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WEDNESDAY

JULY 4, 2007



BIG SPRING HERALD

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HERALD Photo/Dustin Wilson

Ron Brasel has led SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf for the past 21 years.

End of an era

After 21 years, Ron Brasel retires as SWCID provost

By DUSTIN WILSON

Staff Writer

An end to an era is finally coming about at the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf as Provost Ron Brasel has retired after 21 years at his post, having led the college and the deaf community of Big Spring to new levels.

"My wife and I came from Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., and I took the position here in 1986. Many of these buildings weren't even here; these were all open fields," said Brasel of the area surrounding the main building.

"I knew this had been a hospital facility and much of the main building still looked like a hospital. What is now the museum at that time still resembled an operating room. There were some renovations, but everything was in big piles," said Brasel. Since then, the campus has grown by leaps and bounds into what it is today.

"What has happened since 1986 is we've built the activities center and the gym and new offices,

"This position is great, I have no regrets for coming to West Texas. For the next administration the primary goal is to provide the best possible education that we can for our students"

—Ron Brasel

new dormitory complex for the students living on campus. A recent addition is the apartment complex on campus, as well as the new cafeteria and a new student center," he added. "The Diagnostic Center was converted from the old girls' dormitory where people have access to counseling and an audiology center."

Brasel was quick to show his modesty though, letting everyone know that he wasn't alone.

"I cannot take full cred-

See BRASEL, Page 3A

Citizen's committee formed to research BSISD facility needs

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring public school officials have decided to "go public" in their quest to improve district facilities.

A group of local residents have been appointed to a citizen's committee to study facilities within

Big Spring Independent School District and make recommendations as to how best address growing concerns with the district's infrastructure.

Facility concerns have been a hot topic in BSISD for about a year now, ever since Dr. Paul Trautman, a consultant with the Texas Association of School

Administrators, released a study highly critical of several local school buildings.

Trautman pulled few punches in the study, flatly declaring that Bauer and Washington elementaries were "obsolete" and needed to be closed as soon as possible.

See BSISD, Page 3A

GETTIN' 'ER DONE



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Josh Sullivan, right, and Ronnie Moore, both members of the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department, tape fuses to the massive American flag used during Tuesday night's annual Pops in the Park July Fourth celebration.

Anthem story one of pride

During this Fourth of July season, I thought it would be good to discuss the story behind the "Stars Spangled Banner." Unless you have read or sung all four stanzas of the "Star-Spangled Banner" you may not have noticed the progression.



Ryan

Perhaps most of you didn't realize what Francis Scott Key's profession was or what he was doing on a ship. This is a good brush-up on your history.

In 1812, the United States went to war with Great Britain, primarily over freedom of the seas. For two years, we held off the British, even though we were still a rather weak country. Great Britain was in a life and death struggle with Napoleon. In fact, just as the United States declared war, Napoleon marched off to invade Russia. If he won, as everyone expected, he would control Europe, and Great Britain would be isolated. It was no time for her to be involved in an American war.

At the onset of the struggle, our seamen proved better than the British. After we won a battle on Lake Erie in 1813, the American commander, Oliver Perry, sent the message, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." However, the weight of the British navy

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To reach us:
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.



Leadership deadline extended

Registration period now ends July 18.

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is extending the registration period for its annual Leadership Big Spring course until July 18, as the local organization once again prepares to explore the ins and outs of

community leadership.

The program, which teaches leadership skills through a series of courses and tasks, is older than many people might realize, according to Chamber Executive Director Debbye



ValVerde

"I've been with the chamber

for 16 years, and this program was going long before I became a part of it," said ValVerde. "The program itself has been a part of the Big Spring Chamber for at least 25 years, maybe even more."

"The class has evolved over the years. We've started asking our participants to be a part of the community by going to local government and

See LEADERS, Page 3A

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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
Wednesday, July 4, 2007

IN BRIEF

Lady Steers Booster Club meets Monday

The Lady Steers Booster Club will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center to elect new officers for the 2007-2008 school year and to discuss other items concerning the upcoming school year.

The current officers encourage all parents of Lady Steer athletes to attend and support Big Spring girls athletics.

For more information, contact Leslie Whitten at 816-6764.

Big Spring QB Club meeting Tuesday

The Big Spring Steers Quarterback Club will conduct a meeting at 6 p.m. July 10 at Big Spring High School's Athletic Training Center.

All parents of players in grades 7-12 are encouraged to attend.

The 2007 season will mark the 100th year of football at Big Spring High School and the QB Club is looking for pictures for a commemorative program to be released this fall. Pictures can be from any year portraying Big Spring football.

Contact Denise Carrillo at 816-1685 or Frank Stiles at 270-3401 with any questions.

BSGSA all-star teams raising funds

All four Big Spring Girls Softball Association All-Star teams are raising funds for expenses for the tournaments on the UTPB campus in Odessa each team will participate in on July 20-22. Each team needs to raise \$1,400.

The 14U All-Star team (Big Spring Lady Hawks) will be helping with the annual Big Spring ragball tournament.

Big Spring slates basketball camps

Big Spring Junior High Gymnasium will be hosting two Big Spring Boys Basketball Camps starting Monday and lasting through July 12.

New Big Spring Steers head basketball coach Marc Morris will lead both camps.

The first camp starts at 9 a.m. and is for incoming second through fifth graders.

The second camp is for incoming sixth through ninth graders and will last from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration for each camp will take place 30 minutes before the starting time.

Cost is \$20 with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

For more information, call Morris at 264-3662.

Big Spring Softball sets ragball tourney

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding its Annual Co-ed Ragball Tournament Friday through Sunday at the Roy Anderson Complex.

Cost is \$110 per team with an eight game guarantee.

Register at the complex between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday. Games start at 7 p.m. on

See BRIEFS, Page 2B

Summer of Bonds: The tainting of a record

Willie Mays was patrolling center field for the Giants, while 100,000 drug-filled youths were playing games of a different sort on the streets of San Francisco. The year was 1967, and the Summer of Love was in full bloom.

The Giants were done for the season by the time it finally ended in October when locals held a mock funeral — “The



TIM DAHLBERG

Death of Hippie.”

If you remember it, the saying goes, you weren't there.

Forty years later, the hippies own luxury condos and drive BMWs. There's a new ballpark on the bay with a statue of Mays out front where they can bring their grandkids to pay homage to one of the greatest players ever.

Instead of the Summer of Love, we've got the Summer of Bonds.

It began, actually, in the spring when baseball fans started facing up to the prospect that the inevitable would happen and

Barry Bonds would break one of the most hallowed records in the game sometime this season.

Historians, though, may mark the date as the first day of July when Bonds managed to come from way behind to win a spot in the All-Star game in San Francisco with a late surge at the polls.

This alone will puzzle those who look back because everything they will have read on the subject would indicate that Bonds was not only a pariah among most baseball fans, but perhaps the most hated athlete of his time.

Somehow, Bonds managed to secure 2,325,391 votes for a spot in the National League outfield, meaning either Giants' fans stuffed the ballot box during a homestand that ended over the weekend or there was a sentimental groundswell everywhere to get him in the starting lineup.

I'm going with the stuffing the ballot box theory, since Bonds takes pride in going out of his way to make it hard to feel anything warm and fuzzy about anything he does. He could find

See DAHLBERG, Page 2B

Four Bulldogettes named to All-State team



HERALD photo/Layne Mims

Coahoma's Heather Newton swings at a pitch May 26 in Coahoma's Game 3 victory over Hawley's Lady Bearcats in the Region I Class 2A final. Newton was one of four Bulldogettes selected to the Class 2A All-State team selected by the Texas Sports Writers Association.

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — There is no true consolation for not winning a state title. However, having three players named to the Class 2A All-State softball team is an honor that shouldn't be taken lightly.

Coahoma's Bulldogettes fell a game short of playing for the Class 2A state softball championship, when they lost to Troy's Trojanettes 11-1 in the state semifinals. However, Heather Newton, Laci Sterling, Krista Kerby and Ami Martinez's elections to the all-state softball team is something for the team to celebrate.

“I wouldn't call it a great consolation,” said Bulldogettes head softball coach Tracy Tadlock. “We were a great team. It's odd to me that we only had four players make the team and no one above the third team. But it does show that we were a good, deep team. There wasn't an individual who stood above the rest.”

Newton, Sterling and Kerby were all honored as third team selections by the Texas Sports Writers Association. Martinez was given honorable mention.

Newton, a freshman, was the ace of Coahoma's pitching staff. She finished the season 22-7, with a 0.84 ERA and 272 strikeouts. She was also named District 5-2A's Newcomer of the Year.

“Heather had a great year,” raved Tadlock. “She pitched against nearly every tough team we played this year. She was the workhorse of the team. We knew we could trust her on the mound when we needed a win. Her potential is through the roof.”

Sterling was District 5-2A's Offensive MVP and was the offensive leader for the Bulldogettes in most statistical categories. The sophomore led the team with a .461 batting average, 65 hits, 8 triples, 4 home runs and 56 RBIs.

“Laci is an incredible player,” said Tadlock. “She averaged more than one RBI a game. That's rarely done. It's hard to imagine many second basemen putting up better offensive numbers than she did.”

Kerby is credited by Tadlock as the generator of the Bulldogettes offense.

“She's a catalyst,” he said. “Our offense generated around her. If she got on base, then chances are she was going to score. She was a great leadoff hitter in a potent lineup.”

The junior was a first-team all-district selection, batting for a .390 average. Kerby drew 24 walks, helping her earn a .481 on-base percentage. She also stole 18 out of 20 bases.

One of the more telling stats about Kerby's contributions offensively is that that she scored three more runs than she had hits.

