

BIG SPRING

HERALD



INSIDE

Rangers win game; tossup on the brawl though

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VOLUME 102, NUMBER 127

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

More than 350 students given school supplies

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

If they don't do their homework, it won't be because they don't have the tools.

That's the message the local Salvation Army delivered this week, as the local charity wrapped up its annual back-to-school supply program.

According to Capt. Linda Keeney, the program provided new back packs and supplies —

pens, pencils, crayons and other items — to more than 350 area students during a two-day application and delivery process last week.

"We still have a few people coming in with special circumstances," said Keeney. "But for the most part, the program is complete. We gave supplies out to more than 350 students last week, and by the time we finish, we fully expect to surpass the 375 mark."



Keeney

"It's an investment in our future, and the future of Big Spring. Next to our Christmas program, I see this as the most important thing we do each year. This gives our kids the basis on which to go back to school."

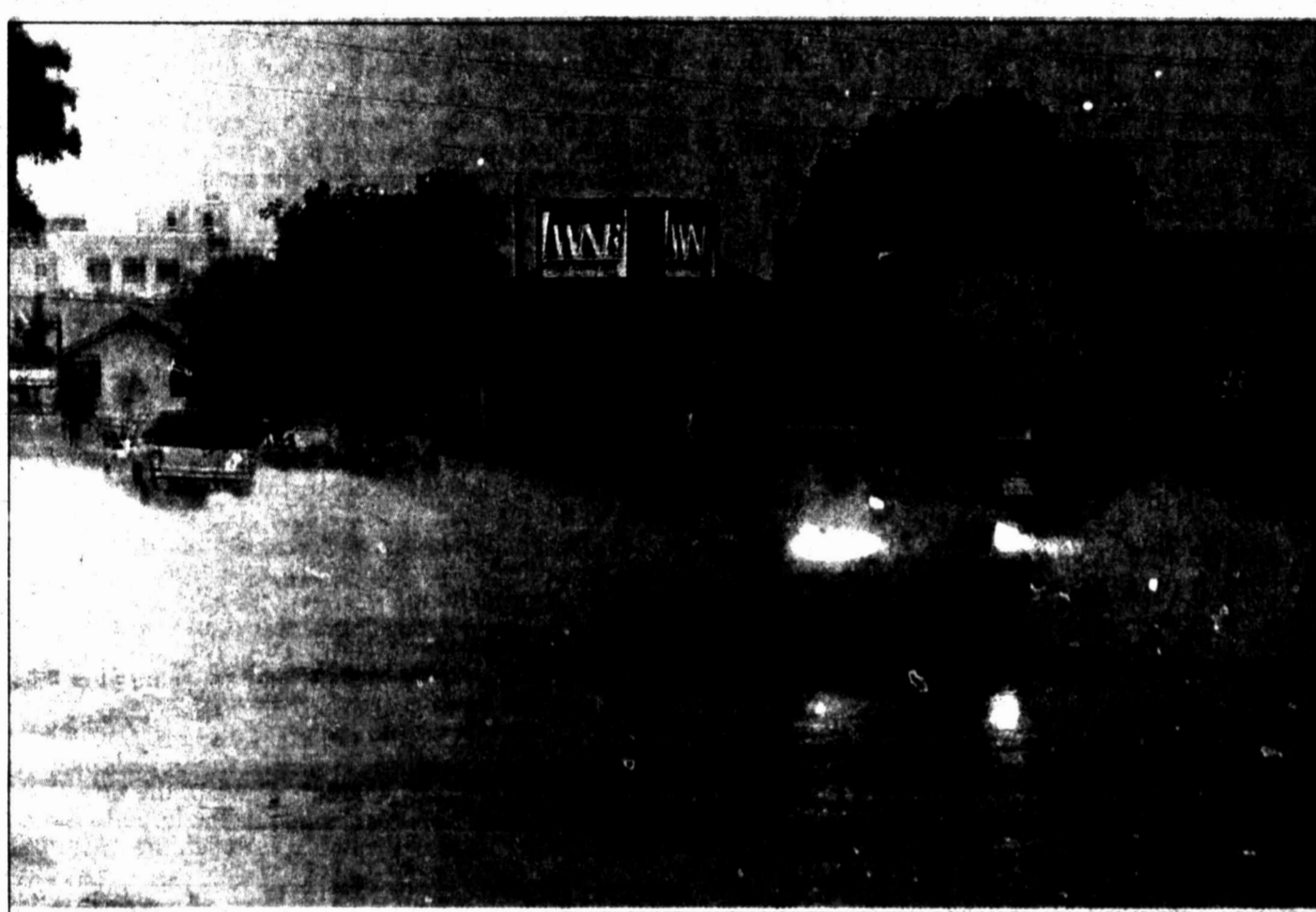
Keeney said she feels like the program was a success, both from a fiscal and a charitable standpoint.

"We helped as many students as we had hoped, so we're really happy with that," said Keeney. "The first day we

began taking applications, this place was packed. However, everyone was very kind and patient, so it went very well.

"We've received enough in donations to pay for the program, so it has been an all-around success for us. The community has been very generous, and even though we didn't have enough to cover everything when we began last week,

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A car plows along rain-gorged Scurry Street Thursday afternoon. A wave of sub-tropical moisture has dumped as much as four inches of precipitation on parts of Howard County during the past week.

Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Much-needed rain greets area; up to four inches said received

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The recent spate of rain may be the difference maker for this year's cotton crop.

As much as four inches of rain fell on parts of Howard County within the past six days after a wave of sub-tropical moisture moved into the area and apparently decided to say awhile, officials with the National Weather Service

office in Midland said.

Without a pressure front to push the moisture away, the wave had little choice but to dump some much-needed moisture on the area.

Only .9 inch of rain was recorded at McMahon-Wrinkle Airport, but a NWS spokesman said his office had reports of precipitation far in excess of that number.

"Storm totals for the county could have been as high as four inches; it just didn't drop into the

bucket at the airport," he said.

Forecasts for today and Friday call for only a 20 percent chance of additional rain, but more may be on the way soon. Another moisture line stretching from Brownwood to Dallas is moving west and may drop even more precipitation on the area within the next few days, the spokesman said.

County Extension Agent Tommy

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Man arrested in JonBenet murder case

A very long 10 years: Ramsey family says arrest brings long-sought relief, vindication

By CATHERINE TSAI

Associated Press Writer

BOULDER, Colo. (AP)

— Patsy Ramsey knew before she died of cancer in June that police were looking into a potential suspect in the gruesome death of 6-year-old daughter JonBenet nearly 10 years ago.

She didn't live to see what her husband and attorney call complete vindication: The arrest of a suspect in the little girl's slaying, and his confession to reporters Thursday that he was "with JonBenet when she died."

Former schoolteacher John Mark Karr, 41, was arrested Wednesday at an apartment in Bangkok, Thailand, where he said the death was "an accident."

But even before the confession, the Ramsey family was heralding news they hoped would finally end the suspicion that has hung over the parents of the 6-year-old beauty pageant contestant.

"Patsy was aware that authorities were close to making an arrest in the



Courtesy photo

Authorities have arrested a man in the death of 6-year-old JonBenet Ramsey in December 1996.

case and had she lived to see this day, would no doubt have been as pleased as I am," said John Ramsey, the girl's father, in a statement.

Ramsey family attorney Lin Wood said the Ramseys gave police

See RAMSEY, Page 3

City's large-item pick up program to resume

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Clean and green will be the goal this month, as the city of Big Spring gets ready for the fourth stop on its annual large item pickup program.

Targeting District 4, represented by Big Spring Councilwoman Gloria McDonald, the Friday, Aug. 25

event aims to help area residents get rid of items they might not otherwise be able to transport to the municipal landfill.

"It's a widely used program," said Todd Darden, director of public works for the city. "We're trying to target people who are elderly, handicapped or otherwise don't have the means to get these large items

to our landfill.

"This is a service the city is providing as a courtesy to those people and give them the opportunity to get things off of their property they might not be able to otherwise."

Darden said there are many household items area residents may have laying around that qualify for the program, which is offered at no charge to city

residents.

"Some of the more typical items we pick up are tree branches, appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Darden. "Those are the kind of things that we can take to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up."

"We can't pick up any household hazardous waste. That means any kind of chemicals

including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature."

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

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SENIOR CENTER TO HOLD AUCTION

The Spring City Senior Citizens Center will be the site of a benefit auction beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday.

The auction is being held to raise money for new tables and chairs at the center.

David Lefever of Crossroads Auction Co. will donate his services as auctioneer and a number of local businesses and individuals have donated items for the event.

Among the items to be auctioned off are glassware, furniture, computers, electric wheelchairs, a copying machine, exercise equipment, organs, tools, a pool table and other items.

The center, located at 1901 Simler, provides a variety of services for local seniors, including free meals, blood pressure and glucose checks and defensive driving courses.

Other activities include bingo, weekly dances, billiards, dominoes and cards. For more information, or to donate an item for auction, contact the center at 267-1628.

HOMELESS BENEFIT FROM AIRPORT

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Items discarded at an airport in the response to a terror plot have turned into balm for the city's homeless.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County has started picking up some of the things people have jettisoned for security reasons as they board flights at the Eugene Airport.

Charley Harvey, assistant executive director of the charity, dug through trash bags Tuesday and took every bottle of shampoo and shaving cream he could find. The items will be distributed at the organization's First Place Family Center.

But he didn't take the can of Easy Cheese, or the minibottle of brandy, or the tube of something called Vampire's Blood.

Oh, the things people bring on planes," said Harvey as he considered the item in his hand, a container of lavender body butter.

"We're always looking for shampoo, toothpaste and other toiletries to help homeless families," Harvey said.

Obituaries

Gary Dean Ringener



Services for Gary Dean Ringener, age 53 of Lamesa, were Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2006, at 2 p.m. at Sunset Baptist Church with the Rev. Gerald Parson officiating. Visitation was held Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home.

Burial was at Trinity Memorial Cemetery in Big Spring.

Mr. Ringener died Sunday Aug. 13, 2006, in New Mexico.

He was born April 19, 1953, in Big Spring. He married Letha Carroll Dec. 22, 1972, in Big Spring.

