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Joyce Hollingsworth of the Master Gardeners Club displays different types of plants to local fifth graders during the Ag in the Classroom presentation Wednesday at the Howard County Fair. The event was sponsored by the County Farm Bureau.

A child's-eye view of agriculture

Fifth-graders learn a bit about life on the farm

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

How do you shuck an ear of corn? Is a calf hurt when it's branded? What's a mother rabbit called?

Howard County fifth-graders learned that and a lot more during the opening day of the Howard County Fair Wednesday as they took part in the 21st annual Ag in the Classroom Demonstration hosted by the HC Farm Bureau.

Fifth graders from Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan and Ackerly learned about agriculture and its More fair news on Page 6A

importance to this area through a series of demonstrations, ranging from branding and horseshoeing to cotton ginning and tractor pulling.

"When the kids come out here, we find they really don't know anything about agriculture, so they get the chance to learn a lot of things," said Mike Moates of the farm bureau. "They learn things like what products are made from farm-related items, how a cotton gin works, just things they don't see much more of anymore.

The lessons were meant to be fun but instructive, Moates said. Children got to shuck their own corn and sit behind the wheel of a modern tractor and get up close to several types of farm animals. County Judge Mark Barr showed how to brand an animal, while Bud Cochrane explained the best way to

See FAIR, Page 3A

Combined services?

City, county officials say OK to feasibility study

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the city of Big Spring and Howard County have given the go-ahead for a study that could yield savings for area taxpayers by examining services provided by both government entities.

In separate meetings earlier this week, Howard County Commissioners Court and the Big Spring City Council both approved the study, which is expected to look at streamlining services provided to area residents.

According to Commissioner Bill Crooker, the See STUDY, Page 3A

idea for the study came from Dr. Gene Theodori, currently with Sam Houston State University.

"Dr. Theodori was with the University of Texas A&M a while back, and in charge of the RCCI (Rural Community College Initiative) program, which met periodically over a period of about 18 to 24 months," said Crooker. "That's where I first became acquainted with Dr. The-

"He recently called me with the proposition that he would assign a gradu-

BSHS duo 'commended' by national merit program

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Two Big Spring High School seniors were recently named Commended Students by the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.

James Bowen, the son of James Jr. and Alma Bowen, and Kade Parker, son of Stan and Shelley Parker, were recognized for achieving high scores on the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, said Molly Morris, senior counselor at the high

"They took the PSAT last October," Morris said. "The college board then selected their scores as commended."

See DUO, Page 3A

Large item collection slated Friday in District 6

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the city of Big Spring will look to wrap up a monumental year for its annual large item pickup program Fritheir attention on District 6.

"We've really had a productive year with the program," said Todd Darden. "The amount of trash we've collected re-

day, with city crews focusing ally picked up over the last few months. Last month we collected nearly 43 tons, which was very impressive. That's 43 tons of washing machines, sofas and other large items that would

otherwise be sitting on lawns and in back yards. So we're very pleased with the progress."

The program, which aims to help area residents remove large, cumbersome items from their property they might not otherwise be able to transport to the landfill, began in April in the city's District 1, and is slated to

See TRASH, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Find us online at: Opinion 4A www.bigspringherald.com **Sports**

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 Friday

Cowboy's Steakhouse on FM 700 is this week's Dine Out Restaurant assist-

ing the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County.

Proceeds from Friday's sales at Cowboy's Steakhouse will



benefit United Way. Future participating restaurants will include Greg's Grill.

267-6335

Help for veterans

The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties.

For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 257-9536.

e-waste collection

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will conduct an e-waste collection Saturday, Nov. 8, at a warehouse (300 E. First St.) in downtown Big Spring.

A list of e-waste to be accepted, such as obsolete computers, will be published prior to the event and made available at the Howard County Fair.

KBSB hopes to prevent e-waste from being discarded into the landfill, where it may cause serious ill effects if it eventually enters the groundwater and environment. Keep Big Spring Beautiful is an active civic organization.



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Thursday Page 1A 09-24.indd 1 9/25/08 11:18:29 AM

Sports

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Thursday, September 25, 2008

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Unbeaten Coahoma, Kermit battle at Bulldogs' homecoming

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — Excuse the Coahoma Bulldogs if they seem to have a bit more hop in their step and sway to their swagger.

That is what happens when your football team simply bulldozes their way to a perfect 4-0 start, relying on the play of running back P.J. Daylong, who leads the Bulldogs into their homecoming game at 7:30 p.m. Friday with Kermit's Yellow Jackets at Bulldog Stadium.

Last week against the Tahoka Bulldogs, Daylong once again had a big day, pounding his way for 175 yards on

25 carries in the 34-14 Coahoma win.

So far this season Daylong is posting a 125 yards per game, ripping off an astonishing 5.6 yards per run.

"P.J. has done a real good job for us so far," Bulldogs Head Coach Stacy Martin said. "All the boys have done everything we have asked of them this year. They have all bought into the new system."

The quarterback position is still a bit up in the air this week as starter Josh Paniagua has not been medically cleared to play after suffering a high ankle sprain against Forsan, once again forcing Pete Acosta into the role. It is one that Acosta has filled well this

year, according to Martin.

"Pete has done an excellent job filling in for Josh so far," Martin said. "We know that we are going to have to start being able to throw the ball more effectively if we are to continue our success in the ground game and we are hoping that we are able to get that going this

Even with a perfect record, Martin noted the Bulldogs still have not put together a complete game.

"We still saw a few things against Tahoka that we have to work on," he said. "We dropped quite a few passes

See **COAHOMA**, Page 3B



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Coahoma quarterback Josh Paniagua runs away from a defender in action against Forsan Sept. 5. Paniagua sprained his ankle in that game and will miss his third consecutive game Friday against Kermit. Coahoma has won two straight without him.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers running back Monte Anderson (3) cuts up the field as teammate Zamir Linton (6) looks to make a block and Matt Ritchey (9) follows the play in action from Big Spring's 18-6 win over Andrews last week. Anderson and the Steers' run game are averaging better than 6 yards a carry this season. The Steers face Sweetwater at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.

Steers seek revenge against Sweetwater

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Of the eight losses suffered by the Big Spring Steers last season, none stick out more to Head Coach Phillip Ritchev than the 40-0 drubbing handed out by the Sweetwater Mustangs.

"Sweetwater sticks out to me. They embarrassed us last year," recalled Ritchey. "This team hasn't forgotten about that. This game will mean a little more to them than it usually does because of that loss. We got beat bad by other



Ritchev

at least we put up some sort of fight to start those games. We never got a chance

against Sweetwater." The Steers (3-1) get chance at their revenge at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.

Last season, the Mustangs (3-1) took

teams last season, but the air out of Big Spring's sails before a reaction from the Steers could even be mustered. Sweetwater scored its first four touchdowns on just 11 offensive plays, racking up 267 yards mostly on the ground.

> The Mustangs led 34-0 at the half and finished the game with 324 rushing yards, throwing the football just twice. If any of the Steers' players had pushed that game to the back of their mind,

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Tough draw

Coming off first victory, Forsan faces No. 5 Iraan

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

FORSAN — Forsan's Buffaloes got their first win of the season last week, drumming the McCamey Badgers, 27-6, and in doing so found out one thing — winning can cure a lot of what ails a football

It makes the pains hurt a little less, makes practice seem a bit easier and can make losing seem like a distant memo-

However, even the biggest of victories can't heal bones or mend torn muscles and it definitely will not translate into a sure win the next time out.

The Buffs (1-3) will be able to attest to all of the above at 7:30 p.m. Friday night, as they travel to Iraan to take on the Braves, an opponent they have not had much luck with.

We have not beaten Iraan since I have beenhead coach," said Tommy Thompson, "but that doesn't mean we do not intend to Friday night. We have some injuries and we are on the road, but knocking off a state ranked opponent is always a big incentive. Our kids are excited and feel up to the challenge."

They will have to do it without the services of Jace Sandridge, who is still battling a nagging hamstring injury. As if losing Sandridge wasn't enough, another member of the Buffs' backfield, Aaron Valle, will be out with a knee injury.

Those injuries will definitely put a strain on quarterback Alex Huckabee, who will need to be successful running the spread offense for the Buffs.

"With what Iraan does defensively, we will have to operate out of the spread," Thompson said. "They will run a 3-3

See FORSAN, Page 2B

Area roundup: Grady welcomes home alumni

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LENORAH — Grady's Wildcats (3-1) finally put together a performance similar to the ones from last season in a 52-6 win over Midland Trinity last week. Expectations were high for the

Wildcats coming into the season, but after two narrow victories over Sanderson and New Home and a 50-point loss to Meadow, caution began to set in for the 2008 season.

However, after the mercy-rule victory over Trinity, Grady has an opportunity to continue building momentum with district play ready to start in two weeks. Helping motivate the Wildcats in this week's contest against the Ropes Eagles is the fact it is serving as the school's homecoming game.

Ropes comes in with a 3-1 record. The Eagles' only loss was delivered by Ira's Bulldogs, 76-56, who play in the same district as Grady. Last week, Ropes mercy-ruled Whitharral, 60-12.

Leading Grady is junior quarterback Dylan Cox, who threw six touchdown passes to a total of four receivers last week. Three of those scores went to sophomore Jacob Rodriguez,

who totaled three receptions for 47 yards. John Ramirez caught one of Cox's touchdowns and led the Wildcats with four receptions for 70 yards.

