

INSIDE

Steers host x-country meet, then go on to dominate field. Page 1B

**VOLUME 102, NUMBER 260** 

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2006** 

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

# Council expected to set tax rate at 71.63 cents

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council is expected to give the 2006-2007 tax rate a final nod Tuesday, putting the finishing fiscal touch on its \$32.2 million budget for the coming year.

The proposed rate, which is 71.63 cents per \$100 valuation, drew no comments from the council or audience during a public hearing two weeks prior, and passed first reading with Councilwoman Stephanie Horton the lone dissenter.

The budget, which manages to come in approximately \$346,000 below expected revenues for 2006-2007, is encouraging, according to Mayor Russ McEwen.

"I'm encouraged because we're looking at a budget that doesn't have any increases in taxes, and that's a good budget," said McEwen. "On top of that, we're able to do some things that are good for the community. We're not scrimping, but we have a good, tight budget that we can be proud of. I feel like we're seeing some very encouraging signs.'

Other items listed on Tuesday's council meeting agenda include:

 Final reading of a resolution directing the mayor to execute an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation a Routine for Airport Maintenance Program grant.

 Final reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with Victim Services for lease of a building.

· Final reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article 3 of the City Code entitled "Minors" by adding Section 14-30 entitled "curfew ordinance extended."

 Acceptance of minutes from the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau Committee, **Animal Control Committee and** Traffic Commission.

· Award of annual bids for chemicals and services.

 Consideration of initiating the process for annexation of a portion of land on the northwest side of Big Spring.

First reading of a resolution

authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with AT&T Texas for Plexar-Custom service.

· Emergency reading of an ordinance establishing the Fire Department pay scale for 2006-2007.

· Emergency reading of a resolution amending the City Personnel **Policies** and **Procedures** by amending Chapter VIII, Section 2, entitled "Vacation" to define the number of vacation days per year to be accrued by Civil Service employees and certified police officers.

 First reading of ordinances directing the city manager to designate the placement of stop signs on Sixth Street at Scurry citydesk@bigspringherald.com

Street, changing the intersection to a four-way stop intersection; and placement of stop signs on Sixth Street at Circle Drive, changing the intersection to a four-way stop intersec-

 First reading of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a contract for employment with City Manager Gary Fuqua. Consideration of board and

commission appointments. The meeting will get under way Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

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

# **Nestern Swing fans to have treat at fair**

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Fans of Western Swing will be able to get their fill during the Howard County Fair, as local country music

legend Jody Nix and the West 2006 Howard County Fair Texas Cowboys team up with Billy Mata and The **Texas** Tradition for some foot stompin' good times.

Nix is expected to get things started Wednesday evening, with shows slated at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., providing p.m his own brand of traditional swing and country music.

"We want people to come out and support the fair and listen to us if they want to hear real country music, and we'll do our best to entertain them," said Nix. "We really look forward to this show each year, and this will be our 21st playing vear the fair. It's always nice to be able to come home and play for the folks at home.

"The fair is for everyone. It has a really country atmosphere, with the livestock and the ag exhibits, and the country music really brings it all

good event for the entire community." Thursday night enter-

together. It really is a

tainment at the fair will take a turn, as local gospel bands are expected to take the stage at 7 p.m..

"Thursday night is going to be a lot of fun," said Nix. "We're going to

Schedule of events

Entries for creative arts, fine arts, photography,

ng for fine arts and photography - 10 a.m.

baked goods, canned goods and produce - 8 a.m

Ag in the classroom - 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Cooking demonstration, Lithuanian dish - 6 p.m

illy Mata & The Texas Tradition -7 p.m. and 9 p.m

er Show — 1 p.m. with Steer Showmanship to

- 10 p.m. (Pick up entries from 10 p.m

tries for creative arts, fine arts, pho

Friday night, however,

the fair will again put on

a "swinging" good time,

arrive - 1 p.m. until 7 p.m.

xhibits and vendors open - 4 p.m.

Fractor Pull registration — 9 a.m. Exhibits and vendors open — 10 a.m.

County roping — 6 p.m.
Cooking demonstration, paper flow

Lamb Showmanship - 8 a.m.

Kountry Kids — 10:30 a.m. Tractor Pull — 11 a.m.

s arrive — 3 p.m.

iked, and canned good

bands to perform."

according to Nix.

Lamb Show - 9 a.m.

Cooking demonstration, edible centerple

Booth set-up - 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Fair opens - 4 p.m.

Steers arrive — 3 p.m. Fair opens — 4 p.m. Dominos — 6 p.m.

Gospel Singing - 7 p.m.

9 p.m.

Thursday

will perform "Billy Friday night at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.," said Nix. "His musical style is really similar to ours. I met him back in the Late 1980s while we were playing

some of the same shows, and we just kept crossing paths. We played a lot of the same festivals together, including the annual Western Swing Festival in Snyder."

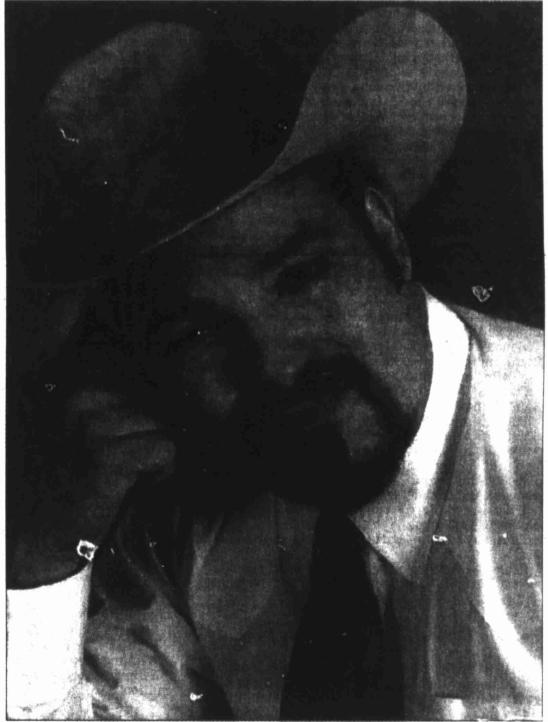
According Mata, Snyder is the closest the San Antonio-based musician has come to Big Spring, and he's extremely excited Jody Nix and the West Texas Cowboys - 7 p.m. and to be able to be part of the county fair.

"This will be our first time in Big Spring and we're really looking forward to it," said Mata, who received awards for Western Swing Male Vocalist of the Year and Entertainer of the Year in 2005 from the Academy of Western Artists. "Jody and I have been friends for a long time, and we both play the same style of music.

"I've been in music for 31 years now, and with this group for 25 years. We really enjoy it all, from dances and shows to festivals. We love playing anywhere people are willing to listen or dance. and we're really looking forward to

try to get several different seeing a lot of our old friends at the fair and making plenty of new friends.

Mata's resume comes chock full of country



Western Swing and Country Music star Billy Mata will perform at the Howard County Fair Friday at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

music legends, including performances with the likes of Asleep At the Wheel, Darryl McCall, Earl Thomas Conley, Eddie Raven, Emilio, John Conley, Johnny Rodriquez, Randy Travis, Ray Price, Rick Trevino and many special guest appearances with Leon Rausch, Tommy Allsup and The Texas Playboys.

While Mata is expected light up the fair grounds Friday evening, the music is expected to take a rather pronounced turn Saturday as area schools show their prowess with pompoms in the annual Battle of the Cheerleaders at 7 p.m.

Contestants will be judged in two categories: Cheer and dance. First,

second and third place plaques will be awarded in each division. For more information

on the Howard County fair, visit www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

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

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Find us online at:

**Sports** 

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#### Retired military officers criticize Rumsfeld By DAVID ESPO

- 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

**AP Special Correspondent** 

WASHINGTON - Retired military officers on Monday bluntly accused Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld of bungling the war in Iraq, saying U.S. troops were sent to fight without the best equipment and that critical facts were hidden from the public.

"I believe that Secretary Rumsfeld and others in the administration did not tell the American people the truth for fear of losing support for the war in Iraq.' retired Maj. Gen. John R. S. Batiste said in remarks prepared for a hearing by

Senate the Democratic Policy Committee.

A second witness, retired Maj. Gen. Paul Eaton, assessed Rumsfeld as "incompetent strategically, operationally and tactically ....

'Mr. Rumsfeld and his immediate team must be replaced or we will see two more years of extraordinarily bad decision-making," he added in testimony prepared for the hearing, held six weeks before the Nov. 7 midterm elections in which the war is a central

The conflict, now in its fourth year, as claimed the lives of more than 2,600

American troops and cost more than \$300 billion.

