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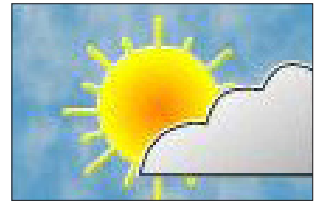
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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
MAY 20, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 146

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Trinity Memorial Park to host Memorial Day ceremony

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

More than 100 full-size American flags will line the Avenue of Flags at Trinity Memorial Park Monday, May 26, as local

officials prepare for the 25th annual Howard County Memorial Day Ceremony.

Set to get under way at 2 p.m., Trinity Memorial Park Facility Manager Phillip Welch said the cer-

emony should serve as a heartfelt thanks to the men and women that made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States.

"This year's ceremony is going to be very simple and basic, a lot like it was

last year," said Welch. "There won't be any speakers or anything like that, just the simple wreath laying ceremony."

Welch said the wreath being laid at the park's main flagpole during the

ceremony represents a number of local veterans organizations.

"The wreath is divided up into portions, and each portion is devoted to a different veterans organization," said Welch. "I'm not

sure which organizations will be there to take part in the ceremony, but it's always a very moving thing to watch."

Preparations for the See **CEREMONY**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Officials with American State Bank prepare thank-you notes for participants of the Salvation Army Girls & Boys Club and for veterans at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, part of the local bank's 60th year anniversary celebration. Pictured, from closest clockwise, are Michael Rodriguez, teller; Frances Payne, teller supervisor; Monique Garcia, teller; Darlene Dabney, vice president; Bill Spiller, bank president; Betty Barnett, personal banker; Scott Mackenzie, assistant vice president; and Shelly Phinney, assistant vice president.

American State Bank honors anniversary by thanking others

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Children taking part in the Boys & Girls Club summer program — along with veterans at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home — will be getting a heartfelt thanks from the employees at American State Bank, part of the local institution's 60th year anniversary.

Bill Spiller, ASB president, said

the hand signed thank-you notes — not to mention other goodies — would be going out to children and seniors alike, letting them know how much they are appreciated in the community.

"We're writing thank-you notes for the Salvation Army for the new summer members of the Boys & Girls Club," said Spiller. "The thank-you notes for the Boys & Girls Club are going to go in bas-

kets, and when the kids get there they are going get a Teddy bear and other freebie stuff, along with the hand-signed note.

"We're also writing thank-you notes for all the veterans at the (Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State) Veterans Home. We're thanking them for being veterans and for all the wonderful things they did

See **ASB**, Page 3

Garden City top students named

Jansa, Multer among students set for commencement May 30

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — The top graduates for Garden City High School's Class of 2008 have been announced.

Wade Jansa, the son of Wayne and Jennifer Jansa, is class valedictorian with a grade-point average of 98.3.

During his four years in high school, Jansa was a member of the National Honor Society, student



Jansa



Multer

council, Beta Club, Business Professionals of America, 4-H, Future Farmers of America,

See **GRADS**, Page 3

Grieving seminars begin Wednesday

For anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one, grieving is a natural, healthy response. If we are to move forward with life in a balanced way it may be necessary to get some help.

It is natural to experience a wide range of emotions during the grieving process — denial, anger, sadness, pain, fear, guilt, numbness, loneliness.

Compass Hospice, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society, has scheduled classes to help those who are grieving better understand the process.

Lead facilitators will be chaplains Walter McCall and Lynn Robertson.

Classes are scheduled each Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. May 21-June 25 at Compass Hospice, 1003 E. FM 700 in Big Spring. These classes are free of charge.

May 21 — What to Expect

May 28 — Process of Grief

June 4 — Living with Memories

June 11 — Needs When You Are Grieving

June 18 — Honoring Special Occasions

June 25 — What Now?

Classes will close after the second session. To make reservations or for more information, contact Compass Hospice at (877) 200-1410 or (432) 263-5999.

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www.bigspringherald.com

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District 2 clean up slated Friday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The second wave of the city of Big Spring's annual large item clean up effort will get under way Friday, as city crews get ready to hit the streets of District 2.

Having begun in April in the city's District 1, Friday's effort will concentrate on the district represented by



Darden

Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr., according to Assistant City Manager Todd Darden.

"We'll go through one district each month until we've completed all six," said Darden. "More and more people are taking advantage of the pro-

gram each year, so we're very happy with it. We expect a good turnout this year, as well."

Darden said there's no charge to use the program, which aims to help area residents remove large, cumbersome items from their property they might not otherwise be able to transport to the landfill.

However, residents do need

to be aware of what can and cannot be picked up, he said.

"Some of the more typical items we pick up are appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Darden. "Those are the kind of things that we can take to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up. However, we can't pick up any

See **CLEAN UP**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Iris Baucum



Iris Baucum, 70, of Big Spring, went to be with her Lord peacefully at home, surrounded by her family Monday, May 19, 2008. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Iris was born March 6, 1938, in Big Spring to Walter and Beatrice Jones. She grew up in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1956.

Iris married Lon Baucum on Jan. 1, 1966. Together, with her love for antiques, they owned and operated "Aunt Bea's Antiques and Otherwise."

Her passion was her family, whether it was at a football game, at the lake, camping, or a simple get-together. She was happiest when she was with her family. Iris was a lifelong resident of Big Spring and was a member of College Baptist Church.

Iris is survived by her husband, Lon Baucum of Big Spring; one daughter, Jennifer Chesworth and her husband Kelly of Big Spring; one son, Ben Baucum and his wife Kandace of Big Spring; one step-son, Tracy Holmes of Dallas; seven grandchildren, Zac and Tyler Chesworth, and Kaegan, Colby, Emma and Ella Baucum, all of Big Spring, and Mallory Holmes of Anson; three brothers, Amos Jones and his wife Mary of Corpus Christi, Isaac Jones and his with Peggy of Brenham, and Gary Jones of Big Spring; two sisters, Norma Patterson and her husband Pat of Midland, and Beverlyn Jones of Big Spring; and special friends, Duffy and Nancy Vassar.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Bitsy Martin and Gay Hart.

Pallbearers will be Ben Baucum, Kelly Chesworth, Zac Chesworth, Tyler Chesworth, Pat Patterson, and Duffy Vassar.

The family will be at 609 Washington Blvd.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., Suite A, Big Spring 79720 or College Baptist Church, 1105 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Roy Graham



Roy R. Graham, 63, of Big Spring, died Monday, May 19, 2008, in a Snyder hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 22, 2008, at Trinity Memorial Park with Chaplain Walter McCall of Compass Hospice officiating.

He was born Sept. 30, 1944, in Big Spring and was a lifelong resident, attending Big Spring schools. He had managed a tire store in Big Spring many years ago and was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include one sister, Kathy Mase of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William H. and Delma Armstrong Graham; and two brothers, William Douglas Graham and Jeral Graham.

The family suggests memorials to the donors, favorite charity.

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

Rosann Allen

Rosann Allen, 68, of Rockport died Sunday, May 18, 2008, in Colorado City. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 22, 2008, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home with the Rev. Walter McCall, Compass Hospice Chaplain, officiating.

She was born Oct. 10, 1939, in Vera and married Kenneth Allen in 1975 in Odessa. He preceded her in death Feb. 28, 2005.

Mrs. Allen lived in Rockport where she sold real estate and also sold oil and grease for Lubrication Engineers. She enjoyed raising emus and training parrots. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include two sons, Robert Stallings of Odessa and Johnny Dale Stallings of Rockport; one sister, Vickie Spray of Colorado City Lake; one brother, Michael Bohannan; one sister-in-law, Linda Bohannan; three nephews and two great nieces.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, E.C. "Bo" Bohannan and Rosie Lois Bohannan.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Parkinson's Foundation, 1501 NW 9th Avenue/Bob Hope Road, Miami, Fla. 33136-1494.

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

Police blotter

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

- **SHAJARKEI S. WILBERT**, 30, of 1407 Johnson, was arrested Monday on four local warrants.
- **ALBERTO RIVAS**, 49, of 306 N.E. Sixth Street, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported in the 4800 block of Highway 80.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.

• **BRYAN JAY BARTLETT**, 46, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

• **LISA YBARRA**, 39, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for failure to identify.

• **RAMON RAMIREZ-OVALLE**, 21, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of tampering with government/school records, no liability insurance and no driver's license.

• **TIMOTHY RAY LUCIO**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

• **MELANIE MARGARET DELOACH**, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a local bench warrant.

• **NATIVIDAD CEBALLOS**, 29, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

• **SHERRIE ANN THOMPSON**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 1500 block of Lancaster. The fire was contained to a single bedroom and extinguished before causing major damage to the home.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8-29-31-34-35.
Number matching five of five: 0.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-14-19-25. Bonus Ball: 11.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-7-0-0. Sum It Up: 13.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-2. Sum It Up: 12

Support Groups

TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

v

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

Your Local Weather

| Wed 5/21 | Thu 5/22 | Fri 5/23 | Sat 5/24 | Sun 5/25 |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| 97/68 | 95/66 | 90/63 | 84/64 | 86/64 |
| Sunny and windy. Hot. High 97F. Winds S at 20 to 30 mph. | Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm. | Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s. | Scattered thunderstorms possible. | Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s. |

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- 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.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Take Note

• State Honor Band concert CDs and DVDs are on sale in the Big Spring High School band hall. Prices are \$13 per CD, \$30 per DVD or \$40 for both. Limited quantities are available; first-come, first-serve.

• The Howard County Sheriffs Posse will be hosting a Poker Run beginning at 9 a.m. May 24 with partial proceeds to benefit the Special Olympics. It will begin and end in the Big Spring city pool parking lot. There will be breakfast burritos from McDonald's provided at sign up. There is no limit to the amount of hands any one person can play, and each hand will cost \$10. The prizes for the winning hands are donated by local businesses. To participate, you may ride your own horse or utilize the hay ride that will be available. Your also welcome to ride your motorcycles or other miscellaneous vehicles. To sign up ahead of time you may go to the Sheriffs Office or Bob Brock Ford. For any further information, contact Bert Shepard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.

• 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.

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

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14 hurt in blast at San Diego construction site

By ALLISON HOFFMAN
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A mechanical failure or gas likely triggered an explosion that rocked a waterfront hotel under construction, damaging four floors and injuring 14 workers, five critically, a fire official said.

The blast occurred around 2 p.m. Monday, ripping off part of the Hilton hotel's facade and sending debris flying. More than 400 construction workers were at the site at the time, Mayor Jerry Sanders said.

Bruce Ragland, who runs an entry gate at the Petco Park baseball stadium about 200 yards from the hotel, said he was looking right at the building when the explosion blew through two sides and set off a shockwave.

"It was just like watching a Bruce Willis movie, like you know, 'Die Hard,'" Ragland said.

San Diego Deputy Fire-Rescue Chief Perry Peake said the explosion occurred in an area of the building containing gas, electric and other utilities and appeared to have been caused by a mechanical failure or gas.

"We want to rule out all possibilities before making an official report, but we're pretty confident that's how it's going to come out," he said.

Matt McBride, general manager of the Tin Fish bar about 150 yards away, said he was setting up the outdoor patio bar when

the blast occurred. He said he and other workers froze as they saw smoke come out of the building but no flames.

"It looked like a bomb," McBride said. "It shook the whole building like a bomb. The reverb was what scared us. Everybody was saying bomb, bomb, terrorist, terrorist, terrorist."

The hotel near the San Diego Convention Center showed serious damage, and debris littered a driveway beneath one corner of the structure. Facade material dangled from the structure, drapes dangled out windows and a large equipment room with tanks and pipes was left exposed.

The building, however, did not burn.

Three of the five workers in critical condition were in a hospital burn unit, fire spokesman Maurice Luque said. Other workers who were also burned or struck by debris suffered injuries ranging from serious to minor, authorities said.

Ten people were taken to UCSD Medical Center, said Dr. Irving Jacoby, attending emergency room physician. Three were in the burn unit, one with burns over 35 percent of his body.

"They talked about a bright light and an intense heat," Dr. Bruce Potenza, of the hospital's burn unit, said of the injured.

By late Monday, six of the 10 at UCSD had been released, said hospital



Workers stand in debris in front of the blast area of a section under construction at the Hilton Hotel where an explosion ripped through the floors Monday in San Diego. The explosion, which was felt throughout downtown, rocked the hotel under construction and 13 workers were injured, five critically, authorities said.

AP photo

spokeswoman Kimberly Edwards. Another was stable and in good condition, she said. The three burned victims were in induced comas, Edwards said.

The 30-story Hilton San

Diego Bayfront hotel was scheduled to open in December, according to Hilton's Web site. It will have 1,190 rooms and more than 165,000 square feet of meeting space.

