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# BIG SPRING HERALD



INSIDE

Mickelson triumphs at rain-delayed PGA final major.

Page 1B

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 223

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

## Thomas, Spence lake levels on the rise

According to the USDA-ARS laboratory, Big Spring received 1.22 inches of rain from 8 a.m. Monday to 8 a.m. today. The amount set a record for Aug. 15. The previous record was 1.04 inches in 1920. Total for the year is 12.51. Normal annual precipitation for the year on this date is 11.41 inches.

### Herald Staff Report

Welcome inflows are pouring into Lake J.B. Thomas and the E.V. Spence Reservoir as a result of precipitation over the

weekend and Monday, the Colorado River Municipal Water District general manager said today.

Rainfall reports ranged from 3 to 5 inches over areas around

Lake J.B. Thomas and the E.V. Spence Reservoir, with less near the O.H. Ivie Reservoir.

CRMWD General Manager John Grant said this morning that Lake J.B. Thomas has caught some 16,900 acre feet of water, raising the lake level about 4.7 feet. The Colorado River above Lake Thomas was still flowing about 1,600 cubic feet per second (cfs) this morning.

Additional precipitation is forecast for today, but even without it, inflows have pushed

the lake to 32.6 percent capacity. Last November, abnormal rains brought the lake to 31.11 percent of capacity, which was its highest recorded level since February 1993.

The Spence Reservoir near Robert Lee is also benefiting from the rains.

"Spence has also come up about 4.7 feet. They've captured 20,500 acre feet of water down there," said Grant.

The Colorado River crossing at Silver on the upper end of the Spence Reservoir topped

"We think we're going to see another significant improvement in water quality at Spence."

John Grant, CRMWD general manager



flood stage Sunday evening and was still flowing at more than

See RAIN, Page 3A

## Hearing set for county tax rate

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Howard County residents won't see an increase in their property taxes this year if the proposed tax rate is approved, as county commissioners voted unanimously Monday to pursue this year's rollback rate.

Commissioners voted to begin public hearings on the proposed tax rate, which is .54546 cents per \$100 valuation. And while the proposed rate, which is right at the rollback limit, is lower than last year's .55337 cents per \$100 valuation, it's expected to bring in \$465,933 more, thanks to elevated mineral values.

"I think it's going to be a good year and I think this is our chance to profit on the oil capital along with everyone else," said commissioner Gary Simer. "It will save the homeowners some money at the same time, so I think it will work out great."

Commissioner Bill Crooker said he hopes the increase in mineral values will mark the onset of rebuilding the county's fund balances without having to pass the cost on to homeowners in particular.

"This year is the first step," said Crooker. "With our increase in values — particularly with oil values — we can take advantage of this

See COUNTY, Page 5A



State Sen. Kel Seliger, left, talks with Texas Education Agency Commissioner Shirley Neely Monday morning at the Big Spring High School auditorium. Also shown is local Seliger aide Stefanie Wilkerson.

## Be the best, TEA leader tells teachers

BSISD gets school year off to start by hosting state leaders

Schools should have more local control, leaders say. See article, Page 3A.

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Dr. Shirley Neely didn't bring her Harley, but she did bring a cheerleader's enthusiasm to the start of Big Spring Independent School District in-service training Monday.

Texas Education Agency Commissioner Neely, State Senator Kel Seliger and Bob Craig, this area's representative on the State Board of Education, addressed BSISD personnel during the start of staff development training at the high school auditorium.

Rainy weather forced Neely to forego her trademark entrance to events such as this — riding onstage on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

But her other main characteristic — a mile-a-minute personality — was very much on display.

She applauded BSISD teachers for doing a good job in years past, then immediately exhorted them to do better.

"You just cannot stop until you're the best; until you're an A+," she said. "A 'B' is acceptable, but we could be an A+ if we believe in ourselves ... You've got everything going your way. You just have to keep it going. Don't let anything stop you."

Neely said too much attention is being paid to education reform efforts in Austin. Instead, teachers need to keep their focus on the classroom.

"We've got to keep the main thing the main thing," she said. "We've got to let our representatives handle the legisla-

See BSISD, Page 3A

## FISD works on budget, notes enrollment increase

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Forsan school trustees have given tentative approval to a budget and tax rate very similar to the previous year's package.

During their regular meeting Monday, trustees tentatively OK'd a tax rate of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation — the same as last year — and a total budget package of about \$5.6 mil-



Johnson

lion for the 2005-06 school year.

Superintendent Randy Johnson said the district will raise about \$28,000 for each penny of its tax rate.

Increased property and mineral valuations within the district mean that the new budget is about \$600,000 larger than the

previous year, mainly because of salary considerations, Johnson said.

The addition of a pre-kindergarten program at Elbow Elementary and baseball and softball programs at the high school, along with additional personnel and across-the-board teacher raises account for most of the budget increases, he said.

Also included in this year's budget is money for vehicles and mainte-

nance equipment, reversing last year's decreases.

A public hearing on the new budget and tax rate will be held at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 29 in the administration building board room. Trustees are expected to formally approve the budget later that evening.

Also Monday, Johnson informed trustees that an opening day enrollment figures showed a notable increase in student population within the district,

"We were down about 20 to 25 students last year," Johnson said. "We were curious to see whether that was a fluke, or part of a pattern."

First day totals from this year, however, show that Forsan had 695 students enrolled, an increase of 36 students from this time last year,

See FISD, Page 5A

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TONIGHT 66°-69°  
TOMORROW 92°-94°  
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## What do you like best about the Howard County Fair?

Editor's note. This is the first in a series of weekly articles in which the Herald asks citizens how they feel about a particular topic.

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Features Editor

Local folks have as many reasons to attend the Howard County Fair, which is set for Aug. 24-27, as there are stars in the West Texas sky.

"We always go to the Howard County Fair to see



Dickens

Jody Nix," said Elmer Dickens, who said he and his wife, Loubel, have attended the fair every year since it reorganized in 1972.

Loubel Dickens said she and her husband will attend the fair two nights this year, to see Nix Wednesday and also to hear the Quebe Sisters perform Friday.

"We really enjoy going to the fair and seeing Jody. We enjoy his music and these sisters sound like that will be a good night of entertainment too," he said.

Jeremy Armstrong, 18, said he enjoyed going to the fair in the past and was especially fond of the petting zoo when he was a child. He

See FAIR, Page 5A

## Queen entries due

Wednesday is the last day to register for the Howard County Fair queen's contest.

The entry fee is \$35 and sponsors may be obtained to help defray cost.

The contest will be held Saturday at the Municipal Auditorium.

For more information, call Nancy Howard at 263-4499 or Janice Barnes at 263-4484.

## Obituaries

## Juanita Herrera



Juanita Herrera, 78, of Big Spring died Saturday morning, Aug. 13, 2005, at her home following a long illness. Vigil services were at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 4 p.m. today, Aug. 16, 2005, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born May 16, 1927, in Bastrop to Fidel and Vicenta Martinez. She married Marcelino Herrera Dec. 13, 1943, in Lockhart. He preceded her in death in 1999.

Juanita had been a resident of Howard County for 56 years, coming from Lockhart. She was a homemaker and a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

She is survived by six sons, Marcelino Herrera Jr. and his wife, Hilda, Sisto Herrera and his wife, Isabel, Jesse Herrera and his wife, Olga and Ray Herrera and his wife, Teresa, all of Big Spring, Ernest Herrera and his wife, Lisa of Hamlin and Juan Herrera and his wife, Olga of Coahoma; four daughters, Frances Rodriguez and her husband, Luis of Stanton, Consuelo Rodriguez, Acension Flores and her husband, Carlos and Evangelina Herrera, all of Big Spring; three brothers, Antonio Martinez of Stanton, Victor Martinez of Big Spring and Lupe Martinez of Coahoma; one sister, Chona Ruiz of Dallas; 32 grandchildren; 53 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Juan and Pete Martinez and two sisters, Lola Alvarez and Dominga Hernandez.

Pallbearers will be Scott Herrera, Sisto Herrera Jr., Ernest Herrera Jr., Juan Roberto Herrera, Adam Herrera, Luis Rodriguez Jr., John Rodriguez and Carlos Flores Jr.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid obituary*

## Ruby E. Parsons



Services for Ruby E. Parsons, 78, of Big Spring, are scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, 2005, at Grace Lutheran Church with the Rev. Alan Korinek officiating. Burial will be in the Sparenberg Grace Lutheran Cemetery. Mrs. Parsons died Aug. 14, 2005, at her residence.

She was born Sept. 11, 1926, in Hill County. She married Raymond Kaddatz in 1946 and Fred Parsons in 1980.

Beloved mother, granny, great-granny and child of God whose faith never wavered. For 78 years, she lived life to the fullest. Her smile, love and kisses will truly be missed by all.

She had been a resident of Big Spring for the past 25 years. She was a homemaker and farmed in the Sparenberg Community. She was a charter member of Grace Lutheran Church.

A special thanks to those who kept her in their thoughts and prayers. Thanks also to her caregivers, Home Hospice, friends and loved ones who gave their comfort and expressions of love.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Raymond Kaddatz in 1967 and Fred Parsons in 2000, a son, James Kaddatz, her parents, William and Emma Geltmeir, two sisters and three brothers.

She is survived by three daughters, Carol and Ron Hultquist of San Antonio, Dorinda and Billy Wilson of San Angelo and Cathy and Gregg Hogg of Big Spring; one son, Robert and Cathy Parsons of Big Spring; one sister, Francis Atwell of Stanton; nine grandchildren, Jerry, Sherri, Clayton, James, Taylor, Lindy, Miranda, Misty and Jessica; and seven great-grandchildren, Jay, Taylor, Payton, Alexis, Madison, Alexandra and Leah.

The family suggests memorials be made to Home Hospice of Big Spring.

Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home in Lamesa.

*Paid obituary*

## Audrey Vess



Audrey Vess, 82, of Big Spring died at 9:45 a.m. Monday, Aug. 15, 2005, at Mountain View Lodge after a long illness. Funeral service is 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, 2005, at College Baptist Church with the Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor, officiating. Graveside services are 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 19, 2005, at Red Oak Cemetery in Red Oak. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Feb. 5, 1923, at Ballinger to Jasper and Mary Reese. She married Sam Vess June 15, 1951, and he preceded her in death Dec. 13, 1996. She was a homemaker and worked with her husband in their cabinet shop in Waxahachie. She moved to Big Spring from Duncanville in 1996. She was a member of College Baptist Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Jacquie Ward and her husband, Lee of Fort Worth; four sons, Troy Vess and his wife, Tricia of Big Spring, John Vess and his wife, Beth of Millington, Tenn., Billy Vess and his wife, Debbie of Arlington, Tenn., and Shelby Vess and his wife, Shiela of Kaufman; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mary Field of Clovis, N.M.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by one son, David Vess May 5, 1979, five brothers and one sister.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

## William Spencer 'Bill' Rich

William Spencer "Bill" Rich, 57, of Denver City, formerly of Seminole, died Aug. 10, 2005, at his home in Denver City. Memorial services are 2 p.m. today, Aug. 16, 2005, at the Community Chapel in Seminole with the Rev. Joel Miller officiating.

He was born April 22, 1948, in Poania, Colo. He recently moved to Denver City from Seminole, and was a miner in Silverton, Colo. He served in the U.S. Army and was a decorated veteran.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Beverly Rich of Silverton, Colo.; his mother, Hazel Rich Scheer of Seminole; one brother, Frank L. Rich of Malvern, Idaho; two sisters, Jeannine L. Rich of Augusta, Ga., and Jeanette V. Lambert of Seminole; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home of Seminole.

## Floyd Sorley

Floyd Sorley, 90, of San Antonio, formerly of Stanton, died Monday, Aug. 15, 2005, in a San Antonio care facility. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

## Take note

• **WEDNESDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY FAIR QUEEN'S CONTEST.** The entry fee is \$35 and sponsors may be obtained. The contest is Saturday at the Municipal Auditorium. For more information, call Nancy Howard at 353-4448 or Janeice Barnes at 353-4434.

• **DONATIONS OF NEW STUFFED TOYS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** are being accepted through Sep. 1. Drop off the 15-to-18-inch stuffed toys at any fire station or at one of the EMS booths at the Howard County Fair. Cash donations to purchase stuffed toys are also being accepted. For more information, contact Joel Miller at 267-4082 or 213-1221.

