

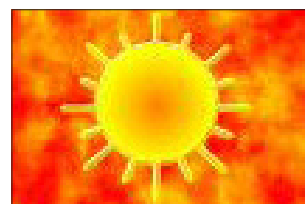
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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
JUNE 3, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 158

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Shots fired

No injuries reported from weekend gunfire

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Officers with the Big Spring Police Department were called to the 1300 block of Wood Sunday evening after a local resident discovered a bullet hole in his home believed to be the result of a shooting in the area Saturday night.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, the resident didn't report hearing any gunshots Sunday, but did discover the bullet hole in the front of his home near the roof.

"The police department received several calls Saturday night from residents in that area reporting shots fired, but when officers investigated nothing could be found," said Everett. "This bullet hole could have been a result of the shots fired Saturday night."

Everett said no injuries were reported as a result of the apparent shooting, one of dozens that have plagued the streets of Big Spring since the beginning of the year.

"We get so many calls reporting shots fired each week, it's unbelievable," said Everett. "Unless officers find evidence of a shooting, however, a report isn't filed. There's just too many of them. That's why there was no report of the shooting issued until Sunday, when

"The information we receive from the citizens is very important in these investigations."



—Tony Everett, BSPD information officer

the officers found what could be the evidence."

Everett said the local police department has numerous shooting cases currently under investigation.

"Things have calmed down considerably over the past few weeks," said Everett. "There really isn't much else I can say about it. We've made several arrests over the past months, with more to come."

The citizens of Big Spring and Howard County are the key to law enforcement solving the shootings and making arrests, said Everett.

"The information we receive from the citizens

See **SHOOTING**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
The combination of hot weather and cool water was enough reason to attract hundreds of local residents to the Big Spring City Pool for the KBST Splash-In. The 42nd annual event serves as an unofficial kickoff to summer in this area.

Caution: Heat kills

Take precautions to keep safe, health official says

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Despite a mild summer last year, temperatures are already pushing past the 100-degree mark with little or no relief expected in the next week, a trend officials with Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) say could turn disastrous if some simple guidelines are not followed.

Emily Palmer, spokesperson for DSHS, said the elderly, the very

young, people with chronic diseases and those without access to air conditioning are those most likely to suffer in extremely hot weather.

"Typically, the most deaths are recorded in July, followed by August, then June," said Palmer. "Staying in an air-conditioned area, either at home or in a public place such as a mall, library or recreation center, is the most effective way to combat heat. If air conditioning is not available, open the windows, pull the shades down to keep out

the sun and use cross-ventilation and fans to cool rooms."

Palmer said the symptoms of heat-related illnesses are no joking matter, and could lead to serious health problems — even death.

"Symptoms of heat illness include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse and headaches," said Palmer. "People with these symptoms should find shade, drink

See **HEAT**, Page 3A

Sculptures, rooms to be dedicated at National Ranching Heritage Center

By **MARSHA PFLUGER**
Special to the Herald

LUBBOCK — Three sculptures and two rooms will be dedicated at the National Ranching Heritage Center during a brief ceremony set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The additions were initiated as part of the master plan for the museum and historical park and made possible through individuals and foundation support.

To be dedicated are two life-size bronze steer sculptures, one given by Rich and Barbara Anderson of Gail and the other by Patty and K.W. Kirkpatrick and Zoe and Jack Kirkpatrick of Post and their families. Totalling 16 now, the bronze steers commemorate



Anderson

the Trail Drive Era of the 1860s to 1880s.

Also to be dedicated is an 18-foot, carved granite windmill created by prominent artist Jesus Moroles of Rockport. The piece was set at the front of J.J. Gibson Memorial Park and underwritten by rancher Ruth Lowrance of San Antonio.

"This is the 29th piece of outdoor art permanently displayed on the NRHC museum grounds," said NRHC Executive Director Jim Pfluger. "The Heritage Center has one of the largest collections of outdoor, public art in

West Texas."

Inside the DeVitt-Mallet Museum Building, the John R. "Rich" Anderson Room honors long-time Ranching Heritage Association leader Rich Anderson of Gail. The public meeting room opens onto a terraced patio and has ADA-compliant restrooms and an adjoining kitchen prep area. The room was made possible by donations from Anderson's family and friends.

The Burk Burnett Library and Reading Room in the west wing of the NRHC museum is comprised of three individual spaces — a library, combination conference/reading area

See **CEREMONY**, Page 3A

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Courtesy photo

Bronze sculptures and two rooms will be dedicated Saturday at the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock.

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IN BRIEF

BSHS schedules start of several summer camps

The school year may be over soon, but Big Spring High School's athletic department will be keeping itself busy with the start of several summer programs and camps.

Camp of Champs

The Camp of Champs is a weight conditioning program that runs through June 19.

Fourth and fifth graders lift from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

Sixth and Seventh graders occupy the weight room in the ATC from 11 a.m. to noon on the same days.

Cost is \$25 per person and \$10 for T-shirt.

Football Skills Camp

The Big Spring Steers Football Skills Camp is set for June 9-12 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Athletic Training Center. The camp is for first through eighth graders and costs \$25 a person with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

Girls Basketball Skills Camp

A Lady Steers Girls Basketball Skills Camp starts June 9 and runs through June 12 from 9 a.m. to noon each day at Steer Gym. The camp is for first through eighth grade girls and costs \$25 dollars with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

Baseball Skills Camp

Baseball coach Burt Otto will conduct a Baseball Skills Camp starting June 16 and running through June 19 at Steer Baseball field. There will be two sessions. Fifth and sixth graders participate from 1-3 p.m. and seventh and eighth graders take the field from 3-5 p.m.

Cost is \$25 with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

Softball Skills Camp

Coaches John Sparks and Jennifer Reyes lend their services for a Softball Skills Camp June 16-19 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Lady Steers Field.

The camp is for first through eighth graders and costs \$25 with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

For information or to register for any of the above camps and to learn about a full BSHS summer athletic programs and camps schedule, contact Kay Cook at 264-3662.

Coahoma sets date for baseball skills camp

Coahoma's Head Baseball Coach Brad Harman has announced the dates for his annual Bulldogs Baseball Camp. The camp will be held from June 16 through June 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day at the Bulldogs baseball field.

The camp is for ages six and up and costs \$75.

Contact Harman at 816-3258 with any questions.

Bulldogettes dominate district awards

By JONATHAN HULL
Herald Sports Editor

Coahoma's Bulldogettes delivered one last dominant showing for the 2008 season, despite losing in the Class 2A state softball finals Saturday.

The Bulldogettes placed 10 players on the District 5-2A all-district team, including three athletes named most valuable players. Pitcher Heather Newton was named the league's overall MVP, Laci Sterling received Offensive MVP honors and catcher Janice



Newton



Sterling

Gonzales received the Defensive MVP award.

Newton was named the district's top newcomer last season after leading the Bulldogettes to their third straight state tournament appearance.

However, the sophomore improved upon her stats in 2008 and finished the district season with a perfect record.

"Heather probably only throws one of two miles per hour faster than she did last year. The big improvement for her is mentally and emotionally,"



Gonzales



Kerby

Coahoma coach Tracy Tadlock explained. "The mental part has been the toughest thing for her to get under control. She quite a bit better than she was in those areas."

Newton proved to be a threat in the pitcher's circle and at the plate. She finished the regular season with an 18-8 record and a 1.29 ERA, striking out 229 batters while walking just 23. She pitched 10 shutouts and had three no-hitters.

At the plate, she was second on the team with a .455 batting average and led with 45 hits. She tied for the team lead in stolen bases with 14.

Sterling and Gonzales are each repeating as Offensive and Defensive MVP, respectively. Sterling led the Bulldogettes with three home runs. She equaled that number in the playoffs, hitting two against district-rival Hawley

in the regional finals and another the week before against Denver City.

Sterling batted .382, led the team with 15 doubles and had 32 RBIs.

Tadlock credits Gonzales as being one of the biggest reasons teams struggled to score on the Bulldogettes.

"It's tough for teams to play station to station like they have to do against Janice," he said. "She takes away a lot. She forces teams to have to manage two or three hits just to score a run and that's not easy against Heather and our defense."

Gonzales, a four-year varsity starter, committed just one error this season and threw out 16 of the 19 baserunners who attempted to steal on her. She also put up strong offensive numbers, batting .392 and led the team with 40 RBIs.

See COAHOMA, Page 2B

Forsan's Bailey selected for all-star game



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Forsan Buffaloes tight end Adam Bailey was selected to play in the Big Country FCA All-Star Game at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Herald Staff Report

Forsan Senior Adam Bailey was selected to participate in the Big Country FCA All-Star Football Game at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene. Bailey is a 3-year starter on the Buffs' football squad.

In 2008, Bailey led all receivers with 28 catches for 514 yards and five touchdowns. He also had 11 solo tackles, 30 assists, three pass breakups, one interception, one caused fumble and two fumble recoveries defensively. He was selected first-team all-district tight end and first-team all-district defensive back.

Bailey helped to lead his team to the playoffs this season and a bi-district win over Winters — Forsan's first playoff win since 1986.

He also helped lead his team to the playoffs in 2006 for the first time since 1998. Bailey was a captain for 2007 Buffaloes.

"He is a great young man with a good work ethic," said Forsan coach Tommy Thompson "He has many athletic skills and is a hard working student."

Bailey finished his football

career in Forsan with 52 catches for 1,044 yards and 12 touchdowns offensively, and 48 solo tackles, two sacks, 96 assists, six interceptions, eight pass breakups and four fumble recoveries on defense.

Bailey's career receptions are more than any other receiver at Forsan in the past seven years.

His talents aren't limited to just football, either. Bailey led the Buffs' basketball team in scoring and rebounding, earning Co-MVP honors. He led Forsan into the playoffs and is one of the only four Class A athletes selected to play in the Texas Coaches Association's All-Star Basketball Game held in San Antonio July 28.

Bailey was also a first-team all-district selection in baseball, where he excelled as a center fielder and pitched a no-hitter earlier in the year.

He's also a regional qualifier in the 110-meter hurdles. Bailey was selected by the Forsan coaching staff as the school's Most Valuable Male Athlete.

He'll be playing defensive back for the North in the FCA All-Star game and will be coached by Thompson among others.

Cowboys' day: Pacman playing, T.O. staying

Owens made one of NFL's richest WRs, Jones given a limited reinstatement

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — No matter how things play out, June 2, 2008, goes down as a big day for the Dallas Cowboys.

On the same afternoon, the Cowboys found out that Pacman is playing and T.O. is staying.

First came the bolt from the NFL: Not only was commissioner Roger Goodell letting suspended cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones join the team for workouts, Jones also was cleared to play in training camp and preseason games — everything but the regular season. The league said a decision on that will come by Sept. 1, six days before the Cowboys' opener.

Also Monday, the team agreed to a three-year contract extension with Terrell Owens that's worth around \$27 million. It was confirmed to The Associated Press by a person close to negotiations who asked to remain anonymous because the deal hadn't been announced.

Tuesday might be another big day. Jones likely will join the team on the field and there might be a news conference — about Owens' deal, but obviously Pacman's partial reinstatement would be discussed, too.

Locking up Owens makes sense because he's been so productive and so happy, at least since Bill Parcells left after the 2006 season. Owens never publicly pouted about going into the final year of

his initial contract with the Cowboys, and this agreement — which pays him close to what Randy Moss recently received — should keep him smiling, especially since it keeps him employed through his 38th birthday.

Owens maintained all offseason that he wasn't worried about his contract status, confident team owner Jerry Jones would take care of him.

