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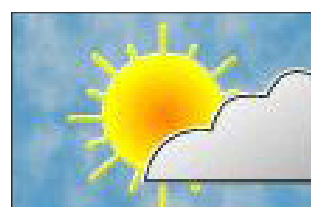
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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
AUGUST 14, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 220

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Tax free holiday begins Friday across the state

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With most budgets already stretched by skyrocketing fuel and grocery costs, the statewide tax holiday aimed at back-to-school supplies slated Friday through Sunday may come as a breath of fresh air.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said the overall savings from the tax holiday is expected to be more than \$50 million this year.

"We estimate shoppers will save about \$54 million in sales tax during the sales tax holiday, including approximately \$42.1 million in state sales tax and \$11.9 million in local sales taxes," said Combs.

During the tax holiday weekend, most clothing and shoes priced less than \$100 can be purchased tax free, according to Combs, with the tax break applying to both children and adult apparel.

And while the holiday — which, according to Texas officials has saved shoppers more than \$388 million in state and local sales taxes since it was introduced in 1999 — will certainly have a positive impact on local residents' back-to-school budgets, Combs said the dip in sales tax collections for both the state and local economies should be minimal.

"Though the national economy has slowed, Texas sales tax revenue continues to grow at a healthy pace," she said. "Through June, state sales tax collections for fiscal 2008 were up 6.1 percent compared to the same point in fiscal 2007. Cities' and counties' calendar year-to-date sales tax revenues were up an average of 5.1 percent."

According to Combs, the

Tax-free items:

- Baby clothes
- Backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students
- Belts with attached buckles
- Boots - cowboy, hiking
- Caps/hats - baseball, fishing, golf, knitted
- Coats and wraps
- Diapers - adult and baby
- Dresses
- Gloves (generally)
- Gym suits and uniforms
- Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts
- Hosiery
- Jackets
- Jeans
- Jerseys - baseball and football
- Jogging apparel
- Neckwear and ties
- Pajamas
- Pants and trousers
- Raincoats and ponchos
- Robes
- Shirts
- Shoes - sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
- Socks (including athletic)
- Shorts
- Suits, slacks, and jackets
- Sweatshirts
- Sweat suits
- Sweaters
- Swimsuits
- Underclothes
- Work clothes and uniforms

Non tax-free items:

- Accessories (generally) - barrettes, elastic ponytail holders, wallets, watches
- Backpacks - unless for use by elementary and secondary students
- Baseball cleats and pants
- Belt buckles (without belt)
- Boots - climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders
- Buttons and zippers
- Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics
- Football pants
- Golf gloves
- Handbags and purses
- Handkerchiefs
- Hard hats
- Helmets - bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports
- Jewelry
- Laundering services
- Leather goods - except belts with buckles and wearing apparel
- Pads - football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder
- Personal flotation devices
- Roller blades and skates
- Safety clothing, glasses
- Shoes - bicycle (cleated), bowling, golf

Note: List provided by the Texas Comptroller's Office

See **TAX FREE**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Debbye ValVerde, right, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, welcomes new participants to the Leadership Big Spring program during the group's inaugural meeting today in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Leadership Big Spring group gets under way with full class

Herald Staff Report

Let the leadership begin. The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Big Spring Program for 2008-2009 began at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

This year's class has 25 participants, according to Debbye

ValVerde, executive director of the chamber of commerce.

"The class is full and we are very excited about that," ValVerde said.

Leadership skills will be coordinated and taught by retired BSISD teacher Vicki Stewart and Rodney Chandler, warden for the Big Spring Federal Correctional Institution.

During the program, which will last 10 months, the group will tour different organizations, such as educational, industrial, agriculture and medical, but ValVerde said that's not all the class will learn.

"They will be meeting new people and becoming a team of leaders

See **LEADERS**, Page 3A

Investigation into stabbing continues

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Deputies with the Howard County Sheriff's Office continue to investigate a stabbing in Forsan late Tuesday night that sent a local man to the emergency room.

Thomas Cates, 40, was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center by pri-

ivate vehicle after he was stabbed with a knife in the 300 block of W. Third Street in Forsan, according to law enforcement officials.

"The first call came in at approximately 11:46 p.m. from a residence in Forsan," said Chief Deputy Mark Hall. "They reported that Cates had been stabbed and was being taken to the emergency room by private vehicle. A second call came in from

the emergency room a few minutes later confirming he was being treated.

"Cates was stabbed once in the lower right side of his chest. According to reports, the wound was non life-threatening and he's since been released from the hospital."

Hall said the incident was the re-

See **STABBING**, Page 3A

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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.

38-cent gasoline

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Gas prices have been falling — but not that much.

A problem with a pump cost a San Antonio convenience store when premium gasoline accidentally sold for 38 cents a gallon.

Manager Jim Duk says that grade of gas was supposed to be selling for \$3.89 a gallon.

Duke says he noticed a lot of vehicles were being filled with premium and people were paying at the pump. He went out to check Wednesday and noticed the price error.

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Broncos' Marshall draws T.O. comparisons

Denver wideout embraces 'Baby T.O.' moniker, Jones objects

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**

AP Sports Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Brandon Marshall has never shied away from the moniker "Baby T.O.," and the real Terrell Owens doesn't mind the comparisons, either.

Adam "Pacman" Jones apparently does.

With the Dallas Cowboys and Denver Broncos sharing the fields at Dove Valley this week, it was inevitable that the respec-

tive receivers with jaw-dropping moves and uncanny abilities to deke defenders would be compared to each other.

"No, he's nowhere near T.O.," Jones protested between workouts Wednesday. "He's a good athlete, it ain't on T.O., though."

Jones, the Cowboys' corner-back awaiting reinstatement from commissioner Roger Goodell after being suspended for a series of off-the-field missteps, said he has yet to see the

receiver who can stack up to the one he sees every day in practice.

"First of all, T.O. is 10 times faster than Brandon Marshall. And 10 times stronger than Brandon Marshall," Jones said. "You can sometimes get your hand on B. at the line. T.O. has a good thing where he snatches and whips. I wouldn't say he's nowhere near T.O."

Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler stepped into the fray, wondering: Who's Jones to

judge?

"That's fine. We go against Champ (Bailey) every day," Cutler retorted, subtly suggesting that Jones doesn't stack up to the Broncos' perennial Pro Bowler whom Marshall faces all the time.

Marshall had his own retort. When he came out for the teams' combined afternoon practice, he had athletic tape on the back of his shoulder pads where he had written "21's no Champ."

"I meant what I said and I'm

pretty sure he meant what he said," a smiling Marshall said after practice, explaining it was all in good fun. " ... Probably toward the end of practice he said, 'Dang, man. I just seen what you wrote. I said, 'Boy, you're slow.'"

Yet, when recently retired receiver Rod Smith was asked for his take on the tit-for-tat, the Broncos' career receptions leader sided with Jones, although

See **MARSHALL**, Page 2B

Summer Olympics

No Phelps, no U.S. gold

Americans struggle to pick up medals Thursday

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

AP National Writer

BEIJING — On the seventh day of the Olympics, Michael Phelps rested, and other swimmers made their splash.

Australia's Stephanie Rice closed a brilliant Olympics with another world record. Kosuke Kitajima of Japan made it a double in the breaststroke. Alain Bernard redeemed himself for the relay. And the home team got a chance to celebrate its first swimming gold.

For Phelps, a day with no world record, not even a gold medal, was like taking it easy. He cruised into the finals of the 200-meter individual medley, then hustled back to the athletes' village to rest up for his next brush with history, qualifying for the 100 butterfly.

"I feel fine," said Phelps, already the winningest Olympian ever and taking aim at Mark Spitz's record of seven gold medals in a single games this weekend. "I think over the next few days the biggest thing is going to be trying to get as much rest as I can. If I can do that, I'll be fine."

Phelps has trained in Ann Arbor, Mich., as part of the University of Michigan-affiliated Team Wolverine.

Led by Rice, the Australians set the 18th world swimming record of the Beijing Games in the women's 800 freestyle relay, obliterating the previous mark by nearly six seconds to upset the United States.

The Americans had won the event all three times since it was added to the Olympic program in 1996, but they couldn't match the Aussies' blazing time of 7 minutes, 44.31 seconds, which shattered the previous record by an astonishing 5.78. China held off the Americans for silver.

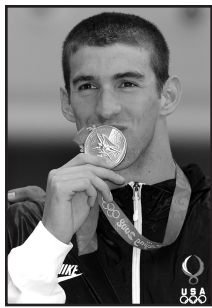
Rice, once again sporting large green earrings to match her country's colors, was the closest thing to Phelps on the female side in Beijing. She won three gold medals — all with world records.

"What a great way to finish," she said after her final event. "For us to break the record by so far is amazing. ... I really look forward to sitting back and cheering for the Aussies."

