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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

#### MONDAY

July 5, 2004

WEATHER



TOMORROW TONIGHT 71°-73° 100°-105°

#### Woman feared drowned in **Moss Creek** Lake accident

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The search for a 43year-old Big Spring woman who is thought to have drowned at Moss Creek Lake on Sunday, continued this morning.

The woman, identified as Josephine Mitchell by Sgt. Roger Sweatt, the Big Spring Police Department's public information officer, was thought to have drowned Sunday night in a jet ski accident.

"Witnesses reported two persons traveling on a jet ski on the north part of the lake," Sweatt said, who noted the police were notified of the accident at 9:15

"The craft reportedly overturned," Sweatt continued. "One person, a juvenile male, was able to make his way to safety. The victim was not recovered at that time. Floatation devices were not used."

Joining the police department in the search this morning were the Howard County Sheriff's Office, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife.

"All attempts to recover the victims are being made at this time," Sweatt said.

#### INSIDE

#### Fireworks show

Local firefighters pitched in and helped pyrotechnicians set up the fireworks show for Saturday's Pops in the Park celebration.

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Vol. 100, No. 188

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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.



Pops thrills again By LYNDEL MOODY

Grand explosions of color lit up the night over Comanche Trail Park Saturday, highlighting another successful Pops in the Park celebration.

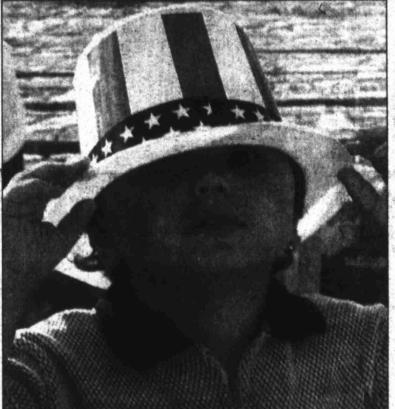
Thousands of people poured into the park's amphitheater for the city's Fourth of July music and fireworks celebration, traditionally held on July 3, for an evening of musical entertainment provided by the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

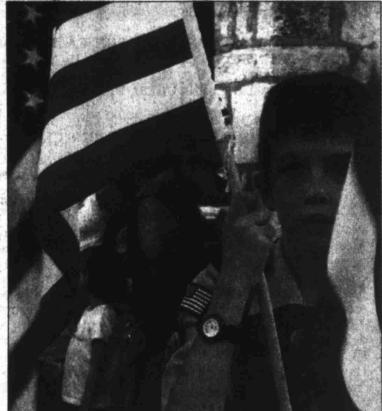
"Many friends and neighbors have worked all year long to bring this to you," event chairman Tim Blackshear told the crowd. "This is a great way to celebrate our nation's independence."

Pops officially began at 5 p.m. when food booths opened to serve thirsty and hungry spectators and the crowd quickly grew while the sun slowly set and a breeze began to cool the area.

Phyllis Graumann, the mother of symphony conductor Dr.

See POPS, Page 5A





# Funtastic Fourth just that ... fantastic!

By THOMAS JENKINS

sky (top photo) durng

Saturday's Pops in the

Comanche Trail Park.

Three-year-old Jimmie Jo

DeJesus, at right, shows

off his patriotic pride with

a red, white and blue hat

prior to the fireworks

show. And at far right, Boy

Scout Johnny Richardson leads the procession of

American flags for the

Scouts prior to the Big

Spring Symphony and

Representatives from the Big Spring Vietnam **Memorial Committee and** 

other organizations helped during the parade of flags

that helped open the show which again drew thou-

sands of spectators.

Chorus'

performance.

Park celebration

Staff Writer

What do you get when you mix music, festivalstyle food and drink, plenty of games for the kids and a beautiful West Texas day? The annual Funtastic Fourth Festival, of course!

People from all over the West Texas area celebrated the birth of our nation in style Sunday, as the Funtastic Fourth lit up the Heart of the City Park throughout the day?

Down town Revitalization Association President Allan Johnson said Sunday's festival was a hit in every way, drawing a record number of peo-

"Our traffic today has been about double what it's been in the past," said a very proud Johnson.

"We've had a phenomenal crowd out here today," he added. "Our Farmers Market people were very pleased. Two of them sold out before 4 p.m. today, and I think

that's just incredible. "We had an overcast day most of the day and we've had a good solid crowd all day long. The weather has been really good - a little warm, but for a July day, it's been great. It's been really steady all day."

Fellow DRA member Ellen Barefoot, owner and operator of Nannie's Attic, said the draw of fattening foods and plenty of fun were more than most people could stand - a fact evident by the huge masses of people that packed the park.

"It's been wonderful,"

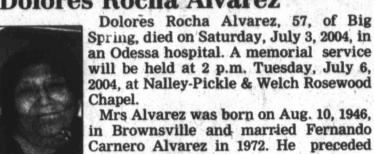
See FOURTH, Page 3A



Country band Seventh Addition from San Angelo closed out the country division's performances during the Funtastic Fourth Festival's Battle of the Bands Sunday. Although judges ranked the band third in the battle, they walked away with the People's Choice Award and

## **Obituaries**

#### **Dolores Rocha Alvarez**



in Brownsville and married Fernando Carnero Alvarez in 1972. He preceded her in death in 1994.

She was a member of Hillcrest Baptist

Church. Survivors include two sons, Fernando Alvarez and Jessie Alvarez; three daughters, Rosemary Alvarez, Ramona Alvarez and Juanita Villegas, all of Big Spring: and two sisters, Gracie Vilcahes and Hortencia Lira of Dallas.

Mrs Alvarez was preceded in death by her parents; one son and daughter; and one brother and sister.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

#### Wanda Kunkle



Wanda Kunkle, 74, of Big Spring, died at 12:05 p.m. Sunday, July 04, 2004, at her residence.

Graveside Services was at 2 p.m. today, July 5, 2004, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born March 18, 1930, in Cleveland, Okla., to William Johnson and Martha Corter Johnson. She married George Kunkle, August 20, 1963, in

Oilton, Okla.

He preceded her in death in Feb. 17, 1980. Mrs. Kunkle had been a resident of Big Spring since 1963. She was a homemaker and also had worked for the Big Spring Independent School District and later Furr's Cafeteria where she was the salad lady.

She had attended East Fourth Baptist Church. She loved animals, birds, flowers and music.

She is survived by one son, Russell Collinsworth and his, wife Ingrid of Skiatook, Okla.; two daughters, Kathryn Woolverton and her husband, Jim of Corpus Christi and Donna Brown of Big Spring; four sisters, Maxine Huff of Cushing, Okla., LaVerne Windiate of Stillwater, Okla., Carolyn Lane of Agra, Okla., and Jodi Burrow of Enid, Okla.; two brothers, Ed Huff of Del City, Okla., and Jim Johnson of Okmulgee, Okla.; seven grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Big Spring Humane Society, P. O. Box 823, Big Spring 79721, or

other favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com Paid obituary

## Take note

☐ MANNA RELIEF, a non-profit ministry that provides glyconutritional supplements to critically ill children, is accepting donations for the program. Call Gene or Robbie Froman at 263--0385.

A MEMORIAL FUND FOR THE FAMILY OF TERRY STRICKLAND, who died June 15, 2004, has been established at the Big Spring Educational Employees Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 1110, Big Spring 79720.

☐ MEMBERS OF THE EVENING LIONS CLUB are looking for area children with diabetes age 8-17 who would like to attend the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville this summer.

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.

☐ THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1989 15year 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.

## Lottery

The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

15-19-28-37-40

Bonus Ball: 12

Estimated jackpot: \$7 million

Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Saturday: 6-16-22-30-33

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night:

## Rhabdomyolysis

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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Saturday until 7 a.m.

• TRACY MONTANEZ of 825 W. Sixth St. was arrested Sunday on a local warrant.

• ISRAEL MIRAMONTES, 20, of 1002 N. Main St. was arrested this morning on a charge of public intoxication.

· JOE L. MIRAMONTES, 32, of 1110 Johnson St. was arrested Saturday on charges of resisting arrest and assault, Class C family violence.

· LYNDON FRALEY, 44, of 2609 Wasson was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated and no insurance.

 WILLIAM HOGAN, 37, of 302 NE Second St. was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

• TRACY MONTANEZ, 28, of 825 W. Sixth St. was arrested Sunday on two warrants.

 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1100 block of south Gregg Street and the 2500 block of Fisher.

ASSAULT BY THREAT was reported in the 1000 block of Main Street and the 4100 block of Highway 87. BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 300 block of Hillside.

· ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1800 block of Nolan.

· THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willa, in the 400 block of Birdwell, the 1100 block of Lamesa, the 300 block of Gregg, the 1800 block of Gregg, the 400 block of Gregg and 1700 block of FM 700.

## Sheriff's report

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

 DUSTIN COLBERT SOWELL, 24 of 2912 Cherokee was arrested Saturday on a charge of possession of

marijuana, less than two ounces. DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE, INTOXICATED PERSON was reported in the 400 block of Driver

LOOSE LIVESTOCK was reported on Highway

· THEFT was reported in the 700 block of East Culp. ROAD DEBRIS was reported in East Howard County Field Road.

 BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 8500 block of El Camino Road.

 ABANDONED VEHICLE was reported in the 4800 block of Parkway.

· CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 100 block of north Moss Lake Road.

## Support groups

☐ All widows and widowers are invited to attend the Encourager's Support group meeting at 6 p.m. in Cowboy's Restaurant. Call 398-5522 for more informa-

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 informa-

☐ 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.

## Weather

Cloudy skies were expected across much of Texas on Monday with highs in the 90s in most areas.

In the Dallas area, partly cloudy skies were expected with highs in the mid-90s. By evening, partly cloudy skies were expected with lows in the mid-70s.

Partly cloudy skies were expected in the Amarillo area with highs in the lower 90s. By evening, partly cloudy skies were expected with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms and lows in the mid-60s.

In the Harlingen area, partly cloudy skies were expected with highs in the mid-90s. By evening, partly cloudy skies were expected with lows in the upper

Partly cloudy skies were expected in the Houston area with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon and highs in the lower 90s. Partly cloudy skies were expected in the evening with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and lows in the mid-70s.