“Her runs to plate appearances percentage is phenomenal,” said Tadlock. “It seems like she scored on half of her at bats.”

Martinez was the lone senior on the 2007 team and Tadlock notes how hard it will be to replace her.

“We'll be in a lot of trouble if we can't replace Ami's leadership,” he explained. “She did a lot for us at the plate, especially in the playoffs, but

See ALL-STATE, Page 2B

Truex making Junior a distant memory for DEI

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The perception was DEI would fall apart without Dale Earnhardt Jr. The reality is Martin Truex Jr. appears ready, willing and able to step into a starring role with the team.

Truex finished third in New Hampshire to continue a strong string of runs that began shortly after Earnhardt's May 10 announcement that he will leave DEI at the end of this season. In the seven races since, Truex scored his first career Nextel Cup victory, notched four finishes of third or better, and has only been lower than 16th once.

Truex has been on such a roll, he had to couch his disappointment Sunday after failing to win at New Hampshire. He led 46 laps, was beat out of the pits by eventual winner Denny Hamlin on the final stop, and gave up second-place to Jeff Gordon in the closing laps.

“Hey, we'll take third,” Truex

said after. “Six months ago, I would've begged you for a third-place finish.”

So true.

Six months ago, Truex was a bit player at Dale Earnhardt Inc. despite consecutive Busch Series titles in 2004 and 2005. Earnhardt was the star, and nothing Truex did was good enough to take the shine off his teammate.

Even his January run-in with Daytona Beach, Fla., police failed to generate much buzz. Truex was charged with disorderly intoxication after he was caught urinating on his car in a parking garage, then allegedly tried to pay the \$100 fine in cash when confronted by police.

The incident might have earned bold headlines for most drivers, but Truex flew under the radar because the police report came out on the same day Earnhardt gave an update on his contract negotiations with stepmother, Teresa.

Asked that day if he disliked being stuck in Earnhardt's shadow, Truex explained that atten-

tion is earned through performance. If he could pick it up on the race track, the spotlight would find its way toward him.

That's exactly what's happened, said Max Siegel, president of DEI's global operations.

“I think that probably the most difficult thing for all of us is trying to battle public perception ... and if you look at the focus of what people talked about at DEI, it was always Dale Jr. vs. Teresa,” Siegel said. “When you perform on the track, it pushes away all the personal issues.”

Truex stayed out of Earnhardt's contract squabble, and learned at the same time as everyone else that Junior was leaving when he watched the announcement on live TV.

As DEI's demise was instantly predicted, Truex buckled down and reconfirmed his commitment to the organization. His contract runs through 2008, and sponsor Bass Pro Shops last week extended its deal with DEI.

“People think I'm crazy when I say this, but I really don't think

it's a big deal,” Truex said a day after Earnhardt's announcement. “Just 'cause Junior isn't driving for us, I don't see it making that big of an impact. Maybe long-term, but not in the next couple years.”

“I've got to give it a fair shake. They gave me my opportunity, and I've decided I'm going to finish out the year and honor my contract because of all the things they've done for me.”

There's been speculation that this sudden surge is related to Earnhardt's decision.

After all, Junior said the inability to win a championship at DEI was one of the reasons he's leaving.

But in the seven weeks since, Truex has emerged as a legitimate title contender and is currently ranked 10th in the race to make the Chase for the championship.

He's 48 points ahead of Earnhardt, who is holding down the 12th and final Chase spot and giving DEI hope for the future.

Obituaries

Take Note

Bulletin Board

Velia Carrillo



Velia Carrillo, 80, of Big Spring died Tuesday, July 03, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating.

She was born Feb. 18, 1927, in Solomonsville, Ariz., to Natalia and Ramon Guaderrama. She first came to Big Spring in 1945 and later moved to Chicago and returned to Big Spring in 1970. She worked at the Fina Truck Stop and the Ramada Inn. She and her family owned and operated Ponderosa Restaurant from 1980 until 1991. She was a Catholic.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Libe Carrillo of Big Spring; one daughter, Irene Wilson and her husband George of Big Spring; two grandsons, Irak Sigala and his wife Rosa Isela and Daniel Sigala, all of Chihuahua, Mexico; two great-grandchildren, Irak Sigala and Natalia Sigala, both of Chihuahua, Mexico; two sisters, Ofelia Alvarez of Chicago, Ill., and Irma Maynez and her husband Leonardo of Juarez, Mexico; three brothers, Abel Guaderrama of El Paso, Ernest Guaderrama and Raymond Guaderrama, both of Chicago; one sister-in-law, Margaret Ross and her husband Robert of Big Spring; two step-grandchildren, Christopher Wilson and his wife Laura and Danielle Gustafsen and her husband Kevin; four step-great-grandchildren; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.

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

Paid obituary

Antonio Paredez



ABILENE — Antonio Paredez, 46, died Thursday, June 28, 2007, at a local hospital. A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Abilene Municipal Cemetery with Father Thomas Manimala officiating, directed by Abilene Funeral Home.

Mr. Paredez was born Nov. 1, 1960, in Big Spring. He worked for the State of Texas prison system as a drug rehab counselor. He dedicated his life's work to helping people with drug addiction.

Survivors include his wife, Esmeralda Paredez; four daughters, Lisa Paredez, Lori Paredez, Leslie Paredez and Misty Paredez and husband Andres Sotelo, all of Abilene; his father, Gregorio Paredez of Big Spring; five brothers, Greg Paredez of Odessa, Gary Paredez of Waxahachie, Sammy Paredez of Midland, Rick Paredez of Phoenix, Ariz., and Ismael Paredez of Big Spring; a sister, Shirley Espinosa of El Paso; eight grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Paredez was preceded in death by his mother, Eileen Paredez.

Online condolences may be made at www.abilenefuneralhome.com

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

• Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at (432) 816-3033. Leave a message if you get voice mail.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

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.

• A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT COSDEN CREDIT UNION to help pay medical expenses for Raul Robles. Any assistance would be appreciated. The account is No. 761882.

• AN OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE will be held all day Monday, July 16, at the offices of Dr. D.H. McGonagill Inc., 109 E. Third St. It is a come-and-go reception. Everyone is invited.

• ST. MARY'S AND FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S ARE HOLDING A LAP BLANKET DRIVE to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

• BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL WILL BE OFFERING THE EXIT LEVEL TAKS RETEST, July 10-13. Please report to the High School Library at 8:30 a.m. Please bring a picture I.D. Schedule: Tuesday, July 10, English Language Arts. Wednesday, July 11, Math. Thursday, July 12, Science. Friday, July 13, Social Studies.

• ALL CREATURES SANCTUARY AND RESCUE has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Highway 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. See John Kimberly, manager or Cruz Rodriguez, metal specialist, to make your donations. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. The sanctuary is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina Brand Dog Foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. Box 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account also set up with Howard County Feed and Supply at 701 E. Second St. For donations of coastal or grass hay for a rescue horse.

• CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• THE PET PATROL helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

• ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

• THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

• LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

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

TODAY
• Highland South fourth of July Parade. Corner of Highland and Robb streets. 10 a.m.
• Funtastic Fourth, Heart of the City Park, 10 a.m. until midnight. Various activities, Christian bands, laser light show.

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

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Big Spring Country Club.
• Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY
• The Big Spring Evening Lions Club will hold an adult eyeglass clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St. This provides recycled eyeglasses for adults who cannot afford to pay for an eye examination or buy eyeglasses. For information, contact Bob Noyes at 267-6095.
• Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
• Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. East winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Thursday...Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 70.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. Monday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

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REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

ALL-STATE

Continued from Page 2B

what she did for us off the field and in the dugout was huge. I know she didn't get voted onto this team for those reasons, but her leadership by example and winning attitude were her greatest contributions."

Martinez was second on the team with a .459 batting average and 40 RBIs. She also led the team with 18 doubles and a .516 on-

base percentage. Martinez's also contributed on the mound, racking up a perfect 12-0 record in just 13 appearances. She finished the season with a .93 ERA and 62 strikeouts.

Tadlock wasn't necessarily satisfied with just four all-state selections, but still appreciates what it means to have the girls chosen.

"I think an argument could be made for more of our girls to be selected to the team and for the girls

who were selected to be voted higher than third team and honorable mention," he said. "But the team should take it as a compliment. Having just a few named to the third team shows that we gave great team efforts and not just great individual performances."

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

DAHLBERG

Continued from Page 1B

a cure for cancer tomorrow and still not change many minds among the 52 percent of fans who said in a recent poll they were rooting against him to break Henry Aaron's record.

It's interesting to note that Bonds didn't finish in the top five in the balloting for outfielders among his own colleagues. Most players toe the company line and say they support Bonds because he has never been convicted of doing anything wrong, but apparently they're not so accommodating when it comes for voting for him.

Bonds has decent numbers this season and surely would have gotten in anyway, so it doesn't much matter. Manager Tony La Russa, who never saw Mark McGwire do anything wrong either, would have picked him and the Giants did need at least one player on the roster.

So now the first official event in the Summer of Bonds will be an All-Star

game in the only ballpark in the National League where he will not be booed when he is introduced as the starting left fielder.

"This is my town. This is my house," Bonds said. "You can't say enough about being at home."

Actually, it's not Bonds' house. He's just occupying space until the Giants finally decide at year's end that they've had enough of him, which seems increasingly likely. And it's certainly not his statue outside the front gate. It never will be.

That belongs to his godfather, who will be honored in a pre-game ceremony. Mays, who is now 76, hit 660 home runs, all but 14 of them for the Giants.

