Upsdate John 24, 2001

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

July 24, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:

TOMORROW TONIGHT 100°-102°

Home schooling workshop free to public tonight

A workshop on home schooling is set from 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. today at Paul Lutheran Church.

Keynote speaker will be Tim Lambert, president of Texas Home School Coalition.

Those attending will be able to ask questions about curriculum. There will be materials to view and purchase from Dow's School Room and Total Language Plus.

The workshop is sponsored by the Big Spring Christian Educators group and is free to the public.

For more information contact Suzanne Haney at 263-7147.

WHAT'S UP...

WEDNESDAY Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus room.

Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics, 10 a.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center cafeteria. ☐ Big Spring

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Center. UBS blood drive, 4

p.m.-8 p.m., Coahoma Community Center. Call Russ Mullins at 394-4277 for an appointment.

☐ Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie ladies auxiliary, 7 p.m., 704 West Third.

THURSDAY ☐ Gideons

International, Big Spring Camp No. U4206O meets at Herman's Restaurant. 7 a.m.

☐ The Senior Citizens Center will host an Arts and Crafts session each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

☐ Call Bobbie Leonard at the Senior Citizens Center for more infor-

mation. The Coffee Club will meet at Gale's Sweet Shoppe at 10 a.m.

O Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call Billy Smith.

INSIDE TODAY...

TA LUM THE

Classified General 3 Horoscope Landers **Obituaries** 2 Opinion Sports

Vol. 98, No. 223

Find us online at:

www.blgspringherald.com To reach us, please call 263-7331. 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 11 a.m. on

Jobless rate rises 1 percent due to typical trend, TWC says

By LYNDEL MOODY

The unemployment rate Howard County increased by more than 1

ing market.

Staff Writer



"It's a typical trend in in June of 2000. June and July for the unemployment rate to go up," said Virginia Belew, area manager for the local Texas Workforce Center. "The summer brings youth looking for work. Educators are out looking for summer work."

Unemployment increased in Howard County to 4.9 percent in June from 3.8 reported in May, according to information released by the TWC. It was 5.3 percent

According to TWC statistics, there were 13,054 people employed in Howard County in June, and 668 people seeking employment.

A smaller unemployed labor pool prompted Moore Development for Big Spring to work with the TWC and local businesses to begin recruiting qualified employees to relocate to the area.

Moore Development and TWC have held several job fairs in South Texas where

well as attending a job fair in Killeen.

Across the state, unemployment increased from 4.2. in May to 5.4 in June. June 2001 unemployment rate is slightly higher than June 2000 which was reported at 5.1. According to the report, 574,637 people were unemployed during the month.

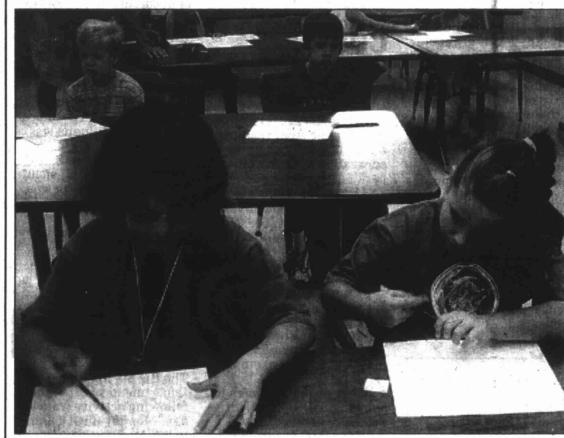
Higher unemployment trend continued through many West Texas counties. Neighboring Glasscock

unemployment is high as County's unemployment rate jumped to 4.2 in June from 2.7 in May with 27 people reported unemployed.

Borden County's unemployment rate dropped from 1.8 in May to 1.3 in June. The county reportedly has five unemployed persons.

Gaines and Dawson County increased slightly by .3 percent in June. Gaines had an unemployment rate of 4.8 in June

See TWC, Page 2



Eight-year-old Judith Treece, left, and Ashley Buzbee, 7, work on designing their own dinosaur puzzle during a class at Kid's College, sponsored by Howard College. Kid's College runs through the end of this week.

Proposed court would serve needs of children in 13 counties

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Herald Correspondent

Abused and neglected children of the Crossroads area may soon have a court created specifically to

needs. District Judge Dean Rucker of Midland has asked the Texas Court Improvement

serve their

MOORE

Project for at least \$150,000 in grant money to create a "cluster court" over 13 counties of West Texas. The court would have one judge presiding over all cases brought by the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (TDPRS), traveling to each county as hearings are scheduled.

Included among the counties involved in the Child Protection Court of the Permian Basin would be Howard, Martin Glasscock "Attending to the needs of

these cases and assuring all deadlines are met becomes a bit difficult at times," said Rucker, who is the administrative judge for the Seventh Judicial Region of Texas. While he acknowledged a variety of reasons for applying to start the cluster court, Rucker said his main goal is to better serve the needs of children.

"The judge appointed to handle these cases becomes something of an expert," Rucker said. "This would give a great deal of consistency in the handling of

these cases. District Judge Robert Moore, who presides over the 118th Judicial District of Howard, Glasscock and Martin counties, said the court could help relieve a sometimes crowded docket.

"I'm able to get it all done," he said. "But I believe it would be an advantage to have a judge who did nothing but those

Child abuse and neglect cases brought by Child Protective Services require strict adherence to deadlines. For example, the first hearing must be scheduled within 14 days of the children's removal from the home, and the final hearing can occur no more than one year after the date the case

In some cases, Moore said, schedules can become tight, especially when there is a jury trial on the docket. Along with TDPRS matters, he presides in civil cases such as divorces, general lawsuits and child custody hearings, along with criminal trials and arraignments. His courtroom is also used regularly for child support hearings brought by the attorney general.

Rucker said he is "very optimistic" about the region's chances of getting the grant, and expects notification by late August or early September. He added he has already heard from

See COURT, Page 2

Tax values

County appraisal board, Alon find middle ground on longtime refinery's value

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

The Howard County Appraisal District and Alon USA split the difference on

the appraisal of Alon's Big Spring Refinery. h

appraisal district set the value of the refinery \$90,369,600 after a closed

negotiations CONCIENNE meeting between representatives from Alon and Capital Appraisal Group of Austin lasting an hour and a half Monday morning. Howard County hired Capital to appraise the refinery.

The appraisal is up \$620,400 over last year's \$89,749,200. The increase comes in inventory and in pollution control improve-

Capital's original appraisal of \$97,151,900 was disputed by Alon, which put forward a figure of about

\$80 million. The new figure is based on leaving the value of the refinery improvements on the property unchanged from last year's \$53,517,400 instead of increasing them to more than \$60 million.

"I believe this is a fair assessment," said Joe Concienne, manager of the Big Spring refinery. "The number one priority we have is continued success, to keep (the refinery) open. It gets more and more difficult every year. Also, we have a responsibility to the community. We recognize that."

Jon Neely, president of Capital Appraisal, said the new value is a low but acceptable figure.

"(Alon) provided very factual audited information that wasn't available before," Neely "Market value is a range, not a set figure. This value is at the lower end of that range, but it is within the range. They have a responsibility to try to make the refinery work, and I admire and respect that.

Neely said the Big Spring refinery needs to increase production from 60,000 to at least 75,000 barrels a day.

"It's on the edge of being a survivable refinery," he said. "It is a refinery somewhat at risk, however it does have a positive market

Appraisal board chairman Clarence Hays said the appraisal board wants to see the refinery survive.

"The Fina refinery for years, and now Alon has been a very good neighbor to Big Spring," he said.

Last week, Howard County Appraisal District Chief Appraiser Keith Toomire said the \$17 million difference in values

See VALUES, Page 2

Natural causes ruled in death after body found under bridge

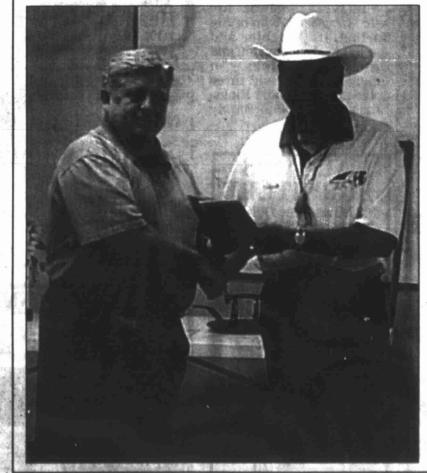
HERALD Staff Report

The death of a man whose body was discovered under the Gregg Street Bridge Monday has been ruled as occuring from natural caus-

The death of Jerry Lane Ennis, 62, a transient, was first reported to the Howard County Sheriff's Office around 3 p.m. by another

transient. The man saw Ennis apparently sleeping under the bridge. When Ennis had not moved several hours later, the man tried to wake him and discovered he was

See DEATH, Page 2



Dale Brown, left, presents Fred Holguin with the Best of Show award at **Cornell Corrections** employees' creative arts exhibit. Holguin created a horseshoe cowboy with an emphasis on his own Indian culture.