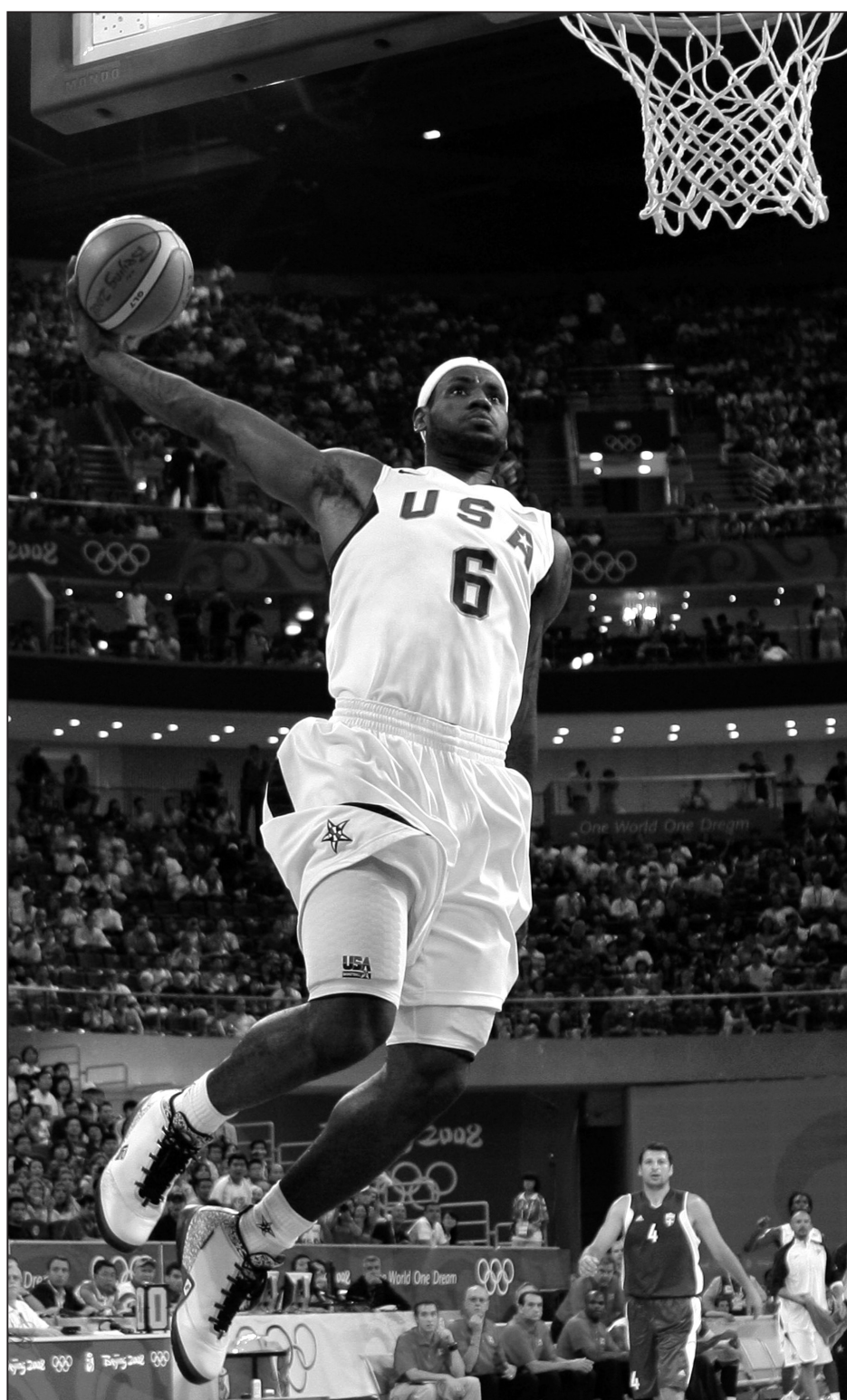
Then there's Katie Hoff. The 19-year-old American again failed to win her first Olympic gold, having settled for one silver and two bronzes in five events. She's got only one race left on her busy program, the grueling 800 free.

"I did my best and ran out of room at the end,"

See **SWIMMING**, Page 2B



Phelps



AP photo/Dusan Vranic

Team USA guard LeBron James soars to the basket for a dunk against Greece during a men's preliminary basketball game at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Thursday. USA won 92-69, remaining undefeated in pool play.

Leaving no doubt Team USA routs Greece, 92-69

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Basketball Writer

BEIJING — The U.S. Olympic team stopped the pick-and-rolls — and just about everything else Greece tried.

These Americans that looked so lost two years at the world championship when this team was being formed appear to have found their Olympic defensive way.

Batting away balls or swatting shots on seemingly every possession late in the second quarter, the Americans broke open a close game and went on to a 92-69 victory Thursday night to clinch a spot in the medal round.

Their offense wasn't too shabby either as the Americans were able to find the range on jump shots when the Greeks went to a zone defense to slow them down.

Kobe Bryant and Chris Bosh each scored 18 points for the United States (3-0), which moves on to a matchup of Group B unbeaten Saturday night against world champion Spain. The winner will earn the group's top seed for the quarterfinals.

Dwyane Wade added 17 points and LeBron James scored 13.

Greece stunned the Americans two years ago in the semifinals of the world championships, shredding the U.S. defense for 63 percent shooting with clinical execution of its pick-and-roll offense in a 101-95 victory.

This time, the Americans had an answer for everything, using a suffocating defense to extend a seven-point lead into a 19-point

See **BASKETBALL**, Page 2B

Blake upsets Federer in Olympic tennis

By **STEVEN WINE**

AP Sports Writer

BEIJING — Roger Federer's bid for his first Olympic singles medal ended Thursday night when he lost to American James Blake.

With the sort of lackluster performance once unthinkable for Federer, he was eliminated in the quarterfinals 6-4, 7-6 (2).

The upset was a stunner in that Blake had won only a single set in their previous eight matches. But the top-seeded Federer is battling a yearlong slump that has left him stalled at 12 major titles, two shy of Pete Sampras' record.

His Wimbledon reign ended last month, and he came to Beijing knowing he would lose the No. 1 ranking after 4½ years to Rafael Nadal next

week.

Federer's latest defeat means no rematch in Sunday's final against Nadal, who won in epic fashion when they met for the Wimbledon title.

Federer had been seeking his first Olympic medal after losing in the singles semifinals in Sydney and in the second round in Athens. He was scheduled to play a quarterfinal doubles match later Thursday with Swiss partner Stanislas Wawrinka.

The upset was sweet for the No. 8-seeded Blake, a first-time Olympian at 28 and the lone U.S. male to survive the first round of singles.

In a tournament that had been upset-free through three rounds, the first surprise was a doozy.

See **TENNIS**, Page 2B



AP photo/Charles Krupa

James Blake of the United States, reacts after defeating Roger Federer of Switzerland, 6-4, 7-6 (2), during men's singles tennis action at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Thursday.

Olympic medal count

(thru Wednesday)

Country	G	S	B	Tot
China	22	8	5	35
United States	10	9	15	34
South Korea	6	7	3	16
Italy	6	4	3	13
Germany	6	2	3	11
Australia	5	4	7	16
Japan	5	3	3	11
Russia	3	8	3	14
France	2	8	5	15
Britain	2	2	3	7

Obituaries

Ruth Augusta Griffin Bennett



Ruth Augusta Griffin Bennett, who was born Nov. 15, 1919, in Childress to Claud Gunn ("C.G.") Griffin and Lily Simmons Griffin passed away at 11:06 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10, 2008. Ruth was in peace as her daughter Sarah held her hand while she passed.

Ruth's parents brought her to Big Spring in 1924, after an unsuccessful strike by her father's railroad union sent him and many other railroad men searching for work, which they found with the Texas & Pacific in Big Spring. The young family put down roots in Big Spring and never left. They bought a lot "out south" of town — at 1008 South Gregg Street — which was then far enough south for the family to have a cow, a well and a tornado cellar. Ruth grew up on South Gregg Street, next door to Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Simms — another railroad family who came to Big Spring from Childress. She walked to the high school, and played with the Simms family children up in the tree house in the giant mulberry tree beside their home. There were three swinging chairs on the lawn and on the front porch of their home. Apricots and pecans fell from trees on their lot.

Ruth went through the Big Spring public schools and then to work as a secretary in the old McCrory's Five and Dime in downtown Big Spring. When World War II came, Ruth found work as a secretary at the Big Spring Bombardier School. It was while working there that she met her future husband, John Bennett, then a young sergeant and later a young lieutenant, who as an aide to Col. Ellis helped organize the installation that later became Webb Air Force Base. In 1945, John Bennett became a widower. He married Ruth on June 11, 1946.

Ruth's husband took her away from Big Spring for many years; the Air Force stationed him in Massachusetts, Arizona, Japan, East Texas, North Dakota, Iowa and England. Along the way, Ruth gave birth to four children, all in military hospitals: a son in Massachusetts, a daughter and son in Japan, and a son in England. Ruth and John's final Air Force posting was back to Big Spring, where they returned in 1960 to live. In 1962, Ruth returned to the work world, first as a secretary for the public accountant, Hal Rosson, and then as a medical secretary for the Veteran's Administration, where Ruth worked until her retirement.

Ruth and John Bennett were members of the College Baptist Church. They liked travel and loved to drive around America in the several recreational vehicles they owned over the years.

In 1987, Ruth and John moved into a retirement community, the Air Force Village in San Antonio, which is designed for retired Air Force officers and their spouses. Until recently, Ruth stayed busy and lived happily in the Air Force Village, but she continued to subscribe to the Big Spring Herald and keep up her relationships with the people of Big Spring.

Ruth was predeceased by her father and mother, C.G. and Lily Simmons Griffin. Her beloved grandson, William C. Bennett Jr., passed away in February 1984. Her husband, John Bennett, passed away in May 1992.

Ruth is survived by her brother and sister in law: C.C. Griffin Jr. and his wife Norma of Big Spring; by four children: son John Jr. and his wife, Sue Burns Bennett of Houston; by her daughter Sarah Bennett and son-in-law, Robert R. Rothstein of Santa Fe, N.M.; by her son, William C. Bennett and his wife Geri Blake of St. Louis, Mo.; and by her youngest son, Charles M. Bennett and his wife Patricia Bennett of Big Spring.

Ruth is survived by 10 grand children: Kelly B. Bennett and his wife Caroline Harsh Bennett of Houston; Matthew Robert Bennett and his wife Katie Shackelford Bennett of Houston; Caroline Nell Bennett of Houston; Jacob Bennett Rothstein of Santa Fe, N.M.; Ella Rose Rothstein of Santa Fe, N.M.; Katherine Elaine Bennett of San Antonio; Joseph Alexander Bennett of St. Louis, Mo.; Emily Thomason of Big Spring; Michelle Gregory of Bonham; and Shane O'Brien, of Dallas.

Ruth has nine great grandchildren: John Owen Bennett of Houston; John Harmon Bennett II of Houston; Michael, Brittany, Kayla and Matthew Gregory of Bonham; and Caden, Eaisson, and London O'Brien of Dallas.

All her life, Ruth cared for her friends. Ruth was not a person who wanted to control others. Ruth wanted to participate, not to dominate, and was always a giver, not a taker. Ruth was a conscientious worker; she never took sick leave unless she was ill, and she was pleased to take home extra work without seeking overtime pay. Ruth was quiet, steady, and never demanded to be the center of attention.

Above all, Ruth was a selfless mother who never failed to put the interests of her family before her own. She was a servant of the Lord. Ruth will be sorely missed on this Earth and gladly welcomed in the hereafter. May God rest her soul. Visitation will be Friday Aug. 15, 2008 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Porter Loring.

