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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 13, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 219

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Sea container moratorium floats past council, 4-3

180-day suspension will give city staff time to study the growing problem, elected officials told

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council approved a 180-day moratorium on applications and permitting for portable containers — also known as freight containers or sea containers — on a 4-3 vote

Tuesday night, in hopes of gathering more information on the use of the metal structures in the city limits.

The moratorium, which would disallow any permits be issued for use of the containers, sometimes used by construction

crews for storage, as well as by local residents in the place of sheds or other storage structures, until city officials can craft an ordinance that would address the matter — including any problems caused by residential use.

“A couple of years ago this issue came up,” said Assistant City Manager Todd Darden. “We refer to them as sea containers. They are the portable containers you see going up and down the railroad spurs as well as on the highways. After researching

it, we began looking at some of the ordinances in our areas and what other communities were doing to address those.

“About four months ago we took a proposal tailored after See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A

Former local to appear in court over stabbing

By **ALLISON HOFFMAN**
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — Shelley Malil had a busy career as a comic actor, appearing in a huge hit movie, several TV shows and a commercial that aired during the Super Bowl. But the actor best known for his part in “The 40-Year-Old Virgin” has now been charged with attempted murder after his girlfriend was stabbed more than 20 times, authorities said.



Malil

The 43-year-old former Big Spring resident was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday afternoon in Vista, north of San Diego, said Paul Levikow, a spokesman for the San Diego County District Attorney's office.

He remained in custody on \$2 million bail after being charged with attempted murder with special circumstances of premeditation, causing great bodily injury and using a deadly weapon, said Deputy District Attorney Steven Carver. Malil faces a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted on all counts.

See **MALIL**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

People observe the damage caused to a portion of Harris Lumber and Hardware this morning. Witnesses said a driver of a Ford pickup inadvertently drove his vehicle into a vacant portion of the building. No injuries were reported.

City tax rate to drop slightly

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Higher than expected valuations in the city of Big Spring could mean a slight drop in the tax rate, as the city council agreed to move forward with an ad valorem tax rate nearly 1 cent lower than last year's rate.



Walker

According to Peggy Walker, director of finance for the city of Big Spring, certified values returned by the Howard County Appraisal District totaled \$524 million, a jump from the estimated

See **CITY**, Page 3A

Taxpayers get chance to comment on proposed budget

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District taxpayers will have a chance to comment on the district's proposed budget during a public hearing at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The proposed budget and tax

rate remain largely unchanged from last year, officials said.

BSISD's proposed financial package for the 2008-2009 fiscal year features \$29.4 million in expenditures, an increase of about \$200,000 from the previous year.

Chief Financial Officer Sandra Waggoner said the new budget features about \$300,000 in pay

raises for district employees and money for three new vehicles for the bus fleet, but very few other extras.

To pay for the budget, the district plans on a tax rate that will charge taxpayers \$1.119 per \$100 valuation, an increase of 1.5

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

What: Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting.

Where: Big Spring High School board room.

When: 5:15 p.m. Thursday.

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To reach us:

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

Dine Out Day is Friday

Herman's Restaurant will be the first of many local restaurants to participate in the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County's Dine Out Day, held each Friday.

Proceeds from sales at Herman's, 1601 Gregg, this Friday will benefit United Way. Future participating restaurants will include Sonic Drive Inn, K.C. Steakhouse, Al's & Sons Barbecue, Dell's Cafe and Greg's Grill. Others will be added. This year's campaign officially gets started with a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 19 at First United Methodist Church.

Get medieval Saturday

Interested in history, especially the Middle Ages?

A local re-creation group, Carrefour, of The Kingdom of Levant, will be holding a demonstration of medieval arts, clothing styles, archery, crafts and fighting styles at Comanche Trail Park this weekend.

Activities will get under way at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Old Settler's Pavilion and continue until about 6 p.m.

There is no admission and guests are welcome.

Sen. Cornyn to visit

Senator John Cornyn will be in Big Spring Thursday for a fund-raising luncheon at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The Senator will share his positive vision for the future and discuss major issues facing Texans.

Cornyn is expected to deliver opening remarks at 12:45 p.m. in the Lake Room. Area residents interested in attending the luncheon should contact the Senator's campaign office at (512) 494-8535. Cornyn, a Republican, is being challenged by Democrat Rick Noreiga in the November general election.

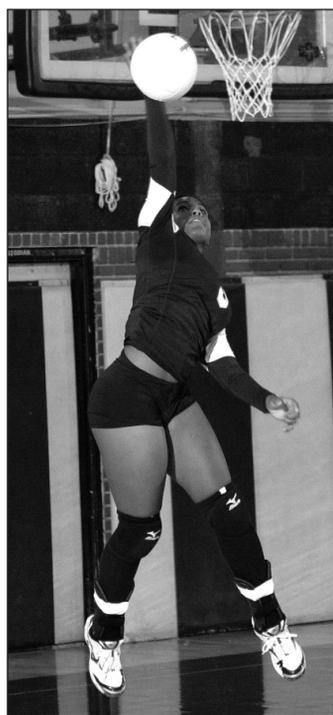
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HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Desiree Anderson jump serves in the Lady Steers season-opening match against Seminole Tuesday at Steer Gym. The Lady Steers lost matches to both Seminole and Sweetwater in straight sets.

Lady Steers fall in season openers

Big Spring bested by Seminole, Sweetwater

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

New Big Spring Lady Steers Volleyball Coach Meghan Blake knew going into the 2008 season that the Lady Steers had a long way to go fundamentally and mechanically.

That was evident Tuesday at Steer Gym where the Lady Steers dropped its first two matches of the season in straight sets.

Big Spring opened against Seminole, falling 25-19, 25-14, 25-22. The Lady Steers' second match against Sweetwater wasn't nearly as competitive, though, as the Lady Mustangs dominated, 25-8, 25-14, 25-16.

"We've got to start pushing

back," Blake said. "These two teams pushed us today and we didn't push back, especially against Sweetwater. Playing like that is inexcusable. We cannot tolerate performances like the one against Sweetwater. We played like we didn't want to win, but I know that these girls don't really want to lose. Our body language didn't communicate that, though."

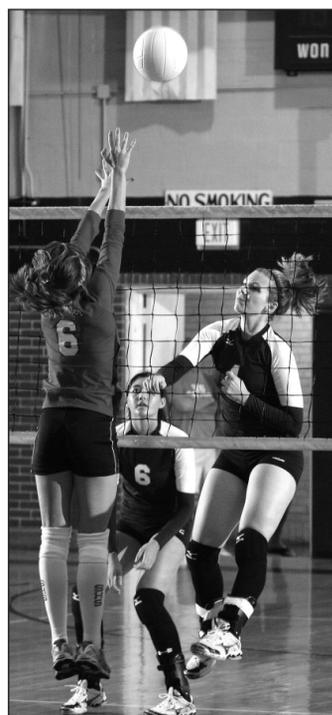
Big Spring's biggest highlights came in the third set of the match against Seminole. The Lady Steers jumped out to a 6-2 lead and later led 16-12. However, the Maidens rattled off a 9-2 run, giving them a 21-18 advantage. Seminole eventually won the

match-clinching set, 25-22.

"I liked what I saw in the third game against Seminole," commented Blake. "We started frustrating them because we were picking up our game defensively. We have to learn to finish."

Whatever momentum Big Spring might have earned in the final set against Seminole didn't help in the opening game against Sweetwater. The Lady Mustangs proved their dominance early, jumping out to a quick 7-1 advantage. From there, the Lady Mustangs outscored a 18-7, winning the first set 25-8.

See **BSHS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Belle Feaster (right) spikes the ball past a Sweetwater defender in a volleyball match played Tuesday at Steer Gym. Teammate Andrea Claxton looks on in the background.

Summer Olympics

Perfect thus far

Phelps picks up two more gold medals, records

By PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

BEIJING — For Michael Phelps, it's not enough to just set a new standard. He has to demolish the old one.

Winningest Olympian ever? He's two golds past that already and not finished yet, just over halfway to his goal of breaking Mark Spitz's record seven in a single Olympics.

World records? In a sport measured down to the hundredths for a reason, Phelps sets a pace to crush one of them by more than four seconds.

Even when his goggles malfunctioned during the first race of a golden morning in China, the gangly, 23-year-old American squinted through water-filled lenses on the way to, yes, a world record. Of course, he was none



AP photo/Thomas Kienzle

U.S. men's 4x200-meter freestyle relay team members, from left, Michael Phelps, Peter Vanderkaay, Ryan Lochte and Ricky Berens smile with their medals and the U.S. flags as bronze medal winning Russian team members walk by after setting a world record to win the swimming competition in the National Aquatics Center at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Wednesday.

too happy to beat it by only six-hundredths.

So un-Phelps-like.

"In the circumstances, not too bad I guess," he said with a shrug. "I know I can go faster."

No wonder his competitors realize they're merely swimming for second.

Monumental challenges for

mere mortals seem almost inconsequential to Phelps.

"He is just a normal person, but maybe from a different planet," said Russia's Alexander Sukhorukov, fresh off a thrashing by the Phelps-led Americans but still good enough to have a silver around his neck.

On Wednesday, Phelps swam

into history as the winningest Olympic athlete ever with his 10th and 11th career gold medals — and five world records in five events at the Beijing Games.

A day after etching his name alongside Mark Spitz and Carl Lewis with gold No. 9, Phelps set

See **PHELPS**, Page 2B

Osterman no-hits Australia

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

BEIJING — Cat Osterman makes a softball do crazy things. Fired from her left hand, she can twist it, spin it, make it rise like a kite or drop like a rock.

On Wednesday, she hurled it at the Australians.

They barely touched it.

Osterman pitched a no-hitter — the second in U.S. Olympic history — and the Americans recorded their second straight shutout at the Beijing Games with a 3-0 win to extend their winning streak inside the interlocking rings to 16.

Natasha Watley hit an RBI single off Tanya Harding to snap a 0-0 tie in the fifth inning and power hitter extraordinaire Crystl Bustos, her legend growing with every swing, added a two-run homer in the sixth as the U.S. team moved another win closer to a fourth consecutive gold medal.

Relying mostly on her curve, Osterman outdueled Harding, who has handed the U.S. program two of its four losses in the games since 1996. Pitching in her second Olympics, Osterman was Cat with a K.

She struck out 13, walked three and dominated the Aussies in a rematch of the gold-medal game from 2004 in Athens.

"It's good to get a game like this under our belts," Osterman said. "It's good to have your backs against the wall every now and then. It shows how we keep fighting. We're not just going to let down because another team is competing with us."

For four innings, the Aussies, who have two bronze medals and one silver in their trophy case since '96, went pitch for pitch with the Americans.

The tension was as thick as the heavy air inside Fengtai Softball Field.

The good-as-gold U.S. team seemed to be in trouble.

Not a chance.

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 2B

China bests U.S. gymnasts for gold

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP National Writer

BEIJING — Alicia Sacramone crouched on the ground near the floor, her head buried in her hands, disbelief etched across her face.

The Olympic gold medal was in the Americans' grasp, the title that would say, yes, they really are the world's best team. And they fumbled it away.

With a fall off the beam here, a splat on the floor there and two more steps out of bounds Wednesday, the Americans all but personally handed the gold medals to the Chinese team and settled for silver.

China's score of 188.9 points was more than two points ahead of the U.S., a blowout in a competition that was supposed to be

decided by the slimmest of margins.

"No one else made mistakes, so it's kind of my fault," Sacramone said, still trying to blink back the tears from her red-rimmed eyes. "I think everybody knows you always have good days and bad days. I just wish today was a good day."

It was a spectacular day for China. The American mistakes turned China's final three routines on floor into victory dances, and oh did Deng Linlin, Jiang Yuyuan and Cheng Fei play their parts to perfection.

With roars of "Jia You! Jia You!" punctuating her every pass, Jiang worked the crowd, looking out with a mile-wide smile that made a difficult routine look like fun. Cheng has better springs than just about anyone and,

with the pressure off, she made great use of them, bounding across the floor and landing as if she had glue on her little feet.

When she threw up her hands after her final pose, her teammates jumped up and down and hugged each other. All three questions about their ages — there were suspicions that perhaps half the team wasn't old enough to compete — didn't distract them. Nor could the expectations of all those adoring fans.

"The Chinese women's gymnastics team made history today, showing the world the China women's gymnastics team is the greatest," coach Lu Shanzhen said.

They practically floated out of the arena, stopping occasionally to pose for pictures and wave to the cheering fans. They held

hands during the medals ceremony, often looking down at their new treasures in wonder. Afterward, they picked up one of their coaches and tossed him into the air — with an assist from a few other people, of course.

It was the first Olympic

gold for the Chinese, and now they have both team titles — men and women.

"Before they go out there, I want them to believe in themselves. And they all did," Cheng said. "I didn't have to say anything to them. Even

See **GYMNASTICS**, Page 2B

Olympic medal count

(thru Wednesday)

Country	G	S	B	Tot
United States	10	8	11	29
China	17	4	5	26
South Korea	5	6	1	12
Australia	4	2	6	12
Russia	2	7	3	12
France	1	7	3	11
Italy	4	4	2	10
Japan	4	1	3	8
Germany	4	1	2	7
Britain	2	2	3	7
North Korea	1	2	4	7

Obituaries

Sheryl Eubank



Memorial services for Sheryl Eubank will be 2 p.m. Thursday Aug. 14, 2008, at Hill Crest Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Dale Tidwell officiating. She was born June 18, 1950 in Big Spring and passed away Sunday, Aug. 10, 2008, at her home in Bossier City, La.