Gary graduated from Big Spring High School in 1971, then attended Howard County Junior College. After a college semester he went to work for Sherwin Williams an later became manager of the store in Big Spring. In 1972, he met his wife Letha Carroll (Ringener) and they were married at the Baptist Temple where Gary was a member. In 1974, they moved to Lamesa where he was employed by Cactus Drilling as a roughneck. He had worked for Nabors Drilling for about 10 years as a driller. He worked a short time at Preston E. Smith Prison, then went back to Nabors where he was employed at the time of his death.

Survivors include his father, J.C. Ringener of Big Spring and wife Emma; his wife, Letha Ringener of Lamesa; two sons, Gary Shane and Larry Wayne Ringener of Lubbock; a sister, Clarice Birrell of Big Spring and husband Gregg; twin brother, Larry Genn Ringener and wife Sue of Breckenridge; mother-in-law, Thelma Carroll of Kingston, Okla.; and numerous family members and friends.

Paid obituary

W.E. Shank Jr.



W.E. Shank Jr., 91, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2006, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18, 2006, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with the Rev. Herb McPherson, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

He was born May 17, 1915, in Big Spring and married Lorena Murphey. She preceded him in death April 2, 1995.

Mr. Shank worked at Texas Electric Service Company for 12 years. He served two years in the United States Navy Seabees in the South Pacific during World War II. Mr. Shank retired from Cabot Corporation in 1975 after 27 years of service. He was a "jack of all trades" and a master of all of them.

He was a Baptist.

Survivors include one niece, Sharon Osburn of Big Spring; and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Georgia Shank Sr.; and two sisters, Frances Shank and Maxine Osburn.

Pallbearers will be Charles Sims, Wayne Sims, John Sims, Wilson Money, Kelly Wisdom and Jerry Kilgore. Honorary pallbearers will be Larry Torres, Ruben Torres, Mark Rangel, Vernon Atkinson and Roger Atkinson.

The family suggests memorials be made to St. Jude Childrens Hospital, 501 St. Jude, Memphis, TN 38105-1905.

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

Susan P. Young



Susan P. Young, 82, of Big Spring passed away Tuesday morning, Aug. 15, 2006. Memorial services will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 18, 2006. A visitation will be held Friday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Susan was born in Dallas, Texas on August 15, 1924 to Gordon and Caribel Watkins. She was the first woman to take mechanical drawing at her high school amid opposition. She attended college at SMU, Arlington State and Howard College. Her career didn't take the path she had intended, toward engineering; rather, from 1956 to 1964 it focused on assistant management and accounting for both oil and banking industries. During this time she acquired her certification as a professional secretary and rose to council chairman for the International Toastmaster's Club. From 1969 until recently, she had a long successful accounting career including membership in the National Accountants Association and culminating as controller and CFO for two Pennsylvania companies. During this time she served as a Borough Council Member and also as mayor in Royalton, Pa.

Her most recent position was as treasurer for the St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Tonida Smith and two grandsons, Matthew and Nicholas Larghi, all of Mahwah, New Jersey. She was preceded in death by her brother, Jack Watkins and sister, Jane McAnelly.

Susan was a very special person who made many friends over the years and touched their lives in a positive way often giving precedence to their needs over her own.

The family requests that all memorial donations be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 810 Scurry, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Alvie Morris

Alvie Morris, 92, died Thursday, Aug. 17, 2006, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Anita Brosig



Anita Hoelscher Brosig, 73, of Midland, died at home Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2006. Rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, 2006, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland. Funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 18, 2006, at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Midland with the Rev. James Bridges officiating. Interment will follow at 3 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

Anita was born Feb. 5, 1933, to Jake and Elsie Hoelscher in Olfen. She married Stan Brosig April 28, 1954, in Olfen.

Anita was a volunteer at the hospital in Big Spring. She was active in church work as a member of Legion of Mary and The Altar Society at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Big Spring for 16 years. She volunteered at Fannin Elementary in Midland in the Need-To-Read program, until she became ill with multiple sclerosis.

Survivors include her husband, Stan of Midland; three sons, Karl and his wife, Cindy, of Midland, Terry and his wife, Kim, of Arlington, and David of Austin; two daughters, Linda Brosig Ford and Lois Brosig of Midland; four brothers, Vernon Hoelscher of Olfen, Kenneth and Gerald Hoelscher of San Angelo and Virgil Hoelscher of Richardson; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Steven and a brother, Jerome (Dutch) Hoelscher.

Memorials may be directed to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland 79702 or to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, West Texas Chapter, 1031 Andrews Hwy., Suite 201, Midland 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Sheriff's report

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

- **CLINTON A. MUSE JR.**, 56, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid.
- **AMANDA RYALS**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- **JOSE CERVANTES**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **GLORIA MASON**, 52, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of services.
- **MARCUS LAMON COLE**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of accident involving damage to a vehicle.
- **NATHANIEL JAMAL AUSBIE**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license, violation of a promise to appear and bondsman off bond for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less (two counts).
- **MARTIN A. MORA**, 29, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole.
- **GUADALUPE A. GARCIA**, 52, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for indecency with a child - sexual contact.
- **JOE ERNEST VALENCIA JR.**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- **RAFAEL CRUZ LOPEZ**, 61, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-11-17-24-41-52.
Number matching six of six: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$21 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-13-21-36-37.
Number matching five of five: 0.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-9-9

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Police blotter

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

- **EDWARD BULLOCK**, 48, of 1205 S. Young, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of stalking.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 block of Third Street.
- **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Baylor. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of West FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 100 block of Northwest Ninth Street. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Douglas. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lark. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 600 block of Caylor. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 2100 block of Scurry.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the area of FM 846. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable winds becoming southeast around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. South winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

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

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

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

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

6	7				3
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World briefs

British judge rules that 23 suspects in foiled bombing plot may be kept in custody

LONDON (AP) — A district judge ruled that British investigators have until next week to investigate the suspects arrested in an alleged plot to blow up as many as 10 trans-Atlantic jetliners, saying they could be kept in custody without charge.

Scotland Yard said later Wednesday that a person arrested on Tuesday as part of its investigation into the foiled plot was released without charge. Another detainee was released without charge Friday.

The judicial order was the first major test of a new terrorism law that lets suspects be held for as long as 28 days without charge so investigators can solidify their cases.

The hearing, which addressed the cases of 23 suspects arrested in Britain's initial sweep last week, was held behind closed doors and attended only by the suspects' lawyers, investigators and government officials.

Scotland Yard said that 21 of the suspects could be detained for questioning through Aug. 23, while another two could be detained until Aug. 21. No reason was given for the difference in the length of time.

President Bush plans to sign bill overhauling America's pension system

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sweeping new rules aimed at prodding companies into shoring up their pension plans and ensuring that workers get the retirement benefits they've been promised are about to become law.

President Bush planned to sign the bill Thursday and has already praised it as "the most comprehensive reforms to America's pension system in over 30 years."

The massive legislation reflects the evolution of workers' retirement benefits — the decline in traditional pensions that give retired employees a fixed payment each month and the rise of defined-contribution savings plans that rely on workers to build retirement assets.

It could also save taxpayers from funding a multi-billion-dollar bailout of the federal agency that insures pension plans.

Some critics, such as the Pension Rights Center, say the changes do nothing to stop companies from freezing their pensions and, with time, will weaken the pension system.

Capture of suspected drug lord unlikely to be death blow for Tijuana cartel

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The capture of suspected drug lord Francisco Javier Arellano Felix is unlikely to deal a death blow to the Tijuana cartel that bears his family name, partly because his reputation had little to do with his leadership abilities, experts said.

Although U.S. authorities announced Wednesday that they had "taken the head off the snake" with the arrest of Arellano Felix aboard a boat off Mexico's Pacific coast on Monday, the gang has effectively lost much of its influence over the years.

"For the war against drugs, this means nothing, since Francisco Javier was not an important part of the organization," said Jesus Blancornelas, a Tijuana journalist who has chronicled the city's drug trade for decades and was wounded in a 1997 assassination attempt linked to the cartel.

"Francisco Javier was a sort of playboy," said Blancornelas. "He likes to spend money and enjoy his fame. He drives around in luxury cars."

Even the nickname of the 36-year-old suspect suggested his secondary status: "El Tigrillo," or "The Little Tiger."

Fighters escort London-to-Washington flight diverted to Boston after outburst

BOSTON (AP) — Two fighter jets were scrambled to escort a London-to-Washington flight to an emergency landing in Boston after a disturbance in which passengers said a woman in a jogging suit paced up and down the aisle, peppering her incoherent mutterings with the word "Pakistan."

The federal official for Boston's Logan International Airport said there was no indication of terrorism, but passengers said Wednesday they were unnerved by the woman and by the military response, just a week after authorities in London said they foiled a terror plot to blow up flights to the U.S.

"It was a harrowing two hours," said Antony Nash, 31, who was on his way home to San Diego and was seated near the woman.

"I noticed F-15s next to the plane. I said, 'Oh my God.' And then we saw the emergency vehicles" waiting on the tarmac, Nash said.

Gov. Mitt Romney said the 59-year-old woman was from Vermont and became so claustrophobic and upset that she needed to be restrained. The FBI in Boston said the woman, a U.S. citizen, was arrested on charges of interfering with a flight crew.

SUPPLIES

Continued from Page 1

we've managed to pay for all of it now."

Capt. Russ Keeney, who, along with wife Linda oversees the annual program, said the program is one of the most important projects the Salvation Army undertakes.

"It's an investment in our future, and the future of Big Spring," said

Keeney. "Next to our Christmas program, I see this as the most important thing we do each year. This gives our kids the basis on which to go back to school. We want everyone to go back to school with new equipment. We don't give away anything that's used."

And while it might seem appropriate for the Keeneys and the rest of the Salvation Army staff to pat themselves on the back, there's still plenty

of work to do.

"We were just talking about our annual Thanksgiving meal this morning," said Linda Keeney with a laugh. "We'll begin working on that project immediately. There really isn't much time for us to rest at this point in the year."

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

TRASH

Continued from Page 1

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

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

Large item pickup days are also planned for District 5 on Sept. 22 and District 6 on Oct. 20.

For more information on the Large Item Pick Up program and maps of the six city districts, visit the city of Big Spring Web site at www.ci.big-spring.tx.us, or contact the city at 264-2504.