Joe Cook filled in for an injured Casey Shands at running back, picking up 43 yards on seven carries. He scored the game's final touchdown on a 10-yard

Ropes brings a balanced See AREA, Page 2B

offense, having rushed for 679 yards and passed for 884. Quarterback Landon Jackson has completed 67-of-97 passes for 852 yards and 21 touchdowns, while throwing just four interceptions. Kendle Lara is the Eagles' leading rusher, totaling 471 yards and seven touchdowns on 39 carries.

CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

WEEK 4

Big Spring (3-1)at Sweetwater (3-1)

Kermit (3-0)at Coahoma (4-0)

Forsan (1-3)at Iraan (4-0)

Ropes (3-1)at Grady (3-1)

Spur $(\bar{3}-1)$ at Sands (3-1)

Garden City's homecoming game was canceled.

Stanton (1-3)bye week

Mon

9/29

82/57

Sunny. Highs

80s and lows

in the upper

in the low

Tue

9/30

7

82/57

Sunshine.

Highs in the

low 80s and

lows in the

upper 50s.

Your Local Weather

9/28

7111

85/58

sunny. Highs

80s and lows

in the upper

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact

• Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association

• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC

Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area

• American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-

• Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m.

until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5

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

· Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad

for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-

meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S.

Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council

the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email edi-

in the mid

Mainly

Sat

9/27

87/59

Sunny. Highs

in the upper

80s and lows

in the upper

tor@bigspringherald.com

Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

2084 for more information.

p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

7281 for more information.

the Howard College Cactus Room.

Howard College Cactus Room.

Number matching six of six: 0.

FRIDAY

p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY

1342 or 263-6819.

606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

9/26

86/58

sunny. High 86F. Winds

SSW at 5 to

TODAY

10 mph.

Mainly

Obituaries

Thyra 'June' Evelyn Eanes Williams
Thyra "June" Evelyn Eanes Williams, 79, of Austin, formerly of Big Spring was born Sept. 28, 1928, and passed away Sept. 21, 2008.

She graduated from Abilene High School. June was talented in many areas, including oil painting, crocheting, crafting, sewing and had a special love of genealo-

June was preceded in death by her parents, C.R. Eanes and Beulah Eanes.

Survivors are her husband, J.C. "Pete" Williams; daughter, Shervl Williams Dreher and husband Steve Dreher; grandchildren, Tiffany Dreher Van Auken, Sean Van Auken, Bethany Dreher and Jason Dreher; great-grandsons, Phoenix Van Auken and Hendrix Van Auken; and her beloved dog, Kiki.

Internment will be at 10 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 25 at Onion Creek Memorial Park with Dr. Ken Baldwin officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to Susan Koman Breast Cancer Foundation.

Services entrusted to Harrell Funeral Home, 4435 Frontier Trail, Austin 78745. (512) 443-1366.

Paid obituary

Elizabeth Ann Young

Elizabeth Ann Young went home to be with her Lord and Savior Friday, Sept. 20, 2008, at her home in Midland.

She was born Dec. 3, 1959, in Big Spring to the late Floyd and Patricia Young. Beth spent her childhood in Big Spring and graduated with the Big Spring High School class of 1978.

Beth worked many years for Scenic Mountain Medical Center in Respiratory Therapy and relocated to Midland. Beth

courageously lived with chronic pain and illness. Beth loved spending time with her friends and family. She was dearly loved by her family and will be remembered for her big heart and sweet spirit.

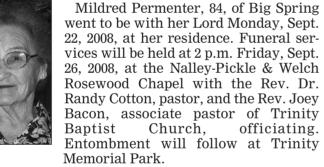
Beth is survived by her brother, Steven Mark Young and wife Stacey; nieces and nephews, Shawn Harris, Taylor Gomez and husband Ramon, Gary Harris and wife Julie and Alexya Young; four great-nieces and nephews, Lora, Maya and Diego Gomez, and Reece Harris; cousin, David Buchanan; close friends and many other family members.

Memorial services have been scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008, at Trinity Memorial Park Pavilion in Big Spring.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Highway, Midland 79701 (432) 683-5555. To place on-line condolences please visit www. mem.com.

Paid obituary

Mildred Permenter



The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

She was born July 4, 1924, in Hamilton, and married Vernon W. Permenter Oct. 1, 1948, in Colorado City. He preceded her in death June 20, 1995.

Mildred came to Big Spring in 1957. She worked for Big Spring ISD for 25 years in the food service department, mostly at Goliad and Kentwood. She retired in December 1997. She had been a member of the former Eager Beaver Sewing Club and was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Vernon D. Permenter and wife, Beebe, and Earl Permenter and wife, Natalie, all of Big Spring; one daughter, Colleen Huttegger and husband, MSgt. William (Retired), of San Antonio; special friends and caregivers, Vanessa and Gary Austin; six grandchildren, Donna Dugger, Ann Smith and Jean Noggler, all of Big Spring, Edwin Huttegger and wife, Roseanne, of Live Oak, Calif., Paula Huttegger and husband, James, of San Antonio and Nathaniel Permenter of Big Spring; seven great-grandchildren, nine greatgreat-grandchildren and one sister, Earline Wilson of San Angelo.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, William Edward Foree and Deller Louise Foree; one grandson, Jimmy Carl Young; one sister and three brothers.

The family suggests memorials to Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, P. O. Box 1448, Big Spring 79720-1448; or Compass Hospice, 1003 E. FM 700, Big Spring

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

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:

- REBECCA COMSTOCK, 24, of 1700 Runnels, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication. • ERNEST CLARK, 68, transient, was arrested Wednesday on charges of public intoxication and disor-
- DAVID DOLAN, 46, of 3709 Dixon, was arrested Wednesday on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct - language.
- ZABRINA FREEMAN, 22, of 1302 Tucson, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug parapher-
- MICHAEL NALL, 29, of 1205 E. Sixth Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of drug
- paraphernalia. • THEFT was reported in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 2600 block of Ent.
- POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported in the 2100 block of Simler.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
- in the 100 block of Washington.
- in the 400 block of Washington.

derly conduct - language.

- in the 800 block of Owens.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 3700 block of Dixon.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 1200 block of Runnels.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 54 inmates at the time of this report.

- AUBREY STEVEN MCDONALD, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of delivery of a controlled substance, bail jumping - failure to appear and manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.
- ERNESTO RODRIQUEZ, 33, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.
- JIMMY DEE KILMAN, 59, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid – DWI related.
- WESLEY DALE PHERIGO, 23, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of speeding (73 MPH in a 50 MPH zone), speeding (71 MPH in a 45 MPH zone, violation of a promise to appear and fraudulent possession of a controlled substance pre-
- CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SHEELY, 32, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of sexual battery.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of Sgt. Paredez. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 176 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

15.

Winning numbers drawn: 16-26-20-18-5.

Winning numbers drawn: 2-13-17-34-39-40

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-2-6-6. Sum It Up:

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-5-2. Sum it Up: 9.

Take Note

- Big Spring High School Junior Class will meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center. Call Denise Carillo at (432) 816-1685 for more information.
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.
- A fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union for Sheena Hill, who lost most of her possessions in a recent house fire. Mail donations to Big Spring Education Employees FCU, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720 or call 263-8393.
- Ackerly Lunch Bunch will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at 14th and Main Church of Christ Fellowship Hall at 1401 S. Main St. in Big Spring. Lunch will be catered by Al's and Son Barbecue and served at noon. Cost will be \$11 per plate, including dessert and drink. RSVP to Betty Pitts at 267-1449 or Sissy Jones at 213-4452.
- HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by

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www.themediacompanyonline.com

those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact

the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915. • A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently disgnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.

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

SPRING www.BigSpringHerald.com

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thursday page 2a.indd 1 9/25/08 10:23:54 AM

PIGSKIN PREDICTIONS

This week's games

Big Spring at Sweetwater **Kermit at Coahoma** Forsan at Iraan Ropes at Grady Spur at Sands Army at Texas A&M Arkansas at Texas **TCU at Oklahoma North Texas at Rice** Colorado at Florida St. Troy at Oklahoma St. Virginia Tech at Nebraska Maryland at Clemson Tennessee at Auburn **Purdue at Notre Dame** Wisconsin at Michigan Alabama at Georgia Illinois at Penn St. Redskins at Cowboys **Texans at Jaguars** Vikings at Titans 49ers at Saints **Packers at Buccaneers**



Jonathan Hull



Jeff Lane



Robert Smith

Big Spring

Coahoma

Iraan

Grady

Sands

A&M

Texas

Oklahoma

Rice

Colorado

Oklahoma St.

Va. Tech

Maryland



Troy Hyde

Big Spring

Coahoma

Iraan

Ropes

Sands

A&M

Texas

Oklahoma

Rice

Florida St.



Brandon Hallford

Big Spring

Coahoma

Iraan

Ropes

Sands

A&M

Texas

Oklahoma

North Texas

Colorado

Oklahoma St.

Nebraska

Clemson

Auburn

Purdue

Wisconsin

Georgia

Penn St.

Cowboys

Jaguars

Titans

Saints

Packers

Eagles

Ravens

18-7 .720



Art Barrera

Big Spring

Coahoma

Iraan

Grady

Sands

A&M

Texas

Oklahoma

UNT

Florida St.

Oklahoma St.

Nebraska

Maryland

Auburn Notre Dame

Wisconsin

Georgia

Penn St.

