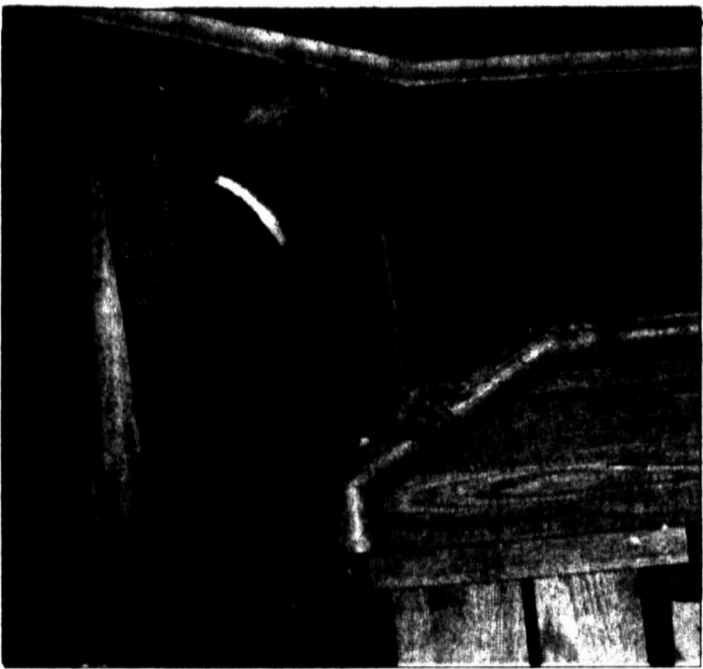


LAP HEARING



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer addresses the crowd gathered at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for a public hearing this morning by the Local Advisory Panel (LAP) for the Big Spring VA Hospital Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES). The hearing was to continue this afternoon, with public comment scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

State parks feel funding crunch

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

A letter from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director saying nine state parks would be closed or transferred unless \$2 million more in state funding can be found doesn't surprise Big Spring State Park manager Ron Alton. "We're hurting, there's



Alton

no question about that," said Alton. Texas Parks and Wildlife Executive Director Robert L. Cook sent letters this week to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Speaker

See PARKS, Page 3A

Gasoline prices soar

Regular unleaded jumps 30 cents in one day



By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area motorists who find their way to the gas pumps today may be in for a scare, as regular unleaded gasoline has skyrocketed in the Big Spring area as much as 30 cents in one day.

Many area gas stations reported as much as a 30-cent increase in gasoline prices late Wednesday afternoon, much to the ire of their loyal customers.

"We've had a lot of people come in and complain," said Susan Vasquez, manager of Parks Convenience Store located on Gregg Street. "The price of our regular unleaded jumped 30 cents this morning. Our regular unleaded is \$2.89 and our supreme grade is \$3.15."

Vasquez said the word around the gasoline industry's "campfire" is prices will continue to rise, with no relief expected until after the Labor Day holiday.



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
A woman puts gasoline in her pickup Wednesday afternoon at H-E-B, where regular unleaded was going for \$2.89 a gallon. Most of the city's fueling stations had gasoline hovering just under \$3 after prices shot up 30 cents.

"I really don't know when it will come back down. From what I've heard, it will probably continue to climb until after labor day, when it will at least level out," said Vasquez.

Parks isn't the only area convenience store forced to increase its prices. Kate's Fina, located on

the Lamesa Highway, reported prices of \$2.99 for regular unleaded and \$3.16 for its supreme grade.

Neighbor's Convenience Store, located at the corner of 11th Place and FM 700, reported \$2.94 for regular unleaded.

Lynn Morris, manager of Buffalo Country Fina

on S. Highway 87, said she has had to go up on prices as well.

"Our regular unleaded is \$2.89 per gallon and our supreme grade is \$3.09," said Morris. "We get our gas from a supplier, and when we purchase it, they've already laid in all

See GASOLINE, Page 3A



KRT photo/Jared Lazarus
Gilda Seymour, left, embraces Vivian Wall as the friends meet in Biloxi, Miss., Wednesday. It is the first time the two have seen each other since Hurricane Katrina hit the area.

KATRINA

Gunfire, looters hamper evacuation relief efforts

By ADAM NOSSITER

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The evacuation of the Superdome was suspended Thursday because of fires and gunshots outside the arena, authorities said, as National Guardsmen in armored vehicles poured into New Orleans to help restore order across the increasingly lawless and desperate city.

An additional 10,000 National Guard troops from across the country were ordered into the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast to shore up security, rescue and relief operations in Katrina's wake. That brought the number of troops dedicated to the

Two local groups are accepting donated items for victims of Hurricane Katrina. See Page 3A

effort to more than 28,000, in what may be the biggest military response to a natural disaster in U.S. history.

"The truth is, a terrible tragedy like this brings out the best in most people, brings out the worst in some people," said Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour on NBC's "Today" show. "We're trying to deal with looters as ruthlessly as we can

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'ABRIDGED' TO DEBUT

"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged," presented by the Howard College Theater Department, debuts tonight.

Show times are 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. An afternoon matinee will be presented at 2 p.m. Sunday. All performances will be held at the campus theater in room 105 of the practical arts building. Admission is free, but donations to the drama department are encouraged.

"It will be a night of hysteria," said director Clay Grizzle. "I promise you will laugh a lot — and you may even laugh at some of the parts we intend you to laugh at."

AMERICAN PROFILE



American Profile

America's trees, some of them centuries old, have stood as silent witnesses to historic events since the nation's founding. From providing wood and shelter to

Gen. George Washington and his troops at Valley Forge, Pa., to inspiring Henry David Thoreau's writings at Walden Pond near Concord, Mass., these historic trees are being preserved and promulgated by American Forests, the nation's oldest non-profit conservation organization, based in Jacksonville, Fla.

MARKET GARAGE SALE

The West Texas Producers and Farmers Market will offer a community-wide garage sale Saturday at Heart of the City Park in downtown Big Spring.

A number of local organizations and groups have already signed up to hook their garage-style items, but there's time for others to sign up for the event, which is expected to run from 7 a.m. until about 2 p.m.

As usual, the Farmers Market will offer all types of produce. The market is held every Tuesday and Saturday.

For more information on the Farmers Market or the community-wide garage sale, contact Kelly Zant at 432-816-4540.

Obituaries

Frank Lindsey



Frank Lindsey, 69, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2005, at his residence. Private memorial services will be scheduled at a later date.

He was born Oct. 19, 1935, in Anniston, Ala., to Frank and Lillie Lindsey. He married Patsy Ann Perry Oct. 28, 1978, in West Covina, Calif., and they moved to Big Spring in 1991. He had worked as an auto mechanic for many years and had also worked for Red Barn Auto Sales. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Patsy Lindsey of Big Spring; two daughters, Pamela Perry and Christina Perry, both of Portland, Ore.; halfbrother, Charles Green of Lincoln, Ala.; two nieces; and six nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Jim Bob Farmer

Jim Bob Farmer, 66, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2005, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services are 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, 2005, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall officiating.

He was born May 3, 1939, in Killeen. He worked as a carpenter and roofing contractor until becoming disabled. He had lived in Lubbock and Garden City, Kan., before moving to Big Spring.

Survivors include three sons, James Farmer of Arizona, Michael Farmer and Kenneth Farmer, both of Abilene; and three brothers, Bill Farmer, O.E. Farmer and J.T. Farmer, all of Lubbock.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Daniel and Nancy Farmer and two brothers, Guy Ray Farmer and Donald Rex Farmer.

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

Lucille Hall

Lucille Hall, 82, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2005, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support groups

THURSDAY

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

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

• Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

• West Texas Gluten-Free Support Group (Celiacs Helping celiacs) meet from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Jan. 15 in the Odessa Regional Hospital. For more information, contact Barbara at 432-694-3614 days, or 432-520-2119 evenings.

• **A WATERMELON FEST SPONSORED BY THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY** is set for 4:30 p.m. Sept. 10 in the Old Settler's Reunion at Comanche Trail Park for all members and those eligible to be members. For more information, contact Shelbie Capps at 268-9445.

• **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.

• **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

Police blotter

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

• **ERIC VALENCIA**, 20, 800 W. FM 700, was arrested on a charge of burglary of a habitation.

• **TRACI MARTINEZ**, 27, 1408 Stadium, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended.

• **JULIE CARTER**, 31, Mesquite, was arrested on a hold for the Dallas County Sheriff's Office.

• **JOE GUTIERREZ**, 18, 1010 N.W. Second, was arrested on charges of criminal mischief, resisting arrest, and evading arrest.

• **STEPHANIE ALVAREZ**, 21, 1108 Lloyd, was arrested on charges of failure to identify and resisting arrest.

• **GUADALUPE PAREDEZ**, 54, 213 Stanford, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **VANESSA ALVAREZ**, 18, 616 Caylor, was arrested on a charge of disobeying a police officer.

• **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** was reported in the 300 block of San Jacinto.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Kentucky, the 300 block of San Jacinto and the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1200 block of Wood.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell.

• **DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED** was reported in the 2200 block of S. Gregg.

• **EVADING ARREST/DETENTION** was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY** was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell.

• **FORGERY** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth.

• **THEFT** was reported on the 2000 block of Gregg and the 700 block of Interstate 20.

Sheriff's report

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

• **JEREMY JAMES WHITE**, 26, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid.

• **MIKE MORENO ORTEGA**, 47, was arrested on a charge of no liability.

• **IRENE PAREDEZ FLORES**, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **WOODSON LOYAL MCEWEN**, 22, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on six bondsmen off bond warrants.

• **SOCORRO GOMEZ-CHAVEZ**, 35, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.

• **JOHN HENRY CHAPPELL**, 28, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated, second offense.

• **THEFT** was reported at Fairview Gin.

Fire/EMS

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

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 300 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth. Service was refused.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 200 block of Circle. Service was refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4000 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 4100 block of Parkway. Service was refused.

Take note

1995@yahoo.com or call Amanda or Stacie at 267-1353.

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

• **THE BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL OLD-TIMERS** (those who graduated before 1940) are planning a reunion for the annual BSHS Homecoming Sept. 16-17. Anyone able to attend a reunion Sept. 17 should call 432-267-2900 and leave phone and address information.

• **HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD** is seeking financial donations to provide support for children in Howard County who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. Contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or mail donations to HCCWB P.O. Box 3101 Big Spring, 79721.

• **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

Coronado Hills Apartments

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Bulletin board

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

TODAY

• VA CARES - LAP meeting from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.

• Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Spring City Senior Citizen's 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

• Early Car Club Rod Run in Comanche Trail Park.

• Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

• Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

MONDAY

• Labor Day holiday.

TUESDAY

• Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.

• United Way Luncheon to open campaign at the First United Methodist Church.

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Texas Motorcycle Rights Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Spanish Inn. The public is invited. Call 268-6421 for more information.

Weather

Tonight—Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. East winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Friday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. East winds around 10 mph.

Friday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s. Southeast winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. Light and variable winds becoming southeast around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.

Sunday—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Sunday night—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the upper 60s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Labor day—Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs around 90.

Monday night—Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

Tuesday—Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and Thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s.

Tuesday night—Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

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

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-24-26-27-42. Bonus Ball: 17.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$4 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-5-9-14-31.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$29,214.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-4-5

BIG SPRING HERALD
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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.85 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

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

By STEVE
Staff Writer

At least conducting relief to v Katrina.

Howard is looking victims of a stated la Orleans arlier this w The team

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The first of people v ated from stinking Superdom Thursday temporary er sport Houston miles awa But the 25,000 refugees suspended lance serv taking t injured Superdorm military, seeing the able-bodie Richard chief Ambulan were fire helicopter clear that too dange ambulanc National Pete Sch military ground because f the aren ing buse close eno ple up.

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Local groups accepting items for Katrina relief effort

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

At least two local groups are conducting efforts to provide relief to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Howard College's rodeo team is looking to help the youngest victims of Katrina, which devastated large portions of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast earlier this week.

The team, in conjunction with

the Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, has organized a Cowboys For Kids campaign to collect items for children displaced by the hurricane.

"The main thing we're concerned about is the kids," HC Rodeo Coach Greg Kernick said. "I can't imagine what it's like for them, but they probably don't have anything right now."

The campaign aims to help children who are among the 25,000 New Orleans residents

who have been evacuated to the Astrodome in Houston, Kernick said.

New or "like new" toys, hygiene products such as toothbrushes and brushes and diapers are among the items Kernick and his cowboys and cowgirls will collect for the drive.

If all goes according to plan, the team will head for Houston Sept. 9, he said.

Collection points for the drive

will be at the fitness center, coliseum and book store on the Howard College campus, and at the Chamber of Commerce office on Third Street.

For more information, contact Kernick at 816-9477 or John Overton at 816-9483 or 264-5048.

Also working to provide help for hurricane victims are personnel at Junque Mart Thrift Store at 600 N. Highway 87 in Big Spring. Store personnel have set up a collection point

outside the store so that persons can drop off items. Almost any non-perishable item, but in particular clothing, canned food and blankets, are being accepted.

The store will accept donations until about 5 p.m. Friday, at which time the items will be taken to Midland for transport to disaster relief agencies.

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

KATRINA

Continued from Page 1A

get our hands on them."

The first of 500 busloads of people who were evacuated from the hot and stinking Louisiana Superdome arrived early Thursday at their new temporary home — another sports arena, the Houston Astrodome, 350 miles away.

But the evacuation of the 25,000 or so storm refugees was abruptly suspended by the ambulance service in charge of taking the sick and injured from the Superdome and by the military, which was overseeing the removal of the able-bodied.

Richard Zeuschlag, chief of Acadian Ambulance, said shots were fired at a military helicopter, making it clear that it had become too dangerous for his air-ambulance pilots. And National Guard Lt. Col. Pete Schneider said the military suspended the ground evacuation because fires set outside the arena were preventing buses from getting close enough to pick people up.

President Bush urged a crackdown on the looting and other lawlessness that have spread through New Orleans.

"I think there ought to be zero tolerance of people breaking the law during an emergency such as

this — whether it be looting, or price gouging at the gasoline pump, or taking advantage of charitable giving or insurance fraud," Bush said. "And I've made that clear to our attorney general. The citizens ought to be working together."

Bush said Thursday the federal government has launched the most massive relief effort in history to help people devastated by Hurricane Katrina, and that while thousands more victims still need to be rescued, help is on its way.

"I fully understand people wanting things to have happened yesterday," Bush said in a live interview in the Roosevelt Room of the White House with ABC's "Good Morning America" program. "I understand the anxiety of people on the ground. ... So there is frustration. But I want people to know there's a lot of help coming."

On Wednesday, Mayor Ray Nagin offered the most startling estimate yet of the magnitude of the disaster: Asked how many people died in New Orleans, he said: "Minimum, hundreds. Most likely, thousands." The death toll has already reached at least 110 in Mississippi.

If the estimate proves correct, it would make Katrina the worst natural disaster in the United States since at least the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, which



Tam Cu, from left, Jason Jackson and Linda Bryant look over the damage to Bryant's home from Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Miss.

was blamed for anywhere from about 500 to 6,000 deaths. Katrina would also be the nation's deadliest hurricane since 1900, when a storm in Galveston, Texas, killed between 6,000 and 12,000 people.

Nagin called for a total evacuation of New Orleans, saying the city had become uninhabitable for the 50,000 to 100,000 who remained behind after the city of nearly a half-million people was ordered evacuated over the weekend, before Katrina blasted the Gulf Coast with 145-mph winds.

The mayor said that it

will be two or three months before the city is functioning again and that people would not be allowed back into their homes for at least a month or two.

With New Orleans sinking deeper into desperation, Nagin also ordered virtually the entire police force to abandon search-and-rescue efforts Wednesday and stop the increasingly brazen thieves.

"They are starting to get closer to heavily populated areas — hotels, hospitals, and we're going to stop it right now," Nagin said.

