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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
JULY 12, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 195

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Celebrating the Forties
Stanton gears up for 74th Old Settlers Reunion

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

STANTON — A day long celebration, highlighted by a community wide parade, will be in store for those who take part in the 74th annual Old Settlers Reunion here Saturday. Think 1940s. Registration will be held at the Martin County Community Center beginning at 9 a.m. Opening the festivities will be a bicycle decoration contest at 9:15 a.m. Children should meet at the park at the corner of St. Peter. Prizes will be awarded.

The traditional downtown parade — themed "Celebrating the Forties" — will begin at 10 a.m.

"Come and be a part of this celebration of our county's and country's history of the 1940s," encouraged Kathleen Lewis, Old Settlers Reunion secretary-treasurer.

Parade marshals will be the "Anderson sisters," Ana Lou Robinson, Verla Doggett and Juanita "Babe" Lindsey.

"The Old Settlers Committee would like to encourage all individuals, clubs, organizations and class reunions to participate in the parade," said

Schedule of Events

- 9 a.m. — Registration at Martin County Community Center.
- 9:15 a.m. — Bicycle decoration contest, park at corner of St. Peter.
- 10 a.m. — Downtown parade.
- 1 p.m. — Sandy Land V8 and antique tractor pull at Farmer's Co-op Gin.
- 2 p.m. — Connell Home and Museum open for touring until 3:30 p.m.; reception honoring the Caleb and Sarah Louder family at the museum.
- 6 p.m. — Evening meal at community center (tickets are \$8).
- 7:30 p.m. — Program at community center.

Lewis.

Judging of floats will begin at 9:15 a.m. at the Methodist Church. Participants are asked to have floats marked for easy identification.

Floats will be judged on a point system: 0-30 for attractiveness and artistic work, 0-30 for originality and use of theme, and 0-40 for work and effort.

Cash prizes will be See **REUNION**, Page 3A

'A LONG, WELL-LIVED LIFE'



Lady Bird Johnson points to some bluebonnets at LBJ State Park in 1985.

Lady Bird Johnson
1912-2007

Early years
Born Claudia Alta Taylor, Dec. 22, 1912, in Karnack, Texas; nicknamed by a family maid who said she was "as cute as a ladybird"

Political wife
1938-1968 Supported the political career of her husband Lyndon Baines Johnson, who served as congressman from Texas, senator, vice president and then president 1963-68 As first lady, she was honorary chairman of the Head Start Program; a champion of conservation, she raised money to beautify Washington, lobbied for passage of the Highway Beautification Bill

Business woman
• Bought KTBC radio station in Austin, Texas, with some of her inheritance; expanded it to include television

Public servant
• Helped manage the LBJ Library and Museum; served as a regent for University of Texas at Austin
• Founded the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
• Received numerous awards, including the Medal of Freedom

© 2007 MCT
Source: University of Texas at Austin, White House, AP, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Pat Carr, Melina Yungling

Former first lady dies at age 94

By **KELLEY SHANNON**
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — A quiet Texas woman who once turned down a class valedictorian's medal because she feared public speaking, Lady Bird Johnson found herself pulled suddenly into service as first lady when her husband Lyndon B. Johnson became president amid tragedy.

Along with tenaciously supporting his public service, she was a champion for the environment and the preservation of native plants and wildflowers.

When she died Wednesday, at age 94, Mrs. Johnson was remembered as loving and gentle, yet strong in spirit and in her dedication to her family and her passion for nature.

The cause of death was "respiratory failure, actually natural causes when you get right down to it," said family friend and spokesman Neal Spelce.

"Mrs. Johnson was a true, strong Texas woman," Spelce said, comparing her to historic Texas political women like Ann Richards and Barbara Jordan. "Mrs. Johnson personified that strength, but yet she did it with a very genteel, gracious, quiet, soothing exterior."

"She was one of our most beloved first ladies in our history. She made me proud as a Texan. She showed such class and graciousness. Her lasting legacy will be the beautification she championed."

—U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas

See **LADY BIRD**, Page 6A

More and merrier

Boys and Girls program exceeds all expectations

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With summer vacation half over, officials with the local Salvation Army say the organization's Boys and Girls Club of America summer camp has exceeded all expectations for a second-year program.

Program Director Sheila Sparrow said the program, which began its second year last month, said use of the program has exploded since last year's effort.



Keeney

"It really is going wonderfully," said Sparrow. "We are seeing an average of 115 children a day this year, which is quite an increase compared to last year. It can get a little overwhelming from time to time, but it's moving along smoothly. We had a feeling the program was going to take off this year, and that's just what it's done."

The camp is for children age 6 through 18. Cost is \$12 per child, officials said.

According to Sparrow, the \$12 fee is good for a year, as the Boys and Girls Club also offers after-school activities weekdays when school is in session.

"We really wanted to do something that would get the kids off the street," said local Salvation Army Capt. Russ Keeney. "We wanted to make sure they had somewhere to go and something constructive to do, not just wander the streets and get into trouble. The summer camp program is multi-denominational, and although it's a faith-based camp, we're not going to try to shove religion down the kids' throats. Jesus never tried to push his religion on anyone, and neither do we."

"The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club isn't just for the summer. We'll be offering services throughout the year. During the school year we'll operate from 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.,

See **PROGRAM**, Page 3A

Aggie auction set Saturday

Calling all Aggies. The Howard County A&M Club will hold its annual Scholarship Auction Saturday at the Big Spring Country Club.

The event starts with hors d' oeuvres at 5:30 p.m., with the auction scheduled to begin around 6:30 p.m. Auction items include autographed photos of sports figures and entertainers.

The auction will help raise money to fund scholarships for Howard County students attending classes at A&M. Currently, 15 such students receive financial aid from the club.

For more information, contact Diana Newton at 263-4204.

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

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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
Thursday, July 12, 2007

IN BRIEF

Wal-Mart, HEB playing for charity

Employees of HEB and Wal-Mart have scheduled a charity softball game at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Cotton Mize field in Comanche Trail Park.

Admission is free and all proceeds made from the concession stands will be donated to charity.

Wal-Mart will be playing for the Boys Club and Relay for Life, while HEB is playing for The United Way.

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 starting Thursday and continuing through July 22. Each team needs to raise \$1,400.

Any person, group or business willing to donate can visit www.bigspringsoftball.com for contact information.

Steers season ticket sales have begun

Big Spring High School have made 2007 Steer football season tickets available for previous season ticket holders at the Athletic Training Center.

Previous holders can purchase their tickets Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until July 24.

Season tickets will be made available to the general public Aug. 8 through Aug. 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Call Kay Cook at 264-3662 with any questions.

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 Saturday and Sunday.

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 shoot-out 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 Saturday and Sunday 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

See **BRIEFS**, Page 2B

Surprise contenders fuel MLB's second half

By **JAY COHEN**

AP Sports Writer

Barry Bonds likely will take down the Hammer's home run record soon. The fates of the surprising Milwaukee Brewers, the World Series champion St. Louis Cardinals and the New York Yankees are far murkier.

With baseball still buzzing about Ichiro Suzuki's sprint around the All-Star bases, the talk turned to the dash to October.

"Now the fun starts," San Diego outfielder Brian Giles said.

Can Alfonso Soriano and Lou Piniella lead the Chicago Cubs

into the playoffs? Will Jake Peavy and the Padres emerge from the packed NL West? Are David Ortiz and the Boston Red Sox going to breeze the rest of the way?

Some things are fairly certain. Surely some trades are on deck before the July 31 deadline — Ken Griffey Jr., anyone?

The second half opens Thursday with Bonds just five homers shy of breaking Hank Aaron's career record of 755. The only question seems to be whether commissioner Bud Selig will be there to see it.

Tom Glavine will start this week going for win No. 298. Alex

Rodriguez is six home runs short of joining the 500 club — Frank Thomas already made it this year. And the Philadelphia Phillies will reach a much bigger and more dubious mark: Their next loss will make them the first team in major league history to drop 10,000 games.

The race for records will soon give way to the chase for playoff spots. Almost half the teams are within 5 1/2 games of a postseason berth, including clubs in two hard-luck cities.

There is joy in Seattle, where the Mariners are just 2 1/2 games behind the Los Angeles Angels after finishing last in the AL

West for three straight seasons. Fans there may get some other good news, too: Suzuki, MVP of the AL's 5-4 win Tuesday night, is close to signing a long-term contract extension.

The summer also is a lot brighter in Milwaukee, where Prince Fielder and the Brewers lead the NL Central by 4 1/2 games over the Chicago Cubs — buoyed by their major league-best 30-13 home mark.

Milwaukee has not finished a season over .500 since 1992 — when it played in the American League.

See **MLB**, Page 2B

New coach Morris leads basketball camp

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

For new Steers head basketball coach Marc Morris, coming to Big Spring was a bit of a homecoming.

"I'm originally from Andrews," said Morris, who was the head coach for Medina Valley's boys basketball program. "West Texas feels a little bit like home."

Morris' first act with the Steers has been conducting the Big Spring Boys Basketball Camps this week in the gymnasium at Big Spring Junior High.

Two camps were held daily since Monday. The first camp was for incoming second through fifth graders and the second held for boys going into sixth through ninth grades.

Morris' goal for both camps is to have fun while teaching the fundamentals of the game.

"With any basketball camp you want to teach fundamentals and just have some fun," he said. "I knew it was a little late in the summer for the camp, but I wanted to hold it. The kids enjoy it and I do too."

However, he also felt it was important to take the older campers through a more advanced camp.

"I want to see the older kids be able to accomplish more advanced aspects of the game," he explained. "It's still important for them to have fun and to know the fundamentals, but I also want them to understand the game better. They need to know why these fundamentals are important to the game."

As for the upcoming basketball season, Morris is excited about

the roster he has coming in.

"I expect these guys to play hard and to compete," he said. "I've seen them play a couple of summer league games and there's definitely something there to work with. I'm very excited about the season."

Morris hopes to improve a team that finished second to last in district play last season. He says that competing for the district title is the top goal next year.

"I know this district can be tough, but I've never heard anyone say that their district is easy," Morris explained. "Every district is competitive so there's no difference here from anywhere else in that regard."

Morris brings a man-to-man defensive philosophy to Big Spring that will occasionally incorporate a full-court press. Offensively, he likes to run multiple sets that will take advantage of his team's strength and his opponent's weaknesses.

As for the camps, Morris has been very involved with the athletes, interacting with them in various drills that vary from shooting drills to just playing a game of knockout.

He has been assisted by Eastern New Mexico's assistant men's basketball coach Austin Duret.

"It's been a fun week," Morris said. "Austin and I usually do this together every summer and we've had a successful first camp in Big Spring so far."

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



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull
Preston Alexander of Big Spring takes a shot at the Big Spring Boys Basketball Camp Wednesday. The camp was led by new Big Spring Steers head basketball coach Marc Morris.