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

RAIN

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Yeater said the recent rain was crucial in the development of this year's cotton crop.

This summer's hot temperatures were speeding up the crop's growth, Yeater said, and this

week's rain will only speed up the process even more.

The result is that cotton planted early in the growing season might be ready for the gin as early as October, he said.

"What we don't know about is the cotton planted late this season," Yeater said. "I think we've got enough mois-

ture to finish it ... but I don't know if we'll have enough time to finish it. We'll probably have to have a late freeze for that part of the crop to finish."

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

RAMSEY

Continued from Page 1

information about Karr before he was identified as a suspect.

He would not say how the Ramseys knew Karr, though JonBenet was born in Atlanta in 1990, and the Ramseys lived in the Atlanta suburb of Dunwoody for several years before moving to Colorado in 1991. Karr was a teacher who once lived in Conyers, Ga., another Atlanta suburb, according to Wood.

"John and Patsy lived their lives knowing they were innocent, trying to raise a son despite the furor around them," Wood said. "It's been a very long 10 years, and I'm just sorry Patsy isn't here for me to hug her neck."

Pamela Paugh, Patsy Ramsey's sister, told CBS' "The Early Show" on Thursday that the couple was "kept very well informed in private and closed meetings" about the investigation.

"To that end, Patsy would have known very in-depth information about this gentleman that they were looking at as a possible suspect," Paugh said. "Did she know that they were going to actually make an arrest? She probably had a hint but

I'm sure where she is right now she knows. So we're pleased about that."

Karr's father, Wexford Karr of Atlanta, told The Denver Post that he feared his son may have been dead before Wednesday's arrest because he hadn't heard from him in several years.

The Post reported that Karr disappeared after being released from jail in 2001 in California where he had been held on child pornography charges. Wexford Karr told the newspaper that his son had told him he was behind bars in connection with the Ramsey case.

Sonoma County Chief Deputy District Attorney Joan Risse confirmed the pornography charges and an outstanding arrest warrant against a John M. Karr, though she cautioned she didn't know if he was the same person held in the Ramsey case.

District Attorney Mary Lacy said the arrest followed several months of work, but she said no details would be released until a news conference on Thursday.

A law enforcement source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the AP that Karr had been communicating periodically with somebody in Boulder who was cooper-

ating with law enforcement officials. A spokesman for the University of Colorado, Barrie Hartman, confirmed that journalism professor Michael Tracey, communicated with Karr over several months and contacted police.

Tracey, who produced a documentary in 2004 called "Who Killed JonBenet?," could not be located for comment. A woman who answered the phone at a number under his name said he didn't live there anymore; his office phone mailbox was full.

JonBenet was found beaten and strangled in the basement of the family's home in Boulder on Dec. 26, 1996. Patsy Ramsey reported finding a ransom note in the house demanding \$118,000 for her daughter.

The image of little blonde-haired JonBenet in a cowgirl costume and other beauty pageant outfits has haunted TV talk shows ever since, helping feed myriad theories about her killer, and the case became one of the most sensational unsolved murder cases in the nation.

Over the years, some experts suggested that investigators had botched the case so thoroughly that it might never be solved.

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24th & Johnson 267-8888
Velma Forbes, 83, died Sunday. Graveside Services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Mobeetie Cemetery in Mobeetie, Texas.
Alvie Morris, 92, died Thursday. Services pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Texas briefs

Man set to die for abduction-slaying

LIVINGSTON (AP) — A condemned prisoner Richard Hinojosa says a previous manslaughter conviction for which he served prison time is costing him his life Thursday evening. The 44-year-old former custodian at San Antonio's old Brooks Air Force Base is set to die for the slaying of a San Antonio woman more than 12 years ago.

In 1986, he agreed to an eight-year term for voluntary manslaughter for gunning down a man in the street outside his home.

Bexar County jurors who convicted him of abducting, raping and fatally stabbing 29-year-old Terry Wright, who lived next door to him, were told of that shooting as they were to consider his punishment for her death.

"They used this against me," Hinojosa said in a death row interview, noting that he paid for the shooting, spending 2 1/2 years in prison and then being released under mandatory supervision. He denied any role in Wright's death May 10, 1994.

Special needs child left on bus for 6 hours

DALLAS (AP) — A 12-year-old special needs boy who can't communicate verbally was left for six hours on a hot school bus, his mother said.

A Dallas Independent School District employee spotted Uriel Arellano sleeping on the bus Tuesday as temperatures rose above 100 degrees. The bus' windows were down, keeping it cooler than if they were closed.

Uriel Arellano's mother said that when she learned he'd been left on the bus, she thought he was dead.

"It is something I would not wish on anyone," Emma Arellano told Dallas television station WFAA. "... It is totally unacceptable for anything like this to ever happen."

There is a system in place to make sure children are not left on buses. Drivers with Dallas schools are supposed to look in every seat to make sure no child is left behind. And special pink signs are supposed to be left on the window as a reminder the bus was checked.

"It is my understanding that she went outside the bus and put the sticker outside and walked from outside instead of inside," said Deane Hullender of the Dallas school district.

The driver was placed on administrative leave, the station reported.

"I can't believe the lady didn't see him when he is such a big kid," Arellano said. "It's hard to believe she didn't see him."

First lady says no decision on library before end of year

DALLAS (AP) — First lady Laura Bush said Wednesday that she doesn't expect a decision to be made on the site for the George W. Presidential Library before at least the end of the year.

Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Baylor University in Waco and the University of Dallas in Irving are finalists for the library.

"The first of the year would be my guess," Mrs. Bush said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News during a campaign fundraising stop in Fairmont, W. Va. "Or,

maybe, the end of the year."

She said that the process of picking a site is complicated with a lot of negotiations and "give-and-take from all the sites that are interested."

"It just takes a lot longer than you think it might," she said. "There's a lot of legal parts that are associated with it."

Rain floods

El Paso — again

EL PASO (AP) — Cars with water up to their wheel wells were stranded on an interstate access road Wednesday, a day after President Bush declared this West Texas city a federal disaster area because of recent flooding.

Police blocked some freeway exit ramps to keep cars from flooded areas. An El Paso police spokesman said there had been numerous calls about the latest flooding, but no reports of major damage or injuries.

The Rio Grande, which runs between El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, was swelling as the rain continued to fall.

Flooding has also been reported in other parts of El Paso County, an area hit hard two weeks ago when it was inundated with nearly 15 inches of

rain — almost twice the area's annual rainfall — in about a week.

On Tuesday, Bush declared El Paso a disaster area, opening the door for federal aid after rock and mud slides exacerbated the flooding damage.

Ex-adjuster sentenced for fraudulent claims

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A former insurance adjuster has been sentenced to 30 months in prison for his role in a scheme to collect claims for shoddy home repairs or work that was never done.

Chandler S. Bruton, 39, pleaded guilty in December 2005 to conspiracy to commit insurance fraud against his former employer, Allstate Insurance Co.

U.S. District Judge Fred Biery on Wednesday also ordered Bruton to pay restitution to Allstate, which lost more than \$1.3 million.

Bruton admitted issuing numerous checks for the fraudulent claims to Roland F. Villarreal, 45, of Poteet, and accepting kickbacks, Bruton's plea documents show.

The conspiracy lasted from 1996 to 2002, the documents said.

In a deal with prosecutors, Bruton agreed to tes-

tify against Villarreal.

Villarreal pleaded guilty in January to conspiracy to commit money laundering. He is scheduled to be sentenced Friday with a recommended sentencing range of 46 to 57 months in prison.

Dallas County reports increase in syphilis

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas County health officials reported that new syphilis infections have increased this year, a trend that some observers said could be related to greater public awareness

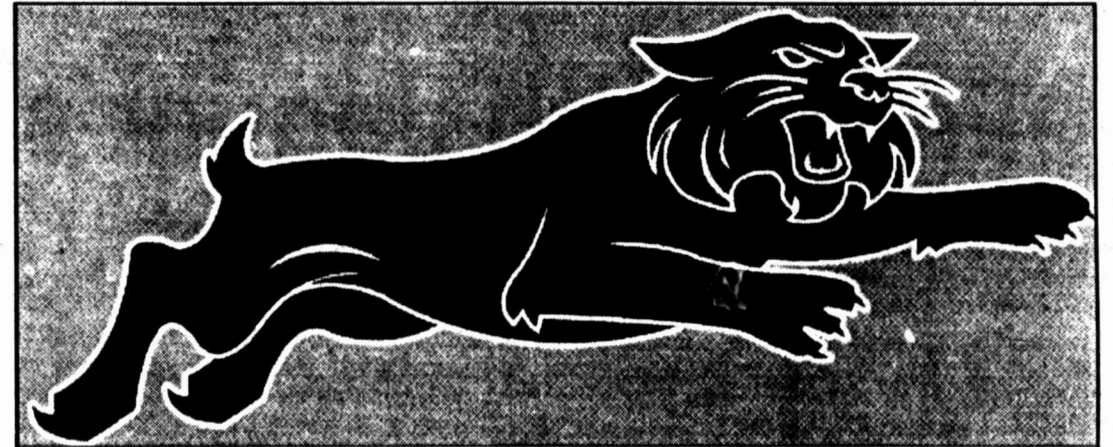
of the disease.

In the first six months of this year, 113 people in the county were treated for primary and secondary syphilis, the most infectious stages of the disease. A total of 170 people were treated in 2005.

Statewide numbers show a similar increase, with 514 new cases through June.

Health officials said factors that could affect the rise in syphilis cases include local population increases and greater awareness of the disease resulting from campaigns aimed at eliminating it.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Two Wrongs Make a Right

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WEST ♠2 ♥Q74 ♦K7654 ♣9742 EAST ♠J9 ♥J632 ♦AQ93 ♣1065 SOUTH ♠AKQ1087654 ♥K10 ♦1 ♣8

The bidding: North East South West 1♦ Pass 4NT Pass 5♥ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — five of diamonds. The Blackwood convention, correctly used, is extremely valuable in bidding or avoiding slams. It is especially important in hands where the number of aces is the key to how many tricks can be made.

Assume you're South in this deal, taken from a tournament, and partner opens one club. The question of whether there's a slam depends almost entirely on how many aces partner has.

