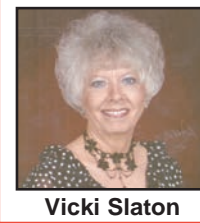




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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**SUNDAY**

**JULY 6, 2008**



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 186

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Funtastic Fourth draws steady crowds

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Having fun and giving thanks are not mutually exclusive exercises, as hundreds of area residents proved Friday.

Steady crowds flowed through the Heart of the

City Park Friday for the Fourth Annual Funtastic Fourth, a celebration of God and Country hosted by the Downtown Revitalization Association.

"It's been awesome," said DRA spokesperson Allen Johnson. "It's been

much smoother today than it has ever been."

Up to 50 vendors offered all manner of food and memorabilia, while other attractions included dunking booths, a washer tournament and pneumatic playground equipment.

"It's truly been a

Funtastic Fourth," Johnson said.

But there was more to the event than having fun — the main focus, Johnson said, was to give thanks to God for the freedoms enjoyed in this country.

Crowds were steady throughout the afternoon

and were expected to reach capacity levels for evening performances by top Christian groups Crimson Soul and Shane and Shane.

Music was the main attraction throughout the day, as groups and individuals performed on a

stage erected on Scurry Street adjacent to the park.

"We're proud of our new stage ... and we've heard nothing but good things from people about it," Johnson said Friday afternoon.

This marked the second year the event had a religious theme and Johnson said the idea is really catching on with visitors.

"We had a lot more participation from area churches this year than we had last time," he said. "So it's a lot more exciting this year. Next year, we hope to double the participation. Our goal is the same — we want to get every church in this area involved."

While declaring the event a success, Johnson said DRA organizers would soon be at work planning on an even better event for next year.

"We'll start planning for next year next week," he said. "Some of the bigger acts have to be booked long in advance and we waited too long this time, so we're going to get started even earlier in that regard ... This event is going great, but it can get even bigger."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)



At left, Oscar Hernandez, a member of Tempo Belen Church, gets some hamburgers ready for the crowds during Friday's Funtastic Fourth Festival. Clockwise: Boys ride the barrel train near Heart of the City Park; One Moment, a musical group based out of Clovis, N.M., performs; The festival drew good crowds, according to organizers with the Downtown Revitalization Association.

HERALD Photos/Thomas Jenkins



## INDEX

Business 4-5C  
Classified 6-8C  
Life 1-3C  
Obituaries 2A  
Opinion 4A  
Sports 1-4B



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### To reach us:

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

## Third city ADA meeting set Monday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council will hold its third — and final — town hall meeting to gather public input regarding its ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Transition Plan Monday, as the city attempts to develop a strategy to address problems with municipal buildings and walkways.

The meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. in the Bauer Elementary cafeteria, located at 108 N.E. Ninth St., with city officials and engineers with Parkhill Smith & Cooper — the firm hired to develop a transition plan to address ADA problems over the next several years — expected to speak.

"We will be evaluating these things and incorporating them into the transition

plan which identifies where we have problems in the facility and it outlines a basic plan for how we're going to resolve those and when we're going to resolve those," PSC engineer Bill Noonan said during a previous meeting. "It actually sets out a timeline of when those problems are going to be addressed. They may not be addressed within a year's time or five year's time. Some

of them are going to drag out a little bit longer based on funding, and that's going to be critical for the entire transition plan."

Expected to follow the same format as the first pair of gatherings, the town hall meeting will not involve any motions or votes from the council, but should help engineers

See **ADA**, Page 3A

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### IN BRIEF

#### Sponsors needed for Coahoma softball team

The Coahoma 10-under All-Stars is one of several area youth fast-pitch softball teams bound for a tournament in San Angelo starting Monday.

However, the 10-under squad is still looking for sponsors to accompany the girls on the trip.

If interested, contact Jennifer Chandler at 466-3727 or Ian Sloan at 213-5334.

#### Big Spring Boxing Club set to start training

The Big Spring Boxing Club is ready to open its doors to the public for any male or female from ages 9-26.

Interested people can register for the club's training services from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Morgan Park on the northside of town.

Anyone willing to volunteer time as a trainer, conditioner or sparring partner is also welcome to attend.

#### Steer football season ticket sales set to start

Big Spring High School will begin selling 2008 season tickets for Steer football July 28 at the Athletic Training Center.

Only persons who have previously owned season tickets are able to buy from July 28-Aug. 7. Sales for the general public begin Aug. 11 and end Aug. 22.

Tickets can be bought Monday through Thursday between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the ATC.

Call Kay Cook at 264-3662 with any questions.

#### 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 grades listed 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 two-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.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 4B

## BSLL All-Stars survive with 8-7 win

### Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — It's about survival of the fittest.

Whether or not the Big Spring 12-year-old All-Stars are in fact the fittest team in the District 3 All-Star Tournament occurring in Midland remains to be proven, but, for at least one night, they were able to outlast their opponent.

The 12-year-olds shut down the Midland Northern All-Stars when they needed to the most, holding

on for an 8-7 victory and earning a shot at the championship against Midland Mid-City, which defeated Big Spring 12-1 Thursday.

Blaise Coffman and Tobyn Tannehill combined to pitch the first five innings of the game, allowing seven runs.

The 12-year-olds led 8-7 in the bottom of the sixth with Devin Roberson taking over on the mound.

Roberson allowed one Mid-City runner to reach base, but struck out the final batter of the game,

earning the save and securing Big Spring's one-run victory.

A rare feat in Little League baseball occurred at the plate for Big Spring in the second inning. Although hitting a solo home run isn't incredibly strange in a Little League game, seeing a kid use a wooden bat to do so isn't a typical, run-of-the-mill happening at that level.

However, Brandon Warner did just that, providing another highlight of what has been a strong showing from all Big Spring teams

represented at the District 3 Tournament.

The 12-year-olds rematched Mid-City at 7 p.m. Saturday at the North Central Baseball Complex behind Lowe's in Midland. If Big Spring won this game, then a second and decisive game was played Sunday to determine the District 3 champion.

Full results of the 12-year-olds' attempt to bring home a title to Big Spring will be available in Monday's edition of the *Herald*.

## Venus bests Serena in straight sets



Venus Williams reacts as she defeats her sister Serena in straight sets to win the Women's Singles Championship on the Centre Court at Wimbledon Saturday.

AP photo/Alastair Grant

### Older sibling wins second straight Wimbledon title

By **STEPHEN WILSON**  
AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Venus Williams beat sister Serena 7-5, 6-4 Saturday for her fifth Wimbledon title and seventh Grand Slam championship.

This was Venus' first victory over her younger sibling in a Grand Slam final since the 2001 U.S. Open, and it evened their career record at 8-8.

"I can't believe that it's five," Venus said. "But when you're in the final against Serena Williams, five seems too far away. ... She played so awesome, it was really a task to beat her."

Venus came from 3-1 down in the first set to turn around the match, breaking Serena four times while dropping serve twice in a final that produced breathtaking tennis despite swirling wind.

This was more than a matchup between siblings; it was a contest between two of the hardest-hitting, most athletic players in the world at the top of their game.

Venus broke to finish the match, with Serena hitting a backhand wide on the second match point. The sisters embraced at the net, and Venus kept her celebrations in check as she twirled and waved to the Centre Court crowd.

Venus accepted the winner's trophy — a sterling

silver salver aptly named the Venus Rosewater dish — from the Duke of Kent.

"It's so rewarding to perform here," Venus said. "Every time I come back I know I have the chance to play well and make history. My first job is big sister and I take that very seriously."

Watching from the players' box was the sisters' mother, Oracene. Their father, Richard, had flown back to the United States because he can't stand to watch his daughters play each other.

Referring to the mixed feelings of her family about who to support, Venus said, "It's hard for all of them, but I like to think they want me to win."

The 26-year-old Serena accepted her runner-up trophy and paid tribute to her 28-year-old sister.

"I'm so happy that at least one of us was able to win," Serena said. "She's played great this year. We're just glad to be in the finals again."

The sisters were set to return later to Centre Court to play for the women's doubles title, joining forces to face Lisa Raymond of the U.S. and Samantha Stosur of Australia in the final.

"Serena deserves to win something, so I'll try even harder for that," said Venus, who collected a winner's check of \$1.49

See **WIMBLEDON**, Page 4B

## Phelps does it again, sets world record in 200 IM

### By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

AP National Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — Michael Phelps set another world record. No surprise there.

Dara Torres is going back to the Olympics. Who would've believed it?

Fresh off an endorsement from Mark Spitz, the iconic star he'll try to better in Beijing, Phelps set another world record to win the 200-meter individual medley at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials Friday night.

Phelps claimed his fourth individual victory of the trials in 1 minute, 54.80 seconds, beating the mark of 1:54.98 he set while winning seven events at last year's world championships in Australia.

"I just tried to hang on," he said. "I was hurting that last 50."

It was the second world record of the meet for Phelps, who also swam faster than anyone in history to win the 400 IM. His only piece of unfinished business: the 100 butterfly and an expected showdown with world record-holder Ian Crocker.

Phelps must finish first or second in that event Saturday night to ensure he swims eight events at the Olympics. Then he'll need to win them all to beat Spitz's record of seven gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Spitz, who was at the Qwest Center and presented Phelps with his award for winning the 200 IM, believes the 23-year-old from Baltimore has a good chance to take down the Holy Grail of Olympic records. He came close four years ago, winning six golds and two bronzes at the Athens Games.

"It's time for someone else to take the baton of responsibility," Spitz said. "Thirty-six years is a long time."

It's been a long time since Torres made her first Olympic team — 24 years, to be exact. Now 41 and with a 2-year-old daughter, she completed her improbable Olympic comeback, making the U.S. team for the fifth time by winning the 100 freestyle.

Wearing goggles older than some of her competitors, Torres

See **TRIALS**, Page 2B



Michael Phelps celebrates his victory with a world record time of 1:54.80 in the men's 200-meter individual medley final at the US Olympic swimming trials in Omaha, Neb., Friday.

AP photo/Nati Harnik

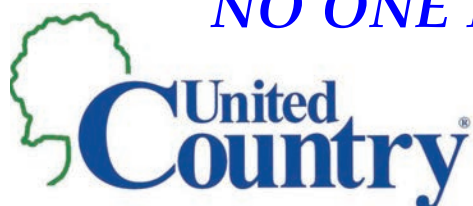




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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- GUADALUPE MORENO JR., 40, 807 Creighton, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify.
- TIMOTHY MARK DUFFEY, 34, 2903 Clanton, was arrested on a charge of assault causing bodily injury/family violence.
- JERRY RIVERA JR., 32, San Marcos, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- RYAN FORD, 19, Kyle, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- VANESSA RODRIGUEZ, 25, 509 Union, was arrested on six local warrants.
- FRANKLIN CASEY, 47, 1704 W. Fourth, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication and resisting arrest.
- JOSE AVINA, 32, 1200 Johnson, was arrested on a charge of interfering with an emergency call.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1500 block of Fourth.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 800 block of Interstate 20 and the 2900 block of Clanton.
- ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2900 block of Clanton and the 1600 block of State.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 800 block of 16<sup>th</sup>.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 100 block of 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was reported in the 200 block of Channing.
- INTERFERING WITH AN EMERGENCY CALL was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson.
- POSSESSION OF A DANGEROUS DRUG was reported in the 3300 block of South Service Road, Interstate 20.
- RESISTING ARREST was reported in the 1200 block of Third.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willia and the 1200 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Place.

• All cases set for trial for 9 a.m., Monday in the 118<sup>th</sup> District Court have been disposed of, so the jury has been cancelled. You do not need to show up Monday if you received a summons for Judge Robert H. Moore, III, District Judge.

• The country two-step lessons which began recently at the Senior Center will not meet this week, but will resume Thursday, July 10, from 7-9 p.m. Visitors are welcome to observe, but the fee is \$12 per lesson and practice time. Call Lane Bond at 432-263-4033 for more information."

• A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.

• The Texas Department of State Health Services is conducting a community health survey. The information will be used to study barriers to health care and other public health issues. Your personal information will not be used, other than the comments portion of the survey. You will not be asked for your name. The survey is available online and takes about 15 minutes to complete. For the English survey, go to [www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=929625](http://www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=929625). For the survey in Spanish, go to [www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=929626](http://www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=929626).

• Ex-Students Homecoming at Forsan High School will be held Aug. 2. For more information, contact Jimmy Anderson at Professional Pharmacy at 267-2546 or at his residence, 267-6143.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

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

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an

## Support Groups

### TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

### WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

### THURSDAY

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

### FRIDAY

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

### SATURDAY

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

## Take Note

"Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

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

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

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

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

• The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

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

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

## Bulletin Board

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

### MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in 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.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

### 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.

### THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.

## Lottery

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery: 5-9-16-18-29.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-4-6-9. Sum It Up: 23.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-1-3. Sum It Up: 4.

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# Labonte boys enjoying brief on-track reunion

By MIKE HARRIS

AP Auto Racing Writer

When Terry Labonte announced his retirement from racing in 2006, he intended to put that part of his life behind him.

So much for good intentions — the two-time NASCAR champion keeps getting pulled back in.

Last year, Michael Waltrip asked him to help out the new team for three races, assuring them of making the fields, thanks to the past champion's provisional.

Now, the 51-year-old Labonte is back again, four races into a six-race stint at Petty Enterprises. He's filling in for Kyle Petty, who's taking some time away to work as a TV analyst on TNT's Cup broadcasts.

And he gets to be teammates with younger brother Bobby.

"When I get to the race-track it's like old times again," said Terry Labonte last weekend at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. "Bobby and I always parked our motor-homes next to each other, and we've been able to do

that again. We both have similar driving styles so we are able to bounce things off of each other once again."

The younger Labonte, 44, said getting back on track hasn't been too difficult for his brother.

"I think he's enjoying this because it's not 38 races," the 2001 Cup champion said. "Like he said, it would be great to run the first 28 and, if you didn't make it in the Chase, you could say, 'All right, see you guys next year.' To run 38 is just very taxing on you from traveling. I think he misses the racing, but the week in and week out grind is hard on everybody."

The elder Labonte certainly doesn't regret retiring after a Cup career that began in 1978 and included 22 victories and championships in 1984 and 1996.

He spends part of the year on his ranch in Texas and also stays busy with a mobile marketing company that he co-owns and is based in North Carolina.

"I'm in the office just about every day when I'm home," Labonte said. "My



AP photo/Jim Cole

NASCAR drivers Terry Labonte, left, and younger brother Bobby Labonte get together before practice at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, N.H., June 28.

partner runs the thing. All I do is tinker."

He insists he hasn't missed racing all that much.

"I'd watch some races and think, 'Man, I wish I was there. That's one of my favorite tracks,'" Labonte said. "Then there's other races I'd watch and think, 'Phew, I'm glad I'm not there.'"

With his six-race return engagement, Labonte finally got a chance to drive NASCAR's Car of Tomorrow, a vehicle considered a handful for almost everyone.

"I wanted to drive one of these cars so bad because everybody says they're so different from whatever I got to race," he said. "The first time out at Pocono,

they had me terrified of this car because I had never driven one and all the horror stories I heard."

In his first four races in the new car, Labonte has finished between 17th (at Sonoma) and 34th (at New Hampshire).

Though he found the car difficult to get balanced, he said he's happy with

his performance.

"I wanted to have fun and do what I could to help this team continue to move forward. We've been able to do both," Labonte said. "I guess you could say that I've caught the racing bug again."

Just don't expect him to be looking for another ride any time soon.

