



Scouts need shirt off your back

Drive designed to help scouts from low-income families, museum effort

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

If you're a former Boy Scout, get ready to ransack your closet.

Local Boy Scouts are asking area residents who have scout uniforms and shirts they've outgrown or no longer need to donate them to their ongoing "shirt drive," an effort to help low-income scouts purchase their uniforms, as well as finance the Scouting Museum currently under construction.

David O'Neill, who serves as district executive for the West Texas Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America, has been involved with scouting virtually all of his life and understands how tough it can be for parents to "dress-out" their children for activities.

"There are parents that have two or three boys in scouting or sports," said O'Neill. "There are a lot of things that kids are involved with, and to get a uniform shirt on top of everything else can be pretty tough."

"Anyone that has old Boy Scout or Cub Scout shirts or uniforms can call the office," he said. "I can pick them up or they can drop them off here. We use these for the boys that can't afford new uniforms. We're reaching out to those folks that have outgrown their scout

shirts or have moved on to other activities and no longer need their scout shirts. They can donate those to help the families that need them."

O'Neill said the shirts that are donated will be sold to scouts at a cost between \$5 and \$10, less than half the cost of a new uniform, which runs approximately \$23. The money raised by the drive will go to fund the continued construction of a scouting museum, which will be housed in the Scout Service Center located at 610 S. Scurry Street.

"The building was donated to us about eight years ago, and a part of the plan for the building was to have a scouting museum," said O'Neill. "Scouting has been a rich tradition in Howard County. The first Boy Scout troop west of the Mississippi River was started right here in Big Spring, and at one time was the longest continually registered troop in the country."

"Throughout Boy Scout and Cub Scout history, which includes air scouting, which was tied into Webb Air Force Base, there have been a lot folks involved in the program and a lot of history that's been built up over the years."

O'Neill said the museum serves as a reminder of the many good deeds local scouts have done



David O'Neill, district executive for the West Texas Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America, straightens a casket flag that was donated to the local scouting museum by the widow of a long-time scout.

over the years.

"The Statue of Liberty (replica) outside of Municipal Auditorium

was put there by Boy Scouts," said O'Neill. "The totem pole at Comanche Trail Park was

made and put there by a scout. Those things and all of the people that have gone through scouting —

there are a lot of things that we can put into the

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ALON tops list of taxpayers in Howard County

Howard County	Taxable Value	Big Spring ISD	Taxable Value
ALON USA	\$149,359,640	ALON USA	\$163,214,440
Aethon LP	\$60,331,253	Sid Richardson Carbon	\$25,158,200
ConocoPhillips Co.	\$56,948,014	Chesapeake Operating	\$23,731,450
Whiting Oil & Gas.	\$34,920,140	Western Container	\$22,789,860
Merit Energy	\$34,845,050	Whiting Oil & Gas.	\$15,749,280
Howard College	Taxable Value	Coahoma ISD	Taxable Value
ALON USA	\$149,359,640	Merit Energy	\$27,227,760
Aethon LP	\$60,331,253	Walsh & Watts	\$17,953,275
ConocoPhillips Co.	\$56,948,014	Whiting Oil & Gas.	\$17,204,310
Whiting Oil & Gas.	\$34,920,140	Energen Resources	\$11,895,705
Merit Energy	\$34,845,050	Forest Oil Co.	\$8,057,955
City of Big Spring	Taxable Value	Forsan ISD	Taxable Value
Western Container	\$22,789,860	Aethon LP	\$60,331,253
Scenic Mt. Med. Center	\$10,403,246	ConocoPhillips Co.	\$56,681,734
TXU Electric Delivery	\$9,500,440	Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas	\$20,486,670
Southwestern Bell	\$6,716,060	Gruy Petroleum	\$15,452,821
Wal-Mart Real Estate	\$6,370,000	Texas Big Spring LP	\$11,085,630

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Local petroleum company ALON USA leads the pack among taxpayers in Howard County in 2006, posting more than \$149 million in taxable values, almost twice the company's taxable value in 2005. ALON USA is by far the Howard County's largest taxpayer, boasting \$149,359,640 in taxable values for the year. Aethon LP is second with values totaling \$60,331,253, followed by ConocoPhillips Co. with \$56,948,014.

Whiting Oil & Gas Corp. ranks fourth in the county with values of \$34,920,140, followed in order by Merit Energy Co., \$34,845,050; Sid Richardson Carbon, \$25,489,390; Chesapeake Operating Inc., \$23,881,710; Western Container Corp., \$22,789,860; TXU Electric Delivery Co., \$22,203,730; and Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas, \$20,833,640.

Howard County has proposed a tax rate of 48.787 cents for 2006, translating into a 5.7-cent drop compared to last year's rate.

Values in the Howard College district are identical to those posted for Howard County.

The city of Big Spring, which receives minimal tax revenue from oil and gas, relies on manufacturing and utilities for much of its tax proceeds. The city's proposed tax rate for 2006 is 71.63 cents per \$100 valuation.

Western Container is the city's largest taxpayer, with \$22,789,860 in values. Second is Scenic Mountain Medical Center with taxable values of \$10,403,246, followed by TXU Electric with values in the city of \$9,500,440 and Southwestern Bell with values of \$6,716,060. Wal-Mart Real Estate, \$6,370,000, and Wal-Mart Stores, \$5,764,690, are fifth and sixth.

General Electric Capital Corp. is next in line with \$4,013,540, followed by a second account for Scenic Mountain Medical Center, \$3,905,277; Fifth Third Leasing Co., \$3,816,730; and Cox Communication Inc., \$3,635,450.

The top five taxpayers for the Big Spring Independent School District are ALON USA, \$163,214,440; Sid Richardson Carbon, \$25,158,200; Chesapeake Operating Inc., \$23,731,450; Western Container Corp., \$22,789,860; and Whiting Oil & Gas Corp.,

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Police seek two men in Northside robbery

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department is currently investigating an aggravated robbery that occurred Tuesday morning in the northern part of the city.

The victim was robbed at gunpoint near his residence in the 800 block of N. Nolan Tuesday at approximately 10:50 a.m. by two men, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department.

"The first suspect was a Hispanic male, in his late 30s, approximately 6 feet, 1 inches tall and a slender build,"

said Everett. "He had long, black hair and a mustache and goatee. He was wearing a blue green plaid long sleeve shirt."

"The second suspect was a black male in his early 20s, approximately 5 feet, 11 inches tall with a medium build and short, black hair. The witness reported he was wearing a white T-shirt and jeans."

Everett said the suspects approached the victim while he was working on a vehicle near the driveway of his home.

"The black male suspect pushed the victim up against a wall," said Everett.

"At that time the Hispanic subject pulled out a handgun and placed to the victim's ribs, demanding money."

Everett said the bandits made away with an undetermined amount of cash.

"They left the scene on foot, running south on Nolan, and got into a small, blue 4-door sedan," said Everett. "They are believed to have headed west on Northeast Eighth Street."

No injuries were reported as a result of the robbery, according to Everett.

Anyone with information regarding the hold up is asked to contact the Big Spring police Department at 264-2550.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Governor pledges state money to clean up effort on Trinity River

ARLINGTON (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry pledged more than \$500,000 in state money on Tuesday to help clean up the Trinity River, which provides water to 40 percent of the state's population but has a long history of water-quality problems.

The Trinity River Basin Environmental Restoration project will try to improve the water quality in the river and its tributaries through storm water control, irrigation and education.