Hilton Hotels Corp. has not taken possession of the hotel from the builder, Hensel Phelps Construction Co., said Karima Zaki, the hotel's vice president for new

development. She said it was too early to say whether the hotel would open on schedule.

Hensel Phelps officials did not immediately respond to questions sent by e-mail.

CEREMONY

Continued from Page 1

ceremony will begin Saturday, according to Welch, as local Boy Scouts take time to show their

appreciation in a very special way.

"Each year, the day before the ceremony, the Boy Scouts from the Buffalo Trail Council come out and place miniature American flags on the graves of the veterans buried here," said

Welch. "It's a very emotional thing to see. The flags will remain on the graves until Tuesday.

"In honor of Howard County veterans, there will also be more than 100 full-size American flags flying at the park's Avenue of

Flags, which is sponsored each year by the veterans' families. When this ceremony first started out, we didn't have anywhere near 100 flags, but over the years it's grown and grown. It's really something beautiful to see."

Trinity Memorial Park is

located on S. Highway 87, approximately five miles south of Big Spring.

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

ASB

Continued from Page 1

while they were in the military. We'll be taking them

to the Salvation Army to give to the veterans."

Spiller said the project — which is being done in conjunction with the Big Spring Salvation Army — is part of the bank's anni-

versary celebration.

"This is a project the Salvation Army has done in the past," said Spiller. "This year, American State Bank has taken this on as one of our pet proj-

ects to celebrate our 60th anniversary. We also held a little party here at the office Tuesday, complete with cake and punch and a bunch of different giveaways. It's all in recogni-

tion of 60 years in banking for American State Bank."

The Boys & Girls Club summer program gets under way June 9. For more information on the program, call 267-8239.

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

GRADS

Continued from Page 1

Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Catholic Youth Organization.

Academically, he competed in University Interscholastic League

academics, Texas Math and Science Coaches Association academics, Texas Computer Education Agency robotics and computer programming.

Athletically, Jansa was second team all-state in football and first team all-state in basketball. He also participated in track.

He plans to attend Texas Tech University and attain a degree in engineering.

Amy Multer, the daughter of Warren and Tanya Multer, is class salutatorian with a grade-point average of 97.43.

She was a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, student council

and Business Professionals of America.

She participated in UIL accounting and one act play, as well as BPA competitions.

Athletically, she was a member of the golf, track, basketball and cross country teams.

Multer plans to attend

Texas Tech University and major in mathematics.

Commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2008 will be held at 7:30 p.m. May 30 in Ruth Cook Auditorium.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234

or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

CLEAN UP

Continued from Page 1

household hazardous waste. That means any kind of chemicals including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature. We also won't be picking up any tree branches, shrubs or things like that this year.

"We're trying to target people who are elderly, handicapped or otherwise don't have the means to

get these large items to our landfill. This is a service the city is going to provide as a courtesy to those people and give them the opportunity to get things off of their property they might not be able to otherwise."

Darden said customers need to be aware of gas, water and electricity meters and lines when they put their large items out to be picked up.

"A lot of time we have to bring in equipment to pick those large items up," he said. "If you cover the

meters up, it's hard for us to know where they are. Using the equipment makes the pick up go quicker and we want to make sure our employees are safe while they are picking these things up."

All items must be by the curb in the city's right-of-way no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled pick up. Items need to be separated as much as possible for its trip to the municipal landfill.

"To be placed on the pick up list, all residents have

to do is call 264-2504 or 264-2501, and we'll get them set up. If they don't call and get on the list, we can't pick up their items."

For more information on the Large Item Pick Up program and maps of the six city districts, visit the city of Big Spring Website at www.ci.big-spring.tx.us, or call 264-2504.

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

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Iris Baucum, 70, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Holiday weekend a chance to save money, energy

Texans familiar with saving money during tax holidays preceding the start of the school year now have another way to save. During this Memorial Day weekend, Texans won't have to pay sales tax on products with the Energy Star rating. You can save money and energy at the same time.

The sales tax holiday will apply to a wide range of products, from refrigerators under \$2,000 to fluorescent light bulbs.

Cyrus Reed, a lobbyist for the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, said, "This is about giving folks a little break on the up front costs of energy-efficient products so they can save over the long term energy and save money and also help save our environment."

Saving money is always attractive, and is particularly so during these tough economic times. That's the aim of the Energy Star program, which is a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency. Certain specifications and requirements are used to designate products as qualified for the Energy Star designation.

According to an Energy Star Web page, "Results are already adding up. Americans, with the help of Energy Star, saved enough energy in 2007 alone to avoid greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 27 million cars — all while saving \$16 billion on their utility bills."

State Sen. Rodney Ellis said he's going to work toward the addition of other products for next year's tax exemption that aren't on the list this year. That will give consumers even more choices of products that meet the stringent efficiency requirements of Energy Star.

If you're in the market for appliances or other energy efficient products, you might get some good deals during the tax holiday this weekend. And you'll be saving energy at the same time.

THE TIMES
EL PASO

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Regarding raising the prices here in Big Spring: OK, folks, it's time to step back and say, "No, we are not going to be like these big money grubbing companies whom are just wanting to make a huge profit."

The Alon workers are here to fix our refinery, not go broke while doing it. If you rent a house don't jump it up 300 percent.

Think about the people

working for Alon. They are just like us, trying to make a living and take care of their families.

Would you like to go to another town/city and work on something there and have somebody raise the price on products and rents?

I doubt it very seriously you would appreciate that.

TAMMY ADAMS
BIG SPRING

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.

• Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

• We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

• We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.

• Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.

• Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we put the lessons we learn from upsetting experiences to good use for You, Lord.

Amen

Health care crisis at tipping point

It's no secret that our health care system is in turmoil, with Texas leading the nation in the rate of residents without health insurance. But the latest report from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation should ring louder bells of alarm.

Texas ranks third — behind Oklahoma and Idaho — in health insurance premium increases from 2001 to 2005, according to the foundation. Our state's health insurance premiums soared 40 percent in five years or 10 times faster than Texans' incomes increased over the same period.

Texas' health care system is at its tipping point. Unless we change the way we deliver care and begin to take our uninsured problem seriously, this crisis ultimately will threaten the health and pocketbook of every person in Texas — insured or not. Put simply, the uninsured crisis is by far the biggest obstacle standing in the way of all Texans obtaining quality, affordable health care.

How can Texas tip the scales back in our favor? First, let's start with the kids.

More than 1.5 million Texas children are without health insurance. While the Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicaid cover nearly 2.2 million kids, there are many eligible children who

simply are not enrolled in either program.

Not only should we do more to raise awareness about the availability of these programs, but Texas hospitals also strongly support allowing more parents to access CHIP for their children through a buy-in program, based on the family's ability to pay. Early forecasts of an expected budget surplus should prompt state leaders to appropriately expand these important health care programs.

The fiscal position of the state also provides the opportunity for Texas lawmakers to invest in tax incentives for businesses, including hospitals, to pay a reasonable percentage of an employee's health insurance premium or pay into a state pool providing coverage for the uninsured.

And, it's certainly worth debating the merits of requiring companies that receive state enterprise fund assistance or local tax rebates to provide adequate, affordable health insurance to their employees. Other solutions might include requiring college students to have health insurance and working with universities to offer access to affordable coverage for these students or allowing parents to carry their children on their health insurance plans regardless of the child's age.

When you combine the uninsured crisis and skyrocketing premiums with the other problems plaguing our health care system, we find ourselves not only at the tipping point but also in the eye of the "perfect

storm."

New technology has made it possible to diagnose illnesses more rapidly. New treatments have improved outcomes and extended life expectancy, but today we're still very much a society that would rather treat disease than prevent it.

Patients don't always recognize the cost of treating a disease compared to a more wise and cost-effective decision to quit smoking, exercise and get regular health care screenings for conditions or illnesses like diabetes, high cholesterol and cancer.

Most of us also are not very good health care consumers. We don't shop for health care by comparing price and quality. We go where our insurance covers the visit and pay our rather nominal co-pay. The patient is removed from the financial ramifications of their health care decisions, since the insurer processes and pays the claim.

It's time Texans realize that our stake in health care is personal, and the uninsured crisis directly affects each and every one of us.

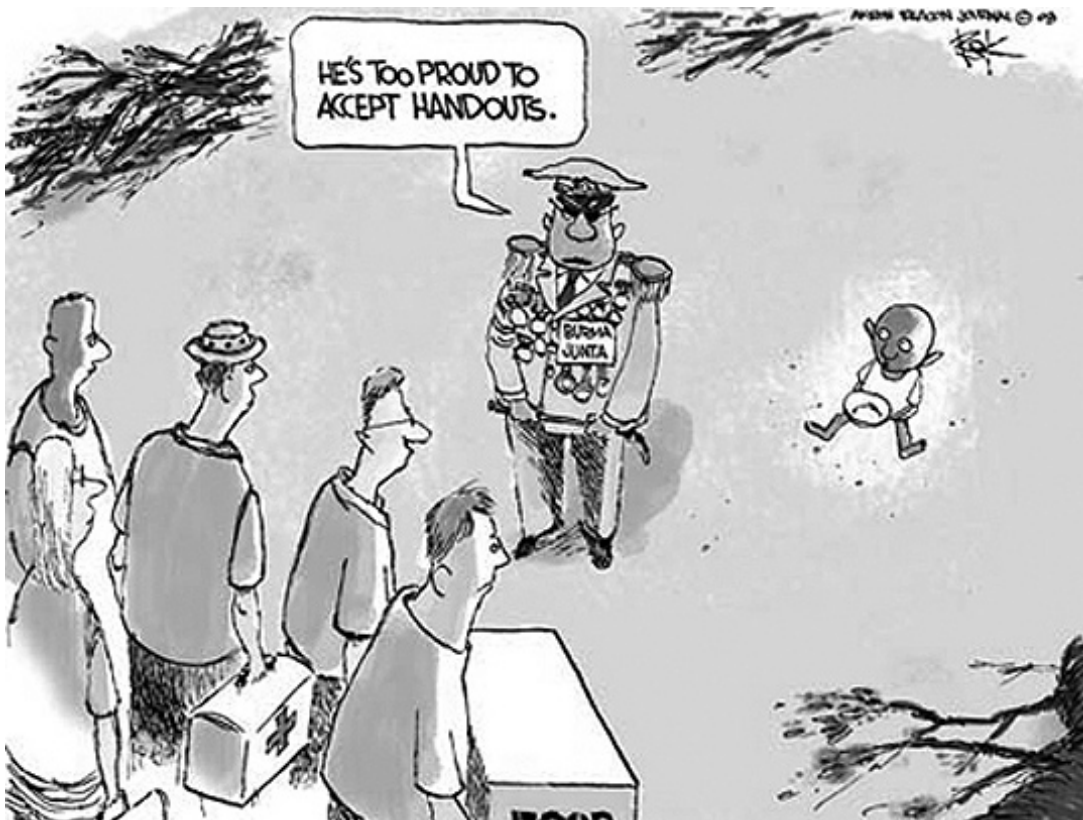
We're at the tipping point, and a few changes can make a dramatic difference.

By reducing the number of uninsured Texans, providing incentives for staying healthy and using health care services wisely, we can tip the balance in a positive direction.

Dr. Dan Stultz, is the president and CEO of the Texas Hospital Association.



DAN
STULTZ



Lawmaker investments not so green

When environmental lobbyists and eco-friendly citizens come a-knock-in' on lawmakers'

office doors, Democrats (and some Republicans) can detail efforts to pass legislation that directs taxes collected from the oil and gas industry towards renewable energy initiatives. But the politicians probably won't mention that while they're encouraging the country to invest in alternatives, they themselves aren't doing so with their own money.

According to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics, members of Congress have more money invested in each of the top five oil and gas companies, individually, than in 305 green stock companies combined.

The most recent personal financial disclosures show that members had at least 45 times more money invested in the oil and gas industry (at least \$20.6 million) than in public companies that provide "green" products and services (at least \$452,100). This includes companies that develop renewable energy projects, manufacture energy efficiency products, recycle material or create wind or solar products. The amount of money members have plunked down on these green stocks, as listed in the newsletter Progressive Investor, has actually decreased 23 percent since 2004, while their investments in oil and gas have increased by 30 percent.

"Every purchase that we make, whether to buy a car or a piece of clothing — and that includes stock in our portfolio — we're making a strong statement about what we want," said Rona Fried, editor and publisher of Progressive Investor.

"If you invest in clean energy stock, you're making a statement that that's where you want to see the world going. If you invest in fossilized companies, you're going to be stuck with the dinosaurs."

