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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 191

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND



INSIDE

Rangers
power past
Toronto
Blue Jays

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Something good to eat

Farmer's Market set to open Saturday at Heart of City Park

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

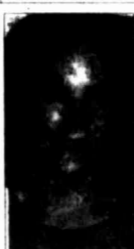
If fresh fruits and veggies are on your weekly shopping list, the people with the West Texas Producers and Farmers Market have just the thing for you.

The annual Farmers Market will get underway Saturday and will be open each Saturday and Tuesday through October to help bring fresh fruits and vegetables to local residents.

"Of course, we'll have all kinds of different farm fresh produce — even eggs. We'll also have buffalo jerky and sausage this year, as well as cracked wheat breads and items like that," said Kelly Zant, spokesperson for the annual market. "We're also going to have crafts and lots of fun. The whole idea of a farmer's market is to have something centralized in the town so we can all get together and have a good time."

"In order to get people to come out, because we have a lot more than just vegetables, we decided to

"We have a lot of events planned this year. Nearly every Saturday the market is open, there will be something going on."



Zant

plan stuff for the weekends. It's a great chance to bring your kids and find some fresh fruits and vegetables and enjoy whatever the theme of the weekend is."

Zant said this year's market promises to not only be a chance to share fresh produce with the public at the Heart of the City Park, but also a chance to have fun.

"We have a lot of events planned this year," said Zant. "Nearly every Saturday the market is open, there will be something going on. Things like an ice cream eating

See MARKET, Page 3



Members of local Tejano band X-tremo perform during the annual Funtastic Fourth Festival Battle of the Bands Tuesday afternoon in Heart of the City Park. X-tremo took home first place — and a whopping \$2,500 prize — for their performance.

X-tremo, Zant win 'Battle' contests

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Big Spring Tejano sensation X-tremo brought home the gold during Tuesday's Funtastic Fourth Festival Battle of the Bands, pulling in a \$2,500 first prize in their category.

One of only three Big Spring bands chosen to compete in the battle, the members of X-tremo have been bringing the Tejano music scene in Big Spring to life for more than two years.

And if the group seems close on and off the stage, band frontman Manuel Hilario said it should come as no surprise since most of them are related.

"It started when one of my oldest sons said, 'Let's start a band.' And I was like, OK, I've been in a band before and it's a lot of work," said Hilario. "I have two sons in the band. My oldest plays the keyboard and does backing vocals. My younger son, who is still in high school, plays bass guitar. I also have a niece that sings a few songs with us, and she's still in high school. I also have a first-

See BATTLE, Page 3



It wasn't hard for 9-year-old Elaney Dominguez to beat the heat Tuesday afternoon, as she takes a slide down one of the water rides at the annual Funtastic Fourth Festival in Heart of the City Park.

Barbecue skills to benefit Veterans' Television Fund

Cookoff set Saturday at Eagle's Lodge

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Eagles + bikers + veterans = barbecue, at least this weekend.

The local American Legion post, in partnership with the Cossacks Motorcycle Club and Eagles Lodge No. 3188, will host a barbecue cookoff Saturday to benefit the local VA Medical Center's Veterans' Television Fund.

When Veterans Administration officials held a news conference April 20 to announce that the facility would remain open, the staff had planned to broadcast the good news to patients via closed circuit television. Unfortunately, the hospital's TV system wasn't able to handle the broadcast, said Iva Jo Hanslik, community relations

coordinator for the VAMC.

"The Cossacks and the American Legion then decided to hold a fundraiser to help us update our system," Hanslik said.

Judging for the cookoff, to be held at the Eagles lodge on 703 W. Third, begins at noon Saturday. The top three winners in each meat category — chicken, ribs and briskets — will receive plaques, Hanslik said.

Entry fee is \$25 for each meat category and \$10 for jackpot beans. Food plates will be served to the public beginning at noon, at a cost of \$7 per person.

Hanslik said officials hope to raise at least

\$10,000 for the project. "The good news," she said, "is that we're already off to a good start."

Donations to the fund have exceeded \$4,000 to date. In addition, the local Wal-Mart and HEB grocery store, as well as Fuller Foods in Colorado City (which donated the brisket for the cookoff) have made significant material donations, she noted.

"We hope to make this an annual event," Hanslik said. "Hopefully, it will have a different focus each year."

For more information, call 264-4824 or 800-472-1365, ext. 4824.

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



Hanslik

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

MISS HISSY FIT RULES

LOVINGTON, N.M. (AP) — They dashed their way down a ramp, tickled by feathers to make them move faster.

It was the 27th annual World's Greatest Lizard Race, part of Lovington's Fourth of July celebration. The race featured 16 lizards of every shape, size and color. Some were family pets, while others were captured for the occasion.

A green iguana named Fred Zard, who traveled 900 miles from Lakeside, Calif., won Tuesday's iguana race by default — he was the only entrant. The regular lizard race was won by Miss Hissy Fit, owned by 9-year-old Madeleine Granath of Lovington.

PRECIOUS PETS CONTEST

Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union is holding a "Precious Pets Photo contest" to benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

Entry is \$5 per pet and all proceeds will go to the network, which is an alliance of children's hospitals.

Winners will be selected by the credit union employees. All photos will be displayed, and entrants do not have to be a member of the credit union to participate.

Registration and photos must be received by Friday, July 29, at 1110 Benton in Big Spring.

For more information, call (432) 263-8393.

OLD SETTLERS RETURNING

The Martin County Old Settler's Reunion will be in downtown Stanton all day Saturday.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the Martin County Community Center. A bicycle decorating contest will be held at 9:15 a.m. To enter, meet at the park.

The annual parade will get under way at 10 a.m. This year's theme is "Come Home Again," and will honor all Martin County schools. Parade marshal is Imogene Hale Ledbetter Evans.

Judging of the floats will begin at 9:15 a.m. at the Methodist Church.

Everyone is invited, particularly current and former Martin County residents.

Obituaries

Bobbie Jean Miller Sullivan



Bobbie Jean Miller Sullivan, 75, of Utah, died Sunday, July 2, 2006, at Ogden Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 5, 2006, at 1 p.m. at the North Ogden 9th Ward, 386 E. Elberta Drive, North Ogden with the Rev. William Staheli officiating. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 8, 2006, at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with Elder Marshall Horn officiating.

She was born June 25, 1931, in Union Valley, Okla., a daughter of Jim T. and Minnie Marie Tindol Miller. On March 8, 1957, she married John L. Sullivan Jr. in Big Spring. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Mesa, Ariz. L.D.S. Temple.

Bobbie was a member of the North Ogden 9th Ward. She was the ward family history consultant, a visiting teacher, served on three missions with her husband at the Mesa Regional Family History Center and numerous other church callings.

She had been a registered nurse for Pharmacy Corporation of America. She was the past president of the Big Spring Chapter of Women In Construction.

Survivors include her husband, John L. Sullivan Jr. of North Ogden, Utah; two sons and daughters-in-law, John L. III and Pam Sullivan of Harrisville, Utah, and Stuart M. and Melissa Sullivan of Queen Creek, Ariz.; one sister and brother-in-law, Doris Wynese and Vernon Cannon of Hobbs, N.M.; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Charles W. Miller and Willard R. Miller; and a grandson, Nathan Sullivan.

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

Paid obituary

Trish Gonzalez



Trish Gonzalez, 36, of Stanton, died Tuesday, July 4, 2006, in a Midland hospital following a sudden illness. A vigil service will be held Thursday, July 6, 2006, at 7 p.m. at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, July 7, 2006, at the Saint Stephens Catholic Church in Midland with the Rev. James Bridges, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland.

She was born Dec. 12, 1969 in Big Spring and married Mark Gonzalez on Nov. 29, 1986, in Stanton.

Trish grew up in Big Spring and moved to Stanton when she was 10. She graduated from Midland High School and worked as a mortgage broker for American Home Front Mortgage in Odessa. She was a Catholic.

Survivors include her husband, Mark Gonzalez of Stanton; one daughter, Mercedes Gonzalez of Stanton; one son, Mark Allen Gonzalez II of Stanton; her mother, Mary Saldivar of Midland; one sister, Terri Flores of Stanton; two brothers, Audon (Odie) Saldivar Jr. of Midland and Jacob Saldivar of Italy; her grandmother, Bernanda Valencia and grandparents Dora and Jose Saldivar, all of Big Spring; and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father Audon (Odie) Saldivar in 2000 and one niece, Sarah Elizabeth Saldivar in 2005.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

- **IRENE HINOJOSA**, 41, of 3910 E. Highway 350, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **TIMOTHY KAECHLE**, 47, transient, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **BRYSON VANDERBILT**, 21, of 1303 Oriole, was arrested Wednesday on two local capias warrants.
- **MELISSA YOUNG**, 37, of 800 S. Lancaster, was arrested Thursday on charges of criminal mischief, resisting arrest, search or transportation and disorderly conduct - language.
- **DERRICK WILBERT**, 25, of 2507 Kelley, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving while intoxicated - open container, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone and possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.
- **AMANDA SAUCEDA**, 22, of 903 E. 15th Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported: in the 2600 block of Fairchild and in the 1900 block of Scurry.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 100 block of Third Street.
- **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY - FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 600 block of Caylor.

Sheriff's report

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

- **JACK DANIEL PAREDEZ**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence.
- **STEVEN PENA**, 21, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear - theft of services.
- **MICHAEL DEAN NALL**, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license suspended.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1100 block of East 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of Rannels. Service was refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 200 block of West Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of East 14th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1100 block of Lamar. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• **FIRST CHURCH OF GOD YOUTH GROUP** will hold a car wash behind McDonalds from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The money will help fund a trip to the International Youth Convention. McDonalds is giving ice-cream cones with each wash.

• **NEW LIFE MINISTRIES** Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

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

• **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL STEER BAND 10-YEAR REUNION** for classes 1970 to 1980 is planned July 28-29. Send name and addresses to Steer Band Reunion P.O. Box 103 Big Spring, 79721 or go to the Web site www.bigspringsteerband.org. For more information or to leave a message, call 263-2205.

• **THE COAHOMA ALUMNI REUNION WILL BE HELD AUG. 5** in the Coahoma Elementary School Cafeteria.

