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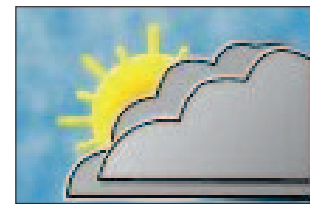
Ritchey era begins tonight for Steers

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Pediatrician Dr. Kimberly Saenz
Board Certified In Pediatrics
Relocating To
1501 West 11th Suite 206
(In The Malone Hogan Clinic)
SEPTEMBER 1
432-714-4950

BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY
AUGUST 31, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 237

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

BSISD board OKs \$28.5 million budget

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees formally approved a \$28.5 million budget for the coming fiscal year during a special meeting Thursday evening.

The budget features a 33-cent decrease in the district's tax rate, which is compensated by an

increase in both state aid and a sharp rise in property valuations in the district, officials said.

Following state mandates, the district slashed its tax rate to \$1.10 per \$100 valuation, meaning owners of property valued at \$100,000 will pay \$330 less than owners of similarly valued property last year.

However, because of increased valuations, taxes on average-priced property within the district will be virtually unchanged, said Assistant Business Manager Tommy Gibson.

Superintendent Michael Downes said a dispute between the Alon USA refinery and the county tax appraisal board over

the refinery's assigned valuation of \$320 million will have little effect on this year's budget.

"This year, because of the disputed valuations from last year, we will lose \$126,000 in state aid ... But we had planned on that," Downes said. "Even with the shortfall, we've got a good budget this year. Next year, however,



"This year, because of the disputed valuations from last year, we will lose \$126,000 in state aid ... But we had planned on that."

—Superintendent Michael Downes

may be a different story." Highlights in the budget include teacher pay raises, bus and vehicle pur-

chases and installation of lights at both the high

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

ISD caught in middle of tax dispute

Alon USA's battle with appraisal district may cost Big Spring district \$1 million

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Barring a settlement between Big Spring's Alon USA refinery and Howard County tax appraisal district, the Big Spring Independent School District could lose more than \$1 million over the next two years.

BSISD trustees learned that bit of glum news during a special meeting Thursday night in the high school board room.

Alon and the appraisal board are currently locked in a dispute over a \$320 million appraisal levied against the refinery this year. Last year's appraisal of \$130 million is still unresolved as well.

Stuck in the middle are Big Spring ISD and other

"We know we owe more taxes than we are currently paying. The issue is what the tax valuation at the refinery should be."

—David Foster, refinery manager



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Big Spring Independent School District Assistant Business Manager Tommy Gibson, second from left, is joined by, from left, Assistant Superintendent Carie Dunnam, Business Manager Sandra Waggoner and Superintendent Michael Downes during a reception in Gibson's honor this morning. Gibson is leaving BSISD to become director of administration and support services at Glen Rose ISD.

Labor Day motorists to pay less for gasoline

Compared to 2006, according to AAA

HOUSTON (AP) — Most Texas motorists will pay less for gasoline this Labor Day weekend than last year, according to a weekly survey released Friday.

According to the AAA Texas gas price survey, regular self-serve gas averaged \$2.66 per gallon in 11 Texas cities. That was 3 cents less than last week and 4 cents less than last year.

Nationally, regular self-serve averaged \$2.77 per gallon, 1 cent less than last week but 2 cents more than last year.

Amarillo and Corpus Christi were the only cities of the 11 in the survey with gas prices averaging more than this time last year. Amarillo still had the state's costliest gas at \$2.93 per gallon, 3 cents more than last week and 17 cents more than a year ago. Corpus Christi has the state's cheapest gas at \$2.57 per

See **GAS**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

State Rep. Joe Heflin announced that Willia Ledford will head up his office in Big Spring as soon as he receives approval from the state and finds a location.

Ledford to head Sen. Heflin's local office when state gives OK

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

If State Rep. Joe Heflin was looking for a big town woman with a small town heart to man his forthcoming Big Spring office, he certainly found it in local resident Willia Ledford.

Heflin announced this week Ledford will head up his Big Spring office.

"As you know, this district is very large. We have 16 counties," said Heflin. "I have an office in Crosbyton, which is my home town, and I felt it was very important to have someone here in Big Spring, which is the southern end of this district. I met Willia and made the decision she was the right person. She's very neutral, she

knows everyone and she's very aware of what's going on in town. She's very smart."

The local office is awaiting approval from the state, according to Heflin.

"In the state of Texas we have to get approval for everything," said Heflin. "So we're in the process of getting approval to

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B
Friday, August 31, 2007

IN BRIEF

Area high school sports calendar

Here's a listing of this week's area high school varsity sports calendar:

Today

Big Spring football at Odessa High, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football at Reagan County, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan football at Kermit, 7:30 p.m.

Grady football vs. Sanderson, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football at Grape Creek, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring volleyball at Seminole Tournament. First game vs. Monahans, 11 a.m.

Saturday

Sands football vs. Spur at the Jayton Classic, 1:30 p.m.

Garden City football vs. Calvert in Hico, 1:30 p.m.

Forsan season passes available

Forsan ISD is selling Football Family Season Passes until Sept. 7.

The passes are good for any junior high, junior varsity or varsity home game and covers all immediate family members.

The cost is \$40. Tickets may be purchased through the superintendent's office from 8-12 and 1-4 Monday through Friday.

Contact Judy Park at 457-2223, ext. 2, with any questions.

Howard College schedules Battle of the Cheerleaders

Howard College is the place to be Sept. 15.

The Battle of the Cheerleaders will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

All area high schools have been invited to compete. There will be both cheer and dance competitions.

Top cheer, dance and mascot awards will be presented.

Admission is free for the public, who is invited to stick around after the Battle of a community pep rally.

All area schools and communities are invited to participate. Each school will be given the opportunity to recognize their student athletes.

A spirit stick will be awarded to the community/school showing the most spirit.

QB Club meeting set for Monday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its weekly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

Contact Denise Carillo at 816-1685 or Frank Stiles at 270-3041 for more details.

Crossroads Youth Football sign-ups

The Crossroads Youth Football Association have begun their sign-ups for the 2007 season.

While there will be no more early registration dates, a late registration day will be Saturday.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3B

My holiday season begins

It's the most wonderful time of the year.

Yes. Right now. Christmas, Thanksgiving, or any other holiday cannot compare to joy and giddiness I feel at the start of football's regular season.

It's at every level — high school, college and pro. I just want to watch football games



JONATHAN HULL

that count for something. That's why I watched LSU's 45-0 romp of Mississippi State last night. That's why I'm so pumped to see the beginning of the Mike Ritchey era, when the Big Spring Steers take on Odessa High tonight.

There's also the fact that I'll be watching my first football game in Ratliff Stadium as well. The allure of that historical emblem of West Texas football has escaped me until tonight.

The NFL's regular season begins Thursday. How could

any true, die-hard football fan say that this isn't the best time of the year? I will say that the Christmas season comes close, but it's not even my favorite holiday anymore.

Give me Thanksgiving. Tons of turkey and every other sort of food imaginable and then throw in some football. That's a fat man's dream! The nicest part is that I'll be blessed with great college football the Friday after, when conference foes start pounding on each other.

The next four months are my

favorite of the year. It is a football fan's holiday season.

However, I do prefer one of the levels of football over the others.

While I can't wait to see the Dallas Cowboys take the field next week and keep up with my 25 fantasy football teams, I definitely prefer the college game over the NFL.

I'm probably in the minority there, but there's something about the game seeming more

See **SEASON**, Page 2B

Big Spring football's Ritchey era begins tonight



Big Spring quarterback Tyler Tannehill (10) warms up before the Steers' scrimmage with Pampa Aug 24. as new head football coach Mike Ritchey watches in the background. The Steers open their regular season against Odessa High at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Ratliff Stadium.

HERALD photo/Ken Hollandsworth

Rangers sweep Chicago

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Ozzie Guillen was tapping his fingers on the desk only moments after the Chicago White Sox dropped 20 games below .500 for the first time since 1989. He even smiled.

No rant from the volatile manager, even after the White Sox committed four errors in one inning and lost 5-1 to Texas as the Rangers completed a three-game sweep Thursday night.

"I never as a manager am going to get on somebody for making physical errors on the field. I never did, never will," Guillen said. "That's part of the game."

Sammy Sosa hit his 606th home run and had an RBI single for the Rangers, who won their season-best fifth straight game on the same day they exercised their 2009 option on rookie manager Ron Washington's contract.

Kevin Millwood (9-11) allowed one run in seven innings to win for the second time in six August starts. He struck out six.

Before the game, Guillen reiterated how frustrated he is with his team, the World Series champion two years ago but now last in the AL Central at 57-77. His mood was drastically different afterward.

Rookie third baseman Andy Gonzalez made three throwing errors and John Danks (6-13) had one when the Rangers scored three unearned runs in the third to break a 1-all tie and go ahead

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

Vikings dominate Dallas' backups in last preseason game

By **JON KRAWCZYNSKI**

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Brooks Bollinger had to feel the heat.

Two days after his shaky performance in Seattle, the Minnesota Vikings traded for veteran Kelly Holcomb, putting Bollinger's status as backup quarterback in jeopardy.

In the Vikings' preseason finale against Dallas on Thursday night, Bollinger made his case for the job.

Bollinger threw for 109 yards and a touchdown in just under two quarters of Minnesota's 23-14 victory over the Cowboys.

"You know at that position you're going to have some ups and downs," Vikings coach Brad Childress said. "The biggest thing in this deal was how he was going to bounce back. You get measured more by that than getting knocked down. It's how you get up. So I was happy for him

that he had some success."

