

THURSDAY

June 10, 2004

**WEATHER**

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 71°-73° TOMORROW 95°-97°

**INSIDE**



Like all wives of U.S. Army soldiers, Sally Lopez-Gonzales worries about her husband's safety, but as a U.S. Army lieutenant, she puts her worries aside to take up the job of defending her country every day.

Page 6A

**BRIEFLY**

**Scenic Mountain events this evening**

Scenic Mountain Medical Center will host an open house and Business After Hours this evening.

The public is invited to meet Dr. Erich Byerly and Dr. Keith Ledford between 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on the second floor at the Malone Hogan Clinic, 1601 W. 11th Place.

Business After Hours, an event sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, will be held at the same location from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be provided.

Business After Hours is a program specifically designed to encourage networking and to showcase sponsors. There is no charge to attend. Merchants are encouraged to exchange business cards.

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## Time running out to file appraisal appeal

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**  
News Editor

Residents and land owners probably don't know that they have a little additional time if they want to file an appeal over appraised property values. Still though, time is running out.

"We're going to be closed Friday so we've extended the deadline to file an appeal from June 14 to June 16," confirmed Howard County Chief Appraiser Keith Toomire.

All Howard County offices will be



TOOMIRE

closed on Friday in remembrance of former president Ronald Reagan, who died last Saturday. Howard County Appraisal District mailed about 5,900 notices of appraised value on May 13 to owners whose property either increased or decreased in value. Notices were not sent to owners whose values were not increased or lowered from 2003 val-

ues. The purpose of the notices, which are sent out annually, is to inform the owner of an increase or decrease and how much their property tax bill would be based on 2003 taxes.

Property owners have 30 days to contest the appraised values.

Owners who feel their property has been appraised too high should gather evidence supporting their claim and then ask to meet with an

See **APPEAL**, Page 3A

## Paper racks to be replaced

For our customers who utilize the paper racks at the front of the *Herald* and at the Kwikie convenience store, these racks were stolen over the weekend. They will be replaced as soon as possible. In the meantime you can purchase the paper at the *Herald* office until 5 p.m. Thank you for your patience.



Heritage Museum employee Amanda Morrow, left, and Director Nancy Raney prepare the "Rodeo Clowns, A Cowboy's Hero" exhibit, which opens during the Heritage Museum's Legends and Legacies Dinner Monday night.

## Legends and Legacies

Heritage Museum exhibit, dinner to pay tribute to cowboy's hero — life-saving rodeo clowns

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**  
Feature's Editor

Rodeo fans everywhere recognize the antics and tomfoolery of red, white and blue-faced rodeo clowns, clad in patchwork overalls, waving kerchiefs and scoffing at danger.

In honor of the life-saving service rodeo clowns provide to cowboys in arenas across the nation, Heritage Museum's Legends and Legacies Dinner at 6 p.m. Monday opens a new

exhibit, "Rodeo Clowns — The Cowboy's Hero."

"This dinner is always a very nice evening to begin

Heritage Museum director. Tickets are \$15 at the museum for catering by Christene's Cafe of Coahoma. The menu includes a choice of chicken fried steak, chicken fried chicken or grilled chicken with all the sides.

"We're dedicating this evening to the rodeo clown, with the opening of the exhibit and a special book signing," Raney said.

At the dinner, where between 100 and 150 people are seated on the museum patio, Gail Woerner, author of "Fearless Funnymen, The

See **LEGENDS**, Page 5A

## Sacred Heart offers food, fun during annual festival

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**  
Feature's Editor

Games, prizes, a variety of food and two evenings of music are all part of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church annual Spring Festival which begins at 11 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

"We do this every year to help raise money for the everyday church expenses," said festival coordinator Carlita Leonardi.

"This is always a good time for everyone," she said. On both days the festival offers a washer tournament that begins at 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$25 per two-person team. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners.

A cake walk, snow cones and games booths are available each day. The games booths will offer prizes, and are open from 6-11 p.m., Leonardi said.

The food booths, open from 6-11 p.m. both days, offer gorditas, Indian bread, corn on the cob, nachos, frito pies, hamburgers and more.

A silent auction will be available for bids, and the winners will be announced Saturday, she said.

Music will be provided from 8-11 p.m. Friday, featuring "Fuerza" from Sweetwater, and on Saturday by "X-Tremo" from Big Spring.

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 5A

## Number of entities closing Friday in Reagan's honor

By **MEGAN KNIGHT**  
Special to the Herald

The Howard County Courthouse and all county offices will be closed Friday in honor of former President Ronald Reagan.

A county official said offices to be closed include the juvenile, adult and district courts, tax office, road and bridge departments and the Howard County Library.

The Big Spring post office will also be closed.

"Consider it similar to a holiday. The window at the post office will be closed, and there will be no delivery of mail," said Robert Dail, supervisor of customer service.

Dail said postal operations will return to normal Saturday.

The Spring City Senior Center and the Big Spring Independent School District's summer lunch program won't be in operation Friday. Joann Knox, director of food service for BSISD said the summer lunch program will open back up on Monday, as will the senior center.

While county offices are closing, all city and some state offices will remain open.

The city of Big Spring administration office, Texas Workforce Center and VA Medical Center will all be open for business Friday. The Texas Department of Human Resources office will be open, but will operate with a skeleton crew.

## FLOODS

Rains continue for fifth day, some evacuate

DALLAS (AP) — "Days and days of rain" forced creeks and rivers out of their banks across North and Central Texas, driving hundreds from their homes.

Rainfall continued for a fifth day Thursday and totals topped 10 inches in some places. Residents along Eagle Mountain Lake and Lake Worth were moving furniture out of their homes and filling sandbags. Dozens of roads were flooded west of Fort Worth.

Communities west of Fort Worth had some of the worst flooding, with high water sweeping into houses and flooding roads, officials said. At least nine motorists were rescued from floodwaters in Aledo, said fire department officials.

High water covered every road into the city of Springtown, about 25 miles northwest of Fort Worth, and about 200 residents of nearby Reno were told to evacuate their homes.

Shawn Murasky voluntarily left his mobile home along Murl's Lake on Wednesday afternoon, evacuated by a school bus.

"I'd rather be safe than sorry," said Murasky, 26. "The water out there was flowing fast across my drive, so I wasn't unhappy to leave."

Weatherford Fire Chief George Teague said that high water was threatening to start flowing over the emergency spillway at Lake Weatherford, which could flood hundreds of homes.

Law officers warned residents around Lake Worth to prepare to evacuate and provided sandbags as the water levels continued to rise.

"It's been a long time since we've had days and days of rain like this," Fort Worth fire department Lt. Kent Woerly told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Citing widespread damage and loss of

See **FLOODS**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Weldon Butler



The Rev. Dr. Joseph Weldon Butler, 84, of Lubbock died Tuesday, June 8, 2004, after a lengthy illness. The Rev. Butler served Methodist churches in Folette, Vega, Amarillo, Borger, Midland, Big Spring, Hereford and Roswell, N.M., during his 37-year pastoral career. The Rev. Butler is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and his five children, Don, Patty, Tim, Janice, Rick, and their respective families.

Dr. Butler served as pastor of First United Methodist Church in Big Spring for four years. He was W5ILJ, an amateur radio operator, avid Colorado deer hunter, and was a radio operator in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Funeral services will be in the Bowman Chapel of First United Methodist Church, 1411 Broadway, in Lubbock at 2 p.m. today, Thursday, June 10. Burial will follow in the city of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Franklin-Bartley Funeral Home in Lubbock.

He received a doctor of divinity from McMurry University in 1970. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of the Rev. Dr. Butler to the McMurry University Scholarship Fund, McMurry University, Box 938, McMurry Station, Abilene 79697, or the charity of choice.

*Paid obituary*

Louise McNealey



Louise McNealey, 83, of Midland, died at 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, June 8, 2004, at Hospice House in Odessa. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Grace Lutheran Church in Midland with Pastor Robert Pace officiating.

She was born Nov. 26, 1920, in Lost Nation, Iowa to Wilhelm Tralau and Margaret Mathiesen Tralau. She married William Thomas "Bill" McNealey on April 16, 1941, in Clinton, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. McNealey lived in Costa Mesa, Calif. for 30 years, then Big River, Calif. for 20 years, before moving to Midland in December of 2000. She was a homemaker and a Lutheran, attending Grace Lutheran Church in Midland.

She is survived by her husband, Bill McNealey, of Midland; five children, Larry McNealey and his wife, Evelyn, of Riverside, Calif., Mardelle Wise and her husband, Dan, of Midland, Thomas McNealey and his wife, Emma, of Houston, Steve McNealey of Midland, and Robert McNealey and his wife, Kathy, of Costa Mesa, Calif.; one brother, Walter Tralau and his wife, Dorothy, of Baldwin, Iowa; one sister, Wilma Taylor of Wyoming, Iowa; three grandchildren, Danny Wise, Tami Hurst and Robin Szilagyi; and six great grandchildren, Aissa, Tavi, and Colton Wise, and D'an, Daniel, and Diane Hurst.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Vernie Tralau.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid obituary*

Police blotter

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

- SHEILA EISENBACH, 20, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of forgery of a financial instrument.
- INMANUEL ARRIAGA, 25, of 2615 Albrook, was arrested Tuesday on nine local traffic warrants.
- JUAN ORTIZ JR., 24, of 309 Fifth Street, was arrested Wednesday on four local warrants.
- JOHNNY DELACRUZ JR., 24, of 2625 Fairchild, was arrested Wednesday on five capias warrants and a charge of no insurance.
- PAMMY SUE PUGA, 38, of 1202 Main Street, was arrested Wednesday on three local warrants and two capias warrants.
- THEFT was reported:
  - in the 2300 block of Wasson.
  - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
  - in the 1700 block of FM 700.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of Gregg Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1400 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

- JASON PAUL MURPHY, 33, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of possession of marijuana - 2 ounces or less, rider not secured by a safety belt and violation of a promise to appear.
- EMILIO A. RAMIREZ, 59, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- THEFT was reported near the intersection of Highway 87 and Highway 461.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 100 block of Colorado.

Senior Airman John W. Brummett



Senior Airman John W. Brummett, 25, of Vealmoor died on Sunday, June 6, 2004, in Warrensburg, Mo. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 12, 2004, in the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Clifton Igo of Lamesa officiating. Interment will follow at the Vealmoor Cemetery.

Family will receive friends from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

John was a 1998 graduate of Borden County High School. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in April of 2000, serving with the Air Ground Equipment Unit. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his parents, Audrey and Debbie Brummett of Vealmoor; one sister, Sandy Miller of Lenora; and one nephew.

The family suggests memorials to the Borden County EMT.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

John Shults

John Shults, 54, of Loraine died Thursday, June 8, 2004, in a Midland hospital. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in the Kiker-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Sammy Elliot officiating. Burial will follow in the Colorado City Cemetery.

He was born to J.L. and Recia Arnold Shults on Feb. 17, 1950, in Odessa. He married Dollie Rich on July 6, 1998, in Colorado City.

He was a licensed vocational nurse and a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Odessa.

He is survived by his wife, Dollie Shults of Loraine; his mother, Recia Shults of Loraine; three daughters, Lora Shults of Loraine, Angelia Shults of Wichita, Kan., and Recia Leann Shults of Delaware; two sons, Jay Shults of Loraine and Mathew Shults of Delaware; one granddaughter; one sister, Recia Capps of Loraine; and two brothers, James Shults of Louisiana and Larry Shults of Colorado.

He was preceded in death by his father and brother, Johnny Shults.

Arrangements are under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Take note

□ HERITAGE MUSEUM'S LEGENDS AND LEGACIES DINNER featuring a new exhibit, "Rodeo Clowns - The Cowboy's Hero" is from 6-8 p.m. on the museum patio. Tickets are \$15. Call 267-8255.

□ MEMBERS OF THE EVENING LIONS CLUB are looking for area handicapped and disabled children who would like to attend the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville this summer.

Children eligible for the camp include those who are amputees or have asthma, cerebral palsy, lupus, muscular dystrophy, scoliosis, sickle cell anemia, stroke, partial paralysis, heart problems, epilepsy, cancer, or are deaf or hearing impaired.

Ineligible conditions include attention deficit disorder, Down's Syndrome, mental retardation, emotionally disturbed, autism and hemophilia.

For information on the camps, contact Bob Noyes at Bob's Custom Woodwork, 267-5811, or visit the Lion's Web site at [www.lionscamp.com](http://www.lionscamp.com)

Lions provide funding for the camp as well as transportation, if necessary.

