Dyna Glide n paint, jade Lots of ex-

FION PRING RECIATES NESS

lpful tips and d. After your hed the first check the ad errors have gladly correct ain for you a . If your ad is inted advance illy be refund per's liability ation of the reserve the ct any ad for not meet our

re info.

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 36

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2007

HRAI.

COPYRIGHT 2007



INSIDE San Antonio Spurs fall in overtime

Page 1B

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Pay your property taxes now

To avoid some hefty penalties

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area residents who miss the Jan. 31 deadline to pay their property taxes may find themselves neck deep in penalties and interests, local tax officials warn.

According to County Tax Assessor Kathy Sayles, area property owners can avoid the annual last-minute dash to pay their taxes by getting them out of the way early in the month.

"Once the taxes go delinquent in February, the penalties and interest start at 7 percent and increase each month," said Sayles. "As of July 1, penalty and interest grow to 18 percent, with an additional penalty tacked on for attorney fees."

Sayles said area residents who aren't sure how much they owe can get that information over the phone or in person at the tax office.

"Some individuals don't get their statement for whatever reason," said Sayles. "We can pull up their name on the system and tell them the amount that's due. So if you haven't received a statement, call us or come by the office. Some people, because of their homestead exemptions, have no taxes, so we don't send them a notice. However, if they just want to make sure everything is OK, all they have to do is call.

"They can reference their check with an account number that we can give them so they can get their payment in the mail. Once that's done. we mail them back a receipt for their payment.'

The tax penalty and interest schedule is as follows: After Jan. 31, 6 percent penalty and 1 percent interest; after Feb. 28, 7 percent penalty and 2 percent interest; after March 31, 8 percent penalty and 3 percent interest; after April 30, 9 percent penalty and 4 percent interest; after May 31, 10 percent penalty and 5 percent interest; and after June 30, 12 percent penalty and 6 percent interest, including an additional 20 percent attorney fee.

For taxpayers over the

See TAXES, Page 3A



Leticia Torres holds daughter Teresa at Scenic Mountain Medical Center this morning. Teresa became Howard County's first baby for 2007 when she was born Tuesday after-

It's a girl! again and again and again and...

☐ County's first baby of 2007 is couple's fourth daughter.

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Adam Torres and son Ruben are just going to have to remain used to a house full of females.

Teresa Andrea Torres became Howard County's first baby born in 2007 when she made her debut at 3:26 p.m. Tuesday at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The county's newest citizen weighed in at five pounds, 11 ounces and was 18 inches long at birth.

Teresa is the fifth child for Adam and Leticia Torres — and the fourth

"My son was like, 'I'm getting older ... and I'd really like a little brother to play with," Adam Torres said. "We were kind of hoping for a boy, but we don't really care as long as she's healthy."

Ruben may missed out on a baby brother, but the family did receive several gifts from area merchants, including Faye's Flowers, Jazzy's, Big Spring Bank, Regis Hair Salon, Hunan's Restaurant, The Movie Gallery, Serendipity Ice Cream and Coffee Shop, Subway, Cowboys' Steak House, Leonard's Pharmacy, Dakota's Flowers and gifts, Martha's Cafe, Blum's Jewelers, Comet Clean-

See BABY, Page 3A

RSVP Travel Showcase set Jan. 11

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area residents with a case of the gypsy foot will be able to plan out a full year of fun Jan. 11, as the Big Spring Retired Senior Volunteer Program prepares to unveil Showcase.

The 2007 RSVP Travel Showcase, which offers moder-

ately priced tours to area adults, will be unveiled at 2 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center, and according to Nancy Jones, director of the local RSVP office, there are plenty of destinations to choose from.

"I haven't even seen the full brochure yet, so it's still a secret from me at this point," said Jones with a laugh. "However, I know there's a cruise through



for the tour is 16 choose from. The showcase has

the added attraction of bringing

in extra revenue for the local

planned, as well as

stops in Puerto Rico,

Acapulco and San

the Panama Canal seniors program.

"It supplements our budget," she said. "It does allow me to do some special projects we ordinar-Juan. The brochure ily wouldn't be able to do.

The Big Spring, San Angelo pages, so I'm sure and Abilene RSVP offices conthere will be plenty to tract with Bilbrey Tours Inc. of Abilene to provide a variety of tour destinations, according to

See RSVP, Page 3A

Democrats poised to elect first female speaker of the House

By ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Jubilant Democrats prepared to elect Rep. Nancy Pelosi as the first woman to run the House of Representatives as the party takes control of chambers both of Congress for the first time in 12 years.

House **Democrats** planned quick action on legislative priorities that included boosting both the minimum wage and stem cell research. Democrats also said they would pressure President Bush to bring the troops home from Iraq.

The new Congress was convening at noon today, with Democrats still adjusting to the trappings

House Democrats planned quick action on legislative priorities that included boosting both the minimum wage and stem cell research.

power, Republicans grappled with their new role in the minority.

Pelosi, taking over as House speaker, promised immediate steps to ban gifts from lobbyists and to clamp down on travel funded by private interests. Democrats also planned to vote next week



U.S. Rep Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), slated to become Speaker of the House today, meets with Italian Deputy Prime Minister Francesco Rutelli in her office at the U.S. Capitol.

to raise the federal minimum wage, increase federal support for stem cell research and allow the government to negotiate with drug companies for

lower prices on prescription drugs for Medicare recipients.

On the other side of the Capitol, Nevada Democrat Harry Reid - a soft-spo- See CONGRESS, Page 3A

ken but tough inside player — was taking the reins the notoriously of unwieldy Senate. He

NDEX

Classified **Features**

2A **Obituaries** Opinion

Find us online at: w.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:

Sports

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

Now that's starting over

DYERSBURG, Tenn. (AP) - A Texas man wanted on an outstanding warrant turned himself in to police so he could start 2007 with "a clean slate," police said.

Christopher Lee Torres, 29, was wanted on a probation violation warrant for assaulting a police officer in Kleburg County, Texas, in April 2006.

Torres called police from a Dyersburg motel on New Year's Day and told them he wanted to be taken into custody.

Torres "said that he'd thought about this all night and decided he wanted to start the new year off on a clean slate," officers wrote in their report. He is being held for extradition to Texas.

HOPEULIKIT BACK ON MAP

ATLANTA (AP) - Po Biddy Crossroads will be back on the map. So will Hopeulikit and Doctortown.

The 488 communities wiped from this year's version of the state highway map will be restored, the Georgia Department

of Transportation said Wednesday. The towns were erased from the map after the transportation department decided it wanted a clearer, more legible version of the map to hand out for free at vis-

itors centers and tourism hotspots.

The move led to an outcry among some small-town officials, who said the erasure of places like Poetry Tulip and Chattoogaville were an insult to rural residents.

THAT'S NOT THE DRIVE-THRU

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) - It wasn't quite the kind of deposit employees of the International Bank of Commerce were expecting Wednesday morning when Ramanbhai Patel showed up.

Patel's car crashed into the bank's lobby, going through a window and part of a wall before stopping. No one wasinjured.

Police Chief Robert Rodriguez said Patel, who lives on the island, apparently put his foot on the accelerator instead of the brake while trying to park.

"He stepped off the brake, panicked. and the next thing he knew, he was inside the bank," Rodriguez said.

Obituaries

Helen Lewis

Helen Lewis, 79, of Hughes Springs, formerly of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007, at a Linden nursing center. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, 2007, at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with Fr. Richard Regan officiating.

Mrs. Lewis was born Feb. 18, 1927, in Topeka, Kan. She was retired from Sears and was a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

She is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Cheryl Muhle of Harwood; two daughters and one son-in-law, Kathy and George Modgling of Belton and Diana Cockerham of Hughes Springs; two brothers, Edward Breight of Kirkwood, Mo., and Michael Breight Jr. of Meriden, Kan.; two sisters, Dorothy Briggs of Topeka, Kan., and Kathy Fitzpatrick of Stanford, Fla.; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom Lewis, a son, James Michael; a brother, Sylvester Breight; and two sisters, Matilda Keener and Lucille

Arrangements are under the direction of Reeder-Davis Funeral Home of Hughes Springs.

Steven Howard Muse

Steven Howard Muse, 65, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at McNett Funeral Home in Andrews.

Laverne Wells

Laverne Wells, 83, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Jan. 4, 2007, in a local nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

William Higgins

William Higgins, 49, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Manuela B. Perez

Manuela B. Perez, 88, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

- · Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-
- HERITAGE MUSEUM IS WORKING with Tumbleweed Smith to produce a video documentary on the life of Pat McCormick, the famous woman bullfighter from Big Spring.

If you have information to share about her, you are invited to come to the museum between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11. Comments will be videotaped for use in the documentary.

- · A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED at Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union, 503 E. FM 700, to help defray funeral expenses for Tory Mitchell. To contribute, make the donation in care of Annie Farr or simply request that it go to the Tory Mitchell fund.
- THE POWWOW COMMITTEE OF BIG SPRING is planning its 2007 Powwow and is in need of new members and volunteers. Anyone interested in Native American dancing or just interested in helping to bring an exciting weekend event to Big Spring is encouraged to contact Robert Downing at 263-3255 or Randy McKinney at 267-4843.
- CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COL-LECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them.

To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are

Coronado Hills Apartments 1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575

801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500 Big Spring, Texas 79720

Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn. 2-3 Bedroom



Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. Thursday:

 JAMES CURTIS BROWN, 40, 1102 S. Nolan, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief.

· ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King.

· CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

· CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 400 block of Owens.

 CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg. DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID was

reported in the 2200 block of Gregg. CARRYING A PROHIBITED WEAPON was

reported in the 1600 block of Wood. THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa and the 1400 block of Tucson.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. Thursday:

· DARIA EDEN JOHNSON, 18, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

· CRYSTAL COBLE, 19, was arrested on a charge of assault on a public servant and resisting arrest.

· JESSICA GARZA, 24, was arrested on a warrant charging theft by check. MORGAN LOPEZ, 25, was arrested on a warrant

charging possession of a controlled substance. · JOSE T. CANTU, 25, began serving sentence for

possession of a controlled substance. • RANDOLPH DEMOND ANDERSON, 32, began serving sentence for possession of a controlled sub-

stance. WILLIAM FRANKS, 30, began serving sentence for aggravated sexual assault.

· KATHERINE DELORES SCAGGS, 35, began serving sentence for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.

· KCAJ JUSTIN GARTMAN, 22, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of assault. JOSHUA LYNN OLIVAS, 18, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on charges of possession of marijuana, speeding and reckless driving.

 JAMES CURTIS BROWN, 40, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of crimi-

· ARNULFO CHAVERA JR., 26, was arrested on charges of driving while license invalid and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

 PAMELA LEFLER, 44, began serving judgment for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.

 BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 500 block of N. Main.

DRIVING WHILE LICENCE INVALED was reported in the 300 block of Gregg.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. Thursday:

· TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

 TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of West 17th. Service was refused. · TRAUMA was reported in the 1200 block of Sixth.

One person was transported to SMMC. TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N.

Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

appreciated.

· ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month.

To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

· · NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

- THE PET PATROL helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).
- ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

 THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

The Quick Way to Payday We'll cash your personal check in minutes, deposit it on your next payday, up to 14 days, give you the money you need, the long distance you want and the discount you deservel Requirements For Service: 1) Valid Picture ID 2) Verification Of Income

5) Most Recent Checking Account Statemer

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

· Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

 AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in

the Big Spring Country Club.

• Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

· The Fifth Annual Chili Cookoff to benefit the West Texas Centers for MHMHR Children in Need fund begins at 8 a.m. at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 3188, 703 W. Third. Judging is at noon. Chili available for \$5.

• The Big Spring Evening Lions Club will hold an adult eyeglass clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Event Center,. 1607 E. Third St. This provides recycled eyeglasses for adults who cannot afford to pay for an eye examination or buy eyeglasses. For information, contact Bob Noyes at 267-6095.

· Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third. • Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more infor-

Weather

Tonight-Clear. Lows around 40. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Friday-Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Friday night-Mostly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the

upper 20s. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph shifting to the northeast 20 to 25 mph after midnight. Saturday-Mostly cloudy. Isolated snow showers in

the morning then isolated showers in the afternoon. Much colder. Highs in the lower 40s. North winds 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Saturday night-Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper

Sunday—Mostly sunny. Not as cool. Highs in the mid 50s.

Sunday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Monday-Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s. Monday night—Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s. Tuesday-Mostly sunny. Highs around 60.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-30-31-38-40-44. Number matching six of six: none.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$21

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-9-18-29-34. Number matching five of five: none. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-2-7

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday

· LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

 BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

BIG SPRING www.BigSpringHerald.com

Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

432-263-7331 (Main Switchboard) 432-264-7205 (Fax)

Missed Your Paper: 432-263-7335 (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m. Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

Ronnie Cupstid John A. Moseley Rick Nunez Duane McCollum Tony Hernandez

Publisher... Ext. 250 Managing Editor... Ext. 230 Advertising Manager... Ext. 229 Circulation Manager... Ext. 244 Production Manager... Ext. 256

The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The **Associated Press** Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings,

except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48

USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811 BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY; \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

U.S. s BAG arrest tion ir the ga body o The Sadda and th tator. faced o ing in

The Wedne the W State 1 questi The tion ca an Au The ho a vide weeks Press. The

Securi ly on were b when : ambus Cresce der cit

Negro direct WAS Direct involv as top Condol Negr first ir 16 U.S career two U.

One

depart

soon. becaus Negr develo ordere tisan I of char Negr Bush a Iraq de

2003. F 2001 to 2005 b€ New v who v BAG Austri spoke believe

and de

The Securi ly on t being t suspec ambus Cresce der cit "My and wl old. I'r

Decem been tr Anot Buffalo **RSV**

Jones. "It's said Jo will or trip, w on clo gives y and ch have a ple pa

Continu

BAE

Continu

ers, A HEB **SMMC** Staff Volunt Appa in no Leticia broke (but sh about before membe

arrive. DRE

7 p.m. at 7:30

ırant. oon in

estern

uring

rs are

it the Need Eagles

noon.

old an at the recy to pay infor-

and at hird. infor-

winds thwest

ting to vers in rnoon. inds 15

in the

upper in the

per 20s.

ver 30s.

night: ng: \$21

ght:

nesday

acceptrst and seeking y law, al secuact the ises are al docu-800-926-

NTIES parents munity e infore famiffice at

per:

xt. 250 xt. 230 xt. 229 xt. 244 xt. 256 ng Area t Texas on, The

ornings ald, P.O. d at Big .42 year-

month-

World news briefs

Arrests reported in Saddam execution video, U.S. says former leader dignified to the end

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi authorities report the arrests of two guards and an official in the investigation into who taunted Saddam Hussein as he stood on the gallows and took cell phone pictures showing his body dangling at the end of a rope.