Imagine what the Say Hey Kid could have done had there been the kind of pharmaceutical advances the latest generation of home run hitters had available to them. Heck, just imagine how many more he could

have hit if they would have let him wear heavy padding on his arms so

he could bat like Bonds does without fear of anyone pitching him inside.

Hopefully, Mays will get his proper due and not be totally overshadowed in the Summer of Bonds. Hopefully, commissioner Bud Selig will resist the temptation to succumb to television demands and invite Bonds to participate in the home run derby the day before the game.

If Selig was serious about putting an end to the steroid era, he could make use of the occasion by announcing once and for all that he won't be on hand to dignify the moment when Bonds continues his summer by hitting No. 756.

Better yet, he could use the time to meet privately with Bonds and do just what he did to Jason Giambi — tell him to come clean to former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell and his gang of steroid investigators or face an immediate 50-game suspension from baseball.

Selig could make this an All-Star game to remember for all the right reasons.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

the same day.

Contact Rodney Jones at 213-3750, for more details.

Country club holding golf classic

The Big Spring Country Club is holding the Crossroads of West Texas Gold Classic sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce July 14 and 15.

The classic is a 2-man scramble format and is limited to the first 100

paid teams.

The entry fee is \$180 per team with all entries to be paid in advance.

Entry fee includes a barbecue lunch for both days, free beverages, a Friday afternoon shootout and the ATMOS Hospitality Tent.

Call the country club at 267-5354 or the chamber at 263-7641, for more information.

No-tap benefit bowling tourney set

Big Spring Bowlarama will hold a second No-Tap Singles Tournament to benefit Mary Grace Jackson July 14 and 15 at

2:30 p.m. each day.

Jackson is seeking funds to help with expenses for her pending kidney and pancreas transplant.

There will be a men's, women's and junior's division. The cost is \$15 for the men's and women's division and \$12 for the junior's division.

Three mulligans can be bought at the time of registration at the cost of \$5.

Anyone wanting to participate, but can't attend the dates of the tournament can arrange a pre-bowl by calling Debbie Burrow at 263-8952



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Delivery will be **FRIDAY, JULY 13TH** at the times listed for the following locations.

Stanton - Decker's Farm Supply & Nursery	432-756-3444 7-8 am
Big Spring - Ezell-Key Feed & Grain	432-267-8112 9-10 am
Colorado City - Colorado City Feed & Seed	325-728-5071 11-12 pm
Snyder - Ezell-Key Feed Store	325-573-6691 12:30-1:30 pm
Roby - Terry's Gin, Inc.	325-776-2257 2:30-3:30 pm
Aspermont - D & D Feed and Seed	940-989-2994 4:30-5:30 pm

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Ask your salesperson about financing and extended service plan options as well as the vehicle history summary.

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2005 Nissan Sentra 1.8S - Maroon w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/22,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	2005 Nissan Altima 25S - Red w/Leather, All Power, 25,000 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995
2005 Ford Five Hundred Limited - White w/Gray Leather, Automatic, 6 disc MP3, Moonroof, Locally Owned. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995	2005 Ford Five Hundred SEL - Silver w/Gray Leather, 6 Disc CD/MP3, Keyless Entry, Only 23,000 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995
2004 Ford Mustang - Black w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., 5 Speed, All Power, Local One Owner w/23,000 Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Skylight, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995
2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver Metallic w/Leather, All Power, Skylight w/41,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$21,995	2004 Ford Focus ZTS 4-DR - Black, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. Was \$13,995 NOW \$11,995
2004 Hyundai Tiburon GT - Silver w/Dark Gray Leather, 5 Speed, All Power, Moonroof, Only 29,000 Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	2004 Mercedes-Benz LK C240 - Gold w/Tan Leather, Woodgrain, Moonroof, Heated Seats, 6 Disc CD, Loaded, Only 42,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Dark Red w/Tan Leather, CD Player, Heated Seats, Like New, Low Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$14,995	2003 Mazda MX-5 - Silver, Fully Loaded, Leather, Local One Owner w/40,200 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995
2003 Ford Taurus SES - Light Blue, w/Cloth, Extra Clean, Automatic, All Power. Was \$10,995 NOW \$9,995	2003 Honda Civic LT - Gold w/Leather, All Power, Automatic, All Power. Was \$13,995 NOW \$12,995
2003 Ford Escort ZX2 - Black w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, Great Gas Car. Was \$9,995 NOW \$8,995	2002 Nissan Altima 2.5S - Gold w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, Low Miles, Great MPG. Was \$13,995 NOW \$12,995
2002 Honda Accord Special Edition Coupe - White, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	2002 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Edition - Pearl White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$16,995
2002 Ford Focus ZX5 - Silver, w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, 39,000 Miles. Was \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	

★★★ TRUCKS ★★★

2005 Ford F-150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, V-8, Air, Automatic, Local One Owner w/60,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995
2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, Local One Owner. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
2005 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Dark Stone w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner, With Only 21,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995
2004 Ford Ranger Supercab Edge - Red, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/58,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT 4-DR - Beige, 6-Cyl., Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/55,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2002 Dodge 1500 SLT 4X4 - Dark Red w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner, Very Very Nice Truck, Low Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
1994 Chevrolet 1500 Reg. Cab SWB - Teal w/Cloth, 350 V8, Nice, Nice 94 Model. Was \$7,995 NOW \$6,995

★★★ CARS ★★★

2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/32,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995	2006 Ford Mustang GT - Blue w/Leather, All Power, 5-Speed Manual Transmission, Local One owner, 21,600 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2005 Volkswagen New Beetle GLS - Dark Blue w/Tan Leather, Automatic, Local One Owner w/Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995	2005 Ford Mustang GT - Dark Red With Red Leather, 5-Speed Manual Transmission, Local One Owner With 10,000 Miles. Was \$25,995 NOW \$24,995

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2008 Ford F350 Crew Cab Lariat - Bright Red w/Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, 4X2, Only 5,900 Miles. Was \$45,995 NOW \$44,995
2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Black w/Gray Cloth, 6 Disc CD/MP3, Like New, Keyless Entry, 4 Wheel ABS, Privacy Glass, Chrome wheels, Only 19,000 Miles. Was \$26,995 NOW \$25,995
2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Red Fire w/Gray Cloth, 6 Disc CD/MP3, Like New, Keyless Entry, 4 Wheel/ABS, Privacy Glass, Chrome Wheels, Only 14,000 Miles. Was \$26,995 NOW \$25,995

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2007 Ford Expedition XLT 4X2 - Black w/Tan Cloth, Folding 3rd Seat, CD Player, All Power, 4 Wheel ABS, Rear Air, Only 11,000 Miles. Was \$30,995 NOW \$29,995
2005 Ford Expedition XLT 4X4 - Silver w/Gray Leather, All Power, One Owner, Nice, Low Miles. Was \$21,995 NOW \$20,995
2005 Nissan Pathfinder SE 4X4 - Gray w/Tan Cloth, New Tires, All Power, Like New, One Owner. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Black w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, CD Player, Only 28,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
2004 Nissan Murano SE - Silver w/Black Leather, Heated Seats, All Power, Moonroof, Only 23,000 Miles. Was \$25,995 NOW \$24,995
2004 Nissan Quest 3.5 SL - Gold w/Tan Leather, CD Player, All Power, Heated Seats, Only 30,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/35,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995
2002 Ford Escape XLT - Yellow w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned, 48,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$18,995
2002 Toyota Highlander LTD - Silver w/Gray Leather, DVD, CD Player, All Power, Like New. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
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BELLY DUMP Drivers needed. Salary DOE, health insurance, 401K plan. Apply at Price Construction, 2701 N. Hwy 350, Big Spring, TX 79720 or fax resume to (432)263-6012. EOE

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Apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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Construction Company Now hiring Steel erectors, finish carpenters and concrete workers. Drug Test and Pre-Employment physical required. Must be willing to travel and have good transportation. Apply at 2800 Windecker, Midland Airport or call (432)638-2920
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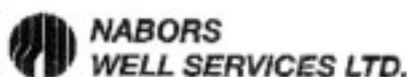
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* Must be flexible with daily duties
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* Every other weekend off
Apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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* Good people skills a must
* Long Term Care experience preferred
* Must be flexible with daily duties
* Great pay and benefits
* Flexible work schedule
* Every other weekend off
Apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

RETAIL SALES NEEDED at Big Spring Health Food Store. Must be dependable, honest w/good people skills and reliable transportation. Saturdays a must. Prefer non smoker. Bring or mail resume to 1305 Scurry. No phone Calls!

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
July 2, 2007

An Ordinance of the City of Big Spring, Texas, authorizing and directing the City Manager to designate the placement and maintenance of a four way stop intersection at NW 8th Street and Ohio Street (State Law provides that it is a misdemeanor offense to run a stop sign punishable by a fine of up to \$200.00 on conviction); and providing for publication. Big Spring City Code Sec. 18-133. Stop Intersections. Authorizes the City Manager to designate and maintain stop intersections on streets as directed by the City Council. #5424 July 4 & 8, 2007.

