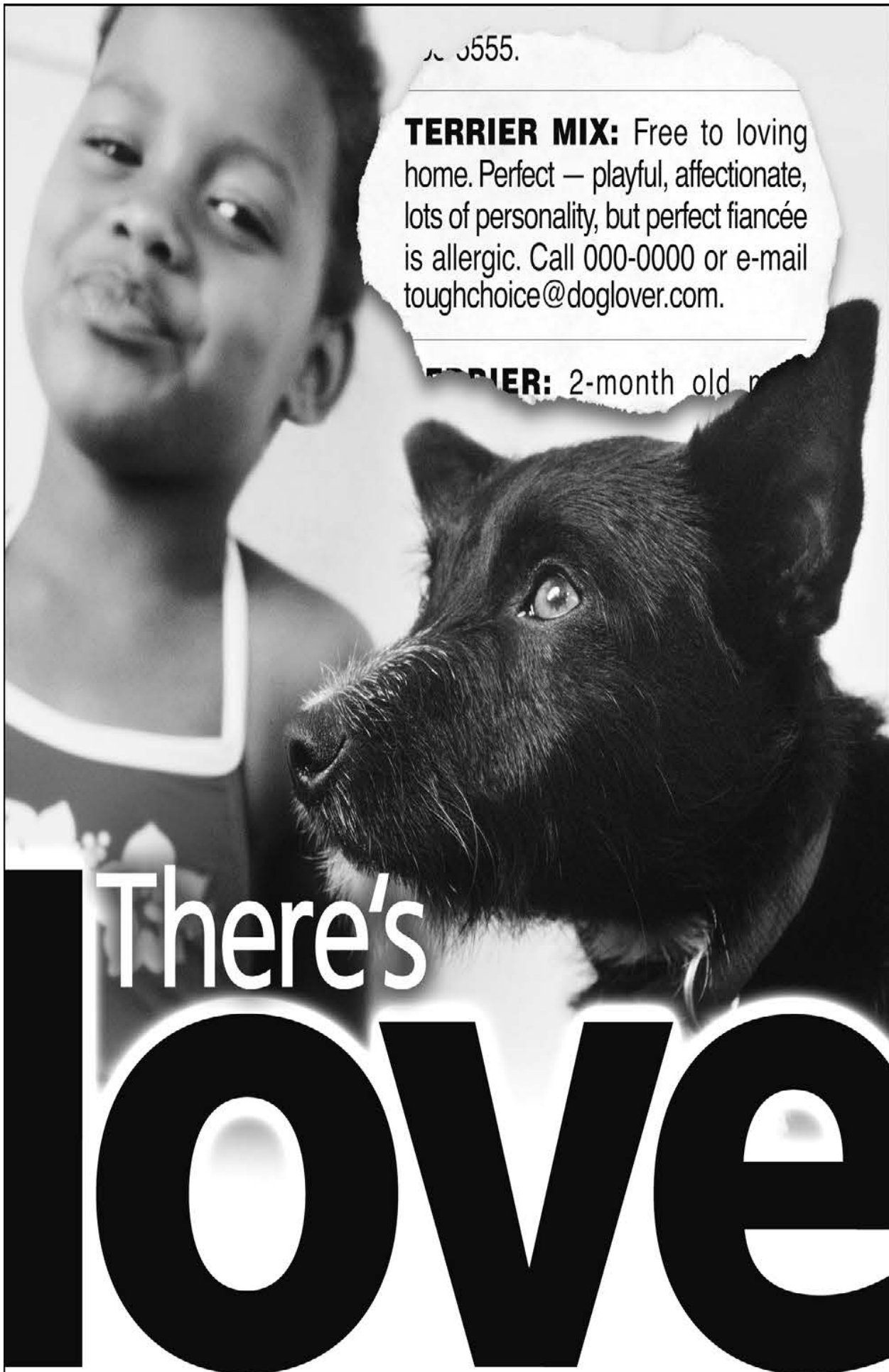
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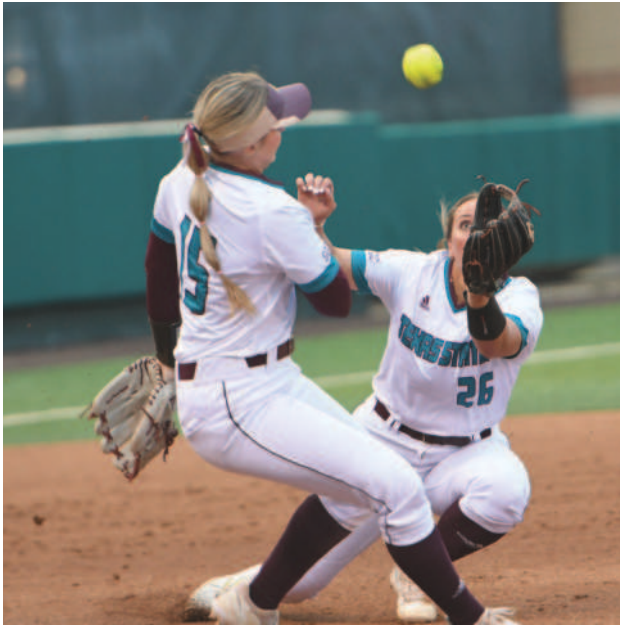
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TXST SOFTBALL