Democrats, who have tried repeatedly in the last year to pass legislation that would tax oil companies and use the money for wind and solar energy subsidies, had even less money invested in green stocks than Republicans in 2006 — at least \$59,300 compared to at least \$392,600. (Members of Congress annually disclose their investments in ranges, making it impossible to determine their exact value.)

Of course not all members of Congress agree that renewable energy is the way to go — and even if they do, they might not be comfortable buying stock in such companies yet, because the industry is young and the stocks can be volatile, Progressive Investor's Fried said.

Indeed, between 2004 and 2006, lawmakers were not getting rich off of their green investments. On average, individual lawmakers earned at least \$2,700 on these investments over the three-year period, through dividends, capital gains, royalties and interest, the Center found. They made an average of \$24,200, however, on their investments in the oil and gas industry. Because the most recent personal financial disclosure data available is from 2006-2007 reports are due mid-May — it's still impossible to say whether members have become more or less invested in these companies in the last 15 months.

Then Again some investments in alternative energy aren't considered to be healthy. Last year President Bush signed an energy bill that doubled the use of corn-based ethanol, a controversial bio-fuel that is driving up the price of food worldwide. In 2006, lawmakers

had at least \$825,400 invested in the companies that stand to profit the most from corn-based ethanol production, including agribusiness giant Archer Daniels Midland. Democrats owned 75 percent of those investments (though Sen. John Kerry and his wife, Teresa, own 60 percent alone).

Democrats may have less of their own money invested in green stocks, but those companies have invested more in the campaigns of Democrats than Republicans. Of the total \$242,900 that the companies' employees and PACs have given to federal candidates, parties and committees so far in the 2008 election cycle, 68 percent has gone to Democrats. The oil and gas industry, however, has traditionally supported Republicans. This election cycle, Republicans have received 73 percent of the total \$11.5 million from the oil and gas industry.

Addressing global warming and investing in clean technologies and renewable energy is not a partisan issue, said Doug Stingle, membership and outreach coordinator of the Midwest Renewable Energy Association.

"This is something that everyone should be invested in. It's not an ideological issue," he said. "If global warming severely alters our ecosystem in such a way that we can't live our lives, it won't matter if you're Republican or Democrat. It's beyond that."

Lindsay Renick Mayer writes for Capital Eye, the online newsletter and blog of the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan research organization in Washington, D.C., that tracks the influence of money on elections and public policy at its website, OpenSecrets.org.

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Bewick's wrens: Almost any hollow niche will do

Slowly inching up the ramps and on to the trailer, the sputtering tractor was chained in place before being turned off. Climbing down from the ornery equipment, the man was considering a tuneup for the relic when he unloaded it at his other farm.

As he walked to his pickup for the long trip west, his wife laughed, then added, "When are you going to sell that old thing?" Once inside the cab, he gave her his look that implied, "When I'm ready!"



BEBE
MCCASLAND

On the way home, the couple enjoyed reminiscing about their first farm. As the years had passed, their accumulation of acreage had given them an adequate income. When drought hit one part of the state, they usually could count on their other farms to have a marketable crop.

After turning on to the dirt road that led to their home, the man welcomed the change of scenery. Thickets of prickly pear and mesquite, his barns and pastures, gave him a change of pace from the hectic interstate.

While he unfastened the chains on the tractor, his wife headed into the house to prepare the evening meal.

After securing the ramps, he glanced at the dry grass and twigs underneath the tattered tractor seat.

"Now what kind of critter would put that up there?" he wondered.

Bird Poop

Pulling on the outermost parts, he realized how tightly matted together the materials were.

"Come here a minute," he shouted through the screen door to his wife.

"Look at that," he added, as they walked back to the tractor.

Wondering what animal had gathered such an assortment of debris, they slowly started pulling twigs and grass from inside the steel support that held the seat. Even when her husband had been riding the tractor, he had not depressed this one area.

Suddenly, the entire mass slid toward her. She carefully cupped it in her hands. Leaves, hair, feathers, cotton, spider webs and remnants of a snake skin were intermeshed with thin bits of bark.

Prying open the slightly flattened matter, she saw movement.

"Baby birds!" she repeated excitedly. "Oh, my gosh," she continued, "we left their mother at the farm!"

Taking them inside, she hurried to her book on birds.

Throughout their meal, she continued to sort through pages until she confirmed her thoughts. Across the table, her husband was eager to hear about what they had.

Satisfying his curiosity, she announced, "Bewick's wrens. All six of 'em."

When the call came a few days later, we were concerned when the



Courtesy photo

Flicking its tail up and sideways, the Bewick's wren (pronounced bue-ick) is constantly searching for insects. The secretive bird appears one moment on the side of a tree, only to disappear the next into dense honeysuckle or trumpet vine. Quick in both flight and movement, it is sometimes called the Texas wren.

woman related the difficulty she had encountered in feeding such tiny beings. The smallest two had not made it. To ease the guilt she was experiencing, I told her that supplementing their diet and getting the remaining nestlings to eat would be a challenge for us as well.

For three days, feedings were given from dawn to dark every 30 minutes or less, depending upon each bird. Knowing the young usually remain in the nest for 14 days, we were half way there.

Ready the next morning to take the birds to South Plains, we discovered the two youngest would not be making the trip. At least the largest and strongest had a chance.

On the way to Lubbock, we talked about our growing passengers and the adventurous locales of some of their homes. Our yard had offered houses that the wrens preferred new. Once used, they moved to the opening in a block tile fence. Over the years, people had shared their wren stories: mailboxes, flower pots, tin cans, cowboy boots, old hats, broken bottles, woodpecker holes; almost any hollow niche would do.

The most enjoyable aspects of our Bewick's wrens were their stature and melodic song. Only five inches long, with seven inches for a wingspan, the small, active birds were gray-brown on

top, with white underparts. A white line was a distinguishing mark over each eye. Their long, rounded tails, tipped with white and accented with black bars, were usually carried high above their backs.

Probing for insects, they used their long slender bills to check under bark and inside last year's yucca pods.

When very young, the wrens at our house had learned their crisp, expressive tunes from the male Bewick's in the area. Clearly floating through early morning, the songs sounded like cheep, cheep, che-we-e-e, followed by chip, chip, chip, te-da-a, te-dee.

Their voices, however,

turned discordant when a coachwhip snake approached their tree house. A scolding dzz, dzz, had alerted us in time to frighten the reptile away.

By the middle of June came a report on the two survivors. Since it had a deficiency in calcium, the smaller of the two would be kept at the wildlife center. The other wren, who had perhaps the best chance at a normal life, was to be released during the summer.

Whether it chose a tractor or a flower pot to start another generation, only nature would know for sure.

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

Parent's Corner: Don't let Garbage Trucks trash your day

How often do you let other people's nonsense change your mood? Do you let a bad driver, rude waiter, curt boss, or an insensitive employee ruin your day? The mark of a successful person is how quickly he can regain his focus on what's important.



DARRELL
RYAN

Let me share a story I read recently that tells about such an inci-

dent. It goes like this:

A few years ago I learned this lesson in the back of a taxi cab in Indianapolis. Here's what happened. I hopped in a taxi, and we took off for Indianapolis Airport. We were driving in the right lane when, all of a sudden, a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us.

My taxi driver slammed on his breaks, skidded and missed the other car's back end by just inches! The driver of the other car, the guy who almost caused a big accident, whipped his head around and he started yelling bad words at us.

My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. I mean this cab driver was extremely friendly. So, I said, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!"

He smiled and said, "Let me tell you the Law of the Garbage Truck. Many people are like garbage trucks. They run around

full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it. And if you let them, they'll dump it on you.

"When someone wants to dump on you, don't take it personally. You just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. You'll be happy you did."

I started thinking, how often do I let Garbage Trucks run right over me? And how often do I take their garbage and spread it to other people, either at work, at home, or on the streets? It was that day I said, "I'm not going to do it anymore."

Now I try to see the load they're carrying. I see them coming to drop it off. And like my Taxi

Driver, I don't make it a personal thing; I just smile, wave, wish them well and I move on.

Good leaders know they have to be ready for their next meeting. Good parents know that they have to welcome their children home from school with hugs and kisses. Leaders and parents know that

See **GARBAGE**, Page 6

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Publishes Sunday, May 25th
DEADLINE TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, 5 PM

Planning a trip? Here are a few notes and ideas

Memorial Day weekend busy time for travel

HOUSTON (AP) — AAA Texas reports record gas prices could affect travel plans for the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

The organization Monday predicted 2.78 million Texans will travel during the holiday period, or about one-half percent lower than 2007 Memorial Day weekend.

AAA Texas expects 1.95 million Texas travelers will be driving over the holiday weekend, a one percent drop from 2007. The group expects more than 414,000 people to fly.

The organization also reported Monday the average price for self-serve regular gasoline in Texas reached \$3.69 per gallon, or 65 cents above one year ago.

A survey of AAA travel agents finds the most popular destination for Texas travelers over Memorial Day weekend is expected to be San Antonio.

Waterfall art installation in New York City this summer

NEW YORK (AP) — If you're visiting New York City this summer, don't be surprised to find a waterfall next to the Brooklyn Bridge.

The spectacle will be one of four manmade waterfalls built on the shores of the city's East River by Scandinavian artist Olafur Eliasson. The water will course over scaffolding 90 to 120 feet high, from late June to Oct. 15, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, and will be illuminated after sunset.

The locations will be the Brooklyn base of the Brooklyn Bridge, Governor's Island, Pier 35 in Lower Manhattan, and between Piers 4 and 5 in Brooklyn.

There will be numerous public vantage points, including from the Brooklyn and Manhattan waterfront and from the pedestrian path of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Circle Line Downtown - 866-925-4631 or <http://www.circlelinedowntown.com> - is the official boat tour operator for the event.

Other cruises offering views of the falls include those offered by South Street Seaport Museum (212-748-8786); New York Water Taxi (212-742-1969),

and Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises (212-563-3200). For big spenders, Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises is offering a \$50,000 private tour, complete with champagne, a pair of diamond earrings, dinner for two and a night in a presidential suite.

A number of hotels, including the Plaza Athenee, Roosevelt and Mandarin Oriental, are offering special packages in conjunction with the waterfalls. The Ritz-Carlton New York at Battery Park is uniquely located to offer rooms with a view of the falls; packages starting at \$480 a night include an in-room telescope, breakfast for two and two boat tour tickets. Details at <http://www.ritzcarlton.com>.

Eliasson's project comes three years after artist Christo and his wife, Jeanne-Claude, draped 23 miles of Central Park footpaths with orange fabric gates. That event drew an estimated 4 million visitors to the park, including 1.5 million out-of-towners.

Eliasson is known for using elements of nature in his art. A retrospective of his work opened at the Museum of Modern Art in April.

The New York City Waterfalls exhibition was commissioned by the Public Art Fund, which is organizing the event in collaboration with New York City.

Details at <http://nycvis-it.com/waterfalls/> or <http://www.nycwaterfalls.org>.

Montreal Jazz Fest, June 26-July 6

MONTREAL (AP) — Eleven days of music and entertainment gets underway June 26 with the 29th annual Montreal Jazz Fest.

The celebration starts at noon each day and runs until midnight, ending July 6. Several city blocks are closed to traffic for the event. An art gallery, street performers and a musical park for children are all part of the program, along with a multitude of performances from jazz and related genres, including the blues, and Latin, African, reggae and other types of music from around the world.

Among the headliners



AP photo/Mary Altaffer

The Brooklyn Bridge is 125 years old this month. This summer, there will be a man-made waterfall next to it.

scheduled to attend this year are Aretha Franklin, Woody Allen, Leonard Cohen, Return To Forever, Abbey Lincoln, Dianne Reeves, James Taylor, Lee "Scratch" Perry, The Wailers, David Murray, Michel Donato, Guy Nadon, Ravi Coltrane, Coral Egan, Steely Dan, Katie Melua, Yael Naim and a double program with Al Green and Lizz Wright.

The festival is dedicated this year to the late Oscar Peterson, who was Canadian.

The festival will open with a concert by Katie Melua, a singer from the United Kingdom. Special events include "Houdini, The Musical," and "Belly of a Drunken Piano: A Celebration of Tom Waits," starring Australian performer Stewart D'Arrietta.

A Spiegeltent, a traditional European carnival tent of wood, mirrors, canvas and stained glass, is being imported from overseas and will stand at the corner of De Maisonneuve and De Bleury streets.

The closing concert will be called "A Night to Remember," honoring the local Justin Time music label.

New series this year include En voix (which means "in voice"), featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie and Gino Vanelli. Another new feature is Cine-Jazz, a series offers of live performances dur-

ing film screenings.