Cowboys

Jaguars

Titans

49ers

Buccs

Eagles

Steelers

18-7.720

66-33 .667



Iraan

Big Spring Coahoma

Tim Knox

Grady Sands A&M **Texas** Oklahoma Rice Colorado Oklahoma St. Nebraska Clemson Auburn **Notre Dame** Wisconsin Georgia Penn St. Cowboys **Jaguars Titans Saints Packers Eagles Steelers**

19-6 .760

65-34 .657

Eagles at Bears Ravens at Steelers **Big Spring** Coahoma Iraan Grady Sands A&M **Texas** Rice

Oklahoma Colorado Oklahoma St. Va. Tech Clemson **Auburn Notre Dame** Wisconsin Georgia Penn St. Cowboys **Jaguars Titans** Saints

18-7.720 69-30 .697

Packers

Eagles

Steelers

Big Spring Coahoma Iraan Grady Spur A&M **Texas** Oklahoma Rice Florida St. Oklahoma St. Nebraska Clemson Auburn **Notre Dame** Wisconsin Georgia Penn St. Cowboys **Jaguars Titans Saints Buccs Bears**

Ravens

19-6 .760

71-28 .717

Auburn Purdue Wisconsin **Alabama** Penn St. Cowboys **Jaguars Titans** Saints **Packers**

> 18-7.720 68-31 .687

Eagles

Steelers

Oklahoma St. Va. Tech Clemson Auburn **Notre Dame** Wisconsin Georgia Penn St. Cowboys **Jaguars Titans** Saints **Buccs Eagles Steelers**

> 17-8 .680 68-31 .687

71-28 .717 hate to play defense against our offense with the speed we've

got." The Steers' passing game could suffer some agaisnt Sweetwater as leading receiver Sidney Parker is being listed as questionable to play. Parker, who has 185 yards and a touchdown on nine receptions this season, dislocated his elbow in the first half of Big Spring's 18-6 win over Andrews last week.

Ritchey says he's getting better, but is unsure how long the injury will keep the senior wideout sidelined.

Linton was also injured last week, spraining his ankle while walking from the locker room to the field after halftime. Linton did come back and play, catchfourth quarter than converted a third down into a first. He's expected to play against Sweetwater.

Both teams enter Friday's game on win streaks with the Steers claiming their last two. Meanwhile, Sweetwater has rolled off three straight victories after dropping its season opener, 10-6, to Burkburnett's Bulldogs, who is 4-0.

The Mustangs' latest victim was Clyde's Bulldogs, who Sweetwater topped 24-6.

"It's going to be a battle of two good football teams," Ritchey said. "Sweetwater plays the game like we want to play it. There's not a kid on their team that doesn't go 100 percent until the whistle. Most of the time we do too, but there are times when we will have a guy take a play off. They don't. They play hard and they're really good at home. They also don't like losing to Big Spring. We respect them. They're a good football team and we're going to have to be at our best to beat them."

Sweetwater and Big Spring have met 70 times since 1907. The Mustangs hold a decisive edge in the series with a record of 44-26.

The Steers haven't defeated they shut out the Mustangs, 34-0. Ritchey notes that no extra motivation is needed against Sweetwater.

"I think the fact it's Sweetwater lining up across from us is the biggest motivating factor going into this game," said Ritchey. "That stadium is a fun place to play. Our kids like playing in thatbowl.ButjusttheSweetwater name is our biggest motivation. They're a good rival of ours."

STEERS

Last week

To date

Continued from Page 1B

then it was brought to the forefront by their coaches this

"I don't know how much it was on these guys' minds at the start of this week, but they're definitely thinking about it now," Ritchey said. "We reminded them Monday exactly how poorly we played against Sweetwater last year and how unprepared we were.

"We felt good going into that game and felt like we could play with Sweetwater," he continued. "They had some big plays early and we didn't. We just fell behind early and it just snowballed from there. Felt like once we got going in the wrong direction there was nothing we could do to fix it."

However, Sweetwater's leading rushers from last year's contest are mostly gone.

The only remaining running back who made a big difference in last season's blowout is Rufus McCann, who has 203 yards and two touchdowns on 38 carries.

McCann is joined in the backfield of Sweetwater's traditional wishbone formation by tailback Daniel Jackson and fullback

Steven Fields. Jackson is the leading rusher with 354 yards on 50 carries. Fields has 175 yards on 23 carries and leads with three touchdowns.

First-year starter Zach Birdwell takes the snaps from under center and has carried 48 times for 182 yards. Birdwell has passed the ball 24 times, completing just seven throws for 69 yards and a touchdown.

It's the second time Big Spring will see an offense based around a traditional option scheme this season, however, it's the first since the Steers' season opener against Snyder. For the past three weeks, Big Spring has encountered spread formations from Denison, Pampa and Andrews. Against Pampa and Andrews, the Steers faced passfirst offenses.

Ritchey does feel like the Steers match up better against a team that prefers to run downhill, though. For example, against Snyder, middle linebacker Cade Hollandsworth had 28 tackles, leading a Steers defense that held Snyder to just 204 total yards. The Tigers gained 166 yards on the ground, but needed 52 carries to accumulate that yardage.

"I think we'll make the transition back to playing an option

game well," Ritchey said. "I think we match up better against Sweetwater with our size and experience this year than we did last year. We'll just tighten up our defense as the offense tightens up. We're going to be close to the line of scrimmage. Hopefully, we'll take care of our responsibilities against this offense and get the ball out of their hands."

Big Spring touts a fairly potent running game this season as well. The Steers currently lead District 4-4A in team rushing, having gained 827 yards and averaging better than 200 yards a game on the ground.

Monte Anderson is the league's leading individual rusher with 443 yards and seven touchdowns on 72 carries. Quarterback Matt Ritchey compliments Anderson ing an important pass in the with 363 yards and four touchdowns on 56 carries. Big Spring averages more than 6 yards a

"We can run the ball as well as anyone," Ritchey said. "We've got three threats we can put in the backfield that can hurt defenses when Zamir (Linton) is healthy. To have the threat we do with our receivers, puts defenses in a bind. They can't commit too many to our running game or we'll be able to hurt them with our passing game. I'd

FORSAN ing it hard for the Braves to get comfortable with what they are doing. Continued from Page 1B "We will have to stop the

run first and foremost," stack when we are spread said Thompson. "In order to do that, we will have to own out and will stack eight in the box if we line up in a the line of scrimmage and Wing-T. Our offensive line fill the gaps with linebacker will have to slow down their support. Our backers will pressure defense to allow also have to keep contain-Alex to hit his receivers, as ment on the outside for well as open running lanes sweeps and to control the for our backs." quarterback's movement."

On the defensive side, the Filling in for Flores will Buffs will have to stop an be Zane Herrin, who along Iraan offense that has outwith Jeromy Gomez and scored its four opponents Chance Pool will be expected to step up and lead the With defensive standout defense against the Braves. Ryan Flores out with a Iraan is coming off an sprained ankle, the Buffs impressive 45-6 win over

> Reagan County. scrimmaged Forsan Reagan County and had score been kept, the Buffs would've fallen short by a touchdown.



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Forsan's Kody Willis (25) and Mikal Hill (32) bring down an Irion County ball carrier in action from Sept. 12. The Buffs won their first game last week and face fifth-ranked Iraan at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Iraan.

AREA

for them.

Continued from Page 2B

this season, 154-26.

will have their work cut out

In an attempt to disrupt

the Iraan rushing attack,

the Buffs will line up in dif-

ferent defensive fronts mak-

Garden City's game vs. **EP Immanuel canceled** GARDEN CITY — El Paso

Immanuel Christianwas forced to cancel its game at Garden

City this week, forcing the Bearkats to delay their homecoming celebration.

According to Garden City High Principal School Misty Kinnibrugh, Immanuel canceled its trip to Garden City due to a number of ineligible players compounded by financial reasons.

Garden City is attempting to

schedule an opponent for Oct. 17, which was originally an open date for the Bearkats.

If they're unable to find someone to play on that date, then homecoming festivities will be pushed back to Nov. 7, when Garden City closes the regular season against the Rankin Red Devils.

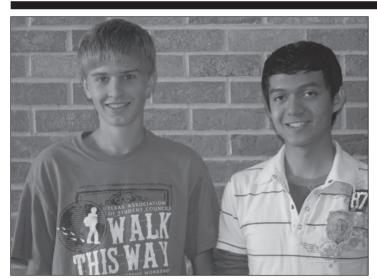
Spur visits Sands team ready to rebound from loss

ACKERLY — Sands' Mustangs are in uncharted territory. For the first time this season, the Mustangs must figure out how to rebound from a loss after falling to Sterling City, 58-40, last week.

The Mustangs (3-1) attempt to

rebound at 7:30 p.m. Friday, hosting Spur's Bulldogs (2-2). The Bulldogs are coming off a 56-6 loss to Roscoe Highland after having won two straight.

The Mustangs will continue to rely on the combination of juniors Johnny Rogers and Daniel Armendariz, who have had a part is all but two of Sands' 22 touchdowns this season.



Big Spring High School students Kade Parker, left, and James Bowen were named Commended Students by

the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program

DUO

Continued from Page 1A

Bowen and Parker were among 34,000 high school seniors across the nation who were recognized as Commended Students. they placed among the top 5 percent of the more than 1 million students who took the PSAT, Morris said.

young people "The named commended students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program," a National Merit Scholarship Program spokesperson said in a news release. "We hope that this recognition will enhance their educational opportunities ande that they will continue to dilegently pursue their professional goals."

Although they will not continue in the 2009 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Bowen and Parker received certificates for their accomplishments. Achieving Commended status in the competition also will help the students when they apply for college and scholarships, Morris said.

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

BSHS speech team takes second place finish

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring High School Speech Team took second place at the Odessa High School Speech and Debate Tournament this past weekend.

"Being second place is even more exciting when you consider that only five of the 15 students who competed had ever even seen a speech tournament before," said Jennifer Adams, BSHS speech coach.

Senior team member Thad Loftis had a solid tournament by placing third in Humorous Interpretation,

third in Dramatic Interpretation, third in Original Oratory and sixth in Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking. Loftis, along with his partner Jessica Rubio, placed first in Cross-Examination Debate.