## TRIALS

Continued from Page 1B

got off to a blazing start and guarded her lead on the furious return lap to win in 53.78, beating out Natalie Coughlin's 53.83. Cheering from the stands was Torres' daughter, Tessa, who was in mom's arms for the awards ceremony.

Torres, who made her Olympic debut at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, has twice retired from competitive swimming. A nine-time medalist, she already was the first U.S. swimmer to make four Olympic teams.

Now, make it five.

Torres climbed from the water with a big smile and gave her

coach, Michael Lohberg, a long hug. She broke down in tears while "American Woman" blared from the speakers.

Overshadowed by Phelps and Torres, Aaron Peirsol gained a measure of revenge for his upset loss at the 2007 world championships, tying the world record in the 200 backstroke and beating nemesis Ryan Lochte.

The two were stroke for stroke the whole race, but Peirsol lunged to the wall just ahead of Lochte to win in 1:54.32, equaling the mark set by Lochte at the last worlds.

This time, the laid-back Floridian was two-hundredths of a second slower, leaving him in second place.

Lochte smiled when he saw the time. The two shook hands,

and Peirsol patted his rival on the head, both of them mindful the stakes will be much in their next race.

The top two qualified for Beijing.

Lochte had a pair of runner-up finishes on a grueling night, returning about 28 minutes after his loss to Peirsol to finish second to Phelps in the IM.

Phelps also raced twice Friday night. He followed his world record by posting the fastest semifinal time in the 100 butterfly at 51.10. Crocker was second in 51.52.

On hand for the awards ceremony, Spitz draped a medal around Phelps' neck and pointed toward him while the crowd cheered, a gesture that everyone took as his acceptance that seven

gold is a record that won't last much longer. Phelps headed around the deck to receive his applause; Spitz went the other way and disappeared down a staircase.

"It's an honor," Phelps said of his latest meeting with Spitz. "Without a doubt, he's probably one of the greatest Olympians of all time. To have him here and wish me good luck, that's definitely something that's meaningful."

Amanda Beard is also heading back to the Olympics. She became a four-time member of the U.S. team by finishing second to runaway winner Rebecca Soni in the 200 breaststroke.

Soni touched far ahead of the field in 2:22.60 to make her first Olympic squad — just off Beard's

American record of 2:22.44 set at the 2004 trials.

Beard, who first competed at the 1996 Atlanta Games and won the 200 breast at the last Olympics, took a long layoff after Athens. She looked to be a long shot but managed to finish second in 2:25.13, holding off Caitlin Leverenz by less than a second.

In the 50 free semifinals, defending world champion Ben Wildman-Torbriner advanced to Saturday's final as the top qualifier, while Gary Hall Jr. kept himself in the running to become the first swimmer to win the same event in three straight Olympics.

The 33-year-old Hall has the fourth-quickest time in the furious one-lap sprint.

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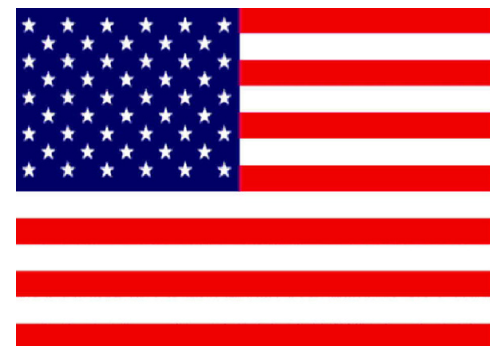
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## Anniversary

### Celebrating Silver Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Javier Alvarez

Javier and Julie Alvarez celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary with family and friends hosted by their daughters.

The couple were married July 2, 1983, at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Juarez, Mexico. They renewed their vows on June 1, 2008, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo.

## Weddings

### Marshall-Jones Wed



Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Jones and Savanna

On June 13, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the Coahoma City Park Miss Ramonda Lynn Marshall of Kentucky became the bride of Jacob Lewis Jones of Sand Springs. They said their vows under an arch of burgundy roses, silver ribbon and twinkling lights.

The bride, who was escorted down the aisle by her step father Bobby Dunn, wore a gown designed by Paula Jones, mother of the groom. The special gown was made by Amanda Wilde, sister of the groom. The gown featured an open back laced with rhinestones, a chapel length train and sweetheart neckline. The dress was of white satin with lace, seed pearls and sequin accents. She wore a two tiered tulle veil held in place by satin, seed pearl and sequin crown.

She carried a bouquet consisting of a candle surrounded by silver, white and burgundy roses, accented with baby's-breath and silver ribbon.

Savanna Burden, daughter of the bride, served her mother as maid of honor. She wore a burgundy evening length dress of taffeta featuring a sweetheart neckline accented with rhinestones.

She carried a bouquet of burgundy and white roses surrounding a candle tied with silver ribbon. The brides maids were Amanda Wilde, sister of the groom, and Veronica Marshall, sister of the bride. They wore burgundy taffeta halter evening gowns with rhinestone straps and sweetheart necklines. And carried bouquets like the maid of honor.

Casie Sutton, niece of the bride, and Emilee Wilde, niece of the groom, served as flower girls. They wore identical dresses of white satin with rhinestone buckles and a white rose with seed pearls on the back of the waist. They carried silver baskets with burgundy and white roses petals. Tied to the baskets were burgundy, silver and white mini roses.

The groom attired in black jeans, white western shirt, burgundy taffeta with silver satin back cowboy vest, boots and cowboy hat was attended by the best man Donny Jones, the

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father of the groom; Robert Jones, brother of the groom; and Bobby Dunn, father of the bride, who were attired identically to the groom. The vests were made by Paula Jones and Amanda Wilde.

The reception followed in the Coahoma Community building. The brides table featured a three-tiered rectangle cake decorated with burgundy roses with silver leaves and burgundy swags topped with a crystal bride and groom.

The centerpiece was the bride's bouquet. The punch was of a recipe made by the hostess Susan Clements, sister in law of the groom. The table was covered with taffeta to match the bridesmaid dresses topped with an antique lace cloth that was borrowed from the hostess. Helping with the serving of tables were Martina Nelson and Belia Nelson, nieces of the groom.

The groom's table featured a chocolate cake with horses and fences. The icing was chocolate and had his name on the cake. The centerpiece was a Texas flag on a rustic barn wood box filled with sunflowers surrounding the grooms favorite flower bluebonnets. Besides the cake, the table had a silver bucket filled with Dr. Pepper, the grooms favorite drink.

Ramonda is the daughter of Bobby and Connie Dunn of Kentucky. Her grandparents are Raymond and Evelyn Smith of Kentucky and William and Roberta Green of Kentucky.

Jake is the son of Donny & Paula Jones of Sand Springs. His grandparents are the late Jack & June Jones and the late Bill & Geneva Brothers. Jake graduated from Coahoma High School in the class of 2002.

The couple will make their home in Big Spring where Jake is employed as a Corpal at Cornell Corrections. The couple plan to have a ceremony for her disabled grandfather in Kentucky later this summer. Following that will be the honeymoon to an undisclosed location.

## Births



Gabriel Lee Barraza Jr.

Gabriel Lee Barraza Jr., a boy, was born at 8:05 p.m. June 25, 2008, weighing 6 pounds, 9 ounces and was 18 inches long.

He is the son of Gabriel Barraza and Monica Muniz of Big Spring. His maternal grandparent is Diana Villa. His paternal grandparent is Arlene Arguello.

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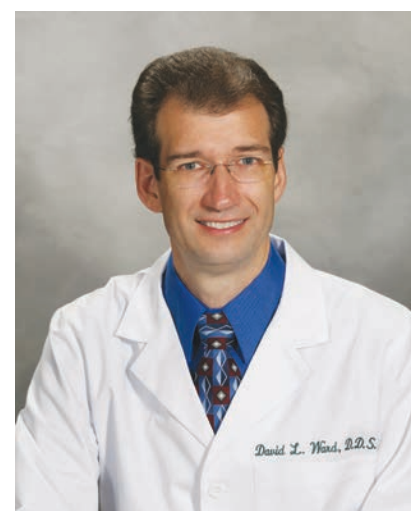
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## Texas Briefs

### Gas pump inaccuracies both help, hurt consumer

AUSTIN (AP) — Thousands of inaccurate gas pumps each year give Texas motorists more or less fuel than the amount for which they pay.

A total of 5,778 pumps — more than 5 percent of the 109,369 pumps inspected last year in Texas — gave the wrong amount of gasoline or had other problems that put them out of service until they were repaired.

Almost 28 percent of the problem pumps — 1,612 — shorted customers beyond a small variance allowed by the state, according to Texas Department of Agriculture inspection data analyzed by the San Antonio Express-News and the Houston Chronicle. The information was contained in a report for Saturday's newspapers.

The percentage reflects only inspection categories that measure gas output, not other problems that can affect pump accuracy and also potentially short the customer.

Twenty-seven percent of the problem pumps, or 1,575, provided a bonus, providing more gasoline than they should have.

"Half of the time it may be tilted slightly in favor of the station owner, but the other half of the time, it's tilted slightly in favor of the consumer," said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples.

Since 2005, the percentage of inspected pumps found to have problems has ranged from 5.3 to 6.4 annually, the newspapers reported.

Of those with problems in 2005, almost 37 percent shorted customers in the pump-output categories, while nearly 20 percent gave them too much gas. In 2006, 40 percent of pumps that failed inspection gave too little, and 20 percent too much. So far this year, 23.5 percent of problem pumps have given too little gas, and 23.2 percent too much.

When two more inspection categories that can relate to gas pump accuracy — readouts for "price" and "gallons" — not starting at zero and improperly maintained pumps — the proportion of inspected pumps that might be shorting consumers climbs to the 60 percent range or higher in each of the past three years. The "improperly maintained" category includes items that may or may not short the customer.

Chris Newton of the Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association said sellers are committed to accuracy.

"This is an incredibly tough time for retailers in motor fuels," Newton said. "It's not in a retailer's interest to be engaging in that type of conduct. Our members want a fair marketplace for everybody."

Staples asked motorists to be aware of their gas-tank capacity, pay attention at the pump and report any problems to his agency at 1-800-Tell-TDA. The state inspects pumps every four years and examines any that get complaints.

Record high gasoline prices greeted Fourth of July travelers on Texas highways. AAA Texas on Friday reported the statewide average for self-serve regular was \$3.96 per gallon, up three cents compared to last week.

### 2 killed in multiple motorcycle wreck

LUFKIN (AP) — Two people were killed and five were injured in a Fourth of July collision that involved five motorcycles near the Sam Rayburn Dam.

Robert Benjamin Boren of Galveston, who was heading west on his Harley Davidson, crossed the center line of Recreational Road 255 and collided with Donald Mitchell Jackson of Wells, who was going east on his Yamaha, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety. Both were killed.

Another Harley Davidson cyclist, A.W. Wright of Lufkin, drove through the crash scene and struck Jackson. Two other cyclists who followed Wright also crashed.

Wright was taken to Lufkin's Memorial Hospital where

he was treated for a broken leg and considered stable, according to a report in Saturday editions of The Lufkin Daily News.

Four others, including two passengers, were treated and released at Jasper Memorial Hospital. One of the passengers was a 12-year-old boy.

Boren was not wearing a helmet, and it was not immediately clear whether Jackson was wearing one, the newspaper reported.

The accident happened near Jasper, which is about 130 miles northeast of Houston.

### Brimer files suit against fall opponent

FORT WORTH, (AP) — Republican state Sen. Kim Brimer has filed a lawsuit against his Democratic opponent, attempting to get her disqualified from the race.

Brimer, of Fort Worth, filed the suit Thursday, claiming that Wendy Davis should be kicked off the November general election ballot because she filed to run for the state Senate seat while still on the Fort Worth City Council.

"I want to run against a legal opponent," Brimer said in a statement e-mailed to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Thursday. "The eligibility questions surrounding my opponent need to be addressed before the fall election."

The suit also names Tarrant County Democratic Party Chairman Steve Maxwell and Texas Democratic Party Chairman Boyd Richie as defendants.

Brimer's legal argument is nearly identical to one made six months ago by three Fort Worth firefighters, the newspaper reported. The 2nd Court of Appeals tossed out that case, ruling that only a political opponent had legal standing to challenge Davis' eligibility.

Maxwell said Brimer's suit shows that he doesn't believe he can beat Davis, who did not face a Democratic challenger in the spring.

"It is regrettable that Senator Brimer is so intimidated by Wendy's presence and her campaign that he is forced to conjure up old spells," Maxwell said in an e-mailed statement. "I think the voters of District 10 are not going to appreciate that."

### Man admits stabbing wife after blaming intruder

HOUSTON (AP) — A man who initially said a spiky-haired intruder fatally stabbed his wife has confessed to the crime, Harris County sheriff's deputies said Friday.

Damion Faulkner, 36, was charged Thursday with murder in the death of his wife, 49-year-old Dorothy Faulkner.

Deputies told the Houston Chronicle for its Friday online editions that Faulkner described the suspect who killed his wife as a Hispanic man, 6-feet tall with a medium build, spiky hair and possibly a beard.

A few hours later, when Faulkner's story collapsed under detectives' questioning, he confessed that he had fabricated the home invasion and that he was the killer, Harris County sheriff's deputies said Friday.

Faulkner was being held at the Harris County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond. Information on an attorney for Faulkner was not immediately available Friday.

Deputies said Faulkner initially told them he and his wife were surprised by the intruder at 6 a.m. Thursday in the couple's home. He said the intruder had stabbed him once and his wife several times before fleeing without stealing anything.

Faulkner later confessed that he had staged the crime scene, even stabbing himself to make it look more realistic, police said. He was treated for minor injuries at Memorial Hermann Hospital.

He told deputies that personal and financial problems had strained his relationship with his wife and motivated the stabbing, officials said.

Tax records show that Faulkner owed the IRS nearly \$20,000 and that his wife owed nearly \$15,000.



Courtesy photo

## Heritage Museum artist of the month

Kay Smith of the Big Spring Art Association is the Heritage Museum's featured artist for July.

She has been studying watercolor exclusively since 1993 and has been published frequently in art instruction books, international and national magazines, and is represented by Courage Cards. Her vibrant colorful designs have found their way not only in local collectors' homes but across the country and in Europe.

She holds signature status, a designation of excellence based on professional achievement, with Southwestern, Texas and Wyoming watercolor societies. Kay maintains a studio gallery, Brushworks, where she studies, teaches and displays her varied works at 2106 Scurry St.

"I add invented or imagined elements of surprise in my work," she says. "Painting on a daily basis keeps my fresh and spontaneous style exciting, which is unique to watercolor. It is up to me to offer the viewer a new way of seeing by showing you something not revealed up to now."

Several different paintings are being shown throughout the month at the museum located at 510 Scurry St.

### Man accused of faking heart attacks to avoid bills

WAUKESHA, Wis. (AP) — A 52-year-old Milwaukee-area man has been accused of faking heart attacks to avoid paying restaurant bills and cab fares.

Police say the Waukesha (WAWK'-uh-shaw) man took a cab to a mall Monday and pretended to have a heart attack. The cab driver left unpaid.

Authorities say the man then ran up a \$23 bill when he had a steak dinner at Applebee's. He again pretended to have a heart attack.

This time the fire department took him to a hospital. A doctor there recognized the man as having pulled the same stunt in the past few weeks.

He was charged Thursday with defrauding a restaurant as a habitual criminal. He could get up to nine months in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

## ADA

Continued from Page 1A

gather much-needed data on the barriers facing disabled members of the community, according to City Attorney Linda Sjogren.

