

**WEDNESDAY**

September 5, 2001

**WEATHER**

**Tonight:**



**PARTLY CLOUDY**  
TONIGHT TOMORROW  
67°-69° 88°-91°

**Taste of Home tickets on sale at chamber**

Tickets for the Taste of Home Cooking School are available.

Sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, KBST and the city of Big Spring, the show will be held on Sept. 11 at the Municipal Auditorium.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the show will begin at 7 p.m. Only 1,200 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$7 each and available at the chamber. For more information, call 263-7641.

**WHAT'S UP...**

**TODAY**

□ Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third.

**THURSDAY**

□ Gideons

International, Big Spring Camp No. U42060 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 the Senior Citizens Center for more information.

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

□ Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Genealogical Society of Big Spring meets at 7:15 p.m. at the county library.

□ Masonic Lodge 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

**FRIDAY**

□ The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ AMBUCS meets at noon at "The Brandin" Iron Inn.

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

**SATURDAY**

□ 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.

**INSIDE TODAY...**

Classified	8-9
Comics	10
General	3
Horoscope	9
Landers	9
Obituaries	2
Opinion	4
Sports	6-7

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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 Sunday.

## Jeffrey to bring powerful, humorous message

By **BILL McCLELLAN**  
News Editor

As a quarterback at the collegiate level, Neal Jeffrey had a lot of weight on his shoulders. Thousands of fans expected him to lead their team to a championship. But while he



**JEFFREY**

had worked hard to develop the physical and mental skills it took to become an all-conference player, he was still at a tremendous disadvantage. He stuttered.

How could he convey plays to the team during a game? Just as importantly, how could he gain his teammates' respect?

Through his faith and support of friends and family, Jeffrey was able to do those things and lead the Baylor Bears to the 1974 Southwest Conference

**UNITED WAY**

What: Kickoff luncheon  
When: 11:30 a.m.  
Thursday.

Where: First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall.

Cost: \$11 per ticket at the United Way office or Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Championship. He was named an Outstanding

Collegiate Athlete of America, was a Sports Illustrated National Back of the Week and honorable mention All American. He went on to play two years in the National Football League with the San Diego Chargers.

Jeffrey's inspirational and often humorous story is a part of what he will talk about Thursday as keynote speaker when the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County kicks off its fund drive with a noon luncheon.

cheon.

"I am honored to be a part of this. Everyone knows about United Way. It helps a bunch of people and a bunch of programs," Jeffrey said this morning from his office as associate pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano.

The luncheon will be from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall.

"I am excited about being

See **UNITED WAY**, Page 2

## \$27,700 generated for MDA

Organizers overjoyed with local response

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

From being locked up, filling the boot to calling in donations, an estimated \$27,700 and counting was raised in Howard County for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

This year's fund-raiser was capped off by the Labor Day Telethon.

"I am extremely pleased with the telethon," said Barry Barnett, who heads up the Harley Owner's Group (HOG) portion of the day-long event.

According to Barnett, the event raised about the same as last year.

"We have four big bags of change we have not even counted yet," he said.

Barnett said the response from the community was remarkable.

"We are the smallest TV market in the nation that has its own telethon," Barnett said. "For an area the size of Big Spring and Howard County to raise over \$27,000 is just remarkable."

"If you look at it in per capita, we raise more money than Midland and Odessa combined," he continued. "Our totals are included in the Midland and Odessa totals."

"The residents really come out and support us," he said. "We could not do this without them."

Barnett contributed the



**Patsy Barnett adjusts Big Spring's total on the money board. As early as 12:30 p.m. Monday, the Big Spring part of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Labor Day Telethon and other fund-raisers had raised more than \$15,000.**

success of this year's MDA telethon campaign not only to the big contributions but to those many who took the time to volunteer or donate a few dollars.

"The volunteers and people who came out and dropped a \$1 in the fish tank, gave us \$5 or those who called in with a \$25 donation made it worth it," he said.

More than \$13,000 was raised at the MDA lock up, held at the Big Spring Mall earlier in the year and Big Spring Fire Fighters raked in over \$7,000 with its Fill the Boot campaign, Barnett said.

"The firefighters really got out and hustled," he said. "They really did a

good job."

The televised portion of Big Spring's part of the Labor Day Telethon was held at the Big Spring Mall.

"Kathy Lusk, (mall manager) and her crew were excellent," he said. "They let us come in and take over the mall and do what we wanted to do."

HOG held numerous events during the day, including a motorcycle show and games, a silent auction, the sale of barbecue sandwiches where HOG members raised over \$700, and more.

Barnett said many of the mall's merchants donated items for the auction.

Local bands The Billy Shears Band and One Star

Shy entertained the crowd for free.

Earlier in August, the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department gave a hand to raise money by setting up a dunking booth at the Howard County Fair. Figures from that fund-raiser have not yet been included in the totals.

Channel 9 broadcasted the local portions of the telethon, which featured local talent — Johnnie Lou Avery and Thomas Jenkins.

Money raised for MDA in the Permian Basin stays here, Barnett said.

"Seventy-five cents of every dollar raised by MDA goes toward the kids in some form or fashion."

## County to settle on lower tax rate

By **ROGER CLINE**  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners seem united in their decision to lower the county's tax rate by almost three cents per hundred dollars of property value at their meeting Monday.

The current rate of 44.89 cents per \$100 valuation will drop to 42.074 per \$100, a decrease of 2.816 cents, or 6.27 percent.

County Judge Ben Lockhart said rates are going down because property values county-wide went up.

"If we'd left the tax rate as it was we'd have brought in quite a bit more than we needed," the judge said.