In a sign of growing

lawlessness, Tenet HealthCare Corp. asked authorities late Wednesday to help evacuate a fully functioning hospital in Gretna after a supply truck carrying food, water and medical supplies was held up at gunpoint.

"There are physical threats to safety from roving bands of armed individuals with weapons who are threatening the safety of the hospital," said spokesman Steven Campanini. He estimated there were 350 employees in the hospital and between 125 to 150 patients.

Tempers flared else-

where across the devastated region. Police said a man in Hattiesburg, Miss., fatally shot his sister in the head over a bag of ice. Dozens of carjackings were reported, including a nursing home bus. One officer was shot in the head and a looter was wounded in a shootout. Both were expected to survive.

Looters used garbage cans and inflatable mattresses to float away with food, clothes, TV sets — even guns. Outside one pharmacy, thieves commandeered a forklift and used it to push up the storm shutters and break through the glass. The driver of a nursing-home bus surrendered the vehicle to thugs after being threatened.

Hundreds of people wandered up and down shattered Interstate 10 — the only major freeway leading into New Orleans from the east — pushing shopping carts, laundry racks, anything they could find to carry their belongings.

On some of the few roads that were still open, people waved at passing cars with empty water jugs, begging for relief. Hundreds of people appeared to have spent the night on a crippled highway.

PARKS

Continued from Page 1A

Tom Craddick, asking for more money from the Legislative Budget Board to save about 40 state park jobs.

"While funding limitations are driving the reduction in force in the state parks division, it is important to note that the department has identified nine state park sites which could be transferred to another entity for operation or closed without having a significant constituent impact," Cook wrote.

State officials have not named the nine parks, saying it would be unfair

to employees facing layoffs.

Alton said he's had no communication from the state agency about parks closing, but said it's a possibility. Presently, the parks system is cut to the bone and struggling to find ways to make ends meet.

"Right now the state parks in our region are going into what they call 'winterization' which means some will be closing some offices or rest rooms during the winter to reduce costs. Unfortunately, we can't do that here, so what we are having to do is cut our part-time employee's hours even more," said Alton.

Because the local state park won't be able to realize enough savings by reducing the employee's hours in the winter, it will become a year-round cut, Alton said. The staffer will be reduced from 100 hours a month to 60 hours.

"That's unfortunate because it means we won't be able to staff our (entrance) booth as well or sometimes take care of the public as well as we would like," Alton said. "But we don't have any choice. We're up against the wall."

At least twice — a dozen years ago and just a handful of seasons back — the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department talked with

local officials about transferring Big Spring State Park to the city. Nothing has come of those talks.

The 10-member parks and wildlife board will meet again Sept. 14.

"I'd say that if you would like to support your state parks, then write or contact your legislator and tell him or her how you feel," said Alton. "They're the ones making the decisions."

Those who wish to address a state representative about state parks may contact the following:

• Rep. Pete Laney, P.O. Box 2910, Austin 78768; phone 512 463-0604. Or, P.O. Drawer 900, Hale Center 79041; phone 806

839-2478.

• Sen. Kel Seliger, 401 Austin, Suite 101, Big Spring 79720; phone 432 268-9909. Or, 410 S. Taylor, Amarillo 79101; phone 806 374-8994.

• Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, Capitol Station, P.O. Box 12068, Austin 78711; phone 512 463-0001.

• House Speaker Tom Craddick, Room 2W.13, P.O. Box 2910, Austin 78768-2910; phone 512 463-1000.

Bill McClellan is the Herald news editor. He can be reached at (432) 263-7331, ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

GASOLINE

Continued from Page 1A

of the additional costs — what it takes to get it here, taxes and surcharges — so we don't have much choice in what we charge.

"It's crazy. It's absolutely ridiculous. I realize Hurricane Katrina was a major hurricane, but I think the people who set the prices on this are just gouging their customers. Some people don't realize the gas stations and convenience stores are customers, too."

Star Stop No. 4, located on Gregg Street, reported a regular unleaded price of \$2.85 per gallon, with its supreme grade going for \$3.03. Wasson Road Fast Stop and Wasson Road Grocery both reported regular unleaded prices of \$2.97 per gallon,

with Wes-T-Go on Gregg Street reporting a price of \$2.99 for regular unleaded, and \$3.19 for supreme grade.

Management for Murphy USA Oil refused to provide gas prices during a call from the Herald, but its sign advertised \$2.89 per gallon for regular unleaded late Wednesday afternoon. 7-Elevens throughout Big Spring listed regular unleaded at \$2.99 while the H-E-B gas station and Wal-Mart advertised \$2.89 for regular unleaded.

Highs and lows appeared to be the independent at Virginia and FM 700, where regular topped the three-buck mark at \$3.06 and at the Chevron at Goliad and FM 700 where regular was listed at \$2.79. However, a spokeswoman at the Chevron — L&M Auto Service — also reported

the business was sold out of gasoline this morning.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott issued a statement Wednesday afternoon, saying the AG's office will be on the look-out for price gouging throughout the Lone Star State.

"I understand Texas consumers are concerned about the rising cost of gasoline," said Abbott. "However, with Hurricane Katrina, there has been a significant loss of production capacity in the Gulf of Mexico and refining capacity along the Gulf Coast.

"Prices will go up. Rest assured, my office will diligently watch for the incidence of price-gouging at particular gas stations that seem out of step with generally prevailing market forces."

Consumers may report what they believe to be

gas price-gouging by calling the AG Office toll-free complaint line at 800-252-8011 or visit the agency's Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Mary Lou Leyva, 76, died Sunday. Graveside Services will be Thursday 2:30 PM, MDT at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery. Dorothy Green, 85, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Frank Lindsey, 69, died Tuesday. Private memorial services will be held at a later date.

Discover Another World, Read!

You never know what you might find.

In Observance Of

Labor Day

These Financial Institutions Will Observe These Holiday Hours...

Big Spring Banking Center Closed Monday, Sept. 5th	Wells Fargo Bank Closed Monday, Sept. 5th
Big Spring State Hospital Federal Credit Union Closed Monday, Sept. 5th	Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union Closed Monday, Sept. 5th
Citizens Federal Credit Union Closed Monday, Sept. 5th	Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union Closed Monday, Sept. 5th
	State National Bank Closed Monday, Sept. 5th

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 EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Thank goodness most Americans recognize right

The vast majority of Americans, regardless of political party or who they voted for last year, recognize the right of critics of President Bush's Iraq policy to voice their views.

Eighty-seven percent of the 1,001 respondents the international polling firm Ipsos questioned nationwide Aug. 22-24 said "it is OK for people who oppose the war in Iraq to express their opposition publicly."

Only 12 percent of respondents, overwhelmingly identified as Republicans, said it is not OK.

"Part of the Constitution is the First Amendment," said Mike Malone, a salesman from Odessa, Fla. "We have the right to disagree with the government."

The poll was taken while opponents of the Iraq war, led by Cindy Sheehan, protested near the president's Prairie Chapel Ranch outside of Crawford.

The president said of the mother who lost her son Casey in Iraq, "I strongly support her right to protest."

Unfortunately, the 2.7 million member American Legion, the nation's largest veterans organization, disagrees with this foundational constitutional principle.

Meeting in Honolulu, the group unanimously adopted a resolution saying, "The American Legion fully supports the president of the United States, the United States Congress and the men, women and leadership of our armed forces as they are engaged in the global war on terrorism, and the troops who are engaged in protecting our values and way of life."

That is appropriate. But it is just as inappropriate for the American Legion's leadership to say that publicly protesting the Iraq war amounts to providing "aid and comfort to our enemies," as did Thomas Cadmus, the organization's national commander.

"No one respects the right to protest more than one who has fought for it," he said. But only so long as people do not actually use that right. "We hope that Americans will present their views in correspondence to their elected officials rather than by public media events," Cadmus emphasized.

He might as well have thrown in Mark Twain's observation that "It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and the prudence never to practice either of them."

Cadmus and his organization would scream to the high heavens if anyone told them they should shut up rather than publicly oppose a president's policies with which they disagreed, and would be right in doing so.

The First Amendment is not needed to protect speech that agrees with those in power. That speech is not endangered. Rather, this foundational constitutional principle is needed to protect unpopular speech — whether it is unpopular with those in power, with those who support powerful authorities or with the majority of Americans.

Cadmus is right that Americans who oppose the Iraq war should communicate that to the White House and to their representatives in Congress. That is also a key right the First Amendment guarantees.

But the Constitution does not make First Amendment rights a one-or-the-other choice. Nor should any organization, no matter how faithfully and nobly and sacrificially its members have served.

What the American Legion's commander wants is closer to what China has than what this nation's Constitution protects.

A senior editor at the China Youth Daily recently wrote a 19-page letter protesting a new "appraisal system" the paper's chief editor introduced. "It would tie promotion and monetary reward to praise by party officials," The Christian Science Monitor reported.

It is difficult to envision President Bush praising this country's news media for reporting on the anti-war protests outside his ranch and portraying Sheehan as the new symbol of opposition to the war. Nor would they get any positive appraisals from Cadmus and his organization.

"If you don't change this appraisal system, our paper will become a complete fake," wrote dissident editor Li Datong. Were anti-war critics in this nation and the media to follow Cadmus' advice, the result would be just as fake. More than that, it would do real violence to the Constitution the members of the Legion fought to preserve, protect and defend.

That would inflict far greater harm on what this nation is than anything the terrorists are likely to do. Fortunately — not just for opponents of the Iraq war, but also for the Constitution and the nation — the vast majority of Americans appear to understand that.

THE ADVOCATE
VICTORIA

Supersized nanny state is here

America has become the country of the warning label. California is the warning-label state. Since California voters approved Proposition 65 — which mandates warnings when people are exposed to known carcinogens or chemicals that cause birth defects — in 1986, to live in California is to be warned.

Most office buildings and parking garages post Prop. 65 warnings. When you fill your gas tank, there's a warning. When you go to a department store or a restaurant, there are warnings. Ditto the grocery store, where there are warnings not just about lighter fluid, nail polish and the effects of alcohol, but for fruits and vegetables, nuts and fish.

Now, if Attorney General Bill Lockyer has his way, you can expect warning labels for fast-food French fries and potato chips.

If he succeeds, the legislature might as well post a billboard at the border that reads: Eating in California can be hazardous to your health.

In these tight fiscal times, you'd think Lockyer could find a better use of taxpayer money than to spend it in a push to warn the public about something any high-school student knows. French fries are bad for you.

But never passing a chance for a good press release, Lockyer filed a lawsuit against a number of fast-food chains and junk-food producers because their French fries and potato chips contain trace amounts of acrylamide — a chemical found in asparagus and olives, a natural byproduct of cooking certain starchy foods.

While Lockyer is alarmed, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration isn't sure acry-

lamide is bad for you. In March, the FDA issued a press release that stated, "Acrylamide can cause cancer in laboratory animals at high doses, although it is not clear whether it causes cancer in humans at the much lower levels found in food."

Ed Weil of the attorney general's office thinks the FDA is wrong. He cites U.S. Environmental Protection Agency limits on acceptable acrylamide, which is used to treat drinking water, as lifelong exposure can lead to "damage to the nervous system, paralysis, cancer." Weil notes that the Environmental Protection Agency limits acceptable acrylamide amounts to 0.5 micrograms per liter of water, while the government found 40 micrograms in the average serving of chips or fries.

Weil hopes this action will prompt Big Junk Food to change how it cooks chips and fries. Weil agrees there are too many warning signs — although he argued that grocery stores, for example, post warning signs mainly to stop nuisance lawsuits. Lockyer is pushing the acrylamide issue, Weil said, because it is the government's job to dispense information and let consumers decide if they care about a possible carcinogen. As he put, acrylamide falls into "an in-between category. Depending on how you feel about it, you might want to eat it or you might not want to eat it."

Problem is, there are too many in-betweens — some 750 other chemicals, according to Weil — on the Prop. 65 list, and some of those chemicals are ubiquitous or naturally occurring.

As a result, consumers see so many warning signs they can't take them seriously. Even Lockyer isn't that alarmed. In a press release announcing the suit, Lockyer said, "I am not telling people to stop eating potato chips or French fries."

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Austin, 78768

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The White House
Washington, D.C.

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510-4305

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative (19th
Cong. District)
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Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

• **RICK PERRY**
Governor
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P.O. Box 12428

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
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• **PETE LANEY**
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P.O. Box 2910

• **KEL SELIGER**
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Big Spring, 79720
(432) 268-9909

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Political stunts are no joking matter

It reminds me of the minority comedians who begin their careers by telling ethnic jokes that degrade their own people. It's a sad way to get laughs from white folks.

But Bill Richardson is no stand-up comic. He is the Hispanic-American governor of New Mexico — up for reelection next year and harboring presidential ambitions — and the first governor to declare a state of emergency along the border with Mexico.

It's a sad way to get votes from white folks.

Richardson says he did it to protect his people, the people of New Mexico. But what he did should ring an alarm among his other people, the Mexican-Americans and other Latinos who saw him as a national leader on Hispanic issues.

This time, Richardson, a Democrat, played the race card against his own Hispanic people.

Many Latinos clearly don't agree with his headline-grabbing political stunts, which only serve to alarm the rest of the country about the situation at the border — and to turn the American people against Mexicans and other Latinos.

"I believe that when you have traffic of illegal drugs, illegal aliens, when we have kidnappings, murders, when you've got cattle mutilations, what's happening in my state, you need trained people to do that," Richardson said, sounding like a Republican, on FOX TV.

His publicity stunt packs more powerful punches in the negative messages that it sends than in

what it will actually do to stop illegal immigration into New Mexico. The state of emergency will free up some \$1.7 million in federal funds that will be used to pay for additional police staffing in four counties along the border with Mexico. It's only a temporary shot in the arm that will have little impact on illegal immigration, which is obviously the federal government's responsibility.

Richardson called his action "an act of desperation," but it was clearly an excuse to criticize the Bush Administration for "not doing enough" to take control of the border. In the past, Democrats would criticize Republicans for being too harsh on illegal immigrants. But look at how far we've come!

Immediately, Richardson's stunt gave a green-light to another pandering Democrat, Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano, who figured that if the Hispanic governor next door could do it, she could declare a state of emergency too. With Richardson playing the role of a Latino Uncle Tom, call him Tio Tomas, all bets are off. With a Mexican-American leading the way — showing the rest of America that even he can be anti-Mexican — we are going on an illegal immigrant hunting safari.

The only reason why California Gov. Arnold (forgot that he's an immigrant) Schwarzenegger hasn't joined this crusade is because he is a Republican and, God forbid, he would be following the lead of Democrats and upstaging a Republican White House. As an excuse, Schwarzenegger blames California laws that prevent him from declaring a state of emergency based on immigration. But surely he would love to do it. This is another politician who plays the immigration card against his own people.

Now I ask you: If people shouldn't stop eating these foods, why post a warning? Michele Corash, a San Francisco attorney who represents five companies being sued by Lockyer, noted that there are so many warnings "we are immunizing the public to signs."

No lie. I've come down with a strong case of warning fatigue. I see the Prop. 65 signs not as valuable warnings, but as nagging. What else would you call a warning against doing something you do every day, like eating, or parking, or shopping?

And whatever I do, it must be wrong, because there's always a sign telling me that what I'm eating, drinking or buying is bad for me. If all of these things are so hazardous, why am I alive?

The scary part is that there are times when consumers need to know there is a danger. As in: You shouldn't drink this because it is poisonous. But consumers don't notice such warnings. Corash noted that sometimes "we need a way to warn consumers when there's a real hazard. Now we can't any more. You have to say: 'We really mean it this time. This isn't like the other warnings.'"

If Lockyer wanted to perform a true public service, he'd devise a way to whittle down the long list of Prop. 65 baddies. Instead, he's fattening up the list.