Graveside services will be at 2:15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, 2008 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

You are invited to sign the guestbook at www.porterloring.com

Arrangements are with Porter Loring, 1101 McCullough.

Paid obituary

Corene Manning

Corene Manning, 87, of Stanton, died Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2008, in a hospice facility. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Martha Noyola

Martha Noyola, 53, of Big Spring died Thursday, Aug. 14, 2008, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

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.

Police blotter

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

- SHAWN PATRICK GONZALES, 19, of 1500 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- JOHNNY JOHNSON, 36, of 110 Lockhart, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- EDDIE BROWN, 40, of 3100 Highway 80, was arrested Wednesday on a Jefferson County warrant.
- ADAM EDMONDSON, 17, of 700 Bell, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- MARK RYERSON, 20, transient, was arrested Wednesday on charges of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less (two counts).
- ROBBIN BARNES, 19, transient, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less and a Howard County warrant.
- ISIDRO MELENDEZ, 72, of 1009 Wood, was arrested Wednesday on two local warrants.
- CHRISTOPHER SALAZAR, 21, of 1602 Sunset, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- JOHN SOLIS, 22, of 1402 Wood, was arrested Wednesday on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon and possession of a controlled substance.
- DIANA KAY ARROYO, 40, of 3304 Highway 80, was arrested Wednesday on a Limestone County warrant.
- CURTIS MCCULLOUGH, 62, of 800.5 Nolan, was arrested Wednesday on a Collin County warrant.
- BRANDY HUBBARD, 19, of 3908 Hamilton, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of racing on the highway.
- WILEY JACOB LIVELY, 19, of 220 Davis, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of racing on the highway.
- RONDELL RENE TREVINO, 20, of 2530 Hunter, was arrested Thursday on a local warrant.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Johnson.
- RACING ON HIGHWAY was reported in the 800 block of Gregg Street.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA — TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported:
 - in the 1300 block of Mulberry.
 - in the 600 block of Franklin.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of Yale.
 - in the 1800 block of FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 500 block of Lamesa.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having xx inmates at the time of this report.

- RAYMOND LYNN SLATON, 64, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated — open container.
- DARIUS LACHARLES MCCALISTER, 18, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- DEANGELO GRAY, 24, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- REUBEN JAMES ZAMORA, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- SHAWN PATRICK GONZALES, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- DANIELLE KRISTYN REYNA, 29, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of theft of service.
- JOHN PAUL WILSON, 36, was arrested Thursday on charges of possession of a controlled substance (two counts) and manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4000 block of Peach. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Refinery Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of S. Second Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Your Local Weather

Fri 8/15	Sat 8/16	Sun 8/17	Mon 8/18	Tue 8/19
95/68	82/65	79/63	82/64	87/66
Sunshine and clouds mixed. High near 95F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

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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

- 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.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- 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.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

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

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 11-7-39-20-21-50. Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 10-22-24-27-35. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-0-2-4. Sum It Up: 6

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-6-7. Sum It Up: 13

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BASKETBALL

Continued from Page 1B

cushion in the final 5½ minutes of the first half.

Theo Papaloukas scored 15 points for Greece, which found things easy against the Americans two years ago but not this time. The Greeks had 26 field goals but committed 25 turnovers.

Greece (1-2), which lost to Spain in its opener, faces winless Angola before closing pool play against China.

China used an overwhelming height advantage to dominate under the basket and exploit frequently sloppy play by the African champions for easy baskets.

Yao drilled 10 of 11 field goals for 91 percent shooting, matched by 10 of 11 from the free throw line. Sun Yue added 11 points for China, sinking all four of his field goals, including two three pointers.

Joaquim Gomes had 17 points to lead Angola.

Yi Jianlian of the New Jersey Nets seemed to come alive for the first time in the tournament, stuffing several big jams and grabbing 10 defensive rebounds.

The Lithuanian-born Kazlauskas said he'd been concerned before the game by China's earlier later-period collapses against the United States and Spain. After China appeared to wobble in the second quarter, he sat the

team down for a firm locker room talk at halftime and "all better," he said.

In other games, Brad Newley scored 24 points to lead Australia to a 106-68 win against Iran. Los Angeles Lakers center Pau Gasol had 13 points in Spain's 72-59 victory against Dallas Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki and Germany.

Nowitzki scored 11 points for Germany.

Rimantas Kaukenas scored a team-leading 20 points as Lithuania defeated Russia. In what had been an extremely close game, Lithuania pulled ahead for the final time 82-77 on a thundering three-pointer by Jonas Maciulis with just over three minutes to go.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 1B

The match began after a rain delay of 3 hours, 35 minutes, and Federer seemed off his game from the start. His forehand — once the sport's most feared — was unreliable, and he repeatedly struggled to hold serve.

Blake earned the first break in the final game of the opening set. On set point, Federer left his feet for a spectacular backhand save that extended the rally, but with his next shot he floated an easy backhand into the net.

His shoulders sagging, he was broken again two games later and fell behind 3-0 in the second set.

Federer finally showed life by breaking back in the fifth game and holding

the rest of the way to reach 6-all. But Blake played a flawless tiebreaker, while Federer made two unforced errors and popped up a volley.

When Federer sailed a return long on match point, Blake screamed "Yeah!" Federer ripped off his headband and walked head down to the net.

It just wasn't Federer's night: He even went 0-4 on replay challenges.

2008 Property Tax Rates in City Of Big Spring

This notice concerns 2008 property tax rates for City of Big Spring. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$3,463,798
Last year's debt taxes	\$1,447,499
Last year's total taxes	\$4,911,297
Last year's tax base	\$480,199,401
Last year's total tax rate	\$1.022762 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$4,897,702
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$521,600,332
= This year's effective tax rate	\$0.938976 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

In the first year a hospital district or city collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year.

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ /\$100
= Effective tax rate	\$ /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$4,854,719
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$521,600,332
= This year's effective operating rate	\$0.930735 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$1.005193 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$0.275103 /\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$1.280296 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$0.267053/\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$1.013243/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If City of Big Spring adopts a 2008 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.938976 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2007 taxes by \$9,852.

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
M&O (General Funds)	\$5,788,604
I&S-2002 Refunding G.O. Bonds	\$102,634
I&S-2007 Series G.O. Bonds	\$84,781
I&S-2007 Certificates of Obligation	\$4,526

Schedule B - 2008 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
General Obligation Bonds				
2002 Refunding Series	\$220,000	\$4,400	\$500	\$224,900
2007 Series	\$500,000	\$610,456	\$500	\$1,110,956
Certificates of Obligations			\$250	\$33,863
2007 Series	\$15,000	\$18,613		
Total required for 2008 debt service				\$1,369,719
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$0
- Excess collections last year				\$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2008				\$1,369,719
Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95% of its taxes in 2008				\$72,090
= Total Debt Levy				\$1,441,809

Schedule C - Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax

(For hospital districts, cities and counties with additional sales tax to reduce property taxes) In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$1,399,617 in additional sales and use tax revenues. For County: The county has excluded any amount that is or will be distributed for economic development grants from this amount of expected sales tax revenue.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 315 Main (County Annex Bldg.)

Name of person preparing this notice KATHY A. SAYLES, RTA
Title TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR
Date prepared August 12, 2008

12912

SWIMMING

Continued from Page 1B

said Hoff, who swam the anchor leg.

She couldn't be blamed for this one. Hoff swam the second-fastest 200 of anyone but dove in the water too far behind to catch the Aussies.

The Chinese crowd roared when Liu Zige won the women's 200-meter butterfly, setting a world record of 2:04.18. Jiao Liuyang also went under the previous best to give the teammates a 1-2 finish.

Kitajima completed a historic second straight Olympic double with a win in the 200 breaststroke, the first swimmer to claim gold in both the 100 and 200 at consecutive games.

Bernard was eager to make up for getting caught on the anchor leg in the 400 free relay, and he did just that by edging Australian rival Eamon Sullivan in the 100 free-style. It was a bit of a let-down, though, when the furious race failed to set a world record, which has become the norm at the Beijing Games.

Bernard and Sullivan traded off the record in the semifinals, the Aussie winding up with the ultimate mark of 47.05. They were stroke for stroke throughout the down-and-back final, but it was Bernard who touched first in 47.21. Sullivan claimed silver in 47.32, while Jason Lezak of the U.S. and Brazil's Cesar Cielo shared

the bronze.

With five golds and five world records already, Phelps merely had to get by the semifinals of the 200 IM. No problem. He won his heat and moved on to Friday with the second-best qualifying time, 1:57.70. Fellow American and leading rival Ryan Lochte posted the top time of 1:57.69, ensuring they'll be side by side for the final.

Lochte had a busy morning, also qualifying for the final of the 200 backstroke. He advanced with the second-best time, 1:55.40, trailing teammate Aaron Peirsol's 1:55.26.

Now, Lochte faces a daunting doubleheader: He'll go against Peirsol, the guy with whom he shares the world record in the 200 back, then come right back to race against medley record-holder Phelps, using all four strokes.

Pieter van den Hoogenband called it a career. The 30-year-old Flying Dutchman announced his retirement immediately after a fifth-place finish ruined his hopes of winning a third straight gold in the 100 free.

Liu was stunned by her triumph in the 200 fly, though she brushed off questions about whether the Chinese held her out of major meets so they could spring her on the world at Beijing.

Liu's time was more than a second below the previous record of 2:05.40 set two years ago by Australia's

Jess Schipper, who could only manage a bronze against the two Chinese.

Kitajima lived up to his favorite's billing in the 200 breast, winning easily in 2:07.64 but coming up 0.13 short of his own world record, set in June. With top rival Brendan Hansen not even in the field — he shockingly failed to qualify for the event at the U.S. trials — Kitajima finished a half-body length ahead of silver medalist Brenton Rickard of Australia (2:08.88) to match his two breaststroke golds in Athens four years ago. France's Hugues Duboscq claimed the bronze.

"I was so calm that I think I could have seen each face in this venue," Kitajima said. "I enjoyed my race."

So did Lezak, the oldest man on the U.S. swim team at 32.

After chasing chased down Bernard in the relay to make sure Phelps stayed on course for eight gold medals, Lezak added to his tally with the first individual medal of his Olympic career.

