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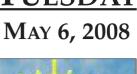


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SIG SPRING HERALD





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Autopsies ordered on shooting victims

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No arrests made in drive-by that leaves three dead, several wounded

By THOMAS JENKINS

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 134

Staff Writer

The bodies of two Big Spring residents — one an expectant mother — have been sent to Lubbock for autopsies, according to local law enforcement officials, as the investigation into the double homicide that rocked the

city of Big Spring Sunday night According to police reports, continues.

Valerie Garcia, 20, and Michael Cardona, 21, both of Big Spring, were pronounced dead at Scenic Medical Center Mountain shortly after a shooting was reported at 905 E. 16th Street at approximately 9:38 p.m. Sunday

Garcia was pregnant at the time of her death.

"The bodies have been sent to Lubbock for autopsies," said Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department. "There really isn't much more than that to report at made and right now we don't have any particular suspects were looking at. This one is going to take a little while."

Also injured in the shooting were an unidentified 3-yearold girl, 19-year-old Phiilp Martinez, 21-year-old Daniel

this time. No arrests have been Rios and 21-year-old David Rios. According to Everett, the 3-yearold suffered a leg wound in the shooting and was treated at the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and released.

See **SHOOTING**, Page 3A



A Myanmar man walks past branches and a damaged telephone booth following the weekend's devastating cyclone today in Yangon, Myanmar. Myanmar announced it is delaying a crucial constitutional referendum in areas badly hit by the cyclone that killed more than 22,000 people and may have left as many as a million

homeless. Officials feared the death toll could still soar.

Myanmar cyclone death toll soars past 22,000: state radio

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — The cyclone death toll soared above 22,000 on Tuesday and more than 41,000 others were missing as the international community prepared to rush in aid after the country's

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Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com deadliest storm on record, state radio reported.

Up to 1 million people may be homeless after Cyclone Nargis hit the Southeast Asian nation, also known as Burma, early Saturday. Some villages have been almost totally eradicated and vast ricegrowing areas are wiped out, the World Food Program said.

Images from state television showed large trees and electricity poles sprawled across roads and roofless houses ringed by large sheets of water in the Irrawaddy River delta region, which is regarded as Myanmar's rice bowl.

"From the reports we are getting, entire villages have been flattened and the final death toll may be huge," Mac Pieczowski, who heads the International Organization for Migration office in Yangon, said in a statement.

Myanmar's military regime has signaled it will welcome aid supplies for victims of a devastating cyclone, the U.N. said Tuesday, clearing the way for a major relief operation from international organizations.

But U.N. workers were still awaiting their visas to enter the country, said Elisabeth Byrs of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

"The government has shown a certain openness so far," Byrs said. "We hope that we will get the visas as soon as possible, in the coming hours. I think the authorities have understood the seriousness of the situation and that they will act accordingly."

The appeal for outside assistance was unusual for Myanmar's ruling generals, who have long been suspicious of international organizations and closely controlled their activities. Several agencies, including the International Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders, have limited their presence as a consequence.

See CYCLONE, Page 3A

Big Spring man arrested after dispute at bar

Aggravated robbery among charges made

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A Big Spring man was arrested Monday night on several charges — including aggravated robbery after law enforcement officials say a dispute at a local bar took a dangerous turn.

Jason McLeod, 33, was arrested on charges of aggravated robberv. unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and unlawful possession of a firearm in an alcoholic establishment after police officials say he was accused of stealing a wallet at Pinky's Bar, located at 300 Tulane.

"The incident took place at approximately 10:35 p.m. Monday," said Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the Big Spring Police Department.

"McLeod was at the bar with a lady friend. During the course of the evening, another patron realized her wallet was missing and confronted McLeod about it. At that time the man displayed a firearm."

Everett said McLeod and the unidentified woman left the bar shortly after the confrontation, but thanks to a description of his vehicle, law enforcement officials were able to nab him shortly after.

"He was taken into custody after police officers spotted his vehicle traveling on FM 700," said Everett. "He was arrested without incident and no one was injured."

Everett said as of this morning, McLeod remained in custody at the city jail waiting arraign-

Arrest made in Glasscock Co. murder case

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — An arrest has been made in connection with Glasscock County's first murder in almost 50 years.

Rodney L. Mason, 29, was arrested Monday in Carlsbad, N.M. for the March stabbing death of Timothy Wayne Sanchez, officials confirmed.

Sanchez, 18, of Odessa, was found stabbed to death late in the evening hours

March 15 about 12 miles south of Stanton on Highway 137, said Keith Burnett, Glasscock County Sheriff's Deputy.

Mason was arrested by Carlsbad police Monday at a relative's house and was being held in lieu of bond. Glasscock County Sheriff's Office deputies were en route to Carlsbad this morning to interview the suspect.

See ARREST, Page 3A



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Sports

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, May 6, 2008

IN BRIEF

Crossroads softball and baseball playoffs **THURSDAY**

Regional Quarters Coahoma softball vs.

Kermit in Andrews, 8

Big Spring softball vs. Frenship in Andrews playing a best-of-three series. Game 1 is at 6 p.m. Thursday. Game 2 is at 2 p.m. Friday with a third game taking place 30 minutes following the second game, if needed.

FRIDAY Regional Quarters

Forsan softball vs. Marfa in Crane playing a best-of-three series. Game 1 is at 6 p.m. Friday. Game 2 is at 2 p.m. Saturday with a third game, if needed, occurring 30 minutes following the second game. **FRIDAY**

Area

Forsan baseball vs. O'Donnell at Moffett Field in Snyder, 4:30 p.m.

Coahoma baseball vs. Blanco in Sonora playing a best-of-three series. Game 1 is at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Game 2 is at noon Saturday with a third game, if needed, to be played 30 minutes following the completeion of Game 2.

Relay for Life ragball tourney starts Saturday

The Yellow Dogs are sponsoring a Relay For Life Ragball Tournament at Lady Steer Softball Field May 10-11.

Registration is Friday at 7 p.m. at the field. The first game will be played

at 9 a.m. Saturday. Cost is \$10 a person with teams made up of

five girls and five boys. For more information, call Angel at 264-4108.

Forsan All-Sports Banquet sceduled for Monday

Forsan High School has scheduled its annual All-Sports Banquet for 7 p.m. Monday at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in the high school office. High school athletes do not require a ticket.

Crossroads of West Texas Golf Classic scheduled

The Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and ATMOS Energy are sponsoring the Crossroads of West Texas Golf Classic to be held at the Big Spring Country Club May 17-18.

The tournament is limited to the first 100 paid teams with a two-man scramble format being used.

A handicap is required and the tourney will be pre-flighted by a tournament committee and local golf pro.

Entry fee is \$180 per team. All entries are to be paid in advance.

Call the country club's pro shop at 267-5354 or Chamber Commerce at 263-7641 for more information.

Call at 263-7331 to submit a sports brief.

Jenkins trying to fit in with Cowboys

By DAVID JIMENEZ

Associated Press Writer

IRVING — Mike Jenkins is trying to keep things simple in his first practices with Dallas Cowboys.

Jenkins, a cornerback from South Florida who was the second of Dallas' two first-round draft picks, said Saturday he just wants to fit in on a team that went 13-3 last season.

"I'm just trying to get in and help the team the best I can." Jenkins said on the second day of the Cowboys' rookie minicamp. "I'm trying to learn the playbook. If it's meant for me to get on the field early. I can do that. But right now I'm just trying to get in there and learn behind the guys that they have here."

Jenkins began that learning process this weekend. The 25th overall pick is among 19 rookies and eight first-year players taking part in the three-day minicamp.

Among those Jenkins can ask for help in becoming an elite cornerback was one of the best to ever to play the position — Deion Sanders. The former Cowboys star was a teammate of Jenkins' uncle, Tracy Sanders, at Florida

"(Deion Sanders) is a Florida guy, I'm a Florida guy," Jenkins said. "He likes helping out the Florida kids. He's been a great mentor through this whole process."

Another Florida guy and former Cowboys great, Emmitt Smith. made a surprise visit to the minicamp Saturday. The NFL's alltime leading rusher gave a few coaching tips to Dallas' other firstround draft choice, Arkansas running back Felix Jones.

"It's good to have people like that to help you out," Jones said. See JENKINS, Page 2B

"With him being the leading rusher in the history of the NFL, it's a blessing to have that opportuni-

Owner Jerry Jones said after the draft that Felix Jones and Jenkins are expected to contribute right away.

Jenkins has an opportunity to make an impact in the secondary after cornerbacks Jacques Reeves signed with Houston and Nate Jones left for Miami.

The Cowboys traded for suscornerback pended

Paul, Hornets put Spurs down 2-0

By BRETT MARTEL

AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — The Western Conference playoffs were supposed to be a brutal test for a young New Orleans Hornets squad with little postseason expe-

Of their first seven playoff games, the Hornets have now won six — five by double digits.

"I am proud of way our team has played," Hornets coach Byron Scott said. "We've had a heck of season. We've still got a lot of people out there that doubt us. I think that's what fuels these guys. We've been proving people wrong all season."

With flashy dribbles and a driving floater that couldn't miss, Chris Paul had 30 points and 12 assists, leading the Hornets to a 102-84 victory over San Antonio on Monday night and a 2-0 lead over the Spurs in their secondround series.

In the other playoff game, the Detroit Pistons beat the Orlando Magic 100-93 to take a 2-0 lead in that series.

After scoring a career playoff-high 30 points in the series opener, the Hornets' David West was held to 10 points on 2-of-11 shooting, but remained active under the basket with 10 rebounds.

"We're trying to make sure our defense is where we want to start," West said. "We don't worry about what we're doing on the offensive end.'

