

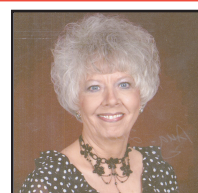
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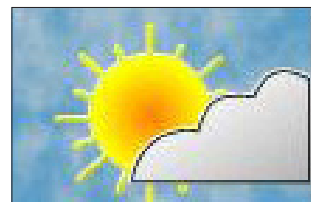
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SUNDAY

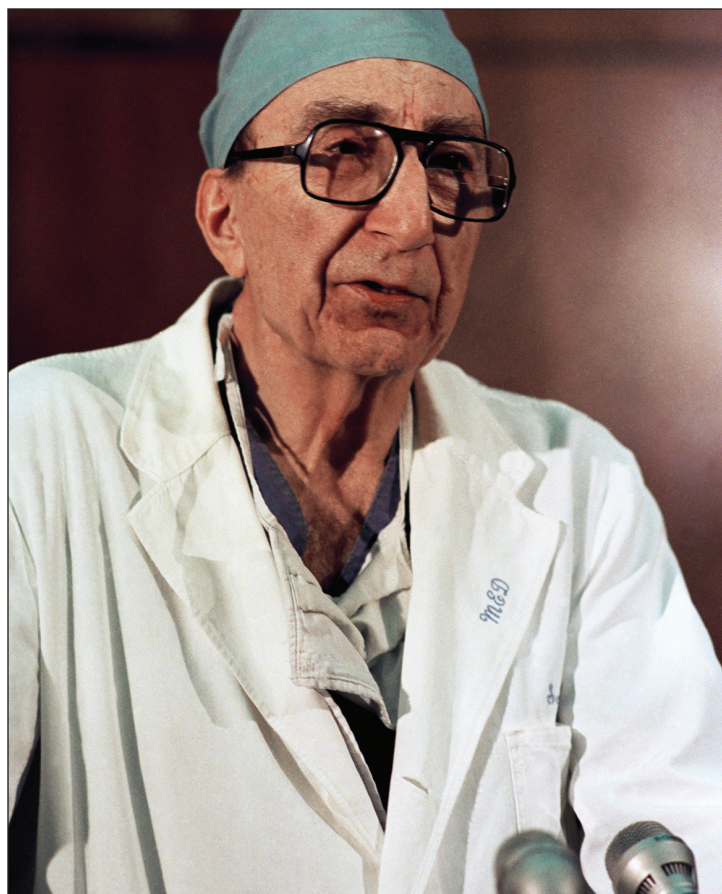
JULY 13, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 192

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AP file photo/F. Carter Smith

Dr. Michael DeBakey, the world-famous cardiovascular surgeon who pioneered such now-common procedures as bypass surgery, died Friday night at Methodist Hospital in Houston. He was 99.

Pioneering heart doctor DeBakey dies

HOUSTON (AP) — Dr. Michael DeBakey, the world-famous cardiovascular surgeon who pioneered such now-common procedures as bypass surgery and invented a host of devices to help heart patients, has died. He was 99.

DeBakey died Friday night at The Methodist Hospital in Houston from "natural causes," according to a statement issued early Saturday by Baylor College of Medicine and The Methodist Hospital.

DeBakey counted world leaders among his patients and helped turn Baylor from a provincial school into one of the nation's great medical institutions.

"Dr. DeBakey's reputa-

tion brought many people into this institution, and he treated them all: heads of state, entertainers, businessmen and presidents, as well as people with no titles and no means," said Ron Girotto, president of The Methodist Hospital System.

Girotto said the surgeon "has improved the human condition and touched the lives of generations to come."

While still in medical school in 1932, he invented the roller pump, which became the major component of the heart-lung machine, beginning the era of open-heart surgery. The machine takes over the

See **DEBAKEY**, Page 3A

County to consider joining public defender task force

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are expected to consider joining an 85-county public defender task force Monday morning, in an effort to keep costs down on capital murder cases.

According to Jack Stoffregen, an

attorney with the West Texas Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases task force, the goal of the organization is for counties to pool their resources to help pay for the rising costs of providing defense counsel for death penalty cases.

"The cost of capital cases to counties is enormous," he said, estimat-

ing that Howard County could end up spending anywhere between \$80,000 and \$200,000 per death penalty trial. He said the cost to Howard County taxpayers under the task force would be slightly more than \$53,000 over a four-year period.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

HOT FUN IN THE SUMMERTIME



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Six-year-old Jonathon Schneider springs into action on an inflatable slide at Comanche Trail Park recently.

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City budget workshops begin Monday

Council members' 'wish lists' to garner more scrutiny

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Members of the Big Spring City Council will get their first glimpses of the proposed 2008-2009 budget next week, as city officials prepare for budget work sessions Monday, Tuesday, and perhaps several

other nights during the week, if necessary.

Set to begin Monday at 5:30 p.m., the proposed plan will attempt to address several key issues council members directed the staff to explore during the May 20 budget workshop, according to City

Manager Gary Fuqua.

"The staff has been working on this since our first budget work session," said Fuqua. "We feel like it's coming together well, and we'll have everything ready to begin Monday night."

The staff certainly had plen-

ty of ideas to choose from, as May's workshop yielded a plethora of ideas from the council members.

District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton suggested an ordinance addressing

See **CITY**, Page 3A

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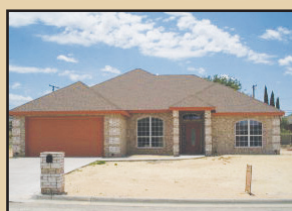
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A pair of aces

Grandsons of local residents receive all-state recognition

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

There wasn't a Big Spring area team competing in the recent state high school baseball tournament, but there was definitely a local connection.

Two grandsons of local residents helped lead their respective teams to the University Interscholastic League Class 5A state championship game in Austin last month.

Ben Flora, grandson of Shirley and the late John Burgess, was a member of the Class 5A state champion Plano West Wolves, while Ross Stripling, grandson of Hayes Jr. and Dorothy Stripling, played for state runner-up Southlake Carroll.

The two, both senior pitchers, had outstanding seasons in 2008, culminating with inclusion in the



Flora

Texas Sports Writers Association Class 5A All-State First Team.

Flora, the son of Rick and Cindy Flora, finished the season with an 18-0 record and was particularly effective in the playoffs. He won all five games he pitched, allowing a measly 0.37 earned run average. He pitched the Wolves past Laredo United in the state semifinal game, then watched from the bullpen as Plano West downed Southlake Carroll for the state title.



Stripling

The Wolves ended the

See **ACES**, page 2B



AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill,

Eric Shanteau swims in the men's 200-meter breaststroke preliminaries at the US Olympic swimming trials in Omaha, Neb. July 2.

A devastating diagnosis

Olympic swimmer Shanteau has testicular cancer

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

AP National Writer

ATLANTA — When Eric Shanteau touched the wall second at the U.S. Olympic trials, he was overcome by the joy of reaching a lifelong goal.

The celebration didn't last long. Shanteau had barely locked up his trip to Beijing when he was forced to deal with a gut-wrenching choice: Should he have surgery for the testicular cancer hardly anyone knew about? Or, should he put it off for another month so he could swim at his first Olympics?

Shanteau chose the Olympics.

Surgery will have to wait.

In an exclusive interview with The Associated Press, Shanteau said he learned just a week before leaving for the U.S. Olympic trials that he has cancer.

"I was sort of like, 'This isn't real. There's no way this is happening to me right now,'" he said by telephone from the team's pre-Beijing training camp in California. "You're trying to get ready for the Olympics, and you just get this huge bomb dropped on you."

His doctors cleared him to compete at the trials in Omaha, Neb.,

determining he wouldn't be at great risk to delay treatment. Then, Shanteau surprisingly made the team in the 200-meter breaststroke, finishing second ahead of former world-record holder and heavy favorite Brendan Hansen.

He's putting off surgery until after the Olympics because it would keep him out of the water for at least two weeks, ruining his Beijing preparations. The 24-year-old Georgia native will be monitored closely over the next month by U.S. Olympic team

See **CANCER**, page 2B



AP Photo

Manuel Beltran of Spain, bottom right, is escorted into a car of the French gendarme after they searched the Liquigas cycling team hotel in Le Rouget Friday. French radio is reporting that Beltran was tested positive for the use of the banned substance EPO.

Big surprise: Doping mars Tour de France

By **NAOMI KOPPEL**

Associated Press Writer

FIGEAC, France — The riders in the Tour de France begin their second week of the sport's showcase event Saturday, but Spanish veteran Manuel Beltran won't be among them after testing positive for the performance-enhancer EPO.

The case has thrown a pall over the race, which was seeking to recover from a doping-marred event last year and 10 years since a series of drugs scandals on the Tour damaged cycling's reputation.

"When are these idiots going to learn that it's over?" said Pat McQuaid, head of the International Cycling Union. "They continue to think that they can beat the system. They're wrong. The system is catching up all the time."

Beltran was immediately

suspended by his Liquigas team after the news of his positive test broke Friday evening. However the rest of the team still intended to race on Saturday. Last year, a positive test for Cofidis' Cristian Moreni led the entire team to withdraw.

Beltran was released at 12:30 a.m. Saturday after being questioned for about two hours, a police official said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media. The official added that Beltran was fully cooperative and denied doing anything wrong.

The Liquigas team bus arrived at the start of the eighth stage in Figeac with a police escort of at least 14 motorcycles.

Liquigas spokesman Paolo

See **TOUR**, page 2B

Sports in brief

Steer football season ticket sales to begin

Big Spring High School 2008 football season tickets go on sale July 28 at the Athletic Training Center.

Only people 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-a-days.

Contact your school's athletic department with any questions.

Rose Magers-Powell volleyball camp scheduled

Big Spring native and former Olympian Rose Magers-Powell will hold a volleyball camp from July 28-30 at Big Spring Junior High.

The camp will be held from 9 a.m. until noon all three days.

Cost is \$125 per camper.

For more information, visit www.gotrosevolleyballcamps.com.

Ivie hunting permits applications now accepted

Application for public hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Wildlife Management Areas will be accepted by mail only beginning Monday and ending Aug. 15 at the resefrvoir field office.

Permits are limited and requests for information and application packets should be made by calling the Colorado River Municipal Water District at 267-6341 or by writing to: CRMWD, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring 79721.



125th Anniversary

First United Methodist Church

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



Pictured above is the present day buildings of First United Methodist Church which stands today on the site of the church's first structure. At right is a photo of the church's second building constructed in 1897. Below is the two-story, red-brick sanctuary finished in 1929. At bottom is the construction of the current sanctuary which was finished in 1952. (Courtesy Photos)

First Methodist hosts two-day celebration

Saturday

The congregation of FUMC invites the public to enjoy hot dogs and homemade ice cream at 6:30 p.m. at the Heritage Museum's Gerald Marie Wallace Pavilion, 510 Scurry St., to celebrate 125 years of the church.

Entertainment will include some old-time gospel singing and lots of visiting.

The museum will be open to the public for a free viewing of its exhibit "Gimme That Old Time Religion." This is the closing night.

The exhibit celebrates the different religious organizations that impacted the early growth of Howard County.

