Thursday

INSIDE Tourney action to heat up

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 94

CLASHI OMNOST THE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Moore scrutiny tabled

· Absent 3 members, city council elects to wait before acting on economic development entity

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

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Discussion concerning city oversight of Moore Development will have to wait two weeks, as the Big Spring City Council tabled the issue during Tuesday night's meet-

Ramirez Jr., Stephanie Horton and Joann Knox were not present for the meeting, basically cutting the number of council members in half.

The topic, which was McEwen, the prospect of mov-

Council members Manuel ing its Feb. 27 meeting, stems from the corporation's involvement in the renovation of the historic Settles Hotel, according to city officials.

According to Mayor Russ

approached by the council during forward with the matter here," said McEwen. with 50 percent of the council absent simply didn't make

> "Noting the fact that three council members are not here tonight, I feel like we should put this off until everyone is

Council member Greg Biddison didn't share McEwen's opinion of the situa-

"I don't see why we should

See CITY, Page 3A



Highway department workers examine a twisted section of guardrall at the 178 mile marker of Interstate 20 Tuesday morning. The guardrail was damaged when it was struck by a Ford pickup. No other details of the accident were available at press time.

Sex offender death sentence gains support

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Death penalty proposals for repeat violent child sex offenders in Texas have a better chance of being upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court than a precedent-setting case of 30 years ago, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott told fawmakers Tuesday.

Abbott, joining Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to urge the Senate Criminal Justice Committee to approve the death penalty Court himself to defend the issue.

Abbott, a Republican, See DEATH, Page 3A

also dismissed as "ludicrous" fears by victims' groups that the death penalty would lead some offenders to kill their victims, who might be the only witness to the crime.

"Frankly I think such claims are ludicrous. I cannot recall a time when a sex offender, after having committed a crime, pulls out the code of criminal procedure or penal code to figure out what's going to happen," Abbott

Critics of the death penalty proposals being in such cases, said he considered in the House would go to the Supreme and Senate have questioned whether the death

Bound for state

BSHS seniors Newton and Lopez in elite competition

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

A pair of Big Spring High School art students will get to exhibit their work at the state

BSHS seniors Andrew Lopez and Alyssa Newton will compete for state honors when the Visual Arts Scholastic Exhibition at the University of

Houston-Clearlake in April.

VASE is the University Interscholastic League's "state tournament" for art students. This will mark Newton's second time to qualify for statelevel competition, while Lopez is making his first trip to Houston.

"I've always been confident their artwork is displayed at that I'd get my artwork noticed," Newton said. "But being a state qualifier (as a See ART, Page 3A

freshman) really motivated me that much more.'

Lopez admitted he was caught off-guard by his success this

""I was surprised," he said, "because I saw a lot of artwork (at the most recent competition) and it was all pretty

good." To qualify for the state exhi-



HERALD photo/Steve Reagar

Big Spring High School art students Alyssa Newton and Andrew Lopez recently qualified work to be judged at the state Visual Arts Scholastic Exhibition, scheduled for April in Houston.

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LAST OF THE BREED'



Merle Harggard, Willie Nelson and Ray Price have a new double-CD. "Last of the Breed" which will be out March 20. See Page 3A

WHO CANCELS CONCERT

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) - Fans of the Who left a Tampa amphitheater disappointed after lead singer Roger Daltrey walked off the stage during the first song.

Several minutes after Daltrey's departure, guitarist Pete Townshend announced that Tuesday night's show had been canceled. He told the crowd that Daltrey had bronchitis.

"I just talked to Roger and he can barely speak," Townshend said. "I tried to get him to come out here, but he's really, really sick."

Townshend told fans the concert would be made up March 25.

POWWOW SLATED HERE



The third annual Big Spring Powwow is set this weekend at the Dorothy

Garrett Coliseum. The Powwow will feature a number of vendors and exhibits, as well as dance

competitions. The event gets under way at 10 a.m. Saturday with gourd dancing, followed by the grand entry. Admission to the event is \$2 and children under 12 are free. Activities continue at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

For more information about the powwow, contact Lesser at 264-8203.

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Obituaries

Mary Wooldridge

RICHLAND HILLS - Mary Wooldridge, 54, passed away Monday, March 5, 2007, at Lexington Place Care Center after a

long illness.

Funeral: A service of celebration and remembrance will be held at Northside Church of the Nazarene on Thursday, March 15, at 7 p.m. with the Rev. Ron Schoenfeldt officiating. Mary's remains will be cremated and her remains scattered in Puget Sound, Wash.

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, Mary's family requests that donations be made to Northside Church of the Nazarene or to your place of worship or

favorite charity.

Mary was born to Benjamin and Helen Jones on May 23, 1952, in Seattle, Wash. She graduated Warner Pacific College in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in sociology/social work. She was a social worker at heart as well as by training and had a 25-year career in social work. A highlight of her career was being the first director of Abram Head Start in Arlington. Mary's fluency in Spanish was a great help to her in that position as well as others in her career.

Mary loved music, especialy Christian music, and was active in the music program at her church, Northside Church of the Nazarene. She played piano and organ and sang. She was also active in the children's and missionary ministries of the church.

Survivors: Mary is survived by Mike, her husband of 29 years; sisters, Irene of Seattle, Wash., and Doris of South Carolina and a brother, Harold Jones of Colville, Wash.

Services are under the direction of Shannon Rufe Snow Funeral Chapel of Fort Worth.

Diana Thompson Patterson

Diana Thompson Patterson, 48, died in Michigan. Memorial services will be scheduled for a later date. She is survived by her children, Rabecca Earhart, Kyle Earhart, both of Stanton, and Jennifer Earhart of New South Wales, Australia.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Big Spring.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows around 50. Light and variable winds.

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming northwest around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph. Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of

showers and thunderstorms. Much cooler. Highs in the upper 50s. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Saturday...Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the lower 70s.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Monday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. Monday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 50. Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Take Note

- IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH will have Stations of the Cross Friday at 6 p.m. A fish fry will follow in the church hall. Plates are \$5 per adults and \$2.50 per child.
- BIG SPRING SYMPHONY **CHORUS** REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room. The rehearals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.
- 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 appreciated.
- JIMMY FISHER AND CALCULUS have booked the Big Spring Memorial Auditorium for 8 p.m. Saturday, March 24. The band plays a variety of music, including rock and blues. Tickets will be \$20 each.
- 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.

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Police blotter

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

· CHRISTOPHER VIERA, 20, of 1907 S. Main Street, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants and a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.

PAUL VIERA JR., 20, of 1907 S. Main Street, was arrested Tuesday on a local warrant and a charge of

disorderly conduct - fighting. MAURICE DEVON NEAL, 24, of 704 S. Bell, was arrested Tuesday on six local warrants and a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.

· ANSELMO HILARIO JR., 22, of 1708 W. Third Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.

 JESSIE LENDELL WOODRUFF, 21, of 2539 Gunter, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants. · ABLE DANNY MORELION, 41, of 1319 Tucson,

was arrested Wednesday on a charge of failure to iden- THEFT was reported in the 200 block of Marcy. DISORDERLY CONDUCT - FIGHTING was reported in the 1900 block of Main Street.

 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell.

 BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1600 block of Virginia. · BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the

1700 block of Wasson.

Sheriff's report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 51 inmates at the time of this report.

• ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 66, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

• DANIEL JESUS LEMON, 38, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass of a habitation/shelter center.

• IRVING GOMEZ, 30, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a probation violation - possession of cocaine

 TIFFANY RAINS, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of theft and a bond revocation for possession of a controlled substance.

· TERRIE DEEANN ALLEN, 36, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated - second offense.

 RICHARD WAYNE RAINS, 40, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check (two counts), evading arrest or detention and bond forfeiture for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.

Fire/EMS

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

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Lindbergh. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 179 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 4100 block of Muir. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 11th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Marshal. One person was transported to SMMC.

 TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of E. 11th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

MONDAY

· 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-

TUESDAY

- The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.
- ·Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

· RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information:



Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

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

THURSDAY

 Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

· Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-· Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association

meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels. · American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.

· Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.

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

FRIDAY

· Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell

· Spring City Senior Citizens Center 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

- American Legion Post 506 Fish Fry, 3203 W Highway 80. Delivery is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; serving is noon to 3 p.m. Plates are \$8 each. Call 263-2084 to order.
- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

• The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. • Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at

5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.

Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$28 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$19 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 7, 11, 16, 38 and 49. The Mega Ball number was 35.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 12-17-24-30-34. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$30,298. Winning tickets sold in: Mercedes. Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:0-0-4

Correction

A warranty deed contained in public records published in the March 10-11 edition of the Herald was not complete. The deed should have read: Grantor: Phyllis Carroll

Grantee: Thomas James Carroll

Property: Half interest in Lot 9, Block 4, Hillcrest Terrace Date: Feb. 28, 2007

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By JOHN G

Associated NASHVI (AP) - 1sometimes way of m when fix note wasn all the 1 were capti He belie music a

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Merle Haggard, Ray Price and Willie Nelson get together

By JOHN GEROME

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P.O. t Big Associated Press Writer NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Merle Haggard sometimes misses the old way of making records, when fixing an off-key note wasn't so simple and all the little mistakes were captured on vinyl.

He believes it gave the music a human touch that's missing today.

"It's unacceptable now to be slightly out of tune." Haggard said recently. "A lot of the records I made and Ray made and Willie made - a lot of those were out of tune.'

Haggard is speaking of his buddies Willie Nelson and Ray Price, whom he joined for a new double-CD set, "Last of the Breed," out March 20.

The collection — though perfectly in tune harkens back to the days Haggard is talking about.

Most of the 22 tracks are country standards, such as Floyd Tillman's "I Love You So Much It Hurts" and Lefty Frizzell's "Mom and Dad's Waltz," but there's also the new Nelson song "Back to Earth" and one from Haggard called

"Sweet Jesus" that feel as vintage as anything on the CD. It's a record that reflects the honky-tonk and swing music that shaped their careers.

"'ll be surprised if we don't all get locked up somewhere."

-Ray Price

"It was a big party working with Ray and Merle and everybody on that record," Nelson said. "We were all open-minded about it. No one said no to anything."

The trio, each of them Country Music Hall of Famers, are performing with the Texas swing band Asleep at the Wheel on a brief tour that began Friday in Prescott, Ariz., and ends March 25 in Rosemont, Ill.

"I'll be surprised if we don't all get locked up somewhere," Price joked. Price, 81, hopes the

record and tour will rekindle interest in traditional country music, something he thinks is missing from today's country radio.

"We want to let the kids hear what good songs sound like," he said. "It's really a different kind of music than they've been fed the last 20 years."