□ REGISTRATION FOR KIDS COLLEGE at Howard College Continuing Education is ongoing through the first week of the program, which will be June 14-24. Call 264-5131 or 264-5130.

□ FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN KNOTT pastor's wife Cathy Kinman has been diagnosed with cancer. A benefit garage sale for medical expenses and related costs is scheduled for June 17-19. The family has no insurance. Donations are being accepted for the benefit sale, which will be in the vacant house behind the Knott Station on CR 846 in Middle Knott. Call Joann Peugh at 459-2220 or Sue Robinson at 353-4417 to donate. A fund for Cathy Kinman has been established at State National Bank.

□ POTTON HOUSE, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- Business After Hours at from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on the second floor of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Open house from 4-6:30 p.m. for Dr. Erich Byerly and Dr. Keith Ledford, obstetric/gynecologists. Public invited.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- Masonic Lodge 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.
- Masonic Lodge 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main St.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church annual Spring Festival begins at 11 a.m.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

SATURDAY

- Howard County Scottish Rite Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge located at 21st and Lancaster streets. Breakfast is served.
- Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until noon at Bob's Custom Wood Work at 409 E. Third.
- Big Spring Model Aircraft Association Fly-In and swap meet at 9:30 a.m. in the John Buzbee Field, five miles north of Big Spring off Hwy 350, watch for the sign.
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church annual Spring Festival begins at 11 a.m.
- Cancer benefit barbecue for Bobby Bobo and family is set for noon at 3203 W. Hwy 80. A 50/50 drawing, poker run and auction are scheduled. Sponsored by the Eagles Lodge, the Cossacks Motorcycle Club and American Legion Post 506.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

SUNDAY

- Big Spring Model Aircraft Association Fly-In and swap meet at 9:30 a.m. in the John Buzbee Field, five miles north of Big Spring off Hwy 350, watch for the sign.

Weather

Tonight- Mainly clear skies. Low 71. Winds SSE at 15 to 25 mph.

Friday-A few isolated thunderstorms developing during the afternoon. Hot. High 97. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Friday night-Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Clear skies overnight. Low 71. Winds SSE at 15 to 25 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Saturday-Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-10-15-33.

Number matching five of five: 0.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 11-20-24-29-42 Bonus Ball: 15

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$100 Million.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-7-7

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Suzanne Reed Managing Editor Ext. 220  
John A. Sweeney Editor Ext. 220  
Angie Worley Circulation Manager Ext. 240  
Tony Hernandez Production Manager Ext. 256  
Dianna Marquez Business Office Manager Ext. 255

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Twenty missi

UNITED NATIONS - Twenty English-banned Iraqi were found Jordanian scrap along with other ment that could for weapons destruction, a official said, rais security questio Iraq's scrap me since the fall of Hussein.  
Acting chief Nations Demetrius revealed the di to the U.N. Council in a cl briefing Wedne text of his bri obtained by Associated Press.  
The U.N. te found the 20 en following up on discovery of a s Samoud 2 eng scrap yard in l port of R Perricos said also want to Turkey, which received scrap r Iraq.  
Perricos sugg

No wi

AUSTIN (AP) will have a ch record jackpot mated \$100 n Saturday after no winners V night in the L drawing.  
Wednesday's totaled \$87 mil lion the recor lion set in 2001 pot, which has since Februar the highest jac country, even the multistate Millions, whi

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# Twenty engines used in banned Iraqi missiles found in Jordan scrap yard

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Twenty engines from banned Iraqi missiles were found in a Jordanian scrap yard along with other equipment that could be used for weapons of mass destruction, a U.N. official said, raising new security questions about Iraq's scrap metal sales since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

Acting chief United Nations inspector Demetrius Perricos revealed the discoveries to the U.N. Security Council in a closed-door briefing Wednesday. A text of his briefing was obtained by The Associated Press.

The U.N. team that found the 20 engines was following up on an earlier discovery of a similar Al Samoud 2 engine in a scrap yard in the Dutch port of Rotterdam. Perricos said inspectors also want to check in Turkey, which has also received scrap metal from Iraq.

Perricos suggested that

the interim Iraqi government, which will assume sovereignty when the U.S. and British occupation of the country ends on June 30, may want to reconsider policies for exporting scrap metal that apparently began in mid-2003. The sales are regulated by the U.S.-led coalition.

"The removal of these materials from Iraq raises concerns with regard to proliferation risks ... thereby also rendering the task of the disarmament of Iraq and its eventual confirmation, more difficult," Perricos said.

The missile engines and some other equipment discovered in the scrap yards had been tagged by U.N. weapons monitors because of their potential dual use in both legitimate civilian activities and banned weapons production.

In his briefing to the Security Council, Perricos said U.N. inspectors do not know how much material has been removed from Iraq that they had been monitor-

ing. But he later told reporters that up to a thousand tons of scrap metal was leaving Iraq every day.

"The only controls at the borders are for the weight of the scrap metal, and to check whether there are any explosive or radioactive materials within the scrap," he said, according to the text of his briefing.

The discoveries raise questions about the fate of material and equipment that could be used to produce biological and chemical weapons as well as banned long-range missiles.

U.N. inspectors were pulled out of Iraq just before the war began in March 2003, and the United States has refused to allow them to return, instead deploying its own teams to search for weapons of mass destruction.

Perricos told the council that the 20 SA-2 missile engines were discovered when U.N. experts visited "relevant scrap yards" in

a visit to Jordan last week.

The U.N. team also discovered some processing equipment with U.N. tags — which show it was being monitored — including heat exchangers, and a solid propellant mixer bowl to make missile fuel, he said. It also discovered "a large number of other processing equipment without tags, in very good condition."

"These visits provide just a snapshot of the whole picture since the scrap metal has a short residence time and is re-exported to various countries," Perricos told the council.

In its quarterly report to the council on Monday, the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, which Perricos heads, said a number of sites in Iraq known to have contained equipment and material that could be used to produce banned weapons and long-range missiles have been cleaned out or destroyed.

# Eight BSHS band members win medals at state contest

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Eight Big Spring High School band members walked away from the University Interscholastic League State Solo and Ensemble Contest with medals.

"It was a tough competition," said Band Director Rocky Harris. "The judges heard people all day from about 8 a.m. to around 5 p.m. and maybe they gave away three or four Division I's the entire day."

The flute, oboe, clarinet ensemble of Paige Gainey, Meagan Smith and Jennifer Hernandez and the trumpet quartet of Gracie Acosta, David Welch, Mark Lonzano and Braden Burchett both received Division I ratings on their perfor-



HARRIS

mances.

Soloist Jessica Ray, a BSHS 2004 graduate, received a Division II on her memorized French horn solo.

Harris explained that the level of judging at state is much tougher than at the qualifying contest.

"They have to up their performance at least two levels," Harris explained. "These judges are all college level directors."

The Class 4A and Class 5A contest was held on the University of Texas at Austin campus May 31. The students competed against thousands of students around the state. Seventy-four BSHS band students made the trip after qualifying for the contest.

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

# No winners in record Lotto Texas jackpot

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans will have a chance for a record jackpot of an estimated \$100 million on Saturday after there were no winners Wednesday night in the Lotto Texas drawing.

Wednesday's jackpot totaled \$87 million, topping the record \$85 million set in 2001. The jackpot, which hasn't been hit since February, is now the highest jackpot in the country, even outpacing the multistate game Mega Millions, which has an

estimated \$85 million jackpot after no one won Tuesday's drawing.

But hold on to those letters of resignation — the odds of winning are almost 1 in 47 million.

"This is the kind of Lotto jackpot that gets the attention of players not only in Texas, but also in our neighboring states and in Mexico," said Reagan Greer, executive director of the Lottery Commission.

By 9 p.m., tickets sales hit a rate of about 15,522

per minute. For last Saturday's drawing when the jackpot was at \$81 million, sales peaked just after 8 p.m. at a rate of 13,000 per minute.

In Dallas, Shane Allison, 30, bought \$10 in Lotto tickets just days after getting laid off.

"It would be a good time for me to win it," Allison said. "You would think I would be holding on to my money. But, hey, that's what a severance package is for."

Michael Westbrook

said he rarely buys lottery tickets, but the high jackpot and an office pool got him to the store.

"There's about 30 of us in my office and we're all buying one," Westbrook said. "Then we'll split whatever we win."

Extravagant jackpots drive up ticket sales, making this week's numbers a relief to Texas lottery officials who feared sales would suffer after the state recently began participating in Mega Millions.

# APPEAL

Continued from Page 1A

appraiser. Those who come to the appraisal office will receive preference over those who simply call, Toomire said.

Those who cannot leave their place of employment to talk to an appraiser during normal business hours can have an appraiser call them after 5 p.m. or on a weekend.

"Most problems are worked out with an appraiser, but if they still can't come to an agreement, they can file a notice of protest and have a hearing before the

appraisal review board," said Toomire.

Real estate hearings will be held June 22 and 24. Hearings involving mineral and industrial property will be held June 24.

"If need be, we will go to the 25th to finish real estate hearings," Toomire said.

Those who did not receive an appraisal notice, or those who may have lost their notice, can call the appraisal district office to obtain appraised values.

The appraisal district is located at 315 Main, on the east side of the courthouse square. The phone number is (432) 263-8301.

# STATE BRIEFS

## Only fraction of skills tested

AUSTIN (AP) — Exams required for high school graduation in Texas and five other states test a fraction of the skills students need for college and real-world readiness, according to a study released Thursday.

Achieve, Inc., a nonprofit company that specializes in academic standards, testing and accountability, examined the exit-level tests of Texas, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Ohio. The states volunteered to participate in the study.

"The skills that do get measured are staples; students cannot succeed without them," the study said. "But the large gap between these tests and the real-world expectations of colleges and employers suggests that current exit exams are not strong measures of college and workplace readiness."

In Texas, the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills is administered

to high school juniors, who were required to pass the test to graduate for the first time this year.

A spokeswoman for the Texas Education Agency defended the TAKS test.

## Former President Bush to skydive for 80th birthday

HOUSTON (AP) — Call it Fear Factor, senior style.

Former President George H. W. Bush plans to usher in his 80th birthday by jumping Sunday from a plane 13,000 feet above the ground and hurtling through the air at 125 mph.

"A scary feeling," Bush said, as he thought about standing in the open door of the plane. "A funny feeling in your tummy or your knees."

He should know. He's made four parachute jumps in his life — three since leaving the White House more than a decade ago, including one on his 75th birthday.

The reason he's doing it again? "Great fun," Bush said. "It's a thrill."

# FLOODS

Continued from Page 1A

property, Tarrant County Judge Tom Vandergriff sought help from the state by declaring a local state of disaster. An estimated 200 homes in the county have been damaged.

Parker County officials also requested emergency assistance from the state, and emergency management crews were en route early Thursday.

The Trinity River began overflowing its banks in Weatherford and parts of Dallas on Wednesday evening, creating swamps out of farmland. In Grand Prairie, the Trinity was expected to overtake its brush- and tree-covered banks on Thursday.

One child was rescued after being washed away in deceptively powerful

floodwaters in South Arlington.

Sixteen Army National Guard members and two Black Hawk helicopters were activated at the Dallas Naval Air Station for swift-water rescue operations, said Robert Black, a spokesman for Gov. Rick Perry.

Flooding from the storms tracking out of the Gulf of Mexico and through Central Texas followed last week's severe weather that left 500,000 North Texas homes and businesses without power.

Heavy rain also hit Central Texas. San Antonio police said a woman and several were injured Wednesday when water buildup caused a roof collapse at a strip mall. Interstate 10 was closed due to high water.

North of Austin, Interstate 35 was closed at

Salado Creek.

The interstate highway was also closed south of Artesia Wells, with several cars reported off the roadway.

Rainfall approaching three inches at both San Antonio and Austin Bergstrom airports on Wednesday broke records set in 1992 and 1995.

Newspaper in Education  
Each Tuesday  
the HERALD

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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.

Susanne Reed  
PublisherJohn A. Moseley  
Managing EditorBill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

## Remember parade entries are due by noon Monday

It's almost time for the 71st annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo so there's just a short period left to get in your entries for the parade, which officially gets the four-day run of events started.

The Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo is the oldest continually running rodeo in the nation and doesn't take a back seat to any when it comes to the talent that arrives each year to compete.

Many of the top competitors from the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) and Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA) will display their talents during the event's run from Wednesday, June 16, through Saturday, June 19. Each performance begins at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl.

