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BIG SPRING

HERALD

FRIDAY

MAY 11, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 142

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MAJOR ACCIDENT

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Emergency medical personnel work to free a Big Spring man who was trapped in his car this morning after a traffic accident on W. Third Street near Bob Brock Ford. According to witnesses at the scene, the car was traveling west on Third Street when a tire blew out, sending the car careening into the utility pole. The driver was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.



Laptops approved for BSHS

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Roll out the laptops. Big Spring Independent School District will become the first school system in the Permian Basin to provide laptop computers for its high school students and staff after the BSISD school board formally approved the program Thursday.

By the same 4-3 margin that characterized past votes on the issue, trustees voted to authorize more than \$500,000 in expenses to start the program this coming school year.

Board President Tony Kennedy, along with trustees Ricky Robertson, Phil Furqueron and



Big Spring Independent School District trustees approved a program Thursday that will supply more than 1,200 Apple laptop computers to high school students and staff starting with the 2007-2008 school year.

Maria Padilla voted in favor of the program, while Vice President Allan Partee and trustees Mike Dawson and Irene

Galan voted in opposition. Supporters of the mea-

See **LAPTOPS**, Page 3A

Trustees endorse items on district's 'wish list'

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Big Spring school officials will soon start cutting checks to finance some long delayed projects.

Local school trustees voted to finance a trio of big-ticket items during their regular meeting Thursday at the high school board room.

Work on the projects, which have been part of the district's "wish list" for years, is expected to begin soon, officials said.

Trustees voted to accept a bid of \$446,000 from Lee George Construction to

install air conditioning at Steer Gymnasium. Financing for the project, which was budgeted at \$300,000, will have to wait until trustees approve a budget amendment at their next meeting.

Also approved were projects to finance electrical upgrades at Moss and Marcy elementaries, renovation of Steer Gym and construction of a canopy/ramp at Goliad Intermediate School.

The bid for the electrical bids was awarded to B-N-B Electric of Big Spring for \$341,800, an amount higher than the \$145,000 trustees original-

The renovation at Steer Gym and the canopy construction at Goliad were financed as one project and awarded to Hilliard Construction for \$282,222, an amount also in excess of budgeted figures.

Despite all three winning bids being significantly over original estimates, Business Manager Sandra Waggoner said there was more than enough money in the budget to pay for the projects.

"We didn't do some other projects we budgeted for this year, such as resurfacing the Blankenship Field track

See **WISH LIST**, Page 3A

Everywhere you look there's something to vote about

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

If area voters are looking for a variety of races in this year's May election, they will certainly get their ballots worth Saturday as polls prepare to open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

In the city of Big Spring, there is a three-way race for the mayoral seat as incumbent Russ McEwen is defending his seat against challengers

Shannon Thomason and James "Jim" Hicks.

Interestingly, also on the ballot is an attempted recall of Mayor McEwen, brought about by Thomason and Robert "Steve" Campbell. The two men filed an affidavit with the city Nov. 6 to recall the mayor and four city council members. They failed to generate enough signatures to force a recall election for any of the council mem-



McEwen Thomason Hicks

bers, but did acquire enough — by 25 signatures — to prompt an attempt to recall McEwen. Their affidavit charged that

the council "circumvented the will of the majority of electors" in passing a law banning smoking in public places.

Ironically, the recall attempt has no bearing because if McEwen is re-elected it will not carry over to the forthcoming term and if he is not re-elected, his term will be over anyway.

The District 5 seat on the Big Spring City Council also has a trio of candidates. Troy

Tompkins, Woody Jumper and David Scott are all vying for the position. Current District 5 representative Joann Knox is not running for re-election.

In the city of Coahoma, all three incumbents — David Elmore, Ricky Stone and Mayor Bill Read — are running for re-election. Read is being challenged by Billy Sullivan, while

See **VOTE**, Page 3A

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 Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.



Where to vote?

Here's all you need to know to cast a ballot

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Area voters will be asked to flex their electoral muscles Saturday, as a slew of municipal and school district representatives and a college bond issue will be decided.

The election also features a proposed amendment to the state

constitution, which, according to Bloom, has only added to the overall confusion of the multiple ballots and polling locations.

"The May election this year may seem a bit more confusing than in years past," said Bloom. "This is primarily due to the state including a constitutional

See **LOCATIONS**, Page 3A

Polling locations

- Precincts 101, 102 and 106-115 — Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Precinct 1
- Precincts 103-105 — Prairie View Baptist Church
- Precincts 202-204 and 205 within Big Spring ISD — Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Precinct 2
- Precincts 205 within Coahoma ISD and 207 — Coahoma Community Center
- Precincts 205 within Forsan ISD and 208 — Forsan High School
- Precinct 304 — Elbow Elementary
- Precincts 302, 303 AND 305 — Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Precinct 3
- Precincts 401-403, 404 within Big Spring ISD, 405, 406 and 410 — Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Precinct 4
- Precincts 404 within Coahoma ISD and 407-409 — Coahoma Community Center

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m



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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B
Friday, May 11, 2007

IN BRIEF

Lady Buffs playoff game rescheduled

Forsan's Lady Buffaloes Regional Quarterfinals match up against Trent's Lady Gorillas was rescheduled for the second time this week due to the rains that drenched West Texas earlier this week.

The game will now be played at 4 p.m. Saturday in Colorado City.

No other area playoff games have been changed due to the rains.

Lady Steers sports banquet rescheduled

Due to the Lady Steers Softball team advancing in the playoffs, the Lady Steers Sports banquet has been rescheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 21st at the Big Spring High School cafeteria. There will be a time allotted for picture taking starting at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the ATC or by contacting Mique Yarbar at 213-5259 or Brenda Claxton at 816-9803.

Lady Hawk basketball camps scheduled

Howard College women's basketball Head Coach Earl Diddle will host three girls' basketball camps this summer.

The Little Hawk Camp begins on June 4. The four day camp will run from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each day. This camp is for girls entering kindergarten through third grades in 2007 and costs \$50.

The Individual Day Camp also runs from June 4-7, with an afternoon session from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day. This camp is for girls entering grades 4-8 and costs \$60.

The Shooting and Position camp is for girls entering grades 7-12 and costs \$60. It begins June 18 and runs from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. until June 21.

For more information or to register please contact Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

Lady Steers summer softball camp

The Lady Steers will be holding their All-Skills Softball Camp June 4-7 at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex. Each day's activities will last from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The camp is for girls going into 1st grade thru going into 8th grade. It will be administered by the Lady Steers Head Softball Coach Jennifer Reyes and Assistant Coach John Sparks.

Cost for the camp is \$45 and will include a camp t-shirt.

For more information contact John Sparks at 270-2711.

Magers-Powell camp scheduled

Rose Magers-Powell, the Big Spring High School Hall of Fame volleyball star and 1984 Olympian, will again be conducting a volleyball camp at BSHS this summer.

See BRIEFS, Page 2B

Howard holds athletic banquet



Howard's Lady Hawks basketball team was honored with the Academic Excellence award at Howard's annual athletic banquet.

By ERIC RODEWALD

Special to the Herald

Howard College recently held its annual athletic banquet to honor athletes, trainers and cheerleaders for their athletic success performing in their respective sports. The student athletes were also honored for their academic success.

Special awards presented were the Above and Beyond Award which went to Linda Hammon. She is in charge of Western Dining which prepares the students' meals in the cafeteria.

Also honored was Dick Helms who received the Hall of Fame Award for his dedication to Howard College Athletics. Helms, recently retired from Athletic Supply, has been a fixture at the scoring table during men's and

women's basketball games over the years.

The only team award went to the women's basketball team who received the Academic Excellence Award. The team sports a 3.32 GPA. The team had four recipients of the Academic Excellence Award which goes to the athlete with the highest GPA per team. Those honored were Kim Gilyard, Laryssa Hise, Nicole Linen and Jessica Nez. All four had a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Other student athletes receiving the Academic Excellence Award for their respective teams were: Krista Chesworth, softball; Cameron Monger, baseball; Herve Banogle, men's basketball; Kasey Kramps, women's rodeo; Josh

See BANQUET, Page 2B

Dawson looking to claim state track title

Long distance runner looking forward to Austin

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Writer

Big Spring High School has long been a hot bed for fantastic track athletes. Big Spring track has sent several participants to the yearly state track meet held in Austin.

This year only one Steer will be making the trip to Austin.

Junior Zack Dawson goes to the state capital in hopes of his name becoming synonymous with former great Big Spring track athletes. Names like Drexel Owusu and Tory Mitchell.

Dawson won the regional 1,600 meter with a time of 4:25 to qualify for the state meet. The time is good enough to rank him sixth in the state heading into the state meet.

"His time heading into the state meet doesn't really make any difference," said Steers head track coach Randy Britton. "He's just as physically talented as any of the others at the meet. He's got the ability to run with the leaders in the race."

One of Dawson's greatest assets this season has been his work ethic. His hard work is evidenced

both on the track and in the classroom. Dawson has improved his time in the 1,600 dramatically since last season when he finished eighth at the regional meet. He also ranks third in his class academically.

"He's come around a lot this season," raved Britton. "He was the leader of our cross-country team that won state in the fall."

Dawson actually finished third at the state 1,600 meters at approximately 9 p.m. Britton expresses great confidence in Dawson.

"He's got to convince himself that his condition is there," Britton said. "It's more of a mental thing at this point. He has to believe he can win the race." Dawson agrees with his coach's summation of his chances. "Hopefully, to win it," Dawson answered when asked about his expectations. "I think I have a very good chance to win as long as I run my race."

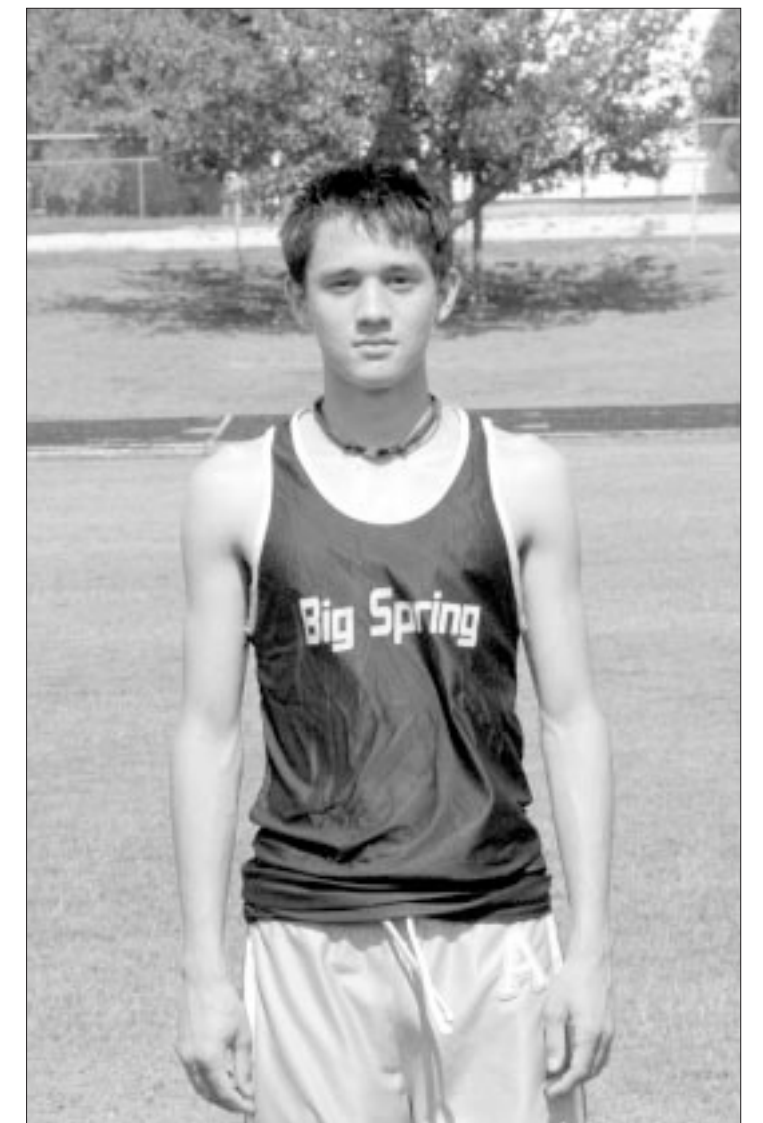
Dawson will need that confidence in his abilities to fuel himself over the last stretch of the mile. "It's a matter of him believing in his condition and his condition is good," said Britton. "He's got to have that confidence that he can run with the people that lead the race."

Britton went on to rave about Dawson's drive to finish races noting that he runs a very strong last 800 meters.

"I think he's got a chance to win the race," Britton said. "If he won't make any small mistakes by getting behind early in the race then I think he's

got a good chance to win it."