In the Midland-Odessa area, partly cloudy skies were expected Monday with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon and highs near 100. By evening, partly cloudy skies were expected with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms and lows near 70.

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## **Bulletin board**

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

TODAY

· All city, county and federal offices are closed to observe July 4 holiday.

TUESDAY

 Intermediate Line Dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-

Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11

a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center. · 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.

 VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

· Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.

· Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

 Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. with special guest singers from Midland and Colorado City. Everyone is welcome.

 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. in 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. at 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. Homeowner's Education workshop is set for 7 p.m. at the Crossroads Housing Training Center, 201

NE Seventh St. \$50 per family. Call 267-2208. · Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

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 · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard

College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-

 Big Spring Downtown Revitalization Association workshop at 3:30 p.m. and again at 5 p.m. in the Hangar 25 Air Museum. Call Rhonda Campbell at

 Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

 Homeowner's Education workshop is set for 7 p.m. at the Crossroads Housing Training Center, 201 NE Seventh St. \$50 per family. Call 267-2208.

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

FRIDAY

 AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

 Spring City Senior Citizen's country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

**SATURDAY** 

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

· Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

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.

REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

## BIG SPRING

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BIG SPRING HI

Continued from I

said Barefoot better than last tival. I really h much time to on how many here because running arou things done.

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One of the fo Market produ participated in event was Mar who sold hone tival. Coldiron sales may l slightly hamp heat, but the the market at should make a for the group.

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"We had fou out here tod Farmers Mar the festival. I



Four-year-old Festival from takes a ride **County Sherif** Posse member

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#### FOURTH

Continued from Page 1A

said Barefoot. "It's been better than last year's festival. I really haven't had much time to get a count on how many have been here because we're all running around getting things done.

"It's been so much fun. You get sunburned, you get exhausted — plenty of good food and junk food it's been just awesome.'

One of the four Farmers Market producers that participated in Sunday's event was Mark Coldiron, who sold honey at the festival. Coldiron said honey sales may have been slightly hampered by the heat, but the success of the market at the festival should make a good start for the group.

"It's a little slow for the honey business," said Coldiron. "Honey doesn't really sell very well on really hot days. The kids love the honey straws, which I have in about 20 to 30 different flavors, and they just love it, and at 10 cents you can't go wrong.

"We had four producers out here today for the Farmers Market part of the festival. Two of them

did really well, selling out pretty quick. I think this is a good first-look at the Farmers: Market," Coldiron added. "We've had farmers markets here in Big Spring before. For one reason or another they didn't continue on, but I really think the new one will."

While Coldiron had the market "cornered" on honey sales, the Holubec Sisters, led by Sherry Holubec, were busy selling watermelons and cantaloupes.

"It's been really good," said Holubec. "A lot of people have been coming to our booth on the way out and we've been trying to deliver the watermelons to their cars for them so they don't have to carry them around with them."

Holubec said she plans to hock her melons regularly at the Big Spring Farmers Market, which will hold its grand opening at the park July 10, and hopes Sunday's success is a good omen.

"I certainly hope so." said Holubec. "We're going to be coming back on a Tuesday to see, and we'll be selling watermelons and cantaloupes again."

vendors sold While



Spectators listen to the Trey Austin Band during Sunday's Funtastic Fourth Festival Battle of the Bands. The battle include divisions for Tejano, country and rock music. The event lived up to its name and provided plenty of fun for those who braved the heat Sunday at Heart of the City Park.

to clothes, food to furniture, Ryan Tant sat quietly at his drum kit, which was set up near the back of the festival's main stage.

Tant, drummer for the

everything from jewelry local band Crimson Soul, said he and his band are happy to be a part of the annual event and its Battle of the Bands, which the band took third place in last year's competition.

"We've played it the last

couple of years and came

out with third place last year, which was really good because of what the judge ere looking for," said . "They were looking for things that were familiar to them like cover songs and things like that, and since we did all originals I felt like we did really good getting third place last year."

While the competition between the bands was fierce, Tant said he and his band mates haven't lost sight of why they are there, or why they got into music in the first

watching the last of the Pipeline garnered a sec-

country music bands finish their set, "The attitude of this band has changed over the years and we're just about having fun and meeting other bands and that sort of thing."

The battle for the top band in three divisions rock, country and Tejano was fierce. X-Tremo took first place in the Tejano division, followed in second place by Eztrano. Third place was taken by Super Bravo.

In the rock division, Sour Hand took the first place nod from the judges, while One Star Shy garnered a second place finish. Rounding out the rock competition in third place was Tant and his band members from Crimson Soul.

In the country music competition, The Trey "We're just here to have Austin Band took first fun," said Tant while place, while Texas

ond place nod. In third place was Seventh Addition.

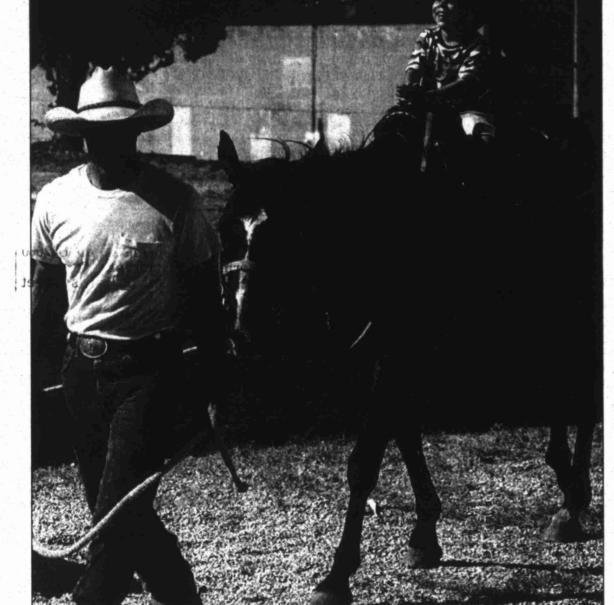
In the People's Choice competition, which was decided by votes cast by those in attendance throughout the day. Seventh Addition took the big win, walking away with the \$1,000 grand prize.

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

#### **MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson

Wanda Kunkle, 74, died Sunday. Graveside Services will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Trinity Memorial Park



Four-year-old Cyrus Guzman enjoys the Funtastic Fourth Festival from a slightly different view from most, as he takes a ride on one of the horses provided by the Howard County Sheriff's Posse Sunday. Guzman's horse was led by Posse member Dennis Cummings.

Blums One beautiful place

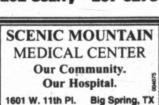
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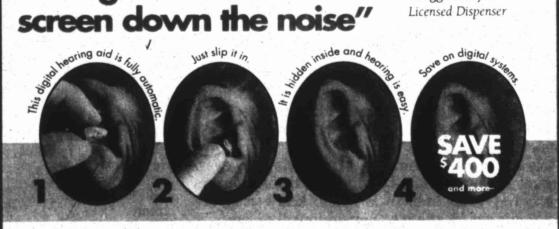
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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Bill McClellar **News Editor** 

OUR VIEWS

# A tough time for those who represent us

t's one of the most excruciating times of the year for elected officials anywhere — that time when every entity which collects taxes, fees and other assessments is tasked with forming a budget for the coming fiscal year. It means hours and hours of meetings with managers, financial officers and department heads in an effort to accomplish what sometimes seems all butimpossible.

Some of it is projection based on past history: How much water will city customers use? How many more miles can the school district rely on an aging 74-passenger bus? Will sales tax rebates remain steady? Will an air conditioning unit that supplies cool air to 150 students or 60 employees last one more year?

When needs are identified, they must be prioritized. Then choices must be made, based on revenue expectations.

We don't envy those who have to make these decisions — our public schools and college boards, city council members and county commissioners. At the same time they are the individuals elected to represent us and we expect them to do so with us in mind.

That's not easy, because we are all different individuals who live in different neighborhoods. For some, resurfacing the street in from of our homes is of paramount importance. Others see water quality as a big issue.

If we have children in school, public education seems to have more importance.

If we are on a limited budget, it's important that we don't have to endure a tax increase.

Our elected representatives have to take all of that into consideration and make the best decisions they can — sometimes with very limited resources.

That seems to almost certainly be the case for most of the taxing entities in Howard County, since early projections indicated decreased tax roll values.

We here at the *Herald* are like most, we want those representatives to search hard for ways to cut costs and retain, if not improve, services. After all, everyone wants more for less, don't

Rarely is that possible.

As a result, we all have to be realistic.

Therefore, we encourage the general public to be tolerant in the days and weeks ahead, and to remember that those representatives are faced with a very difficult and quite often thankless task.

We don't envy them one bit. We do, however, thank them for their service and think there is no better time than to let them know they are appreciated for the job they do for all of us.

#### How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

By fax at 264-7205

By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at

editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.

By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring Tx, 79721

#### A SMALL PRAYER

. by K. Rae Anderson

May we be workers for you, Lord, in your harvest field.

Iraq will rise up like mountains

raq is now at a set-back, but it is temporary. We will rise up like mountains.

standing firm, and we will protect all people regardless of religion, color and every other consideration.

Pluralism should be a factor of progress, not divisiveness, said Iraq's new interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi as he took office Monday morning.

Difficult and bloody days are ahead, but this small victory provides a moment to pause and marvel at what U.S. troops,

coalition troops and freedom-minded Imagis were able to achieve despite the many factions that toiled so desperately for the new Iraq to fail.

Physician Hamoudi al-Bander of Orinda, Calif., who fled Iraq with his family in 1973, was ecstatic. Finally, al-Bander said over the phone, "there's the prospect of equal rights and equal opportunity for all" in Iraq. Al-Bander doesn't approve of everything that has happened in Iraq during the war, but he sees hope that Iraq can be better for it — if America stays the course.

Former U.S. arms inspector David Kay became a darling of the left when he told Congress in January that "we were almost all wrong" - "we" meaning the international intelligence community, and "almost all wrong" meaning wrong in the conviction that Saddam Hussein commanded large caches of weapons of mass destruction.

When asked Monday if he thought the "pre-emptive strike" against Iraq was justified, Kay told the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco that while he reevaluates the equation daily, "I

think we did a tremendous good in ridding the world of Saddam (Hussein) and his sons." Kay believes that if America had not acted, Iraq could have provided the hot spot for weapons sellers and terrorists to hook up - with the West none the wiser. Thus, Hussein's Iraq "was a more dangerous place than we realized."