The unauthorized video has ignited protests by Saddam's fellow Sunni Arabs in various Iraqi cities and threatens to make a martyr out of the ousted dictator. Saddam was shown never bowing his head as he faced death, and asking the hecklers if they were acting in a manly way.

The Bush administration sent conflicting signals Wednesday about the conduct of the execution, with the White House declining to join criticism and the State Department and U.S. military publicly raising questions about it.

The second-guessing over the conduct of the execution came as a video turned up of four Americans and an Austrian abducted in November in southern Iraq. The hostages spoke briefly and appeared uninjured in a video believed to have been recorded nearly two weeks ago and delivered Wednesday to The Associated Press.

The men - security contractors for the Crescent Security Group based in Kuwait — appeared separately on the edited video, and three of them said they were being treated well. They were kidnapped Nov. 16 when suspected militiamen in Iraqi police uniforms ambushed a convoy of trucks being escorted by Crescent Security on a highway near the southern border city of Safwan.

Negroponte to quit as national intelligence director to become deputy secretary of state

WASHINGTON (AP) - National Intelligence Director John Negroponte, who has been closely involved with U.S. policy on Iraq, will trade in his job as top spy to become No. 2 to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Negroponte took over in April 2005 as the nation's first intelligence chief, responsible for overseeing all 16 U.S. spy agencies. He will return to his roots as a career diplomat to become deputy secretary of state, two U.S. government officials said late Wednesday.

One of the officials said the timing of Negroponte's departure was uncertain, but that it was expected soon. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because there has been no announcement of the move.

Negroponte, 67, is stepping down as President Bush develops a new strategy on Iraq. The president has ordered reviews from his own agencies and the bipartisan Iraq Study Group, which recommended a series of changes to reverse a "slide toward chaos."

Negroponte has held a series of tough posts in the Bush administration and has been at the center of the Iraq debate since before the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003. He served as U.S. ambassador to the U.N. from 2001 to 2004 and ambassador to Baghdad until March 2005 before becoming intelligence chief. - various

New video shows 5 security contractors who were kidnapped in southern Iraq

spoke briefly and appeared uninjured in a video believed to have been recorded nearly two weeks ago and delivered Wednesday to The Associated Press.

The men — security contractors for the Crescent Security Group based in Kuwait — appeared separately on the edited video. Three of them said they were being treated well. They were kidnapped Nov. 16 when suspected militiamen in Iraqi police uniforms ambushed a convoy of trucks being escorted by Crescent Security on a highway near the southern border city of Safwan.

"My name is John R. Young," one captive in a blue and white sweat suit said in the video. "I'm 44 years old. I'm from Kansas City, Missouri. The date is 21 December, 2006. I'm well, my friends are well, we've been treated well."

Another man identified himself as Jon Cote of Buffalo, N.Y. Fidgeting and appearing uncomfortable.

program.

he said: "I can't be released until the prisoners from the American jails and the British jails are released." The captives were dressed in civilian clothes and

spoke in a flat, impassive tone. Several had their hands folded in their laps.

Teen is shot to death in Washington school hallway; police arrest student hours later

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) - Some students who heard the gunshots or saw the victim crumple to the floor didn't believe what was happening was real. The screaming teachers and streaks of blood on the fockers quickly convinced them it was.

The shooting, which happened just before the first period bell rang on the day classes resumed after the holiday break, sent students scrambling as 17-year-old Samnang Kok lay dying in a hallway. The shooter bolted out a set of double doors.

About two hours later Wednesday, police arrested fellow student Douglas Chanthabouly, 18, a few blocks away from Henry Foss High School.

He was booked for investigation of first-degree murder. The shooter and victim knew each other but detec-

tives did not immediately know a motive. Tacoma Police Chief Donald Ramsdell said. He said the arrested boy was cooperative.

'Today we lost a nice young person in a Tacoma public school in an act of senseless violence," Ramsdell said. He vowed to work with the school district to "prevent this type of situation in the future."

President Ford laid to rest in Michigan; ceremonies capped 8 days of mourning

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) - Gerald R. Ford was laid to rest on the grounds of his presidential museum after eight days of mourning and remembrance that spanned the country, from the California desert to the nation's capital and back to Ford's boyhood home.

Wednesday's sunset service capped the official mourning for the 38th president, whose casket traveled more than 2,700 miles before reaching its final stop on a hill overlooking a river at the museum in Ford's hometown.

At a graveside service that included a 21-gun salute and a 21-aircraft flyover, Vice President Dick Cheney presented former first lady Betty Ford with the American flag that was draped over her husband's cas-

Earlier, Ford was remembered as a man not afraid to laugh, make tough decisions or listen to the advice of his independent wife in eulogies delivered during a funeral at the church the couple attended for six decades.

An honor guard carried the casket inside Grace Episcopal Church, where Ford's defense secretary, Donald Rumsfeld, and Ford's successor, Jimmy Carter, recalled his public service.

Authorities give the video of 'Crocodile Hunter' Steve Irwin's death to his wife

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - Authorities gave the video of "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin's fatal encounter with a stingray to his family and destroyed BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Four Americans and an all copies to prevent the grisly footage from being Austrian abducted in November in southern Iraq made public, an Australian state coroner said Thursday.

> Irwin, 44, died on Sept. 4 after being stabbed in the chest by the stingray's poisonous barb while filming a documentary on the Great Barrier Reef off the Queensland coast.

> Queensland State Coroner Michael Barnes said authorities gave the original video to his wife, Terri, in late December and destroyed other copies.

"The footage has been the subject of widespread media interest and it was wholly appropriate that we took all possible steps to ensure something of such a personal and tragic nature did not fall into the wrong hands," Barnes said in a statement. "This is in line with the wishes of the Irwin family.'

Police made a small number of copies of the video to assist their inquiry into the cause of Irwin's death, but they were kept under tight security throughout the investigation, the coroner's office said.

The biggest advantage, however, may be in simple peace of mind.

"There's great comfort and convenience," Jones said. "They'll pick you up at the front door, and drop you back off at the front door, and they take care of every little detail.'

For more information, contact the local RSVP office at 264-2397.

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

CONGRESS

Continued from Page 1A

invited both Democrats and Republicans to a rare closed-door conference Thursday in the Old Senate Chamber in hopes of setting a bipartisan mood after years of political rancor.

Democratic-led The Congress also opens a new chapter in the presidency of Bush, who faces divided government as he cements his legacy in his final two years in the White House. He said Wednesday that he soon would propose a five-year plan to balance the budget, and he challenged Democrats to avoid passing "bills that are simply political" statements.

"There is nothing political about finding a policy to end the war in Iraq, raising the minimum wage, achieving energy independence or helping kids afford college," Reid shot back.

"In fact, politics has prevented progress on these issues for too many years," added Reid, who was to become the new Senate majority leader.

Sen. John McCain, a prominent Senate Republican and possible 2008 presidential candidate, said Thursday he was "very sad" his party had lost the majority but added: "We forgot why we came to Washington. We lost our way, we got engaged in earmarking and pork barrel projects, and we valued power over principle and we paid a heavy price for it." He spoke on NBC's "Today"

Pelosi was starting the day at a prayer service at a Catholic church on Capitol Hill before being sworn in as speaker in the afternoon by Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., the longest serving member of the House. Pelosi then was to address the House — and the nation

- in a speech carried live on C-SPAN, which broadcasts all House proceedings, and on cable news networks.

administered Dingell the same oath to former Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., 12 years ago when Republicans seized the House after 40 years of Democratic control and he's set to get back his gavel as the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Democrats House promise speedy passage of the first six bills on their agenda and a series of stiffer ethics rules. They said they would not allow Republicans the chance to amend any of the first half-dozen bills to be brought to a vote during the first 100 hours of the new Congress

The first steps would take place by early evening on Thursday, and consist of several measures crafted in response to the ethics scandals that weakened Republicans in last fall's elections.

In addition to expanding restrictions on privately financed trips enjoyed by lawmakers, House Democrats said they would prohibit travel on corporate jets. A vote will come Friday to require greater disclosure of "earmarks," the pet projects inserted into legislation at the behest of individual lawmakers.

Current rules prohibit congressional travel paid for by lobbyists or foreign governments, and violations of the existing restrictions played heavily in the influence-peddling scandal involving Republican lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

The Senate, as is typical, will get off to a slower start than the House, where rules and practice permit speedy debate and ensure tight majority power control over the agenda.

Continued from Page 1A

age of 65 or currently on disability, Sayles said there is a special installment plan that can help them avoid penalties and interest.

"There is a provision that allows taxpayers over the age of 65 to pay their taxes in four installments without any penalties or interest," said



Sayles. "You make your first payment in January, then you just make the remaining three payments in April, June and Aug. 1. This is for people 65 and older or are receiving disability.

For more information, contact the Howard County Tax Collector's Office at 264-2232.

MYERS & SMITH **FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Calvin Baker, 71, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Manuela B. Perez, 88, Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

gives you a chance to pick travel and excursions." and choose. We usually She added that escorts have about 100 local peowill travel with participle participating in the pants to all destinations. Adam and Leticia will

"The cost of the trips

has a pretty wide range.

Last year, one of our

shorter trips was approxi-

while an eight- to 10-day

trip to Chicago was \$1,300

per person. It averages

about \$100 a day when

you figure in your hotel,

mately \$265 for two days,

Continued from Page 1A

RSVP

BABY

Continued from Page 1A

"It's really a lot of fun,"

said Jones. "Some people

will only sign up for one

trip, while others will go

on close to a dozen. It

ers, Allan's Furniture, HEB Grocery Store, SMMC Women's Service and SMMC Staff Volunteers.

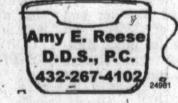
Apparently, Teresa was in no rush to be born. Leticia said her water broke on New Year's Day, but she had to endure about 10 hours of labor before the newest family decided member arrive.

DREXEL HERITAGE. 2101 West Wadley Midland, TX 432-682-0029

take little Teresa home today, where she'll join brother Ruben, 13, and sisters Elida (11), Hayley (6) and Angelita (2).

"It feels great to have the year's first baby ... but we're just happy that she's healthy," Leticia said.

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



Get Fit and Healthy DRRC Wellness Center 2007 Class Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5:40 AM	Water Aerobics		Water Aerobics		Water Aerobics
8:00 AM	Water Aerobics	Water Aerobics		Water Aerobics	
9:00 AM	Pilates	Spin	Kickboxing	Spin	Land policina
10:00 AM	Water Aerobics	Water Aerobics		Water Aerobics	
11:00 AM	Water Arthritis		Water Arthritis	An Value in Augusti	Water Arthritis
5:20 PM	Water Aerobics	Water Aerobics		Water Aerobics	
5:30 PM		Pilates		Spin	

*Fitness Evaluations *Body Fat Analysis *Blood Pressure Monitoring *Body Masters Strength & Cardio Vascular Equipment **Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center** 267-3806 Call For Membership & Class Registration • Open 5:30 am - 6:30 pm Menday-Friday

"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

Ronnie Cupstid

Managing Editor

Bill McClellan

OTHER VIEWS

Do not muzzle our watchdogs

t's virtually automatic: New candidates for Congress inevitably pledge to stamp out those persistent government evils collectively known as "waste, fraud and abuse."

But when it gets down to the nitty-gritty of investigating and exposing those evils, the real work often is left to faceless government bureaucrats known as "inspectors general," or

There are, in fact, dozens of offices of inspectors general (known as "OIGs") charged with examining the operations of specific agencies of the U.S. government to help ensure that beleaguered taxpayers are getting their money's worth.

The mere presence of IGs probably helps keep many government officials from departing from the straight and narrow path of propriety. After all, who wants to be the target of a potentially embarrassing investigation by a nosy IG?

But now, according to an Associated Press report by writer Larry Margasak, it's the IGs themselves who "are increasingly under attack, as the top government officials they scrutinize try to erode the watchdogs' independence and authority."

"During 2006, several inspectors general felt the wrath of government bosses or their supporters in Congress after investigations cited agencies for poor performance, excessive spending or waste," Margasak reported.

most-prominent the example, Republicans in Congress who are friendly to the Bush administration tried to do away with the job of Stuart Bowen Jr., the pesky IG for Iraq, who conducted high-profile investigations of how Uncle Sam spent money for the troubled reconstruction effort there.

As Margasak noted, Bowen "found dramatic examples of missing weapons, wasted billions and excessive overhead costs by Halliburton," a major federal contractor once headed by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Bowen's job was saved by a coalition of Democrats and Republicans who objected to efforts to eliminate it.

In another headline-making item, the board of directors of the Legal Services Corp., the federal legal-aid program for the poor, discussed earlier this year the possibility of firing Kirt West, the agency's inspector general. after he uncovered lavish expenditures of tax dollars by top agency managers on limos. upscale hotels and \$14 "Death by Chocolate" desserts.

It hardly should be surprising that efforts to can or muzzle IGs often come from those who have been embarrassed by the findings of their investigations.

Although some IGs occasionally might be overzealous or excessively critical of the agencies they are examining, we've generally found them to be effective public watchdogs who foster good government by helping ensure that taxpayers get more bang for their buck.

If there's anything harder to exterminate than cockroaches, it might be government "waste, fraud and abuse." The federal IGs help ensure that those banes of taxpayers are at least kept somewhat in check.

Shame on anyone who tries to muzzle these watchdogs.

- The Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Democrats must address war now

ow that the Ford funeral is over, the celebrations in Washington are about to begin. The Democrats are taking over,

Nancy Pelosi will be the country's first woman Speaker, and three days of parties are planned. It's not quite as fancy as what the Republicans did when they took over the House back in 1994, but it's the same idea. And then there's

ESTRICH

legislation: The Democrats are planning a onehundred hour burst, in the hopes of passing some crowd-pleasers like congressional ethics reform and an increase in the minimum wage. It's a far more modest agenda than the revolution the Republicans sought in the first days of their "Contract with America," but at least it's a plan. And, make no mistake, it's a Democratic plan. In order to avoid slowing things down, they're leaving the Republicans out of the party. All hail to Gerald Ford's

bipartisanship, but not now. All of which would be just fine (actually, ethics reform is better than just fine) except for one notso-small thing.

