

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY
July 30, 1999



Positively ...
Big Spring

Eagles Lodge Auxiliary holding canned food drive

The Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a canned food drive during the month of August.

Cans of food collected will go to help replenish the Salvation Army food bank.

Bring your donations to the Lodge on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., or Saturdays at 8 p.m. Or call 264-7518, 268-9689, or 267-7115 and club members will pick up your donation.

Salvation Army school supply drive continues

The Salvation Army is collecting school supplies for its fourth annual Back to School Supply Drive.

All basic school supplies for students in grades kindergarten through eighth will be accepted to go into the kits the Salvation Army will hand out before school begins Aug. 9.

Those supplies requested this year are: No. 2 pencils, Fiskar scissors, eight, 16 and 24-count crayons, 12-ounce bottles of glue, 200-count, wide-rules notebook paper and two-inch notebooks.

Also school boxes, zipper bags, blue and black ink pens, pocket folders with brads and erasers are needed.

Drop the supplies off at the Salvation Army, 811 West Fifth, or call 267-8239.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

□ Spring City Senior Citizens' country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

□ Dance 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Members and guests welcome.

□ The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

□ The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m.

WEATHER

Tonight:



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TONIGHT 70°-75°
SATURDAY 95°-100°

INSIDE TODAY...

Abby	7A
Classified	4-5B
Comics	6B
Horoscope	7A
Life	6-7A
Nation	5A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-3B
Texas	3A

Vol. 96, No. 239

To machines, please call 269-7899. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 41 a.m. on Sunday.

No major changes in dress code for Crossroads Area schools

By **ALLISON THOMAS**
Staff Writer

School will be starting soon, and in some places students may see major changes in dress codes.

At Midland, for instance, eight public schools will be requiring students to wear school uniforms. Students at Bush, South and Washington elementary schools, Alamo, Abell and San Jacinto junior



KINGSTON **BOWERMAN**
high schools, and Midland and Lee high schools will be wearing khaki pants, shorts, or

skirts with matching tops every day.

Although Midland ISD has made drastic changes in its dress code policy, administrators for Big Spring and other Crossroads Area schools do not anticipate any.

The Coahoma, Stanton, Forsan and Grady school districts are not considering uniforms, and are not making any major changes to the dress code policy.

"We haven't really considered

doing that," Dr. Bill Kingston, Coahoma ISD superintendent, said of instating a uniform policy. "We've been able to enforce our dress codes well enough that we don't need to consider that yet."

Many school administrators express the opinion that the current dress code policy, and their ways of enforcing it, have always been effective.

"It hasn't come up," said Richard Gibson, Grady High School principal. "We don't

allow the kids to wear shirts advertising beer, alcohol or drugs. We don't allow caps, because they are disruptive to the learning process, and we don't allow extremely tight or baggy clothing. What we have has worked so far."

Big Spring schools will not be making any large changes to the dress code policy this year. Last year, the dress code policy was completely revamped, and

See **DRESS CODES**, Page 2A



Patsy Barnett, Jeanette Butler, and Elvira Stilwell were busy serving pancakes this morning as they worked in the service line at the Carriage Inn's free pancake breakfast. The event gathered over \$800 in donations for a thermal imaging camera the Harley Owner's Group is planning to donate to the fire department.

Research station plans near completion; bids expected to go out in early August

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

Officials are finalizing plans this week for the USDA Service Center's remodeling and expect to go out for bids early next month, according to an Agricultural Research Station (ARS) official.

"We're looking at in a matter of days, Aug. 1-10, going out for bids," said Greg Cartwright, West Texas area ARS facilities manager.

Cartwright was in Big Spring Wednesday to meet with Eddy Spurgin, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) district conservationist, and

Farm Services Agency (FSA) Executive Director Rick Liles.

The nearly half-million-dollar renovation project will locate the NRCS and FSA offices in the research station, located on the north I-20 service road between U.S. 350 and U.S. 87.

"It will be out for bids for 45 days, then we'll get the bids in and will award the contract prior to Oct. 1 because we need to do it before the end of the fiscal year," said Cartwright. He expects construction to begin sometime in October and be completed in about six months.

The original cinder block building was built in the 1950s, and an addition was added on

later. Cartwright said the original portion of the building will be completely changed.

"They'll basically be taking all interior walls out and transforming it into a real open concept," said Cartwright. "The only thing behind closed doors will be the offices for two managers, a map room and a conference room area."

The front of the building will be made more aesthetically appealing, with a sloped roof. Restrooms will be put in that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and new heating and air conditioning

See **STATION**, Page 2A

Capehart water line project ranks 11th of 17 at regional level

RICK McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

A plan to rehabilitate the sewer collection system in the Capehart subdivision, part of the old base housing on the former Webb Air Force Base, placed 11th out of 17 competing project proposals at the Review Committee of the Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission, spokesman Jerry Tschauner said



FUQUA

today. A proposal from the city of Wickett placed highest in the competition for Texas Community Development Program funding.

"We were a little disappointed. We were hoping we'd score a little higher," said Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua, "but it's not the final ranking. The final ranking will be after the state assigns its points."

The city scored 299 points out of 350 at the planning commission and the state also has 350 points, Tschauner said.

Fuqua said he is hoping the state ranks the project higher. That information could be

received in as little two weeks, he noted. The state has already studied the 17 projects heard Thursday at the planning commission.

"Going to the meeting Thursday, we saw that everyone else is in about the same shape we are - lots to do and not much money to do it with."

Big Spring city officials made a pitch Thursday before the commission for funding for a \$420,000 project to replace deteriorated sewer lines to 120 households in the Capehart subdivision of the old base.

Tschauner said the project proposal will now go to the state "where there is a good possibil-

ity it will still be funded. There's no guarantee, of course," he said, "but there is a good possibility for 2000 funding if not 1999."

The sewer system in the proposed target area is constructed of six-inch and eight-inch concrete lines installed in the 1950s to service housing in the old Air Force base. The lines have deteriorated because of age and the presence of hydrogen sulphide gases within the system, officials told the commissioners.

Over the past several years, there have been numerous system failures in the target area, it was noted. Since 1995, the city has responded to some 40 calls

relating to interrupted sewer service.

As a result of the line conditions and the potential for service failure, city maintenance crews vacuumed various sections of these lines an average of three times per month, an official said.

At one point, it was noted, a collapsed line forced the city to install a temporary septic system in order to continue service for certain homes until 270 feet of the line could be replaced.

