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Lady Steers
set to face
Frenship on the
road tonight.
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

TUESDAY
 SEPTEMBER 25, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 258 COPYRIGHT 2007 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Court seeks TCJS input on jail

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Howard County commissioners are expected to seek state approval next week for a \$11.57 million, 40,000 square-foot jail design that could have a new facility located in Big Spring's west side in the next two years. Commissioners gave project architect Jeff Heffelfinger of

Southwest Architects the go-ahead to submit the plans to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, as the court prepares to meet with the panel Wednesday, Oct. 3. The 96-bed jail design includes facilities for both men and women — the county currently houses all female inmates out of county due to state regulations — and room

for two more construction phases, if necessary. "There are phases two and three right here," said Commissioner Jerry Kilgore, pointing to an area on the architect's design. "One is a 48-bed expansion of the jail, and the other one is a 24-bed expansion. The 24-bed (dorm-style) expansion would be perfect if we can get a work program."

Kilgore and Commissioner Bill Crooker said they feel comfortable with the design, which is a mixture of podular and single-cell designs. "This is sort of a one-of-a-kind design. That's one of the reasons we want to get the state jail commission's input on it," said Kilgore. The proposed facility would be located on U.S. Highway 80,

between Utah and Wright, on the city's west side. Commissioners approved a contract with local property owner Thomas Land approximately two weeks ago, with purchase of the lots — at a cost of \$45,000 — contingent on voter approval of a \$11.57 million bond in November. See **JAIL**, Page 3A

48.787-cent tax rate gets reluctant OK

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Reluctant. That's the word Howard County commissioners used to describe their unanimous approval of a tax rate of 48.787 cents per \$100 valuation for 2007-2008, which includes a 6.38-cent increase over the rollback rate. Commissioners have cited declining fund balances and ongoing litigation with Alon USA — owner of the Big Spring Refinery — concerning property values as reasons for the tax hike, which is expected to generate approximately \$700,000 in additional funding for the coming fiscal year. "This is reluctant," said Barr. "However, it's the only way we can make this thing work." Until litigation between the county and Alon USA is settled, the Israeli-owned oil company has agreed to pay taxes only on what Alon representatives described as the "uncontested appraisal amount" of \$80 million. The county has also made a number of budget cuts — totaling \$300,000 in savings — in hopes of



WEGMAN

avoiding bankruptcy in the coming years. Unfortunately, those cuts have translated into layoffs. Budget cuts expected to go into effect Oct. 1 include the elimination of two full-time positions and one part-time position from the sheriff's office, two full-time positions and one part-time position at the county library and two full-time and one part-time position from the county's road and bridge department. Commissioners have also approved the elimination of one full-time and one part-time position from the maintenance department and a single part-time position with the District Clerk's office. The approved tax rate consists of 41.5392 cents for the county's general fund, 2.915 cents for road and bridge, 3.585 cents for the road and bridge special fund and .7478 cents for debt service. Also during Monday's meeting, commissioners approved a pair of resolutions that will allow local economic development firm Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. to move forward with possi-

See **RATE**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
 Howard County commissioners consider a pair of resolutions that would allow local economic development firm Moore Development to act on its behalf in ongoing negotiations with several wind energy companies asking for tax abatements to build in Howard County. The court approved both measures unanimously.

Business seminar set for Oct. 9

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 What's the best way to deal with a difficult customer? How should conflicts be resolved in the workplace? These are just a few of the questions the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Business Development Committee — along with the Howard College Workforce Education department —

hope to answer Oct. 9 during a special seminar in the college's Cactus Room. Terri Johansen, chairman of the Chamber committee, said seminar will not only help many area employers answer some of the tough questions facing them, it also takes advantage of a resource many area residents don't know exists at the local junior college. "The Business

Development Committee of the Chamber was working on different kinds of ideas," said Johansen. "We try to have seminars every so often for our businesses and employers to assist them in doing business better. The regulations and law change so much, it's good to keep up with them. "We were throwing ideas around and this is one that came up. Our college is an excellent

resource, and they have this workforce training and development department, which is really a hidden jewel." Johansen said she receives offers for similar seminars on an almost-daily basis, but the Chamber sponsored event has one very cost-effective leg up on all of them. "I get brochures in the mail all of the time from See **SEMINAR**, Page 3A

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www.bigspringherald.com

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

SWCID observes Deaf Awareness Week

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 Students and staff at the nation's largest community college for the deaf would like a few moments of your time this week. SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf will be the focal point of celebrations denoting National Deaf Awareness Week, which will be observed through Friday. The celebration gives individuals a chance to learn more about what it means to be deaf in a hearing world, local organizers said.

"Deaf Awareness Week not only educates the hearing community, but it allows the deaf community to learn more about itself." SWCID Instructor Jeff Anderson said. As part of this week's observance, SWCID students and instructors will visit four elementary schools in the area in hopes of shedding some light on common misconceptions. Anderson recalled a similar visit several years ago in which the youngsters were "shocked" to learn that deaf people could be instructors, or have families. Shattering those misconceptions helps hearing children "grow up having more

respect and understanding for the deaf community," Anderson said. Anderson said the week also is important for the deaf because it allows them to flex their political muscles. "You have a right to be heard," he told SWCID students during a Monday assembly. "Register to vote ... This is something you can do for yourself and not just leave things up for others to decide." Other activities associated with Deaf Awareness Week include a hot dog supper hosted by the West Texas See **SWCID**, Page 3A

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Sports

**BIG
SPRING HERALD**

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

Page 1B
Tuesday, September 25, 2007

IN BRIEF

Area high school sports calendar

Here's a look at the area high school varsity sports' calendar:

TODAY

Big Spring volleyball at Frenship, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring tennis vs. Abilene Wylie in Sweetwater, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY

Big Spring football at Sweetwater, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan football vs. Irion Co., 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football at Merkel, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football at Anson, 7:30 p.m.

Garden City football vs. Lorenzo, 7:30 p.m.

Grady football vs. Water Valley, 7:30 p.m.

Sands football at Klondike, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Big Spring volleyball vs. Estacado, 2 p.m.

Big Spring cross country at Lubbock Invitational

Big Spring swimming vs. Abilene High & Abilene Cooper Double Duel at YMCA

Big Spring tennis vs. Lake View, 10 a.m.

SEPT. 25

Big Spring volleyball at Wolfforth Frenship, 7 p.m.

Big Spring tennis vs. Abilene Wylie at Sweetwater, 4 p.m.

Ragball tourney to benefit Relay for Life

The Lady Steers Softball Field will play host to a ragball tournament benefiting the Relay for Life Sept. 29-30.

Teams must be made up of five girls and five boys. Cost is \$10 a person.

Registration starts at 9 a.m. on the 29th. The first game will be played at 10 a.m.

For more information, call Angel at 264-4108.

Quarterback Club meeting Monday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is meeting Monday at 7 p.m. in the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of Big Spring football players from junior high to varsity are encouraged to attend and help support the Steers' football program.

Disc golf tourney set for Sept. 30

The 15th Ever DiscOver Big Spring Disc Golf Tournament has been set for Sept. 30 at Comanche Trail Park.

Registration is from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. before the tournament. It is limited to the first 90 players and two rounds of 18 holes will be played.

Fees vary from \$15 to \$45 depending on division.

Contact Greg Brooks at (432) 528-5076.

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, ext. 237, to submit a sports brief.

Rams' Jackson to miss Cowboys' game

By The Associated Press

St. Louis Rams running back Steven Jackson will miss at least one week with a partial tear of his left groin, an injury sustained in the fourth quarter of Sunday's 24-3 loss at Tampa Bay.

Rookie Brian Leonard, a second-round pick from Rutgers, will get his first start Sunday at Dallas. Coach Scott Linehan said Jackson would be week to week.

"He's one of our best players, if not the best player," Rams offensive coordinator Greg Olson said. "Anytime someone gets injured the rest of us have to pick up the slack."

The winless Rams learned about Jackson a day after guard Mark Setterstrom was lost for

the season with a torn left knee ligament and cartilage damage. Already out is seven-time Pro Bowl tackle Orlando Pace, who injured his shoulder in the opener.

HoustonTexans defensive tackle Cedric Killings was able to stand in the hospital on Monday and doctors are confident he'll soon be walking, a day after he left the field on a stretcher after a headfirst collision with Indianapolis receiver Roy Hall.

Killings fractured his C-4 vertebra and was unable to move any of his limbs for a time on Sunday, said Dr. Rob Parrish, a neurosurgeon working with Killings. He has since gained movement in his arms and legs,

though he's weak in both hands and his left arm.

"He stood for me this morning at the bed side," Parrish said. "So I think he'll walk out of the hospital. That's very good. We were all applauding."

Another of the NFL's top running backs, Seattle's Shaun Alexander, has a cracked bone in his left wrist but will continue to play with a protective cast, coach Mike Holmgren said.

Alexander has been playing with a cast since spraining the wrist in the team's opener. Holmgren did not say when the bone was cracked, but said "extra pictures" of the wrist were taken after Alexander came out of Sunday's game against

Cincinnati.

"What they found was _ now let me just say, everyone calm down here _ they found a small crack in his wrist, OK?" Holmgren said. "They don't think it's anything any more serious than it was. It's small."

Eagles running back Brian Westbrook had an abdominal strain after gaining 221 yards from scrimmage and scoring three times Sunday. He left in the third quarter against Detroit, and his availability for this week's game against the New York Giants is uncertain.