Four years ago, Lezak made a grievous mistake in the preliminaries of the 100 free. He tried to conserve his energy in the preliminaries and wound up getting eliminated.

"It's been eating at me for a long time," the three-time Olympian said. "So to go out there and accomplish a medal is really exciting. It doesn't top the relay medal, but it's something I've been pushing for for four years."

MARSHALL

Continued from Page 1B

he suggested Marshall could one day be better.

"It ain't a comparison right now," Smith said. "If you compare him five, six years from now, then it's a comparison. You can't compare them right now. T.O.'s one of the top receivers in the league consistently for a reason. The guy's got tremendous work habits."

So does Marshall, but Owens' track record is much longer.

T.O., who is 11 years older than the 24-year-old Marshall, has 882 catches for 13,070 yards and 129 touchdowns.

Baby T.O. has baby numbers by comparison: 122 catches for 1,634 yards and nine TDs.

OK, what about comparing their numbers after two seasons?

Owens had 95 receptions for 1,456 yards and 12 TDs, pretty similar to

Marshall's.

Last season?

Owens caught 81 passes for 1,255 yards and 15 touchdowns, Marshall, 102 catches for 1,325 yards and seven touchdowns, plus fewer drops than T.O., to be sure.

Marshall said Owens is just one of many elite receivers he's studied extensively to try to emulate their moves, their strategies, their success.

"I'm definitely my own guy and I try to do my own thing. I don't just break down Terrell Owens," said Marshall, who was sporting a T-shirt given him by Owens between workouts. "I break down the top receivers, whether it's (Larry) Fitzgerald, Braylon Edwards, (fellow Central Florida alum and Jacksonville backup) Mike Walker. Those are the guys I'm always breaking down — and Terrell Owens."

As for Owens, he said he doesn't mind the constant comparisons to Marshall.

"I take that as a compliment," he said.

And yes, Owens sees the similarities.


"He's a big receiver. He's very aggressive. He'll go get the ball and he can make things happen once he gets the ball in his hands," Owens said. "They have a good guy in Brandon. He's going to be a guy that will be around here for a while."

Providing he can straighten out his personal life, suggested Smith, who's still serving as Marshall's mentor in retirement.

Marshall is facing a three-game suspension for violating the league's personal conduct code, a penalty he can reduce by a game if he seeks counseling.

Physically, Owens (6 feet 3, 218 pounds) and Marshall (6-5, 230) are remarkably similar.

"Yeah, but football is not always physical," Smith said. "And that's some of the problems that we have with sports is just because a guy can run, jump and catch, it's 'Oh, he can be this, he can be that.' The 6 inches, the muscle between your ears is the most important one."



By Steve Becker

Try the Impossible

NORTH

♦ J 10 9 8 7
♥ A 3
♦ 9 8 7
♣ A 5 4

WEST

♠ 6 5 4
♥ Q J 10 8 7 6 5 4
♦ Q
♣ Q

EAST

♠ —
♥ 9
♦ K J 10 6 3 2
♣ K J 10 6 3 2

SOUTH

♠ A K Q 3 2
♥ K 2
♦ A 5 4
♣ 9 8 7

Final contract — four spades.
Opening lead — queen of hearts.
It is an ancient privilege accorded to kibitzers and irate partners alike to point out — after play is completed — how declarer should have played and made the contract he has just finished butchering.
In fact, I have it on excellent authority that this right to criticize declarer's play and call attention to his ineptitude — after the location of all 52 cards is known — was one of the many pledges exacted from King John at Runnymede when he agreed to sign the Magna Carta back in 1215 A.D.
Whether this actually occurred I have no way of knowing, but that the hideous practice of double-dummying partner to teach him the finer points of the game still goes on, no one would dare gainsay.
All of which leads us to today's unusual exercise where kibitzer, butcher and teacher alike are all challenged to score 10 tricks with spades as trumps.
This is strictly a double-dummy affair, by which is meant that the reader is invited — nay, urged — to study all four hands and take full advantage of seeing the opposing cards. Of course, best defense is assumed.
To get right to the meat of the matter, all declarer has to do to make the contract is to win the opening heart lead with the ace and be sure to play his king on it! This extraordinary stroke increases South's losers from four to five — but at the same time it renders the defense helpless. Without this highly unusual play, four spades cannot be made.
Three rounds of trumps are next drawn, after which South cashes the ace of clubs and ace of diamonds. West is then presented with his heart trick. Not only that, but West is also allowed to win the next two heart leads while dummy discards two diamonds and declarer two clubs.
South then takes the rest of the tricks, since he is now in position to trump two diamonds in dummy and two clubs in his hand.

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Courtesy photo

This is the first yard selection with the partnership of the City's Code Enforcement "Doing Your Part" recognition and "Keep Big Spring Beautiful" beautification award for the month of August. This month's award goes to Lonnie Ransom of 1417 11th Place. He is congratulated by his councilman, Greg Biddison, left, Biddison's son Tanner, and KBSB board members Pat Simmons and Debbie Wegman.

White Americans no longer a majority by 2042

By **STEPHEN OHLEMACHER**

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — White people will no longer make up a majority of Americans by 2042, according to new government projections. That's eight years sooner than previous estimates, made in 2004.

The nation has been growing more diverse for decades, but the process has sped up through immigration and higher birth rates among minority residents, especially Hispan-

ics.

It is also growing older.

"The white population is older and very much centered around the aging baby boomers who are well past their high fertility years," said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. "The future of America is epitomized by the young people today. They are basically the melting pot we are going to see in the future."

The Census Bureau Thursday released population projections through 2050, based on rates for births, deaths and immigration. They are subject to big revisions, depending on immigration policy, cultural changes and natural or manmade disasters.

The U.S. has nearly 305 million people today. The population is projected to hit 400 million in 2039 and 439 million in 2050.

STABBING

Continued from Page 1A

sult of a domestic dispute

between Cates and 43-year-old Henry Backes.

"Cates identified Backes as the person who stabbed him," said Hall. "Backes

also admitted to stabbing him. The incident took place at Backes' home and the matter is still under investigation. No arrests

have been made at this time."

Hall confirmed Backes is married to Cates' ex-wife, but declined to go into de-

tail as to what caused the altercation between the two men, citing an open investigation.

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

LEADERS

Continued from Page 1A

that will be ready and willing to play a bigger part in our community," she said.

The program is held every second Thursday of the month for the next 10 months.

The Leadership Big Spring Class of 2008-2009 is comprised of: Beth Ann Allen, Cornell Companies; Chad Averette, City of Big Spring; Philip Childs, Cornell Companies; Vance Christie - Wells Fargo; Nancy Crenshaw, City of Big Spring; Bahola DeLeon, VA Hospital; Heather Del Valle, City of Big Spring; Robert

Downing, Western Container; Malinda Flenniken, KBST Radio; Selma Garcia, Federal Prison; Somer Gaskins, First Bank of West Texas; Jesse Griffin, Federal Prison; the Rev. Bernard Gully, Holy Trinity Catholic Parish; Robert Kerr, Texas State Veterans Home; Richard Light, Holy Trinity Catholic Parish;

Jason Mims, Howard College; Al Moore, Cornell Companies; Kathy Sheppard, Cattle Feeds, Ltd.; Linda Sjogren, City of Big Spring; Brenda Tubb, Howard County; Derek Wash, Farm Bureau Ins.; Kathy Weldon, SWCID; Michael Willard, Howard College; Leslie Williams, VA Hospital; and Karen Wingert, Big

Spring Education Employees FCU.

TAX FREE

Continued from Page 1A

law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt.

According to a list released by the Comptroller's Office, a backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the

sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags.

The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffel/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller, according to the list.

Among items approved

for the tax-free holiday are baby clothes, boots, caps and hats, coats, gym suits and uniforms, jeans, football and baseball jerseys, raincoats and ponchos, shoes and socks, underclothes and work clothes and uniforms.

Items not approved for the holiday include baseball cleats and pants; belt buckles without a belt; boots specifically for climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, skiing or wading; football pants; handbags and purses; hard hats and helmets; and cleated shoes, such as golf shoes,

bowling shoes or bicycle shoes.

A list of items that will be tax exempt during the sales tax holiday is available on the Comptroller's Web site at <http://www.window.state.tx.us>.

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

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◆ MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR, THE (PG-13) 12:50 PM 4:00 PM 7:10 PM 10:00 PM

◆ PINEAPPLE EXPRESS (R) 1:00 PM 4:10 PM 7:20 PM 10:30 PM

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24th & Johnson 267-8288

Dorothy Drennan, 80, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 11:00 AM Friday at Westbrook Cemetery.

Martha Noyola, 53, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Auction
Estates and Select Consignments
Saturday August 16th 10AM - Preview Friday 10am-3pm
1009 W Industrial Midland, Texas

Firearms: Colt, Walther, Shotguns and others. Coins: Carson City, Graded Morgans, Rolls Mercury Dimes, Fugio cent, Auto: 1994 Executive Series Lincoln Towncar, Art: Peter Sculthorpe Print, BR Gates, and others, Native American Sand Paintings and Weavings, Silver Taxco Jewelry, Collectibles: Antique Golf Clubs, Fly Rods, Lures, Letter & Number Punches, Franciscan Desert Rose, Salt Glaze Jug, Buttons, McCoy, vintage Pinball, Ammo, Singer Featherweight, Old Radio and TV Tubes, Radios, Primitives, Girl Scout, African Carvings, Bicycles, Canon A-1 Camera and Lenses, Appliances, Furniture, Tires, Tools, Much More, Still coming in . . .

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

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NA AUCTIONS
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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

The Olympics illustrate many life lessons. They remind us that some people are passionate and dedicated to a life goal. They convict our consciences as we regret our lack of discipline. They portray the beauty of teamwork and cooperation. They instruct us about diligence, encouragement and perseverance. The Olympics teach us appreciation for representing a cause bigger than ourselves. They help us understand the difference between a hobby and a passion.

A lot of people treat Christianity as a hobby. They appreciate the idea of a goal but fail to passionately strive for the goal. They occasionally dabble in Bible study, but are more prone to spectate than to participate. By contrast, the apostle Paul wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing." (2 Timothy 4:6-7).