She was a member of the New Beginnings Community Church and was a dispatcher for Smith's Towing and Recovery. She was an active member of the Koala Club of Bossier City, La.

She is survived by her two daughters, Candy Smith-Jett and husband Mike of Haughton, La., and Shana Kay Broussaard and husband Chris of Bossier City, La.; a granddaughter; father, Ronald Cross; brother, Kelly Cross; and sister, Gwen Farmer and husband Sam.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Georgia Cross.

Dorothy Drennan

Dorothy Drennan, 80, of Frisco, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Saturday. Plates are \$10 each. Delivery will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 263-2084 to order. Serving will be held from noon until 3 p.m. at the post, 3203 W. Highway 80. Everyone is welcome. Carryouts are available.

A blood drive for Elmer "Edman" McMurray, who has been diagnosed with acute leukemia, will be held from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, in the Big Spring H-E-B parking lot. McMurray will need one to two units of blood daily for six weeks. All blood types are needed, however B negative and O negative are especially needed. You may also donate at Midland United Blood Services in Midland. Those donating for McMurray are asked to give his full name at the time they donate, so that he will receive credit.

Big Spring High School Class of 1998 10-year reunion will be held Sept. 12-13 during the BSHS homecoming weekend. To get details and register, visit www.free-webs.com/bshs1998 or contact Traci Bellinghausen at (817) 308-9845 or Jacob Cordova at (432) 935-0533.

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

Big Spring High School Class of 1988's 20-year reunion will be held the weekend of Sept. 12-13. Contact Cheri Wyrick Reibe at 432-268-9587 or reibe1@suddenlink.net for information. The class still needs classmates' contact information so please contact Cheri to pass those along.

HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

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.

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

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

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

Police blotter

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

- KENNETH MCPHERSON, 17, of 710 E. 13th Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- RAYMOND SLATON, 64, of 1 Glenwick Cove, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated - open container.
- SHAWN GONZALEZ, 19, of Snyder, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- DEANGELO GRAY, 24, of 613 McEwen, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- JACOB AGUIRRE, 27, of Stanton, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 1400 block of Stadium.
- DISORDERLY CONDUCT - DISPLAYING A FIREARM was reported in the 2500 block of Dow.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: in the 1400 block of Tucson. in the 1400 block of Lincoln. in the 400 block of Johnson.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 50 inmates at the time of this report.
- MELISSA ANN PUGA, 40, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.
- SUE ELLEN BLANKINSHIP, 27, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of Class C assault.
- ROSALYN DENISE YOUNG, 38, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less (two counts).
- THADDEUS RASHAD MCCALISTER, 20, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- JASON M. THREATS, 30, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- ADELAI DO MARTINEZ, 56, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid - enhanced.
- JOSE OLIVOS SR., 57, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and driving while intoxicated.
- OLIVIA TALIETHA BALLIN, 29, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of E. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Jeffery Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of N. Avenue G. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Oriole. Service refused.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• 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.

Your Local Weather

Thu 8/14	Fri 8/15	Sat 8/16	Sun 8/17	Mon 8/18
95/70	92/68	81/64	79/64	85/65
Partly cloudy. High near 95F. Winds SE at 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy. chance of a thunderstorm.	Partly cloudy. chance of a thunderstorm.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.

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Bulletin Board

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

ToDAY
• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY
• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
• Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
• Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
• American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.
• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$70 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$56 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 2, 7, 23, 38 and 40. The Mega Ball number was 40.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 3-15-21-25-30.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery:
0-3-6-7. Sum It Up: 16

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery:
3-4-9. Sum It Up: 16

Licensing of new bus companies halted

DALLAS (AP) — The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has imposed a moratorium on the granting of licenses for new bus companies to allow time to check all applications against a database of bus companies ordered to pull their vehicles from service.

Tuesday's decision came just days after a bus carrying a group of Vietnamese Catholic pilgrims crashed near Sherman. Seventeen people died — 12 at the scene and five in area hospitals.

Iguala BusMex Inc., the company which owned the bus that crashed Friday, was awaiting approval for a federal license. The company is run by a man who also operates Angel Tours Inc., which was forced to take its vehicles out of interstate service June 23 after an unsatisfactory review by federal regulators.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Administrator John H. Hill said Tuesday he did not expect the suspension to last long.

He said new licenses will eventually be granted when the agency is able to vet names and information against its existing database for out-of-service operators.

"I can't make it a perfect world, because some people will flaunt the law," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BSHS

Continued from Page 1B

The Lady Steers appeared to be in for more of the same in the second set as Sweetwater quickly took an 8-0 lead. However, Big Spring showed some signs of life and outscored the Lady Mustangs 10-6 over the next 16 points, cutting the deficit to four points. Unfortunately for Big Spring, Sweetwater corrected its prob-

lems after a timeout and ended the set on an 11-4 run for a 25-14 win in Game 2.

The Lady Steers actually led briefly in the third game, using a five-point run to take a 9-8 lead. However, Sweetwater continued to show its superiority and put together an 11-1 run for a 19-10 advantage.

Down 24-12, Big Spring did put together one last four-point run before finally conceding the game.

Blake was encouraged to see

the team become more competitive as each match went on, but also notes the Lady Steers can't take that long to flip the switch.

"We can't take two sets to warm up," she said. "We have to be ready to compete from the first point of the match. It was nice to see the effort the girls put forth in the third sets. There are definitely some bright points to build from."

The Lady Steers play in a tournament in Monahans beginning at 8:30 a.m. Friday, when they

play El Paso Franklin.

"This is going to be a tough tournament. Frenship is in our bracket as well," noted Blake. "We've got the ability to win some games there. We've got a lot of work to do, though. I know these girls can do it."

Seminole defeats Big Spring

25-19, 25-14, 25-22
BSHS statistics
Kills — Desiree Anderson 3, Halee Thomas 3, Andrea Claxton 3, Macy Graves 1.
Assists — Cerbi Ritchey 11.

Digs — Claxton 14, Thomas 12, Anderson 7, Baylea Fox 7, Sloan Davis 7, Cerbi Ritchey 1.

Blocks — Anderson 3, Thomas 1, Graves 1, Claxton 1, Belle Feaster 1.

Aces — Thomas 3, Anderson 3, Fox 2, Ritchey 1.

Sweetwater defeats Big Spring

25-8, 25-14, 25-16
BSHS statistics
Kills — Feaster 2, Thomas 2, Graves 2, Claxton 1, Anderson 1.
Assists — Ritchey 6.
Digs — Thomas 28, Claxton 12, Davis 6, Anderson 6, Fox 5, Graves 2.
Blocks — Graves 2.
Aces — Anderson 1, Davis 1, Fox 1.

PHELPS

Continued from Page 1B

a standard all his own when he won the 200-meter butterfly. An hour later, he swam the leadoff of a runaway victory by the U.S. 800 freestyle relay team, which shattered the old world mark in becoming the first team to break the 7-minute barrier.

Seemingly impervious to fatigue, he set a blistering pace of 1 minute, 43.31 seconds that got the Americans rolling toward a winning time of 6:58.56.

"Come on! Come on!" he screamed at teammates Ryan Lochte, Ricky Berens and Peter Vanderkaay.

The previous record of 7:03.24 was set by the Americans at last year's world championships. Russia took the silver, more than five seconds behind the Americans, who mainly had to make sure they didn't get in the water too soon. Australia won the bronze.

"Safe start! Safe start!" Phelps yelled at Berens before he dove in.

After a six-gold performance at the 2004 Athens Games, Phelps needed only five days in Beijing to surpass Spitz, Lewis, Soviet gymnast Larisa Latynina and Finnish runner Paavo Nurmi as the winningest Olympian ever.

Phelps moved to Ann Arbor in 2004, from his native Baltimore, to train with the University of Michigan-affiliated Club Wolverine.

"I'm almost at a loss for words," Phelps said. "Growing up I always wanted to be an Olympian. Now to be the most decorated Olympian of all time, it just sounds weird saying. It started setting in a little bit after the butterfly. I was just trying to focus on my next race, but I just kept thinking, 'Wow, greatest Olympian of all time.' It's a pretty cool title. I'm definitely honored."

Phelps has three more chances to stretch his lead before he leaves China.

He'll swim in the 200 individual medley, 100 fly and 400 medley relay.

"There is still something left in the tank," Phelps said. "I've got three races left, so there had better be something left in the tank."

In his signature stroke, the butterfly, Phelps was second at the first flip, then pushed it into another gear, his long arms gobbling up huge chunks of water as he literally sailed along atop the surface. He finished in 1:52.03, breaking his mark of 1:52.09 from the 2007 worlds.

Phelps barely smiled as he looked at the board, breathing heavily and hanging on the lane rope. Hungary's Laszlo Cseh really pushed it at the end, but settled for silver in 1:52.70. Japan's Takeshi Matsuda took the bronze in 1:52.97.

Phelps rubbed his eyes and said climbing from the pool, "I can't see anything." A pair of leaky goggles kept him from even seeing the wall as he

touched.

"My goggles kept filling up with water during the race," Phelps said. "I wanted 1:51 or better."

Still, he had two more golds and two more records before lunchtime, leaving him just three wins away from beating Spitz's record in the 1972 Munich Games.

"There is nobody in our sport that can win like he wins," U.S. head coach Eddie Reese said. "He is not just winning, he is crunching world records."

British swimmer Simon Burnett provided his theory to Reese when they ran into each other in the cafeteria.

"He was saying to me, 'I think I've figured out Michael Phelps. He is not from another planet; he is from the future. His father made him and made a time machine. Sixty years from now he is an average swimmer, but he has come back here to mop up.'"

Phelps is also keeping pace with Spitz on the record front. Spitz set world standards in all his wins at Munich; Phelps is now 5-for-5 in China.

"I'm pumped about our relay," Phelps said. "It's the most fun thing to be in a team environment and be part of a relay. It's cool when you get four Americans who all swim well together. Everyone has to play their part or it's just not going to happen. We've been lucky that we've been able to do that."

The Americans are sure lucky to have Phelps, who is already

recognized as the greatest swimmer ever — sorry, Mark — and plans to keep competing at least through the 2012 London Games.

After another trip to the medals podium, he flipped his flowers to mother Debbie, tears pouring down her face as she proudly watched from a front-row seat with her two daughters.

Everyone wanted to get a look at history, including the U.S. men's basketball team. Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and Carmelo Anthony were among those cheering on Phelps from poolside seats. James posed for pictures with Phelps' mom.

Three worlds records fell before Phelps even walked on deck the first time. By the end of the morning, six new marks were set. It was impossible to win gold without putting up the fastest time in history.

So much for concerns that morning finals would hurt the competition.

In the semifinals of the 100 free, Australia's Eamon Sullivan and France's Alain Bernard played takeaway with the record Sullivan set two days earlier.

In the first heat, Bernard won in 47.20 to knock down Sullivan's mark of 47.24 from the leadoff leg of the memorable 400 free relay. That record lasted all of two minutes. Sullivan won the second heat in 47.05, setting up a thrilling showdown in Thursday's final.

"Records don't mean much," Sullivan said. "They don't win medals at the end of the day,

unfortunately. But it gives me confidence that I can swim my own race under pressure."

American Jason Lezak, who chased down Bernard in the relay, advanced to the final with the sixth-best time, 47.98. The other U.S. swimmer, Garrett Weber-Gale, failed to advance.

Then it was Federica Pellegrini's turn in the women's 200 free. The Italian broke the mark she set a day earlier in the semifinals, winning gold in 1:54.82. The old record was 1:55.45.

Sara Isakovic of Slovenia claimed the bronze in 1:54.97, and China's Pang Jiaying thrilled the home fans by passing Katie Hoff on the final lap to take bronze in 1:55.05.

Hoff's disappointing day wasn't done.

In the 200 individual medley, she again finished in the first spot that doesn't give a medal. Australia's Stephanie Rice completed her IM sweep with another world record, her time of 2:08.45 erasing the mark of 2:08.92 set at the Australian trials in March.

Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe took the silver in 2:08.59, also below the previous world record. Natalie Coughlin of the U.S. won the bronze in 2:10.34, her third medal of the games, beating Hoff by 34-hundredths of a second.

"It's a big surprise for me," said Coughlin, who only began swimming the IM a few months ago. "Any medal in an event that is not on your (regular) program is great."

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4 young children found alone in padlocked trailer

EL PASO (AP) — A 28-year-old mother has been charged with abandonment and child endangerment after deputies, alerted by an anonymous tip, found her three young children and her 9-year-old niece alone in a padlocked trailer home. Ivonne Adriana Vasquez was arrested Tuesday after her daughters, ages 2-month-old, 2 and 8, and their cousin, were found alone in the trailer in Canutillo, El Paso County sheriff's spokesman Deputy Jesse Tovar said. Vasquez faces four counts of abandoning and endangering a child. Deputies said the trailer was padlocked from the outside. A deputy got in the trailer by breaking a window and crawling through it. Tovar said the stench of a clogged toilet and dirty diapers inside the trailer, which was strewn with clothes and dishes, caused deputies to gag. "The children were sweating, the infant was crying, and the oldest one was 9 years old. She would not alone be old enough to take care of the 2-year-old," said Tovar.