Big Spring also had the second place CX Debate team when Pete Covarrubias and Erika Batten beat two Midland Lee teams in the quarterfinals and semi-finals.

Will Cross placed first in Humorous Interpretation along with his teammates — Rubio in third, Kayla Long in fifth and Jessica Stone in sixth.

In Dramatic, Batten placed third, Katie Cooper placed fifth and Cross placed sixth. Kayla Long also placed fifth in Prose Interpretation.

Others attending the tournament included Erik Valle, Blake Brorman, Jackson Watkins, Gerald Harris and Mike Spence.

This week, the team is off to El Paso to attend the El Paso Americas Tournament. October 31 and Nov. 1, the team will be hosting the 8th Annual Big Spring Speech and Debate Tournament.

Compromise close on \$700 billion bailout

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is bringing presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain into negotiations on a \$700 billion rescue of Wall Street as Democrats and Republicans near agreement on a bailout plan with more protections for taxpayers and new help for distressed homeowners.

Senior lawmakers and Bush administration officials have cleared away key obstacles to a deal on the unprecedented rescue, agreeing to include widely supported limits on pay packages for executives whose companies benefit.

They're still wrangling over major elements, including how to phase in the eye-popping cost — a measure demanded by Democrats and some Republicans who want stronger congressional control over the bailout — without spooking markets. A plan to let the government take an ownership stake in troubled companies as part of the rescue, rather than just buying bad debt, also was under intense negotiation.

A bipartisan meeting was set for Thursday to begin drafting a compromise, which top Democrats said they hoped could pass within days.

The core of the plan envisions the government buying up sour assets of shaky financial firms in a bid to keep them from going under and to stave off a potentially severe recession.

Obama, McCain make moves on crisis while saying politics should play no part

WASHINGTON (AP) — John McCain and Barack Obama say presidential politics should have no role in the government's efforts to save the crippled financial system. Yet, each is playing his own politics toward the same goals — showing leadership during crisis. getting credit for any solutions, and, ultimately, winning the presidency.

The latest example: a debate over whether the candidates should debate Friday.

McCain called for his Democratic rival to agree to a postponement until Congress agrees on a \$700 billion government plan to rescue banks from enormous debt. saying, "We are running out of time."

Obama rebuffed his GOP rival, saying the next president needs to "deal with more than one thing at once."

Both were heading back to Washington on Thursday, summoned by President Bush to attend a White House meeting with congressional leaders in hopes of securing the legislation to rescue the fragile economy.

STUDY

Continued from Page 1A

ate student who is very interested in city and county government to come to our community and study city and county government with the objective of finding areas where the two governments could achieve savings by working together to provide services."

Crooker said the study — which will only cost the city and county a \$1,000 donation to Sam Houston State University — could be a huge

"With the size of our community — the city and county, population-

wise — it's possible for us to achieve some economy in our services we provide to the general public," said Crooker. "This isn't something cities like Houston or Dallas, which are very large cities, could undertake. But i do feel communities our size can benefit from such a study. It's entirely voluntary on our part as to whether we want to accept the propositions. The county can do what it wants with the study."

Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen agreed with Crooker's initial take on the offer, saying the study could save everyone money in the long run.

"Some 25 years ago a study was done to see where there could be efficiencies and where the city and *ald.com*

county could put their heads together, their services together, to save the taxpayers money," said McEwen. "Mr. Theodori is asking for a grant to do this. The county has decided to go forward with this study, and we're being asked to go forward with the study as well. The cost to the city will be \$1,000. I think it would certainly be good to do that."

No start or completion date has been established for the study at this time, according to government officials.

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

HC groundbreaking set Tuesday

Howard College Board of able to carry out these Trustees and administration have scheduled a ground breaking ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday to kick off the Big Spring campus bond project.

The west lawn of the Union Building will be the site for the celebration event recognizing the past, Howard College.

"We are very pleased to invite the citizens of in the groundbreaking as 264-5034. they are the reason we are

projects," said Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Howard College president. "It's great to be able to

recognize where we've been, where we are today and where we're headed in Dora Roberts Student the future and share that with our greatest supporters," added Sparks. The ceremony will be fol-

present and future of lowed by a reception in the foyer of the Student Union Building.

The public is invited. Howard County to join us For more information, call

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

shoe a horse.

Master The local Gardeners Club helped with the event, explaining about some of the many plants in this area, while other lessons described the small (insects) to large (antique tractors) facts of life on the farm.

Helping with the lessons was the farm bureau's Mobile Learning Barn,

which displayed how farm products are used in everyday life. An interesting bit of trivia, especially this time of year, is that it takes 3,000 head of cattle to make enough footballs for a typical National Football League season.

While the main purpose of the event was to instruct, Moates said it may inspire a child to someday pursue a career in one of the many agriculture-related fields.

"There's so much more agriculture than being a farmer, fields like veterinary sciences and other fields," he said. "There are all kinds of areas they can branch out to."

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

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> Affordable pe-need plans

TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

canvas District 6 — represented by Councilman Greg Biddison — Friday.

"Some of the more typical items we pick up are appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Darden. "Those are the kind of things that we can take to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up. However, we can't pick up any household hazardous

waste. That means any kind of chemicals including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature. We also won't be picking up any tree branches, shrubs or things like that this

"We're trying to target people who are elderly, handicapped or otherwise don't have the means to get these large items to our landfill. This is a service the city is going to provide as a courtesy to those people and give them the opportunity to get things

off of their property they might not be able to otherwise."

Darden said city residents utilizing the program need to be careful not to place their large items in close proximity to gas meters and other utilitv fixtures.

"If you cover the meters up, it's hard for us to know where they are," said Darden. "A lot of time we have to bring in equipment to pick those large items up, which makes things go quicker. We want to make sure our

employees are safe while they are picking these things up.'

All items must be by the curb in the city's right-ofway no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled collection. Items need to be separated as much as possible for the trip to the municipal landfill.

"To be placed on the pick up list, all residents have to do is call 264-2504 or 264-2501, and we'll get them set up. If they don't call and get on the list, we can't pick up their items."

For more information on

the program and maps of the six city districts, visit the city of Big Spring Web site at www.ci.big-spring. tx.us, or call 264-2504.

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

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AN

thursday page 3a.indd 1

ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

There is a national plague that needs to be confronted. This problem has been ignored far too long. The effects are far-reaching and destructive. I am baffled at how many good people encourage and welcome this malady.

This terrible plague is GOSSIP. Gossip tears down people and promotes hurt, ridicule and discouragement. Gossip is rationalized, justified and expected. In some cases, it is blatantly false and is often full of half-truths. Even when gossip is true, it is spread with critical and negative motives.

As a Christian, I am aware that sin exists and sinners need to be corrected. However, tearing down people behind their back is far different than lifting up the name of Jesus to their face. In view of such, avoid gossip like the plague-even when such gossip involves emails that bash folks for whom

"Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife." (Proverbs 26: 20-21)

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

> **Ron Midkiff** Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan

OTHER VIEWS

Leadership deficit is in fiscal crisis; candidates missing

now this: Don't believe anybody who says he truly understands the full magnitude of what just happened, and is happening, to the U.S. economy.

Last week saw the best-informed and smartest economic policy elites in this country—Fed chairman Ben Bernanke and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson—making up strategy by the day. The most tumultuous Wall Street week since the 1930s culminated with their terrifying, come-to-Jesus moment with members of Congress, who were told that America's financial system, without emergency action, was days from collapse.

Result: A proposal allowing the massive taxpayer purchase of bad debt—at least \$700 billion worth, probably more—and the granting of extraordinary powers to the treasury secretary to manage this crisis. If this plan goes through, the federal government's power increases to a stunning degree, and the additional debt burden on taxpayers' straining backs will beggar be-

And if it doesn't go through? The nation, we are told, faces another Great Depression.

Where are the candidates?

Perhaps it is too much to have expected Barack Obama and John McCain to have been on top of this crisis. After all, if the complexity and swiftness of events threatened to overtake Bernanke and Paulson, what could one realistically demand of two U.S. senators running for president? Nevertheless, the scope of this fiscal disaster throws into serious doubt campaign business as usual.

And yet, over the weekend, both candidates stayed pretty much on script, as if the world hadn't just shifted on its financial axis.

McCain said that despite the crater-sized hole the proposed bailout would put in the federal debt, he'd still push for tax cuts and even vowed to balance the budget by 2012. Obama said he, too, would keep pushing for a big middle-class tax cut and would stand by his plans for new government social spending.

This is not leadership.

The road to America's fiscal slough has been long and winding, with plenty blame for both political parties. Was there reckless Wall Street greed? Absolutely. Was Washington a poor steward of the public's interest in its oversight of the financial markets? Manifestly so. But Michael Bloomberg, the tycoon who is now mayor of New York, surely was correct Sunday when he said the root cause of this mess is Americans' unwillingness to live within their means.

"We all were happy when the stock market was going up ... when there was all his money sloshing around in the economy, and everybody could get a loan whether they could pay it back or not," he said on "Meet the Press." "And nobody wanted to say, 'Wait a second,

this can't go on forever." But the blame doesn't stop there

Let's be fair to our politicians, who, after all, didn't elect themselves. Imagine the president or member of Congress who, during the fat years (roughly 1994 to 2005) had said that the wealth was coming in too fast and based on an uncertain foundation. That too many people of uncertain means were getting into home ownership. That the Wall Street goose was laying golden eggs along the path to the economic slaugh-

Any politician bold enough to have told those truths would have been retired by irrationally exuberant voters. There's no political profit in telling people what they don't want to hear.