PUBLIC NOTICE
July 2, 2007

An Ordinance of the City of Big Spring, Texas, authorizing and directing the City Manager to designate the placement and maintenance of a two-way controlled intersection with N. Monticello Street yielding to Blackmon Street (State Law provides that it is a misdemeanor offense to run a stop sign punishable by a fine of up to \$200.00 on conviction); and providing for publication. Big Spring City Code Sec. 18-133. Stop Intersections. Authorizes the City Manager to designate and maintain stop intersections on streets as directed by the City Council. #5425 July 4 & 8, 2007.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Happy Independence Day, America! Holiday fireworks display the world in a magical light, one far more interdependent than independent.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

From the Pisces moon's perspective, everything is connected — from our delicate ecosystem to our livelihood to the oneness we feel looking at the sky. We may be independent, but we're not alone.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Is it optimism or delusion that keeps you so productive? If you overestimate what you can do, you'll be in the ballpark of reality. In the evening light, weaknesses are strengths and strengths are superpowers.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The same message keeps popping up in different forms. Don't dismiss any small details or silliness. Foolish people aren't unwise, just lighter in their approach.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you didn't let the past color your behavior, you'd be a fool. But there's a fine line to walk here. Review your recent actions to be certain that you're responding, not automatically, but specifically to the situation at hand.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You find ways to shine even in the most ordinary of situations. As for your special talent, you're really good. And here's the bonus: People tell you you're really good.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Keep financial matters out of polite conversation. The dollar-figure details will be a bore to those who have money, and a point of envy to those who don't. Besides, there's no money in poetry, or poetry in money.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Why make a list, when everything you need to do is immediate? Your day is a series of "now" moments, well used. You wisely realize that procrastination ruins opportunities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The quality of your undivided attention is a rare gift that a cherished few get to experience. You listen to people, and they come alive under the nourishment of your attention.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Part of you is ready to escape, play and flirt! The other part of you sees that there is still much to wrap up before you're free to whoop it up. Your sense of duty kicks in strongly this afternoon.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though it seems everything has a price, it's really an emotional price, not a dollar amount, that keeps the world spinning 'round. So forget about the money. Decide what the money means.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's a change in the way you frame your scene. Your attitude is getting more buoyant by the day! Mishaps turn into miracles. Instead of saying, "Oops!" you say, "Wow!"

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your hunches take you so far off the beaten path, you don't even see the trail anymore. You're

wandering in the forest of your imagination, and that's where the adventure begins.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'd rather plan a surprise for someone else than be on the receiving end of one. Fortunately, a friend knows you well and will delight you with today's unexpected pleasure.

ASTROLOGY AND FOOD: Back in the day, astrologers weren't only diviners of the future, they were lifestyle physicians. In ancient Rome, Greece and Renaissance Italy, your astrologer read your future and made suggestions for your longevity. Try eating by your sun or moon sign to improve your well-being!

Leo: The Lion is the gourmet of the fire signs. Leo figures, if you're going to eat caviar, make it Beluga, top of the line. Fancy dinners are fab, especially meals with many courses, like French fare. To feel your finest, eat like royalty! The more festive and fun the atmosphere, the happier you are. Dining with a Leo? Be sure to order celebratory champagne. Virgo: Virgo has a sensitive digestive tract, and overeating causes physical distress. The purer and simpler the food, the more it agrees with the belly and

vitality. Vitamin- and mineral-dense foods like veggies and whole grains are fabulous for you. Of all signs, Virgo's digestion is most suited to handle whole grain (rice, rye, millet, spelt). But processed foods are a no-no. Any food that's been mechanically altered doesn't follow your digestive (and life) guideline: purity. Libra and Scorpio tomorrow!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Is there any truth to the tabloid rumors that Tom Cruise keeps his wife, Katie Holmes, under house arrest? He may be protectively possessive of the people he cares about, but Cruise isn't a controlling guy. With his sun, moon and three asteroids in Cancer, he's a family man concerned mainly with providing for his brood. The biggest pressure he faces this year is the media's attention to his marriage.

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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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Readers: Happy Fourth of July. Here's one of our favorite quotes from Erma Bombeck: "You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overateen, but it is patriotism."

Dear Annie: I have a younger sister in her 30s. "Raylie" has been married for three years and has two toddler boys. She recently built a beautiful home and asked my family and me to come and help her move in. Our mother was also there.

While we were in the house, Raylie and her husband got into a big argument, and we thought it was going to become physical. This was very upsetting to my mother and my family, and it caused our visit to be cut short. Shortly after, I spoke with my mother and family members, and they all expressed concern for Raylie and the kids. They explained they had witnessed other instances like this in the past.

I thought I should talk to Raylie, but when I expressed my concern over the telephone, she hung up on me. The only conversation we have now is when I initiate it. My mother wants me to keep calling her and make her come around. I invited her to my son's high school graduation, but she didn't respond. My heart is torn, and I feel maybe I should have stayed out of it. But then I think about her little boys. Any advice? -- Concerned Sister

Dear Sister: You cannot make Raylie "come around" if she is unwilling, and a big argument does not necessarily constitute potential physical abuse. However, we agree with your mother that you should keep in touch

with Raylie, not to lecture her, but to keep an eye on the situation, and so she can turn to you if she needs help.

Dear Annie: Every birthday, my in-laws send a \$100 check to each of my two boys and my husband. With me, they'll send a \$20 check.

I feel a little insulted and hurt by this. It's not really about the money. It's the principle. I would talk to my husband, but I know he'll tell me it's nothing to be concerned about. Should I just keep my mouth shut and not look a gift horse in the mouth? Or do I need to speak up? -- Disenchanted Daughter-in-Law

Dear Disenchanted: You do realize your in-laws do not owe gifts to any of you, in which case, whatever you get should be appreciated. However, it is not good policy for them to treat you like a second-class relative, because it creates the exact hurt and ill-will you are describing. Tell your husband how this makes you feel, and ask him to explain it to his parents. We hope it helps.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



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The public is encouraged to welcome competitors in the Great Race, which will be making a lunch stop in Big Spring on Monday, July 9, at the Dora Roberts Community Center in Comanche Trail Park.

The first car should arrive at the community center about 11:45 a.m. Lunch will be served to the public beginning at noon.

Lunch tickets sales ended Tuesday but everyone is invited to come out and view the vehicles and take part in welcoming the contestants to Big Spring.



Stanton High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is sponsoring a "777s" 7K run/walk July 7 at 7:07 p.m. Entry fee is \$17 with pre-registration. The fee on the day of the event will be \$20.

Activities will be held at 109 E. First in Stanton, behind the Martin County Hospital.

Awards will be given for first through third places. There will be special awards for 7th, 17th, 27th place, etc.

For more information, call Kathy Dunn at (432) 352-5791. Entry forms can be picked up at 109 E. First in Stanton.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

He also said that the Big Spring High School campus was inadequate to address present and future needs. Other campuses could make do with differing degrees of renovations, he concluded.

To help address concerns raised by Trautman's study, the local school board recently approved the formation of the citizen's committee.

Committee members attending Tuesday's initial meeting were: Mike Abusaab, Greg Brooks, Todd Darden, Jim DePauw, Raymond Hall, Terry

Hansen, Lee Harris, Bobby McDonald, Eve Nieto, Loyce Phillips, Gene Piercefield, Mary Rice, John Sotelo, Rick Watkins and Tim Yeats.

Also in attendance were four BSISD administrators and five school board members.

"We spent about an hour going through (the study), then they toured the (Bauer) campus," BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said.

Downes said the committee will act as a public sounding board as it studies the facilities question and proposes possible solutions.

"Their main purpose is to develop broad-based recommendations for facility

improvement," Downes said. "The goal of the committee will be to form a priorities list based on community needs and expectations ... The issue of funding those recommendations, however, will be the duty of the school board."

No set schedule for future meetings has been established, but Downes said the group would meet regularly over the next several months.

The committee will next meet July 23 at Washington Elementary.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

BRASEL

Continued from Page 1A

it for all of this, because Dr. (Cheryl) Sparks and the (Howard College) board of trustees have helped a lot over the years."

Not only has the school gone under many transitions and upgrades in its structures, Brasel has seen many advances academically.

"When I first arrived, the programs at SWCID were focused on academia and transfer programs to other schools. But with the kinds of students and the amount of students we began to focus heavily on vocational and technical type programs and developmental and remedial

studies," Brasel said. "Over the years, we've added the welding program, office and graphic arts technology we had re-instituted, not only the interpreter training program but also the paraprofessional for deaf education and computer information systems programs."

The school is fully self-contained in many of its programs, and is one of the few two-year degree schools for the deaf in the United States. Many of the deaf students attending also major in courses on the Howard College campus.

When asked about the future of SWCID after his leaving, Brasel said, "The future of SWCID is very bright. We recently received funding for a

new workforce center on campus and hopefully that will be a vision for the next administration to see that actually be constructed.

"That will help us to move classes from the Howard College campus to our campus," he added. "We have increased our recruiting efforts and hope to gain more international student numbers. We have a 20-year master plan in place that includes a lot of wonderful things for the main building and the diagnostic center. We really want to showcase our campus. We're going to be looking at revamping much of the infrastructure and a new dormitory as the student numbers increase."

Who the new provost is going to be is still unde-

ecided. And although no successor has been selected, Brasel and the Howard College board have had some interesting prospects.

"They (trustees) are still looking, trying to screen the right person for the position," Brasel said. "This position is great. I have no regrets for coming to West Texas. For the next administration the primary goal is to provide the best possible education that we can for our students."

"All in all, the future of SWCID is very bright and I believe it can continue to be a shining star for Big Spring."

Brasel plans on returning to South Dakota with his family.

Contact Dustin Wilson

by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com.

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LEADERS

Continued from Page 1A

school board meetings, and we get their input from what they see and what they have gotten out of the meeting. They go on police rides and through the Boy Scouts COPEs Course, and it really bonds the group. They get to know each other better and become a team."

ValVerde said the pro-

gram not only teaches it's class members how to lead, but how to have a positive impact on the community.

"That's what this is all about. It takes teamwork to be a leader," said ValVerde. "You can't have a room full of chiefs and no Indians. You have to be able to work together toward a common goal, and that takes a great deal of teamwork."

