

## Perry vetoes education spending, calls special session

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Republican Gov. Rick Perry on Saturday vetoed the state's \$35.3 billion public education budget and called lawmakers back to the Capitol to finally find a solution to the school finance dilemma.

"I recognize this is a bold step, and frankly one I wrestled with," Perry said.

"Ultimately, I determined this action was necessary to ensure we fully fund our schools, provide needed reforms in the classroom, and pass real and sub-

stantial property tax relief," he said.

Without state funds, K-12 schools will struggle to educate Texas' 4.3 million students when the new school year starts in August.

Such a scenario could give lawmakers who have been uninspired to find a school finance solution the impetus they need to get the job done.

The special session, set to begin Tuesday, will mark the Legislature's fourth attempt to take up school finance in the last three years, including the last two regular sessions. Perry called a special session last spring, but it ended in

failure.

Perry had said he would only call lawmakers back if House and Senate leaders were ready to agree on a plan.

House Speaker Tom Craddick said in an interview Friday with a Midland television station that leaders "have no agreement or no plan that we've agreed upon at all at this point."

The legislative session that ended May 30 culminated with a showdown between Craddick and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, both Republicans, who were at odds over how to reform certain taxes to pay for public schools. No compro-

mise was reached.

Many lawmakers have campaigned on promises to lower school property taxes and they're under court pressure to fix the school funding system.

Hundreds of poor and wealthy school districts sued the state, arguing that the state doesn't provide adequate funding to properly educate public school students.

Last year, state district Judge John Dietz declared the funding system unconstitutional, arguing that it

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## Strayhorn says she'll challenge governor

By NATALIE GOTT

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the fast-talking state comptroller who makes sport of chastising Republican Gov. Rick Perry, said Saturday she would challenge the governor in next year's GOP primary.

"Now is time to replace a donothin' drugstore cowboy with one tough grandma," Strayhorn, 65, told a cheering crowd of about 200 supporters at a block party near the state Capitol.

Strayhorn's announcement came shortly after Perry vetoed education funding from the state budget bill, and called lawmakers back to Austin for a special session on school finance.

She took the opportunity to launch another verbal torpedo at Perry. Known for her rapid-fire speech and sharp tongue, Strayhorn has spent the past year attacking Perry's leadership and policies.

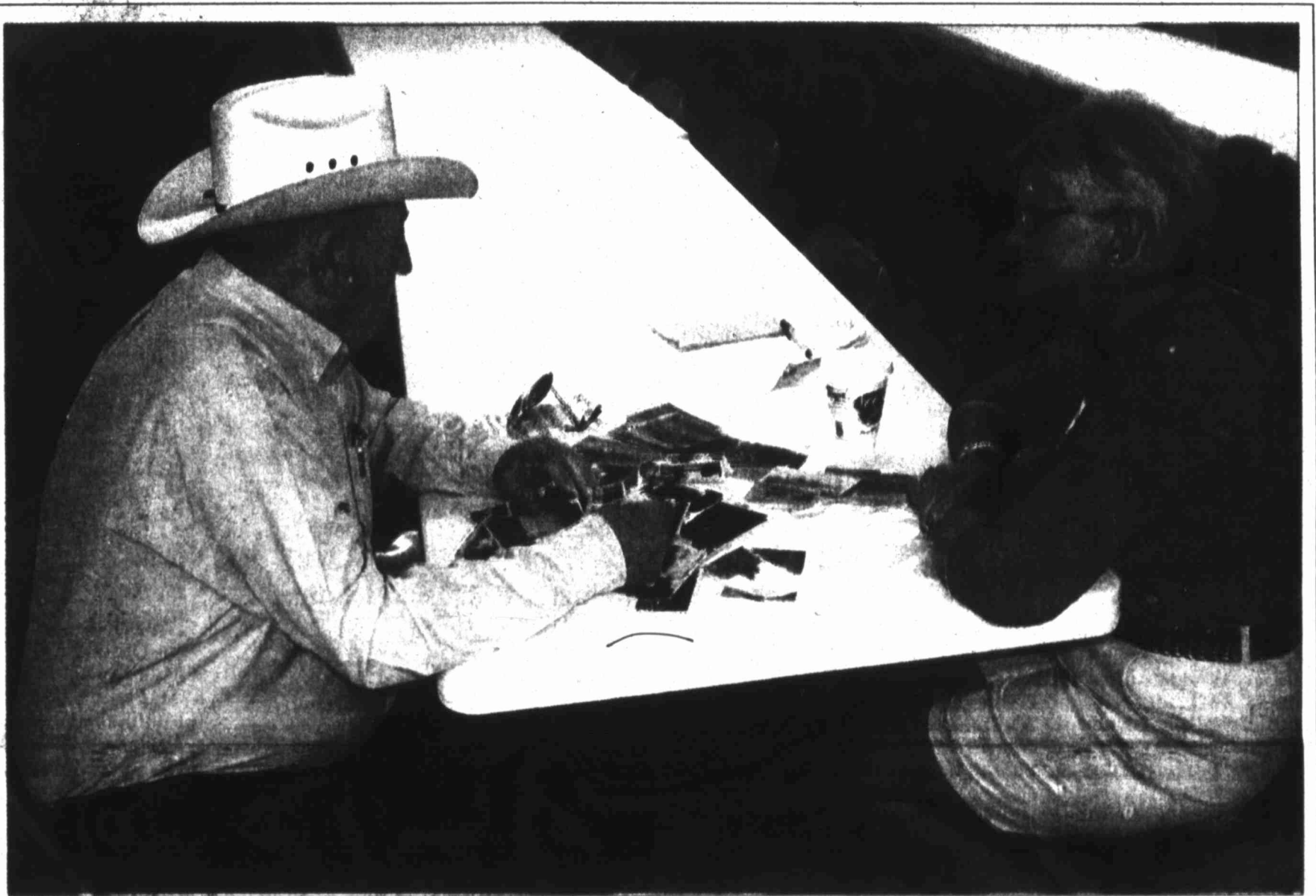
"A leader does not allow three regular sessions and four special sessions to go by without fixing our public schools," Strayhorn said. "A leader does not call a fifth special session costing taxpayers another \$1.5 million when he does not have a plan."

"Most importantly, a leader does not hold our children's education hostage and certainly would never even allow a discussion about school not opening on time because he cannot fix what is broken," she said.

Strayhorn enters the race with one less strong opponent, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. The senator late Friday issued a surprising statement saying she was running for re-election to the Senate.

For months, Hutchison had been tested the waters for a run against Perry, which would

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Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Bob Read, left, and Linda Berry sift through family photos at Saturday's Howard-Glasscock Old Settlers' Reunion at the Howard County Fair Barns Saturday morning. They are members of the Charles Duncan Read family, honored as Howard County's Pioneer of the Year Award at the event.

## Old Settlers' Reunion: Tradition of honoring our forefathers continues

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Charles Duncan Read came to Howard County in 1880 with little more than a case of "railroad fever." By the time he died, however, he owned more than 30 sections of land and had helped found one of the county's foremost financial institutions.

Read's descendants were honored with the Howard County Pioneer of the Year Award at the annual Howard-Glasscock Old Settlers' Reunion Saturday at the County Fairbarns.

The family of Joseph George Carter, who moved here from

Ohio before the start of the 20th century, was honored with the Glasscock County Pioneer of the Year Award.

Read left his home in Rich Pond, Ky., and arrived in Howard County in 1880, a year before the railroad arrived in this area.

Although his sweetheart, Sue Elizabeth Jordan, claimed he was suffering from "railroad fever" and urged him to return home to Kentucky, Read was determined to make a life for himself here, said his great-grandson, Bob Read.

Bob Read said his great-grandfather worked a team of mules and other machinery

during the laying of the railroad tracks, then as a dispatcher for the railroad in order to save enough money to buy some land.

"When he got his first paycheck, he had nowhere to put it," said Bob Read. "You couldn't very well lock it in your tent .... When he got a little bit ahead, he bought some mules, and hired a guy to run them, and they helped lay the track."

Finally, in 1883, he had saved enough money to buy 33 sections of land in Howard County, returned to Kentucky to marry Jordan, and moved back to Howard County to stay. His great-grandson said, that

despite the extensive land holdings, C.D. Read wasn't exactly a rich man.

"He got pretty 'land-poor' a few times," Bob Read said. "It's kind of hard to pay taxes on your land when that's all you've got."

Aside from operating a farm/ranch enterprise, Read also served as the first president of the State National Bank in Big Spring, his great-grandson said.

"I'm very proud that they've honored our family," said Linda Berry, another of C.D. Read's great-grandchildren. "It

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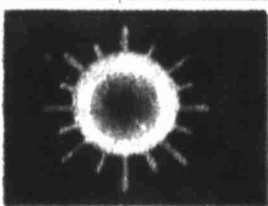
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### THIS WEEKEND



Rock singer John Mellen-camp's love for a small town remains just as strong today as it was growing up in Indiana.

He discusses his decision to raise

his family in Bloomington.

Hometown Hero: When Leslie Morissette lost her 8-year-old son to leukemia, she converted her grief into good cause by providing computers to other seriously ill children and their families.

### HUTCHISON SAYS NO

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison announced Friday that she will run for a third Senate term, ending months of speculation that she would challenge Gov. Rick Perry next year in the GOP primary.

An e-mail distributed by Hutchison's campaign said she would make the formal announcement on June 27, when she would provide details on her decision and "why she believes it is in the best interest of Texas."

Campaign manager Terry Sullivan would not elaborate on the statement or its timing.

