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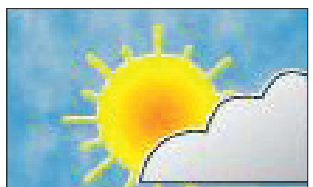


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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

JUNE 24, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 173

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Like county, city rejects Census bid

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Big Spring City Council followed the example set by the Howard County Commissioners Court and declined to make a \$5,000 contribution to the 2010 Census Tuesday, citing a lack of return in grant dollars as one of the reasons.

According to Peggy Walker, finance director for the city, the city had previously planned to follow the commissioners court's lead in the matter, matching whatever donation the court decided to make.

"We looked at this during the last council meeting, but the original intent had been to mirror whatever amount the county put in," said Walker. "They in fact decided not to fund any portion of this committee's costs. They decided that because it is a federal census, the federal government should pick up any costs associated with the census."

The commissioners court effectively rejected the request Monday by taking no action.

Tuesday, Mayor Russ McEwen asked for a clarification of what the money would be intended for.

"The logic behind this would be to do some type of advertising or public relations?" McEwen asked.

Walker confirmed McEwen's belief, saying the return on their investment wouldn't likely help the city draw more grant money.

"We looked at this during the last council meeting, but the original intent had been to mirror whatever amount the county put in. They in fact decided not to fund any portion of this committee's costs."



Walker

"It would involve an all-out, county-wide promotion of the census. There are some people that are, for whatever reason, just afraid of the census," said Walker. "They were going to give away promotional materials, such as clips, magnets, pens, as well as do some advertising with the radio (stations) and newspaper. They want to get the word out to everyone. And it's (the census) certainly important when you look at funding for certain projects through different state and federal agencies."

"The higher your population is, you reach certain benchmarks when looking at guaranteed funding. It's cer-

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Max Webb, retiring director of the Northside Community Center, receives a plaque of appreciation from center directors Jerry Moos, center, and Hayes Stripling Jr. during Tuesday's meeting of the Big Spring Rotary Club at SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

Webb honored Tuesday during retirement party

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Community and civic leaders gathered Tuesday to wish a happy retirement to Max Webb.

Webb, the long-time director of the Northside Community Center and a former official with the Big Spring Federal Correctional Institute, was saluted during Tuesday's Big Spring Rotary Club meeting.

He said age and illness are forcing him step down after 14 years directing the community center.

"The only reasons I'm leaving Northside is because ... my speech has become so poor because of cerebral palsy," Webb said. "So I need to step aside and let somebody else take over."

Before he steps down, however, the crowd

See **WEBB**, Page 3A

INDEX

Comics	7B
Classified	4-6B
Features	7-8A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-3,8B

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118th jury expected to decide murder defendant's fate today

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — The first murder trial in Glasscock County since the early 1960s is expected to come to a close later this afternoon, as attorneys anticipate handing the case to the jury this morning.

118th District Attorney Hardy L. Wilkerson, who began prosecution of the case Monday morning, said he expected closing arguments to be made this morning and the case to be handed to the jury as early as 10:30 a.m. for the guilt or innocence phase of the trial.

"We finished rebuttals yes-

terday and I expect we'll complete closing arguments and get the charge to the jury this morning," Wilkerson said early today. "Once the jury has the case, it's really anybody's guess how long it will take for them to arrive at a decision."

Rodney Laudell Mason Jr. stands accused in the March 2008 stabbing death of Timothy Wayne Sanchez, 18, Odessa. Sanchez was found stabbed to death late on the evening of March 15, 2008, about 12 miles south of Stanton on Highway 137, according to law enforcement officials. Deputies received a 911 call at 9:46 p.m.

in reference to a person being hit by an automobile. When they arrived at the scene, they found Sanchez lying by the roadway, Burnett said.

Sanchez was declared dead at the scene and a subsequent autopsy determined cause of death to be from multiple stab wounds, which totaled more than 30 strikes, according to Wilkerson. The autopsy report revealed at least three of the stab wounds could have ended Sanchez's life, he added.

The victim had last been seen driving a 1997 Dodge Neon, which was found the next day parked in the 1500

block of South Grant in Odessa. Mason was arrested a few weeks later.

Wilkerson said he feels like the prosecution has presented the case well.

"I feel like we've put the evidence where it needs to be to get a guilty verdict," said Wilkerson. "We knew what the defense's approach would be in this case early on, which is to claim it was self defense. The defense is basing that on a statement the defendant gave the Texas Rangers after his arrest, and that's what they have tried to utilize."

See **TRIAL**, Page 3A

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Longhorns win 5-1, force decisive game vs. LSU in CWS final

ERIC OLSON

AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The winner-take-all game between LSU and Texas for the national championship on Wednesday night excites Augie Garrido the college baseball fan as much as it excites Augie Garrido the coach.

"It's being played out by the No. 1 team in the polls and the No. 1 team by the committee, and two of the most storied programs in college baseball history," the Longhorns' coach

said Tuesday after his team's 5-1 win in Game 2 of the best-of-three finals.

"It couldn't be better than this for all the people involved — the College World Series, ESPN, the two schools. It's pretty cool."

Texas freshman All-American Taylor Jungmann limited LSU to five hits in his first complete game, putting the Longhorns (50-15-1) in position to play for their seventh

See **LONGHORNS**, Page 8B



AP photo/Ted Kirk

LSU right fielder Jared Mitchell can't reach a double by Texas' Cameron Rupp in the third inning of Game 2 of the NCAA College World Series best-of-three baseball finals in Omaha, Neb., Tuesday. Texas won to force a third and decisive game today.

Mavs ready for anything on draft day

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Mark Cuban is ready.

Ready to make some blockbuster trades on draft day.

Ready to take on some hefty contracts if it means adding a quality player — or two or three — to the Dallas Mavericks.

And, perhaps most of all, he's ready ... to do nothing more than take the best player available with the 22nd pick in Thursday's NBA draft.

"I'm just as curious as anyone else about what will happen," Cuban wrote in an e-mail Tuesday.

Coming off their ninth straight season with 50 wins and a playoff berth, the Mavericks are still seeking the right mix of players around Dirk Nowitzki to win their first championship.

Their offseason needs start with re-signing point guard Jason Kidd or finding a replacement if they lose him, then finding a reliable shooting guard and a low-post scorer. They also could use "backup everything," according to team president Donnie Nelson.

If they stay at No. 22, the Mavericks are likely to only get one of those backups. Then again, the draft hasn't been much of a source during Cuban's tenure.

Dallas has made only three first-round picks in the nine drafts since Cuban bought the club. Among them was getting Josh Howard, a future All-Star, at No. 29; that's why Nelson is "hoping for another Josh Howard moment" in this year's draft.

The 22nd pick worked out well for Orlando last year. The Magic took Courtney Lee, and as a rookie he started for most of their playoff run, including the entire NBA finals.

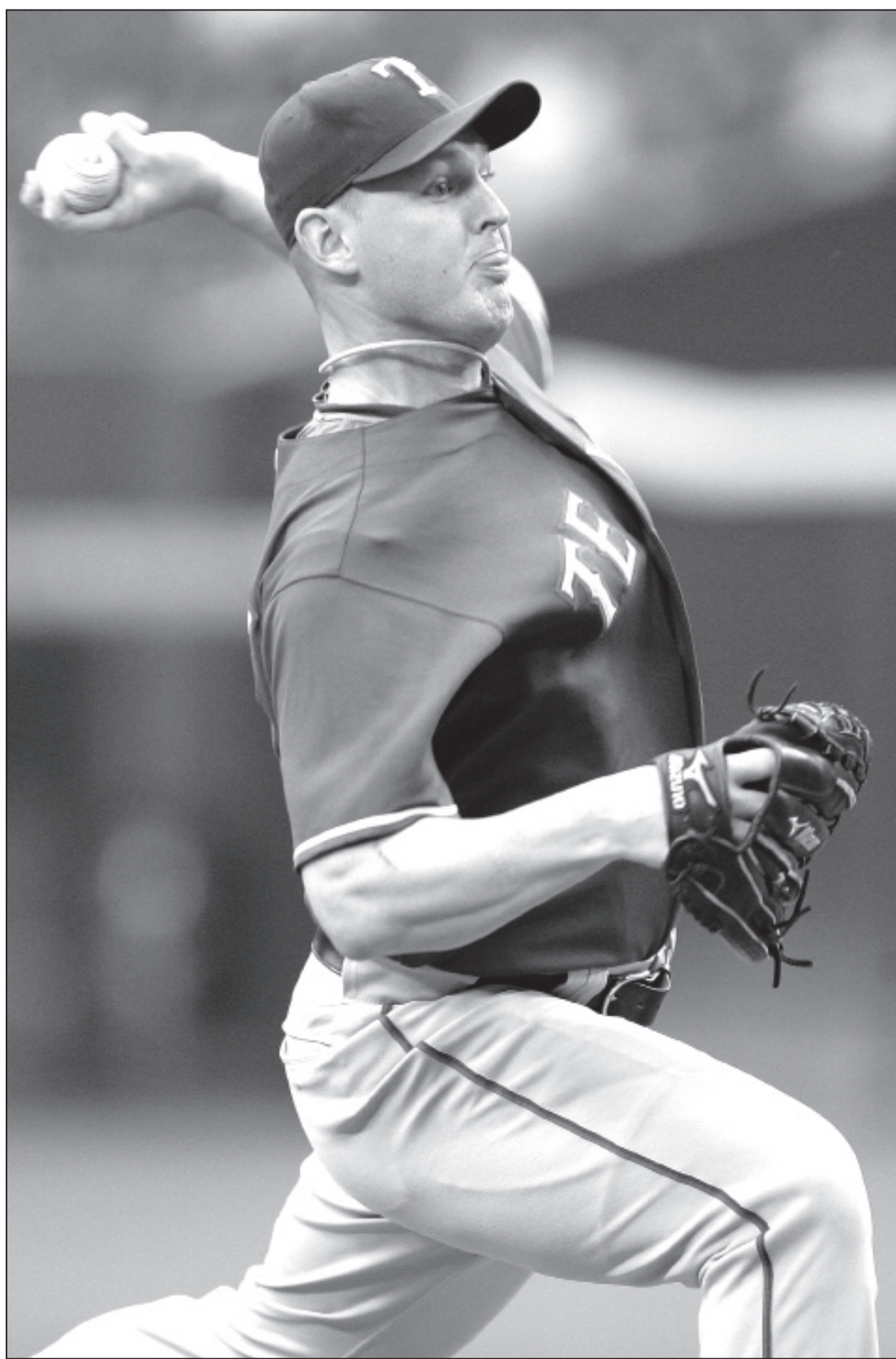
"We think there's going to be a real good chance that a couple of the guys we're looking at are going to be there," Nelson said. "We don't know whether that's going to be in a 7-foot body or a 5-foot-10 body."

While the draft itself hasn't been a building block, draft day has been.

Nelson was part of the franchise-shifting trades for Nowitzki and Steve Nash in 1998. In 2004, Cuban and Nelson sent Antawn Jamison to Washington for the rights to Devin Harris, Jerry Stackhouse and Christian Laettner.

