

BIG SPRING

# HERALD



INSIDE

Owens' absence gives more time to other 'Boys receivers' Page 7

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

## City council: Put 'em out

### Council OKs no smoking ordinance in 5-2 vote

□ Second reading expected Sept. 12.

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council approved the first reading of a ban on smoking in public with a 5-2 vote Tuesday evening, bringing the controversial ordinance closer to becoming local law.

The measure received equal support and opposition from area residents and business owners who spoke during the meeting, but it was the council that put the issue to the vote.

The ordinance would effectively ban smoking in all public places, including offices and office buildings that are open to the public, restaurants and department stores. Bars and lounges would be exempt.

Council member Greg Biddison, who voted against the ordinance, said whether or not to allow smoking in a business should be left up to the business owner.

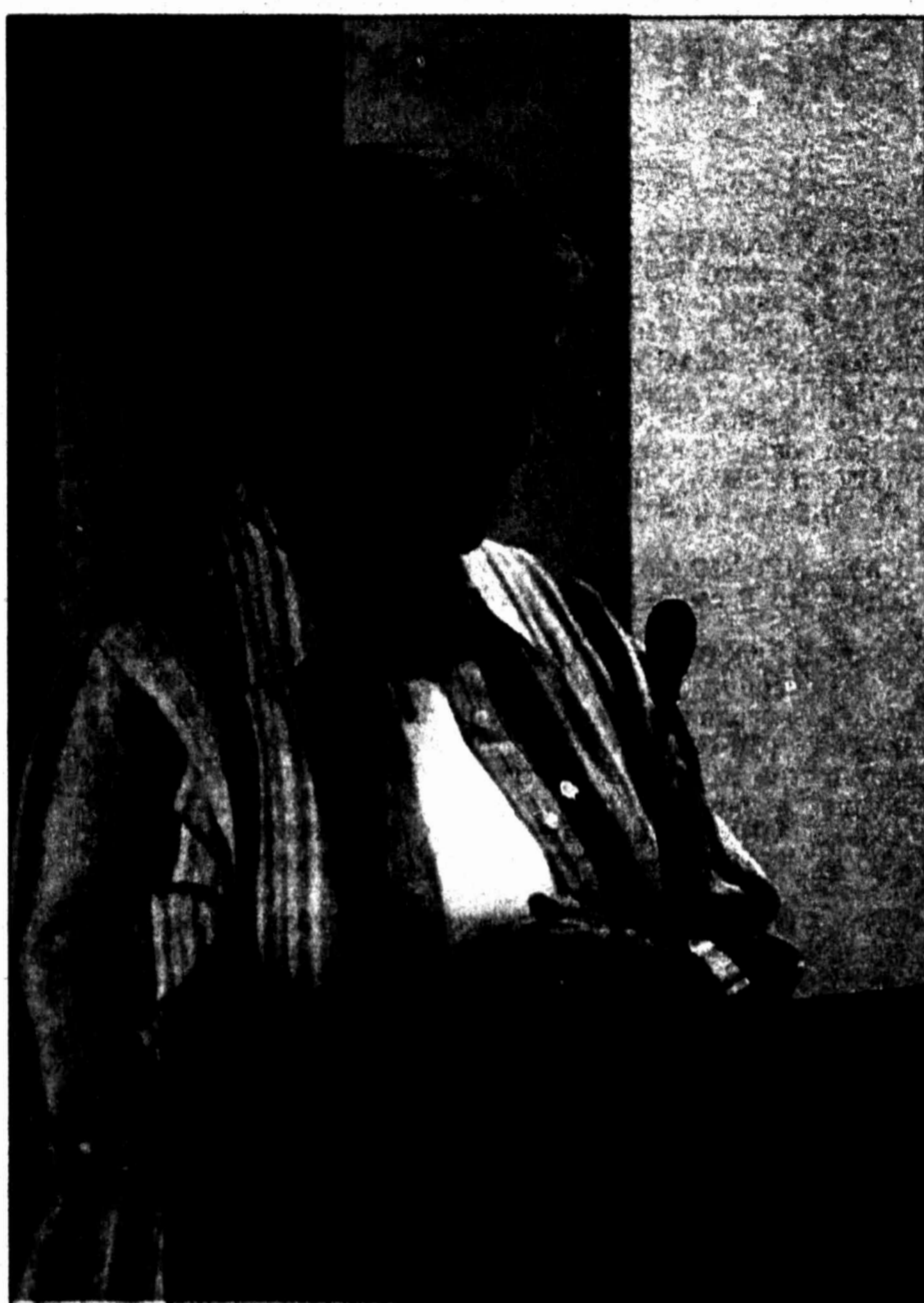
"I'm a non-smoker, but I've had a restaurant that was smoking, and it got pretty foggy in there," said Biddison. "I've also had a non-smoking restaurant. However, I believe it was my choice. If you don't like the smoke, you don't have to go to a restaurant that allows smoking. Either way, I think it should be left to the choice of the business owner."

Council member Manuel Ramirez Jr. said the choice should remain with the business owner, not the municipality.

"As I was told by someone, this is America and I shouldn't be told how to run my business," said Ramirez. "If they want to smoke, they will come in. If I choose to make my business a smoking business, they will come in or they won't. It's their choice to smoke, and it's my choice to smoke. We're all grownups here."

Ramirez's likening of the matter to the choice of whether or not to smoke caught the attention of

See BAN, Page 3



Local teacher Vicky Stewart expresses her support of a city-wide ban on smoking in public places during Tuesday night's meeting of the Big Spring City Council.

### Citizens plea for, against smoking ban in public places

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Area residents and business owners practically packed the Big Spring City Council Chambers Tuesday night for the first reading of an ordinance that would ban smoking in public buildings, expressing both support and condemnation for the measure.

The 5-2 vote in favor of the ordinance, which drew nays from council members Greg Biddison and Manuel Ramirez Jr., came following emotional presentations by a half-dozen area residents, including local teacher Vicky Stewart.

Stewart said she's seen smoking from three different perspectives, and the bottom line is how it affects children.

"I want to speak on behalf of three groups of people I represent," said Stewart. "When I was a child, my father — who was a smoker — died of emphysema, and I was a child that had to suffer the consequences... It's no

"I support your ban on smoking in public places. It would be beneficial to the health of the individuals sitting in these restaurants and other places where smoking is being carried on ..."



Ronnie Wood, speaking in favor of the no-smoking ordinance

pleasant thing. "As a parent, I hope that my own children who are now 27 and 24, will continue with their efforts not to smoke. However, my main concern is as a teacher in this community. We represent what we want our children to see, to be and to do. What bet-

See PLEA, Page 3

## Officials: Enrollment going well at Howard College

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Fall registration at Howard College campuses is on track to match last year's numbers, officials said.

With several days of registration left to go, about 2,000 students have enrolled for classes at HC campuses in Big Spring, San Angelo, Lamesa

and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

College Registrar Donna Merrick said enrollment breakdown by campus was 882 in Big Spring, 1,069 in San Angelo, 38 in Lamesa and 11 at SWCID, with more expected in the next few days.

Registration will be held today in Lamesa, she said. Also today, about 200 students

at Big Spring High School are expected to enroll for concurrent classes at Howard.

San Angelo registration continues through the end of the week, and on-site registration at SWCID will be held Thursday, Merrick said.

"Right now, we're pretty much on target for what we did last fall," she said.

Fall registration at all cam-

pus last fall yielded 2,731 students, she noted.

Unlike past years, when class registration resembled a mad rush more than anything, Tuesday's affair at the Big Spring campus was a much more sedate affair, Merrick said.

That's because a vast major-

See COLLEGE, Page 3

## Howard County Republicans scramble to put candidate in county judge race

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

It's up to the secretary of state.

That's the message delivered to members of the Howard County Republican Party Tuesday morning during a special meeting at the county courthouse, as the group awaits a decision on whether or not it can make a new nomination in the wake of county judge candidate Mark Morgan's announcement he is pulling out of the race.

"The current Republican nominee, Mark Morgan, has stated his intention to withdraw due to time constraints, but has not yet officially done so," said Durand-Hollis. "The Republican Party is committed to giving the voters of Howard County a choice on election day.

"To that end, the party will do everything in its power to ensure a qualified candidate is on the ballot for county judge in November. Currently, the party is awaiting an opinion from the

elections division of the Texas Secretary of State's Office concerning our options regarding a nominee."

If the Secretary of State's Office gives the party the green light to name a new candidate, the party will have until Tuesday to come up with a new county judge hopeful.

However, if the state office pulls the plug on the local Republican effort, the party will be forced to take a different

See GOP, Page 2



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins Margarita Durand-Hollis talks during a meeting of the county Republican Party Tuesday.

### INDEX

- Classified 9-11
- Features 5
- Obituaries 2
- Opinion 4
- Sports 7



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### FAMILIES OF THE YEAR

The Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas has announced the three families to be honored at this year's Family of the Year Banquet, Oct. 26, at Green Tree Country Club in Midland.

Big Spring: Ken and Elesha McMeans Family, Sharissa, RoChelle, and Jonathan.

Midland: John and Lisa Cherry Family, Hayden, Haley and Holden.

Odessa: Mike and Phyllis George Family, Jay, Ryan and Phil.