Tickets and details at <http://www.montreal-jazzfest.com>.

Museum dedicated to Pacific battles of World War II growing

FREDERICKSBURG — A Texas museum devoted to telling the story of Pacific battles during World War II is about to get a lot bigger.

Gov. Rick Perry, museum leaders and other state officials broke ground for the 40,000-square-foot expansion of the National Museum of the Pacific War. The addition will triple the size of the museum. Completion is scheduled for December 2009.

Perry, speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony, reminded the crowd that he is the son of a World War II veteran who was a B-17 tail-gunner in Europe. He said the

Fredericksburg museum detailing the war's Pacific battles will "continue to share our history with future generations."

Originally, the museum was named the Admiral Nimitz Museum, for Chester Nimitz, who was born in Fredericksburg and became the five-star fleet admiral and commander in chief for the Pacific theater in World War II.

It has grown into a six-acre site that includes nearly 34,000 square feet of indoor exhibit space, along with large outdoor

artifacts such as tanks and guns as well as the Japanese Garden of Peace.

World War II veterans frequently visit the museum. In December, it will be the reunion site of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Association's 67th anniversary.

Details at <http://www.nimitz-museum.org>

Calgary Stampede rodeo in Alberta, Canada, July 4-13

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Rodeo competitions, chuckwagon races, barrel races and other old-fashioned entertainment are all on the program at the Calgary Stampede, scheduled July 4-13 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The event hosted over a million visitors last year.

Musical performers scheduled for the event will include James Taylor, Sugarland, The Judds and Kid Rock.

An agricultural exposition, Agrium Ag-tivity in the City, will include live animals, interactive displays and presentations on farming.

An Indian Village will offer dance performances, cooking demonstrations and a teepee-raising contest.

In the chuckwagon races, the wagons originally used to carry food and cooking equipment are raced around an

GARBAGE

Continued from Page 5

they have to be fully present and at their best for the people they care about.

I guess the bottom line is that successful people do not let Garbage Trucks take over their day. How would this affect you? What would happen in your life, starting today, if you let more garbage trucks pass you by? The answer is clear, you'd be happier.

Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so love the people who treat you right and think kindly on the ones who don't. And remember, they may just be full of garbage!

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

Amy E. Reese,
D.D.S., P.C.
432-267-4102

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

All in the State of Mind

North dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 6 2
♥ A 3
♦ 10 5
♣ A K Q 10 8 3

WEST

♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ J 10 9
♦ J 9 7 6 3
♣ 7

EAST

♠ J 10 5
♥ Q 8 6 4 2
♦ —
♣ J 9 6 5 4

SOUTH

♠ K 8 3
♥ K 7 5
♦ A K Q 8 4 2
♣ 2

The bidding:

| North | East | South | West |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♠ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 3♣ | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| 6NT | | | |

Opening lead — jack of hearts.
Many contracts fail because the adverse cards are divided in such a way that making the contract is impossible. The contract may be an excellent one — looking at only the 26 cards held by dummy and declarer — but if all the critical finesses lose, or the key suits break badly, a disappointing outcome may readily ensue.

All a declarer can do in such cases is to accept the verdict philosophically and go on to the next deal. The true test comes when he can provide against a bad break and neglects to do so. In that case, he has only himself to blame, since he could

have controlled the outcome. It is in these instances that the mettle of the first-rate declarer is tested.

Here is an example. Six notrump was an excellent slam to reach and, in fact, was even a conservative venture. The normal expectancy would be to score all 13 tricks if either the diamonds or clubs break normally. A grand-slam undertaking therefore could not be criticized.

But when South won the heart lead with the king and cashed the A-K of clubs, East turned up with five clubs, and when he next played the ace of diamonds, West showed up with all five cards in that suit. Ultimately, South went down two.

Yet, despite his bad luck, declarer was clearly at fault for failing to take the proper precautions to protect a sure small slam.

With so many points at stake, he should have been willing to sacrifice 30 points to ensure making six notrump. At trick two, he should have led a low diamond from his hand toward dummy's ten!

This supercautious play would have guaranteed five diamond tricks regardless of how the suit was divided. If West had all the diamonds, he would score at most one trick, and if East had them all, he would also be limited to one trick. Twelve tricks — five diamonds, three clubs and the A-K of both majors — were thus there from the start, provided South availed himself of the surefire safety play.



The Law Enforcement Torch Run® began in 1981 when Wichita, Kansas Police Chief Richard LaMunyon saw an urgent need to raise funds for and increase awareness of Special Olympics. He conceived the idea of a Torch Run as a way to involve local law enforcement personnel in the community and Special Olympics. After three years of successful Torch Runs in Kansas, LaMunyon presented the program to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). With IACP's enthusiastic support and leadership, the Torch Run soon involved all facets of the law enforcement community—sheriffs' associations, police units, state, county, municipal, military, and federal law enforcement, and corrections officers. The Torch Run expanded into seven states by 1985; 43 states by 1986, and 50 states and 34 nations in 2000.

The Torch Run is Special Olympics' largest grass-roots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle, raising more than US\$20.5 million for Special Olympics Programs around the world in 2004.

On May 21, 2008 our local officers will be heading out of Big Spring to begin their leg of the Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run in support of the Texas Special Olympics. In order to help the officer's maintain their focus of what this run is all about, they would like to invite you to be a part of the send off celebration and press conference to be held at 12:00 noon at the Howard County Courthouse. Please feel free to bring a sack lunch and eat on the grounds of the Courthouse. After the short press conference, the officers would like to invite those athletes who are able to run or walk with them as they begin their journey. The athletes will have a designated stopping spot at 806 E. 3rd which is the parking lot adjacent to the Howard County ARC Bingo Hall.

If you would like to purchase a shirt with the 2008 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics logo, please contact one of the people listed below. We will get you the shirts so that you may wear them on the day of the local event. All proceeds benefit the Special Olympics of Texas.

Thanks in advance for your support and we look forward to seeing you there.

Sgt. Brian Gordon

For T-Shirt Orders:
Cpl. Gilbert Barraza
263-4867 (please leave a message if there is no answer)

Sect parents complain of vague custody plans

By MICHELLE ROBERTS
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANGELO — The parents of the children in state custody after a raid at a polygamist sect's ranch came to a courthouse asking one question: How do we get back our children?

They left complaining that Texas child welfare officials offered no real answers Monday as five judges began sorting the massive custody case into separate family groups. The state has more than 460 children from the Yearning For Zion Ranch in foster care.

Texas officials are making it impossible for parents to get back their children, complained Willie Jessop, an elder of the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which runs the ranch in Eldorado.

"Every parent is accused of being bad and there's no cure," he said after the first day of hearings, which were to resume Tuesday and expected to last three weeks.

All the parents got the same template plan outlining allegations of abuse at the ranch and services required for the children and parents. Judges made few changes, though sev-



AP photo/Tony Gutierrez

Members of the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints depart from the Tom Green County Courthouse in San Angelo Monday. Children from a polygamist sect were the only subjects on the docket at the courthouse where five judges began handling hundreds of hearings that attorneys for the children's parents decried for their cookie-cutter approach.

eral expressed concerns about the lack of specifics. The plans do not make it clear whether the children will ever be allowed to return to the ranch.

"What the parents are

trying to find out here is what they need to do to get their children back, and there's no clear answer to that," FLDS spokesman Rod Parker said.

The parents say they are

being persecuted for their religion, which includes the belief that polygamy brings glorification in heaven.

In one hearing, attorneys complained that the Book

of Mormon was confiscated from some of the children at a foster facility.

"If they can openly admit they can take away the Book of Mormon from us today, it'll be the Bible

tomorrow," Jessop said.

State Child Protective Services spokeswoman Marleigh Meisner said officials have not been able to confirm whether the sect members' holy text was taken from them, but they have removed photos, sermons and books of FLDS prophet Warren Jeffs, a convicted sex offender.

None of the judges allowed much discussion on whether the initial grounds for removing the children from the ranch were valid.

Texas child welfare authorities argued that all the children, from newborns to teenagers, should be removed from the ranch because the sect pushes underage girls into marriage and sex and encourages boys to become future perpetrators.

Church members insist there was no abuse. They say the one-size-fits-all action plan devised by CPS doesn't take into account specific marriage arrangements or living circumstances.

Some sect members lived in a communal setting in large log houses they built themselves. Others lived as traditional nuclear families in their own housing on the ranch.

State rehiring fired workers

AUSTIN (AP) — At least 40 employees fired from Texas' psychiatric hospitals in the last three years have been rehired for similar state positions, including jobs with juvenile offenders and people with profound disabilities, records show.

While most were terminated for problems like failing to show up for work or to disclose a criminal record and not for mistreating patients, a Dallas Morning News analysis indicates some went on to commit abuse or neglect in their next jobs.

For instance, an employee fired from a Waco child psychiatric hospital in 2005 was hired by the Texas Youth Commission. In that job, he was punished for pushing a suicidal inmate face down onto a bed, forcibly undressing him and putting him in a straitjacket, even though the youth wasn't struggling.

In another case, an employee fired from a North Texas psychiatric hospital was hired in 2006 as a juvenile corrections officer. That person was reprimanded for a brawl that broke out when she walked away from the youth she was supposed to watch.

The newspaper's review of employment records turned up at least 40 cases since

2005 where fired state direct-care workers were rehired by Texas' psychiatric hospitals, juvenile prisons or state schools for people with disabilities.

There are multiple state registries that list health care workers with a history of abuse and state officials say they try to cover as many bases as possible when hiring employees.

And while state officials aren't prohibited from rehiring someone fired from another agency, they say they go to great lengths to weed out employees who might be abusive.

That's not always easy as some fired employees fought allegations and never got entered into state abuse databases. Also, many were fired during their six-month probationary period, when no explanation for their dismissal is required. And agencies don't have consistent access to one another's records.

Sometimes, these employees don't get more than a mandatory criminal records search and a drug test.

"These are low-pay, entry-level positions," said Doug McBride, spokesman for the Department of State Health Services, which oversees the state psychiatric hospitals.

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Lead facilitators will be Chaplain Walter McCall and Chaplain Lynn Robertson.



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News in brief

Barack Obama bidding for a delegate milestone in Oregon, Kentucky primaries

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Barack Obama will reach for a symbolic tipping point in the Oregon and Kentucky primaries Tuesday — a majority of pledged delegates offered in the Democratic presidential contest.

Hillary Rodham Clinton vowed there was “no way that this is going to end anytime soon” as she campaigned Monday across Kentucky, a state she was expected to win.

Obama was favored in Oregon, where supporters delivered the largest crowd of his campaign on Sunday.

Regardless of who prevails in those states, Obama is on track to secure the largest share of delegates who could be won in the long slog of primaries and caucuses since the snows of January.

If there were to be practical dividends in that achievement, they would come from persuading the remaining uncommitted superdelegates — the party insiders who are not tied to primary or caucus results — to pick up the pace of their endorsements.

Foreign countries heed China's call for medical help for earthquake victims

CHENGDU, China (AP) — Foreign countries heeded China's plea for medical aid for earthquake survivors, sending doctors and a portable hospital to help treat millions of homeless and injured, while the region remained jittery Tuesday over warnings of aftershocks.

Meanwhile, rescuers saved a 31-year-old man from the rubble of a power plant flattened by last week's earthquake, the second case of someone being found alive a week after the temblor struck Sichuan province.

Ma Yuanjiang was pulled from the Yingxiu Bay Hydropower Plant, where he worked as a director, after a 30-hour rescue effort, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Ma was able to speak after the rescue and began to eat small amounts of food, his colleague Wu Geng told Xinhua, but his exact condition was unknown.

A miner, Peng Guohua, was in stable condition Tuesday after being trapped for 170 hours before his rescue Monday, Xinhua said.

China has said it would accept foreign medical teams, as the relief efforts shifted from searching for survivors to caring for the homeless. A growing number of countries responded to the call, dispatching doctors to the quake area Tuesday.

Despite Bush veto promise, Senate loads up Iraq war funding bill with domestic spending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite numerous veto threats, senators in both parties have loaded up President Bush's war funding bill with a grab bag of domestic programs, including work permits for immigrant farm labor and heating subsidies for the poor.

The Senate was scheduled to begin debate on the measure Tuesday, just days after a key panel added more about \$28 billion to Bush's budget request for this year and next, with almost \$50 billion more for a big expansion of veterans benefits under the GI Bill over 2010-2018.

The new GI Bill and Democratic priorities like extending unemployment benefits are simply the big-ticket

add-ons, both of which have drawn veto threats. There's also \$50 million to track down child predators, \$400 million to help rural schools and \$350 million fight western wildfires, just for starters.