While Americans prefer to look at what happens in Iraq simply on the basis of how it directly affects America — I certainly have been guilty of that - Kay remembers the desert in Iraq in July heat and watching Iraqi families digging with their hands for some sign that would tell them if Hussein had killed a husband, son or daughter.

Alas, where Kay sees humanitarian gains, peaceniks prefer to see "occupation" — even as the coalition hands authority over to the Iraqis early.

The anti-war and quasi-anti-war left should be applauding the peaceful turnover of sovereignty. Instead, the anti-war group International ANSWER has been organizing new rallies to protest the "fake sovereignty." America is moving closer to the day when U.S. troops can go home — yet the

anti-war crowd is furious.

For his part, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., looked none too happy as he stood before cameras Monday warning about security on the ground. For months now, Americans have been hearing Kerry say that he voted for the war but feels betrayed because Bush has been so inept in the Persian Gulf.

This week, the good guys pulled off a coup — in devising a handover that robbed terrorists of the pretext of murdering people to prevent the big change. The bad guys, who kill civilians randomly to stop self-governance, were unable to stop this move to push Iraq toward representative democracy - and Kerry's all long-faced.

The senator should take lessons from Michael Nacht, dean of the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley. Nacht clearly approved of the handover and how it was done: "It takes the American face off the Iraqi mess," he said, and that should boost Iraqi popular support for the new government. Kerry's not the only Bush critic

who couldn't look pleased. Former terrorism czar Richard Clarke told "Good Morning America," "If you went back a year ago and asked the White House or the people in the U.S. headquarters in Iraq what would today look like, they would have painted a very different picture. They would have said this would have been a large public ceremony. Instead, it looks like Jerry Bremer is sort of skulking out in the middle of the night the secret ceremony - because the security situation is so bad that we can't even guarantee the security of a handover."

Such is the state of discourse on the war with Iraq: There is no victory that cannot be painted as a defeat.

And this worries al-Bander, who desperately wants to see his homeland thrive. "I think it's all politics to say this is a failure of George W. Bush," said al-Bander. "Give it a chance."

"They gave the time to Saddam Hussein," said al-Bander. (Try two-plus decades, including 11 years during which Hussein violated a peace agreement with the United Nations and shot at U.S. and British planes daily.) "Let's give this government a chance."

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# Talk about political insight

Roger Simon is on vacation. The following column was first published in July 2000.

ant to know who the next president is going to be? What's that? You don't? Well, I'm going to tell you any-

I know the answer because I have once again talked to Corey Ruzicka, an advertising man from Arlington, Texas, who has an amazing record of correctly picking presidential

winners. He does no polling. He assembles no focus groups. He talks to not a single

But he always gets it right. His method is simplicity itself. I first interviewed him in 1992, when Bill Clinton was far down in the polls.

ROGER

SIMON

"Clinton is going to win," Ruzicka told me. "And that's because his name ends in N. He probably will be a one-term president or something will happen to him in office, however, because his running mate, Al Gore, has a name that ends in E.

I thought Ruzicka was nuts at the time, but not only did Clinton win, but something did happen to Clinton in office: He got impeached.

"Of America's 51 presidential elections, 22 of them have been won by the candidate whose last name ended in N," Ruzicka said back then. "And 33 elections have had at least one presidential candidate with an N-ending name."

OK, fine, but why do Americans seem to like people whose name ends in N? I asked.

"Your name ends in N," Ruzicka said.

Good point, I said. So I called Ruzicka back this week to see his predictions for Campaign 2000.

And he gave the edge to Al Gore. "When we have had candidates whose names end in E," Ruzicka said, "they have had fours wins and eight losses. When we have had candidates whose name ends in H, they have had one win and two losses. President Bush is the only H-name to win."

In other words, Gore has a 50 percent chance of winning, while George W. Bush has only a 33 percent chance.

But what about running mates? I asked. And It turns out that can change the picture big time.

"Whenever an E candidate names a vice president whose name ends in S, they have won 3-0," Ruzicka said. "James Monroe won twice with Daniel Tompkins, and Calvin Coolidge won with Charles Dawes. That is why Gore should pick Gray Davis, the governor of California.

As it turns out, Gray Davis announced this week that he would not accept the vice presidency, but when he reads this column, he might change his mind.

"Gore could also pick Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, Baucus of Montana or Edwards of North Carolina." Ruzicka said.

But what if Gore doesn't pick an S-ending vice president? I asked. Whenever an E candidate goes

with someone other than S vice president, it's one win and eight losses," Ruzicka said, "Franklin

Pierce is the E candidate who won.

And what about Bush? 'Well, he should go with an Nending candidate, because Ns are

so popular in America," Ruzicka said. Which means John McCain or Fred Thompson of Tennessee, who was a McCain backer, I said. But I don't think Bush is going to pick

either of them. "Yes, my gut feeling is that Bush will go with an E-ender, because his dad went with an E-ender, Dan

Quayle," Ruzicka said. Which would mean Elizabeth Dole or Tom Ridge.

"Just as long as nobody picks Chuck Hagel, a Republican from Nebraska, or George Mitchell, a Democrat from Maine," Ruzicka said.

"Because whenever we have a Yor L-ending winning or losing presidential or vice presidential candidate, we have a major war with major casualties within four years," Ruzicka said.

Bill Bradley and Colin Powell please take note: Maybe you should consider careers in TV. (2004 Update: George W. Bush

did, of course, pick a vice president whose name ended in Y, Dick Cheney. And the United States did go to war with Iraq within four

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Ten-year-olds Heckler, left. Crane smile a after finding s at one of the m dors set up a Trail Park Saturday for Pops in Thousands por amphitheater concert and fir





## Jazzed 'America the Beautiful' featured during Pops

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A jazz trumpet solo gave a little zing to a favorite American song during the annual Pops in the Park celebration Saturday, as spectators became only the second audience ever to hear the special arrangement of "America the Beautiful.'

"This was done by my former teacher and mentor, James Faulconer," Big Spring said Symphony Orchestra conductor and artistic director Dr. Keith Graumann. "This has only been performed one other time at the Crystal Cathedral in California."

Thousands of people attended the city's annual Fourth of July evening celebration, traditionally held the day before July 4. at the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater.

The main portion of the entertainment began at phony and chorus took the stage under the direction of Graumann and several performed American pieces and Broadway show tunes.

The jazzed up version of "America the Beautiful" ended the first portion of the night's main entertainment before the musicians headed into the fireworks part of the evening.

The piece began strongly with the traditional song shortly followed by trumpet soloist, John Kennedy, who picked up main melody. Accompanying Kennedy and the orchestra were the voices of the chorus.

As the piece progressed, the soloist begin to slip a jazzy style into the melody blending both the traditional version with the truly American-made jazz sound.

"Jazz is a very important aspect of music in the United States," said

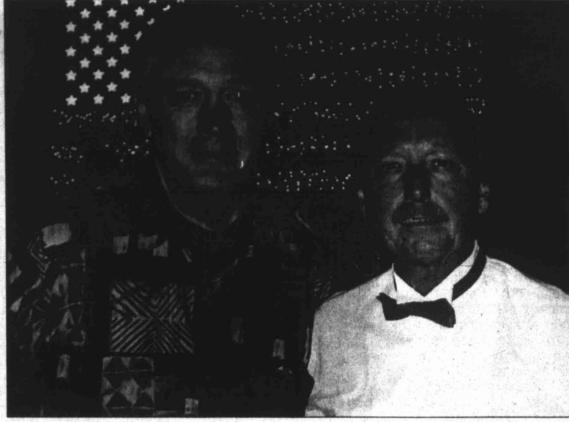
8:30 p.m. when the sym- Faulconer, who has recently retired from the University of Oklahoma, and now with his wife shares his love of music with more 1,150 Texas school children in afterschool programs.

Performed for the first time on stage by the musicians, Graumann said he thought the overall rendition was a success.

"It was just wonderful to hear it as it was supposed to sound by the composer," Graumann said.

"I think they did a terrific job," said Faulconer, who has been composing music almost 50 years. "I think Keith's interpretation was wonderful. I was very impressed by the concert.

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



James Faulconer, left, retired University of Oklahoma professor of music, and his former student, Big Spring Symphony Orchestra conductor and artistic director Dr. Keith Graumann, pose for a picture following the annual Pops in the Park celebration. During the annual event, the symphony performed Faulconer's arrangement of "America the Beautiful," which featured a jazz trumpet solo.

#### POPS

Continued from Page 1A

Keith Graumann, was sitting among the crowd awaiting the concert's start.

"I'm still trying to keep a promise I made to him at his first concert," she said with a laugh. "He told me then, 'Now mother, don't do that mother thing.' I said I'm not going to do that. I'm just going to stand up and yell out that's my boy. I still haven't done that yet."

After hearing about the event for weeks in the local media, newcomers Judy and Timmy Sikes, who moved to Big Spring from Georgia three weeks ago, were eager to join in the festivities.

"We're thrilled," Judy said. "We think this is a wonderful event. We're impressed with the amphitheater and the concert."

"We think that this (town) is the friendliest place there is," Timmy interjected.

Timmy and Carolyn Mercer, also new to the city and friends of the Sikes, couldn't agree

"We moved to Big Spring from Brownwood remember

about 18 months ago," said Carolyn.

"We think this town is the friendliest we've ever lived in and we've lived all over Texas," Timmy Mercer said.

U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer opened the

**Fireworks** 

show

from

celebration

takes lots

of hard

evening with a prayer

thanking God for the

gathering, remembering

military personnel who gave the ultimate sacri-

fice and military mem-

bers now serving along

"Thank you and help us

that

with their families.

See Page 7A

work

just on the Fourth of July," Neugebauer said. "That we remember it every day." Keith Graumann and

Independence day is not

the members of the symphony and chorus took over the evening at that point, providing a number of musical selections ranging from patriotic pieces to hit Broadway show tunes for the first half of the performance.

A version of "America the Beautiful," arranged by James Faulconer, a retired University of Oklahoma music professor, featuring a solo jazz trumpet performance highlighted the first portion of concert.

