

BIG SPRING HERALD

INSIDE
Big Spring dominates Lamson in Thursday scrimmage.
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VOLUME 101, NUMBER 226

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Third special session on school finance reform a bust

Each session has cost an estimated \$1.7 million, according to the state comptroller's office

AUSTIN (AP) — With one day left in the failed special session, House members met briefly Thursday, though most were ready to go home until the Texas Supreme Court issues guidance in their plight to restructure the way the state pays for public education. The legislators who showed up — an unofficial count found less than 40 in the 150-member chamber present — idly passed

the time chatting between a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and some congratulatory resolutions. It was mostly a routine attempt to run out the clock on the 30-day special session, the second of the summer, which ends in defeat today. It will mark the third failure this year to restructure the tax system that pays for public education. Most lawmakers expect

Republican Gov. Rick Perry to call the Legislature back for another attempt to overhaul the system after the high court issues a ruling in a lawsuit over the system. "I've thought that if we couldn't get anywhere we ought to go home ... wait and see what the courts do," said Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick, who leads the House. "But I've been saying that for two years,

and I also thought we shouldn't come back without an agreed plan, but I didn't have control over that situation." The Senate did not meet Thursday, but both chambers were scheduled to convene Friday. While many lawmakers have called the school funding issue the most important of their careers, reaching an agreement on how to rework the complex

and sweeping system hasn't been easy. The \$33 billion system educates 4.3 million children, and every Texan homeowner helps foot the bill by paying school property taxes. The failed special sessions have been costly, too. Each has cost the state an estimated \$1.7 million, according to the comptroller's office.

See FINANCE, Page 3A

Tax rate to stay same at Coahoma

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — School trustees here gave tentative approval to a tax rate identical to last year during their regular meeting Thursday night.

Coahoma Independent School District trustees voted to approve a proposed tax rate of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation — the maximum allowable under state law.

The tax rate, along with the budget for the 2005-06 school year, is expected to be formally approved Aug. 29.

Increased property valuations are expected to bring in an additional \$69,000 in revenues this school year, but that will be more than taken up by higher energy costs and proposed raises for district personnel, Business Manager Gina McEndree said.

Because of that, trustees were left with little choice other than to maintain the tax rate at its current level, McEndree said.

Also Thursday, Superintendent Jerry Johnson reported that district enrollment showed a marked increase during the first week of school, jumping from 729 when doors opened on Monday, to 748 as of Thursday.

Johnson said those figures are a little down from the previous year, but expects even more students to transfer in during the coming week.

"It's really a guessing game, but we feel like we'll pick up another 12 to 15 students in the next few days," Johnson said.

In other business

See CISD, Page 3A

SOMETHING TO BARK ABOUT



A potential bidder looks at memorabilia items that the Howard County Humane Society auctioned off Thursday night at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The annual auction raised more than \$67,000 — a new record — for the local animal shelter.

Herald photo/Susanne Reed

Area schools meet federal NCLB criteria

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

All Howard County public school systems met federal education guidelines during the 2004-05 school year, recent figures show.

Under the No Child Left Behind educational bill passed earlier this decade, school systems must meet certain guidelines in instructional areas such as reading, writing, math, social studies and science, or risk losing federal funds.

Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan school districts all met the federal Average Yearly Performance (AYP) standards this past school year.

In fact, only one Howard County campus — Big Spring High School — missed AYP standards, and that was by a whisker.

BSHS registered a sub-par score in the sophomore Hispanic reading sub-group by 2 percentage points, giving the

"Out of 25 subgroups (that were rated), we maintained our scores in two areas, and improved in the other 23."

Downes

campus as a whole a "missed AYP" designation.

Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent Michael Downes said the rating system was too specific for his liking.

"Why were we rated acceptable by the state, but not acceptable at the federal level?" he asked. "The federal standards only looked at one grade level."

For Downes, the most encouraging news was that Big Spring students continue to show

See NCLB, Page 3A

Fair promises lots of entertainment

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Anyone looking for entertainment next week won't have to look far, as the Howard County Fair gets ready to offer up a multitude of fun and music for fairgoers of all ages.

Jody Nix and the West Texas Cowboys will get things started Wednesday evening, with shows slated at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

And while Nix is certainly no stranger to the

Howard County Fair, Wednesday's show will mark a rather auspicious anniversary for him and his band.

"This will be our 20th year in a row to play the Howard County Fair," said Nix. "I played it for years before my father passed away, but in 1985 I took it over. I played the fair about three weeks after my father died. It was very emotional."

"We want people to come out and support the fair and listen to us if

"We want people to come out and support the fair and listen to us if they want to hear real country music, and we'll do our best to entertain them."

Nix

they want to hear real country music, and we'll do our best to entertain them."

Nix said every performance is special, but playing in front of a home-town crowd is the perfect way to celebrate

the occasion.

"It makes you feel good because they will come over there and sit under the tent. Sometimes it's hot, sometimes it's cool, but they enjoy it and it's a fun part of the fair. It's also good for the boys in

the band. They enjoy it and I really enjoy it."

Thursday the Colgate Country Showdown will take the stage, bringing an array of different talents from all over the West Texas area to the bill.

"People from all over the area and West Texas will compete," said Nix. "If they win at the fair, they go on to the next level of competition. That's a really fun deal."

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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY



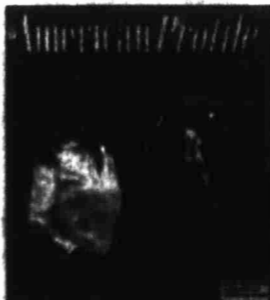
The Friends of the Library needs good condition books for its annual sale.

Paperbacks and large print items are especially needed. Donated books can be delivered to the library weekdays during regular operating

hours.

If you are unable to bring the books to the library, call 263-4980 and request a pick up. All money from the sale goes to purchase items not included in the library's regular budget.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Cover Story: Talk show host Don Imus has turned his ranch in Ribera, N.M., into a summer camp for children who are cancer survivors. At this working

ranch, the word "cancer" is never mentioned, and children are treated as if they are just like their healthy counterparts as they ride horses and enjoy other ranch activities.

HE (OR SHE) MAY SUE

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — A man who says his doctors misdiagnosed him as a transsexual may sue the medical team that advised him to have a sex change, an appeals court ruled. Alan Michael Finch was 21 when he underwent a sex change operation to become a woman in 1988. By 1996, however, Finch said he was "a mess" and struggling to live life as a woman named Helen. The following year, Finch began another round of surgery and reverted to life as a man. Finch claims doctors who performed the initial sex change knew he was not a suitable candidate.

Obituaries

Virgil Edward Long

Virgil Edward Long, 81, of Bentonville, Ark., formerly of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2005, at his home, surrounded by family and friends. He was born Aug. 10, 1924 in Funks Grove, Ill., to Sarah Elizabeth Brown and William Chester Long.

Virgil grew up in Illinois and joined the U.S. Army at the age of 18. He was a medic with the Big Spring Bombardier School and was stationed in Big Spring. This is where he met and married the love of his life, Jeanette McCormick. They were married Aug. 3, 1944, and recently celebrated 61 years together.

Virgil was a laboratory and X-ray technician at Medical Arts Hospital for 32 years before going to work for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. as a department manager. After retiring from Wal-Mart, Virgil and Jeanette moved to Bentonville, Ark.

Virgil, also known as Papa, enjoyed bowling, watching baseball, especially the Cubs, playing cards and dominoes and spending time with his family.

He was a member of the American Legion Post No. 506, the Staked Plains Lodge 598 and a 32nd degree Mason with the Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Virgil was preceded in death by one son, Ronald F. Long, one grandson, Larry Dean Mills, his parents, five brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanette Long of the home; two daughters and two sons-in-law, Sandra Ward and husband, Gayle Ward of Bentonville, Ark., and Kandis Wright and husband, Wesley Wright of Bentonville, Ark.; five grandchildren, Shellie Sullivan and husband, Ronnie Sullivan of Crowley, Michelle Wilson and husband, Robert Wilson of Bentonville, Ark., Shane Wright of Rogers, Ark., Lisa Long of Crowley and Teresa Hill and husband, Ryan Hill of Fayetteville, Ark.; seven great-grandchildren, Nicole Hallman, Lance Hallman and Tierra Hallman of Crowley, Alexis Wilson and Kelsey Wilson of Bentonville, Ark., Slater Beaird and Skylr Beaird of Crowley; and two brothers, John Long of Champaign, Ill., and Jesse Long and wife, Helen of Fort Myers, Fla.

A memorial graveside service was held at 2 p.m. today, Aug. 19, 2005, at the Fayetteville National Cemetery, Fayetteville, Ark.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in honor of Virgil Edward Long to the Circle of Life Hospice, 610 E. Emma Ave., Springdale, Ark. 72764.

Cremation and memorial arrangements were under the direction of Stockdale Funeral Services of Rogers, Ark.

Paid obituary

Paul F. Soldan Sr.

Paul F. Soldan Sr., 85, of Big Spring died Friday, Aug. 19, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **HOWARD FOSTER**, 29, 1002 N. Nolan, was arrested on a Howard County warrant, a parole violation warrant, and a charge of failure to identify.
- **CASEY CHANCE HARRISON**, 36, 5621 Midway Road, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported in the 1500 block of Fourth.
- **ASSAULT BY THREAT** was reported in the 700 block of Eighth.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell.
- **DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, THIRD OR MORE OFFENSE** was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700.
- **VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER** was reported in the 800 block of FM 700.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. today:

- **THOMAS FAY**, 65, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **JAY BILLINGSLEY**, 39, was transferred after being arrested for driving while license invalid.
- **CHRISTOPHER LEE FUQUA**, 34, was transferred after being arrested for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.
- **BERNARDO JACINTO HILARIO**, 18, began serving judgment for possession of marijuana.
- **JOE VALENCIA**, 42, was arrested on a bondsman off bond warrant for driving while license suspended.
- **NICHOLAS NATHANIEL BYRNE**, 18, was transferred after being arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **DEVON SHAE HANNABASS**, 18, was arrested on a capias warrant.
- **ERIC ANTHONY VALENCIA**, 20, was transferred after being arrested for assault causing bodily injury.
- **CHRISTOPHER SCOTT HOHERTZ**, 30, began serving judgement for possession/transportation of chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance.
- **NICK HERNANDEZ**, 27, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 block of Leatherwood Road.

Take note

• **EDUCATION AND EDUCATORS IN HOWARD COUNTY** opens at Heritage Museum with a reception from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. Call 267-8255 for more information.

• **DONATIONS OF NEW STUFFED TOYS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** are being accepted through Sep. 1. Drop off new, up 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.

• **DONATIONS TO DEFRAY COSTS OF FUNERAL EXPENSES FOR 14-YEAR-OLD ISIDRO GONZALES** are being accepted at Myer's & Smith Funeral Home. He died Aug. 12 from leukemia. Make donations directly to Meyers & Smith at P.O. Box 2760, Big Spring 79721-2760.

• **THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** need good condition books for an annual sale. Paperbacks and large print items are especially needed. Donated books can be delivered to the library weekdays during regular operating hours. If unable to bring the books to the library, call 263-4980 and request a pick up. All money from the sale goes to purchase items not included in the library's regular budget.

• **SAM SOLEYN, FORMER SPEAKER AT LIVING WATER FELLOWSHIP** will be speaking at the Dora Roberts Community Center at 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday. For more information, contact Jim Alexander at 457-2202.

• **HOWARD COUNTY FAIR WEB SITE** is www.howardcountyfairtexas.com

• **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

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

• **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1995 10-YEAR REUNION** is set for Homecoming weekend. For information about the events, contact bshs 1995@yahoo.com or call Amanda or Stacie at 267-1353.

• **CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH** is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. today:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of West Second. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of East Highway 350. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1500 block of East FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

• The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m., a new time, the last Tuesday of each month in

• **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.

• **FRIENDS OF THE MARTIN COUNTY LIBRARY** have scheduled a used book sale from 10 a.m. until 4

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- **Greater Big Spring Rotary Club** meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- **Spring City Senior Citizen's Center** country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- **American Legion Post 506** fish fry from noon until 3 p.m. \$7 per plate and carry-out is available. Public is invited. The post is located at 3203 W. Highway 80. Call 263-2084 for delivery.

Weather

Tonight—Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.
 Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
 Saturday night—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s.
 Sunday—Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.
 Sunday night—Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s.
 Monday—Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 90s.
 Monday night—Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.
 Tuesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.
 Tuesday night—Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.
 Wednesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 3-19-22-25-29.
 Number matching five of five: 1.
 Prize per winner: **\$32,108**.
 Winning tickets sold in: DeSoto.
 Matching four of five: 99. Prize: \$146.
 Matching three of five: 3,413. Prize: \$10.
 Matching two of five: 33,795. Prize: \$2.
 Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 5-15-20-32. Bonus Ball: 28.
 Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.
 Number matching four of four: 5. Prize: \$1,983.
 Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 21. Prize: \$58.
 Number matching three of four: 883. Prize: \$18.
 Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 473. Prize: \$22.
 Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 3,270. Prize: \$7.
 Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 6,060. Prize: \$5.
 Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: **\$225,000**.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-0-7

Support groups

the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

THURSDAY

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

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

Around town

p.m. every Thursday in the new building across from the White Ford Motor Company, near the post office. The sale benefits the restoration of a library building. For more information contact Bud Lindsey at 756-2306.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

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'Minority' said outdated now

By ERIN TEXEIRA
AP National Writer

What do you call a minority that is becoming the majority?

News that Texas is the fourth state in which non-Hispanic whites make up less than 50 percent of residents has renewed discussion about whether the term "minority" has outlived its usefulness; critics include both liberals and conservatives.

While some think the complaints are mere nit-picking, others argue the word is increasingly inaccurate, obsolete and even offensive.

"Twenty or 30 years ago, we saw the country as a majority-white country with a black minority, but now you have places where that is a woefully poor description of what is going on," especially given rapidly growing Hispanic population, said Roderick J. Harrison, a demographer with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a black think tank.

