

Local stores set for tax free holiday

□ Friday through midnight Sunday.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Area retailers are gearing up for one of the busiest sales weekends of the year.

Texas' annual sales tax holiday, in which most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 is exempted from sales and use taxes, will be held Friday through Sunday.

The event has traditionally been one of the busiest weekends of the year for area retailers,

and they are preparing accordingly.

Several store managers said they will have extra staffing, while some are considering extending store hours in anticipation of extra sales this weekend.

"Everybody will be here. Nobody's allowed off this weekend," Maurice's Manager Lara Spalding said with a laugh.

Maurice's has several special sales events being held in conjunction with the tax holiday, Spalding said. The store is offering

See **TAX FREE**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Firefighters douse this tractor trailer after it caught fire Wednesday afternoon on Interstate Highway 20 near the Moss Lake exit. According to law enforcement officials at the scene, the driver of the truck was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and treated for smoke inhalation and minor burns to his hands and arms. The cause of the fire has yet to be determined.

Beset by bees

City employees attacked while mowing lot

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Tales of bee attacks from Mexico and South America may seem far from the Crossroads area, but one Big Spring father and son recently found out just how quickly the small black and yellow insects can hit home.

Nick Reyna, a code enforcement officer with the city of Big Spring, his 17-year-old son Jarrett Reyna, a part-time city employee, and fellow worker Joe Trevino were attacked by bees while mowing a lot near Mesquite Street over the weekend.

"My youngest boy, Jarrett, was on the mower when the bees attacked," recounted Reyna. "We were trimming mesquite bushes when Joe and I saw



KRT photo/Sangib Min
A recent bee attack in the west part of Big Spring is prompting local officials to urge residents to be vigilant and protect themselves against the small insects.

him go running across the lot, followed by what looked like a dark cloud. From where we were, you really couldn't tell it was bees.

"He was running from them, and when he tripped and fell, it was like something out of the cartoons. The bees just went straight for him."

Reyna said he and Trevino ran to the boy's aid, but not before the teen suffered numerous stings.

"We ran to him and got him up," said Reyna. "After that it was just crazy. We basically ran for nearly 20 minutes, trying to get away from the bees. Someone nearby called 911 when they saw what happened, and it wasn't until we climbed into the ambulance that we

actually got away from the bees. I swear, I haven't run like that in years.

"Jarrett got the worst of it. He was stung 53 times, mainly on his neck, arms, face and the top of his head. I only got stung about 10 times, but I was wearing a long sleeve shirt and gloves. Joe got stung about as many times as I did."

And while 53 stings may sound bad, Reyna said the news he and his son received from the exterminator called in to get rid of the swarm made them realize just how lucky they were.

"The exterminator said there were approximately 1 million bees in that

See **STINGS**, Page 5

Bee aware: Fewer complaints good news, but stay vigilant, officials urge

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

While the number of bee attacks reported to the Big Spring Fire Marshal's office have fallen dramatically since last summer, a recent attack has local officials warning area residents to be careful when outdoors.

The weekend attack on three employees of the city of Big Spring is the first reported this season, according to Fire Marshal Carl Condray, who attributes the drop in the number of reports to better education of the public.

"We've been working with

"If encountered, get away quickly and try to protect your face and eyes as much as possible. Take shelter in a car or building. Most importantly, don't stand and swat at the bees, as the rapid motions will cause them to sting."

—Carl Condray, fire marshal



the media over the last couple of years to educate them on bee attacks," said Condray. "That's the only thing I can attribute the drop in complaints to. I think people are listening more, and paying better attention to their surroundings."

As for the attack on the city employees, which sent a 17-year-old to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center with more than 50 stings on his face, arms and neck, Condray said the situation was one all too common to the West Texas

area.

"The boy was on a riding mower, and as I've said in the past, the sounds created by mowers will attract the bees," said Condray. "It will basically drive them into a frenzy and they will attack anything nearby, including people, pets and other animals."

Condray said the swarms, sometimes appearing as a large "ball" of bees, is a natural reaction by the bees to find a new home. And while the appearance of these

See **SAFETY**, Page 5

Border security

Senate adds fence money to defense bill

By **SUZANNE GAMBOA**
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Conservative lawmakers who say the American people need a signal that Congress is serious about cracking down on illegal immigration pushed Wednesday for more border security funding in a defense spending bill.

The Senate gave a nod to one of those efforts, agreeing 94-3 to an amendment to the Defense Department appropriations bill providing \$1.83 billion for 370 miles of triple-layered fencing and 461 miles of vehicle barriers on the U.S.-Mexican border.

"We're not playing games here. The American people have every right to be dubious and concerned about the commitment of this Congress to follow through."

The defense bill is far from final. A vote on the larger spending bill is pending and if passed would have to be reconciled with the House bill.

Republican Sens. John Cornyn of Texas and Jon Kyl of Arizona want \$3.9 billion for border fencing, Border Patrol agents, detention beds, and other

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Obituaries

Natividad 'Tala' Urias



Natividad "Tala" Urias, 80, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2006, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Sept. 25, 1925, in Chanti to Dolores and Higinio Urias. She worked at Gregg Street Cleaners for more than 20 years. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Maria Bueno of Fort Worth and Freda Dominguez of Big Spring; six grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; four brothers, Lupe Urias of Big Spring, Higinio Urias of Dumas, Joe Urias of Kansas City, Mo., and Calistro Urias of Slaton; and one sister, Nena Jurado of Stratford.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Charles Urias in 1966.

Pallbearers will be David Dominguez, Charles Dominguez, Vicente Zavella, Lupe Urias, Eddie Urias, Raymond Urias and Israel Guel.

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

Paid obituary

Severa 'Tia Sarah' Roman



Severa "Tia Sarah" Roman, 73, of Big Spring, died Sunday, July 30, 2006, at her residence. A rosary was held Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services were to be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, 2006, at the St. Thomas Catholic Church. Interment followed at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born May 4, 1933, in Big Spring. Severa was a lifelong resident of Big Spring. She enjoyed working crossword puzzles and loved to read. She was an avid sports fan and especially enjoyed baseball. Tia Sarah never met a stranger and was loved by all. She enjoyed being with her nieces and nephews. She was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

Survivors include one sister, Sulema Delgado of Big Spring; four nephews and one niece who she loved as her own, Andy Gamboa and wife, Delia of Fort Worth, David Gamboa and Ruben Gamboa both of Big Spring, George Roman of Fort Worth, and Sylvia Gamboa of San Antonio; and numerous other nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents. 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

Melba McCarty



Melba McCarty, 73, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2006, in Sterling City. Graveside services will be at 9 a.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Carroll Kohl, retired pastor, officiating.

She was born May 4, 1933, in Big Spring to Susie and Willie McCarty. She was a homemaker and a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

She is survived by one son, Ricky Davis and his wife Terri of Big Spring; one grandson; and three great-grandsons; one sister, Gracie Sledge of Henderson; one brother, Tommy McCarty of Henderson; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Charlie McCarty and James McCarty; and one sister, Mary Sue McCarty.

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

Hattie Irene Luce

Hattie Irene Luce, 92, of Lamesa, formerly of Ackerly, died Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, in a Lamesa hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, 2006 at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Derrick Looney, pastor of Forsan Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born on Sept. 12, 1913, in Bloomburg. She was married to Horace Lee Luce. He preceded her in death on April 7, 1999.

Irene had lived in the community since May 1962 and was a member of First Baptist Church of Ackerly for 44 years.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Lee Sneed of Colorado City.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Heart Association, 3205 W. Cuthbert, Midland, 79701 or the American Cancer Society, c/o Lucy Bonner, PO Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121.

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

John Meads

John Meads, 52, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Ariana Delia Garcia

Ariana Delia Garcia, infant daughter of Juanita and Benjamin C. Garcia Jr., died Monday, July 31, 2006, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born July 31, 2006, in Midland.

She is survived by her parents, Juanita and Benjamin C. Garcia Jr. of Big Spring; three brothers, Jacob Garcia, Jermaine Garcia and Rudy Garcia, all of Big Spring; one sister, Nadia Garcia of Big Spring; grandparents, Ophelia and Benjamin Garcia Sr., of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

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

Billie Jean Kloss

Billie Jean Kloss, 75, died Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, in Walters, Okla. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- LETICIA FLORES, 28, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested Wednesday on four local capias warrants and a Howard County warrant.
- COLBY THURMAN, 23, of 1606 S. Rannels, was arrested Wednesday on a U.S. Marshal warrant.
- SHERRE COX, 24, of 2517 Ent, was arrested Wednesday on two local warrants.
- VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700, in the 1000 block of Johnson, in the 1400 block of Harding, - in the 1700 block of Third Street.
- RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson.
- MANUFACTURE/DELIVERY OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1400 block of Harding.
- ASSAULT/CLASS C was reported in the 900 block of Willia.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson.

Sheriff's report

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

- BRIAN JACKSON, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of ride not secured by a safety belt, violation of a promise to appear and theft by check.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1400 block of Hilltop Road.
- 18-WHEELER ON FIRE was reported near the 185 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of Father Delaney. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Avondale. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported near the 185 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and Thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. Southeast winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s.

Take Note

• SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER VOLUNTEERS are having a blood drive from 9 a.m. to noon Monday at the hospital. Everyone is invited to give blood.

• THE HOWARD COUNTY COURT JURY PANEL called to appear Friday at 9 a.m. has been canceled by County Judge Ben Lockhart.

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 2701 Rebecca. Bring a salad. 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. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY
• The Big Spring Evening Lions Club will hold an adult eyeglass clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St. This provides recycled eyeglasses for adults who cannot afford to pay for an eye examination or buy eyeglasses. For information, contact Bob Noyes at 267-6095.
• Spot landing contest for competitors in the U.S. Hang Gliding Championship. Spectators welcome, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 4 p.m.
• 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.

SUNDAY
• U.S. Hang Gliding Championship begins at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark and will continue through Aug. 12.

MONDAY
• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
Winning number's drawn: 10-19-21-41-42-49.
Number matching six of six: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 1-4-17-27-34.
Number matching five of five: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-9-4

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

7		9	3
	3 5		1 6
	6 4	9 8 5	
8 4	1		
		9	6 2
3 7 8	9 4		
4 2		7 6	
6	5		4

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Big Spring Independent District Superin Villarreal Bauer M Principi Christo serve a Board c Preside Kenned teacher at Bau morning getting start of 14.

TAX

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**BSISD
FETE**

Big Spring Independent School District Assistant Superintendent Rey Villarreal, center, and Bauer Magnet School Principal Wenda Christopher, right, serve a sandwich to Board of Trustees President Tony Kennedy during a teacher get-together at Bauer Tuesday morning. Officials are getting ready for the start of school Aug. 14.

Herald photo/Steve Reagan



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Natividad "Tala" Urias, 80, died Tuesday. Vigil services will be at 7:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Ariana Delia Garcia, infant, died Monday. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 AM Friday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Melba McCarty, 73, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be at 9:00 AM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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TAX FREE

Continued from Page 1

50 percent off on marked racks, while customers can buy a pair of shoes and get a second pair at half-off on selected items.

"Plus, we have lots of cute new items just in," Spalding said. "Also, we will have a drawing for a backpack filled with school supplies."

The Wal-Mart Supercenter will have an "all hands on deck" approach to staffing this weekend, a spokesman said. Several items are on sale as part of the store's back-to-school special event, he added.

Information from the State Comptroller's office states that customers will receive the tax break on individual items, regardless of the total amount they buy.

