



## Time to think about voter registration

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Area residents will have until the first part of October to register to vote in the November election, but county officials are urging would-be voters not to wait until the last minute.

Those wishing to cast a ballot in the coming election, which is expected to include several multi-million dollar bond issues locally, must register by Oct. 10, according to Howard

County Election Administrator Sandra Bloom.

"The registration deadline for any election is 30 days prior to the election day," said Bloom. "This year the deadline actually falls on a holiday — Columbus Day — so the state is giving everyone the following working day, which is a Tuesday, to get voter registration cards in."

Bloom said voters who hold a yellow voter registration card

will be able to use them in the November election since they are good until the end of December 2007.

"If they haven't received their card or aren't sure if they're registered, all they have to do is come by the office," said Bloom. "They can fill out the voter registration card and their card should be mailed to them in time for the November election."

"For those who can't get out,



Bloom

they can call us and we'll mail them the form. They can fill it out and just mail it back to us. It's a very easy process."

Bloom said the registration cards require a Texas driver's license or identification card number, or the last four digits of the prospective voter's Social Security number.

"If the person registering doesn't have any of that information, there's a box on the card that they can check and still complete the process," said Bloom. "However, their name will be flagged in the computer, and when they go to the polls to vote, they will be asked to present identification."

Bloom said anyone who isn't sure about their registration

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## Learning about life

Local Extension agent hopes school students will get involved in 4-H

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Howard County 4-H is looking for a few good kids.

That's the message Amanda Toerck, 4-H and youth director for the Howard County Extension office, is touting as area students get back into their school routine.

"4-H is a lot more than just showing livestock at shows," said Toerck. "We have many leadership projects and technology based projects that we do each year. 4-H is about ensuring youth in the community have many opportunities to learn about the different aspects of life. It challenges you to think and make decisions, both for yourself and as a member of a group. You learn new ways to use your head."

According to Toerck, 4-H is open to area youth between the ages of 9 years — 8-year-old students are welcome if they are in the third grade — and 18 as of Aug. 31.

"Students can choose between any of the projects we offer each year," said Toerck. "They participate in just one of them, or all of them, it's up to them to decide."

Toerck said students will have plenty to choose from.

"We'll be working with the livestock, which includes showing steers, goats, lambs, pigs and rabbits at local and major shows," said Toerck. "We're going to do some

"Growing up today can be tough, and 4-H gives the students the opportunity to sort through ideas and emotions with other club members and leaders. It's a hands-on organization that gives kids a chance to help their community as well as learn different skills."



Toerck

work with food and nutrition, which will include the basics as well as tours of area restaurants, food banks and we'll be participating in a food show.

"We're also going to be working with clothing and the basics of sewing. We plan to participate in a clothing contest to be held at the Permian Basin Fair."

Gun safety and a few new additions to the program should offer area 4-H students plenty to do through the year, according to Toerck.

"We currently have a very active shotgun shooting group, and we're in the process of starting a new .22 caliber rifle pro-

See **4-H**, Page 3

## BRIGHT DISPLAY



These flowers bring a splash of color to the landscaped entrance of Scenic Mountain Medical Center, located on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

## Sales tax rebates up slightly

By BILL MCCLELLAN  
News Editor

Big Spring's sales tax rebates dropped in August compared to previous months — but still stayed above the previous year — according to the State Comptroller's Office.

Meanwhile, the city with a big heart surpassed the \$3 million mark.

Big Spring received \$476,100.79 this month, compared to \$466,285.27 in August of 2005. That's a difference on the positive side of 2.1 percent. However, it's not nearly as good as the previous month, when rebates were up 21.65 percent. For

the year, the Howard County seat has collected \$3,345,658.84 — up 16.02 percent compared to a year ago.

Coahoma continued to experience strong increases. The community took in \$9,687.49 this month compared to \$7,522.24 for August of 2005 — a 28.78 percent increase. For the year, Coahoma has received \$54,094.41, up 33.22 percent when compared to the first eight months of 2005.

Forsan's sales tax rebates were down 22.82 percent for August. Forsan took in \$7,067.92 this month, compared to \$9,158.11 in August of 2005. For the year thus far, Forsan

has received \$56,452.92, a figure ahead of last year's pace by 11.68 percent.

Abilene brought home \$3,046,907 this month, up 5.97 percent compared to the \$2,875,059.58 that came in for August 2005. Abilene has received \$21,384,024.97 this year, up 9.28 percent.

Andrews, which increased its sales tax from 1 percent to 1.75 percent last November, continued to post huge increases — 118.24 this month — comparing August 2006 rebates of \$248,315.36 to August 2005 rebates of \$113,776.47. For the year,

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### RUSSIAN JET CRASHES

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — A Russian passenger jet with at least 170 people aboard crashed Tuesday in Ukraine after sending a distress signal, emergency officials said. A news agency cited Russian officials as saying terrorism had been ruled out.

The Pulkovo airlines Tupolev 154, en route from the Russian Black Sea resort of Anapa to St. Petersburg, disappeared from radar screens over Ukraine about 2:30 p.m., officials said.

Minutes later, the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry said wreckage from the plane was found on the ground.

A spokesperson said "the plane most likely was hit by lightning."

### DEDICATED TO HIS JOB

HANNIBAL, Mo. (AP) — An 80-year-old milk man who delivered to five generations of residents has reluctantly retired after 70 years of friendly, prompt service.

At age 10, Clyde Priest began delivering milk to help his father. By the time he retired 70 years later, he had outlived eight dairies that provided his products.

Priest was so well known and trusted that customers allowed him to put milk, ice cream and other dairy purchases in their refrigerator when they weren't home.

"My theory all these years has been: You could buy milk anywhere, so the only thing I got to sell is my personal service. That was my philosophy," he said.

### SPLASH DAY FOR UW

Area residents can help United Way for Big Spring and Howard County this weekend and have a fun time doing it. Splash Day for United Way is set from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday at the Comanche Trail Park swimming pool.

There will be live broadcasts by KBST, and food donated by Scenic Mountain Medical Center and cooked by local Rotarians. Swimming will be held at the pool, of course, while food will be served at the Old Settler's Pavilion. Inflatables games are planned in the area between.

Everything is free. United Way officials hope to use the event to raise awareness about the organization.



# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Step-by-Step Process

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦74  
♥K  
♦QJ732  
♠AK732

**WEST**  
♠83  
♥Q8732  
♦A6  
♣Q1065

**EAST**  
♠J1095  
♥J1064  
♦K984  
♣J

**SOUTH**  
♦AKQ62  
♥A95  
♠105  
♣984

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♦ Pass 2♦ Pass  
2♥ Pass 3♥ Pass  
3NT

Opening lead — three of hearts.  
The play of the hand is usually an orderly process based on the evidence declarer accumulates as the play progresses. As new evidence is introduced, declarer makes adjustments, if necessary, in his original plan of action.

Take this deal where West leads a heart, taken by dummy's king. South has three long suits to attack, but a little reflection should convince him that it is futile to try to establish the

diamonds because the opponents, in the meantime, are certain to score at least three hearts and the A-K of diamonds.

The spades can also be ignored for the moment because if they are divided 3-3, the contract is guaranteed, while if they are divided 4-2, their establishment would lead to only eight tricks at best.

Therefore, by a process of elimination, the suit to attack is clubs, where a 3-2 division assures nine tricks. Accordingly, declarer cashes the ace of clubs at trick two. When East produces the jack, South carefully plays the eight (or nine) in order not to block the suit if West started with four clubs.

Declarer then leads a low club to the nine. If West wins, South has nine tricks — so let's assume he ducks.

The club suit having been milked dry, declarer abandons his original plan and shifts his attention to spades. The objection to playing spades at the start is no longer valid because of the extra club trick gained in the interim.

To guard against a 4-2 spade division and to maintain contact with both hands, South leads the spade deuce at trick four! This sequence of plays is virtually certain to produce nine tricks.

Tomorrow: Haste makes waste.  
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## REBATES

Continued from Page 1

Andrews has received \$1,633,488.58, up 139.51 percent.

Brownfield took in \$109,237.12 this month, a 10.45 percent decrease when compared to the \$121,994.51 taken in for August 2005. Through the first eight months of 2006, Brownfield has received \$695,138.19, up 14.93 percent.

Colorado City had an increase of 17.33 percent, comparing sales tax rebates received this month — \$52,920.56 — to rebates received in August of last year — \$45,101.43. For the year, the Mitchell County seat has received \$328,007.35, up 9.78 percent.

Fort Stockton received \$166,334.94 this month, up 11.51 percent compared to the \$149,164.08 received in August 2005. For the year, Fort Stockton has taken in \$1,158,201.01, up 16.7 percent.