The reunion and rodeo begins at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday when the parade lines up at 10th and Main and snakes its way through downtown Big Spring.

Let's make this the best rodeo parade we've ever had. Anyone can enter, all you need to do is fill out a parade entry form which will be included in Sunday's edition of the *Herald*. Then return the completed form to our office.

Don't forget to get those entries turned in no later than noon on Monday, however.

So shine up those books, dust off that hat, pull on your favorite jeans and join in the parade. Saddle up your horse or put a new coat of wax on that custom or classic automobile. Maybe a group of you would like to enter a float. We'd even like to see plenty of decorated bicycles and a posse of stickhorses in the procession.

Remember, the key is participation. We hope you'll all join us.

## LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## He was a kind and generous soul

It's a time of mourning in America as the nation grieves the passing of one of its greatest presidents, Ronald Wilson Reagan. You could see it on the faces of the thousands of citizens who stood in line for hours to say their last goodbyes, first at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley, Calif., then at the Capitol Rotunda. They came, young and old, Republican and Democrat, rich and poor, from every walk of life and from every racial and ethnic group.



LINDA CHAVEZ

You could see it in the stricken face of one young woman as she solemnly walked around the flag-draped casket, with tears streaming down her cheeks. She looked as if she could barely have been in elementary school when President Reagan left office, yet clearly she felt touched by the man and his presidency. You could see it in the way that firemen stood at attention on an overpass on the L.A. freeway, holding their helmets over their hearts as the president's motorcade passed beneath. These were President Reagan's people, the ordinary men and women who revered the man so many in the elite media and political class mocked and disdained.

As I watched the televised pictures of that long, sad motorcade, I remembered the last time I saw President Reagan in 1986, when I

was running for the U.S. Senate from Maryland. He had come to Baltimore to help me raise funds for my campaign, and we traveled together by car to the Inner Harbor from Ft. McHenry, where he had landed in the presidential helicopter, Marine One. Even though I had served the president for three years, first as director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and then as White House director of public liaison, this was a rare opportunity to spend time one on one, and I relished every minute of it.

As we drove along, large crowds gathered to cheer the president, who never stopped waving to those who'd come out to see him, even as he continued his conversation with my husband and me.

"Watch this," he said, as he caught the eye of a plump, middle-aged woman standing on the side of the road. She leaped off her feet, as light as a gazelle. "It doesn't matter how old or how big they are, they always leave the ground when you look right at them," he said, smiling. "It's not me they're seeing. It's the president of the United States. It means a lot to them. They'll be telling their grandchildren about the day they saw the president."

It was vintage Ronald Reagan, whose humility and kindness never ceased to amaze me. I saw it when the president went out of his way to greet the kitchen and hotel staff whenever he gave a speech. No matter how his staff and the Secret Service might be trying to hurry him along, the president

would always take time to greet the service workers. This was no mere political act, since most of these people probably hadn't voted for him, and many weren't likely even U.S. citizens. He did it because he had a sense of duty to the public.

He always seemed to understand that he was only a temporary custodian of the highest office in the land, and his own reverence and respect for that office guided his every action. It was the reason he never took his jacket off in the Oval Office. And the president's attitude was infectious. Everyone who worked in the Reagan White House came to work in their Sunday best.

The world will remember President Reagan for having helped defeat communism and for restoring America's faith in itself and its leaders. But I will remember him as the kind and generous soul who never forgot the little people, even when he was the most powerful man in the world. "Humility," wrote the American philosopher Henry Thoreau, "like darkness reveals the heavenly lights." President Ronald Reagan's great modesty and unassuming nature made him the brightest star among the luminaries of our time.

To find out more about Linda Chavez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## A most ideological president

Ronald Reagan was the only big-time office-holder I covered who entered public life as a dreamer and never changed. He achieved an extraordinary number of those dreams. But he never stopped thinking about those visions that, as a practical politician, he conceded could not be realized.

In 1986 at the height of the Iran-Contra scandal, I was President Reagan's guest at lunch in the White House. Near its end, I asked him if he ever regretted not pressing for a gold standard. "Oh, yes," he said. "That would really have stabilized the economy, but — " "Mr. President!" his chief of staff, Donald Regan, interrupted sharply. "Oh," said the president, with his characteristic shake of the head and half-smile, "Don doesn't like me to talk about the gold standard."

Don Regan, a lion of Wall Street before coming to Washington, was no dreamer. But Ronald Reagan was — with practical limitations. He never stopped dreaming about the gold standard, but was practical enough to realize it was one bridge too far. He had fulfilled dreams that practical men like Don Regan thought unachievable: sharply reduced tax rates that revived the U.S. economy and victory in the Cold War, with the Soviet Union gone.

Grudging praise of Reagan, even in death, paints him as an intellectual midget who had one or two big ideas he relied on staffers to

put into action. Reagan was not consumed by details, as no great leader should be. But he was more deeply involved than liberal critics admit, and more often than not he was fighting off senior aides.

The decision made early in Reagan's administration that made possible all future success was distinctively his own. When the air controllers (the only labor union that supported him for president) went on strike in violation of the law, Reagan was determined to break them. Secretary of Transportation Drew Lewis flinched after a while and advised a compromise. Some of Reagan's most conservative aides wanted to back down. But Reagan, who had begun his public life negotiating labor contracts as head of the Screen Actors Guild, would not budge.

The message conveyed by that obstinacy was that Ronald Reagan was no mere B-movie actor propelled into the Oval Office by a whim of fate. He was no man to be trifled with. That message traveled across the sea to Europe and into the very halls of the Kremlin. Nothing could have so strongly asserted Reagan's stature in foreign chancelleries than the air controllers dispute.

On the big issues, Reagan rejected the importuning of his senior aides. He refused to temporize on the 1981 tax cut that ended Jimmy Carter's stagflation. At Reykjavik in 1985, he turned down State Department advice for an arms deal and stood fast to open the way for the Soviet collapse.

That was not expected by the heads of government who met Reagan for the first time at the

1981 G-7 summit in Ottawa. Europe's socialist politicians were openly contemptuous of the "cowboy" American. Only Britain's Margaret Thatcher supported Reagan. But by the 1987 G-7 summit in Venice, the Europeans were treating Reagan with the utmost respect.

Reagan was the mirror image of Richard M. Nixon. Nixon really believed in very little and was nearly non-ideological, but he was engrossed in the minutiae of political maneuver. Reagan carried a heavy ideological load but was uninterested in political intrigue. That was why Nixon's presidency was a disaster and Reagan's one of the most successful in the nation's history.

Reagan was fortunate to come along midway through a national political realignment that had begun with Nixon's election a dozen years earlier. The Reagan Democrats, at odds with their ancestral party, were ready to cross the political divide. Reagan made it possible for them as Nixon would have made it impossible.

He was perhaps the nation's most ideological president. Oddly, he was one of the most intellectual presidents. He was a voracious reader (from right-wing publications to economic theory) and an industrious writer of his own letters all his life. To call him the Great Communicator does not do justice to this dreamer of great dreams.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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ROBERT NOVAK

## YOUR VIEWS

## TO THE EDITOR:

In response to a letter written by Clay Slape, I'm finding it hard not to debate his opinion. As one that was personally on the "Roughnecks" excursion, I believe Mr. Slape has read too much into the story and made more of it than he should.

The whole purpose of the story was to propose ways to enjoy your summer and your weekends with things that cannot be found in the Big Spring community. In no way was it meant to slander this town. In fact, Mr. Slape himself admits Big Spring does not have much to offer and appears to oppose Wal-Mart.

He continues by saying there are some things here and should be taken advantage of, but manages to avoid saying what. As a member of this community I would love to have something offered for 20 and 30 somethings and for all ages for that matter. Things to do as adults and

as families. I would love to spend the money I make in Big Spring. But it is a simple fact that there are things people who live and love it here want and can't get without leaving town.

Taco Bell, pro baseball (Rockhounds), pro hockey (Jackalopes) and Burger King are just a few things that haven't felt like they could make it here. And these are things any Big Spring citizen might utilize on a daily basis.

Now don't get me wrong. I in no way want to get into a heated argument with Mr. Slape. He is obviously a concerned citizen and wants Big Spring money to stay in Big Spring. I agree, and what I can get here I will buy here, but we don't even have a putt-putt golf that chooses to stay open more than a few months a year if that.

If you knew me you would know that I am surprised to say I like it here in Big Spring. I never thought I would say that.

And with today's gas prices, who wants to drive to Midland/Odessa?

Perhaps Mr. Slape will read this and write back with some alternatives. Or, maybe he will join the city council in finding new and exciting ways to promote Big Spring.

If he wants any help, I'm more than willing to give my two cents as you can see. And give Troy Hyde a break. He has only been here a month or so and he was under the influence of someone who has said, more than once, there is nothing to do here. Maybe I should ratify that and say there are things to do here to, but there is life outside of Big Spring.

JEFF LANE  
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:  
Bob Horn said in the presentation on the Mirabeau B.Lamar Award to the

Coahoma teacher this year that the award has been given for at least eight years. The first award was handed out to a 1988 graduate of Coahoma High School. His name was Robert Brewer.

So it is now known that this prestigious award has been given for the past 16 years. How do I know about this award and its winners? I was the first one to be presented with it at Coahoma High School in 1988.

There isn't a day goes by that I don't think about that award and the people that thought enough about me to recommend my name to the Masons.

So to past winners congratulations. To future winners, good luck and never forget what an honor it is to be given the award.

ROBERT F. BREWER JR.  
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# The new Lancer

Mitsubishi favorite gets fresh look, more power

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — The winding hills of Southern California proved a perfect location to test the 2004 Mitsubishi Lancer.

In addition to a fresh appearance, Mitsubishi has added two new trim lines — the racing inspired Ralliart and Sportback.

These are great vehicles.

Fun to drive vehicles.

Affordable vehicles.

And I have to give Mitsubishi credit for the new Lancer Ralliart. This is not a base model loaded with special amenities and pretty badges.

Powered by a 2.4-liter, four-cylinder engine using MIVEC (Mitsubishi Innovative Valve timing and lift Electronic Control) technology, the 162-horsepower Ralliart is an honest to goodness performance vehicle.

The high-revving, high-displacement engine improves efficiency, reduces emissions and increases output.

While available with five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission with adaptive shift control, I logged all of my Ralliart seat time with the manual transmission.

Two words: Oh Boy!

Borrowing technology from the Lancer Evolution (think 2Fast 2Furious), the manual transmission is enhanced with a sport-shifter assembly which provides shorter throws for improved shift action.

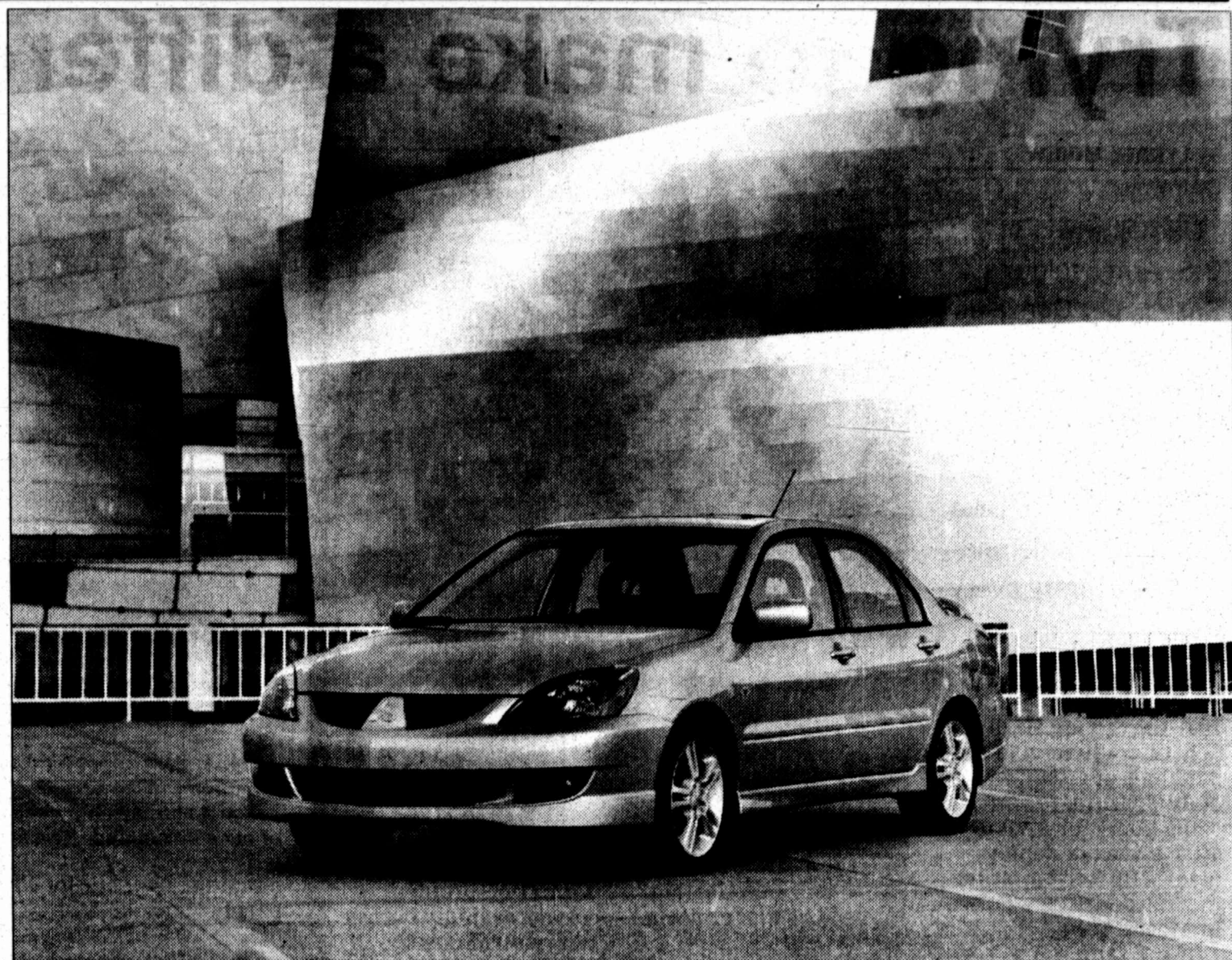
Also new this year is the Lancer Sportback sport wagon.