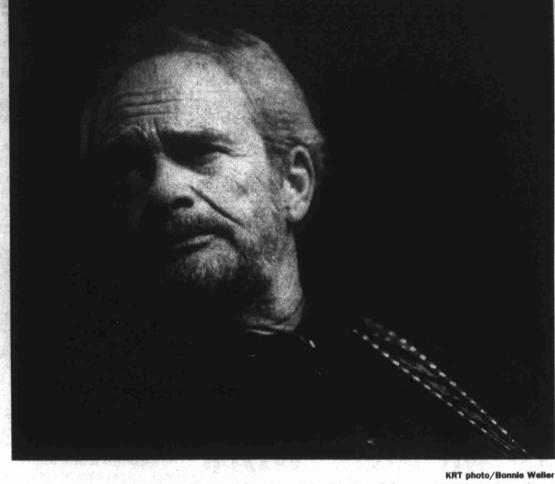
Haggard, who in 1969 sang the anthem "Okie From Muskogee," which mocked hippie protesters and proclaimed, "We don't smoke marijuana in Muskogee," has been opening shows for Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones. He said both play a purer form of country music than many contemporary country acts.

"Bob Dylan is as country as corn," the 69-year-old singer said. "Who would you compare him to other than Jimmie Rodgers?"

This is Haggard's first record with Price, though he and Nelson cut a successful album together in 1983, "Pancho and Lefty."

Price and Nelson have teamed up before, most recently for 2003's "Run That By Me One More Time." Back in the '60s. Nelson played bass in Price's band, Cherokee Cowboys.

"This was a natural," Nelson said of "Last of the



Country music legend Merle Haggard has teamed with Ray Price and Willie Nelson for a double-CD set which will be released March 20.

Breed." "Everyone who is Last year alone he my age or a little younger have heard these songs, and the ones who haven't heard them will get a chance. They're all really little gems."

At 73, Nelson continues to be more prolific than Leonard most artists half his age. Fleetwood Mac.

released two albums, "You Don't Know Me: The Songs of Cindy Walker" and the Ryan Adams-produced "Songbird," which had him covering songs by the Grateful Dead, Cohen

He already has another album in the can that was produced by Kenny Chesney, and he's got a bunch of material from a concert with jazz saxophonist Branford Marsalis.

"I'm open to anything," Nelson said.

CITY

Continued fropm Page 1A

put this off," said Biddison. "They (the absent council members) should have been here."

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors voted unanimously Dec. 8 to provide up to \$3 million to help Brint Ryan — manager of the Dallas company and the founder and CEO of Ryan & Company renovate the Settles Hotel, which he agreed to purchase for \$75,000 from the city of Big Spring.

According to city officials, Ryan has not yet fulfilled the contract by paying the \$75,000 agreed upon, despite initial reports the tab would be paid by the end of December.

McEwen's proposal to wait until the next council meeting drew support from council members Gloria McDonald and Jo Ann Staulcup.

However, Staulcup said the agenda item should also include an action item, as well.

"I feel like we should word the item so we'll be able to take action during the next meeting," Staulcup told City Attorney Linda Sjogren. "We certainly can't wait all year on asked for more time to get her this."

What action will be taken by the council appears to be up in the air at this time, including possible limitations on spending by the Moore Board and making council approval of each project a requirement.

SHDC announced plans for a \$12 million renovation project which includes plans for commercial and residential use of the property, with retail space available on the first and sec-

Discussions during the February meeting were limited,

information on what the council can and cannot do in relation to the economic development firm.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council approved:

 Final reading of a resolution authorizing continued participation with the steering committee of cities served by TXU and authorizing payment of membership assessment fee.

 Final reading of a resolution approving the investment policy for the city.

 Final reading of a resolution authorizing and directing the however, as the city attorney mayor to execute a an agree-

ment with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper for professional engineering services.

 First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a lease agreement with Abusaab Companies.

· First reading of an ordinance annexing a 4.82 acre tract of land out of the S/2 of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, into the city

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

DEATH

Continued from Page 1A

penalty is constitutional for a crime in which the victim did not die.

In 1977, a U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturned the death sentence of a Georgia man who raped a woman but didn't kill her.

Abbott told the Senate panel he believes that bills tailoring the death penalty to violent repeat offenders who harm children would pass constitutional muster.

"I would probably and proudly go to the Supreme Court" to argue such a case, Abbott said.

other Five states already have similar death penalty laws for child sex offenders. Only Louisiana has sent an inmate to death row and that case is working its way through state and federal appeals courts.

Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, asked Abbott if he also thought a few years ago that executing mentally retarded

inmates would be constitutional. The Supreme has ruled

the death penalty in such cases unconstitutional. "What was your batting

average on that?" Ellis asked. "I didn't take a swing at

that pitch," Abbott said, adding he didn't guarantee the Supreme Court would side with him on the sex offender issue. Critics have questioned

whether the death penalty for repeat violent child sex offenders would lead to more children being

killed.

Abbott said no one has produced a case that proves a sexual predator killed the victim to avoid prosecution.

Torie Camp, deputy director for the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, called Abbott's "ludicrous" comment "a pretty strong statement. There's some people with an awful lot of knowledge who have

raised this concern." Sen. John Whitmire, the chairman of the committee, asked Abbott: "What if you're wrong?"

'A person who is so callous they would go ahead and take the life of that child, they're going to be

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taking the life of that child anyway," Abbott said.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 McCluskey Wood, 82, died Monday Funeral Services were at 11:00 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

ART

Continued from Page 1A

bition, Newton and Lopez had to medal at both the district and area level, said BSHS Art Teacher Judy Tereletsky.

BSHS sent 18 students and 30 works to the district meet in Odessa. Of those entries, 16 were judged as "superior," (the top rating awarded) while 14 received ratings of "excellent" from judges, Tereletsky said.

This is the fourth year in a row BSHS will send a student to the state exhibition. In 2006, Eric Barton qualified for and medaled in VASE competition.

Lopez's qualifying work "printmaking was a "printmaking sculpture" — basically an art print draped on a while sculpture Newton qualified with a ceramic sculpture.

"They like to use a lot of imagination," Tereletsky said of her state-bound

Amy E. Reese

students. " They like to use new materials and ideas."

Newton said she liked her entry, but declined to speculate on her chances at the state exhibition. "I thought it looked

pretty good. I thought professional artists would like it," she said. "I didn't get all cocky about it, but I thought it was a good

Lopez expressed similar thoughts about his work. "It took me about three weeks to complete," he

"I had an idea it would

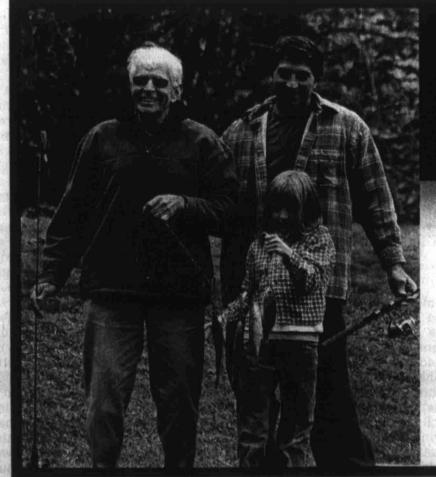
win an award, but I was still surprised."

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



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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Museum exhibit of Moates' work worthy of a visit

he Heritage Museum is showcasing a local talent this month with the works of Sheree Moates — both her paintings and a number of photographs — on display.

The exhibit not only has Moates' work on display, but prints and original artwork are for sale.

Moates' paintings range in styles and subjects from local skylines and sunsets to religious and inspirational themes. And while the mediums used — paint, canvas and other materials — may be similar from one subject to the next, the local artist said how she develops the ideas is very dif-

"In painting inspirational themes, it's strictly God inspired," said Moates. "And what I mean by that is I never know when it's going to happen. All of a sudden there's just a picture in my head... When it first started happening I called my mother and asked her what was wrong with me. She told me it sounded like a vision, but I don't think that's what it was. I think God was giving me something, and I still feel like he's doing something with my paintings."

Moates, recently accepted to the Oil Painters of - America, says many of her other pieces are a result of personal experience.

Having studied with Dalhart Windberg for about 20 years now, she's traveled extensively and had an opportunity of paint and photograph scenes in California, Colorado, Arkansas and Texas.

The exhibit's examples of photography are a byproduct of the artist's constant need to paint what

"It was someone else's idea for me to put the photography in the exhibit," Moates noted. "When we're on vacation, I'm not just doing the tourist thing with my camera. I'm also looking for paintings. And I can't very well take my easel, my paints and everything else on the plane for a vacation, so I take photos.

And while selling one of her works is certainly rewarding, Moates said it's not the part of painting that keeps her with brush in hand. Instead, it's the growth she sees in herself, coupled with the letters and thank you cards she's received from those who've viewed her work that provide that encouragement.

Such are the rewards on tap for those who take the time to visit the museum and view Moates' exhibit which is scheduled to be on display until April 7.

We here at the Herald join with Museum Director Nancy Rainey in being pleased that a local artist's talent is on display.

There is no question in our collective mind that among the advantages of having the Heritage Museum here is its ability to provide a showcase for the work of Big Spring's talented art community. And we're enthusiastic the museum is committed to providing a place for local artists to display their work.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

Sign your letter.

 Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per

30-day period per author. Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone

number or address will not be considered. Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-

mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we surrender our willpower to our higher power, Lord, You.

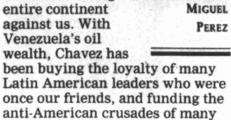
Bush rediscovers the New World

ust when we thought Hugo Chavez had been given free rein to take over Latin America, President Bush suddenly remembered that there are 19 countries just south of the Mexican border.

After neglecting Latin America for the past six years, and devoting U.S. foreign policy to his obsession with Iraq, Bush set out rediscover the New World last week.

There is only one problem: His fivenation tour is too little and way too late.

During the time Bush has been wearing blinders, his Venezuelan nemesis has been turning the entire continent against us. With Venezuela's oil wealth, Chavez has



others. His success was evident as Bush faced some of the most massive and vicious protests against an American president in recent his-

Yet Chavez would not have been able to stimulate so much anti-American sentiment if Bush had heeded the pleas from many Latinos who have been crying out for attention.

Reporters traveling with the president have spent the last few days blaming the war in Iraq for Bush's unpopularity in Latin America. They have been so conditioned by the administration to think only about Iraq that even when they are in Latin America, they look for an Iraq angle.

Most Latin Americans could care less about the war in Iraq. They care about their standard of living, putting food on the table and raising their kids — just like most

Americans. Sure, there were some anti-war protesters in the countries the president visited. But that was just an excuse for hardcore leftists

to mount their anti-American

offensive.

What has made Bush extremely unpopular in Latin America is his administration's indifference to the needs of our hemispheric neighbors. They are disgusted by U.S. immigration policy, and particularly Bush's lack of backbone in dealing with the conservative extremists in his own party, who constantly display mean-spirited attitudes toward Latinos.