Senators are acting as if the war funding bill coming to the floor Tuesday is the last train leaving the station, and, as a result, have added billions of dollars for pet programs and hitched on several policy “riders” as well. Few if any other spending bills are likely to come before the Senate this election year, which makes the supplemental measure an even more attractive vehicle for carrying spending proposals that would stall otherwise.

The White House is fighting the add-ons much more vigorously than it did during last year's bruising war funding debate. Then, it accepted \$17 billion in spending that Bush didn't ask for as the price for getting an Iraq war funding bill that didn't tie his hands on the war.

Myanmar begins 3-day mourning period, as UN says only one-fifth of survivors helped

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Myanmar began three days of mourning for some 78,000 cyclone victims Tuesday, but some residents frustrated with the junta's response to the disaster called it a symbolic gesture that lacked sincerity.

Despite the government's apparent acquiescence to accept more outside help, most foreign aid workers were still banned from the storm-devastated area and the United Nations said only 20 percent of the survivors had received some form of international assistance.

Flags at government offices, schools and large hotels were lowered to half-staff, but there was no period of silence.

Shops were open as usual and many people in Yangon said they had little idea of what the government-announced mourning entailed. Others were angry.

“I don't think flying flags at half-mast is going to help. If they are sincere, they should welcome help from everyone,” said Zin Moe, 32, who sells clothes. “They are not letting in aid quickly enough and people are angry.”

The military-led regime said Monday it would allow its Asian neighbors to oversee distribution of foreign relief to survivors of Cyclone Nargis, which battered the country May 2-3.

It also approved a visit by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and prepared to host a meeting of aid donors, while claiming losses from the disaster exceeded \$10 billion.

Explosion damages downtown San Diego hotel under construction; 14 injured

SAN DIEGO (AP) — An explosion rocked a hotel under construction Monday, ripping off part of the building's facade, sending debris flying and injuring 14 workers, five critically, authorities said.

Some of the workers were burned and others were injured by debris, fire department spokesman Maurice Luque said. The building did not burn after the explosion, which Luque said appeared to be accidental.

Matt McBride, general manager of the Tin Fish bar about 150 yards away, said he was setting up the outdoor

patio bar when the blast occurred. He said he and other workers froze as they saw smoke come out of the building but no flames.

“It looked like a bomb,” McBride said. “It shook the whole building like a bomb. The reverb was what scared us. Everybody was saying bomb, bomb, bomb, terrorist, terrorist, terrorist.”

San Diego Deputy Fire-Rescue Chief Perry Peake said the explosion occurred in an area of the building containing gas, electric and other utilities and that it appeared to have been caused by a mechanical failure or gas.

Taiwan launches corruption probe against outgoing president

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Taiwanese prosecutors launched a corruption probe against outgoing President Chen Shui-bian on Tuesday, hours after he completed eight combative years in office.

The Supreme Prosecutors Office, which reports directly to the Supreme Court, said in a statement that Chen was being investigated for his role in the handling of a special presidential fund used to pursue Taiwan's foreign diplomacy.

“The office has assigned ... a seven-member investigative unit to take charge of the case,” it said.

There was no immediate comment from Chen.

The investigation relates the alleged embezzlement of \$484,000. Chen's wife was indicted in December 2006 over the fund's handling. At the time, prosecutors said Chen could be indicted once he left office, ending his presidential immunity.

The probe is a further blow to Chen's legacy, already in tatters over the indictment of several members of his inner circle on graft charges, and the conviction of his son-in-law for insider trading.

More schools nationwide expected to miss law's benchmarks and face consequences

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pink slips for principals and teachers. School-funded tutoring for poor kids. Schools are increasingly looking at those kind of consequences for failing to raise math and reading scores.

The federal No Child Left Behind law says that by the 2013-14 school year all students must pass state tests in these subjects.

About half of the states have steady annual goals for increasing the percentage of students passing, or working at their proper grade level.

But the other half set the bar very low early on, and starting about now expect big annual achievement gains, according to a report being released Tuesday by the nonpartisan Center on Education Policy.

Educators liken the latter strategy to a balloon payment mortgage, in which home owners have a final payment that is much larger than previous ones.

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IN BRIEF

Big Spring High schedules Spring Sports Banquet

Big Spring High School's Spring Sports Banquet has been scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday at the high school cafeteria.

Tickets are \$10 and can be bought at from Kay Cook at the Athletic Training Center or at the door.

Anyone with questions can call Denise Carillo at 816-1685.

Lady Steers Ragball Tourney starts Saturday

The Big Spring Lady Steers Softball Boosters are sponsoring a ragball tournament at Lady Steer Field Saturday and Sunday.

Five girls and five boys make up a team and cost is \$10 a person to play.

Registration is at 5:30 p.m. Friday at the field. First game is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday.

Howard County Youth Horseman Club playdays

The Howard County Youth Horseman Club has scheduled the first playday of its Second Belt Buckle Series for 5 p.m. Saturday.

The public is invited to participate or just be spectators.

Three playdays make up a series and a person must be a part of the HCYHC to earn points toward a belt buckle.

An annual \$25 fee purchases a family membership, although non-members are welcome to compete.

There are five events — exhibition barrels, poles, straight barrels, flags and goat tying — for age groups ranging from six and under to adults.

Playday fees are \$2 per event for members of the HCYHC and \$4 for non-members.

Each event is held at the HCYHC's facility on Longshore Road just off the Garden City Highway.

Howard College girls' basketball camps scheduled

Howard College women's basketball head coach Earl Diddle is holding three girls' basketball camps for three different age groups this summer.

The Little Hawk Camp is for girls in kindergarten through third grade and is set for June 2-5 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Individual Day Camp is for fourth through eighth graders and also takes place June 2-5 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Finally, the Shooting and Position Camp for seventh through 12th graders will be held June 16-19 from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

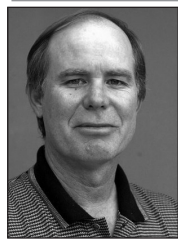
For more information, call Diddle at 264-5043 or Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

Call 263-7331, ext. 237, to submit a sports brief or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com.

Let the fans have their say

Drew Carey's a funny guy, probably the funniest guy to ever own a piece of a sports franchise.

OK, so he's just a minority owner in a soccer team that has yet to play a game. But an owner has to start somewhere, and it's not like he landed his gig on "The Price is Right" straight out of comedy school.



TIM DAHLBERG

It didn't, however, take Carey long to make his mark as part owner of the Seattle Sounders, an MLS team that will start play next year. He did it by doing something his fellow owners, control freaks by their very nature, probably don't find very funny.

He's giving fans a voice in the game.

Not a real big voice, of course, because owners don't become owners to be told what to do. But Carey is promising season ticket holders that they can fire the team's general manager once every four years if they don't like how the team is doing.

"Where else can the fans fire

the general manager?" Carey said the other day. "I hope this becomes a model for every professional sports organization in America."

There's probably a better chance of Carey owning the Cleveland Indians than that happening. One of the joys of owning a team is being able to fire at will whenever things turn sour and fans start looking for your scalp.

But there is hope for beleaguered fans everywhere whose last names don't happen to be Steinbrenner.

In Israel there's a club soccer team that allows fans to vote on the starting lineup, while across Europe there are organizations of

fans banding together to try to buy teams. And fans who bought season tickets for the Arizona Rattlers of the Arena Football League were guaranteed refunds if the team didn't make the playoffs this year.

With 12 of 17 teams guaranteed spots in the playoffs, it wasn't that big of a gamble, but imagine the New York Mets doing the same thing. The lines outside Shea Stadium for refunds would be longer than the faces of most Met fans recently.

Let's go even further and imagine things like this:

See **FANS**, Page 14

Spurs beat Hornets on the road

San Antonio meets the Lakers in Western Conference finals

By **BRETT MARTEL**
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Tony Parker swished a crucial jumper with 50 seconds on the clock. Manu Ginobili followed with four key free throws, essentially booking the San Antonio Spurs a date in the Western Conference finals.

This wasn't the ending Hornets coach Byron Scott envisioned, but he admired the poise of the defending champion Spurs as they pulled out a grueling, seven-game series with a 91-82 triumph in front of a hostile crowd on Monday night.

"If you have to lose to anybody, San Antonio is a class act," Scott said. "We aspire to be like they are in every facet. They are one of the best organizations in all of sports."

With a young nucleus of Chris Paul, David West and Tyson Chandler, the Hornets appear destined for greater things, but now is not their time.

It's the Spurs and their championship ring-laden trio of Tim Duncan, Ginobili and Parker who'll be traveling to Los Angeles to face the Lakers in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals on Wednesday night.

Ginobili scored 26 points and Parker added 17 to help the Spurs hold off the Hornets' late rally and become the first team in the series to win away from home.

"We really believed we had a chance to win on the road here," said Duncan, who had 16 points and 14 rebounds. "It's just a lot of

confidence, a lot of games under our belt."

While the Hornets managed to stop Duncan from scoring in bunches by crowding the inside, his teammates combined for 12 3-pointers to keep alive San Antonio's hopes of winning back-to-back titles for the first time.

"We knew the shots were going to be there. It happened today that we just made more," said Ginobili, who hit four 3-pointers. "We just let it fly."

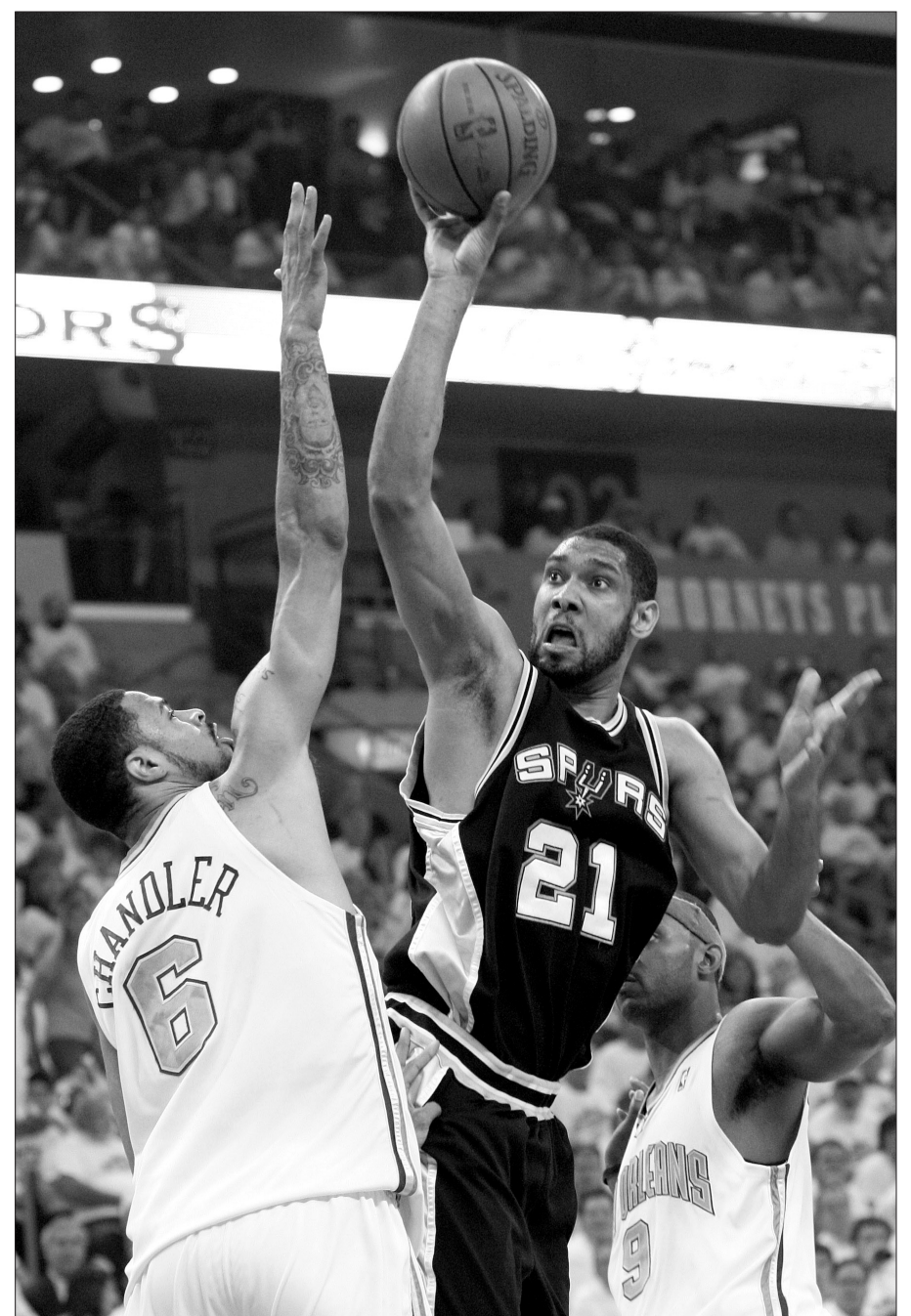
The win also gave Spurs coach Gregg Popovich 100 playoff victories, moving him into a tie with Larry Brown for third on the career list. Popovich was just relieved to be rid of a Hornets squad that pushed his team to the limit.

