



BIG SPRING

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

THURSDAY

July 15, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 71°-73° TOMORROW 99°-102°

BRIEFLY

Texas Fiddlers to play in Coahoma

The Texas Fiddlers will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Coahoma High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 each. Children age 7 and under will be admitted free. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the door by calling 432-394-4469 or 394-4805. They will also be available at the door. The event is being sponsored by the Coahoma Lions Club.

Weir to greet fans here Friday

MADtv cast member Stephanie Weir and her husband, Robert Dassie, will appear at an informal meet and greet event at 2 p.m. Friday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum East Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. The couple can also be seen Saturday in their improvisational, sketch comedy show "Wedlocked" at the Globe Theater, 2308 Shakespeare Road, Odessa. The comedy will begin at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. and admission is \$15. To reserve tickets, call the Globe at (432) 332-1586.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



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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.

Salvation Army begins school supplies drive

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

While the summer vacation is just getting into full swing for many area students and parents, the Salvation Army is already looking at getting many low-income families ready to head back into the classroom. The Salvation Army's annual back to school program provides school supplies — which include everything from paper to scissors, pens to pencils — to low income families and, according to the Corp's Capt. Russ Keeney, this year's effort has been streamlined.

"We're changing the way we do the pro-

"The economy is still fluctuating, so there will probably be more families out there in need."



Capt. Russ Keeney

gram this year," said Keeney. "In the past we would have a registration period for the families and then a pickup date for the supplies. This year we're eliminating the wait in between."

Keeney said registration for assistance is expected to get under way on Tuesday, Aug.

10, and continue through Friday, Aug. 13.

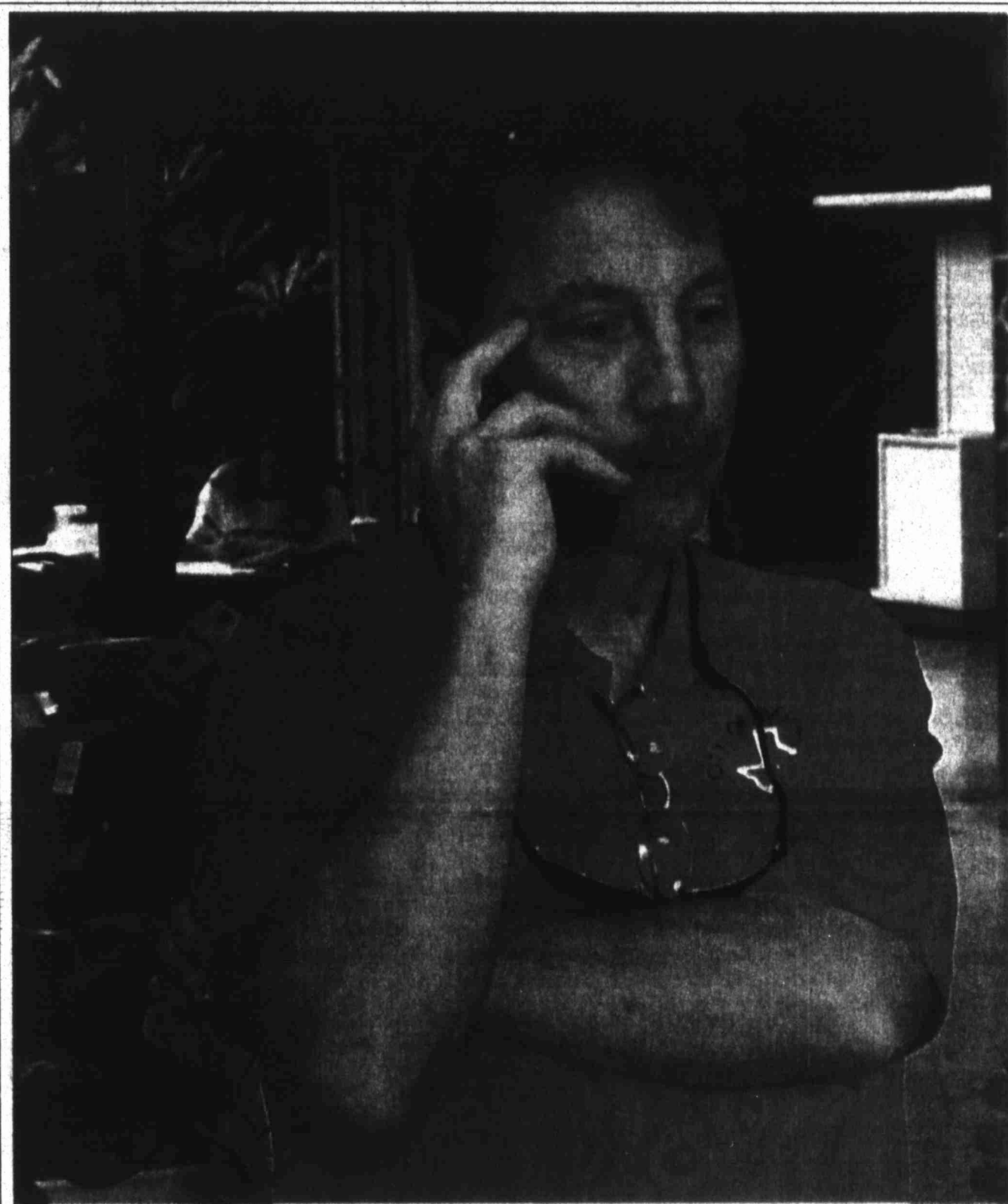
"Once a family is approved, they will receive the supplies right then," explained Keeney. "I think this system will work a lot better for everyone involved. Families won't have to make a special trip back to the Salvation Army office to pick them up."

Keeney said the program served between 350 and 400 school children last year, with a

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TO DONATE

Call 267-8239, or visit the Corps office at 811 W. Fifth St.



Paul Brown, a Big Spring Fire Department firefighter, tries to rustle up some cash to post "bail" during this week's Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock Up. Brown, along with an estimated 70 other local jailbirds, helped raise more than \$11,000 during the annual MDA event, which was held at the Big Spring Mall. A check for the donations will be presented to the MDA during their annual Labor Day Telethon.

Marriage amendment try thwarted

Gay marriage opponents pin hopes on House bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Unable to ban gay marriage, congressional Republicans are working to contain it, advancing legislation in the House to make sure federal courts don't order states to recognize same-sex unions sanctioned outside their borders.

"When federal judges step out of line, Congress has the responsibility to drop the red flag," Rep. Lamar Smith, R-Texas, said Wednesday as the court-stripping measure cleared the House Judiciary Committee on a near party-line vote of 21-13.

Democrats objected, some strenuously. Rep. Maxine Waters of California called the legislation a political exercise, and Rep. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, the first openly gay woman elected to Congress, criticized it as "unnecessary, unconstitutional and unwise."

Even so, GOP officials said the measure likely would be on the House floor next week, and they expressed confidence it would pass.

If so, it would mark a clear victory for gay marriage opponents, who suffered a decisive setback Wednesday in the Senate when the constitutional amendment fell a dozen votes shy of the 60 needed to advance.

Within hours of the vote in which 48 senators voted to advance the measure and 50 to block it, President Bush issued a statement saying he was "deeply disappointed" by the

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Love From Home fund-raiser planned Saturday

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Feature's Editor

Hollywood Metro Coffee Shop offers 1950s nostalgia buffs an opportunity to indulge their passion Friday and Saturday while helping U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

The coffee house will begin a 30-hour "I Love Lucy" marathon at 6 p.m. Friday. And from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, all proceeds from beverages sold will go to the Love From Home project.

"We received really great response the first week after a story appeared in the Herald, but since then it's really stopped. What we now need most is donations to cover the



JOY

expense of mailing packages to the soldiers in Iraq," said RoseAnn Joy, one of the organizers of Love from Home.

Love from Home is a grassroots effort of local women to provide needed supplies to soldiers serving in Iraq. Because of the 140-degree heat and limited water supplies, U.S. soldiers need basic items like cotton socks, lip balm and sunscreen.

Daniel Ryan, owner of Hollywood Metro and friend of Joy and fellow organizer Angela Lee, asked what he could do to help, Joy said.

"And he agreed to allow all the proceeds for a specific time Saturday to go toward covering the postage charges for the packages we're sending," she said.

Joy, Lee and Tamara Kennedy created Love from Home in June in an effort to assist soldiers.

Thus far, the women have mailed about 10 boxes of supplies donated by Big Spring residents to U.S. soldiers in Iraq, and the expense of sending the packages increases.

"So far we're down about \$140 in postage for the packages we've mailed," said Joy, a single mother with two children at home.

See SOLDIERS, Page 3A

St. Thomas festival promises two days of food, fun, music

Herald Staff Report

Games, food, music — it's all "happening" this weekend at St. Thomas Church's annual Mid-Summer Festival.

Everyone is invited to the two-day event, held at St. Thomas Catholic Church, located at the intersection of Northwest Sixth and North Main.

The festival begins at 11 a.m. Friday with gordita plates, flauta plates and enchilada plates being served. A dessert booth will be open at that time also.

Outside booths open at 6:30

What: Mid-Summer Festival.

Where: St. Thomas Catholic Church, NW. Sixth and N. Main.

When: Friday and Saturday. Lunch plates served at 11 a.m.; booths open at 6:30 p.m.

p.m. Friday and feature baseball, canes, cascarones, darts, a duck pond, face painting, golf, fishing, ring the bottle and others. There will also be bingo, pony rides

See FESTIVAL, Page 3A

Charges reduced for man jailed on aggravated kidnapping charge

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Charges against a Big Spring man accused of aggravated kidnapping have been reduced to unlawful restraint say the Big Spring Police.

Leon Trevino, 23, of 407 W. Sixth Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of aggravated kidnapping after a female victim told police he forced her into a vehicle. According to Police Public Information Officer Roger Sweatt, the charge was later reduced to unlawful restraint after the details were

presented to the Howard County District Attorney's Office.

According to Lt. Terry Chamness, the investigation began with a call for help received by the department at approximately 3:19 a.m. from a home in the 700 block of Cherry Street.

"The actual kidnapping allegedly occurred at 2:30 a.m. at the Northcrest Apartments," said Chamness. "The victim claimed she was forced into a vehicle at that time and was later released in a safe area in the 700 block of

See DISPUTE, Page 3A

JUL 15 2004

Obituaries

Billy "Bill" Dean Adams



Billy "Bill" Dean Adams, 74, of Knott died Wednesday, July 14, 2004, in a Lamesa nursing home. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Friday, July 16, 2004, in the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends Thursday from 7-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

He was born Feb. 14, 1930, in Knott and married Juanita Newsom March 13, 1953, in Lovington, N.M. He was a member of First Baptist Church, Knott.

Mr. Adams was a lifelong resident of Knott. He was a truck driver for the Union Pacific Railroad and a farmer.

Survivors include his wife, Juanita Adams; one daughter and son-in-law, Diana and Byron Hill of Stanton; two granddaughters, Rebecca Mathews of Gruver, and Danielle Burrow of Lubbock; one grandson, Brent Hill of Stanton; two great grandchildren, Coley and Cagan Mathews, both of Gruver; two sisters, Betty Poitevint of Big Spring and Edna Cates of Merkle; and one brother, Charles Adams of Sherman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dan and Iona Adams, and one brother, Preston Adams.

The family suggests memorials be made to Odyssey Hospice, 1003 E. FM 700, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Jack E. Mundell



Jack E. Mundell, 77, of Temple, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, July 12, 2004, at his residence. Graveside memorial services will be 10 a.m. Saturday, July 17, 2004, in the Mount Olive Memorial Park, with the Rev. Walter McCall, chaplain of Odyssey Hospice, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7-9 p.m. Thursday at 2811 Coronado.

He was born July 19, 1926, in Wirt, Okla., and married Bonnie Spears on Nov. 15, 1988, in Las Vegas.

Jack had worked for Cosden Refinery, retiring in 1982. He had also farmed and ranched. After retiring, he moved to Ruidoso, N.M. and then moved to Temple in 1992.

He served in the United States Army during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Mundell of Temple; two sons, Mike Mundell and wife, Janette, of Temple, and Steve Mundell and wife, Wanda, of Big Spring; two daughters, Tresa Spencer and husband, Dean, of Big Spring and Toni Arnold and husband, Bill of Thomasville, N.C.; one stepdaughter, Tricia Thompson of Santa Fe, Texas; three stepsons, Bill Thompson and wife, Julie, of Algoa; Douglas Thompson and wife, Stephanie, of Alvin, and Gary Thompson of Algoa; one brother, Don Mundell and wife, Ochean of Apple Valley, Calif.; four sisters, Inez Vegso of North Lima, Ohio, Reba Tetter and husband, Jay, of Fort Worth, Lucille Nichols and husband, Donald, of Knott, and Bernice Hardison and husband, Bill of Lewisville; grandchildren and stepgrandchildren, Lori and Eddie Gonzales of Coahoma, Jason Mundell of Big Spring, Shelly and Gabe Stone of Fayetteville, N.C., Shane and Catherine Clanton of Horseshoe Bay, Chris and Brandy Spencer of Midland, Joshua Spencer of Big Spring, Justin Mundell of Fort Benning, Ga., Clayton Mundell of Arlington, Brittney Mundell of Arlington, Beau Condrey of Thomasville, N.C., Jody Condrey of Thomasville, N.C., Amanda Arnold of Thomasville, N.C., Ricky and D.D. Hart of Algoa, Nicki Hart of Santa Fe, Texas, Koby Thompson of Santa Fe, Texas, William Thompson of Algoa, Robert Thompson of Algoa, Khiira Thompson of Galveston, Lauren Thompson of Santa Fe, Texas, Jacob Thompson of Alvin, Justin Thompson of Alvin, Brittany Hayes-Thompson of Santa Fe, Texas; seven great-grandchildren and 13 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Ethel Mundell, and one brother, Buster Mundell.

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

Paid obituary

Clyde M. Shelton

Clyde M. Shelton, 80, of Big Spring died Wednesday, July 14, 2004, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, July 15, 2004, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Max Pratt officiating.

He was born Feb. 17, 1924, in Crews and married Grace Neill, March 11, 1968, in Big Spring. She preceded him in death Feb. 27, 1989.

He had been a resident of Big Spring since the early 1960s and had worked at the Big Spring State Hospital for 14 years. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include two sisters, Hazel Shelton of Ballinger, and Lorene Shelton of San Angelo; one brother, Leo Shelton of Ballinger; two nieces and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by one brother, J.W. Shelton.

The family suggests memorials to the American Diabetes Association, 8008 Slide Road, Lubbock 79424.

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

James C. Galloway

James C. Galloway, 66, of Big Spring died Wednesday evening, July 14, 2004, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- DAVID VIASANA, 30, of 604 Abrams, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- LEON TREVINO, 23, of 407 W. Sixth Street, was arrested Wednesday on local traffic warrants and a charge of unlawful restraint.
- REGINALD SHAW, 40, of 600 W. 15th Street, was arrested Wednesday on local traffic warrants.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of Scurry.
- ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported in the 2000 block of Gregg Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- CHARLES ARTHUR LYDIA, 44, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of bailman off of bond for possession of marijuana - more than 2 ounces, less than 4 ounces.
- RUBEN ANTHONY GONZALES, 21, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest/detention and bailman off of bond for possession of a controlled substance.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 5200 block of the North Service Road.