Lockhart added that the county doesn't have any major projects planned for the new fiscal year which would require tax increases.

"Not any big ones. We're through with the courtroom over there, although most of that was donated," he said. "We're going to do some work on the plumbing over at the courthouse, but we've got the money to do that."

In fact, the budget itself is being cut by about half a million dollars from last year's figure, according to County Auditor Jackie Olson.

Last year's budget was \$10.1 million and the proposed budget for this year is

See **COUNTY**, Page 2

## Museum to celebrate with ice cream social

Herald Staff Report

Students are back in classes and the grass is looking greener — well, maybe not so brown — indicators that summer is coming to a close.

The Heritage Museum wants to celebrate the end of summer with an ice cream social.

RANEY

"We thought it would be a neat ending the summer with an ice cream social and to have it out on the patio," said Nancy Raney of the Heritage Museum.

Bring that special homemade ice cream recipe, or a carton of Bluebell ice cream will do, she said.

"You can just bring your appetite," Raney added.

**SOCIAL EVENT**

What: Ice cream social  
When: 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday.

Where: Heritage Museum.

Cost: Free.

Admission to the event is free and the public will have a chance to see some of the changes brought about by the current museum renovations.

Those who come are also welcome to munch on some special sweets.

"Katie Kathie is bringing her famous homemade peach ice cream," Raney said.

And Betty McChristian will be making up a batch of her Howard County Fair award-winning cookies for those to sample, Raney said.

Featured entertainment will be performed by the Paige Sisters.



**Stephanie Guzman, a Suggs Hallmark employee, prepares to donate blood at the Big Spring Mall on Saturday. Twenty-year-old Guzman has been donating blood regularly since she was 18 and said her mother is alive today because of a blood transfusion. United Blood Services will be in Big Spring twice next week: at StarTek on Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and at City Hall on Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To make an appointment, call UBS at 1-800-756-0024.**

S E P T E M B E R 5 2 0 0 1



# Sen. Gramm announces he will not seek another term

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas Republican Phil Gramm said Tuesday he will leave the Senate at the end of his third term next year, closing out a career as an unflinching advocate of lower taxes and less government.



GRAMM

"I have always been happy with the tax cuts I've supported," Gramm said at a news conference where he sometimes grew emotional. He quickly added, "I still believe that government is too big, too powerful and too expensive and too intrusive," and he urged a capital gains tax cut this fall.

Gramm, 59, said he has made no plans for life after politics. A former economics professor at Texas A&M, he sidestepped questions about the school's presidency, which is vacant.

Gramm is the third Republican senator to dis-

close plans to retire in 2002. Jesse Helms, 79, of North Carolina, announced last month that his fifth term would be his last. Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina, is 98 and near the end of his career.

A fourth, Sen. Fred Thompson of Tennessee, has yet to declare his intentions. In all, there are 21 Republican seats on the ballot in 2002, compared to 14 for the Democrats, all of whose incumbents are expected to seek new terms.

Democrats currently control the Senate, 50-49, with one independent, Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont, who caucuses with them.

In a statement, President Bush, a fellow Texan, said Gramm "has been a consistent and committed advocate of tax relief for working Americans, beginning with his work on President Reagan's tax cut in 1981 ... and continuing with his tireless efforts to pass this year's monumental tax relief package."

Gramm was elected to the

House in 1978 as a Democrat. Appointed to the House Budget Committee by fellow Democrats in 1981, he worked secretly with Republicans to pass then-President Reagan's budget, with tax and spending cuts and a big increase in the Pentagon's budget. The landmark spending-cut legislation carries his name.

Later stripped of his committee assignment, he resigned his House seat following re-election. He promptly won it back as a Republican in a special election in 1983, then used it as a springboard to the Senate in 1984. He has been easily elected ever since, and was a safe bet for re-election.

But his brand of politics proved unsuccessful outside the state. A run for the GOP presidential nomination collapsed in 1996 when he finished fifth in the leadoff Iowa caucuses.

At the same time, Gramm steadily gathered influence inside the Senate GOP. As chairman of the Senate campaign committee, he helped

usher in the GOP majority in the 1994 elections. A few months later, he helped Mississippi Sen. Trent Lott — now the GOP leader — gain a leadership post.

Gramm has been a relentless foe of big government, willing to clash with Democrats and Republicans alike on the subject. Chairman of the Banking Committee until Democrats gained a Senate majority this year, he played important roles in passing comprehensive banking legislation, which President Clinton signed into law, as well as a bankruptcy bill still pending.

Gramm said he was leaving because his goals — the balanced budget, tax cuts, welfare reform, Communism's decline — had been accomplished. "I am proud to be able to say today that not only did I fight for these things, not only did I play a leadership role in each and every one, but that in a very real sense, 25 years later these goals have been achieved."

## TEXAS POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Republican U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm's decision not to seek re-election changes the political landscape in Texas. Here is a look at what has happened:

—Sen. Phil Gramm announces Tuesday he won't seek re-election.

—Republicans mentioned as potential candidates for the Senate seat are Texas Attorney General John Comyn, Land Commissioner David Dewhurst, Railroad Commissioner Tony Garza and U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla of San Antonio. U.S. Rep. Joe Barton is reactivating his Senate exploratory committee.

—Democrats viewed as potential candidates for Senate are Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales and Texas Democratic Party Chairwoman Molly Beth Malcolm. Former University of Texas football player Ed Cunningham has already

announced a bid.

—If Comyn runs for Senate, new candidates will move into the attorney general's race, where there would be no incumbent. Austin Mayor Kirk Watson, a Democrat, already is running.