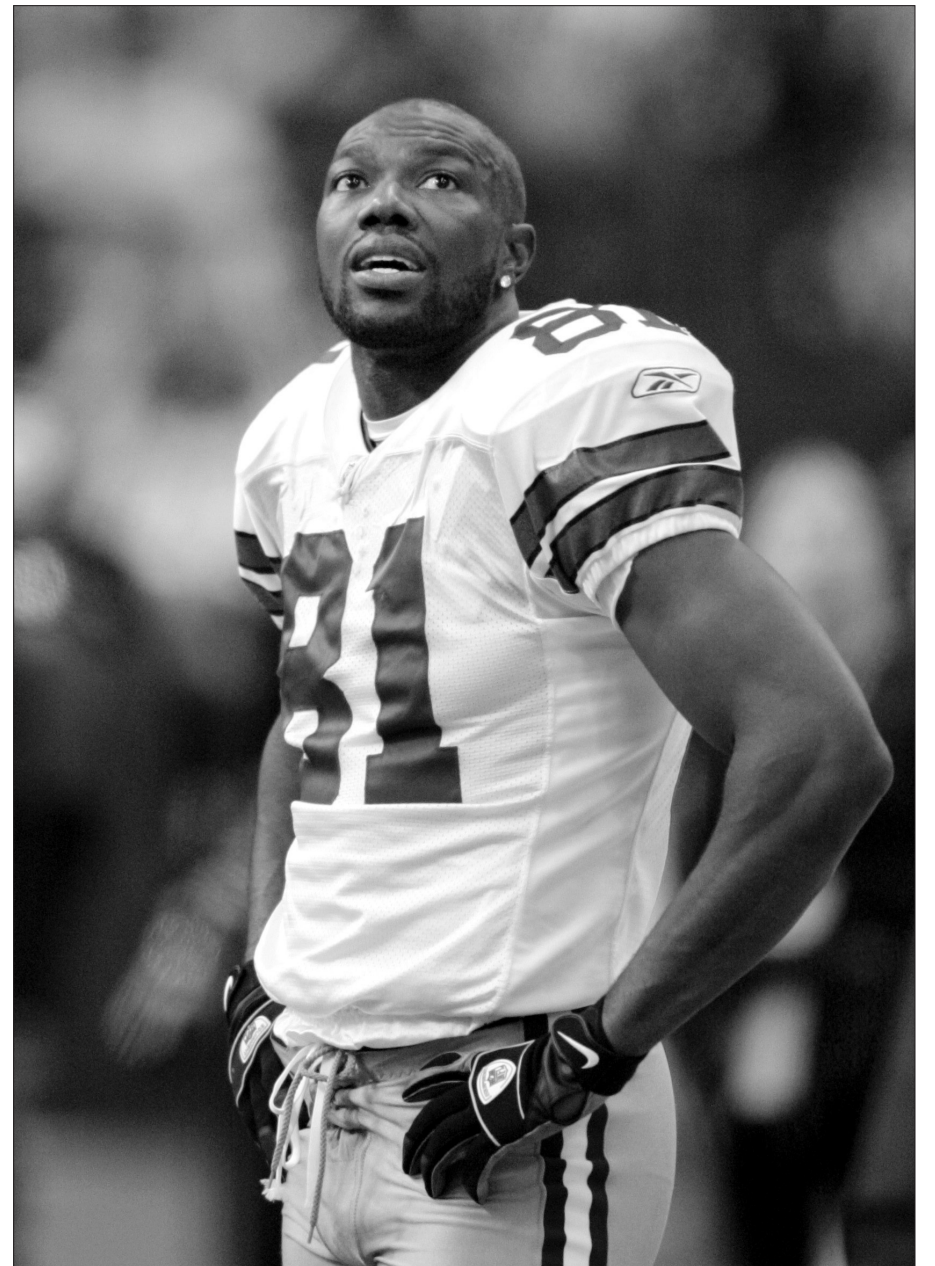
Jerry Jones, meanwhile, has spent weeks waiting to see what Goodell would do about Pacman.

The commissioner had been indicating a July meeting would be necessary before letting Pacman go to training camp, but apparently things went pretty well when they chatted two weeks ago in Atlanta following the NFL owners meetings.

It's also possible the commissioner is counting on the Cowboys and their player development staff to keep him in check. The team helped Tank Johnson return from a similar suspension last season and has successfully dealt with other troubled players.

"Commissioner Goodell told Jones that his continued participation in the NFL depends on demonstrating that he can conduct himself in a lawful and reliable manner," the league wrote in a statement. "Jones will be expected to continue the personal conduct program established for him by the NFL and the Cowboys and

See COWBOYS, Page 2B



AP file photo/Donna McWilliam

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terrell Owens watches the scoreboard in the final moments of the Cowboys' 21-17 loss to the New York Giants in an NFC divisional playoff football game in Irving, Jan. 13. Owens has received a new contract with the Dallas Cowboys, according to a report published on ESPN's Web site Monday.

Obituaries

Fannie Dobbs

Fannie Dobbs, 85, of White Oaks, N.M., formerly of Big Spring died Monday, June 2, 2008, in Mesalero, N.M. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2008, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with the Rev. Mike Couch, administrator of First Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Dobbs was born Feb. 3, 1923, in Birmingham, Ala. She married Roy H. Long and he preceded her in death on Feb. 17, 1966. She then married Joe B. Dobbs and he preceded her in death on March 28, 2002.

Mrs. Dobbs lived in the White Oaks and Carrizozo, N.M., area until 1984 when she moved to Big Spring. She returned to Carrizozo in 2003 to live with her daughter.

She was a member of the First Christian Church. Survivors include her daughter, Patsy Dobbs of White Oaks, N.M.; one step-daughter, Jody Serrano of Carrizozo, N.M.; two sisters, Hazel Newton of East Wenatchee, Wash., and Shirley Hornveldt of Kennewick, Wash.; three brothers, Sam Gordon of Yuma, Ariz., Henry Gordon of Kennewick, Wash., and Leon Gordon of Tacoma, Wash.; and four grandchildren, Carrie Spencer, Wayland Dobbs Jr., Gayann Parker and Patrick Dobbs.

She was also preceded in death by one brother, Leonard Gordon.

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

Lydia 'Lisa' Hernandez



Lydia "Lisa" Hernandez, 38, of Big Spring died Saturday, May 31, 2008, at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2008, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Sept. 8, 1969, in Big Spring to Minnie and Juan Hernandez. She was employed at Scenic Mountain

Medical Center and then at Big Spring State Hospital for 10 years, retiring due to ill health.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and was a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

She is survived by one son, Jimmy Hernandez of Odessa; one daughter, Jennifer Hernandez of Odessa; two step-sons, Adrian Stoglin and James Stoglin, both of Odessa; two step-daughters, Ora Lee Stoglin and Elizabeth Stoglin, both of Odessa; four step-grandchildren; her father, Juan Hernandez of Big Spring; her mother, Minnie Hernandez of Big Spring; four sisters, Dora Hernandez and her husband, Ernest Rodriguez, Esther Hernandez, Frances Hernandez and Leticia Ruiz and her husband, Rick, all of Big Spring; four brothers, Gilbert Hernandez and his wife, Karen, and Abel Hilario and his wife, Jennifer, all of Big Spring, Joe Hernandez and his wife, Lennet, of Amarillo and John Hernandez and his wife, Luisa, of Houston; and several nieces and nephews.

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

Austin James Lee

Austin James Lee, 2 year old son of Judy Lee, of Big Spring died Monday, June 2, 2008, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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.

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.

Police blotter

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

- **ROBERT SANCHEZ**, 43, of 429 Westover Road, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LATOYSHA J. GIBSON**, 21, of 823 W. Eighth Street, was arrested Monday on two local warrants.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1100 block of Fifth Street.
- **TERRORISTIC THREAT** was reported in the 100 block of Ninth Street.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported: in the 800 block of Scurry, in the 1600 block of Kentucky Way, in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 300 block of 11th Place.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 62 inmates at the time of this report.
- **OLGA BARNHARDT RUBIO**, 28, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of credit/debit card abuse and forgery of a financial instrument.
- **AMBER MICHELLE GUTIERREZ**, 32, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of bondsman off bond for debit card abuse, credit/debit card abuse (two counts), manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance and a capias warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **ISMAEL MICKIE JUAREZ JR.**, 47, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole.
- **ZACHARY P. SMITH**, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for resisting arrest, search or transportation.

Fire/EMS

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

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2500 block of Peach. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 600 block of N.E. Ninth Street.

• The Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third, will host a benefit Saturday for 6-year-old Chloe Scroggins, who needs pancreatic surgery. Hamburger plates will be served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for \$5 each. Texas country/rock n' roll band Blackeye Shiner will play from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. with a cover charge of \$5 per person. Join us for games, food, music and lots of fun for a good cause. For more information, contact the Lodge at 263-6862.

• June is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Any group that would like to see a program on the topic can contact Bill Birrell at 263-0659. He has an 18-minute American Cancer Society VCR tape edited by Sidney Poitier.

• 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.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and

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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

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

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-5-9-33-37.
Number matching five of five: 0.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-12-33. Bonus Ball: 6.
Number matching four of four: 9. Prize: \$1,541.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
6-1-5-2. Sum It Up: 14.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
8-4-7. Sum It Up: 19.

Take Note

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

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

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

• Pediatric flu vaccinations for children ages 6 months to 35 months are now available at the Texas Department of State Health Services clinic in College Park Shopping Center. Cost is \$10, although no one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information, call 263-9775.

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Hamilton honored as AL's best in May

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton, who has made an inspiring comeback from drug and alcohol abuse, was chosen as the American League player of the month for May on Monday.

Hamilton became the first American League player to win the monthly award in April and May the same season.

"I come to the park, I know what I need to do to get ready for the game and I do it. Nothing is going to change," Hamilton said. "I want to work harder and I want to do better."

Hamilton went into a Monday night game against Cleveland hitting .328 with a major league-best 63 RBIs, 13 more than the next-closest player.

He led the AL with 15 homers, 77 hits and 25 multihit games. Hamilton had eight homers and 29 RBIs in May, when the Rangers won 19 games for their winningest month since June 1983.

He's started June on a similar tear, smacking his 16th homer of the season in a 13-9 loss to the Indians Monday.

He now leads the AL in all three triple crown categories.

"This guy played better in May than he did in April, and I hope he plays better in June than he did in May," manager Ron Washington said. "He's doing everything. If we need him to get a clutch hit, he gets it. If an RBI's out there, he gets it. He gets two-out base hits, he plays outfield, runs the bases."

Lance Berkman of the Houston Astros won the National League

award for May after hitting .471 for the month with nine homers.

Hamilton played in 57 of the Rangers' first 58 games, but didn't want to be out of the lineup Monday when Washington asked the outfielder about taking a night off.

The No. 1 overall draft pick by Tampa Bay in 1999, Hamilton went on the minor league disabled list in 2001. He tried alcohol and cocaine for the first time, and subsequently battled addictions to both until he got sober in October 2005.

There were multiple failed drug tests and suspensions from baseball, and he didn't play from 2002 until the summer of 2006, when he played only 15 games at the lowest rung of the minor leagues before getting hurt again.

Cincinnati acquired him in the Rule 5 draft during the 2006 winter meetings after the Rays didn't protect him on their 40-man roster, and he hit .292 with 19 homers and 47 RBIs in 298 at-bats last season for the Reds. The Rangers acquired Hamilton last winter in a trade for right-hander Edinson Volquez.

"To get back here and play baseball at the major league level is a great thing," Hamilton said. "I had a dream before I got into baseball to be in the home run derby in baseball. You know how they interview you after that, I'd like to be able to tell people what Christ has done in my life. Hopefully I get a chance to do that."

After the Rangers' loss Sunday, Hamilton shared his testimony and did a question-and-answer

session with about 500 fans.

"Everything I do is for (Christ). If he wants me to win an award, then I guess he wants me to do that," Hamilton said Monday. "I take it as not going out and trying to do it because when you try to do it, you can't."

The last AL player to win consecutive player of the month awards was Alex Rodriguez, while with the Rangers in July and August of 2002. Rodriguez had been the only Texas player to win the award in consecutive months.

Three National League players have been player of the month in April and May; the last was Mark McGwire for St. Louis in 1998.

The others were Cincinnati's Eric Davis in 1987, and Pittsburgh's Bobby Bonilla in 1988.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

to avoid further adverse involvement with law enforcement."

Jones was an elite cornerback and kick returner in his first two seasons with the Tennessee Titans, but an accumulation of arrests and legal problems, including his connection to a shooting at a Las Vegas strip club, led to his suspension without pay on April 10, 2007.

More trouble followed, including felony charges related to the strip club shooting, which left a bouncer paralyzed. Recent revelations include extortion payments made to the alleged shooter, whom Jones helped police apprehend, and a \$20,000 debt repaid to a Las Vegas casino after a felony theft warrant was threatened.

All told, he's been arrested six times and has been involved in 12 incidents requiring police intervention since being drafted.

The Cowboys traded draft picks for Jones in April and gave him a restructured contract that minimizes their risk.

The trade includes contingency plans if Jones never plays for Dallas.

"This limited reinstatement is a step in the process," Jerry Jones said. "Adam is aware of the things that need to be done in order to take the next step."

Pacman Jones moved to Dallas recently and already has been hanging out with teammates and working out in the area. He's

also started bonding with Johnson, both knowing they are down to their last chance with the NFL.

"The important thing is getting him here and getting him acclimated," Johnson said. "I have told him, 'You are a good kid, we know you and we're looking forward to having you on the team and we're excited about you proving everybody wrong.'"

The Cowboys could use another good cornerback, but they're not hanging their hopes on

Jones, having spent a first-round pick on Michael Jenkins. Jenkins and fellow first-rounder Felix Jones also can handle kick returns if Pacman isn't around — or even if he is.

Basically, the team isn't getting its hopes up, considering Pacman's availability a bonus.

"If (Pacman) can come out and help us here, great," said linebacker Bradie James, the defensive captain last season. "But if he doesn't, we've got enough guys to make it happen."

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

Five more Bulldogettes were honored as first-team all-district selections, including seniors Krista Kerby and Christie Rich.

Kerby, also a four-year starter, led the team in batting average (.473), runs scored (37), triples (6), walks (17), slugging percentage (.688) and on-base percentage (.555) and tied with Newton for the stolen bases lead with 14. Her most memorable moment probably came in the playoffs, though, as the senior outfielder had the game-

winning RBI in the Bulldogettes' 4-3 Game 2 victory over Hawley in the Region I finals.

Rich had her best season offensively, batting .420 with 11 doubles, five triples and 24 RBIs. Rich was a three-year starter for the Bulldogettes and a vocal senior leader.