The Lancer Sportback is designed for active consumers who need the extra room provided by a utility vehicle but don't want to sacrifice the sporty ride and nimble

handling of a smaller car. Based on the Lancer sedan, the five-door Sportback is capable of hauling the entire family, yet refuses to compromise when it comes to ride and handling.

Like the Lancer Ralliart sedan, the Lancer Sportback (available in LS and Ralliart trim lines), is powered by the same 2.4-liter powerplant and is mated to an electronically controlled four-speed automatic transmission with driver-adaptive control.

With an overall length of 181.3 inches, the Sportback offers up to 95.3 cubic feet of passenger space. With the rear seats folded flat, you can



The 2004 Mitsubishi Lancer Ralliart sedan.

accommodate up to 60.7 cubic feet for cargo. Again, fun to drive. Back to the Lancer sedan, which is available in LS ES and O-Z Rally trim and powered by a 2.0-liter, four-cylinder engine (120 horsepower/130 lbs.-ft. torque).

These are also exceptional vehicles — not as exciting to drive as the Ralliart, yet turning in an impressive performance on mountain terrain with steep inclines.

The 2004 Lancer series is well worth a test drive for those in the market for a compact sedan or sport wagon.

Neal White has been covering the automotive

industry for more than 10 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive

Media Association. Comments may be sent to neal.white@waxahachiedaily.com.

Association.

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The 2004 Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback sport wagon.

## ON THE ROAD



By Neal White

## LEGENDS

Continued from Page 1A

History of the Rodeo Clown" will be on hand to introduce and autograph her book.

Woerner has spent the past 20 years researching and interviewing rodeo people. Published in 1993, "Fearless Funnymen" is her first book, followed by "Belly Full of Bedspings, The History of Bronc Riding" and "Cowboy Up! The History of Bull Riding."

She is currently at work on the next book in her series on the history of roping events — tie down roping, team roping and steer roping.

The museum exhibit, "Rodeo Clowns, The Cowboy's Hero" features

## FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1A

A disc jockey will play music from 6 to 8 p.m. before the bands begin each night.

Tickets for all games and food are 50 cents each and may be purchased at a ticket booth.

A special drawing for an opportunity to win prizes is set for 11 p.m. Saturday.

"We will use the funds we raise to purchase supplies for our Rite to Christian Initiation classes for adults, which we offer to anyone wanting to embrace the Catholic faith.

"We also use the funds to purchase altar cloths and candles for the church sanctuary and for any unplanned expenses," she said.

Streets to be closed by the city for the festival are Father Delaney from Lancaster to Aylesford and Aylesford from Father Delaney to Fifth Street.

displays of Coahoma's Hall of Fame rodeo clown-turned-justice-of-the-peace Quail Dobbs.

Inducted into the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association Hall of Fame, Dobbs also received recognition in two different Texas cowboy halls of fame.

One of his local achievements, the "Original Coahoma Kindergarten Rodeo," each spring finds Dobbs sharing his love of rodeo with the 6-to-7-year-old set, who are clad in boots, spurs and hats, and ride stick horses and

bulls and meet rodeo queens.

Others featured in the new exhibit, located on the second floor of the museum, are George Doak, national Finals Rodeo clown, who helped start Dobbs in his rodeo clown career, and Rick Young, the "Agin' Cajun," who began his 30-year career as the "Ragin Cajun." Young was awarded the Clown of the Year award in 1980 by the PRCA.

Also featured in the exhibit is Jimmy Anderson, who won the

1989 Wrangler Bullfight Championship in Big Spring and was the stunt double for Luke Perry in

the movie about Lane Frost, "8 Seconds."

To purchase a ticket for the Legends and Legacies

dinner, which is scheduled to conclude at 8 p.m., call the museum at 267-8255.

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# Trying to make a difference in Iraq

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Like all wives of U.S. Army soldiers, Sally Lopez-Gonzales worries about her husband's safety, but as a U.S. Army lieutenant, she puts her worries aside to take up the job of defending her country every day.

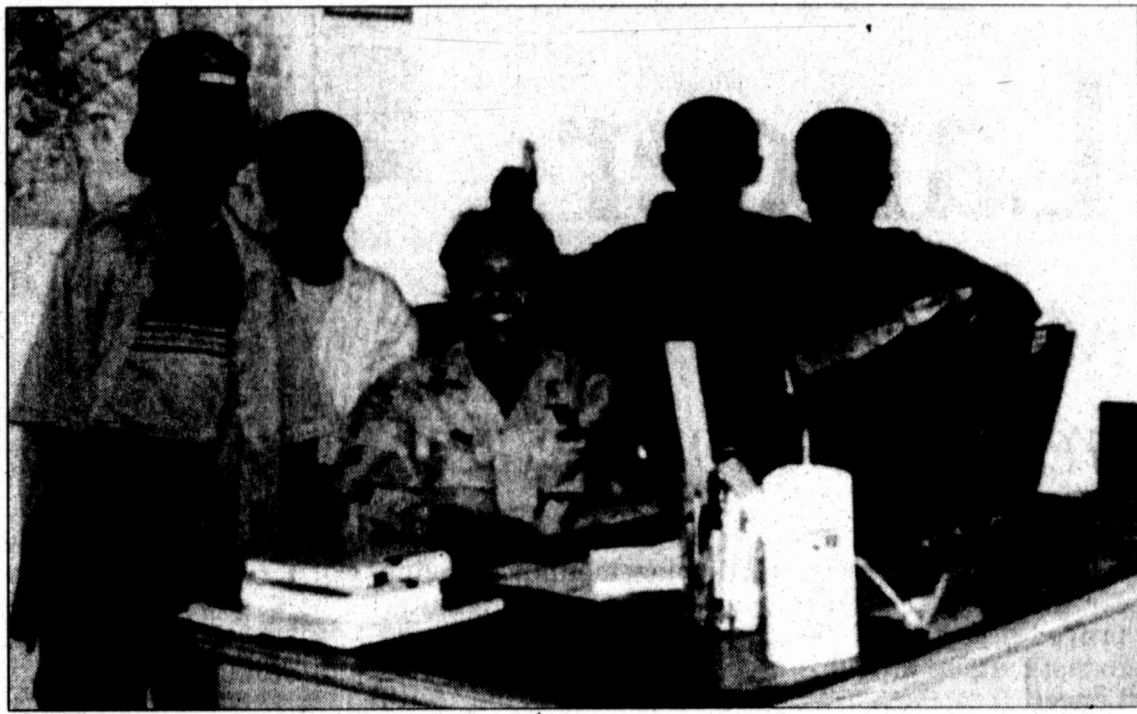
A 12-year Army veteran, Lopez-Gonzales, a 1991 Big Spring High School graduate and the daughter of Oscar and Judy Trevino, recently came home for a visit after a year of deployment with her battalion, the 503rd Military Police in Mosul, Iraq.

At the same time, her husband, Faustino, a 1990 BSHS graduate, who is now a lieutenant in the 82nd Airborne, was serving in Baghdad.

"We wrote to each other a lot," Lopez-Gonzales said. "We'd talked on the phone a lot. I'm a military wife. I have the same worries about my husband as anybody else, but unlike a civilian wife, I have the exact same job to do."

And that job was to serve as platoon leader, executive officer and maintain peace and law in a part of Mosul.

"I had a section of the city I was responsible for — operations, raids and on the XO side — mainte-



Courtesy photos  
Army Lt. Sally Lopez-Gonzales poses for a picture with some of the Iraqi children she hired to perform office errands. Lopez-Gonzales was in charge of a unit responsible for keeping peace and a law in a section of the Iraq city of Mosul. At left, she presents a flag to one of her soldiers during a ceremony in Iraq.

nance and supplies, status reports and projects," Lopez-Gonzales said.

"We took the northeast sector of the city, my whole company, and we patrolled. We ran operations of the infantry, performed raids, mock riots," she continued. "We went on short patrols with the Iraqi police. We set up training academies for the Iraqi police."

As one of the last troops to arrive in the city following the official end of hostilities, her platoon's purpose was to help rebuild the worn-torn city's infrastructure.

The soldiers' job was a difficult one. Working 12 to 14 hours a day, 10 to 12 days at a time, they battled extreme heat, difficult living conditions,

sanitation problems and an increasingly dangerous environment.

"When we first entered the city, we were (welcomed) but then it was after the first push," Lopez-Gonzales said. "Everybody was still in that scared point where we were very much in authority. Then as time went, gureilla cells start coming out."

The weight of command was heavy at times, Lopez-Gonzales said, especially as she had to make decisions that placed her soldiers in dangerous positions.

"We would talk with each other, the other platoon leaders. We became really close," she said. "You have the closest relationship with God you have for life. Not so

much for you, but for the people you're in charge of."

The soldiers also dealt with cultural differences between western ideas and the Muslim religion.

"I would cause riots sometimes because the Iraqi men had never seen a woman in uniform," she said. "They'd never seen a woman in a position of authority. They would actually crowd around me and my soldiers would have to push them back and put me in the vehicle."

Correspondence from home became paramount for soldiers in the field.

"There are three things that soldiers just have to have to be happy, no matter how many hours they are working — mail, mess (food) and money,"

Lopez-Gonzales said.

"Mail is an essential part of being over there because you know that your family took time," she continued. "When you're out in the boon-docks and it's going to be another week before you get back to a secure area where they have a mess hall, a shower with hot water and computers to check your e-mail, mail is definitely something that will make your day."

Although there is much work still to be done in Iraq, Lopez-Gonzales said progress is being made.

"In a lot of places the U.S. forces are making a difference," she said. "We've done a lot of good there. Compared to when we got there, they had absolutely nothing. You're not going to win

over everyone, but the majority, in my experience from the year that I spent in Mosul, is they want us there."

The experience was very difficult, Lopez-Gonzales admits.

"Being there, you are going through different situations all of the time. My husband was in Baghdad being shot at," she added, noting that he was almost wounded by mortar round explosions.

"It's almost too much to deal with," she admitted, "but you do, and you definitely see what you're made of."

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

## Briefs

### Groups tout study showing power plant pollution deaths

WASHINGTON (AP) — A consultant used by the Environmental Protection Agency said health problems linked to power plant pollution shortens nearly 24,000 lives a year, including 1,160 in Texas.

The report by Cambridge, Mass.-based Abt Associates Inc., commissioned by environmental advocacy groups, found that 22,000 of those deaths are preventable with currently available technology. The report was released Wednesday. It also found that people dying prematurely from problems associated with exposure to fine particle pollution, or soot, lost an average of 14 years.

Power plant pollution also is responsible for 38,200 nonfatal heart attacks each year, according to the study commissioned by groups including the National Environmental Trust, U.S. Public Interest Research Group and Clean Air Task Force. The groups said the study shows that enforcing current law would result in 4,000 fewer preventable deaths a year.

