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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY
JUNE 30, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 181

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No ban; fireworks go on sale Tuesday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

County residents looking to purchase fireworks in preparation for the July 4 holiday will have to wait until Tuesday, as county officials and retailers reached an accord this

week in hopes of staving off fires related to the holiday staple.

"Mr. TNT and Mr. W, both local fireworks retailers, have agreed to postpone the sale of any fireworks until tomorrow," said Howard County Judge Mark Barr early this morning. "It's

the same agreement they have arrived at with counties down near the Austin area that are in the same sort of predicament we're in."

The dilemma Howard County faces is the threat of wildfires caused by errant aerial fire-

works, according to Barr, a problem he and county commissioners have attempted to stamp out with firework bans and restrictions over the past several weeks.

Having already signed a ban on all fireworks until July 5

into effect, state emergency management officials failed to back the county commissioners' decision, leaving Barr to negotiate with the vendors.

And while the agreement will See **FIREWORKS**, Page 3



HERALD photos/Jonathan Hull and Alex Newsom

The 2008 Knockout Battle of the Bands took place Saturday night at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. (Above) Zach Campbell, formerly of Big Spring, performs with his band Barabbas of Waco, who won the competition. (Top right) Brandon Tant of headlining band Crimson Soul performs as bandmate Cody Carnes (right) plays the keyboard.

Latino exhibit to open Tuesday

By **ALEX NEWSOM**
Herald Intern

The first traveling exhibit to visit Hanger 25 Air Museum — Images of Valor: U.S. Latinos and Latinas of WWII — goes on display Tuesday.

The exhibit will be up through July 29.

Admission is free, and hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. The exhibit will consist of 12 displays of pictures and text of oral histories of Latinos and Latinas of Texas and will be out in the hanger around the planes.

See **EXHIBIT**, Page 3A



Exhibit photo

Joe Bernal at age 17 in Salinas, Calif., on Sept. 1, 1945. Courtesy of the U.S. Latino & Latina World War II Oral History Project.

Binders to replace lockers at junior high

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Student lockers and backpacks are about to go the way of the dinosaur at Big Spring Junior High — and textbooks will become an endangered species on campus, as well.

Starting with the 2008-2009 school year, BSJH will institute a policy eliminating the use of lockers and backpacks on campus. Instead, students will carry all their assignments and supplies in a zippered binder, Principal Coby Norman said.

The new policy is the latest step several officials are taking in order to increase student academic performance, Norman said.

"We've been looking at the reasons students don't do their homework ... and one of the biggest reasons

"We've been looking at the reasons students don't do their homework ... and one of the biggest reasons was they 'left their books in their locker.'"

—Coby Norman, junior high principal

was they 'left their books in their locker,'" Norman said.

To correct that, lockers will no longer be used, he said.

Textbooks will still be issued, but students will be told to take them home and leave them there. And, instead of lugging backpacks around all day, students will instead have binders containing their homework assignments, lesson plans and supplies.

"Everything the students need will be in those binders," Norman said.

Cost of the binders is See **LOCKERS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Dorothy Rhoton Hamilton



Dorothy Rhoton Hamilton, 91, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2008, at her residence in Magnolia Court Assisted Living Center, located in Granbury.

Dorothy was born to David A. Rhoton and Frances Melissa Robinson Nov. 4, 1916. The Rhotons were early settlers and ranchers of Big Spring in Howard County.

She received a bachelor of arts degree from Texas Wesleyan College and began her career as a bookkeeper in West Texas. In 1945, she married John Paul Hamilton of Dublin, Texas. Together, they operated the Hamilton Feed Mill of Dublin until their retirement. To this union four children were born. Dorothy was a devoted homemaker and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, five sisters and her husband of 52 years.

Survivors:

Children: Sharon Richardson and husband Charles, Dr. Tom Hamilton and wife Martha, Martha Jordan and husband Paul, and Paula Yarborough and husband Martin.

Grandchildren: Whitney Ragsdale and husband Bo, Melissa Haas and husband Glen, Sarah Hamm and husband Lee, Leslie Jordan, and Taylor Yarborough.

Great-granddaughter: Finley Ragsdale.

Brother-in-law: Robert Hamilton and wife LaNell.

The funeral is scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday at Dublin First Baptist Church in Dublin. Burial to follow in the Dublin Liveoak Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Monday from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Harrell Funeral Home in Dublin.

Gifts in her memory may be made to the Dublin Liveoak Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 123, Dublin 76446.

Paid obituary

Wayne Johnson

Wayne Johnson, 73, of Big Spring died Sunday, June 29, 2008, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity:

- TRAUMA was reported at Alamesa and Adams on Friday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 400 block of E. 4 on Friday, and service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson on Friday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of Fordham on Friday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Aylsford on Friday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of W. Highway 87 on Friday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported at I-20 and Midway Road on Friday, and service was refused.
- GRASS FIRE was reported on Golf Course Road, but it was a false alarm.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported in the 4100 block of E. FM 700 on Friday, but it was out on arrival.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of Morrison on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of N. Birdwell on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87 on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the Coahoma baseball fields on Saturday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson on Saturday, and service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Wallace on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported at 23rd and Scurry on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported at 4th and Gregg on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5700 block of Cedar on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Sycamore on Sunday, and service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80 on Sunday, and service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster on Sunday, and one person was transported to SMMC.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- ROBERT SANCHEZ, 44, of 429 Westover, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- ANGEL GARZA, 24, of 3504 Washington, was arrested on charges of driving while license invalid (DWI related) and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- JUAN GARZA, 44, of 108 Lockhart, was arrested on charges of animal at large and public intoxication.
- FRANK JACKSON, no age given, 202 E. 24, was arrested on a charge of hindering officers.
- EDRION HOUSTON, of 18, 2507 Albrook, was arrested on charges of evading arrest and deadly conduct - discharge of a firearm.
- CHRISTIAN GORDON, 18, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested on charges of evading arrest and deadly conduct - discharge of a firearm.
- TERRANCE YOUNG, 19, of 109 NE 10, was arrested on charges of evading arrest and deadly conduct - discharge of a firearm.
- JAY BILLINGSLEY, 42, of 1005 Nolan, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid (DWI related).
- JACQUELYN BROWN, 27, of 1203 Todd, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- LETICIA CANTU, 32, of 5318 Opal, was arrested on a local warrant.
- BRANDI NEUSER, 33, of 1429 E 6, was arrested on four local warrants.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 1200 block of Lloyd.
- BURGLARY OF VEHICLE was reported in the 800 block of Third Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was reported in the 600 block of Main.
- DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson.
- FOUND PROPERTY was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willia.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 68 inmates at the time of this report.
- REUBEN CURTIS INGRAM, 24, was arrested Friday on a judgement/sentence for a second offense of driving while intoxicated.
 - WILLIAM HENRY SCOTT, JR., 43, was arrested Friday on charges of failure to identify and violating a court order from Orange County.
 - FREDERICO VASQUEZ, 47, was arrested Friday on a charge of failure to appear.
 - NATHAN HENRY BAKER, 53, was arrested Friday on a charge of violation of parole.
 - LARRY DALE HARDING, 30, was arrested by the DPS Saturday on a charge of miscellaneous Class C public intoxication.
 - JEFF CADE, 22, was arrested by the DPS Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
 - JUSTIN LOUIS JOHNSON, 22, was arrested Saturday on a charge of miscellaneous Class C public intoxication.
 - ANDRE DEJUAN DUGAS, 28, was transferred by the BSPD Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
 - ACE LEE NIETO, 17, was transferred by the BSPD Saturday on a charge of racing on the highway.
 - EMETERIO MILTON LOZANO, 31, was transferred by the BSPD Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
 - BRADY CORDIERO, 21, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
 - CESAR CORDEIRO, 43, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.
 - JAY LEE BILLINGSLEY, 42, was transferred by the BSPD Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid-DWI related.
 - ANGEL GARZA, 24, was transferred by the BSPD Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid-DWI related.
 - MELISSA DAWN PENA, 27, was arrested Sunday on a charge of an issuance of a bad check.
 - TERRENCE A. YOUNG, 19, was arrested Sunday on charges of evading arrest and deadly conduct.
 - CHRISTIAN DAVON GORDON, 18, was arrested Sunday on charges of evading arrested and deadly conduct.

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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

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- 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.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

Lottery

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
2-7-5. Sum It Up: 14

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
0-2-3-0. Sum It Up: 5

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 3-18-29-31-35.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$28,180.
Winning tickets sold in: Fort Worth.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

•The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 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.

Correction

In Wednesday's edition of the *Herald*, it was reported that Ronald Lee Simonek, 53, of 3611 Hamilton, was arrested on charges of driving while license invalid and driving while intoxicated. However, police records show that he was only arrested for DWLI.

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State Briefs

Documents, interviews show how sex ring was busted

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston bar owner controlled girls and women from Central America who were forced to take part in one of the nation's largest sex trafficking rings by threatening to kill their families, according to a newspaper report.

Recently obtained documents and interviews by the Houston Chronicle offer the first detailed account of how authorities in 2005 brought down the Houston-based sex trafficking ring.

The ring preyed on women and girls from Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala, illegally bringing them to Houston with false promises of legitimate work and then forcing them to work as prostitutes in cantinas to pay off smuggling fees and living expenses, according to court records and interviews with investigators.

The ring, run by Salvadoran immigrant Maximino "El Chimino" Mondragon, was based in at least three seemingly normal looking bars and restaurants in northwest Houston. Mondragon worked closely with lead smuggler Walter Corea, a convicted felon and illegal immigrant who conspired to bring women to Houston from Central America

Mondragon had run businesses in Houston for at least a decade, according to records and interviews with police and a labor activist who helped rescue cantina workers. To control the women, Mondragon kept "intelligence" on each one — the names of their mothers, brothers and children and locations of their homes and schools. Records show victims said he threatened to kill relatives or burn down family homes if they did not cooperate.

San Antonio looking to dip into solar pool

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — With record-high energy prices and a global energy crunch make life tough on those who depend on fossil fuel, San Antonio is starting to turn toward solar power.

CPS Energy has set a goal of producing 100 megawatts of solar energy by 2020, and the company plans to begin seeking suitors for a large solar plant in the next few months.