• **HOWARD COUNTY FAIR WEB SITE** is [www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com](http://www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com)

## Weather

Tonight—Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Wednesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 90s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night—Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

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

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

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

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

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

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

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

## Around Town

• **RAILROAD MUSEUM** at the corner of Second Street and Main Street is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday. Free admission. Call 432-559-3409 for more information.

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

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10

a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

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## Police blotter

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

• **STONE MERVIN CASSELMAN**, 43, of 1601 Benton, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **LINDSEY KAY LEE**, 20, of 1109 Ridgeroad, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant.

• **TRUDY EVANS**, 40, of Kansas, was arrested Monday on charges of theft, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and a Kansas state warrants.

• **MARC ANTHONY SALAZAR**, 20, of 1007 E. Sixth Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving under the influence by a minor.

• **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE** was reported in the 200 Block of Gregg Street.

• **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 200 block of Marcy.

- in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 800 block of Tulsa.

• **EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION** was reported:

- in the 100 block of 19th Street.

- in the 1700 block of 15th Street.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1700 block of Alabama.

• **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1600 block of Robin.

## Sheriff's report

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

• **SUSIE LEDESMA**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of theft and failure to identify as a fugitive from justice.

• **GEORGE VERNON GONZALES**, 51, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana.

• **RAUL MARTINEZ**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

• **JONIE LEDESMA**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify.

• **MELINDA MACHADO GAMBOA**, 29, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of theft by check.

• **ROBERT EDWARD BAKER JR.**, 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest and criminal mischief.

• **MICHAEL ALLEN SEAY**, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a county court decision/sentence.

• **SIDNEY DEWAYNE PARKER**, 36, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of contempt of court, disobedience of a court order and forgery of a government instrument.

• **DAVID WAYNE O'BRIEN**, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.

• **THEFT** was reported on the 5800 block of Walter Road.

## Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of Nolan. Service was refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of E. Cherokee. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 600 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Aylesford. Service was refused.

• **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 3600 block of E. 11th Place. It was a false call.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-24-26-29-37.

Number matching five of five: none.

Matching four of five: 78. Prize: \$625.

Matching three of five: 3,183. Prize: \$11.

Matching two of five: 33,756. Prize: \$2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

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Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

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"Remember...you deserve the best!"

# Local control of school districts vital to state senator, SBOE representative

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Big Spring's state senator and representative on the State Board of Education both believe local school districts should be given more leeway in deciding what's best for their students.

State Sen. Kel Seliger and SBOE member Bob Craig both reiterated their beliefs while addressing Big Spring Independent School District personnel at the start of staff development training Monday at the high school.

Several school reform issues have been addressed at this year's sessions of the Texas Legislature, but both men oppose several issues they say impinge on local control.

For starters, both strongly oppose a measure that would mandate a uniform start date to the school year across Texas.

"I strongly feel that's a local decision," said Craig. "Some school dis-

tricts start the year at the first of August, and that's fine. Some districts start closer to September, and that's fine for them, too. It should be a local decision."

Craig also opposes a measure that would move all school board elections to November, saying that local districts "should set their elections when they want to."

He said the issue of educating children in Texas has become too highly politicized.

"I don't think educating children is a Republican or Democratic issue," he said. "I have yet to see a child walk into a classroom with a large 'R' or 'D' painted on their forehead."

"We get enough (state) mandates," Craig said. "You know what would be nice? To just let our teachers teach."

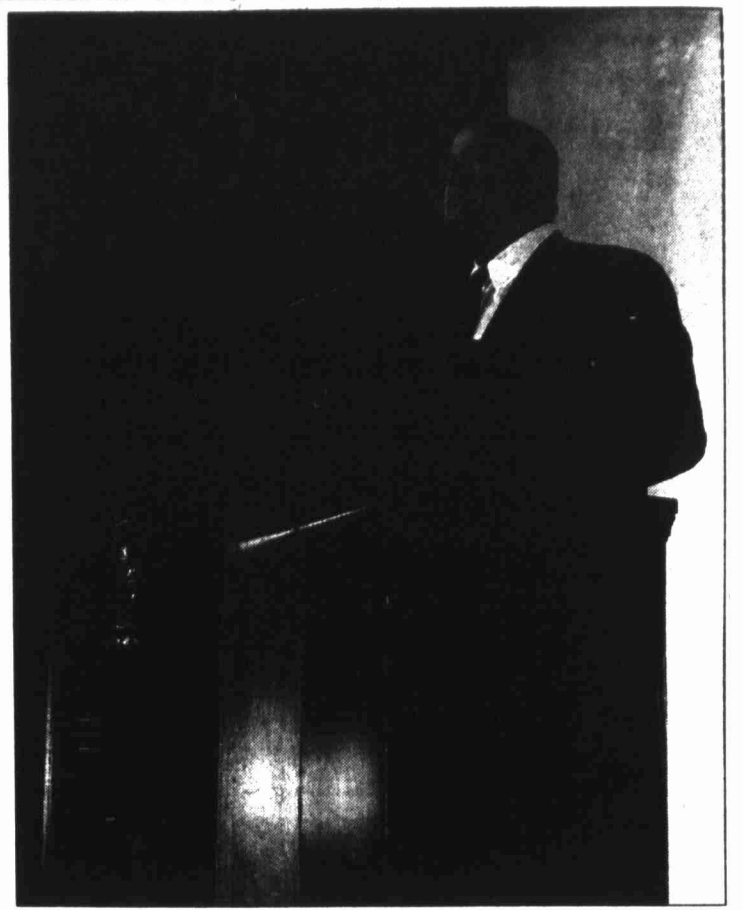
Seliger, who was in Big Spring before hosting a town hall meeting in Stanton Monday evening, supported many of Craig's comments.

"Issues like deciding the start date of the school year are very much a local decision," he said. "I don't think it should be up to people like me to decide when school starts. That's a local decision."

The state is under state court mandate to change its method of financing public schools. And while the Legislature has failed in several attempts to address the issue, Seliger believes its important that state representatives craft a solution, not the courts.

"It's important that the courts don't legislate," Seliger said. "At the same time, this can be something of a milestone issue, and perhaps the courts can provide some useful guidelines. But even that doesn't change the fundamental issues before us."

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



Herald photo/Steve Reagan  
State Sen. Kel Seliger addresses Big Spring school district employees Monday at the high school auditorium.

## BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

issues. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, we're teaching students."

Seliger admitted to playing 'hookey' Monday, skipping out from the ongoing special session of the state Legislature to address the BSISD staff.

"The Senate is in special session, and I'm here. What does that tell you?" he asked the audience.

Seliger used the balance of his address to reiterate his stand on several educational issues:

• Teacher salaries — "I believe we should pay teachers in Texas at the national average ... I will not vote for a bill that does not increase salaries

for teachers."

• Local control of school districts — "Teachers are here to teach, and we would all be a lot better off if we would just allow teachers to do just that ... I don't think it should be left up to people like me to decide when the school year starts. That's a local decision."

• The role of education in society — "I make no

pretense to being an educator, but my approach to educational issues comes from the education community. Public education is the most important issue we face today."

Craig, a Lubbock native, also lauded local educators for doing a fine job.

"You all work very hard," he said. "Sometimes, you don't get the credit you deserve.

Sometimes, you don't get the pay you deserve. But if you look at your impact on students, you make a difference every day."

BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said having such a high-powered trio at Monday's meeting was a great kick-off to the school year.

"Just as the first day of instruction is important for students, I think the

first day of staff development is important for the staff," Downes said. "Those three speakers provided a level of experience and encouragement to all of us."

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

## RAIN

Continued from Page 1A

2,400 cfs this morning. Water was also coursing into the reservoir from Pecan, Yellow Wolf and Rough Creeks.

"All the water that was up in Scurry County, we have not seen at that flow gauge (above Spence) yet.

We should see that later today. We think we're going to see another significant improvement in water quality at Spence," noted Grant.

Two weeks ago, levels at Spence were hovering near the point where a pump-back operation would be required to submerge intake pumps by moving water from the

deepest portion of the reservoir into a pool formed by damming up the area around the intake. District crews prepared the pumping barge and then repaired the intake pool dam twice in early August as small rain inflows kept washing out their work. Grant said that Monday, crews were happy to see that inflows

had once again washed out the pool dam, this time bringing enough water to postpone the need for a pump-back for several months.

Less rain fell near the O.H. Ivie Reservoir watershed, but some water should make its way to the reservoir over the next few days, Grant said.

"Between the rivers that flow into Ivie, we are seeing an inflow of about 2,000 cfs," he said. "We don't anticipate catching as much at Ivie because there is not a lot of rain falling in its catchment area."

By this morning, Ivie was up about four-tenths of a foot. However, good inflows in November and February had already helped it to recover to more than 55 percent of capacity.

The recent rains continue the debate — is West Texas still in a drought?

At the end of July — before these August rains — district reservoirs had received a total of about 64 percent of the historical average, an amount which exceeded the entire year's totals for seven of the last 12 years. In four of the past eight years,

CRMWD reservoirs received far less than half of the historical average and inflows of 220,043 acre-feet during 2004 marked only the second time since 1992 that the District saw above average inflows.

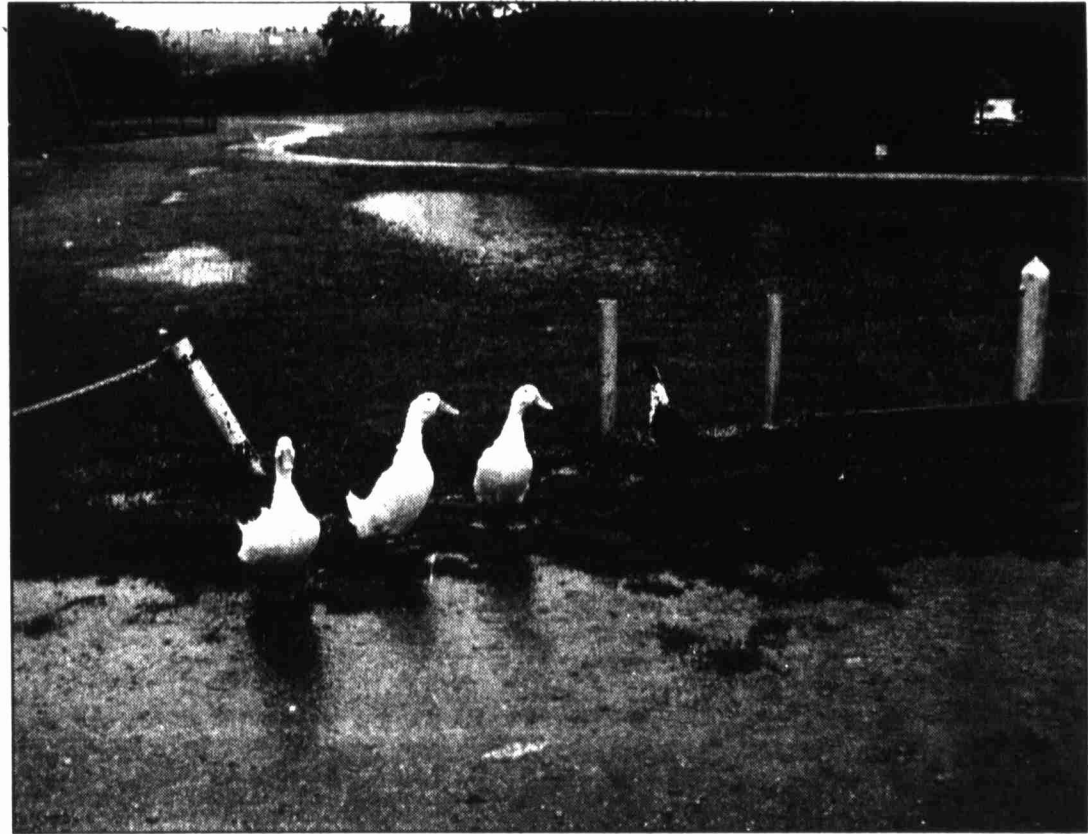
All these factors produced a paradoxical conclusion, said Grant. Agriculture interests and meteorologists may consider the drought broken, but from the standpoint of surface and groundwater supplies, hydrologists say the jury is still out.

