

Understanding health coverage is crucial, physicians say

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SIG SPRING HRALD

MONDAY

APRIL 16, 2007



50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Numbers down but effort good during Trash Off

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

What the Big Spring edition of the Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off lacked in numbers, it made up for with effort.

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 120

While participation in the annual clean up effort was down from recent years, organizers were still happy with the results.

After assembling at headquarters

Comanche Trail Park, about 300 volunteers fanned out across town, collecting trash off roadways.

Pat Simmons, local Trash Off coordinator, said results belied the fewer number of volunteers this year.

"It was not nearly as big See **TRASH**, Page 3A

"... we had conflicts with some other events, ... but we had

Simmons a lot of kids turn out, so it was pretty good."

as it had been in past years," said Simmons. "But we had conflicts with some other events, like the Master the Mountain (fun run) and the Health Fair, plus the weather was kind of cold Saturday morning ... but



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Cleo Johnson, left, and Benny Islas stack bags full of trash at a collection point near Big Spring Mall Saturday morning. The two men were part of a community wide clean up effort held in conjunction with the annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off.



HEALTH FAIR **EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

People line up to take a closer look at a medical evacuation helicopter on display at Saturday's **Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce** Health Fair on the campus of Howard College. A variety of health screenings and information was available to the public.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Lottery scams still a problem

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

It's a multi-million dollar a year problem in the United States, and it's happening right here in Big Spring.

It's called the foreign lottery, and besides being illegal - U.S. law prohibits the cross-border sales of lottery tickets by phone or mail — it's almost always a scam.

Despite the fact that law enforcement agencies, the post office and other entities regularly warn consumers about these scams, they remain prevalent. The Federal Commission Trade reports that despite intercepting millions of foreign lottery mailings, consumers are burned for about \$120 million a year in the U.S. Franklin E. Weber, cashier at State National Bank, is familiar with the process.

"The victim is usually someone who has given money to a worthy organization, who in turns sells their donor list to raise additional money,' Weber said. "The scam artists then buys a disposable cell phone. They generate letters telling the victim that they have won a sweepstakes or lottery in another country such as the United Canada or Kingdom, Australia for a very large some of money.

"They will also include or later send a counterfeit cashiers check as a show of good will. The victim is instructed to wire money to cover a processing fee via Western Union or Money gram, but never a bank," he explained. "The check is always more than the

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Sports

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DAV drivers recognized for hard work, volunteerism

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans recently honored several of its volunteer drivers who serve under the DAV Transportation Network.

A dozen drivers were recognized with certificates of appreciation, according to local DAV Commander Ed Meiser, in recognition of their unconditional dedica-

"The payment is in the satisfaction of knowing your efforts helped to brighten the life of another humanbeing who sacrificed a part of his or her life so you could have that choice in life."

—Ed Meiser

tion to the program.

Among those honored were James Phelps, Bill Sipert, Tom Lewis, Dana Tarver, Al Rutledge, Rick James,

Roland Gore, Joe Clark, David Leonard, Janelle Groves, Clifton Balzer and Don Austin.

"Their perseverance in

doing the right thing by striving to build better lives for all of our nation's disabled veterans and their families is sincerely appreciated in their tireless efforts of promoting the mission of the DAV," said Meiser. "The Transportation DAV Network is the only way many veterans are able to get to VA medical facilities for needed treatment.

See DAV, Page 3A





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Obituaries

Jimmy Hopper



Jimmy Hopper, 69, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 14, 2007, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Monday at Trinity Baptist Church with Rev. Tim Dunn and Rev. Randy Cotton officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

monday page 2a 4/16/07 10:52 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

He was born May 29, 1937, in Big Spring to Edna and Lemon Hopper. Jimmy married Janet Light Aug. 20, 1982, in Big Spring. He was in the auto-

motive business all of his life, having owned Jimmy Hopper Auto Sales at 700 and Birdwell and also Jimmy Hopper Toyota from 1970 until 1979. Jimmy was a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Janet Hopper of Big Spring; a son, Gary Hopper and his wife Debra of Allen; two daughters, Lana Churchwell and her husband Chris of Big Spring, and Sage of the home; a brother, Jack Hopper and his wife Mary Lou of Van Alstyne; six grandchildren, Cassie Hopper of Dallas, Brittany Hopper of Lubbock, Haley Hopper of Allen, Cameron Churchwell, Madison Churchwell and Lexi Churchwell, all of Big Spring; a nephew, Denny Hopper and his wife Lori of Flower Mound; and a great niece, Carlie Hopper of Flower Mound.

In addition to his parents, Jimmy was preceded in death by a daughter, Karla Jo Hopper.

Pallbearers will be Baxter Moore, Fernando Saucedo, Bobbie Dodson, John Huckabee, Don Adams and Bobby Henson.

The family suggests memorials to Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1448, Big Spring

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

Colleen G. Slaughter

Colleen G. Slaughter, 80, died Friday, April 13, 2007, in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 17, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Shane Brue, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

She was born Jan. 29, 1927, in Madison, Kan., and moved with her family to Texas in 1932. Her parents, Ray and Lillian Slaughter, and brother, Keith Slaughter, preceded her in death.

Colleen graduated from Big Spring High School in 1943 as class valedictorian. She received her BA Degree in Spanish from Texas Women's University in 1943 and her Master's Degree in 1950.

Her teaching career covered 46 years. Her first two years were in Midland, then 38 years at Big Spring High School. She retired in 1987 and then taught spanish six years at Forsan High School as a part-time

During the summers she enjoyed studying and traveling in Mexico, Puerto Rico and Colombia. She was very pleased by having received a Fulbright scholarship to attend the University of the Andes in Bogota, Colombia. She also traveled in Spain, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile and many other countries.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, where she was an active member as a teacher of the Philathea Sunday School class. She was also a volunteer at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for many years.

Survivors include her sister, Erma Jean Phillips of North Wales, Pa.; a niece, Lisa Ann Phillips of North Wales, Pa.; three nephews, David Phillips of Roslyn, Pa., Ronald Phillips and wife, Carmen, of Harleysville, Pa., and Michael Phillips and wife, Cathy, of Port Orange, Fla.; and several great nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1229, Big Spring 79721-1229 or to a favorite charity.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. condolences can be made www.npwelch.com Paid obituary

Support Groups MONDAY

· Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-

TUESDAY

- The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.
- · Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.
- •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.



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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- GABRIEL PAREDEZ, 20, of 302 N. Aylesford, was arrested Saturday on two local citations and two other citations.
- PRISCILLA LOPEZ, 33, of 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested Saturday on two local warrants.
- OLIVIA TALIETHA BALLIN, 27, of 2617 Fairchild, was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft. • MARY GUTIERREZ, 18, of 2604 S. Ent, was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft.
- DAVID ARGUELLO, 54, of 1803 State, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid - enhanced.
- DERRICK COLEGROVE, 17, of 3209 Oasis. was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- MARTY RAY EVANS, 17, of 1007 N. Birdwell, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- COREY HOFFPAUIR, 30, of 2011 Johnson, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ASHLEY DAWN SMITH, 21, of Coahoma, was arrested Sunday on charges of disorderly conduct language and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- LISA ANN RIOS, 27, of 713 Lorilla, was arrested Sunday on a capias pro warrant and charges of criminal mischief and theft.
- THEODORE RIOS, 37, of 405 E. 10th Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of criminal mischief and
- POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARA-**PHERNALIA** was reported:
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 1600 block of Second Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 400 block of 10th Street.
- ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY was reported in the 200 block of E. 17th
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:
 - in the 2600 block of Fairchild.
 - in the 600 block of Gregg Street.
 - THEFT was reported:
 - in the 200 block of FM 700.
 - in the 700 block of Scurry. - in the 1700 block of FM 700.
 - FORGERY was reported in the 3300 block of First

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2600 block of Ann Drive. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 3000
- block of S. McGregor Road. Service refused. • TRAUMA was reported in the 200 block of Pettus
- Road. One person was transported to the VAMC. • TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 6900 block of S.
- Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC. • **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4200 block of Dixon.
- One person was transported to SMMC. • TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of
- Wasson Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area of N. FM 700. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC. • STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 900 block
- TRASH FIRE was reported in the 100 block of E.
- Marcy. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of Tulane.
- One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of
- Jonesboro. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of N.W.
- 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. • **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Culp.
- One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. Service refused.

Take Note

• FORSAN ELBOW ELEMENTARY pre-K and kindergarten pre-registration is set from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, April 16, through Friday, April 20. Pre-K eligible students are those 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2007. Kindergarten eligible students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1. Items to bring include a birth certificate, Social Security card, immunization records, proof of residence (utility bill) and proof of income for pre-K only (paycheck stub).