Meanwhile, Mayor Phil Hardberger wants to make the Alamo City tops in the state in solar production.

"I think we ought to stop just talking about and actually do this thing," Hardberger said in Sunday's editions of the San Antonio Express-News. "It's time to start building a solar plant."

Pearl Brewery has announced it will install solar panels capable of producing 200 kilowatts of power. The project will join other large local solar projects, including the hot water system on the Bexar County Jail annex and the photovoltaic array at CPS Energy's customer service center on San Pedro Avenue.

Day-care owner charged in injury to toddler

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A Brazos County home day-care owner is free on bail after being accused of causing a severe head injury to a toddler.

Dana Rene Munyon, 45, surrendered early Friday and posted \$25,000 bail. She was charged with injury to a child causing a serious bodily injury, a first-degree felony punishable by up to life in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

The district attorney's office declined to comment on the case, which is expected to go before a grand jury.

"This is too early for people to be judging the merits of this case," Munyon's attorney Craig Greaves said in the Bryan-College Station Eagle on Saturday. "It's very emotional, and I just hope people wait and hear all the facts before drawing a conclusion."

Court documents show that Tiffany Verzal left her 14-month-old daughter, Alexis, at Munyon's house on April 3. Thirty-five minutes later, Verzal said, she received a phone call from Munyon, saying "something had happened to Alexis. She went limp. I've called 911. I need you guys to get here."

Daniels wins Miss Texas USA title

LAREDO (AP) — A 22-year-old model and communications major at Sam Houston State University was crowned Miss Texas USA Sunday night.

Brooke Daniels, representing Harris County, won the competition over 110 others in the pageant in Laredo. She also was named Most Photogenic.

Miss Houston, Elise Horner, was first runner-up. Ana Rodriguez, Miss Port Laredo, was second runner-up. Rounding out the top five were Taylor Britton, Miss Montgomery County, and Tahnae Tarkenton, Miss Lake Austin.

EXHIBIT

Continued from Page 1

The exhibit is sponsored by Humanities Texas, the nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Meghan Bias, museum administrator, said she's excited the exhibit is coming to Big Spring. She selected this specific exhibit to "open doors

to bigger audiences. It seems like the same people always come in. I feel like what the veterans did for us didn't have color boundaries.

"We're telling everyone's story. It's an all encompassing thing," she added.

More information on the exhibit can be found at <http://humanitiestexas.org/exhibits/list/imagesofvalor/index.php>

Bush administration freezing cuts in Medicare fees

By JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration said Monday it is freezing a scheduled 10 percent fee cut for doctors who treat Medicare patients, giving Congress time to act to prevent the cuts when lawmakers return from a July 4 recess.

Physicians have been running ads hinting that as a result of the cuts, patients may find doctors less willing to treat them. The administration's delay in implementing the cuts, which had been scheduled to go into effect Tuesday, spurs lawmakers from having to use the recess to explain to seniors why they didn't do the job before leaving town.

Kevin Schweers, a spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services, said Monday the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will hold doctors' Medicare claims for

services delivered on or after July 1. Claims for services received on before June 30 will be processed as usual, he said.

Congress, not willing to face millions of angry seniors at the polls in November, will almost certainly act quickly when it returns to Washington the week of July 7 to prevent the cuts in payments for some 600,000 doctors who treat Medicare patients. The cuts were scheduled because of a formula that requires fee cuts when spending exceeds established goals.

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt had promised Friday that his agency "will take all steps available to the department under the law to minimize the impact on providers and beneficiaries." On Monday, the department used its administrative tools to delay implementing the scheduled 10.6 percent cuts.

"By holding claims for health care services that

are delivered on or after July 1, CMS will not be making any payments on the 10.6 percent reduction until July 15 at the earliest," Schweers said.

Almost every year, Congress finds a way to block such cuts. But last week the Senate fell just one vote short of the 60 needed to proceed to legislation that would have stopped the cut.

In a particularly vitriolic exchange, Democrats and Republicans blamed each other for what Dr. Nancy H. Nielsen, president of the American Medical Association, said has put the country "at the brink of a Medicare meltdown." "Seniors need continued access to the doctors they trust. It's urgent that Congress make that happen," the AMA said in ads taken out in Capitol Hill newspapers read by members of Congress and their aides.

Doctors have complained for years that Medicare payments have failed to

cover rising costs.

This year majority Democrats homed in on cutting the Medicare Advantage program, which is an ideological issue for both parties. The Bush administration and Republicans like Medicare Advantage because it lets the elderly and disabled choose to get their health benefits through private insurers rather than through traditional Medicare. Democrats argued that government payments to the insurers are too generous.

The White House warned that President Bush would be urged to veto a bill that contained cuts to Medicare Advantage.

That didn't stop the House last Tuesday from approving the legislation 355-59, well above the margin needed to override a veto. Every Democrat supported it, and Republicans, bucking their president, voted 129-59 for it.

FIREWORKS

Continued from Page 1

keep fireworks out of the hands of local residents until Tuesday, once sales begin there will be no restriction on aerial-type missiles and rockets despite the court's recent attempt to ban those with fins or sticks.

"They will be allowed to sell fireworks with fins and sticks when they open," said Barr, who — along with county commissioners — has been fighting to restrict the aerial missiles, which include bottle rockets.

Currently, counties cannot ban fireworks sales and use unless the

Keetch-Byram Drought Index wildfire assessment system surpasses 575. Barr said the drought index was between 400 and 500 this week, but is expected to drop slightly thanks to rains over the weekend.

"I talked to (Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief) Tommy Sullivan and he's a little more comfortable going into this week, thanks to the rains," said Barr. "However, he and his men will be out and about looking for fireworks violations this week. We'll also have more deputies out patrolling in an effort to keep this holiday from turning into a tragedy."

Exceedingly dry conditions, combined with plenty of dry grass

and brush in the area, prompted county officials to consider either banning or severely limiting the sale and use of fireworks during the holiday. County firefighters have battled more than 200 grass and brush fires so far this year.

In the end, however, Barr said the lack of support at the state level has made the matter an issue of money, not safety.

"The fireworks people threatened to sue the governor and Howard County over this," said Barr. "In the end, it's the money that talks. I really stuck my head in a hornets nest on this matter. And the funny thing is there isn't a person in the county that

I've talked to that's against a fireworks ban except the fireworks people. Not a one."

Persons setting off fireworks within Big Spring city limits are subject to fines of up to \$200, while anyone using them on county roads or private property without the owner's permission can be fined \$500.

Barr, for one, promised strict enforcement of the ordinance.

"Anyone who violates it will be fined \$500 — it's that simple," he said.

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

LOCKERS

Continued from Page 1

\$47 and can be purchased through the junior high office. Norman added that the school district will work with parents who cannot afford the purchase price.

The binder system has already had a test run of sorts, Norman said.

"We wanted to see how well they stood up, so we gave one to basically the roughest 'Dennis the Menace' kid we could find," he said. "He carried it around for two months ... and it survived."

Norman said more than 200 districts in Texas have instituted the locker-less policy with encouraging results.

"The main reason (the policy) works so well is that it puts resources where the student can best use them — at home and in the class," he said.

Norman concedes

that simply handing the binders to students and turning them loose won't accomplish anything positive, so the school is taking additional steps to help ensure the policy's success.

"During their activity period — what used to be called 'home room,' we will teach the students how to be organized as well as helping them with their homework and other assignments," Norman said.

Getting rid of lockers will have additional benefits, Norman noted.

"There's the safety issue, because dangerous items can be hidden in lockers and backpacks," he said. "It should improve traffic flow in the hallways and eliminate congestion in the locker areas ... and

maintenance costs for the upkeep of lockers also will be eliminated."

Officials also are hopeful the new policy results in fewer lost or damaged textbooks.

The school has had to tweak other policies to accommodate the new rules. Students will still be allowed to bring cell phones to school, but they must remain off and in the binders during class time. Also, children who bring their lunches to school can leave them at the office, Norman said.

Officials should know soon if the new policy is a success.

"We hope to quantify the success of this program through improved academic performance," he said. "And we believe student discipline will improve, as well."

For more information, contact the school district central office at 264-3600.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Obama flip-flop taints reputation as a reformer

Take your pick: Sen. Barack Obama's change of position on public campaign financing makes him (1) a flip-flopper; (2) a formidable fundraiser; (3) a calculating politician; (4) all of the above. If you said (4), you win, but there's no reason to celebrate.

The Illinois senator and presumptive Democratic nominee for president made a 180-degree turn by reneging on a promise to accept public financing for the general election. This represents a decision to rely on private fundraising and forgo spending restrictions. The change was based on the discovery that he could raise more money through the Internet than the \$84 million the government would give him.

The senator has already raked in about \$265 million through April, a record amount, and some Democrats think \$500 million more is not out of the question for the general election. Formidable indeed.

Which brings us to the calculating part. Again, the shoe fits. The senator wants to portray himself as a reformer, but he also wants to win. He reckons that the public won't care where the money comes from, and that any harm to his campaign will be far outweighed by the benefit of having more money than Sen. John McCain, the expected Republican nominee.

In his own defense, Sen. Obama argues that raising small donations via the Internet accomplishes the same objective as the campaign financing law because it is truly "public" money that comes in small amounts. He also says that he will need more money to fight a two-front war against both Sen. McCain and the so-called 527 groups that operate independently and helped to sink Democrat John Kerry's campaign in 2004.

There is some truth in this, but only up to a point. About 55 percent of the senator's contributions so far have been from large donors (those who give \$200 or more), not small ones, according to figures from the Center for Responsive Politics. Also, pro-Obama 527 groups will wage their own campaigns to rebut smear tactics, while also attacking Sen. McCain.

The public financing law was a reform that grew out of the Watergate scandals of the 1970s. Although far from perfect, it has done much to clean up campaign financing and level the playing field between the major party candidates in the general election.

Sen. Obama's decision to abandon public financing calls into question his reputation as a reformer. The law, however, was written decades before the Internet age and badly needs updating. Whether he wins the election or not, Obama should do his utmost to overhaul the political finance system to dispel the notion that victory is determined by which candidate has the biggest wallet.

THE MIAMI HERALD

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we reach out to others, Lord.

