

SCIFI Science Fic. Stargate SG-1 (CC) Stargate SG-1 (CC) Stargate SG-1 (CC) Stargate SG-1 (CC) Battlestar Galactica Movie: Wing Commander (CC)



Mandela Sen. John ... is 84. ... and com- ... utton is 76. ... or Paul ... 67. Actor ... s 65. Blues ... Mack is 64. ... Nigel Twist ... 47. Actress ... vern is 44. ... Jack Irons ... Actor Vin ... k musician ... (System of ... Actor Jason ... rock singer ... 23.

Today: "In ... fight for ... papers are ... Heinrich ... poet and

ous puzzle INCOME NEURON LADIDA AL GEM W MIRE BANAL SEDATE AVELED DET LOEWE SOLAR RAIN RADISE EMENTS FOREST

Grabowski Newman words.com volcano art (ntle) way rop lead

ho's river pastries c nal he's inger Kovacs owners' ents

y s strike on e ve nt

Table with 2 columns and 4 rows of numbers: 12, 13, 30, 31

Table with 2 columns and 2 rows of numbers: 58, 59

BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 199

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2005

COPYRIGHT 2005

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

INSIDE
Tim Brown re-signs with Raiders, then retires.
Page 1B

City water customers to incur rate increase

Council holds budget work session Monday, plans second one for this evening

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

Utility rates are on the rise for Big Spring residents and businesses, some as a pass through increase by the water district and the rest to pay for repairs and replacement equipment at the wastewater treatment plant.

Big Spring City Council members and staff met in a work

session Monday — they'll meet again tonight — to begin pounding out the 2005-2006 budget. As proposed, there will be no tax increase, though there will be an increase in water rates.

Colorado River Municipal Water District is expected to increase the cost of water by an amount slightly more than \$200,000 for the next fiscal year and the city is proposing pass-

ing that cost on. If so, the consumption rate will increase from \$2.25 to \$2.47 per 1,000 gallons of water to city water customers.

"We're held over a barrel there. We have nothing to do with that," City Manager Gary Fuqua told the council.

While the increase in water rates seems pretty straight forward, a plan to hike fees for

wastewater customers is not as simple. The council was presented with a plan to raise sewer base rates from 11.75 to \$14.24 per month, or \$2.50 per customer.

"We can't absorb this kind of expenditure anymore," Fuqua told the council. "We've already spent over \$1.2 million at the wastewater treatment plant in the last three years."

Last year, the city raised commercial sewer rates but did not raise rates for residential customers.

As it turns out however, commercial customers may be asked to bear the burden of the newly proposed increase as well. That's because when council members looked at

See **BUDGET**, Page 3A

ON TARGET

FISD construction projects to be ongoing through school year

Trustees adopt drug policy Monday evening. See Page 3A.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

FORSAN — When Forsan schools open next month, the sounds of students and teachers will be accompanied by the sounds of hammers and saws.

Construction at all campuses, authorized by a \$4.9 million bond issue in 2004, is on schedule, officials say, but some projects will not be completed by the time the school year starts on Aug. 15.

Forsan Independent School District Superintendent Randy Johnson said summertime construction has been fast and furious at both Elbow Elementary and the Forsan campus.

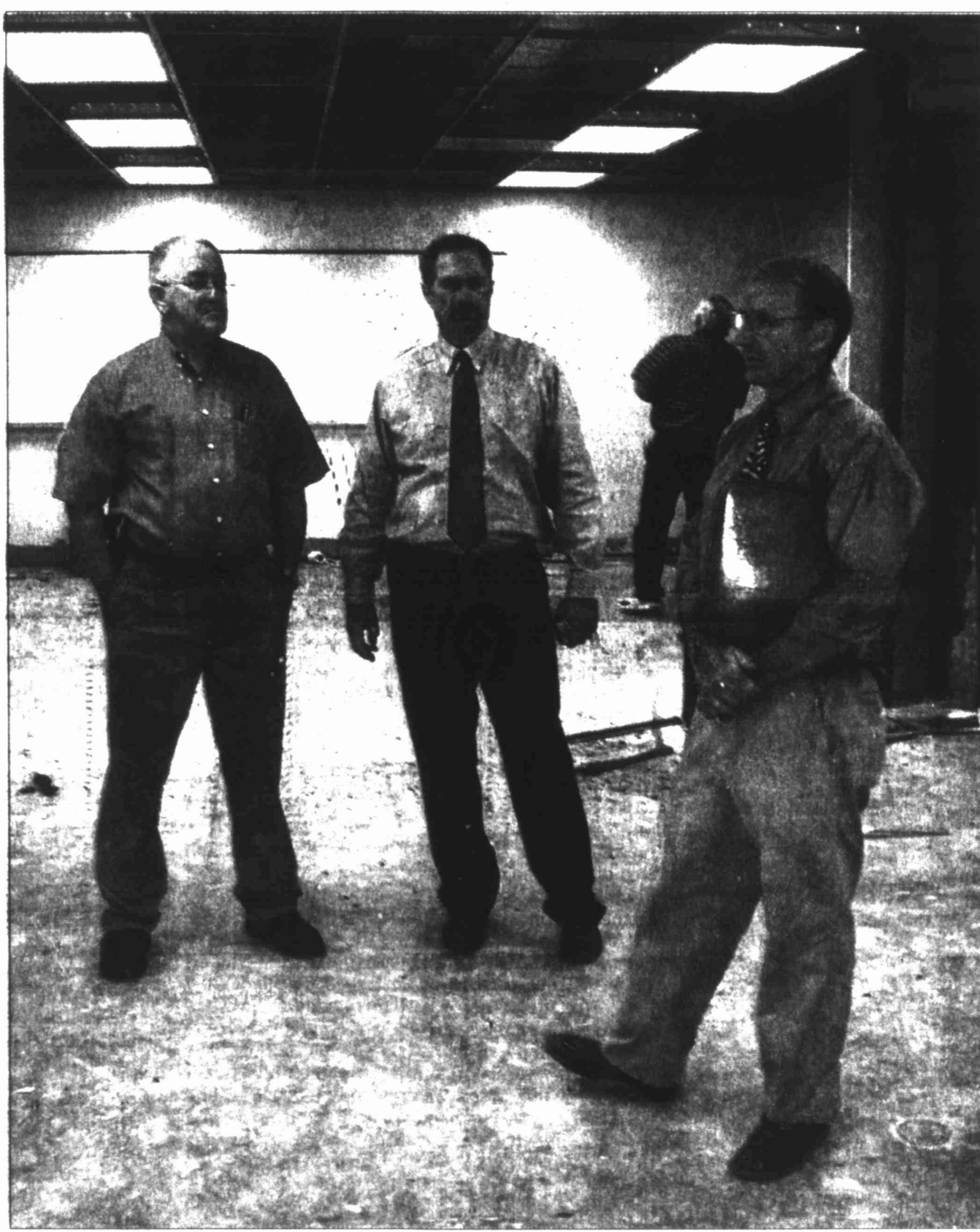
At Elbow, classroom renovations will likely be completed by the time classes start, but work on the central office will probably continue for a few weeks after that, Johnson said.

At the Forsan campus, the biggest inconvenience will be at the science labs, where students and teachers will have to make do for a few weeks in alternate classrooms. Also, work on the new practice gym won't be completed by Aug. 15, he said.

"All of this has been consistent with construction estimates," Johnson said. "They had hoped that the work might be completed ahead of schedule, but it looks as if those



Johnson



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Forsan Independent School District Trustee Dale Humphreys, left, talks with architectural consultants Burt Moffitt, center, and Joe Grimes during a tour of Forsan ISD construction projects Monday evening. District voters recently approved a \$4.9 million bond issue to cover renovations at all district campuses.

See **FISD**, Page 3A

Council to revisit parking, clarifier

Herald Staff Report

Big Spring City Council members will meet in special session today to consider, among other items, funding for a clarifier at the wastewater treatment plant and an ordinance concerning parking in front of the high school.

The council was to have addressed the issues a week ago, but did not have a quorum. Tonight's meeting, set for 5:30 p.m., will be followed by a budget work session.

The council tabled the clarifier issue in June because bids were 30 percent higher than expected. At that time, city staff was asked to work out financial arrangements to pay for the equipment — which must be done to comply with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules and standards.

The other item to be revisited is the issue of parking on 11th Place in front of Big Spring High School. An ordinance under consideration would make the street a tow-away zone during certain hours.

Council members are expected to consider

See **CITY**, Page 3A

Drum corps will prepare here for competition

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Two of the best drum corps in the United States will pay Big Spring a visit Wednesday.

The Cadets and The Crossmen, two of the premiere marching bands in the country,

will be hosted by the Big Spring High School band prior to their participation in Thursday's Thunder in the Desert band competition in Midland.

"Essentially, this is going to be a marching clinic for the Big Spring High School band," said BSHS band director Rocky

Harris. "They're the best of the best ... In comparison, it would be like the Dallas Cowboys holding a football clinic here for a couple of days."

The sister drum corps units, both of which call Allentown, Pa., home, will temporarily take over Big Spring's two foot-

ball fields Wednesday.

The Cadets will perform a full rehearsal of their routine Wednesday evening at Memorial Stadium, while the Crossmen will do the same at Blankenship Field. Both rehearsals are open to the public, Harris said.

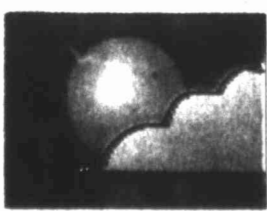
Drum corps are similar to regular marching bands except that they feature brass, percussion and flag lines exclusively, Harris said.

Members of the groups come from across the country.

See **DRUMS**, Page 3A

INDEX

Classified 3-5B
Texas 5A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A
Sports 1-2B



TONIGHT 67-69° TOMORROW 92-95°

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:

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

BLOWING SMOKE

BOSTON (AP) — Jurors at Geuri Lugo's drug trafficking trial may not have gotten one of the cigarette breaks they requested, but that doesn't mean the guilty verdict should go up in smoke, the state Appeals Court has ruled. Lugo was convicted of trafficking in heroin and cocaine. He appealed, saying the judge's denial of the jury's request for a smoke break had contributed to a quick or compromised verdict.

The Appeals Court Monday rejected Lugo's appeal, saying it was within Judge Richard F. Cannon's discretion to deny the request.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Cover Story: American Profile announces the winners of its Best Recipes in America contest.

Hometown Hero: At 97, Dorothy Geeben is believed to be the nation's oldest mayor. Geeben, who was re-elected to a two-year term in Ocean Breeze Park, Fla. (pop. 463) last year, previously served as the town council's president for 31 years. Asked if she'll seek re-election she says, "Sure, if I'm still alive."

MOORE DEVELOPMENT

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors will consider 4B projects when they hold their meeting at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday at the Chamber of Commerce Board Room.

Officials say that 4B projects differ from current Moore Board projects in that they would allow money to go directly into improving the city, instead of trying to draw business and industry into Big Spring.

The board will also hear an update on Big Spring State Hospital and West Texas Center for MHRM, as well as consideration of the proposed budget for 2005-06.

Obituaries

Jerry Jon Currie

Jerry Jon Currie, 47, of Big Spring died Saturday, July 16, 2005, in a Lubbock hospital. Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 20, 2005, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with the Rev. Keith Wiseman, Methodist minister, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends today from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Jerry Jon was born in Big Spring Sept. 22, 1957. He graduated from Big Spring High School and was involved in 4-H and continued to participate in his interests of raising and showing cattle.

He was active in the family's ranches in Glasscock and Oldham Counties. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Texas Southwest Cattle Raisers Association.

Survivors include his son, William Jon Currie of Big Spring; his father, Jerry Currie and wife, Delores Currie of Big Spring; brother, Bill Currie of Big Spring; stepsister, Nicole Bash of Dallas; his special niece and her husband, Natalie and Kayne Stroup of San Antonio; aunt, Barbara Currie Ratliff of Garden City; uncles, Neel Barnaby Jr. of Palestine and Dr. B. Broadrick of Big Spring; cousins, Ronnie Broadrick, Linda Jo Broadrick, Ingrid Broadrick and Laura Ratliff Huit; and several other beloved cousins and friends.

Jerry Jon was preceded in death by his mother, Mae Barnaby Currie and sister, Diana Currie Nichols.

Honorary pallbearers include Fred Green, Ronnie Broadrick, Jose Lopez, Tommy Kimmel, Gary Hopper, Bruce Hatfield, Jeremy Samora, Neil McMorris, Ronnie Wood and Luke Huit.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Diana Currie Nichols scholarship at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720 or to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Delbert E. Simpson

Delbert E. Simpson, 79, of Odessa died at Hospice House July 15, 2005. Services were 10 a.m. today, July 19, 2005, at Crescent Park Baptist Church in Odessa, with the Rev. Greg Morris officiating. Interment was at 3 p.m. in Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born June 17, 1926, in Big Spring to Akin and Rubye Simpson. He graduated from Big Spring High School and married Alma Claire Averitt June 19, 1948, in Big Spring. He served in the U.S. Army, retired from Phillips Petroleum Co., after 33 years, volunteered for Campers on Mission for 15 years and was on the board of the Circle Six Baptist Ranch in Stanton. He was a member of Crescent Park Baptist Church in Odessa.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Alma; a son, Gary Simpson of Houston; a brother, Harold Simpson of Soutlake; three sisters-in-law, Kay Simpson of Stanton, Jackie Simpson of Big Spring and Evelyn Simpson of Littlefield; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Bob Simpson, Nolan Simpson and Akin Simpson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Circle Six Ranch Baptist Camp in Stanton.