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Sheriff's report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 48 inmates at the time of this report. • ROBERT RICKY SIMPSON, 54, was arrested

- Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicat-• JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR, 31, was arrested
- Friday by the HCSO on a Class C misdemeanor. • JOSEPH ALTON MURLEY, 28, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping and
- failure to appear. • CHRISTOPHER HERNANDEZ, 24, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice
- and theft of services. • WILLIAM ELGIN SNEED, 32, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of probation violation - transporting dangerous materials.
- TIMOTHY ALAN SMITH JR., 19, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxica-
- AMADOR RIOS JR., 25, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated. PAMELA RACHELLE GUERRERO, 26, was
- arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid. • CHANCELLA MCKENZIE PARRISH, 22, was
- transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated. • BRANDI ANN HUTCHESON, 22, was arrested
- Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of no driver's license. • TAYLOR EDWARD MENNARD, 19, was arrested
- Saturday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less. · AGUSTIN URIEL AVILA, 18, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of possession of

marijuana - two ounces or less, driving while intoxi-

- cated and driving while license invalid. • GENA KAY RAY, 46, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense, possession of a controlled substance (two counts) and possession of marijuana - two ounces
- or less. MALERIE ANN SMITH, 19, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- JESSE MARTINEZ, 38, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of probation - blue
- REBECCA HERRING, 18, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving under the influence by a
- **CLINT RAY HALE, 20**, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage. • DAVID ARGUELLO, 54, was transferred to the
- county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid. • MARY ELIZABETH GUTIERREZ, 21, was trans-
- ferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft. • OLIVIA TALIETHA BALLIN, 27, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of
- DARRELL SCOTT SHULTZ, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of evading arrest or
- detention with a vehicle and evading arrest. • NED RANDAL HILDEBRAND, 33, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon and possession of a controlled substance.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 50s. Southeast winds 15 to 20 mph.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the morning.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-31-32-35-46-51. Number matching six of six: 0.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$6

million. Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 16-26-32-35-36.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$35,260. Winning ticket sold in: Dallas. Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-4

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Disabled American Veterans Transportation Network drivers accept their awards for going above and beyond the call of duty as volunteers. Pictured are James Phelps, left, Bill Sipert, Tom Lewis, Dana Tarver, Al Rutledge, Rick James, Roland Gore, Joe Clark, David Leonard.

SCAM

Continued from Page 1A

money that has to be wired, so the victim thinks they have an immediate windfall. Once the victim wires the money, its is gone forever."

Weber said it usually takes about five days to find out the cashiers check is a fake. The customer is out the money and often has spent the "windfall."

"This can be devastating for the victim, because they tend to be income," said Weber.

He said banks are able to prevent most scams if they see the cashiers check first.

"We are intercepting a lot of checks before they get deposited," Weber said.

Vicki Osburn, a local Western Union agent, said most of these scams are identified before anyone loses money, but it is always a concern.

"Most Western Union agents will tell them 'this

vigilant. That's why it helps to know your customers," said Osburn. "We have a pretty good fraud investigation program. We can actually refuse to send their money if we believe it is a scam. Of course, that doesn't stop them from going somewhere else if they are dead set that it's a legitimate deal."

is a scam.' You have to be

Weber said consumers should trust the old saying, "if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is" and provided some suggestions to avoid fraud.

— You should never older people on a fixed have to pay a processing fee to get something you have won.

> You should compare the address on any check you receive with the mailing address on the envelope and the enclosed correspondence. Often the letter has one address, the check has an address of an American bank or company, but the mail is postmarked in Canada.

You should never cash or deposit a check you receive from a stranger without taking it

to your bank. Tell them where you got the check and bring all correspondence with you. The bank can help determine if the check is real.

 If you are not comfortable taking the item to the bank, go to the police or the Postmaster.

You should never endorse a check that you are not able to cover. If a forged check comes back, you will be responsible for it, not the bank.

Trade The Federal Commission had these "words of caution" for consumers considering responding to a foreign lottery:

• If you play a foreign lottery — through the mail or over the telephone — you're violating federal law.

 There are no secret systems for winning foreign lotteries. Your chances of winning more than the cost of your tickets are slim to none.

· If you purchase one foreign lottery ticket, expect many more bogus offers for lottery or investment "opportunities." Your name will be placed on "sucker lists" that fraudulent telemarketers buy and sell.

· Keep your credit card and bank account numbers to yourself. Scam artists often ask for them during an unsolicited sales pitch.

The FTC advises consumers to ignore all mail and phone solicitations for foreign lottery promotions.

If it looks like lottery material from a foreign country, give it to the local postmaster.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Tena Parker, 47, died Thursday. Funeral Services were at 11 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Jimmy Hopper, 69, died Saturday. Funeral Services will be at 4 p.m. Monday at Trinity Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

DAV

Continued from Pagge 1A

"They're men and women who answered our country's call in times of war. Many lost limbs, sight, hearing or good health, and many live a great distance from a VA hospital. With fixed incomes, the cost of transportation to a VA facility is just too high. They're left with two choices. They can go without the treatment they need, or skimp on food and other necessities to pay for transportation."

Meiser said it's decisions like these the men and women who have served their country should never have to make.

"Veterans disabled in our nation's service should never face such options," Meiser. "So, DAV and volunteers Auxiliary respond, driving vets to and from VA hospitals and clinics, living the mission statement of the DAV, which is 'Building better lives for all of our nation's disabled veterans and their families.'

"Across the nation last year, the DAV's National Transportation Network logged more than 22 million miles and transported more than 618,000 veterans to VA health care facilities. Almost 9,000 volunteer drivers spent 1.8 million hours transporting veterans in 2006, and since the national

program began in 1987, more than 10.2 million veterans have been transported approximately 388 million miles."

Meiser said the program is expected to expand later this month, with the addition of a handicapped-equipped bus.

All DAV van drivers are volunteers, according to Meiser, and receive no payment for the services they provide.

"The payment is in the satisfaction of knowing your efforts helped to brighten the life of another human-being who sacrificed a part of his or her life so you could have that choice in life," said Meiser.

And while Meiser isn't shy at all about bragging on the program and its volunteer drivers, he said they are always in need of more help.

"We're needing more volunteers to help take some of the driving burden off the current drivers," said Meiser. "You don't have to be a veteran to drive. We have people from all walks of life throughout the community who are eligible to volunteer and donate time to the DAV.'

27788 Cinemark paste up



Paul Kennemur RPH Pharmacist

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TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

we had a lot of kids turn out, so it was pretty good."

The weather was a major reason for the reduced Simmons noted.

"The weather was a huge factor," she said.

"Because of it, we just they all looked pretty didn't have the response good after we were done, and the results like we've had in the past ... But like

After the clean up, volunteers were treated to a hot dog lunch provided by the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club, H-E-B, the Chamber of Commerce and Water Water. The Trash Off was coordinated locally by Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

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UIL results Big Spring High School results

at the Conference 4A Region 1 UIL Contest in San Angelo: Calculator Applications: 33. Matthew Callison, BSHS Computer Applications: 9.

Malle Carrasco, BSHS. Computer Science: 19. Sarah Amentrout, BSHS; 27. Shilo Rawls, BSHS; 29. Michael Day,

BSHS; 36. Apollo Dunlap, BSHS; Team: 8. Big Spring HS. Current Issues: 24. Andrew Lewis, BSHS; 29. Nathan Booth, BSSH; 32. Pete Covarrubias, BSHS; 37. Colin Hunnicutt,

BSHS; Team: 8. BSHS. Editorial Writing: 4. Nathan Booth, BSHS (alternate); 6. Collin Hunnicutt, BSHS.

Feature Writing: 4. Michelle McMurtrey, BSHS (alternate); 5.

Alyssa Rains, BSHS. Informative Speaking: 4. Bianca Mireles, BSHS (alternate); 5. Blake Roach, BSHS.

Journalism: Team: 2. Big Spring High School. Literary Criticism: 21. Geoffrey Treece, BSHS; 33. Christina Hernandez; 35. Shilo Rawls, BSHS; 39. Eric Pope,

BSHS; Team: 9. BSHS. Mathematics: 9. Matthew Callison, BSHS; 37. Kade Parker, BSHS; 42. Loveita Raymond, BSHS; 43. Alyssa

Rains, BSHS; Team: 8. BSHS. Number Sense: 7. Kade Parker, BSHS; 18. Brandon Kinard, BSHS; 27. Manuel Gonzales, BSHS; 45. Sarah Armentrout, BSHS; Team: 5.

BSHS. Poetry Interpretation: 6. Carlita Green, BSHS. Ready Writing: 4. Brady Phillips (alternate), BSHS. Social Studies: 32. Jessica Stone, BSHS.

Speech: Team: 4. Big Spring High School.

I said, it was OK."

Simmons did not know Sunday exactly how much trash was collected, but said several major streets in Big Spring got a numbers, needed spring cleaning.

"FM 700, Lancaster Street, Westover Road and Third and Fourth ...

she said.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful **Golf Tournament** Saturday, April 21, 2007 at the Big Spring Country Club 9:00 a.m. tee time Four person scramble, entry fee - \$60/person.

Please contact the Big Spring Country Club to sign up. Immediately following play, prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place teams, longest drive man and woman and closest to the pin man and woman. Chances for new golf shoes will be available at the sign-up table or contact a member of Keep Big Spring Beautiful at 432.263.9332. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served.

All proceeds go to Keep Big Spring Beautiful \$



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OPINION

DITORIAL

"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

Monday, Page 4A, 4-16-07 4/16/07 10:32 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder

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

Ronnie Cupstid

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan

OTHER VIEWS

White House is making mistake ignoring Assad

he White House can't have it both ways. It cannot condemn a visit to Syria by Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi without also denouncing a trip there by a group of Republicans that included U.S. Rep. Bob Aderholt of Haleyville

Bush accused Pelosi of failing to heed the administration's policy against American travel to Syria, which it ranks as a supporter of ter-

It is hypocritical of the president to ignore the visit ... by the group of Republicans a week before the Pelosi trip.

In truth, neither visit should be censured. The bipartisan 9/11 Commission urged our elected leaders to engage states such as Syria that can help achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

The Pelosi visit also included Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Israel.