In light of the maintenance history and the known conditions of lines that have been

See **CAPEHART**, Page 2A

Hangar 25 Air Museum gets new displays; plans to expand hours to include Saturday

By **ALLISON THOMAS**
Staff Writer

The Hangar 25 Air Museum continues to bring the past into the present as two new displays have been added to the collection of flight artifacts.

Harry Spannaus, commander during the closing months of Webb Air Force Base, recently donated a collection of pictures, plaques and other memorabilia for display in the museum. Included is a personal scrapbook that chronicles the training of pilots from Iran and Kuwait during his days at Webb.

Another display was donated by Robert Underwood, who now volunteers in the museum. The impressive collection includes

his uniforms, military rings, medals and plaques.

"These collections mean a lot to people," said Susan Lewis, who works at the hangar as the project coordinator. "We received one letter from a man saying 'Thanks for having a place to put this other than a trash bin.' It means a lot to everyone here, because not everybody has a chance to have something preserved."

Another new acquisition to the museum is a military book from the early 1940s containing classified information about Big Spring. It includes aerial photographs, rainfall records and maps of the base.

Two of the most striking artifacts in the hangar are a Lockheed T-33A "Shooting

Star" and a Cessna T-37B "Twenty Bird," planes used to train pilots at Webb Air Force Base.

Big plans are in the making to add to this collection with the nose area of a B-52 Bomber. Committee members hope to purchase the nose area of the bomber by the middle of August. The city of Big Spring will be assisting in the process of transporting the unit from San Angelo, where it is now, to Hangar 25.

"We're so excited about all this," said Nelda Reagan, the airpark manager. "We're trying to do it so after every three or four months there is something new to see."

See **MUSEUM**, Page 2A



Susan Lewis, project coordinator at Hangar 25, unfolds an aerial map of Big Spring from a military book from the 1940s. Hangar 25 has two new exhibits, and will be open on Saturdays beginning in August.

Judge allows lawsuit against exit test to go to trial

AUSTIN (AP) — A lawsuit in which a Hispanic civil rights group seeks to ban Texas' high school exit test will be allowed to go to trial.

U.S. District Judge Edward Prado of San Antonio found that the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund has provided sufficient evidence that the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills exit test has a discriminatory impact on minority school children.

MALDEF filed suit over the TAAS in 1997, contending the test not only is discriminatory but also that state officials knew it would be and intentionally discriminated against

minorities.

Prado, however, dismissed MALDEF's claim of intentional discrimination. In a ruling earlier this week, he said he is unconvinced that the state's anticipation of discrepancies in scores supports an inference of discrimination.

In a 24-page ruling, Prado wrote that state officials have recognized, and attempted to target, the discrepancy in scores between white and minority students.

"Those efforts have met with measurable success — the gap between scores of minority and white students continue to narrow," Prado said.

"We are grateful that the

judge agreed with us on some points," said Debbie Graves Ratcliffe, spokeswoman for the Texas Education Agency. The agency had asked the judge to throw out the lawsuit.

"This ruling focuses the trial on the TAAS test itself. We are confident that the test is valid and that we will win the case," Ms. Ratcliffe said.

Prado's order will allow MALDEF to proceed to trial on claims that the TAAS test has a discriminatory effect on minorities, that it is educationally invalid and that it denies Texas students' due process.

"We feel confident that at the end of the case, the court will stop the use of the exit test as a

diploma sanction," said Al Kauffman, lead attorney for MALDEF in the lawsuit.

MALDEF is not seeking to have the entire TAAS testing system eliminated, Kauffman added, only that schools be prohibited from using failure of the exit level test as grounds for denying students a high school diploma.

Texas high school students are given several opportunities to pass the exit level test. Public school students are given TAAS exams at various other grade levels, and it is a key element in the state's new anti-social promotion efforts that take effect in the coming school year.

State authorities doubt killing was a hate crime but feds also investigating

EMORY (AP) — Evidence of a fire and wire fragments around the decomposed body of a black man indicate he was tied to a tree and burned, and the suspected killer appears to have been affiliated with a hate group, civil rights activists said Thursday.

State authorities cast doubt on the potential that the slaying of H.W. Walker was a hate crime, but federal prosecutors said the possibility is being investigated.

The results of an autopsy were pending in the death of the 53-year-old Greenville man, who disappeared in early May. His decomposed body was found June 2 in a remote, wooded section of Rains County, about 50 miles east of Dallas.

A 16-year-old white male has been in custody in connection with the slaying since the day after Walker's remains were discovered.

Local authorities have refused to comment on the circumstances surrounding the death. However, state authorities said Thursday that an investigation by the Texas Rangers has found no evidence of a hate crime although Walker's body was badly burned.

The killing appears to have been "a drug deal gone bad,"

said Tela Mange, a spokeswoman for the Department of Public Safety, which oversees the Texas Rangers. She could not provide further details about the possible drug deal.

Walker's sister, Daisy Walker Robinson, disputed the allegation and said her brother was not a drug user.

Said Ms. Mange: "The evidence at this point doesn't indicate that race had anything to do with the killing."

Nonetheless, federal authorities contacted by NAACP officials with the results of their own probe are investigating the case as a potential hate crime.

U.S. Attorney Mike Bradford said he is aware of the evidence the Rangers have found but will continue the investigation.

"We're not contradicting them (Texas Rangers), but we received additional information and will decide if there is another motivation for this murder."

Another possible motive was mentioned by Greenville NAACP member Bill Glenn who said Walker had cashed a Social Security check the day he turned up missing. The teenager was allegedly in possession of a large amount of cash which he showed his friends later that day, Glenn said.

Sister of accused serial killer receives reward

HOUSTON (AP) — The sister of accused serial killer Angel Maturino Resendiz has received \$86,000 in reward money for helping broker his surrender, the FBI said Thursday.

Manuela Maturino of Albuquerque, N.M., could receive up to \$40,000 more, contingent on the conviction of her brother.

"The reward was set up for whoever provided information that led to his getting arrested, and that's exactly what we feel like she did," said Bill Livingston, chief of police in Weimar, Texas, where Maturino Resendiz is suspected

of killing the Rev. Norman "Skip" Sirmic and his wife, Karen, last May.

"I might rather it go to fund scholarships or something, but that's not what it was designed for," Livingston added.

Maturino Resendiz, 39, gave up on July 13, ending a nationwide manhunt, after his sister brokered an arrangement with Sgt. Drew Carter of the Texas Rangers.

He remains jailed without bond in Houston.

The rail-riding Mexican drifter is suspected of killing six people in Texas, two more in Illinois and a college student in

Lexington, Ky. He faces five counts of capital murder so far.

