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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 134

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Finding peace with the past

Visit to the Wall helps Vietnam veteran find closure

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Vietnam War may have ended decades ago, but for one Big Spring man it finally came to a close in April when he and members of his Army unit visited Washington, D.C.

Ralph Kennedy, who served in the Army's 509th Radio Research Communication Unit in Vietnam, said being able to place a wreath at the Vietnam Memorial helped him in ways most civilians will never understand.

"On the morning of April 21, we placed a wreath at the Vietnam Memorial Wall," said Kennedy. "We placed a wreath and a placard there. I can't begin to tell you what the experience was like. I felt like my Vietnam experience finally had closure because I got to go to the Wall. There were 32 guys in my unit who were killed, and I got the chance to make pencil rubbings of their names. I just felt like I was able to find closure with Vietnam now. Until that point, I never really did."

"I can't begin to tell you what the experience was like. I felt like my Vietnam experience finally had closure because I got to go to the Wall."



Kennedy



Left (clockwise), Retired 1st Sgt. Ray Kessler, right, and local resident and retired 1st Sgt. Ralph Kennedy lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C., also pictured right. The group also left this placard, bottom right, containing the badge for the Army's 509th Radio Research Communication Unit, at the Vietnam Memorial.



Courtesy photo

Kennedy said the two-day drive to the nation's capitol was well worth the experience the weekend provided.

"We got there April 19 and had an initial get-together, and passed out shirts

and hats that evening," said Kennedy. "There were 47 veterans there, plus their spouses and families. Our unit was called the Radio Research Communications Unit in Vietnam.

Every one of us there was from that unit. Our unit processed signal intelligence for the commanders, so everyone

See KENNEDY, Page 3A



Council OKs Moore funding

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Let the hammers swing.

That was the message delivered by the Big Spring City Council Tuesday night, as the council voted unanimously in favor of



McEwen

Moore Development for Big Spring's plan to fund \$3 million in an effort to restore and renovate the historic Settles Hotel.

The project, which was recently undertaken by Big Spring native Brint Ryan, manager of the Settles Hotel Development Company, calls for commercial and residential use of the property, with retail space available on the first and second floors.

Mayor Russ McEwen said Tuesday's approval from the council will allow the

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TAKS scores show improvement

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

By and large, Howard County public school students have shown improvement in the latest round of state standardized testing.

Preliminary Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) results showed area students did well on third grade reading and fifth grade math and reading scores, officials said.

Texas students posted their highest passing rate ever on the state's fifth grade math test, with 85 percent passing the English-language version of the exam and 39 percent receiving "commended" status, the Texas Education Agency announced.

The passing rate rose from 79 percent in 2005 to 81 percent last year.

TEA has not yet released statewide figures for reading



Johnson

scores. Forsan Independent School District fifth graders exceeded the state math scores, with 93 percent posting passing grades, Superintendent Randy Johnson said.

Those figures represent a slight drop from 2006, when 95 percent of fifth graders

passed the TAKS math test. "We're thrilled," Johnson said. "When this group was in the fourth grade, only 80 percent passed. That's what we're most excited about — that we showed that much improvement from one year to the next."

Forsan's third graders posted a perfect 100 percent passing mark in reading scores —

See TAKS, Page 3A

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hulls at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

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Wednesday, May 2, 2007

IN BRIEF

Howard to host Region V tourney

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

The top four teams from the WJAC will qualify for double elimination tournament play, with the winner advancing to the NJCAA National Tournament in Plant City, Fla., May 17-19.

Forsan reschedules its all-sports banquet

Forsan High School's All-Sports Banquet has been rescheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, May 21, at the high school.

School officials moved the event's date to accommodate tennis players who will be playing at the state tennis tournament on the originally scheduled date of May 7.

Tickets, priced at \$10 each, are available at the high school office and must now be purchased by Wednesday, May 16.

For more information, contact Debbie Burton at 457-2223.

Relay for Life ragball tournament slated

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 that morning.

Guys & Gals Tourney scheduled at BSCC

A Guys & Gals Couples Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Big Spring Country Club.

Entry fees for the two-person scramble are \$130 per couple, plus \$40 cart fee per team.

All teams are one-man, one-woman.

To enter, call the country club at 267-53-54.

Texas Tech schedules summer sports camps

Texas Tech University has scheduled several sports camps for this summer.

The Tim Siegel Tennis Camps are set for June 2-6 and June 17-21. The overnight camps are for players 8 to 17 of all ability levels.

For more information, call Siegel at 806-742-3355, ext. 277.

The Texas Tech Golf Camp for boys and girls ages 11 to 18 will be June 8-11.

For information on that camp, call 806-742-3355, ext. 272.

The Texas Tech High Altitude Cross Country Camp will be Aug. 6-10 at Cloudfroft, N.M.

For information, call Jon Murray at 806-742-3355, ext. 287.

The Wes Kittley Caampions Track and Field Camp for boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18 will be June 17-20.

For information call Joe Walker at 806-742-3355, ext. 249.

Hard work powers Buffs into baseball playoffs

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Writer

FORSAN — In just their second year of competing in varsity baseball, Forsan's Buffaloes are headed to the Class 1A playoffs and Coach Randy Phillips says there's no real secret to his team's success.

"Number one is our work ethic," said Phillips when asked about keys to the Buffs' success this season. "Our guys work extremely hard every day."

The Buffs laid claim to their first district championship in District 2-1A this season, sharing the honor with rival Miles' Bulldogs. The Buffs finished the season with a 9-6-1 record overall and were 6-2 in district play.



Courtesy photo

Forsan's Buffaloes, co-champions in District 2-1A, will open the Class 1A baseball playoffs Friday when they take on Marfa's Shorthorns in the first game in a best-of-three series in Fort Stockton.

See **BUFFS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Dana Reid

Members of the Bulldogs varsity baseball team were among those honored during Monday night's Coahoma Athletic Banquet in the elementary school cafeteria. Pictured from left are: Garrett Walker, Casey Kilpatrick, Corey Roberts, Donnie Garcia, P.J. Daylong, Chance Hart, Ray Gutierrez, Jake Owens and Blake Cates.

Sterling, Ewing, Kerby selected top athletes at Coahoma banquet

Hereal staff report

COAHOMA — Laci Sterling, Steven Ewing and Blane Kerby were honored as Athlete of the Year Award winners Monday night during Coahoma High School's annual athletic banquet.

Sterling won the award for girls' athletics, while Ewing and Kerby shared the boys' honor.

Dakota Taft was selected as the school's Most Valuable Player in football, while the boys' basketball MVP Award was shared by Kerby, Ewing and Jason Gonzales.

Sterling was selected as the Offensive MVP in girls' basketball and Janice Gonzales was the Defensive MVP.

Powerlifting coaches

selected Gus Yanez as the MVP of the boys' team, while Chelsea Gonzales was the girls' MVP.

Rounding out the fall semester sports programs, Ewing was selected as the top performer in boys' cross country, while K'Leigh Fowler was the top girls' team member.

Fowler was also the girls' track MVP, while

Ewing shared the boys' MVP award with Colter Morgan and Josh Jones.

Mike Mendoza was selected as the boys' golf team's MVP, while Haylea McCullough was the girls' MVP.

Harrison Chevalier was the MVP in boys' tennis and Callie Paige was the MVP of the girls' squad.

See **BANQUET**, Page 2B

Young Lady Buffs ready for first playoff date

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Writer

FORSAN — When coach Shanna Roberts took on the role as first head coach of the fledgling Forsan Lady Buffaloes softball program, she brought with her a winning attitude and tradition that she learned from being an assistant coach for Coahoma's storied Class 2A Bulldogettes program.

It's never easy starting a program from scratch, but Roberts embraced the opportunity and now has the Lady Buffaloes in the playoffs in only their second season of play.

The Lady Buffs rolled through District 2-1A with a 7-3 record, earning a first round bye. Their first playoff game will be against Ralls' Lady Jackrabbits, who are ranked 20th in the state UIL 1A poll, this Friday in Snyder at 6 p.m. The second game in the best-of-three series will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday. A third game, if necessary, will be played 30 minutes after the com-



Courtesy photo

Forsan's Lady Buffaloes, in only their second year of competition, claimed the District 2-1A softball championship and will take on Ralls Lady Jackrabbits in a best-of-three playoff series that begins Friday in Snyder.

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B

Mavs stay alive

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — A terrific regular season was a little more than three minutes from a horrendous end. The largest crowd the Dallas Mavericks have ever had was witnessing one of the biggest upsets in NBA playoff history, with a blown 21-point lead to cap it.

Then Dirk Nowitzki hit a 3-pointer.

And another.

By the time Devin Harris got a layup to spin in off the backboard, those 21,041 fans realized they were starting to see something special.

Dallas pulled out the game and, temporarily, the series and its season with a 118-112 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday night. It took a 15-0 closing kick, with 12 of the points coming from Nowitzki, and all it guarantees is that the Mavericks get another game — in Oakland on Thursday night.

"This team has a lot of heart, a lot of pride," Nowitzki said. "We hope to go down there and steal one so we can get Game 7 on our home

See **MAVS**, Page 2B

Obituaries

Lilia Garza



Lilia Garza, 81, of St. Lawrence died Monday, April 30, 2007, at her daughter's home surrounded by her family. A vigil service will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 2, 2007, at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church with Father Francis Njoku officiating. Interment will follow at St. Lawrence Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 8, 1925, in Mexico, and married Ramiro R. Garza Sr. on April 25, 1951, in Mexico.

Lilia enjoyed gardening, crocheting and cooking. She loved being with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was a member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church.

Survivors include her husband, Ramiro R. Garza Sr. of St. Lawrence; four daughters and sons-in-law, Rosalinda and Robert Moreno of Lubbock, Julia and Frank Rosas of El Paso, Blanca and Roberto Guerrero of St. Lawrence, and Lucila and Pedro Trevino of Lavon; three sons and daughters-in-law, Juan and Anna Garza of San Angelo, Ramiro Jr. and Rosa Garza of St. Lawrence, and Jose and Bertha Garza of Big Lake; one brother, Antonio Zuniga of Garden City; four sisters, Maria Flores, Alicia Zuniga, Isabel Olono and Refugio DeLaGarza, all of Mexico, 25 grandchildren; and 32 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, twin sons, one brother and an uncle.

Pallbearers will be Albert Moreno, Carlos Moreno, David Garza, Anthony Garza, Frankie Rosas, Josh Rosas, Michael Rosas, Robert Guerrero, Orlando Garza, Joshua Trevino and Patti Barron.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Hospice of San Angelo, 36 Twohig, Suite 1100, San Angelo 76902.

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

Paid obituary

Jerline Myles Wilson



Jerline Myles Wilson, 60, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 29, 2007, at her residence. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Elder Holston Banks officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Jerline was born Oct. 8, 1946, in Big Spring. She worked for more than 40 years as a certified nurse's assistant. Jerline worked for more than 20 years

for Nurses Unlimited and also at Mountain View Lodge. She had worked at the Big Spring State Hospital and had worked 15 years for the Big Spring Independent School District as a bus driver. Jerline married Eugene Wilson in November 1999. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a Baptist.

Jerline is survived by her husband, Eugene Wilson of Big Spring; one son, Willie Ray Myles of Big Spring, one daughter, Kelly Myles of Big Spring; one sister, Sheila Crockett of Big Spring; a special friend that was like a sister, Shirley Watson of Dallas; two grandchildren, Shamar Myles and Keith Kelley and his wife Rosemary, all of Big Spring; three great grandchildren, Latoya Kelley, Keith Kelley Jr., and Kendrick Shamar Kelley, all of Big Spring; one uncle, Clarence of Fort Worth; and several cousins.

