

Boys' bodies located

Authorities say foul play is not suspected

By GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press Writer

CAMDEN, N.J. — Three boys whose bodies were found in the trunk of a car following a massive, two-day search died from accidental suffocation, not foul play, authorities said Saturday.

The bodies were discovered Friday when David Agosto lifted the trunk of a banged-up maroon Toyota Camry in the yard where the boys were last seen. There, he found the bodies of his 6-year-old son Daniel Agosto; 5-year-old Jesstin Pagan and 11-year-old Anibal Cruz.

Officials said no foul play was suspected, but it was not clear why searchers — who combed the yard next to Cruz family home — did not find them sooner.

For two days, searchers combed alleyways and woods, abandoned houses and vacant lots. Helicopters scanned from the sky, and boats searched the nearby Delaware River.

A neighbor was watch-

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FIREWORKS ON SALE



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Porscha Knowlton, a junior at Big Spring High School, gets ready for a day of fireworks sales at a stand on Highway 350, just north of Big Spring. Knowlton said sales have been slow since the stand opened Friday, but expects to see an increase as the July Fourth holiday draws near.

Reader's Choice

Who's got the best tacos, fries, car wash? Look inside and see!

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The people have spoken. After an absence of a few years, the Reader's Choice Awards return in today's *Herald*.

The Reader's Choice Awards were established to let people vote on the parts of this area they like best, including businesses, restaurants, grocery stores and people.

"The idea behind this is just to give our readers a chance to select everything from their favorite restaurant to their favorite hospital worker," said Assistant Advertising Manager Christy Hernandez. "It just went from A to Z."

Readers were asked to select their favorites from four categories: Dining and restaurants, grocery

stores, businesses and people. Under those categories, voters were allowed to get even more specific, choosing their favorite car wash or local band or roofing company, among the many other selections, Hernandez said.

Winners of the reader's poll will receive a certificate from *Herald* Publisher Susanne Reed.

"For several weeks, we ran polls where the reader could vote on their favorite business, or person or restaurant," Reed said. "We tallied up the results, and we're proud to present them in today's paper."

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

Pops in the Park draws near; \$30,000 needed to fund event

JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

It's just a week until this year's Pops in the Park concert and fireworks display at the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater and organizers say they're still seeking donations needed to cover the cost of holding the event.

According to Tim Blackshear, the Fourth of July Foundation's chairman for the July 3 event, some \$30,000 is needed to stage the show. To date, the organizing committee has managed to raise about two-thirds of the amount needed.

A week ago the committee had raised only half of the money needed, but the Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau signed on as a "Presenter" for the show by providing \$5,000 in funding. The CVB joined the *Big Spring Herald*, Big

"It's an evening to gather with friends and family at the park and join your neighbors in celebrating the fact that we live in the best nation on earth."

—Tim Blackshear,
committee chairman

Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, city of Big Spring, Big Spring Symphony and KBST as "Presenters."

Donations making the show possible come from local businesses and individuals, as well as corporate sponsorships. What's more, they make it possible for the organizing committee to open the gates

for all comers free of charge.

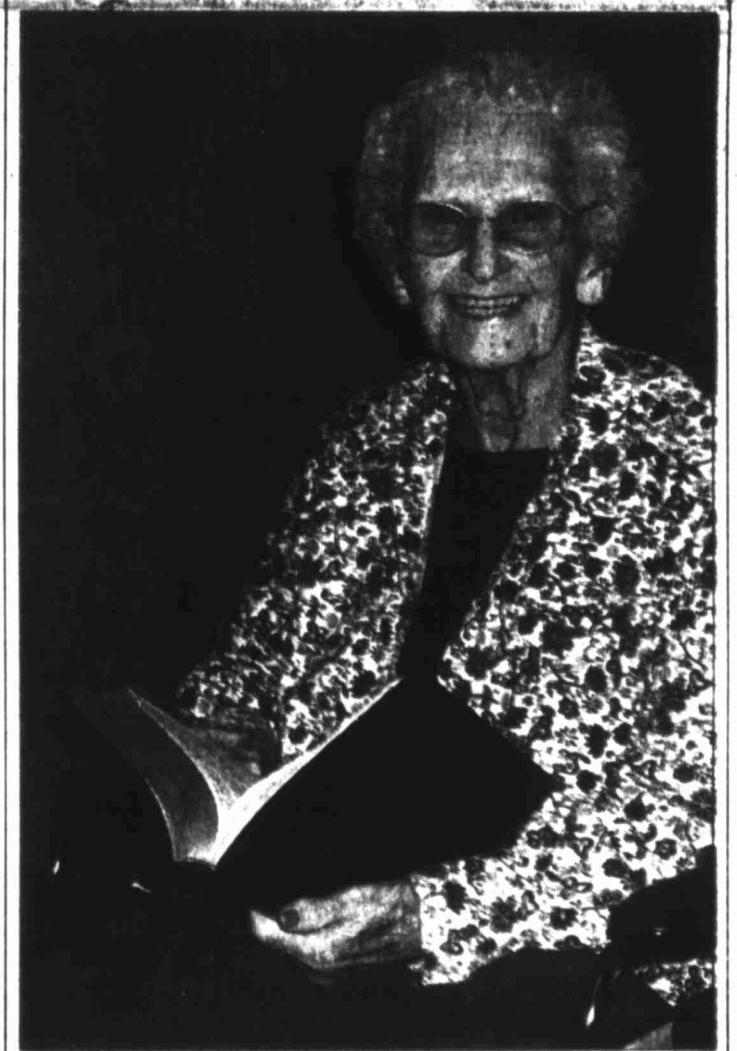
"It is the entire community's celebration," noted Blackshear. "It obviously is an event that brings people from out of town into our community for the evening. And that's why the Convention & Visitors Bureau has signed on as a 'Presenter.' That's very important for us."

While the committee hasn't yet raised enough money to cover the cost of this year's show, Blackshear made it clear the lack of funding will not keep the foundation from staging the event.

"We don't want anyone to think that there's not going to be a show this year," he explained, "but it is important that we manage to raise the \$30,000 the show costs. The committee began the year with a

See POPS, Page 3A

CENTURY WISE



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
Mamie Roberts celebrated her 100th birthday with a community-wide party at Mountain View Nursing Home Saturday. Roberts said her key to longevity is having a Christian family and faith.

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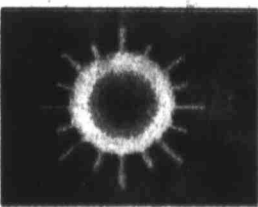
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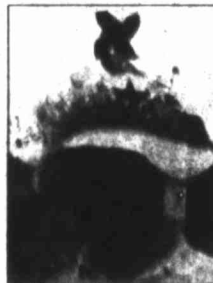
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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

HILARIOUS HAT CONTEST

A new addition to the annual Funtastic Fourth Festival, sponsored by the Downtown Revitalization Association, is the Hilarious Hat Contest.

The hat contestants need to be in front of of Dahmer's Antiques at 1:30 p.m. July 4 to register and have their photo taken. The contest is sponsored by Gale's Sweet Shoppe. For more information about the hat contest, contact Ellen Barefoot at 394-4908.

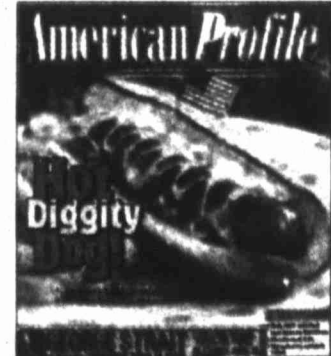


PARADES ON HORIZON

The Coahoma Patriotic Parade begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 2. The celebration will continue in Coahoma Park with a car show, food booths and vendors. Free set up space for interested vendors. Contact Paulette Lindsey at 394-4975 or 270-0875 to secure space.

The Highland Fourth of July Parade begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 2. Line up starts at 9:15 a.m. at the corner of Stonehaven and Highland Drive. Call Shayla Seymore at 267-4854 or Linda Kay at 267-8427 for more information.

INSIDE TODAY



Cover Story: Americans eat 20 billion hot dogs each year, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council. So when, how and why did hot dogs become standard American fare and what makes a great-tasting dog? That depends who you talk to.

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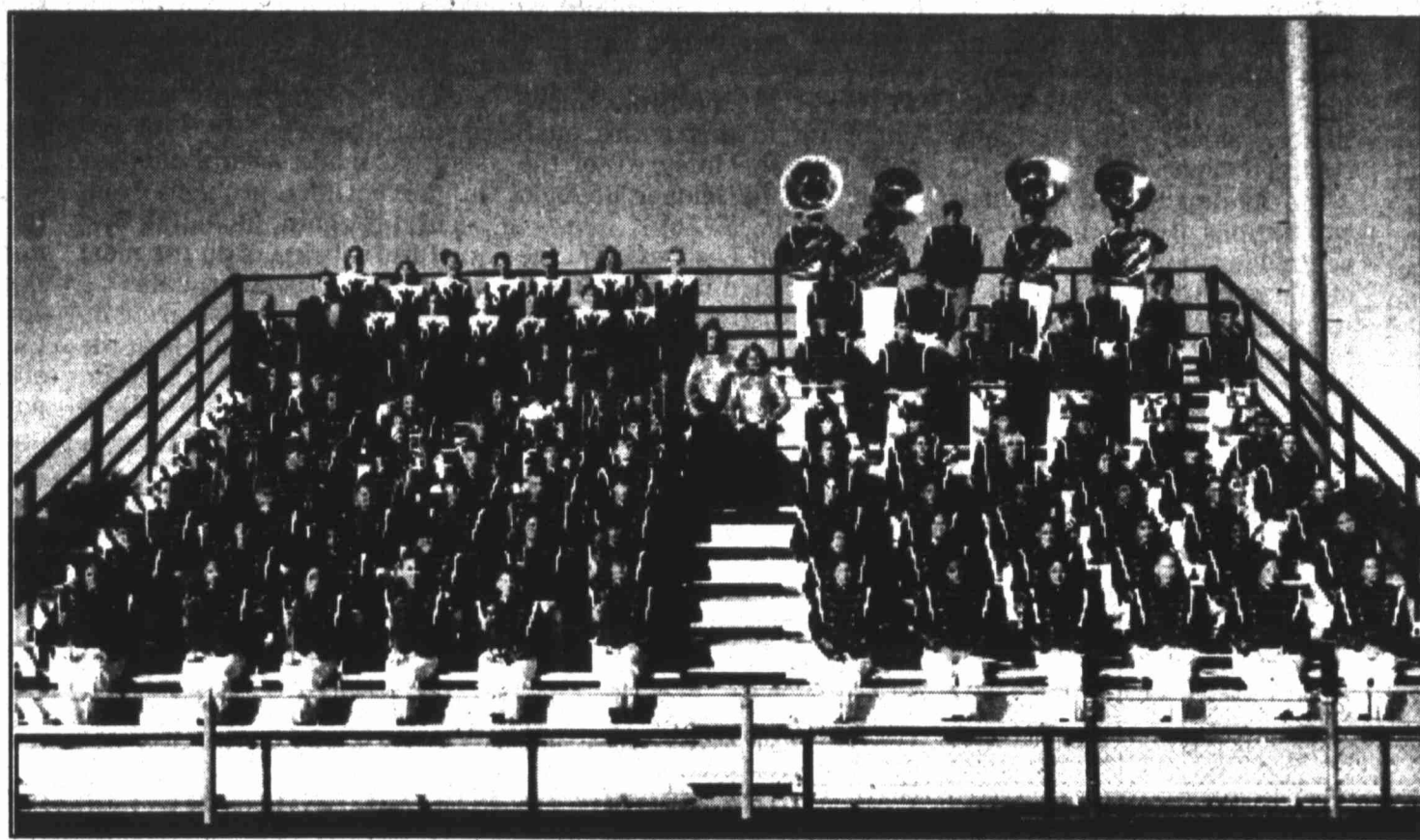
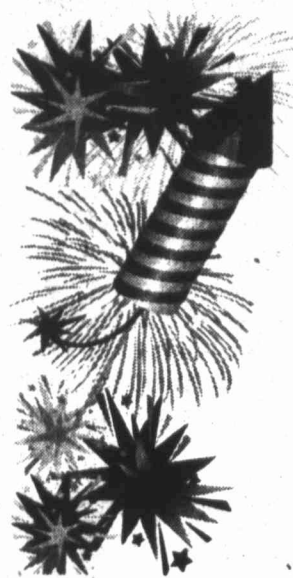
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Keisha,
We hope you have the time of your life in Washington.
You will sparkle with your baton & your beautiful smile.
Good Luck & We Are Proud Of You!
Love Mom, Dad, PY & Cody

WHO: Forsan Band
WHAT: 2005 Independent's Day Parade
WHERE: Washington DC
WHEN: July 4, 2005
WHY: To Wish America Happy Birthday

Washington, D.C. Here They Come! Way To go Forsan Band & Bryce Lopez
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Congratulations Forsan Band & Burke Atkerson
We Love You!
Mom & Dad

Congratulations Kayla Marie Nichols and the Forsan Band!!
Have Fun - Play Hard and Show Washington What You Are Made Of!
Love, Mom & Dad

Congratulations Forsan Band & Jonathan Ochoa
We Are So Proud Of You!
Mom, Dad, Ness and Eric

Texas lottery officials admit jackpots were inflated

By LIZ AUSTIN

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Lottery officials admitted they knew ticket sales would not cover an advertised \$8 million Lotto Texas jackpot this month, meaning a winner would not have collected the full amount.