Tadlock notes how hard it will be to replace these three seniors.

"We've got some big holes to fill at catcher, center field and third base now," he said. "There's a lot of experience to replace and it won't be easy. We'll just have to reload like good programs do."

Joining Kerby and Gonzales on the first team are juniors Shelbi Paige and Berkley Iden and freshman Joanna Gonzales.

This is Paige's second selection to the all-district team. Her defensive awareness helped Coahoma dig out of tough situations deep in the playoffs.

She finished the year with an .891 fielding percentage, while batting .276 with six doubles and 15 RBIs.

This was Iden's first season to play in the every day lineup in both right and center field. She batted .379 and was second on

the team in walks drawn with 11. She scored 21 runs and had 13 stolen bases.

Gonzales in the younger sister of catcher Janice and emerged as a freshman starter in left field from Day 1. She batted .388 with 25 RBIs.

Wrapping up Coahoma's all-district selections are sophomore Katie Dunn and junior Breanna Conner.

Dunn was the team's second pitcher, finishing with a perfect 6-0 record. She

had a 1.25 ERA and struck out 32 batters. Three of her six starts ended in shut-outs.

Conner split time, starting at first base and as the team's designated player. She batted .284 with eight doubles and 18 RBIs.

In all, the Bulldogettes lose just five seniors, including KaySea Spiller and Regan Rupard along with Kerby, Janice Gonzales and Sterling. The leaves Tadlock with the feeling that the

Bulldogettes won't be slipping up next year.

"We've still got a solid core returning next season," Tadlock said. "We're going to have the ability to make another return trip to state."

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

You deserve a factual look at . . .

Rockets Over Sderot

What should Israel do to stop this outrage?

Three years ago, Israel abandoned the Gaza strip and evicted the over 8,000 Jewish residents who had lived there for generations and who had created an island of civility, industry and prosperity. What has been Israel's reward for its generosity?

What are the facts?

Israel's many mistakes. In its six decades of history, clouded by almost uninterrupted warfare against it, Israel has made many mistakes. Relinquishing the Sinai to Egypt, Southern Lebanon to Hezbollah, and Gaza to the Palestinians were the most egregious. One lesson to be learned was that one cannot make peace with one's enemies by giving away pieces of one's country.

The greatest folly, of course, was the abandonment of Gaza. Virtually since the first day of Israel's disengagement from the area, the Gazans have launched daily rocket attacks on the city of Sderot. So far "only" about twenty Israelis have been killed. Many more have been wounded.

But it is only a matter of time that one of these rockets is going to hit a school, a hospital or an apartment building, causing unacceptable casualties. Then Israel's forbearance and patience are likely to snap.

These Qassam rockets, however, are only the beginning. Large quantities of explosives and more advanced weapons systems — presents from Syria and mostly from Iran — are supplied daily through sophisticated tunnels from the Sinai into the Gaza territory. That happens under the "watchful eyes" of the Egyptians, who have foolishly been allowed to be the guardians of the border between Egypt and Gaza.

There is no question what any other country would do if it found itself in a position similar to that of Israel. What would we do if bombs or rockets launched from Mexico landed in San Diego? Obviously, we would obliterate the source of such attack and inflict sufficient additional damage to totally discourage such behavior in the future. But what does Israel do? Does it use its powerful army or its superb air force to destroy the areas from which these rockets are launched? Surprisingly not. Guided by its own moral compass and always concerned about "world opinion," Israel attempts to pinpoint the source of attacks, taking enormous care not to hurt

The real tragedy is that the bitter experience with Gaza will make Israel quite unresponsive to our government's desire to achieve a "two-state final solution" before the end of the year. No such solution is possible in this or in any other year unless Israelis are convinced that the Palestinians wish to live in peace and friendship with them. If, under the pressure of our government and of many other countries, Israel would commit the folly of giving up control of Judea/Samaria (the "West Bank"), not only the Palestinians, but also Syrians and Iranians — with heavy armament, planes and tanks — would pour in and would dominate the Judean ridges and the heartland of Israel. That would finally achieve the long-hoped-for end of the Jewish state. It would bring about what many wars and "intifidas" were unable to accomplish.

"innocent civilians." But the concept of "innocent civilians" is nonsense, of course. Anybody who allows his backyard to be used as a launching pad for rockets should expect his home to become a target for counterattack and for casualties to ensue.

Lessons to be learned. For reasons that are not at all clear, Israel finds itself in the thankless role of being responsible for Gaza's welfare, adequate supply of food, fuel and electricity. Occasionally, in feeble retaliation, Israel will slow the supply of fuel and electricity, though it never curtails the supply of food and medicine and routinely allows seriously ill Gazans access to its superb medical facilities. When it occasionally does curtail fuel and electricity, the world complains about Israel's "siege of Gaza."

Some questions: 1) Who appointed Israel to be the guardian of Gaza and responsible for its welfare and comfort? 2) Why don't the Gazans and their Iranian and Syrian friends use the sophisticated tunnels leading from Sinai to Gaza to import fuel, food, and medicine instead of explosives and weapons? 3) Why, in sixty years and in the decades before, when Egypt was in charge of Gaza, have the Palestinians been unable to build a functioning power plant that would make them independent in that respect? Surely their Arab cousins, could supply some of their abundant petroleum for that purpose.

Israel's attempt to stop the shelling of Sderot has so far been a failure. But what *should* Israel do? The answer is obvious: Israel should openly declare to Gaza and to the world at large that every rocket that falls on Sderot or on any place in Israel will immediately be responded to by a rocket aimed at where it came from. Since Gaza is packed with humanity, it is clear that such a tit-for-tat approach would cause many civilian casualties. That would be a tragedy, of course. But, it is pretty clear that the rockets would stop in short order. Sure, "the world" would object. But a country's first duty is to protect its citizens from attack. That is what *we* would do. That is the very least any country would do.

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News at a Glance

Officials: Clinton will concede delegate race to Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton will concede Tuesday night that Barack Obama has the delegates to secure the Democratic nomination, campaign officials said, effectively ending her bid to be the nation's first female president.

The former first lady will stop short of formally suspending or ending her race in her speech in New York City. Obama is 40 delegates shy of clinching the nomination, but he is widely expected to make up the difference Tuesday with superdelegate support and votes in South Dakota and Montana. Once he reaches the magic number of 2,118, Clinton will acknowledge that he has secured the necessary delegates to be the nominee.

She will pledge to continue to speak out on issues like health care. But for all intents and purposes, the two senior officials said, the campaign is over.

Most campaign staff will be let go and will be paid through June 15, said the officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to divulge her plans.

The advisers said Clinton has made a strategic decision to not formally end her campaign, giving her leverage to negotiate with Obama on various matters including a possible vice presidential nomination for her. She also wants to press him on issues he should focus on in the fall, such as health care.

Universal health care, Clinton's signature issue as first lady in the 1990s, was a point of dispute between Obama and the New York senator during their epic nomination fight.

Ohio city OKs jail time for failing to mow lawn

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Homeowners who don't mow their grass in this northeast Ohio city now face stiffer penalties — including possible jail time.

The city council unanimously passed a law Monday that makes a second high-grass violation a fourth-degree misdemeanor carrying a fine of up to \$250 and as many as 30 days in jail.

The previous law only made the first violation a minor misdemeanor, with a fine of up to \$150 but no jail time. The new law is to take effect in 30 days.

"This is the type of action we need to take in order to clean up our neighborhoods and our city," Mayor William J. Healy II said.

The laws are an effort to reduce the roughly \$250,000 the city spends to cut

about 2,000 private lots each year and to address public complaints, Councilman Greg Hawk has said.

Rising demand pushes orders up in April

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orders for manufactured goods posted a surprisingly strong increase in April as demand rose across a number of industries.

The Commerce Department reported Tuesday that orders were up 1.1 percent in April following a 1.5 percent increase in March. Orders had fallen in January and March as a spreading slowdown in the overall economy depressed activity in manufacturing.

The April increase came as a surprise. Analysts had been forecasting a small decline.

Orders in the battered auto industry and in the volatile commercial aircraft sector did fall sharply but other areas showed strength from rising demand for iron and steel to increased orders for appliances and heavy machinery. Demand for petroleum was also up sharply, reflecting surging oil prices.

The better-than-expected reading on orders for manufactured goods followed news Monday that a key gauge of manufacturing rose to a reading of 49.6 in May, up from 48.6 in April. While the Institute for Supply Management manufacturing gauge remained at levels indicating a continued contraction in manufacturing, the upward movement was seen as a possible sign that manufacturing was beginning to pull out of its earlier slump.

At the moment, manufacturing is being buffeted by a prolonged slump in housing, which has cut into demand for building supplies, and soaring energy prices, which have hurt auto sales. However, these adverse factors are being offset by continued strong demand for U.S. exports, which are being helped by the weaker dollar which makes U.S. products more competitive on overseas markets.

For April, demand for durable goods, items expected to last at least three years, fell by 0.6 percent, with that weakness led by a 24.4 percent drop in demand for commercial aircraft and a 4.2 percent decline in motor vehicles.

This weakness was offset by strength in many other areas. Orders for iron and steel were up by 5.5 percent while orders for mining and oilfield equipment jumped 48.6 percent and orders for electrical equipment and appliances jumped 28.1 percent.

Orders for non-durable goods rose by

2.8 percent, led by a big jump in demand for petroleum products, reflecting higher prices. Demand for food and beverages also was up sharply.

While some economists have worried that the country could be in danger of falling into a recession, the government reported last week that the gross domestic product stayed in positive territory in the first three months of this year, growing at an annual rate of 0.9 percent.

The Federal Reserve starting in September aggressively cut interest rates in an effort to keep the housing slump and a severe credit crunch from triggered a recession. In a speech Tuesday, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke signaled that the central bank is likely to remain on hold for now, watching both the risks of weaker growth and higher inflation from soaring energy prices.

"For now policy seems well positioned to promote moderate growth and price stability over time," Bernanke said.

Mugabe blames West for Zimbabwe's economic problems

ROME (AP) — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe defended land policies blamed for devastating his country's agricultural sector, asserting at a U.N. food summit Tuesday that the West was trying to cripple the nation's economy.

Mugabe's presence at a summit addressing high global food prices sparked protests from some world leaders. He is blamed for the economic collapse of a country once considered a regional breadbasket and Zimbabweans increasingly are unable to afford food and other essentials.

Zimbabwe is not subject to broad sanctions affecting ordinary citizens. Western sanctions are targeted instead at the president and several dozen close associates.

Mugabe nonetheless contended that his policies of redistributing land taken from large farmholders were "warmly welcomed by the vast majority of our people" and the sanctions aim to "cripple Zimbabwe's economy and thereby effect illegal regime change in our country."

"The United Kingdom has mobilized her friends and allies in Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand to impose illegal economic sanctions against Zimbabwe," he said.

GM closing 4 truck and SUV plants in North America

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — General Motors is closing four truck and SUV plants in the U.S., Canada and Mexico as

surging fuel prices hasten a dramatic shift to smaller vehicles.

CEO Rick Wagoner said Tuesday before the automaker's annual meeting in Delaware the plants to be idled are in Oshawa, Ontario; Moraine, Ohio; Janesville, Wis.; and Toluca, Mexico. He also said the iconic Hummer brand will be reviewed and potentially sold or revamped.

Wagoner said the GM board has approved production of a new small Chevrolet car at a plant in Lordstown, Ohio, in mid-2010 and production of the Chevrolet Volt electric vehicle in Detroit.

Wagoner announced the moves in response to slumping sales of pickups and SUVs brought on by high oil prices. He said a market shift to smaller vehicles is permanent.

The moves will save the company \$1 billion per year starting in 2010. Combined with previous efforts, GM by 2011 will have cut costs by \$15 billion a year compared with 2005, Wagoner said.

GM shares rose 39 cents, or 2.2 percent, to \$17.83 in morning trading.

The cuts will affect about 2,500 workers at each of the four facilities, although Wagoner did not know exact numbers. Many will be able to take openings created when 19,000 more U.S. hourly workers leave later this year through early retirement and buyout offers.

He said the company has no plans to allocate products to the four plants in the future.

"We really would not foresee the likely prospect of new products in the plants that we're announcing today that we'll cease production in," he told a Moraine, Ohio, city official who asked a question in a telephone conference call.

Wagoner said General Motors Corp.'s board approved the production schedule of the Chevrolet Volt, and the company plans to bring the plug-in electric car to showrooms by the end of 2010.

Fully charged, the Volt could drive about 40 miles without using any gasoline, and a small conventional engine would recharge the vehicle, extending its range and allowing it to get the equivalent of 150 miles per gallon. GM plans to sell about 100,000 Volts a year by 2012.

Wagoner said the change in the U.S. market to smaller vehicles likely is permanent. "We at GM don't think this is a spike or a temporary shift," Wagoner said.

On the Hummer, Wagoner said GM is "undertaking a strategic review of the Hummer brand, to determine its fit."

HEAT

Continued from Page 1A

water slowly and make sure there is good ventilation.