9:30 a.m.- Coffee and donuts
10 a.m.- Business meeting
10:30 a.m.- Visitation
Noon- Lunch with keynote speaker C5 Galaxy Pilot Major Helm (Class of 86)
2:30 p.m.- Awards and memorials
3 p.m.- Auction to benefit the community scholarship fund for High school seniors
4 p.m.- Concert by Jody Nix (Class of 70) and the Texas Cowboys
5 p.m.- Class meetings
Tickets covering the meal and all activities are \$10 for alumni, \$7 for spouses and \$5 for children.
Early ticket sales will end July 22, but tickets will also be available at the door.
Send check to Rae Nell Best, PO Box 77, Coahoma 79511
Updates are available at www.coahomaisd.com. For more information, contact Bob Fishback at 457-2264.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- Farmer's Market opens at Heart of the City Park, 7 a.m. or earlier.
- Martin County Old Settler's Reunion parade, 10 a.m., downtown Stanton.
- Barbecue cookoff to benefit the Veterans Television Fund, held at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third. Plates are \$7 each, served beginning at noon. Cookoff categories include brisket, ribs, chicken and jackpot beans. Call 264-4824 for entry information.
- Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

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.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-13-30-35-36-39. Number matching six of six: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$6 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-9-15-20-33. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-3-0

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

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Local native enjoys student teacher experience

By CHARLES RICHARDSON
Special to the Herald

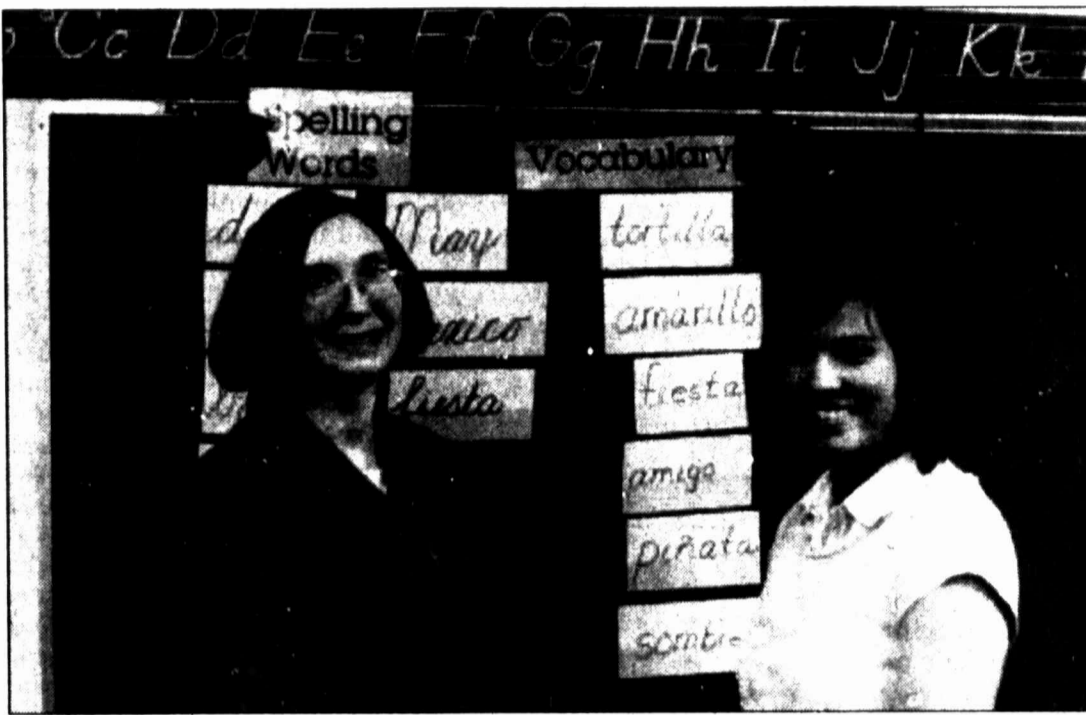
BROWNWOOD — Jessi Weir of Big Spring, a recent Howard Payne University graduate, looks forward to the future with a career in the public schools.

Last month she received her bachelor of science degree in elementary education from HPU and during the recent spring semester was a student-teacher of second grade students at East Elementary in Brownwood, where the university's main campus is located. Mary Franklin was Weir's supervising teacher.

"I want to make a difference in children's lives," said Weir. "I really don't see myself being anything different (than a teacher)."

Franklin, a graduate of Early High School and holder of both the bachelor's and master's degrees from Tarleton State University, is complimentary of Weir and, "all the student teachers from Howard Payne" that she has had under her supervision.

Of the student teachers she has supervised during the years, including those from HPU, she says, "They have a good basic knowledge of skills and



Mary Franklin, left, and Jessi Weir, a native of Big Spring who recently graduated from Howard Payne University pose for a picture.

subject matter. Most importantly, they show a love of students."

She adds, "I think the universities today are doing a good job of preparing in the classroom."

Having a student-teacher in the classroom is an added responsibility for a teacher, but Franklin says, "I feel like I'm giving back to my profession ... it's payback time. You've gotten a lot from the profession."

One advantage Weir

had, along with other HPU education majors, was observing students in classrooms before they begin their student-teaching semester.

Weir said upon graduation from high school, she considered two schools, including Howard Payne. "I really felt the Lord was calling me there."

She praises the Howard Payne faculty and the small student-to-teacher ratio at the Baptist university. "I think it is better that way," she says.

Franklin, a veteran of 26 years in the classroom and 21 years in the Brownwood system, said, "Teaching is the joy of your life if you enjoy it. It is an uplifting experience to see them grow."

Weir has begun the application process for a teaching job next fall and hopes to be employed soon. She is the daughter of Marcy Weir and the late Danny Weir of Big Spring. She has two younger sisters, Whitney and Kelsey.

Support groups

MONDAY
• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for June 5. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

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. The next meeting is March 28. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

WEDNESDAY
• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Tena at 267-1883 or Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

MARKET

Continued from Page 1

contest, which is planned July 15. We're even going to have a garage sale in conjunction with the market July 29."

Zant said she's not going to be shy about the contests this year.

"We're also planning a watermelon eating contest. I kind of like the weekends when we're having eating contests," said Zant with a laugh. "I voted for those events! I think I'm going to enter the watermelon eating contest we have set for Aug. 5, too. I think I can eat some watermelon."

Saturday themes include home canning demonstrations Aug. 19; Labor Day celebration, Sept. 9; Deis y Seis celebration in conjunction

with LULAC Sept. 16; Safety Saturday, Oct. 7; Halloween candy and closing events, Oct. 28.

For more information on the farmers market, contact Zant at 816-4540.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Lester Hopkins, 77, died Saturday. Funeral Services were at 10:00 AM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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• CARS PG-13 12:50 4:00 7:10 9:50
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Battle for Survival

Fast dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦K 8
♥K 5
♦A J 5 4 3
♣7 6 3 2
WEST
♦Q 7 3
♥Q J 10 9 2
♦8
♣K 10 5 4
EAST
♦J 10 5 2
♥8 6 4
♦Q 10 7 6
♣Q 9
SOUTH
♦A 9 6 4
♥A 7 3
♦K 9 2
♣A J 8

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1NT Pass 3NT
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Safety plays take many forms, but the underlying principle is nearly always the same: In order to protect against an unfavorable distribution of the adverse cards, declarer risks losing a trick he might not have to lose.

The large family of safety plays need not be memorized. They should suggest themselves automatically when a threatening set of circumstances arises. They flow naturally from the prevailing situation.

In this deal, for example, South sees that there are only seven tricks immediately available at three notrump, and that the best source of additional tricks lies in the diamond suit.

The normal way of approaching the diamonds is to cash the king and then lead a small one toward the A-J, intending to finesse the jack. But this method of play is better designed to obtain the maximum number of diamond tricks than to fulfilling the contract.

The trouble with playing the diamonds in this fashion is that it does not protect against the possibility that East was dealt four diamonds to the Q-10. Since declarer will probably be unable to make the contract if this proves to be the case, he should turn his thoughts to guarding against this eventuality.

He can protect himself fully by winning the opening heart lead in his hand and playing a low diamond to the ace. When both opponents follow, the contract becomes assured. A low diamond is next returned from dummy.

If East shows out, South wins with the king and leads a diamond toward the jack to assure four diamond tricks. If East instead follows with a low diamond, declarer plays the nine. If West is able to win the trick, it means the diamonds were divided 3-2 and the contract is made. If West does not win the trick, once again four diamond tricks become certain.

Note that it doesn't help East to play the ten on the second diamond in the actual deal. In that case, South wins with the king and returns the nine to produce the same result.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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BATTLE

Continued from Page 1

cousin that's about my age, and he plays accordion, and another cousin that plays the drums. So this is really a family thing.

"The band's been together for a little more than two years," he added. "Our very first gig was a private party on a New Year's Eve. We thought about it and said sure, let's do it. We had about 12 songs put together in about two months, and it went really well. It started growing, because we started out really small, and now we have 10 people, along with a brass section."

First-place bands in each category walked away with \$2,500 Tuesday. Second place received \$250 and third place received \$150.

In the Tejano category, LaFormula of San Angelo took second place, while Titan — also of San Angelo — was awarded third place.

In the country music competition, Big Spring's Guy Will Zant Band took first place, while Texas Pride — also of Big Spring — came in second, with Lamesa's Nikki Lee earning third.

While Big Spring bands

managed to bring home the big money in the Tejano and country music categories, it was Boerne rockers Nothing More that took the top nod in the competition's rock division Tuesday.

Odessa based Idioma brought in second place, while Rich Like Me of Burkburnett was awarded third.

Each band was given 20 minutes to perform for the judges, who graded them on stage presence, sound and audience interaction.

Mobile Meals needs help

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.



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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Susanne Reed
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Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Farmers Market to begin season this Saturday

If it seems as if you haven't really had fresh fruit and vegetables, you're not alone. But it looks as if we can all change that condition this Saturday when the Howard County Farmers Market opens for the first time this year.

Going into this, its third season, the Farmers Market will be bringing more than just fruits and vegetables to local consumers on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

According to Kelly Zant, a spokesperson for the market, there will not only be all types of fresh farm produce available, but fresh eggs, cracked wheat breads, fresh sausage and buffalo jerky also figure to be available.

