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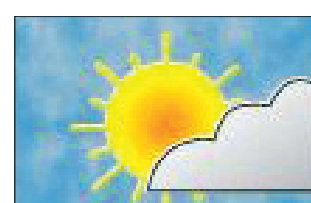
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H BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

JUNE 18, 2009



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RODEO RETURNS FOR 76TH EDITION



Ryan Stutes of Sulphur, La., won the bareback competition at last year's Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. The 76th edition of the event opens at 8 p.m. this evening in the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl off FM 700. Rodeo Week officially begins with a parade along Third and Fourth streets at 5 p.m. today. See related articles, Page 1B.

HERALD file photo

\$950,000 bond set

PD saying little about shooting that claimed local woman's life

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the Big Spring Police Department are remaining tight-lipped about the Monday shooting death of a Big Spring woman allegedly killed by her husband.

Patricia Ramirez Gutierrez, 45, was pronounced dead at the SMMC emergency room by Howard County Justice of the Peace Quail Dobbs Monday, the apparent victim of a gunshot wound to the back, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD.



Patricia and Tommy Guitierrez Jr.

Officers responded to a home at 1207 Sycamore — the residence of record for the victim and the suspect in the shooting — at approximately 1:40 a.m., according to police records, where the victim was discovered.

"The victim was shot once in the back with what is believed to have been a 12-gauge shotgun," said Everett. "The investigation into the shooting revealed the victim had allegedly been shot by her

See **MURDER**, Page 3A

That smell? It's supply and demand, city says

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

If you've noticed a funky smell coming from your city-supplied tap water, officials with the city of Big Spring say it's not your imagination,

as recent strains on the water supply are contributing to the problem.

According to Todd Darden, assistant city manager, the condition is a seasonal one caused by the basic premise of supply and demand.



Darden

"We've received a lot of calls from city water customers saying there's an odor coming from the water supply," said Darden. "This is

something that happens pretty much every year during the summer when things get extremely hot and dry."

Darden said the problem is temporary and is being spurred on by excessive customer demand.

"We see this any time things get really dry and there's an excessive demand for water because of it," said Darden. "The increased demands on the water supply

See **SMELL**, Page 3A

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To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



HOT DOG!

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Sandy Martinez, left, activities director at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, serves hot dogs during an appreciation lunch for the facility's certified nurse's aides Wednesday afternoon. Several activities, including a pizza party, ice cream social and cake run, are planned this week to show appreciation to the aides for the work they do at the facility, officials said.

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*Spend time with Dad
 on Father's Day
 Sunday, June 21st*



A lasting tradition

Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo continues its 76-year legacy

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

There will be some new names and faces at the forefront of the 76th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo starting Thursday.

However, at the heart of the event, are the same individuals who have helped make it one of the longest continuously running rodeos in the nation.

"We are bringing some new faces to this year's rodeo, but we don't believe we're losing any quality," said Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo Board of Directors President Skipper Driver. "It's a longstanding tradi-

tion in Big Spring and one we're proud to continue. I was so pleased with last year's turn out and we obviously want to try to duplicate that and put as many people in the seats as we can. Our rodeo each year is put on the best possible rodeo. I'm very pleased with what we've brought in this year."

The first rodeo in Big Spring was held in the Cold Strayhorn Addition, southeast of town, in 1934. It was moved to 11th Place, west of where the Howard College campus is located today, for a few years.

See **RODEO**, Page 2B



HERALD photos/Jonathan Hull

At left, Jody Nix, a longtime member of the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo Board of Directors, sings the national anthem before the start of last year's event. The Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo will celebrate its 76th year of existence with 8 p.m. performances tonight, Friday and Saturday at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl. Nix will perform at a free dance at 10 p.m. following to the rodeo. Above, a rider carries the American flag around the arena during the grand entry ceremonies.

2009 Rodeo not short on talent

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

What's a rodeo without quality stock and talented riders, ropers and wranglers?

The 76th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo features a full slate with what Board of Directors President Skipper Driver calls top-end stock and talented cowboys and cowgirls.

"Pete Carr is providing our stock and it just gets better and better," said Driver. "We're fortunate to have him providing this. Several of his animals are

used in the national finals.

"Considering the number of rodeos occurring in the state this weekend, we've really drawn a strong group of competitors," Driver added. "I'm very pleased with the talent we've got coming in this year. We have more entrants this year than last and we're featuring some of the best in each event."

A total of 253 cowboys and cowgirls make up this year's field, which is 24 more than the 2008 edition of the rodeo.

See **TALENT**, Page 4B



HERALD photos/Jonathan Hull

At left, Britt Walters of Huntsville wrangles a steer to the ground at the 2008 edition of the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl. Above, bullfighter Scott Spencer taunts a bull with a barrel. The 2009 version of the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo is set to begin at 8 p.m. tonight and will feature its fair share of talent in every event.

Obituaries

Nathan Mikial Burch

Nathan Mikial Burch, 10, of Big Spring died Sunday, June 14, 2009. A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Matt Miles and the Rev. Burt Bronaugh officiating.

He was born April 30, 1999, in Big Spring. He finished fourth grade at Elbow Elementary, was a life time resident of Big Spring, and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his mother, Sarah Burch of Big Spring; father, Travis Burch of Big Spring; maternal grandparents, Kay and Danny Kennemur of Big Spring; one brother, Glen Burch of Big Spring; one sister, Mia Burch of Big Spring; and seven cousins, including Katelynn Kennemur of Big Spring, who lived with him as a sister.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents: William and Diana Jewett.

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

Joseph Frank Townsend

Infant Joseph Frank Townsend of Pine Mountain Valley, Ga., died at The Medical Center on Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, June 15, 2009, in Parkhill Cemetery with Father Jeff Jackson officiating, according to Striffler-Hamby Mortuary.

Survivors include his parents, Kenny and Terri Townsend of Pine Mountain Valley, Ga.; paternal grandmother, Martha Townsend of Columbus, Ga.; maternal grandmother, Kay Moncada of Big Spring; and maternal grandfather, Mario Moncada of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visit www.mem.com to sign the on-line guest registry.

Take Note

- American Legion Post 506 is holding a fish fry Saturday at 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Serving will be from noon to 3 p.m. Carry-outs are available. Plates are \$10 each. Everyone is welcome.

- The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities funds through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. West Texas Opportunities 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) 267-9536.

- An account to defray funeral costs for the family of Justin Hernandez has been set up at Western Bank — formerly known as First Bank of West Texas — located on FM 700. Hernandez was killed in a shooting May 29. For more information, contact the bank at 267-1113.

- Iglesia Bautista Central, 2105 Lancaster, will hold Operation Space Vacation Bible School from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for ages 2-12, July 6-10.

- Road to Recovery, a free service for those in the Big Spring area taking cancer treatments at Allison Cancer in Midland, is still in operation. The coordinator and phone number to call have changed. To get a ride to cancer treatment in Midland, please call Amy Carnes at (432) 334-6121, which is the American Cancer Society office in Odessa. If Amy is out of the office, you may leave your information with Melissa. An alternate number to call is 1-800-ACS-2345, which is the regional patient services offices; they will relay your information to Amy for the local drivers.

- A reception for retiring Coahoma Independent School District employees will be held from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, in the Coahoma Community Center. Everyone is invited.

- The Big Spring High School class of 1979 is seeking classmates to attend our 30-year reunion Sept. 18-19. Please contact Debbye Salazar ValVerde at debbyeval@bigspringchamber.com or Cheryl Carter Joy at joycheryl79@hotmail.com with any contact information, be it an e-mail address or physical address.

- A benefit account has been established at Woodforest National Bank (Account 1652331339) for John Allison and Jacoby Rivera, who lost their belongings in a residential fire on Runnels. Donations can also be made by calling (431) 213-4091.

- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas military personnel who have served or are currently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Apply at the Salvation Army, 511 W. Fifth St. These funds were granted by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

- We are currently seeking Class of 1999 classmates from Big Spring High School. Our 10-year reunion will be Sept. 18-19. Please send your mailing information to bshs1999@gmail.com to receive information on the reunion or contact Jennifer Davidson at (432) 213-0257.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Wednesday:

- DORA HOFFMAN, 27, 1610 Avion, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- FELICIA CANALES, 20, 1002 N. Main, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JOE GUZMAN, 21, 1002 N. Main, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- FRED PAREDEZ, 46, 809 Father Delaney, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- VICTORIA MARTINEZ, 31, 1413 Tucson, was arrested on four local warrants.
- TONI CONTRERAS, 20, 1503 Cherokee, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- ADELAIDO MARTINEZ, 57, 711 N.W. Eighth, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1100 block of Ridgeroad and the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 600 block of Eighth.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION WITH AN ASSAULT was reported in the 4200 block of Calvin.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 300 block of Tulane.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg.
- CRIMINAL MICHIEF was reported in the 400 block of Scurry and the 1000 block of Main.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was reported in the 800 block of Interstate 20.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg and the 300 block of Owens.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Wednesday (officials report 83 prisoners in the county jail):

- FELICIA CANALES, 20, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- TONI MARIE CONTRERAS, 20, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- JASON MICHAEL GONZALES, 33, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JOE EPIFANIO GUZMAN, 21, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- DORA ANN HOFFMAN, 27, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- ADELAIDO MARINTEZ, 57, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- VICTORIA MARTINEZ, 30, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on charges of expired vehicle registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility and two counts of failure to appear.
- DARYL RAY NEWBURN, 49, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- FRED PAREDEZ, 46, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- FELIPE SAIZ, 36, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- DERRICK ALLEN YOUNG, 37, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity:




- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3000 block of Piper. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 4200 block of Calvin. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of Connally. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Rickenbaugh. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
- American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

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

MONDAY

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad, in the dining hall on the east side of the building. Weigh-in starts at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 6 p.m. There is a different program each week. For more information, call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 15-24-35-46-47-54.
Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 1-13-32-34-37.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-4-1-3. Sum It Up: 17.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-4-1-3. Sum It Up: 17.

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RODEO

Continued from Page 1B

In 1950, the association purchased land and constructed what was at the time, and still is today, one of the most interesting rodeo complexes anywhere. Taking advantage of a natural canyon, the association built the concrete and steel Rodeo Bowl, where the event has been held ever since.