Cowboys quarterback Matt Moore was also impressive after fumbling the exchange on his second snap of the game. He completed nine of his first 10 passes and finished with 94 yards and a touchdown in a performance that may have won him the No. 3 job.

"With the time that I had in there, I think I made some plays," Moore said. "I made some mistakes, but they're things I can learn from."

The rookie from Oregon State lost two fumbles, but showed impressive poise and an accurate arm throughout, completing 14 of 19 passes. He entered the game leading the race for the final quarterback spot against Richard Bartel, who completed his first six passes, but lost a fumble and threw an interception in the final nine minutes of the fourth quarter.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 3B



MCT photo/Jim Gehrz/Minneapolis Star Tribune

Minnesota Vikings Marcus McCauley knocks the ball out of the hands of Dallas Cowboys receiver Jerheme Urban (15) in the first quarter of a NFL preseason football game Thursday at the Metrodome in Minneapolis. Greg Blue (31) of the Vikings recovered the fumble.

Obituaries

Juanita Rodriguez-Whately



Juanita Rodriguez-Whately, 87, of Big Spring died on Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2007, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall, chaplain with Odyssey Hospice, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

A rosary will held at 7 p.m. Friday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

She was born on June 23, 1920, in Big Spring and married R.L. Whately in El Paso. He preceded her in death on July 6, 1986.

Juanita was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and had been a housekeeper for the Groebl family for 35 years. She had also worked at Walker's Laundry and at the Union Pacific Railroad roundhouse in machine maintenance.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Survivors include three sisters, Aurora Harris of Odessa and Annabelle Huante and Marie Lopez, both of Big Spring; two brothers, Jimmy Rodriguez and Ignacio Rodriguez, both of Big Spring; niece and caregiver, Debbie Rodriguez and husband, Ron Jones; and many other nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Chon and Natividad Rodriguez; seven brothers, Gustavo Rodriguez, Rudolpho Rodriguez, Albert Rodriguez, Antonio Rodriguez, Carlos Rodriguez, Ralph Rodriguez and Benjamin Rodriguez; and two sisters, Zenida Pineda and Elena Ruiz.

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

Paid obituary

Isabella Aracelle Lopez



Isabella Aracelle Lopez, 6 months, died Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2007, at Covenant Children's Hospital in Lubbock. Vigil service will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, 2007, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Feb. 2, 2007, in Odessa to Ruann "Pebbles" Martinez and Eric Lopez.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by one brother, Phillip Lopez of Euless; one sister, Gabriella Lopez of Euless; maternal grandparents, Viola and Jaime Salgado of Big Spring; paternal grandparents, Marie Lopez and Jose Gonzales, both of Big Spring; great-grandparents, Dora Juarez and Jesus Lopez, both of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather: Felipe Lopez; great-grandfather, Ismael Juarez; one aunt, Lupita Lopez; and one great uncle, David Juarez.

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

Anede Almazan

Anede Almazan, 78, of Big Spring died on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2007, in a local nursing home. A vigil service will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, 2007, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born on Jan. 6, 1929, in Fort Davis and married Melquiades "Chino" Almazan on May 18, 1948, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Oct. 26, 2003.

A longtime resident of Big Spring, she had worked for the Big Spring Independent School District at Bauer Magnet School. She and her husband were dance promoters for 15 years. She was involved in youth baseball programs and St. Jude's Childrens Hospital and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Survivors include two sons, Melquiades Almazan Jr. of Big Spring and Jesse Zapata of Fort Worth; three daughters, Lupe Miranda and Mary Ann Bustamante, both of Big Spring, and Josephine Flores of Odessa; two sisters, Mary Sandavol of Fort Worth and Isabel Garcia of Big Spring; 17 grandchildren; and 34 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by a grandson and several brothers and sisters.

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

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 5-22-25-26-33.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 7-14-24-35. Bonus Ball: 34.

...

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-0-7.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday:

- **STACY DAWN JONES**, 22, 545 E. 16th, was arrested on 16 local warrants and nine capias warrants.
- **JULIA A. CRUSES**, 26, 1503 Sycamore, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **RONALD LEE SIMONEK**, 52, 1308 E. 17th, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid - enhanced.
- **PATTY S. PANTOJA**, 34, 1507 E. Sixth, was arrested on two capias warrants.
- **LONNIE RAY GRAY JR.**, 23, 2400 S. Monticello, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **THOMAS HENRY COX**, 40, 4009 Wasson, was arrested on a citation warrant and local warrant.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday (Note: officials reported 59 inmates in custody in the county jail):

- **JASON LESLIE MURRAY**, 17, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of forgery.
- **ESMEREILDO BALDERAS JR.**, 34, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of failure to identify.
- **RAFAEL RIVAS**, 26, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **ANSELMO HILARIO FR.**, 22, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **WILLIAM RICHARD MERRICK**, 24, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a parole violation warrant.
- **ANDY LEE FLORES**, 37, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on charges of no driver's license, evading arrest, no inspection sticker and theft.
- **DENNIS FORREST SULLIVAN**, 59, was arrested on a charge of theft by check.
- **DARLENE SHELDON**, 49, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for possession of dangerous drugs.
- **ANNA MAE MIEARS**, 20, was arrested on charges of no seat belt and hindering apprehension of a known felon.
- **LARRY DEAN WHITE**, 35, was arrested on charges of hindering apprehension of a known felon, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.
- **JIMMY RICAHRD DUBOSE**, 45, was arrested on a parole violation warrant.
- **BARNEY DODD**, 37, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a motion to revoke probation for credit card abuse.
- **CHRISTINA MARTINEZ**, 27, was arrested on a charge of Class C assault/family violence.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of E. 13th. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 100 block of Whipkey. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• **THE FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE AT THE SPRING CITY SENIOR CENTER** has been temporarily cancelled. The center will be doing extensive work on the dance floor and it will be unusable until that work is completed. Regular Friday night dances will resume as soon as possible. Center officials say they appreciate the public's patience and understanding during the process.

• **MARANATHA BAPTIST ACADEMY** still has openings in kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information, call 263-7696 or come by 903 Johnson St.

• **THE PUBLIC IS BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A PHOTO** of bluebonnets, with proceeds going toward the Boyce Hale Scholarship — a \$500 scholarship presented to a Forsan High School senior. For more information, contact Jimmy Anderson at 264-2546 or go by Professional Pharmacy at 1000 Main St.

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

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.
- 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.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Big Spring Country Club.

SATURDAY

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

MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. East winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s. East winds around 10 mph.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

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

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. Labor day...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

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

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

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

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

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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**Jonathan Hull's
2007 NCAA Bowl Predictions**

Bowl Game	Matchup
Poinsettia	Air Force v. Navy
New Orleans	Troy v. SMU
PapaJohns.com	South Florida v. ECU
New Mexico	New Mexico v. San Jose St.
Las Vegas	Utah v. Arizona
Hawaii	Houston v. Hawaii
Motor City	Iowa v. Ohio
Holiday	Texas v. UCLA
Champs Sports	Florida St. v. Penn St.
Texas	Kansas St. v. Tulsa
Emerald	Clemson v. Arizona St.
Meineke Car Care	Miami v. Rutgers
Liberty	So. Miss v. Alabama
Alamo	Minnesota v. Oklahoma St.
Independence	Texas Tech v. S. Carolina
Armed Forces	BYU v. Oregon
Sun	Missouri v. Oregon St.
Humanitarian	UCF v. Boise St.
Music City	N.C. State v. Kentucky
Chick-fil-A	Boston College v. Georgia
Insight	Indiana v. Nebraska
Outback	Michigan v. Auburn
Cotton	Oklahoma v. Florida
Gator	Ga. Tech v. Notre Dame
Capital One	Ohio St. v. Arkansas
International	Pittsburgh v. Kent St.
GMAC	Rice v. C. Michigan
BCS Games	
Rose	Cal v. Wisconsin
Sugar	Louisville v. Tennessee
Fiesta	Texas A&M v. TCU
Orange	LSU v. West Virginia
BCS Championship	USC v. Va. Tech

SEASON

Continued from Page 1B

pure. Sure. College athletes aren't without their faults, but many of them are suspended for a season when they're caught with narcotics.

I know that athletes have their hands held and are coddled throughout the high school and college ranks. It is unfortunate. But the punishments are more severe when they are caught. That, to me, makes the game more pure.

There's still a love for football within college athletes that is sometimes lost at the professional level.

I had a coach in high school who told me that if he wanted to see football at its purest then he would go and watch junior high teams play.

I think we could go even younger and watch the kids play in little league. They're just learning the game and most of them just want to get out on the field and run.

I do love the NFL, but there's simply more appeal for me in the college game. It's not just the purity of the game. There's also the rivalries.

Dallas and Washington

used to be a good rivalry, but free agency has killed great, long-standing rivalries in the professional ranks.

Many call it parity. I call it a bunch of mediocre football teams playing against each other.

I do think that free agency is the best thing professional football did for its sport, but there are negatives to it.

In the NCAA, it doesn't matter that the faces and names of a team's roster change every couple years. It isn't necessarily the players that make those rivalries great. It has more to do with tradition.

From the cheers to the band, college football is full of traditions that make it great.

The bands add a lot to the game. I witnessed Ohio State's band dot the 'i' in Ohio for the first time last season. That's a great tradition even though I personally can't stand the Buckeyes.

In what other sport do we debate who has the best fight song? (For the record, Michigan gets my vote. Sorry, Texas and Notre Dame fans.)

Fortunately, college football's traditions found their way into the high school ranks.

Although I am far from a Longhorns' fan, I take

great pride in the Steers' fight song. I was taught to chant along with the song while I was an elementary school student at Bauer.