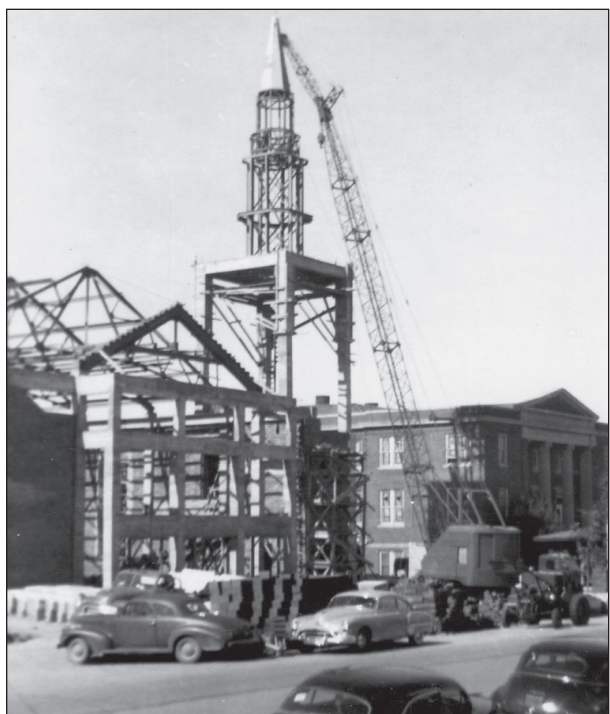
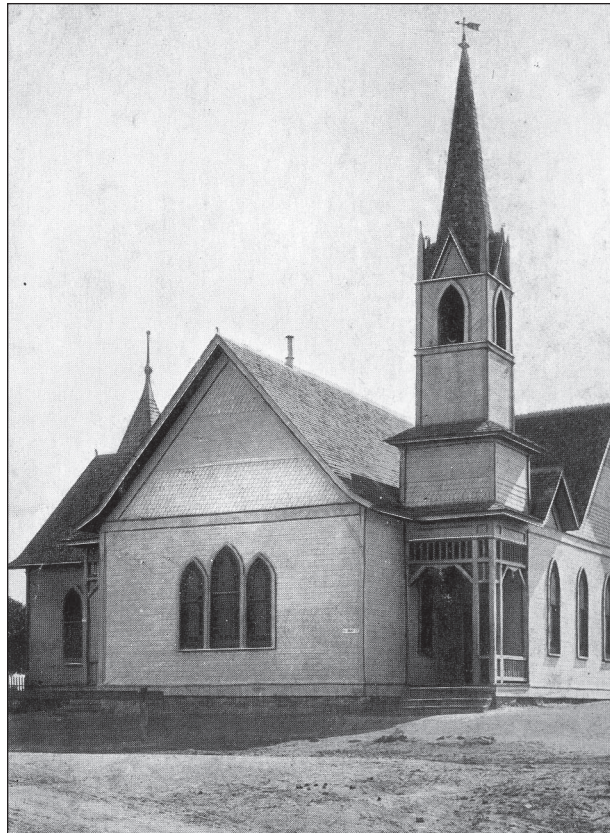
Sunday

The church gears up for the second part of the celebration by holding only one worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Former pastors Dr. William Fleming, Dr. Keith Wiseman, the Rev. Ed Williamson and Dr. Jim Smith will speak about the church's past.

Following the service, a covered dish dinner in the Garrett Hall will be held. A video presentation consisting of pictures from the church archives will be given during this time.

The actual anniversary will be Wednesday. The regular noon Bible study group will observe the event.



A

As a girl, Jane Jones, a lifetime member of First United Methodist Church, had the privilege of knowing one of the church's original charter members.

"I think she (Mother Zinn) was actually a Presbyterian," Jones said. "But since the Methodist church was being organized and there was no Presbyterian church here at the time she said, 'I'll stay with them a while.' She lived to be over a 100."

"After she got to where she couldn't read or hear very well, she got the members to bring a little, cain-bottom chair right up to the pulpit so she could hear what was being said. She was there every Sunday. She wore little white gloves and if the preacher said something she thought was especially good she'd shout out, 'Hallelujah,' and clap her hands. She was so precious."

On her 100th birthday, Jones recalled, Mother Zinn — her first name is not known — celebrated by taking an airplane ride piloted by Clyde Thomas Sr., a local attorney.

And it was that type of spirit shown by Zinn and the handful of the charter members that must have fueled their determination to establish a church in such a "barren spot to worship."

The First Methodist Episcopal Church, South — later to become First United Methodist Church — was officially organized on July 16, 1883. Members had been meeting at the home of Dr. David W. McIntyre for about a year before. Later services were held at the district courtroom until the first building was constructed in 1884 on the president day site of Fourth and Scurry streets.

The church's Ladies Aid purchased the original lots but written accounts say the women felt they were robbed by the hefty cost of \$350.

"They thought it was just an absorbent amount," said Jones, who is compiling a history of the church. "They thought it was just a terrible amount for them to pay."

Mother Zinn and Auntie Weyman made the first pulpit with their own hands, Jones said. The pulpit was to stand over Auntie Weyman's coffin three years later.

By 1897, a second building was erected at a cost of \$3,000. The steeple was rebuilt after it was blown down during a storm, which also destroyed the Baptist and Episcopal churches. By 1900, Jones said, the membership had grown to 157.

In 1923 the second building was torn down to make way for a red-brick structure completed in 1925. During this time, services were conducted at the district courthouse.

A new sanctuary was added in 1952 for \$745,000 to meet the demand of the growing congregation — by the 1960s, church membership had grown to more than 2,000. The 1925 structure was converted into the education building.

The last major renovation happened in the late 1970s with half-million expansion to include Garrett Hall and an office building along with remodeling of the educational building and sanctuary.

The almost 1,000 membership-strong church will hold a two-day celebration beginning tonight.

— Lyndel Moody

Other source material used for this article:

"A Brief History of First United Methodist Church Written in 1927" — *The Texas Methodist*, First United Methodist Church, Big Spring edition, July 16, 1971.

"Bishop consecrates new 'look' of first Howard County church" by Elleen McGuire — *Big Spring Herald*, April 16, 1978.

"Gimme That Old Time Religion" — *The Historian*, by Tammy Schrecengost, source material from this article used "Getting Started, Howard County's First 25 Years" by Joe Pickle and a *Big Spring Herald* article by Marj Carpenter.

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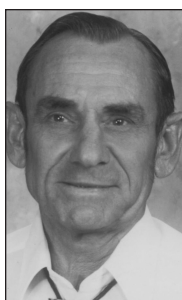
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Obituaries

Lloyd Richard Nichols



Lloyd Richard Nichols of San Angelo passed away July 11, 2008, at his residence.

He was born March 21, 1919, to W.E. and Nellie Nichols in Rincon, N.M., where he grew up on a farm. He married the love of his life, Ruth Harriett DeMark, one year after Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1942 in Boston, Mass. They were married 58 years before she passed away on May 22, 2001.

During WWII, he was in the 36 Division 1st Battalion 142nd Infantry Regiment. He was awarded many medals in his time of service which include: an American Defense Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, an American Theater Ribbon, an ETO Ribbon with Silver Star and one Purple Heart.

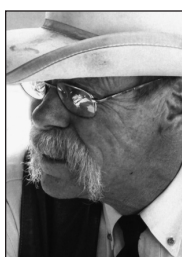
After his time in the Army, he settled in Big Spring where he had a laundry business for nearly 35 years. He also owned the first car wash in Big Spring. His wife helped him manage both.

He was a member of the American Legion and VFW. He retired to San Angelo in 1980 to be near his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Sandra Ruth Nichols and son, Lloyd Gene Nichols. Also, he is survived by a special friend, Billie J. Hollond, and numerous relatives and friends.

Paid obituary

David Clark Saunders



David Clark Saunders of Stanton died Thursday, July 10, 2008, after a bout with emphysema. Funeral services will be held Monday, July 14, 2008, at 2 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Stanton. Officiating will be Chaplain Joe Torres of Home Hospice and Hoot Leonard of Community of Christ Church. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. The family will receive friends Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

David was born April 3, 1951, in Stanton to Dan and Billye Saunders. He spent 30 years in law enforcement and had earned the Prestigious Master Peace Officer Certificate from the state of Texas.

He is survived by a two sons, Dee Saunders and his wife Dessa of Pace, Fla., and Dusty Saunders of Midland; one daughter, Tasha Titsworth and her husband Zayne of Stanton; one brother, Sid Saunders and his wife Lori of Stanton; and three grandchildren.

The family suggests that memorials be made to: Home Hospice of Big Spring, 111 E. 7th, Big Spring 79720, or to the Martin County Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 1233, Stanton 79782.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Ester Daylong



Ester Daylong, 87, of Big Spring died Thursday, July 10, 2008, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Jan. 6, 1921, in Denison to Ollie and Grover Lovell. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1922. She married Albert Paul "Bull" Daylong on May 16, 1936, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on March 25, 2000. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of God.

She is survived by one son, Preston Daylong and his wife Janet of Big Spring; three daughters, Jody Samuels of Dallas, Wanda Speaker and her husband Barry of Odessa, and Donna Daylong of Big Spring; one sister, Johnnie Speaker of Harper; 18 grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren; and a number of great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one son, Albert Paul Daylong Jr.; and one brother, Curly Lovell.

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

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Raymond G. Reakes

Raymond G. Reakes, 84, of Odessa died Tuesday, July 8, 2008. Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, July 25, 2008, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Odessa. He was born Jan. 16, 1924, in Cortland, N.Y. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Army Air Corps. He was a seismology engineer and worked in computer technology.

He is survived by his wife, Juliann Reakes of Odessa; one daughter, Patriciann Reakes-Collins of Odessa; one son, Casey Graham Reakes of Las Vegas, Nev.; and three grandsons.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following arrests Friday (Note: because of computer difficulty, an activity log was not available):

- DAVID HUMPHREY III, 43, 1317 Mulberry, was arrested on a capias warrant.
- ERIKA N. HILARIO, 17, 1109 S. Lancaster, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- CODY ALLEN WINGO, 19, 1109 S. Lancaster, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- BILLY JOE CHAVARRIA, 30, 2504 Gunter, was arrested on charges of resisting arrest and assault Class C/family violence.
- ROBERT SANCHEZ, 44, 429 Westover, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- ERNEST CLARK, 68, 4000 Highway 80, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- DAVID PETREE, 23, 6508 S. Service Road, was arrested on four local warrants.

Take Note

• A benefit breakfast to assist in paying medical expenses for Cory Reyna will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Sunday at Sacred Heart Youth Center, 509 N. Aylesford.

• Big Spring High School will offer the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) Exit Level Re-Test July 15-18. Please report to the High School Library at 8 a.m. Please bring a picture I.D. The testing schedule is as follows:

July 15 — ELA (English Language Arts).

July 16 — Math.

July 17 — Science.

July 18 — Social Studies.

For more information, contact the high school at 264-3641.

• BSHS Class of 1978 30-year reunion is Sept. 12-13. Contact Kent Rice at 870-918-5875 or kent_rice@murphyoilcorp.com

• 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. For the survey in Spanish, go to 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.

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Bulletin Board

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

MONDAY

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

• Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

• The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 264-6116.

• Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

• Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacieants meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

• The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Dragon Restaurant, 1300 S. Gregg. Everyone is welcome. Call 263-3869 for more information.

TUESDAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

• Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.

• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels.

• 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 Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.

• Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.

Lottery

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
2-6-0. Sum It Up: 8

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
6-5-7-0. Sum It Up: 18

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CANCER

Continued from page 1B

doctors and vows to withdraw if there's any sign his cancer is spreading.

"If I didn't make the team, the decision would have been easy: Go home and have the surgery," said Shanteau, who grew up in suburban Atlanta. "I made the team, so I had a hard decision. But, by no means am I being stupid about this."

Still, there are no guarantees. "With any cancer, you want to find it early and treat it early for the best outcome," Dr. Brett Baker, the Austin, Texas-based urologist who delivered the news to Shanteau, said Friday. "That was my recommendation. It's difficult to say in his scenario what to expect. The risk, of course, is that time is an opportunity for disease progression."

Seeking out advice from team doctors and other outside experts, Shanteau came up with own plan. He will have his blood tested once a week and a CT scan done every two weeks through the Olympics, hoping that will be enough to keep a

handle on the disease.

"If something comes up abnormal," he said, "then that's kind of a barrier I shouldn't cross."

In most cases of this type, Baker said it's impossible to know for sure exactly what type of testicular cancer the patient has — or, even the very slight chance that it's not cancer at all — until the tumor is removed surgically for a biopsy.

"Sometimes, the best decisions are not always exactly the way the doctor sees it," Baker said. "I don't consider him crazy at all. I think if he's happy and content with playing it out this way, that's the most important thing."

If Shanteau can't compete, the Americans would add Scott Usher as their second swimmer in the 200 breast. The third-place finisher in Omaha was told of Shanteau's condition the day after the race and encouraged to keep training.

"I've been trying to play in my head what I would do in his situation," Usher said Friday before heading to a solo training session at Purdue University. "I don't know if I would have taken the same route he has, to be honest. ... Cancer is not something

you want to mess around with."

It was found after Shanteau noticed an abnormality and was finally persuaded by his girlfriend to see a doctor in Austin, where he trains on a star-studded team that includes Hansen, Ian Crocker and Aaron Peirsol.

On June 19, exactly one week before he was scheduled to leave for the trials, Shanteau heard that awful word.

Cancer.

"It almost numbed me," he said. "I'll remember that day for the rest of my life. Talk about a life-changing experience. That's as big a one as you can have, I think. You're changed for the rest of your life."

If everything had gone according to expected script in Omaha, Shanteau would have already gone through surgery and be on the road to recovery. But the improbable happened in the 200 breaststroke, where Hansen — considered a lock to make the team — faded badly on the final lap. Scott Spann powered by to win the race, and Shanteau passed Hansen as well to claim the second spot on the team.

Shanteau was going to the Olympics. But his thoughts quickly shift-

ed to the cancer.

"A lot of people kept asking me after that race, 'What was going on? We thought we would get a little more reaction out of you,'" he said. "That kind of made it a little bittersweet. It went well. I made the team. Then I had to go back and deal with reality."