There's always the chance that it happens again

See **MAVS**, Page 2B



AP photo/Matt York

Texas Rangers pitcher Matt Harrison delivers a pitch against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the first inning of an AL baseball game Tuesday in Phoenix. Harrison was shelled as the Rangers lost, 8-2.

D-Backs hand Rangers 5th straight loss

By ANDREW BAGNATO

AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX — As Justin Upton slumped in April, critics suggested that he would be an ideal No. 3 hitter — at Triple-A Reno.

The 21-year-old outfielder has emerged from his early struggles to become one of the more potent three-hole hitters in the major leagues.

Upton homered, doubled and drove in three runs, and Max Scherzer won his third straight start as the Arizona Diamondbacks defeated Texas 8-2 on Tuesday night, sending the Rangers to their fifth straight loss.

Upton, who opened the season with one hit in his first 17 at-bats, raised his average to .324. He has 14 home runs, 17 doubles and 45 RBIs.

"I'm happy for him," manager A.J. Hinch said. "He's a legitimate three-hole hitter in the major leagues."

"It's a pleasure to watch him," Hinch said. "He's playing with some urgency."

Upton, the top overall pick in the 2005 draft, said he mostly rolled his eyes at April speculation that he needed to go to the minors for more seasoning.

"Obviously, to play at this level, you've got to be confident in your abilities," he said.

Felipe Lopez had three hits and drove in three runs, and Stephen Drew added three singles for the Diamondbacks, who snapped a three-game skid.

Scherzer (5-4) worked out of jams for most of the night, allowing two runs on seven hits and a walk in six innings. He struck out seven.

Staked to a 7-2 lead after four innings, Scherzer kept the Rangers at bay.

See **RANGERS**, Page 8B

Spurs acquire Jefferson from Bucks in 4-man swap

COLIN FLY

Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs needed a scorer and they needed to get younger. They got both in one deal.

Milwaukee sent swingman Richard Jefferson to San Antonio on Tuesday for Bruce Bowen, Kurt Thomas and Fabricio Oberto, taking three aging bench players with expiring contracts to unload Jefferson and the \$29.2 million owed in the final two years of his contract.

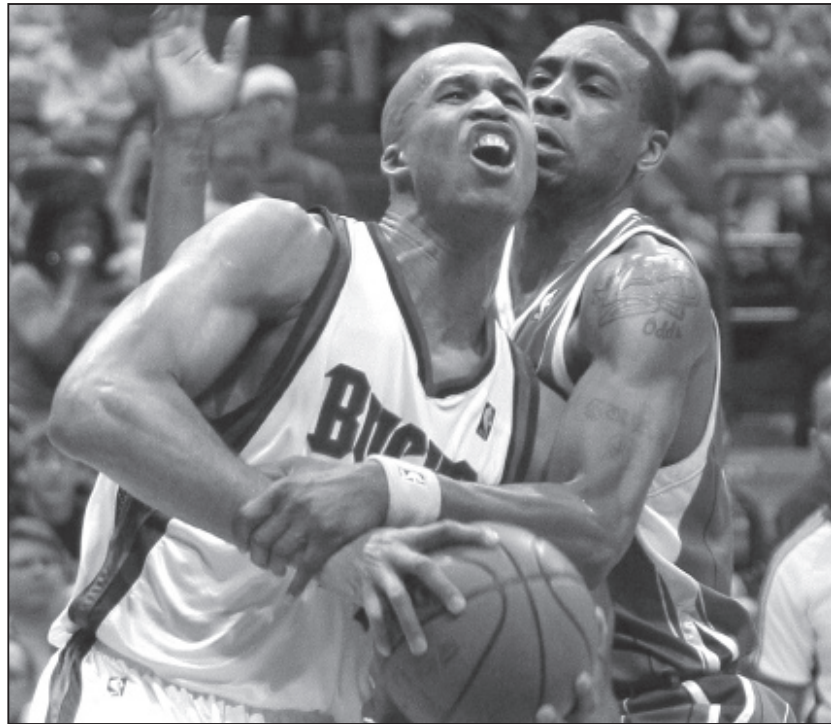
Milwaukee then dealt Oberto to the Pistons for forward Amir Johnson. The trades give the Bucks more financial flexibility, the Spurs a proven scorer and the Pistons a veteran big man at a lower cost than Johnson.

Jefferson, 29, averaged 19.6 points in his one season with the Bucks. The trade gave both sides what they were after: Milwaukee needed to cut its payroll, and the Spurs needed a young and healthy offensive threat after a long distinction as the NBA's oldest team.

"His age helps us transition our team into a new era," Spurs general manager R.C. Buford said.

Spurs guard Tony Parker welcomed Jefferson into the fold, alongside Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili. San

See **TRADE**, Page 2B



AP file photo/Morry Gash

In this March 13 file photo, Milwaukee Bucks forward Richard Jefferson is fouled by New Orleans Hornets guard Rasual Butler as he drives to the basket during an NBA basketball game in Milwaukee. A Bucks official, who requested anonymity, with knowledge of the deal said Tuesday, Milwaukee plans to trade Jefferson to the San Antonio Spurs.

Obituaries

Houston Monroe Nichols

Following a brief illness in McKinney, Houston Monroe Nichols passed from this life Saturday, June 20, 2009. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Othelle Nichols and grandson, Stoney Castleman and brothers, W.E. Nichols Jr., Charles E. Nichols, Benjamin Nichols and Lloyd R. Nichols.

Houston was born in Jones County, near Hamlin, Jan. 30, 1917. He and Othelle married Sept. 2, 1936 in Big Spring and lived numerous years in Howard County, many of which were spent in Sand Springs.

Houston was a construction worker with a renowned talent for operating a piece of machinery called a "drag-line." For years, his gardening and part-time farming talents brought people from other areas to buy his produce.

Survivors include his sons, Douglas M. Nichols and wife Shirley of Forsan and Max D. Nichols and wife Jan of Big Spring; his daughter, Sandra K. Allen and husband Jerry, originally of Coahoma, now full-time travelers; four grandsons, two granddaughters; 10 great-grandchildren; and two sisters.

Family visitation will be at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Funeral services will be at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel Thursday, June 25, 2009, at 2 p.m. with Eddy Pitchford, minister of Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to the Alzheimer's Research Foundation, 1236 Ginger Crescent, Virginia Beach, Va. 23453.

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

Paid obituary

Bowie Houston 'B.H' Denson Jr.

Bowie Houston "B.H." Denson Jr., 80, of Tow, formerly of Big Spring passed away June 21, 2009. He was born March 30, 1929, to B.H. "Boot" and Beatrice Denson. He grew up in Wingate and graduated from Wingate High School. He retired from the Texas State Highway Department and was a long-time member of the Church of Christ. He was preceded in death by his wife Wanda, his mother and father, his son Tad, two brothers, J.B. and Des, and one sister, Mamie Maxine.

He is survived by his wife Robin; two children, Rick and Elaine Denson and Kerry and Twila Denson; one step-daughter, Danielle Morgan; one brother, Pat; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family will be receiving friends at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel. Graveside services will be held Thursday, June 25, 2009, at 11 a.m. at the Wingate Cemetery with Rick Denson officiating under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers a memorial be made to a favorite charity.

William Kennedy Slagle

William Kennedy Slagle, 91, of Big Spring died Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at Martin County Hospital in Stanton. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Olin Bearden

Olin Bearden, 81, of Coahoma died Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at the Marcy House. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

- The West Texas Pachyderm (Republican) Club is having its monthly meeting Thursday, June 25 at noon at the Big Spring Country Club located off of Driver Road. Lunch will be served for a nominal fee. Plans for an upcoming Tea Party will be discussed and anyone interested please attend. For more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-7387.

- 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.

Police blotter

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

- BOE PAYNE, 27, of 1509 Stadium, was arrested Wednesday on warrants from Lubbock and Howard counties.
- JOSE ESPINOSA, 39, of 1511 Lancaster, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- TIFFNEY TINDOL, 30, of 2206 Morrison, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of Runnels.
 - in the 300 block of Main Street.
 - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 1700 block of FM 700.
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
 - in the 200 block of FM 700.
 - in the 300 block of Owens.
- TERRORISTIC THREAT was reported in the 1300 block of Nolan.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg Street.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1000 block of Main Street.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 75 inmates at the time of this report.
- BERNABE CARBALLO-ESTRADA, 36, was arrested Tuesday (arresting agency not provided) on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JOE ESPINOSA, 39, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- GARY LEE MOORE, 54, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on two motions to revoke probation.
- BOE LEWIS PAYNE, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a local warrant and a motion to revoke probation.
- AMADOR RIOS, 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of a protective order.
- TIFFNEY LEE TINDOL, 30, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated — open container.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of N. Lamesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of E. Third Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of E. 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Mesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRASH FIRE was reported in the 900 block of S. Nolan.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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




THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

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

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- 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.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 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.

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Tuesday in the Mega Millions lottery: 12-14-16-31-50; Mega Ball: 9.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-1-4-3. Sum It Up: 11.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-5-19-28-34. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-1-1. Sum It Up: 3.

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MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

Thursday.

"Because of economic stress, the belt-tightening that everyone is going through now, and just from fielding calls, there's a lot more activity than usual," Nelson said. "That usually translates into more deals being done."

Now, all of a sudden, draft day may come and nothing might happen."

Or, as Cuban wrote in a Twitter posting Monday: "Could be a week of lots of talk, no action."

Cuban has been saying for months that the Mavericks will listen to any offers from teams looking to shed payroll. For those teams, it would seem logical to go ahead and do it already, so they can have a better idea of who to take in the draft and which free agents to target.

"But the reality is that people generally hold their cards right up until the draft," he said. "Then it's draft day and there's so much going on that some stuff gets done, some stuff doesn't. ... There are more deals that are walked away from than are consummated."

Stackhouse and Erick Dampier have the kinds of contracts that are good trading chips for Dallas. The Mavericks also might be willing to deal Howard.

And, of course, there's always that No. 22 pick.

"We're not going to do something for a lateral move," Nelson said. "It's got to be a significant upgrade. All those scenarios are on the little greaseboard back there."

Some of the names most often linked to Dallas' spot in the draft include point guards like Ty Lawson, Jeff Teague and Darren Collison, or big men B.J. Mullens, James Johnson and Sam Young.

TRADE

Continued from Page 1B

Antonio is coming off its shortest playoff run since 2000 and faded down the stretch with Duncan, 33, hobbled and Ginobili, 31, sidelined by injury. Jefferson, in contrast, hasn't missed a game the past two seasons.

"He's a great wing," said Parker, speaking to reporters before the trade for Jefferson became official Tuesday. "It's something we don't have on our team."

Jefferson, who attended Moon Valley High in Phoenix and the University of Arizona, became the Bucks' best offensive threat after Michael Redd and Andrew Bogut

went down with season-ending injuries, but the Bucks' tight financial situation made a move necessary.

Milwaukee does not want to pay the NBA's luxury tax, which last year hit teams dollar-for-dollar once they reach \$71.15 million in total payroll.

Redd, Bogut and Jefferson are scheduled to make more than \$41 million combined this season.