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### FATHER'S DAY MEAL

The Spring City Senior Center, located at 1901 Simler, will hold its annual Father's Day Luncheon at noon Sunday.

The meal for the luncheon will be roast beef, potatoes and carrots. Coffee, tea, water and milk will be available to drink. Dessert for the day will be strawberry shortcake.

The public is invited to attend.

The meal will be \$5 per person for all those under the age of 60.

For those 60 years of age and older, an unspecified donation is requested.

For more information call Joann Staulcup at 263-4980.



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# Salvation Army conducting its annual fan drive

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

For some area residents, higher temperatures in West Texas means something to talk — and more likely, complain — about this summer.

For others, it's a daily battle to survive.

The Big Spring Salvation Army is in the middle of its annual fan drive, which collects donated fans and money

to purchase new fans, which are then distributed to area residents in need of help in beating the summer heat.

"With the hot days of summer ahead, we know there will be a tremendous need," said Capt. Russ Keeney. "Last year we were able to give out more than 100 fans, and we expect the need to increase, as it does every year."

Paula Lafler, a social

worker with the local Salvation Army, said she hopes to see the program reach those in the community that need the help the most.

"We're trying to target the elderly because they are the most susceptible to heat related illnesses," she said. "We're also trying to target families with children 5-years-old and younger and who are at home through the day during the summer

months.

"Donations can be made in several different ways. Donors can bring in their used fans that are in good, serviceable condition, or they can make a monetary donation. The box fans that we normally purchase usually run about \$12 each, but with the rising cost of everything, it could end up being higher."

Lafler said her office is currently giving out fans

that were gathered during last year's effort, but the coffers are frighteningly low.

"We only have a few fans left," said Lafler. "We've been trying to make sure the elderly and those with children get priority, but pretty soon we're going to simply run out."

Those in need of fans can apply for assistance at the Salvation Army Office Monday through

Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. with an hour break for lunch at noon. The office is located at 811 W. Fifth Street.

For more information on the annual program, or to make a donation, contact Lafler at 267-8239.

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

# Perry signs bill giving juries life without parole option

**By JIM VERTUNO**  
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Jurors in the nation's No. 1 death penalty state have a new sentencing option in capital murder cases: life without parole.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry on Friday signed into law the provision death penalty opponents hope will lead to fewer executions in Texas.

The most significant change in Texas capital punishment laws in decades also removes the possibility that capital murderers could be

paroled, a move criticized by civil liberties groups.

"I believe this bill will improve our criminal justice system because it gives jurors a new option to protect the public with the certainty a convicted killer will never roam our streets again," Perry said.

Texas leads the nation in executions with 345 since the state resumed the practice in 1982 and nine this year. Of the 38 states that execute capital offenders, Texas and New Mexico are the only ones that lacked the life-without-parole option.

Texas juries have been

able to sentence capital murderers to death or life in prison with the possibility of parole after 40 years. The new life-without-parole option will apply to murders committed on or after Sept. 1.

A Scripps-Howard poll in October found that 75 percent of Texans support the death penalty and 78 percent favored giving juries the option of life without parole.

"We hope there will be fewer death sentences," said David Elliot, spokesman for the Washington, D.C.-based National Coalition to

Abolish the Death Penalty. "For a very long time, Texas has denied juries a viable alternative to the death penalty."

Opponents of the change have warned that taking away parole gives convicts little reason to behave in prison. Supporters preferred to call it "truth in sentencing" since convicts sentenced to life are guaranteed never to be freed.

Many prosecutors opposed the bill when it included keeping the parole option as a third choice for jurors, but agreed to support the bill

once it was stripped out.

The Texas chapter of the ACLU had urged lawmakers to keep the parole option.

"If a person proves themselves to be redeemed, they should have the option to be paroled," said Texas ACLU Executive Director Will Harrell, who doubted the change will result in fewer death sentences.

"There's a grand fervor for blood in this state," Harrell said.

Dianne Clements of the Houston-based victims' rights group Justice for All said she didn't think

the life-without-parole option was necessary but saw no problem with it.

"Juries are going to impose death penalty for very heinous crimes just like they did before," Clements said.

The Senate sponsor of the measure, Brownsville Democrat Eddie Lucio, had pursued a life-without-parole bill for several years.

Lucio, who has said he supports the death penalty, did not immediately return messages left at his office.

## STRAYHORN

Continued from Page 1A

have made for an expensive, contentious three-way battle for the GOP nomination, opened a senate seat, and set off a political domino game in Texas.

Strayhorn was elected comptroller — the state's chief financial officer — in 1998, when she was still known by the last name Rylander, the name of her second husband before her January 2003 marriage to her high school sweetheart Ed Strayhorn.

She became the first woman elected Texas

comptroller after serving on the three-person Texas Railroad Commission, a statewide-elected post. Before that, Strayhorn, who was a Democrat, served on the Austin school board and ran for Austin mayor in 1977, winning over nine men. She served three terms as mayor, then switched parties before running for statewide office as a Republican.

Strayhorn said her late father, Page Keeton, the longtime dean of the University of Texas law school, instilled in her the importance of public education, and she passed that on to her children.

Two of her four sons serve in President George

W. Bush's administration. Scott McClellan is White House press secretary, and Dr. Mark McClellan is administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services. She also has five granddaughters.

Among Strayhorn's chief criticisms of Perry have been over his policies regarding education.

The catalyst for their clash, she has said, came when Perry, in the final days of the 2003 legislative session, cut funding for her plan to provide free community college education to high school graduates. Perry's office has disputed her account, saying the governor worked to pass a version

of the program. The Legislature rejected Strayhorn's proposal.

After that, Strayhorn refused to certify the state budget until Perry vetoed certain items.

Lawmakers then stripped Strayhorn's agency of two prominent duties: government efficiency recommendations and school performance reviews. She claims the governor's office prompted the lawmakers to make the changes, an allegation the governor denies.

Perry, who typically avoids returning Strayhorn's political volleys, seeks his second full term. He became governor in 2000, after Bush resigned to become presi-

dent. He was elected to a full four-year term in 2002 in one of Texas' most expensive elections. Perry, 55, defeated Democrat millionaire Tony Sanchez, who spent close to \$70 million, while Perry's campaign spent \$26 million.

While no Democrat has formally announced intentions to run, former U.S. Rep. Chris Bell of Houston has said he is considering a bid. Musician and author Kinky Friedman is running as an independent.

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<http://www.rickperry.org>

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## PERRY

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depends too heavily on property taxes imposed by local school districts.

Many districts tax homeowners at the legal limit — \$1.50 per \$100 of property value — and don't have room to raise more money for schools. The property tax cap, Dietz said, amounts to a statewide property tax,

which is unconstitutional in Texas.

Dietz ordered state funding to schools to cease by October 2005 if the system isn't fixed before then. But, the state has appealed the decision to the Texas Supreme Court and a July 6 date has been set for oral arguments.

Because Dietz's decision is on appeal, the October deadline is moot unless the state's high court upholds that part of the ruling.

Lawmakers initially said they wanted to cut school property taxes by half, but finding additional revenue to compensate for lower property taxes and still invest more money in schools has proven difficult.

Past proposals have included a tax on snack food, increasing the state's 6.25 percent sales tax and a new tax on bottled water. Before the last special session, Perry proposed a "tassel tax," an entrance fee on adult-oriented businesses.

Most of the new money

would likely come from restructuring the state's business tax, which most Texas businesses don't pay because of loopholes in the law. That part of the school finance legislation became the most difficult road block for lawmakers to overcome.

## REUNION

Continued from Page 1A

was a good surprise."

Berry resides on the family's ranch six miles northeast of Coahoma, and said she wouldn't trade ranch life for anything.

"It's a great learning experience," she said. "Plus, you get to see a lot of stars ... and it's so quiet."

County to teach, on June 16, 1897.

Drought forced Carter, his wife, and their six children to move to Big Spring in 1917, although the family returned to the ranch a few years later.

He is noted for serving as one of the first commissioners of Glasscock County, bringing the first Ford agency to Glasscock County and growing the first bale of cotton that was ginned in the area.

*Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.*

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# House passes bill to cut U.N. funds unless reforms are made

By JIM ABRAMS  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The House voted Friday to issue an ultimatum to the United Nations: reform or lose U.S. financial support. Lawmakers also made clear to the White House that its more diplomatic approach wouldn't do.

Led by Republicans, the House voted 221-184 for a bill that would withhold one half of assessed U.S. dues, currently around \$440 million a year, if the U.N. doesn't accomplish nearly four dozen steps to improve its accountability and root out corruption.

Failure to comply would also result in U.S. refusal to support expanded and

new peacekeeping missions.

"History shows that when Congress stands tough, when it says that if you don't reform we are not going to pay, then change occurs," said House International Relations Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill., author of the legislation.

The Bush administration, while applauding the House for pressing for changes at the U.N., said the automatic withholding of payments could "detract from and undermine our efforts" to work with U.N. members to improve the organization.

The House rejected, on a 216-190 vote, an alternative offered by Rep. Tom Lantos, D-Calif., that

would have made similar demands for change but leave it to the secretary of state to decide whether to withhold up to 50 percent of payments.

The Senate has no immediate plans to take up the bill and its chances of becoming law are uncertain. But it was clear that the frustrations of House Republicans, who voted overwhelmingly for the Hyde bill, outweighed the urgings of the administration to reconsider the legislation.

"Far from promoting justice and respect for international law, the United Nations has become one of the world's greatest apologists for tyranny and terror," said House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas.

"The U.N.'s corruption is so breathtaking in its scope as to be almost universal."