The word "minority" is "a confusing term as one of thinks of today's population," Harrison said. The majority of residents in Texas, California, New Mexico, Hawaii and Washington, D.C., are some ethnicity other than non-Hispanic whites, according to Census Bureau population estimates released last week. Five other states, including New York and Georgia, could make that shift by 2010.

Soon, more than one-third of Americans will live in states where Latinos, blacks, Asians, American Indians and other ethnic groups outnumber whites. Such demographic shifts have created the term "majority-minority."

Harrison noted that "minority" refers to more than just numbers. "The word's origins are that these are populations that once had the status of minors before the law," Harrison said. "These are populations that, in one

way or another, did not have full legal status or full civil rights."

When considering doing away with the term, "the question is, how far along the road to full equality have they come?"

Haig Bosmajian, a University of Washington professor emeritus of communications, said that when he researched his book "The Language of Oppression" in the 1960s, "minority" accurately described blacks and other relatively small ethnic groups.

"But by 'minority' today we mean a disadvantaged group of citizens. We mean not the privileged at the top, but the underprivileged at the bottom: People who make \$10 million a year, we don't call them a 'minority,'" he said. "There's power behind these terms."

Star Parker, who heads the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education, a conservative black think tank, said the word is "absolutely misused. It's become an entitlement word, a word for victimization."

In some cases, particularly regarding affirmative action programs, "minority" often includes women, disabled people and religious groups, said Robin Lakoff, a socio-linguist at the University of California, Berkeley. That's made the definition murky, in her view.

"It's now almost too inclusive and not clear enough," she said. Still, she added, "sometimes I think we worry too much about semantic hairsplitting. If I had to fight about something, I might not fight about the term 'minority.'"

In 2001, San Diego's city council approved striking "minority" from official usage — and to stop using the term "Southeast San Diego" to refer to neighborhoods that are largely black and Hispanic — to "move away from the pejorative connotations ... and move to something that was more respectful."

"Twenty or 30 years ago, we saw the country as a majority-white country with a black minority, but now you have places where that is a woefully poor description of what is going on."

PIT STOP EN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA

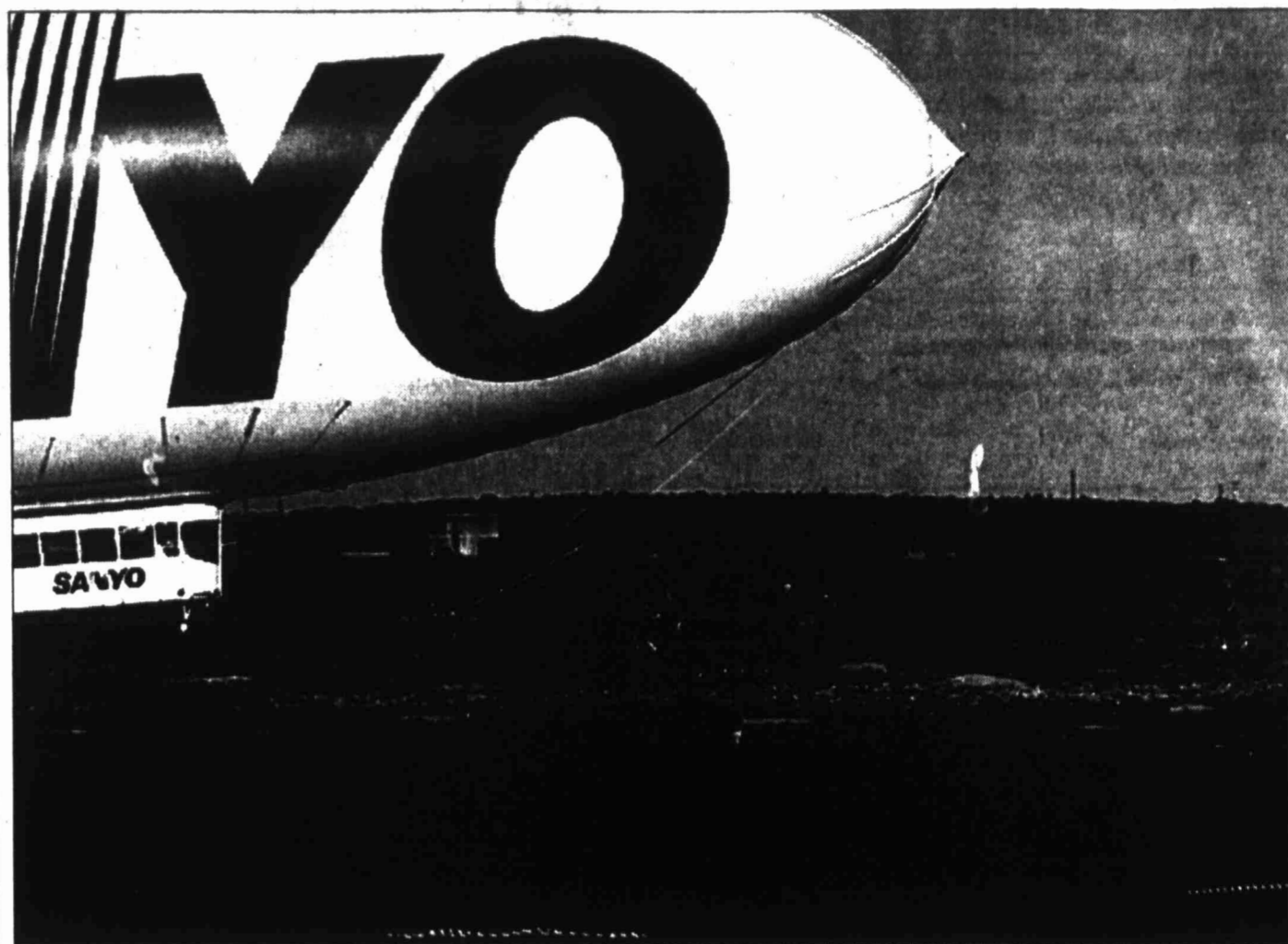


Photo courtesy of James F. Little
A 12-person ground chase crew secures a Sanyo blimp which refueled at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark on its way to California this week. Lone Star Aviation provided the fuel. The craft took 115 gallons, carried by the crew in five-gallon containers.

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

This is the third year we've had the showdown."

The Colgate Country Showdown begins each Spring with over 400 local talent contests sponsored by country music radio stations throughout the US. Winners advance to their respective State competitions held at leading fairs and expositions. Acts then compete for a \$1,000 prize, the State Title and the opportunity to advance to one of five Regional Finals.

As if that weren't enough, The Quebe Sisters, a trio of fiddle players ranging in age from 14 to 18 years from Burleson, will take to the spotlight Friday with shows at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Joey McKenzie, the girls' musical teacher and accompanying guitarist, said they are natural musicians with an incredible future ahead of them. "They're born to be fiddle players," said McKenzie. "They have a natural understanding of how things are supposed to be, sometimes even

before I'd say it. They're just happy about music. They want to play whether they make a dime or not and they want other traditional musicians to respect them."

Nix agrees, saying a great future lays ahead of Grace, Sophia and Hulda Quebe.

"I called them and made the arrangements," said Nix. "This will be very unique. It's great fiddle music and these kids are really good. They're already doing some mighty big things, and I told them in Austin they had better watch out, because they are in for a long ride. And I hope they are because they're good enough to go anywhere they want to go."

Saturday at 7 p.m. the music will take a rather pronounced turn, as area schools show their prowess with pompoms in the annual Battle of the Cheerleaders.

Contestants will be judged in two categories: Cheer and dance. First, second and third place plaques will be awarded in each division. All area junior high and high school cheer squads are invited to participate;

there is no entry fee.

Battle of the Cheerleaders is sponsored by the Howard College cheerleaders under the direction of Linda Berry. The event is in its 19th consecutive year and 10th under Berry.

Berry said there is also a mini cheer camp being held in conjunction with the battle. The camp is open to are children in grades 1-6, with classes covering cheer and dance. Cost is \$25.

The camp is slated for 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum with registration at 8 a.m. All children participating in the classes should wear tennis shoes, bring water and lunch, and have their names on all their belongings. All registered participants will have the opportunity to perform in the battle later that evening at the fair.

For more information about Battle of the Cheerleaders or the Mini camp, contact Berry at 264-5024.

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

CISD

Continued from Page 1A

Thursday, trustees:

• Approved the hiring of Chris Suttle, who will be a science teacher at high school and coach at the junior high.

• Approved a policy change regarding graduation honors. Starting this school year, students must have attended Coahoma High School classes at least four con-

secutive semesters to qualify as either class valedictorian or salutatorian.

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

NCLB

Continued from Page 1A

improvement in nearly all testing levels.

"Out of 25 subgroups (that were rated), we maintained our scores in two areas, and improved in the other 23," he said. "In my experience, that's the first time I've ever seen that kind of improvement."

All campuses in Coahoma and Forsan met federal AYP standards.

School districts have a lot riding on an acceptable federal rating, Downes said.

"Federal title funds are tied to the rating system," he said. "Last year, we received close to \$2 million in federal funds."

BSISD faces no immedi-

ate sanctions for the "missed AYP" rating at BSHS, but that could change if the situation doesn't improve this school year, Downes said.

"If you 'miss AYP' two years in a row, then outside assistance is brought in," he said.

That outside assistance would be in the form of a Peer Assistance Team from the Educational Service Center in Austin. The team would review local policies, then suggest any improvements that would be needed.

Downes is confident that such outside help won't be needed.

"We will continue our own improvement strategies," he said. "I know, based on district data, that we're on the right track."

FINANCE

Continued from Page 1A

Perry has now called three special sessions on school finance — one in 2004 and two this sum-

mer. The Legislature's failure to solve school finance is expected to be a major issue in his coming re-election bid. His approval rating has dropped to 38 percent this summer, according to a July poll by SurveyUSA.

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Audrey Vess, 82, died Monday. Graveside Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Red Oak Cemetery, Red Oak, Texas.

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***Four Brothers (R)**
Daily: 7:00, 9:20 Fri: 7:00, 9:20
Sat. & Sun: 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

The Dukes of Hazzard (PG-13)
Daily: 7:10, 9:30 Fri: 7:10, 9:30
Sat. & Sun: 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
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CINEMA 4

***Red Eye (PG-13)**
Daily: 5:00, 7:30 Fri: 5:00, 7:30, 9:50
Sat: 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50, Sun: 2:30, 5:00, 7:30

***Duce Bigalo: European Gigolo (R)**
Daily: 4:50, 7:20 Fri: 4:50, 7:20, 9:30
Sat: 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30, Sun: 2:20, 4:50, 7:20

Sky High (PG)
Daily: 4:40, 7:10 Fri: 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
Sat: 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, Sun: 2:10, 4:40, 7:10

Stealth (PG-13)
Daily: 7:00, Fri: 7:00, 9:40
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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

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- The Good Lord, Mother Nature or both, for the wonderful rain we had over the weekend and this week. Thanks to a couple of "record-setting" days, we are currently ahead of where we normally stand for the year in terms of average rainfall.

- The Howard County Humane Society for all the hard work those folks do caring for homeless animals, and for their efforts in working with the elderly and disabled by visiting them with canine friends.

- ALON USA officials on "ringing in a new era" during the opening bell ceremony at the New York Stock Exchange this week.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we keep our eyes on Your long-term objective for our life, Lord. Amen

It's all about the 'terriers and bariffs'

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

You may think a person would bring up the subject of political rhetoric in our day only to dis it, to mourn the decline of the once-noble art, to compare the puny babble of our modern pipsqueaks to the magnificent cadences of Jefferson, Lincoln and Churchill, and so lament anew. Not me.

What I mourn is that none of the current candidates measures up to the glory years of the Ineffable Big George Bush and the Immortal Dan Quayle, who shall be forever revered for setting new standards in political language.

My personal favorite in the oratory sweepstakes is George W. Bush, who is rapidly developing a style that may yet become comparable to his father's. He is a master of the perfectly opaque response. We now know that Ronald Reagan's famous

line in the 1980 campaign — "There you go again!" — was carefully scripted in advance. This leads to visions of an entire team of W. Bush speech writers cogitating on how to achieve the perfect nonanswer. Examples:

- "Whatever's fair."
- "Whatever's right."
- "I'm all right on that."
- "Whatever is fair between the parties."

And, a recent gem of opacity: — "I will take a balanced approach on the environment." That last one was Bush's death-defying leap to separate himself from all the candidates who have promised to take an unbalanced approach on the environment.

During an impassioned speech in support of free trade this month, Bush said, "If the terriers and bariffs are torn down, this economy will grow!"

Another great moment with Bush the Younger was his answer to the question, "Do you support affirmative action?"

Said the then-governor: "What I am against is quotas. I am against hard quotas, quotas they basically delineate based upon whatever. However they delineate, quotas, I think vulcanize society. So I don't know

how that fits into what everybody else is saying, their relative positions, but that's my position."

In South Carolina he told supporters: "This is still a dangerous world. It's a world of madmen and uncertainty and potential mental loss." OK, maybe it was "menshul."

The *Financial Times* of London noted that the Bush revealed the urgent need for higher standards in subject-verb agreement when he said, "Rarely is the question asked: Is our children learning?"

If you cast your mind back to the long-gone year of 1992, you may recall that after four years of Big George's pronounless prose, Bill Clinton was considered something of a wonder because he spoke in complete sentences. Indeed, in complete paragraphs. People actually wrote about it at the time: "He speaks in complete sentences."

Of course, that was compared to Big George, who once delivered this complete sentence: "It's no exaggeration to say the undecideds could go one way or the other." And a more typical bon mot: "To kind of suddenly try and get my hair colored, and dance up and down in a mini-skirt or something, you

know, show that I've got a lot of jazz out there and drop a bunch of one-liners, I'm running for the president of the United States. I kind of think I'm a scintillating fellow."