For example, sales tax is not due if a customer buys six shirts priced at \$99.99 each. But full tax is due on any item sold for \$100 — the first \$99.99 is not exempt, the information states.

There are exceptions, however.

Clothing and footwear used primarily for athletic activities, such as golf cleats or football pads, are not exempt from sales tax. However, athletic wear which is also used for non-athletic activity (tennis shoes and baseball caps, for example) may be purchased tax-free.

Also excluded from the

sales tax holiday are accessories such as jewelry and watches, items that are carried rather than worn (such as handbags and briefcases), clothing rentals and repairs and alterations.

The tax holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. Friday and ends at midnight Sunday.

For more information, contact the comptroller's office at 1-800-252-5555.

Following is a list of some items and their exemption status during the tax holiday:

- Tax-free — Baby clothes, belts, boots, caps/hats, coats and wraps, diapers, dresses, gloves, gym suits and uniforms, hooded shirts and sweatshirts, hosiery, jackets, jeans, jerseys, jogging apparel, neckwear and ties, pajamas, pants and trousers, raincoats, robes, shirts, shoes, socks, shorts, suits, swim-suits, underclothes and work clothes and uniforms.

- Taxed — Accessories, backpacks, baseball cleats and pants, belt buckles (without belt), buttons and zippers, cloth and lace, knitting yarns and other fabrics, dry cleaning services, football pants, golf gloves, handbags and purses, handkerchiefs, hard hats and helmets, ice skates, jewelry, leather goods, rented clothing, roller blades and skates and safety clothing.

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

DEFENSE

Continued from Page 1

border security projects that Congress has authorized but not funded. Sessions wants money for border fencing and border vehicle barriers.

"Sen. Cornyn proposed something radical here, that we actually put our money where our mouth is," Kyl said.

The House and Senate have passed widely different bills aimed at stemming illegal immigration. The House bill emphasizes enforcement. The Senate passed a bill with border security measures as well as provisions providing a chance at citi-

zenship for the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the country and a temporary guest worker program.

The two chambers are at an impasse, despite backing of the Senate bill by President Bush. The delay has been criticized as an election-year ploy.

"We are at a stalemate, it is fair to say, with no apparent way out," Cornyn said.

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<p>FRIDAY NIGHT 4PM-10PM HUGE BUYS!</p>			
<p>FRIDAY 4PM-10PM 80% OFF CLOTHING \$10.00 \$2.00</p>	<p>FRIDAY 4PM-10PM 80% OFF CLOTHING \$10.00 \$2.00</p>	<p>FRIDAY 4PM-10PM 60% OFF CLOTHING \$10.00 \$3.00</p>	<p>FRIDAY 4PM-10PM 9.99 CLOTHING \$19.99</p>

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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
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Tax exempt weekend is back again!

Everyone likes holidays and not paying taxes — we are, after all, only human. And that's why this weekend will be one of the busiest for Texas retailers, thanks to the sales tax holiday.

The state's annual sales tax holiday, in which most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 is exempted from sales and use taxes, will be held tomorrow through Sunday.

And you can bet virtually every clothing and shoe retailer in Big Spring will participate in the annual event. Remember, state officials said the weekend is expected to approach Christmas-season levels of sales.

According to the State Comptroller's Office, customers will receive the tax break on individual items, regardless of the total amount they buy. For example, sales tax is not due if a customer buys six shirts priced at \$99.99 each. But full tax is due on any item sold for \$100.

There are a few exceptions, however. Clothing and footwear used primarily for athletic activities, such as golf cleats or football pads, are not exempt from sales tax. However, athletic wear which is also used for non-athletic activity (tennis shoes and baseball caps, for example) may be purchased tax-free this weekend.

Also excluded from the sales tax holiday are accessories such as jewelry and watches, items that are carried rather than worn (such as handbags and briefcases), clothing rentals and repairs and alterations.

A list of some tax-free items would include baby clothes, belts, boots, caps/hats, coats and wraps, diapers, dresses, gloves, gym suits and uniforms, hooded shirts and sweatshirts, hosiery, jackets, jeans, jerseys, jogging apparel, neckwear and ties, pajamas, pants and trousers, raincoats, robes, shirts, shoes, socks, shorts, suits, swimsuits, underclothes and work clothes and uniforms.

Items that will be taxed include accessories, backpacks, baseball cleats and pants, belt buckles (without belt), buttons and zippers, cloth and lace, knitting yarns and other fabrics, dry cleaning services, football pants, golf gloves, handbags and purses, handkerchiefs, hard hats and helmets, ice skates, jewelry, leather goods, rented clothing, roller blades and skates and safety clothing.

Of course, neither of those lists is complete, should anyone want clarification concerning the tax free holiday, they can call the comptroller's office toll free at 1-800-252-5555.

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:

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- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we use our uniqueness, Lord, to glorify You.

Amen

Bolton knocks out Kerry

Perhaps the best reason to support John Bolton's confirmation as our nation's United Nations ambassador is that his approach to foreign policy is radically different from John Kerry's, as illustrated by their exchange during Bolton's confirmation hearings. It is a shame anyone had to miss this delicious slap-down.

Bolton said that for the United Nations to be effective on Iran, North Korea and Lebanon, the 15 members of the Security Council (and particularly the "PERM 5,") would have to reach policy agreements concerning these countries.

Kerry's reflexive response was: "And isn't it fair to say that we're sort of the odd person out on most of those policies?"

You don't need an interpreter to understand Kerry's message: The United States is the problem; it is the obstacle to meaningful policy consensus. This is the same theme Kerry and other Democrats advanced in blaming President Bush for not building a broad enough coalition to attack Iraq when they should have been questioning the reasonableness and motives of the "allies" who refused to join us.

And, as Bolton noted, Kerry was way off-base. Everybody's on the same page but Democrats and North Korea. The Security Council unanimously passed Resolution 1695 condemning North Korea for test-firing ballistic missiles and demanding that it suspend all such activities. And it just now passed a resolution giving Iran until Aug. 31 to suspend uranium enrichment or face economic and diplomatic sanctions.

The next blank Kerry fired was the hackneyed liberal line that our

failure to iron out our problems with North Korea is Bush's fault because he refuses to engage in bilateral talks.

Bolton corrected Kerry again, pointing out that the reason the United States insists on six-party negotiations is that, "the disagreement is not fundamentally a bilateral disagreement between North Korea and the United States. It's a disagreement between North Korea and everybody else about their pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability."

Why do Kerry and his ilk insist on playing into Kim Jong Il's hands? Why don't they blame the little tyrant, who is obviously just using the bilateral carrot as an excuse not to discontinue his nuclear program? Why are they covering for his obvious scheme to place the United States in the position of being scapegoated for the inevitable failure in negotiations should bilateral talks eventuate?

Besides, as Bolton said — to the embarrassment-resistant Kerry — such vaunted bilateral talks failed under the Clinton administration "since the North Koreans violated the agreed framework almost from the time it was signed."

Most annoyingly, Kerry attempted to lecture Bolton on what liberal think-tank "intellectuals" believe is the reason behind our failure to make headway with North Korea. Kerry said, "Most of the people that I've talked to spent a lot of time in various thoughtful institutions thinking about these issues — a career — believe that what North Korea wants more than anything is an assurance that the United States of America wasn't going to have a strategy similar to Iraq directed at them."

That's right, we're the bad guy and the mistreated dictator needs assurances from us that we're not going to nuke him. In Kerry's world, the dictator is reasonable in being suspicious of the United

States because we attacked Iraq based on WMD that Kerry says didn't exist, we employed a "pre-emptive strategy of regime change" and we are pursuing our own nuclear weapons, including bunker busters. Bolton exposed Kerry's sophistry here by explaining that any assurances North Korea required from us — the thought of which is ludicrous — could be communicated in six-party talks just as easily as bilateral ones.

But Kerry wasn't finished bashing America. He said that all you have to do to understand how bad the United States is to "talk to any leader anywhere in the world" and you'll "run headlong into the isolation of the United States and the divisions that exist between us and our allies on any number of issues."

Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't we just establish that Kerry was chastising the administration for not dropping four other allies in our negotiations with North Korea? Man, as much experience Kerry has at lying, he is still not very accomplished at it.

Next, for good measure, Kerry shared his opinion of the moral equivalence between the United States and the Soviet Empire (aka "the Evil Empire") in pursuing nuclear arms during the Cold War. So, just like the benevolent Soviet Union, North Korea is simply another good faith player on the international stage trying to protect itself against that global bully and pariah, the United States.

Sure, John Kerry doesn't blame America first; he just has contempt for those who don't.

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

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24/7 coverage doesn't cover it

State of play in the Middle East: Lebanon, extensively damaged plus a half-million refugees; Syria, tired of being dissed; Israel, disproportionate. Are you kidding? Did it work last time they occupied Lebanon? Condi Rice, undercut by neocons at home? Iraq, completely fallen apart. Iran, only winner? Everybody else, mad at Bush. Most under-covered story, collapse of Iraq.

And what do I think this is? A media story, of course.

From the first day of 24/7 coverage, you could tell this was big. By the time Chapter 9,271 of the conflicts in the Middle East had gotten its own logo, everyone knew it was HUGE. I mean, like, bigger than Natalee Holloway.

Then anchormen began to arrive in the Middle East and people like Anderson Cooper and Tucker Carlson — real experts.

Then Newt Gingrich — and who would know better than Newt? — declared it was World War III. Let's ratchet up the fear here — probably good for Republican campaigning.

By then, of course, you couldn't find a television story about the back corridors of diplomacy and what was, or more importantly, what was not going on there.

Between Anderson Cooper and Tucker Carlson, it was obviously

World War III. And besides, there were a bunch of American refugees in Lebanon who couldn't get out, and so, elements of the Katrina story appeared, Thank God Anderson was there.

Meanwhile, people who should have known better were all in a World III snit over Chapter 9,271.

Actually, they all knew better, but it was a better story if you overplayed it — sort of like watching a horror movie that you know will turn out OK in the end, but meanwhile you get to enjoy this delicious chill of horror up your spine.

What if it really was The End? I mean, any fool could see it could easily careen out of control, and when George W. Bush is all you've got for rational, fair-minded grown-ups, well, there it is.

If I may raise a nasty political possibility. One good reason for the Bush administration to leave Chapter 9,271 to burn out of control is that this administration thrives on fear. Fear has been the text and the subtext of every Republican campaign since 9/11. Endless replay of the footage from 9/11 has graced every Republican campaign since.

Could it be that 9/11 is beginning to pall, to feel as overplayed as Natalee Holloway?

Fear is actually more dangerous than war in the Middle East. For those who spin dizzily toward World War III, the Apocalypse, the Rapture — always with that delicious frisson of terror — the slow, patient negotiations needed to get

it back under control are not news.

All we have to fear, said FDR, is fear itself. And when we are afraid, we do damage to both ourselves and to the Constitution. Our history is rank with these fits of fear. We get so afraid of some dreadful menace, so afraid of anarchists, Reds, crime or drugs or communism or illegal aliens or terrorists that we think we can make ourselves safer by making ourselves less free. We damage the Constitution because we're so afraid. We engage in torture and worse because we're afraid. We damage our standing in the world, our own finest principles, out of fear.

And television enjoys scaring us. One could say cynically, "It's good for their ratings," but in truth, I think television people enjoy scary movies, too. And besides, it makes it all a bigger story for them.