What about Iraq? We're in the middle of a war. A wretched, failing, losing, killing war. A war in which every day's news brings new death notices. A war whose ugliness pervades even the execution scene, complete with taunts and ethnic antagonism. A war that represents the president's major vulnerability. And he still

The president, turning an absolutely blind eye to what was without question the most important issue in the midterm election, is about to announce a troop INCREASE. And meanwhile, the Democrats are planning parties

doesn't get it.

Party unfit

to lead

during wartime

spectives.

guide to what might

happen with Iran,

especially since Iran

president Mahmoud

Ahmadinejad's saber

rattling has reached a

While comparisons

to Hitler (and the

world's reaction to

him) are painfully

trite anymore, it's

hard not to notice par-

allels between Hitler;

and his apologists and

appeasers today.

Holocaust.

Ahmadinejad and the stubborn

We used to review the world's

response to Hitler, uniformly con-

demn his Neville Chamberlain

appeasers and smugly assure our-

selves that we would never again

ignore such clear signs of malig-

nant aggression. "Never again"

would we tolerate the type of infer-

nal anti-Semitism that led to the

But the Iranian president is a pro-

fessed anti-Semite dedicated to

exterminating Jews, he's a devout

enemy of the West and freedom,

and is quite unapologetically clear

about his sinister aims concerning

Israel and America, though he

mostly pretends he is pursuing

nuclear technology for legitimate

Yet liberals in the State

Department and elsewhere - most-

fever pitch.

be a worthwhile exercise to consid-

er our experiences with Iraq as a

s the end of the year

always occasions retro-

and resolutions, it might

prospectives

DAVID

LIMBAUGH

and mini-bursts of extraneous legislation.

I have nothing against political celebrations. Enjoy. Having a woman on top is certainly a welcome change. There's even a tea planned. Who could be against that? Ethics reform is long overdue. The minimum wage should

But the Democrats have to take on the Iraq war. They can't sit by and party while the president plans a troop increase. One-hundred hour bursts for popular pieces of legislation are all well and good, but 3,000 dead is the number to focus on, and a burst of minor bills is no substitute for a concerted effort to take on the president on the war.

What are the Democrats planning to do about the war in Iraq?

Is there a plan? Isn't that what we should be talking about? From Day

One, calling

on the administration to account for its disastrous policy should be the Democrats' top priority. You can't leave it for later. You needn't

let him go first. Saddam Hussein is dead. Does it matter?

The country has turned against the war. But the country can't do anything about it. The Congress can.

What's



the world. They believe we can reason with despots, negotiate with terrorists and tame tyrants through tepid sanctions. Even Ahmadinejad mocks the sanctions and defiantly pronounces he is proceeding on course, full speed ahead, the appeasers refuse to yield to their lying ears.

How can this nation possibly consider turning over the reins to politicians with such a recklessly misguided mindset? How can it consider giving the Democratic Party control over both the legislative and executive branches in notwithstanding 2008, Republicans' regrettable performance on domestic spending and immigration?

If we're smart, we'll treat the Democrats' approach to Iraq as instructive on how they would approach Iran and other aspects of the war on terror and how they can't be trusted with national secu-

Democrats would have us believe they are bullish on national security and as tough on terror as conservative hawks. They tell us they are tough, but "smart," which is a clever rhetorical device to disguise their consistent softness on terror opposing all the tools to prosecute the war and their absence of a plan on Iraq, other than empty crit-

But why not? Through the miracle of modern propaganda, they have avoided accountability both for opposing the war in Iraq and supporting it. Who says they can't have it both ways?

Remember that Democrats were the last to believe (and probably never did believe) we should take action against Saddam Hussein. They opposed the war until the last minute, when they were coerced, through public opinion, to support the war resolution.

It's easy to dismiss their appeasement mindset now since we haven't confirmed Saddam had new stockpiles of WMD and because we've had so much difficulty in the post-regime-change phase of the war. But don't forget

the plan?

Corruption was certainly one issue in the last election, and addressing it should be a Democratic priority. But is there any doubt that Democrats wouldn't be in charge right now were it not for Iraq?

Democrats have had their problems in the past, coming up with a position on the war that all of them could agree on. Some voted for it, some against; some were willing to admit the mistake, others not.

But can unity still be a problem when there is a proposal for a troop increase on the table? Can't Democrats at least unite in opposition to the president's forthcoming expansion of our commitment? As Republican senators begin to

weigh in with their own reservations, why is this a hard issue for Democrats?

There will be more attention paid to the new Congress in the next three days than in the next three months. That's just

how it

works. New is news. So why not put Iraq on the agenda at the time most people are watching?

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

that Democrats were initially opposed to the war even when they were thoroughly convinced Saddam had WMD and was pursuing more. But after supporting

the war, they didn't have the character to stand by their decision once things started going badly, or at least when they real-

ized they could make political hay by reneging on their decision to support the war. That's when they began their lies

about Bush's alleged WMD lies. They were duped, they say, into supporting the war. But forget the alleged lie issue for a moment. What their statements imply is that they would have happily supported the war had we been correct (and we still might have been) that Saddam had WMD.

But haven't they also told us, in effect, that they wouldn't have supported the war no matter what we believed about WMD because their clairvoyance revealed to them we would be greeted not as liberators. but occupiers, and that the situation would deteriorate into civil war because of sectarian conflict?

Just going on the Democrats' words alone, then, we find they opposed the war when the evidence was clear Saddam was a WMDwielding global menace, and they supported the war when the evidence was clear Saddam was a WMD-wielding global menace. They opposed the war believing we would be greeted as occupiers, not liberators, and they supported the war believing we would be greeted as occupiers, not liberators. Through the Democrats'

approach to Iraq and the war on terror generally, we know they are untrustworthy, unreliable and ill equipped to guide the ship of state through wartime waters. Even if they weren't duplicitous, they simply cannot grasp the evil nature of our enemy.

Among the many lessons we learn from Iraq, these should be at the top of the list.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web stle at www.davidlimbaugh.com. And to read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

COPYRIGHT 2006 CREATORS

SYNDICATE, INC.

Chicag If bi please puzzle this si Toda Ford I ty. EI with a and 14 length which begin The redesi added Excur Ther

EL, et

liter, 3

new 6

up st

wheel

pers g

BIG S

Thurs

Chicag CHIC were o year, their 1998, accoun better. Blan

growth

ing p

shopp rooms That Toyota up 12. the mo player "The menta impac pretty execut of To tions, when positiv we th

be op perfor lows 1 both passed AG for sales a No. 2 I bolster utatio experi straigh sales i

going

Lent

Toyo offens ucts, autos. launch full-si fronta indust

segme

one

there

rouldvere it

prob-

of voted

ere*

e, oth-

oblem

Can't

opposi-

coming

nt? As

ir own

1y is ue for

be

on

1ew

the

ays

ext S.

ıst

w it

t put

ning?

lore

Estrich

ires by

ers and

t the

e web-

he war

re thor-

rvinced

MD and

porting

didn't

cter to

ecision

y real-

cal hay sion to

eir lies D lies. y, into

get the

oment.

is that

ported

ct (and

1) that

us, in

ve sup-

hat we

e their

em we

rators,

situa-

o civil

iflict?

ocrats

d they

idence

WMD-

d they

ne evi-

was a

enace.

ing we

rs, not

ted the

greeted

ocrats'

var on

iey are

and ill

of state

ven if

y sim-

ture of

ns we

d be at

David

'eb site

And to

reators

onists.

e Web

TORS

going

ore.

.com.

ost

genda

a

with a



2007 FORD EXPEDITION EL 4X4

Wheelbase: 131 inches Length: 220.5 inches Engine: 5.4-liter, 300-h.p. V-8 Transmission: 6-speed automatic Fuel economy: Not available on vehicles over 8,500 pounds Prices as tested: \$48,290

The sticker \$41,125 Base (Add \$820 for freight) \$1,500 Rear-seat DVD entertainment \$1,095 20-inch all-season radials

\$795 Second-row captain's chairs \$675 Convenience package with reverse sensing system, power pedals, power rear quarter windows \$625 Heated/cooled front seats

\$950 Power moonroof

\$495 Power liftgate \$485 Load-leveling suspension \$350 Trailer-towing package \$195 Sirius satellite radio with sixmonths free service

Pluses:

Redesigned and longer for more gear and goods, along with more space for occupants

Power, folding, third-row seats and power liftgate. Big for those who need it.

Minuses: Paying for gas.

EL fills lots of bills, overfills parking spots

By JIM MATEJA

Chicago Tribune

If big SUVs knot your shorts, please turn to the crossword puzzle now and come back to this space next week.

Today we review the 2007 Ford Expedition EL sport-utility. EL stands for extra long, with a 12-inch longer wheelbase and 14.8 inches greater overall length than the regular model, which is pretty substantial to begin with.

The full-size Expedition was redesigned for 2007 and an EL added now that the gargantuan Excursion is gone.

There's lots to like about the EL, even the really potent 5.4liter, 300-horsepower V-8 with a new 6-speed automatic transmission. Touch the pedal and go, no waiting on- or off-road or up steep inclines where 18wheelers and those tiny gas sippers gasp for breath.

But prepare for frequent stops. No government mileage rating is required because EL tops 8,500 pounds. The same 5.4liter in the regular-length Expedition is rated at 14 mpg city/20 mpg highway, wishful thinking on the EL.

Pleasant ride and decent handling for a vehicle that sits high for great visibility as well as ample clearance for heavy snow or off-roading. Despite the size, braking is excellent; four-wheel anti-lock brakes plus stability control with rollover control are standard. Still, consider the length and weight and approach sharp turns with respect and at fewer mph

Nice touches include standard running boards — much needed for those shorter than 6 feet; dial-up 4WD with a low setting for off-road; power side rear windows; and a cargo hold parsliding around.

Power third-row seats fold flat back inside the vehicle when to expand the already huge another vehicle — any size cargo hold, and a power rear tailgate opens by touching a button in the dash or on the key

First- and second-row seating is well cushioned with good lateral support for driver and passenger. But side bolsters in the second and third rows are marginal.

Getting into or out of the third row is easy thanks to second-row seats that flip and fold quickly (after lowering the headrests) to create a wide aisle.

Lots of third-row headroom but seats are firm and bottoms short, so they offer little thigh

One nagging problem, slipping a vehicle 14.8 inches longer than the barge-size

vehicle - parks too close to your doors. And don't forget, you'll still have to back out of the parking space without tattooing any nearby vehicle.

Gas prices and fears aside, Ford sold 16,225 Expeditions in October-November, up from 12,774 a year earlier. EL accounts for 61 percent of those sales, and 40 percent of tradeins on EL are non-Fords, compared with 20 percent of trades on the regular-length SUV.

But Ford is realistic about the full-size SUV market.

"We aren't getting new buyers as we are getting those trading in an older full-size SUV," said George Pipas, Ford sales ana-

"Sales have been strong since the new Expedition came out, Expedition into a parking space but this segment accounted for moonroof, cel divider to keep items from — any parking space. You industry sales of 1 million units heated/cooled front seats. All think that's bad? Try to get two years ago, 880,000 a year that's before tax.

ago and will account for less than 700,000 this year, with further declines expected."

So, Ford's Michigan truck plant that assembles Expedition and Lincoln Navigator will go from two shifts to one in the second quarter to keep inventory in line with sales expecta-

Why keep building them?

"There still are customers who need this size, space and towing capability, aren't concerned about gas prices and who use it as intended to haul a large family or pull a boat or trailer," Pipas said,

Base price: \$41,125, but prepare to tickle if not top \$50,000 after adding \$1,995 for navigation system, \$1,500 for DVD entertainment system, \$495 for power liftgate, \$1,095 for 20-inoh all-season radials, \$950 power

Toyota's success drives U.S. companies' tactics

By RICK POPELY

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Auto sales were on a rocky road last year, on track to fall to their lowest level since 1998, and by most accounts 2007 will be no better.

Blame slower economic growth and sagging housing prices for keeping shoppers out of showrooms.

That is unless you are Toyota. Its U.S. sales were up 12.5 percent in 2006, the most among the major players.

"The (economic) fundamentals that really impact our business are pretty strong," Jim Lentz, executive vice president of Toyota's U.S. operations, said. "Overall, when you overlay all the positives and negatives, we think the market is going to be up over 2006."

Lentz has good reason to be optimistic. Toyota's performance last year follows 10 percent gains in both 2005 and 2004. It passed DaimlerChrysler AG for third place in U.S. sales and is closing in on No. 2 Ford. The company, bolstered in part by a reputation for reliability, experienced its 11th straight year of record sales in the U.S.

Toyota continues its offensive with new products, the holy grail in autos. In February, it launches a new Tundra full-size pickup, a full frontal assault on the industry's most profitable segment and a domestic stronghold.

Industry sales were down 2.5 percent through November and projected to finish around 16.6 million vehicles for 2006. That would be down from 17 million the previous year and the lowest since 15.6 million in 1998.

Gas prices that topped \$3 a gallon and a deteriorating housing market frequently are cited in discussing the decline, but Bob Schnorbus, chief economist of forecaster

111 Gregg • 267-8787

tes, sees another reason: Manufacturers, particularly GM, have been stingier with incentives.

GM, formerly the incentive leader, spent \$3,011 down 9 percent from a year earlier, according to Autodata Corp. Ford spent \$4,231, Chrysler Group \$3,735 and Toyota

Without programs such as 2005's employee pricing for all, the industry has

J.D. Power and Associa- lost "a couple of hundred take those incentives out, billion in 2005. thousand at least" in vehicle sales, Schnorbus said. If incentives retreat again in 2007, sales could fall more, he added.

"You've got to get GM in per vehicle in November, the game to stir up the big traffic," he said. "The consumer is just saying. 'No deals? I'm not buying.

"Cars today last 10 years, so the only reason you would want to trade in sooner is to get the latest gizmos. When you

more people go back to a more normal buying cycle."

GM market analyst Paul Ballew said the automaker will stick to its plan to reduce incentives and rely on fresh products with lower sticker prices. Sales at GM were off 8.3 percent this year, falling 339,000, to 3.7 million, through November, but the company has reported operating profits for two quarters after losing \$10.6

210 Gregg • 263-2382

Ford, however, says it won't make money until 2009 and expects to lose more market share in 2007 as it closes plants, trims jobs and cuts costs. It holds 17.6 percent of the market, down from 25.7 percent in 1995. Ford had not issued its industry forecast, but sales analyst George Pipas sees sales falling. Why? That onetwo punch of slow economic growth and declining home prices.