The Texas Lottery Commission used the inflated number for the June 8 drawing to generate interest and get more people to play even though staff reports estimated sales could only cover about \$6.5 million, manager Robert Tirloni told commissioners on

Friday.

Tirloni said jackpots had fallen short of the advertised amounts twice before — once last October and again in February. Each involved an advertised \$8 million jackpot that couldn't be supported by ticket sales. No winners emerged, however.

"At the time that we did these estimations, I felt that it was critical for the long-term health of the game for the jackpot to increase if there was no jackpot ticket sold," Tirloni said. "In hindsight, I would have left the jackpot amount at the same

amount."

The revelations prompted strong criticism from the lottery's three commissioners. The issue is scheduled to undergo legislative scrutiny next week.

"There is nothing more important to this entire business than the integrity of the game," Commissioner Rolando Olvera said.

Tirloni and Lee Deviney, the commission's director of financial administration, proposed the inflated jackpot and it was approved by Executive Director Reagan Greer.

Deviney is no longer with the commission; a spokesman would not discuss his departure Friday.

Greer said he signed off on the inflated jackpots that Deviney and Tirloni recommended without really looking at their reports. He said his staff has made several changes to prevent the problem from occurring again, including basing future jackpots on the most conservative sales estimates.

Lottery officials also are considering holding jackpots at the same amount more often, adding a decimal place to bill-

boards so advertised jackpots can be more precise or starting the jackpot at \$2 million.

The problem emerges at the \$8 million level because that's the first jackpot that can no longer be covered by lottery reserves if ticket sales lag behind the advertisements.

Once someone's ticket matches all five numbers and a Bonus Ball, the jackpot returns to \$4 million. The commission only is allowed to use its reserves to cover payments during the first four drawings, but ticket sales are usually slow until the jackpot reaches at least \$9 million.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Infant dies after being left in truck four hours

WAXAHACHIE — A 6-month-old girl died after her father forgot to drop her off at a day-care center and left her in his truck about four hours, police said.

Mika Michele Terry was pronounced dead Thursday afternoon at a hospital.

The 32-year-old father had gone to Ranch House Cowboy Church in Maypearl to do some construction work, and several hours later he realized his daughter was in the back of his four-door pickup, said Lt. Danny Williams of the Ellis County Sheriff's Department.

The father, whose name was not released, is cooperating with authorities, Williams said.

When the investigation is completed, the Ellis County District Attorney's Office will determine whether any charges will be filed, Williams said.

Maypearl is about 35 miles south of Dallas.

Woman sentenced to 20 years for tossing baby into trash bin

FORT WORTH (AP) — A woman was sentenced Friday to 20 years in prison for placing her newborn son in a plastic bag and throwing him into a trash bin.

Jurors deliberated nearly three hours before deciding on the sentence for Dana L. Wilson, 25, of Hurst. She faced up to life in prison after she was convicted Thursday of attempted capital murder.

Wilson delivered her infant alone in 2003 in her bathroom, drove to a trash bin near an animal clinic and tossed the baby inside. The infant was discovered by a veterinarian and his technician a few hours later, but he suffered severe brain damage because of the lack of oxygen.

The boy, named Christopher Dale Rechard, has vision, speech and coordination problems and has developed cerebral palsy, a doctor said. He now lives with his paternal grandparents.

Wilson told a psychiatrist that the baby was a "major curse" and that she didn't want to give him up for adoption, according to trial testimony. The psychiatrist testified that she did not show remorse.

Prosecutor Mitch Poe said Wilson could have given up the baby by taking him to a police or fire station but that "she chose death," the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported in its online edition

Friday.

Defense witnesses had testified that Wilson suffers from severe mental illnesses, and her attorney said she never meant to kill the baby.

Her mother Delbra Wilson, a former Tarrant County judge, asked jurors during the punishment phase to sentence her daughter to probation.

Grand jury finds insufficient evidence to charge protesters

HOUSTON (AP) — A grand jury has found insufficient evidence to charge three protesters accused of assaulting Houston police at a demonstration outside a Halliburton meeting in May.

The three men had been arrested for assault on a public servant. The grand jury's action June 16 clears them of criminal charges.

The men were among 15 people arrested at a shareholders meeting in downtown Houston.

Eight members of the Houston Global Awareness Collective were also arrested for blocking entry to the meeting. Most pleaded guilty to trespassing.

Eleven train cars derail causing \$1 million damage, no injuries

BEAUMONT (AP) — Eleven cars of a 74-car cargo train derailed near the Neches River causing \$1 million in damages. Officials reported no injuries or hazardous materials leaks.

The train included four cars with hazardous materials, but they remained on the tracks, said Randy Bennett, chief operating officer for the Gulf region of Watco Company, the train's operator.

The materials included three cars of ethylene oxide and one of propionic acid, said Keith Lacaze, assistant chief operating officer.

The Jasper County Sheriff's Department recommended evacuation of a half-mile radius as a precaution when the train derailed Friday afternoon.

Few homes are in the area. The evacuation was later called off.

Of the derailed cars, contents included synthetic plastic, green railroad ties and particle board material.

Watco leases the track from Burlington Northern Santa Fe. No one else uses that particular line, Bennett said. The company will reroute its trains.

The Federal Railroad Administration is expected to investigate the derailment and inspect the tracks.

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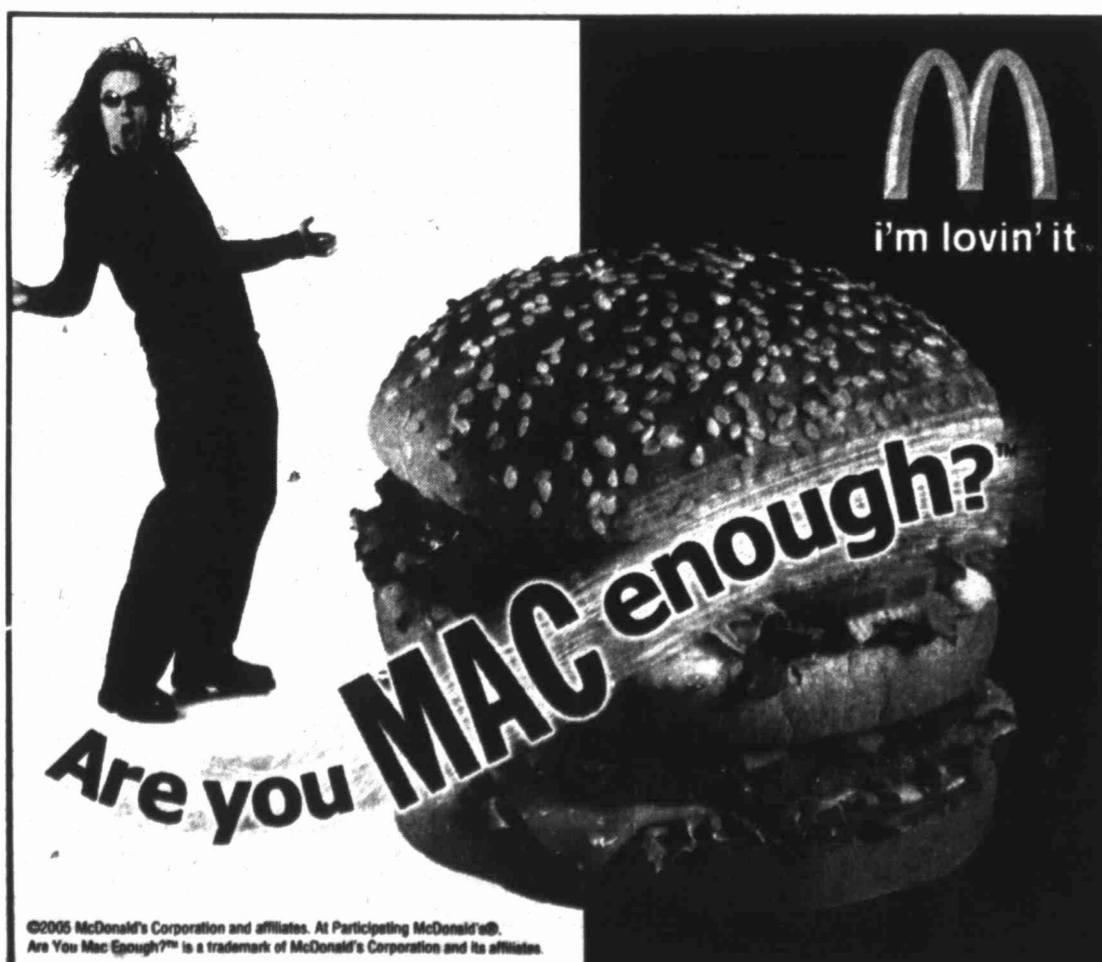
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Top Five

By The Associated Press

Television

1. "Dancing With the Stars," ABC.
2. "NBA Finals Game 5: San Antonio at Detroit," ABC.
3. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," CBS.
4. "CSI: Miami," CBS.
5. "NBA Finals Game 4: San Antonio at Detroit," ABC.

Film

1. "Batman Begins," Warner Bros.
2. "Mr. & Mrs. Smith," 20th Century Fox.
3. "Madagascar," DreamWorks.
4. "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the

Sith," 20th Century Fox.
5. "The Longest Yard," Paramount.
(From Exhibitor Relations Co.)

Hot Five

1. "We Belong Together," Mariah Carey. Island.
2. "Hollaback Girl," Gwen Stefani. Interscope. (Platinum - certified sales of 1 million units)
3. "Don't Phunk With My Heart," The Black Eyed Peas. A&M. (Gold - certified sales of more than 500,000)
4. "Just a Lil Bit," 50 Cent. Shady.
5. "Oh," Ciara (feat. Ludacris). Sho'nuff-MusicLine.
(From Billboard magazine)

Albums

1. "X&Y," Coldplay. Capitol.
2. "Monkey Business," Black Eyed Peas. A&M.
3. "Get Behind Me Satan," The White Stripes. Third Man.
4. "Fijacion Oral Vol. 1," Shakira. Epic.
5. "The Emancipation of Mimi," Mariah Carey. Island. (Platinum)
(From Billboard magazine)

Concert Tours

1. U2.
2. Eagles.
3. Elton John.
4. Kenny Chesney.
5. Rod Stewart.
(From Pollstar)

Kid Video Sales

1. "Dora the Explorer:

It's a Party," Paramount Home Entertainment.
2. "SpongeBob SquarePants: Fear of a Krabby Patty," Paramount Home Entertainment.
3. "Aloha Scooby Doo," Warner Home Video.
4. "Thomas the Tank Engine: Hooray for Thomas (w/Toy)," Hit Entertainment.
5. "Thomas and Friends: Sodor Celebration," Hit Entertainment.
(From Billboard magazine)

VHS Rentals

1. "The Aviator," Warner Home Video.
2. "Are We There Yet?" Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.

3. "Boogeyman," Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.
4. "National Treasure," Dimension Home Video.
5. "White Noise," Universal Studios Home Video.
(From Billboard magazine)

VHS Sales

1. "Pooh's Heffalump Movie," Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
2. "Dora the Explorer: It's a Party," Paramount Home Entertainment.
3. "Shrek 2," DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
4. "SpongeBob SquarePants: Fear of a Krabby Patty," Paramount Home Entertainment.