Kermit, in Winkler County, took in \$50,313.21 this month, up 38.38 percent when compared to the \$36,357.92 it received a year ago. For 2006, Kermit has received

\$332,321.41, an increase of 42.94 percent.

Lamesa collected \$112,106.63 this month, up a scant 0.10 percent compared to the \$103,702.88 the Dawson County seat took to the bank in August 2005. This year, Lamesa has received \$689,740.40, up 11.56 percent.

Lubbock collected \$4,453,636.80 in sales tax rebates this month, an 8.37 percent increase when compared to the \$4,109,480.65 gathered in August 2005. For the year, Lubbock has received \$30,084,402.34, up 9.72 percent.

Midland took in \$2,783,782.23, a 14 percent increase when compared to the \$2,441,847.68 received in August 2005. For the year, Midland has received \$19,947,707.04, up 22.68 percent.

Monahans received \$132,684.77 this month, up 4.09 percent compared to the \$127,461.18 in rebates collected for August 2005. For the year, the Ward County seat has received \$852,128.24, up 21.62 percent.

Odessa accumulated \$1,901,264.33 this month, an increase of 7.55 percent compared to \$1,767,649.58 gathered for

August last year. For 2006, Odessa has pulled in \$13,066,804.75, up 15.55 percent.

Pecos received \$82,607.73 in rebates, down 5.31 percent compared to the \$87,241.76 received a year ago. Over the past eight months, the city has taken in \$652,659.79, up 12.56 percent.

Rebates received by San Angelo totaled \$1,672,981.69, an increase of 14.06 percent compared to the \$1,466,640.58 received in August 2005. For the year, San Angelo has received \$11,739,748.92, up 14.43 percent.

Snyder took in \$209,773.84 this month, up 13.48 percent compared to the \$184,841.99 taken in for August 2005. For 2006, the Scurry County seat has received \$1,329,847.46, up 19.26 percent.

Stanton brought in \$46,277.04, an increase of 70.47 percent when compared to the \$27,146.33 taken in last year. For 2006, the home of the Old Sorehead Trade Days has received \$219,668.80, up 20.28 percent.

Sterling City took in \$10,123.20 this time around, up 9.48 percent when compared to the

\$9,246.05 accumulated in August of 2005. For 2006, Sterling City has amassed \$71,031.97, up 8.09 percent.

Sweetwater received \$250,321.67 this month, up 5.71 percent compared to the \$236,798.76 taken in for August 2005. This year, the Nolan County seat has received \$1,706,648.02, up 14.46 percent.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Alvie Morris, 92, died Thursday. Graveside Services with Military Honors will be at 2:30 PM (MST) at Ft. Bayard National Cemetery in Silver City, New Mexico.

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## VOTE

Continued from Page 1

status should contact her office, and if a replacement card is needed, one can be provided free of charge.

Several bond issues — at a combined \$35 million — are expected to find their way onto the November ballot, including elections for a \$10 million-plus county jail facility; an \$11.1 million proposal offered by the city

of Big Spring for a street reconstruction project and sports and recreation complex; and a \$13.9 million improvements package presented by the Coahoma Independent School District.

Both the Coahoma ISD

and city of Big Spring bonds will give voters the option to choose different combinations of projects.

For more information on voter registration, contact Bloom at 264-2273.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

## 4-H

Continued from Page 1

gram," said Toerck. "We're also planning some new projects, including photography, technology and dog care and obedience. These are projects 4-H members have asked for.

Growing up today can be tough, and 4-H gives the students the opportunity to sort through ideas and emotions with other club members and leaders. It's a hands-on organization that gives kids a chance to help their community as well as learn different skills." For more information

on the Howard County 4-H program, contact Toerck at 264-2236.

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## Odds & ends

**LITTLE CHUTE, Wis.** (AP) — Martha Haupt says memorizing her new address after more than five decades in the same house isn't easy — especially when she hasn't moved.

Haupt, 89, has a typed sign taped to the kitchen table so she won't forget the new address that the village recently assigned to her home on McKinley Street.

The village decided her address was out of sequence with other homes on the block. It should be even-numbered but instead was odd.

That's something her late husband pointed out when they moved in 55 years ago. He petitioned to have it changed then to no avail.

"The village thought it was no big deal for a long time," said Haupt's daughter, Carol Baker.

Haupt wants the village to relent and let her use the original address as long as she still lives on the same street.

"I know I'm on the

wrong side of the street," she said. "Half of Little Chute has wrong numbers."

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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## OUR VIEWS

### Friedman at least has governor's race interesting

If nothing else, independent gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman is making the race interesting. Some might even say the word "fun" is more applicable, citing Friday when he reiterated his top pick to implement his energy plan that emphasizes renewable sources would be Willie Nelson.

Friedman said the country singer/songwriter and benefactor of biodiesel was a natural choice to lead a state energy department or commission, which he wants to create. He also said Nelson "would never have his hand in Texas' pocket."

"My plan is to appoint the best people I can find, get out of the way and let them work ... people whose only agenda is to do the right thing for the people of Texas," Friedman told the Fort Worth Rotary Club. "... I really believe that musicians can better run this state than politicians."

A Texas biodiesel supplier partnered with Nelson to develop the BioWillie brand of the clean-burning fuel for truckers. Made from used vegetable oils or soybeans and blended with diesel, BioWillie does not require modification to diesel engines.

Friedman, who unveiled his energy plan last Thursday, said he plans to have 35,000 school buses running on biodiesel fuel, as well as his own vehicle. He said as it catches on, some 7 percent or 8 percent of Texans will be trying biodiesel, resulting in lower prices at gas stations because of supply and demand.

"What you're going to see is Texas finally leading the way instead of following behind all the time, being first in something besides executions, toll roads and property taxes," he said.

Then he couldn't seem to help but poke a little fun at other candidates in the race.

The other gubernatorial candidates running Nov. 7 are Republican Gov. Rick Perry, Democrat Chris Bell, independent candidate Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the state comptroller, and Libertarian James Werner.

Friedman noted that Perry, Bell and Strayhorn have a combined 89 years of political experience among them before telling the crowd of about 300 Rotarians, "I think politics is the only field in which the more experience you have, the worse you get. So I think it's time we had a non-politician as governor."

He just might be right. His humor certainly hasn't hurt things any.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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## LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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  - Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
  - We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
  - We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
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  - Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we are heading in the wrong direction, Lord, please show us your heavenly detour.

Amen

# London bridges are falling down

Who is the real enemy? The Islamic fanatics who plotted to blow up airplanes carrying thousands of innocent men, women and children, or George W. Bush?

My answer is the terrorists. They want to kill me, my family and my neighbors. According to officials, they wanted to blow up at least one jumbo jet en route from London to San Francisco.

Some folks have responded to the news of the British arrests by saying that of course they are against the terrorists. But they follow that compulsory disclaimer with a long anti-Bush rant — which is a handy way of removing the heat from where it belongs. U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., intoned, "This latest plot demonstrates the need for the Bush administration and the Congress to change course in Iraq." In so speaking, Reid mistakes the terrorists' bloodlust for a political philosophy.

(I hate to repeat this, but: The Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks happened before Iraq. The embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania happened before Iraq.)

The New York Times editorialized for a whole two paragraphs about how bad the terrorists are — then dedicated the rest of its lead Friday editorial to lambasting the Bushies and their war-on-terrorism ally Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., for being partisan.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

The San Francisco Chronicle sniped that Bush's "claims of cooperation might have been more credible if he hadn't been getting briefed about the British arrests during a ranch vacation in Crawford, Texas."

One little problem: British Prime Minister Tony Blair was vacationing at the time in Barbados.

Both papers rightly lauded British officials for a successful roundup of plot suspects. The Times suggested that it is now proper "to find out what worked in the British investigation and discuss how to push these efforts farther."

I don't wish to detract from the Metropolitan Police's top-drawer performance, but this might be the place to inject the fact that Brits enjoy fewer civil liberties than Americans enjoy.

British officials can wiretap without a court order. Under Blair, the British government extended police powers so that authorities can arrest and detain terrorism suspects for up to 28 days — Blair had asked for 90 days — without having to press charges.

Imagine the howls of rage that would be heard in Washington if Bush proposed such a package.

That said, homeland security expert Bob Ayers of Chatham House, a London-based foreign affairs think tank, does not believe the Brit's lack of habeas corpus made the difference in this episode.

The British Foreign Office has credited Pakistan for uncovering intelligence on this terror network. Ayers noted, "Pakistani interrogation techniques are not

subject to the same civil rights legislation" found in America or the European convention. In other words, torture could have made the difference.