"Title 2 of the ADA requires that local governments ensure all are able to participate in programs, services or activities, and this is the city council's way of trying to get this in compliance and the transition plan into place so we can reach that goal," said Sjogren. "We were required to do an evaluation on our facilities and services back in 1992, and have had that plan on file for quite some time. We updated it in 2007 and we're in the process of doing further evaluations, and one of the questions we want to ask tonight is — in addition to the curb ramps — is a facilities transition plan. We would like to get your input on any city-owned facilities that you've encountered barriers to access or are aware of such barriers."

Big Spring's ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Advisory Committee, along with officials from

PSC, began developing the plan after several ADA issues were recently brought before the council.

The committee is tasked with gathering citizen input and making recommendations concerning accessibility and compliance with ADA regulations on city streets and facilities, and also plans to submit a report on accessibility issues in city buildings later this year.

Accessibility has become a major issue because the city is about to start work on a \$9 million street renovation project in the central part of Big Spring.

"Texas law states that if you pursue major renovation to streets or buildings in a dollar value greater than \$50,000, you must submit that proposal for ADA approval, then pass an accessibility inspection," said Noonan.

Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said work on the street renovation is scheduled to begin in August and last a year. Aside from renovating the roadways, attention will be placed on accessibility features such as curb ramps and "curb cuts" — areas on street intersections specially graded to allow wheelchair access — he said.

And city officials are looking at addressing accessibility beyond the upcoming street project.

"If there are any funds left over after the street renovation, I would like us to look into the possibility of installing curb ramps at city hall and the municipal auditorium," Darden said. "We're looking at some of our facilities in our current budget ... We're trying to secure grant money to address some of these

issues."

For additional information, contact city officials at 264-2401.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

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# Former Aggie, Charger safety Kiel dead

**The Associated Press**

SAN DIEGO — Former Chargers safety Terrence Kiel was killed after he was thrown from a Chevy sedan he was driving, police said Saturday.

Kiel, 27, was driving alone after leaving a party at about 10:15 Friday night when he hit a wall in San Diego's upscale Scripps Ranch neighborhood and was thrown from the car, police Sgt. Alan Hayward said.

Kiel was barely breathing when paramedics reached him and he died about an hour later, Hayward said.

Friends had tried to keep Kiel from driving home from the party, Hayward said, and witnesses told police he appeared to be driving in the wrong direction when he crashed.

Police would not know whether Kiel had been under the influence of drugs or alcohol until toxicology tests were performed, Hayward said.

A second-round draft pick out of Texas A&M in 2003, Kiel played four years in the NFL from 2003-2006, all with the Chargers. He grew up in Lufkin, Texas.

In February 2007 he pleaded guilty to felony and misdemeanor drug charges for shipping prescription cough syrup to Texas, the most significant of several scrapes with the law.

He was released by the team after his plea.

Kiel had been led off the prac-

tice field and arrested in the locker room by Drug Enforcement Administration agents in September 2006, suspected of shipping at least two parcels of prescription cough syrup, apparently to be mixed with soft drinks to make a concoction known as "lean."

The felony charges were later dropped after he completed community service, and he was serving three years probation for the misdemeanor charges.

He was cited for urinating in public outside a San Diego nightclub in January 2007, but the city dropped that charge.

**Former voice of Cowboys passes away**

DALLAS — North Texas broadcasting legend Murphy Martin, who was an anchor at WFAA-TV in the 1960s and 70s, died late Thursday night after a lengthy illness. Martin died just one hour shy of his 83rd birthday, WFAA-TV reported Friday on its Web site.

Football fans may remember Martin as the public address announcer for the Dallas Cowboys at Texas Stadium in the 1980s.

He worked at WFAA in the early 1960s and went on to be an anchor and reporter at ABC News in New York. Martin returned to WFAA again in the early 70s and also worked at radio stations KRLD in Dallas

and KRBA in Lufkin, his hometown.

He covered Martin Luther King while working as a correspondent for ABC News in the 1960s and also provided news coverage immediately following the assassination of President Kennedy.

Martin first met King while covering a march to integrate beaches at St. Augustine, Fla. He eventually anchored ABC's live network coverage at the end of the Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march in 1965, according to www.murphymartin.com.

Martin was inducted into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame in 2006.

"Martin was greatly respected and will be deeply missed," the station reported on its site.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce.

**Ryan respects Goodell's feelings on contracts**

Matt Ryan isn't apologizing for benefiting from a system that allows top NFL draft picks to receive massive contracts. Even so, he appreciates where Roger Goodell was coming from last week when the commissioner questioned paying millions in guaranteed salary to rookies who have yet to play a down in the league.

"You can also understand the other side of it, the concern of

veterans who have been in the league 10, 12 years and proven themselves but not seen the money," Ryan said in a phone interview Tuesday. "I can understand both sides."

The third pick in this year's draft, the quarterback signed a \$72 million, six-year contract with the Atlanta Falcons that included \$34.75 million in guaranteed pay.

All that money means first-year players need to quickly develop a lot of financial savvy. On Monday night, Ryan and his fellow draft picks participated in a presentation by Visa about credit scores during the NFL Rookie Symposium in Carlsbad, Calif.

Ryan said players were chatting afterward about the concept of assets vs. liabilities -- how some purchases, such as a house, generate wealth, while others decline in value over time.

Most people can afford to make some financial mistakes early in adulthood because they'll have a long career and their peak earnings won't come for a couple of decades, said Lisa Withers, Visa's national financial literacy educator. But for professional athletes, there's little room for error, since their highest incomes may come for a few years in their early 20s.

Withers was impressed by all the hands that flew up around the room as she gave her 45-minute presentation to players

Monday.

At the end the rookies were divided into two teams, the Patriots and Giants, to play a game to test their financial knowledge.

"They were talking smack back and forth just like if they were in a football game," she said.

Withers emphasized that a low credit score can burn a player no matter how much money he makes. Veteran quarterback Drew Brees learned that the hard way early in his career. In a phone interview Tuesday, he recalled how he failed to pay a cell phone bill and it went to collections.

"It took me my first couple of years in the league to learn through experience," he said.

**Pats cut Baylor ex following arrest**

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The New England Patriots released defensive back Willie Andrews Tuesday, one day after he was arrested for allegedly pointing a handgun at his girlfriend's head.

The 24-year-old Andrews, primarily a special teams player, was being held without bail pending a dangerousness hearing Thursday following his second arrest this year.

See NFL, Page 4B

# Sources say Diop headed back to Mavs

**By JAIME ARON**

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks had to give up DeSagana Diop to get Jason Kidd. Now, the 7-foot center is headed back to Dallas.

Diop agreed Wednesday to a \$31 million, five-year contract with the Mavericks, according to a person close to the negotia-

tions who requested anonymity because NBA rules prevent the deal from being signed until next week.

Dallas also has agreed to a one-year, minimum-salary contract with Gerald Green, a 22-year-old former slam dunk champion who had been unemployed since March. He passed a physical Wednesday and paperwork to

make the deal official is being finalized. Since he wasn't on a team when last season ended, he can be signed at any time.

In other free agent news, Eddie Jones has exercised his \$2 million option to return next season, when he'll be 37, and the Mavs are trying to keep their other free agents: Devean George, Antoine Wright and J.J.

Barea.

Diop is a former lottery pick who was considered a bust after four lousy years in Cleveland. The Mavs signed him for the 2005-06 season and he wound up splitting the center job with Erick Dampier as Dallas reached the NBA finals. He and Dampier shared the job against the following season, when the

Mavericks won a franchise-record 67 games.

He was traded to the New Jersey Nets in the blockbuster trade for Kidd. The Nets knew he was headed to free agency — and the Mavs were waiting for him. Dallas showed how badly it wanted him by using its full

See MAVS, Page 4B

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# Dear Annie

**Dear Annie:** Is financially cutting off your spouse and refusing to put her on your medical insurance a form of abuse?

Three years ago, I found out my husband was embezzling funds from our joint accounts by purchasing items for work, getting reimbursed by check and then hiding the money in another account. I discovered it when my kids' school called and told me we were four months behind on tuition.

When I confronted him, he denied it. The next thing I knew, he had transferred all the balances of our credit cards onto one for which I was the primary cardholder, and had removed my name from his accounts and closed them. He then changed all the passwords so I now have no clue who we owe or how much.

My husband spends huge amounts of money on himself, and takes vacations and day-trips with the kids knowing full well I can't afford to go (and he won't pay for me). He refuses to help with child care, won't fix things in the house or car, and won't buy groceries or clothes for the kids, nothing. I make less than a quarter of what he does, and now I have no medical insurance because he said it was too expensive to put me on his plan, although the kids are on it.

Counseling doesn't work. Every time we've seen someone, he calls the person a quack and ends the session. What on earth do I do? — *Sadly Broke in Simi, Calif.*

**Dear Simi:** Controlling the money so the spouse does not have access and then refusing to pay for a spouse's necessities or insurance is indeed a form of abuse. Your husband's behavior is completely unacceptable. Before taking any action, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (ndvh.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233) and ask for help. Then call an attorney.

**Dear Annie:** My niece is getting married, and I don't want my husband to attend because he has no sense of respect. We also have a special needs son, and when we take him with us, I always end up missing the event. At the last wedding, I sat outside with my son and kept waiting for my husband to relieve me so I could get a bite to eat, but it never happened.

This time I would like to enjoy the wedding, so I'd rather my husband stay home with our son. The problem is, he'll get very angry if I ask. My adult children say I should just tell him at the last minute that I don't want him to go. What do you say? — *Worn Out Wife*

**Dear Worn Out:** We're not fans of the last-minute surprise. Instead, tell your husband you'd prefer to go to the wedding alone. If he objects, consider hiring someone to stay with your son, either at home or at the wedding (ask the bride first), so you can enjoy yourself. It seems worth the cost for the peace of mind. As for your husband's boorish behavior at the event, ignore it.

**Dear Annie:** "The Outsider" said her husband hears confidences from his mother with the admonition not to repeat them to his wife. My mother-in-law tells my husband things that make him mad at me — like our kids don't

visit or her feelings are hurt because we spent a holiday with my parents. She tells him not to say anything to me because she doesn't want to cause trouble (yeah, right).

The result is, my husband gets mad as a hornet and we get into a terrible fight about whatever garbage his mother "confided" in him. But he always insists I should not get mad at her because he wasn't supposed to say anything. If she truly doesn't want to cause trouble, she should find another confidant. — *Sick of the Secrets*

**Dear Sick:** The problem isn't your mother-in-law, it's your husband. He should not be so easily taken in by this manipulative maliciousness. The fact that he chooses her feelings over yours is the real issue.

**Dear Annie:** At the age of 19, I was a normal girl who had just started college as a dance major with dreams of opening nights and curtain calls. But a few months into my college career, kidney failure ground my world to a halt. Sick and exhausted, I went home to be looked after by my parents and undergo dialysis treatments. Without them, I would have died. I no longer had the energy to do anything.

Luckily for me, live organ donation freed me from dialysis when my father generously volunteered to give me one of his kidneys. I resumed a mostly normal life, got back into shape, finished college and landed a job dancing with a touring show.

I'd never considered myself an athlete, but following my transplant, I heard about the National Kidney Foundation U.S. Transplant Games, taking place July 11-16 in Pittsburgh. The games are an Olympic-style athletic event for transplant recipients of all ages who compete in 13 different sports. I became determined to get into shape to show the world what transplantation makes possible.

I'll be competing for medals in track and field to showcase the lifesaving power of organ donation and encourage people to think about signing up as organ donors. Readers interested in learning more about the games or getting free organ donor cards and information can contact the National Kidney Foundation at 1-800-622-9010 or visit [www.transplantgames.org](http://www.transplantgames.org). — *Emily Biondi, Baltimore, Md.*

**Dear Emily:** Thank you for giving our readers this excellent information. We wish you the best of luck in your upcoming competitions.

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



2008 Big Spring High School graduate Allison M. Ward was awarded a Permian Honor

Ward Scholarship in the amount of \$7,600 to attend Howard College and UTPB.

Allison plans to major in chemistry with a minor in mathematics. She is the daughter of Billy and Sheila Ward.

The Permian Honor Scholarship Foundation Inc. has awarded scholarships totaling \$265,000 to Permian Basin students who wish to pursue their education at Howard College, Midland College, New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, N.M.; Odessa College and The University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Since 1977, the foundation has awarded 2,374 area students with scholarships totaling \$5,731,000. The private foundation was established by J. Conrad and Kathlyn Cospur Dunagan to provide scholarships to area high school graduates in order for them to remain in the Permian Basin for their higher education.



Elizabeth Wheeler was appointed to serve as a House Page for the first 2008 summer legislative session of the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C.

She was nominated by the Honorable Randy Neugebauer and appointed by the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House.

Pages have been serving the House of Representatives for more than 200 years. Working as a team, pages assist members with their legislative duties, deliver correspondence and small packages within the congressional complex, answer phones in the Member Clock Rooms and prepare the House Floor for sessions.

High school juniors with a GPA of 3.0 or higher in core academic subjects may apply for appointment as pages in the U.S. House of Representatives through a competitive process.

Currently, 72 young men and women are appointed by their member of Congress to serve as pages in the U.S. House of Representatives. Twenty-four slots are reserved for Republican Pages.

Elizabeth will be a senior this year at Big Spring High School. She is the daughter of Cary and Wendy Brown of Big Spring and Kyle and Terri Wheeler of Midland and the granddaughter of Royce and Linda Walker and Robert and Dorothy Wheeler, all of Big Spring.

Contact  
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### Vaughan and Oliphant



Brandon Oliphant and Amber Vaughan

Amber Loraine Vaughan and Brandon Keith Oliphant will unite in marriage on Aug. 2, 2008, at Villa Antonia in Austin.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Don and Tammy Williams and Baxter and Kathy Vaughan, all of Plainview.

The future groom is the son of Jerry and Dianne Oliphant.

Amber graduated from Plainview High School and Texas State University with

degrees in psychology and criminal justice. She is employed by Hayes County Sheriff's Department.

Brandon is a Big Spring High School graduate and earned a degree in marketing from Southwest Texas State University. He is employed by Nike Factory Outlet in San Marcos as a shipping and receiving manager.

### Heith and Childress



Lindsey Heith and Daylan Childress

Bobby and Jill Heith of Buda, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lindsey Erin Heith, to Daylan Cory Childress, son of Carolyn and John Gallagher of Floresville and Melva and Roger Childress

of Stockdale.

Lindsey is the granddaughter of Joanne and Dean Forrest, and P.D. Heith and the late R.L. Heith of Big Spring.

Daylan is the grandson of Marietta and C.W. Moseley, and the late Joanne and Sammy "Ollie" Childress of Floresville.

Lindsey is a 2000 graduate of Jack C. Hays High School and received her BPA from Southwest Texas State University in 2004. She works in corporate sales in Fort Worth.

Daylan is a 1996 graduate of Floresville High School. He went on to play professional baseball for the Cincinnati Reds and Minnesota Twins, and now works for ATI Enterprises in Plano.

The two will wed in Dallas on Oct. 4, 2008 and honeymoon in the Dominican Republic.

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## EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

## Makin' it in New York

Few songs in the world of music have "held on" like the theme from the movie, "New York, New York." The familiar tune holds classic status thanks to a trio of vocalists. Liza Minnelli was the high-energy star in the movie, and recordings by Tony Bennett and the late Frank Sinatra also made it big.

Whatever, I want to focus on a couple of lines in the lyrics: "If I can make it there, I'll make it anywhere."