"If Texans all along the Trinity River band together to fully protect its water quality and restore the river to its more pristine past, it will have a dramatic impact on birds and wildlife, ecotourism," Perry said.

Perry, a Republican seeking re-election against four opponents, has been criticized for his environmental record. Opponents and critics say he's allowed for the fast-tracking of new coal plants proposed in Texas, failed to enact stronger clean air laws and hasn't set higher goals for use of renewable energy.

The Trinity River's basin stretches from Dallas-Fort Worth to Houston.

Continued rain soaks El Paso, amounts nearing record levels

EL PASO (AP) — Most of the time in this corner of West Texas, the ground is parched and arid, brush covering the mountain dividing and defining the city is brown and the Rio Grande is shallow and muddy.

But after nearly two months of unusually heavy rainfall — including a massive down-pour on Aug. 1 that caused widespread flooding — the river is flowing bank to bank and the mountain is in full bloom, with thick and bright green brush.

The rain ended the drought, but the more than 12 inches of rain that has fallen this summer also caused \$100 million in damages and destroyed as many as 300 houses, according to city estimates.

President Bush declared the region a disaster area last month.

Rather gives \$2 million donation to alma mater Sam Houston State

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — On the day Katie Couric made her highly publicized debut as his permanent successor, former CBS Evening News anchorman Dan Rather made news with Sam Houston State University announcing Rather had donated \$2 million to his old school. It's the largest single mon-

etary gift in the school's 127-year history.

"So many people, known and unknown, helped me to get through Sam Houston State when I was there, desperately trying to make it, that I've always wanted to give back — some how, some way — to the best of my ability," Rather said Tuesday in a statement released by the university, which was known as Sam Houston State Teachers College when he attended.

Rather, a Houston native, earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1953 at the school about 75 miles north of where he grew up.

The donation, made in the names of Rather and his wife, Jean, has been designated for scholarships and discretionary spending in the school's communications program.

Man arrested in July stabbing death of real estate agent in McKinney

MCKINNEY (AP) — Police on Wednesday announced the arrest of a suspect in the July slaying of a real estate agent who was found stabbed to death in a model home.

Kosoul Chanthakoummane, 25, was arrested on a charge of capital murder late Tuesday in connection with the death of Sarah Anne Walker, said Capt. Randy Roland of the McKinney Police Department.

Chanthakoummane was arrested at his Dallas apartment and was being held Wednesday morning on \$1 million bond, Roland said.

A house-hunting couple found Walker's body July 8 in the kitchen of a model home in the fast-growing suburb of McKinney, about 30 miles north of Dallas. The 40-year-old agent had been stabbed 27 times in what detective described as an unusually ferocious attack.

The slaying rattled real estate agents who work open houses alone and worried nearby residents living in the kind of new, extravagant homes Walker sold.

Roland said a combination of detective work, witness statements and forensic evidence led investigators to Chanthakoummane.

The McKinney police released a composite sketch a couple of weeks ago based on witness statements, Roland said. The sketch prompted a tip that led police to Chanthakoummane, he said.

Roland said Chanthakoummane is the only suspect in the case.

Further details of the case, including a motive for the slaying or any possible relationship between Chanthakoummane and Walker, were not available early Wednesday. Roland said a press conference was scheduled for today to discuss the arrest.

Bexar County allows dog to calm children testifying in court

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Chance the golden retriever has a new job in Bexar County court. County officials have approved a plan to let the dog serve as a calming influence for children who must testify in family court.

"It's for those who need a friendly paw," District Attorney Susan Reed said Tuesday. The commissioners agreed to allow Chance in the courthouse after Reed and other children's advocates convinced them that the dog's presence wouldn't expose the county to any undue liability.

The 8-year-old shaggy male will be the county's first "society" dog, similar to those that work in hospitals, prisons and psychiatric wards to help calm difficult situations. Chance will spend time with children forced to testify during emotionally difficult cases involving their families.

Becky Snodgrass, Chance's owner and a Child Protective Services court liaison, said the dog's training has been informal, made up of being around children over the years.

According to Reed's office, the dog's temperament is a bigger factor than his training when it comes to reducing liability. As long as the county can document the dog's calm demeanor, case history suggests that courts would likely dismiss any case brought against him.

Former teacher pleads guilty in child pornography case

MALLEN (AP) — A former high school teacher, coach and Boy Scout leader pleaded guilty Tuesday to receiving child pornography, federal prosecutors said.

Genaro Vela, 58, of McAllen, admitted subscribing to a child pornography Web site and downloading images.

Vela faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine at his Dec. 6 sentencing. He is in federal custody pending sentencing after a judge found him to be a safety risk to the community.

The cyber crimes unit of Immigration and Customs Enforcement executed a search warrant on Vela's home in June after tracing pornographic Internet traffic to his home, authorities said. Mission police officers assisted in the investigation.

Investigators said they found an office that was kept locked and off limits to all family members but Vela and which contained two computers with more than 4,000 images of child pornography and 35 video clips of adults performing sexual acts with children, including babies.

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Florida McCalister, 82, died Friday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with burial at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.
Troy Gregory, 76, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Johnny Ray Gardner, 63, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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TAXPAYERS

Continued from Page 1

\$15,749,280.

The various other taxing entities rely on a variety of industry and business. The city of Coahoma's largest taxpayer is First Bank of West Texas, with \$541,579 in values. Next in line is Wes-Tex Telephone Co-op with \$459,990, followed by TXU Electric Delivery with \$382,680 in values.

Forsan's largest taxpayer is Key Energy with values of \$2,598,680, followed

by Robert C. Wash Inc. at \$407,759; Highland Artificial Lift Systems, \$146,650; and Jeff Kester, \$122,250.

Forsan ISD boasts a strong tax base, led by Aethon LP with taxable values of \$60,331,253. ConocoPhillips Co. has taxable values of \$56,681,734, Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas with taxable values of \$20,486,670; Gruy Petroleum Management Co., \$15,452,821; and Big Spring Texas LP, \$11,085,630.

Coahoma ISD's top tax-

payer is Merit Energy Co. with taxable values of \$27,227,760. Rounding out the top five are Walsh & Watts, \$17,953,275;

Whiting Oil & Gas Corp., \$17,204,310; Energen Resources Corp., \$11,895,705; and Forest Oil Co., \$8,057,955.

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

SHIRTS

Continued from Page 1

museum to help document the history that we've had here."

Depending on the age and condition of the donated shirts, the pieces of clothing may even find a new home in the very museum they are helping to finance.

"We've had several peo-

ple donate uniforms that are so old, we've put them in the museum," said O'Neill. "It's great to see these wonderful pieces of history preserved."

To arrange pick up of a shirt, call O'Neill at 263-3407 or (432) 413-5194.

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

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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

Cemetery chapel project has more than two angels

It never ceases to amaze us. A need is made clear in our community and someone or some group always responds. We have oft noted before in this space that such response by our friends and neighbors are one of the reasons we not only enjoy living in Big Spring and Howard County, but why we take great pride in doing so.

The latest of these needs was announced recently when City Councilwoman Gloria McDonald recognized local businessman Jerry Worthy and the Dora Roberts Foundation for their generosity in making \$10,000 gifts that will lead to the construction of a chapel at the Mount Olive Cemetery.

Whether or not a chapel is built at the cemetery may seem of little consequence to some, but not to those of us whose friends or family members have their final resting places there.

While McDonald recognized Worthy and the foundation, and deservedly so, during the Aug. 22 council meeting — there is clearly someone who also deserves praise in making sure funding for the project was secured — McDonald herself. More than three years of work on her part came together when funding was secured for the rustic, late 1800s-style chapel at the municipal cemetery.