Latin Americans are troubled by a U.S. government that says one thing and does exactly the opposite, especially when promising funding to help the hemisphere's

"Although the administration claims to have doubled its assistance to countries in the Western Hemisphere, the reality is that under President Bush's watch America has actually cut core development funding since 2001, going from a total of \$324 million to \$304 million, a 6.2-percent decrease," Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., said last week

He said Bush's most recent budget proposal recommends cutting another 26 percent from those accounts, which are used for combating infectious diseases, promoting child and maternal health and supporting sustainable economic growth.

Menendez also noted that Bush's budget "actually proposed a 9-percent cut in total aid for Latin America and the Caribbean." He said these cuts send the

wrong message to Latin America. 'We must ensure that we don't allow a vacuum to form in the hemisphere — a vacuum that could be filled by the Chavezes of the world," Menendez said.

The senator noted that while the president likes to highlight U.S.

support for one particular program that benefits the poor, it only applies to El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras. "That means, at most, only 4 percent of Latin America's poor will see an increase in aid," Menendez added. "That leaves 96 percent — or 213 million - of Latin America's poor facing serious cuts in development funding."

By creating economic growth in Latin America, the United States has a lot to gain, Menendez argued, because "people won't have to leave their homes to find jobs" and because by increasing stability in our hemisphere, "we are thwarting opportunities for terrorists and criminals who thrive on chaos and insecurity."

Yet we have a president who has been so preoccupied with building democracies where they never existed in the Middle East that he has allowed Chavez to gain strength, leaving fragile Latin American democracies to disintegrate into leftist dictatorships.

Even when Bush was in South America, Chavez was constantly hurling insults at the United States.

Yet, instead of returning the insults so that Latin America will see we are not intimidated by a two-bit dictator, Bush refused to even mention Chavez by name.

"He doesn't dare to say my name," Chavez said as he traveled on a rival tour of the South America, mocking Bush along the way. "Several journalists have asked him this week 'what do you think of what President Chavez says?' and he doesn't answer ... His heart starts racing, he gets tongue-tied."

In this country, Bush's decision to ignore Chavez may be seen as a sign of civility. But in Latin American, it is a sign of weak-

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An artist in work and life

ackie Zweiger of Monahans has traveled the world, made friends wherever she went and painted scenes of places far and near. Her watercolor works have won big prizes but she works in other media as well: pencil, oil, acrylic, wood, clay and bronze. She has illustrated two children's books.

So it's not surprising that she has an upbeat attitude.

"I don't know how people get bored," she said. "There's too much to learn to do and to do."

After a 29-year teaching career, Zweiger is enjoying doing art fulltime. Her Spanish-style

home in Monahans is filled with art pieces she has created and books she has read. Some of her art could not fit in her house. She has hand-carved giant crosses for church sanctuaries in Monahans, Midland and Pecos. Each of the crosses is different and each one took a year to com-

TUMBLEWEED

"A church in Pecos asked me to design a cross," she explained. "They had someone who would carve it, but they needed a design. I carved an 18-inch model and when they saw it, they wanted me to do it.'

She got interested in making pottery when she saw a man throw a bunch of clay on a potter's wheel and make a pot. She knew she had to learn how to do that.

Some of her pots are small, about the size of an orange or grapefruit.

'I carve on them and draw pictures or designs on them and fix them up really good," she said. "I put turquoise on them and feathers and beads - just whatever I want to put on there. I'll maybe sculpt a little turtle and stick it on the pot."

Jackie started whittling after her dad gave her a pocketknife when she was a child. She carves fish from mahogany and redwood. They are extremely smooth and realistic.

"I make them life-size," she said of the fish carvings. "You could

put them on a hook and they'd look like something you just caught."

Jackie grew up in Port Arthur and maintains longtime friend-

"I was a campfire girl and I still am," she said. "We have 10 of us that grew up together and we still have meetings once a year. We go somewhere and spend a week together. We all finished high school and went our separate ways to colleges. Most of us married and raised children, but in about 1977 we started having our reunions. It has gone on every year since then.'

The group came to Monahans a

few years ago.

"We went out to the Sandhills State Park just before dark," she remembers. "The moon was coming up on the east and the sun was setting in the west. We saw them both happen. They loved sitting on top of a dune at sunset.'

Jackie has helped make Monahans a place where art is appreciated.

She was active in converting an old church into an art center.

Check this out, at the county library

Truman has another book out -Murder at the Opera." It features the crime-fighting team of Mac Smith and his wife, Annabel Reed-Smith. As you can guess from the title. opera comes into the equation. A

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scarcely noticed aspiring soprano named Charise Lee is stabbed backstage during rehearsals. Nothing is ever as it seems in



Washington -D.C. and solving this puzzle will involve a cast of hundreds - nay, thousands, and don'cha know

 Iraq is involved too. A new Alex Cross book is out from James Patterson, "Cross." It goes back to the time when Cross' wife was killed; John Sampson is involved, too. An Elizabeth George book with Inspector Thomas Lynley and Detective Sergeant Barbara Havers has come in; check out "What Came Before He

Shot Her."

Two more favorite authors: William G. Tapply with lawyer Brady Coyne, "Out Cold" and Michael Connelly's Harry Bosch in "Echo Park"

Here is some fiction to tempt you to stay up late and show up late at the office. Carla Neggers in "The Widow," tells the story of Abigail Browning's wedding and the death of her husband by a sniper four days later. Now a homicide detective, she is determined to find his murderer.

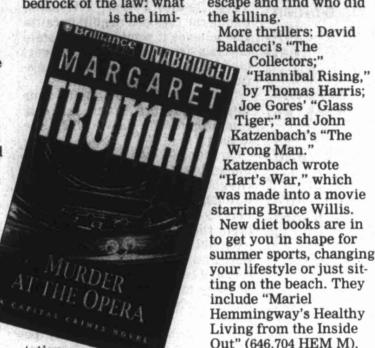
Another Ludlum book is "The Bancroft Strategy." Todd Belknap, a field agent for the Consular Operations, has been cut loose after an operation goes wrong. Of course, he is called back to fix a problem. It's a fast-moving, hard-hitting action novel.

P.T. Deutermann has just published "Spider Mountain" and that name is very true. If you have the heebie jeebies about spiders, you won't want to read it. However, if you like quick-moving, hard-hitting action, you can find this book on the

Scott Turow has a new book out, "Limitation."

This time, Judge George Mason questions the very bedrock of the law: what

new book display. is the limithe killing.



tation of prosecution on sexual assault? Does it end at three, four, five years? Or is it like murder, having no term limitation? This is a paperback, is not real long, so it should read quickly.

James Grady's "Mad Dogs" comes from the files of the Central Intelligence Agency. In an asylum run by the

CIA, five agents live a shattered life. They are framed for the death of their psychiatrist. So what do they do? They escape and find who did

More thrillers: David

Tiger;" and John Katzenbach's "The Wrong Man." Katzenbach wrote

"Hart's War," which was made into a movie starring Bruce Willis. New diet books are in

to get you in shape for summer sports, changing your lifestyle or just sitting on the beach. They include "Mariel Hemmingway's Healthy Living from the Inside Out" (646.704 HEM M), "The South Beach Heart Program" (616.123 AGA A) from Dr. Agatston and Bob Greene's newest, "The Best Life Diet" (613.25 GRE B).

How many of you remember when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Did you know that American soldiers, held in concentration camps, saw the mushroom cloud?

This is the story of what happened in Japan when the bomb fell and afterwards. "First into Nagasaki: The Censored **Eyewitness Dispatches** on Post-Atomic Japan and Its Prisoners of War," (940.542 WEL G) is written by Pulitzer Prizewinning journalist

George Weller. The story of another war, the Civil War, is told by Tom Wheeler. It is an interesting idea. The forerunner of e-mail was t-mail or telegraph mail. "Mr. Lincoln's War: The Untold Story of How Abraham Lincoln Used the Telegraph to Win the Civil War" (973.709 WHE

The telegraph, as used then, provided almost instant (within minutes, not seconds) communication between the commander in chief and his generals in the field. I have not read it all, but Civil War buffs will find it interesting.

'State of Denial: Bush At War, Part III" (973.931 WOO B) by Bob Woodward is in. "Rabble Rouser For Peace" (B TUTD) by John Allen is an authorized biography of one of the great men in history, Desmond Tutu.

He was very instrumental in South Africa's struggle against apartheid and is a passionate advocate of human rights.

"All American: Why I Believe in Football, God and the War in Iraq" (B MCG R) is by Robert P. McGovern. McGovern lived and grew up in New Jersey, played football for the Chiefs, Steelers and the Patriots. After retiring, he attended law school and worked in NYC as a prosecutor. After 9-11, he asked to be called up from his Army Reserve for active duty. He has seen combat in Afghanistan and Iraq and is now back in the States. This is what he believes in.

Howard County Library hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

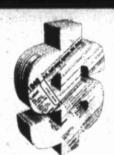
The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howardcounty.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is dirctor of the Howard County Library.

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House votes to override HPV order

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN - The Texas House approved a bill Tuesday that would keep the human papillomavirus vaccine off the list of required shots for school attendance, tentatively circumventing Gov. Rick Perry's executive order.

The vaccine protects girls against strains of HPV, a sexually transmitted virus that causes most cases of cervical cancer.

The measure, approved 119-21, still needs final approval in the House and approval in the Senate. It's also possible that Perry will veto the legislation, but the 119 voters that approved the bill Tuesday are more than enough to override a

Perry's order asked Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Albert Hawkins to adopt rules to vaccinate all girls entering the sixth-grade as of September 2008. Parents could have refused the shots for their daughters.

A spokeswoman for Perry estimated only 25 percent of young women in Texas would get the vaccine if it is not required.

"Governor Perry's executive order on HPV would help to protect 95 percent of young women in Texas against the strains of HPV that cause cervical cancer," said spokeswoman Krista Moody. "The governor believes we should protect as many young women as possible — rich and poor, insured and uninsured — while maintaining parents' rights to opt their daugh-

ter out of receiving the vaccine." Perry's order angered lawmakers who said the governor circumvented the legislative process.

"Governor Perry's executive order on HPV would help to protect 95 percent of young women in Texas against the strains of HPV that cause cervical cancer. The governor believes we should protect as many young women as possible - rich and poor, insured and uninsured - while maintaining parents' rights to opt their daughter out of

> Krista Moody Perry spokeswoman

The bill adopted Tuesday "will not take away the option for a single girl or a single family in this state to choose to vaccinate a child," said Republican Rep. Dennis Bonnen of Angleton, the lead author of the bill. "It simply says a family must make that choice, not a state government."

receiving the vaccine."