"The trade we made today provides us with much needed options in both the short and long-term planning for our franchise," Bucks general manager John Hammond said in a statement.

The trade was a shock to at least one Bucks player: Charlie Villanueva posted "RJ traded to Spurs. Wow" on his Twitter account before the trade was official.

Bogut also chimed in, wishing

Jefferson the best.

"Sad to see RJ go. He was a fun guy to be around and could play. We are building for the future, slow and steady. Patience grasshopper," Bogut posted on Twitter.

The deal actually might allow the Bucks to keep Ramon Sessions or Villanueva, since both are restricted free agents.

Bowen and Thomas give the Bucks a veteran group, and neither is signed beyond the upcoming season.

Johnson, 22, is a young power forward and another option down low for Milwaukee. A second-round draft pick by Detroit in 2005, Johnson started 24 games for the Pistons and averaged 3.5 points and 3.7 rebounds. He is also in the final year of his contract, but makes slightly more than Oberto's \$3.5 million, which is par-

tially guaranteed.

Thomas, 36, is a 14-year veteran who averaged 4.3 points and 5.1 rebounds off the bench last season. Oberto, 34, spent four years in San Antonio and underwent a procedure earlier this month to correct an irregular heartbeat.


Bowen was a key cog in helping the Spurs win three championships, relishing his role as a shutdown defender, assigned to the best player on the floor. But the 38-year-old lost a step and saw his minutes cut significantly.

Bowen lost the starting job he held for six seasons and didn't earn a spot on the NBA's all-defensive team for the first time since the 1999-2000 season. Bowen said he still wanted to play but didn't know how many years he had left.

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5:00 P.M. ~ Food and Novelty Booths Open	8:25 P.M. ~ Symphony Concert
6:00 P.M. ~ Performance by Kays Bluegrass Band	9:25 P.M. ~ Video Presentation Recognizing
6:45 P.M. ~ Performance by Maren Morris Band	Servicemen & Women
7:50 P.M. ~ Welcome and Announcements	9:45 p.m. ~ Fireworks Display

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NIGEL DUARA
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A gunman opened fire Wednesday morning on a prominent high school football coach in the central Iowa school's weight room and was taken into custody shortly afterward, authorities said.

Aplington-Parkersburg High School coach Ed Thomas, who coached four NFL players, was shot at about 8 a.m. and airlifted to a hospital, said school district board secretary Sue Miller. His condition was not immediately known.

Holly Fokkena, a Butler County spokeswoman, said an adult male suspect has been taken into custody and was at the Butler County jail.

She said about 50 students were in the school when the shooting occurred.

Jessica Lown of the Iowa Department of Public Safety said the school has been secured and no one else was injured. She declined to say whether the suspect is a student at the school.

Muller said she's been

told the shooter is not a student.

The district's superintendent and a guidance counselor were meeting with students who were in the weight room at the time of the shooting.

Thomas, who is also Aplington-Parkersburg High School's athletic director, runs a program during the summer for students, not just members of the team, Muller said.

The school is in Parkersburg, about 80 miles northeast of Des Moines.

Thomas is one of the most well-known high school football coaches in Iowa. He was honored as the NFL High School Coach of the Year in 2005, and four of his former players are in the NFL: Green Bay's Aaron Kampman, Jacksonville's Brad Meester, Detroit's Jared DeVries and Denver's Casey Wiegmann.

Thomas made national headlines last year when he insisted that the high school's football field, named in his honor, be rebuilt as a way to help restore community pride

Report: SC gov was in Argentina, not hiking trail

JIM DAVENPORT
Associated Press Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford said he "wanted to do something exotic" to unwind after losing a fight over federal stimulus money and was in Argentina during his unexplained absence, not hiking the Appalachian Trail as his staff told the public when questioned about his whereabouts, a newspaper reported.

The State newspaper reported that Sanford arrived Wednesday morning at Atlanta's international airport on a flight from Buenos Aires, where he drove along the coast of what he called a "beautiful" city.

The Republican governor told the South Carolina newspaper he considered hiking, but at the last minute changed his mind.

"But I said 'no' I wanted to do something exotic," Sanford told the newspaper.

Sanford's spokesman Joel Sawyer declined to immediately comment to The Associated Press, and the governor did not return cell phone messages.

Sanford planned a news conference at 2 p.m. Wednesday at his office in Columbia.

Critics slammed his administration for lying to the public.

"Lies. Lies. Lies. That's all we get from his staff. That's all we get from his people. That's all we get from him," said state Sen. Jake Knotts, R-West Columbia. "Why all the big cover-up?"

On Monday, Knotts raised questions about where the governor was after hearing reports from security officials that the governor could not be contacted and his whereabouts were unknown. The governor's wife, Jenny Sanford, told The Associated Press she had not seen him since Thursday but was not concerned because he'd told her he wanted to get away and do some writing.

Later Monday, Sanford's staff said he was hiking the Appalachian Trail. A day later, they said he had called and planned to cut his trip short and return to work Wednesday because of all the attention his absence was getting.

Sanford said he has taken adventure trips for years to unwind. He has visited the coast of Turkey, the Greek Isles and South America, sometimes with friends and sometimes by himself. "I would get out of the bubble I am in," he told the newspaper.

Sanford said the legislative session was a difficult one, particularly because he lost a fight over whether he should accept \$700 million in stimulus money. Sanford said he wanted lawmakers to spend the money on debt instead of urgent budget needs, but lost a court lawsuit.

"It was a long session and I needed a break," Sanford said.

Sanford said he tried to return through Atlanta to avoid the me-

dia attention his absence.

He declined to give any additional details about what he did other than to say he was alone.

Trying to drive along the coast could frustrate a weekend visitor to Argentina. In Buenos Aires, the Avenida Costanera is the only coastal road, and it's less than two miles long. Reaching coastal resorts to the south requires a drive of nearly four hours on an inland highway with views of endless cattle ranches. To the north is a river delta of islands reached only by boat.

A spokesman for Argentina's immigration agency wouldn't comment Wednesday on whether Sanford entered the country, citing privacy laws.

When The State asked Sanford at the airport why his staff said he was on the Appalachian Trail, Sanford replied, "I don't know."

Sanford later said "in fairness to his staff," he had told them he might go hiking on the Appalachian Trail.

Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer said he was concerned that the governor's staff lied about Sanford's whereabouts, adding that if they didn't know where he was they should have said so.

"For his staff to lie to the people of South Carolina and say he was one place when in fact he wasn't, that concerns me," Bauer said.

Sanford has been a fan of Argentina for years.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

tainly important to our county to have a complete count, or as complete as possible. Whether it would actually encourage anyone to respond to the census that wouldn't normally, I don't know. Generally, the benchmark is 25,000 and then 50,000 people," she added. "We're not going to get our count up to 50,000."

Councilwoman Gloria McDonald said she doubts an increase in advertising and

promoting would solve the common problems with the census.

"The people we need to touch are not the people, certainly, advertising is one of the strong points for," said McDonald.

The council allowed the agenda item to die for a lack of a motion to approve.

Also during the meeting, the council approved:

- Emergency reading of an ordinance that would change the name of Comanche Trail Park's Starlight Drive to San Miguel Del Alto Avenue, in observance of the city's re-

cent agreement to become a sister city of the Mexican municipality. The ordinance was made an emergency item to have the change made in time for the sister city's delegates visit, which is expected to be July 1 through the Pops in the Park celebration, set for July 3.

- An agreement between the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation and Three Chairs Consulting, doing business as Peer Group Consulting. The agreement would provide the Big Spring EDC with services including marketing, public relations

and Web site consulting. The contract will cost the government entity \$115,000 for a one-year contract.

- An agreement between the city and the Settles Hotel Development Company for a \$20,000 economic development incentive to purchase and rehabilitate property near the Settles Hotel. According to city records, the property SHDC is considering is the west 75 feet of Lots 7 and 8, Block 14, Original Town of Big Spring. As part of the agreement, SHDC would agree to rehabilitate the property so that it no longer is a

substandard building pursuant to the city's Structural Standards Code within three years of the purchase.

City Attorney Linda Sjogren said the agreement was actually approved back in November, but slow negotiations between SHDC and the property owners made it necessary to re-approve the measure now that the property has been acquired by the company.

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

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

"I feel like it's been a fair trial, but

it's in the hands of the jury now. How long it takes them to arrive at a verdict will have a lot to do with the video tape, which is about an hour long, and whether or not they want to watch it again. Either way, we're

hoping to have a verdict by around 2 p.m., and if we move into the punishment phase of the trial, we expect to be able to wrap it up today."

If found guilty, Mason could face a sentence of five to 99 years to life in

prison, accompanied by a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

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

WEBB

Continued from Page 1A

of about 50 people let Webb know that his efforts through the years have been appreciated.

"As I've said many times, any time good things happen in a community, they happen because of people with passion," said Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen. "They step up to the plate and do the things that would not be

done without their efforts. Max Webb is one of those people. Without Max, there would be no Northside Community Center."

McEwen also read a proclamation declaring Tuesday as Max Webb Appreciation Day in Big Spring.

David Justice, current warden for Cornell Corrections, spoke of Webb's influence when both men worked at Big Spring FCI.

"There are a lot of folks at FCI who remem-

ber and appreciate what Max did for them," Justice said. "Max is one of those people who inspire others ... and I'm most thankful of how he helped me learn the things that made me a better correctional officer."

Bobby Armstrong, associate director at the community center, paid glowing tribute to the man he calls "Mr. Webb."

"I just hope everybody has the pleasure of knowing Mr. Webb as

well as I do," Armstrong said. "Over the years, I've gotten to know the story of Max William Webb, and it's a great story."

Armstrong went on to talk about how it was Webb, more than any other person, who made the center successful.

"If I stood here and told you the number of success stories we've had at Northside Community Center ... it would take all day," Armstrong said. "He's been an inspiration to so many ...

The Energizer Bunny has nothing on Max Webb."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331

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Why do batterers threaten, abuse, or kill animals?

- To demonstrate and confirm power and control over the family.
- To isolate the victim and children.
- To eliminate competition for attention.
- To force the family to keep violence a secret.
- To teach submission.
- To retaliate for acts of independence and self-determination.
- To perpetuate the context of terror.
- To prevent the victim from leaving or coerce her/him to return.
- To punish the victim for leaving
- To degrade the victim through involvement in the abuse.

Is animal abuse a form of domestic violence? YES.

- Animal abuse exposes the deliberateness of battering rather than loss of control.
- Animal abuse and child abuse are closely related.
- Animal abuse is often a tool used by batterers to emotionally control or coerce victims.
- Threatening, injuring, or killing animals can indicate the potential for increased violence or lethality.
- Victims may postpone leaving out of fear for their pets' safety.
- Identifying animal abusers can help identify other victims of violence within the family.



Victim Services
263-3312

167221

Nowitzki says he's healing from split with fiancée

DALLAS (AP) — Mavericks star Dirk Nowitzki says he is recovering from his soured relationship with jailed former fiancée Crystal Taylor and still wants to have a family someday.

Speaking in his home country to Germany's Bild newspaper, the All-Star forward opened up about his romance with Taylor for the first time in a question-and-answer format that was posted online Tuesday.