Amen

The Right to Bear Arms

Washington, D.C., will become a safer place to live and work thanks to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling last week against the city's absolute ban on handguns. The Court ruled that the Second Amendment's guarantee of the right to bear arms is an individual right, not just one that permits states to maintain militias, striking down one of the nation's toughest anti-gun laws. As someone who lived in the District at the time the city imposed its ban 32 years ago, I say it's about time.

I bought my first gun in 1974 after my husband was mugged in broad daylight just blocks from the White House. My husband was picking up our 6-year-old son from school when a man approached him and demanded money. When my husband refused, the man picked up a two-by-four and hit him on the back of the head, knocking him to the ground.

The event traumatized all of us and sent me to a local gun shop to purchase a handgun. I properly registered the .357 Magnum, according to the District law in effect at the time, learned how to shoot it, and kept it safely in my home for the next two years.

But in 1976, the city changed its law, grandfathering in people like me who already owned guns, provided they bring their guns to

a government building downtown to re-register them. By that time, I was pregnant with my second child. As the deadline approached, I tried a couple of times to stand in line to re-register the gun but gave up as the wait stretched into hours. On the final day, I went downtown again, gun in tow, only to see a line extending for blocks. As pregnant as I was, there was no way I could stand in line for several hours. So, I returned home, knowing my gun would be illegal if I kept it in my home.

For the next several years, I stored my gun in Virginia, where we owned a small cabin, to comply with the law. Ironically, there was no crime in the area where my cabin was located, so I had no need of the gun there. But I had several brushes with crime in D.C.

Soon after the gun ban went into effect, an intruder hid in my house one day in what was one of the most terrifying incidents in my life. I happened to see the man lurking near my staircase as I headed into the kitchen. I managed not to scream but continued walking away and quietly phoned the police. I confronted the intruder once I knew the cops were on the way. He acted as if I had somehow wronged him by calling the police but didn't stick around to explain to the authorities what he was doing in my house.

Around the same time, a serial rapist started attacking women in our neighborhood, including two women who lived within a block of my house.

And even though I still owned a gun, I couldn't legally keep it

nearby to protect myself. Police eventually caught the rapist, a teenager armed with a knife, but all of us in the neighborhood lived in fear for the weeks he was preying on victims.

Then, two years ago, I was again living in D.C. on Capitol Hill when I heard an awful racket through the walls of my townhouse. It sounded as if someone was being thrown down the stairs, with men shouting and doors slamming. When my husband rushed outside to see what was happening, he found our young neighbor visibly shaken. He had come home to find a man in his upstairs hallway, obviously burglarizing the house. Again, I wished I had my gun in D.C., but bringing it into the city would have made me a criminal.

These incidents were all near misses. Many other D.C. residents haven't been as lucky. They fall victim to violent crimes in their homes yet can't do anything to defend themselves.

The D.C. gun ban never made a dent in the city's gun crime; it still ranks among the most dangerous places in America. At least now, the Supreme Court has acknowledged the constitutional right of law-abiding citizens to protect their own lives when the police can't.

Linda Chavez is the author of "An Unlikely Conservative: The Transformation of an Ex-Liberal." To find out more about Linda Chavez, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2008 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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Faith-based initiative a success

How do we meet people's basic needs in America? The answer often depends on where we stand.

Those who stand in Washington, D.C., typically see problems such as poverty, homelessness and drug addiction in terms of statistics, costs and caseloads. This view nurtures the mindset that these problems can be solved only by government programs fueled by ever-increasing spending.

But if you stand on South Division Avenue in Grand Rapids, Mich., or on West Main Street in Leesburg, Fla., you perhaps see things differently.

Instead of statistics, you might know a family who can't pay its rent because of unexpected doctor bills. Instead of a case number, you might know a pregnant teenager whose dad was never around. Your close-up view of these problems helps you see what Washington bureaucrats can't: That what these people need most are family, friends and support networks that know them personally.

Therein lies the power of religious and community-based organizations, which President Bush has rightly highlighted from the earliest days of his campaign right up through today. The best expressions of this reorientation toward the local, the flexible and the personal have been through programs such as Access to Recovery. ATR is a program that allows drug addicts to use vouchers at the treatment facility of their choice, including religious providers.

Similarly, grassroots nonprofits also play a valuable role in helping the homeless.

"We cannot break dangerous patterns of behavior and cycles of poverty unless we get personally involved," says Mary Kay Baker, director of the Interfaith

Hospitality Network (IHN) in Grand Rapids. Her organization works with 15 local churches to provide shelter, food and other forms of material assistance to homeless families. But it offers more. "They need cheerleaders who listen to them and give them encouragement."

Mary Kay and her colleagues live this personal approach. They refer to the people they serve not as "clients" or "cases" but as "guests," according them dignity and respect. Church members volunteer to house these "guests" in their church buildings, cook and eat dinner with them and play games with their children or help them with homework.

Once the staff even helped a high-school boy attend his prom — complete with polished shoes and flowers for his date — without drawing attention to the fact that his family was temporarily homeless. No wonder that former families regularly call or drop by the IHN offices to say thanks or simply to visit the staff.

This personal approach includes another crucial element: discipline.

With assistance comes personal responsibility. Toward that end, guests are required to seek employment during their stay or receive a seven-day notice to leave.

Guests at IHN also must turn over their government-issued debit cards to staff. Although staff members don't hold veto power over the cards, they talk with guests about their spending choices. "Many guests have never had the concept of saving explained or modeled for them," says Baker.

"When we encourage them to save money, they often leave thrilled to have enough saved up for their first month's rent."

IHN's networking approach with local churches is just one model for meeting people's needs. The First Baptist Church (FBC) of Leesburg, Fla., has taken a different route by gradually building an entire ministry village on its campus. Staff and volunteers operate different ministries that serve homeless men and women,

abandoned children, pregnant women, sick people without medical insurance, alcoholics and drug addicts, and many others.

What motivates FBC members? "They love Christ, and Christ loved broken people, so they are moved by their love of Christ to serve those he served," Pastor Emeritus Charles Roesel says.

This local, faith-centered approach doesn't just transform lives. It also tackles human need more efficiently than bloated government programs. For example, while FBC's community medical care center spends about \$30,000 a month to provide medical care to the uninsured, it receives over \$100,000 a month worth of donated pharmaceuticals and services.

Similar savings are achieved in Grand Rapids. IHN receives \$12,000 annually from a government grant — less than 10 percent of its budget.

But because churches and volunteers provide housing and food to their approximately 200 guests each year, they provide services that would cost taxpayers more than \$92,500 annually in government expenditures.

Such examples bear out the original idea behind the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. At its best, the initiative seeks to instill a personal, community-based approach to meeting human needs by reducing regulations and fostering an environment in which faith-inspired and grassroots efforts can flourish.

As government budgets spiral out of control, the need is more urgent than ever for policies that create environments in which families, local congregations and community-based organizations can thrive. Their power to meet people's needs lies in a personal approach that government simply cannot emulate.

Ryan Messmore is the William E. Simon Fellow in Religion and a Free Society at The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org).

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LINDA CHAVEZ

Avoid dehydration and heat injury

It's summertime, at long last! It's time to get outside and enjoy the extra hours of sunshine. But with the sunshine comes the heat, and a greater risk of dehydration and heat injury. We all need to take a few precautions to make sure our "fun in the sun" doesn't turn into a trip to the hospital. Most heat injuries are avoidable.



DR. CYNTHIA RUTLEDGE

As we all know, when we are out in the heat, our bodies sweat in an attempt to keep us cool. The hotter it is, the more we sweat, to a point. In temperatures greater than 85 degrees, the average person (about 150 pounds) can lose 1-2 liters of fluid from their body in one hour. This can quickly lead to dehydration and heat injury. Most people drink less than they sweat.

Watch for the warning signs. One of the earliest signs of dehydration is dry mouth. Do not ignore this! Your body is trying to get your attention. Get out of the sun. Drink some water.

The next warning sign can follow very quickly: feeling light headed or dizzy. It only takes a loss of 2 percent of your body weight to impair you. If you or someone you are with is feeling dizzy, weak or confused – get out of the sun, drink some water and cool down. Heat exhaustion has begun. This is no joke. Heat exhaustion can quickly lead to the deadly dangerous condition of heat stroke.

Heat stroke is when your body's core temperature rises to 105 degrees and higher. People will often go from red-faced and pouring sweat to pale and dry, as they are unable to sweat any more. Their body is shutting down. The only hope for a person in this condition is to be taken to the nearest hospital as fast as possible.

Who is at risk for dehydration and heat injury? Everyone. However, young children, infants and the elderly are at even greater risk, and will suffer heat injury sooner than a healthy adult or older child. People in poor physical condition are also at greater risk. If you have or have recently had an illness, stay out of the sun and heat until you are fully recovered.

So, how do we protect ourselves this summer?

1. Stay hydrated. If your mouth is dry, you are already behind on your fluids.
2. Don't try to do too much, too fast. Take your time. Take frequent breaks.
3. Make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing. Something light and loose which will allow the sweat to evaporate from your

4. If you are sick, especially with vomiting or diarrhea, you are already losing a lot of water. Don't press your luck by going out in the heat.
5. Be on the lookout for someone in trouble: complaining of being thirsty or dizzy, red-faced, sweating profusely, weak or unsteady. Get them out of the sun fast. Cool them down and get them hydrated. Don't hesitate to call for help, you could save a life.

Take a few simple precautions and have a great summer!

Cynthia Rutledge, D.O., is a family practitioner officed at Family Medical Center, 2301 S. Gregg.

Fish in a flash

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Stir up some classic Asian flavors with this easy, versatile recipe. This seafood favorite is a great way to avoid heating up the oven on a hot summer evening; a quick stir-fry and dinner is ready in minutes.

The dominant flavors in this dish are found in the sauce, which includes oyster and soy sauces. While traditional soy sauce can contain over 1000 milligrams of sodium per tablespoon, choosing a reduced-sodium variety cuts the sodium by almost half. Rounding out the flavor profile, a touch of sesame oil, expressed from sesame seeds, imparts a nutty, savory taste.