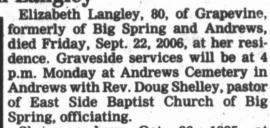
Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., the committee chairman, told reporters last week that he hoped the hearing would shed light on the planning and conduct of the war. He said majority Republicans had failed to conduct hearings on the issue, adding, "if they won't ... we will."

Since he spoke, a government-produced National Intelligence Estimate became public that concluded the war has helped create a new generation of

See OFFICERS, Page 3A

# **Obituaries**

**Elizabeth Langley** 



She was born Oct. 26, 1925, at Chidester, Ark., to Henrietta and David Newton Rhodes. She married William

E. Langley on April 17, 1944, in El Dorado, Ark. They moved to Andrews in 1950 and owned and operated Langley Welding and Construction until 1987, retiring and moving to Big Spring. Mr. Langley preceded her in death June 5, 1996. She had lived in Grapevine for the past year.

She is survived by a son, Ronny Langley and wife Susan of Odessa; three daughters, Beth Snowden and husband Mark of Midland, Carol Plunkett and husband Jerry of Andrews, and Nancy Medellin and husband Leo of Grapevine; eight grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a brother and three sisters.

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

#### Billy Joe "B.J." Wilkins

Billy Joe "B.J." Wilkins, 39, of Big Spring died Saturday, Sept. 23, 2006, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Memorial Services will be at 5 p.m. Thursday at Midway Baptist Church in Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Cleveland, Texas, to Emma and Norvin Wilkins. He attended school in Coahoma through his sophomore year, his junior year at Big Spring High School and graduated from Midland High School in

1987. He had been an assistant manager at Furr's Cafeteria in Big Spring. He was a member of Midway Baptist Church.

He is survived by two sons, Cory Wilkins and Cody Wilkins, both of Big Spring; his mother, Sue Kautz of Big Spring; a brother, Willie Wilkins of Big Spring; his paternal grandmother, Sylvia Prescott of Albany; two nieces; a nephew; three aunts; and seven uncles.

He was preceded in death by his father, Norvin Everett "Shorty" Wilkins; an uncle; and grandparents, Nollie Wilkins, Willie Riffe and Gladys Riffe.

The family will be at 617 McEwen.

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

Today — Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Light and variable winds.

Monday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 50s. Light and variable winds becoming south around 10 mph after midnight. Tuesday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s.

South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy with isolated showers

and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Wednesday night - Partly cloudy with isolated

showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s. Thursday — Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

Not as warm. Highs in the mid 70s. Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower

Friday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. Friday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s.

# Around Town

- HERITAGE MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.
- POTTON HOUSE, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.



Delivery Service Available

**Paul Kennemur RPH Pharmacist** 

1001 S. Gregg • (432) 263-7316 M-F 8:45-5:45 Sat. 9-1

# **Coronado Hills Apartments**

1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575

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Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking & Washer - Dryer Conn. 2-3 Bedroom



# Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m.

 JERRY KOLDEN, 35, of 1301 Mesa, was arrested Saturday on a charge of aggravated assault with a

· EARNEST CLARK, 66, transient, was arrested Saturday on a charge of criminal trespass.

• ROBERT EARL REED, 51, of 1308 Wright, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.

· APRIL FERN SMITH, 25, of 1319 Wood, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• JULIE ANN MINCE, 34, of 610 Kenney, was arrested Sunday on a charge of criminal trespass.

• GEORGE KOSTELAZ, 47, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxica-

· THEFT was reported in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

 CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 200 block of FM 700. CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 4000

block of Highway 80. • BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:

- in the 1400 block of Sixth Street. - in the 500 block of Johnson.

 ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2500 block of Chanute.

# Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity: MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of

Magnolia. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of North He was born July 31, 1967, in a Highway 87. One person was transported to the

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC. · MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of

Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC. TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of Scott. Service was refused.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Drexel. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the area of Andrews Highway. Service was refused.

MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Robin.

One person was transported to SMMC. TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Ent.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of 12th

Street. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of

Hillside. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of West 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to the

 DUMPSTER FIRE was reported near the intersection of West Ninth Street and Anna.

# Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-16-31-36-38-51. Number matching six of six: 1. Prize: \$10 million. Winning ticket sold in: Southlake.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$4 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-13-32-33-35. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$15,579. Winning tickets sold in: Houston and Kyle. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 9-2-0

Come see our booth at the Howard County Fair We will be there each night to inform you on the best Home Health Care in town et Us Answer All Your Home Health Questions.

Email: caringhearts@wtxcoxmail.com (432) 714-4510 Bus (432) 714-4511 Fax 1510 Scurry Suite C Big Spring, TX 79720

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If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

# Sheriff's report

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

• MATTHEW CASEY O'BRIEN, 27, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention.

 FORTUNATO ALVAREZ III, 18, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid.

 JUAN JOSE LIZCANO JR., 29, was arrested Friday on a charge of violation of parole.

 DAVID HEFFINGTON, 38, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of forgery. WILLIAM RYAN LOCKE, 31, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of speeding and violation of a promise to appear.

· CLARA RANGEL, 32, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.

• MARY ALICE VILLA, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of no driver's license.

• TEKIA "KOKO" WILLIAMS, 23, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of stealing/receiving stolen checks and forgery of a financial instrument. • RUBEN LEE TREVINO, 28, was transferred to the

county jail Friday by the BSPD on a Nolan County warrant for possession of marijuana - less than five pounds more than four ounces. AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ, 59, was transferred to

the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of violation of parole and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less. • DAVID L. PETERSON, 30, was transferred to the

county jail I riday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole. · JOHNNY BRYANT HARDEMAN, 46, was trans-

ferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole.

 JUAN ANGEL MADRID, 20, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for evading arrest or detention and a motion to revoke probation for assault with intent to cause bodily injury.

· JOHNNY RAY ROBINSON, 50, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.

 JOSE ALFREDO MELENDEZ, 23, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.

· RAMON PUGA NUNEZ JR., 57, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - open container, third or more offense. • RUDY H. MORENO, 45, was transferred to the

county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest and possession or use of a volatile chemical. · JOE ERNEST VALENCIA JR., 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a

charge of criminal trespass of a habitation. • DORA LANG AUSBIE, 53, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of crim-

• DAVID YBARRA JR., 19, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and minor in consumption of an alco-

• JERRY JASON COLDEN, 35, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of

aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. • ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 66, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

• LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for altered vehicle registration and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug

• KIRK EVAN FOWLER, 27, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.

# SPRING 1

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**Missed Your Paper:** 432-263-7335 (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m. Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press. Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings,

except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big

Spring, Texas. USPS 0055-940 - ISSN 0746-6811 **USPS 1431-48** 

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Monday

**BIG SPI** 

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# TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

East Texas remembers Hurricane Rita

NEDERLAND (AP) - Petrochemical interests started to bring together the communities of Southeast Texas and West Louisiana early last year. Hurricane Rita cemented that connection.

In this town of 17,000, business leaders and politicians from both sides of the state line reaffirmed their partnership and common goals Sunday on the hurricane's first anniversary.

About three dozen people gathered at a business lunch at Sanderson's Restaurant and Bar, a steakhouse off U.S. Highway 69 where 4,000 meals a day were cooked for first responders when Rita hit — a category 3 storm like Katrina but much overshadowed by the devastation wreaked by the earlier storm.

"It just brought everyone together because we had no choice," said Democratic U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu of Louisiana. "We weren't able to get any attention."

Rita struck along the Texas-Louisiana border, killing at least 11 people in the two states. More than 100 died in the pre-storm evacuation of Houston, in accidents and exposure deaths.

#### Missing Alvarado toddler found alive

ALVARADO (AP) — A 2-year-old boy was found about a mile from his home Sunday, nearly three days after he was reported missing, authorities said.

A pair of Department of Public Safety officers making a final sweep in their helicopter spotted Kevin Brown trying to drink water from a stock tank. Officer Clay Lacey said Kevin wasn't moving as he approached him but when Lacey was a couple of feet away, the child turned and looked at him wide-eyed.

The child was taken by the helicopter crew to Harris Methodist Walls Regional Hospital in Cleburne.

Authorities said he was dehydrated and covered with scratches and ant bites, but was otherwise unharmed. Authorities said the boy disappeared Thursday evening while playing with his 4-year-old brother in the front yard of their mobile home.

The older brother went inside after being bitten by ants. When his parents came outside to get Kevin, he

#### Fatal delays resulting from surgeon shortage

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Hospitals here are transferring ill patients to hospitals in smaller cities with sometimes fatal results because of a local shortage of neurosurgeons, the San Antonio Express-News report-

The delays in treatment have resulted in the deaths of at least two people recently who were sent from San Antonio to hospitals in Austin, the newspaper reported. Others have suffered brain damage or other problems because of the transfers.