Nowitzki said he was "disappointed, sad and furious" in May after Taylor was arrested at his Dallas home but that he thinks he will recover from the ugly breakup.

"I still want to have a family, but first the wounds must heal," said Nowitzki, who turned 31 last week. "However, I still want to have a few little Dirks running around later. But it won't be easy to win my heart."

Taylor, who was indicted in 2006 for allegedly failing to pay a Beaumont dentist for thousands of dollars in dental work, remains in the Jefferson County Jail on theft warrants and a probation violation out of Missouri.

Taylor told The Dallas Morning News in a jailhouse interview that she was pregnant with Nowitzki's

child. Nowitzki has filed for custody of the child if a paternity test proves he's the father.

Nowitzki said he didn't want to get into airing "dirty laundry" in response to things Taylor has said about him. The 7-foot former NBA MVP verified that the couple met in a phone call.

"She told me she dialed the wrong number and was trying to call her brother," Nowitzki said. "We talked, texted and e-mailed a lot over the next three years, but we never met. It was more of an Internet type of flirt."

Nowitzki said the couple had no contact for months before they finally met.

He said they became engaged in December but didn't have a date for the wedding. He said Taylor wanted to get married in July.

"She was a very interesting woman. Funny, absolutely not boring," Nowitzki said.

The eight-time All-Star discounted any long-term impact from the failed romance, saying he can still trust people.

"It's not as though something really bad happened," he said. "I showed bad judgment, and that's that. Life goes on."

Sports in brief

BSLL names

13-14 All Stars

There will be one final Big Spring Little League baseball team competing for a district title in the Permian Basin next week.

The 13-14-year-old All Stars are the fourth team formed to represent the BSLL.

Players forming the team are: Austin Mize, Brandon Larson, Drake Worthan, Brett Broman, Hagen Rodriguez, Anthony Slate, Brandon Gonzales, Clayton Galloway, Matthew Mims, Marcus Cervantes, Brendan Roman, Alfred Garcia.

Alternate: Polo Morin.

12U softball all-stars raising money at Pizza Inn

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association 12U All-Stars team is raising money to attend its all-star tournament.

One of its fund raisers will be waiting tables at Pizza Inn from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. July 9.

A portion of the profits will benefit the team. Donations will also be accepted.



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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| Town & Country | Town & Country (Coahoma) | Little Sooper (Coahoma) |

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| Racks: | Whataburger | Herman's |
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| Greg's Grill | Denny's | Texas Cajun Café |
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We have now added Newspaper Racks at both Big Spring Dairy Queens locations for your convenience.



Community Guide

A resource for newcomers to Big Spring and Howard County

Publication Date: July 26, 2009
DEADLINE: July 15th

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

No burn ban, but caution is surely needed

Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan isn't asking county commissioners for a burn ban, or even outlawing the use and sale fireworks in our community — thanks to recent rains that have fire dangers somewhat reduced.

The key word there is reduced. While Sullivan says wildfire danger in Howard County is at a four-year low at the moment, he's also well aware that the condition is probably temporary.

This is, remember, West Texas. It's usually hot, dry and somewhat windy during the summer and that means any fire that gets out of hand could wind up being a catastrophic wildfire. Catastrophe?

Yes, it's a strong word, but one need only remember the grassfires that turned into far-ranging wildfires a couple of years ago, to understand that all it takes is a small spark to spell disaster.

While fall has always been wildfire season in West Texas, thanks to dying vegetation and brisk winds, there's no question that we must be vigilant all the time.

In fact, Sullivan made it clear during a recent interview when he said, "The stuff out there will still burn, make no mistake about that. It's just not as bad as it's been in the past. With the July 4 holiday coming up, we're still very concerned about the fireworks and what kind of damage they could do. Right now we're sitting at a moderate to high risk factor, so it could get worse pretty quick."

Texas Forest Service officials are constantly reminding us that we all need to use extreme caution when it comes to any outdoor burning.

Approximately 90 percent of the wildfires they see are caused by people.

We should all remain vigilant because here in dry and windy West Texas, it only takes a spark or two to create a serious problem. Simply riding on the rim of a flat tire on your car or pitching cigarette butts out the window of one's vehicle is enough to create a potential catastrophe.

Sullivan also issued a warning to those who break the law or are careless. "Regardless of whether there's a burn ban in place or not, we're operating on a zero-tolerance basis when it comes to fire," he said. "If your mistake results in the loss of someone else's property, you're looking at a charge of reckless endangerment and a \$500 fine."

What more, Sullivan said any caught setting off fireworks by the side of the road, regardless of whether it causes a fire or not, can also expect a serious fine.

After all, when it comes to fire in this country, you really can't be too safe.

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

When we incur trouble that we regret, Lord, thank You for letting us bring it to You in silence.

Amen

On immigration, no difference

In one extreme corner, we have the immigrant haters, with their never-ending list of excuses for denying some form of amnesty to foreigners living in this country without proper documents. And in the other corner, just as extreme, we have the immigrant lovers, with their idealistic demands for amnesty without first finding a way to stop future illegal immigration.

A new immigration fight is beginning in Congress, and there is a good chance that it will end in a draw — again! And it's not only because the two extremes are so far apart but also because those who have a real chance of winning this time — the Democrats — don't really feel like fighting.

It's deja vu all over again! Remember when George W. Bush claimed that he supported comprehensive immigration reform yet failed to fight for it and nothing happened? I know it's really scary, but on the issue of immigration, President Barack Obama is behaving just like Bush.

Obama tells Hispanic groups just what they want to hear — that immigration is a priority — but just how far down on the list of his priorities is anybody's guess.

"I'm committed to passing comprehensive immigration reform as president of the United States," Obama told Latino leaders at a prayer breakfast in Washington last week. But he made no mention of his campaign promise to introduce that legislation during his first year

in office. In fact, it has become obvious that the Obama administration is using delay tactics and every conceivable excuse to get out of that first-year promise.

After postponing two meetings to begin discussing immigration reform with congressional leaders, the White House reportedly is going to give it a third try sometime this week. But just who will be invited and just how forceful the president will be — that, again, is anybody's guess.

When the president and his top aides outline the administration's top priorities, immigration isn't mentioned, except, of course, when they are talking to Latinos. You wonder why they don't just come out and say: "We're sorry, but we have an economic crisis, two wars, health care out of control, rogue nations playing with nuclear weapons, energy and education problems, and other priorities that we consider more important."

Immigration is going to have to wait."

Many people would be terribly disappointed, but many would understand. Instead, what we get is Obama doing a George Bush routine.

When he spoke at the Esperanza National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast and Conference last week, Obama did what Bush always did; he tried to please both the immigrant lovers and the immigrant haters.

"The American people believe in immigration, but they also believe that we can't tolerate a situation where people come to the United States in violation of the law," Obama said.

Just like Bush, when Obama said anything that could be considered pro-immigrants, he also said something that could be considered anti-immigrants.

He noted that we can't "tolerate employers who exploit undocumented workers in order to drive down wages," but then he noted that this is the reason "we're taking steps to strengthen border security" and that "we must build on those efforts."

While he argued that "we must also clarify the status of millions who are here illegally," he also noted that "for those who wish to become citizens, we should require them to pay a penalty and pay taxes, learn English (and) go to the back of the line, behind those who played by the rules."

Of course we need to reinforce the borders for the sake of our national security, and of course we should stop future illegal immigration. But what we need from Obama on this issue is the same kind of bold leadership he has shown on many of his other priorities.

We need to hear Obama come out and tell America that amnesty is not a four-letter word, that we need to tone down the hate speech that is caused by xenophobia, that our economy will improve when undocumented immigrants are allowed to work here legally, and that for the sake of our own national security, we also need to find a way to identify the people who are living here without proper documents.

Unfortunately, on immigration, Obama clearly is sending coded language to both extremes. When Bush did it, this column noted that it was not a sign of leadership — just political hypocrisy — and that it would not lead anywhere. When Obama does it, what else can we call it, and what else can we expect?

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Let comedians make the jokes

When we start letting politicians set the standards for humor, then we have accomplished something not even Carrot Top, Jay Leno or even Larry The Cable Guy has managed to do. We will have killed comedy and what will remain will be as sad as knock-knock jokes, as pathetic as the "humorous" riddles on Popsicle sticks and about as funny as that wall plaque of a fish that sings.

If we take humorless dolts like Sarah Palin seriously when they get mock outraged at a late night talk show host's joke, then, we pretty much close the door on comedy.

The only mistake David Letterman made with his joke about Palin's daughter getting "knocked up" by A-Rod during the seventh inning stretch of a Yankees game was apologizing for it.

The joke, which got a laugh — the essential goal of any joke — was funny and it clearly

played off the fact that Palin has a daughter who got pregnant at a young age. Whether Letterman knew that Palin attended the baseball game the joke was made about with her younger daughter, not the one with the baby, is irrelevant because the comedy works anyway.

Make Letterman only do mild jokes that won't offend anyone and you essentially have Jay Leno — a man with enormous appeal to the humorless. These are folks who never get the joke and are always looking to become enraged when somebody says something they consider offensive.

If the joke offends you, change the channel or don't support Letterman's advertisers. If you think the joke was part of some liberal political agenda, then you're delusional and lost in a Rush Limbaugh fantasy world where every question comes down to political ideology. Letterman may do his show from New York (which to ultra-conservatives makes him both liberal and Jewish) but he's an equal opportunity offender.

I would guess that Palin was no more offended by Letterman's joke than I was. Instead, she saw an opportunity to pander to her

far right supporters. She may be fairly dumb, but she knows an opportunity when she sees one and going after Letterman for "attacking a 14-year-old girl" allows Palin to act like she's being targeted by the "liberal" media.

If we let comedy fall prey to the silly partisan politics that has ruined all reasonable political discourse in this country, then we truly have become so uptight that we may never recover. It's okay to be offended by a joke and just choose to not like that comedian. We don't have to have press conferences and demand apologies.

Comedians should offend people. They should illuminate uncomfortable truths and sometimes there's comedy in being just plain offensive.

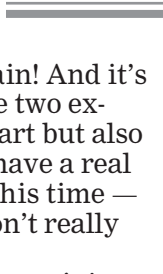
There's very little to laugh about these days and if we look for ways to reign in comedy with political correctness, then we will have even less funny to go around.

We need to stop looking for reasons to be offended and start laughing — even at ourselves — a little more.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers He can be e-mailed at dan@notastep.com



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Garage Sales

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ESTATE/YARD SALE: Saturday 7am-4pm, 2720 Cindy. Too much to list.

GARAGE SALE: Allan's Furniture we're cleaning out the warehouse. Odd pieces starting at \$5.00. Large selection of tables, chairs, footboards, odds & ends. 202 Scurry, 9:00am-5:00pm.

HUGE YARD Sale: 1506 Kiowa St., Friday & Saturday 9:00-2:00. Mary Lee's selling off her magnificent collection of unique Americana/ Texana/ "countrified" goodies also handcrafted display case. Jenna's dissolving her book collection. Rare & collectible titles. Yes, but also thousands of books @ .25c each- all Genres Christie will be selling her famous burritos. Also lots of Furniture and housewares.