Sara Vanderford avoids the collision with pitcher Tori McCann to catch the pop-out for the out in Texas State's last home game against Baylor. Texas State returns home this weekend against Southern Miss. Daily Record Photo by Gerald Castillo

Bobcats sweep App State for series win

TEXAS STATE ATHLETICS

Texas State swept the series against App State getting a comfortable 7-2 win to close the series on Sunday afternoon. After a second three-run first inning in two games, the Bobcats continued to rule scoring runs in four of the seven innings for the win.

The first inning the Bobcats saw three hits and a three RBI homerun from Sara Vanderford. Vanderford's home run to left field is the 28th of her career and gave the Bobcats another three-run opening inning against App State.

Jessica Mullins would start at pitcher for the Bobcats and get two strikeouts to hold a 3-1 lead for the Bobcats after one inning.

Claire Ginder started in game three of this series, her first start of the season after returning from an injury. Ginder started in 56 games in the 2022 season before suffering her injury and returning for her first at-bat against App State. In her return to play she got a base hit with a single to center field.

The Mountaineers pulled back a run in the second inning when Sid-

ney Martin doubled to right field, advancing Kayt Houston home.

The Bobcats bounced back in the third inning with two more runs off a single down the left field line from Katarina Zarate. After a fielder's choice got Zarate out on the next play the Bobcats held a 5-2 lead after three innings.

Both sides went three for three in the fourth inning.

Karmyn Bass added to the Bobcats tally in the 6th inning. She scored when Sydney Harvey was walked with the bases loaded and two outs. Bass once again added a run to the tally when she stole home in the seventh inning. This is Bass' second multi-run game of the season.

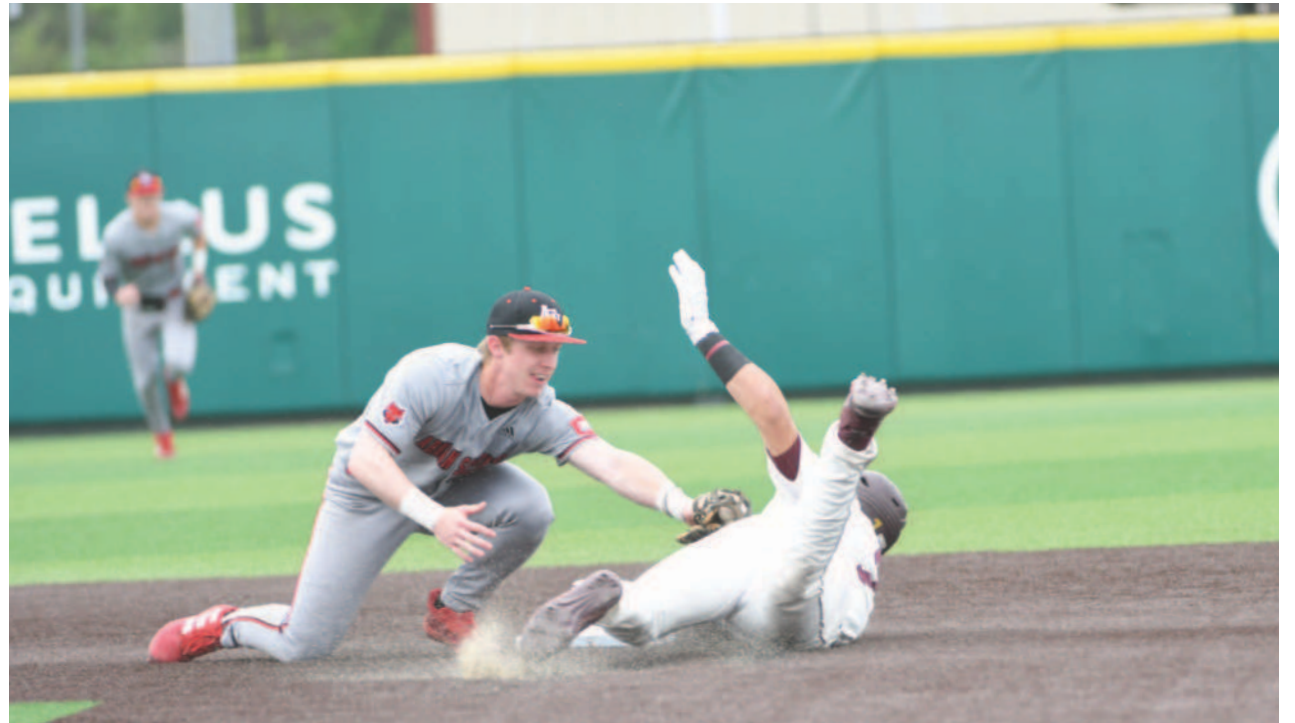
Mullins went three for three in the final inning of play, including a swinging strikeout on the first batter up in the seventh. Mullins ended the game with her sixth strikeout, having thrown a complete game.