"We'll know better in the next day or two," coach Andy Reid

See **INJURIES**, Page 2B

Lady Steers travel to Frenship tonight



Herald photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring's Hali Torres digs a serve from Plainview's Lady Bulldogs in the Lady Steers district opener Sept. 18. Plainview defeated the Lady Steers in straight sets. Big Spring plays its second district match at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Frenship. Pick up Wednesday's edition of the Herald for full results and coverage.

Rangers power past Anaheim

By Mike DiGiovanna

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — The Angels went on the road in search of home-field advantage in the playoffs with a team that plays .500 ball on the road and a pitcher who rarely wins on the road.

Something about this equation didn't add up Monday night, and the result was an almost predictable 8-7 loss to the TexasRangers.

Ervin Santana gave up six runs and eight hits, including a three-run home run to Michael Young and a two-run homer to Marlon Byrd, in five innings to fall to 7-14 overall and 1-10 with an 8.50 earned-run average on the road.

The Angels nearly out-hit Santana's mistakes, putting together a five-run fifth inning that featured Casey Kotchman's two-run homer and Howie Kendrick's run-scoring double, and Juan Rivera's two-run double in the eighth cut the Angels' deficit to 8-7.

But closer Wes Littleton retired the side in order in the ninth, and the Angels, who clinched the American League West title Sunday, fell a game behind Cleveland and half a game behind Boston in the race for the league's best record and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

One day after the Angels' wild division-clinching party, Manager Mike Scioscia gave designated hitter Vladimir Guerrero, left fielder Garret Anderson — who had started 47 of the previous 48 games — and catcher Jeff Mathis the night off.

Cruising Cowboys eye a realistic 5-0 start

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Not even the great optimist Jerry Jones could have expected a start like this.

The DallasCowboys are 3-0 and boast the most productive offense in the NFL. They have a budding star in Tony Romo and a defense that's getting better every week.

And their next two games are against winless teams who've just lost their offensive stars.

Is there any doubt they're going to be 5-0?

Whoa. That's exactly the kind of over-optimism coach Wade Phillips is worried about following an impressive win over the reigning NFC champions at their place Sunday night. So when he spoke to the team Monday afternoon, he opened with a different kind of math lesson, pointing out that they've only played 19 percent of the season, which means there's 81 percent to go.

"You are not measured on 19 percent," he told them. "You are measured on the whole season."

Still, Phillips has to like what he's seen so far:

• Dallas has scored 116 points, the last 34 against a Chicago defense widely considered among the best in the league.

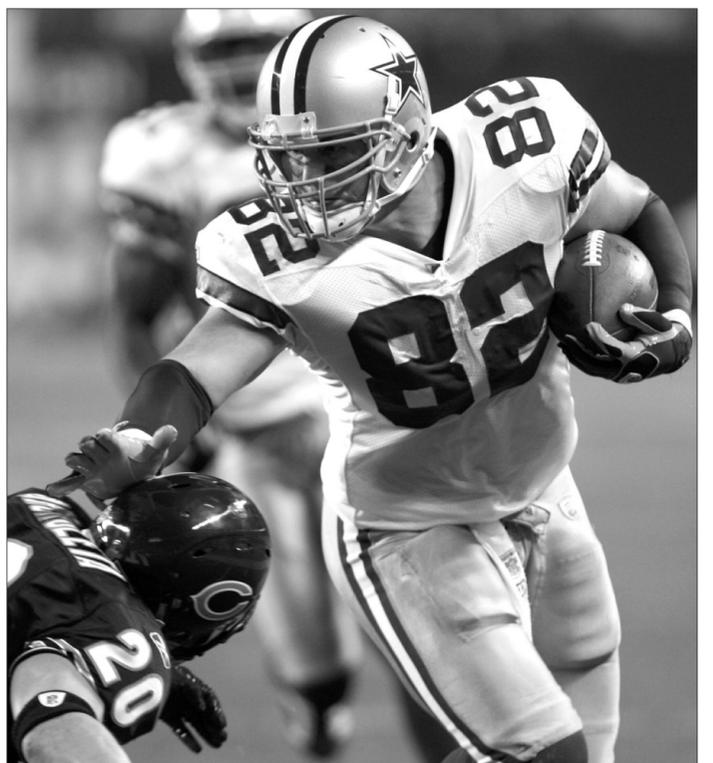
The way Romo avoided the rush and kept finding receivers legitimized their success against less-than-stellar units the previous two games. The pass-heavy game plan that included Terrell Owens starting several plays lined up in the backfield also showed the creativity of new offensive coordinator Jason Garrett.

"It's exciting, against that defense, to do what we did," Romo said.

• The new defensive scheme Phillips is implementing seems to be coming together, too.

There were questions whether his pressure-heavy plan would work with the players he inherited after they allowed 35 points in the opener. Then Dallas gave up 20 points. Now 10. Plus, the Cowboys had their top cornerback, Terence Newman, for the first time in the last game. Coincidence or not, that game also featured the first sack of the year for should-be sack leader DeMarcus Ware. He got his second, too.

"Everybody is very excited around here," defensive captain Bradie James said. "The city is buzzing. Our confidence is definitely high. ... We're showing



MCT photo/Ron Jenkins/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Dallas Cowboys tight end Jason Witten (82) is hit by the Chicago Bears' Adam Archuleta in the second quarter Sunday at Soldier Field in Chicago.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B

Obituaries

John Mastin Johnson

John Mastin Johnson, 57, of Royse City, formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday, Sept. 23, 2007, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lottery

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

Winning numbers drawn: 23-13-21-15-14.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$27,878.
Winning tickets sold in: Richmond, Diamond Market.

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

Winning numbers drawn: 9-13-20-16. Bonus Ball: 29.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1.
Prize: \$225,000
Winning ticket(s) sold in: Amarillo, Toot N' Totum 65.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-4-7

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s. East winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. Southeast winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Thursday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s.

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

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

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

Sunday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

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

Police blotter

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

- **NATHAN FLENNIKEN**, 18, of 2508 Juniper, was arrested Monday on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- **ROMAN ORTEGA**, 35, of 704 Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while license invalid and possession of a controlled substance.
- **CATHERINE MAYBERRY**, 37, of 1200 Lloyd, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE** was reported in the 900 block of Second Street.
- **THEFT OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 4000 block of Parkway.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 2500 block of Hunter.
- **FRAUDULENT USE/POSSESSION OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 54 inmates at the time of this report.
- **VICTORIA HANNABASS**, 18, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **TONY MONROE GAMBLE**, 40, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.
- **JUAN MANUEL GARCIA**, 41, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.
- **SERGIO HERNANDEZ GONZALES**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of duty on striking fixture/highway landscape.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Driver Road. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lark. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of W. Fifth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• **KIDS KLUB DVD ARE AVAILABLE AT THE HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** for \$20. Partial proceeds of these DVDs will benefit next summer's Klub program. Supplies are limited. For more information, call 264-1999.

• **THE ACKERLY LUNCH BUNCH** will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the 14th and Main Church of Christ fellowship room in Big Spring. A barbecue lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$11 a plate and includes dessert and a drink. RSVP by calling (432) 213-4452.

• **A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED** for David English of Snyder, who was recently injured on the job in Big Spring and is in critical condition at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. Donations can be made at American State Bank, 1411, S. Gregg St., Big Spring.

• **A BENEFIT DINNER, DANCE AND AUCTION** will be held Oct. 14 at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St. The benefit is to raise funds for B. Michael Brown, who has been diagnosed with cancer and has no insurance. Lunch will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the auction will be held at 1 p.m. and a dinner will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call 816-5988, 264-8048 or 270-4156.

• **THE PUBLIC IS BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A PHOTO** of blue-bonnets, 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.

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

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

• **ALL CREATURES SANCTUARY AND RESCUE** has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight cir-

cles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bulletin Board

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

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.
- 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.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. 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.
- Dance at the Senior Center to Monroe Casey and the Prowlers, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

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

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

• Life Recovery, a non-denominational Christian group of recovering alcoholics and addicts, meets at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

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

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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INJURIES

Continued from Page 1B

said. "He's pretty sore."

Reid said Westbrook wasn't hurt on a hit, but instead on a sharp move while running.

"It was kind of a freak thing," Reid said.

Philadelphia cornerback Lito Sheppard is still recovering from a knee injury and may miss

his third straight game. Linebacker Stewart Bradley had surgery on his broken hand, while safety Brian Dawkins (stinger) and offensive tackle William Thomas (sprained knee) are also out.

Bills linebacker Paul Posluszny's season is over, after the second-round draft pick broke his left forearm in the second quarter of a 38-7 loss at New England on

Sunday. Posluszny, who had surgery Monday, was hurt when he was making a tackle and got his arm caught underneath Patriots running back Laurence Maroney.

The Bills linebacking corps is already depleted with starter Keith Ellison (high ankle sprain) expected to miss the next two games and Coy Wire (sprained knee) out indefinitely.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

some flashes of what we can be. There's still some things we have to work on, no doubt. But we know that we're putting in the work and the foundation is getting set."

Then there's the schedule.

St. Louis (0-3) comes to Texas Stadium on Sunday without running back Steven Jackson, followed by Dallas going to Buffalo to play a Bills club that's 0-3 and might be without quarterback J.P. Losman.

Should the Cowboys win both, as expected, Romo, Terrell Owens and Marion Barber will be able to say they've already done something Troy, Michael and Emmitt never did: win their first five games. The Triplets' best start was 4-0 in 1995, the season of Dallas' last Super Bowl title. The Cowboys haven't been 5-0 since 1983.

With such lowly foes coming up, some are already talking up the sixth game, at home against New England. There's a good chance both teams will be

unbeaten going into that Oct. 14 matchup.