Well, the goose is now truly cooked. The cost of our collective profligacy will be added to the taxpayers' bill of fare. The one thing Americans no longer can afford is fiscal self-deception, aided and abetted by politicians who mislead us about what's possible in this new and brutal economic reality.

The next president will oversee an era in which the nation learns a punishing lesson about limits. The men who would be president must stop selling the rhetorical equivalent of junk bonds.

Voters would help if they showed that the current crisis has created a new and robust market for something that has been chronically undervalued for some time: the hard truth.

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

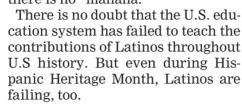
Latinos are failing at history

bout this time every year. when Latinos can't keep up with all the parades Land fiestas to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I get terribly upset. I keep looking for the kind of sub-

stance that African-Americans absorb in serious seminars and

lectures during Black History Month, but I can't find it! Amid the cocktail

parties and parade pageants to elect queens and hobnob with politicians, what I find is that Latinos are too busy partying like there is no "manana."



This is the time when we should be digging out the roots of our Hispanic heritage in North America. This is the time when we should be teaching young Latinos that they do have heroes and that their ancestors earned their right to be here.

Don't get me wrong.

We should express our pride and gratitude for living in the world's greatest nation. But we also should teach our kids and all our fellow Americans a little history about our contributions since before this place was a nation. We played an important part in making this country

People say, "To know where you are going, you have to know who you are and where you came from." But our education system fails to teach Latino students where they come from, making it harder for them to understand who they are. Young Latinos may not have many role models, but it's not because they don't exist. It's because they don't know them! Their education has denied them access to their own heroes, their own history, and thus, their own future.

When I covered Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations as a reporter for daily newspapers in Miami. New York and New Jersey, instead of finding historical substance, I found young Latinos who gave me blank stares when I asked them to tell me about the heritage they were celebrating.

"Why are you here?" I would ask. The answer was always the same: "Because I'm very proud of my Hispanic heritage." But of course, a reporter is looking for a variety of opinions. You don't want everyone you interview to give you the same sentence. And so I would insist: "Please tell me what makes you proud of your heritage."

They looked at me with lost expressions, as if I had asked them a trick question. Even those who wore colorful ethnic costumes knew nearly nothing about their own history. They could shout "viva" for their ancestral homelands, but that's as far as they'd go.

Again, don't get me wrong; it's great to march in a parade, but first you have to know why you are

If they had told me that their Spanish and Latin American ancestors explored and settled a huge portion of the United States and built North America's first cities; if they had explained that their ancestors fought valiantly in every U.S. war, starting with the one that gave this country its independence; or if they had told me something about the millions of Latinos who have made enormous contributions to U.S. society, I would have been happy.

Unfortunately, through no fault of their own, they had little to say. Sometimes we Latinos can be our own worst enemies. Instead of sponsoring educational programs and using them to instill pride among young Latinos, demand respect from the political establishment, and obtain recognition from the media, Latino leaders often settle for lip service and worthless proclamations from politicians.

Even the Hispanic parades — where at least there is an opportunity to showcase the typical music, costumes and folklore of Latin America — usually are turned into campaign rallies by politicians who rarely deal with the needs of Latinos.

Latinos are more than 44 million strong in the United States and the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population. We are a community confronting many barriers to our advancement — poorer, more discriminated against and less educated and skilled than non-Hispanic whites — but when we listen to historians outline our achievements, we find many reasons to feel proud.

Three centuries of hidden Hispanic heritage — that should be the main focus of Hispanic Heritage Month. It should be a time to celebrate and educate, a chance not only to rejoice over the beauty of our music, language and culture but also to recognize that this country was not explored, settled and colonized from east to west — as we often are led to believe — but from south to north.

If the schools don't teach the complete history of the United States, it's up to Latinos to fill the unfair gaps in American history. It's up to us to show the rest of society that this country is as much Spanish as it is English and that our roots are planted firmly here.

To find out more about Miguel Perez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

· GEORGE W. BUSH President The White House

Washington, D.C. 20500

· KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator 703 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-224-5922

· JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator 517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305

RANDY NEUGEBAUER

Phone: 202-224-2934

U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: (432) 264-0722

STATE GOVERNMENT

 RICK PERRY Governor State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: (512) 463-2000

· JOE HEFLIN State Representative Texas 85th District P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: (432) 213-2897 or (512) 463-0604

Reacting to campaign gaffes

ow do media and the left react to campaigns' gaffes? Sarah Palin had a very

bad week. During a campaign stop in Colorado, she contended that the United States comprises 54 states. During another stop, in Canton, Ohio, she mistakenly told the

crowd how happy she was to be in Cincinnati.

Frustrated by the way Gov. Palin was being hidden from the media, the Washington bureau chiefs of six leading news organizations sent a letter to the McCain-Palin campaign complaining that it had been dishonest and



Other reporters complained that the Palin team offered even less access to the media than President Bush does.

JONATHAN

V.

LAST

And when Palin did hold a news conference, she became flustered and angry, abruptly leaving the room while muttering, "Come on, guys — I answered, like, eight questions.'

No wonder she had been hiding from the media. During one event, Palin deviated from her stump speech to contend, mistakenly, that 10,000 people had died when Hurricane Ike hit Houston.

Later, in an address to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. Palin said Jerusalem must remain "undivided." But the next day, she changed her position. claiming she did not realize that undivided is a diplomatic "code word."

The series of gaffes and mistakes underscored the suspicion of many on the left and in the media that Palin is simply unqualified for the

rigors of the vice presidency. Just kidding!

None of those things happened to Palin this week. By all accounts, she's had a perfectly routine stretch on the campaign trail.

However, all of that has happened at one time or another to Sen. Barack Obama, whose fitness for office seems to worry few — at least, that

is, in the media and on the left. In fairness to Obama, I played with a few of the details. For instance, when Obama misspoke about the composition of our Union. he said that he had been to 57 states and still had two to go. And he told a crowd in Sioux Falls, S.D., that he was happy to be in Sioux City

(which is in Iowa). Also, while addressing the delegates via satellite during the Democratic convention, he said he was in Kansas City. He was actually in St.

The media-relations stuff is all totally true. Six major bureau chiefs really did write a letter of protest to the Obama campaign in June, lamenting, "There are many ways in a campaign to control your message and conduct private meetings that do not involve deceiving the press corps."

Comb through the clippings of the last 18 months, and you'll see an unbroken string of reporters complaining about how little access Obama grants the media, how phenomenally rare his news conferences are, and how rigidly scripted and on-message he is as a candidate. As the New Republic reported:

"Reporters who cover Obama these days grouse that Obama's flacks shroud the campaign in secrecy and provide little to no access.

'They're more disciplined than the Bush people,' a reporter on the Obama trail gripes. 'There was this idea of being transparent, but

they're not.' "

And, in March, Obama really did storm out of one of his rare news conferences when he didn't like the grilling, saying, "Come on. guvs — I answered, like, eight questions."

As for the other mistakes, in May, Obama claimed that a tornado in Kansas had killed 10,000 people. The actual death toll was 12. And in June. Obama did commit to an "undivided" Jerusalem while speaking to AIPAC. The next day, a campaign spokesman explained that Obama didn't understand that undivided had a specific diplomatic meaning — was a "code word" and that he didn't mean that the city of Jerusalem should stay literally undivided.

None of this is to say that Sarah Palin is going to be perfect over the next seven weeks. Even if she's the second coming of Lincoln (and, let's face it, she probably isn't), she's going to be tightly messaged between now and Nov. 4. And yet she's still likely to make a few mistakes.

When Palin does slip up, it will be interesting to see how the media and the left react.

No one suggests that Obama's serial gaffes and aversion to the media are evidence that he is fundamentally unfit for office. We all stipulate that he's a bright and capable fellow who deserves to be judged on his own merits. And he's running for the big chair.

Surely, Palin — who as a vicepresidential nominee is at least as experienced and accomplished as John Edwards was in 2004 — will get the same consideration. Again, just kidding.

Jonathan V. Last is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to him at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at *ilast@phillynews.com.*

9/25/08 9:17:12 AM Thursday Page 4A 09-25.indd 1

A USER'S GUIDE TO

THE

SPRING HERALD

Each day. The *Big Spring Herald* receives calls from readers - just like you - who have important questions about how the newspaper works and the services it offers. For your information and convenience, we have compiled this page of answers to readers' most frequently asked questions.

Save this page for future reference

HOW TO

REPORT THE SCORE

You can report your sports results between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 263-7331, faxing 264-7205 or drop your results at the *Big Spring Herald* office at 710 Scurry, Big Spring.

HOW TO

SUBMIT NEWS INFORMATION

To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editior John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

LOCATE A SPECIFIC STORY

If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the *Big Spring Herald* at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the *Big Spring Herald*.

HOW

OBITUARIES ARE HANDLED

Obituaries, whether paid or non-paid, are provided to the *Big Spring Herald* by funeral homes. Non-paid obits follow a standard form, while paid obits can include virtually anything the deceased's family requests. Any questions should be directed to the Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

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Call our office at 263-7335 or come by 710 Scurry. Our subscription rate is \$93.42 per year or \$8.65 per month.

HOW TO

OBTAIN BACK ISSUES

Back issues of the *Big Spring Herald* are kept on file for one year and may be purchased during regular business hours. However, some back issues sell out quickly and we cannot guarantee that any given issue will be available. You may also check with the Howard County Library reference department at 264-2262.