Voted Big Spring's Best Used Car Dealer!

State briefs

Saddam's execution cited in boy's accidental death

HOUSTON (AP) Police and family members said a 10-year-old boy who died by hanging himself from a bunk bed was apparently mimicking the execution of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Sergio Pelico was found dead Sunday in his apartment bedroom in the Houston-area city of Webster, said Webster police Lt. Tom Claunch. Pelico's mother told police he had previously watched a TV news report on Saddam's death.

"It appears to be accidental," Claunch said.
"Our gut reaction is that he was experimenting." An autopsy was pend-

Julio Gustavo, Sergio's uncle, said the boy was a happy and curious child.

Candidate for House speaker backs other challenger

AUSTIN (AP) — One of two Republican state lawmakers trying to oust the speaker of the Texas House is dropping out of the race and throwing his support behind the other challenger, a state legislator close to the discussions said.

Republican Rep. Brian McCall of Plano will announce today that he's backing Rep. Jim Pitts in the race, lawmaker Bryan Hughes told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Hughes, R-Mineola, said the two would make the announcement at a news conference. Hughes previously withdrew his support from Craddick and pledged his vote to McCall.

McCall spokesman Roy Fletcher said the men met and realized they had a better chance of beating current Speaker Tom Craddick if they joined forces. He said McCall volunteered to step out.

Three dead in Kenedy County plane crash

NORIAS, Texas (AP) A pilot and two passengers were killed when their small plane nosedived into South Texas' King Ranch shortly after taking flight, an investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board said.

"It was a non-survivable crash," NTSB investigator Bill Gamble said.

A Department of Public Safety spokeswoman in Corpus Christi identified the victims as 26-year-old Michael Joe Smith, of Jacksonville, and John Gartman, 14, and Robert Loughmiller, 16, both of New Summerfield.

The 1966 model Cessna 172H had left Weslaco in Hidalgo County and was headed to Jacksonville when it lost contact with an approach control service in Corpus Christi at about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Gamble said. Shortly after that, a Department of Public Safety helicopter spotted the wreck-

age, he said. The fixed-wing singleengine plane, which was registered to Joe Smith Farms Inc. Jacksonville, crashed near Norias in Kenedy County, about 60 miles south of Corpus Christi.

Gamble said Smith, a licensed pilot, was flying the plane. He said an autopsy, including toxicology tests, would be done on the pilot.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Did you awaken with a bewildered thought what in the world happened yesterday? The day after a full moon isn't so different from the morning after a wild New Year's Eve party. Let the gumption of Capricorn sun help you shake off the

residue, assemble information and get a running jump on those New Year's resolutions. ARIES

MATHIS

(March 21-April 19). Somebody is telling tall

tales. You're tempted to draw a line in the sand, but wait until you get the full story. Ask for an explanation. If no offense was really offered, it's a waste of time to take it. TAURUS (April 20-May

20). Compassion is a form 21). Stephen Hawking of unconditional love. You'll run into those who fake compassion to mask bad habits, like codependency or martyrdom. Keep it light and breezy with these types. Move quickly on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As a social creature, there are times when you need to touch the pulse of humanity without actually talking to a human. You're luckiest where you can anonymously observe life. Camp out at a coffee shop or stroll the mall.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Every day you make progress. It's crucial that you stay in the mix of people who are doing this,

who can't change his mind and won't change the subject.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Romance takes a front seat. A recent encounter has you intrigued, and you're wondering what will happen next. Remain confident and ready for anything. The best relationships happen with very little effort.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The stars highlight your need to be unique and to have room to express your individual point of view. Your freedom requires delicately sidestepping the person who is trying to control

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your career goals suddenly seem too ambitious. An ascending path stretches before you. It's easy to get discouraged and wonder, "When will I get there?" But you're already there. The rest is gravy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. once asked: "Why can we remember the past but not the future?" But if you could predict your future, it wouldn't look anything like what happens today. This day simply defies all time and reason.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's one of those times to read everything pertinent to your problem and then forget it all. But beware — there's a difference between ignoring the rules altogether and choosing to disregard them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). With the holidays ostensibly over, there's a slight void too. Beware of someone instead of that feeling of

relief you were expecting. It's the universe's way of telling you to start planning the next big event of

your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You hit the perfect note - you're in harmony with the universe. You're surprising, but not obvious. Spontaneous, but not impulsive. Given to romance, but nobody's

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). This is a lucrative day if you play it right. Take your money seriously. Know how much you have -- in your wallet, in your bank and in your near future. Balance out the numbers, and relationships balance out magically, too.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Sagittarian woman, born Nov. 30, 1961, who is in love with a Cancer man, born July 7, 1958. We've been involved for a year and a half. Is there any hope for the relationship to last? I don't have time to mess around."

You admire one another and have much in common, though not the obvious stuff. It's more of a meeting of the spirit and a sense of home that you find in one another when you connect on deeper levels. That said, this relationship isn't without complications. admire his outgoing charm (moon in Gemini; Mercury in Leo), and he's driven to make money, too, which he does proficiently. Ultimately, you know he'll be much luckier with you by his side in a marriage capacity. But sometimes you feel you just don't speak the same anguage. Communicating well, consistently, calmly and ten-derly is your ticket to making this relationship last. You should also know that he can be

intensely jealous. Your job is to convince him that you're true, that you hold his interest dear to your heart and are always thinking about him. Cancers are complex creatures who need plenty of security.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Capricorns prefer to be in charge. Not content with spectacularly supporting her fellow superstars in films like "The Break-Up" and "Beautiful," squeaky voiced and adorable Lauren actress Joey Adams boldly took it

upon herself this past year to write, produce and direct the critically acclaimed "Come Early Morning." I see more female-driven scripts from this budding writing superstar.

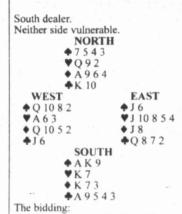
If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.

® 2007 CREATORS SYN-DICATE, INC.



By Steve Becker

Upping the Percentages



South West North East Pass 2 NT Opening lead — two of spades.

Actually, there's only one correct

East's jack with the ace, and the problem is what to do next. way to proceed, and, if you find it, you get home safe and sound. You

Assume you're in three notrump

and West leads a spade. You win

lead a low club at trick two and, after West follows low, play the ten from

dummy. As the cards lie, this some-

what irregular finesse makes the contract. You eventually score four club tricks, two spades, two diamonds and

But if you lead a club to the king at trick two, instead of playing the ten, you are almost sure to finish The advantage of playing the ten

from dummy is that you make four club tricks not only when the suit is divided 3-3, but also when the suit is divided 4-2 and West started with the Q-x, J-x or Q-J-x-x.

These possibilities cannot be lightly brushed aside. Thus, if you

played only for the clubs to be divided 3-3 - by cashing the K-A and continuing with a third club you would have only a 36 percent change of finding the suit evenly But if you play the ten from

dummy at trick two, your chances improve to about 58 percent because of the possibility of finding West with either a doubleton honor or both In essence, the outcome of the

hand rests on whether or not you make four club tricks, and leading to the ten at trick two offers by far the best chance of achieving that goal.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Borden County Independent School District (I.S.D.) in Gail, Texas, is presently accepting transfer students for the spring semester of 2007.

The Borden County I.S.D. is a "Recognized District," as named by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for the 2005-2006 school year. This past year, the district also received ten (10) Gold Star Performance awards from the TEA for high percentages of "Commended" students on all five TAKS testing areas, completion of the

Recommended/Distinguished Achievement graduation planes, college readiness in both mathematics and language arts, student attendance, and completion of advanced academic courses.

The Borden County I.S.D. also has a rich tradition in the following:

Maintaining a high-qualified faculty and staff

 Offering concurrent college credit for juniors and seniors (27 on-site college hours available) · Promoting high college and post-secondary atten-

dance rates at various universities.

 Successful and competitive University Interscholastic League academic teams.

 Successful and competitive University Interscholastic League athletic programs (six-man football, crosscountry, basketball, track, tennis, golf, baseball, & softball)

 Active FFA chapter with successful and competitive leadership/judging teams Providing a safe and drug-free school environment

Please contact Mr. Jimmy Thomas, Borden County I.S.D. Superintendent, at (806) 756-4313 or (806) 756-4316 if you are interested in transferring your child for the spring semester of 2007.

su do ku © Puzzles by Pappocom

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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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



See NFL play

Kan India (NBC p.m. (Nev Engla Philly

NFL the y Hou Youn NFL's of Wedn You throv footb durin Toyo Hous

baske

The

of Te

ing jerse: Rock AP Cha One injur to ru

lete's

Jets

Penr

two The NFL of the Old nom Rya been of the

of t

amor

footb

eligil a nat year. For year, nizin who beyon stude able play the athle

> exam mate field. Tar throu footb area. Miar

> > basi

ship,

desir

brea that ing a The bega leave Wedn hip a chook Roth on ar

Ril surg remo his I on h that now, uled

duce

cally

Carly more ripts iting

write

lease .com

liday

may n the

SYN-

er

ur club

nds and

suit is

e suit is with the

if you

to be

club -

percent

evenly

ecause

g West

or both

nt-

tic

tic

Sugar Bowl results

Notre Dame 14 See Page 2B

NFL first round playoff schedules

Saturday: Kansas City Indianapolis, 4:30 p.m.

Dallas at Seattle, 8 p.m. (NBC)

Sunday: New York Jets at New England, 1 p.m. (CBS) New York Giants at Philly, 4:30 p.m. (FOX)

NFL names rookie of the year on offense

Houston native Vince Young was named the NFL's Offensive Rookie of the Year on Wednesday.

Young celebrated by throwing autographed footballs into the stands during timeouts at the Toyota Center in Houston, at the Rockets basketball game.

The former University of Texas star was wearing a Tracy McGrady jersey and a Houston Rockets baseball cap.

AP awards Jet's Chad Pennington

One rotator cuff injury often is enough to ruin a premier athlete's career. New York Jets quarterback Chad Pennington overcame two in two years to win The Associated Press NFL Comeback Player of the Year award.

Old Spice Red Zone nominates Tannehill

Ryan Tannehill has been nominated as one of the Red Zone Players of the Year and is among a select group of football players who are eligible to be selected as a national player of the year.

For the sixth straight year, Old Spice is recognizing football players who go above and beyond the call of duty.

The program honors student athletes who are able to elevate their play and step up when the heat is on. These athletes embody leadership, performance and desire, and serve as examples to their teammates on and off the field.

Tannehill was selected through high school football coaches in the area.

Miami Heat basketball update

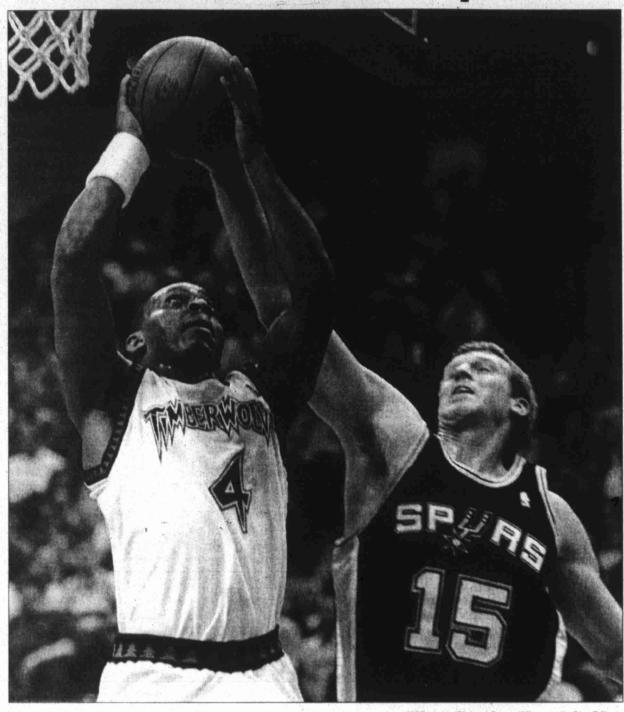
Pat Riley is taking a break from a season that has left him limping and in pain.

The Miami Heat coach began an indefinite absence of Wednesday because of hip and knee problems, choosing assistant Ron Rothstein to fill his spot on an interim basis.

will Riley Friday to surgery remove floating chips in his right knee. Surgery on his hip, the malady that hurts him most now, is not yet scheduled. The 61-year-old coach doesn't know how long he'll be out.

"I'm going to be displaced for a while, but ot disconnected at all,' e said.

IN BRIEF T-Wolves down Spurs in overtime



San Antonio Spurs' Matt Bonner fouls Minnesota Timberwolves' Randy Foye on the way to the basket in the first half at the Target Center in Minnesota, Wednesday night. The T-wolves won the contest in overtime, 103-101.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — This time the Timberwolves held on.

Mark Blount scored 28 points, Kevin Garnett had 27 points and 17 rebounds, and Minnesota beat the San Antonio Spurs 103-101 in overtime Wednesday

To earn its first win in six games against the Spurs, Minnesota made six straight free throws and Trenton Hassell grabbed a key rebound late in overtime.

"We showed a lot of resiliency in the fact that we lost the lead but the guys didn't fold up the tent," coach Dwane

That was not the case Dec. 13 when Minnesota led San Antonio by 16 late in first half before being held to 26 points after intermission in a 95-82 loss.

Garnett said the Timberwolves are a more confident group now, especially after beating an upper echelon team. Minnesota also was coming off a 102-96 victory in Charlotte during which it trailed by 20 in the first half and 12 in the fourth quarter.

"I don't think the big question here is 'Can we do it?' It's how often and how consistent can we be," Garnett said. "It's something we have to face every night, and we have to be able to answer that question wholeheartedly every night to be that."

After Randy Foye and Blount each made two shots from the free-throw line, Garnett made two with 1:03 left in the extra period for a 103-98 lead, but Tony Parker made three of four for the Spurs.

Minnesota finished 28-for-29 from the line; San Antonio 21-for-25.

Ricky Davis missed a long jumper with just under 10 seconds to play, but Hassell grabbed his eighth rebound of the game and Minnesota was able to dribble out the clock.

"We gave ourselves a chance, made some great plays, but obviously, they made a couple more," said Tim Duncan, who had 24 points and 13 rebounds.

Parcells has plan for future with Cowboys

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

IRVING, Texas — Bill Parcells already has a plan for what he's going to do after the season.

But he wouldn't say Wednesday whether he will return next season to finish his contract with the Dallas Cowboys.

