

INSIDE **Garden City** looks to get

back to action after bye week

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 258

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Roads out of Houston at standstill

By KRISTEN HAYS

Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) **Hundreds** of thousands of people were frantically trying to escape the nation's fourth-largest city early today as Hurricane Rita closed in on Texas, but interstates were at a standstill for up to 100 miles and gas shortages were reported.

More than 1.3 million residents in Texas and Louisiana were under orders to get out to avoid deadly repeat of Hurricane Katrina.

The Category 5 storm weakened slightly this See RITA, Page 3A

Gov. Rick Perry early today ordered southbound traffic on Interstate 45 shut down and all eight lanes redirected north out of the city for 125 miles.

morning, and forecasters said it could be down to a Category 3 — meaning winds as high as 130 mph — by the time it comes ashore



A sign on I-45 expresses a common feeling as residents of Galveston prepare for the arrival of Hurricane Rita.

Local VA police officers assist Katrina-ravaged coast

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

A group of employees at the Big Spring VA Medical Center were among the first people to provide security and assistance to the hurricane-ravaged cities of New Orleans and Biloxi, Miss.

VA police officers Ron Allen Gary Sleight and groundskeeping aide Robbie Cadenhead recently returned to Big Spring after a week in

the Gulf Coast area hit hardest by Hurricane Katrina.

Allen and Sleight were tasked to provide security at the New Orleans VA hospital, located a block from the Super Dome in downtown eadenhead, meanwhile, was dispatched to the Biloxi-Gulfport area of Mississippi to help with cleanup efforts there.

The experience, they all agree, was one they'll never forget.

Allen and Sleight arrived at

"We were ordered to defend our property and stand our ground," Allen said. "We weren't going to kill anyone over food and water, but we were going to defend our property."

the New Orleans VA hospital only electricity was provided on Sept. 4. The building, surrounded by four feet of water, had been evacuated of patients and staff. There was no plumb-

by emergency generators.

giant assault on the senses. "The smell (was overpower-

The scene, Allen said, was a

ing or running water, and the ing)," he said. "It was a mix- See KATRINA, Page 3A

ture of gasoline, diesel, sewage and death.'

The 32 VA police officers guarding the building were the only significant police presence in the area, and the only staff at the hospital, Sleight

While stories of rampant looting in New Orleans were common, it was not a problem at the hospital.

"When people walked up and saw three or four people with

Traffic mishap



Big Spring Police Department and Emergency Medical Service personnel assist the driver of this pickup after a one-vehicle accident on West Third Street Wednesday afternoon. The driver refused medical assistance.

Reclassifying BSISD as rural means \$1.2 million to district

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

What's the difference between being considered rural or urban? To the Big Spring Independent School District, it's about \$1.2 million.

The U.S. Department of recently reversed its classification would not be eligible for

of BSISD as a small urban district, making it eligible for additional federal education funds.

DOE had originally classified Big Spring as an urban district because the city's 2000 census showed a population in excess of 25,000. In that case, the school district

Title VI funds earmarked for smaller districts.

But BSISD, with assistance from Congressman Randy Neugebauer, fought the ruling, saying that the census had included prison population in its count. Without counting prisoners, Big

See BSISD, Page 6A

Chamber mulls VA Hospital, effort to aid Katrina victims

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The ongoing Hurricane Katrina relief effort and the Sept. 1 Capital Asset Realignment **Enhanced** Services (CARES) hearing held by Veterans

Administration topped

Spring Area Chamber of Commerce meeting Wednesday afternoon.

Chamber President Joe Concienne said the chamber, which produced a VA Task Force to study and provide information the CARES Commission, decided to

the agenda at the Big provide the manpower when key community leaders were chosen to sit on the Local Advisory Panel (LAP), which severely limited their abilities to campaign to keep the medical center in Big Spring.

See CHAMBER, Page 6A

This photo of a Big **Spring sunset was** last week's winner of the Herald's Photo of the Week contest and appeared on the cover of Sunday's Diversions section. Due to production problems Friday, the cover of that section had to be printed in black and white, and we here at the Herald believe it deserved to be printed again so readers could see it in color.

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Sports

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

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

-Harvest Festival: Heart of the City Park; Friday, 6:30 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, 7 a.m. to midnight. Music, food, farmer's market, games and more.

-Alzheimer's Memory Walk; Old Settlers Pavilion, Comanche Trail Park. Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The walk begins at 9 a.m.

--- Harvest Saturday at Scenic Mountain State Park. Hay rides for children and the young at heart. Saturday at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Park entrance fee: \$2 adults.

 Fund-raiser for Vietnam Memorial. Eagles Aerie No. 3188, 703 W. Third. Saturday at 6 p.m. Hot dog and hamburger supper, silent auction.

Robert J. 'Jack' Cook



Robert J. "Jack" Cook, 86, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Rick Cunningham, minister of 14th & Main Church of Christ. officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

He was born April 23, 1919, in Big Spring and married Jean Ross Jackson April 26, 1942, in Dallas.

Jack was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1936 and attended Texas A&M majoring in economics. He learned to fly under the Civilian Pilot Training Program and received his private, commercial and flight instructor rating in October 1940.

Jack instructed flying cadets in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a civilian instructor. He entered the Army Air Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1943, in the ferrying division and ferried new airplanes from the factory to various bases including overseas. He later took fourengine airline pilot training at Homestead Air Force Base and went overseas to Tezgaon, India and flew C-54s over the Himilayan Mountains from India to China, supplying the 19th Air Force with bombs, ammunition and gasoline.

In 1946, he returned to civilian life and managed the Big Spring Municipal Airport until 1950 when Webb Air Force Base was opened. At that time, he went into the oil business as a land man, buying oil and gas leases with his father, R.L. Cook, and has had an independent land company since that time.

He was part owner of Big Spring Flying Service and was active in flying until 1989. He was also in partnership in the real estate firm of Cook & Talbot. For the last several years he has been associated with A.

K. Guthrie of Guthrie Oil & Gas. He was a member of 14th & Main Church of Christ, was past president of the West Texas Chapter of the Air Force Association, past president of the Board of Realtors, past president of the Heritage Museum and headed the Aviation Committee of the Chamber of

Commerce for several years. Jack was the epitome of integrity. It was only natural that he was a moral man. He was modest and made no pretentions whatever of goodness, yet he stood squarely on the side of righteousness. A gentlemen of his stature seldom comes along, but we can thank God

for them. Survivors include his wife, Jean Jackson Cook of Big Spring; two daughters, Suzanne Mahon and husband, Alex of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Jacquelyn Stacey of Irving; one granddaughter, Kelley Smith and husband, Russell of Austin; two grandsons, Ross Conner and wife, Stacy of Tyler and Banning Sweatland and wife, Cassondra of Keller; and two great-grandsons, Jack Conner of Tyler and Conner Smith of Austin.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert L. and Bessie Cook and two sisters, Juanita Baird and Mary Lee Purser.

Pallbearers will be Ross Conner, Banning Sweatland, Russell Smith, Bob Battle, Ronnie Baird and Bob Purser. Honorary pallbearers will be Tom South, Ira B. Hartzog, John Little, Kimball Guthrie, Bill

McClenden and Dr. B. Broadrick. The family suggests memorials be made to 14th & Main Church of Christ, 1401 Main, Big Spring 79720 or to Odyssey Hospice, 1003 E. FM 700, Big Spring 79720. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. condolences can made

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

· THEFT was reported:

www.npwelch.com.

- in the 1600 block of Gregg Street.
- in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1800 block of Wasson.
- ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported:
- in the 500 block of Union.
- in the 800 block of 14th Street
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2200 block of Warren.

Sheriff's report

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

- CHELSEA LEE RICHARDSON, 22, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a
- charge of failure to stop and render aid. JOHN DEE ROMAN, 35, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license
- invalid with a previous conviction bond forfeiture. SUSAN ETTAINEZ OVERTON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a
- charge of possession of a controlled substance. ROBERT LEE DAVENPORT JR., 48, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a
- charge of possession of a controlled substance. MICHAEL DEWAYNE GRIFFIN, 32, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a
- charge of possession of a controlled substance. DESIRIE LAVERNE SAVELL, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 5800 block of Rural Road 33.

Ima Dell Hayworth Williams



Ima Dell Hayworth Williams, 73, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2005, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, 2005, at the Trinity Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Randy Cotton, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. today at the funeral

She was born April 26, 1932, in Granbury and married Robert Floyd Williams June 18, 1949, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Aug. 24, 1995.

Ima Dell came to Big Spring in 1934. She worked as a secretary in the water department for the City of Big Spring, as the principal's secretary at Goliad Junior High and then 20 years as vocational secretary at Big Spring High School.

She was a faithful member of Trinity Baptist Church and had taught Sunday school and sang in the choir for more than 50 years. She was a member of the Rosebud Garden Club, the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Volunteers, the Retired Teacher's Association and served 14 years with the Parent/Teacher Association.

Survivors include three daughters, Lila Adkins, Gayla Williams and Lana Piercefield and husband, Gene all of Big Spring; a sister, Patsy Grigg of Big Spring; a brother, Bobby Hayworth of Amherst; six grandchildren, Leslie Adkins and wife, Kellie of Houston, Larissa Adkins and Landon Adkins, both of Lubbock. Kyle Piercefield of Big Spring, Michael Piercefield and wife, Desirae of Fort Collins, Colo., and Matthew Piercefield of Windsor, Colo.; and three greatgrandsons.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Dennis and Lila Hayworth, four brothers, Marlin Hayworth, Billy Hayworth, L.D. Hayworth and Dennis Wade Hayworth Jr. and one sister, Rose Medlin.

The family suggests memorials be made to Trinity Baptist Church Mission Fund, 810 E. 11th Place, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Bertie Bow Long



Bertie Bow Long, 96, died at her home Sept. 20, 2005. A graveside service and burial is at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005. She moved to Colorado Springs in 1990 from Lubbock. She was a former elementary school teacher and taught Sunday school at First Baptist Church in Lubbock for 39 years. She was married to George B. Long for 51 years. She is survived by two daughters,

Georgina Bow Logsdon of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Vinnie Ellen Boone of Garland; four grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Take note

- · BEGINNING SEWING CLASS presented by the Society for Creative Anachronism begins at 9 a.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth streets. Call 816-3144 for more information.
- DENISE ZUBER was born Aug. 8, 1968, to a Gonzales family in Big Spring and placed for adoption. She now lives in Minnesota and hopes to contact relatives in Big Spring. Anyone with information may email her at nan del@earthlink.net with Big Spring Adoption in the subject line. Or write to her, Denise Zuber, 9173 Vincent Ave So., Bloomington MN 55431-
- CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

 MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of Maple. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Northeast Ninth Street. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Texas
- Road. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Gregg
- Street. One person was transported to SMMC. · TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of
- Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Courtney Road. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Texas
- Road. One person was transported to SMMC. · TRAUMA was reported in the 1200 block of West
- Third Street. Service was refused.
- · MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard. One person was transported. • MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Owens.
- One person was transported to SMMC. TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Eighth Street and Goliad. One person
- was transported to SMMC. · MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.

Find It In Big Spring First!