This year's festivities kick off with the traditional rodeo parade at 5 p.m. today.

Because of construction work along the traditional parade route of Main and Scurry streets, it will take a different path this year.

Rodeo Association Board Member Quail Dobbs said the parade will begin at the intersection of Third and Owens Streets and proceed west on Third Street to Scurry, turn south for one block then proceed east on Fourth Street and end at the intersection of Fourth and Owens.

Dobbs said the new parade route comes on the heels of several rumors the annual event would be cancelled, and while the rodeo's organizers considered nixing the kick-off parade, that's simply not the case.

"We thought about not having a parade and there are lots of rumors going around that we won't be having one," Dobbs said. "But we decided we didn't want to do that, so we're definitely going to have a parade, but the route will be a lot different."

Rodeo performances will start nightly at 8 p.m. There are 253 cowboys and cowgirls — 24 more than last year — participating in this year's rodeo.

Here's where the new faces come into play.

Making his first appearance at the Big Spring Rodeo as the specialty act is John Harrison.

Harrison, who hails from Soper, Okla., is the grandson of late World Champion Bull Rider Freckles Brown. He entertains audiences with roman riding, trick roping and trick riding.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Jerad Schlegal of Burns, Colo., rides in the bareback competition at the 2008 Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl.

The fast-paced roman riding will feature Harrison standing atop two individual horses that work as a team. The horses run freely through a series of figure eights, reverses and split flaming fire stakes. He also jumps the horses through a flaming horseshoe.

Another new face at the 2009 Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo will be Ben Clements, who will handle the duties of announcing. It's the first time in more than 10 years that Mike Mathis hasn't had this responsibility at the rodeo.

"Mike simply had a scheduling conflict," explained Driver. "There's a lot of different rodeos going on at the same time as ours this year. I think there are five others in the state alone and Mike had some responsibilities with one. Ben is relatively new to the business, but we think he'll be very entertaining."

Clements' roots are buried deep in West Texas. Clements is a former member of the Howard College rodeo team and attended high school in Crane. He finished college at the

University of Texas, Permian Basin in Odessa.

Clements announced his first rodeo in 1997 and has been calling the action for the United States Team Roping Championships for more than 10 years.

Carr Pro Rodeo, established in 2005 by Pete Carr of Dallas and Malakoff, will again be producing this year's rodeo stock. The quality of the animal's provided was shown in the marquee event in last year's rodeo, when not a single bull rider completed a successful 8-second ride in the first two days. The company has stock already slated for National Finals Rodeo appearances.

"Pete Carr's stock just keeps getting better and better," acknowledged Driver. "We're fortunate to have him providing the stock."

Driver expects each night's rodeo to end at approximately 10 p.m. The festivities don't end with the conclusion of the rodeo, though, with a musical act playing in the fair barn each night.

Big Spring's own Jody Nix takes the stage for tonight's dance, which is free of charge for anyone who bought a ticket to the rodeo.

Mark Powell and Lariat are to be featured Friday night. The trio, made up of two brothers and their father, is a Texas Swing Band and were ranked the top group of that genre in 2008 by the International Dancers Association. Tickets are \$10.

The rodeo's festivities finish off with a pair of locals manning the stage in the fair barn Saturday, when Howard County native Guy Will Zant opens for Mark McKinney.

Zant grew up in Vealmoor and graduated from Borden County High School in Gail.

McKinney was born and raised in Big Spring and recently released an album nationwide titled Middle America. He was featured on the cover of the June/July 2009 issue of Best in Texas music magazine.

Cost is \$20 to see the two local musicians in concert.

Tickets to the rodeo will be \$10 for adults and \$6 for children under 12 at the gate. However, advance sale prices are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. They can be purchased at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Ward's Boot and Saddle, First Bank of West Texas, First Big Spring Banking Center, Wells Fargo, Citizens Federal Credit Union, State National Bank and H-E-B.

Box seats are available for the three-day rodeo run. To make reservations, call Dr. Rip Patterson at 267-2435.

Also in conjunction with the rodeo, the four-man Cowboy Scramble Golf Tournament benefitting the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund will begin at 8 a.m. Friday with a shotgun start at the Big Spring Country Club.

Dr. Patterson is heading up the golf tournament and said participants may either make up a team or join the cowboys by calling the club at 267-5354.

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Find results for each night's events of 76th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo daily in the Herald or online at www.bigspringherald.com.

Rodeo for dummies

Here we go again. After attending my first rodeo in more than 10 years two years ago, I discovered that the crash course I gave myself the night before the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo just wasn't enough. My schooling must continue.

I hope I'm not alone in this town, when I say that the extent of my rodeo knowledge is limited to movies "8 Seconds" and "My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys." Outside of what actors Stephen Baldwin, Luke Perry and Scott Glenn tell me in those movies, I have no understanding of rodeo at all.

Yet, here I am back in Big Spring, the town I grew up in, where the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo is one of the biggest events to come to town every year and I'm failing to comprehend most of what's going on.

I don't exactly know why rodeo has passed me by. It's not that I dislike the sport. I actually admire the courage and ability it takes to do what these cowboys do and I do enjoy watching bull riding on television from time to time.

Maybe it's because I cringe at the

thought of myself in cowboy boots, Wranglers and a cowboy hat. The style just doesn't seem to suit me. Fortunately, I've been told that my normal dress will be OK while I cover the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo this week. Although, I have had more than one offer from others to take me down to Ward's Western Wear to get the proper rodeo attire.

The truth is, I practically pulled another all-nighter, much like I did last year, so that I can truly be prepared to report what I witness Thursday through Saturday.

Here's what I've learned over my study sessions the last two years...

Lesson 1: It turns out that there are several more events other than bull riding, despite it being the only rodeo event that is usually broadcast on television. This is probably important to know, considering there will be nine events taking place each night at the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. Now that I think of it, I do remember Lane Frost marrying a barrel racer in 8 Seconds. Maybe I should trust movies less to provide accurate information.

Lesson 2: Bareback-riding cowboys and bull riders are not holding one arm up in the air for style. The flailing arm is supposed to show the rider is using only one hand because they are disqualified if they touch the body of the animal with their

See DUMMIES, Page 4B



JONATHAN HULL



Road Construction Blues



At the Big Spring Herald we are suffering through the same road construction problems as everyone else. Over the last 2 weeks the front of our building has had no parking and it has been very hard for our customers to get to us. It is now available for parking and our newspaper racks that are out front are again available. We also realize that it is not easy to get to places on Gregg St. to get your copy of the paper. We would like to make everyone aware of all the different locations the Big Spring Herald is sold at for your convenience.

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Thursday-Jody Nix & the Texas Cowboys
Free with rodeo ticket
Friday-Mark Powell & Lariat-\$10 per person
Saturday-Guy Will Zant opens for:
Mark McKinney-\$20 per person

U.S. court finds convicts have no right to test DNA

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court said Thursday that convicts have no constitutional right to test DNA evidence in hopes of proving their innocence long after they were found guilty of a crime.

The decision may have limited impact because the federal government and 47 states already have laws that allow convicts some access to genetic evidence. Testing has led to the exoneration of at least 232 people who had been

found guilty of murder, rape and other violent crimes.

The court ruled 5-4, with its conservative justices in the majority, against an Alaska man who was convicted in a brutal attack on a prostitute 16 years ago.

William Osborne won a federal appeals court ruling granting him access to a blue condom that was used during the attack. Osborne argued that testing its contents would firmly establish his innocence or guilt.

In parole proceedings, however, Osborne has admitted his guilt in a separate bid for release from prison.

The high court reversed the ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. States already are dealing with the challenges and opportunities presented by advances in genetic testing, Chief Justice John Roberts said in his majority opinion.

Alaska, Massachusetts and Oklahoma are the only states without DNA testing laws. In

some other states, the laws limit testing to capital crimes or rule out after-the-fact tests for people who confess.

But Justice John Paul Stevens said in dissent that a simple test would settle the matter. "The court today blesses the state's arbitrary denial of the evidence Osborne seeks," Stevens said.

The woman in Alaska was raped, beaten with an ax handle, shot in the head and left for dead in a snow bank near Anchorage International Air-

port. The condom that was found nearby was used in the assault, the woman said.

The woman identified Osborne as one of her attackers. Another man also convicted in the attack has repeatedly incriminated him. Osborne himself described the assault in detail when he admitted his guilt under oath to the parole board in 2004.

Osborne's lawyer passed up DNA testing at the time of his trial, fearing it could conclusively link him to the crime.

'Bunny Lady' arrested again for violating court order

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Washington County's "Bunny Lady" is back in the hutch after violating a court order banning her from owning animals for five years.

Miriam Sakewitz, 47, was arrested Tuesday at a hotel in the Portland suburb of Tigard after an employee reported finding rabbits hopping around in her room.

Problems for Sakewitz started in October 2006 when police in Hillsboro, about 15 miles west of Portland, found and confiscated nearly 250 rabbits in her home, including about 100 dead ones in freezers and refrigerators.

Police said she broke into the facility where the survivors were being cared for in January 2007 and stole most of them back. Authorities found her a few days later in Chehalis, Wash., with eight live rabbits and two dead ones in her car. Another 130 rabbits were recovered at a nearby horse farm.

Sakewitz was sentenced in April 2007 to five years probation and was banned from owning or controlling animals. She also was told not to go within 100 yards of a rabbit.

That summer, Sakewitz was ordered to spend three days in jail for violating her probation by keeping a rabbit in her house. County probation officer Susan Ranger also said Sakewitz had canceled counseling sessions and refused to open the door for unannounced visits. Ranger said she found no rabbits when she finally got inside but did find a half-empty 10-pound bag of carrots.

Since then, Sakewitz has remained "pretty quiet" — until this week, said Washington County probation officer Bob Severe. "We hadn't heard much further from her," he said, adding she was thought to be living in Clackamas County.

On Tuesday, Washington County animal control officers removed eight adult rabbits, five young ones and a dead one from Sakewitz's hotel room, Tigard police spokesman Jim Wolf said.

Sakewitz was in custody Wednesday, and Wolf said he did not know if she had an attorney. She was to be arraigned Wednesday afternoon on animal neglect charges.

