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Post-blast searches continue in Texas

NOMAAN MERCHANT
AND JOHN L. MONE
The Associated Press

WEST, Texas — Rescuers searched the smoking remnants of a Texas farm town Thursday for survivors of a thunderous fertilizer plant explosion, gingerly checking smashed houses and apartments for anyone still trapped in debris or bodies of the dead. The accident killed as many as 15 people and injured more than 160, officials said overnight.



The Associated Press

SEARCH AND RESCUE: Firefighters conduct search and rescue of an apartment destroyed by an explosion at a fertilizer plant Thursday in West, Texas. A massive explosion at the West Fertilizer Co. killed as many as 15 people and injured more than 160, officials said overnight.

Man out on bond faces drug charge

STEVEN MROSS
The Sentinel-Record

A local man out on bond from his arrest last Friday on drug charges was arrested again Wednesday afternoon on a felony drug charge following a routine traffic stop.

Jason Scott Davis, 39, of 127 Brook Moor Trail, was taken into custody shortly after 3:30 p.m. and charged with possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, with intent to deliver, punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

He remained in custody Thursday in lieu of **ARREST, PAGE 4A**



Davis

ONE INJURED IN WRECK



The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

Emergency personnel prepare to transport Silas Mattingly, of Hot Springs, after he wrecked his 1999 Ford Taurus around 8:45 a.m. Thursday on the King Expressway between Malvern Avenue and Carpenter Dam Road. Mattingly was westbound when he lost control of the vehicle and ran off into the ditch. He was transported by LifeNet to Mercy Hospital Hot Springs with non-life threatening injuries, Hot Springs Police Cpl. McCrary Means said, noting driving too fast for conditions contributed to the accident. No citations were issued.

Oaklawn: Record purses cushion weather woes

BOB WISENER
Sports editor

Both as track president and horse owner, Charles J. Cella experienced an Oaklawn Park season for the record books.

Despite losing two days, Oaklawn announced Thursday a record purse distribution for the just concluded meeting with horsemen racing for \$1 million more than in 2012, when total purses of more than \$18 million represented a 13.9-percent increase over the weather-shortened 2011 season.

Saturday's season-ending card, highlighted by the \$1 million Arkansas Derby, offered a track-record \$2,177,000 in purses. Oaklawn had record highs also for maiden special weights and allowance races, rising by \$4,000 each during the season to \$57,000 and \$58,000, respectively, by closing week.

"Most were happy to be here," David Longinotti, the track's assistant general manager of racing, said when asked about

the mood of horsemen. That was reflected in a slight increase in purse size to 9.02 horses per race -- 9 being the benchmark figure for both Longinotti and racing secretary Pat Pope.

"Some horsemen that Pat and I have recruited came here with a string of horses for the first time," Longinotti said. "People like Phil Sims, Helen Pitts and Chris Hartman. Our feeling is that if you get someone here for one year, there's a good chance they'll come back."

Cella, track president since 1968, enjoyed his most successful Oaklawn season as a horse owner with total earnings of \$559,978 from 21 starters. Cella-owned horses won seven races — four in a row by Cyber Secret, a 4-year-old colt whose \$456,000 in earnings were second only to the \$600,000 of Arkansas Derby winner Overanalyze. Trained by veteran Lynn Whiting, Cyber Secret gave Cella his **OAKLAWN, PAGE 6A**

FBI issues photos of 2 suspects in Boston bombing

DENISE LAVOIE
AND ADAM GELLER
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The FBI released photos and video Thursday of two suspects in the Boston Marathon bombing and asked for the public's help in identifying them, zeroing in on the two men on surveillance-camera footage less than three days after the deadly attack.

The photos depict one man in a dark baseball cap and the other in a white cap worn backward. The men were seen walking one behind the other in the crowd, and the one in the white hat was seen setting down a backpack at the site of the second explosion, said Richard DesLauriers, FBI agent in charge in Boston.

"Somebody out there knows these individuals as friends, neighbors, co-workers or family members of the suspects. Though it may be difficult, the nation is counting on those with information to come forward and provide it to us," DesLauriers said.

The images were released hours after President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama attended an interfaith service at a Roman Catholic cathedral in Boston to remember the three people killed and more than 180 wounded in the twin blasts Monday at the marathon finish line.

The two men — dubbed Suspect 1 (in the dark hat) and Suspect 2 (in the white hat) — are considered armed and extremely dangerous, DesLauriers said, and people who see them should not approach them.

"Do not take any action on your own," he warned.

The break in the investigation came just days after the attack that tore off limbs, shattered windows and raised the specter of another terrorist attack on U.S. soil. FBI photo-analysis specialists have been analyzing a mountain of surveillance footage and amateur pictures and video for clues to who carried out the attack and why.

PHOTOS, PAGE 4A



The Associated Press

SUSPECT: Photos of one of two suspects sought in the Boston Marathon bombing are displayed during a news conference talking about the investigation of the Boston Marathon explosions on Thursday in Boston. The city continues to cope following Monday's explosions near the finish line of the marathon.

Authorities locate fourth rabid skunk

DON THOMASON
The Sentinel-Record

A fourth skunk, picked up at 131 Lemming Lane off Mountain Pine Road, has tested positive for rabies, Hot Springs Animal Services Director Dan Bugg said Thursday.

All the positive rabies cases in Garland County have been found since early March, and a skunk from the Percy area will be submitted for testing today, Bugg said.

Garland County was placed under a rabies alert in late March after the third rabid skunk was found on Crystal Hill Road in Mid-America Park west of the city.

The first rabid skunk was found at Entergy Park, south of Hot Springs, and the second was also found in the Mid-America Park area. All of those were found in a 30-day period, which activated the alert.

In the most recent case, the homeowner on Lemming Lane had been smelling a skunk for a few days, and while playing ball with his son, he saw the skunk run out of the woods and into his yard, a city news release said.

The homeowner was able to shoot the skunk without any exposure to humans or animals.

"I'm afraid it's going to be a continuing thing this year," Bugg said.

SKUNK, PAGE 3A

Spa City Cheerleaders place second in national competition

BETH BRIGHT
The Sentinel-Record

The Spa City Gators of Hot Springs Gymnastics have a lot to cheer about.

The cheer squad competed

last weekend in Kansas City at U.S. Nationals and placed second overall in their division.

Teams from across the country participated, making the competition one of the biggest

in the nation.

"We placed second in our division beating out five other teams," said Stevie Smith, coach for Spa City Cheer.

"There were teams from just

about everywhere and we came in second against a traveling team that has won the competition for the last three years."

Spa City Cheer boasts 75 athletes. The divisions at com-

petitions are made based on age groups and the Spa City Gators fall into level two.

In February, the team competed in Memphis at a mid-South Jamfest competition.

They won first place in their division and also received a Grand Champion rating, which gave them a paid bid to U.S. Nationals.

CHEER, PAGE 6A



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SUNNY. HIGHS IN THE HIGH 50S. LOWS IN THE MID 30S.
SUNRISE: 6:36 A.M.
SUNSET: 7:47 P.M.



MORE ON PAGE 2A

Weather

SATURDAY:
HIGH 67° LOW 45°
SUNDAY:
HIGH 70° LOW 46°

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Subscriber of the Day

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Inez Brown,
a reader of *The Sentinel-Record*
for 12-plus years