Contact Jonathan Hull



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull
Junior Zack Dawson will represent Big Spring High in the 1600-meters race tonight at the Stae Track Meet in Austin.

Rangers rout Yanks, 14-2

By RONALD BLUM

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Brandon McCarthy held down the Yankees, and then the Texas Rangers' hitters broke out to stop their slide against New York.

McCarthy limited New York to one run in 5 1/3 innings and Mark Teixeira had four hits, including three doubles, leading the Rangers to a 14-2 rout Thursday.

Pinch-hitter Victor Diaz hit his first career grand slam, Teixeira had three RBIs and Gerald Laird out-raced Alex Rodriguez in a rundown to score the go-ahead run in a three-run fifth.

Texas turned the game into a blowout with three runs in the seventh and seven more in the eighth. Rangers closer Eric Gagne pitched a perfect ninth, his first action since straining a hip on April 22.

New York had won its first five games this year against last-place Texas and 18 of 20 since July 2005. The Yankees (16-17) fell short in their attempts to sweep the season series and to move over .500 for the first time since before play on April 21.

Texas set season highs for runs and RBIs (16).

McCarthy (3-4), who gave up five or more runs in each of his previous three starts, allowed five hits and threw a season-high 104 pitches.

The only run off him was Melky Cabrera's tying homer in the third. Cabrera had gone 266 at-bats without a home run since last Aug. 10 when he connected off McCarthy, then with the Chicago White Sox.

Frank Francisco relieved with two on in the sixth and Texas ahead 4-1, and he retired Hideki Matsui on a flyout and Jorge Posada on a popup. Francisco has retired his first batter in all seven appearances this year.

Chien-Ming Wang (1-3) fell behind in the first, a contrast to his previous outing, when he began with 7 1/3 perfect innings against Seattle last Saturday. Against the Rangers, he gave up seven runs and 11 hits in 6 1/3 innings, and his ERA rose to 5.40.

Sammy Sosa, who had three hits, had a two-out RBI single in the first. With the score 1-all in the fifth, Texas took advantage of

New York's fielding failures.

Laird hit a leadoff triple on a catchable fly that dropped behind Bobby Abreu, who slowed as he neared the right-field wall. Lofton grounded out with the infield in, and Brad Wilkerson grounded sharply to third. Rodriguez threw home, trapping Laird in a rundown, and Posada threw back to third. A-Rod faked a throw and then ran after Laird but couldn't catch up in time as Laird slid home for a 2-1 lead.

Teixeira and Sosa followed with consecutive RBI singles that made it 4-1. Texas boosted it lead to 7-1 in the seventh on Wilkerson's sacrifice fly, Teixeira's RBI double that chased Wang and Hank Blalock's run-scoring double off Luis Vizcaino.

Diaz hit his slam in the eighth against Sean Henn, the fifth pinch-hit slam in Texas history and first since Blalock on July 4, 2004, at Houston.

Notes: New York DH Jason Giambi missed his second straight game because of a spur near his left heel. He was scheduled to see a doctor Thursday. ... Texas SS Michael Young didn't

play after leaving Wednesday night's game in the fifth inning because of tightness in his right hamstring. He had appeared in 287 consecutive games. ... Yankees RHP Phil Hughes (hamstring) was headed to Tampa, Fla., on Thursday for rehab.

Red Sox 8, Blue Jays 0

Tim Wakefield pitched seven sharp innings and Kevin Youkilis had three hits, including a home run, and two RBIs to lead the Red Sox to their seventh win in eight games, 8-0 over Halladay and the Toronto Blue Jays.

Boston also got off to a fast start as Youkilis doubled in the first and later scored on David Ortiz's grounder. The Red Sox then blew the game open with a six-run third, sending 10 men to the plate and stringing together six consecutive hits. Mike Lowell homered for the third straight game — a three-run shot — and Youkilis and Manny Ramirez sandwiched RBI singles around a run-scoring double by Ortiz.

See AL, page 2B

Obituaries

Geneva R. Dunagan



Geneva R. Dunagan, 76, of Amarillo, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, May 10, 2007, in an Amarillo hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 12, 2007, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Royce Clay officiating. Memorial services will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, May 14, 2007, at the Southwest Church of Christ in Amarillo.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born July 18, 1930, in Big Spring and married M. A. "Son" Dunagan April 2, 1948, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Aug. 12, 1992.

Geneva was a longtime resident of Big Spring and worked as the lead pharmacy technician at the VA Medical Center. She moved to Amarillo in June of 1995. She was a member of Southwest Church of Christ and a member of the Red Hat Society.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Judy Dunagan of Junction; a daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Michael Lewis of Amarillo; a brother, Roy Ray of El Paso; and two grandchildren, Michelle Rodgers and husband, Brett, of Amarillo, and Lance Lewis and wife, Sabrina, of Lubbock.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, c/o Diane Wood, 3200 Greenbrier, Big Spring 79720.

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

Sister Rendie Mae Jackson

Sister Rendie Mae Jackson was born Oct. 22, 1912, in Crockett to the parentage of Richard Tate and Anna Downie Tate, both deceased. She went to be with the Lord May 3, 2007.

She had eight siblings, Alice Brock, Linnie Tate, Daisy Wright, Dorothy Hardy, Malinda Kennard, John Henry Tate, Willie Ed Tate and Darnell Tate, all of whom preceded her in death.

While in Crockett, and at a special time in her life, she met Mr. Lodie Jackson. After a brief courtship, they declared their love for one another and were united in holy matrimony, and moved to Big Spring.

Sister Jackson received her formal education at the Crockett Public School and worked for the Big Spring State Hospital until her retirement in 1993. In 1995, she relocated to Dallas to live with her beloved son, Jimmie, who later became her sole caretaker until her demise.

Those who will most cherish her memory include her precious son, Jimmie Lee Jolley of Dallas; her lovely daughter, Vernell Hunt of Midland; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and special friends.

A celebration of her life will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 12, 2007, at the West Highway 80 Church of Christ. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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

Andrew Joshua Dickens

Andrew Joshua Dickens, infant son of Whitney and Daniel Dickens of Fort Drum, N.Y., died Wednesday, May 9, 2007, in an Odessa hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 12, 2007, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Rev. Byron Brown, pastor of the First Church of the Nazarene, officiating.

He was born April 24, 2007, in Big Spring.

In addition to his parents, Andrew is survived by his brother, Matthew Kamien Dickens of Fort Drum, N.Y.; his grandmothers, Melanie Ussery of Big Spring and Rita Wilkerson of Carrizo Springs; his grandfather, Walter Ussery of Big Spring; his great grandparents, LeRoy and Jane Headrick of Big Spring, and Thomas and June Dickens of Carrizo Springs; and numerous other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Gary Wilkerson; his great grandparents, Ralph and Wynell Wilkerson, and Walt and Mannette Ussery.

The family suggests memorials be made to the March of Dimes, Texas Chapter, 10 Desta Drive, #LL130, Midland 79705.

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

Police blotter

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

Note — An activity log was not available at press time.

- **KENNETH LEE MURPHY**, 47, of 1202 E. Third Street, was arrested Thursday on two local citations.
- **SHENIQUA RIDEAUX**, 22, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- **ANTHONY OBER**, 22, transient, was arrested Thursday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- **GLORIA CANTU**, 46, of 306 Denton, was arrested Thursday on warrants from Howard and Ector counties.
- **LISA YBARRA**, 38, of 1504 E. Fifth Street, was arrested Thursday on charges of public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia and assault by threat.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 51 inmates at the time of this report.

- **GLORIA CANTU**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a Howard County warrant for theft of property and an Ector County warrant for theft by check.
- **TONYA D. CONNER TAYLOR**, 35, was arrested Thursday by DPS on charges of issuance of a bad check and driving while license invalid.
- **KAREN ANN LOPEZ**, 30, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a bail violation from El Paso.
- **HENRY JOHN RAYMOND**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property.
- **DANIELLA S. FLORES**, 24, was arrested Friday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the area of 18th Street and Mt. Vernon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Sixth Street and Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Interstate Highway 20 and FM 2599. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

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

Winning numbers drawn: 9-12-16-23-27.

Number matching five of five: 2.

Prize per winner: \$13,863.

Winning tickets sold in: Austin, Arcola.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-12-27-30. Bonus Ball: 28.

Number matching four of four: 7. Prize: \$1,509.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-5-7.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Howard College Dental Hygiene graduates will hold a pinning ceremony at 1 p.m. in the Hall Center auditorium.
- Associate Degree Nursing graduates will receive pins at 4 p.m. in the Hall Center auditorium.
- Howard College will hold graduation ceremonies at 7 p.m. in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.
- Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. North winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 80s. Northeast winds around 10 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming east around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s.

Monday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows around 60.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 50s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

Thursday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

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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.

State cracking down on steroid testing

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — A dispute over how to pay for steroid testing of Texas public high school athletes has stalled the bill in the final weeks of the legislative session.

Although House and Senate lawmakers promise a testing program will be approved, a key senator has branded as a "ticket tax" the House plan to pay for the program with a 25-cent fee on tickets to basketball and football games.

The House sponsor, however, says the fee is so small most people wouldn't object and noted it could raise more money for testing than the

Senate is calling for.

Both sides have approved their versions of the random, mandatory testing program and must negotiate the financial difference before the session ends May 28. If approved, Texas would have the largest high school steroid testing program in the country, targeting at least 22,000 students a year.

"We've stalled. We'll work it out," said Sen. Kyle Janek, R-Houston, sponsor of the Senate version. "The House wants the ticket tax. We've got the money (to pay for it)."

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has made the testing program one of his top priorities for the session. The Senate plan

would spend \$4 million each year, with the money coming from the state budget.

"There's no reason to put a tax on people who go" to games, Dewhurst said. "We'll work it out. It's a good bill and at the end of the day, it's going to save lives."

Rep. Dan Flynn, the Van Republican who filed the bill in the House, said his research shows the 25-cent ticket fee could raise \$4.8 million per year and possibly allow the state to test even more students.

"I don't like the Legislature to control the price of a ticket," said Flynn, who predicted easy passage once details are worked out. "But it's a volunteer activity (sports)

and such a little amount of money on the price of a ticket."

But the House version could make school districts dig deep into their budgets to cover costs up front before they start collecting the ticket fee once the 2007 football season begins.

Texas has about 733,000 athletes at about 1,300 public schools, and both the House and Senate bills would require mandatory testing.

The House bill leaves most testing program

details to be developed by the University Interscholastic League, which governs high school sports in Texas.

The Senate bill lays out specific penalties for positive tests, including a 30-day suspension for a first offense. A second would bring a one-year suspension, followed by a permanent ban for the third. Refusing to take a test would be considered a positive test.

The Texas High School Coaches Association, the Texas Medical

Association, and groups representing public school districts and administrators have testified in support of the Senate version.

New Jersey became the first state in the country to start a statewide testing policy for high school athletes last year. Its initial testing last fall didn't produce a positive result. The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association reported earlier this year. Florida has also instituted steroid testing in several sports.

to their AL-leading 14th home win.

Jeremy Sowers (0-3) gave up six runs and nine hits in five innings for Cleveland.

Tigers 7, Mariners 3

Magglio Ordonez and Brandon Inge homered against struggling Seattle starter Jeff Weaver and host Detroit won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Weaver (0-6), a former Tiger, gave up six runs in five innings and has lost each of his six starts this season.

Justin Verlander (3-1) allowed two runs and nine hits in 5 1-3 innings for Detroit.

Orioles 11, Devil Rays 6

Kevin Millar homered and drove in four runs and Corey Patterson had three hits and three RBIs for host Baltimore, which set a season high for runs and moved into second place in the AL East with its fifth win in seven games.

Daniel Cabrera (3-3) allowed six runs and eight hits in six innings against Tampa Bay.

Elijah Dukes and B.J. Upton homered for the Devil Rays. Casey Fossum took the loss.

BANQUET

Continued from Page 2B

Land, men's rodeo; Tori Paige, trainer; and Drew Wells, cheerleading.

Some of the individual sports honored their athletes for their contributions in their respective fields of play.

Baseball's co-MVPs were Matt Curry and Tyler Ladendorf while Andrew Femath received the Hungry Dog Award.

Softball's MVP was Alejandra Rodriguez. The Most Improved Player was Chesworth and the Most Valuable

Sophomore was Jennifer Oso.

The Top Hand for Rodeo was Cody Heiner and the Rough Stock High Point Award went to bull rider Jamon Turner. In the timed events, the top male was steer wrestler Laramie Hall and the top female was barrel racer Cassidy Ogden.

Earning All-Western Junior College Athletic Conference honors for men's basketball and signing with NCAA Division I programs were Brandon Sampay, Illinois State; Sean Watson, Montana; and Benson Akpan, Stephen F. Austin.