"To help a person showing severe symptoms, get the victim into shade, call for emergency medical services and start cooling the person immediately with cool water or by fanning. If fluids are not replaced soon enough, heat stroke can follow causing extremely high body temperature, red and dry skin, rapid pulse, confusion, brain damage, loss of consciousness and death."

And with so many chil-

dren home during the summer holiday, Palmer said parents should be vigilant when it comes to the heat.

"Children especially can quickly become dehydrated," said Palmer. "They need to drink fluids frequently, especially water, and wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothes. Avoid drinks that are heavily sweetened or contain caffeine. Check on children often, especially if they are playing outside in high temperatures."

Palmer suggests following a few simple rules when the temperature begins to rise:

- Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle in hot weather, even for a

short time.

- Drink plenty of fluids, but avoid drinks with alcohol, caffeine or a lot of sugar. Don't wait until you are thirsty. Start drinking fluids at least 30 minutes before going out.

- Plan strenuous outdoor activity for early morning or evening when the temperature is lower.

- Take frequent breaks when working outside.

- Wear sunscreen SPF (sunscreen protection factor) 15 or higher, wide-brimmed hats and light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.

- Eat more frequently, but be sure meals are well balanced, cool and light.

- Dress infants and children in cool, loose cloth-

ing. Shade their heads and faces with hats or an umbrella.

- Check frequently on the elderly, the ill and others who may need help.

- Adjust to the environment. A sudden change in temperature — an early heat wave or travel to a hotter climate — will be stressful to the body. Limit physical activity until you become accustomed to the heat.

- Check with a doctor about the effects of sun and heat when taking prescription drugs, especially diuretics or antihistamines.

Palmer said the body's defense mechanism against skyrocketing temperatures — sweating —

isn't always effective enough to protect people from the heat, especially when combined with other health and environmental factors.

"The body normally cools down by sweating. But under some conditions, sweating is not enough," said Palmer. "The body's temperature may rise rapidly to dangerous levels, leading to the possibility of heat illness or death."

"A combination of high temperatures and high humidity especially can cause this natural cooling system to work overtime. When humidity is high, sweat may not evaporate efficiently, preventing the body from releasing heat

quickly. The stress of hard physical activity, fatigue, dehydration, heart disease, obesity, poor circulation, sunburn and prescription drug and alcohol use also contribute to heat-related health problems.

"Prevention is the best defense against heat-related illness. Staying cool, drinking plenty of fluids, wearing cool clothing and monitoring outdoor activities are essential to staying healthy in hot weather."

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

CEREMONY

Continued from Page 1A

and a small kitchen which can be used by caterers. The area was underwritten by Anne W. Marion and named for her great-grandfather — rancher,

oilman and businessman Samuel Burk Burnett.

"I am pleased at the great response from our supporters and the public to enhance the NRHC facilities both inside and outside the museum," Pfluger said. "The library and meeting room have been long-needed areas for us

a museum. The bronze steers and granite windmill are a symbolic tribute to the resources ranchers used to create the heritage we preserve at the NRHC."

Gary Terrell, chairman emeritus of the board of the Ranching Heritage Association, will serve as

master of ceremonies of the dedication and direct the program and ribbon cutting. An unveiling will take place in the Rich Anderson Room at 2:15 p.m. to conclude the program.

The National Ranching Heritage Center is located at 3121 Fourth Street in

Lubbock.

SHOOTING

Continued from Page 1A

is very important in these investigations," said Everett. "The information from the public is the most valuable tool we have. Unless an officer just happens to be present and witnesses something, we have

to rely on the information we get from the citizens to catch these people.

"We don't want the citizens to risk their necks or put themselves in harms way, but if they can get to a phone and get the information to us, it goes a long way to helping put these people behind bars."

Anyone with information regarding this shooting or any other

criminal activity is encouraged to contact the BSPD at 264-2550 or Big Spring Area Crimestoppers at 263-TIPS or 264-TIPS.

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

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City of Big Spring

Human Resources

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Big Spring, TX 79720

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Fax: (432)264-2387

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Big Spring bases

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Coastal Transport is now seeking individuals to deliver petroleum product in and around surrounding areas of Big Spring. Must be 23 years of age, have a Class A license with Tanker and Haz-Mat endorsements with 1 year tractor/trailer experience. Please contact Russell @ 1-888-527-7221 for more information.



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- Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon- Fri., with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer. Please Call Arthur 432-770-3966.

Eon Climate & Renewables - Panther Creek Windfarm Project

Howard, Glasscock & Sterling Counties, Texas

Looking for qualified personnel for the following construction positions:

* Civil & Electrical

Inspectors-Contact Simon @ (432) 398-5578

* Heavy Equipment

Operators-Contact Laura @ (432) 267-1691

Looking for qualified personnel for the following operations positions:

* Wind farm technicians at various levels- Contact

John Franklin or Bobby Blunt at (512) 482-4000, by fax (512) 494-9581 or by email john.franklin@eon.com

* Applicants must meet the minimum requirements as follows: Four (4) years experience applicable to operations and/or maintenance of power generation and related facilities, preferably wind, two (2) of the four (4) years can be satisfied with Associates Degree in sciences or related fields from an accredited school. Candidate must be skilled in at least one (1) of the following power plant disciplines: operations, mechanical maintenance, electrical maintenance, safety.

Help Wanted

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

FRONTLINE NAT'L, EOE,

seeks an LCN for PT/ FT work at the FCI, Big Spring. Credit and background check required. Fax resume to 513-528-9675.

GARTMAN REFRIGERATION

need Certified HVAC and experienced plumber. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700.

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GENERAL HELP wanted. SD Baker Construction, Stanton. Weekends off, overtime available. Good starting pay. Will train, experience with cutting torch and forklift a plus. Must pass drug test. Call 432-458-3270.

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under new supervisor. Bilingual okay. Competitive pay and paid holidays & vacation. Pick up application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford Street.

LOCAL 20+ Year Construction Company seeking experienced help. General residential and light commercial repairs, remodeling, painting interior and exterior experience. Pay D.O.E. Call 432-267-2296.

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 mrfireworks.com and submit app or call 830-429-1408 9am-4pm.

MONITORING TECHNICIAN & IPR*EMS is a fugitive emissions company servicing chemical plants and refineries across the US. We have an immediate need in the Big Spring area. Starting salary is up to \$14.00 and will increase to \$15.00 after 90 days. Send resume to jima@iprems.com or fax to (281)488-9729. Application can be completed at www.iprems.com

Need FLOOR HANDS in Big Spring area. Good pay based on experience. Paid holidays and bonuses. Call (432)207-0858 or 207-0846.

NEED 15 People to lose up to 30lbs! 30 Days, #30+s/h. All Natural, Dr. Recommended. Call 847-223-7080 or 1-888-460-7538.

NEED A full time maintenance person. Plumbing, painting and carpentry experience helpful. \$9.00/hr and up depending on knowledge. Make ready persons also needed. Apply at 538 Westover, Monday-Friday, 8:30a.m.-5:30p.m.

NEED SANDBLASTERS, painters and mechanical people. Pay is \$10-\$15 per hour depending on experience. Travel & local work. Drug test. Call (432)264-0590.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE

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

Help Wanted

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

NOW HIRING Mental Health Aides, Weekends only, 8am-4pm, 4pm-12am shifts. Come by 2607 Chanute and pick up application.

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.

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION

Now hiring for the following positions:

* Dietary Aide

We offer great benefits and competitive pay. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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PERSON TO manage self storage. Retired person acceptable. American Self Storage, 432-263-3131

PEST CONTROL Technicians needed. No experience necessary. Will Train. Must apply in person, 2008 Birdwell Lane.

PIZZA INN

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.

POLLARD CHEVROLET

* Parts Department

Position Open

Must be 18 yrs old or older

Some heavy lifting.

Benefits: Health & Life insurance, 401(k). EOE

Apply at 1501 East 4th St.

QUALITY HOMEHEALTH

Aides needed. Must be at least 18 yrs. old. Starting pay \$7.00 and up. Reliable transportation and phone needed. Contact Donald 432-570-4475.

Help Wanted

SINGLE HAND Welders

wanted, \$23.00 per hour. Must be able to pass welder test and drug screening. Travel & local work. Transportation and per diem paid. Call 432-559-8432.

SOS STAFFING has joined

forces with Schlumberger and we have full time field positions available immediately.

We are interviewing in Big Spring at 10am on Thursday, June 5. Holiday Inn- 1109 North Aylesford Big Spring, TX

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* Structured Career development

* No Fee

* \$40-\$50K per year

* Must be able to pass a background, drug screen and physical

If unable to attend please email resume to granerr@sosstaffing.com

TOP PAY for Rock Crusher and Loader Operator. Please call 432-517-0363.</

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

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to a letter to the editor, submitted by Tonya Hilario concerning a situation she reports to have seen at the Sonic between a deputy sheriff and a pit bulldog, I have been contacted by several citizens who were upset at what they read in her letter.

I agree that this incident, based upon the information given in the letter, does not reflect a very good image of the Sheriff's Office, and I will get to the bottom of it.

I also know there is more to this incident than what was in the letter, but instead of me making comment, it should be fully investigated first.

This agency does have policies and procedures in place regarding the use of the tazer and officer conduct.

During the investigation we will determine if policy was violated, and consider all facts and circumstances of the event.

I wish that Mrs. Hilario would have contacted me prior to writing the letter to the editor, but she has not done so.

This incident is going to be investigated and the results will be provided to the newspaper.

DALE WALKER
HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing in regard to Tonya Hilario's letter concerning the deputy who caused the death of the dog at the Sonic.

I would just like to say this to the deputy, you are a cruel and heartless man. You showed extreme cruelty to not only the dog, but to every single person who had to witness such a horror. This may come as a surprise to you, but for very many of us having to see such a horror stays with us forever.

You dishonor the uniform you wear.

JOHNNIE TATOM
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing about the letter that was in Sunday's paper about the dog that was killed near the Sonic. What was the sheriff's deputy thinking about?

I think that they should be turned in for animal cruelty. Didn't they think that dog could have been lost and that the owners was looking for him? What is wrong with those two officers?

It made me sick when I read they did not help that dog, telling the kids to back off and when it got hit. I admire those kids that tried to help the dog, and if I had been there, I would have done the same thing.

Gregg Street is a very busy street and that dog needed help.

I hope that they don't have a dog and the same thing happens to their pet and they have to explain to their children what happened — Daddy sent it out to the street.

Shame on you two officers. I understand that many people watched in horror at what you did. I hope that you two can sleep at night knowing you helped kill a loving dog whose owners have to explain to their children what happened.

Now about the \$2.1 million to help the golf course, that money could have used to fix our streets. My dad once said that if you want a front end alignment, to go to Big Spring. The streets are horrible, and all they do is patch them. When it rains, well, you know the answer to that one. That money could have been put to better use than the golf course. Guess the city doesn't care about our city that much or they could make a lot of improvements on our streets.

There are people who are disabled and just to ride on some our streets hurts them. Think about them instead of your fun things to do like play golf.

MARILLYN MIEARS
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

We can build a heavenly character through You, Lord.

Amen

You know, maybe it's over

Keith Olbermann, the liberally acerbic MSNBC quacker, has likened Hillary Clinton to Wiley E. Coyote, the Road Runner cartoon character who repeatedly runs off cliffs but never falls until he looks down and realizes his predicament.

The analogy fails because Hillary never looks down. Bowing to reality is not her thing.

She is much more the Black Knight of the sublime comedy, "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." In it King Arthur, on his quest for the Grail, is challenged to a duel by a knight clad in black. In the fight that follows, Arthur cuts off the knight's left arm at the shoulder, but the knight continues to fight.

"'Tis but a scratch," he says. Arthur cuts off his challenger's right arm at the shoulder. The knight begins to kick the king.

"You've got no arms left," Arthur says.

"Yes, I have," says the knight. "It's just a flesh wound. I'm invincible."

Reluctantly, Arthur cuts off the fellow's legs — first one then the other — and stalks by what's left of the fallen knight, who shouts after him: "Come back here. I'll bite your legs off."

That's Hillary. She begins where indomitable leaves off.

That's not an entirely unattractive attribute, particularly in a poli-

tician, but there reaches a point where it gets a little creepy. Sen. Clinton is at that point right now. What part of "you lost" doesn't she understand? She has a perfect right to continue her run for president (just as I have a right to declare myself a pretender to the Roman throne) but she has some responsibility to use arguments that make sense. None of hers do.

For example, she says that she's ahead in the popular vote. She's not; not by any fair count. She's ahead by the slimmest of margins if you don't count any of the caucus states AND you count the votes in Michigan and Florida.

But before the primaries began, she and the rest of the Democratic candidates agreed to ignore the Michigan and Florida votes because they'd moved up their primaries without permission.

Her campaign manager at the time said:

"We believe Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina play a unique and special role in the nominating process."

That was then, when she was well in the lead and trying to suck up to early primary voters. Now things look different and she wants to change the rules she agreed to. In addition, she somehow neglected to have her name taken from the Michigan ballot so that she was the only candidate running there. She got 55 percent of the vote against nobody, now she wants those votes counted too.

She says she'll be the strongest candidate for the Democrats in the fall and says things like "As Kentucky goes, so goes the nation."

