

Port control has officials in an uproar

By WILL LESTER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of Congress and the Bush administration are at odds over whether

the security is compromised by an Arab company's takeover of operations at six major American seaports.

Some lawmakers expressed concern Sunday that the safeguards are insufficient to thwart infiltration of the vital facilities by terrorists.

At issue is the purchase

last week of London-based Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates, or UAE. Peninsular and Oriental runs major com-

mercial operations in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami and Philadelphia.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff

defended the U.S. security review of DP World in various television interviews Sunday.

"We make sure there are assurances in place, in general, sufficient to satisfy us that the deal is appropriate from a national security standpoint," Chertoff told ABC's "This Week."

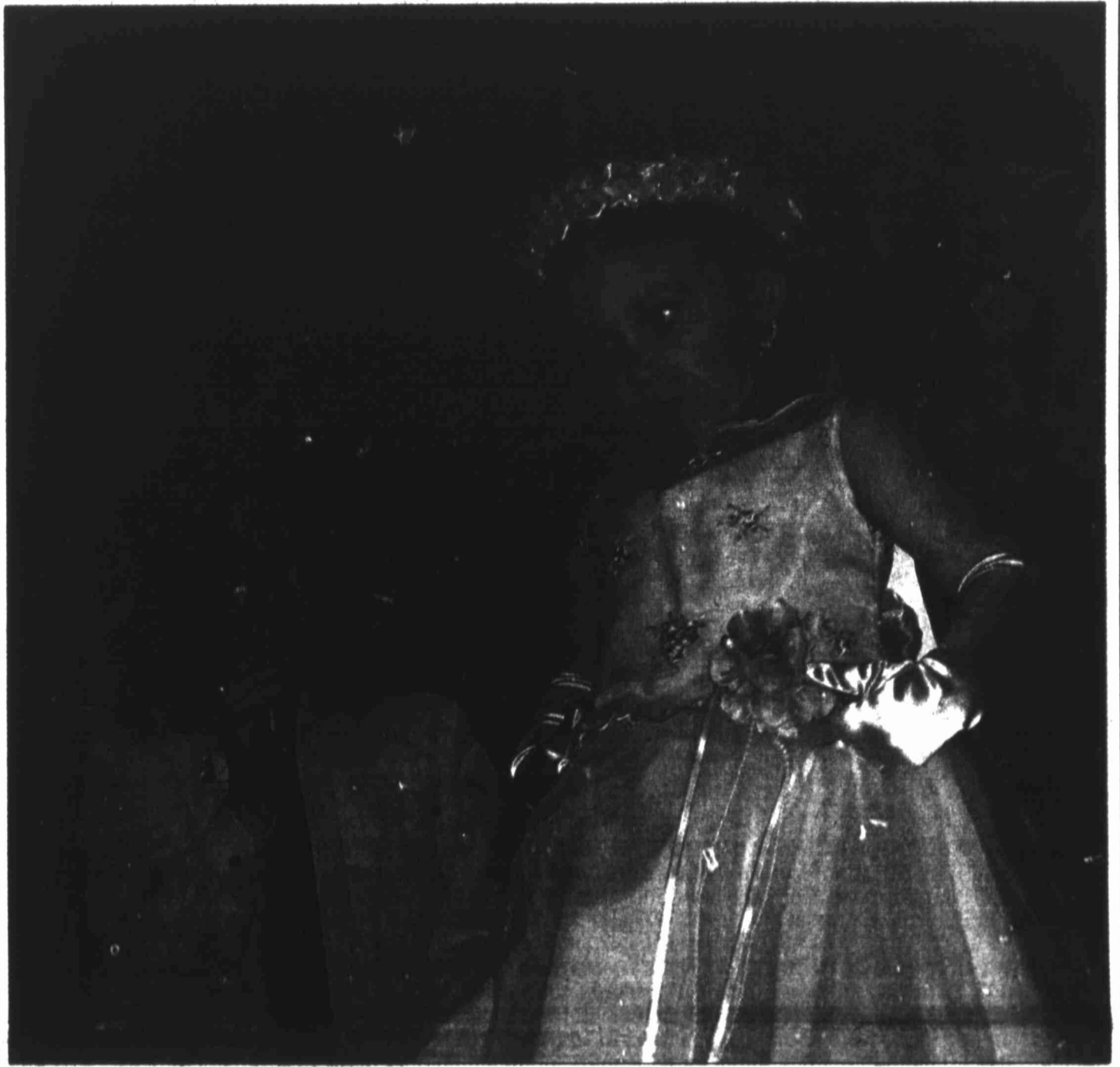
The government typically builds in "certain conditions or requirements that the company has to agree to make sure we address the national security concerns," he said on NBC's

See PORTS, Page 3A

"It is ridiculous to say you're taking secret steps to make sure that it's OK for a nation that had ties to 9/11, (to) take over part of our port operations in many of our largest ports. This has to stop."

—Barbara Boxer,
D-California

TURNING ON THE CHARM



Avery Tredaway turns on the charm for the judges during the Relay Rascal Razzmatazz held Saturday. The annual fundraiser, held by Big Spring State Hospital, helps support Relay For Life. Herald photo/Andrea Medlin

Water supplies stable, algae outbreaks minimal

Special to the Herald

Colorado River Municipal Water District officials say water supplies have declined slightly in a normal winter pattern and Golden Algae outbreaks have been minimal in spite of a dry winter and fluctuating temperatures that often trigger the outbreaks.

Reservoir levels have dropped slightly over the fall and winter months. Total supplies were

just over 433,000 acre feet in mid-February, or about 33,000 acre-feet less than they were at the end of August 2005, when the last significant reservoir inflows occurred.

The National Weather Service predicted a dry winter for most of the southern United States in the first half of 2006. Dry winters are normal for this region.

According to CRMWD Meteorologist Ray Jones, average rainfall for this region is only about a half-inch per

month in winter, usually in such small amounts that it rarely generates runoff for the reservoirs.

"Of course, there are exceptions and we have seen a few very productive rain storms from November through February," Jones said. "A dry winter impacts agriculture because those small rains help soil conditions for planting."

"Getting zero to 50 percent of the average rainfall in a winter month may look bad in the per-

centages but it really doesn't change our reservoirs," Jones added.

It is a different story when the region receives 50 percent or less of its normal rainfall in the period from March or April through October. "We normally have the kind of fast moving, violent convective storms in spring, summer and fall that produce a significant amount of rain at once. Those are the ones that raise reservoir levels," Jones said.

"Meteorologists know how to identify La Nina conditions by the water temperatures in the Pacific Ocean. We know a little about their impact on the weather but not enough to make any definite or broad predictions," he continued.

"This La Nina could keep us dry through mid-year, or it could help us by producing temperature fluctuations instead of the overriding high pressure

See ALGAE, Page 3A

Rescuers trying to free workers in Mexican coal mine

Efforts slowed by the presence of toxic gases, including carbon monoxide

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN DE SABINAS, Mexico (AP) — Rescue workers were burrowing through debris clogging a Mexican coal mine early Monday in a desperate effort to reach some 65 miners who were trapped for more than a day by a gas explosion. The miners were carrying

only six hours of oxygen with them when the explosion occurred early Sunday, and officials said it was unclear if they had access to fresh air. Rescue teams had failed to make any contact with the trapped miners.

Several other workers who were near the mine's entrance at the time of the explosion

were able to escape alive and were treated for broken bones and burns.

Rescue teams worked round-the-clock as family members waited for news, huddled near bonfires and wrapped in blankets to protect against the bitter cold outside the mine near the town of San Juan de Sabinas, 85 miles southwest of Eagle Pass.

Officials had promised a pre-dawn briefing, but they had yet to appear and were not letting anyone in the security zone.

Sergio Robles, director of

Coahuila state's emergency services, said the miners were carrying six hours of oxygen with them and were located between one and three miles from the mine's entrance.

He said rescue officials had advanced up to 300 yards into the mine after working for nearly 20 hours. The explosion occurred around 2:30 a.m. Sunday. It was unclear when they would reach the miners.

Rescue efforts were slowed by the presence of toxic gases, including carbon monoxide,

Robles said. When asked if officials believed the miners survived the explosion, Robles said: "It would be difficult because of the presence of gas. But we are holding out hope of finding someone alive."

Juan Rebolledo, vice president of international affairs for mining giant Grupo Mexico, which owns the mine, said oxygen tanks were scattered throughout the site, but it was impossible to know if the

See MINE, Page 3A

INDEX

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



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Perry has big lead in governor's race, poll says

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry has nearly twice the support over his Democratic and independent challengers despite lacking a signature achievement that many voters can remember, according to a newspaper poll.

A statewide poll conducted by *The Dallas Morning News* shows Perry, the Republican incumbent, favored by 36 percent of voters in a four-way race.

His lead is nearly 2-to-1 over Carole Keeton Strayhorn, a longtime Republican running as an independent, and two Democratic opponents, former U.S. Rep. Chris Bell and former Texas



Gov. Rick Perry has a wide lead in an early poll.

margin of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Supreme Court Justice Bob Gammage. Author and entertainer Kinky Friedman, another independent candidate, trails with 10 percent.

The poll, conducted by Blum & Weprin Associates Inc. of New York and released Saturday, surveyed 1,482 registered voters by telephone from Feb. 9-15. It has an error

Pollsters caution that Perry's commanding lead may be weaker than it appears.

"Perry is doing well because the opposition is split three ways," pollster Mickey Blum told the newspaper. "If that weren't the case, he wouldn't be looking so good. Getting 36 percent as the incumbent Republican in a Republican state — that's not so great."

Another possible concern for Perry: When asked what Perry's most important accomplishment was during his five-year administration, 70 percent

See POLL, Page 3A

Obituaries

June Kennemer

June Kennemer, 70, of Luther died Monday, Feb. 20, 2006, in Midland. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets at 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church for a covered dish luncheon. Bring a covered dish and a valentine card, but no gifts. For more information, call 398-5522.

TUESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles.

Around Town

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

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

Take Note

• **DONATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED** at Myer's and Smith Funeral Home to help with the funeral expenses of Margaret Johnson. For more information, call William Statham 213-1606.

• **VFW POST NO. 2013 NINTH ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER** is Saturday from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the post, 500 Driver Road. Plates are \$6 and include all the chili fixings with dessert and a drink. Plates for children younger than 12 are \$3. Call David Leonard at 393-5667 for more information.

• **AARP TAX PREPARATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TODAY IN OBSERVANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY.** Free income tax preparation will resume at the Senior Center Feb. 27 from 8 a.m. until noon. The AARP program will wrap-up for the year April 10. Electronic filing will be available. For more information on the program, contact Gloria Hopkins at 267-6733.

• **BLOOD DRIVE AT BIG SPRING MALL** is set until 4 p.m. today.

• **BLOOD DRIVE AT THE VA MEDICAL CENTER** is set for 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Thursday. Call Iva Jo Hanslik at 264-4824.

• **YOUNGLIFE ROUNDUP BANQUET** is 7 p.m. Feb. 27 in the Dora Roberts Community Center. Call 432-213-4819 for more information.

• **PLANNING MEETING FOR THE WEST TEXAS PRODUCER'S AND FARMERS MARKET** is set for 6 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

• **COMMUNITY LUNCHEON AND SEMINAR "CASHING IN ON BUSINESS,"** sponsored by the Big Spring Rotary Club and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is 11:30 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. Feb. 28 in the East Room of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Tickets are \$10, available at the chamber until Feb. 24. Call 263-7641 for more information.

• **FORSAN EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL ALL-CLASS REUNION** is Aug. 5. Names, addresses and class years for Forsan exes are needed. Submit information or pictures for a newsletter before June 15 to Ida Lou Raney, 5216 Dawson Dr., Big Spring or call 432-267-2414, Jimmy Anderson at 432-267-6143 or Opal Stout at 325-574-2150, or e-mail hiraney@crcom.net.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES** to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1999 for recipe forms.

• **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. today:

• **CRUZ JESUS CASTILLO**, 36, of 1512 Wood, was arrested Saturday on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, possession of a controlled substance, four local warrants and a Williamson County warrant.

• **RAY ALVARADO**, 28, of 432 Westover Road, was arrested Sunday on charges of violation of a protective order - enhanced, failure to identify - giving false information and assault on a family member.

• **RODOLFO HERNANDEZ**, 35, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 125, was arrested Sunday on a charge of failure to identify - giving false information.

• **JOEL GALINDO**, 53, of 1410 Park, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.

• **CHANCE LANG**, 19, of 4100 Parkway, was arrested Monday on a charge of Class C assault/family violence.

• **ALFRED LANG**, 53, of 4100 Parkway, was arrested Monday on a charge of Class C assault/family violence.

• **THEFT** was reported:
- in the 700 block of FM 700.
- in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane.
- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported:
- in the 2900 block of Highway 80.
- in the 400 block of Westover Road.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
- in the 1500 block of Kentucky Way.
- in the 1200 block of 16th Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
- in the 1400 block of Stadium.
- in the 1300 block of 11th Place.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1800 block of Scurry.

• **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** was reported in the 100 block of Lockhart.

• **VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER - ENHANCED** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road.

• **ASSAULT ON A FAMILY MEMBER** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road.

500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

• **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5900.

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

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

• **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• **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.

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

• **SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH**, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy. Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

• 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 the La Posada Restaurant.

• DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.

• Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.

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

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

TUESDAY

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

• Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

• Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at First and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.

• Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.

• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center at the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

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

FRIDAY

• 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.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Not as cool. Lows in the lower 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows around 40. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Northwest winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the lower 40s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the mid 50s.

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PORTS

Continued from Page 1A

"Meet the Press," but added that details were classified.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said later he wasn't as sure.