"Each year we ask them to do a community project, and last year the

class put a bench in the Heart of the City Park, similar to the ones Keep Big Spring Beautiful provided for the courthouse square. The class had to fund it, whether they got sponsorships or paid for it themselves. It teaches them how to get out there and get other people and businesses to help support worth while projects."

The course, which begins in September and continues through May 2008, is \$300 per person

for Chamber members, and \$500 for non-Chamber residents wishing to take part.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 263-7641.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Take a moment, reflect on what freedom means

A great many of us in Big Spring began celebrating the Fourth of July on Saturday in much the same way most Americans have for many years celebrated our nation's independence — picnics in the park or sampling the fare of concession vendors. live music, patriotic songs and fireworks.

That's the American way, after all. But it behooves us all to take a moment to think about the events that had to take place to make to make this our Independence Day.

Some 231 years ago, our founding fathers gathered in Philadelphia to sign a document that became known as our nation's Declaration of Independence.

Men, women and children — persecuted in Europe and wanting more control over their respective lives — had come to the land we now know as the United States of America to start anew.

Their freedom was not easily obtained. It was paid for with the blood, sweat, tears and lives of many. That same freedom we enjoy today has had to be paid for on numerous occasions.

While there are those who would quickly complain of our nation's shortcomings, and we most assuredly have our share, we need to remember that even though our democratic system of government oft times reveals flaws, it is still the strongest and longest surviving of any in the world.

When revolt rocks other nations, our system continues to stand the test of time.

So, today when you fire up the grill for hamburgers and hot dogs, head to your favorite lake or simply turn on the TV to watch its fare for the holiday, take a moment to remember those who gave us our country and those who have since helped preserve and protect it.

In fact, it wouldn't hurt to offer a little prayer of thanks while we're at it.

Then go ahead and unfurl your flag. Display it proudly because it truly is a grand old flag and this is grand old nation is another year older. God bless America.

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

LETTER POLICIES

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- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When You speak, Lord, we should listen.

Amen

Only elections will fix immigration

When pro-immigrant activists somehow learn to be as driven and aggressive as the anti-immigrant zealots, that's when comprehensive immigration reform will become a reality in this country — and when the broken immigration system will finally be fixed.

Unfortunately, from what we have seen in Washington in recent weeks, that reality is only a dream for now.

The hawks are just a loud minority — with the help of conservative talk radio and a few outspoken congressmen — but they are far more effective than the silent majority of compassionate Americans who see immigrant bashing as shameful and repulsive behavior. The pro-immigrant leadership has failed to mobilize its followers with the kind of success with which immigrant-bashers instigate theirs.

As a result, instead of gaining ground, immigrant rights are regressing.

The defeat of the comprehensive reform bill in the U.S. Senate last week is clear evidence that the anti-immigrant forces have grown much stronger. After all, the new bill was considerably more hawkish than the one the Senate approved last year, and still, a right-wing extremist movement defeated it.

Their scare tactics, sweeping generalizations and unfair characterizations of many hardworking people as criminals and even terrorists have made some Americans forget that we were once proud of being a compassionate nation of immigrants. They have turned the word "amnesty" into something evil.

The massive demonstrations, letter-writing campaigns and lobbying by immigrants and their sup-

porters were no match for the onslaught of fear-mongering produced by conservative commentators and politicians. They have managed to mobilize American xenophobic haters like never before — and there is only one way to fight them, at the polls, on Election Day.

Some immigrant rights activists are still trying to revive the deceased bill by getting the House of Representatives to debate it. That would be a huge waste of time. It's just not going to happen this year. There are too many immigration restrictionists in Congress, too many politicians who feel threatened by the influx of Latinos.

Pro-immigrant leaders need to become as politically active as their opposition. They need to concentrate on changing the makeup of Congress, starting with those who defeated the reform bill because they can't tolerate any form of amnesty. Although that list has a clear Republican majority, they must also mobilize against some Democrats who opposed giving illegal immigrants a chance to earn a path to citizenship.

We know now that real immigration reform will not occur at least until a new president and Congress take office in 2009, which gives immigrant activists plenty of time to do as their opponents do: Target their enemies and go after a few of the most vulnerable in the next elections.

Right now, conservatives are celebrating the bill's defeat. But let them explain to the American people how they solved the immigration problem by maintaining the status quo and failing to stem the flow of illegal immigrants. By 2008, let them explain why their refusal to compromise (on a package that also included many security provisions) allowed entry to several million more illegal immigrants. And let them explain why, instead of concentrating on real criminals and terrorists, authorities will still hate to sift through

more than 12 million innocent men, women and children.

Instead of allowing the zealots to set the tone of the debate by making it seem as if all illegal immigrants are criminals and terrorists, pro-immigrant activists need to explain how these people are helping to sustain our economy by doing some of the hardest and most humiliating jobs in America. They need to speak out about the honorable sacrifices many immigrants are making to feed their families and give their children a better life.

They need to remind Americans that these are the same humble people who often wash our cars and restaurant dishes, clean our homes, mow our lawns, make our hotel beds, pick our fruit and vegetables, care for our children, and even rebuild our disaster-torn cities.

The battle will get much tougher within the next couple of years. Immediately after the bill was defeated, immigrant-bashers called on the Bush administration to enforce existing laws and continue raiding homes and worksites and deporting people.

Other extremists are already calling for an enforcement-only bill that would give the government even more tools to be mean-spirited.

It's unfortunate a lot of immigrants will suffer, but now we must let the xenophobes release their venom and expose their intolerance.

Let them cheer when honest workers are raided and handcuffed, when deportations continue to separate children from their parents, when heart-wrenching human tragedies expose their un-American and inhumane behavior.

Let them show that they represent the ugly face of America, and then let the better-looking American people put a stop to them on Election Day.

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YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

On Monday, June 18, I was taking my wife to the Midland International Airport, but approximately 10 miles out, her car began to overheat. Fortunately, we had left early so we doubled back to get my car. After transferring her belongings to my vehicle, we once again headed for the airport.

However, just east of the railroad tracks on Third Street, one of the tires on my car blew out. Time was now of the essence, so I changed the tire as quickly as I could. Just as I completed the task and was placing the blown tire in the trunk, Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray drove by. Even though he was heading east, he realized that we were having car trouble, so he immediately turned his vehicle around and headed our direction.

Upon stepping out of his vehicle, Mr. Condray said the most amazing thing: His exact words were, "How may 'we' be of service?" He didn't ask what was wrong, or even if we needed help. Instead he asked how

"we" might be of service. Since Mr. Condray was a single passenger in his vehicle, the "we" to which he was referring obviously meant the city of Big Spring. WOW!

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Condray was under absolutely no obligation to stop and render aid for an automobile problem — but he did. Not only that, he immediately phrased his comment in such a way that immediately let it be known that he was there to provide real assistance — not just a token gesture of assistance.

I quickly explained that I had just completed changing the tire, and we were now in a real crunch to get to the airport on time. With that, he shook my (very dirty) hand, and my wife and I were once again off to the airport.

My hat is off to you, Mr. Condray. You did the city of Big Spring proud, and I am extraordinarily proud that I met you. Thank you for taking the time to offer assistance in such a positive manner. My wife and I are indebted to you

for kindness and for your willingness to go above and beyond your duty as a fire marshal in our fair city.

ROCKY AND BRENDA DUNLAP
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I lived in Big Spring for many years and when I was a junior at Big Spring High School, I met a soldier, Jesse Burl Perkins, and we became engaged to be married when I graduated from high school in 1952.

But he was called back in the Army to fight in Korea and he was captured around the 38th parallel and the North Koreans were marching the captured U.S. soldiers to Seoul. The march was long and cold and Jesse died. He was given a military funeral and is buried in Trinity Memorial Park.

Today our church honored the the servicemen and I thought of

See LETTERS, Page 5A

Some choice words about summer

I had lots of response to a column I wrote on springtime, so I thought I would express some of my thoughts about summer.

Summer is my favorite time of year. The grass is green. The sky is blue. The way tree leaves filter the sun's rays late in the day creates a special glow you only see in warm weather.

It's vacation time, when thoughts turn to relaxation and travel. It's when the whole world changes a little bit. People are loose and seem to get a fresh perspective about what life is all about.

Summer is time off, a break in the routine. It has its own special rhythm and pace. School is out.

Summer is surfing music and outdoor concerts, homemade ice cream and bicycles. It's a convertible with the top down and laughing children at the beach. It's sun tan oil and mosquito repellent.

It's a visit to kinfolks, family reunions in the park. It's the

sound of a neighbor's lawnmower and the swish of a water sprinkler giving the grass a drink. It's a slip and slide and a wading pool. It's iced tea and lemonade. It's sitting on the deck in early morning, listening to the dawn chorus of bird-song. It's watching the tall grasses sway in the summer breeze.

It's trips to mountains and seashore and woods. It's a barking dog when you walk past his territory. It's outdoor cooking, barbecue and beans. It's the swimming pool or the old swimming hole. It's shorts, T-shirts and sandals.

It's the Fourth of July and fireworks in the sky. It's rodeo and parades and red soda pop.

It's fishing in a stream, rafting down a creek, boating on a lake. It's the first motorcycle ride and the first kiss. It's a picnic, a Frisbee toss, a baseball game and tennis. It's the bikinis and boogie boards. It's a ride on the waves.

It's a mountaintop's clean air and the cool of a shaded wood. It's the sweet smell after a rain and a garden filled with flowers. It's a golf game on a warm summer day. It's a blooming cactus and a dancing butterfly. It's the sound of

cicadas and the rumble of a far away train. It's a shimmering highway oasis that disappears the closer you get to it.

It's reading a book, listening to music. It's a time to think about things. It's a 4-year-old boy snoozing on a pallet. It's kite flying and parachuting from a plane and water skiing.