HERALD photo/Lindy Barr

Golf course mower bids among city agenda items

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

At a meeting tonight, the Big Spring City Council plans to award a bid for a new greens mower for the golf course.

The Purchasing and Control Material Department has recommended awarding the bid to Jones Equipment Co. of Fort Worth, with a price tag of \$11,708 for a Howard Price mower.

The low bidder on the mower was BenMark Supply of Midland, which offered an ExMark mower for \$10,745. BenMark's mower had several variations from the council's bid specifications, however, including a 27 horsepower engine instead of a 28 horsepower model, no oil pressure warning, no canopy, 24.5-inch blades instead of 25-inch, cutting height from 1.5 to 5 inches instead of from 1 to 4 inches, a drum parking brake instead of a disc parking brake and no hydraulic deck lift.

Jones, the next lowest bidder, differed from the specifications only in that its mower makes a zero-radius turn with brake assistance instead of having the capacity to make true zero-radius

In other business, the council will:

· Hear final readings of ordinances to place a fourway stop sign at Northwest Sixth Street and North Scurry and a two-way stop

OBITUARIES

Evelina Rojas Luna

Funeral service for Evelina Rojas Luna, 51, of Spearman, formerly of Big

Spring, was held Friday, July 20, 2001, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Spearman with father Jose Gomez officiating.

Burial was in Hansford. died Luna Mrs.

Wednesday, July 18. was born in Robstown on Feb. 10, 1950, and moved to Spearman from Big Spring. She was a cafeteria worker for Spearman schools. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Spearman.

Survivors include two Gregg, Big Spring 79720 or daughters, Rosa Vasquez of Spearman and Maria Martinez of Big Spring; her mother, Rosa Rojas of Spearman; five brothers, Eddie, Daniel, Ruben and Oscar Rojas Jr., all of Spearman and Shine Rojas of Big Spring; two sisters, Mary Ramirez of Slaton and Teresa Ramirez of Bryan; and four grandchildren.

Casketbearers were Oscar Rojas, Daniel Rojas, Randy Ramirez, Ruben Rojas, Shine Rojas and Calistro

Arrangements are under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home, Inc. in Spearman. Paid obituary

L.D. "Buster" **Yates**

L.D. "Buster" Yates, 87, of Big Spring, died on Monday, July 23, 2001, in a local hospital.

Graveside funeral service will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday, July 25, at the Peace Chapel at Triffity



Memorial Park with Ralph Anderson, minister of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, officiat-

He was born on March 7, 1914, in Wesson, Ark. and married Ruby McCoy on Sept. 24, 1949, in Anson. Mr. Yates served in the

United States Navy with PT Advance Units No. 5 and No. 2 and aboard the USS Pollux in the Pacific during World War II. After leaving the Navy he worked in the refineries around Port Arthur and Eldorado, Ark. He also worked for a seismograph crew for a number of years. Buster then went

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

267-8288 24th & Johnson

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home

(916) 267-6331 www.npwelch.com

L. D. "Buster" Yates, 87, died Monday. Graveside services will be 10:00 AM Wednesday at the Peace **Chapel at Trinity Memorial** Park.

James Weaver Brown. 87, died Sunday. Services will be 11:00 AM Wednesday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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Daily except Saturday.
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: ly; \$93.42 yearly (inclu discount for yearly).
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Rings all of Columbus, He was preceded in death by his son, Jimmy Brown

on Sept. 5, 1989, and by one brother, Victor Brown. The family will receive

to work in Abilene as a

pump mechanic working on

hydraulic equipment. He

moved to Big Spring in 1958.

to work for Hale Pump

Company which later became Westex Pump

Company. At the time of

his retirement in 1987 he

was working for L.D.

Cunningham at D&W Pump

He attended Birdwell

Survivors include his

wife Ruby Yates of Big

Spring; one son, Charles

Yates of Big Spring; two

brothers, Lesley Yates of

Tyler and Edgar Atkinson

of Whiting, Ind.; one sister-

in-law, Clara Sellers of

Abilene and numerous

The family suggests

memorials to Community

Care Hospice, 1510 S.

Association, Greater West

Texas Chapter, 4400 N. Big

Spring, Suite C-32, Midland

The family will receive

friends from 7 p.m. to 8:30

p.m., today, at the funeral

Arrangements are under

the direction of Nalley-

Pickle & Welch Funeral

Paid obituary

James Weaver Brown, 87,

of Big Spring, died on

Sunday, July 22, 2001, in a

Home. www.npwelch.com

James Weaver

local hospital.

Funeral ser-

vice will be

at 11 a.m.,

Wednesday,

July 25, at the

Nalley-Pickle

Rosewood

Chapel with

Welch

Olive Memorial Park.

chaplain Carroll Kohl of the

Veterans Administration

Medical Center officiating.

Mnterment ill follow at Mt.

boys, he grew up on a

ranch where he enjoyed rid-

ing horses, mules and

calves. He lived for a time

in Martin County where he

and his brothers enjoyed

ly came to Big Spring

where his dad worked for L

and L Lumber Company so

Weaver learned carpentry.

He farmed in Howard

County for 35 years until

November 1945 he served in

the United States Army in

Quartermaster Depot in the

month later on Dec. 4, 1945,

and they raised two chil-

snow when he could find

some. Reading was also a

favorite pastime, but the

best of all was going hunt-

He was a member of the

Survivors include his

wife Margaret Brown of Big

Spring; his daughter and

son-in-law, Dr. Marylou and

Dr. Mike Rings of

Columbus, Ohio and three

grandchildren, Katie Rings,

Lindsey Rings and Danny

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A/C Repair Service

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ing with his hounds.

retiring.

playing ball. Weaver's fami-

nieces

Alzheimer's

Lane Church of Christ.

Company.

cousins,

nephews.

the

home.

and

gasoline pumps

friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., today at the funeral Arrangements are under

the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. www.npwelch.com

Hubert Ritchie

Graveside service for Hubert "Paw" Ritchie, 78, of Sand Springs, will be 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 25, 2001, at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio with Henry Talbot officiating.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served in World War II. He had worked in the oil fields in the West Texas and San Angelo area.

Survivors include two sons, Ruben Ritchie and Aubrey Ritchie, both of Sherman; seven grandchildren; and seven greatgrandchildren. Arrangements are under

the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jane Spence

Funeral service for Jane Spence, 80, of Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Mrs. Spence died Monday, July 23, 2001, at a local hospital.

Jerry Lane Ennis Jerry Lane Ennis, 60, died Monday, July 23, 2001.

Continued from Page 1

from 4.5 in May while Dawson reported a rate of 4.7 in June compared to 4.4 in May. According to the information, Gaines had 318 people unemployed while Dawson had 306 unemployed.

Unemployment jumped in Ector County from 4.7 in May to 6.4 in June. Ector James, Weaver was born reported 3,805 unemployed. on Dec. 7, 1913, near The Odessa-Midland MSA Wichita Falls to James Levi increased from 4.0 percent and Lou Ellen Weaver in May to 5.1 in June. The Brown. The oldest of three area reported 6,134 unemployed people.

Crane County also had a slight increase of 4.6 percent in June from 4.1 in May. About 1,687 were reported unemployed.

Andrews increased from 3.4 in May to 4.2 in June. The county has 206 unemployed.

From January 1942 to Continued from Page 1

several candidates who

World War II as Technician would consider appoint-Fifth Grade with the 79th ment as judge for the court. Midland County would serve as "host county" for European, African and Middle Eastern Theaters. A the court, providing its office space. The cluster he married Margaret court judge would use court-McDonald in Big Spring room space as available in each county, and would travel with a court coordi-He enjoyed ranch life and nator who might do doublean occasional hike in the duty as a court reporter.

In Howard County, the court might use the current third-floor courtroom,









BIG SPRING ROUND THE TOWN

which will be vacated when Moore's court moves across the street to the new annex building. But there are other possibilities, and the matter is a decision of the Howard County

Commissioners. Moore said the cases involving children "give you the opportunity to affect someone's life in a positive way," and he's not anxious to give them up. But he added he believes the cluster might expedite the cases, make them run more smoothly and give continuity to them — all better for the children involved.

"If they are able to get it, I'll be pleased with that," Moore said, "and if not, I could keep going the way I am now.'

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

sign on North Goliad yielding to Northeast 11th Street. · Hear the final reading of a resolution for an automated weather system at the air

· Consider a request for a street closure in the 500 block of North Aylesford and the 500 block of Northwest Sixth Street for the Sacred Heart Catholic Church festival.