Herald earns KTB media award

Keep Texas Beautiful has announced that the *Big Spring Herald* has won the third place Media Award at the 42nd Annual Keep Texas Beautiful Conference in Houston.

The award recognizes the *Herald's* public service efforts designed to educate, inform and encourage public involvement in local litter prevention, solid waste issues and community beautification in cooperation with the local KTB affiliate.

The Keep Texas Beautiful Media Award committee analyzes the activities of local newspapers, radio and television stations from all areas of Texas and selects those that meet or exceed their standards. "A third place award is quite an accomplishment for a small newspaper and adds to the prestige of the Big Spring Herald," a KTB official said.

Other awards given to Big Spring

were the Ebby Halliday and Maurice Acers Business/Industry Leadership Award, third place, given to the Big Spring Wal-Mart Supercenter, honoring its sound environmental principles and the Ruthe Jackson Youth Leadership Award for Off-Campus Youth Groups, third place, given to Big Spring's First Christian Church Youth Group.

The awards will be formally presented to the recipients at the Keep Big Spring Beautiful Awards Banquet in January 2010.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful is the local affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful and is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to making Big Spring the cleanest, most beautiful city in Texas

For more information visit www.KeepBigSpringBeautiful.org

MURDER

Continued from Page 1A

husband, who fled the scene prior to officers arrival."

Several hours later, 48-year-old Tommy Gutierrez Jr. turned himself in to police officers at the Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center, where he was taken into custody and charged with murder.

Officials with the Howard County Jail con-

firmed Gutierrez — who is originally from Loraine — has been transferred to their facility, where his bond was set at \$950,000.

According to police records, Gutierrez has been charged with murder, a first-degree felony punishable by five to 99 years to life in prison and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

As of press time, Gutierrez had not bonded out and was still in the custody of the county jail.

Everett said the investigation into the murder is ongoing and declined to comment on the details related to the events leading up to the shooting.

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

Texas Briefs

Houston father charged with capital murder

HOUSTON (AP) — The father of two children is facing capital murder charges for allegedly slaying them during an apparent murder-attempted suicide.

The Houston Chronicle reports 33-year-old Pedro Enrique Rosabal has been charged with capital murder in the deaths of his daughter, 8-year-old Osiris, and son, 6-year-old Onasis.

Police spokesman John Cannon has said the two children were found shot to death in a car Tuesday and their father shot himself in the head.

Rosabal is on life support and in critical condition at Ben Taub General Hospital.

Cannon said police had been looking for the children after their mother reported to authorities that her estranged husband had called saying he planned to drive them to an unknown location and kill them.

Atlanta.

Coppell woman dies less than a year after children

COPELL, Texas (AP) — Coppell police say a woman died in an apparent drowning at the same swimming pool where her two children drowned less than a year ago.

Police discovered 35-year-old Van Ha Stocco lying near the pool at her home Wednesday afternoon. She was pronounced died at Las Colinas Medical Center.

An autopsy has been ordered but there were no signs of foul play. It was unclear who found Stocco and called police, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Her death happened three weeks before the first anniversary of the drowning deaths of 3-year-old Marcus Stocco and his 1-year-old sister Catherine Stocco on July 8.

Authorities say Matthew Stocco, their father, told them he found the children at the bottom of the pool but couldn't revive them.

Pilot dies aboard Continental flight

DALLAS (AP) — A captain on a Continental Airlines flight has died during the flight, says a person familiar with the situation.

WCBS-TV in New York says the pilot died on a flight from Brussels and the plane was expected to make an emergency landing at Newark Liberty International Airport.

A person close to the situation confirmed the death to The Associated Press but gave no other details. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity, was not authorized to speak publicly about the situation.

Continental did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Louvre curator takes post at Dallas museum

DALLAS (AP) — A longtime curator at Paris' Louvre Museum will lead the Dallas Museum of Art's departments of European and American art.

The Dallas Museum of Art said Thursday that Olivier Meslay (oh-LIH'-vee-yay meh-LAY') will begin work in August.

Meslay has held several senior positions at the Louvre, including curator of British, American and Spanish painting. Since 2006 he's served as the chief curator of the Louvre Lens, a satellite of the Louvre being developed in northern France.

Before being appointed chief curator of Louvre Lens, Meslay was curator of the Louvre's three-year collaboration with Atlanta's High Museum of Art in which exhibitions from the Paris museum's collections were presented in

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 8 PM NIGHTLY
 RODEO BOWL
 JUNE 18, 19, 20

DANCES
 Thursday-Jody Nix & the Texas Cowboys
 Free with rodeo ticket
 Friday-Mark Powell & Lariat-\$10 per person
 Saturday-Guy Will Zant opens for:
 Mark McKinney-\$20 per person

RODEO
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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

During his nineteen years in the United States Army, my brother has received a lot of training. Before his recent deployment to Iraq, he had to spend months preparing for his assignment. The Army knows proper training is a matter of life and death.

In similar fashion, Christians are admonished to "train to be godly." (1 Timothy 4:7) The time spent in study and prayer today will equip us to live a life of righteousness tomorrow. The moral victories or defeats we experience today reflect how we trained yesterday.

Training never stops for the Christian. We continue to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18). We refuse to "grow weary and lose heart." (Hebrews 12:3). We understand it really is a matter of life and death.

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Big Spring Cowboy Reunion PRCA Rodeo June 18, 19, 20

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76th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo

Date: June 18-21, 2009

Starting Time: 8 PM NIGHTLY • GATES OPEN AT 7 PM

Where: Big Spring Rodeo Bowl (near FM 700 & Bus. 20 West)

DANCES:

THURSDAY NIGHT • Jody Nix • Free w/rodeo Ticket

FRIDAY NIGHT • Mark Powell & Lariat • \$10 per person

SATURDAY NIGHT • Guy Will Zant opening for Mark McKinney • \$20 per person

PARADE: Thursday, June 18, 2009, 5:00 PM starting at intersection of 3rd & Owens Street.
Miss Rodeo Texas, Hardin-Simmons White Horses, Texas Tech Masked Rider, Shriners, Cowboy & Cowgirls and Sheriff Posses from surrounding towns

Specialty Act: John Harrison

Bullfighters: Scotty Spencer and Chad Beavers

Announcer: Ben Clements will announce the rodeo on horseback in the arena

Special Event: Mutton Bustin' each night

Golf Tournament Friday June 19, Big Spring Country Club, 8:00 AM, 4 man scramble

All proceeds go to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund/Everett Blackburn scholarship fund

TICKET PRICES: AT GATE: ADULTS \$10, CHILDREN \$8

PRE-SALE: ADULTS \$8, CHILDREN \$6 (under 12)

Pre-Sale Tickets Available At Big Spring Chamber of Commerce, Wards Boots & Saddle, HEB,
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

Giving FDA more control of tobacco makes good sense

Big news came out of Washington the other day and it had nothing to do with the U.S. economy, the struggling auto industry, housing market or proposals changing the delivery of health care in this country.

No, it was the announcement that the FDA (the U.S. Food and Drug Administration) is looking to control the manufacturing and marketing of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

The FDA's plans are huge and will have much more impact than the 1971 ban against tobacco advertising on radio and television.

And it will be bigger than the tobacco industry's \$206 billion lawsuit settlement with the states in 1998.

Now remember, the surgeon general declared tobacco dangerous to our health in the mid-1960s.

And while two-thirds of the *Herald's* editorial board are smokers, we can't help but consider it absolutely ridiculous that tobacco — a substance considered the leading cause of preventable death — has for more than 40 years since been almost unregulated.

Both the House and Senate have signed off on legislation that will outlaw the use of the terms "light" and "low tar"; ban the use of fruit and candy flavorings to make tobacco products more palatable to children; strengthen warning labels; and require FDA approval for new products. Advertising and store displays will be restricted to stark black-and-white text.

It is predicted the new law will decrease youth smoking incrementally by 11 percent and adult smoking by 2 percent, and that's above the decrease which has come as a result of higher taxes and public smoking restrictions.

But the biggest impact is now the FDA will have the ability to make the products less deadly for current users.

The tobacco companies have spent \$308 million to defeat the bill. So, it's somewhat ironic that one of the bill's biggest proponents was Philip Morris. Of course, competitors claim Philip Morris will have an edge, because as the industry's leader, it will be less affected by any advertising restrictions.

Strange, isn't it, that all of "large tobacco" has been able to survive and obviously flourish with the growing list of restrictions they've faced over the years?

Maybe it's because so many smokers, as well as those who use smokeless tobacco, are physically and psychologically addicted.

There will now be an FDA tobacco control center, funded with new fees paid by the companies, which means those of us who smoke will find it an even more expensive a habit to maintain. And we're reasonably certain many will decry such added costs.

But the bottom line is that the FDA will now have a big say trying to save the lives of the almost half-million people who are annually killed by tobacco-related health problems.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Between now and then, Lord, may we take Your heavenly blessings to heart.
Amen

Talk about an orgy of indignation

I wish Sarah Palin would just go away. During the 2008 presidential campaign, I wrote about the unfair personal treatment to which the political press corps subjected Palin and her children. Now I just want her to stop milking her role as GOP martyr. Palin should stick to her day job — by which I mean, governing Alaska, not being fodder for talk-show humor.

Both parties have their umbrage industries — thanks to true believers, who love nothing better than to see themselves as victims of a perceived double standard. Last week, comedian David Letterman's two off-color jokes about a Palin family trip to New York led to an orgy of indignation.

Yes, I know that a politician's family — especially their minor children — is supposed to be off-limits. Letterman apparently thought he was joking about 18-year-old teenage mom Bristol Palin, unaware that 14-year-old Willow Palin went to Yankee Stadium.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Which, of course, gave the Alaska governor license to huff: "Laughter incited by sexually perverted comments made by a 62-year-old male celebrity aimed at a 14-year-old girl is not only disgusting, but it reminds us (that) some Hollywood/N.Y. entertainers have a long way to go in understanding what the rest of America understands — that acceptance of inappropriate sexual comments about an underage girl, who could be anyone's daughter, contributes to the atrociously high rate of sexual exploitation of minors by older men who use and abuse others."

In that any sex act between an adult male and a 14-year-old would constitute statutory rape, father Todd Palin chimed in, too: "Any 'jokes' about raping my 14-year-old are despicable."