A spokesman for the White House National Security Council called Pelosi's meeting with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad "counterproductive." ...

But Pelosi said Assad gave her reassurances that he was ready to resume the peace process by engaging in negotiations with Israel. Those talks collapsed in 2000.

Assad's involvement is important because of his influence on Hamas, whose charter calls for the destruction of Israel. Syria also is influential in the affairs of other Arab nations.

Aderholt, who rarely parts company with the president, said last week that it is important to engage nations like Syria in dialogue and seek common ground on issues.

Bush is wrong to ignore Assad. By default, leaders in Congress are shouldering the responsibility to rekindle Middle East peace efforts.

> THE NEWS Tuscaloosa, Ala.

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We're always in Your care, Lord, when we seek You through prayer.

Amen

Survivor Iran: The hostage show

hen Iran released 15 British sailors and marines held hostage last week, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called the release an "Easter gift to the British people." The British Ministry of Defense's decision to allow the hostages to sell their stories to the media made Ahmadinejad's "gift" an unwanted gift that keeps on giving.

Monday, the Blair government reversed the policy, announcing it was under review, but the damage already was done. Other conservatives have bashed the 15 members of the British Navy and Marines for not fighting back when eight

DEBRA SAUNDERS

boats loaded with Iranian Revolutionary Guards surrounded their lone boat, in what the Iranians falsely claim were their waters. Not me.

As Royal Marines Capt. Chris Air explained: "The Iranians are not our enemies. We are not at war with them. By the time the true intent of the Iranians had become apparent, and we could legitimately have fought back, it was too late for action."

Besides, who wants to die on a moment's notice while starting World War III? It is, however, hard to defend the British troops' behavior as hostages. Sailor Faye Turney, the only female hostage, apologized for "obviously" being in Iranian waters. She also called for Britain to get out of Iraq. Marine Nathan Thomas Summer

told Iranians, I "deeply apologize for entering your waters" — when the Brits were in Iraqi waters.

For their part, the hostages were lined up, blindfolded, to await a mock execution. Turney feared that she would be raped.

John Nichol, an RAF navigator who was held and beaten by Iraqis after being shot down in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, told the Times of London, "Until you have been there, you have absolutely no idea.'

OK, but you can have sympathy for the hostages and still know that their behavior — even if poor training undermined their reaction — was not worthy of reward.

To the contrary, as they were leaving, the hostages shook hands with Ahmadinejad as he joked about their "mandatory vacation." They accepted souvenirs — goody bags of Persian sweets, pistachio nuts and vases.

The episode signaled, as Marina Hyde wrote in the Guardian, "the apparent ease with which British servicemen and women can be coopted as propaganda tools."

As for the Ministry of Defense's decision to waive the usual rules because of these "exceptional circumstances" — well, suffice it to say that those words must have been a kick in the teeth to families who lost loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Buried in this national-security debate is a class issue. Bob Ayers of Chatham House, a Londonbased foreign-affairs think tank, noted in an e-mail: "Now 15 people from the lower rungs of the military ladder find themselves experiencing Andy Warhol's famous 15 minutes of fame — albeit this time

it is a bit longer than 15 minutes — and decided to profit from it. Their principal crime seems to be that they are intruding on what had heretofore been the exclusive domain of the admiral, field marshal and government minister being paid for publishing their experiences.

BIG SPRING HERALD

Monday, April 16, 2007

"The argument that (military) personnel cannot publish is difficult to understand when the large number of factual books about the Falklands, the SAS, the Irish 'Troubles' and so on are recalled. The only difference I can see is the time delay between having the experience and publishing about

"Assuming that they don't compromise sensitive information, why not publish?" The answer: Because if the Blair government wants to democratize its policies as to who in the military can publish for pay, this is the wrong time to do so.

The biggest known threat to the national security of Great Britain and the United States lies among Islamic extremists who believe that Westerners always will back down in a pinch. With a possible six-figure payout for talking about folding as a hostage — Turney's reported take — those extremists will see a system that rewards meekness, even in the military.

Later, Ahmadinejad announced he was expanding Iran's nuclear program.

This time, no goody bag.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com.

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Let real liar be named, shamed

ET THE LIAR BE NAMED AND SHAMED," proclaims the headline in the Drudge Report. John Podhoretz's column — to which that headline is linked — practically steams. Here we go —

again.

Her name, he says, is Crystal Gail Mangum. The attorney general stated, "Our investigators who talked with her and the attorneys who talked with her over a period of time think that she may actually believe the

many different stories that she has been telling. They worked real hard with her. It doesn't make sense. You can't piece it together."

SUSAN

ESTRICH

The person who ruined these young men's lives was not the confused woman whose account should never have been the basis of a prosecution, but the prosecutor who chose to use her to further his political career.

Let the liar be named and shamed? His name is Mike Nifong.

He will face his day in court. But who will undo the damage he has caused?

The injection of politics into the prosecutorial system doesn't get fixed just because charges are dropped. Listening to reaction to

the attorney general's decision on the radio this morning, I was struck with the level of skepticism it met from students at the predominantly black college Crystal attended. They all seemed to think the dropping of the charges had to do with money and power, not inconsistencies and DNA. They gave no credit to the declaration of innocence. They took it as proof of the system's racism. If these were three black defendents charged with raping a white girl, one young woman opined, the charges wouldn't have been dropped.

A flawed indictment intended to play to racial distrust is a time bomb waiting to explode. Now it

Can you blame these kids for not having much faith in the system? Not to mention the kids at Duke. Similarly, I know many in the

rape-treatment community who believe that even if the three men she identified didn't rape her, that doesn't mean all was well inside that house that night; who believe something may well have gone wrong.

We know about the ugly racial slurs and e-mails, and that is certainly nothing for the men to be proud of.

The inability to remember accurately the nature of the victimization, even when there has unquestionably been one, is the hallmark of many cases in which drugs —

including the date-rape drug and alcohol play a prominent part. So you worry that the declaration of innocence in this case and the intense verbal barrage being aimed at the victim will be taken by legitimate victims as a message that such cases aren't even worth reporting. It is the victim's fault if you do.

Of course, the problem in this case was not simply the inconsistencies in her account, but the absence of DNA evidence to support it; not simply the failure of her memory, but the conflicting testimony and evidence that made the prosecutorial timetable unworkable; not only the fuzziness of her identifications, but the suggestiveness of the procedure used by the investigators. In short, the case didn't add up — even if it was an awful evening, even if the boys behaved brutishly, even if this woman has been a victim of men before. She wasn't a victim of any crime at the hands of these three.

The prosecutor had every reason to know that. It was his job to spare her the ordeal, not use her to create a larger one.

She was clearly his tool, not the other way around.

So name her and shame her, if that makes you feel better, but in my book, she's a victim, too.

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Nutrition Wise

Q: Are mushrooms a good source of any nutrients?

A: Mushrooms provide a variety of nutrients with few calories. A halfcup of mushroom pieces contains just 9 calories when raw or 21 calories when cooked without added fat. (Mushrooms shrink when cooked, so a

half-cup cooked requires a lot more.) Mushrooms are a good source of the mineral selenium, which protects against cancer as an antioxidant



KAREN **C**OLLINS

and by promoting DNA repair. Mushrooms also contain other compounds that act as antioxidants and may lead to the lowering of estrogen levels in postmenopausal women. (High estrogen levels are linked with increased risk of breast cancer.)

Much of the research on the healthful effects of mushrooms is still in preliminary stages but researchers suggest it holds promise. Many people trying to cut back on meat portions find that mushrooms in casseroles, stews and chilies add satisfying flavor and texture.

Q: How do the new guidelines to lower heart disease in women compare to diet recommendations for lower cancer risk?

A: Many of the steps to lower cancer risk are precisely those that protect against heart disease: avoidance of tobacco and second-hand smoke; limiting alcohol and sodium; weight control; physical activity 30 to 60 minutes daily; and a plant-based diet with fruits, vegetables and whole grains, which supply antioxidants and fiber. The new heartfocused recommendations call for at least two servings a week of oilv fish, which supplies protective omega-3 fats. Omega-3 fats may help protect against cancer too, but evidence is less clear for now.

The American Heart Association guidelines emphasize a limit of no more than 7 percent saturated fat (found in highfat meats and dairy products) to control blood cholesterol. Currently, there is not enough data to provide specific limits on saturated fats for lower cancer risk and thus, people are encouraged to follow the widely recommended limit to reduce heart disease of no more than 7 to 10 percent saturated fat.

Q: Why was the old Food Guide Pyramid with different levels of food consumption replaced?

A: The current federal food pyramid, called MyPyramid, was created to reflect the latest U.S. dietary guidelines and to address confusion over

the "old" 1992 Food Guide Pyramid. The 1992 pyramid showed that food groups are needed in different proportions. The revised pyramid is intended to better clarify that within each food group some specific foods should be included more abundantly than others.

monday page 5a 4/16/07 10:21 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

In MyPyramid, each food group stripe is itself a pyramid. The wide section of the colored bands illustrates that it is best to eat more of some foods than others.

Accompanying materials clarify that whole grains are important selections from the grain group; variety is important among vegetable selections; meat and dairy products should be lean: and preferred choices from all food groups are foods low in sugar, salt and saturated and trans fats. (Unfortunately, some feedback suggests that people do not understand this message from the graphic design.)