Oddly, Lockyer is taken this stand as he begins his bid to become state treasurer in 2006. Some treasurer he'd make. With this lawsuit, I'm convinced of only one thing: Lockyer knows how to waste money.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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BSHS class of 1935 graduate celebrating 70 years

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Features Editor

Ruth Gilliam Robinson looks forward to Big Spring High School Homecoming Sept. 16-17, celebrating 70 years since she graduated in 1935.

"We were the first students in the Diversified Occupations classes. Basically, this class was made of those of us who had walked the streets looking for a job and had not found one. Every business in town took somebody to work for them, because we worked for free," she said.

Students participated in an unpaid internship, learning job skills while in high school, helping to



RUTH GILLIAM ROBINSON

off-set the effects felt by the community during the Great Depression.

Robinson recalls Pascal Buckner was the teacher of the class.

"I worked for the Postal Telegraph in the afternoon and some afternoons I took home economics to learn sewing and clothing," she said.

Robinson is hoping some of her classmates will attend Homecoming events this year and is asking classmates or their descendants to contact her for a reunion.

"I'm hoping some of the descendants will have photographs I can borrow for a display. I realize there's probably no chance of getting us all together, but I'm hoping we can get together for a meal," she said.

Robinson is seeking classmates or their descendants from any BSHS class before 1940 to contact her.

"And especially those from our 1935 class," she said. Contact Robinson at 267-6876.

A list of classmates for BSHS class of 1935 are:

Inell Curtis, Ehtel Lomax, Doris Shuttlesworth, Helen Thompson, Elizabeth McCrary, Bertha Wray, Dorothy Maxwell, Elmo Phillips, Emma Joe Reidock, Dorman Kinard, William Cochran, Don Anderson, Wanda Owen, Ethel McNew, Bill Thomas, Willie May Witte, Eugene Peters and Jewel Cates.

Margaret Smith, Oleta Sliger, Oleta Ward, Juanita Sliger, Jack Courson, Bobby Mills, James Jones, Hal Woodward, J.D. Cauble, Louise Davis, Christine Brown, Dorothy Coleman, Bob Flowers, Geraldine McClendon, Jane Thompson, Mary Lindley, Winona Prescott, Lula

Ashley and James Winslow.

Jack Proctor, Louise Squyres, Altus Phillips, Quintan Martin, Robert Hafley, Morlan Smith and J.W. Jackson, M. Simmons, Dorothy Kooover, Fay Yates, Robert Anderson, Oeal Nabors, Hazel Stephens, Mary Pond, Roberta Hanson, Edna Stroughon, Junia Johnson, Fern Smith and Ambros Fitzgerald.

Addie Brown, Radford Yates, Maralee Hull, Caroline McCleskey, Ruth Gilliam, Wayne Burch, Jimmie Felton, Beatrice Health, Mary Holmes, Gladys Phillips, Jack Gulley, Melvin Legge, Bobbie Gordon, Chloe Stuteville, Edward Stagg, R.J. Michael, James Vines, William Edwards and John Compton.

George Neel, Fred Savage, J.R. Dillard, Agnes Bugg, Richard Gibson, J.C. Douglass and Nancy Lockridge.

Local author publishes book

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Features Editor

Bill Scott, author of at least one published children's book, has a message to share about suicide.

He has written a new book, "Suicide: It's Not What You Think," that is being published and released now.

"A strong Christian," Scott's book tells of personal experiences he had battling the "spirit of suicide."

"I want you to see how strong the spirit of suicide is and how it can attach itself to anyone, even those without serious problems," Scott, 55, said.

The book, written in

single-page briefs, gives quick references to West Texas, Big Spring and oil field work.

Scott tells of his own battle with a "spirit of suicide" while he was enjoying a view from a four-story building.

"People need closure and I believe this book is essential for anyone who has experienced suicide in their family," he said.

Scott said the way to combat suicide is not through medication, but through the power of God.

"Suicide can only be overcome by taking authority over it through the power of Jesus Christ," he said.

He is hoping to find others who share his vision and are willing to partner or sponsor with him in Suicide Ministries.

To learn more, contact Scott at 264-1569.



BILL SCOTT

Four things you absolutely must do when tragedy strikes

Special for the Herald

Hurricane Katrina is a reminder that you never know when or where tragedy is going to strike.

As the fourth anniversary of 9/11 approaches, we are also reminded that we do not choose tragedy — it chooses us — randomly and suddenly.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

You may be trying to weather the storms in your own personal life right now, whether it is the loss of a job, a divorce, the loss of a loved one or a terminal illness.

When tragedy strikes, our first reaction is shock. We may have had some forewarning, but it's never enough. We never have enough time, money, friends or resources to prevent a tragedy of such enormous proportions as hurricane Katrina.

Some people run for higher ground. Some people lash themselves to the most solid thing they can find. Some people find a hole in the ground and hold on for dear life.

Your first reaction to the tragedy could mean life or death for you or someone you love. Therefore, it is absolutely

essential to follow these four steps for surviving any tragedy.

Choose to believe

It is essential that you stop and get your bearings. Assess where you are and what resources you have around you. Stop and assess the approaching storm for what it is. Acknowledge it, but don't blow it out of proportion. Yes, cancer and hurricanes are still terminal, but plenty of people survive them. Just a few days after Lance Armstrong was diagnosed with cancer, he held a press conference in which he boldly announced, "I want you all to know that I intend to beat this disease, and further I intend to ride again as a professional cyclist." That was back in 1996, when most people were predicting his early demise.

Was he a prophet? Did he receive a message in a dream? Did he know something that we don't know? No. None of the above. Lance Armstrong made an internal decision to believe and to survive. Then he announced it publicly. This public verbalization of his belief seared it into his brain and his very soul. It came to pass because he really believed it and this undying belief helped him bring it to pass.

You can do the same thing. Acknowledge your opponent for what it is and then calmly, but firmly announce to the world

that you will beat this thing!

Double check facts

When an acorn fell on her head, "Henny Penny" thought the sky was falling. This belief became a self-fulfilling prophecy which led to tragic results or her and her friends. This story is a reminder that we need to double check the facts to make sure our perception is consistent with reality. Remember, the biggest obstacle that is standing in your way is not the obstacle, it is what you believe about the obstacle. But our beliefs are not always consistent with reality. The bedouin tribes who live in the desert have a story they tell their children which can teach us great wisdom.

It goes like this. A man sees a cloud of dust approaching on the sand dunes in the horizon. He says to himself, "It is a great beast coming to eat me and my family." He runs inside to get his gun. Now he can see that it is a man in black riding a black horse racing straight toward him. He says to himself, "No, it is my enemy coming to steal my well!" He raises his rifle and takes steady aim, waiting for the man to get in range. As he sees the man approaching through the sites of his rifle, he realizes "No, it is my brother!"

What you believe about the obstacle has more of an impact on how you

deal with the situation than the obstacle itself.

Follow these steps:

1. First, realize that you have the option, and maybe even the responsibility to stop and confirm whether or not things are really as you perceive them to be.
2. Double check the evidence around you to see if you've missed anything.
3. Quickly assess all the evidence in the time that you have.
4. Know what questions must be answered before you decide.

Seek outside the box

In an emergency, you don't have time to brainstorm with a focus group to come up with thousands of creative ideas and on how to deal with the situation. You must think and act quickly and decisively. You don't have time to get yourself out of "the box." The quickest way to adjust your thinking is to go to those who are already outside the box, and perhaps don't even know the box exists. Who are these people?

In 1938, on the eve of the Nazi Holocaust, a family of Jews in Siget Hungary were huddled around their kitchen table trying to figure out what was about to happen to them. By order of military command, all stores and offices belonging to Jews were closed. No Jew was allowed to go out, except in the late after-

noon to buy food. Jews no longer had the right to sell anything. Whoever opposed these decrees would be shot. The German army began raiding Jewish homes, taking jewelry, silver, foreign currency, and precious stones—anything of value. But the Weisel family had a Christian housekeeper named Maria who had a cabin up in the mountains. She would sneak in cheese, eggs, fruit, and vegetables to the Weisels. She offered to sneak them out of the ghetto and begged them to escape with her to the cabin where they would be safe. But the Jewish intellectuals, dignitaries, and clergy had always taught that the Jewish community should always stick together — no matter what. The Weisel family declined. The next day the trucks came. The entire Jewish community was hauled off to the death camps and Elie Weisel was the only survivor of his family.

If you go exclusively to those who share your belief system and think like you do, you will not learn anything new. Conventional wisdom must be tossed out the window when tragedy strikes. But sometimes the only way to "think outside the box" is to listen to those who are already outside the box.

Survivors and heroes see things the rest of us don't see. They see a purpose bigger than themselves. There were many heroes on 9/11 when two airplanes struck the World Trade Center. There will no doubt be many heroes who come to the aid of the hurricane victims. When Lance Armstrong was diagnosed with cancer, one of the first things he did was start the Lance Armstrong Foundation to raise money for cancer research.

When we help other people weather their storms, something unexplainable happens in the cosmos. Electricity starts to flow, we feel more energized, brain cells get more creative, people unite, hearts swell — and sometimes, just every now and then, miracles happen.

By Daniel R. Castro, author of "Critical Choices That Change Lives, How Heroes Turn Tragedy Into Triumph." Available at all book stores at www.dancastro.com at www.amazon.com.

A bigger purpose
When tragedy strikes.

BSHS class of 1985 seeks classmates

The Big Spring High School class of 1985 20-year reunion committee is searching for these classmates.

Contact co-organizers Dana Kohl Rodriguez at drodriguez@wfsd.net or call 940-733-6789 or Sheila Kuykendall Shanks at sashanks@apex2000.net or call 432-349-7527.

The reunion is Sept. 16-17.

Classmates are: Lucy Alvarado-Eason, Martin Angulano, Sherry Bailey, Jamie Bartley, Charles Boland, Clint Bollier, James Carrillo, Iris Cervantes, Bruno Chavarría and Grace Chavez-Duncan.

Fred Cole, Travis Crockett, Rhonda Davila,

Don DeFlicht, Gregg DeKeyser, Toby Dupre, Sherry English, Ernestina Espinoza, Scott Evans and Thomas Fauver.

Martha Flores, Irene Garcia, Margie Garcia, Maria Rosie Garcia, Cindy Garcia-Ramos, Rita Gillis, Hector Granados, Juan Griego, Robyn Groves and Mark Anthony Gutierrez.

Jamie Hernandez, Nancy Hernandez, Kenneth Hewett, Arthur Hilario, William Hogan, Mike Howie, Catherine Jones, Marianne Jorgensen, Joe Lomas and Tammy Lucas.

Vera Mathews, Curtis McCain, Verna McVea, Rose Meier, Robert

Mendoza, Manuela Montez, Greg Nelson, Gloria Olivas, Humberto Olivas, Anita Osburne and Teri Pace.

Steve Phillips, Cynthia Puente, Martin Ramirez, Ty Rangel, Mark Read, Jeff Reed, Terri Reyes-Salazar, Juan Rodriguez, Luis (Domingo) Rodriguez Jr., and Isidro Rodriguez.

Rebecca Ross, Billy Russell, Robyn Sanders-Riggs, Teresa Schmidt, Veronica Smith, Yvette Smith, Yvonne Smith and Teresa Smith.

John Tubbs, Margaret Vanderbilt, Modesta West-Valencia, Kenneth Whitehead, Aron Williams, John Woodall and Terri Yanez.

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Our hardworking sales team will help you find the right style at the right price - after all it's YOUR holiday!
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2309 Scurry 267-8491

Mercedes' new coupe

Comfort takes back seat to styling in the new CLS

By JIM MATEJA

Chicago Tribune

If what Mercedes says is true, a quick check of the e-mail would serve as proof.

Let's see. There are 348 invites to buy Viagra cheap; 231 messages saying a mortgage has been approved; and, as always, a couple missives from Nigeria promising to send a fortune this way if we first send one that way.

But no threats from Mercedes owners to hold their breath until their skin turns as blue as their blood unless the automaker produces a four-door sedan that looks like a coupe.

Yet, Mercedes has done just that. For 2006, it has come up with the CLS500, a four-door "coupe" derived from the E-Class sedan platform to satisfy driving enthusiasts enamored with two-door models.

"We wanted the styling of a coupe, the four-door function of a sedan," Mercedes spokesman Rob Moran said. "Enthusiasts place a big emphasis on style and luxury, and the coupe styling of the CLS500 makes a statement."

"Our only rival is the BMW 6-Series, a traditional two-door," he added.

Even with only one rival, the CLS will be a niche vehicle with sales projected at 12,000 units annually.

While BMW sells about 8,000 6-Series coupes annually, sales of the CLS through June already top the 8,400 mark. And reports are that the cars aren't staying in showrooms long enough to gather dust.

If memory serves, the compact C-Class started the look-like-a-coupe

2006 Mercedes-Benz CLS500

Wheelbase: 112.4 inches
Length: 194 inches
Engine: 5-liter, 302-h.p., 24-valve V-8
Transmission: 7-speed automatic
Fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/22 m.p.g. highway
Base price: \$64,900

trend a few years ago when it abandoned the stand-up sedan roof line in favor of the coupe sloper.

When testing the car, a surprising number of admirers took two to three glances and smiled in approval. Of course, none were invited to get in or out of the back seat.

Mercedes says the look stirs emotions. It neglected to warn that the roofline stirs the brains as the melon bangs off the rear glass and bumps against the roof when in the back seat and when trying to escape.

When you open the door, the roofline offers a minuscule entryway, not the spacious arch provided by a stand-up roof.

In fairness, cabin room upfront is pretty good, thanks to door panels curved sharply outward to provide massive arm room. But whether front or back, a center console and transmission tunnel separate occupants so you feel compartmentalized.

Next up for the coupe look is the top-of-the-line S-Class sedan that comes out in the first quarter of next year as a 2007 model.

On the positive side, the 5-liter, 302-horsepower V-8 does a good job of moving the more than 4,000-pound car, with a zero to 60 mph time of less than 6 seconds.

But such quick propulsion results in a 16 m.p.g. city/22 m.p.g. highway

rating and a \$1,300 gas-guzzler tax.

The V-8 is teamed with a new 7-speed automatic, which Mercedes said made for a wider spread of ratios between first and top gear and smaller increases in engine speed as the car accelerates to maximize performance and mileage. But it didn't maximize enough to avoid that guzzler tax.

Those who want more action can opt for the high-performance CLS55 AMG version with its 5.5-liter, 469-h.p. V-8. But be prepared to dig deep into pocket or purse because it starts about \$20,000 more than the CLS500 at \$87,375.

And with a 14 m.p.g. city/20 m.p.g. highway rating, add a \$1,700 guzzler tax.

While short on mileage, the CLS500 is strong on ride and handling. It's very mobile for its weight, and you don't feel all the poundage in the wheel. It's not cumbersome, and the turning radius is surprisingly tight.

The CLS comes with a computer-controlled air suspension system to continuously upgrade ride quality based on road surface and vehicle speed.

It also has electronic stability control, traction

control and four-wheel anti-lock brakes. Can't fault the quality of the ride or the precision of the handling.

The CLS500 starts at \$64,900 and, as you'd expect, comes with power windows, mirrors, locks, sunroof and AM/FM/CD systems. You also get dual-stage front air bags with sensors that detect whether a passenger is in the seat and the size of that passenger to determine at what speed the bag should deploy. And there are front and rear side-impact bags as well as side-curtain bags with rollover sensors.

When it comes to attention to detail, there's four-zone climate control so each occupant can set his or her preferred temperature; power adjustable steering column; and heated wipers and washer jets.

To help spot the car in a dark lot, not only do head and tail lamps light up when you press the key fob, so do parking lamps, license plate lamp and front fog lamps.

You can get a slew of other goodies for a price, though, unfortunately, a helmet for rear-seat occupants isn't offered.