And this happy thought on the recession: "Coming off a pinnacle, you might say, of low unemployment."

We were also accustomed to hearing from Dan Quayle in those days ("If we don't succeed, then we run the risk of failure"), so we're starting from a low threshold here — the rhetorical equivalent of having Dick Morris shape domestic policy.

The Nation recently described Al Gore as "an attack chihuahua" for a series of observations that cannot be described as in the positive vein. Gore accused Bill Bradley of being a quitter, a hypocrite, a disloyal Democrat, a "left-of-center insurgent," who would break the bank with his "throwback" health-care proposal while addressing "only a small number of things at a time."

The Nation notes that Gore is a charter member of the Democratic Leadership Council, which campaigns for privatizing Social Security and voucherizing Medicare and

There will certainly be dancing on abortion, not only as Republicans seek to play to the right, but also as Democrats figure out whether they want to be seen as pushing what will be called a "litmus test" on abortion. There will also be background music from the war on terrorism and the issues of treatment of prisoners.

Second, this is just the warm up. You get the good cop first; this is the nice guy. However you treat the nice guy, whatever standards you apply to the nice guy, whatever breaks you give him are going to be demanded by the you-know-what who is coming next as chief justice.

George W. Bush is not going to pick a wimp for chief justice. There won't be any questions at that point about ideology.

He won't be as nice. He won't be easy. He won't alarm conservatives by helping out liberals with moot court arguments. A lot of people who will vote for John Roberts won't want to vote for him. But it's tricky, since on paper, they'll look a lot alike — and it's particularly tricky because you have to figure it out well enough to explain why you're voting yes now, and may not later ...

To find out more about Susan Estrich, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Skirmishes over Roberts continues

This is getting silly. Or it would be silly, were it not potentially so absurd. What I am referring to is the daily drip-drop on Supreme Court nominee John Roberts. One day, *The New York Times* is supposed to be looking at his children's adoption records, and the next day, everyone is attacking the very idea that a newspaper would ever look at such records.

Then there is the famous moot court mess, and the question of just how much help John Roberts, the attorney, offered to former Colorado Supreme Court Justice Jean Dubofsky, who was arguing the case on behalf of (yes!) the gay rights side. Was it strictly professional, or could this moot court provide some piece of some answer to something that was not provided by, say, his wife's membership in Feminists for Life, which was last week's Supreme Court Controversy.

In the meantime, the skirmishes continue over what may be the centerpiece of the fight: memos, many of them written by a young, political lawyer, some of them 20 years old. If that's the centerpiece, I can't wait for dessert.

Let's face it: You couldn't get a justice from central casting who is more spic-n-span than John

Roberts. He looks like the Boy Scout. He talks like the very smart Boy Justice. And he has acted like a Boy Scout, by all reports.

No one has found anything. We can say that out loud. The right is more nervous than the left, if truth be told — what they fear is not a confirmation fight, but a moderate.

They really needn't worry. While it's true that people change their minds on the high court, they usually aren't people who have spent their lifetimes thinking about law. Participating in a moot court is a fun way for the cleverest lawyers (which Judge Roberts surely is) to show off, as well as help. As a consummate professional, John Roberts may have felt it to be his obligation, particularly given his personal views and his history, to participate vigorously in the moot and thereby underscore that professionalism.

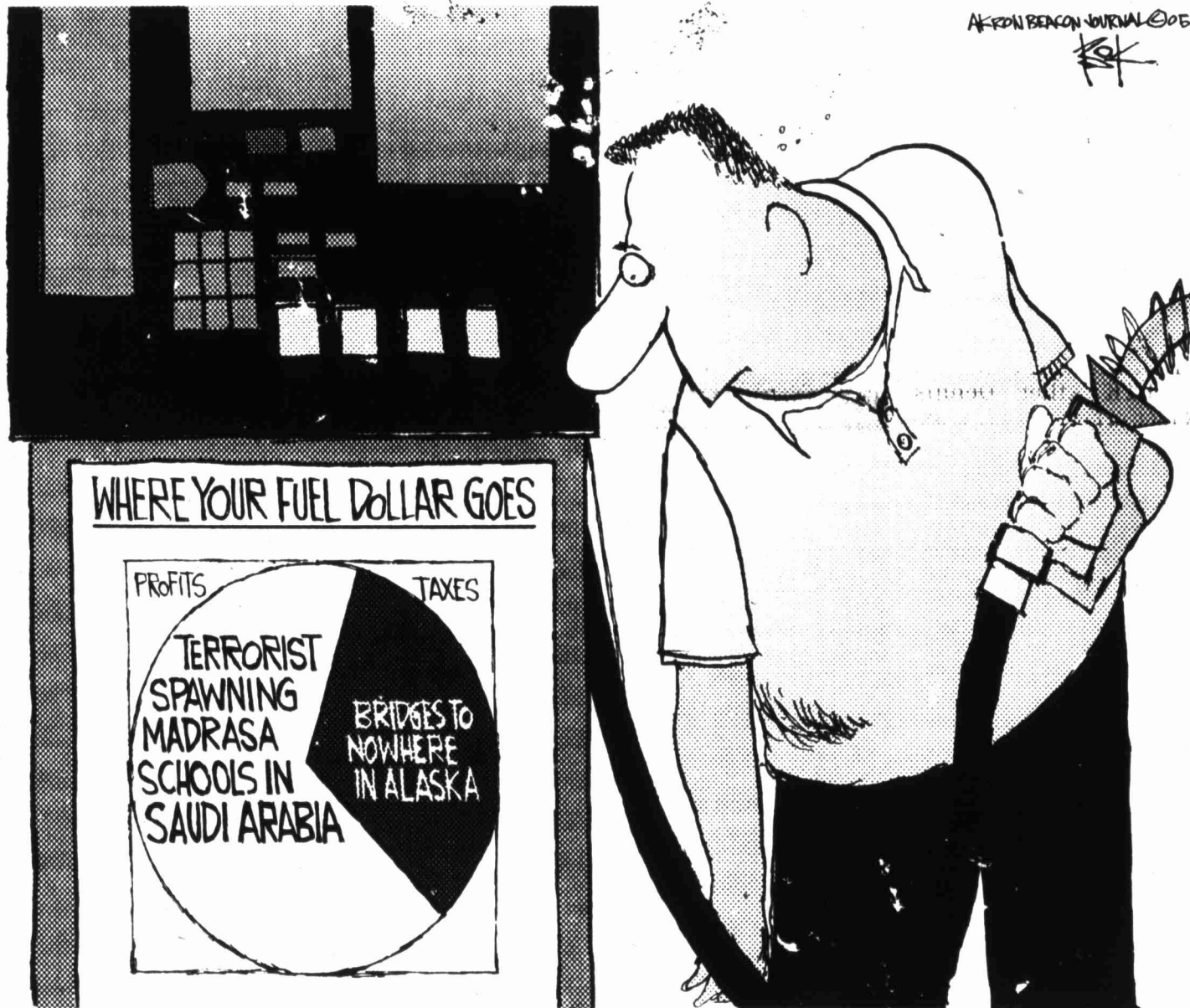
So there is a nick-nick, every day, and an almost identical picture of the justice-to-be with another senator, as he continues to make his rounds and build support.

But if the conclusion is looking more and more foregone, the process remains important in two respects.

First of all, it will be theater — even if the votes are in. And the theater will portray the two parties as they try to place themselves along the values-moral-culture agenda that played so prominently, according to exit polls, in the last election.



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News briefs

Attackers fire three missiles from Jordan; one misses U.S. Navy ship

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Unknown assailants fired at least three missiles from Jordan early Friday, with one narrowly missing a U.S. Navy ship docked at port, an attack that killed a Jordanian soldier. One missile fell close to an airport in neighboring Israel, officials said.

The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, said two American amphibious ships were docked in Aqaba when a mortar was fired toward them. The vessels later sailed out of port as a result of the attacks, U.S. Navy spokesman Lt. Cdr. Charlie Brown told *The Associated Press* in Bahrain.

Jordanian soldier Ahmed Jamal Saleh was fatally wounded when the mortar sailed over one of the U.S. ships and slammed into a warehouse, a Jordanian security official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

The soldier died in the ambulance taking him to hospital; another Jordanian was also wounded, the official added.

The attacks come amid a time of tension in the region marked by Israel's withdrawal from the Palestinian Gaza and several terrorist attacks on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula during the past year, including the July 23 attack in Sharm el-Sheik.

Israel clears out Gaza settlement, avoiding repeat of violence

GADID, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops quickly cleared out a synagogue full of dozens of opponents to the Gaza pullout on Friday, avoiding a repeat of previous day's violence in which youths holed up on a rooftop pelted soldiers with acid, oil and sand.

The smooth operation that cleared out the small settlement of Gadid was the latest sign of progress as Israel pushed forward with its withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

After Friday's operation, all but four of the 21 Gaza settlements stood empty, and Israel's commander for the region, Maj. Gen. Dan Harel, said the remainder could be emptied by next Tuesday — weeks ahead of schedule.

In the outpost of Kerem Atzmona, Israeli bulldozers crushed several empty trailer homes, the first home demolitions since the withdrawal began. Israel plans on demolishing all homes in the abandoned settlements, removing hazardous waste and turning over other rubble to the Palestinians for construction.



KRT photo/Hugh Gordon
Female Israeli soldiers carry away a young girl during the forced evacuation of the beachfront Gaza Strip settlement of Shirat Hayam.

Friday's lone mission, to clear out Gadid, began at sunrise. A few holdout families, along with 60 hardline "reinforcements" from outside Gaza, were in the community when the troops entered.

In what has become a familiar scene this week, settlers set two cars, wooden planks, and garbage bins on fire, sending a thick plume of black smoke into the air.

Pope warns of rising anti-Semitism during visit to synagogue

COLOGNE, Germany (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI warned Friday of rising anti-Semitism and hostility to

foreigners during a visit to a synagogue that was rebuilt after being destroyed during the Nazis' infamous Kristallnacht pogrom in 1938.

Benedict became only the second pope to visit a synagogue, praying and remembering Holocaust victims with Cologne's Jewish community — Germany's oldest.

"Today, sadly, we are witnessing the rise of new signs of anti-Semitism and various forms of a general hostility toward foreigners," he said.

He reaffirmed his commitment to continue in the path of his predecessor, John Paul II, who made the first papal visit to a synagogue in Rome in 1986 and improved relations between Catholics and Jews.

Benedict said progress had been made, but "much more remains to be done. We must come to know one another much more and much better."

He did not elaborate on his warning except to call for more vigilance, receiving loud applause from the audience after his remarks.

Roberts showed his conservative stripes as young White House lawyer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee John Roberts was a staunch defender of the conservative policies of the Reagan administration during his time as a young White House lawyer, and a surprising critic of then-Chief Justice Warren Burger and the nation's highest court.

Roberts, nominated by President Bush to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, thought little of Burger's idea to add an additional court to the federal judiciary to help relieve the high court's workload.

"While some of the tales of woe emanating from the Court are enough to bring tears to the eyes, it is true that only Supreme Court justices and schoolchildren are expected to and do take the entire summer off," Roberts wrote on April 19, 1983, in a memo to his boss Fred Fielding, the White House counsel.

Those words may return to haunt Roberts when he faces the Senate Judiciary Committee next month, where senators will question him on his ability and qualifications to sit on that court.

The memo and other materials made public Thursday by the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif., and the National Archives completed the disclosure of more than 50,000 pages that cover Roberts' tenure as a lawyer in the White House counsel's office from 1982-86.

Serial killer arrives at prison to begin serving life sentence

EL DORADO, Kan. (AP) — BTK killer Dennis Rader arrived at the maximum security prison here Friday to begin serving the rest of his life in prison for 10 killings that terrorized nearby Wichita.

Rader, who was wearing an orange prison jumpsuit, entered the prison doors at 7:28 a.m., after arriving in three-vehicle caravan with seven state troopers. He was sentenced to 10 consecutive life terms Thursday after a hearing where family members spoke of their grief and loss.

He is to be fingerprinted and photographed and then undergo an initial screening to determine whether he will serve his entire sentence in El Dorado or be transferred to another facility.

"Public safety is our primary mission," said Ray Roberts, warden of the El Dorado Correctional Facility.

There was little drama upon his arrival, save for the hordes of media gathered outside the prison gates. A helicopter hovered overhead.

Rader, at least initially, will be locked down 23 hours a day, allowed out of his cell only to shower and exercise.

District Judge Gregory Waller handed Rader a sentence Thursday that was the stiffest possible; Kansas had no death penalty at the times of the murders. The sentence offers no chance of parole for 175 years.

Although the two-day sentencing hearing was a formality it allowed family members to confront Rader for the first time in court.

"I can think of nothing but savoring the bitter-



KRT photo/Bo Rader, Wichita Eagle
Serial killer Dennis Rader listens to the families of the 10 people he murdered give statements during the sentencing phase of his trial Thursday in Wichita, Kan.

sweet taste of revenge as justice is served upon this social sewage here before us today," said Jeff Davis, whose mother, Dolores Davis, was strangled by Rader.

Beverly Plapp, sister of victim Nancy Fox, said Rader should "never, ever see the light of day ... On the day he dies, Nancy and all of his victims will be waiting with God and watching him as he burns in hell."

It also included a rambling, sometimes-tearful statement from the killer, who apologized to his victims.

"A dark side is there, but now I think light is beginning to shine," Rader said, his voice choking at times. "Hopefully someday God will accept me."