Perhaps it is a cynical New Yorker, weary of the influx of visitors overwhelming NYC in the summer months, handing out copies of a cartoon on the subway. It reads: "If you can make it there, go back!"

But millions who love to visit NYC are undeterred.

They keep coming.

It is a city of intrigues because so many people want it to be. The big ladle in the world's premiere melting pot continues to stir in the midst of hundreds of dialects. Someone said it's a city where cultures and causes co-exist. Locals bark at each other daily, sometimes without a single bite.

Walking down Broadway for blocks on end, we catch ourselves whistling "New York, New York" over and again. As we near Ground Zero, rumbles and rattles, honks and whistles cease. As thousands pay respects daily to victims of the carnage that was 9/11, a hush prevails. A quiet hum of "Amazing Grace" falls from the lips of one guest; from another, there's "Danny Boy."

We walk for the better part of three hours with native New Yorker Milton Norman, a semi-retired attorney who, with 300 or so other volunteers, offers free tours under the banner of "Big Apple Greeters." A World War II veteran, he loves

his city and its history, applauding laws that protect landmarks. We tour several such buildings, marveling at the restoration of Grand Central Station.

A spiritual moment reigns at St. Paul's Chapel, directly across the street from Ground Zero. Miraculously, it sustained no damage — not even a cracked window pane. Though some buildings crumbled or were heavily damaged blocks away, St. Paul's was spared.

Tombstones in the 242-year-old adjacent graveyard also remain 100 percent intact.

A single sycamore tree, one of several massive trees on the premises, failed to survive.

Soon, we return to sidewalks with teeming masses where push came to shove centuries ago. Now, hustle and bustle are locked in a dead heat.

We look and listen. Many of life's best chapters are found on these sidewalks, in the shadows instead of the spotlight.

A family accompanying a youngster with her head heavily bandaged shares laughter. I catch snippets of their conversation, but here's the bottom line: The teen has miraculously survived massive brain surgery. Her t-shirt message explains: "I have half a brain. What's your excuse?"

A city where one loses count when tallying honks and/or gestures, NYC provides many studies in contradictions. In one neighborhood, honking is discouraged by law.

In fact, dire straits might be a minimum defense for horn-blowing.

Signs warn of \$350 fines for honking.

Ads are cutting-edge and definite head-turners. A pottery shop is called "Mud, Sweat and Tears."

A laundromat sign encourages customers to carefully schedule filling of dirty clothes hampers.

The offer? "Free detergent on Tuesdays."

I'm always glad to meet folks who

re-define optimism. Providing such redefinition is Adrian Greenidge, doorman at the swank Millennium Broadway Hotel since it opened 18 years ago.

He has "Good mornings/afternoons" for each of the thousands who pass his way daily. One year, he won top doorman honors in both NYC and New York State.

You may remember that back in '06, Charles Gibson, then a Good Morning, America host, switched places with a hotel doorman for a few hours during GMA's 30th anniversary show. Greenidge, now spotted on the Millennium's TV ad, was that doorman.

Adrian remembers Gibson's pitch to make the switch. He learned that the media celebrity arrives at work daily in a limousine.

The doorman said this would be just fine for him, too. So the limo driver picked him up, long before daylight, at Adrian's home out in New Jersey.

While Adrian interviewed TV personalities, Charlie, decked out as a doorman, welcomed hotel guests and wrestled with luggage. Gibson said his chores that day were much tougher than TV duty.

Our reasons for traveling to NYC were two-fold. What with the gas crunch worsening, it seemed a good idea to combine two vacations on one plane ticket.

We wanted to enjoy the city and take a Caribbean cruise. Luckily, Carnival Cruise Line's Miracle leaves from Manhattan every eight days during warm months.

The cruise is a grand experience, beginning with close-up views of the Statue of Liberty. We sail slowly for two days in the Atlantic Ocean before spotting the incomparably blue waters of the Caribbean....

*Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and author in the Metroplex. He welcomes inquiries and comments. Send e-mail to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.*

## Letters to the editor, Page 5A

## The politics of patriotism

Should John McCain have to "defend" his military record? Of course not. But the fact that he served in the military, with distinction, does not mean he's qualified to be president.

Should Barack Obama have to explain why he didn't serve in the military or somehow apologize for it? Of course not. Most people of his generation did not serve in the military.

George W. Bush, Dick Cheney and Condi Rice did not see any active duty, although all of them are older. So what?

Democrats learned four years ago that choosing a candidate with a record of service in combat is no guarantee of anything. John Kerry's military record became one more piece of ammunition for the supposedly independent mud fight that defined the election. The defenders of the mud fight said it was Kerry's own fault because he interjected his military record front and center into the campaign. (Remember that line at the convention about Lt. Kerry "reporting for duty"?) By that logic, Democrats have a right to question McCain, who makes Kerry look like a piker when it comes to playing the military card, but Republicans have no right to question Obama, who has hewn to the George W. Bush approach of talking about other things.

Dream on. This week's round of punching and counterpunching began with comments by retired Gen. Wesley Clark, an Obama supporter, that

made the very same point I just did: Serving in the military, as honorable as it is, doesn't mean that you're more qualified to be president. "I don't think riding in a fighter plane and getting shot down is a qualification to be president," Clark said.

I think the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth said something very much like that about John Kerry captaining a Swift boat. Actually, what they said was much worse. They questioned John Kerry's record and turned it into an issue of character. No one has done that to McCain, at least no one with any association to Obama. Can you imagine what McCain would say if someone did?

As it was, Sen. McCain and his allies tried to turn Clark's comments into a concerted Obama attack, which then allows them an excuse to attack Obama. Sen. McCain, responding at a news conference, said that remarks such as Clark's are "unnecessary," pointing out that such an attack "doesn't reduce the price of a gallon of gas by one penny." Fair enough. Neither does attacking Obama's lack of military experience. But then he added, "I know that (Gen. Clark's comment) is not an isolated incident, but I have no way of knowing what involvement Sen. Obama has in that issue." Robert McFarlane, who was the national security adviser to President Reagan, went one step further, suggesting that Clark's comments "may be part of a larger gambit." He told the press: "If the opposing candidate doesn't really have the experience or knowledge or depth in international affairs, then one approach can be, I suppose, to try to deny that Sen. McCain does."

Take that, Sen. Obama!

In fact, in a speech Monday in Independence, Mo., Sen. Obama went out of his way to praise his opponent for his patriotism and his record of service to this country. But he also made clear that he would not tolerate questions of his own patriotism. "I will never question the patriotism of others in this campaign," he said. "And I will not stand idly by when I hear others question mine." He even wore a flag pin.

In politics, we always spend more time on the question of who started the fight and whether it's actually an intentional fight than whether there is anything worth fighting about. So it is with the candidates' patriotism. In other contexts, one might point out fairly that experience as a prisoner of war leaves scars that last for a lifetime. But if any Democrat within a mile of Barack Obama even suggests as much, that person will be thrown overboard faster than you can say Samantha Power (who was thrown overboard, you may remember, for telling a foreign newspaper that she thought Hillary Clinton was "a monster"). If Gen. Wesley Clark can't make what should be the obvious point — that military service doesn't qualify a person for the presidency — imagine the backlash if anyone actually raised questions about the impact of McCain's stint as a POW?

*To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Estrich's Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.*

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MAVS

Continued from Page 3B

mid-level exception to seal the deal.

Only 26, his familiar smile and amiable personality are sure to be welcomed back into the locker room.

Dallas will be Green's fourth team in as many seasons. He

was drafted 18th overall by Boston in 2005 and won the dunk contest in 2007. He went to Minnesota in the Kevin Garnett trade, then was sent to Houston a few days after finishing second in the '08 dunk contest. The Rockets used him in one game, then released him.

"Sure, it's been humbling," agent Colin Bryant said. "If you're out of the league, you have a lot of time to think about

it. That's where his hunger and focus come from. It's a brand new Gerald Green. The rest of the league will soon find that out."

If Green can revert to his teen-prodigy form, his age and athleticism would be an ideal fit for an offense that's looking to run more with Kidd and new coach Rick Carlisle.

"I think it'll be a great fit for him and Jason Kidd," Bryant

said. "Jason Kidd is going to make the game real easy for him."

Green won't have to look far for inspiration. Diop revived his career by coming to Dallas when he was 24 and on the verge of falling out of the league, and last season Brandon Bass was only 22 when he developed into a solid member of the rotation after two forgettable years in New Orleans.

With their mid-level exception gone, the Mavericks may be done with free agency, at least the high-profile part. Then again, they've already locked up their centers, feel good about having Dirk Nowitzki and Bass at power forward and are eager to see what Kidd can do over a full season.

Once Green, Jones and Diop are officially signed, Dallas will have 10 players under contract.

NFL

Continued from Page 3B

The team had issued a statement Monday, saying, "The New England Patriots take the conduct of our players very seriously. We are aware of the very

disturbing and alarming reports regarding Willie Andrews. We will not offer any additional comment, as is our policy regarding pending legal matters."

The other arrest on charges of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and driving an unregistered motor vehicle occurred in February. Andrews

admitted in court in May that there was enough evidence to convict him at trial but did not plead guilty.

On Monday, Andrews was charged with illegal possession of a large capacity firearm and assault with a dangerous weapon, according to Gregg Miliote, director of communications for

the Bristol County district attorney's office.

Andrews was arrested after allegedly returning home and having an argument with his girlfriend at about 1 a.m. Monday, Miliote said.

In two seasons since the Patriots drafted him in the seventh round out of Baylor,

Andrews returned four kickoffs for 149 yards, including a 77-yard touchdown last season, and had 24 tackles, all but one on special teams.

Also, the Patriots signed linebacker Bo Ruud, a sixth-round draft pick from Nebraska. His brother Barrett plays for Tampa Bay.

WIMBLEDON

Continued from Page 1B

million.

Venus, appearing in her seventh Wimbledon final, avenged her two losses to Serena in the 2002 and 2003 title matches and stopped her sister from winning her ninth Grand Slam.

Many all-Williams finals have been awkward affairs

that didn't live up to expectations, with the sisters having trouble playing their best. But this final featured long, corner-to-corner rallies, booming serves and winning shots flashing all over the court.

Both sisters struggled in the wind, with Venus repeatedly stopping to catch her service toss and rallies often disrupted by sudden gusts.

"It was so not easy," Serena said. "Every time I tried to hit a shot, the wind would blow it."

On Sunday, five-time champion Roger Federer and two-time runner-up Rafael Nadal will meet in their third consecutive final at Wimbledon.

Federer, chasing his 13th Grand Slam title, has won 65 consecutive matches on grass and 40 straight at the

All England Club. He will be trying to surpass Bjorn Borg by winning a sixth straight Wimbledon title. The only man to win six in a row was Willie Renshaw in the 1880s, and he had to win only one match to defend his titles.

Nadal could become the first man since Bjorn Borg in 1980 to win the French Open and Wimbledon in the same year.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

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

CYFA meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at YMCA

The Crossroads Youth Football Association will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday at the YMCA.

Anyone interested in being a board member needs to attend.

For questions, call John at 816-6030 or Joanna at 816-3407.

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 begin-

ners 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, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com. to submit a sports brief.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled: Row 1: [ ][ ][5][3][ ][9][6][2]; Row 2: [ ][ ][ ][4][ ][ ][8][5]; Row 3: [ ][8][ ][ ][1][ ][ ]; Row 4: [5][ ][9][ ][ ][7][ ]; Row 5: [ ][7][ ][ ][6][ ][ ]; Row 6: [ ][3][ ][ ][4][ ][8]; Row 7: [ ][1][ ][ ][4][ ][ ]; Row 8: [6][7][ ][1][ ][ ]; Row 9: [4][8][3][2][9][ ][ ]

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CARS

- 2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab Lariat 4X2 Diesel - White w/Gray Cloth, 6 Disc CD Player, Power Seats, Like New, New Truck Trade In. Must Sell. Low Miles. Was \$29,995 NOW \$28,995
2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab King Ranch FX4 6.0 Diesel - White w/King Ranch Leather, Heated Seats, All Power, One Owner, Nice Truck, Low Miles. Was \$32,995 NOW \$31,995
2006 Ford F250 SD 4X2 6.0L Diesel Lariat - Black w/Gray Leather, One Owner, New Truck Trade In, Nice Truck. Was \$29,995 NOW \$28,995
2005 F250 SD Crewcab Diesel FX4 King Ranch - Dk. Red w/King Ranch Leather, Loaded, Like New, New Truck Trade In, One Owner. Was \$31,995 NOW \$30,995
2005 F350 SD Crewcab Diesel Fx4 King Ranch - Green/Tan w/Tan Leather, Loaded, Like New, New Truck Trade In, One Owner. Was \$31,995 NOW \$30,995
2005 Ford F350 Crewcab DRW Lariat Diesel - Tan w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD, New Car Trade In, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, Only 60,000 Miles. Was \$31,995 NOW \$30,995
2004 Ford F250 Super Duty Crew Cab Diesel - Blue w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, Short Bed, Great Truck. Was \$23,995 NOW \$22,995

- 2007 Ford Edge SEL - Champagne Blue w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD Player, All Power, Loaded, Only 8,838 Miles. Was \$27,995 NOW \$26,995
2007 Ford F350 15 Pass. XLT 5.4 - White w/Gray Cloth, Remote Keyless, Panic Alarm, Only 20,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$22,995
2007 Buick Terraza LX - Lt. Blue, w/Tan Leather, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Must See. Low Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995
2006 Ford Explorer XLT - Tan w/Tan Cloth, All Power, New Car Trade In, Like New, Only 31,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995
2006 Nissan Pathfinder LE - Black w/Tan Leather, Moonroof, All Power, Nice SUV, Must See, Only 23,000 Miles. Was \$26,995 NOW \$25,995
2006 Jeep Wrangler SE - Tan w/Tan Cloth, 5 Speed, CD Player, AC, Nice Unit, Only 14,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
2006 Mazda Tribute V6 S - Silver w/Gray Leather, Local One Owner, All Power, Moonroof, Low Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$14,995
2006 Dodge Caravan SXT - Blue w/Gray Cloth, Like New, CD Player, Rear Air, One Owner. Only 32,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2006 Chevrolet Tahoe Z71 - Blue w/Gray Leather, 6 Disc CD Player, 3rd Row Seating, Like New, Local One Owner, 24,000 Miles. Was \$29,995 NOW \$28,995
2005 GMC Yukon 4X2 SLT - White w/Tan Leather, CD Player, OnStar, Nice SUV, All Power. Was \$19,995 NOW \$19,995
2005 Ford Explorer XLS - Dark Stone w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, Like New, All Power, One Owner. Was \$13,995 NOW \$12,995
2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT - Red w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Nice Unit, Low Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995
2005 5 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Nice SUV, Low Miles. Was \$27,995 NOW \$25,995
2004 Buick Ranier V8 CXL - Silver w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD Player, OnStar, All Power, Loaded, Like New, Only 49,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995
2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, 6 Disc CD Player, Low Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995
2004 Nissan Xterra SE 4X2 - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Low Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$15,995
2004 Honda CRV 4WD - White w/Gray Cloth, Loaded SUV, Like New, One Owner, Low Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$12,995
2003 Lincoln Navigator Ultimate 4X2 - Silver w/Black Leather, DVD Player, 6 Disc CD Player, Heated Seats, Power 3rd Row, Like New. Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995
2002 Ford Expedition XLT 4X4 - Tan/Black w/Tan Leather, Loaded, One Owner, Very Nice, SUV, Low Miles. Was \$17,995 NOW \$12,995
2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Gray Leather, Moonroof, GPS, All Power, Great SUV, Must Sell. Was \$16,995 NOW \$14,995
2000 Land Rover Discovery Series II L46 - Gray w/Tan Leather, CD Player, AWD, V8, Only 56,000 Miles. Was \$10,995 NOW \$9,995