Bulletin board

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

· First day of fall.

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

FRIDAY

· Heritage Festival in the Heart of the City Park begins at 6:30 p.m.

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

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

Heritage Festival in the Heart of the City Park.

- · Alzheimer's Memory Walk starts at 9 a.m. in the Old Settlers Pavilion registration starts at 8:30 a.m.
- · Beginning sewing class presented by the Society for Creative Anachronism begins at 9 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth streets. Call 816-3144 for more information.
- Harvest Saturday at Scenic Mountain State Park.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada

 Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome.

Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Weather Tonight—Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 60s. Light

and variable winds. Friday—Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s. Light and variable winds becoming east around 10 mph in

the afternoon. Friday night—Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s. East winds around 10 mpn in the evening becoming light and variable.

Saturday—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Light and variable winds Becoming northeast around 10 mph in the afternoon. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Sunday-Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs around 90. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Sunday night-Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. Monday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s.

Monday night-Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. Tuesday-Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. Tuesday night—Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 60s. Wednesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-11-20-39-41. Bonus Ball: 3. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$4 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-16-33-35. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$27,017. Winning tickets sold in: El Paso. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-0-1

SPRING

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(Main switchboard) (Fax) 432-264-7205

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Thursda

BIG SPR

By THOM

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RITA Continued

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Commerce ciation, The Association. Association

Crews schedule item pickup for District 5 residents Friday

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Who would think spring cleaning extended all the way into September?

The city of Big Spring, of course.

City crews are getting ready for the fifth of six scheduled large item pick up days — this one targeting city District 5, represented by councilwoman Joann Knox — with Friday the next date slated in the local government's war on trash.

Beginning in the spring, the program helps area residents get rid of old appliances, furniture and other items they may be without the means to transport to the municipal landfill.

"Some of the more typical items we pick up are tree branches, appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Todd Darden, director of public works for the city of Big Spring. "Those are the kind of things that we can take to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up. We can't pick up any household hazardous waste. That means any kind of chemicals including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature.

"It's a widely used program. We're trying to target people who are elderly, handicapped or otherwise don't have the means to get these large items to our landfill. This is a service the city is going to provide as a courtesy to those people and give them the opportunity to get things off of their premise they might not be able to other-

wise." Darden said customers need to be aware of gas, water and electricity meters and lines when they put their large items out to be picked up in an effort to protect their services and the city employees helping with the

KATRINA

for them to loot."

laptops

Continued from Page 1A

shotguns, they weren't

going to try to mess with

that," Allen said. "There

were a lot easier places

Charity Hospital, across

the street from the VA,

"We did observe some

looting at Charity

Hospital. We saw people

carrying out things like

Sleight said. "But we had

no way of communicating

with the local authorities

"We were ordered to

defend our property and

stand our ground," Allen-

said. "We weren't going to

kill anyone over food and

water, but we were going

Compounding the prob-

lems the officers faced

was the non-existence of

to defend our property."

and had to let them go."

(computers),

was not as fortunate.

"The reason we need people to be cognizant of where those meters are is because a lot of time we have to bring in equipment to pick those large items up," he said. "If you cover the meters up, it's hard for us to know where they are. Using the equipment makes the pick up go quicker and we want to safe while they are picking these things up.'

All items must be by the curb in the city's right-of-way no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled pick up. Items need to be separated as much as possible for its trip to the munici-

pal landfill. Once Friday's pick up is completed, the program will move

on to District 6 in October before shutting down for the winter. The program is expected to begin once again in the spring of 2006.

For more information on the program and maps of the six make sure our employees are city districts, visit the city of Big Spring Web site at http://www.ci.big-spring.tx.us, or call 264-2504 to arrange a pick up.

> Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

> > street in a forklift carry-

ing a large safe. He also

described seeing how

had rigged a fire hydrant

with a shower attachment

along Highway 90. There,

people were taking show-

ers — without the benefit

"You'd see things left

and right out there that

you just couldn't imag-

of curtains.

ine," he said.

some industrious person

using baby wipes for two men driving along a



Big Spring VA Medical Center police officers, standing from left, Ron Allen and Gary Sleight have recently returned from New Orleans, where they provided security at the deserted VA hospital. Fellow VA policeman David Baird, standing at right, will travel to New Orleans later this week. Groundskeeping specialist Robbie Cadenhead, seated, helped with cleanup efforts in Biloxi and Gulfport in Mississippi.

Eckels said there were logistical problems getting tankers to restock

still 48 hours out, leaving highway were trying to carry gas to carry gas to motorists stuck in traffic people as they ran out,

creature comforts. "Imagine eight days of People unable to escape low-lying areas in Houston on their own were urged to call a city hot line, and White said 10,000 people have called.

showers," Sleight said. "And it was a week before we got any Port-A-Potties to use." The only food available

to eat was military Meals

Ready to Eat (MRE) rations, he added. Cadenhead's experiences were similar.

"It was just maximum destruction over there," he said of the Mississippi coast. "It was like a nuclear blast went off. Everything that was within two miles of the coast was more or less wiped

He described himself as a "jack of all trades" during his two weeks in the area.

"I became a grocery bagger, I was a bucket truck operator, I became a dump truck driver, and I became part of a chainsaw gang," he said.

Cadenhead described seeing some surreal sights, such as

were still told they needed

Two other local VA police officers — David Baird and Barney Edens - will soon deploy to New Orleans. And other local VA staffers are awaiting word about when and where they will deploy.

"We've heard things are getting better than on a day-to-day basis," said Baird. "The only word we've received is that it will be a very long, drawn-out mission until they get things back up and running.'

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Elnora Morrison, 87, Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

to count on family, friends and neighbors. White reiterated that there is no safe place to stay in low-lying and as stations. Throughout the night the city was sending buses to flood-prone areas of the city, and there won't be get them out, but people shelters in the city.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY ONLY! SAVE **50**% MEN'S COLOURS BY ALEXANDER JULIAN' SHIRTS Woven shirts in plaids, strines and solids Orig. 38.00-48.00;** then 21.99-27.99

30% MISSES **FALL TOPS** Casual knits and wovens. tops and more. Reg. 18.00-42.00, SALE 12.60-29.40.

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WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 70% OFF RED-TICKETED MERCHANDISE **BEALLS HOURS**

INSIDE THE BIG SPRING MALL • 263-0273



RITA

Continued from Page 1A

late Friday or early Saturday. But it could still be a dangerous

leading Highways inland out of Houston were gridlocked, with traffic bumper-to-bumper. Gas stations were reported to be running out of gas. Shoppers emptied grocery store shelves of spaghetti, tuna and other nonperishable items.

Gov. Rick Perry early Thursday ordered southtraffic bound Interstate 45 shut down and all eight lanes redirected north out of the city for 125 miles. Local officials warned residents to get out, and told them they would not be rescued if they waited.

"Don't follow the example of Katrina and wait," Harris County Judge Robert Eckels said. "During the storm, we will not be able to get to you."

7 a.m. At Thursday, Rita was centered about 490 miles eastsoutheast of Galveston and was moving westnorthwest near 9 mph. Wind speed was 170 mph, down slightly from 175 earlier in the day. Forecasters predicted it would come ashore near Galveston.

Storm-surge winds were expected to come Friday afternoon, but White said everyone but emergency responders should leave well ahead of that time.

"Now is not a time for warnings," he said. "Now is a time for action."

Texas Department of Transportation spokeswoman Janelle Gbur said Interstate 45, which is eight lanes and some points and four lanes elsewhere, was all going north to Buffalo. She said the measure had never

been taken before. Gbur said that once I-45 is transformed into a oneway, the same will be done with U.S. 290 going northwest and Interstate

10 going west. Eckels said he recognized the frustration of evacuee traffic stacked bumper-to-bumper for up to 100 miles north of Houston. He reminded evacuees that the storm is plenty of time for

"We still have time to clean out these roads," he said.

gas stations.

to complete their escapes. Gbur said.



At The Island Community Center in Galveston, evacuees board a bus that will take them to Huntsville to escape **Hurricane Rita.**



All WEBB AFB Reunion September 30 - October 2 **Big Spring, TX** Contact Hangar 25 - 432-264-1999

www.hangar25airmuseum.com for more information and registration form.

"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

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Bill McClellan

OUR VIEWS

Don't miss the hayrides at state park

"t's time once again to begin the fall season with an old-fashioned hayride around the top of Scenic Mountain, as Harvest Saturday is once again observed at Big Spring State

A decade-old tradition now, Harvest Saturday is designed as a time for family fun.

Ron Alton, the park's superintendent, notes that his staff also trying to make the hayrides educational, as well.

As riders sit on the hay bales and gaze off the park's bluff during the hayride, a speaker system will allow guides to talk about the plants and the geology of the area.

Rides are set for 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, beginning near the park's main office, located atop Scenic Mountain.

Those willing to wait around following the rides will also have an opportunity to watch the sun set from atop the mountain — a panoramic sight Alton likens to watching the sunset on the West Coast.

As a matter of fact, there's no reason not to make an afternoon and evening of it, since the park has picnic facilities, as well as a playground and a nature trail.

The only charge for the event will be the normal entrance fee for the park - \$2 for adults with children 12 and younger admitted free.

While past Harvest Saturdays have requested donations, Alton said the decision was made to charge the normal entry fee because state park system anticipates facing a \$2 million shortfall this year.

With the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department eyeing the possibility of closing down seven state parks, it is important that Big Spring State Park draw as many visitors as possible.

As a result, we here at the Herald encourage readers to take the opportunity to spend some time outdoors with the family and help out the park.

We believe that will be an important investment not only for your families, but for our entire community.

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

- Sign your letter.
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- 30-day period per author. Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone
- number or address will not be considered. Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we honor the love You bestow on us, Lord.

Just wondering what's going on

be Wonderland, where deficits count as surpluses, and the more you spend, the more you have.

That must be true, because how else could we be fighting a war with no end in sight, with journalists abducted and killed in broad daylight, with government officials openly admitting that they go to work afraid every day, not knowing whether they will = come home at night;



and then at the same time, go on the biggest public spending spree in our history? No offense, but when my friend

Donna Brazile is the first to sign on, you know it's big.

And it's Republicans who are telling me that you don't have to pay for any of it. None at all. Isn't that Tony Blankley, the edi-

torial page editor of The Washington Times, telling Jon Kasich, who used to be House Budget chairman, that there is such a thing as a free lunch after

You can rebuild all of New Orleans, better than new, while we're being shot at every day in Iraq and rebuilding there, as well and the beauty of it is, we can cut taxes, run deficits and keep

must be dreaming. This must interest rates low, and it's no more than what any president would do.

It must be a dream. Where's Bill

But no, this is the New Bush Plan.

It was Bill Clinton who declared that "the era of big government is over." And now it is George W. Bush who has revived it.

As the late, great Paul Tully used to say, "Who'd a thunk it?"

If you define Democrats as people who believe in top-down, biggovernment-based answers to local problems, where you make the promise first and figure out how to pay for it later, which is not how I would define myself, but is certainly how many of our critics have defined us for years, then the conclusion seems unmistakable that George Bush is a pro-life, bigspending capital D Democrat. He is, admittedly, a pretty rare breed by Democratic standards: socially conservative, fiscally irresponsible but there seem to be a slew just like him these days among the leaders and talkers on the Republican side. Maybe we should give them their own caucus.