Fresh ginger also features prominently in our stir-fry. Ginger, which is not really a root, but a rhizome — a tuber-like stem that grows underground — has been eaten for its medicinal properties for centuries. Studies suggest that ginger is effective in treating nausea caused by motion sickness, surgery and chemotherapy.

Ground coriander lends its warmth to the dish as well. It is commonly believed to be one of the first spices used by man. History notes its use as early as 5000 BC, when it is mentioned in Sanskrit writings. Although it is from the same plant family as cilantro, coriander is not interchangeable with its cousin.

Note that the recipe calls for frozen mixed vegetables. Although cooks with more time to spare may wish to dice fresh veggies instead,

those in a hurry need not worry: Frozen vegetables are the nutritional equivalent to fresh. If you are opting for fresh produce, snow peas, mushrooms and bok choy work nicely in this dish.



Super Stir-Fry Fish Fillets

- 1 Tbsp. oyster sauce
- 1/2 tsp. low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 slices ginger, shredded
- 1 small red onion, sliced
- 2 (16 oz.) bags frozen mixed Asian vegetables*
- 1 tsp. coriander, ground (garnish)
- 1 lemon, halved
- 1 pound boneless fish fillets (tilapia or cod), cut into 2-inch by 1/2 inch strips
- 1 Tbsp. white wine
- 1 tsp. sesame oil
- Salt and fresh ground black pepper, to taste
- 3 tsp. cornstarch, divided
- 2 Tbsp. canola oil, divided
- 1/2 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth

*Almost any type of fresh vegetables can be added. See what's in season at your farmer's market.

Drizzle lemon juice over fish strips. Prepare marinade by combining wine, sesame oil, salt and

pepper. Stir in 2 teaspoons cornstarch. Mix well then place fish strips into mix and let marinate about 15 minutes.

Heat wok (or heavy sauté pan) over high heat. Put one tablespoon oil in wok and add fish strips and cook until lightly browned. Remove fish from wok.

Prepare the sauce in a small bowl by combining chicken broth, oyster sauce, soy sauce and remaining cornstarch. Set aside.

Add remaining oil to wok. Add garlic, ginger and onion and cook until browned. Add frozen vegetables and stir-fry until vegetables are tender crisp.

Add the sauce and stir quickly to thicken. Add fish to wok and mix thoroughly, being careful not to cause the fish to break or crumble. Heat until cooked through. Place on plates and sprinkle coriander over dish and serve.

NUTRITION WISE

Q: What's the nutritional value of artichokes?

A: Artichokes are very high in dietary fiber, with 10 grams in the edible portion of one whole medium artichoke and 7 grams of fiber in a half-cup serving of artichoke hearts. In addition, artichokes are valuable sources of magnesium and the B vitamin folate. And they contain high levels of several antioxidant phytochemicals called flavonoids. As long as you don't dip the leaves in butter or choose artichoke hearts packed or marinated in oil, they are also low in calories. A medium artichoke contains about 60 calories and a half-cup serving of artichoke hearts provides roughly 45 calories.

Q: I've heard that meringue pies are a food safety risk, true?

A: They can be, depending on how the meringue is made. Traditional meringue made with uncooked egg

whites may be contaminated with salmonella or other bacteria that can cause foodborne illness. Children and people with weakened immune systems, including the elderly and the ill, need to be especially cautious. Baked (hard) meringues are safe, as are meringue-topped pies that are baked at 350 °F for about 15 minutes. Meringues can also be made with pasteurized liquid egg whites, dried egg-white powder or meringue powder (found in the baking section of your grocery store), all of which are quite safe. When you are eating in a restaurant, it is always appropriate to ask how the meringue is made. Do note, however, that although light and airy, a meringue dessert is not a low-calorie choice. Meringue is made with large amounts of sugar, so it is concentrated in calories. While an occasional indulgence is fine, fruit salad or fruit topped with a dollop of vanilla yogurt is a more nutritious choice.



Community Guide

A resource for newcomers to Big Spring and Howard County

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IN BRIEF

UIL required physicals due for some athletes

UIL requires all incoming seventh, ninth and 11th grade athletes to have a physical before they are allowed to participate in any sport.

This includes practices and games. All local athletic departments are encouraging athletes and their parents headed into the listed grades above to make an appointment with their doctor and get this physical before the start of the school year.

Football and volleyball players would want to get this taken care of before the start of their two-a-days.

Contact your school's athletic department with any questions.

Big Spring QB Club meeting at ATC July 7

The Big Spring Quarterback Club is holding its first meeting of the 2008 season at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 7, at the Athletic Training Center.

The club will then meet every subsequent Monday at the same time until school starts.

All parents of junior high or high school football players are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call the ATC at 264-3662.

Coahoma Little League electing new officers

Coahoma Little League Baseball Association is holding a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Dairy Queen in Coahoma to elect board members for the 2009 season.

If you are interested in serving on the board, attendance at this meeting is required.

For more information, contact Andi Schneider at 270-2892 or Leslie Tindol at 213-4207.

Tennis camp set for July 28-31 at Figure 7 courts

Crossroads Tennis Association instructor Ted Olesen is hosting a camp July 28-31 at the Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

This is the second camp Olesen has put on this summer and attendance at the first camp is not a requirement to attend the second.

The camp is for all ages and abilities, and is designed to teach the beginner the basics of the game, while helping advanced players reach their full potential.

Participants do not have to take the full week of camp.

Cost is \$100 and includes a lunch each day.

Call 263-7331, ext. 237, to submit a sports brief.

Rookies lead Rangers to 5-1 win

By DAVID JIMENEZ
Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON — Texas rookies Eric Hurley and Chris Davis are quickly getting the attention of some of their more established teammates.

Hurley pitched into the sixth inning to earn his first major league win and Davis homered to lead the Texas Rangers past the Philadelphia Phillies, 5-1 Sunday night.

Texas second baseman Ian Kinsler, who is hitting .429 over his last 12 games, has been

impressed with the recent additions.

"Things happen and you have to bring people up," Kinsler said. "Those were the kids that were in line and they're coming up here and pulling their weight. That's all you ask. The more opportunities they get, the more growth they'll have."

Hurley (1-1) allowed one run and five hits over 5 2-3 innings in his fourth big league start since being called up from the minors June 12. The 22-year-old struck out three and walked two.

"It has been a long wait," Hurley said. "I've played at every level the Rangers have. I feel I've worked hard enough to deserve the chance. So far, I think I've done pretty well with it."

Davis, who was called up from the minors Thursday, became the first Rangers player to homer in each of his first two starts, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. He hit a two-run shot in his first start Friday against Philadelphia.

Rangers catcher Max Ramirez, another rookie who made an impact with the game-winning

homer against Houston on Wednesday, threw out Shane Victorino trying to steal second in the first.

"It's exciting," Texas manager Ron Washington said of the Hurley-Ramirez combination. "That's the second game that Max caught and he looked as good in that one as the first one. He and the pitcher were in synch."

Kinsler went 3-for-4 and extended his hitting streak to 12 games. Kinsler was 9-of-13 during the

See **MLB**, Page 7

11 year old tosses no-hitter, hits grand slam

Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — Big Spring 11-year-old baseball all-star Ty Sealy had the sort of game one never forgets Sunday.

Sealy led the 11-year-old All-Stars to a convincing 11-0 victory over Andrews in an elimination game at the District 3 Little League Tournament, contributing in big ways on the mound and at the plate.

Sealy pitched a no-hitter, allowing just two base runners in a game that was shortened to a four-inning affair due to a 10-run mercy rule. He also had the hit — a grand slam — that ended the game.

Sealy had eight strikeouts on the mound and ended up with six RBIs at the plate.

Gary Watkins was 2-for-2 with two doubles and Tyler Bryan led off the game with a triple.

It was a much needed win after falling to Midland's Mid-City All-Stars 12-10 to open tournament play Saturday.

Big Spring led 10-3 after the end of the second inning, but the rain started to fall and the field suffered from mother nature's wrath.

Mid-City took advantage



Courtesy photo
Big Spring's 11-year-old All-Stars celebrate an 11-0 victory over Andrews at Butler Field in Midland in a District 3 Little League Tournament. Pictured from left are: Matt Beal, Ryan Pearson, Garrett Kilgora, Coach Robert Smith (very back), Hunter Hill, Tyler Bryan, Blake Letcher, Ty Sealy, Adam Franco, Cade Fannin, Gary Watkins, Matthew Yanez and Coach Ron Letcher.

of the weather, scoring nine runs in the top of the third. A drying mixture was placed on the field after that inning and the two teams went scoreless for the rest of the game.

Big Spring's 11-year-olds play at 7 p.m. today against Midland North Central.

The 12-year-old All-Stars have come up with two

one-run victories and are two victories from having the chance to play for the District 3 title.

Big Spring defeated North Central 9-8 in a game that took both Friday and Saturday night. The 12-year-olds then snuck away with a 5-4 win over North Ector Sunday night.

They play again at 8 p.m. Tuesday against Northern.

The only other team to be undefeated in tournament play is Forsan's Junior Leaguers, who won their only game, 8-3, Sunday Night.

Big Spring's 10-year-olds lost their opening game Friday night to Jim Parker,

6-2, and play an elimination game at 8 p.m. tonight.

Big Spring's Juniors opened up with a 20-10 win Saturday night, but fell Sunday night, placing them in an elimination game at 6 p.m. tonight against an undetermined opponent.

Jankovic ousted, Serena into quarters



By STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Second-seeded Jelena Jankovic was ousted in straight sets in the fourth round by Tamarine Tanasugarn on Monday, leaving the women's draw without its top three ranked players.

Jankovic's 6-3, 6-2 loss means that none of the top three women reached the quarterfinals — the first time that's happened at a Grand Slam tournament in the Open era. No. 1 Ana Ivanovic and No. 3 Maria Sharapova were upset last week.

The Williams sisters, meanwhile, moved closer to another Wimbledon final. Defending champion Venus Williams beat Russian teenager Alisa Kleybanova 6-3, 6-4, while two-time winner Serena downed Bethanie Mattek — the only other American left in the men's or women's draw — 6-3, 6-3.

In men's play, five-time champion Roger Federer swept Lleyton Hewitt — the last man to win the title before him — 7-6 (7), 6-2, 6-4 to extend his winning streak on grass to 63 matches and 38 in a row at the All England Club. Federer, who served 21 aces, has now beaten his Australian rival in 12 consecutive matches.