### Brothers on trial accused of helping terrorists

DALLAS — Lawyers were expected to make opening statements today in the case of five Palestinian-born brothers accused of making illegal shipments of computers to countries that help terrorists. Prosecutors will get 30

minutes to present an outline of their case, and the five defense lawyers will get 20 minutes apiece. After statements and testimony Thursday, the trial will take Friday off in observance of former President Reagan's funeral, officials said.

The case is expected to be a warmup for a more sensational trial this fall on charges that the men used their computer business to help funnel money to a top leader of the militant group Hamas.

Attorney General John Ashcroft personally announced the original indictments in December 2002. "We will pursue the financiers of terror as aggressively as we pursue the thugs who do their dirty work," Ashcroft said then.

The defendants are Ghassan Elashi, Bayan

Elashi, Basman Elashi, Hazim Elashi and Ihsan Elashy and their business, InfoCom Corp. They face 25 counts, including illegal exports to Libya and Syria, making false statements on export declarations and money laundering. The United States has labeled Libya and Syria state sponsors of terrorism.

### Top general in Karachi escapes assassination try

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — The top general in Pakistan's volatile southern city of Karachi narrowly escaped an assassination attempt Thursday as his motorcade came under a gun and bomb attack. At least nine people died, officials said.

Gunmen waiting in ambush in buildings on

opposite sides of a main road in the city center opened fire on a convoy escorting Lt. Gen. Ahsan Saleem Hayat, the Karachi corps commander. Soldiers returned fire, and the gunmen fled in at least one car, witnesses said.

"He (Hayat) was the target and he escaped the assassination attempt," army spokesman Maj. Gen. Shaukat Sultan told The Associated Press in the capital, Islamabad. Hayat's guard and driver were injured.

Sultan said six soldiers, two policemen and one civilian were killed in the attack near the city's Clifton Bridge, about a quarter mile from the

U.S. Consulate.

Mohammed Hussain, a police officer, said he had spotted a bag on the road after the gunbattle and

threw it into a vacant field nearby, where it exploded. There were no injuries but a 10-foot wall collapsed.

## GOLF SCRAMBLES

Phoenix Golf Club in Stanton invites golfers to Thursday night scrambles starting at 6:00 p.m. All golfers welcome.



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## IN E

### Dates set Camp of

Coach has set Big School's Champs from Jun July 1 at t Athletic Center.

The camp is o and femal fifth thro For morv call Coach 269-3662 oi

### C.G.A. an golf tou

The I Chicano Associati uled its r nament June 13, Trail Golf

The tou four-pers and it beg

All part be registe 9:45 a.m informati 264-7116 a

### B.S. sets circuit d

The 20 Tennis released and the B will take and Satur

The co event is \$ is \$20 an is \$25.

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For m tion, ( Spring coach Se 432-263-22

### Coahom camp se

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Everyo the cam T-shirt, o other awards.

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### Phoenix sets sci

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## ON

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Astros @ Brewers.



### IN BRIEF

#### Dates set for Camp of Champs

Coach Ricky Long has set Big Spring High School's Camp for Champs to be held from June 7 through July 1 at the Big Spring Athletic Training Center.

The weightlifting camp is open to males and females in grades fifth through eighth.

For more information call Coach Long at 432-269-3662 or 432-263-0519.

#### C.G.A. announces golf tournament

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association has scheduled its monthly tournament for Sunday, June 13, at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament is a four-person best ball and it begins at 10 a.m.

All participants must be registered to play by 9:45 a.m. For more information, call 432-264-7116 after 7 p.m.

#### B.S. sets tennis circuit dates

The 2004 Black-Gold Tennis Circuit has released its schedule and the Big Spring site will take place Friday and Saturday.

The cost for one event is \$15, two events is \$20 and three events is \$25.

The events are broken down into five different age groups ranging from 12-years-old to adults.

The events in each age group include boys (men's) and girls (women's) singles and doubles, as well as mixed doubles.

For more information, contact Big Spring head tennis coach Sarah Corse at 432-263-2275.

#### Coahoma baseball camp set for June

The Coahoma baseball camp will take place Monday through Friday, June 14-18 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The camp is for ages 6 and up and the cost is \$60/player.

Everyone involved in the camp will get a free T-shirt, certificate and other prizes and awards.

Proper techniques in hitting, fielding, pitching and base running will be taught.

For more information, contact Bulldog head coach Brad Harmon at 361-542-9039.

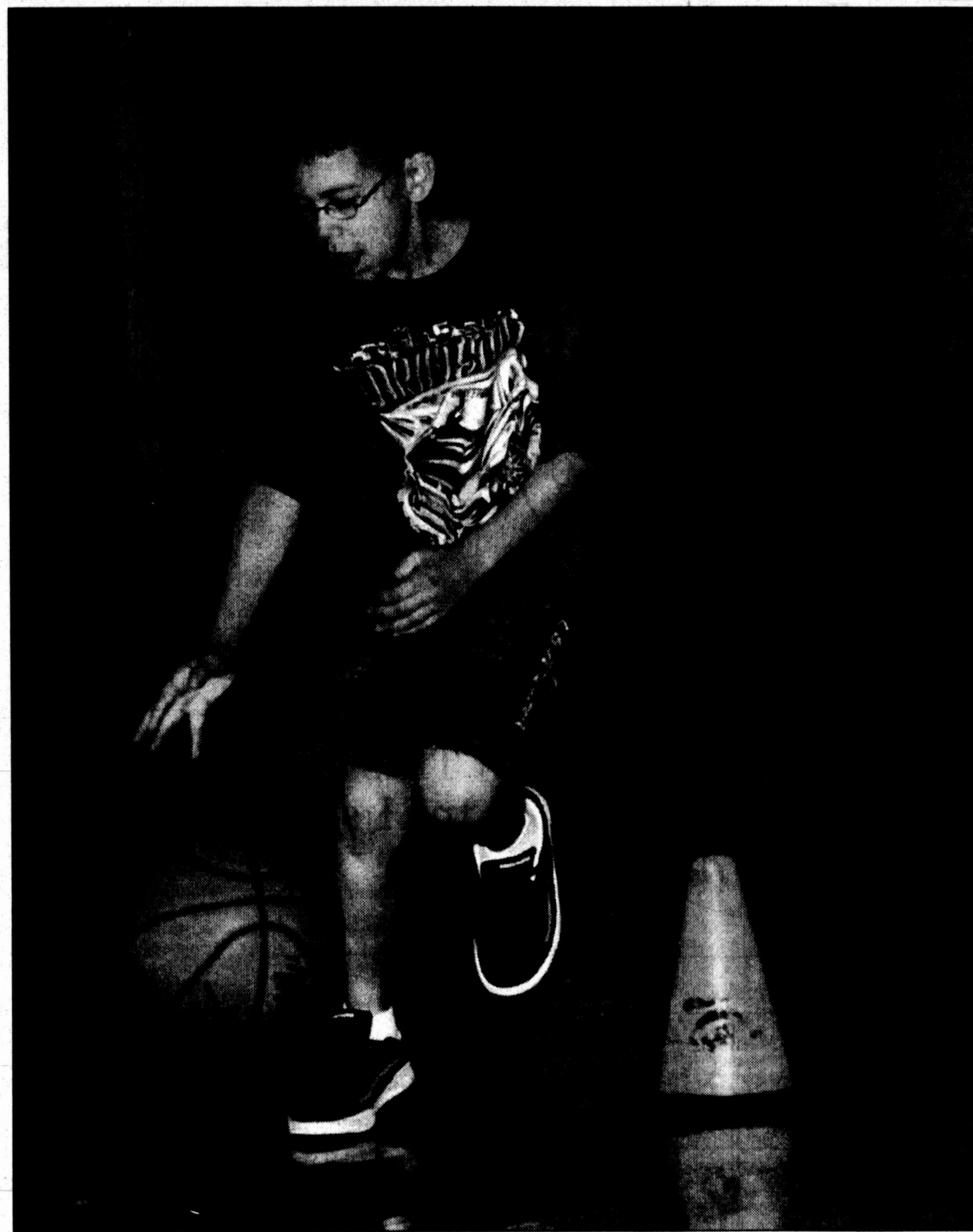
#### Phoenix Golf Club sets scramble days

The Phoenix Golf Club in Stanton invites golfers to Thursday night scrambles starting at 6 p.m. All golfers are welcome and scrambles will take place every Thursday until further notice.

For more information, call 756-2556.

### ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule		
Event, Time	Station	Frequency
Today		
Howard County L.L. Tournament, 7:15 p.m.	1490	
Friday		
Howard County L.L. Tournament, 7:15 p.m.	1490	
Saturday		
Howard County L.L. Tournament, 6:40 p.m.	1490	



Daniel Moreno goes through a dribbling drill during a basketball camp at the Big Spring Junior High School Gymnasium ran by Big Spring varsity boys basketball coach Jim Kinnear Wednesday afternoon. The camp has ran all week long and ends today. The camp was open for boys and girls grades three through eight.

## Knight signs three-year extension at Texas Tech

By BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer LUBBOCK - Bob Knight agreed to a three-year contract extension that will keep the basketball coach at Texas Tech until 2009.

Athletic director Gerald Myers told The Associated Press Wednesday the agreement probably will be signed next week.

Knight's contract pays him \$250,000 a year and runs through May 2006.

Knight needs 48 victories to overtake Dean Smith (879) as the winningest coach in Division I.

"I'm pleased with the direction of our program," Myers said. "He's done a great job turning everything around."

I think the future really looks good for us."

Knight is on vacation in Canada and was unavailable to comment Wednesday.

"I look forward to doing this a long time," Knight said in Wednesday's Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. "This is the best possible situation for me as long as I coach."

He will begin his fourth season at Tech — his 39th overall — with 832 wins.

Near the end of his second season at Tech, Knight announced he was returning his salary because he hadn't done a very good job, and neither had his team.

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

2004 current standings

### American League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
New York Yankees	37	20	—	20-8	17-12	Won 3
Boston	34	24	3.5	19-9	15-15	Lost 1
Baltimore	26	28	9.5	14-15	12-13	Won 1
Toronto	27	32	11	16-14	11-18	Won 2
Tampa Bay	22	34	14.5	15-15	7-19	Won 1

Central	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Chicago White Sox	31	25	—	18-11	13-14	Won 2
Minnesota	32	26	—	19-12	13-14	Won 3
Cleveland	26	30	5	17-14	9-16	Won 1
Detroit	28	32	6	13-17	13-15	Won 1
Kansas City	20	35	10.5	13-15	7-20	Lost 3

West	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Oakland	34	24	—	20-10	15-13	Won 5
Anaheim	33	25	1	18-10	14-14	Lost 5
TEXAS	31	24	1.5	16-9	14-15	Won 1
Seattle	22	36	12	11-17	9-19	Lost 2

### National League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Florida	33	26	—	16-12	16-15	Lost 1
Philadelphia	30	27	2	14-13	16-14	Won 1
Atlanta	29	29	3.5	15-13	14-16	Lost 1
New York Mets	28	30	4.5	15-13	13-17	Lost 2
Montreal	18	38	13.5	9-17	9-21	Lost 3

Central	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Cincinnati	34	25	—	18-10	16-15	Lost 3
St. Louis	34	25	—	13-15	21-10	Won 1
HOUSTON	32	26	1.5	15-13	17-13	Won 2
Chicago Cubs	30	28	3.5	17-14	13-14	Lost 1
Milwaukee	29	27	3.5	14-12	15-15	Won 2
Pittsburgh	24	30	7.5	9-18	15-12	Lost 3

West	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
San Diego	32	26	—	16-12	16-14	Won 1
Los Angeles	30	28	1	15-12	15-14	Lost 3
San Francisco	30	29	2.5	15-14	15-15	Lost 1
Arizona	23	36	9.5	12-17	11-19	Lost 1
Colorado	21	37	11	13-16	8-21	Lost 4

Glossary:  
W: Wins; L: Losses  
GB: Games Back  
Home: Home record  
Road: Road record  
Streak: consecutive games won or lost

#### Wednesday's Interleague Scores

Baltimore 8, Arizona 2  
San Diego 8, Boston 1  
Cleveland 8, Florida 1  
Detroit 4, Atlanta 2  
N.Y. Yankees 7, Colorado 5  
Toronto 4, Los Angeles 0  
Tampa Bay 4, San Francisco 3  
Philadelphia 13, Chicago Sox 0

#### Wednesday's Interleague (continued)

Philadelphia 13, Chicago Sox 10  
Minnesota 5, N.Y. Mets 3  
Milwaukee 12, Anaheim 2  
Oakland 17, Cincinnati 8  
Houston 3, Seattle 0  
Pittsburgh at Texas (ppd rain)  
Montreal at Kansas City (ppd rain)  
St. Louis 12, Chicago Cubs 4 (NL)

## Houston shuts out Mariners, Miller leads

By JIM COUR

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE - Wade Miller followed Roger Clemens' big outing with one of his own.