5. "Racing Stripes," Warner Home Video.
(From Billboard magazine)

DVD Sales

1. "Chappelle's Show: Season 2 (Uncensored!)," Paramount Home Entertainment.
2. "Boogeyman: Special Edition," Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.
3. "Are We There Yet?" Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment.
4. "The Aviator (Widescreen)," Warner Home Video.
5. "The Aviator (Full Screen)," Warner Home Video.
(From Billboard magazine)

Best sellers — books

Hardcover Fiction

1. "The Historian" by Elizabeth Kostova (Little, Brown)
2. "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown (Doubleday)
3. "The Mermaid Chair" by Sue Monk Kidd (Viking)
4. "4th of July" by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro (Little, Brown)
5. "True Believer" by Nicholas Sparks (Warner Books)
6. "A Long Way Down" by Nick Hornby (Riverhead)
7. "Dance of Death" by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child (Warner)
8. "The Closers" by Michael Connelly (Little, Brown)
9. "Velocity" by Dean Koontz (Bantam)
10. "One Shot" by Lee Child (Delacorte)

Nonfiction/General

1. "1776" by David McCullough (Simon &

Schuster)
2. "You: The Owner's Manual" by Michael F. Roizen and Mehmet C. Oz (HarperResource)
3. "The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century" by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
4. "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner (William Morrow)
5. "Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking" by Malcolm Gladwell (Little, Brown)
6. "The Purpose-Driven Life" by Rick Warren (Zondervan)
7. "Winning" by Jack Welch and Suzy Welch (HarperBusiness)
8. "French Women Don't Get Fat" by Mireille Guiliano (Knopf)
9. "America: The Book" by Jon Stewart, Ben Karlin and David Javerbaum (Warner)
10. "On Bull----" by Harry G. Frankfurt

(Princeton University Press)

Mass Market Paperbacks

1. "Black Rose" by Nora Roberts (Jove)
2. "Angels & Demons" by Dan Brown (Pocket)
3. "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" by Sidney Sheldon (Warner)
4. "Summer's Child" by Luanne Rice (Bantam)
5. "Deception Point" by Dan Brown (Pocket)
6. "The Taking" by Dean Koontz (Bantam)
7. "Tom Clancy's Op-Center: War of Eagles" by Jeff Rovin, Tom Clancy (Creator), Steve Pieczenik (Creator) (Berkley)
8. "Digital Fortress" by Dan Brown (St. Martin's)
9. "The Romanov Prophecy" by Steve Berry (Ballantine)
10. "The Nosy Neighbor" by Fern Michaels (Pocket)

Trade Paperbacks

1. "The Kite Runner"

by Khaled Hosseini (Riverhead)
2. "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd (Penguin)
3. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon (Vintage)
4. "Skinny Dip" by Carl Hiaasen (Warner)
5. "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim" by David Sedaris (Back Bay)
6. "Three Famous Short Novels" by William Faulkner (Vintage)
7. "My Sister's Keeper" by Jodi Picoult (Washington Square Press)
8. "The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference" by Malcolm Gladwell (Back Bay)
9. "Wicked" by Gregory Maguire (ReganBooks)
10. "Rich Dad, Poor Dad" by Robert T. Kiyosaki, Sharon L. Lechter (Warner)

It's a meter mystery

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (AP) — Someone is stealing parking meters — poles and all — from the city's downtown. Fifty-seven of Kalamazoo's approximately 1,000 meters were taken in 10 days. None could hold more than about \$10 in change. Several stolen meters, some damaged beyond repair, have been recovered alongside roads and in local parks, said Sgt. Scott Merlo of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety. The rash of brazen, pub-

lic thefts began June 10 when five meters were pulled from the ground near Kalamazoo Avenue and Church Street and on East South Street, Merlo said. As recently as Monday, a stolen meter was recovered on Grant Street. The same person or group of people appears to be responsible, he said. "Somebody that is that brazen to do something in public, to take that big of a chance for that little of a gain is someone that is definitely desperate for money," Merlo said.

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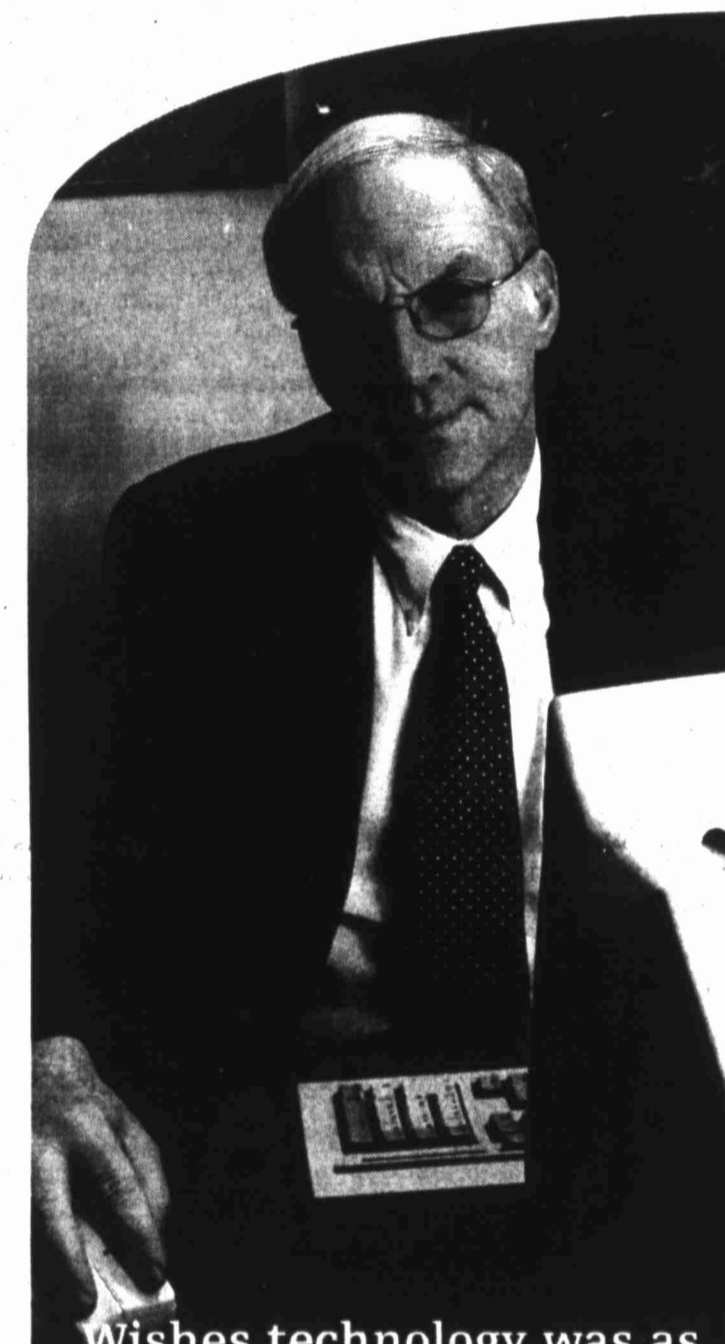
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Who's Who



Joy Adams Robertson

Joy Adams Robertson
Joy Adams Robertson, O.D., of Stanton was among 109 students recently awarded the doctor of optometry degree from Southern College of Optometry in Memphis. Prior to graduation, she received the Drs. Fred and Charlene Burnett "Student Research Award" scholarship for her academic achievements. She is the daughter of Michael and Leatrice Adams, also of Stanton, and the wife of Rodney Robertson of Big Spring. A 1994 graduate of Stanton High School, she

received a bachelor's degree from Angelo State University in 1998 and a master's degree from Texas Tech University in 2000.

Optometrists are independent, primary health care providers who specialize in the examination, diagnosis, treatment and management of diseases/disorders of the visual system, the eye and associated structures, as well as the diagnosis of related systemic conditions.

James Austin Barton

James Austin Barton, a Coahoma High School graduate and the son of Debra and Don Barton, was named to the Austin College Dean's List for the 2005 spring semester. All students named to the Dean's List earned a semester grade point average of at least 3.8 on a 4.0 scale and are ranked in the top 20 percent of the student body.

Joanna Inez Ring

Joanna Inez Ring of Big Spring received a psychology degree from McMurry University at the spring 2005 commencement May 7.

Krystal N. Cline

Krystal N. Cline of Big Spring was named to the West Texas A&M University Dean's List for the spring 2005 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must have a grade point average between 3.25 and 3.85 and carry a minimum of 12 undergraduate hours.

Odessa College graduates

Jeana Avant received an associate degree in applied science and Deborah Light received an associate degree in applied science from Odessa College during may commencement.

Alex Edgemon

Alex Edgemon, the son of Connie Edgemon, Big Spring State Hospital director of information services and human resources development, recently was given the Texas Tech University Dr. Stripling Vocal Award for 2005-2006.

He was one of two Texas Tech University vocal performance students who received the award for the 2005-2006 school year.



Alex Edgemon

Edgemon, a 2002 Big Spring High School graduate who lead the Steers

to three consecutive district tennis titles also participated in choir in high school and was a charter member of the Tenor Bass All State Men's Chorus in 2002.

A senior vocal performance and music composition double major, he sings counter tenor in training with Karl Dent, Chairman of Texas Tech's Vocal Studies Department.

He is a charter member of the Association of Vocal Scholars, the University Choir, and has performed as a soloist in the Carmina Barana and the Messiah.

Alex also was cast as the angel, Gabriel, in "Too Many Sopranos; Nibbles in "West Side Story;" the Priest I in "The Magic Flute;" the chorus of "La Traviata," the "Bartered Bride," and "Showboat." Edgemon also made the Dean's List two times — the latest in the fall of 2004.

He was trained locally under Linda Lindell, Vicky McDowell and Susan Dawes.

He is a member of First Christian Church in Big Spring and sings with the Second Baptist Church Choir in Lubbock.

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TWO TRANSPORTED TO HOSPITAL



A Big Spring woman is prepared to be transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following an accident at the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Gregg Street Saturday afternoon. According to witnesses at the scene, the driver of the blue Dodge pickup was traveling north on Gregg when he turned left in front of a second pickup. The driver of the blue pickup and one passenger were transported by the Big Spring Fire Department.

Second case of mad cow disease confirmed in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has what may be its first homegrown case of mad cow disease, confirmed a full seven months after officials first suspected the animal might be infected.

Despite the delay in reliable results, the government says the food safeguards are working well.

"The fact that this animal was blocked from entering the food supply tells us that our safeguards are working exactly as they should," Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said during a news conference Friday.

Still, the emergence of a native-born case could cast a shadow over the nation's 96 million cattle, the largest herd in the world. Taiwan announced Saturday it was immediately renewing its ban on the importation of U.S. beef.

The only previous U.S. case, confirmed in December 2003, was in a dairy cow that had been imported from Canada, where three other cases have been found. Even that 2003 case involving an imported animal prompted some 50 nations to ban U.S. beef imports.

Japan, once the largest importer of U.S. beef, and some other countries have yet to lift those bans. Taiwan, which just two months ago lifted its ban, moved quickly to block further imports.

"The Cabinet office made this decision today," said Chen Luhung, an official in the food control section of the island's Health Department.

In the year before the ban, Taiwan imported more than \$76 million in American beef and beef products, according to the Agriculture Department.

Texas volunteer search group arrives in Aruba to search for missing U.S. teen-age girl

By PETER PRENGAMAN
Associated Press Writer

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP) — A volunteer rescue group from Texas began preparing a major ground and ocean search for American teen Natalee Holloway who disappeared nearly four weeks ago while on a school trip.

Twenty-four volunteers, including eight rescue divers, would begin the search Saturday morning, said Tim Miller, director of Dickinson, Texas-based Texas EquuSearch.

The volunteers arrived late Friday, bringing with them four dogs trained to sniff out human remains, as well as sonar equipment that will be used in searching the coastal waters, Miller said at a press conference Friday night.

"We are holding out hope that Natalee is alive, but we know the odds are against us," said Miller, adding that the group would remain in Aruba "until we find Natalee."

Miller said the search could cost up to \$100,000

and that his group had already raised about \$25,000.

Miller said pro-athletes in the United States had approached him about helping with the search, but Miller declined to say who they were or how they might participate.

Miller said he arrived to Aruba Thursday to meet with authorities and cross check where they had searched and plot out new sites.

He said his initial meeting with police Superintendent Jan van der Straaten had "been tense," but that the two had come to an agreement about the search. Miller declined to say what the agreement was, but that the search parties would be careful not to let media interfere.

"If we find something that is evidence, we certainly don't want your

cameras on it," Miller said, declining to say where searchers would begin Saturday.

Miller said that within a few days, they would ask local Arubans to help in the searches.