"Vital water supply reservoirs and the underground water table have not recovered from the effects of generally subnormal rainfall since 1992 so hydrologists still consider the region to be under the most severe drought in recorded history for both duration and severity," said Grant.

"With soils soaked and the watershed's creeks and draws flowing well, any additional rains bode well for the prospect of closing out this drought of record," he added.

Flash flood warnings from the National Weather Service remained in effect

throughout today for Borden, Scurry, Howard, Mitchell, Midland, Martin, Sterling and Coke counties.



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

These ducks at Comanche Trail Park were some of the few creatures not indisposed by Monday's rainfall, coming out in force to forage for food scraps. About 1.22 inches of rain fell on the area Monday, bringing yearly totals to 11.41 inches.

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24th & Johnson 267-8288  
Juanita Herrera, 78, died Saturday. Vigil Services will be at 7:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Service will be at 4:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.  
Audrey Vess, 82, died Monday. Funeral Service will be at 11:00 AM Thursday at College Baptist Church. Graveside Services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Red Oak Cemetery, Red Oak, Texas. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:30 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Image of a stack of books including 'INVESTMENTS', 'CALCULUS', and 'PHYSICS'.

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## 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

## Time for Steers fans to pick up season tickets

It's almost football season. Professional players are in training camps around the country, and here in West Texas, high school teams are well into their two-a-day practices.

That means it's time for Big Spring Steers fans to purchase season ticket packages.

Big Spring is the only area school district that offers season tickets. Coahoma, Forsan, Garden City, Grady, Sands and Stanton offer only single game tickets.

Season ticket holders from 2004 had the first opportunity to purchase tickets for the Steers' five home games in 2005. But sales are now open to the general public.

Big Spring Independent School District athletic department secretary Kay Cook said those wanting tickets must get them no later than Friday.

The five-game packages, priced at \$20 each, include tickets for the Steers' season opener on Aug. 26 when they host Odessa High, as well as a Sept. 9 game with Hereford, the Sept. 16 homecoming game with Lubbock High, the Oct. 14 game against Andrews and the Oct. 28 game against Frenship.

Tickets can be purchased at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call Cook at 264-3662.

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## A lesson in Cuban vs. American justice

With insurmountable evidence presented in a Miami federal courtroom in 2001, five men were tried and convicted of spying for Cuba.

And yet, in the interest of the kind of justice that is denied to the people in Cuba, in U.S. courts, the five Cuban spies are headed for a new trial.

The five belonged to a Cuban spy network dismantled by the FBI in 1998. Their mission was to infiltrate Cuban exile groups and U.S. military facilities and to send their secrets back to Havana. Five other members of the "Wasp Network" pleaded guilty. Some even agreed to help prosecute their former comrades.

In the six-month trial, U.S. authorities produced coded computer disks containing some 2,000 messages between the five men and their handlers in Havana. There were also shortwave radio messages in which some of the spies were warned to stay away from U.S. civilian planes the Cuban government was apparently getting ready to blow out of the sky. Two small planes used by the Brothers to the Rescue organization to assist Cuban rafters stranded at sea were shot down by Cuban fighters in 1996. Four South Florida men were killed.

The five "Wasps" were convicted of 23 spying-related charges — ranging from conspiracy to commit murder to infiltrating, as an employee, the Boca Chica Naval Air Station near Key West. Three received life sentences and the other two got 15 and 19 years in the federal prisons. The evidence against them is such that you could try them 20 times and expect that each time they would be found guilty.

But in a ruling that shocked the Cuban-American community in South Florida, a federal appeals court in Atlanta last week threw out the five convictions and ordered a new trial — away from

Miami.

A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that for these men, a fair trial could not be held in a city so emotionally affected by the government of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro — especially at a time when Miami's Cuban-American community was already furious over the federal government's decision to send six-year-old rafter Elian Gonzalez back to Cuba to live with his father.

Although the judge who presided over the spy trial reportedly went out of her way to make sure the case was treated fairly, and although none of the 12 jurors were Cuban-American, the appeals court found that if the environment outside the courtroom is extremely antagonistic to the accused, "it is unnecessary to prove that local prejudice actually entered the jury box."

In other words, the appeals court doesn't even dispute the jury and its decision. Its problem is only with Miami.

"The pervasive community prejudice against Fidel Castro and the Cuban government and its agents and the publicity surrounding the trial and other community events combined to create a situation where they were unable to obtain a fair and impartial trial," the appeals panel ruled.

Let's face it, this three-judge panel — out of the full 13-member appeals court — was really reaching to give these five spies a break.

It means that federal prosecutors will have to spend thousands of hours and millions of dollars to get what will undoubtedly be the same verdict. But that's what makes this the greatest country in the world, that's what makes our freedom ring.

In Cuba, the five spies would have been tried in a kangaroo court and executed by firing squad a long time ago, no apologies necessary. For 45 years, the world has turned a blind eye to Castro's atrocities.

But in the United States, taxpayers will now have to fork over muchos dolares for the new trial.

Mind you, in the 2001 trial,

defense lawyers practically conceded that the five accused spies worked for the Castro government. Their only defense was that they were not trying to gather U.S. military secrets, but defending their homeland from exile groups.

Mind you that even Cuba acknowledges that these five men were spies. In the Communist Party-controlled Cuban media, the spies are known as the "Five Heroes." And in government offices, their faces adorn the walls. This week, news of the overturned convictions was greeted with government-sponsored celebrations.

Mind you that this is happening, with the utmost hypocrisy, in a country where dissidents are routinely jailed simply for speaking out against the government in public, where defense lawyers are intimidated by the regime, where the justice system is a complete farce.

In Miami's Little Havana, the vast difference in the way justice is administered in Cuba and the United States makes the Atlanta appeals court ruling even harder to accept. It made many Cuban-Americans boil with anger.

And in anticipation of those sentiments, the appeals panel noted that the judges are aware that "the reversal of these convictions will be unpopular and even offensive to many citizens. However, the court is equally mindful that those same citizens cherish and support the freedoms they enjoy in this country that are unavailable to residents of Cuba."

Well said!

Cuban journalists were not able to report that part of the ruling to the Cuban people, who only get to read what the government wants them to read. But as a Cuban-American journalist, the ruling gives me an opportunity to remind my fellow Americans to be grateful for the vast difference between Cuban and American justice.

To find out more about Miguel Perez, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## Piece by piece, justice system breaking down

Editor's note: Molly Ivins is on vacation. The following column was first published in January 2000.

Have you noticed that the system of justice in this country is shutting down, piece by piece by piece? We have long noted the deleterious effects of "tort reform" here in Texas, where insurance companies are ever bolder, and injured workers and consumers have fewer and fewer rights. But there is a shutdown in criminal justice, as well.

A "Frontline" documentary on PBS, "The Case for Innocence," gives the most chilling case histories in a stupid and tragic trend in criminal justice.

DNA identification, which has become more sophisticated by the year, is the greatest advance in criminal detection since the fingerprint. It has enabled the system to put away criminals who otherwise would have gotten off scot-free and to find perps years after the crime when their DNA shows up after an unrelated arrest. Short of a truth serum, this is the best thing that could happen for the criminal justice system.

The problem is, DNA evidence sometimes shows that the system messed up and nailed the wrong person for a crime. In fact, it happens depressingly often.

The notorious inability of prosecutors to admit that they are ever wrong is a fact of life. What is far more horrifying is the refusal of judges and courts to look at evidence that proves innocence. Can you imagine how that must feel — to be in prison for a crime you didn't commit and to finally be able to prove it, only to have a court refuse to consider the evidence?

Most of this is a consequence of a noxious law that Congress rushed through after the Oklahoma City bombing.

Called the Anti-Terrorism and

Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, the law was aimed at the ability of federal judges to second-guess state courts and at the ability of prisoners to file endless habeas corpus claims challenging the constitutionality of their convictions. ("Habeas corpus" is a Latin phrase meaning "you have the body" and goes back hundreds of years in common law as well as being in the Constitution. It means that if you can show you were unfairly tried, you have a remedy through the courts.)

True, the right has been abused for nitpicking purposes by some lawyers, but to effectively abolish the right is a dreadful abrogation of freedom. Where in the world are the militia folks now that we need them? Where are all those right-wingers who claim freedom as their most cherished possession?

The trouble with the '96 law is that it was poorly written and has been subject to conflicting interpretations by the lower courts. The law says that a federal judge can reverse a state court conviction only if it was contrary to federal law or if it applied federal law in an "unreasonable" way.

The Fourth Circuit, one of the most conservative courts in the country, has ruled that this means state courts have applied the law in ways that "all reasonable jurists would agree is unreasonable." As Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg pointed out, reasonable jurists always disagree on constitutional issues.

The film "The Hurricane," with Denzel Washington, is about a case in point. Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, a contender for the middleweight boxing title, was wrongfully convicted of a 1966 triple murder. He spent 19 years in prison before he was finally released.

The movie depicts the conviction as a frame-up by one racist cop, but as Selwyn Rabb, who originally covered the story for The New York Times, wrote: "The actual story is more harrowing because it exposes an underlying frailty in a criminal justice system that convicted Mr. Carter not once, but twice. The convictions were obtained not by a lone, malevolent

investigator but by a network of detectives, prosecutors and judges who countenanced the suppression and tainting of evidence and the injection of racial bias into the courtroom."

Under current interpretations of the 1996 law, Hurricane Carter would not be free today.

The most thoughtful comment in the PBS documentary came from a law professor concerned about the criminal justice system's refusal to consider its own errors. He pointed out that in most other systems, when something goes horribly wrong — a plane falls from the sky, a type of car begins bursting into flames, a hospital patient dies from gross malpractice — there is a system in place to deal with the error. There are investigations, reports and ultimately corrections made to prevent recurrence.

In the criminal justice system, there are only denials and strenuous efforts to prevent the exculpatory evidence from being presented in court. The ease with which our criminal justice system can nail the wrong person has been painfully demonstrated time and again.

(Henry Lee Lucas, the serial liar, provided one of the most bizarre examples. He claimed to have committed more than 600 murders. Police in 26 states closed the books on 229 murders, and he was convicted of 11 of them before it occurred to anyone to wonder if he was telling the truth. Physical evidence against him was found in two cases. The state of Texas managed to convict him for a murder committed while he was quite demonstrably in another state and had to let him off Death Row.)

Perhaps the saddest and most terrifying finding in "The Case for Innocence" is that in the 60-some-odd cases in which innocence has been proved by DNA and the accused finally freed, none of the cases has been reopened.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, may we take a look at our road map of ambitions and make sure it includes You.

Amen

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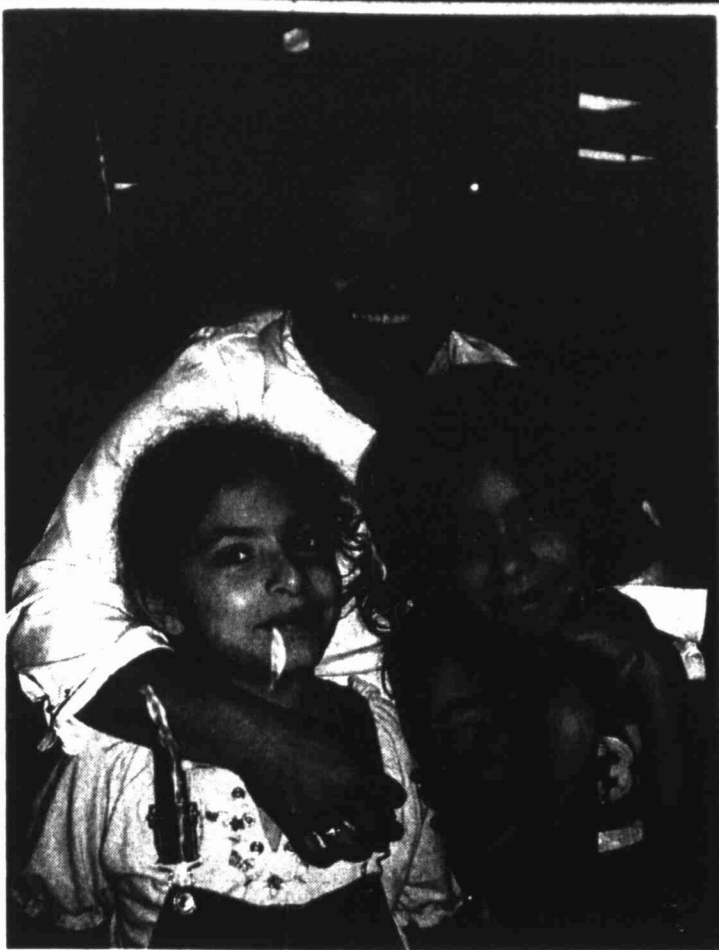
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YNDICATE,



Karla Lugo and her children make the Howard County Fair a family activity.