In addition, Zant said, craft vendors will also be on hand. And each weekend market will have a theme.

On July 15 an ice cream eating contest is planned, while a garage sale will be held in conjunction with the market on July 29. Other features include a watermelon eating contest on Aug. 5, a canning demonstration on Aug. 19 and a Labor Day celebration on Sept. 9, just to name a few.

During the past two seasons, the public has helped make sure the Farmers Market is a success in downtown — often buying out the farmers in short order ... often as early as 10 a.m.

We encourage the community to come out to Heart of the City Park this Saturday when the Farmers Market has its season opening.

After all, there's something about having picked your produce from a farmer's market that simply makes it taste better than that available in supermarkets.

The honey seems sweeter; the melons and fruits juicier; and the corn, tomatoes, beans and peas more pleasing to the palate.

And with fresh eggs, wheat breads and sausage available...

Well, you can bet you'll see us there.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

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- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we glow with Your goodness, Lord.

Amen

Serving the international brotherhood

The best explanation for the Supreme Court's holding that a military tribunal lacks jurisdiction to try suspected terrorist Salim Ahmed Hamdan is not to be found in the Constitution or the cases interpreting it, or in the Court's interpretation of congressional legislation, but in extrajudicial factors.

The Court lacked jurisdiction to hear Hamdan's appeal, but once assuming jurisdiction, it ruled incorrectly that the Geneva Conventions apply to his case. The Court strained, in the first instance, to inject itself in this matter, despite the clear intent of Congress to deprive it of jurisdiction, and it strained to grant Hamdan, a suspected Al Qaeda member, Geneva Convention protections.

Such an unwarranted assumption of jurisdiction by the Court, coupled with its bending over backward to treat a suspected civilian-killing terrorist the protections guaranteed to bona-fide soldiers of Geneva signatories, can only be explained by the psychology of the court's majority.

When learning of this decision, I was reminded of the words of Justice Antonin Scalia in a speech on the growing (and disturbing) influence of international law on our Supreme Court jurisprudence. Scalia's words, even more than his brilliant dissent in this case, contain the key to understanding the mindset of the Hamdan majority.

Scalia said that judges inclined toward the "living Constitution" approach think "there really is a brotherhood of the judiciary who indeed believe it is our function,

as judges throughout the world, to determine the meaning of human rights. And what the brothers — and sisters — in one country say is quite relevant to what the brothers and sisters in another country say. And that's why I think if you are a living constitutionalist, you are almost certainly an international living constitutionalist."

To grasp the magnitude of the arrogance of the Court's majority in extending Geneva protections to Hamdan, you really need to understand that it had no power to decide this case.

Justice Scalia devoted his entire 24-page dissent to making this point. On Dec. 30, 2005, Congress passed the Detainee Treatment Act (DTA), in which it expressly and unambiguously stripped all courts, including the Supreme Court, of jurisdiction to consider habeas corpus petitions of Guantanamo Bay detainees, such as Hamdan.

The DTA provides, "No court, justice or judge shall have jurisdiction to hear or consider an application for a writ of habeas corpus filed by or on behalf of an alien detained by the Department of Defense at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba." The provision, said Justice Scalia, took effect on the date the act was passed: Dec. 30, 2005. As of that date all courts were deprived of jurisdiction in all such cases, including pending cases, like Hamdan's.

The majority went out of its way to find that Congress did not mean to deprive the courts of jurisdiction over pending cases. But as Scalia explained, previous Supreme Court precedent makes clear that "when a law conferring jurisdiction is repealed without any reservation as to pending cases, all cases fall with the law." And there was no such reserva-

tion in the DTA. As the Court stated in *Ex parte McCordle* (1869), "Without jurisdiction, the court cannot proceed at all in any cause. Jurisdiction is power to declare the law, and when it ceases to exist, the only function remaining to the court is that of announcing the fact and dismissing the cause."

It is inconceivable that the Court's majority was in doubt about Congress's intent to deprive it of jurisdiction in these cases. But it decided to snub its nose at those annoying scalawags, whom, after all, are not fit to tie the shoes of members of the elite global fraternity of judges.

Once it usurped jurisdiction of the case, the majority further demonstrated its determination to go the extra mile for Al Qaeda (and thus please its international brethren) by straining to interpret "Common Article 3" of all four Geneva Conventions as applying to Hamdan even though Al Qaeda is not a nation, not a Convention signatory, and the conflict is clearly international in scope. Can you imagine the implications of granting Geneva protections to terrorists who lurk incognito among civilian populations and target them for extermination? What incentive remains for anyone — even from signatory nations — to abide by the rules? Leave it to the liberal elite to reward rule-breaking and barbarity.

Above all, this case illustrates the urgent need for at least one more Bush Supreme Court confirmation: an originalist who is a lifetime non-member of the international brotherhood.

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

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Just build better cars; we'll buy them

Every year the American automobile manufacturers fall further behind their Japanese counterparts. Currently, General Motors must dig itself out of yet another financial hole and the company's best efforts to do that have resulted in a year-to-date drop in sales by around 12 percent. Clearly, GM's executives have no idea what's wrong and perhaps they would benefit by asking the public what it wants.

Put simply, we want moderately priced cars that last a long time and require very little maintenance. The U.S. consumer just won't buy an American car that will die before it hits 150,000 miles when he can purchase a Japanese-made one that will easily make it to 200,000. We'll even pay a little more for the Japanese model because convenience and reliability matter so much.

With the answer being so obvious and easily obtainable by just listening to the car-buying public, the American manufacturers have, of course, chosen to either ignore their potential customers or they weren't listening in the first place. Instead of addressing the reasons Americans buy foreign-made vehicles, our automakers come up with new financing gimmicks and

rebate.

We get the same prices as their employees, 0 percent financing and free gas for a year. They might also offer no-haggle pricing, free roadside service and everything short of a date with Paris Hilton. What we don't get is a car that we believe will last as long or require as little maintenance as a Toyota or Honda.

Being that we're from the country that invented and sold millions of pet rocks, it's tempting for American businessmen to think that marketing can cover up whatever inherent weakness a product has. Clearly that strategy usually works as the nation's leading brands often are among the worst in quality.

We guzzle Budweiser, can't get enough Absolut Vodka and insist on using Windows-based computers. We buy "American Idol" albums, send Adam Sandler movies to the top of the box office charts and are more than willing to buy whatever low-brow garbage television commercials tell us we need. Clearly we're a nation that can be marketed to, but even a very gullible person has his limits.

No amount of marketing trickery can cover up our inability to make cars as reliable as foreign automakers. We might be dumb enough to buy a lousy cup of coffee that was brewed half a day ago at Starbucks, but we're simply not stupid enough in great enough numbers to let a good financing offer trick us into buying inferior cars.

Toyota and Honda don't even have to spend money touting the reliability of their products to the American people. These Japanese manufacturers have simply put reasonably-priced, reliable vehicles into the marketplace for long enough that the public takes these qualities for granted.

American cars, however, lack the same long-term credibility with buyers. Today's Ford or General Motors vehicle may stack up well when compared to their foreign counterparts, but the public doesn't believe it and past history suggests we should be skeptical of any claims made by the U.S. manufacturers.

Committing to making cars that equal the ones made by the Japanese companies won't turn business around overnight, but it's the only long-term strategy for the American auto industry. Any other approach simply pushes back the grim reaper, staving off bankruptcy for a few more months.

There's no quick fix for General Motors or the American auto industry and they should stop looking for one. Gimmicks and financing deals might solve some short-term financial problems, but a long-term fix requires doing business in a different way.

Daniel B. Kline is the author of "50 Things Every Guy Should Know How To Do," which is available in book stores everywhere. He can be reached at dan@notastep.com.



DANIEL KLINE

Enron founder Ken Lay dies of heart disease

HOUSTON (AP) — Just last week, Enron Corp. founder and convicted felon Kenneth Lay told his pastor he was at peace with his future, even if it included prison.

Lay maintained that he was innocent of fraud and conspiracy in Enron's searing scandal that left thousands jobless and wiped out billions from investors.

The former corporate celebrity who ascended from near-poverty as a minister's son in Missouri to the pinnacle of America's business elite died Wednesday of a heart attack caused by severe coronary artery disease while vacationing in Aspen, Colo. He was 64.

"I know he looked to be in good health. He looked like things were going well for him. He was in church last Sunday," said his pastor, Steve Wende of Houston's First United Methodist Church.

Lay faced spending the rest of his life in prison after his convictions May 25 that ended a blockbuster trial stemming from one of the biggest business debacles in U.S. history.

Man fatally shoots wife, self at hospital

KILLEEN (AP) — An 84-year-old man visiting his wife at the hospital fatally shot her in the head Wednesday before killing himself, police said.

Authorities said Loyd Tullos had routinely visited Bonnie Tullos, 82, since she was admitted at Metroplex Hospital Sunday after suffering a heart attack. He shot her with a revolver shortly before breakfast and then turned the gun on himself, Killeen police spokeswoman Carroll Smith said.

Police and hospital staff are unsure what prompted the shooting.

"He was very caring and attentive to her," Smith said. "There was no indication."

Dr. George Rebecca, who treated Bonnie Tullos at the hospital, said she had been "doing much better" since her initial hospitalization.

Man gets 27 years for killing infant son

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A jury has sentenced a man to 27 years in prison for the beating death of his 7-month-old son.

Jurors took little more than an hour Wednesday to decide on a sentence for William Lee Esparza, who was convicted Monday of murder for the October 2004 death.

A medical examiner testified during Esparza's trial that infant Xavier died from blunt force trauma to the head. Witnesses said they had seen Esparza, who was 18 at the time, hit and bully the baby.

Rescue workers said Esparza gave conflicting stories about how Xavier died. First he said the baby had slipped under his bath water, and also said he'd inhaled water while Esparza had him in the shower. Esparza later said he had dropped the baby while trying to give him CPR.

Defense lawyer Fernando Cortes asked jurors to consider Esparza's troubled youth, including losing his mother at age 10, and the pressures of parenting a premature infant.

Prosecutors said there was no excuse for murder and that witnesses said Esparza regularly bullied his youngest son and favored his older one.

Prosecutors had sought a life sentence. Esparza will be eligible for parole in 13 1/2 years.