Texas State returns home this weekend as the Bobcats square off with the Southern Miss Golden Eagles.

First pitch is at 6 p.m. Thursday night at Bobcat Softball Stadium.

TXST BASEBALL

Texas State defeats Arkansas State in exciting local contest



Cade Manning slides underneath the tag for the steal in the Bobcats 7-6 win over the Arkansas State Red Wolves. Manning finished the game going 2-3 including a three-run home run in the bottom of the third inning to put Texas State up 5-0. Daily Record Photo by Gerald Castillo

RYAN CHILDERS
SPORTS WRITER

The Texas State Bobcats (19-9, 5-4) have become accustomed to winning one-run ball games earning the 7-6 series clinching Sun Belt conference win over the Arkansas State Red Wolves Sunday afternoon at Bobcat Ballpark.

Despite only putting together four hits in the series finale, the Bobcats put together some timely hitting at the plate to build an early 5-0 lead in the first three innings before two insurance runs late in the game to seal the win.

"Anytime you win no matter how you chalk it up, you can go home happy, and that is what we did," said Texas State Head Coach Steven Trout. "The key was they won every area of the baseball game, but we won the most important at the end of the game. Baseball is a weird sport."

After a scoreless first inning, Texas State struck first with two runs in the bottom half of the second inning as junior Kameron Weil hit a sacrifice fly as freshman Chase Mora tagged up and scored the game's first run. With two outs, senior Ben McClain connected on a two-out RBI single as junior Cade Manning came across for the second run to make the score 2-0 in favor of the Bobcats.

In the home half of the third, senior slugger Jose Gonzalez and sophomore Daylan Pena drew back-

to-back walks to lead off the inning against Red Wolves starter Chase Armstrong as the Bobcats looked to take advantage of the free passes given up.

Manning stepped up into the box against the Arkansas State starter and got a favorable hitters count and was able to blast his sixth home run of the season over the fence in right center field for a three-run home run to give the Bobcats a 5-0 cushion.

"It was a 2-0 count and I was looking for a fast-ball inside, and he gave it to me," Manning said of his long ball in the third inning. "It happened to be what I was looking for and it worked out well."

Bobcat junior starter Tony Robie (4-0), who was making his second start on the week earned the Sunday win, but got into a little bit of trouble in the fourth inning with two outs as he gave up a free pass to Jared Toler and then sophomore Red-wolve Daedrick Cail got the Arkansas State on the board with a two-run shot to cut into the Texas State lead to 5-2.

Arkansas State was able to add two more runs to make it a 5-4 game in the fifth inning against junior lefty Rhett McCaffety before senior Nathan Medrano came in and gave the Bobcats 2.1 strong innings for his second appearance this weekend.

"It was a good team win today," Medrano said. "We didn't hit the ball very well today, but that doesn't matter because we

won where it matters the most. (Tony) Robie did a great job, Rhett (McCaffety), and so did I. We just have to get ahead and stay ahead, and we did that."

In the sixth inning, Texas State was able to add one-run as Mora came across to score for the second time in the afternoon on a RBI ground out by sophomore Ryder Hernandez.

"I told the team that I am excited about this week because we just went 3-1 this week, and I don't think we played very well all week long," Trout said. "Anytime you can win three games and not play your best baseball, it is a sign of good things to come. When things are clicking; better hits at the plate, throw more strikes, and play better defense, this team can be very special."

Arkansas State junior first baseman added a solo blast to make it a one-run game at 6-5 in the seventh inning off Medrano to keep the Red Wolves in arms-distance of getting their first series conference win of the year.