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

MULTI FAMILY: 2719 Central, Friday Afternoon & Saturday 8-12. Coffee table, drapes, nice clothes, aquarium stuff, bicycle and lots of misc.

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State briefs

Parking lot attack in Sherman captured on video

SHERMAN (AP) — Sherman police are looking for the man who assaulted and robbed a delivery person in a videotaped attack in a parking lot.

Surveillance video shows the two men appearing to trade numerous punches in the lot at a Wal-Mart.

KXII-TV reports the victim told police that the suspect threatened him with a weapon and demanded money. The men are seen fighting each other, at one point boxing style, in last week's assault.

Sherman police released the video Tuesday.

Sherman is about 60 miles north of Dallas.

Glider chute eases crash in San Antonio area

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The pilot of a motorized glider escaped injury when the aircraft crashed in a northwest San Antonio neighborhood during a landing attempt.

Pilot Steve Cima (SEE'-muh) of San Antonio activated the emergency parachute on the Lambada, which helped the glider nose into some trees.

Cima says he was trying to land in Boerne (BER'-nee) on Tuesday afternoon when there was some type of vibration on the plane. Cima says the tail broke at some point.

I-35 construction worker killed in Austin area

AUSTIN (AP) — The driver of a dark-colored SUV is sought after a construction worker along Interstate 35 in the Austin area was struck and killed.

Police Sgt. Kenneth Conner says the accident happened before dawn Wednesday along southbound I-35.

Conner says the SUV drove into the construction area, striking and killing the worker, then sped away.

The victim's name was not immediately released.

Undercover Houston police officer killed

HOUSTON (AP) — A shootout in Houston left an undercover officer and a suspect dead.

Police Chief Harold Hurrst early Wednesday said 42-year-old Officer Henry Canales was an outstanding officer and individual.

Another officer fatally shot the suspect Tuesday night.

Authorities say Canales, a Houston police officer since 1993, was shot while in the parking lot of a drug store during an investigation of the sale of stolen televisions.

Houston police spokesman Victor Senties says money was exchanged with undercover officers when the buyer shot Canales.

Senties says another

officer tried to take the gunman into custody when the suspect fired at least twice. The second officer, who was not hit, shot the suspect.

Senties says the suspect was dead at the scene. Three other suspects who drove away were later caught.

Fort Worth schools to lay off 95

FORT WORTH (AP) — At least 95 Fort Worth school employees will be laid off as part of

\$15.4 million in cuts from next school year's budget.

School trustees approved the cuts Tuesday night.

Superintendent Melody Johnson said laying off employees was a difficult but necessary move. This year, the district was short about \$43 million and faces a \$15 million shortfall next year, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported.

"No one likes doing this," she said. "This

is absolutely the worst thing you can do as an organization."

Administrators plan to use seniority to release 40 campus monitors and 44 alternative-school employees. Some monitors will be reassigned.

Officials said they planned to offer job search assistance to the employees who lose their jobs.

John Walker, a campus monitor who has worked for the district for 23 years, told trustees that reducing

the number of monitors would compromise school safety.

"A monitor shows up every day on time — visible and vigilant," he said.

Trustees voted 5-3 to eliminate \$3.1 million for the so-called Tier 1 alternative-school program, which employs 44 teachers, administrators and other staff.

Trustees also cut funding to the Dunbar Area Community School, which has educated residents since 1973.

Efforts are underway to find other funding sources to keep the Dunbar Area Community School open.

On Tuesday, the Fort Worth City Council approved using federal stimulus money to take over some job-related programs that the community school offers. But city officials said that the funding is for only one year and that there are no plans to take over the programs permanently.

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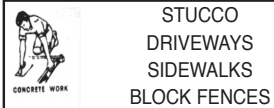


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News in brief

Iran moving to declare Ahmadinejad president

CAIRO (AP) — A conservative candidate in Iran's disputed presidential election said Wednesday that he was withdrawing his complaints about voting fraud for the sake of the country, state television reported.

The announcement by Mohsen Rezaie, a former commander of the elite Revolutionary Guards, moved the cleric-led government one step closer to a final declaration of victory for President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. State TV reported that Ahmadinejad would be sworn in sometime between July 26 and Aug. 19.

Iran's supreme leader has said that Ahmadinejad won fairly but the government appears to be moving in stages toward a final declaration, perhaps to avoid provoking a resurgence of protests by backers of reformist candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi.

A close Mousavi aide told The Associated Press that police had raided offices of a newspaper owned by the candidate and detained 25 editorial employees.

Investigators focus on why train didn't stop before DC crash that killed 9

WASHINGTON (AP) — A transit operator on the job about three months in the nation's capital had just started her shift and took over an older train that federal safety officials had warned years earlier should be replaced.

About eight miles down the red line track, another train was stopped. In the blink of an eye, the trailing train, under automated control, slammed into the stopped one and jackknifed violently into the air, falling atop the first. Nine people were killed and more than 70 injured in Monday's crash.

"It was only a split second," said 20-year-old Jamie Jiao of Vienna, Va., who was aboard the moving train, sitting just a few feet from where the car was smashed. "We were probably traveling pretty fast. No one had time to react."

Now investigators are trying to find out why the train didn't stop, even though officials say the emergency brake control was pushed down and there was evidence that the operator tried to slow her car before impact.

"That train was never supposed to get closer than 1,200 feet, period," said Jackie Jeter, president of a union that represents Metro workers.

Obama-industry confrontation looms over what role government should play in health care

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as President Barack Obama and the insurance industry move toward open confrontation over the role of government in health

care, his administration is telling lawmakers to keep pushing for a bipartisan deal.

Obama on Tuesday dismissed as "not logical" the insurance lobby's assertion that a new government health plan he backs would dismantle the employer-sponsored coverage most Americans now have. Despite harsh words from the president, senators attending an evening meeting in the Capitol with White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel said the administration was not ready to abandon the search for compromise.

That puts the spotlight on a small group of senators who are trying to find common ground on the issue of giving the middle class the option of joining a government health plan. Republicans are almost unanimously opposed, while Democrats insist it must be part of any final deal.

Dubbed "the coalition of the willing," the Senate group is focusing on nonprofit co-ops as an alternative both to private insurance and full-blown government intervention.

"The co-op proposal is alive and well, and negotiations are ongoing," said Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., who proposed the idea, adding that it's the only version of a public plan that stands a chance of getting Republican support.

Ship suspected of carrying arms to Myanmar could test new U.N. sanctions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — An American destroyer was tailing a North Korean ship suspected of transporting weapons toward Myanmar, as anticipation mounted Wednesday that the North could soon conduct short- or medium-range missile tests.

The Kang Nam left the North Korean port of Nampo a week ago, and the destroyer USS John S. McCain was following as it sailed off the Chinese coast. The sailing sets up the first test of a new U.N. Security Council resolution that authorizes member states to inspect North Korean vessels suspected of carrying banned weapons or materials.

The sanctions are punishment for an underground nuclear test the North carried out last month in defiance of past resolutions. It's not clear exactly what the Kang Nam has on board, but it has transported illicit goods in the past.

The North has said it would consider any interception "an act of war," with its state media Wednesday accusing the U.S. of fostering "the worst-ever tension" between the Koreans.

"It's evident that

a solid peace on the Korean peninsula cannot be established unless the U.S. hostile policy and its plot to isolate our republic are put to an end," the North's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper said in a commentary published by the Korean Central News Agency.

Fed weighs whether economic programs should be slowed

WASHINGTON (AP) — With signs the economy is improving but still fragile, Federal Reserve policymakers are considering whether some programs intended to drive down rates on mortgages and other consumer debt should be slowed down.

Most economists predict Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues won't launch any bold new efforts at the end of a two-day meeting Wednesday.

Fears have grown on Wall Street that the Fed's radical efforts to lift the country out of the longest recession since World War II could ignite inflation later on.

"Injecting additional money into the banking system is a pretty dangerous game right now, and the Fed cannot afford to press on the accelerator amid a potentially inflationary environment," said Richard Yamarone, economist at Argus Research.

Wanting to snuff out any rise in inflation expectations, the Fed could opt to tweak its already-announced programs to slow down purchases of either government debt or mortgage-backed securities. Doing so also could help avert possible market disruptions and make it easier for the Fed to reel in these programs once the economy rebounds.

Andres weakens from hurricane to tropical storm

PUERTO VALLARTA, Mexico (AP) — A weakening Tropical Storm Andres was heading out to sea Wednesday after flooding homes and killing at least one person on Mexico's southwestern coast, but forecasters warned the storm could still brush the tip of Baja California.

The storm skirted the coast south of Puerto Vallarta on Tuesday, but by early Wednesday the Mexican government canceled a tropical storm watch stretching from Manzanillo to Cabo Corrientes.

Andres briefly flared up into the Eastern Pacific season's first hurricane on Tuesday.

At 2 a.m. PDT (5 a.m. EDT, 0900 GMT), the center of the storm was located about 90 miles (145 kilometers) southwest of Cabo Corrientes and 315 miles (505 km) southeast of the tip of

Baja California, and moving to the northwest about 9 mph (15 kmh).

Amid Iran's upheaval, concerns about nuclear ambitions remain paramount for U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Behind President Barack Obama's toughened but modulated response to the Iranian election crisis is a calculation that when the dust settles, the United States will still face an unpredictable adversary that gets closer every day to producing nuclear weapons.

No one can say whether the unrest following disputed presidential elections will yield an Iran more willing to cut a deal over its disputed nuclear program. But as Obama sees it, the United States must be ready to talk no matter who sits on the other side of the table.

"My position coming into this office has been that the United States has core national security interests in making sure that Iran doesn't possess a nuclear weapon and it stops exporting terrorism outside of its borders," Obama told reporters Tuesday.

The new president has tried not to poison chances for negotiations over those threats, although that gave Republican critics room to call him timid.

Boston Globe, largest union reach tentative agreement

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Globe and its largest union have reached a tentative agreement that will save the newspaper \$10 million through salary and benefit cuts.

The Globe and the Boston Newspaper Guild issued separate e-mail statements late Tuesday announcing the agreement. The deal is scheduled to come to a vote before Guild

membership — made up of 700 editorial, advertising and business employees — on July 20.

Under the agreement, salaries would be cut by 5.94 percent and language in contracts regarding job security would be altered.

The 23 percent wage cut will remain in place until the Guild vote. In the meantime, employees will receive a lump sum payment to partially compensate for wages lost.

O'Brien salutes longtime 'Tonight Show' sidekick Ed McMahon

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Tonight" host Conan O'Brien paid tribute to Ed McMahon as a "truly funny man" whose partnership with Johnny Carson on the late-night

show is an indelible part of TV history.

"It is impossible, I think, for anyone to imagine 'The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson' without Ed McMahon," O'Brien said during Tuesday's show.

"Ed's laugh was really the soundtrack to that show. For 30 years Ed played his part perfectly, he played it with effortless joy," said O'Brien, who became host of "Tonight" this month.

Sitting alongside Carson, McMahon was part of "the most iconic two-shot in broadcasting history. There will never be anything like that again," O'Brien said.