Rader, 60, went through the list of his 10 victims one by one, drawing comparisons between him and them. He talked about victims who liked dogs when they were kids. He talked about how one of his child victims reminded him of his kids. He talked about how one victim went to his high school, although at a different time.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Coahoma Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. August 29, 2005 in District Administration Building, 600 N. Main, Coahoma, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.50	\$0.00*	\$1.50	\$3,922	\$3,584
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.4930	\$0.00*	\$1.4930	\$3,935	\$3,571
Proposed Rate	\$1.50	\$0.00*	\$1.50	\$3,973	\$3,399

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$36,979	\$38,300
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$14,584	\$15,640
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.50	\$1.50
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$218.76	\$234.60
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$15.84

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence home-
stead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a per-
son, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may
not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65,
regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.553. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.553.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$1,250,000.00
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-

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Spring Tabernacle set to celebrate 20 years of ministry

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Features Editor

After serving Big Spring's hungry for more than two decades, the Revs. Arnold and Mona Lou Tonn of Spring Tabernacle Church have no intention of slowing down.

"He still picks up food at 7 a.m. every morning, just like he's done all these years," said Mona Lou.

And she gathers her volunteers each week to sort and prepare those donations for distribution each Thursday at 10 a.m.

"God said to me years ago, 'I will provide if you will give it away.' And that's what we've been doing ever since," said Tonn.

'Ever since' has turned into 20 years and the Tonns are set to celebrate the event with a three-day extravaganza Aug. 26-28 that will gather three pastors from Global Missions of Canada for special worship and church services.

"This will be a powerful, spirit-filled event and we invite the public to celebrate and worship with us," said Mona Lou.

The celebration includes the Rev. Terry Miller, the Rev. Albert Hannigan Jr., and the Rev. Neil Hannigan from Canada.

"We are really excited about this event. Ministry is the most fun we could ever have and when the kitchen is filled with people and we have church

going and the spirit is so powerful — well it's just awesome," Mona Lou said.

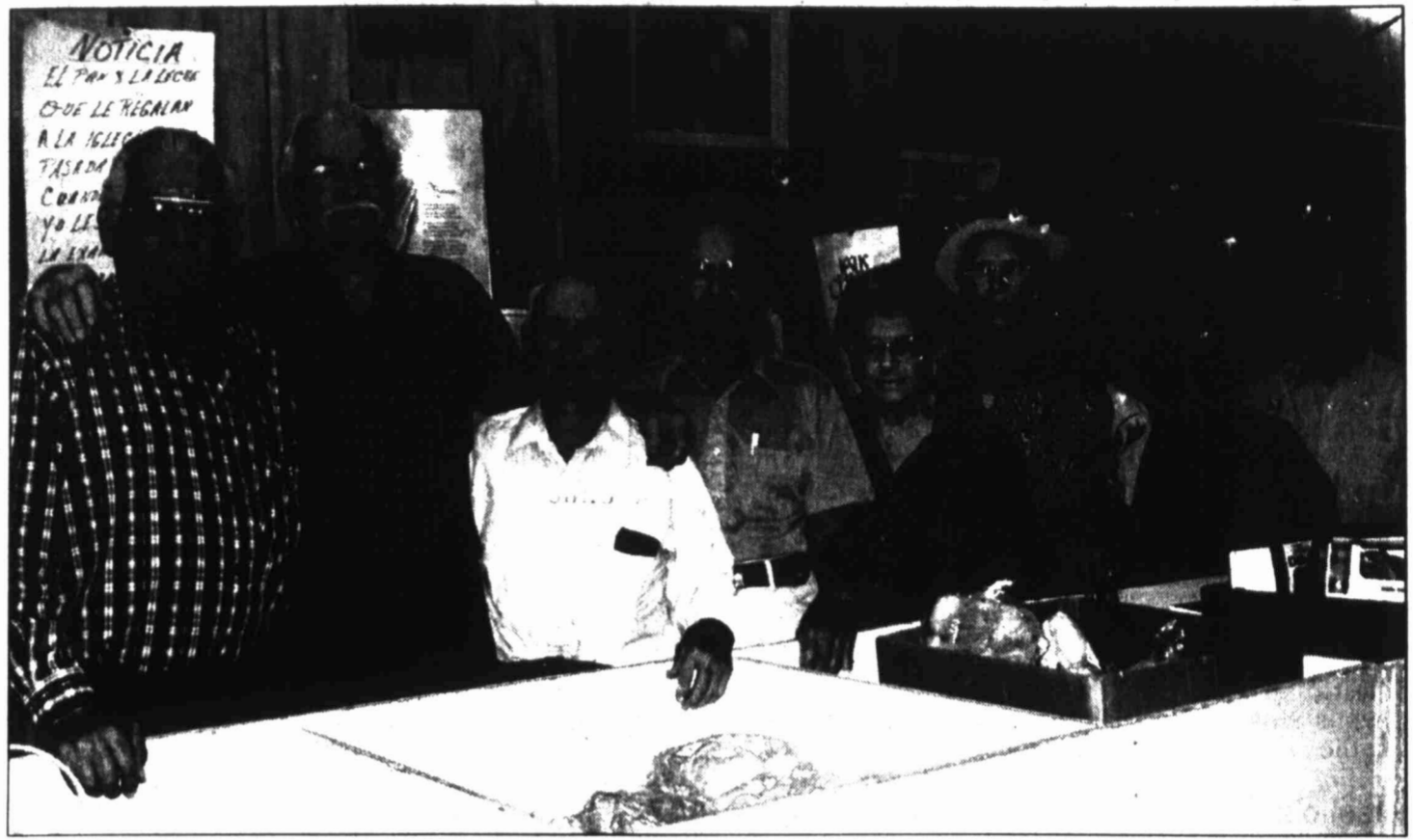
Serving the public is a life's mission for the Tonns. They owned Fox's Pawn Shop in 1984 when they "accepted the call" to become ministers. Their first gatherings were in the back of the pawn shop, but eventually the entire building was transformed into a church.

A year later they relocated to a former Baptist church building on the west side of Big Spring and that location has served to house the ministry as it has grown through the years.

"The Lord woke me up about 3 a.m. one night and told me 'Acknowledge me in all your ways and I will direct your path.' I didn't even know it was scripture at the time, but Mona Lou called me and said 'read Proverbs 3:6.' That scripture means a lot to me," Tonn said.

His path has led Tonn to minister to those others might shy from — alcoholics, drug addicts, homeless — with a salty, down-to-earth embrace of life and God that allows him to reach out to desperate and hopeless individuals.

"I was throwing trash away into a dumpster one day and found a young man in the dumpster who was looking for food. He was sleeping under the culvert north of town and he didn't speak a word of



Volunteers for the food and clothing ministry of Spring Tabernacle Church include John Arista, left, the Rev. Arnold Tonn, Billy Barber, Hershel Johnson, Trudy Carter, Johnnie Callahan, Ethel Pringle, Karla Chevarria and the Rev. Mona Lou Tonn. These volunteers work two and three times each week, sorting and preparing donated food items to be distributed at 10 a.m. every Thursday at the church, located at 1209 Wright St. on the west side of Big Spring. The Tonns have been involved in this ministry, which also includes toys at Christmas, for the past 21 years. A three-day celebration of 20 years at the church is set for Aug. 26-27 with three pastors from Canada speaking at the services. The services begin at 7 p.m. Aug. 26, with another service at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 27 and 10 a.m. Aug. 28. The public is invited to all these services.

English. So I brought him home with us," Tonn said.

Mona Lou picked up the story, recalling the man had pantomimed his harrowing adventures gaining entry into the country.

"We gave him a bed, but he chose to sleep on a refrigerator door, because that's what he was used

to," she said. When they first began the food ministry, the Tonns delivered food to the homes of those in need.

"That was the best, because then we could really see what those needs were and how best to minister to them," Mona Lou said.

Now the ministry brings 40-60 families each week to the church to receive a message of hope, delivered in speech, prayer and song by Mona Lou, and food and clothing.

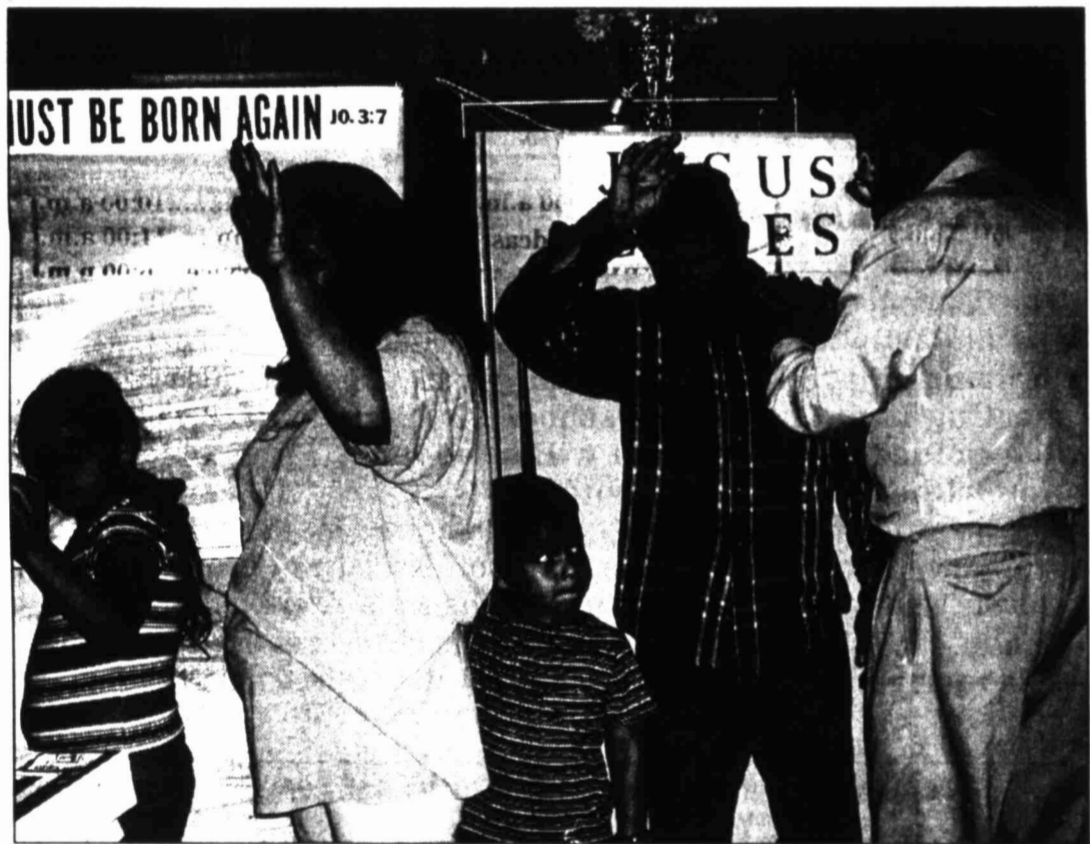
"And we always pray for everyone here who asks for it," she said. For more information,

call the Tonns at Spring Tabernacle Church, 267-5321.

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

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In the photo above, Brandi Flores, left, Angelica Montoya, Randy Flores, Joe Lopez and John Arista pray during the food ministry Thursday at Spring Tabernacle Church. The food ministry is available to all who choose to attend and questions about income and family members are not required. In the right photo, Irene Balcasa, left, Sylvia Sanchez and Linda Sarinana select from cakes, muffins, cinnamon rolls and other donated food during the food ministry that is provided each Thursday at 10 a.m. at Spring Tabernacle Church. The ministry begins with prayer and song and Mona Lou Tonn gives a special message prior to the distribution.



Life! policies
Wedding, anniversary, engagement, quinceañera and birth announcements with color photos are published within three months of the event in the Herald's weekend edition at no charge.
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Templo Belen

October 15-16, Prison Fellowship Ministries in conjunction with Operation Starting Line, will conduct a prison outreach into the four Cornell prisons in Big Spring.

Special training for this short-term missionary trip occurs from noon to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Templo Belen, 2205 Goliad St., in the main sanctuary.

For more information, contact Chaplain Duane and Darilyn Bemis at 816-1834 or Mike and Michelle Villareal at 816-1548 or 263-5833.

Catholic Churches of Howard County

Weekly sessions about the Catholic faith are Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1009 Hearn St., in the house between the church and the school.

Catholics and non-Catholics are invited to learn more about the Catholic faith, traditions and how these are based on holy scripture.

Also, sessions are held for baptized Catholics who need to receive one of more of the sacraments of Holy Eucharist, confirmation or marriage.

Fully initiated adult Catholics are also needed as sponsors.

For more information, call Elfi Tucker at 816-6247 or 393-5313. You may also call any of the church offices: St. Thomas Church at 605 N. Main St., 263-2864; Sacred Heart Church, 263-7884; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 267-4124; or St. Joseph Church on South Street in Coahoma, 267-4124.

Catholic Diocese of San Angelo

The Catholic Extension Society, celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, has assisted the Diocese of San Angelo to the tune of \$5 million and has helped as much as 85 percent of diocesan communities, according to the Rev. Michael Pfeifer, Bishop of the Diocese.

Pfeifer has designated Sunday as Extension Appreciation Sunday in honor of the centennial; it will be commemorated at parishes throughout the diocese of San Angelo.

"I am asking that we take up a special collection this Sunday for the Catholic Extension Society," said Bishop Michael Pfeifer. "The funds will be sent to extension to enable this great society to continue to provide funding for

mission dioceses throughout the United States."

For more information, call or e-mail Jimmy Patterson, director of communications for the Diocese of San Angelo, at 325-374-5856.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

East Fourth Street Baptist Church at 401 E. Fourth, invites the Big Spring community to Sunday services. Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. for all age groups and the morning worship service begins at 11 a.m. Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children and youth of all ages Sunday night at 4:45. Choir practice begins Sunday night at 5 and the evening worship service begins at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, there will be a prayer and Bible study service for the adults and a youth discipleship class at 7 p.m.

Call Amy at 267-2291 for more information.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The members invite you to worship with them at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Senior Saint game night is 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday. Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are 7 p.m. Wednesday.

For information call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First United Methodist Church

"Truth" is the title of Dr. Dave Ring's sermon Sunday. The scripture text is from John 14:6. Worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

All members are invited to attend the installation of new Big Spring district superintendent, the Rev. Namiqa Shipman, at 4 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Lamesa. Following the installation worship, everyone is invited to a picnic in the Lamesa city park.