· Consider authorization of the city attorney to sue to enforce health and safety ordinances in the city.

 Consider payment of late homestead exemption refunds. Vote for new officers for

Texas Coalition of Cities For Utility Issues.

· Hear minutes from Park and Recreation Board meet-McMahon/Wrinkle ing, Airpark Development Board meeting and the Moore **Development for Big Spring** Inc. Board of Directors meeting.

upcoming Movie in the

Continued from Page 1

suggested by Capital and Alon could mean a difference of \$400,000 in tax revenues for local taxing enti-

Unofficially, the difference between Capital's original appraisal and the new, official appraisal could mean \$175,000 less taxes for the entities. Toomire was not available

for comment this morning.

Continued from Page 1

dead. HCSO responded to the scene, and later turned the case over to the police department, said Chief Deputy Pritchett.

Justice of the Peace Bennie Green pronounced Ennis dead and ordered his

HCSO

Gary



body sent to Lubbock for an autopsy.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Green received results of the autopsy this morning.

SHERIFF

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

 JEFF DEAN DEAR-MAN, 39, of 2420 W. Third Street in Odessa was taken to the Howard County Jail after being arrested by the Department of Public Safety Sunday for driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

 WALTER RAY ZOLYN, 38, of 307 Amburgey in Odessa was taken to the **Howard County Jail after** being arrested by the Department of Public Safety Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

SHELLY MARIE CROLL ZOLYN, 35, of 307 Amburgey in Odessa was. taken to the Howard County Jail after being arrested by the Department of Public Safety Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday until 8 a.m. today:

 A HOME INVASION robbery was reported in the 2600 block of Langley. According to police, three suspects wearing stockings on their heads broke into the home in the base housing area Sunday night(1909)

The suspects reportedly stole a handgun, a Bowflex exercise machine and a fax machine from the home. No one was injured in the incident, a police representative said.

The case is still under investigation.

 A home was BUR-**GLARIZED** in the 400 block of South Owens sometime between 8:30 p.m. Monday and shortly after midnight Tuesday. Three model cars worth about \$35 each and four silver dollars were stolen.

 FIDEL MUNOZ MAR-TINEZ, 44, of 2110 Runnels was arrested Monday evening for local warrants.

 BRANDON GILBERT **FALKNER**, 18, of 415 Edwards was arrested Monday night on charges of minor in consumption of alcohol and evading arrest.

· LARRY WAYNE THOMPSON, 18, of 2805 Macausain was arrested Monday night on charges of minor in consumption of alcohol and evading arrest.

• JOSHUA HOWELL, 18, of 2505 E. 24th St. was arrested Monday night on a charge of minor in con-

PICK 3: 3,4,5 CASH 5: 7,15,16,20,22

sumption of alcohol. CYNTHIA IMELDA OLIVAS, 30, of 1103 Lamar was arrested early Tuesday morning for a Collin

County warrant.

• ASSAULT/FAMILY **VIOLENCE** was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute and the 900 block of East Sixth Street.

· A juvenile was arrested for an ASSAULT CAUS-ING BODILY INJURY which happened Sunday afternoon in the 900 block of South Aylesford. The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

· RECKLESS INJURY TO A CHILD was reported in the 1000 block of North Main.

· DOMESTIC DISTUR-**BANCE** was reported in the 3300 block of West Highway 80, the 1300 block of Utah, the 600 block of McEwen and the 800 block of Sixth Street.

 DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 3800 block of Calvin.

 MAJOR ACCIDENTS were reported on Interstate 20 near mile marker 172 and in the 1600 block of Canary.

 MINOR ACCIDENTS were reported in the 1400 block of Wood and the 1000 block of North Main.

FIRE/EMS

The following is a summary of the Big Spring Fire Department and EMS:

1:22 a.m. - 500 block of W. 17th, medical call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. 1:59 a.m. - 8400 block of

N. Service Road, medical call, one patient transported shower of a differe OMME of 19:55 a.m. - 2000 block of a Virginia, medical call, one

SMMC. 12:32 p.m. - Mile marker 172 E. I-20, traffic accident, service refused.

patient transported to

6:58 p.m. - 2900 block of Clanton, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

9:56 p.m. — 500 block of Westover, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

10:05 p.m. — 600 block of Caylor, trauma call, one patient transported to SMMC.

1:02 p.m. — 600 block of Bethel, trash fire, extinguished.

RECORDS

Monday's high 104 Monday's low 79 Record high 104 in 1958 **Record low 63 1919** Average high 95 Average low 69 Precip. Monday 0.00 Month to date 0.09 Year to date 5.15 SunriseWednesday 6:56 a.m. Sunset Wednesday 8:48 p.m.



BILL BROOKS NEVER KNEW 60 **EXISTED!!** CALL BILL AT 267-3251 TO WISH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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915-263-7335

The Herald is a member of The Associated Press, Texas Press Association Audit Bureau Circulation and Southern New

Tuesday, July

BIG SPRING HI

WASHINGTON group headed by Colin Powell General John A for a new prop grant guest-worl of the millions are in the United

The proposal, House Friday, v our continued e the Mexican go our shared goal more humane, migration," sp McClellan said N

The working by Powell and mends creation

Police

WASHINGTO Washington poli trated by the sile of Chandra Lev bors, who in believe could pr to the missing whereabouts.

A half-dozen Levy's apartmen still leave police too many people a handful." who be interviewed disappearance, Assistant Poli

Terrance Gainer Police do not find someone i for her disa Gainer said. But who live closest ing person freq supply importan tion about her a possible visitors before the disapp said.

"It's part of the

Lights c POTTSVILLE, James Mennig's

what he saw in t so incredible his er didn't believe To him, the br looked like a plan in flames. But

said it was likel shower or a differ natural phenome as a fireball or "t "It was about that Jeep Cherok

year-old Pottsvil said Monday ever Similar sight reported through Northeast, with p Virginia to New ing they saw lig

sky and heard lo

"This is a nati which is called a fireball. It is sim shooting stars yo radically at nig appearance, but the physical nat object is concerne different from th meteor showers U.S. Naval O spokesman Geo said.

"This is a rando



Locate Come in and s Beaded

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Legal status recommended for some illegal Mexican immigrants

WASHINGTON (AP) - A study rary guest-worker program that group headed by Secretary of State Colin Powell and Attorney General John Ashcroft is calling for a new program that would grant guest-worker status to some of the millions of Mexicans who are in the United States illegally.

The proposal, sent to the White House Friday, would be "part of our continued effort to work with the Mexican government toward our shared goal of a more orderly, more humane, legal and safe migration," spokesman Scott McClellan said Monday evening.

The working group, co-chaired by Powell and Ashcroft, "recommends creation of a new, tempo-

would allow for some of the workers to achieve permanent resident status over a period of time," McClellan said.

The plan eventually could lead to permanent legal status to some of the 3 million Mexicans now in the United States unlawfully.

The New York Times, which first reported the recommendation Monday on its Web site, quoted unidentified administration officials and outside experts as saying perhaps 1 million to 2 million of the 3 million Mexican illegals could benefit from the program.

McClellan would not confirm those or any other figures in a

telephone interview with The Associated Press. He said many details remain to be worked out and numerous decisions made during discussions that are continuing between White House staff and the working group.

In the past, President Bush has stopped short of endorsing blanket amnesty for Mexicans in this country illegally.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said a week ago that Bush was committed to working with the Mexican government to ease what has been a disorderly process along the 2,000-mile bor-

Mexican President Vicente Fox

welcomed the development at the time, saying he was committed to "as many rights as possible for as many Mexican immigrants as possible as soon as possible.'

Congressional conservatives have opposed anything beyond allowing Mexicans to stay as temporary laborers.

Republican Sen. Phil Gramm of Bush's home state of Texas said last week that any proposal to grant amnesty would be a bad example for 7 million Mexican immigrants who have legally applied to enter the country and are waiting for their paperwork to

be approved. Already before Congress is legislation to expand and streamline a temporary farm-worker program that would let undocumented laborers of any nationality earn permanent residency under certain conditions, the Times said.

It is estimated that 50 percent to 80 percent of the 1.6 million farm workers in the United States are illegal immigrants, mostly from Mexico, the newspaper said.

Any decision on granting legal status of Mexicans in the United States illegally would have political ramifications for Bush. He has actively courted the Hispanic vote. which could be an important voting bloc for the 2004 presidential election.

Police getting little help from Levy's neighbors

Washington police are frustrated by the silence of some of Chandra Levy's neighbors, who investigators believe could provide clues to the missing woman's whereabouts.