Now there's a firebrand letterman.com website and a planned protest outside the Ed Sullivan Theater in New York City on Tuesday.

If anyone thinks these antics will help Palin in the 2012 GOP primary, guess again. These stories don't tell voters that Palin has the smartest energy policy or that she's been a more successful governor than California's Arnold Schwarzenegger

— they tell voters that Palin's life is a nonstop soap opera.

Republicans who want to win back Washington would do well to look for a winner. Not a victim.

Speaking of too much drama: I wish Newt Gingrich would just go away, too.

It's not just his messy personal life and crash-and-burn House speakership. It's his oral opportunism. One year, Gingrich is sharing a public-service announcement two-shot with Democrat Nancy Pelosi that warns about the dangers of global warming; the next year, he's attacking "environmental extremism." The man will say anything to get on TV. He is shameless.

The worst of it is, Gingrich is not the right's most shameless talking head. That dubious honor belongs to Dick Morris, who turned on Bill Clinton years ago, so now he's supposed to be a great political mind on the right. That's right, he's our sleaze bucket.

How low the party of Monica jokes has fallen.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com.
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The counterrevolutionary perspective

A long time ago, when I was too young to be interested in politics, the Cuban government labeled me as a "counter-revolutionary." I had nothing to do with it. It was my parents' decision to take me off the communist island to become a refugee in the United States. But that was enough for my homeland to consider me an enemy.

In retrospect, of course, I think my parents' decision was brilliant. Once I became fully aware of the atrocities of the Cuban Revolution, I became a proud counterrevolutionary.

I know. It's not as romantic as being considered a rebel. But when revolutions become repressive regimes — as they often do — counterrevolutionaries become the real freedom fighters. And they are the ones who deserve our support and admiration.

And that's how I've viewed the images coming through my television out of Iran during the past few days. As the TV anchors announced that we could be seeing the beginning of a counterrevolution there, the people of Iran got my undivided attention and solidarity.

As they protested against what they perceived as a rigged election, risking their lives in violent clashes with police, I couldn't help myself; I was rooting for my fellow counterrevolutionaries. And as an American citizen, proud to live in a country that shines like a beacon of liberty for the whole world, I expected my government to stand up for freedom and democracy without hesitation.

Yet I was amazed by the slow and weak response from the Obama administration. Our government is so paranoid about getting Iran to agree to pursue a peaceful nuclear program that it forgot to question how some 40 million handwritten ballots could have been counted in a few hours in Iran during the weekend and how a winner could have been determined so fast.

While other world leaders were questioning Friday's re-election of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and expressing "serious concerns" about his regime's violent crackdown on peaceful demonstrators, the Obama administration was taking a wait-and-see approach, which shamefully minimized our role as the world's champion of freedom.

The official Iranian election results gave Ahmadinejad nearly 63 percent of the vote, while only 34 percent went to his main opponent, Mir Hossein Mousavi, who, although still conservative, had vowed to liberalize Iranian society, especially for the youth and for women.

If the election results had been closer, perhaps they would be more believable. Even though Ahmadinejad clearly has a strong following, the way in which he won — sweepingly, even among the youth and other sectors in which he is not popular — shows that there had to be fraud.

Besides, a violent crackdown on the opposition is not the way that a winner would act unless he stole the election.

German officials said the military crackdown was "completely unacceptable." The French government summoned Iran's ambassador and asked for an explanation. Prime Minister Gordon Brown told the British Parliament the Iranian regime "must address the serious questions which have been asked about the conduct of the Iranian elections" and noted that "the way the regime responds to legitimate protests will have implications for Iran's relationships with the rest of the world in (the) future."

Yet after a delay of crucial days, when the Iranian freedom fighters needed to hear that they had the support of the United States, all we heard from President Barack Obama were vague statements that showed he wants to land on both sides of the fence.

Instead of immediately siding with Iran's new freedom and democracy movement, Obama finally told reporters Monday that Iranian voters have a right to feel their ballots mattered. "It would be wrong for me to be

silent on what we've seen on the television the last few days," he said.

Well, duh!
Instead of denouncing the Ahmadinejad regime for stealing the election and calling for an independent probe, Obama seemed willing to accept the investigation that will be conducted by Iran's Guardian Council, which is sure to be a whitewash. Instead of conveying our strong solidarity with the people demonstrating on the streets of Tehran, Obama seems to be more concerned with making friends with their oppressors.

We seem to be saying that as long as Iran's leaders don't make nuclear weapons, we are willing to overlook the freedom and human rights they deny to their people.

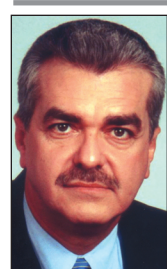
Because Ahmadinejad is bound to win this battle and we will have to continue to deal with him in the future, some Democrats apparently are not eager to support the demonstrators, a shameful position for the United States. Some of them argue that U.S. support could actually hurt the Iranian opposition because Ahmadinejad then could accuse his opponents of being pawns of the United States. It's a good try, but it's hogwash. Those people need at least our moral support!

If we don't stand up for freedom, who will?

Unless Obama starts using stronger language to condemn the recent developments in Iran, he will be helping to legitimize an election that had no independent monitoring and illogical results. He will be caving in to an avowed enemy of the United States and betraying the freedom aspirations of the Iranian people who want to follow our beacon of liberty.

More than 47 years have passed since my parents brought me, at the age of 11, to the United States in search of the precious freedom I enjoy today as an American. But whenever and wherever people fight against oppressors disguised as revolutionaries, I go back in time to my native Cuba and become a proud counterrevolutionary all over again.

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MIGUEL PEREZ

TALENT

Continued from Page 1B

Bareback riding

Each night's festivities open with bareback riding and four of the top 50 riders in the world will be in Big Spring.

Steven Anding of Crossroads is the top-ranked competitor currently sitting 19th. Anding will ride tonight. Matt Bright also saddles up tonight. Bright, who hails from Azle, is currently ranked 28th in the world.

Friday night's performance features the 21st-ranked bareback rider Zach Dishman of Beaumont. Riding just before Dishman is 40th-ranked Jake Brown of Hillsboro.

Saddle bronc riding

In this year's rodeo, the saddle bronc riding event might have the most heralded field.

Brothers Cody and Heith DeMoss of Heflin, La., each ride Friday night. Heith, the younger of the two, is currently ranked third in the world and made his first appearance at the National Finals Rodeo in 2007.

Cody, who is nicknamed Hot Sauce DeMoss, is ranked sixth and has qualified for the NFR five times.

For an encore in Friday's saddle bronc, 22nd-ranked Ty Atchison of Jackson, Mo., follows the DeMoss boys.

Saturday's performance features four more saddle bronc riders currently ranked in the Top 50.

Highlighting the field is seventh-ranked Taos Muncy of Corona, N.M., and 13th-ranked Isaac Diaz of Stephenville.

Muncy won a world title in 2007 after winning at the College National Finals Rodeo earlier that year. He was only the third cowboy to even accomplish that feat.

Diaz was one of the riders Muncy beat out for that title in 2007, which was his lone appearance at the NFR.

Also riding Saturday is No. 34 in the world Mike Outhier of Utopia and No. 37 Brody Bolton of Odessa.

Bull riding

Bull riding is where the glory of rodeo is and it concludes each night's performance. Last year, only two of Pete Carr's bulls were tamed for a successful eight-second ride.

Tyler Willis of Wheatland,

Wyom., leads a talented field. Willis, who is ranked 37th in the world, rides Friday night.

Barrel racing

The ladies take the main stage in barrel racing. Five of the top 25 cowgirls in the world will be competing at the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo.

Highlighting the field is Big Spring's own Stephanie Fryar. Fryar qualified for the NFR for the first time in her career last year and finished 10th in the average. Fryar is currently ranked 19th this season and will ride Friday.

Cassie Moseley of Farwell sits ninth in the standings and highlights tonight's field. Moseley finished fourth in last year's NFR. She placed third in Big Spring last year.

The two riders who topped Moseley in 2008's Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo are back in town to compete for the top prize as well.

Lizzy Allen of Abilene won the event last year with a time of 16.83. Kelly Maben of Spur finished second in Big Spring a year ago with a time of 16.98 and is currently ranked 57th in the world.

Two other NFR qualifiers are also in the barrel racing field. Colorado City's Terra Bynum placed eighth in last year's finals and is currently ranked 18th in the standings.

Just in front of Bynum is Annesa Self of Valley View — ranked 17th — who placed 11th at the 2008 NFR.

Maben, Bynum and Self join Fryar to make up a competitive list of riders for Friday's performance.

Also worth mentioning as contenders for the top prize in the event is 13th-ranked Savannah Reeves of Dublin and No. 24 Tammy Bruso of Dothan, Ala., who each ride tonight.

Steer wrestling

Mickey Gee of Wichita Falls is a former world champion (1999) and highlights the steer wrestling field. Gee is a two-time qualifier for the NFR and currently sits 30th in the world standings.

Gee will face sturdy competition from two other ranked wranglers — No. 37 Jake Hettinger of Bowie and No. 45 Barry Kreikemeier.

Not to mention, the field also features the top two finishers from last year's rodeo. Cimmaron Thompson of Hobbs, N.M., is back to defend his Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo title. In 2008, he won



Stran Smith of Childress competes in the tie-down roping at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas in December 2008. It was Smith's 10th appearance at the NFR, but he finally broke through with his first world title. He finished second at the 2008 Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo and will be competing again in tonight's tie-down roping event. The rodeo begins at 8 p.m.

the competition with a time of 4.5 seconds, edging Jack Hodges of Stephenville by a tenth of a second. Hodges also returns to Big Spring and performs tonight.

Gee, Hettinger and Thompson each compete Friday, while Kreikemeier highlights Saturday's performance.

Tie-down roping

As typical, the Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo has pulled a large number of tie-down ropers.

One of the most notable names on the list is Cody Ohl of Hico. Ohl is ranked 50th in the world, but is a six-time world champion.

He won an all-around title in 2001 and claimed the top prize in the tie-down competition in 1997,

1998, 2001, 2003 and 2006. He's qualified for the NFR 14 times, advancing every year in the event from 1994 to 2008, except for 2002. The only thing keeping him from contending for a title was recovering from a torn anterior cruciate ligament, medial collateral ligament and patellar tendon he suffered at the 2001 NFR.