Certainly, any president who presided over the destruction of a major American city would have to also preside over its rebuilding, but Bush has been forced to promise more than most because of his falling poll numbers.

And why are those numbers

Because he responded slowly, ves. But also because the peace effort is going slowly, worse than slowly, and it's much easier to be angry with the president about New Orleans than Baghdad, because there are no troops to worry that you're not supporting.

The problem is that the same vulnerability that forces him to do more constrains him from paying for it, and thus only increases his vulnerability in the long run.

So Bush doesn't go to New Orleans at all, buzzing it in his 747, instead, and then he goes not once but five times. He ignores the early pleas for help, then promises a \$300 billion aid program to turn it into a true Wonderland.

Next thing you know, they'll be telling me deficit spending is good for the economy, and they'll be calling this a stimulus package.

Some people might say he is trying to throw money at the problem and buy his way out of his troubles. But those people would be his friends, and they don't know what to say. Who can blame them?

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

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GOLF TERMS

MULLIGAN

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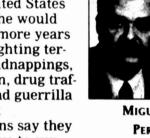


Colombia's savior deserves another term

mong Colombian-Americans, he is seen as a savior — the only person who has been able to bring their native homeland back from the verge of chaos.

And so when Colombian President Alvaro Uribe comes to the United States and says he would like four more years to keep fighting terrorism, kidnappings, corruption, drug trafficking and guerrilla war, most

Colombians say they are anxious to support him.



MIGUEL PEREZ

Since they can vote from the United States in Colombian presidential elections, many are looking forward to casting another ballot for the man who has confronted drug-trafficking guerrillas like no other president.

There is a problem, however. The Colombian constitution only allows presidents to serve for one four-year term. Uribe was elected by a landslide in 2002 and maintains huge approval ratings in the polls. But if they want to reelect him, first they have to amend their constitution.

As Uribe addressed Colombian-Americans in two New Jersey appearances last week, many Colombians were asking — even shouting out of the crowds — for news about efforts to change the constitution.

"Que pasa con la reeleccion? — What's happening with the reelection?" one man screamed as Uribe finished a speech without mentioning the bill passed by the

Colombian Congress last November — legislation that would allow him to run for a second term.

In fact, the Colombian Constitutional Court is deliberating on that bill this week. It will be up to nine magistrates to determine, by Nov. 15, whether the Uribe can seek reelection in 2006.

But Uribe acts like he is already running. In New Jersey, where his campaign is expected to draw many votes and dollars, he was clearly in campaign mode as he kept reciting statistics to illustrate his administration's accomplishments.

He spoke of how the rate of murders, kidnappings, and massacres has gone down dramatically. He spoke of the 400 Colombian mayors who are now able to operate from their municipalities, after having been driven out of their own towns by the guerrillas. He spoke of the hundred of towns that now have police or army protection, after having been abandoned by law enforcement for many

Uribe spoke of a recovering economy, with the rates of unemployment and inflation dropping and the rates of investments foreign and domestic - rising. He said that since lenders have more confidence in Colombia, the country is now able to refinance its high-interest debts.

The president explained that his government is trying to "reinsert" guerrillas back into society if they give up their weapons. But he said he will maintain a "firm hand" against those who continue to defy the rule of law in Colombia.

"As long as they insist on vio-

lence, we will keep turning the screws on them," Uribe said. There were "bravos" from the crowd.

Used to seeing American presidents run for a second term, most Colombian-Americans see no problem with giving Uribe four more years. In Colombia, the polls say most voters feel the same way.

Those who are opposed to his reelection are betraying democratic symbols, because the overwhelming majority want him to run again." said Cesar Augusto Ortega, the man who had shouted "que pasa con la reeleccion?"

Yet, even among those who support the president, some say they constitution should not be changed "just for one man." They say the one-term limit was created to rid the country of bad presidents and should not be changed just because they have a good one.

There is some logic to that argument. Perhaps it would make sense for many other countries. But not for Colombia, where good presidents are rare and where Uribe's firm hand is still necessary.

Colombia is no longer on the verge of chaos. But without Uribe's sound stewardship, Colombian-Americans fear their homeland could go back there again.

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

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Feinstein to vote against Roberts confirmation

By JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) second Judiciary Committee Democrat -Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California — announced Thursday she would oppose Supreme Court nominee John Roberts as his nomination made its way to the full Senate.

Feinstein, the committee's only woman, said her vote was decided after Roberts refused to fully answer her and other Democrats' questions in his confirmation hearing last week.

"I knew as little about what Judge Roberts really thought about issues after the hearings as I did before the hearing. This makes it very hard for me," said Feinstein, an abortion rights supporter.

"I cannot in good conscious cast a 'yea' vote. I will cast a 'no' vote," she

She revealed her vote as the committee prepared to make its official decision later in the afternoon. A vote in Roberts' favor was assured, with the panel's majority of Republicans united for the conservative justice.

The only question was will vote against Roberts



KRT photo/Chuck Kennedy

Senate Judiciary Committee member Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, left, uses his cell phone camera to snap an image of committee chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pennsylvania, on the last day of confirmation hearings for chief justice nominee John Roberts.

which way some of the in committee and on the whether they can or his approval of Roberts on

Feinstein became the second of the committee's eight Democrats to say they will oppose Roberts. Liberal stalwart Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts announced

panel's Democrats would Senate floor when the should mount even symfinal vote is called late next week.

The Democratic caucus. however, is split on whether Roberts will make a suitable successor to the late William H. Rehnquist, indicating a on Wednesday that he split among the Senate's Democrats

bolic opposition.

The Judiciary Democrats are split evenly so far, with their top Democrat, Patrick Leahy of Vermont, deciding Wednesday to vote to confirm Roberts, Wisconsin Democrat over Herb Kohl announcing Thursday morning.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., who called Leahy "my courageous colleague" Thursday morning, said Roberts has the ability to end the Supreme Court's recent 5-4 splits on issues important to Americans.

sense for building consensus," said Specter, who is an abortion rights moder-

Leahy and Kohl are not the only Democrats supporting Roberts.

Sens. Tim Johnson of South Dakota and Max **Baucus of Montana have** announced their support for Roberts. Sens. Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Landrieu Mary Louisiana have indicated they are leaning toward voting for the nominee. Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota is viewed as a possible vote for him, as

Roberts is "very well credentialed," Landrieu said Wednesday.

After the committee's action, Roberts' nomination goes to the full Senate for a final vote next week. The White House wants Roberts to be in place as the nation's 17th chief justice when the Supreme Court begins its new term on Oct. 3.

Leahy was one of four senators who met with President Bush Wednesday to discuss the second opening on the high court, a replacement for retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

DEA cracks down on Internet sites selling medications illegally

By SUZANNE GAMBOA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -Drug enforcement agents said they arrested at least 18 people and halted prescription writing by dozens of doctors and a pharmacist in a crackdown Wednesday on illegal sales of medications over the Internet.

Thirteen arrests were made in Texas and five in Drug Florida. The Enforcement Administration suspended the registrations of 20 doctors and 22 Internet pharmacies in the U.S., including Puerto Rico, to stop them from writing or filling prescriptions.

Agents also shut down at least 4,600 Web sites the suspects controlled, and seized 2,400 checks and money orders written by individuals for \$200 each. They also seized seven luxury cars and

boxes of cash that had not yet been counted in the yearlong multi-agency investigation dubbed "Operation CYBERx."

They have started legal procedures to seize several homes belonging to those arrested, valued at about \$7.85 million. "E-traffickers are just a

modern way of saying drug dealers," \mathbf{DEA} Administrator Karen Tands said in a statement. The arrests were

The sting "puts out of business cyber criminals who were selling powerful narcotics without legitimate prescriptions to anyone with a computer and cash," Tandy said. "This operation makes more Americans aware that buying prescription drugs from these rogue

Those arrested largely operated Internet sites where orders were placed or handled.

Among the suspects were five people the DEA alleged were ringleaders. They were identified as Johar Saran of Arlington, Texas; Gaston Blanchet and Gil Lozano of Miami; Ted Solomon of Orlando and Steve Rosner of Boca Raton, Fla.

DEA alleged Saran operated 22 Internet "pharmaannounced Wednesday in cies" in the Dallas area, a news conference in allowing him to order the controlled drugs in bulk without suspicion.

The agency also alleged Saran sold codeine cough syrup to local drug traffickers from the back of his warehouses and in one year bought more than 70,000 pints of the syrup, used by high school and college students.

were pain killers, antianxiety drugs such as Valium, and weight loss drugs, DEA said. Most of them cost far more than they would if purchased legitimately and were bought by addicted people. Electronic bulletin boards exist that list Web sites where people can go to buy such drugs without having a legitimate pre-

scription.

The DEA said drug orders were submitted online to thousands of Internet sites, then forwarded to a central site known as an Internet Facilitation Center. The central sites were run by the five people the DEA labeled as ringleaders.

The orders were placed on Web servers where doctors could sign in to approve them. Doctors were paid an average \$20 per order.

a doctor-patient relationship required in many states for drug prescriptions, DEA said. Doctors could make up to \$1.7 million approving the illegal drug orders, the agency said.

All information was placed in a database used by pharmacies set up by those involved in the schemes to fill the orders, for a fee of about \$10 to \$15 a prescription for the pharmacist, DEA said. DEA said pharmacies could fill about 5,000 orders a day.

Orders were delivered to addresses that were actually empty buildings.

The drugs were collected from those locations, then repackaged and distributed through a legitimate shipping service. One order placed as part of the investigation was delivered to the DEA building in Fort Worth, Texas.

Operators of Internet pharmacies averaged more than \$50,000 a day in profits from the drug orders, Tandy said.

The investigation also involved law enforcement officials from the FBI, Internal Revenue Service, Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Attorney's Office, including its Dallas office.

Amy E. Reese D.D.S., P.C. 432-267-4102/

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER Our Community. Our Hospital. 1601 W. 11th Pl. Big Spring, TX

overwhelming The doctor's approval Web sites is illegal and The dangerous." majority of the drugs sold created the appearance of Governor names one-time rival

Sharp to head school finance panel

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) Republican Gov. Rick Wednesday Perry on appointed one-time Democratic rival John Sharp to lead a panel charged with trying to restructure the state tax system that pays for public schools.

Sharp, a former state comptroller who'd been considering a run for governor against Perry next year, said for now he's bowing out of politics.

"The governor's asked us to go to one end of the state to the other, educating the public, including business leaders, school personnel and everybody on what's in the tax code ... to try to build the supwould be easier for the members of the Legislature to come to a consensus of the majority

on this issue," Sharp said. Using public feedback, the panel will make recommendations to the Legislature, Perry said.

Lawmakers are awaiting a court ruling on a lawsuit brought by hundreds of Texas school districts challenging the way the state pays for public schools. The measure is on appeal before the Texas Supreme Court. A decision is expected within the next few weeks.

Perry called two failed special legislative sessions this summer on school funding and is widely expected to call lawmakers back to the

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port from there so it Capitol to tackle the complex issue again after the court rules.