"I'm glad that's over," he said. "The Hornets are an unbelievably tough team in every way you could imagine, and they had a fantastic year. I don't think there's any doubt their time will come."

West led the Hornets with 20 points, but missed 11 of 19 shots. Paul had 18 points and 14 assists. Jannero Pargo also scored 18, including a fourth-quarter flourish that helped the Hornets cut a deficit that was 17 in the third quarter down to three inside the final two minutes.

"Guys showed a lot of heart out there," said Chandler, who had 13 points and 15 rebounds. "It just came down to some baskets we normally make that didn't fall."

See **SPURS**, Page 14



AP photo/Ann Heisenfelt
San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan (21) shoots over New Orleans Hornets' Tyson Chandler (6) and Morris Peterson (9) in the first half of Game 7 of the NBA Western Conference semifinal basketball series Monday in New Orleans. The Spurs won 91-82, sending them to the Western Conference finals to take on the Los Angeles Lakers.

Red Wings bring a close to Stars' season



AP photo/LM Otero
The Detroit Red Wings Dallas Drake (17) celebrates as he skates away from Dallas Stars goalie Marty Turco (35) after scoring in the first period in Game 6 of the NHL Western Conference hockey finals Monday in Dallas. The Red Wings won 4-1, advancing to the Stanley Cup finals.

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Even with blood caked on his red beard and his lower lip badly swollen, Kris Draper was still smiling.

Taking a puck to the face to get back into the Stanley Cup finals? No problem.

"It went off my chin. It went in. Who cares?" Draper said. "It's all worth it right now at this time of year."

Draper and Detroit will again play for hockey's biggest prize after eliminating the history-chasing Dallas Stars 4-1 in Game 6 of the Western Conference finals Monday night. The Red Wings will be making their 23rd Stanley Cup finals appearance, and first since winning it in 2002.

With Dallas trying to become only the third team to come back from losing the first three games to win a series, the Red Wings had an emphatic response following consecutive losses that made them suddenly seem vulnerable. The goal off Draper's face, 3:45 into the game, was the first of three Detroit scored in the opening period.

"We were relentless," Draper said. "It was just a solid first peri-

od and obviously the difference in the hockey game. ... We're back in the Stanley Cup and it sounds great for us."

Hockeytown hosts Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals Saturday night. The Red Wings face the youthful Pittsburgh Penguins in a matchup of teams that didn't play in the regular season.

"I've watched them on TV," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "For two to be remaining, they must be very good. Their transition is fantastic. They have a bunch of kids that can really skate."

So can those grizzled Red Wings.

After being limited to single goals in Games 4 and 5, they built a three-goal lead by the first intermission before adding to the advantage while short-handed. The Stars were on a power play 3 minutes into the second period when Henrik Zetterberg stole a puck and turned it into an unassisted goal by slapping the shot past Marty Turco for his 11th of the playoffs.

"It was a combination of us hoping to win and Detroit pushing

See **STARS**, Page 14

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Gill's Fried Chicken looking for Cashiers. Competitive wages. Benefits package includes health, vision & dental. Apply in person, 2100 S. Gregg. No phone calls.

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Join The Wind Energy Team: Openings For Wind Tower Installation. No Experience Required; Will Train. Excellent Pay With Project Bonuses. Full Benefit Package.

For More Information About Opportunities In The Big Spring, TX Area Call 1-877-355-5303 Ext.#5325. M-F 8a-5p EEOC/MF

HIRING 4 Security Officers Day Work, M-F. \$8.50-\$10.00 per hour depending on experience. Must have a clean background check and a valid driver's license. Retirees welcome to apply. Call toll free 1-877-352-7248, 432-264-7781.

HIRING IMMEDIATELY Lead Line Foreman and Helpers None Electrical Work- Good Pay & Excellent Hours- Please Come by 1807 N. FM or call 432-267-6006.

LOCAL PHYSICIAN looking for certified Medical Assistant to start immediately. No experience necessary, will train. Please send all resumes either to the following email bigspringmajob@yahoo.com or fax # 432-263-0501.

LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS who can work full or part-time, evenings & weekends. Work with the public. Must have own transportation. Fax resume to 325-672-0156.

MAINTENANCE/JANITORIAL POSITION at the Big Spring Mall. Must pass criminal background check and have maintenance experience. Apply at mall office or email resume www.thebigspringmall.net

MAKE UP to \$3,000 in 11 days. Looking for responsible adult to manage a firework stand outside Big Spring, June 24 thru July 4. No investment required. For more info go to mrwfireworks.com and submit app or call 830-429-1408 9am-4pm.

NEED A job today? Come be a delivery driver for Domino's Pizza. We pay competitive hourly wages & put cash in your pocket daily! Working for the other guys? Bring your experience over to Domino's Pizza and get paid top dollar. Part time and full time positions available. Need day hours? Need night hours? We have all shifts available. We work with ALL types of schedules. **Apply now and get hired on the spot (some restrictions apply).** 2111 Greg Street EOE, Drug Free environment

NEED CASHIER and Stocker for evening shifts, 3-11pm. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply at Fast Stop, 1500 E. 4th St.

Help Wanted

NEED SANDBLASTERS, painters, single hand welders and mechanical people. Travel & local work. Drug test. Welders will be tested. Call (432)264-0590 or email resume to: wfm@basin-net.net

NEEDED SECURITY Guards. Must be able to pass background and drug test. 3-11pm and 11pm-7am shifts available. Call 432-816-4421.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

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

NOW HIRING: Repair and maintenance supervisor for local Laundromat business. Will train and provide tools. Mechanical experience a plus. Fill out application at 1208 Gregg St.

OWN A Computer? Put it to work! Up to 1,500 to 7,500 a month. PT/FT. Free Info! www.reviveyourretirement.com

PAINTER AND Apprentice wanted. Painter 5 yrs experience preferred, Apprentice no experience necessary. Wages depend on experience. Contact Bob 432-935-6174 or 816-7093.

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION

Has an immediate opening for a Certified Medication Aide. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PART-TIME position available for Thrift Store Clerk. Apply at The Salvation Army, 811 West 5th.

PEOPLE NEEDED Part time. Honest and dependable. May lead to full time. Cleaning Offices. Call (432)353-4849.

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EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

ROLLING PLAINS Physicians Office, PLLC in Sweetwater has a full time position for a Medical Technologist MT (ASCP) or equivalent. Fax resume to 325-235-5925 or call 325-235-8641 x-301.

SALESPERSON For souvenir and gift co. Local established territory. Medical benefits and 401K. Fax 888-854-9572.

SECURITY PERSONAL wanted for all shifts, Mon.-Sun. \$8.50-\$10.00 per hour depending on experience. Must have a clean background check and a valid driver's license. Retirees welcome to apply. Call toll free 1-877-352-7248, 432-264-7781.

SELF-MOTIVATED HANDY man to work at rest areas on I-20 between Callahan County and Howard County. Must have own tools and truck. Must have experience in plumbing, electrical, and painting. For more information, contact (903)757-7244 between 9-3, Monday-Friday. Applications can be mailed prior to interview.

TEXAS BOOK company is currently seeking candidates for the position of Entry Level Account Clerk at the Howard College-Big Spring Bookstore. Minimum Qualifications: 1 yr. exp. or College accounting classes, proficient in Excel and Word, excellent team building, communication, cashier experience and organizational skills with attention to details. Salary dependent on work history. Qualified candidates must apply on line at www.texasbook.com <http://www.texasbook.com>. Click on "Join Our Winning Team".

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

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. The position requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

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WESTEX AUTO Parts is growing and in need of an auto parts puller and/or auto dismantler. Mechanical experience and own tools are required. Please submit your application to Lucy at Westex Auto Parts @ 1511 N. Hwy 350 in Big Spring.

Items for Sale

2 TWIN Mattress Sets \$95.00 per set. Can separate. Must sell. Call 432-664-8980.

BRAND NAME Queen Pillow Top Mattress set. New, still in plastic with warranty. \$150. 432-664-8980.

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Lost and Found

LOST BLACK Lab, 7 yrs. old, near Douglas Street. Call 432-263-0042.

LOST MINIATURE Pincher, black/brown last seen on 16th St. Offering reward. Answers to Blaze, Call 432-466-4466.

Miscellaneous

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Miscellaneous

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Legals

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE
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PROPOSALS

The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed proposals until 4:00 p.m., June 10, 2008, for the following area:
Flagship Radio Broadcasting Status

Specifications and proposal documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Proposals will be received in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District until the above listed date and time. Proposals received after the above deadline will be returned unopened. Proposals will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on June 17, 2008, at 5:15 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals
#5785 May 20 & 27, 2008

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ANSWERS

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

What held us up yesterday no longer applies. The winds of change have arrived with the sun's annual precession of Gemini. We're like small curious children with much to explore and even more tools to figure it out with. This happens in a burst of information, or through our own inquisitiveness, by connecting the dots in a new way.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're stretching to meet one of your many fiscal responsibilities (likely a school tuition or insurance payment) and perhaps feeling a tad resentful that you can't have more fun with your money. Be patient. You will.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your powers of reason are impressive. The logical answers come spilling out of you -- no hard thought required. When someone tries to appeal to your sensitivity, you only get sharper and more practical.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You have an eye to the future, but it doesn't keep you from being in the moment. Somewhere in the back of your mind, you're thinking of the long-term benefits even as you follow a spontaneous impulse.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can be thrifty when you need to be, but be careful not to be overly restrained with money when you don't need to be. You increase the flow of money to you when you increase the flow of money from you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll make sacrifices, but they don't feel too difficult because you realize what good might come of it. Remind yourself repeatedly about the benefits you're working toward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sooner or later, you're going to come face to face with the person you've been avoiding. Better to make it happen than to let it happen to you. Arrange a meeting to get this thing settled.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Continue on with the process that's getting results. Sure, it may be a little dull to take the same actions over and over. However, that's an important part of the work. Stamina is a discipline.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've taken the time to learn the etiquette, protocol or the rules by which a group of people abide. Trust that you'll be accepted and let your natural inclinations guide you, even if they seem a bit outside of the expectation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your fire sign energy is heating up. You'll melt through a layer of ice that someone has taken years to culti-

vate. You can sell any product or idea now -- you're that good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You must be living right because the people who come into your world bring gifts of insight and delight. The good company of someone you barely know will make work pass cheerfully.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A deal without perks is like a day without sunshine -- dreary. You're working for the extras. Interact with those who recognize that you're special and would like to be treated as such.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're wanted and needed in new places. It's a pleasant surprise when a group of people you're not too familiar with accepts you as one of their own. It will be a struggle not to over-commit your time.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My friend, who is a Leo, gave me her trust. And I betrayed her and got involved. She says she forgives me, but how am I really supposed to know if I will ever have her trust again? I am truly sorry for what I did, but she may not forgive me. I am a Libra."

I don't believe she was trying to appease you, as Leos do wear their hearts on their sleeve and are generally sincere. But if she's giving you less of her attention, I understand. The bright affection she's so generously heaped on you throughout

your great friendship may've temporarily dimmed. Don't think it's the cold shoulder; time will put distance between events. One thing you can do, which you Leos do so well and Leos adore, is anything really nice for her. Has she been humming a song you both like? Get concert tickets. If you have the perfect earrings that will go with that great new outfit she's wearing, slip them into her desk with a friendly note. She'll appreciate the sincerity of your gesture. And you'll hasten the process of forgiving yourself.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Oh, how we love/hate to hear of Naomi Campbell's latest scrap. The lady is a Gemini, which by no means reflects on her Gemini character, in fact -- bright, bubbly and youthful. It's just that Venus and Mars join in this sign, causing trouble -- also owing to the fact that her squabbles involve travel, cell phones and language. This birthday year, Naomi faces the music.

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 at www.creators.com.

Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My wife and I have two wonderful children in their early 30s. They live in other cities, but occasionally visit us with their respective companions. We have no problem with our son's girlfriend or our daughter's boyfriend spending the night. These are serious adult relationships.