A power-operated rear window sunshade and ventilated front seats that

heat in the winter, cool in the summer, are part of a \$3,650 premium package.

Adaptive cruise control that keeps a safe distance between you and the car ahead using brakes or engine management runs \$3,130.

Self-leveling bi-xenon headlights that turn in the direction of a curve and keep the proper aim even when the car accelerates quickly or brakes hard are \$1,220. Bi-xenon provides a brighter, whiter light without the blue tint common with regular xenon lamps.

And there's a power deck lid. Press the key fob or button on the driver's door to open (or a button on the deck lid or driver's door to close) after paying \$510. With the coupe slope, the trunk isn't very deep once open.

Rather than camouflage a sedan to look like a coupe, Mercedes should have devoted its energy to scoring better in the influential J.D. Power and Associates studies.

In the recent Power dependability study, for example, Mercedes placed 27th, up from 28th a year ago, but still behind Pontiac, Volvo, Jaguar, Dodge, Nissan, and, for heaven's sake, the deceased Oldsmobile.

"Power surveyed own-

ers of 2002 models, and there's a lag time between problems reported and changes made," Moran said.

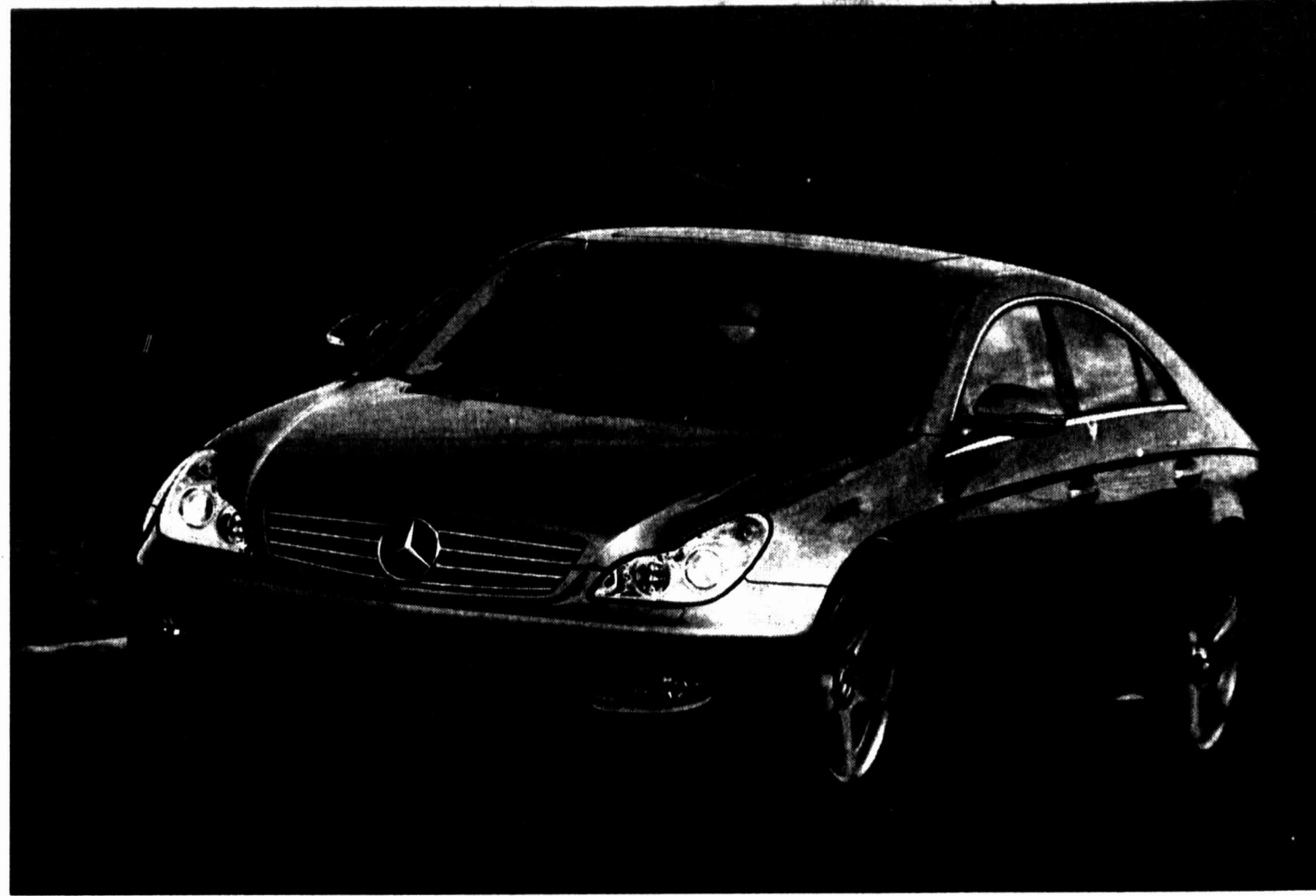
"We were marked down for excessive brake dust, cupholders (small and flimsy, as the survey says) and uneven tire wear, but we've made changes to our cars in those areas since 2002."

"We now give owners concerned about excessive brake dust a wheel cleaning kit and starting with the '05 models we offer a complimentary tire rotation at 6,500 miles for those concerned with tire wear."

"Cupholders are difficult for the Germans (Mercedes engineers) to understand since you don't find too many 44-ounce cups except during Oktoberfest," Morgan said. "But we've made revisions and now you can get one 32-ounce and one 44-ounce cupholder in the M-Class (SUV), and with the R-Class (crossover) this fall one 44-ounce and two 32-ounce cupholders."

Knowing that, Mercedes owners can now rest better — though not in the back seat of a CLS500.

Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.



The 2006 Mercedes CLS500

U.S. seeks international pressure on Iranian nuke program

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is trying to rally other nations to agree to impose U.N. sanctions on Iran to force it to negotiate an end to its nuclear programs.

Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns accused Iran of misleading the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency with the guise of seeking a civilian program.

"We fully expect that the IAEA will refer this issue to the United Nations Security Council, where it should be," Burns said.

"Iran must (face the) judgment of the international community, now that it has acted in defiance of the international community."

Burns did not rule out entirely that Iran might resume now-stalled negotiations with the European Union. He told *The Associated Press* Wednesday: "It is our judgment there is life left in the diplomatic process."

Britain, France and Germany, negotiating in behalf of the European Union and with U.S. sup-

port, has offered Iran economic incentives to stop converting uranium into fuel that could be used for nuclear weapons.

The United States, has offered Iran spare parts for commercial aircraft and a help in becoming a member of the World Trade Organization.

But with the talks stalemated, the administration clearly is losing patience.

Iran's top nuclear negotiator, Ali Larijani, said

on a trip to India on Wednesday that Iran wanted to cooperate in a serious way with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The Bush administration was not impressed. "It sounds like a lot more words that are not backed by any actions," Sean McCormack, the State Department spokesman, said. "We would encourage them to take the deal that is on

the table now. It's a good deal."

The administration evidently has won over President Jacques Chirac of France.

In an ultimatum issued on Monday, Chirac warned Iran it would face censure by the U.N. Security Council if it did not reinstate a freeze on sensitive nuclear activities under an accord reached in Paris in November.

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Coahoma seeks another win against old rival

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
With one win already in its pocket, the Coahoma football team will try to upend a formal district rival Friday as the Bulldogs host Seagraves.

Last year, under former head coach Robert Wood, the Bulldogs defeated Seagraves 39-28 in a scoring fest, but new coach Ken Cates doesn't want that to happen this year. "I don't think our team is capable of getting into a scorefest this early in the season," said Cates. Cates said much of their success last week came because the Bulldogs were able to control the clock and limit their turnovers on offense and play sound defense. That is what the plan will be this week against



Seagraves, who was ranked No. 14 in Class A to start the season, at Bulldog Stadium. "We just want to stick to

the same gameplan which got us a win last week," said Cates. Seagraves lost its opener to Lubbock Roosevelt last week, but went 9-4 last year and three rounds into the playoffs. "They had chances last week to win," said Cates. "The score did not indicate how well they played." The Eagles are primari-

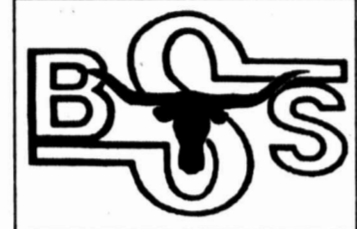
ly a run-oriented team on offense. They feature a young quarterback in Adrian Jacuinde and two very capable running backs. "They will run some option with the quarterback and they have two good running backs," said Cates. "We have done well this year so far with

See COAHOMA, Page 2B

Steers seek faster start against Mojo at Ratliff Stadium

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
Big Spring fans might see a little bit of its own team against Permian Friday night at Ratliff Stadium.



The Panthers are trying to get back to a more hard nosed offense like the championship teams were in the past. "They are trying to get back to what Gary Gaines ran at Permian years back," said Big Spring head coach Tim Holt. "They will run some options, power sweeps and inside tosses." The Steers' biggest factor Friday could be how well they tackle Permian's big runners. "They have some good backs that are physical," said Holt. "We need to tackle and wrap up them up." Permian is led in the backfield by Jarvis Morris, who is the biggest and toughest back to bring down. The quickest back the Steers will face

will be Melvis Pride. The Panthers threw just six times last week in their win over Lubbock High. When they do throw they usually like to go to tight end Bronte Bird, according to Holt. Bird is also one of the team's best defenders as he will play safety in the secondary. The other three defensive standouts are middle linebacker Paul Girard, who is 6-2 and 220 pounds and regarded as the leader of the defense. They also have two good defensive ends in Chris Nunez and Andre Powell. "They run a 5-2 base on defense and will slant on almost every play up front," said Holt. "They will shoot their lineback-

See STEERS, Page 2B



Big Spring junior Caleb Choate, right, tries to run down Odessa High's Marcel Veale during the Steers' 28-21 loss to the Bronchos at Memorial Stadium last Friday. Choate scored a touchdown on a long pass play in the game. Big Spring searches for its first win Friday in Odessa as the Steers challenge Permian at Ratliff Stadium.

Forsan hopes to execute in home opener with Eldorado

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald
When the Forsan Buffaloes line up against the Eldorado Eagles this Friday night, they already know what it will take to win.

Head coach Tommy Thompson said practices leading up to this week's game have gone well and the team is working hard on execution. "We are working hard to eliminate fumbles and dropped passes," he said, "and we are correcting some missed blocking assignments from last week."

Thompson said the Eagles present a big line-

up that runs a 5-2 defensive front to try and shut down the Buffs' running game. "We will have to rely on our speed to get to the outside," said Thompson, "and we will definitely have to catch the

passes." Thompson adds that the key to success for the Buffaloes this week on offense is to dictate how the Eagles defense must line up. Defensively Thompson said they will have their hands full with a hard nosed Eldorado team. "They have a lot of speed at the quarterback and tailback positions," Thompson said, "and



they have a big line and a hard running full-back." Thompson plans on using the speed of his defense to make plays by filling gaps and containing the option and passing game. Keys on defense include getting to the ball carrier quickly and swarming to the ball. "We have to eliminate the big plays," said Thompson, "and keeping their offense on the sideline will be important." The Buffaloes do have a few injuries this week. Linebacker Cody

See FORSAN, Page 2B



Several fans made it to Memorial Stadium last Friday to cheer on the Steers against Odessa High. The Steers lost to the Class 5A team, 28-21.

Bearkats seek bounce back game against Ira

• Two rivals meet in G.C. on senior night

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
Both Garden City and Ira have high expectations this season at the six-man level. After both teams started the season with losses, nothing has changed. The Bearkats and Bulldogs each started the season ranked in the top 10 of the preseason rankings after returning key players from last year's playoff teams. While both losses in week zero were a bit shocking, they weren't defeated by slouches. Garden City lost to now 11th ranked Grandfalls-Royalty on the final play



of the game in Grandfalls, while Ira was defeated by Paducah 34-6. Ira began the season ranked eighth and is now ranked 18th, while Paducah moved from 10th to fifth after the victory. "Grandfalls-Royalty is a good football team and they are picked to win their district," said Garden City head coach Ken Hoskins, "and as good as they are it still took them until the final play of the game to beat us." The Bearkats, who

See BEARKATS, Page 2B

Friday Night's Lineup

- Big Spring @ Odessa Permian, 7:30 p.m.
 - Seagraves @ Coahoma, 7:30 p.m.
 - Eldorado @ Forsan, 7:30 p.m.
 - Reagan County @ Stanton, 7:30 p.m.
 - Ira @ Garden City, 7:30 p.m. (senior night)
 - Rule @ Grady, 7:30 p.m.
 - Grandfalls-Royalty @ Sands, 7:30 p.m.
- also:
Odessa High @ Andrews
Snyder @ Lubbock Estacado

Coahoma Band Booster's Tailgate party

When: Friday, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Coahoma - home side of the football field near the concession stand.
What: BBQ sandwich, chips, drink and cookie for \$5
For: Anyone who is interested in supporting the Coahoma band.
For more information, call Dale Pittman at 816-4844.

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. The meetings for the football season will take place only when needed. For more information, contact Donna Wright at 267-3723.

YMCA sets meeting for adult flag football league
An organizational meeting has been scheduled for adults wanting to field a team to play flag football this fall. Participants must be 18 years of age or older to play. The meeting will take place at the YMCA Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m.

Henson Memorial fund-raiser set
The Second Annual Pfc. Clayton W. Henson Memorial Scholarship Fund-raiser golf tournament has been set for Sept. 10. The tournament will be a four person scramble and will cost \$80 per person. It will take place at the Phoenix Golf Club in Stanton. For more information, contact Wally Hazelwood at 756-2424 or the Phoenix Golf Club at 756-2556.

Local bowling leagues now forming
Bowling leagues at Bowl-A-Rama Lanes are now being formed. There will be several leagues throughout the week. A senior league will take place Fridays at 6 p.m. for players 55 and over. The league meeting will take place Friday at 8 p.m. Also, a children's league will take place Saturday mornings at 10 for bowlers aged 4 through 17. For more information, call 267-2494.

Hunter Education Class announced
The date for the next hunter education course will be Sept. 10 beginning at 8 a.m. in the Big Spring Chamber Commerce Building. The cost is \$10 and each student will receive his/her social security number and a passport or guardian's name. Texas law requires this course to be taken every year.

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AT HERITAGE MICROFILM, INC.

BEARKATS

Continued from Page 1B

dropped from fifth to 13th in the rankings after their loss, must cut down on turnovers Friday against Ira if they want to walk out winners.

"We just have to hold onto the football," said Hoskins.

"The turnovers last week killed us. We have rebounded from our loss though. The kids know why they lost and they'll bounce back."

Perhaps a reason for Ira's loss last week could be due to the absence of all-state star Wes Kellner. Kellner missed the game last week because of an eligibility dispute with the district. The district executive committee ruled him ineligible to play for entire season, but an appeal to the UIL executive committee has been given and was heard today.

If the decision is reversed by the UIL he would be eligible to play against the Bearkats Friday, but if the UIL decides to uphold the district executive committee's decision, then Kellner will most likely miss the season.

"He makes a big difference for them because he is the team's quarterback and was also an all-state defender last year," said Hoskins. "We are preparing for the game as if he

was playing because that is all we can do at this point."

The Bulldogs also rely on Caleb Gutierrez to lead the defense and will rely even more on him Friday if Kellner is unable to play. He was an all-state linebacker last year, as well.

"Ira is not as big up front as they were last year, but they have most of their skill position players back," said Hoskins. "They are not fancy on offense, but effective."

"They run an 'I', split back and shotgun sets and run them well, according to Hoskins.

Ira will run a 3-3 on defense, but Hoskins is more concerned with his team's offense.