McMahon, who played second banana on "Tonight" until Carson retired in 1992, died early Tuesday at age 86 after prolonged illness.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



The picnic basket

Fourth of July picnics and Longaberger baskets have long gone hand-in-hand, a pairing rooted in the Ohio family's rich picnicking tradition. Plus, noodling for catfish and crabmeat au gratin.

American Profile

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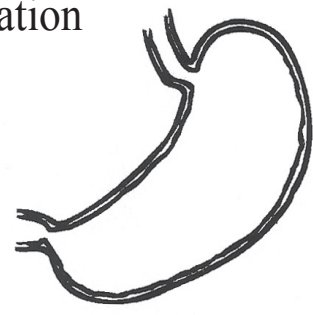
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If you feel like you didn't get enough sleep, even though your clock says that you did, you can blame it on the moon. Loopy moods sometimes accompany the void-of-course moon, but at least most of the mistakes will be of the silly, laughter-inspiring variety. Confusion will be straightened out before the moon crosses into the realm of Leo.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be in the public eye. Mostly, you know what you're doing, but there will be some uncharted territory, too. Look like you know what you're doing until you figure it out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Intimate relationships are not a stand-in for a life plan, though they will enhance and influence your decisions and direction today. Know where you want to go first so you're not unduly led by others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be doing the sort of thing that the people in your family haven't done before. Stepping boldly outside of your family culture will cause a few waves, but those who understand you will cheer you on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though most people strive to be more confident, today there is something to be said for not being confident. He who is certain of everything will learn very little.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You take charge of your own actions, though you have no interest in directing others. Anyway, you don't have to issue orders now to have profound influence. People unconsciously follow your example.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JUNE 24). Your future is colorful and free. You still have responsibilities, but they are not limiting - rather, they enable you to express your creativity while being of service to others. Tackle an exciting project in July and love and friendship come to you. September brings a windfall. November is a key investment opportunity. Aries and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 46, 28 and 30.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There will be an opportunity to risk your ego and emotions. Take the adventurous choice. If you can't think of a single reason for doing it except for that you haven't done it before, that's good enough.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People who don't follow the norm will not upset you, or make you feel uneasy. In fact, you will probably be amused by their strange approach to things. Your flexibility is a sign of sophistication.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An eventful yet brief period of your history seems bigger than life in your mind. Is it still affecting the way you live? Mentally go back and visit that interesting period to free its hold on you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't want to have to spend a

lot of energy to make a relationship go smoothly. It's supposed to be fun, right? Instead of hashing over old baggage, let it go. Freshness and life returns.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The love you feel for someone makes you bold. Follow through with spontaneous ideas and do it as big as possible. What you do to make another person remember you will be how you remember yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A special person is on your mind. There is something exciting and irresistible happening. You are convinced that you are better off spending your time with this person than doing what you used to do for fun.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Though it would be nice if a loved one would reassure you of his or her undying affection, you're not likely to get such a clear message. Still, believe the best and the best will happen.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I moved in with my guy six months ago. At the start, we both chipped in for the bills and I was the one to physically send them in. Now he often doesn't have the money to chip in so I'm paying most of it. Last month, his mom paid his share -- his mom! It's not like he's not working. He works with his brother, and hangs out with his brother and even has a bank account with his brother. I think he loves his brother more than me. He's a Gemini, his brother is a Gemini and I am a Taurus. What do you think?"

You didn't say whether your guy is a twin, but all Gemini's are twins and their sibling bond is intense beyond most people's understanding. It's not that your guy is incapable of having a mature relationship with someone who is not his bro, but if he is spending more time with his brother than you, and also being more financially responsible to him than he is to you, it all adds up to his brother being his real "significant other." Love is a quality of attention. If there's anything a Taurus knows, it's quality. He's not up to it, so it's time to move on.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Mary Lynn Rajskub is a multi-talented Cancer actress, comedienne, singer and painter who co-stars with Kiefer Sutherland in the hit television series "24." She has been known to express her artistic impulses in surprising and hilarious ways, as evidenced in work with her comedy duo, the Girls Guitar Club or her one woman show, the "Complications of Purchasing a Poodle Pillow."

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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Why not check this out? At the library

The closing party for the Summer Reading program will be Tuesday. All who signed up and participated need to come for hot dogs, magic and awards.

How about some mysteries to read beside the pool or on the couch in an air-conditioned room?

Margaret Fenton grew up in Alabama, has a degree from Newcombe College, worked as a social worker and is a mystery buff. All of these factors come together in her mystery "Little Lamb Lost" (M FEN M). Claire Conover is a social worker whose case file is bulging. Her worst nightmare occurs when her client, Michael, is found dead and his mother is arrested for it. Claire is determined to clear both son and mother and nearly loses her life in the process.

Another favorite writer is Robert Crais, creator of the characters Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. Published in 2008, "Chasing Darkness" (M CRA R) revisits fire season in the hills above Los Angeles. When firefighters rush door to door to warn people to evacuate, they find the week-old corpse of an apparent suicide. Lionel Byrd had been accused of murdering seven young women and Elvis had been instrumental in excluding Byrd as the murderer. Had Elvis been wrong?

James Lee Burke writes the Dave Robicheaux mysteries. In "Swan Peak" (M BUR J), Dave, his wife and Clete Purcell are in Montana trying to forget the grit and disaster of Katrina. Alas, crime does not take a holiday, and a grisly murder of two college students involves the trio in a deadly game. It is story of intricate plot lines and characters and with Burke's graceful prose makes the book a must read.

An additional couple of mysteries: Stuart Woods' "Hot Mahogany" (M WOO S) starring Stone Barrington and Steve Martini's "Shadow of

Power" (M MAR S) with Paul Madrian are available for checkout.

We have some new Audio Books on CD: Clive Cussler's "The Chase" (AUCD F CUS C) will take you about 12.5 hours to listen to and it is not the usual Dirk Pitt adventure story. April 1950: a rusting hulk of a steam locomotive is pulled from the waters of a Montana lake. Three bodies are found but what many are looking for is the loot from numerous bank robberies that had vanished in 1906. What will the locomotive reveal?

I remember reading many of Ken Follett's books in print. We now have "Triple" (AUCD F FOL K) which runs 12 hours in length and a story of potential nuclear holocaust. The action shifts from Egypt, Israel, Russia, England and finally ends up on the high seas, where these political powers are playing a deadly game.

Nelson DeMille's "Wild Fire" (AUCD F DEM N) is only 18.5 hrs. Again, drawing on the premise of a nuclear accident, Detective John Corey and his wife, FBI agent Kate Mayfield, seek to unravel what happens at Custer Hill Club and how decisions made their put the entire East Coast in peril.

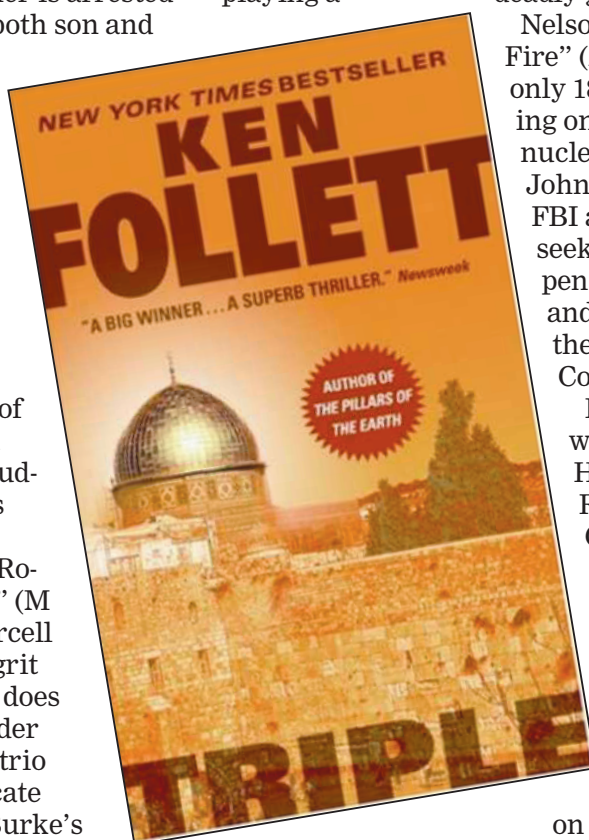
From the author who wrote "The Beach House" comes "Dune Road" (F GRE J).

Content to escape the throes of Wall Street, widow Kit Hargrove has found her niche as personal assistant to reclusive author Robert McClore. However, life doesn't remain on an even keel for long.

Secrets begin spilling out from several fronts, and Kit has to determine how she will react to them. This is a chick book by Jane Green, one to read while on vacation.



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If you want some serious reading, we have a collection of short stories from John Updike, "My Father's Tears" (F UPD J). Compiled since 2000, Updike mingles stories in locales as mundane as Pennsylvania to foreign countries.

Robert Tannenbaum writes an excellent thriller with characters Butch Karp and his wife Marlene Ciampi. When a rising starlet is found dead in the penthouse of an eccentric Broadway producer, Karp suspects the worst. This read likes the trial that just concluded of Phil Spector. Suffice to say, there is many a twist and turn.

A couple of biographies are in: "Good Day! The Paul Harvey Story" (B HAR P) written by Paul J. Batura and "Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson" (B JAC J) by Geoffrey C. Ward.

New Non-Fiction: "Horse Soldiers" (958.104 STA D) by Doug Stanton and no, it is not about the Wild West. It is the story of a small band of Special Forces soldiers who secretly entered Afghanistan after 9/11 and rose to war on horses against the Taliban.