Miller pitched the Houston Astros to their second straight shutout of the Seattle Mariners, combining with three relievers for a 3-0 victory Wednesday night.

One night after Clemens beat Seattle 1-0 for his 319th career win, the Astros earned their fifth shutout of the season.

Miller, who threw the first six innings, certainly enjoys pitching after Clemens.

"Usually we follow a win so we just try to keep it going," Miller said. "Just watching him pitch and go after hitters is exciting."

Miller (6-6), who had lost three of his last four starts, gave up six hits, struck out four and walked two.

"It's been kind of up and down," he said. "So this was a big start for me to come in here and do well. I had good stuff today. It's just been a matter of my mechanics being on."

Miller has no plans to change his style just because he follows Clemens in the rotation.

"He has a little different stuff than I do," Miller said. "So it's not like we're throwing back-to-back with the same stuff."

Jeff Kent blooped a single to center in the eighth inning, extending his career-best hitting streak to 24 games and tying the Astros' record set by Tony Eusebio in 2000.

Kent seemed almost embarrassed to talk about his hitting streak. He went 1-for-3.

"These things just happen, especially tonight, kind of an ugly, bleeding hit out there," he said. "(Freddy) Garcia was wearing me out. He was wearing a lot of us out. He was throwing high fastballs and high cutters up top, sinkers. We had a hard time catching up."

The Mariners were blanked for the seventh time, most in the AL.

Seattle is batting .259, 13th in the AL ahead of only the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

"You can't win if you can't score. We know what we need to do," Dan Wilson said.

The Astros took two of three in the series despite scoring only four runs.

The Mariners, who have not scored in 21 innings, also were shut out two games in a row Sept. 3-4 at Tampa Bay last season.

Dan Miceli, Brad Lidge and Octavio Dotel each worked one inning to finish the seven-hitter.

Dotel got his second save in two nights and 11th in 13 opportunities this season.

Garcia (3-5) was the hard-luck loser. He pitched eight innings, giving up three runs on seven hits and three walks, with a season-high nine strikeouts.

The Astros scored their runs in the third on RBI doubles by Jeff Bagwell and Lance Berkman, and Richard Hidalgo's RBI single.

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THURSDAY

JUNE 10

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	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Premium	
6	News (CC) Wheel-Fortune	News (CC) Wheel-Fortune	Se Anunciara Mariana de la Noche	King of the Hill 70s Show	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes Prisionera	News Sainfield (CC) Friends (CC)	Joe McGehee John Hagege	News-Lahrer World	New Detectives-Foran Monster Garage (CC)	Yor Star Trek Next Gen.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET.com	Sister, Sister Lizzie McGuire	Reporters Interruption	NHL Awards 2001 Chicago Dog Show	Two on Two	Movie: Who is Cletis Touf?		
7	My Wife-Kids NBA Hangtime	My Wife-Kids NBA Hangtime	Bajo la Mierna Piel	70s Show Tru Calling (CC)	Joan of Arcadia (CC) CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	El Alma Herida Will & Grace Scrubs (CC)	Movie: You've Got Mail Light of the Southwest	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	Frontline (CC)	D-Day: Reflections of Courage Movie: Mississippi Burning	Star Trek Next Gen.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers 106 & Park: Prime	Movie: Malice (CC)	Sister, Sister Boy World	Billards 9-Ball	Baseball Tonight (CC)	Crimes and Misdemeanors		
8	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	Aqui y Ahora	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Without a Trace (CC)	Protagonistas ER (CC)	40 You've Got Mail (CC)	The Hour of Healing Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	From Swastika to Jim Crow Charlie Rose (CC)	Monster Garage (CC)	MOC MOC	15 Movie: Malice (CC)	Club Comic View	Kim Possible Proud Family	Billards 9-Ball	NBA-Late Two on Two	Outside-Lines Baseball	Movie: Wild		
9	Finals Game 3 -- Teams TBA	Finals Game 3 -- Teams TBA	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Sign Off	D-Day: Reflections of Courage	45 Movie: Muholland Falls (CC)	Real TV Real TV	Movie: Second View	Club Comic View	Boy World Recess (CC)	Table Tennis	SportsCenter (CC)	12:15 Movie: Shiner (CC)		
10	News	News	En las Mejores Familias	Becker (CC) Spin City	The Late Late Show (CC)	Al Rijo Vivo- Maria Celeste (CC)	12:10 Movie: When Harry	Update/Israel Derek Prince												
11	Nightline Ent. Tonight	Nightline Ent. Tonight	Mujeres Enganadas	Blind Date	Street Smarts															
12	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)																		

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This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, June 10, the 162nd day of 2004. There are 204 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 10, 1935, Alcoholics Anonymous was founded in Akron, Ohio.

On this date:

In 1801, the north African state of Tripoli declared war on the United States in a dispute over safe passage of merchant vessels through the Mediterranean.

In 1865, the Richard Wagner opera "Tristan und Isolde" premiered in Munich, Germany.

In 1922, singer-actress Judy Garland was born in Grand Rapids, Minn.

In 1940, Italy declared war on France and Britain; Canada declared war on Italy.

In 1942, the Gestapo massacred 173 male residents of Lidice, Czechoslovakia, in retaliation for the killing of a Nazi official.

In 1946, Italy replaced its abolished monarchy with a republic.

In 1964, the Senate voted to limit further debate on a proposed civil rights bill, shutting off a filibuster by Southern states.

In 1967, the Middle East War ended as Israel and Syria agreed to observe a United Nations-mediated cease-fire.

In 1978, Affirmed won the Belmont Stakes and with it, horse racing's Triple Crown.

In 2002, organized crime figure John Gotti died at a prison hospital in Missouri at age 61.

Ten years ago: President Clinton intensified sanctions against Haiti's military leaders, suspending U.S. commercial air travel and most financial transactions between the two countries.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Barry Morse is 86. Britain's

Prince Philip is 83. Columnist Nat Hentoff is 79. Actress June Haver is 78. Actor-director Lionel Jeffries is 78. Author Maurice Sendak is 76. Attorney F. Lee Bailey is 71. Actress Alexandra Stewart is 65. Singer Shirley Alston Reeves (The Shirelles) is 63. Actor Jurgen Prochnow is 63. Media commentator Jeff Greenfield is 61. Country singer-songwriter Thom Schuyler is 52. Actor Andrew Stevens is 49. Singer Barrington Henderson is 48. Singer Maxi Priest is 43. Actress Gina Gershon is 42. Actress Jeanne Tripplehorn is 41.

Answer to previous puzzle

CUSPS	JELLO	BAT
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SNAP	OUTFIT	CAR
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DERR	REPULSE	
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NOBEL	PELE	SWIG
RAID	DESCENTS	
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DER	PEPSI	STAKE

Newsday Crossword

LAST THREE by Robert H. Wolfe  
Edited by Stanley Newman

- |                            |                          |                               |                         |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>              | 65 Lawyer's work         | 12 Church levy                | 39 Rather of news       |
| 1 One who stares           | 66 Try out               | 13 Bacchus attendant          | 40 Without smell        |
| 6 Rejuvenation stations    | 67 Tear up               | 21 Possesses                  | 44 Kennel cry           |
| 10 Permits                 |                          | 22 Cleaning cloth             | 45 It means "world"     |
| 14 Lasso element           | <b>DOWN</b>              | 25 Ancient Yucatan inhabitant | 46 Stone calendar maker |
| 15 Far from jumpy          | 1 Variety of quartz      | 26 Over                       | 47 Leg bone             |
| 16 Song for orie           | 2 One on the move        | 27 Turn sharply               | 48 Juicy fruits         |
| 17 Kennel cries            | 3 Damn Yankees character | 28 Boat movers                | 49 Be compatible        |
| 18 Aware of                | 4 Catch sight of         | 29 Tennis score               | 50 Note above F         |
| 19 Jeff's friend           | 5 Debate statement       | 30 Burt ex                    | 52 Give out             |
| 20 Penetrating pictures    | 6 Move quickly           | 31 Mentally quick             | 53 Road division        |
| 23 Bit of cereal           | 7 Breathe fast           | 33 Dealer's dealing           | 54 Is into              |
| 24 Pink flower             | 8 Sax range              | 34 _ song (inexpensively)     | 55 Strip of wood        |
| 25 Stone workers           | 9 Air pollution          | 35 Busy                       | 56 Fictional assistant  |
| 29 Lose energy             | 10 Tibetan priests       | 36 Existence                  | 57 Fashion magazine     |
| 32 Map holder              | 11 Blow, like Etna       | 37 Pay for play               | 58 Plant source         |
| 33 Earring shape           |                          |                               |                         |
| 34 '40s White House pet    |                          |                               |                         |
| 38 Partner's agreement     |                          |                               |                         |
| 41 Copies                  |                          |                               |                         |
| 42 Not pro                 |                          |                               |                         |
| 43 Snow pile               |                          |                               |                         |
| 44 Garcia or Griffith      |                          |                               |                         |
| 45 Chin hair               |                          |                               |                         |
| 46 How some bonds are sold |                          |                               |                         |
| 50 Eur. country            |                          |                               |                         |
| 51 Fanny Brice vehicle     |                          |                               |                         |
| 59 Kind of lift            |                          |                               |                         |
| 60 Send out                |                          |                               |                         |
| 61 Stately bird            |                          |                               |                         |
| 62 England neighbor        |                          |                               |                         |
| 63 Swenson of Benson       |                          |                               |                         |
| 64 Ran off with            |                          |                               |                         |

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**Garage Sales**

**2 FAMILY Garage Sale:** 2729 E. 25th Street, Saturday 8-4. Clothes, dishes, glassware, bedding, baby items and lots of miscellaneous.

**3 FAMILY Garage Sale:** 2804 Navajo, Saturday 8:00-2:00. Children's clothing, furniture, exercise equipment, men & woman clothing, electronics, toys, house ware and more.

**Garage Sales**

**3 FAMILY Yard Sale:** 1101 North Scurry, Fri. & Sat. 8-?. New and used clothing and lots of misc. also Burritos.

**BRINGING OUT more Stuff.** Tools, Jeep seat covers, fun machine organ, Chev. wheels, stove ware, dishes, lots of misc. 2308 Allendale, Friday Only 8-?.

**CLEANING SALE:** 1309 Settles, Saturday 8-3. Baby items, electronics, craft supplies, clothing and more.

**GARAGE SALE:** 6013 E. Midway Rd., Saturday Only 7-4. 3 Tab composition shingles 11 sq., tool boxes, butane tanks, heaters, copper fitting, bicycle. Too much to list.

**Garage Sales**

**DALE DITTO Estate Sale:** Fri. 7-12 & Sat. 7-12. Fishing Equip, 2 trolling motors, boat motor, yard tools, porch swing, stepping stones. Lots of bricks, linens, pots, pans, lime plants, tools, electric motors, wire, bolt bins, desk, microwave, storage cabinets, fans, tons of misc. Tons of misc. 5212 Sterling Road off of Wasson (Signs).

**EARLY FRIDAY Morning,** 2502 Cindy Lane (Coahoma). Breakfast burritos. Too much to list.

**GARAGE SALE:** 2301 Cindy, Saturday 8-?. Fishing stuff, tools, clothing, lots of misc.

**GARAGE SALE:** 2606 Ann, Saturday Only 7-12. Kids & Adult clothing (like new), tons of toys, lots of misc. items.

**GARAGE SALE:** First and Last misc. items. Saturday 8:00-2:00, 2604 Clanton.

**GARAGE SALE:** Fri. & Sat. 9-5. Children clothing, 6 ft. chain link wire, lots of misc. 1317 Wood.

**GARAGE SALE:** Sat. 8-2 & Sunday, Noon-3:00. 1308 Marijo. Some furniture, big men clothes, tea sets (mini sets) and lots more.

**GARAGE SALE:** Saturday 8-2, 1709 Alabama. Washing machine, children's toys, exercise equipment, and lots of misc. items.