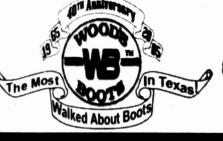
> 'So today, I'm asking someone who doesn't have a vote in this building, but who has years of experience in navigating the maze of tax law all over this state, through the halls of this building ... to lead a new effort to make our tax system fair, more modern and more

productive," Perry said. Sharp ran unsuccessfully against Perry for lieutenant governor in 1998. He also ran for lieutenant governor and lost to Republican Dewhurst in 2002.

Perry "has given me what I consider probably my last chance to do something historic for the state of Texas," Sharp







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Not just a remake

Cadillac's DTS is youthful, but retains trappings of age

By JIM MATEJA

Chicago Tribune

It would be a shame for such a nice car to be wasted on the old folks.

DeVille, not only the oldest name in the Cadillac lineup dating to 1949, but also the car that has attracted the oldest clientele for the General Motors luxury division, with an average buyer age of post mortem, gives way for 2006 to the DTS. That was the designation for the top-of-the-line model for 2005.

Basically the DTS is the next-generation DeVille. But Cadillac has opted to drop the moniker in keeping with its CTS, STS, SRX and XLR lettering strategy.

DTS also is the last Cadillac sedan to undergo a remake, and the only one to retain front-wheeldrive. The absence of a drivetrain hump in the cabin allows it to offer a front bench seat, the choice (\$250 option) over for older buckets motorists.

DTS sports the same dimensions as DeVille, but is far more fashionable and easily recognized

Wheelbase: 115.6 inches

Engine: 4.6-liter, 291-h.p. V-8

option. Front bench seat available.

Transmission: 4-speed automatic

Length: 207.6 inches

Base price: \$49,695

as a member of the Caddy family since borrowing the edgy and dramatic grille from CTS, STS and Escalade.

Based on the demands of DeVille enthusiasts, it keeps the Cadillac crest front and rear, and it's massive, as well as the vertical taillamps that have been slimmed down.

What sets the DTS apart the most from the old DeVille, however, is GM's value pricing, under which the sticker in the window comes closer to what people can expect to pay. That, GM hopes, will eliminate the need for hefty incentives. The sticker has come

down about \$5,000 on the base model, to \$41,990, and by about \$1,600 on the Premium, to \$49,695, though more content has been added as standard for '06. That includes side-curtain air bags, dual-depth passenger side bag, remote engine start, heated wiper fluid and IntelliBeam headlamps.

DTS is the first car in the industry to offer a dual-depth air bag. Unlike the traditional large, onesize-fits-all bags, the dualdepth bag deploys small

2006 Cadillac DTS Premium

Price as tested: 52,185. Includes \$1,200 for cashmere

Pluses: Oldest member of Cadillac lineup finally restyled

though it stays front-wheel-drive — with grille borrowed

from CTS. Higher-output V-8 than base model. Price

reduced about \$5,000 from '05 yet more content, such as

heated wiper fluid, remote start, side-curtain air bags, larg-

er radials and dual-depth air bags that regulate size of bag

at deployment as standard. Adaptive cruise control is an

Minuses: Will folks warm up to DTS rather than DeVille

moniker? Can new design stop sales decline for the car?

Tuscany leather seats, \$795 for 18-inch chrome wheels

and \$495 for crimson pearl paint. Add \$795 for freight.

Fuel economy: 17 m.p.g. city/24 m.p.g. highway



The 2006 Cadillac DTS

or large based on the offering larger, 18-inch deer to a wandering behind, runs \$1,000; severity of the impact (small: low speed; large: high speed), as well as such factors as the occupant's position (small: leaning forward; large: leaning back) whether the occupant is belted (small) or not (large). And if no one is in the passenger seat, the bag won't deploy.

The Buick Lucerne sedan will add it this fall. Remote engine start lets

you stay in the house while the car interior heats or cools. Equally important, it saves time in getting in and going when parked in a dark area. So consider it a safety feature as well.

ing column and within 90 seconds the fluid reaches 176 degrees, sufficient to rid the glass of ice or snow or the remains of

While these amenities are a blessing, the feature we enjoyed most was IntelliBeam lamps. Set the control in the overhead console and the bright beams go on at night to improve vision and dim when a vehicle approaches to keep from blinding the other motorist. And the magic happens on its own without fiddling with a light

We tested the '06 DTS Premium, which differs from the base model in

radials (17-inch in the base, up from 16 on the DeVille), as well as a higher-output 291-horsepower version of the 275h.p. 4.6-liter Northstar V-8 in the base model.

The higher output V-8 swiftly accelerates without lingering. But you'll detect a muffled roar, the 'sound of performance," Cadillac says, for the perception of power when you want or need it.

The Performance version also comes with a heated steering wheel to keep the paws cozy in the wintertime.

Road manners are outstanding. No more float like a boat or lean and Heated washer fluid is a sway like a tank on the first for GM. Press a dial road. The trouble with on a stalk along the steer- any Lexus sedan is that it becomes boring after a short time. DTS starts out and stays enjoyable. You relax, but you aren't lulled to sleep like in a Lexus.

> DTS comes StabiliTrak stability control and anti-lock brakes as standard as well as magnetic ride control. which regulates shock dampening 1,000 times a second to change settings from soft to firm based on road surface. So, the cabin is well cushioned from any irregularities in the pavement.

But DTS doesn't offer Night Vision like the DeVille, which uses infrared lights to detect objects — from a stray

cyclist — ahead at night. The objects were visible in a tiny screen in the lower windshield.

"Few ordered the option. It may return if we can bring the cost down," said Alan Gagne, DTS product manager.

While last up for a remake, DTS still benefited from attention to detail, one being extrawide door openings to make it easier for those in evening wear to enter or exit without messing up the duds. However, the openings are so wide that those with short arms may have to ask someone outside to nudge the door so they can close it.

Other neat touches include one more inch in front-seat travel to satisfy those with long legs; heated/cooled and massaging (driver only) front seats; creased outside mirror housing to reduce wind noise coming into the cabin; laminated glass in the side windows to reduce cabin noise; park assist that lets out a beep if you get too close to cars ahead and behind while parallel parking; and LED taillamps that light quicker and brighter for those behind to see sooner and LED lights in the cabin.

Among the options, adaptive cruise control, automatically which applies the brakes and/or reduces engine speed if vehicle too closely from

power sunroof adds \$1,200; and a DVD-based navigation system that allows you watch a movie on the screen when parked (never when moving) is a \$1,795 option.

The '06 DTS Premium starts at \$49,695. Options added to the test car you can do without were cashmere leather seats at \$1,200, chrome wheels at \$795 and pearl paint at **\$49**5.

Jon Brancheau, Cadillac marketing director, is counting on DTS to continue what Escalade and CTS started, a renaissance that has seen the average buyer age drop to 55 from 65.

"Cadillac now has more buyers under 45 years of age than either the Mercedes-Benz 600 sedan or Lincoln Town Car," which isn't surprising though it is encouraging. "Folks are giving us a look now that the image has changed.'

He expects even more will check out the new DTS, thanks to the influence of the first two folks to purchase a 2006 George W. Bush and Donald Trump.

While the government wrote the check for the president's DTS in limo version, Trump covered the bill for his nonbulletproof DTS limo.

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CHAMBER

Continued from Page 1A

"It became apparent they had more or less been stripped of their advocacy roles and there was a void there," said Concienne. "The chamber filled that void. In the end, we probably should have filled it in the beginning. We shouldn't have waited and I think the lesson is the chamber should have stepped in right off the bat and been proactive and been the banner carrier for this activity from the start... That's my only regret, but hindsight is 20/20."

The Sept. 1 hearing was held to explore several of the proposed options PricewaterhouseCoopers, the consulting firm contracted the Veterans Administration to assist in determining the fate of the local medical center.

In December 2002, former Secretary Anthony VAPrincipi established the VA's CARES Commission to provide a review of the national plan to realign the DAV's health care system.



Concienne

mission suggested that a feasibility study concerning the Big Spring facility be conducted. Specifically, the commission suggested that a study

In its massive

report, the com-

be made to see if the Big Spring facility should be closed and services moved to a new care center that would be constructed near Midland or Odessa.

Concienne said he felt the hearing went well, but the battle to keep the Big Spring VAMC open is far from over.

"I think we had about as good of an outcome as we could have expected, but the game's not over," Concienne. "I think at the next meeting we're going to have to be even better prepared than we were at the last one because we'll see the full extent of whatever is behind the scenes and we don't know about.

"In my vision, we need to go outside of the community (for the upcoming meeting). We need to bring in more people from Abilene, Dyess

Air Force Base — outside the community — to support us in keeping it (the VAMC) here."

The next LAP hearing is expected to take place in approximately two to three months, according to LAP Chairman John Fears.

"The VA Task Force has gone a little dormant since the Sept. 1 LAP meeting, and I think we need to revive that," said Concienne. "We need to recap where we've been and get ready for the next round."

Concienne said there wasn't much time to rest following the hearing, as new need arose out of the aftermath Hurricane Katrina left on the Gulf Coast, giving birth to Operation: Big Heart, a local relief effort for survivors of the tragic storm.

"The chamber really wasn't at the center of it (Operation Big Heart), but the chamber served as sort of a nucleus for it," said Concienne. "An activity center for it. There are currently 61 Hurricane Katrina survivors in Big Spring, all of whom have made some indication they plan to stay here permanently, and that's pretty amazing

when you think about it. "The chamber had a charitable trust it had set up and was one of the few around, so it has served as the repository for the money raised in this area. The chamber and Moore Development worked together on this to allow the community as a whole to grab hold of this activity."

Big Spring Independent School **District** Superintendent Michael Downes also spoke during the meeting, describing the impact the relief effort has had on the school district and those displaced by the hurricane.

"There are currently 11 students enrolled at Big Spring ISD as a result of the relief effort," said Downes. "They are spread out among several different campuses, so it's not a situation where we've had to bring in more teachers to accommodate the new students. These kids have been through a lot, but they are adjusting well to the new environment."

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

Spring's population would fall below the 25,000 cutoff point.

BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said early today that DOE officials switched gears and restored the smallschool funding.

The change in heart means the district will receive an additional \$120,000 in federal funds for the duration of the 10-year census cycle, as long as Big Spring's nonprison population does not exceed 25,000 That \$1.2 million, needless to say, will

come in handy, Downes said.

"We're working on a plan to spend the money to address our current needs and goals," Downes said. "The bulk of the money will be spent on supplies and materials to enhance teaching and learning in the district."

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

Dine out day is Friday

The Spanish Inn at 200 N.W. Third is the Dine Out Day restaurant Friday for United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

A portion of the restaurant's proceeds that day will be donated to United Way.

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through The meetings after football season will take place only when

For more inform n, contact Donn Wright at 267-6723.

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.

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

Big Spring starts Junior tennis league

Big Spring tennis pro Ted Olesen has announced the starting of a junior tennis league.

The league will take place every Monday for the next six weeks. It will take place at the Figure 7 Tennis Center inside Comanche Trail Park and will last from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. each night.

The league is for children in grades four through six (ages 8-12).