If that's the case then the Democrats are in real trouble because Kentucky is going Republican in the fall.

She says she's the one who can carry the swing states and the super-delegates should take that into account when they finally vote on whom the nominee should be.

Sen. Clinton might very well be the strongest candidate but, given the cockamamie way Democrats choose their candidates, we'll never know. (Did you ever get the feeling that the Democrats' nominating process was designed by the Republican National Committee?)

In any case, Sen. Clinton has several liabilities as a national candidate.

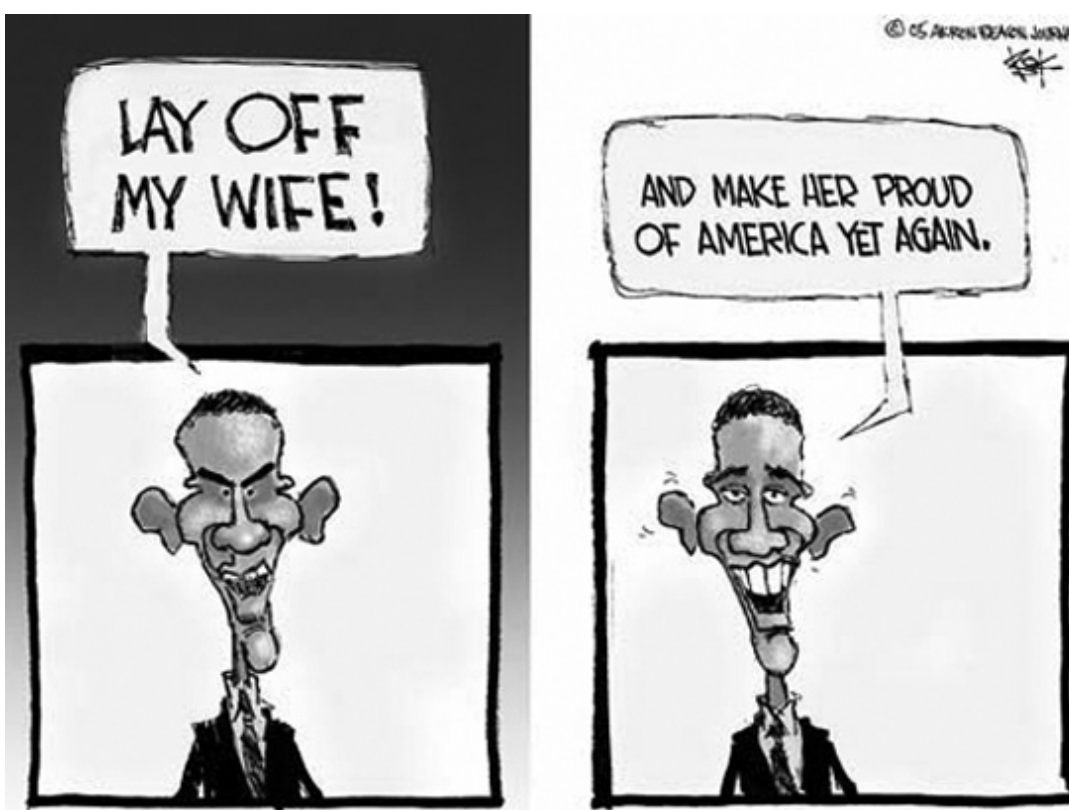
For one thing, she's a woman. She may think all those hard-working white men who helped give her those huge margins in Appalachia were won over by her feminist charm but I think she'd find a lot of them were voting against the black guy and they'll switch to McCain in the fall. For another, she's a Clinton, a species that some Republicans view with an antipathy generally reserved for the anti-Christ. Republicans will leave deathbeds to vote against her.

And for a third thing — the race is over.

That's no flesh wound, Hillary — you lost.

Donald Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. E-mail him at dkaul2@earthlink.net.

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ADDRESSES

• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
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The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

Forget precedent, spend the money

With budget season once again right around the corner for local government agencies, it's only a matter of time before the dam breaks and the flood of numbers, statistics and cold, hard facts come streaming down upon the heads of elected officials.

And, much like my Air Force training instructor told me many, many years ago, it all flows downhill, in this case turning into a choking array of spreadsheets, taxes and fees. It's a fact of life, and the general public — the registered voters who cast their ballots and those too lazy to go to the polls alike — are just as much to blame for the faceless nature of a process as anyone.

This year's budget season will be my 10th year to cover this controlled chaos in the Howard County area, and I already know what to expect.

Politicians up for election in November will be screaming for no new or higher taxes — you decide whether their motivation is our well being or simply saving their own hides — while those most recently elected scream for more increases in services to the citizens, meaning higher levels of funding for their pet projects.

A basic formula will be hauled out from the depths of some poor stiff's desk, a formula that calls for balanced budgets, some semblance of fairness and trying to account for decisions made with John Q. Public's tax money. It's a good formula, a fiscally sound one that has been used time and time again

maintain the auspices of our society.

Unfortunately, that formula doesn't take into account one very important thing — common sense.

Think I'm wrong? Bear with me. Last Tuesday night the Big Spring City Council voted 5-2 to deny the local Salvation Army's request to waive the admission fees on Fridays for its 75 children participating in the annual Boys and Girls Club of America Summer program. The measure would have amounted to a loss in admission revenues of \$1,650, not to mention a contract amendment needed to cover additional life guards provided by the Big Spring YMCA, and certainly a slight cost increase in chemicals.

And while this cost increase certainly pales in comparison to the \$2 million-plus spent to renovate the golf course next door to the pool or the \$4.3 million of taxpayer money being spent to build a sports complex, the expense was not the main concern of several council members.

It was precedence.

The idea the city could find itself in the same sort of situation time and time again, while organizations that fall under the classifications as the Big Spring Salvation Army try to take advantage of a loophole the approval of the waiver would create.

And, at first glance, it's certainly a reasonable concern. In fact, it's something we here at the newspaper face on a daily basis. When making assignments, we have to consider one simple rule: If we do it for one group, are we willing to do it for everyone?

So, did the council make the right decision? Don't forget, I said "at first glance."

How many organizations — non-

profit organizations, at that — in Big Spring offer the types of services the local Salvation Army does? How many organizations provide meals for the low income families of this city, even a place to sleep when they have nowhere else to go? Who else provides Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas presents for the children of low income families every year, working on a shoestring budget I imagine would make many of our local business owners laugh out loud?

How does all that compare to the \$1,650-plus in admission revenues and costs for the municipal pool?

"When I was a kid I participated in these types of programs, and it had a very positive effect on me," an emotional Manuel Ramirez Jr. — who, along with Councilman Greg Biddison were the only two to vote in favor of the measure — told the council after making the motion to accept the request. "It was one of the best experiences of my life."

Good for you, Manny. In a time when it's so easy to get lost in the black and white sea of dollars and cents, it takes a keen eye to recognize the effect programs like the Boys and Girls Club — and a swim day for area children who can't afford the \$2 admission — can have on children.

Sometimes, in the pursuit of a better city, you have to put dollars and cents — and the fear of creating a loophole that could haunt you for years — aside and do what's in the best interest of the children that will someday sit on the same council, deciding the future of Big Spring.

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

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ACCOUNT REP needed to work on behalf of our company. 18 yrs or older. Must have computer skills, accounting experience not needed. Earn up to \$3000.00 monthly. Email me at terry_williams_1212@yahoo.com if interested.

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Help Wanted

BLUE SKY Services is looking for a Journeyman Electrician. If interested please call 432-580-7332.

BOOKKEEPER/ RECEPTIONIST.

Must have computer skills, and knowledge of Quickbooks systems. Apply in person at Southwestern Pest Control, 2008 Birdwell Lane.

CASHIER/OFFICE CLERK

Full-time position. Required 3 years money experience. Retail, banking, or accounting knowledge preferred. Proficient in 10-key and data entry with computer experience in Excel and Word. Heavy lifting is required. Comprehensive benefits. Please apply at:

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800-364-2018 Lubbock, Texas. Call between 9am and 5pm Monday thru Friday.

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Coastal Transport is now seeking individuals to deliver petroleum product in and around surrounding areas of Big Spring. Must be 23 years of age, have a Class A license with Tanker and Haz-Mat endorsements with 1 year tractor/trailer experience. Please contact Russell @ 1-888-527-7221 for more information.

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Bird Poop:

Crippled blue jay becomes teacher

Throughout the morning, the two youngsters explored the fenced enclosure. No longer depending upon their first home, they enjoyed new discoveries while their mother was away. When she returned with a treat for each, she gently scolded them for being out in the middle of the lawn. Hungry for the food she carried, they were easily coaxed toward a shaded area offered by a large yaupon.



BEBE McCASLAND

With each trip, their mother had encouraged a short flight from the shrub to the live oak tree nearby. Finally, the attempt was made. Each in turn managed to reach a lower limb. The seemingly carefree twosome continued to frolic among the branches whenever their mother left for awhile. Once back, she would fly directly to the oak after hearing their welcoming cries. As we watched from the den window, we felt some anxiety whenever the

mother bird left the yard. Our neighborhood was fairly safe, but there was always the possibility of an unwelcome visitor. "Keep an eye on those two," I begged Art, as I walked toward an insistent phone. With his camera in hand, he would not have wanted to leave their first attempt at independence.

Begging me to take a fledgling, the caller was nearly hysterical. Neighborhood felines frequented her flower beds, trees, and even her roof in their relentless search for the young and vulnerable. The bird would not stand a chance, she added.

The familiar seasonal request for us to take fledglings that were learning how to fly was difficult to call. Letting parents teach their young was essential in nature.

Even in our own situation, we faced the ultimate reality that not all young birds would succeed. Trying to analyze each individual problem sometimes resulted in our relenting from the most difficult of decisions.

To accept a fledgling meant denying a parent the privilege of raising its own. Often we had been tempted to intervene. Ultimately, we realized we had to wait for the sce-



Courtesy photo

From a nest of twigs, small branches, bark, bits of paper, leaves and dry grass, a blue jay matures into a large bird that is partially migratory. Frequenting oak trees, the bird is gifted in hiding its food for later use.

nario to play itself out.

An hour later, the doorbell rang. After telling us that she had spent a good amount of time chasing the young bird, the caller had trapped the fledgling.

Inside a shoe box was a blue jay still damp from the perspiration of the woman's hand. Upon further examination, I noticed that one wing did not extend as far as the other. Whether this had been caused by its capture or not I would never know.

Saddened by the fact that another creature had been taken from nature, I realized pet owners were lax in controlling their cats. To have an indoor

feline would be too much of an inconvenience. Instead, the animal was free to roam, maim and kill. Subject to various diseases from the feral cats of any neighborhood, the pet would also be in violation of many cities' animal ordinances.

Once the woman had left, I prepared an area for the blue jay. Since no obvious breaks had been detected, we felt the wing might have been bruised. As I reached inside the box, a nip on the hand and a raucous protest ensued. With feet flailing, the angry, vocal jay was adamant in its denial of wanting to be with us.

Even its juvenile plum-

age indicated what was to come. The crested head, back, wings and tail would become a bright blue. It already sported the black necklace that crossed its breast before heading upward toward the back of the head. Its gray-white underparts would be drab in comparison to the accents of black and white barring on its wings and tail.

The jay's natural diet was varied. Loving acorns, corn and seeds, the bird also accepted insects, spiders, small mice and unfortunately small birds and eggs. Where available, wild grapes enhanced its menu. As long as back

yard feeders offered suet, sunflower seeds and peanuts, the blue jay would consider a stop-over.

Offering crickets, grasshoppers, baby mice, corn and seeds, I noticed the noisy jay would accept the food when I wasn't looking. However, if it caught my eye, the bird would quickly snub my efforts and me.

From the kitchen, I could hear it mimic the outside birds that it heard. If children on their bicycles were too loud as they coursed down our street, the jay in its own aggressive way shrieked at these intruders.

See **BLUE JAY**, Page 6A

Parent's Corner:

Standard school year a product of 'modern' times

The school year has ended and the kids are embarking on their annual vacation, but, it is interesting to note why the school year is constructed in such a fashion.



DARRELL RYAN

The now-standard 180-day academic calendar with a long summer holiday didn't come about until the early 20th century. Previously, urban schools operated year-round with short breaks between quarters.

In 1842, Detroit's academic year lasted approximately 260 days, New York's 245 and Chicago's 240. But since education wasn't mandatory in most states until the 1870s, attendance was low. Despite the official schedule, many kids ended up spending the same amount of time in school back then as they do now.

In 1850, Brooklyn school officials reported that more than half their students showed up just six months a year. Poor attendance made school officials and legislators wonder if such a long academic calendar was worthwhile.

Why keep schools open

year-round if most kids don't even go?

Gradually, officials shortened the school year by about 60 days and eliminated the summer quarter. They picked the summer instead of another time for three main reasons.

First, poorly ventilated school buildings were nearly unbearable during heat waves.

Second, community leaders believed that hot, crowded environments facilitated the spread of disease.

And third, wealthy urbanites traditionally vacationed during the hottest months.