- 2007 Lincoln TownCar Signature LTD - White Chocolate w/Tan Leather, All Power, Power Moonroof, Audiophile, AM/FM/CD, Woodgrain, Only 14,000 Miles. Was \$30,995 NOW \$29,995
2007 Lincoln Town Car Signature LTD - Lt. French Silk w/Tan Camel Leather, All Power, Power Moonroof, Audiophile, AM/FM/CD, Woodgrain, Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$30,995 NOW \$29,995
2007 Lincoln MKZ - Black Clearcoat w/Black Charcoal Leather, Wood Trim Accent, Moonroof, All Power, Heated and Cooled Seats, Only 10,000 Miles. Was \$28,995 NOW \$27,995
2007 Mercury Grand Marquis Premium - Smoke Stone w/Gray Leather, Remote Keyless, Power Seats, Loaded Like New, Only 10,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995
2007 Lexus ES 350 - Blue w/Lt. Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, Very Nice Car, Woodgrain Trim, Only 27,000 Miles. Was \$33,995 NOW \$32,995
2007 Ford Focus SES - Red w/Gray Cloth, Automatic, Trans., Spoiler, Keyless Entry, All Power, Like New, Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2007 Ford Focus SE - Black w/Gray Cloth, Automatic, Trans., Spoiler, Keyless Entry, All Power, Like New, Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$13,995
2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Gray w/Gray Leather, All Power, Nice Car, Wood Trim Accent, Heated Seats, One Owner, Low Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2-3-4 Cyl., 12,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995
2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/32,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 NOW \$12,995
2005 Nissan Altima 2.5S - White w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Automatic, 35,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$15,995
2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Gray Leather, All Power, Skylight Roof, Local One Owner, Low Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$18,995
2004 Ford Mustang V6 Convertible - Black w/Tan Leather, CD Player, Like New, One Owner, Only 19,685 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$14,995
2004 Ford Taurus LX - Tan w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Nice Clean Car, Local Owner. Was \$9,995 NOW \$6,995
2004 Ford Focus SE - Green w/Tan Cloth, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles. Was \$10,995 NOW \$9,995
2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Lt. Tan w/Tan Leather, One Owner, All Power, Wood Trim, Low Miles. Was \$15,995 NOW \$13,995
2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - White Cashmere w/Lt. Tan Leather, Very Nice Car, All Power, One Owner, New Car Trade-In. Only 32,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995
2004 Mercedes-Benz LE C240 - Gold w/Tan Leather, Woodgrain, Moonroof, Heated Seats, 6 Disc CD, Loaded, Low Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$20,995
2003 Ford Escort ZX2 - Black w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, Great Gas Car. Was \$9,995 NOW \$7,995
2002 Chevrolet Cavalier - Blue w/Gray Cloth, Like New, One Owner, Only 38,000 Miles. Was \$10,995 NOW \$9,995

TRUCKS

- 2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Black w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Like New, Bedliner, 20,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 5.4 V8 - Red w/Gray Cloth, 40/20/40 Seating, CD Player, Bed Liner, Only 7,024 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2007 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Crewcab SL - Lt. Blue w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Like New. Only 28,882 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2006 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab X3.5 - White w/Gray Cloth, SLT Package, 5.7L Hemi V8, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles. Was \$22,995 NOW \$22,995
2006 Ford F250 SD 4X4 5.4L V 8 Lariat - Blue/Tan w/Tan Leather, All Power, Like New, Nice Truck, Low Miles. Was \$28,995 NOW \$27,995
2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT V8 - Dk. Stone w/Tan Cloth, 6 Disc CD Player, One Owner, All Power, Only 20,000 Miles. Was \$22,995 NOW \$21,995
2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 5.4L V8 - Dk Red w/Tan Cloth, One Owner, New Car Trade In, CD Player, Only 18,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2006 Chevrolet Avalanche LT 4X2 - Black w/Tan Leather, Loaded, One Owner, All Power, OnStar, Only 34,000 Miles. Was \$28,995 NOW \$27,995
2006 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado LT - White w/Gray Cloth, Nice Truck, All Power, Local One Owner, CD Player, Power Seat, Low Miles. Was \$23,995 NOW \$22,995
2005 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE Crew Cab 4X2 - Gold w/Gray Cloth, Like New, Spray In Bedliner, All Power, Local One Owner, Low Miles. Was \$19,995 NOW \$18,995
2005 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat - White w/Tan w/Tan Leather, All Power, Clean Truck, New Car Trade In, Low Miles. Was \$21,995 NOW \$20,995
2005 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 5.4L V8 - White w/Tan Leather, 6CD In Dash Player, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles. Was \$24,995 NOW \$23,995
2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, Local One Owner. MSRP \$18,995 NOW \$14,995
2005 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado 4X4 - White w/Gray Leather, Crewcab, CD Player, One Owner, All Power. Was \$23,995 NOW \$23,995
2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 3.4L V6 - Blue/Silver w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New, All Power, CD Player, New Truck Trade In, Only 54,000 Miles. Was \$16,995 NOW \$15,995

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# Energy assistance

Northside, TXU partner for electric bill relief

Special to the Herald

Temperatures may be skyrocketing, but one thing some at-risk Big Spring residents won't have to sweat over this summer is how to pay their electricity bill. Thanks to a partnership between TXU Energy and Northside Community Center, low-income customers will be able to find bill-payment assistance relief through the TXU Energy Aid program.

In 2008, TXU Energy will provide the partnering organization with approximately \$35,000 to help low-income customers in need of temporary bill-payment assistance through its TXU Energy Aid program. The program, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this



**Kim Campbell, manager of customer advocacy for TXU Energy presents a \$35,000 "check" to Bobby Armstrong, administrative assistant at the Northside Community Center to help residents with energy bill-payment assistance.**

year, is the largest bill-payment assistance program among electricity companies in the nation. Since 1983, the program has provided more than \$45 million in bill-payment assistance, helping more than

320,000 valued customers. Max Webb, executive director of Northside Community Center, accepted the donation on behalf of the Center and thanked TXU Energy for its contribution.

"We are very thankful for TXU Energy's continuous support and involvement in our community," said Webb. "Their hard work and generous donation

See **RELIEF**, Page 5C

# Energy Watch



**Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of Investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.**

**Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.**



Last week, a congressional committee said speculators became the largest players in oil futures markets, nearly doubling their share in the past eight years as prices rose to records, in a "radical shift" for the market. Data provided by the House Energy and Commerce Committee by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission showed that in January 2000, speculators controlled 37 percent of contracts to buy West Texas Intermediate crude oil on the New York Mercantile Exchange, with the rest held by physical hedgers including refiners and airlines that need to hedge against delivered fuel costs.

By this April, speculators controlled 71 percent of the contracts. Committee Chairman John Dingell said "Energy speculation has become a growth industry and it is time for the government to intervene." Dingell, a Michigan Democrat, said Congress should explore "a full range of options" to limit speculation, including raising margin requirements for financial speculators to 50 percent, preventing pension funds from investing in commodities and prohibiting investment banks from owning energy assets.

To answer the call, on Wednesday, Senators Joe Lieberman (I-CT) and Susan Collins (R-ME) released three separate draft proposals, all of which were designed to limit both the types of investors that could purchase speculative commodity positions and the number of speculative positions that could be accumulated. The proposals are only drafts and will most likely result in months of debate and revisions.

Meanwhile, energy markets stayed lively this week as wide price swings seemed to be the name of the game once again. Last weekend, Saudi Arabia announced that it would increase oil production in the coming months. Despite this, energy markets rallied to top \$140 as doubts surfaced about the impact and timing of the increased production.

Now there seems to be activity at all levels of the energy "food chain." We feel something will have to give sooner or later but certainly these are exciting and historical times.

- In Osaka, Japan, the G8's finance ministers met over the weekend. In a final joint statement, the group didn't remark on the foreign exchange market. However, it was a topic widely discussed during the summit. Treasury Sec. Paulson again talked up the dollar. The final communiqué reads, "Elevated commodity prices, especially oil and food, pose a serious challenge to stable growth worldwide, have serious implications for the most vulnerable and may increase global inflationary pressure. The ministers agreed to take "appropriate actions" to ensure growth and stability.

- Regarding oil, the G8 ministers disagreed on the impact of speculation in the oil market. In the end, they decided to commission an IMF study looking into the matter.

- Following talks with President Bush, British Prime Minister Brown announced his nation is prepared to send more troops to Afghanistan. The move will be welcomed in Washington, as U.S. forces are stretched thin, and last month U.S. troop deaths in the central Asian nation were greater than those in Iraq.

- The Sunday Times reports a final push to capture Osama Bin Laden is on ahead of President Bush departing office.

- International investigators have determined the rogue nuclear smuggling ring headed by Pakistani nuclear scientist A.Q. Khan had acquired blueprints for an advanced nuclear weapon. The group sold bomb-related equipment to Libya, North Korea, and Iran. There is no indication whether the plans were passed along to any of their customers.

- Oil subsidies across Latin America are rising to nearly unsustainable levels. Demand for fuels is rising, and consumers in numerous nations are insulated from the full extent of the run-up in prices because of state subsidies. Some Latin American subsidy bills include Mexico's \$19 billion and Venezuela's \$20 billion. In Brazil, gasoline costs about \$5.50 per gallon. However, ethanol prices are significantly lower.

- As anticipated, the rising fuel prices seen across Asia have led to protests. Recently, Malaysia rolled back its fuel subsidies. India followed suit, hiking prices 10 percent. In Malaysia, opposition party youth are leading the demonstrations. In India, elections are scheduled for next year. The opposition Bharatiya Janata Party is leveraging the price hike, calling for Prime Minister Singh's resignation.

Portions of this article were produced by Nathan Goltz of the Energy and Industrial Metals Futures Department, Global Investment Strategy A.G. Edwards. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable, however accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. A.G. Edwards is a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.

# What's a HELOC? And do you need one?

**HELOC:** home equity line of credit.

This type of loan, which became popular in the mid-1980s in most parts of the country and was finally authorized in Texas several years ago, is a revolving credit in which your home serves as collateral.

By using the equity you have accumulated in your home, you may qualify for a sizeable amount of credit which you might in turn use for education, medical bills, home

improvement or other high-dollar expense. Before taking a home equity loan, be sure you carefully weigh the pros and cons, the costs and the benefits.

With a home equity line of credit, you have greater flexibility to use the credit as you choose. While the interest rate is relatively low, be sure you understand the credit terms and that should you fail to repay the amounts you borrowed, you could lose your house.

To determine your credit limit, your lender will determine the appraised value of your house and then subtract from that value the amount you still owe on your existing mortgage. In Texas, a home equity loan plus other outstanding indebtedness cannot exceed 80 percent of your home's appraised value. The lender will also consider your credit worthiness by examining your income,

See **HELOC**, Page 5C

# Texas Monthly Oil and Gas Statistics

## MAY PERMITS TO DRILL

The Commission issued a total of 1,899 original drilling permits in May 2008 compared to 1,974 in May 2007. The May total included 1,639 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 83 to re-enter existing well bores, and 177 for re-completions. Permits issued in May 2008 included 361 oil, 426 gas, 1,027 oil and gas, 77 injection, zero service and eight other permits.

## APRIL CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

Texas preliminary April 2008 crude oil production averaged 901,022 barrels daily, down from the 903,904 barrels daily average of April 2007.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for April 2008 is 27,057,121 barrels, a decrease from 27,090,660 barrels reported during April 2007.

## MAY OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In May 2008, operators reported 334 oil, 857 gas, 36 injection and five other completions compared to 384 oil, 710 gas, 50 injection and nine other completions during May 2007.

Total well completions for 2008 year to date are 6,494 up from 6,092 recorded during the same period in 2007.

Operators reported 534 holes plugged and four dry holes in May 2008 compare to 447 holes plugged and six dry holes in May 2007.

## APRIL NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Texas oil and gas wells produced 491,905,786 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for April 2008, up from the April 2007 preliminary gas production total of 462,128,732 Mcf.

Texas production in April 2008 came from 138,974 oil and 81,635 gas wells.

## MAY TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

RRC District: (1) SAN ANTONIO AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 53  
Oil Completions: 26  
Gas Completions: 11

RRC District: (2) REFUGIO AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 86  
Oil Completions: 8  
Gas Completions: 41

RRC District: (3) SOUTHEAST TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 103  
Oil Completions: 17  
Gas Completions: 42

RRC District: (4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 129  
Oil Completions: 2  
Gas Completions: 111

RRC District: (5) EAST CENTRAL TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 65  
Oil Completions: 2  
Gas Completions: 82

RRC District: (6) EAST TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 213  
Oil Completions: 6  
Gas Completions: 165

RRC District: (7B) WEST CENTRAL TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 93  
Oil Completions: 34  
Gas Completions: 4

RRC District: (7C) SAN ANGELO AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 173  
Oil Completions: 78  
Gas Completions: 137

RRC District: (8) MIDLAND

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 335  
Oil Completions: 60  
Gas Completions: 23

RRC District: (8A) LUBBOCK AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 76  
Oil Completions: 24  
Gas Completions: 2

RRC District: (9) NORTH TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 427  
Oil Completions: 59  
Gas Completions: 172

RRC District: (10) PANHANDLE

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 145  
Oil Completions: 18  
Gas Completions: 67

## APRIL TEXAS TOP TEN OIL PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

- COUNTY - CRUDE OIL (BBLS)
1. GAINES - 2,085,532
  2. ANDREWS - 1,953,673
  3. YOAKUM - 1,942,963
  4. ECTOR - 1,507,535
  5. HOCKLEY - 1,482,610
  6. SCURRY - 1,195,290
  7. UPTON - 1,035,284
  8. PECOS - 1,027,135
  9. MIDLAND - 847,496
  10. CRANE - 756,973

## APRIL TEXAS TOP TEN GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

- COUNTY - TOTAL GAS (MCF)
1. PANOLA - 22,569,415
  2. ZAPATA - 22,027,271
  3. FREESTONE - 21,362,410
  4. HIDALGO - 18,903,464
  5. PECOS - 18,740,107
  6. TARRANT - 16,403,302
  7. JOHNSON - 16,151,286
  8. ROBERTSON - 15,770,757
  9. WEBB - 13,519,924
  10. WISE - 13,354,461



## ▶ Letters to the Editor

### Focus on real criminals

**TO THE EDITOR,**  
My mother and step-father, Jean and Lloyd Davidson, were murdered in Howard County in 1990. Law enforcement had a suspect from the very beginning, but they refused to go after him. Instead, they made my sister's family, the Atkinsons, all take lie detector tests. Our parents were brutally murdered, and while dealing with this, we also had to deal with our family being accused of the murder.

I talked to Det. Woods about a year ago and he said they had evidence of who did this from day one, but have never issued an arrest warrant. He said this is a very bad, very mean person from Mexico who has been in jail many times over the years, and still the sheriff's department will not issue a warrant. It must be easier to just go after innocent people.

Our family has all the sympathy in the world for the Bynum family, but we had nothing to do with the disappearance of their family member. We believe that Dale Walker knows good and well that the Atkinson family had nothing to do with his disappearance, but he refused to take a stand and prevent the recent farce. In his efforts to "go out with a bang," he allowed the recent fiasco of accusing us without any factual basis. Clay Atkinson did not even know Mr. Bynum or any of his family. Yes, Clay did some time in prison, but his charges were for fighting, not drugs. Since his release, he spends most of his time on the farm, stays out of bars and rarely goes into town. I would like for Dale Walker to release a list of exactly what was taken out of the house to support his charges.