Previous searches by Aruban police, Dutch Marines and thousands of volunteer islanders and tourists have yielded no trace of the 18-year-old Alabama honors student who went missing May 30, the last day of a five-day high school graduation trip with 124 other students. Her passport and packed suitcase were found in her hotel room.

Five men have been arrested in her disappearance, but no one has been charged. The arrested include Dutch teenager Joran van der Sloot, 17, and his father, Paul van der Sloot, a judge in training on the island.

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Ahmadinejad says he seeks 'modern' model for the world

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The winner of Iran's presidential runoff, whose landslide victory dealt a setback to reformers, said Saturday he seeks to create a "modern, advanced and Islamic" model for the world.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made the comments in a taped statement broadcast on state-run radio. They appeared aimed at easing worries that his ultraconservative views would clash with Iran's attempts to expand its economy and international ties.

Ahmadinejad made no mention of any new policies regarding the social reforms opposed by some of his supporters.

The victory gives conservatives control of Iran's two highest elected offices — the presidency and parliament — enabling the non-elected theocracy to rule with a freer hand.

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 - Coffee @ Gales - 10:00 a.m. (Coffee with members)
- June 17 • Friday**
 - Pot Luck & Bingo - 11:30 a.m.
- June 19 • Sunday**
 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
- June 20 • Monday**
 - Lunch Bunch & Birthdays La Posada - 11:00 a.m.
 - Games 2 p.m.
 - Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 p.m. (chair exercises)
- June 21 • Tuesday**
 - Mall Walking - 8 a.m. (Meet at the Mall and walk together)
 - Supper Club - 5:30 p.m. "Cowboys"
- June 22 • Wednesday**
 - Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 a.m. (Eat for \$2 in the hospital cafeteria)
- June 23 • Thursday**
 - 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.
- June 24 • Friday**
 - New Mexico Casino Trip - 10:00 a.m. RSVF Early to Anita @ 268-4721
- June 25 • Saturday**
 - Child Birth Classes 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Laurie Burks, RN Certified Birth Educator 2nd Floor Hospital
- June 27 • Monday**
 - Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 p.m. (Chair Exercises)
- June 28 • Tuesday**
 - Mall walking - 8 a.m. (meet at the Mall & walk together)
 - Supper Club "Furrs" - 5:30 p.m.
- June 29 • Friday**
 - Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 a.m. (Eat for \$2 in the hospital cafeteria)
- June 30 • Thursday**
 - Mall Walking - 8:00 a.m. (Meet at the Mall & walk together)
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Illeana Soto, center, sings at Corona Park at Flushing Meadows in New York City during the Billy Graham Crusade Friday.

Graham addresses what could be his last crusade

By TRACY CONNOR
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The Rev. Billy Graham kicks off possibly his last U.S. crusade at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in New York Saturday night, and no one is more excited than firefighter John Picarello.

The 19-year veteran from Staten Island's Battalion 21 has been tapped to give testimony before massive crowds expected at the evangelist's three-day rally.

Picarello, who was raised a Catholic but now runs his own evangelical church, plans to speak about the sacrifice his fellow firefighters made on Sept. 11.

And he believes the ailing Graham's visit will be a turning point for a city that still bears the physical and spiritual scars of the terrorist attacks.

"After all we went through, it's easy to feel God forgot about us," the father of four said. "But this city has always risen up, and this is a message from God that he didn't forget about New York."

Graham, 86, suffers from Parkinson's disease, fluid on the brain, prostate cancer and hearing loss - and is winding down his career as "America's pastor."

He chose New York for



his final crusade in America — and maybe his last ever — at the behest of two local pastors who flew to his retreat in the North Carolina mountains last year.

Graham's announcement this week that he may not preach in public after this weekend has boosted the already healthy interest in the event.

Although the crowds won't approach the 2.3 million who packed Madison Square Garden for his historic 16-week crusade in 1957, organizers expect at least 70,000 each of the three days.

The highlight of each evening will be a 35-minute message from Graham, from a special podium that will allow him to sit while he speaks.

The program will be heavier on the hallelujahs than the fire and brimstone - and there's plenty for children.

Christian pop groups such as Jars of Clay will perform, and a caped crusader named Bibleman who classifies himself as "Batman for Jesus" preaches Sunday morning.

It's not all show business, though.

Each night, new believers will be invited to pray with Graham and pledge their lives to Christ, and a God squad of volunteer counselors will follow up with them in the weeks to come.

About 1,400 churches are participating - from the 24,000-member Christian Cultural Center in Canarsie, Brooklyn, to tiny congregations like Picarello's House on the Rock.

The firefighter formed the nondenominational Christian church in 1996 after "feeling a tug in my heart," and it now has a congregation of about 80.

Though he has spoken to large crowds since the Sept. 11 attacks, the audience Sunday afternoon will be his largest ever - with the added pressure of speaking before a master orator like Graham.

"I feel such a responsibility," he said Friday. "I just want to get it right."

About 350 evacuated in Utah

GUNLOCK, Utah (AP) — Residents of the small town of Gunlock were told to evacuate Saturday because a wildfire that had burned about 40,000 acres was approaching the community and the weather was hot and windy.

Flames were still about 4 miles from Gunlock, but officials evacuated the town of about 350 in southwestern Utah as a precaution, Bureau of Land Management spokesman David Boyd said Saturday morning.

"Depending on what the winds do, it definitely could get close to Gunlock," Boyd said.

Elsewhere, firefighters near Kelso, Calif., strug-

gled to surround a 52,000-acre wildfire in a wilderness preserve that includes horse corrals from the 1870s, historic mines and sites with ancient Indian pictographs.

There was little change Saturday morning in a more-than-60,000-acre Arizona brush and grass fire that had turned away from an upscale community northeast of Phoenix. Residents who had fled the wind-blown blaze began returning home Friday.

And in southern Nevada, a pall of smoke had drifted over the Las Vegas Strip from 19 blazes that charred nearly 54,000 acres of parched

grass, desert brush and mountain pines.

The blaze threatening Gunlock was a combination of five smaller fires started by lightning on Wednesday that had joined and were expected to continue spreading Saturday.

"At this point it's still a ways away, but there's a definite concern there," Boyd said.

It is the second natural disaster this year for Gunlock, located about 20 miles northwest of St. George. The town was isolated in January when heavy rain caused flooding that washed out bridges and destroyed several homes in the region.

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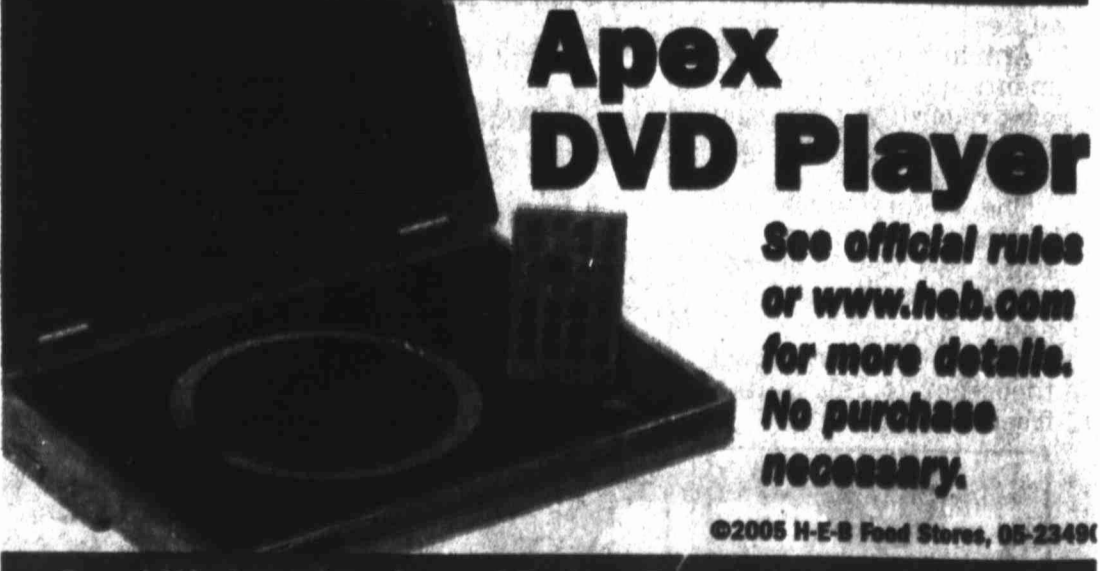
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Page 1B
Weekend Edition, June 25-26, 2005

IN BRIEF

Howard women's basketball sets three camp dates
The Howard College women's basketball program will be held in two more camps this summer. The camps will both take place July 18-21. The first camp is 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.

Quarterback Club meeting scheduled
The Big Spring High School Quarterback Club will have its next meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, at the BSHS Athletic Training Center. Parents of all junior high and high school football players are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

Meeting slated for volleyball
Jason McAden, the new head coach of Big Spring High School's Lady Steers volleyball program, has scheduled a 6 p.m. Monday meeting at Steer Gym for prospective players. All girls interested in playing high school volleyball are invited to attend.

Ragball tournament scheduled July 8-9
The second annual Big Spring Ragball Tournament will be held Friday and Saturday, July 8-9, at the Roy Anderson Complex. Entry fees for the co-ed tournament will be \$110 per team. For more information, call Rodney at 213-3750 or Ricky at 267-2006. Or register by going online to www.bigspringsoftball.com.

Coahoma sets dates for baseball camp
Coahoma High School has set its 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. Proper techniques in hitting, fielding, pitching and baserunning will be taught. The camp will be led by Coahoma coach Brad Harman. For more information, contact Harman at 816-8255.

'Horns hope lessons of 2004 learned well

By ERIC OLSON
AP Sports Writer
OMAHA, Neb. — Just about everything came easily for the Texas Longhorns last season — until Cal State Fullerton came along and swept them in the national finals. This year, the Longhorns believe their bumpy road to Omaha has them better prepared for the championship round of the College World Series. The Longhorns (54-16) opened the best-of-three championship series Saturday against seventh-seeded Florida (48-21), the first meeting between these national powers. The unseeded Longhorns are playing for the championship for the third time in four years. As the No. 1 seed last year, they

CWS notebook: LaPorta hits goal as Gators go for title

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Matt LaPorta's alarm clock was set for 5:30 a.m. last fall so he could get up and run the stadium steps. He wanted to get ready for Florida's season, maybe even become college baseball's top home run hitter. Now he is, leading all Division I sluggers with 26 homers after hitting his second of the College World Series. "I mean it was one of my goals before we got into the season. I wanted to lead the country in

home runs," the Gators solidly built first baseman said. "It happened through hard work." LaPorta, a 6-1, 210-pound sophomore, hit a towering shot to left Thursday night when the Gators went deep three times and beat Arizona State to clinch a spot in the championship round against Texas. When LaPorta homers this season, Florida is 22-4. "We joke with Matt that he has to hit a home run for us to win,"

rolled through regionals and super regionals. At the CWS, they beat Arkansas 13-2 and Georgia 9-3 and 7-6 before losing

6-4 and 3-2 to Fullerton. "I was surprised in the championship series that we showed our nerves," Texas coach Augie Garrido said. "We'll see whether that happens again." This year Texas lost 9-2 to Arkansas on its home field in the regionals, then had to win three straight elimination games. The Longhorns lost their super regional opener to Mississippi before winning two straight to reach the College World Series for the fourth straight year. Once at Rosenblatt Stadium, they beat Baylor twice to avenge four losses to the Bears this season and shut out top-seeded Tulane. "This year the postseason couldn't have been further from

HEADING TO THE PLAYOFFS



Here are the Big Spring Girls Softball Association 12 & Under All-Stars: Front row, from left: Mari Carrillo, Keyv O'Brien, Kimberly Muniz and Morgan Harbour. Second row: Valerie Ross, Callie Shafer (14 & Under), Belle Feaster, Lacey Lawrence and Laura Herrera. Back row: Coaches Ed Ross, Ron Shafer and Rodney Jones and manager Stan Feaster. Not pictured are Lani Robles, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Jessica Womack, Claudia Jones and Breanna Hilaro.

Astros down Rangers

By JOEL ANDERSON
AP Sports Writer
HOUSTON — The way Roy Oswalt has been pitching the past two months, the Texas Rangers almost certainly weren't going to snap out of their offensive doldrums Friday night. And factoring in the Rangers' recent road woes, it was virtually impossible. Oswalt pitched 7 1-3 strong innings, Jason Lane broke out of a slump with a two-run homer and the Houston Astros beat the slumping Rangers 5-2. "There's not much room for error with Oswalt out there," said Rangers manager Buck Showalter, whose club has dropped a season high-tying five straight. "He's one of the best pitchers you will face in a given year. It was tough putting a lot together against him." Rookie outfielder Chris Burke went 3-for-3, Brad Ausmus went 2-for-2 with an RBI and two walks and Brad Lidge got the final three outs for his 18th save in 21 chances to send the surging Astros to their fourth straight win and eighth in a row at home.