Freshmen Candace Lambert and Kandace Griffin were all-conference for the women's basketball team.

The outstanding student trainer was Richard Kinsey and Amanda Braudaway received the Everett Blackburn Leadership Award. The top newcomer of the year was Paige.

The cheerleaders were given a handful of awards as well: Felicia Rios, Most Spirited; Crystal Bridges, Best Jumps; Tisha McCartney, Best Motions; Whitney Oppogard, Best All Around; Sterling Gee, Best Tumbler; and Kyla Millican, Most Improved.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

The camp is scheduled for July 30-Aug. 1 with sessions for middle school playres from 9 a.m. to noon and the high school players' session from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

The fee will be \$125 per player.

Players can register online and get additional information on the camp by going to Magers-Powell's website, www.gotrosevolleyball-camps.com.

Relay for Life ragball tournament slated

The Relay for Life Ragball Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at Big Spring High School's Lady Steers Softball Field.

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

Registration is set for 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 12,

with the first game of the tournament set to start at 11 a.m. that day.

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.

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

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 abilities.

WBU schedules tryout baseball camp

The Wayland Baptist University baseball staff is holding a tryout camp for graduating high school seniors and college

players with remaining eligibility interested in becoming a part of the Pioneer baseball program. The camp is scheduled for Saturday, May 26 at David and Myrt Wilder field, located on the WBU campus in Plainview.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with the tryouts to follow at 9:00. There is no cost. For more information or to make reservations, contact Coach Josh Milner at 806-292-1690 or 806-291-1158 or email milnerj@wbu.edu.

Caprock AAU qualifier scheduled

Caprock West Texas Basketball is hosting the AAU Boys District Qualifier for ages 10 thru Varsity. The qualifier will be held May 18 thru 20 in Lubbock. The entry deadline is May 15. For more information contact Karen Moeller by calling her at 806-793-6836 e-mail caprockaaau@clearwire.net. Or visit Caprock Basketball online at www.caprockbasketball.com.

The Minority Leadership Of Big Spring Endorses Russ McEwen For Mayor:

Emma Brown, County Commissioner

Stephanie Horton, City Council

Manuel Ramirez, Jr., City Council

Irene Galan, BSISD Board of Trustees

Maria Padilla, BSISD Board of Trustees

John Ybarra, President, LULAC Chapter

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LAPTOPS

Continued from Page 1A

sure cited studies that show providing laptops to students increase student performance, particularly among low-income students.

Opponents, meanwhile, focused on the program's cost — figured at \$1.753 million over the next four years — as the major reason for their votes.

Trustees voted to lease rather than purchase the machines, choosing to pay more over the long run rather than shelling out bigger up-front payments.

The district will lease the computers at an annual cost of \$412,753. One-time expenses include slightly more than \$100,000 for staff training.

If the district had opted to purchase computers, the upfront costs would have exceeded \$1.6 mil-

lion. BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said he hopes the program starts showing positive results almost immediately.

"We will see improvement in student engagement in the first year of the program," Downes said. "And student engagement is one of our main district goals."

"While we hope to see increases in test results in the first year of the program, we definitely expect to see test score increases within the second year," he added.

With the Thursday vote, the focus now shifts toward making the necessary preparations to implement the program with the start of the 2007-2008 school year.

District Technology Director Corey Wood said the next few months will



Downes

be unquestionably busy for him and his staff, but he has no doubts the program will go off with as few hitches as possible.

"We've been working on the details of this for the past 20 months," Wood said. "We'll be ready."

The first batch of computers should arrive by the end of this month and will be distributed to high school teachers at that time, so they can begin familiarizing themselves with the machines.

Staff training is expected to begin in earnest in August. Officials have scheduled more than 30 days of training, which will extend through the coming school year, Wood said.

Final details have not been worked out, but Wood also expects parent and student orientation sessions to be held before the start of the next school year.

Students will be issued their laptops in September, he estimated.

WISH LIST

Continued from Page 1A

and repaving the high school parking lots, so that's about \$330,000 that we weren't spending," Waggoner said.

In other business, trustees approved:

- The resignations of Athletic Director Tim Holt, sixth grade teacher Lucy Odom, fifth grade teacher Tonia Sparks, first grade teacher Beverly Collins, kindergarten teacher Wendy Mayes, social studies teacher Rose Smith and fifth grade teacher Rebecca Zavala.

- The hiring of teacher/coach Andrew Couch, speech pathologist Lisa Akin, teacher/coach Marcus Morris, high school counselor Molly Morris, fifth grade teacher Amy Osborn, first grade teacher Jannette Westbrook and nurse Kimberly Wright.

Perry threatens special session on transportation

By LIZ AUSTIN PETERSON
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Intense negotiations on compromise transportation legislation continued Thursday, a day after Gov. Rick Perry threatened to call a special session on the issue.

Senate Transportation Committee chairman Sen. John Carona said the sides were close to an agreement, though his House counterpart wasn't as optimistic.

"We are very close, however we've been close before," said state Rep. Mike Krusee, R-Round Rock. "It's chances are 50-50."

The dustup involves a

sweeping bill the Legislature sent Perry earlier this week that would put a two-year moratorium on most new privately financed toll road projects and give local authorities more power over toll projects in their areas.

The legislation also would tighten controls on comprehensive development agreements, used in contracts for private-public road building.

Those agreements have attracted the attention of multinational consortiums willing to pay large sums up front for the right to operate roads and pocket the tolls for decades to come.

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

Odis Franklin filed his candidacy for one of the two at-large seats on the council.

Howard College is also part of this year's election effort, but not in the form of trustee seats. The junior college has a bond issue on the May 12 ballot total-

ing \$21.6 million in hopes of funding numerous repairs and renovation to the campus and its structures and infrastructure.

Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan and Stanton school districts are also holding contested elections this year.

In Big Spring, two of the three trustee seats up for election this year are contested.

Terri Myrick is challenging

incumbent Mike Dawson in District 5, while Jeff Brorman and Tom Ralston are contesting incumbent Ricky Robertson for the District 6 position.

Coahoma ISD has three candidates vying for two at-large positions on its school board. Danny Martin joins incumbents Sissy Franklin and James White on the ballot.

Forsan ISD voters are decid-

ing between four candidates for two at-large positions. Incumbent Tom Bill Kuykendall is vying with Chris Evans, Nancy Raney and Glenn Graves.

Dr. Pablo Teveni and Darren Patrick are running for the District 5 trustee position on the Stanton ISD school board.

This year's ballot includes a proposed state constitutional amendment meant to address Texas taxpayers over the age of

65 or who are disabled and were unable to benefit from last year's state mandated reduction in school district taxes.

For more information on the election, contact the Howard County Elections Office at 264-2273.

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

LOCATIONS

Continued from Page 1A

amendment on the ballot. The normal election day for such issues is November in odd numbered years. It is important to remember that the May election day is generally reserved for the city, school, college and political subdivisions other than the county. Therefore we are obliged to use the polling locations associated with those elections.

"The entities have the option of holding their own elections or contracting with the County Elections Office and holding joint elections with

other entities with common boundaries. With the implementation of the Help America Vote Act, in which all voting entities are required to meet all of the same requirements as the county did, it becomes more practical and more economical to contract with the county to use the county's equipment.

"Having a joint election allows the voter to cast their ballots on all races and issues they are entitled to vote for on one ballot. Otherwise a voter might have to go to more than one polling location on Election Day."

Bloom said the burning question most area voters will face come Saturday is

simply, "Where do I vote?"

"If you are inside the city limits, you will vote at the (Dorothy Garrett) Coliseum, which is the regular voting location for city elections," said Bloom. "If you are in the Big Spring school district, you will also vote at the coliseum. The voters in the Coahoma school district and those in the city of Coahoma will vote at the Coahoma Community Center, and will have the Howard College bond issue and the constitutional amendment on the same ballot."

"The voters in the Forsan school district will vote at either Forsan High School (Precinct 2)

or Elbow Elementary (Precinct 3). Precincts 103, 104, and 105 will vote at the Prairie View Baptist Church. For those voters in the Sands school district, they will only vote in the constitutional amendment and college race at Prairie View Baptist Church."

Bloom said it's important for voters to remember to bring their voter registration card with them to the polls Saturday.

"Having your voter registration card will help us ensure that you receive the correct ballot," said Bloom. "With all of the different races this year,

it can certainly be tough. It makes it all a lot easier if you have your card with you."

For more information on Saturday's election, contact the County Elections Office at 264-2273.

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

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Phyllis Hildreth, died Sunday. Memorial Services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Baptist Temple.

W. A. Allen, 81, died Tuesday. Memorial Services will be at 3:00 PM Saturday at East Fourth Baptist Church.

Bulls blow 19-point lead, fall to Pistons

By **ANDREW SELIGMAN**
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO — The lead was 19. The fans were in a frenzy. The Chicago Bulls were injecting some drama into this series.

Then the Detroit Pistons took it away.

Now, they're on the verge of their second straight sweep and another appearance in the conference finals.

"There was no panic situation for us," Detroit coach Flip Saunders said.

Instead, there was poise. There was a defense strangling the Bulls.

Tayshaun Prince scored 23 points and Chauncey Billups added 21, and the Pistons rallied from a 19-point deficit to beat the Bulls 81-74 on Thursday night in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The Pistons, who swept Orlando in the first round, will try to wrap up this one Sunday at the United Center.

"We love a challenge, man," Billups said. "We love any time we can get 20,000 fans against us and we can start hearing the crowd boo us and the hecklers. We just take that challenge, man, and we love those situations. We thrive on those situations."

No NBA team has won a best-of-seven series after dropping the first three games, and only three major professional teams have done that: the 1942 Toronto Maple Leafs, 1975 New York Islanders and 2004 Boston Red Sox.

The other Eastern Conference semifinal resumes Saturday at New

Jersey with Cleveland leading 2-0.

In the Western Conference semifinals, Utah, which leads 2-0, is at Golden State on Friday, and Phoenix is at San Antonio on Saturday in a series tied 1-1.

After blowing out the Bulls in the first two games at The Palace of Auburn Hills, the Pistons trailed 44-28 at halftime. They were down 49-30 early in the third and 55-38 midway through the quarter, and they certainly were hearing it from a raucous crowd.

But Prince, Billups and Wallace brought them back. Now, they're one win away from their fifth straight conference finals.

"Perseverance — that's the type of team that we are," Wallace said. "No matter what the deficit is, we feel that we can come back from it."

Prince scored 13 points in the third quarter and Billups added 10. Wallace had a block in the closing seconds and hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to pull Detroit within 61-60. He then put the Pistons ahead with a jumper just under two minutes into the fourth period and added a 3-pointer that made it a five-point game midway through the quarter.

Wallace had 16 points, 11 rebounds and five blocks for Detroit, and Richard Hamilton scored 16 points.

Luol Deng led Chicago with 21 points, but was just 8-for-22 from the field. The Bulls were 28-of-83 (33.7 percent), almost the same percentage (33.6) they managed in the first

two games, and again, they had no answer for the Pistons' zone.

Detroit used it most of the second half, and the Bulls shot 10-of-41, including 4-for-25 in the fourth quarter. And while Bulls coach Scott Skiles again downplayed its effectiveness, saying his team was "getting shots all over the place," Wallace had another view.

"That's just lying to themselves about things that we do," Wallace said.

Chicago came up short at the free throw line as well, missing 10 in the game, seven of those in the fourth quarter.