And with Peja Stojakovic going 5-for-7 on 3-pointers, they didn't really have to. Stojakovic finished with 25 points for the Hornets, who have become the first team to put San Antonio in an 0-2 playoff hole since 2001, when the Spurs were swept by the Los Angeles Lakers in the Western Conference finals.

"We're definitely a little shocked," Spurs forward Kurt Thomas said. "They are playing extremely well. If one person's not going, someone else is stepping up."

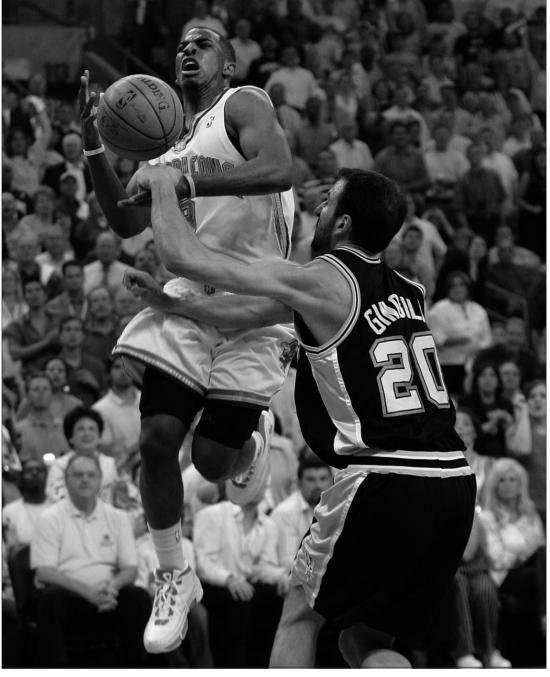
Game 3 is Thursday in San Antonio.

Tim Duncan led San Antonio with 18 points and eight rebounds, far better than his miserable Game 1, when he tied a career playoff low with five points and three rebounds. But by the final minutes, Duncan was on the bench, resting his cheek on his hand with a dejected 100yard stare.

"They did great job of double-teaming me. They limited my shots," Duncan said. "I got a couple things to fall for me ... but I didn't have any stretches where I was extremely effective. I had exactly the opposite. I had stretches where I wasn't."

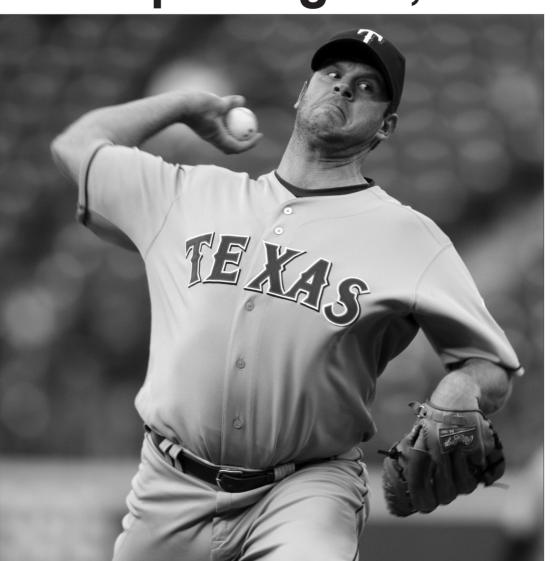
Manu Ginobili had 13 points for the Spurs and

See NBA, Page 2B



New Orleans Hornets guard Chris Paul (3) is fouled by San Antonio Spurs forward Manu Ginobili (20) in Game 2 of an NBA Western Conference semifinals basketball playoff series Monday in New Orleans.

M's top Rangers, end five-game skid



AP photo/Kevin P. Casey Texas Rangers ace Kevin Millwood pitches in the first inning against Seattle Mariners in MLB baseball action in Seattle Monday. The Mariners won 7-3.

By GREGG BELL AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE John McLaren was being his usual, sunny self. The Seattle Mariners' manager was encouraging Jarrod Washburn, saying he'd been pitching far better than his record indicated.

"I'm 1-4, Mac. I'm 1-4!" the left-hander growled back at McLaren last week, without cracking a smile.

A smile appeared Monday night — for Washburn and his previously punchless offense.

Washburn (2-4) stifled Texas on just one hit through six innings before leaving with a calf injury, Wladimir Balentien and Richie Sexson homered to provide all the offense needed, and Seattle beat the Rangers 7-3 to end a

five-game losing streak. "It bothers me a lot. I hate losing," Washburn said about his bottom line, almost grunting after allowing three runs or fewer for the fifth time in seven starts. "Anytime you are 1-4 — no matter how well you pitch — it's still 1-4."

The left-hander doubled

his win total by allowing four hits and three runs in six-plus innings against Texas. He struck out three and walked none.

Kevin Millwood (2-3) gave up nine hits and seven runs in three innings, his shortest start of the season, and lost his 10th consecutive road decision. That tied the Texas franchise record by Joe McClain of the Washington Senators from 1961-62.

At least Millwood is still on track for his next start Saturday against Oakland. McLain's brief career ended before he could stop his road losing streak.

"I didn't have an easy inning, period," Millwood said. "You miss over the plate all the time and that is what is going to happen."

Millwood has allowed 17 earned runs in his last 15 1-3 innings. He walked one and struck out two.

Texas was without Josh Hamilton, who was leading the major leagues with 33 RBIs while starting every game. The center fielder did not start in

See RANGERS, Page 2B

Police blotter

Obituaries

Jesse D. Summers

Jesse D. Summers, 76, a former resident, died Saturday, May 3, 2008 in Miami. A viewing was held Monday at Vior Funeral Home in Miami. No funeral services were held. A memorial service is planned for a later date.

He was born in Carumet, Mich., and served for several years in the U.S. Air Force.

He is survived by his wife, Luisa Summers, of Miami.

Michael Arispe

Michael Arispe, 21, of Big Spring, died Sunday, May 4, 2008, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Valerie Garcia

Valerie Garcia, 20, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 4, 2008, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

- Forsan will have a blood drive Wednesday in the mobile unit outside the band hall. The times are from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Please call the school office at 263-6571 if you are able to give. There is a desperate need during graduation and the coming summer months.
- The Kingdom of Levant, a medieval recreation group, is hosting a demonstration of life during the Crusades at St Paul's Lutheran Church on 8th & Gregg Sts from 10 Am to 5 PM, Saturday, 10 May. Admission free, all are welcome.
- Forsan High School University Interscholastic League Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. today at La Posada in Big Spring. Tickets are \$7 each. Reserve your seat by contacting the school office at 457-2223, ext. 1. UIL students do not need to pay.
- Tickets for the Big Spring High School Prom will be on sale at the high school from noon until 1:30 p.m. each Friday leading up to the prom. Tickets cost \$20 each and must be paid for in cash. For more information, call Carrie Fox at 816-9687 or Karen Martin at 213-1388.
- Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.
- Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring Volunteers will meet at 1 p.m. for singing and fellowship Saturday, May 10, at Marcy House. If you are interested, call Gina at 517-4073.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 62 inmates at the time of this report.

- STEVE RODRIQUEZ, 26, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid.
- FRED ALLEN PERRY, 43, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of bail jumping/failure to appear, bondsman off bond for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- JOSE ANGE VASQUEZ-HERNANDEZ, 35, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear.
- JAMES EVERETTE ROBERTS, 39, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.
- LAWRENCE DAVID ZWICK, 39, was arrested Friday by the HCASO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and a capias warrant for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- MORGAN LOPEZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of robbery.
- DAVID GRIJALBA MORALES, 31, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest/detention and unlawful possession of firearm by a felon.
- TAMALA KAY CALHOUN, 44, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid/suspended - enhanced.
- FERMIN LOPEZ FLOREZ JR., 57, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping/failure to appear – felony (two counts). • SHAWNTINA MARIE THORPE, 40, was
- transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of bondsman off bond for theft by check.
- GARY LEON JETTON, 54, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- PIERRE JE'AN GORDON, 17, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of



267-6411

701 E. 2nd St.

following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today: • JOHNNY L. RIOS, 22, of 710 Creighton, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct -

The Big Spring Police Department reported the

- NICOLAS C. MILLS, 28, of 103 Wilson, was arrested Sunday on a local warrant.
- GRAFFITI was reported in the 3300 block of
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 4000 block of Dixon.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2500 block of March.
- AGGRAVATED ROBBERY was reported in the 300 block of Tulane.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity: • MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Main

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal. One person was transported to SMMC.

Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 3000 block of Sherod
- Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5900 block of the Interstate Highway 20 N. Service Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 200 block of Circle Drive.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Some thunderstorms may be severe with large hail and damaging winds. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of sowers and

Thunderstorms in the morning. Windy. Highs in the mid 80s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph increasing to west 20 to 30 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 50s. North winds 20 to 25 mph shifting to the east 10 to 20 mph after midnight.

Thursday...Sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

Sheriff's report

manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance (two

- LESLIE OSBURN SCROGGINS, 29, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
- KIRK EVAN FOWLER, 29, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- JASON CESARIO LUERA, 23, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of indecency with a child - sexual contact.
- HEATHER NICOLE GULLEY, 31, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a passenger under 15 years of age.
- JENNIFER DELEON, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- SALENA MARIE TAYLOR, 28, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **COREY HARRIS**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- DAVID TERRELL WARD JR., 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- QUINCY LAMAR HENRY. 19, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for failure to identify – giving false information, possession of a controlled substance and failure to identify – giving false information.
- **ROBERT DIAZ JR.**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- **FELIPE HERNANDEZ**, 54, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole – blue warrant.
- NICOLAS CRAIG MILLS, 28, was transferred to

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 5-8-08

Bulletin Board

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

- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Evervone is welcome.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 5-9-23-25-31. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$25,377. Winning tickets sold in: Pasadena.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-14-21-33. Bonus Ball: 29. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday afternoon by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-5-1-1. Sum It Up:

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-9-3. Sum It Up: 17

Correction

A story in the Sunday, May 4, 2008, edition of the Big Spring Herald identified 19-year-old Terrance Clemons as having been arrested during a drug bust in the 700 block of E. 15th Street and charged with possession of a controlled substance over 4 grams and under 200 grams. According to police officials, 19-year-old Quincey Henry, of 1212 Wadley Avenue, was arrested at the scene and gave the arresting officer Clemon's name. In addition to the narcotics charges, Henry was also charged with failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information.

the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.