Perry acknowledged weeks ago that the Legislature has the authority to supersede his mandate. But he has also insisted a requirement is good public policy that will save young women's lives.

Critics argued that the vaccine, called Gardasil, was too new and its effects needed to be further studied before mandating it for Texas schoolgirls. The Food and Drug Administration approved Gardasil last year.

Still, Bonnen called it a vaccine "that we don't know all the facts about."

Rep. Jessica Farrar, a Houston Democrat, opposed the bill because she believes it would prevent state officials from requiring the vaccine in the future once safety questions are resolved.

"Let's not tie his hands to offer this in the future as our state gets comfortable with the vaccine," she argued.

On Monday, two prominent lawmakers said Attorney General Greg Abbott told them state health officials are not required to follow Perry's order because it does not carry the weight of law.

Republican Sen. Jane Nelson and Rep. Jim Keffer had asked Abbott to clarify the governor's authority to issue executive orders and the Legislature's ability to overrule them.

Cervical cancer can usually be prevented if precancerous cervical lesions are found by a Pap test and removed. Doctors recommend women get Pap tests once a year, but about half of the women in the U.S. who develop cervical cancer have never had a Pap test, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Farrar argued that even top gynecological experts acknowledge Pap tests can be subject to human

"Pap smears are not enough. We know that there's a segment of the population that are never going to get them in the first place," Farrar said.

Bonnen suggested the state do a better job of funding Pap tests.

Accused kidnapper recently miscarried

By BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK (AP) - The woman accused of abducting a newborn from the mother's hospital room last week recently had her second miscarriage, a relative said Tuesday.

As Rayshaun Parson has become increasingly depressed, family members don't recognize the person they've always known, said the great aunt of the 21-year-old, who was arraigned Tuesday on a federal kidnapping charge.

"We do not know this person," said D. Taara Williams of Lafayette, La., a bishop with the Maryland-based African-Catholic American Congregation.

"This is not the Rayshaun we know and love and have nurtured,' Williams added.

Parson will be held in the Dickens County Correctional Center in Dickens pending a detention hearing Friday. Federal authorities charged her Monday in the abduction of Mychael Darthard-Dawodu, who was 3 days old when taken.

A woman posing as a medical worker walked out of Covenant Lakeside Hospital on Saturday with the baby hidden in her purse, police said.

Surveillance showed her wearing blue and flower-print hospital scrubs and a gray, puffy jacket with a hood over her head walking out of the hospital.

The newborn was found a day later in Clovis, N.M., about 100 miles to the northwest.

At no time, Williams said, was the newborn "in harm's way."

In addition to being in court Tuesday to support Parson, family members came to Lubbock to extend an "olive branch" to Mychael's family.

someone's "When offended, you go to them, look them in the eye and ask for forgiveness," Williams said.

Williams said she believes a medical exam will confirm Parson's recent miscarriage. The family will also request a psychiatric evaluation, she said.

Before her arrest, Parson had "isolated" herself from her grandmother and others, and family members found items inside Parson's Clovis apartment.

"We're very concerned with her mental condition as presented by her physical state," Williams said.

Her great niece's attire is typically "very pristine," Williams said.

Parents tout special ed package

AUSTIN (AP) - Parents of disabled students were at the Capitol on Tuesday to endorse a package of legislation intended to strengthen the public education for special needs students.

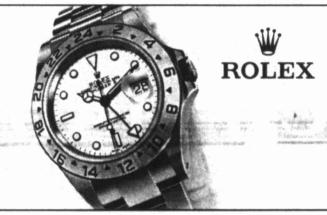
Texas lawmakers have filed a package of 12 bills that would require that health insurance companies provide coverage for therapies needed by 3- to 5-year-old children with autism. The measures also would strengthen teacher training for educating disabled students and give parents more control and information.

"This critical legislation would put Texas on the side of all children with disabilities who attend our public schools," said Laura Butler, mother of a son with multiple disabilities. "It's a real solution that helps ensure public schools will be able to provide the critical services all of our families need.'

Also, 11 senators have signed a letter urging the Texas Education Agency to apply for a federal grant that would provide professional development for educators who work with students with disabilities.

Sen. Florence Shapiro has filed legislation that would give Texas students with autism the option of using state education dollars at the specialized facility of their choice, a move critics called a voucher scheme that would take money out of public schools. . The package of legislation Tuesday announced would apply to an estimated 500,000 Texas students with disabilities that require special schooling needs.

"Texas is the only state in the country that has not applied for that federal grant money," said Sen. Leticia Van de Putte.





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The City of Coahoma HOME Program provides help to eligible homeowners within the city limits for

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sheet is available from Coahoma City Hall. Applications will be taken March 22, 2007, at 8:30 A.M.

APPLICATION NOTICE HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION (REPLACEMENT) PROGRAM

at Coahoma City Hall, 122 North First Street. Applications will only be taken this one-day unless there is further notice. If you cannot attend the intake, please call Marge or Maeva at (888) 424-7270 or (512) 420-0303 to make other arrangements. Please bring the following. 1) Proof of 6 months income or SS letter. **INCOME LIMITS BY FAMILY SIZE**

1 Person 2 Person 4 Person 5 Person 3 Person 6 Person 7 Person 8 Person \$17,700 \$15,450 \$19,900 \$23,850 \$25,650 \$29,150 \$22,100 \$27,400

2) Homeownership: Warranty deed or other proof. NO CONTRACT FOR DEED. 3) Tax receipts verifying ALL property taxes paid 4) Proof of Occupancy: driver's license or photo I.D. 5) Verification of disability if applicable. 6) Social Security Card for all household members.

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The Slam-Doubling Convention

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The bidding North West Pass

Dble Opening lead — five of spades.

The biggest swings ordinarily arise in hands where a slam is bid. For example, if South makes exactly six hearts (undoubled) in this deal, he scores 1,430 points, while if he goes

down one, he loses 100 points.

A 1,530-point swing is not to be sneezed at, so anything the defenders can do to stop a slam is well worth

For this reason, a special convention designed specifically for such critical situations was devised many years ago. According to this convention, the double of a slam by the

defender not on lead instructs partner to make an unusual or abnormal opening lead most often dummy's first-bid suit.

It is true that one effect of the convention is that a player sometimes can't double a slam that would go down with normal defense. This is because the double might cause partner to make an abnormal lead and so hand declarer the contract.

However, this restriction on doubling usually costs only 50 or 100 points, which is a minor loss, whereas reserving the double for hands that require a particular opening lead might save the defenders as much as 1,000 or 1,500 points. One can therefore hope to profit considerably by employing this convention. while at the same time risking very

In the present case, for example if East does not double six hearts and West makes the normal diamond lead, South makes an overtrick and scores 1,460 points. But if East doubles, instructing West not to lead a diamond but to choose an unusual lead, the defenders can defeat the

It should not be difficult for West to figure out that the unusual lead in dummy opened the bidding with. So West leads a spade, East ruffs and cashes a club, and the slam goes

Tomorrow: A false sense of security.

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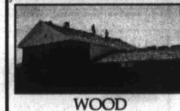
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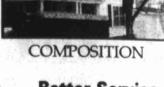
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Asian stocks plunge after Wall Street sell-off as global jitters mount

TOKYO (AP) - Asian stocks plunged Wednesday after Wall Street chalked its second-biggest point drop in four years and rattled already nervous markets worldwide.

The tumble extended a couple weeks of international trading turmoil rooted in concerns about overheated global markets and slower growth in the American economy, a major export market for Asian companies.

Concern about U.S. sub-prime lenders and lackluster retail sales pushed the Dow Jones industrials down nearly 2 percent overnight, sparking selloffs across Asia.

Stocks in Japan, Hong Kong and Australia all fell more than 2 percent, while shares in Singapore, India, Malaysia and the Philippines tumbled at least 3 percent.

At the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the region's biggest bourse, the benchmark Nikkei 225 index sank 501.95 points, or 2.92 percent, to finish at 16,676.89 points. Foreign investors who bought up stocks during the market's recent recovery led the selling, traders said.

Joint Chiefs chairman says he should not have said homosexuality is immoral

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon's top general said Tuesday he should not have voiced his personal view that homosexuality is immoral and should have just stated his support for the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy in an interview that has drawn criticism from lawmakers and gay-rights groups.

The written statement by Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, did not apologize for his stance on homosexuality. In a newspaper interview Monday, Pace likened homosexual acts to adultery and said the military should not condone it by allowing gays to serve openly in the armed forces.

After a flurry of condemnation Tuesday, Pace issued a statement acknowledging that the Defense Department's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays is a sensitive subject and said: "I should have focused more on my support of the policy and less on my personal moral views.

The military lets gay men and lesbians serve if they keep their sexual orientation private. Commanders may not ask, and service members may not tell. More than 10,000 troops, including more than 50 specialists in Arabic, have been discharged since President Clinton signed it into law in 1994.

In an interview with the Pentagon Channel, the military's in-house television station, Defense Secretary Robert Gates declined to answer a question on his opinion of the policy but made what seemed to be a mild rebuke of Pace.

Bush to Congress: Immigration reform is key to better relations with Latin America

MERIDA, Mexico (AP) - President Bush sent a longdistance message to Congress from the southeast tip of Mexico: The future of U.S. relations south of the border hinges on immigration reform.

"I'm going to keep repeating it while I'm here in Mexico - that I know our country must have comprehensive immigration reform," said Bush, who returns to Washington on Wednesday after a second day of meetings with Mexican President Felipe Calderon.

Bush is to speak on the Yucatan Peninsula to the Mexican people and the newly elected Calderon before leaving, but he hopes his words will be heard 1,400 miles away on Capitol Hill where his immigration proposal has been blocked.

The president also had other problems back in Washington, where Attorney General Alberto Gonzales bore the brunt of Democratic criticism over how the Justice Department and White House handled the firing of eight federal prosecutors. Gonzalez acknowledged that mistakes had been made but stood by the firings and rejected calls for his own resigna-

The president could not promise Mexico that Congress will pass his guest worker program. He could only promise to work hard to make it law.

U.N. chief nuclear inspector unable to meet top North Korena nuclear negotiator

BEIJING (AP) - The chief U.N. nuclear inspector, in Pyongyang for talks on how North Korea will close its main atomic reactor, was unable to meet with the country's top nuclear negotiator Wednesday, the agency's spokeswoman said.

The announcement came a day before officials from the U.S. and the North were set to meet with their counterparts from South Korea, China, Russia and Japan in Beijing to discuss economic and energy cooperation as part of five working group sessions established under the Feb. 13 accord.

North Korea pledged during six-nation disarmament talks in Beijing last month to shut down its only operating nuclear reactor by April 14, in return for energy aid and political concessions.

ElBaradei, head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, had been slated to meet with North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan, IAEA spokeswoman Melissa Fleming said in a telephone interview from Pyongyang.