"I'm aware of the conditions and they relate entirely to how the company carries out its procedures, but it doesn't go to who they hire, or how they hire people," King told *The Associated Press*.

"They're better than nothing, but to me they don't address the underlying conditions, which is how are they going to guard against things like infiltration by al-Qaida or someone else? How are they going to guard against corruption?" King said.

Critics have cited the UAE's history as an operational and financial base for the hijackers who carried out the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. In addition, they contend the UAE was an important transfer point for shipments of smuggled nuclear components sent to Iran, North Korea and Libya by a Pakistani scientist.

A Miami company, Continental Stevedoring & Terminals Inc., has filed suit in a Florida court challenging the deal. A subsidiary of Eller & Company Inc., Continental maintains it will become an "involuntary partner" with Dubai's government under the sale.

Michael Seymour, president of the North American arm of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, said in a statement that company lawyers would have to examine the lawsuit before he could comment on it.

He noted, however, that his company "is itself a foreign-owned terminal operator that has long worked with U.S. government officials in charge

of security at the ports to meet all U.S. government standards, as do other foreign companies that currently operate ports in the United States."

"We are confident that the DP World purchase will ensure that our operations continue to meet all relevant standards in the U.S. through ongoing collaboration between the port operators and American, British, Australian and port security officials throughout the world," Seymour said.

Lawmakers from both parties questioned the sale as a possible risk to national security.

"It's unbelievably tone deaf politically at this point in our history," Sen. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., said on "Fox News Sunday." "Most Americans are scratching their heads, wondering why this company from this region now," he said.

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., told CBS' "Face the Nation": "It is ridiculous to say you're taking secret steps to make sure that it's OK for a nation that had ties to 9/11, (to) take over part of our port operations in many of our largest ports. This has to stop."

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told Arab journalists Friday at the State Department, that it was "the considered opinion of the U.S. government that this can go forward." She pledged to work with Congress because "perhaps people will need better explanation and will need to understand some of the process that we have gone through."

At least one Senate oversight hearing is planned for later this month.

"Congress is welcome to look at this and can get classified briefings," Chertoff told CNN's "Late Edition." "We have to balance the paramount urgency of security against the fact that we still want to have a robust global trading system."



Bryson Kinsey watches the judges while mom, Brandy, looks on. Big Spring State Hospital's annual Relay Rascal Razzmatazz was held Saturday with proceeds going to Relay For Life.

MINE

Continued from Page 1A

trapped miners had access to any of them.

Coahuila Gov. Humberto Moreira Valdes, who was at the site overseeing the rescue operation, told Televisa network that the mine's ventilation system was still working.

Rebolledo said several rescue teams were taking turns carefully removing debris that had clogged the steep shaft.

"It's slow work because of the quantity of debris," he said.

Worried family members waited for any information about their loved ones.

"We have hope that they are alive because they tell us that they have fans working" to ventilate the mine, said Olivia Camarillo, 50, whose 27-year-old son was trapped.

Norma Vitela heard about the explosion on the radio and came to find out what happened to her

husband, 47-year-old Jose Angel Guzman. A father of four, Guzman had worked in the mine for 16 years, earning about \$75 a week.

"Now we are waiting for a miracle from God," she said.

Vitela said her husband had mentioned before that there were problems with gas in the mine, but he couldn't afford to quit.

Consuelo Aguilar, a spokeswoman for the National Miners' Union, said there had been concern over safety conditions in Grupo Mexico mines. "We have pressured for better safety conditions as well as for better pay at the mines," she said. She called for an investigation to determine the exact cause of the accident and the responsibility of any company officials.

Rebolledo said safety conditions at the mine met Mexican government requirements as well as international standards. "We follow all the best safety procedures, but

accidents can always happen," he said.

The company discusses safety conditions with the union in annual meetings and there has been no major disagreement on the issue, he said.

Pedro Camarillo, a federal labor official who was not related to Olivia Camarillo, told reporters during a news conference at the site that officials found nothing unusual during a routine evaluation on Feb. 7.

As well as mining coal, Grupo Mexico is the world's third-largest copper producer, with operations in Mexico, Peru and the United States.

There have been various fatal mining accidents in Coahuila. The worst was in 1969 when more than 153 miners were killed in a pit at the village of Barroteran. In 2001, another 12 people died in an accident at a mine near Barroteran.

Last month, 14 miners died in two separate accidents at mines in West Virginia.

POLL

Continued from Page 1A

couldn't name any. And when given a specific list of accomplishments to choose from, the most popular pick — the relief effort from Hurricane Katrina — was chosen nearly as much as Perry having no important achievement.

Perry spokesman Robert Black dismissed the poll as being taken too early in the campaign to project an accurate snapshot. His opponents were more encouraged by the results, despite the gap Perry has over his challengers.

"This governor is in trouble," Strayhorn spokesman Mark Sanders said. "This is clearly a two-person race. There are only two people who have the resources to mount credible campaigns — Carole Strayhorn and Rick Perry."

But Friedman's campaign doesn't think Strayhorn, the state comptroller, has a chance.

Despite Friedman's low numbers in the poll, campaign manager Dean Barkley said the survey doesn't factor tens of thousands of new voters who will be energized by Friedman's unusual approach to politics.

"I don't think Strayhorn has a chance of winning this race as long as Kinky is in it," Barkley said.

In the race for the Democratic nomination, Bell appears to be his party's likely candidate to win the March 7 primary, leading Gammage 28 percent to 12 percent, although 60 percent were undecided.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

June Kenemer, 70, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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ALGAE

Continued from Page 1A

aloft conditions that prevent convective activity. It is possible La Nina could generate some short-lived but productive storms."

Those kinds of temperature fluctuations are often good for precipitation outlooks but they have also contributed to natural problems for CRMWD reservoirs in the past.

Temperature fluctuations are one of the suspected triggers for Golden Algae blooms. Although some small blooms occurred this winter, the fish population is doing well so far, thanks in part to improved water supplies and quality.

According to information from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Service web site, researchers are not sure of all of the bloom triggers but temperature is one factor.

The golden variety seems to tolerate rapid or dramatic temperature swings better than the blue and green varieties. When the other varieties die, they become nutrients for the Golden, which multiply rapidly. The water in affected areas looks yellow or

golden, hence the name.

Sometimes (but not always) when Golden Algae populations increase, they secrete toxins that produce foam on the water and kill fish. Other times, they don't secrete significant toxins and even a high level of toxins does not necessarily result in more dead fish.

Possible factors in the severity of a golden algae bloom or fish kill include the size and depth of the reservoir pool, the speed and timing of ambient temperature fluctuations and chloride levels in the water.

This year, Golden Algae populations at the E.V. Spence Reservoir increased but have not become the natural fish killing mechanisms that were seen beginning in 2001.

Water Quality Specialist Wendell Barber works closely with the TPWD and assists in monitoring Golden Algae counts and toxicity levels at District reservoirs.

"We had a little Golden activity at Spence in December, and people outside the TPWD predicted it might rise to the level of kills we saw in the past, but that just hasn't happened," Barber said. "We had a few iso-

lated kills but nothing that even compares to the massive bloom in 2001.

"From the fall of 2001 through February 2002 there were six major kills on the upper Colorado River, most in the reservoirs or along the river between Lake Colorado City and the Spence Reservoir. I saw foam standing four feet tall on the water and waded knee-deep in dead bass, catfish and trophy-sized stripers.

"The lake was really low because of the drought and the whole basin was yellow. The fish had nowhere to go to escape it," Barber added.

"In December 2005 we were able to find a few locations where the water was golden and maybe an inch or two of foam in isolated spots," Barber said. "There were a few reports of dead fish but those were limited to shad and small bait fish varieties."

TPWD figures point to the same conclusion. In 2001, almost 2.3 million dead game and large fish were counted. TPWD set the loss at over \$816,000 and called it the "largest

loss of fish and greatest economic loss to date in Texas from an ongoing bloom of this organism."

Barber and the TPWD confirmed that after the first few days when its severity became apparent, no effort was made to count the vast numbers of bait fish killed in those blooms.

Some small kills early in 2003 totaled less than 1,400 fish but they did make TPWD reluctant to expend the resources necessary to restock the reservoir until conditions improved.

Spence caught some water in both 2003 and 2004 and TPWD displayed its optimism by undertaking an aggressive restocking strategy there in 2004 and 2005.

Last November, Mandy Scott of the San Angelo TPWD office was optimistic that fish populations would be fully recovered within two to three years if there are no serious Golden Algae kills. Barber sees no indication that the small kills in December will have any impact.

In 2001, more than 2.2

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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OUR VIEWS

Palestinian situation in need of restraint

The spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry was asked the other day if there had not been some confusion in policy toward the fundamentalist group Hamas since its victory in the Palestinian elections. Answer: "There is no confusion at all in the French position, not on this or on any other question."

Well, OK. Still, things do seem a tiny bit muddled at the Quai d'Orsay: France, after all, is simultaneously refusing to talk to Hamas and encouraging Russia to do so. Nor is Paris the only capital where "confused" seems to describe the thinking about how to handle the Islamic majority that is due to be sworn in Feb. 18 in the Palestinian legislature. Though they are pretty sure they disagree with the French, neither the Bush administration nor the Israeli government is clear about many of the other questions Hamas's ascendance has raised.

In part this is a good thing. Responding well to Hamas will require a careful balancing act from Israel, its Arab neighbors and the West. The trick is to calibrate a strategy that will push Hamas toward moderation — and punish it if there is none — without provoking chaos in the Palestinian territories or undermining the democratic process that the United States has done so much to promote. The United States and its allies in the so-called Quartet for Middle East policy — the United Nations, the European Union and Russia — got off to a good start by spelling out three conditions for Hamas to meet in exchange for recognition: the renunciation of violence, acceptance of Israel and agreement to existing Palestinian-Israeli accords. The Bush administration and Israel have gone a step further, ruling out any aid or financial transfers to a Hamas government, though not necessarily independent aid groups working with the Palestinian population, if the political conditions are not met.

Had the Quartet remained united in this approach, Hamas might have been forced to choose between transforming itself into a peaceful political movement or failing in its goal of establishing an effective Palestinian government. But before the international pressure could even begin to build, Russian President Vladimir Putin opened a safety valve by inviting Hamas to send a delegation to Moscow. His initiative was quickly backed by France — the other nation in the Quartet with a history of trying to play Middle East politics to its own advantage. Having broken the diplomatic embargo, Hamas now needs only money: If it can squeeze enough from Gulf states, Iran or, eventually, Europe, it will establish the principle that Islamic fundamentalists openly committed to suicide bombing and the destruction of Israel need not alter their policies to rule. That means a triumph for Osama bin Laden and Iran's extremist president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Moscow's intervention is not the only danger. Another is the temptation of the Bush administration to join with Israel, which is lukewarm about Arab democracy, and Egypt, which is doing its best to prevent one from emerging in Cairo, to strip Hamas of its victory or force it out of office. The three governments have been consulting about ways to bolster secular Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and push him into a confrontation with the Islamists. This week the outgoing Palestinian legislature voted to hand the president extensive new powers, and Abbas himself has asserted his control over the security forces and media. While some of the maneuvering may be permitted by the Palestinian constitution, the Bush administration will destroy its larger democracy policy if it is seen to conspire with Israel and Arab autocrats to reverse the outcome of one of the freest elections in Arab history. Letting Hamas rule and be judged by Palestinians on its results will require more patience. But it is also more likely to bring about, in the long run, a Palestinian government that the world can welcome

—The Washington Post

'Old Media' comin' on strong

If I were to utter the statement, "Vice President Dick Cheney is an extraordinarily decent man who doesn't

deserve the unwarranted presumption of guilt affixed upon him by the Old Media," the statement would be met with profoundly polarized reactions.

No matter, I'll boldly step out here. Consider the statement made.

Truly, I marvel at the degree to which our differing world-views lead to opposite assessments of individual human character. I see the vice president as an honorable, forthright gentleman who places the nation's best interests above his own. Others prefer to believe he would sell out his own mother to line his pockets with oil-slicked greenbacks.

The Old Media, of course, fall into the latter category. Most of them, as their reaction to the Cheney/Whittington hunting accident make clear, are anxious to believe the worst about Cheney, viewing him as an evil man always poised to commit bad acts.

To them, Cheney's sin cannot be any negligence that may have been involved in accidentally shooting his friend because no one has established that he was negligent. Indeed, initial signs point to the victim's failure to announce himself.

No, Cheney's crime spree began with his appearance on the ticket with George Bush in 2000, when Bush's father's cronies on the Supreme Court divested the eminently stable Albert Gore of his entitlement to the presidency. It continued with Cheney's support for the 2003 military action against Iraq, his failure to march alongside pro-abortion activists and every other policy deviation the

Bush administration has dared to make from the prescribed liberal line.

Cheney is also reviled because he doesn't kiss the feet of the narcissistic media scavengers who believe the First Amendment establishes them as royalty who must be catered to, fawned over and accorded immunity for their own abominable behavior.

These Old Media pariahs, like NBC's David Gregory, apparently believe their summary trial and conviction of Cheney, their accusatory and disrespectful tone toward White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan and their cloak of liberal righteousness in general qualify them for deferential treatment in return. They are aghast when Cheney chooses to be interviewed by Fox News' Brit Hume instead of facing the post-conviction firing squad — not a truth-seeking inquiry — by some malignant member of the Old Media.

Consider *The Washington Post's* Dana Milbank appearing on the venom-spewing Keith Olbermann's unwatched talk show on MSNBC in a dorky hunter's outfit hoping to lampoon Cheney, then purporting to write an objective report on Cheney's behavior, excoriating him for not "correctly" apologizing.