Maturino Resendiz is scheduled to go to trial on Feb. 14 for the rape-slaying of Dr. Claudia Benton in the Houston-area enclave of West University Place. He could face the death penalty if convicted.

By Wednesday, Ms. Maturino had received \$50,000 from the FBI's Top Ten Fugitive fund, \$20,000 from a fund organized by Weimar police, \$11,000 from the Houston office of the U.S. Marshals Service and \$5,000 from West University police.

Another \$15,000 from Weimar will be paid if the suspect is

convicted of a murder.

For the sister to be eligible for a \$25,000 Lexington reward, assistant police chief Fran Root said Maturino Resendiz must be convicted in the 1997 slaying of college student Christopher Maier there.

"It's all private money, for his arrest and conviction," Root said. "Our reward was posted back before a suspect was identified."

Echoing prosecutor Ray Larson, Root said he's confident Maturino Resendiz will face trial in Kentucky regardless of what happens to him in the Texas system.

Crawford area residents excited about 'Bush Ranch'

CRAWFORD (AP) — Having a Texas in the White House as well as in the neighborhood would suit many in this one-stop-light town just fine.

The 700-resident town of Crawford is abuzz with news that presidential front-runner George W. Bush, while making a bid for the White House, also has made a bid on a ranch about 90 miles southwest of Dallas.

Regulars at the local coffee shop and gas station say they hope the Texas governor will follow the example of native son Lyndon B. Johnson.

The former president often returned to the LBJ Ranch near Johnson City and delighted in showing off the land to foreign visitors.

"I think that might be his intention. If that happens, it's something we could be proud of," said Randy Sherman, a Texas history teacher at Crawford High School.

Bush says he's interested in the property, but won't say whether a closing date has been set.

A work team recently made a survey of the nearly 1,500-acre ranch and crews are researching whether Bush could build a

private 100-acre fishing lake on the land. That report will tell Bush whether he can build a stock tank on the property, which would be important to the avid fisherman.

Although many in town are happy about the idea of Bush moving in, the sale will be bittersweet for Ken Engelbrecht, who has lived on the family homestead his entire life, farming the property and raising cattle.

Engelbrecht said one reason the family is selling its holdings is to move his mother closer to her dialysis treatments, which she undergoes three times a week in Temple, 30 miles away.

The trip home is tiring after a long day of treatment,

Engelbrecht said.

"It'll be better when they're there," he said of his parents. "They're all ready to go."

Still, it's difficult for him to sell land that has been in his family since just after the Civil War.

"It's hard, but it's best for the land," he said. "You want to sell to somebody who will do your town good, your neighbors good, the land good."

The property in western McLennan County adjoins Rainey Creek, a tributary of the Middle Bosque River.

A hay crop recently was shorn from the rolling pasture, while bordering ranches sprout cactus herds of "toughhorns" and goats and an occasional emu.

Shift in detention policy may free 289 immigrants on bond

HOUSTON (AP) — Almost 300 immigrants, some of them held in Texas detention facilities for years, could be released soon because of a change in Immigration and Naturalization Service policy.

INS officials announced earlier this month that some immigrants with criminal records could be freed on bond, pending the outcome of deportation proceedings.

The July 12 change in policy was based on rulings from 13 federal courts that the INS has some discretion in detention matters. The agency had interpreted the Immigration and Reform Act of 1996 as mandating

ing detention, pending deportation for immigrants who had felony criminal convictions.

But the court decisions restored the agency's discretion to free immigrants deemed no danger to the community nor a flight risk, INS spokeswoman Mariela Melero said.

Immigrants convicted of non-violent offenses now are eligible for release from detention if they completed their sentences prior to Oct. 9 and have not received a final removal order.

Bonds of \$1,500 to \$5,000 have been set for 308 detainees in the 18-state Central Region, Ms. Melero said.

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EDITORIAL

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

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

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

- Each Friday, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.
- We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.
- This week we salute:
- **JIM ZACK**, longtime community member who turned 100 today.
 - **SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER**, which hosted a catfish lunch fundraiser today to with proceeds going to the Salvation Army's school supplies program.
 - **CARRIAGE INN**, who donated proceeds from a pancake breakfast to help the Harley Owner's Group purchase a thermal imaging camera for the fire department.
 - **BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL**, which approved go-ahead to apply for funding for Pioneer Plaza, a downtown tourist information center.
 - **THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**, which reached its goal last week of raising \$6,900 to purchase cases for the chapel, and to all of those organizations and individuals who helped with the cause.
 - **WEST TEXAS VA HEALTH CENTER SYSTEM OF BIG SPRING**, for passing with high marks inspection by the Joint Commission Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.
- Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.*

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:
As I drove toward Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for the free parent's forum on Tuesday evening, I was expecting parents in our community to turn out en masse for the purpose of exploring ways to make our community safer. To my surprise there was ample parking at the front of the coliseum. This important gathering had drawn only about twenty five concerned people.

However, earlier the workshop for teachers, counselors and other professionals had drawn almost two hundred and fifty people who spent all day concentrating on how we can make our schools and community safer for ourselves and our children.

West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation brought four highly qualified gentlemen from the Family Health Institute as presenters. They summed up the day long workshop for us. It was greatly impressed by the

practical ideas they brought to us from their own hands-on experience in "doing something" to curb violence in their own schools and communities.

I don't want to forget the things they led us to understand. We cannot expect our ministers, teachers, counselors, law enforcement and other professionals to deal with violence for us. The Total Systems Concept presented means that everyone in the community becomes involved in building a safe space for children growing up here in West Texas.

Janet Payne, Director of Children's Mental Health Services for West Texas Centers for MH/MR did a super job of bringing this positive approach to our attention.

I wish more parents and people who care about the present siege of violence being perpetrated in society had been there to share this challenging experience. I hope there will be a follow up.

NANCY L. PATRICK

Take control by learning about history

Let's suppose you are rummaging in the kitchen cabinets, and a restaurant-size can of baked beans falls out and bonks you on the head. Instant amnesia. No memories at all.



CHARLEY REESE

In that case, you would not know who you are, where you came from, what beliefs had guided your life, what kind of parents and grandparents you had. Everything behind the present moment would be a blank.

Now let's suppose (there's a point to all this supposing) you are summoned before an august body of men with credentials up the kazoo and government jobs and grants. As you are seated in front of them, like a private before a court-martial, they tell you they have your complete life history. Then they proceed to tell you

who you are, who your ancestors were, what they did or didn't do. In short, they fill in your identity, and, without any memories of your own, you would have no way to know if they were telling the truth or lying. By supplying you with a past, they would fix your present identity.