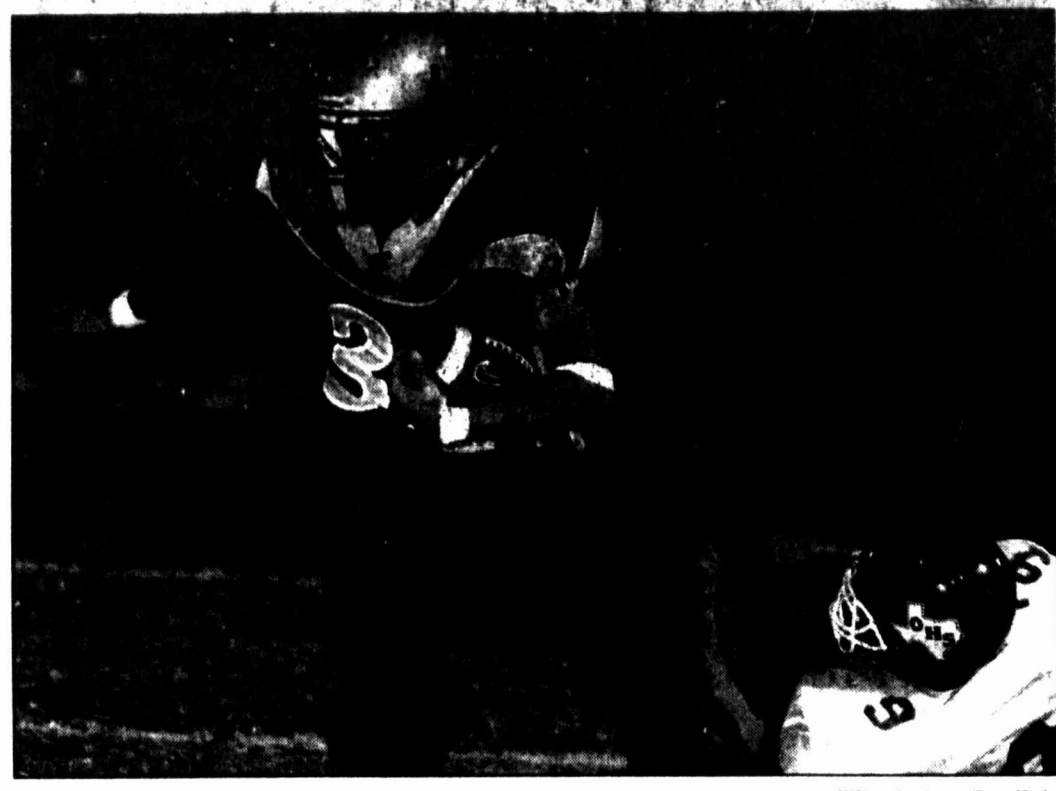
"We just have to execute and move the ball and we didn't do that last week," he said. "Our defense played well and anytime you allow just 20 points on that side of the ball you should win."

Garden City (0-1) faced the 18th ranked Pulldogs twice last year and fell both times. They lost in the regular season 48-43 as Ira scored 22 points in the second quarter. The Bearkats had another chance at Ira in the first round of the playoffs, but allowed 32 points in the first half and lost 32-12.

Four seniors on Garden City's football team will be honored for 'senior night' Friday. Cory Multer, Dusty Walker, Uriel Talamantes and Cade Doss will be recognized at 7:10 p.m. and the game is set to begin at 7:30 p.m.



Doss



Senior Kalan Whitehead gets away from a defender during a run against Odessa High last Friday at Memorial Stadium. Whitehead should get plenty of carries and play a big role on offense for the Steers Friday against Odessa Permian.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

ers often and that will be a challenge for our offensive line.

"They will try to free up the linebackers and the pursue the ball great as a team."

Holt said he is not as concerned with what Permian does as much as he is concerned with what the Steers do.

"We can't control what they do, but we can control what we do," said Holt.

Holt's biggest issue during the week of preparation was correcting mistakes from last week's loss to Odessa

High. "Our offensive line-man have got to be lower off the line of scrimmage and must control the movement," said Holt.

"I also would like to get some success on early drives and not wait until the third quarter to score points."

"On defense, we need to limit Permian's opportunities, tackle extremely well and wrap up their good backs."

Another thing to overcome, according to Holt, is the overall mystique

of playing at Ratliff Stadium — the supreme location for much of the movie "Friday Night Lights."

"That might be the biggest thing right now because it is kind of a famous stadium," said Holt. "We really want our seniors to play well and maybe come out of there with a win."

Senior Andy Lasater will play Friday night as he is recovered from a shoulder injury sustained early during two-day practices.

Senior Calvin Butler is questionable for the contest, while senior Johnny Williams will remain out and senior Moses Canales has not yet been released.



WILLIAMS

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Frietag and cornerback Skylier Sandridge are both out with knee injuries. And backup quarterback and kicker Seth Johnson will take this week off with a minor injury.

"Cody is still out with a

preseason knee injury and Skylier injured his knee during the Iraan game," said Thompson. "We are holding Seth out for preventative purposes."

Other than Frietag, Sandridge and Johnson, the starting lineup remains the same. The game will be played at Forsan this Friday night at 7:30 pm.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

stopping the run. Hopefully that will continue Friday."

Seagraves runs a 5-2 base set on defense.

Coahoma has moved to a more run-oriented offense, as well, but senior Joe

Holguin did plenty of damage last week through the air as he caught both Bulldog touchdowns — one from senior Patrick Croft and the other from junior Blaine Kerby. Holguin also had an interception on defense.

"We will just be tickled to death if we have one more touchdown on the board then they do when the time expires in the game," said Cates.

The game will begin in Coahoma at 7:30 p.m.



HOLGUIN

Williams sisters on crash course to meet in fourth round of Open

By NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — When Venus and Serena Williams saw the draw for the U.S. Open, neither of the two-time champions were happy.

The sisters, only 15 months apart, are closer than most. They live with each other. Hang out with each other. Practice with each other. Travel with each other.

They don't, however, like playing each other.

Yet that's the course they're on at the Open. Win one more match, and the sisters would meet in the fourth round this weekend.

"In order to beat Venus, I'm going to have to be (better)," Serena Williams said Wednesday night



Venus Williams faces Maria Kirilenko in a second round match at the U.S. Open Tennis Championship Wednesday.

after a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Colombia's Catalina Castano. "I think my biggest test will be Venus."

Venus was at courtside for her little sister's match, there to lend encouragement. And maybe do a little scout-

See WILLIAMS, Page 3B

Finley signs with Spurs, wants to win title in S.A.

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Finley was being pursued by several rising powers in the NBA. Ultimately, he decided to join the team that's already on top, the San Antonio Spurs.

On Wednesday, Finley ended weeks of courting by San Antonio, Phoenix, Miami and Minnesota by letting them all know he'll be wearing the silver and black of the reigning champions.

"All the teams he is considering are great organizations with an opportunity to win a championship, which is very important at this stage in his career," agent Henry Thomas told The Associated Press late Wednesday.

Thomas said salary and length of contract wouldn't be settled for a few days. Although he has a ballpark idea of what they'll be, he declined to discuss numbers. He noted that the most important thing for the 32-year-old swingman was finally picking among his suitors.

The Spurs did not confirm Finley's plans. Spokesman Cliff Puchalski said the team had no comment.

Finley became a free agent earlier this month when the Dallas Mavericks waived him under the league's new one-time amnesty clause. He's still owed nearly \$52 million in salary from the Mavs, but the team is no longer obligated to match it in luxury taxes.

Miami was considered the favorite to sign him because the Heat could offer the full \$5 million midlevel exception and the opportunity to play with Shaquille O'Neal.

San Antonio, which has won three of the last seven NBA titles, could offer about \$2.5 million. The Suns had only the veteran's minimum of \$1.1 million to offer, but hoped to lure Finley back to the franchise that drafted him with the opportunity to play alongside friend Steve Nash, last season's MVP.

By remaining in the Western Conference, and even the Midwest Division, Finley will be a frequent foe of the Mavericks. He'll also be a potential thorn in their quest to make the finals for the first time — sort of like Nash did last season, when he and the Suns eliminated Dallas in the second round of the playoffs.

In San Antonio, Finley will have to share time with All-Star Manu Ginobili, Brent Barry and Bruce Bowen. San Antonio also recently added Nick Van Exel, who played with Finley in Dallas.

Thomas said that Finley is comfortable with the role Spurs coach Gregg Popovich offered him.

Asked if that would mean playing 15 to 20 minutes per game, Thomas said it would be "honestly more than that."

"He probably will play the amount of minutes during the regular season that will allow him to be fresh and ready to go in the playoffs," the agent said.

His scoring average has dropped five years in a row — from a career-best 22.6 points per game in 1999-2000 to 15.7 last season.

Continued from

-ing.

The sisters each other e Grand Slam their meetin ly in the final. Because No. 1s hav much this y they drew lo

Serena, wh ing to rega after being a ankle injury Australian C Venus is see ing played o nament and matches sh Wimbledon.

"I feel lik trying to ste I feel like I best out of said after b Kirilenko in Wednesday.

Though dropped a t games in th matches, Vi to be in the of the two. I afternoon w swirling wir of hand wit pushed nor shots all ov Williams wv cient

She won points off he and had 24 Kirilenko's had 25 unfo

"It was p she said. "I more spin, the serve, t first serve i

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• 2002 first \$12.5 million year of ne

HOUSTON Amid repo Ming has a of a five- extension Houston R more than the team Thursday c with the pl

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— Houston baseman recovering on an a shoulder, twice, wal fled out Wednesday first injury appearanc Corpus Ch

He was l effort, tho "I felt Bagwell sa Thursday' Christi

"(Today) (gauge) o With the tough to pain level too bad.

"Physica to my km

The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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WILLIAMS

Continued from Page 2B

-ing. The sisters have played each other eight times at Grand Slam events, but their meetings are usually in the final or semifinal. Because the former No. 1s haven't played much this year, though, they drew lower seeds.

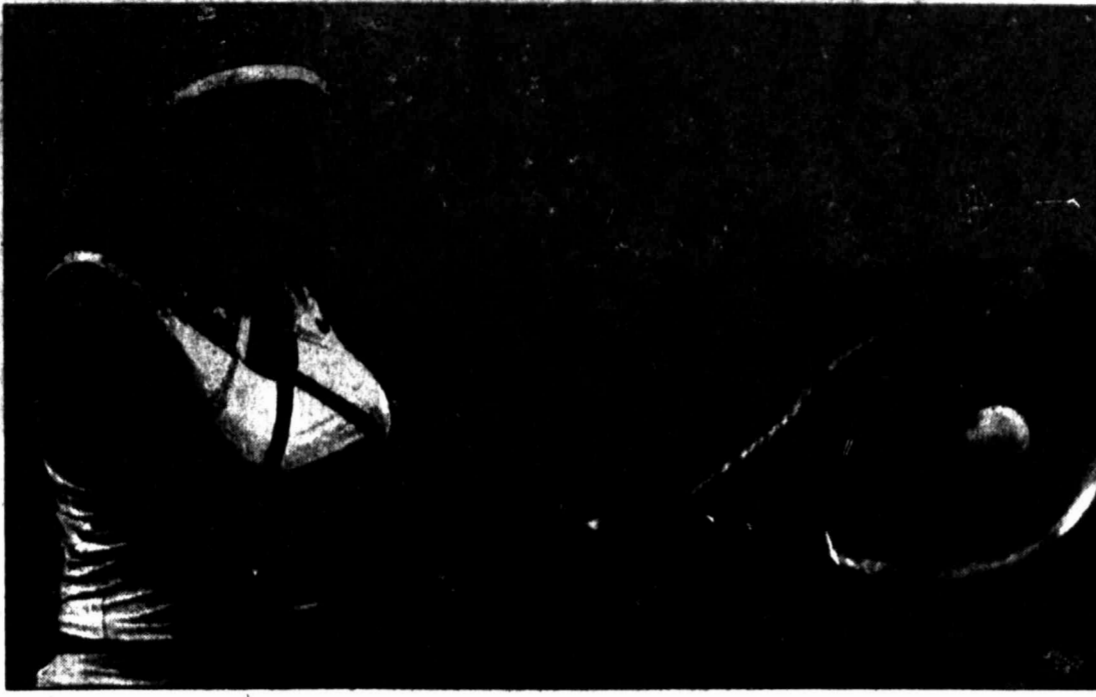
Serena, who is still trying to regain her form after being slowed by an ankle injury following the Australian Open, is No. 8. Venus is seeded 10th, having played only one tournament and two Fed Cup matches since winning Wimbledon.

"I feel like when I'm trying to step it up, I will. I feel like I can get the best out of me," Venus said after beating Maria Kirilenko in straight sets Wednesday.

Though both have dropped a total of eight games in their first two matches, Venus appears to be in the better shape of the two. Playing in the afternoon when a brisk, swirling wind did sleights of hand with serves and pushed normally certain shots all over the court, Williams was coolly efficient.

She won 70 percent of points off her first serves, and had 24 winners to Kirilenko's four. She also had 25 unforced errors.

"It was pretty tough," she said. "I tried to add more spin, take some off the serve, try to get the first serve in, those kind



Serena Williams hitting a backhand against Catalina Castano in a second round match at the U.S. Open Tennis Championship Wednesday.

of things. Not go for too much, but of course still play the right shots."

The tricky conditions didn't produce any major upsets Wednesday, though Scoville Jenkins, a 19-year-old Atlantan playing on a wild card, gave it his best shot. Jenkins lost to French Open champ Rafael Nadal in straight sets, but he put on a good show and served notice that he'll be one to watch in the coming years.

Former champ Lleyton Hewitt advanced in straight sets, as did top-seeded Maria Sharapova and No. 4 Kim Clijsters.

Compared to her big sister, Serena Williams is much more a work in progress now. She admits she's still rusty, but she was much sharper and had better timing

Wednesday than she did only two days earlier.

After breaking Castano and serving to go up 5-2 in the second set, Serena set up match point with a shot that drew a gasp of appreciation from the crowd. Camped at the baseline, she moved forward and hit a gorgeous drop shot that caught Castano completely off-guard.

She followed that up with a backhand winner — her 25th winner in the match — to put Castano away.

"I'm definitely not at my best," Serena Williams said. "Honestly, I'm under 50 percent. But I've won stuff under 50 percent before."

And don't make the mistake of assuming she won't get back to her best. Many have wondered if

Serena is more interested in fashion design and acting than tennis, but she bristled at the suggestion.

"Quite frankly, I'm tired of people saying I put tennis third and last in my life," she said. "If I did, I wouldn't be here playing. I wouldn't be practicing. I could be at the beach. I could have retired. I could be drinking lemonade with my legs crossed in the sun on the beach. I'm not doing that. I'm playing tennis every day and sweating. I'm not in Saint Tropez."

Now the goal is to get to the fourth round. Venus Williams will play 20th-seeded Daniela Hantuchova. Serena must face No. 25 Francesca Schiavone in a rematch of a loss in May that Williams called the worst of her career.

Pettitte stays hot, Astros blank Reds

HOUSTON (AP) — Andy Pettitte thinks he is pitching better than ever before.

Pettitte allowed four hits in seven innings, striking out four and walking only one to lead the Houston Astros over the Cincinnati Reds 10-0 on Wednesday night.

Pettitte (13-9) improved to 10-2 in 14 starts since June 20. The left-hander lowered his ERA to 2.50, tied with Washington's John Patterson for third best in the National League.

"I feel I'm a better pitcher right now than ever before," Pettitte said. "I'm using my changeup more and that's helping and I'm just getting smarter and not worrying much about velocity." Pettitte had elbow surgery that ended his 2004 season last Aug. 24 and caused him to get off to a 3-7 start this year. But he now thinks the ailing elbow might have contributed to his improved performance.

"There's no doubt," Pettitte said. "The elbow hasn't allowed me to over-pitch. It's helped me be more consistent. If I was healthy, I'd probably get stupid and rare back and just try to throw hard sometimes."