For me, the most heartbreaking element in this story is London's reappearance in the terrorism front. I don't think there is a more aggressively multicultural city than London. Yet after the July 7, 2005, London bombings and failed shoe-bomber Richard Reid's apprehension in 2001, once again the United Kingdom has fostered violent fanatics who want to kill British people.

A recent British poll found that 22 percent of British Muslims surveyed — and a scary 31 percent of young Muslims — believe the July 2005 bombings, which killed 52 commuters, were justified.

Clearly, while multiculturalism has many benefits, the United Kingdom's impassioned culture of inclusion has failed to staunch Islamic fanaticism — and the Left should take note.

It also doesn't help, as Ayers noted, that the British political asylum system welcomes immigrants, and then hooks them up with a welfare system that bankrolls men "who sit around all day at the mosque cursing the foreign policy of the nation they live in."

It is high time to stop making excuses for these zealots. They see the values that make America and England strong and good, and they want to annihilate them.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@sfrchronicle.com.  
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ONE MORE REASON THE MIDDLE SEAT STINKS

## Can we stop studying coffee now?

Maybe start studying some other beverage? Or disease? Or swirling mystery of the cosmos? Because this obsessive drive to find something, anything wrong with the brew is getting ridiculous.

Consider the latest coffee scare, released last week. A Brown University study found that people who lead a sedentary lifestyle or have three or more risk factors for heart disease increase their chances of a heart attack if they drink an occasional cup of coffee.

Sounds bad, right? Even though the participants (503 Costa Ricans) sound like they were about to keel over, anyway.

But read a little further and it turns out that similar sad sacks who drank four or more cups of coffee a day didn't increase their chances of a heart attack at all!

And by the way, a study earlier this year of a much more significant 27,000 women found that the ones drinking one to three cups a day actually decreased their risk of heart attack and stroke.

This may sound like just another example of the "one study says this, one study says that" whiplash. But almost despite

themselves, all the studies I dug up kept coming to the shocking conclusion: Coffee is not rat poison.

For instance, last month's American Journal of Clinical Nutrition (and you can bet that journal is looking for bad news about yummy things) reported that the average serving of coffee contains more antioxidants than the average serving of blueberries, raspberries, grape juice or even oranges.

In fact, coffee provides most of the antioxidants in the American diet!

In May, that same jolly journal published a 15-year study showing that women who drank one to five cups of coffee a day — decaf or regular — reduced their risk of death FROM ALL CAUSES by about 17 percent, compared to the women who drank none.

In February, the National Cancer Institute revealed that daily coffee drinkers had half the liver cancer of folks who never drank it. Last year, Harvard found that coffee cuts the risk of developing the most common form of diabetes.

So that should wrap it up, right? Coffee's off the hook. Time to go home, folks, nothing here to see?

No. Coffee is the John and Patsy Ramsey of beverages. Americans have a very hard time accepting its innocence.

Maybe that's because for so long, coffee was partners with cigarettes

— guilty by association.

Or maybe it's our Puritanical distrust of pleasure: Something as delightful as coffee must be bad for you, right?

But I fear that there's an even more nefarious drive behind these studies: The desire to blame the victim. You're sick? Well, buddy, you brought it on yourself.

So off the researchers go to prove, tsk tsk, it's all your fault.

And as soon as they find out, as they did in 1990, that coffee does not cause cardiovascular disease in men, or infertility in women (big study in '95), or osteoporosis in those post-menopause (1997), off they go to study its effect on something else: cirrhosis (a new study shows coffee actually lowers one's risk), or low birth-weight babies (zero effect).

Enough! I think at this point we can agree that coffee is a something most of us can drink without blood suddenly spurting out our ears.

Now, lemonade — that's another story.

Lenore Skenazy is a columnist at The New York Daily News (lskenazy@nydailynews.com).

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# Bird Poop: Dove hunter lead rescuers to injured falcon

**D**ove season had opened before Labor Day that year. On the drive back to Big Spring, two hunters talked about their day and the birds they had bagged. One of the men decided that he would call us regarding a red-tailed hawk they had seen near their pickup as they prepared to come home.

Since hunters sometimes find injured birds during an outing, we were not surprised to receive a call that evening. "Would you like to go with us tomorrow to see if we can find that hawk?" asked the hunter. "We left several doves for it to eat since we knew it couldn't fly." My reply was first to thank them for leaving food for the bird. Meeting them the next morning would be great, since they would be using part of their Labor Day holiday to look for a hawk that might or might not be found.

Heading northwest on the Andrews highway, we passed miles of open country, patches of mesquite, desert scrub, shinnery, tall grasses, and barbed wire fences nearly covered with windblown sand. We turned on to a dirt road. Looking up at the top of a grove of trees, I noticed a great horned owl roosting on a limb. My hopes were that it had not devoured the hawk during the night. When we finally stopped at a gate at the end of yet another dirt road, we were surrounded by the stillness of nature.

Having parked in this same spot the day before, the men felt we had a chance of finding the hawk. "It wouldn't fly, and we thought it might be hungry. So we left it some doves right here," said one of the hunters as he pointed to an area near the truck. Deciding to split up, I chose to walk north while the guys headed south.

Not 10 feet from the truck, I spotted an array of feathers from a dove. Hoping that the hawk had carried the food in this direction, I slowly and as quietly as possible continued to follow a trail of feathers. Since I was close to the fence line, I had to watch my every step because in places, the sand was ankle deep or more. Not wanting to alarm the bird if it was ahead, I tried not to disturb rocks or step on dead twigs



Courtesy photo  
On Bebe McCasland's arm, the peregrine falcon "Emperor" joined other volunteers and birds for a program at the Howard County Library.

from surroundings bushes.

Ahead was an impasse of dense brush and deep sand. To go around it would take too much time. I saw more feathers. Surely that hawk couldn't be very far away.

Deciding to continue between the fence and the scrub, I was up to my right knee in sand. Dirt was sifting into my shoes. On my left was a large enough creosote to grab for balance. As I stayed upright, I peered down through the scraggly plant and saw the bird. It wasn't a hawk.

Looking up at the sky and trying to catch my breath, I glanced down at the bird again. The hooked bill, both toothed and notched, the dark "mustache" extending down the pale feathers of the neck, the taloned feet, the streaked chest, indicated to me it was a first year, juvenile peregrine falcon. The moment was mine to savor for the rest of my

life.

Not taking my eyes off the bird, I called to the men to bring the net. I had found their bird. "Walk, don't run," I cautioned as they neared the area. With the falcon unable to fly, we would be able to snare the bird even if it left the protection of the bush. Instead, it pressed itself against the earth. With the net over it, I felt as if I could breathe again.

"Do you realize what you have found?" I asked the men. From my excitement, they knew something was unusual.

Never did I think I would ever rescue a bird that was endangered. Art and I had seen peregrines migrate through this area on several occasions. A road leading from I-20 to the Andrews highway seemed to be a beacon for the falcons in early October. For some reason, this falcon was a month early.

Examining the bird, I could tell that the falcon had broken one of its

wings at the wrist. At the speed these birds fly, it could easily have clipped a power line or the branch of a tree. It had not been shot.

As we drove back to Big Spring, I thought of how this powerful falcon could dive at small to medium-sized birds and either catch them in flight or knock them to the ground.

Its eyesight was amazing. Recognizing its prey 3,000 feet away, the bird could plunge toward it at 100-200 m.p.h. On its first migration, this falcon's unmatched speed would never be used again.

When we arrived at my house, I showed the hunters, Charlie Lewis and Cliff Talbot, pictures of the falcon and related how important their efforts at helping the bird had been. Then calls to South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Lubbock, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Department of the Interior, were placed.

At the center, Debbie Tennyson examined the falcon. Administering injections to prevent

infection and swelling, she placed the bird in a carrier to rest. The outer part of the wing would require amputation. This male peregrine would be used as an educational bird and share a mew with the center's female peregrine named "Empress."