The Lord's Acre Committee has placed information about donations at various locations throughout the church. Church members are asked to donate items for the auction at Lord's Acre Oct. 29.

Check for the flyers at the church to see what you can donate.

Aug. 27 is Roundup 2005 in Lubbock from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Roundup 2005 offers classes for pastors, lay leaders and local church members in many

different ministry areas. Contact the church office to attend.

Disciple I Bible Study begins Aug. 30, and continue for 34 weeks. The cost for the course is \$35. Call the church office for more information or to register.

All committees are reminded that budget requests are due by Aug. 31. Contact the pastor regarding allocation requests for 2006.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

Sam Soleyn in Big Spring

Bible teacher and preacher Sam Soleyn will be teaching in Big Spring at 6 p.m., Saturday and at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

For more information, contact Jim Alexander at 457-2202.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matt Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from Matthew 16:13-30 at worship service Sunday. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m.; Take 10 starts at 10:35 a.m. and worship service is at 11 a.m.

Activities for the week include Wednesday evening Bible study held at 5:17 p.m.

Upcoming events for the month include a pot luck luncheon to be held after church Aug. 28 and Working Women will begin a new Bible study Aug. 30.

First Presbyterian Church located on Rannels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's Sunday. The summer time change continues Sunday with Holy Eucharist celebrated at 9:30 a.m.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will have its monthly meeting and breakfast this Saturday starting at 8 a.m. in the Chapel.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our Web site at www.stmarysbt.org

St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

First Church of God

First Church of God, 2009 S. Main St., will host a Back-to-School Bible bash from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30

p.m. Saturday. There will be fun for all kids ages 3 to 12.

Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

The Mt. Bethel Women's Missionary Society invites everyone to celebrate its 33rd annual day at 3:30 p.m. Aug. 28.

The program's theme is "Women with Their Eye on the Prize" and the motto is "Motivated to Move." Special guest speaker will be Paula Wilson of St. James Baptist Church in Odessa.


Everyone is welcome to fellowship and worship at 630 Sgt. Paredes St. for Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. each Sunday. The sanctuary choir meets for rehearsal at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Calvary Baptist Church

Dwayne Clawson and his wife, Dee have become recent additions to the Calvary Baptist congregation. They will help lead the church in music and help in the church's ministry. Worship services are held at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sundays. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible study is at 5 p.m. Calvary Baptist is located at 1200 W. Fourth St.

YoungLife

YoungLife is a non-profit Christian organization for high school students. Volunteer adult leaders are needed for the school year. For more informa-


2311 Gregg St. 263-6663

tion or to contribute to YoungLife, call 264-1234.

Cornerstone Church

At 3 p.m. Sunday, a special end of summer and welcome home pool party is set at the city pool in Comanche Trail Park.

All friends, former teachers and coaches are invited to the party for Petty Office Third Class Bob Loftis, who is home on leave from the Navy Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, S.C.

A 2004 Big Spring High School graduate, Loftis played center for the Big Spring Steers from 2002-2004.

Cornerstone Church, an Every Nation Ministries church, has worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities.

The West Texas Conference for Every Nation churches is set for Sept. 15-17 at Mid-Cities Church in Midland.

Cornerstone, located at the corner of 12th and Owens streets, offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship. Childcare is available for

newborns through preschool. Call Pastor Craig or Cherise Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

Salem Baptist Church

Salem Baptist Church invites you to Sunday morning for Sunday school at 10 a.m., morning service at 11 a.m. and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service is held at Parkplace at 6 p.m.

East Side Baptist Church

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. East Side Baptist is located at 1108 E. Sixth St.

Midway Baptist Church

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday morning worship is at 11 a.m. Choir practice is at 5 p.m.; Team Kids, Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action meet at 5 p.m.; Cross Training is at 5 p.m. and the evening service is at 6 p.m.


Wednesday activities include a fellowship meal at 5:30 p.m.; children's

See CHURCH NEWS Page 8A

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**Book sale to benefit
Martin County Library**

The Friends of the Martin County Library have announced a special sale on fiction paper back books at the library's new location.

The Friends have been conducting a used book sale every Thursday — and during the Old Sorehead Trade Days — for several months, but ten for \$1 is a special "employee" price sale.

During this sale paper back fiction books that normally sell for one dollar each will be on special for 10 for \$1.

Fiction and nonfiction hardback books remain at \$3 and nonfiction paperbacks are \$1 each.

The used book facility has a wide variety of books including complete sets of atlases and reference books.

Hours of operation each Thursday are 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Boxes or sacks are provided for customers who wish to take advantage of this sale and acquire plenty of good reading material to last all winter.

The future home of the Martin County Library is located in downtown Stanton across the street from the B.F. White Ford Motor Company, near the Post Office.

Church News

Continued from Page 7A

choir at 6 p.m.; adult Bible study at 7 p.m.; Little Dribblers 7 p.m.; and Solid Rock at 6 p.m.

Midway Baptist Church is located at 6200 S. Service Road. For more information, call 263-6274 or e-mail midway@crcom.net.

**New Covenant
Christian Worship
Center**

The Rev. Michael and First Lady Bella Willard, staff and members personally welcome everyone to any of the worship services offered at New Covenant.

Sunday morning worship services at 11 a.m., doors open at 10:45 a.m. Wednesdays at 6 p.m. is Young Ambassadors Youth Ministry.

The church is located at 1607 E. Third St. For more information, call 264-0015 or e-mail nccwcl@yahoo.com.

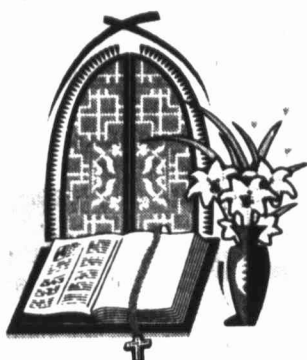
**First Church
of the Nazarene**

Family ministries night is Wednesday. Several activities are planned from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Choir rehearsal is in the sanctuary from 7:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Coffee, donuts and fellowship time is 9 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. Sunday and Sunday Celebration is at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Children's Church and KinderChurch is in the Kid's Building. Sunday night Celebration of Praise is at 6 p.m.

**Friends of Unity
Center**

Located in the Railroad Plaza at 100 S. Main in the East Boxcar, the Center is a gathering place for people who desire to increase awareness of oneness with Jesus Christ and the Father. Meetings are open to all. For more information, call 267-8783.

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John 15:13

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The Lord Is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want.
Psalm 23: 1

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth:
1 Cor. 13: 6

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever.
Psalm 136: 1

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And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.
1 Cor. 13:13

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In The Beginning God Created The Heavens And The Earth.
Gen. 1:1

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Big Spring, TX

**First United
Methodist Church**



SUNDAY:
Worship Services.....8:30 AM & 10:50 AM
Mid-High Youth.....5:30 PM
Praise & Worship.....6:30 PM
Senior High Youth.....7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY:
Mid-High Youth Study.....5:30 PM
Senior High Bible Study.....6:30 PM

Pastor, Dr. Dave Ring

400 Scurry

267-6394

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4th & Lancaster 267-7971
TEMPLO BELEN
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
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BAPTIST TEMPLE
400 11th Place 267-8287
BEREA BAPTIST
4204 Wasson Rd. 267-8438
BIRDWELL LANE BAPTIST
1512 Birdwell Lane
CALVARY BAPTIST
1200 W. 4th. 263-4242
CENTRAL BAPTIST
Elbow Community
COLLEGE BAPTIST
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CRESTVIEW BAPTIST
Gatesville Street
EAST FOURTH BAPTIST
401 East 4th 267-2291
EAST SIDE BAPTIST
1108 E. 6th 267-1915

FIRST BAPTIST
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FIRST BAPTIST
Knott
FIRST BAPTIST
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FIRST BAPTIST
Sand Springs 393-5565
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HILLCREST BAPTIST
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Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

WE BUILD
Kiwanis Club of Big Spring

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
Romans 5: 1

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If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.
1 Cor. 13:1

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IN BRIEF

'Meet the coaches' set for Saturday

The Big Spring football team has announced a "meet the coaches" night will take place at Blankenship Field Saturday.

The football team will have a practice from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and fans are welcome to attend. There will also be a hamburger supper starting at 5 p.m.

The supper is \$5 for a burger, chips and a drink and anyone who purchases a meal will be put into a drawing for a chance to win Big Spring season tickets and a Steer gear package.

Community pep rally set for Monday

Fans will get their first chance to see the teams for Big Spring's fall sports season as the community-wide pep rally has been set for Monday at the Amphitheater inside Comanche Trail Park.

The event will start at 8 p.m. and all sports teams from seventh through 12th grade will be included.

Howard sets mini cheerleading camp

Howard College will hold a mini cheer camp Aug. 27 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for grades first through six.

Registration will take place at 8 a.m. and the cheer/dance class session will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Participants are supposed to bring a lunch to eat at noon and bring a water bottle and wear tennis shoes. They are also supposed to put their names on their belongings and plan on meeting the Howard College cheerleaders.

All registered participants will also compete at the Battle of the Cheerleaders at the Rodeo Bowl that night during the county fair.

The cost of the camp is \$25.

For more information, call 264-5024.

Quarterback club sets remaining weekly meetings

The Big Spring football booster club (quarterback club) will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at the ATC through the football season. However, there will not be a meeting this Monday.

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

B.S. football season tickets on sale now

Football season tickets for the Big Spring Steers are now on sale for the general public.

Tickets can be purchased at the Big Spring Athletic Training Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

For more information, contact Ray Cook at 264-3662.

• Potent passing game leads Steers past Tornados

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

LAMESA — The Big Spring football team played in its first live action of the season Thursday in a scrimmage at Lamesa against the Golden Tornados.

Senior Kyle Piercefield got his first real action at tight end and new quarterback Ryan Tannehill, a junior, took full advantage as the duo connected on several long pass plays.

The two teams exchanged 20 offensive plays each with their first units and then 15 plays with their second units before battling in a two quarter timed real game situation.

Tannehill and Piercefield hooked up for touchdowns twice during the final two quarter session and the Steers scored three other times and won the scrimmage five scores to one.

The first 20 plays for Big Spring's first unit resulted in just one touchdown — another big pass play from Tannehill to Piercefield.

Lamesa also scored once in its 20 plays. They picked up a large gain on an option and had two other big runs to set up a short touchdown.

Big Spring's second unit was highlighted by two big runs by senior fullback Zach Chesworth and a long pass play from junior Raul Aguilar to sophomore wideout Terrance Clemons.

The live scrimmage started slow for both teams on their first possessions. Big Spring started strong with some big runs by junior fullback Lance Tissue, but then stalled before Lamesa also punted.

Big Spring was stopped on its second possession on fourth and inches. Lamesa took full advantage from there and scored first on a long touchdown run.

However, Big Spring would not let the Golden Tornados reach the end zone again.

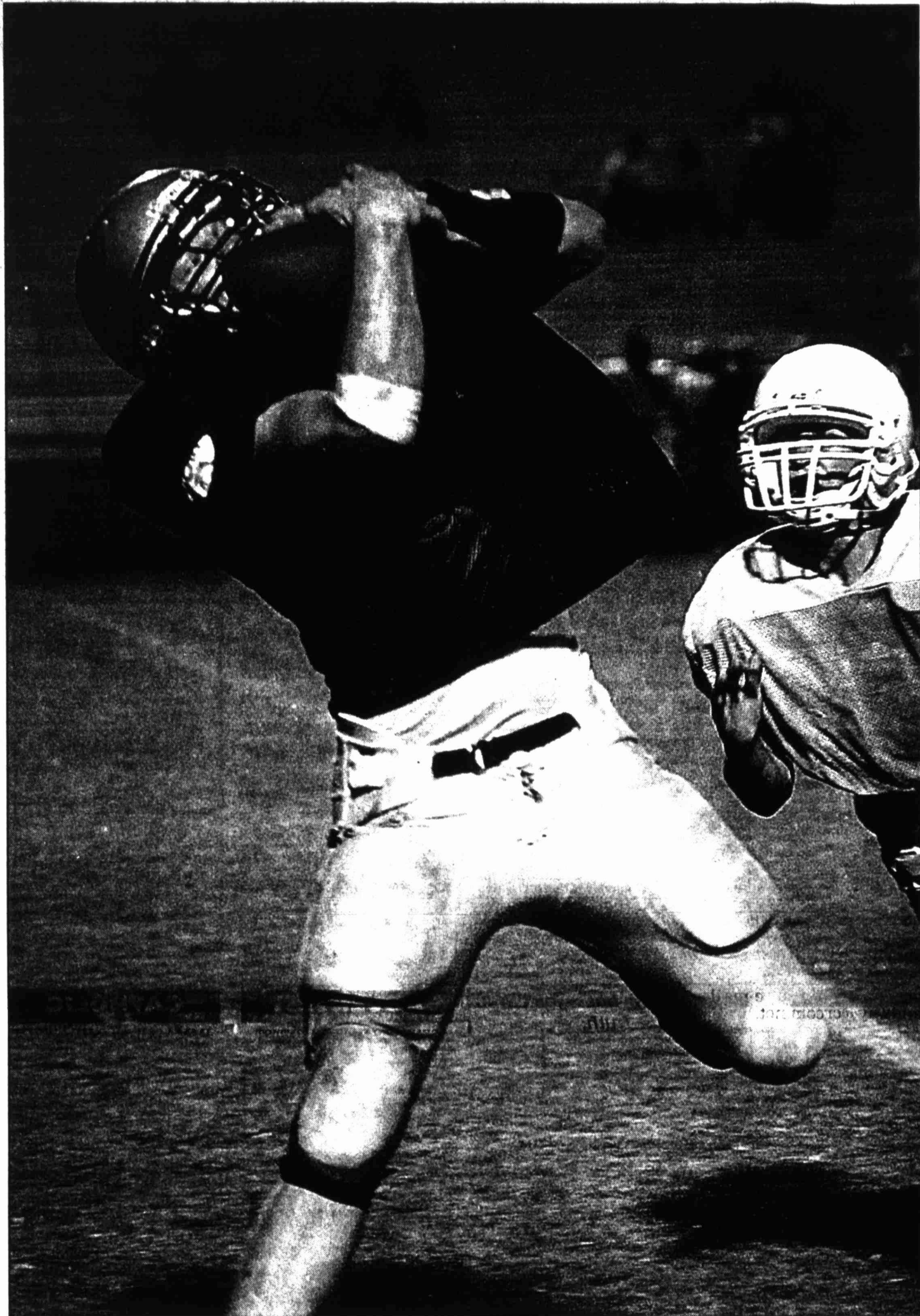
The Steers began their third possession with a long run by senior tailback Matt Hilario. Then after Tannehill missed an open receiver and the Steers gained two yards on a short run, the Steers picked up a first down on a long pass play to junior Caleb Choate.