In addition to her parents, Richie Mae Smith and Henderson Crockett Jr., she was preceded in death by her first husband, Willie Myles; and one sister.

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

Paid obituary

J.C. Allen

J.C. Allen, 83, of San Angelo died Monday, April 30, 2007, in a Big Spring hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3, 2007, at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio.

He was born June 18, 1923, in Abilene.

Mr. Allen grew up in Fort Stockton and farmed there. He retired in San Angelo in 1979. He served in the United States Army during World War II and was a POW for nine months in Germany. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include a nephew, Jody Allen of San Angelo.

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

Al Patterson

Al Patterson of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 1, 2007, in an Odessa hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Leo W. Welch

Leo W. Welch, 84, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 1, 2007, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- **ELEUTERIO PADRON**, 58, of 2000 S. Douglas, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RICHARD DELACRUZ**, 42, of 1214 Lindbergh, was arrested Tuesday on a parole violation.
- **RONALD LEE SIMONEK**, 52, of 3611 Hamilton, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **CORRINA GUTIERREZ**, 24, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **MALINDA DUNN SALAZAR**, 33, of 1501 Hilltop, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JASON L. WOODRUFF**, 24, of 307 N.W. Eighth Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported in the 2900 block of Highway 80.
- **ARSON** was reported in the 600 block of Sixth Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.
- **MOISES CERVANTES**, 30, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- **RANDY RAY MIER**, 29, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **JOHNNY LEE JOHNSON**, 35, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- **DENNIS MICHAEL RICHARDSON**, 22, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.
- **GARY LEE SCOTT**, 57, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license, possession of drug paraphernalia and no insurance.
- **LANCE WAYNE BIDDLE LAND**, 18, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation, assault - family violence and disorderly conduct - fighting.
- **ROY DWIGHT BIDDLE III**, 46, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of Class C assault - family violence and disorderly conduct - fighting.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 5200 block of Sterling Rd. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

- **A SENIOR ADULT BIRTHDAY PARTY** will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday for seniors 55 and older at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Bring a vegetable or salad (no desserts, please). Cake and ice cream will be served. There will be birthday presents and fun with Dimple the Clown and maybe Mischief too. The event is free, sponsored by the Big Spring Baptist Association.

- **WAL-MART RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM** will be having a garage sale, bake sale and cook-out from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday at the store. "We have so many Wal-Mart associates who have survived cancer. We have lost some but we keep going. It is such a great cause to help raise money for a cure," said Debbie Williams, Wal-Mart Relay team captain.

- **HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST** will be serving barbecue plates Saturday at 408 NE 11th St. Plates will include brisket, chicken, sausage, potato salad, beans, cole slaw, bread and a desert for \$6.50. Chocolate cakes will be available for \$6.25. Call 263-5621 for delivery and hours.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY
• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
• Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
• Cinco de Mayo Festival at Heart of the City Park, 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy. Showers and thunderstorms likely. Some thunderstorms may be severe with heavy rainfall...Large hail and damaging winds in the evening. Lows in the upper 50s. East winds around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 70 percent.

Thursday...Decreasing clouds. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming southeast 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 90s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Sunday...Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Lottery

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$81 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$69 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were four second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing, matching all five lotto numbers but not the Mega Ball number to win \$250,000 each. Also, 37 tickets matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth \$10,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 11, 16, 31, 52 and 53. The Mega Ball number was 42.

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-14-18-28-33.
Number matching five of five: none.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-3-3.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

court.”
All this win did was prolong the series. But if the Mavs win two more, they'll have the ninth-ever comeback from a 3-1 deficit.

“Now they have a lot of pressure,” Dallas coach Avery Johnson said, taking his turn at the mind games Golden State coach Don Nelson has played all series. “They have 10,000 pounds on them up in Oakland. They have a lot of pressure to play well and win that game.”

In the only other playoff game Tuesday, Toronto beat New Jersey 98-96.

If Nowitzki starts playing like he ended this game, the Warriors will be in trouble.

He scored 12 of Dallas' final 15 points, going 6-of-7 from the foul line in addition to the pair of 3s. He started the run of free throws by getting clobbered on a strong move to the basket; the ensuing foul shots tied the game

and put the Mavs ahead. He finished with 30 points, easily his most this series.

“We got on Dirk's back and he carried us,” said Devean George, who knows the feeling after winning titles with Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant on the Los Angeles Lakers. “That's who he is for us. We're going to ride with him. ... We'll build off this. We've been fighting all year. We'll do the same in the next game.”

More bad news for Golden State: Stephen Jackson, the primary defender against Nowitzki, was ejected for the second time this series, picking up a meaningless technical with 8.9 seconds left. Nelson already said Jackson will be fined a substantial amount, but that may not be enough for the league, especially considering Jackson's history.

Jackson, who was clapping when he was tossed, was befuddled by what happened.
“My mouth didn't open.

I didn't say anything,” he said. “If somebody wants to take that another way just because I'm Stephen Jackson, then so be it. But I was just getting my team motivated for the home game. I didn't say anything, I didn't do anything and I don't feel like I should've gotten kicked out.”

The Warriors likely will be kicking themselves by tipoff of Game 6 considering how close they were to ending this series in Dallas, having led 112-103 after a lunging 3-pointer by Baron Davis that looked like a knockout punch.

Instead, Davis drew his fifth and sixth fouls during Golden State's meltdown, getting him disqualified before Jackson. The Warriors also missed their final eight shots, wasting 16 3-pointers, a franchise record for a playoff game.

“All we had to do is guard and we didn't do it,” Nelson said. “There's no excuse for that. Bad judgment cost us the game.”

Davis had 27 points and nine assists. He was 7-of-7 for 21 points with six assists, including a half-court alley-ooop to Jason Richardson, in the second half. Richardson had five of the 3-pointers and 23 points.

Josh Howard had 23 points, eight rebounds and five assists for Dallas, and was a big part of the fourth-quarter turnaround. Harris scored 11 of his 16 points in the final period, including nine in a row.

The Mavs showed that by winning 67 games this season, among the most in league history.

They had winning streaks of 17, 13 and 12 games, so finishing this series with three in a row doesn't seem like a stretch.

They started this game playing at that level, hitting their first five shots — one from each starter — and scoring on their first nine possessions. They led by 16 points midway through the first, then went up by 21 in the second quarter.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

pletion of Game 2.

Roberts credits the Lady Buffs' success to hard work and perseverance. There were many trials that the team had to overcome in the thick of the season. The team lost its starting pitcher just before the start of district play and then lost its starting third baseman to a broken ankle during the first district game.

“We had to do a lot of switching around, especially in the infield,” said Roberts. “But the girls have done an excellent job of moving when we need to move and playing different positions.”

The Lady Buffaloes are also incredibly young, featuring four freshman starters and absolutely no seniors on the roster.

“We are fairly young,” Roberts acknowledged. “I really had a great group of freshmen come up this year.”

Offensively, the Lady Buffs got off to a slow start, but started swinging the bat much more efficiently through district play. What's more, they are stringing together multiple base hits, allowing them to score several runs in a given inning.

The best example of their offensive prowess

came in a 16-12 victory over District 4-2A runner-up Tahoka.

Freshman shortstop Shelby Jones leads the Lady Buffs defensively, while Amanda Longorio has emerged as the premier pitcher and will be starting Game 1 Friday.

Longorio isn't the only threat that the Lady Buffs have to put on the mound.

Sophomores Alyx Pappajohn and Hayley Burlison both bring capable pitching, not to mention a year's worth of experience pitching at the varsity level.

“I have three pitchers, and am very fortunate to have three pitchers,” said Roberts. “I would feel comfortable with any of them on the mound.”

Ralls should prove to be a strong challenge for the Lady Buffs in their first playoff game in school history, but Roberts has seen enough in her team to believe that it can more than contend with the District 4-1A champion.

“Beating teams like Tahoka,” said Roberts, “who were second place in their district in Class 2A, makes me feel very confident going into this playoff game.”

Contact Sports Writer Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

BUFFS

Continued from Page 1B

Their first opponent in the playoffs will be Marfa's Shorthorns with the best-of-three series starting on Friday at 7 p.m. in Fort Stockton. Game 2 will be played on at 1 p.m. Saturday, with a third game, if necessary, taking place 30 minutes after the conclusion of Game 2.

Phillips inherited a particularly young team after moving to Forsan and assuming the Buff helm after having spent 12 years as an assistant and

head coach at Big Spring High School. The Buffs are made up of mostly sophomores and freshmen with only three juniors and two seniors on the roster.

However, that lack of experience doesn't translate into a lack of team leadership for the Buffs.

“With only two coaches and 20-something kids out here, it's hard to be everywhere at once,” said Phillips. “These guys do a great job of self-governing themselves during practice.”

Freshman Evan Burton will be the starting pitcher for the series opener against the Shorthorns

Friday. The left-hander — somewhat of a rarity in the Class 1A ranks — has emerged as the ace of the Buffs' pitching staff.

Burton is also Forsan's leading hitter after posting a batting average of better than .500 for the season.

Junior Cameron Parker will be the starter for Game 2 for the Buffs. He has shown great control this season, Phillips said, having issued just 10 bases on balls in 33 innings of work.

Joining Burton as the Buffs' main offensive weapons are Tyler Urbina and Adam Bailey. Urbina had a batting average

more than .500 during district play, consistently working himself on base. Bailey provides the batting lineup with much of its power.

Bailey's power doesn't end with his bat though. He is also a very hard-throwing pitcher, who could be used as Forsan's starter for Game 3.

Marfa finished third in District 1-1A with a 2-7 record in league competition.