What's fascinating about this as a media story is how much attention can be given to one story while still only about a fifth of it gets told. The amount of misinformation routinely reported on television is astounding. For example, "Israel is our only democratic ally in the Middle East."

How long has Turkey been a real republic and ally?

The more surprising development is how completely one story drives out another. At other times, the collapse of Iraq would have been news.

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News briefs

State, plaintiffs to argue for map remedy

AUSTIN (AP) — The three-year-old Texas congressional redistricting fight heads back to the courthouse Thursday, with all sides scheduled to argue their cases to a three-judge federal panel.

The judges have been tasked with deciding how the boundaries of a huge southwest Texas congressional district should be redrawn to restore minority voting power, which was diminished when concentrations of Hispanics were split into two districts. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that the district, now represented by Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio, violates the Voting Rights Act.

The ruling was the result of lawsuit against the state filed by Democrats and several groups of minority rights activists.

Each side has submitted maps they'd like to see adopted.

Freddy Fender diagnosed with cancer

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Music legend Freddy Fender has been diagnosed with incurable cancer after tests showed he has several tumors on his lungs.

Fender is resting at his Corpus Christi home, said his wife and manager Vangie Huerta. He plans to go to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Southwestern Regional Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., in September to discuss his options.

"I feel very comfortable in my life," Fender told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. "I'm one year away from 70 and I've had a good run. I really believe I'm OK. In my mind and in my heart, I feel OK. I cannot complain that I haven't lived long enough, but I'd like to live longer."

The Grammy award-winning musician and vocalist was to have surgery in early January to remove the upper left lobe of his lung because of a fungal infection. But surgeons left the lobe intact because two lemon-sized tumors were found.

Fender received chemotherapy in late January, but stopped the treatment because of its severe side effects. A scan later found an additional nine tumors

in the membranes covering the lungs and lining the chest cavity.

Israelis renew air strikes against suburbs

BOURJ AL-MULOUK, Lebanon (AP) — Israeli warplanes renewed strikes against Beirut's southern suburbs on Thursday for the first time in nearly a week and an Israeli missile killed three in a border village, a day after Hezbollah launched its biggest rocket attacks yet against Israel.

Three weeks into the conflict, some 8,000 Israeli troops were locked in fighting from village to village in southern Lebanon, and the battle looked likely to be bitter and long.

Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora said the country's death toll from the fighting had reached more than 900, with 3,000 injured. He said Israel's offensive on Lebanon "is taking an enormous toll on human life and infrastructure, and has totally ravaged our country and shattered our economy."

Eastern U.S. sweats under heat wave

NEW YORK (AP) — As if another day of triple-digit temperatures wasn't bad enough, Queens grocer Salm Ali had another problem: A power outage forced him to pitch about \$5,000 worth of withered, wilted produce.

His Liberty Deli and Grocery was just one of thousands of energy customers across the eastern United States that experienced scattered blackouts Wednesday as the oppressive heat and humidity prompted record-setting demand.

"This is the life," Ali said sarcastically. "Even the fan isn't working."

The region was in for another day of steamy weather Thursday. The heat wasn't expected to break until evening, when a cold front should force temperatures down into the 80s, said National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Simpson.

Contract Bridge

The Theory of Probabilities

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 8 6 2	♥ Q 3	♠ Q 3	♥ 9 6 4 3 2
♥ 10 8 5	♦ K 8 3	♥ K 8 3	♦ Q 10 7 5
♦ K 8 3	♣ 9 7 6 4	♦ Q 8 3 2	♣ 10 5
♣ 9 7 6 4			
SOUTH		WEST	
♠ A K 5 4	♥ A 7	♠ J 10 9 7	♥ A 7
♥ K Q J	♦ A 9 6	♥ A 7	♦ A 7
♦ A 9 6	♣ A K J	♦ Q 8 3 2	♣ Q 8 3 2
♣ A K J			

The bidding:
South West North East

1NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead — jack of spades.

Bridge is a game of probabilities. You make a certain bid because you think it has a better chance to succeed than any other bid. You make a certain play because you think it is more likely to work than any other play.

But a probability, by definition, is not a certainty. All you can do in bridge is rely on the percentages and hope for the best. You may be wrong in a particular case if you follow the percentages, but in the long run you'll be right more often than wrong.

All of which leads us to this deal, which is strictly a matter of percent-

ages. Let's say you win the spade lead with the king and play the king of hearts. West takes the ace and returns a spade, which you win with the ace.

You have eight certain tricks and two ways to try for a ninth. You can enter dummy with a diamond and take a club finesse. If the jack wins, you are home free. You have about a 50-50 chance of making the contract this way, but in the actual deal this approach would fail.

The alternate line of play is to cash the A-K of clubs and continue with the jack. This method will succeed if the clubs are divided 3-3 or if either the queen or ten falls as the A-K are led. The diamond king provides the entry to dummy if the nine of clubs becomes a trick.

Some knowledge of percentages is required to know which of the two lines of play has the greater chance of success.

The second approach is much better. The clubs will break 3-3 about 36 percent of the time, while a singleton or doubleton queen or ten will occur in approximately one deal out of three.

The combined chance of finding the clubs 3-3 or otherwise favorably divided comes to about 70 percent — 20 percent better than the finesse. Playing the A-K-J of clubs is therefore the superior line of play, and succeeds in the actual deal.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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STINGS

Continued from Page 1

old shack," said Reyna. "They were all inside the walls. When Jarrett was mowing, he apparently bumped up against the

shack with the mower, and the sound of the machine just made it worse."

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

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1

swarms may seem intimidating, chances are the insects will simply move on in a few days.

"Swarming is a natural occurrence and simply means that a hive has become too big for its housing and split up to seek new shelter," said Condray. "You may see them gathering in vacant lots and buildings. In this case, they had gathered in the walls of the building where these men working. They are generally looking for some type of cover to provide them protection from the heat and elements."

"They can form their own shelter by clustering up in a big ball with the queen in the middle. This is how they are often found when resting in trees and bushes. Most of the time they will stop for a few days of rest then move on to find proper quarters."

Condray said the best

rule to follow if a swarm is encountered is also the simplest — stay away.

"As a general rule stay away from all honeybee swarms and colonies," said Condray. "If encountered, get away quickly and try to protect your face and eyes as much as possible. Take shelter in a car or building. Most importantly, don't stand and swat at the bees, as the rapid motions will cause them to sting."

"If stung, go to a safe area. Scrape the stinger out with your fingernail or something like a credit card or knife — don't squeeze it with tweezers, as this will release more venom. Wash the site with soap and water then apply ice to reduce swelling and discomfort. Seek medical treatment if you begin to experience difficulty breathing or have known allergies to insect stings."

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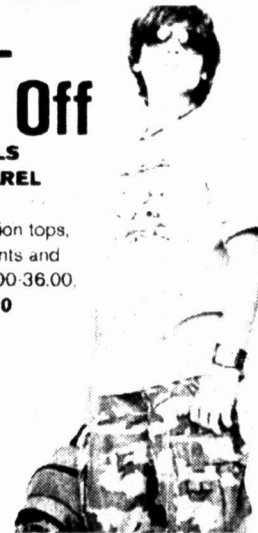
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Mazda's CX-7 makes driving an SUV fun

By **STEVEN COLE SMITH**

The Orlando Sentinel

Television commercials for the 2007 Mazda CX-7 concentrate far more on its sportiness than they do on its utility, which is appropriate, because the CX-7 tries very hard to put some fun into driving an SUV. And for the most part, it succeeds.

Based on the same platform as the Mazda6 — an excellent place to start — the CX-7 is a five-passenger sport ute that, unlike some SUVs, makes no pretense about how rugged it might be off-road. My guess is: not very. The CX-7 comes with standard front-wheel drive, but there is an all-wheel-drive option, though it's more for maintaining sure-footedness on slick roads than tackling the outback.

Mazda certainly isn't alone here. The fastest-growing segment of the automotive market is these midsize "crossovers," which are sport utes based on a car, not on a truck. Some car-based crossovers are certainly beefier than others — Subaru likes to advertise its products as ready to rough it — but vehicles such as the CX-7, and the upcoming Ford Edge, which will share a lot of components with the Mazda, are more an alternative to a minivan or station wagon than to a backwoods-capable truck.

In that case, given its limitations, and its abilities, the CX-7 is indeed one of the sportiest SUVs available. The engine is a 2.3-liter, turbocharged four-cylinder that pumps out a healthy 244 horsepower. Most sport utes this size have a V-6, but the CX-7's four-cylinder leaves nothing on the table. Mated to a smooth six-speed automatic transmission, acceleration is brisk. Exactly why a four-cylinder needs big, chrome-tipped dual exhaust outlets — well, style is important, I suppose.

And for an SUV, the CX-7 has plenty of style. With contemporary transparent taillights, big fender flares, alloy wheels and a teardrop profile, it looks as if it belongs in the company of more expensive SUVs, such as the Lexus RX330 or the Infiniti FX35.

Though the CX-7 is heavier than the Mazda6 and has a higher center of gravity, handling is as good as any SUV this size, aided no doubt, by big P235/60-R18 tires. But it isn't a Mazda6, nor should you expect any SUV to be. The all-wheel-drive system operates transparently, allowing the CX-7 to run along in front-wheel drive in normal situations, but if needed, the onboard computer can send power to the rear wheels. My lone complaint about handling, and it's a minor one, is that the steering feels lighter than it should on a sporty vehicle. A little more road feel would be nice.

Inside, the CX-7 is nicely appointed, especially the top-of-the-line Grand Touring version, tested here. Sport is the base model, and Touring is in the middle. Even with the entry-level model, there are plenty of standard features, including stability control and side air bags. The front-drive Sport starts at \$23,750, and the tested all-wheel-drive Grand Touring lists for \$29,060 with one option and shipping. Click every option box, including a navigation system, and

MAZDA CX-7

Base price: \$23,750.