Over two days of debate, speakers slammed the U.N. for what they said was its wasteful bureaucracy, its anti-America, anti-Israel biases, its seating of tyrannical governments on the U.N. Commission on Human Rights and scandals involving the sexual misconduct of peacekeepers and alleged corruption in the oil-for-food program for Iraq.

The House approved some two dozen amendments that pinpointed further ways to improve the U.N. Among them were directions to suspend member states engaged in crimes against

humanity, waive immunity for U.N. officials in connection with the oil-for-food program and make Iran ineligible to receive nuclear material from International Atomic Energy Agency members until it is in full compliance with the IAEA.

Democrats, and their few Republican allies, said there was no dispute over the need for U.N. reform, but argued that the Hyde approach was heavy-handed. "I can't believe that when our men and women are fighting in Iraq, that we would move forward with legislation like this when we need to draw countries together," said Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn.

Eight former U.S. ambassadors to the U.N., including Madeleine Albright and Jeane Kirkpatrick, also weighed in, telling lawmakers in a letter this that withholding of dues would "create resentment, build animosity and actually strengthen opponents of reform."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan was concerned that the bill could threaten his own overhaul plan, which he hopes world leaders will adopt in September, his spokesman Fred Eckhard said. "He believes that U.S. engagement and leadership in this process is very important but does not feel that withholding dues is a productive route to achieving reform," Eckhard said.

## Security breach may affect 40 million credit cardholders

By JOE BEL BRUNO  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — A computer hacker may have accessed more than 40 million credit card accounts in what could be the largest in a series of recent security breaches involving consumer data, officials said.

MasterCard International Inc. announced Friday that the breach was traced to Atlanta-based CardSystems Solutions Inc., which processes credit card and other payments for banks and merchants. All brands of credit cards could be affected.

The compromised data did not include addresses or Social Security numbers, said MasterCard spokeswoman Sharon Gamsin. The data that may have been viewed — names, banks and account numbers — could be used to steal funds, but not identities.

Gamsin said she did not know how the virus-like computer script that captured customer data got into CardSystems' network, which MasterCard said was infiltrated by an "unauthorized individual." Neither company would elaborate.

The FBI is investigating.

MasterCard said 14 million of its customers may have been exposed to fraud. A spokeswoman for American Express said a small number of its cardholders were affected, but would not give an exact number. Discover Financial Services Inc. wouldn't say whether its customers were affected. Visa USA and a large issuer of cards, MBNA Corp., did not return calls for comment.

The incident was the latest in a series of security lapses affecting con-

sumer information. The breach appears to be the largest yet involving financial data, said David Sobel, general counsel at the Electronic Privacy Information Center.

"The steady stream of these disclosures shows the pressing need for regulation of the industry both in terms of limitation in the amount of personal information that companies collect and also liability when these kinds of disclosures occur," he said.

Under federal law, credit card holders are liable for no more than \$50 of unauthorized charges, and many card issuers will even waive the \$50.

Other companies that have been hit by security lapses recently include Citigroup Inc., Bank of America Corp. and DSW Shoe Warehouse. Federal lawmakers responded by drawing up legislation designed to better protect consumer privacy.

MasterCard announced the breach in a news release Friday, saying it was notifying its card-issuing banks of the problem.

CardSystems then released its own statement, saying it first learned of a potential breach on May 22. The company said it was told by the FBI not to release any information to the public; its statement Friday had been vetted by the agency.

"We were absolutely blindsided" by MasterCard's announcement, CardSystems' chief financial officer, Michael A. Brady said.

CardSystems, which has a processing center in Tucson, Ariz., has been in business for more than 15 years and handles transactions for more than 115,000 small to mid-sized businesses, according to the company's Web site.



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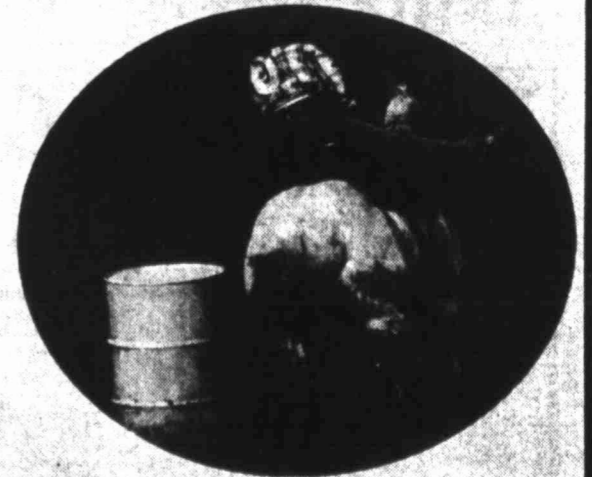


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# Rice: Israel, Palestinians must coordinate on Gaza withdrawal

By ANNE GEARAN

**AP Diplomatic Writer**  
RAMALLAH, West Bank — U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice met on Saturday with Palestinian leaders at their government headquarters, with Israel's withdrawal this summer of troops and settlers from the Gaza Strip a main topic.

Ahead of separate talks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Rice said the two sides jointly must plan for when Jewish settlers start leaving their homes

"I know Israel has done a lot of planning; I know the Palestinians have done a lot of planning. Our goal is to make sure they are doing their planning together."

RICE

in Gaza. "There needs to be clarity about what to expect," Rice told reporters Friday, en route to Jerusalem. "That, I think, will lead to less confusion on what is likely to be, under the best of circumstances, a pretty compli-

cated day."

Rice was holding talks Saturday with Abbas and members of the Palestinian Cabinet, including Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, Foreign Minister Nasser Al-Kidwa and Interior Minister Nasser

Yousef. "I'm certainly going to talk with President Abbas about the need ... for the Palestinians to play a critical role in providing a secure environment in which the Gaza disengagement can take place," Rice said during her trip from Washington.

"Obviously, that means that the calm that he has discussed with the various Palestinian factions is going to have to hold," she said, adding that he must be tough with the militant group Hamas.

In southern Gaza on Saturday, Palestinian militants attacked a settlement, leading

to a gun fight that killed one of the attackers and wounded a second, the army said. No soldiers or residents were injured. Rice's meeting with Sharon was set for Sunday in Jerusalem. It was part of her weeklong trip to the Middle East and Europe.

Israel's planned August withdrawal from all 21 Jewish settlements on Gaza and four of the 120 in the West Bank is a major benchmark of progress toward an eventual peace deal.

"What they are doing is moving thousands of people with

See RICE, Page 8A

# U.S. Marines battle insurgents on two fronts in Iraq

By JACOB SILBERBERG

**Associated Press Writer**

KARABILAH, Iraq — U.S. Marines and Iraqi forces battled insurgents on two fronts Saturday in a restive western province, killing about 50 militants in a dusty frontier town in the military's latest campaign to stop foreign fighters infiltrating from neighboring Syria.

The military also announced Saturday that two U.S. soldiers were killed and one was wounded during a small-arms skirmish with insurgents late Friday while transporting a detainee near Buhriz, about 35 miles north of Baghdad. A civilian and the detainee also were killed, and five Iraqi police officers were wounded.

At least 1,718 members of the U.S. military have died since the Iraq war started in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Operation Spear, or Romhe in Arabic, was in its second day in Karabilah, about 200 miles west of Baghdad, in Anbar province. Karabilah, which is along the Syrian border, long has been considered an insurgent hotbed.

"The goal is not to seize territory," said Marine Col. Stephen Davis, a commander from New Rochelle, N.Y. "This is about going in and finding the insurgents. This is not a walk-through-the-river exercise."

Three U.S. troops have been wounded since the operation began Friday, Davis said. The campaign involves about 1,000 Marines and Iraqi forces backed by battle tanks. About 100 insurgents have been captured, the military said.

"Approximately 50 insurgents have been killed since the operation began," Marine Capt. Jeffrey Pool said from Ramadi, the provincial capital.

A second campaign of

about the same size, Operation Dagger, was launched Saturday — this one targeting the marshy shores of a remote lake north of Baghdad. About 1,000 U.S. Marines and Iraqi troops, backed by fighter jets and tanks, were participating.

Operation Dagger, or Khanjar in Arabic, is seeking insurgent training camps and weapons caches in the southern part of the Lake Tharthar area, 53 miles northwest of Baghdad.

On March 23, U.S. and Iraqi forces killed about 85 militants at a suspected training camp along Lake Tharthar. That raid turned up booby-trapped cars, suicide-bomber vests, weapons and training documents. The insurgents included Iraqis, Filipinos, Algerians, Moroccans, Afghans and Arabs from neighboring countries, officials said.

In Karabilah, Marines and Iraqi forces fought their way into the town. On Friday, U.S. fighter aircraft dropped bombs and the tanks fired shells at insurgents holed up inside buildings.

"Marines and Iraqi soldiers continued operations through the night, securing key objectives in and around the city while conducting presence patrols in order to hamper the insurgents' movement," Pool said.

During their sweep, four Iraqi hostages were found "beaten, handcuffed and chained to a wall in a bunker."

Marines carried out two major operations around Qaim last month, killing 125 insurgents in Operation Matador and 14 in Operation New Market. Eleven Marines were killed in those actions, which targeted insurgents using the road from Damascus, Syria, to Baghdad.

The new campaign began just before dawn Friday in the desert wastes around Karabilah and Qaim.

Troops captured about

100 foreign fighters and discovered at least one car bomb factory, said Col. Bob Chase, chief of operations for the Second Marine Division. U.S. and Iraqi troops encountered some resistance, but Chase did not characterize it as significant.