Long ago, the Old Media gave up any pretense they were interested in truth. Their mission is to advance a leftist agenda, to obstruct a conservative one and to actively participate, when possible, in the politics of personal destruction against those, like Cheney, working for the things they oppose. That's why the actual facts in the Cheney mishap must take a backseat to negative, unsupported innuendo. If they were committed to reporting the news, they would focus on informing — there's plenty of important real news out there — rather than indoctrinating.

These liberal icons are forever

telling us they are, above all, compassionate. But do these self-styled humanitarians ever pause to reflect on how this unfortunate accident might be affecting Cheney? How would they like to find themselves in a similar situation only to have their political enemies, unarmed with any facts and impervious to any opinion not squaring with their own jaundiced prejudgments, pronounce them guilty? In all the ink spilled by the Old Media over this trumped up controversy, I've yet to see an ounce of sympathy expressed for Cheney.

Instead, we are treated to conjecture ranging from "Cheney's actions were deliberate" to "he was drunk" and "he was engaged in a cover-up of the affair."

The sad reality is the Old Media, along with the national Democratic leadership, have long since adjudged the Bush administration guilty of the worst imaginable offenses, and they are determined to substantiate their prejudice with whatever convenient "facts" might become available along the way.

Together, they have been making the case for five years that this administration is the author of a pervasive "Culture of Corruption." All they've needed are anecdotal tidbits to retroactively validate their charges.

When they serendipitously happen on to a story like the Cheney hunting accident, their blood lust to bring down the administration is too overpowering to be tempered by any circumspection, reasonableness or fair play.

Of all the Old Media's egregious behavior over the last few years, their despicable treatment of Cheney concerning this incident could be their worst. They have richly earned their new moniker, "Old Media."

To find out more about David Limbaugh, visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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Muslims blaming West for everything

Why are so many Muslims so enraged by a handful of cartoons published in an obscure Danish newspaper? It's not enough to point out how the governments of Egypt, Syria and Iran are stoking the protests in a cynical ploy to deflect Western pressure for democratic reform and to curry favor with Islamic radicals. Their strategy wouldn't be so successful if it didn't resonate with deeply ingrained attitudes among the Muslim multitudes.

I got an earful of those views last week in Kuala Lumpur while attending a conference sponsored by New York University and the Malaysian Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations. The ostensible subject was: "Who Speaks for Islam? Who Speaks for the West?" We never did answer those questions, but the infidel attendees did get a red-hot blast of indignation from the Muslim participants, who hailed not only from East Asia but also from Europe, North America, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

Even though all of the Muslim delegates were intellectuals, activists, politicians and other movers and shakers, they resonated with the rage of the dispossessed. With considerable justification, they fulminated against the backwardness of the Islamic world compared to the West. With considerably less justification, they blamed their frustrations on the West.

If only I had a ringgit for every time some delegate complained that the plight of the Palestinians showed the world's anti-Muslim bias. One attendee even had the gall to claim that Israel is allowed to violate U.N. resolutions while no Muslim state has that luxury — at the very moment Iran is thumbing its nose at the United

Nations! This was coupled with ritualistic denunciations of other anti-Muslim offenses — from the real (Russian repression in Chechnya) to the farcical (a Pakistani academic blamed the CIA for creating Islamic fundamentalism in his country).

Naturally the United States got scant credit (except from one Bosnian) for repeatedly waging war to free Muslims from oppression. Instead of being thanked for saving Muslims from genocide in places such as Kosovo, the U.S. was denounced for committing genocide against them.

Other complaints abounded — the global financial system is biased against Muslim countries such as Indonesia (which was hurt by the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis); the propagation of knowledge is dominated by American universities such as Harvard and Yale; the U.N. Security Council has no permanent Islamic member; and on and on.

Of course, blaming the U.S. for the world's ills is not an exclusively Islamic phenomenon, as one non-Muslim attendee from Austria proved by complaining that Hollywood had destroyed the European film industry. (Pity those poor Europeans — forced by evil American capitalists to watch movies they hate.) But such whininess is particularly pronounced among the large number of Muslims who have never come to grips with the subservient position they have occupied in world affairs since Napoleon's 1798 invasion of Egypt.

In recent years, some Muslims, notably the authors of the 2002 U.N. Arab Human Development

Report, have been acknowledging internal problems — a lack of freedom, honest government, gender equality, scientific research and education — that have turned their societies into global albatrosses. But in Kuala Lumpur there wasn't much introspection in evidence. Most attendees — and I suspect their views are broadly representative of the Muslim world as a whole — preferred to rant against supposed Western oppression.

The cartoon brouhaha not only confirms this victimization legend, it assuages the shame many Muslims feel over the atrocities committed in their name by Osama bin Laden & Co. To hear many Muslim attendees talk, you would think there is no difference between a cartoonist who injured no one physically and terrorists who kill thousands of innocent people. The trope of the conference seemed to be: "We have our extremists ... and you have yours." Former Iranian President Mohammad Khatami took this argument to its logical conclusion by equating American neoconservatives with al-Qaida. As if Paul Wolfowitz were plotting to crash hijacked aircraft into Tehran office buildings.

The most depressing aspect of the whole cartoon affair is not the intolerance for press freedom exhibited throughout Muslim lands. It is the willingness of so many Muslims — even those who would never burn a consulate or threaten a newspaper editor — to scapegoat the West for their own failures. Muslim nations will never make any progress unless they stop focusing on the offenses, real or imagined, visited upon them by the outside world and start looking within for what ails them.

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

Texas briefs

Two heating home with grill die

FORT WORTH (AP) — An elderly Fort Worth couple who were using a charcoal grill to help heat their home were found dead early Sunday, apparently of carbon monoxide poisoning, officials said.

"We have no idea why they were using the grill for heat," fire spokesman Lt. Kent Worley said. "It was an older house, so it didn't have central heat, but we don't know why they weren't using a space heater or another heat source."

Firefighters found the bodies of Clarence Johnson, 86, and Lottie Johnson, 95, in their bedroom. A neighbor who saw smoke called authorities.

Worley said the 18-inch grill had overturned and burned through the floor. He said the utilities in the home were in working order.

"Even ignoring the fire danger, people don't realize how much carbon monoxide one of those things like that can put off," Worley said in a story in Monday's online edition of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

The couple had just moved into the southeast Fort Worth home several weeks ago, Worley said.

Austin man charged in shooting death of high school senior

AUSTIN (AP) — A 19-year-old Austin man has been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of a high school senior found in a wooded area near her home, police said.

Justin Allen Crabbe was arrested Saturday and was being held without bail, officials said. He was charged with murdering Jennifer Crecente, 18, whose body was found Thursday behind an Austin subdivision.

Authorities believe the Bowie High School senior was shot Wednesday. No information was released about whether Crabbe knew the victim or what led to his arrest.

Relatives of the victim said her murder shocked them and they could think of no reason why anyone would want to kill Crecente, a camp counselor and hospital volunteer who planned to study psychology after graduation.

The victim's father said in a statement that her slaying had devastated the family.

"Jennifer was a wonderful, precious gift, and I will miss her forever," said Drew Crecente, 38, of Atlanta.

Warmer weather forecast after weekend of cold, crashes

DALLAS (AP) — Warmer temperatures were forecast across the state today after a weekend cold snap brought freezing rain and slick roads that contributed to hundreds of crashes.

The National Weather Service issued a winter weather advisory for parts of North, Central and East Texas through this morning.

Slick roads over the weekend contributed to at least two fatal accidents.

An Aledo man was killed Sunday morning when he lost control on an icy patch of Interstate 20 near Fort Worth, the Texas Department of Public Safety said.

David Phillips, a 39-year-old youth pastor at Christ Chapel Bible Church in Fort Worth, slid into a median while driving to church, authorities said.

In the Austin area, 66-year-old Seareatha Matetich was killed Saturday when she lost control of her sedan in rainy conditions on Texas 71 and skidded into oncoming traffic, the Austin American-Statesman reported on its Web site.

Also in Austin, an 18-vehicle pileup at the intersection of U.S. 290 and Interstate 35 early Sunday resulted in one critical injury, Austin police said.

There were more than 800 wrecks in the San Antonio area but no fatalities, the San Antonio Express-News reported. The upper level of a stretch of Interstate 10 and ramps in both directions were closed much of Sunday morning, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

Fifteen Dallas Fire-Rescue vehicles were involved in crashes on Sunday.

"Unfortunately, we're out there too and being involved in as many accidents as anyone else," spokeswoman Annette Ponce told The Dallas Morning News.

A Fort Worth Fire Department ladder truck parked along Interstate 35 was totaled early Sunday when a motorist crashed into it. The truck had been set up as a barricade as rescue workers tended to another weather-related accident.

Dozens of flights were canceled over the weekend at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, including 85 American Airlines flights, according to a company spokesman.

Humans risk more diseases from animal world

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Humans risk being overrun by diseases from the animal world, according to researchers who have documented 38 illnesses that have made that jump over the past 25 years.

That's not good news for the spread of bird flu, which experts fear could mutate and be transmitted easily among people.

There are 1,407 pathogens — viruses, bacteria, parasites, protozoa and fungi — that can infect humans, said Mark Woolhouse of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Of those, 58

percent come from animals. Scientists consider 177 of the pathogens to be "emerging" or "re-emerging." Most will never cause pandemics.

Experts fear bird flu could prove an exception. Recent advances in the worldwide march of the H5N1 strain have rekindled fears of a pandemic. The virus has spread across Asia into Europe and Africa.

Controlling bird flu will require renewed focus on the animal world, including the chickens, ducks and other poultry that have been sacrificed by

the tens of millions to stem the progress of the virus, experts said at a news conference late Sunday at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"The strategy has to be looking at how to contain it in the animal world, because once you get into the human side, you're dealing with vaccines and antiretrovirals, which is a whole new realm," said Nina Marano, a veterinarian and public health expert with the National Center for Infectious Diseases.

Bird flu has killed at least 91 people — most of them in Asia — since 2003, according to the World Health Organization. It appears to kill about half the people it infects. However, should it mutate so it can pass from human to human, it likely will grow far less deadly, said Dr. Stanley Lemon, of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

"It is very unlikely that it would maintain that kind of case mortality rate if it made the jump," Lemon said.

Gear detects 'signs of life' at school buried by landslide

GUINSAUGON, Philippines (AP) — High-tech gear detected "signs of life" Monday at the site of an elementary school buried under up to 100 feet of mud that swept down a hillside soaked by rain in the eastern Philippines, the provincial governor said.

Sounds of scratching and a rhythmic tapping were picked up by seismic sensors and sound-detection gear brought in by U.S. and Malaysian forces, said South Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias. Generator-powered lights were set up to allow teams of rescue workers to dig through the sludge during the night.

Lerias said rescuers picked up "a faint, rhythmic tapping" at 5 p.m.

Two hours later, "We received news that there was increased positive signs of life. To me, that's more than enough reason to smile

and be happy. The adrenaline is high as far as people are concerned," Lerias said.

The search for survivors in the farming village of Guinsaugon had focused on the school because of unconfirmed reports that some of the 250-300 children and teachers believed trapped inside may have sent cell phone text messages to relatives soon after Friday's disaster.

U.S. Marines digging at the site found bodies but no survivors by Monday night, Marine Capt. Burrell Parmer said at the site.

The death toll is expected to be as high as 1,000 after earth, boulders and trees thundered down a rain-drenched mountain. A few survivors were pulled out in the first hours after the disaster.

"There is a lot of rubble, a lot of large boulders," Parmer said. "On some sides near the river, it's very

moist, very soft soil, and you can get stuck up to your heels and your waistline if you're not careful."

Rescuers said the noises might have come from shifting and settling mud covering the school. But the discovery offered a glimmer of hope to rescuers who had all but abandoned expectations of finding anyone alive.

"We know there's something down there," said U.S. Marine Lt. Richard Neikirk, pointing to a spot under a big boulder, where seismic sensors detected sounds. "The farther down we went, the signals grew stronger."

A Malaysian team using sound-detection gear picked up noises, too.

"We have a sound," said Sahar Yunos of the Malaysia Disaster and Rescue Team. "Knocking, something like that."

British historian pleads guilty to charges of denying the Holocaust

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Right-wing British historian David Irving pleaded guilty today to charges of denying the Holocaust and conceded that he was wrong to say there were no Nazi gas chambers at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

Irving, handcuffed and wearing a navy blue suit, arrived in court carrying a copy of one of his most controversial books — "Hitler's War," which challenges the extent of the Holocaust.

"I made a mistake when I said there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz," Irving told the court.

But he insisted he never wrote a book about the Holocaust, which he called "just a fragment of my area of interest."

"In no way did I deny the killings of millions of people by the Nazis," testified Irving, who has written nearly 30 books.

Irving, 67, has been in custody since his November arrest on charges stemming from two speeches he gave in Austria in 1989 in which he was accused of denying the Nazis' extermination of 6 million Jews. He has contended that most of those who died at concentration camps such as Auschwitz succumbed to


diseases such as typhus rather than execution.

A verdict was expected later today, with a conviction almost certain because of Irving's guilty plea. He faces up to 10

years in prison under the 1992 law, which applies to "whoever denies, grossly plays down, approves or tries to excuse the National Socialist genocide or other National

Socialist crimes against humanity in a print publication, in broadcast or other media."

Irving's trial comes amid new debate over freedom of expression.



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Make your body pull its own weight

By RICHARD SEVEN
The Seattle Times

In the search for the right exercise gizmo, do not forget the most compact, convenient and portable one of all: your own body. It generally travels well and, if used correctly, can give you a challenging workout.