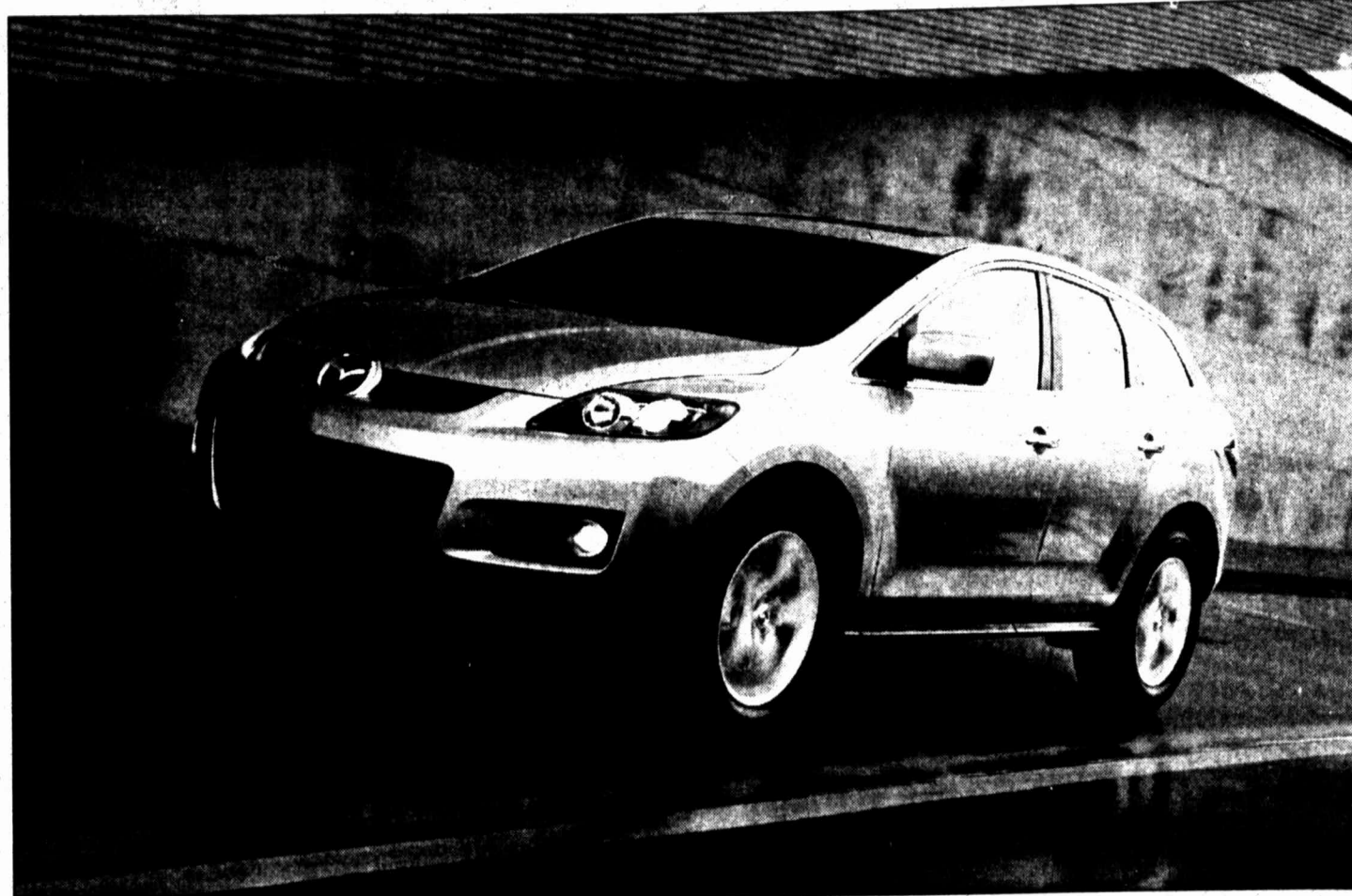
Price as tested: \$29,060.

EPA rating: 18 mpg city, 24 mpg highway.

Details: Front engine, all-wheel-drive SUV with a turbocharged, 244-horsepower, 2.3-liter four-cylinder engine and a six-speed automatic transmission

you can ratchet the CX-7's price up and over \$34,000.

Front bucket seats are roomy and comfortable enough, and the rear seat is adequate for adults, though headroom is modest. Luggage space in the rear is generous given the CX-7's size, but if you need more room, you may want to wait for the Mazda CX-9, which is about 18 inches longer than the CX-7, and has a third-row seat and a 3.5-liter V-6 engine. Expect it early next year.



The 2007 Mazda CX-7 puts some fun into driving an SUV.

For many customers, though, the CX-7 may be just the right SUV at the

right time. Although there's already plenty of competition in this seg-

ment of the market — with more on the way — it's hard to imagine that

many will get as much of the package right as Mazda has with the CX-7.

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IN

City chairman

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Quarter schedule

Big Spring School's Club has its first the seas Monday Athletic Center.

Mark booster dent, er parents ball play of the attend. Quarte meeting every M at 7.

For m tion, ca 816-3458.

Season on sale

Fans Spring S team w season t past ca chasing the upc at the High Sch Previo holders Aug. 10 tickets. public n tickets c Ticket chased Cook at 8 a.m. Monday Thursda For m tion call 3662.

Junior h equipm

Junior coach J Sparks announce ball pla enth and will be ment Au The ei will ge first day to 6 p.m enth gra second same tir For m tion, cal

We off start in

LYTH ANNES, Michelle with thr finished for a Thursda round of British t By th walked green Lytham strokes shared Hanna, Gwladys Wie d at the fir with a the fir greensic the seci ing well green at The 16- Hawaii birdie a

Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 7
Thursday, August 3, 2006

IN BRIEF

City championship tournament set

The Big Spring City Golf Championships, sponsored by the Big Spring Herald, are set for Saturday and Sunday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Entry fees are \$40 per play and do not include cart rental.

For more information, call 264-2366.

Quarterback Club schedules meeting

Big Spring High School's Quarterback Club has scheduled its first meeting of the season for 7 p.m. Monday at the BSHS Athletic Training Center.

Mark Tissue, the booster club's president, encourages all parents of BSHS football players and fans of the Steers to attend.

Quarterback Club meetings will be held every Monday night at 7.

For more information, call Tissue at 816-3458.

Season tickets now on sale at BSHS

Fans of the Big Spring Steers football team who have had season tickets in the past can begin purchasing tickets for the upcoming season at the Big Spring High School ATC.

Previous ticket holders have until Aug. 10 to purchase tickets. The general public may purchase tickets on Aug. 14.

Tickets can be purchased through Kay Cook at the ATC from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

For more information call Cook at 264-3662.

Junior high football equipment hand out

Junior high football coach John Richard Sparks has announced that football players in seventh and eighth grade will be issued equipment Aug. 9-10.

The eighth graders will get theirs the first day from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and the seventh grade will go the second day at the same time.

For more information, call 264-4135.

Wie off to a slow start in England

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England — Michelle Wie started with three bogeys and finished with a birdie for a 2-over 74 Thursday in the first round of the Women's British Open.

By the time she walked off the 18th green at Royal Lytham, Wie was four strokes off the lead shared by Allison Hanna, Nina Reis and Gwladys Nocera.

Wie dropped shots at the first three holes with a weak chip at the first, finding a greenside bunker at the second and playing well short of the green at the third. The 16-year-old from Hawaii made her first birdie at the eighth.

Landry was right about Wright; He's headed for Hall

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Two years into his NFL career, Rayfield Wright wasn't doing much for the Dallas Cowboys as a backup tight end.

Yet he was big and strong, quick and a hard worker — the kind of things coach Tom Landry liked.

So one day Landry had an idea: How about playing tackle?

"I looked at him with amazement because I never played tackle before in my life," Wright

recalled. "I said, 'Coach, are you sure? He said, 'Yeah, you'll make a good tackle.'"

Hall of Fame good.

Wright will be enshrined Saturday, joining Landry and two players he blocked for, Roger Staubach and Tony Dorsett. He's the team's first offensive lineman to get the honor, making it as a seniors committee nominee.

"He was absolutely the best," Staubach said. "Rayfield was a big, strong guy that was able to transfer his size and strength from tight end to tackle. He also

had such quick feet that he was able to deal with some of the faster defensive ends and even the linebacker blitzes. If he got beat, I don't remember it."

Calvin Hill ran behind Wright for six of his 12 NFL seasons and says it's no coincidence that all four of his Pro Bowl trips came when Wright was opening holes.

"In the 1970s, he was the standard," Hill said. "When you thought about offensive lineman, he was the guy that you automatically thought of."

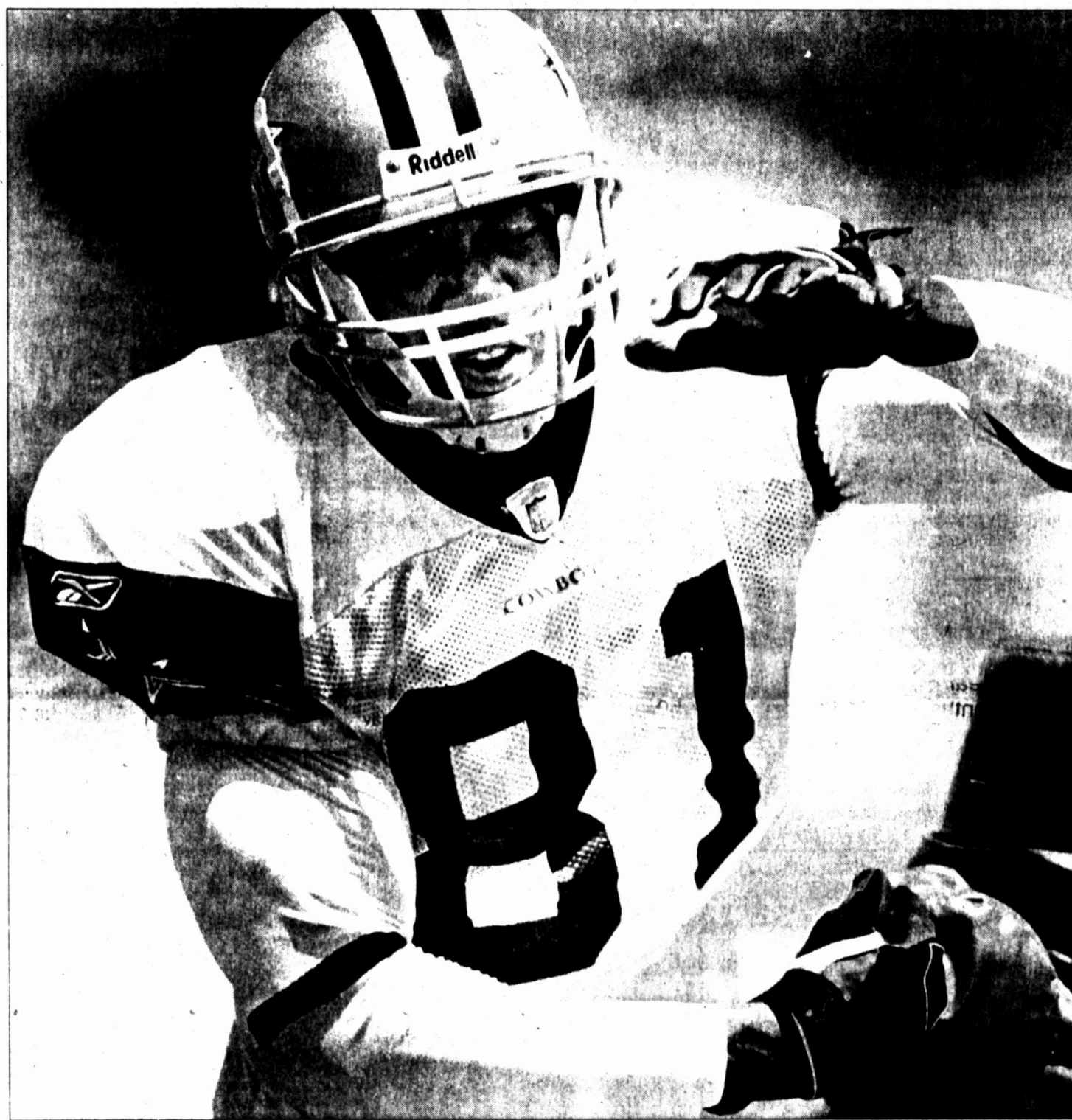
Wright made the Pro Bowl six

times and was voted All-Pro four times. He anchored the line for an offense that finished in the top 10 in scoring all 10 seasons in the 1970s, while helping pave the way for the first five 1,000-yard rushers in team history.

Most importantly, he was a key contributor on teams that won seven division titles and played in five Super Bowls, winning twice. He was one of the team captains for most of those years, too.

See WRIGHT, Page 8

Owens, Bledsoe struggle for now



Terrell Owens hits a blocking dummy during the Dallas Cowboys' practice in Oxnard, Calif. So far this training camp, Owens and Dallas quarterback Drew Bledsoe have yet to click.

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — After the deep ball that didn't come close in a drill without defenders, the pass that was underthrown in double coverage and the one that went high, wide and out of bounds, Drew Bledsoe must have sensed frustration rising in Terrell Owens.