—If Dewhurst runs for Gramm's seat, he will leave former Texas Supreme Court Justice Greg Abbott as the lone Republican in the race for lieutenant governor. Former Selective Service Director Gil Coronado and former Comptroller John Sharp are the Democrats in the race.

—Democrats will try to recapture the governor's post for the first time since Ann Richards held the office from 1991-95. Laredo multimillionaire Tony Sanchez launched his bid as a Democrat on Tuesday.

He'll face Democrats Marty Atkins and John WorldPeace and Republican Gov. Rick Perry.

# Postal Service using scanners to clock carriers' arrival times along routes

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Neither rain nor snow nor heat nor gloom of night can keep mail carriers from completing their appointed rounds.

But a new scanning system that clocks their arrival times at various points may hurt their flexibility to vary routes or time lunch breaks according to weather conditions or volume of mail, contends the postal workers' union, which has filed a grievance.

Postal Service officials say the system is being adopted in answer to customers' wishes for predictable delivery times. It expands on the real-time package tracking

of private carriers like FedEx and UPS, they say.

Nationally, the Postal Service has been implementing the system since November. It is expected to be in use in about 60 percent of post offices by the end of the year.

In facilities where the equipment has been installed, each carrier scans 12 bar code stickers: one when leaving the office, one when finished loading his or her vehicle, nine along the route and one on returning to the office.

"It's not 'I gotcha,'" said Kate Pembroke, manager of Philadelphia's Fox Chase Post Office, which just completed its

second week of using the new system. "We would take it into consideration if there was a snowstorm that would make delivery times later, or heavier volume. If they got out of the office later because of heavy volume, we would take that into consideration."

The National Association of Letter Carriers says it doesn't object to the basic idea of having carriers swipe bar code stickers to record the time they pass check points.

"We understand why the Postal Service needs this new process, and the NALC is not interested in

any way in sabotaging it," said Drew Von Bergen, a spokesman for the union in Washington, D.C.

Von Bergen declined to discuss details of the grievance or how the NALC proposes to resolve potential restrictions on mail carriers decision-making ability along their routes.

"The only issue being contested is the effect of implementation of the managed service points on letter carriers, such as the current flexibility as to when a letter carrier can take a lunch break," he said.

Given today's technological capabilities, it may have been

inevitable that mail carriers would end up clocking in, said letter carrier David Leathers, 40, pushing a cart loaded with mail along a street of Philadelphia row houses.

"Eventually we were going to do it," Leathers said. "I don't have a problem with it as long as they don't use it to discipline the carriers or blame the carriers" for delays.

The U.S. Postal Service's Philadelphia district started putting the system in operation in June and expects to have all offices using it by Sept. 8, spokeswoman Belinda Kelley said.

# Woman recants allegations attack

LINDEN (AP) — A 32-year-old woman has recanted her claim that she was abducted last week by two men who robbed her, beat her into unconsciousness, sexually assaulted her and carved the letters KKK into her chest.

The woman, who is black, said the men wore sheets or pillow cases over their heads.

The woman, who lives in Bivins, a Cass County community about 150 miles east of Dallas and 40 miles southwest of Texarkana, told authorities she was forced into a pickup as she was walking home Wednesday night.

Chief deputy Ronnie Fincher said investigators found inconsistencies in her story, and that during further questioning she admitted she carved the letters into her chest with a pair of scissors.

Fincher said it's yet to be determined why she made up the story. No decision has been made, he said, on whether charges will be filed against her.

She told the Texarkana Gazette last week that the men drove up about 6 p.m. Wednesday and called her a racist name.

"I took off running, but they drove toward me and knocked me down by open-

ing the truck door," she had said. She said she was forced into the cab of the truck and hit in the back of her head.

"I don't remember too much after that. I was blinking in and out (unconscious)."

The woman said she was thrown out of the truck after being held all night at an unknown location.

The woman was treated Thursday at Atlanta Memorial Hospital for a bump on her head, cuts, bruises and other injuries. She had missing teeth and numerous bruises and scratches on her legs, arms and stomach.

**C.H.I.P.**  
(Programa de Asegurancia Medica Para Ninos)

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Como hago mi solicitud? Llame a su oficina local West Texas Opportunities, Inc (267-9536) la enfermera de la escuela, la oficina del doctor, el hospital, guarderia de ninos, o llame as 1-800-647-6558.

**NO PIERDA SU TIEMPO!!**  
Children's Health Insurance Program Available in Your Neighborhood by Calling your local West Texas Opportunities, Inc. office at (915) 267 - 9536 or 1 - 800 - 647 - 6558.

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Ken Dulaney  
Publisher

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# Once again, local folks come through

Great job Howard County! Once again, you have reached in your hearts and pocketbooks to help those in need. A preliminary report indicates fundraisers held to combat muscular dystrophy raised more than \$27,700.

From the lock-up earlier this year to the volunteer firefighter's dunking booth at the fair, the city fire department's Fill the Boot campaign through last weekend's telethon, you answered the call.

None of it could have been possible without the many volunteers and contributors. From those on the front lines such as the firefighters, Harley Owner's Group and Channel 9 team to those who manned the phones, donated prizes and gave their time, we commend their tireless efforts.

There will come a day when muscular dystrophy will be defeated, and it will be because of the generous people who donated their time, their effort and their hard-earned dollars.

Thanks again, Howard County, for a terrific job!

## OTHER VIEWS

Boiled down to its most basic element, the battle over redistricting deals with power — who keeps it and who loses it.

Accordingly, the struggle also is about regions within our vast state protecting their vested interests.

If the Legislative Redistricting Board's new Texas Senate boundaries stand, the Texas Panhandle stands to lose a good bit of its voice in the 2003 Legislature.

