

TUESDAY

June 22, 2004

**WEATHER**

Tonight:



**PARTLY CLOUDY**

**TONIGHT TOMORROW**  
67°-69° 85°-87°

**Blood drive slated Saturday at mall**

**HERALD Staff Report**

The Big Spring Mall will be the site of the next United Blood Services drive scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

"With fewer people donating blood, some parts of the country run the risk of having critical blood shortages," said Lee Hartmann, UBS executive director, in a written statement.

The blood drive is scheduled from noon until 5 p.m. in the UBS Bloodmobile which will be parked in front of the Big Spring Mall.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years old, in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, have not donated in the past eight weeks and not currently taking antibiotics.

To sign up, contact Big Spring Mall manager Kathy Lusk at 267-3853.

For more information, call United Blood Services at (432) 561-5539 or visit [www.UnitedBloodServices.org](http://www.UnitedBloodServices.org)

**Large-item trash pickup set Friday**

The city of Big Spring, District 3, is offering a courtesy service Friday to haul large items to the landfill for the elderly, handicapped or those without the means to haul large objects.

To take advantage of the one-day-only service, place those items meant for the landfill by the curb, in the city right-of-way, less than 24 hours before scheduled pick up. The service will be offered only to residents in District 3. If you are unsure of your District, call 432-264-2504 or 432-254-2501.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

## Forsan ISD trustees call for bond election

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Forsan Independent School District trustees, meeting Monday night, unanimously called for a \$4.9 million bond election Sept. 11.

If passed, the bond package will fund extensive upgrades to district facilities, construction of a multi-purpose athletic facility and new programs — changes Superintendent Randy Johnson feels are not only welcomed by Forsan taxpayers but wanted.

"We're trying to respond to things they've brought up,"

*"We feel like it's an appropriate time and it's looking to the future."*

Randy Johnson, superintendent



Johnson said. "We have a lot of work ahead of us in making sure the community knows what we are talking about, why we're asking for it and more details on how it will impact taxes.

"There is a lot of work that

needs to happen before Sept. 11," he continued. "I think once we get all that information out there the voters will be supportive of it."

According to Johnson, the multi-million-dollar package will impact both the elementary and high school/junior high campuses.

"It will affect some safety things we are concerned with at the Elbow Elementary campus such as light fixtures that don't have covers," he said. "There's a traffic flow problem at Elbow.

See **BOND**, Page 3A

## Board to take long, hard look at drug testing

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Forsan Independent School District students involved with extra-curricular activities may be subject to random drug testing, but if a policy is instituted, it will come after a lengthy study

See **TESTING**, Page 3A

## TEXAS CASE Supreme Court rules for HMOs in patient suits

By **MICHAEL GRACZYK**  
Associated Press Writer

SUGAR LAND — Ruby Calad thought she understood all the insurance bureaucracy involving her HMO that would allow her to be treated for a hysterectomy.

"I'd done my homework," the suburban Houston woman said.

Then the day after her operation about five years ago, she was told by a Houston-area hospital

she had to be released because her HMO, Cigna Healthcare of Texas Inc., would approve no additional expenses keeping her there.

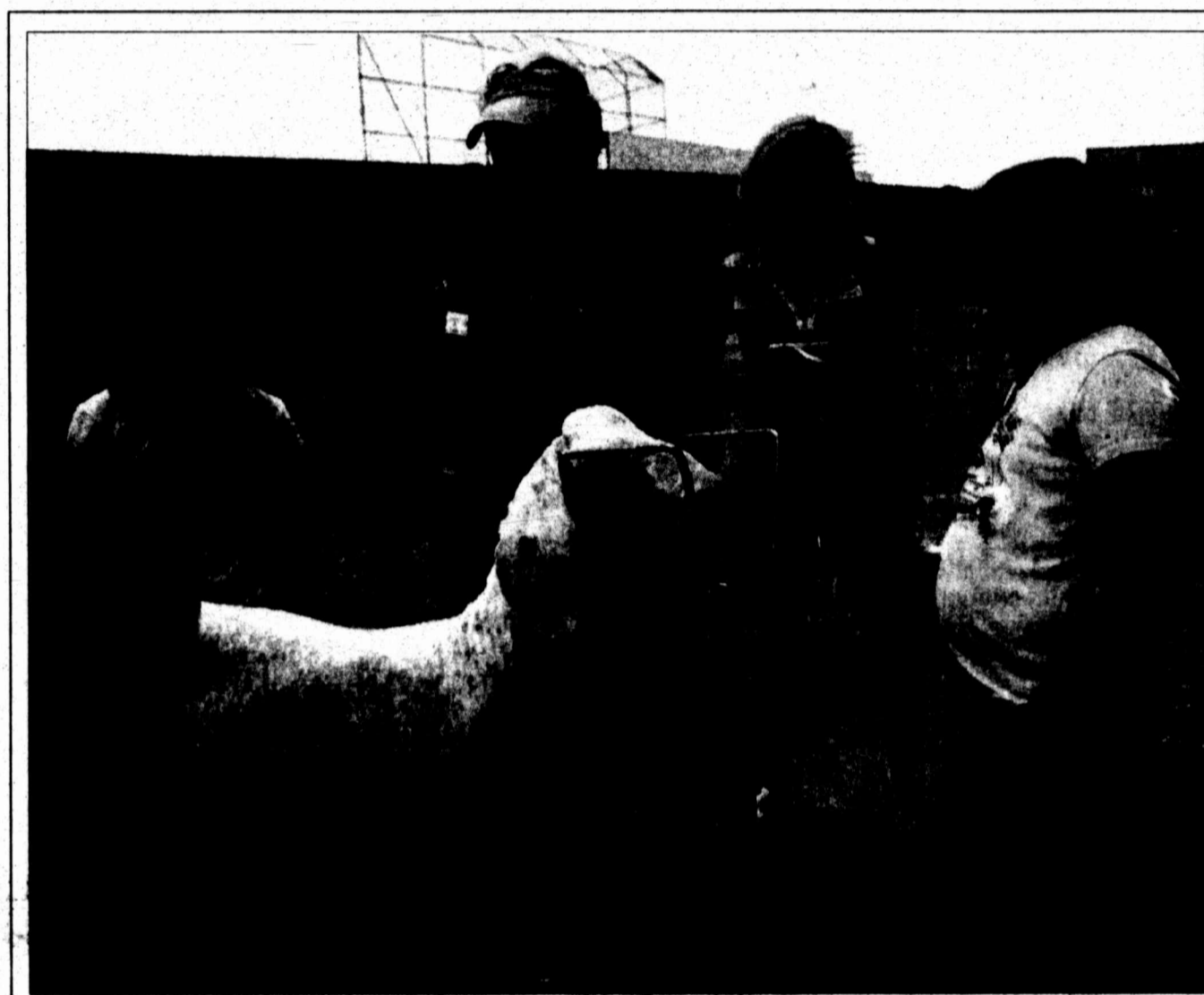
As a result she was discharged prematurely, then wound up in the hospital emergency room a few days later, she said.

"(It) ended up costing them more money," Calad, 50, recalled Monday, a few hours after learning the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled against her in a lawsuit stemming from her HMO's decision denying her continued hospital stay.

"The court essentially looked the other way on the issue of the HMO abuse. With this ruling, the HMOs can simply walk away from their responsibilities while ... millions of Americans are left with the consequences."

Monday's high court ruling means patients like Calad can't seek hefty damage awards in court if their HMOs refuse to pay for doctor-recommended medical care. The unanimous decision rejected arguments that the threat of multimillion-dollar lawsuits keeps insurance companies honest, invalidated an important part of patient rights laws in several states and tossed a political hot potato back to Congress, where lawmakers

See **HMO**, Page 3A



HERALD photos/Lyndei Moody  
Above, Howard College associate professor Vance Christie shows Candice Strickland of Robstown, left, and Heather Neagle of Midland how to shear a goat at the college's annual goat camp. At right, Dylan Coasper of Moody gets some hands on practice. Goat camp, which drew participants from around the state and parts of the nation, ends today.

## Goat school is shear fun for campers

### Annual event draws students from across the nation

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

A bustle of activity at Howard College these past few days has centered around the care and maintenance of goats, drawing youths from around the state and parts of the nation to a three-day camp.

"We went to (Texas) A&M last year and it wasn't as fun,

so we decided to come back here," said Candice Strickland, a 10-year-old from Robstown. "You get to stay in the dorms and you get to be more active and stuff."

Howard College's Goat Camp began Sunday and drew one of the largest number of participants ever, said Vance Christie, associate professor

for agriculture and livestock judging coach.

"We're kind of the premier camp for lambs and goat camps, and over the last two weeks, we've had people in from Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and all parts and regions of Texas," Christie

See **CAMP**, Page 3A

## DRA plans another Funtastic celebration

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

With just a couple of weeks to go, the Downtown Revitalization Association's annual Funtastic Fourth Festival is picking up steam and plenty of attractions.

With everything from a battle of the bands in three different musical categories to plenty of tasty treats, DRA member Ellen Barefoot, the owner of Nannje's Attic, said there will be something for everyone in the family.

"There's just so much to do," said Barefoot. "There's a washer tournament from which all the winners will get trophies.

There's the car shows, which include the low-riders and the antiques, not to mention the

motorcycle show. The Howard County Sheriff's Posse will be selling horse rides.

"Of course we'll have a lot of the same attractions that we had last year, like the jump-houses and inflatable games for the kids, lots of food vendors and other merchants. We'll also have the "love to hate" dunking booth, which will have a lot of the local police officers and people like that — people we love to hate. It's all in fun though."

This year's offering also includes a new award for the battle of the bands, according to DRA member Dana Baker.

"We're having a People's Choice Award," said Baker. "No one that competes is going to

walk away empty handed. People will be able to vote for their favorite band at a special booth we'll have set up. Votes will be \$1 each, with a prize of \$1,000 to go to the people's choice winner. That way, this year's big winner is chosen by the people.

"The judges are much more technical and much more involved in the battle. This award is about who the Big Spring people want, and they can just keep putting the money in. It will be a big part of our fundraiser."

Scheduled to perform in the rock music competition are Sour Hand, Crimson Soul and One Star Shy. In the country music division, Texas Pipeline, Trey

Austin Band and Seventh Addition are slated to appear. Tejano category competitors will be Eztrano, X-Tremo and SuperBravo.

Barefoot said the funds raised by the competition should allow the group to break even or help begin funding next year's event.