After a brief intermission, the symphony and chorus began the second part of the evening's program of patriotic music as a 40-minute fireworks presentation lit the sky overhead.

"I think everything well," went Keith Graumann said. "Exceptfor some little glitches, I think the program came off almost perfectly."

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



Lindsey Ten-year-olds Heckler, left, and Megan Crane smile at each other after finding some goodies at one of the many food vendors set up at Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater Saturday for the annual Pops in the Park. Thousands poured into the amphitheater to watch the

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Staff Writer

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By MICHAEL PRECKER

The Dallas Morning News HIGHLAND VILLAGE At 5-7 and 92 pounds, Ashley Smith was sure

she was in control. She was sure she was cleverly hiding her diet pills and laxatives from her parents. Sure she was fooling her counselor and her friends. Sure that every rib she could trace with her fingers represented success.

"You know you're doing something self-destructive, but something makes you," she says. "It takes total control of your emotions, and the distortions take over."

These stories can go on for years and end in particularly tragedy, among teenage girls. But Smith, 18, has emerged from a two-year battle with anorexia nervosa and bulimia that could have killed her.

She recently graduated from high school, her weight is normal and she's working two jobs one of them at a restaurant — before starting college next month.

"It's something I'll always have to deal with," she says. "But I don't think I would ever do anything that would jeopardize myself again."

Reaching that realization was a long and

painful process. The road back started in February 2003, when a handful of diet pills laced with the stimulant ephedra sent her heart racing - and finally scared her into doing something.

She had already been dangerously thin for a year, locked into an eating disorder that became a compulsion.

Unlike some young women obsessed with losing weight because of society's focus on being thin, Smith's issue was control.

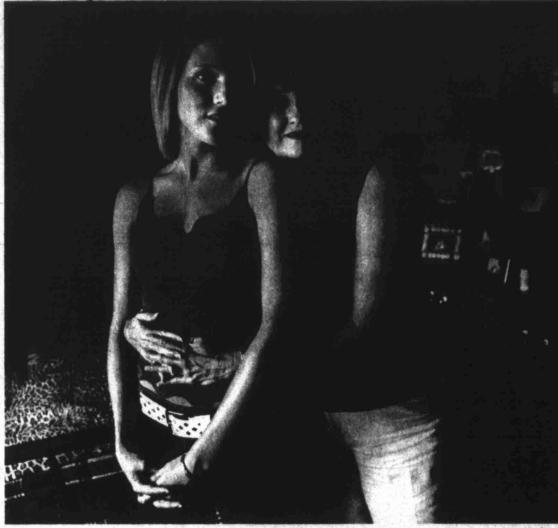
"I felt like I didn't have any control over my life, so I started to take control over my eating," she says. "It spiraled way out of control."

Her friends tried to help, her parents put her in counseling — and she conned them all.

"In the end, nobody can help you but yourself," she says. "You have to hit rock bottom before you realize what you're doing. I'm just lucky I didn't die."

The heart palpitations finally spurred Ashley to ask for help.

"We thought we were doing everything we could," says her mother, Cheryl Smith. "It's so frightening to hear your child say, 'I know this can kill me but I can't stop,' and as a parent you



KRT photo/Kim Ritzenhaler/Dallas Morning News

Ashley Smith of Highland Village was addicted to diet pills and barely eating when her parents checked her into a hospital in 2003. With intense nutritional and psychological help, she gained 30 pounds and learned skills to prevent her from relapsing. Her mother, Cheryl Smith, is on the right.

can't fix it."

The Smiths took Ashley to Children's Medical Center of Dallas, where the pediatric psychology unit includes a special

people with eating disorders.

She was locked in from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., in control of nothing. The staff monitored

program to treat young every bite of food, every

trip to the bathroom, every conversation. The day was packed with group therapy, individual therapy, family therapy and schoolwork.

"You can't even shake

your leg without them telling you to stop,' Ashley Smith says. "They think you're trying to burn up calories."

Even though she knew it was necessary, she was furious at the confinement. When her parents took her home each night, she yelled that she hated them.

But gradually she built her daily calorie intake and regained her health. Antidepressants other medications helped clarify her thinking.

After about a month, Ashley was transferred to a less-intrusive day treatment program Children's. Over the next several months, she gradually resumed her regular life.

It hasn't always been easy or smooth, and there are no guarantees. Smith says one girl she met in the eating disorders program recently had a stroke.

But for Ashley Smith, control has a new and different meaning: coping with stress, keeping busy and staying healthy, not forfeiting the life she has regained.

"Sometimes you have to give yourself a pep talk," she says. "I tell myself, Look at how much you overcame.'

"I beat this. It's a great

# Don't wait until it's too late to hydrate

By LISA LIDDANE

**Orange County Register** 

Think of the body as a car engine. It needs fluids to prevent overheating, especially when we're physically active We people need more of them when we're playing or working JUICE Hydration scale: 3.5 out during hot summer

But not all fluids are created equal. Just because something slakes your thirst doesn't mean it keeps you hydrated enough.

An ideal beverage for active people has the right balance of water and electrolytes, minerals useful in sending electrical impulses through our body. The most important minerals for hydration are sodium, potassium and magnesium. We lose these minerals when we sweat and urinate, so it's essential to replace them.

Here, Larry Kenney and Douglas Casa, spokesmen on hydration for the American College of Sports Medicine, and Robert Kersey, professor of kinesiology and health science at California State University, Fullerton, size up typical thirst-quenching beverages.

Five is best on our hydration scale of 0-5:

**WATER Hydration scale: 4** 

"Adequate but not optimal, unless you eat snacks to get carbohy-

drates and sodium." -Casa

OK for active people as nation. long as sports or workouts last no more than 30 minutes to 45 minutes. Best for thirsty inactive

"It's OK after activity because of its nutritional value, but outside of that it doesn't have the right mix of sodium, carbohy-

drates and water for replacing fluids." - Casa The sweetness may keep people from drinking enough. For some, juice may contain too much sugar, which may affect performance.

**SODA Hydration scale: 1** 

"Sugar content in regular soda does not promote quick absorption into the body. Diet soda is not much different from water. It does not add any carbohydrates for fuel, but has fluid." — Kenney

The carbonation may bother some people, and the sweetness may keep people from drinking enough.

**ICED TEA Hydration scale:** 

"It can be a diuretic, encouraging urination and causing the body to lose fluids." — Kersey

The caffeine in most iced teas can help performance. Experts disagree caffeine in teas and sodas is enough to increase uri-

**SPORTS DRINK Hydration** scale: 5

"Most good sports drinks are better during and before activity, not

Be careful to read labels because some sports drinks are better than others. Look for about 6 percent carbohydrates (about 14 grams) for every eight ounces of fluid.

**ENERGY DRINK Hydration** scale: 0

"This is not helpful for hydration. We don't know enough about the possible risks from the ingredients." - Kenney

Energy drink refers to a flavored beverage that contains stimulants such as taurine, guarana and caffeine.

**LIGHT BEER Hydration** scale: 1

"Contains a little alcohol, which is a diuretic. Some athletes drink a light beer after activity, but it's not the best way to hydrate after an event." - Kersey

DON'T WAIT TO HYDRATE

What you should know two. before you drink to keep your body hydrated:

 Never let thirst be your guide. By the time you're thirsty, you're already dehydrated. So 'before you're drink thirsty.

 If you're an inactive adult, check the color of your urine to see if you need to drink more fluids. If the color is closer to dark yellow, you need more water.

- If you're active, weigh yourself before and shortly after exercise to find out how much fluid you need to replenish immediately afterward. The difference between the two numbers is the amount of fluid you lost. Let's say you lost 2 pounds after exercise; then drink the fluid weight back to pre-activi- ahhh, just right. ty level and add more fluid. If you can't'tolerate that much water/fluids shortly after activity, make sure to drink the

active. Tip: Set the timer on your watch to beep at intervals such as every 10 minutes to 15 minutes to remind you to drink up.

 Drink about 500 milliliters, or 16 ounces, of fluid two hours before activity.

 Keep the fluids cool enough so you enjoy drinking them. Apply the Goldilocks principle: Not too cold, not too hot,

- Children's bodies are not as efficient as adults' in regulating temperature, so make sure kids get enough fluids. A fluids within an hour or recent study showed that kids in summer soccer Take hydration camps often are dehydratwhen you're ed. It's not enough for coaches to give kids the choice of taking a water

break or just having water available - regular water breaks are a must. Eat fruits rich in fluid, such as can-

watermelons taloupes, and grapes.

 Expect to drink more fluids than usual when it's hot because your body is working harder to regulate your temperature.











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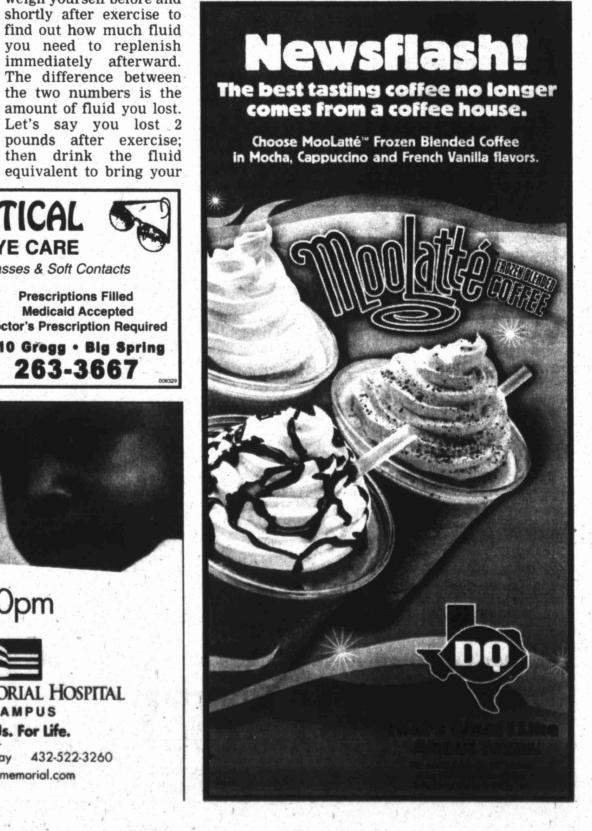
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## Local volunteers helped professionals with fireworks

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

While the food and musical attractions may be the "meat" of the Pops in the Park celebration. the fireworks show would most certainly have to be the icing on the cake.