Johnson still going strong; posts year's best time in winning 110s



Allen Johnson manages a thumbs-up as he leave the track, disqualified from the 110m hurdles for a false start at the Prefontaine Classic in Eugene, Ore., on June 4. Johnson, a four-time world champion, won his fifth U.S. Track and Field Championships title Friday with a time of 12.99 — the fastest in the world this year.

By BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer
CARSON, Calif. — Allen Johnson is still going strong at 34. Marion Jones has all but faded away nearly five years after winning a record five track and field medals at the Olympics. Johnson won his fifth 110-meter hurdle title Friday night at the U.S. championships in 12.99 seconds — fastest in the world this year. "That's the 10th time I've run under 13, so I'm happy," said Johnson, a four-time world champion. "Hopefully I can do it a few more times, and hopefully get under 12.91 (the world record)." Fans who weren't watching closely might have missed Jones, whose appearance was brief. She grabbed her warmup clothes and walked off the track moments before the start of the 100 preliminaries. "I looked around and she wasn't there," said Shalonda Solomon, who ran in Jones' heat. "And the officials were like 'Marion's gone.'" Jones was considered a long shot to qualify for

the world championships, but she didn't stick around for the starting gun. Her agent, Charles Wells, said that she had a hip flexor injury and would not compete in the 200, either. The injury, he said, occurred two weeks ago during training. "It was something that was very minor," he said. "She worked out and thought she was ready to go. She got to the track and it started bothering her, and she decided not to risk it." Jones, a two-time world champion and 2000 Olympic gold medalist in the 100, has been dogged by doping suspicions for two seasons, even though she never has tested positive for performance enhancing drugs and has vehemently denied ever taking them. Jones, running in the final heat, took one warmup run out of the blocks, then walked up and down her lane before picking up her clothes from a plastic bucket. She walked briskly off the track and left Home Depot Center.

Oswalt (9-7) won his third straight start and seventh consecutive at home, allowing two runs and six hits. Oswalt hasn't given up more than two earned runs in eight of his last nine outings, yielding just eight runs in 52 1-3 innings. "I went right at them and I was able to move the ball around a lot," Oswalt said. "I felt really good out there." Ausmus and Willy Taveras had run-scoring singles in the second to give Houston a 2-0 lead. Lane, who entered the game in a 2-for-23 skid, hit a 372-foot homer just inside the left-field pole in the third to make it 4-0. "I've had a rough couple of days," Lane said. "It's just nice to drive in a couple of runs and get Roy the lead. You usually feel pretty good when Roy's on the mound and you have a 4-0 lead." But the Rangers rallied in the eighth as Rod Barajas and Laynce Nix hit back-to-back homers off a tiring Oswalt. Reliever Chad Qualls ended the threat by getting the final two outs of

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2005

Federer advances to the fourth round at Wimbledon

By STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Roger Federer twice rallied from a service break down in the final set Saturday and beat Nicolas Kiefer 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-1, 7-5 in the third round at Wimbledon. It was his 32nd straight victory on grass and 17th in a row at the All England Club.

Federer hit consecutive double-faults to fall behind 5-3 in the fourth set, and in the next game Kiefer was twice two points from forcing a fifth set.

But Kiefer double-faulted to lose serve, then lost serve again to fall behind 6-5. Federer hit three aces and a feathery backhand winner in the next game to close the victory.

On a damp, chilly afternoon, top-ranked Lindsay Davenport routed Russian Dinara Safina 6-2, 6-1. Davenport has lost only eight games in three matches.

Two-time champion Venus Williams, seeded 14th, beat No. 20 Daniela Hantuchova 7-5, 6-3. Williams has lost only one set in seven matches against Hantuchova.

Defending champion Maria Sharapova and No. 8 Nadia Petrova advanced, giving Russia six women in the final 16. Sharapova sent Katarina Srebotnik sprawling to the grass in vain pursuit of a shot, then hit a forehand winner on the next point to close out a 6-2, 6-4 victory. No. 8-seeded Petrova beat wild card Cara Black 6-4, 6-3.

Sharapova, seeded second, has lost just 11 games so far, but her play was more erratic than in the first two rounds.

She shanked an overhead, blew an easy volley and finished with 21

unforced errors, including 14 in the first six games.

Still, Sharapova advanced to the fourth round for the third time in as many career appearances at the All England Club.

She hit 21 winners, broke serve four times and lost serve just once.

Conchita Martinez's 14th consecutive Wimbledon ended when she lost to Kveta Peschke 6-4, 6-1. Martinez, 33, won the 1994 title.

French Open runner-up Mary Pierce, seeded 12th, defeated No. 19 Ana Ivanovic 6-1, 6-4.

No. 23 Juan Carlos Ferrero, the 2003 French Open champion, reached the fourth round to equal his best showing at Wimbledon. He rallied and eliminated 2004 Wimbledon quarterfinalist Florian Mayer 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-1. Ferrero will play Federer next.

In the completion of a match suspended Friday because of rain, No. 31-seeded Mikhail Youzhny celebrated his 23rd birthday by beating Jonas Bjorkman 7-5, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (9). Youzhny will next play No. 21 Fernando Gonzalez.

Russian Anastasia Myskina thinks a harrowing week of tennis at Wimbledon will be good therapy for her ailing mother back home in Moscow.

Myskina won her third wrenching match in a row Friday. She failed to convert two match points in the second set, fell behind 5-1 in the third, squandered 24 of 33 break-point chances and still advanced.

Seeded ninth despite a prolonged slump, Myskina beat Jelena Jankovic 6-0, 5-7, 10-8. Watching at home was her mother, who is bat-

ting a serious illness. "She's really proud," Myskina said. "Right now, she's really happy. That's really good."

Last month, Myskina became the first defending champion at the French Open to be eliminated in the opening round.

And she has flirted with defeat in each of her matches this week.

She won in the opening round despite losing serve nine times. In the next round, she failed to convert 12 set points in the first set, yet won again.

"Maybe I'm not playing my best tennis," she said. "But at least I fight and I do my best."

Myskina's latest victory helped Russian women go 4-0 Friday, winning all but two of the six third-round matches played. Among those also advancing was two-time Grand Slam runner-up Elena Dementieva, sounding especially confident after she received serving tips from 1996 Wimbledon men's champion Richard Krajicek.

The big Dutchman, armed with one of the most dominating serves in tennis, upset Pete Sampras at Wimbledon nine years ago and then beat MaliVai Washington in the final.

On Friday, Dementieva defeated Washington's sister, Mashona, 7-5, 6-1.

Dementieva, a top-10 player even though her serve rivals the worst on the women's tour, said Krajicek gave her lessons during the past two weeks.

"He helped me a lot with my serve," said Dementieva, seeded sixth. "I was very pleased that he was working with me because I think he had the best serve on the tour. You know, it looks so simple when he does it."



RRT photo/Lawrence Lustig/Express Syndication
Russia's Maria Sharapova waves to the crowd during her second round victory over Bulgaria's Sesil Karatancheva at Wimbledon on Thursday.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

the inning.

Houston got another run in the bottom of the eighth when Adam Everett scored on a double steal.

"You don't see that a lot," Astros manager Phil Garner said. "It's the element of surprise. They executed it perfectly."

The Rangers, coming off a three-game sweep to the AL West-leading Los Angeles Angels, have lost nine of their last 10 games away from home.

Even more telling about their recent struggles: The Rangers, the third-highest scoring team in the majors, have scored only 11 runs in losing the first five games of the road trip. Six of those runs came in Tuesday's loss to the Angels.

TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

Jones' stunning departure came hours after her boyfriend, former world record holder Tim Montgomery, withdrew from the men's 100, ending his chances of qualifying for the world meet in Finland.

"Considering everything that's going on, he just can't concentrate on track and field," Wells said.

The father of Jones' child, Montgomery is awaiting word on his appeal of a lifetime ban proposed by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

Olympic champion Justin Gatlin had his own problems in the 100, where four false starts occurred in the first two heats.

"We need a shot in the arm. We're just not getting it done offensively," Rangers shortstop Michael Young said. "Everyone fell into a rut at the same time. That seems to be what happens when a team goes into a slump."

Ricardo Rodriguez (2-1) lost for the first time in three starts since taking over in Texas' rotation for opening day starter Ryan Drese, who was designated for assignment June 8 and claimed by Washington.

He allowed four runs and eight hits in five innings.

"When you face a guy like (Oswalt), you've got to be tough," Rodriguez said. "We're going through a long slump. We'll worry about it a little, but I think we're going to come back and start scoring some runs again."

Gatlin was disqualified for a false start. However, he protested and was reinstated into the semifinals on a referee's decision.

Gatlin was called for a false start based on computer readings of the pressure he puts on the blocks. The field had already been assessed one false start, so the next one eliminated Gatlin.

Meet referee Ed Gorman ruled that computer printouts showed movement in the lane next to Gatlin, by Mark Jelks, which may have caused Gatlin to flinch and register a false start.

As a result, there were to be three 100-meter semifinal heats Saturday. "I'm happy that the head referee gave me the opportunity to compete for the world championship," Gatlin said.

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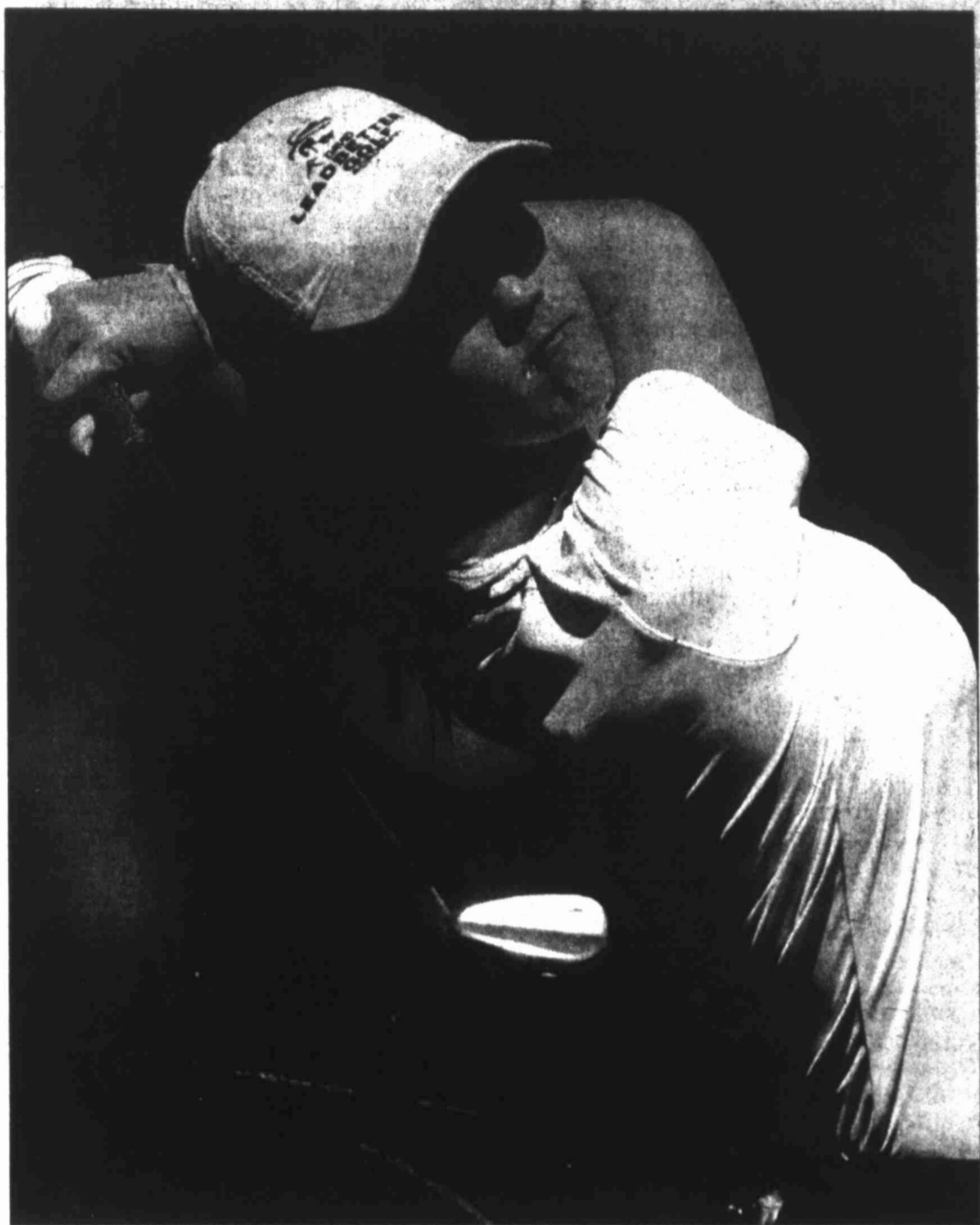
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LPGA's kids slamming Annika's major hopes at Open



KRT photo/David Bliton/Colorado Springs Gazette
Michelle Wie hits an approach to the 17th green in the second round of the U.S. Women's Open on Friday at Cherry Hills (Colo.) Country Club. Wie and a collection of other younger players in the LPGA have all but ruined Annika Sorenstam's bid to become the first woman to ever a Grand Slam.