Meanwhile, the rural districts had quite differ-

ent academic calendars. In the 19th century, rural kids spent just five or six months in school and spent two to three months in summer and the same in winter laboring on farms. By the early 20th century, many farm states had lengthened their academic year and introduced a summer break to bring agrarian districts into line with urban ones.

However, this is not so in all countries.

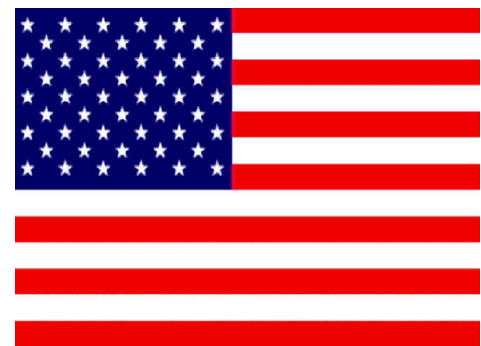
Some countries, in their belief that students regress in academics during long breaks, operate an extended school year. Israel, for example,

uses a 216-day school year and Japan goes 243 days. I guess, looking at those statistics, the school sum-

mer vacation in this country will continue to be extremely appealing to our kids.

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

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LOST 7 week old Australian Shepherd/Heeler, Pit Bull mix. I-20 & Moss Creek area. No collar, white kit tail & feet. Bridle colored. Big Reward! Call (605)280-3742 or (605)280-7534.



STOLEN: ENGLISH Bulldog (male) from 1000 Block of Wood. Any information please call 432-816-3729 or call Big Spring Police Dept.. Reward if found.

Miscellaneous

100% ALL leather 5 pc. Living Room Set. Complete w/tables. Lifetime warranty. Never used, in Crates. List \$2999 Must sell \$675. 806-549-3110.....
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2000 26' Rockwood Ultra light 2602 with one glide. \$16000.00. Only used about 6 times, new tires. Call after 4:00pm 432-268-3550.

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1515 E. 17th St. 3bdr-11/2 bath, carport, new CH/A, wood floors, new tile in kitchen and bath, fresh paint, remodeled. Call 432-816-6560.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE space for rent, 3 miles outside city. Electric, water and sewer included. \$375 month. Covered vehicle space available- extra charge. Call 254-643-1145, 325-370-6743.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
What's chirping outside

your window? Today's Gemini new moon re-animates the ordinary, everyday world with intelligent new discoveries. Synchronicities, flights of fancy, or



HOLIDAY MATHIS

flights to destinations unknown -- we needn't travel far. Just a few feet to the left or right discovers the Gemini new moon has something curious for anyone who's looking. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Feeling emotionally raw? Like a helpless newborn, you are most powerful in your fragility

Real Estate for Sale

OWNER FINANCE Kentwood Addition, Beautiful 3bdr/2bath with Fireplace, Shop, Fenced Yard, Large Lot. 10% Down, 1475.00 Month. Call 512-940-5200, 432-631-8100.

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2000 HARLEY Davidson Sportster 883. \$4000.00 OBO. Call (432)268-3510.

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

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

BC Operating, Inc., c/o P.O. Box 953, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced formation water/fluid into a formation that is productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the: Spraberry (formation), Canon Ranch Unit (lease), Well Number(s) 1303, 1505, 1603A, 1702, 1704, 1801, 1804, 1902 and 1910. The proposed injection wells are located 14 miles in a SW direction from: Gail, in the Jo-Mill (Spraberry) field, in Borden County, TX. Fluid will be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 7050 to 7595 feet. Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the State-wide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, TX 78711-2967 (Telephone # 512-463-6792). #5801 June 3, 2008

Tomorrow's Horoscope

because you are the closest to divine presences in that state. Trust that you are being taken care of by unseen forces.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Cut the rule-breakers around you a little slack, especially if the rules they are breaking are outdated, spiritually or creatively limiting, or just plain stupid. (You may be such a rule-breaker yourself!)

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't you hate when "they" are right? All those "they" people are definitely on to something for the moment, so don't be afraid to follow the popular advice -- it's actually personally enriching to do so.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Dare to enter a circle of people and be the newcomer, especially if you feel you have something important to say. Currently, people will listen to someone new more readily than they will to those they already know.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Review all you've learned last month about asking questions, listening well and making as few assumptions as possible. You'll apply the lessons and get outstanding results.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Avoid getting caught up in philosophical tangents. If you place even a toe in that current, you could be swept away for the whole day, wondering instead of doing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're inclined to charge too little for your services or do too much for free in order to secure your position. Get a savvy someone to negotiate for you. Reserve your charity for those who really are in need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). You're pretty slick. You have a way of reducing the emotional resistance of others and getting them to do exactly what you need. This is mostly accomplished through a passive, empathetic tone.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have nothing substantial to base your optimism on, and that's what makes it so remarkable. When you feel good about something -- even something totally unreasonable -- act on it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are motivated by your compassion to make a commitment. You will be held to this one. Perhaps you're not sure how you'll be able to deliver, but trust that you will be able to, and somehow it happens.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This is one of those times when making no decision is best. You're currently only looking at half of the information you need in order to do right in this case. Ask and wait to learn more.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What you want will quickly become yours. This is not always a good thing. What's attractive at a distance can have a whole different look when it's brought in close. So choose carefully now.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPICS: Travel's gone cutting edge, it seems everywhere you look, there's a new way to travel. **GEMINI:** You need lift-off like a bird needs wings. And your landlocked challenge is obtaining a creative financing to get there or b) a ticket to your destination. Cutting-edge Gemini travel concept: errand-running travel. Seriously, what better way to see the world than to become the carrier pigeon? Deliver a

red envelope with money, a "lai see," to Hong Kong; pick up chutney for Indian friends ... in India. What to wear: wings. What to bring: bike, GPS. Who to bring: Leo, Aquarius. **CANCER:** You can get worked up by the unknowns of travel. But you're really an adventurer disguised as a crab, and often you're the last one to realize just how much fun it is you're having! Cutting-edge Cancer travel concept: the family vacation. It swings in and out of favor, like the Chevy Chase movie "Vacation," but as your slide show of your last trip to Yosemite attests, it's that memorable and hilarious. What to wear: sunscreen. What to bring: a camera. These are keepsakes. Who to bring: the family.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Geminis often rebound from circumstances that make the rest of us want to crawl into a cave. It's not that they're untouched by tragedy, nor insensitive to uncertainty. They're just peculiarly, freakishly adaptable. For Anderson Cooper, it was this Gemini question: "Why do some people thrive in situations that others can't tolerate?" that sparked his curiosity and his career as a journalist.

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 ®

Dear Annie: I've been married to "Beth" for 18 months. We have our ups and downs, but it's a solid marriage.

Beth is close friends with "Chuck," a man she dated back in high school. He's a good guy whom I trust and respect, but sometimes I'm a bit uncomfortable with their friendship and how close they are.

To make matters worse, about a week ago I came across Beth's cell phone and the text inbox was open. I noticed a few notes from Chuck, saying he would do anything for her. He addressed her as "Babe." I wanted to be sure I wasn't misreading the context of these messages, so I delved deeper. Unfortunately, her messages to him had the same tone. In one, she texted about being naked in the bathtub, and in another, she mentioned a sex dream she had about him.

When I questioned Beth, she shrugged it off and said nothing was going on between them. I do trust them both, but I feel these messages are inappropriate and neither one should be flirting this way. Am I way off base? - Hurt and Confused

Dear Hurt: Beth lost our sympathy when she sent text messages about having sex dreams and being naked in the tub. This type of flirting isn't harmless because it deliberately gives the impression that she's interested in more than friendship. She may not intend to cheat, but it is disrespectful to you and your marriage to make the ex-boyfriend (or anyone else) think she is looking around. Tell her to knock it off.

Dear Annie: We have a lovely 7-year-old grandson. My daughter-in-law had in vitro fertil-



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

from his parents as soon as he can understand. Also, at some point, your grandson is entitled to have his genetic information. If you want to help your son and daughter-in-law with this process, suggest they contact Resolve (resolve.org) at 1-888-623-0744.

Dear Sarah: Your answer to "One Foot Out the Door" was from outer space. If my husband brought in an extra \$6,000 by donating sperm or anything else, I'd throw a party.

We went through a tough financial time a few years ago, so I donated blood. I didn't make \$6,000, but I did make enough to buy groceries, Christmas presents and treat myself twice to a spa day. No, I did not tell my husband about it. I don't bother him for every detail of his life, and I don't tell him every detail of mine. You should have told "One Foot" to get over it. -- Sarah

Dear Sarah: You were short of money so you treated yourself to a spa day? Twice? They don't pay for blood anymore, but we think when someone is donating bodily fluids and fathering children, the spouse should be aware of it.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2008 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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#29 Val Verde

Sisters, 6 and 8 years old, await heart transplants

By JAMIE STENGLE

Associated Press Writer

BOYD — Natalie Van Noy is still trying to digest the news that both of her active, seemingly healthy daughters — ages 6 and 8 — have deadly heart conditions and the only treatment is transplants.

"I honestly don't think it's fully settled in with me or even hit me yet," Van Noy says, as her two petite blonde girls bounce around the living room.

Shayde Smith, 8, and Emily Smith, 6, have both been diagnosed with restrictive cardiomyopathy. With the condition, their hearts don't relax like they should between pumps, so they don't properly fill with blood.

Without a transplant, the girls' chances of surviving the next two years are 50-50, said Dr. Aliessa Barnes, one of the girls' pediatric cardiologists at Children's Medical Center Dallas, where they will undergo transplants.

She said that the condition could cause a blood clot or sudden cardiac death.

Now the family waits. Van Noy's cell phone is always within reach and she wears a pager on her hip.

She's awaiting the call she hopes comes soon, telling her a heart is available for one of the girls.

Then they'll make the hour-plus drive from their home nestled in the woods northwest of Fort Worth to the downtown Dallas hospital.

Emily and Shayde have decided what they want to throw into a bag when their turns finally come: stuffed animals, coloring books and favorite blankets — a pink blanket adorned with princesses for Emily and a pink leopard print blanket for Shayde.

While it isn't rare for siblings to need transplants, it is uncommon that they would need them at the same time, said Pam Silvestri, a spokeswoman for Southwest Transplant Alliance, one of 59 organ

donation agencies across the country that provide organs to transplant hospitals.

"It's usually years in between," she said, noting that genetic illnesses can often mean siblings would both need some kind of transplant.

While the girls' condition seems to run in families, it hasn't yet been proven to be genetic, Barnes said.

And, she said, the condition itself is rare, striking less than one person in a million.

Barnes said that they don't know what caused the girls' restrictive cardiomyopathy. Their mother said there is no history of the condition in her family or the family of the girls' father. The girls' 2-year-old half brother has a normal heart.

The first inkling that something might be wrong came last August, Van Noy, 30, said, when a doctor discovered that Shayde had a heart murmur. She was referred to a cardiologist, who Van Noy said mentioned restrictive cardiomyopathy as a possibility late last year and suggested Shayde return in several months to be re-examined.

Then in February, Van Noy took Emily, who had been suffering from the flu and a persistent fever, to a local emergency room. The doctor said Emily's heart was enlarged, and said she needed to be checked out by her pediatrician, who told Van Noy that Emily also needed to see a cardiologist.

But on the ride home from the pediatrician's office in February, Emily's lips and fingers turned blue. Van Noy headed directly to Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth, where Emily was diagnosed with restrictive cardiomyopathy.

Van Noy immediately mentioned that her older daughter had been seeing a cardiologist who had mentioned the same condition. Van Noy said that after looking at Shayde's files, doctors confirmed

she, too, had the condition.

So both girls were sent to Children's Medical Center Dallas for evaluation and on April 3, both were put on the transplant list.

Emily is a higher priority for transplant than Shayde since she's has more symptoms. Because of their sizes, they are eligible for different sized hearts.

Emily's heart will be from a toddler to a small girl and Shayde could take a heart from a small girl to a thin teen or small woman.

Shayde said a procedure in which she was put under anesthesia to check the blood pressure in different chambers of her heart made her a bit less scared of the upcoming surgery.

"I'm not as nervous as I was after the catheter," said the third-grader.

Emily, who has wheezing spells and whose lips, toes and fingertips turn blue when she gets too cold, says she's looking forward to being able to be active in sports again. Barnes said that Emily has lost weight as the calories she consumes go to make her heart work.

"I want to play soccer again," said the kindergartner.

After surgery, the girls are expected to be in the hospital for a week or two and then spend three months confined to their home.

"I'd prefer to get one back recuperated before I get the other one started, but we don't have a choice," said Van Noy, a hair stylist currently on medical leave.

She said that she wants to wait a week after the first girl is transplanted before letting her sister see her so she won't be scared by the tubes.

Van Noy said that week will be the longest the two — who share a toy-filled bedroom with alternating pink and purple walls — have been separated. "I think it'll be hard on both of them," she said.

A decision was made to keep the colorful character. As a buddy for another jay that could not be released, it not only would provide company, but the two permanent residents would be mentors to nestlings in the future.

Teaching future blue jays, our protégé could make sure that jays released to the wild might be destined to be a cat's worst enemy.