A half-dozen visits to Levy's apartment building still leave police with "far too many people, more than a handful," who have yet to be interviewed about her disappearance, Executive Assistant Police Chief

Terrance Gainer said. Police do not expect to find someone responsible for her disappearance, Gainer said. But the people who live closest to a missing person frequently can supply important information about her actions and possible visitors in the days before the disappearance, he

"It's part of the irritating

WASHINGTON (AP) - thing about this. We've been to the building a half-dozen times, we've knocked on doors three or four times and now we've slipped notices under the door," Gainer said in an interview.

'But this is America and absent acting like jack-booted thugs, we can't force them to talk to us."

Levy, 24, of Modesto, Calif., has not been seen since April 30, when she canceled her membership at a Washington gym.

Rep. Gary Condit, meanwhile, has talked to police three times, most recently on July 6. And on Monday. the spokeswoman for the California Democrat indicated Condit would be willing to meet with investigators again.

"If the police or FBI have anything new they want to discuss, we're happy to cooperate," said the spokeswoman, Marina Ein.

In a July 6 interview with police, Condit, 53 and married, admitted to an affair with Levy, a police source has said.

Police have said they do not consider Condit a suspect in Levy's disappearance, which they are treating as a missing person case, not a crime.

Ein declined comment on a possible time or place for a fourth meeting, which police officials have said could happen this week.

Investigators want to enlist Condit's help in developing a profile of Levy, a former intern at the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, as a possible crime victim, Gainer

An FBI behavioral psychologist probably would sit in on the interview and attempt to elicit from Condit 11. some information about

where Levy may have gone or who may have targeted her, assuming she was harmed, Gainer said.

Gainer said Condit may also be asked about a watch box he apparently discarded in a trash can in an Alexandria, Va., park, hours before police began searching his apartment late in the evening of July

"We want to follow up to find out what there is to it," Gainer said.

But police do not believe the watch box has any relation to Levy's disappearance, officials said.

When police searched Levy's apartment, they found her packed bags and most of her possessions. Levy's keys were missing. Her parents expected her back in California by May

was sexually abused and locked in a filthy closet or other confined space for up to four years.

Couple who locked girl in closet indicted Monday being held in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas County grand jury has indicted the mother and former stepfather of an 8year-old girl locked in closet and severely malnourished. Barbara Atkinson, 30,

and Kenneth Atkinson, 33, were indicted Monday on felony charges of injury to a child. They were arrested last month after police rescued the girl, who weighed only 25 pounds and had been locked in a feces- and urine-covered closet in a Hutchins mobile home.

The girl was released from the hospital last week to Bill and Sabrina Kavanaugh, a Van Zandt County foster couple that hope to adopt her. Last month, Barbara Atkinson said that she would relinquish her parental rights.

Authorities say the girl

Barbara Atkinson is

County jail in lieu of \$100,000 bond and Kenneth Atkinson is being held without bond because of a warrant from Ellis County. They each face five to 99 years in prison if convict-

The girl's five siblings remain in state custody.

According to a Hutchins police report the Atkinsons told police that abuse of the girl began more than four years ago and was triggered by the girl's eating disorder.

Steve Tokoly, felony trial bureau chief for the Dallas County district attorney, said that prosecutors have not decided which of the couple will be tried first. An investigation is continuing into allegations of sexual abuse, he said.

The Atkinsons told authorities that abuse of the girl began shortly after Barbara Atkinson lost a child during birth in January 1997.

Lights cause emergency centers to be flooded with calls bound streak was gone, seen

POTTSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — James Mennig's story of what he saw in the sky was so incredible his own mother didn't believe him.

To him, the bright lights looked like a plane engulfed in flames. But authorities said it was likely a meteor shower or a different type of natural phenomenon known as a fireball or "bolide."

"It was about the size of that Jeep Cherokee," the 22year-old Pottsville resident said Monday evening.

Similar sightings were reported throughout the Northeast, with people from Virginia to New York saying they saw lights in the

sky and heard loud noises. 'This is a natural event. which is called a bolide or a fireball. It is similar to the shooting stars you see sporadically at night in its appearance, but as far as the physical nature of this object is concerned it's quite different from the periodic meteor showers we get," U.S. Naval Observatory spokesman Geoff Chester

"This is a random piece of

rock that happened to have Base in Wrightstown, N.J., the misfortune of being in the same part of space occupied by the Earth at the same time," he said. "In this particular case, the Earth won.'

In Buffalo, N.Y., National Weather Service observers received reports of a bright meteor in western and southern New York state.

"We got our first call at about 6:25," meteorologist Dave Sage said. "Then the calls just started coming

in." In Wellsboro, a town in the northern Pennsylvania mountains, Patrick Kane was on a porch with friends about 6:30 p.m. when they saw a bright yellow streak move rapidly across the sky. It was trailed by a long plume of white smoke.

Less than a minute after the fireball was gone, a loud boom shook the windows, Kane said.

"It almost sounded like when you're at the fireworks and they send out the one to just kind of make noise," he said.

At McGuire Air Force

in the air traffic control tower when she looked up and saw an orange streak north of the base. In less than a second, the west-

Airman Sharon Carpenter by no other air traffic or radar controllers in the was on break around 6 p.m.

"I spent the rest of the night trying to prove to them that I wasn't going crazy," Carpenter said.

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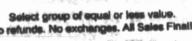


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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exer-cise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for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

Ken Dulaney

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Publisher

Bill McClellan

OUR VIEWS

Trying to beat the heat

ot enough for you? Seems like everywhere we go, the topic is the heat. That's understandable. Weather is a frequent topic out in West Texas, of course. Nothing fuels conservation like the heat, of which we have had plenty, or the rain, of which we have had precious little.

It's a fact that tempers tend to rise with the temperature. The problem becomes worse when a string of hot days isn't occasionally broken by a cool front or rain. According to our unofficial records, Big Spring has experienced 18 consecutive days with temperatures of 100-degrees or

Should we point out that it's not even August

What we should point out is that in these days of excess heat it is important to try and take better care of ourselves and others. If you cand dress in loose-fitting, light-colored clothing. Wear a cap or a hat if you have to be out in the sun for more than a few minutes at a time, and drink plenty of liquids.

Check on your neighbors, especially if they are elderly. Make sure they are as comfortable as they can be.

Don't leave anything that can suffer heat damage in a vehicle — including CDs, cassettes, floppy diskettes, children and pets.

Finally, do the best you can to keep your cool. Try to be a little more understanding, a little more patient.

Eventually, this heat wave will break and we'll get some relief. It might even rain.

Then we can complain about how stifling the humidity is.

OTHER VIEWS

Urging Medicare recipients to use drug-discount cards to save money on prescriptions could buy President George W. Bush some time on the politically volatile issue of highcost medication. It may even save seniors a little money. What it won't do is eliminate the need for a real - and really costly Medicare prescriptiondrug benefit.

When it comes to crafting a plan for that, and overhauling Medicare to ensure the program's longterm solvency, Bush should use any breathing room afforded by his stopgap card plan to prepare the country for the reality that in the long run Medicare will either cost more or deliver less - or some of both.

·Discount cards marketed by private companies and endorsed and promoted by the government promise savings of 10 to 40 percent on prescriptions for the 14

million Medicare recipients without drug coverage. The program, announced last week, has the added benefit of being fairly easy to implement. It would not require con-

gressional approval and would cost the federal government almost nothing. The discount cards are already available, most with annual fees of \$25 or less. The companies that offer them negotiate prices

Washington would simply set federal standards for discount cards, identify the companies that meet them and encourage seniors to take advantage of the discounts. ...

with retail pharmacies.