That is essentially the plight of any citizen who is ignorant of history. He has no memory of his own nation and his own ancestors, and is therefore vulnerable to being manipulated. English writer George Orwell, who understood totalitarianism so well, spelled it out in his nightmarish novel "1984."

"The past is whatever the records and the memories agree upon," the villain in the story explains. "And since the party is in full control of all records and in equally full control of the minds of its members, it follows that the past is whatever the party chooses to make it. Six means eighteen, two plus two equals five, war is peace, freedom is slavery, ignorance is strength."

Substitute the word "establishment" for party, and you have a pretty good idea of the

present situation of Americans, who are continuously provided with a more-or-less official version of the American history. Without independent study, Americans can easily become indoctrinated rather than educated.

For example, if you know nothing of the history of the Constitution and the arguments, pro and con, that accompanied its ratification, then if someone tells you the Constitution was meant to be a flexible document, you'd probably believe that person. In fact, it was meant to be inflexible, as it was a contract between sovereign states and the federal government.

The only way it was intended to be changed was by formal amendment, which requires assent from three-quarters of the states.

By far, the smartest form of behavior control is mind control. Control what people think and believe, and you control their behavior.

In America, the establishment which is that conglomeration of big money and big business — use foundations as a principle form of political

control. By the use of generous grants, they can greatly influence universities and research. They can give grants to favored writers whose books will be published by establishment-owned publishing firms and publicized by establishment-owned media. For a lengthy discussion of this, read "Tragedy and Hope" by Carroll Quigley, a former Georgetown professor Bill Clinton singled out as his favorite. If you don't wish to read the whole book, start on Page 950.

I truly believe the single biggest problem young generations of Americans will face is staying free, and the only way they can do that is to educate themselves above and beyond what the establishment institutions will provide. Thomas Jefferson was dead right when he said anyone who expects to be ignorant and free expects what never was and never will be.

If you don't take control of your own life, somebody else will.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREESE@aol.com.



Size of the mail doesn't tell the story

I've always wondered if the mail carrier can tell when she delivers good news or bad. Does the heft, the shape, the address of a letter or bundle give a clue?

I think not. I've had scathing letters sealed with pictures of sunflowers, and the kindest words from letters stamped:

"INSPECTED BY THE PRISON SYSTEM."



RETHA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

Then there's e-mail, that quick-and-easy medium of instantaneous insult. If only you could figure out from the "Subject" line which notes to avoid, which to savor. But sometimes the most innocuous preamble works into a furious insult and you find yourself curled in a corner, wounded.

This one, for instance, sold itself with an alliterative, appealing title: "Percy and Poets."

"Enjoyed your piece on Walker Percy, possibly the best American writer of the 20th century. I suspect, however, that he would have been no more impressed than I by your indulgence toward the 'astute young guide' at the Carl Sandburg home whose opinion it was that the stereotypical poet is 'snotty and self-absorbed.' That sounds very much like Jesse Helms speak-

ing, and about as accurate as a belief that the typical Alabaman can't do long division. As a born Southerner who was away for 25 years, before returning some 10 years ago, I am routinely appalled by the self-righteous ignorance that so often replaces discourse here. Which particular poet or poets were/are 'snotty and self-absorbed'? Were they more so than advertising account executives and journalists routinely are? I wonder if your guide could have even named five working poets. I very much doubt that the 'astute' young man could do so. I wish him a happy career selling insurance or developing strip malls, and you perhaps just a little less fear of excellence, which — it has been my observation — you seem to disdain in the name of some obscure populism."

(The guide was working his way through college and new on the job. He was enthusiastic about Sandburg and rhapsodized about everything he was learning. I was eager to include the young man in the column and perhaps didn't put his remarks into adequate context. If I made him sound like Jesse Helms, I sure didn't do him justice. He didn't look like Jesse, either. He was a handsome, vibrant, African-American kid who was doing his dead-level best to explain the poet of the people.)

Frank Powell of Florence, Ala., on the other hand, might be fair target for that defensive e-mail about poets. "I'm not

biased toward poets; I hate them all equally," he wrote. "If they have something to say, why don't they say it rather than mumble about in incoherent phrases that their sycophants spend lives 'translating'?"

An old-fashioned, eloquent, hand-written letter arrived from Alfred W. Long in Pensacola, Fla. He was disagreeing with me about the value of hanging the Ten Commandments in school classrooms. In his letter, the 86-year-old reader observed: "I never remember a student bringing a gun to school, although MOST families had guns for protection and hunting. I remember boys bringing knives to school and at recess we'd play mumbletypeg, flipping the knife, blade half-open, seeing if it would land blade down in the sand. I never remember anyone being hacked with a knife. ..."

I could no more stop reading my mail than I could stop breathing. As the late John Denver sang, "Some days are diamonds. Some days are stone."

After a recent column about my love of the sea, a reader sent me a wonderful, though I assume apocryphal, story about a sailor who was sick to death of the ocean.

Said sailor put an oar on his shoulder and marched inland until someone finally asked, "What's that on your shoulder?"

The old salt put down the oar and settled there.

ADDRESSES

- **HON. GEORGE W. BUSH**
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 - **RICK PERRY**
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 - **JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY**
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- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
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- By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721
- Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.
- Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

NTSB says JFK Jr. plane wreckage showed no sign of breakup, fire

WASHINGTON (AP) — The wreckage of John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane showed no signs of in-flight breakup or fire, and the engine appeared to have been working when the aircraft plunged into the ocean, a federal safety panel said today.

The National Transportation Safety Board, releasing its first update in a week on its investigation of the July 16 crash that killed Kennedy, his wife and her sister, also said that Kennedy had received a weather

forecast via the Internet for his flight from Fairfield, N.J., to Martha's Vineyard, Mass. The report, issued at 6:30 p.m., or about two hours before takeoff, was for good visual-flight-rules conditions, with six to eight miles visibility.

No weather warnings were issued to pilots flying Kennedy's route, which took him over the Long Island Sound along the southern coast of Connecticut.

"However, pilots who had

flown over Long Island Sound that evening reported after the accident that the in-flight visibility over the water was significantly reduced," the safety board's statement said. "Interviews of those pilots will continue."

Kennedy, the 38-year-old son of President Kennedy, his wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, 33, and her 34-year-old sister Lauren Bessette, were flying in Kennedy's single-engine Piper Saratoga when it crashed about

7 miles southwest of the Vineyard.