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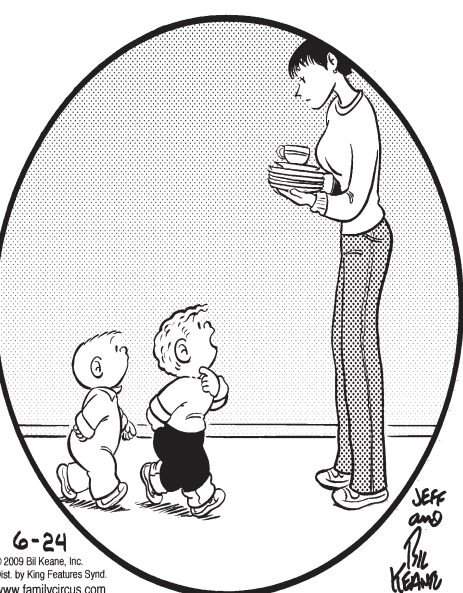
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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Raymond	Cortes	BBC Business	Cash Cab	House, Sam Elliott	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: Live	Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Noticiero Gancho	Lopez	News CBS	Noticiero	News NBC	Friends	Harris	News-Lehrer	Cash Cab	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: Live	Phineas	Interrupt	College	
7:PM :30	Wipeout	Wipeout	Cuidado-Ángel	So You Think You Can Dance	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Celebrity	Seinfeld	Mark	Hagee	Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: Live	Phineas	MLB Baseball: Teams to Be Announced.	College	
8:PM :30	Survived-Game	Survived-Game	Mañana es	TMZ	CSI: NY	Victorinos	The Philanthropist	Payne	Israel	House	MythBusters	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: Live	Phineas	MLB Baseball: Teams to Be Announced.	College	
9:PM :30	Primetime: Crime	Primetime: Crime	Don Francisco	Raymond	CSI: NY	Victorinos	The Philanthropist	Payne	Israel	House	MythBusters	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: Live	Phineas	MLB Baseball: Teams to Be Announced.	College	
10:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticiero	News	Wedding Day	Israel	Dr. Young	Charlie Rose	Time Warp	4th and Long	Law & Order	Movie: Never Die Alone, Michael Ealy	Suite Life	Soccer: Confederations Cup	SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night-Jim	Sex & House	Israel	Sanchez	Smiley (Off Air)	Pitchmen	CSI: NY	Law & Order	Movie: Clear and Present Danger, Anne Archer	Life De	Cory	Baseball
12:AM :30	News ABC	Marketing	Contra Viento	RENO 911	Insider	Pagado	News	Movie: Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star	Light of the Southwest	Oil, Sweat and Rigs	Animals Attack	Cold Case	Game	Replace	NASCAR Series of Poker	Emperor Dragon	MLB	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Paid	Paid	Güereja	Consumer	Paid	Pelicula: El												

DENNIS THE MENACE



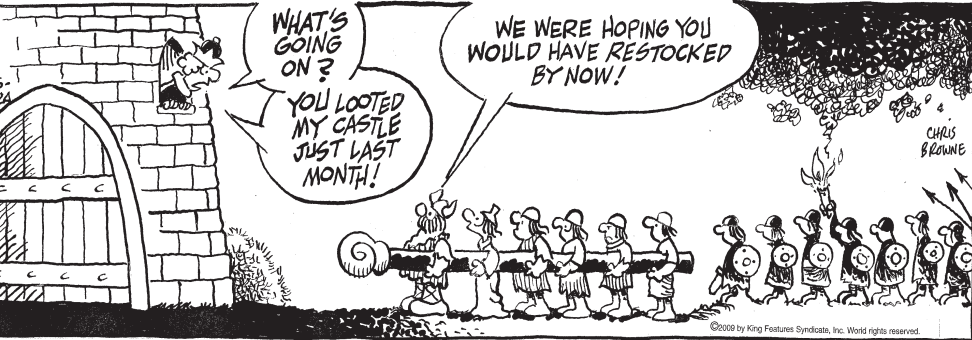
"WANT A BITE OF MY SAN-WICH?"
"TOO MUCH KETCHUP, OR NOT ENOUGH PEANUT BUTTER?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"When does PJ stop bein' a toddler and turn into a little boy?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



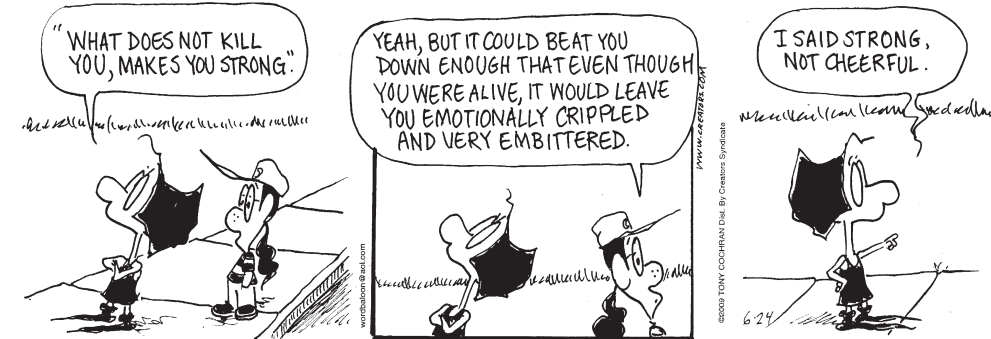
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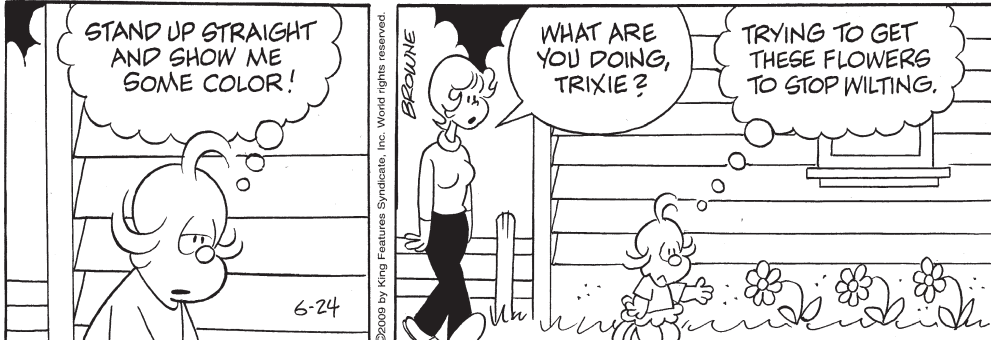
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



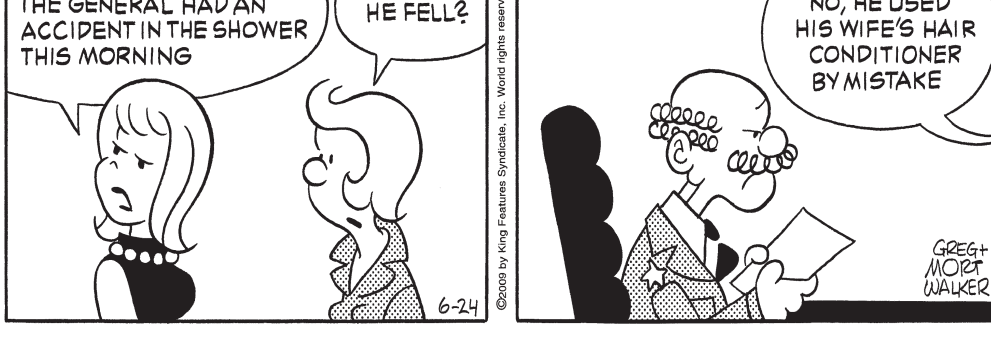
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, June 24, the 175th day of 2009. There are 190 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Five hundred years ago, on June 24, 1509, Henry VIII was crowned king of England; his wife, Catherine of Aragon, was crowned queen consort.

On this date:

In 1314, the forces of Scotland's King Robert I defeated the English in the Battle of Bannockburn.

In 1497, the first recorded sighting of North America by a European took place as explorer John Cabot spotted land, probably in present-day Canada.

In 1793, the first republican constitution in France was adopted.

In 1807, a grand jury in Richmond, Va., indicted former Vice President Aaron Burr on charges of treason and high misdemeanor. (He was later acquitted).

In 1908, the 22nd and 24th presidents of the United States, Grover Cleveland, died in Princeton, N.J., at age 71.

In 1940, France signed an armistice with Italy during World War II.

In 1948, Communist forces cut off all land and water routes between West Germany and West Berlin, prompting the western allies to organize the Berlin Airlift. The Republican National Convention, meeting in Philadelphia, nominated New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey for president.

In 1968, "Resurrection City," a shantytown constructed as part of the Poor People's March on Washington, D.C., was closed down by authorities.

In 1975, 113 people were killed when an Eastern Airlines Boeing 727 crashed while attempting to land during a thunderstorm at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport.

In 1983, the space shuttle Challenger — carrying America's first woman in space, Sally K. Ride — coasted to a safe landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Al Molinaro is 90. Comedian Jack Carter is 86. Movie director Claude Chabrol is 79. Actress Michele Lee is 67. Actor-director Georg Stanford Brown is 66. Rock musician Jeff Beck is 65. Singer Arthur Brown is 65. Rock singer Colin Blunstone (The Zombies) is 64. Musician Mick Fleetwood (Fleetwood Mac) is 62. Actor Peter Weller is 62. Rock musician John Illsley (Dire Straits) is 60. Actress Nancy Allen is 59. Reggae singer Derrick Simpson (Black Uhuru) is 59.

Thought for Today: "There is a way to look at the past. Don't hide from it. It will not catch you if you don't repeat it." — Pearl Bailey, American singer and actress (1918-1990).

Answer to previous puzzle

BRAC	NEST	WATCH
LULU	ONTO	ALOHA
ODOR	ISAY	LOFAT
BEER	SUBCULTURE	
I SEE HRS		
TRACES	BEG	TOAD
REBUT	RUSE	USSR
OVIAL	BOLTS	MAKE
TUTU	EBBS	DUKES
SEEM	GIS	BYLAWS
TEN DIET		
UNTRUTHFUL	USER	
FOYER	OINK	OARS
OAKEN	ONCE	UNIV
SHEDS	DEED	SLEEP

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Work with acid
 - 5 Gets under control
 - 10 Goya subject
 - 14 Actor Lugosi
 - 15 Pulitzer author Wharton
 - 16 Is in the hole
 - 17 Raw power
 - 19 Democratic donkey cartoonist
 - 20 Bard's "before"
 - 21 Spectrum color
 - 22 St. Francis' home
 - 24 U-boat movie of 1981
 - 26 Web-footed mammal
 - 27 Long, long time
 - 28 Irish county
 - 31 Time-out for coffee
 - 34 Muslim's mat
 - 38 Cave creatures
 - 39 Didn't move a muscle
 - 40 Artistic inspiration
 - 41 "Welcome to..." sign spot
 - 43 Reno of the Clinton cabinet
 - 44 Science suffix
 - 45 Hi-__ graphics
 - 46 Univ. staff
 - 49 Ranch helper
 - 53 In need of mending
 - 55 Cast one's ballot
 - 56 Cause of trouble
 - 57 In excess of
 - 58 Orwell book
 - 61 "#1!" (winners' cry)
 - 62 Scrooge McDuck, for one
- DOWN
- 1 Let up
 - 2 __ cotta (kind of clay)
 - 3 Whodunit tidbits
 - 4 Bonnet, for example
 - 5 Skillet coating
 - 6 Point after deuce
 - 7 Mucky stuff
 - 8 "Yada yada yada..."
 - 9 2000 Subway Series stadium
 - 10 Halloween novelty song
 - 11 Be in store for
 - 12 Ex-governor Ventura
 - 13 Out of bed
 - 18 Reader's download
 - 23 Ticked off
 - 25 Lion or tiger
 - 28 Good buddy
 - 29 Hang in the hammock
 - 30 Nautical assent
 - 31 Air-rifle ammo
 - 32 Turn state's evidence, maybe
 - 33 Hellenic H
 - 34 Goody two-shoes
 - 35 Seek a seat
 - 36 Take off the shelf
 - 37 Buy
 - 39 Impresario Ziegfeld
 - 42 "What __ is new?"
 - 43 Tiara inlay
 - 45 Like old phones
 - 46 Sterns' opposites
 - 47 Transfix
 - 48 La Scala offering
 - 49 One of Santa's team
 - 50 In the know
 - 51 Visitors to Vinland
 - 52 Evil spirit
 - 54 Man-made lake formers
 - 55 MasterCard rival
 - 59 Absolutely nothing
 - 60 Dandy dresser

FIENDISH by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15							16			
17				18							19			
20				21				22	23					
24			25								26			
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41						42					43			
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46	47	48							49			50	51	52
53						54			55				56	
57								58	59				60	
61								62					63	
64								65						66

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Recognizing illness in your pet feline

BIG SPRING ANIMAL CONTROL

Summertime is here. The kids will be playing outside and may find a lost kitten or one that someone has abandoned. While kittens make good pets, they do grow up to be cats. They are self-maintained with food and a litter box. But just like any other pet, they do not have the hands to help themselves.