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

remembers entering a drawing one year when he was in elementary school.

"I also like seeing the arts and crafts and all the food booths — there are several things I like. I am tempted to go again this year," he said.

Kaleb Headrick, 17, a senior at Big Spring High School, said the carnival and the food booths are his favorite part of the fair. But he summed up his favorite part of the fair in two words — "funnel cakes. I like funnel cakes."

And Steve Nall, 34, an employee at the Big Spring Mall, agreed with Headrick about his choice



Nall

of favorite fair food.

"I like gathering several children together and taking them to the fair. I like seeing the fun the kids have and watching them enjoy themselves," Nall said.

Karla Lugo and her daughters enjoy the fair and plan to attend this year, she said.

"We really like to watch the kids and we enjoy gathering the family together and making a night of it, spending time as a family. There is always great stuff for the kids to do and we like to visit the food booths at the fair," Lugo said.

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

College public hearing draws no comment

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

The streak of public apathy toward school district budget hearings remains intact.

Howard College was the latest education entity to hold a public hearing on its proposed 2005-06 budget and tax rate Monday afternoon. As has been the case with other school districts in the area, the public failed to show.

With the lack of public input, college trustees are poised to put their formal stamp of approval on the budget Aug. 29.

The hearing on the tax rate — the first of two required by law — was required because, although the district is lowering its rate by about .002 per \$100 valuation, increased valuations mean the district should bring in more revenue this year.

Highlights of the proposed budget include an across-the-board \$750 annual raise for full-time college employees.

Also, plans call for a substantial hike in tuition fees. Students living in the district will pay \$8 more per semester hour, while out-of-district and out-of-state students will pay \$10 and \$12 more per semester

hour, respectively, Hoard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said.

Several infrastructure needs will be addressed, including renovations at the baseball field, student union building and coliseum. Also, equipment for the distance learning program will be purchased.

Other renovations, including an upgrade to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at the Horace Garrett Building, will be put off for now, Sparks said.

Also Monday, trustees approved changes to the college catalog and handbook.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

and not materially increase the rates on homes, but we can pick up additional money by adopting this new rate, which to me is encouraging. I hate to say this, but if oil values keep increasing that simply means at this time next year we'll be in the same position we are now.

"We're budgeting much closer to the line, so to speak, and I'm a little bit concerned," he added. "We're only projected to have a month and a half of money available at the

end of the year and we normally like to keep three months available. We're cutting it pretty close, I think."

Although the proposed tax rate will bring in nearly a half million dollars more than last year's rate, the county is still projected to finish the year more than \$1 million down in its fund balances.

Simer said the deficit is a result of increases in costs, which include equipment and day to day operating costs.

"It raises concerns. We bought a lot of equipment last year, and with the jail

issue we've spent \$200,000 on that," said Simer. "We've also got the situation with the Senior Citizen Center, which is costing a lot more to run now. Different things like that are what's causing that."

Commissioners recently agreed on several cuts to the budget, including \$150,000 from the road

and bridge administration for new vehicles and four new cars for the sheriff's office, instead of the six that had been requested.

Commissioners scheduled a public hearing on the tax rate for Aug. 29 at 10 a.m. in the commissioner's court room, located on the second floor of the county courthouse.

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JPMorgan, TD settle  
Enron 'Megaclaims' suit

NEW YORK (AP) — Two banks agreed on Tuesday to pay at least \$420 million to settle their parts of the "Megaclaims" lawsuit filed by Enron against 10 banks, alleging they "aided and abetted fraud" and could have prevented the energy trader's collapse.

JPMorgan Chase & Co. agreed to pay \$350 million in cash to Enron Corp. and Toronto Dominion Bank agreed to pay \$70 million. The companies also will forgo certain claims in Enron's bankruptcy proceedings while agreeing to pay more

money to Enron for the ability to pursue others.

Enron said the bankruptcy claims that are part of the JPMorgan settlement have a value of \$660 million, and that the settlement with JPMorgan could reach up to \$1 billion.

Toronto Dominion agreed to forgo claims value at almost \$56 million, while paying \$60 million to allow claims valued at \$320 million that the company transferred to third parties.

New York-based JPMorgan said it does not expect its settlement,

which is subject to the approval of the bankruptcy court, to have a "material adverse impact" on earnings.

"With today's agreement, we have put behind us another significant piece of our Enron exposure," said William B. Harrison Jr., JPMorgan's chairman and CEO, in a prepared statement.

JPMorgan agreed in June to pay \$2.2 billion to Enron shareholders to settle its part of a class-action lawsuit, after initially turning down a chance to settle for significantly less.

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As part of this product study, five leading manufacturers of hearing aids are looking for 50 people who will qualify as product testers to try this new innovative hearing solution," said Richard Davila of Livingston Hearing Centers. "We are proud to participate in this study and will pay each qualified participant \$50 to complete the study." And interestingly enough, the popularity of this new product has spread quickly — not by what they look like, because they are practically impossible to see when being worn—but by good reviews, word of mouth and a remarkable hi-fi sound. This On-The-Ear product markets itself with very little effort because it solves a really big problem in an innovatively cool way: namely, it corrects high-frequency hearing loss without plugging-up the ear canal. It lets natural sounds just pass through the ear canal unamplified and gives a hi-fidelity boost only to soft speech sounds. The silicon brain of the product is about the size of a paper clip and is worn in the crease just behind-the-ear. Digitally processed sound is transmitted into the ear canal through a transparent tube, which is virtually unnoticeable. Call Livingston Hearing Centers to see if you qualify to participate in this study.  
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\*Qualified testers will be paid for their participation.

## Five Texans make Time's list of most influential Hispanics

HOUSTON (AP) — Time magazine has named five Texans to its list of the nation's 25 most influential Hispanics.

They include Mari Carmen Ramirez of Houston, Lionel Sosa of San Antonio and Robert Rodriguez of Austin.

Time also named U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who was born in San Antonio; and San Antonio Roman Catholic Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, who was born in Monterrey, Mexico.

Ramirez was hired in 2001 as the first director of the International Center for the Arts of the Americas, based at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. Time describes Ramirez as an "evangelist for modern art."

The center "is dedicated not only to collecting and showing work by the Latin American avant-garde, but also to supporting research and education to make plain that there is more to that art than, say, the folkloric surrealism of Frida Kahlo or the toiling peasants of

Diego Rivera," according to Time.

Ramirez told Time, "My role models were never academics. I come from a tradition where intellectuals and artists are part of the public sphere, where they participate in forging public life on a daily basis."

Sosa's agency, Sosa & Associates, is cited as the largest Hispanic advertising agency in the United States.

Time says, "With Sosa's help, George W. Bush snared an estimated 40 percent of Latino voters in 2004, a huge jump from Bob Dole's 21 percent in 1996."

Born in San Antonio, Rodriguez operates Troublemaker Studios. His films include "Desperado," "Sin City" and "Spy Kids."

Time says, "Rodriguez has become Hollywood's most influential Hispanic by putting Latinos in top roles and broadening the definition of what a Latino role is."

The magazine goes on sale Monday.

## Oh baby: Infants among those caught up in 'no-fly' confusion

By LESLIE MILLER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

Infants have been stopped from boarding planes at airports throughout the U.S. because their names are the same as or similar to those of possible terrorists on the government's "no-fly list."

It sounds like a joke, but it's not funny to parents who miss flights while scrambling to have babies' passports and other documents faxed.

Ingrid Sanden's 1-year-old daughter was stopped in Phoenix before boarding a flight home to Washington at Thanksgiving.

"I completely understand the war on terrorism, and I completely understand people wanting to be safe when they fly," Sanden said. "But focusing the target a little bit is probably a better use of resources."

The government's lists of people who are either barred from flying or require extra scrutiny before being allowed to board airplanes grew markedly since the Sept. 11 attacks. Critics including the American Civil Liberties Union say the government doesn't provide enough information about the people on the lists, so innocent passengers can be caught up in the security sweep if they happen to have the same name as someone on the lists.

That can happen even if the person happens to be an infant like Sanden's daughter. (Children under 2 don't need tickets but Sanden purchased one for her daughter to ensure she had a seat.)

"It was bizarre," Sanden said. "I was hugely pregnant, and I was like, 'We look really threatening.'" Sarah Zapolsky and her husband had a similar experience last month while departing from Dulles International Airport outside Washington. An airline ticket agent told them their 11-month-old son was on the government list.

They were able to board their flight after ticket agents took a half-hour to fax her son's passport and fill out paperwork.

"I understand that security is important," Zapolsky said. "But if they're just guessing, and we have to give up our passport to prove that our 11-month-old is not a terrorist, it's a waste of their time."

Well-known people like Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., and David Nelson, who starred in the sitcom "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet," also have been stopped at airports because their names match those on the lists.

The government has sought to improve its process for checking passengers since the Sept. 11 attacks. The first attempt was scuttled because of fears the government would have access to too much personal information.

A new version, called Secure Flight, is being crafted.

For now, airlines still have the duty to check passengers' names against those supplied by the government. That job has become more difficult, according to people in the aviation industry who are familiar with the issue. They asked not to be identified by name because the exact number is restricted information.

Not all those names are accompanied by biographical information that can more closely identify the suspected terrorists.

That can create problems for people who reserve flights under such names as "T Kennedy" or "David Nelson."

ACLU lawyer Tim Sparapani said the problem of babies stopped by the no-fly list illustrates some of the reasons the lists don't work.

"There's no oversight over the names," Sparapani said. "We know names are added hastily, and when you have a name-based system you don't focus on solid intelligence leads. You focus on names that are similar to those that might be suspicious."

## Study says painkillers linked to high blood pressure within women

By JAMIE STENGLE

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS (AP)

Women taking daily amounts of non-aspirin painkillers — such as an extra-strength Tylenol — are more likely to develop high blood pressure than those who don't, a new study suggests.

While many popular over-the-counter painkillers have been linked before to high blood pressure, acetaminophen, sold as Tylenol, has generally been considered relatively free of such risk.

It is the only one that is not a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug or NSAID, a class of medications the federal government just required to carry stricter warning labels because of the risk for heart-related problems. Those include ibuprofen (sold as Advil, made by Madison, N.J.-based Wyeth, and Motrin, made by Johnson & Johnson Inc.) and naproxen (sold as Aleve, made by Bayer AG). Many had turned to those painkillers in the wake of problems with prescription drugs, such as Merck & Co.'s Vioxx.

However, the new study found that women taking

Tylenol were about twice as likely to develop blood pressure problems. Risk also rose for women taking NSAIDs other than aspirin. Tylenol is made by McNeil Consumer & Specialty Pharmaceuticals, a unit of Johnson & Johnson Inc.

"If you're taking these over-the-counter medications at high dosages on a regular basis, make sure that you report it to your doctor and you're checking your blood pressure," said Dr. Christie Ballantyne, a cardiologist at the Methodist DeBakey Heart Center in Houston who had no role in the study.

The research found that aspirin still remains the safest medicine for pain relief. It has long been known to reduce the risk of cardiovascular problems and was not included in the government's requirement for stricter labels for NSAIDs.

The study involved 5,123 women participating in the Nurses Health Study at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. None had high blood pressure when it began.

Results were published

online Monday in the American Heart Association journal Hypertension.

"It certainly sets the basis for more studies," said Dr. Stephanie Lawhorn, a cardiologist at St. Luke's Mid America Heart Institute in Kansas City. "Most of the time we think that things like acetaminophen are fairly safe drugs."