Without Blackwood — or a similar convention — you'd be totally in the dark as to how high to go. North

could have an 18-point hand containing one ace, or might have a 13-point hand containing three aces. In the latter case, you'd make a grand slam; in the former case, your limit would be 11 tricks.

It therefore makes perfect sense to find out exactly where you stand by using Blackwood directly over one club. In the actual case, partner responds five hearts, indicating two aces, so you quickly put an end to the proceedings by bidding six spades, knowing that the opponents hold one ace.

That's how the auction went at most tables where six spades was reached. But at one table where the bidding began this way, North decided to try for a top score by bidding six notrump over six spades.

East led the ace of diamonds, continued with the three after West signaled with the seven, and North went down three, losing 300 points.

It was only after the play ended that North-South realized East had led out of turn. South had bid notrump first, so West should have made the opening lead. If South had realized that East's diamond lead was out of turn, he could then, as declarer, have prohibited West from leading a diamond. In that case, South would have made seven notrump, and North would have had his top score.

Tomorrow: Test your play. ©2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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The Jaguar XKR for 2007

Flirting with Jaguar's crossover concept

By SARAH A. WEBSTER
Detroit Free Press

Jaguar says its mission today is simple: Produce fast, beautiful cars that are desired worldwide. But can Jaguar really survive in today's world without a truck?

Or at least something that looks like a truck? The Lexus RX330 is the best-selling model of the best-selling luxury brand, and it's a crossover — a vehicle that's built on a car platform but offers the same kind of utility and appearance as a sport utility vehicle.

BMW, meanwhile, has its X3 and X5 SAVs, short for sports-activity vehicles.

Acura has its MDX. Mercedes has its M-Class. Porsche even has its Cayenne.

These vehicles have played key roles in boosting the sales for their luxury brands, said Tom Libby, director of industry analysis for the Power Information Network, a subsidiary of J.D. Power and Associates.

But the closest Jaguar comes to offering truck-like utility is its X-Type

sportwagon. The wagon is a utilitarian version of Jaguar's best-selling, entry-level vehicle, the X-Type. But the X-Type has been chastised as hurting Jaguar's brand image by being too bland and affordable for the exclusive brand.

With no Jag crossover to choose, Jaguar customers have been left dreaming about what one could look like. Some experts said they envision a crossover that is sexier than anything else on the market, with its familiar, exclusive hood ornament.

For now, this much is clear: The lack of a crossover or SUV seems to be costing Jaguar customers.

Jaguar nameplate loyalty has dropped by more than half since 2003, and part of that decline is caused by Jaguar customers trading in their cars for trucks, or vehicles that look like trucks.

In all, more than 30 percent of customers who trade in a Jaguar for a new vehicle move to a pickup, van or SUV, the Power Information Network reports. The biggest share, 23 percent,

chooses a utility vehicle. And, PIN says, few of those customers trade into a Land Rover, which Ford has arranged in its portfolio as the truck-brand companion to the car-centric Jaguar.

Of 178 Jaguar dealer franchises in the United States, 63 — or 35 percent — are partnered with Land Rover dealerships. Despite that, fewer than 2 percent of new vehicle buyers who trade in a Jaguar move to a Land Rover, PIN data show.

Mike O'Driscoll, president of Aston Martin, Jaguar and Land Rover North America, didn't discourage the notion that a crossover might eventually fit into Jaguar's self-proclaimed lineup of "Fast, Beautiful Cars." But he also didn't suggest it might be soon in the offing.

"I certainly think there's more fluidity to the segment than there ever was," he said of the car segment, noting how the lines are blurring between cars and trucks with crossovers.

"What I would say is that our focus, certainly in the medium term, is in the sedan and sports-car markets," he said. "But ... there is so much untapped potential that Jaguar has the potential to realize. We certainly don't need to be in the crossover or SUV business to do well.

"Now, that doesn't rule out the potential, longer term of a crossover. I'd never do that."

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Fishermen were hooked at the wrong pond

DANIELSVILLE, Ga. (AP) — Fishing in someone else's well-stocked fish pond without permission isn't a good idea — especially if that pond belongs to the sheriff.

Three men spent the better part of four days in the Madison County, Ga., jail after being charged with fishing in a pond without the owner's permission. The pond is owned by Madison County Sheriff Clayton Lowe.

A state conservation ranger arrested Brian Keith Wallace, 35, Michael Shannon Fricks, 32, and Christopher

Carlton Wallace, 37, on the misdemeanor charge.

Lowe said he stocked the pond with about \$1,200 worth of catfish and bream last spring to give disabled children a fun day outside fishing. But sometime before the fishing day, someone drove a four-wheel all-terrain vehicle under a cable stretched across the road leading to the pond and began catching the fish.

The sheriff paid \$360 to restock the pond before the children's fishing day. "It all worked out. They caught plenty of fish," he said.

2006 Property Tax Rates in Howard County

This notice concerns 2006 property tax rates for Howard County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

	General Fund	Farm to Market/ Flood Control Fund	Special Road/ Bridge Fund
Last year's tax rate:			
Last year's operating taxes	\$6,179,300		\$500,291
Last year's debt taxes	\$101,646		\$0
Last year's total taxes	\$6,280,946		\$500,291
Last year's tax base	\$1,242,619,792		\$1,250,727,500
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.50546/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.0400/\$100
This year's effective tax rate:			
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$6,269,843		\$499,412
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$1,504,193,963		\$1,504,193,963
= This year's effective tax rate for each fund	\$0.41682/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.03320/\$100
Total effective tax rate	\$0.45002/\$100		

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)
In the first year a county collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year.

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ / \$100
= Effective tax rate	\$ / \$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$6,168,434		\$499,412
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$1,504,193,963		\$1,504,193,963
= This year's effective rate	\$0.41008/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.03320/\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.44288/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.03585/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$0.00914/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.00 / \$100
= This year's rollback rate for each fund	\$0.45202/\$100	/ \$100	\$0.03585/\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$0.48787/\$100		

A county that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ / \$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ / \$100

For a county with additional rollback for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$ / \$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ / \$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Howard County adopts a 2006 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.45002 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2005 taxes by \$16,950

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
General	\$2,000,000
Road & Bridge	220,000
Equipment Operating	200,000
Tobacco	875,000

Schedule B - 2006 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
General Obligations/Bond Series 1995	\$100,000	\$33,990	\$	\$133,990
Total required for 2006 debt service			\$133,990	
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A			\$0	
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources			\$0	
- Excess collections last year			\$0	
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2006			\$133,990	
Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 97% of its taxes in 2006			\$4,144	
= Total Debt Levy			\$138,134	

Schedule D - State Criminal Justice Mandate (For Counties)

The _____ County Auditor certifies that _____ County has spent \$ _____ in the previous 12 months beginning _____, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. _____ County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Schedule E - Transfer of Department, Function or Activity

The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on the _____. The _____ operates this function in all or a majority of the _____. (Second Year of Transfer. Modify schedule to show comparison of amount this year and preceding year by unit receiving the function.)

Schedule F - Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures

The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$ _____.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 315 Main Street (Annex Bldg) Big Spring, Texas 79720
Name of person preparing this notice Kathy A Sayles
Title Tax Assessor Collector
Date prepared August 15, 2006

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Page 7
Thursday, August 17, 2006

IN BRIEF

Registration starts for youth football

Sign-ups for the Crossroads Youth Football Association will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Big Spring Mall.

Registration for the league, which is open to players and cheerleaders in grades K through 6, will also be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information, contact Daphne Coates at 714-4688.

Coahoma Booster Club meeting set

The Coahoma Booster Club will hold its first meeting of the year at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Coach Kim Nichols' classroom at the high school.

The club has scheduled its annual Meet the Bulldogs Night for 7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28, in the elementary school cafeteria.

Annual skateboard contest scheduled

Registration has begun for the third annual Big Spring Skateboard Contest set for 6 p.m. Friday at the YMCA.

Registration is \$7 per entrant. Contestants will be divided into two age groups — 15 and younger, and 16 and older. Prizes will be awarded to the top three skateboarders in each age group.

The deadline to enter is 5 p.m. the day of the event. All contestants will be required to wear helmets.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Soccer sign-ups now under way

Youth Soccer League registration for players between the ages of 4 and 13 will continue through Saturday at the Big Spring Mall next to Serendipity.

Registration will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. today and Friday and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Over 80 Scramble slated at BSCC

An Over 80 Scramble benefiting the Big Spring Shrine Club has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Big Spring Country Club.

The combined ages of each two-person team must be 80 or more.

Entry fees are \$60 per player plus golf cart rental.

Play will begin with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days.

Entry fees include barbecue on the course both days.

For more information, call 267-5354.

Dirtdog Softball Tournament slated

Dirtdog Softball Tournament is slated for Saturday at Cotton Mills Ballpark located in Comanche.

Seven years later, Garcia still seeking major title

By NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

MEDINAH, Ill. — Sergio Garcia was still a teenager back in 1999, filled with bravado and potential, and eager to take on Tiger Woods and anyone else standing in his way of being the No. 1 player in the world.

With a stunning shot from behind a tree and a leap across the 16th fairway at The PGA Championship, it looked as if he was off and running.

Seven years later, though, he remains stuck with the rest of the pack, still chasing Woods and that first major title.

"Of course when you come out, you think that you're going to rip the world apart and you don't

think about anybody else," the Spaniard said Wednesday. "But as you keep playing, you realize how many good players are out here and how many players actually can win a tournament that single week."

"It's not easy." Never is that more clear than this week, as the PGA returns to Medinah for the first time since "El Nino" took the place by storm. It's Woods and Phil Mickelson who are all the rage now, winners of five of the last seven majors and paired together for only the fourth time at a major.

Garcia, meanwhile, finds himself as little more than a sideshow. Oh, people are certainly talking about him. But they're

either asking about that tree or why he's inherited the dreaded "best player never to win a major" mantle that dogged Mickelson for so many years.

"Sergio, obviously as we all know, he's got all the talent in the world," Woods said. "He's come close on several occasions, and it's just a matter of doing the right things at the right time. But he's put himself there. You put yourself there enough times, you're going to get it done."

Illinois golf coach Mike Small was the first to tee off Thursday, drawing warm applause from the few hundred who came out early on the cool, partly cloudy morning. The forecast called for a high of 80, with a chance of showers in the afternoon.