The banquet will feature guest speaker and best selling author Carol Kuykendall. For information about sponsorships and tickets call, (432) 563-4144.

### PEP RALLY SET THURSDAY

The annual community wide pep rally will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Comanche Trail Park amphitheater.

Athletes from all Big Spring High School fall sports, including football, volleyball, swimming, cross country and tennis, as well as the band and cheerleaders, will participate in the event.

The Big Spring Steers' football season begins Sept. 1 at home when they host Odessa High School.

Tim Holt, the athletic director/head football coach at Big Spring ISD, will address the crowd.

The pep rally is free to the public. For more information, call at 264-3641.

### UW DINE OUT DAY

Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg, is the Dine Out Day restaurant Friday for United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

A portion of the restaurant's proceeds that day will be donated to United Way. Also, make plans now to attend the United Way luncheon Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church's Garrett Hall.

Tickets, \$10 each are available at the chamber of commerce, the United Way office at 806 Scurry or the First Bank of West Texas.

United Way of Big Spring and Howard County serves 15 local agencies.



# Council approves 2006-2007 city budget

## Councilwoman Stephanie Horton provides lone 'nay' vote, says council should cut taxes

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Big Spring City Council approved the first reading of its \$32.2 million budget Tuesday night on a 6-1 vote following a public hearing that drew no comments from residents. The budget, which manages to come in approximately \$346,000 below expected revenues for the fiscal year and provides for a number of improvements to city facilities, including T-hangers at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark and an automatic meter reading program for the city water department, didn't get a thumbs-up from everyone, however. Councilwoman Stephanie Horton blasted the fiscal plan, which is based on a 71.63 cent per \$100 valuation tax rate, saying the city should lower taxes and "cut people a break."

"I have to fight for these people that do not have the money. We have people that can't afford a penny increase," said Horton. "We have got to consider these people, and to just go ahead and prepare (the budget) with the high taxes and just say, 'Let's do it,' and not prepare what we would be out of if we didn't. What if we didn't do the increase?" Mayor Russ McEwen rebutted Horton's claim the council wasn't informed of the tax rate the budget was built upon. "I believe the staff, in fact, appraised us of that Mrs. Horton, during the budget work sessions," said McEwen. "And I felt the council was very well directed in the fact that if your valuation didn't go up, you're going to be paying the same taxes this year that you did last year. So I feel that..." "I feel that we could look at giving the people a break,"

interrupted Horton. "We didn't even try and we could have! That's what I'm speaking to the facts, and I just want to be heard tonight. I just want to be heard." A public hearing concerning the tax rate drew no comments from area citizens. And while Horton isn't pleased with the final revision of the budget, municipal water customers will certainly have a reason to cheer, as Peggy Walker, director of city finance, said there will be no water rate increases at this time. "They (Colorado River Municipal Water District) say our rate should not change," said Walker. "There will be some variation depending on the amount of water we purchase. But at this point, the staff doesn't recommend any kind of rate increase or pass-through based on CRMWD's rates. So there will be no

change. There are no rate increases." During budget work sessions, CRMWD officials projected a rate increase that totaled nearly \$230,000, which would have translated into a 12-cent per gallon increase for city water customers. Included in the 2006-2007 budget are:  
• \$26,000 for playground equipment for Birdwell Lane Park.  
• \$326,163 in cost of living and merit pay scale raises.  
• \$200,000 for the city's water line replacement program.  
• Several expenditures for the Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, including \$28,500 for field data software, a pair of defibrillators at \$22,000 and a new van-style ambulance for \$70,000.  
• \$40,000 for the construction of a stone chapel at the municipal cemetery.

• \$23,500 to match a \$211,500 grant from TxDOT for runways and airfield lighting at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark; \$100,000 to match a \$150,000 grant from TxDOT for the construction of new aircraft hangars.  
• \$160,000 for five new police vehicles.  
• \$240,000 for repairs and rehabilitation of equipment at water treatment plants. The council also appointed local resident Frank Parker to the board of directors for Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. during the meeting. Parker will take over for board member Joyce Crooker, who stepped in to fill an unexpired term last year.

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

## PLEA

Continued from Page 1

ter example than to say we don't approve of smoking in public places." Business owner Scott Emerson, the proprietor of a local tobacco shop, said he felt the matter went much deeper than just the convenience of smoking in a public place. "I do not believe that your designation of public places is correct," said Emerson. "My private business is open to the public, but it is still my personal property. I pay taxes on it and I collect

sales taxes for you. I really think my rights as a citizen of Big Spring are slowly being erased, and I wish you, as a council, would rethink this issue just because I don't think you have any place in small business to tell a property owner what they can do." Emerson wasn't the only local business owner to speak against the ordinance, as Katy Strain, speaking on behalf of Red Mesa Grill owner Cindy McGuire, also voiced her opposition to the measure. "Places have chosen to go non-smoking, and that is their choice," said Strain. "We should be allowed, as private business owners, to make the decision ourselves whether to be smoking or non-smoking." "We all agree the areas most affected are restaurants



Rick Dyer

**Do you have an opinion on the city's smoking ban? Send your letters to the Herald at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721 or by e-mail to editor@bigspringherald.com**

and bars, as most other places already have laws that you cannot smoke. Customers will select where they want to go, and that will dictate the smoking rule in the individual establishment through free enterprise. No one has the right to force owners to alter their own business. That is a fact that is protected by the Constitution." Also among the speakers was local businessman Ronnie Wood, who said he feels he has a somewhat unique perspective of smoking and its cost to the health and well being of the community. "I'm a cancer survivor. I've spent numerous weeks and months at the M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston and seen first hand what cancer can do to people," said Wood. "Realizing tobacco and tobacco smoke doesn't cause all forms of cancer,

it does cause a lot of them." "I support your ban on smoking in public places. It would be beneficial to the health of the individuals sitting in these restaurants and other places where smoking is being carried on, and I support anything you or any other city can do to eliminate that. As a health risk, it's an extremely expensive thing to pay for all of the things that go on to help resolve all of those illnesses." Barbie Jones, a representative of the American Cancer Society, also expressed her support of the ordinance and urged the city to remove language from the order that would allow restaurant owners to create sealed smoking areas that include separate heating and air conditioning systems. "Second-hand smoke has contributed to a lot of

different health issues with our citizens, but the most are with our children," said Jones. "Between 150,000 and 300,000 upper respiratory tract infections happen yearly and 26,000 new cases of asthma are treated every year because of second-hand smoke. It makes asthma worse every year for up to 1 million children, and that's just the children. That doesn't take into account the adults that have the same problem." "I would recommend to the council that you do not make an exception for businesses to have separate heating and air conditioning systems to allow smoking sections. By not allowing it at all, you level the playing field for all businesses, some of which do not have the money to provide these types of facilities." "People are not going to stop going out to eat just because they can't smoke their cigarettes," she said. "Just like non-smokers have continued to go out to eat, even though we have to deal with the smoking." Local resident Rick

Dyer disagreed with Jones, saying the ordinance was a violation of his rights. "I've talked to people, and I'm upset about this because I have rights, too," said Dyer. "If you don't want to smoke, that's fine. We're over on the other side of the building. I don't know where she (Jones) got her information from, but she didn't go out and talk to the public."

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

## BAN

Continued from Page 1

Councilwoman Stephanie Horton, who reminded Ramirez of the dangers of second-hand smoke. "I've been in the health field for many years, and many people come in that have cancer and have never smoked. However, the person that they are living with does. It's from second-hand smoke," Horton said plainly. Council member Joann Knox compared the ordinance to state laws that govern the preparation and sale of food through licensing and inspections, saying the ordinance is protecting the public. "I respect the fact that someone owns the business and purchases the property," said Knox. "However, I'm certainly glad that at some point many cities and states say if you're going to cook foods then you're going to follow sanitation rules. The United States is a place where we govern our businesses in order to

protect our citizens." The most emotional observation from the council came from Councilwoman Gloria McDonald, however, who said she received many calls on the issue, but one that stood out head and shoulders above the rest. "I had a lot of calls about this. Some of them were against the ordinance, but I'd have to say about 80 percent of them were for it. But the most unusual call was from an 11-year-old supporting it," said McDonald very emo-

tionally. Final reading of the ordinance is expected to be considered during the Sept. 12 meeting of the council. Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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## COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

ity of students — more than 600 — registered online. "The students loved it," Merrick said of online registration. "There were no long lines. It went so

smoothly ... because we didn't have the long lines of 300 to 400 students we usually get." Officials expect registration figures to rise significantly in the next few days. Late registration at the Big Spring campus will be held Monday through Friday beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day. Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

When all is said and done, Merrick said she is hopeful the Big Spring campus will have around 1,300 students enrolled in classes.

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# EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Let's remember that voting is real patriotism

Are you truly patriotic? Buying and displaying patriotic symbols ... just waving the flag isn't enough. The real test to determine how patriotic we here in West Texas is to simply look at the number of people who vote.

You see, exercising one's right to go to the polls, participating in the determination as to who will govern us, is probably the most patriotic thing most of us will ever do.

And there's no question in our collective mind that voting is a far greater show of patriotism than waving a flag or wearing the red, white and blue.