Playing with her left

knee heavily strapped, Jankovic was never in serious contention against the 60th-ranked Tanasugarn. The 31-year-old Thai, playing in her 12th consecutive Wimbledon, also was treated for a lower back problem during changeovers in the second set.

After converting on match point to reach the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the first time, Tanasugarn covered her face with her hands and broke into tears.

"Wow, wow, wow," Tanasugarn said. "Being in the fourth round so many years, making it to the quarterfinals is really a good feeling."

Jankovic said she played with a tear in her knee sustained during her third-round win Friday over Caroline Wozniacki.

"I was always a step behind," said the Serb, who committed 19 unforced errors. "It was very hard for me. I tried the best I could and she was quite solid and didn't make any mistakes. I wasn't moving the way I usually move. I just couldn't play at my best."

Venus Williams, a four-time Wimbledon winner, nearly squandered a 5-1 lead in the second set against the 18-year-old Kleybanova. She lost nine

See **WIMBLEDON**, Page 7

AP photo/Anja Niedringhaus
Serena Williams of the U.S waves to the crowd following her third round match against France's Amelie Mauresmo on the Centre Court at Wimbledon Friday. Williams, a two-time Wimbledon champion, defeated Bethany Mattekto today to advance to the quarterfinals.

MLB

Continued from Page 6

series against the Phillies in which the Rangers won two of three.

Philadelphia, which has a one-game lead over Florida in the National League East, has lost six consecutive series dating back to early June. This is most for the Phillies since dropping eight straight June 11-July 6, 2006.

"We've been losing games," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "This is no time to feel sorry for yourself. You need to kick yourself in the behind and get back up."

Ryan Howard drove in the lone run for the Phillies, who mustered only five hits in losing for the 11th time in 14 games.

Philadelphia starter Jamie Moyer (7-6) gave up three runs in 5 2-3 innings. The 45-year-old lefty struck out six and walked four in a matchup against an opposing starting pitcher who was about half his age.

Hurley allowed three hits and took a shutout into the sixth.

Chase Utley doubled with one out, and Howard chased Hurley with an RBI single that brought the Phillies to 3-1.

Jamey Wright came out of the bullpen and induced an inning-ending ground-er from Greg Dobbs.

Philadelphia did not have a base hit the rest of the way. The Phillies, who had 15 runs in the first two games against the Rangers, has scored three runs or fewer in eight of their last 14 games.

"We're not swinging the bat well," Utley said. "We had a few opportunities, but just not enough."

The Rangers scored single runs in each of the first three innings off Moyer.

Kinsler tripled to right in the first and came home on Michael Young's groundout. Kinsler is 21-of-49 during his 12-game hitting streak.

Davis homered in the second, and Josh Hamilton had an RBI single in the third to put Texas ahead 3-0.

Texas tacked on two runs in the eighth on Ramon Vazquez's RBI single and Young's groundout.

Notes: Rangers minor leaguer Dustin Nippert threw a seven-inning no-hitter for Triple-A Oklahoma on Sunday. Nippert struck out five and walked two against Omaha. ... Philadelphia swept Atlanta June 6-8 for its last series win. ... The Phillies finished 4-11 in interleague play while the Rangers were 10-8.

Angels 1, Dodgers 0

Get this: John Lackey managed to top his teammates, Jered Weaver and Jose Arredondo, a day after they didn't allow a hit against the Dodgers.

How'd Lackey do it? He won.

Lackey allowed just three hits in 8 2-3 innings to lead the Angels to a 1-0 win over the Dodgers on Sunday. The Angels lost by the same score on Saturday, even though Weaver and Arredondo held the Dodgers hitless for an unofficial, eight-inning no-hitter.

"Tough luck for Weave. He was throwing the ball really well," Lackey said after his win.

Lackey (6-1), whose 2008 debut was delayed six weeks by a strained triceps, allowed only five base runners in a dominant performance. He struck out nine and walked two. The right-hander retired 14 in a row at one juncture.

He said he took the



AP photo/Tony Gutierrez

Texas Rangers first baseman Chris Davis watches his solo home run in the second inning off of Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer in a Major League Baseball game Sunday in Arlington. Davis, a 22-year-old rookie who was called up from the minors Thursday, became the first Ranger to homer in each of his first two starts, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

ground, "Thinking I've got to get it done, no matter what."

Avoiding a sweep in the weekend set at Dodger Stadium, the Angels scored their first — and only — run of the series on Mike Napoli's RBI single off Derek Lowe in the second inning.

Howie Kendrick singled with two outs, Gary Matthews Jr. walked, then Napoli followed with a single to right.

Lackey said he wasn't really thinking then that the one run might hold up, saying, "But it was one of those days. We've got to

win any way we can. If you do get a run, you've got to make it stand up."

In other games Sunday, it was: Detroit 4, Colorado 3; Cincinnati 9, Cleveland 5; Toronto 1, Atlanta 0; N.Y. Mets 3, N.Y. Yankees 1; Tampa Bay 4, Pittsburgh 3; Washington 3, Baltimore 2, 12 innings; Houston 3, Boston 2; Minnesota 5, Milwaukee 0; St. Louis 9, Kansas City 6; Seattle 9, San Diego 2; San Francisco 11, Oakland 1; White Sox 5, Cubs 1. In the National League, Florida beat Arizona 4-3.

Francisco Rodriguez, who came in with two outs

in the ninth and runners on first and second, threw a wild pitch before walking Jeff Kent to load the bases. He then got James Loney on a routine ground-er to second to earn his major league-leading 32nd save.

"After the job Lackey did, you don't want to go out there and let it get away," Rodriguez said.

Lowe (5-8) pitched well, holding the Angels to one run on five hits and two walks in his seven innings. He struck out seven.

"We've been getting good pitching, but Lackey did such a great job," Dodgers manager Joe Torre said. "Derek did a sensational job for us. We're not doing anything offensively, but I think this was more about Lackey than about us. He's like a surgeon out there."

Lackey limited the Dodgers to a walk in the first, a single by Kent in the second, and a single by Juan Pierre in the sixth before giving up a single to Delwyn Young and a walk to Russell Martin in the ninth.

On Saturday night, Weaver pitched six hitless innings before being lifted for a pinch-hitter, and Arredondo retired six in a row over the next two innings, but it didn't count as a no-hitter since the Dodgers didn't bat in the ninth.

The only run in that game scored after Weaver's fielding error in the fifth inning allowed Matt Kemp to reach first. Kemp stole second, went to third on catcher Jeff Mathis' throwing error and came home on Blake DeWitt's sacrifice fly.

"Last night was bizarre," Rodriguez said. "Today was a great game."

Tigers 4, Rockies 3

At Detroit, Dane Sardinha hit a two-run tri-

ple for his first major league hit to rally the Tigers to a win over woe-ful Colorado, giving Detroit a three-game sweep.

Twins 5, Brewers 0

At Minneapolis, Kevin Slowey (5-6) breezed through his fourth straight dominant start, beating Ben Sheets (9-2) and Milwaukee with a three-hit shutout.

Marlins 4, Diamondbacks 3

At Miami, Jorge Cantu hit a game-ending RBI single, Hanley Ramirez hit a tying home run and the Marlins came back to beat Arizona.

Mets 3, Yankees 1

At New York, Oliver Perez (6-5) limited the Yankees to one run and three hits in seven sharp innings, Carlos Delgado homered again and the Mets won this year's Subway Series.

Astros 3, Red Sox 2

At Houston, Mark Loretta had a pinch-hit, RBI single in the eighth inning off Hideki Okajima as the Astros took two of three from the Red Sox.

Cardinals 9, Royals 6

At Kansas City, Mo., Jason LaRue drove in four runs with a home run and a triple and Albert Pujols also homered, leading the Cardinals over the Royals.

Mariners 9, Padres 2

At San Diego, Ichiro Suzuki went 5-for-5, Adrian Beltre and Jeff Clement homered and the Mariners beat Jake Peavy (5-5) and the punchless Padres for a three-game sweep.

Kurt Busch gets rain shortened victory

By MIKE HARRIS

AP Auto Racing Writer

LOUDON, N.H. — The way this season has gone for Kurt Busch, the former NASCAR Sprint Cup champion isn't about to apologize for winning a race with the help of fuel strategy and rain.

"Sometimes you just don't win 'em the right way," Busch said after winding up in front in Sunday's rain-shortened Lenox Industrial Tools 301 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. "I think we can honestly say that, but we had a lot of work and a lot of effort put in today and we'll take it."

Two-time Cup champion Tony Stewart also put a lot of effort into the race, leading 132 of the 284 laps. But he was left to ponder what might have been after his winless string was extended to 31 races by more of the hard luck that has dogged him all season.

It was the first victory for Busch since the Penske Racing driver won in September at California Speedway. And there hasn't been much to celebrate since.

Other than coming in second to teammate Ryan Newman in

the season-opening Daytona 500, the 2004 Cup champion had finished in the top 10 only once in 2008 and came into this event 22nd in the points. But Sunday turned out to be his day, thanks to crew chief Pat Tryson's decision to keep his No. 2 Dodge on track when Stewart and several other lead cars pitted during a late caution period.

When rain eventually ended the race 17 laps short, with the field under a red flag on pit road, Busch had his 18th career victory and Stewart was an unhappy 13th.

"I've been on the flipside of it plenty of times," Busch said. "There's those times when you just grit your teeth and go, 'What could we have done different? Why did it happen this way?' So it isn't pretty, but we'll take it."

"That's the beauty of Sprint Cup racing is the competition level is always at its best. Sometimes the guys that have fast race cars don't win because they got outdueled in the pits with pit strategy. You take 'em when you can get 'em because you get burned plenty of times the other way."

Runner-up Michael Waltrip, who had not finished better than 23rd this season, used the same

strategy as Busch. The two-time Daytona 500 winner said he was hoping the race would go to the end because he believed he had a faster car than Busch. But Busch believed he could hold the top spot.

"I felt like it was going to be a great duel down to the end with everybody on old tires, everybody would have been slipping and sliding," Busch said. "I felt we had track position and I felt like my fire and desire was going to overcome anything today to get into Victory Lane."