- CHARLES RAY BRYANT, 48, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.
- ANGELA ANN MCGEE, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for delivery of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance.
- ALISHA GAY MCGEE, 29, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- CHRISTI ELAINE GRANT, 38, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JOEL ADRIAN FLORES, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a building.
- ALEJANDRO LARA RAMIREZ, 58, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- JESUS ENRIQUE GARCIA, 35, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- JIMMY JUAREZ, 38, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of parole violation – blue warrant.
- RAY CARL MCGEE JR., 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for delivery of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance.

SPRING

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Sports Sports Mays, Carlisle still negotiating deal Sports Sports May 6, 2008

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Although Rick Carlisle has emerged as the leading candidate to coach the Dallas Mavericks, nothing is done yet.

"Things are going in a positive direction, but it's not going to be a quick deal," Donnie Nelson, the team's president of basketball operations, said Sunday. "We've just got to be patient. We're both continuing to get information and looking forward to further dialogue."

Nelson said there has not been a snag, just ongoing negotiations. One wrinkle that's slowing the process is Carlisle's agent being in Europe.

"Things are moving in a positive direction," Nelson said.

The Mavericks have been looking for a coach since firing Avery Johnson on Wednesday. Johnson was the Coach of the Year in 2006, his first full year in charge, when he led Dallas to the finals

for the first time. The Mavs won 67 games the following season, but lost in the first round of the playoffs. They did so again this season, despite having added Jason Kidd in a blockbuster deal in February.

Carlisle, 49, has a career record of 281-211 after two seasons in Detroit, then four in Indiana. He was Coach of the Year his first season and made the playoffs every year until his final one. He spent the last year working

Carlisle already has been considered for other openings,

for ESPN.

including the Knicks, where his former boss with the Pacers, Donnie Walsh, is now in charge.

Dallas also could become interested in others coaches who might hit the market.

Until a deal is done, both sides

could always switch gears.

Whoever takes over the Mavs will inherit a roster that's in

Kidd and Dirk Nowitzki are likely to return, but the rest of the players under contract — Josh Howard, Erick Dampier, Jason Terry, Jerry Stackhouse and Eddie Jones — could all be traded. Problem is, they all have expensive contracts and Howard is the only one not in his 30s. If the Mavs use their option to keep 23-year-old Brandon Bass, he'd be their youngest player by five years.

JENKINS

Continued from Page 1B

"Pacman" Jones, but its unsure whether NFL commissioner Roger Goodell will reinstate Pacman this season.

"We're going to throw him right in there and start right

away coaching him," said defensive backs coach Dave Campo, who is also the Cowboys' former head coach. "Where he finishes, time will tell. I think he's capable of playing either corner. He just has got to fine tune a lot of stuff and we'll just see what hap-

The Cowboys traded up three spots in the first round to take Jenkins, who intercepted three passes his senior year with the Bulls. The Bradenton, Fla., native added to his draft stock by returning a kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown against Cincinnati

"I just want to come in here and work hard," Jenkins said. "I have a chip on my shoulder, a lot of motivation just to come in and prove that I was the best corner in the draft."

Jenkins will compete for playing time against Anthony Henry, another product of South Florida.

Henry was slowed by ankle injuries last season. The sevenyear veteran has intercepted 11 passes in three seasons with

Jenkins said he has a good relationship with Henry.

"Anthony has been here a long time," Jenkins said. "We all know that. If I do beat him out, he is going to understand. He's still going to help me out. I don't think he's going to stop helping me out. I'm still going to work hard to try to get that spot."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

manager Ron Washington called "a mental break.'

"No one expected him to play the whole month of April," Washington said of Hamilton, who won a game at Seattle last month with a home run in the ninth inning off closer J.J. Putz.

As good as Hamilton has been, he probably couldn't have produced the touchdown that Texas needed against Washburn after six innings.

Washburn beat Texas for the first time in three years, a run of 10 starts. And it was his first home win in 11 months — one which kept the disappointing Mariners out of last place in the AL West they had planned on winning this season.

"Hopefully, we can get this thing started. Right now, our goal is to get to .500," McLaren said with sobering realism.

Washburn called the night, "a step in the right direction."

A painful step. Washburn had a 7-0 lead and had allowed just two baserunners entering the seventh despite feeling a familiar tug in his calf while warming up before the game. He

bulled through, relying mostly on fastballs. He advised pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre to watch that he wasn't changing his mechanics to compen-

sate for the injury. McLaren called the injury minor, adding trainers gave him belief that Washburn would make his next start.

Washburn was more cautious, because he's had this injury before. He missed the last two scheduled starts of 2006 with it.

"Hopefully, it's not as bad as a couple of years ago. It's in the same spot," he said. "We'll see."

After feeling what he called "a pop" on his last pitch of the sixth, Washburn gave up a single to Gerald Laird, a double to Michael Young and a two-run double to Milton Bradley in the seventh. He left the game after a brief mound consultation between McLaren, Stottlemvre and an assistant trainer.

Washburn waved to the crowd just before disappearing into the dugout, the third time in two weeks a Mariners starter left a three batters into the game because of injury.

Brandon Boggs drove in Bradley with a groundout Angels 4. against reliever Sean Green to make it 7-3.

Sexson hit a solo home run, his seventh of the sea-

son, and Balentien hit a three-run homer off Millwood in the third to put the Mariners up 7-0. Balentien's was a no-doubt drive that banged off a fence and stairwell far above the Rangers' bullpen. It was the third home run in 22 major league atbats for Balentien, who has started every game since Seattle recalled him April 30 from Triple-A Tacoma to replace released right fielder Wilkerson.

Putz, an All-Star last season who has struggled with injuries and wildness lately, made his first appearance since blowing a save at Cleveland on Thursday. He allowed two hits in the ninth.

Notes: Millwood's last road win was June 17, 2007, at Cincinnati — 13 road starts ago. ... Seattle had one hit in 21 at-bats with runners in scoring position in its previous four games. An RBI single by Jose Lopez and an RBI double by Raul Ibanez in the first made the Mariners 2-for-2 in such situations game.

Royals 0

Ervin Santana was in

control all night. Adding to his fantastic start, Santana pitched a four-hitter with nine strikeouts to lead the visiting Los Angeles Angels past the Kansas City Royals 4-0 Monday.

Santana joined teammate Joe Saunders at 6-0, becoming the third and fourth Angels pitchers to open a season 6-0 or better. Saunders and Santana are just the eighth pair of teammates to start a season 6-0 since 1920.

Santana walked none in his second career complete game, his first since tossing a five-hit shutout against the Chicago White Sox on May 23, 2005, for his first major league win.

"It's just trying to keep hitters off balance and throw a first-pitch strike all the time," he said. "We have a lot more starts to go, so I have to keep it up and keep working hard."

In other AL games, it was Toronto 1, Chicago 0; Oakland 2, Baltimore 1 in 10 innings.

Garret Anderson and Brandon Wood hit consecutive homers in a four-run ninth inning to help the Angels earn their 21st win, tied with Boston for most in the AL.

Erick Aybar tripled leading off the ninth against Ramon Ramirez (0-1). With one out, left-hander Jimmy Gobble came in to face lefty Casey Kotchman,

who hit the first pitch into center for a run-scoring single.

With two outs, Anderson homered off Joel Peralta.

Royals starter Brett Tomko pitched seven shutout innings in his best outing of the season.

Santana lowered his ERA to 2.02, a huge improvement from last year when he finished 7-14 with a 5.76 ERA after going a combined 28-16 over the previous two seasons.

"He got a little frustrated last year because he was going out there at times without the tools he needed to do what he's doing now," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "He needed to work on his delivery and get back into his game. When he's out there on the mound and he has his mechanics together, it's a great combination."

Red Sox 6. Tigers 3

Daisuke wild Α Matsuzaka somehow held down the Detroit Tigers while walking a careerhigh eight batters Boston's 6-3 victory.

The right-hander had coldlike symptoms throughout the day and didn't feel good.

Red Sox manager Terry Francona said he planned to use Matsuzaka for only

game with 22 points, 18

five innings no matter what.

"He competes. He didn't have his best stuff or feel 100 percent physically," Francona said. tonight it was enough."

At Detroit, Mike Lowell hit a two-run homer for his first RBIs this season. Kevin Youkilis and David Ortiz also connected for Boston, which won its fourth straight game and sent the Tigers to their fourth consecutive defeat.

Matsuzaka matched the major league high for walks this season but didn't allow a hit until Curtis Granderson's twoout RBI single in the fourth. He gave up one run and two hits with one strikeout, throwing 109 pitches.

Red Sox reliever Craig Hanson, just called up from the minors, gave up two runs in 1 2-3 innings. Hideki Okajima worked 1 1-3 scoreless innings before Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 10 chances.

Tigers starter Jeremy Bonderman (2-3) allowed four runs and seven hits in six innings.

"We couldn't get a hit bunched in with all the walks," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said. "We had good at-bats against Daisuke, but we couldn't get the big hit."

game.

Rashard Lewis overcame points.

NBA

Continued from Page 1B

Tony Parker, guarded mostly by Paul, was limited to 11 and had two shots blocked bv Tyson Chandler. Brent Barry added 14, some of it when the game was out of reach in the fourth quarter.