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Sunday Worship.....10:20 AM
Sunday Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

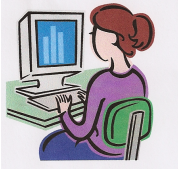
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Garage Sales

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

2508 CENTRAL, Saturday 9-2. Lots of goodies to see. Furniture, new Home Interiors, clothes small plus, sectional with sofa bed & recliner, occasional tables.

4 FAMILY Backyard Sale. 1507 East 17th. Saturday 8:00-? Toys, decor items, bed spreads, clothes (all sizes) and Toddler clothes, shoes, dishes, tires and lots more.

4 FAMILY Garage Sale: 2500 Central, Fri. & Sat. 8-? Maternity clothes, little girl clothes, stereo, lots of shoes.

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.

Garage Sales

6 FAMILY Garage Sale, Saturday Only! 7:00am-? 700 West 18th St. Jet skis, baby clothes, adult clothes, too much to list!

7 FAMILY Inside Sale. 1616 Harding St. Saturday, 8am-? Too much to list!

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.

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!

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 1202 Pennsylvania, Friday & Saturday 7-? Kids clothing, adult clothing, furniture and misc. items.

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

Help Wanted

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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.

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EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

Isaac Hayes,
making art as
he went along

Isaac Hayes, who died Sunday at age 65, was a pivotal figure in American popular music, film, fashion and TV. Composer, singer, multi-instrumentalist, he helped spawn soul, funk, hip-hop and rap.

His life and career are studies in homemade American art. Born in Covington, Tenn., Hayes picked cotton as a boy, was raised on his grandparents' sharecropping farm, and learned to play keyboards, trumpet and woodwinds. He also largely taught himself to read music, leading to his career (not enough credited) as an arranger.

His music is everywhere. With songwriting partner David Porter, he wrote, among other hits, the Sam and Dave tunes "Soul Man" and "Hold On, I'm Comin'," which helped propel the Stax label (itself a homemade business in Memphis, Tenn.) into a national powerhouse. Stax gave him a contract, and his second album was the brilliant, breakaway "Hot Buttered Soul." His music combined persuasive emotion, innovative production, and an often irresistible beat.

That's all on display in his biggest hit, 1971's "Theme from Shaft," for which he won two Grammys, plus an Oscar for Best Original Song in a Motion Picture (he was the first black to win that award). Propelled by Charles "Skip" Pitts' percussive wah-wah guitar, the tune is permanent on playlists around the world. Hip-hop and rap artists often credit Hayes' spoken-word verses as the beginnings of their art.

He also broke ground with his "Black Moses" look: shaved head, sunglasses, chains, hoods, bare arms and chest. His hypersexual male image helped create a much-copied urban fashion movement still going strong in rap and hip-hop fashion.

New generations came to know Hayes as the voice of Chef on Comedy Central's "South Park." The role was self-satire, with Chef — the cook at a grade school cafeteria — making lascivious remarks and bursting into funky song. Hayes left the show in 2006, reportedly after a dispute over one episode's mockery of Scientology, which he practiced.

When elected to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002, Hayes said of his career that "I didn't know what was unfolding." Like many American artists, he made it up as he went along, and in so doing created valuable art that wasn't there before.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

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

Help us to always remember, Lord, that when our lives are in turmoil, we can always turn to You and Your grace. Amen

Free the oil — and other sick tricks

Earlier in the presidential campaign, when John McCain and Hillary Rodham Clinton called for a summer holiday on the 18.4-cent-per-gallon federal gasoline tax, Barack Obama dismissed the tax vacation as an election-year gimmick that offered financially squeezed families "just pennies." I wrote that, unlike Clinton and McCain, Obama "stood tall in opposing the gas-tax holiday."

Now we know why. Obama must have seen the gas-tax holiday as chump change in the wondrous store of campaign gimmicks. When Obama panders, he panders big-time. Witness his proposed "emergency energy rebate" that — on the heels of this year's \$600 per taxpayer stimulus package rebate sent to taxpayers this year — promises additional \$500 checks for American workers or \$1,000 per family "as soon as this fall." (Is there an income cap for how Obama defines eligible "working families"? The campaign did not get back to me on that by my deadline.)

To hear Obama, the check is practically in the mail. Obama argues that his plan is fiscally responsible because he would pay for it by levying a "reasonable" tax on oil companies' windfall profits. The candidate has pointed to Exxon Mobil's record profits — \$22.6 billion in the first half of this year — to justify his raid on its earnings.

Less reported, Investors Business Daily editorialized, are the record taxes Exxon Mobil paid in the same period — \$61.7 billion.

Also, "Exxon made a dime on a dollar in 2007. The oil and gas industry as a whole made 8.3 percent, compared with 8.9 percent of all U.S. manufacturing." So why whack Big Oil?

According to Stanford economist John Taylor, who is a McCain adviser, raising taxes on oil companies likely "will raise the price of gasoline."

If critics are right, and a windfall profits tax raises gas prices or leads to a drop in domestic oil output, which only worsens America's chronic dependence on foreign oil, then what? Another emergency energy rebate check?

In a clever effort to dress up his big-time pander as a high-minded position, Obama has suggested that McCain is "in the pocket of Big Oil."

Obama points out that McCain wants to lower Exxon Mobil's tax bill — which is true, because McCain wants to lower all the corporate tax rates to 25 percent to create jobs.

McCainiacs respond by noting that Obama voted for the 2005 omnibus energy bill — signed by President Bush — which gave oil companies specific tax breaks. For that very reason, McCain voted no.

Many in the press have faulted Camp McCain for being too cute in taking on Obama's energy plans. Hence the stories about McCain aides handing out tire gauges labeled "Obama Energy Plan" in response to Obama's stump statement, "We could save all the oil

that they're talking about getting off drilling, if everybody was just inflating their tires."

I'll take the tire gauges over Obama's \$1,000 pander. Ditto Obama's huge flip-flop on the 70 million barrel Strategic Petroleum Reserve. In July, when other Democrats were clamoring for a release of the oil, Obama had the fortitude to argue that the reserve should be saved for "a genuine emergency," like a terrorist attack. Now he says he wants to free the oil.

Slick. Mayhap, instead of tire gauges, McCain's Navy should be handing out \$500 bills in Monopoly money. Or a pair of earrings.

Last month, Michelle Obama said of the \$600 stimulus rebate checks: "You're getting \$600 — what can you do with that? Not to be ungrateful or anything, but maybe it pays down a bill, but it doesn't pay down every bill every month. The short-term quick fix kinda stuff sounds good, and it may even feel good that first month when you get that check, and then you go out and you buy a pair of earrings."

Now, I've never spent \$600 for a pair of earrings. But in the event of an emergency — which requires the releasing of petroleum and mailing \$1,000 checks to working families — I could learn to sacrifice.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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China's future clouded by uncertainty

What will the dragon breathe in the years after the 2008 Summer Olympics conclude?

Will it be fresh air in the form of expanded economic reform, political change and environmental concern - or rhetorical smoke to continue justifying an overly intrusive governmental hand?

I asked myself a similar question during a visit to China in 2001, after listening to a group representing the Beijing Olympic Committee make its pitch for the privilege of hosting the games. And I found myself asking it again when the International Olympic Committee announced Beijing as its choice a few months later.

Today, as unquestionably spectacular ceremonies and contests unfold in and around the Beijing National Stadium, the answers remain unclear.

China's rulers would have us believe that broader reform is not only inevitable but reflective of their own intentions. Mere days before the games started, President Hu Jintao outlined a plan for "comprehensive" economic and political reforms in the wake of the Olympics.

Although I sincerely hope that is what happens, I also understand how a moribund ideology — and communism is indeed such a beast — can bite and claw as it struggles to hold on to what it once fully

claimed. Consider Beijing's brutal crackdown in Tibet on the eve of the games. Ultimately, though, the death throes cannot last. Whether China's leaders truly wish it or not, the games signify the freedom to soar that they cannot artificially restrict for much longer.

The issue of further economic reform, with the goal of encouraging stable growth, is of necessity No. 1. To do otherwise - especially given recent signs of the global economic slowdown's effect on China - would present the leadership with its worst nightmare: the failure to bring an increasing number of Chinese into better economic circumstances. Absent such success, which has provided the communists a prop for decades, the much-touted, widespread satisfaction of the Chinese people would quickly disappear.

The topic of political change naturally and closely follows that of economic reform. For Hu to mention the subject with such prominence in connection with the Olympics was clearly significant. But is it realistic to think in terms of political developments that could match China's economic gains?

Perhaps not on the accelerated schedule that I have in mind, but it is possible. Imagine what could happen in China if, for example, the government extended its experiments with village democracy to higher levels. Over time, along with other reforms, it would not be far-fetched for China to evolve into a "Big Taiwan."

In that direction would lie in-

spiring possibilities, particularly in light of the much-improved relationship between Beijing and Taipei, largely driven by the commitment of President Ma Ying-jeou, Taiwan's recently elected leader, to reach out to China.

Finally, the environment. I have seen China's pollution and other environmental problems - mainly the consequence of mind-boggling growth - at their worst. And I have listened to Beijing's promises to make improvements and turn the Olympics into a "green showcase." While not meeting everyone's expectations, China has made unmistakable progress in various areas. Can it be sustained and will an incentive still exist once the Olympic spotlight goes away?

One reason for optimism is that the resources exist. A country that can spend \$42 billion to host the Olympics obviously has the means to raise environmental protection to a consistently high priority - without compromising prosperity. In any case, during the long term, it is in China's best interest, and the planet's, for that to occur.

For too long, the dragon has breathed smoke. The people of China and the world deserve an era of fresh air.

John C. Bersia, who won a Pulitzer Prize in editorial writing for the Orlando Sentinel in 2000, is the special assistant to the president for global perspectives at the University of Central Florida. Readers may send him e-mail at johnbersia@msn.com.



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MAZDASPEED3 delivers performance in 5-door hatchback

It was difficult to tell who was more impressed with this week's test vehicle.

My youngest son Alex, who is two months away from becoming a licensed

driver, has long been a frequent consultant for my car columns — seeing as how we spend a lot of time in the car together with me pretty much being

important than horsepower when rating a car's performance, right?"