"We use the funds we raise for a variety of functions around town, but most of the money we raise from the Fourth of July goes back into the next year's event," said Barefoot. "It costs a great deal of money to do this. You have to think about the trophies, banners, canopies, water, ice and whatever else we need to

See **FOURTH**, Page 5A

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Obituaries

F.L. Sneed

F.L. Sneed, 67, of Big Spring died Saturday, June 19, 2004, at the Hospice House in Odessa. Mr. Sneed was born on July 25, 1936, in Big Spring. He chose cremation and burial will be private. Mr. Sneed was a farmer and rancher in Howard and Gaines counties most of his life. He served in the Army and was a member of the U.S. Army Rifle Team. He won numerous awards for marksmanship. Mr. Sneed was preceded in death by his parents, Forris L. and Purnie Mason Sneed. Survivors include his son, Jody Sneed; his daughter, Sherri Ford; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Darlene and Dean Eggen of Clearwater, Fla., and Carolyn "Cookie" and William Thompson of Stephenville; a very special uncle, B.D. Mason of Big Spring; three grandchildren; and numerous aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Nellie Tippie

Nellie Tippie, 105, died Sunday, June 20, 2004, at Stanton Care and Rehabilitation Center in Stanton. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, June 23, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Gary Tate, of Golf Course Road Church of Christ in Midland, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, Tuesday, June 22, 2004, at the funeral home. She was born on July 4, 1898, in Shive and married Ernest M. Tippie on Oct. 13, 1913, in Hamilton. He preceded her in death in Dec. 1946. She was also preceded in death by an infant son and a daughter. She moved to Big Spring in 1940 and to Midland in 1990. She was a seamstress and after her husband's death made her livelihood sewing for others and later worked for Swartz Dress Shop in Big Spring doing alterations. She was a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the VFW. She was a member of 14th and Main Church of Christ in Big Spring and the Golf Course Road Church of Christ in Midland. Survivors include two daughters, Ernestine Hammack of Midland and Mealdine Principe of Panama City, Fla.; 16 grandchildren; 36 great grandchildren; and 52 great great grandchildren. The family suggests memorials to Stanton Care & Rehab, 1100 Broadway, Stanton, 79782. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Joe Mathews

Joe Mathews, 90, died at 4:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 22, 2004, in Brownwood Medical Memorial. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Garland Harrison

Garland Harrison, 68, of Coahoma, died Tuesday morning, June 22, 2004, at his home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take note

- A FUND FOR ALAN AND MITZI KNIGHT, whose house on Oasis Road burned, has been established at the First Big Spring Banking Center. The home and all the family's belongings were lost.
- BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1989 15-year reunion is set for Oct. 8-9. For information or to update your name or mailing address, contact Christy Alexander at 972-567-8037 or Shanette Johnson at 972-874-9308.
- 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. Lions provide funding for the camp as well as transportation, if necessary.
- HERITAGE MUSEUM, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday and from 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Sunday.
- CHRIST'S COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP is requesting donations of any household items, furniture, appliances, linens, cookware and dishes to be distributed to the needy in Big Spring. Items will be picked up. Please call 263-5683 and leave a message.
- ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED. Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday until 8 a.m. today: • LINDSEY KAY LEE, 18, of 1105 Mulberry was arrested today on warrants for traffic. • KATHERINE DELORES SCAGGS, 33, of 3304 Highway 80 was arrested Monday on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia. • PATRICIA GROSSMAN, 42, of 806 Circle was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct—language. • MARK WILLIAM EDWARDS, 46, of 807 E. 16th Street was arrested Monday on a warrant for traffic. • STEPHEN COY MEYER, 24, of 1704 State was arrested Monday on warrants for traffic. • THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willa, the 2300 block of Wasson, the 1100 block of Lamesa, the 300 block of Owens and the 1800 block of Gregg. • CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 200 block of Marcy and the 1600 block of Wren. • UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 400 block of Douglas. • BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1400 block of Young and the 2600 block of Hunter. • ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1800 block of Nolan.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity: • JASON RONALD CLARK, 33, was taken to the county jail Monday after being arrested by Texas Department of Safety troopers on a charge of driving with invalid license. • LOOSE LIVESTOCK were reported on FM 849, on Highway 87, north of Allred and near Glasscock County. • VANDALISM was reported in the 200 block of Little Road. • FATIGUED DRIVER was reported on eastbound Interstate 20. • SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE was reported on CR 33. • BUSINESS ALARM was reported on I-20. • CAR WASHED OFF ROAD was reported on CR 33. • STRANDED CAR was reported on CR 33 past Nichols Road. • OVERDOSE was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. • VEHICLE GOING WRONG WAY was reported in the northbound lane of Highway 87. • EXCESS SPEEDING was reported on westbound I-20.

Support groups

- TUESDAY** □ The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.
- THURSDAY** □ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 to 9 p.m. □ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. Call 263-8273 for more information.
- Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.
- FRIDAY** □ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.
- SATURDAY** □ Open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 to 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.
- SUNDAY** □ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- MONDAY** □ All widows and widowers are invited to attend the Encourager's Suupport group meeting at 6 p.m. Monday at the Spanish Inn. Call 398-5522 for more information.

Bulletin board

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

**TODAY** • Intermediate Line Dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628. • Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. • A Stitchin' Time Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Everyone is invited to learn and share sewing skills, and portable sewing machines are welcome. Call Kay Sikes at 394-4835 for more information. • Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend. • Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at 1st and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend. • Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend. • Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. • Big Spring Chapter 67 Order of the Eastern Star meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.

**WEDNESDAY** • Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. • Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721. • Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. • Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628. • Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club. • Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

**THURSDAY** • Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant. • Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe. • Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479. • Masonic Lodge 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main.

**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 for more information. • AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

**SATURDAY** • Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

**SUNDAY** • Team Rustic Circle, an amateur paintball team, meets for practice between noon and dusk at the Moss Creek Lake paintball facility. The public is always invited, whether to participate or just spectate. For more information contact Rick Boiles at 264-2395 or 393-5246.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 14-19-22-30-34. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night. The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-2-2

Weather

Tonight - Isolated thunderstorms early, then partly cloudy after midnight. Low near 65. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent. Wednesday - Partly cloudy skies. High 86. Winds E at 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday night - Clear skies. Low 66. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Thursday - Slight chance of a thunderstorm. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s. Friday - Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s. Saturday - A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 60s.

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BIG SPRING HERALD

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CAMP

Continued from P1  
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Contact Staff 7331, ext. reporter@bigsp

TESTING

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HMO

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# CAMP

Continued from Page 1A

said. Students were out Monday afternoon gaining hands-on experience by learning how to properly shear the animals' hair while Christie, colleague Cash Berry and 12 guest instructors supervised and demonstrated techniques.

"We started off the camp by talking about health management and feeding and tending to goats in case they get sick," Christie said. "We talked a little bit to the students about how to take care of goats when they load them up and take them to the show. We've gone over the basics of showmanship, what it takes to select or pick out a good goat, exercise them and how to clip them and get them ready for a show."

Numbers weren't as high for the lamb camp held last week, Christie said, but the three-day event also provided useful information on the proper handling of lambs.

"We had a real good group of young, inexperienced showman coming in learning the same basic skills we're teaching this week," he said.

The camp is being held in an area that has become the center of the goat meat industry, Christie said.

"As far as what has happened in terms in the goat industry and importation of the boer goat, we've seen it explode throughout this West Texas area. It is especially centered around San Angelo and expands from that region," he said. "The meat goat industry is pretty well located right here in West Texas, the Edward's Plateau region."

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



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
A city of Big Spring employee uses a bulldozer to shovel dirt over a fire that began at the landfill late Monday afternoon. The fire ignited several tires, sending black smoke in the air. The fire was extinguished in about 30 minutes.

# TESTING

Continued from Page 1A

of the issue, Superintendent Randy Johnson said Monday night

"We're looking at some type of program to help our kids by giving them one more reason not to get involved with drugs," Johnson told the board.

Trustees indicated their wish to continue to develop a policy

which would subject students involved in extra-curricular activities to random drug testing.

"We've started to gather information from other school districts and we're looking at options," Johnson said. "I've had a conversation with (Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent) Mr. (Michael) Downes today (Monday) that was very informative."

Johnson cautioned that any

implementation of a drug policy should follow after careful study of the issue and education of the community.

"It's not the kind of thing we should slap together and bring to you next month for approval," he told board members. "We need to take some time."

Forsan is the third Howard County school district to consider instituting a random drug testing policy for students in grades 7 through 12 involved in

extra-curricular activities.

Coahoma trustees passed the first draft of a drug testing policy on Thursday, while the Big Spring board gave administrators the go-ahead to study the issue earlier this month. Other Texas school districts have had policies in place for years.

"This is not a cutting edge deal," Johnson said. "It's been around for some time and tested in the courts."

"I don't know where we are as

far as the legalities on this issue," he continued. "I can't tell you what the perception will be as in people worried about their individual rights or us picking on somebody. I think we need to listen to the community and this is going to take some time."

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

# BOND

Continued from Page 1A

We need to build a parking area and a road around the back of the school to stop the cars from parking along the highway."

Other projects include remodeling a science lab and the auditorium at the high school, purchasing new air-conditioning units and the installation

of carpeting. The package will also include funds for construction of a baseball and softball area, allowing the school to offer both programs for the first time.

"We are looking at an athletic facility, probably a multipurpose facility," Johnson said. "We have something close to 12 basketball teams trying to use two gyms right now."

"Some of the changes are routine needs," he explained. "Some are

updating. It is a pretty good package and it will affect every child and every teacher in this school system. We're excited about that. We hate to go and ask for the money but we think this will be a worthy cause."

Although the final numbers on how much the bond package would individually burden taxpayers are not yet available, Johnson said the current projection is 22 cents per \$100 valuation.

"The final cost will be determined by several different things, the length of the bond, which it has not been determined whether we do a 15-year or 20-year bond and some final numbers that we need to get generated," Johnson said.

Although the future of how the state will fund school districts continues to be uncertain, Johnson said addressing these issues now will place the district in a better position

to handle future changes in the funding system.

"We asked that same question. Is this a good time?" Johnson said. "The experts tell us to go ahead and do this. There is nothing that I've seen, none of the ideas coming up at the state level that is going to make our situation better."

"Everything we've seen looks like it is going to make our situation worse, so if we can get in and

take care of some of these big needs now, it will set us in good stead through difficult times that may come up in the future," he continued. "We feel like it's an appropriate time and it's looking to the future."

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

# HMO

Continued from Page 1A

ers repeatedly have tried and failed to pass national patient protections.

"I hope this ruling breathes new life into the patients' bill of rights debate in Congress," Calad said from her living room. "I'm also hoping they do not just sweep this under the rug and completely forget about it. This is very important. To me, this is as important as somebody running for office... What people are really concerned about is their insurance, and this threw a whole monkey wrench into the whole operation."

The court said HMOs are shielded from lawsuits in state courts, where juries are more apt to side with victims and

recommend multimillion-dollar judgments from insurance companies.

Justice Clarence Thomas, who wrote Monday's ruling, relied on a federal pension benefit law that predates the rise of managed care and said patients may pursue claims only in federal courts, where awards are capped at only the cost of medical services the HMO would not cover.

The ruling, in a pair of cases filed by Calad and a Texas man, Juan Davila, affects the roughly 72 million people covered by HMOs. The Texas cases were filed under a patients' rights law passed when President George W. Bush was gov-

ernor. When Bush was running for president four years ago, he took credit for the law, but his administration sided with insurance carriers when the two cases reached the high court.

Davila, from Ponder, about 40 miles northwest of Dallas, sued his HMO, Aetna Healthcare, after it refused to pay for a more expensive drug his doctor has recommended.

"My life is not the same and may have been cut short because of the

HMO's decision to play doctor," Davila, a post-polio patient, said Monday.

In their arguments to the court, lawyers for Cigna noted that Calad's health care plan at the time, like most other health benefit plans, "does not promise to cover any and all health care sought or desired by beneficiaries."

The Supreme Court did not decide whether Davila and Calad deserved better, only whether and

do it again. it was worth the fight."

"I was hoping that with this lawsuit, I felt like I was the mother hen and I was taking care of all these sick people that these HMOs had just dumped on and hoped maybe this would change some of the rights, some of the benefits of this whole program," Calad said. "I was done wrong. I feel I fell through the cracks, that somebody messed up somewhere. "As far as I know, it's dead," she said of her legal challenge. "I would

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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  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Bringing pride to Big Spring a community effort

It came as no real surprise to many when the Rural Community College Initiative(RCCI) study group returned from its trip to Arkansas with the news that Big Spring has to get a better self image if it wants to successfully grow in the future.

As a matter of fact, that's something many community leaders have stressed for some time, including Mayor Russ McEwen. The fact-finding trip only reinforced those concerns.

"I think everyone is concerned with our appearance," McEwen, a strong proponent of the city's Clean and Green campaign, who was unable to attend the three-day trip to Morrilton, Ark. But during last week's meeting when the study group announced its findings, the mayor hit the proverbial nail on its head when he asked, "What can we do to engender community pride?"