AP photo/Amy Conn-Gutierrez

Shayde Smith, 8, left, and her sister Emily, 6, snuggle during a check-up with their pediatric cardiologist at Children's Medical Center in Dallas. Both sisters have been diagnosed with restrictive cardiomyopathy and their doctors say that without a transplant, the girls' chances of surviving the next two years are 50-50.

Van Noy said that they've talked about the surgeries, and how the hearts will come from people who died.

The girls have also talked to a psychologist and Van Noy said she suspects the sisters also have talked to each other about what they are going through.

Silvestri said that 25,000 to 30,000 people a year get the transplants they need. Another 6,000 people each year die waiting for transplants.

"I think that we're all really hopeful that we can get a heart in the next few months," Barnes said.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Sylvia Does It Again

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 7 6
♥ J 4
♦ 10 8 3
♣ A Q J 7 6

WEST
♠ Q 4 3
♥ A 10 9 8 7 5
♦ 4 2
♣ 8 2

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

SOUTH
♠ K 8 5
♥ Q 6 2
♦ A K Q 5
♣ 10 9 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1♦ 1♥ 2♣ Pass

2NT Pass 3NT Dble

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

This was one of the more memorable hands Sylvia had in her early jousts with the experts at the club. Nobody could quite figure out how Sylvia's thought processes worked on this deal. Then again, it was always difficult to find rhyme or reason in her bids and plays, although she always seemed to be trying hard to play as well as she could.

On this occasion, East doubled three notrump after his partner had

overcalled with one heart. He based the double not so much on West's bid as he did on the expectation that Sylvia (South) would mangle the play. She had been known to do this before, and East, a great psychologist, thought she might do so again.

But he did not reckon correctly on this day. West led the ten of hearts, dummy played low, and East properly ducked. East reasoned that if Sylvia had the queen and she took the first trick with it, then, when he later obtained the lead with a club, West's heart suit could be run.

East was certainly right, because if he had played the king and returned a heart, it would have been impossible to stop the contract. Sylvia would have made four notrump after losing the club finesse.

But Sylvia had had many irate partners hammer into her on previous occasions the importance in notrump of not taking the first trick in a suit where she had only one stopper. So Sylvia ducked the ten of hearts instead of taking the queen! Had she taken the queen, she would eventually have gone down two.

But the odd effect of her extraordinary play was that she could no longer be stopped from making nine tricks regardless of how the defenders continued!

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BLUE JAY

Continued from Page 5A

Changing its water and food dishes became a daily battle. Harsh screams were common, and the longer it stayed, I questioned anyone ever wanting one as a pet. Perhaps it was only practicing the ear-piercing cries to prepare itself for release.

After holding it for more than a month, the director of the wildlife center in Lubbock decided the injury to the jay's wing was permanent. Although it could elevate to lower perches in an aviary, the bird was not accomplished in the flight necessary for living in the wild. It would never have the ability to dive-bomb and peck squirrels, cats, even humans in defense of its young.

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5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Simpsons King-Hill	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Raymond	Scrivner Uri Harel	News Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Movie: Look Who's Talking	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Life De Life De		SportsCenter
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	Simpsons Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazonas	News NBC	Raymond Dr. Young	Uri Harel News-Lehrer	News Business	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	The Boot	Movie: Pixel Perfect	NASCAR Burning Interrupt	NFL Live	
7 :PM	Gordon Keith Show	Billy Graham Special	Diablo-Guapos	Moment-Truth	NCIS	La Traicion	Moments Fam. Guy	Israel Victory	Nova (DVS)	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Big, Robert Loggia	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: Paper Soldiers, Damon Dash	Wizards Montana Suite Life	College Softball: NCAA Tour. Championship	Series of Poker	
8 :PM	Samantha Samantha	Samantha Samantha	Fuego en la Sangre	Hell's Kitchen	48 Hours Mystery	Victoria	Law & Order: SVU	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Prince Among	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Iron Ring	Wizards Life De	WNBA Basketball: Mystics at Mercury	Series of Poker	
9 :PM	Boston Legal	Boston Legal	Aqui y Ahora	TMZ	Without a Trace	Pecados Ajenos	Law & Order: SVU	Office	Office	Independent Lens	Alaska Exper.	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	Movie: WarGames, Ally Sheedy	Wizards Life De	WNBA Basketball: Mystics at Mercury	Baseball Tonight	
10 :PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Two Men Raymond	News CBS	Noticias Titulares	News NBC	Sex & Miller	Israel	Charlie Rose	Deadliest Catch	CSI: NY	Cold Case	The Boot Hell Date	Suite Life Montana So Raven	Baseball	SportsCenter	
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Movie: Black Sheep	Ministerio-Vida	Smiley Smiley	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Crime Scn	Without a Trace	Movie: Beef	Phil	Salsa Champ.	Baseball SportsCenter		
12 :AM	News	News	Niña Amada Mia	RENO 911 Lopez	Insider	Programa Pagado	News	(.45) Movie: Blankman, Robin Givens	Church	Deadliest Catch	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace	Deep Space 9	Without a Trace	Emperor Dragon	College Softball: NCAA	SportsCenter	
1 :AM	Teach Me Paid	Teach Me Paid	Humor	King-Hill Paid	Entertain	Pelicula: La	Poker After Dark			Alaska Exper.	Movie: Force							

DENNIS THE MENACE

"Hi, Mom. We got rained in."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"Let's sell tickets for rides on Daddy's chair!"

HAGAR

ALWAYS REMEMBER THIS, LUCKY EDDIE...
THE FIRST RULE IN BATTLE IS: "NEVER RETREAT!"

BC

HEY!
ALL RIGHT, WHO'S DOIN' THE WHISTLING?
IT WAS ME. YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT?
JUST TAKE THE COMPLIMENT.

BLONDIE

I'VE BEEN GOING CRAZY AT WORK LATELY!
Oh, I know exactly what you mean...
Every day my lazy, incompetent office manager pulls one dumb stunt after another!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO RELAX IN YOUR INTERNET CHAT ROOM FOR A WHILE
NOPE, TOO MANY WEIRDOS OUT THERE

WIZARD OF ID

HOW'S BUSINESS?
LOUSY
ROTTEN TOMATOES
THE KING HASN'T GIVEN A SPEECH IN WEEKS

AGNES

SO... IS TODAY THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL?
AGNES, YOU ASK ME THAT EVERY DAY!
TRUST ME, WHEN YOU EVENTUALLY SAY YES, MY MANIC DISPLAY OF ELATED JOY WILL BE WORTH YOUR TROUBLE.
TRUE ELATED JOY NEEDS SURPRISE!
YOU JUST STEPPED IN DEAD SQUIRREL. ENJOY YOUR ELATION.

HI AND LOIS

HOW OLD DOES A CAR HAVE TO BE TO BE CALLED AN "ANTIQUE"?
20 YEARS
UNTIL THEN IT'S JUST A "CLUNKER"

THE OTHER COAST

I JUST BOUGHT AN ELECTRONIC PICTURE FRAME TO DISPLAY ALL MY FAMILY PHOTOS.
I HOPE IT'S GOT ENOUGH MEMORY TO DISPLAY MY ENTIRE FAMILY.
I THINK IT CHOKED ON THAT PHOTO OF OBESE UNCLE BOB IN A BATHING SUIT.

SNUFFY SMITH

I'M SORRY YOU AN' ROY BROKE UP, SUKI, BUT THAR'S PLENTY OF FISH IN TH' SEA !!
I KNOW... THAT WUZ TH' PROBLEM !!
ROY COULDN'T RESIST CASTIN' HIS LINE AT EV'RYTHIN' THAT WIGGLED !!

BEEBLE BAILEY

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN TROUBLE WITH THE GENERAL.
I KNOW, I'M TRYING TO RALLY SOME SUPPORT FROM THE TROOPS.
WE LOVE SARGE

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, June 3, the 155th day of 2008. There are 211 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
Two hundred years ago, on June 3, 1808, Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America, was born in Christian County, Ky.

On this date:
In 1621, the Dutch West India Company received its charter for a trade monopoly in parts of the Americas and Africa.
In 1888, the poem "Casey at the Bat," by Ernest Lawrence Thayer, was first published, in the San Francisco Daily Examiner.
In 1935, the French liner Normandie set a record on its maiden voyage, arriving in New York after crossing the Atlantic in just four days.
In 1937, the Duke of Windsor, who had abdicated the British throne, married Wallis Warfield Simpson in Monts, France.
In 1948, the 200-inch reflecting Hale Telescope at the Palomar

Mountain Observatory in California was dedicated.
In 1963, Pope John XXIII died at age 81; he was succeeded by Pope Paul VI.
In 1965, astronaut Edward White became the first American to "walk" in space, during the flight of Gemini 4.
In 1968, pop artist Andy Warhol was shot and critically wounded in his New York film studio, known as "The Factory," by Valerie Solanas, an actress and self-styled militant feminist.
In 1983, Gordon Kahl, a militant tax protester wanted in the slayings of two U.S. marshals in North Dakota, was killed in a gun battle with law enforcement officials near Smithville, Ark.
In 1989, Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, died.
Ten years ago: President Clinton urged Congress to renew normal trade benefits for China, saying good relations with Beijing were crucial amid fears of a nuclear arms race in South Asia.
Five years ago: World leaders closed out a summit in Evian, France, by pledging to rebuild Iraq and combat the threat of nuclear weapons in Iran and North Korea.
Today's Birthdays: Actor Tony Curtis is 83. TV producer Chuck

Barris is 79. Actress Irma P. Hall is 73. Author Larry McMurtry is 72. Rock singer Ian Hunter (Mott The Hoople) is 69. Singer Eddie Holman is 62. Musician Too Slim (Riders in the Sky) is 60. Singer Suzi Quatro is 58. Singer Deneice Williams is 57. Rock musician Billy Powell (Lynyrd Skynyrd) is 56. Singer Dan Hill is 54. Actor Scott Valentine is 50. Rock musician Kerry King (Slayer) is 44. CNN host Anderson Cooper is 41. Country singer Jamie O'Neal is 40. Singers Gabriel and Ariel Hernandez (No Mercy) are 37. Actress-singer Lalaine ("Lizzie McGuire") is 21.

Thought for Today: "Never be haughty to the humble; never be humble to the haughty." — Jefferson Davis, Confederate president (1808-1889).

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Newsday Crossword

READY, SET, ... by Catherine S. Martin
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Nevada city
- 5 Treaties
- 10 Freeway exit
- 14 La Scala song
- 15 Sign up
- 16 Margarine
- 17 Pre-vacation ritual
- 20 "For shame!"
- 21 All Things Considered network
- 22 Charges toward
- 23 Remain
- 24 Long, long ___
- 25 Soft shade
- 28 Slightly
- 29 Syrup ingredient
- 32 Poe's middle name
- 33 Burden
- 34 Farm storage building
- 35 Pre-vacation ritual
- 38 Unaccompanied
- 39 Loch ___ monster
- 40 River-flood barrier
- 41 Frequently, in poems
- 42 "Can you say that again?"
- 43 Indy 500 competitors
- 44 Garment border
- 45 Indy 500 circuits
- 46 Nanny from overseas
- 50 Beast of burden
- 51 Chatter
- 54 Pre-vacation ritual
- 58 Cabbage variety

DOWN

- 1 Fully attentive
- 2 Historical periods
- 3 Shaving mishap
- 4 Furniture wood
- 5 Letter-writing friend from far away
- 6 Irate
- 7 Shout out
- 8 Also
- 9 Moving slowly
- 10 After-bath wear
- 11 "That's a shame!"
- 12 Prefix meaning "million"
- 13 Fence stake
- 18 Have in mind
- 19 Underground plant part
- 23 Long look
- 24 Bumps up against
- 25 Painter Picasso
- 26 Standoffish
- 27 Point of view
- 28 Uneasy feeling
- 29 Colander kin
- 30 Make changes to
- 31 Prepares to be photographed
- 33 Hour after midnight
- 34 Eyeglasses, for short
- 36 Obtains as a legacy
- 37 Go by
- 42 Use an eggbeater
- 43 Poison-ivy symptoms
- 45 Coffeehouse order
- 46 Requests
- 47 Wyoming neighbor
- 48 Warsaw resident
- 49 Imitated
- 51 Walking pace
- 52 Office assistant
- 53 Erupted
- 55 Gun owners' org.
- 56 Musician's job
- 57 Bride's title: Abbr.

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News in brief

Man charged for shooting teen who crossed yard

DALLAS (AP) — A Kaufman County man has been charged for the shooting of a teenager who was walking across his yard with a friend and whose mother was killed in a wreck while driving the teen to the hospital. W.C. Frosch, 74, was indicted last week on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. The felony is punishable by two to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Frosch was in his home March 1 when he shot Brandon Robinson through a window, striking the 15-year-old under his left arm. Frosch said he believed Brandon and Devin Nalls, 16, were going to break into his home.

The teenagers told officers they had been cutting across the yard to go to a property on one side of Frosch's. They ran back to Devin's home, next to Frosch's property, after the shooting.

Devin's mother, June Nalls, 41, was driving them to the hospital when another vehicle crossed the center line and struck the truck they were in head-on, police said. June Nalls was killed; her son Devin and Brandon survived.