Memorial masses scheduled for bus victims

HOUSTON (AP) — Two Houston churches will conduct memorial and funeral masses this week for 11 victims of Friday's bus crash in Sherman. The Houston Chronicle reports Our Lady of Lavang Church is hosting services beginning at 5 p.m. on Wednesday and concluding with a funeral mass at 10 a.m Saturday for the families of Khiem Thanh Nguyen, Hanh Viet Nguyen, Thuy Thu Pham Vu, Dung Thi Hoang, Xuan Thi Nguyen and Boi Nguyen. The Vietnamese Martyrs Church will conduct a 6:30 p.m. Wednesday memorial mass for Hao Thi Vo and on Thursday at 5 p.m. will have memorial masses for Hoa Dang, Soi Pham, Nhung Thi Cao and Phung Nguyen. All of their funeral masses will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at the church.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

what Midland has, and made some changes to it for what we thought would fit the Big Spring community and took it to Planning and Zoning. The Planning and Zoning Commission asked the staff to go back and look at it because the one we proposed did not allow them in residential zones except for construction purposes, which would be a temporary type permit."

According to Darden, the number of sea containers being utilized within the city limits continues to grow, making the moratorium a necessity while city officials decide how to handle the situation.

"In the meantime, they keep growing in our community," said Darden. "What we're asking the council to do tonight is to place a temporary moratorium on them until the staff can get the research done and get it to Planning and Zoning for a recommendation to the council to consider."

Mayor Russ McEwen said he

didn't oppose the moratorium as long as existing permits for sea containers were grandfathered into the measure.

"I personally feel like I don't have a problem with a moratorium on new permits," said McEwen, "but let's say someone has had a permit for something and it expires during that 180 days. I feel like we should grandfather them until we have something."

City attorney Linda Sjogren said grandfathering the existing container permits into the moratorium was always the intention of the city staff.

"That's what we intended to do, to grandfather them in," said Sjogren. "We wouldn't make them pull it out. They may have some restrictions on them once the new ordinance is in place, but they will have plenty of time to comply with those requirements."

McEwen's support of the measure didn't find its way into the council's vote, however, as he — along with council members Manuel Ramirez Jr. and Troy Tompkins — voted against the 180-day moratorium. Council members Greg Biddison, Gloria McDonald, Jo Ann Staulcup and

Stephanie Horton all voted in favor of the measure.

Tompkins also expressed concerns the moratorium could impact the upcoming abatement of the Settles Hotel, which is set to undergo massive renovations beginning later this month.

Local resident Ed Ware spoke against the moratorium, saying to disallow the use of the containers was simply taking a shot at the constitutional rights of area residents.

"I kind of disagree with this. I can't help it, I guess it's personal reasons," Ware told the council. "I don't think this is in the best interest of the public. I object to it because, if I remember right, our constitution says we have life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And this is telling me they are taking away some of our pursuit of happiness."

The council is expected to consider the final reading of the ordinance calling for the moratorium during its Aug. 26 meeting.

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

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

value of \$515 million the city based its proposed budget on.

"We've completed our evaluation of the tax rate," Walker told the council. "The values have gone up considerably over the prior year, and additionally over what we included in our budget estimates. We had originally based the budget on an estimate of \$515 million and the taxable values were certified at slightly over \$524 million.

"What we're suggesting to the council is we adopt a rate that is slightly below (last year's rate of \$1.0227). It would be \$1.0132 per \$100 valuation, which is a

decrease in the tax rate of almost one penny."

Walker said the savings over last year's tax rate will be less than \$10 for the majority of city taxpayers.

"The average residential home is valued at slightly more than \$40,000," said Walker. "That would be a decrease to the taxpayer of \$3.43. On a home valued at \$100,000, it would mean a decrease of \$8.57. It's still sufficient to fund the budget we brought to the council, and we'll be bringing it back to the council for first reading during the next meeting."

According to previous reports from Walker, the tax rate consists of 68.54 cents for the general fund; 8.07 cents to fund the Big Spring Police Department's Narcotics Task

Force; 2.42 cents to refund obligation bonds from 2002; 22.53 cents for general obligation bonds for the Roy Anderson Sports Complex and streets project; and .69 cents for certificates of obligation for the rehabilitation of the Northside Water facility and the new annex for the municipal animal shelter.

Mayor Russ McEwen took a motion and a second from the council to approve the new \$1.0132 rate, saying the vote was simply an indication the council was ready to move forward with the measure.

"This would indicate whether you are wanting to put this amount of tax into the current budget," said McEwen. "This is just an indication."

The council indicated its

approval of the rate unanimously and is expected to vote on first reading of the rate during its Aug. 26 meeting, at which time a public hearing will also be held on the matter.

Also during the meeting, the council:

- Approved qualifications of construction manager at risk for the Comanche Trail Golf Course Pro Shop and authorizing the city manager to negotiate and execute an agreement for local contractor Lee George for services.
- Accepted the Howard County 9-1-1 Communication District's audit for the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2007, and unanimously approved the district's proposed budget for fiscal year 2008-2009.
- Called for a public hearing

to be held Aug. 26 for the 2008-2009 budget.

• Approved first reading of an ordinance adopting a new rate review mechanism between Atmos Energy's West Texas Division and the steering committee investigating the validity of rate increase claims.

• Approved first reading of a resolution that will allow for the implementation of an Adopt-A-Spot program within the city limits.

• Passed on first reading of an ordinance that would make the west side of the 400 block of Runnels, near the Bargain Mart store, parallel parking only. The council passed on the matter in hopes of gathering more information on the congestion problems in

the area.

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

MALIL

Continued from Page 1A

Authorities confirmed the victim's identity as Kendra Beebe. According to her Facebook page, she is a 35-year-old mother of two who works as an insurance broker in Carlsbad, a coastal suburb.

She was listed in critical condition Monday, according to the San Diego Sheriff's Department. Spokeswoman Jan Caldwell said Tuesday she had no update on Beebe's condition.

Eve Salony, who lives across the street from Beebe, told the San Diego Union-Tribune that Beebe was having dinner with a date in her back yard

on Sunday when Malil showed up and "got into the initial scuffle" with Beebe's date. Salony said the date "got scared and he ran over here. He was bleeding."

Chuck Lee, 32, who lives next door to Beebe, told the Union-Tribune that he was watching TV when he heard Beebe screaming and went to help.

Lee said he saw a man with a knife on Beebe's front patio, restraining the woman.

"I kept telling him, 'You don't want to do this,'" Lee said.

He said the man kept saying, "Look at what she did to me."

Malil was born in Kerala, India and emigrated to Texas in 1974 with his parents.

He attended Big Spring High School. According to the Internet Movie Database (IMDb), "Chili" and "Animal" were his teenage nicknames. While in high school, a group of students formed "The Animal Fan club" because of his popularity in theater and as a disc jockey at a local radio station.

Malil starred in a Budweiser commercial that aired during the 2001 Super Bowl. He played a co-worker, Haziz, to comedian Steve Carell's title character in "The 40-Year-Old Virgin."

The Associated Press called Malil's partnership with Gerry Bednob in the movie one of the "Top 10 Overlooked Performances of 2005."

He has also appeared in dozens of TV shows including "NYPD Blue" and "Scrubs."

Malil, who lives in the Sherman Oaks section of Los Angeles, had taken the train to Oceanside on Monday night to meet his attorney, who had joined the actor's family members and friends in persuading him to turn himself in, deputies said.

Deputies found the victim on Sunday night while responding to reports of screams for help and breaking glass in San Marcos, about 15 miles east of Oceanside.

Attempts to identify and reach Malil's attorney for comment were unsuccessful.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

cents from the previous year. The increase, Waggoner said, is attributed to a rise in the district's debt service payments.

Waggoner promised a tight budget, mostly because state financial aid is frozen at 2005-2006 levels.

"This year has been much more difficult than the previous few years," Waggoner said. "Because of the revenue target (state officials have) for us, we'll basically receive the same

amount of money as three years ago ... When you factor in cost increases, particularly in food and fuel, it makes it much more difficult to put together a budget."

On the positive side for the district, however, is an expected rise in enrollment this school year — more students mean more state aid, Waggoner said.

"Gaining students is the only way we will gain state funding," she said. "The Texas Education Agency has us at a (predetermined) revenue target, so the only way that changes is for us to gain students."

In addition to more stu-

dents, the district has another potential revenue source in increased property valuations. BSISD's preliminary valuations topped \$1 billion this year, an increase of \$93 million from the previous fiscal year.

That means, of course, that most district property owners can expect an increase in their tax bills, Waggoner said.

Waggoner said the levy on an average market value home (\$41,357) will pay \$6 more in taxes this year.

Like other taxing entities, BSISD is keeping a close eye on the dispute between the county tax ap-

praisal district and Alon USA Refinery. A lawsuit over the refinery's 2006 tax appraisal is expected to be heard in Howard County District Court early next week.

With the refinery's appraisal up in the air, Waggoner said the school district is budgeting for only a minimal tax payment from Alon this budget cycle.

"We're only budgeting on the value they paid taxes on last year (\$80 million)," she said.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Afghanistan: A wise midcourse correction

The last few weeks have been among the most deadly for U.S. troops fighting in Afghanistan, where the death toll recently topped 500.

Given that, a Pentagon plan to retool the military command structure and dramatically increase the size of the Afghan army makes eminent sense.

Augmenting the Afghan army - a plan recently endorsed by U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates - will cost \$20 billion over five years. The Kabul government initially urged the idea.

Under the proposal, the Afghan army would nearly double to 120,000 troops, with additional equipment and training provided by the United States.

In addition, the awkward split in command structure that has hampered operations will be corrected. The 19,000 U.S. troops involved in direct combat operate separately from the command overseeing NATO units.

The NATO commander - a U.S. four-star general - would receive command of most American troops along with the NATO units.

Two new U.S. brigades are expected to be deployed to Afghanistan next year. The sooner this can be accomplished, the better.

A more unified command structure should improve operations by allowing U.S. and NATO units to support each other more seamlessly.

One complicating factor for the NATO operation is that only British, Dutch and Canadian troops can participate in the full range of combat operations. Units from other countries face unfortunate restrictions on the sort of missions they can be given.

After the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001, most NATO units expected to be involved mainly in reconstruction and peacekeeping.

In recent months Taliban attacks have increased greatly, and the Pentagon response is welcome. It would be inexcusable to allow the situation to continue to fester without an appropriate response.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SHORT PRAYER

Lord, help us to treat others kindly today, even though we may not feel our best.

Amen

The 'making abortion rare' hoax

ABC reports that the group "Democrats for Life," whose title gives new meaning to "oxymoronic," decided last week not to press the Democratic Party to restore a life-tolerant "conscience clause" to its party platform. Isn't it time the party quit this charade that it wants to make abortion "rare"?

The "conscience clause," which appeared in the 1996 and 2000 platforms, at least paid lip service to tempering the platform's express support of a woman's "right to choose," stating: The "Democratic Party is a party of inclusion. We respect the individual conscience of each American on this difficult issue, and we welcome all our members to participate at every level of our party."

But the party ended all pretense of inclusion in 2004 by replacing the "conscience clause" with a statement that Democrats "stand firmly against Republican efforts to undermine" abortion rights. And despite the obviously halfhearted efforts of Democrats for Life, the clause will also be absent from the 2008 platform.

As Democrats for Life's Director Kristen Day asked during the 2004 platform debate: "So what are they saying, that because we want to protect the rights of the unborn, our own party says we're automatically Republicans? This has to be one reason that our party is having trouble appealing to many people in churches."

Amen, Kristen. But perhaps instead you ought to be asking yourself why you are still a Democrat and why you gave up in 2008 with barely a whimper. Just how committed can you and your organization possibly be to protecting the lives of the unborn when you shamelessly roll over on the issue

that presumably matters the most to you?

Actually, "shamelessly roll over" doesn't do justice to what happened. Kristen Day told ABC News, "We decided not to offer an amendment because we are working with the party to try to solve this issue." What? That's like saying they'll begin to fight after conceding defeat.

Besides, just what incentive do the overwhelmingly dominant pro-abortion forces in the party have to work with Day when they succeeded, effortlessly, in inserting the following language in the platform? "The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports Roe v. Wade and a woman's right to choose a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay, and we oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right."

No mincing words there. "Strongly and unequivocally — regardless of ability to pay — oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine." By removing the word "Republican" before "efforts," they even closed the loophole that might allow Democratic renegades such as Day to try to "undermine" the Democrats' commitment to throwing babies under the bus. And with the language "regardless of ability to pay," they've made clear their support for taxpayer-funded abortions.

This party has the temerity to pretend it is inclusive and wants to reduce abortions yet bans any dissent on the issue!

It doesn't even want pro-life people in the party — unless they stay in the closet. Day and her group apparently value party membership so highly that they've dutifully agreed to march quietly back into the closet.

For insight into what Democratic honchos mean when they cynically hold themselves out as advocates of reducing abortion, we must turn to the words of the Rev. Jim Wallis. He is the author of "God's Politics" and an outspoken proponent of the idea that Democrats should reclaim

"values voters" because their policies are more in line with Christian truth, which assertion is only slightly less incoherent than the label "Democrats for Life."