**INSIDE SALE:** Saturday 8-2, Canterbury North, 1600 South Lancaster. Household items, clothes, misc.

**Garage Sales**

**MOVING SALE:** 304 Boatler Road (off Driver Rd.), Saturday 8-2. Furniture, appliances, pick-up stuff, riding lawn mower, window unit and more. Call (432)889-6023 for info.

**MOVING SALE:** 600 N. Keathley (Garden City), Fri. & Sat. 8-4. Freezer, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer & dryer, sofa, recliner, and lots of stuff.

**MOVING SALE:** Friday & Saturday 7-?. Household items, sofa bed, computer hutch, table, chairs, lamps, silk plants, linens, clothing and more. 2728 East 24th Street.

**MOVING SALE:** Lots of stuff. Friday & Saturday 9:00-12:00, 3600 Dixon.

**MOVING SALE:** Over 30 porcelain dolls, precious moments, antiques and collectibles. Country decorations, clothing, etc. 2728 E. 24th., Friday & Saturday 7-?.

**MULTI. FAMILY Garage Sale:** 4053 Vicky, Saturday 8-1. Lots of good stuff.

**PJ'S INSIDE Sale:** 2210 Main. Friday & Saturday, 10:00-4:00. Recliners, dinette sets, dresser.

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**ASSISTANT MANAGER POSITION** available at **Coahoma DQ.** Above average pay for qualified person. Vacation and holiday pay. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test and background check required. Apply in store with Manager, Bobbie Puls.

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Help Wanted

**HOWARD COUNTY** Road Department will accept applications from June 14, 2004 through June 18, 2004 from a **TRUCK DRIVER**. Dump Truck experience a plus, must have a Valid Texas Class A C.D.L. licenses. Applications may be picked up and returned from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at room 305 Howard County Courthouse. All applicants will be pre-job drug tested.

**HOWARD COUNTY** Road Department will be accepting applications for an **Equipment Operator**. Looking for motor grader, loader, and asphalt distributor experience. Applications may be picked up and returned at room 305, Howard County Courthouse, June 14, 2004 through June 18, 2004, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Applicants must have a Valid Texas Class A C.D.L. licenses, and be drug free. All applicants subject to pre-job testing.

**IMMEDIATE OPENING:** Roustabout Pushers with at least 1 year experience. Will be working full time, good hours. Please call Rusty's Oilfield Service @ (432)756-2821.

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**2 BEDROOM** houses for rent. Stove & refrigerator furnished. Call 432-263-9963.

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Real Estate for Rent

**2407 CARLETON:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A. \$550.00 month plus deposit. Call (432)263-6997.

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**608 S. Main St. - Coahoma.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Corner lot. Fixer upper \$700. down, \$200. mo. 34 mos. (\$7500.) 432-466-2089.

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**COMMERCIAL BUILDING** FOR RENT: SUITABLE FOR A VARIETY OF BUSINESSES. 2601 Wasson Road (next to The Design Place). Call Bill D. Brooks (432)263-2900 or (432)267-3251.

**THREE BEDROOM,** 1-1/2 bath. 4219 Hamilton. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

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**FOR RENT 700** Building with nice has 2-14 ft. ove Call (432)634 263-6021 or 267-8

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**TWO Bedroom,** Call (432)270-38 info.

Real Estate

**For Sale or Rent** 2 bath on 3 ac room with fire kitchen and (432)353-4450 or

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**FOR SALE** By financing provid payment. Low rr room, 1 bath, freshly painted 1611 Owens. (432)425-9994.

**RENT TO Own** bath, Stucco hor 410 S. Bell St. 432-425-9994.

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**FOR RENT 7000 Sq. Feet** Building with nice office. Also has 2-14 ft. overhead doors. Call (432)634-1272 or 263-6021 or 267-8696.

**FOR RENT:** 802 Nolan 1/1, utilities included. 1204 Dixie 2/1. 1612 Bluebird 3/1. All \$400.00 a month plus \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

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**TWO Bedroom, One bath.** Call (432)270-3848 for more info.

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**For Sale or Rent:** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath on 3 acres. Big living room with fireplace, large kitchen and barn. Call (432)353-4450 or 263-1882.

**411 N. 5th Street Coahoma.** Newly remodeled interior. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath home with carpet and utility room. Appliances included. Located 1 block from school. A must see! \$18,000. Call (432)714-4003.

**COAHOMA 3 Bedroom, 2 bath** Beautiful master bath, walk-in closet, appliances, Handicapped porch. Like new MF Home. Land & Home \$42,000. 803 Atlantic. Call (432)661-5552.

**FOR SALE by owner.** Owner financing provided. Low down payment & low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, corner lot. 1500 Kentucky Way. Call Kelly, 432-425-9994.

**FOR SALE by owner.** Owner financing provided. Low down payment & low monthly. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 4209 Parkway. Call Kelly at 432-425-9994.

**FOR SALE by owner.** Owner financing provided. Low down payment & low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 1401 Princeton. Call Kelly at 432-425-9994.

**FOR SALE By Owner.** Owner financing provided. Low down payment. Low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage, freshly painted on outside. 1611 Owens. Call Kelly, (432)425-9994.

**RENT TO Own 2 bedroom, 1 bath,** Stucco house, corner lot. 410 S. Bell St. Call Kelly at 432-425-9994.

**Real Estate for Sale**

Le gustaria ser dueño de su propia casa pues. ahora es cuando sin importar su credito le puedo ayudar, con el enganche nos arreglamos a su conveniencia visite **608 Drake**, Big Spring, si le gusta esta casa yo se la financio por 10 años para mas info. Llame Annette Sanchez (432)413-0549 o (432)620-8285.

**OWNER WILL FINANCE!** 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Just remodeled! Great condition! 1209 Sycamore and 1214 Ridgeroad. **LOW DOWN, LOW MONTHLY!** Tadlock Realtors (432)580-4883.

Would you like to own our home but have bad credit or not enough credit I can work with you on the down payment **608 Drake**, Big Spring, Call Annette Sanchez @ (432)413-0549 or (432)620-8285 I will finance you a house for 10 Years.

**Services Offered**

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**Vehicles**

**2004 NISSAN MAXIMAS** \*1000 Customer Rebate or **1.9% APR For 60 mos.** Bob Brock Nissan 500 W. 11th 267.7121

**2003 FORD Eddie Bauer Expedition.** Fully loaded, 15,000 miles. \$29,500.00. Call (432)264-6114.

**EXTRA CLEAN,** runs great; 1992 Buick; \$2500. Can see at 1201 Derrick Rd. or call (432)267-5064.

**2 FORD Taurus** for sale. Owner will finance. Both run good. For more info. call (432)394-4783 if no answer leave message.

**Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.**

**BY JOYCE JILLSON**

Uranus is the first of the so-called modern planets, discovered in 1781. If we ask Uranus a question, any question at all, it will always give us the same answer: "Change!" Uranus goes retrograde in Pisces today and will continue transiting in this direction until Nov. 11. Consider how you've changed already and what changes you'd still like to make.



Joyce Jillson

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Working to rid your vocabulary and your activities of boring words and responses will make you more influential and thus able to do and get more of what you want. You can drop a certain burden tonight.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Beloved entertainer Judy Garland was born on this day in 1922. Her combination of moxie and vulnerability is an enticing Taurus quality you can put to use today in your effort to make something happen against the odds.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You have a restless spirit, so vary your activities as much as possible. Stay open to the unexpected in the way of people or places. Make your answering machine work for its keep — otherwise, you're tethered to the phone.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** There's a little trickster in you today, a sense of playfulness that must be expressed — the alternative is that you feel so pent up you feel

like making a speedy escape! It's better to be playful than absent.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You can face what looks like a setback with complete trust in your inner power. Let your decisions be based on wisdom rather than raw emotions. You're better off not pushing your energy too far. Take it easy.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Although the glitz and glitter of life can be seductive, you're sure to be better off going for the real thing in terms of loyalty, solid material gains and self-respect. People you should invite to your home are the givers, not the takers.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** It's not what you do but how you do it. If you change your inner dialogue, even the most menial tasks can be transformed into a meditation, a prayer, a celebration, an art form. Take pride in your work around the house.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Happiness is easier to come by when it's not dependent on outside events. You've got imagination. The world cries out for you to share your vision. Sweethearts are joyfully receptive to even the tiniest gifts.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** A project may be taking over your life now — a healthy obsession never hurt anyone, did it? You may feel more amorous about work than you do about a love affair. Those who love you unconditionally will understand.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You're one of the wise people who know that a bad example can be even more effective than a good one.

Health improves now because you're focusing on what you love, not what you loathe.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Those of you who have been struggling in new romance will now hit a nice harmonious patch. Love brings security but also may bring expectations. Meet these in your own style. A Virgo or Gemini figures into your love life.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Because you take projects so seriously, you are made the leader and thus the one who is holding on to the purse strings, both a privilege and a daunting responsibility. What if you choose wrong? Don't doubt yourself.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Elizabeth Hurley's career is ever evolving, in true Gemini style. Malleability is one of

Gemini actors' best features. As she switches roles professionally, I predict that her family will be in a state of transition this year. Whether she changes houses or the men in her life change roles, she will be there as a constant for her son, Damian Charles. Old friends could provide the stability Gemini needs.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I am married, and my best friend is in her early 40s. "Brenda" is very short (just over 5 feet) and severely overweight. Recently, she has been quite depressed because she would like to have a special man in her life, which she deserves because she is a wonderful, caring person.

We hang out in the same circles, so I cannot introduce her to anyone we both don't already know. Brenda recently had the courage to ask a couple of male friends out on a date. While I applaud her for this, the problem is these men are very attractive and obviously work out regularly at the gym. They both declined Brenda's invitation for various reasons, but I suspect it is because of her physical appearance.

Brenda has an unrealistic self-image, and I'm sure her Prince Charming will look nothing like the ones in the movies. I feel terribly awkward discussing this with her, but how can I get her to understand she needs to look for someone who is less attractive physically? — Speechless

Dear Speechless: It's quite possible Brenda asked these particular men because they are friends, not because of their looks. And while a lot of guys (and gals) pay too much attention to the packaging, there are plenty of people who care more about what's inside.

Say nothing to Brenda about her choices. You can encourage her to get into a diet and exercise program that will make her feel better and healthier, but don't offer any additional opinions unless asked.

Dear Annie: I would like to add an additional comment to your advice to "Had Enough," the man who wanted to write a vitriolic letter to his abusive and manipulative parents. I had similar feelings toward my ex-husband.

I found it extremely helpful to my own "letting-go" process to write that letter, expressing fully and in detail how I feel and why, but NOT to send it. When the first letter wasn't cathartic enough, I put it away to later read and add to. Once I felt that I had relieved my anger, I made a point of tearing up the letter into tiny pieces and burning them in order to release the anger and let it dissipate. I then found I could separate myself from the person who caused the anger and

hurt, and move on without hate and bitterness.

Now, when I look back and think about the whole emotional embroilment, I can be objective about the need for separation. — Ex-Wife on the West Coast

Dear Ex-Wife: You found a useful way to rid yourself of the anger that otherwise could have consumed your life. It reminds us of the Ann Landers saying, "Hate is like acid. It can damage the vessel in which it is stored, as well as destroy the object on which it is poured."

Dear Annie: My husband's aunts seem to think it is perfectly acceptable to have what they call "a shower in a box," instead of having an actual bridal shower. They send out invitations saying the bride is too busy to have a shower and to please send a gift. The gifts will be presented to her in a large box at her wedding.

The first two times I received this type of invitation, I threw it away without a second thought. We just received a third invitation, and I wanted to make sure. Am I correct in thinking that there needs to be an actual shower in order to expect presents? — Annoyed in Nebraska

Dear Annoyed: The only time it is acceptable to have a shower "in absentia" is if the bride lives too far away to attend. "Too busy" just doesn't cut it.

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

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# That's Racin'

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## Chasing the leaders

By JIM UTTER  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

For many drivers in the Nextel Cup Series, the "Chase for the Championship" already appears over.

Following last weekend's race at Dover, Del., only 10 drivers — the minimum number possible — remain eligible for the series' 10-race battle for the title.

The top-10 drivers in points are locked into the battle along with those within 400 points of the leader.

The problem? Entering Sunday's Pocono 500 at Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pa. (1 p.m. ET, Fox), the 11th-place driver, Jamie McMurray, is already more than 400 points (431) behind leader Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Technically, of course, drivers more than 400 points out could still break that threshold before the season's 26th race in September at Richmond, Va.