Take note

□ HOLLYWOOD METRO COFFEE HOUSE ASSISTS LOVE FROM HOME from 4-7 p.m. Saturday during a 30-hour marathon of I Love Lucy. All beverages sold at the coffee shop during those hours will benefit the soldiers serving in the Iraq War. Love From Home is a local grassroots effort to provide letters and packages for the soldiers serving in Iraq. Hollywood Metro is located at 109 E. Second St. Contact RoseAnn Joy at 268-9232 or Angela Lee at 268-1705 for Love From Home or Daniel Ryan at 213-4964 for Hollywood Metro.

□ 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 camp, 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.

□ A FUND FOR ALAN AND MITZI KNIGHT, whose house on Oasis Road burned, has been established at the First Big Spring Banking Center. The home and all the family's belongings were lost.

□ BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1989 15-year reunion is set for Oct. 8-9. For information or to update your name or mailing address, contact Christy Alexander at 972-567-8037 or Shanette Johnson at 972-874-9308.

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

□ HERITAGE MUSEUM, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Pottton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

□ HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday and from 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday.

□ CHRIST'S COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP is requesting donations of any household items, furniture, appliances, linens, cookware and dishes to be distributed to the needy in Big Spring. Items will be picked up. Please call 263-5683 and leave a message.

□ 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.

□ ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED. Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

□ BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families.

Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected.

For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels.
- American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- 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 Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- American Legion Post 506, 3203 W. Highway 80, fish fry from noon until 3 p.m. \$7 per plate. Delivery available from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Carry out also available. Call 263-2084.
- Love From Home benefit, a grassroots effort to provide packages and letters to soldiers serving in Iraq, at the Hollywood Metro, 109 E. Second St. from 4-7 p.m.
- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 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.

MONDAY

- Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

Weather

Tonight - Mainly clear skies. Low 73. Winds SE at 10 to 20 mph.
Friday - Mainly sunny. Very hot. High 102. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.
Friday night - Clear skies. Low 74. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.
Saturday - Sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the mid 70s.
Sunday - Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the mid 70s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-25-26-40-43 Bonus Ball: 33 Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$48,544. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$6 Million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-7-14-24-34.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$35,914. Winning tickets sold in: Pasadena. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-3-8

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Texas

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Four people killed in West Texas van crash

BALMORHEA (AP) — The driver of a vanload full of relatives miscalculated while traveling in West Texas, triggering a rollover that killed a Los Angeles woman and three of her grandchildren, authorities say. The Texas Department of Public Safety said three other people were injured in the one-vehicle rollover along Interstate 10 Wednesday night. A fourth was cut

by glass after the wreck. The 11-passenger van was one of three traveling together from Los Angeles to Houston for a wedding, said DPS spokeswoman Lisa Block. Occupants of the other two vans were taken to Pecos to spend the night, according to the Pecos Enterprise's Thursday editions. The dead were identified by Block as 44-year-old Edna Tyars and her

grandchildren, 4-month-old Kamyrne Zaire Lytle, 7-year-old Stephan Tyars and 14-year-old Shereese Tyars. Their grandfather and the van's driver, 51-year-old Luther Tyars, was airlifted to Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. Three people were treated for scrapes and cuts at Reeves County Hospital, said a hospital representative. Block identified the

injured family members as Coreyante Hayes, 9; Clishawnda Weakley, 12; and Deshawn Evans, 38. Block said Weakley was airlifted to Covenant Children's Hospital in Lubbock. Evans was injured after the wreck when she stepped on broken glass, Block said. She said conditions were unknown. Luther Tyars was driving eastbound on I-10 in the fast lane when he

drove off the interstate and into the median, then overcorrected as he tried to return on the highway. The van rolled twice about 7:30 p.m., coming to rest facing south and blocking both eastbound lanes. "We're not sure why he left the road," Block said. The other vans were following behind and were not involved in the crash, she said.

Continued from Page 1A

outcome but calling it a temporary setback.

"Activist judges and local officials in some parts of the country are not letting up in their efforts to redefine marriage for the rest of America and neither should defenders of traditional marriage flag in their efforts," he added.

"It is important for our country to continue the debate on this important issue, and I urge the House of Representatives to pass this amendment," the president said.

Bush wasn't the only one who seemed eager to extend an election-year debate over the issue.

"We know now which senators are for traditional marriage and which ones are not, and by November so will voters in every state," said Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council. "This fight has just begun."

Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign, which opposed the amendment, expressed little concern about political repercussions. "I think the discussion will continue to play out but I think they played their best hand today and couldn't even get a simple majority," she said of the Senate vote.

Bush's public prodding alone assures the issue will persist into the fall, and Republican strategists have said they hope the issue can be put to use against Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic presidential nominee in waiting.

Kerry, D-Mass., skipped the Senate vote. He issued a statement renewing his opposition to the amendment and accusing Republicans of seeking to alter the constitution for political gain.

Texas ranks 30th in nation for teacher salaries

AUSTIN (AP) — Teacher salaries in Texas rank significantly lower than the national average and 30th in the country, according to a study by the American Federation of Teachers.

The average pay in Texas was \$39,972 in the 2002-03 school year, compared to the national average of \$45,771. Texas' ranking did not change from the previous year, despite a 1.9 percent increase in average salaries.

"Texas historically has not kept pace with the rest of the nation on teacher salaries," said Lonnie Hollingsworth Jr., director of governmental affairs for the Texas Classroom Teacher Association. "We move

forward, then fall back. Nothing is more important than teachers in delivering a quality education to students."

Teachers' groups have pleaded for higher salaries and improved health insurance benefits this year as Texas lawmakers grapple with overhauling the school funding system. The Legislature has not yet agreed on a new funding plan.

Texas teachers would rank even lower if health insurance benefits were considered, said John Cole, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers. The Legislature last year cut a \$1,000 health care stipend to \$500. At the same time, health insurance premi-

ums continued to rise, he said. "This comes at a really bad time," said Cole, who is also president of the Texas Federation of Teachers. "We're expecting a record number of retirements this year, and we already had a teacher shortage."

Texas employs more than 276,000 teachers for 4.3 million students in 1,037 K-12 districts.

Texas teachers fared slightly better than those in neighboring states — Arkansas ranked 44th; Louisiana, 45th; New Mexico, 46th; and Oklahoma, 50th. The District of Columbia was included in the count; South Dakota ranked last at 51st.

First-year teachers in Texas are in slightly better shape, with average beginning salaries ranking 17th nationally at \$31,874.

The state has a minimum teacher salary scale, which starts at \$24,240 for beginning teachers. However, most school districts set their own salaries well above the state minimum.

The American Federation of Teachers, a 1.3 million-member union, gets its financial data from state education departments. The numbers do not take into account other factors, such as cost of living or inflation. The study did not consider teachers' experience, other than first-year teachers.

Experts encourage urgent work on anti-HIV gels

BANGKOK, Thailand — Experts today sought urgent work on HIV-killing gels that could help protect women who can't rely on condoms, with former U.S. leader Nelson Mandela told the world not to ignore tuberculosis as it battles AIDS.

With research over the past two years showing that an AIDS vaccine is still a long way off, HIV-killing gels and creams, female condoms and diaphragms that could bolster prevention in the interim have become more of a priority.

"Developing an HIV vaccine is probably one of the most difficult challenges that biomedical science is confronting," vaccine researcher Jose Esparza told a session at the International AIDS Conference.

It's the biggest gathering ever of AIDS scientists, activists, policy-makers and HIV-infected people, also drawing international dignitaries like Mandela, former South African president.

"The world has made defeating AIDS a top priority. This is a blessing, but TB

remains ignored," said Mandela.

Tuberculosis is one of the most common diseases that attacks AIDS patients after their immune system has been destroyed, with the lung disease causing from 15 percent to 40 percent of the 3 million AIDS deaths worldwide last year.

Today, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced a \$44.7 million grant to support a consortium that will research TB control strategies in communities with high levels of HIV.

SUPPLIES

Continued from Page 1A
final cost of nearly \$5,000.

"I expect the number of applications to stay about the same or possibly go up a little bit this year," said Keeney. "The economy is still fluctuating, so there will probably be more families out there in need."

Keeney said the program is funded by

donations from area businesses and individuals, and while the application process has been streamlined down to four days, collecting the donations has already begun.

"We're accepting donations for the back to school program right now, and we'll be accepting them even after this year's effort is over," said Keeney. "Sometimes people aren't able to get their donations in until the program is over for the year, but we're still glad to have them for next year."

"Donations can be made here at the office, or they can mail them in. We accept monetary donations, and if someone wants to actually bring in school supplies, we'll accept them as well."

Keeney said local office supplier Sav-On will be helping the Salvation Army with some discounts on back to school items they purchase.

Those wishing to apply for assistance will need to do so during the four-day period and provide a picture ID for all members of the household; Social

Security cards for all household members; proof of income, including an governmental assistance; and a list of expenses from the last 30 days, including bills and proof of residence.

For more information on the program, or to make a donation, call 267-8239, or visit the Corps office at 811 W. Fifth Street location.

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

SOLDIERS

Continued from Page 1A

Joy's son, Lance Cpl. Jason Birmelin, is a Marine serving in Iraq. His letters and telephone calls home prompted Joy and Lee, another family member, to create Love From Home.

"We were sending Jason packages and letters each week, and then he told me there are soldiers in his unit who receive nothing, no letters or anything. Jason says letters and

packages mean the world to the soldiers there," Joy said.

Because of privacy laws, the items collected through Love From Home are being sent to Birmelin, who is deployed in the Sunny Triangle of Iraq with Echo Company. He is distributing the letters and packages within his unit, Joy said.

"We were cautioned that we can't just publish soldiers names or give their addresses, but we are passing everything along," she said.

Items needed by U.S. soldiers in Iraq include zip lock bags, foot powder, baby powder, disposable razors, snacks and candy that will sustain the heat and hot sun, used books and magazines, hand sanitizer, waterless shampoo, disposable wipes, chewing gum not wrapped in foil, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, lotion and shaving cream.

Other items needed by U.S. soldiers serving in Iraq are toilet paper and tissue, cough drops,

throat lozenges, pain relievers such as aspirin and ibuprofen or acetaminophen, cotton swabs, feminine products for the women soldiers, civvies, paper, sunglasses, cameras, sunglasses, batteries (which must still be in the original package), duct tape, super glue, flashlights with red lenses and bungee cords.

Travel-sized items are ideal for shipping to Iraq, Lee said, and only non-aerosol cans and food without pork is allowed in the country.

Brightly decorated donation boxes are placed at local businesses in Big Spring, including StarTek, A&M Garage, Home Hospice, Allan's Furniture and the Big Spring Herald.

Anyone wishing to donate items to Love from Home may drop off their donations at any of these locations. Those offering to assist with the postage expense should call Joy at 268-9232 or Lee at 268-1705 or Kennedy at 466-1759.

Contact Feature's Editor Marsha Sturdivant through e-mail address life@bigspringherald.com.

DISPUTE

Continued from Page 1A

Cherry. She then went to a home nearby and called the police."

Chamness said the matter may have been the result of a domestic dispute between the victim and Trevino.

The victim suffered only minor

injuries during the alleged abduction.

The charge against Trevino was reduced due to witness reports from the scene of the alleged abduction claiming the victim got into the vehicle without being forced.

"A witness at the scene saw her get into the vehicle willingly," said Chamness. "Mr. Trevino told officers that he told her to get out of the vehicle when he was ready to

leave and she refused. The way things were presented early Wednesday morning and the way they look now are very different."

Trevino was also booked on local traffic warrants at the time of his arrest.

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

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1A

and other activities. There will be lots of food available in the evening as well, including hamburgers, turkey legs, corn

on the cob and fajitas. Friday's musical entertainment will be provided by Grupo Fuerza, a group from Sweetwater.

Friday's activities will be repeated on Saturday, again with lunch plates being served at 11 a.m. and booths to open at 6:30

p.m. Also included will be a washer tournament.

Saturday's entertainment will be provided by the group Freno. The Dance Gallery dancers will also perform.

Those attending will also have an opportunity to win some prizes

through drawings. Items to be given away include an \$800 gift certificate from Wal-Mart, a \$400 gift certificate from HEB Grocery, a washer and dryer set and a \$125 gasoline gift certificate. The drawings will be held at 11:30 p.m. Saturday.

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HENRY BACKES

JULY 15 2004

EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed

Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

It's time now to reserve booth space for the fair

While there is plenty of time to think about the Howard County Fair which begins Aug. 25, there's not a whole lot of time left for those contemplating reserving booth space. And if you hadn't thought about it before, it's something every organization and commercial enterprise should contemplate.

Consider the thousands of people who go through the fair each year, and it's obvious that having a booth at this enterprising activity is a low-cost way to get the word out about your business, children's toys, or your own artistic aspirations or just about anything else you'd like. Those selling arts and crafts, painting, jewelry or other items are certainly welcome to peddle their wares at the fair.

Booth space — the area is 8x10 — is \$150. It's a good price when you spread that out over four days. An electrical outlet is available and each group that purchases booth space will receive four weekly passes. Additional passes are available for a small fee.

Obviously, the more groups that participate, the more successful the 2004 fair will be. If you are interested, contact Nancy Howard at 432 353-4448. Booth reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis, so if you wait until a week before the fair, you might find that there is no space available.

Food vendors interested in reserving space outside should contact Bill Fryrear at 393-5517 for location, cost and other details.

A booth at the fair is a great way to get the word out about your organization or product at a low cost before a guaranteed audience. It's also a great way to show your support for the Howard County Fair.

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, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, may we take action according to your truth. Thank you for your love and guidance.

Amen

Who will have the last laugh?

I don't like being called a cockroach. But apparently, Democrats John Kerry and John Edwards think it's funny to compare Hispanic Republicans to roaches — or so it seems based on their behavior at a recent fundraiser in New York City.

Kerry and Edwards were both yucking it up at Radio City Music Hall last week when a star-studded line up of comedians and rock stars entertained the crowd with off-color jokes and Bush-bashing, raising \$7.5 million in the process. Neither Kerry nor Edwards said a word when Whoopi Goldberg made nasty sexual allusions to both the president's and vice-president's names. In fact, the New York Post's Deborah Orin reports that Kerry "could be seen laughing uproariously" during the Goldberg riff, full of vulgar language and even worse taste.

You would think they'd be a little more wary of associating themselves with ethnically offensive remarks, however. So when comedian John Leguizamo said he refuses to believe there are any Hispanic Republicans — "Latins for Republicans, it's like roaches for Raid" — you might have hoped Kerry and Edwards would feel compelled to say something to distance themselves. During the primaries, Howard Dean ran into similar difficulties at another star-studded New York fundraiser where entertainers made heavy use of the "N" word, but Dean had

the good sense to come on stage and say he didn't like the tone of some of the odious humor.

The dynamic duo of Kerry and Edwards stayed mum on the dirty jokes this time around. Kerry even opined that "every performer tonight ... conveyed to you the heart and soul of our country," while Edwards noted that "this campaign will be a celebration of real American values." Some values.

Can you imagine the outcry if Republicans hosted an event in which performers compared Latinos to cockroaches based on their voting behavior? It is almost inconceivable that the media would not be all over the story, with round-the-clock coverage, demands that heads roll, and ultimately, the candidate taking the blame. The double standard is appalling. When Democrats use four-letter words, make raunchy references to their opponents, even when they insult minority groups, the media give them a pass.