Only a few close friends and family knew about Shanteau's condition before the Olympic trials. He decided to go public with his story because he hopes to inspire others with cancer.

According to the National Cancer Institute, testicular cancer is relatively rare, accounting for 1 percent of male cancer cases in the U.S. It's often diagnosed in younger men. About 8,000 men are diagnosed and 390 die from the disease each year.

The cancer is usually slow to spread and highly treatable, but follow-up care is extremely important because of the risk of recurrence, the NCI said. Surgery to remove the affected testicle is the most common form of treatment.

Mark Schubert, head coach and general manager of the U.S. team, supports Shanteau's decision to swim in Beijing.

"Eric is handling this situa-

tion with courage and poise, and his decisions to compete at the Olympics and to share his story for the benefit of others, are evidence of that courage," Schubert said. "While we are hopeful that he will be able to compete, Eric's health remains the top priority."

Shanteau's camp already has heard from the agent of Lance Armstrong, who overcame the same disease and won the Tour de France seven straight times.

"Lance's agent told my coaches that I'm the closest thing to Lance Armstrong that there is on the planet right now," Shanteau said. "If I can have a fraction of the impact that he's had, just a tiny little bit, then I think what I'm going through will be good."

Up to now, Shanteau's biggest international accomplishment was finishing fifth in the 200 breaststroke at last year's world championships in Australia. He faces long odds to make the medal stand in Beijing, having posted only the ninth-fastest time in the world this year.

"Making the Olympic team was the hard part," he said. "The Olympic Games should be fun. I'm not worried about swimming fast there."

TOUR

Continued from page 1B

Barbieri told reporters that the team doctor had known nothing about the EPO and any decision to use it had been taken purely by the rider.

"We have a very hard line of doping in the team. It is unthinkable," Liquigas team manager Roberto Amadio said. "(Beltran) said it is impossible and he doesn't know what happened. We have the right to a second test and we have 10 days before (finding out the result)."

Tour director Christian Prudhomme said a statement will be issued later Saturday.

Patrice Clerc, president of organizer ASO, said before Saturday's stage that he was at least pleased the system had worked and Beltran had been caught.

"Obviously I can't say I'm happy, but I am happy that it is working," he said. "The good news is that there is one cheat less in the Tour de France."

Clerc said he was always suspicious of sporting events where there appeared to be no doping going on.

"If there is nothing, I have trouble believing it. I find it healthy (that doping cheats are caught)," he said.

Kim Kirchen of Luxembourg wore the yellow jersey as riders began Saturday's stage, which took the pack 107.2 miles from Figeac south to Toulouse, before the race heads into the tough climbs of the Pyrenees mountains on Monday.

Kirchen is six seconds ahead of Cadel Evans of Australia, one of the pre-race favorites.

The 37-year-old Beltran is the fourth former teammate of seven-time Tour winner Lance Armstrong to test positive for drugs.

"I know nothing about that," Clerc said. "Some of his former teammates had problems, but the problems could have been after they left Armstrong."

Beltran's case may not be the last in this year's race.

Pierre Bordry, head of the French anti-doping agency, confirmed that Beltran was targeted by drugs testers because blood tests carried out before the start of the race had shown "abnormal parameters."

The agency announced Friday that some 20 riders had abnormalities in their tests and Bordry confirmed that other riders were also being targeted, but decline to say who.

Police raided the Liquigas team hotel Friday night and searched rooms, Barbieri said.

An official of the police division responsible for public health confirmed that Beltran was taken into custody to be questioned as to where he took the drug and where he obtained it. Police have the power to hold Beltran for 24 hours, officials said.

Amadio said Beltran was on his way back to Spain.

The traces of EPO were found in a first sample taken in a doping test after the July 7 first stage of the Tour. Beltran has the right to ask for a second sample to be analyzed.

Last year, pre-race favorite Alexandre Vinokourov of Kazakhstan tested positive for blood doping and race leader Michael Rasmussen was kicked out just days before the end of the race for having lied about his whereabouts when he missed pre-competition doping tests. Spaniard Iban Mayo also tested positive for EPO and was later cleared by his national federation, but the case is still being contested by the International Cycling Union.

ACES

Continued from page 1B

year with a 40-2 record and were named the No. 1 high school team in the nation by MaxPreps.com.

Stripling, the son of Hayes III and Tammy Stripling of Southlake, was almost as impressive, earning a 14-0 won-loss record (two additional wins

were forfeited by the team). He allowed less than two earned runs a game, while striking out 156 batters during the season. He was the winning pitcher in the Dragons' state semifinal victory over Houston Bellaire.

In addition to making the all-state team, both players were named to the Dallas Morning News all-area baseball team, with Flora being named the

most valuable player.

Both will continue their baseball careers for Division I college teams — Flora has signed with Texas Tech University, while Stripling will continue his family's tradition of attending Texas A&M University.

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



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Mr. and Mrs. David Byrd

Dana Kohl Rodriguez and Darren David Byrd, both of Big Spring, were united in marriage at 3 p.m. May 24, 2008, at St. Paul Lutheran Church with the Rev. Carroll C. Kohl, father of the bride, officiating.

The bride is the daughter of the Rev. Carroll and Leighrene Kohl of Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Richard and Bettye Davis of Odessa.

The bride's children are Analysisia Rodriguez and Mateo Rodriguez. The groom's children are Alyssa, Alex and Jonathan Byrd.

The bride was escorted down the aisle by the groom and their five children.

Maid of Honor was Glenda Ramsey of Wichita Falls, sister of the bride, and bridesmaids were Kerri Whitehead of Big Spring and Breanna Conner of Coahoma, niece of the bride.

Clint Bain of Midland served as best man and groomsmen were Cliff Castilaw of Big Spring and Rod Ellebracht of Fort Worth.

Scripture Readers were Alyssa Byrd, daughter of the groom, and Analysisia Rodriguez, daughter of the bride.

Organist was Angela Newton of Coahoma, sister of the bride; trumpeters were Scott Ramsey and Thomas Ramsey of Wichita Falls, nephews of the bride.

Ushers were Alex and Jonathan Byrd, sons of the grooms.

Caroline Ramsey and Madeline Kohl, nieces of the bride, served at the guest registry.

The reception and dinner was held at the couple's home immediately following the wedding. All guests enjoyed a full barbecue buffet and outdoor seating under the trees in the orchard. The kids and many adults enjoyed playing in the blow-up bouncing castle, the 51-foot obstacle course and giant side and train rides around the property. Even the bride and groom made a trip down the slide - wedding dress and all! The reception continued late into the evening.

The bride is a 1985 graduate from Big Spring High School, a 1990 graduate of Sul Ross State University and a 2006 graduate of Midwestern State University. She is the principal at Kentwood Elementary.

The groom is a 1983 graduate from Permian High School and a 2005 graduate of Lubbock Christian University. He is employed at Alon USA Refinery as a senior site specialist in the technology department.

The bride's niece, Breanna Conner, plays for the Coahoma girls softball team - and the day of the wedding was a play-off game in Snyder for the district championship. The second game of the series was at noon that day. If they won that game, they wouldn't have to play the third game at 3 p.m. which was the exact time as the wedding.

The entire wedding party was gathered around a radio at the church listening to the game instead of getting dressed. Fifteen minutes before the wedding, the Bulldogettes pulled it out and won the game. At 3 p.m. the preacher explained that with everyone's permission, the wedding would be postponed 15 minutes in order to allow Breanna additional time to try to get there.

At 3:15, the music started and the wedding procession started - and just as her escort was starting to walk down the aisle by himself, Breanna bolted in the church door.

What a wedding picture. The wedding party all lined up in the front of the church - black suits, floral dresses, white wedding dress, and a red and white baseball uniform with the No. 23 on the back.

Haley Renea Butts of San Angelo and Monty Kurt Rowden of Lubbock exchanged wedding vows at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, June 7, at the 14th and Main Church of Christ. Eddy Pitchford of the Coahoma Church of Christ performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Debbie Butts of Coahoma and Jimmy and Pat Butts of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of George and Lola Sloan of Coahoma and Mickey and the late Marvin Butts of Big Spring.

The groom is the son of Hubert L. and Sherry Rowden of Coahoma. He is the grandson of H. C. Rowden and Patsy Rowden of Big Spring and Ernestine and the late Shannon Boyles of Del Rio.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an ivory gown with champagne trim surrounding the cuff of the bodice and accenting the corset back. The sweep train and skirt was tucked throughout creating a motif of fullness. The bridal bouquet was designed using cymbidium orchids and pink calla lilies.

Matron of honor was Kelsey Butts, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Tiffani Paige of San Angelo, Melissa Warren of Houston and Kristi Halliday of Big Spring.

The bride's attendants wore tea length black sateen dresses gathered at the waistline with a halter back accented bodice. They carried a single pink calla lily accented with ribbon.

Jarred Rowden served his brother as best man. Groomsmen were Jarod Wells of Coahoma, Nolan Paige of San Angelo and Anthony Wheat of Garden City.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a champagne vest and tie while his groomsmen wore black tuxedos with matching ties and vests.

Flower girl was Sydni Coor and ring bearer was Braxton Coor, both cousins of the groom.

The reception was held at the Big Spring Country Club. The bride's cake was a four-tier cake with fondant icing featuring black and white accents of contemporary design. Each layer of the cake was of various flavors.

The groom's cake was a two layer chocolate cake designed as a cotton boll with an arrangement of cotton stalks and miniature bales used on the groom's table. The cakes were designed and made by Pat Butts, step-mother of the bride.

The tables were decorated with orchid arrangements in Eiffel tower vases. Pictures of the bride and groom highlighted each table.

Haley has a bachelor of science degree in biology from San Angelo State University. She will be attending Texas Tech this fall to obtain her second degree with a bachelor of science in nursing.

Monty has a bachelor of science degree in agriculture business from Lubbock Christian University and a master's degree in interdisciplinary agriculture from Texas Tech University.

He is employed as a quality seed specialist with Bayer Crop Science in Lubbock.

After a honeymoon in the Bahamas the couple will reside in Lubbock.

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the Herald
at 263-7331**

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Mid-Summer Festival set

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish will hold a Mid-Summer Festival at St. Thomas Church, N.W. Sixth and N. Main, Friday and Saturday, July 18-19. The kitchen will open at 11 a.m. each day and feature enchilada plates, gordita plates, guizo plates and more. A dessert booth will also be open.

Outside booths with games, food and drink will open at 6:30 p.m. each evening. Live music will be held each evening. Other activities include bingo from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and a washer tournament Saturday afternoon on the St. Thomas Church grounds. Everyone is invited.

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

gang activity, as well as stricter code enforcement, a VIP tour for visitors to the city looking to move to Big Spring, the use of motorcycles and hybrid vehicles for city and law enforcement vehicles to stave off rising gasoline cost, a city-run "begging committee" to work to get inmate work crews for the city, and equipment for additional mowing at Moss Creek Lake to alleviate problems with snakes and other wildlife.

District 2 Councilman manuel Ramirez Jr. said one of his focuses for the coming year is recycling, as well as a ban on plastic bags — such as those provided by local merchants Wal-Mart and H-E-B — in the city.

Ramirez also suggested the city look at employees using their vehicles for personal business and ways to cut down on waste by going to a paperless system, as well as consider providing municipal supervisors with

Blackberry-type phone systems.

District 3 Councilwoman Jo Ann Staulcup echoed concerns for enforcing city ordinances, and suggested the city look at a program to pick up some of the items they don't normally clean, such as batteries and old tires, as well as look at recycling to help the city recoup some of its cost in code enforcement.

District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald stressed the "clean and green" approach in the coming years, and also said she'd like to see a sign located at the historic spring.

District 5 Councilman Troy Thompkins said he would like to see more done with the community service program, as well as add an employee to the city's Conventions and Visitors Bureau. Thompkins also suggested the city look at a unified Web portal for the various agencies in Big Spring, as well as consider hiring a grant writer.

District 6 Councilman Greg Biddison said he'd like to see better sanitation services for the city's customers. Biddison said he'd also like to see something done to address the

homeless problem in Big Spring.

Mayor Russ McEwen only had two items for his budget wish list.

"I feel like we need to do everything in our power to give the city employees a true cost of living raise and continue with the merit pay system," said McEwen. "Also, we're putting in a multi-million dollar sports complex and a multi-million dollar golf course. It behooves us to make sure the city employees have the right equipment to take care of them."

The meeting will convene in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth St. City officials say they expect work sessions to take place Monday and Tuesday, and possibly Wednesday, if necessary — all beginning at 5:30 p.m. — but have set aside the entire week in case proceedings run longer than expected.