Oklahoma football receives NCAA sanctions

By **MURRAY EVANS**

Associated Press Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma must erase its wins from the 2005 season and will lose two scholarships for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years, the NCAA said Wednesday.

The penalties stem from a case involving two players, including the Sooners' starting quarterback, who were kicked off the team last August for being paid for work they had not performed at a Norman car dealership. The NCAA said Oklahoma was guilty of a "failure to monitor" the employment of the players.

Oklahoma President David Boren said the university will appeal the NCAA's "failure to monitor" finding and the ruling that Oklahoma must erase the wins from the 2005 season. Oklahoma has 15 days to notify the NCAA in writing of any such appeal.

The Sooners went 8-4 and beat Oregon in the Holiday Bowl to end the 2005 season. Records from that season involving quarterback Rhett Bomar and offensive lineman J.D. Quinn must be

erased, the NCAA said, and coach Bob Stoops' career record will be amended to reflect the erased wins, dropping it from 86-19 in eight seasons to 78-19.

Oklahoma also will have two years of probation added to an earlier penalty, extending the Sooners' probation to May 23, 2010.

Those sanctions are in addition to those already self-imposed by Oklahoma, which has banned athletes from working at the car dealership until at least the 2008-09 academic year and moved to prevent the athletes' supervisor at the dealership, Brad McRae, from being involved with the university's athletics program until at least August 2011.

Oklahoma also will reduce the number of football coaches who are allowed to recruit off campus this fall. The Sooners also dismissed Bomar, Quinn and walk-on Jermaine Hardison from the team.

Paul Dee, the athletic director at Miami and the interim chairman of the NCAA Division I

See **OU**, Page 2B



MCT photo/Jim Barcus

Oklahoma quarterback Rhett Bomar (7) fumbles the ball as Kansas Jayhawk defenders bring him down October 15, 2005, at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City. Bomar was kicked off the team after he received a vehicle and funds from a car dealership. OU received sanctions Wednesday that they will appeal due to Bomar's infractions.

Obituaries

Ricardo "Ricky" Torres



Ricardo "Ricky" Torres, 48, of Big Spring, died on Monday, July 9, 2007, at his residence. Funeral services will be held Friday, July 13, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the Rev. Richard Regan, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. A rosary will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Ricky was born on June 21, 1959, in Fort Polk, La. He came to Big Spring in 1975 with his family and graduated in 1979 from Big Spring High School. He received his associate's degree from Howard College and then attended Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. Ricky married Gianna Sanchez on June 15, 1995, in Big Spring. He was an avid supporter of his children in their school and sports activities. Ricky was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Gianna Torres of Big Spring; one son, Seve Watson of Lubbock; three daughters, Ashley Hodge, Mirella Torres and Gabriella Torres, all of Big Spring; three brothers, Marco Torres of Eagle Pass, Rocky Torres of Big Spring and Valentin Torres III of Marshfield, Mass.; one sister, Debra Molina of Big Spring; one grandson, Sonny Larez of Big Spring. He was a loving uncle to several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Valentin Torres Jr. and Amelia Ochotorena Torres.

Pallbearers will be Rocky Torres Jr., Eddie Gonzales, Michael Dutchover, Gustavo Ochotoreno III, Jose Vasquez Jr. and Reynaldo Sanchez Jr. Honorary pallbearers will be Sergio Molina and Seve Watson.

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

Paid obituary

Emma G. 'Trudy' Firkins



Emma G. "Trudy" Firkins, 77, died Saturday, July 7, 2007, at Seton Hospital in Austin. The family will have a small celebration of her life at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 14, 2007, in the fellowship hall at the Birdwell Lane Baptist Church.

She was born on June 7, 1930, to Joseph Marion and Stella Mae Hull in Big Spring. She graduated from Big Spring High School in 1947. She married Ronald Firkins on July 1, 1977, in Big Spring.

She worked at Webb Air Force Base until it closed in the late 1970s. She then moved to Austin to work at the Bergstrom Air Force Base where she retired from Civil Service in 1982.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald Firkins of Austin; one daughter, Lisa Avin and her husband, Doug, of Austin; her mother, Stella Lee of Big Spring; one sister, Twila Myrick of Big Spring; one granddaughter; and one great-grandson. She is also survived by three nieces and several great nieces and great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Joe Hull, in 1979.

The family suggests memorials to the National Kidney Foundation of West Texas, P.O. Box 11062, Midland 79702-1062

Carmen Louise Risetter Rider



Carmen Louise Risetter Rider, 49, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, July 7, 2007, in Covington, La. Memorial services were held Sunday, July 8, 2007, at E.J. Fielding Funeral Home in Covington. Interment will be held in Theodore Dendinger Cemetery at a later date.

She was born Oct. 17, 1958, to Allan and Leah Risetter in Marshalltown, Iowa. She attended Big Spring High School.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel Rider; her daughter, Dana Holliday; a son, Carey Rider; a sister, Laura Averette; two brothers, Stan Risetter and Mark Risetter; and three grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family, P.O. Box 241, Madisonville, La., 70447.

Sign the online guest book at www.ejfieldingfh.com.

Terry Carter

Terry Carter, 80, of Big Spring, died Thursday, July 12, 2007, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **DONALD E. RAYMOND**, 55, transient, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- **HENRY C. HERNANDEZ**, 27, of 710 E. 15th Street, was arrested Wednesday on charges of driving while license invalid and a Howard County warrant.
- **ROBERT R. SANCHEZ**, 43, of 1145 College, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ROCKY TORRES**, 45, of 1301 Lincoln, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **BILLY JOE CHAVERA**, 29, of 1510 Sycamore, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported:
 - in the 300 block of Fifth Street.
 - in the 200 block of Marcy.
- **COUNTERFEIT MONEY** was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported:
 - in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.
- **DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID** was reported:
 - in the 800 block of 15th Street.
 - in the 500 block of Union.
- **RUNAWAY** was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell.
 - in the 200 block of Marcy.
 - in the 200 block of Seventh Street.
- **THEFT FROM PERSON** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 60 inmates at the time of this report.
- **ERIK JOSEPH BEARD**, 21, was transferred to the county jail by the BSPD Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **FRANCISCO JESUS NIETO**, 28, was transferred to the county jail by the BSPD Wednesday on a charge of violation of parole.
- **JERRY DON WATKINS**, 34, was transferred to the county jail by the BSPD Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JAMES RAY KOCSMAR**, 26, was arrested by DPS Wednesday on a motion to adjudicate/racing on highway.
- **JAMEY SCOTT JOHNSON**, 54, was arrested by HCSO Wednesday on a charges assault by threat and disorderly conduct- language.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of NE Ninth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Lloyd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of Wood. Service was refused.

Take Note

• **HOWARD COUNTY COURT**, under Judge Mark J. Barr, has canceled the jury panel for 9 a.m. Friday.

• **SNO CONES FOR SALE**, a fund-raiser for Cornerstone Church, is set for 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday at the west doors of Wal-Mart. Sno cones will also be available 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. July 20 and 27 at the same location. For more information, call the church at 263-3072.

• **THE LAST DAY TO PLACE ANGEL FOOD FOOD ORDERS IS FRIDAY**. Orders may be placed from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. at North Birdwell United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell. Call 267-2203 for more information.

• **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.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.

• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.

• 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 Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior citizens are invited.

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

MONDAY
• The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 6-20-23-24-31-54.
Number matching six of six: 1. Prize: \$18 million.
Winning ticket sold in: Allen.

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 9-13-25-34-36.
Number matching five of five: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-3-4.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the northeast in the afternoon.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows near 70. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Northeast winds around 10 mph in the morning becoming light and variable.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

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

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

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MLB

Continued from Page 1B

"They all have a lot of confidence in their abilities and they all are extremely talented," Brewers manager Ned Yost said. "I'll take my chances with them."

Even for teams like Texas, Cincinnati and Kansas City that seem to be out of contention, the trading deadline could bring hope for the future.

The Rangers, with slugger Mark Teixeira and relievers Eric Gagne and Akinori Otsuka, could be major players. And the Reds are bound to get a

few calls, with Adam Dunn among those available for contenders looking for a boost.

The Yankees could be buyers or sellers with their string of nine straight division titles in trouble.

Despite the considerable efforts of Rodriguez — the major league leader with 30 homers and 86 RBIs — New York (42-43) was 10 games back of AL East-leading Boston and under .500 at the break for the first time since 1995.

The Yankees haven't missed the playoffs since 1994 — when the postseason was wiped out by a strike.

"We've got a long way to go," shortstop Derek Jeter said.

Consistency has eluded the Cardinals, 7 1/2 games behind the Brewers in the Central. They dealt with the alcohol-related death of pitcher Josh Hancock in late April and skipper Tony La Russa's drunken driving arrest during spring training, and now have something else to overcome.

Star Albert Pujols was upset that La Russa, the NL manager, didn't use him in the All-Star game. Instead, the 2005 MVP merely watched when Aaron Rowand flied out with the bases loaded to end the game.

Pujols and the Cardinals beat Detroit last year in the World Series, and the Tigers are back again.

Detroit leads the AL Central, regarded by many as the best division in the majors, and second-place Cleveland is in front for the wild card. Minnesota, which charged to the division title last year, is eight back of the Tigers.

Aces C.C. Sabathia of Cleveland, Justin Verlander of Detroit and Johan Santana of Minnesota also are strong contenders for the Cy Young Award.

"We treaded water pretty good," said Tigers manager Jim Leyland, whose team could get a boost when injured relievers Fernando Rodney and Joel Zumaya return. "We need to get some things ironed out in the

second half. They went through a lot in the first half, but this stuff is just revving up now."

Seattle won three of four at Oakland to close out the first half and is just 1 1/2 games behind Cleveland for the wild card. New manager John McLaren, promoted when Mike Hargrove abruptly retired July 1, doesn't see why his team can't be a factor late in the season.

"The second half you can smell it more," he said. "Our goal is to make the playoffs and go from there."

All three races in the NL are tight, with just 7 1/2 games total separating the first two teams in each division.

OU

Continued from Page 1B

Committee on Infractions, said Oklahoma will be allowed to keep the money it received for playing in the 2005 Holiday Bowl, because the NCAA does not regulate bowl games.

"Although this case centered on a few violations involving three student-athletes, the committee finds this case to be significant and serious for several reasons," the NCAA report said, noting the length of time of the violations and the fact that Oklahoma had appeared before the committee in April 2006 regarding violations in its men's basketball program.

On Aug. 3 — the day before the Sooners began preseason practice — Stoops dismissed Bomar and Quinn from the team

after the university determined they had been paid for work not performed at Big Red Sports and Imports.

That led to an NCAA investigation, which found that Bomar, Quinn and Hardison had been paid for time they did not work at the car dealership and that Hardison had received payment for time he spent participating in a scrimmage and spring game.