Brandon Claussen matched Pettitte for four innings before the Astros broke open the game with

a four-run fifth.

"We put together some big hits tonight," manager Phil Garner said. "Lost in all that was the fact Andy pitched seven shutout innings. He has just been phenomenal for us."

"He has pitched well for most of the season. It seems like he's been pretty good for a couple of months."

Brad Ausmus drove in four runs and helped the fifth-inning outburst. He also praised Pettitte's strong showing.

"He did a great job," Ausmus said. "I don't think he was feeling 100 percent, but he's got the mental wherewithal to overcome any kind of tenderness or soreness."

The Reds couldn't tell if Pettitte was hurting.

"He's one of the best pitchers in the game," Jason LaRue said. "Every time he's out there, he doesn't make too many mistakes and tonight he didn't make too many mistakes."

"Sometimes you just have to tip your cap when you go up against some pitchers."

Jason Lane hit a two-run homer for the Astros, who remained a half-game behind Philadelphia in the NL wild-card race.

Claussen (9-9) lost for the first time since July 23 against Milwaukee.

Yao Ming signs big five-year extension, will remain a Rocket

• 2002 first pick gets \$12.5 million in first year of new deal

HOUSTON (AP) — Amid reports that Yao Ming has agreed to terms of a five-year contract extension with the Houston Rockets worth more than \$75 million, the team announced a Thursday conference call with the player.

The conference call, scheduled for 10 a.m. CDT, will include Yao and Rockets owner Leslie Alexander.

The deal that will keep the 7-foot-6 center with the Rockets through the 2010-11 season was first reported by Houston television station KRIV.

Rockets general manager Carroll Dawson would not confirm the agreement when reached by The Associated Press.

Houston media relations officials also refused to comment.

Yao, a native of Shanghai, is in China working with the Chinese National team.

Yao, the first pick in the 2002 draft, will be paid the maximum allowed under the NBA's new collective bargaining agreement, according to the reports. The contract will be 25 percent of the salary cap, meaning the first year will be worth an estimated \$12.5 million.

Yao averaged 18.3 points and 8.4 rebounds and two blocks last season.

He has averaged 16.4 points and 8.5 rebounds in his three-year career.

The three-time NBA All-Star has one year remaining on his rookie contract, which will pay him more than \$5.5 million next season.

Bagwell goes 0-for-3 in first rehab start with Corpus Christi Hooks

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Houston Astros first baseman Jeff Bagwell, recovering from surgery on an arthritic right shoulder, struck out twice, walked once and flied out to left field Wednesday night in his first injury rehabilitation appearance with the Corpus Christi Hooks.

He was happy with the effort, though.

"I felt all right," Bagwell said in a story in Thursday's Corpus Christi Caller-Times. "(Today) will be a good (gauge) of how I feel. With the adrenaline, it's tough to tell what your pain level is, but it wasn't too bad."

"Physically, I didn't go to my knees in pain, so

it's all good so far." Bagwell had surgery in early June and hopes to be back with the Astros for the stretch run.

Corpus Christi lost to the San Antonio Missions 6-1.

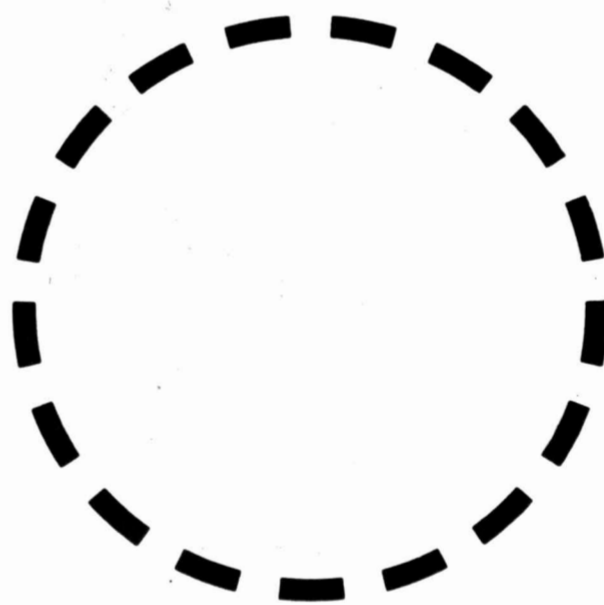
Bagwell said he felt overmatched a couple of times and his timing was a bit off.

He didn't make contact with the ball until the ninth inning, which bothered him.

"I expect to make contact," he said. "I have struck out about 1,500 times. Especially in the first inning, that bothered me."

"You've got (two) runners in scoring position like that and these guys are in a playoff run."

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Call Steve
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Name _____
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Telephone _____ Date: _____

CLASSIFIED AD

Write one word on each line:

Up to 25 words: Sunday Only \$19.50 One weekday only \$12.25 Two Consecutive Days \$16.50 Three Consecutive days \$20.25 Four Consecutive Days \$23.50 Five Consecutive Days \$25.75 Six Consecutive Days \$27.00 Two weeks \$51.00 Three Weeks \$64.50 Four weeks \$75.00 Garage Sales (3 days) \$16.75 Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day.

Enhancements Price per word for entire run: Bolding \$1.00 Centering \$1.00 Italics \$1.00 Price for entire run: Blind Box \$10 Photo \$4.00 Graphics \$1.00 Logos \$1.00

Prices include placement on internet at www.bigspringherald.com

Start Date _____ Classification: _____

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

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

Enclosed is \$ _____ Cash _____ Money Order _____ Check _____ Credit Card# _____
Exp. Date _____ Vcode# _____

Are you a subscriber: Yes No



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50 English 25 Spanish
Customer Care Representative Openings!

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7 New 2004 Models
Still In Stock!
Up To \$11,000 off - Don't Miss It!
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1993 FREIGHTLINER C/O
Condo, 60 Series Detroit, 10
speed, 80% Brakes & 80%
rubber with 53' vented van.
Ready to work for only
\$15,500. See at Lone Star
Auto Sales, 15005 West 4th.

PUBLIC
Love of LABOR
Labor Day "Saturday"
AUTO & TRUCK AUCTION
Needing
Lots of Love, Adopt An
Orphaned
Car, Van, Truck or SUV
Auction
Rick Faulks Auctioneers
Texas #12368 presents
Live Bidding
To resolve lienholders
interest
REPOSSESSIONS
Sept. 3rd 10:00 AM
6145 E. Hwy. 80
800-594-5646

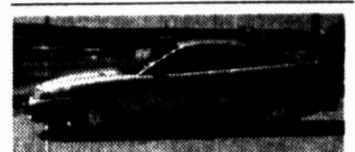
Due to Health Reasons must
Sell all Inventory.
1998 Chrysler \$2,125.00
1993 Pontiac \$675.00
1996 Dodge \$1,125.00
1998 Chevy P/U \$3,520.00
1996 Chevy S/10 \$2,540.00
1987 Mitsubishi Montero \$1,135.00
1990 Suburban \$1,465.00
1993 Cougar \$1,900.00
Lone Star Auto Sales
1505 West 4th.

Not ready for retail, scratch
and dent, not detailed, fix'er
up, work vehicles,
transportation school cars.
Inexpensive
VEHICLES WILL
BE SOLD
Inexpensive
Terms of sale: buyers must
be at least 18 years old,
Cash, Bank Check,
money order or check
with bank letter of credit
must be presented at time of
purchase. All vehicles sold
as is, where is without
warranty as to
use for any purpose or
merchantability all
announcements made at
auction supercede any
printed or oral statement
made prior.
Foreign...Pickups,
Cars, SUVs,
Vans...domestic
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1998 BMW (Dark Green). Very
Clean. Good Condition.
Leather/power seats, power
sun roof, alarm system, auto-
matic, 96k. \$11,800.00. Serv-
ice Record Available. Call
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1998 Ford Mustang V6 (Sil-
ver). Power door-locks & win-
dows, tilt, cruise, AM/FM,
Cass/W/CD, power seat, alum.
wheel. \$5,950.00.



2002 Mercury Sable GS
(Blue). Power Door-locks &
windows, tilt, cruise, AM/FM,
Cass. \$7,950.00.



2001 Chevrolet Tahoe LT
(Blue). Power door-locks &
windows, leather seats, tilt,
cruise, CD player, luggage
rack, alum. wheel. \$15,900.00.

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Big Spring, Texas
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and place your ad.
HERALD

Legals

Public Hearing
The District Judge will conduct a
public hearing on the salaries of
the Auditor, Assistant Auditors, and
Court Reporter. Citizens are invited
to attend and comment.
The hearing will be held at 9:00
am on September 21, 2005, at the
118th District Court Building, 312
Scurry Street, Big Spring, TX.
Signed: Jackie Olson
County Auditor
#4667 September 1, 2005

Glasscock County
Public Notice
A copy of the proposed 2005-2006
budget for Glasscock County is
available for inspection in the of-
fices of County Clerk or County
Treasurer, Courthouse, Garden
City TX 79739.
A budget hearing will be conducted
September 12, 2005 at 10:00 AM in
District Courtroom. Any citizen is
welcome to attend.
W.E. Bednar
County Judge
#4689 September 1, 2005

Legals

**HOWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC NOTICE**
A copy of the proposed 2005-06
budget for Howard County is avail-
able for inspection in the office of
County Auditor, Courthouse, Big
Spring, Tx 79720.
The budget reflects increases
as follows:

- * \$10 per mo increase for
employees qualifying for longevity
 - * Benefit increases due to above
 - * Increase in health insurance
premiums of approximately 5.4%
 - * Purchase of vehicles for the
Sheriff: \$75,000
- A budget hearing will be conducted
September 12, 2005, at 10:00 a.m.
in the Commissioners Courtroom.
Any citizen is welcome to attend.
Jackie Olson
County Auditor
#4668 September 1, 2005

Glasscock County
Public Notice

- Pursuant to Texas Local Govern-
ment Code 152.013 Glasscock
County Commissioners Court will
set the increase amounts in the
2005-2006 proposed budget for the
elected or precinct officers as fol-
lows at their regular meeting Sep-
tember 12, 2005:
- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Sheriff / Tax Assessor Collector | Salary | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| Supplies | | \$1,000.00 |
| Radio Expense | | \$4,000.00 |
| County/District Clerk | | |
| Longevity | | \$1,200.00 |
| Micro-Filming | | \$48.00 |
| County Judge | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| School & Conferences | | \$125.00 |
| Telephone | | \$300.00 |
| Justice of the Peace | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| Judge Secretary Salary | | \$600.00 |
| County Commissioners Prt#1 | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| County Commissioners Prt#2 | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| County Commissioners Prt#3 | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| County Commissioners Prt#4 | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| County Treasurer | | |
| Salary | | \$5,900.00 |
| Longevity | | \$48.00 |
| County Constable | | |
| Salary | | \$600.00 |
| County Attorney | | |
| Salary | | \$900.00 |
- #4690 September 1, 2005

**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**
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, limi-
tation 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 know-
ingly accept any advertising for
real estate which is in violation
of the law. Our readers are
hereby informed that all
advertisements in this
newspaper are available on an
equal opportunity basis.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHS
Whether you've been
out of school for decades
or in it for years, the
Virgo sun has a back-to-
school feeling that you
just can't shake. Even
if there's no blackboard,
we're sure we're sup-
posed to be learning
something.

**HOLIDAY
MATHS**
Venus and
Jupiter join
up to magni-
fy our attraction to our
cosmic classmates — peo-
ple whose needs are simi-
lar to our own.

ARIES (March 21-April
19). People ask your opin-
ion and, what's more, are
genuinely interested in
the answer. Respond
truthfully and in detail.
The perfect job opportuni-
ty presents itself, but
requires that you either
relocate or reeducate.

TAURUS (April 20-May
20). Much excitement
centers on what you're doing
and the way you're living.
You even have fans! But if
you take too much credit
for joint efforts, others
will start to resent you.
Be modest.

GEMINI (May 21-June
21). What you wouldn't
give for a block of
unstructured time. Stop
being jealous of the unem-
ployed, and schedule
yourself an official vaca-
tion — not the kind where
you go somewhere and do
something, but the other
kind.

CANCER (June 22-July
22). Worrying does not
solve problems. A proac-
tive approach is more pro-
ductive and far less
stressful. Use whatever
information you have,
and dig in. There are no
immediate results, but
your plan takes shape as
you go.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).
This is a day of magical
mishaps and accidental
meetings with people
who'll be important to
your future. If there is
something about your

image you'd like to
change, a Cancer or a
Libra helps. Tonight,
give, and make a differ-
ence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.
22). Quiet negativity
inside you starts speak-
ing in a louder voice. It's so
wonderful that you can
hear it now. The opportu-
nity to write a new script
comes with knowing your
current belief system.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).
You're a creative force
with the power to trans-
form everything you
touch. There's no sense
waiting for a partner to
help you participate in
life — jump in alone, and
your princess or prince
may arrive to join the
fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.
21). It's dandy to have
things to look forward to,
but don't forget about the
here and now. Focus on
everyday blessings —
friends, family and
health. The stars put you
in chill mode tonight.
Relax and regenerate!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-
Dec. 21). Every archer
knows that to hit the
mark, you must aim high.
But arrows are not the
only things subject to the
laws of gravity. While set-
ting up a special project,
ask for much more than
you need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-
Jan. 19). Indecisiveness
holds you back. How can
you move forward when
you don't know which
way to go? Your instincts
are dead-on, so base your
decision on what feels
right. You have great suc-
cess once you move.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-
Feb. 18). Your fantasy life
is an essential part of who
you are and must be nur-
tured in order to stay
vibrant and strong. The
most delicious attraction
is between you and the
elusive stranger you
never meet.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March
20). Someone you love
dearly makes things diffi-
cult unintentionally
through inopportune
phone calls or scheduling

events when everyone is
clearly busy. You're lucky
when you remain loyal
through the tests of your
patience.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUES-
TIONS:** "I was born May
1, 1964 at 8:43 p.m. I have
never been married and
have no kids. I have been
living a hard, though
spiritually enlightening,
life for the past few years.
Will I be able to buy a
house?"

Pisces on the fourth
house can indicate feel-
ings of abandonment and
homelessness that you
must battle to overcome.
But here's the trick. If
you battle by saying, "I
want a house!" you may
unconsciously hold onto
the idea that you don't
already have a house. The
more you think about it
and feel low about your
houseless situation, the
more desperation you cre-
ate. Pisces is a spiritual
sign, and the spiritual
realm has different rules
from the material plane.
The way to go about
attracting your house is
to continue your work on
the spiritual plane for at
least 15 minutes a day.
For that time, you pretend
you already have your
house and are living in it
and feeling completely
exhilarated about the situ-
ation. Talk to yourself
about how great it feels to
pull up in your driveway,
open your new kitchen
cabinets, chat with the
nice neighbors, etc. Don't
worry about how or
when. Just do the spiritu-
al work, and believe.

CELEBRITY PROFILES:
Richard Gere is an earthy
Virgo with an adventur-
ous Sagittarius moon.
Though perfectionism
and improvement are
heavy themes in his
chart, the Sagittarius
moon indicates someone
who is not afraid to tackle
the unknown and will do
so with great passion.
Gere probably has the
same serious and diligent
approach for every proj-
ect, whether it's a drama
or a song and dance rou-
tine.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I am a
small business owner
with two small children.
My husband is stationed
in Iraq.

I know everybody has
their own opinion on the
war, but I have some cus-
tomers who like to verbal-
ize their opinions. They
like to tell me we are los-
ing soldiers for no reason.
It really bothers me that
they think my husband is
not making a difference
and that it is stupid he is
over there to begin with.

I have heard it so much
lately, I really don't know
what to say. It hurts that
these people don't consid-
er my feelings when they
spout off. What can I do
that will not be rude? —
Proud Wife of a Soldier

Dear Proud Wife: These
customers may not realize
your husband is in Iraq.
Or, they may think they
are being sympathetic to
you by disparaging the
war. In any event, it is
not rude for you to point
out that you would prefer
if they stopped. Simply
say, "My husband is serv-
ing in Iraq. I would appre-
ciate it if you would keep
him in your thoughts in a
more positive way. Thank
you."