U.S. dismisses North Korea threat of more test-firings

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, seeking a united stand against North Korea, called the leaders of China, South Korea and Japan to pressure the communist regime in Pyongyang to stop its missile tests and nuclear weapons programs.

The call with Chinese President Hu Jintao today came after talks Wednesday evening with the leaders of South Korea and Japan, the White House said.

Bush stressed the need for a unified response in the United Nations and elsewhere to the North's missile tests, the White House said in a statement after the first two calls. Bush also said he seeks a diplomatic solution through the six-party talks, which had sought to deal with North Korea's nuclear ambitions but were suspended last fall.

The administration brushed off blustering warnings from North Korea.

"We're certainly not going to overreact ... to these wild statements out of Pyongyang and North Korea," said Undersecretary of State R. Nicholas Burns. "We've seen them before."

Tuesday, the country

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from the time of his arrest in October 2004.

Three found dead in Kerr County

KERRVILLE (AP) — Authorities called to a mobile home after a child said she could not wake up her mother or brother found the two dead Wednesday, the Kerr County Sheriff's Department said. The young girl was placed in the custody of Child Protective Services.

The cause of death had not been determined but the deaths were being treated as homicides. Meanwhile, authorities searching for a suspect in the deaths found a body in the woman's burned out car in another area of the county, authorities said.

The names of the woman and her son were not immediately released. Kerr County Chief Deputy Clay Barton said dental records would be needed to identify the body in the car, the *Kerrville Daily Times* reported today.

Barton said authorities were called to the family's home in south Kerr County shortly before 11 a.m. They found the body of a 32-year-old woman and her teenage son. Neighbors told the newspaper the woman's daughter was 5 or 6.

The woman had lived in the home for about four years, neighbor Steve Mueller told the newspaper.

Doctors reattach boy's severed arm

HOUSTON (AP) — Doctors have reattached the arm of a 12-year-old boy who was injured while playing on a moving train, a family friend said.

A spokeswoman at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital said Giovanni Ramirez was in critical condition Wednesday, but she would not comment on his surgery.

Giovanni's arm was severed Monday just below the shoulder when he tripped and fell onto the tracks while playing on a moving train, Adolfo Garza said.

Garza, whose son Jeremy Garza was playing with Giovanni when the accident occurred, said the boys and a third friend were climbing on the ladders of rail cars on a train moving about 5 mph.

"I have no idea what possessed them to do that, but they said they were playing on the ladders like they were monkey bars," Garza said.

A neighbor who lives near the tracks found the boy's arm Monday and put it on ice before the boy was taken to the hospital.

Shuttle prepares to dock with space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The crew of space shuttle Discovery woke up Thursday on course to dock with the international space station after a two-day

journey from Earth.

A recording of Elton John's "Daniel" woke the crew up, a choice of the wife and two sons of European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, who was set to become a member of the space station's crew after the shuttle docked.

Reiter, who has a son named Daniel, will spend six months living on the space station, bringing the size of the crew to three people for the first time in three years.

"You will be losing a crew member at the end of the day, but then again, you're gaining a station," flight controllers in Houston wrote Discovery's crew in their daily morning electronic message.

The crew size was reduced in the years after 2003's Columbia accident when NASA's shuttle fleet was grounded. Russian vehicles weren't large enough to keep the space station supplied for more than two people.

The docking with the space station, orbiting about 220 miles above Earth, was to come a day after in-flight inspections of Discovery by its crew, using cameras attached to a 50-foot boom, revealed no major damage from the launch.

Correction

An article concerning the upcoming Hank Thompson concert in Colorado City indicated the "King of Western Swing" would perform July 29.

The correct date is Thursday, July 27. Tickets are \$25 each for the event, which will be held at the Colorado City Opry. Also performing will be Curtis Potter.

To reserve tickets, call 325 737-2163 or 325 933-0113.



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Sports

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Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

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Thursday, July 6, 2006

IN BRIEF

Softball tourney set for July 15-16 at Cotton Mize Park

The Ball Busters Softball Tournament will take place July 15-16 at Cotton Mize Field in Comanche Trail Park.

The tourney costs \$125 per team and trophies and T-shirts will be awarded to the top three teams. There is also a six home run limit.

For more information, contact Amador Rios at 466-1126, Pete Carrillo at 816-1245 or Abel Rios at 213-2115.

BSHS announces softball camp for middle of July

Big Spring head softball coach Jennifer Reyes, along with her assistants, will have a softball skills camp July 10-14.

The camp will run from 8 a.m. to noon daily and is for first through ninth graders. It also costs \$25 per participant.

For more information, call 263-8527 or 270-2711.

HC sets boys summer basketball camp dates

The Howard College men's basketball coaching staff and players will be conducting two camps this summer and both camps will take place this month.

For more information, call 264-5040. Enrollment is limited.

Hunter education course slated for July 22-23

A hunter education class is scheduled for July 22-23 at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Cost of the class, which will be held at 8 a.m. each day, is \$15 per person.

All persons born after Sept. 1, 1971, who want to hunt in Texas are required to successfully complete the course.

Successful completion of the course is good in all 50 states, as well as Canadian provinces and Mexican states requiring hunter education.

For more information, contact Steve Poitevint at 264-7033 during the evening hours.

CRMWD to take applications for hunting at Ivie

Applications for public hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Wildlife Management Areas will be accepted by mail only beginning July 17 and ending Aug. 17 at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Field Office.

Requests for application packets should be made by calling the CRMWD at 267-8341 or by writing to CRMWD, Attn: Public Hunting, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, 79721.

Woods looks for turnaround after rough Open

By **ANDREW SELIGMAN**
AP Sports Writer

LEMONT, Ill. — All Tiger Woods can do now is shrug it off. After missing the cut at the U.S. Open, Woods hopes to put aside that dismal performance when the Western Open starts Thursday.

"You know, it's something I don't normally do, missing the weekend at a major championship," he said Wednesday. "Missing a weekend means that you have no opportunity to win

the tournament."

Woods wasn't the only disappointed golfer at the U.S. Open. A meltdown on the final hole at Winged Foot cost Phil Mickelson the championship.

Woods and Mickelson head a star-packed field that includes Vijay Singh and Jim Furyk.

A three-time Western Open winner, Woods hopes to rediscover his stroke at Cog Hill after shooting 12-over and failing to make the cut in a major for the first time as a professional.

Woods took nine weeks off

between the Masters and U.S. Open to tend to his father, Earl, who died of cancer on May 3. He went a month without picking up a golf club because it was just too painful — it reminded him of his father and of his loss.

He needed a break.

"I'm sure it gets easier, but it's something you'll never forget," Woods said. "I don't think it's ever something you really want to forget or ever really want to truly put behind you because having a parent that is so loving in your life and that you love so

much, you never, ever, forget that."

Mickelson would probably like to forget his performance at the U.S. Open. He led by one heading into the final hole before a double-bogey dropped him into a tie for second with Colin Montgomerie and Jim Furyk, one shot behind Geoff Ogilvy.

Mickelson made some questionable decisions and brought back memories of the Lefty who was 0-for-42 in majors before breaking through at the 2004 Masters.

Rangers power to 9-3 win Bonds' trainer jailed

By **The Associated Press**

The Texas Rangers made it seem like 2005, when they led the major leagues in home runs.

Ian Kinsler had three hits, including one of Texas' four homers, and Vicente Padilla struck out a season-high 10 to lead the Rangers to a 9-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday night.

Hank Blalock, Michael Young and Rod Barajas also homered for Texas.

The power show was overdue for the Rangers, who had scored only 21 runs in their previous nine games and lag far behind last year's club-record home run pace.

Texas hit 260 homers in 2005, second-most in major league history and four behind the record set by Seattle in 1997. The Rangers entered Wednesday night's game with 87 homers, 11th in the AL.

"I don't know if we've been pressing," Texas' Gary Matthews Jr. said after going 2-for-5. "We had the same approach, we just had better results. It was a good win. We had solid pitching and we scored runs for (Padilla)."

In other AL games, it was: New York 11, Cleveland 3; Detroit 10, Oakland 4; Tampa Bay 5, Boston 2; Chicago 4, Baltimore 2; Kansas City 6, Minnesota 3; and Los Angeles 4, Seattle 0.

In NL games, it was: Florida 18, Washington 9; New York 5, Pittsburgh 0; San Diego 6, Philadelphia 3; Atlanta 14, St. Louis 4; Chicago 1, Houston 0; Milwaukee 6, Cincinnati 5, 13 innings; Colorado 5, San Francisco 3; and Los Angeles 5, Arizona 4.

Padilla (8-5) gave up three runs, six hits and one walk in 6 2-3 innings to match Kevin Millwood for the team lead in victories. Francisco Cordero pitched the final 2 1-3 innings for his sixth save



Toronto Blue Jays catcher Greg Zaun prepares to tag out Rangers runner Ian Kinsler (5) as he tries to extend the Rangers' lead in the sixth inning. The Rangers defeated the Blue Jays, 9-3, at Ameriquest Field in Arlington Wednesday.

in 14 chances.

Earlier Wednesday, the Rangers learned that Millwood will miss Friday's scheduled start against Minnesota and won't pitch again until after the All-Star break.

Millwood has a strained right biceps and hasn't picked up a baseball since last Sunday.

With Millwood's status unknown and projected No. 2 starter Adam Eaton out since spring training, Padilla has given the pitching staff a big lift, going 4-0 with a 2.92 ERA in his last five home starts.

"Vinnny pitching well has been a real need for us," Rangers manager Buck Showalter said.

The Rangers beat Toronto for the 16th time in the last 20 meetings. Texas, which moved within 1 1/2 games of first-place Oakland in the AL West, is 13-3 against Toronto in Arlington since 2004 after taking 2-

of-3 from the Jays.

"They always play us tough," Toronto's Greg Zaun said. "Texas was struggling when we got here and you'd like to think you can take advantage of that."

Frank Catalanotto homered for the Blue Jays, who have won six of nine and remained four games behind first-place Boston in the AL East, failing to take advantage of the Red Sox's third straight loss to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

"It's another example of not taking advantage of opportunities by this ball club," Zaun said.

Mark Teixeira led off the second with a single off rookie Casey Janssen (6-7) and Blalock hit his 12th homer. Kinsler followed with his seventh to give Texas a 3-0 lead.