While the idea of a fireworks display of the mag-nitude onlookers enjoyed at the Saturday evening event may conjure thoughts of fuses and fingers plugged firmly in someone's ears, the art of fireworks has changed immensely over the

Expert fireworks coordinator Terry Hurt of Odessa, who along with her husband, who is also named Terry, operates Pyro-Tex FX, will be the first to tell you the days of lighting fuses are long

gone. "This is all electronic," said Hurt. "We have to wire each individual shell and some of them will go up three at a time or two at a time. We have several mutli-shot boxes that will shoot anywhere between 150 and 300 shots throughout the show, and those are all wired into the system.

"We have around 900 individual shells and God only knows how many multi-shot boxes, so it's a really big show. They're smaller shells, so they don't go as high because

of the close proximity, of the audience, but it's still a really big show when you look at the quantity."

If the number of shells used to light up the night sky doesn't surprise you, what goes into making those shells sail into the sky certainly will.

"There's about four miles of wire involved in this show by the time we get done," said Hurt.
"Everything is wired into a rail and each rail has a cable that's wired into a matrix. That's connected to the console and the shooter just sits at it and pushes the buttons to make them go off.

"This is choreographed with the symphony's performance, so we'll be working side by side to time and cue all of our shots based on their performance. It's a lot of work to get the timing down right and I'll be giving most of the cues with a stopwatch. You also have to be careful because there's a slight delay between the time things happen and when we hear them on the radio. It can certainly get complicat-

Hurt said she and her husband had very little time to prepare for the show, but thanks to plenty of volunteer labor, the show went on as planned.

"We contract through Western Enterprises out of Oklahoma City, Okla.,"

Big Spring Fire Department Firefighters Jeff White, right, and Arnol Carrasco help set up the fireworks display for the annual Pops in the Park celebration. Volunteers from the Big Spring Fire Department and Howard County Volunteer Fire Department helped wire and set up the display throughout the day Saturday.

said Hurt. "They are the ones that contracted the show with the Big Spring Pops in the Park group. We were hired by them to

shoot the show.

"We really didn't have a lot of time to prepare for this show. It was kind of dropped on us at the last minute, but we were able to get some volunteers together to make things happen like they needed

Taking a momentary breather from conducting a "fireworks set up 101" with the volunteers, made up mostly of firefighters

from the Big Spring Fire Department and the Howard County Volunteer Fire

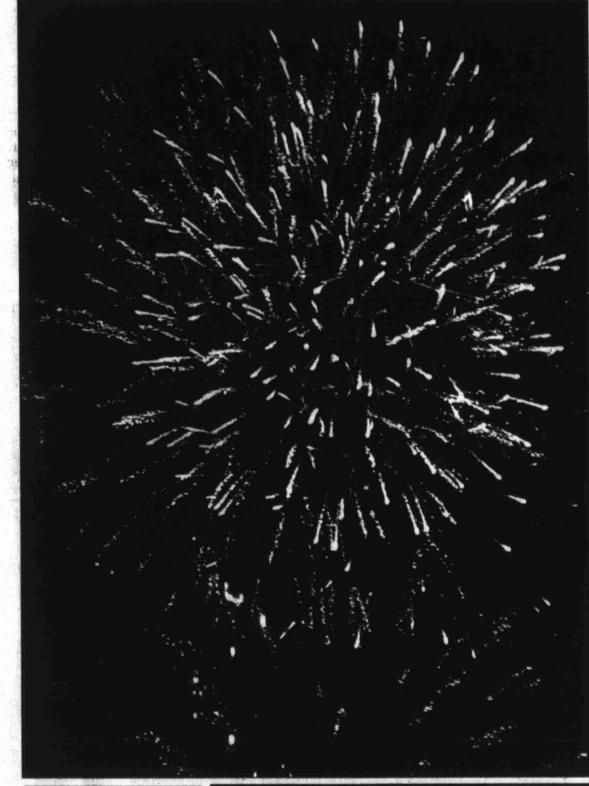
Department, Mr. Hurt said he was impressed with how quickly they learned the ropes. "Normally we have a

crew to help us with this," he said. "Since this sort of got dropped on us at the last minute we weren't able to get a crew together for the show, but

the firefighters that we've had helping us today have done a great job.

"They caught on really quick considering they've never worked with these (fireworks) before. Not a lot of time to really train them properly," he said with a laugh.

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



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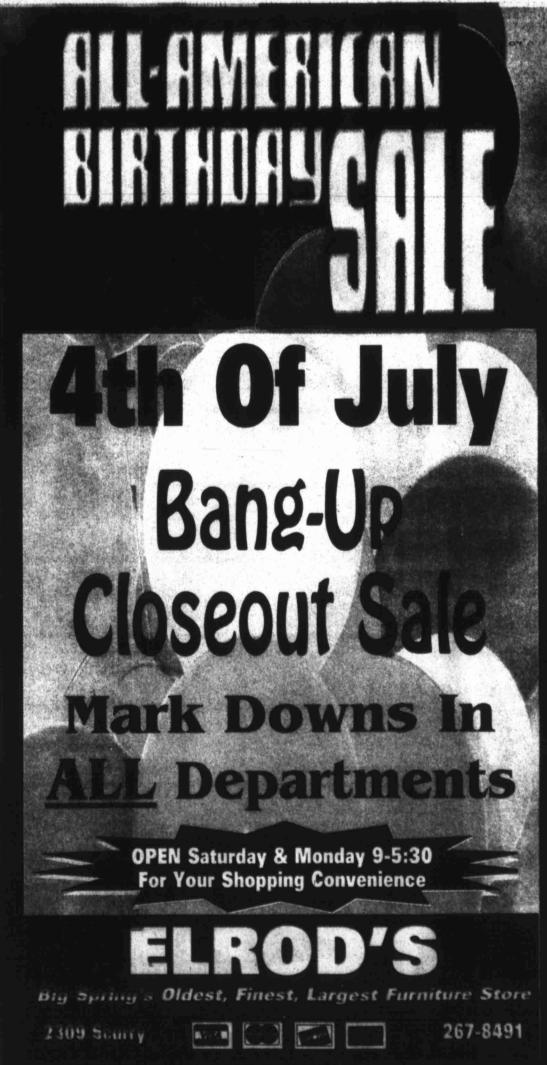
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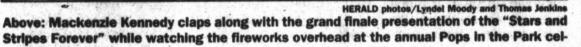
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ebration Saturday.

Top right: One of four Farmers Market booths at the Funtastic Fourth Festival, Mark

Coldiron's honey draws the attention of Linda McClanahan. Sunday's festival was the first

showing for the newly formed Big Spring Farmers Market, which will open for the first time

July 10th in the Heart of the City Park.

Botton right: Patriotic fare was certainly the theme of the day for these two Dance Gallery performers, as 14-year old Nadia Garcia, right, and 6-year-old Alexis Garcia prepare for the patriotic performance at Sunday's Funtastic Fourth Festival.



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Dining Room Chairs Odds & Ends Starting \$27	Dinette Sets \$197	Table W/4 Chairs	Butcher Block & Table w/4 Chairs \$197	White Day Bed		
Pine Door Closet sugg. \$750 Now \$247	Queen Anne Highboy sugg. \$1,388	1 Polyester Brown Leather Look Loveseat succ. sc75 now \$197	La-Z-Boy Recliners 6 To Choose From 247	Cherry Night Stands 2 To Choose From SUGG. \$384 NOW \$147		
Leather Chair & Ottoman 100% Leather Sugg. \$1,047	King/Queen Mattress Sets \$397	Full Mattress Sets \$177	Twin Mattress Sets	Ashley Burgundy Recliners 5 To Choose From \$197		

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Crossroads
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Fridays (6:3 p.m.) and Sa a.m. to 6 p.m.
The leag kindergarte sixth grade. The flag league costs football divides and checosts \$55 respectively. For more tion, call Robert at 43:

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432-264-66 Jeter at 43 ON T

Specific Breeze, 1900 and 1900

# N BRIEF oseroads footba gn-up dates set

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.

kindergarten through sixth grade.

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

The league is for

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

#### 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 sym from 8-9 p.m. The makeup days are every Wednesday from 8:30-

the skills camps for the same several several

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.

#### Steer football golf tournament set

The Big Spring Steer Football Booster Club has scheduled its third annual golf tournament for July 17 at the Big Spring Country Club

The tournament will be a four-man scramble and begin its shotgun start at 8 a.m.

There is a \$75 entry fee, which includes a cart.

And, prizes will be paid for first through fourth place.

Big Spring native Bubba Franks will make a special guest appearance.

Franks is a threetime NFL pro bowler, former-college all-American with the University of Miami and current tight end for the Green Bay

For more info., contact Randy Phillips at 432-264-6600 or Steve Jeter at 432-263-3670.

ON THE AIR





HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Top: Cully Jo Dawson accepts the MVP award from All-Americas Coordinator Tommy Wells after Dawson's South all-star team defeated the North all-stars Friday night. Dawson scored 14 points. Bottom: Wells, right, awards Grady's Jason Pribylas with his MVP award after the boys game Friday. Pribylas scored 16 points to lead the South all-stars, but the North all-stars won the game, 77-72.

# Armstrong plays it safe, still sits in third overall

By JOHN LEICESTER

Associated Press Writer CHARLEROI, Belgium -Lance Armstrong played it safe in the first full stage of the Tour de

France.
The five-time winner knows he has plenty of time.

Saving himself for the ordeal to come, Armstrong finished comfortably back in the pack

in 48th.

He is focused on winning a record sixth straight Tour, not scrapping for victories in the hazardous and fast-paced early stages of the three-week race.

A final all-out burst of speed secured Jaan Kirsipuu's victory in the 125.5-mile trek that featured roads turned treacherous by rain. There were crashes, crowds, wind, punctures and a mighty finishing sprint to contend with — all factors that make the Tour's first week the part that Armstrong relishes

least.
"You have to live with
the crashes, and hope you
don't get into one," said
Armstrong, who is third

overall.