Indeed. Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks noted that one of the things the group learned at Morrilton, as well as from another model city, Tupelo, Miss., "is that community development precedes economic development. An effective community is one with an image of pride attributed to the community."

They also learned companies looking to build or move to a community will always ask, "Why do we want to invest in you, when you are not willing to invest in yourself."

It makes perfect sense. None of us would want to invest in a company that wasn't willing to invest in itself, would we?

One thing is certain. No investment by a small group of people is going to create the image Big Spring needs. It's going to take all of us. We all have to become involved.

We do, as Sparks noted, need to take into account all the diverse groups of Big Spring. We need to find out what people want and need. Then it's a matter of putting together a plan and going to work as a unified community.

The Herald, KBST and KBYG are holding a contest to create a community motto as a part of this effort.

It's just a small start, but we want your ideas. Slogans should be turned in to the Herald office at 710 Scurry. They can also be mailed to the Herald at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721, or sent in by e-mail to publisher@bigspringherald.com. Each entry or list of entries should include your name, address and telephone number.

The last day to enter the contest is July 15. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

## LETTERS POLICY

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
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- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we feel confused and lonely, Lord, may we turn to your word for peace.

Amen

# The media's love for John McCain

You can stomp it, you can beat it, you can drive a stake through its heart, but it will not die: The media will not let go of the John McCain for vice president story.

John McCain has said he does not want to be John Kerry's running mate so many times, he probably figures that someday, somebody will believe him.

Maybe, maybe not. The media love John McCain. We would love him to be on a national ticket so we could ride on his bus again, recount his saga and just hang out with him.

Most candidates will not hang out with reporters. (And can we blame them?) But McCain is different. I went with McCain and a small group of reporters to Vietnam in 2000 after he had lost his presidential primary fight against George W. Bush, and McCain hung out with us all the time.

We all flew over together and landed in Hanoi. McCain headed for the lake that he fell into Oct. 26, 1967, when a SAM missile took off the right wing of his Skyhawk fighter-bomber.

"It was over there," he said, pointing. "The power plant. That's what we were trying to hit."

McCain and his fellow flyers were carrying out the first U.S. raid on central Hanoi. Hanoi at that time was the most heavily defended city in the world, and you today can still see the SAM missiles in place here and there, crowded by shops selling cellular telephones, sportswear and T-shirts honoring Ho Chi Minh.

When the wing came off, McCain ejected from his plane, breaking both arms in the process. He fell into a lake, was captured, and spent the next five and a half years in prison.



ROGER SIMON

The story is, by now, well known, and on this trip McCain would visit the prison, the Hanoi Hilton — again — visit the lake he fell into — again — and talk to reporters almost endlessly as Vietnam got ready to celebrate "Reunification Day", the day 25 years before when Saigon fell to the invading forces of the North.

McCain had made this trip no less than seven times before. This time, NBC was picking up the tab for him, his wife, Cindy, and his 13-year-old son, Jack, so that McCain could do the "Today" show live from Ho Chi Minh City, which just about everybody still calls Saigon.

Some 53 percent of the Vietnamese population and 35 percent of the U.S. population were born after the war ended. Yet the war remains a defining moment in American history, and one reason that John McCain remains an appealing figure is because of his wartime experience.

McCain's story is a powerful one, and one he has used very effectively throughout his career. When John McCain goes to Vietnam, he is going back to his future.

"I miss the (presidential) campaign, I really do," he said. "I miss the excitement. It was great. And then it just ... stopped."

Primary campaigns are usually meat grinders, turning the losers (and often the winners) into hamburger. McCain came out as prime fillet.

One hundred Republican candidates asked him to come campaign for them, and his best-selling book — "People waved it at me from the crowds like the Chinese holding up Mao's Little Red Book," McCain joked — is being turned into a movie.

"We struck a chord," McCain said. "It surprised all of us, including me. We struck a very deep chord, it lingers on and it continues to resonate."

Not since Ronald Reagan lost to Gerald Ford in 1976 has a losing

candidate so enhanced his personal image. Reagan made 75 speeches the following year, never stopped campaigning and won the presidency four years later when he was 69.

Now McCain is trailing reporters around the world, as on this day when he went to Hanoi's Truc Bach Lake, which he fell into after his plane was shot down.

Today, it is a peaceful setting in a city filled with motorcyclists madly honking their horns and filling the air with gray exhaust fumes. McCain stood next to the bizarre memorial to his capture, a tan concrete slab that pictures him falling from an Air Force jet.

"That is the greatest insult of all," McCain, a Naval aviator, says. "But it looks better than last time I was here. It was all overgrown with grass and there was bird crap everywhere."

He points to burnt sticks arrayed around the memorial and says he has been told that people are now coming and lighting incense to him.

I asked him if people are now worshipping him as a god.

"Damned if I know," he replied.

Next came a visit to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton," most of which has been torn down to make room for an office and hotel complex. McCain led reporters through the small, dank cells, where his captors tortured him and killed some of his fellow POWs.

"I still bear them ill will," he said. "Not because of me, but what they did to my friends."

I asked him if he searches for the faces of his captors on the streets when he comes to visit and if he contemplates taking any revenge.

"No," he said quietly. "I don't want to see them. Would I do something to them?" He paused. "I don't know."

Then his face split into a grin. "I mean, after the war, I went on to a great life! And they're in Vietnam!" he said.

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## Inside Report: Free spending congress

Too counter runaway spending in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives, the conservative Republican Study Committee is considering a proposal to station a watchdog congressman on the House floor to curb expedited approval of money bills.

To do so would be a vote of no confidence in the regular Republican leadership. "Too much spending is being voice voted," freshman Republican Rep. Jeb Hensarling of Texas said in an appeal this week to fellow Study Committee members.

"Are you willing to help?" Supposedly routine legislation is brought to the House under a suspension of the rules that requires two-thirds support on a voice vote. Hensarling contends that this week, five bills authorizing \$435 million over the next four years were passed on voice votes, some without a text available. Within the last month, Congress added \$464 million in current-year spending by suspending the rules. House members usually do not know when they vote how much these bills cost.

Rep. Richard Gephardt's close associates, who felt a week earlier that he was leading the pack to be Sen. John Kerry's vice-presidential running mate, now believe that Sen. John Edwards has become the favorite.

Kerry is much closer personally to Gephardt, but supporters have

told him that a Kerry-Gephardt ticket would look too much like business as usual and turn off Howard Dean loyalists. Edwards has come across as the favorite of the party's rank-and-file.

A footnote: The book for Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack may have run out of steam. The Gephardt insiders have been advised that Vilsack now is running a poor third behind Gephardt and Edwards. Nevertheless, insiders say that Kerry is more comfortable with Vilsack than with either Edwards or Gephardt.

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, fresh from a state legislative victory on tort reform, will be the featured speaker in Sandwich, Ill., July 16 at an event for House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert.

Barbour, a former Republican national chairman, has kept close to home since his election as governor last year. However, his victory on tort reform has freed one of the GOP's most recognizable figures nationally to go beyond the borders of Mississippi. He signed the bill into law Wednesday, ending Mississippi's tenure as the national haven for trial lawyers.

The \$25-a-ticket barbecue is Hastert's 17th annual "Farmers' Picnic" at the Sandwich Fairgrounds.

Veterans and anti-abortion organizations are warning that the House Republican leadership risks retaliation if it disciplines maverick Rep. Chris Smith of New Jersey by removing him as chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

Republican leaders have made no secret of their displeasure with Smith, a 12-term lawmaker. He has

violated the party line by voting against the budget resolution, publicly demanding more money for veterans and derailing the bankruptcy bill because it contained provisions against protesters outside abortion clinics. Roll Call, the Capitol Hill newspaper, reported this week that the leadership is giving "serious consideration" to taking away Smith's chairmanship.

Smith is a favorite of both pro-life and veterans lobbies, which say the Republican Party would pay a price if it purges him. While Smith's American Conservative Union lifetime rating is only 62 percent, he is a hero of Christian conservatives because of his pro-life militancy.

National Republican strategists are apprehensive in awaiting former Gov. Buddy Roemer's decision whether to run for the Senate from Louisiana this year, which could threaten GOP hopes of electing the state's first Republican senator since Reconstruction.

A candidacy by Republican Roemer in the state's Nov. 2 non-party election could derail chances of the party's designated candidate, Rep. David Vitter. Another Republican in the race could mean that neither qualifies for the Dec. 4 runoff.

Rep. Chris John is the hand-picked successor of retiring Democratic Sen. John Breaux, but State Treasurer John Kennedy leads all Democrats in the polls.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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# Hail

AMARILLO (more than 4 diameter and v ing to 70 mph the Texas overnight, da hospital, l houses and Several twi/ spotted dur storms.

A patient at Anthony's Ho injured by fl Monday night and hail kn almost all of t on one end of t story building.

Skylights of Supercenter of west side we out, forcing t store to close.

Lumber a improvement stayed open o provide resit plies for repair

Damage esti not yet avai were expected lions of dollar

At St. Hospital, pat

# Infant

McALLEN woman was h in lieu of bo drowning of month-old bal South Texas n

Investigator: year-old Mexi was arrested a was found floo in a bathtub S mother was leaving two

# Help

Spamm spamn don't. ment-i Spam" regist work because unwanted e-n unscrupulous the U.S. Fede Commission week.

Imagine that, a government "idea" that wouldn't work. Go figure.

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So what is Spammng! flooding the with many c same messag attempt to fo sage on peop would not of choose to rec spam is com advertising, dubious pro rich-quick s quasi-legal s

Spam costs very little to most of the r for by the re the carriers by the sende

That's right surfing the l your sleep a up for a zilli lists for ever sexual enha drugs to mo cations. Bet relieved, are

While telei have largely with the no-spammers ti violate dece laws would regard a list addresses a tipsheet for FTC Chairn Muris said.

# Hail pounds Amarillo, Panhandle

## FOURTH

Continued from Page 1A

AMARILLO (AP) — Hail more than 4 inches in diameter and winds gusting to 70 mph pounded the Texas Panhandle overnight, damaging a hospital, businesses, houses and vehicles. Several twisters were spotted during the storms.

A patient at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital was injured by flying glass Monday night as winds and hail knocked out almost all of the windows on one end of the six-story building.

Skylights of a Wal-Mart Supercenter on the city's west side were broken out, forcing the 24-hour store to close.

Lumber and home improvement retailers stayed open overnight to provide residents supplies for repairs.

Damage estimates were not yet available, but were expected to total millions of dollars.

At St. Anthony's Hospital, patients were

evacuated into the hall and patients whose rooms had broken windows were eventually moved into other quarters following the storm.

"It blew out the lobby. The windows are shattered. They blew in on the patients," said Mary Barlow, director of corporate communications for the hospital on Amarillo's west side.

She said the hospital's neonatal intensive care unit was hit and about a dozen babies were taken immediately to the newborn nursery and were doing fine.

About 30 rooms in the 410-bed hospital were affected and about 100 patients had to be moved to other rooms by employees who put in play the drills practiced twice a year, Barlow said.

"One patient had a gash to his leg from flying glass," she said.

Glass littered the floor of hospital rooms, ceiling tiles had been tossed

around and curtains were soaked.

A family member who was standing at a window as the storm approached told Barlow it "truly looked like tennis balls" coming at the windows.

Homes and vehicles on the city's west and southwest side were damaged by hail up to baseball size, said a Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman in Amarillo.

"Every one of our skylights is busted out," homeowner Faye Essary told the Amarillo Globe-News in Tuesday's editions.

"My husband and I took cover. Glass flew everywhere. It looked like Coke bottles, half Coke bottles shooting through our skylights.

"It flew all over the house. It flew 10 feet away. It was that powerful."

Storm spotters reported several twisters west and northwest of Amarillo,

including one along Interstate 40. The National Weather Service also said straight-line winds gusted to at least 70 mph. A gust of 68 mph was recorded at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport.