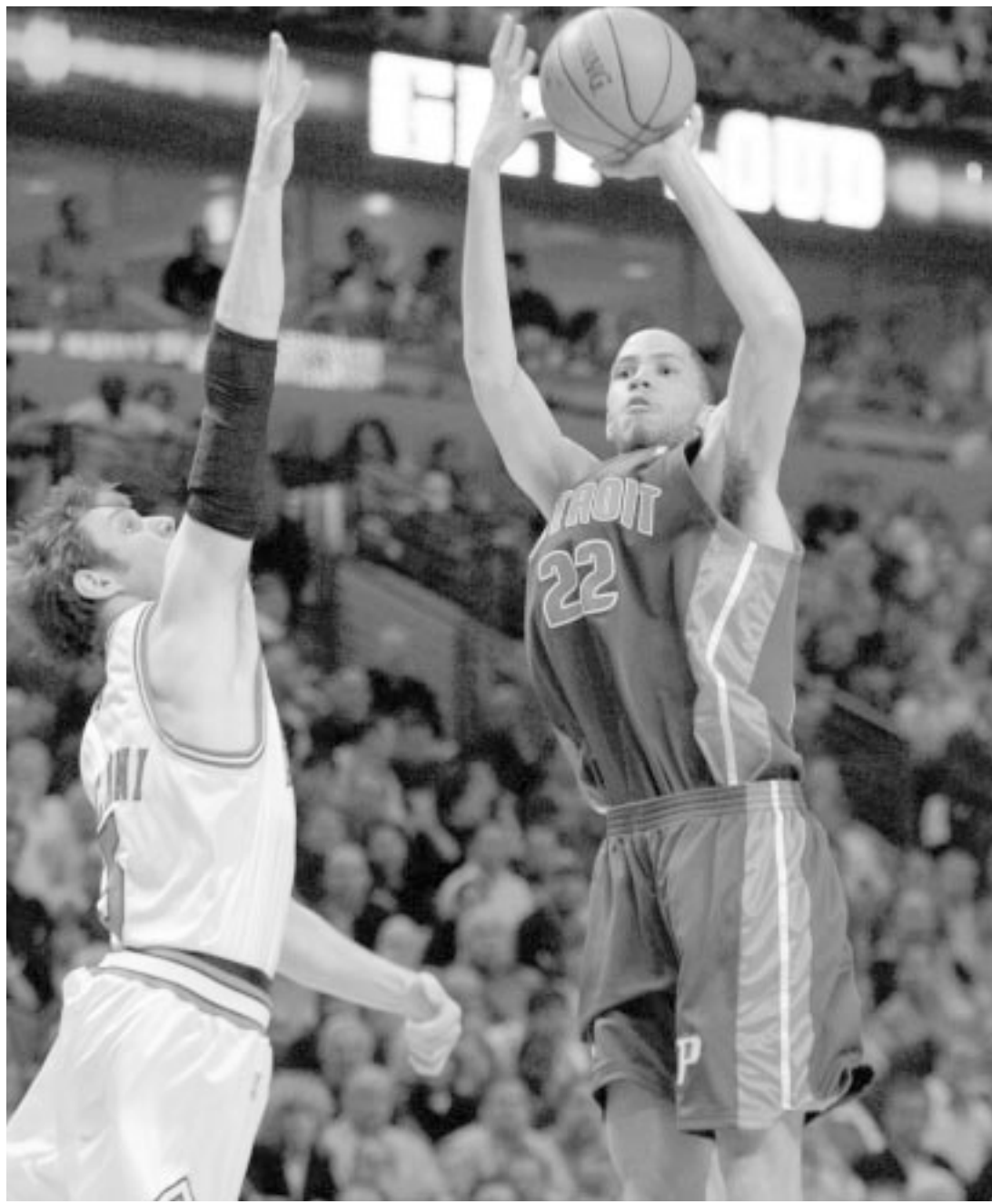
"We just lost on our homecourt, so this loss hurts a lot more than the other two, even though we played hard tonight and fought hard," Deng said. "I think we played better today than last two games, but it's still a loss and it still hurts."

The Bulls outscored the Pistons 22-6 over the final 7:15 of the second quarter, turning a 22-22 tie into a 44-28 halftime lead. Saunders showed his team clips of the first half during the break, and to Prince the problems were obvious.

"We didn't have fun in the first half, the ball wasn't moving," he said. "We just talked about moving the basketball. ... Once we made the adjustments we were in good shape."

With the score 55-38 midway through the third quarter, Detroit scored 12 straight points, eight by Prince.

Ben Gordon scored 16 points for Chicago, but was 4-for-16 from the field, while Kirk Hinrich



MCT photo/Kirthmon F. Doeier

Detroit Pistons' Tayshaun Prince, right, scores against Chicago Bulls' Andres Nocioni in the second quarter during the NBA playoffs at the United Center in Chicago.

had 13 points. Ben Wallace finished with five points, 12 rebounds and two blocks.

"It's the biggest loss of everybody's life because it's the last game," Gordon said. "We had a 19-point lead and they chipped away at it. It's

tough to lose like that."

Notes: Ben Wallace would not say why he was late, telling reporters: "I don't have to explain myself to nobody." Skiles, who was not thrilled about the late arrival, said: "Somebody said the traffic was really bad at

that time. I mean it usually is in Chicago. I really haven't given it a lot of thought. That wasn't high on my list of priorities." ... Detroit shot 4-of-18 in the second quarter and 6-of-20 in the fourth. But the Pistons went 13-of-22 in the third.

Healthy Griffey climbing home run ranks

By **The Associated Press**

Now that he's healthy, Ken Griffey Jr. has started to move up the career homer list again.

Griffey hit his 569th career homer Thursday, a two-run shot that tied him for ninth place on the all-time list and helped the Cincinnati Reds finally beat the Houston Astros 9-5.

Griffey moved into a tie with Rafael Palmeiro and is now four behind Harmon Killebrew for eighth.

The 37-year-old outfielder has been on a tear since he moved back into his accustomed third spot in the batting order. Griffey has hit safely in seven of those eight games, with four of his six homers.

He missed most of spring training because of a broken left hand, suffered last December. The injury wound up helping him as a hitter.

"I wouldn't recommend it as a way to learn patience, but when you

break your hand, you don't want to be swinging at too many pitches early," Griffey said. "It hurt the first three weeks of spring training. Look at how I took batting practice. The first couple of times, I didn't swing at very many balls."

Houston won the first three games of the series, improving to 5-0 at Great

American Ball Park this season.

Pitcher Woody Williams and the Astros make themselves at home when they come here. Williams called a vendor over to the dugout and bought four bags of peanuts during the first inning, sharing them with teammates.

Griffey and Adam Dunn led the Reds to their elu-

sive win.

Cincinnati pulled ahead 7-0 after three innings against starter Matt Albers (1-2) and held on in spite of more bullpen struggles. Dunn hit a

three-run homer, his sixth in the last 11 games, and added a triple and a double.

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Contract Bridge
By Steve Becker
Bidding Quiz
You have the following hand, both sides vulnerable:
♠K95 ♥— ♦KJ87 ♣AQ10863
1. You bid One Club, and partner responds One Heart. What would you bid now?
2. You bid One Club, and partner responds One Spade. What would you bid now?
3. Partner bids One Diamond, and you raise to Three Diamonds. Partner bids Four Clubs. What would you bid now?
4. Partner bids One Spade, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Hearts. What would you bid now?

1. Two clubs. This was a promising hand at the start, but when partner responds in hearts, much of the glamour disappears. To be void of a suit adds value to a hand, but not when the void is in partner's suit.
The heart response is a warning of potential danger ahead, so your best action is to indicate a minimum opening by rebidding two clubs. Later events may restore the original promise of your hand, but until a fit is discovered, you must tread gingerly.
2. Two diamonds. There is some question whether your limited high-card values justify a reverse, but

there is no better call available. Bidding clubs followed by diamonds shows not only longer clubs but extra values, and that is what you have after partner responds one spade.
Alternative bids are two spades and three clubs, but neither represents your hand as well as two diamonds.
3. Four hearts. You should have a diamond slam firmly in mind, but it is best at this point to cuebid hearts to show first-round control of the suit and interest in slam. Blackwood is not desirable when you have a void, since partner's response would not tell you exactly how far to go in most cases. The most flexible action here is to cuebid and await partner's next call.
4. Three clubs. There are two schools of thought in this type of situation. One school would favor an immediate cuebid of three hearts to identify your heart void and thus suggest a slam. The other school would advocate bidding your best suit first, planning to cuebid hearts next.
We believe it is somewhat better to bid clubs first. One reason is that an immediate cuebid might result in permanent suppression of your strong six-card suit; another reason is that an immediate cuebid would suggest better spade support than K-9-x.
Tomorrow: East gets caught in a vise.
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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

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- West Texas Centers for MHMR and the Big Spring State Hospital on their Healthy Bodies-Healthy Mind Run/Walk held at Comanche Trail Park.

- Organizers and participants of the Cinco de Mayo Festival at Heart of the City Park. The music was great and the food was very good. We're already looking forward to next year.

- The 1,400-plus Howard County residents who voted early in Saturday's elections. Don't forget, if you haven't voted, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Election Day.

- The Texas Workforce Commission for holding their Texas Business Conference today at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

- All of the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf students who received special recognition during Thursday's Awards Convocation. And while we're at it, to all of the SWCID and Howard College graduates who will receive diplomas today, as well as the nurses and dental hygiene graduates. Way to go ladies and gentlemen!

- Did we salute all of the high school softball teams in the playoffs last week? We sure did, but guess what? They're all still there! So let's give a second bow to Coahoma's Bulldogs and Bulldogettes, Forsan's Buffaloes and Lady Buffaloes and Big Spring's Lady Steers. We're rootin' for you, all the way!

- To all of our teachers and nurses, we tip our hats for you during National Nurses Week and National Teachers Week.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

New beginnings are possible with You, Lord.

Amen

Hold back the terrorism tide

So three of the men arrested for allegedly plotting to massacre American soldiers in New Jersey were here illegally. Here's a dumb question: Why are there any people here in this country illegally?

It's possible to argue back and forth about the economic and social impact of illegal immigration into the United States. But surely there can be no argument about the undesirability of terrorism.

And, since we have just been reminded yet again that illegal aliens can be terrorists, we should ask a further question: Do we really have to wait for an A-bomb to go off in a U.S. city before we get curious as to who is in our midst?

Now, of course, some might say we should target only certain groups, such as Arabs and Muslims — the Fort Dix Six are all Muslim — for special surveillance. But that would be profiling, and we can't have that!

Moreover, as CBS News reported Tuesday, four of the six accused terrorists are from the former Yugoslavia, a European country. So here's a better idea: Let's simply recognize that the most dangerous elements in our society, by definition, are those who are illegal and unknown. Those unknown illegal immigrants might be honest and hard-working busboys. But they also could be mass murderers: The point is we don't know.

Coincidentally, on Tuesday night's broadcast, CBS went from news about catching terrorists before they strike to news about tracking floods before they rise. According to correspondent Nancy Cordes, the National Weather Service, reacting to the big floods of 1993 that killed dozens, has established a high-tech early-warning system.

And it seems to be working: Federal meteorologist Dennis Feltgen displayed computer projections, illustrated by color-coded maps, identifying floods along the banks of the Missouri River.

In other words, Uncle Sam seems to be doing pretty well at monitoring water levels — better than he is at monitoring possible terrorist cells.

Note to presidential candidates in both parties: There are votes, lots of them, to be gained by the candidate who presents himself or herself as being tough on homeland security. From securing our borders to ascertaining the legal status of everyone who abides within our borders, the American voters will reward the White House hopeful who offers them what they want: safety. (And if the next president were actually to deliver on that promise, that would be a great argument for reelection.) But, in the meantime, we might pause to consider further the ethno-religious origins of these six accused terrorists. As noted, four of them are Albanian Muslims from the former Yugoslavia. That country has now been broken into seven countries, plus the semi-country of Kosovo. Americans will remember Kosovo

as the place we tried to help; back in 1999, President Clinton used military force to stop the Serbs from slaughtering and oppressing the locals, who mostly were Albanian Muslims.

Americans were told, at the time, that our actions were earning us gratitude from Muslims around the world. Well, maybe yes, maybe no. But we sure don't seem to have earned much gratitude from the Albanians and Muslims who allegedly plotted to kill Americans at Fort Dix.

Now the question of still more Muslims coming to America from radicalizing war zones is coming up again as Iraq continues to boil. The United States has officially admitted 68 Iraqis for resettlement in the last seven months, but thousands more are in the legal pipeline. And what about the illegal pipeline?

Tragically, millions of Iraqis have been displaced from their homeland.

Where do many of them wish to end up — legally or illegally?

Will some come here, wanting to carry on jihad of some kind? Might some be agents of, say, Iran?

The point is, if we don't know who's here — and what ideas and equipment they might have brought with them — we can't begin to defend ourselves.

James P. Pinkerton is a columnist for Newsday. His e-mail address is pinkerto@ix.netcom.com.

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• **GARY SIMER** — Home: 263-
0260.

Educate first; Preach later

A friend teaches at a marginal — a polite euphemism for "inner city" — high school in Houston. On any given weekday, she teaches government and economics.

She also tries to determine which of her students came to school under the influence and hears stories of their family members getting arrested during the weekend. Just this week, my friend said, a 17-year-old unmarried young woman, a senior, announced at the beginning of class that she is pregnant again, and the rest of the students cheered for and congratulated her. Somehow that day's lesson on how a bill becomes a law didn't seem quite as enticing to the class as asking who the baby's daddy is. My friend has to be a pseudo-Dr. Phil, quasi-probation officer in her job as a public school teacher.

Meanwhile in Austin on the same day, the state House passed the Schoolchildren's Religious Liberties Act, courtesy of the Republican majority there. Rep. Charlie Howard (R-Sugar Land), author of the bill, as well as his compatriots in potentially unconstitutional legislation, were spiritually anguished that public schools are denying children the right to express their religious views on campus.