From almost the moment McDonald took her seat on the council, she has pointed to the need for building a chapel at Mount Olive. Her fellow council members suggested that she find \$20,000 in funding for the project and they'd provide matching funds for the \$40,000 limestone chapel.

During that span, other city needs — primarily infrastructure — took priority shortly, forcing the city to place the idea of a new chapel on its fiscal back burner.

Once the project finally got the green light, though, McDonald went back to work and promptly had a commitment from the foundation. Worthy then jumped on board and also agreed to donate Spanish-style roof tiles for the structure.

"Jerry Worthy and the Dora Roberts Foundation are angels of Big Spring," McDonald said. "Without the two of them, so many of the projects done in this city would never happen. You can plan for these things all day long, but if you don't have the dollars, it just doesn't happen."

We couldn't agree more.

But in this instance there was a third angel, because McDonald was the council member who heard the wishes of several constituents, made a commitment to them and followed through.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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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

May we turn from our own self-will to Your-will, Lord. Amen

Official English? No way Jose!

First, they tried to violate the U.S. Constitution by attempting to censor a McDonald's billboard because it was written in Spanish.

And then, when they were ignored by everyone who understands that a company has the right to promote its products to any audience and in any language, town officials in Bogota, N.J., found another way to censor its Hispanic residents.



MIGUEL PEREZ

By a 4-2 vote, the Bogota Borough Council, led by a mayor who is making a career out of bashing immigrants, passed a resolution approving a referendum on whether English should be the town's official language.

If approved by voters, an ordinance would require all borough business to be conducted and written only in English, except when use of other languages is mandated by state or federal law.

The attempt to censor the Spanish billboard was based on an absurd premise: Signs in Spanish allegedly send a message that Latinos don't need to learn how to speak English.

What's more, foreign-language signs — which have been around since before the birth of this nation — were also said to be "divisive."

Of course, there was no divisiveness until Mayor Steve Lonegan began to make a fuss about it.

He is much more divisive than any billboard. In fact, that's his

specialty. In a town where 21 percent of some 8,000 residents are Latinos, Lonegan, a Republican, has managed to pit neighbors against one another. This is how he likes to get his name in the headlines.

At a recent meeting where the council approved the official English referendum, the debate was so emotionally charged that a fight nearly broke out in the audience.

Latino activists argued that most Bogota Hispanics already speak English fluently. And those who don't, they said, recognize their need to learn it ASAP.

Indeed, this is happening in a part of the country where English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) courses are in high demand. At high schools, community colleges, public libraries and community centers in New Jersey's Bergen County, ESL classes are packed with adult students — immigrants who recognize that, in order to succeed in this country, English is an absolute necessity.

Talk of making English "official" is only cheap political rhetoric used by those who play on people's fears about immigration and assimilation. They believe they can score political gains by scaring Americans into believing that Latinos are "taking over" and that new immigrants "refuse to assimilate."

It's hogwash, and the immigrant-bashing politicians know it. But unfortunately, many people fall for it.

Thankfully, there are many other politicians — even some who are Republicans — who are not willing to play that game. One of them is Bergen County

Clerk Kathleen Donovan, who issued a 13-page legal opinion in response to Bogota's request to put an official English question on the November ballot.

In plain English, her response can be summed up in two words: no way!

The Clerk's Office found that under state law, municipal ballot questions can only address issues that a town can act upon — and that "action, if any, in this area is exclusive to the United States government and then to the State of New Jersey."

In other words, while 27 states have designated English as the official language, no town has the power to do it — at least not in New Jersey.

And if Bogota did, such action would be unconstitutional, the County Clerk ruled.

She is right. And it needs to be declared unconstitutional in those 27 other states.

Whether Lonegan and other immigrant bashers around the country like it or not, all U.S. residents, including the non-English speaking immigrants, have a constitutional right to obtain access to their government.

Of course, Lonegan is vowing to appeal the clerk's ruling. He is counting on the fear-mongering, divisiveness and headlines that a court fight can bring him.

He even had the audacity to charge in the local media that the clerk's decision to ban his referendum was a "gross misuse of power."

This is one person who should look at himself in the mirror.

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Are you ready for some Lotto?

The Texas lottery has been around for a while. It was voted in by a 2-to-1 margin in November of 1991. It began on May 29, 1992.

Tom Clowe, chairman of the Texas Lottery Commission, says in the first five years the revenues from the lottery went to the state's General Revenue Fund. Since 1997, they have gone to public schools in Texas.

"Revenues to school systems in Texas have totaled over \$8 billion," says Clowe, who lives in Waco.

He told me he does not know how the money gets to the schools, however.

The scratch-offs, those lottery cards you get at convenience stores, brings in the most money — more than 75 percent of lottery ticket sales.

"Our instant tickets are grow-

ing," Clowe said. "We're constantly changing them, getting all kinds of variations. I think a big part of the attractiveness to the scratch-off tickets is the instant gratification. People really like to take their ticket and scratch it off, see whether they won or not."

Lotto Texas, the big jackpot drawing two nights a week, accounts for only 6 percent of lottery ticket sales. The odds for winning Lotto Texas are one in 26 million.

"I don't think the players are really so much focused on the odds as they are on the amount of the jackpot and what the percentage of payout is," Clowe noted.

Mega Millions also accounts for 6 percent of sales. The odds there are one in 176 million.

Pick 3, Cash 5 and Texas 2-step bring in a combined total of 11 percent of sales.

"The annual revenue from lottery is about \$3.5 billion," Clowe said. "This year we're projecting \$3.8 billion, so the return to the foundation school fund is over \$1

billion annually."

The lottery has generated a total of \$42 billion in sales — some \$13 billion went to the state, \$24 billion went to players and \$2 billion went to retailers.

Clowe says gaming is big business in the United States, bringing in more money than the movie industry and broadcasting combined.

Not everybody plays the lottery. "I have numerous people who tell me they play the same numbers every week and they just know they're going to win," Clowe said. "I have other people tell me they've never bought a lottery ticket and never will."

The Texas Lottery has some 16,000 licensed retailer locations statewide and can pay prizes up to \$599.

There are 16 claim centers across the state where prizes up to \$999,999 can be claimed.

Anything over \$1 million has to be picked up at Lottery Commission headquarters in Austin.

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Why not 'chick' this out at the Howard County Library?

The Friends of Howard County Library Book Sale will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15-17. The sale will start at 10 a.m. Friday and continue from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Hours will be 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

We have quite a good selection of children's books, audio books, new books, fiction, mysteries and other genres. 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.

Here are some new "chick" books to read while waiting for your child(ren) at soccer, football, volleyball or T-ball practice. Candace Bushnell's fourth novel opens in familiar territory — a fashion show in Bryant Park where attendees sport Jimmy Choo and Baume & Mercier. However "Lipstick Journal" (F BUS C) quickly takes off for deeper waters. Her three main characters, all women in their early 40s, are her richest characters to date. Two of the three are married with children; all are at the top of their field. There's plenty of the old razzle-dazzle to satisfy her fans. Her characters lunch at Michael's, go on dates to the Whitney Biennial and shop for ponies at the Palm Beach Polo Club. Bushnell's emphasis on female friendship and career ambition may also win her a legion of new readers.

Her characters want "the sweet, creamy sensation of power," and it's Bushnell's account of how they got it, and how they keep it, that will really keep readers turning pages.