The current pyramid diagram omits the former listing of recommended "servings" to convey the need for individual identification of optimal portions. A serving is a standard for comparison; a portion refers to how much you eat at a time. For example, the recommendation for at least five servings of vegetables from the former pyramid corresponds to two and a half cups of vegetables, but might be consumed in two or three hearty portions. Finally, the addition of a person climbing up the pyramid emphasizes the importance of daily physical activity.

-Karen Collins, MS. RD, CDN, American Institute for Cancer Research

The American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) offers a Nutrition Hotline online at www.aicr.org or via phone 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.ET, Monday-Friday, at 1-800-843-8114. This free service allows you to ask questions about diet, nutrition and cancer.

Physicians: Texans' steep health premiums should entitle them to understand coverage

Special to the Herald

For Julie Shackleford of Austin, the surprises came in the mail after each of her two children were born, both delivered surgically.

"I was shocked to receive bills I was not expecting," she says. "I thought, 'Isn't this why I have health insurance?' It took more than a dozen calls to my insurance company before anybody could explain it to me. Ultimately, my health insurance company had made a mistake, and ended up paying my physician and hospital. Only my persistence paid

Doctors hear it repeatedly. Patients know they have health insurance but don't have a clue which medical services are covered, the amount of their copay or deductible, or which doctors are currently in their health plan. Patients turn to their doctor for help, but physicians or their staff can seldom guide patients through the complicated health insurance maze.

"We have to apologize to the patient over and over again, 'I'm sorry we don't have your information, we've tried to get it from your health plan but can't," says Christopher Crow, MD, member of the Texas Medical (TMA) Association Practice Council on Services Management and Health Information Technology Ad Hoc Committee. "It's frustrating for the patient and for

Employers and patients are paying steep insurance premiums, and doctors believe they deserve to know what their premium dollar is purchasing. Texas physicians believe patients need accurate, current, and honest information copays, deductibles, and health plan networks to make decisions about their health care. They say the real need for transparency is not when patients arrive at the doc-



but when businesses and their employees shop for health insurance.

Open, transparent discussions have been the heart of the patient-physician relationship for centuries. Yet in today's era of managed care, neither the patient nor the physician can get accurate information from health plans to make important health care decisions. Physicians are limited in how they can counsel patients on affordable and efficient treatment plans. They feel it's as if a third person, the insurer, is in the room making treatment decisions. It also affects what the patient

"We think we have right information when the patient checks out of our office," Dr. Crow says. "Then weeks later, we receive the explanation of benefits (EOB) from the insurer telling us the info

instrument.

at Aetna, or wherever, that day, was wrong, and the patient actually owes \$100 more for her visit.

"The patient," he adds, "is unhappy, and so are we. It puts us in an awkward situation, wishing we could help, but we're just as helpless as the patient.'

The problem, physiassert, is that cians health insurance companies have the information but do not share it in a timely fashion patients and physicians. In most instances, the patient's only information comes in the mail after a medical visit or hospital stay, in the form of an explanation of benefits statement. The statements are widely regarded as confusing and difficult to understand.

"I've got an MBA, a CPA, and an MD, and when I get an EOB from the insurer and try to rec-

oncile it with all my different bills from all the different people who send me medical bills, my eyes roll in my head," says Joseph Schneider, MD. A Dallas pediatrician, Dr. Schneider is the chair of TMA's Health Information Technology Ad Hoc Committee. "Yet I work in medicine. How are my patients, who do

not, supposed to under-

stand their coverage?"

Michael E. Speer, MD, a member of the TMA Board of Trustees, says the solution is simple. "It is insurance transparency about what is available and what isn't available," Dr. Speer said. "Is this hospital or this physician in-network or out of network? Up-front, for what portion of the bill will the patient be responsible? What treatments are covered? Finding those answers should not be so difficult."

An Austin health law attorney agrees. When he changed jobs, he needed to determine whether his son's diabetes supplies were covered by his new health insurance policy. "It took me six hours of poring over the contract to find my answer," describes Lee Spangler, JD. "I do this for a living; how are other patients expected to conquer the maze?"

TMA is working with state lawmakers to pass legislation that would give patients real-time access to pertinent health insurance information when they see their doctor, not weeks later through an EOB.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing nearly 42,000 physician and medical student members.

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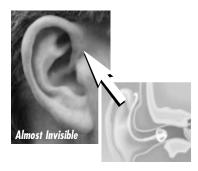
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Sports

SPRING HERALD

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> Page 1B Sunday, April 15, 2007

IN BRIEF

CGA schedules tounrey in Stanton

The Chicano Golf Association of Big Spring will hold a membership tournament on Sunday at the Phoenix Golf Course in Stanton.

Players should pick their own teams for the 4-man scramble and must be at the course by 10 a.m. for registration. For more information,

Relay for Life ragball tournament slated

call 263-7741.

The Relay for Life Ragball Tournament has been scheduled for May 12-13 at Big Spring High School's Lady Steers Softball Field.

Teams will consist of five male and five female players. Entry fees are \$10 per player.

Registration is set for 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 12, with the first game of the tournament set to start at 11 a.m..

Lady Steers Boosters to meet tonight

There will be a public meeting of the Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club at 6 tonight in the BSHS Athletic Training Center.

Club officials noted this will be an important meeting regarding nominations for 2007-2008 school year and the upcoming spring banquet slated for May 5.

If you or know someone who would like to hold an office, please be present or contact Carrie Fox 267-6428 or Leslie Whitten 816-6764.

KBSB schedules golf tournament

The Keep Big Spring Beautiful Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday at the Big Spring Country Club.

Play will get under way with 9 a.m. tee times. Entry fees for the four-

person scramble are \$60 per player. Contact the Big Spring

Country Club to sign

Immediately following play, prizes will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place teams, longest drive man and woman and closest to the pin man and woman.

Chances for new golf shoes will be available at the sign-up table or contact a member of Big Spring Beautiful at 263-9332.

Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served. All proceeds go to Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

Howard to host Region V tourney

Howard College's Foundation Field will be site for the NJCAA Region V Softball Tournament to be held

May 5-6. The top four teams from the WJCAC will qualify for double elimination tournament play, with the winner advancing to the NJCAA National Tournament in Plant City, Fla., May 17-

Cancer scramble set for April 28-29

The 2007 Cancer Scramble has been

See BRIEFS, Page 2B

Mariners get well at plate on Rangers pictching

Mariners 14, Rangers 6 By TIM BOOTH

Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — Seattle found a solution for its early-season struggles at the plate: Texas pitching.

The Mariners hit four home runs and had a season-high in hits and runs in a 14-6 win over the Rangers on Sunday.

Jose Vidro homered into the right field seats in his first two

hits, and Adrian Beltre went deep for the second straight day.

The top three hitters in Seattle's order — Suzuki, Beltre and Vidro — were 9-for-14 with 10 RBIs and nine runs scored.

"If we have people on base with this ballclub, it's going to be good," Vidro said.

Seattle's hitters staged a turnaround against Texas, after entering the series hitting just .187. They raised their averaged

at-bats, Ichiro Suzuki had four nearly 50 points in the three games, collecting 33 hits, including 14 on Sunday.

> Seattle scored 24 runs in taking two of three from Texas.

> Getting three consecutive games without interruption certainly helped Seattle. The Mariners played three straight days for the first time since their season-opening series at home against Oakland.

"Guys are getting more comfortable getting to play every

day," Beltre said.

Suzuki hit his 21st career leadoff home run and one out later Vidro connected for a solo shot, quickly erasing a 2-0 deficit and setting the tone for the afternoon. Vidro then hit a three-run homer in the second inning, the first of Seattle's two four-run innings. It was Vidro's sixth career two-homer game, the last coming in 2003 while with

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

BSJHS TOP PERFORMERS



Desiree Anderson displays the medals she won as the top eighth-grade performer on the Big Spring Junior High School girls' track team. She turned in personal bests of 33-4.25 in the triple jump, 4-8 in the high jump and 12.43 seconds in the 100 meters. She also teamed with Jillian Valle. Gabby Fiero and Valerie Ross to post times of 53.70 in the 400-meter relay and 1:54.50 in the 800-meter relay.



Bridgette Tuitt displays some of the awards she won this season as the top seventhgrade performer on Big Spring Junior High School's girls' track team. She posted personal bests of 14-11 in the long jump, 32-03/4, 12.47 seconds in the 100 meters and 27.0 seconds in the 200 meters. She also teamed with Tadrianna McCalister, Ambra Hill and Kadisha Robinson to post a 54.01 in the 400-meter relay.

Duncan tossed in Spurs' 91-86 defeat by Mavs

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Losing a tense, physical, emotional game to their top rival and being forced to settle for the third seed in the Western Conference was bad enough for Tim Duncan and the San Antonio Spurs.

Even worse: Duncan is convinced official Joey Crawford is out to get him, with a brawl possibly needed to settle things.

Crawford hit Duncan with two technical fouls just 1:16 apart late in the third quarter of San Antonio's 91-86 loss to the Dallas Mavericks on Sunday. The second came while he was laughing on the bench and meant an automatic ejection, just the second of his nineyear career.

"He looked at me and said, 'Do you want to fight? Do you want to fight?" Duncan said. "If he wants to fight, we can fight. I don't have any problem with him, but we can do it if he wants to. I have no reason why in the middle of a game he would yell at me, 'Do you want to fight?""

The Spurs sorely missed their top player down the stretch, failing to score a basket over the last 6:32 while allowing a 9-0 run to end the game. The loss ended their hopes of catching Phoenix for the No. 2 seed and homecourt advantage if they meet in the second round.