Remember the good old push-up? Some refer to it and a series of like maneuvers as body-weight exercises. Fitness expert Alwyn Cosgrove calls his program "Your Body Is a Barbell." You can make them as hard as you wish and you will work up a sweat. Form and balance are critical to get the most out of these exercises. So focus and pay attention to your breathing.

Seattle personal trainer Laura Martin recently demonstrated part of Cosgrove's program for me. A former gymnast, Martin owns a business called the Exercise Co., which specializes in in-home consultations. Here are just a few of the moves:

The Bulgarian split squat: Start with a bench or coffee table behind you. Lay the top of one foot on the structure and put the other foot about two or three feet in front of you. With most of your weight on the front leg, bend your front knee until the trailing knee is grazing the floor.

You can hold the position for several counts and put your hands behind your head to make it harder. You should not feel a strain on your knee. The tension goes to the quads and glutes.

Partial co-contraction lunge: This is a personal favorite of Martin's. Beginning in a lunge position, lower your back leg until the knee touches the ground. Place one hand on the teardrop-shaped muscle just inside your forward knee. Place your other hand on the glute of the same leg. Raise your back knee an inch off the floor and you will feel the knee muscle — called the vastus medialis — contract. This is the starting position.

Slowly extend both legs while you pay attention to the tension in both muscles you are monitoring. When you do, pause briefly, and return to the starting position. It is important, says Cosgrove, that you stay within the range in which the two muscles are firing. Martin says this exercise strengthens the inner muscles of the knee, which are chronically weaker than the outer ones. She recommends this exercise to skiers, especially.

Centipede with push-

ups: This is a good one for the upper body and core. Start in push-up position with arms, legs and body all straight. Pull the belly button toward the spine to engage the abdomen muscles. Begin to walk your feet toward your hands as far as your flexibility allows. Then walk your hands out to the starting position and do a push-up. Repeat this 10 times.

Don't let your hips sink in the middle of the movement. Breathe in as you walk your feet in; breathe out when you do the push-up. You can also do this without the push-up.

Side plank: This builds core muscles. Lie on one side with your elbow directly under your shoulder and the rest of your body in line with the shoulder. Legs can be straight or bent at the knees depending on your strength. Press up from the hips to lift your body into a straight position while the hand on the other arm rests on the upper hip or the head. Hold for anywhere between 10 seconds and a minute; repeat on the other side.

The exercise, says Martin (www.lauramartintraining.com), is effective in working the oblique muscles and the lower back. Keep your body and shoulders in line with each other. And again, don't hold your breath.

Many of these exercises can incorporate the use of stability balls or other balancing devices. Performing push-ups while your hands or your legs are on a stability ball activates core and other muscles critical to performing both sports and everyday activities. If you can't master the regular push-up on a ball, consider holding the ball off a wall and performing the push-up off it while standing.

The beauty of these simple weight-bearing exercises — other than the fact that they require no spendy gadgets — is that they can challenge the advanced or intermediate athlete but include the beginning, rehabbing or challenged athlete.

Duane Carlisle, assistant strength and conditioning coach for the San Francisco 49ers, incorporates body-weight exercises in "Home Fitness for Kids, Get Up and Move!"

The video features three 10-minute segments designed to build fitness through agility, flexibility and low-impact movements. The exercises in the video require no equipment. For more information on the video and Carlisle's philosophy, see www.lightning-fast.homeip.net.

Age creeping up on you?

Local physician has the answer for some people seeking cosmetic services at a reasonable price

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
Staff Writer

Ponce de Leon claimed to have found the fountain of youth and then selfishly kept it to himself. Since then, age reversal has been seemingly unattainable.

But we're making progress.

Halting the aging process was once only available to celebrities and the well-to-do at pricey spas or in the big cities. Now it can now be done at your local pediatrician's office.

Dr. Steve Ahmed is now offering cosmetic services to the general public at a fraction of the cost of going to a large city.

Botox injections, lip augmentation, chemical peels, laser hair removal, laser wrinkle or spider vein removal, and mesotherapy are just a few of the services offered at Body Focus Medical Spa in Dr. Ahmed's office located at 1501 West 11th Place, Suite 105.

While there are day spas popping up in small towns all over the country that offer the same services, physicians are now offering their expertise, which may be more cost effective.

Microdermabrasion is now fairly common and is usually done with crystals; however, Dr. Ahmed explains why going to a physician turns out better in the long run.

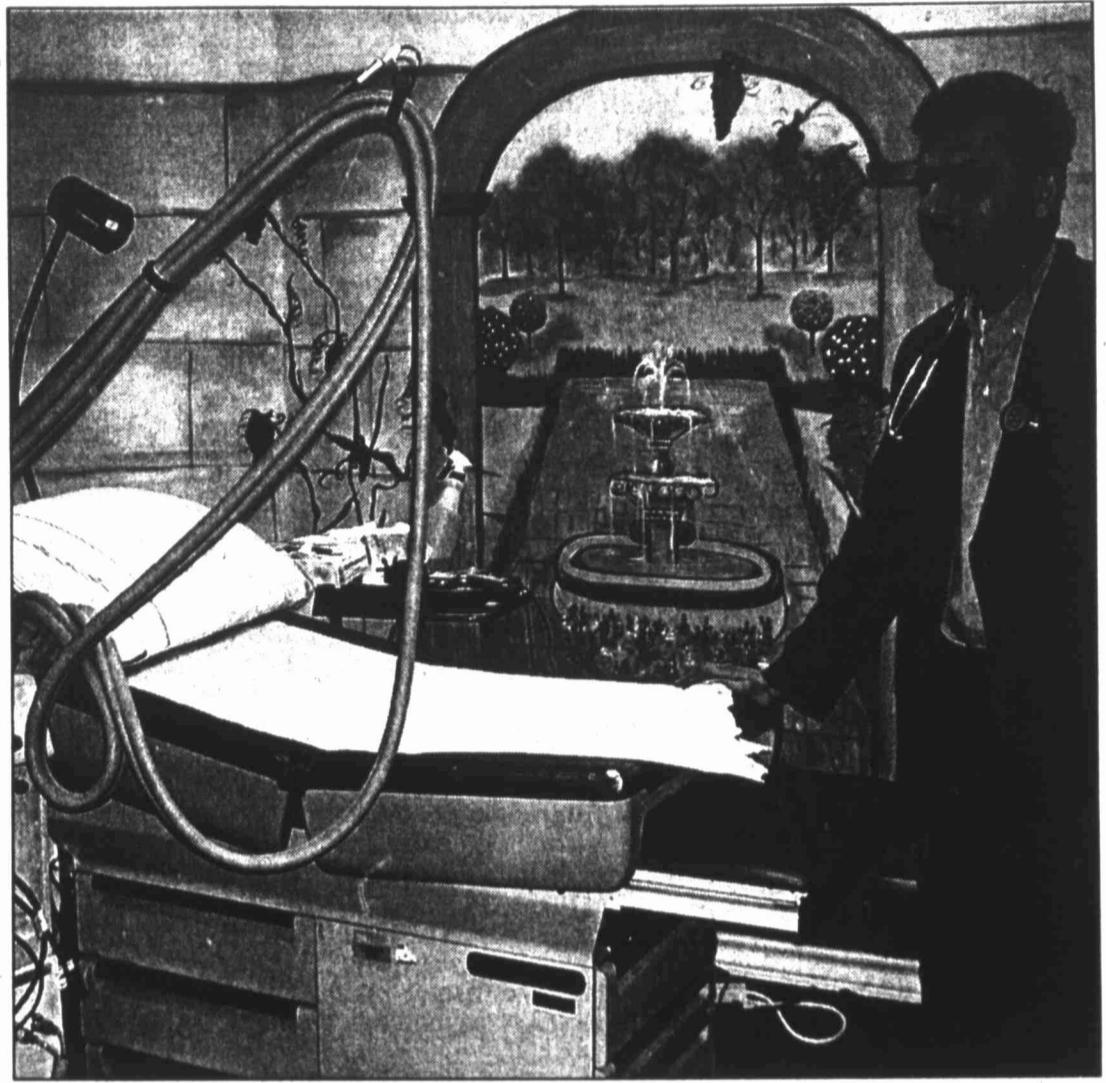
Removing the dermis, the dead skin layer, with chemical peels and providing oxygen therapy to the live skin underneath results in encouraging new skin to grow which eliminates fine lines and wrinkles, according to Ahmed.

"What is unique about us is that as a physician I can work down to the dermis," he said. "By state law, only physicians can work down to the deep layers. This is good for acne as well."

The recovery time for microdermabrasion is minimal and allows the client to return to work the same day. However, the Blue chemical peel or the "weekend peel," requires a day or two to heal because it exposes live skin.

For those who are tired of yo yo dieting, mesotherapy may be an option. Mesotherapy, which requires a series of injections, melts fat which is then reabsorbed by the body and is unlikely to return. However, for best results, healthy living instructions are provided in conjunction with the procedure.

"We have a weight reduction clinic where we teach a healthy lifestyle," said Ahmed. "We provide



Dr. Steve Ahmed, medical director of the Body Focus Medical Spa, is now offering cosmetic services to the public. The spa is located at his current location in the Malone Hogan clinic.

the medication and there is an exercise program."

And what would beautiful skin be without a full head of hair? The Body Focus Medical Spa has a solution for that too by offering a unique formula for hair regrowth.

But if you have hair you don't want, laser hair reduction will take care of those annoying little whiskers on the chin or upper lip and effectively eliminate unbecom-

ing razor stubble at the bikini line.

"It will take care of upper lip, side burns, bikini line or anywhere you want hair reduced," said Ahmed.

The search for the fountain of youth continues, but according to Dr. Ahmed, the use of cosmetic enhancements can greatly reduce the signs of aging.

"We can't reverse the aging process, but we can

stop it."

This and all the cosmetic services are performed each Saturday to ensure client privacy.

For more information, contact Dr. Steve Ahmed at 264-1900 or by e-mail at bodyfocus79720@yahoo.com

To contact Andreia Medlin call 263-7331 or e-mail at newsdesk@big-springherald.com

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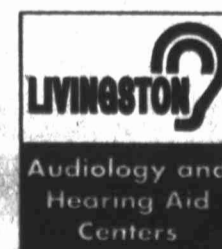
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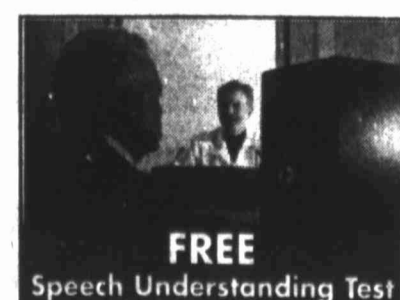
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IN BRIEF

Lady Steer Booster meeting announced

The Lady Steer Booster Club will meet tonight in the Athletic Training Center (ATC) at 6 p.m. All parents of girls involved in volleyball, basketball, softball, track, cheerleading and trainers are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Carol Policky at 466-3800.

Big Spring Softball Association sets date for signups

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding signups to register for the upcoming season and they will be held each Saturday from Feb. 18 through March 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall.

The league is for girls and women ages four and up. The registration fee is \$30 and there is a \$5 discount for a second child.

For more information, contact Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

Little League ump's needed, signup days announced

Little League signups for the upcoming season will take place Feb. 18-25 at the Big Spring Mall.

The signups will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Anyone interested in umpiring little league baseball games or for more information on the little league signups, contact Chuck Rosenbaum at 432-816-9984 or 432-263-1792 or Randy Phillips at 432-264-6600 (day) or 432-263-5314 (night).

Crossroads football league to hold board meeting

The Crossroads Youth Football Association will hold a board meeting Tuesday concerning the upcoming season.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and for more information or to be a coach or a board member, contact Daphne Castillaw at 432-714-4688.

Due to a conflict, the day of the meeting had to be changed to Tuesday.

Lady Bears get home win over Tech

WACO (AP) — Sophia Young scored 22 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead No. 12 Baylor to a 73-60 win over Texas Tech Sunday.

Rachel Allison added 16 points and Jessica Morrow 15, both career highs, for the Lady Bears (19-5, 9-4 Big 12). The Lady Raiders (12-12, 7-6) tied the game at 52 on a layup by LaToya Davis with just more than 11 minutes remaining. But Baylor put together a 12-4 run and took a 64-58 lead.

Cowboys play for Sutton, rout UT by 21 points

By MURRAY EVANS

Associated Press Writer STILLWATER, Okla. — James On Curry scored 22 points as Oklahoma State rebounded in impressive fashion following the chaos surrounding coach Eddie Sutton, routing No. 6 Texas 81-60 on Sunday afternoon.

Fans stormed the court after the win, Oklahoma State's second this season against a ranked oppo-

nent. The Cowboys (14-12, 4-8 Big 12) had lost seven of their previous eight games, but gave Sutton his 795th career win in a most unlikely fashion — dominating a team in the running for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

As the clock wound down, Oklahoma State interim coach Sean Sutton — Eddie Sutton's son — worked his way down the bench, hugging

his players. It was the third game that Sean Sutton guided the team. Oklahoma State officials have said that even though Eddie Sutton is on a medical leave of absence, any Cowboys victories will go on his record.

Eddie Sutton was injured in an accident Feb. 10 and subsequently charged with drunk driving. He took the medical

leave three days after the accident and admitted Wednesday that he had an alcohol problem.

Sutton, who underwent treatment for alcoholism in 1987 when he was the coach at Kentucky, has said he'll seek further treatment for his drinking problem starting later this week.

There were many signs of support for Sutton. One prominent banner read,

"Eddie, we love you ... We're behind you All The Way Coach!!!" Numerous fans wore orange shirts with Sutton's face on them.