Hitting coach Rudy Jaramillo had seen enough of his slumping hitters and he lashed out at them in the dugout

prior to the second inning.

"I just snapped," Jaramillo said.

"You can work on mechanics and work on scouting reports all you want, but at some point you have to get the job done," Matthews said. "I guess he'd seen enough. He opened up a little bit on us."

Cubs 1, Astros 0

At Houston, Sean Marshall allowed six hits and struck out two in seven strong innings to help Chicago beat the Astros.

Todd Walker had an RBI double in the fifth, the only run off Roy Oswalt (6-5), who lost his second straight complete game.

Marshall (5-7) snapped a two-game losing streak with his second sharp effort in Houston this season. Ryan Dempster pitched a scoreless ninth to earn his 13th save.

Course management — key is knowing your game

Why is it that in the heat of the moment we go more on feel than brains? It was almost painful watching Phil

hack it around the last hole of the U.S. Open. It brought back memories of Jean Van de Velde in the British Open a few years back.

Everybody at my house was yelling for the 2-iron. Make par and you are the champ. Instead, knock it in the woods and the comment, "I am such an Idiot" to the reporters. Hindsight is 20-20, but how do you make the right decision at the moment the decision has to be made?

Golf is a game of risk and reward. There are times to take chances and times to play it

safe. The key is knowing your game. Everybody has shots they like and shots they hate. Only fools play shots that lead to shots they hate. I have played in many pro-ams where my partners hit 3-woods at the greens on par 5s only to leave themselves with 50-yard wedges or long bunker shots.

Even the pros will tell you that long bunker shots and half wedges are the hardest shots. We have become fascinated with the ability to hit a driver 300 yards with little or no thought to the consequences. Length is an advantage, but only if used properly.

Play to your strengths. If your favorite shot is a 7-iron, play the course trying to get a 7-iron in your hands as often as possible. The guy who won the Division II national title in 1989 hit a 7-iron 150 yards. He paced from the teeing area to the 150-yard mark on every hole. Whatever

club he had to hit to leave 150 yards to the green is what he teed off with. Imagine the looks he got for hitting an iron off the tee when the other guys hit drives 100 yards past him. Imagine the smile on his face after winning.

Course management is the ability to follow a strategy around the course. Take into account your strengths and weaknesses. If you could hit wedges all the way to the hole, chances are you would hit more fairways. Likewise, hitting drivers gets you there quicker, but brings more trouble into play. We want to hit the highest percentage shot that gets us in the hole the quickest. A 2-iron followed by a 7-iron might be a better bet than a driver and a half wedge. Choose the clubs that minimize trouble and maximize your strengths.

The best golfers in the world only hit 75 percent of the fairways and greens. Don't count on

yourself to do any better. There is nothing wrong with being aware of trouble and planning to avoid it. Develop a strategy taking into account elements such as cold, wind and rain. If the weather is perfect, my strategy will be different than when I am playing on a cold, windy day. Know your limits. If you can carry a 3-wood 220 yards, don't try to hit it over water from 222.

Our egos have a way of getting in our way sometimes. The more decisions you make before the moment arrives, the more likely you are to stick to your decision.

The old saying "failing to plan is planning to fail" applies to golf. This is a game where low score wins. Think through the process and see if you do not shoot lower scores.

Larry Bryan is club professional at the Big Spring Country Club.

That's Racin'

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Go online and check out www.thatstracin.com for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

"I'm speechless.
That's like a win for us."

— Boris Said, on his fourth-place finish in the 2006 Pepsi 400 at Daytona International Speedway. Said is running a limited schedule in the Nextel Cup series.



Making strides

After early race setbacks and adjusting to a new team, Kurt Busch's patience is beginning to pay off in top finishes

By JIM UTTER
McClatchy Newspapers

Adversity is nothing new for Kurt Busch. Handling it well is what has sparked an enormous turnaround for him in his first season with Penske Racing South.

Four races into the 2006 season, Busch was 27th in points with no finish better than 16th. He was closer to falling out of the top 35 in car owner points than he was making the Chase for the Nextel Cup.

Persistence and patience have paid off. His first top five of the season came with a win at Bristol, Tenn., and after struggling through another slump that sent him to 19th in points, he has rocketed back to the front in the past five races.

"It's nice steady progress. That's what we're looking for, and I think that's what we've found in the last few weeks, just turning that corner," said

HERE HE COMES

Kurt Busch has moved from 19th to 13th in points over the past five races and is 103 points out of the top 10 with nine races remaining before the Chase for the Nextel Cup:

Race	Start	Finish	Points position
Dover	4	16	18
Pocono	2	2	17
Michigan	13	9	16
Sonoma	1	5	14
Daytona	16	3	13

finish last weekend at Daytona Beach, Fla.

"A lot of things weren't going our way mid-season. We definitely feel like we've got things (moving) in our direction, but yet we still need some luck."

Yes, he does. Busch's season-high points position hasn't come without adversity or problems. But he and his No. 2 Dodge team have excelled in their ability to overcome them.

Last weekend, Busch spent much of the first half of the Pepsi 400 struggling with a bad battery that had to be changed under caution. Another bad finish appeared likely.

Yet by the end of the race he and his younger brother, Kyle Busch, were running nose-to-tail trying to run down race leader Tony Stewart for the win.

"That was a great race for us. The team continued its momentum," Kurt said. "I hope we get just as good a finish next week at Chicago."

Busch is now 103 points out of 10th place with nine races remaining before the cutoff to make the championship chase.

He is confident he will have to crack the top 10 to have a shot at making the Chase field for the third consecutive season.

"You definitely have to race to the top 10, and the top 10 guys will be in. And so we look at it where there's still plenty of races for things to go wrong and things to go right," Busch said.

"Hopefully we're on the right side of things with our team because we have had our share of bad luck and misfortune, so when we are able to put a good race together, (we) are competing in the top five all throughout the day."

"If we can continue to do that and position ourselves, we can make this Chase. We'll have an opportunity to do that in these upcoming races to see what we have."

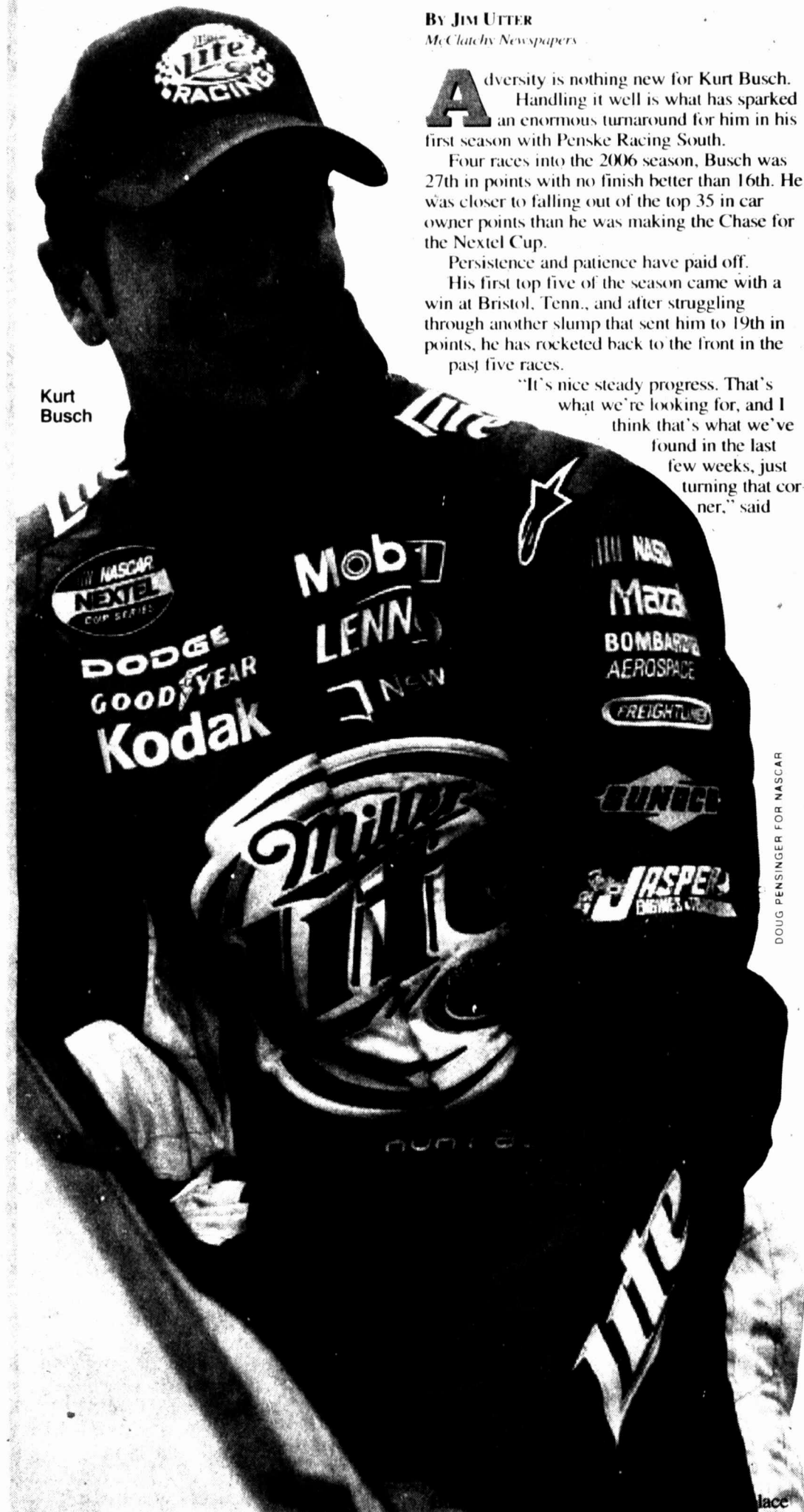
Busch left Roush Racing — with whom he won the 2004 Cup series championship — at the end of last season under a dark cloud.

An off-track incident involving Arizona sheriff's deputies caused Roush and his team's sponsor to force him to sit out the last two races of the year. Questions swirled about how well Busch would work with his new teammate, Ryan Newman.

Busch has remained confident that given enough time, he could return to his 2004 championship form.