Ironically, the Kerry campaign announced this week that it will be spending \$1 million in Spanish language advertising over the next two weeks to appeal to Hispanic voters. Kerry spokesman Jose Villarreal said that the ad buy "underscores that Hispanic voters are a key element of John Kerry's campaign strategy, and we expect to vigorously contest and handily win that vote." The ads will portray Kerry as "a man of faith, a man of family, a man of honor, a man working for our community," trying to play to the Latino community's traditional Catholic, socially conservative base.

One wonders what Latinos

would think if they could hear Whoopi Goldberg's lewd attacks on the president or maybe John Leguizamo's cockroach reference. I doubt the Kerry-Edwards campaign will be playing up the candidates' support for partial-birth abortion, or their opposition to parental notification for underage girls seeking abortions, either. Nor will those Spanish language ads mention the candidates' opposition to a constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union between one man and one woman. In fact, the only way Democrats can hope to maintain the loyalty of most Hispanics is by downplaying — or ignoring — the Party's positions on a host of social issues.

Despite what Democrats and the media seem to believe, Hispanics are not monolithic in their political affinities. If the Democrats don't clean up their act, they may find Hispanics abandoning the party in droves. George W. Bush won almost half of the Mexican-American vote when he ran for re-election as Texas governor, and he's in good position to win about 40 percent of the Latino vote in his presidential re-election bid. If that happens, we'll see who has the last laugh.

Linda Chavez is the author of the new book, "Betrayal: How Union Bosses Shake Down Their Members and Corrupt American Politics." To find out more about Linda Chavez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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LINDA CHAVEZ

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

The summer reading program at the Howard County Library has finished a successful run and there are a number of people that need to be thanked.

First of all the speakers and guests: Judy Tereletsky, Sheree Moates and Becky Smiley, artists extraordinaire; Keith Graumann, symphony director; Officer Scott Knight and K-9 partner Kris; Quail Dobbs, Lacy Billingsley and Rick Young of rodeo fame; author Gail Woerner; Master Gardener Edwanell Cook; John McIntyre and Theo; and Tammy Schreengost and Nancy Raney of the Heritage Museum. All of these people gave their time and talents cheerfully. They really brightened up our summer.

The Friends of the Library and the businesses that donated money, food and their time to our carnival also deserve our thanks.

Of course the carnival wouldn't have been possible without the "carny" workers: Big Spring High School Key Club members Marissa Vierra, Wesley Porras, Andrea Haro and Kate Smiley; Hannah Weber; Jacquelin Civello, John McIntyre; Heidi McIntyre; Molly Weber; and Mandi Dominguez. They kept the games going and the prizes flowing and the kids had a ball.

Molly Weber and Mandi Dominguez also helped throughout the program with cutting, clean up and general "gofering." We couldn't have done it without them.

All these people had one goal in mind: keeping the children of Howard County reading this summer and I want them to know that all their efforts were greatly appreciated. As the leading "book pusher" of the county, I can't tell you how much they did for the library, the county and the children.

I am grateful to them all.

KAREN MCINTYRE
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN
HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY

TO THE EDITOR:

Many complain about the local appraisal districts and review boards. As long as we are required to protest our taxes every year and individual by individual, we have difficulty in getting anything changed. It's frequently easier to give up than keep fighting.

Appraisal boards are appointed by the taxing entities. This system is putting the fox in the hen house to guard the hens. As long as the fox knows how many hens to take without upsetting the local apple cart, he's living high. It has to be changed.

If we band together at the grass roots level, we can make our voices heard. Please look at the petition posted at www.propertytaxrevolt.com and, if you agree with the sentiments expressed, sign it. Together we can make a difference.

Apathy will eventually take away all our freedoms far more effectively than any foreign government or terrorist can do.

DOROTHY LANDOLL
BASTROP

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to commend the Coahoma 11-year-old all-stars baseball team.

They have recently participated in an all-star tournament in Midland where they made quite a showing. They represented Coahoma very well and worked very hard for their accomplishments.

Thanks to the parents for all of the support you gave the team and a big thank you to the coaches who gave their time. Way to go Bulldogs!

DENEISE COATES
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I'm writing about what I have always noticed during election time.

First of all, I would like to say I'm a Republican and I do vote, so I think I can talk of such matters as the upcoming presidential elections.

Why is it that all candidates always talk about improving the lives of middle class Americans? It seems to me you seldom ever here a candidate talk about the lower class American. You know, the ones living pay check to pay check to make ends meet.

I really think once candidates start talking about Americans as a whole, this country will be a better place for all.

SANTIAGO FLORES
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am from Los Angeles and in town visiting my family. Something wonderful happened in Big Spring a couple of weeks ago, just before I arrived. My father, a 76-year-old farmer, was experiencing back pain and went to the VA Hospital to find out why.

After reviewing the x-rays, the medical team discovered something totally unexpected — an aortic aneurysm. My father was in need of emergency surgery.

Before I could even purchase a ticket for a flight home, my mother and father were already on a private jet for Albuquerque, N.M., where the nearest heart surgeons were making preparations.

A private jet? How did my parents swing that? And they flew out of where? Big Spring?

I've never personally known anyone who has actually used the Big Spring airport. I had always thought that it was reserved for the filthy rich, and I had romantic fantasies of their occasional need to land there. But, indeed, my parents were onboard their own Lear jet seeing the night lights of Big Spring fade in the distance. They landed in Albuquerque barely an hour later.

I was told that my father would have surgery first thing in the next morning.

After a sleepless night, my phone rang in Los Angeles at 6 a.m. "Oh no, it's too early for surgery," I thought nervously. "Something must've happened." As I picked up the phone, my worry was met with the comforting voice of my mother whose warmth came through the receiver.

"Daddy's out of surgery, everything's fine; he's doin' good!"

I felt a wave of relief passing through me, and then astonishment. "What? How is that possible? What time did the surgeons start this morning?"

"They did it last night!" she exclaimed. "The doctors were waiting on him when the plane landed!" I was stunned. Surely, the president himself could not have received better service — to be flown by private jet out of a private airport to a team of top-notch cardiologists anxiously awaiting his arrival.

To Dr. Zegarra, the technicians, the nurses and all those at the Big Spring VA who were involved with saving my father's life, I ... we thank you.

My mother and father recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary. They have five grown children, eight grandchildren, a great-grandson and another on the way. We are a family that's love for this man is immeasurable. James Ellison is the patriarch of a loving legacy. He is a role model — an admirable, honorable man — the most honorable man I've ever known.

If you've ever questioned your efforts at the Big Spring VA — your work, or your life's purpose — please let this be a huge example of your personal success. My family can never, ever thank you enough.

MALINDA ELLISON
LOS ANGELESWin a
award!

Special to the

Country-west David Kersh, hits include "Sweetheart" and Paisley-written "You." is coming big heart and campaign spokesman Wrangler J. Cowboys for C promote aware national program abused and children called short for Court Special Advocate David has song, "When You," that you load from www.forchildren.com

This same 1 the registration the "Win a David to the 20 Music Awards.

Register for at www.david One lucky win David's guess Country Music Nashville, Ten

The winner's free round-trip Nashville, to hotel accommo

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The contest 19 and ends S winner's name announced Se

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Special to the

Alexandria Jessi New Nichols, all of High School, of approximat student cour and studen advisers who 68th National of Student (NASC) nati ence, June Silverado Hig Las Vegas.

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"It's wonder young people the country an extraordinary dedication a asm," said Tirozzi, exec

tor, NASSP.

"I commen their willing on leadership make a differ schools and ties."

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Win a date to country music awards and help support CASA

Special to the Herald

Country-western artist David Kersh, whose top hits include "Goodnight Sweetheart" and the Brad Paisley-written "Another You," is committing his big heart and talent to a campaign sponsored by Wrangler Jeans and Cowboys for Children to promote awareness of the national program serving abused and neglected children called CASA, short for Court Appointed Special Advocate.

David has written a song, "When I Look at You," that you can download from www.cowboysforchildren.com.

This same location is the registration link for the "Win a Date with David to the 2004 Country Music Awards."

Register for the contest at www.davidkersh.com. One lucky winner will be David's guest to the Country Music Awards in Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 9.

The winner will receive free round-trip airfare to Nashville, two nights hotel accommodations, a full day of pre-show spa treatments and makeover, plus evening attire specially designed for the winner by Denver-based, international fashion designer, Doug Paris.

The contest begins July 19 and ends Sept. 17. The winner's name will be announced Sept. 20.

Donations made by music fans in West Texas

will be distributed by National CASA to CASA of West Texas.

When Kersh first learned about the CASA program earlier this year, he knew he just had to get involved.

"I had a great childhood," says Kersh, "and it broke my heart to realize that so many kids have a completely different experience growing up."

"When I learned about what CASAs provide for abused and neglected children, I wanted to do whatever I could to help make a difference."

David's song, "When I Look at You," expresses his admiration for kids who struggle with abuse and neglect, and he is delighted that the revenue it generates will be used to fund CASA programs throughout the country.

Kersh and Wrangler Jeans are excited to be part of Cowboys for Children, a nonprofit organization that supports children's organizations across the country.

"CASA make a difference in the lives of abused and neglected children," says Cowboys for Children President Jason Adams, "because they often know more about the children and what's right for them than anyone else working on the case."

"Judges tell us time and again that with the input of a CASA volunteer, they

are better able to make decisions to serve the child's best interest."

CASA of West Texas is currently serving seven counties in the Permian Basin which include Midland, Martin, Glasscock, Howard, Dawson, Gaines and Andrews County.

The children served have been removed from their home by child protective services because they have been abused or neglected by their caregivers.

The mission of the agency is to recruit, train and support the volunteers who advocate in court for the child's best interest.

Unfortunately, the number of children in foster care in the Permian Basin continues to increase.

Volunteers are needed to serve these children. It is costly to recruit and train these volunteers and financial support is always needed from the community.

The National CASA Organization is the nonprofit agency that oversees more than 900 CASA agencies throughout the country.

CASA volunteers get to know abused and neglected children in their communities and stand up for them in court to ensure that their best interests are served.

For more information about CASA, visit www.nationalcasa.org.

Big Spring State Hospital

The Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations staff waded into ankle-deep water a few weeks ago - courtesy of a broken water supply line.

Thanks to the fast action of our hard-working Plant Maintenance and Environmental Services staff, everything was back to normal within a few days.

Flooding cancelled our first-ever "Summer Game Day" scheduled for June 15.

Volunteer Chair Dorothy Sheppard spearheaded the new fund-raiser, and regrets having to cancel. However, Dorothy promises the fund-raiser will be rescheduled during the "dry season" in August or September.

The community will be invited to play cards or their favorite table game at a cost of \$10 per person. Lunch will be included, and prizes will be awarded.

Hats off to Summer Fun Day Chair Shirley Bodin, our crew of volunteers, and hospital employees for turning what began as a "Somebody Rained on Our Parade" day into a "Sunshine Day" on June 3.

Summer Fun Day ushers in the first day of summer, but someone for-

got to tell Mother Nature of our plans. Rain poured out of the sky, but everyone pulled together to shift the traditional outside party indoors.

It was amazing to see how quickly tables and chairs, freezers, cases of soft drinks, boxes of gift items and even a huge barbecue grill could be transported to the Activity Therapies Department building so Summer Fun Day could continue as scheduled. Everyone kept smiling and the patients had a great time.

The Big Spring State Hospital Calf Dressing team of Lupe Garza, Bob Kincheloe, Danny Thomas and Wayman Wells didn't grab top honors during the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo, but they gave the crowd an eyeful.

I promise to provide gloves next year, and maybe, even some practice sessions since they assured me it is not as easy as it sounds.

Summer volunteer workdays are scheduled throughout the summer to prepare the Christmas appeal letter to be mailed to the clubs and organizations in the 78-county area served by Big Spring State Hospital.

Volunteer Services Council board training is scheduled for Aug. 19 at the Community Relations Office.

We want to extend a big welcome to new volunteers Ann Russell, Alicia

Correa, and Rowena Suazo.

Don't forget to check out the summer sale at the Chalet Resale shop located at 1007 E. 11th Place.

Donations are keeping the doors open, so please remember that clothing, household, and most all types of clean, used items are welcome at the Chalet.

The Chalet is open 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

We are forming a Memorial Nursing Scholarship Committee who will award ongoing scholarships to hospital employees who wish to attend nursing school and return to work at Big Spring State Hospital.

This is wonderful way to honor the memory of family and friends and at the same time benefit future nurses of BSSH.

We miss seeing long-time volunteer Murlene Williams, who is recovering from a broken arm.

She would love to receive a call or card from her many friends.

Condolences are extended to the family of Mildred Carson. We miss her smiling face and the Chalet's many customers miss seeing her volunteer at the store. Mrs. Carson recently died after having been ill for several months.

Billie Christie is Director of Community Relations at Big Spring State Hospital.



BILLIE CHRISTIE

Local students attend national conference

Special to the Herald

Alexandria Watkins, Jessi New and Jacob Nichols, all of Big Spring High School, were three of approximately 1,800 student council leaders and student activity advisers who attended the 68th National Association of Student Councils (NASC) national conference, June 24-30, at Silverado High School in Las Vegas.

NASC, administered by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, offers leadership training at its conferences, focusing on turning student leaders into lifelong leaders.

"It's wonderful to see young people from across the country demonstrate an extraordinary level of dedication and enthusiasm," said Dr. Gerald Tirozzi, executive director, NASSP.

"I commend them on their willingness to take on leadership roles and make a difference in their schools and communities."

Watkins, New and Nichols were trained in communication skills, including dealing with diversity. They partici-

pated in discussions on issues relevant to today's youth.

Delegates were also involved with two community service projects - Readers Become Leaders book collections and reading to Las Vegas area elementary school children during the conference.

They also collected money for the Kids Can Free the Children Foundation, which strives to improve education in an impoverished country.

Alexandria is the daughter of Rick and Susan Watkins, and she is serving as the president of student council at Big Spring High School. Jessi is the daughter of Steve and Cindy New, and she serves as vice president of student council and Jacob is the son of Darrell and Sheri Nichols, and he serves as the D.A.S.H. officer of student council.

Rocco Marano, Director of the NASSP Department of Student Activities said, "At the NASC conference, and in student activity programs across the nation, these already talented students learn to be

better at motivating, organizing, training and leading others. Every NASC delegate can be looked at as role model."

NASSP is the largest school leadership organization in the United States.

Host families for exchange students sought

Foundation for Intercultural Travel is currently matching international students, age 15 to 18, with host families in our area.

Students arrive approximately one week prior to

school's starting date, and bring their own spending money for clothing, entertainment and other expenses. They have their own medical insurance.

Host families agree to provide room and board

and include their student as a family member.

All of the students speak English. Families of all types are eligible to host.

For more information, call MaryAnn at 877-439-7862.

You deserve a factual look at . . .

85

Abandoning Gaza

Would Israel's withdrawal from Gaza lead to peace?

Prime Minister Sharon of Israel, under enormous pressure by the U.S. government to "do something," has agreed to vacate Israeli settlements in Gaza, together with certain settlements in Samaria (the northern "West Bank"), in hopes that this might lead to an end of the bloody Arab/Israeli conflict. Perhaps not too surprisingly, Mr. Sharon's own Likud party has overwhelmingly rejected the plan. But that is certainly not the end of it. It is bound to be resurrected.