The problem is, our daughter intensely dislikes our son's girlfriend, "Jennifer." We admit Jennifer is a little high-strung, but we get along with her and understand she could be our future daughter-in-law.

Our daughter now insists she isn't comfortable around Jennifer. She was planning to spend her vacation with us this summer, but says she won't come if Jennifer is around. If we tell our daughter to put up with Jennifer, she'll say we favor her brother. If I tell our son that Jennifer cannot stay, he'll say we are taking his sister's side. We love both our children and are not quite sure how to handle the situation without alienating one of them.

We respect your down-to-earth advice. Please help us out. -- Torn Parents in Denver

Dear Denver: Have an adult discussion with your daughter. Sympathize with her about Jennifer, agreeing that she can be difficult. Then make her understand that her future relationship with her brother may depend on her ability to get along with this woman. Ask her to do her best for the sake of the family and make an effort to discover the good qualities in Jennifer that her brother sees. Then promise her you will try to arrange these sibling vacations and weekend visits so they don't overlap more than necessary. When they do, if you can afford it, periodically treat one or the other sibling to a romantic weekend at a hotel.

Dear Annie: My 13-year-old son loves playing soccer. He has played with

address. Sexual predators don't give out their personal information. Please blast this woman for turning in the man, and for not teaching her daughter moral values and keeping track of her activities. She should be furious with her daughter, not some man she duped. -- Mother of Many

Dear Mother: We were amazed at the number of readers who wanted to tar and feather this mother. We agree the man doesn't sound like a predator and Mom needs to watch her daughter more closely, but we know Mom is acting out of concern.

Dear Annie: I have been dating "Siena" for five months and I care deeply about her, but she has an ex-husband, "Kevin," and they are close. He has a key to her house and comes and goes when he wants. Siena cannot have a conversation without mentioning him. Both of them talk quite openly about special moments in their marriage. It's difficult to listen to.

Siena is in the process of fixing up a house she recently bought. Kevin has been involved since the beginning, assisting in the remodeling efforts. When he talks about the house, he uses "we," as in "we did this" or "we need to fix that." It comes across as "their" house. I have been trying to help her as much as possible, hoping she will depend more on me and less on him. I am extremely uncomfortable with him around. It's like they're still married without the romance.

I know Siena loves me, but she doesn't understand my frustration. For the last few weeks, I have had problems with insomnia, mostly because of this issue. I don't want to lose her, but I'm not sure how much longer I can tolerate the time around Kevin. I don't want to share her with him. -- Three's a Crowd

Dear Three's a Crowd: Siena has not quite divorced herself from Kevin, but as long as

there are no romantic sparks between them, you probably don't need to worry. She seems to be treating him like a brother of whom she is fond. Put your antenna up and discern whether Kevin has ulterior motives for being around Siena. Does he want her back? Does he flirt with her? Does he gaze longingly in her direction? If so, you need to convince Siena that she is hurting Kevin by making him believe she is still interested. If not, consider "adopting" Kevin. It not only could allay your fears, but also generate a friendship. And try to fix him up with some eligible females.

Dear Annie: Can you please advise your readers of a source to determine whether a charity is worthy? We are inundated with requests for donations for causes that are obviously good, but how can we differentiate among those we can trust to accomplish the most with our money? Thanks. -- Want To Help the Right People

Dear Want to Help: Thank you for asking. To find out if a charity has a good record and is worth your investment, contact: The American Institute of Philanthropy (charity-watch.org), P.O. Box 578460, Chicago, IL 60657-8460; Charity Navigator (charitynavigator.org), 1200 MacArthur Blvd., Second Floor, Mahwah, NJ 07430; GuideStar (guidestar.org), 4801 Courthouse St., Suite 220, Williamsburg, VA 23188; and The Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance (give.org). Call your local BBB office or write The Council of Better Business Bureaus, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22203-1838.

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.

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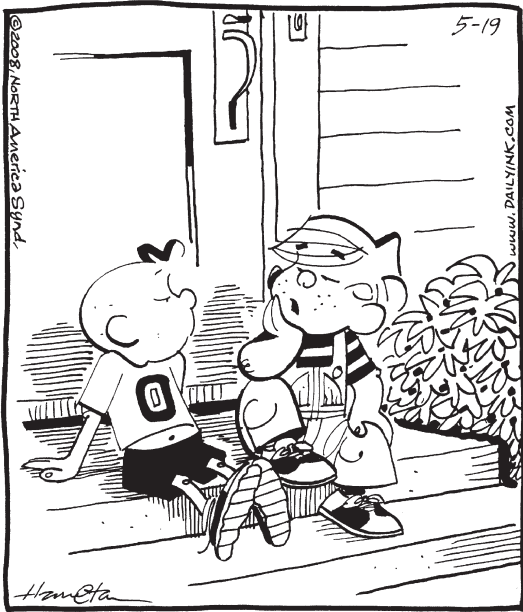
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| 8 :PM | (:02) The Bachelorette | (:02) The Bachelorette | Fuego en la Sangre | House | Rules | Victoria | Dateline NBC | Fam. Guy Name | American Experience: FDR: The Juggler | Verminators | (:45) Movie: Silverado, Kevin Costner | CSI: Crime Scn | Without a Trace | The Closer | Girl | Life De | Madden | Baseball Tonight |
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| 10 :PM | Nightline | Nightline | Noticiero | Raymond | Late Show | Titulares | Decisions | Sex & Sex & Prophecy | Uri Harel | Smiley | Smiley | CSI: Crime Scn | Without a Trace | The Boot | So Raven | Phil | NASCAR Now | Fastbreak |
| 11 :PM | Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live | Jimmy Kimmel Live | La Hora de la Risa | Cl | Late Late Show | Programa Pagado | News | News | News | News | News | Star Trek: Voyager | Without a Trace | Soul Food | Replace Kim | Series of Poker | SportsCenter | |
| 12 :AM | News ABC | News ABC | Clasicos | Reno 911! | Entertain | Pelicula: King-Hill | News | Poker After Dark | Light of the Southwest | Verminators | (:45) Movie: The Magnificent Seven, Steve | Bullrun | Without a Trace | BETJ | Emperor Dragon | Series of Poker | SportsCenter | |

DENNIS THE MENACE



"TIME SURE DRAGS BY WHEN YOU'RE WAITIN' FOR BROWNIES TO BAKE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

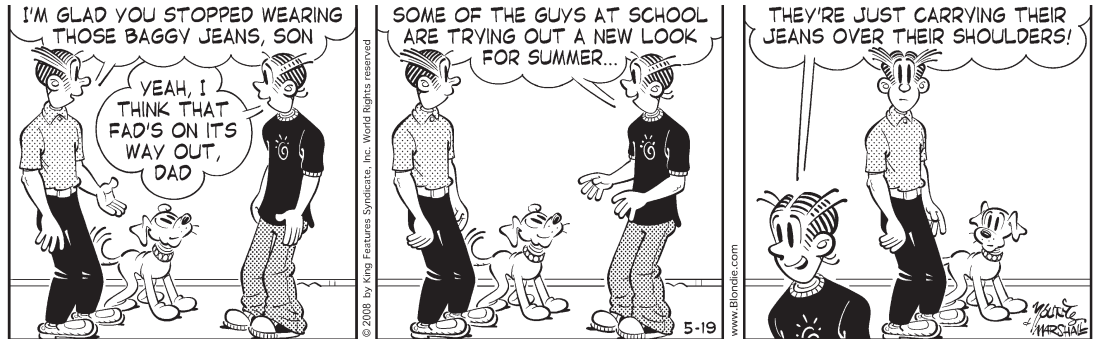


"Did anchormen and anchorwomen start out as anchorkids?"

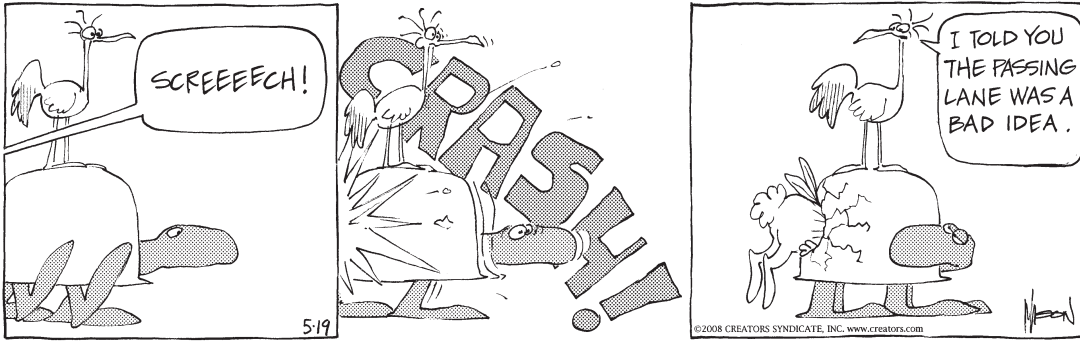
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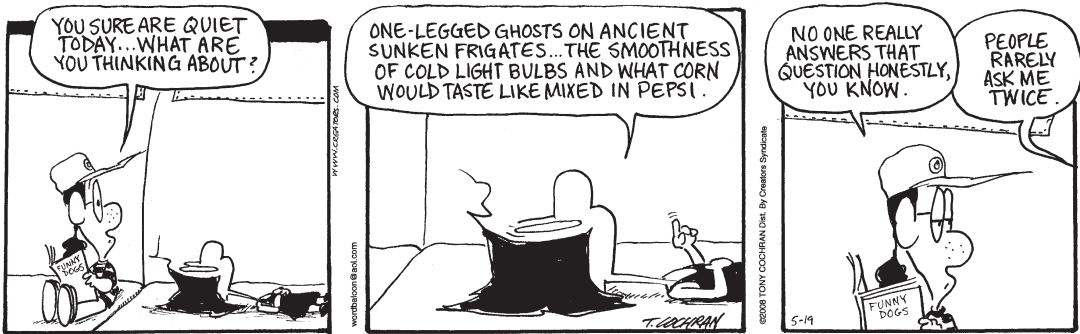
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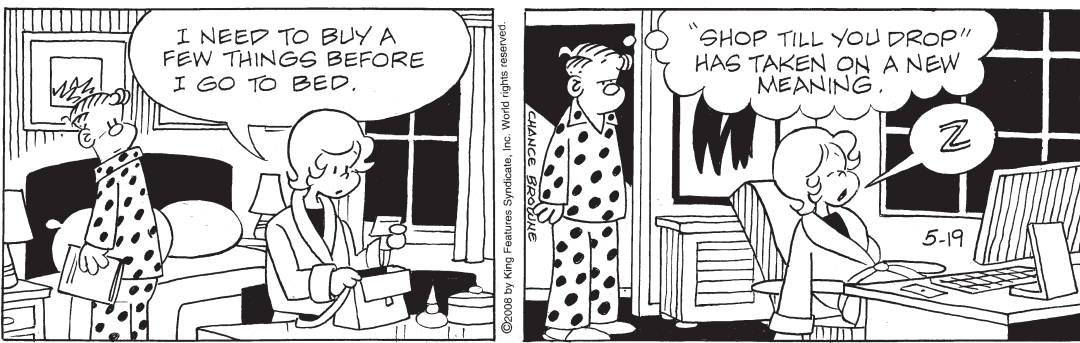
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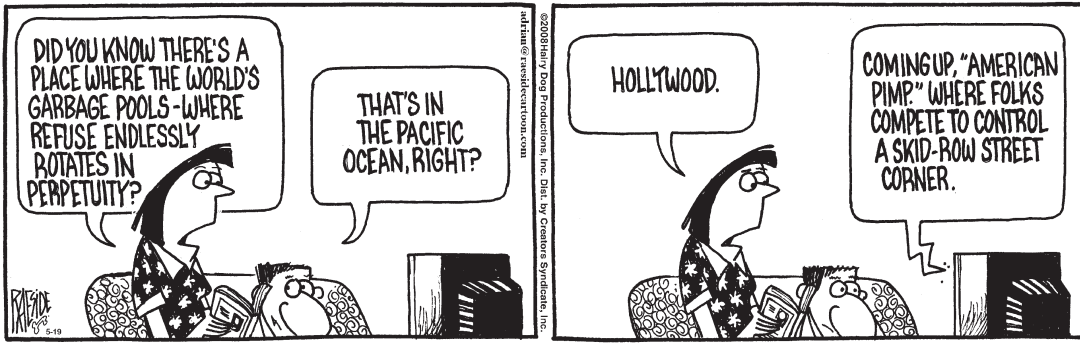
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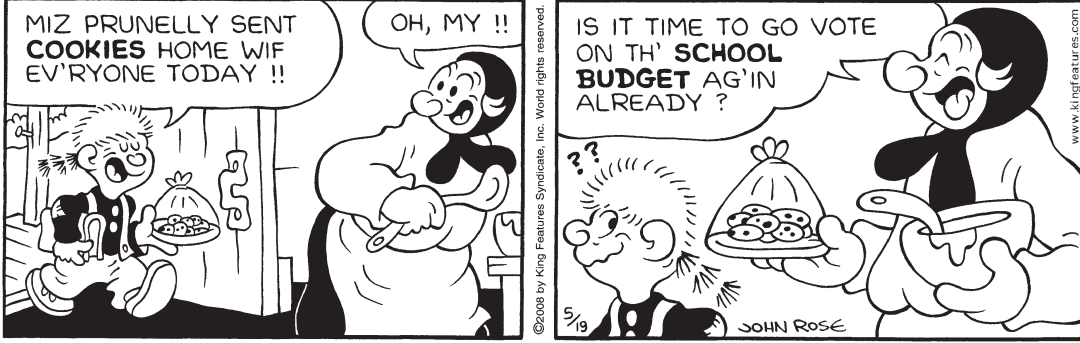
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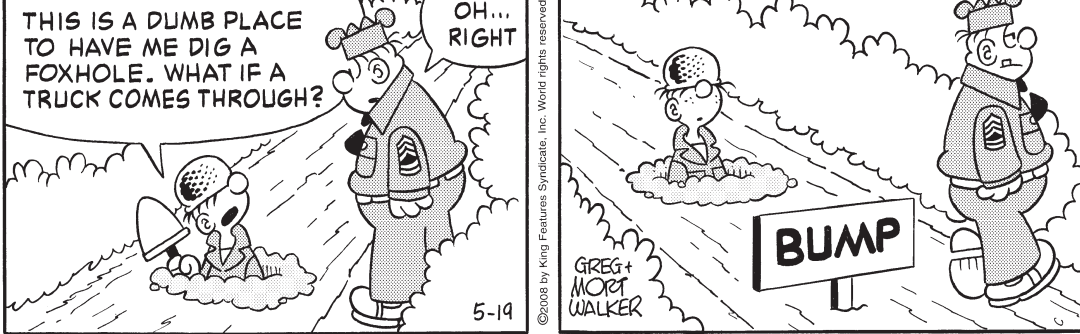
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, May 19, the 140th day of 2008. There are 226 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 19, 1935, British soldier T.E. Lawrence, also known as "Lawrence of Arabia," died in Dorset, England, six days after being injured in a motorcycle crash.