Dozens of sport utility vehicles, trucks and new cars were pounded by hailstones, shattering many windows at Gene Messer Ford. Glass shards littered the parking lot.

Other car lots reported damage and heavy rains flooded underpasses, said Belden Dampf, a communication officer with the Potter County Sheriff's Department.

Storms also developed in other parts of West and Southwest Texas. A car was reportedly blown off the road near San Angelo and another vehicle with three occupants was swept off of U.S. 277 by high water.

No injuries were reported.

instrument that there is in addition to singing, and the mother plays the drums and the father plays the keyboard.

"They stop traffic. When they come on to play, people stop what they are doing and come to the gospel stage. They really stop the traffic, and when it's over with, they even help us tear down the tents and put it all away. They're just awesome people."

The Funtastic Fourth Festival will also mark the beginning of the newly formed Big Spring Farmer's Market, which, according to Barefoot, will be set up along the streets surrounding the Heart of the City Park, where the event takes place, selling fresh fruits and produce.

"As of right now there are eight different producers coming to set up for the farmer's market part of the festival. Dana's made up the slogan that 'Big Spring is getting fresh,'" laughed Barefoot. "I'm sure there's going to be things like tomatoes, okra and black-eyed peas — things like that. It'll be interesting to see what sort of items the producers bring in."

The festival is slated for Sunday, July 4. For more information, contact Johnson at 267-6278.

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

# Infant girl dies in South Texas motel's bathtub

McALLEN (AP) — A woman was held Tuesday in lieu of bonds in the drowning of her 10-month-old baby girl at a South Texas motel room.

Investigators say the 21-year-old Mexican national was arrested after the girl was found floating face up in a bathtub Sunday. The mother was accused of leaving two older chil-

dren unsupervised in the tub with the water running while she left the room to make a call on a pay telephone, when the younger girl crawled in to join them.

Alma Luz Mendoza was arraigned Monday by McAllen Municipal Judge Kathleen Henley on two counts of child endangerment and one count of

manslaughter. The judge set bond at a combined \$20,000.

Police were called Sunday night to the Airport Inn Motel, where they found the baby unconscious and floating face up in the tub. She was taken to McAllen Medical Center but was pronounced dead shortly after her arrival.

Mendoza had been outside talking on the phone when she saw her two-year-old son waving at her.

She ran back to the room, found the younger child injured and called for help.

The children have not yet been identified, pending notification of other relatives.

# Help's available whether or not the do-not-spam list gets OK

Spammed if we do, spammed if we don't. A government-run "Do Not Spam" registry would not work because it would only generate more unwanted e-mail from unscrupulous marketers, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission said last week.

Imagine that, a government "idea" that wouldn't work. Go figure.

The FTC declined to endorse a no-spam registry patterned after its tremendously popular Do Not Call list that allows consumers to prevent most telemarketing calls.

So what is spam? Spamming is the act of flooding the Internet with many copies of the same message, in an attempt to force the message on people who would not otherwise choose to receive it. Most spam is commercial advertising, often for dubious products, get-rich-quick schemes or quasi-legal services.

Spam costs the sender very little to send — most of the costs are paid for by the recipient or the carriers rather than by the sender.

That's right... Your not surfing the Internet in your sleep and signing up for a zillion mailing lists for everything from sexual enhancement drugs to mortgage applications. Bet you're relieved, aren'tcha?

While telemarketers have largely complied with the no-call list, spammers that already violate deceptive-business laws would be likely to regard a list of off-limits addresses as a valuable tip-sheet for sales leads, FTC Chairman Timothy Muris said.

"A national registry was a great solution to unwanted telemarketing calls. At this time it's not the solution to unwanted e-mail," Muris said.

Congress directed the FTC to look into a do-not-spam registry when it passed a national anti-spam law last December.

The measure's chief legislative champion suggested in a recent statement he may try to force the FTC to set up a do-not-spam list despite warnings the idea will fail.

"The registry is not the perfect solution, but it is the best solution we have to the growing problem of spam, and we will pursue congressional alternatives in light of the FTC's adamancy," Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) said.

Even if the FTC wanted to set up a no-spam registry, it would take years to develop, Muris said.

"Consumers will be spammed if we do a registry and spammed if we do not," Muris said.

Unsolicited bulk messages now account for roughly 83 percent of all e-mail traffic, according to filtering company and industry leader Postini. That's right. More than 80 percent of the e-mails we're receiving are bogus scams and unsolicited advertisements for things we'll never buy.

How serious is the problem. Look at it like this: If you receive 10 telephone calls each day and spam was the old-fashioned telemarketing, you would be getting eight bogus calls and

only two legitimate calls. Scary, isn't it?

And to make matters worse, spammer's common route their messages through others' computers or hijack addresses to cover their tracks, a process known as "spoofing."

Enforcement of any no-spam registry would be impossible without a way to verify that e-mail has not been spoofed, Muris said.

Large Internet providers like Yahoo and Microsoft have developed methods to authenticate e-mail and have submitted them to the standards-setting Internet Engineering Task Force for approval.

Muris said the FTC would convene an industry summit in the fall to examine authentication techniques. If they are not widely adopted by the private sector, the government might be forced to set standards of its own, he said.

Consumer and business groups and Internet companies such as Yahoo praised the FTC's stance, in particular its decision to push authentication standards.

There are two main types of spam, and they have different effects on Internet users. Cancelable Usenet spam is a single message sent to 20 or more Usenet newsgroups. Usenet spam is aimed at "lurkers",



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people who read newsgroups but rarely or never post and give their address away. Usenet spam robs users of the utility of the newsgroups by overwhelming them with a barrage of advertising or other irrelevant posts. Furthermore, Usenet spam subverts the ability of system administrators and owners to manage the topics they accept on their systems.

E-mail spam targets individual users with direct mail messages. E-mail spam lists are often created by scanning Usenet postings, stealing Internet mailing lists, or searching the Web for addresses. E-mail spams typically cost users money out-of-pocket to receive. Many people - anyone with measured phone service - read or receive their mail while the meter is running, so to speak. Spam costs them additional money. On top of that, it costs money for ISPs and online services to transmit spam, and these costs are transmitted directly

to subscribers. One particularly nasty variant of e-mail spam is sending spam to mailing lists (public or private e-mail discussion forums.) Because many mailing lists limit activity to their subscribers, spammers will use automated tools to subscribe to as many mailing lists as possible, so that they can grab the lists of addresses, or use the mailing list as a direct target for their attacks.

Help is out there. The Network Abuse Clearinghouse, located at www.abuse.net, is Web Site intended to help the Internet community report and control network abuse and abusive users. Since the best place to report abusive activity varies from one system to another, the clearinghouse is trying to keep a master database of reporting addresses for users throughout the net to use.

There are numerous (the number seems to be growing by the second) software applications and

suites that claim to help eliminate or curb the onslaught of spam flowing into inboxes, from such well known companies as Postini, anti-virus moguls Norton and McAfee, and SpamCop, just to name a few.

Unfortunately, I can't tell you that any one program works for everyone. Some utilize a network recognition to stop spam, while others use complicated techniques that require senders to verify themselves, keeping out the automatically generated spam mail. It all depends on the user, so check out each application and find the one that seems to best fit your needs.

As much as I disliked the "real" Spam lunchmeat as a child, I have to admit it was a lot easier to get rid of — just slip it under the table to the family dog.

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

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# After private rocket flight, is space tourism next?

By JOHN ANTCAK

Associated Press Writer  
MOJAVE, Calif. — The chubby-looking, stubby-winged aircraft that cracked the commercial space flight barrier this week may have made a great leap forward in aviation history, but the man who designed it believes we are still a long way from regular space tourism.

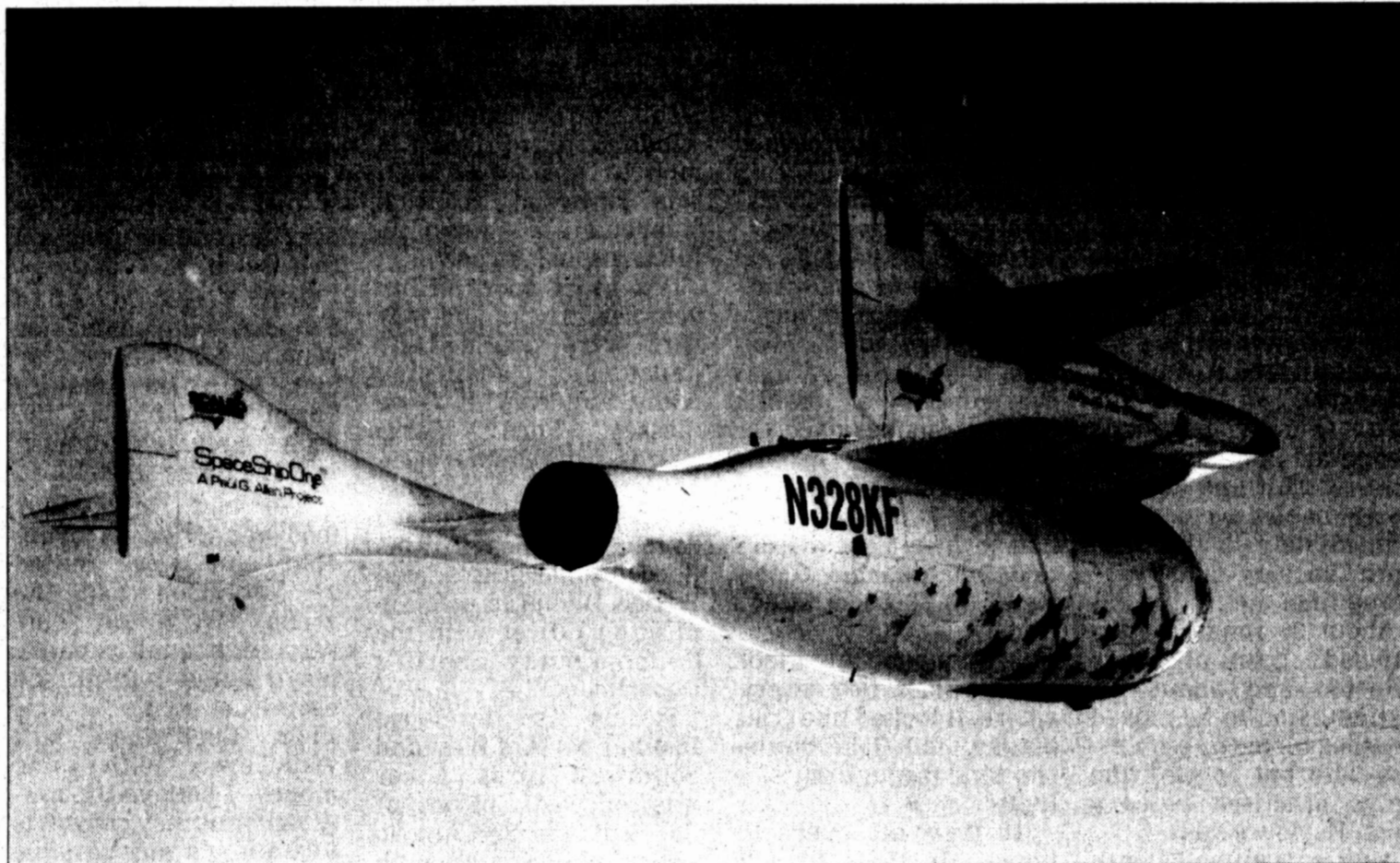
SpaceShipOne, designed by aviation pioneer Burt Rutan, soared to 328,491 feet above Earth on Monday, just a little more than 400 feet above the distance scientists widely consider to be the boundary of space. The flight lasted 90 minutes.

Pilot Mike Melvill, who has set world records for altitude and speed and logged more than 6,400 hours of flight time in fixed-wing aircraft and seven helicopters, said the experience "blew me away."