Oklahoma State kept the game at a slower pace in the first half and limited Texas to 29.2 percent shooting, a combination that resulted in a 31-20 halftime lead for the

See UPSET, Page 2B



KRT photo/Gary W. Green, Orlando Sentinel
Carl Edwards comes in for a pit stop during the Daytona 500 at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Sunday.

Johnson wins first Daytona 500 despite no crew chief

By JENNA FRYER

AP Motorsports Writer DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Maybe Jimmie Johnson didn't need to cheat to win his first Daytona 500.

Johnson won a two-lap shootout Sunday to claim the victory, capping a roller-coaster week that saw NASCAR kick his crew chief out of competition for cheating.

Johnson had a strong car when he arrived at Daytona International Speedway 10 days ago, and posted the fifth-fastest time in time trials. But when NASCAR gave his Chevrolet a careful once-over, inspectors discovered that Chad Knaus had made an illegal modification.

Knaus was sent home, seemingly spoiling Johnson's shot to win The Great American Race.

Not on this Sunday. "I knew deep down inside my heart that this team could still win this race," Johnson said in Victory Lane. "There's no doubt that not having

Chad here was a huge handicap, but everybody stepped up. I am just so proud of this team."

Johnson stayed calm and avoided trouble in a wild race that saw Tony Stewart eliminate three contenders: Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth and himself. Then Johnson worked his way to the front, staying in line and waiting for his chance to pounce.

It came with 14 laps to go when he squeezed past teammate Brian Vickers to grab the lead just as a caution came out. Johnson was at the front of the field on the restart, the lead driver in a single-file pack of cars sprinting toward the end.

From his rearview window he could see Dale Earnhardt Jr. slicing his way through the field, making a last, desperate push to mark the five-year anniversary of his Dad's death with a win at the track where he died.

But Jamie McMurray wrecked with seven laps to go to bring out one final caution. It set up an overtime finish, but

no one was able to challenge him. Earnhardt was the first driver to pull out of line and make a run at Johnson, but got no drafting help and had zero chance of catching him.

Then Ryan Newman took his shot, pulling out from behind Johnson. But just like Junior, he didn't get any assistance and could only squeeze back into place.

There were no more challenges to Johnson, who won in his fifth Daytona try when a final accident brought out the caution and allowed him to cross the finish line under a yellow flag.

"It's been a tough week for us," Johnson understated. "I wish Chad Knaus was here — I'm sure he's kicking his TV in right now."

Casey Mears, who was part of the three-man team that won the 24 Hours of Daytona sports car race earlier this month, was second and Newman, who was trying to give Roger Penske his first Daytona win in

See DAYTONA, Page 2B

Abner seeks spot in pitching rotation as Jackets' hopes high

Special to the Herald

LONGVIEW — Nine returnees from a school-record 13-win team last season has LeTourneau University excited about its upcoming softball season.

LadyJacket third year head coach Jay Terry continues to push the team to new heights. In his first two years, the Jackets set 25 new team records and 17 individual season records. While Terry has nine players back from last season, his team is still lacking the senior leadership that a program strives to achieve.

"I am optimistic about the upcoming season and the players we have coming back, but we are still looking for that one leader that will help us get to the top," said Terry.

Despite the lack of seniors, this could be the most talented bunch in the program's history.

In addition to the strong nucleus returning from last season, Terry has added a number of quality newcomers to the group.

Freshman pitcher Chelsea Abner (Big Spring/Big Spring) and junior college outfielder Denise Lewis (Weimar/Columbus HS) could each have a big impact upon the team. Terry expects Abner to challenge as the top pitcher on the team, while Lewis is a strong hitter who will roam the outfield.

Three LadyJackets earned honorable mention American Southwest Conference East Division honors last season. All three — Samantha B r u m m e l l (Pittsburg/Pittsburg HS), Jenny Brooks (Murchison/John Tyler HS) and Candy Evans (Karnack/Elysian Fields HS) — are sophomores this season and should improve upon last year's contributions.

Brummell, a shortstop, had one of the best offensive seasons in school history as a freshman with a school-record 30 runs scored, three triples and 16 stolen bases.

Brummell led the team with a .292 batting average, seven doubles, three home runs and 15 runs batted in.

Brooks is a two-way star for the LadyJackets. First, she is the team's top third baseman and a great defensive player and secondly, she is the team's top starting pitcher.

She drove in 24 runs last season while setting the school record for earned run average in a season (2.48).

Evans returns as the team's first baseman where she set a school record for putouts in a season last year. Evans was a solid clutch hitter last year with 13 RBIs and should become even more productive this year.

The LadyJackets opened their season Feb. 17 at home against NCAA Division II foe Henderson State University. The Jackets have a relatively difficult opening to the season playing against three scholarship schools before the conference schedule starts.

The team will once again host the LeTourneau University Tournament on the weekend of March 10-11 at Lear Park. LETU will compete against College of the Southwest, Northwood University, Central Baptist College and Hillsdale Freewill Baptist College in the tourney.

Despite 13 wins last season, the LadyJackets were picked to finish in seventh place in the East Division by the coaches in the preseason poll.



ABNER

No Clemens, no problem, says Pettitte

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — As far as Andy Pettitte is concerned, he and Roy Oswalt would feel extra pressure trying to bear the burden of Clemens' possible retirement. Clemens plans to pitch for the U.S. in the World Baseball Classic next month but hasn't said whether he will return for a 23rd major league season. He can't play for the Astros until May 1.

Pettitte was 17-9 with a 2.39 ERA last year, while Oswalt went 20-12 with a 2.94 ERA. Oswalt became the first pitcher to post consecutive 20-win seasons since Curt Schilling and Randy Johnson in 2001-02.

Pettitte dismissed suggestions that he and Oswalt would feel extra pressure trying to bear the burden of Clemens' possible retirement. Clemens plans to pitch for the U.S. in the World Baseball Classic next month but hasn't said whether he will return for a 23rd major league season. He can't play for the Astros until May 1.

Pettitte was 17-9 with a 2.39 ERA last year, while Oswalt went 20-12 with a 2.94 ERA. Oswalt became the first pitcher to post consecutive 20-win seasons since Curt Schilling and Randy Johnson in 2001-02.

Brandon Backe is ready to step in as the No. 3 starter despite only 34 major league starts, Pettitte said.

Garner has youngsters Wandy Rodriguez and Ezquiel Astacio filling out the staff but will adjust if others emerge.

After struggling with injuries in five of his past seven seasons, Pettitte is pacing himself after the long 2005 season. He said he didn't start throwing until around the first of the year. While most Astros pitchers threw for 15 minutes Saturday, Pettitte limited himself to long toss. He's in no rush to return to the mound.

Area High School Playoff Basketball

Girls	
Regional Quarterfinals	Cochran (21-12) vs. Jim Ned (27-6), Tuesday, 8 p.m., at Merkel
Others	
Plainview (21-10) vs. El Paso Parkland (28-4), TBA	Amarillo Pale Rider (21-10) vs. Lubbock Estacado (20-12), TBA
Stanford (22-6) vs. West (24-5), TBA	
Boys	
Regional Quarterfinals	Stanford (12-17) vs. Jim Ned (21-10), Tuesday, 6 p.m., Abilene
Garden City (20-4) vs. Aspermont (15-13), Monday, 6 p.m., Trent	Fort Worth (27-7) vs. Mada (12-9), Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Stockton
Others	
Plainview (21-10) vs. Lubbock (21-10), Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Plainview	Fort Worth (27-7) vs. Mada (12-9), Monday, 7:30 p.m., Alpine
Stanford (22-6) vs. West (24-5), Tuesday, 8 p.m., Lubbock	

Davis makes history in Turin

By PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer
TURIN, Italy — Say what you want about Shani Davis. Call him a trailblazer. Accuse him of selfishness. Snicker at him for being a momma's boy.

Just don't forget this: He's also an Olympic champion.

Davis became the first black to claim an individual gold medal in Winter Olympic history Saturday, winning the 1,000-meter speedskating race and justifying his decision to focus on himself first, his team second. Joey Cheek made it a 1-2 American finish, adding a silver to his victory in the 500.

"I'm one of a kind," Davis said, fully aware of how much he stands out in the mostly white sport. "I'm a different type of person. I have a different charisma. A lot of people don't understand me."

That much was clear from the racially charged messages to his personal Web site — "people saying they hoped I would fall, break my leg, using the n-word," he said. Even the great Eric Heiden had some choice words for America's newest gold medalist, regarding his decision to skip the team pursuit.

"He is going his own way," said Heiden, who won five gold medals at the 1980 Lake Placid Games. "He's very different to a lot of speedskaters, and we have to

respect that, but he is not a team player."

Maybe not, but the 23-year-old from Chicago's South Side is building a heck of a rivalry with Texan Chad Hedrick.

Hedrick won the first speedskating gold with a dominating performance in the 5,000. Davis got him back in the 1,000, the weakest of Hedrick's individual events. They'll face off again Tuesday in the 1,500 — an event Davis ruled until Hedrick snatched away the world record.

"I'm not trying to beat Chad," Davis insisted. "I'm trying to beat everyone."

Hedrick, who had only skated the 1,000 a half-dozen times in his career, put up an early time that stood until Davis bested it in the 19th of 21 pairs with a clocking of 1 minute, 8.89 seconds. Four other skaters passed Hedrick as well, leaving him in sixth place.

Erben Wennemars of the Netherlands claimed the bronze, which was fine with Hedrick.

"Once Shani beat me, I didn't care if I got a bronze," he said. "I'm here to win. It's all or nothing."

The testy relationship between the two U.S. stars was apparent after the race. Hedrick didn't even bother congratulating Davis.

Davis came under fire for skipping the team pursuit — especially when a Hedrick-led squad was

knocked out by Italy in the quarterfinals, doomed by a slow skater who might not have been on the ice if Davis was available. The loss denied Hedrick a chance to go after Heiden's record of records, those five golds at Lake Placid.

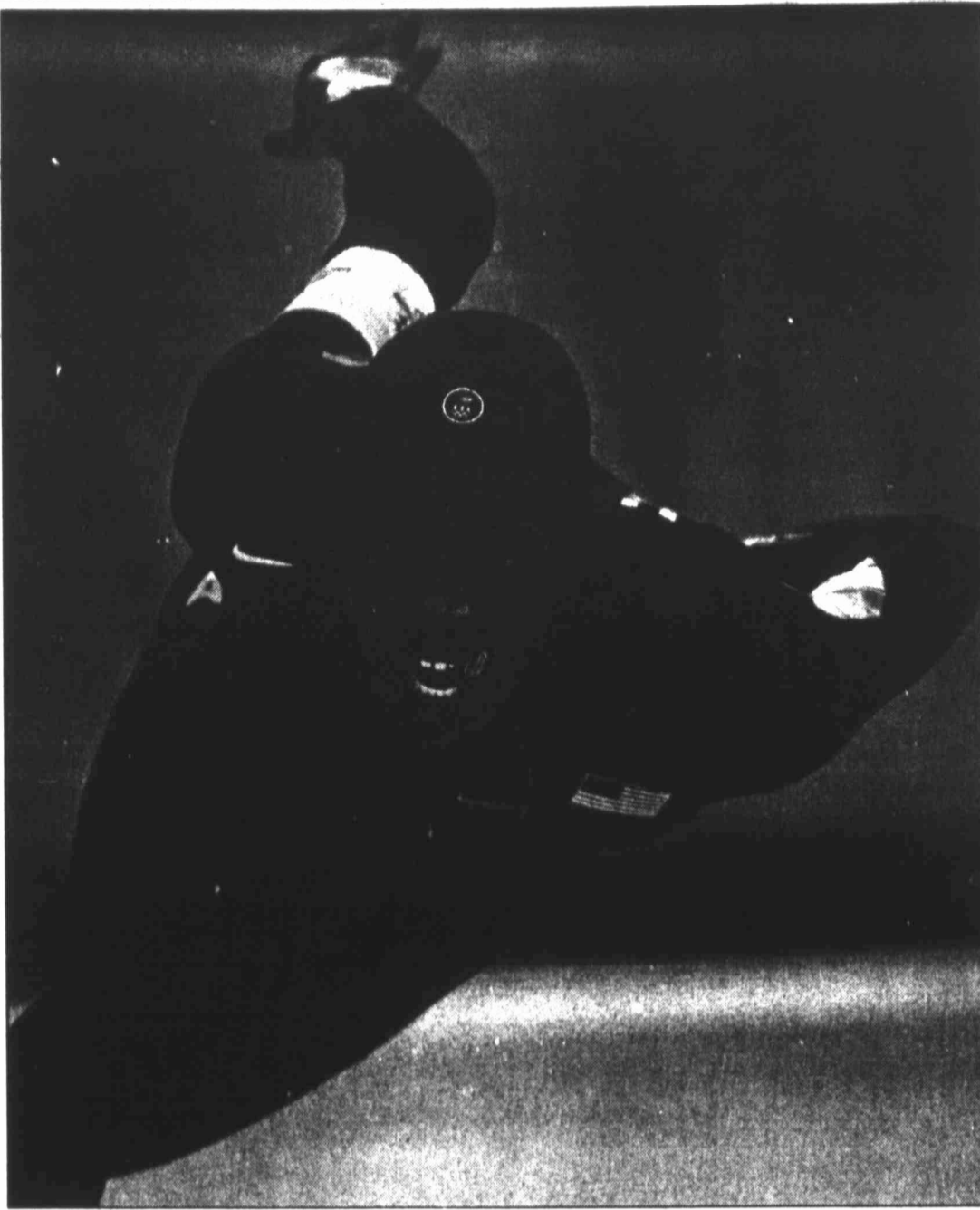
But Davis' world record holder in the 1,000, wanted to focus on his signature event. And his victory — a third straight individual triumph for the U.S. men at the Olympic oval — means that Hedrick's quest would have come up short, even with a gold in the team pursuit.