Beyond that, the Cowboys can look forward to adding Tank Johnson to the defensive line in November. They're also hoping to have deep threat Terry Glenn back later this season.

"I think this team can be a better football team in five or seven weeks, when we get all the guys healthy and Tank joins the club," Romo said. "I think it could be a lot of fun."

Bill Parcells used to warn against "eating the cheese," his way of saying believing their own hype. Phillips is concerned about it, too, but has reason to believe his 19-81 line will be enough on that subject.

Here's why: "We got off the plane (in Chicago) and two of the flight attendants came up to me and separately said to me, 'What did y'all do with those guys? They studied all the way on the plane.' That's when I knew that they wanted to win the game. They were disciplined enough and it was important enough to our players that they were studying on the plane,

getting ready to play."

The Cowboys still have plenty of things to clean up, starting with penalties.

They also have yet to score a touchdown in the first quarter and have only three in the second quarter; their other 11 have come in the second half.

But it all comes back to this only being a small sample of their season. Phillips could even pull from his own past to help enforce the notion they haven't accomplished anything yet.

He's won at least four straight games in four of his previous five years as a head coach. However, he's yet to win a playoff game.

"We felt like we had a good team, we still feel like we have a good team," Phillips said. "But we still have a ways to go."

Extra points: S Keith Davis strained his right shoulder. He may not practice Wednesday. ... The Bears-Cowboys game was the third-highest in the season-plus NBC has been showing Sunday night games. The top two games involved the Indianapolis Colts.

BSYSA Scores and Standings

Here are the Big Spring Youth Soccer Association's standings through Monday Sept. 24 and the scores from games played Saturday Sept. 22. (Note: Three points are awarded to a team for a win, one point is given for a tie and no points are scored for a loss.)

U6 Standings
(Note: No score is kept during the U6 games.)

Saturday's games: Flash vs. Dust Busters; Shooterz vs. Lightning; Lil Monsters vs. Red Hots; Darts vs. Gold Diggers; Hurricanes vs. Da Shockers.

Today's game: Tidal Wave vs. Red Hots.

Team	W	L	T	Pts
1. Wildthanz	3	0	1	10
2. Kids in Black	3	1	0	9
3t. Steers	2	1	0	6
3t. Attack	2	1	0	6
4. Sidekicks	1	2	1	4
5t. Hornets	0	3	0	0
5t. Dirt Devils	0	3	0	0

Saturday's results: Sidekicks 2, Wild Thanz 2; Steers 5, Dirt Devils 0; Kids in Black 6, Hornets 0; Attack 5, Sidekicks 3.

Saturday's leading goal scorers: Eli Robles, Kids in Black - 4; Brayden Sizenbach, Attack - 4; Jason Miramontes, Steers - 3; Kaison Kirkland, Sidekicks - 3; Austin Horvathich, Sidekicks - 2; Abbey Bryan, Wild Thanz - 1; Bryce Hergert, Wild Thanz - 1; Trey Brockman, Kids in Black - 1; Kaelon Harbour, Kids in Black - 1; Maisey Martinez, Steers - 1; Christopher Hall, Steers - 1;

Haylie Crawford, Attack - 1.

Team	W	L	T	Pts
1. Timberwolves	4	0	12	12
2. Storm	3	0	0	9
3. Dragons	3	2	0	9
4. Tornados	1	4	0	3
5. Ballhawks	0	5	0	0

Saturday's results: Storm 9, Ballhawks 0; Timberwolves 4, Tornados 2; Dragons 6, Ballhawks 3.

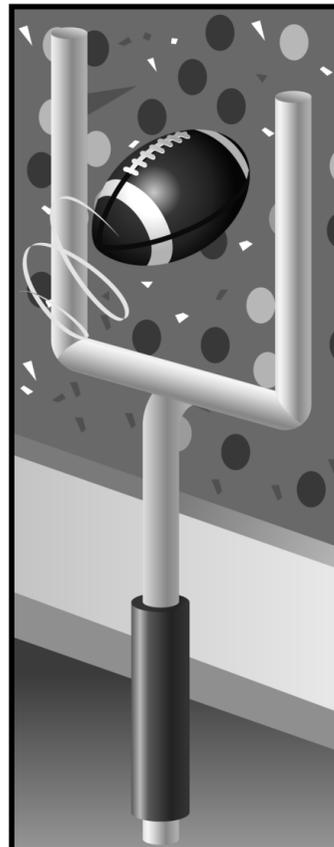
Saturday's leading goal scorers: Jacob Scott, Storm - 4; Dylan Segundo, Dragons - 3; Talia Mier, Dragons - 2; Lane Beech, Timberwolves - 2; Christopher Robles, Storm - 2; Matthew Wood, Storm - 1; Tyler Martin, Storm - 1; Charisma Fierro, Storm - 1; Jeremy Brooks, Timberwolves - 1; Lorenzo Jones, Timberwolves - 1; Faith Parum, Tornados - 1; Sam Yzaguirre, Dragons - 1; Brandon Hilario, Ballhawks - 1; Adrian Wilburt, Ballhawks - 1; Joshua Baker, Ballhawks - 1.

Today's game: Timberwolves vs. Dragons.

Team	W	L	T	Pts
1. Hurricanes	4	0	0	12
2. Royals	1	2	0	3
3. Tornados	0	3	0	0

Saturday's results: Hurricanes 9, Tornados 0.

Saturday's leading goal scorers: Taylor Broman, Hurricanes - 3; Tobin Tannehill, Hurricanes - 3; Tate Kennedy, Hurricanes - 1; Brett Broman, Hurricanes - 1; Tyler Brian, Hurricanes - 1.



**See Results In
Wednesday's Paper
Sept. 26**

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- Cosden Credit Union
- Jazzy's
- First Bank Of West Texas (All Locations)
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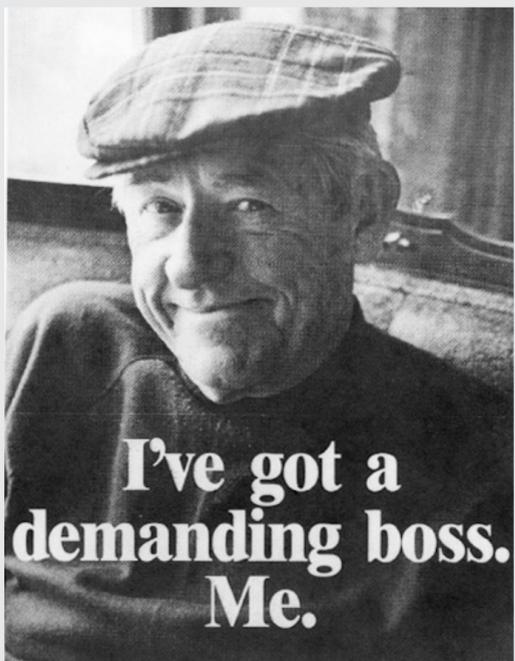
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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS Love and chaos — it's an exciting show. The Libra sun's high-wire balancing



HOLIDAY MATHIS

act is maintaining a steady, serene look of love as monkeys swing from velvet ropes and plates crash to the floor. The relaxed Pisces moon has seen it all before. Take quiet peace in, knowing with assurance that the curtain will lift again and the show will go on.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your level of success is directly proportionate to your ability to stay focused. That's why it's not a good time for acquiring — it's too distracting. Better to pare down and get back to basics.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The money is flowing to you. Work doesn't even feel like work — you're just attracting fantastic financial luck by doing what you do naturally. Oh, happy day!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's a French proverb that states: "To want to forget something is to think about it." Getting closure — real closure — is the key to putting the past behind

Tomorrow's Horoscope

you so well that it never enters your thoughts again.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Someone calls out, "Save me!" But does this person really mean it? Find out for sure before you make an effort and possibly endanger yourself for no good reason.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Like a true lion, when you're on the hunt, the other jungle animals would be wise to get a move on. Stragglers leave themselves open to attack. You're trying to be kind — but hey, you're hungry!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No matter how developed your confidence may be, there is always a window for doubt to sneak in. So, let it. A small degree of uncertainty keeps you honest, balanced and — oh, yes — likeable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your interests and talents are so varied that it's a shame some feel the need to pigeonhole you into one category. Work may feel confining for this very reason. It's a good thing you're not defined by your job.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your recent business activities are becoming known to many. You'd rather that others didn't talk about your life — can you help it if your news is always a bit on the juicy side?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Feeling whimsical? Foolish, even? Have you lost the will to reason? Maybe it's just that you're so highly spiritual that you're free of the material concerns

that bothered you yesterday.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your critical powers have served you well in the past month. You've avoided pitfalls, solved problems and raised standards. Now it's time to give those same critical faculties a rest. Try this on: "It's all good."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your flair for the dramatic surfaces. This is fun for anyone in your midst, though you might not enjoy it until later, when you can look back on today's scintillating scenes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To avoid the burnout that could come in your near future, regulate your energy. Pull back. Take rests — long ones. And tell anyone who asks that you're not being lazy, just smart.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I've been in a relationship for five years now with a Capricorn, and I'm an Aquarius. We've been engaged for a year and have no wedding plans. I think this is because of my fear of commitment to someone incompatible and his insecurities. We've had our doubts about this relationship but have grown comfortable to each other's ways. We've briefly broken up, but only for a day or a few hours. Recently, a male friend of mine who's an Aries has been showing interest in me, and I'm feeling the same — I have been for a while. Should I take a chance with this Aries or stay with the Capricorn that I

love?