Given the title of

"Emperor," the falcon found on a desolate lease became one of the center's best ambassadors. For four years, his poise and stately presence graced educational presentations.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

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**Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase**  
The HOWARD COLLEGE will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 7.90 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.  
The public hearing will be held on August 15, 2006 at 12:30 PM and August 18, 2006 at 12:30 PM at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Lobby.  
The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:  
**FOR:** Dr. John Freeman, Chairman; Murray Murphy, Vice Chairman; Marie Ethridge, Secretary; Harold Davis; Donald B. McKinney; Dr. Charles O. Warren  
**AGAINST:** PRESENT and voting:  
**ABSENT:** Michael Flores  
**Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget**  
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditures categories:  
Maintenance and operations 0.49% increase  
Debt service 0.00% increase  
Total expenditures 0.49% increase  
**Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value as calculated under section 26.04, Tax Code**  

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$1,450,481,315	\$1,879,276,554
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$3,439,748	\$8,805,862
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$1,241,381,667	\$1,518,981,240
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$3,084,748	\$6,447,020

**Bonded Indebtedness**  
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness \$0  
**Tax Rates**  
Adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year \$0.27300 per \$100 in value  
Proposed tax rate for the current tax year \$0.24120 per \$100 in value  
Difference in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year \$(0.03180) per \$100 in value  
Percentage increase or decrease in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year (11.65%) (Decrease)  
These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.  
**Comparison of Residence Homestead Values**  
Average appraised and taxable values on residence homesteads are compared from the preceding tax year and the current tax year.  

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$33,005	\$34,847
Homestead exemption amount for the taxing unit (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$6,601	\$6,969
Average taxable value of a residence homestead (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$26,404	\$27,878

**Comparison of Residence Homestead Taxes**  
The taxes that would have been imposed in the preceding tax year on a residence homestead at the average appraised value (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled) are estimated to be \$72.08. The taxes that would be imposed in the current tax year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value in the current tax year (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled), if the proposed tax rate is adopted, are estimated to be \$67.24. The difference between the amount of taxes on the average residence homestead in the current tax year, if the proposed tax rate is adopted, and the preceding tax year would be a decrease of \$4.84 in taxes.  
\* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.  
\*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(17), Tax Code.  
\*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

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# Texas briefs

## Teen swept away in Amarillo floodwaters

AMARILLO (AP) — A teenager skateboarding in the park drowned Monday night after getting swept away in floodwater brought by strong thunderstorms that moved through parts of the city.

Charles Windham, 17, was pulled into a tunnel that is part of the park's drainage system. He and three friends had been playing in the fast-moving water. His body was found in a culvert around 10 p.m., more than two hours after he was caught in the water, the Amarillo Globe-News reported.

Police and firefighters worked Monday night to rescue motorists whose cars stalled in the high waters as the heavy rains hit the Panhandle city for the second straight day.

More rain was moving into the area on Tuesday morning, prompting the extension of a flash flood warning for Amarillo and Canyon, said Roland Nunez, senior forecaster with the National Weather Service in Amarillo.

The heavy downpour turned streets into impromptu rivers and flooding some homes. Water was in some street intersections, yards and homes, said Jose Garcia, chief meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Amarillo. One of his neighbors reported 2 inches of water in her house in western Amarillo, he said.

## Bound man may have jumped from Dallas overpass

DALLAS (AP) — Police say a man whose bound body was found Monday beneath a freeway overpass may have killed himself and tried to make it appear a homicide.

"We believe it is a suicide," said Dallas police Sgt. Gene Reyes. "We are still waiting for the medical examiner to make a ruling."

The body of Druv Badhiwala, 20, of Wylie was found about 1 a.m. on a southbound lane of Central Expressway at an interchange known as the "High Five," police said. His car, the engine still running, was found atop eastbound Interstate 635.

Nothing suggested a robbery or a carjacking, Reyes said, and it didn't appear Badhiwala died before falling 150 feet from the overpass.

A passer-by spotted the body and called police. Badhiwala's wrists were bound in front of him with a cord, and a T-shirt covered his mouth, Reyes said.

Police are investigating whether Badhiwala might have had religious reasons for wanting his death to look like a homicide, Reyes said.

Police also said someone could have tied the man's hands together and thrown him off the overpass.

Badhiwala's family told police the man was attending college, enjoyed playing cricket and did not seem upset.

"They thought he was happy," Reyes said.

## Boy accused of killing father on trial in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A 12-year-old boy accused of killing his father by shooting him in the back is on trial this week.

The judge closed the trial to the public to protect the boy's interests and those involved in the case can't comment because of a gag order. It was unclear whether testimony might begin Tuesday.

Attorneys were still choosing jurors on Monday, after starting jury selection last week with 300 candidates. The trial is expected to last two to six weeks.

Investigators say the boy was 10 when he shot his father, Dr. Rick Lohstroh, through the back of the driver's seat. Lohstroh, a 41-year-old physician at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, had been picking up his sons at the home of his ex-wife in Katy.

The boy's mother, Deborah Geisler, is not charged in the case but has acknowledged keeping the semiautomatic pistol that killed her ex-husband in a zippered case inside her closet.

The boy has been in custody for almost two years. He was moved from lockup to the psychiatric facility of the Harris County Juvenile Detention Center.

## Wildfires continue in Texas

CADD0 (AP) — Firefighters trying to contain wildfires that have charred 7,500 acres and destroyed one home in West-Central Texas expected to work into Tuesday morning.

Despite 104 degree temperatures and low humidity, crews were able to make progress fighting the blaze Monday. The four fires, called the Caddo II Complex, were about 50 percent contained Monday afternoon as

temperatures reached as high as 104 degrees, said Traci Weaver, a spokeswoman for the Texas Forest Service.

But the continued drought will only mean more fires in the coming months.

"Fire activity is picking up over a lot of the state right now," Weaver said. "As it continues to get drier and drier every day, the vegetation just bakes. It becomes more and more likely to catch fire."

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# Bedtime Stories

## WADELL PARAKEET AND ME

It was just a few years ago when I decided I wanted a pet. I was just about the age you are right now. How old are you? That's what I thought. Do you have a pet? Do you love your pet? Do you make sure your pet has a nice clean place to live? Do you make sure your pet has lots of water to drink and lots of food to eat? I am glad. That makes you a wonderful pet owner. I'll bet your pet loves you too. I thought that I wanted a little kitten for my pet. I asked my mother if she would take me to the place where they have lots of pets that you can take home with you, if you promise to take care of them and love them, of course. I have a very good mother and she gave me permission to get a pet if I would promise to take good care of it. And she promised that she would take me to that place soon, but first I had to do my chores. Do you know what a chore might be? Do you have chores to do? What is your chore? Mine is having to clean my room, make my bed, and wash dishes every day. I don't mind though, because my mother and father are very busy and I am helping them each day. I had just finished my

chores when my mother asked me if I was ready to go look at some kittens. I was excited and ready to go. I couldn't wait to see the little kittens. I think my mom was as excited as I was because she was smiling as much as I was when we got into the car and finally started the trip to the place where all the little pets were. It wasn't very far away for we were there very soon. The closer to the building we became, the more excited I became. I looked out of the corner of my eyes at mother. Her smile was even bigger than mine. She was so excited, too! We walked in the big door. We could hear little dogs barking. We could hear little kittens purring. We could even hear the sounds of the little hamsters. But I wanted to see the little kittens. They are so soft and furry and I just knew that if I take one home with me, then it would love me too. We walked past the little dogs and we walked past the little hamsters. Each one seemed to beg us to take it home with us. Each one except the little parakeet, sitting in the corner, all alone, and afraid. I thought to myself as I watched him



when we were walking right on by him, "What a beautiful bird, and he seems so sad. Please don't be afraid! We would never harm you." Then we reached the place where the little kittens were living. I saw one that I liked in the back, and he was fast asleep, and so cute. Just as I was about to ask my mother if she liked this one, another little girl saw the little kitten. "Oh

mommy," she cried, "That is the little kitten I want. He is so cute and warm and soft and fuzzy." She held the little kitten and I could tell she would love it and take care of it, so I did not mind that she got this little kitten for a pet. My mind wandered back to the little parakeet that seemed to sad and lonely and afraid. "I wonder if mother will let me have a parakeet," I thought to myself. "No, I asked her if I could have a little kitten, not a parakeet. I must look at

more little kittens." Mother and I looked at every kitten that day and most of them had already been promised to someone else. They will come pick them up and take them home tomorrow. "Well, mother, may I look at some little puppies?" I asked, with my mind still on the little parakeet. "I wonder if mother even likes parakeets? Should I ask her? What will she say?" "Yes, you may look at the little puppies if you would like," mother said to me. I was excited again because on the way to where the little puppies lived, we would have to pass by the little parakeet again, and I couldn't wait to see him. We are walking by the parakeet now and all of a sudden, mother stopped and asked me to look at him. "Have you ever thought about having a little parakeet instead of a puppy or a kitten?" mother asked. "This little fellow looks as if he really needs someone to love him and take care of him, and I just know that you are the person who will do it." I could not believe what my mother was saying. She had noticed the little sad parakeet too. She had loved

him from the first time she saw him. I did, too. She had thought about him the whole time we were looking at the other pets. I did, too! She was hoping I would love the parakeet, too. I do. We took that little parakeet home that day. In the car, on the way home, the little parakeet seemed to trust my mother and me. He was not afraid anymore. He seemed very happy to finally have a real home. I would make sure he would always be happy. I would make sure he had a clean home, I would make sure he had lots of food to eat and water to drink. "What will we name him?" mother asked. "I have always liked the name, Wadell," I said to mother, "Do you like that name?" "I love that name," mother said to me, "How about you, Wadell?" The little parakeet seemed to love the name, too. So, now I have a nice pet named Wadell. I also have a very wonderful mother, don't I? Wadell is a talking parakeet. He can say some words better than I. Two of them is, "Good Night!"