That must not happen — under any circumstance.

The LRB proposal has wiped Senate District 30 out of the Panhandle. District 30, which included much of the eastern Panhandle, had been represented by Sen. Tom Haywood, R-Wichita Falls. Haywood, however, died this summer of a heart attack.

The LRB redrew the boundaries in a way that splits the Panhandle between two districts, 28 and 31.

But here's the rub — which well might turn raw.

District 28, which would include 16 counties in the Panhandle region, is held by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock. Duncan's base of support remains in Lubbock County and the rest of the South Plains.

District 31, which is occupied by Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, also poses a potential problem for the Panhandle. The LRB boundary now includes all of Midland and Ector counties in the Permian Basin, where Bivins is much less well-known than he is in the Panhandle.

Bivins recently announced his plan to run for re-election in 2002 and completed a get-acquainted campaign swing through the southern reaches of what

might be his newly drawn district. Bivins had expressed disappointment that his new district might no longer include Gray County (with its Pampa population base).

The point here is that the Panhandle — for the first time in history — stands at least an outside chance of having no one from this region speaking for it in the next Legislature, especially if the Permian Basin produces a strong candidate who could defeat Bivins next year.

All of this of course remains to be decided by court challenges, appeals and continued wheeling and dealing. The state is agonizing over how to draw these boundaries and finishing a job that by all rights should have been done when the Legislature was in session this spring.

As good a job as Duncan has done for Senate District 28, his loyalty remains tied to the South Plains, which is understandable. That is his home.

Bivins, on the other hand, has spoken well for farmers and ranchers in his home region right here in the Panhandle. His own loyalty remains here, although he — and Duncan, for that matter — will say over and over that they speak for their entire respective Senate districts.

The worst possible outcome for the Panhandle would be for interests 200 miles south of the Panhandle to muster a successful challenge to Bivins, particularly if Duncan staves off a challenge of his own.

This region would be left without a clear voice in the Texas Senate. That event must not happen.

AMARILLO GLOBE-NEWS

# NOW's blitz over Yates misses the mark

It's not uncommon for advocacy groups to latch onto an issue in the news to promote their cause — say an environmentalist group using a spate of major forest fires to raise money for conservation. The idea is to use some noteworthy event to draw attention to your own issue. But the National Organization for Women has gone off the deep end by embracing Andrea Yates, the Texas woman who drowned her five children a few months ago. It's a little like making Jeffrey Dahmer the national poster boy to draw attention to eating disorders.



LINDA CHAVEZ

NOW and a coalition of other feminist and civil liberties groups announced last week that they have formed a defense fund for Yates and have gone on a media blitz to gain attention to their new cause. NOW claims Yates should not be held responsible for her actions because she was suffering postpartum psychosis, a severe form of the more common postpartum depression. Yates is expected to plead not guilty

by reason of insanity when her case comes up for a hearing Sept. 12.

What is it with NOW? As usual, the group is pushing a double standard of justice: one for males, another for females. There's no question that the hormonal changes that accompany pregnancy and birth can cause depression, ranging from mild "baby blues" that last a few weeks to more debilitating forms that require medical intervention. But it's also true the male hormone testosterone plays a major role in provoking aggression, even violence. Yet we don't excuse criminal behavior in males because their hormones may contribute to their violent behavior. Should we let women off the hook because their hormones are out of whack temporarily?

Feminists used to argue that women's fluctuating hormones should not be used as an excuse to deny them jobs or positions of responsibility, much less legal culpability. Anyone who even suggested that female hormones might influence a woman's judgment was immediately labeled a sexist pig. Dr. Edgar Bergman, former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey's personal physician and confidant, became a national joke when he

said a woman could never be president because females were subject to "raging hormones." Of course, Bergman made his remark back in 1970, before feminists decided premenstrual stress disorder and hot flashes were an excuse for everything from poor job performance to homicidal rages.

Yates may, in fact, be mentally ill, although the severity of her illness is very much debatable. She was treated for postpartum depression after the birth of her fourth child and again when her fifth child was born. Doctors put her on Haldol, a powerful drug usually prescribed for acute psychosis, and she was hospitalized for a time. But a court-appointed psychologist has judged her competent to stand trial and, moreover, says she suffers from "a serious mental disease, not a severe mental disease."

Either way, the legal standard that will be used to judge Yates' guilt or innocence is very different from a mental health diagnosis. The question a jury will be asked to decide is whether Yates understood the consequences of her action at the time and whether she knew what she was doing was wrong.

It's hard to argue she didn't. Yates' actions were

cold-blooded and methodical. She drew the water in the tub, and then systematically brought each child into the bathroom and held its head under water until each one drowned. Her oldest boy, 7-year-old Noah, apparently tried to flee, but Yates chased him down and then struggled with him in the tub to make sure he was dead. After she drowned them, Yates lined each up on the bed, called her husband and told him he better come home, then called the police and told them what she had done. This last action makes it particularly hard for Yates to argue she didn't know what she was doing was wrong — the legal standard for insanity.

If NOW was only interested in getting help for women who suffer from postpartum depression, an estimated 10-15 percent of women who give birth, or even the much rarer postpartum psychosis, which afflicts about one in 1,000 recent mothers (not much different from the incidence of other forms of psychosis in the general population), they could do better than adopt Andrea Yates' case. Making Yates their poster girl may get NOW on the talk show circuit, but it will make them even more of a fringe group than they already are.



MARGULIES

## A book about Texas manners

You probably already know the proper way to hold a wine glass. If it's white wine, you hold it by the stem to keep the wine cool. If it's red wine or brandy, you hold the glass by the bowl to keep the liquid warm.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

You might also know that it is considered poor etiquette to bring the glass used during the cocktail hour to the dinner table. In some circles, it is quite all right to drink iced tea from a glass with a spoon in it.