Contact Sports Writer Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

APRIL SHOWERS BRINGS SAVINGS IN MAY

★★★ CARS ★★★	★★★ CARS ★★★	★★★ TRUCKS ★★★
2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Windveil Blue w/Pebble Leather, 3.0 V-6, All Power, Loaded w/10,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,205. Was \$18,995. NOW \$17,995	2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver Metallic w/Leather, All Power, Skylight w/41,000 Miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$21,995	2004 Ford F350 6.0L Diesel 4X2 - Copper, w/Leather, King Ranch, Super Clean, Loaded. Was \$26,995. NOW \$25,995
2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Arizona Beige w/Pebble Premium Leather, 3.0 V-6, Power, Moonroof, Fully Loaded, Only 13,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$25,100. Was \$18,995. NOW \$17,995	2004 Ford Focus ZTS 4-DR - Black, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995	2003 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Silver w/Cloth, V-6, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995
2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2.3-4-Cyl., 12,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995	2004 Nissan Maxima - Pearl White w/Leather, Local One Owner With 30,100 Miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995	2003 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Ext. Cab LT Z71 - Black w/Leather, Sat. Radio, OnStar, All Power, One Owner w/62,000 Miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Dark Red, Gray Leather, 3.0 V-6, Moonroof, All Power, 12,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,870. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995	2003 Mazda MX-5 Miata Convertible LS - Silver, Fully Loaded, Leather, Local One Owner w/40,200 Miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995	2003 Ford F150 Supercab 4X4 - Blue, w/Leather, Lariat, Loaded, Local Owned, 53,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995
2006 Ford Taurus SE - White w/Flint Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 14,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$21,450. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	2003 Toyota Celica GT - Red, All Power, Extra Clean, One Owner w/37,000 Miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995	1994 Chevrolet 1500 Reg. Cab SWB - Teal w/Cloth, 350 V8, Nice, Nice 94 Model. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995
2006 Ford Mustang V-6 - Satin Silver w/Graphite Cloth, All Power, Spoiler, Sport Pkg., 21,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995	2003 Lincoln Town Car Cartier - White Tri-Coat, w/Leather, Super Nice, Loaded, Local One Owner, 57,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995	★★★ SUV's & VANS ★★★
2006 Mercury Grand Marquis - Pearl White w/Leather, Local One Owner w/14,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995	2003 Ford Taurus SES - Light Blue, w/Cloth, Extra Clean, Automatic, All Power. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995	2007 Ford Freestar SEL Van - Dune Pearl w/Pebble Leather, Quad Captain Chairs And 3rd Row Leather Seat, Dual Air/Heat, Totally Loaded w/16,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995
2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Arizona Beige w/Pebble Cloth, All Power w/17,000 Miles. MSRP WHEN NEW \$23,030. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995	2002 Ford Taurus SES - Arizona Beige, Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/68,000 Miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995	2006 Ford Freestyle SEL - White, w/Leather, DVD/TV, 6 Disc CD, Loaded, Super Nice, 25,000 Miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/32,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	2002 Honda Accord Special Edition Coupe - White, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/35,000 Miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$16,995
2006 Ford Mustang GT - Blue, w/Cloth, All Power, 5-Speed, Manual Transmission, Local One Owner, 21,600 Miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995	2002 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Edition - Pearl White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995	2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/55,000 Miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995
2005 Volkswagen New Beetle GLS - Dark Blue w/Tan Leather, Automatic, Local One Owner w/Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$18,995. NOW \$17,995	2002 Ford Focus ZX5 - Silver, w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, 39,000 Miles. Was \$11,995. NOW \$10,995	2004 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer - White/Tan w/Tan Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/60,000 Miles. Was \$23,995. NOW \$22,995
2005 Ford Mustang GT - Dark Red With Red Leather, 5-Speed Manual Transmission, Local One Owner With 10,000 Miles. Was \$25,995. NOW \$24,995	2000 Ford Taurus SE - Dark Blue, w/Cloth, Automatic Super Clean, Local One Owner, 59,000 Miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995	2002 Ford Escape XLT - Yellow w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned, 48,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995
2005 Nissan Sentra 1.8S - Maroon w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/22,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	★★★ TRUCKS ★★★	2002 Ford Expedition 4X4 XLT - Red/Tan, Tan Leather, Fiberglass Boards, One Owner w/88,000 Miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995
2005 Nissan Altima 2.5S - Red, w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, 25,000 Miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995	2006 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Silver Clearcoat w/Flint Cloth Captain Chairs, Sport Bedliner, 5.4 V-8, All Power w/13,000 Miles. Was \$25,995. NOW \$24,995	2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,995
2004 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Silver Frost, Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/27,000 Miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$22,995	2005 Ford F150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, V-8, air, Automatic, Local One Owner w/60,000 Miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,995	2002 Chevrolet Blazer LS - White/Cloth, All Power, 56,000 Miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$9,995
2004 Ford Mustang - Black w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., 5 Speed, All Power, Local One Owner w/23,000 Miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995	2005 Ford Ranger Supercab Edge - Red, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/58,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/81,000 Miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995
2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Skylight, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$21,995	2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT 4-DR - Beige, 6-Cyl., Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/55,000 Miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995	1999 GMC Suburban LT - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned, Over 100K Miles. Was \$11,995. NOW \$9,995

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DIRECT CREMATION \$695.00. Monarch Cremation Society. Pre-need or at need. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-714-4808.

FOR SALE 2 cemetery lots in Mt. Olive. IOOF # 7&8 in 04-125. \$675.00 each or \$1300.00 for both. Call 432-552-6629 or 432-638-3767.

FOR SALE 2 cemetery plots at Trinity Memorial Park, Garden of Galilee. Lot 100, space 1 & 2. Call 432-296-1651.

SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$ on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

TRINITY MEMORIAL Garden of Olivet, Space 402, 1,2,3 and Space 403, 3 & 4. \$1,500. each. Call (325)646-8404.

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Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE, May 5th, at 408 North East 11th, Saturday 8:30-?

GARAGE SALE: 1205 Settles, Saturday 8-? Lots of baby items and clothes, knock-knacks. Fundraiser for Relay for Life.

MOVING SALE, 607 S. 2nd, Coahoma. Friday 8:00-? Saturday, 8:00-12:00.

SALE: FRI-SAT. 8:00-1:00. Table & chairs, vanity dresser, complete set china, glassware, odd chairs, old plows, lots of misc., paper back books. 5612 Midway Rd.

Help Wanted

ACCOUNTING CLERK- Established local business seeks individual with 3 years accounting experience. Duties will include AP/AR, cashing and data entry. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at Pollard Chevrolet 1501 East 4th.

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Test will be on May 17th
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DUNCAN DISPOSAL - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Please come by the Duncan Disposal office/yard at 1104 N.W. Broadway, Coahoma, Tx - Monday-Thursday 2p-4p and on Fridays 1p-3p to apply in person. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please.

NEED MECHANIC and/or machine maintenance person with hydraulic, gasoline, diesel, and electric engine experience. Must also work with schematics. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume to 432-354-2669, TexaStone Quarries.

NEED EXPERIENCED Lube Tech/Porter. Apply in person only at Service Department Pollard Chevrolet, Buick & Cadillac, 1501 East 4th.

NEED MECHANIC and/or machine maintenance person with hydraulic, gasoline, diesel, and electric engine experience. Must also work with schematics. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume to 432-354-2669, TexaStone Quarries.

NEED HOUSEKEEPERS, Front Desk Clerks, and Breakfast Host. Competitive Pay. Ask about our bonus plan. Apply in person at Quality Inn and Suites, 300 Tulane Ave, Big Spring, (432)264-7086.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NEED CONTRACT pumper for 21 year old Big Spring oil company. Must have at least 5 years experience with references. Job will include pumping approximately 51 wells within 50 miles of Big Spring. Please call 432-238-7650.

NEED EVINING Front desk person. Computer & phone skills. Hours 2:00p.m.-10:00p.m. & 10:00p.m.-6:00a.m. Honest & Dependable. Pick up application, Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylisford.

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GARTMAN REFRIGERATION need air conditioning installer. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700.

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IMMEDIATELY NEEDED: Gas Plant operator/maintenance position for a refrigerated-lean oil plant and gathering system at Stanton, Texas. Prefer working knowledge of gas engines, compressors, pipeline repairs, and orifice meters. Send resume to Sale Ranch Plant, 2873 FM 829, Stanton, Texas, 79782 or fax to (432)458-3423.

MIDLAND: ELECTRICIANS & Helpers needed, starting wage \$9.00/hour, higher DOE. Must pass drug test & have transportation. Apply at 803 S. Marienfield, Midland, M-F/ 8-4. EOE.

MOUNTAIN VIEW Lodge is hiring for the following positions:
* 10:00 p.m. -6:00 a.m. CNA's
* 6:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. CNA's
* Restorative Aide/Transporter
Please call Lana Thurmon, RN, D.O.N., (432)263-1271.

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NEED EVINING Front desk person. Computer & phone skills. Hours 2:00p.m.-10:00p.m. & 10:00p.m.-6:00a.m. Honest & Dependable. Pick up application, Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylisford.

NEED EXPERIENCED Lube Tech/Porter. Apply in person only at Service Department Pollard Chevrolet, Buick & Cadillac, 1501 East 4th.

NEED MECHANIC and/or machine maintenance person with hydraulic, gasoline, diesel, and electric engine experience. Must also work with schematics. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume to 432-354-2669, TexaStone Quarries.

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NOW HIRING Advance Auto Parts. Part time sales and driver. Exciting expanding company, competitive wages, benefits. Apply in person, 701 Gregg.

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction. Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to:
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NOW SEEKING Full time position for Martin County Home Health. Full time LVN with full benefits. Also seeking position for PRN CNA. If interested in any of these positions please contact Allison Williams, RN @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

OIL & Gas Service Company has an opening for receptionist. Accounting experience preferred. Fax resume to: 432-267-5280.

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT LIVING has an immediate opening in our Dietary department. Please apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street, Big Spring, Texas. No phone calls please.

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION

Now hiring for the following positions:
* Nursing Assistants
* Housekeeping Position
Experience preferred, but not required. Great working environment and competitive salary. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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RED MESA Grill has a full time opening for a Mature Individual. Dayshift - Monday thru Saturday. Duties include janitorial, equipment cleaning, dishwasher and etc. Also Available Evening Shift Leader. Duties range from general cleaning, dishwashing, training and supervising evening kitchen staff. PAY dependent upon work history and willingness to WORK. Apply at Red Mesa Grill.

SUBWAY now hiring all shifts and all positions including Management. Apply in person only, 1000 South Gregg Street. No Phone Calls.

Help Wanted

ENGGlobal
OPENING FOR A Environmental Technician
Alon, Big Spring

The environmental technician will support the environmental staff in maintaining compliant and efficient facilities. Duties include, but are not limited to the following:

- Maintain a file system and data base for tracking environmental permits, correspondence, and data.
- Record emissions from upset events
- Initiate spill and upset emission reports.
- Maintain a data base for waste generation
- Maintain the Title V permit data base
- Assist with field activities including:
 - sampling
 - compliance inspections
 - shipments of industrial waste
 - storm water sampling
- Assist with the generation of regulatory reporting including:
 - MACT
 - NESHAP
 - emissions inventory
 - Annual waste summaries
- General clerical duties

Experience with Microsoft office including excel, word and access required.

Previous environmental experience with is strongly preferred. Contract employee, full time, and permanent position with benefits through ENGGlobal Engineering, Inc. Wages depends on Experience Level.

To apply for the open position please contact Michael Tatmon with ENGGlobal Engineering, Inc., 409-840-2548. Please feel free to fax or e-mail resume to: (409)840-2499 Fax michael/tatmon@englobal.com

Taking applications for Counter Help. Must be very enthusiastic. Duties include filing, computer, phone and etc. Benefits include paid vacation, health insurance & retirement. Apply in person, **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

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Help Wanted

THE MARTIN County Hospital District is seeking Full-time Nurses. One RN for day position, one RN night position and one LVN for day position. 12 hours shifts. Full Medical, Dental and Vision Benefit, along with PTO benefits. Please contact Rance Ramsey, DON at 310 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or (432)756-3345 ext. 228.

WANTED: SOMEONE to find houses that are for sale. Any condition. Pays good. Big Spring Area. Call (432)349-9310.

WHITTEN INN now hiring the following positions: Housekeepers, Maintenance, Desk Clerks. Apply in person, on I-20 next to TA Truck Stop.

Help Wanted

WOODFOREST NATIONAL Bank is now hiring for Assistant Branch Manager, Retail Banker/Teller positions at our Big Spring location. Please apply online at www.woodforest.com. EOE m/f/v/d

Lost and Found

LOST YORKIE, black & brown. Last seen at Wasson Rd. & Carl St. Call 432-264-1316, leave msg.

MISSING FAMILY pets a black great Dane and a Rottweiler. Lost Sat. in Sand Springs area. Any information call 432-393-5572 or the Pet Patrol.

Lost and Found

REWARD! LOST digital camera at Big Spring High School Talent Show on Apr. 27th. Call 432-267-7601 or 432-213-4834.