There were no drugs or the ingredients for making drugs found on the property. These false allegations have no basis in truth. Where is the evidence? The family has not been allowed to have any contact with Clay, so we don't really know what is happening with his case. I am also appalled at the treatment Clay received during the search of the farm. He was tied down on the floor and each time he even raised his head, his face was pushed into the floor and he was tased.

None of the officers were concerned that he has had back and neck surgery to replace his disc, and that pushing his head down could have further injured him. Is this reasonable treatment for a person who is tied and helpless?

As far as the weapons, I feel that it is reasonable for my family to have guns. The person we believe killed our parents is free to wander the streets and comes to Big Spring frequently to see his child. My sister and I both look a lot like our mother and we don't know

why he killed her. We don't know him, but he might know us and could be after us as well. Since the sheriff's department cannot or will not protect us, we need weapons to protect ourselves. On the farm, it is also important to be able to protect our livestock from being killed by dogs, coyotes and other animals.

What person living on a farm does not have a weapon? Yes, Bunky did his time in prison back in 1967, but look at his actions since then. What has he been doing but working and trying to take care of his farm and his family?

We are still praying that you will arrest the person who killed our parents, and I know that the Bynums are hoping for the same on their great loss as well. Our parents did not deserve to die in the horrible manner they did and we would love to have some kind of closure on this.

Can you not focus your investigations on the people who are really responsible for these horrible crimes instead of taking the easy way out and harassing the innocent families?

**NANCY BOND  
BIG SPRING**

### What they really took

**TO THE EDITOR,**  
This is to the person who turned in my husband's wallet at Wal-Mart Saturday. Thank you very much for doing that; you do not know how much it was appreciated.

I wish whoever took the money from the wallet first would have considered what they were taking. It was our grocery money for the week. I have three young daughters and now because someone felt they needed the money worse than we did, we are without it.

You know things like this make you say "hmmmm." I wonder if the person who took the cash thought about what they really took — diapers, formula, food and gas to get the children back and forth to the doctor and therapy.

Most people don't stop and think nowadays what \$240 is for a week. Most just spend and don't think of anything. But when you have one disabled daughter, an 18-month-old and a 6-month-old to provide for, it takes a lot. Please remember, finder of the money, that you did not earn that money, you didn't receive it as a gift, you didn't find it on the ground and you especially didn't deserve it.

Thanks again, for spending someone else's money.

I take time to ponder about most of the people in Big Spring. Most are very giving and generous. Most are not selfish people; most give with a huge heart. I would give anyone food, clothing, or shelter if I were asked. I would

no doubt think of others before myself.

I think about the outpouring after the refinery blew, after we received Katrina people, and when people just needed a little extra help once in awhile. So, do I stop giving? No! I keep giving and helping because others always need a helping hand. There are always those who have less than I. I thank my God for everything he provides for my family and me.

Please, Big Spring, don't ever close your hearts. Always keep giving, sharing and loving your fellow citizens. Thank you for having such a huge heart. You folks are why I live in this city. Ya'll are why people come to visit and decide to stay and make Big Spring their home.

**CHERYL WHITAKER  
BIG SPRING**

### Get ready, Big Spring

**TO THE EDITOR,**  
I am the first to applaud the presence of Alon.

The other side of the coin is: Local residents cannot afford rent.

Inflated wages — that's OK, but you will find few local residents take part in that.

Most employees are not local. I have a problem with that, but, before the Alon thing it was hard to find anyone who would give a day's work for a day's pay anyway.

The final analysis from my point of view is:

- Alon will be rebuilt.
- The windmills will move on.
- Solitaire is gone.
- StarTech is gone.
- FiberRod is gone.
- Empty rent houses.
- Unemployment — record high.
- Property values plummet.
- Get ready Big Spring!

I live in Borden County but I am a substantial property owner in Howard County and was a resident for many years. Most seem to want to bend over backward for Alon because of an incident of their own making. They were totally insured, even for the loss of production.

The ones who need sympathy are those of us who pay the price for fuel, partially caused by their lack of production, and we, property owners who pay a ridiculous tax rate, partially because Alon will not pay theirs.

If we get too many more favors from Alon and Wal-Mart, we will have to move somewhere else — if we don't farm or work for one of these two.

The Chamber and Moore Board had better wake up and focus on things and businesses that are here for the long haul instead of a flash in the pan.

**DEAN BLAKE  
BORDEN COUNTY**

## America at the mall

I received this in my e-mail and thought it was worth sharing with everyone. The author is not known.

What a difference 60 years makes! I know everyone has a different opinion on the war and our current president. But this article makes a lot of sense, and I hope you will take two minutes and read it and give it some thought. I have never seen the "situation" expressed any better in words!



**BURR  
LEA  
SETTLES JR.**

Recently I was talking to a friend about the upcoming election and the candidates. As we ended our discussion he said "the only decision you have to make is who you want sitting in that seat in the White House when — not if — we get hit again and millions of American lives are put at risk. This is from: "You ain't gonna like losing."

President Bush did make a bad mistake in the war on terrorism. But the mistake was not his decision to go to war in Iraq. Bush's mistake came in his belief that this country is the same one his father fought for in World War II. It is not. Back then, they had just come out of a vicious depression. The country was steeled by the hardship of that depression, but they still believed fervently in this country. They knew that the people had elected their leaders, so it was the people's duty to back those leaders.

Therefore, when the war broke out the people came together, rallied behind, and stuck with their leaders, whether they had voted for them or not or whether the war was going badly or not. And war was just as distasteful and the anguish just as great as it is today. Often there were more casualties in one day in WWII than we have had in the entire Iraq war. But that did not matter. The people stuck with the president because it was their patriotic duty. Americans put aside their differences and worked together to win that war. Everyone from every strata of society, from young to old, pitched in. Small children pulled little wagons around to gather scrap metal for the war effort. Grade school students saved their pennies to buy stamps for war bonds to help. Men who were too old or medically 4F lied about their age or condition trying their best to join the military. Women doubled their work to

keep things going at home. Harsh rationing of everything from gasoline to soap to butter was imposed, yet there was very little complaining. You never heard prominent people on the radio belittling the president. Interestingly enough in those days there were no fat cat actors and entertainers who ran off to visit and fawn over dictators of hostile countries and complain to them about our president. Instead, they made upbeat films and entertained our troops to help the troops' morale. And a bunch even enlisted.

And imagine this: Teachers actually started the day off with a Pledge of Allegiance, and with prayers for our country and our troops! Back then, no newspaper would have pointed out weak spots in our cities where bombs could be set off to cause the maximum damage. No newspaper dared complain about what we were doing to catch spies. A newspaper would have been laughed out of existence if it had complained that German or Japanese soldiers were being "tortured" by being forced to wear women's underwear, or subjected to interrogation by a woman, or being scared by a dog or did not have air conditioning. There were a lot of things different back then.

We were not subjected to a constant bombardment of pornography, perversion and promiscuity in movies or on radio. We did not have legions of crack heads, dope pushers and armed gangs roaming our streets.

No, President Bush did not make a mistake in his handling of terrorism. He made the mistake of believing that we still had the courage and fortitude of our fathers. He believed this was still the country our fathers fought so dearly to preserve. It is not. It is now a cross between Sodom and Gomorra and the land of Oz.

We did unite for a short while after 9/11, but our attitude changed when we found out that defending our country would require some sacrifices. We are in great danger. The terrorists are fanatic Muslims. They believe that it is OK, even their duty, to kill anyone who will not convert to Islam. It has been estimated that about one third or over 300 million Muslims are sympathetic to the terrorists cause. Hitler and Tojo combined did not have nearly that many potential recruits. So... We either win it — or lose it — and you ain't gonna like losing. America is not at war. The military is at war. America is at the mall.

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Caring People, Caring for People



## Public Records

**Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:**  
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80, Abilene  
Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger  
Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa  
Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring  
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford  
Vern Black, 329 WE Tennessee, Floydada  
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa  
Shell Lynn Buck, 1101 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Richard Henry Burk, P. O. Box 171933, Arlington  
Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston Lane, Fort Worth  
David Canales Jr., 803 E. 15th Street, Big Spring  
Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring  
Lenard Carson Jr., 102 S. Peach, Pecos  
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring  
Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City  
Glenn Thomas Caywood, 1314 Birdwell, Big Spring  
Jared Kendero Coby, 901 S. High Street #802, Longview  
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring  
Patrick C. Criss, 8030 Catalpa, Texas City  
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring  
Susan Cuellar, N. Pecos #238, Midland  
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring  
Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring  
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave., San Antonio  
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring  
Wesley Allen Edmondson, 505 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Randy James Ellis, P. O. Box 391, Snyder

Curtis R. Flewellen, 409 Regina Drive, Buda  
B. Nicole Foust, 2505 Chanute, Big Spring  
Hilda L. Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh Street, Lamesa  
Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa  
James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.  
Claudet Garza, E. Elm, Apt. 10, Laredo  
Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring  
Raul Gonzales, 2106 Johnson, Big Spring  
Jeffrey M. Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Springtown  
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa  
Dana L. Holguin Havinc, 600 Star Linda CT. Unit B, Arlington  
Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring  
Patrick Kyle Heckler, 2112 Grace, Big Spring  
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane 1104, Houston  
Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1502, Big Spring  
Lucas Shane Hughes, 1 Courtney Place #706, Big Spring  
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Highway 7, La Grange  
Sharon Annette James, 1215 Cedar, Colorado City  
Brandy O. Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio  
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland  
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan  
Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring  
Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock  
Patricia Luttrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa  
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland  
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa  
Carrol Lee McNeil, 2601 Westridge, Snyder  
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring

Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P. O. Box 291, Mertzon  
Melissa Merket, 402 W. Eighth Street, Colorado City  
Elizabeth Rose Mills, 1204 Mulberry, Big Spring  
Angela Moreno, 1712 N. Third Street, Lamesa  
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas  
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff #1130, Midland  
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring  
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway Rd, Big Spring  
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring  
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501 Parkway, Big Spring  
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring  
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock  
Gustavo Alfredo Rios, 1804 Scurry, Big Spring  
Williard M. Robinson, 1600 S. Lancaster #405, Big Spring  
Anna Alicia Robles, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 304, Big Spring  
Jose Antonio Rodriguez, 1309 Wright, Big Spring  
Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring  
Sofia Romero, 409 N. Ave Q, Lamesa  
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster / 1501 E. Sixth Street, Big Spring  
Jennifer Ann Rositas, 1420 E. Sixth Street #10, Big Spring  
Steven G. Ross, 60 Cinnamon Lane, San Angelo  
Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa  
Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton  
Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring  
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring  
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring  
Janie Spurgeion, 1212 Wadley, Midland  
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City  
James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene

Tonya Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.  
Vanessa Leigh Vanslyke, 814 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Big Spring  
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois #16, Midland  
Brenda Vera, 1901 Ave M, Snyder  
Alicia M. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio  
Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard  
Ricky Waltenbaugh, 801 W. Marcy Apt. 23, Big Spring  
Chrisina K. Williams, 400 MacArthur, Odessa  
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Road, Ft. Worth

Howard County vs. Kevin Matteson, tax case.  
Howard County vs. Mike Martinez & Tina Martinez, tax case.  
Howard County vs. Fredrico C. Martinez, tax case.  
Howard County vs. Helen Bates, tax case.  
Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union vs. Rocky Torres, accounts, contracts and notes.  
Tashanna Forman McCalister vs. Tedric Lamar McCalister, divorce.  
Rachell L. Bolding vs. Joshua D. Bolding, divorce.  
Target National Bank vs. Natalie A. McDonald, accounts, contracts and notes.  
Sherri Willis vs. Brad Willis, divorce.

Property: A 199 acres of Section 14, Block 35, T B Hardin, Martin and Howard Counties  
Date: June 27, 2008

Grantor: Ted Roy Stewart, Jr. et al.  
Grantee: Ted Roy Stewart, Jr.; Kathryn Kay Stewart; and Alice Caroline Capps  
Property: A .43 acres of Lot 1, Block A 15, East Addition, Stanton, Martin County  
Date: June 27, 2008

Grantor: Denny Marsalis  
Grantee: Noel Marsalis and Johnnye Marsalis  
Property: Block 5, Mesa Addition  
Date: June 30, 2008

Grantor: Thomas A. Land  
Grantee: J. T. Land Investments  
Property: A .72 acre tract, Southwest quarter, Section 31, Block 33, Township 1-North, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: June 30, 2008

Grantor: Roland Gore, Roland Maddox, and Kimberly Rene Maddox  
Grantee: Coxacks M.C., Inc.  
Property: A .5 acre tract in Section 40, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: July 1, 2008

Grantor: Roland Gore, Roland Maddox, and Kimberly Rene Maddox  
Grantee: Coxacks M.C., Inc.  
Property: A .66 acre tract in the NW/4 of Section 40, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: July 1, 2008

Grantor: Roland Gore, Roland Maddox, and Kimberly Rene Maddox  
Grantee: Coxacks M.C., Inc.  
Property: .66 acre tract of land in the NW/4 of Section 40, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: July 1, 2008

Grantor: Elbert Long and Monohn Long  
Grantee: Plains Cotton Cooperative Association  
Property: The SW/4 of Section 20, block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey

## HELOC

Continued from Page 4C

credit history and other financial obligations.

Once you've been approved for a home equity line of credit, you will be allowed to borrow up to your credit limit, within certain criteria. Draws must be no less than \$4,000, for example. The lender may provide you with special checks at your request to use when drawing on your line of credit. You may not use debit or credit cards for your draws as this is prohibited by the Texas Constitution.

Home equity loan plans set a fixed period, called the "draw period," during which you may borrow money. At the end of this period, for example 10 years,

the repayment period begins, with amortizing payments.

Generally, with a home equity line of credit, the interest rate is variable, rather than fixed. Federal law requires a ceiling on how high your payment can go, and customary usage provides a cap on how low your interest rate may fall if interest rates drop. At some point during the life of the loan, your lender may allow you to convert from a variable interest to a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.

Keep in mind that there are upfront expenses in establishing a home equity line of credit. However, because your home serves as collateral, the lender's risk is lower than most other forms of credit, so the annual percentage rates are lower.

### Establishing a HELOC

## RELIEF

Continued from Page 4C

means a lot to the people of Big Spring."

The \$35,000 contribution is a combination of customer and employee donations from the Big Spring community. For every \$1 donated, TXU Energy contributes approximately \$5 and returns 100 percent of the funds to the local community in which it was given.

"TXU Energy is committed to supporting the lives of our customers, and we enjoy doing this with organizations with the same commitment," said Kim Campbell, manager of customer advocacy for TXU Energy. "Our TXU Energy Aid program has been a

clear way of showing our commitment to our customers, and we have been privileged to work with an amazing organization like Northside Community Center."

TXU Energy customers who want to make a contribution to help others in their community can contact the TXU Energy Aid contribution line at 1-877-281-6359. Customers can also make a one-time contribution or a recurring pledge to the TXU Energy Aid program by completing the information on the back of their monthly bill or when making payments online.

In addition to the TXU Energy Aid program, TXU Energy also voluntarily provides an approximate 10 percent, year-round price discount to eligible

low-income customers through its TXU Energy Low-Income Assistance program.