The players and McRae engaged "in a deliberate scheme to deceive both the employer's payroll system and the university's employment monitoring system in an attempt to violate NCAA rules of which they were real aware," the report stated.

The committee found that Oklahoma "demonstrated a failure to monitor" the employment of several athletes, including some football players who worked during the academic year. The

NCAA said that failure led to the university not detecting NCAA rules violations.

During the investigation, the university disputed that allegation, arguing that the NCAA should applaud, not penalize, its efforts to root out violations and noted that NCAA president Myles Brand told one news outlet that the university "acted with integrity in taking swift and decisive action" in the case.

Dee said Wednesday that Oklahoma should be praised for quickly dismissing the players from the team, calling that action "very influential on the committee."

Still, the committee said that Oklahoma should have undertaken more extensive efforts to monitor the players' employment, because the dealership apparently was the largest employer of Oklahoma athletes.

Boren disagreed, saying in a statement that "any mistakes made by the athletic department compliance staff while monitoring would not have prevented the intentional wrongdoing by the student athletes and the employer involved."

Stoops said he "strongly supported" Boren's decision to appeal.

"Our current team is focused on the upcoming season," Stoops said. "The university is dealing with a matter that relates to the 2005 season. This group of players and those that will join our program later have no reason to be concerned about our goals or the direction of our program. Those things remain unchanged."

Both Bomar and Quinn lost a season of eligibility. Bomar has been ordered by the NCAA to pay back more than \$7,400 in extra benefits to charity, while Quinn was told to pay

back more than \$8,100. Both players transferred to Division I-AA schools — Bomar to Sam Houston State and Quinn to Montana — where they can resume their careers this season.

Through Sam Houston State athletic department spokesman Paul Ridings, Bomar declined comment Wednesday.

When reached on his cell phone, Quinn said he did not pay any attention to the infractions committee's ruling on Oklahoma, calling it "dumb" and referring to it with an expletive.

"I have no idea," Quinn said. "I don't care."

Oklahoma officials also appeared before the Committee on Infractions

in April 2006 following an investigation into hundreds of improper recruiting phone calls by former basketball coach Kelvin Sampson's staff.

Oklahoma escaped major sanctions in that case, as the infractions committee also found the university guilty of a "failure to monitor," a less severe ruling than "lack of institutional control," which had been recommended by the NCAA's enforcement staff.

The committee mostly accepted the university's self-imposed sanctions, which included reductions in scholarships, recruiting calls and trips and visits to the school by prospective recruits.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

\$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 or Jimmie Wood at 267-8676.

Howard County Golf Championship set

The 2007 Howard County Championship golf tournament has been set to take place July 27-29 at the Big Spring Country Club.

The format is 54-holes individual stroke play and all participants must have been a Howard County resident prior to Jan. 1, 2007.

Entry fee \$75 per player plus a \$30 cart fee. Prizes will be given for gross

and net scores with the field being pre-flighted based on handicap.

The championship flight will break into two flights after the first round

A senior division will be made for those over 70. The lowest score for a country club member will be club champion.

Tee times will be set for Friday and Saturday with a 1 p.m. shotgun on Sunday. A barbecue lunch will be served Saturday.

To enter or for other information, call the country club at 267-5354.

O.H. Ivie opening hunting to public

Application for public hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Rervoir Wildlife Management Areas will be accepted by mail only beginning Monday and ending Aug. 17.

Permits will be limited. A public drawing for the 2007 hunting season will

be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 14 at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Field Office located near the north end of the dam. All applicants are welcome to attend, if they desire.

Requests for information and application packets should be made by calling the Colorado River Municipal Water District (CRMWD) at 267-6341. Or write to CRMWD, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, Texas, 79721 with attention to public hunting.

Magers-Powell camp scheduled

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

The camp is scheduled for July 30-Aug. 1 with

sessions for middle school players from 9 a.m. to noon.

The high school players' session from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

The fee will be \$125 per player.

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

Texas Tech schedules camps

Tech's High Altitude Cross Country Camp will be held Aug. 6-10 in Cloudcroft, N.M.

For more information, call Jon Murray at (806)742-3355 or e-mail him at jonathan.murray@ttu.edu.

Visit TexasTech.com for more information.

**MINUTES OF COUNTY FINANCES
TREASURER'S REPORT**

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY FINANCES IN THE HANDS OF TERESA THOMAS
TREASURER OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS' COURT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS
IN REGULAR SESSION
JULY TERM 2007

IN ACCORDANCE with Section 114.026, Local Government Code, we, the undersigned, constituting the entire Commissioners Court of said County, certify that on the 9th day of July, 2007 at the Regular term of Court, we compared and examined the monthly report of TERESA THOMAS, Treasurer of Howard County, Texas, for June, 2007, and finding the same correct, entered an order in the Minutes approving said Report, which states total cash and other assets on hand as \$5,546,451.07.

Mark Barr, County Judge
Emma Brown, Commissioner, Pct. 1
Jerry Kilgore, Commissioner, Pct. 2
W.B. "Bill" Crooker, Commissioner, Pct. 3
Gary Simer, Commissioner, Pct. 4

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, by Mark Barr, County Judge, and County Commissioners of said Howard County, each respectively, on this the 9th day of July, 2007.

Attest: Donna Wright, County Clerk

FILED FOR RECORD THIS 19th DAY OF JULY 2007, and recorded on the 9th day of July, A.D. 2007

Donna Wright,
County Clerk and
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners
Court in and for Howard County, Texas

30261

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

Contract Bridge

Defusing a Threat

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 2
♥ K 10 5
♦ K 6 2
♣ 10 9 8 4

WEST
♠ K 9 8 6 4
♥ 8 3 2
♦ Q J 4
♣ Q 3

EAST
♠ 7
♥ 9 7 6 4
♦ A 10 7 3
♣ 7 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ J 10 5 3
♥ A Q J
♦ 9 8 5
♣ A K J

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT All Pass
Opening lead — six of spades.

When and when not to finesse is one of the most common problems encountered by declarer. Its very frequency of occurrence makes this segment of the game a subject worthy of close study.

Consider this deal where West led a spade against three notrump, taken by South with the ten. Assuming West had the spade king, declarer could count three spade tricks, three hearts and two clubs as sure winners, leaving him one trick short of his goal.

South saw there were two ways he might acquire a ninth trick. One was to play West for the ace of diamonds, in which case a lead toward the king would produce trick number

nine. The other was to finesse against East for the queen of clubs.

Since it was too dangerous to test the diamond situation first, South cashed the ace of clubs at trick two, entered dummy with the queen of spades and led a club to the jack.

Unfortunately, the jack lost to the queen, and West, having no other hope, shifted to the queen of diamonds. The defense then rattled off four diamond tricks, and declarer went down one.

Of course, if South had known the actual club situation, he would have cashed the A-K, caught the queen and made four notrump. The question is whether South should have played in this fashion without the benefit of a peek at the East-West cards.

Strange as it might seem, this is the right line of play. If the matter is considered objectively, it is clear that South should not have taken a club finesse.

Obviously, the basis for the finesse is the hope that East was dealt the queen of clubs. But if this is actually the case, declarer is sure to make the contract by playing the A-K-J of clubs. East may take the queen if he has it, but dummy's ten becomes South's ninth trick without running the risk of West gaining the lead for the potentially fatal diamond shift.

At the same time, cashing the A-K guards against West's having started with the Q-x of clubs, and thereby adds significantly to South's overall chances.

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Opportunity is a call away! Call Don Hood @ 432-263-2366 EOE & AA Employer M/F/D/V

GROWING Home Health Agency needs a Full Time LVN to cover Big Spring and Surrounding Areas, great benefits and paid time off. Please apply at 1714 Gregg Street or call 432-263-3800 for Applications. EOE.

NEED SALES/ Lot Help, 87 Auto Sales. Apply in person, 111 Gregg Street.

Help Wanted
HELP WANTED
Electricians Helper. Must have clean driving record. Drug test required. Salary based on experience. Benefits available.
Southern True Value Lumber and Hardware 900 College Avenue, Snyder, Tx 79549 325-573-4903

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Position available for person with experience selling lumber and hardware. Must have clean driving record. Drug test required. Salary based on experience. Benefits available.
Southern True Value Lumber and Hardware 900 College Avenue, Snyder, Tx 79549 325-573-4903

IMMEDIATE OPENING at FCI Big Spring, Tx. for License Vocational Nurse. Fax or email resume, license, certification, and salary request. To 1-800-331-0631 or info. at magnificuscorp.com

IMMEDIATE OPENING for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 7 days- 7 days off. Must have own car. Apply 1208 Gregg Street or 208 11th Place.

PART-TIME POSITION- apply at Jack & Jill Child Care, 1708 Nolan.

Help Wanted
IN-HOME CAREGIVER
Comfort Keepers is seeking kind, caring & personable individuals to provide non-medical in-home care to the elderly. Full & Part time positions available. Flexible schedule. CNA's preferred but not required. Please give us a call Yvonne at (432)264-1111.

LOOKING FOR mature and reliable person to work in Dental Office. No experience necessary. Will train. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1551, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now hiring for the following positions:
LVN - Charge Nurse 6-2 & 10-6 Shift
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Great working environment and competitive salary. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.,

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POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid training, vacations. PT/FT. 1-866-795-4058 USWA.

Help Wanted
NEED EXPERIENCED Heavy Equipment Operator, (All phases of dirt work- Oilfield & agricultural), for a Big Spring Company, work mainly within 60 miles of Big Spring. Must be able to pass drug test. Competitive pay and benefits, please call (432) 238-7650.

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Now hiring English & Bilingual Customer Care Representative. StarTek is offering Great NEW pay rates and benefits. Come by 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 30 or call 432-264-2700

NOW HIRING Bartenders and Cocktail waitresses. Must be 18. Call the San Franciscan Bar & Grill at (432)267-1767 or 213-0946.

TAKING APPLICATIONS: Experienced only Diesel/ Gasoline Mechanic. Must have valid Driver License. Excellent pay plus commission for experienced person. Tire Tech. Pay according to experience. Must be 21 or older. Apply in person only. Don's Tire & Truck Service Inc., South Service Rd. I-20 Exit 178, Big Spring. No Phone Calls!

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NOW SEEKING Full time position for Martin County Home Health. Full time LVN with full benefits. Also seeking position for PRN CNA. If interested in any of these positions please contact Allison Williams, RN @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

TAKING APPLICATIONS: Counter Person with computer and tire knowledge. Excellent pay for experience. Apply in person only. No phone calls. Don's Tire & Truck Service Inc. South Service Rd. I-20 Exit 178 Big Spring, Texas

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PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Center Now accepting applications for Quality Assurance Nurse/ Assistant Director of Nursing
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* Good People skills a must
* Long Term Care experience preferred
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WANTED EXPERIENCED cashier, must be able to work Saturdays. Hours 9:30am-6:30pm. Apply in person only at Bargain Mart, 403 Runnels.