You're being wooed by someone else and you're engaged, two diametrically opposing realities. The ram is coming around to show you the difference between the love you want and the love you have — to show you the missing piece. That piece will either lead you back to the goat you love or into the arms of another relationship, where you could, quite possibly, temporarily experience that piece. Ask yourself what's missing in your current relationship or risk repeating the same partnership pattern with the ram.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Is the cup half empty or half full for Janeane Garofalo? For the sun sign that can flip-flop between opposing points of view, it's an either/or question. While there's no singular sunny sun sign, for any Libra, pessimism notably tips the scales out of whack, filtering down into relationships and tainting the day-to-day. It turns out optimism is a learned trait — but one Libra smartly masters.

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 am the only one of my siblings who is out of the house and married with children. I live relatively close to my parents. The problem is, I feel as if they no longer consider me their daughter. They don't visit or invite us to come over, go swimming, have dinner, etc. I am usually the one who has to call them. Dad rarely phones, and Mom will call only if I don't get in touch for a few days. We only get together for birthdays and holidays.

My children have played sports for several seasons, and I've invited my parents to watch them on numerous occasions, but they are always too busy. When my son graduated preschool, my parents managed to find an excuse not to make it.

My parents are truly missing out when it comes to their grandchildren. The really sad part is that I have a younger brother who is close in age to my children and they love to



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

spend time together, but it happens rarely.

I've expressed my frustration to my parents many times, but it doesn't matter. It really hurts when they exclude me. Am I wrong to expect them to want to have quality time with me and my family? My children are too young now to understand, but how will I explain it to them later when they ask why Grandma and Grandpa aren't interested in them? — A.A.

Dear A.A.: Your parents may feel they are too young to be grandparents and don't want to be reminded, they could mistakenly believe they are doing you a favor by not being too involved in your married life, or they may be busy with their other young children.

Regardless, you need to make it clear that they are doing damage they may not be able to fix later — not only in their relationship with their grandchildren, but also with you. Please continue to call and invite them to your children's events, but don't expect too much in return. (We hope your husband's parents are close to your children.)

Dear Annie: I'm a foreign language tutor and translator. I love my job, but very often, when people find out what I do, they ask me how to say something in a certain language or they try to start a conversation with me in one of my languages.

Out of the context of my work environment, I feel put on the spot. I usually have my mind on something else, and I also don't want to appear as though I'm showing off. What is an effective response to these queries? — Put on the Hot Seat

Dear Hot Seat: You wouldn't be showing off to display your knowledge when asked. However, if you are embarrassed or annoyed by such questions, it's OK to smile politely and say, "I'm off-duty now. I hope you don't mind if we stick to English."

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

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McWhorter: County fair educational, 'a lot of fun'



Kandy McWhorter, Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent for Howard County, will be among the Extension specialists providing demonstrations during this year's Howard County Fair.

By NANCY KOGER

Special to the Herald

"People who don't come out and see things are missing out," says Kandy McWhorter about the Howard County Fair. As Family and Consumer Science County Extension Agent for Howard County, she realizes that many people have no clue about where their food and clothing come from and feels that the fair is a place to learn about such things. "Besides," she adds, "the fair is fun."

Although the Archer City native has not worked at the local fair before, she has attended — as a judge. About 20 years ago she was an extension agent in Bordon County for several years and served as a judge in the foods division here.

Her job with the Texas Extension Service entails working with both children and adults, helping with the 4-H clubs, and supplying her expertise wherever asked for. As what used to be called a "home demonstration agent," McWhorter often gives demonstrations on food preparation, home safety, and health issues.

With two bachelor's degrees in foods and nutrition and a master's in dietetics from Texas Tech University, Kandy is well qualified to speak on those subjects. Not only does she have extensive education in her field, she also has experience. "In about three weeks, I will complete 28 years with the Extension Service," she proudly declares.

During the 2007 fair she will be giving demonstrations at 6 p.m. inside the east entrance of the Fair Barn on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The first evening will feature "Packing Safe School Lunches," followed by a general demonstration on "Food Safety," concluding with "Canning," or an alternate display on "Making Italian Stew," with samples for the audience.

Agent Julie Smith from Bordon County will give a cooking demonstration on Wednesday evening, since McWhorter will be in Fort Stockton at a training session.

Because McWhorter will be away on Tuesday and Wednesday, when the food and crafts entries are brought in and judged, her main work during the fair this year will be to help the other two county agents with the livestock show.

"We pretty much do what we can to make things work," she admits.

When she's not occupied with her job, the busy agent likes to read, do cross stitch and make Christmas wreaths. Keeping in touch with her family, which includes 11 nieces and nephews and several grand nieces and nephews, also occupies her time.

Arriving in Big Spring from Dumas this past May, McWhorter was asked why she chose Howard County.

"After those years in Bordon County, the favorite place I've ever worked," she said, "it was like coming home."

RATE

Continued from Page 1A

ble tax abatements for wind energy projects considering setting up shop in Howard County.

Terry Wegman, executive director for Moore Development, told commissioners his office — which acts as liaison between developers and the county's taxing entities for proposed tax

abatements — has been in talks with several different companies looking at Howard County as a site for wind energy projects.

"At least four of the companies I've talked to are very serious about this. They already have the equipment and they're ready to start setting up," Wegman told the court. "However, some of the others are acting as what I consider brokers, getting the ground work in place before they go

out and begin bringing in investors for the project. I feel like we have some very viable projects on the horizon.

"One of the prerequisites to the granting of abatements for these projects is to develop a document that basically spells out what is required of the developer before you will consider abating taxes for the project. That document is called the tax abatement guidelines and criteria. There are two

things we need to do this morning. The first is a resolution that states the county is willing to accept tax abatement, and the second is adoption of the guidelines."

Commissioners expressed some concern over passing a broad resolution concerning the acceptance of tax abatements, but Wegman assured the court it in no way diminishes the county's ability to walk away from an abatement

process. "There are several steps in this process," Wegman told commissioners. "These are basically just the rules that everyone will abide by when someone does apply for abatement. The next step would be actually developing reinvestment zones, that's the geographic area that will spell out where tax abatement will take place.

"We have a couple of developers that are work-

ing on that right now, and we'll be back to the court sometime most likely in October. These items are just to get the process started."

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

JAIL

Continued from Page 1A

According to Crooker, the purchase includes a large lot for \$40,000 and a smaller frontage lot for \$5,000, with closing costs expected to be approximately \$10,000 — for a grand total of \$55,000.

When voters go to the polls to decide the future of the proposed facility during the November election, it won't be the first time they've held such a responsibility in their hands.

The court placed a similar bond issue to finance the design and construction of a jail on the ballot

in the 1990s, and again last year, with both issues falling flat.

In 2006, commissioners placed a \$10.1 million bond election on the ballot, asking voters to approve financing of a 144-bed jail, which was voted down by more than 60 percent.

In the midst of last

year's bond failure, the county took a huge financial hit when the existing county jail was shut down by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards that same month after the facility's smoke evacuation system failed to meet requirements during a pair of tests.

Contact Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

SEMINAR

Continued from Page 1A

different companies offering seminars similar to this one," said Johansen. "Most of the time they are in Dallas. They have these professionals come in and do a one-day seminar, and it will cost you upwards of \$500. This is something we're doing for free for our employers and business people."

Set for 7:30 a.m. until 9 a.m., Johansen said she hopes the early morning schedule helps attract more employers to attend.

"We're trying to have seminars for our employers early in the morning," said Johansen. "This one will be from 7:30 a.m. until 9 a.m., so they can take the seminar before their day begins. It works out better that way. We tried to have it in the evening, and the turn out was just never that good. That's just one more place for people to have to go in the evening when all they really want to do is go home."

Johansen said the seminar should have plenty to offer local employers, regardless of the size of

their business.

"The seminar is going to be presented by Terri Nix, assistant professor and division director for Howard College's Workforce Education department," said Johansen. "She is going to be going over conflict resolution, ethics, time management and dealing with difficult people. There are also several other subjects she's going to talk about.

"I really hope everyone

will come out and take part in this seminar. We're asking that those planning to attend call and let the Chamber know they will be attending. An RSVP would be much appreciated, but it's by no means required."

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

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

SWCID

Continued from Page 1a

Association for the Deaf tonight on the SWCID campus, basketball and volleyball tournaments and a film festival featuring videos starring and produced by students.

The observance will be capped by "Silent Day" Friday — students and instructors will communicate only by writing or sign language; no talking will be allowed.

For more information on Deaf Awareness Week,

contact SWCID at 264-3700.

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



Prayer to the Virgin Mary
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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Publisher

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Bill McClellan
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OUR VIEWS

Don't miss the hayrides at state park

It's time once again to begin the fall season with an old-fashioned hayride around the top of Scenic Mountain, as Harvest Saturday is once again observed at Big Spring State Park. A tradition now more than a decade old, Harvest Saturday is designed as a time for family fun.

Ron Alton, the park's superintendent, notes that his staff is also trying to make the hayrides educational, as well.

As riders sit on the hay bales and gaze off the park's bluff during the hayride, a speaker system will allow guides to talk about the plants and the geology of the area.

Rides are set for 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, beginning near the park's main office, located atop Scenic Mountain.

Those willing to wait around following the rides will also have an opportunity to watch the sun set from atop the mountain — a panoramic sight Alton likens to watching the sunset on the West Coast.

As a matter of fact, there's no reason not to make an afternoon and evening of it, since the park has picnic facilities, as well as a playground and a nature trail.

The only charge for the event will be the normal entrance fee for the park — \$2 for adults with children 12 and younger admitted free. And, of course, state park passholders will be admitted free, as well.

While Harvest Saturdays were once affairs where officials only requested donations, Alton said the decision was made to charge the normal entry fee a year ago when the state park system faced a \$2 million shortfall.