Under this legislation, which has moved to the Senate, students would be able to share their beliefs in public school forums — at football games, graduation ceremonies and assemblies.

Howard and friends wanted students to be legally able to pass out

candy cane pens with attached spiritual messages at holiday parties or be allowed to say "Jesus" in the springtime without fear of retribution or admonition, both the actual reasons for this legislation. So real-life events inspired this legislation (much like a bad "B" movie) its supporters want us to know. Should the Senate pass this bill, we'll have students invoking the Almighty's blessings for a winning football season and a chance at the state championship. After all, football is a lower deity form here in Texas ... but I digress.

Leaving the legislature's philosophical musings and returning to the reality TV version of Texas' public schools, we've got guns, drugs and gang violence. We're blessed in abundance with pregnant teens, sexually transmitted infections and high dropout rates. Some 160 seniors — some 19 and 20 years old — at my friend's high school won't graduate at the end of this month, most for the second consecutive year (and a few for the third). That's because they didn't pass the state exit exam, the TAKS test, again. I predict careers in cooking at fast food restaurants and in cleaning department store bathrooms for these students.

But what most concerns the legislature is that an 8-year-old boy in Plano in 2003 got hurt feelings because his school administration insisted he pass out his religious party favors to classmates at a specified time after school, as per campus policy. The legislature — at least the contingent who voted for this act — is also worried some kiddies can say such subversive words as "jelly beans" or "Easter bunny" but a schoolgirl in Katy couldn't proclaim Jesus Christ as the Messiah during a school springtime party.

I'm almost willing to concede the issue of religion in public schools, almost, except for that bothersome little First Amendment right of separation of church and state, if the legislature would address daily reality in the public schools. I prefer practical solutions over religious ranting and ravings any day.

Give my 10-year-old, fourth-grade son the candy cane pen if you must, but just ensure all his classmates are literate. I don't really care that little Susie's parents have indoctrinated her to believe the Easter Bunny is Satan's attempt to distract secular society from the alleged spiritual significance of the holiday, but I do think the legislature should focus on raising the graduation rate.

Call down fire and brimstone on the unrepentant, but let's at least ensure students know how to write in complete sentences — subject, verb, that sort of thing — before they leave high school. If we spent as much time teaching basic math and science skills as we argued about whether to post the Ten Commandments, we'd be cranking out a generation of engineers and scientists.

Texas' public schools should focus less on candy cane pens and more on chemistry, less on style and more on substance.

Now there's something to pray for.

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the Lufkin Daily News. She is presently attending law school. E-mail her at cynthiahallclements_mmm@yahoo.com.

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Stoudemire accuses Spurs of playing "dirty"

By **BOB BAUM**

AP Sports Writer
PHOENIX — Phoenix All-Star Amare Stoudemire says the San Antonio Spurs are a "dirty team" and that Bruce Bowen tried to hurt him, nasty accusations sure to intensify the play-off series between two of the best teams in the NBA.

"He kicked me purposefully in the back of my Achilles'. I almost came down wrong and he almost caused an injury," Stoudemire said after Thursday's practice. "He's known for doing that. I just hope the NBA and the commissioner take a look at that because it's definitely a

dirty play."

The Suns' center, selected to the all-NBA first team Thursday, didn't stop there.

"I think the Spurs are a dirty team," he said. "I mean, (Manu) Ginobili during the regular season kneed me in the crotch on purpose. I just hope the league takes a look at it and cleans the game up a little bit."

The Spurs, who host the Suns in Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinals on Saturday, had finished practice in San Antonio and the players were gone when Stoudemire made his accusations. Tom James, director of media services, said the Spurs had no comment.

The play that led to Stoudemire's charges came in the third quarter of Phoenix's 101-81 victory in Game 2 on Tuesday night, when he was going up for an open dunk. The victory evened the best-of-seven series 1-1.

Stoudemire said he didn't know at the time if the kick was on purpose, but decided after viewing replays that it was.

"When I saw the replay and reviewed it three or four times, there was no doubt about it," he said. "It was a purpose kick to the Achilles' and he definitely tried to injure me."

Stoudemire's feelings were heightened by the fact that he missed all but three games last season while recovering from

two knee surgeries.

"I was actually very, very, very upset," he said. "Me personally from last year, having to sit out the whole season because of injuries. And for a guy like Bruce Bowen, who is a two-time champion, he should have more class than that, should understand what it takes to be a professional."

A video on YouTube appears to show Bowen, an NBA all-defensive team selection, kicking Stoudemire's leg from behind.

Stoudemire said he didn't react at the time because he didn't want a suspension or a technical foul that would hurt his team.

"I know it's the playoffs.

I understand a hard foul," Stoudemire said. "But that wasn't a hard foul at all. That was just a purpose kick trying to injure someone."

No foul was called on the play.

Stoudemire said the Achilles' was initially sore but was fine during practice. Both teams took the day off on Wednesday.

During the regular season, the New York Knicks' Steve Francis was injured when he stepped on Bowen's foot.

When the teams met again in San Antonio, Knicks coach Isiah Thomas drew a technical foul when he shouted something at Bowen when New York's Jamal Crawford nearly landed

on the Spurs' player's foot.

"I thought Jamal went up to take the shot and as he was coming down, Bruce's foot was under him," Thomas said after that game. "And if he were to come down on his foot, he could have broken his ankle or sprained his ankle and he would have been out, just like Francis."

In March of 2006, Bowen was fined \$10,000 by the NBA for kicking Seattle's Ray Allen in the back.

Suns coach Mike D'Antoni downplayed the incident involving Stoudemire.

"The league's going to look at it and they're going to examine past tendencies and stuff," he said.

2007 NBA PLAYOFFS

Eastern Conference

Round One

Western Conference

1.	Pistons Win Series
8.	Advance to Semi-Finals
2.	Cavaliers Win Series
7.	Advance to Semi-Finals
3.	Nets Win Series
6.	Advance to Semi-Finals
4.	Bulls Win Series
5.	Advance to Semi-Finals

1.	Warriors Win Series
9.	Advance to Semi-Finals
2.	Suns Win Series
7.	Advance to Semi-Finals
3.	Spurs Win Series
6.	Advance to Semi-Finals
4.	Jazz Win Series
5.	Advance to Semi-Finals

Eastern Conference

Round 2

Western Conference

	Pistons Lead Series
	3-0
	Next Game- Sun May 13
	Cavaliers Lead Series
	2-0
	Next Game- Sat May 12

	Series Tied
	1-1
	Next Game- Sat May 12
	Jazz Lead Series
	2-0
	Next Game- Tonight May 11

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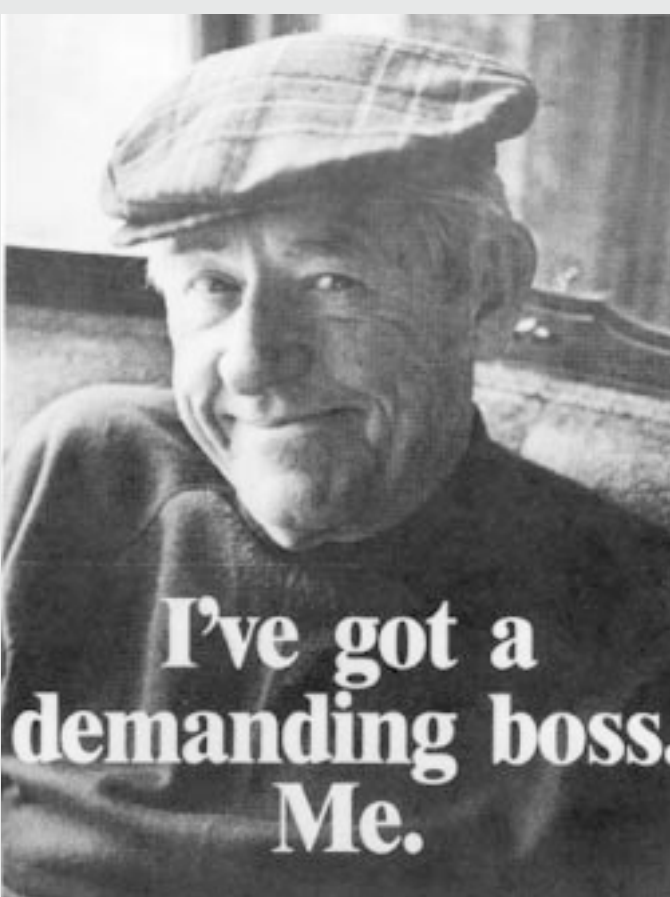
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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS Mercury's move into Gemini urges you to name your topic and run with it.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

There are no experts here and no degree required, only people who speak brand-spanking-new, of-the-moment news. The Pisces moon adds

woolgathering to TMI (too much information). A TMI remedy: Turn off your cell phone and take a nap instead.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Lately you've been exploring the personal side of your spirituality, searching for ways to reconcile the gap between what you see and what you've been told. A brief exchange adds more to this interesting story.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your community is like family to you, and what they think matters — sometimes. But right now, you need expert advice that probably no one in your family or community can provide. Widen your circle.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're the "it" girl or guy today. Everyone seems to think you have

the answers — because you do. If only you could cover more ground by cloning yourself. Saying "no" is just as effective.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Isn't it funny how you can never replicate the same hair day twice? Isn't it odd how after all these years your cat is still indifferent to your existence unless you have food? Aren't life's little idiosyncrasies amusing?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Because you enjoy glamour, you laughingly call yourself superficial — but that's not really true. Actually you're quite soulful. Loved ones know this, and so do perfect strangers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). "Networking" is not an '80s pariah; it's a lost art. Connecting with like-minded folks who help you move up the corporate ladder can be done graciously. You're exactly the one to get it right.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Instead of focusing on the trees, you finally see the forest. How refreshing! With this view, life looks abundant and thick with mysteries that beg to be discovered.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're feeling fun and playful and a wee bit dramatic. You have the delivery of a soap opera star, so work it to the hilt on clients, partners and whomever you need to emotionally influence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone arrives unexpectedly on your stoop, and their quixotic presence is invigorating. The ensuing visit prompts all kinds of

stimulating life questions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You organize your life in a way that's both clever and practical — a system created and sustained by you. When well-meaning loved ones try to help, they only mess things up. Best to keep them out of your business for now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Babies are attracted to people who smile. And smiling is also anti-aging. Now you have two good reasons to make a friend laugh or pull a practical joke on someone who needs a lift.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're all stirred up inside. Putting pen to paper helps you process the burbling emotions. If you don't write it down, you won't be able to harness the power of these catalyzing feelings.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: **ARIES:** Snuggle up on the loveseat with a movie and hot popcorn.

TAURUS: Lead by example. Give up a little bit of your ground if you want someone to do the same for you. **GEMINI:** Friends don't let friends make bad choices. Lend a friend a helping hand.

CANCER: Call that maternal figure in your life, even if she only knows how to smother-love you. It's love you can count on. **LEO:** Take a romantic getaway. Eat dinner by the sea or drive up the coast.

VIRGO: Fan the flames of passion by doing something physical outdoors. **LIBRA:** Someone's growing very insistent and even harder

to resist. **SCORPIO:** While you're driving all your energy and focus toward a goal, don't leave your partner out of the picture. **SAGITTARIUS:** A loved one surprises you with their intensity. **CAPRICORN:** The more, the merrier — even if you're trying to design a seduction, it's more fun with friends and distractions meandering in and around your scene. **AQUARIUS:** Put a fun spin on an idea for an outing. **PISCES:** You're psychically in tune with your partner. Use your sixth sense to figure out what's up.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Aquarius and Scorpio aren't moved, but fixed signs on the zodiacal wheel. Once they've made up their minds, it takes mighty influential ideas to change them. That's why this weekend is so remarkable. Scorpio moves Aquarius to consider settling down. Aquarius feels at home with Scorpio — maybe because it takes an intelligentsia to know one. These two have met their match.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: I am a single mom of a 14-year-old girl. Since "Cindy" was in fifth grade, things have been rough. We moved to another town so I could have a better-paying job, but Cindy didn't do well in school, so we moved back. She did improve but still had issues with schoolwork. During this time, I had some health problems and my salary was cut drastically, which led to financial problems.

When Cindy began eighth grade, I moved to my parents' ranch so I could live rent-free and try to get caught up on some bills. This meant Cindy had to go to a different school, and again, she had problems, so last month, I moved back home. Cindy is much happier, but she still is not doing her schoolwork. I am working three jobs to pay the rent, and we're still barely scraping by.

I am so mad at Cindy that I feel guilty, but I am sacrificing a lot for her happiness, and she isn't even getting passing grades. I know I have spoiled her, and now she just expects me to fix everything while she doesn't have to do anything.