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP Sports Writer

CHERRY HILLS VIL-LAGE, Colo. — Michelle Wie and others in the young set are making a case that the future is now in women's golf.

And that could be trouble for Annika Sorenstam's bid to make history.

Surprising Nicole Perrot shot 1-under-par 70 on Friday to finish at 2-under 140 and take a two-shot lead over Lorena Ochoa (68) and Wie, the 15-year-old prodigy from Hawaii, after the second round of the U.S. Open.

Teenagers Paula Creamer (1 over) and Morgan Pressel (2 over) also played their way into contention in the tournament, which has become anything but a coronation for Sorenstam.

Seeking the third leg of the Grand Slam, the best player in the world finished with three straight bogeys to stagger to a 4-over 75 and fall six shots behind Perrot.

"Right now, I want to forget about this round and come back tomorrow," said Sorenstam, who was in a six-way tie for 22nd. "Hopefully, it will go my way."

If not, there are plenty of young kids who would love to take her place.

The list starts with Wie, who kept her cool during a round of 1-over 73 and afterward said she was,

indeed, ready to win the U.S. Open.

"If I never think I'm ready, then I can never win," Wie said. "Always think positively."

Pressel, the 17-year-old already playing in her third Open, kept it together after a tear-filled first round. She closed the day by nearly skimming the ball over the lake on No. 18, but getting the ball to the green in two, making her par and putting herself in decent position for the weekend.

"Four shots off with two days left?" Pressel said. "That's not bad. I could be higher, but I'll deal with it."

Creamer, 18, had the wildest day of all.

It included six birdies, four bogeys, one double bogey, an eagle, a trip to the top of the leaderboard and one trip to the bathroom to throw up. In the end, she too felt she had a chance at winning the Open in this, her first year as a pro.

"Anything can happen out there," she said, "and I'm a prime example of it."

Perrot was the biggest unknown among the leaders, although she has a resume as good as those she's trying to fend off. The U.S. Junior Girls Champion in 2001, she has slowly made her way through the ranks, coming from Chile to the LPGA Tour, and now in position to make a big splash.

Perrot started the tournament with three bogeys in her first five holes. Since then, she has been pretty much unflappable.

"You just keep playing shot by shot," she said. "You get in your moment. You have to accept it. That's the key to the sport, is learning to accept what happens."

Nobody has done it better over the years than Sorenstam, although there were moments during her round Friday that were confounding.

In an attempt to make up ground over the final three holes, she hit a tee shot into the rough and made a dubious decision to go for the green on No. 16. That was followed by another bad tee shot into rough so deep she had to lay up twice on the par-5 17th. Her shocking finish ended with a conservative play off the 18th tee, leaving her a 4-wood up the hill toward the green.

The result was three bogeys that dropped her three more strokes out of the lead.

"Sometimes you just can't analyze things," Sorenstam said. "You've got to drop it and move on."

She was practically offended when asked if she still had a chance to win the tournament.

"I have to play good golf, there's no doubt about it," she said. "But I'm a fighter."

Furyk holes out for eagle, to lead Barclays Classic

By JOHN NICHOLSON

AP Sports Writer

HARRISON, N.Y. — Caddie Mike "Fluff" Cowan picked the club and fixed the ballmark. Jim Furyk took care of the rest.

The 2003 U.S. Open champion holed out from 153 yards for an eagle 2 on the eighth hole — his 17th Friday — and finished with a par for a 2-under 69 and a one-stroke lead over Brian Gay after the second round of the Barclays Classic.

"I was between 9-iron and 8-iron," Furyk said. "I wanted to hit the 9, but my caddie talked me out of it. After he told me what he thought the wind was doing and described the shot, I thought he was right."

The nine-time PGA Tour winner, fully recovered from a wrist injury that sidelined him for most of the first half of last season, had an 8-under 134 total on the hilly, tree-lined Westchester Country

Club course. He took a three-stroke lead into his morning round after opening with a 65 Thursday afternoon.

Gay birdied three of the last five holes for a 66 Friday.

"I'm very pleased," said Gay, the only afternoon starter in the top eight. "It was very tough out there. The greens are really getting baked out."

Padraig Harrington (65), Len Mattiace (65), Kenny Perry (68), John Senden (67) and Hidemichi Tanaka (68) were tied for third at 6 under.

"I think they set the pins up brutal for the first two rounds," said Perry, a two-time winner this year. "I've never seen them set up this tough. They seem to be more on the edges.... It's a tough old girl. You got to watch what you're doing."

Kevin Sutherland (68) was four strokes back at 4 under, and Vijay Singh (71) and Tom Pernice Jr. (69) were 3 under.

Singh was in a much better mood Friday after

criticizing tour officials Thursday for failing to enforce slow-play rules.

"I feel good about my game," said Singh, the 1993 and 1995 winner. "Five shots on this golf course is nothing."

Winless in 38 events since the 2003 Buick Open, Furyk tied for second in consecutive starts earlier this year — including a playoff loss to Singh in the Wachovia Championship. Furyk certainly appeared to be in winning form on No. 8, with his approach shot over the water landing about 8 feet short of the hole — cut 4 yards off the left edge — and falling in on the second bounce.



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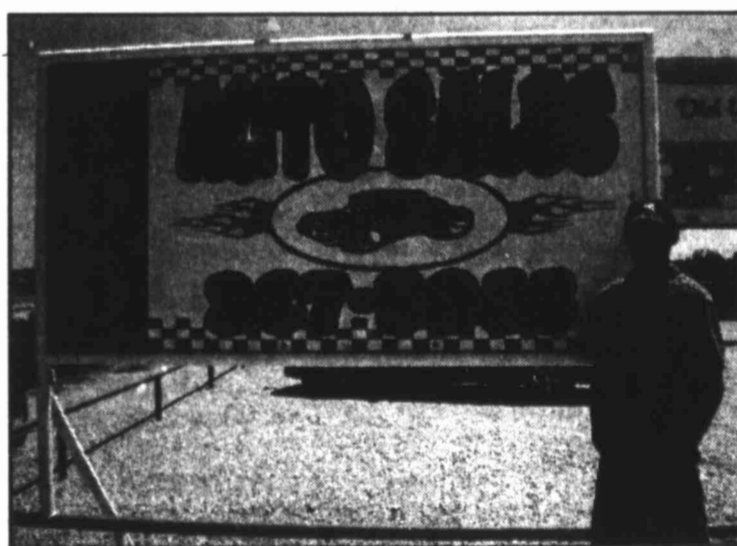
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Reserved for me at Grandma's place.
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But oh! we both loved it so
We had our special bit of heaven
When I was 3 'til I was past 27.

Author unknown
Adopted by Loma Jean Wynn
for her grandmother,
Parthenia Lazette Coates Buchanan

Loma Jean Wynn and her brothers, Jack Buchanan and Sammy Don Buchanan, all of Coahoma continue to carry on a 100-year long pioneer family tradition of community service and neighbor helping neighbor, putting God and family first.

Wynn, who taught school in Coahoma for more than 30 years, volunteers at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center and Jack, a farmer and rancher married to Mildred, was recently honored as the Grand Marshal of the 72nd annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo parade.

But their family's induction into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program this year for their family home, the Sandy Hill Farm, which has been within their family for more than 100 years, may be one of their proudest accomplishments.

S.D. (Samuel Douthitt) Buchanan, 1859-1939 and his wife, Parthenia Lazette Coates Buchanan, 1874-1961, married in 1891 and homesteaded 640 acres in Howard County before acquiring the land's title in 1899. They hand-dug the water well and lived in a dug out until they built their house, which is located in the Salem Community.

They had 13 children: Gordon Pinckney, Gerald Edward, Alma Pearl, who died when she was 18 from an appendectomy, which Wynn said was performed in the kitchen at home, Addie Eugenia Phillips, Amanda Malvina Hull, Samuel Ford, (father of Jack, S.D. and Loma Jean) Oma Dale Buchanan, Omega Coates Bond, Martha Barclay Wolf, James Alexander, who died when he was 2, Roscoe C. Buchanan, Parthenia (Parthy) Buchanan Bailey and Douthitt Hurt Buchanan.

S.D. Buchanan was truly a West Texas pioneer, growing a variety of fruits and vegetables on his property, as well as one of the first settlers to raise Hereford cattle, registering the Anxiety 4th Hereford breed.

S.D. donated land to create Salem Cemetery and he and his sons were responsible for taking care of the cemetery until his death. When S.D. died in 1939, more than 100 people walked from the family home to the cemetery to attend the funeral.

"It was stated that this was the largest funeral ever noted in our county, and old timers agreed there were more friends at Mr. Buchanan's funeral than there were people in Howard county when he came here to make his home," *Big Spring Herald* Dec. 8, 1939.

The family still owns about five sections of land. Wynn said she recalls visiting her grandmother's home practically every day.

"We called it the Up House and I thought I had to visit her every day. Grandma didn't like to leave the house Sunday afternoons because she said 'some of the kids might come by.' She liked to cook and she tended her garden and flowers every day," Wynn said.

S.D. retired and spent his latter years traveling into town wearing his work clothes and suspenders and sometimes his house shoes.

"One day someone stopped him and asked if he could spare a dime. Grandpa answered him, saying 'I'm working this side of the street, you work the other side,'" said Jack Buchanan, who is also known for a similar sense of humor.

Although they no longer live in the family home, the siblings visit nearly every day and continue farming and ranching, part of their inheritance from their pioneering grandparents.

Marsha Sturdivant is the features editor for the *Big Spring Herald*. Contact her at 263-7331 or e-mail life@bigspringherald.com.



Courtesy photos
The Buchanan family, top photo, in the early 1900s with six of their 13 children; the Buchanan daughters, top right, Addie, Mandy, Mattie (Sister), Omega, Parthenia (Parthy) in a Pearl Bradshaw of Bradshaw Studios color portrait; the family home, center, built in 1941-42; S.D. and Parthenia Buchanan in the early 1930s; Loma Jean Wynn and Jack Buchanan near the original well behind the home place; a tombstone for "Little Jim," Buchanan, right, who died in 1914 from "summer complaint" just before his second birthday, shows how hard early pioneer life could be. The tombstone reads: "Our darling one hath gone before to greet us on that blissful shore; and bottom right, receiving the award from Texas Land Commissioner Susan Combs.

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Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Middleton

Middletons celebrate 50 years wed

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Middleton of Big Spring celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 24 in Dallas at the Lone Star Park.

The event was held in the Silks Club and included lunch and a day at the horse races, an enjoyed pastime of both.

The occasion was hosted by the couples' two children, John Middleton and his wife, Cindy of Big Spring and Candy Brown and her husband, Jacky of Stephenville.

Also in attendance were the couples' four grandchildren, Kim Middleton of Irvine, Calif., Lauren Craig and her husband, Cody of Dallas and Jake Brown and Clay Brown, both of Stephenville.

Harry and Janet were married June 24, 1955, at the First Presbyterian Church in Garden City.

Harry is the son of the late Robert and Louise Middleton of Big Spring and Janet is the daughter of the late Ray and Emma Hightower of Garden

City. They both attended and studied at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where Harry received a bachelor's degree in the field of agriculture.

Upon finishing his duty in the U.S. Army, he went on to pursue an agricultural career in the farming and ranching industry.

Harry is a past president and board member of the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo.

Both Harry and Janet are long-time members of the First Presbyterian Church.

Janet, known for her outgoing and adventurous nature, enjoys traveling the globe and spending time with her family.