Small hit a perfect drive down the middle of the fairway, and someone shouted, "Go Illini!" as he walked off the tee. But the pairing everyone was waiting to see was to come 90 minutes later.

Woods, the British Open winner, and Mickelson, the Masters champion, tee off with U.S. Open winner Geoff Ogilvy at 9:30 a.m. EDT today. Garcia, paired with Fred Couples and Ernie Els, was to tee off at 2:15 p.m.

A half-hour before the tournament began, U.S. Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman led a brief memorial service for Heather Clarke, the wife of Darren Clarke who died Sunday of cancer at age 39. The funeral in Portrush, Ireland, was scheduled about an hour later.

Rangers-Angels feud boils over

Ejections again order of the day in Rangers win

By The Associated Press

Bad feelings had been brewing between the Los Angeles Angels and Texas Rangers for 10 days.

A volatile series finally turned violent when Adam Kennedy charged the mound after being hit by a pitch from Texas' Scott Feldman, triggering a bench-clearing brawl in the Rangers' 9-3 victory over the Angels.

The melee came a night after Rangers starter Vicente Padilla was ejected for hitting two Angels with pitches and nearly plunking a third.

And Kennedy was hit an inning after the Angels had two pitchers and manager Mike Scioscia ejected because two Rangers' hitters were nailed.

Feldman threw his glove down as Kennedy charged the mound and Feldman hit Kennedy in the armpit with a punch.

Rangers third baseman Mark DeRosa sprinted toward the mound and tackled Kennedy as both benches and bullpens emptied. Angels right-hander John Lackey ran from the dugout and had to be restrained from going after Texas players.

The umpires restored order about four minutes later.

Kennedy said he was left with no choice but to go after Feldman.

"All the points had been made," Kennedy said. "You have a choice to go or not go and I decided to go. You wish it didn't have to happen that way. It's unfortunate because there'll be fines and suspensions."

Rangers manager Buck Showalter was tossed out for a second straight game. Kennedy and Feldman were also ejected.



The Texas Rangers and Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim brawl in the ninth inning at Ameriquest Field in Arlington Wednesday night. The Rangers took a 9-3 win.

Feldman claimed the pitch got away from him. "With the situation that occurred earlier, I can see why I got tossed for that," Feldman said. "I was just trying to go inside. ... I wasn't shocked. I looked up and (Kennedy) was coming at me."

In the bottom of the eighth, Angels reliever Kevin Gregg threw well behind Ian Kinsler, and plate umpire Sam Holbrook warned both dugouts. Gregg and Scioscia were ejected when the next batter, Michael Young, was hit in the back with a pitch.

Gregg, working his fifth inning of the night, said he did not mean to hit Young.

"I was 90 pitches deep on a bum knee," Gregg said. "I was amped up and I just threw one that got away from me."

"There was no intent," said Scioscia, who closed the clubhouse for 25 minutes after the game to calm his team and get his players refocused on the

AL West race. Brendan Donnelly relieved and he was thrown out after four pitches when he plunked Freddy Guzman. Bench coach Ron Roenicke, who took over for Scioscia, also was ejected. "Baseball is baseball," Donnelly said. "Things have a way of working themselves out."

Young figured the brawl would result in multiple suspensions. "I hope they go easy on us," Young said. "But I doubt they will."

In other AL games, it was: Boston 6, Detroit 4; Baltimore 3, New York 2; Tampa Bay 8, Toronto 3; Kansas City 10, Chicago 4; Minnesota 7, Cleveland 2; Oakland 4, Seattle 0.

In the National League, it was: Chicago 1, Houston 0; Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 2; Florida 15, Los Angeles 4; Philadelphia 3, New York 0; Milwaukee 5, Pittsburgh 2 in 13 innings; Washington 9, Atlanta 6; Arizona 9, Colorado 5; and San

Francisco 7, San Diego 5 in 13 innings.

The Angels-Rangers feud started on Aug. 6 when Adam Eaton was thrown out of a game for throwing at Juan Rivera.

Eaton (3-2) was back on the mound Wednesday night, but didn't come close to hitting anyone, during seven strong innings.

Rookie Nelson Cruz hit his first grand slam in an eight-run third inning for the Rangers to back Eaton.

Cruz, acquired from the Milwaukee Brewers along with Carlos Lee in a six-player trade on July 28, hit the Rangers' eighth grand slam of the season off Gregg. Cruz's long fly just cleared the left-field wall and stretched the lead to 9-0.

"I was real excited to help the team win," Cruz said. "I was glad I got the opportunity. This should get me confident."

Kinsler also homered in the third for the Rangers, who've won six of seven. Angels rookie left-hand-

der Joe Saunders (4-1) was beaten for the first time in his seventh major league start. He had won all four of his starts this season with a 1.67 ERA since being called up from Triple-A Salt Lake on Aug. 1.

He allowed eight runs and five hits in 2 2/3 innings against Texas. He walked five and struck out one.

Eaton (3-2) allowed two runs and four hits in his fifth start since returning from a torn tendon in his right middle finger that landed him on the disabled list on April 1. He struck out five and walked two on a 101-degree night.

Eaton retired 14 straight until a sixth-inning walk to Chone Figgins. Maicer Izturis followed with a homer to end Eaton's shutout bid.

Notes: The Rangers matched the 1999 team record for grand slams in a season. ... The eight-run third equaled Texas' biggest inning of the season.

Owens finally off the bike, back on the field

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — Yes, that was Terrell Owens on the field with his Dallas Cowboys teammates. No, they didn't simply move the bike out there.

Sidelined the previous 14 training sessions with a hamstring problem, TO finally practiced Wednesday in pads and a football helmet — not a bike helmet and shorts. Though he said he still wasn't 100 percent, Owens took part in the nearly 2 1/2-hour practice and, as has been his custom throughout camp, was the last player on the field.

"Not where I want to be, but definitely some improvement," Owens said. "I just felt like with the things I was doing rehab-

wise, I could do some limited stuff. We're not going to go overboard. They're going to work me in until I get my endurance."

Coach Bill Parcells has made several references to needing Owens back and working with quarterback Drew Bledsoe. If there was a veiled message, Owens certainly got it.

"I feel like a lot of people have been speculating with me sitting on the bike every day. ... I'm not going to let anybody, as far as mediawise, coachingwise, speculate as far as my health is concerned. I feel like I've got nothing to prove to anybody," he said.

Still, Owens acknowledged he didn't want to be a problem.

"I don't want to have any friction with anybody," he said. "But I feel like at some time, when

someone starts to question my heart or my injury, it does get under your skin a little bit."

Last week, Owens wore the Discovery Channel pro cycling team's silver and blue uniform to poke fun at his long stint on the bike. He did ride it Wednesday on the sideline, where he's spent the last two weeks, but this time just for a quick warmup before the only practice of the day — his first since Aug. 2.

Parcells, who spoke only before practice, said perceptions that he was angry at the receiver were wrong.

"Can you get a little frustrated from time to time? Yeah," Parcells said. "But that's all. We'll see. Things will work out. ... I don't want to jeopardize the early part of the season by mak-

ing a mistake here. I really don't."

The stage could now be set for Owens to play his first game for the Cowboys in their next exhibition game, a nationally televised game against the New Orleans Saints on Monday night. But Owens isn't sure if he'll be playing.

During his daily briefing with reporters earlier Wednesday, Parcells wouldn't say if Owens would play even if he returned to the field.

"That doesn't mean he would play," Parcells said. "He has missed a lot of time. It wouldn't be so much whether he practiced or not, as to how he looked, how much he practiced and did he get enough practice to make a good judgment about playing him?"

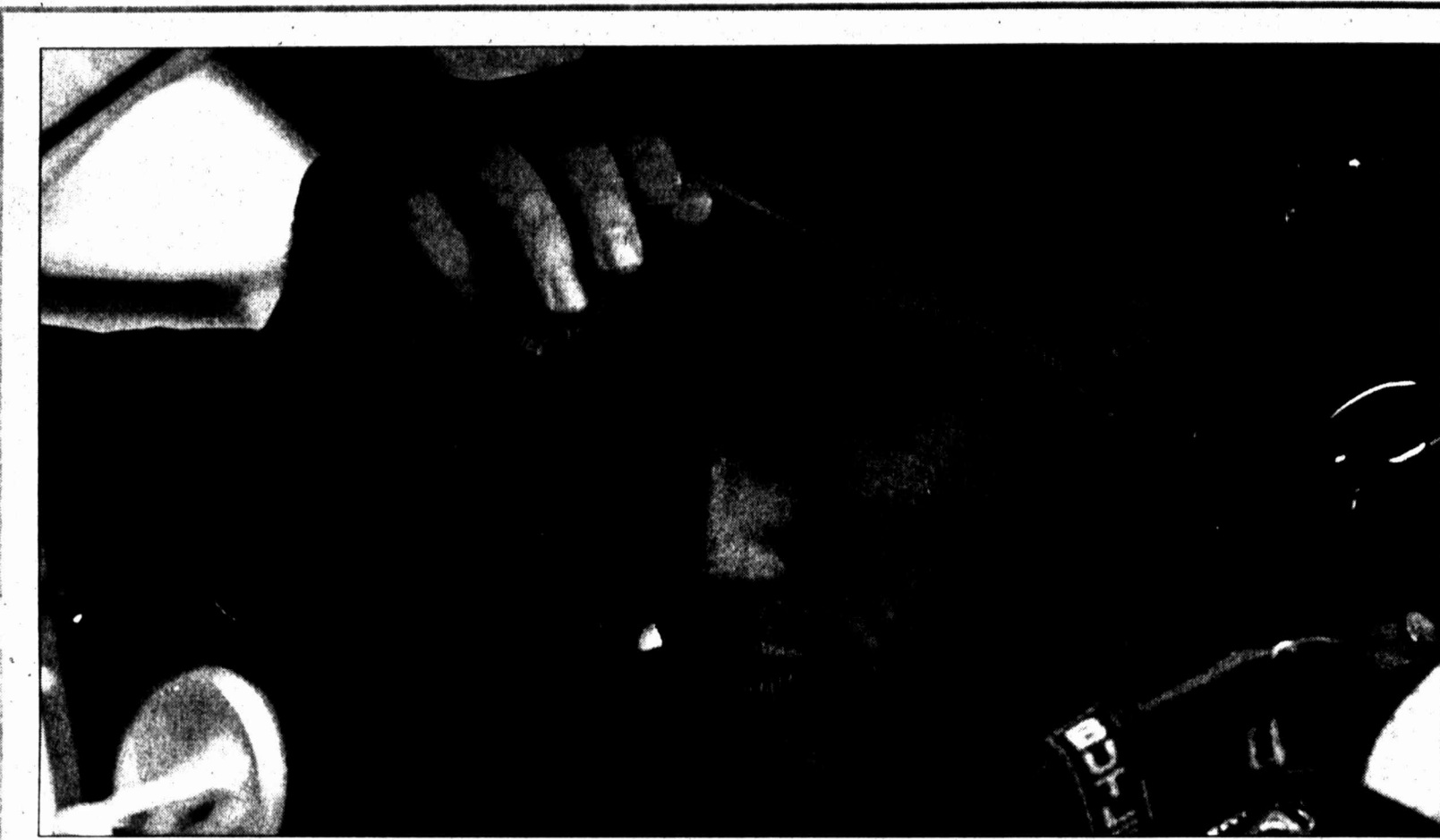
That's Racin'

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

"I think I just overdrove the entries and exits to the corners. It's fun racing with guys you trust like that. Kevin did an awesome job."