But for sprinters like Kirsipuu, a 34-year-old Estonian, the Tour's relatively flat early stages are their strength, the reason why they come to the Tour even though they have no prospect of winning the overall crown when the race finishes in Paris on July 25.

Muscling his way through a gaggle of riders sprinting to the finish, Kirsipuu edged Australian Robbie McEwen and Norway's

Thor Hushovd.

"The sprint was incredible for me," Kirsipuu said. "I am really, really happy."

Armstrong finished in the main pack of riders on Sunday but started his Tour in emphatic fashion in Saturday's prologue time trial, leaving key rivals in his wake.

That performance silenced murmurs that, at age 32, the Texan is past his prime and could be ready to fall to his principal challenger, Jan Ullrich. The German finished 32nd in Sunday's stage, in the same time as Armstrong.

# Rangers trounce on Pettitte, cruise to big win over Astros

By JOEL ANDERSON

AP Sports Writer
HOUSTON — Mark
Teixeira and Hank
Blalock became the first
Rangers to hit grand
slams in the same game,
lifting Texas to an 18-3
rout of the Houston
Astros on Sunday.

Teixeira added a solo shot in the eighth, Kevin Mench also had two homers among his careerhigh four hits and Alfonso Soriano hit a tworun home run as the Rangers closed out their interleague, in-state series against Houston, scoring their most runs in a game this season.

Texas also claimed possession of the Silver Boot trophy that goes to the winner of the series for the first time since 2001. This year's six-game series ended in a 3-3 tie, but the Rangers outscored the Astros 42-29 to win the tiebreaker.

Teixeira hit his slam in the ninth inning off Chad Harville and Blalock was pinch-hitting in the sixth when he connected to give the Rangers their first two grand slam game since the Washington Senators moved to Texas in 1972.

Gary Matthews Jr. set up the Rangers' six-run sixth, leading off the inning with a single.

Eric Young and Soriano were both walked, and Blalock entered for Herbert Perry with the

Blalock then homered into the right-field seats off reliever Tim Redding for his 22nd homer of the season, giving the Rangers a 10-1 lead.

Teixeira was walked on the next at-bat, and Mench followed with a home run to left field, drawing a chorus of boos from the sellout crowd of

Joaquin Benoit (3-3) got the win, holding the Astros to two runs on five hits in six innings. He also had five strikeouts.

Andy Pettitte, who was out for a month after going on the DL with a strained left forearm, was roughed up in his first start in Houston since May 26 against the Chicago Cubs.

The left-hander's wild pitch in the second scored Perry for the game's first run and things only got worse from there.

Pettitte struggled to get the final outs in the third and fourth, and the Rangers made him pay.

In the third, Teixeira's RBI double scored Eric Young and Mench singled on the next at-bat, barely beating the throw to first from Astros third base-

man Morgan Ensberg to score Perry.

Michael Young had a run-scoring single in the fourth and Soriano homered into the right-field seats to give the Rangers a 6-0 lead.

Pettitte (4-2) retired the side in the fifth to finish his worst performance of the season since his hometown debut against Barry Bonds and San Francisco on April 6. He allowed six runs on eight hits with four strikeouts and three walks.

Redding, who was bumped down to the bullpen after struggling in 14 starts, didn't fare much better. He gave up six runs on only three hits, two homers, in his only inning of relief. Ensberg homered in the fifth, his third home run in as many games.

Before the series against the Rangers, Ensberg hadn't gone deep all season. Jeff Bagwell and Jose Vizcaino also had runscoring singles.

#### Howard College Hawk Basketball Camp

When: July 26-30

Who: Third grade through high school
Where: Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Cost: Day camper. \$120

Overnight campers, \$220

Registration: Campers will register at 9 a.m.
Monday, July 26 at Dorothy Garrett
Objectives: Teach fundamentals, discipline,
sportsmanship, shooting, rebounding,
passing, defense, ball handling and

Food: Lunch is provided for day campers, but overnight campers will be provided breakfast, lunch and dinner

Staff: Howard head coach Mark Adams and

assistant coach Jason Sautter

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American League		14.06	ago a state of			
East	w	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
New York Yankees	50	29		28-10	22-19	Lost 3
Boston	43	37	7.5	25-14	18-23	Lost 1
Tampa Bay	40 36	39 46	10 15.5	23-18	17-21 16-26	Lost 1
Toronto Baltimore	34	44	15.5	17-22	17-22	Lost 2
Central						
Chicago White Sox	42	35	-	24-15	18-20	Lost 2
Minnesota	43	37	.5	22-19	21-18	Lost 1
Cleveland	39	41	4.5	23-16	16-25	Lost 2
Detroit	37	43	6.5	21-19	16-24	Lost 4
Kansas City	29	50	14	19-24	10-26	Lost 5
West			100			
Oakland	47	34		27-12	20-22	Won 3
TEXAS	45	34	181	25-12 23-17	<b>20-22</b> 19-21	Won 1 Lost 1
Anaheim Seattle	42	38 48	4	19-22	13-26	Lost 3
National League						
East	w		GB	Home	Road	Streak
Philadelphia	43	37	_	23-18	20-19	Won 2
Florida	42	40	2	21-19	21-21	Won 1
New York Mets	41	39	2	24-16	16-24	Won 4
Atlanta	40	41	3.5	22-19	18-22	Won 1
Montreal	28	52	15	15-23	13-29	Won 1
Central				to the state of		
St. Louis	49	32		23-17	26-15	Won 3
Chicago Cubs	45	35	3.5	24-16	21-19	Won 3
Cincinnati	44	37	5	25-15 22-20	19-22 20-19	Won 2
HOUSTON Milwaukee	41	38	7	21-17	20-21	Lost 4
Pittsburgh	36	43	12	18-22	18-21	Won 9
West						
San Francisco	45	37	_	25-17	20-20	Lost 2
San Diego	44	37	. 5	23-17	21-20	Won 3
Los Angeles	41	37	2	23-16	18-21	Won 1
Colorado	31	49	13	20-21	11-28	Won 3

W: Wins L: Loses GB: Games Back Home: Home record

Arizona

Streak: consecutive games won or lost

Sunday's Interleague scores
Atlanta 10, Boston 4
New York Mets 6, New York Yankees 5
Cincinnati 5, Cleveland 4 (11)
Montreal 6, Toronto 4
Philadelphia 5, Baltimore 2
Texas 18, Houston 3
St. Louis 2, Seattle 1

Monday's game: Texas (Rogers, 11-2) at Cleveland (Sabathia, 5-3), 6:05 p.m. Sunday's Interleague continued
Colorado 10, Detroit 8
Florida 4, Tampa Bay 3
San Diego 7, Kansas City 1
Oakland 9, San Francisco 6
Arizona 6, Minnesota 2
Pittsburgh 6, Milwaukee 2 (NL)
Chicago White Sox at Chicago Cubs — la
Los Angeles at Anaheim — late

14-26

Won 1

Monday's game: Rouston (Clemens, 10-2) at San Diego (Lawrence, 9-5), 9:05 p.m.

## N BRIEF

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

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.

## Large donation made to Crossroads

Steve Herrin of Harris Ace Hardware in collaboration with John Weeks of KBST Radio have made a huge donation of a 1,200-foot chain link fencing and accessories to the Crossroads Youth Football Association after the playing field's newly built sprinkler system was vandalized.

The league operates on a tight budget and is mainly run by donations and sign-up fees.

## 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.

The cost of the camp is \$40 per student, which includes a camp T-shirt.

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.

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

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

## Blg Spring co-ed ragball tourney set

The Big Spring Girls
Softball Association
will be holding a co-ed
ragball tournament as
a fund-raiser for the
Big Spring all-stars.
The tournament will
be July 9, 10 and 1
and the team fee 1
\$125.
For more info, cal

#### 2004 MLB ALL-STAR STARTERS, PITCHERS AND RESERVES

#### **AMERICAN LEAGUE**

#### Starters

Catcher — Ivan Rodriguez, Detroit Tigers
First Base — Jason Giambi, New York Yankees
Second Base — Alfonso Soriano, Texas Rangers
Third Base — Alex Rodriguez, New York Yankees
Shortstop — Derek Jeter, New York Yankees
Outfield — Vladimir Guerrero, Anaheim Angels
Outfield — Manny Ramirez, Boston Red Sox
Outfield — Ichiro Suzuki, Seattle Manners

#### Reserves

First Base: David Ortiz, Boston Red Sox
First Base: Ken Harvey, Kansas City Royals
Second Base: Ron Belliard, Cleveland Indians
Third Base: Hank Blalock, Texas Rangers
Shortstop: Michael Young, Texas Rangers
Shortstop: Miguel Tejada, Baltimore Orioles
Shortstop: Carlos Guillen, Detroit Tigers
Catcher: Victor Martinez, Cleveland Indians
\*Outfield: Carlos Beltran, K.C. Royals/Houston Astros
Outfield: Matt Lawton, Cleveland Indians
Outfield: Carl Crawford, Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Outfield: Gary Sheffield, New York Yankees

#### Starting Pitchers:

Mark Mulder, Oakland Athletics
Curt Schilling, Boston Red Sox
Tim Hudson, Oakland Athletics
C.C. Sabathia, Cleveland Indians
Kenny Rogers, Texas Rangers
Ted Lilly, Toronto Blue Jays
Esteban Loaiza, Chicago White Sox

#### **Relief Pitchers:**

Mariano Rivera, New York Yankees Francisco Rodriguez, Anaheim Angels Francisco Cordero, Texas Rangers Tom Gordon, New York Yankees Joe Nathan, Minnesota Twins

Manager: Joe Torre, New York Yankees

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### Starters:

Catcher: Mike Piazza, New York Mets
First Base: Albert Pujols, St. Louis Cardinals
Second Base: Jeff Kent, Houston Astros
Third Base: Scott Rolen, St. Louis Cardinals
Shortstop: Edgar Renteria, St. Louis Cardinals
Outfield: Barry Bonds, San Francisco Giants
Outfield: Ken Griffey Jr., Cincinnati Reds
Outfield: Sammy Sosa, Chicago Cubs

#### Reserve

First Base: Sean Casey, Cincinnati Reds
First Base: Jim Thome, Philadelphia Phillies
First Base: Todd Helfon, Colorado Rockies
Second Base: Mark Loretta, San Diego Padres
Third Base: Mike Lowell, Florida Marlins
Shortstop: Barry Larkin, Cincinnati Reds
Catcher: Johnny Estrada, Atlanta Braves
Outfield: Lance Berkman, Houston Astros
Outfield: Moises Alou, Chicago Cubs
Outfield: Miguel Cabrera, Florida Marlins

#### Starting Pitchers:

Roger Clemens, Houston Astros
Jason Schmidt, San Francisco Giants
Randy Johnson, Arizona Diamondbacks
Tom Glavine, New York Mets
Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs
Livan Hernandez, Montreal Expos
Carl Pavano, Florida Marlins
Ben Sheets, Milwaukee Brewers

#### Relief Pitchers:

Eric Gagne, Los Angeles Dodgers Danny Graves, Cincinnati Reds Armando Benitez, Florida Marlins Dan Kolb, Milwaukee Brewers

Manager: Jack McKeon, Florida Marlins

Note: The starters for both teams were voted on by MLB fans only. The reserves and pitchers were selected by MLB players, managers and coaches.