While San Antonio has 34 practicing neurosurgeons, many of them do not handle emergency calls because of high malpractice costs or because their hospitals lack the facilities or nurses to handle additional patients.

Methodist Health Care System in San Antonio often turns away such cases for those very reasons.

#### Possible 40-year term debated for teen

EL PASO (AP) — A decision by the El Paso County Attorney's Office to possibly seek a tougher punishment for a 16-year-old girl accused of smuggling cocaine into the United States has drawn criticism from some youth advocates.

The El Paso girl, whose name was withheld because she is a juvenile, faces trial in October after she was arrested on a charge of trying to smuggle nearly 50 pounds of cocaine across the Mexican border.

A grand jury last week granted El Paso County Attorney Jose Rodriguez's request that the teen be tried under the state's determinate sentencing statute.

The move gives a jury the flexibility to punish the teen past her 21st birthday, according to Rodriguez's office. In this case, the change means the teen faces up to 40 years in juvenile detention facilities and then prison.

Youth advocates condemned the decision at a Saturday meeting organized to discuss the issue.

Rodriguez said in a statement last week that his office hopes the decision will deter El Paso's ongoing problem with teenagers transporting drugs across the

#### Advocates: Desth row appeals system flawed

EDINBURG (AP) — Texas allows inadequate legal work in the final stages of death penalty cases and provides minimal oversight for attorneys who handle the life or death claims, judges and advocates contend.

"It's a problem. It needs to be addressed," said Judge Cheryl Johnson, a Republican on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. "But I don't think there are any easy solutions to it."

Writs of habeas corpus are the court challenges meant to ensure no one unfairly convicted is executed. Habeas attorneys are supposed to find any misconduct or mistakes made by the defendant's trial lawyers, investigators, prosecutors, judges and jurors in the

But if a state habeas attorney doesn't find or address a detail, the inmate may never get another chance to

Activists say there are several examples in Texas of faulty work in writs of habeas corpus, the San Antonio Express-New reported in Sunday editions.

In one case, an attorney working on a death row inmate's final state appeal filed an incomplete and vague petition with at least one error.

#### Border bills come up short when it's time to pay for them agents by hiring 2,000

By SUZANNE GAMBOA

**Associated Press Writer** 

WASHINGTON House Republicans have whipped through a series of bills to crack down on illegal immigration with hopes they might provide an election boost in November.

But there's wide disagreement on what they would cost and little inclination among lawmakers to come up with the money in any case.

The House has passed and the Senate is debating legislation to build 700° miles of fence on the U.S.-Mexico border with no certain idea of how much it would cost.

**Estimates range from \$2** billion, cited by Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., chairman of the appropriations subcommittee for homeland security, to \$7 billion, the figure used by Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

Homeland Security offi-

cials told congressional aides it would cost about \$5 billion. The department would not confirm that figure nor address the cost of the 107 miles of fencing already up along the nearly 2,000-mile border. The cost can vary depending on whether the government or a private

'We're trying to figure out how much it will be, but we have been funding House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said last week.

In a vivid demonstration of how hard it is to come up with the money, Hastert played to the cameras at a news conference by slapping red check marks on a placard to show border security accomplishmen s House Republicans.

He left two items unchecked: funding for Border Patrol agents and for a Homeland Security contract for a high-tech border fence called the

Secure Border Initiative. The Senate put \$1.8 billion in a Pentagon bill for 370 miles of fence plus another 500 miles of vehicle barriers. But they shifted the amount to a homeland security bill, where some of the money

will pay for additional

Border Patrol agents and

jail space for immigrants awaiting deportation. Lawmakers, however, repeatedly have passed legislation ordering increases in border secu-

rity without the money to pay for them. The 2004 intelligence

bill Congress passed called for doubling the number of Border Patrol new ones each year for the next five years. It also authorized building or expanding detention centers for illegal immigrants by 8,000 beds a year during the period. far, however,

Congress has put up enough money to pay for only 2,500 of the agents and only half the beds.



#### **MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME** & CHAPEL

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J. D. Moore, 73, died Tuesday. Graveside Services were at 11:00 AM Monday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Elizabeth Langley, 80, died Friday. Graveside services will be at 4:00 PM Monday at Andrews Cemetery in Andrews.

Billy Joe "B.J." Wilkins, 39. died Saturday. Memorial Services will be at 5:00 Thursday Midway Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:30 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### **OFFICERS**

Continued from Page 1A

Islamic radicalism and that the overall terrorist threat has grown since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Several members of the Senate Democratic leadership were expected to participate in the hearing. Dorgan said Republican lawmakers had been invited.

Even before the session convened, Republicans counter-attacked.

"Today's stunt may rile up the liberal base, but it won't kill a single terrorist or prevent a single Sen. Mitch attack," McConnell, R-Ky., said in a statement. He called Rumsfeld an "excellent secretary of defense."

It is unusual for retired military officers to criticize the Pentagon while military operations are under way, particularly at a public event likely to draw widespread media attention.

But Batiste, Eaton and retired Col. Paul X.

Hammes were unsparing in remarks that suggested deep anger at the way the military had been treated. All three served in Iraq, and Batiste also senior military assistant to then-Deputy Secretary Defense Paul

contractor builds the

Wolfowitz. Batiste, who commanded the Army's 1st Infantry Division in Iraq, also blamed Congress for failing to ask "the tough questions."

He said Rumsfeld at one point threatened to fire the next person who mentioned the need for a postwar plan in Iraq.

Batiste said if full consideration had been given to the requirements for war, it's likely the U.S. would have kept its focus Afghanistan, "not fueled Islamic fundamentalism across the globe, and not created more enemies than there were insurgents."

Hammes said in his pre-

pared remarks that not providing the best equipment was a "serious moral failure on the part of our leadership."

The United States "did not ask our soldiers to invade France in 1944 with the same armor they trained on in 1941. Why are we asking our soldiers and Marines to use the same armor we found was insufficient in 2003," he asked.

Hammes was responsible for establishing bases for the Iraqi armed forces. He served in Iraq in 2004 and is now Marine Senior Military Fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies, Defense National University.

Eaton was responsible for training the Iraqi military and later for rebuilding the Iraqi police force.

He said planning for the postwar period was "amateurish at best, incompe-

tent a better descriptor." Public opinion polls

show widespread dissatisfaction with the way the Bush administration has conducted the war in Iraq, but division about how quickly to withdraw U.S. troops. Democrats hope to tap into the anger in November, without damaged being Republican charges they favor a policy of "cut and run."

By coincidence, the hearing came a day after public disclosure of the National Intelligence Estimate. The report was completed in April and represented a consensus view of the 16 disparate spy services inside government, according to an intelligence official.



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# E DITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed

John A. Moseley Managing Editor News Editor

#### **OUR VIEWS**

# Don't forget your tickets for annual AgExpo, Luncheon

he importance agriculture plays in the Crossroads Area's economy will become visibly clear this week when some 500 local farmers and ranchers attend the annual Ag Expo and Appreciation Luncheon at the Howard County Fairbarns.

Slated to begin at Thursday morning, the exposition will again feature numerous exhibits designed to be of interest to agribusinesses not only in Howard County, but producers in Glasscock, Martin, Scurry and Borden counties as well.

There will, however be a difference this year. "Instead of offering the morning classes like we have in the past," explained Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, "we're going to have a tour of the area farms. We're providing the transportation, which is being donated by Howard College, and seating is limited. We're really hoping the area producers will sign up for the tour. Bonnie Franklin is going to be handling catering during the tour, so we're really looking forward to it because she has some really good food."

Perhaps more importantly, however, the day's activities will include the Ag Appreciation Luncheon set for noon. Texas Lt! Gov. David Dewhurst will be the event's keynote speaker.

The luncheon is not only a forum for recognizing the county's producer of the year and agribusiness of the year, but an opportunity for us to show appreciation to the area's farmers and ranchers for doing business in our community.

While local businesses have traditionally been at the forefront of this recognition effort, each of us should recognize that the area's farmers and ranchers play a much more important role than just spending their money with local firms.

Every one of us, regardless of our chosen profession, benefits from the work of farmers and ranchers.

These producers are, after all, the people we depend on to grow our food and produce the fibers that clothe us.

Every bite of food we eat and virtually every piece of clothing we wear can be attributed to the efforts of farmers and ranchers, and that's something each of us should remember — not only on Thursday, but each and every day.