These are just a few examples from a book on Texas manners written by Cece Neef Brune of Midland. Her book is called *Texas Manners: A Guide to Gracious Living*. It's written with a sense of humor.

"I think life is pretty funny. And I try to reflect that in this book. It has all the information you need

there, but I view it more as a reference for people."

The idea for the book came while she was in a planning meeting for the wedding shower of one of her daughter's friends.

"There was so much discussion about the proper way to hold a wedding shower I got weary. When I got home I realized that all the women planning the event had daughters who would also be getting married soon and I didn't think I could live through too many of those meetings."

So she started researching weddings and showers.

"I realized there wasn't a whole lot of information out there. The more I couldn't find, the more I was sure that I ought to do something about it. So I decided to do this book."

The book covers everything from births to funerals.

"I called funeral directors, schools and people that I really didn't want to talk to but I called them simply because the information wasn't there. In my mind I methodically tried to figure out if someone died, what were some of the things I would want to

know. That's how I approached it. The funeral part of the book was the most difficult for me."

The book covers just about every aspect of life: where certain cuts of meat are found on the cow, the proper placement of flags, napkin folding and how to be a good guest.

"I think it would have been a wonderful guide for me. I would have loved to have somebody just hand this book to me and say, 'OK, you don't have to go all over the place and find out about these things. All you have to do is open the book.'"

This is her first book and she's really excited about it.

"I tried to write as little as possible and make it easy for the readers to find what they're looking for by chapters and sub-titles. Hopefully it'll be as easy to use as a dictionary, but a little more fun to read."

We all have additions to the book, which has just been published. In my house, we don't let anyone but family members clear the table.

And we never stack the plates.

## ADDRESSES

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Phone: 202-224-2934
- KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON  
U.S. Senator  
703 Hart Office Building  
Washington, 20510  
Phone: 202-224-5922
- CHARLES STENHOLM  
U.S. Representative  
1211 Longworth Office Bldg.  
Washington, 20515.  
Phone: 202-225-6605.
- ROBERT DUNCAN  
Senator  
Texas 28th District  
401 Austin, Suite 101  
Big Spring, 79720.  
Phone: 268-9909; (800) 322-9538; (512) 463-0128.
- DAVID COUNTS  
Representative  
Texas 70th District  
P.O. Box 338  
Knox City, 79529  
Phone: (940) 658-5012.
- JOHN CORNYN  
Attorney General  
P.O. Box 12548  
Austin, 78711-2548  
Phone: 1-800-252-8011.

- HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- Office — 264-2200.
  - BEN LOCKHART, county judge — Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202.
  - EMMA BROWN — Home: 267-2649.
  - JERRY KILGORE — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.
  - BILL CROOKER — Home: 263-2566.
  - GARY SIMER — Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.
- BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL
- RUSS McEWEN, Mayor — Home: 263-0907; Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413.
  - GREG BRIDSON, Mayor Pro Tem — Home: 267-6009; Work (Ponderosa Restaurant): 267-7121.
  - OSCAR GARCIA — Home: 264-0026; Work (Cornell Corrections): 268-1227.
  - STEPHANIE HORTON — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.
  - CHUCK CAWTHON — Home: 263-7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-1142.
  - TOMMY TUNE — Home: 267-4652; Work (Howard College): 264-5000.
  - JOANN SANDOZ — Home: 267-6965; Work (BSISD): 264-3600.



Mallard Jellmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

## Pharma was inn

KANSAS CIT — Even as a ph... student, Courtney was ways to make n... of it.

When one of professors told might be profi chemotherapy took up the tric was paid hand doctors. He tur so successful the sor, Ashok Gu used his forme the University Kansas City as of how to do th "I told them, g Courtney's Gumbhir said. pharmacists can good living."

That was before

Courtney is diluting ch drugs to save l dollars per dose allegations be weeks ago, ther hundreds of cal tomers who fear get the right dos

The 48-year-old has pleaded innoc count indictme that he misbr adulterated tl According to c ments released investigators are to determine v diluted two of Procrit, which p blood cells to cot effects of chemot Tissue P Activator, whic blood clots.

Prosecutors ha ed Courtney's more than \$1 including \$8.5 securities and t cies worth a cor

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Accepting Check

## Pharmacist at center of cancer drug scare was innovative, driven by desire to succeed

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Even as a pharmacy business student, Robert R. Courtney was looking for ways to make money — lots of it.

When one of his college professors told him there might be profit in mixing chemotherapy drugs, he took up the tricky work and was paid handsomely by doctors. He turned out to be so successful that the professor, Ashok Gumbhir, later used his former student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City as an example of how to do things right.

"I told them, go and look at Courtney's pharmacy," Gumbhir said. "That's how pharmacists can still make a good living."

That was before the indictments.

Courtney is accused of diluting chemotherapy drugs to save hundreds of dollars per dose. Since the allegations began three weeks ago, there have been hundreds of calls from customers who fear they didn't get the right dosages.

The 48-year-old Courtney has pleaded innocent to a 20-count indictment charging that he misbranded and adulterated the drugs. According to court documents released Tuesday, investigators are also trying to determine whether he diluted two other drugs: Procrit, which produces red blood cells to counteract the effects of chemotherapy, and Tissue Plasminogen Activator, which dissolves blood clots.

Prosecutors have estimated Courtney's wealth at more than \$10 million, including \$8.5 million in securities and two pharmacies worth a combined \$1.1

million. A federal judge has frozen most of his assets, and there are at least 25 lawsuits seeking damages on behalf of cancer patients or their families.