Dear Annie: I am a 49-
year-old peri-menopausal
woman, and while I don't
initiate sex as often as I
used to, I enjoy myself
once things are under-
way. I was depressed by
the letters you recently
printed about menopausal
women. The consensus
seems to be that the
desire for intercourse is
definitely going to go
away once the estrogen
does.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Will you ask your post-
menopausal readers if
any of them have main-
tained a reasonable level
of desire for sex and, if so,
do they think there is a
particular reason? Also,
do researchers think
they're ever going to
come up with a drug that
does for women what
Viagra does for men? —
Anywhere, USA

Dear Anywhere: The
researchers will keep try-
ing, because the problem
is real and the company
that comes up with
Viagra for women is
going to make a bundle. If
any of our readers would
like to respond to your
question about maintain-
ing a healthy sex life after
menopause, we'll let you
know. Meanwhile, here's
more:

From L.A.: I applaud
"Man with a Happy Wife"
for explaining that doing
loving things helps
women get in the mood. I
also applaud the woman
from New York who is
willing to accommodate
her husband even when
she doesn't have the
desire. However, I have a

problem with the woman
from L.A. who suggests
her husband should get
"medication to reduce his
sex drive." How selfish.
What if her husband
refused to get a job, attend
a family function or talk
with her because he didn't
feel like it? Would she
take medication to reduce
her need for these things?
Women who think they
should have the ultimate
say-so in how frequently
the couple has sex are in
a relationship that is
heading downhill.

Midwest: Where can I
find "Man with a Happy
Wife"? Does he have any
single brothers? His
approach may not solve
the whole problem, but it
sure would go a long way
to make it better. His wife
is so-o-o-o lucky.

Quartz Hill, Calif.: My
husband found an answer
to my menopause prob-
lems. He left me. Now I
don't have to deal with
his anger when I'm not in
the mood.

Illinois: Thanks for
pointing out that no mat-
ter how thoughtful and
gentle the man is, it may
not be enough to get the
juices flowing. I know
this sounds ludicrous, but
eating a few homemade
oatmeal cookies turns on
my love light. I also found
that in early menopause,
taking magnesium did
wonderful things for the
libido. Now, I take a little
zinc (with food) to get in
the mood. And yes, I
think it is a woman's
responsibility to try to
revive her libido, because
sex is very important to a
man as a way to feel close
to his mate.

Auto.....AUCTION.....Truck

Public Repossession Sale
LIVE BIDDING

Buy like a dealer, dealers are welcome.
Take immediate possession.
General Fleet Brokers Inc., Royal-Taj Corporation, etal is having a public auction
to resolve lien holder interest in repossessed vehicles. This public sale is
being conducted

By: RICK FAULKS AUCTIONEERS of
MATADOR TEXAS TX. LIC. #00012368
Ph. 806-777-6370

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3RD • 10 AM
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TODAY!!
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If Your Car hasn't Sold
you get the **3rd Week FREE**
Call or come by to place
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Call: (432) 263-7331
email: classifieds@bigspringherald.com

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THURSDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLT (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (24)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (30)
6:30	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Incornto de TI	Prague Show	News Ent. Tonight	Amario Asi	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond M.L.B Baseball	Joe McGee John Hagar	News-Lahar	American Chopper	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live Access	That's Raven That's Raven	College Football	Col. GameDay	Science Fic.
7:30	Movie: Shanghai	Movie: Shanghai	Apuesta por un Amor	NFL Preseason	Big Brother 6 (CC)	El Cuerpo del Deseo	Joey (CC) Will & Grace	Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves (CC)	Update/Israel J.R. Church	West Ym Jm TX Monthly Talk	The FBI Files (CC)	Movie: Fretz (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers	Movie	Oregon at Houston	Football: Central Florida	Movie: The Bone Snatcher (CC)
8:30	Knights (CC)	Knights (CC)	La Madrastra	Jacksonville Jaguars at Dallas Cowboys	Without a Trace (CC)	El Principe Azul	ER (CC)	Movie: The Others (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	The FBI Files (CC)	Movie: Missing	Ultimate Game MXX	Soul Food (CC)	American Dgn Sistar, Sistar	College Football	College Football	Movie: Boa (CC)	Movie: Pierodactyl (CC)
9:30	PrimeTime (CC)	PrimeTime (CC)	Noicias Univ	Prison Break (CC)	News Late Show	Noicias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	Others (CC)	40 Movie: Dal Sanchez Jesse Lee Pe.	Roadshow FYI	The FBI Files (CC)	In Action (CC)	The Ultimate Fighter	Movie: City of Angels (CC)	Nightly News 106 & Park	That's Raven That's Raven	Minnesota at Tulsa (CC)	Baseball NFL Live	Movie: Boa (CC)
10:30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora Derbez	Lethalman Tennis	Late Night: Laura Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night: Maria Celeste Programa	Conan O'Brien Sinfeld (CC)	The Haunting (CC)	Update/Israel Faye Hardin	The FBI Files (CC)	Sands of Iwo Jima (CC)	Real TV (CC) Blind Date	Movie: Simona	BET After Dark	Lizzie McGuire Proud Family	College Gmday ESPN Holly	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	Twilight Zone
12:30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Post/One Pay	Amigas y Rivales (RS)	Spin City Roseanne	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Late Late Show

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY DAD SAYS WE PLAY TOO LOUD, SO WE CAME OVER TO GET A SECOND OPINION."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Here's a story I think you'll enjoy reading to me, Grandma."

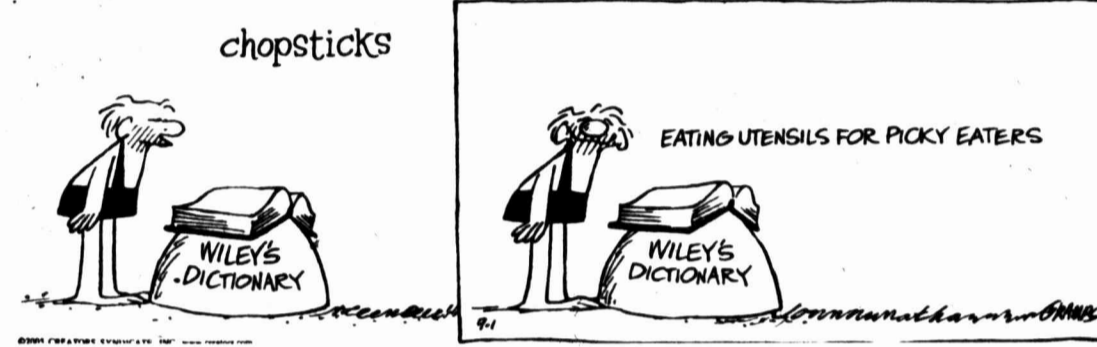
HAGAR



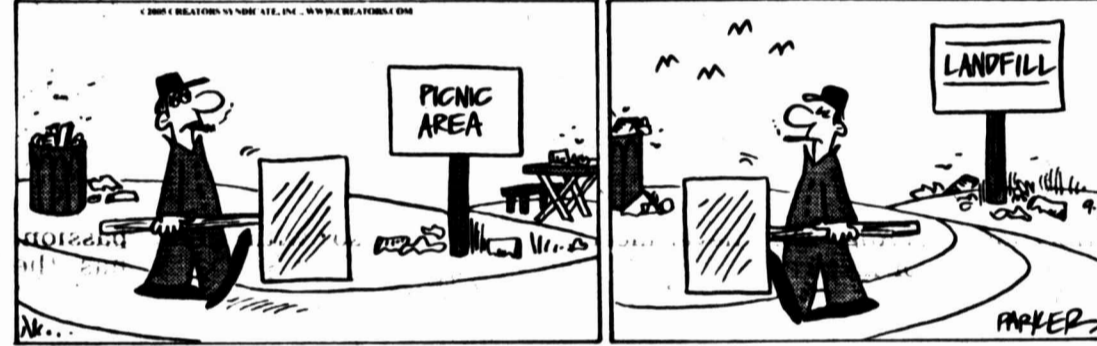
BLONDIE



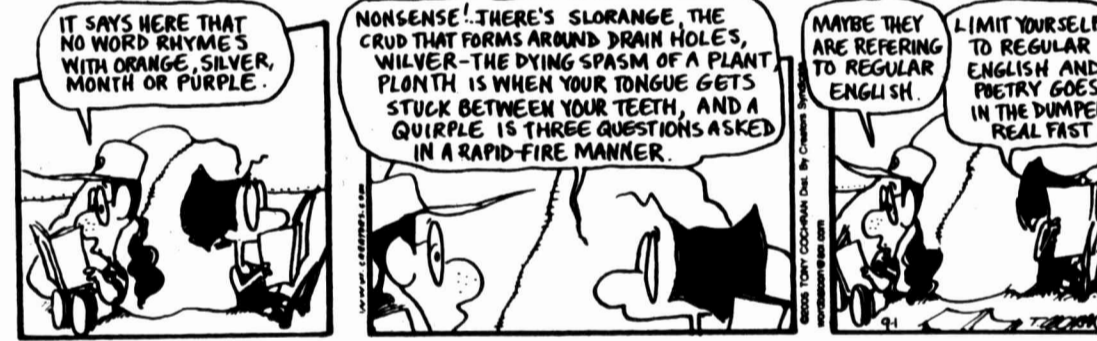
BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Sept. 1, the 244th day of 2005. There are 121 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 1, 1939, World War II began as Nazi Germany invaded Poland.

On this date:

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was found innocent of treason.

In 1878, Emma M. Nutt became the first female telephone operator in the United States, for the Telephone Despatch Co. of Boston.

In 1905, 100 years ago, Alberta and Saskatchewan entered Confederation as the eighth and ninth provinces of Canada.

In 1923, the Japanese cities of Tokyo and Yokohama were devastated by an earthquake that claimed some 150,000 lives.

In 1932, New York City Mayor James J. "Gentleman

Walker resigned following charges of graft and corruption in his administration.

In 1945, Americans received word of Japan's formal surrender that ended World War II. (Because of the time difference, it was September 2 in Tokyo Bay, where the ceremony took place.)

In 1951, the United States, Australia and New Zealand signed a mutual defense pact, the ANZUS treaty.

In 1961, the Soviet Union ended a moratorium on atomic testing with an above-ground nuclear explosion in central Asia.

In 1972, American Bobby Fischer won the international chess crown in Reykjavik, Iceland, defeating Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union.

In 1983, 269 people were killed when a Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 was shot down by a Soviet jet fighter after the airliner entered Soviet airspace.

Today's Birthdays: Former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird is 83. Actress Yvonne De Carlo is 83. Former Texas Governor Ann Richards is 72. Conductor Seiji Ozawa is 70. Comedian

actress Lily Tomlin is 66. Actor Don Stroud is 62. Singer Archie Bell is 61. Rock musician Greg Errico is 59. Singer Barry Gibb is 59. Talk show host Dr. Phil McGraw is 55. Singer Gloria Estefan is 48. Former White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers is 44. Jazz musician Boney James is 44. Singer-musician Grant Lee Phillips (Grant Lee Buffalo) is 42. Rap DJ Spigg Nice (Lost Boyz) is 35. Actor Ricardo Antonio Chavira ("Desperate Housewives") is 34. Actor Scott Speedman is 30.

Thought for Today: "Nothing succeeds, they say, like success. And certainly nothing fails like failure." — Margaret Drabble, British author.

Answer to previous puzzle

RAPS	GARB	BIDED																		
ELLS	OLEO	ACURA																		
ALAS	LUNG	SEDAN																		
CATAND	MOUSE	ESE																		
THEMES	SPHERES																			
EXTOL	AIDA																			
HEM	TALES	TENTS																		
IRAS	REAPS	NCAA																		
PANEL	SPEWS	MBO																		
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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rascal
 - 6 Gelatin shapers
 - 11 Service seat
 - 14 Nostalgic tune
 - 15 Open, as laces
 - 16 New Haven student
 - 17 Alias
 - 19 NFL great Marino
 - 20 Bengali, to Belgian
 - 21 Loading on board
 - 23 Surrealist Magritte
 - 24 Tote
 - 26 Driving hazard
 - 27 Brilliant achievement
 - 32 Minute Maid Park team
 - 36 Splash director Howard
 - 37 King of tragedy
 - 38 High-ranking angels
 - 40 Most wicked Arabian Peninsula land
 - 43 Heart-test letters
 - 45 Parisian palace
 - 46 Of the late 19th century
 - 49 Chicago White
 - 50 Guadalupe gold
 - 51 Couch potato's place
 - 55 Election before a convention
- DOWN**
- 1 Sub detector
 - 2 Exact duplicate
 - 3 Slogan creator
 - 4 Small fly
 - 5 Source of pressure, perhaps
 - 6 Oahu attire
 - 7 Ace value, at times
 - 8 Monogram pts.
 - 9 Grime
 - 10 Bid bon voyage to
 - 11 AKC concerns
 - 12 Oomph
 - 13 Building add-on
 - 18 Shoes protectors
 - 22 Wild partner
 - 25 Canine sound
 - 27 Outdo
 - 28 Anonymous John
 - 29 Mail holder
 - 30 Job for a DA
 - 31 Art Deco illustrator
 - 32 Since
 - 33 Freight hauler
 - 34 Short-lived
 - 35 Haphazard
 - 39 Hit the slopes
 - 41 Seine sight
 - 44 Thermal prefix
 - 47 Pimlico play
 - 48 Recognition
 - 51 Gaunt one
 - 52 Prairie State hub
 - 53 Doesn't dodge
 - 54 Put on notice
 - 55 Stuffed shirt
 - 56 Ancient symbol
 - 57 Crucifix
 - 58 Arizona city
 - 60 Fairy-tale baddie
 - 63 Cheerleader's asset

DECENTRALIZED by Doug Peterson

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

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That's Racin'

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Getting on track

Brian Vickers shows improvement in recent Cup races

By JIM UTTER
Knight Ridder Newspapers

He doesn't have three wins in his past seven races like Tony Stewart. Nor has he earned his first win of the season in dominating fashion and propelled himself into the thick of the race to make the Chase for the Nextel Cup like Matt Kenseth.

In fact, Brian Vickers is not going to make the Chase — NASCAR's version of playoffs — this season.

Vickers, however, has been making a lot of noise, which is a welcome change for the 21-year-old driver, in his second full Cup season driving the No. 25 Chevrolet for Hendrick Motorsports.

Over the past seven races, Vickers has scored the third most points among all Cup drivers — 969. Only series leader Tony Stewart (1,168) and Matt Kenseth (998), who won last weekend's race at Bristol, Tenn., have earned more.

On the outside, Vickers does not have near as much to show for his recent strong run as Stewart and Kenseth, yet for a team that has been struggling to find its groove, the improved performance is reward enough.

"At the beginning of the season, a lot of people were expecting success right out of the box, but even we knew that was not going to happen," said Vickers, who was reunited with crew chief Lance McGrew in the off season. McGrew and Vickers won the Busch Series championship in 2003.

"With the (new) cars needing to be built and Lance learning the Cup side of things, we knew it would take a while," he said. "A lot of people expected different, but we had to be patient and roll with the punches."

So far, Vickers has held his ground. After winning the Busch title in 2003, Vickers was tapped by car owner Ricky Hendrick to drive the No. 25 Cup car in 2004. The transition was difficult and Vickers struggled working with crew chief Peter Sospenzo.

Vickers finished 25th in points, with no wins and four top-10 finishes. He did win two poles — at Richmond, Va., and California Speedway in Fontana, Calif., site of Sunday's Sony HD 500 (8 p.m. ET, NBC).