Things are no better this year. In fact, Alton said the state park system is facing the prospect of a "tremendous budgetary shortfall" this year and every bit is going to help.

With the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department seemingly eyeing the closure of state parks on an almost annual basis, it is important that Big Spring State Park draw as many visitors as possible.

As a result, we here at the *Herald* encourage readers to take the opportunity to spend some time outdoors with the family and help out the park.

We believe that will be an important investment not only for your families, but for our entire community.

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

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- 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

At any time we can make a change, Lord.

Amen

Hypocrisy as an 'impeachable' offense

Why did Sen. Larry Craig resign? Was it that he was exposed as a homosexual?

That he is also a Republican? That he lied? That he committed a misdemeanor? That he is a hypocrite? Or that Republicans had to offer him in sacrifice lest they too — horrors — be accused of party-wide hypocrisy?

Obviously, he resigned under pressure from the left — which ought to be defending him — and his GOP colleagues.

The larger question, then, is why both the left and right came down so hard on Craig. MSNBC's Chris Matthews inveighed against Craig because Republicans have railed against "San Francisco Democrats" and "hypocrisy does loom here."

Matthews' "Hardball" guest, Salon's Joan Walsh, agreed. "Hypocrisy absolutely looms, Chris. The Republican Party has made itself the party of the bedroom police. They've gone after gays, they've snickered about San Francisco Democrats, and they went after Bill Clinton in a sexual kind of witch hunt, and so they've left themselves really open to double standards."

Not so fast, Chris and Joan. While many "values voters" admittedly disapprove of homosexual behavior, they are not anti-gay in the sense liberals are suggesting.

I don't know of any Republicans or conservatives who engage in or advocate bedroom policing — a smear that is too-often repeated and accepted unquestioningly.

It's simply not true that opposition to abortion, the elevation of "sexual preference" to the status of race under our civil-rights laws, the societal sanctioning of homosexual marriage, or allowing homosexuals to serve as Boy Scout troop leaders constitutes bedroom

policing.

Even the charge Craig is suspected of involved public, not private, activity. No one is advocating that sodomy laws be resurrected and enforced or that government video cams be installed in our homes.

And, truth be told, conservative denunciation of "San Francisco Democrats" is due to their extreme liberalism and in-your-face demand that society normalize, even celebrate, homosexual behavior, not to some vendetta or crusade against homosexuals. In addition, the charge that Republicans conducted a sexual witch hunt against Bill Clinton does not become more credible with endless repetition. He was pursued for perjury and obstruction of justice.

So how can Republicans fairly be accused of hypocrisy here? They cashiered Craig immediately, which is light years faster than Dems police their own, i.e., rare to never. Surely liberals can't say with straight faces that either Craig's suspected behavior or the Republicans' swift response to it contribute to the "culture of corruption."

But isn't Craig a hypocrite? I'm not so sure. In the first place, Craig has denied he's homosexual. Aren't Democrats champions of the presumption of innocence? I realize this presumption generally only applies to criminal accusations, but liberals are always demanding that we also apply it to our discourse so that we can't even opine about one's culpability in a matter without violating the sacred presumption of innocence.

Remember how many of them objected to pundits' opinions — pre-verdict — that O.J. was guilty? So unless Democrats want to concede their own hypocrisy, they must assume Craig is not a homosexual since he denied it.

Besides, isn't it highly presumptuous to conclude that it's impossible for a homosexual to disapprove of homosexual marriage or other special rights for homosexuals?

Democrats might object that the presumption of innocence doesn't apply to Craig because he already pled guilty. But that's not a satisfactory answer since his plea didn't necessarily imply an admission that he solicited or engaged in homosexual activity.

But wait. Joan Walsh made it clear the presumption doesn't apply to Republicans. When Matthews, to his credit, challenged her for condemning Craig over the "longstanding rumors" of his homosexuality, she protested that the Idaho newspapers have documented Craig's pattern of behavior — as if newspaper accounts override the presumption and as if such patterns (see: Bill Clinton) ordinarily matter to liberals like Walsh.

But more troubling than any of the above are liberals' efforts to make GOP hypocrisy an "impeachable" offense.

Even worse is their exploitation of the Craig episode to undermine society's preservation of moral standards under the staggeringly ludicrous reasoning that sinners (read: everyone) are disqualified from condemning sin.

This is nothing short of a prescription for wholesale anarchy and the disintegration of our moral fabric: Judges couldn't be judges, legislators couldn't legislate, prosecutors couldn't prosecute, pastors, priests and rabbis couldn't serve.

Worst of all: Columnists couldn't sermonize.

As for me, I won't lose any sleep over Craig's departure because I happen to believe his guilty plea points to his culpability on the underlying charge to which he did not plead — and I'm not bound by liberals' selective demands that we expand the presumption of innocence to preclude the airing of our opinions of guilt.

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

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DAVID LIMBAUGH



What's in a name? Well, lots

United States Postal Service automated equipment is phenomenal. It can read, code and sort mail at a little more than eight pieces per second. It is amazing that computers can read addresses and match them to a database that quickly.

However, if the addresses on the mail piece are not correct, our equipment can miscode and missort the mail just as quickly.

One of the major elements of the address is the street name.

It is very important that customers use correct street names.

That means including the entire street name with all of the essential elements.

What are the essential elements of a street name?

Glad you asked. A given name may or may not have all of these elements. Here

they are in order of appearance.

Pre Directional — The directional indicator, north, south, east, west, etc. that precedes (comes before the street name).

Acceptable predirectional indicators are: N, S, E, W, NW, NE, SE, SW.

Example: N. Main St.

Primary / Base Street Name — This is the street name itself.

Example: N. Main St.

Suffix — This is normally the last word in the street name. There are standard suffixes like Drive, Avenue, Road, etc and there are some words that are used as suffixes that you may not recognize as suffixes. For example, Meadow (MDW) or HILL (HL) can be a suffix if it is the last word in the name but not if it is not the last word. In the name Green Meadow, Meadow is a suffix, in the name Green Meadow Ln., Meadow is not a suffix. It does make a difference especially if there is a Green Meadow and a Green Meadow Ln in the same city with the same numbering ie, 102 Green Meadow vs. 102 Green Meadow Ln.

Example: Green Mdw or Green Meadow Ln.

Post Directional — The directional indicator (same as pre directional) that follows the street name and suffix. These are not that common but they do occur and some street names can have both a pre and a post directional indicator.

Example: Loop 273 S. or N. Loop 1604 W.

As you can see, there are a lot of elements essential to the correct street name.

It is very important that in this day and age of automation that the correct street address is used all the time. And don't forget apartment numbers.

If you have any questions about what your correct address is, please contact the Big Spring post office and we will be glad to help with this or any other postal issues that you may have.

Gary Crittenden is postmaster in Big Spring. His column centers on the history of and the services offered by the United States Postal Service.



GARY CRITTENDEN



Courtesy photo

With its unique coloration, the red-shouldered hawk is able to hide in the shadows of sparse trees in open country. Accustomed to forests, the bird adapts readily to its fall and winter environment.

Bird Poop: Red-shouldered hawk survives slim pickings

The September morning had brought cooler weather. As the game warden tossed his monthly reports on the front seat of his truck, his cell phone rang. "Wink," he said dryly, as he realized his plans had to change even before he left the driveway.

Heading northwest, he wondered about the report of a hawk standing in someone's front yard.

The drive from Monahans was brief, and he easily found the residence with its unusual guest. Introducing himself to the couple waiting near the bird, he noticed that the raptor had not moved. "Been like that since we called," said the woman. "It just stands there."

Within a foot of the hawk, the warden realized how emaciated and weak it was. No resistance was given as his gloved hands pressed the bird's wings against its body. Placing it in his carrier, the officer reassured the couple that he would be taking it to a person licensed to care for migratory birds.

As he headed back to Monahans, he debated mileage and direction in seeking help for the hawk.

Since he had to report to San Angelo, he could deliver the bird to Diane Tracy. Included in both the state and federal licenses of a rehabber further north, she could evaluate and sustain the hawk until delivering it

to Big Spring.

Part of the southeasterly drive included his assigned counties. This was an opportunity to relax. With only occasional trucks, the officer welcomed not fighting the congestion on the interstate. Once past Crane and Rankin, the familiar towns of Big Lake and Mertzon came sooner than he liked. The countryside gave way to the outskirts of San Angelo.

After calling ahead to verify that Diane would be home, the warden

delivered the red-shouldered hawk. As she examined the raptor, she immediately realized how dangerously thin it was. "How soon can we meet?" greeted me when she called.

Within an hour, she and her husband met us in Sterling City. Our drive home was solemn. After an initial tube feeding, the hawk was more alert. Responding to minced mice, the raptor finally started eating on its own on the fourth

See HAWK, Page 6A



BEBE
MCCASLAND

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Foeman Worthy of Your Steel

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
	♠	Q J 8	
	♥	6 2	
	♦	Q 7 5 3 2	
	♣	Q 10 7	
WEST		EAST	
♠	10 9 6 5 4	♠	7 3
♥	A 9 3	♥	4
♦	10	♦	A K J 9 8 6
♣	9 6 4 3	♣	A 8 5 2
SOUTH			
	♠	A K 2	
	♥	K Q J 10 8 7 5	
	♦	4	
	♣	K J	

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 1NT 2♦
4♥

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

Assume you reach four hearts on the bidding shown and West leads a diamond. A glance at dummy reveals that your only losers are a trump, a diamond and a club, so this appears to be an easy assignment. However, bridge can sometimes produce the unexpected, and it certainly does in this case where, at the conclusion of play, you find yourself down one.