\*Carlos Beltran played for the Royals for most of the first half and was voted as an AL player. MLB recognizes him as an all-star and he can participate in activities, but he cannot be named to the NL team.

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Big Spring, Texas
HENRY BACKES

# Federer continues England dominance, defeats Roddick

#### By STEPHEN WILSON

AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England

— Three championship
matches, three victories

— Roger Federer is a master of the Grand Slam
final.

The top-seeded Swiss star overcame Andy Roddick's brute power game Sunday to win his second straight Wimbledon title and cement his status as the game's No. 1 player.

The top-seeded Swiss star withstood Roddick's huge serves and forehand winners, winning 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (3), 6-4 for his third Grand Slam title and 24th consecutive victory on grass.

Federer, who won the Australian Open in February, is the fourth man to go 3-0 in his first Slam finals since the Open era began in 1968. He's in pretty good company, joining Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors and Stefan Edberg.

Those three greats all lost in their fourth major final. Federer, 22, will get a chance to make it 4-0 at the U.S. Open beginning in late August.

"I kind of like it — the 100 percent record in the finals of Grand Slams," he said. "These are the ones that really, really count. Grand Slam titles put you just a step higher. To have won my favorite tournament already twice in my career is incredible."

After a rain delay, Federer came from a break down at 2-4 in the third set and took charge by playing a brilliant third-set tiebreaker. He saved six break points in the fourth set, broke Roddick at love in the seventh game and fin-

ished the match with his 12th ace.

When his final 124 mph serve flew past Roddick, Federer dropped to his knees at the baseline and arched all the way onto his back. He got up and smacked a ball into the

crowd.

Roddick came around the net and the players hugged. Federer appeared to be in tears as he sat on his courtside chair.

After receiving the trophy from the Duke of Kent, Federer kissed it and raised it over his head to a huge ovation from the Centre Court crowd.

"Somehow I feel even more joy this year because I had so much pressure going into this tournament," he said. "Now to see my name on the board enjoyment I kind of get more joy out of this."

Roddick, the U.S. Open champion, gave Federer full credit.

"Roger just played too good today," he said. "I threw the kitchen sink at him, but he went to the bathroom and got a tub."

Federer, who beat Roddick in the Wimbledon semifinals last year, is now 6-1 against his top rival. "I'm going to have to

start winning some of them to call it a rivalry," Roddick said.

Federer is the first men's champion to successfully defend his title since Pete Sampras won his seventh and final championship in 2000. His 24-match grass-court winning streak is the second-longest ever, behind only the 41 consecutive matches won by five-time Wimbledon champ Bjorn

"He definitely has an aura about him, there's no doubt," Roddick said. "He's an unbelievable tennis player. People know that."

It was the first Wimbledon men's final in 22 years between the No. 1 and No. 2 seeded players, and it featured a contrast in styles between the cool, versatile Federer and the brash, power-hitting American.

"I proved that Roger is not quite invincible," Roddick said. "He's pretty close, but I proved a lot to myself today. I thought I took it to him. I played the game the way I wanted to play it. I just came up short. It was a couple of points here and there."

The match was twice suspended by rain, the first time for 36 minutes with Federer leading 3-2 on serve in the first set. The second stoppage changed the momentum for good in Federer's favor.

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## MONDAY

WFAA (2)
Datins
6 :9M News (CC)
6 :30 Wheel-Fortun
7 :PM My Wile-Rds
7 :30 George Lopes

10 30 Nightline
11 30 Ent. Tonig

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6 :PM	News (CC) Wheel-Fortun	News Wheat-Fortune	La Mujer de Madera	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavitanes	News Seinfeld (CC)	Spinfeld (CC) Friends (CC)	Joseph Good John Hagee	Name-Lahrer	Elig .	10	(CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live Access	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	MLB Baseball: New York Mets	MLB Baseball: Affanta Braves	(CC) .
7 30	My Wile-Kids George Lopez	My Wife-Kids George Lopez	Mariana de la Noche	North Shore (CC)	Still Standing Yes, Dear	Prisionera	Fear Factor (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Update/Israel Sam Peak	Antiques Roadshow	Monster House	Movie: Out to Sea		Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie	Movie: Zenon Z3 (CC)	Street, Square, Square	at Montreal Expos (CC)	Movie: Die Another Day
8 30	According Jim Hope & Faith	According Jim Hope & Faith	Amarte es Mi Pecado	The Casino (CC)	Raymond Two/Half Men	El Alma Herida	For Love or Money (CC)	Movie: The Bachelor	Light of the Southwest	History Detectives	Monster Garage (CC)	34.00	(CC)	Law & Order (OC) (DVS)		Phil of Future		SCHOOL	(CC)
9 30	Weddings (CC)	Weddings (CC)	Cristina	70s Show Dharma-Greg	CSI: Miami (CC)	Protagonistas	Marry My Dad?	(CC) (DVS)	100	Liberty-Amrico	American Chopper	:15 Movie: 9 to 5 (CC)		Law & Order (OC) (DVS)	Club Comic View Presents	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	MLB Baseball: Houston	Basebell Tonight (CC)	:15 Movie: K-19: The
10 30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Noticiero Univ.		News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight	:10 Movie: Uncle Buck	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rosa (CC)	Monster House	*	The Joe Sahmo Show	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Nightly News College Hill	Bug Juice Lizzie McGuin	Astros at San Diego Padres	SportsCenter (CC)	(CC)
11 30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimme	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	En las Mejores Familias	Backer (CC) Spin City	(CC)	Al Rojo Vivo-	Show (CC) Late Night	(CC)	Booker Tommie-	Sign Oil	Monster Garage (OC)	Movie: Tough	Hotlines Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	Midnight Love	Boy World Even Stevens		Outside-Lines Baseball	35 Movie:
12 AM	Live (CC) Oprah Winfre	Live (CC) Paid Program	Mujares Enganadas	Blind Date Blind Date	Show (CC) Street Smarts	Maria Celeste Corte-Familia	(CC) Frasier (CC)	12:15 Movie: Houseguest	Update/Israel N. McBride		American Chopper		Real TV Real TV	The X-Files (CC)	Club Comic View Presents		X-Games Classix	SportsCenter (CC)	Married to the Mob

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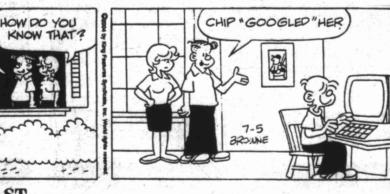
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AGO.

SOAP OPERA 10 YEARS



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**SNUFFY SMITH** 





BEETLE BAILEY



## This Date In History

#### By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, July 5, the 187th day of 2004. There are 179 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On July 5, 1865, William Booth founded Salvation Army in London. On this date:

In 1801, American naval hero David G. Farragut was born in Knoxville, Tenn.

In 1811, Venezuela became the first South American country .....to... declare independence from Spain.

In 1830, the French occupied the North African city of Algiers.

In 1940, during World War II, Britain and the Vichy government in France broke diplomatic relations.

In 1946, the bikini made its debut during an outdoor fashion show at the Molitor Pool in Paris.

In 1947, Larry Doby signed a contract with the Cleveland Indians, becoming the first black player in the American League.

In 1954, Elvis Presley's first commercial recording session took place at Sun Records in Memphis, Tenn.; the song he recorded was "That's All Right (Mama)."

In 1975, Arthur Ashe became the first black man to win a Wimbledon singles title as he defeated Jimmy Connors. In 1984, the Supreme

Court weakened the 70-yearold "exclusionary rule," deciding that evidence seized with defective court warrants could be used against defendants in criminal trials. mil east

In 1991, a-worldwide financial scandal erupted as regulators in eight countries shut down the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Ten years ago: In an attempt to halt a surge of Haitian refugees, the Clinton administration announced that it was refusing entry to new

Haitian boat people. President Clinton set out on a four-nation European trip that included a Group of Seven summit in Naples, Italy.

Today's Birthdays: **Actress Katherine Helmond** is 70. Actress Shirley Knight is 68. Singer-musician Robbie Robertson is 61. Julie Nixon Eisenhower is 56. Rock star Huey Lewis is 54. Baseball pitcher Rich "Goose" Gossage is 53. Country musician Charles Ventre (River Road) is 52. Singer-songwriter Marc Cohn is 45. Actress Edie Falco ("The Sopranos") is 41. Rapper RZA is 35.



59 Breath-

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65 Dinner or

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66 Assistance 67 WWII sub

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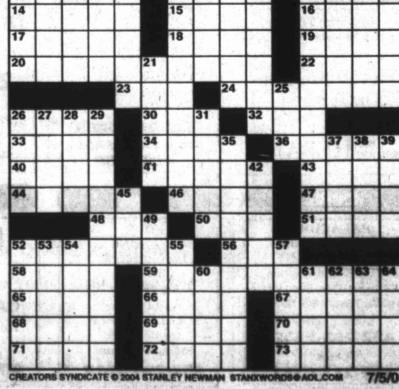
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- **ACROSS** 1 "The final frontier"
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- range 56 Frosty

#### Newsday Crossword THE GREEN STUFF by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman

- 4 Ringlet 35 Graf or
- 5 AOL service 6 Agent 007
- 7 On the summit of
- 8 Actress Day
- 9 Ancient
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  - 11 Washbowl
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- instrument
- 62 Ripped 63 British noble



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'99 COUGAR, 5-spd. standard, V6, sporty black, cruise, moon roof. 82,000 Miles. \$6,100.00. See at 710 Scurry or call Su-(432)263-7331 sanne at ext.250 days.