The study found that women ages 51-77 who took an average daily dose of more than 500 milligrams of acetaminophen — one extra-strength Tylenol — had about double the risk of developing high blood pressure within about three years. Women in that age range who take more than 400 mg a day of NSAIDs — equal to say two ibuprofen — had a 78 percent increased risk of developing high blood pressure over those who didn't take the drug.

Among women 34-53 who take an average of more than 500 mg of acetaminophen a day had a two-fold higher risk of developing high blood pressure. And those who took more than 400 mg of NSAIDs a day had a 60 percent risk increase over those who didn't take the

drugs.

"We are by no means suggesting that women with chronic pain conditions not receive treatment for their pain," lead author Dr. John Phillip Forman, of Harvard Medical School and associate physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, said in an e-mail. "By pointing out risks associated with these drugs, more informed choices can be made by women and their clinicians."

Previous research linking these drugs to blood pressure problems did not look at dose.

The results in this study held up even when researchers excluded women who were taking pills for headaches, something that could itself be a result of very high blood pressure, said Dr. Gary Curhan, another study author also of Harvard Medical School.

As for why aspirin didn't raise risk, it might be because "aspirin has a different effect on blood vessels than NSAIDs and acetaminophen have," said Dr. Daniel Jones, dean of the school of medicine at University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

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

<p><b>August 1 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Games - 2:00 pm</li> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm (Chair Exercise)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 2 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Coffee @ Parkplace Retirement Center - 10:00 am (Coffee With Members)</li> <li>Supper Club - KC Steakhouse - 5:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 3 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 4 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale - 10:00 am</li> </ul> <p><b>August 6 • Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Childbirth Classes - 9:00 am-4:00 pm</li> <li>Laurie Burks, RN Certified Birth Education - 2nd Floor Hospital</li> </ul> <p><b>August 8 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Sit &amp; Be Fit Today! (Chair Exercise)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 9 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 a.m. (Meet at the Mall and walk together)</li> <li>Supper Club - Casa Blanca - 5:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 10 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)</li> <li>Meet &amp; Greet - Ice Cream Social - 2:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 11 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> </ul> <p><b>August 15 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunch Bunch &amp; Birthdays - Albertos - 11:30 am</li> <li>Games - 2:00 pm</li> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm (Chair Exercise)</li> </ul>	<p><b>August 16 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Supper Club - China Dragon - 5:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 17 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 18 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> <li>Lunch N Learn - 11:30 am</li> </ul> <p><b>August 19 • Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pot Luck &amp; Bingo - 11:30 am Senior Circle Activity Room</li> </ul> <p><b>August 22 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm (Chair Exercise)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 23 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Supper Club - Spanish Inn - 5:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 24 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 25 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> </ul> <p><b>August 29 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Games - 2:00 pm</li> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm (Chair Exercise)</li> </ul> <p><b>August 30 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall &amp; walk together)</li> <li>Supper Club - Cowboy's - 5:30 pm</li> </ul> <p><b>August 31 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am (Senior Circle members eat in the hospital cafeteria for \$2.00)</li> </ul>
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**Volunteer/Senior Circle Director**  
**Anita Cline • 268-4721**

<p><b>Senior Circle Office Hours:</b> Tues.-Thurs. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Free Pregnancy Testing Every Day 9:00 am - 6:00 pm OB Department, 2nd Floor, Results In 4 Minutes <b>Donna Mills, RN.</b> Director Of Women's Services OB Dept., 268-4550</p>	<p>Road To Recovery (Transportion For Cancer Patients) <b>LaWanda Ham,</b> 263-7827</p>
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## IN BRIEF

### Signups for football to occur all summer

The Crossroads Youth Football Association signups are currently underway and will continue throughout the summer.

For more information, call Daphne Castilaw at 714-4686.

### B.S. travel football team now forming

The Big Spring Youth Football Travel League is now being formed for anyone in grades three through six who would like to play.

If interested, contact Randy Phillips at 267-7141 or Denise Carillo at 816-1685 or 263-1945.

### Meet the Bulldogs slated for tonight

Coahoma fans are invited to "Meet the Bulldogs" tonight at 7 p.m. in the Coahoma High School cafeteria.

Homemade ice cream, cookies and drinks will be served.

Everyone is invited. The event is being hosted by the Coahoma Booster Club.

### B.S. youth soccer signups announced

The Big Spring Youth Soccer Association will begin its annual sign-up session Monday.

The sign-ups will take place Monday-Saturday until Aug. 20. They will take place at All-District Printing Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and at the Big Spring Mall Saturday Aug. 13 and 20 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The league is open for children ages four through 13. The cost is \$45 for the first child and \$40 for each additional child.

For more information, contact Jamie Scott at 213-0430 or All-District Printing at 263-4647.

### YMCA to host youth volleyball league

The Big Spring YMCA is holding registration for youth volleyball through Aug. 20. The registration fee is \$40 per player and covers all expenses including a team jersey and player awards.

For more information, contact Pete Thiry at 267-8234.

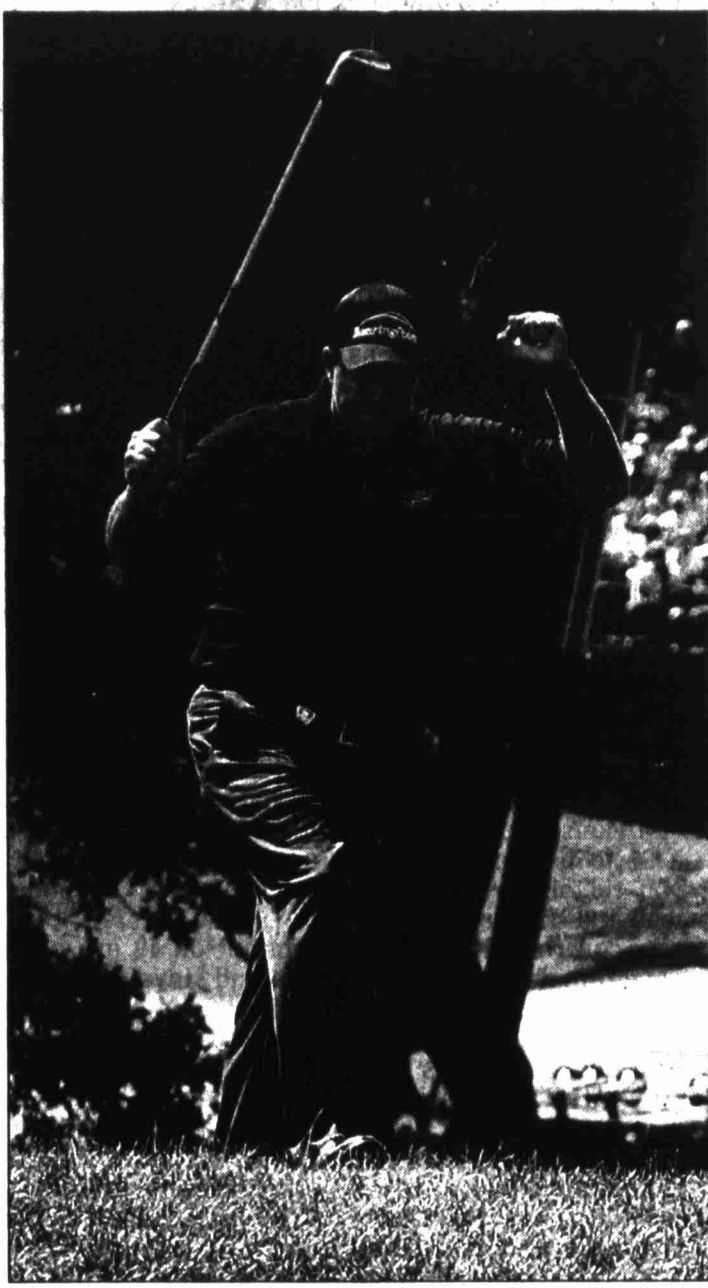
### Country club sets two person scramble

The Big Spring Country Club has announced an over 80 scramble will take place Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. both days.

The two person teams combined age must be 80 or higher. The entry fee is \$60 plus golf cart, but private carts are welcome.

The entry fee includes a BBQ Saturday and practice rounds are available Friday. The field will be flighted by first round score.

For more information, call the pro shop at 267-3354.



KRT photo/Thomas E. Franklin, The Record  
Phil Mickelson hits a chip shot next to the pin on the 18th hole during Monday's resumption of the final round of the PGA Championship at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J. Mickelson won the championship by one stroke over Thomas Bjorn and Steve Elkington.

## Mickelson struggles in final round, still wins at Baltusrol

• Amazing shot on No. 18 sends "Lefty" to second major title

By JIM O'CONNELL

AP Sports Writer  
SPRINGFIELD, N.J. (AP) — Phil Mickelson jumped for joy when he won the Masters, shedding the label that for so long seemed part of his name: Best player never to win a major.

On Monday, Mickelson merely raised his arms as his chip shot out of the rough on the final hole of the PGA Championship rolled within 3 feet for the birdie putt that gave him major No. 2.

"I think that at 35, I've got a number of years left, good years left where my game can continue to improve," Mickelson said after his one-stroke victory over Steve Elkington and Thomas Bjorn.

"I look at some great players from the past that didn't start winning big tournaments until their mid-30s, and I want to try to get better and better as my career goes on as opposed to thinking that I've hit some milestone by making it from zero to

one major or one major to two majors."

The crowd favorite throughout the week on the Lower Course at the Baltusrol Golf Club, Mickelson didn't disappoint those who returned for the hour-long Monday morning finish.

The threat of severe weather in the area forced tournament officials to suspend play late Sunday afternoon.

Mickelson was facing a 3-foot par putt when the sirens sounded. He made it when play resumed to keep his one-shot lead, but Elkington and Bjorn tied him for the lead at 3-under when Mickelson bogeyed the par-3 16th.

Both Elkington — a 10-foot putt — and Bjorn — a 20-footer — had chances to birdie the 554-yard, par-5 18th, but neither converted.

That gave Mickelson the chance to birdie the same hole Jack Nicklaus did in 1967 for the first of his two U.S. Open wins at Baltusrol. Mickelson was about 10 yards behind the plaque in the fairway that commemorates Nicklaus' 1-iron shot 38 years ago.

Mickelson tapped the

plaque with his 3-wood twice before hitting the shot from 247 yards.

"I just wanted some good karma, some positive thoughts," Mickelson said.

His second shot landed in the deep rough along the right front of the green. The man considered a short-game wizard was going to get a chance to use it for a major win.

"I saw where he hit it on the last, and if there was anybody you'd back to get up and down from there in the world, it would be Phil Mickelson," said Bjorn, who was watching on television with Elkington to see if there would be a playoff.

"I didn't think there was much hope whenever I saw where he was."

Mickelson hit it where Bjorn and everyone else thought he would.

"It was a chip shot that I had hit tens of thousands of times in my backyard," he said. "But it was one I had to strike confidently and aggressively to get the club through the rough."

See MICKELSON, Page 2B

## Dallas waives Finley, agree to sign Christie

• Mavericks "big three" down to one

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) —

Michael Finley was waived late Monday night by the Dallas Mavericks, who took advantage of a one-time amnesty provision that will allow them to avoid luxury taxes on the \$51.8 million owed their captain over the next three seasons.

Finley becomes an unrestricted free agent and is still guaranteed the money from his Mavericks contract, plus whatever he gets from a new team.

The Mavs spent all day Monday exploring trade options, and waited until just before the late-night deadline to release Finley and take advantage of the provision in the NBA's new labor agreement.