"Once I saw that we were leading and we were out in front with 26 (laps) to go, that good old Kurt Busch jumped up on the wheel and I told myself, 'Don't let your team down. This is what you live for. This is what you race for, and that is to get into Victory Lane.'"

Stewart, who dominated the second half of the race on the 1.058-mile oval, held off a challenge from two-time reigning Cup champion Jimmie Johnson late in the race and appeared on the way to his first victory since August at Watkins Glen, N.Y. But Stewart and most of the other drivers who had been racing at the front of the pack did not have enough gas to get to the

end.

On lap 271, Dale Earnhardt Jr., who had been in the top 10 all day, started toward pit road and was hit from behind by Jamie McMurray, who then spun into David Ragan, bringing out a caution.

Stewart and the rest of the front-runners pitted under the ensuing yellow flag, while Busch and seven other drivers who had pitted more recently than the leaders, stayed on track.

The race restarted on lap 279, but there was another caution on lap 280, with Clint Bowyer and rookie Sam Hornish Jr. crashing, then Juan Pablo Montoya slamming into series points leader Kyle Busch, Kurt's younger brother, moments later. Montoya was later assessed a two-lap penalty by NASCAR for rough driving and finished 32nd.

The rain that had been threatening for much of the afternoon began falling during that caution and, moments after the cars were red-flagged onto pit lane just before completing lap 285, NASCAR called the race, leaving Busch on top, ahead of Waltrip, J.J. Yeley, Martin Truex Jr., Elliott Sadler, Reed Sorenson and Casey Mears, all

of whom had stayed on track during the previous caution.

Within minutes after the race was official, the sky opened up and lightning began flashing around the speedway, emptying the stands in a hurry and forcing Busch to hold his victory celebration in the shelter of the garage area.

Stewart took awhile getting out of his car and could hardly believe his fate.

"It's just been the oddest year I've ever seen for this race team," he said. "It's just frustrating. There isn't anybody that's going to tell you any different than that. There's nothing you can do. If there was something we could do about it we'd change it."

"It's not because of lack of effort," added Stewart, who took two tires on his final pit stop and finished 13th. "I've got some of the best guys in the garage area and I've had 'em for 10 years. It's the worst string of bad luck we've ever seen, but there's nothing we can do about it."

Kyle Busch wound up 25th on Sunday, while series runner-up Jeff Burton, who finished 12th, climbed from 103 points behind to just 64 heading into Saturday night's race at Daytona.

WIMBLEDON

Continued from Page 6

points in a row from her third match point in the eighth game and saved three break points at 5-4 before finally closing it with a backhand volley winner.

Serena Williams wobbled slightly after going up 3-0 in the second set as Mattek raised her game by playing serve-and-volley.

Williams received a warning for an audible obscenity in the fifth game, but that didn't stop her as she won the next five points. She finished the match with a backhand drop volley into

the open court.

The Williams sisters, who have not dropped a set in their four matches, played back-to-back on Court 2 — nicknamed the "Graveyard of Champions" for its long history of upsets. They were also scheduled to play doubles together on Court 2 later Monday.

Venus Williams, who will face Tanasugarn in the quarters, was clearly not happy with the court scheduling.

"There's not too much I'm going to say about that in the press," she said. "I think that no matter where we play we realize we have to play well. That's pretty much all I have to say."

Between them, Venus and

Serena have won six of the last eight women's singles titles at Wimbledon. They're in opposite halves of the draw and could meet in the final Saturday. The Williams sisters faced each other in the 2002 and '03 finals, with Serena winning both.

Federer, who hasn't lost a set while chasing his sixth straight title, was in complete command against Hewitt after scraping through the first-set tiebreaker. At 7-all, Federer mis-hit a backhand and the ball was ruled wide, but a replay showed it hit the sideline and the point was replayed.

Federer then hit a backhand winner for 8-7, and an ace gave him the set.

Hewitt, the 2002 Wimbledon champion whose career has been slowed by a chronic hip injury, went 0-8 on break points.

"I saw Lleyton struggling with his hip a little bit," Federer said. "That first set tiebreaker really put me on the winning streak and after that I played consistently well."

Hewitt, who said he's not sure if he'll play in the Beijing Olympics or U.S. Open because of his hip troubles, praised Federer's serve.

"He hit every line out there today," the Australian said. "That's why he's the best player around, especially on this surface. Serve is so important. He hit the target every time."

No. 2-ranked Rafael Nadal, runner-up to Federer the last two years, was paired against No. 17 Mihhail Youzhny.

Also advancing was Chinese wild-card entry Zheng Jie, who followed up her upset of Ivanovic last week to beat 19-year-old Hungarian Agnes Szavay 6-3, 6-4. Zheng was down 4-1 in the second set and then won five games in a row before securing her first Grand Slam quarterfinal berth.

Other women's winners were Nicole Pietrangeli, who downed No. 8 Anna Chakvetadze 4-6, 7-6 (0), 6-3; and Nadia Petrova, a 6-1, 6-4 victor over Alla Kudryavtseva, who had beaten Sharapova in the second round.

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<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>COSCO</p> <p>Home Repair Tile - Sheetrock Appliance Install Free Estimates 432-816-6282</p>	<p>INTERNET SERVICES</p> <p>Westex Telecom</p> <p>High Speed DSL OR Dial-Up Internet Access</p> <p>Local Customer Service 268-8800</p>	<p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>We Dig And Move Trees, Lot Clearing.</p>  <p>Call Us For Your Landscaping Needs Decker Farm Supply & Nursery Stanton • 756-3444</p>	<p>LAWN SERVICE</p> <p>H & L LAWN SERVICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Weed Eating * Edging * Mowing <p>CALL HENRY (432) 268-3065</p>	<p>LAWN SERVICE</p> <p>MOW YARDS AND ALLEYS HAULING, TILLING, TREE TRIMMING, CLEAR STORAGE SHEDS, ODD JOBS</p> <p>CALL 267-5460 OR CELL 816-6150</p> <p>Scoggin Lawn Service</p>	<p>LAWN SERVICE</p> <p>CYC Lawn Service</p> <p>Yards Mowed \$25.00 Big Spring Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedge Trimming • Tree Trimming • Flower Beds Cleaned • Alleys Cleaned • All Types Of Hauling • All Types Of Odd Jobs <p>CALL DAVE 432-935-2406 or 432-558-0287</p> <p>Free Estimates - Senior Discounts All Work Guaranteed</p>
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This position would be responsible for maintaining and building advertising accounts for our new Living Magazine. In addition to the Living Magazine this position would assume and maintain accounts for our entire Texas Website, including our Guymon, Oklahoma newspaper Website.
We would provide extensive training for the right person. This is a full time position with company benefits including travel expenses. Office location would be at our Big Spring Location. 710 S. Scurry.
Salary range would be starting at \$400-\$500 weekly with additional commissions. This position is expected to average, but not limited to \$35,000 annually. Please send resume with cover letter to:

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3/2 Home 2400 sq. feet with double garage on .8 acres near Tubbs addition. Forsan ISD. \$169,500.00. Additional acreage available. Possible Owner Financing. 512-940-5200, 432-631-8100.

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WE BUY HOUSES and LAND. Any Condition. Tax Liens No Problem. Call (512)940-5200, 432-631-8100.

Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
Mars in Leo joins forces with Pluto for the stuff of heroes. It's easy to applaud great strength and courageous risk, but upon closer look, heroes have a compassionate mission, as their actions always affect the greater good. Today, this empowering energy is accessible to those poised to make an impact in their world, by leaps and bounds!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you care so much, you might be micro-managing work that really doesn't require that kind of attention. When you let go a little, a rush of energy sweeps you up into the bigger picture.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You recognize the physical results of your thoughts. You can even see how your body is an expression of your consciousness. This state of heightened awareness is fast becoming your normal mode of operation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The whole story has not been told because anyone involved in the story is only capable of seeing things from their own narrow view. Therefore, no one is to be believed, at least not 100 percent.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To you, the good times are like a tide - they roll in, they roll out. And don't forget, your guiding luminary, the moon, controls those tides, much like you control your life. It's your reaction to the times that makes them good.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're spending more money than you thought you would. The outflow of funds will be balanced by a stroke of lucrative luck this afternoon. Keep focusing on the value of things instead of the cost.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your work is getting better and you're enjoying it more. When you do not approve of a situation, do the opposite of what you want to do, which is criticize. Go forward with praise for what is going right, which is actually a lot.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The winds of change don't always upset things. And in your case, they might actually tidy up a bit for you. Watch as a daunting task or pernicious issue simply blows away.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a reason it's called "perfect" stranger. People you don't know are a blank slate. You can be anyone you want to be and there's a good chance they will believe. Such opportunities arise today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This is no ordinary world, not by any stretch. There are mystical creatures that walk among the regular ones. You dream of them, spot them and interact with them in your own creative way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The only useful information is accurate information. Check your sources and find out what their sources are. You'll soon be able to use what you learned to turn a profit.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Taking offense or being critical only weighs you down. And who has the time? The right attitude is a light attitude. You can find the positive answer to even a negatively slanted question.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Physical and mental orderliness go hand in hand. Get your stuff organized, and your thoughts become more manageable, too. Tonight, you have an announcement and you deliver it with great style.