"It was really an awesome sight," he said of gazing down at the Earth's curvature from 62 miles above, of seeing the planet in all its various colors and gazing at the California coastline from Los Angeles to San Diego.

"It was like nothing I'd ever seen before," he said. "You really do get the feeling that you've touched the face of God when you do something like this," the 63-year-old pilot added.

His flight led to immediate speculation that the well-heeled would pay plenty for the experience. But Rutan said he has doubts space tourism will be feasible anytime soon.



SpaceShipOne, piloted by Michael Melvill, glides back to earth after achieving an altitude of over 62 miles before landing at Mojave Airport in California on Monday.

SpaceShipOne was designed by one of two dozen teams trying to win the \$10 million Ansari X Prize, which will go to the first that can launch a three-seat spacecraft to an altitude of 62 miles twice in 14 days. SpaceShipOne's effort is bankrolled by billionaire Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, who is spending more than \$20 million.

The three-seat requirement demonstrates the capacity for paying customers; the quick turnaround between flights demonstrates reusability and reliability.

But for a commercial venture to be successful,

Rutan said he believes a spacecraft would need at least six seats.

"It makes an enormous difference to fly six or 10 people," he said. "Because whether you're flying six or 10 people, you're flying the same avionics, you're flying one pilot, you're flying the same checkout, preflight and post-flight, and those are the expensive things."

Bill Sprague, the team leader of American Astronautics Corp., agreed. His team is building a seven-person spacecraft for the X Prize competition that it hopes to flight test by the end of September.

"Our intention is to enter the market as a commercial space enterprise. We're out to win an industry, not a prize," he said.

Although Monday's flight appeared to go flawlessly, Rutan revealed afterward that there was a serious malfunction when SpaceShipOne's trim system failed, causing it to miss its atmospheric re-entry point by 22 miles. There was also a large bang during the flight, but SpaceShipOne's team did not know what caused that.

Hitting the target is important because once

the plane re-enters the atmosphere, it becomes a glider and cannot simply fly to its destination. But Melvill said he had enough leeway built into the flight that he was able to return to Mojave Airport.

Although Rutan said the malfunction posed "no big deal" to the flight's safety, he said the system would have to be fixed before the plane could fly again.

"There is no way we would fly again without knowing the cause and without assuring that we have totally fixed it because it's a very critical system," he said.

## Gov. Rowland says he will leave office

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Once a GOP rising star, Gov. John G. Rowland is stepping down amid swirling corruption allegations, giving both Republicans and Democrats hope that they can somehow emerge stronger from the long-brewing scandal.

In a speech Monday that barely touched on his legal difficulties, Rowland said he would leave office next week. He becomes the first U.S. governor in seven years to resign under pressure.

Democrats hope Rowland's resignation will give them a better chance to reclaim the governor's office in 2006, while Republicans hope Rowland's departure came soon enough to give the party a chance to rebuild.

Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell, a Republican, will be elevated to governor when Rowland's resignation takes effect at noon on July 1. But she hasn't said if she would seek the office in her own right when it's up for election in 2006.

Authorities have been investigating allegations that Rowland took gifts and favors from friends, state contractors and state employees in exchange for political influence, an accusation the governor has denied. A special House committee also has been considering whether to recommend Rowland's impeachment.

# Bedtime Stories

## Howard County Library

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Sat. 8 am-1 pm

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Paul Smith  
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## SISSY, THE PINK, CLEAN, LITTLE PIG

Sissy was a little pig that just didn't like mud. Now, you thought that all pigs love to play in the mud, didn't you? Well, I did too, until I met Sissy!

I will be the one telling this story to you because I was there when it happened! My name is Randy. I am a pig, too. But I am a pig that is like most other pigs. I love playing in the mud! I love feeling it on my feet. I love feeling it on my back. And I love feeling it on my snout.

I know that all of you that read my story will be humans, so I will tell you what a snout is. It is the thing that sticks out on my face. You humans would call it a nose! Actually, I think that humans look funny with their noses sticking out like that, but that is another story!

All of Sissy's friends would ask her to come out and play in the mud with them, but Sissy would not do that. She wanted to stay indoors and take a long warm bath. Yes, a bath! Sissy was a very clean pig! She would put polish on her hooves. She would use a nice shampoo on her hair. And I must admit, for a pig, she certainly did smell good!

One day I was out playing in the mud with my jumprope. You must be wondering what in the world a pig is doing with a jumprope! Well, pigs like to play with things just like humans do. And I happen to like my jumprope!

I was having a good time that day, jumping up and down, skipping with the jumprope in all that mud. Then it happened! I jumped up and came down with that rope tangled around my feet somehow. I couldn't get the rope loose! So here I am, in the mud, with my feet tangled in that rope and couldn't move. I was in really big trouble!

I screamed for help but no one heard me. I screamed some more for someone to help me! Oh, how I wished that someone would come by!

I was getting pretty tired by now and didn't know what I was going to do. Soon I thought about doing what all pigs do very well. I opened my mouth and let out the loudest squeel you have ever heard.

Sissy heard me and knew that I was in trouble by that loud squeel. She came running as fast as her legs would carry her! "Don't worry, Randy, I will untie that jumprope," she shouted. And do you know what? Sissy jumped right into that mud and untied that rope! Boy, was I glad that she helped me! "Sissy," I asked, "I know that you don't like the mud so why did you jump in to help me?" "I jumped in to help you because you are a friend of mine and that is what friends are for, to help each other," she said to me. And now, Sissy and I are better friends than ever!

Now, you may be wondering if Sissy liked playing in the mud after that. Nope! Right after she helped me that day, she went straight home and took another long warm bath, put polish on her hooves, and that sweet smelling shampoo on her hair!

All of the other pigs don't care that Sissy doesn't like playing in the mud because she is just so sweet, they all liked her. As for me, I loved her before she helped me even though she didn't like playing in the mud. I mean, what is wrong with a pig smelling good?

THE END



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## IN BR

### Dates set for Camp of Champions

Coach Rick currently co Big Spring School's Camp of Champions at Spring Training Center camp will run July 7.

The week camp is open and females fifth through For more tion, call Coach 432-269-3662 or 0519.

### Chaparral softball camp

A 14-and-under softball camp titled Summer Camp will take place Angelo June The tournament for boys and costs \$90 per enter. To enter, call 0628.

### Forsan announces camp

Forsan's Buffalo will a.m. to noon 23. The camp boys through eight designed to skills and talents of football and conditioning. Each student divided into private age all participants a camp T-shirt. The cost of is \$40 per student. For more information, or to register, call Terry McDo 267-7445 or Thompson 0099.

### Martin County Hospital fund-raiser

The Martin Hospital will be holding a 5K fun July 9 at Stanton. The start in the ing lot of the Proceeds race will go Griffiths Fund, which vide school Martin County students choose in healthca Awards will for first, third place three different groups. The before July on race day For more tion, call N at 432-756-21 Dunn at 432-

### Big Spring ragball tournament

The Big Spring Softball will be holding ragball tournament a fund-raiser for stars. The tour be July 9, 1 the team fee For more Nicole at 432-267-6391

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### ON T

Sports Bro...  
Event, Time...  
Hangers vs. Mavericks, 6...  
Event, Time...  
Astros vs. Pirates, 6:40...  
Event, Time...  
Hangers vs. Mavericks, 6...

### IN BRIEF

#### Dates set for Camp of Champs

Coach Ricky Long is currently conducting Big Spring High School's Camp for Champs at the Big Spring Athletic Training Center. The camp will run through July 7.

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.

#### Chaparral summer round ball classic set

A 14-and-under basketball tournament titled Chaparral Summer Classic will take place in San Angelo June 26-27.

The tournament is for boys and girls and costs \$90 per team to enter.

To enter, call 325-277-0628.

#### Forsan announces camp Buffalo dates

Forsan's Camp Buffalo will run from 8 a.m. to noon, July 19-23. The camp is for all boys grades five through eight and is designed to develop skills and fundamentals of football, basketball and strength conditioning.

Each student will be divided into an appropriate age group and all participants receive a camp T-shirt.

The cost of the camp is \$40 per student.

For more information or to register, call Terry McDonald at 432-267-7445 or Tommy Thompson at 432-457-0099.

#### Martin County

##### Hospital fun run set

The Martin County Hospital will be holding a 5K fun run/walk July 9 at 7 p.m. in Stanton. The race will start in the back parking lot of the hospital.

Proceeds from the race will go to the Dan Griffis Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarships to Martin County residents choosing a career in healthcare.

Awards will be given for first, second and third place finishes in three different age groups. The cost is \$15 before July 6 and \$18 on race day.

For more information, call Norma Garza at 432-756-2816 or Kathy Dunn at 432-756-3345.

#### Big Spring co-ed ragball touney set

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding a co-ed ragball tournament as a fund-raiser for Big Spring softball all-stars.

The tournament will be July 9, 10 and 11 and the team fee is \$125.

For more info, call Nicole at 432-264-2206 or 432-267-6391.

### ON THE AIR

#### Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event	Time	Station
Today		
Rangers vs. Mariners	6:30 p.m.	1490
Wednesday		
Astros vs. Pirates	6:40 p.m.	1490
Thursday		
Rangers vs. Mariners	6:30 p.m.	1490

# Berkman leads Astros past Pirates

HOUSTON (AP) — Kirk Bullinger waited nearly six years for his second major league victory.

"It has really been a while. Hopefully this one will help us out and get us on a winning streak," Bullinger said after the Houston Astros beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 7-5 Monday night.

Bullinger (1-1) pitched a scoreless fifth inning in relief of starter Tim Redding to earn the win. His other victory came in his major league debut on Aug. 30, 1998, while pitching for Montreal against San Diego.

"I've got a rubber arm. When you don't have a lot of muscle you have to have a rubber arm," he said. "It was a tough spot and I just wanted to keep us in the game so we could hopefully come back."

Lance Berkman hit a tying three-run double, and Jeff Kent drove in the go-ahead run in a big fifth inning. But it was Bullinger's fine inning that the Astros were talking about.

"When Bullinger came in at that point it was the breaking point of the game," newly acquired reliever David Weathers said. "He stopped the bleeding, and it was the key to the game."

Berkman was 2-for-4 with four RBI for the Astros, who came back from four runs down to win their second in a row.

"Before that inning he (Josh Fogg) had dominated us. When I went up there I wasn't thinking about a double or a home run or anything. I told



AP photo/David J. Phillip  
Houston Astros' Lance Berkman (17) is congratulated by teammate Jeff Bagwell (5) after scoring on a hit by teammate Jeff Kent during the fifth inning against the Pittsburgh Pirates Monday in Houston. Berkman hit a bases loaded double earlier in the inning scoring three runs before scoring on the hit by Kent.

myself just don't hit into a double play, just get a ball to hit in the air," Berkman said.

Kent left the game after the seventh inning after jamming his right pinkie while sliding into third base in the fifth.

"To be honest with you, I was going to give him tomorrow off anyway," Houston manager Jimmy Williams said. "We'll just have to wait and see. Hopefully it's OK."

Octavio Dotel allowed Randall Simon's pinch-hit double in the ninth before finishing for his 14th save in 17 chances.

Fogg (4-6) allowed five runs and eight hits in four-plus innings in the Pirates' fourth straight loss. It was only his second loss in six decisions.

"I couldn't do anything in that inning," Fogg said. "I couldn't make pitches and I couldn't get outs. I was leaving the

ball in the middle of the plate and I was leaving it up.

"It was stupid and I'm ashamed of how bad it was. Our offense got me the lead and our defense played great. We had a four-run lead and I gave up five. That is unacceptable."

Pittsburgh has lost 18 of 21 games, and 14 of 15 in Houston.

With Houston trailing 4-0 in the fifth, Orlando

Palmeiro led off with a single and moved to second when pinch-hitter Adam Everett was hit by a pitch by Fogg.