So the quarterback made a pre-emptive strike Wednesday morning. Soon after they went to the sideline, Bledsoe went looking for Owens, walking about 50 yards merely to give him an encouraging pat on the rear.

Such an exchange between most quarterbacks and receivers would hardly be noticed, especially during the seventh practice of training camp. However, everything that happens between this receiver and his quarterback is newsworthy.

So, T.O., is everything OK between y'all?

"Every day is a day of improvement," Owens said following the practice and a chat with coach Bill Parcells, which included technical talk about hand placement on a specific type of catch.

"If we take a step back, we go back to the drawing board and we try to correct our mistakes and build on those the next day. Every day is critical, but it's no reason to panic right now."

The early session Wednesday was the second straight in which Bledsoe and Owens were out of whack.

"We're getting there," Owens said. "We're not there yet, but as I said from Day 1, this is what training camp and practice is all about. We're not going to get it done in one day, a week. The season is yet to get here. Once the season starts, I feel we'll be ready."

Owens' attitude is a

See STRUGGLE, Page 8

Cowboys ink Williams through 2010 season

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — Take it from Terrell Owens: Roy Williams is such a hard-hitter that offensive players look for him before the ball is snapped so they can try avoiding the star safety.

Teams can't ever have enough guys like that. So on Wednesday, the Dallas Cowboys made sure he's theirs for awhile by giving him a five-year deal worth \$25.2 million, with \$11.1 million guaranteed.

Williams would've been going into the final year of his rookie contract. The new contract gives him a raise this season and locks him up for four more years, through 2010.

"I am going to be a Cowboy for life," said Williams, who came to Dallas as the eighth overall pick in 2002. "I'm staying here."

Williams, who turns 26 this month, already is a three-time Pro Bowl player feared for his bone-jarring tackles. He does much of his damage against running backs —

as the ball carriers in training camp can certainly attest — but it was a play he made against a receiver that caused a rule change.

The NFL outlawed "horse-collar tackles" after Williams dragged Owens down from behind in 2004, tearing two ankle ligaments and breaking his leg.

Wells' first start a good one for Rangers

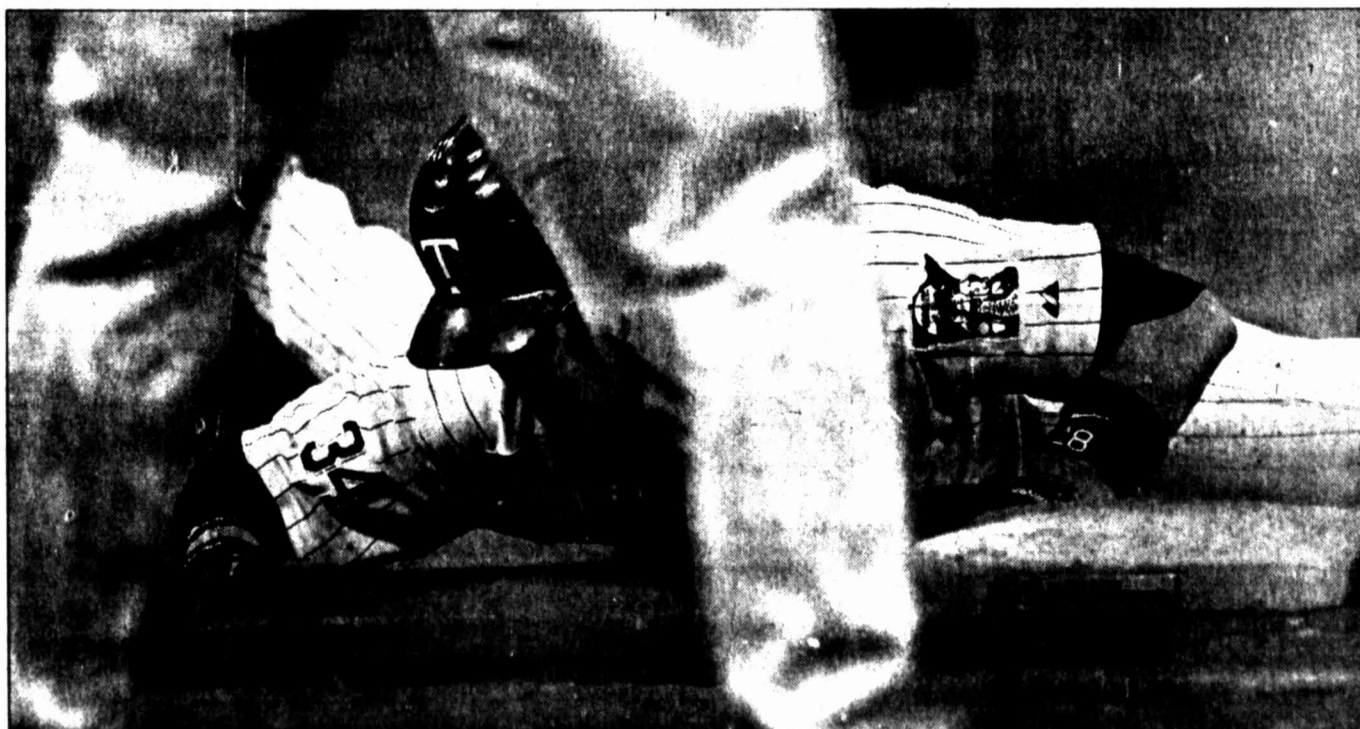
By DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Kip Wells might merely be a rent-a-player for the Texas Rangers. For now, the right-hander is only concerned about helping them stay in the pennant race.

Wells made a successful first start for Texas, Mark Teixeira homered twice and the Rangers beat Minnesota 10-2 on Wednesday to give the Twins their first losing homestand this season.

Acquired in a deadline-day trade with Pittsburgh, Wells got his first win as an American Leaguer since 2001, when he was with Chicago. He pitched into the sixth inning and was responsible for one run while striking out two.

"Your goal is to have a quality start and give the team a chance



Minnesota's Jason Bartlett scrambles back to first base too late after being tagged out for the game's sixth double play in the ninth inning at the Metrodome in Minneapolis Wednesday. The Rangers won 10-2.

See RANGERS, Page 8

WRIGHT

Continued from Page 7

Many of the defensive stars of his era called Wright the toughest player they ever faced. Former Minnesota star Carl Eller summed it up one time by saying, "An all-day fight with Rayfield Wright definitely is not my idea of a pleasant Sunday afternoon."

The position switch from tight end wasn't the only unusual part of Wright's route to Canton.

Unable to make his high school football team, he went to Fort Valley State (Ga.) to play basketball. The following summer,

coach Stan Lomax made him quit his summer job at a mill to get ready to join the football team.

Lomax tried Wright at free safety, then used him as a punter, defensive end and tight end. The coach also became a father figure to the fatherless Wright.

"And still is today," said Wright, who will be presented by Lomax at Saturday's ceremony.

Landry was another big influence. Wright trusted his coach's instincts so much that he threw himself into his new position with gusto. Everything clicked for him one day when he was watching films of the tackles he

admired most and realized that keeping a defender from getting to the quarterback was akin to keeping someone from driving to the rim in basketball.

"You do that by quickly shuffling your feet," Wright said. "If you cross your feet, you get beat."

At 6-foot-6, 255 pounds, Wright proved so nimble he was nicknamed "Big Cat." And he was big for his era. He also played at a time when the right tackle was the most important spot on the line, so that's where Landry put him.

Wright was a backup the first two months of the 1969 season, then was

thrust into the starting job when Ralph Neely got hurt. The timing was brutal.

Dallas was 8-1 and going on the road to play the 9-0 Los Angeles Rams and their Fearsome Foursome defense. Wright's assignment was Deacon Jones, who was in the prime of his career.

Coaches warned Wright that Jones was big, strong and mean. "So am I," Wright answered.

Then came their first encounter.

"We go up to the line of scrimmage and I'm looking at Deacon Jones square in his eyes, his eyes seem to be red as fire, he's kicking his back

leg like a bull," Wright recalled. "I'm saying to myself, 'My God, what have I got myself into?'"

Before the ball was snapped, Jones bellowed, "Boy, does your Mama know you out here?" Wright was so stunned that Jones ran over him.

"I rolled over, looked over at our sideline thinking that Coach Landry was going to take me out of the game," Wright said. "By that time, Deacon Jones reached his big arms down and said, 'Hey, rookie, welcome to the NFL.'"

"I said, 'Well, Mr. Jones, you don't know my Mama, so don't talk about her. You want to play the

game this way, we'll play it."

The Rams ended up winning 24-23. Wright ended up doing such a good job against Jones he got the game ball. Their duels over the years went a long way toward building Wright's reputation.

"People talk about Reggie White, but as far as I'm concerned, Deacon Jones was it for defensive ends, he was unblockable," Hill said. "Yet Rayfield was able to take him."

Wright will be only the sixth player from the Landry era to make it to Canton, joining Staubach, Dorsett, Bob Lilly, Mel Renfro and Randy White.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

to win," said Wells, who will be a free agent this fall.

And if he's not included

in the long-range plans?

"That's not something to be preoccupied with," Wells said. "You have enough to worry about trying to throw strikes and get people out."

Boof Bonser (2-3) lasted only four innings and left

trailing 7-0.

The blame was widespread, though. The Twins made two costly errors and hit into six double plays, including one on a strikeout and thwarted stolen base attempt.

STRUGGLE

Continued from Page 7

good sign for the Cowboys. They've invested \$10 million this season alone in Owens being on his best behavior, and so far he's showed no signs of the problems that prompted San Francisco and Philadelphia to give up on him regardless of his All-Pro ability.

Owens is the only newcomer among Dallas' top four receiving threats. Bledsoe already is comfortable throwing to Terry Glenn, Jason Witten and Patrick Crayton, so part of the problem with Owens right now could be the normal feeling-out process all quarterbacks and receivers must go through.

"That's what those drills are for, No. 1 to get our timing down and

obviously for me to get some balls in my hands so I can get familiar with his touch," Owens said.

Parcells says it's typical for the defense to be dominating the offense this early in camp. He also expects to see things start to level out by this weekend.

As for Owens, Parcells said it's too early to say what areas he needs to improve.

"I don't know the player well enough to tell you right now," Parcells said. "I just have to see. I see things and try to point

out things. We try to integrate him in, and I'm trying to help the guy fit into the system. Simple as that."

Parcells wouldn't elaborate on his talk with Owens, but the receiver called it "a good conversation."

"At this point, we're just trying to take it day-by-day, camp practice-by-camp practice," Owens said. "It's been fun so far."

Owens said they discussed "a little bit of everything," from football to diets.

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Houses • Storages
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For rent/sale
1301 Johnson
610 Steakley
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ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel.
All type of repairs!
Work Guaranteed.
Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs!
Free Estimates!!
Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.
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Roofs, Room Additions,
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Permit Bonded Quality Jobs Composite, Wood Roll 90 Lowest Prices
Clayton Roofing
of Big Spring, Snyder, Colorado City
FREE ESTIMATES
Ricky Clayton
Bus.: 325-573-2218
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STORAGE

AAA Mini-Storage
Special 1/2 Off On Select Units
Now Have Large or Small Units Available, We Store It All!
Now Accepting Visa & Mastercard
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TREE TRIMMING

LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING
More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal.
Call
Lupe Villalpando 432-268-6406

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Bar-B-Q Pits
Ornamental Iron Work
Car Ports • Fences
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Portable Welding
V.N. Morris Welding Service
2300 S. Williams Rd.
Big Spring, Tx 79720
432-263-6908 270-5109

Help Wanted

CHURCH SECRETARY needed. Apply at Texas Workforce Network, 310 Owens. (432)263-8373.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

DRIVERS NEEDED- must have CDL-A with Hazmat Tanker endorsement; at least 1 yr. oilfield experience preferred; Must be able to travel \$100.00 sign on bonus.... Call TW Service LLC (432)570-9200 for information.