The couple had intended to drop off Miss Bessette on the island before flying to nearby Hyannis, Mass., for the wedding of Kennedy's cousin Rory, youngest child of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

After a five-day search, the bodies of the three victims were located in 116 feet of water, still strapped into their seats.

The safety board, which is investigating the accident, said

the USS Grasp recovered about 75 percent of the plane. Among the items were a primitive recording device, which was destroyed by the impact with the water.

The wreckage was handed over to investigators in Newport, R.I., earlier this week and subsequently taken to a secure hangar at the Coast Guard Air Station on the grounds of the former Otis Air Force Base.

The wreckage included about

80 percent of the left wing, 60 percent of the right wing, the engine and the propeller, as well as the cockpit instrument panel.

The propeller "indicated the presence of rotational damage," which would indicate it was still spinning when the plane crashed.

Radar tapes show the plane plummeted into the water at a descent rate of perhaps greater than 5,000 feet per minute at about 9:40 p.m.

Outdoor workers wither in heat; death toll climbs to at least 73

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Hector Soto uses the shade to keep track of time this summer.

At 11 a.m., the parking lot attendant escapes the heat in the shadow of a tree. When the patch recedes at noon, he follows it. An hour later, he relies on another temporary spot of cool by the guard house on the lot.

By 3 p.m. there's no place left to hide, and the black pavement feels like it's burning through his sandals.

"You start to get really dizzy," Soto said Thursday as the temperatures crept toward 90 degrees. "You just try to sit still in the coolest place you can find and drink a lot of water."

This summer's unrelenting heat has been sapping energy from outdoor workers, drying up crops and turning forests into kindling across Connecticut and elsewhere in the nation.

At least 78 deaths in 14 states have been blamed on the heat wave that has gripped much of country since July 19, as temperatures linger in the 90s and 100s. Missouri has the highest death toll at 27.

The heat was expected to last at least until today before a change in the jet stream brings cooler air from Canada to northern states.

Temperatures reached the 90s from the Plains to the East Coast on Thursday, with the heat index — a measure of temperature and humidity — breaking 100 in many places.

To the north, the weather was even worse. It was 111 in Pierre, S.D., topping the record of 109 set in 1933. The temperature was a record-tying 104 in Bismarck, N.D., and an all-time high of 103 in Dickinson, N.D.

In Oklahoma, a 7-year-old girl appeared to be the latest victim. Her body was found Thursday afternoon in her bedroom in the family's mobile home in Grove.

"There was no air conditioning or fans, and the windows of the trailer were closed," said Dr. Robert Hopper, the acting medical examiner. "It was hard to breathe just walking in there."

Air conditioning has become a necessity for many trying to beat the heat. But for people whose jobs force them to stay outside, getting a steady stream of cool air is a fantasy.

"Last summer you could work 10 hours a day with no problem," said Angel Santos, a Hartford, Conn. landscaper. "This year you can't even stay

Couple, injured in accident, exchange vows in hospital

DENVER (AP) — They were planning to get married in Salida, but a motorcycle accident put a Texas couple in a Denver hospital instead.

Rather than waiting for their injuries to heal and rescheduling their wedding, Larry Thompson and Norma Parsons, both of Snyder, went ahead and got married — in the hospital.

On Thursday, the bride's brother wheeled her down the aisle of the chapel at St. Anthony Central Hospital. The groom hobbled to the front with the aid of a cane, and the pair exchanged vows in front of friends, family and hospital workers.

"It's better than the one we planned," said the new Mrs. Thompson. "It's brought us together and our families together in a way that wouldn't have been possible otherwise."

Thompson, 44, and his bride, 43, said they had planned a quiet wedding in Salida. But they were returning there Monday afternoon after a trip to Poncha Springs when their 1999 Harley-Davidson collided with a pickup truck on U.S. 50.

Thompson suffered a brain injury that required surgery, and Ms. Parsons' hip was broken.

out for seven hours. My reward is going home, putting on the air conditioner and chilling the house to 65 degrees."

In Greenfield, Wis., Scott Lewitzke, the landscape manager for Bluemel's Garden Center and Greenhouse, said the heat means less productivity for his workers.

"Guys just work at a much slower pace," Lewitzke said. "If you get 50 percent productivity, you're lucky. And you can't expect much more in the heat — they'll pass out."

Near Mamouelle, Ark., where temperatures rose above 100 Thursday, roadside vendor Carolyn Archer has closed

down her vegetable and fruit stand early each day this week to avoid the afternoon heat. For the time when she is outside, she has tools to keep cool.

"I have an ice chest full of ice, water, juice and plenty of wash rags to dig down there to keep cool," she said.

For people lucky enough to

have access to fans and air conditioning, power companies urged them to conserve energy, fearing potential blackouts or brownouts due to consumer overload.

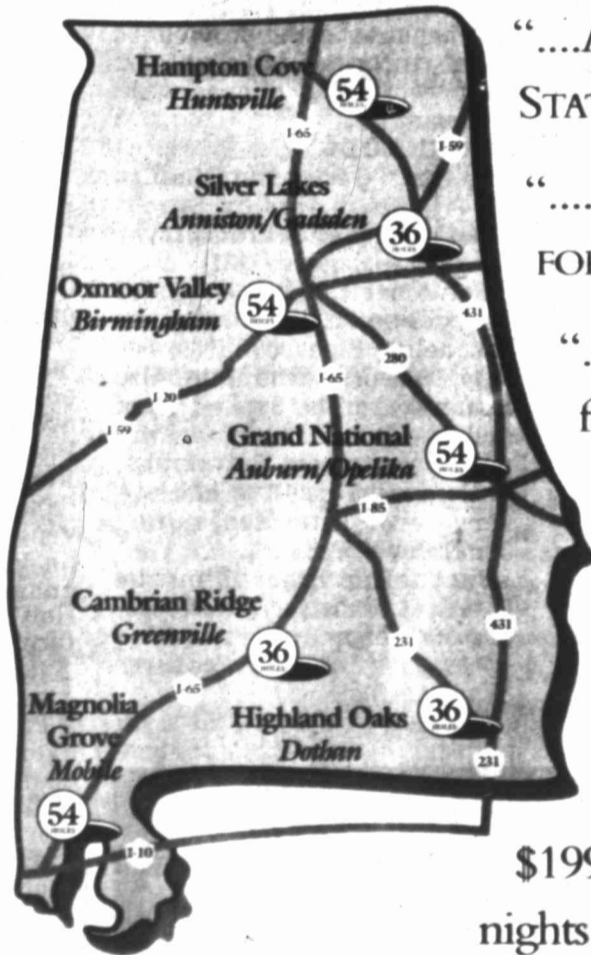
Two of the Kentucky's largest utilities made a special plea to their largest customers. Both utilities set all-time peak-usage

records for the fourth time since July 21.