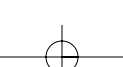
It's tasting the sweet fruits that only summer provides. It's a ride on a Ferris wheel while the music plays. It's watching a hawk fly in the sky and catching fireflies in the dark of night.

It's a ride on a seesaw and getting splashed with a hose. It's playing tag at suppertime, not wanting to quit. It's a sand pile with a toy shovel and pail.

It's national parks and historic sites. It's a rocking chair on an old fashioned porch, a walk down a country lane. It's the comfort of the house after being outside.

Summer is the best time of all. It offers freedom like no other season.

Browning must have been thinking about summer when he wrote, "God's in his heaven, all's right with the world."



LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

Jesse and cried for my first love and the pain he suffered on that march. Please honor him by placing his name in your paper, July 4, 2007. His mom is buried by his side and his sister, Charlene Shanks lives in Big Spring.

I only want my first love's name, Jesse Burl Perkins, to be honored in your July 4 paper.

BEVERLY HAMPTON MOSS
CONROE

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Nancy Jones and the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) for their many hours of hard work in helping us in the distribution of this year's annual water quality reports to our customers.

I am continually inspired and impressed by the examples of servitude demonstrated by the many volunteers. Every year since 1999, RSVP volunteers have donated countless hours of hard work to help us in this annual project and they have always done it with pride and efficiency.

Although much if not most of their efforts are behind the scenes, RSVP is involved in so many community events and projects throughout the entire year. The impact they make on our community is immeasurable. They are driven not by the desire to make a name for themselves, but to make Big Spring a better place.

My thanks to all involved in RSVP!

KENNY SCOTT
WATER & WASTEWATER
PLANT MANAGER
CITY OF BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing this letter after losing our family pet today due to someone giving her rat poison. I just do not understand how anybody could be so cruel. She was a small dog, never bothered any of our neighbors and this act was simply cruel.

Our hearts are broken. It's like losing a member of the family.

I am sure there are many, many readers who

feel the same about their pets.

So, if the person who did this reads this, I hope his conscience bothers him or her (if they have one).

I am very angry that this happened and simply cannot grasp the cruelty displayed with this act.

JUDY WEST
COAHOMA

TO THE EDITOR:

On June 20, we had a flat just out of Big Spring on Interstate 20 in a construction area. I had pulled off the road, but there wasn't a lot of room there and began to change the tire.

A Texas Department of Transportation employee pulled up in his pickup and turned his lights on, protecting us from the traffic. He then offered to help and finished changing the tire and put the old one in the trunk, which I really appreciated, since I have a heart problem. His last name is Kirkpatrick, I think.

I just wanted him to know that my wife and I really appreciate his kindness. He is a good representative of TxDOT. I worked for the Texas Highway Department about 50 years ago and it's nice to know it's still a good organization.

EDGAR F. NANCE
YUMA, ARIZ.

TO THE EDITOR:

We've all heard this talk about how Big Spring offers the same things as many surrounding cities, right? Have any of you been to Moss Creek Lake recently?

My uncle came home on leave from the Army and we decided to take the family camping at the lake.

Originally we considered Colorado City Lake, but settled on Moss Lake. In retrospect, perhaps we should have visited Colorado City.

We paid \$9 at the gate to stay overnight. Before we could set up, we had to clean up the campsite because it was full of broken glass, beer cans and garbage. We filled the trash barrel completely just with trash that was present when we arrived. The picnic table was missing a bench, there was a board mission out

of the center of the table and the table had been spray painted and carved with an assortment of names and expletives.

During the night we were serenaded with an array of whooping, hollering and boom-boom music from the two campsites nearest us.

Saturday we woke up to a couple of vehicles trying to climb the steep hill across from us. When they tired of that they began chasing each other up and down the road. There did not appear to be any enforcement of park rules or city ordinances. I saw no lake personnel or Big Spring police making rounds, although I did see a sheriff's department vehicle driving through late on Friday night.

I hate to sound like a party-pooper, but isn't that the reason for camping in the first place, to get away from all the boom-boom stereos and everyday hustle and bustle?

Later Saturday we drove up to the gate to pay for that night. We asked to have the trash hauled

away. We were informed that the manager was away, but he would empty it on Sunday. Some might ask why we didn't empty it ourselves. It was a matter of principle, actually. Why pay \$9 if I have to clean the site before I can use it and then haul away the garbage that I pick up? I was embarrassed for my uncle to come home and see this mess.

Furthermore, what's with the roads out there? There are several places that are almost impassable unless you have a decent pickup truck. Why not put in a couple of drainage ditches and some culverts? Why not get some recycled pavement for the roads out there? It's as simple as asking TxDOT for it.

Several years ago we were told the city would fight fires in the county if the county would seal coat streets in the city. Is Moss Lake not city property?

I have one more complaint — the restrooms. How depressing. Mostly broken the ones that aren't broken are littered

with paper and feces. I have a hard time imagining that the city can't do a better job than that. Perhaps the code enforcement officers should start looking a little closer to home and write citations for litter, overgrown weeds and trees that need to be trimmed.


I visited with a city employee about the lake. He explained there was only one man to care for the entire lake and the city could not financially justify putting a full-time employee there to help. Perhaps if the lake did not operate on the honor system as to whether you pay or not, more revenue could be generated and it would seem that there must be some grants available.

I know the city and county don't like to work together. We've all seen

that with comments made by both sides over the jail issue, but would it really be that hard for someone to swallow their pride and ask if Sheriff Walker would be willing to lend his trustee work crew to do a little painting or mowing out there? He could say no, true enough, but he might say yes.

Is this just a sign of the times or is it a lack of enforcement of park rules and city ordinances? I submit to you that it is both. What a shame to see an asset like this wasted. If you want people to come and visit Big Spring, you've got to give them a reason to choose Big Spring over Lake J.B. Thomas or Colorado City Lake.

CHRIS HOGG
BIG SPRING



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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Luck Is the Residue of Design

North dealer.
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♠ Q J 10 2
♥ K Q
♦ Q J 5
♣ A K J 3

WEST
♠ K 9
♥ 10 9 8 6
♦ A 8 4 2
♣ Q 10 2

EAST
♠ 6 5 3
♥ 1 7 5 3 2
♦ K 7
♣ 9 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A 8 7 4
♥ A 4
♦ 10 9 6 3
♣ 8 7 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass
4♣

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Bridge is admittedly an inexact science. You make a particular bid because you think it's probably the best bid under the circumstances; you make a particular play for the same reason. You do this because it's the percentage bid or percentage play, but you're aware that what you do or don't do will sometimes turn out wrong.

Assume you're West and lead a heart against four spades. Declarer

wins with dummy's queen and returns the queen of trumps, losing to your king.

If you're a careful defender who's always trying to beat the contract, you realize that you are now at the critical point of the hand. Your first two assumptions are that declarer has the ace of hearts and ace of spades, and your third assumption is that unless you do something special, declarer will surely make the contract.

It does not take long for you to conclude that the only real chance to stop four spades is to hope your partner has the K-x of diamonds. Accordingly, you return the deuce of diamonds at trick three.

This play turns out to be just what the doctor ordered. Your partner wins with the king, returns a diamond to your ace and ruffs the next diamond to put the contract down one.

Of course, you were lucky to find partner with specifically the K-x of diamonds. South could easily have had the king or fewer than four cards in the suit. But the fact is that you were forced to make the winning assumption because it offered virtually the only hope of defeating the contract.

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ANTHEM

Continued from Page 1A

eventually beat down our ships. New England, hard-hit by a tightening blockade, threatened secession.

Meanwhile, Napoleon was beaten in Russia and in 1814 was forced to abdicate. Great Britain now turned its attention to the United States, launching a three-pronged attack. The northern prong was to come down Lake Champlain toward New York and seize parts of New England. The southern prong was to go up the Mississippi, take New Orleans and paralyze the west. The central prong was to head for the Mid-Atlantic states and then attack Baltimore, the greatest port south of New York. If Baltimore was taken, the nation, which still hugged the Atlantic coast, could be split in two.

The fate of the United States, then, rested to a large extent on the success or failure of the central prong. The British reached the American coast, and on Aug. 24, 1814, took Washington, D.C. Then they moved up the Chesapeake Bay toward Baltimore. On Sept. 12, they arrived and found 1,000 men in Fort McHenry, whose guns controlled the harbor. If the British wished to take Baltimore, they would have to take the fort.

On one of the British ships was an aged physician, William Beanes, who had been arrested in Maryland and brought along as a prisoner. Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and friend of the physician, had come to the ship to negotiate his release. The British captain was willing, but the two Americans would have to wait. It was now the night of Sept. 13, and the bombardment of Fort McHenry was about to start. As twilight deepened, Key and Beanes saw the American flag



flying over Fort McHenry. Through the night, they heard bombs bursting and saw the red glare of rockets. They knew the fort was resisting and the American flag was still flying. But toward morning the bombardment ceased, and a dread silence fell. Either Fort McHenry had surrendered and the British flag flew above it, or the bombardment had failed and the American flag still flew.

As dawn began to brighten the eastern sky, Key and Beanes stared out at the fort, trying to see which flag flew over it. He and the physician must have asked each other over and over, "Can you see the flag?" After it was all finished, Key wrote a four stanza poem telling the events of the night. Called "The Defense of Fort McHenry," it was published in newspapers and swept the nation. Someone noted that the words fit an old English tune called, "To Anacreon in Heaven," a difficult melody with an uncomfortably large vocal range. For obvious reasons, Key's work

became known as "The Star-Spangled Banner," and in 1931 Congress declared it the official anthem of the United States.