During the summer months, TXU Energy has declared a moratorium on disconnections and will provide flexible payment plans for customers designated as low-income, ill or disabled or who are at least 62 years of age. To avoid disconnection due to non-payment, customers can contact TXU Energy at (800) 242-9113 and ask for a deferred payment plan.

"We have enjoyed working with TXU Energy, and cannot say enough for all the work they have done in this community," said Webb. "As a result of our partnership, we are able to help the lives of many families in Big Spring.

— Fee for property appraisal to determine the value of your home

— Application fee (may or may not be refunded if your loan is denied)

— Closing costs including attorney fees and title search or title insurance

— Other upfront charges (discuss with your lender)

Fees other than interest are capped at 3 percent of the loan amount

If a home equity line of credit is not for you, you might also consider the traditional home equity loan. This type of loan provides you with a fixed amount of money up front with an equal payment schedule during the life of the loan.

Before making any decisions, be sure to discuss your options with your local community banker. Your home is one

of your most important possessions, and you don't want to risk losing it. Ask your community banker to compare your options and help you determine the loan best suited for your needs and ability to repay.

*This information is provided with the understanding that the association is not engaged in rendering specific legal, accounting, or other professional services. If specific expert assistance is required, the services of a competent, professional person should be sought.*

*Compiled by Mae Beth Palone and provided as a public service by the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT) and the IBAT Education Foundation.*

## Child abuse or neglect



### Warning signs of abuse:

Suspect physical abuse when you see...

- Frequent injuries such as bruises, cuts, black eyes or burns, especially when the child cannot adequately explain their causes
- Burns or bruises in an unusual pattern that may indicate the use of an instrument or a human bite; cigarette burns on any part of the body
- Frequent complaints of pain without obvious injury
- Aggressive, disruptive and destructive behavior
- Lack of reaction to pain
- Passive, withdrawn, emotionless behavior
- Fear of going home or seeing parents
- Injuries that appear after the child has not been seen for several days
- Unseasonable clothes that may hide injuries to arms or legs

### You are responsible for your child's safety

- If you permit your child to be in a situation where he or she may be injured, then you may be prosecuted for child abuse. The fact that the abuser is a parent or other family member does not remove your obligation to protect the child.
- If you are frightened for your own safety or that of your child, call 911 or 1-800-252-5400.
- If you are uneasy about your own behavior toward your child, you can call the Parents Anonymous toll-free hotline at: 1-800-554-2323.
- You are legally responsible for the care of your child. You must provide your child with safe and adequate food, clothing, shelter, protection, medical care and supervision, or else you must arrange for someone else to provide these things. Failure to do so may be considered neglect
- If you suspect abuse:
  - Don't try to investigate
  - Don't try to confront the abuser
  - DO report your reasonable suspicions

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Violence Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Parents anonymous Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Locally Call-Victim Service: 263-3312

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# News in brief

## Mild weather aids firefighters in Big Sur, Calif., but strong winds hamper fire efforts to south

BIG SUR, Calif. (AP) — Weary firefighters got no Independence Day reprieve from a pair of out-of-control wildfires that roared along California's central coast, chewing through opposite ends of an arid forest in the Los Padres National Forest.

Despite cooler temperatures and light winds, flames from the stubborn fire that forced the evacuation of Big Sur inched closer to historic vacation retreats. Meanwhile, firefighters farther south dealt with winds with speeds up to 40 mph that fanned a wildfire in Santa Barbara County.

About 5,000 homes there were under evacuation orders, while residents in 1,400 homes were warned to pack up and be ready to leave on short notice, said county spokesman Jim McClure.

"The fire is expanding and presenting some very complex challenges because of the terrain and the fact that it hasn't burned in over 50 years," said Capt. Eli Iskow of the Santa Barbara County fire department. "And it's close to all the valuables like homes and people."

Meanwhile, Big Sur remained eerily empty under a thick blanket of fog and smoke at the start of the long holiday weekend. No more properties were lost, but the density of the parched terrain allowed nearly two-week-old wildfire to keep advancing on the storied tourist town, where flames were making their way toward scenic Highway 1 and sending forest creatures running toward the Pacific Ocean for cover.

## Jesse Helms, former conservative Republican senator from North Carolina, dies at 86

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Former Sen. Jesse Helms, an unyielding champion of the conservative movement who spent three combative and sometimes caustic decades in Congress, where he relished his battles against liberals, Communists and occasionally a fellow Republican, died on the Fourth of July. He was 86.

"It's just incredible that he would die on July 4th, the same day of the Declaration of Independence and the same day that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died, and he certainly is a patriot in the mold of those great men," said former North Carolina GOP Rep. Bill Cobey.

An iconic figure of the South, remembered by many for his opposition to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Helms had faded from public view as his health declined. He died of natural causes early Friday morning at the Raleigh convalescent home where he had lived for the past several years. "He was very comfortable," said former chief of staff Jimmy Broughton.

Funeral services are planned for Tuesday at Helms' longtime church in Raleigh.

The son of a police chief, North Carolina voters first learned of Helms through his newspaper and television commentaries. They were a harbinger of what was to come, as he won election to the Senate in 1972 and rose to become a powerful committee chairman before deciding not to seek a sixth term in 2002.

## Al Franken faces unique challenge as he tries to make switch from comic to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving from celebrity to senator isn't exactly an untraveled path. But that doesn't mean comedian Al Franken, who is vying for a Senate seat in Minnesota, will coast to Capitol Hill on a wide, smooth road.

Franken, a Democrat, best-selling author and former "Saturday Night Live" cast member, once penned a racy piece for Playboy that has offended the Midwestern sensibilities of some Minnesotans. It is that history as a

satirist and comedian, Franken says, that puts him "in a little uncharted territory" as he tries to woo voters.

At his nomination speech a few weeks ago, Franken acknowledged that some of his past writings and comments were "downright offensive."

"There were some things that I said that gave some people reason to believe I wouldn't fight for all Minnesotans, specifically for women," Franken said in a telephone interview. "I said I was sorry for that, 'cause that's not who I am."

## FBI probe of sludge recycling contract is latest setback for beleaguered Detroit

DETROIT (AP) — Auto industry cutbacks, double-digit unemployment and one of the nation's highest home foreclosure rates have left Detroit with a dreary economic future.

Now, a mayoral text-messaging sex scandal, federal investigation into a City Council-approved \$47 million sludge recycling deal, and poorly run and deficit-plagued public school system have dashed inroads toward respect and reopened Detroit to outside ridicule.

"When we're out doing business and trying to get customers we sometimes get asked 'You're from Detroit? What's going on there?'" Compuware Corp. senior vice president Jason Vines said. "As taxpayers and residents, it has to be disheartening. When your city is used as a public joke, it's not good."

Like most major cities, Detroit is no stranger to scandal. Former City Council members, and even a police chief, have been indicted, arrested or imprisoned.

But the current political crisis threatens to bury the city deeper in an economic grave.

## 4 companies begin costly quest for oil and gas off Florida's coast

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — Oil companies once viewed drilling in the deep waters off Florida as cost prohibitive. Politicians feared even the slightest sign of support would be career suicide.

No more. Record crude oil prices are fueling support for oil and natural gas exploration off the nation's shores. In Florida, movement was underway even before President Bush called on Congress last month to lift a federal moratorium that's barred new offshore drilling since 1981.

The early activity here stems from a 2006 Congressional compromise that allows drilling on 8.3 million acres more than 125 miles off the Panhandle — an area that had been covered by the moratorium, which was enacted out of environmental concerns. In exchange, the state got a no-drilling buffer along the rest of its beaches.

With gas topping \$4 a gallon, recent polls show Americans, Floridians included, more supportive of drilling in protected areas. Some politicians — including Gov. Charlie Crist — have switched sides.

## Video shows how Colombian hostage rescue mission mimicked Venezuelan airlifts

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombian military intelligence agents posing as aid workers and a media crew flew to the jungle aboard a white helicopter, staging a mock humanitarian mission that rebels were told would ferry their hostages to another camp for talks on a prisoner swap.

The would-be envoys had honed their accents in acting lessons: Italian, Arab, Caribbean Spanish, and Australian English — "identical to Crocodile Dundee," Colombian Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos said Friday as he explained how the military duped the rebels into turning over 15 hostages.

Santos said military intelligence agents had infiltrated the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, so that guerrillas believed the hostages were being moved on the orders of top rebel leader Alfonso Cano for negotiations on a prisoner exchange. To play their roles, some soldiers wore Che Guevara T-shirts.

Video filmed during the rescue shows the hostages filing grim-faced toward the helicopter in a grassy clearing fringed with a coca field, then embracing and weeping with joy after they are aloft and realize they are free.

## Study finds orangutan populations declining sharply mostly due to palm oil and logging

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Orangutan numbers have declined sharply on the only two islands where they still live in the wild and they could become the first great ape species to go extinct if urgent action isn't taken, a new study says.

The declines in Indonesia and Malaysia since 2004 are mostly because of illegal logging and the expansion of palm oil plantations, Serge Wich, a scientist at the Great Ape Trust in Iowa, said on Saturday.

The survey found the orangutan population on Indonesia's Sumatra island dropped almost 14 percent since 2004, Wich said. It also concluded that the populations on Borneo island, which is shared by Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia, have fallen by 10 percent. Researchers only surveyed areas of Borneo that are in Indonesia and Malaysia.

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
**Play It Again, Sam**

North dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.  
Both sides — partscore of 60.

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

The bidding:  

<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
1♠	2♣	2♥	3♣
3♥	4♣	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble		

Opening lead — king of diamonds.  
**From a rubber-bridge game** comes this deal where the play was not precisely a model of perfection. West led the diamond king against four hearts doubled, East playing the deuce. West then shifted to the king of clubs, East signaling with the eight. Declarer ruffed the club continuation, led the spade jack to the king and successfully finessed the jack of trumps.  
**At this point**, it seemed to South that he was about to make his contract with an overtrick. But when he

next led a low spade to dummy's nine to repeat the trump finesse, the hand collapsed. East ruffed the spade, returned a diamond to his partner and ruffed another spade, and declarer wound up down two for a loss of 300 points.  
**The play by both sides** was deficient. East could have ensured defeating the contract had he overtaken West's king of clubs with the ace at trick two and returned his singleton spade. From his viewpoint, this play would guarantee him a trump trick, since there could then be no way for declarer to take two trump finesses without subjecting himself to a spade ruff.  
**However**, declarer failed to capitalize on East's blunder at trick two. He should have taken steps to guard against a possible 4-1 spade division. After ruffing the club at trick three, South should next have led a diamond! This play would have rendered the defense helpless.  
**Let's say** that whichever defender wins the diamond returns a club. Declarer ruffs and trumps a diamond in dummy. He then takes his first heart finesse, returns to dummy with a spade and takes a second heart finesse, thus making four hearts doubled. The outcome is the same if the opponents shift to a spade after winning the diamond.  
**Occasionally**, bridge resembles soccer, with the ball getting kicked back and forth almost aimlessly.

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# DEDICATION

"...be courageous and persistent in overcoming adversity  
in my drive to achieve success."

**“Telvista is great for students with busy schedules.”**  
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10655





HERALD photo / Alex Newsom

Floats, like the one above, weren't the only mode of transportation used in Friday's Coahoma Freedom Parade. In addition to floats, tractors and motorcycles, some participants rode horses.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

9-month-old Jackson Phillips sits in his red, white and blue-bedecked stroller as he waits for the start of the annual Highland South July 4 Parade Friday morning.



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# NJ party town relaxes rules on beer kegs, rude gestures

By WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press Writer

BELMAR, N.J. (AP) — After battling rowdy renters and out-of-control keggers for decades, this Jersey shore party town has finally decided to lighten up a little.

Belmar, sometimes called "Fort Lauderdale North" for its reputation as a raucous party enclave, has scrapped laws against giving the finger and requiring beer kegs to be registered. The town's mayor said the rules were difficult to enforce.

"I'm not sure anyone even knew that making obscene gestures was illegal," Mayor Ken Pringle said. "Right after we send out our tax bills, I tend to see a few."

The repeals come as the borough has clearly restored some of the quality of life that was routinely shattered by revelers in the 1980s and 90s.

"People that have a hard time obeying our strict rules seem to have gone to other beach towns where the rules are not as tough," he said.

"Most of the people who are renting here who are deciding they can behave will not have a problem."

Belmar, on the central Jersey coast about 10 minutes south of Asbury Park, has long been a favorite spot for young people looking for summer fun. The town has 7,000 year-round residents, but the population swells to 60,000 after Memorial Day.

In 1990, there were over 1,200 summer rental units here; now there are just over 300. Lots that once held ramshackle party huts now boast \$800,000 homes whose residents are not shy about calling the police to complain about

noise.

Belmar has a slew of strict regulations for summer renters that include limits on how many people can cram into one building and when they can put their trash out at the curb. The town also has a "zero tolerance" policy for noise violations, and even leaving empty bottles or beer cups on the porch overnight.

"The cops are relentless here," said Matt Errichiello, a 23-year-old from Haworth who is in his third year of renting a house near the beach with friends. "At night, if you even speak loudly, you get a ticket. The rules are ridiculous."

One rule that's no longer on the books related to raising one's middle finger, or the many variants thereof. However objectionable it might be to some people, such a gesture is constitutionally protected free speech, said Pringle, an attorney.

He said the borough was contacted by civil libertarians who questioned the legality of several municipal ordinances.

The ban on "obscene gestures," which never spelled out exactly what was and was not covered, was overly subjective, Pringle agreed. No one can recall anyone being prosecuted for violating it.

Another law prohibiting people from loitering in alleyways also was axed.

And a beer keg tagging law, which Belmar enacted last year with great fanfare, withered and died after the state Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control said a handful of similar local laws enacted around the state requiring beer kegs to have the name, address and phone number of the person rent-

ing them was unconstitutional.

In summer rentals near the Belmar beach, the repeals are being hailed by the party crowd, some of whom consider the right to raise their middle finger in public a newly won freedom to cherish on Independence Day.

"I'm giving people the finger if it's legal, absolutely," laughed Carlos Padilla, a 23-year-old from Dumont wearing a sleeveless white T-shirt and gold chain.

He's renting a house for the season with a bunch of pals — all of whom were drinking beer from red plastic cups and listening to rap music on the front porch one night this week.

But he acknowledged he and his friends would try to tone it down this summer.

"There's little kids next door," he said.

His roommate, A.J. Aguila, another 23-year-old from Dumont, isn't eager for a repeat of the time borough code enforcement officers pounded on the front door of his rental at 5:30 a.m. to demand they clean up empty beer cups that had been left on metal picnic tables on the porch.

Pringle said summonses for noise violations are down this summer, and several residents have told him things have been quieter so far this summer.

But in parts of the 1-square mile town, some people still don't get it, continuing to rack up noise violations.

Four of the worst offenders will have sheriff's officers stationed outside their houses for the entire weekend, with the \$1,000 cost of their overtime pay coming from the landlord's security bond.



AP Photo/Brian Branch-Price

Visitors and residents spend the day on the beach in Belmar, N.J. Revelers in this Jersey shore party town can now legally drink from unregistered beer kegs and give people the finger. Belmar has scrapped laws relating to kegs and flipping the bird, on the grounds that they were difficult to enforce.

# Statue of Liberty's crown may reopen to public

By COLLEEN LONG

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — The National Park Service is considering reopening Lady Liberty's crown for the first time since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, according to documents a congressman released on July Fourth.

The park service requested bids last month to study what it would take to safely open the Statue of Liberty's iconic headpiece to the public, according to documents released by U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y.