Iraqi troops did not participate in the earlier offensives. This time, they not only fought alongside the Americans

skills and local knowledge to spot foreign fighters, Chase said.

U.S. military intelligence officials believe the area is the main entry point used by extremist groups such as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's al-Qaida in Iraq to smuggle foreign fighters into the country. Syria is under intense pressure from Washington and Baghdad to tighten control of its



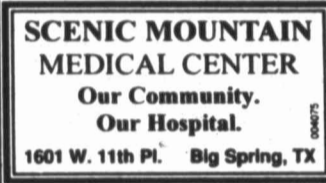
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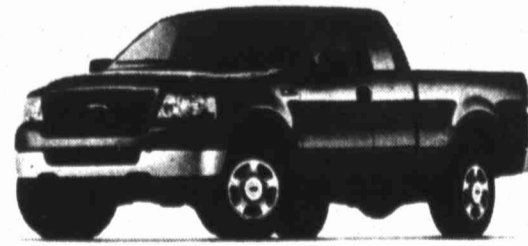
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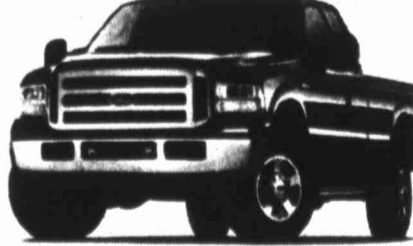
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# Iran to have first runoff presidential elections in its history

By KATHY GANNON  
Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran — Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, the frontrunner in Iran's presidential election, failed to win enough votes for an outright victory, forcing the country to schedule its first runoff in history.

With about three-quarters of the ballots counted, Rafsanjani had 21.5 percent after a strong voter turnout that defied a boycott drive by dissidents, according to the state-run media. Iran's hard-line leaders said President Bush helped fuel the turnout by sharply criticizing the elections as undemocratic and angering many Iranians.

But the race for runner-up was still up for grabs Saturday.

Conservatives were making a strong showing in the partial count. Mahdi Karroubi, the former parliament speaker, held the second spot with 20.2 percent. Karroubi is a close ally of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who heads the non-elected theocracy that can overrule the president or parliament.

Karroubi was trailed by Tehran's conservative mayor, Mahmoud Ahmadiyeh, with 17.2 percent. The top reform candidate, Mostafa Moin, had fallen to fifth place with 14.3 percent, behind Mohammad Barzooq Qalibaf, a former head of the national police, with 15.2 percent.

But the final outcome could significantly

reshuffle the race for runner-up. City voters were considered to favor Rafsanjani and Moin, a former culture minister.

What was certain was that a run-off would be needed in Iran's tightest presidential election since the 1979 Iranian Revolution. An Interior Ministry official involved in the counting told The Associated Press that the vote was too splintered among the seven candidates to give anyone the required 50 percent plus one to win. A second round is planned for next Friday, he said.

Interior Ministry spokesman Johanbakhsh Khanjani announced voter turnout in some provinces had exceeded 80 percent. In others it varied between 65 percent and 80 percent.

Iran has 46.7 million eligible voters, including millions of them living overseas. Votes from the heavier populated regions, such as Tehran with a population of 10.3 million, would be among the last to be tallied.

Rafsanjani, who was president between 1989 and 1997 and was the front-runner throughout the campaign, won his home province of Kerman, taking 45 percent of the vote, provincial election official Rasoul Moazemi told The Associated Press.

But even Rafsanjani's son Mahdi, who has been working on the campaign, told The AP that his father couldn't get the 50 percent of the popular vote to avoid a run-off.

During the campaign, the pragmatic Rafsanjani portrayed himself as a

steady hand at the helm, able to navigate Iran through the treacherous days ahead, fraught with uncertainty over the nuclear program, relations with the United States and neighboring Iraq.

A day before the election, Bush sharply denounced the vote, saying it was designed to keep power in the hands of the clerics. But some Iranians said they were motivated to vote to retaliate against Bush's denunciations.

"I picked Ahmadinejad to slap America in the face," said Mahdi Mirmalek after attending Friday prayers at Tehran University.

At Tehran University, the leader of Friday prayers, Ayatollah Mohammad Emami Kashani, told worshippers that voting "strengthens the pillars of the ruling Islamic establishment." Followers then joined in with the common chant of "Death to America!"

The United States accuses Iran of using nuclear technology as a cover to develop atomic arms. Iran denies the claims and insists it aims only for electricity-producing reactors. Iran has suspended uranium-enrichment work during ongoing talks with European envoys to seek a compromise and avoid possible U.N. sanctions.

Iran's top security official, Hasan Rowhani, told reporters that Iran needs a "powerful and experienced" president to handle nuclear talks — an apparent plug for his ally Rafsanjani.



KRT photo/Stewart Innes  
Iran's Supreme Islamic Council, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, casts his vote in Friday's presidential election. Millions of Iranian voters cast ballots in the most contested presidential election in the Islamic Republic's 26-year-history.

## RICE

Continued from Page 7A

their effects, and families, and it's going to be complicated," Rice said before the talks with the Palestinian leaders.

"I know Israel has done a lot of planning; I know the Palestinians have done a lot of planning. Our goal is to make sure they are doing their planning together," said Rice, who was in the region in February and held talks then with Abbas and Sharon.

The U.S. is taking a mostly hands-off approach to the peace process.

Rice warned Israel not to complicate the path to peace through new Jewish settlements just as the Gaza pullout date nears.

"We don't intend that the Israelis try to create facts on the ground," Rice said during the flight from Washington. "They simply cannot engage in

activities that are supposed to prejudice," the final terms of a peace settlement.

Palestinians charge that Israel has tried to force territorial concessions by building settlements and outposts on land that would presumably one day belong to a separate Palestinian homeland. The two sides are arguing now over whether Israel will build more than 3,000 new homes near Jerusalem.

The U.S. long has supported the idea of two democratic states for Israelis and Palestinians. But it has not always been clear about the details.

Recently, however, the Bush administration has made its stand on the no-new-settlements issue very plain.

With Abbas at his side at a White House meeting last month, President Bush made clear his support for a Palestinian state within the rough outlines of the current West Bank and Gaza ter-

ritories. He warned Israel not to complicate matters through settlements or other actions that make it physically difficult to construct viable Palestinian borders.

International concern about the Gaza plans centers on whether Israeli settlers will put up a fight and whether militants opposed to peace might try to disrupt the departure with violence.

In addition, there is the question of whether the Palestinians can sustain a working government and keep a lid on violence once the Israelis leave.

Rice gave a cautious endorsement of Palestinian progress to organize and train an effective security force.

"In terms of the Palestinians' apparent determination to streamline their security forces into a manageable number of forces that can then be trained and act professionally, I think they are making progress on that," she said.



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<b>June 19 • Sunday</b> HAPPY FATHER'S DAY		
<b>June 20 • Monday</b> • Lunch Bunch & Birthdays La Posada - 11:00 a.m. • Games 2 p.m. • Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 p.m. (Chair exercises)		
<b>June 21 • Tuesday</b> • Mall Walking - 8 a.m. (Meet at the Mall and walk together) • Supper Club - 5:30 p.m. "Cowboys"		
<b>June 22 • Wednesday</b> • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 a.m. (Eat for \$2 in the hospital cafeteria)		
<b>June 23 • Thursday</b> • Mall Walking - 8:00 a.m. (Meet at the Mall & walk together) • Coffee@Gales - 10:00 a.m. (Coffee with members) • Lunch-N-Learn 11:30 a.m.		
<b>June 24 • Friday</b> • New Mexico Casino Trip - 10:00 a.m. RSVP Early to Anita @ 268-4721		
<b>June 25 • Saturday</b> Child Birth Classes 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Laurie Burks, RN Certified Birth Educator 2nd Floor Hospital		
<b>June 27 • Monday</b> • Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 p.m. (Chair Exercises)		
<b>June 28 • Tuesday</b> • Mall walking - 8 a.m. (meet at the Mall & walk together) • Supper Club "Furrs" - 5:30 p.m.		
<b>June 29 • Friday</b> • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 a.m. (Eat for \$2 In the hospital cafeteria)		
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### IN BRIEF

#### B.S. Country Club sets junior clinics

The Big Spring Country Club has set up a summer junior clinic and an advanced summer junior clinic.

The clinics run through August 4.

Both clinics will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The junior clinic costs \$150, while the advanced junior clinic costs \$200.

All participants in the advanced clinic must be entering ninth grade or pass a skills test.

The fee includes instruction and range club membership for the child for June through August.

For more information, call the golf shop at 267-5354.

#### Coahoma's annual ragball tournament set for end of June

The annual ragball tournament which takes place in Coahoma has been set for next Friday through Sunday at the Coahoma softball park.

The sign-up date has been scheduled for June Friday at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Patric Robinson at 432-393-5622 or Randy Clanton at 432-393-5338.

#### Coahoma sets dates for baseball camp

Coahoma High School and head baseball coach Brad Harman have set the school's annual baseball camp for June 27-30 at Bulldog Field in Coahoma.

The camp costs \$75 per athlete and will run from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. all four days.

It is also for ages 6-18, but no Coahoma High School students can attend as mandated by UIL rules.

Each camper will need to provide shoes, cap, glove, and one baseball, but you are also allowed to bring your own bat.

Each camper will also be given personal instruction that covers all main phases and fundamentals of baseball.

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

The campers can expect a T-shirt, certificate as well as other possible prizes and awards.

The camp will be led by Coahoma coach Brad Harman and will be assisted by other qualified personnel.

For more information, contact Harman at 816-3258.