From Red Dress Press, comes "Me vs. Me" by Sarah Mlynoski; "The Breakup Club" by Melissa Senate; and "True Lies of a Drama Queen" by Lee Nichols. We have also received "Romantically Challenged" by Beth Orsoff.

Some new audio books have arrived. For awhile, we could not find "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee at all. Our copy has just worn out. It has now been re-recorded and the library has it in both CD and cassette format. Other new BOCs are: "The Wrong Hostage" by Elizabeth Lowell; "Proof Positive" by Philip Margolin; Colleen McCullough's "On Off;" and Carolyn Parkhurst's "Lost and Found." How many of you remember the incident in 2001, where an American reconnaissance plane was being

harassed by a Chinese fighter and was forced to land on Chinese territory? In "Born to Fly: The Untold Story of the Downed Reconnaissance Plane" (\$59.944 OSB S) is the story of Shane Osborn, the pilot of that plane. Osborn undergoes intense questioning by the Chinese military, oblivious to the fact that the United States and Chinese governments are fighting for his release. This might be better than any Tom Clancy or Dale Brown military thriller.

More Non-Fiction we have received just this week: Kenneth C. Davis' "Don't Know Much About Mythology" (201.3 DAV K); a couple of books on sharks, "Devil's Teeth" (597.330 CAS S) by Susan Casey and "The Encyclopedia of Sharks" (597.30 PAR S) by Steve and Jane Parker; and several books on quilting (donated by yours truly). Those include "Say It With Quilts" 746.460 MCC D) by Diana McClun; "Quick and Easy Quiltmaking" (746.97 HIC M) by Mary Hickey; Carol Armstrong's "Cats in Quilts" (746.460 ARM C); and several others. You can always look in the New Book Binder for a complete list of new books.

A slim volume, "With Powder on My Nose: Adventures of a Military Life" (396 EST M) by Mary Belle Estes will resonate with those of you wjp were wives of a serviceman during World War II. It is a book of life lessons in the military. My sister (is) married to a military man and she cross-stitched a saying "Home is Where the Army Sends You" and this book is just that.

Two books have come in about the Gospel of Judas Iscariot. "The Lost Gospel: Quest for the Gospel of Judas Iscariot" (229.8 KRO H) is by Herbert Krosney and "The Gospel of Judas" (229.8 KAS R) is edited by Rudolph Kasser. Both books should prove to be interesting to a scholar of the Bible. And on a fictional basis, a second copy of Anne Rice's "Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt" has just been added to the collection.

Have you seen the movie "The Devil Wears Prada" starring Meryl Streep? We also have "The Devil in the Junior League" by Linda Francis Lee that will probably read much like the movie/book listed above. Scott Turow's "Ordinary Heroes" is here also. We have it in CD format also if you are a book "listener" rather than a book "reader."

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



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

Contract Bridge

A Tough Defensive Challenge

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♦K 7
♥A J 9 7
♦A K 9 3
♣9 7 2

WEST
♦J 9 5 4 3 2
♥8 3
♦J 8 5
♣K 5

EAST
♦8 6
♥K Q 10 6 4
♦Q 7 6 2
♣A 3

SOUTH
♦A Q 10
♥5 2
♦10 4
♣Q J 10 8 6 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass
2♦ Pass 2NT Pass
3NT Dble
Opening lead — eight of hearts.

This deal comes from a par contest many years ago, and features an exceptionally difficult defensive play. It's not surprising that most of the participants holding the East cards missed their cue.

East's double was conventional, instructing West not to make his normal lead, but to lead the first suit bid by dummy. And so, West dutifully led a heart.

Declarer played the nine from

dummy, recognizing that if East won with the ten and returned a heart, whether high or low, dummy would acquire a second heart stopper.

The defense varied widely at this point. Most Easts shifted to a spade. Declarer won in dummy and led a club, taken by West with the king. A heart was returned, dummy's seven losing to the queen.

Since dummy still had the A-J of hearts, East could not return a heart. He led a spade instead, but that was his last gasp. A club from dummy to East's ace rang down the curtain, and declarer finished with exactly nine tricks.

A handful of Easts found the way to defeat the contract. When dummy played the nine of hearts at trick one, these Easts played the six!

From then on, declarer was fighting a losing battle. South had to attack clubs, and when West won the first club lead with the king, he led a second heart. East, holding K-Q-10-4 over dummy's A-J-7, was now in command of hearts, and declarer had to go down one, losing three hearts and the A-K of clubs.

East's extraordinary play at trick one was very well thought out. He had to assume that West had a club trick as well as another heart to lead, and he backed his convictions accordingly.

Tomorrow: Eliminating the luck element.
©2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Parents' Corner: Offering a few pointers

Have you ever revisited any of your resolutions? I ran across some resolutions I wrote a few years ago and found they were still totally unfulfilled!

Now I know that resolutions are good and can accomplish good things. We all make resolutions from time to time, usually on New Year's Day, but they are most commonly forgotten in a period of a few weeks.

However, as parents, there are some resolutions that we should make and be determined



DARRELL RYAN

to keep, such as:

1. Come together for a family meal as many times a week as possible. Let the answering machine do its job and make sure the television is off.

2. Notice the good efforts your child makes, even if they are in small steps. Don't place undue emphasis on the

final product; this can serve to discourage a child from trying. Apply the same generous attitude toward yourself and other family members.

3. Give clear messages about unacceptable behavior. While all feelings are acceptable, all behavior is not. Let your children know what behavior you will not

accept and why.

4. Avoid asking too many questions. Questions are good but too many often make children feel quizzed, attacked or invaded. Along with a few questions make statements and observations.

5. Listen carefully to

See PARENTS, Page 6

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4:15 pm - 7:30 pm Reception for Kaki Morton, P.T.
• Meet and Greet
• Facility Tours by DRRC staff members
• Free Wellness Membership Drawing
• Refreshments and Light Hors d'ouvres

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm "Joint Diseases of the Shoulders, Knees & Hips"
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Company aims to improve safety in online games

By MATT SLAGLE

AP Technology Writer

AUSTIN — In the life of a typical online computer gamer, tasks include monster slaying and intense battles with other virtual friends and foes.

But there's a less obvious issue in games such as "City of Heroes" or "World of Warcraft" that many in the industry say hasn't been addressed: online game safety.

Given their social, and often anonymous nature, these increasingly popular virtual worlds pose some very real problems, ranging from stolen game accounts to exposing children to inappropriate conversations.

Realizing these and other potential perils, Austin-based NCsoft Corp. on Tuesday announced a program

called "PlaySmart" to educate consumers about online game safety and security.

Though still in the early phase, the company hopes to include some basic guidelines in the packaging with all of its upcoming games by the end of the year.

"It's a public environment where everyone can see and hear what's going on," said Robert Garriott, chief executive of NCsoft North America. "The single biggest mistake people make is, they meet people online, and once they start communicating, they slip up."

Unlike social Web sites such as MySpace.com, today's online games allow for an instant, free flow of dialogue between thousands of players simultaneously.

The tasks set forth in

Gamer safety suggestions:

Some of the tips and suggestions from NCsoft Corp.'s "PlaySafe" program to keep video game players safe while online:

For personal safety:

- Parents should review ratings of games to ensure they are age-appropriate.
- Parents should monitor or even play computer games with their children.
- Parents should be aware of the social interaction their children have in games, including chat features and email exchanges.

For data security:

- Never give out your credit card information.
- Never give out personal information such as name or address to anyone after you have signed up for an online game subscription.
- Do not give out passwords or account information to friends so they may play on your account.