Pride's another quality that the NFL is generally missing. It's hard to have pride when you don't have loyalty. Very few of today's NFL stars exhibit loyalty to their team and fans. Money is all that talks to them. There are exceptions, but not many. Dallas' fans take more pride in the emblem on the side of the helmet.

In college and even high school, players take as much pride as their fans and alumni in the colors they wear. I personally bleed black and gold since I am both a Big Spring grad and a hardcore Colorado Buffaloes fan. (Please, not too many e-mails commenting about my love for the Buffs.)

But thank God the season is here. Now I can stop having to worry about baseball and an overhyped David Beckham game being the only sports programming on television.

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

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

to stay. "Unfortunately, it happened to this kid. I think everybody in the dugout was feeling for him, counting myself," Guillen said. "I think Danks threw the ball real well. He deserved a little bit better than that."

Danks, the Rangers' first-round draft pick in 2003, tied a career high with eight strikeouts over 5 2-3 innings in his long-anticipated first start in his home state — though it came for another team. He gave up six hits and five runs, only two earned.

"It was great to be back home in front of people I haven't seen in a while," Danks said.

Jarrod Saltalamacchia led off the third with a grounder that Gonzalez threw away. Ramon Vazquez bunted and was credited with a sacrifice when Danks hit him in the back with the ball for a throwing error.

Gerald Laird had a bunt single and Gonzalez threw the ball wide of first, allowing two runs to score. Laird came home after Sosa's two-out grounder to Gonzalez led to another error and put the Rangers up 4-1.

Sosa hit his 18th homer of the season in the second and added an RBI single in the fifth.

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New laws to hit the books beginning Saturday

Herald Staff Report

Several new traffic and criminal laws are set to go into effect Sept. 1, according to officials with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Among the House (HB) and Senate (SB) bills set to go into enforcement by law enforcement agencies are:

HB 84 — Known as Katie's Law, requires drivers 85 years of age and above to pass a vision test to have their driver's license renewed. Licenses will be valid for two years instead of six. Drivers age 79 and older are not allowed to renew their driver licenses electronically.

HB 586 — Prohibits a driver who is issued a speeding ticket and found guilty of driving at a speed of 95 miles per hour or higher from taking a driving safety class to dismiss the ticket.

SB 369 — Prohibits the use of blurring or reflective matter on a license plate that significantly

impairs the readability of the state name and license plate numbers and letters; prohibits the use of material or an apparatus that alters or obscures one-half or more of the state name; and prohibits using material that obscures the license plate number or plate color.

SB 153 — Makes it an offense for the accompanying licensed passenger of a driver with a learner's permit to sleep, be intoxicated or to engage in any activity that prevents the passenger from observing and responding to the actions of the driver of the vehicle.

SB 378 — Known as the "Castle Doctrine," it removes the requirement that persons attempt to retreat before using deadly force to defend themselves.

SB 112 (went into effect April 27) — Protects the right to bear arms during a declared disaster or emergency by prohibiting law enforcement officers from confiscating firearms during such

emergency periods.

SB 9 (went into effect June 15) — Requires a national criminal history background check for all certified public school employees; prevents individuals from employment with a school district if they have been convicted of a Title 5 Penal Code felony offense; or a sex offense when the victim of the crime was a child, a primary school student, or secondary school student; and creates a clearinghouse at DPS for criminal history background information on public school employees so this information can be shared between school districts.

HB 8 — Known as Jessica's Law, imposes a 25-year minimum sentence for sexually violent offenses against children under 14 years of age; eliminates eligibility for parole for certain sex offenders; makes a second conviction of a sexually violent offense against a child under 14 years of age a capital felony; man-

dates global positioning system (GPS) monitoring for offenders committed under the sexually violent predator statutes; extends the statute of limitations for sexually violent offenses against children under the age of 14 to 20 years past the victims' 18th birthday; and clarifies that harboring a sex offender in violation of registration is an offense punishable by up to a third-degree felony.

SB 6 — Increases the penalty for sexually explicit online communication with a minor who is 14 to 16 years old from a state jail felony to a third-degree felony and increases the penalty for online sexual solicitation of a minor who is 14 to 16 years old from a third-degree felony to a second-degree felony.

HB 3849 (went into effect June 15) — Creates new vehicle registration requirements for all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and a penalty if an ATV is driven on public property while the driver and pas-

sengers are not wearing required safety apparel.

HB 1355 — Known as Lillian's Law, requires all dog owners to properly secure their dogs on their property. The law provides that a dog owner can be held criminally responsible if the dog causes serious bodily injury or death at a location other than the owner's property in an unprovoked attack during which the owner by criminal negligence failed to secure the dog. It exempts many dog professionals — including peace officers — who deal with dogs on a regular basis from the bill.

SB 1315 — Requires DPS to develop an alert system for missing senior citizens similar to the current Amber Alert Program for abducted children.

HB 323 — Requires all new buses purchased by a school district on or after Sept. 1, 2010, to be equipped with lap/shoulder seatbelts. All buses contracted for use by a

school district on or after Sept. 1, 2011, must be equipped with lap/shoulder seatbelts. The bill's provisions will not take effect unless the legislature appropriates the necessary funds to school districts to cover the expenses of such changes.

SB 1287 — Requires certain establishments that sell alcohol to post specific notification regarding the offense of human trafficking in both English and Spanish along with the number to the national human trafficking hotline.

SB 502 — Increases the minimum liability coverage amounts for automobile insurance. The first increase applies to motor vehicle liability insurance policies issued or renewed after Jan. 1, 2008. A second, larger increase in motor vehicle liability insurance coverage takes effect Jan. 1, 2011.

For a complete list of all new laws going into effect, visit www.txdps.state.tx.us.

DISPUTE

Continued from Page 1A

taxing entities who lose tax revenue while the two sides lock horns, BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said.

"The current disagreement between Alon USA and the appraisal district regarding the appraised value of the refinery has caused and will continue to cause a decrease in state funding (for the school district)," Downes stated in a letter to trustees. "The negative impact on state funding will not improve until a settlement is reached between the parties through negotiation or litigation."

For the current school

year, the district will lose slightly more than \$126,000 in state financing, but that's minuscule compared to what the district stands to lose if the dispute drags on much longer.

Downes said the district could lose \$931,000 in state financing in 2008-2009 if the dispute continues.

"That, we can't just absorb," he said. "To maintain services ... we would have to dip into reserve funds."

Compounding the problem, Downes said, is the fact that the state bases its financing of local districts based on those districts' respective appraisals, and the state will use the disputed figures, whether Alon pays on it or not.

In short, the higher the total valuation for the district, the less state money it receives, he said.

"The exact amount of any potential settlement is not an issue with the school district," he said. "The shortfall in state funding is entirely the product of disputed values. A settlement at any level will restore state funding."

During the meeting, refinery manager David Foster made a presentation to the board, laying out Alon's side of the dispute.

Foster said no one at Alon disputed the fact that the refinery's taxes must rise this year. It's the amount of that increase that's the bone of contention.

"We recognize and wel-

come the fact that we need to pay more taxes at Alon," Foster said. "We know we owe more taxes than we are currently paying. The issue is what the tax valuation at the refinery should be."

Using the valuations of four similarly sized refineries in Texas, Foster said Alon officials reached their proposed valuation of roughly \$200 million, as compared to the \$320 million appraisal levied by the county.

Foster sounded a conciliatory tone during his address, saying refinery officials were ready and willing to negotiate a settlement to the dispute.

"One way to solve this problem is to go to the appraisal board and ask them to come talk with us. We're ready," Foster

said. "If other communities can do it, I'm sure we can, also."

Downes, meanwhile, said with the school district figuratively in the middle of this dispute, officials can only stand by and hope for a speedy resolution.

"The district recognizes the fact that the appraisal district and Alon both firmly believe their property valuation figures are

correct," Downes said. "Big Spring ISD will not be a part of a resolution effort, because we do not have the appraisal knowledge or the skill to establish a valuation."

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

GAS

Continued from Page 1A

gallon, 7 cents less than last week but 5 cents more than a year ago.

"The Labor Day holiday is seen as the end of the summer driving season," said AAA Texas spokeswoman Rose Rougeau. "Fuel prices generally move downward as demand for fuel lessens."

These are average per-gallon prices of regular, self-serve gasoline in Texas metro areas and the change from last week, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch released Friday:

Amarillo — \$2.926, up 2.8 cents
Austin-San Marcos — \$2.683, down 1.9 cents
Beaumont — \$2.616, down 3.1 cents
Corpus Christi — \$2.573, down 7.1 cents

Dallas — \$2.617, down 3.9 cents
El Paso — \$2.814, up 2.7 cents
Fort Worth — \$2.614, down 3.7 cents
Galveston-Texas City — \$2.611, down 4.5 cents

Houston — \$2.586, down 4.4 cents
San Antonio — \$2.669, down 2.0 cents
Texarkana (Texas only) — \$2.664, up 0.4 cents

LEDFORD

Continued from Page 1A

open an office here. We're going through the steps we have to take. Once we get a building approved and established, we'll open an office here and get everything set up.

"We'll have Willia in place, and we'll also anticipate hiring a couple of college kids to help man the office. That way there's always someone there if someone wants to just walk in or call, and Willia will be free to go to Rotary functions and things of that nature. That's our goal, to make sure the people of Big Spring know they are represented."

Ledford said the position is a dream come true for her, as she makes the transition from big city to a smaller, quieter locale.

"When I moved here I just fell in love with Big Spring," said Ledford. "I was born in a small town. I was raised in Tulsa, Okla., but my grandpar-

ents lived about 45 miles away in a small town called Redbird. It was a town, not a city, and I've always yearned to be in a small setting and be able to know the people in that setting. I've always done community service work where ever I lived, whether it was Tulsa or Detroit, Mich., and now I'm getting the chance to do it here in the city of Big Spring.