So, if you aren't registered, get registered. The cutoff date to register in order to vote in the November general election will be here quicker than most realize.

Howard County 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.

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, Bloom said.

If you're one of those who aren't sure about the status of their registration, find out. You can get more information by simply calling Bloom at 264-2273.

"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, 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.

Several bond issues — at a combined \$35 million — are expected to find their way onto the November ballot.

Not to mention the numerous state and national offices which will be determined with our votes.

So make sure you're registered this year and then make sure you go to the polls.

It is, after all, the truly patriotic thing to do.

## LETTER POLICIES

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- Sign your letter.

- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.

- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.

- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*We determine our own destiny, Lord, may we decide to walk with You.*

Amen

# Prayers ask for Castro's demise

Call me superstitious, credulous, gullible, irrational — I don't care! All I know is that I witnessed a miracle when I hung up my favorite painting on my living room wall back on July 31.

I had purchased the painting — by the late Cuban artist Manuel Mesa — more than a month earlier. But since my home had been undergoing renovations, I had kept it in a box until the construction dust had settled.

I didn't want dirt damaging my new work of art.

The painting, created in 1952, is an image of a bunch of Cubans playing musical instruments, dancing and paying tribute to Our Lady of Charity, the Cuban version of the Virgin Mary. It's called "Un Toque de Violin Para La Virgen" or "Playing Violin for the Virgin."

She is Cuba's patron saint, the one to which Cubans, myself included, have been praying for centuries, the one we always hoped would free us from the Fidel Castro dictatorship. Her image, in the background of the party, is the main reason why I bought the painting.

And so there I was, admiring my new acquisition — a reprint of the original oil on canvas — and asking myself how much longer Cubans would have to wait to throw such a wild party. How

much longer would we have to pray to our Lady of Charity before she granted us our greatest wish?

That's when my phone rang. It was my friend and colleague Mike Kelly, who spoke with a tone of urgency.

"Miguel, do you know what's going on in Cuba?" he asked. "Put on your TV. Fidel Castro has been operated. He is real sick and he has delegated his power to his brother Raul."

I didn't tell Mike my immediate reaction. He was going to think I'm crazy. But I told myself "wow, I have a miraculous painting!"

It was created in 1952, some seven years before Castro rose to power. But the image on my wall had taken a new significance. Now I know what those Cubans are celebrating.

When I turned on the TV, following Mike's instructions, I saw South Florida Cubans already celebrating. But I kept staring at my painting, because it was telling me more than the television.

After 47 years of the Castro dictatorship, our prayers had been answered.

For the next couple of days, my phone didn't stop ringing. All my non-Cuban friends wanted to know how I felt about Castro's illness and impending death.

"Do you think he is already dead?" they would ask.

"God, I hope so," I would say. "Frankly, I would have preferred if he is overthrown and dragged through the streets of Havana. But I'll take anything — cancer, a stroke, a bullet, you name it!"

Some people found it hard to accept that we Cubans would celebrate someone's demise, that we would rejoice over an illness, that we would pray for someone's death.

"So how do you feel about Osama Bin Laden?" I would ask. "Should he be dead or alive?"

That was usually enough to make my point. But for those who needed further clarification, I explained that men responsible for the death of thousands, like Castro and Bin Laden, don't deserve to live.

I explained that many of those dancing in Miami streets may have lost friends and relatives to Castro's firing squads, or spent years in Castro dungeons for political prisoners, or risked their lives on a raft to flee from the continent's most repressive regime, or lost a lifetime of work, sacrifice and accomplishments because the dictator decided to confiscate their businesses, properties and other possessions.

I explained that among the celebrants there were many young, U.S.-born Cubans whose parents or grandparents died in Miami while waiting for their homeland to be free.

"How do you not want him dead?" I would ask. "How do you not pray for God to put an end to so much suffering?"

Frankly, had I known my painting's miraculous effect, I would have hung it up a lot sooner.

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## BUSH



MAKES A BLACK WOMAN THE FACE OF HIS ADMINISTRATION

## BUSH HATER



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# Big Island's narrow, winding roads

We'll go back to the Big Island of Hawaii. We did a lot in the week we were there, but there are so many more things we want to see and do.

Like malasadas. Portuguese donuts. We never had any. They are hot items on the BI. When we went to a bakery to get some, they were sold out.

I also want to spend more time at Polulu, one of the most scenic spots.

I want to perhaps stay at Waimea, voted one of the top places to live in the U.S.

I want to visit the seahorse farm between Kona's airport and harbor.

We had visited Oahu and Kawai before and fell in love with both of those islands, but the Big Island seems to be more diverse. The beautiful flowers and trees are there, for sure. At intersections of main streets in Kona, acres of pink and white bougainvillea drape the hillsides.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

We visited coffee and macadamia plantations; saw bananas, papayas and mangos ripening on trees. We saw fan palms and coconut palms. Coconuts fall from trees without much notice and some people get hurt every year when a coconut bonks them on their heads.

We went to the Sheraton nearly every night to watch the manta rays feed on plankton. The hotel has a big overlook and shines bright lights into the water so visitors can see the huge sea creatures maneuver along the rocky shoreline. The manta rays have a wingspan of 16 feet and their movements are mesmerizing.

We drove along the island's perimeter, stopping occasionally to visit a waterfall, intriguing valley, or botanical garden.

Most roads are only two lanes and if you can drive 40 mph, you're doing well. We watched pilot whales accompany us when we took a boat ride in the Pacific.

We watched giant sea turtles come ashore to lay eggs.

We lunched at a beachside restaurant and saw people of all ages play in the surf with boogie boards.

We stood at high overlooks and

looked down at places where the water meets the land.

The Pacific's water is warm, and near the shore, it displays at least half a dozen colors — from deep blue to a light turquoise.

We went to the place where the Hawaiian Islands were first formed by tons of lava shot into the air from a volcano. We walked through clouds of steam coming from deep inside the earth. We had a picnic while watching boiling lava hit the sea.

Perhaps our greatest adventure was watching a sunset from the top of Mauna Kea, the tallest volcano on the island (elevation 13,922 feet). From sea floor to summit it towers more than 5.6 miles. The summit is covered with observatories, which attract astronomers from all over the world. Big Island residents ski and snow board on the summit in the winter when it is covered with snow.

We wore heavy parkas and big gloves when we were there in late July. The temperature was 32 degrees, quite different from the 100-degree weather along the coast.

The Big Island is 120 miles north to south, 100 miles east to west.

# Why not check this out? Befuddled in Big Spring

**S**top! Did you hear that? You have to listen very carefully for it. It is the sound of the approaching Friends of Howard County Library Book Sale. Friday, Sept. 15 at 10 a.m., the doors to the basement will open and hordes of people will be galloping downstairs to snatch up books, records and books on tape/CD. The sale will continue



HOLLIS  
MCCRIGHT

Saturday, Sept. 16, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Donations are still being accepted. You can bring boxed or bagged books to the Library during regular library hours. We would rather not take Reader's Digest books, magazines or icky/dirty books. If you have books in good, clean condition, please bring them in.

New books have just been processed and are ready to be checked out. Margaret George (in a review from *Publishers Weekly*) depicts with bravado, grace and eloquence the grand spectacle surrounding Helen of Troy.

In "Helen of Troy," the author's research enlivens a bold story pulsing with romance and sacrifice, omens and battles. Helen's noble Spartan parents try to defy the fates when a seer foretells the tragedy Helen and her legendary beauty will cause, but, as the myth of Helen demonstrates, destiny cannot be altered. George's extraordinary storytelling abilities shine in her portrayal of Helen as both a conflicted woman who abandoned her homeland and child for true love, and as a legendary figure whose beauty and personal choices had epic consequences.

A couple of biographies are in. "Before the Legend: The Rise of Bob Marley" (B MAR B) by Christopher John Farley, is the story of Bob Marley, a reggae star who brought the sound of third world countries out to the masses. From interviews of close personal friends, his wife, children and bandmates, an entirely new view emerges. For golfing enthusiasts, John Daly is a maverick. A recovering alcoholic, bellicose in nature and a tremendous golfer, Daly and co-author Glen Waggoner exposes his inner

demons in "My Life In & Out of the Rough."

Merrill Markoe, in her new book "Walking in Circles Before Lying Down" (F MAR M), delivers a light-on-its-paws account of dog-lover Dawn Tarnauer's canine-led quest for love. Twice-divorced Dawn is the product of a dysfunctional family. Her dog, Chuck, begins talking to her after dud radio-DJ boyfriend Paxton dumps her. Though other dogs can also suddenly communicate with Dawn, Chuck remains the leading pooch as he plies his master with sage advice and astute observations. Dawn goes through losing her job, getting mixed with wacky men, etc. When Chuck runs away, Dawn may realize that unconditional love is not a guarantee, unless it comes from a dog. Now cats are a totally different concept.

Some mysteries just in: P.J. Tracy's "Snow Blind" (a Monkeewrench novel); "Prey for a Miracle" (a Sister Agatha mystery) by Aimee and David Thurlo; and — this is a new author for the library — George Pelecanos has written "The Night Gardner."