What are the facts?

A brief history. The primary error is that Gaza belongs to its mostly Arab inhabitants. Gaza, which had previously been a province of the Ottoman Empire, became after the First World War part of the British Mandate of Palestine.

In 1947, the U.N. proposed to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab sectors. The Jews accepted the partition—the Arabs rejected it out of hand, and in 1948, on the very day of Israel's founding, five Arab armies invaded the nascent Jewish state. Miraculously, the ragtag Jewish forces defeated the combined Arab might. But after that war, Jordan remained in occupation of the "West Bank" and the eastern part of Jerusalem. Egypt stayed in control of the Gaza strip. It remained there until after the Six-Day War of 1967, when, in one of the most astonishing actions in military history, Israel once again defeated the combined Arab might. At the end of that brief but decisive conflict, Israel found itself in possession of all of the areas that the Arabs had previously occupied, including the Gaza strip. After it assumed administration of the Strip in 1967, Israel made every effort to improve the life of the Gazans, and to provide decent housing and infrastructure. All such efforts were rebuffed by the Arabs, who preferred keeping the Gazans in miserable "refugee camps," where they would fester in squalor for over fifty years, dreaming of bloody vengeance against Israel.

A very poor plan. If Jewish "settlements" in Gaza were to be abandoned, it would be understood as a victory for terrorism. Inevitably, if Israeli settlers and the Israeli military were to leave the area, the terror emanating from Gaza would increase, the violence would explode. The Gaza terrorists, no longer restrained by the Israeli military, would launch hundreds more rockets, missiles and mortar rounds into Israel.

Short of blanketing the area with massive artillery and air strikes, which would cause tens of thousands of deaths (and which the world would not allow to happen), Israel would stand defenseless against such onslaughts.

In proposing the abandonment of Gaza by its approximately 7,500 Jewish inhabitants, who, in stark contrast to the Arabs surrounding them, have created prosperous communities, industries and agriculture in the area, there is nothing at all that the Israelis are expected to receive for such an enormous sacrifice. There isn't even a promise - though it would in any case be quite meaningless - to abstain from violence. In accepting a plan to vacate Gaza, Israel would effectively relinquish the right of its citizens to live anywhere they wish in the land of Israel. Such right is unquestioningly granted to the Arabs. They live in Gaza, of course, and in the "West Bank". Over one million of them live in Israel proper, where they have equal rights with the Jews and enjoy all benefits of citizenship.

The plan for the Jewish inhabitants to vacate Gaza is a thoroughly bad one. It would acknowledge that, in order to be acceptable to the Arabs, Gaza had to be "judenrein" - free of Jews - a concept invented by the Nazis. It would reward terror and would be understood as a sign of weakness. It would leave the Arabs at complete liberty to import the most destructive weapons through their port and their airport. Nobody doubts that they would do just that. It would not bring the solution to the Arab/Israeli conflict one step closer - on the contrary, it would exacerbate it and very likely result in full-fledged war, quite possibly involving weapons of mass destruction.

But here's a better idea: Yes, move all Jews from Gaza and even from those parts of the "West Bank" that might eventually be ceded to form an autonomous Arab entity and repatriate them to "Israel proper." But at the same time, evacuate all Arabs from Israel and resettle them in Gaza, the "West Bank," or wherever they might want to go. Such exchange of populations would be drastic, but certainly not unprecedented. The vast exchange of Muslims and non-Muslims on the Indian subcontinent, though accompanied by much bloodshed, is perhaps the best and ultimately most successful example of such population exchange.

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Gerardo Joffe, President

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JULY 15 2004

Jeep goes to greater lengths for Wrangler

By JIM MATEJA
Chicago Tribune

The Jeep Wrangler long has been recognized as a vehicle for the young — folks able to tolerate its deficiencies.

And Wrangler has shortcomings, such as a short wheelbase that not only means a rough, bouncy ride, but also encourages you to ease off the throttle when entering corners; a small second-row seat positioned over the rear axle so occupants suffer every bump in the road; front-row seats that bar access to the back seat; and a tiny cargo hold.

But Wrangler looks rugged and with four-wheel-drive it is rugged and can go just about anywhere you point it.

In April Jeep added the 2004-1/2 Wrangler Unlimited, a big brother companion to the Wrangler that boasts the familiar look, but a lot more size. The original little Wrangler stays in the lineup.

Unlimited is built on a 10-inch-longer wheelbase to improve ride and handling and give it better road manners. It is 15 inches longer overall, with 13 of those added to the cargo hold, 2 inches to rear-seat legroom. It features new tip and slide front seats so it's easier to get in back and comes with a second-row seat that folds and flips forward if you need even more cargo capacity.

"It has been more than two decades since we offered customers a choice in size with the CJ5 and CJ7 Jeeps," said Jeff Bell, vice president of marketing for Chrysler/Jeep.

"We're always listening to our customers by expanding the Wrangler



Photo courtesy of DAIMLERCHRYSLER

lineup with more usable space and more balanced on-road ride comfort and quietness," he said.

Those who wanted a larger Wrangler with more space, ride comfort and cargo capacity were those young who, as they got a little older, found they needed more space and welcomed more comfort.

An added benefit of the larger size is that the Unlimited can tow up to 3,500 pounds vs. 1,500 with a little Wrangler.

Though Jeep now offers a bigger Wrangler, not all the vehicle's problems have been solved.

Rear-seat occupants might have 2 inches more legroom, but the tush is still planted in a seat that rests over the rear axle.

And while Bell boasts that the 4WD Wrangler delivers the outdoor experience and excitement of driving with the top down, doors off and, if

desired, the windshield down on the trails," it must stand tall and that means you might need a stool to get inside unless you opt for the optional (\$150) side steps.

And though the front seats tip and slide forward to open an aisle to the back, you may have to give would-be occupants a gentle nudge to get them through that aisle — providing you got them in the vehicle to begin with.

The Unlimited also sits on huge 30 x 9.5 (30 inches high and 9.5 inches wide) 15-inch radials designed to give the sport-ute a rugged appearance and sure-footed maneuvering when off the road, but not smooth ride or pinpoint handling when on it. You don't want to take corners at speed though the wheelbase is longer.

Like all Wranglers, you can't get power windows or power door locks on

the Unlimited. You have to lock each door individually using the key or, to save time, press the lock button on each door and it'll lock when you close them as you exit.

Just be sure you have the key in your hand before closing the doors.

We tested the 2004-1/2 Unlimited that comes with a standard softtop or optional removable composite plastic hardtop (\$795). You'll be able to get both in the same vehicle in the '05 model year, Jeep says.

With the hardtop, you get yet another federally mandated sticker on your sun visors, this one reading: "Warning: The top and doors on this vehicle are designed only for protection against the elements. Do not rely on the top and doors to contain occupants within the vehicle or to protect against injury in an accident. Wear seat belts at

2004 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited 4WD

Wheelbase: 103.4 inches
Length: 155.4 inches
Engine: 4-liter, 190-h.p. 4-cylinder
Transmission: 4-speed automatic
Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/19 m.p.g. highway
Base price: \$24,385

Price as tested: \$25,925. Includes \$150 for body steps; \$295 for audio system with seven speakers and subwoofer; \$300 for leather-wrapped steering wheel and electronic speed control; \$795 for black hardtop with rear window washer/wiper/defroster. Add \$610 for freight.

all times."

Not exactly a heart-warming message, and neither are the other federal stickers on the sun visors to warn that 1) If you sit too close to the air bag when it deploys, you could be killed, and 2) If you take corners at speed in an SUV that stands high to provide off-road ground clearance, you could roll over.

The government, however, doesn't require a warning label advising second-seat occupants that every bump in the road is going to ruffle their jeans. But, there's only so many places to stick warning signs.

Nice touches include the swing-out rear door to the cargo hold with full-size spare attached; the ability to flip and fold the second-row seat from inside the cabin as well as from the back door to expand the cargo hold; and a pair of power plugs, coin holder and dual cupholders in front, dual

cupholders in back.

Those extra 13 inches devoted to the cargo hold provide ample space for several duffel bags and assorted gear. With the second-row seat flipped and folded, the cargo hold swells even more in size, though it's still limited by the protruding wheel wells.

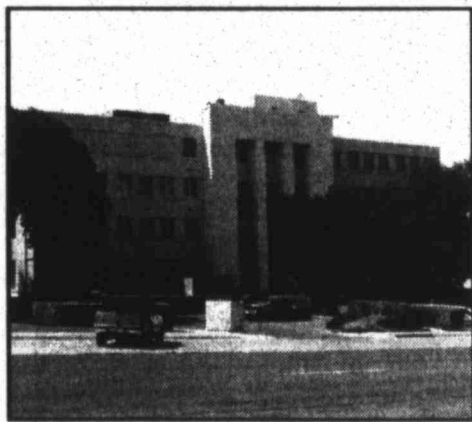
Other nice touches include a thickly padded rollbar (Jeep calls it a sports bar as if no one will know the reason it's there) with speakers and dome lights attached to serve rear-seat occupants.

The 4WD Unlimited tested comes with a transfer case that allows four-wheel high and low settings for heavy snow as well as just about any off-road adventuring.

Unlimited is powered by a 4-liter, 190-horsepower 4-cylinder, that produces 235 foot-pounds of torque for heavy-duty towing and heavy-duty off-roading. It's teamed only with a 4-speed automatic for now and is rated at only 16 m.p.g. city/19 m.p.g. highway. The fact that the Unlimited tips the scales at 3,700 pounds contributes to the low-mileage rating. For '05, a new 6-speed manual will be available as an option.

The Unlimited with 4WD starts at \$24,385 and includes air conditioning, AM/FM stereo radio with in-dash CD player, four-wheel disc brakes, tinted windshield, halogen headlamps, dual manual folding outside mirrors (which should have grown along with the Unlimited's other dimensions for better side and rear views), fog lamps and full-size spare. Add the side steps at \$150. Anti-lock brakes are offered on the original Wrangler, not the Unlimited.

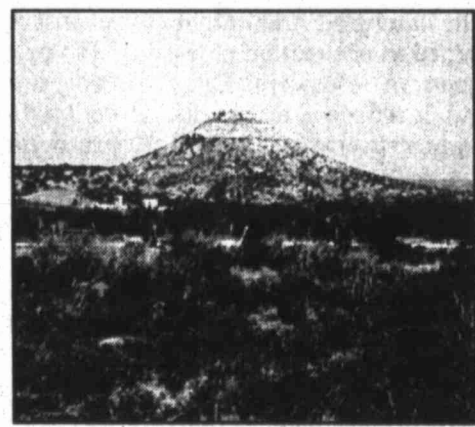
2004 COMMUNITY GUIDE



Publishing
Sunday,
July 25, 2004

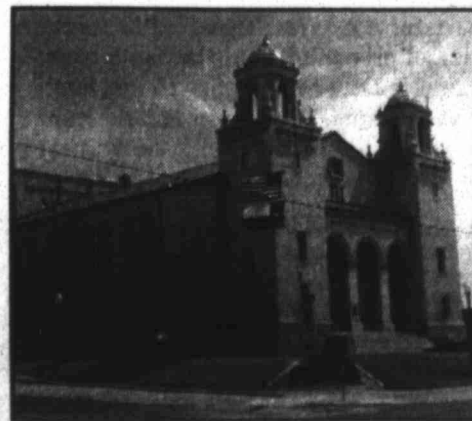
A guide that will include information on every aspect of life in Big Spring and Howard County that residents and newcomers alike will need throughout the year.

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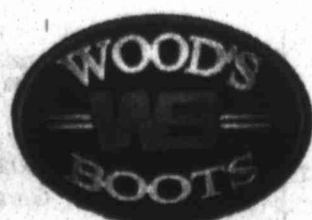
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IN BRIEF

Young Life Golf Classic announced

Cornell Corrections and Young Life Big Spring announce that the fifth annual Young Life Golf Classic will take place July 24 and 25 at the Big Spring Country Club.

The tournament will be a four-person orange ball scramble and players must have a verifiable handicap.

It will begin at 1 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday and each day will have a shotgun start. The cost of the tournament is \$75 plus a cart fee, but private carts are welcome.

For more information, call Big Spring Country Club's Larry Bryan at 267-5354.

C.G.A. announces monthly golf outing

The Chicago Golf Association has set its monthly golf tournament for July 18 at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament will be a four-person 6-6-6 style with a shotgun start and all participants must be registered by 9:45 a.m. on the day of the tourney.

For more information, call 264-7116 after 7 p.m.

Crossroads football sign-up dates set

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

Both football and cheerleading sign-ups will take place at the Big Spring Mall. Football players can sign up through August 21 on Fridays (5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) only. Cheerleaders can sign up at the same time through July 24.

The league is for kindergarten through sixth grade.

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

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

Steer football golf tournament set

The Big Spring Steers 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.

Prizes paid for first through fourth place. There will also be a closest to the pin prize and a putting contest.

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

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Friday	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	1490
Saturday	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	1490
Sunday	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	1490

Shaq trade official; O'Neal heads to Miami

By STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer
MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal's first game with the Miami Heat is 3 1/2 months away, and he's already a box office smash.

"Over at the business office of the American Airlines Arena, it's like being on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange right now," Heat president Pat Riley said. "It's absolutely a frenzy."

The Heat didn't need long to reap dividends from one of the most landscape-altering trades in NBA history. In a deal completed Wednesday, they sent a first-round draft pick and three starters — Caron Butler, Lamar Odom and Brian Grant — to the Los Angeles Lakers for a 32-year-old center with an arthritic big toe.

That would be O'Neal. "I never imagined that we would acquire Shaquille O'Neal," Heat

guard Eddie Jones said. "It's once-in-a-lifetime trying to get a player like this guy. It's an unbelievable, unbelievable move."

At 7-foot-1 and 340 pounds, O'Neal remains the most formidable force in the game, despite being slowed at times by foot and leg ailments. Even in Los Angeles, a city of celebrities, he was a towering presence while leading the team to three NBA titles during his eight seasons there.

"It's certainly a disappointing day in a lot of ways in Los Angeles. I can't deny that," Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said. "He's had an impact in so many ways on the franchise and the city."

In contrast to the glum mood in Los Angeles, fueled in part by uncertainty over Kobe Bryant's status, was Miami's reaction to the deal.

"We feel that we have traded for the best player in the NBA," Riley said.

Shortly after the Lakers lost the championship series to Detroit, O'Neal demanded to be traded, weary of feuding with Bryant and feeling disrespected by owner Jerry Buss. O'Neal listed the Heat as one of his preferred destinations and gave the trade his approval after meeting with Riley in Orlando Saturday.

"I wanted to go to another contender," O'Neal said. "And Miami is definitely another contender. With me now, it makes us even more of a contender. I'm looking to do great things with the Heat."

O'Neal immediately transforms a franchise that has reached the conference finals only once in its 16-year history into a title threat. The Heat won one playoff series in the past four years and went 42-40 last season.

The trade marks a return to Florida for O'Neal, who began his NBA career in 1992 with

Orlando and still has a home there. He led the Magic to the finals in 1995, then signed with the Lakers as a free agent in 1996.

O'Neal has the highest career scoring average among active players and is an 11-time All-NBA selection.

"You can't replace a Shaquille O'Neal," Kupchak said.