HOW TO

SUBMIT MARRIAGE, ENGAGEMENT OR BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at www.bigspringherald.com. If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 or come by 710 Scurry. Ads can be placed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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thursday page 4b.indd 1 9/25/08 10:36:57 AM

Taurus safety

New standard safety features added to Ford's full-size sedan

full-size sedans on the road today. Ford has added even more standard safety features for the 2009 model year.

new SE trim level, the big news for '09 is the addition of AdvanceTrac and SOS-Post Crash Alert.

AdvanceTrac electronic stability control predicts the vehicle's

intended path using a sensor to detect and measure oversteer and vaw. It monitors the vehicle's speed. throttle position and steering wheel angle. When the system senses wheel slip, engine torque is reduced and braking is applied where needed to keep the car tracking on its intended path.

The new SOS-Post Crash Alert system activates in the event the airbags are deployed. When this occurs, the system unlocks the doors and activates the

Hot dogs outside Philly ballpark cause bomb scare

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — After a bomb scare at the Philadelphia Phillies' ballpark, authorities pointed the finger at a fuzzy green suspect — The Phillie Pha-

Hours before the Phillies-Atlanta Braves' game on Wednesday night, a film crew shot a commercial of the mascot shooting heavily wrapped hot dogs from a launcher.

But someone inadvertently left three of the duct taped hot dogs outside the ballpark, sparking security fears. Stadium employees were evacuated and the bomb squad was called

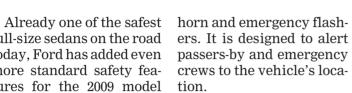
Only after the packages were blown up did authorities realize they'd just exploded some sausages.

"We saw something that looked suspicious," said Michael Stiles, Phillies senior vice president, administration and operations. "We did the right thing. It turned out to be nothing. We could have gone over and picked it up and thrown it in the trash and been done with it. But if we had been wrong. somebody might have lost an arm."

After the detonation, the game went on as sched-

"I'd rather them blow up some hot dogs or some ketchup and mustard and relish than have it be a real bomb," reliever Chad Durbin said.

"Better safe than sorry," he added.



This is on top of an In addition to adding a already long list of stan-

> dard safety features that have helped the Taurus achieve five-star safety rating (highest rating possible) in all four categories of the U.S. government's crash tests and earning

a "Top Safety Pick" designation from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Kudos to Ford and everyone on the safety research team for their continued work in designing and building vehicles that not only lessen the risk of injury in the even of an accident, but actually helps prevent accidents from occurring.

During the past several years I've had the chance



The 2009 Ford Taurus full-size sedan.

many of the folks at Ford and Volvo whose jobs are dedicated to our safety. The work they are doing is incredible. They are responsible for several of the engineering breakthroughs in automotive safety (many of which are currently being shared with other manufactur-

While we in the media spend most of our column space waxing prose about vehicle design and horsepower, the folks working in safety research and engineering are too often the unsung heroes of the auto industry.

With all of the advancements they have achieved during the past decade, I think it is safe to say that literally thousands of lives are saved each day because of their work. I don't think many drivers take the time to think about how much safer today's vehicles are than the cars, trucks and SUVs we drove just a few vears ago.

When this column to meet and visit with makes its way back to Ford

headquarters in Dearborn, please be sure to share it with everyone in the safety center and give them a well-deserved "good job" from me.

Back to the '09 Taurus.

Available in front- or allwheel drive platforms, buyers now have their choice of five trim lines, all powered by a 3.5-liter V-6 engine and mated to a six-speed automatic transmission.

Rated as an Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle and requiring regular unleaded gasoline, the five-passenger Taurus has an EPA fuel economy average of 18 mpg city, 28 mpg highway.

The Taurus is roomy and comfortable, delivering a smooth, quiet ride on the road. With five trim levels to select from, buyers can choose between an assortment of equipment levels to suit their needs and price.

For full-size sedan buyers, the 2009 Taurus is highly recommended for a *Texas*

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2009 Ford Taurus 5-seat full-size sedan Front-; all-wheel drive Trim packages SE, SEL, SEL AWD, Limited,

Limited AWD PRICE RANGE: \$24,000-\$35,000 **ENGINE:** 3.5-L V6 (263 hp/249 torque)

TRÁNSMISSION: 6-speed automatic EPA: 18/17 mpg city, 28/24 mpg highway (FWD/AWD)

FUEL: Regular unleaded SUSPENSION: MacPherson strut and rear facing L-shaped lower control arm with isolated subframe and stabilizer bar (front); independent multi-link suspension coil over shock and hydroformed lower con-

trol arms (rear). TRACTION CONTROL: AdvanceTrac electronic stability control with traction

BRAKES: ABS LENGTH: 201.8 inches WHEELBASE: 112.9 inch-

WIDTH: 74.5 inches HEIGHT: 61.5 inches WEIGHT: 3,741-3,930 lbs. TRACK: 64.3/64.4 (front/rear) FUEL TANK: 20 gallons TIRES: 17-, or 18-inch TRUNK: 21.2 cubic feet.

test drive.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 15 years and is affiliated with the Auto

AssociationandMidwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal. white@waxahachiedailylight.com.



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CARPORT SALE: 204 East Thursday Robinson Road. 8am-? & Friday 8pm-? Jewelry, picture frames, Mary Kay, toys, household items, misc.

ESTATE SALE: 604 W. 16th. Saturday 9-? & Sunday Noon-? Hutch, bar set, desk, dresser, chest of drawers, bed, sewing machine. kitchen gadgets, mens clothing, trombone and sheet music, fishing gear and tools

GARAGE SALE, 402 Dallas. Saturday Only! 8:00am-? Miscellaneous items.

GARAGE SALE, 506 Washington Blvd. Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 8:00-? Adult & children clothes, baby items, Halloween items, lots of Christmas items, electric stove, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE: Lakeview Head Start 1107 N.W. 7th St., Saturday 8:00-1:00. Kitchen table and chairs, vanity sets, computers, keyboards, water tables, furniture and lots more! First come - First Serve. CASH ONLY.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE Sale: 8am-12noon Saturday, 1905 Nolan. Too much to List.

THREE FAMILY Yard Sale, Friday, Sycamore. 4:00pm-7:00pm. Saturday & Sunday, 8:00am-? Furniture, TV. clothes, tires, household items, and lots of miscellaneous.

TRADING POST 1307 Gregg 432-264-1692 Mon-Sat 10am-5pm Clothes, books, shoes, boots, 1/2 Price! Cameras, jewlery, sheets, blankets, dishes and records 25¢. All Week much more!

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CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and Applications holiday leave. are required and are available at the District's office, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, on the web at http://www.crmwd.org/

personnel/applicationfor employment.pdf, or by calling (432) 267-6341.

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Fair schedule of events

4 p.m. - Fair opens: Displays, exhibits, carnival

6 p.m. - Cooking demonstration: Lib's Shrimp Ettouffe

6 p.m. - Domino tournament 6 p.m. - Queen's contest 7:30 p.m. - Gospel music

1 p.m. - Senior Citizen Ice Cream Social, Bingo 4 p.m. - Fair opens: Displays, exhibits, carnival

6 p.m. - Cooking demonstration: Lithuanian Cuisine 8 p.m. - Bobby Flores

9:30 p.m. - Bobby Flores

Saturday

8 a.m. - Steers arrive

9 a.m. - Registration for Tractor Pull

9 a.m. - Ranch Rodeo, Cowboy Roping 10 a.m. - Fair opens, carnival rides

10 a.m. - Antique Pull

10:30 a.m. - Kountry Kids Contest

1 p.m. - Goat show

6 p.m. - Cooking demonstration: A Trashy Snack

7:30 p.m. - Guy Will Zant

9: 30 p.m. - Guy Will Zant 9:45 p.m. - Quilt drawing

Fair results

Canned Goods

Grand Champions Fruit: Leona Duffer Vegetables: Dean Priest Pickles and relishes: Ann Sanders Jams and jellies: Ann Sanders

Peppers: Ann Sanders Salsa and hot sauce: Ann Sanders

Miscellaneous: Mamie Lee Dodds Reserve Champions Fruit: Donna Menges Vegetables: Ann Sanders

James, jellies and preserves: Robbie Crenshaw Miscellaneous: Ann Sanders

Class Winners Fruits: 1. Leona Duffer, Donna

Menges; 2. Mamie Lee Dodds, Marie Hughes (2); 3. Donna Menges (2), Ann Sanders.

Vegetables: 1. Ann Sanders, Dean Priest: 2. Robbie Crenshaw, Dean Priest (2); 3. Donna Menges, Mamie Lee Dodds (3), Marie Hughes.

Pickles and relishes: 1. Ann Sanders: 2. Robbie Crenshaw: 3. Mamie Lee Dodds, Robbie Crenshaw, Marie Hughes: Honorable: Edward Gariepy.

James, jellies and preserves: 1. Ann Sanders. Robbie Crenshaw: 2. Robbie Crenshaw, Marie Hughes (2), Kadden Kothmann; 3. Marie Hughes, Nellie Kerby.

Dried food products: 2. Mamie Lee Dodds; Honorable: Larry James. Peppers: 1. Ann Sanders: 2.

Marie Hughes; Honorable: Connie Alivalado.

Salsa and hot sauce: 1. Ann Sanders; Honorable: Larry James, Edward Gariepy.

Miscellaneous: 1. Manie Lee Dodds; 2. Marie Hughes, Ann Sanders; 3. Marie Hughes, Mamie Lee Dodds.

'Trashy snacks' on tap Saturday

By NANCY KOGER

Special to the Herald

Most people don't want to be "trashy," but they might reconsider the term if they come to see Ellen Austin demonstrate how to make "A Trashy Snack" Saturday evening at the Howard County Fair.

Each day at 6 p.m., a different food demonstration is offered at the fair.