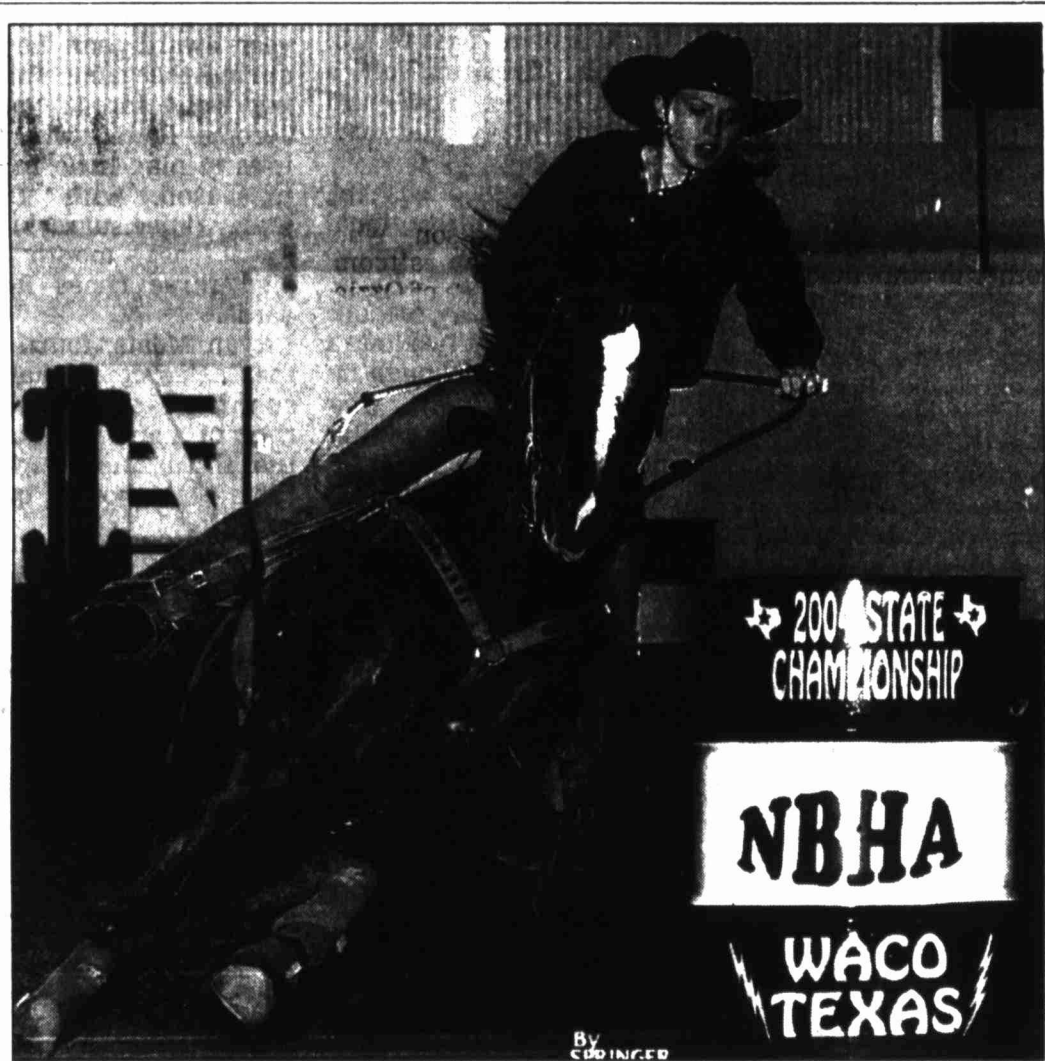
"This is the hardest part of our business," said Donnie Nelson, the

team's president of basketball operations. "Mike and I started out in Phoenix together, got reunited here and obviously he was a key part in rebuilding this franchise. ... To share memories like that, it's been a very difficult several weeks for this franchise."

The Mavs avoid a dollar-for-dollar tax on Finley's \$15.9 million salary for the 2005-06 season. The two-time All-Star is due \$17.3 million and \$18.6 million over the final two seasons of the seven-year contract owner Mark Cuban gave him in 2001.

"Just what he's meant on and off the court, he's impacted every one from fans to the front office," Nelson said. "Ultimately, it's our responsibility to do what's in the best interest of the Dallas Mavericks, but Michael has a special place in Mark's heart, my heart."

See FINLEY, Page 2B



Courtesy photo  
Big Spring's Crystal Sturm competed at the 2005 NBHA Youth World Championships held in Jackson, Miss., July 25-30. The invitation-only event is the largest youth barrel race in the world. Sturm qualified for the finals in the first go-round, but was unable to compete after her horse sustained a hip injury.



KRT PHOTOGRAPH BY BARBARA JOHNSTON/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER  
Philadelphia Eagles tight end L.J. Smith pushes the football out in front of him as he scores a touchdown in the second quarter against the Pittsburgh Steelers in a preseason game at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh, Penn., Monday. The Steelers got off to a 14-0 lead early and won the game 38-31.

## Steelers jump out early, take down Philadelphia

• McNabb impressive after INT even without Owens on the field

By ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) —

Hard to blame this on Terrell Owens.

The Philadelphia Eagles got off to a terrible start following a disruptive week of camp that led to Owens' one-week banishment for bad behavior, letting the Steelers score the first two times they touched the ball Monday night in Pittsburgh's 38-31 exhibition victory.

The Steelers scored on an interception return — of Donovan McNabb's first pass of the preseason — a punt return and a kickoff return, a trifecta

of return touchdowns no NFL team has accomplished in a game that counted. Luckily for the NFC champion Eagles this one didn't, as they fell behind 14-0, 21-7 and 28-10 before rallying to make it close in the second half with reserves on the field for both teams.

The Eagles' first-team offense outplayed Pittsburgh's, except for Willie Williams' 10-yard interception return touchdown with 12 seconds gone, but that 14-0 deficit was too much to overcome with the starters playing just more than a quarter.

Ricardo Colclough returned the Eagles' first punt 66 yards to score, an uncharacter-

See EAGLES, Page 2B

**IN BRIEF**

**B.S.S.A. will to hold 'fall ball'**  
The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be having fall ball this year. The games will be on Saturdays, beginning Sept. 10 and athletes can sign-up from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 13, 20 and 27 at the Big Spring Mall. The cost is \$35. For more information, contact Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

**Softball tournament set to benefit LULAC**

The La Raza Unida softball tournament, which will benefit the LULAC scholarship, will take place Aug. 26-27 at Cotton Mize Field inside Comanche Trail Park.

The entry fee is \$110 per team and the tournament begins the evening of Aug. 26.

For more information or to enter a team, contact Janey at 263-6351 or leave a message at 268-9155.

**Henson Memorial fund-raiser set**

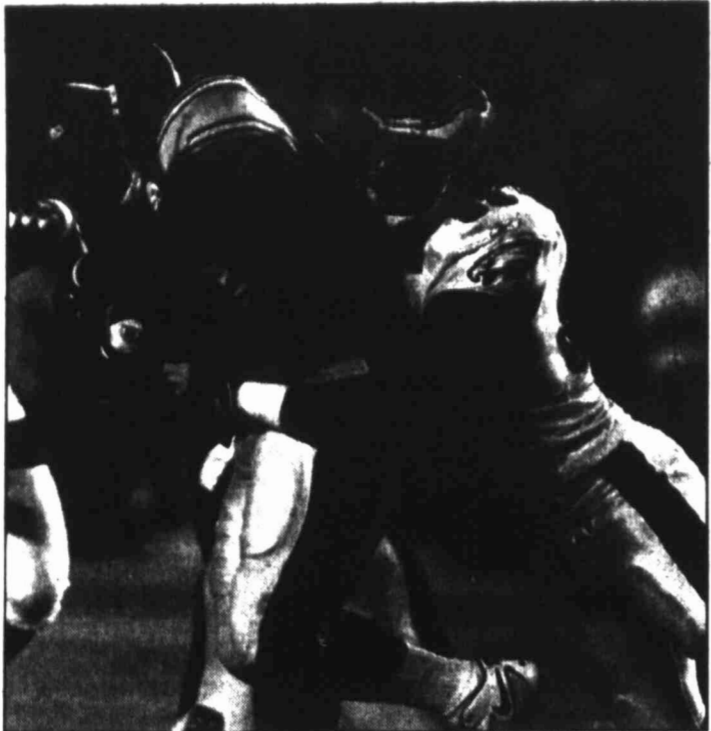
The Second Annual Pfc. Clayton W. Henson Memorial Scholarship Fund-raiser golf tournament has been set for Sept. 10.

The tournament will be a four person scramble and will cost \$80 per person.

It will take place at the Phoenix Golf Club in Stanton.

Tee times be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. while a BBQ, auction, and night golf scramble will take place later in the evening.

For more information, contact Wally Hazelwood at 756-2424 or the Phoenix Golf Club at 756-2556.



KRT photo/Barbara Johnston, Philadelphia Inquirer  
Philadelphia Eagles defensive end Jevon Kearse, right, wraps up Pittsburgh Steelers running back Jerome Bettis and brings him down for no gain during first quarter action. The Eagles faced the Steelers in a preseason game at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh, Penn., Monday.

**EAGLES**

Continued from Page 1B

istic mistake for a John Harbaugh-coached special teams unit that is usually among the NFL's best.

To prove it wasn't a fluke, Ike Taylor ran back a kickoff 100 yards early in the second quarter to make it 21-7 and give the Steelers twice as many kick return touchdowns in a 19-minute span than they had all last season.

Just before that, Eagles coach Andy Reid allowed McNabb to stay out long enough in the second quarter to throw an 8-yard scoring pass to L.J. Smith, finishing off a mistake-free, 70-yard scoring drive that covered 14 plays.

The Steelers' offense figured to get an emotional lift from wide receiver Hines Ward's decision to end his 15-day holdout and report just two hours before kickoff, though he didn't play. Ward, who reported without getting the reworked contract he is seeking, was among the first players off the

bench to celebrate Taylor's return score.

McNabb's numbers — 14-of-19 for 132 yards, a touchdown and an interception — were acceptable given he was working without either of his starting wide receivers, the absent Owens and Todd Pinkston, who is out for the season with a ruptured Achilles' tendon.

Owens is due back in camp Wednesday after being sent home by Reid last week.

With the Eagles on offense most of the first quarter, Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger spent more time on the field at halftime accepting his team rookie of the year award than he did during the game, finishing 2-of-4 for 13 yards. Jerome Bettis, who figures to play little in the preseason with Duce Staley (knee surgery) out for at least a month, carried three times for 49 yards.

Ryan Moats, fourth on the Eagles' depth chart at running back, scored on runs of 3 and 6 yards in the third quarter with Mike McMahon at quarterback.

**MICKELSON**

Continued from Page 1B

"I hit it very confidently and aggressively and the ball popped out perfectly. There's still an element of guesswork, but when it hit the green, it took a bounce and rolled up to within a 3-foot circle which I felt very confident in."

He walked out the rough with his arms raised. When he made the putt, there was no jumping as he did at Augusta a year ago. Mickelson was hugging his three children within seconds.

"I just want to savor this victory. It was hard-fought," Mickelson said. "I think it was one of the most stressful tournaments for me because I was on the lead or tied for the lead every night. There was an extra night thrown in there for good measure."

Mickelson opened with a 67 to be part of a six-way tie for the first-round lead and then appeared to take control with a 65 that gave him a four-shot lead after 36 holes.

A third-round 72 had him tied with Davis Love III entering the final round and another 72 was good enough for the championship.

"When you lead from Day One and you stand with the trophy in hand at the end, you certainly deserve to win," Bjorn said.

Bjorn, who matched the



KRT PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS E. FRANKLIN/THE RECORD  
Phil Mickelson holds the Wanamaker Trophy after winning the PGA Championship at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., Monday. Mickelson won the championship by one stroke over Thomas Bjorn and Steve Elkington.

low round in majors history Saturday with a 63, appeared set to go to 4-under before Mickelson did, but his birdie attempt on 18 grazed the cup and stayed out.

"Everyone in the world thought that was in," he said. "I felt good over it and when it was a foot from the hole, I felt even better. It wasn't to be."

It wasn't to be for Elkington, either. He won the PGA 10 years ago, his only major.

"I hit a bad drive on 18, caught the tree and came back. I got a good break there," he said. "I laid up

into a divot, but I hit a nice shot in there. It was a hard putt to read, but I liked where I hit it. I wouldn't change anything."

Neither would Mickelson.

"Before I even won at Augusta, I had never really doubted that I would do it," he said. "And even after Augusta, having not won a major or come close this year, I didn't doubt it would happen again — I just didn't know when. I'm very fortunate and very pleased and excited that it was this week."

**FINLEY**

Continued from Page 1B

and a special place in the franchise. At the end of the day, this just feels right."

Finley isn't eligible to re-sign with the Mavericks until his original contract expires after the 2007-08 season, when he will be 35.

The Mavericks apparently already found a new veteran swingman, having reportedly agreed

with Doug Christie on a one-year, \$3 million contract.

Christie was waived Thursday by the Orlando Magic under the same amnesty clause.