Services under the direction of Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home.

Support groups

TUESDAY

The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m., a new time, the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

THURSDAY

Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m.

FRIDAY

Alzheimer's Support Group meets at noon the fourth Friday of each month at Spring City Senior Citizens Center. Lunch is provided. RSVP to Cindy Lopez at 213-4976.

AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Monday:

- **ASSAULT BY THREAT** was reported in the 1600 block of Bluebird.
- **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 600 block of Interstate 20.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 500 block of Aylesford.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING** was issued in the 400 block of Fourth.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA** was reported in the 800 block of Third.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 900 block of Willia and the 1800 block of Gregg (twice).
- **RICHARD MARTINEZ**, 26, 1607 Jennings, was arrested on a Howard County warrant.
- **KEMBERLY BROWN**, 28, Fort Worth, was arrested on a hold for the HCSO.
- **RUTHIE MURPHREE**, 35, 6701 Midway, was arrested on a hold for HCSO.
- **ALLISON REDDING**, 33, 1313 Robin, was arrested on a hold for HCSO.
- **JESUS ORTIZ**, 40, 2202 Williams, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.
- **ROBERT SANCHEZ**, 41, Colorado City, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **VANESSA FLORES**, 22, 306 Settles, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

Sheriff's report

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

- **THEFT** was reported on the 3400 block of Gail Highway.
- **BRYON PATRICK PAYNE**, 19, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated, possession of marijuana, criminal mischief and burglary of a vehicle.
- **BILLY JOE NELSON**, 33, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana.
- **AARON M. BARNES**, 22, was arrested on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, failure to appear, failure to identify a fugitive from justice, and giving false information.
- **SONYA LANETTE HALL**, 28, was arrested on a charge of theft of service.
- **LEONARD RAY DOMINGUEZ**, 45, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.
- **RICARDO TORRES**, 46, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Monday:

- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 2600 block of Dow. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 2400 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 5200 block of Sterling. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 1300 block of Utah. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 1100 block of E. 14th. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 3500 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 400 block of Armstrong. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported on the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported on the 1400 block of N. Highway 87. Service was refused.

Take note

ODYSSEY HEALTH CARE HOSPICE CARE GIVER DINNER is 6 p.m. today at Christ Community Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Open to all caregivers, past and current. Call Sadie Watkins at 263-5999 for more information.

ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

CLASS OF 1970 35th ANNIVERSARY HOME-COMING set for September. All classmates should send an e-mail address to Clarinda Harris Wright at richardwright@cox.net. For more information, visit www.bshsalumni.com/SiteMap/htm.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Spring City Senior Citizens Center offers bingo beginning at 12:45 p.m.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Weather

Tonight—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows around 70. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Friday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Friday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Sunday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Sunday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Monday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-10-18-35.
Number matching five of five: 2.
Prize per winner: \$16,239.
Winning tickets sold in: Houston and Lake Dallas.
Matching four of five: 136. Prize: \$107.
Matching three of five: 3,672. Prize: \$9.
Matching two of five: 36,351. Prize: \$2.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-14-24-28. Bonus Ball: 28.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.
Number matching four of four: 11. Prize: \$910.
Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 32. Prize: \$38.
Number matching three of four: 826. Prize: \$20.
Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 538. Prize: \$21.
Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 3,378. Prize: \$7.
Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 5,927. Prize: \$5.
Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$250,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-3-9

BIG SPRING HERALD

www.bigspringherald.com

Reflecting A Proud Community

432-263-7331
(Main switchboard)

432-263-7335
(Circulation calls only)

(Fax) 432-264-7205

Susanne Reed
John A. Moseley
Duane McCollum
Tony Hernandez
Dianne Marquez

Publisher/Advertising Manager.....Ext. 250
Managing Editor.....Ext. 230
Circulation Manager.....Ext. 240
Production Manager.....Ext. 256
Business Office Manager.....Ext. 255

The Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Inland Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Newspaper Association of America, Small Newspaper Federation, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and American Newspaper Association.

Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

Benny Boyd

Chevy • Chrysler • Dodge • Jeep
GMC • Pontiac • Buick • Cadillac
1611 N. Lubbock Hwy., Lamasa, TX
864-236-2893

HILLCREST CHILD
DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Fall Enrollment
2000 W. FM 700
267-8449

Coronado Hills Apartments

1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575

801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500
Big Spring, Texas 79720

Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking
& Washer - Dryer Conn.
2-3 Bedroom

"Remember...you deserve the best!"

NORMAN HARRIS, M.D.

OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
Board Certified
PPO PROVIDER FOR:
HEALTH SMART • UNITED HEALTHCARE • PRONET
CHAMPUS • BCBS • AETNA • HUMANA • BEECH STREET

ACCEPTS MEDICAID
Obstetrical Care at Midland Memorial Hospital
& Odessa

Moving Appointments Now Available!
267-8226 1-888-729-BABY
616 GREGG STREET
Serving Big Spring 15 Years
NEXT CLINIC VISIT 7-21-05

Forsan ISD institutes drug-testing policy

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Forsan school trustees adopted a "four strikes and you're out" drug testing program for students involved in extra-curricular activity during their regular meeting Monday night.

The policy is to be applied rather broadly, Superintendent Randy Johnson said, affecting almost every student at Forsan ISD in grades 6-12.

Basically, any student involved in an activity not considered mandatory will be subject to drug testing under the policy. That includes activities

such as football, basketball, band and choir, but also extends to students who attend after-school dances or who park their vehicles on district property.

Substances that will be tested for under the policy include amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, cocaine, alcohol, LSD, opiates, PCP, angel dust, Darvon and steroids.

Punishment for students testing positive for these substances will gradually increase through four stages. At first, suspension from extra-curricular activities will be for 15 days, with

the student being required to attend counseling sessions and submit to random retesting.

Suspension from extra-curricular activities will gradually increase under the policy until, after a fourth positive test, the student will be banned from such activity for the remainder of his or her high school career.

The policy takes effect with the start of the new school year Aug. 15, Johnson said.

In other business Monday, trustees:

- Approved the resignations of assistant band director Jeremy Higgenbotham and

English teacher Brandye Hughey.

- OKed the hiring of industrial technology teacher Josh Thompson and English teacher Kim McFarden.

Set 7 p.m. Aug. 2 as the time and date for a special hearing on setting a tax rate for the 2005-06 budget year.

- Approved a salary schedule for teachers that ranges from \$28,684 for first-year instructors to \$47,744 for teachers with 25 or more years of experience.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234.

FISD

Continued from Page 1A

hopes will be dashed."

Other major projects that will be ongoing during the new school year will be work on a new band hall, which is expected to continue until

the spring, and construction of a baseball/softball complex, which is expected to be completed early next year.

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

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1A

waste water rates in area cities, they discovered that Big Spring residential customers pay more, while commercial enterprises pay less.

A residential customer pays \$15.35 per month for the use of 5,000 gallons of water in Big Spring, while Abilene charges \$11.10, Midland \$14.50, Odessa 15.87, San Angelo 14.35 and Snyder 22.40. However, commercial sewer charges, based on 50,000 gallons, shows Big Spring customers paying \$65.75, Abilene \$48, Midland \$30.25, Odessa \$127.67, San Angelo \$118.25 and Snyder \$138.50.

Council members were told that while business and industry make up only 10 percent of the customers, they use 25 percent of the water. The base rate is currently the

same for both commercial and residential customers.

After discussion Monday, the mayor asked city staff to work out scenarios that would add either \$5 or \$10 to the base rate of commercial customers, as well as a consumption rate — again, to the commercial customers — that would make up the difference.

Council members have also asked for more figures on seal coating the city's streets. The city's plan in recent years has been to seal coat some 20 miles of roadway each year. However, that figure has had to drop as costs for rock, asphalt and other materials have steadily increased. The council wants to know how much more it would cost to continue the previous pace, plus some figures on double seal coating the city's remaining 6.6 miles of dirt roads.

Those type costs present the biggest headache for



Fuqua

the city. Fuqua presented figures, which indicate that over a three-year period the cost of PVC pipe has increased 73 percent, asphalt 16 percent, rock 24 percent, unleaded fuel 70 percent and diesel 78 percent.

In the same period, the property tax has increased 13 percent and sales tax revenues 16 percent.

"It's just not keeping up with inflation right now," Fuqua said. "We've tried to keep it pretty lean this year because money is tight."

Another problem area for the city is the cemetery, which consistently operates at a loss. Council members spent 20 minutes discussing the possibility of raising rates, even reducing employees — there are only two — but came up with no firm

solutions Monday.

As proposed currently, the budget has a deficit of \$162,341.

There is some good news for city employees under the proposed budget. There is a 1.75 percent cost of living raise for all employees as well as a step increase (2.5 percent increase) for approximately half of the employees. Fire department personnel would receive a 1.75 percent increase in base pay and a 1.25 percent increase in certificate, educational and assignment pay.

Tonight, the council will convene again at approximately 5:45 p.m. in council chambers to continue working on the budget.

The meeting follows a special city council meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

final reading of the ordinance, which passed in its first reading unanimously during a meeting a month ago, but was also tabled during the June 28 meeting.

Also on tonight's agenda:

- Final reading of a resolution

accepting offer to purchase property for less than the amount of judgment or appraised value.

- Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with Insituform Technologies Inc. for sanitary sewer improvements.

- Final reading of a resolution authorizing the public works director to execute a change order for

the sanitary sewer improvements TCDP Project.

- Award of bid for construction of the Northside Community Center building and first reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a contract with Johnston Construction Group for construction of the facility.

Council chambers are located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

DRUMS

Continued from Page 1A

"They meet once a month starting in December, and once school's out they go 24/7

until August," Harris said. "They really are the best of the best in our field. Their shows are what set the standard of all marching bands in Texas."

After performing at

Thursday's event in Midland, the two groups will perform at a regional competition in San Antonio later this month, before competing in the national drum corps event in August, he

added.

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

Samaritan nominations being accepted

Special to the Herald

The Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas, Inc. is accepting nominations for its 2005 Family of the Year Banquet. Nominations for families from Midland, Odessa and Big Spring are accepted through Aug. 18. The honored families will be recognized at the banquet scheduled for Oct. 20 at Green Tree Country Club. For information, call 432-563-4144 or visit www.samaritanccwtx.org

Each year the banquet honors a family from

each of Samaritan's primary service areas of Midland, Big Spring and Odessa, who exemplifies strong family role models. Although the Family of the Year Banquet honors a special family in each community, the primary reason for the banquet is to honor all the many strong, loving and healthy families throughout the Permian Basin.

Any individual or organization may nominate a family. The nomination may also be submitted anonymously.

The 11th year to host the Banquet, Samaritan is a non-profit, faith-based

counseling center with offices in Midland, Odessa, Big Spring and Lamesa providing "help and hope" to a 30-county area in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico.

With 32 years of service in the Permian Basin, two thirds of the clients who seek counseling are low income.

The proceeds from the banquet benefit Samaritan's Client Assistance Fund, which allows the center to help families and individuals in psychological distress who might not receive help from any other professional source.

Bush says he wants to get moving on filling Supreme Court seat

By DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is close to making his first nomination to the Supreme Court, and Washington was abuzz with speculation Tuesday about Judge Edith Clement of the U.S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

There was no word from the White House on when Bush would disclose his selection but officials familiar with the process said it appeared an announcement was imminent. No one claimed to have been told the name by Bush, but Republican strategists and others focused on Clement, a 57-year-old jurist who was confirmed on a 99-0 vote by the Senate when she was elevated to the appeals court in 2001.

"My desire is to get this process moving so that someone will be confirmed — whoever he or she is — will be confirmed by October" when the court reconvenes," Bush said Monday.

White House officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized

to talk publicly about the process, said Bush's timetable appears to have been accelerated and that a choice could come as early as Tuesday.

Known as a conservative and a strict constructionist in legal circles, Clement also has eased fears among abortion-rights advocates. She has stated that the Supreme Court "has clearly held that the right to privacy guaranteed by the Constitution includes the right to have an abortion" and that "the law is settled in that regard."

The officials said all of the candidates on Bush's short list are judges, both men and women; there had been speculation that he might put a non-judicial political figure on the bench.

In a sign that Bush was getting close to naming his pick, Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the Judiciary Committee, was called to the White House on Monday. Specter, who would lead the confirmation process in the Senate, has said he hopes Bush selects a moderate jurist.

Hewlett-Packard to cut 14,500 jobs in restructuring plan

By MATTHEW FORDAHL

AP Technology Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Computer maker Hewlett-Packard Co. on Tuesday said it will cut 14,500 jobs, about 10 percent of its full-time staff, as part of a restructuring plan designed to save \$1.9 billion annually and boost business performance.

The job cuts will occur over the next six quarters, the Palo Alto-based company said.

Most of the job cuts will come in support functions — such as information technology, human resources and finance — and the rest will be made inside business units.

The company said job cuts in sales positions will be minimal, and there will be little change to the headcount in research and development.

As part of the cuts, HP said it will offer a voluntary retirement program to longer-serving employ-

ees based in the United States.

The company also said that as of January 2006, it will freeze the pension and retiree medical-program benefits of current employees who do not meet defined criteria based on age and years of company service. Instead, HP plans to boost its matching contribution to most employees' 401(k) plans to 6 percent from 4 percent.