But we do have an opportunity Thursday to make it very clear that we do recognize the importance in our lives.

Tickets for the luncheon, which will be catered by Al and Son's Barbecue, are priced at \$10 each but will not be available at the door, so you'll need to get your tickets soon. Area farmers and ranchers can pick up their free tickets at State National Bank, Big Spring Farm Supply and Porter-Henderson Implement.

We hope to see you there.

#### LETTER POLICIES

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Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
 Sign your letter.

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Provide a daytin

Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
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 We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per

30-day period per author.

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

#### A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we know when to bail out and head in Your direction, Lord.

# Much done, but more left to do

the fourth special session of the 79th Legislature was a success in many ways.

After years of varying opinions on how to fix the broken school finance system, the House and Senate passed a bill that not only brought significant property tax relief to all taxpayers, but also included important education reforms.

Thanks to leadership and cooperation among both chambers, House Bill 1 provides all teachers, school nurses, counselors and librarians with a much deserved \$2,000 across-theboard pay raise.

The bill also restores the \$500 health insurance stipend. Additionally, one educator compensation award program was expanded and another created in order to further supplement educator salaries.

The Awards for Student Achievement Program was created by Gov. Rick Perry and applies to schools serving the most economically disadvantaged students that are also rated exemplary, recognized, or in the top 25 percent of schools most improved in reading or math.

The program's funding was expanded from the initial \$10 million to \$100 million beginning in the 2007-2008 school year. Seventy-five percent of the awards must go directly to teachers who are shown to have improved student achievement.

The second program, the

Educator Excellence Awards
Program, is available to any district and will be funded with \$228
million starting in the 2008-2009
school year. A majority of teachers on each participating campus
must vote to approve participation. Sixty percent of the funds
must go to teachers shown to have
improved student achievement,
while the remainder may be used
for stipends for mentoring, hardto-staff subjects and campuses,
and to reward other staff who contribute to student achievement.

I am pleased to report that Texas students will also benefit from several improvements to the education system that will be implemented in the coming years.

Beginning this school year, districts will receive \$275 per student in grades nine through 12 to be spent on high school completion and success initiatives starting in sixth grade. The funds are intended to increase graduation rates and may be used to promote college readiness or to offer additional study options such as dual credit or advanced placement courses. I believe this is a huge step toward helping our college-bound students get ahead.

Additionally, the Texas
Education Agency will begin to
calculate annual student achievement and report to parents and
teachers whether each student
meets, exceeds or falls below
expectations. This is imperative
for keeping our students on track
for graduation and post-high
school success, whether each student's plan is higher education,
technical school or succeeding in
the workforce.

There are a couple of worthy goals that I hope we will address in the 80th Legislature. I would like to see rapid progress in getting our teachers to the national average in pay. Despite the recent pay raise, Texas still lags in that figure.

I also think we need to assess

I also think we need to assess the effectiveness of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test, as well as whether the test has been counterproductive to meeting its intended objective. I believe it may be time to replace the TAKS test with end-of-course exams based upon the recommended curriculum.

I recognize the importance of preparing students not only for college, but for any path they choose in life. I am interested in expanding technical and workforce training programs in our high schools because not every student chooses to pursue higher education.

While it should always be our goal to encourage further study, we should also utilize the time we have today to help students succeed tomorrow. I look forward to working with educators in this district to accomplish more for our schools.

We must never stop supporting our schools or stop trying to improve them. Today's students are tomorrow's leaders, workers and, yes, teachers.

State Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, represents the 31st Senatorial District of Texas which includes Howard County. He can be contacted through his local office at 401 Austin, Suite 101, Big Spring, 79720, or by phone at 268-9909.

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Phone: 202-224-2934

RANDY NEUGEBAUER
 U.S. Representative

19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: (432) 264-0722

• RICK PERRY
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• PETE LANEY
State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (512) 463-0604

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# Politics, spirituality both in flux

conversation; to have a conference in order to talk something over."

America needs to have a spiritual conversation. We need to have a confab, a meeting of the minds, an intellectual assessment on the role of religion and the importance of individual faith in our country,

while respecting others' choices of different beliefs or none at all. We need to find a balance between those who practice spiritualism without religion, and those who think only religion brings spirituality.

ty. CYNTHIA

It's time. HALL

Extremists — on Oth sides — have

both sides — have dominated the discussion and dictated its tenets for too long. They have tried to shape our values and shame us with guilt. Why have we allowed it? Plug your ears, unless you are one of the above, and let them continue to shout. The rest of us, the majority of Americans—moderates, atheists, seekers, and

doubters — will talk. It's time to talk when socially conservative Christians berate spiritual progressives as less than faithful. It's time, when the former narrowly define their faith by three exclusive issues—for war, against abortion, and opposed to all-things and all-people-homosexual, including gay marriage- while ignoring the broader spectrum of social consciousness, evidenced in environmental activism, ministry to the underprivileged, and provision for the elderly, among other moral works. It's time, when selfproclaimed Christian pastors

would rather preach their version of patriotic, i.e., Republican, politics than the encompassing teachings of Jesus Christ to love your neighbor as yourself. A recent study, entitled.

"American Piety in the 21st
Century," written and commissioned by Baylor University
researchers and conducted by the
Gallup Organization, found that
the foundations of faith and the
practice of those beliefs are changing in the United States.
Americans are moving away from
traditional denominational labels,
but they still seek out places to
demonstrate their faith, whether it
be in churches, charitable or
social activist organizations.
Don't label me a Southern

Don't label me a Southern Baptist, but I'll tell you where my family worships and prays, and share our early morning experiences working at the food bank. That's the new spiritual mentality in this country. Labels restrict and labels compartmentalize, labels lie. "Christian" takes on a universally negative connotation based on the actions of a not-sorepresentative few. The same with "Muslim," or any other religious label. Jesus was a white man, and all Muslims are terrorists; atheists are eternally doomed to damnation in hell. But none of these statements are based in truth, not to mention reality.

Anyone surprised by this survey's results that showed a waning of denominational association should simply look at the political trends in the United States; the latter reflects the former. A few Republicans here, a few Democrats there, but most of us are huddled in the middle, voting for the candidate, not the party. We are issue voters, not party supporters, unlike our parents and

grandparents in an earlier time who voted according to political affiliation. The religious trend in this country is moving the same direction, not Catholic or Episcopalian, but Christian, Muslim, Jew, or atheist.

After being blindsided two years ago in the presidential election by Republican manipulation of religion for political purposes, Democrats are trying to capitalize upon the opportunity presented by the upcoming mid-term elections to discuss values and beliefs in non-threatening, non-political, all-inclusive terms. Democrats have realized that a person's faith—or lack of one—is not simply private, it is personal, and it is OK to talk about it in public, if one chooses.

This search for emotional and spiritual honesty is what Chris Bell, Democratic candidate for Texas governor, does on the campaign trail. Bell advocates government-funded stem cell research and suggests that budgets are moral documents in the choices they reflect; for example, to continue to provide medical care for needy children under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) instead of brutally slashing those services as Gov. Rick Perry and the Republicancontrolled state legislature did in

Americans are re-aligning and re-defining themselves, politically and spiritually. It's a good time for a confab.

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the Lufkin Daily News. She is presently attending law school.

She can be e-mailed at cynthiahallclements\_mmm@yahoo.com physic limita illness ease a emotic difficu childr unique lifelon excess in the And seems will in becaus old be genera ofothei rather

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# Get more from your dental insurance with a little planning

all is the time of year we think about school, football, holidays and dental insurance. Dental insurance? It may be wishful

thinking on my part, but anyone fortunate enough to have dental insurance really needs to think about it every

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You see, most insurance plans have calendar year maximums that renew every January 1. For people needing

even modest amounts of treatment, one year's maximum often will not cover most of their treatment. By doing some late this year and some early

next, you will receive twice the benefit. Beware waiting until December to see your dentist, though. The later in the year you wait, the less likely your dentist is to be able to get you in. There are often many other last minute requests for treatment.

Now, for some commonly asked questions:

Won't my plan yearly maximum cover a lot of treatment?

No, most plans cover a maximum of \$1,000 to \$1,500. Guess how much insurance plans covered 30 years ago — \$1000 to \$1500. It doesn't go nearly as far as it did 30 years ago. If plans had kept up with the true cost of dental treatment, they would be covering at least \$3,000 per year.

Will my insurance cover all my expenses up to the maxi-

No, while many plans do pay most or all of diagnostic and preventative charges (exams, x-rays and routine cleanings), other procedures are covered at percentages of UCR.