Source: NCsoft Corp.

such games, such as killing dragons or traipsing dank dungeons, often require coordinated teamwork. As such, conversations can be carried out either as text messages in the game or as full-blown voice chat using special software.

Though the true names and identities of players are disguised as computer avatars ranging from animals to sorcerers, there's nothing to prevent play-

ers from probing for personal information.

The company's guidelines will be printed on small cards with the games as well as on NCsoft's Web site.

Among the suggestions, Garriott said parents should not only monitor and play the games with their children, they should be aware of the potential for social interaction that can include voice chat and e-mail

exchanges.

Other basic rules would seem to apply to life in general: never give out credit card information, never offer personal information to other players, and never give passwords or account information to friends.

Garriott said one of the leading sources of customer complaints is when players lend account usernames and passwords to friends.

In such instances, accounts can be stolen outright or pilfered of virtual goods such as rare weapons or armor that the true owner spent months or years accumulating.

The effort comes as millions worldwide play such games every day. According to a recent study by Parks Associates of Dallas, revenue from

online games is expected to grow from about \$1.1 billion last year to \$4.4 billion by 2010.

Ron Teixeira, executive director of the National Cyber Security Alliance, called NCsoft's program a good first step given such industry growth.

Though video games are rated for content by the Entertainment Software Rating Board, a nonprofit industry group, games deemed appropriate for children or teenagers usually come with disclaimers for players once they venture online.

"Parents may think games are games," Teixeira said. "They think it's pretty innocent and nothing bad can happen, but the reality is that children virtually are somewhere else and interacting with people that may not be good."

PARENTS

Continued from Page 5

your children. Try to understand their position, what are their wishes and concerns, and what type of solutions they can offer to their problems and be supportive.

6. Be clear about your expectations. Let your children know clearly and calmly, in advance whenever possible, what your expectations are.

7. Promote laughter with

your child. Have fun and good times in your family. Cultivate your own sense of humor and pay attention to each other. Focus and listen with both ears. Let your children know when you can't listen or pay attention to them.

8. Create blocks of time for just hanging out and being there. These are the times that children will remember with fondness.

9. Make time for the things that give YOU pleasure — the things that nurture and nour-

ish you mentally, physically and emotionally. Your well-being is crucial to your family.

10. Praise your child every chance you get. Praise provides motivation. The more you recognize your children, the more they are likely to do what you want them to do. Many times praise should be specific, but sometimes it can be as simple as a "thank you" and a smile. Explore praise with your children by having them share their successes with other family members.

Praise establishes a positive atmosphere and is a powerful modeling tool. Praise models the kind of behavior we desire from our children. Most parents use praise sparingly. However, it has been documented that strong positive relationships, including marriages, survive when praise is given more often than criticism. Recognizing accomplishments publicly and privately lets your child know that you care about their successes and they will continue to try new

things. Be free with your praise but be honest and sincere.

Remember, an act of kindness many times is repaid in unforeseen ways.

Now, in considering resolutions, don't make too many and remember the postage stamp. Its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing until the job is done.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

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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, September 6, 2006

IN BRIEF

Dodgeball tourney slated for Saturday

A dodgeball tournament benefiting Relay for Life has been scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday at the Goliad Intermediate School gymnasium.

Teams will be composed of four male and four female members.

Entry fees are \$5 per person to play.

The tournament is being sponsored by The Yellow Dogs.

For more information, contact Angel Sosa at 264-4108.

Quarterback Club meeting is Monday

Big Spring High School's Quarterback Club will meet at 7 p.m. Mondays 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.

CGA, Knights to host scramble

The Chicano Golf Association, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, will host the 10th Annual Father Delaney Golf Tournament Sunday, Sept. 17 at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Format is a four-person scramble. Registration deadline is the day of the tournament.

For more information, contact 264-7116.

Two Texas players suspended

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas starting cornerback Tarell Brown and backup linebacker and special teams player Tyrell Gatewood were suspended for Saturday's game against No. 1 Ohio State after their arrest on misdemeanor charges.

The loss of Brown, a senior and Texas' top cover corner, is a big blow to a defense counting on him to match up with the Buckeyes' top receiver, Ted Ginn Jr. Gatewood made one tackle on special teams in the No. 2 Longhorns' season opener against North Texas.

The players were arrested early Monday, along with former Longhorn linebacker Aaron Harris, when their car was pulled over by Travis County sheriff's deputies, reports stated.

Brown was charged with unlawfully carrying a weapon after he was found with a loaded 9 mm handgun on his lap, according to deputies. Brown, Gatewood and Harris all were charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Texas coach Mack Brown would not say Tuesday if the suspensions were only for the Ohio State game.

"I'm just trying to get through Saturday," the coach said.

"As a head coach, No. 1 you have to look at the legal system and cooperate with the authorities completely. No. 2, you must go through the university because that's who we work for."

Boys cross country has high hopes for '06

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

As the old saying goes, appearances can be deceiving. Then again, they may not be.

That's the riddle facing Randy Britton, Big Spring High School cross-country coach, after his team's first meet of the year.

Does he point to the fact that the Steers took six out of the top seven spots at Abilene Saturday as indication of team ready to accomplish big things?

Or does he point to a somewhat weak field at the meet in an attempt to douse any premature speculation?

Britton decides to break the conundrum by admitting he doesn't know how good his team will be this year.

"I've been doing this a long time, and just when you think you're got the thing by the tail, sometimes it turns around and bites you," Britton said.

He admits to having high expectations about this year's veteran squad and fully expects them to make a serious run at a fourth consecutive boys' district cross-country title for BSHS.

Correction

In Monday's Herald, it was reported that the Big Spring High School Cross Country team will compete in Lubbock this Saturday. Big Spring will compete in the Plainview Invitational Saturday.

More than that, however, he wants his charges to enjoy the upcoming campaign.

"I want them to compete, and I want them to have fun, both at the same time," Britton said. "If we do the best we can and win, that's great. If we do the best we

can and come in second ... I can live with that."

If Saturday's results from Abilene are any indicator, both winning and fun will be in the Steers' future this season.

Britton cautions, however, that Saturday's meet might not be much of an indicator.

"The field wasn't that strong in Abilene," he said. "The meet (this Saturday) in Plainview will be a much better indicator for us."

The boys squad returns two-

See BSHS, page 12



Philadelphia Phillies slugger Ryan Howard turns on the ball and hits his 50th home run of the season and his first of three on the day against the Atlanta Braves Sunday in Philadelphia.

Steroid spectre clouds Howard homer chase

In less cynical times, 10 years ago, say, Ryan Howard would have been a great story: A roly-poly kid in just his second season in the bigs closing in fast on Roger Maris' single-season record of 61 home runs.

Today, it's not that simple.

Reflecting the current, conflicted state of affairs, some people think Howard isn't getting enough credit, others that the sinister trinity of Bonds, McGwire and Sosa has already been there and ruined that for everyone else. A suspicious few have even questioned whether Howard, despite appearances and his bona fides as a minor league slugger already established, is part of that unholy performance-enhancing alliance himself.

"I just think it (stinks)," Howard responded recently to the whispers that attach themselves to anybody accomplishing anything out of the ordinary

in baseball anymore. "The thing about it is, if you're going to make those kinds of comments, have proof," he added. "Otherwise, you can ruin people's reputations."

It's already too late for that, and the 26-year-old Phillies first baseman has a decade's worth of elders — pitchers as well as hitters, not to mention loopholes in the drug-testing policy — to blame. Seeing still isn't the same thing as believing in baseball, and might never be.