In pushing for an "abortion reduction" plank in the Democratic Party platform, Wallis said: "You don't have to take a different stance about a woman's right to choose. But you begin with the need for reducing abortion dramatically."

Why reduce abortion if it is not immoral, Rev. Wallis? Well, read on because he answers that very question. "Taking abortion seriously as a moral issue would help Democrats a great deal with a constituency that is already leaning in their direction on poverty and the environment. There are literally millions of votes at stake."

Aha. So it's about votes, not about protecting the innocent unborn. As if thinking people would have concluded otherwise.

But how can we reasonably expect a party, whose platform is supposed to mirror the agenda of its presidential candidate, to adopt anything but a "strong and unequivocal" statement promoting abortion when that candidate, in a moment of spontaneous candor, said that if his daughters made a "mistake," he wouldn't "want them punished with a baby"?

Are pro-life Obama supporters so selfishly hooked on a feeling — the euphoric state of Obamamania — that they'll back Obama and his party in the most immoral crusade since slavery? It appears so.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His book "Bankrupt: The Intellectual and Moral Bankruptcy of Today's Democratic Party" was released recently in paperback. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

American Muslims: What are they really like?

Muslim. Come on; say it out loud: Mus-lim.

When you hear that word, what comes to mind? Arab? Terrorist? Shrouded women? Saddam Hussein? Barack Obama?

How about American?

As the war in Iraq continues and as a man with a "funny name" (his words) runs for president of the United States, there is an undercurrent — fast becoming a riptide — of negative feelings toward Muslims based mainly on old stereotypes and renewed prejudices.

Egged on by the voices of right-wing commentators who constantly harangue against "Islamist extremists," real and imagined, more and more Americans find it easy to discriminate against Muslims in general as well as their fellow citizens who happen to practice Islam.

The constant repeating of Obama's middle name, Hussein, plays into those prejudices, and it is no wonder that 12 percent of Americans still think he is Muslim, according to a poll released last month by the Pew Research Center.

That is despite all the publicity over the controversy with the candidate's longtime Christian minister.

While a candidate's religion shouldn't matter, these detractors understand all too well that religious bigotry is real and can certainly have an effect on a political campaign.

But this is not about Obama. In this stifling atmosphere of religious discrimination, it would be wise for us to revisit another Pew poll conducted more than a year ago to gauge the attitude of Muslim Americans about themselves, their

country and their American brothers and sisters.

If you somehow missed Pew's "Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream" report, published in May 2007, you might be surprised by some of its findings.

The research center estimated that there were 2.35 million Muslim Americans, with 1.5 million 18 or older — voting age.

"Muslim Americans are a highly diverse population, one largely comprised of immigrants," the report's opening paragraph said. "Nonetheless, they are decidedly American in their outlook, values and attitudes.

"Overwhelmingly, they believe that hard work pays off in this society."

The report noted that about 65 percent of adult Muslims living in the United States were born in another country, with 39 percent having come to the U.S. since 1990.

"The survey shows that although many Muslims are relative newcomers to the U.S., they are highly assimilated into American society," the report said. "With the exception of very recent immigrants, most report that a large proportion of their closest friends are non-Muslim. ... And by nearly 2-to-1 (63 percent-32 percent), Muslim Americans do not see a conflict between being a devout Muslim and living in a modern society."

There is no surprise that many Muslims in this country expressed discontent with the country's war on terrorism since, according to 53 percent of them, it has become more difficult to be Muslim in America since 9-11. And 75 percent said the U.S. was wrong to go to war in Iraq.

"Very few Muslim Americans — just 1 percent — say that suicide bombings against civilian targets are often justified to defend Islam; an additional 7 percent say suicide bombings are sometimes justified in these circumstances," the report indicated, pointing out that the per-

centages are higher in Great Britain, France and Spain.

"Overall, just 5 percent of Muslim Americans express even somewhat favorable opinions of al-Qaeda," the report said.

Only one-fourth of Muslim Americans said they had been victims of discrimination in the United States, "while 73 percent say they have never experienced discrimination while living in this country," according to survey results.

Just over half of those surveyed said they were very concerned about the increase in Islamic extremism around the world, a much greater concern than expressed by Muslims in Western Europe.

"When asked about their general outlook on politics, 38 percent of Muslim Americans describe their political views as moderate; a quarter describe themselves as liberal, while 19 percent describe themselves as conservative," the report said.

The survey found that 63 percent of Muslims are Democrats or lean Democratic; 11 percent are Republican; and 26 percent are not affiliated with either party.

"Muslim Americans hold liberal political views on questions about the size and scope of government," the Pew research showed. "At the same time, however, they are socially conservative and supportive of a strong role for government in protecting morality."

This is just a snapshot of Muslims in America, and while it ought to destroy some of the stereotypes many Americans have, I am sure there will be those who will hold to their prejudices and remain trapped in their fears.

I can only hope that, little by little, we can chip away at this wall of religious bigotry.

Bob Ray Sanders is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may write to him at: 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth 76102, or via e-mail at bobray@star-telegram.com.



DAVID LIMBAUGH



BOB RAY SANDERS

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 1B

"It was just a matter of time," Bustos said. "I woke up this morning and said, 'It's about time we get a good game.' I was looking forward to it."

The U.S. team posted its 14th shutout — and 10th in 11 games — during the winning streak, and again showed it can win anyway it needs to.

One day after scoring an

Olympic record 11 runs and hitting three homers in a tournament-opening rout of Venezuela, the Americans managed just two bunt singles through four innings against Harding before finally pushing a run across in the fifth.

Lovieanne Jung walked with one out, and one out later, the U.S. team's second baseman stole second. "Biggest play of the game," U.S. coach Mike Candrea said. Up came Watley, the speedy leadoff hitter, for an All-UCLA matchup against Harding, who

pitched the Bruins to an NCAA title in 1996.

Watley battled to a full count before slapping a single to left-center, scoring Jung without a throw.

As Watley ran to her spot in the field for the top of the sixth, the stadium's loudspeakers played Beyonce's "Irreplaceable." Watley is a huge fan of the pop diva and occasionally imitated her during the U.S. team's long bus trips on its "Bound 4 Beijing" tour leading to the games.

"I heard it," Watley said. "I tried not to get too excited. I'm a huge Beyonce fan. It's our little joke on the team."

And her imitation? "I can't do Beyonce justice, but it's pretty good," she said shyly.

The Americans made it 3-0 in the sixth when Bustos, the pony-tailed powderkeg, hit her second homer in China and 10th in three Olympics.

Jessica Mendoza walked leading off and Bustos, who normally pulls her homers deep over the fences in left, went the other

way and dropped it over the railing in right, giving the U.S. and Osterman a cushion.

"She's a beast when it comes to hitting," Osterman said. "You can throw her outside and she can beat you. You can throw it inside and she can beat you. You can throw it in the dirt and she can golf it. You can throw it 10 feet over her head and she can tomahawk it."

"We all kind of laugh because she can do almost anything that she wants."

GYMNASTICS

Continued from Page 1B

though they are very young, they have a lot of experience as well and they have their own ways to learn from their own experiences, and they used those ways."

The Americans also went to Athens as the reigning world champs four years ago, only to falter and settle for silver.

"I am not disappointed at all," Shawn Johnson insisted. "We are human when it comes down to it. We make mistakes. And it came down to China had a better day today. Give us another day, we could probably come out on top."

The truth is, the Americans wanted gold not silver.

The Americans have dominated women's gymnastics since falling short in Athens, winning

the world championship last year and a slew of individual titles.

They're stocked with the reigning world champ in Johnson, and her closest rival, Nastia Liukin, not to mention 2005 world champion Chellsie Memmel.

But China wasn't far behind, winner of the world title in '06.

With the scoring format in finals so unforgiving — three gymnasts up on each event, all three scores count — there was room for one mistake. Maybe two, if they're small.

Two big ones? And four in the last two events? They don't give gold medals for reputation.

"We're just as good as China," national team coordinator Martha Karolyi said. "We made mistakes. They did not."

Though China led halfway through the meet, the teams finished up on balance beam and floor exercise, the Americans'

best two events. And when Cheng fell off the beam, it gave the Americans the opportunity they needed.

Get through those last two events, and the gold would be theirs.

But Sacramone, first up on balance beam, was held up for what seemed like 15 minutes before she was given the go-ahead for her routine, and she appeared to get edgier and edgier as she paced back and forth.

Sure enough, as she came down to land the somersault that opens her routine, her right foot slipped off the edge of the 4-inch beam.

Sacramone windmilled her arms and twisted her body, but she couldn't save herself and dropped off as the crowd gasped. Not only is the fall a penalty, but she never did the backflip that usually follows, costing her more precious points.

"I was just eager to do my rou-

tine and get the show on the road," Sacramone said. "The judges decided to hold me and I guess I just let my nerves get the best of me."

Liukin gathered the team together, telling them, "Just shake it off, that's all you can do. Shake it off." And they went over to floor only a point behind, a margin they might have made up if everything went perfectly.

Sacramone was again first up, and floor is her signature event. She won a world title on it in 2005, and her routines usually have so much sass, they rival anything you see in Vegas.

Not Wednesday. She didn't have her usual sparkle. Or her usual sure-footedness.

On her second tumbling run, her feet slipped out from under her and she fell flat on her back. She briefly shut her eyes before continuing, but her face was a blank the rest of the way.

"I guess it was a little too hard

to get out of the funk," she said, "and it affected me on floor."

Liukin and Johnson also stepped out of bounds. Not major errors, but they certainly didn't help the Americans' cause.

So instead of playing it safe when it was their turn, the Chinese let loose.

Deng soared high above the floor on her tumbling passes, her every landing punctuated by the appreciative roar of the crowd. Jiang dipped and danced, delighting her teammates and the arena.

And Cheng was simply magnificent, the perfect close to China's big show. The audience was on its feet, cheering the twists and flips that seemed to get more powerful as her routine went on.

"I respect China for what they've done," Johnson said. "The really brought their game today."

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Mysteries
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• **"Hold Tight"** (M COB H). Harlan Coben is a masterful suspense/mystery writer and "Hold Tight" just confirms that notion. His latest page-turner is about just how far parents will go to protect their kids.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

• **"Now & Then"** (M PAR R). Robert B. Parker's favorite sleuth, Spencer, is back. An affair that turns out not to be one, a charismatic schemer who recruits young, homeless men and a threat on Dr. Susan Silverman's life, make Spencer (and Hawk, Chollo, Vinnie and rest of the characters) take decisive action.

J.W. Jackson series

Philip R. Craig was the author of the J.W. Jackson series. J.W. lives on Martha's Vineyard where various crimes and misdemeanors are committed and he takes care of them. Craig died May 8, 2007, after a short battle with cancer. He left three

completed novels and a partial J.W. Jackson novel. "Vineyard Stalker," "Vineyard Chill" and "Third Strike" were his last works.

I found his mysteries to be light-hearted (if murder can be) and interestingly textured. There is quite a similarity between Parker's Spencer and Craig's J.W. — both are men who prefer to settle matters outside the law.

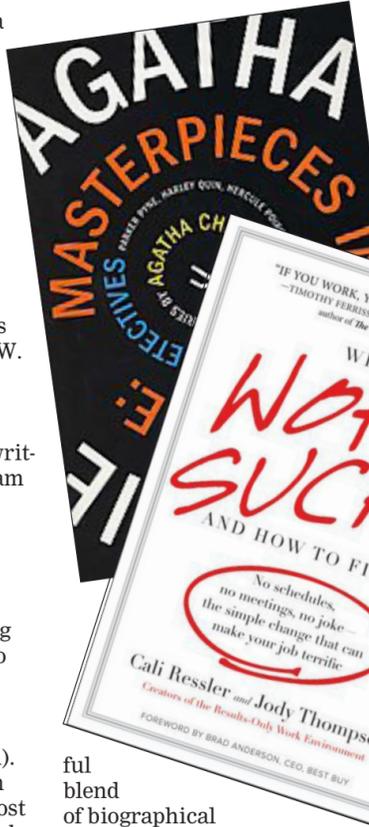
"Third Strike" is co-written by Craig and William G. Tapply and are well worth checking out.

Last Minute Summer Reads

With summer winding down, take a last trip to the lake, lay in the sun and read.

• **"Masterpieces in Miniature"** (M CHR A). Finally, a compendium of Agatha Christie's most famous characters: Parker Pyne, Harley Quin, Hercule Poirot and of course, Miss Marple. This is a compilation of short stories and novels, starting the above. Revisit an "oldie but goodie."

• **"Ladies of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation"** (920.997 ROB C) is the newest by Cokie Roberts. Roberts presents a color-



ful blend of biographical portraits and behind-the-scenes vignettes chronicling women's public roles and private responsibilities.

Recounted with the insight and humor of an expert storyteller and drawing on personal correspondence, private journals and other primary sources — many of them previously unpublished — Roberts brings to life the extraor-

inary accomplishments of women who laid the groundwork for a better society.

Almost every quotation here is written by a woman, to a woman or about a woman. From first ladies to freethinkers, educators to ex-

plorers, this exceptional group includes Abigail Adams, Margaret Bayard Smith, Martha Jefferson, Dolley Madison, Elizabeth Monroe, Louisa Catherine Adams, Eliza Hamilton, Theodosia Burr, Rebecca Gratz,

Louisa Livingston, Rosalie Calvert, Sacajawea and others. In a much-needed addition to the shelves of Founding Father literature, Roberts sheds new light on the generation of heroines, reformers and visionaries who helped shape our nation, giving these ladies of liberty the recognition they so great-

ly deserve — review from Amazon.com.