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

WIND FARM Professionals Air-ricity, renewable energy world leader, needs: Technicians 2 to 8 years of experience, w/ Associate Degree for West Texas sites. Senior operations Engineer 6 years of experience w/ BS in engineering for Austin, Texas. For more info see www.airricity.com Send resume and cover letter to barbara.andersoncarr@airricity.com

Items for Sale

"NEXT SATURDAY: 7/14/07 9am-1pm Only American Limestone has stone panels, bits & pieces at low cost. Corner of 1st Ave. and Wright Ave., Southeast side in Air Park".

Lost and Found

LOST TERRIER like dog, lost in the 11th place and FM 700 area, has collar with green vet tag, goes by Berkley. Looks like Benji. Call (432)413-5707.

Miscellaneous

ABSOLUTE BARGAIN, queen pillowtop mattress set, in plastic warranty. \$149. (806)549-3110.

ADJUSTABLE BED, memory foam mattress, manufacturer clearance, warranty, list \$1999. Sell \$999. FIVE LIFT. 806-549-3110.

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MICROFIBER SOFA, loveseat, 3 pc table set, \$499. BRAND NEW. Sell this week. 806-549-3110.

MUST SELL, king pillowtop mattress and box. \$249. Brand new, forfeit. Can Deliver, 806-549-3110.

SACRIFICE WINSOR all wood bedroom set. Beautiful \$699. Still boxed. 806-549-3110.

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Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal District, will be received at the District's office, P.O. Box 869, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until Thursday, August 2, 2007 at 3:00 pm for the purchase of the following:

Fixed Power Capacitors- Phase II
At this time the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender unopened. Contract Documents may be examined at the District's offices during normal business hours, examined for no cost or purchased for \$30.00 per set at the following address: Freese and Nichols, Inc. 4055 International Plaza, Suite 200 Fort Worth, Texas 76109-4895 Attention: Construction Services Phone: (817) 735-7300
A bid security bond shall as set forth on the Instructions to Bidders, Performance, and Payment Bonds are required for this contract and shall be executed on the forms provided within the Contract Documents.

In case of ambiguity or lack of clarity in stating proposed prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous construction thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities. No bid may be withdrawn within sixty (60) days from the bid opening date.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
John W. Grant
General manager
#5423 July 5, 12 & 19, 2007

su | do | ku
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ANSWERS

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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Gather your thought seedlings as the breezy Gemini moon moves into nurturing Cancer.

Tend those ideas like you would a garden. Water the good ones with inspiration, and use the discarded ones for rich fertilizer.

There's no need to eliminate one for the other; it's all in the mix because this Cancer moon is extraordinarily resourceful.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your work will be art when it's done. But right now it's still in progress. Genius will be arrived at once you've completed myriad tweaks, fixes and alterations. Tinker away.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Thoughts about the house, the car and the ability to pay your credit card at the end of the month supersede everything love-related. Until tonight. Blow it all off and do something lavishly romantic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're a minimalist at heart. All you need is a purpose and a cell phone. But it doesn't hurt to also have a posse you can share your good news with at the end of the day.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Someone crass may be distracting you from your high-minded pursuit. Look at this as a test of your fortitude. Keep going. Do your best to ignore the fact that we're one chromosome away from primates.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Yes, there are a few loveable flubs you'll have to deal with, but so what? You can't expect yourself to be fabulous at everything. Revel in your experiments. Find the fun

in your flops. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Enjoy a neutral state of non-judgment. Getting too emotionally involved would be counterproductive to the tasks at hand, which are even more important than usual and might include saving the galaxy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Friends ask you to mediate or give advice because they know you'll be fair. It's nice to be respected. If they actually do what you tell them to do, their problem will go away.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Could you go an entire day without uttering the word "I"? If you could, your selflessness would paradoxically promote your cause quite well. Be an invisible supporter of others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't have to look for trouble; it finds you. Be astute — it might be disguised as someone knocking at your door with flowers and candy. In which case, you'll know not to invite it in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Life's biggest challenge is convincing yourself you are who they think you are. After all, you said you were who they think you are, so you must have believed it at some point.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your needs are important. Act on them now. If you wait too long, the opportunity is lost and you'll find yourself pampering others instead. Out-of-town guests are a possibility.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Some consider you a guru. This isn't what you wanted when you asked the powers that be to make you wise. Once you step off the pedestal others have placed you on, you start having more fun.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPIC: THE NEW MOON IN CANCER. Moon-watching is food for thought, as Saturday's Cancer new moon is upon us already, and it's a powerful time for tuning in to the rhythm of what comes next. Cancer's timing is predictable and basic. She magnetizes our physical bodies to plant and grow roots for our familial and vegetable gardens. I think she's just a farm girl at heart, a simple gal who knows when to water and when to wait, when to pick the ripe fruit and when to let it fall and rot. I call her simple, but she's no plain Jane. Ancient Cretan moon goddesses were sculpted with snakes and bulls. The snake is the mysterious animal associated with death and transformation; the bull, with abundant resources. Her ability to thrive in life and death, to be continually reborn, is an internal process of the psyche, and that's why psychotherapy is Cancer's realm. To live in "lunar consciousness" is to slow down and listen to the pitter-patter of your insides, to notice the rise and fall of your own soul-movements. Carve out a chunk of "me" time, and notice your outflow and inflow. The Cancer new moon knows that without first emptying we can never truly be full.

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 Annie: I moved away from home when I was 19 because I couldn't live with my mother anymore. She was controlling, had double standards for my brother and me, and was just a very unhappy person. As a kid, I always felt I was walking on eggshells around her. I love my mother, but once I left, I never wanted to go back.

After a year of not being able to find work, my mother moved in with my family. She had nowhere else to go, so we told her she could stay with us while she looked for a job. She found a temporary position and has kept it for over a year. The problem is that the company won't hire her on a permanent basis. She says she is sending out resumes, but can't get an interview because she is 62 years old. Mom makes good money as a temp, but it is not a secure position.

My kids are now suffering the same anxieties I felt as a child. Mom has alienated their friends, and they ask me daily when she is going to move out. I confronted my mother about her negativity and lack of patience, and she's made an effort, but it's not enough.

I want my life back, but Mom has no one else. My brother cut off contact and lives in another state. Mom has no friends, because she doesn't accept that people have faults. How long do I have to do this? I don't want to hurt her, but why should my family suffer because Mom can't get along with anyone? —



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Frustrated in California

Dear Frustrated: Your mother is a healthy adult with a decent job, and you are not responsible for her housing. Tell Mom she is welcome to visit often, but it's time she had a place of her own. Help her go through the want ads and online listings, pack her up and get her out of there. If she loses her temp job and can't find another, you can revisit the situation then.

Dear Annie: Can you please ask people to stop demanding "Show your teeth" when taking photographs? Not all of us are lucky enough to have a nice smile, and having our photo taken is already a difficult experience. My parents are the worst offenders. I try to put on my "best face," but their admonishments make me want to cry. Happy occasions turn into torments of self-conscious embarrassment. They are trying to tell me my smile is all right, but we all know it isn't, and harassing me isn't going to make it better. Please help them

understand how hurtful their remarks can be. — Shutter Shy

Dear Shutter Shy: You can't stop your parents from thinking you are attractive. To them, you are. Since a smile is so important in interpersonal relationships, it would be a shame if you spent the rest of your life in self-conscious avoidance. Is it possible your smile is not nearly as awful as you think? Can you check with your dentist and see if the "flaws" can be fixed? It might be worth saving your money to have a smile that makes you eager to "show your teeth."

Dear Annie: "Not So Grand" found out she hadn't been invited to a birthday party for her son and made an unkind remark to her granddaughter about it. Her daughter-in-law now limits contact and insisted Grandma fax a letter of apology to her son. It was admirable that Grandma did so. I suggest the next time she writes a check for the granddaughter's preschool, she fax it instead of mailing it. — Another Grandparent

Dear Grandparent: Cute, but we think a tit-for-tat approach, while satisfying, is ultimately counterproductive. Sometimes you just have to swallow your misery for the sake of the relationship — or what's left of it.

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

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State briefs

Suspected AWOL soldier arrested in store robbery

WESLACO (AP) — A soldier suspected of going absent without leave is accused of robbing a convenience store while wearing his camouflage uniform.

Jose Davila, 21, was charged with aggravated robbery on Wednesday after turning himself in, said Weslaco police spokesman David Molina.

Davila was supposed to report to Fort Jackson in South Carolina a week ago, Molina said. Investigators say Davila told them he was dealing with personal problems and didn't want to be in the Army.

Police say the convenience store clerk wrote down the license plate of the car driven by a man who threatened him with a screwdriver and demanded cash early Wednesday. The information led police to Davila's mother, who gave officers a photo of her son. The clerk then identified Davila as the man who robbed the store, Molina said.

Harris County to send hundreds of inmates to La.

HOUSTON (AP) — As many as 400 Harris County inmates could be sent to a private facility in north-east Louisiana as part of a plan to deal with a surge in prisoners.

The first group of Harris County inmates will be transferred Friday to the West Carroll Detention Center in Epps, La., said Clay Lee,

chief executive of Shreveport-based Emerald Correctional Management, the facility's operator. Harris County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Mike Smith declined to confirm when the prisoners would be transferred to West Carroll, about 400 miles from Houston.

The inmates selected for transfer have been convicted of state jail felonies, which allows judges to sentence them to a county lockup instead of a state prison.

Harris County had 9,974 inmates on Wednesday, Smith said. The figure exceeded the inmate capacity by about 900, but the Texas Commission on Jail Standards gave the Harris County Sheriff's Office temporary permission to house up to 1,050 inmates.

Earlier this month, the sheriff's office told the commission it would need to transfer up to several hundred prisoners to maintain compliance.

South Dakota executes prison inmate for torture slaying

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 25-year-old East Texas native was executed by lethal injection Wednesday for the torture and slaying of a teenager who was forced to drink hydrochloric acid in a robbery. It was the state's first execution in 60 years.

Elijah Page gave up his appeals and asked to die for the 2000 murder of Chester Allan Poage, 19, who was also stabbed, kicked and bashed with large rocks in a tor-

ture session at a gulch that lasted two to three hours.

Page, of Athens, Texas, died at 10:11 p.m. from a lethal injection administered at the South Dakota State Penitentiary.

He had no last words, warden Doug Weber said.

Gov. Mike Rounds postponed Page's execution last year over concerns that a 1984 state law requiring the use of a two-drug mixture could put prison officials at legal risk if they instead administered a three-drug combination that is now the standard.