Your troubles begin when East overtakes the ten of diamonds with the jack and continues with the king. You ruff with the king, and West

wisely discards a spade instead of mechanically overruffing with the ace.

When you next enter dummy with a spade and lead a trump to your queen, West again refuses to take the trick, playing the three instead. You then lead the ten of trumps from your remaining J-10-8-7-5, but this time West wins with the ace, on which East signals with the eight of clubs. West leads a club to partner's ace, whereupon East returns still another diamond. Regardless of what you do now, West is sure to score his nine of trumps to sink the contract.

If you're inclined to be philosophical about such matters, you realize it wasn't anything you did that cost the contract, but rather West's shrewd refusal to overruff the king of trumps at trick two. Had he taken his ace then and there, you would have made 10 tricks very easily.

The principle that emerges is that when you're a defender, you usually take a trick when you can — unless there's a good reason not to. In the present case, West is in a good position to judge that, if he discards at trick two, his nine is certain to win a second trump trick if East has any trump honor, or if East can later regain the lead for another diamond play. That is an excellent reason for West's not taking the ace at his first opportunity.

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Bedtime Stories

LAZY LEIGHTON LIZARD

My name is Leighton. I am a lizard. I was once a lazy lizard.

But no more! I grew up with a brother lizard and a sister lizard. My brother's name is Leon. My sister's name is Lizzie. We are a family of fine looking lizards if I must say so myself. (I think I am better looking than either my brother, Leon Lizard, or my sister, Lizzie Lizard. But please don't tell them I said that.)

My Father's name is LaRue. My Mother's name is Lenora. Yes sir, we are some mighty fine looking lizards. But this story is not about how cute I, uh, I mean we, are! This story is about how lazy I once was.

When I was just a small cute little lizard, I was too lazy to even chew my food. My mother had to put it into a meat grinder and let it chew the food for me. My mom would then put the already chewed food in my mouth and move my head up and down and then tickle my tummy so I would swallow. I was too lazy to even catch my food as all lizards must do. I

would just wait until I saw a nice juicy bug that was lazier than me. The bug would just sit there and wait for me to call my mom to catch it for me. That sure was a lazy bug.

I remember the time that I saw a nice juicy fat bug swirling in the air just above me, daring me to try to catch him. I stuck out my tongue but the bug just wouldn't land on it. That's o k a y because I was too lazy to chew him up anyway!

But it did take a lot of effort to stick out my tongue. My brother was not lazy. That big old bug shouldn't have swirled over him! I still wonder what that bug must have tasted like.

Then, there was the time I needed a bath, very much! I would always wait for the rain to come, and then just have someone

carry me outside. It didn't rain for a very long time. I wondered why my brother and sister and mother and father held their noses when they walked past me. Maybe they all had bad colds!

Just after that, every member of my family came



to see me. They all had clothespins pinching their noses shut when they came. I thought they were coming over to play a new game with me. They did not have that on their minds! They lifted me up and carried me to the nearest pond. They tossed me into the water. I sunk to the bottom. It would take a

lot of work to swim back to the shoreline. Finally, my father jumped in and pulled me to the shore. I was glad because I sure couldn't hold my breath much longer. I did get clean though!

All of my family became very angry with me. They kept calling me "Lazy." I thought that was strange because they had always called me "Leighton" before! Maybe they just wanted a nickname for me.

I stayed right there on that shoreline for a very long time. Night came, and went. Another day came. And went! Where was everyone? No one had brought me any already chewed food. No one brought me water. No one brought me anything! How was I to survive this?

I finally became so hungry that I threatened to catch my own bugs. I did threaten. No one heard me! I am getting mighty lonesome, tired, hungry, thirsty, and smart!

A fine looking bug swarmed right by me. He swarmed again. He didn't seem frightened of me. I found out later that none of the bugs were frightened of me because I was too lazy

to catch them. But I would show this bug! Let him swarm by my head one more time. Here he comes. Now! I flicked out my tongue and prepared to enjoy this bug when I closed my mouth and tasted— nothing. I had missed that bug. I looked up. He was still swarming right over my head, laughing at me. I am now thinking, "Come closer, bug. Just a little closer. He is coming closer. He really is not afraid of me. It's time to flick my tongue. Now!" I can't seem to get the hang of this. I missed again. Most lizards never miss.

I will get him if he flies near my head again. He is coming again. He is closer than ever. He is still laughing. I must be a pitiful sight to him.

A very handsome lizard like me, and I can't catch a big fat bug even when he is taunting me. What will my friends say? Wait a minute. I don't have any friends. I was too lazy to make friends. But right now, I must think about how to nail that bug. He is laughing so hard that he is blinking his eyes. I will get him on the very

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next blink. He blinked! I leaped. I suppose that is where we got that term, "Leaping Lizards" that very moment. I caught him! My very first catch! He sure was mighty tasty, too. I tried for another. Caught him the second try. Then the next one. Then the next. Soon, I was catching them on the first try.

I liked this. Catching my own food was fun. Chewing it was delicious. That bath didn't feel so bad, either! I am now a changed lizard. I do everything by myself now. My brother and sister, and my Mother and Father come to visit me often. I serve them a very nice dinner I caught myself. They don't believe it. Do You?

It's time for them to go home now after that wonderful meal I made for them. It's time for me to brush my teeth all by myself, and get ready for bed, so "Good Night"

Parent's Corner:

Well, we're all sure that's what they think he said

I'm sure that you have noticed that some folks have a very unique way of saying things. One of these special individuals is Yogi Berra.



DARRELL RYAN

On one occasion the St. Louis native addressed a local crowd in the following manner: "It is wonderful to be here in St. Louis and to visit the old neighborhood. I haven't been back since the last time I was here. Everything looks the same, only different. Of course, things in the past are never as they used to

be. "Before I speak, I have something I'd like to say. As I look out upon all of the young people here tonight, there are a number of words of wisdom I might depart. But I think the most irrelevant piece of advice I can pass along is this: The most important things in life are the things that are least important.

"I could have gone a number of directions in my life. Growing up on the Hill, I could have opened a restaurant or a bakery. But the more time I spent in places like that, the less time I wanted to spend there. I knew that if I wanted to play baseball, I was going to have to play baseball.

"My childhood friend, Joe Garagiola, also became a big-league ball

player, as did my son, Dale. I think you'll find the similarities in our careers are quite different.

"You're probably wondering, how does a kid from the Hill become a New York Yankee and get in the Hall of Fame? Well, let me tell you something, if it was easy nobody would do it. Nothing is impossible until you make it possible. Of course, times were different.

"To be honest, I was born at an early age. Things are much more confiscated now. It seems like a nickel ain't worth a dime anymore. But let me tell you, if the world was perfect, it wouldn't be. Even Napoleon had his Watergate. You'll make some wrong mistakes along the way, but

only the wrong survive. "Never put off until tomorrow what you can't do today. Denial isn't just a river in Europe. Strive for success and remember you won't get what you want unless you want what you get. Some will choose a different path. If they don't want to come along, you can't stop them. Remember, none are so kind as those who will not see.

"Keep the faith and follow the Commandments: Do not covet thy neighbor's wife, unless she has nothing else to wear. Treat others before you treat yourself.

"As Franklin Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "The only thing you have to fear is beer itself."

"Hold on to your integrity, ladies and gentlemen. It's the one thing

you really need to have; if you don't have it, that's why you need it. Work hard to reach your goals, and if you can't reach them, use a ladder. "There may come a day when you get hurt and have to miss work. Don't worry, it won't hurt to miss work.

"Over the years I have realized that we all have limitations, but we also know limitation is the greatest form of flattery. Beauty is in the eyes of Jim Holder.

"Half the lies you hear won't be true, and half the things you say, you won't ever say.

"As parents you'll want to give your children all the things you didn't have. But don't buy them an encyclopedia; make them walk to school like you did. Teach them to

have respect for others, especially the police. They are not here to create disorder; they are here to preserve it.

"Remember to give 100 percent to everything you do, and when that's not enough, give everything you have left. Winning isn't everything, but it's better than rheumatism.

"Finally, dear friends, cherish this moment; it is a memory you will soon forget. You have your entire future behind of you. Good luck and Bob's speed."

Now I'm sure you are thinking, "Gee, I couldn't have said it better!"

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

Laura on Life:

Strange communication with kids in the back

If you've got children and you haven't bought a DVD player for your minivan, you have no idea how much peace and quiet you are missing.



LAURA SNYDER

We finally broke down and bought one a few months ago and I haven't heard so much silence since before they were born.

I recently cleaned out the car and mistakenly took out all the DVDs and as a result, the children didn't have any-

thing to do on our car ride yesterday. As much as I enjoyed the silence for the last few months, however, I realized that I was missing a whole lot of other good stuff. Like the strange turns the conversations my husband and I have when the kids are allowed to just jump right in.

I forgot that they didn't have anything to occupy them until I mentioned to my husband that a carnival would be coming to town. My 10-year-old thought I said "carnivore."

"Like a T-Rex?" he asked.

"A T-Rex? What on earth are you talking about?" I was confused by the twist in the con-

versation. Because of the random comments that come flying out of his mouth on a constant basis, I didn't make the connection between "carnival" and "carnivore."

My husband caught it, though. He must've been just like my 10-year-old about 35 years ago.

"Not carnivore; carnival," he said, not quite realizing what that word would do to a car full of kids.

Pandemonium erupted in the Snyder-mobile.

"A carnival!" All three shouted in unison. And, as if it was planned, they all asked, "Can we go?"