But officials estimate that the 10-year cost of a direct Medicare drug benefit would be \$300 billion. If there is any way to escape that bottom line. Washington hasn't found

NEWSDAY,

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

Immigration policy com

mmigration policy is one of those subjects, like taxes, that really is complicated, and it's a disservice to simplify it, no matter which side

you're on. President Bush's new plan to offer amnesty to 3 million illegal Mexican workers has both an upside and a downside. It would probably work better if it were part of an overall immigration

reform pro-



MOLLY IVINS

gram. The upside is that it would help the illegal workers already here who have no rights and are consequently exploited to a degree that would make your jaw drop. All Americans should read the current issue of Mother Jones, which has a stunning article on conditions in the meat-packing industry: "The Most Dangerous Job in America." "In some American slaughterhouses, more than three-quarters of the workers are not native English speakers," reports

Eric Schlosser. Although injures in the industry are notoriously underreported, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics more than onequarter of America's meatpackers suffered a job-related injury or illness in 1999. The workers are injured and then discarded by their companies in one of the

most shameless and repulsive systems imaginable. To use Upton Sinclair's

approach in "The Jungle," what happens to all those severed fingers, severed hands and severed arms if, as Schlosser reports, "The chain never stops," no mat-ter who gets hurt or how badly? This article is truly 'must-read" for anyone in a policy-making position. The exploitation of ille-

gals after they are here creates curious political bedfellows. The nativist, Pat Buchanan wing of the Republican Party comes up against the business wing of the party. Put your money on the business end. Entire industries - especially agriculture, restaurants and those that need service workers - now depend on illegal workers. At one time, we were supposed to have solved this problem by putting heavy penalties on employers for hiring illegals, but as you can imagine, that was quickly gone. Amnesty for 3 million Mexican workers also helps Karl Rove in his dedicated pursuit of the Hispanic vote, dovetailing nicely with business inter-Meanwhile, the labor

unions, which once opposed immigration on the theory that it cost Americans jobs, have been having some success organizing illegal workers. Unions that concentrate on workers at the bottom end of the payscale, like Service **Employees International** Union (SIEU), have been especially effective. It is critical that these workers be legalized and unionized if they are not to become a

permanent serf class. There are already alarming reports on the failure of working-class Hispanics to find much social mobility in this country

The downside to the proposed amnesty is that it isn't fair and will in all likelihood cause a rush of illegals at the border. There are approximately 3 million more illegal Hispanic workers in this country who aren't Mexicans, most of them from Central American countries. Nor is the program fair to the lines of people in other countries who wait patiently for permission to immigrate legally. In addition, past amnesty programs have caused radical increases in illegal immigration on the U.S.-Mexican border. Expanding visa programs seems a sensible compromise. Americans are mostly

ambivalent about Mexican immigration. Sometimes it is portrayed as dread menace, a sea of brown feet moving north, imposing nothing but a staggering burden on us (medical care, education, welfare - poor us, think of the taxes). Other times we recognize the more complicated truth that much of our economy, not to mention our comforts and luxuries, rests on the brown backs of exploited illegal workers, who do, in fact, pay taxes.

As many experts have pointed out, the only real solution is the economic development of Mexico. As long as we are a rich nation bordering on a poor one, we're going to have this problem. Desperate Africans are now literally

swimming into Spain. Meanwhile, many of our institutions are drowning. as well. The federal court system is swamped. Between 1994 and 2000, border drug prosecutions dou-bled and immigration cases

increased seven-fold. The. five federal court districts on the borders of California, Arizona and Texas handle 27 percent of all federal court criminal filings in the United States, That's just 6 percent of the

judicial districts with more

than a quarter of the work. Meanwhile, those who benefit most from the current mess are American employers. At least one part of the answer is to put agricultural workers under the aegis of the National Labor Relations Act, which would at least allow them to get the minimum wage.

The old labor argument was that immigrants take jobs away from Americans. Now, "Taking jobs Americans don't want" has become a commonplace of immigration discussion. The reason Americans don't want them is because they pay so little. According to Schlosser's article, "Thirty years ago, meatpacking was one of the highest-paid industrial jobs in the United States, with one of the lowest turnover rates."

In the 1960s, employers broke the unions, brought in Mexican workers and wages fell by as much as 50 percent. Today meatpacking is one of the nation's lowest paid industrial jobs, with one of the highest turnover rates.

Addresses

Coman

Course

Nativists, meet the unions.

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President



Society dangerous without religion, morality

talitarianism is American liberalism carried to its logical conclusion. America's current liberals and please don't confuse

them with earlier generations who wore that label think that you can run a society without religion or morality. In other words, decisions will be made



on the basis of reason, and on the basis of costbenefit ratios, without regard for any moral consideration. And those decisions will be enforced by the power of government. People cannot be trusted to make their own decisions, the modern liberal inevitably concludes

Well, go ahead with being a liberal, and you'll find yourself perfectly aligned with the communists. Does anyone out there think that

it is not more economical to execute the hopelessly disabled than to care for them? Of course it's more economical to kill them.

Abortion and euthanasia place economics, convenience and productivity ahead of human life. You know, of course, that the Holocaust had its beginning in the euthanasia of the hopelessly insane and retarded.

I warn you, however, that it is not a far step from that point to deciding that certain people are simply surplus, economically unproductive and therefore a drain on society's resources. Let's take someone who's been on welfare for three decades. He or she will never be self-supporting, so why not execute him or her and free the productive members of society from the burden of supporting that person? Why continue to arrest and imprison a chronic criminal? Kill him or her and be done with it. A bullet only costs 15 cents.

A society without religion and morality is a dangerous society.

Who will become its ultimate victims depends entirely on who wields the power and what their eccentricities and prejudices happen to be. It might be ironic, but it is not surprising that the Israelis learned from the Holocaust that it is better to be like the Germans than to be like the Jews. They are now the murdering bully boys to the Palestinians.

I think it is ridiculous for people who have already decided that it is moral to kill babies in the womb to show some squeamishness about destroying human embryos in a petri dish. That's like some guy saying he didn't mind shooting 6year-olds, but he wasn't sure about 2-year-olds. Hell, man, once you decide to become a child-killer, their ages no longer matter. Nor do the numbers. Damnation of your soul is completed with the first one. American liberals are

likely going to get everything they think they want, and then they will discover that what they've created is a hellish, nightmarish society devoid of compassion or

kindness or love or mercy. All of these are religious and moral concepts. They have nothing to do with reason or science or economics.

Thomas Jefferson wanted to replace an aristocracy of birth with an aristocracy of

merit. Today's liberals want an aristocracy of mediocrity. Having discarded religion, they really can't think of any reason why a sodomite should not share a tent with a 12-year-old Boy

Scout. Science doesn't condemn sodomy. Science is morally neutral. It views sodomy as just another of the human race's many aberrations, like necrophilia (a sexual preference for dead bodies) or sadism or masochism.

Having decreed egalitarianism, having discarded religion and morality, modern liberalism's only answer to nature's obvious inequality is to lower standards on everything and to declare everything is permissible.

Charley Reese can be contacted at briarl@earthlink.net

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-In order that we might better serve your needs, we

offer several ways in which you may contact us:

In person at 710 Scurry St. By telephone at 263-7331 By fax at 264-7205

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tourney sche The Indios Tournament ha to Big Spring a held Friday Sunday at C

Field in Coma Park. Trophies will to the top four windbreakers v by the first-pl The second-pl wins T-shirts w Tournament To bers will be hor The entry fee

more informati able by calling YMCA swim seeks compe

The Big Spri Swim Team is competing in lo meets. Practice ses

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able to complet the YMCA pool. Interested are encouraged the YMCA and o the long cour ming meets. For more in call the YMCA a

ACS still offe Texas Golf Pa

The America Society is again the Texas Golf entitles holders than 680 rounds 289 courses th the state. The passes are Both the Bi

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check the soci site at www.acs Finley stays v

Dallas Maver DALLAS Michael Finley

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Houston sig \$100 millio

NEW YORK Shooting gua Houston re-sig the New York \$100 million for

Houston ave points last se fifth with the Eleven other N ing guards had scoring averag

ON THE

Radio BASEBALL 7:10 p.m. -B Orioles at Texas **KBST-AM 1490.**

Television BASEBALL 7 p.m. — Cinc

Reds at Atlanta Ch. 11.

IN BRIEF

Indios softball tourney scheduled

The Indios Softball Tournament has returned to Big Spring and will be held Friday through Sunday at Cotton Mize Field in Comanche Trail

Trophies will be given to the top four teams and windbreakers will be won by the first-place team. The second-place team wins T-shirts while 10 All-Tournament Team members will be honored.

The entry fee is \$115 and more information is available by calling 263-3096.

YMCA swim team seeks competitors

The Big Spring YMCA Swim Team is currently competing in long course

Practice sessions are held Monday through Thursday mornings at the YMCA pool..

To be eligible to compete, youngsters must be able to complete a lap of the YMCA pool.

Interested swimmers are encouraged to contact the YMCA and compete in the long course swimming meets.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

ACS still offering **Texas Golf Pass**

The American Cancer Society is again offering the Texas Golf Pass that entitles holders to more than 680 rounds of golf at 289 courses throughout the state.

The passes are \$35 each. Both the Big Spring Country Club and Comanche Than Jugotf Course are participating in the program and order forms are available at the two local golf courses.

For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or check the society's web site at www.acs-tx.org

Finley stays with **Dallas Mavericks**

(AP) DALLAS Michael Finley re-signed Dallas the with Mavericks, getting a seven-year contract worth more than \$100 million.

Finley became a free agent when he opted out of his contract after last season.

Finley has been with the Mavericks for 4 sea-

He made the All-Star team for the second straight season this year and helped the Mavericks to a 53-29 record, their best since 1988. Finley, 6foot-7, led the NBA in minutes played (42 a game) and was the team's. second-leading scorer at 21.5 points per game. He averaged

rebounds and 4.4 assists. The Mavericks are looking for Finley to make a big difference for the team next season.