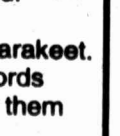
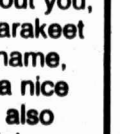
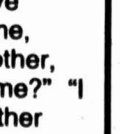
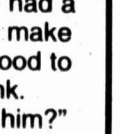
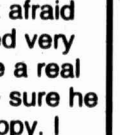
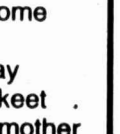
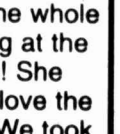
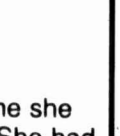
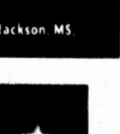
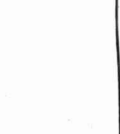
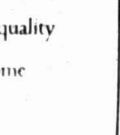
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# Sports

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## IN BRIEF

### Steers scrimmage set for Lubbock

The Big Spring Steers' preseason scrimmage will be held Friday in Lubbock vs. Pampa.

The scrimmage, which will feature the respective schools' ninth grade, junior varsity and varsity squads, will be held at the Lubbock Monterey High School practice field.

Freshmen and junior varsity will scrimmage at 5 p.m., followed by the varsity at 7 p.m.

There is no admission to the scrimmage, but officials urge people planning on attending to bring their own chairs, as there are no bleacher facilities at the Monterey practice field.

The Steers open the regular season at home against Odessa High School Sept. 1.

### Coahoma Booster Club sets event

The Coahoma Booster Club will hold its annual Meet the Bulldogs Night for 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Coahoma Elementary School cafeteria.

### Youth volleyball sign-ups under way

Registration for Youth Volleyball League play has started at the YMCA.

Children in Grades 3-6 are eligible to play.

The registration fee is \$45 per player and the deadline to register is Saturday.

Players will be divided into two age groups — third- and fourth-graders in one division and fifth- and sixth-graders in the other. Teams will be formed Aug. 31 at a coaches meeting and clinic and league play begins Sept. 16.

For more information, call 267-8234.

### Quarterback Club meetings slated

Big Spring High School's Quarterback Club will meet at 7 Monday at the BSHS Athletic Training Center.

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

For more information, call Tissue at 816-3458.

### Jones expresses shock at drug test

Marion Jones broke her silence on her positive drug test Monday, saying she was startled by the result and wants the second sample examined quickly.

"I was shocked when I was informed about the positive 'A' sample," she said. "I have requested that the testing of my 'B' sample be expedited and done as

## Rangers stumble; Yankees, Tigers post wins

By The Associated Press

The Devil Rays' struggling bullpen came through in a big way.

Brian Meadows and Seth McClung combined for three scoreless innings, getting James Shields his second straight win as Tampa Bay beat the Texas Rangers 4-3 on Monday night.

Meadows, who had given up 16 runs over his previous 10 1-3 innings, followed Shields with two scoreless innings. McClung finished for his first major league save.

"That's the beauty of being in the bullpen," Meadows said. "You have a couple bad outings and you know you're going to be

right back in there and get a chance to have a good one. It felt good to walk off and shake hands for a change."

McClung was sent to the minors to be converted from a starter to a closer on June 20 after going 2-10. The right-hander, who rejoined the team Aug. 3, made the most of his first save opportunity.

"The guys played real well," McClung said. "I just wanted to get out there and get three outs as quick as you can ... not mess up what the rest of the team had done."

The Devil Rays' bullpen entered with a 5.19 ERA. Tampa Bay has lost 12 times when ahead after six innings this season.

Shields (6-6) gave up three runs and eight hits in six innings. After winning four straight starts in June, he went 0-6 in nine starts, then ended his skid by defeating Toronto on Aug. 16.

In the only other AL games, it was: New York 2, Boston 1; Oakland 12, Toronto 10; and Detroit 7, Chicago 1.

In Texas manager Buck Showalter's first game following a four-game suspension, Hank Blalock homered and had three RBIs for the Rangers, whose three-game winning streak was stopped.

"No one in this locker room is taking Tampa lightly," Showalter said. "We won three of four on the road in Detroit, and

we're going to try and win three of four here."

Showalter served his suspension following two days of trouble last week between the Rangers and the Los Angeles Angels.

"I feel like I managed every pitch the last four days anyway," said Showalter, who watched the Detroit series from the manager's office.

Adam Eaton (3-3) allowed four runs and 11 hits in five innings.

"My assessment of my performance: not very good," Eaton said. "All their runs were scored with two outs. It's a real frustrating feeling."

See **RANGERS**, Page 12

## Dallas receivers shine in 30-7 win

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

SHREVEPORT, La. — Even without Terrell Owens, the Dallas Cowboys appear to have some receivers capable of making highlight-worthy touchdown catches.

There was Terry Glenn reaching around a defender's head for a one-handed grab.

There was Sam Hurd pushing, then getting pulled as he hauled in another job.

And there was Mile Austin reading the defense, beating the coverage and doing the rest with ease.

No wonder coach Bill Parcells rolled his eyes when asked about Owens following Dallas' 30-7 victory over the New Orleans Saints on Monday night.

"I'm tired of talking about it, I really am," Parcells said. "Let's talk about the guys who were here and played."

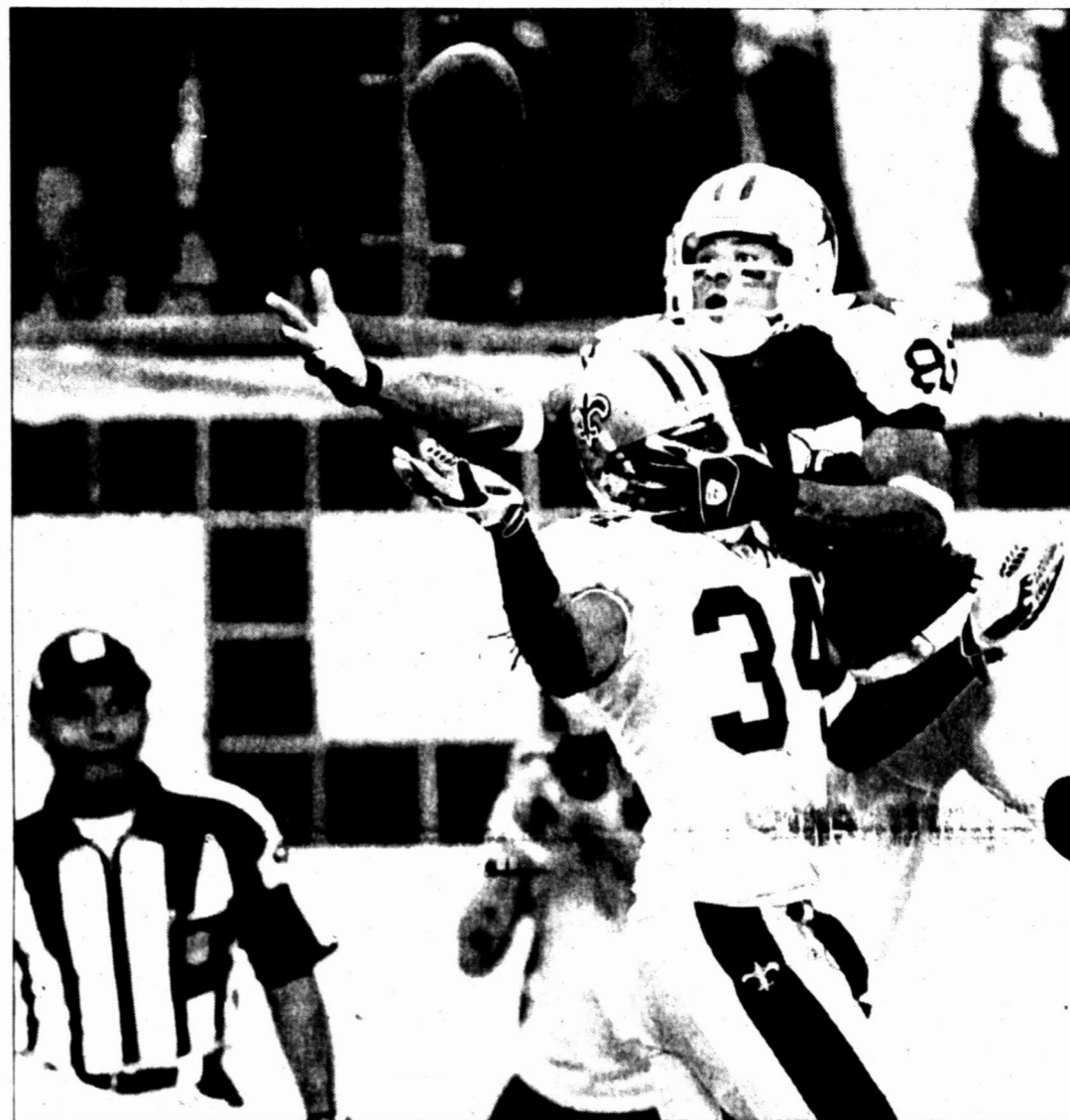
Drew Bledsoe threw the first two TD passes, and Tony Romo beat a blitz on the other, providing some pizzazz for the NFL's first preseason game in Shreveport since 1970.