"We knew it was going to be a tough process. It was a nice to have the leadership of Rick (Hendrick) and the whole Hendrick family there to support you and know they were behind you," he said. "It was tough for me to be patient about things."

When McGrew moved over to Cup, the duo's past success had many thinking Vickers would be on a quick turnaround to success. But things are never that easy.

"We've had a good team since the beginning of the year but at the start of the season, this whole team was just about new. Lance came on board and it just doesn't happen right away," Vickers said.

"Even though he and I have worked together in

the past, a lot of guys on the team were new, some were even new to Hendrick Motorsports. It was a learning process for all of us."

Vickers said many of the team's cars had to be replaced, and unable to get it all done before the 2005 season began, they had to start the new season with some old cars.

Through the season's first seven races, Vickers finished better than 21st only twice. Rumors began circulating his ride may be in trouble; talk started that he had moved to Cup too soon.

"I know it sucks whenever rumors like that get started, but it's just part of our sport. I knew where I stood with Rick, and we knew it would take some time to get this team to where we wanted it to be," he said.

"We all had confidence in each other to stick together." Soon there were signs of improvement.

He led much of the Coca-Cola 600 in May before getting in a late-race accident. And he finished second at the June race at Pocono, leading 121 of 200 laps.

After struggling at the June Michigan race, the road course at Sonoma, Calif., and the July race at

Daytona Beach, Fla., Vickers has been able to sustain that all important quality in NASCAR — consistency.

"When you can lead a lap, you've done pretty good. When you can lead almost every lap, you know that on average, you were the best car that day, whether you won the race or not," Vickers said.

"That's a big boost of confidence for a team, for them to know they were the best team there that day. We want to win, but that will come soon enough. To run up front and lead a lot of laps, that's a good feeling."

With no championship to chase this season, McGrew and Vickers are left to try to claim that elusive first Cup victory and continue the progress already under way.

"Since Charlotte I think Brian has learned a pretty good lesson about patience, and we really strive to finish where we are capable of finishing," McGrew said.

"Don't try to win with 10th-place car. If you have a 10th place car, try to run 10th. By the same token, let's not take a car capable of winning and finish 40th."

"I think the biggest thing is patience and experience with him getting in situations where he is up front and leading laps and racing with that group of guys."

3. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): California could also be a good place for this team to get its momentum jump-started. Last week: 2.

4. Rusty Wallace (car No. 2): Shed some tears during prerace Bristol tribute. More of that to come down the stretch. Last week: 4.

5. Jeremy Mayfield (car No. 19): Team has a new T-shirt on its souvenir trailer. "Underrated," it says, "is underrated." Last week: 5.

6. Mark Martin (car No. 6): His ideal scenario would be a Cup championship this year and a Truck title in '06. Last week: 6.

7. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): He's 194 points clear of 11th now and the last guy whose Chase footing seems secure. Last week: 7.

8. Carl Edwards (car No. 99): Fortunately for him there weren't any more Petty Enterprises cars for him to hit at Bristol. Last week: 9.

Summer heat

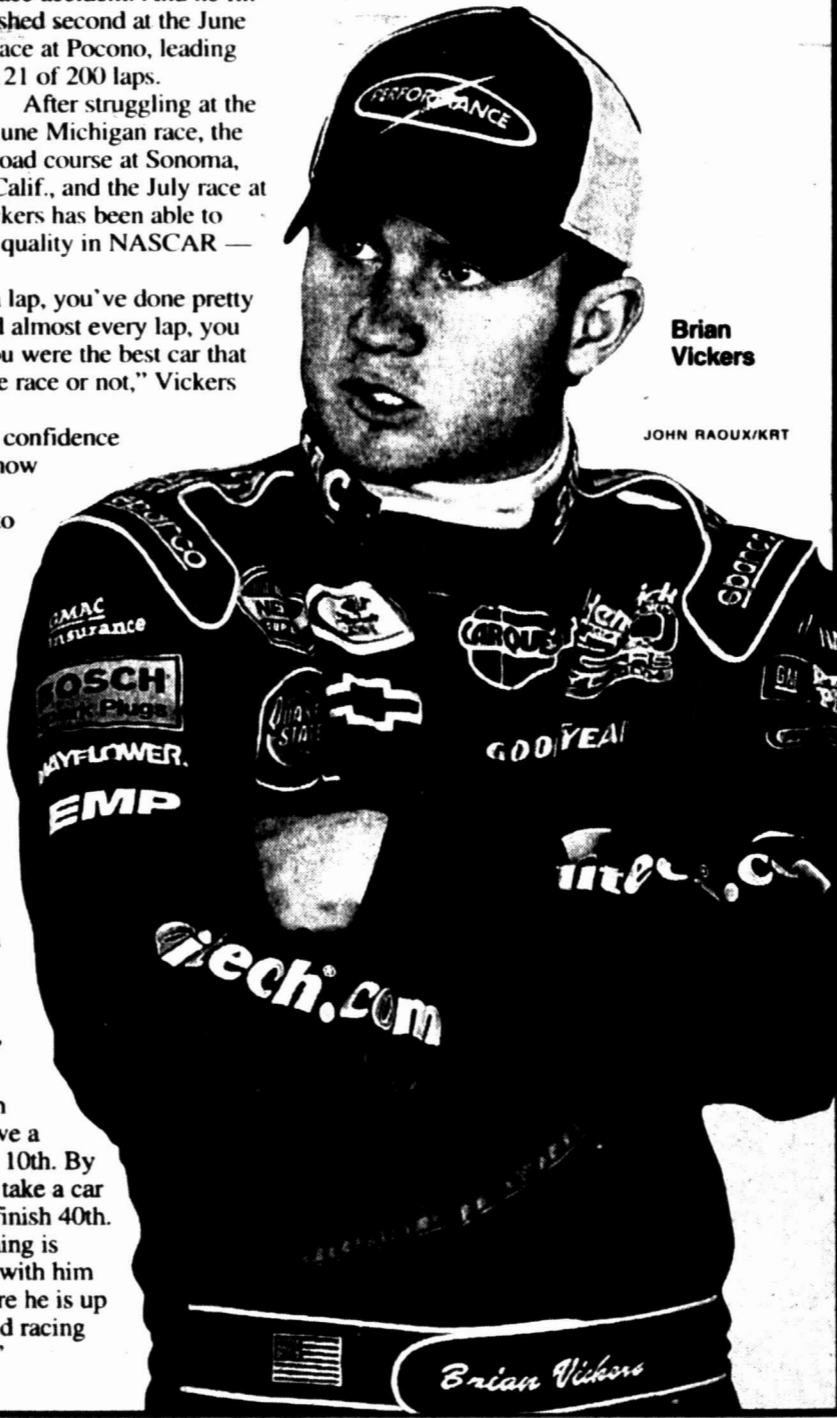
Over the past seven races, only Nextel Cup points leader Tony Stewart and last weekend's race winner Matt Kenseth have scored more points than Brian Vickers. A look at Vickers' scorching summer run:

Race	Start	Finish	Points position
Chicagoland	5	4	22nd
New Hampshire	1	11	22nd
Pocono	8	14	22nd
Indianapolis	5	3	22nd
Watkins Glen	22	8	18th
Michigan	7	9	18th
Bristol	23	20	18th

— Jim Utter



Brian Vickers and the No. 25 team have scored 969 points in the last seven races.



Brian Vickers

JOHN RAOUX/KRT

THIS WEEK'S RACE

SONY HD 500

Where: California Speedway, a 2-mile slightly banked paved oval located in Fontana, Calif.

When: Sunday at 8 p.m. (all times ET).

Qualifying is 5:20 p.m. Saturday.

TV: NBC.

Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$5,820,067.

Last year's winner: Elliott Sadler.

Worth mentioning: Six drivers have led more than half of the 2,500 laps raced at California — Jeff Gordon (410), Mark Martin (263), Matt Kenseth (192), Rusty Wallace (164), Kurt Busch (147) and Kasey Kahne (116).

Jeff Gordon has three California Speedway victories, including the inaugural race in 1997, and has finished 11th or better in seven of the 10 Cup races there.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

There are six drivers racing for the final three spots in NASCAR's Chase for the Championship. Who will make it?

Cast your vote at:

www.thatstracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

That's Racin' writer David Poole makes a case for NASCAR adding a 500-point bonus for a Nextel Cup driver's first win of the season. What do you think?

Number of votes: 6,936

Response	No. of votes	Percent
Yes, but 500 points is too much.	2,996	43%
No, I enjoy points racing.	2,880	42%
Heck yes.	1,060	15%

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

■ Matt Kenseth has top-five finishes in three of his last four races, including a victory last weekend at Bristol.

■ Tony Stewart has 10 straight top-10 finishes, including five victories.

■ Rusty Wallace has finished in the top-15 19 times in 24 races this season, the most of any driver.

■ Jeff Gordon has jumped from 15th to 10th in points over the past four races.

WHO'S NOT

■ Kevin Harvick has finished 15th or worse in nine of his last 10 races and dropped from 10th to 16th in points.

■ Elliott Sadler has finished 12th or worse in his last eight races.

■ Dale Jarrett has finished 14th or worse in his last seven races.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Aug. 27:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Tony Stewart	3410	21. Kasey Kahne	2442
2. Jimmie Johnson	3197	22. Kyle Busch	2393
3. Greg Biffle	3186	23. Ricky Rudd	2329
4. Rusty Wallace	3139	24. Bobby Labonte	2314
5. Mark Martin	3014	25. Casey Mears	2278
6. Jeremy Mayfield	2983	26. Mike Bliss	2213
7. Kurt Busch	2982	27. Scott Riggs	2158
8. Carl Edwards	2849	28. Ken Schrader	2156
9. Ryan Newman	2819	29. Sterling Marlin	2152
10. Jeff Gordon	2799	30. Jeff Green	2139
11. Matt Kenseth	2788	31. Kyle Petty	2132
12. Jamie McMurray	2787	32. Dave Blaney	2098
13. Elliott Sadler	2765	33. Scott Wimmer	2092
14. Dale Jarrett	2721	34. Travis Kvapil	1922
15. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2682	35. Mike Wallace	1833
16. Kevin Harvick	2677	36. Johnny Leffler	1538
17. Joe Nemechek	2660	37. Robby Gordon	1474
18. Brian Vickers	2580	38. Bobby Hamilton Jr.	1467
19. Jason Keller	2529	39. Kevin Lepage	1055
20. Michael Waltrip	2482	40. Tony Labonte	794

The top-20 drivers as of Aug. 26:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Martin Truex Jr.	3756	11. Ashton Lewis	2798
2. Clint Bowyer	3582	12. J.J. Yeley	2766
3. Reed Sorenson	3412	13. Greg Biffle	2651
4. Carl Edwards	3331	14. Johnny Sauter	2613
5. Denny Hamlin	3182	15. Stacy Compton	2502
6. Kenny Wallace	3136	16. Randy LaJoie	2449
7. David Green	2908	17. Justin Labonte	2411
8. David Stremme	2882	18. Jon Wood	2355
9. Paul Menard	2867	19. Kevin Harvick	2303
10. Jason Keller	2819	20. Stanton Barrett	2175

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Ameriquest 300, Fontana, Calif.

The top-10 drivers as of Aug. 24:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Dennis Setzer	2515	6. David Reutemann	2190
2. Ted Musgrave	2372	7. Mike Skinner	2186
3. Bobby Hamilton	2258	8. Matt Crafton	2144
4. Ron Hornaday	2254	9. Todd Bodine	2131
5. Jimmy Spencer	2235	10. David Starr	2119

NEXT RACE: Sept. 8, NCTS 200, Richmond, Va.

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): Life's good when you run eighth and it's your worst finish in nearly three months. Last week: 1.

2. Greg Biffle (car No. 16): Completing a season's sweep at California would be a nice warm-up for the Chase. Last week: 3.

3. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): California could also be a good place for this team to get its momentum jump-started. Last week: 2.

4. Rusty Wallace (car No. 2): Shed some tears during prerace Bristol tribute. More of that to come down the stretch. Last week: 4.

5. Jeremy Mayfield (car No. 19): Team has a new T-shirt on its souvenir trailer. "Underrated," it says, "is underrated." Last week: 5.

6. Mark Martin (car No. 6): His ideal scenario would be a Cup championship this year and a Truck title in '06. Last week: 6.

7. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): He's 194 points clear of 11th now and the last guy whose Chase footing seems secure. Last week: 7.

8. Carl Edwards (car No. 99): Fortunately for him there weren't any more Petty Enterprises cars for him to hit at Bristol. Last week: 9.

9. Ryan Newman (car No. 12): Ran ninth at California and third at Richmond earlier this year. He'd take that again. Last week: 8.

10. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17) and Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): Gordon is 10th in points now, but Kenseth has the momentum. Last week: 15 and 11, respectively.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit www.thatstracin.com.

Kenseth's win makes Chase race even tighter

Because Matt Kenseth was so strong for so long in the Sharpie 500, Saturday night's race at Bristol Motor Speedway wound up being less about mechanical mayhem than it was about math.

Sure, there were 16 yellow flags from the typical banging and bruising you'll have at this 0.533-mile track. There certainly were some noses out of joint, too, by the time Kenseth held off Jeff Burton in two-lap dash to the checkers following the final caution.

But as soon as Kenseth led the final 73 laps to break his 17-month winless streak in the Nextel Cup Series, the numbers crunchers were busy figuring out just how much tighter the race to the Chase for the Nextel Cup is today from where it was before the green flag at Bristol.

Coming into the season's 24th race, 51 points separated 10th from 11th in the standings. Today, 34 separates 10th from 13th, and it's only 84 points from

13th to eighth.

With two races left until the Chase field is set, six drivers — Carl Edwards, Ryan Newman, Jeff Gordon, Kenseth, Jamie McMurray and Elliott Sadler — are right in the meat of a fight for three Chase spots.

Keep those calculators handy, folks, for California and Richmond are going to be interesting. Bristol was interesting, too, even with Kenseth leading 415 of 500 laps and making it clear right from the get-go that his No. 17 Ford was the car to beat.

Kenseth had led the most laps at Chicagoland Speedway earlier this year, too, but finished second in a race that Dale Earnhardt Jr. pulled out late. Kenseth also thought he had the best

car last weekend at Michigan, but he finished third there behind Jeremy Mayfield and Scott Riggs, who made fuel strategy pay off.

There was no stopping him Saturday, though. Any time he came back on track behind cars that had stayed out on cautions or took two tires to get in front of him, Kenseth made quick work of returning to the lead.

Kenseth was 213 points out of the Chase four races ago and said he'd pretty much counted himself out of the running. But things change.

"First of all, we haven't made it (to the Chase) yet," Kenseth said. That's true, he's 11th in the standings and 11 points behind Jeff Gordon, whose climb back into the top 10 with a sixth-place finish Saturday was another of the evening's story lines. "It wasn't just that we were 213 points out, we had

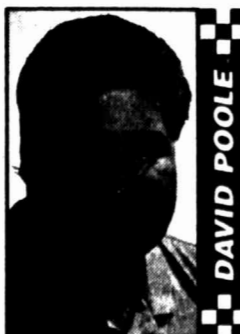
five or six cars between us and 10th."

Kenseth now has three top-five finishes in his past four races, and if you go back a dozen races to Dover in early June he's finished 11th or better nine times. Only two bad outings at Pocono, 32nd and 36th, and a so-so 18th at Watkins Glen have him still outside the top 10 looking in.

As close as things are from eighth to 13th in the standings, if Kenseth finishes 11th or better at both California and Richmond the math will likely work out to get him into the Chase.

"It's a weird thing," said Kenseth. "If we do make the Chase I will feel really good about it. But to me, it's just not about making the top 10."

"If we make the top 10, I want to make it with a chance of winning the championship. ... The way we've run the past couple of months ... I feel like if we could slide our way in there, we're on a high note right now."



DAVID POOLE

BIG SPRING

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