Ohl performs tonight, but is going to be challenged by the 2008 NFR tie-down champion Stran Smith.

Smith had qualified for the NFR 10 times in his 15-year career and finally broke through with his first championship. Last year, Smith finished second in Big Spring with a time of 8.4 seconds.

This year's field also features Scott Kormos of Teague, who

currently sits sixth in the world standings. Kormos is a four-time NFR qualifier, including an appearance in the finals in each of the past three seasons. He'll highlight Saturday's performance.

Team roping

The team roping field is highlighted by the 22nd-ranked header, Tyler Magnus of Hamilton, who teams with the 11th-ranked heeler, Mickey Gomez of Holland, Texas.

Gomez and Magnus teamed in 2004 and 2005, finishing in the top 20 for their positions in 2004. Gomez has made two appearances at the NFR in 1999 and 2000.

The duo competes Friday night.

PRCA photo



H. DeMoss



Gee



Ohl



Kormos



Gomez

DUMMIES

Continued from Page 2B

free hand. The goal of the rider is to stay upon their beast for eight seconds. Hence, the name of the great movie I keep referring to.

After they stay on for the entire eight seconds, the riders are given a score with a 100 being a perfect score. Anything over 70 is considered decent. The point system leads us to our next lesson.

Lesson 3: Scoring. I've always seen scores awarded for an eight-second ride on television, but I've never quite understood how the judges came up with that score. Why does one rider score more than another? My untrained rodeo eye doesn't see a difference between the two rides.

Two judges give 1-25 points for the cowboy's performance and 1-25 points for the animal's performance. The four scores are then combined and that's how a score is produced.

The judges award points based on several key aspects of the ride. They look for constant control and rhythm in the rider matching his movements with the animal's. Extra style points are awarded when a rider shows the ability to control the animal. Often times this is accomplished by spurring the horse or bull.

The animal is judged by its overall agility, power and speed. Simply put, if the rider has a hard time, then a good number of points will be awarded.

Lesson 4: Vocabulary. Cowboys have their own language that surrounds rodeo. Some of their lingo can make you feel as if you're in a foreign country. Here's a quick study guide with a few commonly used terms in the rodeo arena.

Arm jerker: A horse or bull that is really stout and bucks with the power to cause a great amount of pull on the contestant's arm.

Bufford: An animal that is easy to ride, rope or throw down.

Chasing the cans: The rodeo nick-

name for barrel racing.

Cowboy Up: A term used to indicate the need to increase an individual's effort. The phrase was made famous in 8 Seconds, when Stephen Baldwin, playing Tuff Hedeman, used it to inspire Lane Frost to get back on the bull.

Crow hopper: An animal that does NOT extend their hind legs out as they jump up during a ride, but kind of just hops around the arena like a crow.

Dink: An animal with very little bucking ability that jumps and kicks or just runs around the arena.

Freight trained: A contestant or clown that gets run over by a bull traveling at top speed.

Hazer: The cowboy that rides on the opposite side of the steer and keeps the steer running straight down the arena to assist the contestant during the steer wrestling event.

Header: The cowboy that ropes the steer around the horns, head, or neck in team roping.

Heeler: The cowboy that ropes the

hind legs of the steer in team roping.

Honker: A really rank and hard animal to ride.

Hooky: A bull that is really handy with its horns.

Over the dashboard: When the rider is thrown over the front end of an animal.

Piggin' string: A small soft rope about six feet long used by calf ropers to tie the animal's feet together.

Seeing daylight: The term used when a cowboy separates from a bucking animal far enough for the spectators to see daylight between the cowboy and the animal.

Snorty: A bull that blows air at a clown or downed cowboy.

OK. Now that we're all educated, there is no longer an excuse for not attending the 76th annual Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo starting today. How else will you try out your new language and knowledge if you don't put it into practice in the atmosphere where it belongs?

See you there.

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Annie's Mailbox [®]

Dear Annie: I had been seeing "Clark" for a year, and he told me everything a woman would want to hear. He made promises he never kept, and I continued to believe his lies. Eventually, he drained my savings.

I finally wised up and told him to start paying me back. He said he would, but it never happened. I canceled his cell phone (which I was paying for) and sent messages to all the phone numbers listed on my bill informing them they could no longer contact Clark on my dime. In return, I got responses from dozens of women he had been flirting with. When one of these women told Clark she had spoken to me, I got an angry call from him saying he would make my life miserable. Frankly, there's not much more he can do to me.

My question is, do I have any legal options? If I take him to court for the money, I know he still won't pay it. Is there any way to get him on criminal charges? I need some kind of closure to move on.— Humiliated and Used

Dear Humiliated: As far as we can tell, you gave Clark this money will-

ingly, which means he didn't defraud or trick you and, therefore, didn't do anything criminal. If you sue him in civil court, you might win since he made a verbal promise to repay you. If he doesn't have the money, it won't help, but if he does, the lawyer will take the necessary actions (garnish his wages, attach his assets) to make him responsible for the debt.

We can't guarantee you will win, however, so you also need to find the internal strength to chalk this up to a learning experience. As the saying goes, living well is the best revenge.

Dear Annie: I am a 27-year-old woman who, until recently, was happy and secure. Out of the blue, my husband of two years decided he did not want to be married and is refusing any counseling or reconciliation efforts. I am overwhelmed with grief and frightened about my future.

My family is helpful, but one family member drives me crazy. Almost every time we speak, she mentions something to do with my weight, like, "You used to be so pretty," or "You could be such a beautiful girl," etc.

I am not terribly overweight and, in fact, have lost a few pounds recently. Now that I'm going to be single, I realize I should focus on looking better, but my self-esteem is low enough right now, and I don't need to be reminded of the incredible rejection I have just been through. What can I say to this relative to make the torment stop? —Not That Fat

relative has no idea she is insulting you, so you must enlighten her. Say calmly and forcefully, "Aunt Betsy, I know you don't mean to be rude, but it is very cruel to constantly focus on my weight. I would appreciate it if you would stop making such hurtful comments." She'll sputter and make excuses, but it should do the trick.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Not Fat: This insensitive

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Dr. Michael Ramsey



From left, Mary Manry, Carolyn Vaughn and Mollie Lowery.

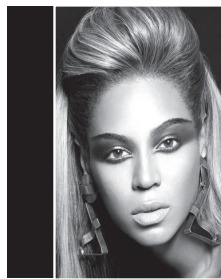
Gospel trio seeking Crossroads area votes

Faithful Touch Southern Gospel Trio from Mansfield is seeking votes from the Crossroads area as a 2009 nominee for a Southern Gospel News Scoops Diamond Award.

The group is made up of Mary Manry, Carolyn Vaughn and Mollie Lowery. Vaughn has close ties to Big Spring and is the daughter-in-law of Mildred Vaughn and wife to Butch Vaughn.

To vote, go online at diamondawardsonline.com and select the category Sunrise Artist.

The deadline to vote is 11:59 p.m. Saturday.



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By Sag Harbor, Rosetti* and more.
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By Rebecca Malone* and Hannah*. S-XL; 1X-3X.
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For misses, petites, juniors, plus-sizes.
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Entire stock by GBX* and Graphite*.
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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Historic Hotels

These magnificent structures stand as icons of an earlier time when travelers were treated to legendary accommodations on their journeys across America. Plus, buttoning up your home and zested raisin sauce.

American Profile

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HUGE 3 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
422 Hillside Dr.
Sat. June 20, 8-2

Tools, Antiques, Appliances, Children Items & Clothes, Fans, Books, Linens & Furniture.

3 FAMILY Garage Sale: Friday & Saturday 8-4pm, Becker Rd. in Sand Springs. Clothes-all sizes, tools, carpet & baby bed.

5 FAMILY Garage Sale: 1605 Eubanks, Friday & Saturday 8-? Furniture, refrigerator, tools, boats, exercise equipment, Coke-Cola products, baby items, men & women's clothing many more items. Come See.

AVON STOCK Clearance Sale! Saturday 9-1, 614 Dallas Street. Up to a 50% discount on Avon Stock! Credit Cards & Checks Welcome.

ESTATE SALE: 1705 Yale, Friday & Saturday 8-? No Early Sales.

FIVE FAMILY Garage Sale, 4108 Dixon. Saturday, 8am-? Furniture, window units, TV's, clothes all sizes, brass items, countertop stove, lots of jewelry & misc. items. Homemade Burritos.

GARAGE SALE 1705 Morrison, Friday & Saturday 8-? TV's, lamps, ceiling fans, Christmas deco., artificial flowers, rods & reels, lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 2700 Coronado, Saturday 8-Noon. Clothes, furniture and a lot more!!!

GARAGE SALE: 10 Coachman Circle, Saturday 8-? Twin bed, moving boxes, garden tiller, golf items, clothes and much more.

GARAGE SALE: 204 East 22nd, Saturday 8:30-3:00. Side tables, utility table, dining table w/4 chairs, children's and women's clothing, misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 2606 Ann, Saturday 7:30-12. Tons of toys, clothes in excellent condition, kids bikes, air hockey, exercise equipment, too much to list.

GARAGE SALE: 3235 Cornell Ave., Friday 8-? & Saturday 7-? All size clothes, knick-knacks, mustang seats and lots of everything..

MOVING SALE: 521 Hillside Drive, Friday 8:00am-5:00pm & Saturday 8:00am-Noon. Too much to list.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 4008 Vicky St. Sat. 8:00-12:00. Big Screen TV, Toyota hubcaps, treadmill, DVD player, monitor, 0-24 months boys clothing, stroller, crib, toys, shoes, mens and womens clothing, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 4037 Vicky, Friday & Saturday 8:00-? Clothes, miscellaneous items, Dayton Band saw, craftsman belt and disc sander and a planer and jointer. All still in boxes.

GARAGE SALE: 526 Scott Dr. (Highland) Saturday 8:00-1:00. Lots of collectibles, Hoover carpet cleaner (like new), sliding glass door, doggy door, computer monitor, homemade jewelry, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 901 North Gregg, Friday & Saturday 9-? Bedroom suite, lots of girls clothing (all sizes), knick-knacks and lots more. Too much to list. Come See.