The Spurs continued to settle for 3-pointers, going 8-of-27 from that distance and finishing at 42.5 percent shooting overall. The Hornets shot 48 percent.

Chandlerhad11rebounds and all of his five points, including an alley-oop dunk of Paul's lob, during a key stretch midway through the fourth quarter when the Hornets prevented San Antonio from getting within single digits.

Parker hit a 3-pointer from the corner at the buzzer to put San Antonio up 43-42 at halftime. The Hornets opened the second half with a 10-0 run that included 3s by Stojakovic and Morris Peterson, who scored 12 points.

Stojakovic's driving floater capped it, giving New Orleans a 52-43 lead.

With Paul spearheading an up-tempo attack, New Orleans kept the pressure on throughout a 36-point third quarter. As the period ended. Paul's high dribble on his crowd-pleasing, driving floater gave the Hornets a 78-61 lead heading into the final 12 minutes.

Then the Hornets, who won Game 1 by 19, used a 10-0 run that included one of Stojakovic's 3s and another driving layup by Paul through traffic to go up 95-76 with just over three minutes left. Paul went to the bench soon after, soaking up chants of "M-V-P!" from a raucous crowd.

"These are some of the best moments, I think, of my life that we're experiencing right now," Paul said. "We're just riding a wave."

Pistons 100, Magic 93

Chauncey Billups scored 28 points, three coming on

a disputed shot at the end of the third quarter, and Detroit took a 2-0 series

lead over Orlando. Billups officially made a 3-pointer with 0.5 seconds left in the third, ending a play that started with 5.1 seconds and seemed to take a fraction of a second longer using replays the officials weren't allowed to use during a 5-minute delay.

Rasheed Wallace and Tayshaun Prince scored 17 points apiece, and Prince added 10 rebounds and five assists. Game 3 in the best-of-seven series is Wednesday night in Orlando.

Dwight Howard bounced back from a lackluster

rebounds and two blocks. Jameer Nelson scored 22 a slow start to score 20 points, making five 3-pointers, before fouling out with 1:23 left in the

Contract

By Steve Becker

Two Birds With One Stone

East dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH ↑74 ▼1065 ♦865 WEST **EAST ♦** K 10 5 **♥** J 3 **♦** J 9 8 2 ♥ Q 9 7 4 2 ♦ KJ932 ♦ Q 10 7 SOUTH The bidding:

1 NT Pass Opening lead — three of diamonds. Assume you're declarer at three

notrump and West leads the three of diamonds. You allow East's queen to win the first trick and take the next diamond with the ace. At first glance, there seems to be

nothing at all to the play, since it appears you have five club tricks, two hearts, a spade and a diamond. But when you play the A-K of clubs and East discards a heart on the second club, you suddenly realize you have a genuine problem. Although leading the queen of clubs would drop West's jack, your ten (or any other club you have remaining) blocks the suit and stops you from collecting dummy's fifth club. When the deal occurred, South

cashed the queen of clubs at this point and then led a spade to the

queen in an attempt to score his ninth trick. But West took the queen with his king and cashed three diamonds to set the contract. In electing to try the spade finesse, South missed the opportunity for an unusual play that would

more or less have assured the contract. After cashing the first two clubs, his best chance by far was to lead dummy's last diamond and discard a club on it! True, this allows West to cash

three diamond tricks, but it also enables declarer to unblock the club suit, thus restoring his club winners to five and his overall trick total to nine. In effect, the diamond lead from dummy at trick five kills two birds with one stone.

The only risk involved in leading the diamond at trick five is that West might have started with six diamonds percentagewise an unlikely possibility. Furthermore, in this particular case, where West's opening lead of the three was presumably his fourth-best diamond, West can't have more than five diamonds, so the recommended play is virtually certain to succeed.

Tomorrow: General rules do have exceptions.

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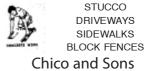
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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS The mood transitions from Taurus to Gemini

overnight, and if some of us hadn't already begun our day in our dreams (ever take an 8 a.m. conference call during REM sleep?) others wake up



MATHIS

thinking. As \equiv thoughts race out the door before we do, have faith the body will catch up with the mind -though it might take most of the day to do so.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're bubbling with ideas about what's next. Go with all of them. Now's not the time to discriminate between one or the other. Because when you stop worrying about which ones will work, you're freer to implement. TAURUS (April 20-May

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

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

Big Spring Independent School District has contracted with Spring City Auction to sell the district's surplus property. The district's surplus property is sold at the following location throughout the year:

Spring City Auction 501 Birdwell Lane, Unit #1 Big Spring, TX 79720

You may check with Spring City Auction for the designated auction dates and times. #5651 February 5, May 6, August 7

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

where your money is. If you're wild about something you believe in, back it up by talking about it. This is about more than just sharing your opinion; it's about living your word, confidently, boldly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People seek you out for every answer in the book. Lucky you, you wrote that book -- or at least you know exactly where to find what it is they're looking for. And you make this look so

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're hearing voices in the back of your head. No, you're not crazy; your strong intuition is vying for your attention. A little breathing space goes great lengths in helping you decipher the mes-

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends show and tell about lifestyle upgrades. You can't help but be impressed, and maybe a bit envious. What you already have is perfect for you, though. Before you go looking for more, spiff up the old stuff.

VIRGO (Aug. Sept.22). You have accepted your responsibilities and shown true grit. You don't mind sharing your story with others, especially if it will inspire them to buckle down and work hard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A strange work situation asks you to envision broad-minded solutions. You're uniquely poised to see what others cannot. You put two and two together in a way that adds up to so much more than four.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). For you, what people don't say is often more revealing than what they do. Yet with a little expressed appreciation, lately you're able to squeeze more juice out of a simple conversation than even you'd thought possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're starting to get fixed on a certain point of view. Surely there is more than one way to observe the thing. See the world through someone else's eyes this afternoon, and suddenly you notice more colors.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are a few minor pieces of information that could adversely affect your mood. Try not to take news as good or bad. If it's all neutral, you'll feel empowered to use it to your greatest

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're ambitious and want to be further along than you are. However, you're also feeling independent and don't want to ask for help. Turning to a book will be easier than turning to a real person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Preparing for an event will take longer than the event itself -much, much longer. Start now by gathering your plan together for something you see in your faroff future. Success is ensured.

ASTROLOGICAL TOP-ICS: The element of fire. As nature revels in the glory of spring, it's a fine time to observe fire (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius). Imagine fire captured in a flower or an exotic bird of paradise. Fire pops! Fire is unafraid to flaunt itself, possessing the charismatic radiance of pure enthusiasm for life. So it goes with fire sign people, who are exciting to be around, virtually impossible to ignore. Their heat warms humankind, and their dramatic showmanship entertains. Undaunted by the boundaries of reality, sometimes fire consumes everything in its path. How do other elements mix with fire? Earth signs fuel and contain fire. Air feeds fire. Water dampens fire, sometimes "putting it out." Fire and fire take over the world. Come back tomorrow for earth.

CELEBRITY FILES: Every sign has their own special wisdom quality, and if there were a Zen sensei of common sense, she would be a Taurus. The bull confronts complex issues directly, and simply -undercutting the confusion of complexity. Rosario Dawson possesses these Taurean sensibilities but also three luminaries in heroic Aries, lending a street-smart edge to her common sensei wisdom.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, 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 www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox .: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am 62 and have been married for three years to "Ken," who is 68. We're both retired.

When I met him, Ken was very kind. There were flowers and gifts for no reason at all. We took trips and enjoyed life. Once we married, however, it seemed there was nothing I could do to make him happy. I keep a clean house. I weigh only 130 pounds. I enjoy having sex, but Ken will not touch me. He won't take me anyplace. He has very little to say. He tells me I'm no longer appealing to

For several months, Ken has been attending counseling sessions for Post-Stress Traumatic Disorder. (He served two tours in Vietnam.) He has never discussed these sessions with me, but yesterday I found some notes he's been keeping. It appears that while in Vietnam, Ken was aroused by having sex with young girls and spent all his extra money on them. That was one of



MARCY SUGAR

the reasons he went back for another tour.

According to his notes, I am not his second wife, as comes of it and there is no I thought, but his fourth. None of the marriages lasted long. When he was 59, he briefly was married to a girl of 22. He wrote that he continues to flirt young women because they excite him, and that he married me because his health is failing and as he gets older the young women are harder to attract, even

with his money. I haven't told Ken that I

saw his notes. What do I do? I'm ready to walk out, but I sold my house when we got married and have no place to go. -- Alone in the Ohio Valley

Dear Ohio Valley: The fact that Ken is getting counseling is a positive sign. Tell him you saw the notes and, although you are disappointed he lied, it is encouraging that he is seeking help. An honest conversation between the two of you could be eye-opening and useful, as long as you don't let your anger and fear get the better of you. If nothing productive change in Ken's behavior, it's time to talk to an attorney.

Dear Annie: Ever since I asked my sister, "Vera," to drive me to an upcoming surgery appointment, she's been pestering me for access to my doctor so she can question him about my health and stop him from doing the sur-

I told Vera that my doctor refuses to talk to her.

She doesn't believe me, but it's the truth. He can't talk to anyone about my medical status. Now she won't speak to me. I have begged her to forgive me, but haven't heard a word either by phone or e-mail. She means a lot to me. I need her in my life, and I've told her that several times. Please advise. --Bereft Sister

Dear Sister: It sounds as if Vera has been bossing you around for a long time and doesn't like being denied the opportunity to keep doing it. If you want Vera to consult your doctor, you can give him permission to discuss your status with her. If you think her concern is intrusive, say nothing more. We suspect Vera will eventually come around, although she wants to punish you a bit first.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Disappointed and Furious," whose dentist berated him for not having more costly dental care done. I found out through friends who likewise could not afford regular dental care that I should look into local colleges that have dental schools. I found one here in Southern California and was given free checkups and X-rays. I had cleanings done and cavities filled -- all for free -and eventually bridge work and oral surgery, both of which were less expensive than having it done by a regular dentist. No one should have a dentist who wants to make a living out of your mouth. -- Charles in Glendora, Calif.