"I'm a retired system analyst with American Airlines. I was with them for 27 years. It's been about 15 years since I worked with American Airlines, but before I moved to Big Spring about four years ago I was a licensed Realtor in the state of Michigan. I enjoyed that profession very much. But since moving to Big Spring I've spent most of my time volunteering with the American Heart Association, Keep Big Spring Beautiful and other organizations. I'm also a member of Neighbors and

Newcomers."

Ledford is anything but shy about what drove her to accept the position from Heflin.

"My favorite part is meeting the people and being there to serve them," said Ledford. "I want to be able to let them know someone is

listening and someone is doing something about the things that matter to them."

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

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COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

"He's done a lot of good things and learned a lot here in training camp," said veteran Brad Johnson, who started the game for Dallas. "He's made a lot of plays, and it's good for those guys to get a chance to play."

Bollinger's status was, and probably still is, much more tenuous.

Last week against Seattle, he threw two interceptions, one of which was returned for a touchdown, and had a quarterback rating of 27.7.

"I really felt in control and pretty similar both weeks," said Bollinger, who had a rating of 104.6 against the Cowboys. "This week I was just able to protect the ball better and score some touchdowns."

The Vikings brought in Holcomb on Monday to give them another veteran behind young starter Tarvaris Jackson. Holcomb went 5-for-8 for 59 yards and one interception in one quarter.

"It's been a crazy week. I was in Philadelphia on Monday and I'm playing a ballgame in Minnesota on Thursday with the Vikings," Holcomb said. "So it's been a little tough. A little sleep deprived, but hey, that's the way the game goes."

After Jackson played the first series, Bollinger came in and finished the first half. He helped turn two Dallas fumbles into touchdowns, including a 4-yard scoring pass to Sidney Rice that gave the Vikings a 14-7 lead early in the second quarter.

Ryan Longwell kicked three field goals for the Vikings (2-2), who recovered four fumbles by the Cowboys (2-2) and finished with 14 takeaways in the pre-



Minnesota Vikings receiver Sidney Rice (18) catches a touchdown pass against the Dallas Cowboys in the second quarter of a NFL preseason football game Thursday at the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

MCT photo/Carlos Gonzalez/Minneapolis Star Tribune

season.

Moore's second pass of the game was nearly intercepted by safety Patrick Body. But Moore settled down and completed his next 12 passes, including a 6-yarder to Tony Curtis that tied the game late in the second quarter.

Jerheme Urban returned a punt 95 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter for the Cowboys, who played very few starters, especially on offense

in the final game before they open against the Giants on Sept. 9.

"You never want to be tackled by the punter," Urban said.

Romo, Terrell Owens, Marion Barber III, Terry Glenn and Julius Jones all sat out for Dallas, which committed five turnovers and looked sloppy for the second week in a row.

The Vikings played their starters sparingly, holding out defensive linemen Kevin

Williams and Pat Williams, cornerback Antoine Winfield and linebacker E.J. Henderson. Running back Chester Taylor also sat this one out, while Jackson only played the first series.

Johnson returned to where he spent nine of his 15 seasons in the league. His second stint with the Vikings ended when he struggled last season and didn't see eye to eye with Childress.

Several Vikings fans wore purple No. 14 jerseys to the game, and Johnson was 5-of-7 for 44 yards before yielding to Moore.

"I spent nine years of my life here," Johnson said. "So it was great to come back and see a lot of people."

Notes: The Vikings deactivated WR Bobby Wade (ankle), S Mike Doss (calf), S Tank Williams and DE Darrion Scott (shoulder) all for precautionary purposes. ... Dallas K Martin Gramatica (hamstring) did not make the trip and is a candidate to be cut in favor of rookie Nick Folk.

Eagles 13, Jets 11

The Eagles and Bears broke the most important rule of the preseason: Don't get anyone hurt.

A.J. Feeley, Philadelphia's backup quarterback, broke his left hand, and first-round draft pick Greg Olsen, Chicago's projected starting tight end, hurt his knee.

Feeley was injured in the Eagles' 13-11 loss to the New York Jets, one of 14 games Thursday night.

"He has to see a hand specialist," coach Andy Reid said. "He might be OK."

Feeley insisted he will be ready for the team's opener at Green Bay on Sept. 9.

If Feeley, a right-hander, is out, rookie Kevin Kolb becomes the No. 2 behind McNabb.

The Bears lost Olsen to a knee injury late in the first half of a 19-9 home loss to Cleveland. He was hurt while getting tackled after catching a short pass and will undergo an MRI exam.

Olsen had been expected to bolster the passing attack with his skills over the middle.

Blake finally wins a fifth set at US Open

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK — No matter the setting, no matter how well he played, James Blake simply couldn't figure out how to win a fifth set.

Until now. And when he finally prevailed in a match that went the distance, ending an 0-for-9 drought, Blake was too exhausted to celebrate wildly, instead simply raising his arms in the air and slowly walking to the net for a sweat-soaked — and sweet — embrace with his opponent.

The No. 6-seeded Blake outlasted Fabrice Santoro 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 in the second round of the U.S. Open to win a 3-hour, 25-minute struggle that began Thursday evening and ended after midnight Friday.

"There used to be a big

monkey right there," Blake said, pointing to his back, "and now it's gone. I got the monkey off my back. I got a five-setter."

Santoro, at 34 the oldest man left in the tournament, faded down the stretch. At 4-4 in the fifth, he held three break points — and Blake saved them all. Then, in the final game, Santoro led 30-love on his serve — and Blake took the final four points.

"To the last point, I thought I had a good chance," Santoro said. "He was tired, but I was for sure more tired."

He sat with an old-fashioned ice bag perched atop his head while a trainer massaged his left foot and both thighs in the final set. Santoro asked for a medical timeout in the middle of a game after double-faulting. Later, he opted not to sit at all during changeovers, worried

about cramping.

Blake is seven years younger and was far fresher, even clear-minded enough to switch hands for a lefty shot that helped win a point.

"I actually, honestly said to myself at the beginning of the fifth set: 'I'm going to win this match,'" Blake said. "The whole five-set jinx never got into my head. But this time, I said, 'I'm not going to let it happen.'"

And he did not, breaking in the final game with a cross-court backhand winner that Santoro could only toss his racket at.

Blake left his racket on the ground, too, and they met at the net.

Blake put his arm around Santoro and told him, "You played so hard."

"He told me it's amazing what I'm doing at my age," Santoro said. "I said, 'Thanks, my son.'"

Blake's U.S. Davis Cup teammate and poker pal, No. 5 Andy Roddick, advanced earlier Thursday when his opponent quit with a knee injury, and defending women's champion Maria Sharapova won in 51 minutes.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

Cost is \$40 for flag football and \$100 for tackle.

Any cheerleaders who will not need a uniform can sign-up for \$35. The cost is \$100 if a new uniform is needed.

All children going into kindergarten through sixth grade can register.

For more information, contact Daphne Coates at 714-4688.

Big Spring Boxing Club seeking site

The Big Spring Boxing Club is seeking a building to be donated so that they can get started with their program.

Heavy bags, gloves, head gear and other equipment has been donated, but the club needs a place to begin practices.

Contact Willie Jenkins at 267-5822.

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By Steve Becker
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- 1. You pass**, your left-hand opponent passes, your partner bids One Spade, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Clubs. What would you bid now?
- 2. Your partner bids** One Notrump, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Hearts. What would you bid now?
- 3. Your partner bids** One Notrump, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Diamonds. What would you bid now?
- 4. Your partner bids** One Heart. When you respond Two Clubs, he jumps to Four Clubs. What would you bid now?

- 1. Four Spades.** Of course you could double two clubs and beat it at least a couple of tricks if that became the final contract, but there is almost no chance that your left-hand opponent and your partner will both pass two clubs doubled. The opponents are likely to discover a heart or diamond fit if you double, and it is better to try to prevent this by jumping to four spades. Furthermore, setting the opponents two tricks doubled is not good enough to make up for the game you can almost surely make in spades.
It would be wrong to bid only three spades, which partner can pass. It is
- 2. Three hearts.** Most players treat a bid of two spades or three clubs in this sequence as not forcing, and it is therefore necessary to make a bid that assures reaching game. The three-heart cuebid does just that. You hope partner will bid three spades, which you will raise to four. If he rebids three notrump, showing at least one stopper in hearts, you plan to pass, while if he rebids four clubs or four diamonds, you will raise to five.
- 3. Double.** Game is not absolutely certain, so the best thing to do is to grab the sure profit. You will probably beat two diamonds two or three tricks, possibly even more, if that becomes the final contract.
- 4. Four diamonds.** Slam is certainly a possibility, and the question is how or whether to reach it. Four diamonds shows first-round control of that suit and slam interest.
The next step is up to partner. If he cooperates by bidding four spades or four notrump, you are on the way to slam, but if all he does is bid five clubs, you must give up because you might lose two spade tricks, or perhaps a spade and a heart (or a diamond).

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- Everyone who answered the bell — literally — this week as students returned to classes in both public and private schools and Howard College. Our educational system is one of the key factors in molding the leaders of tomorrow, and we salute the students, teachers, staff and administrators as they work toward a common goal.

- Keith Ledford, M.D., Glynn Jones Mouton and Glenn Fillingim on their appointments to the Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. board. We're looking forward to great things to come from the entire board.

- Jan Hansen, on agreeing to take over as interim executive director of the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County. Jan has always done a great job, whether as an employee or a volunteer and we feel very fortunate she agreed to take on this task.