What is UCR.? Usual, Customary and Reasonable is what it stands for, but it is a bit of a misnomer. Each insurance company seems to have its own UCR numbers for what each procedure should cost. These numbers are almost always lower than a true average of dental offices in a region. It would appear that these are arbitrary numbers that each company claims is the usual.

Are some procedures reimbursed better than others?

Yes, most plans do diagnosis and prevention at near 100 percent of UCR. Routine fillings and extractions are usually at 80 percent of UCR. Crowns (caps), dentures, partials, surgery and root canals usually are only covered at 50 percent of UCR.

Dental implants, the best way to replace teeth, are usually not covered at all.

Are some insurance plans better than others?

Yes, the plans vary according to how much the employer or patient pay for them. Network, or PPO, plans tend to cost the employer less, but there is a penalty for seeing "out of network" dentists.

Better plans let patients see the dentist of their choice and have higher calendar year maximums (\$2,500 is the best I've seen).

What if I elect to go out of

Your co-pay (the amount you are responsible for) will be higher, but you may find it worthwhile to see the dentist of your choice.

So here's my advice: Use your insurance wisely. Use it every year for diagnostic and preventative care. Then if problems are found, they will likely be small and fixable with routine and well reimbursed procedures.

I always tell my patients that dental insurance is great for keeping you out of serious dental trouble.

Once serious trouble has developed, most plans won't go near far enough to fix them.

Dr. David Ward maintains a dental pracitice in Big Spring located at 1500 Scurry.

# Childhood obesity is now biggest health risk for kids

hen it comes to childhood miseries, there is little more tragic than the woe of the overweight child.

From the trauma of taunting and teasing, to the embarrassment and pain of physical limitations, illness, disease and emotional difficulties,



children are uniquely vulnerable to lifelong injury from excessive weight carried in the early years.

And all the research seems to indicate that it will indeed be lifelong. because contrary to ageold belief, heavy children generally do not grow out of their overweight rather, they grow jn to it.

With two-thirds of American adults now overweight, it's no surprise that the numbers among children are skyrocketing, as well. That's because unlike adults, who must make their own dietary choices, children are largely at the effect of the nutritional environment in which they are raised, in the home, in school, in their

neighborhoods and communities.

Children are being drawn into obesity unawares, and by the time they're old enough to take more control of their dietary practices, the groundwork has long since been laid; poor eating habits are already entrenched, and the excess weight has already become a fact of life.

**Government statistics** indicate that only two percent of American children have a diet that actually conforms to the recommendations established with the Food Guide Pyramid, and the average child's daily caloric intake has increased by almost 200 calories a day over the last 15 years, concentrated in foods and beverages high in sugar and simple, low-nutrient carbohy-

Almost a gyarter of American children are now overweight, with more than 15 percent of both children and adolescents actually clinically obese already.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) classifies children and adolescents in the 85th percentile of weight — that is, those heavier than 85 percent of children their age as being overweight,

while those in the 95th percentile are classified as being severely overweight, or obese.

But whether it's referred to as obese or severely overweight, the consequences are serious. Children who have weight problems, even in early childhood, are twice as likely to be obese in adulthood, and to have the significant health problems associated with obesity. The odds are very poor that they'll reach and maintain normal weight for their lifetimes.

But their troubles start while they are yet young. The American Heart Association finds that 25 percent of children aged 5 to 10 already have the early signs of heart disease, including elevated blood cholesterol or high blood pressure. Other studies indicate that as many as 10 percent of adolescents may already have plaque buildup in their arteries

Type 2 diabetes used to be called "adult onset," but not anymore, since more than half of new cases are now found in children. By the mid '90s, there were 10 times as many cases of Type 2 diabetes in adolescents as there were only 15 years earlier.

Asthma, sleep apnea and other respiratory difficulties plague the overweight child, and there are painful orthopedic problems from the strain caused by chronic excess weight on growing limbs and joints.

Some experts say that perhaps the most tragic effects of overweight on children are the social and emotional consequences for youngsters who are unlike their peers: depression, eating disorders, withdrawal

and low self-esteem. In the end, the overall life expectancy of an obese child can be cut short by as much at 13 years from that of a

healthy-weight child. There are specific

strategies for helping overweight children that differ from those employed for adults, but many medical profession-'als don't have any idea what those might be.

Indeed, in a 1999 federal study, more than a third of the doctors and nurses and about half of the dietitians surveyed said they don't treat overweight children if the

patient doesn't show signs of other medical problems related to obestty. And most said they won't start treatment in kids who don't already want to control their weight, because attitude is a c ritical component for success.

But obesity is hard to treat at any age, and without question, prevention is the best hope for

See CHILDREN, Page 6A



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# Within limits, fish can be safe part of most balanced diets

ish is brain food, the old saying goes. But eating a lot of fish might not be very smart for

some women. Some varieties of fish, especially those caught in the ocean, "are rich sources of omega-3 fatty acids, which may provide a number of health benefits, includ-

ing a reduced risk of

MYERS

heart disease," said Dr. Jenna Anding, Texas Cooperative Extension nutrition specialist. "But eating large amounts of fish caught

pregnant or trying to become pregnant. That's because research has shown some types of fish contain high amounts of methylmercury, which can harm an unborn child, she said.

from the ocean might not

be very smart if you are

So the common sense advice - enjoy fish in moderation - is best for women who are or may become pregnant, Anding said.

"Methylmercury is typically found in high amounts in certain types of fish, such as swordfish, tilefish, king mackerel and shark," she said.

"These fish are unusually large and have lived for a long time, which means they have had more time for the methylmercury to build up in their bodies."

Over time, when fish is consumed, the methylmercury can build up in a person's bloodstream, she said.

"The body removes the metal naturally, but that process may take up to a year, especially if the levels are high," Anding said. "Most women don't know if they have high levels of methylmercury in their bloodstreams or not."

In adults, methylmercury may cause sleep disturbances, difficulty concentrating, numbness or

weakness in the legs, and impaired vision, Anding said. Some people might not have any symptoms at all.

But if an unborn child is exposed to too much of the metal, the result can be brain and/or spinal cord damage, cerebral palsy, seizure disorders, and blindness and/or deafness.

That's why women who are or are trying to become pregnant should avoid eating any of these large species of fish, she said.

However, other types of fish can be consumed safely during pregnancy. Up to 12 ounces per week of shrimp, canned light tuna, salmon, pollock and catfish, can be consumed during pregnancy, Anding said.

"Albacore (white) tuna is higher in mercury than canned light tuna," she added. "If a woman includes Albacore tuna in her diet, she should limit it to 6 ounces a week. The other 6 ounces of fish should come from low-mercury sources."

Fish caught locally can also be consumed during pregnancy, but with caution, Anding said.

"Check local advisories about the safety of fish caught in local lakes, rivers and coastal areas." she said. "If the source of fish is solely from a local area, and no information about the safety of the water is available, limit consumption to no more than 6 ounces per week."

Remember: Raising kids, eating right, spending smart, living well.

For more information on this topic contact the **Texas Cooperative Extension Howard** County Office at 432-264-2236. Educational programs of Texas **Cooperative Extension** 

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Kori Myers, is a

**Howard County Extension** agent for FCS and holds a master's degree in education. She can be reached by calling 264-2236 or by e-mail at krmyers@ag.tamu.edu



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# **Documentary shows immigrants' families** difficulties from other side of the border

By ANABELLE GARAY

**Associated Press Writer** 

DALLAS - What happens to the women left behind by husbands and sons who leave to work arduously and illegally in the United States?

Director Heather Courtney set out to answer the question video letters using exchanged between people living on separate sides of the border. The result was her documentary, "Letters from the Other Side," which airs Tuesday on Public Broadcasting Service stations in Austin and Dallas and nationally October.

video letters illustrate the true tragedy

of our immigration policy," she said.

Part of the documentary details the circumstances of Eugenia Gonzalez, whose husband left for the U.S., eventually lost contact and stopped sending money. Her sons also have left to look for work. She and her two daughters remain behind, trying to get by selling cactus products in local markets.

In one scene, tears well in one son's eyes as the soft-spoken Gonzalez tells him in Spanish: "I love you very much and send you a hug ... and we really feel your absence."

It was while making a documentary about illegal immigrants called "Los

Trabajadores/The Workers," that Courtney thought about telling a story from the women's

> perspective. Two years later. Courtney left in her 1989 Volvo station wagon for the Mexican state of Guanajuato with ' Fulbright Fellowship and a video camera.

"I wasn't setting out to make an advocate piece or political piece," she said.

What she found were families who drifted apart just to survive economically, Courtney said.

The idea for the video letters surfaced after one woman asked Courtney if she would show her Texas footage to her sons in the

and a board certified bariatric physician (the medical specialty of weight management).