Craig Biggio singled to load the bases for Jose Vizcaino, who drove in Palmeiro with an RBI single.

Berkman followed with a bases-loaded, three-run double to tie it. Kent followed with a single to center to give Houston a 5-4 lead.

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

### 2004 current standings

#### American League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
New York Yankees	43	23	—	23-9	20-14	Won 1
Boston	39	29	5	22-11	17-18	Lost 2
Tampa Bay	32	34	11	19-15	13-19	Won 11
Baltimore	28	37	14.5	15-18	13-19	Won 1
Toronto	30	39	14.5	17-17	13-22	Won 1

Central	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Minnesota	38	30	—	21-14	17-16	Won 1
Chicago White Sox	35	31	2	20-13	15-18	Lost 3
Cleveland	34	34	4	21-15	13-18	Won 2
Detroit	31	37	7	16-18	15-19	Lost 3
Kansas City	26	40	11	16-17	10-23	Lost 2

West	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Oakland	38	30	—	23-10	15-20	Lost 3
TEXAS	37	29	.5	20-11	17-18	Won 3
Anaheim	38	31	.5	21-14	17-17	Won 1
Seattle	29	38	9	16-18	13-20	Won 4

#### National League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Florida	37	32	—	18-16	19-16	Lost 3
Philadelphia	36	31	—	18-16	18-15	Won 2
New York Mets	34	34	2.5	20-14	14-20	Won 4
Atlanta	32	36	4.5	17-17	15-19	Lost 1
Montreal	22	45	14	11-21	11-24	Won 2

Central	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
St. Louis	41	28	—	18-16	23-12	Lost 1
Chicago Cubs	39	30	2	20-15	19-15	Won 2
Cincinnati	38	31	3	21-10	17-21	Won 1
Milwaukee	35	31	4.5	20-15	15-16	Lost 1
HOUSTON	36	33	5	18-18	18-15	Won 2
Pittsburgh	26	40	13.5	11-22	15-18	Lost 4

West	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Los Angeles	36	30	—	19-13	17-17	Lost 2
San Francisco	38	32	—	21-15	17-17	Won 3
San Diego	35	34	2.5	18-17	17-17	Won 1
Arizona	27	43	12	13-22	14-21	Lost 4
Colorado	25	43	12.5	17-18	8-25	Lost 1

Legend:  
W: Wins  
L: Losses  
GB: Games Back  
Home: Home record  
Road: Road record  
Streak: Consecutive games won or lost

Monday's AL Scores  
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 1  
Anaheim 10, Oakland 3

Today's AL games  
New York Yankees at Baltimore  
Minnesota at Boston  
Tampa Bay at Toronto  
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox  
Seattle (Nagotte) at Texas (Drese)  
Detroit at Kansas City  
Oakland at Anaheim

Monday's NL scores  
Houston 7, Pittsburgh 5  
San Diego 3, Arizona 1  
San Francisco 3, Los Angeles 2

Today's NL games  
Philadelphia at Montreal  
Atlanta at Florida  
Cincinnati at New York Mets  
Colorado at Milwaukee  
Pittsburgh (Benson) at Houston (Oswalt)  
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis  
Arizona at San Diego  
Los Angeles at San Francisco

## Rockets, Orlando make blockbuster, trade still pending

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets are reportedly close Tuesday to sending top point guard Steve Francis to the Orlando Magic for two-time scoring champion Tracy McGrady.

Francis' agent, Jeff Fried, told the Houston Chronicle in its online edition early Tuesday that Rockets general manager Carroll Dawson told him the trade was near, but as yet incomplete.

"I spoke to Carroll, and it was not a done deal," Fried told the newspaper. "It's close. It's subject to a few contingencies."

Forward Kelvin Cato and guard Cuttino Mobley would also reportedly go to the Magic in the deal, which would bring the Rockets veteran forward Juwan Howard, point guard Tyrone Lue and a player exposed in Tuesday night's expansion draft.

That player is likely to be guard Reece Gaines, who was the Magic's first-round pick last season.

McGrady, 25, has made it clear he does not want to be in Orlando. Through Fried, Francis has also made it clear he does not want to be in Orlando, potentially setting up a last consideration for the Magic before sealing the deal.

Some maneuvering involving Tuesday's expansion draft was necessary to make the deal work, Fried said. Bernie Bickerstaff, Charlotte

Bobcats general manager, told the newspaper he talked to Magic general manager John Weisbrod about a role in facilitating the trade, likely agreeing to another deal in which he would agree not to take Gaines.

But Francis said he wants to stay in Houston. "I thought we were really building something, something very good in Houston," said Francis, who has averaged 19.3 points, 6.4 assists and 6.1 rebounds in five seasons with the Rockets.

"Obviously, that's not the direction they want to go. I'm not crying. Like I told you before, I know this is a business. Things like that happen. I'm not mad. I'm not upset. This is what they're trying to do. But like I said, I still think we could be something."

Francis told Houston television station KRIV that he talked with Los Angeles Lakers star Shaquille O'Neal Monday and wants him as a teammate if he goes to Orlando.

Another of Francis' agents, Nate Peake, told KRIV that the Rockets and Magic may need to get another team involved for a trade to work.

"Just like Tracy McGrady made it be known that he would like to come to Houston, I believe Steve Francis should be able to go to a place where he can succeed at," said Peake.

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**IN BRIEF**

**"Best of the rest" golf tournament set**

The "best of the rest" two-man golf tournament at Comanche Trail Golf Course will take place Saturday and Sunday.

The championship flight is a two-man best ball and the "best of the rest" plays scramble.

There will be food on the course all day and a hole in one on number four wins a new automobile from Pollard Chevrolet.

The cost is \$100 per player plus cart.

For more information or to enter, call 432-264-2366.

**Crossroads football sign-up dates set**

The Crossroads Youth Football Association has announced the sign-up dates for the upcoming season.

Both football and cheerleading sign-ups will take place at the Big Spring Mall June 18 through July 17 on Fridays (5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) only.

The league is for kindergarten through sixth grade.

The flag football league costs \$30, while football division 1 and 2 and cheerleading costs \$55 and \$65, respectively.

For more information, call Stacie or Robert at 432-268-9634.

**Coahoma's annual ragball tourney set**

Coahoma's annual ragball tournament has been set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Coahoma Softball Park, which is a change from past years.

The sign-up for the tournament has been scheduled for 5 p.m. Friday, June 25.

For more information about the tournament, call Patric Robinson at 432-393-5622 or Randy Clanton at 432-393-5338.

**BSISD announces volleyball events**

Big Spring will hold a volleyball open gym on all Mondays and Thursdays for the summer from 6-8 p.m. at the junior high.

All players in grades seven through 12 are invited to participate.

There will also be lifting and conditioning both Mondays and Thursdays after open gym from 8-9 p.m. The makeup day for all lifting and conditioning is every Wednesday from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

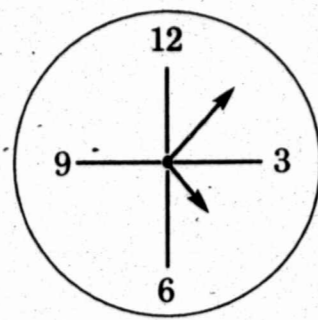
Two skills camps for incoming eighth- and ninth-graders and seventh-graders will also take place from 8 a.m. to noon in June and July at the junior high.

The first camp will take place June 28-July 2. Eighth- and ninth-graders will go from 8 a.m. to noon for \$75 and seventh-graders will go from 1-5 p.m. for \$50.

The second camp is July 12 through July 16.

For more information, contact Revis Daggett at 432-816-9560.

**It's**



to

**Fish**

**ALAN HENRY:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 6-foot low; Black bass are good on albino soft jerkbaits and white spinnerbaits worked along timber with some topwater action. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water clearing; 77 degrees; 11-foot low; Black bass are fair on crankbaits and spinnerbaits near rocky areas. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs near flooded timber and derricks. White bass are excellent on shallow flats chasing shad. Blue and channel catfish are good on shad and prepared baits near rocky areas in the upper lake. Due to low water conditions, the only usable boat ramp is West Arrowhead Park.

**COLORADO CITY:** Water clear; 82 degrees; 4-foot low; Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are slow. Redfish are slow. Catfish are slow.

**FT. PHANTOM HILL:** Water clear; 81 degrees; 16-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair. Catfish are fair.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 16-foot low; Black bass are good on shad-colored spinnerbaits and crankbaits near shallows and grassy humps, and red soft plastics around reeds. Crappie are very good on minnows and jigs. White bass and hybrid striped are fair on live baits. Catfish are good on live baits.

**NASWORTHY:** Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; Black bass are fair on live bait and shad-colored spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Redfish are fair. White bass and striped bass are good on small crankbaits and live bait. Catfish are good on prepared baits.

**OAK CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 26-foot low; Black bass are fair. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair. No boat ramps open. 4x4 vehicles can unload on the dirt road near the dam.

**O.H. IVIE:** Water lightly stained; 81 degrees; 26-foot low; Black bass are good on topwater lures, shad-colored spinnerbaits, and watermelon soft plastics and jigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on live bait and crankbaits. Smallmouth bass are fair. Channel catfish are good on live baits.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water clear; 78 degrees; 6-foot 5-inches low; Black bass to 16 inches are good. Crappie are fair in Rock Creek area. Good for white bass in Neely's Slough on white Twister Tail jigs and fair for small striped bass. Channel and blue catfish are fair.

**SPENCE:** Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 62-foot low; Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are fair. Striped bass and hybrid striped are slow. Catfish are slow.

**STAMFORD:** Water lightly stained; 78 degrees; 4-foot low; Black bass are fair on live bait and watermelon jigs. Crappie are fair on live bait and jigs. White and striped bass are fair on live baits and poppers. Catfish are fair on live baits.

**SWEETWATER:** Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 29-foot 25-inches low; Black bass are fair. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on live bait. Catfish are fair on live bait.

**WHITE RIVER:** Water stained (from wind); 80 degrees; 20-foot 5-inches low; Black bass are fair on live baits and spinnerbaits. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. Walleye are fair. Channel catfish are good on live baits and prepared baits.

**WICHITA:** Water turbid (from wind); 79 degrees; Crappie are slow. White bass and Hybrid stripers are good on minnows and white plastic Roadrunner jigs along dam. Channel catfish are good on trotlines and rod and reel baited using large shiners or punch bait. The parking area behind the dam is open.

**Mavericks looking at draft, Shaq sweepstakes on hold**

By JAIME ARON  
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Mark Cuban, Don Nelson and the Dallas Mavericks are always eager to make blockbuster trades. And their team desperately needs a big man.

So with the league's most dominant center asking to be dealt, what are the Mavs doing about it?

Hardly anything. Team officials spent more time Monday dopping the upcoming expansion draft and plotting the amateur draft than they did coming up with ways to acquire Shaquille O'Neal from the Los Angeles Lakers.

That doesn't mean the Mavericks aren't interested. They're just not in a hurry.

Cuban said he hadn't even talked to the Lakers about O'Neal since he made his desire to be traded public on Friday.

"Will we? Most likely," Cuban said. "But, you know, we also have to ascertain what's real and what's not real. Believe it or not, just because you read it in the press doesn't mean that a situation is really there. Sometimes, it is. We'll have to find out and see."

If the Lakers are serious about trading O'Neal, the Mavericks could be an ideal trading partner.

Dallas has one of the league's most talent-laden rosters, including several players whose combined salaries would be within the league-mandated 15

percent of O'Neal's paycheck. The Mavs also have a management team that's shown the creativity to pull off wild, complicated deals.

The hangup would be deciding the players involved. The Lakers would start by asking for Dirk Nowitzki. The Mavericks would be more willing to package Antoine Walker and Antawn Jamison.