#### Big Spring sets first Quarterback meeting

The Big Spring football booster club has set its first quarterback club meeting of the year for Monday at 7 p.m. in the Big Spring ATC.

For more info, contact Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

## Big Spring coaching carousel takes another spin

### Holt makes first move as new B.S. athletic director

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

Big Spring's new Athletic Director Tim Holt has wasted no time in dealing with the Steer athletic programs as his first move on the job was an unfortunate decision for one Big Spring head coach.

Sarah Corse, who coached the Big Spring tennis team the past five years, was reassigned earlier this week to coaching positions at the junior high level.

"We just felt like it was

in the best interest of the athletic program," said Holt.

Big Spring Superintendent Michael Downes added, "Reassignment happens every year at schools and this isn't really anything that isn't common."

Corse had been involved with the high school tennis program for the past 14 years. She served as an assistant for nine years before taking over as head.

In her five years as head coach she went undefeated and won District 4-4A twice and finished second two more times; She also guided Veronica Villarreal to the state tournament this past spring.



"I was definitely shocked," said Corse. "I am not sure yet what I am going to do, but I do know that I am looking into finding another head coaching position."

Several other positions are open and even more have been filled or will be filled in the near future.

The school district has made a recommendation for a new baseball coach, but board approval is needed before a hire will take place.

Several interviews will take place next week for the boy's basketball job vacated by Jim Kinnear and also for the tennis position after the reassignment of Corse.

"We hope to find someone in both of those positions by the end of next week," said Holt.

The swimming and volleyball positions have both been filled. Specific information on the swimming job was not available at press time.

The volleyball program will be taken over by Jason McAden, who served as the Western Texas College volleyball coach last year before leaving.

McAden takes the pro-

gram over from Revis Daggett, who resigned at season's end this past year to pursue other interests not involving coaching or teaching.

The athletic program may have some more openings in the near future, but nothing official has occurred.

"Several long-time coaches have approached me and said that they are going to look into other options, but nothing has happened at this time," said Holt. "I have heard some rumors, but that's all they are. I know of some that may decide to leave, but that will be against my wishes."

## Cormier scores big with bull ride

### Gainesville natives take over in barrel racing competition

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

A better than average crowd got to see a lot better bull riding Friday night at the 72nd Annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl.

Three riders pulled off scores of more than 80 points and another rider scored a 79. Trent Cormier of Houma, La., turned in an impressive 88 and leads the way in the event after two nights of competition. Greg Fuller of Dimmitt scored an 85 and Travis Askew of Center was right behind him with an 81. The 79 was scored by Lubbock's Tommy Egerton.

The bull riding wasn't the only event that saw impressive scores Friday night.



Robert Lehmann of Brenham wrestles down a steer during competition at the 72nd Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl. Lehmann took his steer down in 4.9 seconds Thursday and currently sits at the top of the leaderboard.

Clint Cannon of Waller took the overall lead in the bareback riding competition after scoring an 81 and two new leaders emerged in the ladies barrel racing event. Tana Avens and Jessica Love, both of Gainesville, recorded times of under

17 seconds in the event. Avens is the overall leader as she turned in a 16.77, while Love's 16.91 officially puts her in second place. Crystal Sturm of Big Spring also competed Friday night as she fin-

See RODEO, Page 2B

## Sparks heads East for another all-star football weekend

### B.S. graduate joins several gridiron stars in Arlington for all-star classic

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

The NationalAllStars.com Bowl high school football classic is coming to the

University of Texas at Arlington and former Big Spring athlete J. Rich Sparks will be among the stars involved.

The classic will take place June 23-25 at Maverick Stadium in Arlington and feature several high school football players from the state of Texas and will also include players from New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.

Sparks will play on the blue team along with Lubbock's Brad Griffis and Snyder's Lico Castillo.

Sparks and Castillo were chosen to play wide receiver, while Griffis will handle the kicking duties.

The game is known as a marquee event developed to honor the elite and deserving athletes in high school football.

The game will set the stage for which players can showcase their talents.

The players will also take part in the "College Football Testing Combine" prior to the game.

Players were selected by their head coaches to represent their respective high schools.

The teams are restricted to a two-deep roster which ensures each player will play at least half of the game.

The game itself will take place next Saturday, but several other things will be taking place besides the game. Thursday and Friday will be jammed packed, too. The college football testing combine will take place Thursday afternoon and a helmets only practice follows.

A full gear practice will take place Friday morning after breakfast and after lunch and then an awards ceremony follows Friday night.

There will be a walk through Saturday morning followed by a pre-game meal. The game will kick-off at 4 p.m.



Gainesville's Tana Avens gets around the final barrel in the barrel racing competition Friday night. Avens' time of 16.77 currently leads the rodeo, while Gainesville's Jessica Love's 16.91 is second. Both times were recorded during Friday's rodeo.

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**IN BRIEF**

**Howard announces men's basketball camps in mid-July**

The Howard College men's basketball staff will host two week-long camps in the month of July.

The first camp will take place July 10-14, while the second camp starts July 24 and ends July 28. Both camps will cost \$250 per player who wants room and board and \$175 for a commuter. Both camps will take place at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Hawk camp format consists of morning and afternoon sessions. All sessions include specialized clinics on both the offensive and defensive phases of the game.

For more info, contact Mark Adams at 816-6957 or Jason Sautter at 816-3200.

**"Best of the rest" set for end of month**

Comanche Trail Golf Course presents "the best of the rest" two man partnership golf tournament next Friday and Saturday.

The tournament costs \$160 per team.

The championship flight must declare and will play low ball, while all other flights will play scramble.

For more info, call 264-2366.

**Howard women's basketball sets three camp dates**

The Howard College women's basketball program will be hosting two more camps this summer.

The camps will both take place July 18-21.

The first camp is open for kindergarten through third grade boys and girls. Registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. July 18. The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and costs \$50 per person.

The second camp is for fourth through sixth grade girls. Registration for this camp will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. July 18. The camp runs from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and costs \$60 per person.

For more information, call head coach Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or assistant coach Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

**RODEO**

Continued from Page 1B

ished the race in 17.37.

Stetson Herrera of Portales, N.M., also competed well Friday. His score of 79 in the bareback riding event puts him in second place, just two points shy of the leader Cannon.

The best rider in the saddle bronc competition Friday was Josh Hunter of Mount Olive, Miss. He scored a 72, but sits in fourth overall after two nights of competition. Lance Kelly still leads the event with the 78 he turned in Thursday night.

Tommy Guy of Abilene still leads the tie down roping event after two nights as his 9.5 time scored Thursday is still holding up. The best time

from Friday was Nathan Steinberg's 11.4.

Jim Bob Clayman recorded a time of 8.1 in steer wrestling Friday, but was nowhere near the best time of 4.9 set by Robert Lehrmann Thursday. Seth Dylla and Mike Dickey are in second and third, respectively, while Clayman currently holds down fourth.

In mutton bustin' Friday, Tye Halfmann of Garden City had the best score. Cody Phernetton of Coahoma received the tough luck award.

In calf dressing, the Big Spring State Hospital outperformed the VA Hospital and Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

The VA Hospital won the event last year.

The rodeo concluded Saturday night, but final results were unavailable at press time.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Members of the Big Spring VA Hospital compete in the calf dressing competition at the rodeo Friday night. The State Hospital won the event, while the VA Hospital and Scenic Mountain Medical Center took second and third, respectively.

**Rogers returns to winning ways as Texas downs Nats**

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer  
ARLINGTON (AP) — Kenny Rogers didn't throw many pitches without a runner or two on base. That's all right when they don't score.

Rogers pitched out of trouble all night, allowing just one of the 12 Washington baserunners he allowed to score over 6 1-3 innings. He won his career-best ninth straight decision in the Texas Rangers' 8-1 victory over the Nationals on Friday.

"I'm sure if you ask him, he didn't have his good stuff," shortstop Michael Young said. "But he ended up winning anyway."

Rogers (9-2) gave up eight hits and four walks in 6 1-3 innings, but the only run he allowed came on Cristian Guzman's leadoff homer in the seventh. The 40-year-old left-hander left with a 4-1 lead.

"He came with everything tonight and made

pitches when he had to," Washington's Marlon

See RANGERS, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Colby Price of Aransas jumps down on a steer during the steer wrestling event Friday at the 72nd Annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl. Price scored an 8.7 and is currently in fifth place overall.

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**RANGERS**

Continued from Page 2B

Byrd said. "He doesn't slip into a pattern. We had been getting big hits, but it just didn't happen tonight."

After all the missed opportunities, the NL East-leading Nationals lost for only the third time in 18 games.

Hank Blalock hit a solo homer and two RBI singles, and Kevin Mench also connected for the Rangers, who from 1961-71 were the expansion Washington Senators — the last team to play in the nation's capital until the Montreal Expos moved there this season.

Frank Robinson managed Washington after appealing his one-game suspension.

He was punished by major league baseball earlier Friday for a shouting match with Angels manager Mike Scioscia on Tuesday.

Rogers, 0-2 in his first four starts, lowered his AL-leading ERA to 1.98. Over his last 10 starts, he has allowed 12 runs in 71 innings, including 31 consecutive scoreless innings at one point.

Only two of the first nine runners against Rogers made it to third base, and one was thrown out trying to score.

"He's not going to give in," catcher Rod Barajas said.

After Guzman's second homer, Rogers allowed another hit and then walked Nick Johnson. The pitcher was visibly upset when umpires ruled the hitter checked his swing on a full-count pitch.

When manager Buck Showalter came out of the dugout to pull him after 113 pitches, Rogers slammed the ball to the ground.