"It was a really good job by him because we took him out of the rotation this weekend and said we needed some more bullpen help," Trout said of his senior reliever. "After a strong outing on Friday, he has the type of arm that can bounce back for today's game and it was another nice quality relief game for him."

In the eighth inning the Bobcats' freshman phenom, Mora, came up to bat

and added a Texas State much needed insurance run with a no-doubter to right center for his team leading 10th homer of the season to make it 7-5.

"We were talking about making sure you get a heater in the middle of the plate and try to not do so much," Trout said of his star freshman's late bomb. "He is just amazing, the kid (Mora) has special talent. It was a real big swing for him, and a big swing for us."

The Red Wolves' Hager would add his second solo shot to draw the score to the eventual final of 7-6 as junior closer Jack Stroud earned his second save of the season for Texas State.

Manning led the Bobcats at the plate in the afternoon with two hits and three RBIs, and had two runs scored while Mora scored three runs for Texas State. The Bobcats pitching staff combined for 10 strikeouts led by Robie with four.

Trout and his Bobcats will be back in action tonight, Tuesday, with a road contest in College Station against the Texas A&M Aggies on SEC+ Network.

"I am excited for Peyton Zabel getting the start," Trout said, who will be the TXST starter against the Aggies. "I am excited to see him get out there and compete. It will be nice to see all these guys out. It will be a fun environment as always there and see how we show up in the moment."

THIS WEEK IN SAN MARCOS

TODAY

SMA SOFTBALL VS LUTHERAN 4:00 P.M.
SMA BASEBALL @ SHINER ST. PAUL 5:00 P.M.
TXST BASEBALL @ TEXAS A&M
SMHS BASEBALL VS NEW BRAUNFELS 7:00 P.M.
SMHS SOFTBALL @ CIBOLO STEELE 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

SMA BASEBALL VS NBKA 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY

TXST SOFTBALL VS SOUTHERN MISS 6:00 P.M.
TXST BASEBALL @ SOUTH ALABAMA 6:30 P.M.
SMHS BASEBALL @ NEW BRAUNFELS 7:00 P.M.
SMHS SOFTBALL VS CONVERSE JUDSON 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY

TXST SOFTBALL VS SOUTHERN MISS 4:00 P.M.
TXST BASEBALL @ SOUTH ALABAMA 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY

TXST SOFTBALL VS SOUTHERN MISS 11:00 A.M.
TXST BASEBALL @ SOUTH ALABAMA 1:00 P.M.

MONDAY

TXST BASEBALL VS TEXAS 6:00 P.M.

TXST TRACK & FIELD

Several Bobcats set personal bests across two track meets

TEXAS STATE ATHLETICS

Ashton Callahan won men's 400 in his first collegiate race in that event, Melanie Duron claimed the top spot in the women's shot put, and seven other Bobcats set a personal-best on Saturday as Texas State track and field completed its weekend at the Bobcat Invitational and Texas Relays.

Callahan, a redshirt senior who transferred to Texas State before last season, ran 46.42 in the 400, which was the best time by a Bobcat in the event this year and second-fastest in the Sun Belt. The Sweeney,

Texas native had never run a distance greater than 400 meters as individual in a collegiate meet and only ran in the 4x400 relay once prior.

Duron claimed first in the shot put in an outdoor meet for the third straight week as she recorded a toss of 16.34 meters/53-7.25 on Saturday. The Laredo, Texas native won at the UTSA Invitational and Charles Austin Classic before the fourth first-place finish (one in indoor) of her young Bobcat career this weekend.

A pair of freshmen also reached the podium in

their respective events. Elisabet Runarsdottir placed third in the women's hammer throw with a personal-best of 64.12 meters/210-4. The toss was 10th-best in school history and a freshman record. Abigail Parra, meanwhile, ran a personal-best 4:56.86 in the women's 1500 meter to place third. It was the first time she broke the five-minute barrier as she has shaved five-plus seconds off her season-opening time in the event in consecutive meets.

At the Texas Relays, senior Sedrickia Wynn ran 23.10 in the women's 200

invite to register the seventh-fastest time in school history and a PR.

In addition to Runarsdottir, Parra and Wynn, other Bobcats who had PRs on Saturday included Ayesha Nelson (14.06, 100 meter hurdles), Price Janecek (2:20.20, women's 800), Avery Veiseh (1:55.29, men's 800) and Deborah Bulai (62.17m/204-0, women's hammer throw).

Overall, Texas State had five first-place finishes at the Bobcat Invitational. Simon Thor (decathlon) and Chris Preddie (men's long jump) won on Friday.