Houston signs \$100 million pact

NEW YORK (AP) Shooting guard Allan Houston re-signed with the New York Knicks for \$100 million for six years.

Houston averaged 18.7 points last season, his fifth with the Knicks. Eleven other NBA shooting guards had a higher scoring average last sea-

ON THE AIR

Radio BASEBALL

7:10 p.m. —Baltimore Orioles at Texas Rangers, **KBST-AM 1490.**

Television

BASEBALL 7 p.m. - Cincinnatti Reds at Atlanta Braves, TBS, Ch. 11.

Banks calm about taking over Cowboys' quarterback spot

WICHITA FALLS (AP) -The new starting quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys wears No. 3 and has diamond studs in both ears. He's lost 11 more games than he's won and he's never completed a pass in a playoff game.

Tony Banks is no Troy Aikman. And the Dallas Cowboys aren't expecting him to be.

"We asked Troy on a number of occasions to win the football game for us. We're not asking our quarterbacks to do that now," coach Dave Campo said. "They're going to manage games, do what

to the guys that have a chance to win games for

Banks is the first player other than Aikman to go into training camp as Dallas' starting quarterback since Steve Pelleur in 1988.

But making fans forget Aikman isn't even on Banks' radar. At 28, going into his sixth season and third team, his biggest concern is to finally establish himself as an NFL quarterback.

"I think I've got one year left, maybe, with the potential label," Banks said, smil-

The Big Spring Division I All-Stars took second place in the gold bracket of an Abilene

softball tournament, July 12-15. The 7- to 9-year-old girls were coached by John Roemer

and the assistant coach was Carrie Fox. Their manager was Cindy Jones. Their cha-

parone was Maria Garcia and Terry Sage was the scorekeeper. Front row, from left are:

Emily Hicks, Crystal Carrillo, Adrianna Garcia, Noelle McDowell, Elena Robies, Alysha

Yanez and Brittney Roemer. Back row: Amanda Longoria, Brandi Herrera, Baylea Fox,

they do best and get the ball ing. "I'm almost past my limit."

> Banks was a second-round pick by St. Louis in 1996 and became the starter right away. He lasted two more years but wasn't consistent enough, so he was traded to Baltimore.

> While the Rams were on their way to winning the Super Bowl, Banks got off to a good start with the Ravens, going 6-4 and throwing a career-best 17 touchdown passes. He remained the starter going into last season, but lost the job to Trent Dilfer in October.

Dilfer remained in charge all the way to a Super Bowl This off-season, the Cowboys were the only team offering Banks a chance to step in as a starter so he accepted an offer of \$500,000 for one year, with no signing bonus and the onus of replacing Aikman.

"I know there's a lot of tradition and legend there with Troy, but I'd rather come in after a guy like Troy and expectations are high than come in after a guy who didn't do anything and have no expectations," Banks said

The 6-foot-4, 230-pound Banks is more mobile than Aikman and has the arm strength to zing the ball downfield and let speedy receivers Joey Galloway and Raghib Ismail run under it.

Banks isn't as accurate on the short- and mediumrange timing passes that were Aikman's specialty. He's also been fumble-prone and has thrown nearly as many interceptions (58) as touchdowns (61).

"The offenses I've been in before have had a lot more freedom to audible," he said.

Rangers, Orioles seek solution to schedules

BALTIMORE (AP) - The Baltimore Orioles and Texas Rangers will play an extra game this week, then play Monday to make up games postponed by a train derailment at Camden Yards.

Two games were postponed last week after a freight train carrying hazardous materials derailed in a tunnel several hundred yards from the stadium. postponements The during Rangers' final scheduled trip to Baltimore this sea-

The teams voted Monday to play a twi-night doubleheader in Arlington on Wednesday starting at 5:05 p.m. CDT and a single game in Baltimore next Monday night at 7:05 p.m. CDT.

"We are disappointed for Orioles' fans that we were unable to reschedule both of the games here in Baltimore," Origles chief it lored anhing.

operating officer Joe Foss said. "However, the complexity of the major league baseball schedule, with the travel and the availability of alternate dates that were acceptable to all parties simply would not allow that happen."

Baltimore outfielder Brady Anderson said the teams were given two options: play successive doubleheaders in Texas this week, or play one doubleheader in Texas and make up the other game next Monday night at Camden

"It's difficult whenever you have to play a doubleheader, particularly a split doubleheader," Anderson said. "There's also financial considerations at stake, and fans who want to see games in Baltimore."

The Orioles voted on the solution at a players-only meeting after their 9-4 loss to Anaheim. To size is miss In Lose Alling

Shelby Jones Resey Jones and Kelly Sage TIP WITH E. Ripken Show is hottest baseball ticket going

Iron Man has become solid gold at the box office.

Since Cal Ripken Jr. announced on June 19 that he would end his 21year career after this season, his march to retirement has created a nonstop parade to the ticket window in Baltimore and ballparks throughout the country.

The Orioles sold 33,000 seats on the day of the announcement, and more than 200,000 tickets over the past month. The team usually sells about 30,000 tickets a week.

"It's been a huge spike for us." said Matt Dryer, the Orioles director of sales. "People are excited about this young team, but Cal is the major factor in our increased numbers."

Ripken's popularity long ago extended beyond Baltimore, and for that reason the future Hall of Famer also has been a huge draw.

Four days after hitting a dramatic home run in his final All-Star game,

50,069 on July 14 for his final game in Atlanta.

The Ripken Show arrived in Miami the next day, and the Florida Marlins drew 25,285 fans - some 8,000 more than their average this season. The Orioles play the Rangers at The Ballpark this week. Everyone, it seems, wants to see

"His presence definitely helped," Marlins spokesman Devin Edmunds

Ripken has received standing ovations at every stadium he's appeared in since the announcement. "You don't often get that sort of treatment at other ballparks," Ripken said. "To have the crowd ask for curtain calls on the road, that's a strange feeling. A good one, but it's strange at the same time. So far, it's been just one

big celebration.' Ripken hasn't been this popular at the box office since 1995, when the the 40-year-old third baseman Orioles' durable third baseman

BALTIMORE (AP) — Baseball's helped attract a sellout crowd of reached Iron Man status by breaking Lou Gehrig's remarkable record of playing in 2,131 straight games. Ripken went on to play in 2,632 consecutive games before voluntarily ending the streak in 1998.

Now, as he enters the final stage of his remarkable career, Ripken is again a major drawing card.

The Orioles spent millions of dollars this season promoting "The Kids" on a revamped roster, yet the team's oldest player remains its most marketable attraction.

The Orioles sold out the final home series of the season, Sept. 21-23 against the New York Yankees, on the day of Ripken's retirement announcement.

"As the window of opportunity closes, people are looking to take their third and fourth choices," said Bill Stetka, the Orioles director of public relations. "We normally sell a lot of weekend dates over the sum-

mer, but every game is picking up." It's become a nationwide phenomenon. Within 24 hours of Ripken's retirement announcement, Yankee Stadium sold out for Sept. 30, the Orioles' last scheduled game of the season.

For at least one day, the most coveted ticket in the Big Apple won't be for Broadway's "The Producers."

The Orioles are working out plans to celebrate Ripken's career during his final 21 home games, a number that coincides with the years he's been in the majors, all with Baltimore. Stetka said the tribute will intensify during the last eight games (Ripken wears No. 8), and will reach a climax for the final home series.

Barring an injury, Ripken most certainly will play in all three games against the Yankees. But there will be times before then when Ripken will spend the entire game on the bench.

"The days I'm not playing, I just try to do the best I can to be more visible before the game. I'll sign autographs or throw near the dugout before the game," he said.

Clemens rockets past Seaver on career strikeout list

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whatever Tom Seaver taught Roger Clemens, it's working. And it has been for a long, long time.

Clemens rocketed past Seaver into fourth place on the career strikeout list, winning his 10th straight decision as the New York Yankees beat the Toronto Blue Jays 7-2 Monday night.

As teammates with the 1986 Boston Red Sox, Clemens often sat beside Seaver in the dugout, trying to absorb everything the aging ace knew about pitching.

Maybe the most important lesson he learned was staying power.
"Longevity," the 38-year-old
Clemens said. "That's what you

have to have when you're chasing down guys so rich in history." Clemens, in the 18th year of a sto-

Cy Young Awards in 1986. Seaver, a first-hallot Hall of Famer, won three Cy Youngs and 311 games during a 20-year career that ended

ried career, won the first of his five

after that '86 campaign. Power pitchers with similar styles, both right-handers relied on explosive leg drive and textbook mechanics to stay strong for so

"Tom Seaver is just a tremendous name, a tremendous pitcher and a tremendous person," Clemens said.