Senior halfback Kalin Whitehead then finished off the drive with a 10 yard touchdown run. He broke two tackles on the play and tied the score. Piercefield then put the Steers up as he caught the two-point conversion.

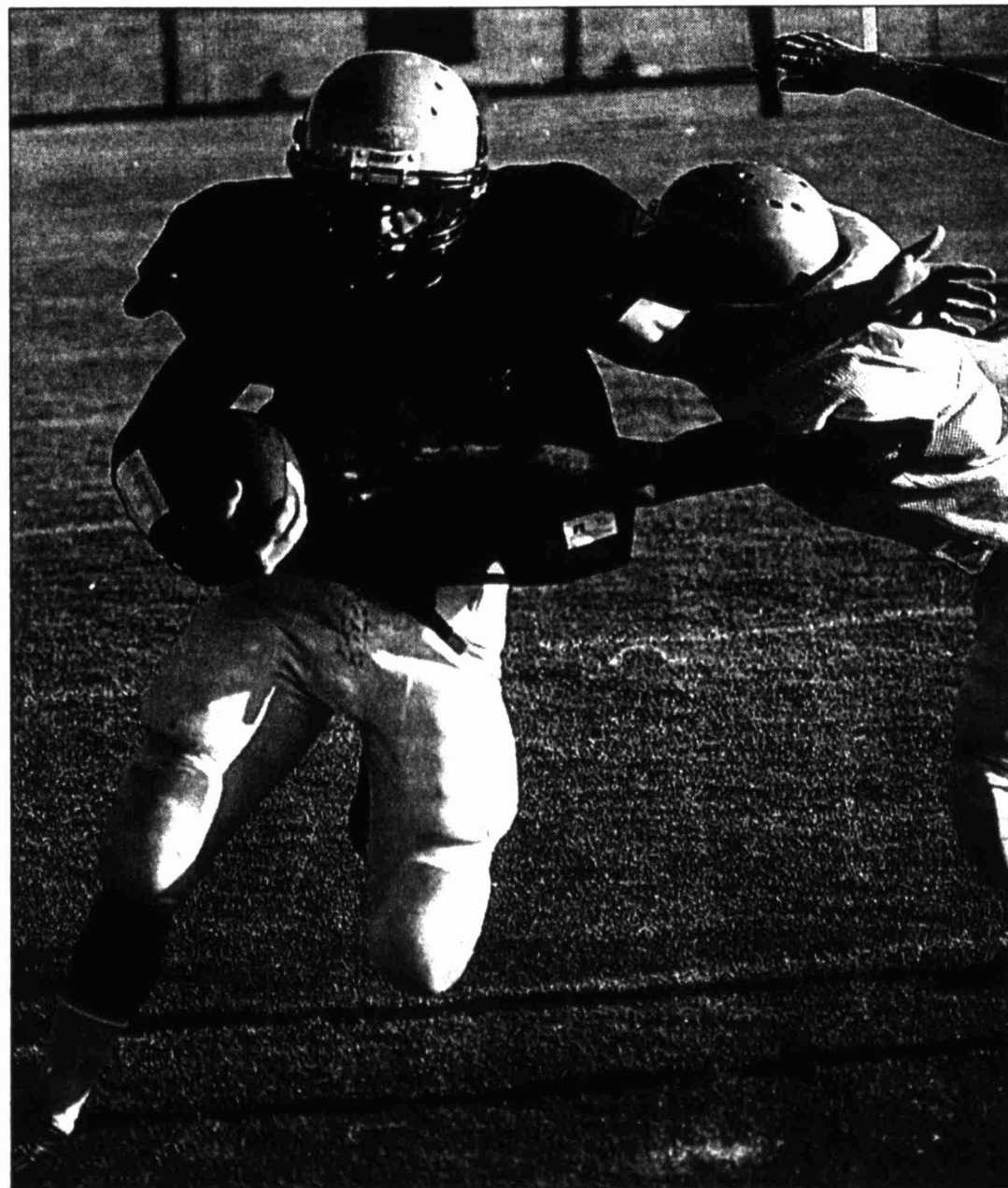
After forcing a three and out, Big Spring got the ball back and went to work right away.

Hilario and Tissue each rolled off good runs as the ball was pushed down to the 23 yard line in a hurry. After two plays for minimal yards, Hilario got a first down a 12 yard pass play from Tannehill. Two plays later, Tissue finished off the drive with a six yard touchdown run.

The action was far from



Big Spring Junior Caleb Choate pulls down a pass and gets a large gain during action in Lamesa at the Steers' first and only scrimmage of the season. Choate also grabbed a touchdown pass during the two quarter timed session. The Steers open their season next Friday against Odessa High at Memorial Stadium.



Big Spring senior Kalin Whitehead breaks a tackle and gets upfield during the Steers' scrimmage against Lamesa Thursday night. The Steers scored five times to the Golden Tornados' one during a two quarter timed session.

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Announcements
CONCEALED HAND GUN CLASS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD. CONTACT TOMMY SCOTT, (432)394-4492.

Business Opportunity
The Big Spring Herald has the following carrier routes open.
Various in-town routes & Sand Springs area. Also looking for substitute carriers, need to be available for on-call basis. Reliable transportation. Apply in person. Contact Duane McCollum

BIG SPRING HERALD
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Garage Sales
MOVING SALE, 3600 Hamilton, Saturday, 7:30-1:00. Lots of miscellaneous.
GARAGE SALE, 2200 Edgemere. Friday, 4:00p.m.-6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Furniture, dishes, material, books, baby clothes 0-3 months & up, bedding, slipcovers, TV, speakers, wood shelf, curtains, adult clothes, decorative items, tablecloths, collectibles.
3 FAMILY Backyard Sale: 3313 Duke, Saturday 8:00-1:00. Children's up to adult clothes & shoes, toys, deco items and much more.

Garage Sales
Auction Sat. August 20 • 7 PM
Futon Bed, Table, Coffee Table, End Tables, Wingback Chair, Old Photos & Postcards, Jewelry, Glassware, Collectibles, Light Fixtures, Display Shelves, Roofing Nails, Lots of Plumbing & PVC Fittings, Rototiller, Hedge Trimmer, Chain Saw, Scroll Saw, Circular Saw & Other Tools. Lots of Miscellaneous.
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Thur., Fri. & Sat. 9:00-5:00pm.
409 East 5th Street. Tools - Tools - Tools, New fencing wire, new drill press, new 2 microwaves, cabinets, tables, lots of misc.
404 BOATLER Road, Saturday, 8:00-? Multi-Family Sale. Women's, mens, boys, teen girl clothes, shoes. Abercrombie, American Eagle, brand new. Lots of toys, kitchen, misc.
BENEFIT GARAGE Sale: Raising money to "Sent Jayde to Alabama". 1402 East 18th, Saturday Only 7:30-?
MULT. FAMILY Carport Sale: 1800 N. Birdwell Lane, Saturday 8:00-2:00. Girls & Boys clothing, adult clothes, misc. toys and lots more.

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CARPORT SALE: 2609 Cheyenne, Saturday 8:00-5:00. Good adult & teen clothes, game boys, shoes, purses and lots of misc. Most items will be sold for \$1 or less.

GARAGE SALE: 2607 Carol Drive, Saturday 8-?. Bookcase, tiffany chandelier, TV's, golf clubs, baby stuff, entertainment center, treadmill, lots of clothes, tires and too much to list.

GARAGE SALE: Saturday 8:00-1:00. Take Thorp St., turn left on Clanton, then right on Mishler- follow signs. Lots of goodies! Kid and adult clothes, gas grill, gas scooters, chest of drawers.

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SATURDAY, 8:00-NOON. 2512 Carol. Microwave, new grill, Nordic Track, baby boy clothes, shoes, purses, home decor, remodeling items, clothes, knick-knacks, weeder.

YARD SALE: Saturday 8:00-?, 14 Riva Ridge- follow signs down Driver Road. 1988 Ford 150 king cab, girls/boys clothes, dishes, home deco., toys, sporting equipment and more.

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MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health is looking for a full-time LVN to join their energetic staff. Person must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

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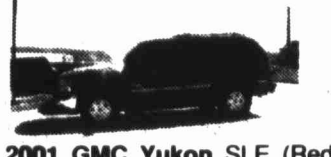
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Jimmy Hopper
1607 E. FM 700
Big Spring, Tx
(432)267-5588

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Forest Oil Corporation, 707 17th Street, Suite 3600, Denver, CO 80202 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the Glorieta, San Angelo and San Andres Formations, Bellam Lease, Well Number 12. The proposed injection well is located 9 miles Southeast of Coahoma in thelatan, East Howard Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1,600 to 2,750 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #4670 August 19, 2005

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Self Storage which is located at 3314 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Satu. Jay August 20th, 2005, at American Self Storage, 3314 East FM 700. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. All sales are subject to Texas State Sales Tax. Sale is on the contents of:
Tenant: Gilda Castillo
Consisting of: Misc. household items
#4671 August 19, 2005.



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

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

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The underlying belief is that people who are known as "eccentrics" became strange because they had to apply their high intelligence to the limiting "ordinary" world. The full moon in Aquarius turns the "ordinary" world into an environment where eccentricity is commonplace. When everyone is eccentric, then no one is!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're presented with a variety of problems — none of them your own — in need of solutions. If you choose to help, throw the rulebook out the window. Use your inner knowing to weigh each case on its own merits.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When it comes to friendships, you're as fickle as a fourth-grader today. It's suddenly important to fill your social roster with only the hippest activities. In the end, you'll be happiest with your tried and true buddies though.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Friends look to you to

provide brilliant ideas for their weekend activities. Since you're included in the fun, pick your favorite hobby, and build around it. Your enthusiasm is contagious, and you'll make converts out of your pals.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You feel pulled in multiple directions across the board, including issues that involve work and love. Impossible as it may seem, you can have it all with proper time management. Your planner is your best friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). True love is the kind of once-in-a-lifetime event that Leos can have over and over and over. Some such fulfilling and exhilarating experience will be part of today's excitement.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll enter a time warp! Things you thought you dealt with will return. It's all very positive though ... perhaps the cosmos are just trying to give you another chance. This time around you're an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Opposites attract, great minds think alike — blah, blah, blah. When it comes to love, it's a free-for-all, and no single strategy works for everyone. So embrace differences, seek

out similarities, and by all means, have fun!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Confidence is fabulously high, so take advantage! Dust off your "take charge" attitude, and get going on those tasks you've been avoiding. An intellectual air sign (Libra, Gemini or Aquarius) is your ally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Planning is not usually your forte, but right now, you could derive great joy from plotting the course ahead. Be bold, be brave and be decisive. Browsing the classified section of the newspaper offers inspiration.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're put in the Alpha role and you're comfortable there, as there's nothing you like better than giving advice, solving problems and resolving disputes. But don't let the power go to your head.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Whether you're in a relationship or looking for one, the key to making yourself desirable is to be interesting. Read, see movies and try new things. The more you have to talk about and share, the more others are drawn to you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Consider how your

personal life might be affecting your health. Your acceptance that a romantic relationship is not all wine and roses allows you to see your partner for the wonderful person he or she really is.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: Romance novels have given a segment of the population unrealistic ideas about what a loving relationship should be. Most of us are simply more "subtle" than Fabio and Pam. Create fantasies that you and your partner can enjoy without living in a castle. **ARIES:** Love sickness has been proven to be an actual physical phenomenon, not just something in your head. Are your relationships totally healthy? **TAURUS:** Unlike the movie title, for you there is no "up" side of anger. Keep it calm, cool and collected. **GEMINI:** A "just friends" relationship can turn into something else this weekend. **CANCER:** No excuses — you're either in a relationship or out of it. **LEO:** Gently keep after your sweetie for that repayment, or you'll be resentful later. **VIRGO:** The decline of your inhibitions is featured. **LIBRA:** The weird parts of your personality are a hit! **SCORPIO:** You'll spend hours with your

favorite person. **SAGITTARIUS:** You'll be liberated by love. **CAPRICORN:** In questions of style versus content, make sure you choose the latter. **AQUARIUS:** Go on a marvelous outing. **PISCES:** The beginning of a relationship mirrors its end.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: The Aquarius and Leo connection is one of mutual admiration so long as Aquarius remembers to show off a bit — Leos aren't into subtlety. Leo's playful side comes out when faced with the Aquarian imagination. The perfect date starts with Aquarius doing a bit of show and tell of his or her prized possessions and accomplishments. This hooks Leo in, and the rest is a shared piece of heaven.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the [Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: At a family gathering two years ago, my in-laws' dog attempted to bite my then 2-year-old daughter. "Fido" is a large dog and could have done considerable damage had he actually gotten hold of her. This all took place during a very busy party where many people not only saw but heard the incident.

The next time we visited my in-laws, we asked if they could please put Fido outside. They were extremely offended, stating we were blowing things out of proportion, but they reluctantly agreed — until we got there. Then Fido was let back in. When we objected, they responded as if my husband and I were asking them to put the dog to sleep. Since then, we rarely visit their home, instead inviting them to ours, and relations have become quite strained.