Miscellaneous

BOMBAY CHEST and wall mirror, marble top, DISTRIBUTOR OVERSTOCK, \$399. 806-549-3110.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The sensitivity meter is dialed up to 10, so it's easy to "vibe" your fellow human the wrong way by having so much as a negative thought in his or her direction. It's a fine excuse to practice having beautiful, loving thoughts. Those who feel they belong to the human family are the happiest!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Confidence is high. There was a time when you would have been hesitant to point out a pricing error at the cash register, but not today. Make the phone calls, and run the errands you have been putting off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Wake up. Make coffee. Shower. Eat breakfast. Go to work. Do the impossible. Come home. Routine can be comforting, but you need to mix it up now and then. Go salsa dancing or book a trip to Tahiti!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may not have much in common with

some family members, but your devotion is fierce nonetheless. A relative is at a crossroad, and while they know what their next move should be, they could sure use a sounding board.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's tough being a sign that's ruled by the moon, especially with all that waxing and waning. Stick to your guns this afternoon when a friend tries to coerce you into what you know to be a bad decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Give yourself a favorable review! Two thumbs up — way up. Do whatever it takes to spur you to continue doing what you do best. You'll keep the crowd in awe.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're trying to go by the book. But a free-spirited Sagittarius or Leo is happy to lead you off the path and spend some of your hard earned cash in the process. Who says all outrageous ideas are bad?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Opposing views make for a brilliant conversation and possibly love that sizzles, so don't bother agreeing for the sake of being agreeable. (This is a challenge for you to be certain!)

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Holding back your opinion won't help anyone. Blunting impulses or suppressing feelings could actually make you ill. Tonight, you have a chance at something you've been wanting to try.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Seek friends. Join

groups. You need even more social interaction now, preferably with some fresh blood. If you expect instant bliss in love, you'll shortchange yourself. Let a relationship grow gradually.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your generosity is noticed, though not acknowledged in a timely fashion. Wouldn't you just like to buy the world a book of etiquette? A sweetie is excited about the possibility of making things more permanent.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Joint enterprises are worth the struggle. Check out all facts personally. Tonight, go for the comfort food like good old mom used to make. Sure, you can't relive your childhood, but there's nothing wrong with reminiscing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A simple reorganization of your personal life could produce magical results. You can impress important individuals with an impromptu gettogether tonight — even if it's only for two.

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.

Legals

The City of Coahoma is now accepting bids on the following used city equipment:

1988 John Deere 310-C Backhoe
Sealed bids are to be turned in by Monday, May 14, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. and then will be opened at the regular council meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at the Coahoma City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Bids are to be brought by the Coahoma City Hall located at 122 N 1st or mailed to City of Coahoma, P.O. Box 420, Coahoma, Texas 79511. For more information please call (432) 394-4287.

Equipment will be sold as is and the City of Coahoma has the right to reject any and all bids.
#5348 May 2, 6, 9 & 13, 2007

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ANSWERS

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2	1	8	9	5	7	6	3	4
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7	6	2	4	1	3	9	8	5
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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My sister, "Charlene," has an 8-year-old daughter whom I love very much. I have two children of my own and try to include my niece in family events and vacations, as well as allow her to visit as many weekends as she'd like. I do this because Charlene is a wreck. She has a host of overwhelming problems that stem from having OCD, including overeating, overspending, depression and keeping her apartment in such a state that it looks like the ones on the news where they find dead animals. She also is a lazy parent who blames her child for any poor behavior, even though it's her own parenting skills at fault.

My niece has some problems in school with grades, and Charlene makes no effort to help her with homework or utilize one of the tutors the school offers. (I volunteer as a tutor at the school.) Charlene is not particularly bright and often tells my niece "facts" that aren't true, then gets angry with me when I correct her.

Charlene and her daughter have begun to see a therapist, but after two sessions, my niece was diagnosed with a mood disorder and given medication. I don't think the therapist is aware that my niece's behavior is exemplary — except when she's with her mother. Charlene will not give me the name of the therapist, but I would like to contact him to fill in some of the blanks that my sister is no doubt leaving out.

It breaks my heart to think of my niece on medication at such a young age, when I suspect much of the mood disorder stems from Charlene's misperceptions. Should I get involved or just mind my own business? — Concerned Aunt

Dear Aunt: We bet correcting Charlene in front of her daughter really irritates the pants off her. Your poor opinion of your sister shows in every sentence, and you might get more cooperation if you were less critical. However, we know your concern is motivated by love for your niece. Since you are affiliated with the school, you can bring up your fears

with the school counselor, but beyond that, please let your sister and the therapist work it out.

Dear Annie: I was married to my first husband for 20 years and my second husband for one. Both died, leaving me a widow twice in four years. I loved them both very much.

I wear my late husband's wedding ring on my left hand, but would it be wrong to wear my first husband's ring on my right hand? — Mourning Two Loves

Dear Mourning: Widows are allowed to decide how they wish to wear (or not wear) their rings. If you want to wear one on each hand, it's perfectly fine.

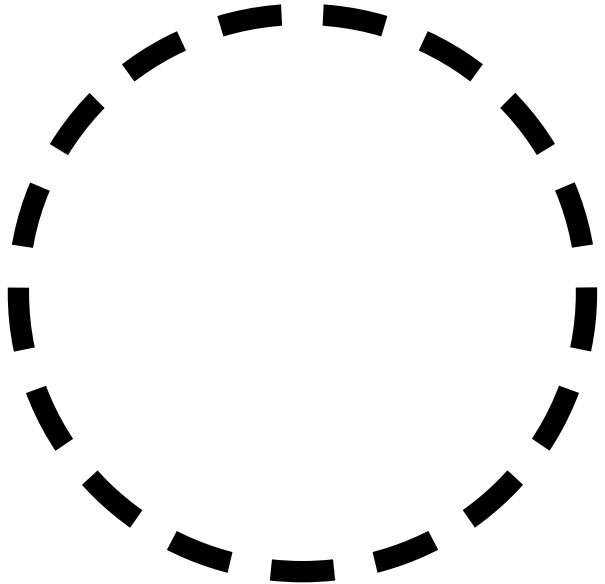
Dear Annie: I am writing about "Wishes for Death." I appreciated your response, but you left out one very important organization: The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The AFSP is for people suffering with thoughts of suicide, as well as those who are left behind when one commits suicide. This is my second year supporting the AFSP. My father and aunt both committed suicide when I was 16.

Each year, thousands of supporters walk for suicide awareness in our "Out of the Darkness" event. We walk 20 miles, from dusk until dawn, on the streets of a major city. Each walker agrees to raise at least \$1,000, and the proceeds go to the AFSP for grief counseling and national awareness. Last year, walks were held in Chicago and San Francisco, raising \$1.4 million. This June, we will be in New York. It is such a powerful sight to see thousands of people walking the streets and emerging from the darkness, both physically and metaphorically.

Readers can get more information about the AFSP and the overnight walk at www.afsp.org. Every 16 minutes, someone in the United States commits suicide. Let's bring that number down together. — Sarah Shields, AFSP

Dear Sarah Shields: Thank you for the valuable information. We hope our readers will check out the AFSP site for details.

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Big Spring police and rescue personnel tend to the scene of a two-vehicle wreck on FM 700 Tuesday afternoon. Initial reports state that two people were injured when a pickup and a Howard County Sheriff's Office patrol car collided at the intersection of FM 700 and 11th Place.

Student faces possible expulsion in wake of alleged arson at school

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A 14-year-old Big Spring Junior High student is in hot water this week, as local law enforcement investigate the fire he allegedly set in a restroom at the school Tuesday afternoon.

According to Big Spring Fire Chief Carl Condray, the fire was discovered at approximately 12:44 p.m. by a Big Spring Police officer who was on campus.

"BSPD Officer Thad Thomas was already on the campus doing checks with the police dog," said

Condray. "He saw the smoke and was able to extinguish the fire before it spread. We were very lucky in this case."

Condray said the fire was started in a waste basket in one of the school's restrooms, and while no damage was reported as a result of the fire, the student implicated in the incident might not make it through proceedings as lucky.

"This is being handled through the juvenile probation office," said Condray.

Whether or not criminal charges are brought against the youth, Big

Spring Independent School District Superintendent Michael Downes said the student faces stiff penalties.

"We will be scheduling a disciplinary conference in the next couple of days," said Downes. "The least severe punishment the student could face is placement in the alternative education program. The most severe, however, would be expulsion."

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

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

project, which is expected to cost an estimated \$12 million, to move forward.

"Obviously I'm as excited as can be," said McEwen. "This is something we've been working on for a year, and it's now come to fruition. There's no more talk about how I think it will take place. We're now at a position where it will take place. Moore Board has approved it, the city council has approved it, and now we get to watch the dust fly and the Settles Hotel can get back to the way it was when it opened its doors. This really is an exciting day for Big Spring."

The meeting comes on the heels of approval of a letter of intent from Moore Development directors last week.

After a lengthy executive session to discuss the matter, the council delivered its thumbs up, which Councilwoman Gloria McDonald called a "no-brainer."

"The \$3 million the Moore Board has authorized for use in the Settles Hotel to renovate it to a status of use is less than the cost of tearing the structure down," said McDonald. "If we didn't have Mr. Ryan and he hadn't come forth — if no one had come forth — the cost to date to implode the building would be close to \$5 million. So, to me, it was absolutely a no-brainer to spend money for hope instead of spend money for destruction."

Had Ryan — or some

other developer — not stepped in with plans to renovate the building, it's future could very well have been that of rubble, according to McEwen.

"If, in fact, we're in a position where, for whatever reason, we decide not to do this, or he decided to step out of this deal," said McEwen, "then we're in the position where we have to realistically look at what we need to do to bring the building down. At this point and time I'm so thrilled that decision was not made in the past. We have these wonderful, historic turn-of-the-century buildings downtown that are going to be used for retail and restaurants. This is a good day."

McEwen said renovations to the historic downtown hotel are expected to begin soon.

"It's in the matter of the next couple of months," said McEwen. "It could be a matter of weeks, but in the next couple of months there is going to be action taking place down there. Mr. Ryan indicated to me he's ready to go. So we're obviously ready to go as well. Everything is now in place, however, so we can get things moving."

According to Larry McLellan, Moore Board president, the agreement between the economic development corporation

and SHDC will require a two-to-one exchange in funding.

"Moore Board will pay 4A expenses that we can legally pay. As the project progresses, we will reimburse for those expenditures, up to \$3 million," said McLellan. "Keep in mind, these could come in early because of infrastructure. We will have a claw back agreement that will require Mr. Ryan to spend \$6 million or reimburse Moore Board for any funds that do not meet that two-to-one ratio. So, if this project is finished at \$6 million, Moore Board would receive money back."

The council also approved the emergency reading of resolution allowing for the final sale of the Settles to SHDC, which put the full \$75,000 tab in escrow nearly a month ago.

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

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Jerline Myles Wilson, 60, died Sunday. Funeral Services will be at 10:30 AM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Robert Hansen, 47, died Monday. Private family services will be at a later date.

Leo Welch, 84, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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TAKS

Continued from Page 1A

compared to 96 percent in 2006 — and 95 percent of its fifth graders succeeded in the reading test, compared to 91 percent the previous year.

Big Spring ISD fifth graders also showed improvement from the

previous year, although they did not meet the state average in math scores.

Superintendent Michael Downes said 73 percent of the district's fifth graders passed the TAKS math test, compared to 69 percent the previous year.

Downes added that fifth graders had an 81 percent of the fifth graders passed the reading portion of the

test — compared to 72 percent in 2006 — as did 85 percent of the third graders.