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

"It would be like any other kind of insurance," Howard County Judge Mark Barr said. "It would be good if you needed it and a normal expense when you didn't."

The timing is coincidental, however, as Howard County District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson is faced with a decision whether to re-seek the death penalty for the county's only

death row inmate, whose sentence was recently overturned by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Billy Ray Nelson, sentenced to death for the February 1991 fatal stabbing of Charla Wheat, had his sentence overturned in December 2006. At that time, the court ordered a new punishment phase trial for Nelson, who has been on death row for almost 16 years.

The circuit court decision pertains only to retrying Nelson on punishment and has no bearing on his

established guilt, officials said.

Howard County has suffered through lean financial times the past several years, leading to the elimination of several county positions during last year's budget process.

Commissioners have until Aug. 15 to decide whether to join the task force.

Also during Monday's meeting — which will get under way at 10 a.m. in the commissioner's courtroom, located on the second floor of the county courthouse — commis-

sioners will consider a contract with Midland College for participation in its breath alcohol program, discuss possible proposals for county insurance and hold a budget work session. They will also consider personnel matters, payroll reports and plans and provisions for the 2009 Texas County and District Retirement System.

Commissioners are also expected to confer with Elections Administrator Saundra Bloom concerning polling places and election judges for the Novem-

ber presidential election and the possible sale of a tract of land to the city of Coahoma.

Commissioner Gary Simer has also requested time during the meeting be dedicated to discussion — and possible action — on a sales tax outside the city limits. More information on this agenda item was not available at press time.

The court is expected to recess following these items and reconvene Tuesday at 10 a.m. to consult with architect Jeff Heffelf-

inger concerning ongoing efforts to build a new jail facility.

The discussion is expected to concentrate on jail computer software and expenses pertaining to the new \$11.57 million 112-bed law enforcement center, which will be located in Big Spring's west side, near the McMahan Wrinkle Airpark.

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

DEBAKEY

Continued from Page 1A

function of the heart and lungs during surgery.

It was only a start of a lifetime of innovation. The surgical procedures that DeBakey developed once were the wonders of the medical world. Today, they are commonplace procedures in most hospitals.

He also was a pioneer in the effort to develop artificial hearts and heart pumps to assist patients waiting for transplants, and helped create more than 70 surgical instruments.

Dr. William T. Butler, a colleague of DeBakey's at Baylor, said in March 2006 that DeBakey established himself with his surgical firsts as the "maestro of cardiovascular surgery."

"Dr. DeBakey was never afraid to challenge the status quo, often going against the tide," Butler said. "Some times his colleagues did not really accept his visionary ideas, particularly as he propelled beyond the boundaries of existing scientific dogma."

But the accolades poured in Saturday as news of the death spread. Baylor College of Medicine President Dr. Peter G. Traber recorded a taped webcast for the college community saying DeBakey "created the foundations of modern surgical practice," and always looked for new ways to treat patients ravaged by heart disease.

Cardiovascular surgeon

Dr. George Noon called his longtime partner "the greatest surgeon of the 20th century" who "single-handedly raised the standard of medical care, teaching and research around the world."

In a 1985 Associated Press interview, DeBakey said, "I'm accused of being a perfectionist and, in the way it's usually defined, I guess I am. In medicine, and certainly in surgery, you have to be as perfect as possible. There's no room for mistakes."

DeBakey was the first to perform replacement of arterial aneurysms and obstructive lesions in the mid-1950s. He later developed bypass pumps and connections to replace excised segments of diseased arteries.

A tireless worker and a stern taskmaster, DeBakey literally had scores of patients under his care at any one time, helping to establish his name as a leading cardiovascular surgeon. He performed more than 60,000 heart surgeries during his 70 year career, The Methodist Hospital said.

"Man was born to work hard," he said. His patients ranged from penniless peasants from the Third World to such famous figures as the Duke of Windsor, the Shah of Iran, King Hussein of Jordan, Turkish President Turgut Ozal, Nicaraguan Leader Violetta Chamorro and Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon.

But he said celebrities don't get special treatment on the operating table: "Once you incise the skin,

you find that they are all very similar."

He made headlines again in 1996 when he flew to Moscow to help examine ailing Russian President Boris Yeltsin and served as a consultant when he underwent surgery.

DeBakey served as chairman of the President's Commission on Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke during Johnson's administration and helped establish the National Library of Medicine. He was author of more than 1,000 medical reports, papers, chapters and books on surgery, medicine and related topics.

"I like my work, very much. I like it so much that I don't want to do anything else," DeBakey said.

Baylor University College of Medicine was a fledgling medical school when DeBakey joined it in 1948, five years after it moved from Dallas to Houston.

The Waco-based univer-

sity later cut its ties to the school, but DeBakey, as the medical school's president and later chancellor, had helped to establish its own identity.

In 1953, DeBakey performed the first Dacron graft to replace part of an occluded artery. In the 1960s, he began coronary arterial bypasses.

In 1962, DeBakey received a \$2.5 million grant to work on an artificial heart that could be implanted without being linked to an exterior console. In 1966, he was the first to successfully use a partial artificial heart — a left ventricular bypass pump.

In the late 1990s, DeBakey brought out a ventricular assist device touted as one-tenth the size of current heart pumps that helped ease suffering for patients waiting for heart transplants.

In the late 1990s, he took an active role in creating the Michael E. DeBakey

Heart Institute at Hays Medical Center in Hays, Kan.

DeBakey's first wife, Diana Cooper DeBakey, died of a heart attack in 1972. Three years later, DeBakey married a German film actress, Katrin Fehlhauer.

She survives, along with their daughter, Olga-Katarina, and two of his four sons from his first marriage, Michael and Den-

nis. Two other sons, Ernest and Barry, preceded him in death.

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Ester Daylong, 89, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Trinity Memorial Park. Family will receive friends from 4:00 until 5:00 PM Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Raymond G. Reakes, 84, died Tuesday. Memorial Services will be held at 3:00 PM Friday, July 25, 2008, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Odessa.

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In the mist of our sorrow, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our many relatives; friends and neighbors for the kindness and sympathy shown us in the loss of our beloved husband and father, Santos Mendoza. We especially wish to thank Father Lagunilla's, consoling words, all the donors of the many beautiful floral offerings, singers, Dr. Farquhar, Teresa Rocha and the Guadalupanas for their kindness and Myers & Smith Funeral Home for their efficient management of the services.

Mendoza Family



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Loan Amount	\$102,000	\$98,455	\$95,000
Interest Rate	6.625%	6.625%	6.75%
APR Rate	6.89%	6.89%	6.99%
P&I	\$653.37	\$630.35	\$616.17
Monthly MIP	-0-	\$40.42	\$76.00
Est Tax & Ins.	\$255.00	\$255.00	\$255.00
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Est. Funds to Close	\$4,000.00	\$6,500	\$8,500

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Compass Hospice
Hospice Volunteers Needed

Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love & God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, please contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999.

Volunteers are needed in many categories in addition to patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time will be greatly appreciated.

Training is offered, free of charge, beginning July 29th. Hospice training is invaluable for those who have a desire to make a difference to someone in need of a blessing.

Training location and schedule:

Compass Hospice - Team Room 1003 E. FM 700 Big Spring, Texas 79720. Tues., Wed., & Thurs., July 29, 30 & 31. 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Must attend all three days to become a Hospice Certified Volunteer.

12363

Mendoza hold down White Sox for victory

By **DAVID JIMENEZ**

Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON (AP) — Luis Mendoza walked off the mound for the last time Friday night with far different emotions than he had just four days earlier.

Mendoza rebounded from a rough outing to strike out eight over six innings, Josh Hamilton drove in two more runs and the Texas Rangers beat the Chicago White Sox 7-2.

Pitching on three days' rest, Mendoza (2-3) allowed just three hits and one walk to win for the first time in six starts. He allowed eight runs in 1 1-3 innings in Texas' 9-6 loss to the Los Angeles Angels on Monday.

"Last time was rough," said Mendoza, who allowed home runs on the last two pitches he threw against the Angels. "I tried to throw strikes and stay ahead all the time. It felt great."

Mendoza probably could have pitched another inning to save a bullpen that had worked 13 1-3 innings the past two games, but manager Ron Washington elected to take the right-hander out after

six. "We wanted him to leave with a good feeling," Washington said. "It's important that he took us deep into the ballgame. He did exactly what we needed for him to do."

Mendoza was aided by three of his four All-Star teammates.

Hamilton, who will start for the American League in Tuesday's game, went 3-for-5 and leads the majors with 93 RBIs. He has driven in 11 over his last seven games.

Ian Kinsler extended his hitting streak to 23 games, tying fellow Rangers All-Star Michael Young for the longest in baseball this season. David Murphy and Chris Davis homered for Texas, which leads the majors in runs scored.

"This lineup we have is very powerful," Davis said. "Hopefully we can keep things rolling and get some more wins."

Designated hitter Milton Bradley missed his third straight game with a sore left knee, but Washington insisted Bradley won't miss the All-Star game.

Gavin Floyd (10-5) lasted just 2 2-3 innings in his shortest outing of the season for the White Sox.



AP Photo/LM Otero

Texas Rangers' starting pitcher Luis Mendoza throws in the first inning of the baseball game against the Chicago White Sox in Arlington Friday.

Floyd, who was 6-1 in his previous eight starts, walked a career-high seven and allowed six runs.

"I struggled with all my pitches," Floyd said. "Instead of relaxing and slowing down, the game sped up on me."

Jim Thome hit his 524th career homer in the seventh for the White Sox, who had won 11 of 14.

Eddie Guardado got Paul Konerko to fly out with the bases loaded in the ninth to earn his second save of the season.

Washington blanks Astros

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tim Lincecum was the beneficiary of the Nationals' biggest shut-out win since the franchise moved to Washington before the 2005 season.

He definitely deserved all the support.

Redding finally got a victory after nine consecutive no-decisions, Ronnie Belliard homered twice and drove in five runs and the Washington Nationals beat the Houston Astros 10-0 Friday night.

"We needed a game like this," manager Manny Acta said.

"We have so many good, supportive, patient fans I think they deserve a few nights like this one."

Redding (7-3) allowed seven singles, walked none and struck out six in six innings. The Astros had hits in the first five innings, but Redding consistently wiggled out of trouble to record his first victory since May 19 and avoid running his no-decision streak to double digits.

"It (stinks). I wanted to

go into the record book. I told my wife, some way, somehow in my career I'm going in the record book," Redding deadpanned. "Obviously, it feels good to get a win. The guys have been playing tough."

Redding fell one short of tying the major league record for consecutive no-decisions by a starting pitcher in a single season, set by San Diego's John D'Acquisto and Philadelphia's Randy Lerch in 1977, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

A crowd of 33,653 saw the Nationals score their most runs in a shutout since a 10-0 victory by the Montreal Expos over the New York Mets on April 11, 2003.

Austin Kearns homered and Steven Shell worked three innings for his first career save as Washington earned its seventh shutout of the season, and second in three days. The Nationals had lost seven of eight.

The Astros have been blanked three times this season and have lost eight of 10 overall.

Russian sets world pole-vaulting record

By **ANDREW DAMPF**

AP Sports Writer

ROME — Just when it seemed someone might challenge Yelena Isinbayeva, the Russian responded with her first pole vault world record in nearly three years.

Isinbayeva cleared 16 feet, 6 inches (5.03 meters) Friday at the Golden Gala meet, improving on her previous mark of 16-5 1/4 (5.01) set at the 2005 world championships in Helsinki, Finland.

American pole vaulter Jenn Stuczynski set an American record of 16 feet, 1 3/4 (4.92) at the U.S. Olympic trials this week to improve her second-place standing on the all-time list, pressuring Isinbayeva to respond before the Beijing Olympics.

"Everybody was saying 'Ah OK, Isinbayeva is finished, we have a new star,'" she said. "So today I was really angry."

Isinbayeva repeatedly

had tried to clear 16-5 1/2 (5.02) over the past few seasons and decided with her new coach Vitaly Petrov that a switch to 16-6 might give her a psychological boost.

"(Vitaly) said we have to change something," Isinbayeva said. "I was ready for a world record. My goal today was to beat the world record. In Rome there are great facilities, and the crowd is fantastic; I wanted to do something for them."

Isinbayeva cleared the record height with ease on her second attempt, suggesting she is capable of much more.

"It was not even close to the bar," she said. "It's just the beginning."

Isinbayeva has worked hard to overcome the physical and psychological problems that stopped her from improving on the record since 2005. This was her first outdoor meet this year, and her first appearance altogether

since winning her fourth world indoor title in Valencia, Spain, in March.