Court filings say Courtney admitted diluting the chemotherapy out of greed. A federal magistrate suggested Courtney may have been motivated by a \$600,000 tax bill.

Courtney is one of four children of an Assemblies of God minister and has served as a church deacon.

Ron Steen, a family friend and the music pastor at Courtney's Assemblies of God Church, Northland Cathedral, described Courtney as "fiercely devoted" to his family. Steen said Courtney has sung in the church choir, been involved in drama productions and taught Sunday school.

"He is well-known in the community, he is well-liked and well-respected," said Steen, who has known Courtney for 24 years.

Steen was one of three people — along with Courtney's wife and father — who testified Aug. 20 to try to persuade a judge to allow bond. The judge refused, calling Courtney a flight risk and a danger to the community.

His family has gotten angry letters and phone calls. Through his attorney, Jean Paul Bradshaw, his family declined an interview request from The Associated Press.

Courtney married his wife, Laura, eight years ago. They've raised five children, including their seven-year-old twin boys, and Courtney's 18- and 22-year-old children from a marriage that ended in 1990.

He's stayed close to his

father, Robert L. Courtney. The senior Courtney, who is retired from the ministry, works as a bookkeeper at one of his son's pharmacies and has been running the business since his son's arrest.

At the Aug. 20 hearing, Courtney's father testified in a trembling voice as his son watched from the defense table, shackled at the wrist and ankles and clad in an orange jail jumpsuit.

"The only estimate I can give of my son, Robert Ray, is that he is an ideal son in every sense of the word," he said.

Courtney's house occupies a corner lot in one of Kansas City's wealthiest neighborhoods, where the car of choice is a Lexus. The house has a 6-foot stucco wall with iron gates; many neighbors say they hardly know the family.

Courtney graduated from the university in 1975. Gumbhir said Courtney was quiet and very focused on making a "success of himself and his life."

Gumbhir also said his former student had invested "a substantial amount of money" to begin mixing and storing the expensive cancer drugs.

Courtney eventually built Research Medical Tower Pharmacy in a hospital complex in Kansas City and Courtney's Pharmacy in suburban Merriam, Kan. Prosecutors say Courtney only mixed the chemotherapy drugs at Research Medical Tower Pharmacy, where Gumbhir had his own prescriptions filled.

"Whatever he did, he did it with absolute care," the professor said.

## Two new mysteries and a new biography grace the shelves at the Howard County Library this week

Fans of Margaret Truman, take note: the Library has two mysteries you may not have read — "Murder in Foggy Bottom" and "Murder in Havana."

HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

The scene opens with the death of an obscure person in Washington's Foggy Bottom, (home of the State Department) leads Max Pauling, a State Department investigator on a twisting trail of mass murder in the downing of aircraft, and then moves on to mayhem in the streets of the new Moscow. Fast paced and informative about flying, food, statecraft, and violence done in the name of "diplomacy", "Murder in Foggy Bottom" is a winner.

Max Pauling returns in "Murder in Havana."

Max has taken early retirement to become a flight instructor in New Mexico when he is offered a contract to fly medical supplies into Cuba. Obviously, nothing is as it seems. After flying a roundabout route through Mexico, Miami and Colombia, he lands in Havana.

Mix the intense competition for Cuba's high-quality anti-cancer research with a U.S. senator trying to lessen tension between Cuba and the US, murder, attempted assassinations — it all adds up to a riveting tale.

I think every child dreams of having a horse. My sister and I bugged Daddy until he bought us one.

We ate and drank "horsy" stuff. We read horse books and one that I read and really remember after all these years, was about a Seabiscuit, a racehorse.

Now out of print, R. Moody, entitled "Come On Seabiscuit," wrote it.

Laura Hillenbrand has written one of the best sports biographies, "Seabiscuit — an American Legend" — is a memorable read.

Seabiscuit was the ultimate underdog and a very unlikely champion.

He was rough-hewn, undersized, had a sad little tail and knees that wouldn't straighten out.

At a gallop, he jabbed one foreleg sideways as if swatting flies.

For two years he was mishandled and misunderstood before three men discovered his talent.

In the summer of 1836, Charles Howard bought Seabiscuit for a bargain basement price and entrusted him to Red Pollard and Tom Smith to train.

Pollard and Smith discovered a gentlemanly horse with keen intelligence, crushing speed and ferocious competitive will. Seabiscuit competed during the cruelest years of the Depression, and this ragto-riches horse established himself as the biggest news-maker of 1938 — eclipsing Hitler and FDR.

It is a great book. In the spring of 1988, Boston Globe reporters Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill set out to write the story of two infamous brothers from the Irish enclave of South Boston: Jim "Whitey" Bulger and his younger brother Billy.

Whitey was the city's most powerful gangster and

a living legend—tough, cunning, without conscience, and smart.

Billy, president of the state Senate, was a political heavyweight in Massachusetts.

These facts alone make for an intriguing story, but as Lehr and O'Neill found out, this was only the beginning. "Black Mass: The Irish Mob, The FBI, and a Devil's Deal" expertly details the twists and turns of this complex story, painting a vivid portrait of Boston's underbelly and its inclusive political machine, as well as exposing one of the worst scandals in FBI history.

It's also an examination of loyalty—to family, home, and heritage—and "a cautionary tale about the abuse of power that goes unchecked."

As a final favor, Connolly tipped off Bulger that he was to be indicted on racketeering charges in 1995, allowing him time to go on the lam (he's reported to have access to secret bank accounts across the country).

He was added to the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted List" in 1999.