While this was a thrilling game between Western Conference powers, the story of the day turned out to be Duncan vs. Crawford.

"He came into the game with a personal vendetta me," against

points, seven rebounds, six assists and two blocks in his limited action. "It had to be because I didn't do anything the entire game. I said three words to him and the three words were, 'I got fouled' on a shot. ... That's all I said to him the entire game."

Crawford disagreed, saying that "he was complaining the whole game."

"And then he went over to the bench and he was over there doing the same stuff behind our back," Crawford said. "I hit him with one (technical) and he kept going over there, and I look over there and he's still complaining. So I threw him out."

Crawford spoke to a pool reporter before Duncan spoke to the media. Asked Duncan not thinking he deserved to be tossed, Crawford said: "That's his opinion. He said nothing when he was waiking off the court and he called me a piece of (expletive). Is that nothing?"

San Antonio had won six straight and was on a 12-1 roll. The only loss came against Indiana another game Crawford worked and another game that he rang up a T on Duncan.

"I kind of imagine it stemmed from that," Duncan said. "I don't have a problem with Joey. Obviously he's got a problem with me."

Teammate Bruce Bowen, who also got a technical from Crawford in the third quarter, couldn't believe superstar teammate was tossed, especially something so mild.

See MAVS, Page 2B

Weekley gets break from delay at Verizon Heritage tournament

By PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — Some young pros chasing their first PGA Tour victory might get thrown off by a finalround wind delay and Monday finish. Not Boo Weekley, not by a long shot.

Weekley, two shots behind leader Jerry Kelly at the Verizon Heritage, feels the Sunday suspension might help

"I didn't get much sleep last night," he said. "We stayed up too late playing cards."

Weekley got a break when winds strong enough that a marshal was hit by a falling tree limb swirled through Harbour Town Golf Links, halting play and bringing the tournament's first Monday competition since Jose Coceres defeated Billy Mayfair in a 2001 playoff.

Then Weekley and the field got a few more moments of rest when officials delayed Monday's 7:45 a.m. start 15 more minutes because of the winter conditions before play finally resumed. The temperature was 48 degrees with winds

of about 20 mph to start.

Weekley finished seventh on the Nationwide Tour last season to return to the PGA Tour and faced the prospect of chasing down Kelly and Ernie Els if he hoped for victory.

But along with card-playing, the 33year-old Weekley was kept up by the overnight storm.

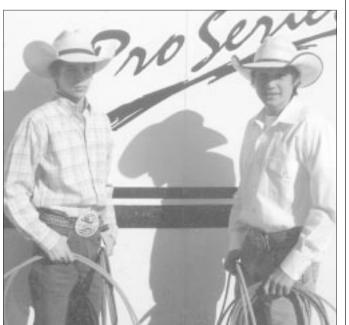
"The air conditioning was broke so I had to sleep with the windows open and all that storm came through and it got to blowing the shutters around where I was staying at, so I didn't get much sleep," he said Sunday.

"At least tonight, I'll get some sleep." Weekley will need all he can get. PGA Tour tournament director Slugger White says forecasts call for milder winds Monday — there were gusts of 44 mph on Sunday — for most of the morning. Should more than half the field, but not all, finish, White said a Tuesday finish was possible.

William Millon was the marshal hit by the branch between the first and ninth

See GOLF, Page 2B

HEADED TO STATE FINALS



Cody Jackson of San Angelo (left) and Zane Herrin of Big Spring pose together after having qualified for the Wrangler Division in team roping at the Texas High School Rodeo Association's State Finals Rodeo which begins May 28 in Gonzales. Jackson is an eighth-grader at Grape Creek Junior High School and Herrin is an eighth-grader at Forsan Junior High School.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

Montreal.

Vidro started the day batting .143, and spent time in the video room with hitting coach Jeff Pentland trying to find answers.

"It's always good to have somebody like that who can correct you," Vidro said. "I listened to him and went out and tried to work on things early today in (batting practice) and it worked in the game."

That was more than enough offense for Horacio Ramirez, who made his first official start for Seattle, 14 days into the season. Ramirez started on April 6 at Cleveland, but a snow storm forced the game to be called one strike short of being official. Ramirez trailed that game 4-0, but his slate was wiped clean.

monday page 2b 4/16/07 11:26 AM Page 1 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

Ramirez (1-0) allowed Sammy Sosa's two-out, two-run single off the left field wall in the first, then held the Rangers mostly in check. He pitched six innings, giving up seven hits and one earned run, picking up his first win since July 17 of last year while with Atlanta.

Texas starter Brandon McCarthy (1-2) lasted two innings, giving up six runs and six hits including a trio of homers. It was the shortest outing in McCarthy's 15 career starts.

"It wasn't one of the more positive outings I'll have this year," McCarthy said.

Suzuki's 26th career four-hit day including a one-out bunt single in the fourth that started Seattle's second four-run inning. Suzuki snapped an 0-for-13 slump on Saturday, then raised his average from .192 to .290 just on Sunday.

The reason? "Yesterday, I had two

ice creams. Usually I only eat one," Suzuki said.

Beltre then walked and Vidro's infield single loaded the bases. Raul Ibanez lined a shot past pitcher Kameron Loe into center field, scoring two. After a groundout, Texas third baseman Matt Kata made his second error of the day, misplaying the hop on Jose Guillen's chopper, allowing Vidro to score.

Kenji Johjima followed with a liner off Loe's glove. Loe rushed his throw to first, sailing it Teixeira's Mark

head and into the right field seats on a hop, allowing Ibanez to score.

Kata also had a throwing error in the first and had Beltre's RBI single in the second skip under his glove. That hit came after a 13-pitch at-bat by Suzuki, who fouled off eight straight pitches before reaching on an infield single.

Beltre's homer came with two out in the sev-

Texas second baseman Ian Kinsler hit a solo home run in the ninth.

Notes: Nine players and coaches wore No. 42 in honor of Jackie Robinson.

For Seattle, Beltre, RHP Miguel Batista, OF Jason Ellison, LHP Arthur Rhodes and 2B Jose Lopez wore the number. For Texas, it was manager Ron Washington, coach Gary Pettis, OF Kenny Lofton and OF Jerry Hairston, Jr. ... Suzuki stole second in the fourth inning for Seattle's first attempt and steal of the season. They were the last team in baseball to attempt a steal. It was Suzuki's 40th consecutive successful stolen base dating back to last season. ... Texas committed three errors and have six in the last two games.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

"Do I think it was deserved? No," Bowen said. "For a former MVP of the league, a guy that doesn't curse out the officials like I hear some of the other guys cursing out the officials, I think it was unfortunate that he was dealt this blow."

Said Spurs coach Gregg Popovich: "My beliefs will be shared privately, not with (reporters).'

Dirk Nowitzki and Devin Harris each scored 21 points in a game the Mavericks may have used as their dress rehearsal for the playoffs. They won for the 66th time this season, tying the 1970-71 Milwaukee Bucks for ninth-best in league history. They also sealed their home record at 36-5, tying the best in franchise history.

the Because only intrigue left to the season is who Dallas will face in the first round and when, coach Avery Johnson rested various top players over the past five games. Not this time, even though he said before the game that he'd be watching players' minutes. Fans realized Dallas was going all out when Nowitzki returned from a long rest early in the fourth quarter, cheering loudly.

Part of the motivation

was that the Mavericks wanted to bounce back from a lackluster home loss to Utah.

"We didn't want to lose two in a row at home so we went for it," Nowitzki said. "We kept on fighting to win the game."

His jumper off a rebound tied the game at 86 with 1:15 left. On San Antonio's next series, Manu Ginobili drove past Greg Buckner but Josh Howard was there to strip the ball. Buckner took it all the way for a layup and the lead with 50 seconds to go.

Bowen missed a jumper from the left side on the Spurs' next trip and Jerry Stackhouse made one of two free throws. With San

Antonio down by 3, longdistance ace Brent Barry got the ball but had to put up a long, wild heave. Harris made a pair of free throws to cap the last possible meeting between the teams until the Western Conference finals.

The Mavericks knew they dodged a break by avoiding Duncan the last 13-plus minutes.

"It was a big momentum shift," Dallas' Jason Terry said of the ejection. "They needed him down the stretch. They needed him to go to."

Dallas won the season series 3-1, taking the last three. This was the first game won by the home team.

Tony Parker led San

Antonio with 23 points. Ginobili scored 16, but the Spurs scored their fewest points since March 17. They had scored at least 109 the previous four games.

Howard had 15 points and rebounds. six Stackhouse, playing only for the second time in five games, scored 14.

Notes: Dallas center Erick Dampier missed his third straight game with

Antonio has 58 wins with two games left. The Spurs are trying to reach 60 for the fourth time and third in five years. ... Dallas finished the regular season with 234 consecutive sellouts. They drew a crowd of 20.444, some of whom were returning hours later for an NHL playoff game between the Dallas Stars and Vancouver Canucks.

a shoulder injury. ... San

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29, at the Big Spring Country

Players can form their own teams for the 4-person scramble or be assigned to a team. The field will be flighted by first round scores.

Prizes will be awarded to the first-, second- and third-place teams in each flight. Prizes will also be given for the longest drive and closest to the

Entry fees are \$75 per player, plus a \$20 cart fee. Private carts are wel-

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GOLF

Continued from Page 1B

holes. He was taken to Hilton Head Regional Medical Center by ambulance and was later with minor released injuries, Verizon Heritage tournament director Steve Wilmot said.