My daughter is not afraid of dogs, but she has not forgotten what this dog did to her. We have taught her appropriate ways to approach any dog and to stay away from a dog she does not know. Are we wrong to ask that they tie Fido outside or, as they suggest, should we just "get over it"? — Once Bitten, Twice Shy in New



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

York

Dear Once Bitten: Your in-laws are being careless with your daughter's safety. Did your daughter provoke an otherwise-gentle dog? If so, you might want to give Fido another chance, as long as you are watching carefully. However, if Fido tried to bite her without provocation, you are absolutely correct to keep her away until she is older and larger. If your in-laws don't like it, too bad.

Dear Annie: I recently became engaged to an incredible man, and I know we will have a beautiful and amazing life together. This will be my first marriage and "Peter's" second.

The day after Peter proposed, he told me he

would like to wear the same wedding band from his first marriage. I was horrified. Peter explained that he had selected, designed and paid for the wedding band himself and was still quite fond of it. I'm not sure if this is trivial or has serious implications for our future. I always thought a wedding band symbolizes the bond between husband and wife. After seeing my reaction, Peter relented and backed down.

What exactly is the protocol involving wedding rings once a couple divorces? For the most part, Peter speaks negatively of his first marriage, and I have no doubt that he is 100 percent devoted to me. Am I overreacting? — Honolulu

Dear Honolulu: Many divorcees have their wedding bands reconfigured into a different piece of jewelry. If Peter designed the ring, it makes sense that he would want to wear it, and no, we don't think it carries any additional significance. Ask if he'd be willing to redesign it to better reflect his new circumstances.

Dear Annie: This is in response to the woman who said the phones stopped ringing after her husband's funeral. I'll give you a reason why.

In the past year, two women in our church have become widowed. Whenever they are with us, all they talk about is themselves, how lonely they are, etc. One of them actually told me, "I feel sad, and that's all I'm going to talk about."

Friends who care enough to include widows in their plans do so to provide fellowship and a temporary escape from the daily pain. If the conversation focuses solely on their loss, the purpose of the gathering changes totally. I am more than glad to be a sympathetic supporter, but it is not realistic to expect regular invitations if every conversation is centered on pain and suffering. — Had Enough Sadness

Dear Had Enough: It is difficult to repeatedly spend time with those who obsess about their misery. Widows (and widowers) who use their friends solely as grief counselors run the risk of becoming a burden. Those

who do who do who could benefit from some professional help. Dear Annie: Every time my girlfriend comes over to my house, my dad always tells me to keep the door to my room open. I know it is because he doesn't trust us, but I have never done anything to lose his trust. My girlfriend and I are almost 16, and we are smart enough to know that nothing is going to happen when my parents are home.

One time, I closed the door partway because we were listening to music, and Dad barged right in. He didn't even knock or anything, and told me rather loudly to keep the door wide open. The only reason I want to keep the door shut is to give my girlfriend and me a little privacy. We just want to talk, and we don't want anyone else to hear, and we certainly don't want Dad checking up on us every couple of minutes.

Annie, my dad is hard to reason with — it's always his way or the highway (which frequently results in fights). When I ask him why I can't close the door, he says, "Because I said so."

Is there anything I can say that will make him see my point of view? Why doesn't he trust me? Any help will be appreciated. — Too Protected in Vermont

Dear Vermont: Try to understand Dad's reasoning. He fears that without supervision, you and your girlfriend will become more intimate, and that you are too young for that kind of emotional involvement. It isn't that he doesn't trust you. It's because he once was your age and knows how hard it is to resist such temptation.

Offer Dad a compromise. Ask if you can keep the door just slightly open, and offer to walk out of your room and say hello every 10-15 minutes. If all you are doing is talking, it shouldn't be that difficult. We know it seems silly, but do it anyway for your father's peace of mind.

Dear Annie: I've been married to "Ted" for one year. He was previously married to "Alice" for 30 years. They had four children and 11 grandchildren, and divorced 15 years ago.

We were invited to a

grandson's graduation in June. After the ceremony, we went back to the motel to get ready for an after-graduation party at his parents' home. However, Alice showed up, and we were told that we should not attend the party.

Ted's daughter-in-law informed me that after the divorce, Alice told the entire family she never wanted to see Ted again, and they have gone out of their way to make her happy. (Three years ago, both Alice and Ted attended a family wedding. She had a fit and refused to have pictures taken with the family.)

Next month, a granddaughter is getting married, and we plan to attend. How should we handle this? — New Wife

Dear New: The kids should not allow Mom to hold the guest list hostage. Relations would have an opportunity to normalize if Alice were forced to endure Ted's company on these family occasions, and you can suggest it, but it's up to the kids to alter their approach. Meanwhile, please go to those functions to which you are invited. No sense in everyone being vindictive.

G'Day, Ladies: This is regarding a letter from "Dad Out East," whose wife bought a stock of pantyhose for their sons to wear under their uniforms.

In Australia, the big beefy lifeguards wear pantyhose because it prevents jellyfish from stinging them while in the water. Pantyhose, when wet, make a nice shield for the skin. — Sydney

Dear Sydney: We are not going to argue with hunky Aussie lifeguards. They can wear anything they like.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the [Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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FRIDAY

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"WE'LL HAVE A CLEAN GLASS FOR YA IN JUST A SEC, MISTER."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

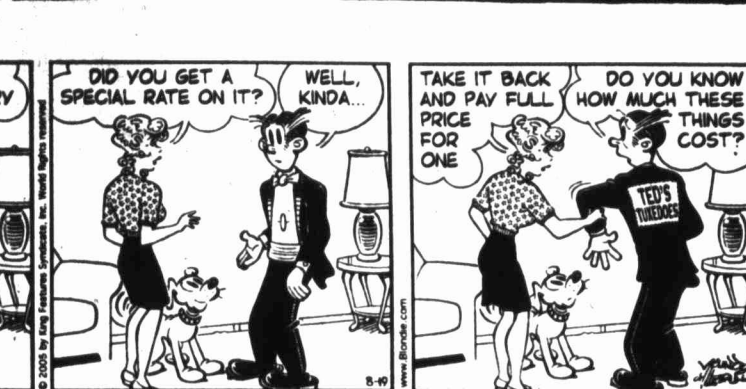


"Stop laughing, Billy! I HAFTA walk like this 'cause my bathin' suit is full of SAND!"

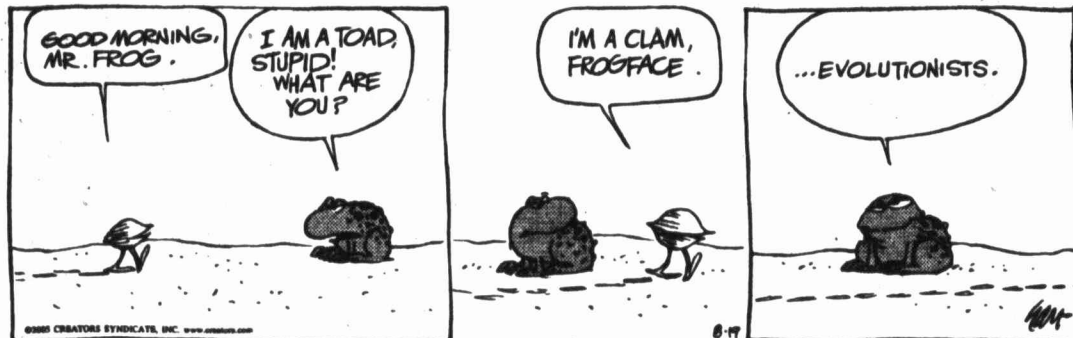
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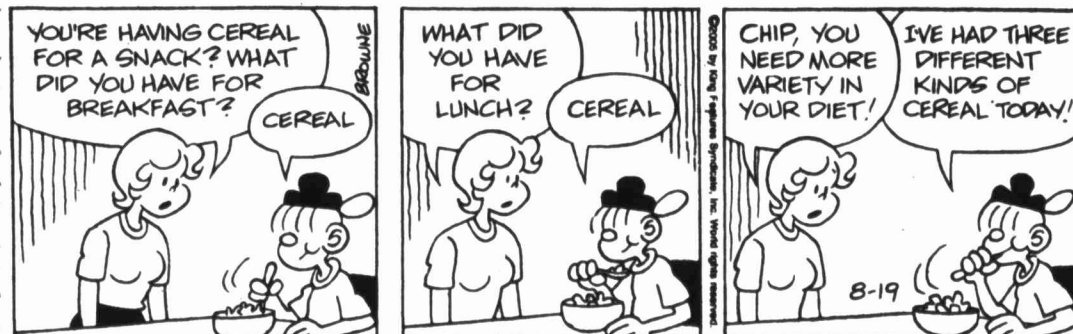
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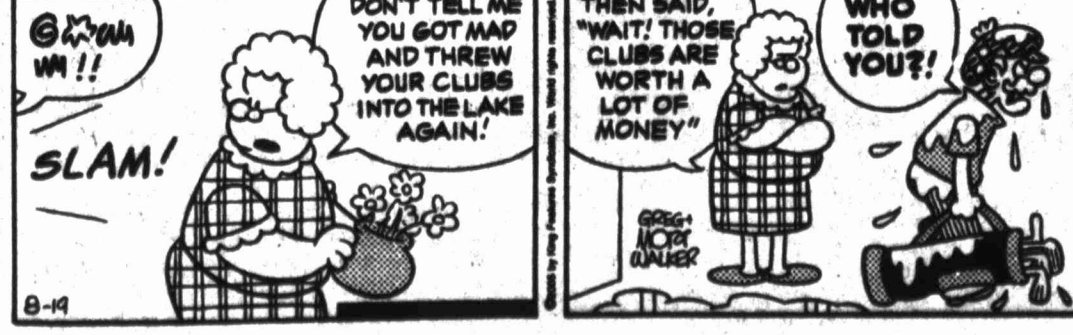
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 19, the 231st day of 2005. There are 134 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: Fifty years ago, on Aug. 19, 1955, severe flooding in the northeastern U.S. claimed some 200 lives.

In 1812, the U.S.S. Constitution defeated the British frigate Guerriere east of Nova Scotia during the War of 1812.

In 1848, the New York Herald reported the discovery of gold in California.

In 1929, the comedy program "Amos and Andy," starring Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll, made its network radio debut on NBC.

In 1934, a plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler.

In 1942, about 6,000 Canadian and British soldiers launched a disastrous

raid against the Germans at Dieppe, France, suffering about 50-percent casualties.

In 1960, a tribunal in Moscow convicted American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers of espionage.

In 1974, U.S. Ambassador Rodger P. Davies was fatally wounded by a bullet that penetrated the American embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus, during a protest by Greek Cypriots.

In 1980, 301 people aboard a Saudi Arabian L-1011 died as the jetliner made a fiery emergency landing at the Riyadh airport.

In 1991, Soviet hard-liners announced to a shocked world that President Mikhail S. Gorbachev had been removed from power. (The coup collapsed two days later.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor L.Q. Jones is 78. Tennis coach Renee Richards is 71. Actress Diana Muldaur is 67. Actress Jill St. John is 65. Actor and former U.S. senator Fred Thompson is 63. Rock singer Ian Gillan (Deep Purple) is 60. Former President Clinton is 59. Tipper Gore, wife of former Vice President Al Gore, is 57. Actor Gerald McRaney is

57. Rock musician Actor Jonathan Frakes is 53. Actor Peter Gallagher is 50. Singer-songwriter Gary Chapman is 48. Actor Martin Donovan is 48. Actor John Stamos is 42. Actress Kyra Sedgwick is 40. Actor Kevin Dillon is 40. Country singer Lee Ann Womack is 39. TV reporter Tabitha Soren is 38. Country singer-songwriter Actor Matthew Perry is 36. Country singer Clay Walker is 36. Rapper Fat Joe is 35. Tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez is 34. Actress Erika Christensen is 23. Actor J. Evan Bonifant is 20. Rapper Lil' Romeo is 16.

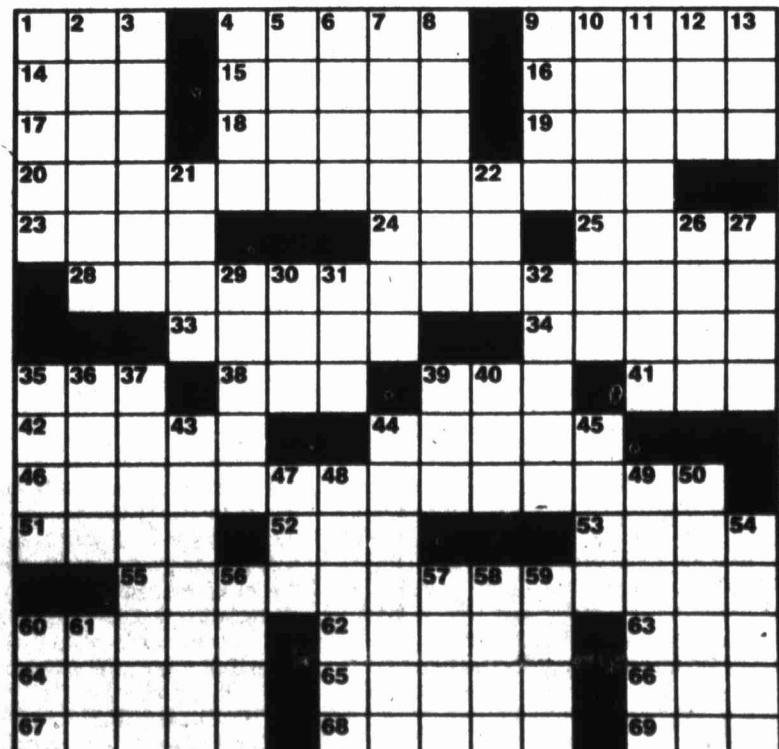
Thought for Today: "Don't compromise yourself. You are all you've got." - Janis Joplin, American rock singer (1943-1970).