"It can happen next year. It could happen this year still. But realistically, I think it takes a season or two or three," he said. "There's a bunch of drivers that have swapped teams, and it takes them a couple years to get things into place."

But there's no time like the present.



Kurt Busch

DOUG PENNINGER FOR NASCAR

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. **Matt Kenseth (car No. 17):** No. 1 almost by default — he's the only driver in last week's top five with a decent Daytona finish. Last week: 2.

2. **Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):** Hate to keep harping on this team's summer swoons but it's hard to

ignore the pattern. Last week: 1.

3. **Tony Stewart (car No. 20):** You get the sense this team is about to reel off a series of top-five finishes. Last week: 7.

4. **Kasey Kahne (car No. 9):** We'll see if the No. 9 team's 1.5-mile magic works on a flatter track at Chicagoland. Last week: 3.

5. **Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8):** Ran as badly as it has in a long time at Daytona but still gained ground in

the points. Last week: 5.

6. **Greg Biffle (car No. 16):** Daytona setback notwithstanding, we still think this team's elevator is on the way up. Last week: 4.

7. **Mark Martin (car No. 6):** You can almost hear him saying to himself, "Just one more plate race to survive." Last week: 6.

8. **Jeff Burton (car No. 31):** Happy to escape eventful Daytona with a top-15 finish. He could flourish on

the flat tracks. Last week: 8.

9. **Kyle Busch (car No. 5):** This has been the definitive Chase for the Nextel Cup bubble team so far this season. Last week: 14.

10. **Denny Hamlin (car No. 11):** This team is still going to have to do some more good things to make the Chase cut. Last week: 10.

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

Daytona wins showcase Stewart's driving talent

Twice in three nights, at almost exactly the same spot — he's the only driver in last week's top five with a decent Daytona finish. Last week: 2.

Saturday night, as he began Lap 154 in the 2006 Pepsi 400, Stewart drove his No. 20 Chevrolet to the low side of the 2.5-mile oval and came from about seventh or eighth into second place. It was a bold and, ultimately, decisive move, leaving him only surprise leader Boris Said to pass after another caution set up a restart with three laps to go.

Stewart needed less than a lap to accomplish that and head off to his second straight victory in this event.

Two nights earlier, in the first International Race of Champions race held on a road course since 1991, 12 cars took off at the green flag. Stewart started 11th, and at about the same spot he gave himself plenty of room

while his competitors careened into the left-hand turn that took them into the infield portion of Daytona's road course.

He came through the first set of turns in fourth place. It was just a matter of time before he got to the front, and once he was there it didn't matter that Max Papis and Max Angelelli, two of the world's more accomplished road racers, were chasing him.

"I was really, really happy with the road course win," Stewart said. "That's what IROC is all about, testing your skills against theirs. ... I thought that race would be the most even race for all the drivers. ... For the stock car drivers, we're used to driving that type of car. For the road course drivers, they were used to techniques that you use on a road course and I felt like that kind of

evened out the competition a little bit more."

In getting the win Saturday, Stewart had the advantage of a strong race car and a Joe Gibbs Racing team that kept him at or near the front all night. But when Stewart took four tires on a yellow before a restart with nine laps to go, he was 10th.

If Stewart was going to win a race he'd dominated, he needed to move up with haste. The move that got him to second certainly expedited the process.

"I just got a good push that gave me a run," Stewart said. "Those guys really weren't paying attention to me, they were paying attention to the two-wide racing that they were involved in. I got by Denny (Hamlin), and then Casey Mears was stuck in the middle and working on somebody on the out-

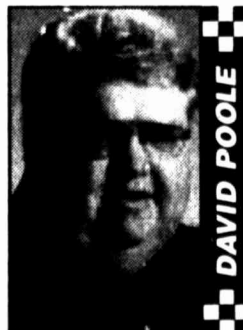
side, and I don't even think he even saw me coming because he didn't even flinch."

A victory by Said, who'd started from the pole and picked up the lead late by staying out on the aforementioned caution, would have made for quite the Cinderella story.

"If he won the race... it was going to be pretty cool," Stewart said. "I hated to spoil it for him but we just had a car that was too good tonight to not go out and win."

With victory in hand, Stewart felt he had no choice but to climb the fence to the flag stand. He first did that when he won this race a year ago, and it has become something of a trademark. More importantly, Stewart said, it has become something the fans expect.

"There was no way I was going to let those race fans down," he said. "I wasn't going to stop until I either got all the way up or fell off on my butt."



DAVID POOLE

THIS WEEK'S RACE

USG SHEETROCK 400

Where: Chicagoland Speedway, a 1.5-mile paved banked oval located in Joliet, Ill.

When: Sunday at 3:35 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 4:40 p.m. Friday.

TV: TNT.

Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$6,014,007.

Last year's winner: Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Worth mentioning: Tony Stewart has led 275 laps in five races at Chicagoland, the most of all drivers.

Brian Vickers leads all full-time active drivers with a 4.5 starting average in two races at Chicagoland.

Greg Biffle is the only driver who has led at least one lap in 14 of the 17 races this season.



Earnhardt Jr.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

What do you think about Fox ending its NASCAR coverage for the season?

Cast your vote at: www.thatstracin.com

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

■ **Tony Stewart:** If he wins a third championship, will he scale the Empire State Building?

■ **Kurt Busch:** Less talk and more racing is propelling him into Chase contention.

■ **Matt Kenseth:** When he is fast and in contention at restrictor-plate tracks, you know you're in trouble.

WHO'S NOT

■ **Jimmie Johnson:** Ruined not only his day but Bobby Labonte's as well.

■ **Jeff Gordon:** Win one week, finish 40th the next. Not a good pattern.

■ **Everham Motorsports:** Did anyone see them at Daytona?

RANDOM THOUGHTS

■ Sorry, I just don't see the sky falling in the Cup series when Toyota enters next season with Michael Waltrip, Dale Jarrett, Brian Vickers and three drivers to be named later.

■ Two words of advice to NASCAR as it considers changes to the Chase for the Nextel Cup format for next season.

First, make winning count for something with a sizable bonus that provides a team an appropriate reward for the hard work it takes to win a Nextel Cup race. Second, should the race winner's car fail post-race inspection for any reason and it is upheld on appeal, take back that bonus.

Waltrip

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

The top-40 drivers as of July 1:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	2501	21. Dale Jarrett	1677
2. Matt Kenseth	2493	22. Martin Truex Jr.	1659
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2234	23. Scott Riggs	1653
4. Kasey Kahne	2209	24. Reed Sorenson	1650
5. Tony Stewart	2202	25. Jeff Green	1571
6. Mark Martin	2177	26. Bobby Labonte	1549
7. Jeff Burton	2152	27. Joe Nemechek	1510
8. Kyle Busch	2095	28. Robby Gordon	1487
9. Kevin Harvick	2088	29. J.J. Yeley	1475
10. Denny Hamlin	2048	30. Kyle Petty	1413
11. Greg Biffle	2042	31. Ken Schrader	1408
12. Jeff Gordon	2034	32. Jeremy Mayfield	1388
13. Kurt Busch	1945	33. Dave Blaney	1385
14. Carl Edwards	1923	34. Sterling Marlin	1356
15. Casey Mears	1903	35. Michael Waltrip	1238
16. Jamie McMurray	1875	36. David Stremme	1190
17. Ryan Newman	1860	37. Travis Kvapil	1142
18. Clint Bowyer	1799	38. Tony Raines	983
19. Elliott Sadler	1794	39. Scott Wimmer	965
20. Brian Vickers	1733	40. Terry Labonte	857

The top-20 drivers as of June 30:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	2812	11. Jason Leffler	1848
2. Carl Edwards	2424	12. John Andretti	1845
3. Clint Bowyer	2389	13. Ashton Lewis	1816
4. Denny Hamlin	2381	14. Burney Lamar	1807
5. J.J. Yeley	2360	15. Jon Wood	1772
6. Greg Biffle	2173	16. Todd Klusener	1718
7. Paul Menard	2167	17. David Green	1714
8. Kyle Busch	2154	18. Danny O'Quinn Jr.	1682
9. Kenny Wallace	1982	19. Stacy Compton	1667
10. Johnny Sauter	1958	20. Reed Sorenson	1664

NEXT RACE: Saturday, USG Durock 300, Joliet, Ill.

The top-10 drivers as of July 1:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Todd Bodine	1909	6. Terry Cook	1602
2. David Reutimann	1771	7. David Starr	1600
3. Jeff Burdon	1766	8. Dennis Setzer	1593
4. Ted Musgrave	1657	9. Jack Sprague	1578
5. Rick Crawford	1636	10. Ron Hornaday Jr.	1560

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Built Ford Tough 225, Sparta, Ky.

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GARAGE SALE, 124 Jonesboro (off N. Birdwell), Saturday, 8:00-1:00. Couches, bookshelves, recliner, sink, tile, Christmas tree, tent, boys clothes, cleats, toys, etc.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE, 2517 Central. Saturday, 8:00-12:00. Sofa, loveseat, glass & iron dining set, 19" TV, knick-knacks, lots of etc.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday, 8:00-? 704 NW 10th. Mexican planters, candies. Adult & children's clothing & work clothes, shoes, tools, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE: #3 Coachman Circle, Friday 8:00-1:00. Furniture, studio piano, trampoline, bedding, linens, clothing, household items, knick-knacks and misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 2607 Cindy, Friday & Saturday 7:00-2:00. Furniture, kids clothes, household items and blue heeler puppy.

GARAGE SALE: 2706 Larry, Saturday 7:30-? Clothes, toys, baby items, knick-knacks and much more.

GARAGE SALE: 2709 Larry Drive, Saturday 7:30-2:30. Welder, furniture, lamps, pictures, home deco., dishes, kitchen items, comforters, clothes (petite) 0-6, lots of misc. No Junk.

GARAGE SALE: 408 North East 11th, Saturday. Bed, couch and lots of misc.

INSIDE SALE, 1306 Tucson. Saturday, 8:00-3:00. Everything Goes!! Kitchen appliances, furniture, dishes, etc.

MOVING SALE: 2706 Cindy. Coffee table, end table, clarinet, all types of miscellaneous. Friday & Saturday 7:30-?