# **CHILDREN**

Continued from Page 5A

our children, because as we age, it becomes harder and harder to lose excess weight. Physical changes occur that make it physiologically more difficult, and the poor habits that led to the initial gain become more

and more ingrained. Yet for responsible parents and adults, once we understand what's really at stake for the overweight child, it also gets harder and harder to ignore the progressing

problem.

Dr. Caroline J. Cederquist is a board certified family physician

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# Sports

# SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B Monday, September 25, 2006

The Big Spring High School Cross

The BSHS boys dominated the com-

Competing on what some coaches

Zack Dawson ran a 16.51.78 to finish

17.37.14 was Big Spring's Michael

See STEERS, page 2B

# BRIEF

Quarterback Club meeting is Monday

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

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

For more information, call Tissue at 816-3458.

#### Junior Tennis League continues

A free Junior Tennis League continues at the Figure 7 Tennis Center.

The league, open to players ages 8 through 12, is held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Players should bring their own racquet, or one will be provided when available.

#### Ryder Cup rout: Europe wins easily

STRAFFAN, Ireland (AP) - Favorites or underdogs in the Ryder Cup, it doesn't matter to the Europeans.

'Horns

again

at top

OKLAHOMA CITY-Itmay be early but Texas is already back where it ended last season: At the top of the Big 12 stand-

in the only Big 12

Conference game on the

schedule. Eight other

teams get started in

league play this week,

Oklahoma State finally

get into the mix on Oct. 7.

"It's time to play now."

Texas' win was its 16th

straight in Big 12 play,

breaking the league

record set by Kansas

State from 1997-98. The

Longhorns' last confer-

ence loss came Oct. 9,

2004, against Oklahoma

their opponent when

they return to Big 12 play

"This was a fun week. It

was a fun week to coach

because guys get excited

about the conference

race," Longhorns coach

Mack Brown said. "This week, they had a pep in

their step a lot like they

did for the Ohio State

Texas (3-1, 1-0 Big 12)

State

gets Division I-AA Sam

Saturday before playing

six Big 12 games in as

Longhorns don't get a bye

until the week before

their final regular season

"It's hard. There is

nothing easy about it, but

you have to go out every

week and play hard,"

Studdard said. "You can't

take any team lightly and

that is what our coaches

More important than

the opening win against

Iowa State is the Dallas

See BIG 12, page 2B

guard Kasey

weeks.

Texas quarterback Colt

and Oklahoma

McCoy said.

in two weeks.

game."

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Texas

preach to us."

Houston

Longhorns

claimed

first place by beating

**Iowa State** 

3 7 - 1 4

Saturday

By JEFF LATZKE

**AP Sports Writer** 

ings.

They wanted to win for Darren Clarke and the memory of his wife, for a captain who relied on instincts, for each other. Boasting their best team ever, they backed it up by turning the Ryder Cup into another rout Sunday, winning 18 1/2-9 1/2 to make history as the first European team to win three straight

There's no question who owns this Ryder Cup - the trophy and the tournament.

Europe won 8 1/2 points from the 12 singles matches — the total the Americans needed for an unlikely comeback - and the final score matched the largest margin of victoset in 2004 at

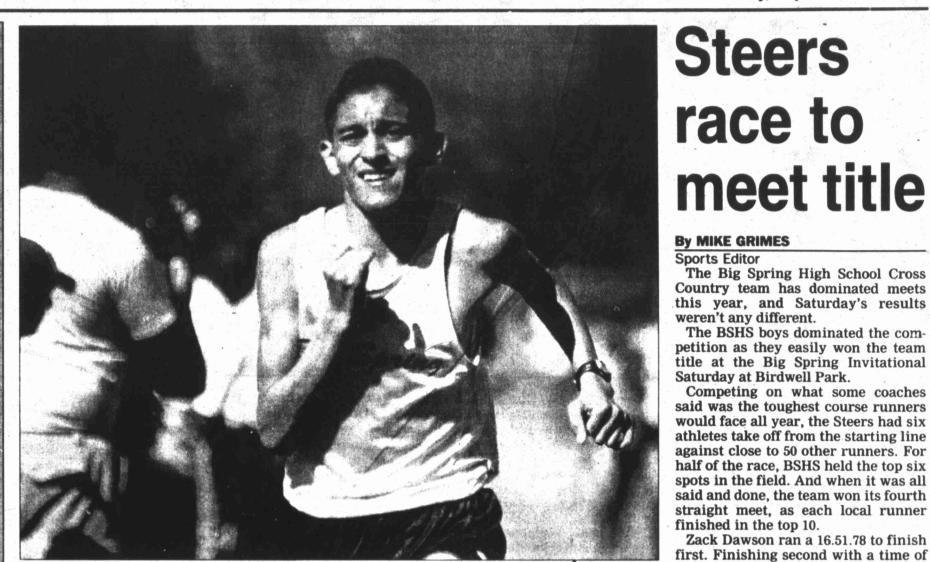
Oakland Hills. Only a gesture of sportsmanship kept Europe, which has won five of the last six Ryder Cups, from the biggest rout by either side since this format began in 1979. J.J. Henry needed to make a 25-foot birdie putt to halve his match, and Paul McGinley conceded the putt.

#### Tampa Bay QB has spieen removed

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) Tampa Bay quarterback Chris Simms had his spleen removed after taking several hard hits in Sunday's 26-24 loss to the Carolina Panthers and was resting comfortably in a hospital.

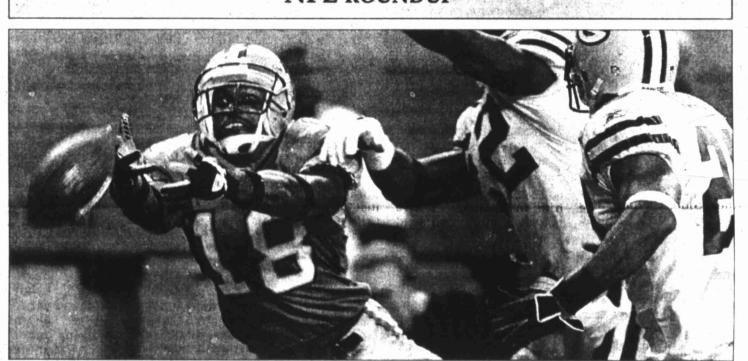
"Chris is doing well and we anticipate a full recovery," team physi-cian Dr. Joe Diaco said in a brief statement adding the 26-year-ole son of former New Yor Giants quarterback Phi Simms was in stabl condition.

Simms had a bloom



Big Spring High School's Jordan Valle crosses the finish line during the Big Spring Invitational Cross Country Meet Saturday at Birdwell Park. Big Spring easily won the boys' team title.

## **NFL** ROUNDUP



Detroit wide receiver Eddle Drummond (18) can't hang onto the ball thrown into the end zone during game action against the Green Bay Packers. The Packers defeated the Lions, 31-24, Sunday.

# Palmer, Cincy rally past Steelers

Palmer wasn't about to lose this one. Not against the Pittsburgh Steelers, the team he says he hates — the team he spent eight exhausting months rehabilitating his mangled knee mostly for the chance to

Alternating between brilliant and awful, the Cincinnati Bengals quarterback threw two touchdown passes to T.J. Houshmandzadeh less than a minute apart midway through the fourth quarter following Steelers turnovers and the unbeaten Bengals rallied for a 28-20 victory Sunday over the Super Bowl champions.

Only three games into the season,

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Carson the Bengals (3-0) own a two-game lead in the AFC North over the Steelers (1-2), who couldn't withstand a second mediocre game in seven days by their own rehabilitating quarterback.

Ben Roethlisberger, recovering from an offseason motorcycle accident and appendicitis attack, was an ineffective 18-of-39 for 209 yards. Palmer had three fumbles and two interceptions, yet withstood them with four touchdown passes. He went 18-of-26 for 193 yards.

Packers 31, Lions 24

DETROIT (AP) — Brett Favre joined elite company with the 400th touchdown pass of his career, then See NFL, page 2B

added two more scores to lead Green Bay to its first win.

With his first TD pass of the game a 75-yarder to rookie Greg Jennings - Favre joined Hall of Famer Dan Marino as the only quarterbacks to reach 400 touch-

down passes. Marino has 420. The Lions (0-3) remained winless under new coach Rod Marinelli. Mike McCarthy earned his first victory as coach of the Packers (1-

Favre reached the milestone in his 228th game, one more than Marino needed to throw No. 400. He finished 25-of-36 for 340 yards with

# Indians run over Rangers

#### By STEPHEN HAWKINS **AP Sports Writer**

ARLINGTON Grady

Sizemore wasn't thinking about another home run when he hit a flare down the left-field line. Then Cleveland's speedy leadoff hitter saw the ball rolling behind the outfielder and his coach waving him home.