Dear Charles: Several readers wanted "Disappointed" to know that dental schools are often a good way to find affordable dental care. Our thanks to all who wrote.

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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Nation/World

Obama, Clinton place their nomination struggle in the hands of Indiana, N.C. voters

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — Like marathoners on their second wind, Barack Obama and Hillarv Rodham Clinton raced for advantage until the final hours in the campaign for the Indiana and North Carolina primaries Tuesday.

Voters in both states are settling the largest remaining contests in a Democratic presidential nomination struggle that has dragged improbably into spring.

There was little if any expectation that the primaries would settle the big, messy picture. Both Clinton and Obama predicted they'd still be campaigning in June.

Clinton, at her scrappiest when her campaign is on the line — which it has been for weeks — brought a fullthroated roar to a series of events in a day of frantic travel spilling into the wee hours Tuesday.

A wealthy inside-Washington veteran, the former first lady worked hard to make common cause with bluecollar voters crucial to Tuesday's outcome.

AP Interview: Military's top commando says wars' demands limit elite units' global reach

WASHINGTON (AP) — The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are making such heavy use of the nation's Green Berets and other elite warriors that they cannot fulfill their roles in other parts of the world, the military's top commando told The Associated Press.

"We're going to fewer countries, staying for shorter periods of time, with smaller numbers of people than historically we have done," Adm. Eric T. Olson said Monday in his first interview since becoming commander of U.S. Special Operations Command last July.

Olson, himself a combat veteran, saw little chance that the demand for his special operations forces in Iraq will decline anytime soon. Even as the overall American force there shrinks — from about 158,000 now to about 140,000 by the end of July — the number of special operations forces in the war zone is likely to increase, he said.

More of these specially trained, often secretive forces may be required in Iraq in order to fill a niche role in the development of Iraqi security forces as the number of conventional Army troops goes down, he said.

"Nothing I've been told leads me to believe that there will be a reduction" in special operations forces in Iraq, "and the door is always open for an increase in demand, so we're just trying to prepare for that the best we can," Olson said.

Bernanke warns of dangers posed by surging home foreclosures, urges Congress to act

WASHINGTON (AP) — A rising tide of late mortgage payments and home foreclosures poses considerable dangers to the national economy, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke warned anew as he urged Congress to take additional steps to alleviate the prob-

"High rates of delinquency and foreclosure can have

substantial spillover effects on the housing market, the financial markets and the broader economy," Bernanke said Monday in a dinner speech to Columbia Business School in New York. "Therefore, doing what we can to avoid preventable foreclosures is not just in the interest of lenders and borrowers. It's in everybody's interest,"

Some 1.5 million U.S. homes entered into the foreclosure process last year, up 53 percent from 2006, Bernanke said. The rate of new foreclosures looks likely to be even higher this year, he said.

To provide more relief, Bernanke again called on Congress to give the Federal Housing Administration, which insures mortgages, more flexibility to help distressed borrowers at risk of losing their homes. He also again urged lawmakers to move ahead on legislation revamping Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which finance mortgages. And, he called on the two mortgage giants to quickly raise new capital.

House leaders plan action on those and other housing measures this week.

AP IMPACT: Voter rolls booming nationwide, far exceeding 2004, according to AP survey

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Voter excitement, always up before a presidential election, is pushing registration through the roof so far this year — with more than 3.5 million people rushing to join in the historic balloting, according to an Associated Press survey that offers the first national snapshot.

Figures are up for blacks, women and young people. Rural and city. South and North.

Overall, the AP found that nearly one in 65 adult Americans signed up to vote in just the first three months of the year. And in the 21 states that were able to provide comparable data, new registrations have soared about 64 percent from the same three months in the 2004 campaign.

Voters are flocking to the most open election in half a century, inspired to support the first female president, the first black or the oldest ever elected.

Also, the bruising Democratic race has lasted longer than anyone expected, creating a burst of interest in states typically ignored in an election year.

10 million children die from lack of health care every year, charity group report says

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — More than 200 million children worldwide under age 5 do not get basic health care, leading to nearly 10 million deaths annually from treatable ailments like diarrhea and pneumonia, a U.S.based charity said Wednesday.

Nearly all of the deaths occur in the developing world, with poor children facing twice the risk of dying compared to richer children, according to Save the Children's global report.

Sweden, Norway and Iceland top the ranking in terms of well-being for mothers and children in 146 countries surveyed, while Nigeria ranks last.

Eight out of 10 bottom-ranked countries are in sub-Saharan Africa, where four out of five mothers are likely to lose a child in their lifetime, Save the Children said.

The top three among the 55 developing countries ranked in the survey are the Philippines, Peru and South Africa — all surveyed for the first time. Indonesia and Turkmenistan tied for fourth.

Republican John McCain criticizes Obama for vote against Supreme Court chief justice

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Republican John McCain castigated Democrat Barack Obama for voting against John Roberts as Supreme Court chief justice in a speech about the kind of judges McCain would nominate.

McCain offered an olive branch to the Christian right in a speech planned for Tuesday at Wake Forest University. The far right has been deeply suspicious of McCain, the expected GOP presidential nominee, because he has clashed with its leaders and worked against them on issues like campaign finance reform.

McCain promised to appoint judges who, in the mold of Roberts and Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, are likely to limit the reach of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion.

"They would serve as the model for my own nominees if that responsibility falls to me," McCain said in his

Obama likes to talk up his image as someone who works with Republicans to get things done, McCain said. Yet Obama "went right along with the partisan crowd, and was among the 22 senators to vote against this highly qualified nominee," McCain said.

Oil prices rise to record near \$121 a barrel on supply worries and falling dollar

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Oil futures rose to an all-time high near \$121 a barrel Tuesday with new concerns about a threat to supply and a weaker dollar.

The surge in oil prices was also fueled by hopes that the U.S. economy will be spared a sharp downturn after the release of data Monday showing an unexpected expansion in the U.S. service sector in April, analysts

Light, sweet crude for June delivery rose to a record \$120.93 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Tuesday. The contract later retreated to \$119.88 a barrel, down 9 cents from Monday's close.

Crude futures settled on Monday at \$119.97 a barrel, up \$3.65 from Friday's close.

"The bulls are in control of the market," said Victor Shum, an energy analyst with Purvin & Gertz in Singapore. "The economic report out of the U.S. yesterday on the service sector seems to suggest the economic slowdown may not be as deep as initially thought."

"The sentiment is that the oil pricing is likely going to stay quite strong, with a lot of volatility," Shum said.

SHOOTING

Continued from Page 1A

According to police reports, the other three victims also suffered non life-threatening injuries and were treated and released.

A call to Covenant Hospital in Lubbock this morning, revealed Daniel however. Rios is currently in the facility's intensive care unit and is listed in fair condition. According to Covenant officials. Rios was listed in serious

condition when he was admitted to the hospital Sunday night.

Everett said witnesses described a dark colored Ford pickup speeding away from the scene of the shooting.

"This cowardly shooting is gang related. Witnesses all agree that a dark color Ford pickup was involved and there is more than one suspect involved." said Everett. "Details are still sketchy at this time and the investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the police department at 264-2550 or Crimestoppers at 263-TIPS (8477)."

Lt. Terry Chamness, acting as spokesman for the BSPD the morning following the shooting, said the violence is the result of a dispute between a local family and a street gang.

"This is all about drug territory," said Chamness. "There's an ongoing dispute over drug territory between the Rios family and the Latin Kings, a local street gang. That's what's at the heart of this shooting."

Chamness confirmed several shots are believed to have come from the Ford pickup, but said

it's currently unclear how many suspects were involved.

"We're not sure yet how many people were in the pickup or how many were involved in the shooting," said Chamness, who confirmed the police department is treating the crime as a capital murder. "We'll know more once we have the suspects in custody, but we are treating this as a capital homicide. In the end, however, it will be up to the district attorney what charges

are brought against them." Howard County District Hardy Wilkerson Attorney

said his office will examine the evidence before deciding whether the shooting should be prosecuted as a capital murder.

"It certainly appears to have the merits necessary for capital murder, but until the details of the investigation are turned over to us its hard to say for sure," said Wilkerson. "Anything at this point would purely be speculation."

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

CYCLONE

Continued from Page 1A

Allowing any major influx of foreigners could carry risks for the military, injectingunwantedoutside influence and giving the aid givers rather than the junta credit for a recovery.

However, keeping out

Continued from Page 1A

The arrest caps a six-

week investigation into

Deputies received a 911

call at 9:46 p.m. March 15

in reference to a person

being hit by an automo-

bile. When they arrived at

the scene, they found

ARREST

Sanchez's death.

international aid would focus blame squarely on the military should it fail to restore peoples' livelihoods.

Some aid agencies reported their assessment teams had reached some areas of the largely isolated region but said getting in supplies and large numbers of aid workers would be difficult.

Villarosa, Shari the

The caller initially

thought it was a deer that

had been hit, Burnett said.

When the driver turned

around to get a closer look,

he discovered that it was a

Sanchez was subsequent-

The murder victim had

last been seen driving a

1997 Dodge Neon earlier

ly declared dead at the

scene, officials said.

way, Burnett said.

human body.

in Yangon, told NBC's "Today" show that the cvclone had knocked huge trees in the country's largest city.

top American diplomat

"And it blew down a significant portion of them. some of these are 6, 8, 10 stories tall — huge trees, 6 feet, 5 feet in diameter. So they came down on roofs," she said.