Travel

Planning a trip to Australia? I am, but only in my dreams. Fodor's guidebooks are known worldwide for their attention to detail.

• **"Fodor's Exploring Australia"** (919.404 IVO M), compiled and written by Michael Ivory, will take you places you have only dreamed of. Ayers Rock; the Great Barrier Reef; and the Opera House at Sydney are only a few of the places to explore.

New Non-Fiction

• **"Why Work Sucks and How to Fix It"** (658.314 RES C). Cali Ressler talks about ROWE — Results-Only Work Environment. Their idea that when you change the focus from hours worked to outcome, then it doesn't matter when you work, it is HOW you work. Quite an interesting premise.

• **"The Power to Be Your Best!"** (158 DUN T) by Todd Duncan also ties in Ressler's book.

• **"Windmills"** (621.453 BRO L) by Laura Brooks is really neat picture book. There are beautiful photos of various types of windmills and text that describes the construction and origin of each kind.

While not a new book, Robert Hicks' novel, "The Widow of the South" is the story of Carrie McGavock. She took it upon herself to grieve the loss of so many young men in the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, which took place on Nov. 30, 1864.

Nine thousand men lost their lives that day. She and her husband John eventually re-buried on their own land 1,481 Confederate soldiers killed at Franklin, when the family that owned the land on which the original shallow graves had been dug decided to plow it under and put it into cultivation. While this is fiction, there really was a Carrie McGavock and this is a fictionalized account of her life.

The Library is closed on Saturdays for the month of August. Howard County Library hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Internet/Video room is closed from noon until 2 p.m. and closes one-half hour before closing. The Library is located at 500 S. Main St and the phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howardcounty.lib.tx.us.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library

At my house we call it 'Mom's Law'

There is a certain age when your children will no longer listen to your sage advice. You've taught them right from wrong from a very young age and you've also taught them to question authority. Not to aggressively combat it, mind you, merely to understand that authority isn't always right.



LAURA SNYDER

Well, from the time they were babies, you have been the authority figure in their young lives and around the age of 14 or 15 years old, they'll realize that fact, and put you squarely in the authority-that-isn't-always-right category. No matter that you've been there for them 100 percent of the time, and consistently correct about 95 percent of the time. They simply assume you are wrong 100 percent of the time until they figure it out themselves. This is a normal, and indeed, even healthy part of a child's progression into adulthood and independence, but doesn't it just drive you nuts?

As parents, it's our job to herd these wayward children, while they are still willing to listen, toward a path that will land them

somewhere besides a jail cell or a homeless shelter. When they stray off the path, we have to pursue them, corral them, and set them back on the path again using several tools of the trade. These include time-outs, grounding, pulling privileges, and an occasional smack upside the head. Praise works too, if they actually do something right.

Most children wander in a reasonably straight line through life with intermittent veers toward the right or the left. Then there are those other children that insist on zig-zagging their way through life, needing constant supervision and corrections. Every parent has at least one zig-zagging child; always hitting one boundary and then, once they are rerouted, careening immediately into yet another one.

In our house, the boundaries have been dubbed "Mom's Law." Mom's Law is the set of rules that everyone has to follow if they want to continue living in our house. Of course, mom hopes these

rules will magically tweak their conscience when they are in someone else's house as well.

Mom's Law includes, but is certainly not limited to:

1. Love one another as you will be grounded if you don't.
2. Never throw sand ... inside or outside.
3. If you open it, close it. If you take something out, put it back.
4. Do not steal ... especially other people's teeth. The Tooth Fairy knows whose teeth they are.
5. Never go into someone else's house to play, when they are not home.
6. For insurance reasons, no Legos are allowed upstairs. (This insures that I won't step on them.)
7. Don't put animals, dead

or alive, into your pockets to surprise mom on laundry day.

8. No remote control cars or Playdoh in the bathtub.

9. Anything (or anybody) that "accidentally" lands on the roof will not be retrieved until gutter-cleaning day next spring.

10. Anyone found with an animal in their bed that has not been preapproved will be forced to take a bath, wash bed sheets and endure lice removal treatments.

You can reach Laura at lsnyder@lauraonlife.com Or visit her website www.lauraonlife.com for more columns and info about her books.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Cross and Double-Cross

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 5 2
♥ A J 4
♦ A Q 9 6
♣ 7 3

EAST
♠ J 9 7 4
♥ 9 7
♦ 10 8 5
♣ Q 9 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 6
♥ K Q 6 3
♦ K J 4
♣ A K

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♦ Pass 5 NT Pass
6 ♣ Pass 7 ♠

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Bridge is a game of endless refinements, which is one reason it has so many millions of adherents. There is always something to learn, as shown by this hand where South became declarer at seven spades. West led a club, and South could see 13 tricks provided he did not lose a trump trick. So he won the club with the ace and cashed the king of spades, the standard way to start this combination. Ordinarily, this play would have

been successful, because, after both defenders followed low, declarer next would have led a spade to the ace to guard against East having started with the J-9-x-x. (He could not overcome J-9-x-x in the West hand.) After West showed out, he would have taken the proven finesse against East's jack. However, that's not exactly the way things went. When South cashed the king, East cleverly played the nine on it, and the appearance of the nine caused South to alter his original plan. He naturally thought the nine might be a singleton, which meant West had started with the J-7-4-3. So at trick three, declarer continued with the queen, planning to finesse against West's jack if East showed out. But West showed out instead, and South went down one. There is a good chance declarer would have made the contract if he had played slightly differently. Had he entered dummy with a heart or a diamond at trick two and led a low spade from dummy, it is hardly likely East would have played the nine. He would almost certainly have made allowance for East to have the singleton ten, in which case the nine play would jeopardize a sure trump trick for his side. Once East played low on this basis, declarer would have led a low spade to the ace to make the contract.

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CEMETERY LOTS. Payout plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$10.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

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SPECIAL SALE. Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

Garage Sales

1202 JOHNSON, Saturday 8am-1pm. Men's & women's clothing including women's hoes and handbags, DVD's and more. Burritos and drinks will be available.

4 FAMILY Garage Sale: 4200 Parkway, Thurs. and Fri. 7-? Some furniture, exercise equipment, lots of girls - boys baby clothes & items and lots of misc. items.

BACKYARD SALE, Saturday Only! 8:00am-? 2300 Alabama. Homemade burritos, scrub tops, wooden shelves, clothes and misc. items.

DAHMER'S ANTIQUES has Sold! 204-206 Main. Everything must go by August 23rd. No reasonable offer refused. Sale doors will open Monday July 28th 10:00am-3:00pm. Sale will continue till August 24th. Phone 432-264-8048.

ESTATE SALE: Appliances, furniture, dishes, pots & pans, decorative items. Everything must go!!! Saturday 8am-?, 2108 Warren.

YARD SALE: 3313 Duke, Friday Only 8-12. Childrens clothing, lots of other items. Too much to list.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE Friday Only! 8:00-1:00, 207 Pettus Rd. (North Lamesa Hwy., right on Centerpoint, right on Pettus Rd.) Follow signs. Clothes, kitchen items, toys, Christmas stuff, loveseat, lots of misc. Lots of good stuff. Priced Cheap.

INSIDE SALE, 1302 Virginia. Saturday, 8:00-? Lots of everything!

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Roll-a-way bed, furniture, clothes, dishes, antiques, jewelry, collectibles, books, Elvis Records. Much More.

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LVN

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Attn: Maxine Roberts, RN

InHome Care, Inc.
1104 Scurry
Big Spring, Tx
79720

32ND JUDICIAL District CSCD (Adult Probation) has an opening in Sweetwater, Texas for a Community Supervision Officer. Salary Range \$28,500-\$40,000. Call (325)235-2608 for application.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT needed in Big Spring. Flexible hours, pay (DOE), Call 432-335-2971.

BE PART OF A WINNING TEAM. Air Evac Lifeteam is seeking Medical Professionals. **Registered Nurse** must have a minimum of three years of experience in either Emergency Department or Intensive Care unit. Air-Evac Lifeteam offers an excellent benefit packet. Those one of four premium health insurance programs, company paid short and long term disability, company paid life insurance, dental, vision, 401(k), paid time off program and other voluntary products. Competitive salary. For additional information regarding this opportunity visit: <http://careers.lifeteam.net> or contact Program Director Debra Wallace, 417-274-0473 or wallacedebra@air- evac.com

Help Wanted

BIG SPRING Oil Company in business for 20 years, needs a Experienced Drilling Superintendent to over see two company owned drilling rigs. Must be able to pass a drug test. Competitive pay and benefits. Most work within 60 miles of Big Spring or Snyder. Send resumes to PO Box 1870 Big Spring, TX 79721.

BIG SPRING oil company needs a experienced pulling unit operator. Must be able to pass drug test. Competitive salary and limited benefits. Most work within 60 miles of Big Spring and Snyder. Pulling unit is only 3 years old. If interested please call (432)238-7650 or (432)238-7715.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Shop Foreman
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

NEED EXPERIENCED Gang pusher, and also a backhoe operator. Good Pay, Insurance, and lots of hours. Job located in the Coahoma, Texas area. Must have dependable transportation and pass a drug test. Apply in person at 9400 South Service Road I-20, Coahoma, TX, or call (432)394-4604 between 8:00-5:00.

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Contact:
Human Resources Dept.
310 Nolan Street
(432)264-2346
www.mybigspring.com
EOE

CLASS A CDL drivers needed. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DOT DRUG TEST. Please call 432-264-2976 or 264-2975.

D.H. BLATTNER & Sons, Inc. is looking for the following safety conscience, experienced personnel for our Wind Turbine Project near Sweetwater, TX:
Blade Operators
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Dozer Operators
Roller Operators
Excavation Supervisors
Also looking for Wind Turbine Installers for extended projects. Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply at Sweetwater Workforce Center, 606 E. Broadway, Sweetwater, TX 79556; apply on-line at www.dhblattner.com or call 1-888-356-2307 to request an application. Applications and resumes can be mailed to: DH Blattner, 13770 CR 4153, PO Box 220, Roscoe, TX 79545. Equal Opportunity Employer

DAY'S INN needs Day and Night Clerk. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

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

Help Wanted



DRIVERS WANTED. We need drivers now and get hired on the spot, subject to qualifications. We have best delivery compensation in the business. Make cash every day. Great part time and full time shifts. Health Insurance plan. \$200.00 Hiring Bonus after 60 days. Great starting wage- \$7.00 an hour, plus delivery compensation, plus tips. We more than compensate for high gas prices. Got experience? Work for Papa or the Hut? Come on over and get an additional hiring bonus. Senior citizens and stay at home Moms always welcome. Apply at Domino's Pizza

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY for career minded individual with experience in Real Estate, Title or Escrow Closings. Salary commensurate with experience. Please respond to P.O. Box 189, Big Spring, TX 79721.

EVENING KITCHEN HELP Part-time. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

EZ PAWN, Now Hiring Sales and Loan Representatives Full-time & Part-time. Must have High School/GED, pass background & drug test. Apply online at www.ezpawnjobs.com
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JOB OPENING for Mechanic's helper. Must be mechanically inclined and willing to travel nationwide. Apply at ARFF Professionals, Inc., 306 State St. 8:00-5:00. Salary DOE, Benefits.



JOIN OUR TEAM! WE WILL PAY FOR EXPERIENCE!
Experienced fuel and lube drivers needed for Snyder & Big Spring areas. Must have CDL w/ Hazmat. We offer competitive pay & excellent benefits. Apply in person, Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM at 3112 N. Hwy 87, Big Spring or call 432-267-9434

LOCAL COMPANY now Hiring Labor Workers. Must be able to read tape measure and pass drug test. Pick up application at 1700 Rickabaugh or call (432)267-4700 for directions.

LOOKING FOR a mature person to work in a Medical Office. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1551, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

MIDWEST FINANCE CORP now hiring manager & assistant manager/ collector. Benefit package. Pay DOE. Apply in person, 600 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

Help Wanted

LVNs
Full time opening available immediately. Experience preferred. Must have TEXAS state license. EOE. Call our DON at (806)872-2141, or apply in person at SAGE HEALTH CAR CENTER, 1201 North 15th St., Lamesa.

MADRY MOTORPLEX hiring Experienced Salesman/ Manager. Please call for appointment (432)267-2285.

NEED EXPERIENCE Pulling Unit Operator with CDL. Good pay based on experience. Paid holidays and bonuses. Call (325)207-0858 or (432)207-0846.

NEED LICENSED Massage Therapist. Serious inquires only. Send resume to Attn: Job 1805 Settles, Big Spring, TX 79720.

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

NOW HIRING full time/ part time employees at WES-T-GO. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.

OFFICE HELP needed. Computer experience, receptionist, able to multi-task, prefer non-smoker. Competitive pay with benefits. Apply in person at Credit World, 1611 S. Gregg St.

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SERVICE COORDINATOR. Full time position with excellent benefits. Office experience required. Apply in person at Trinity Memorial Park, 5 miles south on Highway 87, Big Spring.

PHIC - John Deere Dealer of Big Spring, TX in need of Service Technicians. Pay is based on exp. Fax resume: Attn: Justin Parker, Serv., Mngr. (432)267-2757 or call (432)263-8344 Benefits Include: Health Ins., 401K; Pd. Vacation.