Liberty Island was closed after the terrorist attacks. The statue's base, pedestal and lower observation deck reopened in August 2004, after a \$20 million effort to enhance fire safety.

But the crown and its interior observation deck, which soar about 265 feet above New York Harbor, remained closed because the Park Service said there was no way to evacuate them safely in an emergency. The narrow spiral staircase that leads up to the crown doesn't comply with fire and building codes.

Weiner, a member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, helped arrange a congressional hearing in September on reopening the crown.

He said keeping the observation deck shuttered hurts the city's economy.

Since the crown closed, the number of visitors to Lady Liberty has dropped sharply.

"The bureaucracy which had stubbornly refused to open the crown is finally

moved in the right direction," Weiner said Friday. "Today's news means that America is one step closer to providing what everyone wants: safe access to the heights of Lady Liberty."

The Park Service said in

a statement Friday that several architectural and engineering firms have assessed visitor access since the attacks, and that all concluded the area from the pedestal to the crown doesn't meet safety codes.

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**Howard County Sheriff Office** has the following opening:

**Deputy Sheriff:** Must have patrol experience and hold current T.C.L.E.O.S.E. license. Rotating shifts must work any shift assignments. Must reside in Howard County. Yearly salary is \$33,599.00. Benefits.

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For more information call (432)264-2244 or stop by the Sheriff Office in the Court House.

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**HOWARD COUNTY** Road Department will accept from JUNE 30, 2008 through JULY 11, 2008 for a TRUCK DRIVER. Dump Truck experience a plus, must have a valid Class A C.D.L. Applications may be picked up and returned from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday at Room 305, County Court House. All applicants will be pre-job drug tested.

Eddy Jameson County Road Administrator.

**JANITORIAL/ GROUNDS** help needed. Howard/ Mitchell Rest Areas. Hiring for Attendance and Supervisor positions. Multiple shifts available. Call (903)757-7244 between 9-4, Monday-Friday to arrange an interview.

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**NEED MAINTENANCE** /Custodian, at East 4th Baptist Church. 32 hours per week. Contact Workforce Network, Job#671835.

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Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or by calling (432) 267-6341.

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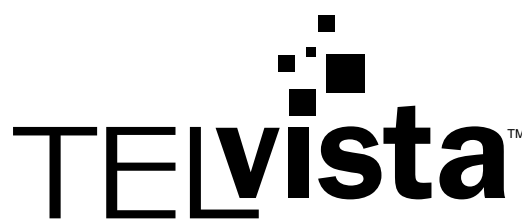
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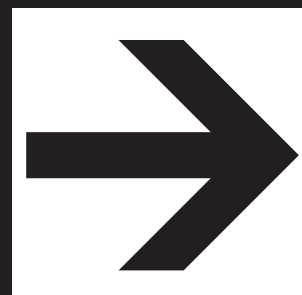
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We would provide extensive training for the right person. This is a full time position with company benefits including travel expenses. Office location would be at our Big Spring Location. 710 S. Scurry. Salary range would be starting at \$400-\$500 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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@bigspringherald.com  
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**1409 MT. VERNON.** 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, NEW kitchen, large living area, CH/A, laundry room, fenced yard. \$700. month, \$700. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

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- Assuring that all leases are operating safely within regulatory guidelines
- Successful applicant must be willing to live within 30 miles of field located approximately 4 miles NW of Westbrook, Texas

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<p><b>ONLY \$29.99 Month!</b></p> <p><b>CALL NOW!!!</b> <b>1-800-425-5728</b> Promo Code: 12711</p> <p>Or Call: <b>Mark Weingarten</b> <b>1-800-821-8139</b> ext 210</p> <p>For advertising rates and information on National Classified Advertising visit: <b>www.cnhi-can.com</b></p>		



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**COVERED CAR** lot and office for rent. Lighted and secure. Great Location. Call (432)264-8924 for more details.

**NICE CLEAN** 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 1607 Sycamore. Central air and heat, carpet, large fenced yard. \$475. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

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**970-946-4633**

**1107 MULBERRY** 3/1 with 720 square foot 2 bay shop. \$59,500.00. Owner will finance with 10% down. \$520 Monthly. Call (512)940-5200 or (432)631-8100.

**1998 OAKCREEK** Mobile Home 18X80 in Forsan ISD on school land. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath. Like New in Excellent Condition. \$40,000.00 OBO. Call (432)457-0160.

**2311 BRENT** Drive. Quite Neighborhood. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, large lot, double garage and fireplace. Call (432)395-6685.

**ATTENTION**

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Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

**Real Estate for Sale**

**2715 CENTRAL** Drive 3/2 with fireplace, fenced yard and shop. \$139,500.00. Owner will finance with 10% down. \$1215. Monthly. Call (512)940-5200 or (432)631-8100.

**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.

**3241 DREXEL** Ave. 3/2, garage, fireplace and fenced yard. \$99,500.00. Owner will finance with 10% down. \$865.00 Monthly. Call (512)940-5200, (432)631-8100.

**4102 BILGER.** 1340 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New roof, carpet, tile and dishwasher, fresh paint throughout, CH/A, fenced yard, garage. \$85,000. Call (432)267-5855.

**900 ACRES** 1.5 miles of Colorado River, Highly improved. Saba County. Beautiful Ranch. \$5,500,000.00. Call 903-326-4851, 903-872-2022 or 325-623-5651.

**BY OWNER** 3 Bdrm 2 bath. 2318 Brent Drive. Owner/Agent Call 432-264-8166 or 432-935-6516.

**BY OWNER/** No Financing: Coahoma ISD, 2 bdr., 1 bath house on approx. half acre. Call 432-267-2907.

**"HISTORIC DISTRICT"** Building Downtown. Two-Three Separate businesses. 6000 Square feet. 98% Refurbished. Owner Financing. 10% down plus terms. \$150K. Call (432)264-8048.

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY,** \$35,000. Currently rented. 104 Circle Street. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1015 sq. ft. CH/A. Current income \$425. month. No Owner Finance. (432)816-1464.

**OWNER FINANCED-Easy** Terms. 1307 Mt. Vernon and 510 State Street. Call TruStar Realty (432)264-8166.

**LAND FOR Sale,** 5 miles south of Big Spring on east side of Highway 87 and in Coahoma on the south side of IS 20. Call (432)263-8785.

**LAND FOR Sale:** Morgan Ranch Estate. 6.86 acres with water well. Beautiful view. Great Building Site. Call 432-816-6560.

**NICE LAKE** House. South Lake Thomas. 1-3 Bdrm, 5 lots, storage's, garage and carport. Good Condition. \$35,000.00 O.B.O. Call 254-842-5611 leave message.

**OWNER FINANCE** Home. 501 Union. Three bedroom, one bath, two living areas. Priced to Sell! \$32,000. \$2,000 down. \$400. month. Nearly updated carpet & tile. Call Patience (432)349-5242.

**Real Estate for Sale**

**OWNER FINANCE.** 2/1. 102 Jonesboro. Fixer upper. Low down. Very low monthly. Call (325)277-4923.

**REALLY COOL** House and Barn- Forsan ISD. 2/2, fenced yard, 8 stall barn, enclosed large feed and tack room, working round pen, arena and RV cover. By appointment only 432-714-4555.

**RENTAL UNITS FOR SALE--** 3 Unites at 408 West 5th. \$35,000.00. Call (432)213-2531.

**SMALL 2** bedroom 1-1/2 bath on 2.9 acres, 2 water wells. \$46,000. cash. Call (432)394-4836 or (432)816-4656.

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**1996 OLDSMOBILE** Ciera. One Owner. Low Mileage. Call (432)267-8649.

**2000 MODEL** Dutchman Supreme 5th wheel. Has two slides, 31ft 6 inch. Call (432)213-4332

**2001 YUKON XL.** Leather, loaded. Dixie conversion package. Excellent Condition. Never smoked in. Call (432)263-0965.

**U PARK U** Sell or Consignments sales. Covered lighted and fenced lot. Sell your own vehicle or we will sell it for you! Call (432)267-2886.

**Legals**

**Public Notice**  
Glasscock County ISD is accepting proposals for the purchase of property and casualty insurance, cafeteria supplies, cafeteria perishables and milk, janitorial supplies, copy paper, diesel fuel, unleaded gasoline, propane, lubricants, vehicle maintenance supplies and liability insurance. Specifications are available in the superintendent's office of the Glasscock County ISD located in Garden City, Texas. A copy of the specifications may be examined from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. regular work days in the Administration Bldg. located at 308 West Chambers, Garden City, Texas.

For more information call the superintendent's office at 432-354-2230 or write PO Box 9, Garden City, Texas 79739. For technical information on the proposals call Steve Long, superintendent or Tony Gomez, maintenance director, or Kay Chandler, cafeteria director, at 432-354-2230. Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m. July 14, 2008. Glasscock County ISD reserves the right to accept, reject, or postpone any or all proposals. The district will consider each proposal's advantages to the district and will act in a manner that the board considers most advantageous to the district. All applicable laws, rules, and regulations take precedence.  
#5829 June 29 & July 6, 2008

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS**

Two influences inspire today's poetic feel. Neptune seeps into Mercury, filtering our perceptions and thoughts through an otherworldly haze, while Uranus kisses Venus, inspiring hope in relationships and excitement about creative endeavors. Anyone's sensitivities can be heightened by being receptive and responsive to this vibrant day.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You'll level with anyone who



HOLIDAY MATHIS

asks you, as long as they don't hold the information against you. After all, you're the messenger, not the source of the news. So try not to take the reactions you get personally.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). From credit card companies to personal invites, people pursue you to join their clubs, programs and agreements. You're more interested in the exclusive arrangements that require you to pursue them.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You work well in a team. Keeping things light and breezy is your success secret. Don't get deeper than you have to by trying to figure out what's in it for the other person. It doesn't matter, as long as everyone works together.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Is someone working at cross-purposes to your plan? Then you're lucky! It's so much easier to improve when you're up against a worthy opponent. Without an opponent, you'd get complacent.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Intent on being your own person, you have no desire to blend in with the crowd. It's too bad that being perpetually noticed and special has to take so much work! But it does, and so you do.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's simply not like you to exist in the uncomfortable and indistinct land of limbo. You want to know what's going on, why and when it's likely to change. So you ask pointed questions and get clear answers.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The beginning of a new project is like an audition for the school play -- you decide who you'd like to be and try out for the role. Though your suggestions are taken into consideration, ultimately you are cast where you best fit in.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're too wise to take anything at face value now. Things that look cool aren't really, and things that look

ordinary are extraordinarily rare. See with your soul, not your eyes.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Regarding the thing you got wrong last week, your stars are perfect for getting it right. Mentors will guide you if you ask. And if at first you ask the wrong question, ask again!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you make occasional mistakes along your way to greatness, do not take them as a sign that you are out of your league. You're stretching. It's when you're not making any mistakes that you have cause to worry.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've benefited from the kindness of others and now you're paying it forward. You're so generous to those less fortunate, and the blessings you bestow will boomerang.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You're a hustler when you need to be. Recognizing when to lay off and go for the soft sell is also one of your specialties. You correctly read the situation tonight and make an effective play.

**FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:** This week brings a rare meeting of two old friends, sometimes foes: Mars and Saturn. Friend or foe? It all depends on how far we attempt to push past our limits. Like a game of red light, green light, Saturn (red) slows down Mars, insisting things are done by the book, while Mars (green) is impatient with rulebooks and methods of self-restraint. All is not futile; setbacks and discontent are powerful engines for achievement -- for by applying the bundles of focused energy and attention we have at our disposal to an area of life that vexes us, we move in the direction of mastery. Both planets join in analytical Virgo, and the phrase "the devil is in the details" is an apt description for Saturn in Virgo. This suggests there's wisdom at work behind attacking the details of a project or honing our craft to perfection.

Saturn is also the lord of time, so actions involving precision of timing click into place. Pulling back, rather than jumping ahead, characterizes the week's energy. In matters that need a little more attention and time, take it. Practice makes perfect.

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**Legals**

**Public Notice**

Texas Education Agency  
Division of Career and Technology Education

1. Glasscock County ISD offers career and technology education programs in Business Education: Accounting I & II, Business Computer, Information Systems I & II, Desktop Publishing, Web Mastering, Computer Science I and Video Technology; Agricultural Science: Animal Science, Plant & Soil Science, Intro to Ag Mechanics, Range Animal Science, Wildlife Science, Metal Fabrication, Ag Mechanics, CAD I, and Intro to Computer Maintenance. Admission to these programs is based on enrollment in school, age appropriateness, class space and prerequisites.

2. It is the policy of Glasscock County ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3. It is the policy of Glasscock County ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4. Glasscock County ISD will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

5. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Steve Long, at PO Box 9, Garden City, Texas 79739, 432-354-2230, and/or Section 504, Coordinator, Steve Long, at PO Box 9, Garden City, Texas 79739, 432-354-2230.  
#5830 June 29 & July 6, 2008

**Answer to previous puzzle**

W	I	E	L	D	S	M	E	A	R	G	A	S
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**Newsday Crossword**

**SATURDAY STUMPER** by S.N.

Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Spill something
  - 5 Chart start
  - 15 Diana's protector in a '78 film
  - 16 Get ready to go, in a way
  - 17 Jump over
  - 18 Have dessert after dinner, perhaps
  - 19 Big name in '40s films
  - 21 *Jekyll & Hyde* star
  - 22 Under-the-table things
  - 23 Devour
  - 27 Live
  - 28 Pirates adversaries
  - 30 Schooner kin
  - 32 Symbol for a city or town
  - 33 "\_\_\_ pleasure, sure, to see one's name in print": Byron
  - 35 College official
  - 39 Stomping grounds
  - 41 Open
  - 42 Come back
  - 43 Heath nickname
  - 44 Squat
  - 45 Picture-frame feature
  - 47 Endorser
  - 49 Accusatory exclamation
  - 52 Pianist with 14 Grammys
  - 54 Cast
  - 55 Winnebago offshoot

- 57 Sight from Dunsmuir, CA
  - 59 Site of a Seabiscuit victory
  - 63 Small row
  - 64 Like some music
  - 65 *Symphony in Black* creator
  - 66 Work
  - 67 Some bucks
- DOWN**
- 1 Fleet, at times
  - 2 Broiling candidate
  - 3 Parts of nightcaps
  - 4 Baker's creation
  - 5 Literally, "skyward"
  - 6 Doesn't stay up
  - 7 Power towers
  - 8 Chi preceeder
  - 9 UNICEF month
  - 10 Ballet-loving Muppet
  - 11 Draw
  - 12 LG partner in cell phones
  - 13 Ethyl acetate, for one
  - 14 Trimmer giant
  - 20 Just for a few
  - 24 \_\_\_ of strength
  - 25 Hangs (on)
  - 26 Blasted
  - 29 Serenade
  - 31 Starship designation
  - 34 Direct
  - 36 King, from 1968-83
  - 37 Set right
  - 38 Commits
  - 40 Daisy's cousin
  - 46 Actress Leah
  - 48 Starsky
  - 49 Taken in
  - 50 \_\_\_-Ethiopian Wars
  - 51 Friend of Clemenceau
  - 53 Simple, elegant and witty
  - 56 Outline well
  - 58 Sleep, with "out"
  - 60 Wore through
  - 61 Trickery
  - 62 Easter predecessor

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- Mama found the missing piece for her china set...
- Papa bought a great used car ...
- Little Brother traded his baseball cards for a guitar...
- Big Brother found an awesome set of free weights...
- Cousin Bill found a great apartment ...
- Big Sister found a great new job...
- Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

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