MOVING SALE! 2711 Larry, Furniture, appliances, clothing, housewares, TV's, lots of misc. Friday 5pm-7pm & Saturday 8am-Noon.

Moving Sale, 1801 Duquoin, Saturday 8-1. 7 Piece dinette set/with china cabinet, table saw, coke items, furniture, Christmas decorations, lots of misc. items.

MOVING SALE: Next to the Human Society, Friday and Saturday 8-? Welders- supplies, metal, paint, power washer, deer feeders, household items, toys. Something for everyone. Great Father's Day Gifts.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 1806 Hearn. Sat. 8:00-3:00. Furniture, adult clothing, baby clothes, toys, lots of misc.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 400 East 20th St., Friday 8-5. Washer, dryer, big screen TV, children's clothes (all sizes.) and misc. items.. Too much to list.

YARD SALE: 1607 Ave. X (off of Gail Hwy.), Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8am-? Navajo rugs, jewelry & art, tools, parting out 1990 F350 10ft flat bed, lots of misc. and goats. (432)270-1849.

YARD SALE: Saturday 8:00am-200pm, 2108 S. Main Street. Kitchen items, CD's, cassettes, stereo, knick-knacks and more.

Help Wanted

CITY OF BIG SPRING
Police Officer - (Certified & Non-Certified) Communications Officer Heavy Equipment Operator Utility Service Worker Wastewater Treatment-Plant Tech Cemetery Maintenance Worker Sports Complex-Maintenance Worker Equal Opportunity Employer

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Help Wanted

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ELECTRICIANS & HELPERS needed for local project. State License Preferred. Call (432)816-5024.

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WANTED MALE/FEMALE Detention Workers on as needed basis. Must be 21 years old, High School Diploma or GED, No Criminal Record. Apply in person at Howard County Juvenile Probation Office 315 S. Main Suite C. Please bring drivers license, and social security card.

Help Wanted

THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position.

Operations Maintenance Technician - Responsible for maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pump stations, and wells in the Big Spring Area. Entry to Intermediate level position.

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

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

RH WELL Service Inc. is seeking a Field Salesman. Must have Oil Field Sales Experience. Salary plus Bonuses, Retirement, Health Insurance. Call Gene 432-517-0784.

NEW AD

SECURITAS SECURITY Inc is hiring for a 30 hour position. M-F must have reliable transportation, have phone, be 18yrs, GED or HS diploma, no criminal background and pass a drug screen. Must be able to write reports and have people skills be able to walk premises. Please apply online at www.securitasjobs.com When applying check the Lubbock are the job is in Big Spring, TX EOE/AAP M/F/D/V Lic#B14709.

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full & Part time employees and assistant managers needed. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

NEW AD

THE GLASSCOCK County Sheriff's Office is accepting application for certified Peace Officer, in the State of Texas. Officer must be, or willing to become K9 certified. \$40,000.00 per year, take home vehicle. Please contact Sheriff's Office (432)354-2325 Att. Sheriff Burnett.

WANTED! PIANO Player for Sunday Services at Calvary Baptist Church. Time involved will be from 11:00-12:00am. Compensation will be \$50.00. Call Herb at (432)267-1402.

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FOR SALE Maytag portable dishwasher, approximately 3 yrs. old \$100.00, Computer desk \$100.00 call 432-466-4986.

Miscellaneous

BOY'S BEDROOM set. Shiny black finished, all new! \$499. 806-466-2645.....

FORD TIRES with rims-\$500.00, Chev. or GMC tires- \$400.00, white desk-\$100.00, black desk- \$75.00, love seat (sofa bed)- \$200. OBO. Call (432)816-1471.

LOOK!!! NEW pub height table & chairs. Merlot finish. \$399. 806-549-3110.....

Real Estate for Rent

1409 MT Vernon 3 bdr, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard, storage shed. \$800.00 month, \$750.00 deposit. Call (432)213-4647.

Real Estate for Rent

1009 EAST 15th, 2 Bedroom, 2 bath plus a guesthouse one bedroom, one bath, garage, fenced. \$725. month, \$725. deposit. Call 432-816-9381.

Move In TODAY!

1110 DOGWOOD. Will Owner Fincane. Forsan ISD. 3 bdrm, 1 bath. \$500. month. Call Jared (432)816-5570.

1608 SUNSET 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard, garage. \$550. month, \$500. deposit. Call 432-213-4647.

408 MARTIN Luther King, 2 bdr, 1 bath. Extremely Nice. Stove, washer and dryer included. \$475. month-\$400. deposit. Call 432-263-1792, 816-9984.

509 EAST 18th. 1bdr/1b, stove & refrigerator furnished, fenced yard. Good Location. \$325. Month, \$150. deposit. Call 432-267-1543.

FOR RENT (2) Clean Single Rooms in my home. Quiet neighborhood, just outside of town, \$425.00 monthly plus \$50.00 deposit. all utilities paid. Call 432-264-1888.

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2911 West Hwy 80 Big Spring 432-263-2292
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Large 1 Bdrm \$350 month
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Security HUD OK

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Real Estate for Sale

16X80 3BDR-2 bath mobile home. 2 Large storage sheds, 2 car carport, in nice and quiet small mobile home park, \$25,000.. Call (432)267-6594.

BIG SPRING Owner will finance- 1500 Kentucky. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, CH/A, garage, New fence. Completely remodeled with new interior/exterior paint. New tile and carpet. Great neighborhood. Priced for quick sale. \$59,900 total, \$3K down, \$570 month. Call Patience (432)349-5242.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 2528 and 2530 Fairchild, 2,500 square feet duplex. \$499.00 down, \$776.75 per month. Call (432)270-4271.

FOR SALE No Owner Finance, 104 Circle Dr. Cute 3 bdr. 1 bath, garage, CH/A, fenced yard, ceiling fans remodeled, Call 432-816-1464.

NO DOWN PAYMENT- 1306 W. 35th bdrm, 1 bath. Payment \$350.00 month. Call (432)213-2531.

Real Estate for Sale

FORSAN ISD- 811 Timothy Ln., 4.5 acres, 2 bdrm, 2 bath with salvageable singlewide. \$29,500.00. Owner Finance. 10% Down, \$257. monthly. Call (512)940-5200, (432)631-8100.

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NICE 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, CH/A w/inground pool. 1806 Hearn. Call (432)816-6899.

OWNER FINANCE, \$535.78/month. 1403 Tucson in Big Spring. Call agent 432-270-4271.

REDUCED- 3547 Sq. Ft. Brick- 4 bdrm, 2-1/2 baths, 3 living rooms, 2 car garage, 1-1/2 acres. 8403 Gail Hwy. Below appraisal \$179,500.00. 432-270-4646.

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Vehicles

NEW AD

2007 KAWASAKI, 1600 Vulcan. Fully loaded- \$12,000. 2007 HD Dyna low rider, 1900 miles. Fully loaded- \$15,000. Call (570)412-4648.

FOR SALE: 2003 Ford Explorer Sport. 96,355 miles. Great Condition. Call (432) 816-2999, leave message.

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Big Spring HERALD

News in brief

Tehran braces for another mass opposition protest

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran braced for a fourth day of massive protests Thursday by opponents of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in open defiance of the country's supreme leader, who has urged the nation to unite behind the Islamic state.

Opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi urged supporters to wear black Thursday to the planned rally in mourning for the alleged election fraud during Friday's vote and lives lost during this week's protests.

Seven demonstrators were shot Monday by pro-regime militia in the first confirmed deaths since the unrest erupted after the election, which the government said Ahmadinejad won in a landslide victory.

Thursday's protest would be the fourth straight day of major marches in Tehran, including hundreds of thousands of people Monday in

a huge procession that recalled the protests of the Islamic Revolution. Mousavi's Web site said he may join the rally on Thursday to be held at a downtown Tehran square.

Thousands took to the streets Wednesday, marching silently down a main Tehran street, holding posters of Mousavi and the V-for-victory sign in the air, amateur video showed.

Democrats' quick push of financial regulation overhaul worries some lawmakers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic leaders have committed to enacting by the end of the year the biggest regulatory revision to the U.S. financial system since the 1930s — an undertaking so ambitious it has some lawmakers worried about missteps.

"We have to evaluate it, weigh it, slow it down and make sure we do it right," said Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama, the top Republican on the

Senate Banking Committee. "Because if we don't, we will pay dearly."

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner was expected to outline the administration's plan on Thursday before the Senate panel and the House Financial Services Committee.

The proposal is aimed at filling in regulatory gaps and increasing oversight of the financial markets to prevent another economic calamity.

"We don't want to stifle innovation," said President Obama.

Police say suspected U.S. missile strikes hit Taliban targets in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Suspected U.S. missile strikes pounded the hide-outs of a Taliban commander in northwestern Pakistan on Thursday, killing at least eight people, government officials said.

Shahab Ali Shah, the top administrative official in the South Waziristan tribal area along the Afghanistan border, said the missiles hit close to the villages of Gharlamai and Nandaran, about six miles (10 kilometers) west of the Wana bazaar area. He said the death toll could rise as villagers dig through the rubble.

Two Pakistani intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk to media, said a training center of Taliban commander Malang Wazir between the two villages was the target and that nine people were killed.

Two other intelligence officials, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said four missiles were fired at two sites.

Senators get to work on health care bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Delays and disputes bogged down a Senate panel considering the details of remaking the nation's \$2.5 trillion health care system.

The first formal drafting and voting session on Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's sweeping legislation was given over Wednesday to six hours of speechmaking by senators. Nothing was accomplished on the bill itself, and there were suggestions that a goal of completing committee action before the congressional recess July 4 might not be met.

A separate and even more critical Senate committee delayed its own voting timeline as lawmakers struggled to slash costs to under \$1 trillion over 10 years.

If things keep going the way they did Wednesday, it doesn't bode well for President Barack Obama's goal of signing legislation this fall to rein in spiraling health costs and extend care to 50 million uninsured Americans.

North Korea reportedly plans to fire long-range missile toward Hawaii in early July

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea may fire a long-range ballistic missile toward Hawaii in early July, a Japanese news report said Thursday, as Russia and China urged the regime to return to international disarmament talks on its rogue

nuclear program.