New Non-Fiction: "The One Percent Doctrine: Deep Inside America's Pursuit of Its Enemies Since 9/11" by Ron Suskind is a troubling portrait of the war on terror, America's intelligence agencies and the Bush administration's politicized incompetence. Journalist Suskind follows the triumphs and failures of the "invisibles" — the counterterrorism experts at the NSA, the FBI and especially the CIA — as they painstakingly track terrorists' communications and financial transactions, interrogate prisoners and cultivate elusive al-Qaeda informants.

This is perhaps the most detailed, revealing account yet of American counterterrorism efforts and a hard-hitting critique of their direction.

Have you watched "Shalom in the Home" on TLC? It is where a rabbi interacts with a family to try and change behavior so that the family becomes a strong, positive, loving family. In "Ten Conversations You Need to Have With Your Children" (649.7 BOT S) author Shmuley Boteach writes about how to really touch and communicate with your children. Topics range from how to develop intellectual curiosity, know who you are and what you want to become and to be a fearless and courageous person.

There are truly some magical strategies.

This is an interesting book: "All the President's Children: Triumph and Tragedy in the Lives of America's First Families" (973.099 WEA D) by Doug Wead. He has researched the lives of all the presidents and writes about what happened to each child. Al Gore's book "An Inconvenient Truth: The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can Do About It" (363.738 GOR A) has arrived.

A new cookbook has arrived: "Big Sky Cooking" (641.597 BRO M) by Meredith Brokaw is a combination travel book and cook book. Beautiful photos of the Big Sky country coupled with some great recipes. Something a little less pretentious is Rachel Ray's "Express Lane Meals" (641.555 RAY R). She talks about what to have on hand for quick, easy meals on the go.

Howard County Library hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday. Beginning Sept. 9, we will resume our Saturday hours of 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The Library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is manager of the Howard County Library.

**A**nother school year has begun and once again supplies were purchased. Accompanying me to the store was my son, John, who has started his freshman year at Forsan. As the school year approached I mistakenly assumed the list would be short: Pens, pencils, notebook paper, a binder — that would suffice.



ANDREA  
MEDLIN

Because we had supplies left from previous years, he was set and ready to go, or so I thought.

No, instead he came home with two lists that included items we didn't already have. Once again, I was befuddled.

Back we went to get batteries, antibacterial wipes, book covers and a straight edge (whatever that is).

Whatever happened to using paper bags for book covers? They were a heck of a lot cheaper and could be customized per the owner's discretion.

Five were purchased at almost \$4 each for something that looked like a shower cap. Convenient for those who study in the shower. At least the book's binding will remain dry. Who cares about the pages?

Next on the list was the "straight edge." To me a straight edge would be a

piece of notebook paper folded in half a few times and creased with a fingernail. Worked well enough when I was in school.

Scratching my head and looking around to see if the other parents were doing the same, we searched. And searched some more.

However, I didn't see anything like that hanging on the shelves so we finally settled on a long metal ruler. Then it occurred to me that the students are not allowed to have toothpicks at school because they could be used as a weapon.

This really had me scratching my head.

Why would anyone choose a toothpick as a weapon? The way they are made these days it would snap in two as soon as it made contact. That is if it didn't break before you got it out of its plastic wrapper.

Black or blue and red ink pens were on the list too. Hmmm. And what about that straight edge?

No, I'm not a malicious person and I certainly don't want to give any such ideas, but some things do make my scalp itchy.

Like why people wear their pajama's and fuzzy slippers to the store.

Anyway, we made it out of the store with everything and truthfully the list is shorter.

Fortunately, I only have one to buy for, so our expenses are small compared to families with several children.

Thank goodness for the Salvation Army, which provides for the less fortunate, and businesses like StarTek which help out their employees.

We count our blessings.

We look forward to another school year. John will be provided two meals and I don't have to worry about him being alone at the house while his father and I are at work. Oh yeah, and he is learning lots of stuff, too. Things that were reserved for the "Gifted and Talented" when I was in high school. If befuddlement were a course I would have been an honor student.

If you notice a me tooling around town in my mini-van scratching my head I'm probably wondering why there are so many cigarette butts on the ground.

And where the heck did I put my pocket ashtray?

To contact Andrea Medlin call the Herald at 263-7331.

## Contract Bridge

Haste Makes Waste

North dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ 9 6 3  
♥ 10 7 4  
♠ A 5  
♣ A Q 10 5

**WEST**  
♦ A K 7 4  
♥ 8 3  
♠ K J 6 3  
♣ 9 4 2

**EAST**  
♦ 2  
♥ 6 5  
♠ 10 9 8 7 4  
♣ K J 8 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ Q J 10 8 5  
♥ A K Q 9 2  
♠ Q 2  
♣ 7

The bidding:  
North East South West  
Pass Pass 1♦ Pass  
2NT Pass 3♥ Pass  
4♥

Opening lead — king of spades.  
Assume you're West and your opponents get to four hearts on the bidding shown. You're unlikely to beat the contract on high cards alone, so you lead the king of spades, hoping to engineer a spade ruff for East.  
When dummy shows up with three spades, your wishes are answered, since East is marked by the bidding with a singleton spade even though he plays the discourag-

ing deuce on your king. He cannot have a doubleton spade — with that holding he would have started a high-low signal.

However, you must not be so swept away by the brilliance of your analysis that you hastily continue with the ace and another spade. East would ruff, all right, but South would then take the rest of the tricks after drawing trumps and discarding dummy's diamond loser on one of his high spades.

Instead, you should lead a low spade at trick two rather than the ace! Once you do this, South is doomed. East ruffs and returns a diamond, and you now have declarer over a barrel, since you're bound to score a spade and a diamond to put the contract down one.

In fact, South will probably go down two — 200 points — against this defense. After East returns a diamond at trick three, South will probably draw two rounds of trumps and lead a club to the queen, hoping to discard his diamond loser on the ace of clubs if the finesse succeeds. This attempt to salvage the contract would fail, and after you collect a diamond and a spade, you would have a right to congratulate yourself for a well-planned defense.

Tomorrow: The serendipity factor.  
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## State briefs

## Fires continue in Texas

CADDO (AP) — Firefighters constructed fire breaks and attacked hot spots Tuesday as they battled a series of fires burning in West Central Texas.

The Caddo II Complex fire in Stephens and Palo Pinto counties has been burning since last week, consuming about 7,500 acres. Rugged and rocky terrain dotted with canyons makes it difficult to contain the fire, said Texas Forest Service spokeswoman Traci Weaver.

Helicopters and firefighters on Tuesday doused the flames with water, built breaks to stop the fire and burned pockets of fuel that could feed the blaze. The Caddo II Complex, which is made up of four fires, remains about 50 percent contained, Weaver said.

It started Friday night in an area about 85 miles west of Fort Worth and burned a hunting cabin on Saturday. The Caddo II Complex fire is believed to have been sparked by a truck with a blowout riding on its rim.

Lightning sparked another fire in Palo Pinto County that has consumed more than 1,780 acres. It was about 95 percent contained by Tuesday, the Texas Forest Service said.

Lightning also caused several small fires in East Texas, officials said.

This is the worst year on record for wildfires, which have already claimed more than 1.9 million acres across the state since January.

## Cameron County jails meeting state standards

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Cameron County Jails are now complying with state standards, and a remedial order issued against the county over the facilities' problems could soon be lifted.

An inspection of the county's jail system conducted by staff from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards last month found the facilities were in compliance, according to public records.

"We did very well," said Chief Deputy Gus Reyna. "We were found satisfactory."

Cameron County had faced possible action by the Texas Attorney General's Office for failing to comply. During a May meeting, the state commission voted to request the Attorney General's Office take action to enforce the remedial order, public records show.

The commission didn't discuss lifting the remedial order during a meeting this month. It could be lifted during the commission's next meeting in November. The Brownsville Herald reported for Wednesday editions.

The commission initially addressed the August 2003 remedial order to Cameron County Judge Gilberto Hinojosa and former Sheriff Conrado Cantu. It said there wasn't enough staff to handle inmates.

Understaffing and other setbacks persisted through the years, continuing the order into Sheriff Omar Lucio's administration, which took office on Jan. 1.

Problems found included inmates not being properly classified or housed accordingly, a portion of the smoke and fume removal system at Detention Center I not working properly and intercoms at the downtown facility and the fire alarm system at the Carrizalez-

Rucker Detention Center not functioning.

## Los Fresnos principal cuts students' hair

LOS FRESNOS (AP) — Los Fresnos High School Principal Virginia Miller had an answer for several male students whose hair reached below their collars when they returned to school. She pulled a pair of scissors from her desk and gave them a trim.

About four boys needed to have their hair cut last week to meet the school's dress code, said school district spokeswoman Birdie Rodriguez.

The boys were given three options, including having their hair cut at school, Rodriguez said.

"They chose to have their hair trimmed at the bottom so it would not go on beyond their collar. It was all voluntary," Rodriguez said in a story in Wednesday's *Valley Morning Star*.

The other options are in-school suspensions for the rest of the day or a call home to have someone take them to get their hair cut. The options are listed in the school handbook given to the nearly 2,200 students, Rodriguez said.

Miller will continue to use her scissors for trims if students come to school with their hair too long and choose that option, Rodriguez said.