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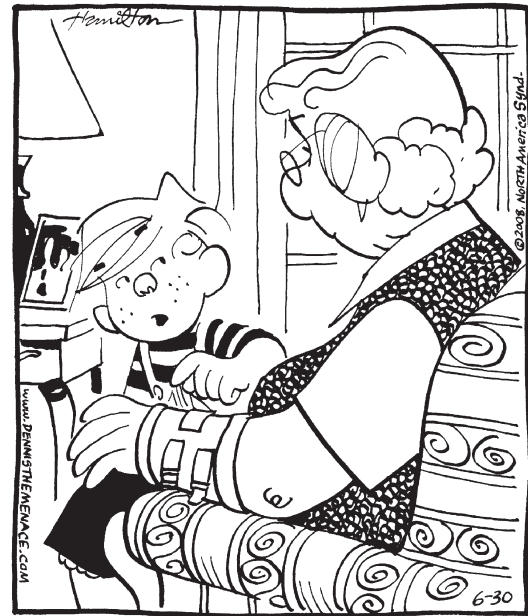
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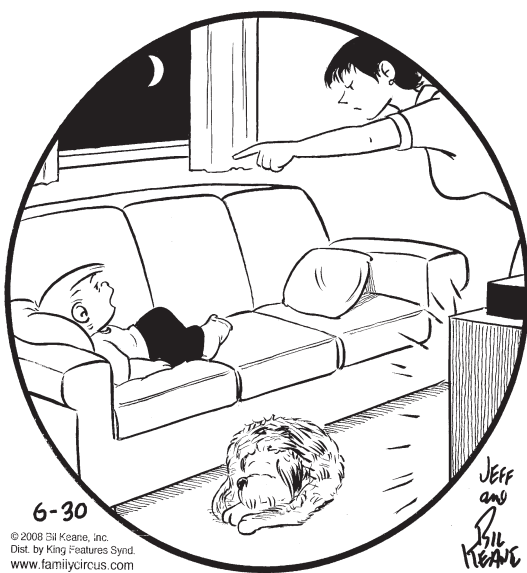
	WFAA 2	KMID 3	UNI 4	KPEJ 5	KOSA 7	KTLE 8	KWES 9	WTBS 11	KMLM 12	KPBT 13	DISC 20	AMC 21	SPIKE 22	TNT 23	BET 26	DISN 27	ESPN2 28	ESPN 29
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odesa	Odesa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odesa	Odesa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5 :PM	News	News	Locura	Simpsons	News	Noticias	News	Friends	CCM	News	Cash Cab	Movie: The Princess Bride	Movie: GoldenEye, Izabella Scorupco	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
6 :PM	News	Jeopardy!	Noticiero	Simpsons	News	Noticiero	News	Raymond	Granger	Business	Cash Cab	Movie: The Princess Bride	Movie: GoldenEye, Izabella Scorupco	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
7 :PM	The Bachelor	Fortune	Noticiero	Two Men	Entertain	Noticiero	12 Corazones	Raymond	Van Impe	News-Lehrer	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Princess Bride	Movie: GoldenEye, Izabella Scorupco	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
8 :PM	The Bachelor	Fortune	Noticiero	Two Men	Entertain	Noticiero	12 Corazones	Raymond	Van Impe	News-Lehrer	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Princess Bride	Movie: GoldenEye, Izabella Scorupco	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
9 :PM	The Mole	Fortune	Noticiero	Two Men	Entertain	Noticiero	12 Corazones	Raymond	Van Impe	News-Lehrer	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Princess Bride	Movie: GoldenEye, Izabella Scorupco	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Engvall	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
11 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Engvall	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
12 :AM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Engvall	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
1 :AM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Engvall	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Movie: Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

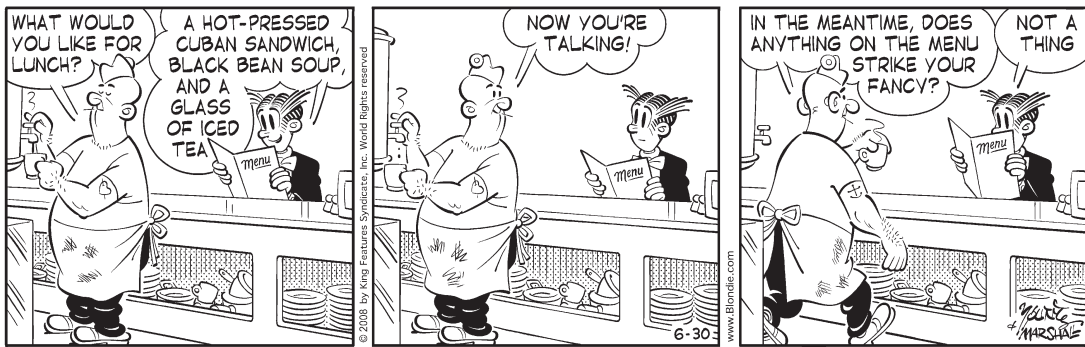


"But I told all the guys that when school was out you'd let me stay up to watch Leno."

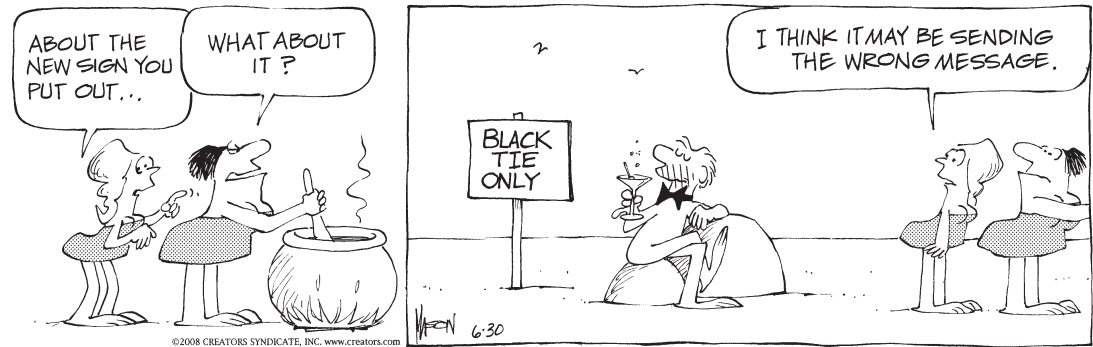
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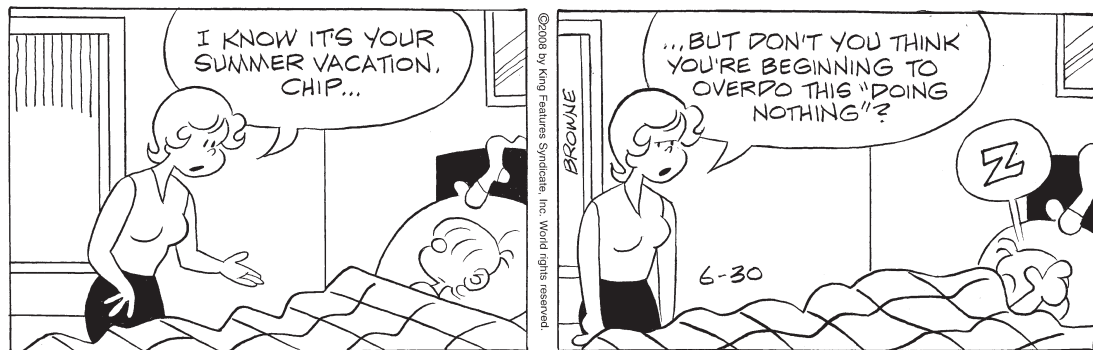
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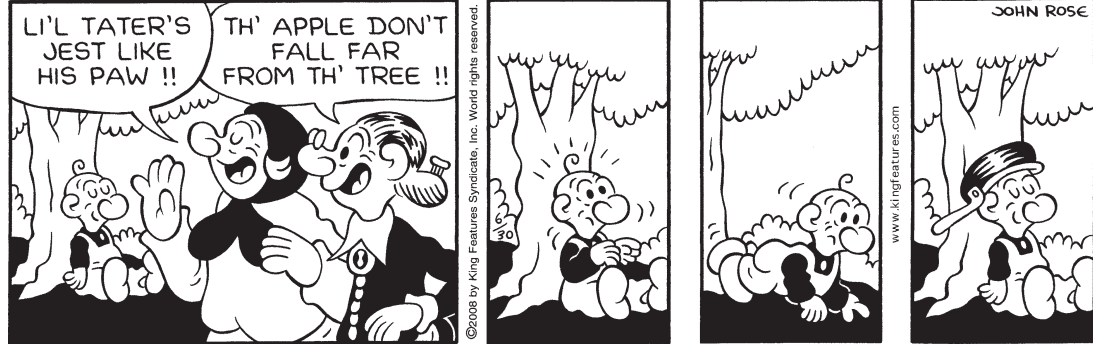
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, June 30, the 182nd day of 2008. There are 84 days left in the year.
 Today's Highlight in History:
 One hundred years ago, on June 30, 1908, the Tunguska Event took place in Russia as an asteroid exploded above Siberia, leaving 800 square miles of scorched or blown-down trees.
 On this date:
 In 1859, French acrobat Blondin (born Jean Francois Gravelet) walked a tightrope above the gorge of Niagara Falls as thousands of spectators watched.
 In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act.
 In 1921, President Harding nominated former President Taft to be chief justice of the United States, to succeed the late Edward Douglass White.
 In 1934, Adolf Hitler carried out his "blood purge" of political and military rivals in Germany in what came to be known as "The Night of the Long Knives."
 In 1936, the novel "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell was published in New York.
 In 1958, the U.S. Senate passed the Alaska statehood bill by a vote of 64-20.
 In 1963, Pope Paul VI was crowned the 262nd head of the Roman Catholic Church.
 In 1971, a Soviet space mission ended in tragedy when three cosmonauts aboard Soyuz 11 were found dead inside their spacecraft after it had returned to Earth.
 In 1985, 39 American hostages from a hijacked TWA jetliner were freed in Beirut after being held 17 days.
 In 1986, the Supreme Court, in Bowers v. Hardwick, ruled 5-4 that states could outlaw homosexual acts between consenting adults. (However, the nation's highest court effectively reversed this decision in 2003 in Lawrence v. Texas).
 One year ago: Two men rammed a jeep loaded with gasoline canisters into the main terminal at Glasgow Airport in Scotland, failing to set off an explosion, but seriously burning one of suspects; the attack came a day after two cars rigged as bombs were found in London.
 Today's Birthdays: Singer Lena Horne is 91. Actor Tony Musante is 72. Actress Nancy Dussault is 72.