"Some people make what they call 'Texas Trash' that's mostly sweet," Ellen said, "but this has a little spice to it that's a bit different."

The main ingredients are Chex cereals, cheese crackers, mixed nuts and pretzels. She cooks up a honeybased syrup mixture to pour over the mixture.

"I'll serve lots of samples in twoounce cups and have copies of the recipes to hand out," Ellen added.

She will show how to make the syrup and put the snack together, but will have some already prepared, just as the TV chefs do it.

She has plenty of experience with food preparation, having had a catering business in New Jersey for several years.

"I catered for the American Legion for 13 years, as well as doing parties and weddings for 200 to 300 people." She said that the catering jobs she

found most unusual were funerals.

"There, neighbors don't bring in food for a funeral; the family has a meal catered," she explained. "The hardest part for me was charging for a bereavement meal, but they expected to pay as they would for any other event."



HERALD Photo/Lyndel Moody

Members of the Fair Board, Big Spring Ambassadors Club and Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the official opening of the Howard County Fair with a ribbon cutting in memory of Gene Adams.

Since she and her husband Donald as volunteers Tuesday before the moved to Big Spring four years ago to be nearer to her mother, Ellen has become a "word-of-mouth hobby" caterer, preparing meals for small groups of 10 to 25. She will cook for groups up to 100, but said she doesn't care to do the large-group events anymore. She is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, listed as LN's. She works alone with help from her husband, who "carries stuff, washes dishes and sometimes acts as a financial backer."

The Austins have helped at the fair for two years and were serving fair, taking in entries in the Women's Division.

"I'm tired today because I spent most of last night cooking to get ready for my mom's 80th birthday this week," she said. They are expecting relatives from several states and a grandson who has recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

The Howard County Fair runs from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday.

















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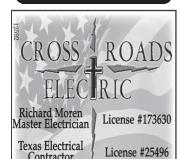




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LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals for the following ar-Supplies & Equipment

and **Labor & Contracted Services** for the Maintenance, Transportation,

& Food Service Departments These bids will form a multi-vendor list for the maintenance, transportation, and the food service departments for securing supplies, equipment, outside labor, outside skilled trades and contracted services. Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone (432)264-3620. The school district will begin opening bids on October 15, 2008, in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. The Business Office will continue to receive and open bids through 4:00 pm, November 5, 2008. All bids must be received by 4:00 pm November 5, 2008. All bids must be received by 4:00 pm, November 5, 2008. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on November at 5:15 p.m. at their 13. 2008. regularly scheduled board meeting. Evaluation of all purchases from this multi-vendor bid shall take into account the following considerations before a purchase order will be issued: purchase price, reputation of the vendor and the vendor's goods and services, quality of the vendor's goods or services, extent to which the goods or services meet the DISTRICT's needs, vendor's past relationship with the DIS-TRICT, impact on the ability of the DISTRICT to comply with laws relating to historically underutilized business, total long-term cost to the DISTRICT to acquire the goods and services, any other relevant factor specially listed in the request for bid or quote documents. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

2008 PUBLIC NOTICE THE CITY OF FORSAN **TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

#5914 September 25 & October 2,

(TxCDBG) The City of Forsan will submit a 2009-2010 Community Development Fund application to the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program for Water Improvements, in the amount of \$350,000. The application will be available on and after September 28, 2008 for review at the Mayor's Office at 106 East Main Street in Forsan during regular business hours. #5921 September 25, 2008

PUBLIC NOTICE THE CITY OF COAHOMA **TEXAS COMMUNITY** DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (TxCDBG)

The City of Coahoma will submit a 2009-2010 Community Development Fund application to the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program for Sewer Improvements, in the amount of \$350,000. The application will be available on and after September 29, 2008 for review at the Mayor's Office at 122 North First Street, Coahoma, during regular business Texas hours. #5922 September 25, 2008

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Today's merrymaking Leo moon and sociable Libra sun host amusing diversions

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like

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3241

as fleeting as



MATHIS

the joy of catching fireflies in a jar -- but that doesn't stop us from trying. Squeeze precious minutes of daylight for all they're worth.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may resist work simply because you do not know what is expected of you. The remedy is simple: ask. A colleague, teacher or boss will be more than happy to share all the information you need to be motivated once more.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). In theory, many things are possible. In actuality, the only things that will happen are the ones you push through with all your might. Your success is hard won today, but sweeter for the effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The obstacle between you and your goal doesn't have to be overpowered. It's amazing what defenses you can bring down with your persistent softness. You're like the water that turns mountains into sand.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Some days even

vou're not sure who the real you is. But it's always interesting when others see something in you that you weren't expecting to reveal, or that you didn't

know was there. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The line between confidence and arrogance may be fine, but it's definite. Confidence is when you're sure you can succeed. Arrogance is when you put someone else down in order to do it. Be mindful of your word choices.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A sporting mood shines through. You're thinking three steps ahead in the game. This should serve you quite well, considering some of the "players" don't even realize yet that this is a game.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may be running around on someone else's behalf today, and you don't mind doing it either. Your relationship with a high-maintenance individual will be as rewarding as it is demanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Rededicate yourself to honing your talents. In the process of learning and practicing, you'll be swept into the swing of things where you'll get to know new people and find out what they do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What you call spoiling yourself is what others call mandatory maintenance. So if you won't do it just for the heck of it, then do it because you can prevent illness by taking excellent care of yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). You may get the ing you to let your guard sneaking suspicion that someone doesn't know what he or she is doing. Read the signs. Stall if you have to. Do whatever you have to do to keep from hiring the wrong person for the job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Brilliant work must be done for a project to succeed. However, it doesn't all have to be done by you. Inspire others to come up with solutions. You're a motivational speaker and leader.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be singing to the radio, talking to yourself on the street, whistling a happy tune in the elevator. If you think nobody is watching, you're wrong! Your enthusiasm brings anyone in your presence up right along with you.

ASTROLOGICAL QUES-TIONS: "I'm a Leo man and have recently met a Cancer man (online) who unfortunately lives out of state, but we talk almost every day and I find myself feeling for him. For all practical and logical reasons I'm thinking this is impossible, but something inside telling me to pursue it. Should I?"

people have Since crossed distances far greater than one state over to meet the person of their dreams, I'm thinking past heartbreak or injured pride is keeping your naturally chivalrous daring in check. Well, don't worry. Cancer men are a tender choice for you. A Cancer person sees your vulnerability, allow- DICATE, INC.

down. Cancer will make sure you're right for him before letting you know exactly where you stand with him, though. Maybe this is necessary. A Leo's fervor and passion for the art of stirring up romance can be intensely overwhelming for anyone, including a protective Cancer. So if you're looking to accelerate this connection onto the highway of love, don't hold your natural exuberance back, but do pace yourself. Let up on the gas and cruise now and again. Keep this in mind and you'll do fine.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Libra singer and actress Olivia Newton-John has enjoyed a career bringing beauty, love and harmony to the world, yet it's her recent move to open a wellness center and spa where Olivia will finally come into her own. Olivia has Venus in caretaking Virgo, and her moon is in healing Pisces. Through supporting others in their healing and recovery, she'll discover a satisfaction sweeter than she's yet known.

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 SYN-

Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Our grandson died a year ago at the age of 15. His death was the result of playing the extremely dangerous "choking game.' of kids Thousands between the ages of 9 and 16 are playing this game. There are other names for it, such as "pass out game' and "space monkey." Kids play it in groups and alone. Playing alone is the

most life-threatening. involves The game squeezing the neck to limit blood flow and oxygen to the brain in order to achieve a high. Most of the children who play this game are good kids who are against the use of drugs and alcohol. Kids think it's a safe way to achieve a rush without using. But it is not safe at all. Lack of oxygen to the brain kills brain cells, which do not replenish themselves. Hundreds of kids have suffered brain damage and heart problems, or died from asphyxiation.

Most parents are unaware that this is something their children may be involved in. Schools teach about drugs, but no school I know of teaches the dangers of this game. There is a website that addresses the warning signs at www.chokinggame.net. I am hopeful others will learn about this practice before it happens to their child. -- Still Grieving Grandma in Davenport, Iowa

Dear Grandma: Our con-

dolences on your terrible loss. We have discussed this topic before, but it certainly bears another mention. Children and young teens think this self-asphyxiation game is harmless because it's drug-free. But depriving the brain of oxygen, even for short periods, risks permanent brain damage, seizures and death. Parents should watch for marks around the neck, bloodshot eyes, complaints of headaches, disorientation after spending time alone and paraphernalia such as plastic bags,



KATHY MITCHELL Marcy Sugar

dog leashes, bungee cords, ties, ropes, scarves and belts, especially if they are tied to bedroom furniture or doorknobs or found knotted on the floor.

We hope all parents of young children will discuss the dangers as they would talk about drugs or alcohol. The best protection is honest information.

Dear Annie: I am a 22year-old part-time college student with a full-time job. I recently engaged, which I'm excited about. I moved in with my boyfriend a year after we started dating and everything is going very smoothly.

The problem is, my parents are strong Catholics and were extremely upset that we moved in together. They wouldn't visit our apartment or allow my fiance to come to their home for any reason. They still won't, even though we're engaged. His whole family loves me to death and couldn't be happier for us. When will my parents ever accept him? -

- Worried Fiancee Dear Worried: Hopefully, when you are married. Your parents don't want to give the impression that they approve of your living arrangements. The same way they don't agree with the choice you made to move in together, you don't have to agree with theirs, but try to respect their feelings on the subject. Once you have legalized this arrangement in church, they will be more comfortable welcoming

your fiance into the family. If not, ask your priest for help.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Get It Right, Please!" whose in-laws insist on calling her "Jenny" instead of her correct name, which is "Jenna."