Roy Morris, a junior, said he tried to take in-school

suspension but that Miller insisted on the other choice.

"She just said basically, 'I want to cut your hair,'" Morris said.

## BP holds off on building on Pelican Island

GALVESTON (AP) — BP PLC has shelved plans to build a liquefied natural gas facility in Pelican Island. The U.K.-based energy giant said it chose to hold off for now on the \$650 million project because of economics, not the resistance it encountered.

"There has been tremendous support within Galveston but at the same time, this was strictly a business decision: It was not related to litigation and has nothing to do with Galveston politics," said BP spokesman Neil Geary.

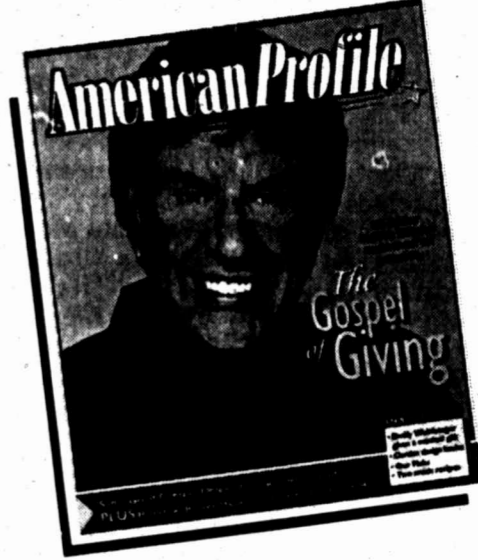
BP officials said Tuesday they still plan to renew a \$50,000 lease option with the Galveston Wharves board for the 185-acre site.

su | do | ku

© 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](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

In Sunday's  
Big Spring Herald

## Bill Gaither's Gospel

Bill Gaither is the world's most successful Christian songwriter, performer and music-businessman. For the last four decades, he has lived a childhood dream built on his love of gospel music and helping others. Plus, garden design basics and snack recipes.

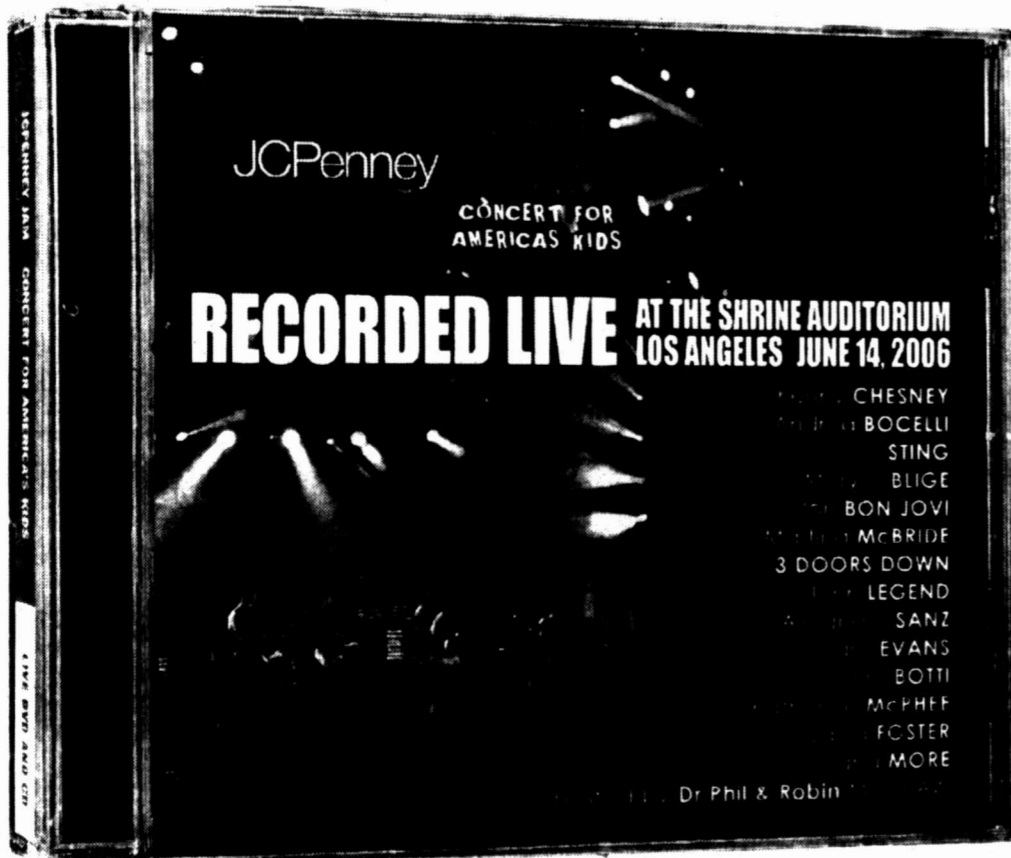
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Renee Olstead  
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David Foster

Hosted by Dr. Phil & Robin McGraw

## Features:

- The Making of JCPenney JAM • Concert Photo Gallery
- The JCPenney Afterschool Fund • Artist Portraits

## The Concert for America's Kids

On June 14, 2006, some of the biggest names in music came together to raise awareness of America's need for quality afterschool programs. This once in a lifetime collaboration resulted in a history-making performance: "JCPenney JAM: Concert for America's Kids." If you'd like to donate to this important cause, please visit [www.jcpennyafterschool.org](http://www.jcpennyafterschool.org)

\*Sting, Jon Bon Jovi & Mary J. Blige were recorded at a different location



# Sports

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Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call 263-7331. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 7  
Wednesday, August 23, 2006

## 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.

Families with 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 816-3456.

### Gatlin receives an 8-year USADA ban

Justin Gatlin chose to cooperate with the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, a move that could help the sprinter's reputation but still imperils his eligibility for the Beijing Olympics.

USADA handed down an eight-year ban to Gatlin on Tuesday the result of an agreement in which Gatlin accepts his positive tests for testosterone or other steroids but retains his right to appeal.

## Devil Rays stymie Rangers' playoff plans

By The Associated Press

The Texas Rangers playoff drive stalled in Florida.

Rocco Baldelli and Ben Zobrist hit consecutive sacrifice flies in the seventh inning, helping the Tampa Bay Devil Rays beat the Rangers 5-3 Tuesday night.

Michael Young hit a two-run single for the Rangers, who have lost the first two games of a four-game series against the Devil Rays. Texas is 6 1/2 games behind the AL West-leading Oakland Athletics.

"Nobody likes to lose ball games, no matter where it is,"

Texas center fielder Gary Matthews Jr. said. "I don't care if it's in Tampa Bay, or Yankee Stadium, or in Oakland. You've got two choices. You can spend the night mad about it, or you can make the adjustments like we did in Detroit and come back out and do what you've got to do."

In other American League action, it was: Seattle 6, New York 5; Los Angeles 4, Boston 3; Detroit 4, Chicago 0; Baltimore 6, Minnesota 3; Toronto 4, Oakland 3; and Kansas City 5, Cleveland 2.

In National League games, it was: Cincinnati 14, Houston 0;

New York 8, St. Louis 7; San Diego 1, Los Angeles 0; Florida 7, Washington 5; Pittsburgh 5, Atlanta 3; Milwaukee 4, Colorado 1; Philadelphia 6, Chicago Cubs 3; and San Francisco 7, Arizona 6.

Texas came to Tampa Bay after taking three of four at Detroit.

Baldelli's flyball off Vicente Padilla (12-8) tied it at 3, and Zobrist drove in the go-ahead run on a drive to center. Travis Lee extended lead to 5-3 with an eighth-inning homer off Ron Mahay.

Shawn Camp (5-1) struck out two in a perfect seventh.

Seth McClung earned his second save despite loading the bases in the ninth. McClung allowed back-to-back singles to Ian Kinsler and Gerald Laird, then walked pinch-hitter Matt Stairs before retiring Young on a game-ending flyout.

"You're always nervous at the end," Devil Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "You've got one of the best hitters, the guy who won the All-Star game, up with the bases loaded, two outs in the ninth. I don't like that at all. I've always felt, if I was going to start

See RANGERS, Page 12

## Other receivers benefit with T.O.

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

SHREVEPORT, La. — Here's a juicy bit of news: Not having Terrell Owens the last few weeks actually has been a good thing for the Dallas Cowboys.

Don't get the wrong idea. The Cowboys definitely would've rather had their new lead receiver on the field, both to work with the rest of the offense and to cut down on the chatter generated by his lingering hamstring problem.

But his absence has forced more balls to be thrown to the unproven players fighting for backup jobs, and that's helped coaches sort through one of the team's biggest concerns of the preseason.

Undrafted rookie Sam Hurd and returning practice squad member Jamaica Rector seem to have taken the most advantage. After showing enough in practice last week to earn playing time with starting quarterback Drew Bledsoe, both fit in well with the first-teamers in a 30-7 victory over the New Orleans Saints on Monday night.

Hurd caught three passes for 30 yards, including a 13-yard touchdown that he had to fight off a defensive back to grab. Rector had three catches for 32 yards, all on that same scoring drive, including a 5-yarder on third-and-4 from the 23 that he made despite his defender being flagged for pass interference.

"I'm excited about the way they have played," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "It makes me feel good about me not breaking my neck to find another receiver."