"I was able to take some things Tom told me on the bench. He was a teammate, and in the short time he was, I was able to learn a lot from

In other American League games, it was Anaheim 9, Baltimore 4; Seattle 3, Minnesota 2; Cleveland 2, Chicago 0; and Oakland 7, Kansas City 2.

In National League games, it was Montreal 3, Philadelphia 0; Cincinnati 5, Atlanta 4; Chicago Cubs 6, Houston 2; Colorado 8, San Francisco 2; and San Diego 4, Arizona 2.

The New York Mets were rained out at Florida. The teams will make up the game in September Clemens (14-1) tied Arizona's Curt Schilling for most wins in the majors. His 274th victory put him ahead of Yankees Hall of Famer Red Ruffing for 27th place.

Clemens is unbeaten in 11 starts, the longest streak by a Yankees pitcher since Jimmy Key won 11 straight in 1994. He improved to 9-0 this year at Yankee Stadium, drawing standing ovations when he passed Seaver and again when he left after 6 2-3 innings.

"I hate to think where we'd bewithout him," manager Joe Torre-

Clemens caught Luis Lopez looking at a fastball leading off the fifth

inning for his sixth strikeout and No. 3,641 lifetime, one more than Seaver. The Rocket struck out eight to finish the night with 3,643.

"I've only seen him on TV," Lopez said. "It's OK, though. There are 4,000-some odd other guys with me." The ball was saved as a souvenir,

and Clemens stepped off the rubber to wave his glove and tip his cap to the fans. Next up on the strikeout list is

Bert Blyleven, third with 3,701. Nolan Ryan holds the career record with 5,714 and Steve Carlton is second with 4,136. "I thought it was remarkable

when Nolan Ryan and Steve Carlton pitched into their 40s," Torre said. 'Roger hasn't had to back off.' Tino Martinez hit his 250th career

home run, and Paul O'Neill, Jorge Posada and Shane Spencer also connected for New York. home runs. For the second straight day against Toronto, the Yankees tied a

season high for homers. Steve Parris (4-6) took the 7-2 loss against the Yankees.

Indians 2, White Sox 0

Rookie C.C. Sabathia took a shutout into the seventh inning and Juan Gonzalez hit his 26th homer. lifting Cleveland into first place in the AL Central.

Sabathia (10-3) allowed two hits as the host Indians won for the sixth time in seven games and moved two percentage points ahead of Minnesota, taking the division lead for the first time since June 26. The Indians trailed by five games as recently as July 16 and are trying to play catch-up in the standings.

Mariners 3, Twins 2

Jamie Moyer (10-5) allowed both runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings, striking out seven as Seattle completed a four-game sweep at the Metrodome.

Minnesota has lost nine of 12 since the All-Star break. Brad Radke (10-7) dropped his third consecutive start, giving up all three runs - one was unearned - and nine hits in eight innings.

Kazuhiro Sasaki got four straight outs for his major league-leading 33rd save.

Angels 9. **Orioles 4**

Troy Glaus had three RBIs and Anaheim scored all its runs with two outs in winning for the seventh time in eight games. Baltimore has lost seven of eight and 14 of 17.

Ismael Valdes (7-5) allowed two runs and eight hits in 5 2-3 innings at Camden Yards.

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2 bdrm, C/H/A, very \$350/mo 263-5818 or 264-7726 2BR, CH/A, fenced yard. 908 Nolan. \$300/mo \$100/dep. Call 661-8884 or 263-8813

2BR w/garage. References. No pets. Parkhill area. Available Aug. 1st. Call 263-1054

HUD Free to good home puppies, 1/2 german sherpard 1/2 australia shepard. 6 wks.

267-7518/ 99 Mercury Sable LS 13,600k leather interior, totally remodeled, exc. condition. 267-7198

3BR, 2 Bath. Next to

3219 11th Pl. 3 BR, 2 bath. \$400/mo., \$150/dep. 263-5808. Clean 3 BR, 2 bath,

CH/A, fenced yard. 2510 Carlton. \$550/mo, \$250/dep. 267-1543

Herald Classified ads work. Call us to place

fied by what you accomplish. Take time for a walk or a brief workout at lunch. Tonight: Go for peace and quiet.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Others, even a flaky friend, go out of their way for you! You get to see how much you are cared about. Let others know just how serious you are about a project or an issue. Your creativity finds a way to get you exactly what you want. Tonight: Visit with your

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** Be realistic about how much you can do. Go for financial gain and security. A family member agitates to get more. You don't need to get upset. Simply have a heart-to-heart conversation. Don't make anything harder than it needs to be. Tonight: Order in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Your smiling ways draw others in. Someone might be more enamored of you than you realize. Before you start flirting, consider how you feel about this person. You're personality-plus right now, and others respond. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.

*** Rather than taking action, sit back and see what others offer. Your nerves could be fried. As a result, you could be spending way too much. Take a deep breath and stop acting out. Tonight: Do your own thing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You have what it takes to hit a home run in any area of your life. Just go off and do it. Someone might not be reading you loud and clear, and vice versa. Don't let confusion continue. Stop and have a much-needed discussion.

optimistic as you, but he follows your lead. Tonight: Do only what you want!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-**** Run with the ball.

Your intuition tells you exactly how to reach the goal line. Don't leave details to chance, as you need to follow through with a key project. Capricorn identifies with work; this is particularly true now. Tonight: Make a must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.

***** Your ability to see what others can't distinguishes you. Share a vision as clearly as you can. Friends give constructive advice. A meeting proves to be unusually important as well. A child or a special friend might appear particularly somber. Tonight: Listen to favorite music.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March

***** Listen to feedback from a partner or a special friend. What this person wants is to make your life more worthwhile and more to your liking. A boss helps point you in the right direction. Don't test your limits. Zero in on what you want. Tonight: Togetherness

BORN TODAY

Actor Matt LeBlanc (1967), model Iman (1955), novelist Robyn Carr (1951)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet http://www.jacquelinebigar.com

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Alcoholic father "messing up" life of pre-teen

ANN

LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I am to remove the buttons 2 years old. My parents before s have been divorced for two years and have joint custody. Since the divorce, my

father has been drunk most of the time. His girlfriend is also an alcoholic. I am afraid to ride in a car with

them. My dad never acts drunk, but he can't be

sober after all the beer I see him guzzle. His girlfriend has her own apartment, but she usually drinks until she passes out at Dad's place. They have a lot of company, and it seems like I never get enough rest. It's not unusual to find strangers sleeping on the

sofa or on the floor. My mother works all the overtime she can, but she still has very little money and cannot afford a lawyer. Do you think if I told a judge about the situation, I could live with my mother full time? I love my father, but his drinking is messing up my life. I am tired all the time and worry a lot. Please tell me what to do. --Scared in Washington, D.C.

Dear Scared: Do you know the lawyer or judge who handled your mother's divorce? If so, show the person this column and say you wrote it. Also, mail a copy to your father, and plead with him to join Alcoholics Anonymous. (You might also check out Alateen's Web site at www.alateen.org.) Talk to other adult family members and ask for their help. You must be permitted to stay with your mother -- the sooner the better.

Good luck, dear. You sound extremely grown up for a 12-year-old -- very solid and compassionate. You're going to do well in life. I'm sure of it.

Dear Ann Landers: You recently printed a letter from "Portland, Ore.," who said her brother sent a jacket to the dry cleaners, and when he picked it up, the hand-carved ivory buttons were missing. Your advice

the dry cleaners was OK, but you should have said

more. Some years ago, a friend of mine sent a beautiful. handmade afghan to be cleaned. It disappeared. The cleaners said they 'couldn't explain it." My friend sent the cleaners a bill for several hundred dollars with a letter citing the value of the afghan and the legal responsibility of the cleaners to replace it. Within a week, the afghan mysteriously turned up.

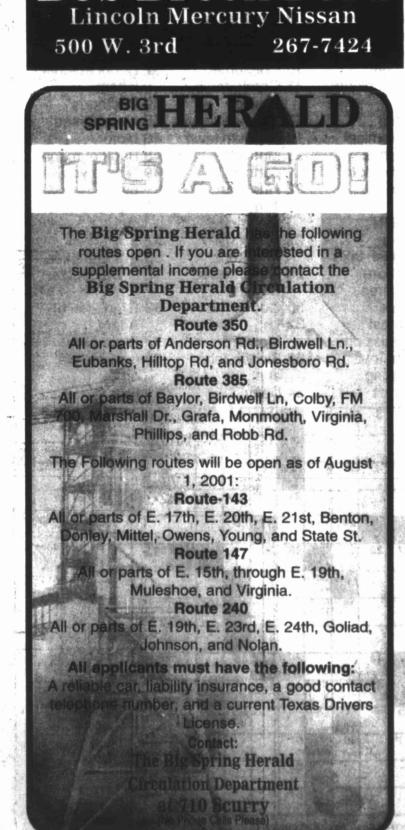
I hope "Portland" has a photograph of her brother wearing that jacket. She should send a copy of the picture, along with a bill, to her dry cleaners by registered mail. She should also let her friends know about this cleaning establishment, and tell them to take their business elsewhere. --Minneapolis

Dear Minneapolis: I received so many letters complaining about cleaning establishments that I feel compelled to give this warning: Beware, cleaners who see yourselves in today's column. Your customers are fed up, and they aren't going to take it any-

Dear Ann: My new husband's son recently became engaged to a lovely young woman. "Wilbur" and his mother shopped for the engagement ring, and it is a huge sparkler. I am not a certified gemologist, but I could tell at a glance that the "diamond" is not real. The young bride-to-be displays it with such pride that I'm sure she has no idea it's a fake.