On this date: In 1536, Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after being convicted of adultery.

In 1643, delegates from four New England colonies met in Boston to form a confederation.

In 1943, in an address to the U.S. Congress, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill pledged his country's full support in the fight against Japan.

In 1958, British actor Ronald Colman died in Santa Barbara, Calif., at age 67.

In 1962, during a Democratic fundraiser at New York's Madison Square Garden, actress Marilyn Monroe performed a sultry rendition of "Happy Birthday to You"

for guest-of-honor President Kennedy.

In 1964, the State Department disclosed that 40 hidden microphones had been found in the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

In 1967, the Soviet Union ratified a treaty with the United States and Britain banning nuclear weapons from outer space.

In 1992, the 27th Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits Congress from giving itself pay raises until the next congressional term, went into effect.

In 1992, in Massapequa, N.Y., Mary Jo Buttafuoco was shot and seriously wounded by her husband Joey's teen-age lover, Amy Fisher.

In 1994, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died in New York at age 64.

One year ago: Group of Eight financial officials wrapped up two days of talks in Germany by calling for more aid, increased debt relief and responsible lending to Africa. Curlin nipped Kentucky Derby winner Street Sense to win the Preakness Stakes.

Today's Birthdays: PBS newscaster Jim Lehrer is 74. TV personality David Hartman is 73. Actor James Fox is 69. Actress Nancy Kwan is 69. Author-director Nora Ephron is 67. Actor Peter Mayhew is 64. Rock singer-composer Pete

Townshend (The Who) is 63. Concert pianist David Helfgott is 61. Rock singer-musician Dusty Hill (ZZ Top) is 59. Singer-actress Grace Jones is 56. Rock musician Phil Rudd (AC/DC) is 54. Baseball catcher Rick Cerone is 54. Actor Steven Ford is 52. Rock musician Iain Harvie (Del Amitri) is 46. Actor Jason Gray-Stanford is 38. Rock singer Jenny Berggren (Ace of Base) is 36. Actor Drew Fuller is 28. Actor Eric Lloyd is 22.

Thought for Today: "Life is never so bad at its worst that it is impossible to live; it is never so good at its best that it is easy to live." — Gabriel Heatter, American radio commentator (1890-1972).

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Answer to previous puzzle

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Newsday Crossword

TURNING COLORS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wide belt
- 5 Picnic pests
- 9 Perspire
- 14 No more than
- 15 Precisely
- 16 Jeweled headgear
- 17 Clothes-pressing appliance
- 18 Answering-machine sound
- 19 Walk through the door
- 20 Making very happy
- 23 Moose relative
- 24 Highest playing card
- 25 Cash-register key
- 29 Big Apple baseballers
- 31 Installs, as a lawn
- 33 Accomplished
- 34 In the know
- 36 Sandwich shop
- 37 Author Morrison
- 38 Shy person
- 41 Seize
- 42 Butte relative
- 43 Female college students
- 44 Pub serving
- 45 Go out with
- 46 Cherry centers
- 47 Rip again
- 49 Transgression
- 50 TV network with an eye logo
- 53 Golf practice area
- 57 Washbowl
- 60 Wedding ceremony exchanges
- 61 Prefix meaning "against"
- 62 Vote into office
- 63 Obligation
- 64 Edinburgh native
- 65 Windshield material
- 66 Uncomplicated
- 67 Coop dwellers
- 8 Part of a plan
- 9 Shorthand experts
- 10 Forty (short snooze)
- 11 Have breakfast
- 12 Exist
- 13 Driveway substance
- 21 Turn towards midnight
- 22 For one person: Abbr.
- 26 The teenage years
- 27 Like notebook paper
- 28 Polishes prose
- 30 A Great Lake
- 31 Feel intuitively
- 32 Gymnast Korbut
- 34 "When You Wish Upon ___"
- 35 Largest mammal
- 36 Food plan
- 37 Whistle sound
- 39 JC Penney rival
- 40 Layer-cake topping
- 45 Discourages
- 46 Farm enclosure
- 48 Heroic stories
- 49 Nose-in-the-air types
- 51 Prefer, at a racetrack
- 52 Peeved moods
- 54 Ocean motion
- 55 Notion
- 56 Acting hastily
- 57 "I ___ to differ!"
- 58 Everyone
- 59 Mediterranean, for one

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SPURS

Continued from Page 9

The Hornets had dominated the third quarters of their three previous home games in this series on the way to double-digit wins in each. This time, the Spurs, who have won four titles in the previous nine seasons, had an answer. It was their calling card: stingy defense.

The Hornets, down 51-42 to open the period, could not manage consecutive baskets throughout the quarter, never getting closer than seven points.

New Orleans went nearly a three-minute stretch without a basket before

Paul hit a pair of free throws to close the gap to 58-50.

New Orleans began to look overwhelmed by the magnitude of the moment, even missing open shots. Peja Stojakovic, who finished with a relatively low seven points, shot an airball on an open 3-point attempt. West missed an open 12-footer. The Hornets shot 5-of-17 for the quarter.

New Orleans continued to play solid defense inside, limiting San Antonio to 6-of-18 shooting in the quarter.

But that didn't help much with the Spurs hitting clutch shots from the perimeter.

Finley added another 3,

as did Robert Horry, and Ginobili's free throws gave San Antonio a 71-54 lead late in the period.

Buoyed by a home crowd that stood throughout the fourth quarter, the Hornets fought back to make a game of it. Pargo scored seven straight on four free throws sandwiched around a 3-pointer, pulling the Hornets to 81-77 with 3:10 to go.

Pargo made another 3 to cut it to 83-80 with about 1½ minutes left, then attempted another for the tie with a minute left, but it rattled out.

Parker's crucial jumper made it 85-80. New Orleans missed on its next try and had to foul Ginobili, who put the game away.

STARS

Continued from Page 9

the issue to win. I think they had a real hard focus around our net early," Stars coach Dave Tippett said. "The first three goals, right at the crease and in. That's where we were, chasing the game."

Never to catch up and force a Game 7.

Dallas Drake, a 16-season veteran who is finally going to his first Stanley Cup finals, passed the puck that went off Draper's chin.

Then after Pavel Datsyuk's power-play goal, when he flicked the puck over a sprawled out Turco,

Drake scored his first goal of the playoffs to make it 3-0.

While the end was ugly, the Stars got a standing, towel-twirling ovation from the fans in recognition of their best postseason since 2000, when they were defending Cup champions and made it back to the conference finals. Dallas dethroned reigning champion Anaheim, then ousted San Jose in the second round, finishing it with a four-overtime thriller.

Maybe the four-OT marathon sapped the Stars at the start of this series. And maybe their two-game rally sapped them for Game 6.

Dallas didn't even have a

shot when the Red Wings got their first goal and the Stars wasted their first six power plays.

On one of them, they had a chance for a 5-on-3 advantage until Brad Winchester got called for boarding seconds after officials signaled for a delayed penalty.

Stephane Robidas finally scored a power-play goal 2:27 into the third period, but Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood made 15 of his 28 saves in the final period.

Osgood improved to 10-2 this postseason. It was his 100th career playoff game and his 55th victory — his 48th for Detroit, passing Hall of Famer Terry Sawchuk for the franchise record.

FANS

Continued from Page 9

• No Tiger, no pay. Is there really any reason to slather on the sunblock, pay \$8.50 for a beer and wait in long lines at the Porta Potties behind others doing just the same thing if Tiger Woods isn't playing? The PGA Tour should grant free admission to any tournament without Woods, and make up the difference by selling a few more hospitality tents to corporate salesmen.

• No cheaters allowed. Instead of Roger Goodell determining Bill Belichick's punishment for videotaping signals, why not let the fans of teams the Patriots beat by stealing their signals pass judgment? Options could range from forcing Belichick to wear the other team's jersey and make a tearful apology at midfield during halftime to giving the other team every play in advance that New England will be running that day.

• Guaranteed celebri-

ties. Let's face it, no one goes to a Lakers' game just to see Kobe score 50. They go to see and be seen, so if the fan to celebrity ratio drops beneath 2-1 it's autographed pictures of Jack Nicholson to the first 10,000 fans.

• Guaranteed wrecks. Just like they go to see celebrities in LA, they go to Nascar to watch cars run into each other and occasionally catch in fire. If there's not at least two multi-car wrecks, one of which has to involve flames, everyone in attendance gets a free Dale Earnhardt Jr. T-shirt.

• Guaranteed performance. Baseball players don't have a lot of incentive to produce after signing huge contracts, and often it shows. How about making Andruw Jones earn some of his \$36.2 million by standing at the exit and signing autographs for any fan who might still want them after once again going 0-for-4 and striking out three times with runners in scoring position.

• A real fight. Oscar De La Hoya and Floyd Mayweather Jr. already

conned the public once by making more than 2 million households pay \$55.95 for their pay-per-view fight. They're planning to do it again in September, but real boxing fans can force them to give us better fights by simply refus-

ing to touch the pay button on their remote.

Of course there are times when the voice of fans would simply get in the way.

But there are still ways to get around that stubborn general manager

who hasn't delivered a thing other than big contracts and even bigger ticket prices.

Say your team has the No. 1 pick in the NBA lottery and needs a big decision made.

Why not just put a few

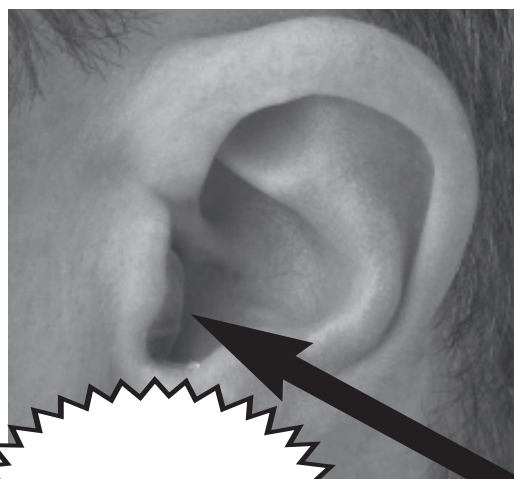
names on a roulette wheel and let Charles Barkley spin it?

The way Barkley's gambling luck has been lately, it might be risky. But firing the general manager doesn't always work either.



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