Owens missed much of training camp because of a hamstring injury that may require further evaluation this week. Patrick Crayton, the projected No. 3 receiver, also has been out with an injury. Players were off Tuesday, with practices resuming Wednesday at team headquarters.

It's uncertain whether Owens will join the club then or for the next preseason game, Saturday night at home against San



Dallas Cowboys receiver Patrick Crayton reaches for the goal line during a Cowboys practice in Oxnard, Calif., earlier this month. With Terrell Owens sidelined by an injury, the Cowboys' other receivers have benefitted from additional playing time.

Francisco. Coach Bill Parcells was in no mood to discuss T.O. after the Saints game.

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

Terry Glenn was the most spectacular, providing a one-handed touchdown catch around his defender's head that should remind everyone Owens won't be Dallas' only game-breaking threat. He finished with 71 yards on four catches, showing no signs of problems with blisters that caused him to miss some time in training camp.

Terrence Copper, the only receiver on the roster besides Owens, Glenn and Crayton to have

caught a pass in a regular-season game, had two catches for 32 yards.

Miles Austin, another undrafted rookie, helped his chances with a 48-yard touchdown catch from backup quarterback Tony Romo.

Even before the top three receivers were hurting, the Cowboys already were looking for more candidates. They acquired one from Denver, but that trade was voided Friday because of a failed physical.

More moves could be in the works. And there's always the waiver wire once teams begin cutting players, with Dallas likely most interested in veterans.

Presuming Crayton

holds his job, Hurd is the likely front-runner for the fourth spot because he's learned the routes for all three receiving positions. He often works with Owens after practice and has made enough plays on the practice field for Bledsoe to trust him in the game.

For instance, consider this conversation before Hurd's touchdown: "I told him in the huddle to throw it up, and I would make a play for him," said Hurd, who did exactly that.

Coaches seem eager for Rector to succeed, too. They appreciate his hard work, especially in the weight room. He half-jokingly calls that a joke because, "I'm the smallest dude on the team."

"I kind of try to balance things out with my strength," said Rector, who is 5-foot-10, 186 pounds.

Rector's status could depend on whether the Cowboys keep five or six receivers. It also depends on whether Skyler Green is among them since Parcells considers him strictly a kick returner. The fourth-round pick had 37 yards on four punt returns Monday night, most on a 22-yarder, and took his only kickoff, 13 yards.

"He's in a tough battle for a job," Parcells said. "He's caught every punt that we've had this preseason. I can't give him any more work than that."

## Is there a muzzle in the commissioner's desk, too?

By JIM LITKE

AP Sports Columnist

You have to admire Bryant Gumbel's chutzpah, if not quite his timing or choice of words.

He bit a hand that's under contract to feed him this season — outgoing NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue's ring finger, no less — and got off with just a warning. This time.

Next time, though, Gumbel had better be right not just about what he says, but when and how he says it.

Eight days ago, the eponymous host of HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel," and soon-to-be

play-by-play broadcaster for the NFL's in-house network, addressed his closing remarks to incoming commissioner Roger Goodell:

"Before he cleans out his office," Gumbel said, "have Paul Tagliabue show you where he keeps Gene Upshaw's leash. By making the docile head of the players union his personal pet, your predecessor has kept the peace without giving players the kind of guarantees other pros take for granted."

"Try to make sure," he added, "no one competent ever replaces Upshaw on your watch."

What Gumbel said about

Upshaw being outmaneuvered by Tagliabue over guaranteed salaries is dead on.

Unlike their NBA and MLB counterparts, NFL players never see all the money or years promised in the splashy deals they sign. But that doesn't mean none of the dollars are guaranteed.

To get around the salary cap introduced in the 1993 collective bargaining agreement, NFL owners began negotiating "signing bonuses" — essentially lump-sum payments — and deferred most of the big salary years until the end of contracts, by which time few players are

still playing for teams that sign them.

No one denies the system is good for owners who like to take chances. But it can backfire, too, if a player is released, traded or waived too soon. That's how Redskins boss Dan Snyder, for example, got stuck with a \$92-million payroll in 2000, when the cap was only \$67 million.

The players no doubt would like all their money guaranteed, but they haven't minded taking the other side of that bet, either. Considering the average career

See LITKE, Page 12









WEDNESDAY

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels (WFAA, KMD, UNI, etc.) and rows representing time slots from 6:30 AM to 12:30 AM, listing various programs and their genres.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DID YOU HAFTA ASK HER TO DEMONSTRATE HOW SHE GOT HER BLACK BELT?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"It doesn't look anything like the flamingos we saw at the zoo."

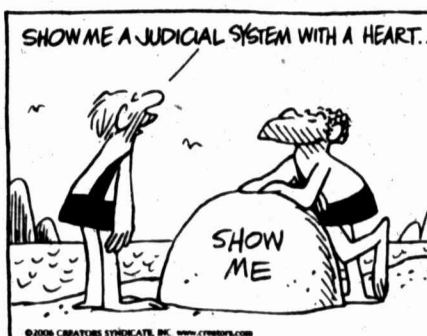
HAGAR



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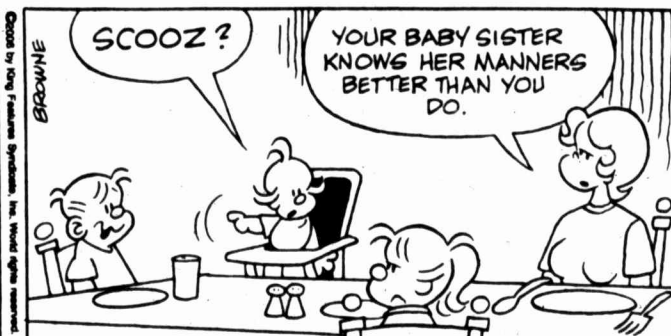
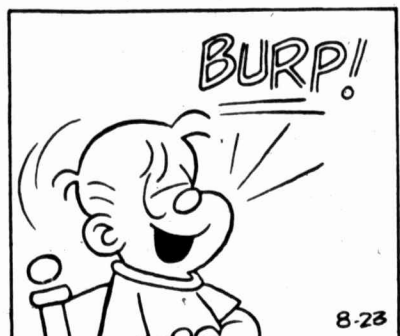
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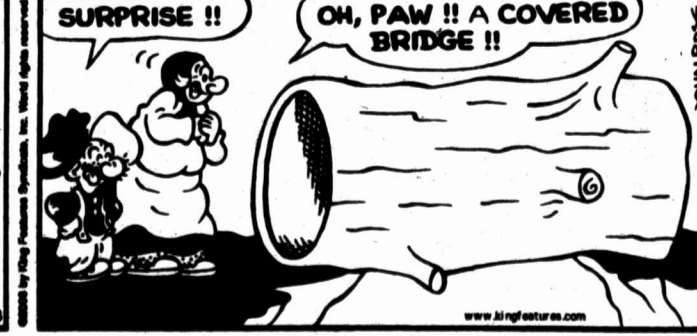
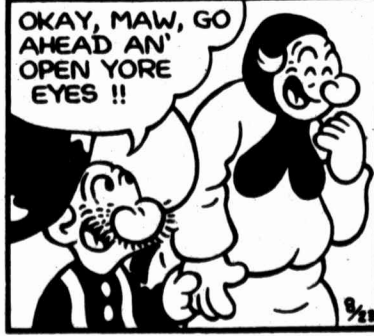
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press Today is Wednesday, Aug. 23, the 235th day of 2006. There are 130 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Aug. 23, 1927, Italian-born anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in Boston for the murders of two men during a 1920 robbery. (Sacco and Vanzetti were vindicated in 1977 by Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis.) On this date: In 1754, France's King Louis XVI was born at Versailles. In 1775, Britain's King George III proclaimed the American colonies in a state of 'open and avowed rebellion.' In 1914, Japan declared war against Germany in World War I. In 1926, silent film star Rudolph Valentino died in New York at age 31. In 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a non-aggression treaty in Moscow. In 1944, Romanian prime minister Ion Antonescu was dismissed by King Michael, paving the way for Romania to abandon the Axis in favor of the Allies. In 1960, Broadway librettist Oscar Hammerstein II died in Doylestown, Pa. In 1972, the Republican national convention, meeting in Miami Beach, Fla., nominated Vice President Spiro T. Agnew for a second term. In 1982, Lebanon's parliament elected Christian militia leader Bashir Gemayel president. (However, Gemayel was assassinated some three weeks later.) In 1986, Gennadiy Zakharov, a physicist assigned to the United Nations, was arrested by the FBI and charged with espionage. (Zakharov's arrest was followed a week later by the arrest of American Nicholas Daniloff in the Soviet Union.) Today's Birthdays: Movie director Robert Mulligan is 81. Actress Vera Miles is 76. Political satirist Mark Russell is 74. Actress Barbara Eden is 72. Actor Richard Sanders is 66. Ballet dancer Patricia McBride is 64. Former Surgeon General Antonia Novello is 62. Country singer Rex Allen Jr. is 59. Singer Linda Thompson is 59. Actress Shelley Long is 57. Actor-singer Rick Springfield is 57. Country singer-musician Woody Paul (Riders in the Sky) is 57. Queen Noor of Jordan is 55.