Answer to previous puzzle
WHIM COOS PECAN
IOTA ROLE OLLIE
SPARETHEDETAILS
HELIX GETSLOST
NASH ROD
STA MOOS NAMATH
PARESDOWN MACRO
ABIT SPIED TRIO
CLEAR SPEARHEAD
YELLOW FDNA SLY
AHA YEN
ARBORIST OPALS
REAPSTHEBENEFIT
MARIA EROS NAME
SLEET SPOT DREW

Newsday Crossword

ACT NOW! by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Physicians' org.
- 4 Molten rock
- 9 Senate broadcaster
- 14 Mercury or Neptune
- 15 Exhausted
- 16 The Quiet Man actress
- 17 Pt. of speech
- 18 Hotelier Helmsley
- 19 Dutch painter
- 20 Start of a quote
- 23 Literary pseudonym
- 24 Game-winning line
- 25 Recipe armts.
- 28 Middle of quote
- 33 Becomes disenchanted
- 34 Bikini blast, briefly
- 35 Margarine holder
- 38 Metric wts.
- 39 Machiavelli subject
- 41 More, to a señor
- 42 Kegler's milieu
- 44 Iota follower
- 46 End of quote
- 51 Merit-badge site
- 52 Gullet
- 53 Formulated thought
- 55 Author of the quote
- 60 Molly Bloom creator
- 62 Actor Sal
- 63 Ques. response
- 64 Bellowing
- 65 James and Jones of jazz
- 66 New Deal agcy.
- 67 Is willing to conductor
- 69 Towel off
- DOWN
- 1 Slack-jawed
- 2 Vintage Ford
- 3 Butt against
- 4 Santa's spot, often
- 5 Away from the wind
- 6 Shine softly
- 7 Lowly assistants
- 8 Type of clock
- 9 Cooperstown electee of '36
- 10 Berate loudly
- 11 Announcement conduit
- 12 Parabolic path
- 13 "Forget it!"
- 21 Ponies up
- 22 Place to park
- 26 Tuscany city
- 27 Phased-out fliers
- 29 Meiji Shrine locale
- 30 Bear's greeting?
- 31 Treasury Dept. bureau
- 32 Silent screen star
- 35 New Mexico art colony
- 36 Arm bone
- 37 "Achoo!" response
- 39 Had been
- 40 Suited to the task
- 43 Principled
- 44 Saudi neighbor
- 45 Gallic girlfriend
- 47 Chrysler purchase of '87
- 48 Assuaged
- 49 Prince - Island
- 50 The Dick Van Dyke Show creator
- 54 Judge the worth of
- 56 Uncool dude
- 57 Fascinated by
- 58 Enjoy a novel
- 59 Come up short
- 60 Shoot the breeze
- 61 El Dorado treasure



Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

The essential forearm

By T.J. TOMASI
Universal Press Syndicate

An important essential for a powerful release is forearm rotation. Midway into the backswing, when the front arm is parallel with the ground, notice that the left forearm of the golfer pictured below is over his right forearm. But after he swings his arms past his chest and across his left foot, his right arm is straight while his left is bent. Now, his right forearm is over his left, showing that somewhere in between, his forearms have rotated, one over the other.

Your hand can't turn over without the aid of your forearm, so you shouldn't concentrate on your hands to rotate the club head.

To prove this, extend your left arm in front of you with your palm facing the ground. Hold your left wrist very tightly with your right hand so that you immobilize your left forearm. Now with your right hand resisting, try to rotate your left palm to the sky. With your forearm immobilized, you can't.

The forearm rotates the hand, and in the golf swing this action squares the club face to the target. If you use your hands to square up the club face instead of allowing your forearms to do it, chances are you'll collapse your left wrist.

The Graduated Release Drill

1. Tee up a ball and, using your highest-lofted fairway wood (a 5-wood is perfect), take your normal address position except that your hands are split on the grip with about 4 inches between them.

2. Cock your wrists and turn your left shoulder until your left arm is parallel with the ground, over your toe line.

3. Now drop your arms down to the position they held at address, but keep your right wrist bent. Stop just before contact and note that the club face is pointing to the right. This is as it should be.

4. Go back to address and do it again, but add a slight amount of forearm rotation and some right-side turn led by your right knee and hip. Note that the club face now looks at the target, i.e., it's square.

5. Hit some balls with this half-swing and split grip, then hit some with your normal grip, focusing on the correct release. If you start to lose the feel, go back through the steps of the drill.



The forearm rotates the hand, and in the golf swing this action squares the club face to the target.

COMMENTARY



Photos by CURTIS COMPTON / Cox News Service

Phil Mickelson now has 27 career PGA Tour wins, including two majors.

Major No. 2 should clam up Phil's critics

By ALAN TAYS
Cox News Service

Springfield, N.J.
What will Phil's critics do next?

Pardon the paraphrasing of an ad campaign, but really, now that he has a second major championship, what is left to criticize about Phil Mickelson?

Yeah, I know there are less-than-Hall-of-Fame players with two majors — cue the Andy North highlight reel — but with 26 PGA Tour wins, including a Masters, coming into this PGA Championship, Mickelson didn't exactly come out of nowhere to win here at Baltusrol.

(Or as New York's Daily News called the course after Sunday's round was suspended because of lightning, "Haltusrol.")

Mickelson did everything you could ask for here. He led or shared the lead after every round. He drove it long but kept his tee shots mostly out of trouble. He took no foolish chances. He pitched and chipped well and he made putts when he had to.

That's why Thomas Bjorn knew, as he watched Mickelson standing over a delicate pitch shot on the 18th hole, that his own chances of getting into a playoff were toast.

"If there was anybody you'd back to get up and down from there in the world, it would be Phil Mickelson," Bjorn said. "I didn't think there was much hope when I saw where he was."

Mickelson might not have had a putter in his hand, but he had probably his most trusted club — his lob wedge.

"It was a chip shot that I had hit tens of thousands of times in my back yard," Mickelson said. "But it was one that I had to strike it confidently and aggressively to get the club through the rough. It was sitting a little bit down-grain, which was beneficial because it helped the ball come out a little bit faster to get there, and I think that the rain last night softened the green a little bit, so there was-



Amanda Brynn Mickelson, 4 (right), who caddied for her father, Phil, during a practice round at the Masters earlier this year, joined her sister, Sophia Isabel, 3, and brother, Evan, 2, on the 18th green after Phil won the PGA Championship Monday.

n't a fear of the ball racing by the hole.

"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."

As Mickelson said, it was a shot he has hit before. Many, many times before when he was growing up in San Diego.

"We had some pretty thick rough in our back yard," Mickelson said, "and that's exactly what I was thinking on 18, that this is no different from what I've done in my back yard since I was a kid."

Well, maybe a little different, at least in terms of consequences. If a little kid hits a bad shot in his back yard, who cares? But if Phil

Mickelson, the best player never to do this and the best player never to do that, hits a bad shot on the 72nd hole of the PGA Championship, and maybe goes on to lose in a playoff, well, it could have gotten ugly.

But it didn't. He stiffed the shot and dropped the putt, and if you had nothing better to do on a Monday morning than watch golf on TV, you got to see a little Mickelson — son, Evan, 2 — running joyously around the green.

At least he wasn't wearing 8-millimeter spikes.

So that's two majors now, at the age of 35. Yes, a lot of players had more earlier, but right now Phil's in the same boat with a couple of guys who could play a little.

Ben Hogan, it says in the record book, had only one major before age 35. He wound up with nine. Sam Snead had two — the same number as Mickelson. He wound up with seven.

"You know," Bjorn said, "Phil deserves this more than anybody. He's not a one-major guy, he's a 10-major guy. He's going to go on now and contend for majors as he's always done, but it's going to be easier and easier for him to win them now."

Obviously Bjorn is a fan. So, apparently is "President 41" — former President George H.W. Bush, who called to say congratulations, Mickelson said. "It was pretty cool of him to take the time."

Hey, Phil, someone informed Mickelson, you're halfway to the career Grand Slam.

"Well, it's hard for me to look out that far yet. It's only been an hour or two that I've had two," Mickelson said, laughing. "You know, it feels terrific, and certainly that will be a long-term goal, to get the other two."

"But right now, I just want to savor this victory. It was hard-fought. ... It was a very stressful week. I'm looking forward to being able to relax for a day or two."

Maybe his critics will, too.

—Alan Tays is a columnist for The Palm Beach Post in West Palm Beach, Fla.

SCHEDULE

All Times EDT WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS NEC Invitational

- Site: Akron, Ohio.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
- Course: Firestone Country Club, South Course (7,283 yards, par 70).
- Purse: \$7.5 million. Winner's share: \$1.35 million.
- TV: ESPN (Thursday-Friday, 2-6 p.m.) and CBS (Saturday, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday, 2:30-6:30 p.m.).

LPGA TOUR Safeway Classic

- Site: Portland, Ore.
- Schedule: Friday-Sunday.
- Course: Columbia Edgewater Country Club (6,327 yards, par 72).
- Purse: \$1.4 million. Winner's share: \$210,000.
- TV: The Golf Channel (Friday, 4-6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 12:30-2 a.m., 4-6 p.m.; Monday, 12:30-2 a.m.).

PGA TOUR Reno-Tahoe Open

- Site: Reno, Nev.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
- Course: Montreux Golf and Country Club (7,472 yards, par 72).
- Purse: \$3 million. Winner's share: \$540,000.
- TV: The Golf Channel (Thursday-Sunday, 9-11:30 p.m.).

CHAMPIONS TOUR Boeing Greater Seattle Classic

- Site: Snoqualmie, Wash.
- Schedule: Friday-Sunday.
- Course: TPC at Snoqualmie Ridge (7,120 yards, par 72).
- Purse: \$1.6 million. Winner's share: \$240,500.
- TV: The Golf Channel (Friday, 6-8:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 2-4:30 a.m., 6-8:30 p.m.; Monday, 2-4:30 a.m.).

NATIONWIDE TOUR Xerox Classic

- Site: Rochester, N.Y.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
- Course: Irondequoit Country Club (6,720 yards, par 70).
- Purse: \$550,000. Winner's share: \$99,000.

LEADERS

WORLD RANKINGS

1. Tiger Woods, USA	16.77
2. Vijay Singh, Fiji	11.89
3. Phil Mickelson, USA	10.22
4. Ernie Els, S.A.F.	9.23
5. Retief Goosen, S.A.F.	8.29
6. Sergio Garcia, Spn	7.02
7. Adam Scott, Aus	5.70
8. Padraig Harrington, Ire	5.41
9. David Toms, USA	5.35
10. Jim Furyk, USA	5.34

MONEY LEADERS PGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Tiger Woods	\$7,292,674
2. Vijay Singh	\$6,954,003
3. Phil Mickelson	\$5,568,775
4. David Toms	\$3,521,213
5. Jim Furyk	\$3,508,435
6. Retief Goosen	\$3,148,775
7. Kenny Perry	\$3,082,805
8. Fred Funk	\$2,551,524
9. Sergio Garcia	\$2,548,056
10. Chris DiMarco	\$2,460,712

LPGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. A. Sorenstam	\$1,719,456
2. Paula Creamer	\$1,144,948
3. Lorena Ochoa	\$1,129,808
4. Cristie Kerr	\$1,015,491

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Player	Money
1. Dana Quigley	\$1,479,436
2. D.A. Weirberg	\$1,265,362
3. Mark McNulty	\$1,152,684
4. Hale Irwin	\$1,145,117
5. Tom Jenkins	\$1,112,215

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Troubleshooting your swing: Part 4

If you understand the basics of ball flight, you can self-correct on the golf course, a valuable skill in a game where your swing can desert you without a moment's notice.

THE SLICE

Your ball starts at the target but slices into the rough. You've got an open face problem, and you need to square it up through impact.

The cure: Since your face is open to the target, you're not letting the toe of your club rotate over the heel at impact. Grip pressure is usually the culprit. Relax your arms and wrists and take a few practice swings that accentuate the toe moving toward the target very rapidly. Then let it go for real.

THE PULL

This mistake starts left and stays left. It's a

pull, and pulls feel good until you look up and see where your ball is headed.

When you pull the ball, the path of your club is from outside to in, but the face of your club is square to the path so there is very little side spin, a positive that shows you didn't hold back on the release.

The cure: Pulls are most often caused by faulty timing. You get anxious at the top of the swing and can't wait to hit the ball. To prevent the pull, you've got to wait for a count at the top of your swing to give your club time to change direction. Get to the top of your swing and let your hands fall as if they were going to land on top of your right foot; then hit the ball with the same feeling.

THE PULL SLICE

Your ball starts left and cuts back toward the target. The problem is that while some-

times it curves just the right amount, most of the time, it curves too much or not enough. It's a weak shot that doesn't work too well, especially in the wind.

When you pull slice, you're not swinging parallel with the target line on your downswing because you're forcing your club across the target line with the face open.

The cure: The trouble is that most pull-slicers stay in their back hip too long, and therefore learn to "chicken wing" their front arm to hold the face open so the ball will curve back to target.

Thus the pull-slicer has two problems: face and path. Correct the path by shifting your weight to the front leg to start your downswing. To square your club face, let your front elbow fold toward the ground as you swing through the hitting zone.

ASK THE PRO



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is director of instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Conn. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.

Q: I'm not hitting the ball as far as I usually do, and I've been losing distance for about a month now. The harder I try to get it back, the more I lose my balance. How can I get my distance back? — Andy, from Brunswick, Ga.

A: Power is created when your right side (Andy is right-handed) whirls toward the target after your arms have dropped the club head into position at the start of your downswing. This unrestricted right-side rotation back toward the target squares your club head to the ball and allows the momentum of your arms and club to pull your body up into a full finish. You'll know you have this element of the release mastered when you don't have to force your finish because it happens on its own. Rotate the right side of your body over your left and you'll get your distance back.