Sizemore's first-ever insidethe-park homer, and major league-leading 90th extra-base hit, came an inning after he homered into the second deck of seats in right field. His first multihomer game highlighted the Indians' 11-6 victory Sunday and spoiled the Texas Rangers' home finale.

"It's usually those first two or three steps out of the box that give you a chance to do it or not," Indians manager Eric Wedge said. "He was getting after it like he always does. With the way the ball bounced, he

was able to get it."

Sizemore said he had never had an inside-the-park homer at any level, not even Little League.

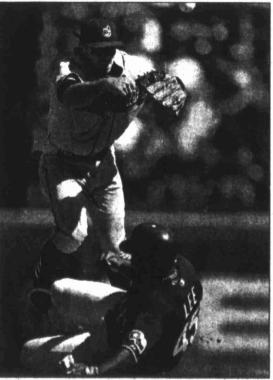
"It was definitely exciting," Sizemore said.

Carlos Lee made an unsuccessful sliding attempt to catch the looping fly ball in the sixth. The ball rolled past him into the cor-

ner, and Sizemore easily scored. "A lot of guys would have been coasting to first base seeing if it was going to fall," Rangers manager Buck Showalter said. "He is probably one of the few guys that would have been going that hard out of the box to score on

When Lee came to bat in the seventh and ninth innings, the potential free agent was greeted with a chorus of boos.

"It's a play that we'd like to make, but we didn't," Showalter



Sliding Texas baserunner Carlos Lee breaks up a double play attempt by Cleveland second baseman Joe Inglett in the fifth Inning of their game Sunday in Arlington.

#### **BIG 12**

Continued from page 1B

with showdown Oklahoma. The teams have represented the South Division in the Big 12 title game each of the past seven seasons, and Texas in 2001 was the only one to overcome a Red River loss on its way to the South title.

For Iowa State (2-2, 0-1), the loss shouldn't be as painful because it comes outside of divisional play. The Cyclones, who've missed out on the North title because of overtime losses each of the past two seasons, get North foes Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri all in Ames.

AND THEN THERE

**WERE TWO:** Four Big 12 teams entered the week with unblemished records, and only two emerged without a loss.

Missouri and Texas A&M each made it to Big 12 play with 4-0 nonconference records. The Tigers start conference play with a home game against 0-4 Colorado while Texas A&M gets a visit from Texas Tech.

"You don't ratchet up," said Missouri coach Gary Pinkel, whose Tigers moved into the AP poll at No. 25. "Are we holding back out there? No, you don't do that. You play as hard as you can.'

Kansas State (3-1) suffered its first defeat with a 24-6 loss to No. 8 Louisville, while Oklahoma State (3-1) fell at Houston 34-25.

**RETURNS:** HICKS Jarrett Hicks, who led the Big 12 with 10 touchdown catches last season. played his first game for Texas Tech this season after receiving an academic eligibility waiver from the NCAA on Friday. He had three catches for 59 yards and one touchdown in Tech's win against

Southeastern Louisiana. "I wanted to get him a few catches, and I'm glad he got some," Tech coach Mike Leach said. "We played him like we had hoped, maybe even a little more than we thought we were going to."

Before this season, the only other game Hicks had missed was the seaopener against son Florida International last season for personal rea-

"Sitting at home the last three weeks, listening to the games on the radio, watching it on TV, it was kind of hard," Hicks said.

OH, MEIERS: It wasn't the best week for the Big 12's quarterbacking Meier brothers.

Kansas State's Dylan Meier got tormented by Louisville's defense and completed only 14 of 33 passes for 121 yards and an interception before getting pulled in favor of freshman Josh Freeman.

His brother, Kerry Meier, was held out of Kansas' game against South Florida because of

a sore right shoulder. Now the question is whether either will be in the starting lineup when the Wildcats (3-1) and Jayhawks (3-1) meet on Nov. 18.

#### **STEERS**

Continued from page 1B

Rodriguez.

"That was a great effort by everyone and a fantastic time for Zack on this course," Coach Britton said after the meet. "Michael needs to continue to run hard and regain the form that has made him a two-time state qualifier."

San Angelo Central placed three runners in the top 10. However, the day belonged to Big Spring.

"We had so many loops and turns in this course, Zack Dawson said, as he looked at the medal in his hands. "This is a good course for the team to run and to keep us focussed on the goal of winning state. It is definitely a tough course. Our team has been running about seven miles each morning and we are going to

have to continue to train at that type of pace."

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On Saturday, the team Mae will travel to in Park Simmons Lubbock for a meet that will provide them with some tougher competition, Britton said, and also give them their first look this year at where District and Regional meets will be held.

"The past few years we have come up in short when it came time to the tired advance," Dawson explained. "We know we have the potential to win it all and we understand this is a do-ordie year for us. We're tired of not finishing with our best efforts, but with the work that everyone on this team has put in this season we feel like we deserve (a state championship), and that this is the year for Big Spring."

According to Britton, anything less would be a disappointment for every-

#### NFL

Continued from page 1B

three TDs with no interceptions. Jennings caught three passes for 101 yards and a TD.

Bears 19, Vikings 16 MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -Chicago and its defense are still in charge of the NFC North.

After a rough afternoon against a suddenly stingy Minnesota defense, Rex Grossman threw a 24-yard touchdown to Rashied Davis right after the 2minute warning and the Bears (3-0) remained unbeaten.

**Antoine** Winfield returned one Grossman's two interceptions for a fourth-quarter touchdown, and Ryan Longwell's third field goal with 7:27 remaining gave Minnesota (2-1) a 16-12 edge. But Grossman came through with his first. fourth-quarter scoring pass after Chester Taylor lost a fumble with 3 1/2 minutes left, and Adewale Ogunleye recov-

ered at the Vikings' 37. Grossman completed 23 of 41 passes for 278 yards.

Eagles 38, 49ers 24

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) Mike Patterson finished his stunning 98yard fumble return at a walk, easing his 292 pounds into the end zone. After an outstanding effort in San Francisco, the Eagles deserved a little rest — especially the big guy.

Brian Westbrook rushed for 117 yards and two touchdowns, also catching a scoring pass from Donovan McNabb for the **Eagles** (2-1).

McNabb passed for 296 yards and Reggie Brown caught five passes for 106 yards for as the Eagles shook off last week's embarrassing collapse against the Giants.

Patterson seized an unlikely moment when Frank Gore fumbled while trying to stretch over a goal-line pile of players in the third quarter. Patterson scooped the ball out of the pile and lumbered away, getting to

the Niners realized it. He eventually walked over the line for the longest scoring fumble return in Eagles history, surpassing a 32-year-old record.

Dolphins 13, Titans 10 MIAMI (AP) — Sacks, poor passes and blocking breakdowns kept the score close, and two winless teams looked the part — until the Dolphins' offense showed a little life midway through the fourth quarter.

A 50-yard drive set up a 39-yard field goal by Olindo Mare with 3:39 left to help sputtering Miami hapless beat the Tennessee Titans 13-10 on

The Dolphins improved to 1-2 — not bad considering they've scored only four touchdowns this season. Tennessee is 0-3 for the sixth time since the franchise was founded in

Miami won even though Daunte Culpepper was limited to 168 yards passing and was sacked five season. Ronnie Brown midfield before most of rushed for 90 yards, including a 27-yard gain to set up Mare's go-ahead kick. For the first time in the Titans' three games, rookie quarterback Vince Young didn't play.

Jets 28, Bills 20

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) - Quarterback Chad Pennington and an opportunistic defense made up for the Jets' lack of a running game.

Pennington capped three drives of 58 yards or more with touchdowns, and linebacker Victor Hobson's 32-yard fumble return for a score clinched the Jets' victory.

Pennington, coming off consecutive 300-yard passing outings, finished 19of-29 for 183 yards, including a 1-yard touchdown completion to Chris Baker. Willis McGahee ran for a career-high 150 yards for the Bills.

The Jets are 2-1; the Bills 1-2.

Colts 21, Jaguars 14 INDIANAPOLIS (AP) -

Jacksonville thought it contain Indianapolis' high-scoring offense by playing keepaway. Good idea, but it didn't matter much to Peyton Manning.

Jacksonville held time, giving him 15 this Manning to one touchdown pass, but Indianapolis found other ways to score - on Terrence Wilkins' punt return and a rare rushing TD by the Colts quarterback — to maintain their lead in the AFC South.