She should make a huge name tag that reads "MY NAME IS JENNA" and wear it whenever she is around them. Maybe it could inject some humor while getting them to remember to use her correct name. If they slip up, she can simply point to repeat ... and repeat ... and repeat ... until they finally get it right. --Eileen

Dear Eileen: Old habits die hard, and name tags won't help when letters are incorrectly addressed. but injecting humor is often a good way to get a difficult point across. Thanks.

Dear Annie: My husband and I recently had our first child. We take turns taking care of the baby so we can each get some rest.

When "Jimmy" was 3 weeks old, he had colic and cried nonstop for several days. My husband got mad, said he couldn't deal with this and threw the baby on the bed. When Jimmy was 4 months old, he caught a cold and cried day and night for a week. I caught my husband hitting and yelling at him.

I told my husband if he hits or throws Jimmy again, I will take our son and leave. Is this a normal reaction to the stress of an infant, or is it the beginning of child abuse? I am exhausted, too, but I never feel angry with Jimmy the way my husband does. Am I overreacting? -- Worried New Mom

Worried: Dear Overreacting? You're not reacting enough. Hitting and throwing an infant is child abuse. Period. Your husband may be unprepared for the responsibilities of fatherhood, and

ves, it can be stressful to be sleep-deprived while caring for a crying infant, but that doesn't justify his behavior. Please don't wait until it happens again. The next time could be fatal, and vou'll never forgive yourself for not taking action sooner. the National Domestic Violence Hotline (ndvh.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233) and get some assistance. Do it now.

Dear Annie: I read the responses to "Tired of Paying." I'm 60, male and recently widowed. If one the sign and have them extends an invitation for a meal or any other activity, that person assumes the obligation for any expense.

> Thirty-five years ago, I did some part-time modeling and worked with some gorgeous ladies. I wouldn't have expected them to reach for a check in a restaurant, even though they were paid about 10 times what I was.

Imagine inviting friends over for dinner and at the end of the evening presenting them with a bill for "their share" of the festivities. Has civility become extinct? Or have I? -- T.K. in Ojai, Calif.

Dear T.K.: We've heard of people who, in fact, do present their "guests" with a bill at the end of an evening. It's outrageously ill-mannered. The person who extends the invitation is still responsible for paying unless other arrangements are agreed upon in advance. However, if someone cannot afford to treat every time, he or she should select something less expensive, which is why we recommended meeting for a cup of coffee and other readers suggested a walk in the park.

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.

		WFAA 2 Dallas	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	WTBS 11 Atlanta	KMLM 12 Odessa	KPBT 13 Odessa	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC 21 Classics	SPIKE 22 Spike TV	TNT 23 Atlanta	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN 27 Disney	ESPN2 28 Sports	ESPN 29 Sports
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	:30	Paid	Paid	Humor	King-Hill	Paid	Pelicula: Mis	Dark	Orange	Southwest			Movie: Pa-	Sharp-	Quick and	Some	Dragon	Tape	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"THIS IS YOUR SECOND TIME IN THE CORNER TODAY!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"That's corn? I thought corn came in a can!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE





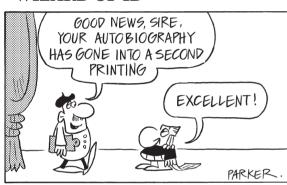
WELL, THANKS



BC

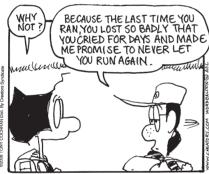


WIZARD OF ID



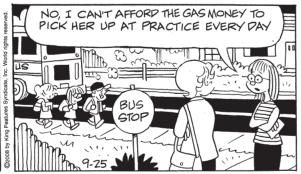












THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 25, the 269th day of 2008. There are 97 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 25, 1789, the first United States Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. (Ten of the amendments became the Bill of Rights.) On this date:

In 1493, Christopher Columbus set sail from Cadiz, Spain, with a flotilla of 17 ships on his second voyage to the Western Hemisphere.

In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and sighted the Pacific Ocean. In 1690, one of the earliest

American newspapers, Publick Occurrences, published its first — and last — edition in Boston. In 1775, American Revolutionary

War hero Ethan Allen was captured by the British as he led an attack on Montreal. In 1890, Wilford Woodruff, pres-

ident of the Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-day Saints, issued a Manifesto formally renouncing the practice of polygamy.

In 1919, President Wilson collapsed after a speech in Pueblo, Colo., during a national speaking tour in support of the Treaty of Versailles.

In 1956, the first trans-Atlantic telephone cable went into service. In 1957, nine black students

who'd been forced to withdraw from Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., because of unruly white crowds were escorted to class by members of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division.

In 1978, 144 people were killed when a Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 and a private plane collided over San Diego. In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor

was sworn in as the first female justice on the Supreme Court. One year ago: Iranian Japan's

lower house of parliament elected

Yasuo Fukuda prime minister. Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Barbara Walters is 79. Folk singer Ian Tyson is 75. Rhythm-and-blues singer Joe Russell is 69. Defense Secretary Robert Gates is 65. Actor Robert Walden is 65. Actor-producer Michael Douglas is 64. Model Cheryl Tiegs is 61. Actress Mimi

Kennedy is 59. Actor-director

Anson Williams is 59. Actor Mark Hamill is 57. Polka bandleader Jimmy Sturr is 57. Actor Colin Friels is 56. Actor Michael Madsen is 50. Actress Heather Locklear is 47. Actress Aida Turturro is 46. Actor Tate Donovan is 45. Basketball player Scottie Pippen is 43. Actor Jason Flemyng is 42. Actor Will Smith is 40. Actor Hal Sparks is 39. Actress Catherine Zeta-Jones is 39. Rock musician Mike Luce (Drowning Pool) is 37. Actress Bridgette Wilson-Sampras is 35. Actor Chris Owen is 28. Rapper T. I. is 28. Actor Lee Norris is 27. Singer Diana Ortiz (Dream) is 23. Actress Emmy Clarke

Thought for Today: "History is too serious to be left to historians." — Iain Macleod, British politician (1913-1970).

("Monk") is 17.

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Answer to previous puzzle LIPSTEADSLAM

Tucker

40 Lyricist

46 Horned

judge

trio

49 Filets' lack

39 NAFTA signer

Gershwin

44 Winter falls

45 Good buddy

47 Dentist's tool

48 American Idol

50 Nativity-scene

heavyweights

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Penne and
- shells 6 Practice in
- the ring
- **10** Tell it like 14 Use crib notes
- 15 Made the scene
- 16 Granny 17 Show the
- ropes to
- 18 Square footage
- 19 Gambling asset
- 20 Richard
- Dreyfuss film
- of '95
- 23 Kentucky Derby month
- **24** As (letter closing)
- 25 Treated badly
- 29 Verdi's Aida,
- 32 Make healthy
- again
- **33** Blackmore
- heroine 34 Chowed down
- movie of '92 41 Hurler's stat
- 42 Tibetan or Thai
- 43 Tooth part
- cool
- capital
- Judging Amy
- **49** Scroogian
- **50** Rowan Atkinson
- 57 Right-hand
- person **58** Clickable image 59 They may be
- counted
- 62 King of rhyme 63 Ready to pour

- 64 Pandora's
 - release 65 Meadow
 - mamas
 - **66** Bedtime reading

DOWN

- 1 Interest stat.
- 2 "Beg pardon . . ."
- **3** Burn the
- surface of
- 4 Dash gauge
- **5** Not away
- 6 Like a lizard's skin
- **7** Army jumper,
- briefly
- 8 Solemn assent
- 9 Audition for a part
- 10 Smitten
- 11 Hosiery shade
- 37 Billy Crystal

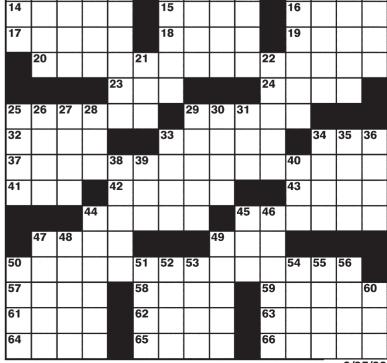
- 44 Loses one's
- 45 European
- Tyne of
- shout
- movie of 2007
- **61** Surplus

- **MISTERY MOVIES** by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
- 38 Country singer 12 Acquire, as
- debts
- 13 Fifth Avenue retailer
- 21 Young fellow
- 22 Dwarfs count
- **25** Highest level 26 Jefferson's
- vice president
- 27 Celestial bear 28 Mermaid's
- home 29 Fast-food
- drinks
- **30** Credit-union
- offering
- 31 "ln event . . ."
- 34 Bug-eyed 35 Command-
- ments pronoun
- **36** Suffix with kitchen
- 52 Garbage hauler **33** Faucet problem **53** Putter's target

51 "Good one!"

- **54** " call us . . ."
- **55** Regarding
- **56** Subscription
- term
- **60** 007, for one
- 10 12 13 111

9/24/08 1:28:30 PM



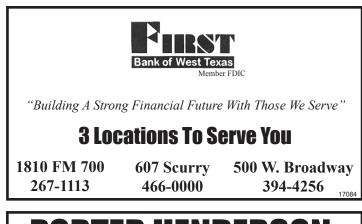
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Coahoma Bulldogs VS. Kermit



Photo Courtesy of Corky Mitchell, Spry Marketing

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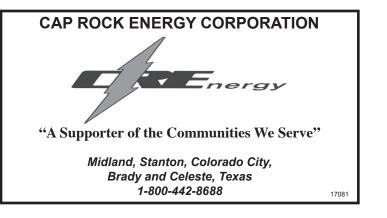
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