- Thanks, also, to State Sen. Kel Seliger for his inspiring speech at Tuesday's United Way kickoff luncheon and to State Rep. Joe Heflin for lending his support. It's nice to know that our state representatives in Austin take such a great interest in what we are doing.

- Speaking of Heflin, hats off to Willia Ledford, who has been selected to head up his soon-to-be-opened office in Big Spring. He made a great choice. Congratulations, Willia!

And finally...

If it seems like almost every issue of the *Herald* these days is about budget meetings and tax rates, it's because this has been the time of year for school boards, councils, commissioners and many other governing bodies to do so. And while we might balk at the tax rate, employee layoffs, reductions in services and other decisions, we do applaud the effort these hard-working people put into what they do — most of them on a volunteer basis. Thanks for your diligence, folks.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Our life will work if we have You at the top of every thought, Lord,

Amen

Dealing with 'The Big Head'

Don't you love being a fan of somebody? I'm a big fan of a lot of people, in lots of different fields, some of them living but most of them gone — Davey Crocket, Sam Houston, Tom Petty, Spurgeon, William Tyndale...

I recently had the chance to listen to a guy who I instantly became a fan of. He was somebody who told stories about himself and one really stood out.



TROY BREWER

Humble Pie

When Rick Green was elected for the Texas Senate he was only 26 years old. Yes, he was a Christian and he knew better, but pride soon became a problem. By his own account he admits that he got the "Big Head" so bad that very quickly he looked more like the Jack in the Box clown than the man his wife had married.

He didn't want people to know how young and naive he was so he asked his doctor friends to give him all of their scientific American magazines and medical books. He perfectly situated text books and law documents so that when you stepped into his office

you had to notice those titles. He hoped that folks would think he was a really smart guy.

On one of his first days in his new district office, a man walked in and up to his desk. Rick immediately picked up the phone and started acting like he was having a conversation. "No, I'm sorry I'm all booked up!" he said as he winked at the guy standing in front of him. "I would love to meet with you but I've got appointments every day of the week. How about a week from next Thursday... Yeah, that's fine ... OK I'll see you then, thank you."

Rick Green hung up the phone, took a deep breath, like he was exhausted and addressed his visitor. "Can I help you, sir?"

The man looked disgusted and said. "No, I'm just here to hook up that there telephone."

Eating Korn

Rick told this story about himself and added, "God sure knows how to humble a guy."

God deals with Rick Green the way he deals with me. I can't get away with anything.

This last week my wife and I read a book called "Save Me From Myself." It was written by Brian "Head" Welch, who is the former guitarist for the screaming band

Korn. I am not a big fan of Korn at all but this book rocked my world. It's the story of total transformation that comes when somebody gives their life to Jesus Christ. It's a story about what happens when somebody really humbles himself.

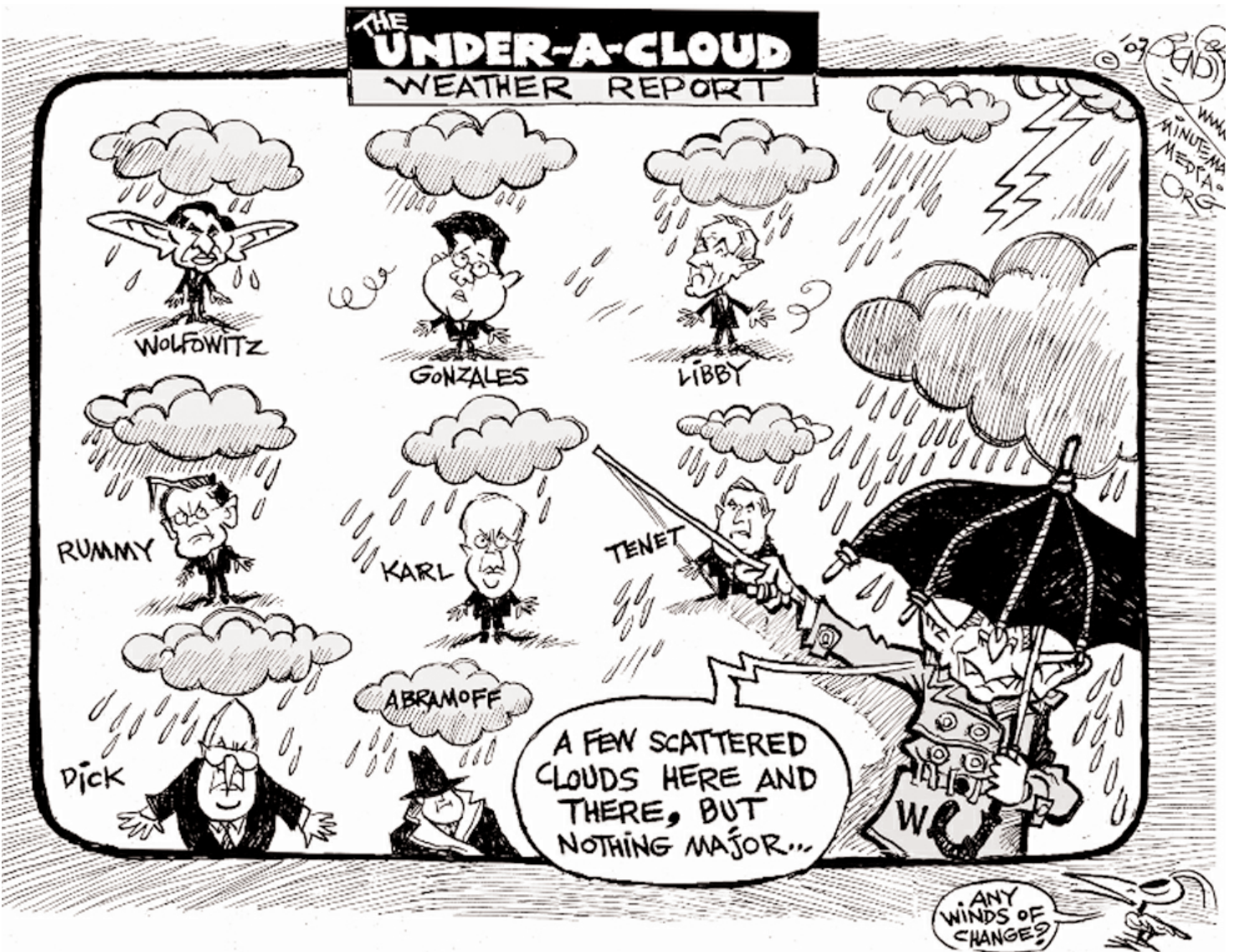
Brian's whole life went from "what was in it for him" to "what was in him for everybody else." He left the destructive world of self indulgence for service and the love of God. His orphanage in India and his personal testimony are making a difference that is worth drinking a cup of coffee to.

Brother Head doesn't have the big head any more. Brian would agree with Rick. God sure knows how to humble a guy.

Humility heals. Humility helps. Humility is compatible with an awesome God that wants to heal and help. So when you are in need of healing, help or a touch from God himself, the Brewer recommends a healthy dose of humble pie. Preferably before it gets crammed down our throats.

Proverbs 11:2 "When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom."

The Rev. Troy Brewer welcomes your comments. E-mail him at FFTB@OpenDoorMinistries.org.



Forgetting cosmic connections

Iplucked a very strange little book from our senior center's free bookshelf and brought it home for a quick read. "The History of Astrology" by Zolar traces the roots of our human need to search the heavens for meaning. Zolar, a popular 20th Century astrologer, insists astrology is the world's "oldest science, an ancient universal religion, and the first majestic effort to understand the cosmos." It helped satisfy our innate desire to discover and impose order in the universe. Whether or not astrological hocus-pocus masquerades as science today, its claim that we are all interconnected with the stars and stardust that surrounds us, still resonates deeply in our view of the world and our place in it.



DAVID ANDERSON

The sensation of interconnectedness shapes current sciences from chemistry to astronomy and physics. On the return trip from this nation's successful "race to the moon," astronauts brought back stunning color photos of our planet seen from a moon's-eye view. There were breathtaking bright blue oceans, swirling clouds, and green-brown continents. The images exceeded expectations; none of stargazing and dreaming from past generations foresaw how beautiful Mother Earth really is!

Cultural shock and aftershocks still reverberate from those photos of "spaceship earth." Like gazing into a mirror for the first time, we

encountered a self-view that instantly changed us forever. It revealed our dependency on a very small and beautiful planet, in tandem with a sister moon, orbiting a sun in the vastness of space. This celestial dance of earth and moon around the sun gave rise to our life-rhythms. The ocean tides ride with the moon's pull. Their ebb and flow connect us with the sensation of forces larger than us.

We've always regarded Nature, with a capital "N," as a force with which to be reckoned. In our "can't live with and can't live without" attitude toward the environment we've recklessly mistreated of our natural resources. Human pollution of the earth's atmosphere and oceans jeopardizes sustainability of "life as we know it." Maybe, if we pass into extinction, the planet will recover. But meanwhile we can take the first steps to things down.

Remember Thornton Wilder's play "Our Town"? It features a small town, "Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, United States of America, Continent of North America, Western Hemisphere, the Earth, the Solar System, the Universe, the Mind of God." We all live locally, in a particular place, linked like Wilder's fictional Grover's Corners to the cosmos. My dictionary defines cosmos as "the world or universe regarded as an orderly, harmonious, system."

Whether it is astrology or astronomy, we are creatures who seek interconnectivity by systematizing the way we experience Nature. No matter where we view the heavens, tracking the sun, moon, and stars brings the Great Beyond to our doorstep.

Neil Armstrong, the first human to walk on the moon hails from the Buckeye State. Ohio's links to space flight trace back to the Wright Brothers. The state's cosmic connections also include high levels of CO2 emissions from coal-fired power plants. This ongoing pollution intersects directly with global warming, heating up the oceans, continents, and atmosphere. The willful destruction of our planet begins locally and spreads worldwide and beyond.