Harry enjoys all things outdoors and spends his time working the ranch and watching for "up and coming" thoroughbreds. Both are avid horse race fans, spending both their honeymoon and 50th wedding anniversary at the horse races.

Engagement



Carolyn Elizabeth Brown and Ruel Lynn Metcalf

Brown, Metcalf to wed

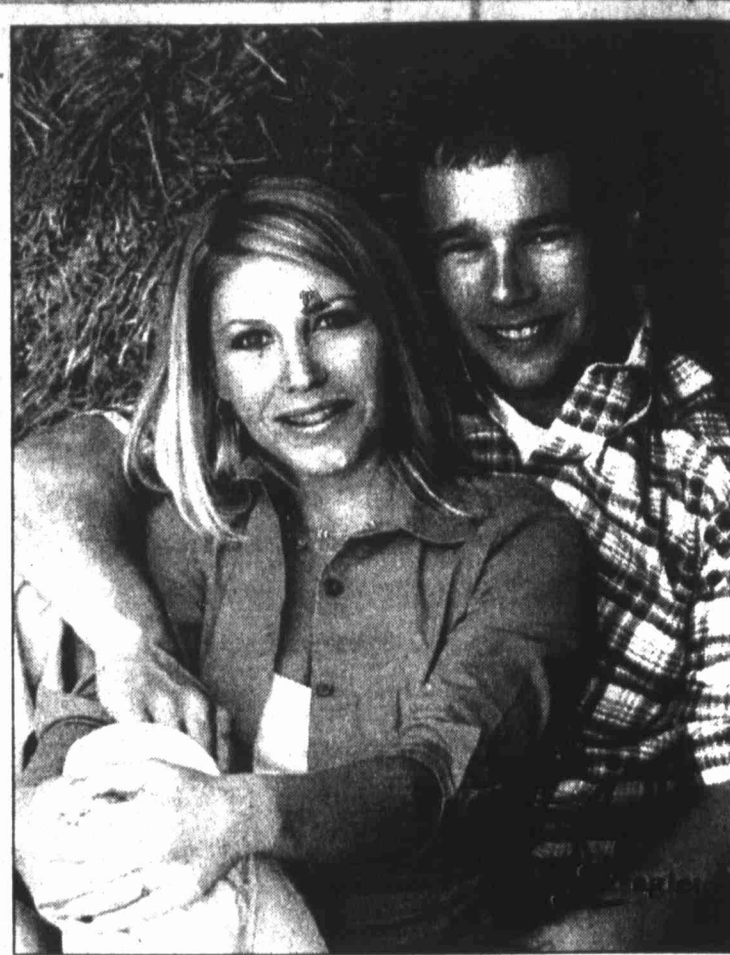
Carolyn Elizabeth Brown and Ruel Lynn Metcalf of Big Spring announce their intention to be married at 8 p.m., July 2, 2005, in the Civic Room at the Hilton in Midland.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Gary and Pam Saunders of Midland and Tommy Gibbons of Lubbock. She is the granddaughter of Virgie and the late Fred McCurry of Welcome Home, Ark., and the late Lewis and Louise Gibbons of Lubbock.

The future groom is the son of Jerry and the late Leta Metcalf of Big Spring.

Carolyn is a 2003 graduate of Howard College, where she earned a licensed vocational nursing certificate. She plans to attend Howard College this fall to complete her associate's degree in nursing. She works for Home Hospice in Big Spring.

Ruel has owned and operated several business in Big Spring during the past 32 years, including Big Spring Radiator. He is also an honorary member of the Blue Knights Chapter 26, a member of the Permain Basin Speleological Society and the Bulchitness of Midland.



Sabrina Leigh Hertig and Edwin Andrew Picket

Hertig, Picket to wed

Sabrina Leigh Hertig and Edwin Andrew Picket, both of Aubrey, are announcing their upcoming wedding set for 5:30 p.m., July 30, 2005, at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Denton.

She is the daughter of Jack and Dee Hertig of Olney and the stepgranddaughter of A.J. Edwards of Big Spring. She is the granddaughter of the late Albert Bea Edwards and the late John and Gertie Hertig.

Jack is the son of Nancy and the late Edwin Picket of Denton and the grandson of the late Clarence and Katherine Picket and Helen and the late Russell Johnson of West Virginia.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Tolar High School and attended Weatherford College before earning a degree in home furnishing/design and business at the University of North Texas.

The groom is a 1995 graduate from Denton High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business and animal science from Kansas State University. He is currently in a master's of business administration program at the University of North Texas in business and accounting.

He is employed by Estate Manager in Aubrey.

MENUS

Big Spring ISD

Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the high school and Marcy, Bauer and Moss elementaries.

Those 18 and younger are free, adults pay \$2.35.

Monday: pizza burger on a roll, potato rounds, fresh veggies with dip, strawberries, milk.

Tuesday: crispy chicken, mashed potatoes, black eye peas, fruit cobbler, rolls, milk.

Wednesday: ground beef stroganoff, garden salad with honey, mustard or ranch, vegetable wrap, carrot cake, milk.

Thursday: ham and

cheese sandwich, chips, fruit, pickle spears, ice cream, milk.

Spring City Senior Citizens Center

Monday: smothered steak, potatoes, carrots, salad, milk, rolls, fruit.

Tuesday: large baked potato, chili, sour cream, broccoli and cheese salad, milk, crackers, pie.

Wednesday: meatloaf, macaroni and cheese, spinach salad, milk, rolls, fruited gelatin.

Thursday: catfish, French fries, bean, coleslaw, milk, fruit.

CLUB NEWS



Courtesy photo
Katie Lara, left and Maru Schuelke of the Capt. Elisha Mack Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, present bib and shirt protectors to Iva Jo Hanslik, center, community relations coordinator for the VA Medical Center, for use by the nursing home patients. Sarah Johnson of Girl Scout troop 8 in San Angelo made 75 items as a Gold Star project with materials supplied by the Pocahontas DAR Chapter in San Angelo.

In the Military

Army Pvt. Felicia B. Daily

Army Pvt. Felicia B. Daily has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

She is the daughter of Delores Daily of Big Spring. Her grandparents are Betty and Tom Daily of Big Spring.

The private is a 2004 high school graduate of the Howard College GED Program, Big Spring.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle



Army Pvt. Felicia B. Daily

marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

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Darron Dwayne Livengood

Births

Darron Dwayne Livengood, a boy, was born June 12, 2005, at 3:20 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long.

He is the son of Bethani and Douglas Livengood of Big Spring. His grandparents are Jack and Donna Nixson and Diane and the late Douglas Livengood.

David Lujan Galaviz Jr., a boy, was born June 17, 2005, at 10:18 a.m., weighing 7 pounds,

7 ounces and was 20 inches long.

His parents are David and Amanda Galaviz of Big Spring.

He is the grandson of Erminio Ramirez and the late Linda Ramirez of Ackerly, Rita and Augustine Cantu of Stanton and the late Domingo Galaviz.

David was welcomed home by siblings Desiree, Makayla and Ruby Galaviz.

Jesse Ray Anglin, a boy, was born May 29, 2005, at 2:53

p.m., weighing 8 pounds and was 21 inches long.

His parents are Roland Anglin and Andrea Solis of Big Spring.

His grandparents are Esmeralda Reyes of Big Spring, Ruben Reyes of Odessa and Ismal Solis of Coahoma.

David M. Salazar II, a boy, was born June 20, 2005, at 9:21 a.m., weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long.

He is the son of David M. and Felipa Salazar and the grandson of

Margie Munoz and Rodrigo and Elva Chavera of Big Spring.

Kaleigh Michelle Mundell, a girl, was born June 16, 2005, at 12:41 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Her parents are Jason Mundell and Stephanie Yanez of Big Spring. Her grandparents are Stan and Debbie Gregory of Big Spring, Abraham and Irene Yanez of Big Spring and Michael and Jeanette Mundell of Temple.



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Duane McCollum was recently named circulation manager of the Big Spring Herald. McCollum, a native of Kansas City, Kan., comes to Big Spring from Ruston, La., where he was distribution manager for the Daily Leader.

Getting the news out

Herald circulation manager has long history in field

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Duane's McCollum's first job was delivering newspaper when he was 12 years old. In a very real sense, he's still doing the same job. Big Spring Herald Publisher Suzanne Reed recently announced the hiring of McCollum as circulation manager. "We're very excited to have Duane as part of our team," Reed said. "He has a proven track record in this industry, and we're confident he'll do an outstanding job for

us." McCollum, a native of Kansas City, Kan., got his first taste of the newspaper industry at age 12 when he began delivering copies of the Kansas City Kansan, and joined the newspaper in 1984 as an assistant district manager in the circulation department. Over the years, he has worked in both the circulation department and pressroom of newspapers in Mount Pleasant and Greenville, as well as distributing USA Today. He spent a year as distribution manager of the Ruston (La.) Daily

To reach the Herald circulation department, call 263-7335.

Leader before coming to Big Spring. "I really like it here," he said. "I'm impressed with the climate and all the friendly people I've met since I moved here. I'm looking forward to a long association with the Herald."

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

Judge increases verdict against Morgan Stanley

By JILL BARTON
AP Business Writer

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A judge added \$130 million to the \$1.45 billion verdict a jury awarded financier Ron Perelman in his fraud lawsuit against Morgan Stanley. Circuit Court Judge Elizabeth Maass took off about \$84.5 million from the verdict because of related settlements Perelman had previously received. But she added more than \$208 million in interest to increase the verdict by nearly 10 percent to \$1.58 billion, according to a

written ruling Thursday. Perelman, the billionaire chairman of Revlon Inc., won his case alleging the investment bank covered up the failing finances of Sunbeam Corp. so he would sell his Coleman camping-equipment maker to the company in 1998. A jury last month awarded him \$850 million in punitive damages and \$604.3 million in compensatory damages. Morgan Stanley spokesman Andrew Walton repeated the firm's intention to appeal. The company has previously said

the judgment would not interfere with the company's business. "We believe we have multiple grounds on which to appeal and fully expect to prevail," Walton said in a prepared statement. Perelman's attorney, Jack Scarola, said his side "prevailed on every significant post trial argument that was made." He said a settlement was plausible, given the more than \$300,000 in interest that accrues each day. "With interest accumulating at enormous sums on a daily

and yearly basis, plus the likelihood of failure for the appeal in this case, that has got to result in very strong pressures to resolve this claim," Scarola said. Morgan Stanley's appeal will be based largely on a ruling Maass made before the trial that said because the firm failed to produce potential evidence in the case, jurors should assume Morgan Stanley helped Sunbeam cover up its financial problems. Because of the ruling, Perelman had to prove at trial

only that he relied on fraudulent statements made by Morgan Stanley when he decided to sell Coleman. Sunbeam filed for bankruptcy protection in 2001 after its financial troubles were discovered, and its chairman, "Chain Saw" Al Dunlap, was accused of leading an accounting fraud. He agreed in 2002 to never again hold a leadership role in a public company and paid \$500,000 to settle an SEC lawsuit charging him with inflating income and other improper accounting practices.

CNOOC tries to ease U.S. security worries over Unocal bid

By JOE McDONALD
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING — Trying to allay U.S. national security worries about its bid for Unocal Corp., Chinese state-owned oil company CNOOC Ltd. said Friday it was willing to discuss selling some Unocal assets and putting others under American management. The announcement came after four members of Congress called on the U.S. government on Thursday to review the security implications of allowing a Chinese state-controlled firm to take

control of the ninth-largest American oil producer. CNOOC's unsolicited \$18.5 billion offer Thursday for Unocal was the most ambitious foreign acquisition attempt yet by a Chinese company. It set up a possible takeover battle with rival bidder Chevron Corp. amid efforts by Beijing to secure foreign energy supplies for its booming economy, the world's second-biggest oil consumer. "We have proactively made assurances to Unocal to address concerns relating to energy security and ownership of Unocal assets locat-

ed in the United States," CNOOC chairman and CEO Fu Chengyu said in a statement released in Beijing. Fu said CNOOC was "fully prepared" to participate in a U.S. government security review. He offered to discuss selling some Unocal pipeline and storage assets and putting assets that aren't involved in oil and gas exploration or production "under American management." He said Washington has approved similar arrangements in the past for foreign buyers of American companies.