The company said these changes won't affect benefits currently received by retirees or eligible employees who are longer-serving and close to retirement age. Existing employees will retain benefits they have already earned.

Shares of HP closed Monday at \$24.92, down 2 cents, on the New York Stock Exchange. In pre-market activity Tuesday, they were up 18 cents.

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME
& CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
We provide chapel, church, graveside, and cremation services

Blum's One beautiful place
Jewelers
Inside Big Spring Mall
10-6 Monday-Saturday
267-8335 13875

COX
COMMUNICATIONS
Your Friend in the Digital Age
2006 Birdwell Ln. 267-3822

Fall enrollment now going on at HILLCREST CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Ages: 18 months thru 12 years
Rate: \$65.00 weekly 2 yrs. & up
\$67.50 weekly 18 mos.-2 yrs.

*A Beka Curriculum *Breakfast, hot lunch, & snack
*Bible each day *Computers *Lots of love and attention
Give your child a great start with a strong Christian environment which offers academic and spiritual standards.

2000 W. FM 700 Big Spring (432) 267-8449
A ministry of Hillcrest Baptist Church

SONIC America's Drive-In
Sonic Specials Everyday
Check Out The Menu!
Sonic #1 1200 Gregg
Sonic #2 801 E. FM 700

Water Water, Inc.
Your hometown culligan dealer
1509 E. FM 700
Big Spring
263-8781 14988

Jake Smith Sales (432) 267-3955
Billy Smith Owner
100 AUTO SALES
2900 E. FM 700 • Big Spring, TX 79720

John R. Molland, M.D.
Board Certified OB/GYN
WOMEN'S HEALTH SPECIALIST
FOR APPOINTMENT - CALL 800-476-3070

Big Spring Specialty Clinic
616 Gregg St.
Big Spring, TX 13221

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Commissioners court made right call with time out

It is, for the moment, time to go on to other things. Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart saw that was the case in the impasse commissioners had reached on the issue of building a new county jail.

As a result, Lockhart called time out.

There are more pressing things for the commissioners' court to handle at the moment, he believes.

The four commissioners agreed, voting to table any further discussion on the issue for the next two months.

While that decision effectively pushes any bond election to finance a new jail into next year, we believe that is a good thing.

The issue has evenly divided the four commissioners, with Jerry Kilgore and Bill Crooker supporting construction of a building that would house Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff's Office administrative offices and a 144-bed jail. Gary Simer and Emma Brown, on the other hand, support building a 96-bed, jail-only facility.

With commissioners split down the middle, there is absolutely no way any bond issue necessary to fund construction would pass muster with voters.

So, commissioners have until September to finalize work on the county budget for the next fiscal year, a process that is clearly more important at this time.

Yes, Howard County is still going to need to build a new jail. So, let us hope that when Brown, Crooker, Kilgore, Simer and Lockhart all sit down to discuss the county's jail needs later this year, they'll find some type of consensus.

That is, after all, the only way anything's going to get done. The entire court will have to be of one mind when it takes a bond issue to voters. Anything less will simply be an exercise in futility.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We have much to gain, Lord, by being a strong follower of You and Your word.

Amen

It may be that big fish Rowe is really small fry

Email can be so hopeful. Take, for instance, all the wonderful guidance about Karl Rove, consigliere in chief to President George W. Bush. Rove is the man who might or might not have been on the wrong side of the law given his role in outing a CIA operative to the media.

"Karl Rove is a traitor to this country," says one of these unsolicited missives.

"We need more reporting on this story, don't let the White House continue to stonewall," says another.

Other blogcrakers question why the media aren't investigating him. Others still left-handedly thank the media for finally investigating him.

The Internet has made it easy for everyone to have their version of President Richard Nixon's enemies list and, now, for (the however) many, Enemy No. 1 is Karl Rove.

For all the disagreement about Rove's role in how the name Valerie Plame went from the secret division of the CIA to the front pages of the nation's newspapers, most everyone agrees that he is a brilliant political strategist.

That doesn't mean he is a saint. In fact, it means he is an accomplished assassin.

His business is winning. Politics has no consolation prizes. And when you couple Rove's obvious aggressiveness and competitive nature with a tireless work ethic and a win-at-all-cost ethos, you know that somewhere Lyndon B. Johnson is smiling.

He isn't good at what he does because he is a good person. That isn't part of the debate. He is good at what he does because he succeeds. And he succeeds because the talented Mr. Rove isn't afraid to do what political operatives do.

That can be a garden-variety dirty trick, it can be deceit, and it

can be working journalists to try to shape, shade, dissuade or browbeat them into believing his version of the truth. To paraphrase LBJ, if you do everything, truly everything you need to do to win, you probably will. Confession can come later.

Rove is by many measures one of the most powerful presidential staff members in history, singled out by the president as "The Architect" of his second-term victory. And in that second term, Rove took on specific policy duties in addition to the overtly political ones. It's not as if any White House ever really separates the two, but this accretion of power was another overt measure of his influence.

He has the political portfolio of a James Carville to Bill Clinton or a Lee Atwater to the first President George Bush, and he has fused that with the job of a top policy adviser.

Think of Rove as a lawyer without degree who is arguing to win over public opinion and not a jury. When former Ambassador Joseph Wilson wrote in The New York Times of the flawed intelligence assessment the Bush administration had made about Iraq's possible purchase of nuclear materiel in Niger, the White House needed a strong counter-story.

Folks sympathetic to Rove would have us believe that he was a) merely trying to fully prevent reporters from going down the wrong path or b) actually getting his information from reporters, then using the information to steer other reporters away from mistakes.

Neither of those charitable explanations would pass a Roveian smell test if it were offered by one of his client's opponents. And no one should believe in any way that his role in this is noble or benign. It is not. His motive was clear: help

Bush by discrediting Wilson. We are merely arguing over whether that "help" was a crime.

But consider another possibility, that in the classic Washington sense, this issue will be another example of the cover-up being worse than the crime.

Consider that special prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald, the U.S. attorney in Chicago who is heading the investigation into the leak, might have started his case looking for a violation of the law that protects covert agents and might be ending up with an investigation of people's lying under oath.

If that's the case, Rove could merely be the high-profile stalking horse. The attention in this case had been focused on whether Matthew Cooper of Time and Judith Miller of The New York Times should be compelled to reveal their sources. But no one believes they are Fitzgerald's prime target.

The press dimension of this, troubling as it is to those of us who make a living talking to people and writing about it, could well be unimportant once Fitzgerald is finished. It's never fun to see reporters being given the choice of coughing up a source, as Cooper did, or refusing to and then going to jail, as Miller did.

Partisans might be excited about the idea of Rove as quarry, but it could be that he is as small a part of the case as Miller and Cooper.

It is possible that the real trouble started when Fitzgerald started asking questions of others in the White House and they lied. And that could make more than a few people who work for President Bush more than a little nervous now.

Michael Tackett is the Chicago Tribune's Washington Bureau chief.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Some of our good doctors are leaving Big Spring and relocating in other areas. This "enter and exit" has been going on for some time. Why is it happening?

"They" say to use Big Spring whenever possible. We cannot support our hospital if there are no doctors.

We have lost Dr. Gonzales, Dr. Ijaz and Dr. McFaul in the last month.

These were fine doctors that tried to make Big Spring their home and found out they could not buck the "system."

We need to wake up and try to keep our local doctors close to home.

SUE BALIOS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Once again Howard County citizens have shown their generosity by supporting the largest community event in Big Spring, "Pops in the Park."

Chairing the Pops in the Park Committee for the last five years has been a very rewarding experience for me and the Presenters and volunteers that helped to put this event together.

We would like to personally thank all who contributed their time and resources for the 8th Annual Pops in the Park. Special thanks this year to Jack Cathey of Cathey Construction for the use of his manpower and equipment to display the large American Flag loaned to us by Alon USA. The flag was visible throughout Big Spring as it proudly waved at the top of the amphitheater. Corporate citizens such as these and our other corporate and individual sponsors are a great asset to our community.

Thanks also go out to all of the city employees, the

Parks & Recreation Department; Big Spring Police Department; Big Spring Fire Department and EMS and the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department for their countless hours of work to ensure a successful event.

Thanks to the Presenters — Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau, City of Big Spring, Big Spring Symphony Association, Big Spring Herald and KBST radio — that contributed their resources and time to this project.

Help us to make this event the catalyst for more activities that will attract tourists to our area and promote a viable tourist economy for Howard County merchants.

TIM BLACKSHEAR
CHAIRMAN
POPS IN THE PARK
COMMITTEE

TO THE EDITOR:

If you haven't heard of the latest shenanigans of the Spring City Senior Citizens Center, folks you have been living in a cave. Reads like Mayberry RFD or the Andy Griffith Show — everybody getting into everybody's business on how best to run the center.

It has been pointed out that the place is a shambles or literally falling apart — faulty electrical wiring, substandard appliances and conditions, etc. Last time I checked there wasn't a whole lot of whining, just a whole lot of dining; no fancy prancing, just a whole lot of dancing.

Now its been discovered that the place isn't a country club and nothing has been managed properly. Martha Stewart would say, "It's a good thing."

Finally, Big Spring's senior citizens are no longer "invisible."

How easily we forget all the good the center has done for the city's senior citizens, not counting the home delivered meals; affordable meals for fixed income seniors; the special occasions for Christmas, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day... Well, you get my drift. And it's all been done on an "elastic shoestring budget."

How easily we forget that more than 70 percent of the seniors enjoying the social activities at the center have lived through our nation's Depression years. They lived and thrived on tighter budgets and enjoyed the simple things in life — family, love, social activities and friendships.

Then there were those times when politicians or the Beverly Hills crowd rolled into town to stir up things. You know, the bored kind of crowd that goes around looking for broken things to fix. At that point one would often find our senior citizens sitting together at a city cafe or diner, exchanging glances or just rolling their eyes. Here we go again!

So many near and dear friendships made at the Senior Center over the years have passed on. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out those friendships were the bedrock of the Senior Center and not the building itself. And all the moaning and groaning, griping and complaining, claims and counter-claims won't change the deep love and loss of those treasured friendships.

Folks, get a grip! Life is short!

LISA CARRAHER
AUSTIN

TO THE EDITOR:

After reading Tumbleweed Smith's column in Wednesday's Big Spring Herald, I must admit to feeling a profound sense of disappointment.

You see, I thought we were better than this — that we were brought up with respecting the rights of others even if the opinions expressed were different from our own. I thought we would remember Voltaire's immortal words, "I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it!"

But we seem to have forgotten that it is everyone's right to have an opinion. We are not Nazis who follow one viewpoint blindly en masse — it is the very core of a democracy to have dissenting viewpoints, because it is by comparison of different opinions that truth and justice can be found.

The Dixie Chicks were not the only ones to commit such faux pas — the popular show Politically Incorrect and its host were axed by television stations across the country simply because Bill Maher had a dissenting viewpoint. Anyone who voiced a dissenting opinion was set upon like a pack of wolves attacking one of their own.

And that's why I am disappointed and saddened when I read things like Mr. Smith's column.

I thought we were better than this. I thought we were supposed to defend our freedom of speech by allowing everyone to have a voice, and not behaving like schoolchildren who behave badly when they hear something they don't like.

TROY AXTENS
BIG SPRING

Big S
Tuesd
Sc
By PAI
Associ
SOU
— Sou
ed up v
flood-p
their l
beachs
swamp
"You
all of
lucky
Range
Mond
like FL
Flor
last of
move
the ed
beach.
"We
T
Pair
NEV
tence
avoid
Jon
Mond
man
Jur
Child
Expr
Pro
Kade
Te
By AP
Assoc
AUS
time
plan
state's
tem,
press
room
Mond
anoth
over t
Whi
office
cials
agree
no, p
cially
propo
Thr
Hous
excha
posals
als,
"We'r
Eve
were
stage
sessi
cult
befor
Wedr
legisl
Dem
Shap
mean
ened
bill
sales
unfai
incor
Lav
Perry
cial
SC
M
1601

South Texas residents prepare for Emily, hope for best

By PAM EASTON

Associated Press Writer

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) — South Texas residents boarded up windows, put sandbags in flood-prone areas and moved their RVs from the edge of a beachside park that could be swamped by Hurricane Emily.

"Your luck can't be that good all of the time and we've been lucky," Cameron County park Ranger Arnold Flores said Monday. "We haven't been hit like Florida has."

Flores was trying to get the last of the die-hard campers to move their RVs from a park on the edge of South Padre Island's beach.

"We started telling people

they need to leave because we don't want to be responsible for someone getting hurt or something they could have avoided," he said.

Emily slammed into Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula early Monday with strong winds, leaving behind flooding and other damage. Forecasters expected it to regain force over the Gulf of Mexico and hit the northeastern Mexican coast "as a major hurricane," as early as Tuesday night, the National Hurricane Center said.

At 5 a.m. EDT, a hurricane warning was put in effect for the lower Texas coast from Port Mansfield southward to the Mexico border.

A hurricane watch remained

in effect north of Port Mansfield to Baffin Bay.

Cameron County Judge Gilberto Hinojosa ordered people in recreational vehicles to leave county parks on the island. Flores said almost 500 left the RV park on the beach with the initial plea and then another 75 left when the evacuation was made mandatory.