I can't keep living like this. My health problems are returning because I am working constantly and exhausted. I am miserable. Cindy either doesn't get it or doesn't care. I could go back to that good paying job or move in with my sister in a different state, but I am afraid of how Cindy will react. I love my daughter and would do anything for her, but is putting my physical and mental health in jeopardy really going to help her? — Lost Mom

Dear Lost: Of course not, and you already know that. It apparently doesn't matter where you



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

live, Cindy's schoolwork still suffers. And the constant upheaval creates instability, which is not good for either of you, plus it gives Cindy the impression that she can push you around. Find a job that allows you to live decently and independently, and arrange for Cindy to have counseling through her school. She won't like your assertiveness, but it will be better for both of you in the long run.

Dear Annie: My friend, "Nola," has been divorced for five years. My husband and I have been as supportive as possible. We listen to her problems about the ex-husband, the kids, the boyfriend, the house, the money, the job, etc.

After five years, however, not much has changed for her. In the meantime, my life has gotten complicated with kids and minor health, business and marital issues. I don't have the energy to be so involved with Nola's problems anymore. She senses me pulling away, and her feelings are hurt. It's not that I don't care, and I've tried explaining this, but all she feels is the distance, and that makes me sad. What should I do? — The Ex-Best Friend

Dear Ex: Relationships shouldn't be so one-sided. For five years, you've been a shoulder to cry on

for Nola, but shoulders get soggy, and if Nola can't understand that you have your own problems, she's not the friend you think she is. Your family's needs come first. Stop feeling guilty about it.

Dear Annie: As an elderly person with limited resources and space, I have little use for more "stuff." While some of the suggestions by "Gifting Dilemma" (who does not appreciate charitable donations) would make welcome presents, one of my favorite gifts this past holiday season was a "wall" in a Habitat for Humanity house, given in my name by a niece and her husband. I had no problem with it not being a charity of my choice. I would have been happy with any donation they selected. — Grateful Aunt in North Carolina

Dear Grateful Aunt: A lot of older readers who are financially comfortable prefer donations. We especially like the wall in a Habitat house. What a great idea.

Dear Annie: People shouldn't get too upset when kids won't say the Pledge of Allegiance. For a while, when my son was in high school, he refused to say it, to the alarm and dismay of school administrators. I calmly discussed his choice with my son, but left it up to him.

After high school, he went to college but didn't graduate. He took a job, and then, to everyone's surprise, enlisted in the Marines. He has been in Afghanistan, is now stationed in Okinawa, and could not be more loyal to the United States and to the Marine Corps. — Proud Mom

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

BIG SPRING HERALD
Friday, May 11, 2007

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Church News

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College Baptist Church

A special Mother's Day service will be held Sunday morning at College Baptist. The King's Men will perform.

The CBC youth group will be holding a burrito sale Saturday at Wal-Mart. All funds will be used for summer youth activities.

When you drive on Birdwell Lane, take a moment to observe the new sign for College Baptist, "the church behind the cross proclaiming Christ."

First United Methodist Church

Dr. Shane Brue's special Mother's Day sermon is titled "A Legacy of Faith" based on 2 Timothy 1:1-5.

Services of worship are held each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. with Sunday school classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

Both junior high and senior high youth will meet at 6 p.m. on Sunday for movie night at Jason and Amy's home. Jason has all the information about summer church camps available; check with him regarding dates and ages.

Congratulations to those who received their certificates from Project Light, our church's class for English as a second language. It was very impressive to hear one of the participants read from the scriptures in English and announce that she had recently received her United States citizenship. Hats off to Agustin Ypina and his crew of volunteers who have worked faithfully in this program for many months.

Relay For Life is Friday, May 18. With only a week to go, the men have moved ahead in the Youth Team competition. This week should be very interesting as each group strives to win the prize-dinner served by the group bringing in the least amount of money. We are very proud of our

youth and the way they have worked for this very worthy cause.

Dates to remember: Spirit Wind Choir will present a concert the evening of June 12. This choir is made up of youth from our conference.

July 9-13 is Vacation Bible School and Oct. 6 we will have The Lord's Acre.

We have a very active church with many opportunities. If you are looking for a church home, we have a place for you at Fourth and Scurry streets in downtown Big Spring.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins a 9:30 a.m. Father James Liggett's sermon topic for Sunday will be "Zeus and Hermes."

St. Mary's Vestry will meet at 6 p.m. Monday in the church library.

For more information about St. Mary's, call 267-8201 or visit www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 Goliad.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

If you are looking for a church home, consider us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday services are 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful mothers. The ladies will have their Mother-Daughter Banquet this Saturday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Our guest speaker will be Loyce Jones from Denver City with special music, good food and great fellowship. There will be a Jr. Miss Rose Fashion Show and lots of great fun.

For further information or a ride to church, call 264-9924 or 267-7157.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran is located at 810 Scurry St.

The phone number is (432) 263-3787. The pastor is Wayne Frost. Worship service is at 9 a.m. Sunday school and Bible class begin at 10:15 a.m.

Special Mother's Day activities will be hosted by our youth, who plan to go to the National Youth Gathering in Orlando. There will be a cake walk between church and Sunday school in the Parish Hall. Made a donation — do a cake walk. The highest bidder will win the "fancy cake."

Evening prayer is at 6:45 p.m. The Lutheran Women's Mission League has been postponed to this Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Operation On-Going Support car package are small Gold Bond foot power, Sweet Tarts, Life Savers and cool scarves that wrap around the neck.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Happy Mother's Day to all moms! Spring Creek Fellowship honors moms and the family this Sunday in our morning worship service.

Pastor Dennis Teeters will bring a message found in Exodus 2:1-10, titled, "Mothers Always Find a Way."

We will have a special time for our youngest members as we have a time of dedication for babies. Sunday evening will be a time where we encourage families to spend time together and we will not have services. We will have Bible study and children's choirs and adult choir practice beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

As spring turns into summer, our youth are busy planning for Glory Camp and other summer activities under the direction of youth pastor Chris Tucker.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for August for our children and it will be a great time of the church ministering to kids of all ages. Our softball team will continue to play a vigorous schedule

through June. There will be many activities throughout the summer for the church to connect to each other and to you.

Spring Creek wants to connect with you! You can reach us at 714-4584 or a springcreekfellowship.org. We are located at I-20 and Spring Creek Road exit. Turn left and go under the overpass and turn left on the service road and go about 300 yards down the road and make a right hand turn at the church.

Friends of Unity

Friends are expanding their ministry. The study group, led by the Rev. Jim Sims, has moved to another location. The Center will be open at irregular hours during this time of transition. Call 267-8783 to see if it is open.

Unity encourages growth in the fruits of the spirit. World peace begins which each one of us.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist

This is the last day, Friday, to place an order with Angel Food Ministries for the May food box. There will be someone at North Birdwell Lane UMC until 6 p.m. to accept orders and cash payments. The cost is \$25 for the box, containing approximately \$70 worth of restaurant-quality food.

Delivery day will be May 26. If you need more information, call 267-2203 or 263-2563 (leave a message).

Preparation for upcoming events is well under way. The Vacation Bible School, "Lift Off, Soaring to New Heights for God," is scheduled for June 18-21 with a closing program and family night cookout at 7 p.m. June 21. Daily sessions for children 5 years through 12 years of age will be from 9 a.m. until noon. There will be no transportation available. Parents will need to arrange for children to be delivered and picked up.

North Birdwell UMC members will have a booth at the Funtastic Fourth celebration in downtown Big Spring. The booth will feature crafts, baked good and food items. All proceeds from the event will be used to further the building fund as we attempt to enlarge the building to better accommodate the growing Angel Food Ministry.

Please mark your calendars for these events and plan to attend. As always, you are invited to our church services on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Bible study is at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday and United Methodist Women meet at 4:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday.

Salem Baptist Church

Salem Baptist Church meets Sunday at 10 a.m. for Sunday school, 11 a.m. for morning worship service and young people's church, and again at 6 p.m. for evening worship service. The Wednesday evening prayer meeting is held at Parkplace at 6 p.m. Nursery service is available for all Sunday services.

Salem Baptist is located at the corner of Old Colorado City Highway and Salem Road. Bro. Monroe Teeters is the pastor. For further information, call 394-4655.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Sunday is a special day for all mothers. Coahoma United Methodist Church is having a Mother's Day "Muffins with Mom" Tea for all mothers and their children at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All mothers (or those who serve in motherhood roles) are welcome to join us as we celebrate these very special women. An inspiring Mother's Day service led by the Rev. Donita Lea will follow at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, the youth will meet at 6 p.m. at the church for study and fel-

lowship, to be followed by Praise Band worship at 7 p.m.

Thursday, the Ministry Team will meet at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall to continue working on the "MAP."

Club News

The Big Spring Art Association Meeting

The Big Spring Art Association will have its last meeting of this session at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Community Room of the Howard County Library. The topic of discussion for the business meeting will be the upcoming area show in September. The program part of the meeting will be a party to celebrate the end of this meeting year.

The BSAA will continue to meet informally in June, July and August.

Officers elected at the April meeting are: President, Bruce Schooler; vice president, Belle Schooler; treasurer, Estelle Howard; secretary, Karen Chrane. Chairperson for the upcoming show is Doris Vieregge with Jean Franklin, Karen Chrane, Ruby Bruns and Jean Money as assistants.

The Big Spring Art Association is open for membership to all artists and anyone interested in the arts. BSAA meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Howard County Library. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful

Keep Big Spring Beautiful met in the Cactus Room at Howard College on May 17. Kathryn Wiseman, president, welcomed several

See CLUB, Page 7A



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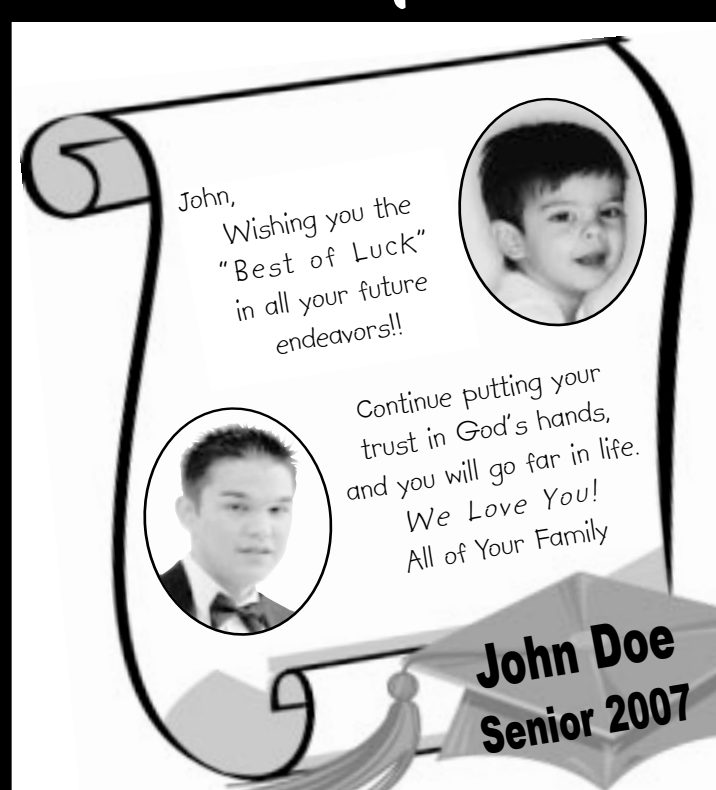


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These Keepsakes will be published in our **"Salute To Area Graduates"** Sunday, May 20, 2007

This special section will include all area schools for Big Spring • Coahoma • Forsan • Stanton • Garden City • Sands Borden County and Grady

BIG SPRING HERALD
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CLUB NEWS

Continued from Page 6A

new members. After approval of minutes and financial reports were heard on the Vocal Trash concert, the Trash-Off, golf tourney and flea market.

Sandra Rhodes-Bartlett, chairman, thanked her committee composed of Jan Hansen, Willia Ledford, Jan Forseyth and Verna Davis.

The tourney was a financial success. Barbara Brumley reported the flea market was well-attended and can be further developed in the future.

Love Our Lake was been postponed until fall because of recent rains. Debbie Wegman will alert us to a new date. Several expenditures were approved: Large decals to go on trash receptacles, hummingbird feeders for the pocket park on Main Street and the purchase of wild flower seeds for future plantings. Loyce Phillips will handle Arbor Day tree plantings at a local school campus.

The awards banquet will be in September at the Big Spring Country Club. Pat Simmons reported on the business member drive. New business member Raul Benivades of Edward Jones Investments and Bill Spiller and Darlene Dabney of American State Bank were introduced by Janell Davis as on our membership roll now.

Members were urged to plan to attend the state conference in July. The next meeting will be June 4.

Hangar 25 Air Museum cookbooks are ready

Although a bit later than originally anticipated, the Commemorative Hangar 25 Air Museums Cook Book will be ready in time for Mothers Day.