Perhaps because we've been scouring everything for several seasons now — leaked grand jury testimony, the bags of pharmaceuticals the feds found while raiding former Diamondbacks pitcher Jason Grimsley's home-based business, even the factories where baseballs are wound tighter than ever and bats cured to a hardness unimaginable a few years ago — and the pictures still come back fuzzy.

There's still no tests to detect human growth hormone, for example, and

See HOWARD, page 12

Rangers take series from division leaders

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The Texas Rangers heard about their owner's critical words back home, then went out and won their third straight game and took a series from the division leader.

As far as mental toughness goes, the Rangers disagree with Tom Hicks' assessment that it's something they're lacking.

Mark DeRosa hit a three-run homer, and Michael Young went 4-for-5 with a triple and scored twice in the Rangers' 5-4 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday night.

"Toughness is not an issue in this clubhouse," Young said. "If we get

outplayed, fine, I'll say it and answer questions about it. But don't question my approach to the game or my passion for baseball. I know it wasn't directed at me, but he called out the team and the ones who shoulder the load take it personal."

Mark Teixeira walked in his first three plate appearances and doubled. Carlos Lee reached base three times and drove in a run for the Rangers.

"We need to be a little tougher," Hicks told Dallas radio station KTCK-AM. "We need to be mentally tougher. I think we missed David Dellucci (traded to the Phillies)."

Coach wants BSHS spikers to rebuild, win

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Usually when a coach talks about this being a rebuilding year for their team, fans can usually expect a lean season.

Amanda Whitaker is having none of that.

Whitaker, the new coach of the Big Spring High School volleyball program, agrees that the Lady Steers, returning only one player from last year's varsity program, are on the rebound.

But, she's quick to add, there's nothing wrong with winning on the rebound, either.

"We're developing consistency, for sure," Whitaker said of her squad. "We'll definitely be ready for district play, and I think we have a good chance of taking the title."

If the Lady Steers are going to contend for the District 4-4A championship, they will have to rely heavily on talented, but untested, players.

Only three seniors — setter Haley Adams, back row specialist Cecili Islas and utility player Malory Kennedy — dot the Big Spring roster, but Whitaker sees that trio as a nice foundation.

"Our seniors have provided good, quality leadership," Whitaker said. "The result is that we have a team that's going to be really good. We just need to sort out some kinks."

Juniors Amanda Caskey — the sole returnee from last year's

squad — Callie Partee,

Clarissa Carrisalez, Jordan Chesworth, Hali Torres and Courtnee Holt, along with sophomore Andrea Claxton, round out the varsity roster.

"This is going to be our building and development year," said Whitaker. "The girls have won some games already, but we still need to work on improving our skills."

Whitaker sees traditional district powers Frenship and San Angelo Lake View as the main roadblocks in the way of the Lady Steers making the playoffs. But it's a challenge she says her team is ready to tackle — and that includes the coach, as well.

"I've enjoyed coaching these girls and getting them ready to play," she said. "We all want to be at the same level as the outstanding teams in this area."

The Lady Steers return to action Thursday when they host Odessa Permian in Steer Gym. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

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



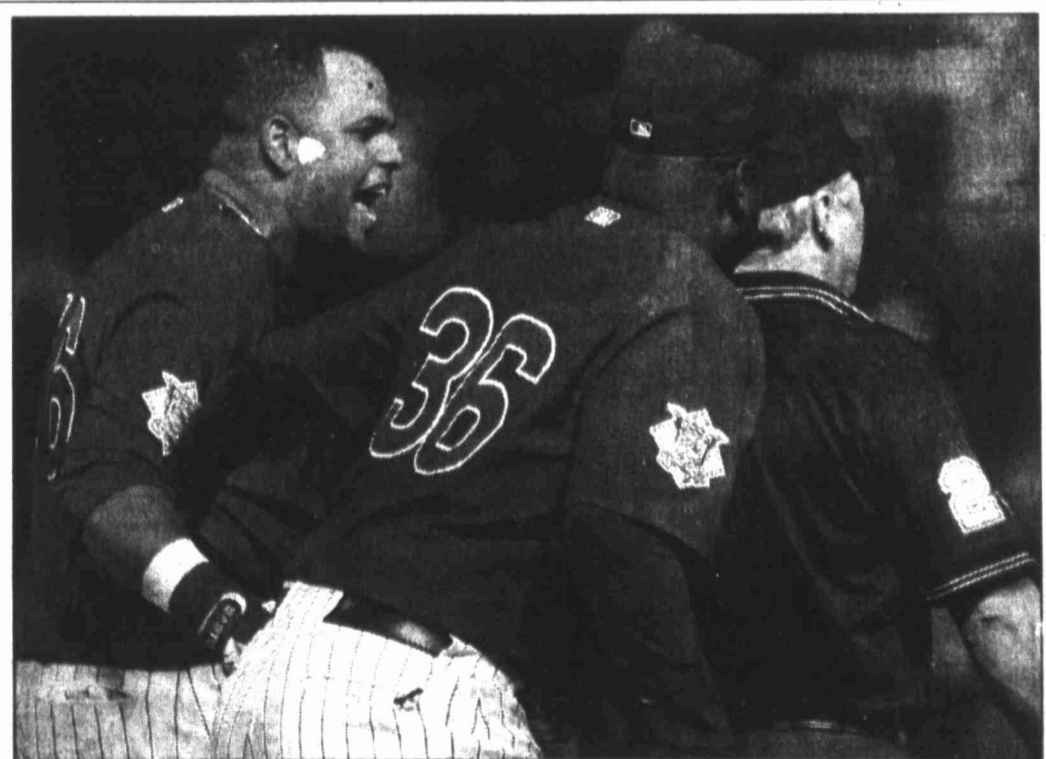
ADAMS



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KENNEDY



Chicago Cubs first base coach Gary Matthews restrains Aramis Ramirez while arguing with first base umpire Tom Hallion in the fourth inning against the Pittsburgh Pirates at Wrigley Field in Chicago Tuesday.

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WEDNESDAY

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"IN MR. WILSON'S ATTIC, THERE'S NO USE ASKING 'WHAT'S NEW?'"

BC



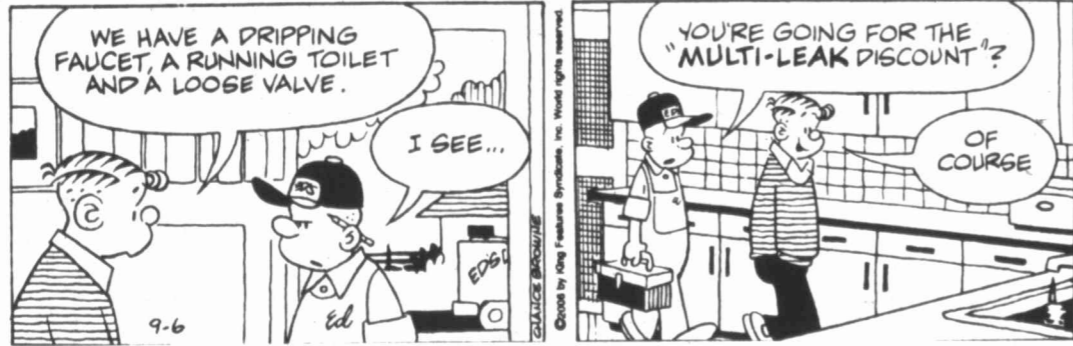
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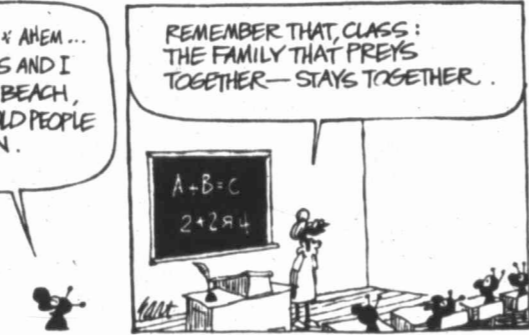
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