A steady stream of RVs headed north from the island resort. Twenty-five remained late Monday.

One of those was Henry Barrientes, who needed help from friends with a forklift and a semi-truck to haul his 34-foot vacation trailer away to a warehouse in Brownsville.

"We've done this so many

times and nothing has happened," Barrientes said, expressing frustration that he was going to all this trouble for a storm that may bring only wind and rain. "We have been thinking how we were going to move it all summer long."

Hinojosa said authorities would monitor the hurricane's progress through the evening and planned to make a decision about whether to order further evacuations early Tuesday.

A total of 225 soldiers of the Texas Army National Guard were activated in case they are needed for hurricane duty, said Kathy Walt, spokeswoman for Gov. Rick Perry.

An additional 100 Texas State Guard personnel were on stand-

by. Given the unpredictable nature of hurricanes, Carlos Acevedo, director of Cameron County's emergency communications district, said many South Texas residents were loading up on water, batteries and canned food, boarding up windows and removing any debris that the storm could sweep up and turn into a deadly projectile.

"It's just like having a baby," Acevedo said. "You know it is coming, but you don't know what to expect. It's not frustrating, but just an antsy feeling, just a feeling that something is pending — something that is going to require a lot of work once it does come our way."

TEXAS BRIEFS

Pair sentenced in plot to kill woman

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) — A couple have been sentenced for conspiring to kill a woman in a plot to avoid paying child support.

Jon Benavides, 31, of Houston was sentenced Monday to 60 years in prison for trying to hire a hit man to kill his ex-girlfriend.

Jurors sentenced his accomplice, Samantha Kaderli-Childs, 24, to 10 years probation, the San Antonio Express-News reported in its online edition.

Prosecutors argued that Benavides approached Kaderli-Childs to help him find a hit man to kill his

ex-girlfriend so he could put his son up for adoption and avoid paying \$320-a-month in child support.

Kaderli-Childs told a friend, who called police. Police, in turn, set up an undercover officer who posed as a hit man.

Two sisters arrested on smuggling charges

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — U.S. Customs agents arrested two sisters on smuggling charges after an inspector smelled a strange chemical odor coming from their van as they crossed the border from Mexico.

A search Sunday night revealed \$1.2 million worth of cocaine, ecstasy and methamphetamines hidden inside the ceiling of the van, authorities said.

The seizure is part of a trend of more harder drugs coming across the border, federal officials said in

Tuesday's editions of The Brownsville Herald.

"This is an unusual combination to have these three types of drugs in one seizure," said Rick Pauza, a spokesman with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. "There has not been one like this in Brownsville in recent memory."

Cynthia Rincon, 28, and Mayra Rincon, 22, came across from Matamoros on the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates in a late model Dodge van, a criminal complaint said.

The chemical smell led to a K-9 search, in which agents found 42 pounds of cocaine, 21,000 pills of ecstasy and 2.6 pounds of methamphetamines.

The sisters, from Houston, were each charged with possession with intent to distribute illegal drugs. Bond was set at \$150,000 each.

Texas lawmakers press on with school funding negotiations

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — With time running out on a plan to restructure the state's school funding system, Texas lawmakers pressed ahead in backroom negotiations Monday with the threat of another special session over their heads.

While Gov. Rick Perry's office said that top officials had reached "an agreement in principle," no negotiators had officially signed off on the proposal.

Throughout the day, the House and Senate exchanged a string of proposals and counterproposals, each time saying, "We're close."

Even if an agreement were reached at this late stage of the 30-day special session, it would be difficult to approve a plan before the session ends Wednesday because of legislative deadlines. Democratic Sen. Eliot Shapleigh of El Paso, meanwhile, has threatened to filibuster the tax bill over an increased sales tax, which he says unfairly burdens lower-income Texans.

Lawmakers expected Perry to call another special session immediately

if this one fails.

"They will be here until they get the job done," Perry spokesman Robert Black said late Monday. "Thursday looks like as good a day as any."

Legislators are working to replace school property taxes with new consumer and business taxes, including a higher sales tax. The preliminary agreement included raising the sales tax from 6.25 percent to 7 percent and expanding it to include bottled water, computer programming services and Internet access. The cigarette tax would be increased by \$1.

The school property tax would be reduced from the current maximum of \$1.50 per \$100 of property value to \$1.24 in 2006. An additional \$7,500 homestead exemption would be implemented in the second year, bringing the maximum property tax rate to \$1.15.

In a separate bill that includes new spending on education programs, teachers would get a pay raise of about \$2,000 in 2006 and \$2,500 in 2007, on average. That would include a \$1,500 across-the-board pay raise and an additional \$500 provided to districts for teacher compensation. Schools

could use the money at their discretion.

Each school district would get funding increases ranging from 3 percent to 8 percent starting with the 2006-07 school year, according to the proposal.

Republican Sen. Florence Shapiro, who has crafted much of the new education spending, said one bill can't pass without the other.

Throughout the day there was increasing finger-pointing, frustration and blame over the unsuccessful negotiations following a weekend of failed meetings.

Many said that Sunday was realistically the last day to reach a compromise in time to get it to the full House and Senate for final approval in this special session. Legislative rules require bills to go through a mandatory 24-hour waiting period after they are printed and analyzed.

"I think the clock is really working against us at this point," said Democratic Sen. Leticia Van de Putte of San Antonio, one of the negotiators.

Some legislators and educators have said they'd rather wait to see what the Texas Supreme

Court rules before the Legislature acts. The court is expected to rule in the coming weeks or months in a case challenging the Texas education funding system.

In a lawsuit filed by hundreds of rich and poor school districts, a state district judge last year ruled the Texas system inadequate and unconstitutional.

The state has appealed that decision.

Both the House and the Senate have approved their versions of two school funding bills, and now panels of 10 lawmak-

ers for each bill must work out the differences.

The chambers agreed to reduce property taxes, but by differing amounts. Money instead would be raised by increasing the sales tax, though both chambers also must agree on how much to raise that levy.

Money would also be generated by closing loopholes in the business tax that currently allow thousands of Texas companies to avoid paying.

The Senate has wanted to raise alcohol taxes by 20 percent, but the House has repeatedly shot down

that proposal.

On the related education bill, negotiators were stumped on the issue of recapture, the term for money that property wealthy districts give back to the state to redistribute to poorer districts. That element gave the state's share-the-wealth system its nickname, Robin Hood.

Lawmakers who represent property wealthy schools were working to allow those districts to keep more of their property tax revenue, rather than giving it back to the state.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER
Our Community. Our Hospital.
1801 W. 11th Pl. Big Spring, TX

WESTEX
711 Scurry 263-0091 Big Spring
W. Business 20 756-3826 Stanton

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home & Crematory
906 S. Gregg Street Big Spring, Texas 79720
432-267-6331 npwch.com

FULLMOON, INC. ROOFING
Commercial, Residential, Industrial
Insured • Bonded
\$500,000 General Liability

Start The New Year Right With A New Roof Or Repair

REASONS TO CALL

- Ranked Top 11 Roofing Contractors In Texas
- Owens Corning Preferred Contractors
- Save \$100s to \$1000s On Your Next Roof

Voted Top 100 Roofing Contractors In America 2004

FREE ESTIMATES • (432) 267-5478 • Big Spring, Texas
HENRY BACKES

HEARING PROBLEMS?

Come to Livingston Hearing Aid Center This week. You'll be glad you did!

Save on these popular styles and brands!

Behind-The-Ear Audibel Solara On Sale For \$2,394⁰⁰	Full Shell Audibel Solara On Sale For \$2,394⁰⁰	In-The-Canal Audibel Solara On Sale For \$2,494⁰⁰	Completely-In-Canal Audibel Solara On Sale For \$2,539⁰⁰
Behind-The-Ear Qualitone Radiant On Sale For \$1,343⁰⁰	Full Shell Qualitone Radiant On Sale For \$1,343⁰⁰	In-The-Canal Qualitone Radiant On Sale For \$1,694⁰⁰	Completely-In-Canal Qualitone Radiant On Sale For \$1,844⁰⁰
Full Shell from WTX Labs On Sale For \$495⁰⁰	In-The-Canal from WTX Labs On Sale For \$595⁰⁰	Mostly-In-The-Canal from WTX Labs On Sale For \$695⁰⁰	Completely-In-Canal from WTX Labs On Sale For \$995⁰⁰

211 Johnson St. in Big Spring
432-267-7052
1-888-687-2955

THIS WEEK ONLY!

Wages, benefits top list of needs at WTO public forum

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Features Editor

Substandard wages and lack of employee benefits topped the list of needs for this community Monday night at a public forum sponsored by West Texas Opportunities.

"Those attending really felt that there is not a living wage available in Big Spring for area residents," said Emily Newmann, director of WTO.

The second greatest concern for the community is a lack of available emergency assistance for food, utilities, shelter and medical needs, according to the questionnaire and surveys completed at the forum.

"We no longer have a food bank here and that causes a problem."

"And medical care encompasses prescriptions. When they come in, they get a prescription from the doctor and they don't have the money to fill it and we don't have the money to help them," she said.

A lack of health insurance was listed as the third most important need within the community, followed by affordable health care services.

And lack of public transportation was another need. "A group of people attended the forum."

"They need public transportation."

especially after hours and to physician appointments in Midland, as one of the top five services within the community that needs improving," Newmann said.

Those attending the forum were divided into groups of three or four and asked to name the 10 most inadequate services or biggest problems faced by community members.

Those 10 items were compared to a list of 15 provided by the state for the forum.

Each those attending were asked to select the top five priorities for the community from the lists.

"We do this every five years and these results will be sent to the Texas Department of Housing, and ultimately to the federal organization," said Newmann.

About a dozen individuals attended the forum.

The turnout was wonderful and we really appreciate these people taking their time out of their busy schedule to attend the forum."

Newmann was really happy people were very interested in talking about the issues here and they were very concerned about the topics in the community," she said.

For more information, contact Emily Newmann at 267-7331.

West Texas Opportunities is located at 1111 E. 1st for the Herald.

Contact her at 263-7331 or email her at lifea@wto.org.



Herald photos/Marsha Sturdivant

About a dozen people attended the West Texas Opportunities public forum Monday night to discuss the needs of the community. Gloria Hopkins, above left, talks with Michael Chase of 211, Jan Ryder, a VA Medical Center social worker for homeless and disabled veterans. Charles Lusk, right, Paul Pryor of the Big Spring Housing authority and Crossroad Housing Development, Richard Steinberg of KBYG and Rebecca Peacock of Caring Hearts Home Health Care discuss community needs.



Dr. Ahmed
Specialized Mesotherapy
• Facial Mesotherapy with Face-Lift Type Effects
• Weight Loss • Hair Growth
• Fat Reduction 2/inj
1501 W. 11th Suite 105
264-1900 15026

Car makers considering needs of older drivers

There are 20 million people over the age of 65 in America, and that number is expected to rise to 35 million by 2011, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2011, the number of people over 65 is expected to hit 65 million.

Because of the aging population, car makers are looking for the older driver market. While there aren't taking into consideration the needs of these available, it what older drivers want is a feature cited by a new car. Hyundai has a feature called "Senior Drivers" as they would vers 60 and older.

Hyundai has a feature called "Senior Drivers" as they would vers 60 and older. Hyundai has a feature called "Senior Drivers" as they would vers 60 and older.

At the end of the day, car makers are looking for the older driver market. While there aren't taking into consideration the needs of these available, it what older drivers want is a feature cited by a new car.

Hyundai has a feature called "Senior Drivers" as they would vers 60 and older.

AARP Driver Safety Program

Thursday - Friday
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Spring City Senior Citizens Center
\$10

267-1628 to register
Certificate awarded

brought about by aging. Insurance discounts are available to course graduates.

The next driver safety course is July 21-22 at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center. The cost is \$10. Call 267-1628 to pre-register for the class.

HAMBURGERS
2311 Gregg St. 263-6663

JOHANSEN NURSERY
267-5275

TATE COMPANY
for all your Heating-Air conditioning & Plumbing needs.
1003 W. 3rd • 267-6401
TACL8011342E/M37359

Scenic Mountain Medical Center invites you to join our... July 2005 Activities

July 19 • Tuesday
• Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together)
• Supper Club - Cowboy's - 5:30 pm

July 20 • Wednesday
• Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)

July 21 • Thursday
• Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together)
• Coffee @ Gale - 10:00 am

July 22 • Friday
• Summer Mummers - 5:00 pm
RSVP Early - Seating Limited

July 25 • Monday
• Sit & Be Fit - 4:00 pm (Chair Exercise)
• Supper Club - Hunan's - 5:30 pm

July 26 • Tuesday
• Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together)
• New Mexico Casino Trip - 9:00 am

July 27 • Wednesday
• Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)

July 28 • Thursday
• Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together)
• Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am
• Lunch-N-Learn - 11:30 am

July 29 • Friday
• MIDLAND SHOPPING - 9:00 AM

Volunteer/Senior Circle Director
Anita Cline • 268-4721

Senior Circle
Office Hours:
Tues.-Thurs.
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Free Pregnancy Testing Every Day
9:00 am - 6:00 pm
OB Department, 2nd Floor, Results in 4 Minutes
Donna Mills, RN,
Director Of Women's Services
OB Dept., 268-4550

Road To Recovery
(Transportation For Cancer Patients)
LaWanda Ham,
263-7827

KBYG ~ Presents ~
Feedback
Two Hours Of "TALK"
Two Hours Of "CALLS"
Monday - Friday
1:00 p.m. Till 3:00 p.m.
www.kbygfeedback.com

Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B
Tuesday, July 19, 2005

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

Howard announces men's basketball camps in mid-July

The Howard College men's basketball staff will host another week-long camp July 24-28.