"The response has been very favorable," said Joel Reuter, a spokesman for LG&E Energy Corp. "I think that people understand that this gripping heat wave has put a tremendous amount of pressure on electrical utilities in the system."

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MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., GB, and game schedule for various MLB teams.

BASEBALL National Baseball Association MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES Signed coach Rip Saunders to a multiyear contract extension. NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE ARIZONA CARDINALS Signed LB Johnny Rutledge to a four-year contract. DALLAS COWBOYS Agreed to terms with DL Alonso Spellman as a one-year contract. GREEN BAY PACKERS Signed LB Anthony Davis. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS Signed LB Mike Peterson. WASHINGTON CAPITALS Announced the retirement of C Dale Hunter. LEADERS NATIONAL LEAGUE BATTING-Jeter, New York, .369; Ramirez, Cleveland, .358; Rodriguez, Toronto, .356; Griffey Jr., Seattle, .343; McGwire, St. Louis, .343; Williams, New York, .338; Mowbray, Kansas City, .334; Soriano, Baltimore, .333; McGriff, Tampa Bay, .333. NATIONAL LEAGUE PITCHING-Rodriguez, Toronto, 15.3, 233; Jeter, New York, 15.2, 233; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 15.2, 233; McGwire, St. Louis, 15.2, 233; Williams, New York, 15.2, 233; Mowbray, Kansas City, 15.2, 233; Soriano, Baltimore, 15.2, 233; McGriff, Tampa Bay, 15.2, 233.

SAT discrepancy knocks prep star out of UH plans

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston high school basketball superstar whose academic credentials came under attack will not attend the University of Houston this fall, the Houston Chronicle reported today. Considered one of the nation's top recruits, Antonio Falu of Houston Waltrip signed last fall with the Cougars, but UH athletic director Chet Gladchuck said Thursday he had been informed by basketball coach Clyde Drexler that Falu will enroll at San Jacinto College instead. Gladchuck said he isn't familiar with the details, but the newspaper said it learned the sticking point is the legitimacy of Falu's score on the Scholastic Assessment Test, a college entrance exam. The Sporting News listed Falu 37th on its list of the nation's top 100 high school seniors last year. The 6-5 guard led Waltrip to the 1998 Class 4A state high school championship and averaged 30 points a game last season before he was declared ineligible in January for violating Texas' four-year eligibility rule. Falu, a native of Puerto Rico, enrolled at Waltrip in 1997 as a junior, but failed to tell school officials about two years he spent at prep schools in Florida and Virginia after leaving Puerto Rico. Falu took the SAT last Nov. 7, four days before he signed with UH, and scored 1,110, the Chronicle reported, citing sources it said are familiar with the matter. That was nearly 100 points above the national average and well above the 820 minimum currently required by the NCAA for freshman eligibility. But after the time spent in Florida and Virginia came to light, it was discovered that he had posted scores of 540 and 620 on the SAT under a slightly different name and different Social Security number in the fall of 1996 while at Oak Hill Academy in Virginia. An improvement of more than 350 points by a test-taker from one SAT to another sets off alarms, officials told the Chronicle. When a large score difference is noted, officials check to see how the answers on the test-

BIG SPRING Friday, July 30, 1999 Arm gets of B NEW YORK Armstrong since his the Tour Thursday, size of the him/hom/ stipped in A clearly was greeting New after winter. "I had 1 America, I munities a following t he said. " and the re world and makes my Armstrong advanced cancer tw winning c; gious race, interviewe touring th Exchange; tional v Manhattan Since w Armstrong in Europe and Wedne to New Y round of "Today" sh the Nike s "The Late Letterman. New Y Giuliano I "Lance A New York. And the i still hasn't "We have every year "I still can't the race." In his in and ABC, A nited by his about the took his l spread to and brain. "I'm able out, two ye 20 years o first couple ness I was day away. I was able or a month said on NB confident i family and child." Kristin, met towar chemother couple's fir On "America," a congrat from Olyr Hamilton, testicular c Kelly-Davie cancer pati Texas. Arn Plano, Te friendship meeting he tion in Aus had wished while ridin France. Davidson chemother a chain ar to her by A "It make happy that Armstrong Davidson w on the a showed Ar animal she for his bab "A lot of the race) I and people entire car Armstrong of my ow inspiration extended f special to and to the v Armstrong be cancer-f chances of estimated a doctors. Bu started the Foundation ery to raise ple manage feels the ne has learned cancer will from the dis "You hav said. "You t

White Sox use long ball to derail Yanks, 5-1

CHICAGO (AP) — Paul Konerko hit a pair of solo home runs, leading John Snyder and the Chicago White Sox over the New York Yankees 5-1 Thursday. Snyder (8-6) gave up one run and three hits in seven innings for the win. Keith Foulke got the save. Konerko homered in the sixth off David Cone (10-5). Konerko led off the eighth with a homer off reliever Ramiro Mendoza. Cone, who entered the game ranked second in the AL in ERA, gave up four runs and eight hits in seven innings. Greg Norton singled home a run in the White Sox sixth and Frank Thomas hit an RBI single in the seventh. Derek Jeter, the AL batting leader, went 1-for-3 and is hitting .369. The Yankees took a 1-0 lead in the third on Jeter's sacrifice fly. The Yankees scored in their half with Chris Singleton's RBI single.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Alex Arias hit a three-run shot to lead the Philadelphia Phillies over the Florida Marlins 12-1 Thursday. Arias' three-run homer off Brian Meadows (8-11) capped a four-run third inning that put the Phillies ahead 7-1. Bobby Abreu was 4-for-4 with a homer, two doubles and four runs scored. Chad Ogea (6-9) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings, struck out seven and walked two. Meadows gave up seven runs and nine hits in 2-3 innings. After Kevin Millar's run-scoring single in the first, Abreu tied it with an RBI double in the bottom half. Gianville's two-run single made it 3-1 in the second, and Rico Brogna's RBI single and Arias' third homer of the season increased the lead to six runs in the third. Phillies 12, Marlins 1 PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Doug Gianville homered and tied a career-high with four RBIs, and