Howard County Library  
500 Main St.  
Hours: Weekdays 9-5  
Saturday 10-5, Children's  
Story Time: Wednesday  
10:00 a.m.

Hollis McCright  
Library Director  
Howard County Library  
500 Main St.  
Big Spring TX 79720  
915-264-2260

Hollis McCright writes a weekly column for the Herald.

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WEDNESDAY

SEP. 5

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows listing various programs and their scheduled times.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Oh, yeah. For an extra nickel, we'll put sugar in it."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Where are the PINK lemons you use to make pink lemonade?"

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BLONDIE



B.C.



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WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



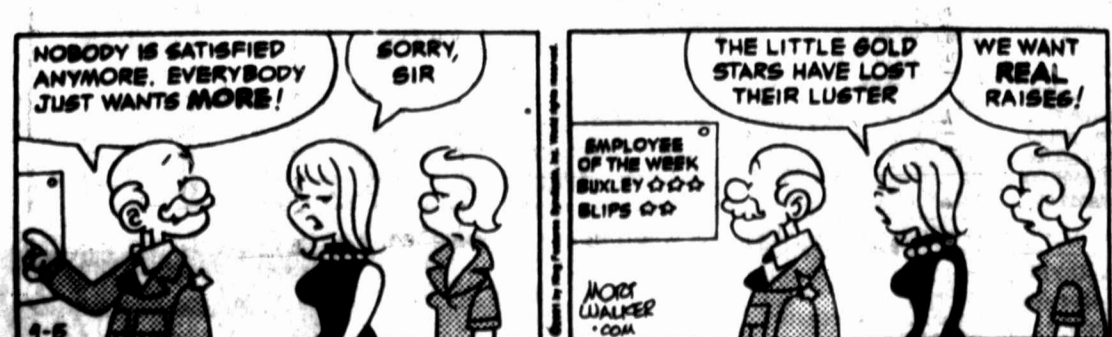
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Wednesday, Sept. 5, the 248th day of 2001. There are 117 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 5, 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia. On this date: In 1836, Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas. In 1882, the nation's first Labor Day parade was held in New York. In 1905, the Treaty of Portsmouth, ending the Russo-Japanese War, was signed in New Hampshire. In 1914, the First Battle of the Marne began during World War I. In 1939, the United States proclaimed its neutrality in World War II. In 1957, "On the Road," written by Jack Kerouac, was first published.

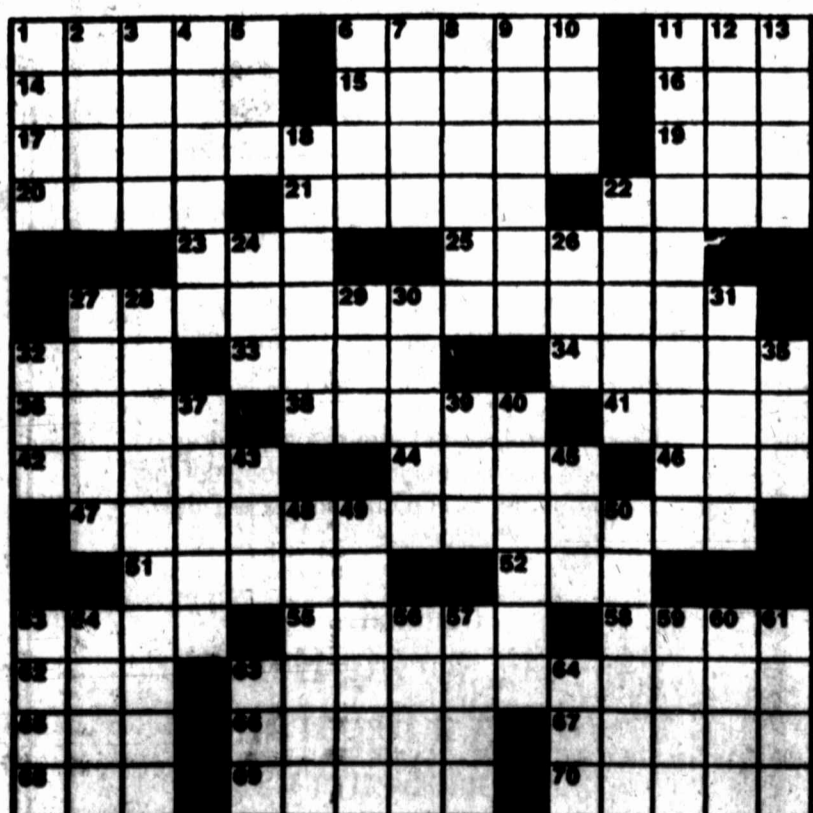
In 1972, Arab guerrillas attacked the Israeli delegation at the Munich Olympic games; 11 Israelis, five guerrillas and a police officer were killed in the siege. In 1975, President Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, Calif. In 1997, Mother Teresa died in Calcutta, India, at age 87. In 1997, conductor Sir Georg Solti died in France at age 84. Ten years ago: In Moscow, Soviet lawmakers approved the creation of an interim government to usher in a new confederation. Jury selection began in Miami in the drug and racketeering trial of former Panamanian ruler Manuel Noriega. Five years ago: Russian President Boris Yeltsin acknowledged he had serious health problems, and would undergo heart surgery. Hurricane Fran slammed into the Carolinas.

Today's Birthdays: The president of the Motion Picture Association of America, Jack Valenti, is 80. Former Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul A. Volcker is 74. Comedian-actor Bob Newhart is 72. Actor William Devane is 62. Singer John Stewart is 62. Actress Raquel Welch is 61. Singer Al Stewart is 56. Actor-director Dennis Dugan is 55. Singer Loudon Wainwright III is 55. Drummer Buddy Miles is 55. "Cathy" cartoonist Cathy Guisewite is 51.