"Well, maybe," I hedged, "Your brother's boss will have a booth there. Maybe we can

visit." My daughter, apparently having the same hearing affliction as my son, asked, "Is it a wild moose?"

Dismissing the fact that most moose (Mooses? Meese?) are wild, making the question somewhat redundant, I again did not make the connection.

"Is that a wild moose?" I asked. I thought that maybe I was the one with the hearing difficulties. How could she possibly get wild moose out of going to a carnival?

Again, my husband got it. "Not moose; booth. Like a place to sell stuff at the carnival."

Her moosey mistake, of course, set them on a path of no return. They

started laughing and carrying on, arms and legs flying hither and yon. If we weren't in the close confines of a car, it wouldn't have been bad, but it's hard to drive with all that noise.

When a few admonishments didn't work, we had to pull out our ace card: "If you can't calm down, you're all going to be grounded!"

My 5-year-old's hearing is fine, but his vocabulary apparently needs to be fine tuned. As they all quieted down we could hear his small voice in the back say, "Yeah, and you know what grounded means," he said. "It means they're going to bury us in a hole in the

ground." My husband and I looked at each other in shock, both thinking the same thing: Is that really what he thinks we're going to do?! Good heavens!

We couldn't help it, we burst into uncontrollable laughter. The sort of laughter that we just scolded our kids about. It occurred to me later that our laughter probably sounded pretty sinister to a kid who thought we were going to bury him in the ground.

You can e-mail Laura Snyder at lsnyder@lauraonlife.com or visit her website www.lauraonlife.com.

HAWK

Continued from Page 5A

day. Another three days assured us that it was ready for the trip to South Plains in Lubbock.

The week we had shared with the red-shouldered hawk was memorable. Buteo lineatus accurately described this broad-winged, striped hawk. Almost two feet long, with a four-foot wingspan, the bird wore underneath, from its throat to its thighs and tail, barred colorations of brown, orange and white. Although its eyes and back were a dull brown, it sported a reddish patch on each shoulder. With black and white barring on the wings and tail, it was a handsome, yet secretive raptor. Its overall coloration helped it blend into varied terrains.

In late spring and throughout summer, the red-shouldered had been a bird of the woods. Wet lands, farming country and forests had offered it nest sites and ample food. Not at all a finicky eater, the raptor availed itself of whatever the environment offered. From snakes, fish and turtles to small birds and rodents, it was satisfied. In more open country during migration, insects, rabbits, ground

squirrels, opossums and even skunks were not ignored.

For whatever reason, the hawk, as it drifted southward, had been unable to acquire enough food to sustain it. Even a bruised wing could have caused an inability to hunt.

At the wildlife center, the bird continued to show improvement. From a mew to the flight cage was exceptionally good news. Having convinced everyone that its weight, strength and durability had returned, the hawk was ready to catch the winds.

Between Buffalo Springs Lake and Lake

Ransom Canyon east of Lubbock, the red-shouldered hawk was released during October. From Wink to freedom, the raptor's odyssey had covered 436 miles. The bird of prey, with its wings

and tail extended, would regain its graceful, soaring flight while drawing huge circles in the sky.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

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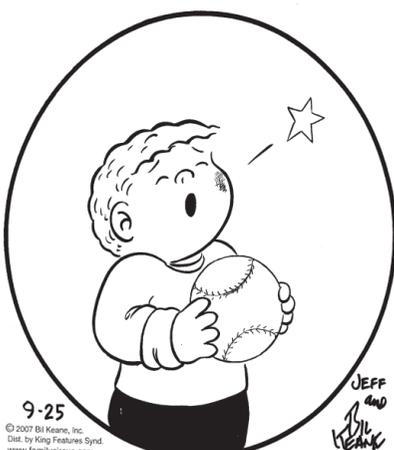
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6 :PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Young John Hagee	News-Lehrer (CC)	Mega Builders (CC)	"	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order Hell Date	Live (CC) Zack & Cody	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	NFL's Greatest Game (CC)	NFL Live (CC)	Dead Like Me (CC)
7 :PM :30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Amar sin Limites	Bones (CC)	NCIS (CC)	Madre Luna	The Biggest Loser (CC)	Family Guy	Update/Israel Booker	The War (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: The Firm	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Hip-Hop vs. America	Movie: The Thirteenth Year	NFL's Greatest Game (CC)	2007 World Series of Poker	Eureka (CC)
8 :PM :30	(CC) Boston Legal	(CC) Boston Legal	Destilando Amor	House (CC)	The Unit (CC)	La Esclava Isaura	"	Family Guy	Light of the Southwest	"	Dirty Jobs (CC)	"	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Hell Date (CC)	"	2007 World Series of Poker	Eureka (CC)	
9 :PM :30	(CC) " "	(CC) " "	S.O.S. Sexo y Otros Secretos	TMZ (CC) Raymond	Cane (CC)	Amor Mio SVU	Law & Order: The Office	The Office The Office	"	The War (CC)	How It's Made How It's Made	"	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Hell Date (CC)	That's-Raven Life Derek	Baseball Tonight (CC)	The Contender ECW	
10 :PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias 12 Corazones	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update/Israel N. McBride	"	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: A (CC)	CSI: NY (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Take the Cake (CC)	Zack & Cody Han. Montana	PBA Bowling PBA Bowling	SportsCenter (CC)	Halo 3 Flash Gordon
11 :PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	My Wife-Kids 70s Show	Letterman Late Late	I! Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night- Conan O'Brien	Seinfeld (CC) Seinfeld (CC)	Joe McGee Biblical Israel	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Bronx Tale (CC)	Murder (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Hell Date Comicview	Replacements Kim Possible	NASCAR Now The Contender	Baseball NFL Live	Eureka (CC)
12 :AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Express Media	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Movie: Ace Ventura: Pet	Update/Israel J.R. Church	Sign Off (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	"	Murder (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Rap City (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	2007 World SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone	

DENNIS THE MENACE



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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



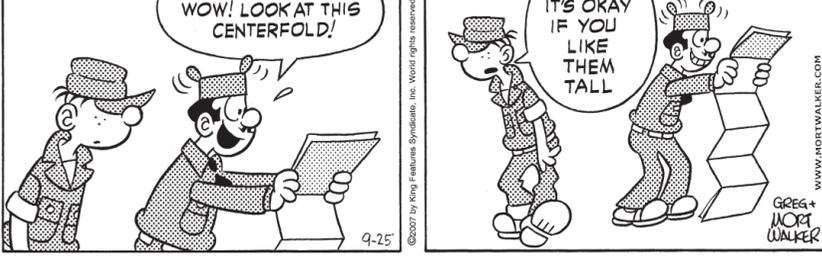
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 25, the 268th day of 2007. There are 97 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on Sept. 25, 1957, nine black students forced to withdraw from Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., because of unruly white crowds were escorted to class by members of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division.

On this date:

In 1493, Christopher Columbus set sail from Cadiz, Spain, with a flotilla of 17 ships on his second voyage to the Western Hemisphere.

In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and sighted the Pacific Ocean.

In 1775, American Revolutionary War hero Ethan Allen was captured by the British as he led an

attack on Montreal.

In 1789, the first U.S. Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. (Ten of the amendments became the Bill of Rights.)

In 1890, Wilford Woodruff, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, issued a Manifesto formally renouncing the practice of polygamy.

In 1919, President Wilson collapsed after a speech in Pueblo, Colo., during a national speaking tour in support of the Treaty of Versailles.

In 1956, the first trans-Atlantic telephone cable went into service.

In 1973, the three-man crew of the U.S. space laboratory Skylab 2 splashed down safely in the Pacific Ocean after spending 59 days in orbit.

In 1978, 144 people were killed when a Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 and a private plane collided over San Diego.

In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn in as the first female justice on

the Supreme Court.

Today's Birthdays:

Broadcast journalist Barbara Walters is 78. Country singer Ian Tyson is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Joe Russell is 68. Actor Robert Walden is 64. Actor-producer Michael Douglas is 63. Model Cheryl Tiegs is 60. Actress Mimi Kennedy is 58. Actor-director Anson Williams is 58. Actor Mark Hamill is 56. Polka band-leader Jimmy Sturr is 56. Actor Colin Friels is 55. Actor Michael Madsen is 49. Actress Heather Locklear is 46. Actress Aida Turturro is 45. Actor Tate Donovan is 44. Basketball player Scottie Pippen is 42.