Rizzo wants to go out with a bang at LPGA tourney

PRIDDIS, Alberta (AP) — On the brink of retirement, Patti Rizzo might have finally unlocked the mystery to playing good golf. Just act like you don't want to be there. Three months ago on her way to the Titleholders, she drove past Daytona Beach, Fla., and kept going. Her mother convinced her to go back and play, and she wound up in a tie for the first-round lead with a 67. Rizzo was in that same position Thursday in the du Maurier Classic — a 5-under 67, tied with Rosie Jones for the lead in a tournament she considered skipping. Rizzo missed her flight when she went to the wrong airport in south Florida. Her 4-year-old had a sty and wound up staying home. Her clubs didn't arrive in Calgary. "Everything was telling me not to go," Rizzo said. "Today I'm glad I came. Maybe that's the secret." With only one practice round at Priddis Greens Golf and Country Club, Rizzo looked like she owned the course by mak-

ing seven birdies. Jones made her 67 look relatively easy, even though only 15 players managed to break par. She avoided bogey and birdied three of the last four holes. Both of them, however, were looking one stroke down the leaderboard at the player who may have the best chance of all. With a tap-in birdie on the first hole and an eagle on No. 3, Inkster cruised to a 4-under 68 and put her in good position to make a run at her third straight major championship — and a spot in the LPGA Hall of Fame. "Julie is on a major roll," Rizzo said. "She's going to be the one to beat. I'm sure she is just full of confidence, and when she gets her putter going she is deadly." Even Jones, who birdied three of the last four holes, couldn't help but talk about Inkster's run at history. "Too bad she didn't play good in the Dinah (Shore). She could have just wrapped up the majors this year," Jones said with a laugh. "This is a perfect golf course for her. She doesn't necessarily have to hit it perfect, but she can play a golf course like this so well." It wasn't a perfect round, even though Inkster played without a bogey on the hilly, difficult Priddis Greens course. She didn't always have the right club in her hand, and she didn't make every 15- to 20-foot birdie putt. But for someone who needs only one victory to become the 17th player to qualify for the Hall of Fame, she had few complaints. "Everybody is all over me about two majors and the Hall of Fame," said Inkster. "I'm just trying to go out there and keep

pitched six effective innings as the Cincinnati Reds beat the Los Angeles Dodgers, 7-5 Thursday for their fifth win in six games. Taubensee's homer in the sixth off Darren Dreifort (8-10) capped a four-run rally and put the Reds ahead 5-2. Dmitri Young opened the inning by hitting Dreifort's first pitch for his sixth homer to tie it. Harnisch (10-6) allowed six hits and three runs. He walked two and struck out five. Scott Williamson got the save. The Reds tied it in the fourth on a two-out, RBI single by Taubensee, but the Dodgers went back ahead in their half on Raul Mondesi's sacrifice fly. Eric Karros homered to lead the sixth, cutting Cincinnati's lead to 5-3, but the Reds scored in the seventh off Onan Masaoka on RBI doubles by Young and Hal Morris to extend their lead to four runs. Dreifort gave up eight hits and five runs in six innings while walking none and strik-

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KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (10)	UNI (11)	DISN (12)	NASH (13)	TMC (14)	SHOW (15)	HBO (16)	KMLM (17)	A&E (18)	DISC (19)	TNT (20)	FBN (21)	ESPN (22)	AMC (23)	BET (24)	
6:30 PM News (CC) Fortune	6:30 PM Home Imp. Highlights	6:30 PM Sabrina-Witch Boy-World	6:30 PM 20/20 (CC)	6:30 PM News (CC) Nightline	6:30 PM Politically Inc. Hollywood	7:00 AM (12-08) Ricki Lake	7:00 AM News (CC) Fortune	7:00 AM Home Imp. Highlights	7:00 AM Sabrina-Witch Boy-World	7:00 AM 20/20 (CC)	7:00 AM News (CC) Nightline	7:00 AM Politically Inc. Hollywood	7:00 AM (12-08) Ricki Lake	7:00 AM News (CC) Fortune	7:00 AM Home Imp. Highlights	7:00 AM Sabrina-Witch Boy-World	7:00 AM 20/20 (CC)	7:00 AM News (CC) Nightline	7:00 AM Politically Inc. Hollywood	7:00 AM (12-08) Ricki Lake	7:00 AM News (CC) Fortune	7:00 AM Home Imp. Highlights

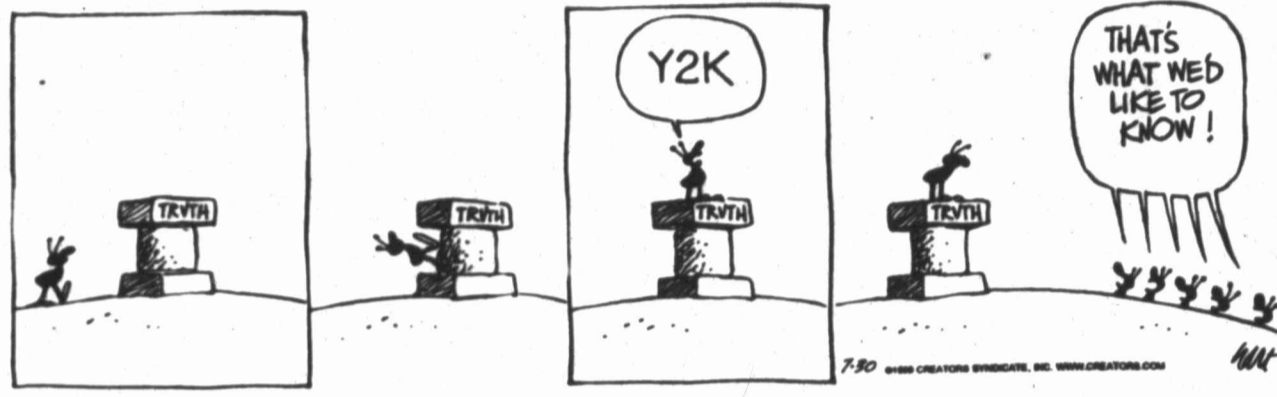
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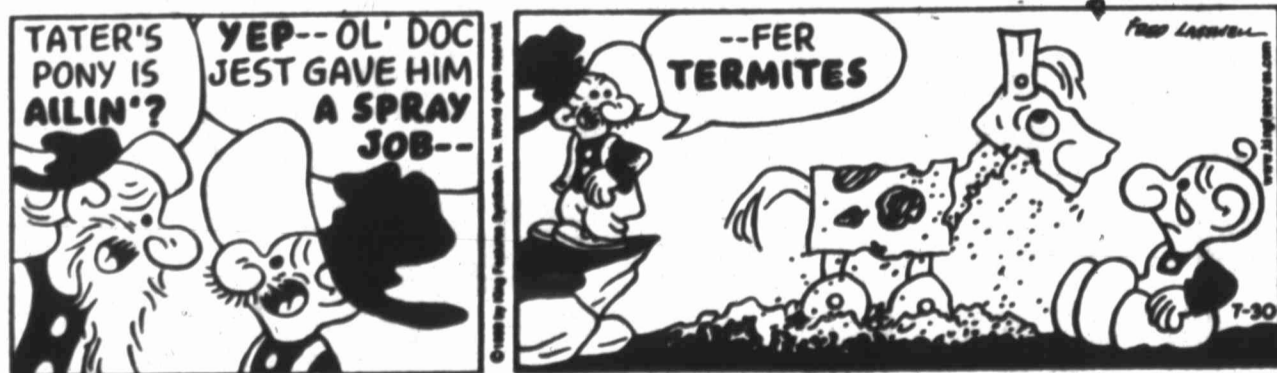
HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