The cyclone came a key referendum on constitution that military Myanmar's leaders hoped would go smoothly in its favor, despite opposition from the country's feisty prodemocracy movement. However, the disaster could stir the already tense

only a week ahead of

political situation. State radio also said that Saturday's vote would be

40 of 45 townships in the Yangon area and seven in the Irrawaddy delta, which took the brunt of the weekend storm. It indicated that the balloting would proceed in other areas as scheduled.

The decision drew swift

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delayed until May 24 in criticism from dissidents and human rights groups who question the credibility of the vote and urged the junta to focus on disaster victims.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Donnie Ray Rowlett, 50, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Valerie Garcia, 20, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sanchez lying by the roadthat day. The vehicle was Gartman Air Conditioning, Heating & Plumbing

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Buster Gartman TACLB003559E

found Sunday parked in the 1500 block of South Grant in Odessa, Burnett

An autopsy, performed by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office, determined cause of death to be from multiple stab wounds.

This marks the first murder investigation to occur in Garden City since the early 1960s, Burnett said.



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StarTek

Bird Poop:

Scissor-tailed flycatcher rescued, faces uncertain future

s she had done the previous year, the sleek bird started building a bulky looking cup high in the old mesquite tree. Having

watched the nest grow from a few twigs, roots, and weed stems to a future home, the homeowners could enjoy another brood's success from the kitchen



McCasland

window. Living in open country that offered both ranch and crop land, the woman and her husband enjoyed watching the process. When the mother bird started bringing in bits of paper, twine, rags, dry grass and cotton waste, they knew soon the eggs would be laid.

During the incubation period, the female stayed on the nest while the male not only brought her insects, but cavorted in the sky. Having flown to a height of about 100 feet, he would plunge downward, then turn sharply upward.

As he repeated his up and down routine, the human family could image a series of Vs written in the air. Emitting a sound from his beak like a high-pitched cackle, the male ended his zig-zagging on his last upward swing. Toppling backwards, he would somersault as he tumbled toward the earth. Only a jubilant father-to-be could be so happy.

Over a week had passed when an afternoon storm threatened not only the nest but the homestead as well. As the dark clouds approached from the northwest, a neighbor called the couple to warn

them of a possible tornado. Seeking shelter in their storm cellar, the man and his wife took one last look at the bird in her

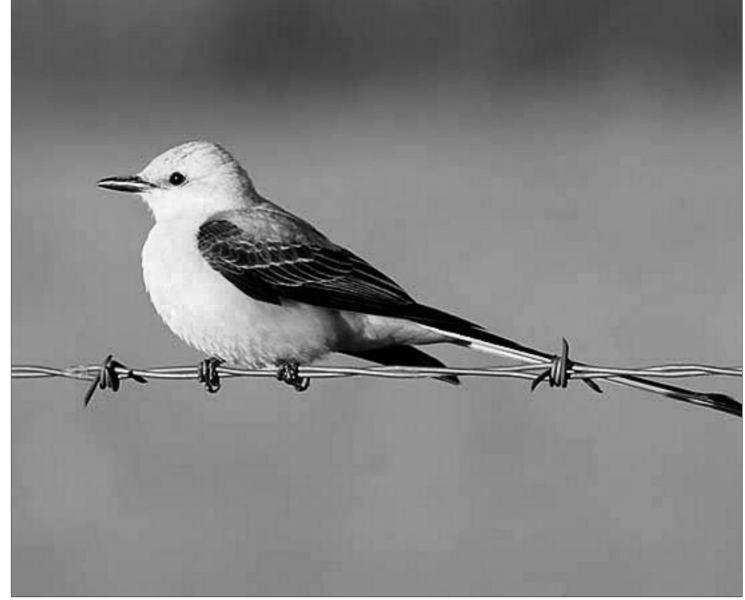
Following nature's outrage, the door to their underground quarters opened slowly. Assured that the worst was over, the man and woman emerged. Realizing their home and beloved tree were still standing, they noticed the nest was miss-

Eager to get out of the cellar, their dog had run past them to bark at something in the tall dry grass near a fence line. Since their pet was continuously bringing them critters from the countryside, they decided to investigate. As they came to the spot where the dog was sniffing, they realized he had found the nest with the mother bird still clinging to the sides.

Realizing the bird did not seem frightened by their approach, they felt something was wrong. Carefully, the woman cupped her hands, gently raised both nest and bird, and carried them into the house.

When the call from the wildlife sanctuary in Midland notified us that the couple was bringing the bird and nest to us, we prepared an area for the expectant mother. The female scissor-tailed flycatcher appeared dazed and unresponsive. Even with insects placed close by, the bird was motion-

A day passed with no food eaten. Fearing the worst might have happened during the night. I was greeted the next morning by the bird standing beside the nest. Expecting to see four to six creamy white eggs spotted with brown, I was shocked to find one deformed egg. Since the



From South America to the Great Plains, the scissor-tailed flycatcher is flexible when choosing a nest site. Trees, windmill towers, telephone poles and even underneath bridges are considered worthy. The bird has a bright streak of scarlet on the top of its head that is hidden by gray feathers. Its ability to erect the crown feathers in the center of its crest adds to its

mother bird had abandoned it, she must have sensed that her efforts would be useless.

Not knowing if the flycatcher had recovered sufficiently for release, we called the wildlife center. They recommended we bring not only the mother bird, but the nest and egg.

Before putting her in a carrier for the trip, we enjoyed being able once again to see the body colors in contrast to the tail of a scissor-tail.

The soft gray feathers on its back and head

blended into the white of its throat and breast.

Its black wings were accented by its salmonpink sides and wing linings.

Although its tail was somewhat shorter than the male's, it was typically black, long and slender, with white outer feathers with black tips. Since flycatchers can open and shut their forked tails like a pair of scissors in flight, it was a defining part of the species.

Notable was the bird's large head and flattened

bill. Bristles, or whiskers, were at the base of the beak. Although mostly seen perched on telephone wires or fences, the bird was adept at darting from a roost and catching flying insects out of the air.

After arriving at the wildlife sanctuary, a veterinarian took a blood sample to send with the egg to a lab to determine the cause of the deformity. Although we had our suspicions, the answer was long in coming.

Confirming that trace pesticides were evident,

the sanctuary placed the scissor-tail in an outdoor area that permitted flight. After another evaluation of the bird, it could be released.

The species, whose presence each year announced the beginning of spring and whose absence heralded the onset of fall. faced a problem with modern technology. The graceful lady had a questionable future.

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

Girl gets answer to her prayer with calf



By ERIN MCKEON

The Facts

SWEENY — For Jamie Zimmerhanzel to get to keep a calf from one of her family's cows, it would have to be a female and have to be black, her father said.

So the 7-year-old prayed

She never imagined how that prayer would be answered.

The second of four calves born was a girl. And it was black. As added proof that it was meant to be Jamie's, the otherwise all-black calf was born with white hair on its forehead in the shape of the letter J.

"They were all fixing to calf, and I put a new bull on this year so I wanted to see what they were going to look like," said Mike Zimmerhanzel, Jamie's dad. "I said, 'I think this cow's had her calf' so I was looking out the back porch and she was way out in the field and I saw that was her calf sitting next to

"Then I saw that 'J' and I said Oh my goodness, that thing's got a 'J' on its head,"MikeZimmerhanzel said. "And I said, 'Go get the camera, I guess that's Jamie's calf.

Jamie said after the first cow had a boy, she was hoping one of the other three would be a girl and checked often to see if one had been born.

"Mommy brought me home from school and she told me there was something special about a calf and I tried to guess it, but I couldn't guess it," Jamie said. "I said,' Oh. My.

Gosh. That calf has a 'J' on its head. That must be my special calf."

The 6-day-old calf was dubbed J, and Jamie's mother Jana said Jamie wanted to bottle-feed her. They had to tell her that J had a momma, but Jamie could be her second mom.

"She's going to keep working with her and help get her used to people," Jana Zimmerhanzel said. "She's got to halter-break her so she can lead her. They're both kind of learning since it's her first calf and she wants to try to

See CALF, Page 6A



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"This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider"

AP photo/Dan Dalstra/The Brazosport Facts Jamie Zimmerhanzel hugs her new calf, named "J", after the white marking on it's head, at their Sweeny, Texas, home April 29, 2008. Jamie's parents were not going to keep any new calfs born on their farm, but changed their minds when the saw the distinctive marking matching their daughter's first initial.

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The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce & Moore Development for Big Spring, Inc. invite you to an

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Of Big Spring and Howard County 215 W. 3rd

Wednesday, May 7, 2008 ~ 7:30 am - 9:00 am Ribbon Cutting to be held at 8:00 am

Come by and see their new location!

State briefs

Former Dallas officer convicted in fake drug scandal reports for 5-year prison term

DALLAS (AP) — A former narcotics officer convicted in a police scandal that sent innocent immigrants to jail using faked drug evidence has reported to begin serving

Mark Delapaz turned himself in Monday to begin a five-year prison sentence. Delapaz had been free on appeal since being sentenced in 2005 for lying to a judge to obtain a search warrant. But in February, the Texas Criminal Court of Appeals refused to hear his case.

Delapaz was convicted for his part in a scheme that led to the arrests of more than two dozen people after paid Dallas police informants planted fake drugs on them. Many of those arrested were Hispanic immigrants.

The scandal's discovery forced the city to pay millions of dollars in settlements and caused personnel changes in the police department.

Another former officer, Jeffrey Haywood, was convicted in the scandal and sentenced to two years probation. A jury found him guilty last year of lying on a police report.

Charges in the case are still pending against former officers Eddie Herrera and David Larsen.

Majority Latino South Texas town abolishes decades old segregation law

EDCOUCH (AP) — A South Texas town has abolished a segregation law seven decades after it was enacted.