DRIVERS NEEDED. All shifts. Great hourly pay, plus \$1.75 per delivery. Other positions available. Apply in person, Papa Georgio's Pizza, 2602 S. Gregg. (432)263-2222.

DUNCAN DISPOSAL - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Please come by the Duncan Disposal office/yard at 1104 N.W. Broadway, Coahoma, Tx - Monday-Thursday 2p-4p and on Fridays 1p-3p to apply in person. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon.-Fri.; with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer.

EVENING CASHIER full time/part time at WEST-GO Vacation and benefits available. Starting pay \$5.15 per hour. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.

FULL TIME Opening - Front Desk Position to include Receptionist, Filing and General Office duties. Ideal candidate: Proficient in data entry, Word and Excel, Organized, Friendly, Dependable. Ability to Multi-Task. Mail resume to PO Box 949, Big Spring, TX 79721.

HAUL TRUCK DRIVER needed. Full time position with Transit Mix Concrete & Materials Co., a leader in the ready mix industry in Texas. Full benefit package & new pay scale. Must have good driving record and CDL license. Experience a plus. Apply at Transit Mix, 605 North Benton, Big Spring, Texas (432)267-6348. Transit Mix Concrete is an EOE/A employer.

HEAVY TRUCK & diesel mechanic needed. 2 years experience. Call (432)264-9667.

HILLCREST CDC is looking for Full & Part-time Caregivers, Mon.-Fri. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Must have high school diploma or GED. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.

HOWARD COUNTY Equipment Operating is looking for a mechanic helper, to assist the mechanic and do oil changes on County equipment. Apply at Room 305, Howard County Court House, July 31st, through August 4, 2006. From 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATE JOB Opening. Part-time position for a housekeeper. Hours are expected to be 20 hrs. per week, Monday thru Friday. Daily. Competitive applicants will have dependable work history and good references. Apply in person at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. 3rd Street, Big Spring, Tx.

Looking for a Doctor's Office Opportunity? I love this job but I received a promotion and must find someone to replace me. Our practice requires someone who is organized with attention to details, likes serving the public and has computer skills. If you have a sunny, energetic "I can" attitude and a good sense of humor, Call (432)267-1992.

LOOKING FOR a person to work in an office in graphic design creating ads for Oilfield Service Companies, with Adobe Software. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm with 1 hour for lunch. Monday-Friday. Salary is paid each week. Applying at 210 South Lancaster also bring references.

THE CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Communications Officer, Airport Maintenance Worker, Utility Service Worker, Jailer, Animal Control Officer, Heavy Equip. Operator/Sanitation and Heavy Equip. Operator/Landfill. Applications may be picked up at City Hall, 310 Nolan, (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

Help Wanted

LVN II Texas Department of State Health Services is recruiting for an LVN II to be responsible for performing clinical duties for the following programs: Immunizations, Family Planning, Maternity, HIV/STD and TB Elimination. Will administer child and adult immunizations. Will provide clerical support as needed, Quality Assurance activities, client education/counseling, and outreach activities within the community. Bilingual English/Spanish. Travel requirements: 5% day, 2% overnight. Must possess a current Texas Class C driver's license. Monthly salary: \$2,021.00-\$2,690.00. Current license to practice as a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas or eligible for Texas license. If eligible for Texas license, must obtain prior to employment date. Apply at website: <https://accesshr.hhs.state.tx.us>. Position Requisition #33041 For additional information, contact Melony Bennett at (432)571-4132. Closing date: 8-3-06 EEO/ADA

MANAGEMENT TEAM wanted for apartment complex. Need to be handy. Call Ron (432)935-1273 or 267-5444 to set-up interview.

MARTIN COUNTY Hospital Home Health (Stanton) is looking for a full time registered nurse. \$1000-\$1500 sign on bonus. Bilingual preferred, but not required. Hours are Mon-Fri, 8:00-5:00. Some call. Please call Allison Williams, DON at (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

MIDWAY BAPTIST Church is looking for a part time Music Director. Send resumes attention Dot Ditto 6200 S. Service Road Big Spring, Tx. 79720.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc. Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas. (325)573-2013.

NEED EDITOR for manuscript. Send inquiry to norbert@netwest.com. Please include experience and fee.

NEED EXPERIENCE drillers & roughnecks for Big Spring oil company. Must be able to pass drug test. Call (432)238-3832.

NEED IMMEDIATELY Diesel Mechanic. Salary negotiable. Company truck. Must furnish on tools and must pass drug test. Call (432)394-4161.

NOW HIRING 2006 POSTAL JOBS \$18/hour starting, average pay \$57k/year. Federal benefits paid training and vacations. No Experience needed! 1-800-584-1775 ref# P6901.

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction. Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to: GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND, TX 79711

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now Hiring for Certified Nursing Assistant. Great Working Environment and Competitive Pay. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation now hiring for Medication Aide and L.V.N.'s. ** Very Competitive starting wages ** Home like working environment ** Flexible schedules Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Big Spring, Texas

PART TIME Thrift Store position available. Apply in person, The Salvation Army, 811 West 5th, Big Spring TX.

PIZZA INN Drive for the Best. Our Delivery Drivers earn \$10-\$12 per hour. Up to \$100 hiring bonus. Must be 18 yrs. old with clean driving record. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St.

PIZZA INN Now Hiring wait Staff Must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.

POLLARD CHEVROLET Parts Department has a full-time position open. Computer knowledge & experience in automotive preferred. Some heavy lifting. Benefits: Health & Life insurance, 401(k). Apply in person, 1501 East 4th St.

Help Wanted

PUBLIC INFORMATION Coordinator

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for a Public Information Coordinator. Prepares meeting minutes, reports, publications and coordinates public education and outreach programs. Benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring TX or by calling 432-267-6341. EOE

RIG OPERATOR and floor hands wanted for double pole well service rig. Good pay. Call Steve, (432)816-1815.

SPORTS EDITOR to cover high school and college sports for The Big Spring Herald. The candidate should have writing experience and the ability to take photos and design pages using NewsEdit Pro and QuarkXpress. Salary based on experience. Benefits. Please email resume and writing clips to editor@bigspringherald.com or mail to John A. Moseley, Managing Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

STATE-REST Area Attendant needed in Westbrook, I-20. Part-time. Contact David (432)213-5279.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLER. Will train career minded qualified applicant. Must have good driving record. Apply at 504 East 3rd Street.

TRANSIT MIX CONCRETE MATERIALS COMPANY is now hiring MIXER TRUCK DRIVERS. CDL license is required. We offer competitive wages along with an excellent benefit package including medical, dental, 401(k) profit sharing and a pension plan. EOE/AA Please apply in person at the following location: Transit Mix Concrete 605 North Benton St. Big Spring, TX 79720

TRANSIT MIX Concrete a leader in the ready mix industry, currently has an opening for a Loader Operator. Must be able to run loader, general maintenance of plant and pit. CDL a plus. Apply at Transit Mix Concrete, 605 N. Benton, Big Spring (432)267-6348. Transit Mix Concrete is an EOE/AA employer.

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

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Miscellaneous

ONE REMAINING - 5 to 6 person hot-tub \$85.00 a month. Display, will deliver. 432-563-3108.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP mattress set, \$145. TWIN MATTRESS set, \$99. KING PILLOWTOP mattress set \$239. Full orthopedic mattress set \$135. Brand new, warranty. 806-549-3110.

SPECIAL PURCHASE - 10'x16' Storage Buildings, 8 Remaining. Delivery/Financing Available. 432-563-3108.

WHY PAY RENT? 10'x12' Storage Buildings \$49.00 a Month. Delivery/Financing. 432-563-3108.

FREE TO good home mixed Australian Shepherd. Intelligent, friendly, good with kids and older persons, very cat friendly. Will be wonderful companion. Call 432-268-3754.

MOVING- FREE male Border Collie about 1 year old. Great dog. Call (432)263-6037.

Real Estate for Rent
1514 WOOD Large Four bedroom two bath \$350. month, \$200. deposit. 104 W. 13th. One bedroom, 1 bath. \$300. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

South Plains APARTMENTS
432-714-4840
Efficiency Apt. • \$200*
One Bdr. • \$250*
Two Bdr. • \$350*
w/6 Mo. Lease
(\$300 Deposit)

- All Utilities Except Electric Paid
- Free High Speed Wireless Internet
- New Appliances & Fixtures
- Security System in Place
- New Laundry & Vending
- Housing Assistance Accepted

3304 W. Hwy 80

1102 LANCASTER. Two bedroom, one bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841, 517-0642.

1018 RIDGEROAD. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, \$465. month, \$200. deposit. CH/A. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

1220 EAST 16th. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. CH/A. \$650 Month, \$325. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

1404 TUSCON. Two bedroom, one bath. Call (432)267-3841, 517-0642.

1800 DUQUOIN, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$650. month, \$600. deposit. Call after noon, (432)264-3976.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, CH/A, garage, fenced yard, \$550. Month, \$300. deposit. 1800 Wallace. Call (432)270-3848 for more information.

3308 DREXEL - Nice 3/2, fenced backyard, CH/A, RO, \$250.00 deposit, \$575.00 month, references required. Call (432)263-4948.

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

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College. 1 Bedroom House. Stove & refrigerator, carport, CH/A. \$350.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

FREE KITTENS to good homes. Call (432)816-9039.

Real Estate for Rent
LARGE OFFICE - excellent location. 601 Scurry. Call (432)263-1267.

SEVERAL OFFICES available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS
\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.
ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104
Housing Assistance Accepted

Real Estate for Rent

SUNSET RIDGE APTS Family Friendly Playground! Paragon Security August Special 1st Month Free 2 Bdrm \$295 1 Bdrm \$245 (432)263-2292

Real Estate for Sale
1313 OIL Mill Road. 3 Bedroom with apartment in rear, CH/A, fenced yard. \$50s. Call (432)267-5759.

1801 ALABAMA 3 bedroom, large den/fireplace, fenced back yard, central heat/air, garage. Call: (432)263-1281.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

2911 NAVAJO Drive. Owner will pay closing cost. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath, 20x20 shop/carport, fenced backyard on oversized lot. Call (432)263-0369 leave message Cell 816-6021.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH. FOR-CLOSURE Only \$20,500! For listing Call 800-749-8106 ext F906.

4206 THEO - By Owner. Quite neighborhood. Like new. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace. New inside. Nice yard. \$93,000.00. (432)264-0330 or 816-9969.

711 N. Tubb Rd. Three bedroom, two bath, one acre, water well, remodeled. \$32,000. Call (432)213-4460.

BEAUTY SHOP in excellent location. \$7,500. O.B.O. Call 432-213-6236.

COAHOMA 3/2/2, large game room, large shop with RV storage, 2 carports, storage shed, storm cellar on a large lot. \$122,000. Call (432)816-1120.

FORECLOSUREITWO bedroom, only \$23,000! For Listings 800-749-8106 ext. S-384.

FOUR BEDROOM Foreclosure. Only \$29,000! For listings call 800-749-8106 ext. F-086.