Newsday Crossword

PRIZED PEOPLE by Jon Delfin Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS 1 Puts before the carriage 6 Bean or Welles 11 Trendy 14 Opera solos 15 Tropical fruit 16 Poetic preposition 17 An Odd Couple star 19 Mardi Gras VIP 20 Egyptian cross 21 Scenic view 22 Certain sandwich 23 Greek vowel 25 Sky sight 27 Country-music star 32 Time period 33 Planted 34 Gave an R to, perhaps 36 Fishing spot 38 Guitar parts 41 Song syllables 42 Choreography 44 "Shall we?" response 46 He followed LBJ 47 Onetime welterweight champ 51 Back tooth 52 Place a wager 53 Try 55 South African province 58 Protest singer Phil 62 Author Fleming 63 "Alice's Restaurant" cop 65 French Mrs. 66 Indentation 67 Coeur d'... ID 68 Northern (apple) 69 Secret meeting 70 Cattle groups DOWN 1 Morgana (mirage) 2 Dumbbell material 3 Chain component 4 Disorder 5 Former geopolitical initials 6 Science magazine 7 Reactor units 8 Grab 9 Dakota dialect 10 Lon of Cambodia 11 Genetic 12 Hurler 13 Sermon basis 18 Arthurian paradise 22 Diego Rivera work 24 Cobb et al. 26 Hockey legend Bobby 27 Muse of mime 28 Is in the black 29 Be in the red 30 Quilter's word 31 Alabama city 32 Overhead trains 35 Dapper 37 Orlando name 39 Kenan's Nickelodeon TV mate 40 Unchanging 43 "My Gal" 45 Haggard heroine 48 Attempted, as political office 49 Not insulated 50 Lawrence of Arabia star 53 Jazzman Zoot 54 Vibist Lionel's nickname 56 Eccentricities 57 Zwei x vier 59 Certain radio owner 60 Female deer 61 Meets with 63 Canadian prov. 64 Word of cheer



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# A DEERE FOR ALL SEASONS

### SST18 Lawn Tractor

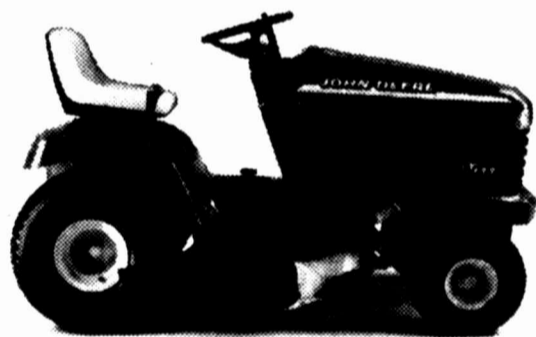
- 18-hp, V-Twin engine
- Two-pedal automatic transmission
- 48-inch mower deck
- Zero-turn radius with power steering



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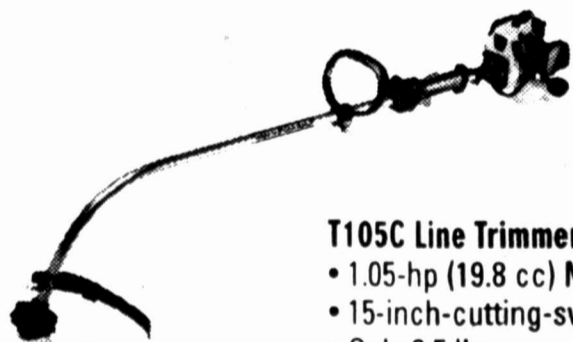
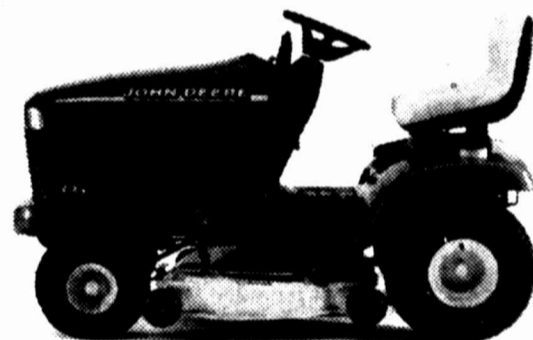
### LT133 Lawn Tractor

- 13-hp engine
- 38-inch mowing deck
- 5-speed shift-on-the-go transmission



### LX255 Lawn Tractor

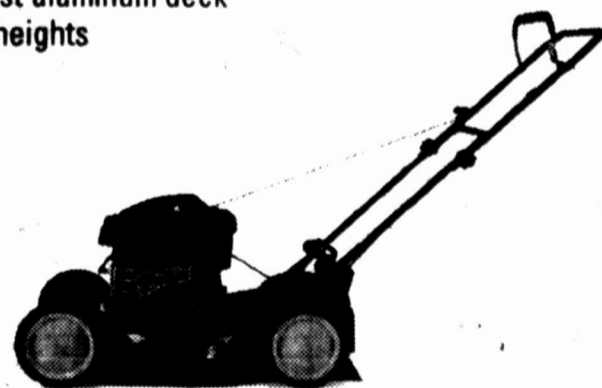
- 15-hp engine
- 42-inch convertible mowing deck
- Automatic transmission



- ### T105C Line Trimmer/Brushcutter
- 1.05-hp (19.8 cc) M-Series engine
  - 15-inch-cutting-swath
  - Only 8.5 lbs
  - 2-year consumer warranty

### JS60 Walk-Behind Mower

- 6.0-hp engine
- Durable die-cast aluminum deck
- Seven cutting heights



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