State lawmakers amended the law to allow prison officials to use whatever lethal injection mixture they choose, clearing the way for the executions of Page and the state's three other death row inmates to proceed.

19 arrested in raids at Swift plants

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Nineteen people were arrested at Swift & Co. meatpacking plants around the country as part of a sweep involving illegal immigrant workers at the plants, according to a spokesman for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Agents made the arrests Tuesday in Cactus, Texas; Marshalltown, Iowa; Grand Island, Neb.; Worthington, Minn.; Greeley, Colo.; and Hyrum, Utah; where Swift has plants. They involved current or former Swift workers suspected of identity theft, ICE officials said in a news release.

44-year-old released from hospital

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A Big Spring man who was hospitalized following a pursuit with local law enforcement was released from a Lubbock hospital Tuesday, with the investigation into the matter ongoing.

Perry Wells, 44, a transient, was life-flighted to a Lubbock hospital after a chase that ended with the suspect allegedly inflicting a serious stab wound to his left arm with a pocket knife, according to law enforcement officials.

According to Sheriff Dale Walker, Wells allegedly stole a vehicle registered to BlastMasters Inc. parked outside Big Mike's Liquor Store on East Highway 350 Friday afternoon.

Walker said Wells took the vehicle to an area near the Uncle's convenience store on the Interstate Highway 20 North Service Road, with the vehicle's owner apparently chasing him,

where he abandoned the truck.

"He fled east on foot from the convenience store along the service road looking for a place to hide, crossing the highway," said Walker. "The sheriff's office was notified and a foot pursuit followed. He had a pocketknife, and he cut himself pretty badly along his left arm. It was a self-inflicted wound. He had lost a lot of blood."

Wells was taken by ambulance to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and was later transported to Lubbock.

According to Howard County Chief Deputy Mark Hall, the investigation into the matter is ongoing.

"No charges have been filed against Wells at this time," said Hall.

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

PROGRAM

Continued from Page 1A

Monday through Friday." The camp itself runs through Aug. 24 from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. It's an opportunity for parents to get some low-cost child care.

"We understand the need parents have, especially during the summer months, and we're here to help," Sparrow explained, noting that many of the classes will be educational.

"We have a career launch program ... as well as a money matters class to help teach them good financial skills," Sparrow said. "We have programs for children of all ages concerning good eating habits and the importance of exercise, along with many other teaching tools."

Child registration for the day camp is simple. No birth certificates, Social Security information or employment records are necessary. However, parents need to bring a list of allergies their child might have,

medications and emergency contact numbers.

"We have a lot of people ask us if there's a sliding scale for the cost of the program or a waiting list," said Sparrow. "However, there's neither. There's no waiting list at all. Parents can bring their children to camp whenever they wish, during times of day that fit their schedule, as long as they pick them up at the end of the day on

time." And while the program is running smoothly, Sparrow said the Salvation Army has hit something of a snag when it comes to feeding 100-plus children each day.

"It's an ongoing struggle to feed the children," said Sparrow. "We certainly could use support from the community, whether it's a donation of volunteer time, money or food. Any of them would be a

great asset to the program."

For more information, contact Sparrow at 264-0455.

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

REUNION

Continued from Page 1A

awarded to the first, second and third place floats. Certificates will be awarded to the best non-theme float and class reunion float.

The parade will feature a "mystery rider" and reunion-goers can cast their ballot in the drug store to guess who it is.

Following the parade will be games — bubble gum blowing, egg toss and tortilla toss — at the pavilion under the direction of the Martin County Cheerleaders. Concessions will be available. Rho XI will provide a hamburger chips and a drink for \$6. Other drinks will be sold for \$1.

The third annual Sandy Land V8 and Antique Tractor Pull will begin at 1 p.m. at the Farmer's Co-op Gin. "If you haven't attended this event in the past, plan on going and enjoying a full afternoon of exciting competition and see these unique tractors in action," said Lewis.

Each year, the Martin county Museum chooses a family to be honored during the Old Settlers Reunion. Selected this year is the Caleb and Sarah Louder family. A reception in their honor will be held from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the museum.

- Other events include:
- Tours of the Connell Home and Museum from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 - Entertainment at the community center from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
 - The annual Old Settlers meal in the community center at 6 p.m.

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Baseball Throw, Canes, Cascarones, Duck Pond, Ring the Bottle, Cake Walk, Wheel of Fortune
Saturday, July 14, 2007
LIVE MUSIC - Band
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Saturday, July 14, 2007
KITCHEN (Little Restaurant) (Inside Parish Hall) From: 11:00 am till ?
Gordita Plates
Asado Plates
Burritos
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4th Annual St.Thomas Mid-Summer Festival Washer Tournament
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Family Night
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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

Aggie auction set Saturday needs support

While we have already addressed the importance of Saturday's Aggie Scholarship Auction being staged by the Howard County A&M Club in this space, we couldn't pass up the chance to once again offer our endorsement. Everyone knows we're suckers for a good cause, anyway.

That's because the *Herald* reflects its community, and there's absolutely no question that good causes always seem to bring out the best in Howard Countians. As we have noted before, all you have to do is name the cause — United Way, Relay for Life, the Heart Walk — whenever a need is seen, our community always steps up and answers the call.

Saturday night the A&M Club will hold its eighth annual Aggie Scholarship Auction at the Big Spring Country Club, raising money for scholarships it bestows on deserving local students.

Festivities will start at 5:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres being served. That's also when the items go on display, with the auction beginning at 6:30.

A&M Club members stress the auction is not just for local Aggies, but for anyone who wants to attend. To that end, organizers always have items that will appeal to the general sports fan and music fans, as well as those die-hard Aggies.

Even died-in-the-wool University of Texas Longhorns see the importance of Saturday's auction. We know this, of course, because one of them sits on the *Herald's* editorial board.

Auction items include a hand-crafted barbecue grill club members have nicknamed the "Bevo Burner"; vacation trips to San Antonio and Pagosa Springs, Colo.; a framed jersey signed by Texas A&M great and Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow; helicopter and hang-glider rides; tickets to Texas A&M football games; and a number of other items from across the sports spectrum, including autographed Dallas Cowboys photos.

Currently 15 students from Howard County are attending Texas A&M University, thanks to financial aid received from the club.

In fact, since 2000, the club has donated almost \$200,000 to Texas A&M, endowing six scholarships that will live in perpetuity. Another of those endowed scholarships will be up for naming during Saturday's auction with bidding on that honor starting at \$5,000.

Remember, two things seem certain, judging from the club's previous seven auctions: First, anyone who attends Saturday's auction will enjoy themselves.

Second, and more importantly, simply attending and having that good time will allow you have a part in making sure deserving students from Big Spring and Howard County receive a college education they might otherwise not be able to afford.

Call it a no-brainer, a win-win situation or whatever you like, but we here at the *Herald* encourage all our readers to make the most of it.

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we listen and see Your logic to a problem, Lord.
Amen

Libby's clemency is justified

Understand the angst of certain rule of law proponents upset by President Bush's commutation of Scooter Libby's conviction. But most of the people outraged by it have no credibility, since they were utterly indifferent to the Clintons' habitual mockery of the rule of law and prolific and shady abuse of the pardon power during their co-presidency.

As the president clearly has the constitutional authority to pardon or commute sentences for almost any reason, the issue isn't one of authority, but propriety.

As a rule of law conservative I don't take lightly such executive interventions in the judicial process, believing our judicial system depends on the integrity of our jury system and the impartial administration of justice.

I understand that it might appear like cronyism for the president, after the justice system has taken its course to convict and sentence a member of his administration, to reduce the sentence, especially given the president's affirmations of confidence in the special prosecutor handling the case.

That said, I still believe Scooter Libby is a worthy candidate for clemency and even pardon. This case has never been about Libby. He has merely been the scapegoat for the Bush-hating left, which has been lusty to criminalize the administration over the president's fraudulently alleged misrepresentations about Iraqi WMD.

Thus, when the news broke that someone had leaked the identity of Joe Wilson's allegedly, but doubtfully covert CIA spouse, Valerie Plame, liberals immediately adopted the irreversible assumption that the "leak" was orchestrated by the administration and implemented by one or more of its key players.

But we know beyond any doubt that Richard Armitage, not Libby, was the leaker. Since Libby had committed no "underlying" crime, he had no motive to commit perjury. He had nothing to cover up.

Nevertheless, Special Prosecutor Fitzgerald was able to secure a perjury conviction against Libby based on inconsistent statements he made involving conversations he'd had. Others also caught in inconsistent statements were not only not charged with perjury, but lavished with praise by the mainstream media.

Libby represents the liberals' pound of flesh for Bush's mythical WMD lies. Driven by the very sordid type of revenge motive they falsely projected onto the administration, they scapegoated Libby. To this day, these liberals don't care about perjury — they nearly glorified it during the Clinton years. This is still about the leak. Yet there was no administration leak.

If I were Bush, I would pardon Libby because I don't believe he is guilty and I don't believe he should have to shoulder the punishment for the liberals' fabricated Bush-lied "crime." I believe that at worst, Libby's memory is fallible, like all the rest of us. If I believed he actually lied deliberately to the court — I wouldn't favor clemency.

But think about this. By commuting Libby's sentence, or pardoning him, Bush is hurting himself in order to grant mercy to someone else. Regardless of conservative support for leniency, history books will doubtlessly record this as a cloud on Bush's integrity.

The Clintons, by contrast, abused the pardon power to help themselves, their family, friends and contributors. Their use of the power differed in kind rather than degree with Bush's.

We've recently been reminded of the rash of Clinton pardons at the close of their second term in exchange for political contributions and other self-serving rea-

sons. But even before that black mark on America's presidential history, I chronicled in my first book Clinton's abuse of the power to pardon FALN terrorists to boost Hillary's popularity with Puerto Rican voters in her New York Senate race.

He did so, even though the Justice Department's recently released Five-Year Interagency Counterterrorism and Technology Crime Plan concluded the release of FALN members would heighten the risk of domestic terrorism. He did so, despite the opposition of the FBI, the Bureau of Prisons and various United States attorneys. He did so despite the fact that between 1974 and 1983, FALN bombed more than 130 American military, business, and political "targets," the most devastating of which killed four and injured more than 60 in lower Manhattan in 1975.

Scooter Libby represents a threat to no one. Yet the liberals who are squealing the loudest about Libby are the very ones who pooh poohed Clinton's abuses and ignored his FALN and other indisputably improper pardons.

For all the talk about Bush violating procedure by granting clemency before Libby formally requested it, the Clintons set the precedent on that practice as well, proceeding with the FALN pardons before they were requested. And if you needed further proof, the Clintons' pardons were politically motivated, understand that they even took the unprecedented action of recruiting people like Jimmy Carter to lobby them for the pardons.

Two wrongs don't make a right. But I truly don't believe Libby's clemency is wrong or selfishly motivated.