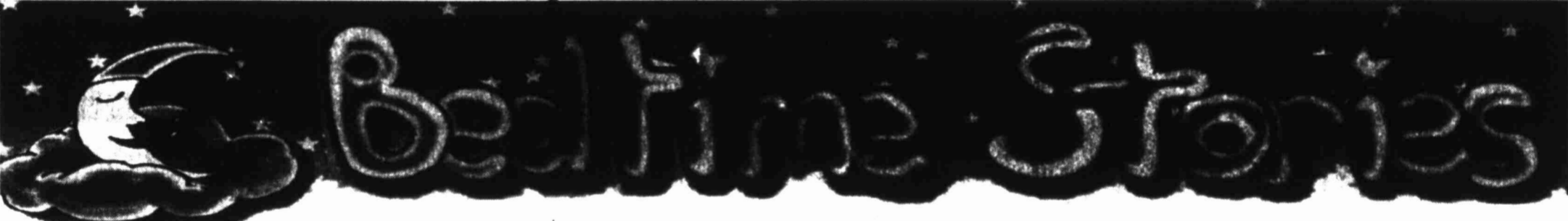
If no team claims him by Thursday, he'll be a free agent. The Mavs wouldn't sign him before then.

Finley was an All-Star before Steve Nash and Dirk Nowitzki, then the trio became known as the "Big Three" — taking the Mavericks from one of

the league's worst teams to having at least 50 wins and going to the playoffs four straight seasons. Nash left as a free agent last summer and joined the Suns.

This past season, Finley had some of the worst averages in his 10 NBA seasons, scoring 15.7 points a game — his lowest in Dallas. He shot 42.7 percent from the field and averaged a career-low 4.1 rebounds.

Christie will get \$8.2 million from Orlando.



**HASKEL THE RASCAL**

Haskel wasn't a mean little varmint. He was just very unlucky and clumsy!



He was so cute, though! After you get to know him, well, you will even like him! Do you think you will ever like a cute, unlucky, clumsy, little rascally varmint? Let me tell you what happened to him in just one day!



And this is the day that he got his name. Haskel, the Rascal! It started out being a very nice day. The sun was warm. The skies were clear. There was a very slight breeze blowing. Oh, it was a very nice day—until—, Haskel came along! Haskel was on his way

to his friend's house to play, for school was out for the summer. And Haskel couldn't wait to get to his friend's house. He was in such a hurry to get there that he didn't even see that crack in the sidewalk.

Of course, he tripped on that crack and went tum-

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263-1381

bling down the street, trying to grab onto something to stop himself. But he could grab onto nothing! He rolled into the street just as a big truck was coming along. The driver of the big truck swerved to miss Haskel, and when he did that, he ran into a power pole, breaking it, right smack dab in the

middle! With the power pole torn down, none of the people on the street had any electricity. Their televisions would not work now. Their freezers would not work. All of their ice cream melted! They had to throw away all of the food they had kept in the

refrigerator. Everyone on that street was really mad at Haskel. They could not take a bath that night because they had no hot water. They could not brush their teeth, either! And they were hungry!



After Haskel had finally stopped rolling down the street that day, he quickly got himself out

of the street because that is a very dangerous place for him, or you, or me, to be! He started walking very carefully, and slowly on towards his friend's house. He did make it safely to his friend's home and rang the doorbell. His friend said for him to come on in, and he did! But as he was walking into his friend's room, he slipped on the melted ice cream, and fell against his friend's mother's best, most beautiful, lamp. Did he break it? Of course not! But while he was catching it, he knocked over his friend's mother's best, most expensive vase! Did it break? Of course! But not before it had crashed into his friend's father's brand new big-screen television. But the television was not any good anyway, for there was no electricity to run it because of the big truck

hitting the power pole! And just who would sit in



front of a television with no ice cream to eat anyway?

Haskel decided that the best thing for him to do was just go home. He did, but on the way to the front door, he dripped melted ice cream



all over his friend's mom's new carpet! But that was ok, because with no air conditioning, and it getting hotter and hotter in the house, the ice cream was melting even faster anyhow! Haskel made it back to the street with nothing

else happening to him. He looked both ways to be sure there was no big truck coming and started walking very slowly towards home, being very careful not to trip on that crack in the sidewalk again. Will Haskel make it home safely, with nothing else happening to him? Of course not! This is a funny bedtime story so we must have at least one more thing happen to him!

Just as he was walking up the steps to his house and was about to take the



last step, he— Why don't you finish the story? I'm sleepy. Haskel the Rascal said to tell you, "Good Night!"

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**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.

**EXPERIENCED DOWN** hole pump repair person wanted for oil field pump & supply store. Full benefits, Salary D.O.E. Send resume to P.O. Box 2234, Big Spring, TX. 79721.

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**LOCAL INSURANCE** office has an opening for an entry-level staff position. If you are a pleasant and personable, career-minded, ambitious self-starter with good work habits, please fax resume to (432)267-3920 or apply in person at 408 E. FM 700. No phone calls.

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### Help Wanted

**MOUNTAIN VIEW** Lodge now hiring 10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. Charge Nurse. \* Excellent Starting Pay \* Great benefits including retirement & health insurance \* Friendly Atmosphere Please inquire at 2009 Virginia Ave.

**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.

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Help Wanted

**THE HOWARD County Sheriff's Office** has openings in the Jail Division for part time jailers. Applicants must be devoted to the job, 18 years of age or older, and be able to meet the minimum standards as set out by TCLEOSE. Extensive background checks will be conducted. Current certification and/or experience in corrections a plus. All interested applicants should pickup applications in the administrative offices of the Sheriff's Office located on the first floor of the Howard County Courthouse, 300 S. Main, Big Spring.

WAITSTAFF NEEDED

Must be able to work Split-shifts.  
Monday-Saturday  
Apply at,  
2401 South Gregg  
No Phone Calls

**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.

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**FOR SALE**, bunk bed with futon bottom & twin bed on top. \$100. Call (432)264-7508.

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2 Bdrm @ 1107 Lloyd- \$300.  
2 Bdrm @ 1410 Park- \$300.00.  
3 Bdrm @ Robin- \$375.00.  
**Moren (432)267-7380.**

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263-5000

**107 EAST 17TH.** Large 2 bedroom. Newly remodeled. \$375. month. \$200. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

**1102 LANCASTER** 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Baths. Call (432)267-7380.

**1900 MORRISON,** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, fenced yard and carport. \$550. Month, \$300. deposit. Call (432)270-3848 for more information.

Real Estate for Rent

**1611 Donley.** 1 bdrm. \$235. month, \$150. deposit. **2008 Nolan.** 1 bdrm. \$295. month, \$150. deposit. All bills paid on both. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

**1809 Johnson- 2/1 bath,** washer, dryer connections, new paint & carpet. \$525. month, \$275. deposit No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

**2210 LYNN.** 3 Bedroom 2 bath, garage, fenced yard. One year lease required. No indoor pets. \$595. month + \$400. deposit. Call (432)263-6514 Owner/Broker.

**3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath,** CH/A, garage, fenced yard. \$500. Month, \$300. deposit. 1800 Wallace. Call (432)270-3848 for more information.

**709 WEST 15th.,** 3 bdr, 1 bath, CH/A, carport, fenced yard. \$425.00 month or \$40,000.00 to buy. Call (325)853-3463 for appt.

**712 GOLIAD.** 2 or 3 Bedroom. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$500. month, \$275. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

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**FOR RENT** one bedroom, fully furnished, CH/A. Located 8 miles from downtown Big Spring. \$300. month plus electric. Call (432)399-4395, leave message, if no answer.

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2,340 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, fireplace, office, barn, 5 acres. 3001 South Moss Lake Road. **Reduced more \$125,000.00.** (432)393-5705, 816-9969

**50 ACRE** tract on I-20 in city limits. Super commercial building site. All or part. Call (432)213-2319.

**804 Settles.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. CH/A. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

**BEAUTIFUL 140 acre** tract in city limits. Flat, great commercial building site. All or part. Call (432)213-2319.

**BEAUTIFUL 3 bedroom,** 3 bath split level home on 65 acres in northern Martin County. New metal roof, new carpet & tile. 60'x120' barn. 22 miles north of Stanton on Hwy 137. Bethel Realty, (806)872-8858, Lamesa.

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**GREATER STARTER** home or investment property. Clean two bedroom, one bath. 2009 Johnson. Call (432)466-0227, leave message, all calls will be returned.

**NO DOWN Payment** on 2 thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty on everything. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

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Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The diva of the heavens, Venus, enters its lovely (designer) home in Libra today beginning a highly aesthetic era in which even the most style-challenged among us will start to care about the way we come across. Those with a keen eye will be called on to help the rest keep up appearances. This aspect lasts through Sept. 11.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You deserve to be spending your days doing what you genuinely enjoy. Draw up a list of pros and cons of your current work. Tackle each in turn, seeing whether they can be altered or minimized.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). It seems you've been dubbed the patron saint of difficult people, as many are referred your way. Face it: You're most equipped to deal with the incorrigible and misunderstood. Your talent is financially rewarded.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You deal in systems that are complex, political and delicate. What's right and wrong could be lost in a morass of artificial rules. Luckily, your moral compass will not steer you wrong, but you must remember to use it.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your social group has the makings of a soap opera: passionate couples, the occasional scandal, the oblivious but happy ... Take interest in the sparks these people create, but don't let the drama spill into your own personal life.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). A clear vision of your professional goals keeps you motivated and on the right track. Or so you think. Make sure you haven't derailed at some point out of complacency. With priorities reassessed, keep chugging along.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Today is like a job interview in which the potential employer asks, "What are your weaknesses?" Savvy interviewees know to highlight traits that can be positive and negative — perfectionism for instance. Turn faults into assets.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Since when did others start making your plans? Take control back, and schedule quiet time for yourself. When your friends ask what you're doing, there's no need to divulge the details. Revel in the solitude.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The actions of a few will affect many. Decide whether or not you would like to be a part of that elite group. The responsibility is heavy, but if not you, then who?

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is no genetic factor involved in leadership. It's a learned skill, and you'll be honing it as you practice delegating your work today — really, you can't possibly do it all by yourself.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're a little off of your purpose now. In fact, you may not remember what your purpose is. But distractions sometimes lead to innovative solutions you can plug in later.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your social circle is shifting — friends move away or drift in a different direction. Reenergize the group with some new recruits. Classes and hands-on activities offer a wealth of information and interesting people.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You look around and wonder "where did all this stuff come from?" Take a break from the mess. Relax and refocus. Ten minutes spent organizing your workspace saves time (and sanity) later on.

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**No Down Payment**

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12 noon Fri. for Sunday; 4:15 Fri. for Monday; 12 noon Mon. for Tues; 12 noon Tues. for Wed.; 12 noon Wed. for Thurs.; 12 noon Thurs. for Fri.

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Announcements; Business Opportunity; Cemetery Lots; Financial; Garage Sales; Help Wanted; Instruction; Items for Sale; Jobs Wanted; Lost and Found; Miscellaneous.; Mobile Homes; National Ads; On the Farm; Pets; Public Notice; Real Estate for Rent; Real Estate for Sale; Services Offered; Vehicles; Legals

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TUESDAY

	WFAA(2)	KMID(3)	UNI(4)	KPEJ(5)	KOSA(7)	KYLE(8)	KWES(9)	WTBS(11)	KMLM(12)	KOCV(13)	DISC(20)	AMC(21)	SPiKE(22)	TNT(23)	BET(28)	DISN(27)	ESPN2(28)	ESPN(29)	SCIFI(34)
	News (CC)	News (CC)	Spanish (CC)	King of the Hill (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Raymond (CC)	Booker (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
6:30	Wheel-Fortune	Wheel-Fortune	Inocencia de Ti	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
7:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Apuestas por un Amor	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
8:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Maestra	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
9:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Maestra	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
10:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Maestra	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
11:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Maestra	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)
12:30	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	Accord-Jim Rodney (CC)	La Maestra	The 2005 Teen Choice Awards	News Ent. Tonight	El Campo del Desajo	News Be a Millionaire	Friends (CC)	News (CC)	News (CC)	Discovery (CC)	AMC (CC)	SPiKE TV (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. (CC)	Disney (CC)	ESPN2 (CC)	ESPN (CC)	Sci-Fi (CC)

**DENNIS THE MENACE**

"I THINK YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO MORE EATIN' AN' LESS SPITTIN', JOEY."