Participants must bring a racket or one may be provided.

For more information, contact Olesen at 806-236-8901 or visit bigspringtennis.com.

YMCA sets final skateboard contest

The Big Spring YMCA has announced the final skateboard contest of 2005 will take place Saturday, Oct. 1 at the YMCA

Skate Park. The contest is scheduled to begin at noon. Participants can one of two age groups — 15 and under or 16 and over.

The registration fee is only \$15 and awards will be presented to the top two finishers in each age group.

Interested skaters can register at the YMCA. For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Midland Rotary Club sets golf tourney

The Midland Daybreak Rotary Club has announced its second annual golf tournament.

The tournament will take place Monday. Oct. 3, and will start at 1 p.m. at the Gree Tree Country Club. The entry deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 28. The tourney is limited to 32 team with four people to a team.

The proceeds will benefit local youth scholarships to college, Rotary Diabetes Camp and Rotary Leadership Youth Camp.

Gift certificates to Green Tree Country Club will also be awarded to the top hree teams.

Three local teams search for first win Friday

 Coahoma ends tough road stretch against Clyde

By TROY HYDE **Sports Editor**

Three local football teams search for their first wins of the season Friday. Stanton hosts Alpine, while Grady and Sands face tough opponents on the road. Coahoma will also take

on Clyde on the road.

Sands vs. Loraine The Mustangs will continue to battle more than

just their opponent Friday as injuries are still a problem in Ackerly. Cevan Smithson, Dee Fryar, Garrett Nichols and a host of other play-

ers will not play for the pen. Mustangs. They began the vear with 19 on the active roster and that number has quickly dwindled to around 12.

Sands lost last week to New Home by way of the 45-point mercy rule. The Mustangs defeated Loraine during last year's homecoming game, 66-57. Smithson and Santos Ybarra led Sands on the ground. Ybarra will have to carry much of the load

> Grady vs. No. 3 Highland

offensively Friday.

The Wildcats will try to rebound from last year's 56-0 loss to Highland, but improvement on both sides of the ball will have to occur for that to hap-

The Hornets tallied 336 yards of total offense in just two quarters as the game was called at half-

time due to the 45-point

Brody Pinkerton is still out for Grady (0-4). The Wildcats lost to Borden County last week as the mercy rule was put into

Coahoma vs. Clyde The Bulldogs' tough non-district road schedule ends this week in Clyde as Coahoma tries to rebound from a narrow loss to Jim Ned last week.

Coahoma's offense is still trying to figure things out. They were tied at one point last 13-13, but lost by six points

Bulldogs.

Clyde has yet to play a school which didn't start with the letter 'B'. They won their first game last week against Brady, 35-6, but lost the first three games to Ballinger, Bangs

and Breckenridge. Coahoma began the year with a win against Reagan County, but has lost three straight games since. They have been defeated by Seagraves. Jim Ned and state-ranked Wall.

Stanton vs. Alpine

The Buffaloes seek more consistent drives on offense and better tackling on defense against Alpine.

Stanton finds itself in a touchdown.

as turnovers plagued the similar situation to last vear as the Buffaloes are 0-4 heading into this game.

The Buffaloes defeated Alpine last year 27-26 with a game winning touchdown inside of four minutes left in the fourth quarter. The win gave Stanton some momentum and the Buffaloes went on win four out of their next five games and finished the season with a playoff berth and a 5-5 record.

Stanton lost to Iraan last week 42-13. The Buffaloes were tied with Iraan after one quarter, but gave up 15 points in the second quarter and never recovered. Matthew Ruiz led Stanton with 116 receiving vards and a 61-yard

Bearkats return to field after off week

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Garden City looks to get back to business Friday following its open week as the Bearkats tackle El Paso Jesus Chapel in Garden

"We need to get back being focused on playing football." s a i d Garden

City.

Hoskins

City head coach Ken Hoskins. "We need to be sound coming off our bye week and need to get back into the mode of playing games again."

The Bearkats will see lots of formations against Jesus Chapel Friday and must stop the dive option if they want to win.

"We need to stop their favorite plays and be lined up in the right places on defense," said Hoskins.

Offensively, Hoskins wants to execute and not commit any turnovers

Jesus Chapel should bring an aggressive defense to the table, but will not play very many players, according to Hoskins.

"They are a juniorsenior ballclub which has high reputation of getting to the playoffs," said Hoskins. "They usually go pretty far in the TAPPS division.'

Jesus Chapel is led by three good running backs Kyle Green, Chris Cordero and Brandon

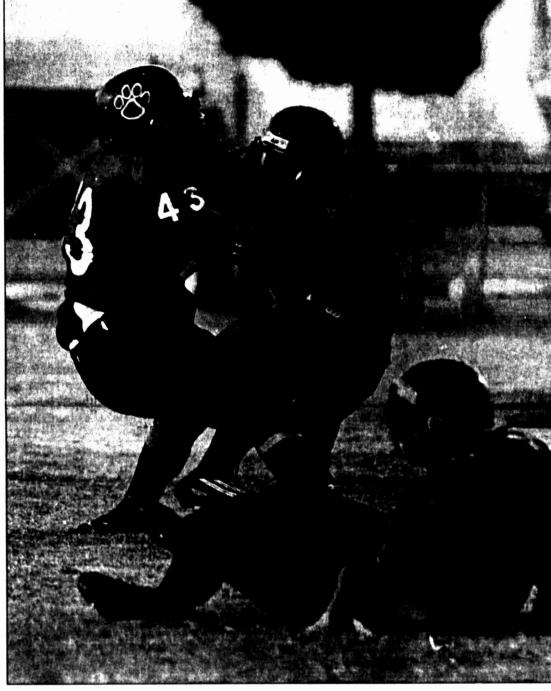
Walsh — and a good quarterback in Jonathan Lopez. This will be the sixth meeting between

Hoskins' staff and Jesus Chapel head coach Hosea Stredic. The two teams metifour times while Hoskins coached at Whitharral and holds a 4-1 overall record against Stredic.

"He knows me and I know him so that can be good for both of us," said Hoskins. "We need to worry about one game at a time and not look past this team."

The Bearkats could meet an undefeated Midland Trinity team in Garden City next week for homecoming.

El Paso Jesus Chapel is 1-2 so far this year. They lost to top 20 ranked Fort Davis and Balmorhea and defeated Reserve, N.M., last week.



Garden City senior Cory Multer wrestles down the Ira quarterback during action this year. The Bearkats get back to business Friday after their open week as they take on El Paso Jesus Chapel in Garden City.

Friday Night's Lineup

Coahoma @ Clyde. 7:30 p.m. Forsan @ Winters, 7:30 p.m. El Paso Jesus Chapel @ Garden City, 7:30 p.m. Alpine @ Stanton, 7:30 p.m. Sands @ Loraine, 7:30 p.m. Grady @ No. 3 Highland, 7:30 p.m. Big Spring — open

Also:

Andrews @ Greenwood Odessa High @ San Angelo Central Lake View @ No. 4 Snyder Pecos @ No. 3 Sweetwater Canyon Randall @ No. 6 Frenship

Rita affects Texas sports schedule

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

Associated Press Writer HOUSTON (AP) - The**Houston Texans canceled** Thursday's practice and asked all players to leave town immediately as Hurricane Rita barreled toward the Texas coast

packing 165 mph winds.

Coach Dom Capers said the team was looking at alternatives that include practicing next week in Cincinnati before the Oct. 2 game against the Bengals. The Texans have a bye this week.

Texas A&M moved up its Saturday game to Houston postponed their reschedule its

4-0

3-0

4-0

4-0

4-0

Tulane's hurricane saga continued even though the Green Wave is playing nearly 300 miles inland. Citing weather concerns, SMU moved Saturday's start time against Tulane in Dallas to 1 p.m. from 7 p.m.

Most school districts along the Gulf Coast canceled or postponed high school football game.

Texas A&M's game against Texas State was moved to 7:30 p.m. tonight and will be televised by Fox Sports Net.

Rice will make up its game against Navy Oct. Thursday night, Rice and 22. Houston likely will game

6. New Deal

8. Bremond

9. Stratford

4-0

4-0

7. Haskell

Saturday games, and against Southern Mississippi for Nov. 12 or 13, and the Cougars' game against SMU was moved from Nov. 12 to Nov. 19 to facilitate that plan.

Tulane's rescheduling against SMU comes after the New Orleans school was shut down indefinitely by Hurricane Katrina. The football team is based at Louisiana Tech in Ruston after first settling at SMU.

Rice canceled several other athletic events this weekend: a soccer game against TCU, a volleyball match against Alabama-Birmingham and women's tennis tourna-

Texas high school football

Associated Press Top 10

1. Southlake Carroll 3-0 2. Spring Westfield 2-0 3. Longview 4. Lufkin 5. Smithson Valley 3-0 6. Euless Trinity 3-0 4-0 8. Abilene 9. Coperras Cove 3-0 10 Dallas Carter 4-0 Others Receiving Votes:

Schertz Clemons, Galena North Park Shore, Leande

Class 4A 1. La Marque 2. Dallas Highland Park 4. Brenham 5. Kilgore 6. Wolfforth Frenship 7. Marshall 8. Texarkana 9. Ennis 10 Austin Travis Lake 3-0 Others Receiving Votes: Rosenberg Terry, Pflugerville Connally, CC Calallen and New

Braunfels Canyon

Class 3A

2. West Orange Stark 3. Sweetwater 4. Snyder 5. Cameron Yoe 6. Tatum (tie) 7. Abilene Wylie 8. Wimberley 9. Sinton 10. Gainesville Others Receiving Votes:

> Giddings, Bridge City and Daingerfield Class 2A 1. Newton

Marlin, Gilmer, Bellville,

6. Brookshire-Royal 2-1 Crawford 8. Mart 9. Colorado City 10. Wall

2. Celina

5. Alto

Canadian

3. Omaha Pewitt

4-0

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Others Receiving Votes: Crane, Bands, Post and Boyd Class A 1. Chilton 2. Big Sandy 4-0

4. Normangee (tie)

4. Goldwaithe (tie)

3. Windthorst

10. Roscoe Others Receiving Votes: 2-1 Sunray, Axtell, Nazareth, McCamey, Wellington, Harletor and Joaquin Six-Man Top 20° 1. Throckmorton 2. Valley 4-0

3. Highland 4-0 4. Richland Springs 3-0 5. Trinidad 6. Rule 4-0 7. Whitharra

8. Meadow 3-0 9. Paducah 2-1 10. Wheeler 3-1 11. Garden City 2-1 12. G-falls-Royalty 3-0 13. Calvert 2-2 14. Abbott 15. Fort Davis 2-1 16. Blanket 3-0 17. Balmorhea 2-1 18. Crowell 0-2 19. Aspermont 2-2 20. Wellman-Union 2-2

*Six-man rankings are from sixmanfootball.com and not the **Associated Press**

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Astros hold on to two-game lead in NL's wild card chase

PITTSBURGH (AP) — What looked like an easy night after two innings turned into a struggle for the Houston Astros.

three-run homer in a four-run first inning and Mike Lamb hit a threerun homer in a four-run second as the Astros built an 8-0 lead and then held last-place the Pittsburgh Pirates 12-8 Wednesday night.