I have decided it is best to keep this information to myself. My husband feels that I should tell the young woman the truth about her ring, but I'm not so sure he is right. What do you say, Ann? Sign me -- Mum in **New York**

Dear Mum: I agree with you. It's possible the brideto-be already knows. If not, when she goes to a jeweler for an appraisal (for insurance purposes), the jeweler will give her the "news." You should not be the messenger. I hope you will remain Mum in New York.



You say you didn't notice

until it was too late to do anything about it?

Probably, if you aren't checking the Public Notices columns of this newspaper regularly.

Public Notices are required by state law to protect your rights and to help you function more effectively as a citizen. Access to information about what government agencies are doing is what makes the American the most powerful citizen in the world.

The Public Notices give you access to information you need . . . about new local laws that will affect you . . . about plans for major land use changes . . . about were roads will go . . . whose land will be condemned . . . how your tax dollars will be spent . . . about court

plain interesting. Whether you know them as Public Notices or as "the legals", it pays you to check the Public Notice columns in this newspaper each issue. What you don't know might cost

actions that could be important to you, or just

F	TUESDAY															Y 24				
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2	6 PM	News (CC)	Cosby (CC) Suddenly	Wishbone Zoboomafoo	Step by Step Step by Step	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fresh Prince Major League	Carita de	Moyfe: Brink) (OE)	Mertial Law. (CC)	When a Man Lovette	Shired of Ev- idence (CC)	Kes (CC)	Update With John Hages	Law & Order (CC)	Nature's \ Death Traps	Pretender (CC)	48 Hours
le el	7 :PM	Be a Millionaire	Simpsons Murder in	Nova (CC) (DVS)	Bee Gees in Concert	Big Brother (CC)	Be a Millionaire	Spy TV (CC) Downer	Baseball: Cincinnati	Abrazame Muy Fuerte	(:40) Movie:	Miami Vice	Women (CC)	Movie: Pitch Black (CC)	Road to El	Southwest	Biography (CC)	Prosecutors- Justice	Law & Order (CC)	Trauma: Life in the ER
Y I	B :30	Dharma-Greg Dharma-Greg	Small Town	X Secrets of the Dead (CC)	в дейа л	JAG (CC)	Dharma-Greg Dharma-Greg	Frasier (CC) Three Sisters		Por un Beso	The Thirteenth	Movie: Ster	Movie: Dangerous	3	Doredo (CC) Mavie: Under		Investigative Reports (CC)	New Detec- tives (CC)		Maternity Ward
n o tes	9 :PM	NYPD Blue	Arrest & Trial		Early Edition (CC) (DVS)	Judging Amy (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Dateline (CC)	Braves Movie:	Aqui y Ahora	Year (CC) (:20) Movie:	Motion Picture (CC)	Minds (CC) , (:45) Movie:	Resurrection Blvd.	Pressure	Hour of	Reports (CC)		Law & Order (CC)	Christie's Story
10	O :PM	News (CC)	Blind Date Jerry Springe	News-Lahrer	700 Club (CC	News (:35) Late	News (CC)	News (:35) Tonight	Deliverance	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ	Kidz in the Wood (CC)	Listen	Posse,	Movie: Rocky Marcians	Sex and City Six figet	Update With Dr. Massey	Law & Order (CC)	Justice Files		Trauma: Life in the ER
1	1 :PM	Politically Inc.		P.O.V. (CC)	Who's Boss? Who's Boss?	Show (CC) (:37) Late Late	Ent. Tonight	Show (CC)	(:45) Movie:	El Super Blabiazo	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Miami Vice	(:45) Movie:	(CC) (:45) Mayte:	Under (CC) Decision Mager	Promise Church	Biography (CC)	Prosecutors- Justice	Movie: A Low Down Dirty	Maternity Ward
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one sports team a wash. ... wash to the wast appearance and



'I guess I don't have a ten-gallon head."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Did cavemen own or rent?"



BLONDIE







B.C.



GEECH



FRUITCAKE? IT'S THE MIDDLE

KNOW, BUT WHEN THEY REMEMBERED HOW MUCH YOU HATE IT, THEY COUDN'T WAIT FOR CHRISTMAS.

WIZARD OF ID





HI AND LOIS





GASOLINE ALLEY







SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILY







THIS DATE

IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, July 24, the 205th day of 2001. There are 160 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 24, 1969, the Apollo 11 astronauts returned from man's first lunar landing and splashed down safely in the Pacific. On this date:

In 1783, Latin American revolutionary Simon

Bolivar was born in Caracas, Venezuela, 1 Agri In 1862, Martin Van Buren, eighth president of the United States, died in Kinderhook, N.Y.

In 1866, Tennessee became the first state readmitted to the Union after the Civil War.

In 1923, the Treaty of Lausanne, which settled the boundaries of modern Turkey, was concluded in Switzerland.

In 1929, President Hoover proclaimed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which renounced war as an instrument of foreign poli-

In 1937, the state of Alabama dropped charges against five black men accused of raping two white women in the Scottsboro Case.

In 1959, during a visit to the Soviet Union, Vice President Richard M. Nixon engaged in a "Kitchen Debate" with Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev at a U.S. exhibition.

In 1974, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that President Nixon had to turn over subpoensed White House tape recordings to the Watergate special prosecutor.

In 1975, an Apollo space-craft splashed down in the Pacific, completing a mission which included the first-ever docking with a Soyuz capsule from the Soviet Union.

In 1998, a gunman burst into the U.S. Capitol, open-ing fire and killing two police officers before being shot and captured. Russell Weston Jr., diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, was found incompetent to stand trial.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Peter Yates is 72. **Actress Jacqueline Brookes** is 71. Political cartoonist Pat Oliphant is 66. Comedian Ruth Buzzi is 65. Actor Mark Goddard is 65. Actor Dan Hedaya is 61. Actor Chris Sarandon is 59. Actor Robert Hays is 54. Former Montana Gov. Marc Racicot is 53.



Newsday Crossword

63 Italian auto

64 Came down

to earth

Do:

Gay

others . . .

67 Anatomical

pouches

DOWN

2 Scottish lake

Offshore

Declares

submission

untrue

5 Contest

6 Book leaf

7 Warning

sounds

Bric-a-

Put back to

(WWII plane)

ACROSS 1 Grass unit

6 Paper tablets 10 Aid in crime 14 '50s infielder Al

15 Jai 學家 16 Garr of Tootsie 17 Without

(bankrupt) 18 1996 Olympics

star Devers 19 Falco of

The Sopranos 20 Meeting leader "__ the

ramparts . . . 24 CBS logo

25 Reflexive pronoun

27 Out of date: Abbr.

29 Ave. crossers 31 Kids' card game

32 Actress Joanne 33 Ordinal suffix 34 Sharp satire 38 Painter

Maurice 40 Greek shipping magnate

Alan Arthur 42 Cardboard package: Abbr.

43 Pixie 44 I love: Lat.

45 A Stooge 46 Curvy letter 47 Battle of Midway victor 50 Coffee maker

52 Tie holdet 54 Informer Gumbo

ingredient Read my 82 Burn stightly

AROUND THE HOUSE by S. Soloway **Edited by Stanley Newman**

8 Fresh as a 9 Farm

structures 10 Consumed 11 Comfortable

position 12 A Great Lake

13 Stadium level 21 Mortar's

partner 22 Hud star

26 Times around the track

27 "Straight" word form 28 Government

worker

30 God of thunder 32 Le __ Tho of

Vietnam

34 Daffy

33 Singer John et al.

35 Poker dealer's words

36 Some paintings 37 Bounced-check letters

39 Doctrines 45 Nearsighted 46 Motor

48 Book of maps 49 "There you

are!" 51 Part of a stair,

step 52 Soy product

53 Comparable 55 D-Day boats:

Abbr. 56 Grandson of

Adam 57 Stare at

58 In apple-pie order

60 From