He's under contract for \$27.7 million this coming season and \$30.6 million in 2005-06. Riley said he expects to negotiate an extension, and O'Neal said he anticipates playing another five or six years.

"We feel like Shaquille is going to be a part of this organization for a long time," Riley said.

For the Lakers, the biggest consolation in the deal is acquiring the versatile Odom, coming off the best season in his five-year NBA career. He and Butler were considered cornerstones in the

Heat's recent rebuilding effort, while Grant is a 10-year veteran.

"It's a bold move to get younger and change our style of play," Kupchak said.

With the departure of three starters, Riley will build his team around O'Neal, Jones and Olympian Dwyane Wade, a rookie last season. O'Neal said Wade was a major reason he wanted to join the Heat.

"He's going to be a great player," O'Neal said. "I look forward to making D-Wade a starting All-Star this year and the number one guard in the Eastern Conference."

Riley will now shop for help at both forward positions and backup point guard, and free agents will likely consider Miami a more appealing option with the addition of O'Neal.

"Everybody wants to be here now," Jones said. "It puts us in the race with everybody."

Astros fire skipper, Garner takes over

By JOEL ANDERSON

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros fired manager Jimmy Williams and replaced him with Phil Garner on Wednesday, a last-ditch effort to rescue a season that started with World Series expectations.

"We needed to make a move quickly," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said at a news conference. "We needed to jump-start this club right now. We didn't have time to fumble here."

Garner, a former Astros player, is taking over on an interim basis. The team will conduct another search at the end of the season.

"I'm excited. I'm a Houston boy and I'm looking forward to it," Garner, a former manager with Detroit and Milwaukee, told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "We got some boys on the team that I think can do something really special. This is an opportunity that I've been waiting for."

Williams' job security had been the subject of speculation for about a month, right about the time Houston's surprising slide down the NL Central standings began. He was fired early Wednesday morning during a clubhouse meeting with Hunsicker, owner Drayton McLane and other team officials.

Houston was 44-44 heading into the All-Star break, a remarkable disappointment for a team that was tops in the NL Central for the first month and a half of the season.

The season began with expectations of the club's first World Series appearance in its 42-year history after the offseason acquisition of former New York Yankees teammates Andy Pettitte and Roger Clemens.

Along with Williams, pitching coach Burt Hooton and hitting coach Harry Spillman were also fired. They were replaced with Jim Hickey and Gary Gaetti, respectively, from Triple-A New Orleans.

The Astros went into

the All-Star break losers of six of their final eight games, finishing the first half of the season in fifth place in the NL Central. Houston is 10 1/2 games behind division leader St. Louis — the first time they've faced a double-digit deficit in the standings at the break in 11 seasons.

During pregame introductions at the All-Star game Tuesday night, a sellout crowd at Minute Maid Park voiced its frustration by booing Williams. Williams doffed his cap, but was clearly embarrassed.

Williams, 60, has guided the Astros to two second-place finishes, losing the division race last season in the final week. The Astros made the postseason four of five seasons before his arrival from Boston in November 2001, but have failed to clinch a playoff berth since.

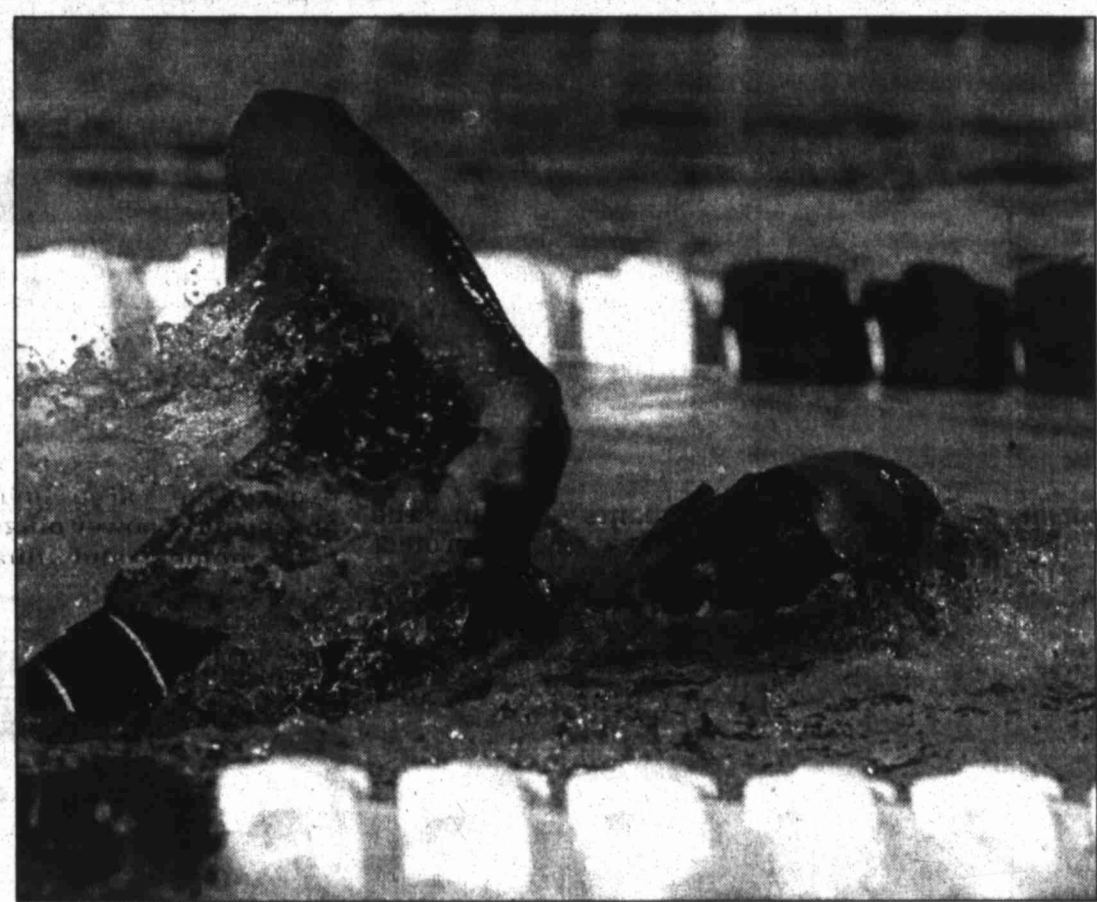
The Astros have been surprisingly punchless on offense, ranking only 19th in the majors in scoring. Their highly touted pitching staff has struggled as both Pettitte and Wade Miller have spent time on the disabled list. And Carlos Beltran hasn't been the quick fix they expected — the All-Star center fielder is hitting .263.

The fans' booing of Williams likely didn't escape the attention of McLane or Hunsicker either.

Hunsicker has repeatedly emphasized that the club has loaded up solely for an autumn finish — Beltran is a free agent, Clemens was coaxed out of retirement, Jeff Kent and Craig Biggio are in the final years of their contracts and Jeff Bagwell is nearing the end of his career.

"Time is of the essence here," Hunsicker said. "We can't waste too much time here."

Garner, a former Astros infielder from 1981-87, was hired as Milwaukee's manager in 1992, leading the Brewers to a 92-70 record and a second-place finish in the AL East. That proved to be his best season as a manager, and Garner was ultimately fired by Milwaukee after 112 games in 1999.



courtesy photo/DEAN RUTZ, SEATTLE TIMES
Larsen Jensen cruises to an American record in the mens 1500m freestyle at the US Olympic Team Trials Wednesday.

Armstrong sprints to finish line

By JOHN LEICESTER

Associated Press Writer

SAINT-FLOUR, France — Frenchman Richard Virenque won the first mountain stage of the Tour de France on Wednesday in a leg that included the first jousting between five-time champion Lance Armstrong and rival Jan Ullrich.

Virenque won on Bastille Day with a strong solo ride, moving a step closer to his goal for this tour: to become the first seven-time winner of the pink spotted jersey as best climber.

Virenque won the 147-mile stage, the longest of the Tour, in 6 hours, 24 seconds. It was his seventh victory in a long career marked both by outstanding performances and the lows of a doping scandal in 1998. His last stage win was in 2003, to Morzine in the Alps —

also after a solo effort ahead of the chasing pack.

Armstrong was sixth in the stage, sprinting at the finish to come in just behind French champion and overall leader Thomas Voeckler.

Armstrong, Voeckler and Ullrich were 5 minutes, 19 seconds behind Virenque. The 32-year-old Texan is sixth overall, 9 minutes, 35 seconds behind Voeckler and 55 seconds ahead of Ullrich.

In a glimpse of their expected battles to come in the harder Pyrenees and Alps, Armstrong and Ullrich led the main pack up the hardest of nine climbs, a 3 1/2-mile ascent of Le Puy Mary, in the Massif Central region of central France.

The climb, the hardest so far, grew steeper as it went up and was where Virenque first surged into

the lead. Johan Bruyneel, sports manager for Armstrong's U.S. Postal Service team, said it was still too early in the three-week race to tell whether the five-time champ is stronger than his challengers.

Armstrong "looked good and sounded good on the radio," Bruyneel said. "It was a hard climb ... but still very far from the finish of the race, so we can't really know now who is good and bad."

Cheered on by hundreds of thousands of fans celebrating the holiday, Virenque became the 14th Frenchman since World War II to win on France's national holiday and the first since Laurent Jalabert in 2001.

A teary Virenque dedicated his win to a friend who died two days earlier and his grandmother who died in June.

Virenque rode alone over the last 40 miles to the finish in Saint-Flour, thrusting his arms into the air as he crossed the line and pointing to the sky.

At 34, Virenque is approaching the end of a career that could see him credited as being the Tour's best-ever climber.

He currently is tied with Spanish rider Federico Bahamontes and Belgian Lucien Van Impe with six mountain titles.

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Garage Sales

1/2 PRICE Estate Sale: 2217 Lynn. Bedroom suite, dining room suite, TV, chest, shelves, washer & dryer. Still lots of misc. - all must go. Saturday 8:00-12:00.

GARAGE SALE, 4036 Vicky. Saturday 8:00-12:00. No Early Sales!! Linens, household items, crafts.

Garage Sales

1101 CAMERON (take 11th Place extension East, Midway Rd.), Friday 8-4 & Saturday 8-12. Girl clothes infant to Jr., baby bed/ bedding, high chair, strollers, car seat.

3 FAMILY Garage Sale: Saturday 8-2, 2725 East 25th. Complete house hold items. Furniture, linens, small appliances, dishes, knick-knacks and more.

4 FAMILY Garage Sale: Everything from A to Z. 2410 N. Anderson Rd. Saturday 8-1.

611 NORTH Gregg. Saturday 8-12. Something for all. Toys, clothing, new western hat and wrangler, dishes, furniture, dego items, pictures, lamps, much more. Everything goes.

Garage Sales

CARPORT SALE: 801 W. Marcy, #31 (Coronado Hills Apts.) Saturday 8:00-Noon. Furniture, men's and women's clothing, shoes, men's suits/jackets, sweaters, road bike/helmet, tools, kitchenware, bookcases.

FOUR FAMILY Garage Sale, 211 S. Moss Lake Rd. Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 8:30-2:30. Furniture, TV's, Home Interior, toys, VHS tapes, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE Saturday, 7am - 1pm, 1703 Harvard. Clothes, misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 1210 Lloyd, Saturday 8-5 & Sunday 8-1.

GARAGE SALE: 701 E. 17th, Friday & Saturday 8-4. Name brand clothes. Homemade burritos.

GARAGE SALE: Friday & Saturday 8-?, 2603 Alamesa. Power tools, furniture, window ac/heat unit, glass top stove, much more.

INSIDE SALE in Coahoma 1 block East of Town & Country. Friday & Saturday 10-6. Kerosene lamps regular size & miniature lots of misc.

MOVING SALE: 1301 College, Friday 8-?. Furniture, desk, stereo and lots of misc.

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE Sale: 3209 & 3211 Duke, Saturday 8-2. Furniture, household items, small & large appliances, clothing, accessories, flower pots and much more.

Garage Sales

MOVING SALE: Friday 8-?. Former elem. teacher has tons of stuff!! Room decorations, teacher manuals etc. Small appliances, TOOLS and shotgun. Teen boy clothes, Tommy Hilliger, Nike, etc. Home deco items, patio chairs, toys. Lots of Accelerated Reading books. All items priced to sell fast! 2312 Driver Road, across from the country club.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale, 428 Edwards. Saturday, 8:00-?

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 1304 South Baylor, Saturday 8:00-1:00. Jr. clothing, furniture, lots of misc.

PJ'S INSIDE Sale: 2210 Main. Friday & Saturday, 10:00-3:00.

THREE FAMILY Sale: Lots of new and barely used, clothing, toys, household items and furniture. Fri. & Sat. 7:30-?, 201 East 6th Street.

YARD SALE, Saturday, 8AM-2PM. 202 Circle Drive. Boys, girls, adult clothes, toys, Playstation games, books, Beanie Babies. Homemade Burritos! Cheap! Cheap! Cheap!

Help Wanted

NEED FULL time care giver/teacher. Experience required. Come by 409 Goliad.

CLASS A CDL Drivers. Experienced. \$800.00 to \$900.00 weekly plus benefits. Excellent home time. Call 1-888-657-3778.

Help Wanted

AMERICAN STATE Bank is currently accepting applications for a Part-Time Teller in Big Spring. Qualified applicants should be available to work Monday - Saturday. Must be customer service oriented and have cash handling and sales experience. Apply at American State Bank, 1411 Gregg Street.

COAHOMA ISD is accepting applications for the position of Lead Custodian. Applications are available at the Administration Office, 600 N. Main. Applications accepted until position filled. Coahoma ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

KINGDOM TRANSPORTATION is hiring Flatbed drivers. Home 10 to 14 days. Call (877)557-0306.

DON'T PAY

to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

Has anyone ever told you about a special event that is *supposed* to be happening, only to find out that the person who told you didn't have all the facts? Call 263-7331 to start you subscription to the *Big Spring Herald* today, and get the scoop on local news and events.

ATTENTION
THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS
Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract \$1.58 Per Day

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!