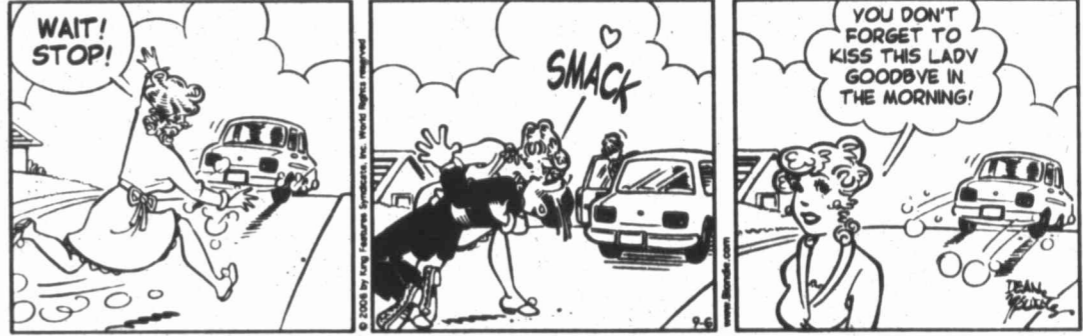
"Not really. Mommy wrote it in my baby book."



HAGAR



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 6, the 249th day of 2006. There are 116 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y. McKinley died eight days later; he was succeeded by Vice President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1837, the Oberlin Collegiate Institute of Ohio went co-educational. In 1909, American explorer Robert Peary sent word that he had reached the North Pole five months earlier. In 1916, the first self-serve grocery store, Piggly Wiggly, was opened in Memphis, Tenn., by Clarence Saunders. (The store was set up to allow customers to hand-pick their groceries, rather than request them from a clerk standing behind a counter.)

In 1939, South Africa declared war on Germany. In 1941, Jews over the age of 6 in German-occupied areas were ordered to wear yellow Stars of David. In 1948, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands was coronated. In 1966, South African Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd was stabbed to death by a deranged page during a parliamentary session in Cape Town. In 1970, Palestinian guerrillas seized control of three jetliners which were later blown up on the ground in Jordan after the passengers and crews were evacuated. In 1997, Britain bade farewell to Princess Diana with a funeral service at Westminster Abbey. Weeping masses gathered in Calcutta, India, to pay homage to Mother Teresa, who had died the day before at age 87. Today's Birthdays: Comedian JoAnne Worley is 69. Country singer David Allen Coe is 67. Country singer Mel McDaniel is 64. Rock singer-musician Roger Waters (Pink Floyd) is 63. Actress Swoosie Kurtz is 62. Comedian-actress Jane Curtin is 59. Country singer-songwriter Buddy Miller is 54. Country musician Joe Smyth (Sawyer Brown) is 49. Actor-comedian Jeff Foxworthy is 48. Actor-comedian Michael Winslow is 48. Rock musician Perry Bamonte is 46. Actor Steven Eckholdt is 45. Pop musician Pal Waaktaar (a-ha) is 45. Rock musician Kevin Miller is 44. ABC News correspondent Elizabeth Vargas is 44. Country singer Mark Chesnut is 43. Actress Rosie Perez is 42. Singer CeCe Peniston is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Darryl Anthony (Az Yet) is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Macy Gray is 36. Rock singer Dolores O'Riordan (The Cranberries) is 35.

Answer to previous puzzle: CAP DECKS PAGES HDO INLET USUAL ALL SCARE POISE TEE MOUNTAINDEW VOIDS FLEES COARSE THIS AFUSS BEAR BSMT SILO BLAME ANCE ATTN OARS GROVE JABS DARWIN CASES SINEW JUMPSTARTED WER ATBAT LEASE IDO WILDE ANGER TEA STEER NOELS END

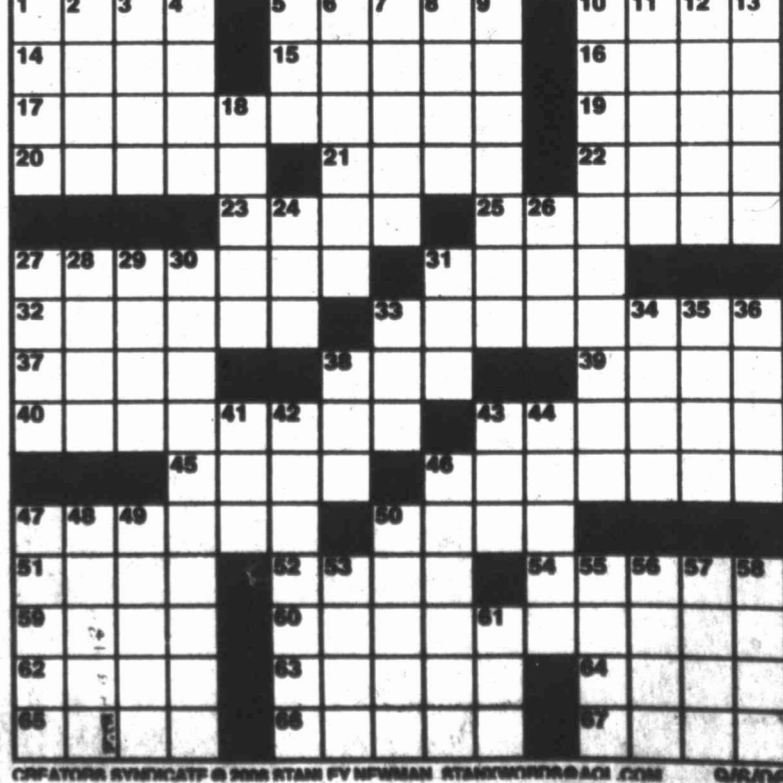
Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Variety of cherry 5 Talks big 10 Behold: Latin 14 Abel's father 15 Cowboy competition 16 Three feet 17 Snoop 19 Buffalo's lake 20 Vernacular 21 Word before market or circus 22 Pizzeria appliance 23 "Yeah, sure!" 25 Identification documents 27 Fruity dessert 31 Got up 32 Really liked 33 From Kobe 37 Flintstone pet 38 Send via phone lines 39 Nuptial vows 40 Road-clearing vehicle 43 End a phone call 45 Afrikaner 46 For the most part 47 Singer Brewer 50 Rear part 51 Locale 52 Chunk of ice 54 More unusual 59 Is unable to 60 Insincere agreement 62 Acknowledging expression 63 Lloyd Webber musical

FACE IT by Norma Steinberg

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- 10 Surprisingly informative 11 Officiate at 12 Colonial news announcer 13 Paradises 18 Light on one's feet 24 Home for roses 26 Alias letters 27 Scoundrels 28 Valhalla bigwig 29 Cher ex 30 Intimidated 31 Floor shine 33 Mandible locale 34 Border 35 Music genre 36 Spot 38 In favor of 41 Opp. of neg. 42 Brochure 43 Solo in Star Wars 44 Enthusiasm 46 Isn't honest with 47 Unspoken but understood 48 Expunge 49 Actress Zellweger 50 Invitation to a hitchhiker 53 "... from New York..." 55 Netflix inventory 56 Watch carb intake 57 Shade of beige 58 Tear asunder 61 Pitcher part