OWNER FINANCE- 1409 Sycamore 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, CH/CA, wood floors, fireplace, \$30,400.00. Easy Terms. Call (325)325-893-1973.

RANCH WANTED: Borden County & East to North East. Must have Game, Electricity, Water, Good Access. Call Mike Parish 817-831-0371.

RENT TO Own in Forsan. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious living room & kitchen, close to school. \$450 month. Call (210)861-5547 or 210-657-1225.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath, foreclosure. Only \$20,500. For listings 800-749-8106 ext. S-382.

Services Offered

TAMI'S BOOKKEEPING Service - Monthly Write-ups, payroll, weekly or bi-weekly, financial statement and quarterly reports. All your bookkeeping needs. Call Tami 432-685-0767. www.tamis-bookkeeping.com

Vehicles

(2) New 2005 7 Passenger Vans \$9,500 Off!
Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 4th 267-7424

1992 HONDA ACCORD only \$1200! For Listing, 800-749-8104 ext. N-237.

1996 HONDA Accord only \$1500! Alloy wheels, 35MPG! For Listing, 800-749-8104 ext. A106.

AUCTION Selling for Forsan ISD 1990 & 1981 Diesel Buses and 1991 Suburban. Saturday August 5th, 7 pm. **Crossroads Auction Co.** (432)264-9900 Lic.#13251

su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom
ANSWERS

6	5	7	1	8	9	2	3	4
8	4	9	3	5	2	7	1	6
1	3	2	7	6	4	9	8	5
2	8	4	6	1	7	3	5	9
7	9	6	2	3	5	8	4	1
5	1	3	4	9	8	6	2	7
3	7	8	9	4	1	5	6	2
4	2	5	8	7	6	1	9	3
9	6	1	5	2	3	4	7	8

FREE KITTENS to good homes. Call (432)816-9039.

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BARCELONA APARTMENTS
\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.
ALL BILLS PAID
538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104
Housing Assistance Accepted

Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The Scorpio moon is like hot sauce for dreams. The boundaries are pushed, and the ratings go from PG to the great beyond.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

We can always rationalize that dreams are just dreams — out of our control. Is that really so? Consider taking the reigns of this netherworld experience. With a little concentration, you can create a reality from them.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's much you need to know in order to get where you're going. The information gathering is best done rather informally. Talk to people. Ask neighbors, colleagues, friends and especially family for the "lowdown."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're free to make your mark and also to make mistakes. Don't worry. A margin of error has been afforded you by wise souls who know that once you learn what you're doing, you'll be the best at it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You value creativity. Today, your way of incorporating this value into your life may be to give those around you the flexibility they need to get wacky, zany and silly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're ready to find a partner for a certain venture. Think carefully about approaching close friends or family for this one. Some relationships are best without the added pressure of doing business.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Here's your happiness tip of the day: Instead of aiming at a dollar figure, a number on the scale or a destination at the top of the mountain, aim at purifying your thoughts. Beautiful thoughts bring beautiful results.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're invincible. The only bad thing about your superhero status is that it sets the stage for victim-types to make an entrance. Really, today, you're more interested in hanging out with other superheroes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Dress for your own pleasure. The way you adorn yourself makes a difference in how you feel when you face the world. Your style is changing as you require different things from the world, and vice versa.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Silence is not only a refrain from speaking or a lack of noise — it's an attitude for your soul. Out of the inner silence you cultivate today, your life path is made serenely luminous, like a country road under the full moon.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Some problems dissolve with neglect, especially for lucky individuals like you. You'll be laughing, too, for no particular reason — an indication that you're either enlightened, or a lunatic. Either way, you're popular.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The stars show you vacillating between two strong choices. Sometimes, the best decision is to make no decision at all. When you're really ready, you're pulled in the right direction.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're not only social, you're also warm and nurturing. Your commitment to your friends is admirable. Yet, even in the most devoted relationships, there comes a time to screen your calls. This is that time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The uncertain future of a relationship can be daunting, but it doesn't have to be. Dwell on what you want to happen — it's the opposite of worrying. All will be well in your world.

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That's Racin'

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

"This means so much to win right here in front of all these people I know. I've never been that excited to win a race."

— Carl Edwards, on his victory in the 2006 Busch Silver Celebration 250 Busch Series race at Gateway International Raceway in Madison, Ill. Edwards is from Columbia, Mo., which is two hours away.



THIS WEEK'S RACE

ALLSTATE 400

Where: Indianapolis Motor Speedway, a paved flat 2.5-mile quad-oval located in Indianapolis.

When: Sunday at 2:40 p.m. (all times-ET). Qualifying is 10:10 a.m. Saturday.

TV: NBC.

Radio: Indianapolis Motor Speedway Radio Network.

Purse: \$9,346,620.

Last year's winner: Tony Stewart.

Worth mentioning: Ryan Newman has five straight top-10 starts at Indianapolis, the longest current streak.

Eleven drivers have competed in all 12 races at Indianapolis. Those 11 drivers have won nine of the 12 races.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

While preaching patience and punting some of his rivals on the race track, Tony Stewart has likened his place in stock car racing to that of Dale Earnhardt, the late seven-time champion. What do you think about that?

Cast your vote at:
www.thatracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Would you like to see NASCAR telecasts use the split-screen or side-by-side presentation of ads and racing?

Number of votes: 6,033

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
Absolutely	4,693	78%
Not really	819	14%
I don't care	521	8%

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

■ **Jeff Burton:** Who cares that he hasn't won. He's scored more points than any other driver in the last 10 races.

■ **Jimmie Johnson:** No one talks about the series points leader. Are we numb to his success?

WHO'S NOT

■ **Ward Burton:** Not the answer to Robert Yates' woes despite his large fan following.

■ **Kasey Kahne:** Remember him? Finished 23rd or lower in four of past five races.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

■ **NASCAR's** decision to mandate use of unleaded fuel seemed to cause no problems of any consequence in Saturday's Busch Series race, thus opening the door to its likely implementation in all series next season. With the move made with such relative ease, one wonders why it was soured on for so many years.

■ After all the hoopla about Dale Earnhardt Jr. being back to championship contending form this season, how does he find himself outside the top 10 in points with just six races remaining for the Chase for the Nextel Cup?

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of July 23:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	2939	21. Martin Truex Jr.	2017
2. Matt Kenseth	2842	22. Scott Riggs	2002
3. Jeff Burton	2621	23. Reed Sorenson	1982
4. Kyle Busch	2582	24. Bobby Labonte	1922
5. Kevin Harvick	2563	25. Dale Jarrett	1901
6. Mark Martin	2557	26. J.J. Yeley	1866
7. Kasey Kahne	2515	27. Robby Gordon	1833
8. Denny Hamlin	2514	28. Jeff Green	1796
9. Jeff Gordon	2512	29. Dave Blaney	1736
10. Tony Stewart	2477	30. Joe Nemechek	1726
11. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2462	31. Sterling Marlin	1629
12. Greg Biffle	2433	32. Ken Schrader	1629
13. Kurt Busch	2311	33. Kyle Petty	1608
14. Carl Edwards	2242	34. Jeremy Mayfield	1607
15. Casey Mears	2185	35. David Stremme	1496
16. Brian Vickers	2134	36. Michael Waltrip	1409
17. Jamie McMurray	2088	37. Travis Kvapil	1334
18. Ryan Newman	2080	38. Tony Raines	1223
19. Clint Bowyer	2064	39. Scott Wimmer	1178
20. Elliott Sadler	2035	40. Terry Labonte	979

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of July 29:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	3437	11. Jason Leffler	2281
2. Carl Edwards	3119	12. John Andretti	2273
3. Clint Bowyer	3050	13. Reed Sorenson	2238
4. Denny Hamlin	3007	14. Jon Wood	2193
5. J.J. Yeley	2826	15. Ashton Lewis	2162
6. Paul Menard	2563	16. Todd Kluever	2148
7. Kyle Busch	2556	17. David Green	2124
8. Greg Biffle	2510	18. Stacey Compton	2088
9. Johnny Sauter	2484	19. Burt Myers	2072
10. Kenny Wallace	2402	20. Danny O'Quinn Jr.	2016

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Kroger 200, Indianapolis

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of July 15:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Todd Bodine	2161	6. Ron Hornaday	1905
2. David Reutimann	2044	7. Jack Sprague	1898
3. Johnny Benson	1998	8. David Starr	1872
4. Rich Crawford	1930	9. Terry Cook	1864
5. Ted Musgrave	1913	10. Dennis Setzer	1835

NEXT RACE: Friday, Power Stroke Diesel 200, Indianapolis



Crew chief Mike Ford, left, and Nextel Cup driver Denny Hamlin celebrate their victory in the 2006 Pennsylvania 500 at Pocono Raceway.

No tricks, just work

Mike Ford says there's no secret to his success at Indianapolis

By DAVID POOLE
McClatchy Newspapers

Mike Ford still has to fight off a grimace just about anytime the 2002 Brickyard 400 comes up in conversation.

As crew chief for Bill Elliott's Dodge that season, Ford celebrated along with his driver and car owner Ray Evernham barely 24 hours after Elliott had almost tipped his team's hand.

Late Saturday afternoon, in a final practice before that year's race at the historic Indianapolis track, Elliott's car shot to the top of the speed chart. It's very unusual for a car to turn its fastest laps at the end of a final practice, since it's usually running on worn tires by that point.

But not only did Elliott go to the top of the board as he began his final run, he went faster again later in that run. Anybody watching closely that day had to figure Elliott to be a car to watch the next day.

Sure enough, Elliott started second and led 93 of 160 laps to win the race. One week earlier, he'd also won at Pocono Raceway, a track that is similar to Indy in that it has turns without a great deal of banking.

What had Mike Ford found?
"Yeah, the guys were really guessing at that," Ford said two weeks ago at Pocono Raceway, looking back on that victory.

Some of the same people are doing the same guessing as the cars are preparing for this year's Nextel Cup event at the Brickyard, where the race is now called the Allstate 400.

That's because Ford now works at Joe Gibbs Racing with rookie driver Denny Hamlin, and because Hamlin completed a season's sweep at Pocono with a dominant victory the last time Cup cars were on the track.

Hamlin and Ford have talked about how they struggled when they tested at Indianapolis last month, but nobody's falling for that. The car



Ford was the crew chief for driver Bill Elliott, above, when he won the 2002 Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

that Hamlin used to wax the field with, twice, at Pocono this year was not at the Indy test. But it's at Indy this weekend.

Ford knows that if Hamlin's No. 11 Chevrolet is anywhere near as strong at Indy as it was at Pocono, he's going to have his peers wondering if he's gone back into the bag of tricks that worked so well for Elliott.

He doesn't mind that one bit, either.

"I don't really worry about what anybody

else thinks," Ford said of all those who might be guessing about some "secret" he might have. "You work on your own stuff. I'm a gearhead and I try and think about our car. If I'm worried about what other people think, it's just a distraction taking away from our program."

There may even be those who believe what Ford put under Hamlin at Pocono is, shall we say, up against the edges of the rules. Again, Ford doesn't care.

"Whenever you run good and you kind of nail something down, people are going to cast stones at you and make accusations," he said. "I think it's good from the competition side because, you know, it's taking their mind off of what they really need to be thinking about, and that's catching up."

"At Joe Gibbs Racing, we don't have any gimmicks, we just have good race cars and good race car drivers and good people working on them."