They said "he was busy preparing for the six-party talks," Fleming said. She would not release any other details but said ElBaradei met with another vice foreign minister of the same rank, Kim Hyong Jun, instead.

Police arrest 2 suspects in India-Pakistan train bombing that killed 68 people

NEW DELHI (AP) - Two people who allegedly sold the suitcases used to make bombs that ignited deadly fires on a train linking India and Pakistan have been arrested, police said Wednesday, announcing the first arrests in the attack that killed 68 people.

The pair were picked up Tuesday in the central Indian city of Indore, where authorities believe the bombers bought suitcases that were stuffed with explosives and petrol, said R.C. Mishra, a senior police official.

The bombs were set off on Feb. 18 aboard the train, which runs from New Delhi to Lahore, Pakistan, officials said...

Asked if they sold the suitcases knowing they would be used for makeshift bombs, Mishra said he could not provide any additional information.

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© 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

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** * CARS * * *

2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Windveil Blue w/Pebble Leather, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 2004 Ford Focus ZTS 4-DR - Black, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner 2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT V-6 - Black, All Power, Automatic, All Power, All Po MSRP When New \$24,205. Loaded w/10,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 NOW \$17,995 2007 Ford Taurus SEL - Arizona Beige w/Pebble Premium Leather, 3.0 V-6, Power, Moonroof, Fully Loaded, Only 13,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$25,100.

NOW \$17,995 2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature Limited - Lt. French Silk, Leather, Loaded. 6 CD In Dash, Moonroof, 18,000 Miles, MSRP When New \$47,120. NOW \$29,995

2006 Mercury Milan Premier · Vivid Red w/Camel Leather, 2.3-4 Cyl., All Power Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995

2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2.3-4-Cyl., 12,000 NOW \$19,995 2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Dark Red, Gray Leather, 3.0 V-6, Moonroof, All Power,

12,000 Miles. MSRP When New \$24,870. 2006 Ford Taurus SE · White w/Flint Cloth, 3.0 V-6, All Power, 14,000 Miles.

MSRP When New \$21,450. NOW \$13.995 2006 Ford Mustang V-6 - Satin Silver w/Graphite Cloth, All Power, Spoiler, Sport

Was \$20,995 2006 Mercury Grand Marquis Premium LS - Tungsten Clearcoat w/Light Stone Leather, 14,000 Miles, MSRP WHEN NEW \$31,060. NOW \$19.995

2006 Ford Taurus SEL - Arizona Beige w/Pebble Cloth, All Power w/17,000 Miles. NOW \$14,995 2006 Ford Taurus SE · Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned

w/32,000 Miles. NOW \$13.995 2005 Nissan Sentra 1.8S - Maroon w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/22,000

NOW \$13,995

2004 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Silver Frost, Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/27,000 Miles. 2004 Chrysler Sebring Coupe - Light Blue Metallic, Cloth, All Power, Local One

Owner w/60,000 Miles. 2004 Ford Mustang - Black w/Cloth, 6 Cyl., 5 Speed, All Power, Local One Owner NOW \$14,995

2004 Nissan Maxima SL · Black w/Leather, All Power, Skylight, Local One NOW \$21,995

2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver Metallic w/Leather, All Power, Skylight w/41,000 Miles. Was \$24,995

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w/36,000 Miles. NOW \$11.995 Was \$11.995 Was \$13,995 2003 Lincoln Town Car Executive · Black w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned

w/53.000 Miles. NOW \$18,995 2003 Mazda MX-5 Miata Convertible LS · Silver, Fully Loaded, Leather, Local One Owner w/40,200 Miles. NOW \$16,995 Was \$17,995 2003 Toyota Celica GT - Red, All Power, Extra Clean, One Owner w/37,000 Miles.

NOW \$14,995 Was \$15,995 Was \$10,998 2002 Honda Accord Special Edition Coupe - White, All Power, Local One Owner

w/64,000 Miles. Was \$14.995 2002 Lincoln Town Car Cartier Edition · Pearl White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles. NOW \$16.995 Was \$17,995

NOW \$5,995

2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Silver Clearcoat w/Flint Cloth Captain Chairs, Sport Bedliner, 5.4 V-8, All Power w/13,000 Miles. 2005 Ford F150 Supercab XL 4X4 - White, V-8, Air, Automatic, Local One Owner

2004 Ford Ranger Supercab Edge - Red, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner

2004 Nissan King Cab XE - Silver, 4-Cyl., Automatic, Local One Owner w/45,000 Was \$15,996 2004 Ford F150 STX - 6-Cyl., Automatic, Air, Extra Clean, One Owner w/17,000 w/81,000 Miles.

Was \$16,995 2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT 4-DR. - Beige, 6-Cyl., Automatic, All Power, Local One Owner w/55,000 Miles. 2003 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 - White, 4.7 V-8, Automatic, Locally Owned

w/49,000 Miles.

* * TRUCKS * * *

One Owner w/59,000 Miles NOW \$10,995

2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - White, 4.6, V-8, All Power, 79,000 Miles. NOW \$13,995 Was \$14,995 2001 Dodge Dakota - White, Automatic, Locally Owned w/56,000 Miles.

NOW \$8,995

* * * SUV's & Vans * * *

2002 Ford Taurus SES - Arizona Beige, Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/68,000 2007 Ford Freestar SEL Van - Dune Pearl w/Pebble Leather, Quad Captain Chairs And 3rd Row Leather Seat, Dual Air/Heat, Totally Loaded w/16,000 Miles. Was \$20,995 NOW \$19,995 2004 Nissan Xterra SE · Silver, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/35,000

Was \$19,995 2004 Ford Explorer XLT · Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner

w/34.000 Miles Was \$17.995 2003 GMC Envoy XL SLT - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/67,000

Miles. NOW \$17,995 Was \$18,995 2002 Ford Escape XLT - Yellow w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned, 48,000 Miles

NOW \$13,995 Was \$14,995 NOW \$24.995 2002 Ford Expedition 4X4 XLT - Red/Tan, Tan Leather, Fiberglass Boards, One

Owner w/88,000 Miles. 2002 Cadillac Escalade AWD - Sandstone w/Leather, Fully Loaded, Local One

Owner w/41,000 Miles. Was \$29,995

2002 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Pewter w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/64,000 Miles. NOW \$18,995

2002 Chevrolet Blazer LS - White/Cloth, All Power, 56,000 Miles. NOW \$9,995 2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner

Was \$16,995 1999 GMC Surburban LT - Tan w/Leather, All Power, Locally Owned, Over 100K

2004 Honda VTX 130

Was \$11.998

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MATION NATION Wednesday, March 14, 2007 Gonzales sidesteps calls for resignation

Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON (AP) **Embattled** Attorney **General Alberto Gonzales** said Wednesday it's up to President Bush whether he remains in the administration and said he wants to stay and explain to Congress the circumstances surrounding the firings of eight U.S. attorneys.

Amid an escalating political row and calls from some Democrats for his resignation, Gonzales said, "I work for the American people and serve at the pleasure of the president."

"I think you can look at the record of the department in terms of what we've done ... going after child predators, public corruption cases," he said on NBC's "Today" show. "I think our record is outstanding.'

Critics charge that the prosecutors were ousted because of political considerations.

Gonzales acknowledged. as he had on Tuesday,



U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales gives a press conference at the Department of Justice Tuesday in Washington, D.C.

that mistakes were made in the handling of the U.S. attorney firings and said the job to make things right with Congress.

"I think we've done a ensure that they have a good job in managing the complete and accurate

department. .. Things are going to happen," he said. "We are going to work he wanted to remain in with Congress to make sure they know what happened. ... We want to

picture of what happened here."

"I didn't become attorney general by quitting," Gonzales said on CBS's "The Early Show."

Several Democrats have called for Gonzales' resignation, among them pres- this year. candidates idential Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards.

"The buck should stop somewhere," Clinton said in an interview with ABC's "Good Morning America" which was broadcast Wednesday morning. She added that Bush "needs to be very forthcoming - what did he say, what did he know, what did he do?" and that high-level White House adviser Karl Rove also "owes the Congress and the country an explanation" for his role in the affair.

The firestorm of criticism has erupted in the wake of the disclosure of e-mails within the administration which showed that Gonzales' chief of staff, Kyle Sampson, had discussed the possible firings of U.S. attorneys in early 2005 with then-White House Counsel Harriet Miers.

Gonzales accepted Sampson's resignation this week; Miers had left the administration earlier

It was the second time in as many weeks that Gonzales came under withering criticism on Capitol Hill. Last week, the attorney general and FBI Director Robert S. Mueller admitted that the FBI had improperly, and at times illegally, used the USA Patriot Act to secretly pry out personal information about Americans in terrorism investigations. Gonzales, himself a for-

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mer White House counsel, has been friends with Bush for years, going back to when he served as Bush's secretary of state in Texas. Bush retains full confidence in the attorney spokesman Dan Bartlett, traveling with Bush in Mexico, said Wednesday.

As for the firings, **Bartlett said White House** officials had heard complaints from members of Congress regarding prosecutors and Bush had raised the subject during an October 2006 meeting with Gonzales.

Demos push open-government agenda

at what they say has been one of the most secretive administrations in decades, congressional Democrats are marking "Sunshine Week" with bills to increase public access to government activities and protect whistle-blowers who expose wrongdoing.

The House on Wednesday was to vote on four open government bills, including one aimed at government foot-dragging in answering the millions of Freedom of Information Act requests it receives every year.

Another, sparking a veto threat from the White House, would reverse a Bush administration decision making it easier for presidents to withhold their own records from public scrutiny.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, meanwhile was holding a hearing on a parallel FOIA bill promoted by Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and John Cornyn, R-Texas.

In prepared statements, media representatives stressed the importance of public access to timely information on government decisions that affect their

Associated Press and a member of the Sunshine in Government Initiative, a

WASHINGTON (AP) - Pushing back that the Consumer Product Safety Commission had deemed safe. The tests revealed that one lunch box in five contained lead levels that some medical experts considered unsafe.

"Why did it take a year for the commission to respond to a relatively simple request that FOIA says it was supposed to answer in 20 working days?" Curley said.