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Answer to previous puzzle

ERRS	CANS	IMPS
BOOK	ODOR	CAIRO
BABY	BLUES	AGNEW
SSE	ROLL	CROSS
TSHIRT	ENTERS	
EDS	VAGUER	
ANKLE	LOSES	ORB
LAIID	MOTEL	ALOE
PHD	TOWEL	SUEDE
GRADED	CAR	
CLEVER	CABANA	
PROPEL	AONE	AMA
ROVER	SQUIRT	GUN
OCEAN	TURN	VASE
PSIST	SIATE	STEW

Newsday Crossword

STORY TIME by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 69 Bright star | 12 Take an apartment | 48 Close tightly |
| 1 Shouts of discovery | 70 Flower stalk | 13 Rim | 50 Cowboy-boot attachment |
| 5 Male deer | 71 Taxi device | 18 Hold firmly | 52 Wood-shaving tool |
| 9 "At what place?" | 72 Termination points | 19 Sidewalk border | 54 Sound of a punch |
| 14 Army outpost | 73 Change for a \$20 | 24 Piece of bacon | 55 Salary |
| 15 Opera solo | | 26 A portion of luggage | 56 Monogram part: Abbr. |
| 16 Propelled a rowboat | | 27 Luggage attachment | 57 Tahiti or Maui |
| 17 Hans Christian Andersen story | | 28 Gandhi colleague | 59 Get ___ the ground floor |
| 20 Ex-Supreme Court justice | | 29 Fate | 61 Remainder |
| Day O'Connor | | 30 Sinister grin | 62 Suffix for kitchen |
| 21 College Web site suffix | | 31 Guitar relative | 63 Sharp, as an appetite |
| 22 Celebration | | 33 Coca-Cola rival | 64 Charitable donation |
| 23 Parts of the psyche | | 34 Author Jong | 66 Always, in verse |
| 25 Many mos. | | 35 Incite | 67 Video-store rental |
| 27 Blotter stains | | 36 Bothersome ones | |
| 32 Sheep herder of rhyme | | 39 Play a guitar | |
| 37 College official | | 42 Whirlpool | |
| 38 Part of the eye | | 43 Casino city | |
| 40 Combine | | | |
| 41 House builders in a kids' story | | | |
| 44 Carrying a weapon | | | |
| 45 Prefix for graph or trooper | | | |
| 46 Edinburgh native | | | |
| 47 Security staffers | | | |
| 49 "Nyet!" sayers | | | |
| 51 Slangy agreement | | | |
| 53 Pro-sports award: Abbr. | | | |
| 54 D-Day's conflict | | | |
| 58 ___ Baba | | | |
| 60 Shout of discovery | | | |
| 65 Grimm tale siblings | | | |
| 68 Nimble | | | |

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'Grammar Girl' helps America speak, write better

By LISA GUTIERREZ

McClatchy Newspapers
KANSAS CITY, Mo. —
We just had to ask.

Grammar Girl, oh goddess of syntax, have you ever corrected graffiti in a bathroom or the language on a restaurant menu?

"No," said Mignon Fogarty, the 40-year-old writer and editor who has launched a campaign to make grammar — dare we say it? — fun.

"But I've just started a (flickr.com) group where people can post bad signs they've seen in the world. I was hesitant to set it up because I felt like it had some of that 'gotcha' feel. But it's fun, and it's a great discussion starter."

Like this crime against grammar found in a job ad posted on mcflorida.com: "My friend's and I love working at McDonald's."

"My friend's WHAT? and I love working at McDonald's?" Fogarty said in a phone interview from her home outside Phoenix. "My friend's vegetarian sister and I love working at McDonald's?"

She's not mocking. Really. That's just not Grammar Girl's style.

Thanks to her popular weekly podcasts with titles such as "The Asterisk (Trust Me About Grammar, Not About Baseball)," Fogarty in just one year has become the country's go-to gal on grammar.

She knows to lie down for a nap and lay a book on a table.

She would never split an infinitive or effect change just for affect.

Armed with a stack of trusty reference books in her home office, she rushes fearlessly into the thorny thickets of language — which vs. that,



MCT photo/Kansas City Star
Mignon Fogarty, writer and editor, has launched a campaign to make grammar fun.

bad vs. badly — and solves the public's grammar dilemmas at her Web site, grammar.quickand-dirtytips.com.

Last month alone her podcasts — that's a kind of Internet radio show you can listen to on an MP3 player or computer — were downloaded more than 600,000 times.

"I knew that there were people out there who cared about grammar, but I honestly didn't know there were so many of them," she said. "And I didn't know they were online."

Within months of its July 2006 launch, the Grammar Girl podcast was the most popular edu-

cational download on iTunes. It's been downloaded nearly 7 million times in its first year.

Fogarty's new "Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips to Clean up Your Writing" audio book is already one of the top five of 2007 on iTunes. And oh, yeah, she's been on "Oprah," too.

Notice that the previous sentence began with the word "and."

Grammar Girl said we could do it.

(We don't know what she would say about the "yeah.")

"I think of grammar as rules. Think of your 10-year-old nephew and how he will pore over the rules

to some game," she said. "Grammar can be like that. It's just rules to the game of writing."

In cyberspace, Grammar Girl has cultivated fans all over the globe, most between the ages of 18 and 45 — truck drivers, seamstresses, genealogy buffs in Minnesota, soldiers in Iraq and, not surprisingly, a lot of teachers. Fans have blessed her with reviews such as this one from a blog run by librarians at Kansas State University:

"Schoolhouse Rock might have gotten you through many a rough patch in middle-school English classes as you hummed the lyrics of Conjunction Junction ... but Schoolhouse Rock could only take us so far. Fortunately, we can all turn to Grammar Girl!"

Fogarty chalks up this clamor for grammar to e-mail.

"We're writing a lot more than we used to," she said. "About 50 percent of the messages I get are from people asking questions, and 50 percent are from people complaining about something they've seen other people do wrong."

Americans are no grammar clods, though, Fogarty said. "You'll hear people saying, 'Oh, kids today and their bad grammar.' I honestly don't think it's any worse than it used to be."

She could wag her finger, but Fogarty is no school marm, which probably accounts for her popularity.

"I think that what people like about my show is that it's fun and friendly and non-judgmental," she said.

She has street cred, a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Washington in Seattle and a master's degree in biology from Stanford University. She was a student journalist — that's where she learned how to use the AP Stylebook, the journalist's bible — and worked for her hometown newspaper outside of Seattle.

After college she wrote magazine articles and technical documents for biotech companies and produced health and science Web sites. She launched her first podcast, Absolute Science, in October 2005.

Absolute Science attracted listeners and even picked up a podcasting award, but "it wasn't a runaway success," Fogarty said. "Even though it was successful, it became clear that it was never going to take off."

For one thing, it took more than 10 hours a week to produce, and at nearly an hour it was too long, unlike other, shorter podcasts she liked to listen to. She needed a tighter, snappier show,

something scripted, something she could do by herself.

"And I had been considering different topics. I had thought about financial tips, I had thought about green living tips, exercise tips, things that I'm kind of interested in," she said. "All were things floating around in my mind."

Her light bulb moment came one day while editing technical documents.

"I had gotten back a draft, and someone had changed a perfectly good 'that' to a 'which'" she said. "And I had changed it in the draft that went to them, so they had undone my edit. And it was wrong."

"I thought, 'This is such a simple rule, and people aren't taught these rules.' I was an English major at the University of Washington, and I never took grammar classes. How is that? I thought, 'Gosh, I must not be the only one.'"

She still had the laptop, software and microphone

See GRAMMAR, Page 8A

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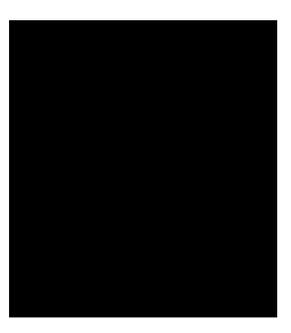
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Almost Invisible





Courtesy photo/Lane Bond

Kady Knox (center), the 2007 Howard County Fair Queen, poses with first runner-up Teryn Bibb (left) and second runner-up Mallory Kennedy following coronations ceremonies at the pageant Saturday afternoon.

Kady Knox crowned fair queen

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Managing Editor

Kady Knox, a student at Big Spring High School, was selected from a field of eight contestants this year to reign as the 2007 Howard County Fair Queen during the fair's run which begins Wednesday at the fairgrounds.

The daughter of Joann Knox, Kady received a \$300 scholarship to Howard College in addition to the queen's tiara when she was crowned at the close of the pageant.

"We really had a tremendous pageant and the judges really had a tough time deciding on the queen and runners-up," noted Nancy

Howard, one of the pageant's organizers. "I think we were all extremely proud of every girl who entered the contest this year. They are all clearly an asset to our community."

Coahoma High School student Teryn Bibb, the daughter of Steve and Donna Bibb of Big Spring, was selected as first runner-up and received a \$200 Howard College scholarship.

Howard College student Mallory Kennedy, the daughter of Tony and Lori Kennedy of Big Spring, received a \$100 scholarship as the second runner-up.

Other pageant entrants were Melony Ruiz, the daughter of Liz Gomez of

Big Spring, a Sands High School student; Hannah Weber, a BSHS student and the daughter of Franklin and Molly Weber of Big Spring; Ashli Stockton, a Sands student, the daughter of Shelley Peacock of Ackerly; BSHS student Theresa Turner, the daughter of Dawn and Kent Holzapfel of Big Spring; and Samantha Boehringer, another BSHS student and the daughter of Lisa Harwood of Big Spring.

Boehringer was selected as winner of the pageant's Miss Congeniality title.

The contest was sponsored by Howard College, Knott Co-op Gin, Flower Grove Co-op Gin, Ackerly Co-op Gin and J.M'Kai.

GRAMMAR

Continued from Page 7A

she'd used for the Absolute Science podcast, and in spite of her husband's initial concern — "You're launching another podcast?" — she whipped out three Grammar Girl podcasts in about a week.

The format is simple. Each episode deals with one grammar dilemma, typically spawned by a fan question. The podcasts last only a few minutes, and Fogarty posts the transcripts of each on

the Web site.

The most popular episodes have been about the things that tripped us up in school and obviously still do. Between or among? Who or whom? What's a comma splice?

Some of the questions are tied to current events.

Was Saddam Hussein hung or hanged, Grammar Girl?

He was hanged, she answered, offering, as she often does, a memory trick: Curtains are hung, people are hanged.

Miguel M. Morales likes Fogarty's style.

"I think she's a great

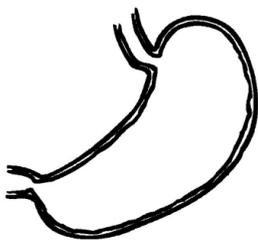
resource for student journalists," said Morales, a community college student.

"As students we're constantly listening to lectures, and her podcast episodes are more like a quick mentoring.

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