"I'm stronger now, I run faster and jump higher, but the most important thing is my mind: I'm happy, I'm quiet now, I want to jump," she said. "Before I had problems, and the pole vault was somewhere in the back of my mind."

The 26-year-old Russian

has dominated the pole vault since winning the 2004 Olympic title. She has set 12 world records outdoors and 10 indoors, and is the only woman to clear 5 meters.

With all the other events at the meet long finished and the clock past 11 p.m. local time, Isinbayeva got the fans who remained involved by putting her hands together to get the crowd clapping to a beat.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
The Eyes Have It

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 8
♥ A J
♦ J 3
♣ A K Q J 8 4 3

WEST
♠ K 9 7 2
♥ 8 7 6 5
♦ 9 5
♣ 9 6 2

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

SOUTH
♠ 10 6 4 3
♥ K Q 10
♦ K 6 4 2
♣ 10 5

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 1 ♣ 1 ♦ 1 NT
Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

After a beginning player has taken part in a few thousand hands of bridge, it is natural for him to conclude that certain similar situations in the bidding or the play tend to repeat themselves. As a result, the beginner may develop a tendency to follow whatever his previous experiences have taught him.

But after playing another few thousand deals, the serious player has learned that each case has to be taken on its own merits. Exceptions arise where common sense favors

abandoning standard practice because of a particular set of circumstances.

Consider this deal where South was in three notrump and West led the diamond nine. The normal play for East would be to win with the ace and continue with the queen. This would establish East's long suit and presumably allow him to defeat the contract by eventually scoring his remaining diamonds after gaining the lead with the ace of spades.

But any East who allowed his reasoning to stop right there on this deal would, in effect, be playing with his eyes closed. He would be overlooking the simple reality that with a diamond return at trick two, declarer will collect at least nine tricks — seven clubs, a heart and a diamond — before East can score five.

Having gotten that far, East would therefore shift to the ace of spades at trick two in hopes of finding partner with at least four spades headed by the K-10 or K-9. East would then continue with the queen and the five to quickly put the contract down one.

Following standard procedure may work well in the great majority of cases, but it should not be forgotten that there are times when the usual practice must be forsaken. The present case is clearly one of those times.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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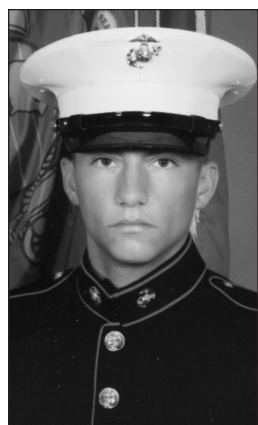
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► Military News



Garcia

Lance CPL. Desmond Aaron Garica, U.S. Marine Corp, graduated with a military occupational specialty in Signal Intelligence/Ground Electronic Warfare program at Corry Station, Fla., on June 20, 2008. He placed second in his class with a GPA of 3.9. and graduated as squad leader.

Desmond completed his Marine Corp Basic Training at MCRD Depot in San Diego, Calif., on Nov. 21, 2007. He graduated as squad leader and top physical fitness for his platoon and was named as one of the honor men for Fox Company.

He completed his combat training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., on Jan. 23, 2008, and graduated as squad leader.

Desmond is a 2007 graduate of Big Spring High School. He is the son of Felix and Lee Ann Garica of Big Spring. He is home on a 20-day leave. He will report to his permanent duty station on July 11, 2008, at Kunai, Hawaii, where his specialty will be in the intelligence field for the next four years.

Army Pfc. Kelli N. Padgett has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

She is the daughter of Audrey Hollingsworth of Price, Utah, and granddaughter of J.T. and Ruby Lucas of Stanton.

Padgett is a 2007 graduate of Carbon High School, Price, Utah.

**Dear Margo
Wake Up and Smell the Malevolence**

Dear Margo: I'm engaged to a man I love ferociously. However, over the past four years his ex-girlfriend has caused a lot of trouble by attacking me verbally and also threatening me on three occasions. My fiance claims their relationship is almost f a m i l i a l s i n c e t h e y ' v e known each other since they were in diapers. But ... they have been intimate on two occasions. He failed to stop her a t t a c k s

against me on all three occasions, but he does say each time that he will no longer talk to her until full apologies are made. Well, this is the fourth time — still no apology to me — and they have kissed and made up, so to speak, and now laugh on the phone together in front of me about how insecure I am. I am heartbroken that this close to our wedding he is still allowing this person to negatively affect us. I don't want to leave him, but I don't know whether there is any other answer. Am I wrong to ask him to cut her out of his life once and for all? — *Maybe This Is the End*

Dear May: I suggest you invite your fiance to contemplate their third occasion for intimacy because you are calling the whole thing off. Any man who does not choose his fiancée over an old friend with a miserable temper is unacceptable in my book. The fact that they laugh about your insecurity is indefensible. I wouldn't even bother to give this man an ultimatum; I would simply tell him he doesn't measure up. This woman's dislike for you clearly suggests she has a thing for him — so maybe they

deserve each other. Don't look back, hon, and consider yourself lucky. — *Margo, disgustedly*

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearmargo@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

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► Engagements

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Brent Holsenbeck and Kasey Pointon

Kasey Leigh Pointon and Brent Michael Holsenbeck, both of Big Spring, are to be married at 6 p.m. Aug. 30, 2008, in the garden of Dr. Howard Hornsby near Big Spring.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Malcolm and Tammy Pointon of Lazaro Cardenas, Michoacan, Mexico. She is the granddaughter of Peggy Plew of Big Spring and the late Billy Plew and Barbara Pointon of Hamilton, New Zealand and the late Don Pointon.

The groom-elect is the son of Karie and Donald Holsenbeck of Big Spring. He is the grandson of Sue Henson of Big Spring and the late Leon Henson and Leon and Joyce Holsenbeck of Breckenridge and the late Charlene Holsenbeck.

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Zamora and Vela



Eugene Vela and Donna Zamora

Zachary, Celstina and Ivan are proud to announce the upcoming marriage of their parents Donna "Dondee" Zamora and Eugene Raul Vela.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Donna Chapa from Lamesa and Israel Zamora and the late Delores Zamora from Olton. She is the granddaughter of the late Ricardo Guzman and Dominga Guzman from Lamesa and the late Israel Zamora and the late Petra Zamora from Olton.

The future groom is the son of Raul and Sandra Vela from Big Spring. He is the grandson of the late Eugene Vela and Pascuala Vela from Big Spring and Benjamin and Ophelia Garcia of Big Spring.

Donna is a 1997 graduate of Levelland High School and is employed by Pizza Inn.

Eugene is a 2000 graduate of Big Spring High School and is employed by Phillips Fabrication.

They will marry at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 19, 2008, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church St. Thomas Parish followed by a reception and dance at the Howard County Fair Barn.

► Celebrating 100



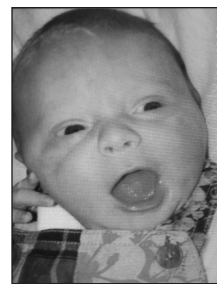
Sallie Sue Young (Mrs. Doc Young) will celebrate a century of life with a reception to be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. July 26, 2008, at the First United Methodist Church at Fifth and Lee streets in Odessa.

Mrs. Young was a teacher in Big Spring before and during part of World War II. Her husband, Doc Young, served as a Seabee in the U.S. Navy

during WWII.

Mrs. Young recalls that during the war, she served as the boy's basketball coach. As she tells it, the administration was extremely hesitant in replacing basketballs as they were in short supply. When the team needed new basketballs, the boys would hide the old ones on the top of the school to force the administration to grudgingly purchase new ones.

► Births



Zachary Blake Taylor was born at 3:16 p.m. June 19, 2008, at Providence Hospital in Waco to Jody and Vanessa Taylor.

He weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21 inches long.

He is the grandson of Don and Nita Taylor of Big Spring and Frank and Linda Nicholas of Waco.

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U.S. boxers push toward Beijing minus teammate

By **GREG BEACHAM AP**
Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Luis Yanez's teammates feinted and weaved in concert at Gleason's Gym on Friday, filling the Brooklyn boxing landmark with their uniform punches and grunts in the U.S. Olympic team's final public workout before Beijing.

Yanez, the team's light flyweight until last week, wasn't there. Neither was Dan Campbell, the coach who spent the past year molding his nine boxers to restore the U.S. reputation in an Olympic sport that hasn't been dominated by Americans for a generation.

While the other eight Olympians shadowboxed and worked the well-beaten bags at Gleason's, Yanez and Campbell were 1,500 miles apart on a conference call. Yanez is appealing Campbell's decision to kick the 106-pound fighter off the team for skipping more than three weeks of training in Colorado Springs last month.

USA Boxing's judicial committee will rule Monday on Yanez, who still could take his case to an arbitrator. If Yanez stays home, the U.S. team in Beijing will be the nation's smallest contingent since the 1948 games in London.

"I think the whole situation is terrible, and they should let him back on the team," middleweight Shawn Estrada said. "Even one more guy makes the team a whole lot stronger. There's no reason to keep him off the team. People can learn from their stupid mistakes."



AP Photo/Mary Altaffer

U.S. Olympic boxing team members Rau'shee Warren, left, Raynell Williams, center, and Demetrius Andrade hit a punching bag during the final open training session at Gleason's Gym in New York Friday.

Most of the U.S. boxers agree with Estrada, but their reflexive team pride is mixed with disappointment in Yanez's choices. The nine fighters have spent most of the last year away from their families and local coaches at a residency training program in Colorado Springs, postponing their normal lives in pursuit of medals.

"Whatever he did, that was his problem," said

Rau'shee Warren, a two-time Olympian who fought at Yanez's weight in Athens before becoming a world champion at 112 pounds. "I'm keeping myself focused on what I've got to do. We don't really notice, because he hasn't been around for a while. He used to hit the bag with me, but (Yanez's banishment) was all on him. They asked him to come to camp a couple of

times." Campbell and USA Boxing CEO Jim Millman say they dropped Yanez after he ignored repeated orders to return from his native Duncanville, Texas, to the U.S. Olympic Training Center. Yanez claims he stayed in contact with the team while caring for his sister and her four children as she went through drug rehabilitation for an addiction

to crack cocaine. "We left feeling pretty positive," Yanez family spokesman Michael Montoya said after the conference call. "Both sides were able to tell their story. We had some evidence in terms of some phone records (showing) Luis had been in contact when they said he hadn't. It was established there was communication going on, that USA Boxing was

aware of what was going on."

Millman declined comment on the appeal hearing.

The eight remaining fighters acknowledge they're better prepared for Beijing because of the residency training program. Campbell revived it from a 24-year dormancy to prepare his fighters for the vagaries of international boxing, which aren't always understood by their hometown coaches.

Still, the months of monotonous work and equally monotonous life in Colorado Springs aren't warm memories.

Estrada missed his daughter's first steps and first words while in camp, and he has been limited to phone calls with his cancer-stricken father. Warren hasn't been around for much of his 7-month-old son's life, and lightweight Saddam Ali met his newborn brother for the first time Thursday.

"I'll probably feel a lot better about the residency program when it's over," said Ali.

Other fighters, including light welterweight Javier Molina, missed deadlines to return to Colorado Springs — but only Yanez apparently defied several requests and a final letter demanding his return.

"I believe he's going to be back on the team, and I think he should," Ali said. "Maybe he isn't right, but he's worked real hard for this. ... A lot of us really think that was stupid of him, that he should have come back if this is the biggest thing in his life, but everybody makes mistakes."

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Was \$13,995
- 2005 Ford Explorer XLT Sport Trac - Red w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$16,995**
Was \$18,995
- 2005 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, Moonroof, Local One Owner, 44,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$22,995**
Was \$27,995
- 2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$18,995**
Was \$20,995
- 2004 Nissan Murano SE - White w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/69,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$18,995**
Was \$20,995
- 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Gray w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/57,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$18,995**
Was \$21,995
- 2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4 - White w/Cloth, V-6, All POWER, DVD, Local One Owner. **Sale Price \$10,995**
Was \$13,995
- 2004 GMC Yukon XL SLT - Maroon w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. **Sale Price \$17,995**
Was \$19,995
- 2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/36,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$13,995**
Was \$19,995
- 2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. **Sale Price \$13,995**
Was \$17,995
- 2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Leather, All Power, Navigator, One Owner. **Sale Price \$12,995**
Was \$16,995

*** CARS ***

- 2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Dark Stone, Leather, All Power, One Owner w/35,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$21,995**
Was \$23,995
- 2004 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
Was \$15,995
- 2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - Cashmere White w/Leather, All Power, One Owner w/32,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$18,995**
Was \$20,995
- 2004 Ford Focus SE 4-DR - Green w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/51,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$7,995**
Was \$10,995
- 2004 Ford Mustang Convertible V-6 - Black ws/Tan Top & Tan Leather, Local One Owner w/19,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$13,995**
Was \$18,995
- 2004 Mercedes C240 - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned w/42,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
Was \$21,995
- 2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner, Skylight. **Sale Price \$17,995**
Was \$23,995
- 2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver w/Leather, Moonroof, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
Was \$23,995
- 2003 Cadillac DeVille. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. **Sale Price \$12,995**
Was \$14,995
- 2003 Ford Escort ZX2 - Black w/Cloth, One Owner w/66,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$6,995**
Was \$9,995
- 1997 Lincoln Continental - Tan, All Power, One Owner w/53,000 Miles. **Sale Price \$4,995**
Was \$6,995

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Two new docs join SMMC surgery team

Special to the Herald

Scenic Mountain Medical Center recently welcomed two new physicians to the medical staff practicing at Family Medical Center Surgical Services.