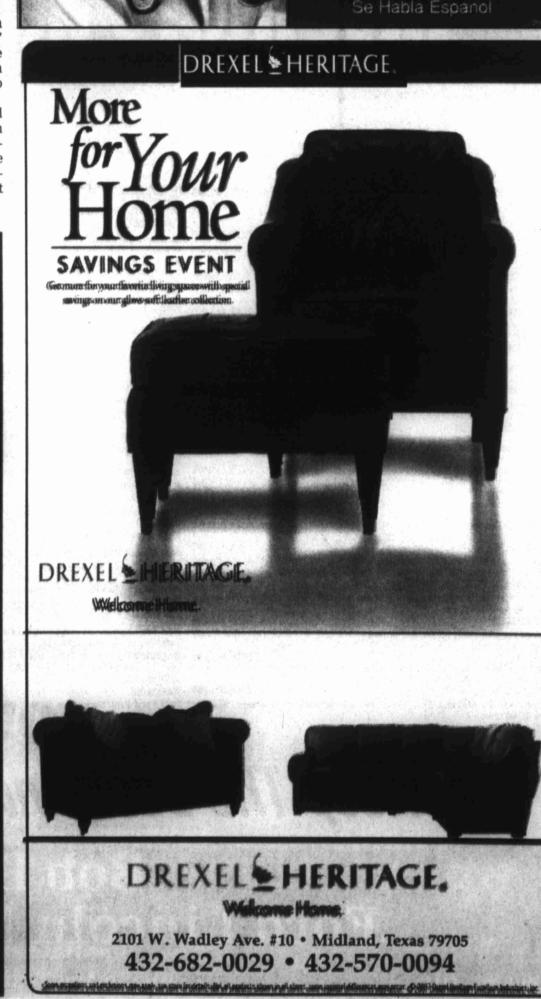
Meredith Fuchs, general counsel to the National Security Archives, a private research institute, offered data showing that seven agencies have unanswered FOIA requests dating back more than 10 years.

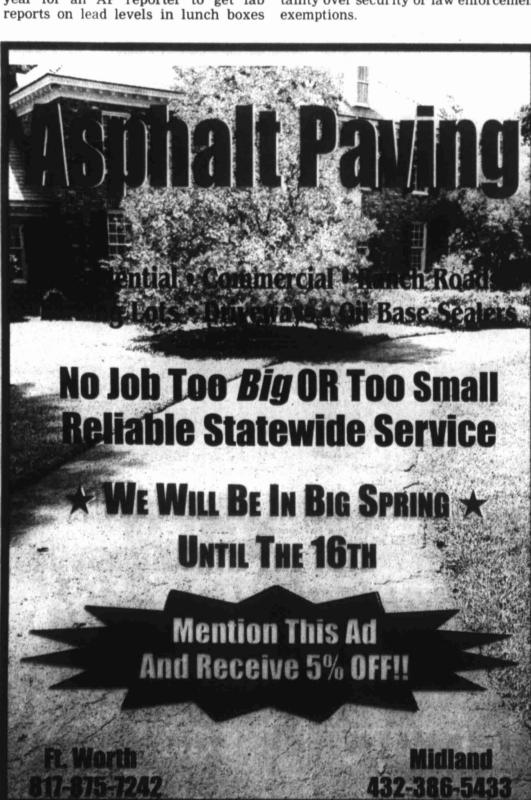
The House and Senate bills would impose penalties and incentives to ensure that agencies abide by the 20business-day deadline for responses and give requesters a means to track the status of their requests.

The House bill goes a step further in restoring a "presumption of disclosure" standard that obliges agencies to release requested information unless there is a finding that such a disclosure could do

That would overturn a memo issued Tom Curley, president and CEO of The by former Attorney General John Ashcroft after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks advising against the release media coalition, related how it took a of information when there was unceryear for an AP reporter to get lab tainty over security or law enforcement exemptions.







By ELIZABETH WHITE

Associated Press Writer

no overlooking them now.

and night out."

about."

longest of the season.

Clippers this season.

Corey Maggette led the

Clippers with 17 points, while

Elton Brand had 16 points and 10 rebounds. Tim Thomas had 15

points, Chris Kaman added 13

The Spurs' 46-18 record puts

them 3 1/2 games behind the

Phoenix Suns, who have won

five in a row, for second place in

the Western Conference.

and Jason Hart contributed 10.

team in the Western Conference

race earlier this season, there is

the Los Angeles Clippers 93-84.

They haven't lost since Feb. 11.

say we needed to win 13 in a row

to get back into this thing," said

Spurs' streak to 13 straight wins

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Tim Siegel slates Tennis Camps

Tim Siegel, the Big 12 Tennis Coach of the Year in 2005, will be conducting overnight tennis camps on June 2-6 and June 17-21.

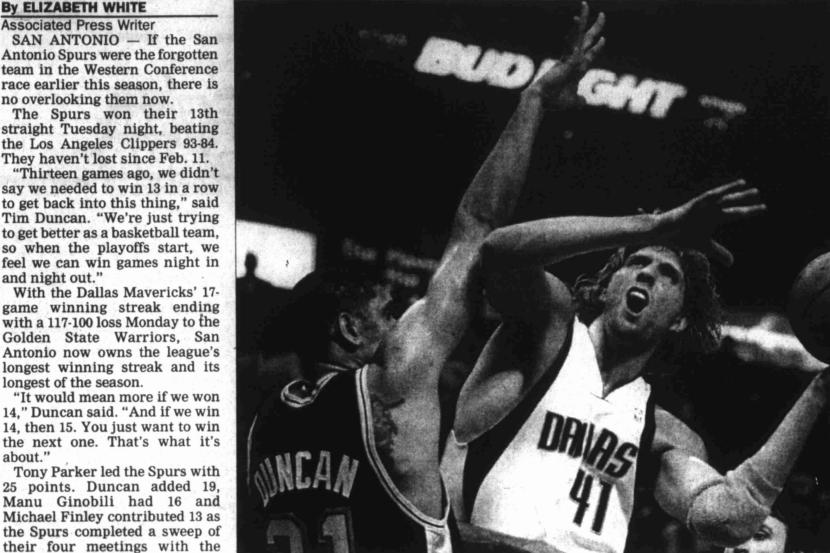
The camp is for children ages 8 to 17 and is open to players with all ability levels. Siegel has been Director of the TTU Tennis Camps since 1993. For additional information, contact Mr. Siegel at (806) 742-3355 ext. 277.

Big Spring HS baseball schedule

The Big Spring varsity baseball team is scheduled to play Odessa Permian in a doubleheader Thursday.

The first pitch is scheduled for noon. The junior varsity baseball team is scheduled to play a doubleheader at Odessa Permian,

Thursday at noon.



MCT photo/Vernon Bryant/Dallas Morning News Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki (41) drives around San Antonio Spurs' Tim Duncan in the Western Conference Finals in 2006. After the Mavs' won 17 straight this season, the Spurs are on a 13 game winning streak. The two Texas teams appear to be the best in the NBA.

"We're not looking at the standings yet," Duncan said. "It will figure itself out. We're just worried about ourselves right now. Just trying to play our best bas-

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said his team made little progress Tuesday and wasted a chance to improve.

"It wasn't the greatest game but we came out with the win," he See SPURS, Page 2B

two more hits Tuesday, and

his comeback with the Texas

"I'm a good player. I may

surprise other people, but I

never surprise myself. I know

I was out for a year, but give

me some credit. You're talk-

ing to me like I've never hit

before," Sosa said. "I'm a pos-

itive thinker. I never think

negative. If I show up for

spring training it's for a rea-

son - because I know I can

make it. I'm not here for the

money. I've got money. I'm

not here because I'm strug-

The 38-year-old Sosa went 2-

for-3 with a double and an RBI

during a 12-8 loss to the

Chicago White Sox in

Surprise, Ariz. In nine games

this spring, he's hitting .464

(13-for-28) with two homers,

two doubles, a triple and six

Sosa sat out last season after

homers in 102 games for

"Don't tell me this is spring

Baltimore in 2005.

gling. I'm a gamer."

RBIs.

doubted him.

Comeback kid: Sosa gets 2 more hits for Texas

said. "Winning is always more fun than losing."

The Clippers have lost four straight, including an 88-74 loss

Thursday, March 15

Thursday, March 15 At Rupp Arena in

Orleans, La.

Memphis (30-3) vs. North Texas (23-10), 12:30 p.m.

Friday, March 16

New Mexico State 25-8), 7:25 p.m.

Wisconsin (29-5)

NCAA tournament for Texas men

At Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Boston College (20-11) vs. Texas Tech (21-12), 12:25

Lexington, Ky. Louisville (23-9) vs. Stanford (18-12), 12:40

Texas A&M (25-6) vs. Pennsylvania (22-8), 30 minutes previous

Friday, March 16 At New Orleans Arena in New

Spokane

Memorial Arena in Spokane, Wash. Texas (24-9) vs.

Friday, March 16 At The United Center in Chicago.

UNLV (28-6) vs. Georgia Tech (20-11),

space.

LUBBOCK (AP) - A \$21 million in upgrades for baseball and softball facilities on campus.

The plan presented to the committee had few details on funding.

"The funding for all of this is not complete at this point, but we are working diligently to do all of these things," Myers said in a story for Wednesday's Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

Planners want to start adding 10,000 seats straddling the north end zone by next spring. The athletic offices, suites and

nh/Fort Worth Star-Telegra

Proposals for softball improvements include a new fieldhouse, stands and practice facilities. For baseball, improvements would include upgrades to artificial turf, concession additions, and a new press box and eight luxury suites.

"I'm glad to see they're

"I think it's been long in coming, but very, very encouraging to see it coming out of the athletics department."

(AP) — Sammy Sosa is off to here to play and I've been a better start than anyone playing good. Spring training would have imagined — or not, it doesn't matter to me. except the slugger himself. — I could be playing in Mexico The seven-time All-Star got and it would be the same thing."

The 1998 NL MVP is 12 homers shy of becoming the Rangers is going exceedingly well. He even sounds a little fifth player in major league annoyed that anyone ever history to hit 600. "I haven't taken a year off in

17 years since I started playing," Sosa said. "I feel hungry again."

Rangers manager Ron Washington said he had little doubt about Sosa's ability to hit - even after a year out of the game.

"When you find a guy like him with the work ethic he has, you trust him until he proves you wrong. And he hasn't proven me wrong yet," Washington said.

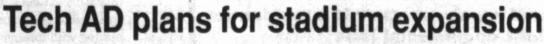
Astros 11, Braves 3

At Kissimmee, Fla., Atlanta starter Tim Hudson threw four comfortable innings. allowing two runs and five hits. Houston ace Roy Oswalt went four innings, his longest stint of the spring. He gave up two runs and seven hits while striking out three.

Padres 5, Rockies 5, 10 batting only .221 with 14 innings

At Tucson, Ariz., Rockies manager Clint Hurdle walked

training," he said. "I came See SOSA, page 2B



Texas Rangers' Sammy Sosa continues to swing a hot bat. The seven time All-

Star continues to look impressive and should make the opening day roster for the

MCT photo/Khampha Bouaphi

master plan for improving Texas Tech's football stadium includes the addition of 30,000 seats over the next 20 years and a five-story building for club, retail and suite

Athletic director Gerald Myers presented the plan Tuesday to the facilities committee of the Texas Tech University system board of regents. Improvements to Jones AT&T Stadium would cost an estimated \$40 mil-

Myers also presented retail facilities would be plans for \$14 million to built on the east side of

the stadium.

doing a master plan," committee chairman Bob Black said.