The coach said he and owner Jerry Jones "have an understanding as to what's going to happen" and a timetable for it. "Without question, there's no doubt about what's in place, what we're going to talk about," the 65-year-old Parcells said, without elaborating. "We'll talk about it and then that will be that."

There are the same questions about Parcells' future as there were last January, when he still had a year left on his original \$17 million, four-year contract. Jones then gave Parcells a new two-year deal through 2007.

So does his understanding with Jones mean Parcells coaches the Cowboys next season if that's what he wants to do?

over the Alabama coaching vacancy.

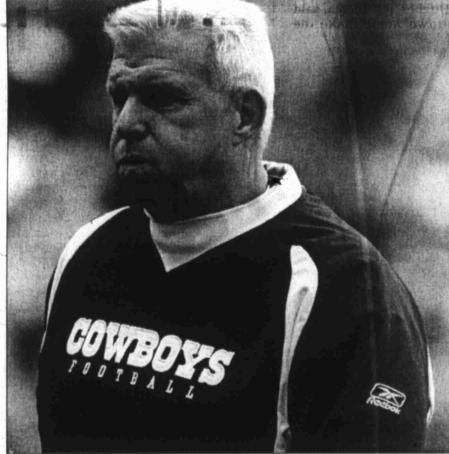
saying that. You have to ask him about that," Parcells said. "We'll see. I don't want to get too far into anything. I'll let you know exactly what the situation is after the season's over. I promise."

Jones has indicated several times publicly that he wants Parcells to come back. The owner wasn't available for comment Wednesday.

When the Cowboys lost 23-7 at home to Philadelphia on Christmas Day to lose control in the NFC East, Jones called it one of the most disappointing losses since he bought the team in 1989. But after the 39-31 loss to Detroit on Sunday to end the regular season, Jones tried to take the positive approach of being in the playoffs.

Dallas plays a wild-card game at Seattle on Saturday night.

Parcells maintained after past seasons that he needed time to decide whether he had the energy and desire to keep coaching. That apparently isn't changing now. And he said he won't be swayed by what his team has done the last month — or how "Yeah, I think so, but I'm not the Cowboys do in the playoffs.



MCT photo/Sharon M. Steinman/Fort Worth Star-Telegra Dallas Cowboys head coach Bill Parcells makes his way off the field after the 39-31 loss to the Detroit Lions at Texas Stadium in Irving, Sunday, Dec.

ment based on whether you feel like you want to take on this task, you want to do it again, you See COACH, Page 2B

"You've got to make a judg- want to muster up enough energy because you know you have

MCT photo/Joe Rinkins/Miami Herald Former Miami Dolphins' Nick Saban is not happy during an NFL game this season. He has announced that he is taking

Tide celebrates Saban hiring

By JOHN ZENOR **AP Sports Writer**

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. -Nick Saban landed to chants of "Roll Tide," then stepped off the airplane and made the long trek across the tarmac to greet throngs of screaming Alabama fans.

That feverish reception Wednesday kicked off a "new era" for the Crimson Tide under a coach they're hoping will finally restore the program to championship heights.

Alabama lured Saban from the Miami Dolphins back to the Southeastern Conference with a deal reportedly worth at least \$30 million over eight years, the most lucrative pats on the back by some

in college football.

"When I set out on this search, I noted that I was seeking a coach who has a proven record of championship success and achievement," Tide athletic director Mal Moore "Coach Saban said. brings that proven record of accomplishment and leadership to our program."

Moore sall the high-profile hiring "signifies a new era of Crimson Tide football." Alabama scheduled a news conference for Thursday to formally introduce Saban, who didn't field questions from reporters.

Saban was greeted by hugs, handshakes and

of the several hundred fans celebrating the dramatic conclusion to a five-week search to replace the fired Mike Shula. Then the coach, wife Terry and daughter Kristen were driven away in a red Chevrolet Tahoe with Moore to the football building. He was greeted there by dozens more fans.

The Tuscaloosa News put out a special edition trumpeting the hiring, with the blaring headline: "SABAN TIME."

"Mal Moore didn't just hit a home run, he hit a grand slam," raved Tide

See TIDE, Page 2B

NEW ORLEANS (AP)

- JaMarcus Russell has a big decision to make. The way he played in the Sugar Bowl, it shouldn't be all that tough.

This guy sure looks ready to play in the NFL.

Russell was the star of a Cajun-style party that marked the Sugar Bowl's return to the Big Easy, leading No. 4 LSU to a 41-14 victory Wednesday night and leaving Notre Dame to wallow in another postseason meltdown.

The 11th-ranked Fighting Irish, with their undersized defense, simply couldn't find a way to stop this behemoth of a quarterback.

The 6-foot-6, 257-pound Russell threw for 332 yards and two touchdowns. He powered over for his first rushing touchdown of the season; pounding his chest after he landed in the end zone. He was unanimous choice as the game's most outstanding player.

"I really do think I'm one of the best in college football," Russell said. "You can't take that opinion away from me."

And what about the NFL? Russell now much decide whether to enter the draft or return to the Tigers (11-2) for his senior season, which would seem like a slam dunk.

"I'm not really thinking about leaving early right now," he insisted. "I've got a lot of time to sit down with my family and

got another offseason, another

draft, another preseason, anoth-

er regular season," Parcells

that with the energy that you

know it takes, then you go for-

ward with it," he said. "But you

can't B-S yourself either. I don't

think I'm one that does. ... At

Parcells has left his three pre-

least I hope I'm not."

"If you're ready to try to do

coaches and talk about that. I'm just happy we got the victory."

Notre Dame (10-3) never seems to win at this time of year, a hideous burden for the nation's most storied program. The Irish lost their ninth straight bowl game, more than any other school in NCAA history; they had been tied with South Carolina and West Virginia for the longest drought.

"We've got to turn the corner," coach Charlie Weis said. "Right now, we're just a nice, solid team. That won't cut it. We want to be an upper-echelon team."

Russell thoroughly outplayed Notre Dame's more heralded quarterback. Brady Quinn, who finished third in the Heisman balloting and hopes to be the No. 1 pick in the draft, struggled to cope with the speed and size of LSU's defense. The senior completed just 15-of-35 for 148 yards, his two TD passes offset by two interceptions.

"I'm proud of my guys," Quinn said. "We laid the groundwork for these guys to do some great things in the

future.' Russell sure seems destined for greatness, whether it's in the NFL or another year with the Tigers.

"He's got to make a very difficult decision," coach Les Miles said. "If he returns, he'll certainly be a Heisman Trophy

If Parcells comes back, will

receiver Terrell Owens also

return? Owens said Wednesday

that he wasn't focused on

whether he'd be in Dallas again

that's not what is important to

me," Owens said. "It shouldn't

be a situation where I should be

talking about whether I want to

(reporters) should be focusing

Parcells rarely calls Owens by

You

guys

back.

"I hear all the speculation but

candidate."

Then he looked around the room, trying to find the school's sports information director.

"Better get the mock-ups ready," Miles quipped.

Russell and LSU's feared defense took control after halftime, turning a tenuous 21-14 game into a laugher. The Tigers outgained Notre Dame by a staggering 333 yards to 30 over the final two quarters.

"Those guys were telling me, 'All you guys are big and fast,' and I told them, 'Welcome to the SEC,' and we started laughing," LSU receiver Dwayne Bowe said. "They're a great group of guys, but we're just bigger and stronger and faster."

After a pair of field goals by Colt David pushed LSU to a 27-14 lead, Russell blew it open with a 58-yard touchdown pass to Brandon LaFell in the final minute of the third quarter.

"I knew they weren't fast enough to cover us," Bowe said. Notre Dame did bounce back from an early 14-0 deficit, tying the score late in the first half. But Russell took matters in his own hands — and legs — to put the Tigers ahead to stay before the teams went to the locker

First, Russell went deep to Early Doucet for a 58-yard completion. Then, Russell scored himself on a 5-yard keeper up the middle.

Notre Dame hasn't won a

as "the player."

While Owens led the NFL with 13 touchdown receptions, the most for a Cowboy since Bob Hayes also had 13 in 1969, he also dropped more than a dozen passes.

The Cowboys just finished another 9-7 regular season. They missed the playoffs with that mark last season, but made it as a wild-card team this time despite losing three of their last four games — including three straight home games.

After losing the regular season finale against Detroit,

postseason game since its 24-21 victory over Texas A&M in the 1994 Cotton Bowl. "O-ver-rathe Tiger-dominated ted!" crowd roared after freshman Keiland Williams ripped off his second touchdown of the game, a 20-yard run with just under 7 1/2 minutes remaining.

But the biggest cheers came on LSU's next possession. Russell made one handoff, then left the game to standing ova-

Notre Dame was determined to get off to a strong start, but it sure didn't work out that way. Weis called a fake punt that backfired on the first possession, and the Irish looked just as tight and sloppy as they did at the beginning of blowout to Michigan losses Southern Cal.

At least they didn't fold until the second half. The offenses had their way in the beginning, with three 80-yard scoring drives and another covering 82. The only exception came after the fake punt, called with the Irish facing fourth-and-3 at their own 34. Up-back Travis Thomas took a direct snap, only to get stuffed for no gain.

Two plays later, LSU had the lead. Russell hooked up with Doucet on a 31-yard pass and Williams powered over from

The Tigers made it 14-0 on their next possession. Russell broke off a 21-yard run on a

Parcells claimed to be at one of his lowest points in coaching. He sounded tired, and was obviously frustrated.

"You're judging me by a fiveminute period after the game, when you experience a great disappointment," he said

Wednesday. Dallas has a 34-30 record under Parcells, and lost its only playoff game with him, a wildcard game at Carolina after he went 10-6 his first season. Over a 19-season career with four

teams, he is 183-137-1, good for

draw to get deep into Notre Dame territory, and finished off the drive with an 11-yard scoring pass to Bowe.

Notre Dame's next possession started ominously - Quinn was sacked for a 10-yard loss. But Darius Walker ran for 11 yards and turned a short pass into a 21-yard gain. Quinn finished it off with 24-yard TD pass to David Grimes.

- Oh

-(11)

 (Γf)

15

015

41 614

311

4: 6!

1711

- 54

01

404

150

Cent

nickr

tomo that c

coord

kind lot of

tions

work

doub

Walker rushed for all but 3 of his 128 yards in the first half, the Irish shutting down the running game as they fell further and further behind.

Notre Dame pulled even when Quinn went to his favorite receiver, Jeff Samardzija, on a 10-yard TD pass with 2:25 left in the half. That was it for the

The game marked another step in New Orleans' rebuilding effort from Hurricane Katrina. The Sugar Bowl was played last year in Atlanta because of massive damage to the Superdome, but a \$185 million renovation got the stadium up and running in late September.

Thousands of Notre Dame and LSU fans descended on the Big Easy, which still has areas that look like a war zone from the flooding caused by Katrina more than 16 months ago.

But Bourbon Street sure was rockin' with purple and gold.

list, with two Super Bowl wins.

The Cowboys haven't been to the Super Bowl since winning their fifth championship 11 years ago when Barry Switzer was the coach. They've won only one playoff game since, and that was the year after going to the Super Bowl.

Strangely enough, Switzer made a rare appearance at Valley Ranch on Wednesday. He was seen in a hallway not far from where Parcells was talking to reporters.

TIDE

said.

Continued from 1B

COACH

Continued from 1B

fan Mike Ryan, sporting Bear Bryant-style houndstooth hat and a Tshirt listing the program's national championship years.

The shirt said everything about Alabama's expectations for Saban, who won a share of the 2003 national title at LSU, then bolted from the NFL after two seasons with the Dolphins. He has a record of 91-42-1 as a college coach at LSU, Michigan State and Toledo.

Saban is the most highprofile coach the Tide has hired since Bryant's retirement after the 1982 season, a steady stream that has included such

vious coaching jobs in mid-con- name, instead referring to him Shula and Mike DuBose.

on the playoffs.'

tract.

next season.

come

DuBose — both former million a year. Tide players — had ever Alabama been a head coach.

"The last few hires were somewhat unknown going back to Mike DuBose," said Lee Roy Jordan, a former 'Bama and NFL star. "We knew him as a player at Alabama and as an assistant coach but he never had any experience when he got the job.

"We feel like we got a proven coach that can win an SEC and national title. That's the No. 1 thing for me."

Saban punctuated weeks of denials with this declaration two weeks ago: "I'm not going to be the Alabama coach.'

He clearly had a change

with three years remain-

Oklahoma State in the Independence Bowl to finish 6-7, the team's second losing season in the four years since Shula's hir-

The timing was significant since the NCAA's recruiting "dead period" ends Friday.

"We have been through a period of uncertainty the last month or so and we finally have some stability," Tide center Antoine Caldwell said. 'Coach Moore said all along he was going to find us a proven coach with a winning record and he has done that with Coach

Saban. "I feel like he is the Tiffin said he initially

he will be good in getting sion to fire Shula. Neither Shula nor ing on his contract at \$4.5 Alabama back on track."

> whether the program was still a coveted job, or if the high expectations and pressure put a damper on some coaches' interest.

"I was hoping he was the No. 1 guy on the target list from the beginning," Jordan said. "I hoped we'd be able to get him. The people at Alabama are real excited and feel like we hired a coach that can win a national championship. He's already proven he can do that. He's a handson coach who really works hard and demands the same from his coaches and players."

Former Tide kicker Van

ninth on the career victories names as Bill Curry, of heart, leaving Miami right man for the job and had doubts about the deci-

"The problem some-The Tide's long search times with getting a to prompted questions about renowned coach is timing," said Tiffin, whose son Leigh is a current Alabama kicker. "I'm not sure we should have gotten rid of Coach Shula. I thought he just needed a little more time.

Alabama quarterback John Parker Wilson believes Saban can win

quickly with the team Shula left behind.

"He has won a lot of football games and he won the national championship at LSU," Wilson said.

"We have a lot of guys coming back on offense and I think we have an excellent chance to make a run at it, especially with Coach Saban."



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

May your Christmas be rich with family love, warm with friendship, happy with life's goodness and blessed with the joys of the season.

Full Moon Roofing, Inc.

Save Up to 30% On A New Roof...

20 yr., 30 Yr., Shingle Roofs • Flat Roofs Modified Gravel • 26 Gauge U-Panel Metal Most Colors Available!!