A short time later, the final round was halted because balls refused to remain in place on the 16th, 17th and 18th holes, which are exposed to Calibogue Sound.

Wind off the famous

was enough to knock walkers off their strides.

"It got dangerous out there for spectators," White said. "It was dangerous and unplayable." Mark Hensby

was among the few golfers who played the par-4 16th. "We were walking along 16, and the tree branches, you actually heard one crack," Hensby said. 'Then a few were flying across the fairway, and then we figured someone was going to get hurt out there."

The conditions would've been brutal on players' scores, too. J.B. Holmes hit the green on the par-3 pulled part of it away.

17th — a hole moved up some 70 yards to play at 138 yards — then needed three putts to finish.

Weekley, who is two shots behind leader Jerry Kelly, was playing the second hole when the round was halted. "I heard some stories in the locker room, and it was pretty ridiculous, really," he said.

Sand from a bunker along the 16th hole's left side was blown into the fairway, covering much of the grass.

A swaying tree snagged the netting of Harbour Town's driving range and

Another long pine tree limb was split by the wind and hanging in the same area where Millon was struck. Tournament officials rolled in a backhoe to pull down the branch as they directed spectators onto the ninth fairway on their way to Harbour Town's entrance.

Kelly expected to bring a similar mind-set into Monday morning as he tries for his first PGA Tour victory in five years. "I think I'll be able to get the adrenaline back up tomorrow morning, no problem," he said. "And off to the races."

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Burton becomes first two-time winner at Texas to push Matt Kenseth out "I was hoping I could Ten years after winning

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH — Jeff Burton was in the same position as the last time he was a runner-up. He was chasing the leader in the closing laps.

Burton did nothing different this time in Texas, and still had a much better result. He won the Samsung 500.

Like last month at Bristol when trailing eventual winner Kyle Busch, Burton didn't try

3

2

3

6

4

3

su do ku

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with no repeats. That means no number is repeat-

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4

6

1

5

3

2

9

8

1

5

6

4

9

3

computer program at www.sudoku.com

8

5

of the way Sunday. Burton raced clean and waited for his chance _ and finally made the winning pass with a half-lap

"Winning race because you knock someone out of the way didn't mean you were better," Burton said. "You just give up some integrity to win a trophy. That's not what I'm about and that's not what this team is about. We're going to do it the right way."

the inaugural race in Texas, Burton became the first two-time winner at the 1 1/2-mile, highbanked track. His only lead came when he finally overtook Kenseth, his former Roush Racing teammate, on the backstretch coming out of Turn 2 for the last time.

hold him up one more lap, but he was smart and hung back," Kenseth said.

While Burton became the first driver in 13 Nextel Cup races at the track to win twice, Kenseth was denied a true Texas two-step after winning the Busch race Saturday.

Famous Hand

Both sides vulnerable. NORTH **♥**KJ72 WEST **EAST ♥**1095 **♦**854 ♦ KJ 10 2 ♣QJ1062 **4**98753 SOUTH $\spadesuit\,A\,K$ ♥AQ864 ◆AQ763 The bidding: West North East South Pass Pass 3 ♦ Pass Pass Opening lead — queen of clubs.

South dealer.

This deal occurred in a tournanent about 60 years ago. The declarer failed to find the best line of play and, as a result, went down in a grand slam.

He won the club lead with the ace, played the A-K-Q of trumps and cashed the A-K of spades. When the missing spades proved to be divided 4-1, South was at the end of his rope. He cashed the diamond ace, ruffed a diamond with dummy's last trump, discarded two more diamonds on the queen of spades and king of clubs, but then had to lose a diamond to West's king at the end.

In effect, declarer bet all his chips on finding the spades divided 3-2, in which case he would have made the contract easily. The flaw in this method of play was that it made no provision for a possible 4-1 spade division (a hefty 28 percent chance). To guard against a 4-1 spade split

while at the same time allowing for the normal 3-2 division, South should have cashed the ace of hearts at trick two, then played the ace of spades followed by a trump to dummy's jack. Declarer next cashes dummy's

king of clubs and discards the king of spades on it! A low spade is then ruffed with the queen of hearts, a trump is led to dummy's king (drawing West's last trump) and another low spade is ruffed with South's last trump.

The result of all these maneuvers is that South makes the grand slam. Dummy's last five cards are the Q-8-6 of spades, the seven of hearts and a diamond. Declarer cashes the ace of diamonds and ruffs a diamond in dummy, and it's all over but the shouting.

Tomorrow: Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.

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Monday, April 16, 2007

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TEMPUR-PEDIC DOUBLE mattress and remote-control adjustable bed base with wave massage. Free headboard. original price. Call (432)394-4376 or 270-0943.

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Miscellaneous

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarious. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

CAL KING 3 pc pillowtop/ mattress/ foundation. New, war-Can deliver, \$219. rantv. 806-549-3110.

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New Pillow Top Mattress Set King \$249, Queen \$179, Full and Twin available In plastic with warranty Free Delivery 432-349-4043

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ADORABLE MULTI-PUG (Maltese-Pug) mixed puppies. 2 Males and 2 females. Toy Breed will be small when grown. \$200.00. 432-263-4528.

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1200 DIXIE Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A. \$750. Month plus deposit. Long term lease preferred. Call (432)263-4528 or (432)296-0277.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

304 EAST 20th. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, A/C Window Units, Newly remodeled, \$380.00 month, \$295.00 deposit. (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

410 WEST 5TH. Furnished Efficiency Apart of Bills paid. \$365 Data, \$150 deposit. Sorry No Pets. Call (432)263-4922.

Mattress. \$275.00 month. Call (432)267-7380. **CONVENIENCE STORE** for lease in Big Spring. Great op-

502 1/2 Goliad furnished - No

portunity. Call (325)658-7521. THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656

(432)517-0038. Broker/ O ner TWO BEDROOM, one bath. 105 W. 16th. \$395. month, \$150. deposit.

(432)264-1788. YESTER YEARS Elegance Downtown area. 1 Bedroom apartment. \$250.00 plus utilities. Refrigerator & stove. Non smoking, no pets. Good credit background required. McDon-

ald 432-263-7615, 263-4835. Real Estate for Sale

Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

2710 CAROL Drive - 4 Bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage. CH/A, fenced yard. Open floor plan. Kentwood ISD area. Call 432-816-1213.

4102 BILGER. 1340 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, new roof and dishwasher, fresh throughout, CH/A, fenced yard, \$85,000. garage. (432)267-5855.

500 N.W. 9th. Fixer upper. \$10,000 OBO. Also empty lot beside house. \$2,000. OBO. Call (432)556-6120.

BY OWNER: 2619 Calvin, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly remodled. Call (432)466-3649 or 466-3652.

DARLING STARTER home. 1108 Mulberry. \$39,900. 1804 Main. \$49,900. Call Kim @ Heart of the City Realtor, (432) 213-2842. Owner finance available.

FOR SALE By Owner. 4208 Parkway, 3 bdr/1 bath. 1107 Ridgeroad, 2 bdr./ 1bath. Low down, low monthly. Call 432-270-3140.

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OWNER FINANCED Houses for Sale. 2401 South Main and 905 East 16th.. Easy Terms. Call Reagan at 432-634-6818.

Monday, April 16, 2007

up

around. She

needs to see

Tomorrow's Horoscope

theatergoers watching the preview of a new release, we can't wait to see what will come. Will it be a gothic thriller or a spiritual adventure? Is the ending triumphant or heart wrenching? The brings moon Aries unknowns and

unknowables just below the surface of consciousness

as we squirm in our seats. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Don't hold back. No, really. Take yourself out

to an empty field and let out a big yelp, shout or

HOLIDAY

scream. This action liberates your selfcensor, gobbler of truth. Now you can uninhibitedly, truthfully speak your desire.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've heard what you give away comes back to you, but the getting back doesn't concern you. It's the giving. It happens so naturally you don't even realize you've done it. If it's no longer yours, you don't for another is to put your

Real Estate for Sale

TWO YEAR old doublewide,

Excellent condition! Can be

moved. Owner transferring,

priced for quick sale! Serious

inquires only! Financing avail-

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Several New 2006 Models

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Bob Brock Ford

1972 CHEVROLET, 44K, like

new, \$5,000. 1974 Dodge Van.

\$500. 1978 Ford Pickup, \$500.

Cab-over- camper, 12ft, \$750.

NOTIFICATION

dra Waggoner, Chief Financial Offi-

cer, Big Spring Independent School

District, Business Office, 708 Elev-

79720 for "ElectricalUpgrades At

Marcy, And Moss Schools" will be

received up to and no later than

4:00 pm local time, May 7, 2007. At

this time, all proposals will be pub-

licly opened and read aloud. Quot-

ers may obtain complete sets of

Contract Documents at the Big

Spring ISD Maintenance Office,

3600 East 11th Place Ext., Big

As set forth in the Texas Educa-

tion Code, Section 44.031 (b) the

following Criteria may be used to

determine the award of the con-

Spring, Texas 79720.

enth Place, Big Spring,

500 W. 4th

Call 264-0476.

upon good credit.