Vinny Castilla hit into an inning-ending double play on reliever John Wasdin's first pitch.

John Patterson (3-2) allowed four runs and eight hits over five innings in his first loss since April 10 — his first start.

Alfonso Soriano doubled to start the second and scored his AL-high 50th run on a single by Laynce Nix.

Blalock's 12th homer came an inning later.

**Wide-open U.S Open leaves 27 players in line for possible win**

**• Mickelson, Els continue to struggle at Pinehurst No. 2**

**By EDDIE PELLIS**  
AP Sports Writer

PINEHURST, N.C. (AP) — Retief Goosen is one of the most accomplished players in the game. Olin Browne and Jason Gore slipped into the U.S. Open almost unnoticed.

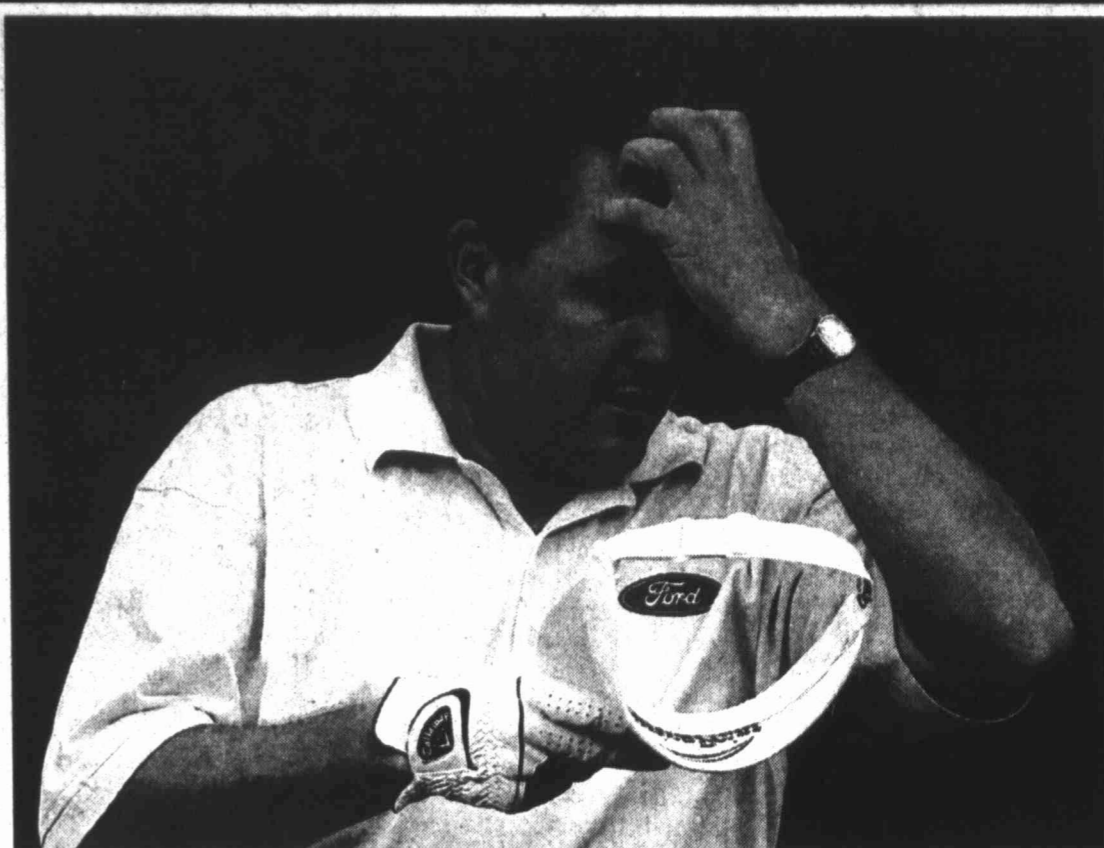
Now, they have something in common — a share of the lead in a wide-open tournament at brutal, withering Pinehurst No. 2, a course that is providing every

bit the "thorough examination" the USGA always promises at its national championship.

"If you get worried about the stage, you have a problem here because this particular stage will hammer you," Browne said Friday, after his 1-over 71 left him tied for the second-round lead at 2 under.

Browne, Gore (67) and Goosen (70) are hardly the only ones with a chance. Twenty-seven players entered the weekend within five shots of the

See OPEN, Page 4B



KRT photo/Patrick Schneider, Charlotte Observer  
Phil Mickelson shows the frustration of his play on the 16th green during the second round of the 2005 U.S. Open at Pinehurst No. 2 Friday in Pinehurst, N.C.

**Texas gives up on Astacio, designates him for assignment**

ARLINGTON (AP) — Right-hander Pedro Astacio was designated for assignment by Texas Friday, the second Rangers starter let go this month.

Astacio was 2-8 with a 6.04 ERA in 12 starts for Texas. The 35-year-old pitcher lost seven of his last eight decisions.

The Rangers have 10 days to trade, release or outright Astacio to the minor leagues.

Right-hander Ryan Drese, the Rangers' opening-day starter, was designated for assignment

June 8 and claimed by Washington.

Before signing with Texas in February, Astacio had made just one start since undergoing shoulder surgery in 2003. He got an \$800,000, one-year contract that included another potential \$2.2 million in roster and performance bonuses.

The Rangers purchased the contract of right-hander Jason Standridge from Triple-A Oklahoma. He was 5-3 with a 4.50 ERA in 15 games for the RedHawks.

**Major League Baseball — current league-wide standings**

American League - East		American League - West		National League - Central	
Baltimore	39-27	LA Angels	38-28	St. Louis	42-24
Boston	37-29	<b>Texas</b>	<b>36-29</b>	Chicago Cubs	34-31
N.Y. Yankees	34-32	Seattle	29-36	Pittsburgh	30-35
Toronto	34-33	Oakland	27-39	Milwaukee	29-37
Tampa Bay	23-44			<b>Houston</b>	<b>27-38</b>
				Cincinnati	26-41
American League - Central		National League - East		National League - West	
Chicago Sox	44-22	Washington	39-28	San Diego	36-31
Minnesota	38-27	Philadelphia	38-30	Arizona	35-33
Cleveland	35-30	Atlanta	35-32	LA Dodgers	33-33
Detroit	31-33	Florida	33-31	San Francisco	28-37
Kansas City	24-42	N.Y. Mets	33-34	Colorado	22-43

**Odessa Roughnecks**  
Remaining Home Games

June 25 vs. Beaumont Drillers  
\*July 1 vs. Lubbock Gunslingers  
August 5-6: 1st-ever National Indoor Football League (NIFL) All-Star game.

All games start at 7:11 p.m.  
\*exhibition game

The Roughnecks are 11-0 this year and have clinched a playoff berth. The home games listed above do not include future playoff games.

To purchase tickets to a Roughnecks game at Ector County Coliseum, call Ernie Salcido at 432-332-7277.

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Sunday, July 31, 2005

**Deadline:**  
Friday, July 15

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Include schedules of your meetings.  
Be sure to include your meeting place address and phone number.

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Quarter page \$66.50

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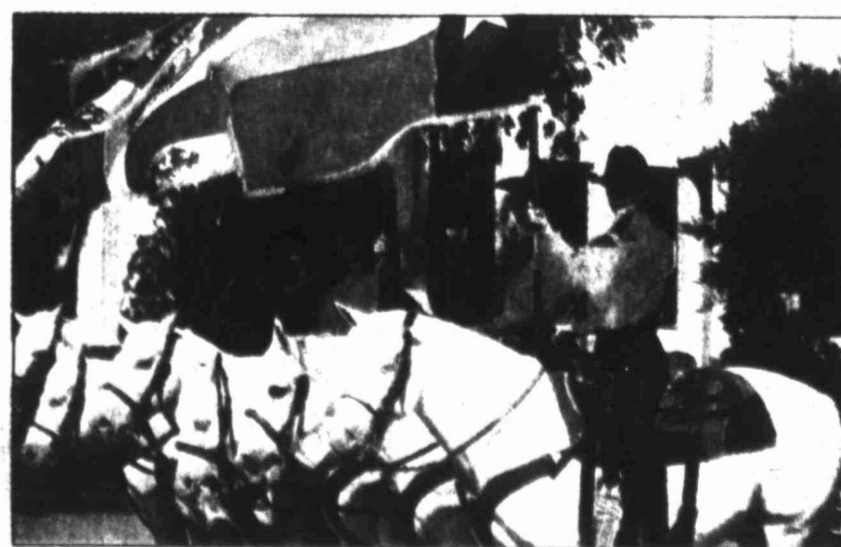
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# Wedding



Mr. and Mrs. Matt Robles

## Martinez, Robles wed

Crystal Martinez and Matt Robles of Big Spring exchanged wedding vows Saturday, May 28, 2005, at First Baptist Church in Big Spring.

The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Reynaldo Bennett and the Revs. Samuel and Christina Segundo.

She is the daughter of Tony and Sylvia Martinez and he is the son of Oscar and Patricia Robles.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a princess-cut gown with a beaded bodice and long, beaded train.

Jacob Ruiz served as vocalist.

Toni Lynn Martinez and Tricia Hernandez served as maids of honor.

Brides maids were Susie Scheiber, Patsy Rodriguez, Frances Morales, Sally Gomez, Norma Shipp, Louisa Zavala, Margie Rosas, Janel Galan, Vicki

Rodriguez, Eva Ortega, Irene Deleon, Haley Ruiz, Rose Garcia and Irma Rodriguez.