Now that you know the story, here are the words. Presumably, the old doctor is speaking. This is what he asks Key: "Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly stream-

ing? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. Oh! say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave, O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?" (Ramparts, in case you don't know, are the protective walls or other elevations that surround a fort.)

The first stanza asks a question. The second gives an answer: "On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep, Where the foe's haughty

host in dread silence reposes, What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep. As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses? Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam, In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream. 'Tis the star-spangled banner. Oh! long may it wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!" (The towering steep is again, the ramparts. The bombardment has failed, and the British can do nothing more but sail away, their mission a failure).

In the third stanza Key apparently allows himself to gloat over the American triumph. In the aftermath of the bombardment, Key probably was in no mood to act otherwise? During World War I when the British were our staunchest allies, this third stanza was not sung. However, here it is: "And where is that band who so vauntingly swore That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion. A home and a country should

leave us no more? Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution. No refuge could save the hireling and slave, From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave, And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." (The fourth stanza, a pious hope for the future, should be sung more slowly than the other three and with even deeper feeling):

"Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand Between their loved homes and the war's desolation, Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heaven-rescued land Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation. Then conquer we must, for our cause is just, and this be our motto — 'In God is our trust.' And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Now you can look at the national anthem with new eyes. Listen to it, the next time you have a chance, with new ears. Pay attention to the words and hope that no one will ever take away even one word of it. It's our salute to democracy!

—Darrell Ryan is the director of federal programs for Big Spring Independent School District.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald
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Have you ever wondered where and how the ice cream sundae was invented? Read all about the tasteful debate between two towns that claim to be the home to this cool treat. Plus, swimming safety and fresh tomato salsa.
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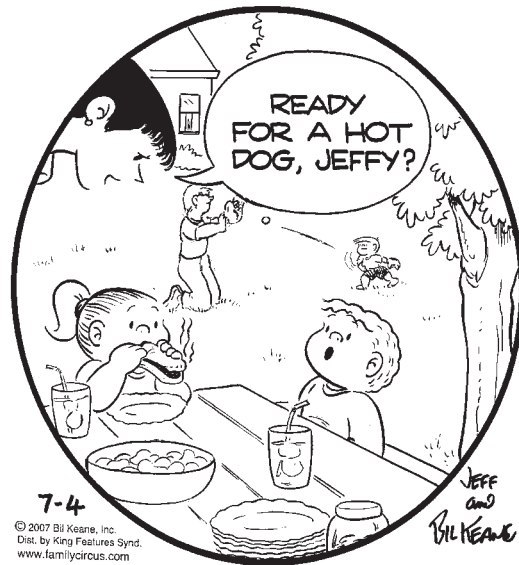
Table with 28 columns (WFAA, KMYD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 6 rows (6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:30 AM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



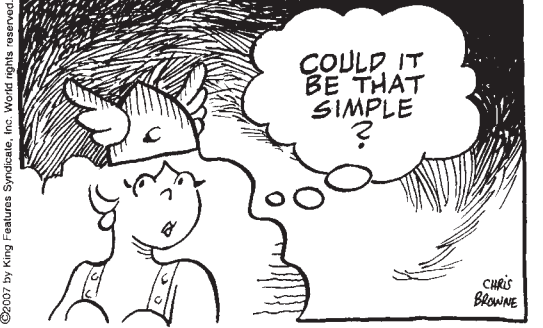
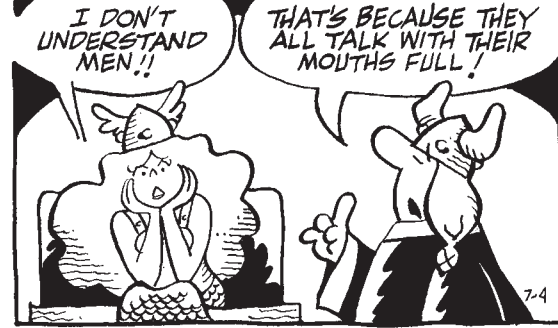
"Wow! This is the kind of celebration they should have on the last day of school!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"No, Mommy, just make mine a warm dog."

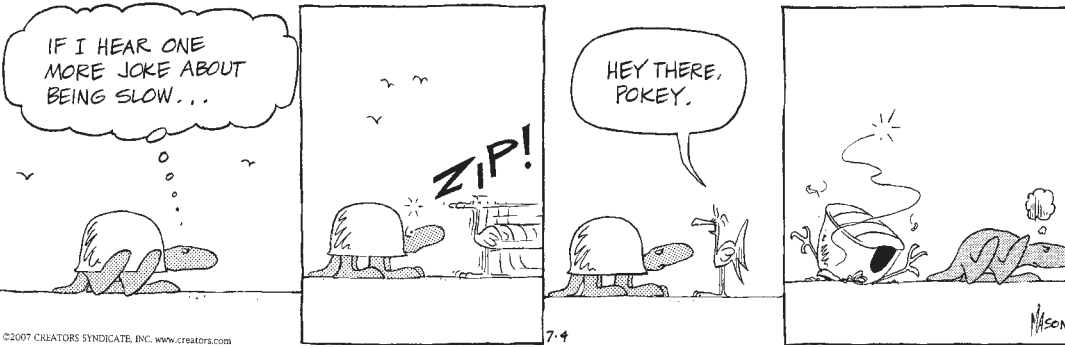
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BLONDIE



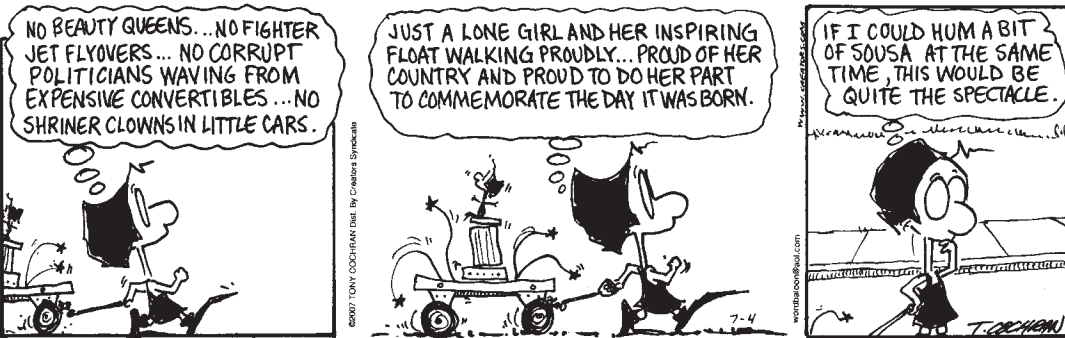
BC



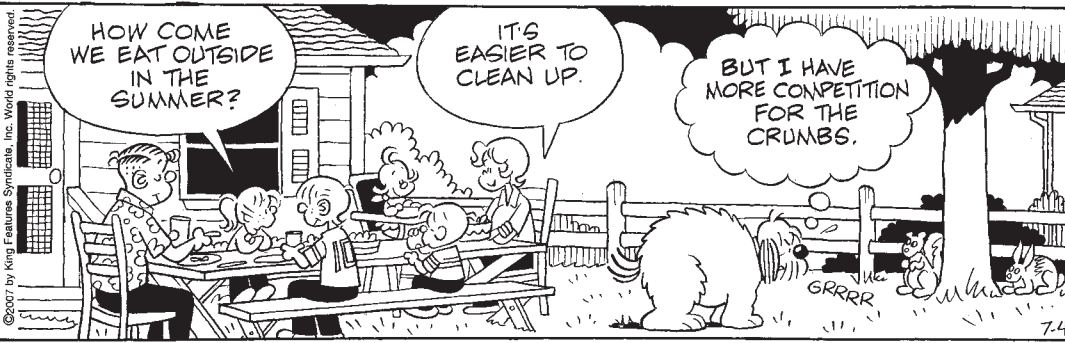
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, July 4, the 185th day of 2007. There are 180 days left in the year. This is Independence Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence.

On this date: In 1802, the United States Military Academy officially opened at West Point, N.Y.

In 1807, 200 years ago, soldier-statesman Giuseppe Garibaldi, who played a key role in Italy's unification during the 19th century, was born in Nice.

In 1826, 50 years to the day after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died.

In 1831, the fifth president of the U.S., James Monroe, died in New York City.

In 1872, the 30th president of the U.S., Calvin Coolidge, was born in Plymouth, Vt.

In 1917, during a ceremony in Paris honoring the French hero of the American Revolution, U.S. Lt. Col. Charles E. Stanton declared, "Lafayette, we are here!"

In 1939, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, said farewell to his fans at New York's Yankee Stadium.

In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Freedom of Information Act, which went into effect the following year.

In 1976, Israeli commandos raided Entebbe airport in Uganda, rescuing almost all of the passengers and crew of an Air France jetliner seized by pro-Palestinian hijackers.

In 1987, Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo chief known as the "Butcher of Lyon," was convicted by a French court of crimes against humanity and sentenced to life in prison (he died in September 1991).

Today's Birthdays: Actress Gloria Stuart is 97. Conductor Mitch Miller is

96. Advice columnist Pauline Phillips (the original "Dear Abby") is 89.

Actress Eva Marie Saint is 83. Actress Gina Lollobrigida is 80.

Playwright Neil Simon is 80. Baseball team owner George Steinbrenner is 77.

Country singer Ray Pillow is 70. Singer Bill Withers is 69.

Actor Ed Bernard is 68. Actress Karolyn Grimes is 67.

Broadcast journalist Geraldo Rivera is 64. Rhythm-and-blues musician Ralph Johnson (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 56.

Rock musician Domingo Ortiz (Widespread Panic) is 55. Singer John Waite is 52.