REASONS TO CALL

ked Top 25 Roofing Contractors In Texas Owens Corning Preferred Contractors Save \$100's to \$1000's On Your Next Roof



(432) 267-5478 • **BIG SPRING, TX HENRY BACKES**



HERALD

4, 2007

1474

1.7

-Ch

- (11)

CIT

015

31,

1. 4!

4.77

1.3

1,11

100

* (1

CT 3

-1"1

+51

10

of W

2 (1

171

zija, on a :25 left in for the another building Katrina. ayed last

e of mas-

perdome,

novation

favorite

running Dame and n the Big reas that from the Katrina

sure was

d gold. owl wins. t been to winning nship 11 7 Switzer ve won ne since, ear after

Switzer rance at ednesday. lway not ells was

he team

a lot of and he l champi-Wilson

t of guys 1 offense have an to make ially with

Price

rices

nths.

A lot of responses I got, frankly,

One fan offered this progression: C = Cutter; CC = Cookie Cutter; CCC = Cookie Cutter Crap. Albatross? Formula Zero?

I got Slot Car, Box Car, Block Car, UniCar and — because the cars supposedly will be more and more alike -

of like MassCar. I also like Ditto and, for a reason I am not sure I can articulate, the FoxyMoron.

Someone suggested the RS, standing for Retro

suggested NAS-car, with NAS standing for Not A Stock-car.

as did several variations on "clone." There were several variations on "aero," for the car.

You have to appreciate the amount of thought that went into some sugges-

Take, for example, the person who said the car should be called Lassie or Rin Tin Tin. "Both pooches showed up to save the show each and every week, the author said. "Just like NASCAR is trying to do." It was hard to be certain, but I'm pretty sure he was being face-

There was the Spruce Goose, the Axis and the Ugly Duckling. One fan the Ford Fiasco, the Chevrolet Chaos, the Dodge Disaster and the Toyota Turmoil.

Then, there were some that were just silly. Robbing Hood? Extended Warren T.? The Bumper Thumper? Booty

- Jon Wood, on driving the U.S. Air Force-sponsored No. 21 Wood Bros. car in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series next season. Go online and check out www.thatsracin.com for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily **POLL POSITION**

"Having a chance to represent the United States Air Force next year is an honor for me. It means getting a chance to represent the men and women who put their lives on the line around the world every day so that we

can enjoy the freedoms we do."

Season checklist

Setting goals for the upcoming NASCAR Nextel Cup racing season

By DAVID POOLE McClatchy Newspapers

What's on the agenda for the new year in NASCAR? That's Racin' motorsports writer David Poole provides a "to-do" list for some of the sport's major players:

NASCAR

Work to refine the "car of tomorrow" package whenever possible to make the changeover as economically efficient as possible for teams, but at the same time resist the urge for knee-jerk reactions to every bump in the road the teams squawk about.

Allow Toyota's new Nextel Cup teams every effort to compete fairly and equitably with Chevrolet, Ford and Dodge. That's all that anybody on any side of that equation can reasonably ask for.

Do whatever it plans to do about the Chase for the Nextel Cup format before the season starts and then make it clear that those rules won't be changing again for at least five years

Decide what the Busch Series needs to be five years from now and start working toward that with ESPN and whichever company is lured to replace Anheuser-Busch as the title

Stop merely playing shell games with dollars coming from sponsors and start providing NASCAR's own funding to efforts to broaden the sport's diversity. Good intention can only be accepted for so long. Eventually, diversity efforts need to result in people of color being on the track.

HENDRICK MOTORSPORTS

Buck a trend and keep Jimmie Johnson's team at a championship level in 2007. Since Jeff Gordon won back-to-back titles in than fourth in the final standings the year after winning the title.

1997 and 1998, no champion has finished better Continue the upward trend enjoyed by Jeff Gordon in 2006, moving the No. 24 toward contention for a fifth champi-Keep Kyle Busch's team perform-

ing at a Chase-worthy level while

bringing the No. 25 team and new dri-

ver Casey Mears toward that level as

ROUSH RACING

Do absolutely nothing to disrupt the efforts of Matt Kenseth and crew chief Robbie Reiser to make a fourth straight Chase.

Wipe 2006 from the memory banks for Carl Edwards and Greg Biffle, giving them a fresh slate for 2007.

Hope for some early success for Jamie McMurray in the No. 26 and David Ragan in the No. 6 or get ready for the rumor mill to

JOE GIBBS RACING

Don't worry about Tony Stewart and the No. 20. Not making the Chase in 2006

Worry, at least a little, about what happened to Edwards in his second full season and see to it that Denny Hamlin doesn't fall into whatever traps that might be there.

RICHARD CHILDRESS RACING

Avoid satisfaction over the improvements shown in 2006 as much as is possible. Kevin Harvick and Jeff Burton were nice stories a year ago, but if both teams keep working as hard as they have to get better they could legitimately contend for a title.

Hope Clint Bowyer can add consistency to the flashes of potential he showed in 2006. If that happens, he could be one of the year's breakout stories.

DALE EARNHARDT INC.

Sign Dale Earnhardt Jr. to a new contract as soon as possible. Until that happens, nothing else this team does will be relevant.

EVERNHAM MOTORSPORTS

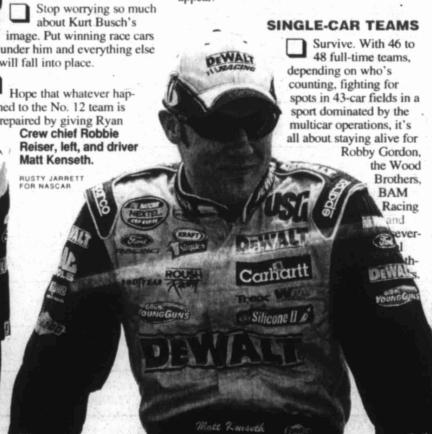
Build on Kasev Kahne's success in 2006, when he led Nextel Cup with six victories, and move his team truly into the sport's elite

Work to make this the year that Elliott Sadler and Scott to the potential each has always seemed to have.

Riggs match their performance

PENSKE RACING Stop worrying so much about Kurt Busch's

will fall into place. Hope that whatever happened to the No. 12 team is repaired by giving Ryan





NASCAR newcomer Juan Montoya's on-track performance will be under the microscope

Newman a fresh start with a new crew chief.

CHIP GANASSI RACING WITH FELIX SABATES

Concentrate on making Juan Montoya a story because of what he does in NASCAR, not because of what he did before coming to NASCAR.

Remember that Reed Sorenson and David Stremme each deserves a full measure of effort behind his car, too.

MICHAEL WALTRIP RACING, **BILL DAVIS RACING, TEAM RED BULL**

Strive to be the first Toyota team to win a pole, earn a top-five finish and get the first victory for the manufacturer. Cooperation will help Toyota's teams do better faster, but there also should be competition among them, too.

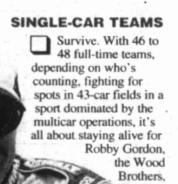
PETTY ENTERPRISES

Take another step forward to match the ground gained with Bobby Labonte and the No. 43 in 2006. A return to Victory Lane isn't out of the question.

ROBERT YATES RACING

Exceed expectations. The 2006 season was such a struggle that any success for David Gilliland and Ricky Rudd in 2007 will seem like a pleasant surprise.

GINN RACING Mold Mark Martin, Sterling Marlin and Joe Nemechek into a team that shares their strengths. That figures to be harder than it might



Gaughan won two NASCAR Grand National West Division titles driving Chevrolets in 2000 and 2001. Gaughan also made his first 11 starts in the Trucks Series dri-

'It's like being back with old friends," Gaughan said. "They thought we were a team on an organizational level. They liked what excited to come and be a partner with us and we're excited to have them."

The MassCar? Fans offer nicknames for the 'Car of Tomorrow'

he Dodo, because it has wings but

The Quickbrick. Boomerang. 21 Cent — like 50 Cent, but for the 21st century.

Last week, I asked fans to suggest nicknames for the "car oftomorrow," since it won't be that once it has been on the

My suggestion was Zipper, because the chassis is being measured on XYZ coordinates in NASCAR's inspection process. I still kind of like it, but I did get a lot of pretty good sugges-

Like Edsel. About 50 times. NASCAR has a lot of work to do in selling this concept to fans. It knows that, but if there's any doubt, all its officials would have to do is read my e-mail over the past week.

were unprintable. Others came close. Cookie Cutter Crap; CCCC = Complete

MassCar. I actually kind

Shoebox. Another person

Autodrone and Autoclone came in,

as in aerodynamics, and when you think about it, Arrow would not be bad name

gave me names for all four car makes

Keep 'em coming.



Denny Hamlin, driver of the No. 11 car, leads Brian Vickers during NASCAR Car of Tomorrow Testing in May 2006.

BRIEFLY NOTED

■ Bruce Jeffrey Hayes, a 44-yearold fabricator for Penske Racing who also owned S&S Performance Fabrication, died Dec. 27. Hayes also had worked for several other NASCAR teams. Survivors include his wife, Amy Stewart Hayes, and daughter, Victoria.

Jon Wood will drive the No. 21

Wood Bros. Ford at Las Vegas, Charlotte, Daytona in July; Pocono (Pa.) and Bristol (Tenn.) in August; and Richmond (Va.) and Dover (Del.) in

Mike Nelson, the crew chief for Ryan Newman's No. 12 Dodge, is a father again. His wife, Kim, gave birth to a daughter, Claire Margaret Nelson, on Dec. 22. The Nelsons also have a 2year-old son Carter.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

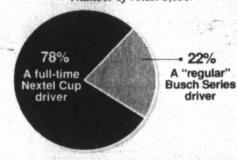
Toyota is gearing up for its first Nextel Cup start at Daytona. How many races do you think the Japanese automaker will win in its first season at NASCAR's top level?

Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Will the 2007 Busch Series champion be a full-time driver in NASCAR's Nextel Cup Series or someone who is a "regular" Busch competitor?

Number of votes: 3,053



RACIN' NOTES

HT Motorsports names Cook as driver in 2007 HT Motorsports has

named veteran driver Terry Cook as driver of the No. 59 Toyota Tundra for the 2007 season of the NASCAR Trucks Series. Over his 10-year

Trucks Series racing career, Cook has earned six wins, seven poles, 26 top-five and 90 top-10 fin-

ishes. He also holds the record for most consecutive starts in the Trucks Series with 222. Cook will be partnered with experienced crew chief Danny Rollins, who won the 2004 Trucks championship with driver Bobby

Hamilton. Rollins joined HT Motorsports mid-"There is no doubt that we will have great success in 2007. (HT Motorsports team owner) Jim Harris has put together an all-star team with an already impressive record in the Trucks Series. I am really looking forward to

working with HT Motorsports and am anxious

to hit the high banks of Daytona with Rollins calling the shots," Cook said. - That's Racin' wire reports

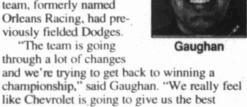
Gaughan to drive Chevys in Truck series

NASCAR Trucks Series driver Brendan Gaughan announced his South Point Racing team will switch to Chevrolets for the 2007 season. The team, formerly named Orleans Racing, had previously fielded Dodges.

"The team is going

through a lot of changes





opportunity to take the South Point Racing team to another level. "We are very excited to have Brendan Gaughan back under the Chevrolet banner," said Chevrolet NASCAR Truck Series program manager Dayne Pierantoni. "This team has shown a real commitment to returning as a championship contender. We have been working closely with Bryan Berry (crew chief) and Tom Buzze (general manager) as they prepare

for an ambitious testing schedule in January." ving Chevys.

to be reckoned with. They liked what they saw they saw as far as our equipment. So they were

- That's Racin' wire reports

THURSDAY

_													7				100	The same of the sa		
		WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID 3	UNI 4	KPEJ 5	KOSA 7	KTLE 8	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS [1] Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT [3] Odessa	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT 23	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN 27	ESPN2 28 Sports	ESPN 29 Sports	SCIFI 64 Science Fic.
(:PM	News (CC) Entertainment	News Wheel-Fortune		King of the Hill The Simpsons		Viuda de Blanço	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond- Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Strange UFO Stories		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	Without a Trace (CC)	Live (CC) Black Carpet	1,111, 911 1, 911,011	Billiards: Challenge	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	Movie: Post Impact (CC)
	;PM :30	Ugly Betty (CC)	Ugly Betty (CC)	La Fea Mas Bella	Til Death War at Home	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Marina	Name Is Earl The Office	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Sid Roth	TX Mnthly Talk Tavis Smiley	A Haunting (CC)	Movie: Conan the Barbarian	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	NBA Basketball:	The Parkers The Parkers	Movie: Seventeen	Billiards: Challenge	Pittsburgh at Syracuse	
8		Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Mundo de Fieras	The O.C. (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Amor Mio Amores	Scrubs (CC) 30 Rock		Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Surgery Saved My Life		TNA iMPACT!	Pistons at Hornets	Girlfriends Girlfriends	Again (CC)	College Basketball:		Movie: Inferno (CC)
9		Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Aqui y Ahora	Becker (CC) Friends (CC)	Shark (CC)	Decisiones	ER (CC)	Movie: Spy (CC)		Edens Lost and Found	Mystery Diagnosis	Movie: Ronin	UFC Unleashed	NBA	Girlfriends Girlfriends	Life Derek Phil of Future		Cincinnati at Memphis	
10	:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	The state of the s	News Late Show-	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show		The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Stunt Junkies Stunt Junkies	(CC)	Afro Samurai Afro Samurai	Basketball: Lakers at	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx		Salarana D. Salarana V.	(CC)	Children-Men Movie: Deep
1	:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel		La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.		Laura !Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night-	:10 Movie: Bait (CC)	Betty Swann Y. Salamanca	Sign Off	A Haunting (CC)		Inside the UFC Afro Samurai	Kings "	In Living Color In Living Color	The second secon		Gamenight	Core (CC)
12	:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Mercury Media	El Privilegio de Amar	My Wife-Kids Malcolm-Mid.	Show The Insider	Pagado	Conan O'Brien Apex		Update/Israel John Hagee	"	Surgery Saved My Life	Movie: Taxi Driver	Whacked Out MXC	Inside the NBA (CC)	BET After Dark (CC)			SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I COULDN'T GO TO SCHOOL TODAY. 'CAUSE MY MOM WAS AFRAID I'D GIVE SOMEBODY MY COLD."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I haven't sterilized PJ's bottles since I saw him gnawing on one of my shoes.'