Flower girls were Cassandra Martinez and Caitlin Chavez and ring bearers were Anthony Martinez and Patrick Ruiz. Candle lighters were Ida Sanchez and Elida Fuentes. Bubble girls were Corie Naphier and Chelsea Sawyers.

Jesse Rodriguez and John Ray Hernandez served as best men. Groomsmen were Darwin Scheiber, Benito Rodriguez, Daniel Morales, Roy Gomez, Mike Shipp, Antonio Zavala, John Rosas, Pete Galan, John Galan, Pete Ramirez, Samuel Deleon, Caleb Chavez and Pat Rodriguez.

Ushers and greeters were Don Scheiber, Johnny and Susie Martinez and Jesse and Malinda Olivarez.

## Moore, Jones wed

Laura Lea Moore of Big Spring and Colton Blake Jones exchanged wedding vows at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 21, 2005, at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Big Spring.

The Rev. Kevin Parker of Aztec, N.M., former pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiated the ceremony.

She is the daughter of Johnny and Debbie Moore of Big Spring. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of John and Melba Webb of Stanton, Don and Shirley Brashears and Johnny and Lallye Moore, all of Big Spring and the great granddaughter of Mary Webb of Ackerly.

He is the son of Jesse and Renea Jones of Big Spring, the grandson of Clyde and Labeth Montgomery and Loyce Jones, all of Big Spring, and the great grandson of Lavinia Walker of Coahoma.

Given in marriage by her father, Johnny Moore, the bride wore a halter style, fitted bodice with a dropped waist covered with silver and pearl beaded trim.

The dress had a full gathered organza skirt that was accented with lace and pearls and the full-length, sheer train was trimmed with pearls, beads and lace.

Her veil was trimmed with white satin ribbon and sequins.

She carried a bouquet of red roses, white daisies and bluebonnets, accent-

ed and trimmed in sheer red, blue and silver ribbon.

The groom wore his U.S. Marine dress blue uniform.

Kaitlin Jones of Big Spring, sister of the groom, served as maid of honor, and bridesmaids were Brionna Paumer and Catherine Leubner, both of Big Spring, friends of the bride.

Flower girl was MaKaila Walker of Big Spring, friend of the bride and Nicole Perez of San Angelo, friend of the bride, served at the register table.

Best man was Randy Montgomery of Coahoma, uncle of the groom and groomsmen were Scott Ginnett of Big Spring, cousin of the groom and Jonathan Moore of Big Spring, brother of the bride.

Serving as ushers were Chip Whitworth of Big Spring, friend of the groom, Milton Woody of Coahoma, friend of the groom and Don Moore of Lubbock, uncle of the bride.

Following the wedding, the reception was held at the Dora Roberts Community Center ballroom.

The bride's cake was two, three-tiered cakes connected by an archway.

Below the archway was a two-tiered cake topped with a Marine bride and groom. The archway and cakes were decorated with red roses, white daisies and blue bonnets.



Mr. and Mrs. Colton Blake Jones

The groom's cake was a square New York style cheesecake decorated with blueberries and strawberries to look like the American flag. Four more satellite cheesecakes surrounded the center cheesecake. The satellite cheese cakes were pumpkin, black forest with cherries, lemon and caramel pecan.

The bride is a 2001 graduate of Forsan High School. She attended Howard College and will graduate in December of 2005 from Angelo State University with a bache-

lor's degree in early childhood education.

The groom is a 2002 graduate of Coahoma High School and has been enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps since July of 2002. He has served in the Amphibian Assault Vehicle Platoon. He has served two tours of duty in Iraq and has been awarded several medals and honors for his service to his country.

The couple have made their home in Vista, Calif., where the groom is currently stationed.

## Engagement



Calvin Lee Zant and Davida Jane Gregory

## Gregory, Zant engaged

Davida Jane Gregory and Calvin Lee Zant, both of Lubbock announce their engagement and upcoming marriage at 2 p.m. June 26, 2005, in the Hotel Garza in Post.

She is the daughter of Joe and Sheila Gregory of Post and the granddaughter of Herschel Williams and the late David Williams of Post and Rance and LouAnn Gregory of Clarendon.

The groom-elect is the son of David and Connie Zant of Ackerly and the

grandson of Bud and Joe Hughes of Knott and Rex and Patsy Zant of Ackerly.

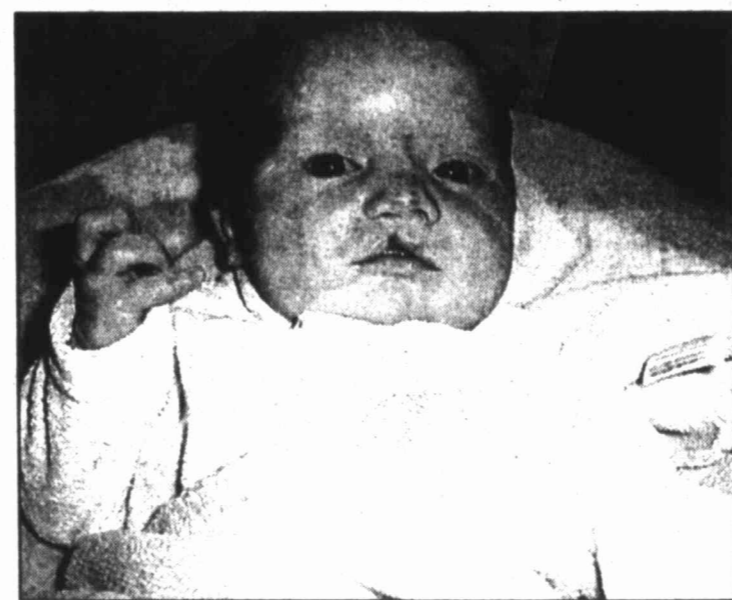
The bride-to-be is attending Lubbock Christian University, majoring in education.

She is employed as a pharmacy technician for Covenant Medical Center.

He is Texas Tech graduate, where he earned a bachelor degree in computer science.

He is employed by Smooth Fusion as a Web site developer.

## Births



Mason Luke Patterson

Mason Luke Patterson, a boy, was born May 27, 2005, at 8:31 a.m. weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces and 19 3/4 inches long.

His parents are Jennifer and Todd Patterson of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Dr. Robert and Claude Patterson of Big Spring and Patricia Picarazzi of Rockport.

Kennedy Johann Osborne, a girl, was born June 8,

2005, at 9:58 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces and 20 inches long.

Her parents are John and Anna Osborne of Big Spring.

Her grandparents are Randy and Vicki Robertson of Big Spring, Jerry Moring of Lake Whitney, Mike and Judy Osborne of Springtown and Mozelle Osborne of Big Spring.

She was welcomed home by siblings Brooks, Kasey, Branden and Tyler.

## In the Military

### Matthew L. Andrews

Matthew L. Andrews has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force after completing the Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program and graduating with a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University.

He is the son of Donnie and Genia Andrews of

Big Spring and Jennifer and Gil Jones of Marble Falls.

ROTC is an educational program designed to provide college students an opportunity to be Air Force officers after completing military study courses and bachelor's degrees.

Andrews received a bachelor's degree in aviation management.

## Who's Who

### ACU Dean's Honor Roll

John Paul Giles of Big Spring, a junior majoring in Christian ministry, Jamie Anita Pineda of Big Spring, a senior majoring in psychology and April Lynn Ward of Big Spring, a senior majoring in integrated marketing communications has been named to the Abilene Christian University's honor roll for the Spring 2005 semester.

To make the Dean's Honor Roll, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours and earn a 3.45 or higher grade point average.

### Texas Tech scholarships awarded

Two Big Spring students have been awarded Presidential Transfer Scholarships from Texas Tech University. Cody Bryant will pursue a degree in exercise and sport science, and Porsha Yarbar will pursue a degree in agricultural communications. Both previously attended Howard College. The scholarship pays \$2,500 per academic year for two years.

### Texas Tech graduates

Among 782 people who received degrees during the Texas Tech University Health Science Center commencement exercise May 21 were Connie Sue Zant, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hughes; David Salazar, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Celedonio Salazar; and Jefferson David Murphree, the son of Linda Murphree

### Lori Marie Ellis

Lori Marie Ellis of Big Spring was named to the Howard Payne University's President's List for the spring 2005 semester.

She is the daughter of Timothy and Diane Ellis and is currently majoring in biology.

Students must earn a grade point average of 4.0 to be named to the President's List.

### McMurry University scholarships

The following area students were awarded scholarships from McMurry University for the 2005-2006 academic year: Lauren Marie Yeater of Big Spring, a Coahoma High School graduate, a \$1,000 Trustee Honors scholarship and Kellee Marie Christopher of Big Spring, a Coahoma High School graduate.

### Kimberly Landerville

Kimberly Landerville of Big Spring, a McMurry University student, was named to the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, a national program.

Landerville was also selected for induction into Alpha Chi, a national honor society which recognizes the highest 10 percent in academic standing of junior and senior students.

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### Walker selected as Texas rep for junior teen pageant

Madeline Walker, 13-year-old daughter of Gary and Rainy Walker of Midland and the granddaughter of Francis Walker of Big Spring and the late Garrison Walker, has been selected to represent the state of Texas at the 2005 Miss Junior Teen America Pageant.



WALKER

The contest is in Windsor Locks, Conn., Oct. 7-9.

Walker is an eighth-grade honors student and a member of the Spanish Club. She is also a member of the youth choir from First United Methodist Church and just returned from a five city, nine-day praise tour that culminated in Washington, D.C. She is also a member of her church's youth group and will participate in a mission trip to Gonzales in July.