Those in the crowd of 45,162 who were rooting for the Saints didn't have much to cheer about, at least not after Deuce McAllister ran for 8 yards on two carries in his first game since a knee injury early last season.

"The knee felt fine ... no apprehension about anything," McAllister said. "There are a few mental hurdles I have to get over, but I'm ready to work."

Dallas' first-team defense shut out New Orleans' starters, keeping them from even getting a first down on its first three drives. Parcells grumbled that his unit didn't get enough work and Saints coach Sean Payton said his team was "not as improved as I thought."

See **COWBOYS**, Page 12



Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terry Glenn (83) prepares to catch a touchdown pass over New Orleans Saints defender Mike McKenzie (34) during the first half of NFL preseason action at Independence Stadium in Shreveport, La., Monday night.

## Jones says T.O.'s status is uncertain

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

SHREVEPORT, La. — Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Monday night that receiver Terrell Owens may have another MRI exam taken to see why his hamstring continues to bother him after weeks of treatment.

"Certainly it is sore and he is going to be working to improve that," Jones said during halftime of Dallas' preseason game against the New Orleans Saints. "We will be evaluating it more tomorrow."

The hamstring has bothered Owens since the first week of training camp. He missed the first preseason game, then returned to practice last week, but not enough for coach Bill Parcells to clear him to play against the Saints.

Jones said he's not sure whether Owens will be on the field when the team returns to practice.

See **OWENS**, Page 12

## Colts may need new backup QB

By The Associated Press

Jim Sorgi's shoulder injury may force the Indianapolis Colts to bring in a new backup quarterback.

Coach Tony Dungy said Monday the team was awaiting results from Sorgi's MRI exam before deciding whether to sign another backup.

"If it looks like he's going to miss some time and some practices, then it's something we might have to think about," Dungy said. "We'll probably know a little more tonight."

Sorgi was expected to back up two-time MVP Peyton Manning for the

third straight season, but he came into training camp with a sore throwing shoulder and was hit hard in each of the Colts' first two preseason games.

On Sunday night against Seattle, Sorgi entered the game midway through the second quarter and lasted only three plays — a handoff to Joseph Addai, an incomplete pass intended for Aaron Moorehead and a pass that was intercepted by Mike Green and run back for a touchdown.

Sorgi winced and grabbed at his shoulder after getting hit on his first pass attempt, then left the game after trying

to throw the ball away on the next play. He twisted awkwardly as he threw the ball and was driven into the ground by linebacker Julian Peterson as the ball fluttered to Green.

Dungy said he fell on the same right shoulder that the Colts had been closely monitoring during training camp.

"I'm obviously concerned," Manning said after the Colts' 30-17 loss Sunday. "You could tell by his face that he was in a lot of pain. I'm very concerned for him."

If Sorgi can't play, Shaun King, a seven-year NFL veteran, would likely inherit the backup job.

King replaced Sorgi on Sunday night and finished the game 14-of-22 for 146 yards with one sack.

But King, who signed with the Colts in June and is still learning the complicated offense, insists he'll be ready for whatever Indy asks of him.

"I've been in every situation," he said. "My first year, I was the third quarterback and by Week 9 or Week 11, I was the starter. So I know I have to be ready all the time."

The Colts have two other quarterbacks on the roster — Josh Betts and Mike McGinn — but both are undrafted rookies.

## Lucky night for Aurilia gives Reds win over Astros

By The Associated Press

Rich Aurilia's first two hits didn't make it out of the infield. His third was a double that conveniently landed just inside the foul line.

In his fourth at-bat, he still had a little luck left.

Aurilia got a hanging slider on his first pitch in the eighth inning, and connected for a three-run homer that rallied the Cincinnati Reds to a 4-3 victory over the Houston Astros on Monday night.

The pitch from reliever Chad Qualls provided a fitting finish to his 4-for-4 night.

"It was a slider," Aurilia said. "It didn't do much."

Royce Clayton's run-scoring

single later in the eighth completed the comeback and tightened the NL Central. Second-place Cincinnati moved two games behind idle St. Louis, staying in contention with a retooled roster and a lot of late comebacks.

"This is a resilient bunch," Aurilia said. "It's a lot of fun. Nobody ever gives up. It says a lot about the guys on the team — even the new guys. It's been like a revolving door all season, but we keep getting the same type of people."

In other NL games, it was: Philadelphia 6, Chicago 5; San Diego 4, Los Angeles 2; San Francisco 5, Arizona 0; Atlanta 3, Pittsburgh 0; and Florida 3, Washington 1.

The Reds have morphed into a contender by remaking their roster during the season — 13 of the current 25 players were obtained since spring training — and by doing some of their best hitting in the last innings.

Aurilia's homer and Clayton's single off Qualls (4-3) gave the Reds their eighth win of the season when they trailed after seven innings.

"It's a shame we were not able to pull this one off," said left-hander Andy Pettitte, who turned a 2-0 lead over to the Astros bullpen in the sixth. "They've been playing extremely well and coming back late in games all year."

By contrast, the Astros lost for the eighth time in 10 games,

unable to get anything other than solo homers. Aubrey Huff hit two of them, and Lance Berkman also connected off Bronson Arroyo.

Willy Taveras extended his hitting streak to 24 games with a game-opening bunt single, then got caught stealing on the next pitch — a sign that things wouldn't come easy for an Astros offense that is often all-or-nothing.

"I can't explain that," manager Phil Garner said. "We've been down that road probably — how many games have we played, 125? We've probably had 100 games like this. I don't have an explanation."

See **ASTROS**, Page 12

Wacky Facts

■ Plastic Man made his first appearance in Police Comics in 1941. According to comicspriceguide.com the issue is worth nearly \$15,000 in mint condition.  
■ Wonder Woman's first appearance was in All Star Comics in 1941. The first comic of the "Wonder Woman" series, published in 1942, is worth roughly \$60,000.

# KID NEWS

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Chatter Box

"Whatever life holds in store for me, I will never forget these words: 'With great power comes great responsibility.' This is my gift, my curse."  
— Peter Parker, aka Spider-Man, in the 2002 movie "Spider-Man."

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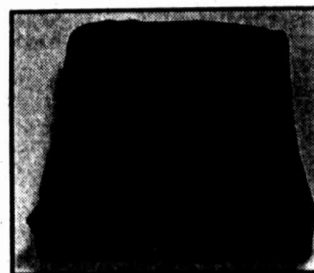
## Crafty ideas for back to school

### STUDY PILLOW

This lap-size cushion does double duty: right side up, it's a plush headrest; flipped over, it provides a flat, cloth-covered "desktop" so you can write in a notebook.

#### MATERIALS

- Craft knife
- Foam board (sold in office supply stores)
- Oversize kitchen towel, about 18 by 26 inches
- Pillow form, 12 by 16 inches (sold in fabric stores)
- Straight pins
- Paintbrush and fabric glue



#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Use a craft knife to cut a 10- by 14-inch rectangle from the foam board (a parent's job).
2. Place the towel right side down on a flat surface and center the piece of foam board on top of it. Set the pillow atop the board.
3. Fold the towel around the pillow and board, as if wrapping a present, and pin all the edges in place.
4. Adhere the overlapped edges by removing several pins at a time and using a paintbrush to apply fabric glue to that area before repinning the section. When the glue is completely dry, remove all the pins, and the pillow is ready to use.