The Board of Aldermen unanimously voted Monday to abolish an ordinance that banned "Spanish or Mexican" residents who were not servants or maids from occupying "any building on the American side or portion" of Edcouch. The ordinance prescribed a fine of up to \$100 for violators.

Some 50 people showed up to Sgt. Juan M. Rodriguez Pavilion to watch city officials abolish the segregation

"We should have gotten rid of it a long time ago," said Alderman Rojelio Garica. "It was there, but (people) just forgot about it."

When the rule was enacted on Dec. 9, 1931, a virtual line was drawn along Farm-to-Market Road 1015, cutting through the center of the city.

"It was discriminatory," Mayor Jose Guzman said. "At

the time, our city leaders didn't believe in equal rights."

Now, the town is majority Hispanic and the segregation line no longer exists. The 2000 Census found more than 97 percent of Edcouch's population was Latino.

Training flights in fighter jets suspended after fatal crashes

ENID, Okla. (AP) — Training flights in an Air Force fighter jet at Vance Air Force Base and other installations will be suspended indefinitely until investigations into two recent fatal crashes are complete, officials said.

Capt. John Severns, a spokesman for Air Education and Training Command at Randolph Air Force in San Antonio, said Monday there is no confirmed date for resumption of training in the T-38C Talon.

"The T-38C will remain on the ground until we are certain it is safe," Severns said.

Air Force investigators are trying to determine whether or not two recent accidents were linked, Severns said.

A T-38C crashed on approach while practicing touchand-go landings and takeoffs Thursday during a training flight at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. An instructor pilot, 35-year-old Maj. Brad Funk, and student pilot 2nd Lt. Alec Littler, 23, were killed.

A week earlier, another T-38C crashed on takeoff at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., killing reserve instructor Maj. Blair Faulkner, 39, and student pilot 2nd Lt. Matthew Emmons, 24.

The Air Force has been training pilots in the T-38 since 1961.

The 25th Flying Training Squadron at Vance trains Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training students in phase three of their fighter-bomber track training, while the 3rd Fighter Training Squadron teaches Introduction recent graduates to Fighter Fundamentals.

Roberson sentenced to 5 years for involuntary manslaughter after false claim of rape

FORT WORTH (AP) — A Tarrant County jury has handed a five-year prison sentence to a woman who caused her lover's shooting death by falsely telling her husband she was raped.

Tracy Roberson, 37, of Frisco, was sentenced Monday night on an involuntary manslaughter charge.

She was charged in the 2006 death of Devin LaSalle, a Hurricane Katrina victim who moved to North Texas from New Orleans.

Prosecutors said her husband, Darrell Roberson, fired the fatal shot but only because his wife lied and said she had been raped. He returned from a card game to find LaSalle and his wife in LaSalle's truck at their Arlington home.

A grand jury declined to indict Darrell Roberson and instead indicted his wife.

She told the court during her sentencing hearing that she never meant for LaSalle to die.

The Robersons have reconciled and moved to Frisco.

Austin police say former Wal-Mart employee found in store with gun, ammunition

AUSTIN (AP) — Police arrested a former Wal-Mart employee in an Austin store last week with a 9 mm handgun and numerous rounds of ammunition, according to arrest affidavits.

Edward William Eberle, 51, left a note Thursday morning to his wife giving her permission to "sell any story you wanna tell" and sent a text message to his sister telling her to turn her TV on, the Austin American-Statesman reported in its online edition Monday.

Eberle's wife called 911 at about 3 p.m. Thursday after she found a note from him telling her that: "I have chosen a life in prison. ... I'll try to die soon. Please return my library book and walk Cassie," a police affidavit

About two hours later, police found Eberle in the Wal-Mart, which the affidavit said was teeming with customers and employees.

Police said he had a gun near his chest and an "unreasonable amount of ammunition, leading one to believe that he had the intentions of using the handgun and ammunition he had in his possession."

Eberle was charged with making a terroristic threat and unlawfully carrying a weapon in a place that is licensed to sell alcohol. Both crimes are third-degree felonies that carry up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

An attorney for Eberle could not immediately be reached Monday by The Associated Press.

Parent's Corner

Providing an object lesson in how we read

re vou ready for an eye opener into the art of reading? This issue of Parent's Corner is short but extremely interesting. Be sure to read this all the way through.

Can you remember when you didn't know how to read? Learning to read is so expected in our culture today but it's a tremendous challenge to our teachers to be successful in teaching us all the art of reading.

We know that learning to read is a basic skill for success. Its importance is greater today than it was



DARRELL Ryan

the total amount of knowledge increases every five years. We get a lot of information through

various

We are

told that

kinds of mass media and thanks to the rapid change of the Internet, we can surf the World Wide Web with

thousands of sites. Reading has become

in the past. such an expected thing in our lives that we tend to forget just how wonderful it is to have the ability.

If you are reading this column you have someone to thank, and as you continue reading, think about the wonderful power of your brain in reading development and remember Olnv srmat poelpe can raed tihs. I cdnuolt biveiee tant i cluod aulacity uesdnatnrd waht I was

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



BIG SPRING PROFESSIONAL FIRE **FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION IS ASKING FOR YOUR** HELP!!!

It's a tragic fact that nearly 200,000 children in Texas are reported as abused or neglected every year; don't walk away.

April is Child Abuse Prevention month. It's a time to focus on ways not only to protect children but also to prevent abuse from ever occurring. This is your opportunity to make a difference in young lives.

Neglect is the most frequent form of child abuse. Yes, children die simply because they're put in situations where they are not supervised.

We all know that law enforcement cannot prevent all crime. We cannot expect the state's Child Protective Services to stop all child abuse and neglect. In fact, in the majority of the most tragic cases of child abuse - those in which a child died - Child Protective Services had no opportunity to impact the safety of the child at risk. Maybe it was a situation that people outside the family couldn't see. Possibly the child's parent didn't realize that their own action, or lack thereof, put their child's life at risk. We all have to recognize neglect and not walk away from it.

We are asking for the publics help in supply drive to replenish the rainbow room with diapers (all sizes) and formula. Please join us in the effort to increase awareness in our community.

Please stop by any of the 5 Fire stations to drop off your cherished donation. Donations will be accepted through Friday, May 9th. PLEASE HELP US MAKE A DIF-**FERENCE IN HOWARD COUNTY**

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Fire station #2 • 18th and Main

Fire station #3 • 11th and Birdwell

Fire station #4 • Northeast 8th and Main

Fire station $\#5 \cdot 1701$ Wasson Rd.

Sincerely,

Howard County Child Welfare Board

Big Spring Professional Fire Fighters Association Big Spring Herald

Page Sponsored By:



CALF

Continued from Page 5A

raise her on her own." Jamie will get to check on J every day.

"I just like her to stay busy doing something and to have some responsibility," Jana Zimmerhanzel said. "Even at 7 years old, it's important to have some responsibility and have something to keep you accountable and not to spend time in front of the TV all the time."

When Jamie grows up she said she wants to either be a teacher or a veterinarian.

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and wrapping things up," Jana Zimmerhanzel said. "She likes to use all the wrap and her dogs have a lot of broken legs and need treatment they do a lot of pretending."

Contact the Herald at 263-7331



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	:PM	News	News	Locura	Simpsons	News	Noticias	News	Friends	Scrivner	News	Cash Cab	Movie:	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	106 & Park:	Life De	NASCAR	SportsCenter
	:30	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	King-Hill	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Raymond	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab	Death Wish,	Scn		BET's Top 10	Life De	Burning	1
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DENNIS THE MENACE



"Which Do ya wanna see first...my new SHOES, OR MOM'S NEW PARKIN' TICKETE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"When it's 2 o'clock by my wrist, shouldn't we say it's 2 o'watch?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE





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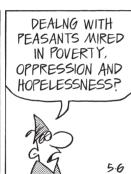
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HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST





SNUFFY SMITH







BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, May 6, the 127th day of 2008. There are 239 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 6, 1937, the hydrogen-German dirigible Hindenburg burned and crashed in Lakehurst, N.J., killing 35 of the 97 people on board and a Navy crewman on the ground.

On this date: In 1861, Arkansas seceded from

the Union. In 1889, the Paris Exposition formally opened, featuring the

just-completed Eiffel Tower. In 1910, Britain's King Edward VII died.

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration began operating. In 1942, during World War II some 15,000 Americans and

Filipinos on Corregidor surren-

dered to the Japanese. In 1954, medical student Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile during a track meet in Oxford, England, in 3 minutes,

In 1960, Britain's Princess Margaret married Anthony

Armstrong-Jones, a commoner, at Westminster Abbey. (They divorced in 1978.) In 1981, Yale architecture stu-

dent Maya Ying Lin was named winner of a competition to design the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. In 1994, Britain's Queen

Elizabeth II and French President Francois Mitterrand formally opened the Channel Tunnel between their countries. In 2002, right-wing Dutch politi-

cian Pim Fortuyn was shot and killed in Hilversum, Netherlands. (Volkert van der Graaf was later convicted of killing Fortuyn and was sentenced to 18 years in prison.)

Five years ago: Sen. Bob Graham of Florida launched his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination by accusing President Bush of retreating from the war on terrorism to "settle old scores" between the Bush family and Iraq's Saddam Hussein. Kmart Corporation emerged from bankruptcy after more than 15 months of Chapter 11 protection.

One year ago: Conservative Nicolas Sarkozy won the French presidency by a comfortable margin over socialist opponent Segolene Royal.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall-of-Famer Willie Mays is 77.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., is 74. Rock singer Bob Seger is 63. Singer Jimmie Dale Gilmore is 63. Actor Alan Dale is 61. Actor Ben Masters is 61. Actor Gregg Henry is 56. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is 55. TV personality Tom Bergeron is 53. Actress Roma Downey is 48. Rock singer John Flansburgh (They Might Be Giants) is 48. Actor George Clooney is 47. Actor Clay O'Brien is 47. Rock singer-musician Tony Scalzo (Fastball) is 44. Actress Leslie Hope is 43. Rock musician Mark Bryan (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 41. Rock musician Chris Shiflett (Foo Fighters) is 37. Actress Adrianne Palicki is 25.