MATHIS

everything's messy. With a few balls juggling in the air, delightful.

better

kicked.

monday page 3-5B 4/16/07 10:09 AM Page 3 Network Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:

have to maintain it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Your inner motivator needs

a kick-start. Turn up the

volume — as in listen to an

enthusiastic speaker or

read a human potential

book. Aren't you curious

CANCER (June 22-July

22). By identifying what you

want — and what you don't

want — you have more

control over what happens

next in your career. Staying

in one work situation for

the rest of your life is old-

fashioned. Having options

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If

your whole life can't be

boxed and organized into a

neat plastic cubby, that's

fabulous. You turn out far

work

when

ecstatically

is where it's at.

about your potential?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When something is over, it's over. You can either ignore or honor that. Letting go isn't easy, but having a going-away party is. Perform a ritual for the bucket that's about to get

> LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The best thing you can do

full faith in them. Any distrust in your relationship keeps intimacy at bay. If you don't feel safe, take responsibility for it. This decision keeps integrity in your relationship. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). When it comes to someone's word, handshake is as good as a contract. The credit you get isn't as important as how you feel about what you're delivering. Come with an abundant attitude, and everyone agrees on the terms.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your confidence goes far deeper than a smile it's knowing you're the captain of your own ship. Whether your mind is on a pirate ship or a Harlequin romance novel, distinguishing feature is pure excitement.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Contentment is break, meditative picking up the pen and putting words to your experience. Attempting to capture elusive this peacefulness brings countless hours of creative joy. A relationship renewed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.

18). You're recognizing difference between looking and full-blown seeing. Although the pieces and parts are intriguing, the sum is better. Include the environment, your relationships and unspoken impulses viewfinder.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have to keep accepting a pittance for your efforts — your grocer won't. If you ask for the minimum, you get it, until you ask for more. Make it a goal to have one important need met by this time next

ASTROLOGICAL TOPIC: "What is tarot, and how does it relate to astrology?" Tarot is a deck of cards that fortunetellers have used through the ages to see the past, present and future. No one agrees on just how

long tarot's been around, but early tarot cards were likely playing cards. Both tarot and astrology use symbols of consciousness — something Jung "archetypes." An archetype is a symbol that is so universal it shows up in myths, dreams, art and real life for people of different ages, races and cultures. For instance, we all know what it's like to enter a completely new phase of life and just jump right in without an instruction manual. In tarot, the symbol that represents this idea is the Fool card. I liken that to Aries, a pure, clear, no-fear way of being. Been through a period of life where you learned to trust vour own resourcefulness, value and intuition to get to the next step? That's the High Priestess card, a life journey for Taurus people. Good communication, versatile skills exemplary timing are the magic of the Magician and Gemini. We can count on the inner Magician, or a Gemini, to pull an

opportunity out of the hat! Stay tuned. CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jennifer Garner found her calling through actionadventure roles, but flirts with dramatic and romantic comedy. Her colleagues say she's one of the brightest, warmest personalities to with.

combination of Aries fire and Gemini air bring an edgy, spontaneously combustible element to her action and dramatic roles. She's also been known to spontaneously erupt into giggles!

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. CREATORS 2007

SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My 21-year-old daughter has dating been "Charlie" for three years. My daughter attends college, works and has many plans for her future. She is beautiful, fun-loving, intelligent girl

until it comes Charlie. Charlie barely = graduated high school, shifts from If you can point these job to job and doesn't care about the future. They never go out with her friends, always his. He rarely comes to our house our daughter always goes to his place. He constantly is text messaging her to find out where she is and with whom.

We've told her we can't get to know Charlie if he refuses to come around. We invited him to a family dinner for my daughter's birthday, and he promised to attend, but at the last minute, said he was "too sick" a common excuse for him. We also invited his parents, but his mother "fell asleep and forgot.'

Our daughter says Charlie is her soul mate, but we think she is being taken advantage of. Now that she is 21, our hands are tied, not that she would listen to anyway. We have a great relationship otherwise. I would hate to see her stuck with Charlie for the rest of her life. What can we do? — Concerned Parents

Dear Parents: Not too much. We worry that keeps Charlie vour daughter from her friends and tracks her whereabouts. We suspect she

feels Charlie needs her and it would be cruel to break him, with but he is no doubt manipulating that attitude to her keep

this KATHY MITCHELL controlling MARCY SUGAR behavior for what it is,

and before it gets worse. things out, calmly and lovingly, she may pay attention, but unfortunately, the final decision is hers.

Dear Annie: I have three sons, my in-laws' only grandsons. problem is, they favor girls so much they refuse to visit us and haven't in over 10 years, though they drive through our town in order to visit their daughters, who have girls.

I've invited them to visit, only to be rebuffed time and again. They do call the day before they leave their daughters' homes, and I always suggest they stop in and visit us on their way back, but they always have an excuse why they can't.

My husband has spoken to his parents about this, but they don't see a problem. They say they have a right to visit whomever they wish. My parents are deceased, and these are the boys' only grandparents. Any ideas? - Hopeless in Seattle

Dear Hopeless: Your inlaws are missing out on a wonderful relationship with their grandsons, not to mention they are creating tremendous ill

will with their son and daughter-in-law. You can do nothing about people who are so shortsighted and hard-hearted. Fill your sons' lives with substitute grandparents — neighbors, friends or volunteers from community and church groups, who will appreciate the young men they are becoming.

Dear Annie: Last February, I had a heart attack and was rushed to the veteran's hospital in Loma Linda, Calif. The people were very nice, but waiting on the hospital gurney all alone was difficult.

A nurse came by, saying, "Someone sent you this," and handed me a homemade card. Right in the middle was a little bear. The card said, "Get well and thank you. Very simple words, but at that moment, they hit my emotional button. Tears started streaming down my face. Someone cared. I was not alone.

It took a small child to make the difference. I took that card home and hung it on the wall. This year, I needed a quadruple bypass. I am recuperating now, but I am getting better every minute, because God is with me and someone cared enough to write, "Get well and thank vou." I'll never forget. I love you all. (P.S.: I was in the 82nd Airborne Division in 1954 in Korea.) — P.H.

Dear P.H.: Thank you for letting our readers know that their cards and good wishes to our veterans are appreciated and needed. Bless you. Annie's Mailbox iš written

by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL *60611*.

CREATORS 2007 SYNDICATE, INC.

su|do|ku Puzzles by Pappocom

ANSWERS

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

BUY•SELL•TRADE Big Spring Herald Classifieds 263-7331

Legals

Texas

- 1. Price Sealed proposals, address to San-
 - 2. The qualification and reputation of proposer
 - 3. Quality of the contractor's proposal
 - 4. The extent to which the goods of service meeting the school district's needs.
 - 5. The Proposers past relationship with the school district.
 - 6. The technical aspects of goods
 - and services in the proposal. 7. The total long-term cost to the
 - District to acquire the goods or services. 8. Any other relevant factors that a
 - private business entity would consider in selecting a vendor. The Big Spring Independent

School District has the right to reject any or all bids.

#5338 April 16 & 23, 2007

NOTIFICATION

Sealed proposals, address to San dra Waggoner, Chief Financial Offi cer, Big Spring Independent School District, Business Office, 708 Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720 for "Air Conditioning At Steer Gym" will be received up to and no later than 1:00 pm local time, May 3, 2007. At this time, all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Quoters may obtain complete sets of Contract Documents at the Big Spring ISD Maintenance Office, 3600 East 11th Place Ext., Big Spring, Texas 79720.

As set forth in the Texas Education Code, Section 44.031 (b) the following Criteria may be used to determine the award of the con-

Legals

- 2. The qualification and reputation of proposer
- Quality of the contractor's proposal
- 4. The extent to which the goods or
- service meeting the school district's needs.
- 5. The Proposers past relationship with the school district.
- The technical aspects of goods and services in the proposal.
- The total long-term cost to the District to acquire the goods or services. 8. Any other relevant factors that a

private business entity would consider in selecting a vendor. The Big Spring Independent

School District has the right to reject any or all bids. #5322 April 9 & 16, 2007

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS **DEPARTMENT OF** TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts

listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/

MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 6159-75-001 for PICNIC MAINTENANCE MITCHELL County, etc will be opened on May 15, 2007 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$33.960.00

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available TxDOT's website from www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 23263

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District District Engineer 4250 N. Clack Abilene, Texas 79604-0150

Phone 325-676-6800 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national ori-

#5334 April 15 & 16, 2007

hurting the kids, how can my fiance and I tell them that their actions are unacceptable?

The kids are beginning to ask questions. I don't want to lie to them, but on the other hand, I think they're too young to know everything. I love my fiance and the kids, and I won't let anyone come between us. What can we do to co-exist with people who thrive on creating drama? — Victim of Baby

Dear Vic: The two women sound unhinged, and there is no more deadly combination than nuts and destructive. Since the ex bats for the other team, it is not clear why she is out to louse up your life — I mean, it's not like she wants him

back. can be documented, you ammunition to fight back. Maybe you could even get them removed from the picture. I would start by going to someone at the kids' school to act as a neutral adviser to the two women. They need to know their behavior is not only harassment, but

harmful to the children. Worst-case scenario you will wind up in court asking for an evaluation and a guardian ad litem to act in the best interests of the children. In other words, you need not sit back and be punching Margo, selfprotectively

Frosty In-Laws

Dear Margo: I'm sure you've answered this question a million times, a wonderful man who has marriage. We moved to his hometown so his son would grow up around his family.

moving, Since family has been very cold toward me, to the point of being passive-aggressive. I am always nice and polite to them (so no one can accuse me of "fanning the flames"), and I do not enjoy being treated this way. My husband has asked his family members why they treat me like they do, and they said that "they don't know what he is talking about."