There is no question that many of the Clintons' were.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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Bias profitable and feels so good

Everyone's a Candidate; Against whom I'll, Discriminate.

Can you imagine the billions that taxpayers have saved by only weakly trying to beef up black and Latino education? Or the huge relief that many parents feel in sending their kids off to a virtually all-white school? These sentiments remain powerful discriminatory forces in our society. Because of them, the United States remains virtually as segregated as it was in 1954 (the year of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court case, which struck down legal segregation in public schools).

In similar vein, our businesses traditionally save money by short-changing women. Paying them less than men is an old dodge, recently upheld in its practical application by the Supreme Court. Not that employers demean women in quite the same relentless fashion that they do blacks, but if you can save a buck on them, why not?

An equally hateful bias infects the military's prohibition of gays. Lord knows we crave more soldiers just now, but bigotry is so ingrained in the armed forces that generals hold fast despite the crying need for reform.

Some blessed progress is plainly underway politically, however, as

the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff just got canned for anti-gay statements. Times do gradually change.

For civilians that change comes a trifle faster. Both New Jersey and New Hampshire have now joined Connecticut in sanctifying civil unions, and Massachusetts has successfully fought to hold onto court-ordered gay marriage. It's a generational thing.

But even though gays are gradually joining polite society, and Don Imus got dumped, and Latinos are making headway at the polling place, nonetheless blacks remain in nowhereville. Of course, we're talking real money here. A Marshall Plan for minority education is not likely to sell because you and I would have to pay. And we're certainly not going to integrate suddenly our communities just so blacks can have better schools. We've worked hard to hang out on the right side of the segregation line and by cracker, we're not giving it up anytime soon.

Fortunately, the elimination of bias in health care has a more likely future. Blacks and Latinos have long suffered it, but they're not alone. More and more poor whites are enduring it too. So now, the demonstrated greed in the health industry is driving a grassroots movement toward total reform. Several states have already taken big steps in that direction. Ironically, when universal coverage comes along, minorities will be the biggest beneficiaries.

But overall, one depressing

aspect of bias is that so many of us feel free to engage in it. Just who are all those barbarians who listen to Don Imus and other shock jocks?

And who are those voters seeking constitutional bans on gay marriage? Who indeed buys all those violent anti-immigrant video games? OK, so maybe you and I don't know them personally, but don't bet on it. Fortunately, they're at last starting to take heat.

Meanwhile the larger basic problems — votes and money — show no sign of abatement. In fact, they're getting worse. Alberto Gonzales and company remain busy exaggerating voter fraud cases in poor neighborhoods in order to justify fierce new rules suppressing the minority vote. Likewise, draconian drug laws put armies of non-whites in jail, far from the ballot box. And Texas gerrymanders unconscionably along racial lines.

In the end, such actions have greatly reduced non-white political power, making discrimination easy. Zoning regulations, school budgets, police behavior, empty labor laws, feeble insurance rules, and toothless lending protections are all badly stacked against minorities.

We remain the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave only if you're white.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

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Vroom with a VUE

Saturn SUV excels in power, handling

By **MARK PHELAN**

Detroit Free Press

I don't usually think of a German accent as appealing and inviting — unless it's Marlene Dietrich throatily singing "Lili Marlene" or "Falling in Love Again," of course.

To an untutored ear everything in German can sound like a command.

Which made it surprising when the pretty gray SUV rolled into my driveway and murmured "Ich bin ein 2008 Saturn Vue."

"Ja?"

"Ja."
The 2008 Vue is the latest sign that Saturn's symbiotic relationship with General Motors' German Opel brand is a very good thing. The basic platform — Theta in GM-speak — carries over from the original Vue, which went on sale in

2001.

The pieces you touch and see, however, are all new and virtually identical to the European Opel Antara SUV.

The outgoing 2007 Saturn Vue wasn't ugly, but its upright sides, with big gaps between its plastic body panels, were nothing like this svelte SUV with the lustrous dove-gray paint job.

The old Vue's owners generally liked it, but it won them with a low price and Saturn's huggable dealers more than any hint of curb appeal.

Die neue Vue's appeal rests on looks, comfort, power and handling. It's no longer the price leader among small SUVs, but it's competitively priced, and its looks and handling have a European panache that make it an appealing alternative to stalwarts like the Honda



MCT handout

The 2008 Saturn Vue XR offers quiet running, nearly immune to wind and tire noise.

CR-V and Toyota RAV4.

Prices for the 2008 Vue start at \$20,770 for a four-cylinder front-wheel-drive model with a 169-horsepower 2.4-liter engine and four-speed automatic transmission. The least expensive all-wheel-drive model costs \$23,890 and offers a 215-horsepower 3.5-liter V6 and four-speed automatic transmission.

The 257-horsepower 3.6-liter V6 is teamed with GM's new six-speed automatic transmission. Prices start at a very attractive \$24,270 for front-drive and \$26,270 for all-wheel-drive.

A Redline model that adds sporty interior and exterior looks to the 257-horsepower engine goes on sale later this year with sticker prices of \$26,770 for front-drive and \$28,770 AWD. Saturn expects about 40 percent of Vue sales to be front-drive.

I tested two Vues, but this review draws mainly from a week in a very well-equipped all-wheel-drive XR model with the 3.6-liter V6, six-speed transmission, leather upholstery, a touch screen navigation system and many other features that stickered at \$30,470.

The Vue's prices align with its key competitors: the Ford Escape, CR-V, Hyundai Tucson and RAV4. The CR-V is available only with a four-cylinder engine; the others all offer a choice or four-cylinder or V6 power.

All are available with front- or all-wheel-drive, though neither they nor



ride, a quiet and comfortable cabin, a long list of standard safety features and a sporty road-hugging feel that makes fast drives on twisty country roads a treat.

The Vue is intended for serious off-road use.

Saturn will offer two different hybrid systems in the Vue this year and next. They will be welcome additions to the lineup, because the 2008 Vue's fuel economy trails the CR-V and RAV4.

Because it's a 2008 model, the Vue is the only one in the group that tested under the new tougher EPA fuel economy procedure. You could safely add 1 to 2 mpg to its results if it were an '07 model, and you can reasonably assume the competitors' ratings will fall 1 or 2 mpg for the '08 models.

Even with that fudge factor, though, a 2007 front-drive CR-V's 23 city/30 highway and an '07 FWD RAV4 V6 22 city/29 highway clearly beat the '08 Vue. The Saturn came in a 19/26 city/highway for a front-drive four-cylinder and 16/24 for a front-drive 3.6-liter.

That's at least partly due to the Vue's weight, which runs 200 to 300 pounds more than the others.

There are plenty of benefits that come with the extra weight, however, including a very smooth

response were excellent, although it's worth noting that I only tested the hydraulic steering system V6 models get.

An electric power-steering system comes with the four-cylinder engine. There's no reason the electric system shouldn't feel just as good as the hydraulic, but I can't testify to that.

I can speak to the overall driving dynamics though, and they are excellent. The Vue is the most enjoyable small SUV in its price class to drive, both on highways and curving country lanes. The brakes are excellent, with very good pedal feel and plenty of stopping power.

Passenger room is good, with plenty of leg and headroom. The Vue's 29.2 cubic feet of cargo space behind the rear seats trails the CRV and Escape, and RAV4s that don't feature the Toyota's optional third-row seat.

The materials trimming the interior are very good, with appealing colors, soft surfaces and good fits throughout.

The leather seats in the Vue I drove for most of my test were comfortable, but I found a seam low in the seat back of cloth-upholstered seats troublesome in a shorter drive in another Vue.

Like the Vue's shapely exterior, the interior controls come directly from Opel's German design studios, and they are very good, particularly steering-wheel-mounted cruise controls that are probably the simplest and most logical in the auto industry.

The interior didn't offer a couple of useful features that \$32,470 should cover, however: memory seats and a telescoping steering wheel.

The Vue's style, comfort, handling and value easily outweigh its shortcomings, however.

The latest German-bred Saturn should amaze owners of the old Vue and draw more converts to GM's transatlantic brand.

"Ist gut?"

Ist gut.

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2008 SATURN VUE XR AWD

Vehicle type: All-wheel-drive five-seat SUV
Base price: \$26,220 (excluding destination charges)
As tested: \$30,470

Standard equipment: Antilock brakes; electronic brake force distribution; electronic stability control; disengaging collapsing pedals; active head restraints; curtain air bags; front-seat-mounted side air bags; tire-pressure monitor; dual seatbelt pretensioners; power locks and windows; hydraulic power steering; 17-inch alloy wheels; dual exhaust with stainless steel tips; cruise control; remote keyless entry; eight-way power driver's seat with manual adjustable lumbar support; leather-wrapped steering wheel; power heated sideview mirrors; external temperature display; lighted vanity mirror; automatic climate control; roof rack; intermittent rear wiper; twilight-sensing headlights; front fog lights; split folding rear seat; AM/FM/CD stereo with adjustable speed-sensitive volume and MP3 jack.

Options: DVD navigation system; advanced audio system; rain-sensing windshield wipers; heated windshield fluid; remote start, universal home remote; leather seats; heated front seats; leather-wrapped shift knob; tap-shift transmission.

Specifications as tested

Engine: 3.6-liter DOHC 24-valve V6
Power: 257 horsepower at 6,500 r.p.m., 248 pound-feet of torque at 2,100 r.p.m.
Transmission: Six-speed automatic
Fuel economy: 16 mpg city/22 mpg highway
Wheelbase: 106.6 inches
Length: 180.1 inches
Width: 72.8 inches
Height: 67.0 inches
Curb weight: 4,325 pounds
Where assembled: Ramos Arizpe, Mexico

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

There seems to be an overabundance of television programs about remodeling houses. Some shows emphasize how quickly a room can be redone. Some programs stress how cheaply a house can be remodeled. Many of these home improvement shows leave me perplexed.

For starters, why are people not content with what they already have? Also, who says the new look is better than the original? Furthermore, when did the definition of cheap get hijacked by inflation? Of course, I also wonder if house improvement automatically translates into home improvement!

Do you really want an improved home? How about, "...a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." (2 Corinthians 5:1) In the words of Jesus, "...I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2) That home is not cheap - it cost the blood of Jesus Christ. Praise God that home needs no improvement!

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LADY BIRD

Continued from Page 1A

She spent her final hours in her Austin home, beside family and friends who sang hymns, read from the Bible and reminisced, he said. Dr. Marci Roy, a neurologist who treated Mrs. Johnson for several years, said in a statement released by the family that it was the most peaceful death one could hope for.

"It's the end of a long, well-lived life," Roy said.

Mrs. Johnson returned home late last month after a week at Seton Medical Center, where she'd been admitted for a low-grade fever.

She was hospitalized with a stroke in 2002 that made speaking difficult. But even after that she continued to make public appearances and in May attended an event at the LBJ Library and Museum featuring historian Robert Dallek.