### LUNCH MONEY HOLDER

With this clever change purse, you will be able to keep all your cafeteria cash up your sleeve until you need it.

#### MATERIALS

- Toddler-size sock
- Tacky glue
- Wooden hand (available at many craft and fabric stores)
- Magnetic strip with adhesive back
- Two or three pennies



#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. To create the sleeve portion of the holder, cut off the foot of the sock across the heel, as shown, and discard it. Then hem the cut edge of the sock tube by turning it under and gluing it in place.
2. Apply more glue inside the hem and sandwich the wrist of the wooden hand between the front and back of the tube. Firmly press the layers together, making sure the sock is sealed all the way across.
3. Cut two pieces of magnetic strip to fit across the inside of the sock's open end. Remove the backing and, making sure the strips are aligned, stick them to the fabric. These will function as a clasp to keep the money inside.
4. For the finishing touch, glue the pennies to the palm of the wooden hand.

### COLORFUL CONTAINERS

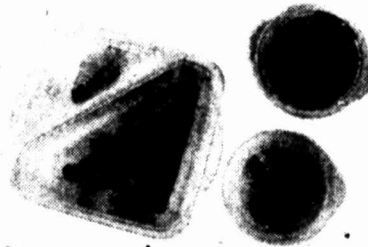
Want a lunch that's picture perfect? Just pack it in a whimsical hand-decorated container that will be instantly recognizable should it end up in the lost-and-found bin.

#### MATERIALS

- Disposable plastic containers
- Permanent colored markers

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Make sure the container and lid are clean. Then use the markers to embellish their **OUTER** surfaces with simple, playful drawings. For a fun effect, you may want to decorate the underside so you'll have something to admire when you're finished with lunch. Just remember to print any words backward so they'll be readable.  
— FamilyFun magazine



# FIRST-CLASS HEROES

## Super stamps fly into post offices

When they aren't busy battling for justice, Superman and his super-hero friends have conquered television, the movies, comic books and video games. What's next for this legendary bunch? The United States Postal Service is honoring 10 super heroes with their very own postage stamps.



### SUPER-HERO FIRST

This is the first time comic book super heroes have been honored on stamps, according to the Postal Service. The series of stamps, called "DC Comics Super Heroes," were made available in July.

Ten of the stamps show portraits of Aquaman, Batman, The Flash, Green Arrow, Green Lantern, Hawkman, Plastic Man, Supergirl, Superman and Wonder Woman. The other 10 stamps show covers of comic books featuring the super heroes.



"The DC Comics Super Heroes have been a beloved part of America's culture for almost seven decades as the most significant characters to emerge from comic books — a true American art form," said DC Comics Publisher and President Paul Levitz. "It is both fitting and exciting for these heroes to be commemorated as stamps by the U.S. Postal Service."



### MARVEL-OUS HEROES

Wondering why Spider-Man, The Fantastic Four and X-Men didn't make the cut? The popular super heroes were born on the pages of Marvel, another large comic book distributor. Other famous Marvel heroes include The Incredible Hulk, Thor, The Avengers, Daredevil and Captain America. Even though he hasn't made it onto a postage stamp, Spider-Man will be making headlines next year when he stars in "Spider-Man 3" on the big screen.



— Dina El Nabli

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### BIRTH OF THE MAN OF STEEL

One of the stamps shows a Superman comic book cover that dates back to 1941! Superman was introduced to comic book readers in 1938. Since then, the adventures of super heroes have been the inspiration behind a variety of comic books. Whether it was a battle between Superman and Lex Luthor or Batman and the Joker, comic book fans never lost interest in their favorite heroes.



Supergirl and Plastic Man are two of the heroes featured on new stamps.

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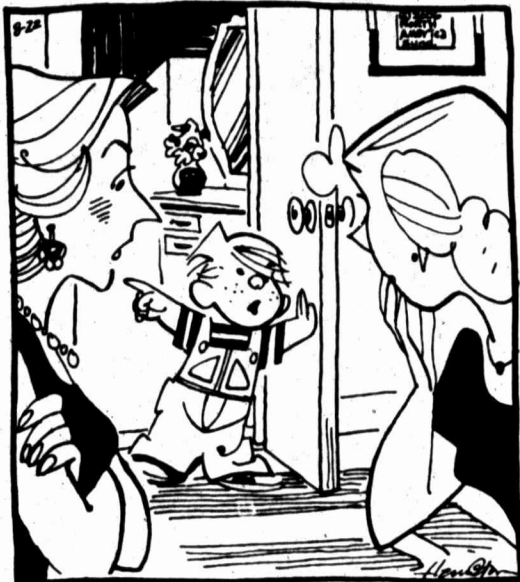
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TUESDAY

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"I CAN'T GET MRS. VAUGHN'S COAT OFF THE BED 'CAUSE RUFF'S TAKIN' A NAP ON IT."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

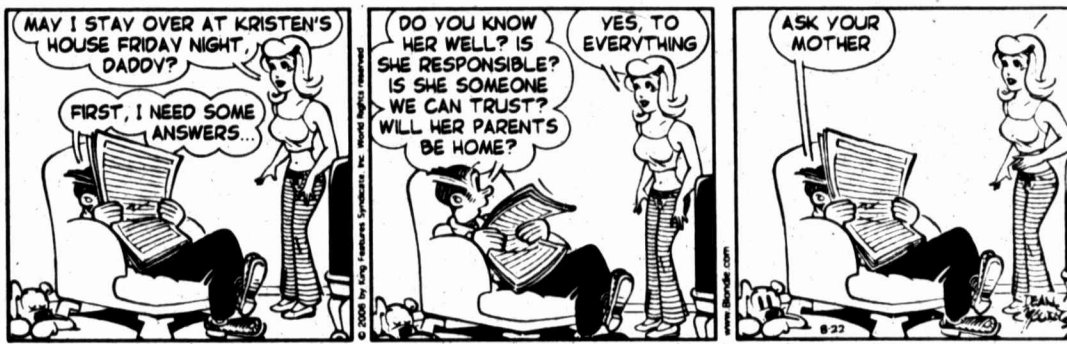


"Are you gettin' the whole Sears Tower in the picture, Daddy?"

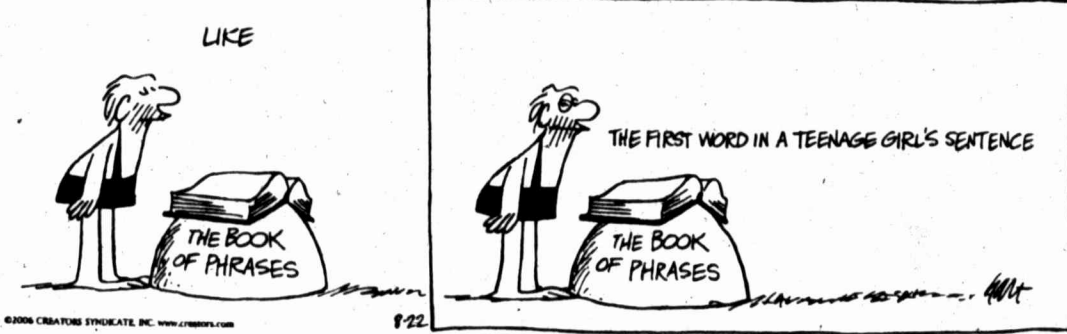
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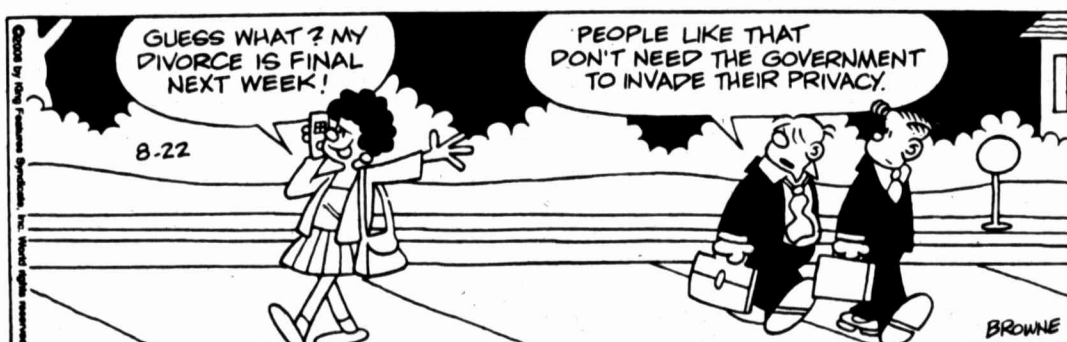
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press Today is Tuesday, Aug. 22, the 234th day of 2006. There are 131 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Aug. 22, 1485, England's King Richard III was killed in the Battle of Bosworth Field, ending the War of the Roses. On this date: In 1787, inventor John Fitch demonstrated his steamboat on the Delaware River to delegates of the Continental Congress. In 1846, the United States annexed the Territory of New Mexico. In 1851, the schooner America outraced the Aurora off the English coast to win a trophy that came to be known as the America's Cup. In 1910, Japan annexed Korea, which remained under Japanese colonial rule until 1945. In 1956, President Eisenhower and Vice President Nixon were nominated for second terms in office by the Republican national convention in San Francisco. In 1968, Pope Paul VI arrived in Bogota, Colombia, for the start of the first papal visit to Latin America. In 1978, President Jomo Kenyatta, a leading figure in Kenya's struggle for independence, died; Vice President Daniel Arap Moi was sworn in as acting president. In 1985, 55 people died when fire broke out aboard a British Airways charter jet on a runway at Manchester Airport in England. In 1986, Kerr-McGee Corp. agreed to pay the estate of the late Karen Silkwood \$1.38 million, settling a 10-year-old nuclear contamination lawsuit. In 1989, Black Panther co-founder Huey P. Newton was shot to death in Oakland, Calif. (Gunman Tyrone Robinson was later sentenced to 32 years to life in prison.) Today's Birthdays: Author Ray Bradbury is 86. Heart surgeon Dr. Denton Cooley is 86. Retired Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf is 72. ABC newsman Morton Dean is 71. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Carl Yastrzemski is 67. Actress Valerie Harper is 66. Football coach Bill Parcells is 65. CBS newsman Steve Kroft is 61. Actress Cindy Williams is 59. Musician David Marks is 58. Country singer Holly Dunn is 49. Rock musician Vernon Reid is 48. Country singer Collin Raye is 46. Country singer Ricky Lynn Gregg is 45. Rock singer Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears) is 45. Rock musician Debbi Peterson (The Bangles) is 45.