HAGAK

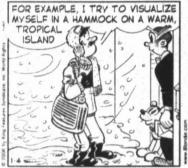


THEN STICK IT GENTLY, BUT FIRMLY, INTO THE OYSTER AND LIFT IT OUT WHILE HOLDING THE SHELL WITH YOUR LEFT HAND!

BUT THIS TIME YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL "GOTCHA"

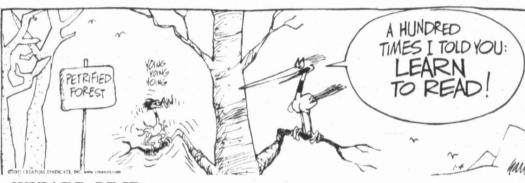
BLONDIE







BC



WIZARD OF ID



I KNOW, I'D YOU' I JUST LIKE TO ALREADY SWITCH ENDS PARKER

AGNES



SINCE NO ONE HAS EVER PLAYED ONE. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT I AM CURRENTLY THE QUEEN OF THE DOOBOODOO ... A MONIKER THAT HOLDS QUITE A BIT OF STATUS!





This Date In History

By The Associated Press Today is Thursday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2007. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's "Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union Address.

On this date:

In 1821, the first nativeborn American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

In 1896, Utah was admit ted as the 45th state.

In 1904, the Supreme Court ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them U.S. citi-

In 1948, Burma became independent of British rule. 1951, during the

Korean conflict, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in an automobile accident at age

In 1965, poet T.S. Eliot died in London at age 76. În 1974, President Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, .6 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Md.

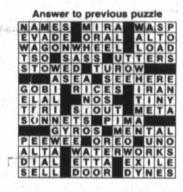
In 1995, the 104th Congress convened, the entirely first under Republican control since the Eisenhower era.

Ten years ago: President Clinton, in his weekly radio address, took credit for policies reducing teenage pregnancy, and said he would work for even greater reductions over the next four years. Real estate

mogul Harry Helmsley died in Scottsdale, Ariz., at age Act r

Tra

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jane Wyman is 93. 'Actress Barbara Rush is 80. Football Hall-of-Fame coach Don Shula is 77. Actress Dyan Cannon is 70. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 70. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 52. Actress Ann Magnuson is 51. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order, Joy Division) is 51. Country singer Patty Loveless is 50. Rock singer Michael Stipe (R.E.M.) is 47. Actor Patrick Cassidy is 45. Actor Dave Foley is 44.



46 Spa facilities

49 Summer sign

store, say

disrespect

house order

47 Indifferent

attitude

50 Trip to the

51 Showed

toward

56 Endymion

54 Pancake-

HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST







SNUFFY SMITH







BEETLE BAILEY





Newsday Crossword

69 Honey-pie

70 Show Boat

71 Shingle

letters

DOWN

1 Jeté and

2 Difficult

4 Sole

entrechat

experience

5 Cat comment

3 Rough hut

6 Ark builder

8 Tee-shirt

9 Marshall

material

7 Nehru's land

Islands, e.g.

10 Memorization

12 Corrida cheer

method

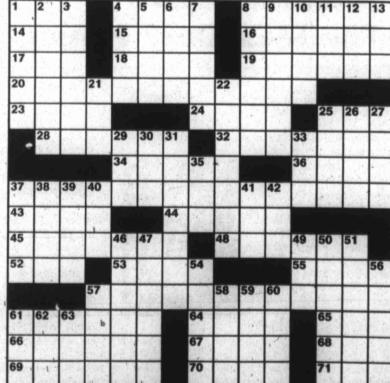
11 All the rage

composer

- **ACROSS** 1 "Ha ha," in a chat room
- 4 It means "everything"
- 8 Drive-in employee
- 14 Afore 15 Sign gas
- 16 Lawrence of Arabia star
- 17 Cavity filler's org.
- 18 Laundry unit **19** Walk unsteadily
- 20 Simple wind instrument 23 Fill completely 24 Army
- no-show
- 25 Watch display, briefly 28 Like 1% milk
- 32 Catch in a trap 34 Got out of bed 36 River of
- Shakespeare 37 Onetime foreign policy 43 God of love
- 44 Anticipate with dismay 45 Casual read
- 48 Bewildered 52 Bit of okra 53 Mimics
- 55 Actor Estrada 57 Four-legged racer
- 61 Total, with "to" 64 General vicinity
- 65 Flat pancake 66 Outcast
- 67 Part of some hammers 68 Take-home

- MONEY MATTERS by Alison Donald Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com capita 42 Bizarre
- 21 Unused 22 Thimble
- Theatre kid 25 Fluid rock 26 Gator's
- cousin 27 Turn dov.n
- 29 Air safety agcy. 30 Airline sched.
- datum 31 Little tyke 33 '60s war zone
- 35 Army address
- 37 Willy Wonka portrayer
- 38 Droxie
- competitor 39 Olivier,
- for one 40 Baton Rouge
- sch. 41 Young fella

- author 57 Pack it in 58 Stanley
 - Gardner 59 Raise
 - 60 First Wives Club actress
 - 61 Bldg. unit 62 Nixon in China
 - character 63 Spanish gold



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2007 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

BIG SPRING HERALD

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Business Opportunity

GARDEN CITY AREA ROUTE OPEN FOR THE 1ST OF THE YEAR!!! Afternoon delivery 6 days a week! Reliable transportation

For more info call **Duane McCollum or** come by 710 Scurry **BIG SPRING HERALD** (432)263-7331

& insurance a must.

Educational

SOUTHEASTERN

died

age

lays:

s 93,

is 80.

oach

tress pera s 70. athy ester Ann nusi-New s 51. atty nger is 47.

s 45. 44.

nald man

com

CAREER INSTITUTE Midland Campus Act now for career training

from Southeastern Career Institute - Midland. Train in Computer Business Systems, Dental Assistant or Medical Assistant. 1-800-497-1557 www.scinow6.com 4320 W. Illinois Avenue,

Suite A, Midland, TX 79703

Garage Sales

4. FAMILY Garage Sale in Ackerly on Saturday. Toys, books, clothes, furniture, etc. 4459 East FM 2002. Call if you need directions 432-353-4731. House is also for Sale!

> **AVON JANUARY** Clearance Sale OPEN HOUSE! 614 Dallas Street Wed, Jan. 3rd, & Sat, Jan. 6th.

9a.m.-5p.m 25%-50% Off on all items. Credit Cards and checks welcome! (432)270-2125.

BUYING & SELLING Coins at Spring City Auction, this Saturday, January 6th. 10:00-4:00. Bill Welsh, (432)756-2484.

Help Wanted

23 PEOPLE needed to lose 5-100 pounds. All Natural, Guaranteed. 100% FREE SAMPLES! Cal 1-888-397-5513, www.wellnesscounts4real.com

NEED SALES/ Lot Help, 87 Auto Sales. Apply in person, 111 Gregg Street.

Help Wanted

ARE YOU Bilingual? Are you interested in working for \$9.50 per hour. If so please call 432-264-2751 leave message.

BACKHOE OPERATOR with at least 1 year experience. Call or go by Rusty's Oilfield Serv-Stanton. in (432)756-2821.

BUSY DENTAL Office looking for positive, people-freindly patient coordinator. 4 Days a week. Will train. Send resume to 1708 East FM 700.

CNAs

Full time openings with Benefits available! Requires TEXAS State Certification. No phone calls please. EOE/MFHV. For information, call

(325)573-6332, or apply to Debbie Collier, RN, DON, or Priscilla Barrera, LVN, ADON, at SNYDER HEALTH CARE CENTER, 5311 Big Spring Highway,

Snyder PART TIME position available for truck driver. Apply at The Salvation Army, 811 West 5th.

Help Wanted

COME JOIN our friendly team at Kate's Fina Mart. Good benefits. Now hiring full & part time. Apply at 1100 N. Lamesa

DAVE'S TUBING Testing & Hot Oil Service needs vacuum truck drivers, tubing testers and derrick hands. Requirements are Class A CDL w/tanker. Oilfield experience required. Paid insurance and vacation.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

HAIR DRESSER or barber needed at the Downtowner Barber Shop. Excellent opportunity for the right person. 70% commission and plenty of business. Call (432)263-8401 or come by 302 Scurry

Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENING Ultrasonic Thickness Techni-

cian. (will train). Also Level II PT MT UT thickness technician for in-plant inspection in area plant. Excellent benefits. ENGlobal Inspection Services 432-561-8324 432-570-5152

ken.overstreet@englobal.com

LOOKING FOR experienced Rig operator wanted for double pole well service rig. Good pay Call Steve, (432)816-1815.

SERVICES

NEED AN experienced HVACR technician for the Big Spring area. Refrigeration and Ice Machine experience a plus. Willing to pay top dollar for the right person. Guaranteed work, benefits package, sick leave, paid vacation, 401K and profit sharing. For confidential consideration please 888-229-1757 and ask for Tony Cary.

Help Wanted

Snyder Health Care Center has

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

immediate opening for an experienced individual. Responsibilities include "hands-on" troubleshooting & PM of electrical. HVAC & heating systems, upkeep & repair anywhere in the facility, some carpentry, etc. Requires related experience. strong mechanical aptitude, excellent organizational & interpersonal skills. Salary based on abilities, good benefits. EOE/MFHV. For information, call (325)573-6332, or apply in person at SNYDER HEALTH CARE CENTER, 5311 Big Spring Highway, Snyder

MIDWEST FINANCE CORP now hiring Part-time Help for days. Apply in person, 600 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION

Now hiring for Laundry position. Experience preferred but not necessary. Great working environment. Please apply in person at Parkview Nursing & Rehab., 3200 Parkway Rd.

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract:\$1.58 Per Day

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!





CONCRETE

J. T. Builders

Remodeling • Drywall

Ceramic Tile • Electrical

Plumbing • Roofing

Brick & Concrete Work

Driveways . Sidewalks

Fireplaces • Stuceo

Swimming Pool Decks

JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ

HEATING & AC

JOHNSON AC.

HEATING & SHEET METAL

· Servicing all heaters

central & wall

· Duct work - all sheet metal work

· Registers & Grills

We Carry All Heating

Parts & Filters, Belts

1408 E. 4th 263-2980

(432) 213-0882 Cell

(432) 263-2110 Res.

AUTO CARE

G & M Auto Care

Locally Owned & Operated Service 1972

263-1091

COMPUTER

Alpha ~ Omega

Computer Repair

I Will Come To You

432-816-3826

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/

GARAGE

DOORS/OPENERS

Home Repair • Carpentry

Sheet Work

Repaired/Replaced

Kitchen & Bath

BOB'S CUSTOM

WOODWORK

267-5811

George & Mary 900 E. 3rd St. Big Spring

AUTO PARTS



14 Acres of dismantled vehicles 20,000 sq ft. of Warehouse storage Specialize in late model quality auto arts parts
- Foreign and domestic parts for cars, trucks, mini-vans, 4x4 and sports utility vehicles

Hrs. 8 a.m.-5:30 Wk/day 8 a.m.-12 p.m. SAT 1511 Hwy 350 • (432) 263-5000

CONCRETE

Block & Brick Repair

Campbell Concrete

Contractors

Call-Tommy Campbell

Concrete Contractor

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Custom Building . Remodeling . Roofing

Tile • Garage Doors • Cabinets

Vinyl Siding

D. W. Day (432) 457-2289

Cell (432) 270-8783

Dennis Day (432) 816-5080

Box 266

108 West 7th

Forsan, TX 79733

NAIL SALON

2006 Runnels Big Spring,TX 79720

Day & Day

Builders

All Types Concrete Work

Trenching & Tractor Service

BOOKS



Now At SPRING CITY AUCTION

501 Birdwell Lane College Park Shopping Center Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30

DIRT WORK

DECKER'S FARM SUPPLY

Bulldozing, Small

Grubbing Jobs and Will

432-756-3444

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Gibbs Remodeling

New home Construction .

Room Additions

Dry Wall Hanging &Finishing

Ceramic Tile • Installation &

Repair

All Remodel Needs Of Any

Room In Your Home.

Call 263-8285

PEST CONTROL

SOUTHWESTERN

Clear Lots.

& NURSERY

We do Dirt

Work,

Backhoe,

Brush Hog,

CARPET **Teal Carpets**

- * Ceramic Tile * Laminate
- * Wood
- * Vinyl * Carpet

We carry all your carpet supplies

2810 E. FM 700 • 268-0008

FENCES

Quality Fence Co. Jimmy Marquez-Owner

Finest In Fencing

Wood & Chainlink

Free Estimates



432-267-3349

HOME IMPROVEMENT

AFFORDABLE HOME

MAINTENANCE

Satisfaction Guaranteed

NO JOB IS TOO SMALL!

Russ Crain (owner) 432-270-2585

PLUMBING

ADVANCE PLUMBING

Water Leaks

Drain Cleaning

Gas Line

Fixtures

Licensed

Bonded

Insured

Renovation

·Repairs

Maintenance

7 Day

CHAINLINK

ORNAMENTAL

COMMERCIAL · RESIDENTIAL GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE FREE ESTIMATES ROBERT MARQUEZ

263-1613 •

1-800-525-1389

JANITORIAL

BREATHE-EZ CLEANING SERVICE

Chimneys, Maid Service; Home & Office, Carpets, Air Ducts & Much More

432-353-4849

LAWN SERVICE

409 E. 3RD

MOWING, ALLEYS TILLING, TREE TRIMMING LIGHT HAULING

> CALL 267-5460 CELL

816-6150 Scoggin Lawn Service

YOUR AD

PUT YOUR AD HERE

CALL 263-7331 **Herald Classifieds**

SPRING HERALD

Pro Spa Nail Salon

DOD Pedicure: \$21,99

Full Set: \$20.00 & Up \$13.99 & Up SPECIAL Solar Nails: \$29.00 111 E. Marcy Dr. Ste 110 (432) 263-6245

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel.

All type of repairs!

Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and. **Doctor of Repairs!** Free Estimates!! Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.

267-1110

A-1 PEST CONTROL **Since 1954** 432-263-6514

Max F. Moore mm@swa1pc.com

2008 Birdwell Lane

www.swalpc.com

M-37359 263-4973 or 517-0751

AAA

Merry Christmas

New Accepting Visa & Ma 3301 E. FM 700 263-0732

STUCCO

CONCRETE



DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS **BLOCK FENCES**

Chico and Sons Concrete (432) 466-0573 (432) 816-6561

Fred Rubio Big Spring, TX 79720

FENCES

METAL . CEDAR

B & M Fence Co.