Police arrested Agustin Renteria, 27, of Kaufman, on a charge of failure to stop and render aid. Other charges

were pending blood alcohol test results.

At the time of the shooting, Kaufman County authorities declined to file charges against Frosch and cited the "Castle Doctrine." The law allows residents to use deadly force to protect their property in some situations.

"Self-defense claims are weighed on a case-by-case basis, based on the facts," Kaufman County District Attorney Rick Harrison said Monday. "We decided to take it to the grand jury, and they indicted him."

Two dozen prison gang members indicted with drug smuggling

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities have been rounding up members of a little-known prison gang charged with running a ring that smuggled cocaine and millions of dollars between Mexico and Texas.

A federal indictment accuses 24 members and associates of Los Hermanos de Pistoleros Latinos — a gang with ties to Mexico's major drug-trafficking cartels — of sneaking drugs and money among Mexico, Laredo and Houston.

During a series of raids Friday, officials arrested 21 people. Agents were searching throughout South Texas for three men who remained at large late Monday.

Authorities were searching for Eric Lee Rodriguez, 36,

who is believed to be near Corpus Christi; Terrance Dale Robinson, 40, who is believed to be in Houston and Juan Manuel Hernandez, 33, who lived in Houston.

Members of the gang are known to have life-size tattoos of handguns on their waists, resembling a weapon sticking out of their pants, officials said.

Dallas DA's staff asked for prizes from area businesses

DALLAS (AP) — Watchdog groups have questions about prizes sponsored by major companies and a defense attorney for staff of the Dallas District Attorney's Office, a Dallas television station reported.

The gifts included luxury suite tickets to a Cowboy's game, round trip flight tickets to anywhere in the U.S. from American Airlines, several hundred dollars worth of gift cards and other items, KDFW-TV reported Monday night.

Members of the district attorney's staff asked for the gifts, which were given away at a staff party thrown for Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins' first Christmas in office, the television station said.

"I think it raises serious questions," said Craig McDonald, executive director of Texans for Public Justice.

Families separated by raid on sect are reunited

By MICHELLE ROBERTS
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANGELO — More than 400 children taken from a polygamist sect's ranch two months ago began returning to the arms of their tearful parents Monday, hours after a judge bowed to a state Supreme Court ruling that the seizure was not justified.

"It's just a great day," said Nancy Dockstader, whose chin quivered and eyes filled with tears as she embraced her 9-year-old daughter, Amy, outside a foster-care center in Gonzales, about 65 miles east of San Antonio. "We're so grateful."

Amid the joy, a church elder announced a shift in sect policy aimed at keeping such a seizure from ever happening again: Future marriages would only involve sect members who were of legal age.

"The church will counsel families that they neither request nor consent to any underage marriages," said elder Willie Jessop, reading from a statement at the ranch in Eldorado.

Jessop said the church has been widely misunderstood and insisted marriages within the church have always been consensual.

He would not say whether marriages of underage minors had taken place in the past but said the sect as a whole should not be punished for the misdeeds of a few.

Roughly 430 children were ordered released after two months in state custody, much of it spent in foster care centers. Because siblings were separated at facilities hun-

dreds of miles apart, it will probably take several days for all the families to be reunited.

By Monday's end, 129 children were returned to their parents.

Judge Barbara Walther responded to a state Supreme Court ruling last week by signing an order that cleared the children to be released from foster care. Walther allowed parents to begin picking up their children Monday, ending one of the nation's largest child-custody cases.

Dockstader and her husband, James, were headed to Corpus Christi and to Amarillo to pick up their other children. "We'll get the rest of them," said Dockstader, who was clad in a teal prairie dress and clinging to Amy, who wore a matching dress.

Walther's order requires the parents to stay in Texas, to attend parenting classes and to allow the children to be examined as part of any abuse investigation.

But it does not put restrictions on the children's fathers, require that the parents renounce polygamy or force them to leave the Yearning For Zion Ranch run by the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Child Protective Services removed all the children from the ranch after an April 3 raid prompted by calls to a domestic abuse hot line that purportedly came from a 16-year-old

mother who was being abused by her middle-age husband. The calls are now being investigated as a hoax, but authorities contended all the children were at risk because church teachings pushed underage girls into marriage and sex.

The church has denied any children were abused, and members have said they are being persecuted for their religion, which believes polygamy brings glorification in heaven.

Marleigh Meisner, a spokeswoman for the child-protection agency, said authorities still have concerns about the children's safety, and the investigation into possible abuse would continue.

The Supreme Court on Thursday affirmed an appeals court ruling that reversed Walther's decision in April putting all children from the ranch into foster care.

The high court and the appeals court rejected the state's argument that all the children were in immediate danger from what it said was sexual abuse of teenage girls at the ranch.

The Third Court of Appeals ruled that the state failed to show that any more than five of the teenage girls were being sexually abused, and had offered no evidence of sexual or physical abuse against the other children.

Half the children sent to foster care were no older than 5.

All the children, includ-

ing any underage mothers, will be allowed to go back to their parents, though it's possible some children's attorneys or child-protection officials could pursue further action in individual cases.

It's not clear how many might return to the ranch right away. Many of the parents have purchased or rented homes in Amarillo, San Antonio and other places around the state.

Rod Parker, a spokesman for the FLDS church, said some of the attorneys have advised parents to stay away from the ranch for now, but most families want to return so the children can continue the education they were getting at the sect's schoolhouse before the raid.

Walther's order does not end a separate criminal investigation. Texas authorities last week collected DNA from jailed FLDS prophet Warren Jeffs as part of investigation into underage sex with girls, ages 12 to 15.

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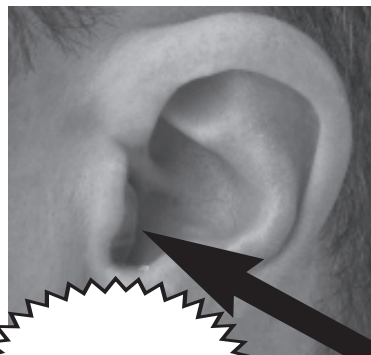
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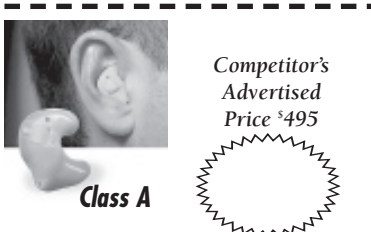
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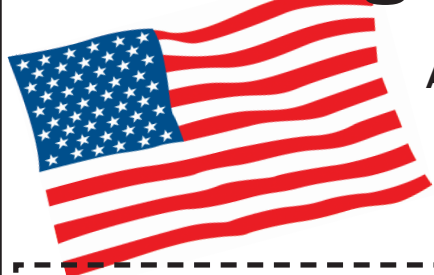
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News in brief

Long Democratic primary season ending with Obama poised to win

CHICAGO (AP) — Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton heaved toward the finish line in their exhaustive Democratic presidential odyssey with Obama poised to claim victory and Clinton facing the prospects of having to abandon a quest that once seemed a sure shot but became one of long odds.

And although Tuesday's primary-season ending contests in South Dakota and Montana won't decide the Democratic nomination, the closing of the polls could open the floodgates to dozens of superdelegates — members of Congress and other party leaders — long anxious to throw their support to Obama.

That could decide the nomination in a matter of days.

"Once the last votes are cast, then it's in everybody's interest to resolve this quickly so we can pivot. We're less than three months away from our convention. So we've got a lot of work to do in terms of bringing the party together," the Illinois senator said in an interview with The Associated Press on Monday as he campaigned in Michigan, a general-election battleground.

Gen. McKiernan takes over NATO command in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The American general who led the ground invasion of Iraq took command of the 40-nation NATO-led campaign in Afghanistan on Tuesday.

Army Gen. David D. McKiernan took charge of the 51,000-member International Security Assistance Force from Gen. Dan McNeill, who will retire from the U.S. Army after 40 years.

Addressing a change of command ceremony Tuesday, McKiernan said he was "honored to walk alongside our Afghan brothers."

"While today marks a transition in commanders, the mission must continue without missing a beat," he said, listing security, reconstruction and development as the types of support that Afghanistan deserves. "Insurgents, foreign fighters, criminals and others who stand in the way of that mission will be dealt with."

Afghan President Hamid Karzai welcomed McKiernan to the country.

Sen. Kennedy faces recovery at Duke before returning to Massachusetts for chemo

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy was recovering Tuesday at Duke University Medical Center, a day after undergoing risky surgery that experts said was designed to reduce his brain tumor and give chemotherapy and

radiation treatments a chance to work.

The 76-year-old senator was expected to stay at the North Carolina facility for about a week before returning home to Massachusetts for further treatment.

In the following days, Kennedy will probably be given drugs to prevent brain swelling and seizures, which are possible complications of the surgery. The senator will also be closely watched for bleeding and blood clots, because strokes are also a risk, though they are uncommon.

"After a brief recuperation, he will begin targeted radiation at Massachusetts General Hospital and chemotherapy treatment," his doctor, Dr. Allan Friedman, said in a statement following Monday's procedure. "I hope that everyone will join us in praying for Sen. Kennedy to have an uneventful and robust recovery."

Doctors gave few details about the surgery, and did not say how much was removed. The procedure lasted about 3½ hours, and when he emerged, a family spokeswoman said he told his wife, Vicki, that he felt "like a million bucks."

Astronauts get ready for first spacewalk and installation of space station lab

HOUSTON (AP) — Shuttle Discovery's astronauts geared up for the first spacewalk of their mission Tuesday and the installation of Japan's giant lab to the international space station.

The two spacecraft linked up Monday, and the 10 space travelers immediately got ready to tackle their first big job.

Discovery's designated spacewalkers, Michael Fossum and Ronald Garan Jr., will prep the \$1 billion lab, named Kibo — Japanese for hope — for installation. Later in the day, astronauts working from inside will use a robot arm to lift the bus-size lab from the shuttle and anchor it to the station.

Kibo, at 37 feet long, is bigger than the U.S. and European labs already attached to the space station.

The spacewalkers also will try out some cleaning methods on a jammed solar rotating joint that has hampered energy production at the space station since last fall, and help remove a 50-foot inspection boom from the orbiting complex.

Chinese police drag grieving parents from protest over schools that collapsed in quake

DUJIANGYAN, China (AP) — Chinese police dragged away more than 100 parents Tuesday while they were protesting the deaths of their children in poorly constructed schools that collapsed in last month's earthquake.

The parents, many holding pictures of their dead children, were pulled down

the street away from a courthouse in Dujiangyan, a resort city northwest of the Sichuan provincial capital of Chengdu.

"Why?" some of them yelled. "Tell us something," they said as black-suited police wearing riot helmets yanked at them.

The parents had been kneeling in front of the courthouse yelling, "We want to sue." Their children attended a high school in Juyuan, near Dujiangyan, where 270 students died.

Police dragged an Associated Press reporter and two photographers who were covering the protest up the steps into the courthouse, trying to prevent them from seeing the demonstration.

UN summit to address food prices pumped up by biofuels, farm policies, speculation

ROME (AP) — World leaders meeting at a U.N. summit Tuesday will try to figure out how to head off skyrocketing food prices before millions more join the multitudes across the globe who already lack enough to eat.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon plans to urge the immediate suspension or elimination of many price controls and such agricultural trade restrictions as export bans and import tariffs to try to bring down soaring food prices, U.N. officials said Monday.

The Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization is hosting the three-day summit as food prices have risen 83 percent in the last three years, according to World Bank calculations, leading to widening malnutrition and civil unrest in several countries.

Price speculation, the increasing diversion of food and animal feed to produce biofuel, and sharply higher fuel costs have helped to shoot prices upward, experts say.

The United Nations is encouraging summit participants to start undoing a decades-long legacy of agricultural and trade policies that many blame for the

failure of small farmers in poor countries to feed their own people.

Under fire at home, Israel's Olmert opens 3-day trip to U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, embattled politically at home, was assured a proper reception from President Bush and other U.S. officials in what could be his last trip to Washington as Israel's leader.

He planned to discuss Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts and the Iranian nuclear threat with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Bush and will address the pro-Israel lobbying group AIPAC during a three-day visit.

Israeli newspapers have reported that Olmert also hopes to acquire a sophisticated U.S. missile defense system, advanced radar and new warplanes.

But the visit is being overshadowed by Olmert's legal troubles at home, where a corruption investigation has decimated his popularity ratings and fueled growing calls for his dismissal.

The normally talkative Israeli leader did not emerge from his private quarters to speak to reporters during an overnight flight from Israel, arriving in Washington a couple of hours before dawn Tuesday.

Spokesman says Grammer had 'mild' heart attack in Hawaii

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A spokesman for Kelsey Grammer says the "Frasier" star is recovering in a Hawaii hospital after a mild heart attack this weekend. Stan Rosenfield says Grammer is "resting comfortably" in an undisclosed hospital after being stricken Saturday. Rosenfield says the 53-year-old actor will be released early this week.

Rosenfield says Grammer — the star of "Cheers," "Frasier" and the recently canceled Fox sitcom "Back to You" — was paddle-boarding with his wife, Camille, when he experienced symptoms.

The couple lives in Kona, on Hawaii's big island.



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