So my question is this: Is it wrong for us not to contact his family members except for when his son wants to see them? — Irritated in Indiana

Dear Ir: Your solution sounds good to me. Here you have moved to make the little boy's life run more smoothly and your husband's relatives are showering you with indifference. It's useful that he has taken your side, so that you can handle this situation together.

The important thing is time with his son, so arrange those visits as a threesome. The only reason that occurs to me is that your stepson's mother is close to the family, and they have foolishly decided to try to make you uncomfortable. Kinda dumb, but there you are. Onward. Margo, tactically

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via emaildearmargo@creators.com.

answered. MARGO2007 DISTRIBUTED

HOWARD CREATORS SYNDICATE,

When Pushing Back Is Indicated

Dear Margo: I'm 22 years old and have been living with a great guy the past seven months. We recently became engaged, and there's only one problem: his ex-wife

and her girlfriend. He and his have ex three

wonderful boys, and as a result we need to interact with both her and

basis. They

do things that would

cause reasonable people

For example, I recently

sent some cookies home

with the kids for dessert,

and an hour later, the

cookies were thrown at

our front door. And there

are constant ranting

voicemail, and I've been

cursed out (in front of the

kids, no less!) at the

For the sake of the kids,

we would like to be civil,

but it is hard. Just

threatened to have a

around the kids. They've

talked themselves blue in

the face telling teachers,

neighbors (we live in the

same area) and anyone

else who will listen that

we are "liars who can't be

disorder, but frankly, I

don't think that excuses

their behavior. Short of

recognizing themselves in

this letter and realizing

that what they're doing is

borderline-personality

both

render

children's holiday play.

on

his

so that I

allowed

been

our

me

messages left by

girlfriend

yesterday

"unstable"

wouldn't be

judge

trusted.

They've

diagnosed

to raise their eyebrows.



Margo Howard



Mama Drama have both been known to

> Because their behavior without

bags. —

Due to a high volume of ebut I feel compelled to ask mail, not all letters will be again. I recently married a son from his first

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6B

Comics

MONDAY																				
	,	WFAA 2 Dallas	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	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	SCIFI 64 Science Fic.
	I-	(/	News Wheel-Fortune		King of the Hill The Simpsons			News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Van Impe Pres John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Mega Builders (CC)	39	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Charmed (CC)	- (/		NFL Live SportsCenter	MLB Baseball: New York Mets	I I
	30 t	the Stars	the Stars	La Fea Mas Bella	Drive (CC)	Old Christine	"	Deal (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Charles Scott		MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Fletch	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	(CC)	Leprechaun:	Movie: Holes (CC)	Philadelphia	at Philadelphia Phillies (CC)	Enterprise
8	30	The Bachelor:	(CC) The Bachelor:		24 (CC)	King	Zorro - La Es- pada y la Rosa	You're Here	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Crossroads	Oil, Sweat and Rigs	,,	Movie: First Blood	(CC) (DVS)	Back 2 tha Hood (CC)	"	Soul at Dallas Desperados	23	Star Trek: Enterprise
9	30	Gentleman	Officer and a Gentleman	Cristina "	Becker (CC) Friends (CC)	(CC)		Name Is Earl	Family Guy Family Guy	23	"		Movie: Fletch Lives (CC)	22	(CC) (DVS)	` '	:10 Movie: Holes (CC)	NFL Live	Tonight	Star Trek: Enterprise
10	1 08:	0	Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	News Late Show-		Tonight Show	Seinfeld (CC) Seinfeld (CC)		` '	Deadliest Catch			, , , ,	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx		Bidding Wars		The Dresden Files (CC)
11	30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)		, ,	Letterman Late Late	"!Al Rojo Vivo!		Funniest Com- mercials: 2006			MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Saturday Night	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	In Living Color In Living Color	Kim Possible	NASCAR Now U.S. Poker	NBA Fastbreak Baseball	(CC)
12 ¹	MA 1 0E	` ′	Extra (CC) Basco	El Privilegio de Amar	Malcolm-Mid. My Wife-Kids	Show The Insider	l	Conan O'Brien Apex	Movie: Grosse Pointe Blank		33	Oil, Sweat and Rigs	Fever (CC)	Star Trek: Voyager	I	Comicview (CC)		Championship U.S. Poker	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

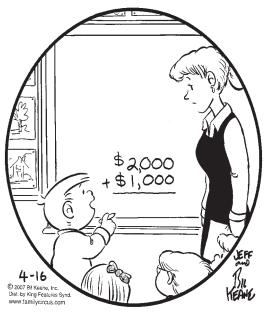
DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S NO WONDER MRS. WILSON ONLY LETS MR. WILSON COOK *OUTSIDE!*"

I THINK I'M CRAZY!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Is this before or after taxes?"

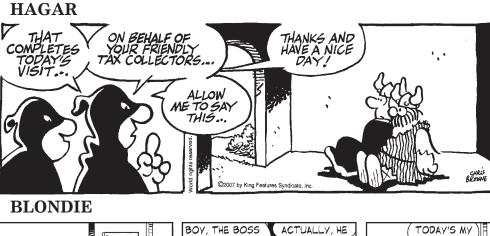
THEN WHAT WORDS

DO YOU USE

OH, LET'S SEE-

BANANAS

DAFT, BALMY,



6,112,16,11

sudden**lli**

Formerly Cox Communications

REALLY LET YOU HAVE IT, DIDN'T WAS HOLDING BACK A LITTLE





WE DON'T USE WORDS LIKETHAT.





AGNES

 \mathbf{BC}







HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST







SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Monday, April 16, the 106th day of 2007. There are 259 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On April 16, 1947, the French ship Grandcamp blew up at the harbor in Texas City, Texas; another ship, the Highflyer, exploded the following day. The blasts and resulting fires killed 576 people. On this date:

In 1789, President-elect George Washington left Mount Vernon, Va., for his inauguration in New York.

In 1862, a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia became law.

In 1912, Harriet Quimby became the first woman to Channel. In 1917, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin returned to Russia

fly across the English

after years of exile. In 1935, the radio comedy program "Fibber McGee and Molly" premiered on the NBC Blue Network.

In 1945, in his first speech Congress, President Truman pledged to carry out the war and peace policies of late predecessor, his Franklin President Roosevelt.

idential confidant Bernard M. Baruch said in a speech at the South Carolina statehouse: "Let us not be deceived — we are today in the midst of a cold war."

In 1947, financier and pres-

In 1972, Apollo 16 blasted off on a voyage to the moon.

In 1986, dispelling rumors he was dead, Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi appeared on television to condemn the

U.S. raid on his country.

In 1996, Britain's Prince Andrew and his wife, Sarah, the Duchess of York, announced they were in the process of getting a divorce.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Barry Nelson is 87. Pope Benedict XVI is 80. Actor Peter Mark Richman is 80. Actress-singer Edie Adams is 78. Singer Bobby Vinton is 72. Denmark's Queen Margrethe II is 67. Singer Gerry Rafferty is 60.

2007 The Associated Press.



ACROSS

- 1 Wrestling surfaces
- **5** Young male horse
- 9 Heelless shoes

- 16 Vowel group
- **19** A la
- 20 Electrical unit
- 22 High-class tie
- **24** Castro of Cuba
- 29 Window section
- **30** Historic time
- **34** Large coffee
- tree
- 37 Does
- **39** Vampire
- **40** Hardly
- 41 King Kong,
- 42 Lock of
- 43 Teachers' org. **44** Use a
- **45** Something
- **46** Oyster product
- 57 One bit at a time

Newsday Crossword

59 Golfer Palmer's nickname

60 Shakespeare

Abbr.

64 Flagmaker

Betsy

DOWN

Lisa

2 College grad

4 Weep loudly

6 Days ___ (yore)

8 Timbered land

for commercial

3 Office sub

5 Life's work

7 Country

byway

use

17

20

33

36

40

- villian **61** Two-band,
- as a radio 62 Beau
- **14** Margarine
- 15 At a distance
- 17 Top-ranked
- (menu option)
- 21 Wild brawl
- 23 Scored 100 on
- **26** Elk's horn
- 33 Pan-fry
- vessel 35 Equitable
- **36** Cone-bearing
- damage to
- novelist Rice
- (rarely)
- for one
- 37 Down
- dishtowel
- confidential
- 48 Regal address
- __ con carne **51** Corrects copy 53 Female deer
- 56 Minimal amount

- THINGS TO SING by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com **9** False front **32** Take
- 10 Rental agreement 11 Ventilation-
- system filter
- **12** Wizard of Oz
- dog
- **63** Primary school: **13** Birdseed ingredient
 - 18 Game-show

 - host
 - 23 Shorten, as slacks
 - 25 Rural
 - stopovers **26** Colorado
 - resort

15

18

- 27 Unsophisticated
- **28** Adjust the baby grand
- 29 Blender setting
- 31 Remove the soapsuds from
- 38 All-American dessert 42 Briefly stated 44 Restaurant

worker

45 Seinfeld or

(relax)

37 Beauty-salon

sweeping

35 Mockery

- Cheers 47 Borden's cow **48** Military
- campaign 49 Cat's weapon
- **50** War honoree 52 Clock face
- 53 Test-driven
- vehicle **54** Clumsy ones
- **55** Shade
- providers

19

- **58** Feb. follower 10 11 12 13
- 22 24 25 26 | 27 | 28 29 30 31 32 34 35 37 41 42 45 46 47 48

56 57 59 60 62 63

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