The camp will cost \$250 per player who wants room and board and \$175 for a commuter. It will take place at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The camp sign-up will take place July 24 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. The first day of the camp will be July 24 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The camp will run each day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Hawk camp format consists of morning and afternoon sessions.

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

Signups for football to begin July 22

The Crossroads Youth Football Association will begin its annual signup session July 22.

Signups will take place at the Big Spring Mall Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The cost to play football is \$70. Flag football costs \$30, while cheerleaders should expect to pay \$75.

For more information, call Daphne Castilaw at 714-4688.

Bills agree to trade Henry to Tennessee

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Bills president Tom Donahoe announced he traded Travis Henry to the Tennessee Titans for a third-round pick in next year's draft.

The deal ends a standoff between the team and player after Henry vowed not to play the final year of his contract with Buffalo next season. Henry did not attend the team's minicamp sessions last spring, unhappy after losing his job to Willis McGahee in October.

U.S. softball team loses in title game

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The United States lost a tournament title game for the first time since 1997, falling 3-1 to Japan in the championship of the inaugural World Cup of Softball.

The Americans hadn't lost a title game since the 1997 Superball in Ohio. It was also the second loss in a week for the U.S. team.

Rogers turns himself in, has another camera incident

• Texas' best pitcher calmly lashes out at television cameraman

ARLINGTON (AP) — Kenny Rogers turned himself in, and then had another run-in with a television cameraman.

The Texas Rangers pitcher jawed at a cameraman for Dallas-Fort Worth television station WFAA as he was booked into the county jail Monday on misdemeanor assault charges stemming from an earlier tirade against two cameramen. Just as with the incident that led to the charges, the exchange was caught on tape.

Rogers, a three-time All-Star who is appealing a

20-game suspension and \$50,000 fine imposed by baseball commissioner Bud Selig, was released after posting \$1,500 bond.

In the latest run-in, WFAA reported on its Web site Monday that photographer Mike Zukerman was videotaping the procedure when Rogers turned to him and said, "You're getting really close; you know that? Do you hear me?"

A few seconds later, Rogers again turned to the camera, saying, "You must be pretty proud of

yourself, too."

After Zukerman replied, "It's just my job, Kenny," Rogers responded: "Yeah. Your job. That's just your excuse."

Rogers wasn't available for comment before Monday's game against the New York Yankees. He's scheduled to pitch Thursday at home against Oakland, and Rangers officials said they don't know if Rogers' appeal will be heard Thursday or Friday.

"We'll miss him in those three, four starts he'll miss," Rangers owner Tom Hicks said. "He's our best pitcher."

Texas lost three of four games in a weekend series at Oakland, and Rogers (11-4, 2.54 ERA)

was the winning pitcher in the only victory.

"It's not a distraction as long as we can go out and do what we do on the field," Rangers shortstop Michael Young said. "That's what we do best, and (Rogers' situation) doesn't translate onto the field."

On June 29, Rogers lashed out at two cameramen as they taped him walking to the field for pregame stretching. The episode led to one of those cameramen, Larry Rodriguez of KDFW, being treated at a hospital after the camera was ripped from his hands and thrown to the ground.

Rogers apologized a week later, saying the incident was out of character and would never happen again.

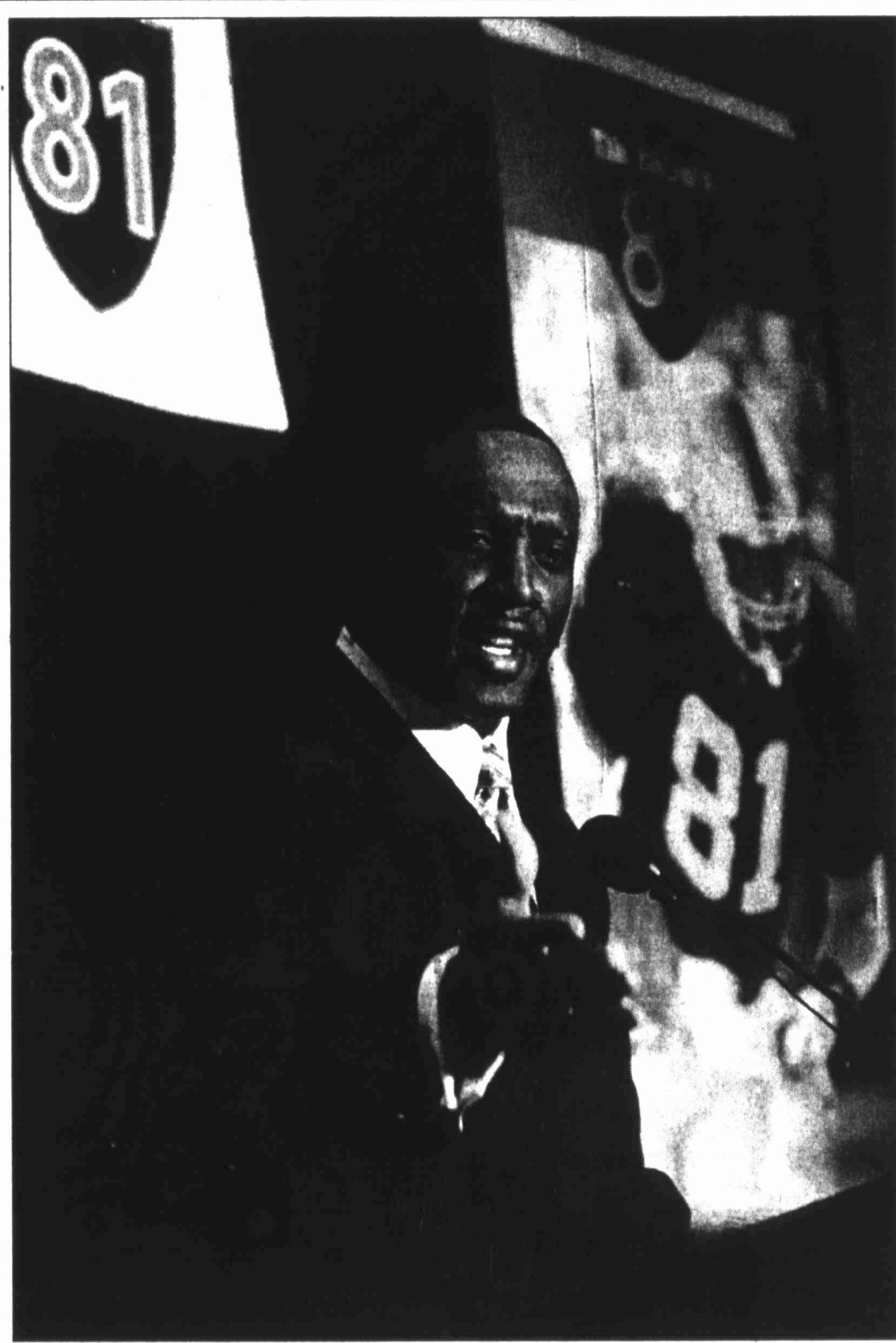
Arlington police spokeswoman Christy Gilfour said Rogers faces a charge of assault with injury in the shoving of Rodriguez. She also said police will mail an assault citation to Rogers' lawyer for shoving Fox Sports Net Southwest cameraman David Mammeli.

The assault charge involving Rodriguez is punishable by up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$4,000. The other charge is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Gilfour said Fox Sports — which owns the camera Rogers damaged in the shoving of Rodriguez — has declined to press criminal charges.



ROGERS



NFL player Tim Brown speaks at a news conference in Oakland, Calif., announcing his retirement Monday. Brown signed a one-day contract with his long-time team the Raiders so he could retire with the organization rather than Tampa Bay where he played last season. He is second all-time behind Jerry Rice in receptions and receiving yards.

Rangers fall short of win against N.Y.

• Yankees return to first place in AL East after road victory

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer
ARLINGTON (AP) — After 3 1/2 months of struggles, the New York Yankees moved back into first place.

Kevin Brown struggled in his return to the rotation, but Jorge Posada, Gary Sheffield and Hideki Matsui homered and Ruben Sierra hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the eighth inning in an 11-10 victory over the Texas Rangers on Monday night.

New York, which won for the 11th time in 13 games, improved to a season-high nine games over .500 at 50-41 and leads the AL East by a half-game over Boston and Baltimore (both 50-42). The Yankees were nine games back after play May 7.

The Yankees had not been alone in first since beating the Red Sox in the April 3 season opener and had not held a share since after games of April 9.

Brown, sidelined by a back injury since June 18, gave up three runs in the first inning but the Yankees scored six in the second and led 9-6 in the sixth before giving up four runs. Center fielder Bernie Williams dropped Hank Blalock's two-out fly for an two-run error that tied the score and former-Yankee Alfonso Soriano, who had four hits, followed with a single that put the Rangers ahead.

Sierra injured his left hamstring on his go-ahead hit, a single into the gap off Doug Brocail (3-2) with two outs after

Robinson Cano singled and Alex Rodriguez walked. Sierra was helped off the field and likely is headed to the disabled list.

Mariano Rivera worked the ninth for his 24th straight save conversion, the longest streak of his career within a single season. Since blowing his first two chances of the season against Boston, he has been perfect.

New York went ahead with a six-run second that included Posada's 12th homer, a three-run drive that made it 4-3. Cano added an RBI single and Sheffield had a run-scoring double off Ricardo Rodriguez.

Sheffield's 20th homer, his fifth in seven games, came with one out in the fourth. Rodriguez drew a walk before Matsui's 15th homer made it 9-5.

With three other starting pitchers still on the disabled list, Brown returned to the Yankees without a rehabilitation start.

He lasted just 4 1-3 innings, giving up six runs and 10 hits — two of them homers. He struck out three and walked none, throwing 53 of 82 pitches for strikes.

Soriano was caught stealing for the first time this year when he over-slid second base to end the sixth after beating Posada's throw.

Soriano hit a drive in the first that ricocheted off the top of the wall in straightaway center. But he only got a long RBI single since he was watching the ball instead of running. He didn't initially get to second base, even on the relay throw home to get Blalock out, but then stole the base and scored on Kevin Mench's double.

Rockets reach deal with FA Swift

HOUSTON (AP) — Free-agent forward Stromile Swift has reached an agreement to sign with the Houston Rockets, according to reports Monday.

Swift's agent, Andy Miller, told several Houston media outlets that Swift had agreed to join the Rockets and was excited about joining a front line that includes All-Stars Tracy McGrady and Yao Ming.

"That's real, real big for us," McGrady, who worked to recruit Swift, told the Houston Chronicle from Czechoslovakia. "I'm going to do my best to turn him into an All-Star player, too. I thought that he was the guy we were missing."

Miller would not disclose terms, but KPRC-TV and the Chronicle reported that the contract would be worth about \$30 million over five years —

consistent with the midlevel salary exception available to the Rockets, who are over the cap.

Miller said Swift, who lives in Shreveport, La., has long been interested in the Rockets.

The Rockets are seeking reinforcements after losing a seven-game series to Dallas in the first round of the playoffs last season. Houston hasn't won a playoff series since 1997.

Miller would not comment when reached by The Associated Press Monday.

Swift spent his first five NBA seasons with the Grizzlies, averaging nine points and five rebounds. He averaged career highs of 11.8 points and 6.3 rebounds in 2001-02, his second season.

Memphis reached the playoffs the last two seasons with Swift, but didn't win a postseason game, getting swept by San Antonio in 2004 and

Phoenix this year.

The Grizzlies, then in Vancouver, made Swift the No. 2 pick in 2000 after his sophomore season at LSU, when he led the Tigers to the round of 16 for the first time in 13 years.

Major League Baseball - current league-wide standings

American League - East		American League - West		National League - Central	
N.Y. Yankees	50-41 —	L.A. Angels	56-37 —	St. Louis	60-32 —
Boston	50-42 -5	Texas	47-44 -8	Chicago Cubs	47-45 -13
Baltimore	50-42 -5	Oakland	47-45 -8.5	Houston	45-46 -14.5
Toronto	45-47 -5.5	Seattle	41-50 -14	Milwaukee	45-48 -15.5
Tampa Bay	32-62 -23			Pittsburgh	40-52 -20
				Cincinnati	38-54 -22
American League - Central		National League - East		National League - West	
Chicago Sox	62-29 —	Washington	53-40 —	San Diego	50-43 —
Minnesota	49-42 -13	Atlanta	53-41 -5	Arizona	46-49 -5
Cleveland	48-45 -15	Philadelphia	48-45 -5	L.A. Dodgers	41-51 -8.5
Detroit	44-47 -18	N.Y. Mets	46-46 -6.5	San Francisco	40-52 -9.5
Kansas City	32-60 -30.5	Florida	45-46 -7	Colorado	32-59 -17

Armstrong's best challenger claims race is all but over

• Six-time champion still looks good after Monday's off day

By JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer

PAU, France (AP) — Ivan Basso is just 2 minutes, 46 seconds behind Lance Armstrong at the Tour de France. As far as the Italian rider is concerned, the race is over.

"It's not possible to beat him," the second-place Basso said Monday as riders rested in Pau. "I have done all I can."