APPLIANCE REPAIR A-2-Z Service Air Condition & Heating Service Washers & Dryers Ranges, Refrigerators & Dishwashers Call 432-393-5217 for appointment 25 Years Exp.	CARPET Carpet Sales Construction Management Kenny Thompson CALL 263-4548 270-0548	CONCRETE STUCCO DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS BLOCK FENCES Chico and Sons Concrete (432) 267-4044 (432) 816-9180 - cell 621 Sgt. Paredes Big Spring, TX 79720	FENCES CHAINLINK METAL • CEDAR DOG KENNELS ORNAMENTAL IRON B & M Fence Co. COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE FREE ESTIMATES ROBERT MARQUEZ 263-1613 1-800-525-1389 1000 Lamesa Hwy. • Big Spring	FENCES Quality Fence Co. Jimmy Marquez-Owner Finest In Fencing Wood & Chainlink Free Estimates 432-267-3349	FENCES MARQUEZ FENCE CO. All types of fences & repairs. Concrete work, carports. All work guaranteed. Free Estimates Benny Marquez-Owner 267-5714
HOME IMPROVEMENT Speedy Construction We Do It All! Residential & Commercial Ceramic Tiles, Cabinets, Drywall, Textures, Plumbing, Electrical AC, Roofs, New Additions & Lawn Service Phone: 432-263-2911 Cell: 432-816-3832 Concrete Special	HOME IMPROVEMENT RS HOME REPAIR Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Electrical, Minor Electrical. Call FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair, Appliances installed 432-816-3030	HOME IMPROVEMENT Gibbs Remodeling New home Construction • Room Additions Carports • Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing & Exterior Wallpaper Hanging • Ceramic Tile Installation & Repair All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home. Call 263-8285	HOME IMPROVEMENT DOORS/GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS Home Repair • Carpentry Sheet Work Repaired/Replaced Kitchen & Bath BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK 409 E. 3RD 267-5811	GARAGE SALE HAVING A GARAGE SALE? CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD	
SUBSCRIPTION Subscribe To The Big Spring Herald Call The Circulation Dept. 263-7331 BIG SPRING HERALD	LAWN SERVICE MOWING, TILLING, HAULING TREE TRIMMING CLEAN STORAGE SHEDS AND ODD JOBS CALL 432-267-5460 LEAVE MESSAGE 816-6150	LAWN SERVICE DICK'S LAWN SERVICE 264-9106 Call between 1:30 & 4:30 or after 8:00 PM	RENTALS VENTURA COMPANY 432-267-2655 Houses • Duplexes 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms For rent/sale 709 E. 12TH 610 E. 12TH 1204 BENTON 802 E. 12TH	ROOFING FULLMOON ROOFING, INC. Voted Top 100 Roofing Contractors In America FREE ESTIMATES No Money Down COMPETITIVE PRICES 432-267-5478	ROOFING JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs! Free Estimates!! Big Spring & Surrounding Areas. 267-1110
ROOFING PALACIOS ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured & Bonded Home Phone# 432-263-5430 Cell# 432-213-0363	SIDING FOUR SEASONS Insulation & Siding Big Spring's OLDEST LOCALLY OWNED Insulation & Siding Company 432-264-8610	YOUR AD PUT YOUR AD HERE CALL 263-7331 Herald Classifieds BIG SPRING HERALD	TREE TRIMMING LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe 432-267-8317 432-268-9841	WEED CONTROL SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL Since 1954 432-263-6514 2008 Birdwell Lane Max F. Moore www.swalpc.com mm@swalpc.com	WEB PRINTING For Information On Web Printing Call Tony Hernandez 263-7331 BIG SPRING HERALD

BIG SPRING HERALD
Thursday, July 15, 2004

Help Wanted
CONVENIENT ST applications for S Experience prefer train. Apply at Texa Center, 300 Owens

COOK/WAIT Staff Park Place Retire Great atmosphere, pendable. Apply in 501 W. 17th Street Calls.

MOUNTAIN VIEW
NOW HIRI
Certified Nurse Excellent Working e Competitive Start with excellent ben Home like envirom Please apply in 2009 Virginia

NEED PART-TIM
help. Experienced Must be depen (432)267-6027.

OPENING FOR
vated Secretary/ tion. Strong co skills and compu must. Bilingual help person at 408 E. Spring. No phone c

CITY OF Big Spr
ing applications for tenance Worker. F formation contact nel Department a 310 Nolan, Big 79720 or Call (4 The City of Big Spr

PHYSICIAN'S OF
ing full time emp benefits for LVN Monday-Friday, 8-based on experie sume to (432)264-

PRODUCTION SU
Strong individual ship skills and org pace. Competitive benefits. Fax (432)354-2669.

RN CASE mana available with Best Hours are M-F 8:3 pm. Great working an competitive sa sign on bonus. Ple 1706 Marcy Drive

WAREHOUSE/
person needed to ture. Must be mo driving-record re be 21. Paid vaca days. Apply in p World 1611 Gregg

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Help Wanted

CONVENIENT STORE taking applications for Sales Clerk. Experience preferred but will train. Apply at Texas Workforce Center, 300 Owens St.

COOK/WAIT Staff needed at Park Place Retirement Living. Great atmosphere, must be dependable. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street. No Phone Calls.

Mountain View Lodge
NOW HIRING

Certified Nurses Aides. Excellent Working environment. Competitive Starting Salary with excellent benefits. Home like environment. Please apply in person, 2009 Virginia Ave.

NEED PART-TIME janitorial help. Experienced preferred. Must be dependable. Call (432)267-6027.

OPENING FOR highly motivated Secretary/ Sales position. Strong communication skills and computer skills a must. Bilingual helpful. Apply in person at 408 E. FM 700, Big Spring. No phone calls.

CITY OF Big Spring is accepting applications for Parks Maintenance Worker. For further information contact The Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or Call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE seeking full time employment with benefits for LVN and RMA. Monday-Friday, 8-5:00. Salary based on experience. Fax resume to (432)264-1901.

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR-Strong individual with leadership skills and organized. Fast pace. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume to (432)354-2669.

RN CASE manager position available with Best Home Care. Hours are M-F 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Great working environment an competitive salary. \$1,000 sign on bonus. Please apply at 1706 Marcy Drive.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY person, needed to move furniture. Must be motivated. Good driving record required. Must be 21. Paid vacation & holidays. Apply in person, Credit World 1611 Gregg.

Help Wanted

SOLID COMPANY NEEDS DRIVERS. Competitive hourly pay, **LOTS OF OVERTIME!** Paid travel, per diem, and motel. Home one week every month! Oil field labor along with driving. Medical and life insurance! Requires 2 years Class A CDL experience and good driving record. Call 1-800-588-2669.

Items for Sale

LONG MAYO Sofa (Khaki with nailhead trim). Hunter green wingchair. Beige Glider rocker & ottoman. Also King size mattress, box spring & frame. Call (432)267-4165.

Lost and Found

LOST GERMAN short hair Pointer. Red collar w/white paw prints. Last seen in Kentwood area. Call (432)264-0094.

Miscellaneous

GET READY for School. Advanced Band Trombone, paid \$1,800 will sell for \$700, or OBO. Call (432)268-1141.

HEMORRHOIDS????????? **MONEY** Back Guarantee. Call (432)264-0100.

PROSTATE PROBLEMS??? Call (432)264-0100.

National Ads

FREE MONEY \$5 for 2004! Private-Government Grants for Personal bills, School, Business, etc. Never Repay. Live Operators. \$47 billion dollars unclaimed 2003. 1-800-420-8344 ext. 01

FEDERAL POSTAL Jobs** To \$43,000/yr. Free Call. No Experience Necessary. Now Hiring. Full Benefits. 1-800-842-1622 Ext. 225

BARTENDERS NEEDED! NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. FT/PT. EARN \$150-\$250 PER SHIFT. CALL NOW!! 1-866-821-1676.

G E D Get your HS equivalency diploma with our easy home study course. 1-800-569-2163 ext. 310

GOVERNMENT JOBS! WILD-LIFE / POSTAL \$16.51 to \$58.00 per hour. Full Benefits. Paid Training. Call for Application and Exam Information. No Experience Necessary. Toll Free 1-888-269-6090 ext. 100

Pets

FOUND FEMALE Sheltie, wearing collar w/Odessa vet 2001 red tag, named "Missy". Vicinity of south 87. Call (432)263-0148.

FREE TO good home half wolf & half malamute. Call (432)268-8343 or come see @ 1601 Stadium.

EXTRA CUTE kittens need a home. Call (432)263-6148.

Real Estate for Rent

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen
Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

1709 OWENS. 1 Bedroom, unfurnished. \$175.00 month. Call (432)263-5818.

2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Call for more INFO (432)270-3848.

2523 DOW. 3 bdrm, 1 bath with CH/A. \$385.00 month \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

2602 ALBROOK 3 bedroom Duplex. CH/A, fenced yard. References and deposit required. \$375.00 month. Appointment only. Call (432)352-0152.

2604 ENT., 3 Bedroom 2 bath, CH/A, fenced yard, carport and fireplace. \$450/ month, \$200/ deposit. References required. Call (432)267-7449.

2713 REBECCA Drive. Large 3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, double garage. Available July 1st. One year lease required. \$900/month, \$500/deposit. No Pets. Call (432)263-0441 Owner/Broker.

3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath. 4219 Hamilton. 432-267-3841 or 432-517-0642.

305 EAST 13th. Fully furnished & appliances. \$270.00 month \$150.00 deposit. Water paid. Call (432)264-6531.

815 WEST 17th. Nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, 2 car garage, fenced backyard, good location. \$650.00 month \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)267-7032.

Real Estate for Rent

BUSINESS/ OFFICE Space for Rent. Very Nice! 900 sq. ft., 307 Union St., Utilities furnished. Call (432)213-0426 for more information.

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

FOR RENT: Furnished 3 room apartment. \$200. month. 908 West 4th. Call (432)263-3855 or 263-7648.

HWY. 87 South of Big Spring, 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, Central Heat & Air, 2 car garage. \$500. month plus deposit. Call (432)267-7338 or 816-3360.

MOBIL HOME outside City - North 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. New paint, drinkable well water, garbage pickup, stove, refrigerator. \$300. month \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-7644, 263-5825 after 7:00pm (432)399-4786.

NICE 2 and 3 Bedroom house for Rent. From \$250. - \$450. a month plus deposit. Washer & dryer connection. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Call (432)264-6611.

NICE ONE bedroom, one bath. \$250. monthly, \$200. deposit. 104 W. 13th (between Main & Scurry). 432-264-6611.

OFFICE/ SHOWROOM. 1800 sq. ft. 1307 B. Gregg St., \$400/month + deposit. Call Westex Auto Parts @ (432)263-5000.

READY NOW - Very nice house. Rent or Lease to Own. Brick, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large kitchen, utility room, ref. air, built-in range, double carport. 3709 Calvin (off Alamesa). \$550. monthly, deposit & pet deposit. Owner on property.

SUNSET RIDGE APTS. New Management
Family Friendly
Central A/C
Free Cable TV
Low Deposit
(432)263-2292

TWO BEDROOM, 1 bath. 800 E. 15th. No Pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

Real Estate for Sale

13.4 ACRES on Boykin Road. 2000 sq. ft. metal building, well, septic system. Fantastic View. Perfect Home Site. \$55,000.00 Call (432)264-9310.

FOR SALE by Owner. 3 Bedroom Duplex. CH/A, fenced yard. Owner will finance with reasonable down payment. 2600 & 2602 Albrook. \$42,500. Appointment only. Call (432)352-0152.

Real Estate for Sale

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

FOR SALE By Owner: Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath home with shop out back. 1202 West 15th. Call Kelly (432)425-9994.

FOR SALE, 3 bedroom, 2 bath house to be moved. Need some repair. Luther area. \$6,000. Call (210)414-9858.

GARDEN CITY, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, corner lot, central A/C and heat, 2 car carport, large storage building attached. Call (432)354-2352.

HOUSE TO be Moved. Historic 1906 Home. Ready to move to your lot. New roof. \$8000.00. Call (432)264-9310.

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

IMMEDIATE MOVE in: Price Slash- Nice 3/2 home on 1+ acre. Must see to appreciate. Asking \$47,500. Or Best Offer. Call and ask for Sandy at 1-800-699-4039 or 817-528-7220.

Rent to Own 3202 Auburn. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with 1 car garage. New Evaporated Air Condition, fenced yard. \$400 month plus taxes and insurance. Owner Finance with \$2000 down and References. Call (432)267-6667.

SALE by owner: 110 Circle newly remodeled 3/2, 1600 sq ft., CH/A. owner will finance with \$1200 down. Payments approximately \$425 a month. Call 263-8005 or 270-0833.

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

TWO LOTS on 1201 Mobile St., Lots 12-13. Trailer house connections on lots. \$1,200.00. Call Gloria or Javier (432)264-6196.

WHY PAY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN. Several properties to choose from. Low Down & Low Monthly. Owner Finance. No Credit Check. Call for Listings in Big Spring area (432)889-0677 or 687-1549.

Services Offered

?? PC NEED A NERD?? Screaming at Your Computer? You NEED To Call Me! I'll Restore your Sanity! Quality Work/ Inexpensive. 264-0531 Rick. (rickf2usa@cox.net)

LAWN SERVICE. Please Call Chris at (432)213-1922.

Vehicles

2004 NISSAN MAXIMAS
\$1000 Customer Rebate
OR
1.9% APR For 60 mos.
Bob Brock Nissan
500 W. 4th 267-7424

1990 WHITE Buick Lesabre. Very good condition 178060 mile. \$2100 OBO. Call (432)263-3123.

Vehicles

1993 XR 80 Motorcycle. Runs like new. \$700.00. Call (432)394-4481.

1994 FORD Aerostar Ext. Van. 3 Row sets, stereo, dual heat/ air cond., two tone Beige, plush trim inside. Call (432)267-7533.

2001 FORD Windstar Limited Edition. \$25,000.00 Firm. Excellent condition. Loaded. Call (432)466-0621.

2001 HYUNDAI Tiburon 5 speed, cruise control, air, CD, leather, 65,000 mil, \$6900. Runs Great. Call (432)263-0153 or 816-7252.

2002 Montana 5th wheel camper, 32 ft. with 3 slide outs. \$30,000. Will take smaller camper for trade in. Call (432)267-1088.

2003 HARLEY-DAVIDSON Sportster 1200 custom, 100th Anniversary, fully loaded. \$8,000. Call (432)268-9707



'99 COUGAR, 5-spd. standard, V6, sporty black, cruise, moon roof. 83,000 Miles. \$6,100.00. See at 710 Scurry or call Susanne at (432)263-7331 ext.250 days.

Legals

Texas Education Agency
Division of Career
and Technology Education

Public Notification of
Nondiscrimination in Career
and Technology Education
Programs

1. Coahoma ISD Offers career and technology education programs in Industrial Technology, Home Economics, Business Education, Agricultural Science, and Technology Education. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness, and class space available.

2. It is the policy of Coahoma ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.

3. It is the policy of Coahoma ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4. Coahoma ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

5. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator and/or Section 504 Coordinator, Billy D. Kingston, at PO Box 110, Coahoma, Texas 79511 (432)394-4290.

Forma De Muestra
1. Coahoma ISD ofrece programas vocacionales en Industrial Technology, Home Economics, Business Education, and Agricultural Science and Technology Education. La admision a estos programas se basa en interes y aptitud, edad apropiada, y el espacio utilidad en clase.

2. Es norma de Coahoma ISD no discriminar pr motivos dde raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

3. Es norma de Coahoma ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, la Ley de Discriminacion por Edad, de 1975, segun enmienda, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

4. Coahoma ISD tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta dde habilidadd en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

5. Para informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador de Titulo IX/Seccion 504, Bill Kingston, en P.O. Box 110, Coahoma, Texas 79511, (432)394-4290. #4273 July 15, 2004

Barcelona Apartments
1 Bedroom Starting At \$299.00
2 Bedroom Starting At \$379.00
Water - Gas - Cable Paid - No Deposit For Elec.
538 Westover • 263-1252

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES
Homes With Alarm Systems
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5, Even 6 Bedrooms Available
Rent - Rent-to-Own or Buy With Owner Financing
Swimming Pool - Basketball & Volleyball Courts
Corporate Housing Available
24 Hour Emergency Maintenance
2501 Fairchild Phone 263-3461

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1988 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Services Offered
?? PC NEED A NERD?? Screaming at Your Computer? You NEED To Call Me! I'll Restore your Sanity! Quality Work/ Inexpensive. 264-0531 Rick. (rickf2usa@cox.net)
LAWN SERVICE. Please Call Chris at (432)213-1922.
Vehicles
2004 NISSAN MAXIMAS
\$1000 Customer Rebate
OR
1.9% APR For 60 mos.
Bob Brock Nissan
500 W. 4th 267-7424
1990 WHITE Buick Lesabre. Very good condition 178060 mile. \$2100 OBO. Call (432)263-3123.