And Downes expects scores to move even higher after the second round of test administration later this month.

"All reading scores from the six campuses met criteria for Recognized campuses, and that was before the second admin-

istration of the test," he said. "With the math scores, the target for Recognized status is 75 percent, and we fully expect to reach that level by the second administration of the test."

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

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KENNEDY

Continued from Page 1A

in the group had to have at least a top secret clearance.

"Friday morning Congressman (Randy) Neugebauer hosted us at the Capitol," he continued, pulling out several pictures of him and his unit, along with the congressman, in front of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"He actually took us down on the floor of the House of Representatives, which was just an awesome experience. He explained a little bit about how it worked and how things are run in the House. Just sitting in that chamber put cold chills all over you. It was just something else. That took most of the morning."

arranged where we went out and saw the National Air and Space Museum. We got to see Apollo 11, The Spirit of St. Louis, the Wright Brothers' airplane, as well as the first capsule that orbited the earth.

"Later that night we had a big, group dinner. It was really nice because we got the chance to sit around and talk about old times. I got the chance to see some of those guys I haven't seen in 40 years. The whole experience was extremely emotional. Just to see these guys again after 40 years, I can't begin to tell you how it felt. There were a bunch of tears shed that day. A bunch."

While the group spent time at several different memorials during the trip, Kennedy said it was

the group's final duty — to lay a wreath at one of the nation's most revered military memorials — that made the entire trip complete.

"We were very honored to be able to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," said Kennedy. "Dakota's Flowers was such a big help in getting the wreaths set up. They were just absolutely beautiful. The lady who helped us with them was so nice and so caring, and I think she was just as nervous about them as we were."

"I carried the wreath, along with Ray Kessler. He was my 1st Sgt. when I was in Vietnam. He's 77 years old and made the trip to D.C. for all of this. He retired in 1977, and I retired in 1991. I just can't find the words to express

how it felt to be there. It was just amazing. I'm still on a high from this. It's going to be a while before I come down from this. I spent 26 years in the military, and this was probably the highlight of anything I ever did. I never worked with a better bunch of people in my 26 years."

The first soldier killed in the Vietnam War was a member of the 509th Radio Research Communication Unit.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Please join us in observing Day of Prayer

Thursday many people across the country will gather for reflection and prayer in observance of the National Day of Prayer.

In the past, local observances have been staged both during the noon hour at downtown parks, and during the evening at the Municipal Auditorium — giving individuals in our community a chance to unite their faith and to “acknowledge The Lord, thank Him for our many blessings and pray for His continued benevolence in each of our lives, as well as throughout our community and the nation.”

This year, however, no community-wide observance has been scheduled.

Still, we think it important that all of us make sure to schedule this observance in our Thursday schedule.

So, please join us tomorrow. Take a little of your time to raise your heart, voice and mind to the heavens, seeking help and hope for us all.

There simply is no better investment in your life, the lives of your family members and the life of our community.

By its nature, the National Day of Prayer is designed to bring together people from various walks of life, professions and religious beliefs and allow them to seek guidance from a single God.

We are well aware that many are uncomfortable praying and others say they don't know how to pray.

For those, we suggest taking a little bit of time with the Lord's Prayer. It is, after all, what Christ offered as a blueprint for the apostles when they asked them how they should pray:

*Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.*

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Our smile shows others, Lord, that we know You, trust You and love You.

Amen

Strong ideals, weak leaders

The marchers may be fewer, some may even be piggy-backing to promote their own wacky agendas, but the cause behind the May 1 “Great American Boycott II” was still a valid one: Comprehensive immigration reform, with a little compassion, is still urgently necessary.

Some anti-immigrant pundits are getting ready to tell us that the lower turnout in marches throughout the nation is somehow an indication that the movement seeking legalization for 12 million illegal immigrants is losing steam, and that much more draconian measures will prevail.

And unfortunately, they may be right.

The coalition of immigrants' rights organizations that called for a repeat of last year's boycott and massive marchers must have known that they could not possibly repeat last year's turnout of more than 1 million people in protests all over the nation.

It seems like they are trying to revive a movement that they allowed to dwindle.

Had they kept last year's momentum going, had they not wasted many opportunities to keep marching — and organizing a stronger coalition of immigrants' rights organizations — maybe they could have outdone last year's historic “Day Without Immigrants” marches.

But unfortunately, the movement has been on sabbatical since it managed to attract public attention last year.

Instead of staying on offense, they remained in defensive mode while Congress failed to pass comprehensive immigration reform last summer. Now, after dropping

the momentum like a football, they expect people to march again — as if their followers were wind-up protesters.

Too much has happened to discourage last year's marchers from continuing on the path for immigrant rights:

- There was little follow-up. Opportunities were missed to organize the kind of national immigrants' rights coalition that could have commanded much more respect, and many more followers, by now.

- After the giant rallies in the spring, the setbacks immigrants suffered in Congress were met with little protest in the summer. Even the immigrant-bashing hearings orchestrated by conservatives in Congress were met with little resistance in various parts of the country.

- This year's protests are not fueled by anger as they were last year, when illegal immigrants were threatened by legislation that would turn them into criminals.

- Last year, the goal was to raise awareness about the economic power of illegal immigrants and their supporters.

But this year, the goal seems to be to revive a movement that has been weakened by inadequate leadership.

- The inability of immigrant rights leaders to agree on which tactics the movement should employ has been discouraging. For example, instead of the marches, a couple of prominent DJs who stimulated the crowds last year are now promoting letter-writing and voter-registration campaigns as ways to fight for immigration reform. They forget that without *unidad there's nada*.

- The apparent inability of march organizers to prevent participants from showing up with flags and other symbols that serve other agendas has alienated many people from going to the demon-

strations. Images of Che Guevara, for example, are enough to keep most Cuban-Americans away.

- Immigrants' rights advocates are discouraged by what they see as very slow progress from the Democratically controlled Congress they helped to elect and from which they expected much more support.

- Last year, it was easier for immigrant-rights Democrats to complain about the majority in Congress than it is this year.

- This year, even the pro-immigrant forces are divided over the current legislation that stands before Congress. Some say the bill sponsored by Reps. Luis Guterierrez, D-Ill., and Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., puts too many conditions on the path to legalization for illegal immigrants. The measure has been moved much further to the right than the McCain-Kennedy bill passed by the Senate and rejected by the House last year. Some pro-immigrant activists are rejecting the bill as an unacceptable compromise.

- Recent raids on places where immigrants are employed have created fear of congregating with other immigrants, especially in a protest.

With America affected by what is clearly a more punitive climate, the time is right to start fighting back. Calling for protests is still necessary, but only if the leaders are going keep building on whatever momentum they manage to create this time.

What is lacking is real leadership.

What this fight still needs is another Martin Luther King or another Cesar Chavez.

The ideals of comprehensive immigration reform are great, but the real leaders have not materialized.

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MIGUEL PEREZ



Voice warning system for pump jacks

Pump jacks in the oil patch are dangerous. They look fairly slow, going up and down, pumping oil from the ground, but you can't react quick enough to get out of the way. Several people have been killed or injured by pump jacks.

Dub Clinton of Big Spring, who has owned an oilfield service company, has invented a device that should reduce the number of pump jack accidents.

“A lot of the pump jacks are on a timer,” says Dub. “They turn on and off intermittently. You really never know when they're going to come on. People who don't work in the oil patch might walk up to a pump jack and assume it's dormant. They might even climb up on it. All of a sudden it kicks on and the people are killed or hurt real bad.”

Dub's system has a 30-second message in English and Spanish

that is broadcast from a speaker near the pump jack. It warns that the pump jack is about to activate and to clear the area immediately. There is a 10-second countdown from 10 to one. Right after the “one” is broadcast, the pump jack activates.

The product has been used on some pumping units for a year and Dub says there have been no problems. He says he has yet to present it to an oil company that didn't think it was a good idea. Usually when he talks to oil company executives they relate instances where it could have saved lives. They say they can't believe it's not already on the market. The item is new and sells for \$695.

“They're small enough that we like to put them inside the electric panel box near the pump jack, so they're out of the weather,” he noted. “The only thing external is the speaker, which is mounted on the panel box. We can string other speakers if the customer wants them.”

Dub got the idea for the product after a near accident.

“We were out on location and one of my employees was cutting weeds under the pumping unit,” Clinton recalls. “Someone asked the oil company man if the unit was turned off. It wasn't. It was on automatic. It scared all of us pretty good. We ran and shut the unit off. Nothing really happened, but as I was driving away from that location I thought there ought to be a way to warn people before those units come on.”

Dub says his device is primarily aimed at pump jacks, but it can be used for any type of automated equipment, like a compressor or conveyor belt. A spin-off from the product is another warning system for H2S gas.

“If the H2S monitors trip, our alarm goes off,” he said. “It's a warning in Spanish and English to clear the area and not come back until it's safe. The message is repeated until the monitor either clears or is turned off.”

The company's website is www.protechsafety.net.

Dub says it has a video that demonstrates how the product works.



News in brief

President declares Texas counties disaster areas

DALLAS (AP) — President Bush issued a federal disaster declaration Tuesday for three Texas counties hit hard by tornadoes and severe storms last week.

Seven people died and as many as 200 families were left homeless in Maverick County on the Texas-Mexico border when a tornado struck April 24. Storms also hit Swisher and Moore counties in the Texas Panhandle during the span of April 21-24.

U.S. Sens. John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison, both Texas Republicans, asked Bush for the disaster declaration.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency said damage surveys are under way in other areas, and additional counties may be added to the declaration.

Lightning strike kills fisherman in Texas storms

(AP) — Storms battered parts of Texas on Tuesday, causing at least one death when a fisherman was struck by lightning in the Central Texas town of Cameron.

Ronald Jake Ingram, 23, of Cameron, was fishing in a stock tank with two others when a severe storm blew in and the fishermen decided to leave, the Cameron Police Department said in a news release.

Ingram was struck by lightning as he reeled in his fishing line and worked to untangle it from another man's line. Ingram died at the scene. Another fisher-

man, Jesse McGary of Buckholts, was hospitalized in Temple with unknown injuries, police said.

Cloudy, rainy conditions were reported across much of the state. For a second straight night, heavy storms struck portions of the state and tornado warnings were issued by the National Weather Service.

At Fort Hood, 10 soldiers had to be rescued by medical helicopter after their two Bradley fighting vehicles became mired in the mud.

House tries to clean up, polish new business tax

AUSTIN (AP) — More small businesses would be exempt from the state's new business tax under legislation tentatively adopted Tuesday in the Texas House.

Lawmakers are having to revisit last year's business tax overhaul to fix multiple errors and potential loopholes. The Legislature adopted the tax bill last spring during a special session to revamp the state's method of paying for public schools.

The House voted 144-1 in favor of the bill Tuesday. Final approval is expected Wednesday, before the measure is eligible for consideration in the Senate.

As the House began cumbersome debate on the lengthy bill, the presence of state business interests was heavy. The House gallery and nearby hallways were more crowded than usual, abuzz with lobbyists.

Small businesses won a sought-after victory in the House bill, which raised the threshold of taxable revenue from \$300,000 to \$600,000. Still, small business

interests were disappointed that the tax would not be eased in years that businesses are not profitable.

House passes measure to toughen citizenship requirements to vote

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas voters would have to state their citizenship status before voting in elections under legislation tentatively adopted Tuesday by the Texas House.