Answer to previous puzzle: A crossword puzzle grid with the words: BEST, WEED, ABHOR, AUTO, AXLE, TIARA, TRUE, RISE, EGRET, SOBSISTER, OBESE, DAS, FUR, TVSHOW, TORTOISE, HALOS, PINE, TRIP, ELAL, CARED, HOME, TONY, ALES, PENCE, ARTFORMS, HORSES, AUNT, GAL, RANTS, DENMOTHER, ALOHA, ORAL, HIDE, PANEL, LITE, ARID, SNORE, TEST, WETS.

Newsday Crossword

TOY STORY by Shirley Soloway

- ACROSS: 1 Curved lines, 5 Specifies, 10 "It can't be!", 14 Comic actor Lahr, 15 Tolkien hero, 16 Australian birds, 17 Completed, 18 Very helpful one, 20 Wife of Jason, 22 From Rome: Abbr., 23 \_\_\_-no replay, 24 Erupts in anger, 28 Royal address, 29 Overseas, 33 Civil War side: Abbr., 36 Valuable possession, 39 Soup pod, 40 Don't patronize, 44 Neighborhood, 45 Place for a manicure, 46 Immigrant's course: Abbr., 47 Talking bird, 50 Coal dust, 52 Extend cooperation to, 58 French friend, 61 Latin love, 62 Actress Lotte, 63 Dismissive exclamation, 67 Egyptian biters, 68 Facts, 69 Former Red head, 70 Sharp, 71 Votes against, 72 Moved sideways, 73 RBI, for one, 19 Drop of liquid, 21 From Laos, say, 25 Hedging words, 26 Houses in trees, 27 Ship's front, 30 Grapes of Wrath figure, 31 Map after fine or graphic, 32 Writer Roald, 33 British fellow, 34 Mystery author Paretsky, 35 State with confidence, 37 Epoch, 38 Midwest oil city, 41 O.K. Corral lawman, 42 Fan setting, 43 Rounded hill, 48 Nivea competitor, 49 Mexican food, 51 Makes adjustments to, 53 Like a pair of oxen, 54 Raise, with "up", 55 Map section, 56 Assertive personality, 57 Lacks, 58 Rural resister's word, 59 Poet Van Duyn, 60 Questionable, 64 Spanish article, 65 Suit accessory, 66 Conclusion

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 73 indicating the starting positions for the words listed in the adjacent list.

FILE: Dave... by... one of... deals in... Virgo... d to be... with glitz... mey, and... d with... purity... honest... nts a sin... al laugh... ence. A... successful... future.

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RS SYN-

Oklahoma banned players from working at car dealership

By JEFF LATZKE
AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma has banned its athletes from working at a car dealership where two football players — including the team's starting quarterback — broke NCAA rules by accepting payment for more work than they performed.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops dismissed starting quarterback Rhett Bomar and his roommate, offensive lineman J.D. Quinn, on Aug. 2 after the university's compliance staff uncovered the violations. After the dismissals, Stoops said that Bomar and Quinn "knowingly" broke the rules.

The dealership is under new management, and the current owners cooperated with the university's investigation, according to the report. In the report, the university said it compared athletes' time cards with class schedules, summer workouts, practice schedules and other time commitments and found no evidence that other athletes were "paid for working during prac-

tion. "We got our chances," Young said. "We just didn't get it done. I'm sure we'd like to get some of those at-bats back tonight." Scott Kazmir struck out eight in six innings, allowing three runs, four hits and one walk. It was his third start since missing almost three weeks with left shoulder inflammation, and he is winless in six starts since a 2-0 two-hitter over Boston on July 3.

things, make sure they're working hard, um, and to make sure things were done right." "I had specifically asked to make sure, um, that they're working the hours they're supposed to work, that they're getting paid as they should, that they're treating them like you would your other employees," Stoops said in the interview. Oklahoma's internal investigation was sparked by an anonymous e-mail to university President David Boren on March 3. The university previously had investigated the circumstances by which tailback Adrian Peterson bought a car and then returned it to the dealership several weeks later, determining it did not violate NCAA regulations.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7
a team, he might be the first player I'd pick, Michael Young." Texas went 2-for-12 with runners in scoring posi-

tion. "We got our chances," Young said. "We just didn't get it done. I'm sure we'd like to get some of those at-bats back tonight."

allowing three runs, four hits and one walk. It was his third start since missing almost three weeks with left shoulder inflammation, and he is winless in six starts since a 2-0 two-hitter over Boston on July 3.

The 22-year-old left-hander became the Devil Rays' career strikeout leader with 378, breaking the mark set by Victor Zambrano (372). Kazmir was acquired from the New York Mets for

er deal on July 30, 2004. "A little bit ironic," Kazmir said. "I'm just grateful for the Devil Rays taking a chance on me with the trade, and now giving me all this experience and being able to come up and learn at

the major league level." Padilla, making his first start after serving a five-game suspension for hitting Juan Rivera of the Los Angeles Angels with a pitch on Aug. 15, gave up four runs and 10 hits in 6 2-3 innings.

LITKE

Continued from Page 7
lasts only a few seasons, veterans and high draft choices wind up pocketing about half the dollars they sign for. Those players — as opposed to a fifth-round pick who gets little up front and is often gone when the season kicks off — are Upshaw's constituents. And anybody who thinks he hasn't been listening to that first group hasn't been paying attention. Tagliabue was the NFL's outside legal counsel before he became commissioner in 1989, and one of the first people he phoned from his new office was Upshaw. They'd already met in court over a union law-

suit seeking free agency, and they met again soon after that call for a low-key dinner in Washington D.C. While all their subsequent sit-downs haven't gone quite as smoothly, the salary cap was \$34.5 million that first season and it will be \$102 million this one. Gumbel presumably knew that when he mentioned "the leash," even though Tagliabue called that remark "about as uninformed as anything I've read or heard in a long, long time." Unfortunate as the wording was, the timing of Gumbel's remarks might have aggravated the commissioner even more. Tagliabue and Goodell, his chief lieutenant, did much of the heavy lifting on the collec-

tive-bargaining agreement reached with the NFLPA in March. Ever since, they've faced charges from some owners that Upshaw, for once, managed to turn the tables on the league. The last thing Tagliabue wants as he prepares to exit stage left is a mudslinging match with Gumbel, who's demonstrated on more than one occasion that he knows his way around a mess. Tagliabue does, too, which explains his vague threats about Gumbel being afflicted by "buyer's remorse," and his questioning whether "his desire to do the job and to do it in a way that we in the NFL would expect it to be done." Keep in mind that Tagliabue wasn't all that happy with

ESPN's "Playmakers," an overwrought soap opera about the lives of fictional NFL players. And just like the real-life NFL players, the show didn't make it to the end of its run. But rather than cancel Gumbel even before he starts, what Tagliabue — a lawyer by training and temperament — probably intended was to put him on notice. That way, the next time Gumbel says something the league doesn't like, Goodell can say he was warned. Gumbel was an interesting choice as an NFL broadcaster from the outset. He had to be approved by Tagliabue, who knew his reputation for candor and must have hoped that independence would only help raise the credibility for the relatively new NFL Network.

Maybe because they're so familiar with risks, players are hesitant about choosing sides. "We talk about the right to freedom of speech," said Buffalo safety and NFLPA president Troy Vincent, "but I was always taught that if I don't have anything positive to say, especially about my peers or brother, then don't say anything at all." That won't be the case with Gumbel. But the next time he pushes the envelope, he should remember that if the commissioner has a leash in that drawer, chances are good there's a muzzle somewhere in there, too. Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org

HUGE STOCK REDUCTION SALE
SAVE THOUSANDS

Advertisement for Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan featuring a large grid of car listings with prices and 'SOLD' stamps. Includes categories for RAM CARS, SUV'S & VANS, CARS, TRUCKS, and SUVs. The ad lists various models like Ford Focus, Chevrolet Malibu, Lincoln Town Car, and many others, with their 'Now' prices and 'Was' prices. Large 'SOLD' stamps are placed over several listings. The ad concludes with the slogan 'We Want To Earn Your Business!!!' and the dealership name 'Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan'.