After Davis became the first guy to break 1:09 on the slow Turin ice, there were still two more pairs to go — four skaters capable of knocking him out.

Cheek went in the next group and came the closest, fading a bit at the end for a time of 1:09.16. Five days earlier, he dominated the shortest race on the schedule and donated his \$25,000 bonus to a charity run by speedskating icon Johann Olav Koss.

This time, he'll hand over a \$15,000 check to Koss. Dutch stars Wennemars and Jan Bos went in the final pair, but neither caught the Americans. Wennemars grabbed the bronze in 1:09.32.

Davis showed no immediate emotion after the last two skaters failed to beat his time. He was cooling down in the



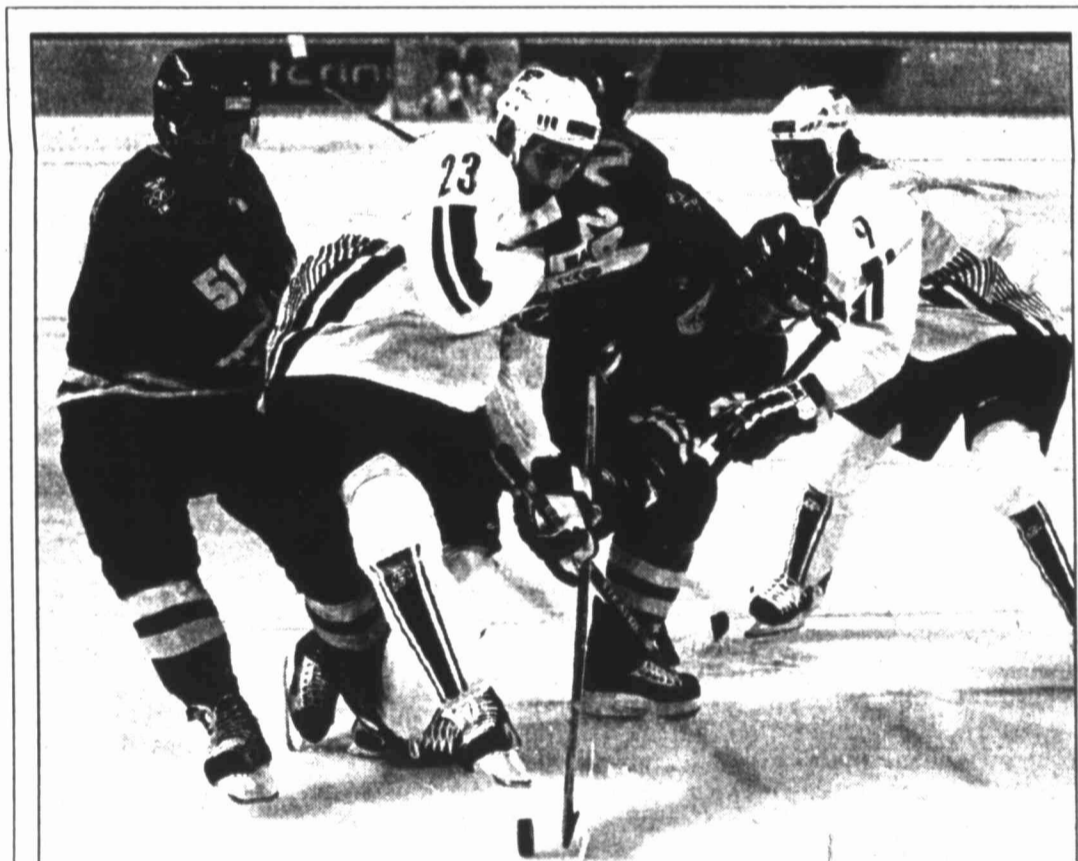
Shani Davis of USA competes and wins the gold medal in the 2006 Winter Olympics Men's 1000 M Speed Skating event Saturday at Oval Lingotto in Turin, Italy. USA teammate Joey Cheek won the silver medal and Erben Wennemars of Netherlands won the bronze.

warmup lane, skating slowly with his arms behind his back.

Finally, he smiled and waved to the crowd, picking up a stuffed bear that a fan tossed on the ice. As he came to the other end

of the rink, Davis found Wennemars waiting. The friendly rivals gave each other a big hug in front of the orange-clad, predominantly Dutch crowd, prompting the biggest cheer of the night.

"I like him as a person, I like him as a speedskater," Wennemars said. "What the United States thinks about him doesn't matter because Shani is the Olympic champion, so he is right."



Team USA's Mathieu Schneider (23) and Mike Modano (9) scramble for a loose puck with Sweden's Samuel Pahlsson (26) and Mika Hannula (51) during the third period of a preliminary round in the 2006 Winter Olympics at Torino Esposizioni in Turin, Italy Sunday. Sweden won 2-1.

DAYTONA

Continued from Page 1B

33 tries, finished third.

But after, Newman questioned whether Johnson would get through post-race inspection.

"This could be the first time for NASCAR to take away a win," Newman said. "We still have to see if he gets through inspection."

The cheater stigma is one Johnson will have to live with — even after the biggest win of his career.

Johnson stayed under the radar — and away from Stewart — to pull out the victory.

Earlier this week, Stewart forced NASCAR to crack down on bump drafting and aggressive driving when he warned that someone could be killed in the 500.

Then he became the

first Cup driver to be penalized under the new watchdog policy.

He began his day by hitting Gordon — a heavy favorite to win a second straight 500 — early in the race to eliminate him from contention.

Then Stewart took out a second potential winner when he made a hard left turn into Matt Kenseth.

It wasn't clear if Stewart's contact was intentional, but it severely damaged Kenseth's car and NASCAR quickly penalized Stewart by ordering him to the back of the field. The punishment dropped him from fifth to 34th.

Clearly angry, he pushed his in-car camera away so television viewers couldn't see him raging.

Just seconds later, Kenseth exacted his revenge as the two cars raced each other off pit

road. Kenseth passed Stewart, ran him low to the apron and appeared to hit him. NASCAR then called Kenseth into pit road for his own penalty, but the driver was irate and slow to comply.

"You've got to come in, Matt, they are going to pull our scorecard!" crew chief Robbie Reiser radioed.

"Not until they tell me what I did. I put my hand up, asked him, 'Why did you do that?' That's all I did," Kenseth replied.

"You were screwing around with (Stewart), you have to come in," Reiser said.

It didn't really matter at that point. Kenseth, who had led four times for 28 laps and a car capable of racing for the victory, was two laps down and had too much damage to his Ford to rally for the win.

UPSET

Continued from Page 1B

Cowboys.

Texas (22-4, 10-2) struggled against the physical defense and couldn't overcome early foul trouble to guard Daniel Gibson.

The Longhorns led only twice, the last time at 9-8, and never came closer than 10 points in the final 11:48.

The closest Texas came in the second half was at 40-33 with 12:53 left. David Monds scored seven points and Curry hit two 3-pointers in a subsequent 15-4 run by the Cowboys that ended with Oklahoma State up 57-39 with 7:19 left.

Mario Boggan and Monds each scored 17 points for Oklahoma State, which earlier this season upset then-No. 23 Tennessee.

Kenton Paulino and P.J. Tucker each scored 12 points to lead the Longhorns. Center LaMarcus Aldridge had 10 rebounds but only nine points, seven under his season average. Oklahoma State's stifling inside defense caused Aldridge to short-arm several shots.

All four of Texas' losses this season have been by double digits — 31 points to Duke, 17 points to Tennessee, 10 points to Oklahoma and 21 points to Oklahoma State.

Dickey uses knuckleball to get into Texas' rotation

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — R.A. Dickey throws one of the slowest pitches in the Major Leagues and that's precisely what makes him one of the most intriguing options for the fifth spot in the Texas Rangers' starting rotation.

Newcomers Kevin Millwood, Adam Eaton and Vicente Padilla were brought in during the off-season to fill the top three spots. The fourth spot is second-year man Kameron Loe's to lose, according to pitching coach Mark Connor.

Dickey, who started flirting with a "classic" knuckleball midway through last season, is one of several choices being considered for the final slot.

"He's always thrown a pitch called 'The Thing' that is about 80-82 mph," said catcher Keith McDonald, who caught Dickey last season at Triple-A Oklahoma City. "Now he's moving toward a more classic knuckleball. The ones that float at around 60-62 mph. It can be devastating with all his other pitches."

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FULL TIME RN Case Manager needed in Big Spring and surrounding areas with a fast growing home health agency. Apply @: Interim HealthCare, 4610 N. Garfield, Ste. B-20 or fax to: (432)618-0307.

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263-7331

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Interior trim and finish out carpenter and general laborers needed immediately for construction project in Big Spring. Call Sandy at (432)264-9894 or (325)565-5273 (cell). Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Help Wanted

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DRIVERS NEEDED
Big Spring bases

Drivers wanted. Must have 2 years experience over the road. Must have class A with Hazmat and Tank Endorsements. To apply call Jack Murphy at Andrews Transport Inc. 800-364-2018 Lubbock, Texas. Call between 9am and 5pm Monday thru Friday.

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN wanted. Applicant must have experience in electronic circuitry, testing and troubleshooting. Salary commensurate with experience. Competitive benefit package, profit sharing, 401K. Apply in person with a resume at Parker Hannifan, 2109 Front Street, Big Spring, Texas (across from Manager 25 Museum).

EXPERIENCED TRUCK mechanic needed to work on Cummins & Caterpillar engines. Salary DOE, health insurance, 401K plan. Apply at Price Construction, 2701 N. Hwy. 350, Big Spring, TX 79720 or fax resume to 4320263-6012. EOE

FULL TIME RN

We are looking for caring and dependable RNs to cover the Big Spring Area. We Offer competitive salaries and benefits. Contact Beckie (817)360-4354 or send resume via email to: hinzeb@fms-regional.com.

You can also come by our office at 810 N. Dixie Ste 202A, Odessa, Tx to fill out an application, or call (432)335-5699.

It is an Honor to serve our patients.

HIRING FOR 2006! AVERAGE POSTAL EMPLOYEE EARNS \$57,000/YR. Minimum starting pay \$18.00/hr. benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience needed. 1-800-584-1775 ref#9020.

JOHN WESLEY'S Pick Pocket Billiards looking for help. M-F, 6:00pm-1:00am. Apply in person at 102 E. 3rd Street. Must be 21 yrs. old. No Phone Calls.

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home 1809 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Tx 79720 (432)268-8387 (432)268-1987 fax

is currently seeking the following positions:

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LOOKING FOR (3) Part-time Personal Banker/Teller. Experienced preferred but not required. Apply at www.woodforest.com

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for General Maintenance Worker/Golf Course. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 310 Nolan (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

Help Wanted

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

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.

Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas.

NORTHCREST APARTMENTS is taking applications for a maintenance person. Make ready experience required. Must pass drug test and background check. 1002 N. Main, 9:00a.m.-1:00 p.m.

OILFIELD SERVICE PERSON
Big Spring, TX Area

An expanding oilfield service company seeks a service person to install and service specialized instrumentation on drilling rigs in the local area.

Experience with drilling rigs and instrumentation is desirable but not essential. What is essential is an exceptional ability to work hard without direct supervision, work irregular and sometimes long hours, and a desire to have complete responsibility for one's work. Applicants must be a self-starter and highly self motivated. Many people say they are strong in these personal traits, but in fact very few are. Do not apply unless you are confident that you have the character we are seeking.

The company will provide a competitive salary, an extensive benefit package, field truck, tools and all necessary training to perform the required work. Interested parties are asked to send a resume and 3 professional references by E-mail or Fax to:

Pason Systems USA Corp.
Attention: Hiring Manager
Fax: 720-880-0016
E-mail: usresumes@pason.com

When submitting resumes, please reference the newspaper in which you saw the ad.
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation We are now increasing our Certified Nurse Aid staff. Qualified person will be a friendly and compassionate team player. If this sounds like you, please apply in person at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full and part time cashiers, Assistant Managers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Needs students to work all types of jobs. Housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen and maintenance. Salary, room, board & bonus. For information and application write Personal Director, 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury, Tx. 76049.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for the following positions: Backhoe operators, Bucket truck operators, CDL Class A or B Dump truck drivers, General Laborers, GOOD DRIVERS LICENSE REQUIRED or come by 1807 N. FM 700.

Help Wanted

THE SAN Angelo Standard Times is seeking a mature individual for home delivery of newspapers in Big Spring. Make approximate \$650.00 per month. Running your own business. Must like working early morning hours. Call today 1-(800)588-1884 ext. 8294.

TRANSIT MIX Concrete has an opening for an Aggregate Truck Driver at our Big Spring location. Must have a Class A CDL license, good driving record and verifiable work history. Full benefit package and 35 hour guarantee offered. Apply at Transit Mix Concrete: 605 North Benton, Big Spring, TX (432)267-6348. Transit Mix Concrete is an EOE/AA employer.

WAITRESSES NEEDED
Split Shift
Must be 18
Monday-Saturday
Apply in person,
Red Mesa Grill
2401 Gregg

WANTED; RETIREES with own RV for summer employment at Fun Valley Family Resort, South Fork, Colorado for office, housekeeping, cooks, maintenance and RV parks. Write Personnel Director, 6315 Westover Dr., Granbury, TX 76049.

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

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HUGE SAVINGS on Furniture, Electronics and Appliances. Come by 501 E. Birdwell Lane #14 or call (432)263-0076.

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FOR SALE By Owner. Nice 3 Bedroom, 2 bath Mobile home on 1 acre. Coahoma ISD, 6505 E. Midway Rd. Call (432)263-4913.