1006 Lamess Hwy. . Big Spr

HOME IMPROVEMENT RS

HOME REPAIR Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter,

Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical FREE ESTIMATES

Garage door repair, Appliances installed 816-3030

RENTALS

VENTURA COMPANY 432-267-2655 Houses • Storages

Commercial Buildings For rent/sale 610 E. 12th 1003, 1011 E. 11th

204 11th Place

1402 Main



270-5109

REPAIRS

Sewing Machine Guy Steve

ALL MAKES & MODELS (432) 935-6380

REPAIR AND SERVICE

All Work Guaranteed

WINDOWS

Rose of Sharon

* Custom Blinds * Shutters * Arches

View online www.rosblinds.com

432-689-9850 - Office 432-978-6677 - Cell

ROOFING

PALACIOS ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences,

Home Phone# 432-263-5430 Cell#

432-213-0363

Painting Insured & Bonded

STORAGE

Mini-Storage 1/2 Off First Month

& Happy New Year No Deposit

WELDING Bar-B-Q Pits

Car Ports • Fences Gates · Handrails **Portable Welding V.H. Morris Welding Service**

Ornamental Iron Work

2300 S. Williams Rd. Big Spring, Tx 79720

432-263-6908

Denny's

NEEDED COOKS *SERVERS *DISHWASHERS All shifts available Apply at: 1710 East Third Street E.O.E.

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

NIGHT OWLS - child care position 5:30 p.m.-midnight. Apply at Jack & Jill Child Care, 1708 Nolan.

NOW ACCEPTING applications for mental health aide at Wood Care Center. Apply in person at 2607 Chanutè. Ask for Paula.

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction

Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND, TX 79711

OFFICE HELP needed come by and pick up application. No Phone Calls Please? Parks Fuel, 303 E. 1ST. Big Spring,

OFFICE HELP Needed - Computer & bookkeeping skills required. Bring resume to 87 Auto Sales @ 111 Gregg. No phone calls.

PART TIME clerical worker for busy office, 9:30 to 3:30 Monday through Friday. Phone, computer and customer service skills required. Send resume to P.O. Box 2157, Big Spring, TX 79721

penters and general laborers.

07 Ford Five Hundred SEL- V-6 - 6 Disc

07 Ford Escape XLS - Automatic - Cruise

CD - Step Bars - Aluminum Wheels - More.

(Several To Select From)

(2 At This Price)

CD -o Satellite Audio - Chrome Pkg.

Convience Pkg. - More.

07 Mustangs V6

500 W. 4th St

#1045

Texas.

Help Wanted

PARKVIEW NURSING & REHABILITATION

Be a part of our devoted staff providing resident care. Now Hiring for Certified Nursing Assistant's, which offers competitive pay, great benefits and a fantastic working environment. Looking for reliable and caring CNA's to join our team. Apply at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PARKVIEW NURSING

& REHABILITATION Come join our team! Be part of our devoted staff providing resident care. Now Hiring for LVN's, which offers competitive pay, great benefits and a fantastic working environment. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway

PART TIME position available for thrift store clerk. Apply at The Salvation Army 811 West

PIZZA INN NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSI-TIONS. APPLY IN PERSON. AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS

> POLICE OFFICERS/ FIRE FIGHTERS Are you the Best? Can you make the grade?

Wanted only the top 10%. If so come apply. Firefighters \$26,499.00 to \$35,162.00 DOEC

Deadline for Applications 5:00 p.m., Wednesday January 24, 2007 Testing 8:00 a.m., Saturday January 27, 2007 Police Officer Certified/ Non-Certified

\$14.40 Deadline for Applications Friday December 29, 2006 Utility Service Worker \$9.94

Contact: Human Resources City of Big Spring Phone: 432-264-2346 Fax: 432-264-2387 www.ci.big-spring.tx.us

→→→→ FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE →→→→

A commercial construction company seeking a full time project expeditor, car-

Inquiries regarding the position for project expeditor may be directed to Bill

Baker at (432) 697-2282 or by email at HYPERLINK "mail to:bill@midtex-

ofmidland.com" bill@midtexofmidland.com. You may also send your resumes

Inquiries regarding positions for carpenters and general laborers may be

directed to Billy Mays at (432) 697-2282. You may also pick up and/ or com-

plete an application in our Midland office at 5206 West Wadley; Midland

New Year "Celebration" Sale

Start 2007 In A

"New" Ford Lincoln Mercury or Nissan

Check Out These "New Year" Deals

Celebration

Celebration

Price

Blue Oval Certified

BOB BROCK

Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan

by email or by mail to 5206 West Wadley; Midland, Texas 79707.

Help Wanted

POLLARD CHEVROLET taking applications for the parts department. Computer knowledge & experience in automotive preferred. Some heavy lifting. Benefits: Health & Life insurance, 401(k). Apply at 1501 East 4th St.

Route Delivery Salesperson Merchandiser

Candidate should have experience in building attractive displays, stocking shelves, managing product rotation, etc. Merchandiser's must have personal vehicle, will be paid mileage. Candidates must complete a drug screen and work assessment test. Route Delivery Salesperson would benefit if possess an A CDL. Full Time employees have a top notch opportunity for a comprehensive benefit program, including group health, profit sharing, 401k, short/long term disability, Flex program, etc. Please apply at:

Ab-Tex Beverage Ltd. 3611 HWY 87 North Big Spring, TX 79720 EEO/AA Employer

STATE LICENSED **JOURNEYMEN ELECTRICIANS** and HELPERS

Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

TEMP HELP Needed - Howard College Bookstore is hiring temporary cashiers and floor help to work spring rush. Prior cashier experience preferred and the ability to lift 65 lbs required. Apply in person at the bookstore on weekdays between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 pm.

VACUUM TRUCK driver needed at Westbrook, TX. CDL & tanker endorsement. Please Services (325)575-0851.

TBD.....\$25,420

Pkg. Disc.....<-\$505>

MSRP......\$24,915

New Year Savings.....<-\$3,920>

MSRP.....\$21,560

Customer Cash......<\$3,000>

New Year Savings.....<\$765>

Customer Cash

Help Wanted

THE MARTIN County Hospital District of Stanton is seeking a Physician Assistant for employment in a Rural Health Clinic. Please contact Paul McKinney, CEO or Alison Israel, CFO at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or call (432)756-3345.

TRUCK DRIVER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. Requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person: Helena Chemical Company

100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782 Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F/V/H

WANTED: 29 Serious people to work from home using a computer. Up to \$1500 or \$5000 PT/FT.

www.WorkNowNotLater.com EXPERIENCED WANTED: electrician/ instrument tech @ natural gas plant NE of Big Spring. Mail resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or Fax to: 432-399-4290 or email to: mwcol@crcom.net.

WANTED: EXPERIENCED operators, mechanics and field personnel for natural gas processing plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846. Coahoma, TX 79511 or Fax to: 432-399-4290 or email to: mwcol@crcom.net

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Full time position. Benefits: Paid vacation, retirement. health insurance. Must be at least 21 years old and have a good driving record. Apply at The Paint And Safety Store, Inc., 201 S. Benton St.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

WESTSIDE DAY Care needs Workers. (432)263-7841 for more information. Must be 18 yrs, GED/Diploma, 1 year DC experience, Child Development a

Items for Sale

12'X16' WORKSHOP/ Storage Building. \$69.00 a month. Delivery/ 432-563-3108.

FIREWOOD. PREMIUM OAK FIREWOOD. Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$275.00 Full Cord & \$150.00 Half Cord. Delivered Stacked. Call and 325-648-2818

512-913-8297. ONE ONLY! 5 to 6 person Hot-Tub \$79.00 a month. Delivery/ Financing Available. 432-563-3108.

SLIGHT DAMAGE - 12'x24' Workshop/ Storage Building. Will Deliver. 432-563-3108.

Lost and Found

FOUND Small black female dog between Coahoma & Forsan on FM 821. Call 432-394-4492.

LOST IN Kentwood area a very old small gray cat. Please call 432-267-8769.

Miscellaneous

ALL NEW Mattress Set, Full Size still in packaging. Sell for \$119. Call 432-349-4043.

BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set. In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. Sacrifice \$149.00. 432-349-4043.

GO GO mobility cart. Sale for Call \$1,000.00. 270-1133.

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING

HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and nformation that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refund ed and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the dvertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Miscellaneous JUNQUE MART

Thift Store 600 Lamesa (432)264-0542 Mon -Sat. 10:00-5:00 Looking for a unique inexpen-

sive gift? Come see our brand new just arrived items. KING PILLOWTOP Mattress Set. Brand New still in Plastic. Full Factory Warranty. Must

NASA MEMORY FOAM Mattress Set. Conforms to body. New in plastic. List \$1399.00 Sacrifice \$399.00. 432-349-4043.

Sell. \$249. 432-349-4043.

QUEEN ORTHOPEDIC Mattress Set. New, still in plastic w/Warranty. \$129.00. 432-349-4043. SPECIAL REDUCTION - 6 Re-

maining 8'x8' and 8'x10' Stor-

age Buildings. Will Deliver. 432-563-3108. WHY PAY Rent? 10'x12' Storage Buildings \$49.00 a month. Financing. Delivery/

Pets

432-563-3108.

FREE TO good home 1/2 Pointer & 1/2 Shepherd puppies. Call 432-263-6358.

WELCOME TO Lake Ridge Bulldogs! We Raise top quality AKC Registered English Bulldogs. All of our Bully Babies are raised with Personal Care, Love and Attention. We are nestled right on the edge of Lake. It is an Absolute Beautiful Place to raise our Wonderful Bullies. Feel free to contact us

stevensonpet@yahoo.co

Real Estate for Rent

1111 SETTLES, 1950 square feet. 3/2, large living, dining and breakfast area. No pets. Credit check. \$725 monthly. First and last months rent. Call (432)816-9484.

1220 EAST 16th- 3 Bedrrom, 2 CH/A. \$575. Month, \$325. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

1605 EAST 6th. 3 Bdr. 2 bath. HUD approved. Call Les, (432)466-1545.

1607 JENNINGS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$335. month, \$150. de-(432)263-1792, posit. Call 816-9984.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

2513 FAIRCHILD 3 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet. CH/A, fenced yard. \$450 month, plus deposit. HUD approved. Call (432)466-3467

603 GEORGE ST. Three bedroom, one bath house. Garage, CH/A, washer/dryer connections. \$675. month + deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. (432)267-2296.

FOR LEASE 207 North Gregg, 40x100 Building with offices. \$600.00 Month plus deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

FOR LEASE 40x120 Building with 2 offices, 4 over head doors on 2 acres, fenced land. 1514 Hwy. 30. \$750 Month + deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

SEVERAL OFFICES available Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

TWO BEDROOM house for rent. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Deposit required. Call (432)267-6179.

VERY NICE 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home for rent. Many recent upgrades with central AC and Heat. \$550 plus de-Call posit. Yolanda

432-267-2771. WANT TO rent in Big Spring. Three bedroom house. Two adults and one child. \$850,-\$950. range. Have references.

(432)352-9721. Real Estate for Sale

1518 VINES. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living at s. Owner finance available of all for information, K. Sollard, Heart of City Reality (432)213-2842.

1804 & 1806 Owens. Move in Ready. Owner Finance Available, \$2,000.00 Down. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart The City Reality 432-213-2842.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

OWNER FINANCE, 2412 Runnells. 3BR/1 1/2 bath. Low down and low monthly. Call Reagan at 432-634-6818.

Real Estate for Sale

2600 CARLETON, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Central H/A, clean, new fence, & covered carport. Corner lot, quiet neighborhood, a must see. Call (432)213-2681 or 213-2688 for more info.

ABSOLUTELY 1211 Lloyd, \$44,900.00 OBO Owner Financing Available. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully decorated. Just waiting for the right family. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Reality 432-213-2842.

CUTE LITTLE Cottage w/backyard playhouse. \$39,900 OBO. 1108 Mulberry. Owner Finance Available. Call for information Kim Pollard, Heart of The City Reality 432-213-2842.

OWNER FINANCE 2503 Central Drive, Big Spring. Newly Remodeled. \$3,950.00 Down, flexible terms. Must Sell. Call 866-999-8499.

THREE BEDROOM, one bath, CH/A, 1224 sq. ft. Close to Goliad school. Nice covered patio and yard. \$46,500. (432)264-8983, (432)263-0118.

Vehicles

(2) New 2005 7 Passenger Vans *9,500 Off! Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 4th 267-7424

1978 FORD Ranchero. Body in good condition. needs OBO. Call starter. \$1500 432-816-4193 Robert (432)264-1691.

1986 OLDSMOBILE Cutlass Supreme, two door, original, new tires, one owner, runs good. \$2,400. or best offer. (432)270-2463 (432)267-2463 to see!!

2006 HARLEY SPORSTER 1200. Color is black cherry, 7,000 miles. Samson pipes, custom seat, windshield. Asking payoff or best offer. Please call (432)816-9567.

FOR SALE, 1450 Dyna Glide 4800 miles, custom paint, jade green with purple. Lots of ex-\$12,000. (432)213-3518.

su do ku

Puzzies by Pappocom

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

Legals

6 3 9 2 5 1 8 4 7

INVITATION FOR BIDS Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the District's office, P.O. Box 869, Big-Spring, Texas, 79721, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, until 3:00 PM, Thursday,

January 18, 2007 for the purchase of the following fleet vehicles: **Utility Vehicles**

1/2 & 3/4 ton Trucks At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District. Inquiries regarding specifications are to be directed to

Specifications are on file and may

Ralph Truszkowski, P.E., Opera-Manager, (432)267-6341 FAX (432)268-1196 ret@crmwd.org. In case of ambiguity or lack of

clearness in stating proposed prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous combination thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities. The District anticipates that it will notify the successful bidder(s) by issuing a Purchase Order(s) within thirty (30) days after the bid date. No bid may be withdrawn within ninety (90) days after date on which bids are opened.
COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

John W. Grant, General Manager #5194 December 21 & 28, 2006 and January 4, 2007.

NOBODY ASKS FOR IT Help STOP Sexual Assaults

Call 263-3312

Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. ALL BILLS PAID

> 263-1252 1-866-265-4104

steppe boostii 167,000 ploym histor Worke The nation

AP Eco

WAS

VOLUM

Sist the : cool

By TH Staff \

Asn pare t numb our ta cials a helpir nizati gram. How

need

ingred "The free assist afford such disab speak low-to local Gloria the s

> effort. "Bei IN Class

Featu Obitu Opini Spor

To Plea a.m. If yo 263noor