Aging owner base aside, Harley says it's no Buick

By RICK POPELY

Chicago Tribune
CHICAGO — Harley-Davidson, chrome and black leather just seem to go together. Increasingly, thinning gray hair and wrinkles also are part of the Harley look. The median age of Harley buyers is 47, six years older than the industry average and an indication of how much the brand's fortunes rest on free-spirited baby boomers who have money to burn. Because boomers have the most money to spend on discretionary

purchases such as motorcycles, that's the right bracket to be in, says Tom Watson, Harley's marketing director. "Our demographics mirror America. Baby boomers are buying most of the big ticket items," he said. But Atlanta marketing strategist Al Ries says Harley's close association with boomers could make the brand harder to sell to younger customers when they have cash to splurge. See HARLEY, Page 5C

Business After Hours set at Texas RV Park

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's third Business After Hours event will be held Thursday at the Texas RV Park. The RV park, located on 4100 S. Highway 87, will host the event from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde said. ValVerde said the Business After Hours program allows Chamber members to meet and "network" with their associates, and also allows the Chamber to showcase different businesses. "You can go there and pass out your business card, hand out flyers, any way you want to do it,"

she said. "This also gives (businesses) the opportunity to get to understand other businesses in this area, as well." Texas RV Park, aside from offering traditional recreational vehicle hookups for travelers, also offers what ValVerde described as a "non-traditional" bed and breakfast establishment housed in the hulls of World War II-era aircraft. Refreshments and dessert crepes will be served, and a tour of the park will be conducted. For more information, contact the chamber at 263-7641. Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

Nominations continue for committee member

Herald Staff Report

Nominations for the election of a County Committee (COC) member for Local Administrative Area 2 begins is under way. Area producers are encouraged to participate. Local Administrative Area 2 (LAA2) represents the northeastern quadrant of Howard County. According to Rick Liles, county executive director for the local Farm Service Agency, the election is of major importance to local producers, regardless of how large or small their operations may be. "We think it is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture," said Liles. Committee members make decisions concerning commodity price support loans and payments,

Nomination forms for the 2005 election must be postmarked or received by the close of business in the local Farm Service Agency office by Aug. 1.

establishment of allotments and yields, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for some commodities and other farm disaster assistance. Liles said a nomination form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a candidate. The form includes a statement that the candidate agrees to serve if elected. The nomination form (FSA-669) is available at FSA offices and online at www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/pu See NOMINATE, Page 5C

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2510 CARLTON. Clean three bedroom, two bath, double carport, CH/A, fenced yard. \$550. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

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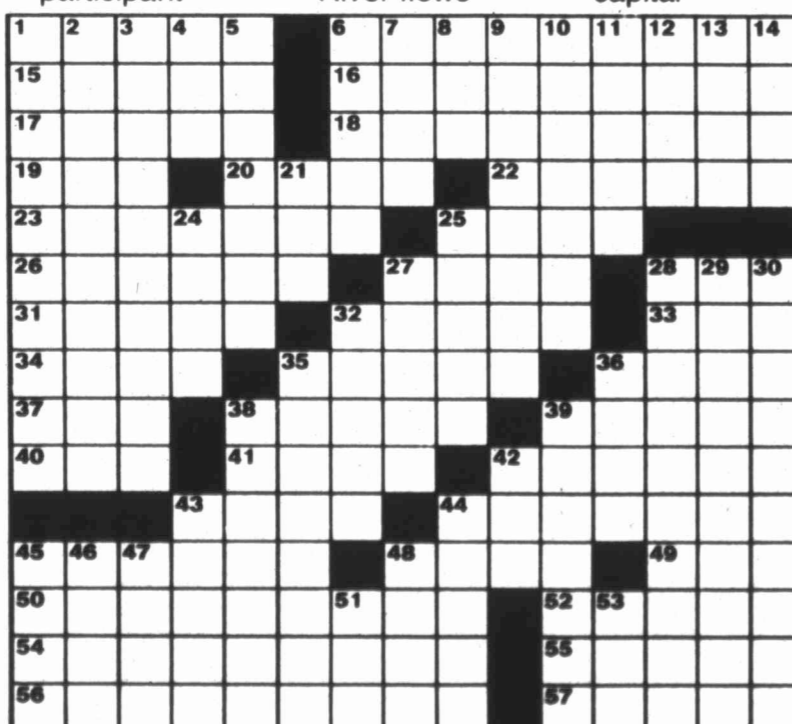
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Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER by Doug Peterson Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- Ivana successor
 - Eager to mix it up
 - Certain botanicals
 - Self-regulating
 - Vending-machine dupers
 - Analyzed closely
 - Discontinued M&M's color
 - Successful fliers
 - Religious residence
 - Precarious
 - Encouraging words
 - Festive numbers
 - X, perhaps
 - Sci-fi blast
 - Take in by choice
 - Shakespearean setting
 - "tu" (Verdi aria)
 - Checks
 - Chewable portions
 - First ed.
 - Ransom's middle name
 - Sack stuff
 - Remote ones
 - mother
 - Behind
 - Predestine for
 - Phoenix five
 - Tropical phenomenon
 - Like some zoo exhibits
 - Olympic hawk
- DOWN**
- Chewed on
 - Will Scarlet colleague
 - Elimination alternative
 - Stocking stuffer
 - 1946 Triple Crown winner
 - War-games participant
 - Encouraging words from overseas
 - Geog. feature
 - Europe/Asia separator
 - Kafka novel
 - Between the lines
 - Put (challenge with an inquiry)
 - Leave one's lane suddenly
 - Science and Health author
 - Viacom subsidiary
 - Post-spill remark
 - Pop
 - Where the Kennebec River flows
 - Three-time Tony winner
 - Silk-stocking
 - Lay aside
 - They're often returned in autumn
 - Pickle
 - Anticipatory cry
 - Sticks on
 - Table-tennis technique
 - Add highlights to
 - Smart
 - Lengthy lock
 - CS/ name
 - Ancient halls
 - Maintain
 - Helm position
 - Jeffy's dad
 - Tokugawa Shogunate capital



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Annie's Mailbox • Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I do maintenance work at a local elementary school and supervise in the cafeteria. I love children, but there is one kindergartner who has been physically abusive toward me. I told him and his teacher that if this boy ever hits me again, I would knock the demons out of him. His teacher made him apologize.

That is not the first time I've had a run-in with this boy. He has stomped on my foot and threatened to hit me numerous times. I told the principal and the office secretary, so that there would be a report that this boy is mean. I was going to tell his mother the next time she came to the school, but felt it was not my place to do so.

This boy is always picking on other children, and I am afraid one day he may bring a gun to school and hurt someone. Something needs to be done for everyone's protection. What should I do, and how much abuse should I take from this boy? I do not want to lose my job over this. — Troubled in Virginia

Dear Troubled: It is not unusual for a child in kindergarten to have some self-control issues. Nonetheless, you should not have to worry about getting hit or having your feet stomped on, even by a 5-year-old. You were right to report this. If it happens again, please do not threaten the child. Inform the principal that the boy continues to be abusive, and insist that he be supervised in your presence and that his parents be notified immediately. The boy may need professional help.

Dear Annie: I am fortunate to be a stay-at-home



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

mom with two small children. For some extra money, I agreed to take care of the baby of a friend.

The problem is that "Patty" often picks up her child 40 minutes late, and once she finally gets here, she stays and visits for another half-hour. I have tried leaving the room or telling her I have to go out, but nothing gets rid of her.

I enjoy caring for Patty's baby, but I also enjoy spending time with my family. Please tell me a polite way to ask her to leave. — Tired of Company

Dear Tired: Patty is using your house as a time-out spot before going home, and she may not realize she is imposing. Be more direct. When Patty drops off her child in the morning, remind her what time to return. When she comes back, pick up the baby and walk to the door, saying with a smile, "Sorry, I don't have time to chat. I'll see you tomorrow." Open the door, hand her the child, and close the door behind them. She will stop taking advantage of you when you stop permitting it.

Dear Annie: Yesterday,

my mother treated me to a trip to a casino, plus lunch, like she did last year. The trip cost \$99. While I was playing slots, I hit a jackpot for \$938. Before the money was even in my hand, Mom asked me to repay her for the trip.

This exchange took the wind right out of my sails. I admit I was petty and handed my mother a \$100 bill and made her give me back a dollar. The next day, when I told Mom how deflated I'd felt, she gave me a tirade on all the money she's spent on me my entire life and all the things she's treated me to.

I say she treated me to the day and she was wrong to ask for her money back. What do you say? — Angry in New York

Dear Angry: We agree that it isn't a "treat" if you have to pay back the cost of the trip. However, it sounds to us as if Mom treats you regularly, and it would have been nice if you had offered — willingly and gratefully — to give her a portion of your winnings as a way of saying "thank you." Of course, it would have been better if Mom had given you the opportunity to make the gesture, before demanding that you do so.

Dear Annie: My mother allows my 22-year-old brother, "Matt," to send her \$150 every month. Mom is married, and although their money is budgeted, there is no problem paying bills.

I asked Mom why Matt is sending her money, and she said it was to pay her back for all the years he lived in her house rent-free. I'm not sure what she means by that. Matt joined the Navy at 18 and hasn't lived at home since. Does she expect him to pay for those years he was a child in her house?

Mom uses the extra money for furniture and new clothes. She told me Matt wants her to spend it on herself. I told Mom that taking money from your child as "payback" when you don't need it for any particular emergency was not the right thing to do. She says Matt is an adult and can spend his money however he wants.

I don't think Matt owes Mom a dime. Until he was 10 years old, he was brought up by an abusive father figure. After that, Mom had several dysfunctional boyfriends, and my brother's entire world revolved around her safety. Matt dropped out of high school to get a job so he could give money to Mom. When he didn't get along with her then-boyfriend, he joined the service.

My mother says it's none of my business, and I agree, but I have a hard time doing nothing about it. I don't want Matt to be sucked into this obligation for the rest of his life. Please help. — Concerned Sister

Dear Concerned: Matt is not doing this because Mom needs the money. He is doing it because it makes him feel like he is protecting her. This is not uncommon for boys who grow up seeing their mothers abused. By providing her with money, he is letting her know she can rely on him. It would be nice if Mom would take this money and put it into a savings account for Matt's future, but she isn't going to do it, and it will serve no purpose for you to keep arguing with her about it. You and your brother both sound like very caring people. Stay close to each other.

Dear Annie: A friend of

mine is breastfeeding her new baby. I'm a new mother as well. Recently, when "Sonia" was at my home, I walked into the nursery and found her breastfeeding MY baby. I was shocked but assumed it was a cultural thing. (Sonia is from South America.) However, I also witnessed her offering her breast to her 4-year-old. What's your take on this? — Surprised in Florida

Dear Surprised: While some mothers don't mind sharing breastfeeding duties, one should never make that assumption, especially when there are health risks. (HIV, for example, can be transmitted through breast milk.) Sonia should have checked with you before nursing your baby. Mothers have the right to determine how and when their babies are fed, and by whom.

Tell Sonia that your milk supply is regulated by your baby's nursing and it is important that you are the one to feed him. As for the 4-year-old, that's a personal choice between the parents, the child and the pediatrician.

Dear Annie: This is for the woman whose 6-year-old is adopted and looks different from other family members. People often make rude comments about the child's features.

My husband and I were the foster parents of a boy who is multiracial. We are about as WASPy-looking as you can get, so we would get these questions all the time. When people asked me, "What does his daddy look like?" I would smile and say sweetly, "I don't know, I didn't get a good look at him." Then I would just stare at the clod who asked. The reactions were price-

less. — Foster Mom
Dear Foster Mom: A sense of humor always makes such rudeness more tolerable. Thanks for writing.

Dear Annie: I am a mom who works outside the home. I enjoy exercising to stay in shape, so I get up early to jog outside. The problem is that a neighbor has taken it upon herself to join me. She shows up nearly every morning, and frankly, I find it quite annoying. She can't keep up with my pace and yaps the entire time.

I want this time to myself. I love being outdoors and shouldn't have to change my routine. How can I get this woman to stop intruding on my exercise time? — Ready To Turn in the Shoes in Wisconsin

Dear Wisconsin: Many people like to exercise with a friend because it makes the time go quicker. Your neighbor has no idea that you are annoyed by her presence. Tell her, "I wish I could chat, but my morning jogs are so time-constrained that I really have to get moving. Maybe we can see each other later." Either that or run faster.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, 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. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

CUPS IN

Sunday, July 3, 2005
Coronado Trail Amphitheater

featuring the music of the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus
along with a patriotic fireworks display
preceded by a community prayer service

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

7:00 p.m. Gates open at amphitheater

7:30 p.m. Community prayer service

8:00 p.m. Musical performance by Howard County churches

8:30 p.m. Musical performance with Big Spring Area Chorus

9:00 p.m. Musical performance by local men and women choruses

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