It was the seventh win in eight games for Houston, which remained two games in front of Philadelphia in the NL eighth. wild-card race. The Phillies beat Atlanta 10-6 in 10 innings.

"These guys are unbelievable. They fight you right down to the end," said Berkman, who had five RBIs, including his played us real tough this year."

Oswalt (18-12) allowed four runs, three earned, and nine hits over six innings to win for the fourth time in five decisions. He struck out six and walked two as Houston moved 14 games over .500 (83-69) for the first time this season.

"They're not playing for anything, but they still give 100 percent." Oswalt

American League

· New York Yankees (E

Chicago White Sox (C

Los Angeles Ange

Cleveland Indians

Boston Red Sox

Wild Card

Division Leaders

Major League Baseball — wild card standings

said. "They battled. These St. Louis. guys just play one at-bat at a time.".

Lance Berkman hit a to waste. The biggest thing is us getting the win. It doesn't matter how we got it."

> Pittsburgh cut the lead to 8-4, but the Astros scored two runs off reliever Brian Meadows. The Pirates got within 10-7 on Ryan Doumit's two-run homer off Russ Springer in the seventh and Freddy Sanchez's solo homer off Dan Wheeler in the

Houston scored two unearned runs in the ninth when Lamb doubled, moved to third on Jason Lane's single and scored when Doumit mishandled third basemen Ty Wigginton's throw 20th homer. "They've home on Brad Ausmus' grounder. Lane moved to third on the error and scored on pinch-hitter Jose Vizcaino's ground-

> Brad Eldred added a solo homer in the ninth for the Pirates.

> Kip Wells (7-17) became the first pitcher in the majors to lose 17 games this season. He lasted two innings, his shortest outing since retiring just two batters on Aug. 24 against

Berkman drove in a run with a sacrifice fly in the "The important thing is second inning and folyou can't let an 8-0 lead go lowed Morgan Ensberg's two-out double with an RBI single in the sixth. Lane added a solo homer for Houston in the seventh.

"It was nice for us to keep the offense going, keep tacking on runs through the ninth," Lane said.

Sanchez doubled, moved to third on Jack Wilson's sacrifice and scored on Jason Bay's double in the third inning.

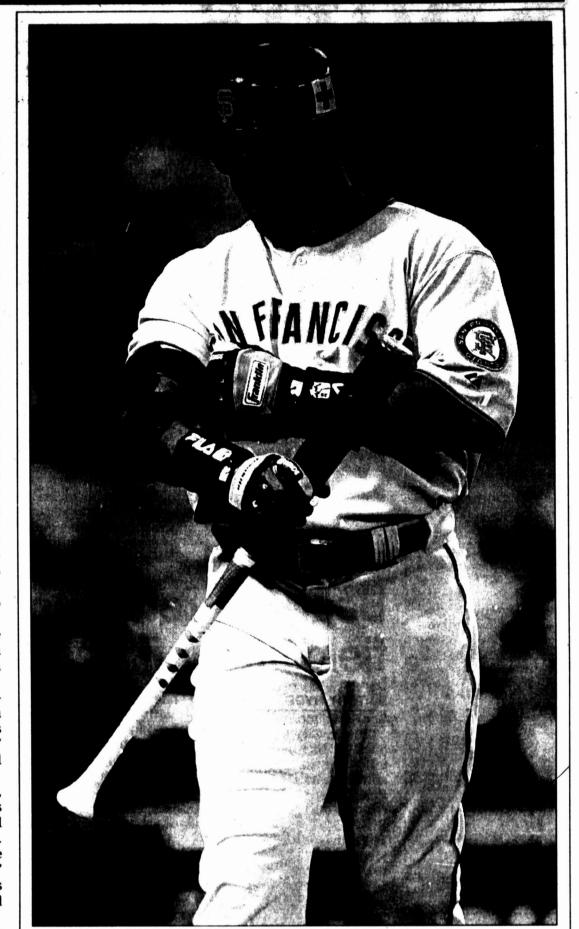
In a two-run fourth, Nate McLouth walked, moved to second on Sanchez's two-out single and scored on Wilson's single. Bay then hit a grounder to third baseman Ensberg, who threw wildly past second baseman Chris Burke and into right field for an error, allowing Sanchez to

Craig Wilson led off the Pittsburgh fifth with a triple and scored on Doumit's groundout.

"I thought we had plenty of runs, we had Roy on the mound and things looked pretty good," Houston manager Phil Garner said.

Lamb's homer to right, his 10th, gave the Astros an 8-0 lead and followed Berkman's sacrifice fly. Houston had loaded the bases on Willy Taveras' one-out single and walks to Craig Biggio and Ensberg.

Taveras led off the game with a single and scored when third baseman Rob Mackowiak committed a throwing error grounder.



KRT photo/Harry E. Walker, Knight-Ridder Tribune Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants takes of protective gear after walking in the ninth inning against the Washington Nationals at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C., Tuesday. Bonds also homered in his fourth straight and is now just seven home runs

behind Babe Ruth for second all-time. Angels take control of AL West after come-from-behind victory

By BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) Down, yet never quite out could be the Los Angeles Angels' motto this season.

Pinch-hitter Molina drove in the tying and go-ahead runs with a single in a four-run seventh inning and the Angels rallied to beat the Texas Rangers 6-5 on Wednesday night, their fifth straight victory.

The Angels increased their lead in the AL West Oakland, which lost 10-4 to Minnesota.

It was their 39th comeback win of the season, on a bases-loaded, twoengineered by some run single by Cabrera off bench players. The Feldman with two outs in

Angels scored all their the seventh. runs in the seventh with two outs.

Quinlan, Chone Figgins and Orlando Cabrera all singled before Vladimir Guerrero walked to set up Molina, who batted for cleanup hitter Casey Kotchman.

the victory, retiring Alfonso Soriano - the only batter he faced — on a flyout in the seventh.

Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth for his 40th save in 45 chances.

Scott Feldman (0-1) to 2 1/2 games over faced two batters and took the loss, allowing one run, one hit and a walk.

The Angels closed to 5-4

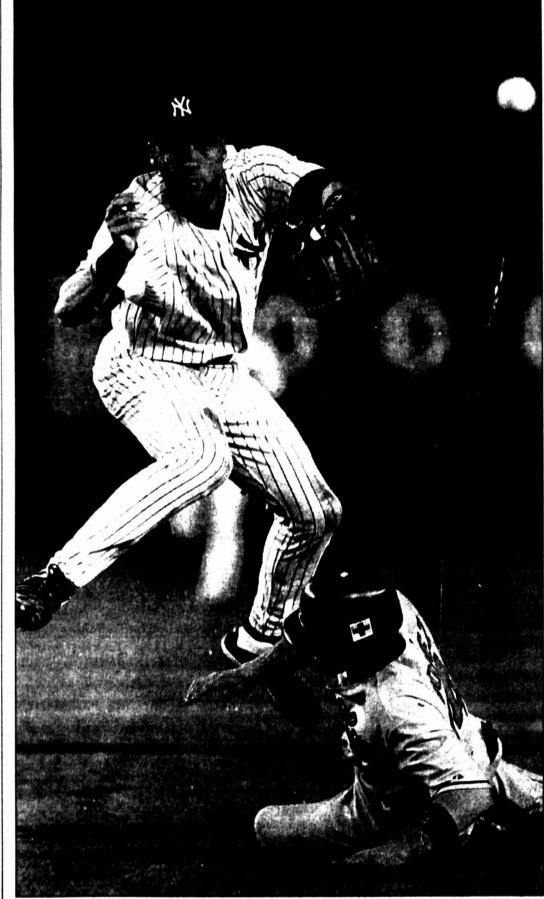
Feldman intentionally walked Guerrero, then turned things over to lefthander Brian Shouse. Molina singled up the middle on the second pitch, putting Angeles ahead 6-5.

Molina chugged toward Esteban Yan (1-1) got first base, pumping his right arm in a rare display of emotion.

Michael Young extended his hitting streak to a career-best 18 games with his 23rd homer off Brendan Donnelly in the seventh.

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The Yankees' Derek Jeter turns an inning ending double play after getting Baltimore's Chris Gomez out at second in the fifth inning of their game Tuesday at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees defeated Baltimore and moved into first place in the American League East just ahead of the Boston Red Sox.



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YARD SALE: 5203 Wasson Rd., Saturday 7:00-?. Nothing over a \$1.00.

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"THERE'S MORE

\$\$\$ IN THAT OLD

CAR THAN YOU

THOUGHT"

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS The autumnal equinox is upon us. The first day of

year that's been recognized and celebrated through the ages. The day and night are equally thus long, originating the Libran ideal of balance and harmony. The

HOLIDAY nights are **MATHIS** about to grow longer though, so

now is the time to rally supporters for the chillier times ahead.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't possibly enjoy yourself while someone else is suffering. That's just how you are, but be careful about whom you spend time with. That certain friend of yours is always suffering because of something!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Dear ones give you new things to be paranoid about, as if you didn't have enough on your mind. Take a break this afternoon, and recenter yourself on the most positive, fabulous fantasy you can possibly dream up. GEMINI (May 21-June

21). You're doing it all right. You are emotionally honest, socially mature and environmentally conscious. Still, a certain someone isn't satisfied. At

Vehicles

2000 MITSUBISHI Eclipse GT (Black). Power windows, tilt, cruise, CD player, spoiler, sunroof, 64k miles. Good tires. OBO. \$10,000 (432)466-2268.

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Gasoline. Specifications may be obtained in the County Auditor's Office, in the Courthouse, 300 S. Main St., Room 203, Big Spring, TX, or by

calling 432-264-2210. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on October 10, 2005 for their consideration.

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. #4706 September 22 & 30, 2005.

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some point. you have to deduce that it's their problem. **CANCER (June 22-July** fall is a magical time of 22). Your words carry

weight. You could win or lose a friendship based on what you say. Voice your honest opinions tactfully. This and the help of a Libra or a Sagittarius will do wonders for your social

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your work probably will not be instantly successful, so pull on forces of maturity inside of yourself to get through the hard part. No matter how you look at it, risking rejection is admirable. Do this regularly to be an all-around winner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Wow, life is good. Money isn't an issue, and everywhere you go turns into a party the moment you arrive. Just make sure you aren't spending too much time having fun. Work also needs attention.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Developments happen quickly, and you're having fun being so busy! You're boosted toward an aim that you once thought was completely unreachable. A support group can help, too, if you swallow your pride and join.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Someone you meet (probably a Virgo or a Libra) leads to something more. Romance? Business opportunity? Only you can say. Open your heart, and watch what happens.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're susceptible to the good things - contagious laughter, enthusiasm, etc. — and the bad things, too. The last thing you need now is more germs. Don't lie on a hotel bedspread.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Give a pat on the back, an arm around the shoulder and praise for what was done right. These are the things loved ones need from you the most. Meanwhile, let someone else cook dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's not always easy to get things done in an ordinary, straight and square way. So give props to the more conservative people in your midst. Not everyone can live on the edge like you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have something they want. It's the most basic business principle around, and you make it work for you now in a big way. Let a Gemini or a Leo help you set your asking price. ASTROLOGICAL QUES-

TIONS: "What is Mabon? How was it celebrated?" In ancient times, the four

seasonal changes were carefully observed and celebrated as pagan holidays. "Pagan" is derived from the Latin word "paganus" meaning "country dweller." Pagans have traditionally been people who live in rural areas and depend on natural cycles that affect their agriculture and survival. During the time when the Roman **Empire** embraced Christianity, most of ancient Europe and Great Britain was rural. The people who lived outside the reaches of the city, and thus the church, were referred to as pagans.