I was absolutely stunned. All these years I never thought he was paying that much attention to our

car talks. I was literally beaming.

"Yes, it does, and it's 263 horsepower and 280 lbs.-ft. of torque," I told him.

"Your test car has the Bose sound system with seven speakers, so I'm guessing this is the Grand Touring trim line, right?"

Good thing I was wearing my sunglasses because I was about to cry.

"Right again," I said. "I take it you've been doing a little research on the Internet."

"A little," he said. "You know dad, not only is the MAZDASPEED3 a sporty car that looks really cool, it's also very safe."

"Tell me about it," I said, wanting to see how thorough his research went.

"Well, I know its body is more rigid, which is supposed to help with handling as well as make it safer. It also has larger brakes with ADS."

"You mean ABS — anti-lock brakes," I interjected.

"That's what I said, ABS. Really, dad, when's the last time you had your hearing checked?"

"Anyway, the MAZDASPEED3 has ABS,

RIDE & DRIVE
with Neal White



The 2008 Mazda MAZDASPEED3

some kind of stability control system."

"That would be dynamic stability control," I said.

"That, dual front airbags, side airbags for the front seat and side curtain airbags for both the front and back seats," he said.

"Not bad," I said, asking, "Is it front- or rear-wheel drive?"

"Front?"

"Correct again," I said. "How many doors?"

"Four?"

"Close. This is a hatchback, so you count the rear door, which makes this a five-door."

I could almost see the light bulb going on over his head.

"Dad, you know I'll be getting my driver's license in a couple of weeks

and, you know, well, just in case you and mom were thinking about getting me a car so you wouldn't have to drive me around everywhere, well, you know, this is a car I wouldn't mind having."

"Is that so?"

"You know, just in case you guys were considering something, I just thought I'd throw that out there, you know, just in

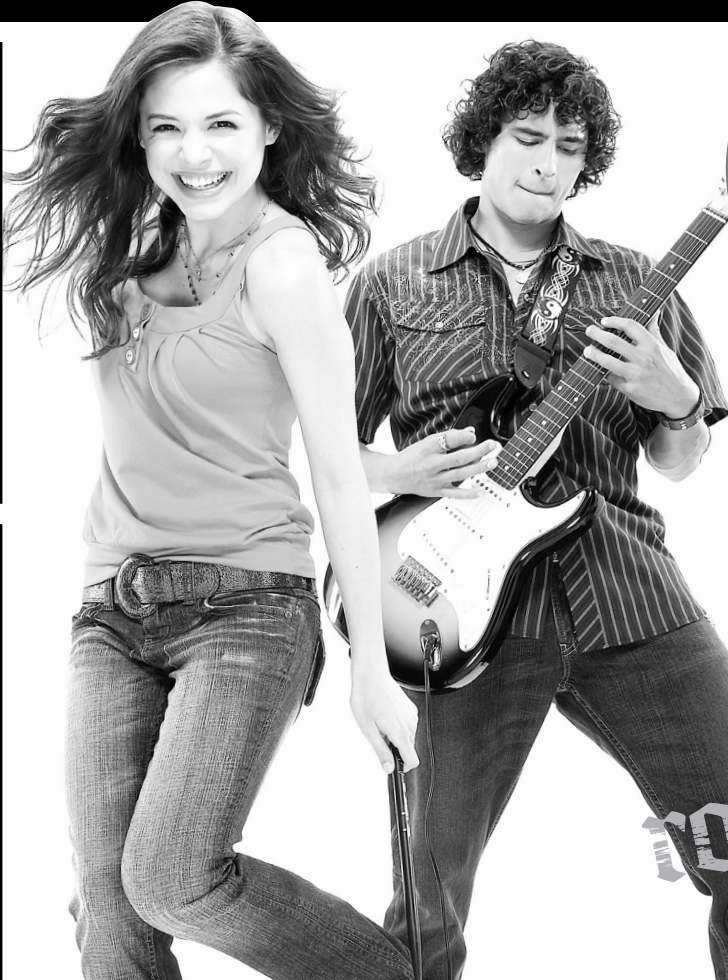
case," he said. Like father, like son.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com.

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THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2008 Mazda MAZDASPEED3 5-seat performance hatchback Front-wheel drive Trim packages: Base, Grand Touring

PRICE RANGE: \$23,000-\$25,000

ENGINE: 2.3-L turbo I-4 (263 hp/280-T)

TRANSMISSION: 6-speed manual EPA: 18 mpg city, 26 mpg highway

FUEL: Premium unleaded

SUSPENSION: MacPherson Independent struts (front); independent multi-link (rear). **BRAKES:** ABS with electronic brakeforce distribution with brake assist and dynamic stability control.

LENGTH: 176.8 inches **WHEELBASE:** 103.9 inches **WIDTH:** 69.5 inches **HEIGHT:** 57.7 inches **WEIGHT:** 3,153 lbs. **TIRES:** 18-inch

SAFETY: Anti-whiplash front seats, dual front airbags, seat-mounted front seat side airbags, roof-mounted side impact air curtains, tire pressure monitoring system, theft-deterrent security system, LATCH child seat anchors.

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Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas, 79792, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 4, 2008, for the purchase of **One Backhoe Loader.**

At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

This project consists of supply and delivery of one backhoe loader. Specifications are available and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 during normal business hours. Inquiries regarding equipment specifications are to be delivered to **Ryan Sayles, Staff Engineer**, telephone, (432)267-6341, email: rrs@crwd.org. #5865 August 7, 14, & 21, 2008.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

As we head into the Aquarius full moon eclipse energy arriving t h i s



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Saturday, the cosmos are already electrically charged, activating extreme emotional ups and downs. Pay attention to b r e a k - throughs in your thinking, but don't worry your mind! A large picture is unfolding, so remain present and you'll arrive at your destination.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your solo projects get a push. Supportive people offer to help you, which could come as a surprise. You've been doing so well on your own that you're not even sure how to accept the aid you're given.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A water-sign friend (Cancer, Scorpio or Pisces) is so dialed into you that he or she seems able to read your mind. To this person, even in your quiet contemplation you are living out loud.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're bold. You're inclined to approach that unapproachable someone. Your efforts to extend yourself in a bigger and more confident way have immediate benefits.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Tonight, get outside and look at the moon, your guiding luminary. That loveable glowing

Tomorrow's Horoscope

orbiter acts as a point of concentration that centers you. The mental chatter goes away. Ah, sweet clarity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your social swirl is an easy equation to figure out. All you need are three things to stay happily in the mix: You need time alone, time with loved ones and time with people you don't know at all. Make it happen.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Travel is favored, and it doesn't have to be far in order for you to get the full effect, either. Get out and do something different and you'll be glad to return to your familiar people and activities tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're already a visually oriented person, but today your aesthetic sense is even more honed than usual. You know what you like and what you don't, and will enjoy being in a position to make your environment more beautiful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The work that follows a formula isn't as fun for you now as the unexpected, complicated and challenging jobs that come along. The same goes for your fun. It's no accident that you choose to play with a difficult person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You think you're being observant, but conclusions are difficult to draw. Nothing is adding up. The truth of the matter may be quite opposite to how it appears. Give this puzzle a little more time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Family dynamics are changing due to your positive influence. It's not always easy for you to stay on the bright side, but it's important. Life rewards you fully every time you do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The rules for the airport and the rules for life are the same: Don't pick up any baggage that doesn't belong for you. At best, doing so is an awkward mistake and at worst, it's downright dangerous.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you're slightly uncomfortable in a new role, chalk it up to growing pains. Pat yourself on the back for being willing to expand your awareness and influence. You're going to be ready for the big opportunities on the horizon.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I am a Cancer born July 11, 1978. For the past eight years I have been happily single. At the beginning of the year I decided to look for a serious romantic relationship and have "put myself out there" to no avail. I even tried the online dating thing. Am I destined to be single forever?"

Let's see, you spent eight years happily single, it's been eight months since you've begun looking for love and you're already contemplating retirement! Online dating might not be the best way for the crab to find love (too competitive and heartless). Try closer to home -- better yet, around food, like bumping into someone at the farmers

market. Cancer, putting yourself out there is less "out there" and more "in here." You do your best love magic internally by preparing the ground for love to come, i.e., listening to your intuition about this or that guy, and remaining dewy and come-hither. With Venus and Saturn joined in your chart, love will be lasting and true, eventually. However, you may need to work through self-doubts and confidence issues first. Also, this is a classic Spring-Winter combination, so be open to dating mature men.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Leo people often get a bum rap for being vain or egocentric about their abilities. Insecurity is often the culprit. Leo actor Steve Carell has capitalized on this, making comedic parody out of personalities who come off as overconfident but can't see their own shadow. In reality, the Leo person's need to shine is often counterbalanced by exceptional humility -- as is the case with Steve.

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

Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My co-workers and I are experiencing a very awkward situation. I work for a large company. My department consists of a dozen employees and one female supervisor (I am her assistant).

About eight months ago, a supervisor for another department (male) was hired. Our departments have to work together, but these two supervisors seem to be carrying it to another level. They are always together and, if not in the same room, they are on the telephone whispering and giggling. My supervisor is married. The other one is divorced.

At first, I thought my uneasiness was due to jealousy because my supervisor and I had become good friends and often spent time together socially. Now I'm not so sure. Snide remarks are circulating among the staff, although no one has actually confronted them. The situation puts us all in an awkward and uncomfortable position, and sometimes things get tense in the office.

I have never told anyone that I happened to see them together (after hours) at a restaurant, an art gallery and a grocery store. I am fond of both my supervisor and her husband and feel as though I should say something, but what? I love this job and my co-workers, but the atmosphere is really getting to me. -- Bewildered Assistant

Dear Bewildered: Your supervisor and her friend may run the risk of being fired if their relationship goes further. You have no evidence of misbehavior, but she should be made aware of the rumors. Tell her you value the friendship and thought she should know what's being said, and that the relationship is creating a difficult work environment. Beyond that, please stay out of it.

Dear Annie: I have a problem with my next-door neighbor. He is a

band work, my parents' income must stretch over seven people.