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane

"I'm tellin'! It hasn't been an hour since you ate!"

**HAGAR**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?  
YOU ORDERED TWO EGGS UP, DIDN'T YOU?

**BC**

OUR FAMILY WAS REALLY POOR.  
HOW POOR?  
WE HAD TO PUT SLUGS IN OUR PENNY LOAFERS.

**WIZARD OF ID**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO KEEP OUR STREETS SAFE?  
I'M BUILDING A PARK FOR THE GANGS.  
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK GANGS WILL GO THERE?  
WE'RE PUTTING UP "KEEP OUT" SIGNS.

**BLONDIE**

WE'RE GIVING THESE HORNS OUT AT THE ANNIVERSARY PARTY, BOSS.  
THAT'S GREAT. NOW TOSS IT IN THE TRASH CAN AND GET BACK TO WORK.  
PARTY POOPER

**AGNES**

I HAVE A PROBLEM.  
OH, WELL.  
NO, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY "WHAT IS IT? MAYBE I CAN HELP."  
OH!...OK. WHAT IS IT? MAYBE I CAN HELP.  
I LACK SPONTANEITY IN MY LIFE!  
OH...NOW WHAT DO I SAY?  
HERE...I WROTE IT ALL DOWN FOR YOU.

**HI AND LOIS**

DADDY'S HOME!  
5 SECONDS, THAT'S A NEW RECORD!  
Z

**This Date In History**

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 16, the 228th day of 2005. There are 137 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

- On Aug. 16, 1977, Elvis Presley died at Graceland Mansion in Memphis, Tenn., at age 42.
- On this date: In 1777, American forces won the Revolutionary War Battle of Bennington, Vt.
- In 1812, Detroit fell to British and Indian forces in the War of 1812.
- In 1829, the original "Siamese twins," Chang and Eng Bunker, arrived in Boston to be exhibited to the Western world.
- In 1858, a telegraphed message from Britain's Queen Victoria to President Buchanan was transmitted over the recently laid trans-Atlantic cable.
- In 1861, President Lincoln prohibited the states of the Union from trading with the seceding states of the Confederacy.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor John Standing is 72. Actress Carole Shelley is 71. Country singer Billy Joe Shaver is 66. Movie director Bruce Beresford is 65. Rhythm-and-blues singer Robert "Squirrel" Lester (The Chi-Lites) is 63. Actor Bob Balaban is 60. Ballerina Suzanne Farrell is 60. Actress Lesley Ann Warren is 59. Rock singer-musician

**Joey Spampinato (NRBQ) is 55. Actor Reginald VelJohnson is 53. TV personality Kathie Lee Gifford is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer J.T. Taylor is 52. Movie director James Cameron is 51. Actor Jeff Perry is 50. Rock musician Tim Farriss (INXS) is 48. Singer Madonna is 47. Actress Angela Bassett is 47. Actress Laura Innes is 46. Actor Timothy Hutton is 45. Actor Donovan Leitch is 37. Country singer Emily Robison (The Dixie Chicks) is 33. Singer Vanessa Carlton is 25. Actor Shawn Pyfrom is 19.**

Thought for Today: "You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do." - Henry Ford, American auto manufacturer (1863-1947).

**Answer to previous puzzle:**

CLIFF	STROP	AVIV
AIDA	TOUCH	MICE
LEON	ANITA	ASIS
MUNDANE	NESS	TNT
TALC	TEADAB	
MCLEAD	DWA	
ALAMO	FILII	ORO
CURE	THEMUN	CHIES
SEER	OWED	LENDL
IST	SOBO	TOO
EGOTISM	EDAM	
SAP	THEMUN	STERS
SUED	ODORS	SNAP
EZRA	TINGE	ETNA
SEAM	SAKES	ASKS

**THE OTHER COAST**

I'VE JUST BEEN MUGGED BY A GUY IN A SKI MASK.  
OH NO! DID HE GET AWAY WITH YOUR WALLET?  
NOPE. I CHASED HIM DOWN AND TACKLED HIM TO THE GROUND.  
YOU LARRY, CHASED HIM DOWN? NO WAY!  
HE WAS ALSO WEARING SKI BOOTS.

**SNUFFY SMITH**

I DON'T KNOW HOW MY CUZZIN VINELL PUTS UP WITH THAT PHILANDERIN' MAN OF HERS !!  
THANK GOODNESS LUKEY AN' SNUFFY NEVER WERE TH' CHEATIN' KIND !!  
'CEPT AT HORSESHOES, CARDS AN' CHECKERS !!

**BETLE BAILEY**

TUCK YOUR SHIRT IN, ZERO!  
HUH?... OKAY.  
GREG... MORTIMER... SHOULD I READ IT A BEDTIME STORY?

**Newsday Crossword** ON THE EDGE by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Nile snakes
- 5 Citrus drinks
- 9 Vaughan of jazz
- 14 On (without a contract)
- 15 Verbal
- 16 Fill with joy
- 17 Winslet of Titanic
- 18 Cape Canaveral org.
- 19 Spud
- 20 Workplace perk
- 23 Weasel relative
- 24 Ocular annoyance
- 25 Grant foe
- 28 Norma
- 29 Ripen
- 32 Trickling
- 34 Sacred song
- 36 Remove, as a knot
- 37 Yummy
- 41 Pizzeria appliance
- 43 Facial features
- 44 River between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario
- 48 Rural hotel
- 49 Scoreboard postings: Abbr.
- 52 Clumsy one
- 53 Roman robe
- 55 Marsh bird
- 57 Small British dog
- 61 Knife part
- 63 Close to
- 64 Overture follower

**DOWN**

- 1 Request
- 2 Athens' ancient rival
- 3 Small and trim
- 4 Play segment
- 5 Top-notch
- 6 Dull-colored
- 7 Makes less difficult
- 8 Leans
- 9 Fixed charge
- 10 Jai
- 11 Clattering
- 12 Had dinner
- 13 That woman
- 21 Hang on to
- 22 Hurricane center
- 26 Conclusion
- 27 Freudian subject
- 30 Auto fuel
- 31 Shade tree
- 33 Bits of wordplay
- 34 Engine sound
- 35 Scottish surname
- 37 Rakers' sacks
- 38 Home of the Cubs and Bears: Abbr.
- 39 Relatives
- 40 Word before city or circle
- 41 Yoko
- 42 By way of
- 45 Not moving
- 46 Lightning attractor
- 47 Actors' representatives
- 49 Expensive
- 50 Move
- 51 Skunk feature
- 54 Regions
- 56 A+ or B-
- 58 Garfield dog
- 59 Sharp-tasting
- 60 Historical times
- 61 Bikini part
- 62 Misérables

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Chatter Box

"I did a lot of hunting and shooting and fishing. I was heavily into Boy Scouts, and I did a lot with them."  
— Actor Ashton Kutcher when asked about growing up in Iowa, in J-14 magazine.



# KID NEWS

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Wacky Facts

- On mountains in the north (such as the Rockies) and in the far south (such as the Andes), there is an altitude above which trees will not grow. This is known as the tree line, or timberline.
- Alaska's Mount McKinley is the highest mountain in the United States. — World Almanac for Kids

# Scouting out the Scouts

Wondering whether you should join?

By MERRY MAYER  
Chicago Tribune

Micaela G. started scouting early, and she's glad she stuck with it. Without the Girl Scouts, she wouldn't have visited New York, Philadelphia or Washington, D.C. — where she stood on the White House front steps, waving to the president.

The trip Micaela, 14, took was part of the Girl Scouts' Destinations program, which gives older girls the opportunity to travel.

The Boy and Girl Scouts of America are two of the largest organizations for children and teens in the world. And whether to join is a big question for many kids.

Though Micaela is happy she signed up, she remembers the early years of scouting being mainly about earning badges. Her scout leader made a point of telling them about the opportunities that lay ahead. "I was excited to see what would happen," Micaela says.

Mike C., 15, knows he can handle an emergency situation because of the Boy Scouts. He also has learned to deep-fry a turkey and make apple cobbler over a campfire. But the part of scouting Mike likes best is being with friends. His troop goes on educational field trips, but the boys also sometimes just go to the movies, he says.

Both scouting organizations have a long history: The Boy Scouts date to 1910, the Girl Scouts to 1912. The mission of both includes helping kids build good character and develop as leaders. But what does this really mean?

For Elizabeth C., 14, it meant developing a service project idea to earn a bronze award. She decided to collect art supplies for a local shelter. Although the service requires only 12 hours, Elizabeth had to get the word out about her project and then collect and organize the supplies. It took about six months.

"A big part of scouting is volunteering, but you don't have to do that," she says. The bronze award was something she chose to go after.

When most people think of scouting, they think of camping — and there is plenty of that. Qianlan K., 9, loves the camping part. "We canoe down rivers, camp in the snow," he says. Shiann K., 8, loves to walk in the wilderness.

What you get out of scouting may depend on your troop. Hannah M., 9, quit after third grade. "It was really boring, because we didn't do anything," she says. "I liked the first two years because we went on field trips."

Hannah traded Brownies for bowling in a league, which she does with two other friends. "I like that a lot better," she says.

Haven't made a decision yet? Here are some things to do to help you make up your mind: Check out the troop. Ask current scouts about the kinds of field trips and other events offered. If you don't think that troop is for you, visit [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org) or [scouting.org](http://scouting.org) to find other troops near you.



Accomplished Scouts

These women were Brownies and/or Girl Scouts:

- Laura Bush, first lady
- Hillary Rodham Clinton, New York senator and former first lady
- Katie Couric, co-anchor of "The Today Show"
- Dr. Mae Jemison, astronaut and physician
- Mariah Carey, singer
- Dr. Tamara Jernigan, astronaut
- Star Jones, co-host of "The View"
- Rebecca Lobo, basketball player
- Sandra Day O'Connor, retired U.S. Supreme Court justice
- Venus Williams, tennis player

These men were Cub Scouts and/or Boy Scouts:

- Henry "Hank" Aaron, baseball legend
- Neil Armstrong, astronaut
- George W. Bush, president of the United States
- Harrison Ford, actor
- Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft
- Bruce Jenner, Olympic gold medalist
- Michael Jordan, athlete
- John F. Kennedy, former U.S. president
- Jim Morrison, musician
- Steven Spielberg, film director and producer



The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln are carved on Mount Rushmore.

In The News

## Mount Rushmore gets a facial

For the first time in their 65-year history, the granite faces of presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt are being washed. The presidents' faces are carved into the peaks of Mount Rushmore National Monument in South Dakota. The monument attracts more than 2 million visitors each year. The cleanup started in mid-July and will last for about five weeks!



### PRESSURING THE GUNK OFF THE PEAKS

The carvings on Mount Rushmore are being cleaned with a chemical-free pressurized water system that is heated to more than 200 degrees! To get the job done, cables with saddles at the end are anchored to the top of the stone heads. Cleaning crew members then lower themselves to the front of each head for a power wash.

The monument has gathered decades of dirt, grime and lichens, which are a combination of fungus and algae that can cause a lot of damage. Though the cleaning will get rid of years of grime, the effects will be subtle. "I don't think the average visitor will be able to tell the difference," said Duane Bubac, Mount Rushmore facilities manager. He said the cleaning is mainly to preserve the carvings.

### A MASSIVE CLEANING JOB

The cleanup is being done by a German company that makes cleaning machines and offered to do the job for free. "When they said they would do it for free, that's when we considered having it done," said Judy Olson, Mount Rushmore's chief of interpretation. The company has also cleaned the base of the Statue of Liberty, along with 80 other similar projects around the world.

### HISTORY OF MOUNT RUSHMORE

In 1927, sculptor Gutzon Borglum started carving the famous presidents. It took 14 years for the monument to be completed. The main tools used for carving out the giant faces were chisels, hammers, pneumatic drills and dynamite.

— Sharon Adams

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Laugh Lines

Teacher: John, do you know Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address"?  
Student: No, Teacher. I thought he lived in Washington!

What do you call George Washington's false teeth?  
Presidentures!

— WWW.JOKES.NET

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