Mabon is the holiday celebrated when the sun moves into Libra, as it does today. The celebration was traditionally the second harvest and involved bonfires, geese and grain sacrifices for the purpose giving thanks. Thanksgiving is the holiday associated with the autumn, and Mabon is a kind of early Thanksgiving. Charity is a theme of Mabon celebrations, and one of the luckiest things you can do this time of year is to establish a habit of charitable giving. Donate food, money and your time as a symbol of thanks for all the bounty vou are able to enjoy that others may not.

© 2005 CREATORS SYN-DICATE, INC.

"SINCE THE PLUTO, THE BC MY UNC

Big Sprin

Thursday

THU

11 :30

DENN

WIZA

WHATS

SIX LAN



MOBILITY MY FISH THEM W BOWL

WHAT'S MATTE

THE

SNUE

GO!

THURSDAY

Dancing With the Stars

DENNIS THE MENACE

SINCE THEY ALREADY NAMED A PLANET APTER

PLUTO, THEY SHOULD NAME THE NEW ONE GOOFY.

BEEF WITH SECRET

BC

MY UNCLE SPEAKS

WIZARD OF ID

WHATS

AGNES

THERE WERE SOME MOBILITY ISSUES FOR MY FISH, BUT I SOLVED THEM WITH THE BOWL CADDY.

HI AND LOIS

WHAT'S THE

MATTER,

I ATE SOMETHING

THAT DIDN'T AGREE WITH ME!

THIS MODEL IS CONSTRUCTED FROM SPACE-AGE MATERIALS DEVELOPED BY NASA.

SORRY, MISTOFER, WE

DON'T NEED ENNY !!

SIX LANGUAGES .

6 :9M News (CC) Ent. Tonight

10 :9M News (CC) Nightline

Odessa Discovery

(CC) The FBI Files

Rain (CC)

12:15 Movie: Real TV Strange Days Blind Date

(CC) "
The FBI Files 12:15 Movie:

WFAA(2) KMID (3) UNI (4) KPEJ (5) KOSA(7) KTLE (8) KWES(9) WTBS(11) KMLM(12) KOCV(13) DISC (20) AMC (21) SPIKE(22) TNT (23) BET (26) DISN (27) ESPN2

Light of the

The Hour of

Healing Del Sanchez

Jesse Lee Pe.

Faye Hardin

Odeese Joe McGee

Science Fig

ravels (CC)

ESPN 29 SCIFI 64

Air Force at

SportsCenter

Finals Game 5 Utah (CC)

Championship Baseball
-- Teams TBA NFL Live

Tonight (CC)

Tennis:

That's-Raven

That's-Raven

Phil of Future

Proud Family Season

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FRALD

2005

22-July carry win or sed on e your ctfully. of a us will social

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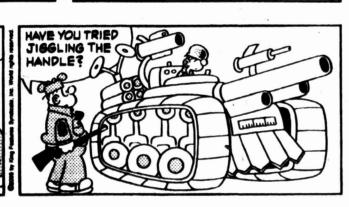
e bounty joy that

RS SYN-



BEETLE BAILEY

SNUFFY SMITH



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

News Be a Million

Joey (CC)

Friends (CC)

Blue Sea

(CC) (DVS)

Offices Telemundo Midland

Laura Al Rojo Vivo-

Late Late

My Wile-Kids 70s Show

Primer Impacto 70s Show Noticiero Univ. Raymond

Extra (CC) Amigas y Becker (CC) Show Paid Program Rivales (SS) King of the Hill The Insider

WOW, WHAT IS HE, A

DIPLOMAT OR SOMETHING?

YOU

CLASSIFIED

THE

GRAVY?

EVEN A FISH ENLOYS FRESH AIR ONCE IN A WHILE ...

UH-OH! HE SLOSHED OUT!



"I untied my shoes all by myself!"

HE WRITES INSTRUCTION

MANUALS FOR APPLIANCES.

DO YOU

HAVE A

'NEED TO

KNOW"?

HOW CUTE! HE'S TRYING TO CHASE THAT SQUIRREL!

GOI GOI FLOP LIKE

... AND IF I DON'T GET OUT

TO DIGAGREE WITH THE

WHOLE CLASS

OF HERE QUICK, IT'S GOING

MY HUSBAND'S

ALREADY

an expert

HALPIN

9-22

THE WIND!

HE'S CHOKING ON THAT FRESH AIR THAT HE'S

ENJOYING

AGNES.

HAGAR



Spike TV Atlents Black Ent.

Found (CC)

Scene Invstgtn. (CC) (DVS)

Scene Invstgt

ble Women

The Ultimate

BET Style

The Parkers

Top 25 TV

Soul Food

ComicView

BLONDIE





This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 22, the 265th day of 2005. There are 100 days left in the year. Autumn arrives at 6:23 p.m. EDT.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 22, 1776, Nathan

Hale was hanged as a spy by the British during the Revolutionary War. On this date:

In 1789, Congress authorized the office

Postmaster-General. In 1792, the French

Republic was proclaimed. In 1927, Gene Tunney successfully defended his heavyweight boxing title against Jack Dempsey in the famous "long-count" fight in

In 1949, the Soviet Union

In 1950, Omar N. Bradley was promoted to the rank of five-star general, joining an elite group that included Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall and Henry H.

"Hap" Arnold. In 1964, the musical

"Fiddler on the Roof" opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 3,242 performances. In 1975, Sara Jane Moore

attempted to shoot President Ford outside a San Francisco hotel, but missed. In 1980, the Persian Gulf

conflict between Iran and

Iraq erupted into full-scale In 1985, rock and country music artists participated in FarmAid, a concert staged

in Champaign, Ill., to help

the nation's farmers. In 1989, songwriter Irving Berlin died in New York

City at age 101. One year ago: CBS-owned stations were fined a total of \$550,000 by the Federal Communications Commission for Janet Jackson's exposed right breast during the Super Bowl halftime show.

Birthdays: Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Fame manager Tommy Lasorda is 78. Musician King Sunny Ade is 59. Actor Paul Le Mat is 59. Captain Mark Phillips is 57. David Rock singer Coverdale (Deep Purple, Whitesnake) is 54. Actress

Shari Belafonte is 51. Singer Debby Boone is 49: Country singer June Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 49. Singer Nick Cave is 48. Rock singer Johnette Napolitano is 48. Opera singer Andrea Bocelli is 47. Singer-musician Joan Jett is 45. Actress Catherine Oxenberg is 44. Actor Scott Baio is 44. Actor Rob Stone is 43. Rock musician Matt Sharp is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer Big Rube (Society of Soul) is 34. Actor Tom Felton is 18.

Thought for Today: "One of the great lessons the fall of the leaf teaches, is this: Do your work well and then be ready to depart when God shall call." _ Tryon Edwards, American clergy man (1809-1894).

© 2005 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

COO CAPER SALSARIG ADELE ILIAD ALLINAROW GIFTS NEEDS POUNCE ERRS SMIRK ECHO YOKING GNOME

34 "Clean"

36 Reviewed

37 Lighten up

38 Ultimatum

ender

looks

slasher

44 Order of corn

46 Mortar mate

43 Maps out

47 Like beer

or tea

40 Jungle

39 Threatening

series win

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Cry of
- disgust 4 Whey
- partner **9** Wrong: Pref.
- 12 Sugar suffix
- 13 Puccini
- piece
- 14 Ditties
- 16 Query from the impatient
- **18** Composer
- 19 Fizzy drink 20 Query from
- the lost 22 Spewed lava
- **26** Nincompoop
- 27 Comic
- Caesar
- 28 Gym iteration
- 29 Fruity drinks
- 33 Makes tough
- 36 Query from
- henchman
- 42 Cocktail

- 49 Columbus Day
- the apathetic **57** Brings into

THE FIVE W'S by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- Paul
- 66 Bard's
- 68 Mag VIPs

- 1 Generic

- some
- the famished
- 41 Rips off
- nibble
- Dame Myra
- 46 Cops' org.
- **52** Eyes, slangily
- 54 Query from
- 58 Rosemary's Baby author

- 64 Sarge's

- **67** Scattered,

DOWN

- pooch

- 6 Minister,
- sandwiches

- play

- adventurous
- superior
- **65** Guitarist
- as seed
- Berg

- 31 Slice with
- **35** Use a
- **39** Hook's

- **59** Query from the **7** Took an
- 63 Leaves in

- "before"

- 2 On leave, maybe
- 3 Chair, as a committee
- 4 Gear tooth
- 5 News org.
- for short

12

16

19

22

28

- spyglass

- 45 Pianist
- 50 Hightail it

- - oater dare 8 Figure-skater
 - Cohen
 - 9 Army mascot
- 10 Desktop tray 11 Nautical
- distance 14 Ankle bones
- **15** Duke of Cooperstown
- 17 Brewpub fixture 21 Sixth sense
- 23 London art gallery
- 24 Blissful place 25 Monopoly
- stack 30 Slow-moving

33 Big Apple

13

23 24 25

ballpark

20

- mammal 32 IRS staffers
- 48 Take stock of **51** Whimpers 53 Play on

14

- words **55** Refer to **56** "Scram!"
- 60 "That smarts!" **61** Yahtzee cube **62** Brit. ref. work

10 11

35

33 39 40 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 54 60 61 62 63 64

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Dover International Speedway

THE ROAD TO DOVER

DOVER FACTS AND FIGURES

Top Cup race winners at Dover

■ Bobby Allison and Richard Petty have seven each. ■ Mark Martin, Jeff

Gordon and Ricky Rudd have the most wins among active drivers, four each. ■ Sweeps: Ryan

Newman (2003). Jimmie Johnson (2002), Tony Stewart (2000), Jeff Gordon (1996) Rusty Wallace (1994)

have won two Dover races in the same season.

DELAWARE

Population: 830,364 (based on 2003 U.S. Census); Dover 32,808

State capital: Dover Largest city: Wilmington: 72,051 State bird: Blue Hen chicken

Fact: Delaware is known as the First State because it was the first state to ratify the Constitution



RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP

PICKS

There actually were people who were

2. Greg Biffle (car No. 16): His

fourth-place finish at New Hampshire

was an excellent Chase start for this

1. Tony Stewart (car No. 20):

surprised that losing at Loudon

hacked him off. Last week: 1

BY BILL FLEISCHMAN Knight Ridder Newspapers

hey are the Lucky 10, the racetracks that host races in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Chase for the Championship. The Chase started in New Hampshire on Sept. 18 and ends in Homestead, Fla., in November.

The road to the Chase championship also goes through Dover, Del., where Sunday's MBNA RacePoints 400 will be held.