The City of Colorado City is accepting applications for employment for one **Water Utilities Department Worker.** This position requires a minimum of a C Distribution or Groundwater License. Qualifications include a High School Diploma or GED equivalent, must have a valid driver's license and be dependable. This is a full time position. Benefits include health and life insurance, holidays, vacation, sick leave and a retirement plan. Applications may be obtained by contacting City Hall at 325-728-5331.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Salary will be determined based on the applicant's knowledge and experience. A relocation package will be negotiable. The City of Colorado City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The City of Colorado City is accepting applications for employment for one **Waste Water Plant Operator.** This position requires a minimum of a C Waste Water License. The Waste Water Plant consists of 4 Ponds and an Irrigation System. Qualifications include a High School Diploma or GED equivalent, must have a valid driver's license and be dependable. This is a full time position. Benefits include health and life insurance, holidays, vacation, sick leave and a retirement plan. Applications may be obtained by contacting City Hall at 325-728-5331. **Applications will be accepted until position is filled.** Salary will be determined based on the applicant's knowledge and experience. A relocation package will be negotiable. The City of Colorado City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DELL'S CAFE is looking for a Cook. Come by 1608 East 4th Street. Please No Phone Calls.

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Oilfield Services company is seeking an individual to perform dispatch support in our Big Spring, Texas location.

- 1 - 2 years dispatch experience required
- Strong Customer Service and good communication skills
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We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service; and paid holidays.

Email resumes to: staffing@basicenergyservices.com, Fax to 830-583-9240, or mail to: Basic Energy Services 2206 North Highway 87 • Big Spring, Texas 79721

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WANTED:
Police

City of Big Spring

FOR MORE INFO:
www.mybigspring.com

310 Nolan
Big Spring, TX 79720

Phone: 432.264.2346
Fax: 432.264.2387

CRMWD
Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following positions in the Big Spring Area.

Operations Supervisor - Supervise Maintenance employees to assure smooth operation of District facilities while following direction of the Operations Superintendent. The successful candidate will have the experience necessary to successfully plan, direct, organize, and oversee the daily activities of a crew maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pumps, and pump stations.

Electrician - Trouble shoot, service, and maintain pump control panels, electric motors up to 3000 hp, power distribution systems, electrical substations, submersible motors, and commercial and residential wiring. Intermediate level position, basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed.

CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

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

Nation and world news in brief

Georgian officials say Russian tanks

enter key city, violating freshly brokered truce
TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Georgian officials charged Wednesday that Russian tanks had rolled into a strategic city and seized a military base inside Georgia in violation of a freshly brokered truce intended to end a conflict that had bloodied and battered the U.S. ally and uprooted tens of thousands of people.

The accusation came less than 12 hours after Georgia's president said he accepted a cease-fire plan brokered by France. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said that Russia was halting military action because Georgia had paid enough for its attack on South Ossetia, a separatist region along the Russian border with close ties to Moscow.

Still, Medvedev ordered the Russian defense minister at a televised Kremlin meeting to destroy any resistance

or aggressive actions.

Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili had gambled on a surprise attack late Thursday to regain control over his country's pro-Russian breakaway province of South Ossetia.

Instead, Georgia suffered a punishing beating from Russian tanks and aircraft that has left the country with even less control over territory than it had before.

In the newest development, Georgia's Security Council chief Alexander Lomaia said that Russia had moved 50 tanks into Gori, a strategic town 15 miles from the border with South Ossetia, violating the new accord. The RIA-Novosti news agency cited the Russian Defense Ministry as denying the claim.

Explosion rocks northern Lebanese city, killing 10 soldiers, 8 civilians

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (AP) — A bomb ripped through a bus carrying civilians and members of the military during Wednesday morning rush hour in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, killing 18 people and wounding 40, security officials said.

The officials said the dead included 10 off-duty soldiers.

The bomb was planted on the side of a main street and went off as the bus passed by. The streets were filled with people heading to work, which contributed to the many casualties, the officials said.

The military had no immediate comment. The security officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The blast raised suspicions that al-Qaida-inspired Islamic militants may have sought revenge on the military for its assault last year on the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr el-Bared, a one-time bastion of the Fatah Islam group. The monthslong battle killed hundreds and eventually drove out Fatah Islam.

US, allies scramble to find ways to punish Russia for Georgia invasion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scrambling to find ways to punish Russia for its invasion of pro-Western Georgia, the United States and its allies are considering expelling Moscow from an exclusive club of wealthy nations and have scrapped plans for an upcoming joint NATO-Russia military exercise, Bush administration officials said.

But with scant leverage in the face of an emboldened Moscow, Washington and its friends have been forced to face the uncomfortable reality that their options are limited to mainly symbolic measures, such as boycotting Russian-hosted meetings and events, that may have little or no long-term impact on Russia's behavior, the officials said Tuesday.

With the situation on the ground still unclear after

Russian President Dmitri Medvedev on Tuesday ordered a halt to military action in Georgia, U.S. officials were focused primarily on confirming a cease-fire and attending to Georgia's urgent humanitarian needs following five days of fierce fighting, including Russian attacks on civilian targets.

"It is very important now that all parties cease fire," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said.

"The Georgians have agreed to a cease-fire, the Russians need to stop their military operations as they have apparently said that they will, but those military operations really do now need to stop because calm needs to be restored."

At the same time, however, President Bush and his top aides were engaged in frantic consultations with European and other nations over how best to demonstrate their fierce condemnations of the Russian operation that began in Georgia's separatist region of South Ossetia, expanded to another disputed area, Abkhazia, and ended up on purely Georgian soil.

AP Poll: Most Americans back holding Olympics in China despite rights concerns

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most Americans think staging the Olympics in China was a good decision despite China's human rights abuses, Beijing's smog and threats of attacks by militants, according to a poll released Wednesday.

The Associated Press-Ipsos survey also found that by a slender margin, more Americans are rooting for the U.S. team to capture as many medals as possible than are savoring athletes' achievements no matter where they're from.

Gymnastics remains the most popular sport, though swimming has overtaken track and field as No. 2.

By 55 percent to 34 percent, respondents said the International Olympic Committee's selection of China was the right choice rather than a mistake, a sentiment expressed evenly across party and ideological lines. The poll was conducted during the games' early days, which went smoothly, although an American was stabbed to death at a tourist site in an incident apparently unrelated to the Olympics.

Beijing has been a controversial choice because of how the communist government treats minorities, dissenters and religious groups; its brutal handling of Tibetan freedom demonstrators; and its close relationship with Sudan, which has waged a savage war in Darfur.

There were also worries about threatened attacks by an Islamic group seeking independence for Xinjiang province in western China and about the capital's haze, heat and humidity.

Among those supporting China's selection was David Pulsipher, an American history professor from Rexburg, Idaho.

Class of '88 plans 20th reunion

The Big Spring High School Class of 1988 will have its 20-year reunion the weekend of Sept. 12-14. We need help finding the classmates listed below. If you have information on one of these students, please contact Cheri Wyrick Reibe at 432-268-9587 or reibe1@suddenlink.net ASAP.

Elizabeth Alvarez, Manuel Alvear, Maria Alviar, Thomas Ashley, James Averette, JoAnn Baeza, Kenneth Banks, Letitia Baucham, Rebecca Bertrand, Guy Bond, Cary Brooks, Michelle Brooks,

Vicente Bustamante, Martin Carrillo, Pete Chavarria, Garry Chavez, Ronald Clarkson, Alejandra Cruz, Josephine Cruz, Kathryn Dawes, Barney Dodd, Patsy Dominguez, Unis Drew, LeeAnn Dudley, Kimberly Duffy, Carey Duffy, Tiffany Evans and Tanya Farmer.

Also, Olivia Flores, David Fox, Salvador Garcia, Yvette Garcia, Albert Garza, Andrew Garza, Dieter Gerstenberger, Mark Hall,

Timothy Harkins, Calvin Harrison, Terry Hart, Tracey Hicks, Sammy Hilario, Laura Hinojosa,

Kimberly Homfeld, Diana Howard, Kimberly Howell, Stanley Johnson, Bruce Jones, Ronnie Karwedsky, David Kilgore, Eric Kinman, Michelle LaGrand, Debbie Lee, Cindy Locke, Amber Logback, Christina Marquez, Gina Martinez, Kelley Mauldin, Matthew Mayes, Rosalyn McCalister, Byron McElreath, Isidro Melendez and Ronnie Mendoza.

Also, Shawn Meredith, Ida Montez, Robert Moran, Kelly Myles, Elsie Nieto, Debbie Norman, Joey Oglethorpe, Lycinda Oliver, Ruth Oliver, Scott Oliver, Scott Owen, JoAnn Paredes, Kelly Parks, Rusty Patrick, Dean Payne, Michael Perez, Jennifer Pierce, Jennifer Poe, Michael Porch, Bobby Porras, Sandra Puente, Steve Raines, Marina Ramirez, Rocky Ramirez, Rebecca Read and Debra Renteria.

Also, Frank Reyna, Jeffrey Rhodes, Casey Richbourg, Donny Rocha, Diana Rodriguez, Gary Rodriguez, Juan Rodriguez, Nikki Rodriguez, Robert Rodriguez, Brenda Rodriguez, Gilbert Rodriguez, Kenneth Ross, Sandra Ross, Trevor Roten, Chris Ruiz, Elizabeth Saenz, Kimberly Sanders, Lisa Seeley, Shawn Shellman, Ragean Shirey, Heath Shotts, Dawn Smith, Michelle Smith, Todd Smith, Martina Solis, Joseph Sosa, Anthony Spears, Teresa Surratt, Penny Tatum, Katrina Thompson, Victor Tijerina, Tim Tubb, Margaret Uribe, Michael Valli, Randy Vanderbilt, Rosie Vanderbilt, Anna Vega, Delma Vela, Linda Vela, Mary Lou Villa, Charles White, Danny Williams, Melissa Wilson, Dewayne Woodall, Jerry Ybarra, Juan Delgado, Julie Fortner, Chuck Landers, Donovan Lucero, Robert Martinez, Susan Self, Margarito Yanez.

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Auctioneers Note: Fast Frame Business Liquidation Auction - August 26 on-sight, watch our website for details

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1009 W Industrial Midland
432-683-2262 or 432-349-6890
Email Watkins@planetlink.net



12759

To subscribe,
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ARE YOU IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP??

If you're reading this section, chances are you already know your relationship isn't healthy.

What are the Warning Signs:

The biggest warning sign is -

If he's been in a violent relationship before
If someone has abuse their ex-wife, ex-girlfriend or the mother of their children, why wouldn't they abuse you?

Never their fault and someone else was always to blame.
Don't make the mistake of thinking "it will be different with me" He puts your friend down and/or makes it difficult for you to see them.

Loses his temper over trivial things.
Mood swings.

Common things abusers say

You're stupid, useless, ugly, putting on weight ...

You can't even keep the house in a decent state, you're a terrible mother, no one would want you, you're lucky to have me.
If you tell anyone else about the abuse ... you'll be sorry, no one will believe you, I'll report you to social services as an unfit mother.

If you try to leave me...you'll never get away, you couldn't cope without me, I'll snatch the kids and you'll never see them again
I'll track you down and find you, even if it takes years and I'll kill you, you'll never be able to live in peace never knowing when it will happen...

If you leave me I'll kill myself and you'll have to explain to the children why their dad is dead and it'll be on your conscience for the rest of your life ...

If after reading this you think that you are, or might be, in an abusive relationship, call!

Victim Services 24 hr hotline
263-3312 Confidential Assistance

12403

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Homespun and outspoken

From country to southern rock to gospel, Charlie Daniels has been a musical influence for 50 years. Yet, his most enduring impact may be his homespun values, unshakeable faith and outspoken patriotism. Plus, an Olympic triple threat and eating Mexican.

American Profile

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Crime-ridden Arkansas town expands 24-hour curfew

HELENA-WEST HEL-
ENA, Ark. (AP) — Officers
armed with military rifles
have been stopping and
questioning passers-by in
a neighborhood plagued
by violence that's been un-
der a 24-hour curfew for a
week.

On Tuesday, the Helena-
West Helena City Council
voted 9-0 to allow police to
expand that program into
any area of the city, despite
a warning from a lawyer
with the American Civil
Liberties Union of Arkan-
sas that the police stops
were unconstitutional.

Police Chief Fred Fielder
said the patrols have net-
ted 32 arrests since they be-
gan last week in a 10-block
neighborhood in this
small town on the banks of
the Mississippi River long
troubled by poverty. The

council said those living in
the city want the random
shootings and drug-fueled
violence to stop, no matter
what the cost.

"Now if somebody wants
to sue us, they have an op-
tion to sue, but I'm fairly
certain that a judge will
see it the way the way the
citizens see it here," May-
or James Valley said. "The
citizens deserve peace,
that some infringement on
constitutional rights is OK
and we have not violated
anything as far as the Con-
stitution."

The area under curfew,
in what used to be a West
Helena neighborhood, sits
among abandoned homes
and occupied residences
in disrepair.

White signs on large blue
barrels warn those passing
by that the area remains

under curfew by order of
Mayor James Valley. The
order was scheduled to end
at 3 p.m. Tuesday, but Val-
ley said the city council's
vote would allow police
to have the same powers
across Helena-West He-
lena.