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Answer to previous puzzle: GASH GAME STPAI ALMA ASEA CAIRO LOAN STAR OTTER THROW PILLOW CAN SATIRE BLAH IDOTOO IDEA LASTS LACE MARS ALLOT SPA STRIP STIR MEEL POKES SONS ONSALE GOSH UNITES LAB TOSSANDTURN IRATE WING ELIE NICER ALOE MICE TAKEN POND SPAR

Newsday Crossword

FAMILY VIEWING by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 7

Reggie Bush spiced things up with a 9-yard run and an 11-yard gain on a third-and-2 screen, both on the final drive of the first half. He finished with 7 yards on four carries, 14 yards on two receptions — and disappointment that the starters didn't do better. "This isn't the old Saints any more," he said. "We need to take three-and-outs personal. We need to change our way of thinking. We need to keep our defense off the field. We didn't do our job as an offense."

Drew Brees was 7-of-12 for 67 yards. Backup Todd Bouman was 13-of-16 for 117 yards.

Jamal Branch had the lone score for New Orleans, a 1-yard run early in the fourth quarter.

Owens was in Dallas, presumably watching, because of a hamstring

injury that kept him on the sideline more than the practice field during training camp. With Parcels not letting him play the Saints — and be on a Monday night cable television broadcast — his next chance is Saturday night at home against San Francisco.

"The main thing is it is not firing," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "He needs to get to a point where it fires."

Bledsoe went 12-of-16 for 156 yards, leading Dallas to scores on three of four drives. Romo went 6-of-8 for 138 yards and also put up points on three of four drives. His best play was waiting out a blitz then throwing a 48-yard touchdown pass to Austin.

"It was actually supposed to be a quick route, but the corner kind of bit and we adjusted on the fly, I laid it out there for a touchdown," Romo said.

Bledsoe didn't play the preseason opener so Romo could get more work, prompting specula-

tion of a growing controversy. Bledsoe feels secure that he's the starter, although he acknowledged that having to wait to get on the field "pushes you a little bit."

"It gets you going," he said. "But I can't tell you I would have done anything different in camp had I been the only quarterback."

Glenn played as if his job was on the line, coming up with a 30-yard gain and a diving 21-yarder on the drive that ended with his highlight-reel maneuver around cornerback Mike McKenzie.

"Terry made two or three outstanding plays," Parcels said. "It shows me he's on his way to getting ready to go."

Hurd, who has been working with Owens, made a replay-worthy grab, too — shoving off a bit on his defender as he turned for the ball, then having to withstand being grabbed from behind as the ball arrived.

OWENS

Continued from Page 7

Wednesday, which means he could also miss the next preseason game, at home Saturday night against San Francisco.

"Soft tissue is such a hard thing to get definitive about," Jones said. "You don't need an MRI to understand it is compromising and bothering him. The main thing is it is not firing. He needs to get to a point where it fires."

Jones said it's wrong to think Owens skipped a practice Saturday because he was angry that Parcels ruled him out of the Saints game.

"That's humorous," Jones said. "There is no substance to that. That is not the deal. Terrell and

Bill are on the same page. They both want him to be out there and without risk of him further hurting his ham. There is no issue here about them being off the page."

The Cowboys led the Saints 17-0 at halftime, with Drew Bledsoe throwing touchdown passes to Terry Glenn and rookie Sam Hurd, who has worked a lot with Owens during training camp. It was Bledsoe's first action of the preseason after also

being held out of the opener; he went 12-of-16 for 156 yards.

Bledsoe sat out a victory against Seattle last weekend because Parcels wanted to give plenty of work to backup Tony Romo. That's prompted speculation of Bledsoe's job being in jeopardy — something else Jones downplayed.

"I've never heard any debate about that from anyone on our staff," Jones said.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

Ryan Franklin (4-6) pitched a perfect eighth to get the win, and newcomer Scott Schoeneweis got the last three outs for his first save. The Reds are using a collection of relievers to close games

while Eddie Guardado is on the disabled list with a sore forearm.

The no-decision left Arroyo stuck in a two-month rut. The All-Star has only one victory in his last 12 starts, the result of misfortune and mistakes that prompted him to briefly change his hairstyle for luck.

Monday, there was no such luck. He gave up only five hits, including solo homers by Berkman and Huff, but left trailing 2-0 after six innings.

"It was tough to come out," Arroyo said. "I felt so good. A game like that, you have so much energy. It felt like the game went by in 2 seconds."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

Damon Hollins hit an RBI single and Tomas Perez, in an 2-for-27 slide, had a run-scoring double to put Tampa Bay ahead 2-0 in the second. Blalock's 15th homer tied the score in the third, but B.J. Upton gave the Devil Rays a 3-2 lead on an RBI single in the fourth.

Blalock got the Rangers even with his second two-

out RBI hit of the game, a run-scoring single in the fifth. He has driven in 37 runs this season with two outs.

Russell Branyan singled with two outs in the bottom half. He has 34 hits this season: 12 singles, 10 doubles and 12 homers.

BENZENE ALERT

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML) or Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), please call us today toll free at 1-866-369-3476 to discuss your legal rights.

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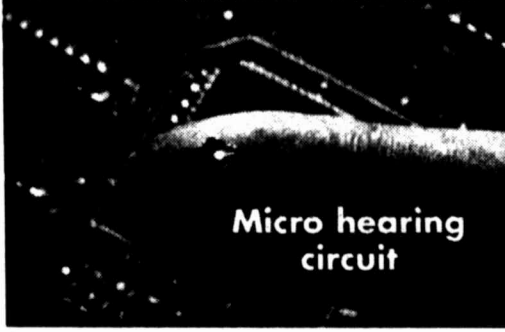
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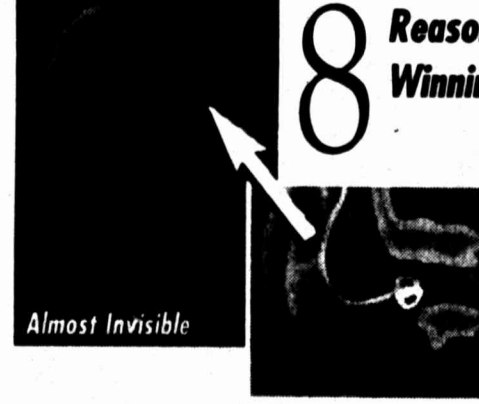
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Notice of Vote on Tax Rate

The HOWARD COLLEGE conducted public hearings on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the

HOWARD COLLEGE from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 7.9 percent on August 15, 2006 at 12:30 p.m. and August 18, 2006 at 12:30 p.m.

The HOWARD COLLEGE is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on August 28, 2006, at 12:30 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum East Room

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