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: FLAK, DIPS, MUTED, LONE, OREO, USHER, EBAY, NORM, DAIRY, WETBLANKET, BRIE, OATS, WELDER, ESCAPE, OLIVE, LEAR, ATONE, SEA, SANDWICH, ISLANDS, ENE, ADMEN, SIGH, MILER, GOATIE, DELETE, FLAW, IRAN, RADIO, SHACK, NORTH, LENO, OBOE, EDGAR, MAAM, LIMP, REELS, ALLY, ETAT

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 IOUs, 6 Boston hoopster, for short, 10 Breakfast side dish, 14 Biblical brother, 15 Mayberry tyke, 16 West Coast sch., 17 One prone to emotional display, 19 Hang around, 20 Cushy gig, 21 Home-grown, 23 Hobbyist's buy, 24 Tart fruits, 25 Bounced back, 29 Becloud, 32 A way to read, 33 Earring sites, 34 Took the reins, 37 Basis of a suit, 38 Gaddled about, 39 Actress Sorvino, 40 Damascus' land: Abbr., 41 Make merry, 42 Lord's domain, 43 Dickens-based musical, 45 Most wise, 46 Junkyard stuff, 48 Anthem contraction, 49 Takes a bite of, 51 Gilbert and Sullivan work, 56 Tennis great Arthur, 57 The Three Stooges, for one, 59 MGM beast

- DOWN: 10 Disco dance, 11 Consumer-help phone number, 12 Toil away, 13 President after Grant, 18 pro quo, 22 Shows curiosity, 25 Chows down, 26 Be too sweet, 27 Distressing experience, 28 Away from home, 29 Delaware's capital, 30 Biblical brother, 31 Color of embarrassment, 33 Be gaga over, 35 Bow-toting god, 36 Pub missile, 38 Pastor, informally, 39 SI/ or GQ, 41 Ready to harvest, 42 Wooer's words, 44 Nears midnight, 45 Raspberry bit, 46 Play for time, 47 Timex rival, 48 Begins the bidding, 50 Shell game, 51 Sign to heed, 52 List-ending abbr., 53 Archer of legend, 54 Tall story, 55 "You said it!" Poem of praise

13x13 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-64 indicating starting positions for clues.

CRIMESTOPPERS

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Crimestoppers of Big Spring is currently seeking information on a recent case of criminal mischief that took place in the area of S. Birdwell Lane and could cost the city approximately \$25,000 to repair.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, vandals attacked the city-owned water tower located S. Birdwell Lane sometime between Monday, June 18, and Tuesday, June 26. "Suspects spray painted graffiti on the water tower," said Everett. "The graffiti was painted in blue, gold and green. The cost to repair the damage to the tower has been estimated at \$25,000, and the money used to repair the damage comes from the citizens' taxes."

Everett said anyone with information regarding this criminal act should call the local Crimestoppers at 263-

TIPS (8477) or 264-TIPS (8477).

"You may be eligible for a reward," said Everett. "Crimestoppers is authorized to pay up to \$1,000 in cash for information leading to the arrest and indictment of any person or persons involved in criminal activity."

"If you have any information about this or any other crime, call 263-TIPS. Information is confidential and callers may remain anonymous. No caller-ID is ever used."

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

Alon purchases pipelines

Special to the Herald

Alon USA Energy Inc. has finalized the purchase of the crude and unfinished products pipeline system from Kinder Morgan, Inc. known as the Black Oil system for a purchase price of \$4.5 million, officials announced this week.



Morris

The Black Oil system includes approximately six miles of active and 13 miles of inactive pipelines in the Long Beach, Calif., area.

"These pipelines pro-

vide us with enhanced flexibility with our logistics in the Long Beach area, as well as support the expansion of our California refinery system to 90,000 barrels per day planned for next year," said Jeff Morris, president and CEO of Alon. "Logistics are critical in any environment, but they are especially valuable in densely populated areas such as the Los Angeles basin. The acquired pipeline system will allow us to better optimize our current pipeline network along with giving us direct access to marine terminals and refineries in the Los Angeles and Long

Beach Port area.

"This is one more step in our continued progress to expand and improve the facilities we purchased last year. We have already increased throughput from our combined Paramount operation to almost 70,000 bpd and look forward to continuing to increase fuels and asphalt production for our West Coast customers."

Alon USA Energy Inc., headquartered in Dallas, is an independent refiner and marketer of petroleum products, operating primarily in the South Central, Southwestern and Western regions of the United States. The

company owns and operates four sour and heavy crude oil refineries in Texas, California and Oregon, with an aggregate crude oil throughput capacity of approximately 170,000 barrels per day. Alon markets gasoline and diesel products under the FINA brand name and is a leading producer of asphalt. Alon also operates more than 300 convenience stores in West Texas and New Mexico under the 7-Eleven and FINA brand names and supplies motor fuels to these stores from its Big Spring refinery. In addition, Alon supplies 900 additional FINA branded locations.

BRIEFS

Court upholds prison sentence for unruly airplane passenger

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal appeals court on Tuesday upheld the 27-month prison sentence of an airline passenger who claimed he had a bomb and forced a California-bound flight to return to Las Vegas.

A lower-court judge had doubled the prison sentence of Salvador Gonzalez after finding that he had jeopardized the safety of the Southwest Airlines flight on Oct. 22, 2003.

Gonzalez attorney, federal public defender Jason Carr of Las Vegas, had unsuccessfully argued that the sentence was too severe because his client's behavior was disruptive but didn't endanger the plane, which was heading to Ontario, Calif.

The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the sentence Tuesday, saying "Gonzalez's irresponsible statements, threats and conduct easily qualified as reckless endangerment" of the plane.

Gonzalez became agitated on the flight and caused chaos in the cabin when he threatened to "take the aircraft down" and said, "Do I have to say there's a bomb to get you to land?" He fought with passengers and crew members who feared he would try to open an emergency exit.

Gonzalez admitted to taking methamphetamine the day before the flight.

U.S. Ambassador says he won't run for Texas governor

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Tony Garza, a former Texas railroad commissioner and secretary of state, said Tuesday he's not running for governor in 2010 despite speculation that he's a potential candidate.

"I love Texas and have enjoyed serving it both at home and abroad. But the fact is, I'm not running," Garza said in a prepared statement.

Garza said he is making the declaration now because he has seen recent news stories in which he is mentioned as a possible Republican gubernatorial candidate.

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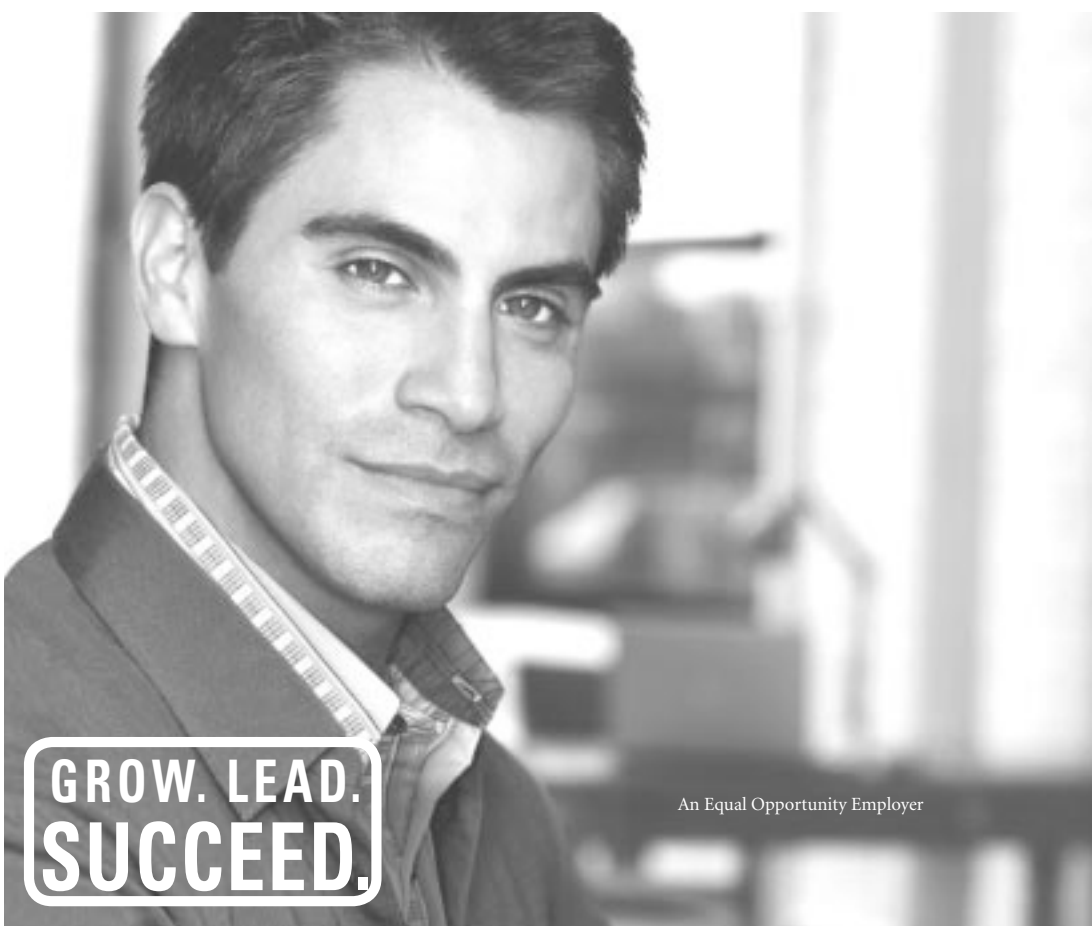
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