The book, which honors and recognizes the 65 years of local, state and national history the museum represents, is more than just a collection of recipes. Inside "Out of the Blue" is recollections from men and women who served at the Big Spring Bombardier School and Webb Air Force Base, or was effected by the two facilities.

It is a mix of historical fact and photos that bring back memories from the golden days. The title of the book — which sells for \$15 — mimics the slogan used by the old NCO wives club.

The recipes are sure to quench your thirst and fill your stomach, comforting the body, mind and soul.

Museum hours are 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturdays. Call 264-1999 for more information.

Cuba accuses U.S. of violating treaties with Posada's release

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba accused the U.S. government on Friday of violating international anti-terrorism treaties by allowing Luis Posada Carriles, a man Havana accuses of violent acts against the country, to walk free of all charges after an immigration indictment against him was dropped.

"The U.S. government has not only violated its own laws and supposed commitment to its self-proclaimed 'War Against Terrorism,' but also to its own international obligations," said a government declaration published Friday in the Communist Party newspaper Granma.

The declaration detailed several international treaties it said the United States had violated, but did not say whether it would take any diplomatic action.

The 79-year-old Posada

was freed of all charges on Tuesday when a U.S. district judge in El Paso, Texas, threw out an immigration indictment against him, accusing the U.S. government of "fraud, deceit and trickery" while trying to buy time for a separate criminal investigation.

Detained on immigration charges in 2005, the Cuban-born Posada had been awaiting trial in El Paso on charges of lying to U.S. immigration officials. He was freed on bond last month pending his court appearance, but until Tuesday was still under house arrest and had been required to wear an electronic monitoring device.

"We'll have to see now what the White House does," the Cuban declaration said. "It still has the option to fulfill its international obligations to

detain Luis Posada Carriles and extradite him to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela."

Havana accuses Posada of orchestrating a string of 1997 Havana hotel bombings, which killed an Italian tourist, and in the 1976 bombing of a Cuban airliner that killed 73 people.

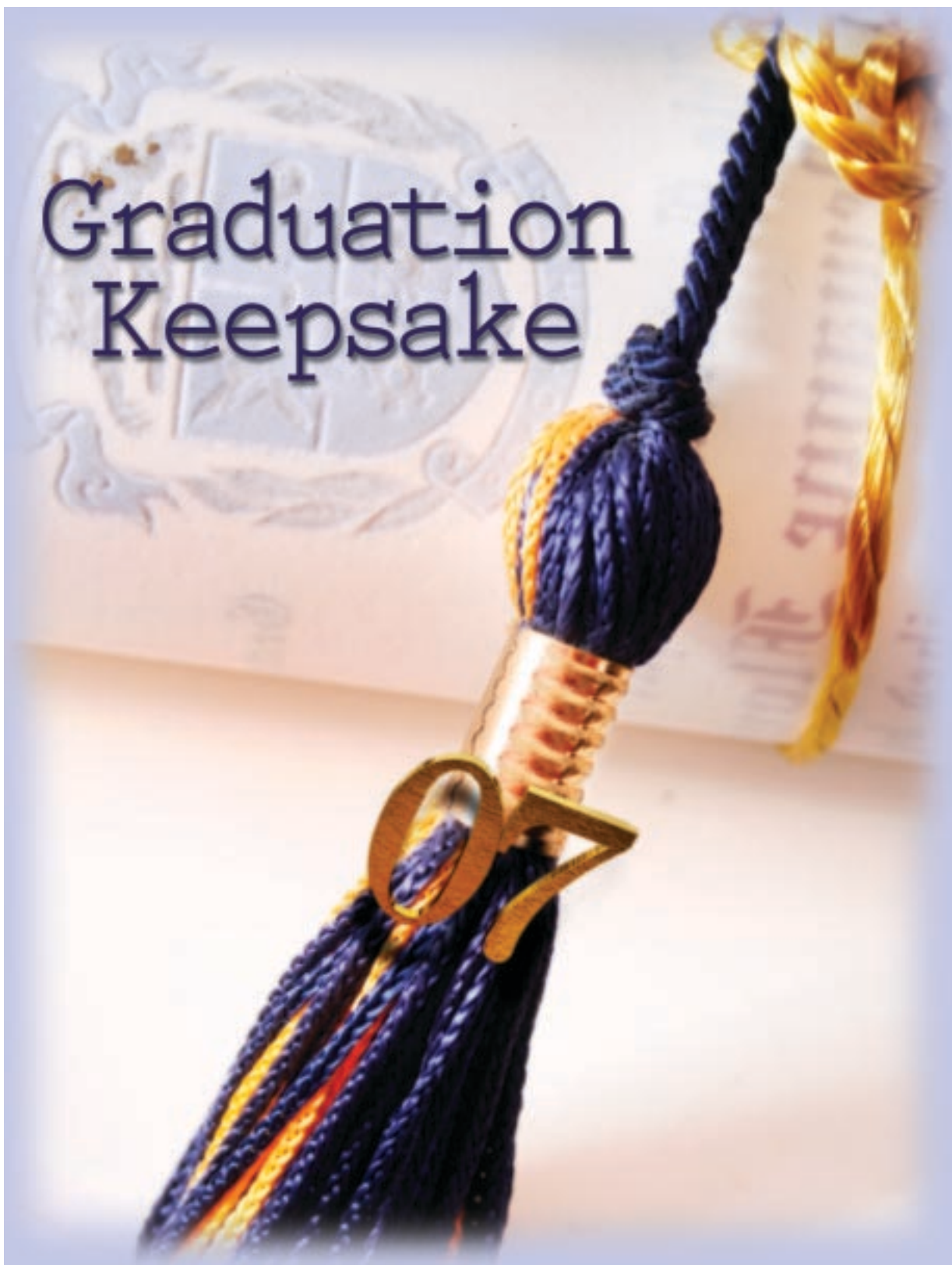
Venezuela is seeking to extradite Posada in the jetliner explosion, but a U.S. federal judge ruled that Posada cannot be sent there or to Cuba for fear he may be tortured.

Accusing the U.S. government of hypocrisy, the Cuban declaration noted that "meanwhile, it maintains a prison in part of the territory it occupies in Cuba in Guantanamo and maintains prisons in the length and breadth of the planet where the most aberrant and inhumane acts are committed."

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News in brief

Baghdad officials seek support for war on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Worried Congress' support for Iraq is deteriorating rapidly, Baghdad dispatched senior officials to Capitol Hill this week to warn members one-on-one that pulling out U.S. troops would have disastrous consequences.

The lobbying push targeted Republicans and Democrats alike, but focused primarily on those considered influential on the war debate. On Thursday, hours before the House voted to limit funds for the war, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Barham Saleh met with more than 30 House Republicans and more than a half-dozen senators, including Sens. Harry Reid, D-Nev., John Warner, R-Va., and Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y.

"He understands that American patience is waning," said Sen. Norm Coleman, after eating lunch with Saleh, Iraqi Ambassador Samir Shakir al-Sumaidaie and Sen. Saxby Chambliss.

Baghdad's ability to sell members like Coleman, R-Minn., and Chambliss, R-Ga., on the war effort is critical if the Iraqi government wants U.S. troops to stay. Coleman in recent months has become deeply skeptical of the president's decision to send additional troops to Iraq.

Chambliss and Sen. John Sununu, R-N.H., who met separately with Saleh, will be up for re-election next year — facing voters who have grown tired of a war in its fifth year and that has killed more than 3,380 troops. While Republicans have been reluctant to intervene, many say President Bush has until September to tell if the troop buildup in Iraq is working before they demand another approach.

Wildfire threatens city on Catalina Island off Southern California

AVALON, Calif. (AP) — A wildfire burned several homes on the edge of Santa Catalina Island's main city Thursday as residents and visitors fled the resort isle more than 20 miles off the Southern California coast.

Firefighters battled flames nipping at the city limits of Avalon, where hundreds of people lined up at its harbor to board ferries back to the mainland. Many covered their faces with towels and bandanas as ashes fell.

Fire Chief Steven Hoefs said a few homes burned, but he did not know how many. The fire scorched more than 4,000 acres, including a commercial building and several storage buildings.

"We're hanging in for now," Hoefs said, estimating that 400 residents evacuated the island.

An orange blaze loomed behind the quaint crescent harbor, the landmark 1929 Catalina Casino and homes, restaurants and tiny hotels that cling to slopes rising sharply above the waterfront. The scene belied the idyllic image of the island cultivated in its 1930s and '40s heyday as a playground for movie stars and in The Four Preps' 1950s hit "26 Miles."

Koreas adopt military agreement enabling crossing of their border

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North and South Korea adopted a military agreement Friday enabling the first train crossing of their heavily armed border in more than a half-century, the South's Defense Ministry said.

The planned rail test, set for Thursday, would be the first time trains have crossed the tightly sealed border since inter-Korean rail links were severed in the middle of the 1950-53 Korean War.

Two tracks have been reconnected as part of a series of reconciliation projects launched since the two sides held the first-ever summit of their leaders in 2000.

The test would be just a single run of trains along two restored tracks on each side of the peninsula, with regular train service between the two sides unlikely to begin anytime soon.

Jury: Engineer tried to steal U.S. military secrets for China

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — After a six-week trial, a federal jury convicted a Chinese-born engineer of conspiring to export U.S. defense technology to China, including data on an electronic propulsion system that could make submarines virtually undetectable.

Friends and colleagues knew Chi Mak as an unassuming, brilliant man who worked 12-hour days as an engineer for a defense contractor, rarely went out and scrimped to pay off his 700-square-foot suburban home.

Federal prosecutors portrayed Mak as a polished agent for the Chinese who used his low-key lifestyle and good reputation as a cover for his real work — conspiring to pass U.S. secrets for more than two decades.

The jury sided with the government, also finding Mak guilty of acting as an unregistered foreign agent, attempting to violate export control laws and making false statements to the FBI.

Prosecutors had dropped a charge of the actual export of defense articles.

U.S.-led coalition confirms civilian casualties in Afghan battle

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The U.S.-led coalition confirmed late Thursday that a battle between U.S. forces and Taliban militants in southern Afghanistan caused civilian casualties and that a joint Afghan-U.S. investigation is under way.

The governor of Helmand province has said 21 civilians were killed in airstrikes Tuesday in the Sangin area of Helmand province, though residents of the area said the civilian death toll was higher.

In a statement late Thursday, the coalition said it had treated 20 Afghan civilians wounded in the 16-hour battle, including a child who later died.

"There are confirmed reports of civilian casualties," but it was unclear how many, the statement said. "A joint Afghan and coalition force inquiry is being conducted."

Gen. Dan McNeill, the top NATO commander in Afghanistan, told NPR News' "Morning Edition" that "it does appear there were civilian casualties" but that it wasn't clear what caused them. He said it was likely the Taliban militants had been firing on coalition forces from civilian homes.

Olmert wants to testify before Lebanon war commission again

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ehud Olmert wants to appear again before the Lebanon war commission, after testimony released by the body showed he blamed the army for shortcomings but acknowledged he ignored warnings that Israeli forces were unprepared for the conflict last summer.

Olmert's office said late Thursday that he wants to counter a statement to the commission from his foreign minister and political rival, Tzipi Livni, that she recommended a diplomatic solution instead of a large-scale military operation the day after Hezbollah guerrillas captured two soldiers and killed three in a cross-border raid. Olmert said there was no such recommendation.

Olmert's appearance before the panel failed to stave off its severe censure of his wartime performance. Last week's publication of the commission's first report triggered a wave of calls for his resignation.

The war ended without Israeli forces fulfilling Olmert's two stated goals — crushing Hezbollah and returning the captured soldiers. Instead, Hezbollah rained almost 4,000 rockets on Israel during the 34-day conflict.

Edwards offers big ideas with big price tags to match

WASHINGTON (AP) — Presidential candidate John Edwards is offering more policy proposals than any other candidate in the primary and his ideas are winning loud applause from Democratic audiences.

The question is whether other voters will cheer when they see the price tag — more than \$125 billion a year.

Edwards is quick to acknowledge his spending on health care, energy and poverty reduction comes at a cost, with more plans to come. All told, his proposals would equal more than \$1 trillion if he could get them enacted into law and operational during two White House terms.

To put the number in perspective, President Bush has dedicated more than \$1.8 trillion to tax cuts. The cost of the Iraq war is nearing \$450 billion. And this year's federal budget is about \$2.8 trillion.

High gasoline prices affect consumer confidence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer confidence was essentially stuck in a rut as worries about whether gasoline prices will move higher made people feel anxious about the economy's prospects and their own financial positions.

The RBC Cash Index found that confidence clocked in at 87.1 in May. The new figure hovered near April's reading of 85.4, a six-month low. The index is based on the results from the international polling firm Ipsos.