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West Texas Centers for MHMR is selling t-shirt screen printing equipment. Minimum bid is \$1,000. To see this equipment contact Jeff Janca Purchasing Agent at 264-2650 extension 231. Bids are due by noon, July 9. West Texas Centers for MHMR reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Equipment is being sold as is with no warranty. #4267 July 4, 5, & 9, 2004

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Call 263-3312 Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring



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equal opportunity basis.

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#### Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
The moon enters

Pisces, a h a r m o - n i o u s blend with the Cancer s u n . Emotions are fluid, and the tendency is to



Joyce Jillson

cize what's happening. With Mercury now exploring Leo, that inclination is even more pronounced. So if you find yourself waxing like a Victorian poet, you haven't lost your mind. You're merely using it in a sentimental way.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Pleasant details fall into place, like lunch invitations or discounts based on your being in the right place at the right time. In a quest to get something of magnitude accomplished, you're checking off a million little things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are some confusing complications having to do with author-

ity, who has it and what you're really being "graded" on. Don't be afraid to request more clarity from people, no matter how high up they are on the totem pole.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Environment plays a huge part in your decision making. You may find yourself falling into preferences that are common to your region or to the culture of a social group that you belong to. Be mindful.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know quite a lot, but thank goodness you don't know it all — that would be very annoying to everyone around you. When you enter unfamiliar territory, don't let your confidence slip. Everyone is a beginner at something.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It feels as if this day is out of your control. A partner may agree to plans for the both of you, or a forgotten engagement forces you to shuffle everything around. You put on a good face, as usual — you're nothing if not tactful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A more capable leader than you would be difficult to find. Refine your approach based on the people you're trying to lead, though. Sure, the plan may be foolproof, but how does it hold up when there's a genius trying to work it?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Life requires your "A" game. Even if it seems like overkill, use the sharpest tool in your kit to solve problems. Deliver a humble opinion when asked for it. You'll make a difference, as folks are listening closely to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It feels like life in a pressure cooker, but at least the stress helps you get focused. Some people in your life simply don't understand what it means to be as busy as this. A Capricorn is waiting for you to pay proper respect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). An influx of new blood on the scene might be threatening to some but not to you. Colorful people bring out

the many flavors of your personality and help you shine. Your winning attitude attracts affection.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your logical mood makes it impossible to understand where that irrational person is coming from, but you're generous enough to allow for strong emotions. Casual meetings will have rather sophisticated results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's obvious how you're choosing your company — the one who makes you laugh gets more of your time. Continue with this method of choosing your friends, and you could very well improve your health!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People around you are playing it cool, but you can rest assured you are deeply appreciated. Pool resources with friends to do something spectacular for that needy individual. You're the one who is made richer for the effort.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a

Gemini born May 28, 1954. I lost my job of seven years in February 2002. I've been having the worst time since late December, when I lost my mother to cancer. I haven't worked for two years because I was trying to handle her everyday care at home. I even managed to not do well at that — in the last three weeks, my mother wanted to stay with my sister. Since her death, I haven't found a job. I've done temporary work but nothing full time in my field. How does my future look?"

I believe you did a wonderful job taking care of your mother, and in fact, the reason she wanted to go to your sister's is because she knew she was near the end and it would have been harder to let go in your care. She didn't know how to say goodbye. You're resourceful and sharp, and I believe it's time for you to broaden your job search to include jobs outside your current field. Continue temping to bring in money while you do some research into other employment interests. Follow a more structured approach to your search, such that you would find in a book or through the office of unemployment. The first two weeks of September are lucky for landing something more permanent.

PRO-

CELEBRITY

FILES: "The Sopranos" star Edie Falco has been lauded just about as much as a television star can be. This is her year to get attention in movie roles. She's familiar to watchers Carmela, but this versatile actress could morph herself into the most innocent of heroines. Cancers thrive when channeling their deep emotions away from themselves. Falco accomplishes this beautifully by delving into her roles.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a post-card in the mail. To find

## Annie's Mailbox .: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have 30year-old brother who is a drug addict. We have tried everything to help "Rory," and spent thousands of dollars for treatment facilities, but he always comes back, lying, stealing from Mom and getting into trouble.

Last week, Rory was arrested for possession of cocaine. He was in my mom's car at the time, so I had to take her to get it out of the police impound lot. Rory gave my mom some elaborate story about how the coke wasn't his. Of course, she believed him. While my daughter and I were in Mom's car, my daughter found two checks that were made out to Rory from a family friend, but I recognized my brother's handwriting. I knew they were stolen, so I returned them to their rightful owner.

Rory somehow found out I did this, and now my mother is mad at me. What should I say to her?

— Law-Abiding Daughter

Dear Daughter: Your mother has her head in the sand. Returning the checks brought her back to reality, and she doesn't like it there. Denial is less painful than admitting her adult son is a drug addict and a criminal.

You can say nothing to your mother that will make a difference until she is willing to hear you. Since you don't want her to remain angry with you, apologize for making her unhappy, and tell her when she is ready to stop enabling Rory, you will be there for her. Then, if you haven't already, contact Nar-Anon at 22527 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 200B. Torrance, CA 90505, 1-800-477-6291

(naranon.com).

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Fed Up With Mama Drama," whose ex-wife gave him such a hard time, he decided to stop communicating with his children. I am a divorced father who experienced such terrible things from the kids' mother that I gave up my parental rights. I didn't want my children caught in the crossfire. They

needed peace.

I miss my children, but
I'm convinced my decision to back away was
best for them. My ex-wife
can no longer blame me
for anything, and it has
eliminated the "issues."



KATHY MITCHELL

MARCY SUGAR

The kids are older now and are finally coming around — particularly my daughter, who has done a total 180 and now wants to see me more often.

I know what it means to deal with "Mama Drama," and I think the kids get it, too. Just be patient. It does pay off later. — Wisconsin

Dear Wisconsin: Maybe. We're glad this has worked for you, but in too many instances, a father who gives up contact with his children destroys any chance of a future relationship. Your motives may make sense and even be admirable, but not all children are able to forgive if they believe you abandoned them because you found it too stressful to deal with Mom. They expect

you to fight for them.

Dear Annie: You printed a letter from "Worried in Southern California," whose husband overfilled the gas tank. In addition to contaminating soil and ground or surface water, overfilling is a primary contributor to the formation of ground-level ozone.

Gas stored in underground tanks is extremely cold, and in warmer climates, it expands as it heats up. Eventually that "topped off" tank spills down the side of the vehicle, costing the consumer money and adding to our smog problems.

For those of us around the nation who are trying to clean our air and reduce emissions, please help us get the word out.

— Tim W. Brown, Wood County Commissioner, Bowling Green, Ohio

Dear Commissioner Brown: Many readers wrote to say gasoline vapors cause fires and the man's car would not pass the local emissions test. We appreciate your authoritative word on the subject and hope our

readers are paying attention.

Dear Annie: Several years ago, my widowed mother married a man who has contributed nothing to the marriage beyond companionship. "Jim" held a series of low-paying jobs, while my mother earned a higher salary and supported them. They both are retired now.

Mom recently received a rather large inheritance from my grandmother. The problem is, their house is falling apart and Jim will not allow her to spend a penny for repairs or housekeeping help, something she easily could afford. I also fear Mom is being neglected in terms of routine health checkups and nutritious meals. I live several hours away and visit when I can, but it's miserable to see her in such condition. I have no siblings to share the

Jim wrote their current will, and Mom signed it without legal advice. Is there anything I can do to make my stepfather use some of Mom's money to pay for her care? I'd pay for it myself, but I can't afford it. — Heartsick Child

Dear Heartsick: If your mother has her wits about her and has decided that Jim's treatment is just fine, there is little you can do. If, however, you can show that Mom needs someone besides her husband to determine her medical care. you may have a chance at being appointed her legal guardian. Call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 (eldercare.gov), and ask what you should do.

Dear Annie: I wanted to weigh in on the comments from "Army Wife Who's Been There." She said returning servicemen need time alone with their wives and children before the rest of the family visits.

I did two tours in Kuwait and Iraq and can verify that what most of us want to do when we first get home is "go hermit." After being surrounded by hundreds of fellow soldiers, you want the privacy and intimacy of your immediate family until you catch your breath and reacclimate yourself to a "normal" environment.

The first few days can be quite stressful, but in most cases, it lasts only a short time. Then you can't wait to see everyone. Thankfully, I had an understanding circle of family and friends who tolerated my eccentricities. — Been All I Can Be Dear Been All:

Dear Been All I Can Be
Dear Been All:
Welcome home. Here's
more:
Dear Annie: Returning

soldiers can easily be overwhelmed by the littlest things. Don't bombard them with responsibilities the minute they walk in the door, and don't be surprised if their personality has changed a bit. Please let military spouses know there is support for them. When soldiers are in the

Reserves or National Guard, it is a little more difficult because we don't have the military communities like active duty soldiers do. However, that is why we have Family Readiness Groups. Spouses should take full advantage of these services. — Seattle

Dear Annie: My son is

in the Army and will be returning from Iraq next month for a two-week leave. He is not coming to visit any of his family here, but is going only to visit his wife and kids. The rest of the family is not happy with this and has told him so. We have not seen him in over a year.

He married this girl in a rush before he went overseas, and none of us has met her or her children (from previous relationships). To her, we say: We have spent sleepless nights worrying about him. We have 20 years invested in your husband, so cut us a little slack if we want to see him when he returns. — Illinois Mom

Dear Mom: Of course you want to see him, and he should make the time. But this is your daughter-in-law. Instead of competing, why not welcome her? Invite her to visit, or take a trip to see her. It's time you met your son's family.



# There's something for everyone in the Big Spring Herald's Classifieds!

Grandpa sold his sailboat

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Big Sister found a great new job...

Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

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To place an ad in the Classifieds Call 263-7331

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