If we think cosmically and act locally to leverage political, economic, and technological ideologies toward restoring instead of destroying, much might be saved. But if we don't chart a new course, those reading the signs of our times say we've precipitated an irreversible environmental meltdown of cosmic proportions. As Shakespeare's Julius Caesar said, "Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world like a Colossus; and we petty men walk under his huge legs and peep about to find ourselves dishonorable graves. Men at some time are masters of their own fates: The fault dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves that we are underlings."

Perhaps it's time to wrest control of the planet's destiny from those intent on quarterly earnings but not the quarters of the moon and bring the planet and its inhabitants into proper alignment with a life-giving, and not life-taking, environment!

David Anderson is a former public radio news producer and reporter in Columbus, Ohio.

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Club News

Retired Teachers meet

The Big Spring/Howard County Retired Teachers Association met Aug. 20 at Howard College. The guest speaker was Tom Koger, a local minister, humorist, and poet. He spoke about the Howard County Fair and the numerous displays and activities. He concluded his comments with a poem written about his daughter who lives in New York.

The Retired Teachers Association (RTA) is a group actively involved in promoting issues concerning retired school personnel and our local community. Largely due to efforts of the state RTA, retired school personnel are expected to receive a 13th check approved by the legislature, possibly in January 2008. During the next legislative session beginning in 2009, based on increases in contributions to the Teacher Retirement System, retired personnel

will probably receive an increase in retirement benefits, the first since 1995.

Locally, retired school persons seek to serve the community through volunteerism and contributions. One ongoing project is the Book Project. Each year, a grade level in an elementary school in Howard County is selected to receive books for each child in that level. RTA members volunteer in the hospitals, at the schools, during the fair, and many areas in the community.

Any person interested in education can be an associate member of RTA. Persons eligible for the Teacher Retirement System may be members. Additionally, anyone interested may attend our meetings. We want to be contributors to our community. Our next meeting is Sept. 17 in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. We would be happy to have guests share a meal and our meeting.

State briefs

Lawsuit over refinery explosion begins

GALVESTON (AP) — The deadly 2005 explosion at a BP PLC refinery in Texas City was described to potential jurors in the first civil trial stemming from the blast as a “hell on Earth” in which those killed had their bodies torn apart and survivors suffered debilitating injuries.

More than 200 people gathered Thursday in a Galveston courtroom for jury selection and answered questions from attorneys representing plaintiffs in five lawsuits that will be tried together.

Their lawsuits, barring last-minute settlements, are to be the first to be tried in connection with the blast, which killed 15 people and injured more than 170 others.

South Texas police chief accused of sexually assaulting employees

ALTON (AP) — The police chief in this South Texas town has been charged with two counts of sexual assault for allegedly violating male employees who were passed out at his home during parties.

Jose Luis Vela, 42, was being held in the Hidalgo County Jail on \$200,000 bond after his Thursday arraignment on the two felony charges. The city has placed him on paid leave pending the outcome of the case.

Woman arrested for soliciting the murders of relatives

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — A woman is accused of soliciting an undercover officer to kill her husband and parents and to harm her two children, authorities said.

Julia Olsen, 41, was arrested Wednesday night and charged with three counts of solicitation to commit capital murder, two counts of solicitation to commit injury to a child and two counts of solicitation to commit burglary, Wichita Falls police said.

Olsen contacted an undercover agent, and during their meeting said she wanted him to give the victims varying amounts of narcotics, police said.

According to police, Olsen agreed to pay the agent in jewelry and currency, the Wichita Falls Times Record News reported in its Thursday online edition.

Olsen remained jailed in Wichita County on Thursday, held on nearly \$1.33 million bond.

Former Christoval elementary teacher surrenders certificate

SAN ANGELO (AP) — A woman who worked as a physical education teacher and an athletic trainer in Christoval has agreed to seven years of deferred adjudication as part of a plea agreement on one count of having an improper relationship with a 17-year-old student.

As part of the plea bargain accepted by the judge, 37-year-old Sherry Turner also agreed to a \$2,500 fine and to surrender her teaching certificate.

Under deferred adjudication, a defendant enters a plea of guilty and then the judge may postpone the actual finding of guilt and place the defendant on a probationary term. If there are no infractions during the probation period, the case will be dismissed without a finding of guilt.

Turner, a former Christoval Elementary School teacher who was also an athletic trainer for the district's middle and high school, resigned in the spring.

According to a complaint filed by the Tom Green County Sheriff's office in March, Turner and a student engaged in kissing and sexual touching in the student's car at a San Angelo park in October 2006.

Turner's attorney, Kirk Hawkins, told the judge that Turner has been in counseling for some time. Turner declined comment on the case.

District Attorney Steve Lupton said that since someone who is 17 is considered an adult under the Texas Penal Code, no unlawful sexual abuse or conduct charges were pursued against Turner, the San Angelo Standard-Times reported in its online editions Thursday.

An improper relationship between an educator and a student is a second-degree felony.

Church News

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Greetings to you and your family. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. A nursery is provided. Mid-week services are 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Children's church is during the Sunday morning worship for ages 4-9. For a ride to Sunday services, call 264-9924 or 267-7157.

This Sunday evening there will be a family back to school swimming party at the city pool from 7-9 p.m.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Labor Day holiday. For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church welcomes you to any or all worship services Sunday at 2702 North Birdwell Lane. Morning worship begins at 9:30 a.m. and evening service begins at 5 p.m. We also offer Sunday school classes for all ages at 10:30 a.m.

Bible study, on the first and third Wednesday, will conclude the Disciple study Sept. 5 and will begin a study of the Apocrypha on Sept. 19. These classes begin at 6:30 p.m. After a summer vacation, United Methodist Women will resume their meeting on second and fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m. Jacque Mauch will lead the group in biblical readings and discussions.

Angel Food Ministry teams will be available to take orders for September on Friday, Sept. 7; Saturday, Sept. 8; Friday, Sept. 14 and Saturday, Sept. 15 at the church. Times will be from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Fridays from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Anyone who previously received an order form for September Angel Food, please make a note that the delivery time has changed to 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. We received notice this week that our truck would arrive earlier than planned. For more information, call 267-2203 or 267-4082.

The church will sponsor a booth at the Howard County Fair, Sept. 26-29. In addition to giving away Bibles, literature and prizes, there will be a drawing each night for a special gift and a grand prize drawing on Saturday night. We will also be taking orders for Angel Food for October delivery. Please make plans to attend the Fair this year.

Remember that God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it. See you in church Sunday.

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated during the 11 a.m. worship service. The chancel choir will present the anthem “Set Me As a Seal” by René Clausen. Organist Mike Mitchell will offer two arrangements by young American composer Craig Phillips for prelude and postlude.

Sunday school classes begin at 9:45 each Sunday, with “Take Ten” fellow-

ship time in the church parlor at 10:35 a.m., and worship in the sanctuary at 11 a.m. Those who are unable to attend worship are invited to listen to the service on KBST 1490.

Weekly Bible study at 5:17 p.m. and choir practice at 6 p.m. will be on Wednesday. The youth will meet from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday.

Presbyterian Women will resume their study groups this month. The Working Women will meet Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. The Presbyterian Women group is set for Tuesday, Sept. 25.

Our church will host the meeting of Church Women United on Saturday, Sept. 8.

Lectionary for the day is Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14.

First United Methodist Church

Our thanks to the Rev. Dr. Jim Smith of Amarillo for preaching at both services of worship this past Sunday. Dr. Smith, who is recently retired from St Stephens United Methodist Church, is the father of Jill Brue, our pastor's wife.

This Sunday, Dr. Shane Brue will begin a series titled “Back to the Church.” This sermon will be “It Is Good For Us To Be Here,” based on Luke, Chapter 9, verses 28-36. Services of worship are at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. with mid-week Bible study and lunch at noon Wednesdays in Garrett Hall.

Our offices will be closed on Monday in observance of Labor Day. Regular schedule of activities will resume Tuesday.

Kids Club begins Sept. 11. Volunteers are always needed for this very important after-school program. To help, call Joyce Willis, director of Children's Ministries at 267-6394.

On Saturday, Sept. 15, the Big Spring District United Methodist Women will hold their annual district meeting at La Trinidad United Methodist Church in Lamesa. Special speaker will be the Rev. Donita Lea, pastor of Coahoma United Methodist Church. Her topic will relate to the Israel/Palestine study as she shares with participants what she experienced on a trip to the Holy Land in January as well as a month of study in Jerusalem in July.

The banners are up. It's official! “Mission Possible 2007,” our Lord's Acre event is scheduled for Oct. 6. Make plans to attend and participate in this fun day dedicated to the Lord's work.

First United Methodist Church buildings are located at Fourth and Scurry streets in downtown Big Spring. We have a place for you. Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds; United Methodists.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Worship services are at 9 a.m.; Sunday school and Bible classes for adults are at 10:15 a.m.

This Sunday is the day before Labor Day. Don't forget to honor all those who have labored in one way or the other for all of us. Give special credit to all those who serve us on this weekend while they are working.

This is the first Sunday

of our fall Sunday school program. Now is the time to join us.

Bible classes continue during the week. The Wednesday noon Bible study: Beth Moore on the book of Daniel is being studied by this group which started with 26 women. They welcome you, too! Call the church for times and locations.

September 9 is “Rally Day” with the installation of teachers. Don't forget, we have many programs in progress. On-going Support for our military continues.

The LWML has cookbooks for sale with proceeds going to the High School Bible classes.