National Ads

"HIRING FOR 2006" AVERAGE POSTAL EMPLOYEE EARNS \$57,000/YR Minimum Starting Pay \$18.00/hr. Benefits/Paid Training and Vacations No Experience Needed 1-800-584-1775 Ref #9801.

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1504 RUNNELS, 2 Bedroom 2 bath. Fireplace, fenced, carport, laundry room. No pets. \$450. Month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)816-9103.

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407-1/2 East 8th- 1/1 bath. Stove & refrigerator. \$275. month, \$175. deposit. CH/A. No HUD and no pets. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

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1 Bedroom - \$400. month
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An ADear problem parents' infatuation sister's middle-ag and my have focu money a my sister My par my sister paid for gas, apart my cI acknowle nieces a adults no lies abo children, believe th Should how we doubt th because world rev sister. I a complete! Any s Turning I Dear T must tell mind th probably situation especially said not years. resentme that you lose by I you feel and less sister. Try to in check this in discussio furious r on the de your acknowle favoritist
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2239 NORTH Hwy 137. Brick 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 acres. Big privacy fence with pine trees. Stanton School District. \$94,000. Call (432)557-5408.

COUNTY HOME 3 Bedroom, 2 bath in Forsan School-District. Horse barns w/huge pipe fence, riding corral, 1 acre. \$65,000. Firm. No Owner Finance. (432)466-1850.

FOR SALE, Lease or Rent: Nice 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home. Recently remodeled. Stove, refrigerator and dishwasher furnished. Call (432)263-1701, (432)466-3999.

NEAR ELBOW School, 2 bedroom 2 bath with 3 car garage on 10 secluded acres. Shade trees, good water well plus 2 irrigation wells. A barn and two storage buildings. \$89,000 firm. Call (432)213-1800 after 5pm.

REDUCED! Owner Finance. 19605 North Hwy. 87 in Ackery, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$24,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll Free 866-894-4591, 325-650-5900.

Vehicles

Several New 2005
Fords, Lincolns,
Nissans Available
At Huge Savings

Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 11th 267-7121

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District shall receive sealed bids until 5:00 p.m. March 14, 2006 for a new pickup. Bids received after the deadline will be returned unopened.

Specifications and bid forms are available at the District's business office, 101 N. St. Joseph Street, Stanton, Texas 79782, phone number 432-756-2136. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Directors on March 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The PBUWCD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. #4882 February 20, 2006

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Today, the moon is like an actress taking on many roles in the same movie — as if wearing a wig and changing her accent could fool us. Transiting mysterious Scorpio, she stirs up a scandal by lunchtime. She's void, of course, this afternoon (promoting a bit of lazy misdirection at work), and she winds up in daring Sagittarius tonight.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your head is held high. Thought and preparation make you look like you know what you're doing even when you've never been in the situation before. That's why people in stores ask you questions as if you worked there.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Creative juices kick in. Enjoy the power surge, and allow ideas to flow. The afternoon shows the sparks of romantic interest. Stay grounded enough to recognize when your internal voice gives you advice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you get some momentum on a project, ride it out. It would be easy to over-think the situation or neurotically plan for events that will probably never happen, but you know better!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Act as you would if you had nothing to lose. Tell a friend your true feelings. You will be met with warmth you didn't know existed between the two of you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your humor and generous nature keeps you in most people's good graces. It's a seductive thing to be well liked. Before you know it, you could be obsessed with being everyone's favorite. Dare to make an unpopular choice tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Just when you think you know what to expect, the situation gets out of hand. A wild goose chase is featured this afternoon. In the end, this could be more fun than any ordeal you've ever had!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The hardest thing is to keep to an agenda that serves your core being instead of pleasing everyone around you. You're super-strong now, and this is exactly what you manage to do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No matter how slowly the day starts, you get busy fast. Take the time for mental preparation, even when you are harried. Twenty minutes of meditation makes you a star.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Wishful thinking, when spoken out loud, becomes the beginning of a journey. Include partners of all kinds, but beware of a certain friend who claims to be helping out but feels

like a drag — literally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A group project becomes a big convoluted mess. This is an excellent opportunity to learn to be more tolerant and to work with and accept the limits that all humans have.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Now is a very good time to get to know you better. It's been a while since your most recent self-diagnostic, and interesting changes appear during your mental inventory.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The stars show you being more disciplined, and it couldn't happen at a better time. This is no day for leniency. A Taurus and a Libra know how you can get to your goal more quickly and will help you develop a plan.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm interested in learning more about horoscopes. I was quite a skeptic until recently, when the best manager I ever had let me know his secret: He only worked with people who had compatible signs. It has been suggested I have a birth chart done. I was born at 9:33 p.m. on March 23 in Seattle, Wash. I've been going through a very difficult year."

With no year, I can't do your natal chart, but I can tell you that Aries people such as you need constant change as their luck usually comes when they start things. They are the sign of Beginner's

Luck. So, doing the same job, for instance, for years without growing the position into something more or different brings stagnation. There is a law of diminishing returns that comes into play. When you are faced with decisions about whether you should make a change, the answer is usually YES! As far as your manager and his compatible signs goes, this method works for him (perhaps the process helps him dial up his intuition), but I don't recommend it for everyone as I don't believe astrology should be used to exclude anyone based on their sign. Rather, learning about the signs gives you insight into how to deal with different personalities.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Pre-teen actress Dakota Fanning is a strong presence on any movie screen, whether it be in a big-budget thriller like "War of the Worlds" or a lighthearted comedy like "Uptown Girls." Pisceans like Fanning rely heavily on intuition, which is what makes her such a natural actress. 2006 will bring more acting accolades for this incredible young talent.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.
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Dear Prudence

Dear Prudie: I have a fiancé who has an anxiety problem for which he takes medication. He wants to bring his guitar with him on our honeymoon because he said since he can't bring his piano (he's a classically trained pianist), he needs some instrument to play. He said that he needs the guitar or else he will feel anxious, because he would not have any instrument to practice.

It irks me to no end that if he doesn't have an instrument and he's sharing company with me, that's what he's focusing on even though we're watching TV or at dinner, etc. When we have gone away for a weekend and he has not brought his guitar, he drinks instead. He does not get drunk, but he does drink enough over time that the alcohol keeps him from "performing."

Is it selfish to want to have my honeymoon with just my husband and not have him leaving to go to another room to practice for a couple hours? I want undivided attention! Yet, I don't want to have him drinking and not able to perform, nor yearning to play an instrument while he is with me. Shouldn't I be enough, at least for our honeymoon? — Feeling Not Important Enough

Dear Enough: You sound like more than enough for any occasion. What do you want your fiancé to do — spend the honeymoon looking deep into your eyes, contemplating the loathing he finds there?

From your description, you are about to marry a man you can't stand, who is coping the best he can with an anxiety disorder for which you have no sympathy. You can't even bring yourself to say you enjoy his music. Break off the engagement, and let him find a music lover with more heart. — Prudie

Dear Prudence: I am a stepmom to a young daughter. My husband and I are happily married, have one small child together, and my stepdaughter and I have a wonderful relationship. My husband's ex lives in a different state, so we get to visit with my stepdaughter only on extended school breaks, but we try to stay as involved as possible given the distance.

My husband's ex is obviously bitter and angry. She completely ignores me (often not responding to my e-mails) and "always" seems to be trying to start a fight with my husband over little things (money, travel plans, etc.). We always pay child support on time and go out of our way to make scheduling visits convenient for her. It seems like it is never enough.

I think my husband does a good job of not being sucked into her drama. I try to be supportive of him, especially with some of the difficulties he goes through to maintain a relationship with his daughter. But it gets tough at times.

Would you say anything if you were in my shoes? Is there even anything that could be said? The first thing that comes to mind is "What's your problem?" or "Can't we all just get along?" or "Grow up!" I have always been afraid that saying anything would make it worse or not be setting a good example for the child. However, it sure is tough sometimes! — Tongue Tied

Dear Tied: What you are doing is a model for people dealing with a difficult ex. You are kind and attentive to your stepdaughter, you don't respond to provocation from her mother, and you keep things civil. Don't change that for the sake of getting off a lame line that will only make you feel worse and be kindling to the ex. — Prudie

Dear Prudence is written by Emily Yoffe.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

ADear Annie: My problem concerns my parents' complete infatuation with my sister's family. I'm a middle-aged father of four, and my parents always have focused all their time, money and attention on my sister and her family.

My parents have given my sister's kids new cars, paid for their insurance, gas, apartments, etc., while my children aren't acknowledged at all. My nieces and nephew, all adults now, tell stories and lies about me and my children, and my parents believe them.

Should I tell my parents how we feel? I seriously doubt they will change because they believe the world revolves around my sister. I am at the point of completely severing ties. Any suggestions? — Turning Numb in Illinois

Dear Turning Numb: You must tell them, but keep in mind that your parents probably don't see the situation the way you do, especially since you've said nothing for so many years. However, your resentment is so intense that you have nothing to lose by letting them know you feel hurt, neglected and less loved than your sister.

Try to keep your anger in check so you can turn this into a useful discussion instead of a furious rant that puts them on the defensive. We hope your parents will acknowledge their favoritism and do better.

Good luck.
Dear Annie: I have been married for two years to "Rhonda." She has two children and custody of a grandson.

The problem is that Rhonda cut her hours back to part time, yet she insists on keeping her son and grandson in a private school. We cannot afford this. Rhonda complains constantly about having to struggle financially, but when I suggest removing the kids from the private school, she refuses.

My stepdaughter had another baby and now wants to take her son back. I know Rhonda will stand in her way. Our life together has been nothing but hell, and she attacks me for all of her mistakes. I want to leave because she is nuts. The money problems are her fault, and we can't fix them until she wakes up. Should I leave her or stay? — Stressed Out in West Haven, Conn.

Dear Stressed Out: Does this private school offer scholarships or financial aid? Many do, and this could solve a lot of your financial troubles. Also, try counseling before throwing in the towel. There are low-cost options through your clergy, United Way, the YMCA and the Alliance for Children and Families (alliance1.org).

Dear Annie: I am a 54-year-old daughter and would like to respond to those letters about parents giving their children money.

My middle-class, blue-collar parents decided to retire early. They both had worked, sometimes as many as four jobs, to keep up an old house, us kids and an uncle in the "old country." They loved us and put enormous effort into our growing up right.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

When my parents turned 59, they said, "There will be no inheritance. We are going to enjoy our retirement." They bought a modest new house that didn't need constant fixing and welcomed my sister's family and mine to share during our own rough times. They were perfect grandparents to our kids.

My sister and I feel this was the best thing they could have done. They spent time together. They saw their relatives overseas. My sister and I never looked forward to an inheritance. We looked forward to visiting Mom and Dad. They gave us what money cannot buy.

I plan the same future for my kids. No dangling dollars to cloud a perfect relationship. — Perris, Calif.

Dear Perris: Good for you. No child should expect an inheritance. What parents earn through their own hard work is theirs to spend as they wish, and heaven knows, the cost of growing old has become so expensive that children should be grateful when parents can afford to support themselves.

Dear Annie: I am a 20-year-old woman, and I have been dating a most wonderful young man for

the last four months. We have a good relationship, but there is a situation that keeps coming up that I never know how to handle tactfully.

I live in a small town, and whenever we go out anywhere — restaurants, parties, church, school — people feel it is their business to inquire if we are getting married. I have no idea what prompts them to ask us this question. There is no ring, and we have not been together for a terribly long time. We have been hearing, "So, are you two going to get married?" since our second date.

Maybe we ought to just do it, since the whole town seems to think it's a good idea, but I would like to get to know him a bit better. More importantly, before agreeing to marry someone, I'd like to have an actual proposal from him — one that's his own idea, and not a response to nosy, rude people.

I don't know how to reply to this question. Once I said, "Well, not today," but that's the best I could manage. My boyfriend, of course, says nothing, which I think is very smart of him. When, and if, there is a ring on my finger, I'll tell the world, but right now, I could use your counsel. — Not Engaged Yet

Dear Not Engaged: This is one of the hazards of living in a small town where everyone knows you and expects to know your business. You'd best learn to react with grace and humor. Like your boyfriend, you can smile and say nothing, forcing the busybodies to keep asking, which makes them sound idiotic. Or you can reply, "I promise to let you know," and change the subject immediately.

Dear Annie: I recently gave my youngest granddaughter a gift card and a complete scrapbooking kit for her birthday. The total worth was around \$100.

That same night, I got a call from my son saying he and his wife felt the gift was mean-spirited and that I did not spend enough money. After all, I gave their other daughter a

complete nursery when she gave birth to my first great-grandchild, and we helped another son buy a condo.

I felt that the birth of a first great-grandchild was a momentous occasion, and that helping our son buy his first condo was another, and I cannot see the correlation between a birthday and these other major events. But since then, none of them has spoken to us, not even a card or a phone call.

Our hearts are breaking. What, if anything, is the solution? — Grieving
Dear Grieving: What nerve. Your son's family sounds greedy and selfish. Of course an ordinary birthday is not on the same level of gift-giving as a first great-grandchild or a first condo. Birthdays come every year, and no one can afford to splurge like that for every occasion. Do they think you're Donald Trump?

Write your son a letter and apologize. Tell him you understand he wants you to treat each of his children exactly the same, no matter what, and from now on, you will. Then be sure not to spend a dime over \$100 regardless of the event (and we think that's plenty generous as it is).

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Happy Son-In-Law, USA," who said in 32 years of marriage, his mother-in-law never said an ugly word. He adored her.