The Chase format has been successful in stimulating interest in the Cup series during the fall, when NASCAR is competing for attention with the NFL, college football and major league baseball.

After the season's first 26 races, the top-10 drivers in points qualify for the Chase. Then their points totals are erased, and each Chaser is separated by just five points.

Tracks don't campaign to get Chase races. The Lucky 10 are the last 10 races on the schedule.

Dover, in central Delaware, has hosted two Cup races since 1971. Delaware is a small state, but it's big in the Chase.

"The last 10 races of the Chase get special attention," said Denis McGlynn, president and CEO of Dover Motorsports Inc. "We're really happy to be part of that. In the old days, it was very hard for Dover, here in the northeast, to get attention.

"The whole NASCAR world has morphed into this national footprint and major media markets are where it's all happening. While Delaware itself isn't a major media market, Philadelphia is and so are Baltimore and Washington, which are also nearby.

Dover International Speedway, with its 140,000 seats, is situated just off U.S. Route 13. The surrounding area is typical America, with chain restaurants, gas sta-

team. Last week: 2.

3. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17):

third at Loudon looked like the title

4. Ryan Newman (car No 12):

Loudon was site of his first win and,

5. Rusty Wallace (car No. 2): If he

if he wins this year's title, now his

finishes sixth nine more times he'll

win the title. If that happens, he

Rally from an early problem for a

team from '04. Last week: 8

biggest win. Last week: 10.

Delaware track hosts the Chase but area has more than just racing to offer NASCAR fans



Children fly kites on Bethany Beach, one of Delaware's many beaches.

tions and stores. Delaware State University is on the west side of Route 13. Dover Air Base is just south of the speedway.

A casino and a hotel also are on the speedway's grounds. Racing and casinos are enough to keep many people busy, but McGlynn says visitors who don't wander away from the racetrack are missing a lot.

"When I came here from New York in 1970, I found a slower pace of life that's very low stress," McGlynn said. "In New York, every day's a hassle. Just going to the cleaners, you can get into three arguments. Here, you're within reach of every thing you want to do. There's a lot to do here. There's no reason not to like it here.'

shouldn't. Last week: 3.

6. Mark Martin (car No. 6):

win this week? Last week: 6.

than it sounds. Last week: 5

Dover's a track where he ought to

rack up some points. Is it his turn to

7. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):

8. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): Well,

now he's got an opportunity to prove

there's more than one way to the

Says he just wants to hang in until the

final five Chase races. That's riskier

Delaware's beaches are just 45 minutes away from Dover. A national wildlife preserve is east of the track. Sambo's is a popular rustic restaurant in nearby Leipsic, Del., where crabs are kings.

McGlynn and his wife, Louise, arrived in Dover in 1972 after he served as an Air Force officer.

Back then, the speedway only had

"We lied and said it was 25,000, just to be a little bigger," McGlynn recalled. "There were only 13 of us, and five of those guys were in maintenance. Now, we're up to about 1,000 here and maybe 150 off site."

Dover Motorsports also owns racetracks in Nashville, Memphis and the St. Louis area. McGlynn also is president and CEO of Dover Downs Gaming and Entertainment Inc.

"It never occurred to me that it's a big business, until somebody brings it up," he said. "For me, it's doing what I've been doing for the last 33 years. You just don't realize it when you see it every day. But there are some mornings when I see the hotel and the casino and the massive grandstand, it occasionally strikes me. (I think) 'This is a long way from where it was in 1972 when I started here.'

A graduate of Pace University in Pleasantville, N.Y., McGlynn was hired at Dover to do public relations and promotions. "We had a small number of people here doing a lot of things, so I got to learn a lot," he said.

One thing McGlynn learned was to handle criticism by some Cup series drivers when in the mid-1990s the track installed concrete as the racing surface on its "Monster Mile."

"Dale Earnhardt used to say it was like driving on sidewalks," McGlynn

said, chuckling. Drivers and their crews have adjusted to the concrete. Whether they like it or

not, they deal with it, especially in late September because the Chase is on.

Chase title. Last week: 4.

9. Jeremy Mayfield (car No. 19): If this is going to be a special year, it's time for this team to have some

special days. Last week: 7. 10. Carl Edwards (car No. 99): He didn't get off to a rollicking Chase start, but it was hardly a disaster for him either. Last week: 9.

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

he simply wanted to have fine system.

When did the inmates get the run of the place?

S o when, precisely, did NASCAR lose control of Sunday's Sylvania 300 at New

Hampshire International Speedway? Certainly, it was long before a red flag was thrown after the Lap 191 incident between Robby Gordon and Michael Waltrip.

Gordon walked across the track in front of traffic, threw his helmet at Waltrip's car, vowed over his radio he'd get Waltrip back and then finally used the 25-point Dale Earnhardt Jr. word from last year's Talladega race to describe Waltrip's character. Each infraction has been deemed penaltyworthy in the past.

It was during that red flag that NASCAR told each driver through his crew-chief to knock off the silly stuff.

NASCAR had clearly lost the handle before Kasey Kahne tried to get even with Kyle Busch by wrecking Busch's car. Kahne was upset since contact from Busch's car had caused him to wreck on Lap 165,

but his decision to inflict prairie justice certainly helped ramp up the afternoon's mayhem.

It could certainly be argued that things began to go haywire when NASCAR officials provided escort as Kurt Busch strode resolutely down pit road to confront Scott Riggs' crew. Riggs had bumped him into Chase for the

Nextel Cup purgatory on Lap 3 of the 10-race playoff's opener.

Although not specifically spelled out in the NASCAR rule book, it's a long-held pit road policy that members of a team aren't to go into another team's pit area when there's a dispute.

Yet according to NASCAR spokesman Jim Hunter, Busch was allowed to make his long walk halfway down the pit lane because



a reasonable conversation with Riggs' crew. Remarkably, the officials immediately ascer-

tained Busch's level of agitation and deemed it sufficiently low as not to spark a volatile situation. Are officials issued secret devices that immediately and accurately meter intent?

Maybe it goes back

even further than that Perhaps back to the Dale Jarrett-Ryan Newman incident at Bristol, where Jarrett punted Newman in retaliation for earlier contact. Jarrett was parked for two laps, but he was already several laps down so that

sanction had no significant impact. That tells drivers that since ontrack retaliation carries no significant consequences from NASCAR, drivers are responsible for meting out their own discipline. Now there's a

There have been dozens of incidents over the years where drivers have "worked things out" between

themselves How many NASCAR-sanctioned books and videotapes are on the shelves with footage of the fight among Bobby Allison, Donnie Allison and Cale Yarborough at Daytona in 1979?

In the aftermath of Sunday's hostilities, Hunter came around to assure the media - and by extension, race fans — that NASCAR President Mike Helton had made it clear to those involved that this sort of behavior will not be tolerated.

Hunter also said that suspensions ranging from one to nine races were possible for this outbreak or anything that might come later, but Monday afternoon nothing more than the usual fines and points

deductions were levied. Expect the DVD in time for the holidays.

THIS WEEK'S RACE **MBNA 400**

Where: Dover International Speedway, a 1-

mile banked concrete oval located in Dover, Del. When: 1:10 p.m. Sunday (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.

TV: TNT. Radio: Motor Racing

Network. Purse: \$4,975,638.

Last year's winner: Ryan Newman. Also this week: After

being docked points for an obscene gesture on national TV, current Busch Series points leader Martin Truex Jr. tries to get back on track

Craftsman Truck Series race at Las Vegas. Worth mentioning: Mark Martin finished first, second and third in his last three races at Dover. Only 13 of the 71 races at Dover have been won from a starting position outside the top 10, only six have been won from outside the top 15.

Saturday at Dover. He leads Clint Bowyer by 69 points. Dennis Setzer takes his 59-point series lead over Ted Musgrave into Saturday night's

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Should NASCAR park drivers for a race after they're involved in on-track altercations like those at New Hampshire?

> Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION NASCAR's Chase for the Championship gets rolling this weekend at New

Hampshire International Speedway. What do you think of the Chase format? Number of votes: 7,062

25% Don't care 22% Love it

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

■ Tony Stewart has scored 13 straight top-10 finishes, including five victories in the last 13

■ Greg Biffle has five straight finishes of sixth

eth has top-10 finishes in six of his last seven races, including five straight. ■ Mark Martin and Kevin Harvick each have three straight top-15 finishes.

WHO'S NOT

■ Tough times at Robert Yates Racing, as Dale Jarrett has finished 14th or worse in his last 10 races, while teammate Elliott Sadler has finished 12th or worse in his last 11.

■ Robby Gordon leads all drivers, having failed to finish 10 of 27 races.

■ Bobby Labonte ranked 14th in the points after 27 races one year ago. This year he is

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

WINSTON CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Sept. 18: Points Rank/Driver Points

Nank Driver	Points	nank briver Politic
1. Tony Stewart .	5230	21. Michael Waltrip 2774
2. Greg Biffle	5210	22. Kasey Kahne 276
3. Ryan Newman	15190	23. Ricky Rudd 2619
4. Rusty Wallace	5190	24. Bobby Labonte 2605
5. Matt Kenseth	5180	25. Casey Mears 2533
6. Jimmie Johnso	on . 5177	26. Mike Bliss 2466
7. Mark Martin	5176	27. Jeff Green 2464
8. Jeremy Mayfie	eld . 5135	28. Sterling Marlin 243
9. Carl Edwards	5121	29. Ken Schrader 238
10. Kurt Busch	5088	30. Scott Riggs 236
11. Jamie McMurr	ay . 3099	31. Kyle Petty 235
12. Jeff Gordon	3098	32. Dave Blaney 232
13. Kevin Harvick	3076	33. Scott Wimmer 227
14. Elliott Sadler.	3067	34. Travis Kvapil 216
15. Dale Earnhard	tt Jr. 2999	35. Mike Wallace 185
16. Joe Nemechel	k2967	36. Bobby Hamilton Jr:166
17. Dale Jarrett	2967	37. Robby Gordon 1610
18. Brian Vickers	2911	38. Jason Leffler 1536
19. Jeff Burton	2834	39. Kevin Lepage 108
20. Kyle Busch	2830	40. Terry Labonte 93

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

Points		Points
3931	11. Greg Biffle	2965
3862	12. Ashton Lewis .	2941
n 3645	13. J.J. Yeley	2906
3595	14. Johnny Sauter	2905
3348	15. Stacy Compton	2684
3346	16. Randy LaJoie.	2667
3196	17. Jon Wood	2588
3126	18. Justin Labonte	2563
93088	19. Kevin Harvick.	2493
3018	20. Stanton Barrett	2252
	3931 3862 n3645 3595 n3348 3196 3126 g3088	

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Dover 200, Dover, Del.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

	The top-10 drivers as of Sept. 17:					
Rank/Driver		Points	Rank/Driver		Points	
	1. Dennis Setzer	2756	6.	Bobby Hamilto	on. 2422	
	2. Ted Musgrave	2697				
	3. Ron Homeday			David Reutime		
	4. Jimmy Spence	r 2523		Matt Crafton .		
	E Alle Chiones	2472		Double Chara		

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Las Vegas 350, Las Vegas.

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