The Spider
During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.
One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.
Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."
BIG SPRING HERALD
Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.
Call today
(432) 263-7331

Want to have the
adventure of a lifetime
without all the fuss?
Read!

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
A beautiful symbiotic feeling accompanies the sun and moon in Cancer. It's like the world is open to emotions — the good, the bad and the ugly are all a part of a natural human expression. Accepting the brightness and the shadow inside yourself allows you to live more compassionately. Small social groups get a long beautifully.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). The more you mix



Joyce Jillson

and mingle with the general public today, the happier you'll be. Meeting new people brings out the best in you (even if you don't particularly like them!). Big news from somewhere in your family is featured.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). With so much competing for your attention, it's easy to pass up the thing that obviously requires your consideration. Someone who interrupts you consistently or at particularly annoying junctures is in desperate need of attention.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're usually charismatic, but now, your nat-

ural talents are even more magnified, attracting everyone around you to your cause — it almost doesn't seem fair to the rest of us! Work on devising a strategy for your business.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). You tend to underestimate the power of feeling like you belong. The drive to be connected to and accepted by others could cause you to agree to something you normally wouldn't see yourself doing. It's an adventure!
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your imagination is so active! Keep vigilantly focused on positive thoughts because you

could easily recreate old fears in your mind or conjure up new ones. Why stay in a state of chronic readiness for escape or battle?
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The world is your oyster, and you'll do well to sharpen your oyster knife. Without the proper tools, it sure is hard to get to the inside, where all the good stuff is. Your chief weapon is communication.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you're offered a gift, take it. If you don't think you'll use it, give it away later. But it's important to give the universe a sign right now, reinforcing that you're willing to receive whatever bounty comes your way.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Take in the scene around you, and anticipate the perfect moment to make your entrance. New propositions affect your career. You'll be tempted to jump at a decent offering. Even better could be waiting.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Show up ready to rumble at work — if you're not there to do the job, an upstart will swoop in and steal your glory! The best moments of real love are unplanned, but it may take a lot of planning to get there.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may find yourself testing the affections of those close to you. Don't worry about what is said in the heat of passion, but instead, look for

love in kind actions. Give points for the gesture of simply showing up.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A comeuppance of sorts is featured. You get the acknowledgment you've wanted for so long. Your legendary social graces could net you a dinner invitation. What you take for granted, others would fight to have!
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Lessons have to do with recognizing your authentic self and your unique attributes. It's really not hard to tell the difference between what's yours and what you're taking on for someone else. Dare to shed a false identity.
ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Leo born Aug. 19, 1950. I lost my job after Sept. 11, 2001, and have been temping ever since. I just can't seem to find a permanent job. I stay to myself and have no friends because I have no money to do things with other people. I just end up hibernating. When will things finally change?"
Leo, it's time to get real with yourself — dare to shed some of the lies you've used to keep yourself safe from the sort of tragedies you've witnessed first hand. First of all, you and I both know that you don't have to have much money to do things with people. Your closed-off attitude is the real culprit in this social slump. You're afraid to get close to people

because you don't want to experience the pain of loss later. The same is true of your constant temping. Spend the weeks ahead working intensively on your attitude. Fill your head with positive thoughts, prayers and reading materials. Do yoga, go for walks, and connect with nature. The end of July begins a winning cycle when, if you honestly want a permanent job, you'll find one where you can contribute proudly. This helps you relax and get back in the social groove.
CELEBRITY PROFILES: We're going to have to wait a bit for it, but Harrison Ford is preparing to start work on the fourth installment of the "Indiana Jones" movies. The project has been pushed back several times, but we'll soon hear Indy's whip crack again. Nuptials with Calista Flockhart are possible because Ford is now officially divorced. But will the couple rush for the altar? I predict an "I do" before the year is out.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My 17-year-old son and his girlfriend are going to have a baby. I knew they were having sex, and I kept telling them that she needed to use birth control. I even bought him condoms, but apparently, my efforts weren't enough. The girl refuses to get an abortion, and she won't consider adoption.
My husband and I are terribly distraught over this, and we dread breaking the news to our family and friends. The girl's mother said her daughter and the baby can live with her, but I am concerned about my son's legal and financial obligations. Also, should the couple break up, what are my rights as a grandparent? — Too Young To Be a Grandma

We should bombard manufacturers with com-



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

plaints or just not buy their products. Consumers need to be more vigilant. — Label Reader in Massachusetts
Dear Label Reader: Manufacturers are entitled to raise their prices, and this is what they are doing (although we have to admit, it does seem a bit sneaky).
Dear Annie: Not long ago, you received an inquiry from the mother of a high school freshman who had been diagnosed with Crohn's disease.
More than one million Americans suffer from Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) provides information and education through our Web site at www.ccfa.org. We have local chapters across the country that offer personal support services, and many have special programs for children and teens. We also can provide high schools with educational materials to increase staff awareness of the problems and concerns of Crohn's disease patients.
Please let this mother know that she and her son are not alone. They can contact CCFA at 386 Park Ave. South, 17th Fl., New York, NY 10016 (1-800-932-2423). — Betsy Myatt and Elizabeth Myatt, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America
Dear Betsy and

Elizabeth Myatt: Thank you for providing a helpful and supportive resource for our readers. We hope they contact you.
Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
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Dear Betsy and

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THURSDAY

WFAA (Dallas)

6	PM	News (CC)
7	PM	Stephan Kingdon
8	PM	Hospital (CC)
9	PM	PrimeTime Thursday
10	PM	News Nightline
11	PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy K
12	AM	Live (CC) Oprah We

DENNIS

"I DON'T GET I BACKSEAT DR FRONT SEAT"

BC

WHAT HAPPEN I HIT OUT OF

WIZARD

LOOKS LIKE HIT OUT OF B

AGNES

BENHOLD! C TRICKS ARE WAVE OF T FUTURE!

HI AND

CAN I TRY SOME OF YOUR FACE CREAM?

THE OT

WE'RE LOST. WE'LL STARVE TO DEATH!

SNUFF

YOUNG-U BE RAIS RIGHT !!

BEETL

7-15

THURSDAY

JULY 15

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (23)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (25)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (25)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Premium
6 PM	News (CC)	News (CC)	La Mujer de Mañana	King of the Hill	News (CC)	Facion de Gaviarvas	News (CC)	Scrinfeld (CC)	Joe McGee	News-Lehrer	800 Airbone	(CC)	Wildcat Police	Law & Order	Live	Sister, Sister	Reporters	Ochles at	
7 PM	Wheel-Fortune	Stephen King's Kingdom	Mariana de la Noche	North Shore (CC)	Big Brother 5 (CC)	Prisoners	Will & Grace	Movie: Down to Earth	Update-Israel	West Tex Jimi World	Lon Battifield (CC)	Movie: Coogan's Bluff	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Movie: The Pelican Brief	The Parkers	106 & Park: Prime	Shock at Comets	Great Outdoor Games (CC)	Movie: How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days (CC)
8 PM	Hospital (CC)	Hospital (CC)	Amarte es Mi Pasado	Fru Calling (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	El Alma Herida	Will & Grace	Light of the Southwest	Wide Angle (CC)	KAL-007	Kevin & Drew Unleashed	Movie: The Man Who Shot	WWE Wrestling	Club Comic View	That's Raven	Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonight (CC)	Billards	Girls (CC)
9 PM	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday	Aqui y Ahora	70s Show	Without a Trace (CC)	Protagonistas	News (CC)	8:35 Movie: Down to Earth	Soundstage (CC)	Charlie Rose (CC)	Liberty Valence	WWE Wrestling	Movie: The Pelican Brief	Nightly News	Midnight Love	Boy World	Baseball Tonight (CC)	Rome-Burning Outside Lines	Dementia (CC)
10 PM	News (CC)	News (CC)	En las Mejores Familias	Backer (CC)	News (CC)	Noticias Launc	News (CC)	10:50 Movie: Heart	Sign Off	KAL-007	45 Movie: Coogan's Bluff	Blind Date	Blind Date	Club Comic View	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Eating Contest	Movie: Carnal Confessions	
11 PM	Ent. Tonight	Ent. Tonight	En las Mejores Familias	Spin City	The Late Late Show (CC)	Al Rolo Vicio	News (CC)	10:50 Movie: Heart	Sign Off	KAL-007	45 Movie: Coogan's Bluff	Blind Date	Blind Date	Club Comic View	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Eating Contest	Movie: Carnal Confessions	
12 AM	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Mujeres Enganadas	Bird Date	Bird Date	Street Smart	News (CC)	10:50 Movie: Heart	Sign Off	KAL-007	45 Movie: Coogan's Bluff	Blind Date	Blind Date	Club Comic View	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Eating Contest	Movie: Carnal Confessions	

DENNIS THE MENACE

7-15

"I DON'T GET IT, DAD. HOW CAN MOM BE A 'BACKSEAT DRIVER' WHEN SHE'S IN THE FRONT SEAT?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

7-15

"Around the world in 80 days? Boy that guy was SLOW!"

HAGAR

7-15

"I KNOW I SAID YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO TWIRL YOUR SPAGHETTI ON YOUR FORK..."

BUT NOT ALL AT ONCE!

BLONDIE

7-15

"I WISH I COULD COME UP WITH A REALLY COOL NEW FASHION STATEMENT."

WHY DON'T YOU START WEARING YOUR SOCKS ON THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR SHOES?"

YOU KNOW...

HEY, C'MON, STOP IT!! I WAS ONLY KIDDING!!

WIZARD OF ID

7-15

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HIT OUT OF BOUNDS?

IT COSTS YOU A STROKE.

WHAT IF IT HITS SOMETHING OUT OF BOUNDS AND THEN GOES IN THE HOLE?

IT COSTS YOU A CARDIAC ARREST.

AGNES

7-15

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE HIT OUT OF BOUNDS

YOU'RE RIGHT, WE'LL TAKE A FIFTEEN-MINUTE BREAK

FOR YOUR CADDY TO FIND YOUR BALL?

TO MOVE THE STAKES

This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 15, the 197th day of 2004. There are 169 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Forty years ago, on July 15, 1964, Sen. Barry M. Goldwater of Arizona was nominated for president by the Republican national convention in San Francisco.

On this date:

In 1606, Dutch painter Rembrandt was born in Leiden, Netherlands.

In 1870, Georgia became the last Confederate state readmitted to the Union.

In 1916, Boeing Company, originally known as Pacific Aero Products, was founded in Seattle.

In 1948, President Truman was nominated for another term of office by the Democratic national convention in Philadelphia.

In 1965, U.S. scientists displayed close-up photographs of the planet Mars taken by Mariner Four.

In 1971, in a surprise announcement, President Nixon told the nation he would visit the People's Republic of China.

In 1976, a 36-hour kidnap ordeal began for 26 schoolchildren and their bus driver as they were abducted near Chowchilla, Calif., by three gunmen and imprisoned in an underground cell. (The captives escaped unharmed.)

In 1978, President Carter, in West Germany for an economic summit, presided over a "town meeting" during which he fielded questions from about 1,000 Berliners.

In 1979, President Carter delivered his "malaise" speech in which he lamented what he called a "crisis of confidence" in America.

In 1992, Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton claimed the Democratic presidential nomination at the party's convention in New York.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Philip Carey is 79. Actor Alex Karras is 69. Actor Ken Kercheval is 69. Sen. George V. Voinovich, R-Ohio, is 68. Actor Patrick Wayne is 65. Actor Jan-Michael Vincent is 60. Rhythm and blues singer Millie Jackson is 60. Rock singer-musician Peter Lewis (Moby Grape) is 59. Singer Linda Ronstadt is 58. Actor Terry O'Quinn is 52. Rock musician Marky Ramone is 48. Rock musician Joe Satriani is 48. Country singer-songwriter Mac McAnally is 47. Model Kim Alexis is 44. Actress Lolita Davidovich is 43.

Answer to previous puzzle:

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

WIZARD OF ID

7-15

AGNES

7-15

AGNES

7-15

AGNES

7-15

HI AND LOIS

7-15

HI AND LOIS

7-15

THE OTHER COAST

7-15

THE OTHER COAST

7-15

SNUFFY SMITH

7-15

SNUFFY SMITH

7-15

BETLE BAILEY

7-15

BETLE BAILEY

7-15

Newsday Crossword SUIT YOURSELF by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

- Stare
- JFK jets, once
- Pa Clampett
- Lose fur
- Shane star
- Theater award
- Airline's former name
- Japanese wrestling
- Iroquois tribe
- Evasive maneuver
- Pts. of speech
- Avignon assent
- Like some Spanish nouns
- High-ranking angel
- PD broadcast
- Osbourne of rock
- Court TV focus
- Dixie Chicks, for one
- Shar-
- Elvis' middle name
- Command to Fido
- The Maltese Falcon agency
- Christopher of the Senate
- Leave dumbstruck
- Tentacled mollusks
- Fender benders
- Elvis' first #1 song
- Greater
- Loyal subject

DOWN

- Skirt style
- Ponies up
- Keats or Shelley
- Wall component
- Did the backstroke
- Arise, with "up"
- Lounges around
- Open, as a tote bag
- Sheltered water
- Bottled spirit
- Our world
- Flavorful additive
- Danish physicist
- On good authority
- Line on a map
- Either half of 42 Across
- Start a family, perhaps
- Just picked
- Is gaga for
- Mess up
- Heed the alarm clock
- Units of resistance
- Boardroom VIPs
- Bakery buy
- Matches a bet
- Takes all for oneself
- Beehive State
- Toon skunk Le Pew
- Iditarod vehicle
- Josh

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J
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4

That's Racin'

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Go online and check out www.thatsracin.com for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

Passing marks

Ranking Cup teams' midseason performance

BY DAVID POOLE
Knight Ridder Newspapers

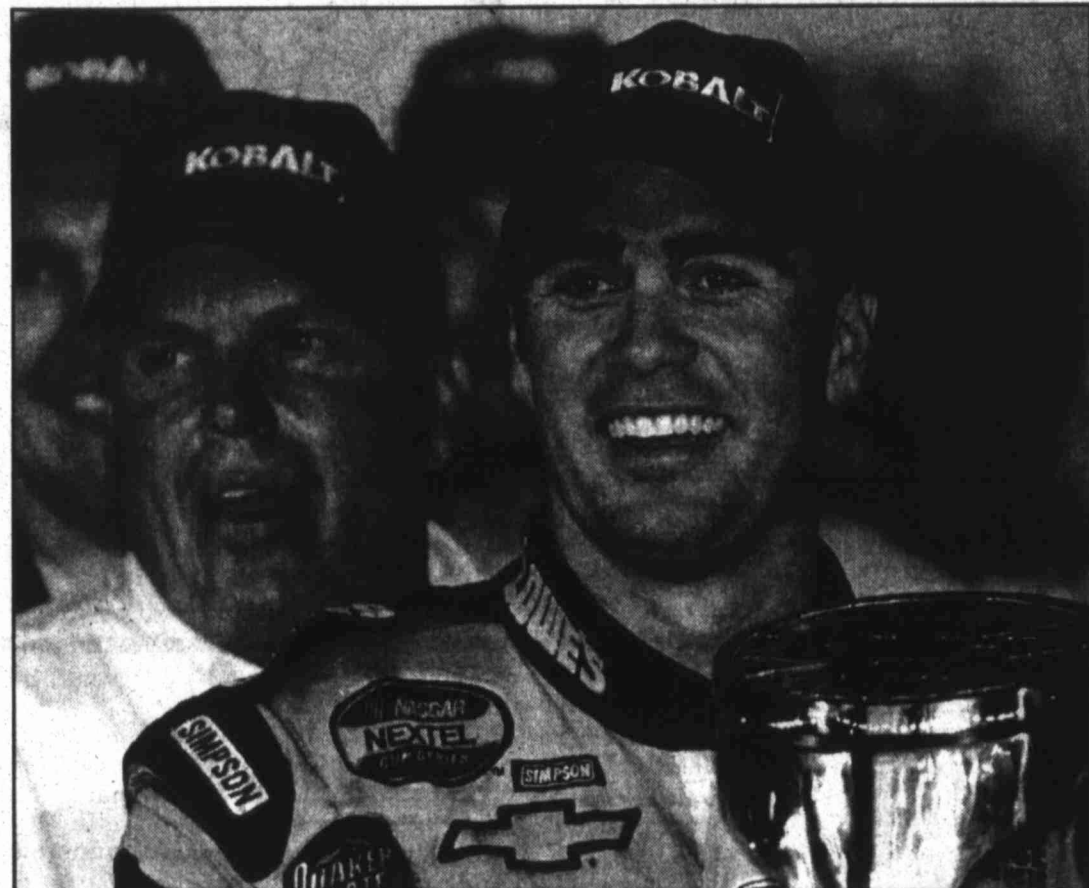
Rarely is the line between Nextel Cup racing's very best teams and the rest of the pack as easy to draw as it is at the midpoint of the 2004 season. Through 18 races, three teams have combined for 10 wins. They are also the top three in top-five and top-10 finishes and, not surprisingly, are the top three in the standings.