He has to be kidding me! Most sons-in-law have to endure a life of intrusion, imposition and revocation of their paternal rights. My mother-in-law wants everything and gets it. This includes spending way too much time with our infant daughter and influencing every decision my wife makes. Her behavior has left our marriage on shaky ground, and we are now in counseling. — Miserable in Kentucky

Dear Miserable: Not all mothers-in-law are like yours, and we're glad you are in counseling. Let us know how things work out.

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NOBODY ASKS FOR IT Help STOP Sexual Assaults
Call 263-3312
Rape Crisis Services Big Spring

Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.

AD

MONDAY

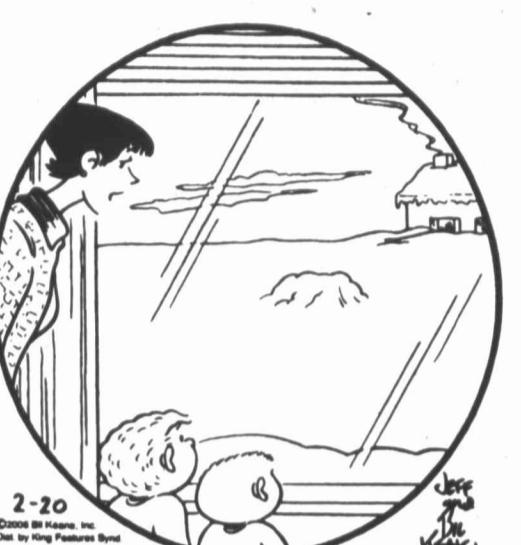
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7:30	Wife Swap (CC)	Wife Swap (CC)	Contro Verito y Marea	House (CC)	King How I Met	Cuervo, Dasso Tierra de	XX Olympic Winter Games	Friends (CC)	Updates/Israel Charles Scott	Artilage Roadshow	American Chopper	Movie: When a Woman (CC)	CBS: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVB)	Movie	Movie: The Princess	College Basketball	West Virginia at Syracuse	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
8:30	The Bachelor: Paris (CC)	The Bachelor: Paris (CC)	Cristina	My Wife-Kids Raymond	CBS: Miami (CC)	Decisiones		Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	American Experience	American Chopper	Women (CC)	CBS: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVB)		Diaries (CC)	PBA Bowling	College Basketball	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
9:30	News (CC)	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura		Family Guy	Movie: Ready to Rumble	Fort Niagara	American Chopper	Movie: The Great Outdoors	CBS: Crime Scene Investigator	Law & Order (CC) (DVB)	The Parkers	Naturally Sade Sister, Sister	U.S. Open (CC)	Oklahoma at Texas Tech	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
10:30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora Derbez	Backer (CC) Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	News The Olympic	Family Guy	Biblical Israel Scriver	Sign Off	American Chopper	15 Movie: The Jerk	TNA IMPACT!	The X-Files (CC)	Jimmie Fox	Phil of Future Kim Possible	College Basketball	NBA Fastbreak	The Outer Limits (CC)
11:30	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Amigas y Rivales (BS)	Backer (CC) King of the Hill	Show The Insider	Merla Celeste Pagado	Tonight Show With Jay Leno		Updates/Israel John Hagee		American Chopper		Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	Comolover	Lizze McGuire	Gonzaga at Pepperdine	SportsCenter (CC)	The Twilight Zone (CC)

DENNIS THE MENACE



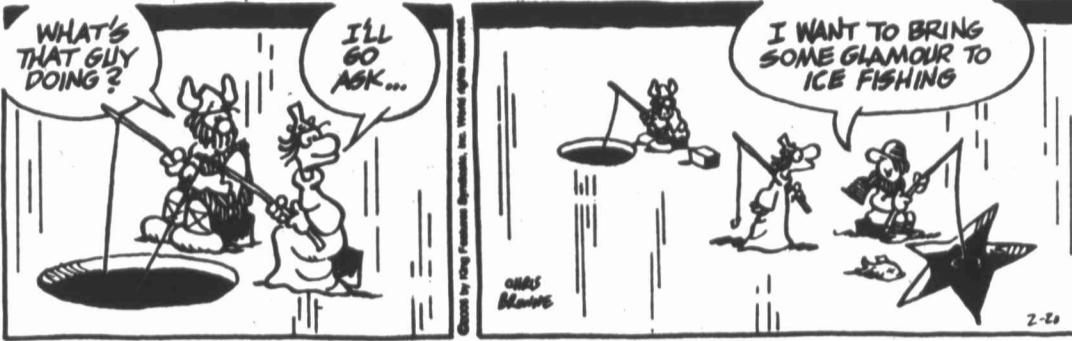
"WHAT DID YOU WISH FOR, DENNIS?"
"MY DIME BACK."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

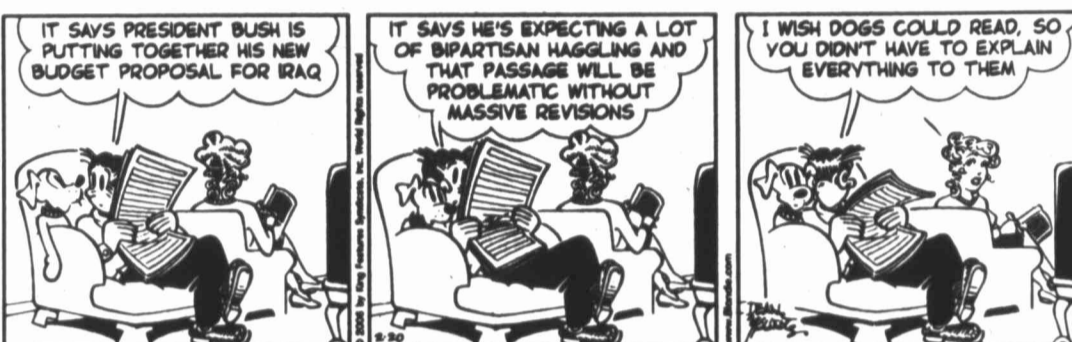


"No, I don't think Billy made a funny snowman. That's our barbecue grill."

HAGAR



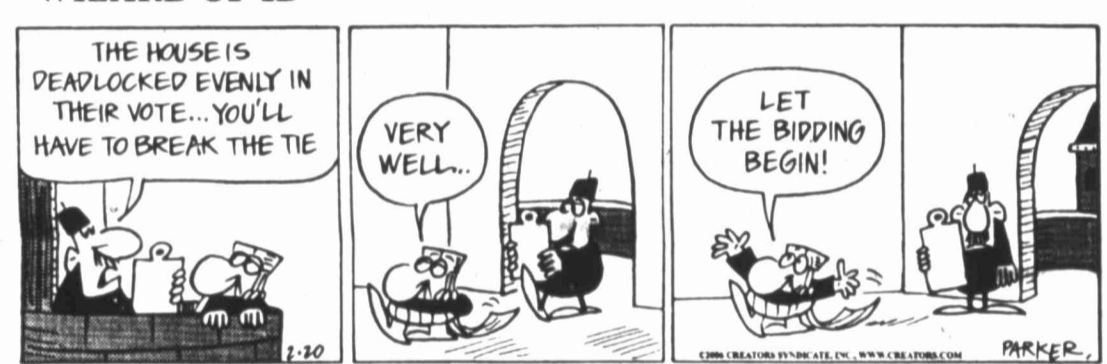
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THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Monday, Feb. 20, the 51st day of 2006. There are 314 days left in the year. This is the Presidents' Day holiday.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Feb. 20, 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth, flying aboard Friendship 7.

On this date:
In 1790, Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II died.
In 1792, President Washington signed an act creating the U.S. Post Office.
In 1809, the Supreme Court ruled the power of the federal government is greater than that of any individual state.
In 1839, Congress prohibited dueling in the District of Columbia.
In 1895, abolitionist Frederick Douglass died in Washington.
In 1933, the House of Representatives completed congressional action on an amendment to repeal

Prohibition.
In 1944, during World War II, U.S. bombers began raiding German aircraft manufacturing centers in a series of attacks that became known as "Big Week."

In 1965, the Ranger 8 spacecraft crashed on the moon after sending back thousands of pictures of the lunar surface.

In 1981, the space shuttle Columbia cleared the final major hurdle to its maiden launch as the spacecraft fired its three engines in a 20-second test.

Today's Birthdays:
Fashion designer Gloria Vanderbilt is 82. Movie director Robert Altman is 81. Actor Sidney Poitier is 79. Actress Marj Dusay is 70. Jazz-soul singer Nancy Wilson is 69. Singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie is 65. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Phil Esposito is 64. Movie director Mike Leigh is 63. Actress Brenda Blethyn is 60. Actress Sandy Duncan is 60. Rock musician J. Geils is 60. Actor Peter Strauss is 59. Rock singer-musician-producer Walter Becker (Steely Dan) is 58. Actor Edward Albert is 55. Country singer Kathie Baillie is 55.

Newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst is 52. Actor Anthony Stewart Head is 52. Country singer Leland Martin is 49. Actor James Wilby is 48. Rock musician Sebastian Steinberg is 47. Comedian Joel Hodgson is 46. Basketball player Charles Barkley is 43. Rock musician Ian Brown (Stone Roses) is 43. Actor French Stewart is 42. Actor Ron Eldard is 41. Model Cindy Crawford is 40. Actor Andrew Shue is 39. Singer Brian Littrell (Backstreet Boys) is 31. Actress Lauren Ambrose ("Six Feet Under") is 28. Actor Jay Hernandez is 28. Actress Majandra Delfino is 25.

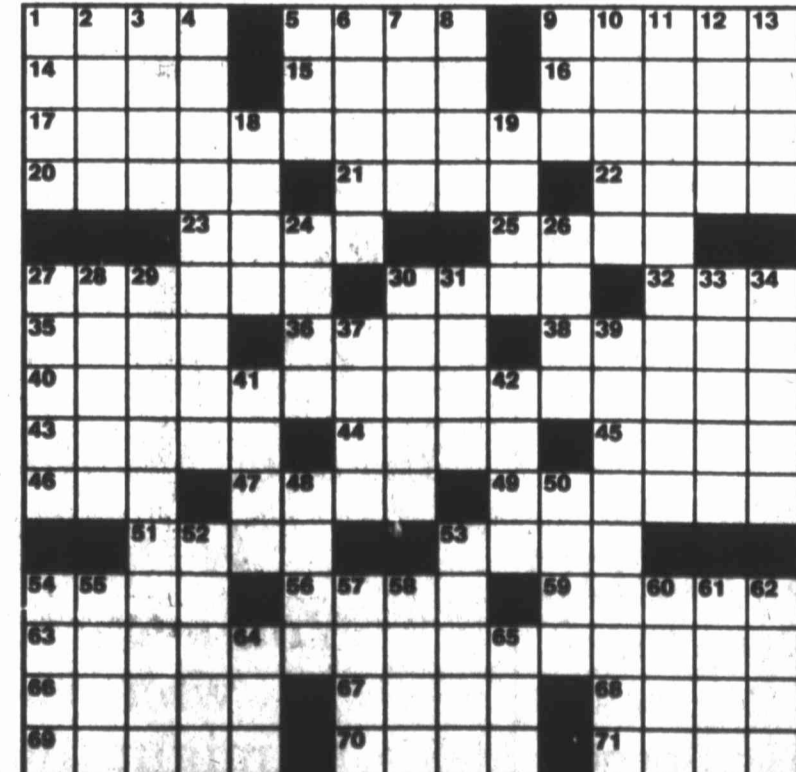
Answer to previous puzzle

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Newsday Crossword

PRESIDENTS' DAY by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fourth planet from the Sun
 - 5 Mediterranean fruits
 - 9 Hide away
 - 14 Bassoon relative
 - 15 "What's ___ for me?"
 - 16 It's not allowed
 - 17 13th president
 - 20 Sword metal
 - 21 Raison d'___
 - 22 At any time
 - 23 Persuade
 - 25 Right-hand person
 - 27 Like sailboats
 - 30 DVD player ancestors
 - 32 "___ seen enough!"
 - 35 Start of a play
 - 36 Business transaction
 - 38 Had a meal
 - 40 22nd and 24th president
 - 43 Bugged down
 - 44 Stereo system
 - 45 American flag color
 - 46 Orange drink
 - 47 Digital music player
 - 49 Closed, as an envelope
 - 51 Babe of baseball
 - 53 Anti-drug officer
 - 54 Victor's cry
 - 56 *Othello* villain
 - 59 Whole bunch
 - 63 Third president
 - 66 Promising one
 - 67 Neighborhood
- DOWN**
- 1 Some PTA members
 - 2 Slightly
 - 3 Performer's part
 - 4 Choosy
 - 5 Kind of Christmas tree
 - 6 Back-of-book reference
 - 7 Natural talent
 - 8 Agitate
 - 9 Gateway Arch city: Abbr.
 - 10 Brought under control
 - 11 Aloof
 - 12 Feeling miffed
 - 13 Farmer, at times
 - 18 Lotion ingredient
 - 19 Shakespearean king
 - 24 Envelope line: Abbr.
 - 26 Phrase of understanding
 - 27 Molten rock
 - 28 Foul-smelling
 - 29 Attics, often
 - 30 Bona fide
 - 31 Music-score marking
 - 33 Location
 - 34 All finished
 - 37 Reverberate
 - 39 Some tunas
 - 41 Do newspaper work
 - 42 Passport stamp
 - 48 Greek letters
 - 50 Author ___ Stanley Gardner
 - 52 Not completed, as obligations
 - 53 Kind of checking account
 - 54 Craving
 - 55 Horse-stopping exclamation
 - 57 Not quite shut
 - 58 *Chicago* actor
 - 60 Right-hand person: Abbr.
 - 61 Medicinal amount
 - 62 Winter forecast
 - 64 Exist
 - 65 Brief craze



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