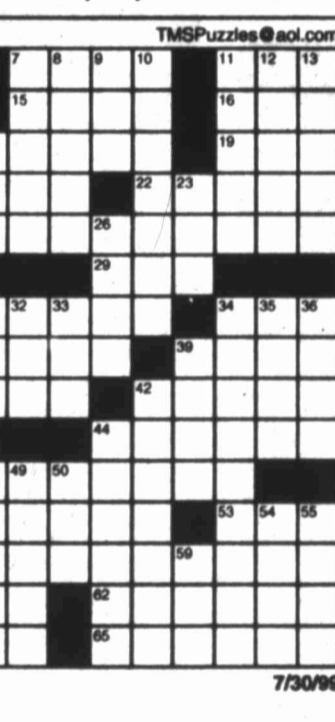
Today is Friday, July 30, the 211th day of 1999. There are 154

days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 30, 1945, the USS Indianapolis, which had just delivered key components of the Hiroshima atomic bomb to the Pacific island of Tinian, was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. Only 316 of 1,196

men survived the sinking and shark-infested waters. On this date: In 1619, the first representative assembly in America convened in Jamestown, Va. In 1729, the city of Baltimore was founded. In 1792, the French national anthem "La Marseillaise" by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, was first sung in Paris. In 1844, the New York Yacht Club was founded. In 1863, American automaker Henry Ford was born in Dearborn Township, Mich. In 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces tried to take Petersburg, Va. by exploding a mine under Confederate defense lines. The attack failed. In 1932, the Summer Olympic Games opened in Los Angeles. In 1942, President Roosevelt signed a bill creating a women's auxiliary agency in the Navy known as "Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service" -- WAVES for short. In 1965, President Johnson signed into law the Medicare bill, which took effect the following year. In 1975, former Teamsters union president Jimmy Hoffa disappeared in suburban Detroit, although presumed dead, his remains have never been found. Ten years ago: In Lebanon, the pro-Iranian group Organization for the Oppressed on Earth threatened to kill an American hostage, Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, unless Israel released Sheik Abdul-Karim Obaid, a cleric seized by Israel commandos. Five years ago: The first U.S. troops landed in the Rwandan capital of Kigali to secure the airport for an expanded international aid effort. One year ago: Japan's Parliament declared Keizo Obuchi the country's next prime minister. "Buffalo Bob" Smith, the cowboy-suited host of "The Howdy Doody Show," died in Hendersonville, N.C., at age 80. A group of 13 Ohio machinists stepped forward to claim the \$295.7 million Powerball jackpot. (The workers opted to take the cash option: one payment of about \$161.5 million.) Today's Birthdays: Actor Dick Wilson ("Mr. Whipple") is 83. Actor Richard Johnson is 72. Actor Edd "Kookie" Byrnes is 66. Blues musician Buddy Guy is 63. Movie director Peter Bogdanovich is 60. Feminist activist Eleanor Smel is 60. Former U.S. Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) is 59. Singer Paul Anka is 58. Jazz musician David Sanborn is 54. Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger is 52.

THE Daily Crossword

- Edited by Wayne Robert Williams
- ACROSS
- 1 Meal
 - 7 Egg
 - 11 Doctrine
 - 14 Newspaper employee
 - 15 Yorkshire river
 - 16 Sault Marie
 - 17 "Poor Richard's Almanac" publisher
 - 19 Actor Mineo
 - 20 Part of Q & A
 - 21 Lefty of baseball
 - 22 Bit of bread
 - 24 Start of a quote by 17A
 - 27 Callas and Shriver
 - 29 Massive ref. work
 - 30 "The Tempest" sprite
 - 31 Disdain
 - 34 Hack
 - 37 Pacifying offers
 - 38 Bare
 - 39 Buckeye State
 - 40 Garden tool
 - 41 Climb
 - 42 Highland groups
 - 43 Hot tub
 - 44 Hercule Poirot, e.g.
 - 45 More of the quote
 - 51 ___ committee
 - 52 Gilbert and Teasdale
 - 53 Co-worker on "Alice"
 - 56 By way of
 - 57 End of the quote
 - 60 Slightly askew
 - 61 Few and far between
 - 62 Tiny
 - 63 Cereal grass
 - 64 Long in the tooth
 - 65 Traps
- DOWN
- 1 Singer
 - 2 Idyllic garden
 - 3 Line of cars?
 - 4 Booze, butts, and bullets bureau
 - 5 Sisterly
 - 6 Exchanges
 - 7 Caulking stuff
 - 8 Mexican Pancho
 - 9 Tell's canton
 - 10 Writer H.L. ___
 - 11 Publish
 - 12 Trample
 - 13 Thin toast
 - 18 French play by Andre Obey
 - 23 Checkers side
 - 25 Hastens
 - 26 New ___ City
 - 27 Pound to a pulp
 - 28 End of a buck?
 - 31 RFR depot
 - 32 Oriole Ripken
 - 33 Unrefined mineral
 - 34 Limo driver
 - 35 Common solecism
 - 36 Nonsense
 - 38 Ella's forte
 - 39 Toast topper
 - 41 Color bands
 - 42 Draw near
 - 43 Theater-sign letters
 - 44 Teems
 - 45 Relish
 - 46 Enlighten
 - 47 Rub
 - 48 Val d'
 - 49 Renowned
 - 50 Start of a refrain
 - 54 Tardy
 - 55 Lengthy, lyric poems
 - 58 Old crone
 - 59 Genetic code letters



BIG SPRING Herald

Reflecting a Proud Texas Community

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Office Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, Texas Press Association, and Southern Newspaper Publishers Association.

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