"Consumer confidence appears to be spinning its wheels," observed Richard Yamarone, economist at Argus Research.

"Although employment is mostly stable, there are many uncertainties on the horizon," Yamarone said. "Will energy prices go even higher? How is the housing slump going to play out? It is the fear of the unknowns that is coloring peoples' feelings."





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4 in. Potted Mini Roses



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Two Rose Bud Vase



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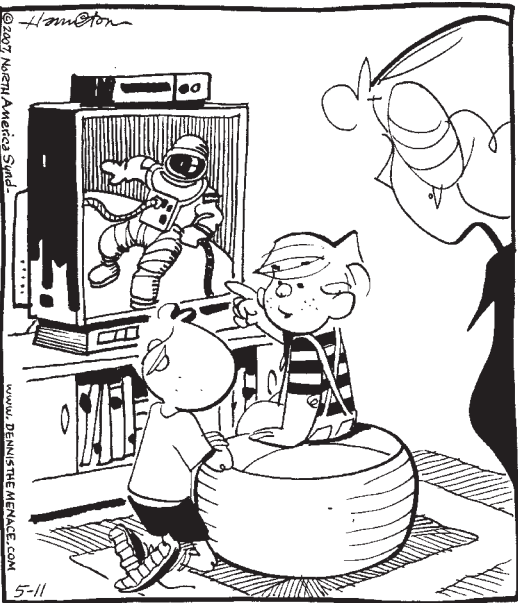
Prices Good Friday, May 11 thru Sunday, May 13, 2007 At Your Neighborhood H-E-B Stores including H-E-B Marketplace and H-E-B Plus!*. Offers not valid at Broadway Center Market. Items not available at Center Market. Offers not valid at 2205 North Conway Mission H-E-B Convenience Store. Due to the popularity of our Low Prices Every Day, we reserve the right to limit quantities. Some items may not be available in all stores.

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FRIDAY

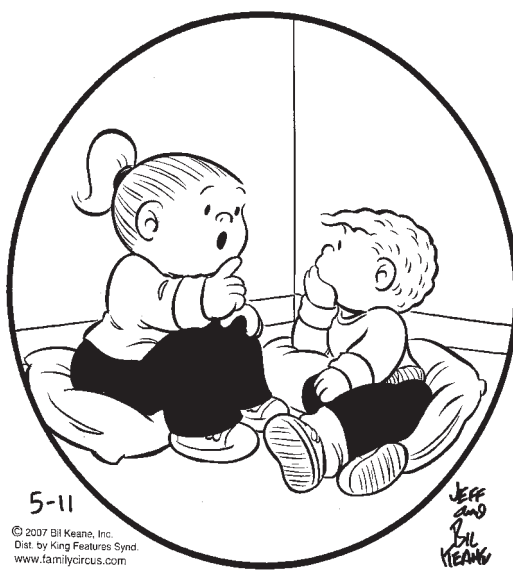
TV schedule table with columns for station, time, and program name.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"JUST THINK, JOEY, IF WE WERE WEIGHTLESS, WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WEAR SHOES OR WIPE OUR FEET."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

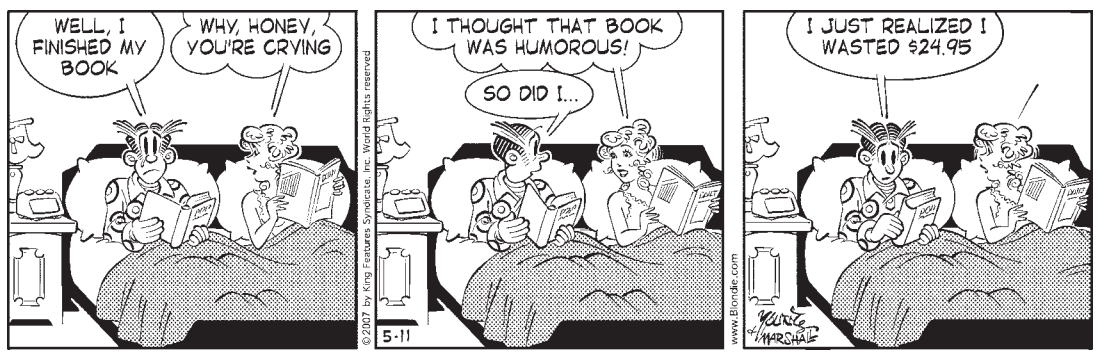


"Mrs. Clarke told our class, 'A rolling stone gathers no moths.'"

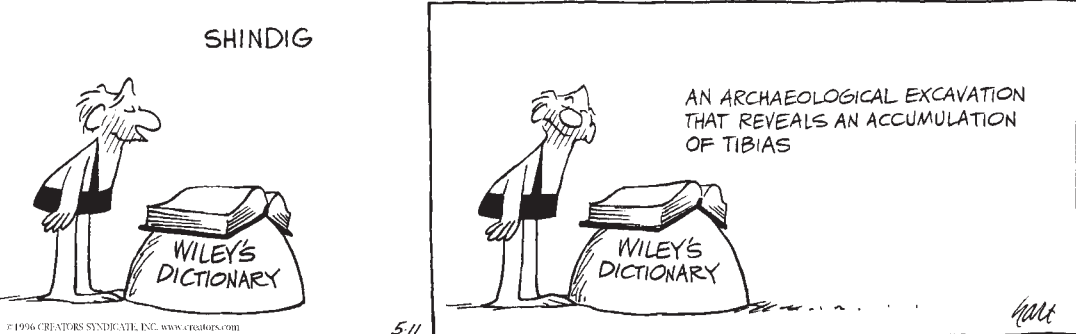
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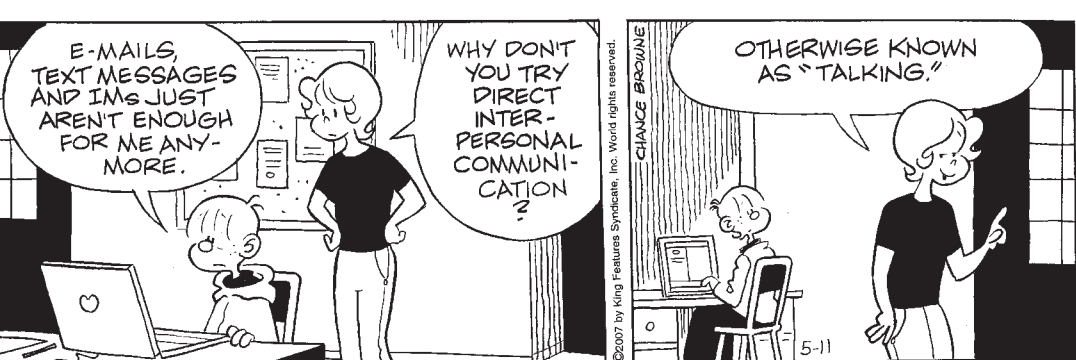
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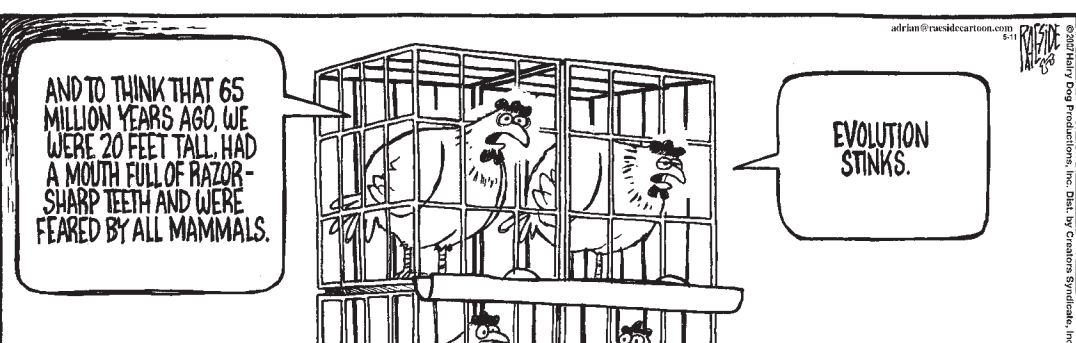
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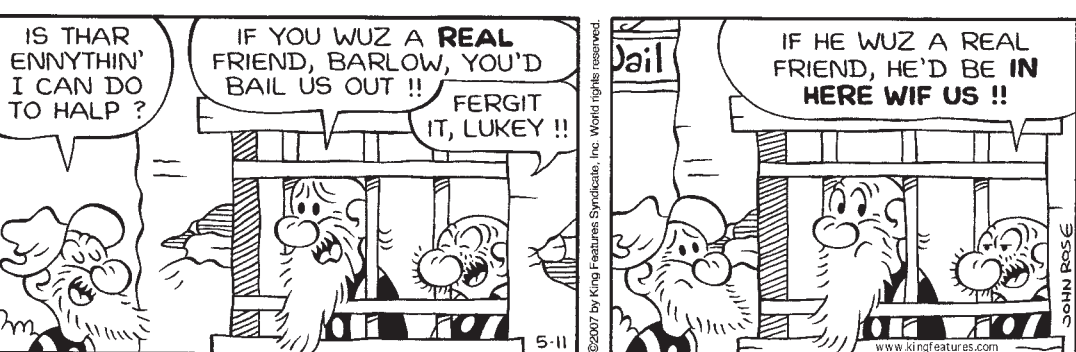
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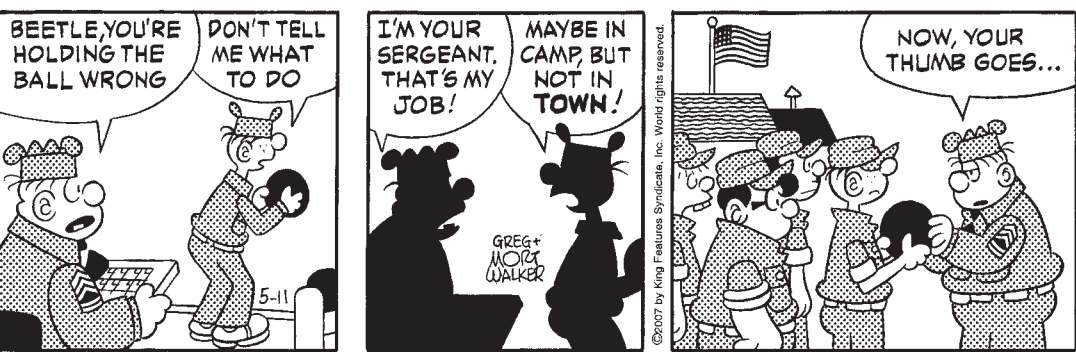
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, May 11, the 131st day of 2007. There are 234 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On May 11, 1910, Glacier National Park in Montana was established. On this date: In 1502, Christopher Columbus left Cadiz, Spain, on his fourth and final trip to the Western Hemisphere. In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant arrived in New Amsterdam to become governor of New Netherland. In 1943, during World War II, U.S. forces landed on the Aleutian island of Attu, which was held by the Japanese; the Americans took the island 19 days later. In 1944, Allied forces launched a major offensive against German lines in Italy. In 1946, the first CARE packages arrived in Europe, at Le Havre, France. In 1973, charges against Daniel Ellsberg for his role in the "Pentagon Papers" case were dismissed by Judge William M. Byrne, who cited government misconduct. In 1985, 56 people died when a flash fire swept a jam-packed soccer stadium in Bradford, England. In 1987, doctors in Baltimore transplanted the heart and lungs of an auto accident victim to a patient who gave up his own heart to another recipient. (Clinton House, the nation's first living heart donor, died 14 months later.) In 1996, an Atlanta-bound ValuJet DC-9 caught fire shortly after takeoff from Miami and crashed into the Florida Everglades, killing all 110 people on board. One year ago: A priest was convicted in Toledo, Ohio, of murdering a nun; the Rev. Gerald Robinson was immediately sentenced to 15 years to life in prison for the 1980 death of Sister Margaret Ann Pahl. Birthdays: Comedian Mort Sahl is 80. Rock singer Eric Burdon (The Animals; War) is 66. Actress Shohreh Aghdashloo is 55. Actress Frances Fisher is 55. Actor Boyd Gaines is 54. Country musician Mark Herndon (Alabama) is 52. Country singer-musician Tim Raybon (The Raybon Brothers) is 44. Country musician Keith West (Heartland) is 39. Actor Coby Bell is 32. Actor Austin O'Brien is 27. Actor Jonathan Jackson is 25. Thought for Today: "We carry our nemesis within us: yesterday's self-admiration is the legitimate father of today's feeling of guilt." — Dag Hammarskjold, U.N. Secretary-General (1905-1961).

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Answer to previous puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with filled-in words.

Newsday Crossword

HORSING AROUND by Raymond Hamel Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.