General Surgeon Ladd Hoffman, M.D., joins the team from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio, where he completed his surgical residency after receiving his medical degree from Louisiana State University.

He can be heard to refer to himself as a "human body mechanic."

Prior to attending medical school, Dr. Hoffman taught math to high



Hoffman



Kale

school students in Carthage. He and his wife, Rhonda, have three sons.

Asha Kale, M.D., a board-certified anesthesiologist, brings

more than 25 years of experience to the surgical team.

She moved to Big Spring from Sugarland, where she was on the medical staff at Harlingen Medical Center.

While living in the Houston area,

Dr. Kale completed her MBA, and she has served as a mediator at a family dispute resolution center.

George Parsley, CEO of SMMC said "Dr. Kale is enthusiastic about the positive changes she is bringing to the delivery of anesthesia care in our hospital."

An open house to welcome the doctors is planned for Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will officiate at a ribbon-cutting during the open house.

"We hope everyone will stop by to give these doctors a big Howard County welcome," said Kim Howell, marketing director for SMMC.

Dabney honored as 50-year banker

AUSTIN — The Texas Bankers Foundation honored Darlene Dabney of Big Spring with the 50-Year Banker Award during a luncheon held at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort July 10.



Dabney

This prestigious award honors bankers with a half-century or more of service and dedication to the banking industry.

Dabney was born in Big Spring and has lived there all of her life. After graduation from high school she attended Baylor University for one year. She started work at Security State Bank in Big Spring in July 1958. She continued her education at Howard College, where she completed numerous American Institute of Banking courses.

Dabney has worked in the same bank building for all 50 years of her career; however, the bank has had name and ownership changes. In 1995, it became Security State Bank,

See DABNEY, Page 5C



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Meghan Bias, left, administrator of Hanger 25, visits with Howard College's Jan Forsyth during Thursday's Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Business After Hours event at the museum.

Higginbotham Bartlett to show appreciation

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Local hardware store Higginbotham Bartlett will be offering thanks to its customers in the form of hot dogs and hamburgers July 18, as the company celebrates its recent award of Best Hardware Store and Best Paint Dealer in the Herald's Reader's Choice poll.

Wanda Mundell, assistant manager of the hardware store, said it's the

first time the local retailer has won the award, and company officials wanted to offer their thanks with a free lunch.

"Every year prior, Harris Lumber has won the hardware award and Sherwin Williams has won the paint dealer award," said Mundell. "For us to win both in the same year after so many years, that was something very special for us. The company wanted to celebrate, and we thought this would be an excellent

way to say thanks to the community."

Mundell said hamburgers and hot dogs will be served with all the trimmings, including drinks, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the store's warehouse area, with popcorn served throughout the day.

As for the leadership that helped the store win the award, Mundell said that goes to a former manager.

"John Brock, who was our manager up until the first of this month, really

turned things around," said Mundell. "He stressed customer service to the employees, and the people we've hired are really good at it. I really feel that's what did the trick. That's why we were able to win the awards."

Higginbotham Bartlett is located at 1900 E. FM 700.

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

Software problems bug Apple's launch of new iPhone

NEW YORK (AP) — The launch of Apple Inc.'s much-anticipated new iPhone turned into an information-technology meltdown Friday, as customers were unable to get their phones working.

"It's such grief and aggravation," said Frederick Smalls, an insurance broker in Whitman, Mass., after spending two hours on the phone with Apple and AT&T Inc., trying to get his new iPhone to work.

In stores, people waited at counters to get the phones activated, as lines built behind them. Many of the customers had already camped out for several hours in line to become among the first with the new phone, which updates the one launched a year ago by speeding up Internet ac-

cess and adding a navigation chip.

A spokesman for AT&T, the exclusive carrier for the iPhone in the U.S., said there was a global problem with Apple's iTunes servers that prevented the phones from being fully activated in-store, as had been planned.

Instead, employees are telling buyers to go home and perform the last step by connecting their phones to their own computers, spokesman Michael Coe said.

However, the iTunes servers were equally hard to reach from home, leaving the phones unusable except for emergency calls.

The problem extended to owners of the previous iPhone model. A software update released for that

phone on Friday morning required the phone to be reactivated through iTunes.

"It's a mess," said freelance photographer Giovanni Cipriano, who updated his first-generation iPhone only to find it unusable.

Apple shares fell \$4.04, or 2.3 percent, to \$172.59 in afternoon trading, amid a general decline in U.S. stocks.

When the first iPhone went on sale a year ago, customers performed the whole activation procedure at home, freeing store employees to focus on sales. But the new model is subsidized by carriers, and Apple and AT&T therefore planned to activate all phones in-store to get customers on a contract.

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.



Despite some bearish inventory data, geopolitical news has again driven energy prices to record highs this week. While looking at the usual suspects, Iran and Nigeria, will give us a good idea as to why prices want to move so much higher, this week the market seemed to rally on news from a much less visible region — Libya.

Libya has been in the news the past few months, primarily because of its improving ties with the West. In a stark reversal of attitude this week, Libya announced that it may cut oil production in response to recent congressional action that could allow the U.S. Department of Justice to sue OPEC for limiting oil supplies. The Libyan Oil Ministry made the announcement saying that oil markets are well supplied already, but the intent was fairly obvious.

Bloomberg ran a piece on this possible production cut on Monday, though at the time, it was just rumor. With a lack of confirmation or other fresh news, oil markets traded somewhat sideways early in the week, squeezing out modest gains. Wednesday saw a huge sell-off after the Department of Energy (DOE) reported a surprise rise in crude oil inventories during the previous week. Inventories of distillates also rose more than expected. At one point Wednesday, front-month crude was trading off by more than \$4 per barrel.

Then the mainstream media picked up on the Libya story overnight Wednesday as official statements were released from the Libyan Oil Ministry. Libya got the effect it was looking for as crude oil surged more than \$5 in trading Thursday with carry-through buying pushing crude to more than \$141 per barrel by Friday morning. At this point it is important to note that Libya has not actually cut its oil output for political reasons since 1973 (during the Arab embargo) and that the country has recently signed several multi-billion dollar deals with energy companies to expand exploration and production in the country. As such, it seems highly unlikely that the government would want to actually follow through with its threat.

The overall global geopolitical landscape gives us further clues as to why energy markets seem poised to rally sharply at a moment's notice. At the forefront is the growing turmoil between Iran and Israel. Israel is reasonably and increasingly uncomfortable at the prospect of continued nuclear research and construction in Iran and has stated on several occasions that it has the right to proactively protect itself from the threat of nuclear attack. It is of little comfort to energy markets whether an attack is justified or not.

For traders, what is important is the huge amount of oil production that could be lost or delayed due to an attack. Also disconcerting is the fact that Israel has a store of 5,000 bunker-busting bombs, purchased from the U.S. in 2006. Because most of Iran's nuclear development is taking place underground, the implication of the purchase is somewhat obvious. The turmoil came to a crescendo June 2, when Israel conducted a massive military exercise involving more than 100 aircraft over the Mediterranean. Many believe that the exercises were to serve as a warning to Iran and energy markets have been on heightened alert ever since.

The third global hot spot continues to be the usual suspect, Nigeria. Nigerian rebels have had a propensity for attacking oil production and transportation facilities for years and oil workers in the country strike in protest on a regular basis.

Over the past few weeks, focused attacks on two separate facilities served to keep the unrest fresh in everyone's mind. On June 19, members of the militant group Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta attacked an off-shore oil production facility. The attack cut some 200,000 barrels per day of production from the facility. On the same day, a coordinated attack on a pipeline forced the company to halt all on-shore production in the country (though off-shore production continues). The off-shore attack was significant because most believed that the deep water sites were much less accessible and vulnerable to attack. After the two attacks and the shut down of production, a senior Nigerian oil minister estimated that more than half of the country's 3 million barrel per day capacity was off line.

Overall an interesting week in an already tight market. Shutdowns and rumors of war continue to have the ability to push prices much higher and certainly add weight to any new or unexpected disruptions of oil supplies in the future.

Portions of this article were produced by Nathan Golz, Futures Researcher. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable, however accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results and additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. A.G. Edwards is a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

to apply what we of KBSB believe to support organizations that are making a difference in our community, whether it be beauty or trash.

First off, Vocal Trash made a huge impact on the youthful crowd and some older for the pre-show entertainment. They were very energetic and a fast moving pace that really was a crowd pleaser. This was their second appearance at "Pops." Really enjoyed!

The "Fuse 94.3," the official radio station for "Pops in the Park," made a hit with everyone, giving out 500 of The 94.3 Fuse T-shirts, and then they gave out 5000 The 94.3 Fuse lenses to watch the fireworks ... made for spectacular viewing.

What about the sky diver? It was absolutely beautiful when the flag opened. It was picture perfect, the flag waving so beautifully in the wind. The second person diving was the photographer. Thanks for a beautiful addition to this event.

I never cease to be amazed at the disrespect of people when our flags ceremony was presented. They moved around as though it was intermission, no respect, no second thought as what was taking place. I wonder if they have ever been taught the importance and symbolism of our flag?

Thanks to Cindy Smith and Lane Bond for the heart warming and touching video of our young men serving our country to protect us, and then, those who gave with their lives while serving to protect our country. We thank you!

After a beautiful concert, by our very own symphony, under the direction of Dr. Keith Graumann, changed the beat a bit with wonderful selections par-

ticularly fitting for the fireworks. Before they could continue to play along with the fireworks, some action had to be taken for the safety of everyone.

There were five vehicles parked in restricted areas and had to be moved before the fireworks could start. Someone had to move barricades, four of the owners did get their vehicle moved, but one vehicle had to be towed away. Then, the show went on!

I always have hope that people will pick up their own trash, however, it didn't happen; they left their trash for someone else to pick up. We, of KBSB, try to improve the appearance of our community by eliminating trash, however, we do not get paid to pick up your trash. We picked up about 35 bags of trash that you left behind. Shame on you!

**PAT SIMMONS, KBSB
POPS VOLUNTEER**

TO THE EDITOR,

We want to commend the organizers of Pops in the Park for a tremendous show that truly captured the significance of this important holiday. From the patriotic music to the presentation of the colors to the recognition of our servicemen, it was beautiful and memorable.

What was not memorable was the disrespect shown by some other patrons to the show. There were some moments that called for solemnity — during the recognition of veterans from all the armed forces, during the video honoring our heroes. However, during this time, many people were carrying on, walking up and down the aisles, laughing and seemingly oblivious to what the holiday signifies — much less what was going on around them. They didn't even realize that they could have been sitting next to a veteran of the armed forces — someone who served their country protecting the freedoms we all take for granted.

It was obvious some people were there killing time until the fireworks show started — not even realizing what the celebration was all about. Certainly, we look forward to the spectacular finale, and we don't fault anyone for that, but don't forget what we are celebrating and show some respect. People have died so we can have the freedom to attend any church we want, vote for our government leaders, own a business.

So, again, we want to commend the organizers of Pops in the Park but would urge that more be done to control the crowd during these somber moments. Not only by announcing it loud and clear in the loud speakers (which should be enough, but it isn't) but have guards along the aisle restricting movement during the presentation of the colors, recognition of veterans of all the armed services and during any video or presentation honoring our heroes.

Is that too much to ask?

Sincerely,
**NORA MORALES
BIG SPRING
AND DORA CALDERON,
AUSTIN**

back yard was left open and our family dog Andy found his way out of the yard.

My 4-year-old son and I were on our way to Big Spring from El Paso as my mother searched for Andy throughout the neighborhood. Needless to say, my son was devastated to hear Andy was missing. My mother decided to report Andy missing to the police department, which at that time they had not heard or seen Andy but assured her she would be notified if he was found.