During the school year, Walker participates in weekly eTeenCBS Bible studies and dance classes. Walker also enjoys

drawing and painting, aspires to be a fashion designer and volunteers as a model of vintage clothing for the historic Scharborough Lineberry home.

If selected to wear the 2005 Miss Junior Teen America national crown, Walker will enjoy a year of making personal appearances while working on her issue of concern, "Brush Off the Golden Rule and Let It Shine."

She will also have her own column in Supermodels Unlimited Magazine.

### Servant's Hands

By Sheila Tidwell LaRochelle

He was a quiet and gentle servant of the Lord he loved so much. Never wanting recognition for all the lives he touched.

His hands were always busy helping others in need. Teaching us to do our best no matter how small the deed.

He had a way of knowing what needed to be done. And he would volunteer before you had a chance to ask anyone.

He was married sixty-one years to the love of his life.

Such devotion he showed on his daily visits, caring for his wife.

He always told his children "leave the world a better place." What a legacy he left us by living his life so full of grace.

Alfred Tidwell  
12-22-23 — 05-28-05

In loving memory of our Father on Father's Day, June 19, 2005

Sheila Tidwell LaRochelle  
Tanya Tidwell Price  
Johnny Tidwell  
Charles Tidwell



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## Current account trade deficit rises to all-time high of \$195.1 billion

By **MARTIN CRUTSINGER**  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The deficit in the broadest measure of international trade rose to an all-time high of \$195.1 billion from January through March of this year as the country sank deeper into debt to Japan, China and other nations.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the deficit

in the current account rose by 3.6 percent from the previous quarterly record, an imbalance of \$188.4 billion in the final three months of 2004.

The current account deficit has risen to record heights in recent years as America's demand for foreign goods and services has soared, raising worries about the country's ability to continue financing a trade deficit at such heights.

"The seemingly insatiable U.S. demand for imports continues to drive the current account deficit higher," said Nigel Gault, U.S. economist at Global Insight. "At present, the rest of the world is happy to keep financing the deficit — but that won't be the case indefinitely."

The preliminary June reading from the University of Michigan survey of consumer

sentiment showed a rebound to 94.8, the highest level since January and a sharp increase from the May reading of 86.9.

The gain in consumer confidence helped bolstered confidence on Wall Street with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 48 points in late morning trading. Stocks were rising even in the face of a new surge in oil prices. Crude oil prices climbed above \$57 per barrel in

trading Friday, near the peak for intraday trading of \$58.28 set in April.

The current account deficit for all of 2004 hit a record \$668.1 billion, up a sharp 28.6 percent from the previous record of \$519.7 billion in 2003.

The current account is the broadest measure of foreign trade because it covers not only

See **ECONOMY**, Page 5C

## Al's & Son back from unwanted smoking



Chuck Bagwell, second-generation barbecue master and owner of Al's & Sons Bar-B-Q, slices brisket despite having spent nearly a week cleaning up damages caused by a fire at the Gregg Street restaurant.

### Despite fire, restaurant's doors were back open and catering under way

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Smoke coming from Al's & Son Bar-B-Q restaurant on Big Spring's Gregg Street is not an uncommon sight.

At least it wasn't until last Saturday evening.

"The fire started Saturday night in the kitchen, of course," said business owner Chuck Bagwell. "One of our pits caught on fire. We've been in the barbecue business for over 40 years, between me and my dad, and we've never had a fire caused by a pit. It's just unusual. We don't know exactly what happened, but it caught fire."

"We've had fires before, but never caused by anything in the kitchen," he added. "Ten years ago a contractor did some roofing work and he used a torch and caught a door on fire. It burned in the attic, but it never got down into the kitchen."

Bagwell said the damage could have been much worse, but getting the restaurant back to

normal is going to take some time.

"This whole place out here was dark with smoke damage," said Bagwell, motioning to the restaurant's dining room.

"We've cleaned it up and it's going to have to be repainted, but we've got it going for right now. We were in here working on it last Saturday morning, and we're still working on getting things cleaned up Wednesday. We still have some cleaning to do, but we were able to open back up Wednesday."

"The damage was pretty minimal," he added. "There was a little bit of fire damage to the sheet rock in the kitchen, but it didn't go through. There was a lot of smoke, though. We're going to have to do some painting and lay some carpet. There's also some more work to be done in the kitchen, but we're getting there."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

## 18 refineries ready to spend \$1 billion on cutting pollution

By **JOHN HEILPRIN**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Four companies — Valero, Sunoco, Tesoro and Suncor Energy — will install nearly \$1 billion in new pollution controls at 18 oil refineries, a third of them in Texas, in settlements with the government and seven states over alleged violations of clean air laws.

Valero and Sunoco, responsible for most of the improvements, also will pay fines totaling \$8.5 million. The refineries covered in consent decrees filed Thursday in federal courts in Texas and Pennsylvania represent about 15 percent of

the nation's refining capacity.

Valero, based in San Antonio, estimates it will cost more than \$700 million to install smokestack scrubbers and chemical additives at 13 refineries in six states. That includes \$5 million to \$6 million that Suncor Energy of Calgary, Alberta, will spend on a former Valero refinery in Denver. Valero spokeswoman Mary Rose Brown said. Tesoro, also based in San Antonio, will spend an unspecified amount to clean up a former Valero refinery in Martinez, Calif.

"We really do believe

See **REFINERIES**, Page 5C

### CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN BUSINESS



Harris Lumber and Hardware owner Steve Herren, Ernestine Harris, Gay Herren cut the ribbon commemorating the local business' 40th year of service in Big Spring. Also pictured, from left, are Katie Grimes, Sherry Wegner, Jan Hansen, Les Warren, Stephanie Hopper with young Reese Rutledge, Heather Rutledge, Donna Coates, Emmalee Schooler, Leela Schooler, Connie Schooler, Kevin Schooler. Also pictured, in the back row, are Tito Arencibia, John Weeks, Joe Conclienne and Russ McEwen.

## Veterinary advisory issued for rabbit hemorrhagic disease

A case of rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD) has been identified in domestic rabbits on a Vanderburgh County, Indiana farm.

While highly infectious to domestic breeds, the virus is not known to harm humans, other animals or wild rabbit species, including American cottontail and jack rabbits.

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and USDA Veterinary Services are pursuing the source of infection as a foreign animal dis-

ease investigation.

The ongoing investigation currently indicates that rabbits from the infected site were not sold into pet shop or exhibition circles. The animals were sold primarily as a food source for large snakes. While not yet confirmed, the epidemiology indicates the sick rabbits may have originated from a Kentucky flea market/swap meet.

BOAH has been in contact with state and national rabbit industry representatives, as well as state 4-H. A press

release has been issued to advise rabbit owners on clinical signs to be reported to their local veterinarian.

You may receive inquiries or calls about sudden death in rabbits from your clients. Please take time to assess their situation to determine if the problem could be RHD, because high temperatures can cause heat-related deaths. The presence of clear or bloody, foamy discharge from body cavities is key to the differential.

If you believe a client's rab-

bit has died of RHD:

1. Encourage the owner to keep the carcass and other potentially infected animals on his/her site. This virus is highly resistant to physical and chemical agents and could be detrimental to your clinic environment.

2. Also advise the client to practice sound biosecurity and not risk exposure spreading the disease by other physical means (such as moving contaminated organic material, cages, bedding, etc.)

3. Contact BOAH (24 hours a

day/7 days a week) at 877/877-3038 for assistance from a foreign animal disease diagnostician. Samples will be collected and submitted to the USDA laboratory.

More information about RHD is available on the USDA website at [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

Tommy Yeater is the Cooperative Extension agent, agriculture, for Howard County. His office is in the bottom floor of the Howard County Courthouse. He can be reached at 264-2236.













# A USER'S GUIDE TO

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## THE

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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Each day. The *Big Spring Herald* receives calls from readers - just like you - who have important questions about how the newspaper works and the services it offers. For your information and convenience, we have compiled this page of answers to readers' most frequently asked questions.

Save this page for future reference

### HOW TO

#### REPORT THE SCORE

You can report your sports results between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 263-7331, faxing 264-7205 or drop your results at the *Big Spring Herald* office at 710 Scurry, Big Spring.

### HOW TO

#### SUBMIT NEWS INFORMATION

To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editor John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

### HOW TO

#### LOCATE A SPECIFIC STORY

If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the *Big Spring Herald* at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the *Big Spring Herald*.

### HOW

#### OBITUARIES ARE HANDLED

Obituaries, whether paid or non-paid, are provided to the *Big Spring Herald* by funeral homes. Non-paid obits follow a standard form, while paid obits can include virtually anything the deceased's family requests. Any questions should be directed to the Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

### HOW TO

#### GET DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME

Call our office at 263-7335 or come by 710 Scurry. Our subscription rate is \$93.42 per year or \$8.65 per month.

### HOW TO

#### OBTAIN BACK ISSUES

Back issues of the *Big Spring Herald* are kept on file for one year and may be purchased during regular business hours. However, some back issues sell out quickly and we cannot guarantee that any given issue will be available. You may also check with the Howard County Library reference department at 264-2262.

### HOW TO

#### SUBMIT MARRIAGE, ENGAGEMENT OR BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com). If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Marsha Sturdivant at 263-7331, ext. 236.

### HOW TO

#### PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 or come by 710 Scurry. Ads can be placed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### HOW TO

#### PLACE A DISPLAY AD

Phone our office at 263-7331 and ask for a retail advertising sales representative or visit our office at 710 Scurry. Telephone lines are open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Submit your information  
by fax at 432-264-7205  
Call us at 432-263-7331  
Come visit us at  
710 Scurry Street  
[www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)