Thought for Today: "How glorious it is, —and also how painful, — to be an exception.", —Alfred de Musset, French author (1810-1857). § 2008 The Associated Press

Answer to previous puzzle

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

59.4 seconds

- 1 Revolutionary War hero
- Allen 6 Leaves in a hurry
- 11 Color variety
- **14** Oil-bearing rock
- Sound (water
- at Seattle)
- 16 Big name in
- computers 17 Trousers
- 18 Sports stadium
- 19 Sticky stuff
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- 29 Toward the dawn
- 32 Make a left
- or right
- 33 Skillet 34 Cereal-eating implement
- 36 Ocean's motions 39 In addition
- 41 Chunk light and
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DONALD

KAUL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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OUR VIEWS

Energy policy is needed, not more pandering

uring campaign season, the vehicle of choice for politicians is the bandwagon. Name your issue; if it resonates with the voters, candidates are almost certain to champion it. Hard choices can wait until later.

In the presidential campaign, the issue du jour seems to be the federal excise tax on fuel, 18.4 cents a gallon for gasoline and 24.4 cents a gallon for diesel.

Sen. John McCain, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, recently proposed a plan to suspend the tax during the travel season this summer a plan that one of his Democratic counterparts, Sen. Hillary Clinton, has now endorsed.

"At the heart of my approach is a simple belief," Clinton said, according to the New York Times. "Middle class families are paying too much"

Surveys indicate that gasoline prices are among the main concerns of voters, but you do not need an opinion poll to document the pain consumers feel at the pump.

Just go to any gas station. The frustration is palpable, and no wonder when motorists fill their gas tanks, they empty their pocketbooks.

A gasoline tax holiday, however, exploits the suffering without relieving it. Motorists would save less than \$30 during the holiday, according to congressional analysts. And that means the relief would be both paltry and temporary some holiday.

"Half a tank of gas," Sen. Barack Obama, one of the few voices of reason on this issue, said during a campaign stop in North Carolina, according to the Times. "That's a big solution."

Additionally, the summer holiday would have serious negative consequences for highway construction and maintenance, which is funded by the fuel tax and already inadequate.

The tax holiday would mean a loss of \$9.9 billion targeted for highway projects. Clinton proposes a windfall-profits tax on oil companies to make up for the lost revenue. That sounds good, but the proposal has gone nowhere in the past.

Like that shot of whiskey Clinton downed in the Indiana bar, this issue serves to boost her populist creds. But it does nothing to help the voters. This bandwagon, it seems, is a vehicle fueled by pandering rather than formulating a badly needed energy poli-

As the pandering gains momentum, lawmakers are pushing the Bush administration to stop making deposits to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve during the summer travel season.

The group includes the two Republican senators from Texas, Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn as well as House Democratic leaders, the Express-News reported.

The lawmakers should be reminded that the SPR was created to provide oil during times of disruption, not to create political points.

Like the tax holiday, diverting oil supplies destined for the reserves into the domestic market would do nothing to curtail gasoline consumption, which is the real culprit.

And it would do nothing to encourage the development of alternative fuels or efficient vehicles.

President Bush is on target with his plan to continue putting oil into the reserve.

> THE EXPRESS-NEWS San Antonio

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

You, Lord, and Your heaven is our greener pastures. Thank You.

Amen

A glass half full and leaking

he outlook isn't bright for the home team these days. Housing prices are plunging but you can't buy because the bank is afraid to lend you the money because you can't sell the house you already own, which

depresses prices even further. Prices are rising, the dollar keeps falling, the stock market is tanking and there's talk of a downsizing at your shop.

Is it any wonder polls are finding that people's confidence in their economic future is way down? Their confidence in



The price of oil reached \$117-abarrell the other day and gasoline at a California station passed \$4-agallon. That may prove to be our salvation. Here's how:

---It will, at long last, force people to use less gasoline. We of the elitist minority long have begged you of the gas-guzzling majority to use public transit, give up your SUVs, form car pools, walk. Expense aside, you are fouling the very air we breathe and visiting an environmental catastrophe on your children and your children's children.

You ignored us. Worse than that, you scorned us. I remember, six years ago or so, when I suggested a

\$2-a-gallon gas tax to encourage conservation (gas was then \$2-a-gallon, give or take) I was pilloried, shunned at the better diners. Opponents warned of economic

I answered that at least the money would go into the U.S. Treasury where it could be used to cushion the economic impact of the price hike. No one listened.

Now four-dollar gas has arrived at our doorstep all on its own, the difference being that the extra two bucks goes into the pockets of our friends in Iran, Venezuela and al Qaeda instead of ours. So be it.

But the positive impact will be the

—A population that uses resources more efficiently.

—A healthier population, one that shops for food more carefully since it will have less money to shop with.

-Vegetarianism will grow because at these prices farmers will find it far more profitable to grow corn for fuel rather than food, making beef too expensive for normal (that is to say, poor) people to buy. Vegetarianism is healthy so we will have fewer heart attacks, less obesity, lower food bills.

That's the good side. The down side is that our economy — already spiraling toward Recession — will collapse. The house of cards that is our prosperity is based on war, cheap fuel and selling each other our houses. We're going to be left with only war to sustain us.

Can't be helped. If you're going to make an omelet, be prepared to break and egg or two. Do not expect

the government to do anything serious about any of this. The people who govern us are not serious peo-

George Bush has been a particularly outrageous disaster. Everything he's done has made the situation worse, from destabilizing Iraq and the oil supply in the Middle East, to extending tax breaks to oil companies already groaning under the burden of windfall profits.

In addition, he has proposed ending the federal subsidy to Amtrak, making us even more dependent on cars and planes. (The subsidy, by the way, is \$1.67 billion a year. about half a week's worth of the Iraq war.) He has also proposed shifting \$3.2 billion in the federal transportation bill from mass transit to highways. John McCain isn't any better. He wants to suspend the 18.4-cent-a-gallon federal gas tax from Memorial Day to Labor Day, to make gasoline cheaper. This at a time when we have highway bridges falling down from lack of mainte-

Fortunately, we don't have to depend on Washington to enforce sanity upon us. The market will make us do the right thing.

Are you having fun yet? Don't worry, you will.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. He can be e-mailed agt dkaul2@earthlink.

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There's really no cure for pandering

n Fox News Wednesday, Sen. Hillary Clinton told the network's Bill O'Reilly, "If we don't get universal health care, we will continue to bleed money." Funny. The more Washington politicians promise to control health

care costs, the higher they go. As humorist P.J. O'Rourke famously said, "If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free.

Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama both promise to provide access to health care for all Americans by mandating that employers provide or

contribute to the cost of health plans for employees. Clinton would mandate that all uninsured adults buy health care: Obama has no "individual mandate." Both candidates would offer health care for all children, subsidies for adults and would require insurers to cover everyone, regardless of health.

DEBRA

SAUNDERS

Somehow they propose to offer and subsidize more health care without raising costs for the majority of Americans who already have

What next? Consume more calories, weigh less?

Both Democrats suggest that prevention will contain costs. But as the Washington Post reported last month, with a few exceptions like childhood vaccinations, health economist Louise B. Russell's 1986 work, "Is Prevention Better Than Cure?" found that "prevention activities tend to cost more than they save. Since the book's appearance, her observation has been

borne out by studies of hundreds of interventions — everything from offering mammograms for all women and prescribing drugs to people with high cholesterol to requiring passenger-side air bags in cars and shortening the response time of ambulances."

Of course, prevention is a wise course. It extends and improves the quality of people's lives. But in the real world, it costs money. And it's worth it.

How can Americans control health care costs? I asked Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., an obstetrician and family medicine physician who prefers to be called Dr. Coburn. He answered that there are two ways to control costs — through government, a la Clinton and Obama, who will have to rely on federal "micromanaging and (eventual) rationing," or through the marketplace, a la McCain. While the marketplace is not perfect, it beats rationing and bad regulation.

The McCain plan would provide an annual tax credit of \$2,500 per individual or \$5,000 per family. The idea is to encourage families to buy their own health care plans — preferably plans that save consumers money when they follow healthy lifestyles and make smart economic choices.

Unlike Clinton and Obama, McCain would not require that insurers cover people with chronic illnesses. Instead, McCain proposes state "guaranteed access plans" for those patients.

Politically, Plan McCain may be suicide. Clinton and Obama have kept to the current employer-based system — which gives workers the happy illusion of not paying for their health care, when in fact it

comes out of their paychecks.

McCain has concluded that the best way to curb health care costs is to return the incentive to save to patients. Because when you know a doctor's visit will only cost \$25 and that you won't have to pay for a test you may not need, you have no incentive to economize. That's the problem with the status quo: The cheaper we make it look, the more it ends up costing.

The way Americans look at health care has been distorted by a system that cuts costs where they are least onerous. Gone is the day when patients paid for annual medical exams and insurers picked up the tab if a family member became seriously ill. Now you don't have to be sick to be subsidized, and workers have come to expect someone else to pick up the tab for routine care, minus a modest co-pay.

Credit McCain for proposing to make the process transparent, so that people have a more personal stake in the care they receive. To the extent that adults buy their own policies, they will be free to work wherever they choose, and they will no longer be bound by their health care.

Also, just maybe instead of scorning what comes cheap, Americans will come to appreciate what they pay for.

When I hear middle-class Americans complain about how they want Washington to do something to pick up their health tab, I always want to ask them: If you don't want to pay for your own health care, what makes you think someone else wants to pay your doctor bill?

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Like President Bush, however,