You are always welcome at St. Paul Lutheran. We are a small congregation with high goals. To worship and serve the Lord. Come joins us at 810 Scurry St.

Friends of Unity Center

Thirteen days of prayer vigilance remain before Unity World Prayer Day on Thursday, Sept. 13. Friends continue in faith with the affirmation: “We are peacemakers, one in the love of God. With hearts united, we establish harmony and peace in our lives and in the world.”

For more information call 263-6311 or 267-8783.

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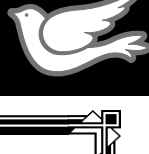
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► Nation/World briefs

Bush to hear military's concerns about impact of maintaining heavy troop presence in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, consulting military leaders on how to go forward in Iraq, is expected to hear deep concerns about the long-term impact on U.S. forces of maintaining a heavy troop presence in Iraq in 2008 and beyond.

Iraq was to be the main topic at a meeting, scheduled for Friday, at the Pentagon with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

The Army and the Marine Corps have shouldered most of the burden in Iraq, creating strains that service leaders fear could hurt their recruiting as well as their preparedness for other military emergencies. The Joint Chiefs, however, were not expected to urge Bush to withdraw from Iraq entirely as many Democrats want.

Maj. Gen. Richard Sherlock, director of operational planning for the Joint Chiefs, told reporters that Friday's meeting in a secure conference room known as "the tank" would be the Joint Chiefs' opportunity to "provide the president with their unvarnished recommendations and their assessments of current operations" — in particular the situation in Iraq.

It did not appear that the session was intended to work out a consensus military view on how long Bush should maintain the U.S. troop buildup in Iraq or how soon to transition to Iraqi control of security.

Memorial service to mark 10th anniversary of Princess Diana's death in Paris car crash

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana's family gathered Friday to solemnly mark the 10th anniversary of her death, while admirers tied scores of bouquets, poems and pictures to the gates of her former home.

It was a day for broadcasting video snippets of one wedding and funeral, for rehashing the rights and wrongs of the failed marriage of Diana and Prince Charles.

It was one more day for dredging up questions about how she came to die in a car crash in Paris with her boyfriend Dodi Fayed, and for the Daily Telegraph to publish an essay which explained "why we were right to weep for Diana."

Diana's sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, were credited with organizing a noontime service at the Guards' Chapel near Buckingham Palace, but Charles was blamed by many for the dispute over an invitation to his current wife.

Camilla, who was blamed by Diana for breaking up her marriage, decided to stay home. That decision followed quickly after the Mail on Sunday published a commentary by Diana's friend, Rosa Monckton, saying the princess would have been "astonished" that Camilla was invited.

Police officer accused Sen. Craig of lying after undercover operation at airport men's room

WASHINGTON (AP) — Minutes after he was arrested for lewd conduct, Sen. Larry Craig denied soliciting an undercover officer for sex in a men's bathroom and pleaded, "I'm not gay. I don't do these kinds of things."

Craig, R-Idaho, denied that he had used foot and hand gestures to signal interest in a sexual encounter, according to a taped interview released Thursday by the Minneapolis Airport Police. The officer, Sgt. Dave Karsnia, accused the three-term senator of lying and grew exasperated with his denials.

"Embarrassing, embarrassing. No wonder why we're going down the tubes," Karsnia said.

Craig, 62, never admitted in the interview to doing anything wrong and claimed his actions had been misinter-

preted. However, Karsnia wrote in his report that the gestures were consistent with efforts to find a sexual partner in the men's room.

Craig later pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of disorderly conduct, which he now calls a mistake.

Judge strikes down Iowa's same-sex marriage law, orders licenses for 6 gay couples

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A county judge struck down Iowa's decade-old gay marriage ban as unconstitutional Thursday and ordered local officials to process marriage licenses for six gay couples.

Gay couples from anywhere in Iowa could apply for a marriage license from Polk County under Judge Robert Hanson's ruling.

Less than two hours after word of the ruling was publicized, two Des Moines men applied for a license, the first time the county had accepted a same-sex application. The approval process takes three days.

Gary Allen Seronko, 51, was listed as the groom on the form and David Curtis Rethmeier, 29, the bride.

"I started to cry because we so badly

want to be able to be protected if something happens to one of us," Rethmeier said.

AP Interview: Sen. Tim Johnson says he never considered resigning during illness

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sen. Tim Johnson endured some dark days after his life-threatening brain hemorrhage, but he says he never considered resigning.


All political eyes were focused on the second-term Democrat from South Dakota after he fell ill Dec. 13, mainly because of his party's slim margin of Senate control.

In chatter online and elsewhere, some have suggested that Johnson, up for reelection next year, should resign. But on Thursday, Johnson said he intends to run in 2008, while noting it would be premature to make an official re-election announcement just yet.





"I assume that I'll get better and better, moving around and my speech, but it's premature to talk about that," the 60-year-old told The Associated Press in an interview in his Sioux Falls home. "But I intend to run, and as far as I know, I am running."

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Howard County Fair 2007
September 26-29, 2007
4-10 pm weekdays, 10 am-10 pm Saturday

Entries for Creative Arts, Fine Arts, Baked Goods, Canned Goods, Antiques and other items for display will be accepted from 8 am - 6 pm, September 25.
Antique category: Cookbooks over 25 years old (published prior to 1982)

.....
Entries will be judged the evening of September 25 and must remain on display throughout the fair. They may be picked up after 10 pm September 29 or between 1 pm and 4 pm September 30.
Information and entry forms for all Fair events: www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com
.....

QUEEN CONTEST

Date: September 15, 2007 Location: Dora Roberts Community Center
Preliminaries (classes, etc.) - 9 a.m.
Pageant begins at 1 pm. Public is invited to attend.
Entry forms available at: Posey Cotton, 601 Scurry - before noon
County Extension Office, Court House
At www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

NOTE: Entrants must have a sponsor. It costs \$35 to sponsor a girl.
Information: Nancy Howard 353-4448 (No answer, leave message)

.....
QUILT
Theme: "Wildlife of Texas".
On Display: Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler • 7 am - 3 pm, Monday-Friday
Chances: \$ each or 6 for \$5. (Proceeds used defray expenses of the Fair.)
Drawing: Saturday, 9:45 p.m.
SCRAPBOOKING
Rules:
Size: 12x12. Must be in a protector sheet. Journal and decorate
Must have name, address and phone number on the back of page or inside protector sleeve.
Theme: Where, What, When, Who
Judged on creativity, originality, presentation and journaling
.....

Fair Contests/Displays/Events

Fine Art
Drawing, graphics, oils, acrylics, water color, mixed media, sculpture, pottery, computer, oil on wood

Photography
Grandparents' Corner. "Kids Do the Darndest Things" photo contest, "Favorite Family Pet, photo contest.

Canned Goods
Fruits, vegetables, pickles and relishes, jams, jellies, preserves, dried food products, juice/syrup, peppers, salsa/hot sauce, miscellaneous

Creative Arts
Hobbies and crafts, handwork and needlework, clothing

Grandparents' Corner
Photographs

Favorite Family Pet
Photographs

Poetry
Three youth divisions

"Kids Do the Darndest Things"
Funny photos of children, at least 3x5 inches in size

Antique Cookbooks
Must be published prior to 1982

Children's Fair
Pre-K through 4th grades - Theme: It's a Jungle Out There - Classroom or individual projects

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Antique Tractor Pull
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Kountry Kids Contest
Kids 0-5 years old, dressed in denim at least 50% cotton. \$10 entry fee.

Queen Contest
Contestants must have a sponsor. Sponsorship is \$35. All high school and college age girls from Howard County are eligible.

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DENNIS THE MENACE



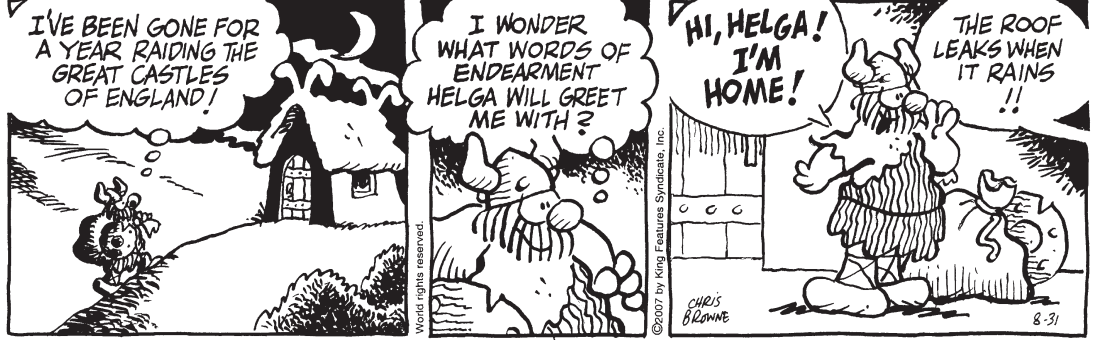
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