TCU and Texas Tech play at SBC Jones Stadium in Lubbock. The stadium will begin expansion as early as next spring.

B

Burke not hitting, but not worried

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

KISSIMMEE, Fla. - An .059 spring batting average has Chris Burke "frustrated, but not worried."

Well, at least not yet.

"Now if you ask me in a week and I still haven't had any hits, then I'd probably be worried," the Houston Astros center fielder said with a nervous laugh.

While Burke has adjusted nicely to his new gig as Houston's regular center fielder, his batting .-this spring hasn't gone nearly as well and he is 2for-34.

Despite the struggles, manager Phil Garner adownplays the importance of results in spring "training.

"Every year there's probably five or six kids that have rotten springs and start the season off good," Garner said. "So we make way too much cout of some things at spring training and that's one of the things we make too much of."

Burke, who has started 2137 games in center field in two seasons and spent most of his time as a backup in the infield, was penciled in at center field as soon as the possibility rof trading Willy Taveras came up.

"I can remember distinctly sitting in the room in Orlando during the winter meetings when this idea came up about trading Willy," said Astros general manager Tim Purpura. "I asked Garner, 'are you comfortable with Chris Burke in center field and he said absolutely. So that's been the plan since that point

and it's going to stay that way. Chris has earned the right to play every day."

Taveras was sent to Colorado in the Jason Jennings trade.

Burke hit .276 with 23 doubles, nine home runs and 40 RBIs last season. That performance is yet another reason why his job isn't in jeopardy and the Astros aren't concerned with the slump.

"If Chris Burke had never hit in his career, if we were looking at him now to try to step up and say 'we've got a big league job for you, but you've got to show us something,' Yeah, then there would have to be more there than what's happening now," Garner said. "But we know he can hit. He has hit. I think he will hit."

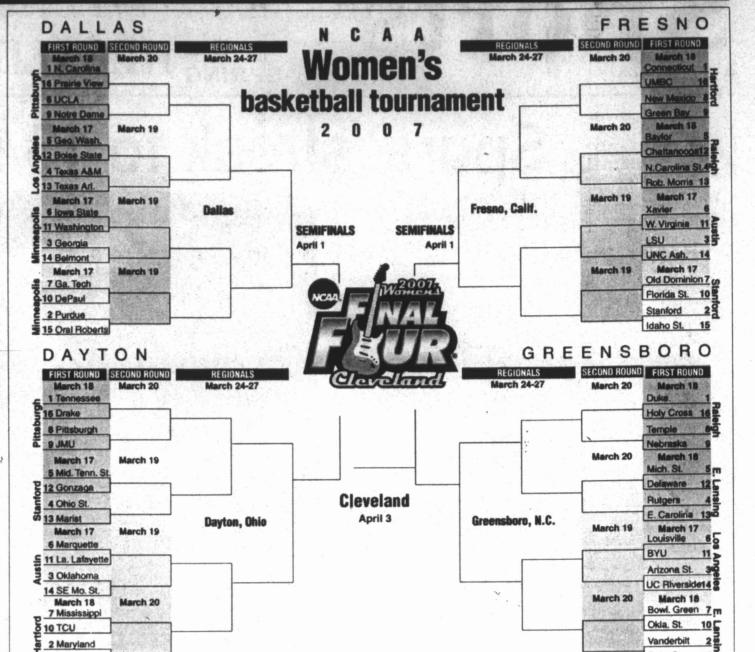
The 27-year-old had surgery on his left shoulder in October, but insists he is healthy and the problem isn't physical.

"My body feels great. Obviously I had shoulder surgery in the offseason. but I really feel fine. I really do," he said. "I couldn't ask any more of my body than I've felt all spring.

Burke's woes continued Tuesday night when he went 0-for-3 in Houston's 11-3 win over Atlanta.

"People ask a you lot, it's just spring training, are you frustrated?' Well sure," he said.

"That's just the nature of the game, you want to go out there and get a hit. If you feel comfortable with the process, you feel like the hits will come. I feel comfortable with the process. I just haven't had any results up to this point."



SPURS

Continued from 1B

15 Harvard

to San Antonio in Los Angeles on March 5. I thought we missed a

lot of good shots," Clippers coach Mike Dunleavy said. "We had a lot of great shots that we just didn't finish. We had a lot of in-and-outs around the basket."

The Clippers went just 3-of-7 from the foul line and gave up 22 points off of 13 turnovers.

"You make any type of mistake, even the smallest kind of mistake, they

capitalize on them," Maggette said.

Los Angeles had a onepoint lead after one quarter thanks to Hart, who was 4-of-4 from the field in the period. Duncan scored 10 of his 14 firsthalf points in the second, and Parker added six points in the last 1:11, including a running layup with 6.8 seconds left that gave the Spurs a 50-40 halftime lead.

"What gives us hope is the fact that if we play like we did tonight we games,' will win Dunleavy said.

Maggette scored six

and had 10 in the quarter. Finley had eight for San Antonio, which extended its lead to 11 after three. The Clippers got within

five early in the fourth

straight Los Angeles before Parker helped the Spurs pull away. Brent points early in the third Barry's steal led to Parker' layup with 5:33 left to make it 84-75. Parker added two more buckets to push the lead

SOSA

Continued from 1B

toward the mound and shouted at San Diego's Doug Brocail after the reliever hit a Colorado batter with a pitch for the Ge second time in four days.

Brocail plunked All-Star Matt Holliday on the hand with a fourth-inning pitch. Hurdle was later ejected along with Rockies pitcher Jeff Francis after the left-hander threw behind Kevin Kouzmanoff in a testy game.

Todd Helton hit a threerun homer off Padres starter David Wells.

Mariners 4. Brewers 2 At Peoria, Ariz., Jarrod Washburn overcame early struggles to pitch four solid innings for Seattle. Milwaukee ace Ben Sheets posted his best outing of the spring, throwing five shutout innings.

Diamondbacks 6, Cubs 5 At Tucson, Ariz., Micah Owings, one of several candidates looking to earn a slot in Arizona's rotation, tossed three scoreless innings. Eric Byrnes homered off Chicago starter Wade Miller, who allowed two runs and five hits in four innings, striking out five. Carlos Quentin also connected for Diamondbacks.

Reds 6, Yankees 3 At Tampa, Fla., Mike

tough outing for New York, allowing three runs and five hits in three innings. Josh Hamilton added to his remarkable spring for the Reds, going 2-for-2 with a walk and a sacrifice fly.

Dodgers 4, Tigers 3

At Vero Beach, Fla., Rafael Furcal grounded out his first two times up. then doubled off Jason Grilli in the first action for the Los Angeles leadoff hitter since March 1. He had been sidelined by a sore right shoulder.

Twins 5. Cardinals 2 At Fort Myers, Fla.,

Mussina had another Albert Pujols grounded office beyond-the left-field out and walked against two-time AL Cy Young Award winner Johan Santana. Cardinals shortstop David Eckstein started for the first time since the spring training opener Feb. 28, when he strained his left oblique muscle. He went 1-for-3 with a double and an RBI groundout.

> Marlins 4, Orioles 1 At Jupiter, Fla., Miguel Cabrera said his first home run of spring training wasn't personal, even though it bounced on the balcony outside general

manager Larry Beinfest's

Roger at · wall Stadium.

Cabrera won a \$7.4 million salary in arbitration last month after Beinfest and the Marlins offered \$6.7 million. Before that, Beinfest criticized Cabrera for missing a team promotional event. Cabrera blamed the absence on his father's illness in Venezuela.

Blue Jays 1, Red Sox 0 At Dunedin, Fla., A.J. Burnett allowed one hit. struck out five and walked two. Boston Snyder starter Kyle allowed two hits.

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6	PM 30	News (CC) Entertainment	News Wheel-Fortune	Duelo de Pasiones	King of the Hill The Simpsons	1 East-11 SQL(150) CARD	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	John Hagee	News-Lehrer	MythBusters (CC)	1975	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	Without a Trace (CC)		Phil of Future Zack & Cody	College Basketball:	College Basketball:	Movie: House of the Dead 2
7	PM	George Lopez Knights-Prosp	George Lopez Knights-Prosp		Bones (CC)	Jericho (CC)	Marina	Friday Night Lights (CC)	Raymond Raymond		Evening- Diahann	Mega Builders (CC)	Movie: Magnum Force	CSI: Crime Scene Invstatn	ER (CC)	Movie: The Players Club	Movie: 102 Dalmatians	SI MANUFACTURE CONTROL OF STREET	NIT First Round	
8	PM 30	According-Jim	According-Jim In Case-Emer	Mundo de Fieras	American Idol Til Death	Criminal Minds (CC)	Zorro - La Espeda y la	Crossing Jordan (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Light of the Southwest	Music Farmers Sowing	MythBusters (CC)	8,47	CSI: Crime Scene Invstatn	ER (CC)	(CC)	(CC)	ATP Tennis: Pacific Life	NBA Basketball:	Monster
9	PM 30	100		Don Francisco Presenta	Becker (CC)	-	Rosa Decisiones	Medium (CC)	King King		Independent Lens	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Escape	CSI: Crime Scene Invistato	ER (CC)	Rip the Runway (CC)	Life Derek Phil of Future	orbent. Small	Phoenix Suns at Dallas	
10	PM 30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	'70s Show	News	Noticias	News Tonight Show	Movie: The Whole Nine	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Futureweapons	From Alcatraz (CC)	CSI: NY (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)		Zack & Cody That's-Raven	2006 World Series of Poker	Mavericks SportsCenter	Movie: Skeleton Man
11	PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill	Letterman	IAI Rojo Vivol	Late Night-	Yards (CC) (DVS)	CCM Ministries Charles Scott	Sign Off	Mega Builders (CC)	:45 Movie:	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn	A STREET STREET, AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF	In Living Color In Living Color	The second secon	College Basketball:	(OC)	julio i
12	AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Mercury Media	El Privilegio de Amar	Malcolm-Mid.	Show	Pagado	Conan O'Brien Apex	Name and Address of the Owner, where the Owner, which the Owner, where the Owner, where the Owner, which the	Update/israel John Hagee		MythBusters (CC)	Midnight Express	Star Trek: Voyager		Comicview (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister	CONTRACTOR STATE OF THE STATE O	Gamenight NFL Live	Twitight Zone Twitight Zone

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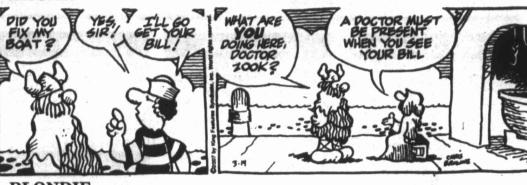
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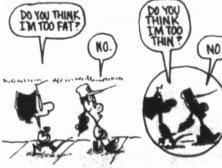
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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, March 14, the 73rd day of 2007. There are 292 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 14, 1794, Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin, an invention that revolutionized America's cotton industry. On this date:

In 1900, Congress ratified the Gold Standard Act.