The missile, believed to be a Taepodong-2 with a range of up to 4,000 miles (6,500 kilometers), would be launched from North Korea's Dongchang-ni site on the northwest coast, said the Yomiuri daily, Japan's top-selling newspaper. It cited an analysis by the Japanese Defense Ministry and intelligence gathered by U.S. reconnaissance satellites.

The missile launch could come between July 4 and 8, the paper said.

While the newspaper speculated the Taepodong-2 could fly over Japan and toward Hawaii, it said the missile would not be able to hit Hawaii's main islands, which are about 4,500 miles (7,200 kilometers) from the Korean peninsula.

Couple at the center of infidelity scandal suggest more behind Sen. Ensign's account

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Sen. John Ensign has been quick to describe his dalliance with an aide in brief and simple terms. The affair is over. The apologies made and accepted. No questions will be answered, the married Nevada Republican said in his brief admission of infidelity.

But the first public statement from the woman once involved with the 51-year-old rising political star suggests more is brewing behind Ensign's neat account.

Cindy Hampton and her husband, a couple Ensign has described as "close friends," issued sharp remarks Wednesday through an attorney.

"It is unfortunate the senator chose to air this very personal matter, especially after the Hamptons did everything possible to keep this matter private," Las Vegas lawyer Daniel Albregts said in the statement. "It is equally unfortunate that he did so without concern for the effect such an announcement would have on the Hampton family."

Supreme Court nominee follows long tradition of saying little on key issues, cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor and senators who will vote on her confirmation are engaged in a careful conversation about where she stands on hot-button issues like abortion and gun rights. You probably won't hear any of it, though, since the exchange is taking place in code.

Sotomayor is simply following a time-honored tradition: High court nominees work mightily to reassure senators that they won't be radicals seeking to impose an agenda, without revealing how they might rule on key issues that could come before the court.

Senators, in turn, are doing their utmost to get assurances from Sotomayor that she'll protect certain precedents and eschew others, so they can defend a vote for or against her with constituents and supporters.

It's a key part of Sotomayor's audition for a job on the nation's highest court, and a major determinant of how broad Senate support will be for President Barack Obama's first Supreme Court nominee.

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Rights groups call for probe into abuses in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Human rights groups called Thursday for an international investigation into wartime abuses in Sri Lanka, saying the government lacks the political will to investigate the incidents on its own.

Rights groups accused the government of firing heavy weapons into civilian areas in the final months of this island nation's quarter-century civil war, which ended last month. The Tamil Tigers were accused of holding the civilians as human shields and shooting those who tried to flee. Both sides denied the allegations.

U.N. figures show that more than 7,000 civilians were killed in fighting this year before the war ended in May.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Though the day starts on a wandering, listless note while the moon is void of course, productivity will kick in strong as the moon moves into Taurus this morning. Once the mission is clear, get to work. You may have to collect a few "no's" in order to get to "yes." Respect goes to those who persevere when the going isn't easy.



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grateful for some of the more unusual things you've been through in life. Because of your own experiences, you are able to understand someone else's longings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your positive attitude will spark something in a friend. There might be a joint effort in your near future. Keep your eyes peeled for opportunities that will utilize both of your talents.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). According to the latest research, IQ accounts for only about 4-10 percent of career success. Creativity will be a far more important quality

to nurture now, which is why that playful attitude you're cultivating will take you far.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It will help you to have a few social tricks up your sleeve today because in some way it's like you're arriving at a party where you don't know anybody. Scan the news for icebreakers or brush up on an old joke.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You could be promoted because you are caring. In a world where customer service is offered by robots, your personal touch is invaluable. You sense what people need that they don't even know they need.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A key relationship is starting to take off. It's effortless. Because you are so open-hearted, you will learn many intangible things from this special connection and be forever changed

for the better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have a much sharper sense of reality than you did yesterday. You not only understand your side of the story, but you get where others are coming from and will make a wise move based on this knowledge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are the opposite of needy. It's one of your success secrets and why you are oh so attractive these days. You honestly don't care how much time a friend spends with you; you're happy with whatever comes naturally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are different. You do what other people don't do. You give unexpected answers and ask interesting questions. Your surprising manners will fascinate someone new.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The amount

of time you spend with someone is not a fair gauge of the relationship. It's what you do in that time that matters. You come up with remarkable ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your compassion will be tested. The mercy you show will be inspiring to others who will follow your lead. The world is becoming a more tolerant place thanks to people like you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Enjoy the moments you have with loved ones and celebrate them big — not because they are scarce but because they are abundant. You deserve an ongoing stream of joyful living!

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Five years ago, I bought a house and now it is worth \$150,000 less than I bought it for. I have consistently made my payments on time. Now I'm faced with a huge balloon payment that I knew was coming. When I bought the house, I was a newlywed and the market was good. I thought that in five years I could refinance based on the equity I would have in the house. Well, the market went the opposite way. Now we have two children and more expenses than ever and are upside down in the house. Many in our neighborhood have foreclosed. I don't feel good about that, but I also know that our family would be much better off rent-

ing a house now than paying these huge payments. We don't qualify for bailout money since we have always made our payments. One realtor suggested a short sale. What do you think? I'm a Libra."

I am not a financial expert by any stretch. But what I know about Libra, the sign of justice, is that you must absolutely feel morally correct in your choice in order to benefit from it. You will always generate the financial karma you think you deserve.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Happy birthday to the Pulitzer Prize-winning critic Roger Ebert, who credits his movies, writing and his wife for restoring his strength, health and energy. This witty Gemini, like many born under the sign of the twins, knew what he wanted to do at an early age. His moon, Mars and Pluto in Leo ensure that his criticisms of entertainment are in and of themselves works of entertainment.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, 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.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

It's All in Your State of Mind

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 10 7 6 4
 ♥ A J 6
 ♦ Q 10 7
 ♣ J 8 2

WEST
 ♠ Q J 9 8
 ♥ 7 2
 ♦ 8 5 4
 ♣ A K 7 5

EAST
 ♠ —
 ♥ Q 10 9 3
 ♦ J 9 6 2
 ♣ Q 10 9 6 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 5 3 2
 ♥ K 8 5 4
 ♦ A K 3
 ♣ 4

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass
 4♠

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Some deals that look very easy when play begins turn out to be a real struggle for declarer, usually because a key suit is divided unfavorably. But if he doesn't panic, many of these hands can be salvaged with careful play.

Take this case where, at the outset, making four spades seems a lead-pipe cinch. Indeed, if the spades divide 2-2 and the heart finesse works, South will finish with 12 tricks.

But after ruffing West's second club lead, declarer receives a nasty

jolt when he cashes the ace of trumps and East shows out. Since he may now lose two spades and a heart, the contract is suddenly in jeopardy.

South must therefore try to find some way to avoid staking the outcome on a heart finesse, if possible. He starts by taking three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy. There's no real risk in this because if West ruffs a diamond, it costs him one of his trump tricks. Next the jack of clubs is trumped, leaving declarer with the K-5 of spades and four hearts while dummy has the 10-7-6 of spades and three hearts.

The king of hearts is cashed, and a second heart is led toward the A-J. When West follows, the contract becomes assured provided the heart finesse is not attempted. Instead, the ace is played and the jack of hearts is returned. It does not matter which defender wins this trick. Either way, declarer is home free.

If West has the queen, he wins but must then lead from the Q-J-9 of spades. Regardless of which card he chooses, he can't make more than one trump trick.

In the actual case, East wins the heart as West discards a club. Whatever East leads next, South plays his last heart. Again West has a choice of losing plays from his Q-J-9 of trumps. No matter what he does, declarer scores two of the last three tricks to make his game.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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sudoku

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

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

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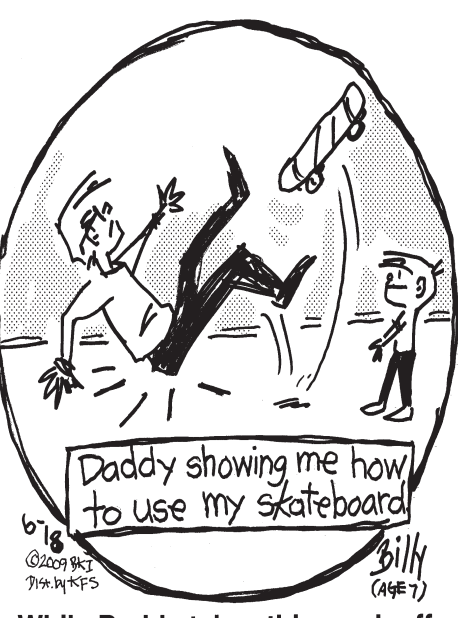
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5 :PM	News	News	Locura	George Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Raymond	Granger	BBC	Cash Cab	chael Biehn	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas	SportsCtr.	pionship
6 :PM	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	Lopez	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Friends	Brad	Business	Cash Cab		UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Suite Life	NFL Live	
7 :PM	Entertain	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	Entertain	Two Men	12 Cora-zones	Seinfeld	Sanchez	News-Lehrer	Made					Wizards	College Baseball:	SportsCenter
8 :PM	NBA	NBA	Cuidado-Angel	Bones	How I Met	How I Met	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Celebrity	Israel	Texas	River Mon-sters	Movie: True Lies, Tom Arnold	UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order	Movie: House Party 2, Iman	Movie: Tinker Bell, Lucy Liu	NCAA World Series Game 10 -- Teams TBA.	Golf: U.S. Open Cham-pionship -- Best of First Round.
9 :PM	NBA Basketball: Finals Game 7 -- Magic at Lakers	NBA Basketball: Finals Game 7 -- Magic at Lakers	Mañana es	You Can Dance	CSI: Crime Scn	El Rostro de Analia	Office	Friends	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	River Mon-sters		TNA Wres-tling	Movie: Failure to Launch	Dream College	Wizards	Baseball Tonight	
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	American Pie 2, Alyson Hannigan	Israel	Charlie Rose	River Mon-sters	Movie: Outbreak, Morgan Freeman	Pros vs. Joes	Movie: Runaway Jury, Dustin Hoffman	Movie: House Party 2, Iman	Suite Life So Raven	SportsCenter	SportsCenter
11 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	La Casa de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Noticias	Decisiones de Famosos	Sex & Dr.	Smiley	Smiley	River Mon-sters		MAN Game			Life De	NFL Live	
12 :AM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Contra Viento	RENO 911	Insider	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Light of the Southwest	LightWrd	Oil, Sweat and Riggs	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Missing in Action 2: The	Scrub	LAPD	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	Golf: U.S. Open
1 :AM	News	Marketing	Mujer...	Friends	Consumer	Pagado	Pagado	Poker After Dark	LightWrd	Oil, Sweat and Riggs	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Missing in Action 2: The	Scrub	LAPD	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	Golf: U.S. Open

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DENNIS IS SPENDING THE NIGHT AT OUR HOUSE. MIND IF I SACK OUT ON YOUR COUCH?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



While Daddy takes this week off, Billy continues his look at the family.