Armstrong holds a significant advantage over his closest challengers, who are running out of time with the race ending Sunday.

With a time trial on the penultimate day — Armstrong's specialty — Basso needs to make huge time gains in the four stages before that for an improbable comeback. Basso's Team CSC director, Bjarne Riis, also seemed resigned to finishing no higher than second.

"He has class, strength and talent," Riis said of Armstrong. "It's not easy to beat someone like that."

Armstrong looked good after Monday's day off, sticking with his closest rivals in the first portion of Tuesday's 16th stage. Ahead of them, a breakaway group of riders lower down in the standings led the way over the big climbs.

The 112.2-mile stage from Mourenx to Pau is the last tough mountain route of the Tour, before riders head through the Massif Central area of France on their way to the finish in Paris.

Armstrong's team director, Johan Bruyneel, was cautious about Tuesday's trek, which features the

Col de Marie-Blanque, a category 1 climb, and the Col d'Aubisque, a harder ascent that doesn't have a rating.

It snakes up for 10 miles at a 7 percent gradient.

The Discovery Channel riders have had two bad days so far during the Tour.

However, Armstrong didn't lose any time to his rivals either time.

"We have a decent lead with a big time trial to come," Bruyneel said. "For the moment, it's enough — 2:46 on Basso and more on the next guys. Maybe we can take a little more advantage."

Jan Ullrich, the 1997 Tour winner who was once seen as Armstrong's biggest threat, trails by 5:58 and Alexandre Vinokourov of Kazakhstan is behind by 9:38.

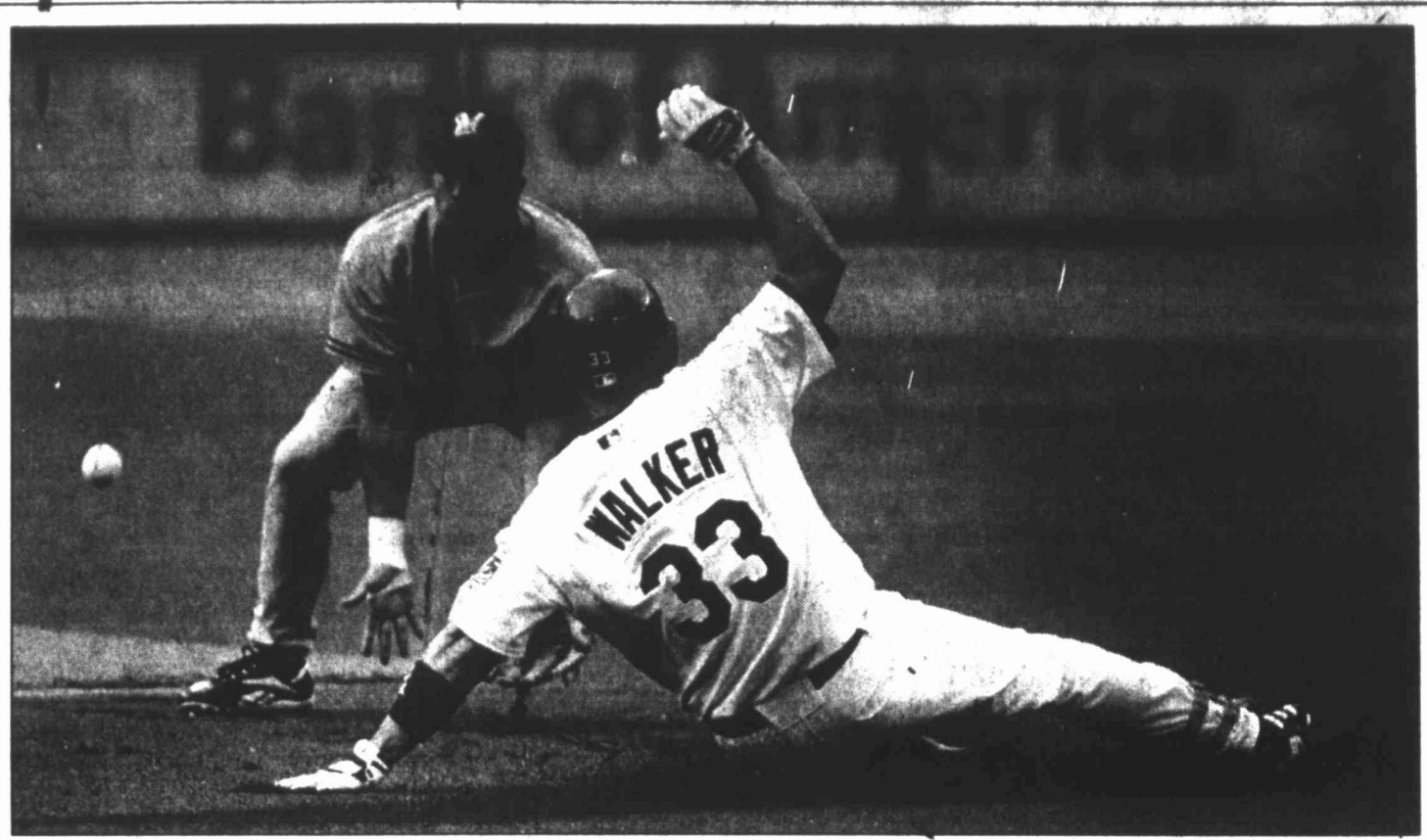
"I've said it before. I have never considered Vinokourov as a contender to win the Tour," Bruyneel said.

Bruyneel wanted to recruit Basso after next year's Tour, but missed out on the chance. Team CSC announced Monday that the Italian has signed a new contract, tying him to Riis until 2009.

Armstrong didn't meet with reporters Monday. He warmed up with teammates on a training ride, led by George Hincapie — winner of his first ever individual Tour stage on Sunday in a thrilling solo ride on this year's toughest mountain stage.

Hincapie has been touted by Armstrong as a possible team leader next season, but Bruyneel said he has yet to decide.

Following Tuesday's mountain stage is a flat route from Pau to Revel, which is a potential hazard as sprinters will be jostling for position.



The Cardinals' Larry Walker slides safely into second with a two-run double in the first inning as Milwaukee shortstop J. J. Hardy, left, is unable to contain the throw. Walker advanced to third base during their game at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Mo., Monday. The Cardinals beat the Brewers, 11-4.

Houston bounces back after sweep

• Astros dominate Pirates in Pittsburgh

By ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Houston Astros have been waiting for a game like this. The Pittsburgh Pirates are seeing too many just like them.

Humberto Quintero's three-run double in the fourth inning ended Houston's season-long scoreless streak in Pittsburgh and Brandon Backe limited the Pirates to a run over six innings, leading the Astros to an 11-1 victory Monday night.

"That's more like it," said manager Phil Garner, whose team was held to five runs while being swept in a three-game weekend series in St. Louis.

The Astros were streaking into the All-Star break with 29 victories in 42 games. Backe (8-6) got them back to within a game of .500 with his pitching and hitting, the

latest in a string of opposing pitchers to hurt the Pirates not just on the mound but at the plate.

Backe followed Quintero's three-run double off Dave Williams (7-7) with an RBI triple in the four-run fourth, which came after the Astros had none on and two outs. Backe also doubled the inning before and now has four extra-base hits, six RBIs and a .294 average. Quintero finished with four RBIs after starting the game 1-for-16.

The Pirates fell to a season-low 12 games under .500 with their 22nd loss in 32 games. As the Pirates have dropped five of their last six, opposing pitchers have accounted for eight runs with six RBIs and two runs scored, while the Pirates have scored just nine runs.

The Astros were shut down for three innings by Williams to run their scoreless streak in PNC Park this season to 21 innings. But Jason Lane, Adam Everett and Chris

Burke singled in succession ahead of Quintero's double that fell in front of left fielder Jason Bay, ending the catcher's 0-for-13 streak.

Quintero was activated off the 15-day disabled list Saturday after being out following an appendectomy. He hadn't had an extra base hit since having two homers and three doubles with the Padres last season.

Lane and Lance Berkman also had three-hit games, with Berkman driving in two runs, as the Astros had 17 hits, one short of their season high.

The Pirates were held to

a run after loading the bases with none out in the first, only to be checked by Backe on two hits over the next five innings. He withstood six walks to win for just the second time in seven starts, striking out six and allowing three hits.

Pizza Inn.
Tuesday
Senior Buffet
Only \$4.49 With Tea

Call For Details
1702 Gregg
263-1381

TROY VINES INC.
Ready Mixed Concrete

Big Spring
432-267-5122

Locations in
Midland • Odessa • Crane • Pecos






SNEEDS, THE SNAIL

When Sneeds was just about your age, he didn't want to do anything his mommie and daddy asked him to do. I think this story is probably true because I was there and saw most of it. And, I will try to tell it just the way it happened. One day when Sneeds was about two years old, his daddy asked him to do some chores around the snail home. Sneeds didn't want to because he was watching snail television and he loved the little snail kids program that was playing.

Sneeds' daddy left the room right after he had asked Sneeds to do the chores and didn't see that Sneeds had not done those chores. Later on, his daddy did find out, though! It was just after breakfast and daddy snail was on his way to do some snail work. Just as he was passing by the chores that he thought were already finished, he saw that they had not been done. He didn't get angry at Sneeds. Instead, he knew that he would need to have a talk with that little snail! After all, we must do our chores when we are asked to.

Back into the snail house the daddy snail went, looking for Sneeds! There was Sneeds, sitting in front of the television set, watching his favorite snail show. "Sneeds," his daddy asked, "Why didn't you do those chores I had

asked you to do yesterday?" Sneeds could see that his daddy wasn't mad, but he was disappointed. "I was watching my television show and I just didn't want to do them," Sneeds told his daddy.

The daddy snail very slowly walked over to the television set and gently turned it off. "Do not turn this back on until you have finished your chores," he said to Sneeds. "And, you may not have any friends over to play for one week!"

"One week," Sneeds cried, "And no television until I finish my chores? I don't like you anymore, Daddy," Sneeds shouted! He was so angry that he never saw the tear in his daddy's eye! This story is really getting sad now, isn't it?

About two weeks later, I think, Sneeds' mommie asked him to clean up his room right away because she had snail company coming and wanted her snail home to look nice. Do you think that Sneeds cleaned up his room? Of course not! After all, he didn't like cleaning up his room! And that one week had already passed, so Sneeds could watch television again and have his friends come over to play.

That night, all of Sneeds' mommie's friends came to visit and she wanted everyone to see Sneeds' room and how pretty and

clean it was. When she opened the door and saw that Sneeds had never cleaned the room, it almost

The Medicine Shoppe
National Prescription Centers

1001 S. Gregg
263-7316

broke her heart. She was so sad! Now she had a tear in her eye, too!

The very next morning, the mommie snail walked into Sneeds' room and woke him up because it was very early. "Sneeds," she said gently, "Wake up and tell me why you did not clean your room yesterday as I had asked?" "I didn't clean my room because I didn't want to," Sneeds said. "I am very sorry, Sneeds, but now you must clean your room and no television for two weeks and you may not have any friends over to play with you, either," the snail mommie said.

"I don't love you either," Sneeds said to his mommie, "And I stopped loving daddy last week!" Sneeds didn't see the tears in both of his mommie's eyes! This story is getting sadder and sadder, isn't it?

Little Sneeds didn't want to, but he finally decided to just go ahead and finish all of those chores. After all, he had to so he could see his favorite snail program on television again! And he did miss all of his friends

coming to play!

Sneeds worked all day really hard, trying to get those chores

Pizza Inn.

1702 GREGG
263-1381

done so he could turn that television back on. He worked and worked and became madder and madder at his mommie and daddy because they had asked him to do these chores, anyway! "I sure don't love them anymore," he thought to himself.

As night time came, Sneeds went into his snail home and he was really tired. He took a nice snail bath and ate his snail supper without saying a single word to his mommie or daddy. They were sad, too! Everyone in this story is sad, aren't they?

Off Sneeds went, to bed! He was very tired! He had done chores all day long! He didn't realize that if he had done those chores when he was asked, there would only have been a little to do each day. But now, he has a lot of them to do all at the same time! He fell asleep just as quickly as his snail head touched the snail pillow.

When he woke up, something was very different! His snail home was gone! His snail mommie was gone! And he couldn't find his snail daddy, either! "Oh boy," he thought, "Now I will

never have to do those chores again! I think I will go play with my friends." He couldn't find his friends! He didn't know where they lived. The daddy snail had always gone to their home and picked them up and brought them to play with Sneeds.

Sneeds looked and looked for his friends, but never could find them. Soon it was lunch time and Sneeds was getting very hungry. "I wish my mommie was here to feed me and give me a big hug because now I am scared, lonely, and hungry! Where are they? Why won't they answer me? Why are they hiding from me? Where is my home?"

Where is my bedroom? I want my daddy to take me to my friend's house to play. Where is he? Please answer me! Please answer me! Where are you? And then, he started to cry! This story is sad enough, isn't it? But I did promise you a happy ending, didn't I? Here comes the ending! And it will be happy!

Poor little Sneeds Snail cried himself to sleep that day. But when he woke up, everything was different again! He was in his dirty, uncleaned bedroom. He could hear his mommie in the front part of the snail house, singing as she cleaned her kitchen. He looked outside and there was his daddy, working very hard to make food for his family, and he was whistling all

the while.