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MULTI. FAMILY Garage Sale: 2715 Coronado, Saturday 8-? Early sales welcome after 5:00 pm. Furniture and lots of misc. items.

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BIG SPRING HERALD

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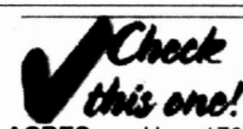
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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF COAHOMA
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
The City of Coahoma will hold a public hearing at 5:30 PM on July 10, 2006, at the City Hall Council Room located at 122 North First Street, Coahoma, Texas. The public hearing is in regards to the submission of future applications to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) grants. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of TxCDBG applications and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and comments to the Office of the Mayor, by mailing them to P.O. Box 420, Coahoma, Texas 79511. Individuals who require auxiliary aids for this meeting should contact City Hall at (432)394-4287 at least two days before the meeting so arrangements can be made.
#5020 July 6, 2006

Legals

NOTICE OF PROPOSED
Acquisition of Bank and Assumption of Liabilities. Notice is hereby given that the First Bank of West Texas, Coahoma, Texas has made application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for its written consent to Acquire the assets of and assume less than a majority of liabilities to pay the name of Western National Bank Big Spring Branch at 607 South Scurry, Main Office Odessa Texas. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the regional director (DOS) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at 1910 Pacific Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas 75201 not later than 30 days after the first publication of the notice. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file in the regional office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application will be made available upon request.
#5021 July 6, 2006.

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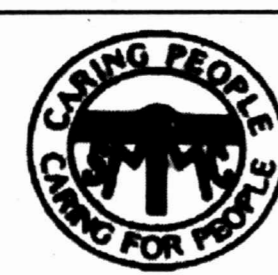
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Jupiter, the "Mr. Big" of the zodiac, decides to move forward in his expansive, generous and jolly way — and you may, too. Jupiter advancing directly through Scorpio suggests that stellar opportunities may wear a mysterious disguise, but you'll know them by their delectable, subtle and inexplicable allure.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're multifaceted. The choices you make today involve acknowledging your complexities. As a result, you may have a fulfilling life instead of just an impressive lifestyle.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your imagination runs wild, flies high, gets lost and gets found.

Maybe it's a sign that your reality could use some spiffing up — and you can put your creativity to that task, too.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Friends who adore you have their reasons. You would be surprised, flattered and proud if you knew what those reasons were. Take stock in the many things you're doing right to build relationships.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though you've come a long way in perfecting your habits, there is still an aspect of yourself that you have trouble accepting. What would happen if you gave up the fight? You could even learn to love this quirky imperfection.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The reason you think a situation is funny (though nobody else seems to share this point of view) is that you recognize the truth in it. You'll also use your truth-o-meter to better yourself in some way today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). This is your lucky day for relinquishing control. Throw your dream into the air like a carrier pigeon, then watch what returns in its talons — an invitation to away lands, a winning ticket, a note from heaven itself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). No one has unwavering virtue, but you try your darndest and expect others in your life to do the same. You may have to lead the way in this regard today when temptations abound.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your environment shows you all of its flaws, including (and especially) the holes in your organizational system. OK, calling it a "system" is a bit of a stretch. Luckily, a Virgo is willing to help you get it together.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You incessantly apply yourself to one problem without growing weary. Keep on in this way, and you'll be called a mad genius. You'll also be

wonderfully successful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're just the messenger, not the message. So, if you get it wrong, it's a translation problem rather than a flaw in your logic or skills. Be easy on yourself. You're doing a good job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Knock on a door long enough, and it will probably open for you, but there's something to be said for going through the door that swings wide on the first try. Consider that there might be an easier way.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have all the words you need to get your point across. The intention behind your voice is everything. So wait until you feel strongly and clearly about what you need to communicate.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I need to know if a Libra who had a bad marriage to a Capricorn can move on and have a good life, even though I'm

afraid dating will be very difficult for a single mom. I was born Sept. 29, 1966. I'm glad to have a child and my health, and I'm trying to make a new life. Like everyone, I would like a good man and a secure home, with plenty of money." This year, you have a chance to use your skills at making friends and impressing those with some power to help you. Your hard experiences have left you somewhat disillusioned, so having an optimistic attitude will be one of your major challenges. Joining a support group is a terrific idea. Don't try to handle everything alone, but reach out to those women's and victim's services in your area that can help you keep a balanced perspective. You have many planets in Pisces and Virgo. This energy can be used very successfully in healing others. Consider entering the field of health; there are many kinds of therapeutic sup-

port that can be learned with just a little training. And then you can go on to better things, like marrying a doctor!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Sylvester Stallone has taken a break from the spotlight to concentrate on his family the past few years, as Cancers love to do. However, expect a return with a powerful vengeance as Stallone stars in not one, but two highly anticipated sequels: "Rocky Balboa" and "Rambo IV." Audiences receive Stallone with open arms as he introduces a new generation of fans to his beloved film characters.

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

Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My friend, "Giselle," has a husband who is emotionally and physically abusive. At the moment, Giselle has a black eye, a huge gash on her arm and a red mark around her neck. She's told me story after story of his abuse, which has gone on for six years. And did I mention he does this in front of their 2-year-old daughter?

I finally hit rock bottom with my tolerance and told Giselle if she doesn't do something to get her child out of this sick relationship, I will. She's begged me not to tell anyone, but I worry. I told her I am no longer going to her house, and I have a hard time remaining friends with her while she stays with this abusive man.

Her family has bribed her with money to leave her husband, promising to support her and the child. But she defends him, saying, "He wasn't feeling good that day," or "He was aiming for the wall when he punched me and didn't mean to give me a black eye."

I am tired of it. He cheats on her, beats her and nothing is bad enough to be a deal breaker. She's only 25 and the sole breadwinner. I am out of things to say to her. Please help. — Friend in Need

Dear Friend: The dynamic between a victim and abuser is complicated. Giselle's self-esteem is so low that she believes she is at fault, that she doesn't deserve better, and that her life would be worse without him. That's why she makes excuses for his behavior and stays. We know it is frustrating, but please don't abandon her. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (ndvh.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233), and ask what you can do to help.

Dear Annie: I have been with my husband, "Dennis," for five years. The first few years were great, sexually. He did everything a woman would want. Then he stopped.

Over the past year, he has lost any spark of passion, and sex has become a dull, boring routine. We are intimate once a week, and it lasts less than 10 minutes. I have told Dennis our sex life is boring and I would like variety. I have even bought toys and videos and planned romantic



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

evenings, but he goes out of his way to make sure one of the kids is home, so it doesn't pan out. It's not only the intimacy that is lacking, but also our communication and physical contact. When he kisses me goodbye, I feel like I am being kissed by my grandmother.

Dennis says I should be content because he provides for the family and comes home every night. I doubt he will agree to counseling because he thinks he's the best thing that's ever happened to me. I am losing all interest in him and am considering finding someone else to fill the empty hole in my relationship. He is only 37. I don't know what to do. — Regretting my Marriage in Oregon

Dear Oregon: It may be unrealistic to expect Dennis to continue to romance you at the level

he did when you first married. Few men understand how much this can mean to their wives, and even fewer will go to the trouble. Ask him to get a complete physical to rule out any medical problems, and then tell him your marriage is in serious trouble and you want him to come with you for counseling. If he refuses, go without him.

Dear Annie: I've never written you before, but since I find bikini hair to be rather disgusting, I decided to weigh in on the subject.

I've been shaving my bikini area for years. I once read an article that said you won't suffer itching, rashes, etc., if you shave in the same direction in which the unwanted hair grows. Since following that advice, I've never had a problem. I thought you might want to share this with your female readers. — Bare in My Bikini

Dear Bikini: Thanks for the tip. We hope anyone who is interested will give it a try.

Dear Annie: Recently, an old boyfriend, who apparently is happily married, began e-mailing me after finding my name on a high school reunion website.

"Alex" and I spent one summer together prior to graduating. Other than some great kissing, we were never intimate (not

for lack of interest). Toward the end of the summer, he talked about our marrying, but I said I was too young and not ready for that. It ended when he just quit calling.

A few years later, I married someone else, and we've been happy together. I'm not interested in resuming any romantic relationship with Alex, but I'm finding he has stirred up some conflicting emotions.

Back then, his walking away from our relationship without any explanation fed into my insecurities and left me feeling I could not trust my emotions or other people. I've spent many years trying to overcome that. His e-mails say he continues to think about me and often compares me favorably to others. I'm flattered. For a long time I felt unlovable and would not have believed he ever thought about me.

I've made it clear to Alex that nothing in our e-mails should make either of our spouses jealous. But I really want to ask him why he walked away from me all those years ago. I'd like to know what was wrong with me.

I'm on an emotional roller coaster knowing he cared enough to look me up, and wondering why I wasn't enough for him before. Any thoughts? — Conflicted

Dear Conflicted: Yes.

Stop. Years ago, you rejected Alex and he was hurt. He was too immature to figure out how to handle the relationship, so he let it fitter away. Now he is flattering you because he thinks you may be vulnerable to a flirtation (or more). If you start asking him questions about your ancient break-up, it will only confirm that you are interested. Don't go there.

Dear Annie: I recently received an e-mail inviting me to the baby shower of the wife of one of my husband's co-workers, along with the places she is registered. This is their second child together. The co-worker has three children from a previous marriage, and his wife has one.

I sent a generous gift, along with my regrets that I had a previous engagement. To my shock, I received the following e-mail from the mother-to-be, addressed to approximately nine of us:

"Hi, Everyone: Because so many people can't come to my shower, I've decided not to have it. My family members would rather spend the money on the baby than on a shower. Please don't take this the wrong way. I wasn't planning on having any more children, so I don't have anything. I am starting from scratch. Thank you."

Mind you, nowhere does

I feel this is extremely rude. Am I being judgmental? — Partied Out in Lodi, Calif.

Dear Lodi: This was an open announcement that the shower had been cancelled, tucked into a plea for gifts anyway. It was not a personal letter, so we hope you still get that thank-you note.

Dear Annie: Just another one for you to add to your "farmer" inventory. When I farmed, we had a year-round operation. Friends used to encourage me to take Sundays off. They said, "Even God rested one day." I pointed out that God never had to milk cows. — John on the Internet

Dear John: Thanks for the farm humor. Our best to Elsie.