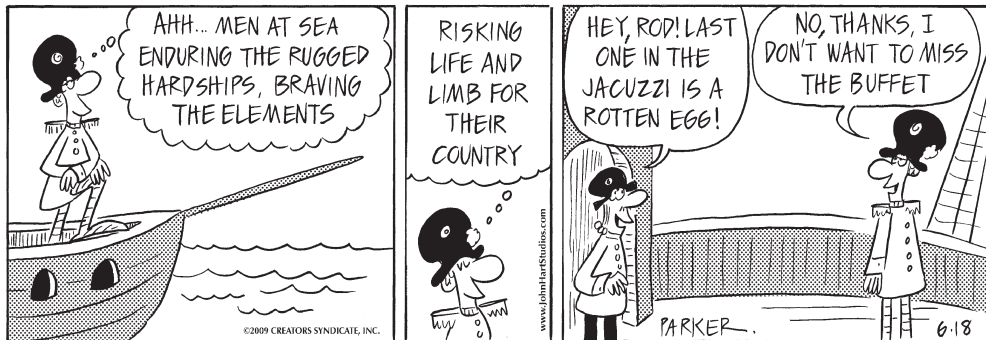
HAGAR



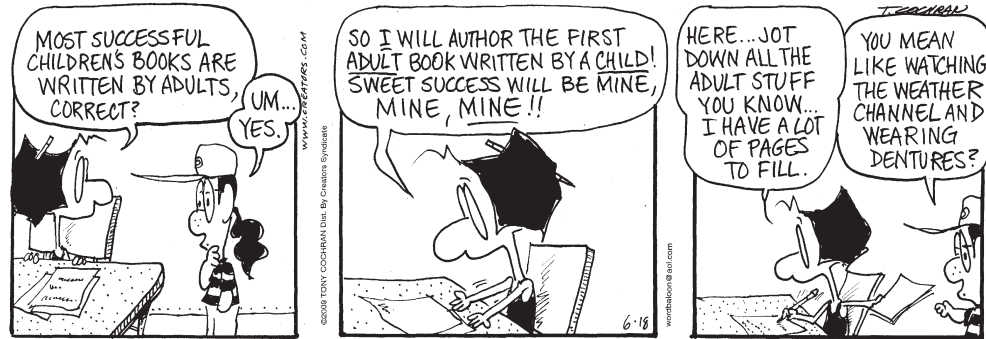
BC



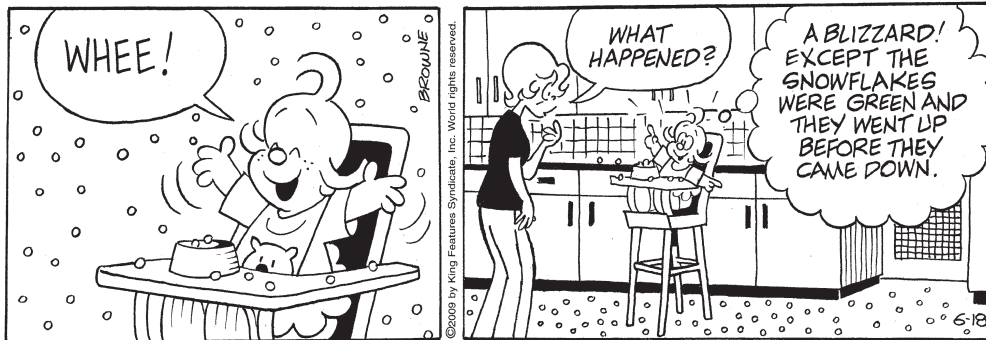
WIZARD OF ID



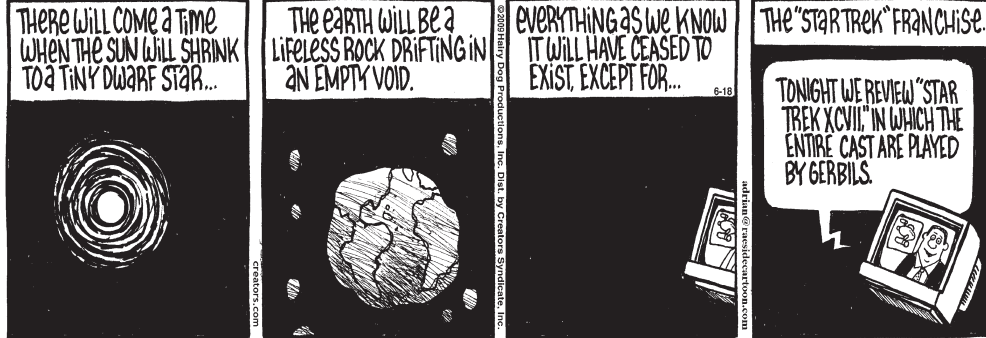
AGNES



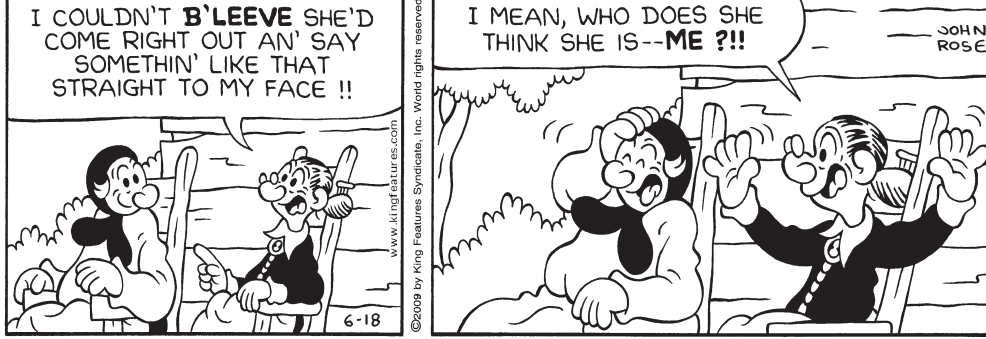
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



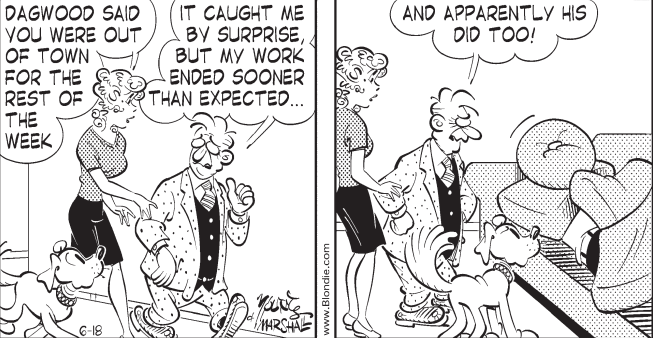
SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, June 18, the 169th day of 2009. There are 196 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 18, 1940, during World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill urged his countrymen to conduct themselves in a manner that would prompt future generations to say, "This was their finest hour."

On this date:

In 1778, American forces entered Philadelphia as the British withdrew during the Revolutionary War.

In 1812, the United States declared war against Britain.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte met his Waterloo as British and Prussian troops defeated the French in Belgium.

In 1873, suffragist Susan B. Anthony was found guilty by a judge in Canandaigua, N.Y., of breaking the law by casting a vote in the 1872 presidential election. (The judge fined

Anthony \$100, but she never paid the penalty.)

In 1908, William Howard Taft was nominated for president by the Republican national convention in Chicago.

In 1945, William Joyce, known as "Lord Haw-Haw," was charged in London with high treason for his English-language wartime broadcasts on German radio. (He was hanged the following January.)

In 1959, actress Ethel Barrymore died in Los Angeles at age 79.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter and Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev signed the SALT II strategic arms limitation treaty in Vienna.

In 1983, astronaut Sally K. Ride became America's first woman in space as she and four colleagues blasted off aboard the space shuttle Challenger.

In 1984, Alan Berg, a Denver radio talk show host, was shot to death outside his home. (Two white supremacists were later convicted of civil rights violations in the slaying.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ian Carmichael is 89. Columnist Tom Wicker is 83. Rock singer-composer-musician Paul McCartney is 67. Movie critic

Roger Ebert is 67. Actress Constance McCashin is 62. Actress Linda Thorson is 62. Actress Isabella Rossellini is 57. Actress Carol Kane is 57. Rock singer Alison Moyet is 48. Rock singer-musician Sice (The Boo Radleys) is 40. R&B singer Nathan Morris (Boyz II Men) is 38. Rapper Silkk the Shocker is 34. Actress Alana de la Garza is 33. Country singer Blake Shelton is 33. San Diego Chargers tight end Antonio Gates is 29. Actress Renee Olstead is 20.

Thought for Today: "The basic discovery about any people is the discovery of the relationship between their men and women." — Pearl S. Buck, American author (1892-1973).

Answer to previous puzzle

TINT	PHASE	NIM
ICER	EASEL	DADA
VOLUMEDIAL	OPEN	
ONLEAVE	MARYKAY	
	NESS	ALI
SALTED	HEAVENLY	
TRAIT	MOXIE	RIO
RITS	MOWER	BIND
ABE	TALES	HINGE
PASSOVER	GOOGOL	
THU	SLAY	
REBATES	ALLURES	
ALUM	CATTLECALL	
SIZE	ORATE	LIMA
PEZ	NIXED	ALOT

Newsday Crossword

DIRECTIONAL by David W. Cromer
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15								16	
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67				68							69		

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