The very first thing that Sneeds did was to run into his mommie's arms and give her a big hug and told her that he was sorry that he told her that he didn't love her. After all, he just found out that he did! His mommie put that beautiful smile back on her face right away and told Sneeds, "I am very happy that you love me, for I never stopped loving you!" Those words made Sneeds love his mommie even more!

Then Sneeds ran outside to his daddy. "Daddy, Daddy, I love you and I want to give you a big hug," he cried. Of course, the daddy snail opened his arms and gave Sneeds a big hug right back! That hug sure did put a big smile on the daddy snail's face again, for some reason. Why do you suppose it did?

Then Sneeds thought about two things. First of all, when he thought that his home and parents were no longer there, it was only a dream. But he never wanted that dream to become real, so can you guess what he did?

Sneeds Snail always finished his chores the very day that he was to do them from then on! And he never, ever, told his mommie or daddy that he didn't love them again! Never, ever! Not once! Never even thought about it!

GOOD NIGHT!



CLASSIFIEDS

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Business Opportunity

ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE!
60 vending machines/ excellent locations all for \$10,995. 800-234-6982.

The Big Spring Herald has the following carrier routes open.

Various in-town routes & Route 725 & 730 Coahoma and Sand Springs area.

Also looking for substitute carriers, need to be available for on-call basis. Reliable transportation. Apply in person. Contact Duane McCollum 710 Scurry (432)263-7331

BIG SPRING HERALD

Help Wanted

ATTENTION LADIES 18 & UP
Need extra money? Want a new career? Or just want your beauty products at up to a 50% discount? For just \$10, you can start your own Avon business. (Must have a Telephone and Checking account or credit card. Internet access preferred but not required.) Call Natalie at (432)270-2125 today. (Permitter Family Avon, Independent Reps)

MEDICAL SUPPLY Company, now taking applications for delivery technician. Must have excellent driving record & be able to lift. Experience a plus. Public oriented personality. Call (432)267-6994.

Help Wanted

BLAST MASTERS has positions available for:
* Crew Technician
* Shop Foreman
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

Concrete Mixer Truck Drivers
Class A CDL. DOT Medical Cards, Drug & Alcohol Screens
\$10.50 - \$12.50 DOE
N.C. Sturgeon, LP
Apply in person
2800 Windecker at Midland International Airport. La Clase concreta de Camineros de Batidora UN CDL. Las Tarjetas Medicas PUNTEDADAS, la Droga & Alcohol Investiga \$10.50 - \$12.50 DOE N.C. Sturgeon, LP Aplica en la persona 2800 Windecker en Aeropuerto internacional de region central.

DOMINOS PIZZA Drivers needed. Hourly + mileage + tips. Competition says better commission, but you can't make commission doing dishes for the sit down lobby. Go by 2111 S. Gregg or call (432)267-4111.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY for career minded individual with experience in Real Estate, Title or Escrow Closings. Salary commensurate with experience. Please respond to P.O. Box 189, Big Spring, TX 79721.

ENERGETIC PERSON needed for the position of Fitness Trainer. Part time, 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm weekdays. Experience preferred. Apply Dora Roberts Rehab. Center, 306 W. 3rd.

EXPERIENCE TRUCK mechanic needed to work on Cummins & Caterpillar engines. Salary DOE, health insurance, 401K plan. Apply at Price Construction, 2701 N. Hwy. 350, Big Spring, TX 79720 or fax resume to (432)263-6012. EOE.

INDIVIDUAL LOOKING to buy Oil & Gas Royalties. Get big cash payout now. Sell at peak gas prices (\$7.80/mcf). Call Jeff at 800-258-8495.

NEED A honest, dependable, hard working person to work in a fast pace job. Pick up applications at 1109 N. Aylesford, corner of 1-20 and Hwy 87.

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT Living is seeking a full-time Housekeeper/ Front Desk clerk. The front desk clerk hours are from 12:30 am to 8:30 am. The housekeeping is from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please apply in person at 501 W. 17th. Street, Big Spring, TX.

Help Wanted

PART TIME Cashier/ Hostess. Minimal wage. Apply in person at Sky's, 1513 East FM 700, see manager.

PIZZA INN accepting applications for qualified people to join our Management Team. Looking for individual with management and food experience. Apply in person with resume, 1702 Gregg Street.

RAINBOW CHRISTIAN Pre-School needs full time Child worker. Must be 18 with HS Diploma and experience required. Come by 409 Goliad to apply.

Start at **\$12-\$13/hour** plus LOTS OF OVERTIME! Only **TRUCKDRIVERS** with 2 years Class A CDL experience need apply. Physical Labor required. Good benefits. Home one week a month. Call 1-800-588-2669.

UNLIMITED BONUS POTENTIAL with above average base pay as Manager at Coahoma DQ. Looking for friendly, customer service leader. Holiday and vacation pay. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test and background check required. Call District Manager, David Peery, (940)550-8387.

WANTED EXPERIENCED Plant Operator at Natural Gas Processing Facility. North East of Big Spring, Texas. Send resume to 11703 East FM 846, Coahoma, Tx. 79511 or fax (432)399-4290 or e-mail mwcol@crcom.net

Help Wanted

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

YOUNG WOMEN Ages 16-24 with \$10.00, internet and access to a debit card or credit card, you can become the CEO of your own business and get rid of that fast food uniform. Call Natalie at (432)270-2125 today and find out about Avon's Mark Opportunity! (Permitter Family Avon, Independent Reps)

Lost and Found

FOUND VICINITY of East Midway Rd. Mixed Chihuahua, male, wearing black collar. Call (432)267-1914.

LOST FEMALE black Pomeranian, in the vicinity of 600 block of East 15th. Needs medication. Call (432)263-4172, 466-3222.

Miscellaneous

FOR SALE: Working used appliances. Electric Stoves \$50.00; Refrigerators \$75.00. Call Stemple at (432)714-4840.

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarios. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

Miscellaneous

JUNQUE MART
Big Spring's Newest Store is now OPEN!
10:00a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday- Saturday
600 Lamesa (behind Kwikie)
New items arriving every other day!!
(432)264-0542.



The Classifieds Are the Cat's Meow.

Area shoppers know the Classifieds are the purr-fect place to find a bargain in the Classifieds, you can track down deals on everything from collectibles to cuddly kittens. It's easy to place an ad or find the items you want and it's used by hundreds of area shoppers every day.

NOW \$20.00
Buy Up To 25 Words for 6 Days

Go with your instincts and use the Classifieds today.

Big Spring Herald
710 Scurry
(432) 263-7331
email: www.bigspringherald.com

CARPET

Bring Samples To Your Home NAME BRANDS
Kenny Thompson

270-0548
263-4548

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

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

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



CONCRETE

MARQUEZ FENCE CO.
All types of fences & repairs.
Concrete work, carports. All work guaranteed. Free Estimates
Benny Marquez Owner
267-5714

CONCRETE

STUCCO DRIVEWAYS SIDEWALKS BLOCK FENCES
Chico and Sons Concrete
(432) 466-0573
(432) 268-6322
621 Sgt. Paredez
Frank Rubio Big Spring, TX 79720

CONCRETE

J. T. Builders
Remodeling • Drywall
Ceramic Tile • Electrical
Plumbing • Roofing
Brick & Concrete Work
Driveways • Sidewalks
Fireplaces • Stucco
Swimming Pool Decks
JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ
(432) 213-0882 Cell
(432) 263-2110 Res.
108 E. 11th PLACE
BIG SPRING, TX. 79720

DIRT WORK

DECKER'S FARM SUPPLY & NURSERY
We do Dirt Work,
Brush Hog, Backhoe, Bulldozing,
Small Grubbing Jobs and Will Clear Lots.
432-756-3444

EDUCATION

Maranatha Baptist Academy
Dr. Lillian Bohannon
Kindergarten Roundup
Sign Up Now K-12
903 Johnson Big Spring 263-7896

FENCES

CHAINLINK METAL • CEDAR DOG KENNELS ORNAMENTAL IRON
B & M Fence Co.
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE
FREE ESTIMATES
ROBERT MARQUEZ
263-1613 •
1-800-525-1389
1000 Lamesa Hwy. • Big Spring

FENCES

Quality Fence Co.
Jimmy Marquez-Owner
Finest In Fencing
Wood & Chainlink
Free Estimates
432-267-3349

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HANDY MAN
Home Repair, Remodeling, Maintenance, Yardwork, Painting, Etc.
Concrete Work, Driveway, Patios, Sidewalks, Etc.
Evenings - 267-7659
Days - 263-5272

HOME IMPROVEMENT

2nd Sr. Construction
We Do It All!
Residential & Commercial
Ceramic Tiles, Cabinets, Drywall, Textures, Plumbing, Electrical
AC, Roofs, New Additions & Lawn Service
Phone: 432-263-2911
Cell: 432-816-3832

HOME IMPROVEMENT

RS HOME REPAIR
Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical
FREE ESTIMATES
Garage door repair, Appliances installed
816-3030

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Gibbs Remodeling
New home Construction • Room Additions
Carports • Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing & Exterior
Wallpaper Hanging • Ceramic Tile
Installation & Repair
All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home.
Call 263-8285

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/ GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS
Home Repair • Carpentry
Sheet Work
Repaired/Replaced
Kitchen & Bath
BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK
409 E. 3RD 267-5811

HOME IMPROVEMENT

AFFORDABLE HOME MAINTENANCE
•Renovation
•Repairs
•Maintenance
Quality Work You Can Trust
Satisfaction Guaranteed NO JOB IS TOO SMALL!
Russ Crain (owner) 432-270-2585

WEB PRINTING

For Information On Web Printing
Call
Tony Hernandez
263-7331
BIG SPRING HERALD

LAWN SERVICE

Mark's Lawn Care
Mowing, Trimming, Edging.
SPECIALTY - HEDGES, SHRUBS
Trimmed and Shaped
QUALITY WORK
FREE ESTIMATES
(432) 264-6162

PAINTING

EXTERIOR PAINTING
SPRAY • BRUSH • ROLL
PRESSURE WASHING
DRYWALL REPAIR
ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
466-8239
267-2227
* FREE ESTIMATES *
Serving Big Spring & Surrounding Areas

PEST CONTROL

SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL
Since 1954
432-263-6514
2008 Birdwell Lane
Max F. Moore
www.swa1pc.com
mm@swa1pc.com

PLUMBING

For All Your Plumbing Heating And Air Conditioning Needs
CALL
Frank's Plumbing, Heating, A/C
FRANK CLARK
432-267-8578

RENTALS

VENTURA COMPANY
432-267-2655
Houses • Storages
Commercial Buildings
1003, 07, 11 E. 11th Pl.
For rent/sale
700 E. 12th
802 E. 12th
204 11th Place

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel.
All type of repairs!
Work Guaranteed.
Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and
Doctor of Repairs!
Free Estimates!!
Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.
267-1110

ROOFING

PALACIOS ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT
Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured & Bonded
Home Phone#
432-263-5430
Cell#
432-213-0363

STORAGE

AAA Mini-Storage
1st 1/2 Month Rent FREE on select units
For All Your Storage Needs
Large Or Small, We Store It All!!!
Now Accepting Visa & Mastercard
3301 E. FM 700 263-0732

TREE TRIMMING

LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING
More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal.
Call Lupe
432-267-8317
432-268-6406

TUESDAY

	WFAA(2)	KMID(3)	UNI(4)	KPEJ(5)	KOSA(7)	KTLE(8)	KWES(9)	WTBS(11)	KMLM(12)	KOCV(13)	DISC(28)	AMC(29)	SPIKE(22)	TNT(23)	BET(25)	DISN(27)	ESPN2(28)	ESPN(29)	SCIFI(30)
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Inocente de Ti	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Amarillo A1	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Booker John Hages	News-Lahrer	American Chopper	CSI: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET Style	That's-Raven	Streetball	2004 World Series of Poker	Movie: Firestarter	
7	My Wife-Kids George Lopez	My Wife-Kids George Lopez	Apuesta por un Amor	Trading Spouses	NCIS (CC)	El Cuerpo del Deseso	Average Joe: Strike Back	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Van Impe Pres	Nova (CC) (DVS)	Great White	Magically: The Great Escape	CSI: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Partners	Movie: The Luck of the Irish (CC)	WNBA Basketball	2005 World Series of Poker (CC)	Flunked
8	According-Jim Rodney (CC)	According-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Madrastra	House (CC)	Big Brother 6 (CC)	Los Plateados	I Want to Be a Hilton (CC)	Sex and-City	Light of the Southwest	Wide Angle (CC)	American Shark	Movie: Goldfinger	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Girlfriends College Hill	Irish (CC)	Monarchs at Cornets	2005 World Series of Poker		
9	Empire (CC)	Empire (CC)	Casos de la Vida Real	70s Show Malcolm-Mid.	Rock Star: INXS (CC)	Decisiones	Law & Order: SVU	Raymond		P.O.V. (CC)	Shark Attack 2005		Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Soul Food (CC)	Buzz-Maggie Sister, Sister	Boxing: Peterson vs. Torresillas	Til (CC)		
10	News (CC)	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show-Raymond	Noticias El Cuerpo del Deseso	News Tonight Show	Movie: Tommy Boy (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Great White	Movie: In the Sign Off		The Closer	Nightly News 106 & Park	That's-Raven	SportsCenter (CC)	Tripping-Fit	
11	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora Derbez	Becker (CC) Becker (CC)	Late Show-Late Late	Deseso Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night-		Joe McGee Rabbi Richman	Sign Off	American Shark	Heat of the Night	Widest Police Videos	Charmed (CC)	BET's Top 10 Live	Sister, Sister Kim Possible	Streetball 2 Live Stews	Baseball NFL Live	Tripping-Fit
12	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Spin City Roseanne	Show The Insider	María Celeste Programa	Conan O'Brien Sainfield (CC)	Movie: Houseguest	Update/Israel Biblical Israel		Shark Attack 2005	45 Movie:	Real TV (CC) Blind Date	The X-Files	Soul Food (CC)	Lizzie McGuire Proud Family	Funk Master It's the Shoes	SportsCenter (CC)	Scare Tactics

DENNIS THE MENACE



"LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, 'CREEKS ARE NATURE'S PLAYGROUNDS.'"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"My friends have read all my old ones."