— Tony Stewart, on his late-race battle with Kevin Harvick during the 2006 AMD at the Glen.



RUSTY JARRETT FOR NASCAR

Despite his top-10 points position, Kevin Harvick, above, battled Tony Stewart for the win in the 2006 AMD at the Glen. "When you have the car that can win a race, you need to do everything you can to win because it's not easy to win in this deal," Harvick said.

Every point counts

With four races to go before the Chase, Nextel Cup teams balance the desire for race wins with the need for points

By DAVID POOLE
McClatchy Newspapers

No matter what anybody tries to tell you, it's points season in NASCAR's Nextel Cup Series.

With just four races left before the field for this year's Chase for the Nextel Cup is set, everyone with even the faintest hopes of qualifying for the title drive will factor in "the big picture" as they plot strategy for Sunday's race at Michigan International Speedway.

"We think about being in the Chase every week," said Kevin Harvick, who's coming off his second victory of the season at Watkins Glen as he tries to nail down his first Chase slot in the format's third year of existence. "That's a topic of conversation before we even get in the race car, before we even get to the track."

It certainly will be increasingly such as the circuit moves through this weekend's race and the subsequent pre-Chase outings at Bristol, California and Richmond.

But as important as the Chase has become, there are still races to be won.

In his victory last weekend, Harvick lost the lead to Tony Stewart with less than nine laps to go. But instead of settling for second and "a good points day," the driver of the No. 29 Chevrolet fought back and reclaimed the lead with just more than three laps left.

"If you're running seventh or eighth you have to figure out how to finish seventh or eighth, trying to get sixth without wrecking or doing something stupid," Harvick said of the driver's mindset at this stage of the season.

FOUR WEEKS FROM NOW?

Using average finishes over the past five races at Michigan, Bristol, California and Richmond, here's a statistical projection of how the points standings would look after the season's 26th race.

Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	3,705
2. Matt Kenseth	3,648
3. Kevin Harvick	3,393
4. Kyle Busch	3,328*
5. Denny Hamlin	3,327*
6. Mark Martin	3,317
7. Jeff Burton	3,306
8. Tony Stewart	3,278
9. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3,214
10. Jeff Gordon	3,177
Missing the Chase	
11. Kasey Kahne	3,120
12. Greg Biffle	3,070
13. Carl Edwards	3,063*
14. Kurt Busch	3,052

* projections based on fewer than five previous races at selected tracks

"But when you have a chance to win, you throw all that out the window and you have to go after winning the race and not worry about anything else."

Balancing the competitive desire to go after a victory against the larger issue of maintaining a top-10 spot in the standings over the next four weeks might wind up being the difference between having a shot at the title or not.

Kasey Kahne's situation, in fact, shows just

how fine that line can be.

Kahne has been involved in last-lap incidents in each of the past two races, a crash at Indianapolis and a run off the course at Watkins Glen. Combined, those two incidents have cost him perhaps 90 to 100 points.

Going into this weekend, Kahne is 54 points outside the top 10. Add back 100 points and he'd be ninth in the standings.

The gap between those inside the Chase and those trying to make it widened a bit at Watkins Glen. It's another 118 points back to 12th-place Kurt Busch, with Greg Biffle eight behind Busch and Carl Edwards 11 behind Biffle. As long as 10th-place Dale Earnhardt Jr. starts the race on Sunday, nobody besides Kahne could catch him in the standings this weekend even by winning the race and leading the most laps.

But this is not the final weekend of the "regular season." Those chasing those currently in the Chase still have four races to make up ground, and every point counts.

And the way to earn the most points you can is to do what Harvick did at the Glen.

"When you have a good car, you have to run in the top 10 because all the guys that you're racing against run in the top 10 pretty much every week," Harvick said. "When you have the car that can win a race, you need to try to do everything you can to win because it's not easy to win in this deal."

"We've been on the other side of the fence and been running 15th to 20th and struggling to do that, and so when you have an opportunity to win, you need to give it all you've got and go for it."

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): After its big Indianapolis win, this team mailed it in at Watkins Glen. Bulk rate. Last week: 1.

2. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): It'd be nice to see this team string together some solid runs going into the

Chase. Last week: 2.

3. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29): Some might have settled for second after being passed with nine laps left at the Glen. Last week: 5.

4. Kyle Busch (car No. 5): FIVE free passes in one race? FIVE!! Hey, Busch didn't write the rule. But come on! Last week: 3.

5. Jeff Burton (car No. 31): This car needs to get faster toward the end of races than it has been in recent

weeks. Last week: 4.

6. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): He didn't win, but he did scoop up a lot of useful points with his second-place finish at Watkins Glen. Last week: 9.

7. Denny Hamlin (car No. 11): The rookie got a 12th at Sonoma and a 10th at Watkins Glen in his first Cup road course runs. Last week: 6.

8. Mark Martin (car No. 6): Hasn't been setting the world afire but this team is treading Chase water effec-

tively. Last week: 7.

9. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): Could've really helped himself in battle for a Chase spot without that late-race Glen spin. Last week: 8.

10. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): This team needs a good Michigan run — just like the third-place finish it got there in June. Last week: 11.

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

NASCAR's call consistency at issue in Busch dispute

NASCAR's Robin Pemberton, perhaps unintentionally, got to the root of a major officiating issue Sunday while talking about the ruling that changed just about everything during Sunday's AMD at the Glen.

"They've asked us to get tougher on pit road with penalties and take out all the gray (area) and take out the judgment calls," said Pemberton, NASCAR's vice president for competition. "It's unfortunate that it happens that way, but sometimes you'll have that."

The key word is "sometimes." "Each week it's a new call," Kurt Busch said after being penalized for coming in for a stop while pit road was closed. "We put ourselves in position for NASCAR to make a call and it didn't end up in our favor."

There are times in sports when a

rule can be properly enforced and yet create an unfair result. In baseball, for instance, someone hits a shot to the gap with a fast runner on first and the ball bounces over the wall for a ground-rule double. Everyone knows the runner would have scored easily, but the rule is he has to stop at

third.

To some degree, that's what happened to Busch.

Pemberton said NASCAR's electronics showed Busch was two seconds from crossing the commitment line when the lights came on signaling a caution on Lap 54 — also closing the pit lane. It looked closer than that on television replays, but those replays also made it clear that Busch hadn't reached that line when the lights changed.



AUTOBOSTOCK

Kurt Busch and the No. 2 team disagree with the penalty they received on pit road during last week's AMD at the Glen.

Pit road, therefore, was closed when Busch crossed the line — barely, but barely foul is foul. Crew chief Roy McCauley was trying to sneak Busch in before the yellow because that's the ideal road-course scenario.

Indeed, the fact that Kevin Harvick pitted a lap before the incident had a lot to do with Harvick's eventual win.

McCauley's gamble didn't work and NASCAR correctly enforced the rule, even though it had bad consequences for Busch. But it would be easier for everyone in the sport to accept such consequences if they truly believed every rule would be called as strictly "by the book" as it was in this case.

THIS WEEK'S RACE

GFS MARKETPLACE 400

Where: Michigan International Speedway, a 2-mile paved slightly banked oval located in Brooklyn, Mich.

When: Sunday at 2:40 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.

TV: TNT.

Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$5,038,926.

Last year's winner: Jeremy Mayfield.

Worth mentioning: Jeff Gordon has five straight top-10 starts at Michigan, the longest current streak. Four of the five were front-row starts.

Matt Kenseth leads all drivers with top-15 finishes in the last 12 races at Michigan, the longest current streak.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt Jr. are currently ninth and 10th in the standings, respectively, as the Chase nears. Kasey Kahne is close in 11th and Kurt Busch is back a little further. In your opinion, which one of these drivers won't make the Chase?

Cast your vote at:

www.thatstracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

On a scale of 1 to 10, where would you rank NASCAR's road races?

Number of votes: 4,746

Response	No. of Votes	Percent
At the top, a 10.	755	16%
An 8, maybe a 9.	1,048	22%
5, 6 or 7.	862	18%
2, 3 or 4.	726	15%
No. 1, which isn't good in this instance.	1,355	29%

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

■ **Kevin Harvick:** Has the Busch Series championship already in hand and a Nextel Cup title doesn't look out of the picture, either.

■ **Kurt Busch:** NASCAR's new-found road warrior?

WHO'S NOT

■ **Roush Racing:** Will be lucky to get two teams in the Chase this year after all five made it in 2005.