Lawmakers adopted the bill by a vote of 87-59. The measure by Rep. Phil King, R-Weatherford, would require Texans registering to vote to list the city, county and state of their birth. Naturalized citizens would have to list the place and date of their naturalization oath.

The measure is intended to prevent non-citizens from voting.

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Protesters rally for immigration reform

By ELIZABETH WHITE
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Luis Romero came to the United States from Mexico City legally in 1998. The economics student said he believes immigrants, both legal and illegal, contribute much to society and the economy.

That's why Romero, 37, said he marched through downtown San Antonio on Tuesday evening to demand that Congress pass comprehensive immigration reform, and soon.

"They (illegal immigrants) have children, property," he said. "They pay taxes and they are here doing the hard jobs that other people don't want to do."

Protesters in San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, Austin, and El Paso joined demonstrators nationwide Tuesday to urge lawmakers to pass immigration policies that create a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. Many also condemned an increase in federal immigration raids and roundups.

San Antonio police Chief William McManus couldn't give a crowd estimate, but said while early on it looked like only a few hundred, "the numbers blossomed as the (march) started."

Organizer Che Lopez said he thought the turnout was as high as 5,000. Before ralliers began marching, they listened to dozens of speakers and observed a moment of silence for those who have died trying to cross the border into the United States.

Romero wasn't afraid to use one of the most politically charged words in the immigration debate.

"Amnesty is better than a worker program," he said, labeling as "bureaucracy" the proposals that would require illegal immigrants in the United States to return to their native countries to apply for citizenship.

Organizers of a Dallas march estimated the turnout at about 5,000, though no police estimate was available. They focused their protest on an ordinance before voters in the suburb of Farmers Branch that would make it illegal for landlords to rent apartments to illegal immigrants.

They began marching at a Catholic school, taking up more than a block. They held signs that said "No disintegration of families" and "si se puede" (yes, it can be done).

A year ago, up to a half million people gathered for a massive march and rally in downtown Dallas as part of a series of coordinated national protests intended to raise awareness on the issue of immigration reform.

"Last year these people were defending themselves. This time they're going on the offensive," said Manuel Rendon, 19, a U.S. citizen who lives in Frisco and attends Collin County Community College.

Most rallies were conducted in the late afternoon, so students and 9-to-5 workers could participate. Students left school in droves last year to join marches that drew hundreds of thousands, and administrators threatened to crack down on future violators.

Marchers in Austin planned to walk by the offices of Texas Republican Sens. John Cornyn and

Kay Bailey Hutchison after a rally at the Capitol on Tuesday evening. Both voted against a Senate bill last year that would have allowed illegal immigrants a shot at citizenship.

"We feel they don't adequately represent the needs of immigrants and their children," said Cristina Tzintzun of the Workers Defense Project, an Austin advocacy group for Latino workers.

Hunger strikers were camped outside the Cornyn's Houston office. Over the next five days, they plan to move the protests to the Harris County Democratic and Republican headquarters, Hutchison's Houston office and two parks.

"We wanted to send a message to Congress," said Mike Espinoza, a community activist and one of six hunger strikers who will be fasting for six days. "Democrats and Republicans both have been stalling out on immigration reform."

About 70 people stood under the "Welcome to Texas" sign near an international bridge connecting Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, with El Paso.

The group chanted in English and Spanish, calling for immigration reform while walking downtown. They condemned immigration raids nationwide that have led to the deportation of undocumented workers and split them from their U.S.-born children. Law enforcement officials watched the rally, which was organized by La Union del Pueblo Fronterizo.

A small group of about 40 protesters stood in front of Houston's federal building, waving American, Mexican and Salvadoran flags.

Border fence real, not 'virtual' as some officials believed

By LYNN BREZOSKY

Associated Press Writer

MALLEN — A new map showing President Bush's planned border fence has riled Rio Grande Valley officials, who say the proposed barrier reneges on assurances that the river would remain accessible to farmers, wildlife and recreation.

City officials in the heavily populated valley had anticipated a "virtual" fence of surveillance cameras and border patrols. Instead, a Customs and Border Protection map depicts a structure running piecemeal along a 600-mile stretch of Texas from Presidio to Brownsville, a border region where daily life is binational.

"We were given the impression that they were not going to be building walls, that there would be more cameras, surveillance, boots on the ground," said Mike Allen, head of McAllen Economic Development Corp.

"This is going to seriously affect the farmers,"

he said. "They will not have access to water. It's just going to create bedlam."

The map, obtained by The Associated Press, was attached to a memo addressed to "Dear Texas Homeland Security Partner." It outlines a plan to build 370 miles of fence and 200 miles of vehicle barriers, such as concrete barriers, by the end of 2008.

Of the 370 miles of fence, Texas is to have 153, Arizona 129, California 76, and New Mexico 12. Most of the vehicle barriers will be in Arizona and New Mexico.

Russ Knocke, a spokesman for Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, said the so-called virtual fence won't work in urban areas and the federal government has delivered a

consistent message to local officials.

"We are utilizing traditional fencing at the border generally in those areas including metropolitan areas where it is easier for an alien ... to conceal themselves in a home or a business," he said.

Knocke said agents would use such advanced technology as sensors, radar and aerial drones in remote border areas.

Contract Bridge

Cool Head Prevails

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 7
♥ A Q 6 5
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ A 5 4

WEST
♠ J 10
♥ J 9 3 2
♦ Q 7 6
♣ Q 8 7 3

EAST
♠ Q 9 6 5 4 2
♥ K 10 8 7
♦ —
♣ 10 9 6

SOUTH
♠ A 8 3
♥ 4
♦ A K J 9 5 3
♣ K J 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
3♦ Pass 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 6♦

Opening lead — jack of spades.

Sometimes the easiest-looking contracts turn into an unexpected struggle because of a bad break in a key suit. When this occurs, declarer should carefully reorganize his thoughts and try to find a way to overcome his misfortune.

Take this deal where South had good reason to expect that making six diamonds would be a piece of cake. With a little luck, in fact, he had a chance to score all 13 tricks.

However, the prognosis changed

sharply when South, after winning the spade lead with the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds and East showed out. There was now a real danger of losing both a club trick and a trump trick and going down one.

Declarer could have staked the outcome on a finesse in either clubs or hearts, but instead he adopted a method of play designed to elevate his chances far beyond that.

At trick three, he cashed the king of diamonds, then led a heart to the ace and ruffed a heart. A spade to the king was followed by another heart ruff. Had the king of hearts fallen anywhere along the line, the contract would have been assured.

When the king did not appear, South continued by ruffing his last spade in dummy as West discarded the jack of hearts. Declarer next ruffed the queen of hearts, giving West the option of overruffing or discarding a club. Not anxious to take the lead, West chose to discard a club.

Unfortunately for West, his hand was now an open book. Having already shown out of hearts and spades, his last four cards were known to consist of three clubs and the queen of trumps. Accordingly, South now led his last trump, putting West on lead, and his forced club return handed declarer the contract.

Tomorrow: The handwriting on the wall.

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Se Habla Español

Why not check this out, at the library

While visiting another library (librarians do that, you know), I came across a "new" mystery character: Steve Cline. Steve works with horses in Virginia as a stable manager. Between being kidnapped (along with a couple of horses) and being knifed, he has an exciting life. We have two in the series: "At Risk" and "Triple Cross." They are written by Kit Ehrman. Another Michelle Martinez book has been processed: "Cover-Up."



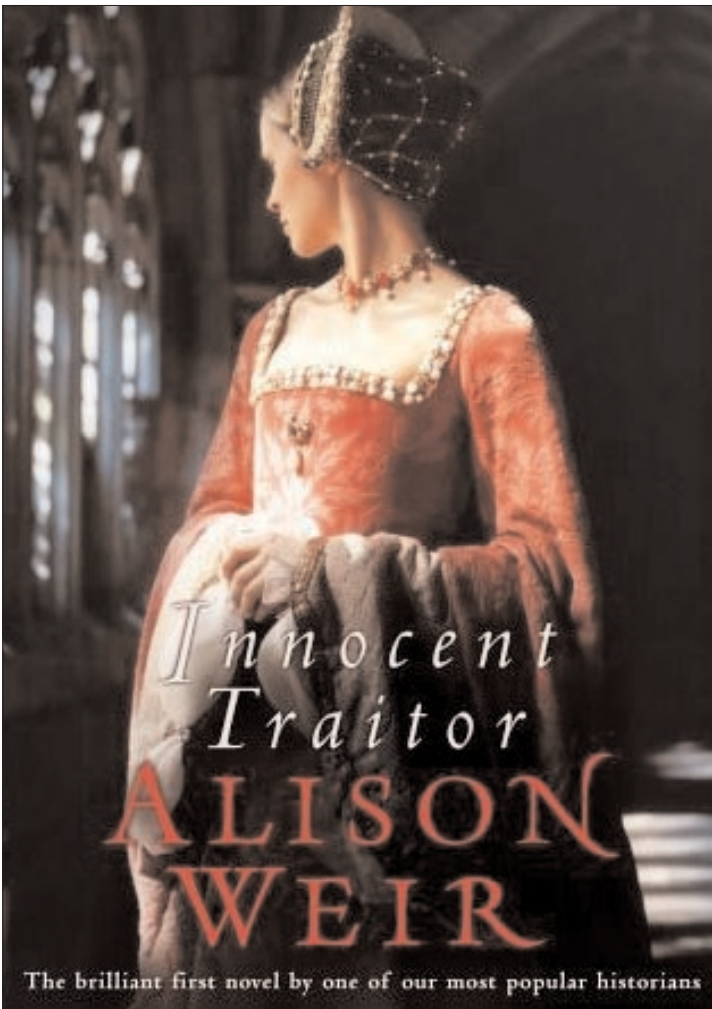
HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

I grew up in a small town that had a very small library — think 300 square feet. Fortunately, now they have a beautiful building of about 4,000 square feet. While reading there, I found C.S. Forester (he wrote the Hornblower series). I was instantly transported to the English Channel, the Windward Islands, the coast of Spain, where wind filled the sails (or not), salt air filled your nostrils and the sails flapped in the wind. Every so often I go back and re-read the series. For you who have not read them, they are enthralling. The library has acquired new copies of the Hornblower series. Forester also wrote "The African Queen."

In a review from Booklist, Michel Leber writes that past the wordplay of the title and the

cowboy boot on the jacket, this is a masterfully unfolded, absolutely engrossing story as smart and sassy as it is wise. At 40, Shae-Lynn Penrose has overcome a mostly motherless, abusive childhood and a teenage pregnancy to finish college, work for the D.C. Capitol Police, raise her son alone, and return to her coal-mining hometown of Jolly Mount, Pa. Here, she runs a one-vehicle cab company; her father died in a mine; her best friend, E.J., was one of the Jolly Mount 5, whose survival after a mine explosion made headlines; and her son, Clay, is a deputy for Sheriff Ivan Zoschenko. Then Shannon, the younger sister Shae-Lynn thought long dead, shows up and reveals an unorthodox means of making money that's causing a ruckus. Dealing with a burgeoning love affair and revelation of parentage, plus the surviving miners' intent to sue the coal company, O'Dell also examines such issues as abuse, betrayal, abandonment, perseverance and reconciliation, with love at the heart of it all, in crisp, insightful prose that sweeps the reader along.