Her love for the environment and the preservation of native plants and wildflowers

remained, despite her medical setbacks. She occasionally visited the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center she founded and delighted in the wildflowers around Austin's Town Lake.

On her 70th birthday, in 1982, she and Helen Hayes founded the National Wildflower Research Center near Austin, later renamed for the former first lady. The research and education center is dedicated to the preservation and use of wildflowers and native plants.

"I'm optimistic that the world of native plants will not only survive, but will thrive for environmental and economic reasons, and for reasons of the heart. Beauty in nature nourishes us and brings joy to the human spirit," Lady Bird Johnson once wrote.

Though she once turned down a class medal because of her fear of public speaking, she joined in every one of her husband's campaigns. She was soft-spoken but rarely lost her composure, despite heckling and grueling campaign schedules. She once appeared for 47 speeches in four days.

"How Lady Bird can do all the things she does without ever stubbing her toe, I'll just never know, because I sure stub mine sometimes," her husband once said.

Mrs. Johnson said her husband "bullied, shoved, pushed and loved me into being more outgoing, more of an achiever. I gave him comfort, tenderness and some judgment — at least I think I did."

She was her husband's chief supporter when he challenged John F. Kennedy unsuccessfully in 1960 for the Democratic presidential nomination, although she confessed privately she would rather be home in Texas.

Lyndon Johnson's nomination as vice president on Kennedy's ticket drew her deep into a national campaign. She stumped through 11 Southern states, mostly alone, making speeches at whistle stops in her soft drawl.

The Johnsons were propelled into the White House with the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination of Kennedy in Dallas.

"Lady Bird Johnson was a wonderful First Lady and one of the kindest and most caring and compassionate people I've ever met in politics," Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., said in a statement Wednesday. "She was a great friend to the Kennedy family, in both good times and bad, and



Lady Bird Johnson, second from left, stands beside her husband, Lyndon Baines Johnson, as he takes the Presidential Oath of Office aboard Air Force One following the assassination of John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963 in Dallas. Mrs. Kennedy is shown at right.

we cherished every moment we spent with her."

In her book "A White House Diary," she recalled seeing Jacqueline Kennedy with her husband's blood still on her dress and leg. "Somehow that was one of the most poignant sights — that immaculate woman, exquisitely dressed, and caked in blood," she wrote.

President Bush and first lady Laura Bush remembered Mrs. Johnson as a "warm and gracious woman."

"President Johnson once called her a woman of 'ideals, principles, intelligence, and refinement.' She remained so throughout their life together, and in the many years given to her afterward," President Bush said.

Other former first ladies remembered Johnson on Wednesday as deeply devoted to her family and the environment.

"Her beautification programs benefited the entire nation. She translated her love for the land and the environment into a lifetime of achievement," Betty Ford said.

Nancy Reagan said that when Lyndon Johnson was called upon to take the oath of office in the face of tragedy after the assassination, "he did so with his courageous wife beside him." She said Lady Bird Johnson served the nation with honor and dignity.

"I believe above all else that Lady Bird will always be remembered as a loyal and devoted wife, a loving and caring mother and a proud and nurturing grandmother," Reagan said.

Born Claudia Alta Taylor, the daughter of a Texas rancher, Mrs. Johnson spent 34 years in Washington while her husband held the offices of congressional secretary, U.S. representative, senator, vice president and president.

President Johnson died in 1973, just four years after leaving office. Faced with growing civil unrest and challenges from within his own Democratic Party over his Vietnam War policies, he had declined to seek re-election in 1968.

The couple had two daughters, Lynda Bird, born in 1944, and Luci Baines, born in 1947. The couple returned to Texas after the presidency, and Mrs. Johnson lived for more than 30 years in and near Austin.

"I think we all love see-

ing those we love loved well, and Austin has loved my mother very well. This community has been so caring," Luci Baines Johnson said in an interview with The Associated Press in December 2001.

"People often ask me about walking in her shadow, following in the footsteps of somebody like Lady Bird Johnson," she said. "My mother made her own unique imprint on this land."

Former President George H.W. Bush recalled that when he was a freshman Republican congressman from Texas in the 1960s, Mrs. Johnson and the president welcomed him to Washington with kindness, despite their political differences.

"Like all Americans, but especially those of us who call Texas home, we loved Lady Bird," Bush said Wednesday.

As first lady, she was perhaps best known as the determined environmentalist who wanted roadside billboards and junkyards replaced with trees and wildflowers. She raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to beautify Washington. The \$320 million Highway Beautification Bill, passed in 1965, was known as "The Lady Bird Bill," and she made speeches and lobbied Congress to win its passage.

"Every American owes her a debt of gratitude because it was her devotion to the environment that brought us the Beautification Act of 1965 and the scenic roadside development and environmental cleanup efforts that followed ...," former President Bill Clinton and Sen. Hillary Clinton said in a statement. The Clintons also praised her for supporting her husband's "fights for civil rights and against poverty."

Former President Carter said he and his wife, Rosalynn, remember her "empathy for the disadvantaged. Many people's lives are better today because she championed with enthusiasm civil rights and programs for children and the poor."

Harry Middleton, retired director of the LBJ Library and Museum, once credited Mrs. Johnson with putting environmental issues on the public stage in the 1960s.

"So she figures mightily, I think, in the history of the country if for no other reason than that

alone," Middleton said.

She also had a cool head for business, turning a modest sum of money into a multimillion-dollar radio corporation in Austin that flourished under family ownership for more than a half-century. With a \$17,500 inheritance from her mother, she purchased a small, faltering radio station in 1942 in Austin. The family business later expanded into television and banking.

"She was very hands-on. She literally mopped the floor, and she sold radio time," Luci Baines Johnson said of her mother's early days in business.

Her White House years were filled with the tur-

bulence of the Vietnam War era.

The first lady often would speak her fears and hopes into a tape recorder, and some of the transcripts were included in the 2001 book "Reaching for Glory, Lyndon Johnson's Secret White House Tapes, 1964-1965," edited by historian Michael Beschloss.

"How much can they tear us down?" she wondered in 1965 as criticism of the Vietnam War worsened. "And what effect might it have on the way we appear in history?"

She quoted her husband as saying: "I can't get out. And I can't finish it with what I have got. And I don't know what the hell to do."



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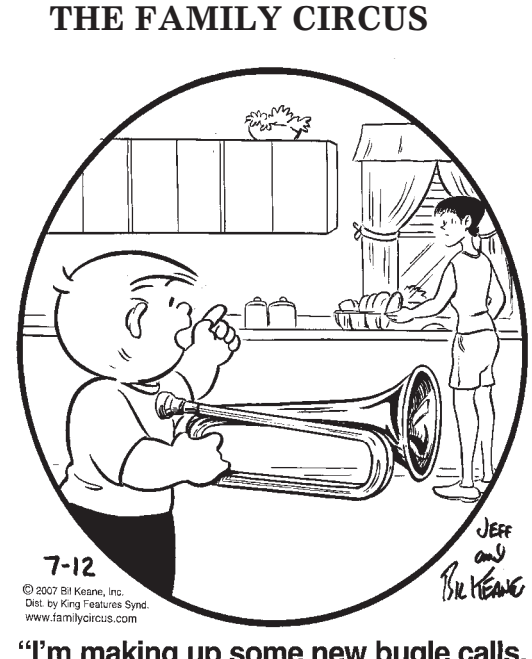