Jeff Gordon has the most victories, with four, and the most poles, with five so far this year, but both Jimmie Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr. have more top-five finishes. Johnson and his Chevrolet team, in fact, have been incredibly consistent. If not for a wreck at Dover, Johnson would have almost certainly finished the season's first half with a remarkable string of 11 top-five finishes.

So Johnson gets the A-plus in our annual midterm report card for NASCAR's top series, while Gordon and Earnhardt Jr. have to settle for your run-of-the-mill A's.

Earnhardt Jr. has nine top fives, but his team's apparent difficulty in solving the riddle presented by 1.5-mile, flat ovals is troubling as the season begins to build toward the 10-race Chase for the Championship at its conclusion.

Gordon has won the past four poles and pulled out a fourth-place finish Sunday at Chicagoland (Ill.) Speedway to keep his momentum going. Despite having won four times, Gordon has three did-not-finishes and has been in the top five "only" seven times. Johnson, by comparison, has 13 top-five finishes overall.



Jimmie Johnson and team have been remarkably consistent this year, earning them an A-plus.

Behind that trio, here are the rest of the first-half grades:

A- **Tony Stewart and Matt Kenseth:** Kenseth bolted out of the gate while Stewart took a while to heat up. Stewart's win at Chicagoland was a boost his team needed, but he's fourth in points because he's been running at the end of all 18 races. Kenseth won twice early and his No. 17 Ford team has sputtered a bit in recent weeks, but he's where he needs to be for the next eight races until the title chase field is winnowed.

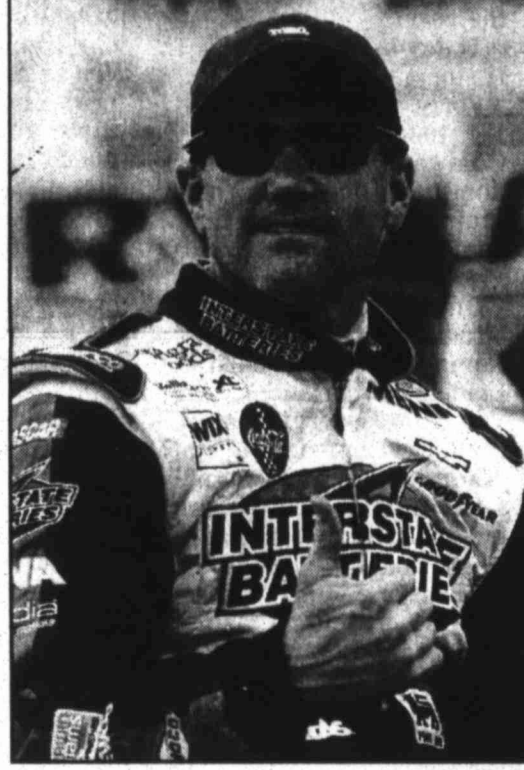
B+ **Elliott Sadler, Kurt Busch, Ryan Newman, Rusty Wallace and Mark Martin:** Sadler is in the best shape, championship-wise, among this group, which is bunched because each has won a race and that ought to be more important than it is under any points structure NASCAR seems willing to adopt.



Sadler

Sadler probably needs about three more top-10 finishes to go with the seven he already has to secure his spot in the title chase. Newman has eight top-10 finishes, but also has four DNFs. Busch also is in the top 10 so far, but Martin and Wallace need to get hot and stay hot for the next eight races to make the cut.

B **Bobby Labonte and Kevin Harvick:** Neither has won a race, but they're both right now in the top 10 in points and that's better than a kick in the head. Labonte is sixth and Harvick is eighth, and a win for each of them would certainly help create the right kind



RALPH LAUER/KRIT

Although Bobby Labonte has not won a race this year, he is still in the top 10 in the points standings and still in the running for the Nextel Cup championship.

of momentum.

B- **Kasey Kahne, Jeremy Mayfield, Dale Jarrett, Jamie McMurray and Casey Mears and Michael Waltrip:** No room for error in the next eight races for any of these drivers. Kahne has flashed great potential, and it seems like a matter of time before he'll continue the streak of seasons in which a rookie has won at least one race.

Mayfield has knocked on the door, too, and right now is 11th in points.

McMurray has nine top-10 finishes, but five DNFs. Jarrett and Waltrip have shown signs of improving in recent weeks, and Mears has shown similar promise from the middle of last year to now.



McMurray

C **Terry Labonte, Brian Vickers, Sterling Marlin, Greg Biffle, Robby Gordon, Jeff Burton, Ricky Rudd, Brendan Gaughan, Joe Nemechek, Ward Burton, Scott Wimmer, Scott Riggs, Dave Blaney and Ken Schrader:** If this were the Tour de France, these guys would be the peleton.

D **Ricky Craven, Kyle Petty, Jeff Green and Jimmy Spencer:** Struggling to keep up with the pack, let alone to contend.

OTHER GRADES

Incomplete — **John Andretti, Bill Elliott, P.J. Jones, Bobby Hamilton Jr., Derrick Cope and Kevin Lepage:** Andretti shows promise in the third Dale Earnhardt Inc. car. Elliott hasn't raced enough to give a good read on performance, but he's loving life in semi-retirement. The other guys at least try to compete when they show up.



Elliott

Present — **Morgan Shepherd, Kirk Shelmerdine, Hermie Sadler, Chad Blount, Larry Gunselman and Andy Hillenburg:** This group shows up and tries to bottom-feed when NASCAR needs field-fillers.

RANKINGS THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

- 1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):** Had it not been for a wreck at Dover he'd likely have 11 straight top-five finishes. Last week: 1.
- 2. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24):** His car was junk most of the day yet he finished fourth at Chicagoland. That's strong. Last week: 2.

- 3. Tony Stewart (car No. 20):** Whatever you think about the run-in with Kasey Kahne, this team had 'em covered at Chicago. Last week: 5.

- 6. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18):** There's a pretty big gap between the top five and next eight or nine teams this year. Last week: 6.

- 12. Ryan Newman (car No. 12) and Kurt Busch (car No. 97):** They got into each other early at Chicagoland, but no one made up any ground. Last week: 8 and 9, respectively.



Busch

- 4. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8):** This team's performance on flat tracks hasn't been good. They're doing all they can to figure it out. Last week: 3.

- 7. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38):** Ran better than they finished at Joliet. That won't work if they reach the title chase. Last week: 7.

- 5. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17):** This team has gone six races without a top-five finish, a fairly long drought for this group. Last week: 4.

- 8. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29):** Eight races without finishing better than 10th, yet he hasn't lost footing in title race. Last week: 11.
- 9. (tie) Ryan**

NASCAR's indecision at root of recent pit road fight

Sunday was the first day of harvest for NASCAR. It reaped a pit road brawl between Kasey Kahne's and Tony Stewart's crews at Chicagoland Speedway after sowing seeds of doubt and frustration by its lack of decisive action against Stewart following an incident at Infineon Raceway.

By not suspending Stewart after his confrontation with Brian Vickers, NASCAR ducked the responsibility of keeping the controversial driver in line.

What message did that send?

"NASCAR refuses to do anything," said Ray Evernham, Kahne's car owner. "You got a guy that does this week in and week out and nobody's doing anything about it. I'd like to have 10 minutes with Tony

Stewart and handle it myself. ... He should have his (expletive) beat. That's the problem. Nobody has ever really grabbed him and given him a good beating. If he doesn't get suspended, maybe I'll do that."

When NASCAR gave Stewart only a meaningless fine, points deduction and probation in the Vickers incident, teams decided the people who keep saying they're "in control" of the sport lacked either the courage or the will to deal with Stewart.

If anything is to be done, the teams feel they're going to have to do it themselves. That's what led to the scuffle on Sunday. We now have a vigilante atmosphere directly fostered by NASCAR's jelly-kneed response to Stewart's previous outbursts.



JOHN RAOUX/KRIT

By not suspending Tony Stewart, above, after his altercation with Brian Vickers, NASCAR officials lost credibility among some teams.

NASCAR said if it felt Stewart had hit Kahne's car on purpose on a restart, leading to a wreck that may have ended Kahne's chances to make the Chase for the Championship, it would have penalized Stewart at that point.

Some of Stewart's crew may be fined for the brawl, but if anybody gets suspended over that it will be — and should be, by the way — Tommy Baldwin, Kahne's crew chief.

Baldwin went to Stewart's pit to confront crew chief Greg Zipadelli, bringing several of his crew members with him. Regardless of what he says his intent was, that action means Baldwin created the flashpoint for emotions by being somewhere he wasn't supposed to be. Under NASCAR rules he's responsible for the actions of his crew, too.

Stewart should have been suspended after the Vickers incident and Baldwin should sit out at least one race for what he did Sunday. But how in fairness can NASCAR come back and sit Baldwin down after not suspending Stewart?

NASCAR is caught in the cavern it created by caving and not sitting Stewart down when it should have.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION
What grade would you give the quality of racing this season on the Nextel Cup circuit?
Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION
Television ratings for NASCAR events have slipped this season compared with the first three years of the multibillion-dollar TV contract. What do you think the problem is?
Number of votes: 12,742

Response	No. of votes	Percent
All of NASCAR's changes are coming back to haunt them.	7,572	59%
I'm still watching.	2,243	18%
The racing isn't as good as it used to be.	1,426	11%
NASCAR's tremendous growth spurt is just leveling off.	982	8%
Something else.	519	4%

STOP 'N' GO

Q&A WITH DALE EARNHARDT JR.

With three wins and 12 top-10 finishes, Dale Earnhardt Jr. is in second place in the NASCAR Nextel Cup points standings.

■ We are seeing the NASCAR Nextel Cup series move into different areas. Do you see yourself as a pioneer in that area?

■ Earnhardt Jr.: I really don't see myself as making that big of a difference. The sport is going where it's going without Dale Earnhardt Jr. I don't think I'm the lead locomotive here, and I never have. But there are a lot of drivers and personalities that make up the sport.

Earnhardt Jr.

What powers the sport and fuels the sport are the media, the press, the networks, the coverage and all the free advertisement we get from racing every weekend. People are tuning in and latching on to the sport for the first time. That's going to happen no matter who is driving in the sport.

■ Has your organization discussed what you need to do to maintain a strong position in the points?

■ Earnhardt Jr.: You've just got to finish the best you can every week. That's all there is to it. You've just got to really dig deep sometimes when the car isn't working good. When your car is working good, you just get around there and you get a top-10 finish every week, you're going to be there.

When you have a 25th-place car and you get a top-20 finish with it, that's what wins you the championships. If you're a good team, you're not going to have that happen too often. But it does come across now and then.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of July 11:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. J. Johnson (48)	2545	21. T. Labonte (5)	1739
2. D. Earnhardt Jr. (8)	2518	22. J. Burton (98)	1731
3. J. Gordon (24)	2313	23. R. Gordon (31)	1721
4. T. Stewart (20)	2203	24. G. Biffle (16)	1703
5. M. Kenseth (17)	2189	25. W. Burton (0)	1631
6. B. Labonte (18)	2164	26. J. Nemechek (0)	1621
7. K. Busch (97)	2153	27. S. Wimmer (22)	1606
8. E. Sadler (38)	2152	28. R. Rudd (21)	1600
9. R. Newman (12)	2112	29. B. Gaughan (77)	1508
10. K. Harvick (29)	2095	30. S. Riggs (10)	1441
11. K. Kahne (9)	1984	31. R. Craven (32)	1423
12. J. Mayfield (19)	1948	32. K. Schrader (49)	1386
13. J. McMurray (42)	1944	33. K. Petty (45)	1359
14. M. Martin (5)	1939	34. J. Green (43)	1343
15. D. Jarrett (88)	1918	35. J. Sauter (30)	1217
16. C. Mears (41)	1880	36. D. Blaney (23)	896
17. R. Wallace (2)	1835	37. J. Spencer (4)	855
18. M. Waltrip (15)	1822	38. D. Cope (50)	841
19. B. Vickers (25)	1792	39. K. Lepage (51)	540
20. S. Martin (40)	1790	40. M. Shepherd (89)	502

NEXT RACE: July 25, Siemens 300, Loudon, N.H.

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of July 10:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. M. Truex Jr.	2863	11. K. Kahne	2126
2. K. Busch	2811	12. A. Lewis	2117
3. J. Keller	2504	13. T. Fedewa	2081
4. R. Hornaday	2495	14. R. Gordon	2050
5. D. Green	2495	15. K. Wallace	2028
6. G. Biffle	2487	16. C. Atwood	2002
7. J. Leffler	2444	17. S. Compton	1989
8. B. Hamilton Jr.	2393	18. D. Stremme	1980
9. M. Waltrip	2293	19. R. Pressley	1977
10. M. Bliss	2232	20. J. Sauter	1954

NEXT RACE: July 24, New England 200, Loudon, N.H.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of July 10:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Setzer	1527	6. C. Chaffin	1330
2. C. Edwards	1483	7. J. Wood	1327
3. B. Hamilton	1466	8. T. Kvapil	1300
4. R. Crawford	1395	9. T. Musgrave	1299
5. M. Crahan	1341	10. J. Sprague	1288

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Missouri-Illinois Dodge Dealers Ram Tough 200, Madison, Ill.