I have always been a cat lover and have had one all my life. They all seem to have different personalities. But just like any animal, they need vaccines and a yearly checkup with a licensed veterinarian. Vaccines and the subsequent booster vaccines can greatly prevent cats from acquiring some contagious diseases, some of which have no cure. All cats should be tested for feline leukemia and feline immunodeficiency virus when first brought home, especially if there are other cats in the home. Of course, the new cat needs to be kept separated from the other cats until the testing is done and the new cat is found to not be positive for those diseases.

Cats should be taken to a veterinarian when something just doesn't seem right about the cat, even if one is not sure if the cat is sick. Cats hide illnesses and pain well, and often have been sick for some time before it is very obvious.

Some serious illnesses and diseases progress slowly over time and have subtle symptoms in the early stages rather than the dramatic, impossible to miss symptoms that acute illnesses may have.

The sooner a problem is diagnosed, the easier and less costly it is to treat. And of course, the less discomfort or pain the cat will have.

It is always best to err on the side of caution, as some illnesses and conditions can rapidly become life-threatening, especially in kittens and elderly cats.

It is never a waste of money to find out that a cat taken to the vet is fine and healthy.

Some general guidelines of when to take a cat to the vet include, but are not limited to, when the cat:

- is listless and lethargic (common to most cat illnesses)
- stays in a tucked position, with the paws tucked under the body for most of the time
- has a warmer than usual or a hot body, not due to lying in the sun or next to a heater (probably a fever)
- has the inner eyelids showing except for when about to fall asleep or just waking up
- has been losing weight even if eating normally (can be due to hyperthyroidism or diabetes, among other causes)
- has not been eating much or at all for more than a day
- has been drinking more than usual or what seems like a lot if a new cat (can be due to diabetes, kidney disease, Cushing's Disease, among other reasons)

- has been sitting hanging its head over the water bowl but not drinking (can be due to kidney disease)
- has been urinating more often than usual or in larger amounts than usual (can be due to diabetes, kidney disease, or Cushing's Disease)
- has been eliminating outside of the litter box when not due to a box not having been scooped (can be a sign of a urinary infection, diabetes-if urine)
- has been straining to eliminate (a sign of a severe urinary infection or blockage- get the cat to the vet immediately! If it is a urinary blockage, the cat can die in as little as 24 hours!)
- has been panting or wheezing, even when after vigorous play (can be due to asthma or cardiomyopathy. Panting should never be ignored.)
- has labored breathing (can be due to asthma or cardiomyopathy)
- has been coughing or gagging
- has been sneezing

- more than a once or twice occurrence
- has diarrhea more than a single episode, or blood in diarrhea even at one episode
- has been vomiting
- has been regurgitating food after eating, more than once in a rare while
- has a change in gum color from the normal pink (white or blue gums are an immediate life-threatening emergency!)
- has been licking bricks, concrete or eating clay litter (a sign of anemia, which can be due to the body not making red blood cells, not only merely from diet deficiencies. Get the cat to the vet immediately!)
- is limping, wobbling,

- staggering or having difficulty walking or jumping
- has seizures, convulsions, twitching, trembling, acting disoriented, falls over
- is bleeding from anywhere other than due to a small scratch (note: female cats do not bleed when in heat)
- has lumps or swelling
- has a swollen abdomen (can be due to roundworms, Cushing's Disease, or FIP, among other reasons)
- appears to be in pain, or cries out or strikes out suddenly when an area of the body is touched that does not usually bother the cat
- cries, meows, yowls or howls more than usu-

- al (the cat is in distress, likely in pain.)
- scoots its rear end on the floor or licks the anal area more than normal (can be due to tapeworms or impacted/infected anal glands)
- any discharge from the anal, vaginal areas, or from the eyes and nose
- the cat smells bad or has a different, strong odor than usual (can be due to diabetes, gingivitis, bad ear infection, anal gland secretions, cancer, among other causes)
- drooling — not counting after having given the cat bitter tasting vet prescribed medication (can be a sign of poisoning, dental/mouth prob-

- lems, advanced kidney disease)
- has a marked change in personality, either aggressiveness or overly friendly or attention seeking
- has been excessively scratching or licking part of its body
- has been losing fur excessively, other than normal seasonal shedding (can be due to hypothyroidism, Cushing's Disease, among other causes)
- has developed a greasy or dry, poor looking coat
- anything else that is not normal for the cat

(Guidelines used with permission by Margaret Schill)

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RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

“The way we’ve been having trouble putting runs on the board, falling back that deep, I knew it was going to be a tough road to come back, especially with Scherzer up there,” Texas manager Ron Washington said.

The slumping Rangers hit a new low in the sixth, handing the Diamondbacks a gift run on a play

straight out of Little League.

With two out and Lopez on third, Rangers catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia fired his throw over 6-foot-2 pitcher Jason Jennings’ head. Jennings hustled after the ball, but Lopez dashed home without a play as the Chase Field crowd roared with delight.

Saltalamacchia was charged with an error on the play, which gave Arizona an 8-2 lead.

After the run scored, Saltalamacchia turned and spoke to plate ump Mike Everitt. Saltalamacchia later said he thought time had been called when a new ball was put into play.

“I thought he had already called time, so that’s what the argument was about,” Saltalamacchia said.

The Diamondbacks jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead in the first against Matt Harrison (4-5). With one out, Drew singled and scored on Upton’s homer to right field, which apparently deflected off right fielder Nelson Cruz’ glove.

Upton chuckled when asked if Cruz might have helped the ball over the fence.

“It was already over,” Upton said. “But he got a piece of it. He made a great play.”

LONGHORNS

Continued from Page 1B

national title and third since 2002. LSU (55-17) will be going for its sixth title and first since Skip Bertman won the last of his five in 2000.

The Longhorns will start Cole Green (5-3) against LSU’s Anthony Ranaudo (11-3). Green will be making his third start of the CWS. He didn’t get a decision in the other two. He’s given up five runs in his 13 innings in Omaha. Ranaudo also is starting his third game, having allowed two runs over 9 1-3 innings while winning once.

One night after his shortest outing of the season, Jungmann turned in his longest — and his best.

Jungmann (11-3), who entered Game 1 as a reliever and threw six pitches all for balls before getting pulled, came back to win his third game in Omaha. The other two wins were in relief. This one marked the first complete game in the CWS since 2006.

LSU, which had averaged 9.5 runs in its first four CWS games, had its 14-game win streak end.

A thunderstorm pushed back the start of Game 2 an hour and 34 minutes. Garrido said the delay helped Jungmann, because the temperature dropped from 97 degrees to 82 and the humidity was knocked down to 42 percent.

LSU starter Aaron Ross (6-8) lasted only two innings in his first CWS start. Mainieri said he knew trouble was looming when Ross walked Michael Torres on four pitches to start the game.

Preston Clark homered for a 2-0 lead in the second and finished with three hits and two RBIs.

Russell Moldenhauer’s surprising show of power continued. He came to Omaha with no home runs this season and became the 10th player to hit four in a CWS when he sent a high fly over the right-center field fence off left-hander Ryan Byrd in the third.

Moldenhauer said he guessed right when Byrd served up an inside fastball on a 3-1 count.

“Luckily he left it up enough for me to elevate it,” he said. “I just put the bat on the ball.”

Jungmann had never pitched more than 7 2-3 innings. He gave up a triple to DJ LeMahieu leading off the third in addition to four singles.

LSU scored on shortstop Brandon Loy’s fielding error in the second. The Tigers got the leadoff man on base to start four innings after that, but couldn’t score.

The Longhorns scored all five runs in the first three innings and mustered only four singles the rest of the way.

If the Tigers lose on Wednesday, it would mark only the second time this season that they have lost back-to-back games.

“You can’t have a hangover tomorrow,” LSU’s Jared Mitchell said. “We’ve done a good job bounc-

ing back from losses. We just have to go home and flush it out and come back tomorrow.”

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.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Sylvia Strikes Again

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 9 6 5
♥ K Q J
♦ 9 7
♣ K 8 6 3

WEST
♠ —
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ A 8 6 4 3
♣ 9 7 5 4

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

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 8 3 2
♥ A 6 4
♦ K J 10
♣ —

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
6 ♣

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

The first time I played against Sylvia was an experience I’ll never forget. Her conception of the game was totally unlike that of anyone I had ever met. It was not so much that she played badly as it was that she played differently. She certainly got the best of me on this deal.

I was South, declarer at six spades. West led a heart, and I could see at once that everything hinged on losing only one diamond trick.

It was clear that if East (Sylvia) had the A-Q, I could not fail to make

the slam. It was also obvious that if West had the A-Q, nothing could help me.

The only cases that mattered were those where West had the ace and East the queen, or West the queen and East the ace. Here I would have to guess how to play the diamonds to make the contract.

Such guesses are, of course, not just a matter of luck. In order to help me find the right play, I won the heart, drew trumps and led the king of clubs from dummy. I was sure this would locate the ace of clubs, and this in turn would give me a better idea of who had the ace of diamonds.

But when I led the king of clubs, Sylvia played the deuce! Sylvia, as you may know, had a stubborn streak in her makeup, and she held firmly to the conviction that if I wanted her to play an ace on a king, she was not going to oblige me by doing so.

I ruffed the club, making a mental note that West had the ace. This naturally convinced me that West could not have the ace of diamonds, since with two aces, he would surely have led one of them initially.

So I crossed to dummy with a heart, led a diamond and, after Sylvia followed low, confidently played the king. West took the ace and returned a diamond, and down I went, another addition to Sylvia’s long string of victims.

Tomorrow: Charting the course of play.
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- 2006 GMC Canyon Crew Cab 4X4 SLE - Red, V-6, All Power, One Owner w/27,415 Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 H.D./L.S. 4X4 - White, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. **Was \$24,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Reg. Cab - Pewter, V-6, Automatic, A/C, 58K Miles. **Was \$15,995** **NOW \$11,995**

- 2006 Nissan Pathfinder LE - Black, w/Tan Leather, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Only 31,000 Miles. **Was \$25,995** **NOW \$24,995**
- 2005 Nissan Xterra 2WD - Solid Black Utility, Excellent Condition, Sport Luggage Rack, Only 59,000 Miles. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT - Red, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles. **Was \$18,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2004 Nissan Xterra XE - Red, w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Nice First Car, One Owner, Only 67,000 Miles. **Was \$13,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4X2 - Gray, w/Gray Leather, All Power, One Owner, Only 60,000 Miles. **Was \$20,995** **NOW \$17,995**
- 2003 Nissan Xterra SE - Blue, w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New. **Was \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**

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