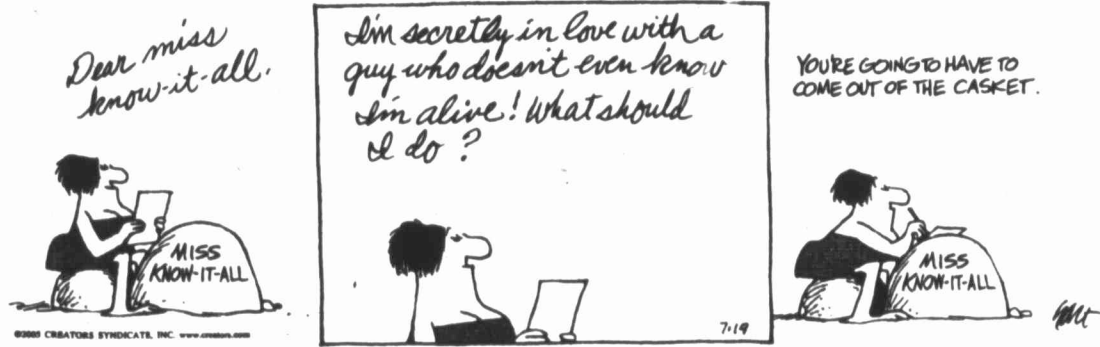
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 19, the 200th day of 2005. There are 165 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 19, 1985, Christa McAuliffe of New Hampshire was chosen to be the first schoolteacher to ride aboard the space shuttle. (McAuliffe and six other crew members died when Challenger exploded shortly after lift-off the following January.) On this date: In 1553, 15-year-old Lady Jane Grey was deposed as Queen of England after claiming the crown for nine days. King Henry VIII's daughter Mary was proclaimed Queen. In 1848, a pioneer women's rights convention convened in Seneca Falls, N.Y. In 1870, the Franco-Prussian war began. In 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill launched his "V for Victory" campaign in Europe. In 1943, allied air forces raided Rome during World War II. In 1969, Apollo 11 and its astronauts, Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins, went into orbit around the moon. In 1975, the Apollo and Soyuz space capsules that were linked in orbit for two days separated. In 1980, the Moscow Summer Olympics began, minus dozens of nations that were boycotting the games because of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. In 1984, U.S. Rep. Geraldine A. Ferraro, D-N.Y., won the Democratic nomination for vice president by acclamation at the party's convention in San Francisco. In 1989, 112 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-10 crashed while making an emergency landing at Sioux City, Iowa; 184 other people survived. Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. George McGovern is 83. Country singer Sue Thompson is 79. Country singer George Hamilton IV is 68. Actor

George Dzundza is 60. Rock singer-musician Alan Gorrie (Average White Band) is 59. Actress Beverly Archer is 57. Actor Peter Barton is 49. Rock musician Kevin Haskins (Love and Rockets; Bauhaus) is 45. Movie director Atom Egoyan is 45. Actor Anthony Edwards is 43. Actress Rachel Miner is 25. Actor Jared Padalecki is 23. Actor Steven Anthony Lawrence ("Even Stevens") is 15. Thought for Today: "The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious ... the fundamental emotion which stands at the cradle of true art and true science." Albert Einstein (1879-1955).

Answer to previous puzzle

SETS	MALTS	PARK
TERN	ELIOT	TRAN
AREA	DANTE	NINE
RING	BINDER	SAGE
REDSEA	AMNOT	
ATE	DRAMA	
ANEW	ELSE	DIVAN
MADAT	MAT	SPORT
PINTA	OWNS	EWES
SLACK	ACE	
HEART	ELOPED	
SLOW	CHAINSTORE	
HOBO	HORDE	TINE
ODOR	ENTER	END
WEED	RESAY	RTES

Newsday Crossword

FOR YOUR APPROVAL by Shirley Soloway

- ACROSS
- 1 Kitchen cover-up
 - 6 Caraway or sunflower
 - 10 Twirled
 - 14 Like dishwasher
 - 15 Strauss of pants
 - 16 Ripped
 - 17 Salad vegetables
 - 19 Heart charts: Abbr.
 - 20 Hammer part
 - 21 "De-Lovely"
 - 22 Feels the same way
 - 24 Charged particles
 - 26 Looks impolitely
 - 27 Vacation spot
 - 30 Reveal orally
 - 32 Atmospheric layer
 - 33 Governor's rejection
 - 34 Store event
 - 37 Canine sound
 - 38 Japanese island
 - 41 Milk source
 - 42 "Damn it!"
 - 44 Part of MIT
 - 45 Act segment
 - 47 "Aha!"
 - 49 Not as spicy
 - 50 Taters
 - 51 Diet successfully
 - 52 Singer Estefan
 - 53 Point at the target
 - 54 Declare frankly
 - 58 Reebok rival

- DOWN
- 1 Quickly, in memos
 - 2 Skin opening
 - 3 Have status
 - 4 Point of view
 - 5 The Big Apple: Abbr.
 - 6 Job openings
 - 7 Squeals of panic
 - 8 Resident of 66 Across
 - 9 Reject
 - 10 Some record players
 - 11 Betraying no emotion
 - 12 Impulses
 - 13 Loch of note
 - 18 Helpful pointer
 - 23 Hair goo
 - 25 Cookie since 1912
 - 27 Lion sound
 - 28 Poet Pound
 - 29 Mild-mannered
 - 30 All wound up
 - 31 Coup d'
 - 33 Grape stem
 - 35 The Ranger
 - 36 Wide-spouted pitcher
 - 39 Like your sweetheart's lips
 - 40 Auction condition
 - 43 Most like a lemon
 - 46 In an obvious way
 - 48 Dictator Amin
 - 49 Some PTA members
 - 50 Playground fixture
 - 51 Compare
 - 52 Annoying insect
 - 53 Farm unit
 - 55 Cast a ballot
 - 56 Gumbo ingredient
 - 57 Have on
 - 60 Assistance
 - 61 Bath site

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14					15				16					
17					18				19					
20					21				22	23				
				24	25				26					
27	28	29					30	31						
32							33		34		35	36		
37							38	39			40	41		
42				43			44				45	46		
							47	48			49			
							50				51			
52									53		54	55	56	57
58									59	60			61	
62									63				64	
65									66				67	

Wacky Facts

- The name Pez was created from the German word for peppermint, Pfefferminz.
 - Pez started out as an aid to smokers trying to quit. The headless dispenser was made to look like a cigarette lighter.
- World Almanac for Kids

KID NEWS

Copyright 2005 Chicago Tribune. Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune

Chatter Box

"I don't want to be as big as Madonna, as big as Britney. I love my fans, and I love my music. But I love my personal life, too."

— Kelly Clarkson, in *Teen People*.



In The News

Clarkson talks of her 'Breakaway' success

Kelly Clarkson didn't know she wanted to be a singer until junior high school. Fast-forward to 2002, the year Clarkson won the first-ever "American Idol" contest. Since then, Clarkson has released two albums, featuring hits like "Miss Independent," "Breakaway" and "Since U Been Gone."

TIME FOR KIDS

Clarkson recently performed those hits and others at a fundraiser for the first national museum for kids. Called the Kids' Extravalooza, the activity-filled event was held to raise money for the National Children's Museum, scheduled to open in Washington, D.C., in 2008. At the event, Time For Kids kid reporter Jumi Bello had the chance to ask Clarkson about her music, success and her favorite book as kid.

TFK: What have been the best and worst things about your success?

KC: The worst thing is I don't get to travel with my mom too much. Maybe I see her twice a year and that's holidays. So that's the worst thing because we're really close. We're like sisters because we grew up alone together after my parents got divorced. The best thing is that we grew up with a lot of financial problems and I don't have to worry about money and that's cool.

TFK: What's your favorite of your songs?

KC: I would say "Beautiful Disaster." It's one I didn't write. It's by Rebekah Jordan. I put it on both of my albums because (with the) first one, I didn't like the production. ... I did it my way on my second album and we broke it down. It was just a piano and my voice. I think that's pretty. ... If you're a vocalist, it's cool when you showcase your voice.

TFK: How and why did you get involved with the National Children's Museum's Extravalooza?

KC: My management knows that I like kids. My mom's a first-grade teacher. I've always been really involved with kids and stuff. ... The children today are the leaders of tomorrow so I think it's cool to help out and to educate.

TFK: What was your favorite book as a kid?

KC: "Matilda." I love it, and I love the movie as well. It was my first big, thick book ever to read. I read it in the sixth grade. ... I like "Harry Potter." I love the fantasy kind of books for kids. I think it's cool to keep the imagination going because you lose that as you get older.

— Jumi Bello, 14

© 2005 Time Inc. All Rights Reserved.
TIME FOR KIDS and Timeforkids.com are registered trademarks of Time Inc.



World-wise friendship

By JAMAAL ABDUL-ALIM
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Back home, even though they live only a short distance from one another, 11-year-old Maya Lowengart and 10-year-old Lina Alaraj are worlds apart.

Maya, above left, is an Israeli from the village of Timmorim. Her native tongue is Hebrew.

Lina, above right, is a Palestinian from Beit Jala on the West Bank. Her first language is Arabic.

Back in their homelands — where ideological and political clashes over land and power persist between Israelis and Palestinians — the girls may have never crossed paths, much less become schoolmates.

But after learning English together during daily classes at Atwater Elementary School in Shorewood, Wis., the girls became classmates and good friends.

Finding the girls seated together at the same table during lunch was a regular occurrence, according to the school principal.

And during recess, the girls say, they play follow-the-leader and tag, and sometimes make peace between friends when playground disputes arise.

Making peace on the playground is one thing. Making peace between Israelis and Palestinians is an altogether different thing.

Some say that even though it may sound idealistic, they are hopeful that the friendship the girls have developed is one that will help — even if only in a small way — in the ongoing quest for peace in the Middle East and elsewhere.

"My ultimate hope is it will help with peace in all regions of the world," says Bonni Haber, Atwater's principal. "It's making inroads toward peace step by step, person by person," she says of the girls' friendship.

Palestinian, Israeli girls find much in common

NEW IDEAS

The girls say that through their friendship, they have been able to break down barriers and erode misconceptions.

Maya says that until she met Lina, she had been under the impression that all Arabs were hostile. "I always thought they want to kill us," Maya says.

Lina had misgivings about Israelis, but she says her father told her Israeli children "are the same as you. Go and play with them."

Their education back home won't be the same, either. Maya, for instance, speaks of learning lessons of the prophet Moses and leading the Israelites to freedom. Lina, whose family is Christian, speaks of lessons that speak of a person who will come to "free the land," referring to Palestine.

The girls are in Shorewood because their fathers are visiting professors at the nearby University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Both girls say they don't really follow news of all the turmoil going on in their homelands. They do have a general awareness that there is a dispute between Palestinians and Israelis and that the dispute is over land.

As far as assigning blame, justifying actions and all that, it's not something that's part of their conversation.

They're into girl stuff right now. Lina, for instance, draws pictures of Cookie Monster and Mickey Mouse. Maya likes to have sleepovers.

They said that when they return to their homes, their friends won't believe that the two have become good friends.

"If I told them I had a friend from Israel, they won't believe me," Lina says of her fellow Palestinians.

Maya says that when she tells her fellow Israelis that she has a friend from Palestine, "maybe they will think I'm just joking."

Shale Horowitz, a professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, says he's visited Israel, and peaceful interaction between Israelis and Palestinians is not all that uncommon, particularly in less violent areas. Many Palestinians have relationships with Israelis if they work in Israel, Horowitz says.

Going to school together, though, is more rare, he says.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

For the girls to maintain a relationship after they return home, though not inconceivable, will be difficult.

They know visiting each other will be tough. But they say they still plan to write and send each other e-mail.

And their ability to communicate with one another will be possible, thanks, in part, to Ruth Hoenick, the coordinator of the English Language Learner program at Atwater. Hoenick says the girls' friendship shows how learning the same language — in this case English — is a powerful way to "connect children from different cultures."

In the room where she teaches English to students from around the world is a sign that sums up this idea.

The sign says simply: "Knowledge Changes Lives."



KHAYAT-VLASICKART

We Support
NIE

ATMOS
energy



C.R. Wing CoGeneration Plant



Big Spring Farm Supply
Myers & Smith Funeral Home
Blum's Jewelers



Law Office of Timothy Yeats
Warren Chiropractic
Gale's Sweet Shoppe

Big Spring
WAL-MART

ALWAYS THE LOW PRICE
ON THE BRANDS YOU TRUST.

Always



Mike Abusaab

Jane Armstrong