"I'd be hard-pressed to see us trading Dirk," Cuban said. "Dirk is as close to an untouchable as we'd get."

Cuban understands the interest and intrigue surrounding O'Neal's possible departure from the Lakers, as well as Orlando considering trading Tracy McGrady. But he laughed at the notion there's an abundance of big-name players available.

"The only difference between this and any other summer is that it's been so public," Cuban said. "Typically, all this goes on behind the scenes. There's always chances at players you thought you never had a chance at..."

"Nellie told me on Day 1, when I got here, that there will be all kinds of scenarios that you can come up with and 99.9 percent of them never happen. He was absolutely right. Over the 4 1/2 years I've been here, there have been lots of deals that I went home excited about, only to wake up the next morn-

ing and they'd fallen apart. And there were other deals that I thought would never happen that did happen. So you just don't know."

Even players can get wrapped up in playing general manager. McGrady told the Florida Today newspaper that he and O'Neal are "trying to get to Dallas together now."

Cuban is flattered, but he's heard things like it before.

"You'd be shocked at how many players have called me at various points and asked to be traded to the Mavs," he said, smiling.

The Mavericks certainly will do something this offseason to shake up a team coming off a disappointing first-round playoff exit.

Cuban admitted the problem was "we just had too many weapons for everybody to fit." The best way to solve that is with trades, especially since Dallas' only draft pick is No. 50 and the Mavs will have hardly any cap space for free agents.

Walker is the most likely to go, because of his playing style and his contract. Although he's overpaid at \$14.6 million, it's only for one year and would clear a lot of cap space next summer.

He could even be gone by dinnertime Tuesday if the Charlotte Bobcats take him in the expansion draft.

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Time	Program
6:30	News (CC)
7:30	Wheel-Forums
8:30	8 Simple Rules (m With Her)
9:30	According to Jim
10:30	NYPD 24/7 (CC)
11:30	News (CC) Nightline
12:30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey

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**GROG'S RESPONSE**



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TUESDAY

JUNE 22

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (3)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (28)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (26)	ESPN (29)	TMC (25)
6	News (CC)	Wheel-Fortune	La Mujer de Madera	King of the Hill	News	Passion de Gavilanes	News	Sarfield (CC)	Booker	News-Lahr	The FBI Files (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gen.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live Thank Mama	Sister, Sister	College Baseball	ESPN2: Who's No. 1	Apartment
7	8 Simple Rules (m With Her)	8 Simple Rules (m With Her)	Mariana de la Noche	Bernie Mac Method	AFT's 100 Years... 100	Pisionera	The Next Action Star	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	News (CC)	The FBI Files (CC)	Movie: Working	Star Trek: Next Gen.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers	Inspector	NCAA World Series Game	ESPN2: The Headlines	Movie: Mary Shelley's
8	According-Jim Less-Perfect	According-Jim Less-Perfect	Amante as Mi Pecado	The Jury (CC)	Songs (CC)	El Alma Herida	Last Comic Standing	Outback Jack	Light of the Southwest	Sci-Fi: Frontiers	Big	The Joe Schmo Show	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Access: Music Special	Gadget 2	10 - Teams TBA (CC)	2003 World Series of Poker	Frankenstein (CC)	
9	NYPD 24/7 (CC)	NYPD 24/7 (CC)	Al Fio de la Ley	70s Show	70s Show	Protagonistas	Law & Order: Special Victims	Sex and-City		Great Biker Build-Off	25 Movie: P.O.V. (CC)	The Joe Schmo Show	Charmed (CC)	Club Comic View	That's Raven	Wimbledon Today at	Baseball	Halloween: Resurrection	
10	News (CC)	News (CC)	Primer Impacto	70s Show	70s Show	Noticias	News	Outback Jack	The Hour of Healing	The FBI Files (CC)	Mulholland Falls (CC)	MXX	Nightly News	Bug Juice	Wimbledon (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	35 Movie: Jackass: The Movie (CC)		
11	Ent. Tonight	Extra (CC)	En las Mejores Familias	Backer (CC)	Spin City	Al Rojo Vivo	Show (CC)	10 Movie: Funny Farm	Joe McGee	Sign Off	25 Movie: Mask (CC)	Blind Date	Angel (CC)	Midnight Love	Boy World	ESPN2: Who's No. 1	Outside Lines	Jackass: The Movie (CC)	
12	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Mujeres Engradas	Band Date	Street Smarts	Maria Celeste	Show (CC)	Update/Israel	Booker	Great Biker Build-Off	Mask (CC)	Real TV	The X-Files (CC)	Club Comic View	Kim Possible	ESPN2: Who's No. 1	SportsCenter (CC)	American Psycho II: All	

DENNIS THE MENACE



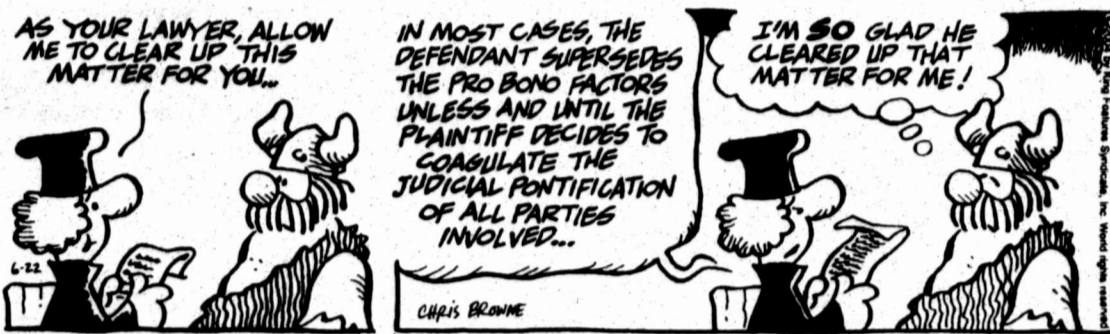
"NEXT TIME YOU GUYS GO ON A HONEYMOON, HOW 'BOUT TAKIN' ME ALONG?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Uh-oh! Our house ran out of batteries!"

HAGAR



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WIZARD OF ID



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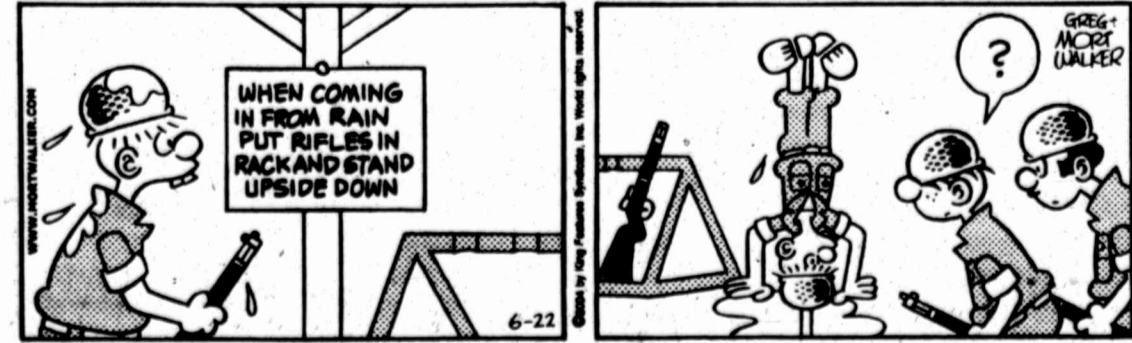
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, June 22, the 174th day of 2004. There are 192 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 22, 1944, President Roosevelt signed the Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the GI Bill of Rights.

In 1611, English explorer Henry Hudson, his son and several other people were set adrift in present-day Hudson Bay by mutineers.

In 1870, Congress created the Department of Justice.

In 1911, Britain's King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

In 1938, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at

Yankee Stadium.

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa officially ended; 12,520 Americans and 110,000 Japanese were killed in the 81-day campaign.

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1970, President Nixon signed a measure lowering the voting age to 18.

In 1987, actor-dancer Fred Astaire died in Los Angeles at age 88.

In 1993, former first lady Pat Nixon died in Park Ridge, N.J., at age 81.

Ten years ago: President Clinton announced North Korea had confirmed its willingness to freeze its nuclear program. The Houston Rockets defeated the New York Knicks 90-84 to win the NBA championship.

Today's Birthdays: Actor

Ralph Waite is 76. Country singer Roy Drusky is 74. Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is 71. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 68. CBS News correspondent Ed Bradley is 63. Actor Michael Lerner is 63. Fox News correspondent Brit Hume is 61. Actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is 60. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 60. Actor Andrew Rubin is 58. Actor David L. Lander is 57. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 57. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 56. Actress Meryl Streep is 55. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 55. Singer Alan Osmond is 55.

Answer to previous puzzle

SWAP	SPECK	OWED
ARCH	LITHE	NILE
POTATOCHIP	ASSN	
SNORE	KILT	DEES
GRASS	CLINIC	
OTTO	SNEERAT	
POSH	ADO	STALE
AKA	CREWCUT	CAN
TRIAL	NOT	SKIT
HANGARS	WAGE	
TIDIED	HAVOC	
FONT	AQUA	REPORT
ARIA	LUNCHBREAK	
TACT	TIERS	ARLO
ELKE	ONSET	LAISS

Newsday Crossword

SUMMER IS HERE by Sally R. Stein  
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

- Economist
- Greenspan
- Bookcase part
- Increased
- "The Eternal City"
- Backyard feature
- Significant times
- Hair grooming device
- Church platform
- Auction condition
- Emporium summer
- Disappeared
- Becomes more mature
- Clothes with belts
- Cowboy ropes
- Stayed home for dinner
- Run (go wild)
- Commit larceny
- Taste of soup
- Summer without batteries
- Mao -tung
- Almighty of Islam
- Top of the head
- Puts back together
- Siesta
- Eagle claw
- Singer Tennille
- Actor Sharif
- Ledger summer
- Short letter

DOWN

- Curved lines
- Pillage
- Rifle filler
- Where Omaha is
- Gaps
- Building walkways
- Suffix for leather
- Dishonest sort
- Place-setting piece
- Dolt
- Nevada neighbor
- Part of the eye
- Defiant one
- Capitol topper
- Dollar fraction
- Wipe clean
- Fencing blade
- Jimmy Carter successor
- Welles of Hollywood
- Canonized person
- Curved letters
- Self-image
- Aspirin unit
- Endure
- Wally "Famous"
- Fillet fish
- Map book
- Engineering school, for short
- de Cologne
- Register ring-up
- Comedian - Laurel
- Tiny amount
- Get ready, for short
- Wet forecast
- 160, to Caesar
- Knack
- Wooded area
- Twosome
- Actress Sothern
- Pick-me-up
- Dean Martin song subject
- Nero's language
- Heavy books
- Real-estate unit
- Sonny and
- Island south of Florida
- On the summit
- Specify
- You, to Quakers

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### Help Wa

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**SOCIAL WC**  
160-bed Skilled N ity seeks dyn Worker who desir a TEAM environ licensed by the St utilized as Com Support Coordinat evaluating residen cial history; conc terly family su meetings; and utilization of heimer's network ; with CQI/QA pro Experience in Lon desirable, but no Salary will be c with experience. A dence at Lamun-I Texas State Vel Human Resource 1809 N. Hwy 87, E 79720, Call (432 fax resume to (4 Equal Opportunity

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A resume should be sent immediately to: SSC - BSP, Attention Mr. Salazar, 1508 W. 4th, TX 79720. EOE

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**TWO NICE** homes for rent. 3226 Auburn and 3906 Hamilton - three bedrooms, dens, fenced back yards - heat and air - \$450.00 and \$485.00 per month. Call (432)263-1281.

**UNFURNISHED,** 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, garage. 2001 S. Monticello. \$375.00 month, \$175.00 deposit. Call (432)267-5386.