When I was 16, I got a job to ease the burden on my parents, and I have endeavored to be self-sufficient ever since, unlike my greedy and spoiled sister who takes whatever handout she can get. I am going to a local university soon, mainly because it will cost less. I resent my sister and brother-in-law for putting so much strain on our family budget that it influenced my choice of college, and it certainly has damaged our relationship. -- Fed Up in Florida

Dear Fed Up: It's unfortunate that your parents don't realize they are hurting your sister's future by supporting her now, with the added bonus that they have alienated you. Hang in there.

Dear Annie: My frustration with my husband's lack of income has become so intense it's threatening our relationship. We've been married 15 years and have two kids. He's been self-employed since he was laid off five years ago. The first three years, his business seemed promising, but he hasn't been able to draw any salary at all for the past year.

I work full time. I also work part time in his business (with no pay). I've always been frugal and willing to sacrifice, but I'm tired of feeling poor even though I have a good job, a good education and am working 60 hours a week.

My husband has good sales skills and works hard, but his home business does not produce enough income to support our family and he has been unable to find other employment. He's looked at several different types of careers. We've tried

reworking his resume, networking, job placement services, online services and cold-calling businesses about current and future openings.

I waiver between being disappointed by him and worrying that I'm damaging his ego. I feel it's his responsibility to help financially support his family. I'm angry with him, the economy, employers who won't give him a chance and myself for feeling let down. Is there any way I can be satisfied with a good man who is a wonderful father and lover, but doesn't make any money? -- Frustrated Wife

Dear Wife: You apparently understand this is not your husband's fault, and you both seem to have tried all available avenues to improve the situation. Now you need to adjust your attitude. It's slightly old-fashioned to believe it's more your husband's responsibility to support the family than it is yours. Instead, can he do a greater share of household chores, cooking, laundry, etc.? Then convince yourself this arrangement is beneficial because he will be contributing more to the family well-being. You have a good man. Money isn't everything.

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

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5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Simpsons King-Hill	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Friends Raymond	Granger Brad	News Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	House, Sam Elliott	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards of Waverly Hills	Horn Interrupt	SportsCtr. Fantasy Draft
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Simpsons Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Friends Raymond	Granger Sanchez	News Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	House, Sam Elliott	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Heli Date	Wizards of Waverly Hills	Football E:60	City Slam
7 :PM	Ugly Betty	Ugly Betty	Diablo-Guapos	NFL Preseason	Big Brother 10	El Juramento	XXIX Summer Olympics	Friends Israel	Israel Sprma	Assembly Texas	Movie: Apollo 13, Kevin Bacon	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Blk Car Access	Montana Tape	Montana Tape	Montana Tape	Baseball Tonight
8 :PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Fuego en la Sangre	Football: Panthers at Eagles	CSI: Crime Scn	Doña Barbara	Flashpoint	Sin Senos	Movie: The Truman Show	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Out of Left Field	MythBusters	Bones	Movie: State Property 2	Wizards of Waverly Hills	Tape	Baseball Tonight
9 :PM	Private Practice	Private Practice	Rosa Guadalupe	Two Men	News	Noticias	Titulares	Sex & Sex & Van Impe	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: The Hunt for Red October, Scott Glenn	UFC Unleashed	Hell Date	Suite Life	MLS Soccer: Galaxy at Chivas USA	SportsCenter	
10 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	Titulares	Sex & Sex & Van Impe	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: The Hunt for Red October, Scott Glenn	UFC Unleashed	Hell Date	Suite Life	MLS Soccer: Galaxy at Chivas USA	SportsCenter	
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Deci	News	(10) Movie: Turbulence	Dr. Swallow	Smiley (Off Air)	Assembly Smash Lab	Real Vice	Movie: Screen, Courtney Cox	Diff Wild	So Raven	Phil	NFL Live	
12 :AM	Paydirt	Extra Paid	Amarte-Pecado	RENO 911 Lopez	Entertain	XXIX Summer Olym-	XXIX	(10) Movie: Vertical	Light of the Southwest	MythBusters	Movie: The China	Movie: The Russian	The X-Files	BET Late	Emperor Dragon	NFL Year	SportsCenter	
1 :AM	Paid	Paid	Clasicos Humor	RENO 911 King-Hill	Paid	XXIX	XXIX	(10) Movie: Vertical	Light of the Southwest	MythBusters	Movie: The China	Movie: The Russian	The X-Files	BET Late	Emperor Dragon	NFL Year	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I COULDN'T FIND THE KETCHUP, BUT CHOC-LIT SYRUP WORKS JUST AS GOOD!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"This isn't a vacation. It's just like our American history class in school."

HAGAR

HI, HELGA! I'M HOME FROM MY RAID ON SCOTLAND

OH, GOOD! DID YOU BRING ME BACK A GIFT?

ONLY IF YOU LIKE SCOTCH!

WATER POLO

SOMETHING TELLS ME WE'RE GONNA HEAR FROM THE ANIMAL RIGHTS PEOPLE ON THIS ONE.

DISCLAIMER: NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED IN THE INKING OF THIS STRIP

BLONDIE

HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING THE U.S. BASKETBALL TEAM AT THE OLYMPICS?

I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT SAME KIND OF TEAMWORK HERE AT THE OFFICE!

OBVIOUSLY, WE NEED MORE PRACTICE

WIZARD OF ID

I WISH I COULD FIND SOMEONE TO LOVE

BEING SINGLE ISN'T SO BAD...

I KIND OF LIKE HAVING MY OWN PAD

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 14, the 227th day of 2008. There are 139 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
One hundred years ago, on Aug. 14, 1908, rioting erupted in Springfield, Ill., as a white mob, enraged that two black criminal suspects (one later convicted of murder, the other exonerated of murder) had been spirited away from the city jail by authorities, began setting black-owned homes and businesses on fire. At least two blacks and five whites were killed in the violence. (The riot helped inspire the creation of the NAACP the following year.)

On this date:
In 1848, the Oregon Territory was created.
In 1900, international forces, including U.S. Marines, entered Beijing to put down the Boxer Rebellion, which was aimed at purging China of foreign influence.
In 1935, President Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law.

Birthdays: Pulitzer Prize-winning author Russell Baker is 83. Singer Buddy Greco is 82. Singer Dash Crofts is 70. Rock singer David Crosby is 67. Country singer Connie Smith is 67. Former jockey Robyn Smith Astaire is 64. Comedian-actor Steve Martin is 63. Singer-musician Larry Graham is 62. Actress Susan Saint James is 62. Author Danielle Steel is 61. Rock singer-musician Terry Adams (NRBQ) is 58. "Far Side" cartoonist Gary Larson is 58. Actor Carl Lumbly is 57. Film composer James Horner is 55. Actress Marcia Gay Harden is 49. Former basketball player Earvin "Magic" Johnson is 49. Singer Sarah Brightman is 48. Actress Susan Olsen is 47. Rock musician Keith Howland (Chicago) is 44. Actress Halle Berry is 42. Actress Catherine Bell is 40. Country musician Cody McCarver (Confederate Railroad) is 40. Rock musician Kevin Cadogan is 38. Actor Scott Michael Campbell is 37. Actress Lalanya Masters is 36. Actor Christopher Gorcham is 34. Actress Mila Kunis is 25.

Thought for Today: "Nothing is so soothing to our self-esteem as to find our bad traits in our forebears. It seems to absolve us." — Van Wyck Brooks, American author (1886-1963).

© 2008 The Associated Press.

AGNES

WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT THING?

THIS, MY FRIEND, IS A HIGH-DIVE CRASH TEST DUMMY.

I TOSS IT OFF, ASSESS THE MAIMING AND ADJUST MY SAFETY GEAR ACCORDINGLY.

ONE LEG FELL OFF ALREADY.

CHECK... NEED FOR LEG TO TORSO STRAP IS SO NOTED.

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- Belted, Biblically
- Morita of *The Karate Kid*
- Certain New Zealander
- Among the people
- Remove, as a broach
- Get a late start
- Assembly-instruction parts
- Washington performance venue
- Feminizing suffix
- Sound of fright
- Tailor's measurement
- Show flexibility
- Baseball great Mel
- Early afternoon
- Bikini, for one
- Temple neighbor
- List ender
- Most sincere attempt
- Work numbers, for short
- Curved shape
- Positive answers
- Road-crew goo
- Put away
- They're in the bag
- Grab up
- Supporting part
- Nashville (country record label)
- Traffic stopper
- More frigid

DOWN

- Had a talk
- Changes places
- Course events
- Go right, say
- "Anyone ___?"
- Hunted, with "on"
- Smart (wise guy)
- Use a keyboard
- Definitely should not
- Starts a pot
- Gilbert and Sullivan works
- Tear up
- Those with clout
- Plymouth Pilgrim
- Explosive stuff
- Conscious
- Gelatin shapers
- Sandwich orders
- Tiny trickster
- Loutish one
- Helps in wrongdoing
- Person from Plano
- Cast out
- List ender
- Lambs' mothers
- Solemn promises
- Aluminum source
- Reuben bread
- Oak products
- Graf's game
- Incite
- Like a shady lane
- They're studied by stars
- South American parrot
- Largest Greek island
- European viper
- CSI character
- Sudden breeze
- "Render ___ Caesar..."
- They're checked at some doors
- Maj.'s superior

ON THE COURT by Kevin Donovan
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
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61								62						63

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HI AND LOIS

WHAT A GAME!

WHO WON?

THE SCORE WAS TIED 27 TO 27

... IN THE THIRD INNING...

... AND IT WAS CALLED ON ACCOUNT OF DARKNESS.

THE OTHER COAST

AWW, HECK. ANOTHER BANK FAILURE.

SNUFFY SMITH

PAW !! HAVE YOU SEEN MY BUTTER AN' EGG MONEY ?!

NOPE !!

BEEBLE BAILEY

C'MON, OTTO! WHY CAN'T WE BE FRIENDS?

WE HAVE LOTS IN COMMON

LOOK! I HAVE DOG TAGS JUST LIKE YOU!

State Briefs

"Texas 7" gang member seeking accountability, volunteers for execution Thursday

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Michael Rodriguez's downfall began with an infatuation.

If he follows through with his plans to be held accountable, it ends Thursday evening in the Texas death chamber.

Rodriguez, 45, a key member of the "Texas 7" — a group of seven fugitives who broke out of a South Texas prison in one of the state's most notorious escapes — has dropped all his appeals and is volunteering for execution for his part in the killing of a Dallas-area police officer almost eight years ago.