But past history indicates it is far more likely only 10 drivers will compete for the grand prize. And also likely are those already established in the top 10 are the most likely to remain there.

So, drivers such as Earnhardt Jr., Jimmie Johnson and Matt Kenseth simply need to "hold serve" in the next 10 races.

**With 13 races down and 13 to go, the field of eligible Nextel Cup contenders begins to narrow**

Others such as Ryan Newman, Kevin Harvick, Bobby Labonte and Elliott Sadler need good performances to maintain their top-10 ranking.

Then there are drivers such as Jeremy Mayfield — 15th in points and 66 points from the 400-point cutoff — who have to take a "hard line" approach to the next 13 races.

"We're racing like there's no tomorrow," Mayfield explains. "We're running hard every week. I think Dover is a good example — we got wrecked and still came home eighth."

"We are focused on being in the deal come

September, but we aren't points racing. When you sit back and go points racing, you're likely to get in more trouble than if you went out and raced hard.

"So, we're going all out."

Poor starts to the season have virtually eliminated some drivers from championship contention.

Michael Waltrip's case is a good example of a poor start wrecking title hopes. He has finished in the top-10 — including a second-place finish — in the past three races.

Yet because Waltrip was so far behind to begin with, he's advanced just to 20th in points and is still 228 points behind the championship cutoff mark.

Four drivers have remained in the top 10 in points all season — Earnhardt Jr., Kenseth, Tony Stewart and Sadler. Of those four, two — Earnhardt Jr. and Kenseth — have won races this season.

With four drivers in the top 10 without a victory this season, there is still plenty of wiggle room.

Some wiggling is already under way.

Labonte has hit a slump of late, dropping two positions in points after finishing 25th at Dover. Without a win, his No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing team needs consistently good performances this summer to remain in the championship battle.

"We fell in the points for the first time in awhile, so we need to get back on track," Labonte said. "We're not that far out of sixth, but more important than anything, we need to get a win under our belts this year."

"A win at Pocono would give us great momentum going into Michigan, which is my favorite track."

A few weeks ago, Jeff Gordon appeared poised to challenge Johnson, Kenseth and Earnhardt Jr. for the points lead, but he also has hit a tough skid, finishing no better than 30th in the past two races.

"Things haven't been going in our direction recently and we've taken a big hit in the points," Gordon said. "We just need to regroup, hopefully post a good finish at Pocono and carry some momentum into the next few races."

"We won't be able to close the gap with one good finish, but we can start to chip away at the lead."

For Mayfield and those similarly positioned, wins are the key to earning a shot at competing for the championship.

"If we can just get in, I don't care if we're 399 points within the leader. If we can just get in, it's going to be big," Mayfield said.

"The last 10 races are on our style of race tracks. We're counting on being there."



Mayfield



Labonte



Gordon

### CHASING THE CHAMPIONSHIP

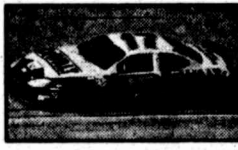
With 13 of the 26 races complete that will determine who will remain in the hunt for the Nextel Cup Series championship this season, here's a look at who's most likely in and out of the title hunt. The top 10 in points plus any drivers within 400 points of the leader are eligible to run for the title.

#### SEND THE INVITATION

Driver	Points position	Wins	Pts. behind
Dale Earnhardt Jr.	1	3	—
Jimmie Johnson	2	2	-98
Matt Kenseth	3	2	-179
Tony Stewart	4	0	-196
Jeff Gordon	5	2	-254
Kurt Busch	6	1	-315
Elliott Sadler	7	1	-317
Bobby Labonte	8	0	-321
Kevin Harvick	9	0	-331
Ryan Newman	10	0	-367



Earnhardt Jr.



Kenseth



McMurray

#### THERE'S STILL HOPE

Driver	Points position	Wins	Pts. behind
Jamie McMurray	11	0	-431
Kasey Kahne	12	0	-438
Mark Martin	13	1	-442
Rusty Wallace	14	1	-458
Jeremy Mayfield	15	0	-466

#### THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR

Driver	Points position	Wins	Pts. behind
Ricky Rudd	30	0	-766
Greg Biffle	25	0	-683
Jeff Burton	24	0	-679
Brian Vickers	23	0	-673
Ward Burton	22	0	-651



Rudd

### RANKINGS

#### THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

**1. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8):** Made chicken salad with a third-place finish at Dover to solidify top spot in points. Last week: 1.

**2. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):** Hard to avoid a wreck when the car behind you rams you headlong right into it. Last week: 2.

**3. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17):** On his way to another Houdini-style top-five finish before running into an oil slick at Dover. Last week: 3.

**4. Tony Stewart (car No. 14):** Dominated the same part of the Dover race, held off Earnhardt Jr. for second in the bizarre part. Last week: 5.

**5. Jeff Gordon (car No. 14):** There's not much you can do when a tire blows and your car goes 45 degrees into the wall. Last week: 4.

**6. Kasey Kahne (car No. 9):** Tough-luck loser at Dover. Second-best team, behind Stewart, with no wins this year. Last week: 8.

**7. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38):** Got wreck out of the way early at Dover and fought back to hold his points position. Last week: 9.

**8. Ryan Newman (car No. 12):** Things that went right for this team a year ago are all going wrong so far this year. Last week: 7.

**9. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18):** Team seems like it's in a little bit of a lull right now, but that could end at Pocono. Last week: 6.

**10. Mark Martin (car No. 6):** Ends two-year win drought. Said he thought about doing a burnout, but wasn't sure he remembered how. Last week: 14.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com).

## Points system should better reward winning drivers

Halfway through the regular season, or whatever NASCAR wants to call the 26-race run-up to the 10-race scrap for this year's Nextel Cup championship, it's not too soon to be thinking about how to improve this "new and improved system."

Certainly, there are things about the new format we haven't figured out yet, ways that smart teams are going to approach the 26-10 plan to make it work in their favor.

That, in fact, is already happening. When Jimmie Johnson won at Lowe's Motor Speedway two weekends ago, crew chief Chad Knaus said the requirement to be only 10th or better after 26 races to be in the championship chase actually freed up that team to more aggressively chase race victories in situations where points considerations otherwise might have taken precedence.

Anything that makes race teams

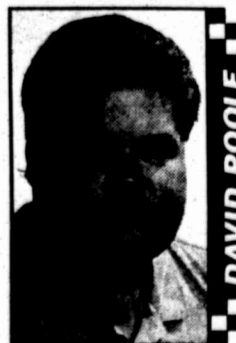
think first about winning races and then about points is a grand idea.

Fans didn't sit through nearly five hours of the MBNA 400 on a gray Sunday at Dover (Del.) International Speedway for the points race. They came to see somebody win, like Mark Martin eventually did.

Winning a race ought to be the biggest deal it can possibly be and still make a championship race relevant. So here's an idea. During the first 26 races, each driver gets a 500-point bonus for his first win of the season. If a driver wins seven races, he only gets the bonus for the first time, but everybody who wins one of those 26 races gets that bonus.

What would that do?

Well, it would make it imperative



DAVID POOLE

for a driver who wants to be part of the 10-race championship chase to get a race victory. It would also reward a driver appropriately for notching a win. Martin is now 13th and Rusty Wallace is 14th in the standings, but both have won races this year. Six drivers ahead of them haven't won a race yet. Shouldn't a driver have to win something in order to

have a right to race for the ultimate prize?

All the 500-point boost does, basically, is make a victory the one card you need to have in your hand to get a seat at the table for the 10-race title chase.

The bonus would then reset after 26 races. Each driver's first win among the final 10 would again earn him a 500-point bonus, putting an even higher premium on winning in that part of the

season.

Under the current system, the champion is as likely to be a driver who avoids trouble in each of the final 10 races but wins none as someone who wins three of them but also falls out three races due to crashes or mechanical issues.

The 500-point bonus would ensure that the champion would have at least one victory in the final 10 races, and that's not unreasonable.

Suppose we get to the final race at Homestead-Miami Speedway and a driver is 450 points out because he hasn't won in the previous nine races. Second place is no good to him, but if he wins the 10th race he can still pull it out, and the best way for the other guys to keep him from doing that is to win instead.

In other words, it'd all be about winning.

The way it ought to be.

### THIS WEEK'S RACE

#### POCONO 500

Where: Pocono Raceway, a 2.5-mile triangle-shaped paved track located in Long Pond, Pa.

When: Sunday at 1 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.

TV: Fox.  
Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$4,788,921.

Last year's winner: Tony Stewart.  
Also this week: The NASCAR Truck series heads to Texas Motor Speedway for Friday night's O'Reilly 400K. Chad Chaffin won his first series race last weekend at Dover, Del. Dennis Setzer continues to hold the series points lead. Rookie Kyle Busch takes his points lead in the Busch Series to Nashville, Tenn., for Saturday's Federated Auto Parts 300. Greg Biffle won at Dover, in a rain-delayed race that concluded Monday.



Stewart

### POLL POSITION

#### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

What sport other than racing do you follow most intensely?

Cast your vote at:  
[www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com)

#### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Which summer race are you most looking forward to?

Number of votes: 8,631

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
Sharpie 500 at Bristol	4,443	52%
Peppi 400 at Daytona	2,016	23%
Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis	998	12%
One of the road course races	584	7%
Pocono, Michigan or New Hampshire	462	5%
Tropicana 400 at Chicagoland	118	1%

### STOP 'N' GO

#### RANDOM THOUGHTS

A list of who's hot and who's not in Nextel Cup racing.

#### WHO'S HOT

■ **Mark Martin** has jumped from 43rd to 13th in points since the season opener.

■ **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** has finished in the top 10 in six of his past seven races.

■ **Tony Stewart** has three consecutive top-10 finishes.

#### WHO'S NOT

■ **Greg Biffle** has dropped from 13th to 25th in points since the start of the season.

■ **Jeff Gordon** has finished 30th or worse in the past two races.

■ **Sterling Marlin** has failed to finish four races this season.

— Jim Utter

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of June 6:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Earnhardt Jr. (8)	1318	21. T. Labonte (5)	1318
2. J. Johnson (48)	1260	22. W. Burton (0)	1312
3. M. Kenseth (17)	1184	23. B. Vickers (25)	1290
4. T. Stewart (20)	1177	24. J. Burton (99)	1284
5. J. Gordon (24)	1170	25. G. Biffle (16)	1280
6. K. Busch (97)	1168	26. S. Wimmer (22)	1272
7. E. Sadler (38)	1166	27. J. Nemechek (01)	1239
8. B. Labonte (18)	1162	28. J. Sauter (30)	1217
9. K. Harvick (29)	1162	29. B. Gaughan (77)	1202
10. R. Newman (12)	1156	30. R. Rudd (21)	1197
11. J. McMurray (42)	1152	31. R. Craven (32)	1122
12. K. Kahne (9)	1152	32. K. Schrader (49)	1100
13. M. Martin (6)	1152	33. S. Pliggs (10)	1081
14. R. Wallace (2)	1150	34. K. Petty (45)	1040
15. J. Mayfield (19)	1147	35. J. Green (43)	988
16. D. Jarrett (88)	1143	36. D. Cope (50)	804
17. C. Mears (41)	1139	37. J. Spencer (4)	606
18. S. Marlin (40)	1137	38. D. Blaney (23)	579
19. R. Gordon (31)	1134	39. K. Lepage (51)	466
20. M. Waltrip (15)	1133	40. M. Shepherd (89)	311

#### BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of June 7:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. K. Busch	2117	11. R. Gordon	1557
2. M. Truex Jr.	2104	12. K. Kahne	1554
3. D. Green	1965	13. J. Sauter	1544
4. M. Waltrip	1922	14. T. Fedewa	1527
5. B. Hamilton Jr.	1889	15. M. Bliss	1519
6. J. Keller	1836	16. S. Compton	1508
7. G. Biffle	1800	17. C. Atwood	1472
8. R. Hornaday	1743	18. D. Stremme	1469
9. J. Leffler	1710	19. A. Lewis	1437
10. K. Wallace	1634	20. K. Harvick	1422

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Federated Auto Parts 300, Nashville, Tenn.

#### TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of June 4:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Setzer	924	6. T. Kvapil	788
2. C. Edwards	904	7. J. Wood	776
3. R. Crawford	868	8. J. Sprague	775
4. M. Skinner	840	9. D. Starr	765
5. B. Hamilton	800	10. T. Cook	780

NEXT RACE: Friday, O'Reilly 400K, Fort Worth, Texas