**Real Estate for Sale**

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

**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, 1 bath. 1401 Princeton. Call Kelly at 432-425-9994.

**HOME FOR sale** in Big Spring! Owner financing always available. Super low downs, low monthly. No reasonable offer for down payment turned down. Really, make an offer! Call Kelly at (512)497-5976.

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.

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**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

**BY JOYCE JILLSON**  
Cancer is the sign of heightened sensitivity and psychic awareness, and when our planet of communication is there, we can expect to not only be gifted with the power to read between the lines but to read when there are no lines as well. Silence speaks volumes.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You know just what you want and how to get it. The only thing stopping you is the other thing you want. Your desires are in direct competition with one another. Figure out which you want more, and give up all things opposing it.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Follow your interest in global issues. This could grow to involve more of your time and possibly lead to a new career. Loved ones are more in touch with your needs now and may give you more space and freedom as a result.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). When you stop thinking so much and take action, your productivity kicks into high gear. Sure, you're a thoughtful intellect, Gemini, but you really don't have to think things through to know the difference between right and wrong.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). The status quo is not enough for you, but it's also frustrating to set your sights beyond your current capabilities. The stars help you lighten up and see life as a step-by-step process. Rome wasn't built in a day.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're feeling quite

disciplined, but be careful not to channel all of this into work, or you'll be in a boring mood for sure! You not only deserve to have fun — you need to do this in order to keep up your pace through next week.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sure, you can dream big with the best of them. But you're in a conservative mood and will handle practical issues with great efficiency — who wouldn't want your help? That's why some of you will get a marriage proposal.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to know for sure that you've got friends, but you're not in the mood to make time for them! Sort out your priorities. Don't say "yes" to one single thing until you've consulted your schedule, your journal and your spouse.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a financial reward for past actions taken. You're coming to terms with people from your past who teach you both what you want and what you don't want from love. You and a Cancer may sneak away together!

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When it comes to making special arrangements and finding ways to satisfy more of the people more of the time, you've got it nailed! Just don't forget to consider your own feelings in the process.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Others perceive you as being highly capable and therefore seem overwhelmed with your achievements. What do you have to do to get a little support? Know you're achieving for yourself, and provide rewards along the way.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People around you seem nuts, and you shake your head and try to stay out of it. Not a bad approach, as you've got better things to do with your time — like invent the next revolutionary product or work for an end to hunger.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You seem to be the hub of the action, and you've got very positive things to say to people, too. No wonder you'll pick up some new admirers — people who might later ask, "Who was that charming person?"

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** The impressive career of Paula Abdul has led her in and out of the spotlight many times, winning a Grammy and working behind the scenes as a choreographer for movies and music videos. Now, she's instantly recognizable as one of the star-maker judges on "American Idol." She lends sweetness to the often-acidic comments of Simon Cowell, but that doesn't mean her opinion should be taken lightly.

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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**The Mini Page**

By BETTY DEBNAM

Celebrate July Fourth

**Visit Independence Hall**

Independence Hall in Philadelphia is often called the birthplace of our country.

The Mini Page visited this famous building, which was built from 1732-1756. It is in very good shape after standing for nearly 250 years.

Many important events happened there, including:

- The Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776.
- The Constitution, a plan for governing our country, was adopted in 1787.



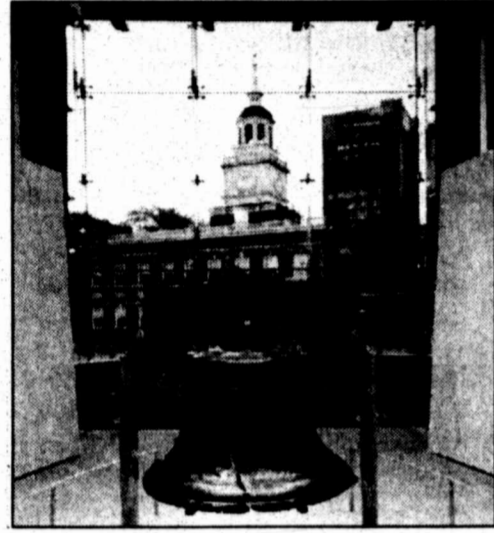
The committee that drafted the Declaration presents it to John Hancock, the president of the Second Continental Congress.



The north side of the building faces the street.



The Independence Visitor Center near Independence Hall. Visitors can find information about free tours and also see a movie, "Independence."



Today, the Liberty Bell that used to hang in the steeple of Independence Hall is displayed in the Liberty Bell Center across the street. The bell became known as the "Liberty Bell" when people fighting against slavery adopted it as a symbol of freedom.

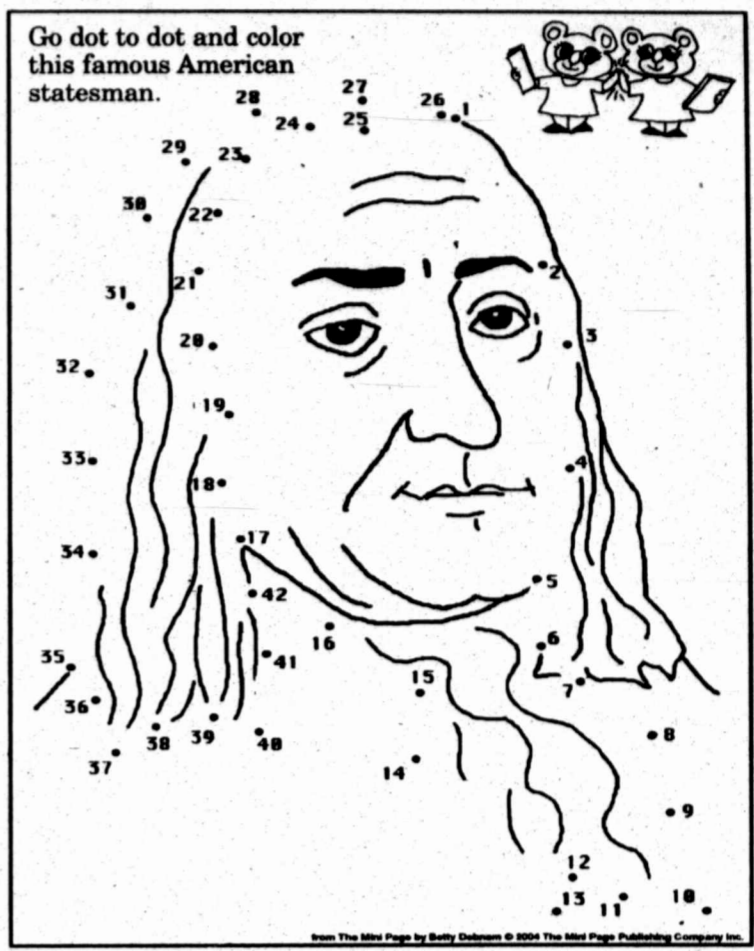


Check out this site: nps.gov/inde



This is the south side, facing a park, Independence Square.

To do: Study both views of Independence Hall. How are they alike? How are they different?



Go dot to dot and color this famous American statesman.

**Rookie Cookie's Recipe Freedom Fruit Salad Bowl**

- You'll need:**
- 1 whole seedless watermelon, cut in halves
  - 2 cups strawberries, sliced
  - 2 cups blueberries
- What to do:**
1. Cut out the insides of one watermelon half. (You can save the other half for another time.)
  2. Place watermelon in a large bowl and cut into small chunks. (Remove seeds if not seedless.)
  3. In another bowl, mix the strawberries and blueberries.
  4. Put the fruit in the empty watermelon half and mix.
  5. Stick small American-flag toothpicks along the edge of the watermelon shell to decorate. Serve fruit in white cups.
- Note: You will need an adult to help with this recipe.*

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**Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: Alex Rodriguez**

Height: 6-3      Birthdate: 7-27-75  
Weight: 210      Native of: New York, N.Y.

Yankee Stadium has been the hallowed playground for many baseball superstars. So it seems fitting that Alex Rodriguez is now blasting home runs in that famous park. "A-Rod" has the superstar glow that fits the Yankee mold.

Before joining New York this season, he made his mark with Texas. The slugging third baseman won the American League home-run title the last three years, hitting 47, 57 and 52 between 2001 and 2003.

A-Rod was born Alexander Emmanuel Rodriguez and spent much of his youth in Florida. Now he's helping the youth there as a major supporter of the Boys and Girls Club in Miami. Along with Secretary of State Colin Powell and actor Denzel Washington, he also is a national spokesperson for America's Boys and Girls Clubs. He's a big contributor both on and off the field.

**Meet Sara Evans**

Sara Evans, 33, has always loved country music. As a young girl she knew she wanted to be a country music singer when she grew up.

Sara was raised on a farm in Missouri. At age 5 she was singing in her family's band. She moved to Nashville, Tenn., when she was 20. There she met a musician named Craig Scheiske, whom she later married.

Sara first was noticed when a songwriter in the Country Music Hall of Fame, Harlan Howard, saw her talent. He asked her to sing an old song he had written. He was so pleased with her performance that he called RCA Records.

Sara has become what she dreamed of as a child. In 2001, she won the title of Female Vocalist of the Year from the Country Music Association. She has toured with country music stars such as Kenny Chesney, George Strait and Alan Jackson. She says the most fun of her life was singing on stage with Reba McEntire on a tour in 2001.

Sara has two kids, a son, Avery, and a daughter, Olivia.

**MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes**

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

**Lisa:** What happens when you illegally park your frog?  
**Tony:** It gets toad away!

**Debbie:** Where do frogs make notes?  
**James:** On lily pads!

**Josh:** How can you get a frog off the back window of your car?  
**Molly:** Turn on the rear defroger!

**Independence Hall TRY 'N FIND**

Words and names that remind us of Independence Hall are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: CONGRESS, HALL, JOHN, HANCOCK, LIBERTY, BELL, DECLARATION, ARTICLES, INDEPENDENCE, RIGHTS, SUPREME, COURT, CHAMBER, QUILL, INKSTAND, CONSTITUTION, WINGS, PHILADELPHIA, PRESIDENT.

HAVE A HAPPY FOURTH!

C O U R T W D N A T S K N I Q  
O I N D E P E N D E N C E V S  
N C O N S T I T U T I O N E E  
G A Z N O I T A R A L C E D L  
R L I B E R T Y J O H N M K C  
E L S T H G I R E B M A H C I  
S I T N E D I S E R P H L V T  
S U P R E M E L S G N I W L R  
J Q A I H P L E D A L I H P A

**Mini Spy ...**

Mini Spy and her friend are enjoying the fireworks on the Fourth. See if you can find: • word MINI • exclamation mark

• safety pin  
• number 3  
• number 7  
• flyswatter  
• letter E  
• heart  
• peanut  
• coffee pot  
• dog's face  
• letter A  
• bell • key  
• sailboat  
• man's face

**Inside Independence Hall**

The silver inkstand that was probably used in the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution is in a special display in the West Wing.

The Central Hall's original woodwork is in good shape.

The Assembly Room is where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed.

To do: A floor plan is a map of a building. Can you draw a line to the picture of each room from the floor plans? Can you draw a floor plan of your house or apartment?

The Committee Room is restored to show how it was before our independence from England. The government of the Pennsylvania colony met here while the Assembly Room was being used. Notice the guns hanging on the wall.

The Governor's Council Chamber is restored to look as it did in 1775 when Pennsylvania was still under British rule.

The Long Gallery runs the length of the front of the second floor of the building. It has been used as a banquet room, meeting room, prison and museum.

The Mini Page thanks the National Park Service staff at Independence Park for help with this story.

Next week, read all about the foods of summer.  
Look through your newspaper for the signs that Fourth of July will be here soon.

The Mini Page is created and edited by Betty Debnam  
Associate Editors: Tali Denton, Lucy Lien  
Staff Artist: Wendy Daley

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