Elliott was 46 when he won at Indianapolis in 2002, making him the oldest winner of a NASCAR race at that track. Hamlin, at 25, would not be the youngest winner if he went to victory lane on Sunday, but he'd be close. Jeff Gordon was just 23 when he won the inaugural Brickyard 400 in 1994.

"Denny enjoys sitting in the race car every day," Ford said of his young driver. "He gives good feedback, and we talk a lot the same language. ... You could make small adjustments, and the car would react to it, so you know he's putting the car on the edge. You know, for a crew chief, that's very rewarding, the fact that you know when you make an adjustment that you're going to see a result."

"Denny also is very patient. ... He knows that he needs to finish in order to move forward."

That always comes first. When it comes time to race, you know, he always saves a little bit for the end. So that's a good combination to have in a young driver."

The Chase is no excuse for childish behavior

Why is gasoline \$3 a gallon? Why is a lasting peace in the Middle East so elusive? Why are Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes being so protective of their daughter, Suri?

Apparently, it's all because of the Chase for the Nextel Cup.

It is an emerging consensus among NASCAR hand-wringers that many problems in the sport are directly related to the third-year championship format. Given NASCAR's ever-broadening scope, the world therefore must be impacted, too.

The thinking goes that the pressures of the 10-race championship format and the 26-race competition that leads to it give drivers in NASCAR's top series a perfectly good excuse for doing whatever it is they might want to do.

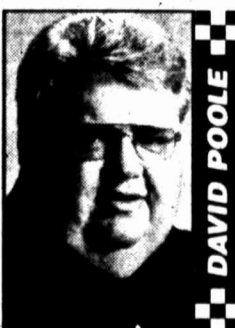
The good thing about how fast this excuse is catching on is someday it might give us poor old media guys a break. Until now, anytime a driver

says something that winds up backfiring on him he's gone to the "I was taken out of context" defense. Now, drivers might start using the "The Chase made me do it" to break things up.

Supposedly, the onus to make the Chase for the Cup is such that drivers have to knock the guy in front of them out of the way. They hate to do it, but who's to say one position might not be the difference? With intensity so high, nobody can afford to show patience. If another driver bumps you or so much as crowds you, then he must be dealt with instantly.

This is all, of course, the dumbest thing I've ever heard.

Nextel Cup is the deep end of the stock-car racing pool. It's supposed to be hard.



DAVID POOLE

Pressure? Someone once asked professional golfer Lee Trevino how he dealt with the pressure of having to make a putt to win a major championship and a prize of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Trevino laughed. "Pressure," he said, "is playing for \$10 when you don't have a dime in your pocket."

The pressure in Nextel Cup is to keep your job, because payday is very nice. Drivers, crew chiefs and team members deserve every dime they make, but the minute you cast a line in the Nextel Cup pond you have to realize you're almost as likely to have the fish pull you in as you are to yank one out.

If you're driving for a Cup team with sponsors pumping close to \$20 million into the kitty, you'd better be

racing hard, Chase or no Chase.

It wasn't really much different when the money wasn't that big. Does anybody believe Dale Earnhardt would have raced harder if there'd been a Chase format in his day? How about Cale Yarborough?

The six races between now and this year's Chase cutoff at Richmond, Va., figure to be very interesting, because about 11 or 12 good teams look like they're going to be fighting for eight spots. Then, the Chase format will significantly increase the chances for a competitive title fight.

But the Chase won't be what causes drivers to run into each other, or act like children after they do.

The Chase won't make people cut corners on the rules.

Neither will it force teams to hire and/or fire drivers and/or crew chiefs, too soon and/or too late.

You know what causes all of that. No, not the media.

THIS is like ms. The pushed.



HOLIDAY MATHS

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6 PM	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Spanish	King of the Hill	News Entertainment	Viuda de Blanco	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Joe McGee	Shark	Discovery	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene	Without a Trace (CC)	Black Carpet	Phi of Future	MLB Baseball	SportsCenter	Science Fic.
7 PM	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	La Faa Mas Bella	70s Show	Big Brother: All-Stars	Tierra de Pasiones	Name Is Earl	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Sid Roth	TX Mthly Talk	Shark	Movie: Scarface	CSI: Crime Scene	Without a Trace (CC)	The Parkers	Movie: Return to Never Land	Indians at Boston Red Sox	2006 World Series of Poker	Want to Be a Superhero?
8 PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Barrera de Amor	You Can Dance	CSI: Crime Scene	Amores de Mercado	America's Got Talent (CC)	Movie: The Wedding	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Shark	UFC Unleashed	Movie: Out of Time (CC)	Girlfriends	Comcovey (CC)	Emperor New	Baseball	Dark Place	Want to Be a Superhero?
9 PM	Primetime (CC)	Primetime (CC)	Aqui y Ahora	Bocker (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	10 Movie: It Takes Two (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Shark	TNA IMPACT! (CC)	Nightmares & Dreamscapes	James Fox	Zack & Cody	Baseball	SportsCenter	Movie: Tremors	
10 PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	70s Show	Let's-man	Laura	Conan O'Brien	12:10 Movie: The Wedding	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Shark	Valentine's Day	Nightmares & Dreamscapes	In Living Color	Phi of Future	United States	Baseball	NFL Live	
11 PM	Entertainment Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Malcolm-Mid	Let's-man	Laura	Conan O'Brien	12:10 Movie: The Wedding	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Shark	Valentine's Day	Nightmares & Dreamscapes	In Living Color	Phi of Future	United States	Baseball	NFL Live	
12 AM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids	Divorce Court	Mania Celeste	Conan O'Brien	12:10 Movie: The Wedding	The Hour of Healing	Sign Off	Shark	Valentine's Day	Nightmares & Dreamscapes	In Living Color	Phi of Future	United States	Baseball	NFL Live	
12:30 AM	News (CC)	Apex Media																	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M TRYIN' TO MAKE UP FOR MY ALLOWANCE BEING CUT OFF FOR TWO WEEKS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Hi Diddle Diddle! The Cat and the Fiddle! The Cow jumped over the Space Station..."

HAGAR



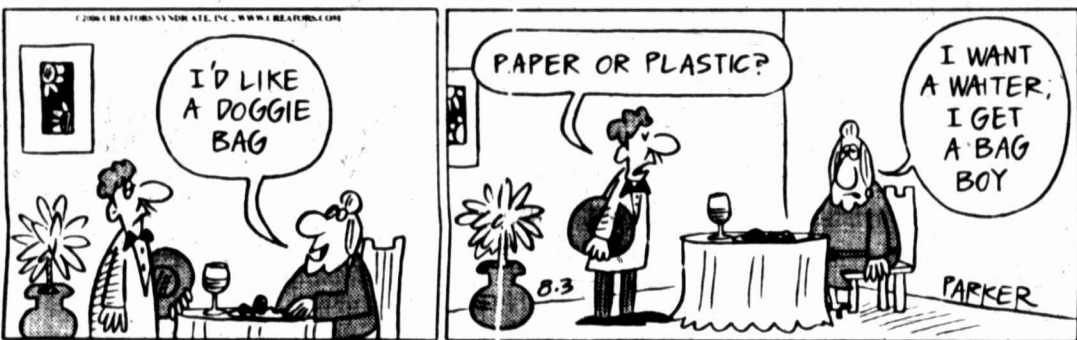
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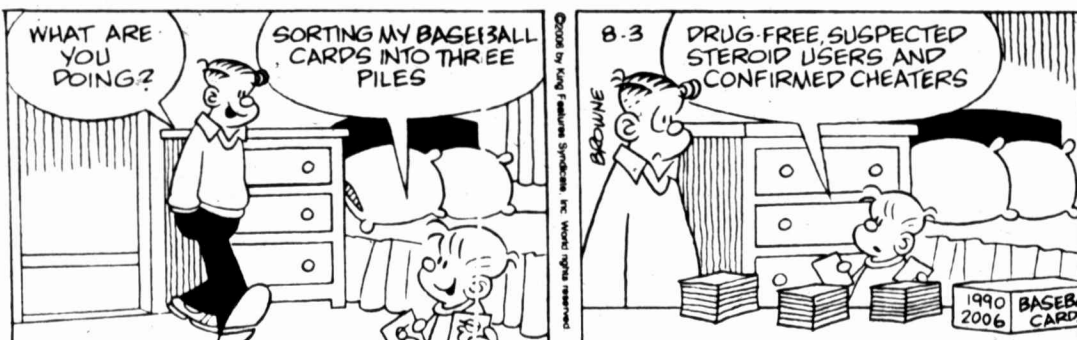
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 3, the 215th day of 2006. There are 150 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
Twenty-five years ago, on Aug. 3, 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President Reagan they would be fired, which they were.
On this date:
In 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, on a voyage that took him to the present-day Americas.
In 1914, Germany declared war on France.
In 1923, Calvin Coolidge was sworn in as the 30th president of the United States, following the death of Warren G. Harding.
In 1936, the State Department urged Americans in Spain to leave because of that country's civil war.
In 1943, Gen. George S. Patton slapped a private at

an army hospital in Sicily, accusing him of cowardice. (Patton was later ordered by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to apologize for this and a second, similar episode.)
In 1949, the National Basketball Association was formed as a merger of the Basketball Association of America and the National Basketball League.
In 1958, the nuclear-powered submarine Nautilus became the first vessel to cross the North Pole underwater.
In 1980, closing ceremonies were held in Moscow for the Summer Olympic Games, which had been boycotted by dozens of countries, including the United States.
In 1993, the Senate voted 96-3 to confirm Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
In 1994, Stephen G. Breyer was sworn in as the Supreme Court's newest justice in a private ceremony at Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's Vermont summer home.
Today's Birthdays: Author P.D. James is 86. Broadway composer Richard Adler is 85. Singer Gordon Stoker

Answer to previous puzzle

ARMS	NEWS	AOZABA
PEARL	ALOE	LUMET
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STORK	GOON	AXES
OLLIE	GORE	SERA
OCEAN	SKED	TRAY

Newsday Crossword

ONE-OCTAVE SPREAD by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Mediterranean nation
- Cobbler flavor
- Part of an airport lineup
- Trojan War epic
- Gigi star
- Ex of Frank and Mickey
- Data or music holder
- Quick punch
- Russian plain
- Just okay
- Play for a 30 Across
- List-ending abbr.
- Household pests
- Religious offshoot
- Gullible one
- Appear to be
- "Yuck!"
- Drops the ball
- Defeat handily
- Mouth part
- Patton portrayer
- Capital on a fjord
- Fraudulent scheme
- Circle dance
- John, in Scotland
- Roman poet
- Cold-storage candidate
- Very top
- Holds fast
- Eliot Ness, for one
- Old hand
- Surface figure
- Inquiring types

DOWN

- Boom-box plug-ins
- Oodles
- Margarita garnish
- Valve-moving part
- Show flexibility
- Take steps
- Places for notes
- Monastic head
- Red-ink figures
- Not easily read
- Zydeco, e.g.
- Salt's "Halt!"
- Innocent ones
- Puts an end to
- Tree of the pine family
- Prefix for nautical
- Big __, CA
- Swelled heads
- Certain candy fiend
- Rye-bottle word
- Cocky walk
- Campy explosive sound
- Notable time

39 Top pick, stangily

41 Runway surface

43 Singleton

45 Extraordinary event

49 Go off the track

51 Turkey's capital

52 Basilica spots

53 Hang loosely

54 Start a volley

56 Pale with fright

59 "Right on!"

61 Author Bagnold

62 Red-beans partner

63 The Lion King villain

66 Notable time

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

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