Among the curfew op-
eration's arrests, 10 came
from felony charges, in-
cluding the arrest of two
people carrying both drugs
and weapons, Fielder said.
The police chief said the
officers in the field carry
military-style M-16 or M-4
rifles, some equipped with
laser sights. Other officers
carry short-barrel shot-
guns. Many dealing crack
cocaine and marijuana in
the city carry pistols and
AK-47 assault rifles, he
said.

"We've had people call

us, expressing concern for
their children," Fielder
said. "They had to sleep on
the floor, because of stray
bullets."

Fielder said officers had
not arrested anyone for
violating the curfew, only
questioned people about
why they were outside.
Those without good an-
swers or acting nervously
get additional attention,
Fielder said.

However, such stops like-
ly violate residents' con-
stitutional rights to freely
assemble and protections
against unreasonable po-
lice searches, said Holly
Dickson, a lawyer for the
ACLU of Arkansas who ad-
dressed the council at its
packed Tuesday meeting.
Because of that, Dickson
said any convictions com-
ing from the arrests likely

would be overturned.

"The residents of these
high-crime areas are al-
ready victims," she said.
"They're victims of what
are happening in the neigh-
borhoods, they're victims
of fear. But for them to be
subject to unlawful stops
and questioning ... that is
not going to ultimately go-
ing to help this situation."

The council rejected
Dickson's claims, at one
point questioning the Lit-
tle Rock-based attorney if
she'd live in a neighbor-
hood they described as un-
der siege by wild gunfire
and gangs.

"As far as I'm concerned,
at 3 o'clock in the morning,
nobody has any business
being on the street, except
the law," Councilman Eu-
gene "Red" Johnson said.
"Anyone out at 3 o'clock

shouldn't be out on the
street, unless you're going
to the hospital."

The curfew is the second
under the mayor's watch
since the rival cities of
Helena and West Helena
merged in 2006. That year,
Valley set a nightly city-
wide curfew after a rash
of burglaries and other
thefts.

Police in Hartford, Conn.,
began enforcing a nightly
curfew for youths after
recent violence, including
a weekend shooting that
killed a man and wounded
six young people.

Helena-West Helena,
with 15,000 residents at the
edge of Arkansas' eastern
rice fields and farmland, is
in one of the nation's poor-
est regions, trailing even
parts of Appalachia in its
standard of living.

Unabomber objects to cabin display at Newseum

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —
Unabomber Theodore
Kaczynski wrote a letter to
a federal appeals court
complaining about a
museum exhibit of the tiny
cabin where he plotted an
18-year bombing spree.

Kaczynski, who is serving
a life sentence with no
possibility of parole, says
the display at the Newseum
in Washington runs
counter to his victims' wish
to limit further publicity
about the case.

The 10-foot by 12-foot
cabin is the largest of
approximately 200 artifacts
in the "G-Men and Journalists:
Top News Stories of the FBI's
First Century" exhibit,
which opened in June.
Other items include John
Dillinger's death mask,
Patricia Hearst's coat and
the electric chair in which
convicted Lindbergh
baby kidnapper Bruno
Hauptmann was executed.
Kaczynski said in the
three-page, handwritten

letter to the 9th U.S.
Circuit Court of Appeals
in San Francisco that he
learned his cabin was at
the Newseum from a June
19 newspaper ad in the
Washington Post.

"Since the advertisement
states that the cabin is
'FROM FBI VAULT,' it is
clear that the government
is responsible for the pub-
lic exhibition of the cabin.
This has obvious relevance
to the victims' objection to
publicity connected with
the Unabom case," he
wrote in the letter, dated
July 15 and stamped as re-
ceived by the court on July
28.

"I don't think I need to
say anything further," he
added. "The Court can draw
its own conclusions."

Susan Bennett, vice
president and deputy
director of the Newseum,
said the exhibition is aimed
at exploring "sometimes
cooperative, sometimes
combative" relationships
between the news and law
enforcement.

"I think what's interesting
is, after all these years,

that Ted Kaczynski would
be concerned about the
exhibit's impact on his
victims," Bennett said.

The FBI did not
immediately comment.
Two of Kaczynski's
victims did not
immediately respond to
e-mail and phone messages
left Tuesday seeking
comment. Attempts to
find contact information
for other victims were
unsuccessful.

The weather-beaten
cabin was stored in an
FBI evidence facility after
Kaczynski's bombings
from 1978 to 1995 that
killed three people and
injured 23 others. The
Harvard-trained mathem-
atician railed against the
effects of advanced tech-
nology and led authorities
on the nation's longest
and costliest manhunt
before his brother tipped
off law enforcement in
1996.

Kaczynski was captured
at the Lincoln, Mont.,
cabin in April 1996. The
government found what
prosecutors said was the
typewriter used to produce

the Unabomber manifesto
and several drafts of the
treatise. The manifesto,

which was published by
The Washington Post,
is also on display at the

Newseum. Kaczynski
pleaded guilty in 1998.

Cancer patient, 55, mauled by dogs in Washington home

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) —
A 55-year-old man with
cancer was mauled by
hungry dogs in his home
while his daughter was
away and he was hospital-
ized in critical condition,
authorities said.

Michael Warner's daugh-
ter and another woman
were arrested Saturday
for investigation of crimi-
nal mistreatment, Pierce
County sheriff's Detective
Ed Troyer said. The two
women have not been
charged, and both were
released from custody.

Twenty-seven dogs, many
of them puppies, were
taken from the home in
Parkland, near Tacoma.

"We believe some animals
were left behind that were
not fed and some of the
puppies got to him — not
intentionally attacked
him, but used him as a
food source," Troyer said.
He declined to give details
of the man's injuries.

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				6			5	8
8			7	9				
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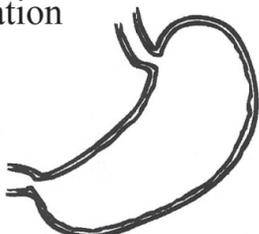
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10 PLUS acres, East I-20 frontage, Sand Springs w/rental income- \$80,000. One acre off Gail Hwy, Big Spring- \$5,000. One acre w/water well and septic- \$7,500. Also One lot on Blackman Ave.- \$2,000. Call 254-643-1145.

2513 CENTRAL. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, one car garage, newly remodeled with new kitchen cabinets, tile floors, paint, and updated bathrooms. Ready to Move In! \$99,750. Call (432)816-1330.

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

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

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

Real Estate for Sale

922 CULP AVE., Coahoma, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fireplace, screened porch, CH/A, corner lot, water well for yard. Call (432)394-4375 or (432)268-3451.

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CORNER LOT: 2 bedroom house plus 3 apartments. Income stream approximately \$1500.00 per month. Call: 432-263-1281 (8-5 M-F).

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FOR SALE by Owner 3/2/2, car port, large shop, all together almost 2 acres. Excellent location and neighborhood in Coahoma. Call (432)816-1413.

OWNER FINANCED-Easy Terms. 1307 Mt. Vernon and 1411 Sycamore. Call TruStar Realty (432)264-8166.

LAND FOR Sale: Morgan Ranch Estate. 6.76 acres with water well. Beautiful view. Great Building Site. Call 432-816-6560.

NICE COUNTRY Home close to town. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath, den, carport, fenced yard. Completely remodeled. 2.44 Acres, CH/A. \$75,000. 1802 Eubanks. Call 432-267-8971.

OWNER FINANCE. 3/1, Fixer upper. 801 Anna. Low down. Very low monthly. Call (325)277-4923.

SALE or LEASE. Coahoma ISD. 4-Bdrm, 3-bath, (3800sq. ft.), 4 car garage, shops. 3 plus acres, w/rental property with potential to make \$40,000.00 per year. 254-643-1145, 325-370-6743.

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

Vehicles

1988 CHEVROLET pickup, V-8, long bed, nears overhaul. \$500. as is. 1986 Nissan Sentra 4-dr. needs overhaul., \$400. as is. 2-3/8 inch oilfield pipe. 600 ft. \$1.50 a ft. Bill Chrane Carwash, 1301 East 3rd, (432)213-0426

1993 FORD Ranger. 4 cylinder, good gas mileage. Runs good. \$3,250. Call (432)466-4116.

2001 NISSAN Xterra- 2WD, V-6, 114k miles, Cold A/C, Run/Drives Great, One Owner, Clear Title. Very Nice SUV. \$65000. Call 432-935-2460 or mlw913@hotmail.com for photos.

2006 WHITE Chevy Diesel Duramax 1 Ton. Long bed, dually. Good condition, runs well- 142,000 miles. \$22,000. OBO. Ask for Roy (432)249-0106.

95 FORD Contour, 65,982 miles, clear title, has body damage but runs great. \$1800.00 OBO. 96 Flagstaff Pop-up, clear title, excellent condition, sleep 6, \$2500.00 OBO. 432-935-3695.

96 HARLEY Davidson sportster, 1200 upgrade, 35,600 miles, custom paint, lots of extra, need to see to appreciate. \$5500.00 or make offer. 432-267-2015, 816-6595.

PRICE REDUCED!!!!!!!
2002 Yamaha Roadstar Silverado. Like new condition. 15000 Miles on bike, 800 miles on tires. Call after 6:30pm cell (432)553-3876 or (432)267-1090.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Mature Saturn makes a proposition to lady Love Venus. What doth he propose? On one hand, if love is grand, commitment. Yet if love is troubled, there's an overwhelming need to dive into the particulars of the relationship. Communication and maturity form the basis for success in heart matters today.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You do something creative with your negative emotions. Before you know it, you've turned something unsatisfactory in your life into a helpful enterprise. Capricorn helps you see things differently.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You may be feeling low on willpower, so it's useless to deny yourself anything. Instead of saying no, decide what you're saying yes to, and move toward that. When inspired, you can move mountains.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're in a collecting mood again. You're treasure hunting for the perfect addition to your group. Nothing useless, all very useful, if only for their perceived value and for the fact that you love them so.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can guide someone to greatness. You have the insight -- you know what they need to do. Present your ideas in a soft light. Be seductive. Avoid saying anything that would put the other person on the defensive.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's something forbidden that you can't seem to stay away from. The very fact that it is off-limits keeps you hovering near. Everyone needs to be a little bad once in a while, and this is your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a sneaking suspicion afoot. It's like you are lucky and you don't even know it. Tonight, enjoy the wonderful sensation of having nowhere to go that's better than where you are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You were meant for a special purpose. It's not so obvious to you now. In fact, the small deeds you're doing are pointing in a direction, adding up to something. It's not your job to know what. Just trust that it is so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're willing to be mildly uncomfortable if it makes the other person happy. Unfortunately, the other person may be asking you to become very uncomfortable, and you're just not into that.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Even though you're dealing with people who already understand you most of the time, you still need to use your best communication today. Be thorough, and wherever possible, write it down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're wrapped up in the immediacy of the day. But are the needs you are fulfilling really urgent? Is it really necessary to answer the cell phone every time it rings? Rethink your availability factor.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your agenda is quite different from the one your boss or colleagues have for you. It's a blessing. Before this, you didn't even know you had an agenda. These people are your teachers.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Carl Jung said that nothing influences children more than the un-lived lives of their parents. You'll find yourself in the throes of an endeavor that your mother and father would have loved to have experienced firsthand.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I am an Aquarius who fell for a Virgo. We had a falling out last June. I recently contacted him to say hi after a year of not speaking and was welcomed, then rebuffed. I wanted to make peace with him, and he was uncomfortable by my gesture. This is just one of many rejections I have experienced. Is there anybody who can love me with the same integrity as I love them?"

Let me guess, you wanted to be friends, right? Aquarians often have this friend fantasy about their ex: someone to hang out and watch the game with, chat and nap with. You offer the olive branch hoping for everything to be kumbaya and they're like "see ya!" There's a reason why it didn't work out, hence the "ex" part. Yet for Aquarius, breaking up isn't intractable, because they're good people, right? You remember why you liked them to begin with. Yet he's moved on. You're seeing essential differences of the human heart; not everyone loves in the same way you do. Yet by saying your loving has more integrity than another's, you risk becoming Aquarian superior, believing you're better than another -- which is really not love.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: What has Vanessa Carlton learned from love? She's said, "Picking the hardest path reaps the most benefits, straying from the beaten path has always served me exponentially well. This is reflected by the rebellious planet Uranus, in a pas de deux with Vanessa's Leo sun. Vanessa revisits her love strategy this birthday year, which ultimately leads to a lasting partnership in late 2009."