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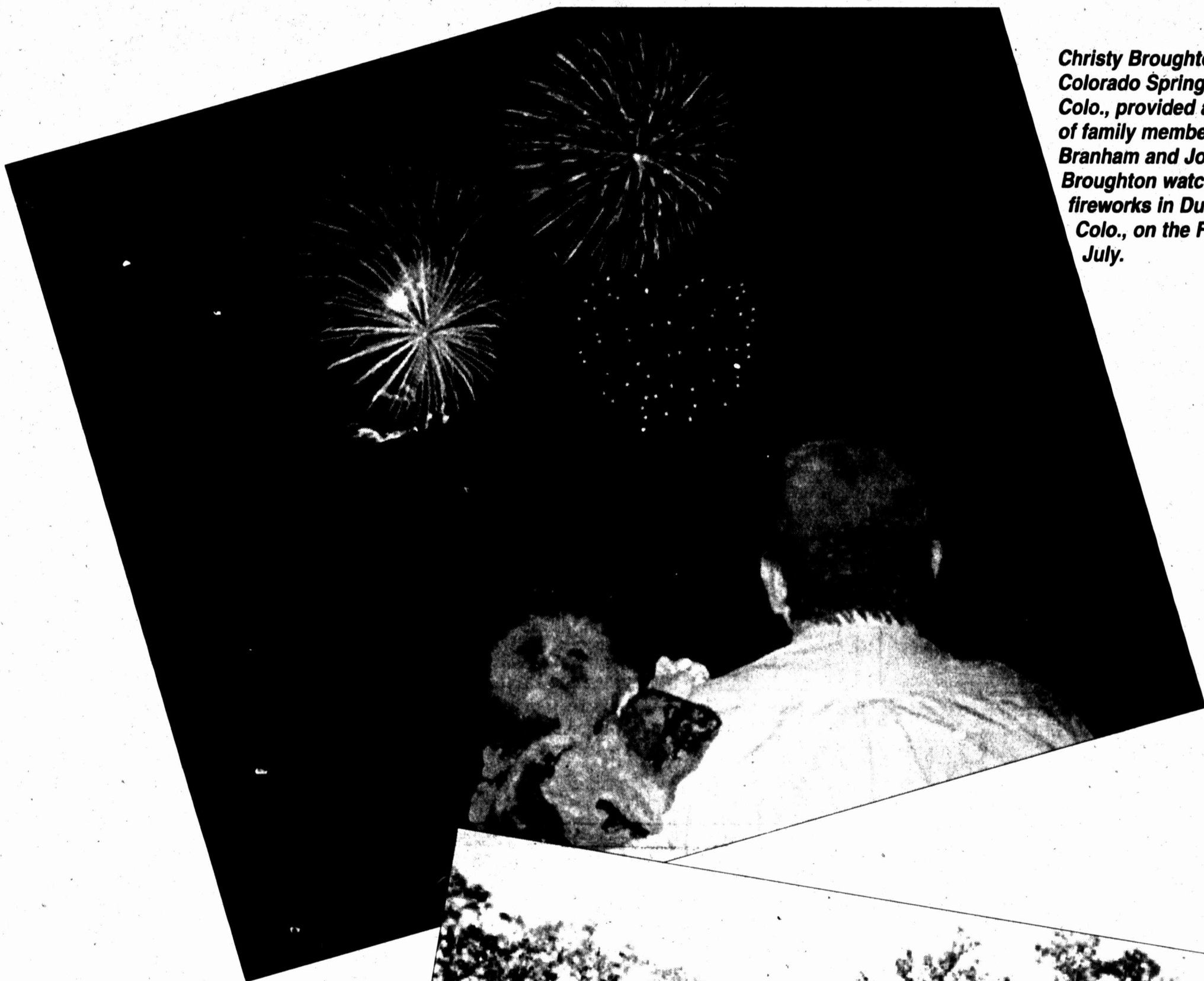
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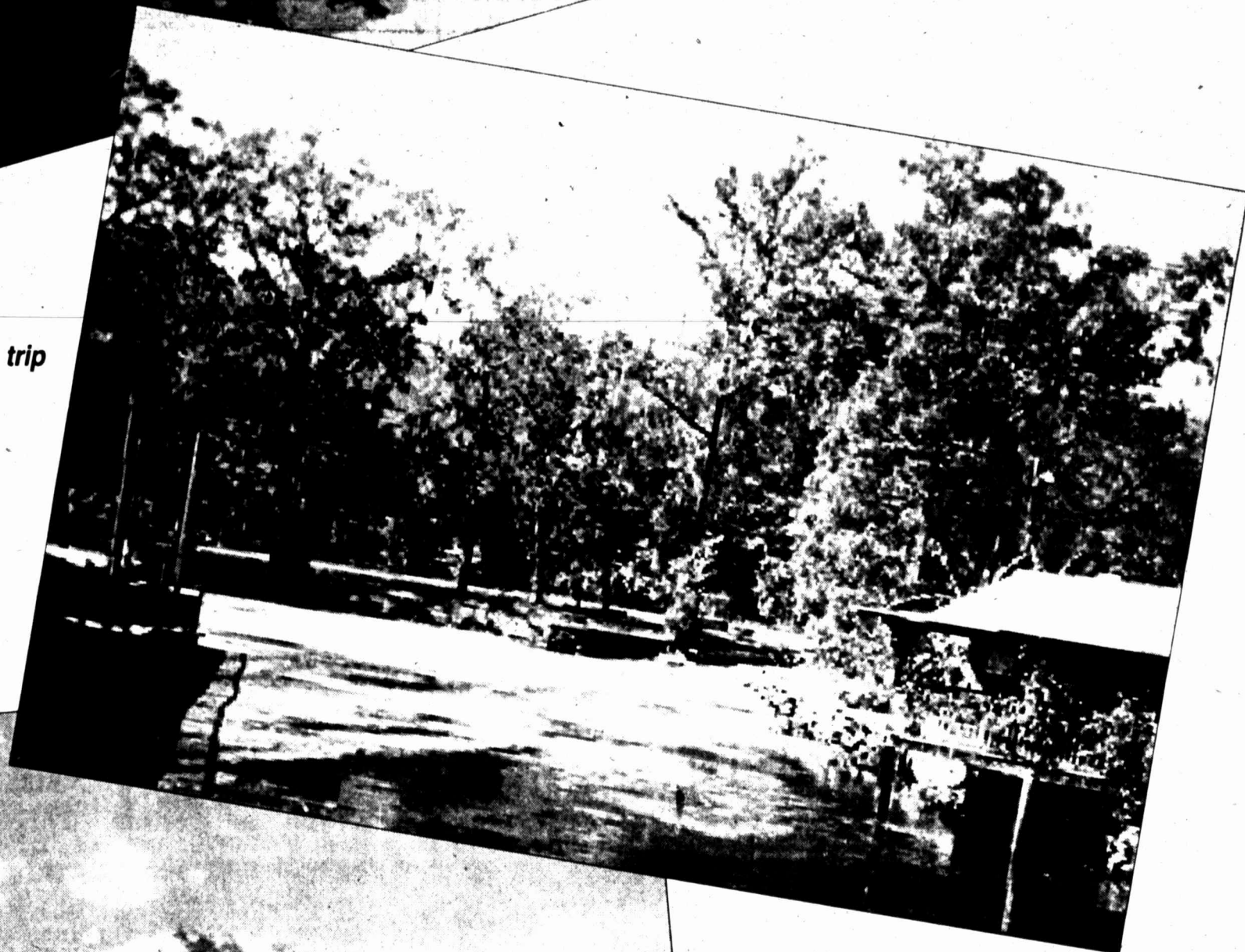
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*Christy Broughton of Colorado Springs, Colo., provided a view of family members John Branham and John Broughton watching the fireworks in Durango, Colo., on the Fourth of July.*



*Broughton also shared this scene photographed during a trip to Louisiana's bayou country.*

*Broughton added a third submission, a view of Pikes Peak during the spring.*



*Glenda Pullum gives us a view of the pond in her Colorado garden (below).*



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BIG SPRING HERALD

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

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

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

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

**50X40 INSULATED** Storage/shop, fenced. \$400. month. Call (432)213-2319.

**602 LINDA LANE**, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, tile floors, CH/A, washer & dryer connections. Fenced yard. \$495. month, \$395. deposit. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

**622 STATE** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CA/CH with garage. \$450.00 month, \$250.00. Call (432)270-3848.

**BUILDING FOR RENT:** North FM 700 - 40x40 - large 12x12 door. Excellent for storage or mechanic - lots of room. Call 432-267-6006 for details.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE** at 421 Main for rent. Approx. 3,000 sq. ft. includes executive offices, reception area, file storage and break room. Call (432)263-7676.

**FOR LEASE** 40x120 Building with 2 offices, 4 over head doors on 2 acres, fenced land. 1514 Hwy. 30. \$750 Month + deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

**OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE**, 400 feet on FM 700. Perfect for small office or shop. Call 432-267-8310.

Real Estate for Rent

**REEVES @ (432)267-7380.** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath Homes @ 3006 Cherokee, 1210 Wood and 1506 Chickasaw. \$300. Month, \$150. deposit. Call for more information.

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

**SMALL ONE** bedroom. 1501-1/2 Johnson, rear house. Call Mary, (432)714-4001, Call only between 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

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**140 ACRES** Prime creek bottom land. LOTS of DEER. Howard County. \$1000.00 per acre. Contact Sue at the Real Estate Shop (432)263-7653.

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

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**AUDITIONS**  
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*The Nutcracker*  
presented by  
**Midland Festival Ballet**  
Place: Coleman Academy  
4610 N. Garfield, A-7  
The Colonnade at the Loop  
For Information call: 682-2653  
Performance Dates: December 9 & 10  
Lee High School Auditorium, Midland  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2006**  
Ages 5-7.....9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Beginning or one year of dance or gymnastics training required  
Ages 8-10.....10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Ages 11-12.....11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Minimum two years of ballet training required  
Ages 13-Adult.....1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Minimum four years of ballet training required  
Ages 11 & up - Bring Pointe Shoes  
**CLARA/FRITZ**  
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Minimum age for Clara 11 years - Minimum age for Fritz 9 years  
Minimum of two years ballet training for Clara

The Spider

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

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

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



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