■ **Jeremy Mayfield:** Ugly parting with team owner and early departure to another organization. We've been down this road with him before.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

■ **NBC's report** during its Sunday broadcast that Busch declined an interview after the race was wrong — he answered every question posed to him outside his hauler — but even its correction that he "couldn't be found" was ridiculous since pit reporter Matt Yocum stood in the gaggle of reporters listening to Busch.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Aug. 13:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	3241	21. Martin Truex Jr.	2202
2. Matt Kenseth	3117	22. Scott Riggs	2196
3. Kevin Harvick	2918	23. Reed Sorenson	2187
4. Jeff Burton	2879	24. Dale Jarrett	2065
5. Kyle Busch	2871	25. Bobby Labonte	2056
6. Mark Martin	2815	26. Robby Gordon	2051
7. Tony Stewart	2794	27. J.J. Yeley	1991
8. Denny Hamlin	2782	28. Jeff Green	1983
9. Jeff Gordon	2756	29. Joe Nemechek	1859
10. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2726	30. Dave Blaney	1855
11. Kasey Kahne	2672	31. Ken Schrader	1811
12. Kurt Busch	2584	32. Kyle Petty	1788
13. Greg Biffle	2546	33. Sterling Marlin	1745
14. Carl Edwards	2535	34. Jeremy Mayfield	1647
15. Brian Vickers	2366	35. David Stremme	1605
16. Ryan Newman	2351	36. Michael Waltrip	1469
17. Clint Bowyer	2345	37. Travis Kvapil	1422
18. Jamie McMurray	2338	38. Scott Wimmer	1374
19. Casey Mears	2337	39. Tony Raines	1353
20. Elliott Sadler	2215	40. Terry Labonte	1031

The top-20 drivers as of Aug. 12:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	3778	11. John Andretti	2510
2. Carl Edwards	3335	12. Reed Sorenson	2487
3. Denny Hamlin	3281	13. Jason Leffler	2445
4. Clint Bowyer	3208	14. Jon Wood	2390
5. J.J. Yeley	3121	15. Ashton Lewis	2323
6. Greg Biffle	2835	16. David Green	2321
7. Paul Menard	2810	17. Bumsy Larson	2250
8. Kyle Busch	2708	18. Stacy Compton	2288
9. Johnny Sauter	2627	19. Todd Kluever	2288
10. Kenny Wallace	2575	20. Denny O'Quinn Jr.	2254

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Carlis 250, Brooklyn, Mich.

The top-10 drivers as of Aug. 12:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Todd Bodine	2454	6. Jack Sprague	2182
2. Johnny Benson	2310	7. Terry Cook	2148
3. David Reutemann	2280	8. David Starr	2140
4. Ted Musgrave	2215	9. Ron Hornaday	2139
5. Rick Crawford	2189	10. Dennis Setzer	2039

NEXT RACE: Aug. 23, O'Reilly's Auto Parts 200, Bristol, Tenn.

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GARAGE SALE, 2613 Cindy, Friday, 9:00-? Saturday, 8:00-? Material, crafts, what not, cups, books, records, some collectors editions, stereo turntable, Christmas items, coat rack, purses, shoes, lamps, speakers, gazelle exerciser, toys, clothes.

GARAGE SALE, 2706 Lynn, Saturday, 7:00-? Furniture, baby accessories, MK cosmetics, and lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday, August 19th, 8:00 a.m.-? #3 Craigmont Ct. Beds, desks, furniture, kitchenware, decorations, bedding, clothes, bike, games, etc.

GARAGE SALE: 2107 Alabama. Saturday Only 8-? Clothes, furniture and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 2300 South Monticello, Fri. 8-5 & Sat. 8-3. Furniture, household items, toys, miscellaneous, something for everyone.

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Too many to mention.

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MOVING SALE, Saturday, 7:00-12:00. 3225 Fenn (off of Baylor). Tools, clothes, lawn furniture.

MOVING SALE: 704 W. 15th, Friday 8-? & Saturday 8-12. Furniture, household items, knick-knacks and lots of misc items.

MULTI FAMILY 26 Chapman Rd. (I-20 East, Salem Rd. Exit, right on North Service Road), Saturday 8am-? Gas stove used 6 months \$250.00. Many Items. Call 432-394-4781.

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Preview 8:30 a.m.

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Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TXDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene
 Contract 0005-05-097 for RE-PLACE MBGF in HOWARD County will be opened on September 08, 2006 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 0005-06-107 for PLAN-ING, FLEX BASE REPAIR, UNDERSEAL & ACP in HOWARD County will be opened on September 07, 2006 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 0005-06-108 for PLAN-ING, FLEX BASE REPAIR, UNDERSEAL & ACP in HOWARD County will be opened on September 08, 2006 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 20970.

State Office
 Constr./ Maint. Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540
 Dist/Div Office(s)
 Abilene District
 District Engineer
 4250 N. Clack
 Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
 Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. #5047 August 17 & 24, 2006

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to John Grant, General Manager, will be received at the office of the:

Colorado River Municipal Water District,
 PO Box 869
 Big Spring, Texas 79721-0869,
 400 East 24th Street,
 Big Spring, Texas, 79720.
 Until 3:00 PM, Wednesday,
 14 September, 2006.

For the purchase of the following item(s):

Employee Uniform Rental Service

At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Specifications are on file and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas, 79721, telephone 432-267-6341. Inquires regarding specifications are to be directed to Ralph Truszkowski, P.E., Operations Manager, telephone 432-267-6341, fax: 432-268-1196, e-mail: ret@crmwld.org.

In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating proposal prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous construction thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities. The District anticipates that it will notify the successful bidder(s) by issuing a Purchase Order within thirty (30) days after the bid date. No bid may be withdrawn within ninety (90) days after date on which bids are opened.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 John W. Grant, General Manager
 #5053 August 17, 24, & 31, 2006.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The current arrangement of Mercury and Jupiter reminds me of a scene from "Oliver Twist" in which poor Oliver presents his empty porridge bowl to the mean schoolmaster, pathetically asking in his little accent, "Please, sir, may I have some more?" Eventually, Oliver did get his "more," and so will you if you persistently ask for it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's times like this that you realize how important it is to hang out with people you admire. The vocabulary, aspirations and general tone of those in your environment have an impact on your decisions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You develop financial muscle tone by resisting temptation to spend needlessly, but that doesn't answer the million-dollar question: Should you upgrade your computer now or not? Figure this out later in the week.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You have what it takes to make it in the



HOLIDAY MATHIS

most competitive realm you've ever dared enter. It's smart to take advantage of training and retraining programs offered at company expense.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's not such a bad thing to lose your self-discipline about now. You probably need the rest. Dare to do something really outrageous, like take a nap right in the middle of the day!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll find yourself engaged in a fascinating struggle with that someone who has the temperament of a teakettle. The obvious thing to do is to turn off the heat, let things steep for a while, and then enjoy a nice drink together.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You hardly ever relax enough to know boredom. You won't get there today either, but it's something to aspire to in the near future. Do what you can to lighten your load. The most amazing stuff comes to you when you're stress-free.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Those people who magnify tiny errors and turn them into big issues really get tiresome. You have the opposite strategy, and it suits you well. Set the tone by ignoring matters

of little consequence. **SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)**. You don't have to fight so hard to hold on to what you already have. If it's really yours, it'll stick with you. Build a more empowering thought process. What's yours is yours for a reason.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You probably won't have the meeting you planned, and it's difficult to chat with all the people on your list. Who needs conversation when you can speak with a more powerful communicator ... your actions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The reason there's no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is because the gold is in the middle — which is exactly where you are today. Embrace this interesting midpoint in a project, and spend a little of the loot today, too.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You may realize that the challenge you have before you is really more like a teacher. From this point of view, you're more willing to be molded by it. Today's lesson is on the topic of "surrender."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You need a solution. Though there are wise people around you now, none of them are better suited to solving your

problem than you. If your conscious mind doesn't know what to do, your unconscious mind does. Just ask it.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Pisces. My husband is a Virgo. He had an affair with a much younger Pisces. Our marriage is in disarray, even though he's no longer with her. He maintained that she was everything I'm not, that they had chemistry and were soul mates. I'm having difficulty regaining trust and love. What can you tell me about him, her and me, and where we're all headed?"

Your Virgo man's in a foggy place now, out of touch with his usual reality and unable to create the logical thought patterns that give him a sense of control. I think he's probably relieved that it didn't work out with this other Pisces woman, and yet he's embarrassed and guilty — so mortified that he broke his promises to you that he doesn't know how to handle the guilt, except to imagine that it's your fault. The best way for you to regain your "groove" is to ignore him completely while you develop a more immediate access to your creativity and spirituality (which

are practically the same thing these days, as your prayers are creations and your creations are prayers). Can you go on a pilgrimage? Take a retreat? Three to four weeks is ideal. Ultimately, I think your marriage can withstand this knock once you reclaim your power.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: **Hunky heartbreaker Patrick Swayze** has been out of the spotlight for the past few years, which can be downright disturbing to Leo performers! I predict Swayze will make a remarkable resurgence. Musicals are big right now, as seen from the success of "Hairspray" and "High School Musical." I see Swayze climbing aboard this cultural phenomenon and starring in a new musically based TV show.

ANnie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: Last week, my doctor gave me a preliminary diagnosis of genital herpes. I am waiting for the lab to call back. In the meantime, my husband has shunned me.

I don't know if I contracted this from him (I know that Type 1 cold sores can transfer and infect other areas), or if it is something I contracted years ago and no symptoms showed up until now.

I have been completely faithful to my husband, but now he doubts that. Is there information that can help him accept me? — **Infected in California**

Dear Infected: A person can contract genital herpes through normal sexual contact or through oral sex if one partner is infected with oral herpes (cold sores). Some people have no outward symptoms, or their symptoms are mistaken for other conditions, and they live with the virus for years without knowing they have it. If you are symptom-free, a regular gynecological check-up would not necessarily diagnose herpes, since you have to specifically ask to be tested.

Either you or your husband could have contracted this virus before your marriage, or you could have gotten it through oral sex. We hope your husband will give you the benefit of the doubt, and he, too, should see his doctor. In the meantime, please contact the American Social Health Association (ashastd.org) or their STI Research Center Hotline at 1-800-227-8922.

Dear Annie: Nearly 20 years ago, I officiated at my first wedding. I did not know how to react when a mother could not quiet her two screaming toddlers, but I have since made it my responsibility to handle such things.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with having children present, but a screaming, crying, disruptive child absolutely distracts from the primary reason a congregation has gathered. Parents often try to "shush" their infant, which only intensifies the attention turned toward them. I have been baffled when parents refuse to leave such a

month. — **Purple Hugs From Claire**

Dear Claire: We have mentioned the Red Hat Society in this column before, and we think it's a great organization and hope she will check it out.