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

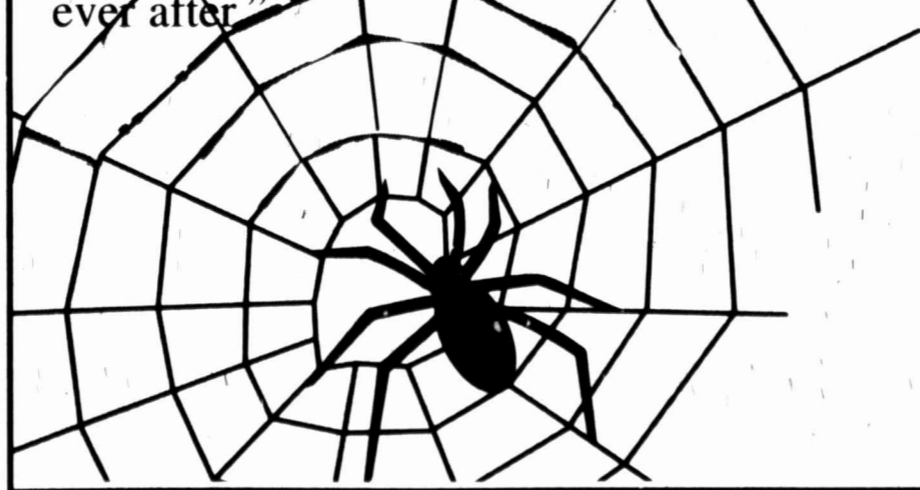
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The Spider

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

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

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



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THURSDAY

	WFAA (2)	KIMD (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (34)
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Persegina	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Entertainment	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond MLB Baseball	Joe McGee John Hagge	News-Lesher	Shots Fired: Officer Down!	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Without a Trace (CC)	Live (CC) BET Style	Phil of Future That's-Raven	2006 Hot Dog Eating Contest	NFL Baseball	Movie: In the Dead of Space
7	Master of Champions	Master of Champions	La Fea Mas Bella	70s Show 70s Show	Big Brother 7: All-Stars	Tierra de Pasiones	Name is Earl	Cincinnati Reds at Atlanta Braves (CC)	Update/Israel Sid Roth	The This Old House Hour	Supermax	Movie: Broken Trail	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	The Parkers The Parkers	Movie: Tarzan (CC)	Today at Wimbledon	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	Movie: Close Encounters of the Third Kind
8	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Barrera de Amor	You Can Dance	Rock Star Supernova	Amores de Mercado	The Office	Atlanta Braves (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Fugitive Strike Force	UFC Unleashed	The Dudesons Raising Roots	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Comickview (CC)	Emperor American Drgn	Baseball Tonight	MLB Baseball	Movie: Close Encounters of the Third Kind
9	News (CC)	News Nightline	Primer Impacto	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Taulares y Mas	News Wimbledon	Roberts: Forney Child	The Hour of Healing	To Be Announced	Sensing Murder	TNA IMPACT! (CC)	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Comickview (CC)	Emperor American Drgn	Baseball Tonight	MLB Baseball	Movie: Close Encounters of the Third Kind
10	Entertainment Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid	Letterman Late Late	Laura Al Fijo Vivo	Tonight Show Star (CC)	Star (CC) 40 Movie: Update/Israel Booker	Curt Landry Y. Salamanca	Sign Off	Supermax	Movie: The Man From	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	World of Warcraft (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	Phil of Future That's-Raven	2006 Hot Dog Eating Contest	MLB Baseball	Movie: Close Encounters of the Third Kind
11	AM Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids Divorce Court	Show The Insider	Maria Celeste Pagado	Late Night: Conan O'Brien	Orange County (CC)	Update/Israel Booker	Fugitive Strike Force	Snowy River	Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	BET After Dark (CC)	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	Boxing: Wednesday	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone	Movie: Close Encounters of the Third Kind
12	News (CC)	Apex Media																	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WHEN HE STARTS LOOKIN' LIKE THAT, IT'S TIME TO GO!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"They're all white. That's why we hardly ever see them in coloring books."

HAGAR



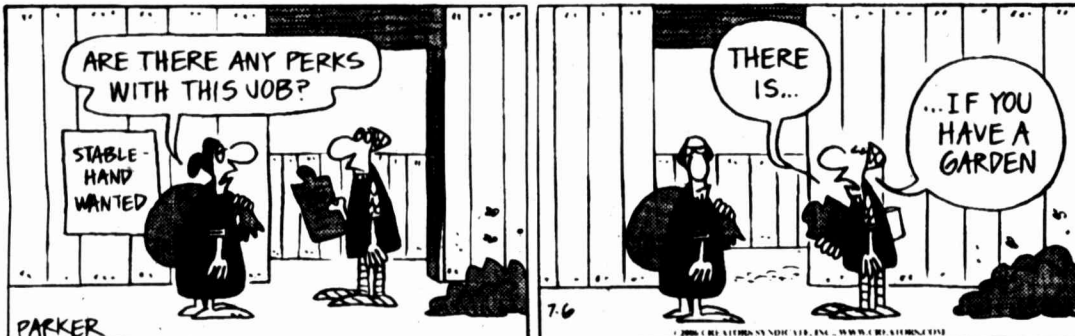
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, July 6, the 187th day of 2006. There are 178 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 6, 1944, 169 people died in a fire that broke out in the main tent of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum-and-Bailey Circus in Hartford, Conn.

On this date:

In 1535, Sir Thomas More was executed in England for treason.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, British forces captured Fort Mifflin.

In 1854, the first official meeting of the Republican Party took place in Jackson, Mich.

In 1917, during World War I, Arab forces led by T.E. Lawrence captured the port of Aqaba from the Turks.

In 1923, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was formed.

In 1945, President Truman signed an executive order establishing the Medal of Freedom.

Actor Burt Ward is 60. Actress Nathalie Baye is 58. Actor Geoffrey Rush is 55. Rock musician John Bazz (The Blisters) is 54. Actress Shelley Hack is 54. Actor Grant Goodeve is 54. Country singer Nanci Griffith is 53. Actress Allyce Beasley is 52. Jazz musician Rick Braun is 51. Country musician John Jorgenson is 50. Hockey player Ron Duguay is 49. Rapper 50 Cent is 30. Actress Tamera Mowry is 28. Actress Eva Green is 26. Actor Gregory Smith is 23. Actor Jeremy Suarez ("Bernie Mac") is 16.

Thought for Today: "Bored people, unless they sleep a lot, are cruel." — Renata Adler, American writer.

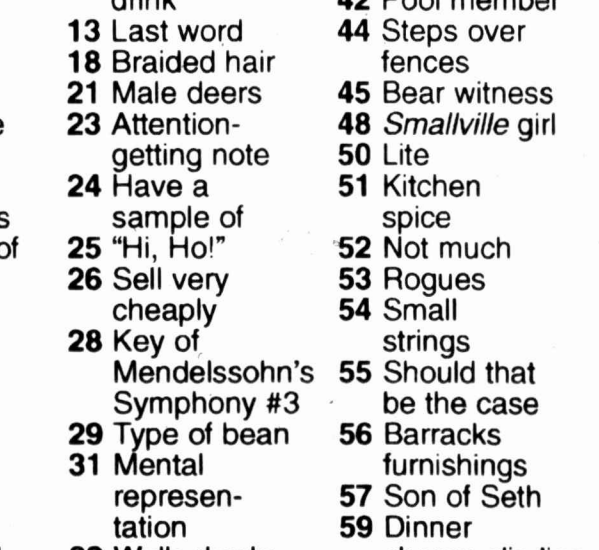
* 2006 The Associated Press.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Any of 16 Benedicts
- 5 Big stirs
- 9 Light wood
- 14 Russian river
- 15 Airport shuttles
- 16 Peppard's TV group
- 17 9-to-12er
- 19 Satisfy, as a thirst
- 20 Nonwinners
- 21 First word of "Cheek to Cheek"
- 22 Tennis gear
- 23 Out of date
- 24 Kids' game
- 27 Coastal city, often
- 30 Objective
- 33 Healing plants
- 35 Thin fog
- 36 Bullets, e.g.
- 37 Parlor seat
- 38 Dyes
- 39 Sheepish comments
- 40 One grand
- 41 Kin of contra-
- 42 Woolen fabric
- 43 Jug handle
- 44 Have as a target
- 46 Primary
- 47 Role player
- 49 AT&T part
- 51 Five iron
- 53 Matter zilch
- 58 Lagoon former
- 59 Have as a work holiday
- 60 Birch craft
- 61 Midmonth time
- 62 Regarding
- 63 Outer boundaries
- 64 Attention getter
- 65 Make a pitch
- DOWN**
- 1 Insect stage
- 2 Kind of tradition
- 3 Links scores
- 4 First name of Lestat's composer
- 5 Fly
- 6 "___ the torpedoes!"
- 7 Small bills
- 8 Former geopolitical letters
- 9 Least moral
- 10 Big book
- 11 Cause damage, perhaps
- 12 Japanese drink
- 13 Last word
- 18 Braided hair
- 21 Male deers
- 23 Attention-getting note
- 24 Have a sample of
- 25 "Hi, Ho!"
- 26 Sell very cheaply
- 28 Key of Mendelssohn's Symphony #3
- 29 Type of bean
- 31 Mental representation
- 32 Walk slowly
- 34 ___ de Cologne
- 36 Simpsons grandpa
- 38 Western lake
- 42 Pool member
- 44 Steps over fences
- 45 Bear witness
- 48 Smallville girl
- 50 Lite
- 51 Kitchen spice
- 52 Not much
- 53 Rogues
- 54 Small strings
- 55 Should that be the case
- 56 Barracks furnishings
- 57 Son of Seth
- 59 Dinner charge-slip line

EXIT LINES by Robert H. Wolfe

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com



Answer to previous puzzle

L	A	F	F	G	R	I	T	A	W	A	S	H
A	R	I	A	R	E	L	O	D	E	L	T	A
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T	O	N	A	T	E	S	E	R	R	A	T	E
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N	M	L	E	T	E	R	N	I	T	I	T	A
A	S	E	A	B	A	E	R	D	R	E	D	
P	L	E	A	A	L	L	E	T	A	N	S	
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