"Innocent Traitor" by Alison Weir is the story of Lady Jane Grey, the "Nine Day Queen." Despite knowing quite well how Lady Jane's story is going to turn out, this is an exciting read. Alison Weir uses her extensive research into the history and private lives of England's Tudor dynasty to tell a story of family betrayal that is heartbreaking to



The brilliant first novel by one of our most popular historians

say the very least. Each person in the story, from Jane, her mother Frances, the Lady Mary, Katherine Parr, the Dudley and Seymour families, and even Mrs. Ellen, has a voice here. Each one is distinct and has their own mannerisms and we get to see motivations and plots spinning.

Weir also focuses on just enough details to set the mood, but takes care not to let the story itself get lost in the trivia. If you think that this is a dry read, it's not. Weir keeps the story moving at a rapid pace, shifting point of view from one character to another. If

you want an exciting historical novel with a heroine who actually lived, I would suggest this one. While it doesn't have actual romance to it, it does have plenty of plot to chew over.

Michael Gruber has come out with another fast-paced mystery featuring William Shakespeare. Jake Mishkin (an intellectual property lawyer) has been inserted into a deadly chase and conspiracy to find a priceless treasure involving Shakespeare. "The Book of Air and Shadows" by Gruber may be found on the New Book Shelf.

Max Brand and Louis L'Amour are perhaps the

most well known writers of Western fiction. Periodically we are able to add new titles to our collection. "The Stingaree" by Max Brand is the story of Alabama Joe, who drifts into Ft. Anxious. Stanley Parker suspects Joe is not whom he pretends to be. Suffice it to say, bullets will fly and bodies will lay dead in the sand at the conclusion of this episode. Did you know that Brand was the pen name for Frederick Faust? He was the creator of Destry, Dr. Kildare and wrote books in every genre. He abandoned his career in 1941 to become a World War II correspondent and was killed in Italy.

"The Rider of Lost Creek" by L'Amour is Lance Kilkenny's story. He has a debt to pay and

is not about to let a range war stop him. Another great story from L'Amour. Ray Hogan has written a couple of novels: "Valley of the Wandering River" and Frank H. Spearman wrote "Whispering Smith." This book was made into a movie in 1948 and starred Alan Ladd.

Howard County Library hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The Library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howardcounty.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Foster parenting

Across the United States, about 513,000 children are in foster care. The foster parents and families that provide a loving home for these children are true heroes, not only to the children they help but to the communities they serve. Plus, Handy Hints and vegetables with Parmesan cheese.

American Profile



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WEDNESDAY

	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.
6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	News Wheel-Fortune	Duelo de Pasiones	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Entertainment	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Swallow John Hagee	News-Lehrer	How It's Made How It's Made		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	NBA Basketball:	Live (CC) Access	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	PWBA Bowling		Ghost Hunters (CC)
7:PM :30	According-Jim Nte-Underbelly	According-Jim Nte-Underbelly	La Fea Mas Bella	Bones (CC)	Jericho (CC)	Marina	Thank God You're Here	Raymond Raymond	Update/Israel Curt Landry	Secrets of the Dead	Hazard Pay	Movie: The Quick and the Dead	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	First Round -- Teams TBA	On Off Ne-Yo The Parkers	Movie: Get a Clue (CC)	Boxing	Philadelphia Phillies at (CC)	Ghost Hunters (CC)
8:PM :30	Lost (CC)	Lost (CC)	Destilando Amor	American Idol (CC)	Criminal Minds (CC)	Zorro - La Es- pada y la Rosa	Crossing Jordan (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Light of the Southwest	American Masters (CC)	MythBusters (CC)	Dead	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	(CC)	Girlfriends Girlfriends	Life Derek	Boxing: Wednesday	Atlanta Braves (CC)	Ghost Hunters (CC)
9:PM :30	Lost (CC)	Lost (CC)	Don Francisco Presenta	Becker (CC) Friends (CC)	CSI: NY (CC)	Sin Verguenza	Medium (CC)	King King			MythBusters (CC)	Hustle (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Basketball: First Round --	Girlfriends Girlfriends	Life Derek Phil of Future	Night Fights		Ghost Hunters (CC)
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias 12 Corazones	News Tonight Show	Seinfeld (CC) Seinfeld (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	:15 Movie: Any Which	CSI: NY (CC)	Teams TBA	Jamie Foxx That's-Raven	Zack & Cody Kim Possible	Karate: ISKA Karate: ISKA	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Revelation
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	IAI Rojo Vivo!	Late Night-	Movie: Bandits (CC)	CCM Ministries Charles Scott	Sign Off	Hazard Pay	Way You Can	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Inside the NBA (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	Han. Montana Kim Possible	NASCAR Now 2006 World	NBA Fastbreak Baseball	Movie: (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Basco	El Privilegio de Amar	Malcolm-Mid. My Wife-Kids	Show The Insider	Pagado	Conan O'Brien Apex		Update/Israel Del Sanchez		MythBusters (CC)	Hustle (CC)	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace (CC)	Comicview (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister	Series of Poker 2006 World	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I WISH GRAMPA LIVED HERE ALL THE TIME. COULD WE ADOPT HIM?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"YOU WEIGH 31 POUNDS. IS THAT ALL?"

"WELL... THAT'S ABOUT 490 OUNCES."

"That's better!"

HAGAR

"I'VE HOOKED A BIG ONE!"

"ME, TOO!"

"OH-OH..."

BC

"A CUTE LITTLE CLOUD ALL BY ITSELF..."

"...POOR THING LOOKS SO LONELY..."

"PILOT TO BOMBARDIER, PREPARE TO DUMP HAILSTONES ON DORKY-LOOKING HUMAN."

BLONDIE

"WHOA! THIS IS COMFY!"

"YUP, IT'S A BEAUTY ON SALE FOR ONLY \$1,999.99!"

"\$1,999.99?!? CAN'T YOU DO A LITTLE BETTER ON THE PRICE FOR US?"

"TELL YOU WHAT... I'LL THROW IN FREE DELIVERY OF THE SOFA."

"AND YOUR HUSBAND!"

WIZARD OF ID

"WHAT'S THAT LITTLE DESIGN ON YOUR SHIRT?"

"THAT'S THE LOGO WE WEAR AT THE STABLES"

"GEE, I NEVER SAW AN EMBROIDERED MANURE PILE BEFORE"

AGNES

"TO WIN THE SPELLING BEE, I HAVE TO LIST ALL THE WORDS I ALREADY KNOW HOW TO SPELL, SO I DON'T COVER OLD GROUND."

"PIG... TOP... THE... SIT... AND... DOG... FUN... FLY... SCHADENFREUDE..."

"AH, YES... SCHADENFREUDE. LAST YEAR'S BIG WINNER!"

"IRONICALLY, IT DESCRIBES WHY PEOPLE WATCH SPELLING BEES."

HI AND LOIS

"WHY DOESN'T TRIxie EAT THE SAME FOOD AS US?"

"BECAUSE BABIES NEED TO BE INTRODUCED TO NEW FOODS GRADUALLY"

"WHEN IS SHE GOING TO INTRODUCE ME TO STEAK?"

THE OTHER COAST

"OASIS CLOSED USE AUTOMATED WATER COOLER 15 Km"

SNUFFY SMITH

"THAR SPOTS ARE 'ZACTLY TH' SAME !! ARE THEY CLONED ?!"

"NO !!"

"PAW JEST LIKES T'GIT PEOPLE GOIN' !!"

BEETLE BAILEY

"JUST GIVE HIM THIS"

"OKAY"

"Dear Sarge, I'd like Beetle to take me to lunch today. Miss Busley"

"NOT EVEN YOU CAN SAY 'NO' TO SOMETHING THAT SMELLS THAT GOOD!"

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 2, the 122nd day of 2007. There are 243 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 2, 1945, the Soviet Union announced the fall of Berlin, and the Allies announced the surrender of Nazi troops in Italy and parts of Austria.

On this date:

In 1519, artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France.

In 1670, the Hudson Bay Co. was chartered by England's King Charles II.

In 1863, Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va.; he died eight days later.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

In 1936, "Peter and the Wolf," a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow.

In 1957, Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, the controversial Republican from Wisconsin, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

In 1957, crime boss Frank Costello narrowly survived an attempt on his life in New York; the alleged gunman, Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, was acquitted at trial after Costello refused to identify him as the shooter.

In 1960, convicted sex offender and best-selling author Caryl Chessman was executed at San Quentin Prison in California.

In 1965, the Early Bird satellite was used to transmit television pictures across the Atlantic.

In 1972, after serving 48 years as head of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover died in Washington at age 77.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Theodore Bikel is 83. Singer Engelbert Humperdinck is 71. Political activist Bianca Jagger is 62. Country singer R.C. Bannon is 62. Actor David Suchet is 61. Singer-songwriter Larry Gatlin is 59. Rock singer Lou Gramm (Foreigner) is 57. Actress Christine Baranski is 55.

Singer Angela Bofill is 53. Actress Elizabeth Berridge is 45. Country singer Ty Herndon is 45. Wrestler-actor The Rock (Dwayne Johnson) is 35. Actor Gaius Charles ("Friday Night Lights") is 24. Olympic gold medal figure skater Sarah Hughes is 22. Actress Kay Panabaker ("Summerland") is 17.

Thought for Today: "Have you ever observed that we pay much more attention to a wise passage when it is quoted than when we read it in the original author?" - Philip G. Hamerton, English artist and essayist (1834-1894).

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Answer to previous puzzle

CHIP	BOMB	EFLAT
LAMA	ABEL	SLICE
ASPS	ROLE	COMMA
STET	REDSNAPPER	
PALACE	SUP	
	ALOE	REHEAT
EARLS	ALAS	ARIA
GREAT	WHITES	HARK
GLEN	AUTO	PASSE
SOLEMN	EZRA	
	ONE	ARDENT
BLUE	MARLIN	OREO
AILS	RISK	ORAL
RESIN	ELLE	ROTE
BURST	DYED	SLOT

Newsday Crossword

NUMBER TWOS by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 62 Emily of etiquette | 9 Shows curiosity | 37 Lawn intruder |
| 1 Sheets, tablecloths, etc. | 63 Calculus pioneer | 10 Curiosity for a fob | 39 Gunsmoke network |
| 6 Actress Lollobrigida | 64 Decline gradually | 11 Sprang up | 43 Defensive wall |
| 10 Seemingly endless | 65 Drags to court | 12 American Idol judge | 45 Fit ___ fiddle |
| 14 Put up with | 66 ___-fatty acids | 13 Many mall rats | 46 Quasimodo's creator |
| 15 Planets, to poets | | 18 Not worth debating | 47 Scatter about |
| 16 Toledo's lake | | 22 Charged atom | 48 GWTW surname |
| 17 Seal tightly | | 25 Curmudgeonly sort | 49 Former leader of Argentina |
| 19 A handful | | 26 Sitar tune | 50 Borscht veggies |
| 20 Builders | | 27 State firmly | 52 NBA award recipients |
| 21 Suppresses | | 28 "Drop a hint," e.g. | 53 Dept.-store goods |
| 23 Aussie bouncer | | 29 Birthday do | 54 Ill-humored |
| 24 Begins the bidding | | 30 Drone's home | 55 Tulsa's locale: Abbr. |
| 25 Fancy neckwear | | 31 Corrida cry | 56 Observed |
| 29 LP player, briefly | | 33 Interview wear | 57 Botches one |
| 32 French composer | | 35 Doe's mate | 60 Debtor's letters |
| 33 Go yachting | | 36 "If all ___ fails..." | |
| 34 Consider, with "on" | | | |
| 38 Golden- (senior) | | | |
| 39 Tricky pitch | | | |
| 40 Crinkly veggie | | | |
| 41 Stinging remark | | | |
| 42 Small snack | | | |
| 43 In itself | | | |
| 44 Pallid-looking | | | |
| 46 Sporting a topper | | | |
| 47 Second-year students | | | |
| 50 Prickly husk | | | |
| 51 Aries, familiarly | | | |
| 53 Huge amount, as of vitamins | | | |
| 58 ___avis | | | |
| 59 Electronic casino game | | | |
| 61 Greek love god | | | |

News in brief

Veto of spending bill forces Demos to weigh concessions

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's veto of an Iraq war spending bill that set timelines for U.S. troop withdrawals puts new pressure on Democrats in Congress to craft a compromise even as their caucus grows more fractious on the topic.