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Answer to previous puzzle

P	R	E	S	I	D	E	B	R	O	N	C	S
L	E	X	I	C	O	N	B	L	O	W	O	T
O	P	P	R	E	S	S	L	A	Y	E	T	T
T	R	I	E	D	L	A	I	D	S	E	R	E
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E	V	E	R	A	V	E	S	E	L	A	T	E
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A	M	O	S	C	R	O	C					
U	R	C	H	I	N	M	O	N	I	K	E	R
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R	I	M	E	U	N	T	O	R	R	E	N	E
P	R	O	D	D	E	D	N	A	I	V	E	T
E	E	R	I	E	S	T	E	N	T	E	N	T
D	E	S	E	R	T							
S	T	A	R	T	E	D						

Newsday Crossword WHAT NOT TO WEAR by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Did the dog paddle
- Bright-colored parrot
- Minor argument
- Weak, as an excuse
- Without help
- Needle feature
- Pinnacle
- Coin factories
- Solemn ceremony
- Hardcover's cover
- Get ___ the ground floor
- Front tips of airplanes
- Fidgety
- One of the Seven Dwarfs
- Job to do
- Takes advantage of
- Gems from oysters
- Tax-form expert: Abbr.
- Legal case with many plaintiffs
- Boxing-match enders
- On time
- Penny
- Banana covering
- Delicious
- Destroy, as secret papers
- ___ bear (white bear)
- Stretched tight
- Painter's preliminary layer
- ___ Karenina
- Melted together
- One of the Great Lakes
- Furnace fuel

DOWN

- Thick slice
- Texas city
- Cannonballs, for example
- Timid nature
- Papas' partners
- Wonderland girl
- Bops on the head
- Poker-hand starter
- Toward sunset
- Reduce in size
- Pencil tip
- Some female singers
- Very small
- Happiness
- Special-interest grp.
- Quacking flier
- Norway's capital
- Round green veggies
- Lose one's footing
- Frequently
- Remove the rind from
- Earth-friendly sci.
- 24-hr. cash source
- Billiard sticks
- Fraction of a quart
- Legal rep.
- Went quickly
- Most uncommon
- Flower parts
- Driveway material
- Pile of casino chips
- Vietnam's capital
- Charge toward
- Resident of the Leaning Tower city
- Prophetic signs
- Narrow shelf
- Sgts.' subordinates
- Regulation
- Sandwich cookie
- "If it ___ broke..."
- Media mogul Turner et al.

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► News in Brief

U.N.: U.S. ship carrying food aid arrives in North Korea after progress in nuclear talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A U.S. ship carrying thousands of tons of food aid has arrived in North Korea, after the communist nation agreed to expanded international assistance for its impoverished people, the U.N. food agency said Monday.

The World Food Program said the American ship that arrived Sunday carried 37,000 tons of wheat, the first installment of 500,000 tons in promised U.S. aid that will be distributed by the United Nations.

The aid was not directly related to the ongoing nuclear talks between Washington and Pyongyang, as the U.S. says it does not use food as a means of diplomatic coercion. However, the shipment came just days after the North handed over its delayed atomic declaration and blew up the cooling tower at its main reactor site.

In exchange, Washington has removed some economic sanctions against the North and said it would remove the country from a U.S. State Department list of state sponsors of terrorism.

Sunday's wheat shipment will be enough for the WFP to expand its operations to feed more than 5 million people, up from 1.2 million people now getting international aid.

Tibetan envoys to meet Chinese officials this week in new round of talks

BEIJING (AP) — Representatives of the Dalai Lama headed to Beijing on Monday for the first formal talks with Chinese officials in a year, the Tibetan government-in-exile said, a move that comes less than four months after anti-government riots swept through Tibet.

Envoys Lodi Gyari and Kelsang Gyaltzen will hold two days of talks beginning Tuesday in China's capital, said Samdhong Rinpoche, the prime minister of the self-declared government in exile.

"This will be the continuation of the formal dialogue which started in 2002," Rinpoche said in Dharmasala, the north Indian city which is home to the Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leader and the government-in-exile.

The meetings follow closed-door, informal talks May 4 in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen. The talks ended with an offer from Beijing for future discussions, but yielded scant other concrete results.

The Dalai Lama's envoys have attended several rounds of talks with China since 2002. Specific details of those discussions have not been released, but they are believed to have focused on the Dalai Lama's demands for more autonomy.

2 medical choppers collide near Arizona hospital, leaving 6 dead and 1 critically injured

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — A helicopter ferrying a patient with a medical emergency from the Grand Canyon collided into another chopper carrying a patient near a northern Arizona hospital, leaving six people dead and critically injuring a nurse.

The collision Sunday east of Flagstaff Medical Center was a few hundred yards away from a neighborhood

that was spared the falling debris. Officials said they were unable to provide an account of what preceded the crash.

Lawrence Garduno, who lives about a half mile from the crash, said he heard a loud boom that rattled the windows. He drove toward the hospital and stopped to see the burning wreckage. "It kind of scares me," Garduno said. "If this had happened a half mile closer, it could have fallen on our house."

An explosion on one of the aircraft after the crash injured two emergency workers who arrived with a ground ambulance company. They suffered minor burns and were spending the night at the hospital, but their injuries were not life-threatening. The crash, about 130 miles north of Phoenix, also sparked a 10-acre brush fire that was contained.

One of the helicopters was operated by Air Methods from Englewood, Colo., and the other was from Classic Helicopters of Woods Cross, Utah. Both aircraft were Bell 407 models, said Ian Gregor, a spokesman with the Federal Aviation Administration.

Zimbabwe opposition leader says Robert Mugabe will have to negotiate

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe's main opposition leader believes the pomp with which President Robert Mugabe was sworn in for a sixth term is a sign of desperation.

In an interview Sunday after Mugabe claimed victory in an election in which he was the only candidate, opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai said the longtime ruler's only choice now amid international condemnation was to negotiate a deal.

Indeed, Mugabe promised talks with the opposition in his inauguration speech.

"He is in bad circumstances," Tsvangirai said in the interview. "He has no option but to negotiate."

Tsvangirai came to his Harare home for the interview, but is believed to have returned to his haven at the Dutch Embassy afterward. He fled to the embassy after hearing soldiers were headed to his home soon after he announced last week that he would not participate in Friday's presidential runoff.

Clark says McCain military service does not qualify him for commander in chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Retired Gen. Wesley Clark, a former Democratic presidential candidate now supporting Barack Obama, said Sunday John McCain's military service does not automatically qualify him to be commander in chief.

Underscoring during a national television appearance a position he has been expressing for several weeks, Clark said performing heroic military service is not a substitute for gaining command experience.

"In the matters of national security policy making, it's a matter of understanding risk," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation." "It's a matter of gauging your opponents and it's a matter of being held accountable. John McCain's never done any of that in his official positions. I certainly

honor his service as a prisoner of war. He was a hero to me and to hundreds of thousands and millions of others in the armed forces, as a prisoner of war.

"He has been a voice on the Senate Armed Services Committee and he has traveled all over the world, but he hasn't held executive responsibility," Clark said. "That large squadron in the Navy that he commanded — that wasn't a wartime squadron."

Moderator Bob Schieffer, who raised the issue by citing similar remarks Clark has made previously, noted that Obama hadn't had those experiences nor had he ridden in a fighter plane and been shot down.

"Well, I don't think riding in a fighter plane and getting shot down is a qualification to be president," Clark replied.

Blast kills 8 in Pakistani tribal region as anti-militant operation continues

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — A powerful explosion destroyed a militant compound and killed up to eight people Monday in a volatile tribal region where Pakistan security forces are waging an offensive against pro-Taliban militants, residents said.

A militant spokesman claimed it was a missile strike launched from neighboring Afghanistan where U.S. and NATO forces are based, but there was no official confirmation of such an attack.

The blast in Khyber tribal agency hit a compound owned by a supporter of Haji Namdar, a local militant leader whose Vice and Virtue Movement is suspected of cross-border assaults.

Pakistani paramilitary forces launched an offensive in the region three days ago against militants threatening the main northwestern city of Peshawar and a key supply line for the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan.

The Pakistani show of force comes amid U.S. concern that the newly elected government's efforts to negotiate peace deals with militants have given Taliban and al-Qaida-linked extremists more space to operate along the lawless border.

Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe sworn in for 6th term after condemned runoff vote

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe's longtime ruler Robert Mugabe was sworn in as president for a sixth term Sunday after a widely discredited runoff in which he was the only candidate. His main rival dismissed the inauguration as "an exercise in self-delusion."

Just hours after electoral officials said Mugabe won Friday's presidential runoff, which observers said was marred by violence and intimidation, the 84-year-old leader sounded a conciliatory note.

"Sooner or later, as diverse political parties, we shall start serious talks," he said in a speech following his swearing-in. He also had promised talks on the eve of the vote.

Mugabe, Zimbabwe's leader since independence from Britain in 1980, left later Sunday for an African Union summit that opens Monday in Egypt, The Herald, a government mouthpiece, reported.

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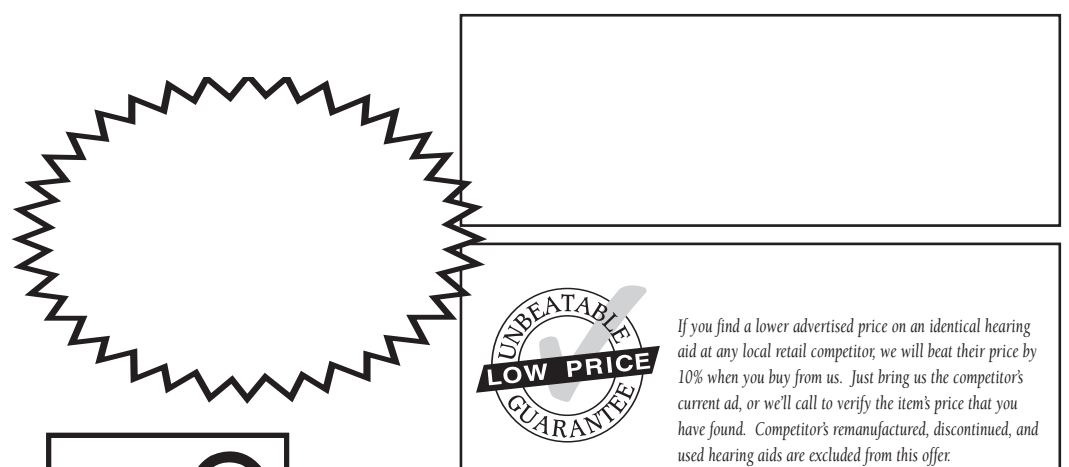
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