Dear Annie: Please help me. My friend, "Nancy," is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer treatment. She asked me to drive her to a doctor's appointment because her usual driver was not available. Of course I agreed.

Unfortunately, I parked over the line a little bit, and when we returned from the appointment, there was a parking ticket on the windshield. I usually drive a sedan, but I was driving Nancy's car, which is very large. She was quite upset at the \$280 fine, but I suggested she contest it. She was told to write a letter to explain her situation, and that the review board would most likely be compassionate toward her and either dismiss or reduce the fine.

Nancy told me she needs a copy of my driver's license to send to them — which puts me on the line for the ticket. I feel that since I was doing her a favor, I should not incriminate myself. She has a working husband and a retirement income with no minor children to support. I am not employed at this time and have no income. I live with an elderly woman with whom I exchange companionship and housekeeping for room and board.

Do you think I should give her a copy of my driver's license and/or pay for the fine? — **No Money in New York**

Dear No Money: You should supply your driver's license because you were driving, but be sure Nancy writes that letter and explains the situation. If she gets off, there is no harm, no foul. If she still has to pay a fine, however, we think she should take care of it, or at the very least, split it with you. After all, you were doing her a favor, and she should not penalize you \$280 for it.

Dear Annie: I would like to find out if the sexually transmitted disease trichomoniasis can occur without sexual contact. I

know that once the person has it, it becomes sexually transmittable, but can it occur on its own, like a yeast infection?

The wife of a couple dear to me had her physical recently and was called at home by the doctor's office and told bluntly that she had trichomoniasis and needed a prescription. She immediately told her husband to get out. He vehemently denies that he has had sex with anyone else and started accusing her. She knows she has been faithful, and also knows that he had been sneaking out at night after she had gone to sleep. Even so, she did not suspect him of cheating. She just thought he had gone to a nearby casino.

My friend asked the doctor if this could be caught without sexual contact and was told it could not. Too much has been said for these two to patch up their marriage, but I would like the facts on the transmission question. — **Worried Friend**

Dear Worried: The most common form of trichomoniasis transmission is sexual. However, according to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, there is evidence that it may be picked up from infected damp or moist objects like towels or wet clothing, and even toilet seats, if the genital area comes into contact with any infected areas. We are horrified to think that

this doctor did not allow for the possibility that both husband and wife were innocent.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Lonely Holidays," whose married children spent their holidays with the other side of the family. I decided a long time ago that holidays are the worst time to try to enjoy family. The multiple family demands, the stress and the disproportionate expectations make everyone miserable.

There are so many better things to do — volunteer at a hospital or homeless shelter, look into a holiday hike with the Sierra Club, or even take a trip. I schedule the time with my children between the holidays, when we can relax and enjoy our time together. Also, airfare is cheaper. — **No-Stress Gran**

Dear Gran: Sounds like a great plan to us. Anyone under holiday stress should consider your solution.

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

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THURSDAY

Table with 24 columns (WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 12 rows (6-12 PM) listing various TV programs and channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I TOLD YOU HE'S A 'SHADY' CHARACTER."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm thirsty."

HAGAR



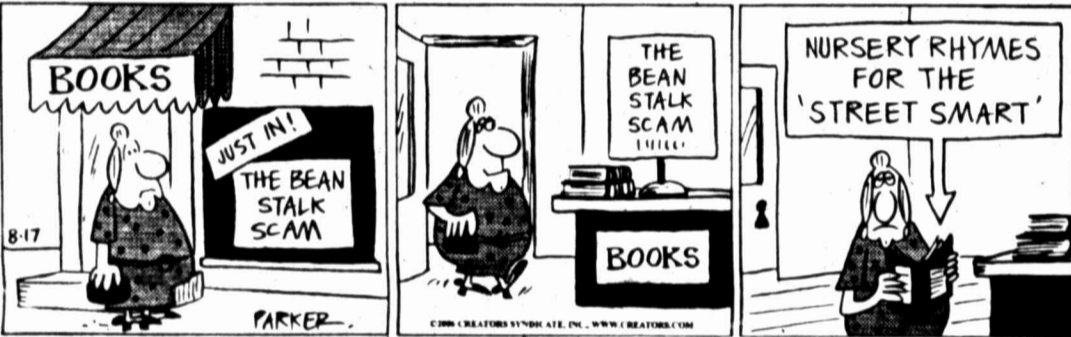
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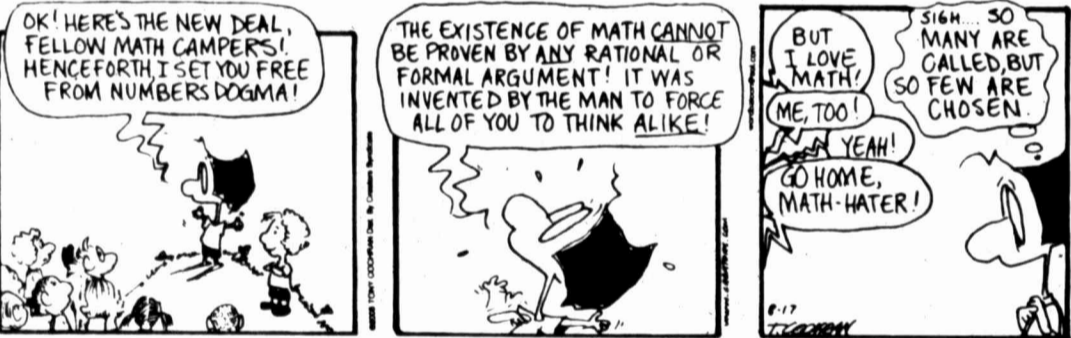
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press
Today's Highlight in History: On Aug. 17, 1807, Robert Fulton's North River Steam Boat began heading up New York's Hudson River on its successful round-trip to Albany.
On this date: In 1863, Federal batteries and ships bombarded Fort Sumter in Charleston, S.C., harbor during the Civil War.
In 1896, a prospecting party discovered gold in Alaska, a finding that touched off the Klondike gold rush.
In 1915, a mob in Cobb County, Ga., lynched Jewish businessman Leo Frank, whose death sentence for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan had been commuted to life imprisonment. (Frank, who'd maintained his innocence, was pardoned by the state of Georgia in 1986.)
In 1942, during World War II, U.S. 8th Air Force bombers attacked Rouen, France.
In 1943, the Allied conquest of Sicily was completed as U.S. and British forces entered Messina.
In 1969, 248 people were killed as Hurricane Camille slammed into the Gulf Coast.
In 1969, the Woodstock Music and Art Fair concluded near Bethel, N.Y.
In 1978, the first successful trans-Atlantic balloon flight ended as Maxie Anderson, Ben Abruzzo and Larry Newman landed their Double Eagle II outside Paris.
In 1985, more than 1,400 meatpackers walked off the job at the Geo. A. Hormel and Company's main plant in Austin, Minn., in a bitter strike that lasted just over a year.
In 1987, Rudolf Hess, the last member of Adolf Hitler's inner circle, died at a Berlin hospital near Spandau Prison at age 93, having apparently committed suicide.
Today's Birthdays: Actress Maureen O'Hara is 86. Actor Robert DeNiro is 63. Movie director Martha Coolidge is 60. Rock musician Sib

Hashian is 57. Actor Robert Joy is 55. Rock singer Kevin Rowland (Dexy's Midnight Runners) is 53. Rock musician Colin Moulding (XTC) is 51. Country singer-songwriter Kevin Welch is 51. Singer Belinda Carlisle is 48. Actor Sean Penn is 46. Jazz musician Everett Harp is 45. Rock musician Gilby Clarke is 44. Singer Maria McKee is 42. Rock musician Steve Gorman (The Black Crowes) is 41. Rock musician Jill Cuniff is 40. Actor David Conrad is 39. Singer Donnie Wahlberg is 37. Rapper Posnuos is 37. Tennis player Jim Courier is 36. Actor Bryton McClure is 20. Actor Brady Corbet is 18.

Answer to previous puzzle: MOOR, WASP, OMEGA, ARLO, AXES, PALES, DEEM, CLAY, PLINK, SOPH, ESCOICE, SUE, WAR, MBY, ENDS, MISTER, ACHE, DIAL, TARRY, MARTHA, ADVINE, YARD, ARENA, HERA, BLOE, SEWARD, DEMO, ARR, DOM, ERA, ROSEMARY, BABY, SEVEN, SHEA, ROOT, ADELE, TEAR, OLGA, WORLD, EASE, NOIR

Newsday Crossword

LOOKING FOR HELP by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
1 Zodiacal border
5 Puts up, as tomatoes
9 Bargains
14 Home to most
15 Resting on
16 Amassed, as a tab
17 Chocolate units
18 Turkish currency
19 Fight venue
20 Ruth nickname
23 Smoothing devices
26 Crazy
27 Slangy suffix
28 Head honcho
31 Speed star
36 Give for a time
38 Beer topper
40 Zoo heavyweight
41 Mary Poppins helper
44 Otello, for one
45 Hemingway nickname
46 Stadium topper
47 Tiled art
49 Cub Scout units
51 Moines, IA
52 Seinfeld uncle
54 Volcanic rock
56 Bloodhound's asset
62 Tire feature
63 Stable babe
64 Left speechless
68 acid (protein component)

- 69 Cut and paste
70 Brilliant star
71 Ancient Greek physician
72 Ewes' guys
73 Provoke
DOWN
1 Pickup part
2 Yank's home
3 Mick Jagger title
4 So last year
5 Cancels
6 Working away
7 A Doll's House character
8 Punish, in a way
9 Constitution creators
10 Corn units
11 From square one
12 Moon goddess
13 Set-to
21 City area, informally
22 Sculler's tool
23 Prison
Blues"
Johnny Cash song)
24 Syrian city
25 Lake rentals
29 Lunch course
30 Lunch course
32 Israeli leader Olmert
33 Abe of Fish
34 Tooth cover
35 Most achy
37 "Explorer" of kids' TV
39 Wear a long puss
42 Fastened, in a way
43 Service-station supply
48 Corp. VIP
50 "My Gal ___"
53 Job seeker's success
55 Like "dis"
56 Men-only
57 Witty writer
Bombbeck
58 Singer
Diamond
59 Well-thought-out
60 Bubbly drink
61 Hurt badly
65 Try to win
66 Stowe heroine
67 "Dear old" one

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-73.

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