The party's most liberal members, especially in the House, say they will vote against money for continuing the war if there's no binding language on troop drawdowns. Bush and almost all congressional Republicans continue to insist on a spending bill with no strings attached on troop movements.

Bush on Tuesday rejected legislation pushed by Democratic leaders that would require the first U.S. combat troops to be withdrawn by Oct. 1 with a goal of a complete pullout six months later.

"This is a prescription for chaos and confusion and we must not impose it on our troops," Bush said in a nationally broadcast statement from the White House. "It makes no sense to tell the enemy when you plan to start withdrawing."

Immigration rallies push for reform

CHICAGO (AP) — Magda Ortiz believes a recent raid in a largely Mexican neighborhood of Chicago made people too afraid to march in an immigration rights rally, which drew far fewer protesters than turned out last year.

Ortiz, a 27-year-old legal resident from Mexico and mother of two, pushed through crowds on the city's lakefront with a stroller bearing a sign that read: "Bush, think about the moms. Stop the raids."

But if the raids kept some people away, organizers said, they drew out others who were determined to show they wouldn't be intimidated.

"If they had fear, they turned that fear into courage to come out and march," said Elias Bermudez, president of the activist group Immigrantes Sin Fronteras, or Immigrants Without Borders, at a demonstration in Phoenix. About 15,000 people marched there, some with signs reading "Stop the roundups" or "The sleeping giant woke up forever."

A few dozen counter-protesters turned out, including George Prophet, who held up a large handwritten sign that read "Hell No."

Olmert convenes Cabinet in bid to hold on to power

JERUSALEM (AP) — Telling his rivals to "slow down," Prime Minister Ehud Olmert called an emergency meeting of his Cabinet Wednesday in a feverish attempt to hold on to power following a scathing report on his handling of last year's war in Lebanon.

This week's report has set off a growing chorus of calls for Olmert's resignation, including from members of his coalition government. A top lawmaker in Olmert's Kadima Party became the highest-ranking official to urge Olmert to step down, and party officials said Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, a party heavyweight, would follow suit later in the day.

The 34-day war against the Islamic group Hezbollah has been widely perceived as a failure. Monday's report said Olmert bore ultimate responsibility, accusing him of poor judgment, hasty decision making and lack of vision.

A defiant Olmert opened the special Cabinet session by hinting that reports of his political demise were premature.

"To those who are eager to take advantage of this report to reap certain political advantages, I suggest 'slow down,'" he said in comments broadcast on Israeli media.

Turkey's ruling party appeals to parliament for early elections

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkey's Islamic-rooted ruling party appealed to parliament Wednesday to declare early general elections to be held June 24, opening the way for an easing of tensions with the secular establishment.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the decision in response to secularists' fears that his administration, by proposing a candidate for president with a background in the Islamic political movement, was moving the country toward Islamic rule that would undermine their Western way of life.

By holding early elections for a government with a fresh mandate, Erdogan hopes to resolve a crisis that sent the stock market tumbling and prompted the pro-secular military to threaten to intervene.

"God willing, Turkey will get back on track," Erdogan told reporters late Tuesday, referring to the economic and political stability that Turkey had enjoyed in recent years.

In a setback for his government, the country's highest court on Tuesday halted the parliamentary vote for president that looked set to elect the ruling party's candidate, Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul.

Bush's wiretap proposal faces uphill battle in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Citing FBI abuses and the attorney general's troubles, senators peppered top Justice and intelligence officials Tuesday with skeptical questions about their proposal to revise the rules for spying on Americans.

Senate Intelligence Committee members said the Bush administration must provide more information about its earlier domestic spying before it can hope to gain additional powers for the future.

"Is the administration's proposal nec-

essary, or does it take a step further down a path that we will regret as a nation?" asked Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-V.Wa., as he convened a rare public hearing of the Senate Intelligence Committee he chairs.

For two hours, National Intelligence Director Mike McConnell, National Security Agency Director Lt. Gen. Keith Alexander, Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein and their lawyers tried to parry increasingly dubious and hostile questions. They deferred many answers to a committee session closed to the public.

With little apparent success, they portrayed the administration bill as merely an adjustment to technological changes wrought by cell phones, e-mail and the Internet since the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act was enacted in the 1970s. Under current rules, McConnell said, "We're actually missing a significant portion of what we should be getting."

Secretary Rice says Middle East has 'everything at stake' in Iraq

SHANNON, Ireland (AP) — Iraq's neighbors in the Middle East have "everything at stake" if Iraq fails, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said ahead of two international meetings that have become command performances for skeptical Arab states.

Festering tensions between Iraq and its neighbors are complicating U.S. efforts to round up key aid — including debt relief — before the two-day summit later this week in Egypt.

"The region has everything at stake here; Iraq's neighbors have everything at stake here," Rice told reporters traveling with her to a gathering that will include U.S. adversaries Iran and Syria.

She left Washington late Tuesday, stopped for refueling in Ireland and was arriving in Egypt Wednesday afternoon.

Back-to-back meetings Thursday and Friday are devoted to increasing world

economic and diplomatic support for Iraq and reducing the tide of sectarian violence and terrorism there. Host Egypt wants the international summit to call for a three-month cease-fire between Iraqi forces and insurgents, according to a draft resolution. Iraq strongly objected to the idea on Monday.

Washington man ran Swiss-style bank out of his home

SEATTLE (AP) — A man operated a "warehouse bank" out of his home in the south Seattle suburbs, taking at least \$28 million from people around the country who wanted the discretion of a Swiss bank account without going to Switzerland, according to court documents unsealed Tuesday.

Robert Arant, of Des Moines, had hundreds of customers, many of whom apparently used the bank to conceal assets for the purpose of evading taxes, IRS agent Susan Killingsworth wrote in a sworn declaration. U.S. District Court Judge Marsha Pechman issued a preliminary injunction last month freezing the assets of his bank, Olympic Business Systems LLC.

A civil complaint filed under seal in U.S. District Court April 6 charges Arant with promoting abusive tax shelters and unlawfully interfering with internal revenue laws. Killingsworth said he has frustrated the investigation by refusing to turn over information about his customers. Agents seized computers and financial records last month from the home where Arant lives with the property's owner, Martin F. Dugan.

Arant took customers' money — promising to keep their identities private — and pooled it in six accounts at Bank of America, U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo Bank, Killingsworth wrote. He would then pay the customers' bills from those commercial bank accounts. He charged about \$75 a year in fees for the service, plus fees for wire transfers and for initial account set-up.

2007 Big Spring Baby Contest



Did you or someone you know have a baby in 2006 or 2007

If so, they are eligible to enter the baby into the "2007 Big Spring Herald Baby Contest" which will be printed on Sunday, May 27th. To enter your baby simply fill out the information below and bring the photo, information and \$15 to the Big Spring Herald before 5 p.m. on Friday, May 24th and your baby will be entered into the contest. An independent panel of judges will be judging the photos. The "First Place" winner will receive a \$100 Savings Bond "Second Place" winner will receive a \$50 Savings Bond

Baby's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parents Names: _____

Phone Number: _____

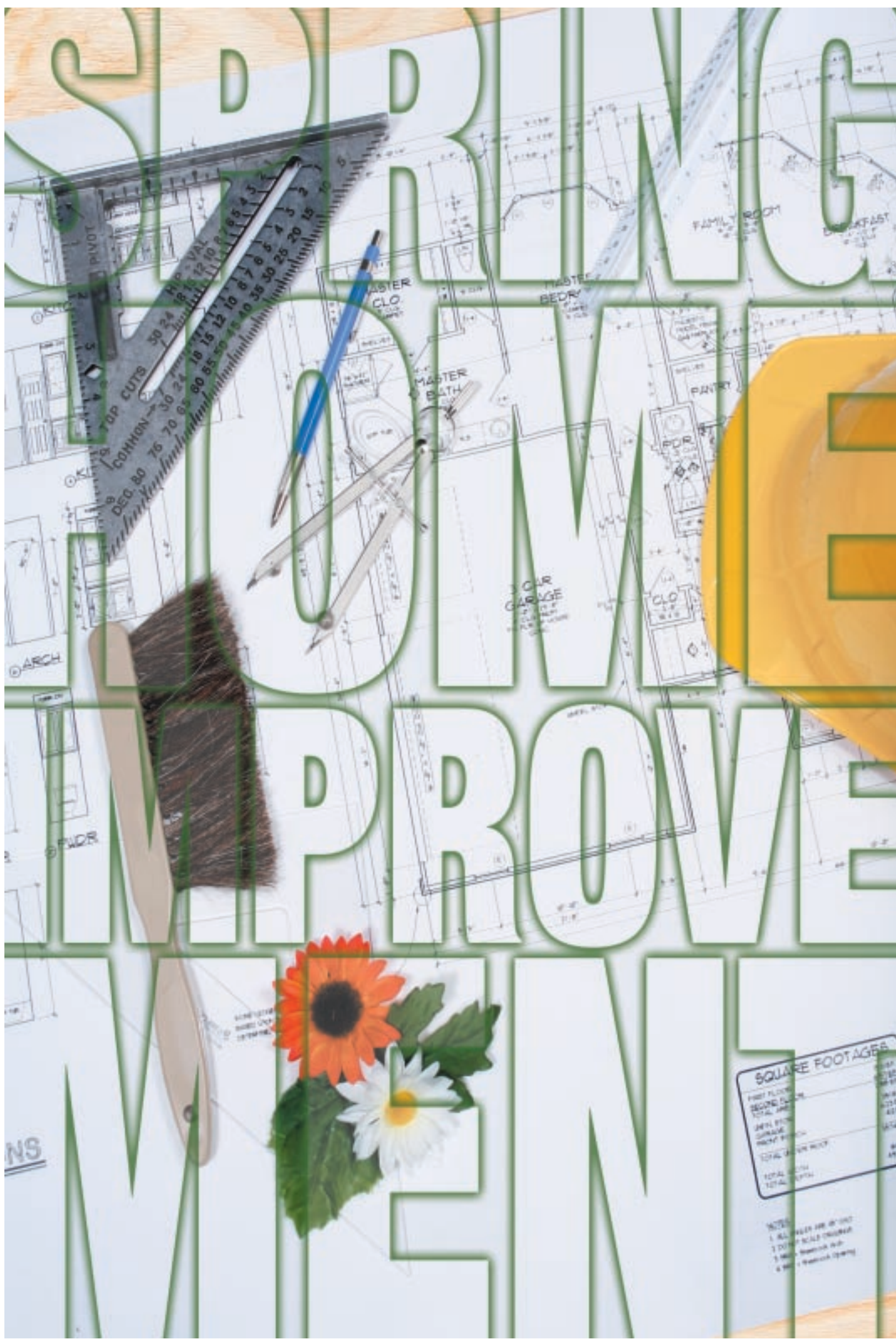
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560	Daytripper	149	139
701	Grande	29	25

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