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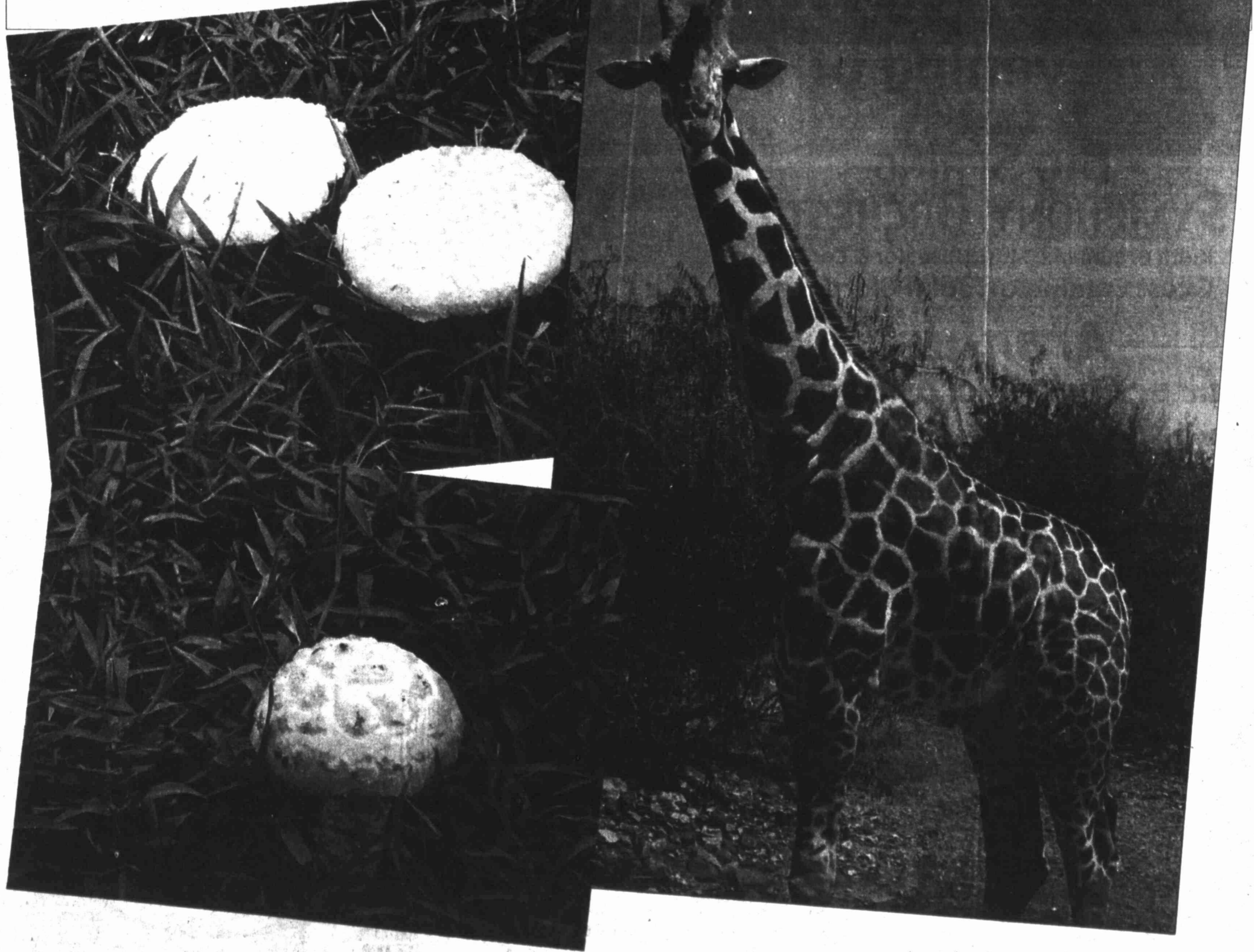
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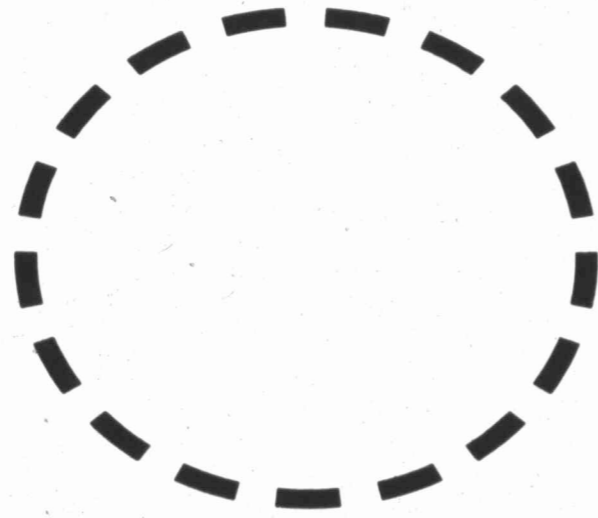
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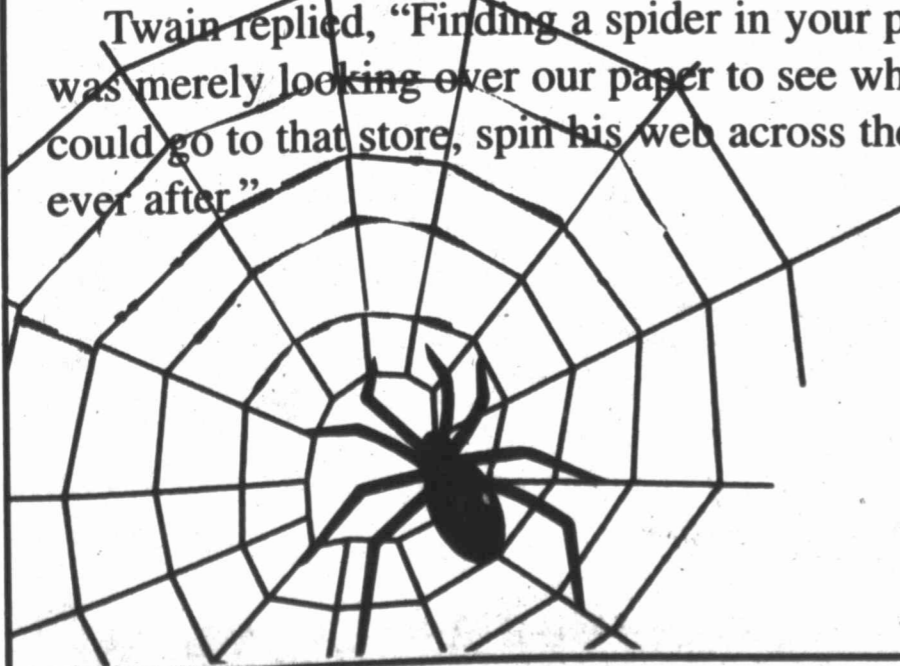
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During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

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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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THE

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Save this page for future reference

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To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editor John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

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If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the *Big Spring Herald* at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the *Big Spring Herald*.

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Obituaries, whether paid or non-paid, are provided to the *Big Spring Herald* by funeral homes. Non-paid obits follow a standard form, while paid obits can include virtually anything the deceased's family requests. Any questions should be directed to the Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

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To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at www.bigspringherald.com. If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Marsha Sturdivant at 263-7331, ext. 236.

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