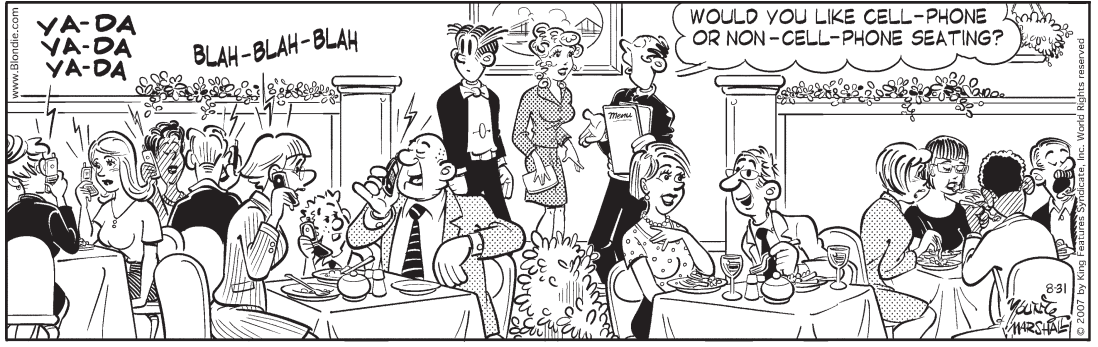


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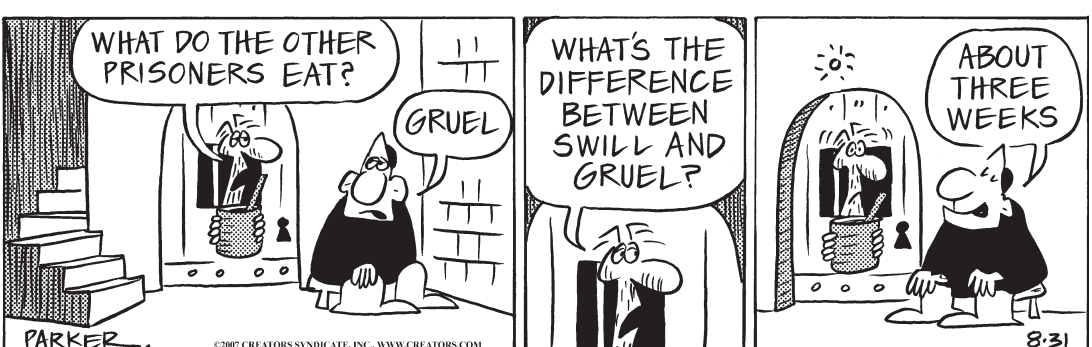
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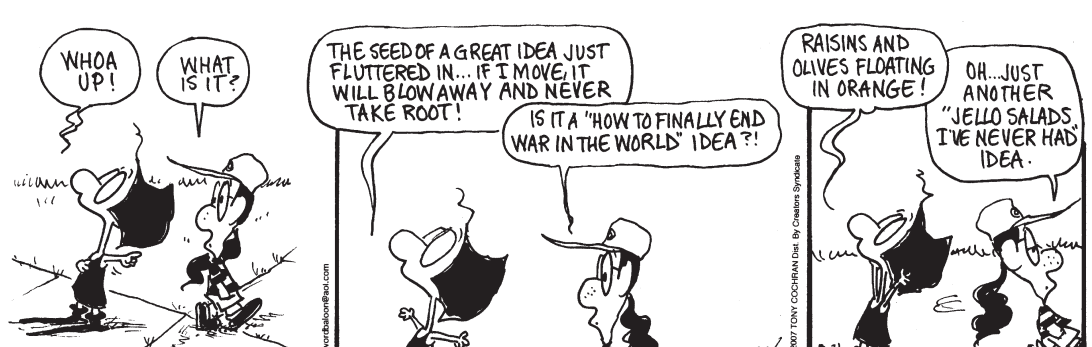
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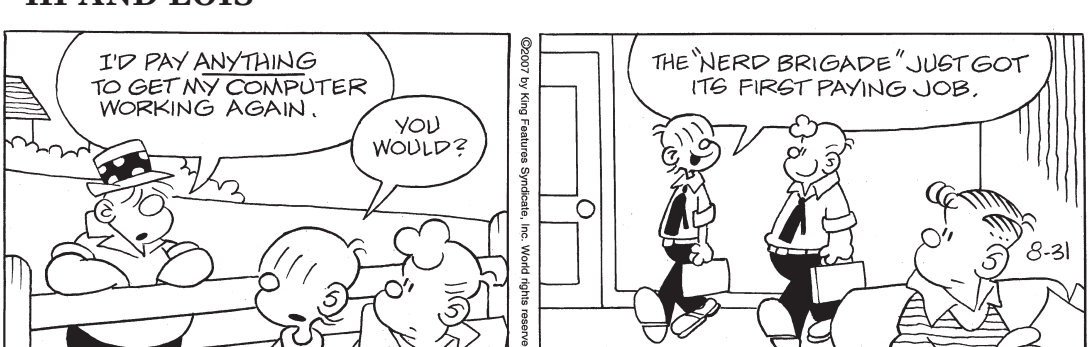
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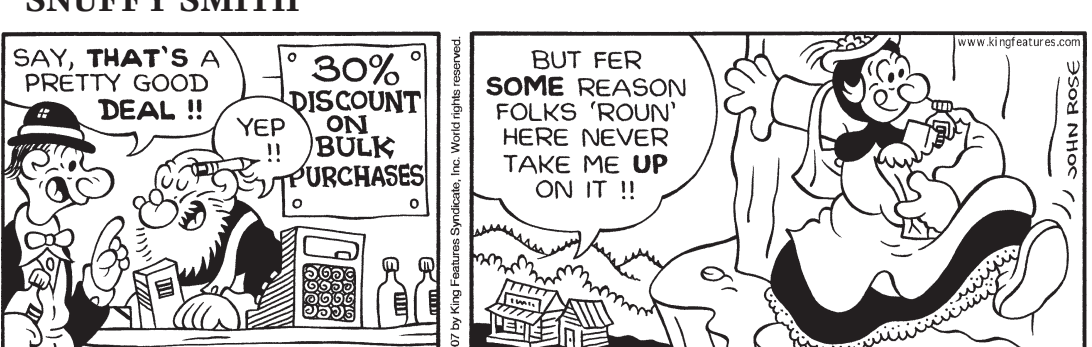
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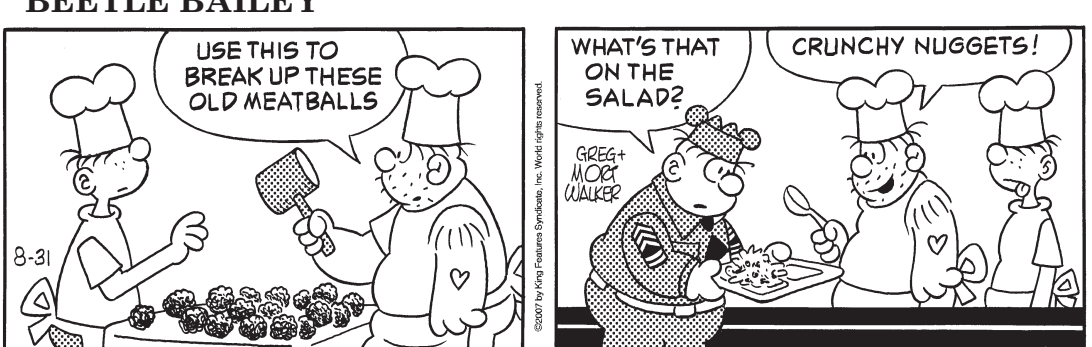
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This Date In History

By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, Aug. 31, the 243rd day of 2007. There are 122 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Aug. 31, 1886, an earthquake rocked Charleston, S.C., killing 60 people...

In 1954, Hurricane Carol hit the northeastern Atlantic states. Connecticut, Rhode Island and part of Massachusetts bore the brunt of the storm, which resulted in nearly 70 deaths. In 1957, the Federation of Malaya became independent of British colonial rule. In 1962, the Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago became independent of British colonial rule. In 1980, Poland's Solidarity labor movement was born with an agreement signed in Gdansk that ended a 17-day-old strike. In 1986, 82 people were killed when an Aeromexico jetliner and a small private plane collided over Cerritos, Calif. In 1988, the Soviet passenger ship Admiral Nakhimov collided with a merchant vessel in the Black Sea, causing both vessels to sink; up to 448 people reportedly died. Ten years ago: Prince Charles brought Princess Diana home for the last time, escorting the body of his former wife to a Britain that was shocked, grief-

stricken and angered by her death in a Paris traffic accident. Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Daniel Schorr is 91. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Frank Robinson is 72. Actor Warren Berlinger is 70. Rock musician Jerry Allison (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 68. Actor Jack Thompson is 67. Violinist Itzhak Perlman is 62. Singer Van Morrison is 62. Rock musician Rudolf Schenker (The Scorpions) is 59. Actor Richard Gere is 58. Rock singer Glenn Tilbrook (Squeeze) is 50. Rock musician Gina Schock (The Go-Go's) is 50. Singer Tony DeFranco (The DeFranco Family) is 48.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Part player
6 Like-minded group
10 Didn't go bad
14 Poet Marianne
15 Bebe Neuwirth Broadway role of '94
16 Teacher's handout
17 Arabian horses, e.g.
19 Taft's alma mater
20 Job detail
21 Hold
22 Weekend Edition Sunday host
24 MSN rival
26 Man of morals
27 Bubbly beverage
33 Beat in wrestling
34 Furnishing style
35 See 66 Across
37 Add-ons
39 Sacred ceremonies
41 Hindu melody
42 Some terriers
44 Skin application
46 Syllable of disapproval
47 What the Gateway Arch is made of
50 Seaweed
51 "What'd you say?"
52 Really feeling the heat
54 Fluffy wrap
56 CW sitcom
60 & Stitch

CLEAN SLATE by Doug Peterson Edited by Stanley Newman

Crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares and a list of words to be placed.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
ROSIE CAWS TINA
ALARM ALOE IRON
GETME TALC MAST
GEARSHIFT ITIS
GUY ORNERY
GOPHER SPRIG
EPEE FATE BBALL
LILAC BEN SEPIA
SETTO LINK LORD
ELLEN NETPAY
CHORAL SEA
LATH BRAKESHOE
ASTO EAVE TALLY
UTES AVID ERASE
SORE NESS REFER