Sunday morning, Mr. Enriquez arrived at my mother's house in response to the voicemail message about Andy's missing. He requested any photos of Andy to help identify him if he were to come across an Australian Sheppard. Just after lunch, my mom received a phone call from Mr. Enriquez with the best news of the weekend. Andy was at the animal shelter.

Even though we had described Andy to Mr. Enriquez he did not realize Andy was at the shelter until he saw our photos. We were especially worried about Andy because

he had an open wound on his left hind area and we needed to clean and medicate his wound as well as give him his medications. Andy is a special part of our family because he belonged to my stepdad. My mother promised him she would take care of Andy for the rest of his life. Mr. Enriquez not only gave us great news but when we arrived at the shelter, Andy's wound was well kept therefore, my mother only needed to apply his ointment. Andy and company were well fed and had clean fresh water to drink. We were extremely pleased with Andy's condition that afternoon.

We had never been to the shelter before that day but we were impressed with the cleanliness of the entire facility and the attention given to all the animals.

I want to express my appreciation to Jose Enriquez because he went beyond his call of duty in helping us find Andy and he took very good care of him. Mr. Enriquez is an outstanding, responsible, dedicated person/employee for the city of

Big Spring. His professionalism and attention to the shelter expresses how much he cares for the animals. "Thank you" from the bottom of our hearts.

**RICK, SANDRA AND CRISTIAN GARCIA, EL PASO
AND GLORIA BLACKBURN,
BIG SPRING**

A couple of issues

TO THE EDITOR,

There are a few issues I would like to talk about. The first one is that I was not able to attend the city meeting last Monday night. I think that the amphitheater at the city park should have rails along the side going up to the top. My daughter is disabled and had a very hard time walking up to the top last Thursday evening. They went to the top to park but was told it was full; I went and looked and there were ample places for them to park.

Second, there is a very nice man who lives on the

See **LETTERS**, Page 6A

Beyond the call of duty

TO THE EDITOR,

I would like to give a special "Thanks" to Mr. Jose Enriquez (Animal Control Officer) for his professionalism, quick response and the immediate attention he provided our family dog, Andy.

Last month, my mother spent every night at my grandparent's house to assist my grandmother during her rehab caused by an accident she suffered in April. On Saturday, June 14, my uncle discovered my mother's house had been broken into and ransacked the night before. Along with this misfortune, the fenced gate in the

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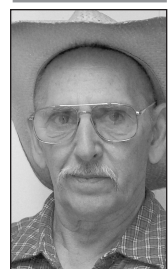


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Protect your plants from the heat

July's sun can have devastating effects on plants that are not suited for it. Selecting the proper plants and siting them to take advantage of their strengths can prevent most of the damaging effects of this month's heat.



WALTER WARD

Even plants that thrive in full sun can benefit from a few hours shade during the hottest part of the day. Often, moving the planting site a few inches one way or another can provide the bit of shelter that can make the difference between survival and spectacular.

Having a detailed knowledge of the microclimate of your garden is important and will aid in knowing just how much and in which direction to move a plant. For those who choose to not invest that much effort in gardening there is always the old standby of planting extra to compensate for what withers away. Whatever your approach to gardening, it is time to plant your late summer and fall annuals such as marigolds, zinnia, petunia, portulaca and ageratum.

Tomato transplants can be planted now for fall gardens. Don't forget to

harden them off before planting them out to lessen the shock of the change from the greenhouse to your garden. Start them off while still in the pots with a couple of hours of direct morning sun increasing the length they are left out for 2 or 3 days until they are ready for planting in their permanent spots.

Warm season grasses can be planted now as well, but an abundant amount of water will be needed until the grass is established.

Remove the seed heads from crape myrtles immediately after the petals fall. This will stimulate new flowers. Prune out any dead, diseased and damaged branches from trees and shrubs. Remove old rose blooms from bushes by pruning to the second set of 5-leaflet leaves.

Apply nitrogen fertilizer to roses in late July to give you better flowers in September and October. Water thoroughly after applying fertilizer to avoid damage to the roots. Or apply one inch of compost and forget about root damage. It still helps to water it in, though. Apply iron sulfate to plants that are showing yellow leaves with green veins. Keep iron sulfate or other iron products off the sidewalks and houses.

Recently planted plants have inadequate root systems and drought can



Courtesy photo

Howard County Master Gardeners selected the home of Charles & Patsy Cawthon, located at 2607 Alamesa, as the July, 2008, Yard of the Month.

damage them. Check them carefully and water when needed. If plants suffered from a freeze last winter, the stress from drought could cause death to a plant.

Water garden and lawn as needed, giving a thorough soaking rather than frequent light sprinklings.

Sandy soils will need to be watered more often. Be sure to avoid run-off water. Add mulch if needed to flower beds and around shrubs. This helps to reduce water and weeds.

Mulch is available at regional garden centers and at the Big Spring Compost Facility, located at 3201

Perimeter Road.

Many spring-flowering shrubs and fruit trees will be forming flower buds in late July and August. Drought conditions can reduce both the quality and quantity of spring flowers. Don't allow them to suffer drought stress. Clean up iris beds and

thin out clumps if crowded. They can be transplanted from July through October.

For more information, call Walter Ward at (432) 935-6455 or visit the Howard County Master Gardeners Website at www.howardcountymastergardener.org

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

- Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa
- Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring
- Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada
- Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
- Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa
- Sheli Lynn Buck, 1101 E. 15th Street, Big Spring
- David Canales Jr., 803 E. 15th Street, Big Spring
- Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring
- Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City
- Jared Coby, 901 S. High St., Longview
- Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring
- Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring
- Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos, 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
- Randy James Ellis, PO Box 391, Snyder
- B. Nicole Foust, 2505 Chanute, Big Spring
- James Randal Gardner, PO Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.
- Brad Ray Gillihan, 1705 Thorpe, Big Spring
- Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring
- Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring
- Patrick Kyle Heckler, 2112 Grace, Big Spring
- Sharon Annette James, 1215 Cedar, Colorado City
- Brandy 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
- Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland
- Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa
- Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring
- Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
- Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
- William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, 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
- Michael Dewayne Renteria, 1810 Owens, Big Spring
- Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
- Anna Alicia Robles, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 304, Big Spring
- Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring
- 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
- Teresa Silva, P.O. Box 3073, Big Spring
- Janie Spurgeion, 1212 Wadley, Midland
- Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
- Tonya Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.
- Ricky Waltenbaugh, 801 W. Marcy Apt. 23, Big Spring
- Christina Williams, 400 Macarthur, Odessa

- information, \$500 fine, \$326 court costs, 60 days in jail.
- Judgment and Sentence: Tracy Lynn Gonzales, accident involving damages to a vehicle, \$324 court costs, 60 days in jail.
- District Court Filings:** Michael Downes vs. Sandala Downes, family court.
- Irene Rodriguez vs. Humberto Mier Jr., divorce.
- Joseph Edmond Young vs. Lisa Mae Young, divorce.
- Corina Marie Eastham vs. Jacob Timothy Eastham, divorce.
- Robert Leroy Langford vs. Wilda June Langford, divorce.
- Gary Gillihan vs. Richard Anderson Jr., injury or damages with a motor vehicle.
- Marriage Licenses:** Anselmo T. Campos, 50, and Jesusita Aguirre Gonzales, 51, both of Big Spring.
- Steven Glenn Davenport, 37, and Janella Rene Hendrickson, 28, both of Big Spring.
- Miguel M. Hurtado, 44, and Alma Delia De Leon De La Fuente, 41, both of San Juan, Texas.
- Carmen Shayne Burriss, 46, and Carrie Elaine Arnold, 47, both of Big Spring.
- Fred Clayton Weatherby, 47, of Big Spring, and Amy Renee Wester, 40, of Blackwell.
- Marcus Joe Anderson, 27, and Latosha Annette Banks, 23, both of Big Spring.
- Warranty Deeds:** Grantor: Donnie Reid
Grantee: Carroll Choate and Joyce Choate
Property: Two tracts out of Section 6, Block 31, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: July 2, 2008
- Grantor: MRJ Leasing
Grantee: Big Spring Leasing
Property: A 2.8 acre tract out of Section 31, Block 33, T-1-N,

- T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: July 2, 2008
- Grantor: Sarah Elizabeth Turner and Maureen Deshay Denio
Grantee: Manfred Robinson
Property: Lot 2, Block 20, North park Hill Addition
Date: July 2, 2008
- Grantor: Anita Banks
Grantee: Randall Earl Reid and Leota Reid
Property: Lots 1-7, Block 3, Original Town of Coahoma
Date: July 7, 2008
- Grantor: OK Rentals Inc.
Grantee: Big Spring ISD
Property: Lots 1-6, Block 3, Wright's Airport Addition
Date: July 7, 2008
- Grantor: Mary Harvill
Grantee: John Luke Yarbar and Mique Yarbar
Property: Lot 7, Block 8, Douglass Addition
Date: July 7, 2008

- Date: July 7, 2008
- Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien:**
Grantor: Kenneth L. Walling and Barbara Walling
Grantee: Isaac Martinez and Levi Burchett
Property: Lots 48, 49 and the S/2 of Lot 25, Tract 4, Foster Subdivision
Date: July 3, 2008
- Grantor: Charles D. Rosenbaum
Grantee: Maria M. Rodriguez
Property: Lot 1, Block 7, Monticello Addition
Date: July 3, 2008
- Grantor: Charles D. Rosenbaum
Grantee: Paul Woolman and Barbara Woolman
Property: Lot 4, Block 1, N. McEwen Addition
Date: July 3, 2008
- Grantor: Charles D.

- Rosenbaum
Grantee: John Roberts and Byron Roberts
Property: The N/50 feet of Block 21, College Heights
Date: July 3, 2008
- Grantor: Zane Neal Bobbitt
Grantee: Stanley Chris Bogard and Denise Bogard
Property: Lot 11, Block 4, Highland South No. 2
Date: July 3, 2008
- Grantor: Deborah Walters
Grantee: Nicci Vizcaino
Property: Lot 32, Block 1, Colonial Hills
Date: July 7, 2008
- Grantor: Big Spring Livestock Auction
Grantee: G&G Livestock Auction
Property: A 4.4 acre tract out of Section 45, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey
Date: July 7, 2008

DABNEY

Continued from Page 4C

Abilene, and in 1998, it was purchased by American State Bank, Lubbock.

Dabney has been active in and volunteered with numerous community organizations. She married Ray Dabney in June 1959 and they have one daughter.

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► News Briefs

Former Bush press secretary Tony Snow dies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tony Snow, a conservative writer and commentator who cheerfully sparred with reporters in the White House briefing room during a stint as President Bush's press secretary, died Saturday of colon cancer. He was 53.

"America has lost a devoted public servant and a man of character," President Bush said in a statement from Camp David, where he was spending the weekend. "It was a joy to watch Tony at the podium each day. He brought wit, grace, and a great love of country to his work."

Snow died at 2 a.m. at Georgetown University Hospital, according to former employer Fox News.

Snow, who served as the first host of the television news program "Fox News Sunday" from 1996 to 2003, would later say that in the Bush administration he was enjoying "the most exciting, intellectually aerobic job I'm ever going to have."

Snow was working for Fox News Channel and Fox News Radio when he replaced Scott McClellan as press secretary in May 2006 during a White House shake-up. Unlike McClellan, who came to define caution and bland delivery from the White House podium, Snow was never shy about playing to the cameras.

With a quick-from-the-lip repartee, broadcaster's good looks and a relentlessly bright outlook — if not always a command of the facts — he became a popular figure around the country to the delight of his White House bosses.

He served just 17 months as press secretary, a tenure interrupted by his second bout with cancer. In 2005 doctors had removed his colon and he began six months of chemotherapy. In March 2007 a cancerous growth was removed from his abdominal area and he spent five weeks recuperating before returning to the White House.

"All of us here at the White House will miss Tony, as will the millions of Americans he inspired with his brave struggle against cancer," Bush said.

6-party nuclear talks agree on steps to verify North Korea's disarmament

BEIJING (AP) — Negotiators from six nations agreed Saturday on steps to verify North Korea's nuclear disarmament, opening the final phase in tortuous efforts to rid the North of nuclear weapons.

The agreement, reached after three days of talks, requires North Korea to finish disabling its main nuclear facility by the end of October. Meanwhile the United States, China and the other three nations taking part

would complete promised deliveries of fuel oil and other economic aid.

Beyond that, the envoys agreed to a robust verification team of experts who will visit North Korean nuclear facilities, review its documents and interview its technical experts, said a press communique read out by China's envoy, Wu Dawei, at the end of the meeting.