"Whatever we do, there's restitution to be made," Rodriguez, 45, told The Associated Press in a recent interview outside death row. "But in this situation, the only thing I can do is be held accountable, and express sincere condolences."

Rodriguez's execution, the eighth this year in the nation's busiest death penalty state, would cap more than two years of efforts he initiated to short-circuit the appeals process and accelerate his punishment.

"Sadly, a lot of people got hurt," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez would be the first of the six surviving members of the infamous "Texas 7" to be executed.

Lawsuit filed in Texas bus crash

HOUSTON (AP) — A relative of three of the victims of the bus crash near Sherman is requesting unspecified actual and punitive damages in a lawsuit naming the vehicle's manufacturer, owner and driver.

Lau Pham's wife was injured and his mother-in-law, Cham Nguyen, and sister-in-law, Catherine Tran, were among the 17 who died as a result of the accident early last Friday.

Pham, who was not among the 55 passengers on the bus, filed a lawsuit Wednesday in state district court naming Angel de la Torre and his bus firms Angel Tours Inc., Iguala BusMex Inc. and Iguala Bus Ltd. Co. Also included were the bus driver, Barrett Wayne Broussard, and Motor Coach Industries Inc., the bus manufacturer.

Broussard is in a Sherman hospital in critical condition. None of the parties named in the lawsuit could be reached for comment, the Houston Chronicle report-

ed Thursday in its online edition. Repeated voicemail messages left by The Associated Press for de la Torre, including one Wednesday, have not been returned.

The lawsuit seeks compensation related to medical costs for Pham's wife, Bich Ngoc Tran.

"We want to know how can this happen. We want to find out the truth," Peter Pham, Lau Pham's son, told the newspaper.

State District Judge John T. Wooldridge granted a request included in the suit that prevents the bus or other evidence from being altered until Pham's attorneys and their accident experts can investigate them. Part of the evidence is a blown front tire which is suspected of causing the deadly crash.

"The physical evidence, the bus, the tire tell a story," said Rob Ammons, Lau Pham's attorney. "It's going to tell us what happened in the crash."

Texas child left in hot car dies

WEBSTER (AP) — A 3-year-old child is dead after police said he was left in a hot car all day in Webster.

Webster police say the child's grandmother, 44-year-old Donna Chesser, called 911 Wednesday when she left work and realized her grandson was still in the car. Police say she told them she apparently forgot to drop the boy off at day care on her way to work.

Police believe the child was in the car for 10 hours. No charges were filed and police said the case would be presented to a grand jury.

Webster is about 23 miles southeast of Houston.

The National Weather Service said the high at Houston Hobby Airport was 89 degrees with a heat index of 96 degrees.

Brazoria County judge accused of sexual harassment

ANGLETON (AP) — The State Commission on Judicial Conduct suspended Brazoria County Court at Law Judge James A. Blackstock with pay on Wednesday in connection with sexual harassment allegations raised by three female employees.

Brazoria County District Attorney Jeri Yenne charged Blackstock on Tuesday with 14 counts of misdemeanor official oppression between July 2007 and June 2008.

Under state law, official oppression hap-

pens when a public servant abuses his position to mistreat another person.

Blackstock is accused of sending lewd photos to them via cell phone and e-mail and inappropriately touching three female employees under their shirt and kissing them. The employees worked for the county's juvenile probation department.

The 61-year-old has been removed from the bench indefinitely.

Report: No child abuse found by investigators

HOUSTON (AP) — Child Protective Services has ended its investigation into abuse allegations of a 24-year-old mother whose five young children were kidnapped by a woman who had been caring for them.

The children were returned unharmed

and 44-year-old Rhonda Tavey was arrested and charged with five counts of kidnapping. She is free on bond.

CPS agency spokeswoman Estella Olgiun told the Houston Chronicle in its online edition Thursday that no abuse or wrongdoing was found and the family, quote, "has the right to go on with their everyday lives."

Harris County prosecutors have also said they found no evidence to support Tavey's claims of abuse.

Erica Alphonse, the children's mother and a Hurricane Katrina survivor, said she was pleased with the outcome. Tavey opened her home to the family after the hurricane.

Tavey's attorney Dick DeGuerin said that the CPS investigation did not go far enough.

It was unclear whether Tavey would continue her custody pursuit.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Glasscock County Independent School District will hold a public meeting on **August 25th, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.** in Glasscock County ISD Boardroom, Garden City, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.0401/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Tax Approved by Local Voters	\$.0500/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	25% increase or	_____% (decrease)
Debt service	_____% increase or	10% (decrease)
Total expenditures	15% increase or	_____% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$926,660,650.	\$1,230,517,600
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$1,458,560.	\$1,238,560.
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$785,766,660.	\$1,089,138,610
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$1,292,920.	\$1,039,850.

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$3,479,099.00
*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rate

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.0173	\$0.08000*	\$1.09730	\$12,569.	\$3,507
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.0033	\$0.04475	\$1.04809	\$14,235	\$1,870
Proposed Rate	\$1.0400	\$0.0500*	\$1.09100	\$15,314	\$1,870

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$41,389	\$44,178
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$27,357	\$28,965
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.0973	\$1.0901
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$300.18	\$315.17
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$14.99

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence home- stead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.0401. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.0401.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$1,343,219.00
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$14,791.00

Elmer "Edman" McMurray

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Thursday, August 21

3:00pm - 7pm

Big Spring H.E.B. on Gregg St.

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Please remember to give his full name.

Please keep him in your prayers.

Our Heart Felt Thanks

The McMurray Family



(AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

Stray cats browse for food given to them by women from the local charity "Save A Gato," along a rocky shore in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 19. Some say the cats are a tourist draw in the colonial district, just like the narrow cobblestone streets and fortresses overlooking the ocean. But many, including the Puerto Rican government, say the felines have become an unsightly nuisance, a health hazard and a blemish on the area's charm.

Cat fight brewing over San Juan's feral felines

By DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Call it the ultimate cat fight.

On an island that has come under fire for throwing dogs from bridges and euthanizing healthy racehorses, the animal rights debate has now turned to hundreds of feral cats that prowl Old San Juan.

Some say the cats are a tourist draw in the colonial district, just like the narrow cobblestone streets and fortresses overlooking the ocean.

But many, including the Puerto Rican government, say the felines have become an unsightly nuisance, a health hazard and a blemish on the area's charm.

Leading the critics is the Puerto Rican Health Department's chief veterinarian, Carlos Carazo Gilot, who proposes to herd the cats into one vacant building.

"Trash cans turned over, cat smells all over the city, cats with skin problems and lameness wandering in and out of vacated old buildings," said Carazo, ticking off his objections. "In my book, leaving cats to wander in the streets of San Juan is in itself cruelty to animals."

The community group Save a Gato says its program of trapping, neutering and releasing the felines has cut the population by more than half in the last three years. And past proposals to remove the cats have prompted thousands to sign petitions in protest.

"We want to make the cats' lives as good as possible," said Save a Gato president Sylvine Sherwood, a longtime Old San Juan resident. "We have a deep respect for life."

Either way, the cats are prowling the front lines in Puerto Rico's latest animal rights dustup. Last October, reports of pets that were seized from housing projects and thrown to their deaths brought global condemnation and triggered calls for tourist boycotts. An *Associated Press* investigation found that thousands of unwanted animals were tossed off bridges, buried alive and otherwise inhumanely disposed of by taxpayer-financed animal control programs.

Then in May, the AP reported that more than 400 former racehorses, many in perfect health, are killed each year by injection because owners find it too expensive to keep and feed them after they stop racing.

Feral cats in Old San Juan live on feedings by volunteers, who leave kibble and water where they dwell — along a scenic walkway below the Castillo San Felipe del Morro, the fortress dominating the entrance to San Juan Bay that is run by

the U.S. Park Service.

The mostly healthy looking cats, offspring of abandoned domestic pets, emerge from their shady refuges, switch their tails and warily eat their fill before slinking into crevices between shoreline rocks.

A few bold strays are sporadically seen napping on pews of the historic cathedral where Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon is interred. Parked cars are often overlaid with paw prints — or worse. But that doesn't deter the cat lovers.

"The cats are absolutely great for Old San Juan," said Lady Lee Andrews, whose souvenir and crafts shop sells feline-themed items to tourists who stroll the cobblestone streets during cruise stopovers. "They're not hurting anyone, and most visitors love them."

Sherwood said the trap, neuter and release process has helped cut the district's waterfront cat population from 250 in 2005 to about 85 currently. The program is an animal control model used in cities from New York to Buenos Aires.

And the cat colonies will continue to wither as more are neutered, said Save a Gato organizer Lesleigh Cox.

The U.S. Park Service, once an advocate of removing the cats, now agrees that neutering has cut the population significantly.

Park Superintendent Walter Chavez in 2004 proposed trapping the cats and removing them from the walkway under park jurisdiction. He shelved the idea when it sparked a letter-writing campaign and petitions signed by thousands of outraged activists, who said the cats would be euthanized.

But the U.S. island's government disputes Save a Gato's numbers.

Carazo says trap, neuter and release is not working because irresponsible pet owners keep dumping more animals, and sterilized cats still carry diseases.

He says the cats pose a host of health hazards, including toxoplasmosis, a parasite-borne infection transmitted by cat bites or scratches. It can cause serious complications for human fetuses and people with weak immune systems.

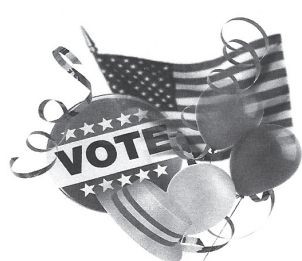
As a compromise, Carazo plans to meet with the San Juan municipal government about moving the wild cat colonies into abandoned buildings, where Save a Gato volunteers could run a shelter and place adoptable strays in homes.

Puerto Rico, where there is no pet registration law and little spaying or neutering, is "now learning about proper animal control and protection concepts," Carazo said. "We will keep working to solve this problem, hopefully without euthanizing any cat."

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Having found a good agent, stick with him year in and year out but occasionally have him cross quoted to ensure he is keeping his eye on your ball. Also keep him informed of changes. Insurance is not a once a year task!

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