In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt signed an executive order designed to prevent Japanese laborers from immigrating to the United States as part of a "gentlemen's agreement" with Japan.

In 1923, President Harding ecame the first chief executive to file an income tax report.

In 1939, the republic of Czechoslovakia was dissolved, opening the way for Nazi occupation of Czech areas and the separation of Slovakia. In 1951, during the Korean

War, United Nations forces recaptured Seoul. In 1964, a jury in Dallas found Jack Ruby guilty of

murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy. In 1965, Israel's cabinet formally approved establishment of diplomatic relations

with West Germany. In 1967, the body of President Kennedy was moved from a temporary grave to a permanent memo-

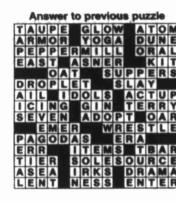
rial site at Arlington National Cemetery. In 1980, a Polish airliner crashed while making an emergency landing near Warsaw, killing all 87 people aboard, including 22 mem-

In 1991, a British court reversed the convictions of the Birmingham 6, who had spent 16 years in prison for an Irish Republican Army bombing, and ordered them released.

Today's Birthdays: Former astronaut Frank Borman is 79. Singer Phil Phillips is 76.

Actor Michael Caine is 74. Composer-conductor Quincy Jones is 74. Former astronaut Eugene Cernan is 73. Movie director Wolfgang Petersen is 66. Country singer Michael Martin Murphey is 62. Rock musi-Walt Parazaider cian (Chicago) is 62. Actor Steve Kanaly is 61. Comedian Billy Crystal is 59. Country singer Jann Browne is 53. Actor Adrian Zmed is 53. Prince Albert of Monaco is 49. Actress Tamara Tunie is 48. Actress Penny Johnson Jerald is 46. Producer-director-writer Kevin Williamson is 42. Actress Megan Follows 39. Rock musician Michael Bland is 38.

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- hometown
- 9 Hindu melody 13 Picks, with "for"
- 14 Farewell in
- 1 Across
- 15 French spa
- 17 Accepts an
- invitation
- 18 Shout
- 19 Roman hunt
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- 21 Carnival treat
- 25 Strong points
- 28 Postpone
- 30 Atmospheric
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36 Legal-pad

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40 Oater props

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6 Gaucho's

61 S&L devices

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descendant

3 Kitchen-sink

4 Mule's father **5** Confront

7 Brewer's grain

8 Recital piece

9 1776 soldier

58 Sit tiredly

1 Galileo's

- **5** Tentacles

- 20 Poetic piece
- 23 Dalai Lama's

- 26 Least number
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- 35 Play-for-pay
- and onions
- 37 Arizona city

- 41 lcy surfaces

- 46 Haystacks painter
- 47 Wild ducks
- 50 Pilots'
- 54 Story opener
- parts 56 Cara of Fame

- MATERIAL WORLD by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
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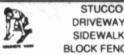
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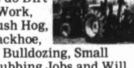
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Date:

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Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day. Enhancements Price per word for entire run: __Bolding \$1.00 __Centering \$1.00 __Italics \$1.00

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Announcements: Business Opportunity; Cemetery Lots; Financial; Garage Sales; Help Wanted; Instruction; Items for Sale; Jobs Wanted; Lost and Found; Miscellaneous.; Mobile Homes; National Ads: On the Farm; Pets; Public Notice; Real Estate for Rent; Real Estate for Sale; Services Offered; Vehicles; Legals

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Puzzles by Pappocom

ANSWERS

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

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Contractors Computers Jewelry Baby Items **Big Spring Herald Classifieds**

Definitely Worth A Look To place your classified ad, call (915) 263-7331

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS It's a fine day to take advantage of the harmonious relationship of

Jupiter and Saturn. It's like when you're a kid, and your parents are getting along really well. The household has a terrific mood, there are smiles



HOLIDAY MATHIS

going around — and it's so much easier to ask for that bike. So ask for your "bike" now, and expect a "yes."

hugs

and

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're a master schmoozer - you know how to do the rounds and still look busy. A walk to the printer is an excuse to linger and talk to the gal who sits next to the copier, or plumb a techie coworker's knowledge base.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Pleasure feels out of reach. Try the old dieter's trick - one day a week is an eat-anything-you-want day. Give yourself permission to go hog-wild real

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In one Rolling Stones song, Mick sings he's not waiting on a lady, he's waiting on a friend. Heart and skirt chasing can wear even a rock star out. But it's worth it when you find someone to hold.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A little push sends you flying. You're not in a confidence crisis, either

 you have wings. It only takes the faith of someone who loves you to encourage them to open.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not caught off guard by a sudden whim to throw a duffel bag into the back of your car and head down the coast are you? Some urges are meant to be followed, whole enchilada, but not this one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The kid inside you is in cahoots with your inner baby sitter. So you keep going with the program, doing exactly what she tells you to do. You even go to bed early.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Some people dig being contrary, but not you. Nope, it's just not your style to take the opposite POV just for the sake of argument. If you've ever seen Rosie O'Donnell and Barbara Walters spar, you get it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). "Put your money where your mouth is" is your personal calling card. Lately, you're backing up everything you do with that money-back guarantee. Your word is your word.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone's testing your affections. Be an agent of grace by letting it slide by you without creating a fuss. You're much happier in the long run by treating it as inconsequential.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're cool as a cucumber, so it's hard for folks to know that what you're feeling is closer to he'll be concerned about DICATE, INC.

pickled. Stew in the vinegar for a while, and let it soften you up. You don't need to take care of anything that time won't resolve.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Every day is a new opportunity to make your dreams manifest. But the principle of inertia will compel you to maintain your current state of activity (or inactivity) until something stronger comes along.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The devil's advocate tempts you with an indedelectable scribably morsel — a piece of lingerie or a new car. Your desires are open game. Would it help to know that you'll want to return it to the store tomorrow?

ASTROLOGICAL QUES-TIONS: "I've been talking to someone online for almost a year and a half. We're now talking about meeting and having a relationship. He lives in another state. I would move. His birthday is Nov. 8, 1957, and mine is Oct. 18, 1961. What are our chances of a lasting relationship?'

Your Scorpio e-mail pal loves the secretive nature of the Internet, and you can bet he's an expert at coming across well online, though real life is an entirely different story - not a bad story, just different. He's challenged by the prospect of expressing his emotional self face-toface and can open up more easily through the computer. I see something in his chart that indicates

how the partnership you create together will help him in other areas of life. If it fits well into his view of where he'd like to be in the world and how he'd like to be perceived, he'll work hard on the relationship and make you feel special, respected and honored. You have similar aspects in your own natal chart, and you communicate well with him, both intellectually and physically. Take a trip to visit him for two weeks in April. You'll know at the end of the trip whether you should move your stuff.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: extraordi-Songwriter naire, Carole Bayer Sager was recently featured as a guest judge on "American Idol," enduring the insult of would-be contestants not even knowing her name. But she'll get her due this year as she enjoys a repeat hit when one of her famous songs (possibly "Don't Cry Out Loud" or "That's What Friends Are For") is sampled and added to the main strain of a rap num-

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

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Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My wife's mother is institutionalwith advanced ized Alzheimer's. The facility where she lives is very expensive and provides 24-hour skilled nursing care, therapy and a full slate of activities for residents. My father-in-law, who is financially secure, lives close by and spends a lot of his time with his wife.

My problem is, over the past year or so, my wife seems to have decided that it's HER job to take care of her mother, even though her mom has absolutely no clue who my wife is. We buy Mom's clothes, music and books, and do her laundry. Worse, my wife thinks she needs to be at the facility every evening to feed her mom dinner, and on weekends, she feeds her lunch and stays to feed her dinner as well. It's a good half-hour to the

home, so we drive a lot. I spent my wife's birthday at the nursing home. I spent Halloween at the nursing home. I spent Thanksgiving there. I spent Christmas there. We attend every function and volunteer for every event they have, and my wife takes time off work if these events happen during the day. I'm selfemployed and end up losing work time because



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

I'm also expected to go. I recently suggested we take a trip for a weekend, and her response was, "Who'll take care of Mom?" When I suggested a nurse's aide, or one of her siblings who never shows up, a huge fight ensued.

I'm still young, healthy and fit, but I feel like I live in the nursing home. I love my wife and don't want to put her in the position of choosing between her mother and me, but I'm about ready to go over the wall. -**Unwilling Inmate**

Dear Unwilling: Your wife believes she needs to be there for every second of Mom's life, to reassure herself that she has done everything possible. Her devotion is impressive, but it shouldn't be at the

Going daily to feed Mom dinner is fine, but if your wife wishes to attend multiple events, tell her she will have to go without you. Call her siblings and ask them to offer to visit Mom on a weekend so your wife can take a break. Also contact the nursing home social worker to help you and your wife prioritize these obligations.

Dear Annie: A month ago, my beloved cat died. During her entire life, she had always seen the same vet - a friendly, kind man who took wonderful care of her. This vet was also the person to put her down when the time came.

Since he had been treating her for 12 years, I thought it was OK to send him a little note thanking him for his excellent care of my beloved cat. Some of my friends have now told me this was grossly inappropriate. Was it wrong to send a note? -Grateful Cat Owner

Dear Grateful: Not at all. It was very gracious of you to write the vet in your moment of grief, and we're sure he appreciated enormously. Your friends are mistaken. It is never wrong to send a note of thanks to someone who deserves it.

Dear Annie: I know it's expense of her marriage. late, but I'd like to com-

ment on the letter from "Desperate Grandchild in Arizona," whose grandfather insists on smoking while using an oxygen tank.

There is a case pending in my area involving an elderly man on oxygen who was smoking and started a fire that put several families out of their homes and killed a child. The man is being tried for manslaughter. 'Desperate" and her family need to get tough. -**Midwest Monitor**

Dear Midwest: Thank you for graphically pointing out the hazards. You will be relieved to know that "Desperate" wrote back to tell us that a family powwow convinced Grandpa to stop putting the family at risk. We were glad to hear it.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2007 CREATORS SYN-DICATE, INC.

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

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Help Wanted

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Help Wanted

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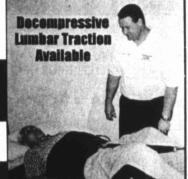
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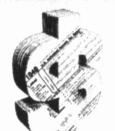
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"a closed system."

F) Bite trauma is adjusted

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