Some specifics of the verification remained to be worked out, but experts and diplomats from the six nations hoped to agree on those steps by early September, said U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill.

"We would like the protocol to be reached within 45 days and secondly to begin verification within 45 days. We're anticipating that and we don't see any obstacles," Hill told reporters after the talks.

Not back to square one: Iraqi security is better but governance is still falling short

COMBAT OUTPOST RADWANIYAH, Iraq (AP) — In the rural outskirts of Baghdad, where the war seems distant in Iraq's new period of relative calm, a prominent Sunni tribal chief makes no bones about what is lacking in the drive to turn security improvements into lasting economic and political change.

"Up to now we have seen nothing from the government," Sheik Ayad Abdul-Jabar al-Jabouri, wearing traditional headdress and robe, said with more than a hint of disdain for the Shiite-dominated leadership in the capital.

The central government has made limited strides in recent months. But its ability to show ordinary Iraqis — regardless of sect or ethnicity — that it can make political accommodations and act in their common behalf is in doubt. Creating that opportunity for normalcy was the main strategic aim behind the additional U.S. forces that President Bush sent to Iraq in 2007 as violence was peaking.

The last of the five Army brigades as part of that increase is departing Iraq this month. Most indications are that the momentum the troops created toward sustainable security is growing, though not yet without risk of faltering.

At this outpost southwest of the capital, al-Jabouri met on Friday with Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond, the top American commander for the Baghdad area. Hammond sees the current lull in fighting as an opportunity to press for more progress on the economic front. In the case of the Radwaniyah area, that means getting the Baghdad government to approve money for key water projects.

Second near collision at JFK prompts FAA to change takeoff, landing procedures

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two airborne planes — one landing and the other taking off — came within a half-mile of colliding at John F. Kennedy International Airport on Friday in the second such incident at the airport in a week, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

The FAA moved quickly to change takeoff and landing procedures at JFK on perpendicular runways — the kind of runways involved in both incidents.

FAA spokeswoman Laura Brown said a Delta Flight 123 was arriving at the airport Friday when the pilot decided to abort his landing and execute a "go-around" — a routine procedure often used during heavy congestion. That caused the Delta flight to intersect with the flight path of Comair Flight 1520, a regional jet that was taking off on another runway.

The FAA ordered new procedures Friday afternoon to change the way takeoffs and landings on perpendicular runways are sequenced, Brown said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The new procedures are designed to ensure "that aircraft of one runway clear out of the path of the other

See BRIEFS, Page 7A

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.

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

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5A

base and offers sodas, ice cream, etc. for kids and his neighbors wants him to close it down. His neighbors say the kids leave trash in their yards and make noise. Well, let me say to these people, anyone driving by could throw trash out and as for the kids making noise, grow up people. Kids are going to make noise no matter where they are.

Makes me wonder if they

have kids and, if so, I feel sorry for them. He just wants to make the kids happy. Yes, they pay for it. Oh, did I mention that this person who does this great thing is also disabled?

He does such wonderful decorations during the holidays and he is a wonderful man, in my book. He has a lot of stars for his points from our Lord. He gives to all sorts of fund-raising activities, so why make him shut it down? He bothers no one and hurts no one. So please, you people who want to

take this away from him and all of the kids that he loves so much, leave him alone and let him continue his great deed that he does so well.

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- July 17** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Cafe' - "Coffee Club," 10:00 a.m.
Bunko, 5:00 p.m.
- July 18** – It's Summer Mummer Time, 5:00 p.m. - ??? RSVP EARLY
- July 21** – Hobbs Casino, 9:00 a.m.
RSVP EARLY - Cost \$15.00
- July 22** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club, "KC Steakhouse", 5:30 p.m.
- July 23** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 p.m.
Lunch-N-Learn, 11:30 A.M.
"Dr. Asha Kale" speaker
- July 24** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Cafe, Coffee Club, 10:00 a.m.
- July 25** – Pot Luck & Bingo, 11:30-2:00 p.m.
- July 28** – Games, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- July 29** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Supper Club "Cowboys", 5:30 p.m.
- July 30** – Senior Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.
- July 31** – Mall Walking, 8:00 a.m.
Just Peachy Cafe' - Coffee Club, 10:00 a.m.

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BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6A

runway before the second flight comes down on the other runway," Brown said. "We've had two events recently and I think we want to make sure the appropriate safety margins are in place."

Office of Thrift Supervision steps in and closes IndyMac Bank; FDIC takes over operations

LOS ANGELES (AP) — IndyMac Bank's assets were seized by federal regulators on Friday after the mortgage lender succumbed to the pressures of tighter credit, tumbling home prices and rising foreclosures.

The bank is the largest regulated thrift to fail and the second largest financial institution to close in U.S. history, regulators said.

The Office of Thrift Supervision said it transferred IndyMac's operations to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation because it did not think the lender could meet its depositors' demands.

IndyMac customers with funds in the bank were limited to taking out money via ATMs over the weekend, debit card transactions or checks, regulators said.

Other bank services, such as online banking and phone banking were scheduled to be made available on Monday.

Fretting over Fannie and Freddie: Investors nervously await action to help mortgage giants

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wall Street and Washington wrestled Friday with how to shore up mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two troubled pillars of the economy whose failure would deal a devastating blow to the already crippled housing market.

As investors grew more convinced that only some type of government bailout could rescue the firms, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said the focus was to support the pair "in their current form" without a takeover.

The government was considering giving Fannie and Freddie access to the Fed's emergency lending program as one option to prop up the firms, said Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., citing conversations with Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and Paulson.

A Fed spokeswoman said the central bank had not talked with Fannie and Freddie about the emergency lending

program. The spokeswoman declined to discuss any other options being considered.

Reinforcements on way to help 'exhausted' California firefighters battling 320 wildfires

PARADISE, Calif. (AP) — As hundreds of blazes continue to char California, additional National Guard troops and overseas crews are being called in to assist exhausted firefighters, and President Bush has scheduled a visit to the state.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Friday ordered 2,000 more National Guard troops to join the 400 already on firefighting duty. Australia, Canada, Greece, Mexico and New Zealand are also sending firefighters and equipment, federal officials said.

"We are stretched thin, and our firefighters are exhausted," Schwarzenegger said.

"The fire season as we've known it is pretty much over. ... Now we have fire season all year round."

Federal officials said they would send more equipment and personnel to California. The federal government has committed \$100 million and 80 percent of its firefighting resources to California, said Glen Cannon, an assistant administrator with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Yellow submarine: Unmanned sub en route to Spain, collecting scientific data along the way

WASHINGTON (AP) — Far out in the Atlantic, a little yellow submarine is trying to slip from current to current, gliding across the ocean beneath the waves.

The unmanned sub is nearing the halfway mark in its effort to travel from New Jersey to Spain, collecting scientific data along the way.

It isn't a first trip for the device, but it will be the longest, a proving effort to show that an undersea glider can take its place in a global ocean observing system.

"The big advantage is, it's totally unmanned," explained Conrad Lautenbacher, head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a sponsor of the sub developed and operated by Rutgers University.

"It's very efficient and can be used to obtain the same kind of data we gather from ships."

"It can be done totally remotely," added Lautenbacher.

"It can be controlled from a rec room in Ohio if necessary."



Local girl is Akron-bound

Ten-year-old Tylar Hale is bound for Akron, Ohio, and the 71st All-American Soap Box Derby.

The Big Spring native, who will attend Goliad Intermediate School in the fall, earned the trip by placing first in the super stock division of the Texas Midwest Soap Box Derby in Sweetwater June 7.

This is Tylar's third year to participate in the sport.

She placed fifth in the stock division at Sweetwater in 2006 and participated but did not place in 2007.

The week-long "race week" in Akron begins July 21 and ends with the finals Saturday, July 26.

Tylar's car handler is Todd Davis. Major local sponsor is Liberty Fabrication.

Tylar is the granddaughter of Barbara Hale of Big Spring.

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By **MATT MYGATT**

Associated Press Writer

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — Walk in, take a whiff. Ahhhh, chocolate. Now take a sip. Mmmmm, high-octane chocolate with hints of chili. Or rose. Or nutmeg. Or almond.

Welcome to the Kakawa Chocolate House and the world of Mark Sciscenti — chocolate historian, chocolate alchemist, chocolate artisan, chocolate lecturer, baker, herbalist.

He says that as far as he knows, his 3-year-old emporium is unique in the U.S., serving 23 chocolate elixirs. And these are not your every day sort of drinks.

Many of them are Mesoamerican, based on recipes gleaned from anthropological and historical documents. Such as a 1551 manuscript written by an Aztec physician who was educated in Latin and illustrated by an Aztec artist.

Other elixirs are Colonial American or centuries-old European recipes, Sciscenti says.

“People walk out of a coffee shop strung-out. Here, they walk out blissed-out,” Sciscenti says.

Customers in the brown-stuccoed adobe building are cosseted in rustic Mexican-made leather chairs in two rooms with wood floors and wood-beamed ceilings.

John Henderson, an anthropology professor at Cornell University, says chocolate drinks were used as a social grease by cultures in Mesoamerica — the region that includes Mexico and parts of Central America.

“During religious ceremonies, weddings, funerals or just when you want to impress the guests, chocolate was the right

thing to serve,” he says.

Tere Lee, a 52-year-old landscape designer from Canoncito, says she comes to Kakawa every couple of weeks not just for the chocolate, but also the atmosphere.

“You don’t want to leave. You take the spirit of the place with you,” she says.

The Kakawa drinks, which are mostly water-based, are sold under unusual names that run from A-to-Z — Aztec Warrior, Mayan Full Spice, 1644 Spanish, 1790s Jeffersonian, Zapoteca.

“I can’t drink American, or Mexican drinking chocolate for that matter, because it’s too milky and too sweet and not enough chocolate and not a whole lot of flavor,” says Sciscenti.

Sciscenti says water “allows the true flavors of the chocolate to come forward, and all the nuanced flavors can build up into a crescendo on the palate, on the tongue, and have a long-lasting, lingering effect,” he says.

Dairy fats in milk or cream coat the taste buds “and so you’re not going to get as many flavors of the chocolate coming forward,” he says.

He says he uses only the finest dark chocolates — a mix from “unparalleled” criollo or “extremely flavorful” trinitario types of cacao.

Criollo’s roots are Mesoamerican, grown in Mexico and Central America, Sciscenti says.

Trinitario — dating to about 1750 — is a hybrid of criollo and the hardier, — but less flavorful — forastero from the upper Amazon, he says.

He followed his own taste buds in mixing and matching ingredients such as cinnamon, cloves, black pepper, orange blossoms,

rose or almonds. And chili. Many of Sciscenti’s drinks are slightly sweetened, mainly with agave nectar.

“I wanted to mimic the same flavors that the Mesoamericans were drinking,” Sciscenti says.

“Quite a few of the Mesoamerican drinks or the Mayan drinks that I make do have chilies because chilies were an indigenous and traditional and universally popular ingredient in drinking chocolate,” he says.

The drinks usually are served hot, but can be ordered iced during the summer.

Aztecs would drink their chocolate either at room temperature or cold, Sciscenti says.

“Often times they would have runners who would go up into the mountains and grab ice and run back with it and chop it up and pour chocolate over it,” he says.

Henderson says most of what is known about the oldest chocolate recipes comes from the Aztecs, dating back to when Spaniards invaded Mesoamerica in the early 16th century.

The Aztecs would have added chili peppers, flowers and herbs, says Henderson, whose research indicates residents of Central America were enjoying chocolate drinks more than 3,000 years ago, much earlier than previously thought.

Drinking chocolate spread to Europe during the 16th and 17th centuries, he says. Milk was not used in European drinks until the late 18th century.

No blenders are used at Kakawa. Just low-tech fruit jars containing the elixir ingredients. Shaken, not stirred.

“The one thing that car-

ried over very strongly into Europe was frothing,” Henderson says.

“You’d grind up the cocoa beans after they were fermented, mix them typically with water, and froth that. Ai either pour it from one jar into another or use kind of a beater stick between the hands,” he says.

Henderson says chocolate was such a prized commodity in Mesoamerica that cocoa beans were used as money.

“The joke in Mesoamerica that money grew in trees was literally true,” he says.

But making a buck is not Sciscenti’s highest priority. His true passion is turning people on to fine chocolate.

“The chocolate is at the forefront. I love it,” he says.

On the Net:
Kakawa Chocolate House: <http://www.kakawachocolates.com>
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Mark Sciscenti, owner of Kakawa Chocolate House, poses with a plate of dark chocolate in his store's kitchen in Santa Fe, N.M. (AP Photo/Jeff Geissler)



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