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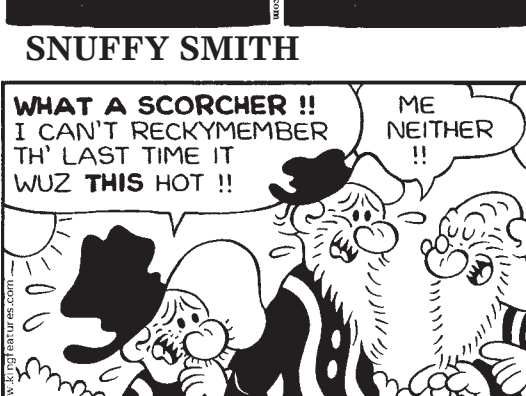
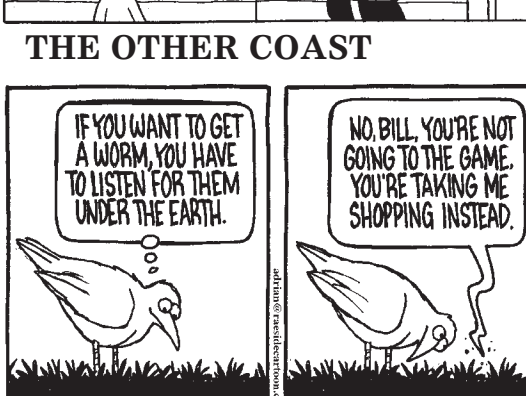
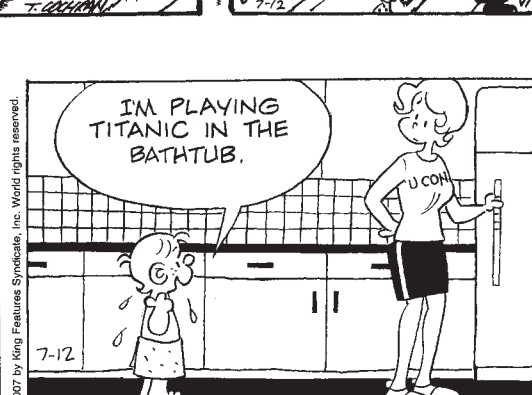
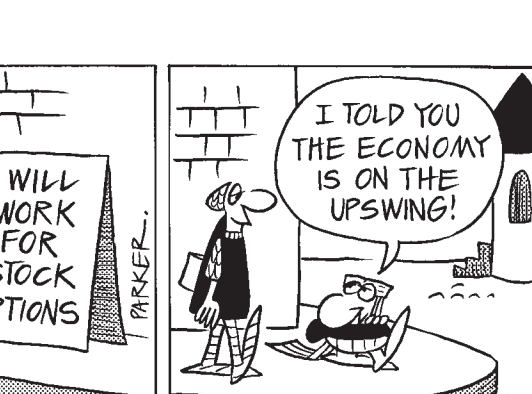
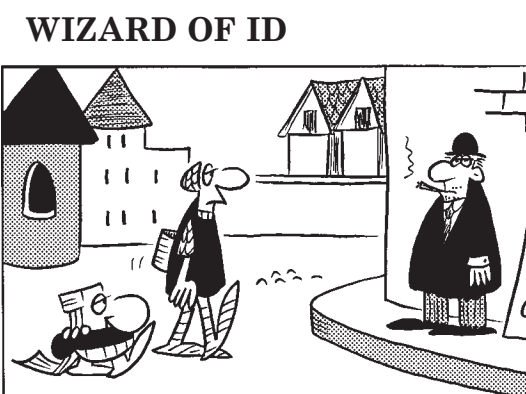
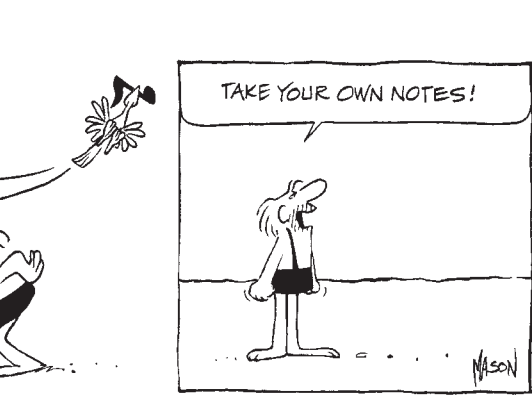
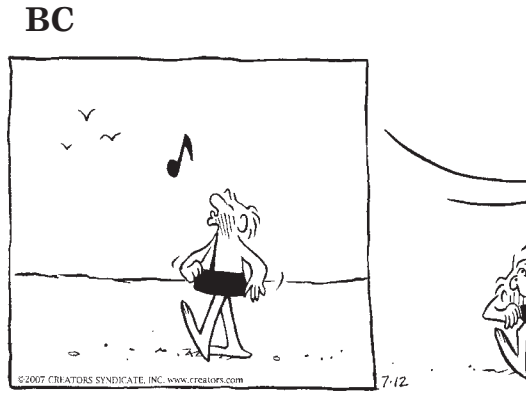
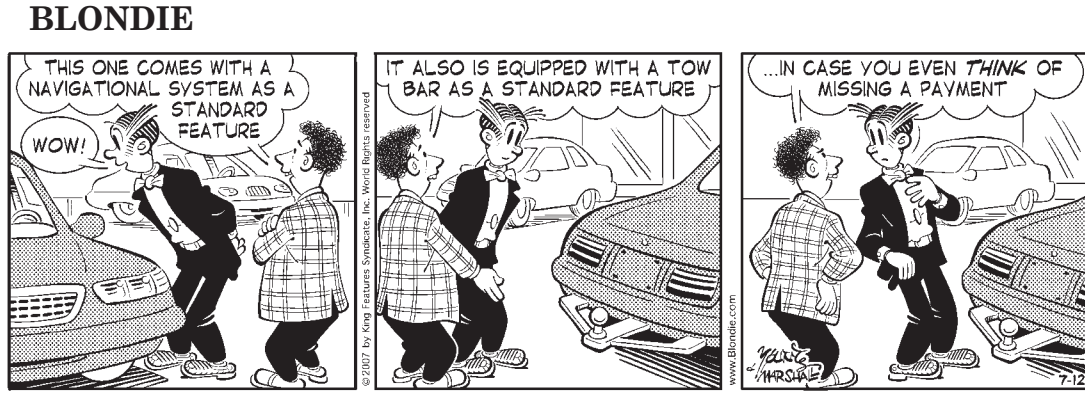
	WFDA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:30 PM	News (CC) Entertainment	News Wheel-Fortune	Duelo de Pasiones	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Entertainment	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Build It Bigger		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Homicide: Life on the Street	Live (CC) Hell Date	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	MLL Lacrosse: Philadelphia at	Softball: World Cup--	Movie: Tidal Wave: No
7:30 PM	Ugly Betty (CC)	Ugly Betty (CC)	Yo Amo a Juan	You Smarter? Don't Forget	Big Brother 8 (CC)	Madre Luna	My Name Is Earl (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Sid Roth	TX Mnthly Talk Session	Dirty Jobs	Movie: There's Something	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Carpet Access	Movie: Read It and Weep	New Jersey	U.S. vs. Venezuela	Escape (CC)
8:30 PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Destilando Amor	You Can Dance	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Zorro - La Espada y la Rosa	The Office 30 Rock	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Deadliest Catch	About Mary	TNA Wrestling Impact! (CC)	Movie: The Bourne	The Parkers The Parkers	(CC) Replacements	MLS Soccer: Houston	ESPN Ultimate NASCAR	Movie: Dark Storm (CC)
9:30 PM	Men in Trees (CC)	Men in Trees (CC)	Aqui y Ahora	Becker (CC) Friends (CC)	Shark (CC)	La Esclava Isaura	The Office Scrubs (CC)	Movie: Cheaper by		Soundstage (CC)	After the Catch	National	UFC Unleashed	Supremacy (CC)	Comicview (CC)	That's-Raven Life Derek	Dynamo at Chicago Fire	Baseball Tonight	
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	the Dozen (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Lampoon's European	UFC Unleashed	Movie: Donnie Brasco (CC)	Take the Cake (CC)	Zack & Cody Han. Montana	The Bronx Is Burning (CC)	SportsCenter NFL Live	The Roswell Crash:
11:30 PM	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Bus.-Timbriche Hora de-Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	12 Corazones ¡Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night- Show	:10 Movie: Houseguest	Betty Swann Y. Salamanca	Sign Off	Dirty Jobs	Vacation :45 Movie: Mr. Mom	Whacked Out Whacked Out		The Five Jamie Fox	Replacements Kim Possible	NASCAR Now 2007 World	Baseball NFL Live	Starting New Evidence
12:30 AM	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Mercury Media	El Privilegio de Amar	Malcolm-Mid. My Wife-Kids	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Update/Israel Light-World			Deadliest Catch		Raising Roofs The Dudesons	Movie: Ronin	BET After Dark (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	Series of Poker 2007 World	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone



"I'll bet when Mr. Wilson was in school, he got an A+ in 'Rest Period!'"



"I'm making up some new bugle calls, Mommy. Wanna hear cookie call?"



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, July 12, the 193rd day of 2007. There are 172 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On July 12, 1862, Congress authorized the Medal of Honor.

On this date:
In 100 B.C., Roman dictator Julius Caesar was born.
In 1543, England's King Henry VIII married his sixth and last wife, Catherine Parr.
In 1690, forces led by William of Orange defeated the army of James II at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland.
In 1812, U.S. forces led by Gen. William Hull entered Canada during the War of 1812 against Britain. (However, Hull retreated shortly thereafter to Detroit.)
In 1817, naturalist-author Henry David Thoreau was

born in Concord, Mass.
In 1854, George Eastman, inventor of the Kodak camera and film, was born in Waterville, N.Y.
In 1948, the Democratic National Convention opened in Philadelphia.
In 1977, President Jimmy Carter defended Supreme Court decisions limiting government payments for poor women's abortions, saying, "There are many things in life that are not fair."
In 1984, Democratic presidential candidate Walter F. Mondale announced he had chosen U.S. Rep. Geraldine A. Ferraro of New York to be his running-mate; Ferraro was the first woman to run for vice president on a major-party ticket.
In 1993, some 200 people were killed when an earthquake measuring a magnitude of 7.8 struck northern Japan and triggered a tsunami.

Today's Birthdays: Artist Andrew Wyeth is 90. Movie director Monte Hellman is 75. Pianist Van Cliburn is 73. Comedian Bill Cosby is 70. Singer-musician

Christine McVie is 64. Actress Denise Nicholas is 63. Singer-songwriter Butch Hancock is 62. Fitness guru Richard Simmons is 59. Actor Jay Thomas is 59. Singer Walter Egan is 59. Actress Cheryl Ladd is 56. Country singer Julie Miller is 51. Gospel singer Sandi Patty is 51. Actress Mel Harris is 50. Actor Buddy Foster is 50. Rock guitarist Dan Murphy (Soul Asylum) is 45. Rock singer Robin Wilson is 42. Actress Lisa Nicole Carson is 38. Olympic gold medal figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi is 36. Country singer Shannon Lawson is 34.

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Answer to previous puzzle

S	H	A	F	T	B	O	O	T	S	S	T	E
S	A	M	O	A	A	L	V	I	N	P	A	S
S	H	A	R	P	C	H	E	E	S	E	R	X
S	E	N	I	O	R	E	D	I	C	E		
D	A	N	A	B	A	S	E	R	E	C	O	N
I	T	A	L	I	C	M	A	S	S	E		
D	O	T	E	D	R	O	O	F	I	G	O	R
O	N	T	S	P	E	C	T	R	A			
K	E	Y	S		S	I	T	E	E	R	O	D
B	E	G	I	N	E	R	A	S	E			
T	R	U	E	R	S	T	A	R	T	E	N	S
T	A	M	P	A		T	O	N	I	C	S	
O	O	P		S	M	A	R	T	C	O	O	K
P	U	P		P	E	T	R	O		G	U	E
S	I	L	O		S	T	E	E	N		S	T

Newsday Crossword

SEARCHES by Bruce Venzke
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Minor players
 - 5 Tooth trouble
 - 9 Aristotle's teacher
 - 14 Bruins' sch.
 - 15 Ichabod's rival
 - 16 Ready to be played
 - 17 Place for supplies
 - 19 Dye-job choice
 - 20 Searches
 - 22 Gridiron gains: Abbr.
 - 23 "You da ___!"
 - 24 Like falling off a log
 - 25 Accomplished
 - 26 Talk online
 - 28 Kiwi's extinct kin
 - 31 His and her
 - 34 Not of the cloth
 - 35 Ones in office
 - 36 Searches
 - 39 Microbrewery output
 - 40 Till compartment
 - 41 Evaluate, as ore
 - 42 72, often
 - 43 Grub
 - 44 "Ta-ta!"
 - 45 Polite fellow
 - 47 Sharp turn
 - 48 Tach letters
 - 51 Searches
 - 55 Painter
 - 56 Legendary swashbuckler
 - 57 One in a rush
- DOWN**
- 1 Like some jobs
 - 2 Group of eight
 - 3 Paint finish
 - 4 '30s First Mother sea
 - 5 Across the sea
 - 6 Sing like Bing
 - 7 Smeen's boss
 - 8 Austen novel
 - 9 WWII vessel
 - 10 Whoppers
 - 11 Unknown phrase
 - 12 Keep an eye on
 - 13 Unmatched
 - 18 Twain's New York home
 - 21 Get through to
 - 25 Makes indistinct
 - 26 Social worker's load
 - 27 Top songs
 - 29 Gymnast
 - 30 Very pale
 - 31 Duffer's worry
 - 32 Storytelling dance
 - 33 Coming-out
 - 34 Season of repentance
 - 35 Affection
 - 37 Unwilling blame-takers
 - 38 Sci-fi zapper
 - 43 Intact
 - 44 Treated gently
 - 46 Like some pitchers
 - 47 Football ref
 - 48 French river
 - 49 Lowly laborers
 - 50 Early PC program
 - 51 Swain
 - 52 Tonsorial touch-up
 - 53 Sharpen
 - 54 Pillow cover
 - 55 Day divs.

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