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creator's Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
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TexSCAN Week of August 10, 2008

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20.27 ACRES, NORTH of Brackettville, heavy oak, cedar, brush cover, deer, turkey, hogs, low down, \$34,459 or TX Vet financing. 1-800-876-9720. www.hillcountryranches.com

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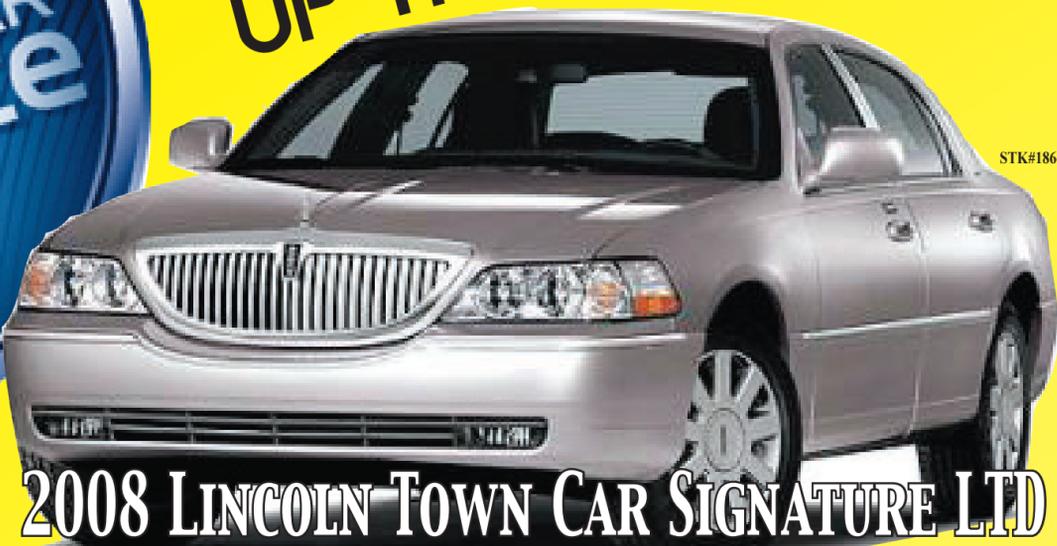
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STK#1864

2008 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE LTD

Light French Silk w/Camel Leather, Power Trunk, Dual Zone Climate Control, 4.6 V-8, 17" Chromed Alum. 18 Spoke Wheels.

\$47,425 MSRP
\$2,302.05 Dealer Discount
\$4,500 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer
\$500 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$1500 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer
\$2000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$36,622.95

Total Savings Of
\$10,802.05



STK#1935

2008 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

Vapor Silver w/Leather Bucket Seats, Power Fold Near Seat, Power Liftgate, Heated/Cooled Front Seats, Cantera Edition, Elite Pkg., Power Running Boards, Power Moonroof, Rear View Camera, Navigation w/THX Audio, Rear Seat Entertainment, Trailer Tow, 20" Chrome Wheels.

\$57,215 MSRP
\$3,231.76 Dealer Discount
\$3,000 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer
\$1,000 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$1,000 Bonus Customer Cash To Dealer
\$2,000 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer
\$3,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$43,983.24

Total Savings Of
\$13,231.76



STK#1525

2008 FORD TAURUS SEL

Silver Birch w/Stone Cloth, V-6, 6 Speed Automatic, Convenience Pkg., 6 Disc CD w/MP3, Dual Zone A/C, Sat. Radio, DVD Entertainment Sys.

\$27,965 MSRP
\$1,406.25 Dealer Discount
\$500 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$1,500 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer
\$2,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$22,558.75

Total Savings Of
\$5,406.25



STK#1821

2008 FORD EDGE SE

Light Ice Blue w/Cloth, V-6, Automatic, Convenience Group, Trailer Tow Pkg., Keyless Entry, 6 Disc CD, w/Sat. Radio, Roof Rails.

\$28,145 MSRP
\$737.05 Dealer Discount
\$2,000 Customer Cash To Dealer
\$1,000 Competitive Owner Retail Cash To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$24,407.95

Total Savings Of
\$3,737.05



STK# 1609

2008 FORD EXPLORER EDDIE BAUER EDITION

Dark Blue Pearl w/Camel Leather, Buckets, V-6, Automatic, Moonroof, Sat. Radio, 18" Chrome Wheels, Rear DVD, Luxury Pkg., Powerfold Rear Seat.

\$35,740 MSRP
\$500 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$3,500 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer
\$3,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$28,740

Total Savings Of
\$7,000



STK# 1993

2008 FORD EXPEDITION XLT

Black w/Camel Cloth, Captain Chairs, 6 Spd., Automatic, w/5.4 V-8, Texas/Okla Edition, Convenience Pkg., Trailer Tow Pkg., 6 Disc CD, 18" Chrome Wheels, Aux. (Rear) Heat And Air.

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$23,950.24

\$33,960 MSRP
\$1,509.76 Dealer Discount
\$1,000 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$4,000 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer
\$500 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer
\$3,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Total Savings Of
\$10,009



STK# 1753

2008 FORD ESCAPE XLT V-6

Red Fire Metallic, Automatic, Moonroof, Convenience Pkg., Sat. Radio, Step Bars, Trailer Towing Pkg., Privacy Glass, 6 CD w/MP3.

\$24,855 MSRP
\$704.63 Dealer Discount
\$2,500 Customer Cash To Dealer
\$750 Bonus Cash To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$20,900.37

Total Savings Of
\$3,954.63



STK# 1902

2008 FORD MUSTANG V-6

Black w/Spoiler, Trip Tones, All Power, Automatic.

\$23,420 MSRP
\$852 Dealer Discount
\$500 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer
\$1,500 Factory Rebate
\$500 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer
\$2,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price
\$18,567.56

Total Savings Of
\$4,852.44

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	WFAA 2	KMID 3	UNI 4	KPEJ 5	KOSA 7	KTLE 8	KWES 9	WTBS 11	KMLM 12	KPBT 13	DISC 20	AMC 21	SPIKE 22	TNT 23	BET 26	DISN 27	ESPN2 28	ESPN 29
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Simpsons King-Hill	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Raymond	Cortes Israel	News Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	WarGames, Ally Sheedy		Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards of Waverly Place	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Simpsons Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazonas	News NBC	Friends Raymond	Prophecy	News Business	Made		CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: Bob the Butler	Little League World Series Final	MLB Baseball: Teams to Be Announced.	
7 :PM	Wife Swap	Wife Swap	Diablo-Guapones	Bones	American Dog	El Juramento	XXIX Summer Olympics	Fam. Guy	Israel	Click & Clack	NextWorld	Movie: Road House, Sam Elliott	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Access Baldwin	Montana		
8 :PM	Supernanny	Supernanny	Fuego en la Sangre	Sarah Connor	Criminal Minds	Doña Barbara		Payne	Light of the Southwest	Nova sciencenow	MythBusters		UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order	Movie: New Jack City, Judd Nelson	Montana Suite Life	Boxing: Wednesday Night Fights.	
9 :PM	Primetime: Crime	Primetime: Crime	Don Francisco	TMZ	CSI: NY	Sin Senos		Payne	Carrier (DVS)	Man vs. Wild			Real Vice	Law & Order	Life De	Wizards of Waverly Place	Baseball Tonight	
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias		Friends	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Striking Distance	UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order	Hell Date	Suite Life Montana	Boxing	SportsCenter
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Cl	Late Late Show	Deci	News	Sex & CCM	Scott	Smiley	NextWorld		CSI: Crime Scn	Cold Case	Diff Wild	So Raven	NASCAR	Baseball
12 :AM	News	News	Amarte-Pecado	RENO 911 Lopez	Insider	Pagado	Summer Olym.	Sex & CCM	Scott	Smiley	NextWorld	Movie: Road House, Sam Elliott	Star Trek: Voyager	Cold Case	Movie: New Jack City, Judd Nelson	Replace Kim	X Games	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Paid	Paid	Clasicos	RENO 911	Entertain	XXIX Summer Olym.	XXIX	Light of the Southwest		Man vs. Wild			Deep Space 9	Without a Trace	Emperor Dragon	Boxing: Friday Night Fights	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE

8-13

"THE ONLY THING THAT COULD BE WORSE THAN MARGARET WOULD BE TWO MARGARETS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

8-13

"Was Abraham Lincoln really that big?"

HAGAR

8-13

LET'S SEE, GENTLEMEN... YOU ORDERED FIVE LARGE BOILED LOBSTERS...

AND YOU PROBABLY WON'T NEED THE SHELL CRACKERS AND THE TINY LITTLE FORKS, RIGHT?

BC

8-13

SHOW ME A MAN WHO PERFORMS UNSPEAKABLE CRIMES...

... AND I'LL SHOW YOU A STREET MIME WITHOUT A PERMIT.

BLONDIE

8-13

I'LL BET COMPUTERS MAKE READING X-RAYS A LOT EASIER THESE DAYS, DOC

I'LL BET THAT HIGH-DEFINITION SCREEN SHOWS YOU EVERY LITTLE DETAIL

THESE AREN'T YOUR X-RAYS... I'M WATCHING THE OLYMPICS

WIZARD OF ID

8-13

MY LATEST INVENTION, A PAINTBRUSH WITH A 40-FOOT EXTENSION

WHO WOULD BE DUMB ENOUGH TO BUY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

MY FIRST ORDER IS FROM AN ITALIAN NAMED MICHELANGELO

AGNES

8-13

SO... ARE YOU JUMPING FROM THE HIGH DIVE THIS YEAR?

YES! IT LOOKS FUN! IN FACT, I DON'T REMEMBER WHY IT SCARED ME SO MUCH IN THE PAST.

UM... " I WILL CRACK MY HEAD OPEN LIKE A CHEAP CHICKEN EGG AND BROWN IN A SOUPY BREW OF MY BLOOD AND CHLORINATED SWIMMING POOL WATER."

YOU ORDERED METO... WANNA HEAR WHY YOU SWORE TO NEVER EAT ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE CHEAP CHILI DOGS?

YOU WROTE IT DOWN?!

HI AND LOIS

8-13

EXPLAIN THAT AGAIN AND I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET MY HEAD AROUND IT.

I'LL TRY TOO.

DID I DO THAT BACKWARDS?

THE OTHER COAST

8-13

"FERTO FERTILIZER," FOR THE GREENEST LAWN IN THE 'HOOD!

NOTHING LIKE A CUTE DOG TO SELL PRODUCTS ON TV.

WHAT SORT OF PRODUCT DO YOU THINK SAKURA COULD PITCH?

VALIUM?

BARK BARK BARK BARK

SNUFFY SMITH

8-13

WE ALL GIT OUR FAV'RIT MEAL ??? WHAT'S TH' OCCASION, MAW?

FAN APPRECIATION DAY !!

BEEETLE BAILEY

8-13

MY FEET ARE KILLING ME!

HEY! I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE MISS BUXLEY TO THE DANCE TONIGHT FOR YOU

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 13, the 226th day of 2008. There are 140 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Aug. 13, 1961, Berlin was divided as East Germany sealed off the border between the city's eastern and western sectors and began building a wall in order to halt the flight of refugees.

On this date:
In 1521, Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez captured Tenochtitlan, present-day Mexico City, from the Aztecs.
In 1624, French King Louis XIII named Cardinal Richelieu his first minister.
In 1704, the Battle of Blenheim was fought during the War of the Spanish Succession, resulting in a victory for English-led forces over French and Bavarian soldiers.
In 1846, the American flag was raised for the first time in Los Angeles.
In 1889, William Gray of Hartford, Conn., received a patent for a coin-operated telephone.
In 1910, Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, died in London at age 90.

Actor Pat Harrington is 79. Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is 75. Actor Kevin Tighe is 64. Actress Gretchen Corbett is 61. Opera singer Kathleen Battle is 60. Movie director Paul Greengrass is 53. Actor Danny Bonaduce is 49. TV host/weatherman Sam Champion ("Good Morning America") is 47. Actress Dawn Lewis is 47. Actor John Slattery is 46. Actress Quinn Cummings is 41. Actress Seana Kofoed is 38. Country singer Andy Griggs is 35. Country musician Mike Melancon (Emerson Drive) is 30. Actress Kathryn Fiore is 29.

Thought for Today: "You should avoid making yourself too clear even in your explanations." — Baltasar Gracian, Spanish philosopher (1601-1658).

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Newsday Crossword

PUNCTUATION DAY! by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Tribal emblem
- 6 Sit down heavily
- 10 Latch onto
- 14 Caribbean cruise stop
- 15 Verdi opera
- 16 Steam up
- 17 Form 1040 filer's concern
- 19 Poker starter
- 20 Western Indian
- 21 Pronoun in "America"
- 22 Add later
- 24 Not as orderly
- 26 Chromosome unit
- 27 Hasty escape
- 28 Southern bread
- 32 Praline nut
- 35 Actor Penn
- 36 Sermon subject
- 37 '40s foes
- 38 Picks out
- 39 Pinion's partner
- 40 Also starring
- 41 Some gallery hangings
- 42 Does dairy work
- 43 Don, as a pair of pants
- 45 Brazilian city, for short
- 46 Compete at Indy
- 47 Patching up
- 51 Give the meaning of
- 54 Hang in the balance
- 55 Pizzeria order
- 56 Prez, for one
- 57 Recipe phrase
- 60 Blunted blade

DOWN

- 10 Payment extension
- 11 Hockey venue
- 12 Choir voice
- 13 "It's ___ real!"
- 18 "Beg pardon . . ."
- 23 Raggedy doll
- 25 Run a sale
- 26 Objectives
- 28 String-quartet member
- 29 Locket shape
- 30 Shaving mishap
- 31 Antlered beasts
- 32 Handles roughly
- 33 Take one's leave
- 34 Give a traffic ticket to
- 35 Matched furniture set
- 38 Admitted defeat
- 42 Attentive
- 44 Author Fleming
- 45 City near Tahoe
- 47 Conductor Zubin
- 48 "No bid"
- 49 Frasier's brother
- 50 Arrive at end of a pool
- 52 Trade show
- 53 Trough filler
- 54 Furtive "Hey!"
- 58 Tow-offering org.
- 59 Masseur's workplace

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