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magnate and former president of the Far East Bridge Federation, got to six hearts doubled on the sequence shown. West's opening club bid was artificial, showing at least 17 high-card points, and North's fivenotrump bid asked South to bid either six hearts or six diamonds.

West led the king of clubs against six hearts and shifted to the ace of spades. Chow ruffed and quickly concluded that West, having bid for 11 tricks all by himself, very likely had at most two red-suit cards

Therefore, acting on the high probability that East had both missng red jacks, Chow ruffed a club in dummy at trick three, led a heart at trick four and finessed the ten!

When the ten held, Chow ruffed another club in dummy, returned a low diamond and again finessed the ten! When this finesse likewise succeeded, Chow was home free. He cashed the A-K-O of trumps, then the Q-K-A of diamonds, and scored his 12th trick with dummy's nine of diamonds

And so, West's magnificent hand wound up costing him the princely sum of 1,210 points. It also taught him that you don't take movie moguls or presidents of bridge leagues too lightly.

Tomorrow: Shifting defense. ©2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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Monday, September 25, 2006

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**GREAT INVESTMENT** 3729 Adams - 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with garage. New carpet. Owner Finance \$39,000.00 or Cash Offer. Best (432)264-9907.

I'M MAD ... AT BANKS WHO DON'T GIVE HOUSE LOANS BECAUSE OF BAD CREDIT, PROBLEMS OR NEW EM-PLOYMENT. I DO, CALL L.D. KIRK, HOMELAND MORT-GAGES, (254)947-4475.

OWNER FINANCE - 4204 Muuir, 3 Bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, CH/CA, \$32,500.00. Easy Terms. Call 325-893-1973.

PRIVATE CAMPESTRE ES-TATES. 3 Bedroom, 2-1/2 landscaped, fireplace, bath. abundant storage. New large hot tub. Garage, large workshop, RV storage, well water, 10 acres. Beautiful View. For Sale By Owner. \$200k. Call (432)267-4950 for appoint-

ment. SALE BY Owner 503 West 3rd in Stanton. Call for appointment (432)522-7831

559-0674.

**538 Westover** 

#### Vehicles

1995 DODGE Avenger ES. 2.5 Liter, 24 valve dual cam V6, 18" Konig rims, new paint, leather interior, performance DUBB sound system. Frontal impact body damage, engine OK. \$1500 or best offer. Call 432-264-2302 daytime 935-6172 evenings.

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

#### su do ku Puzzles by Pappocom **ANSWERS**

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

#### Legals

**LEGAL NOTICE** The Sands Consolidated Inde-

pendent School District, in Ackerly, Texas is accepting bids for the following: Year 2006 Improvements -

Tennis Court Re-Surfacing for Sands CISD All bids must be submitted by 3:00 P.M. local time, Thursday, October 5th, 2006 and must be

addressed or faxed to: Wayne Blount, Superintendent Sands CISD C/O Grimes and Associates. Consulting Engineers, LP PO Box 65 21103 FM 179 Wolfforth, TX 79382 Fax: (806)863-2479 Fax: (806)863-3350 Plans and Specifications are available and may be acquired from: **Grimes and Associates** Consulting Engineers, L.P.

PO Box 65 Wolfforth, TX 79382

806-863-2462 www.grimesengineering:com The Sands Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and waive all for-

#5084 September 18 & 25, 2006.

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710 SCURRY

ALL BILLS PAID

#### Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS If you love someone,

pull their hair. This and other childish tips can now be learned in

the sandbox of life as Pluto and Venus square off. Love is a form of The focus. way choose to get

HOLIDAY MATHIS each other's attention in = order to feel

some of that focus whether we're age 3, 33 or 103 — is not always so pretty.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy to take issue with the wrongs of your partner, or the world in general. It's equally easy to take no issue at all, to leave all issues alone thus giving them no power over you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The recurring dreams you've been having about a person from your past have a much deeper meaning than you realize. It's your day to confront certain unresolved issues and finally put them to

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You create a lovely bit of personal theater for someone you care deeply for. You exaggerate the beauty and diminish the flaws. You're revered as a person of class because of this.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your limitations will ultimately be what move you to the next level of

artistry. The stars align to focus you on what makes you so special, whether it is a talent or an inability. Both are magnificent

facets of you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People teach what they need to learn. Actually, you don't even know what you know until you attempt to teach it. So go forth and find yourself a student. Your subsequent education will astound you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Explore your power. Think about what would happen if you made other Confidence choices. comes from being sure you're on the right path. There's real potential for your relationship with a

Gemini person. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Opportunities may go unrecognized until a Pisces or Sagittarius person points them out. If you want to get the romantic fires burning

again, spend time with a partner doing something neither of you have tried before.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Sometimes taking action is the thing to do. Other times, the best action to take is doing nothing at all. Though it'll' be difficult for you not to speak your mind, remaining neutral today will benefit you in the long run.

Dec. 21). Whatever a loved one asks of you, you're up to the task. But are your requests being listened to? Learn from your past mistakes and assert your-

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

self sooner in a relationship rather than later.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Speak up at a meeting, and you'll find others are thinking the same way. An invitation comes from a higher-up it's dangerous to accept unless you know it's strictly business.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though impatient now, it's important to remind yourself that sometimes financial gain happens bit by bit instead of all at once. Style counts, and you have it. Gracious hosting gets you rave reviews with in-laws or clients. PISCES (Feb. 19-March

20). From time to time, you'll reinvent yourself for your own entertainment, but never because someone doesn't accept you the way you are. Those people will never understand, so it's not worth the effort.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUES-**TIONS: "I'm a Cancer. born July 13. Also a twin, I'm second born. I love a Capricorn who has too many secrets and lives in another state. He's my first love. He's betrayed my trust, but I still love him just as much. I'm kind of having a relationship with a Taurus. I know that this will not go far, although we've been at this for three years. He kind of has a second life, too. What should I do? I'm confused. I know these two may not be worth it." Your stars suggest to me

that you too have a second life, dear Cancer. A secret fantasy life that DICATE, INC.

doesn't get visited nearly enough. Your attraction to these mysterious types is your desire to live out your fantasy self. This, of course, will require that you spend some time in your fantasy world, learning what other reality lives there. These love interests are, as you say, 'worth it" to the extent that they're teaching you about your own desire to be unique. By the way, you're incredibly unique, and you've no need to create this, but only to play in the land inside you waiting to be discovered.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Golden California-girl Heather Locklear is a Venus-ruled Libra whose combination of talent, charisma and beauty draws people in, whether it be to high drama ("Dynasty"), campy soap ("Melrose Place") or situation comedy ("Spin City"). She has showbiz in her back pocket, so I see a big focus for Locklear this upcoming year on her personal life and new relationship with David Spade.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Parents should know, too.

If children insist on meet-

ing someone known only

from the Internet, they

should take a parent or

Listen calmly and try

not to react negatively

when children are honest

about online experiences.

They should know they

can come to you for help.

For more guidance, and

to order our new, free

Internet Safety Kit, visit

our website (www.pollyk-

Robert De Leo, Executive

Polly Klaas Foundation

Thank you for providing

such sage advice. We

hope our readers will con-

getting

Internet Safety Kit to

Dear Annie: This is in

regard to "Isolated on the

Great Plains," whose par-

ents left her 70 percent of

their estate and gave 30

percent to her late broth-

er's children. Now one of

her daughters wants her

inheritance early. She

should give her two

amount her brother's chil-

dren received, and then

do a Warren Buffett and

leave the balance of her

estate to charity. An

inheritance is not an enti-

tlement — it is a gift. —

Dear Thinking: Many

readers agree with you,

although we would not

want the parents to pun-

ish one child because the

other is greedy. Still, an

inheritance is what the

parents wish to give, no

daughters the

Thinking Ahead

more, no less.

vour

same

Dear Robert De Leo:

laas.org). Thank you. -

place.

Director,

sider

learn more.

# Annie's Mailbox ⋅: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Last May, my fiance and I rented a three-bedroom house with a basement and a two-car garage, and agreed to let his best friend, "Josh," move in. We would each pay \$500 a month to cover the rent and utilities. So far, Josh has paid only \$200. Plus, he keeps his room full of dirty clothes and dishes.

How can I make my fiance understand that I am tired of having the two of us pay all the bills? Josh has been looking for work, but not very hard. Also, Josh has a daughter who lives with her mother, and when their electricity was cut off, she washed her clothes in our home, even though she earns more money than I do. I asked her not to do this without first getting my permission, and she got really angry. She constantly refers to the place as "Josh's" house, which really burns me up.

I am trying to be reasonable, and I certainly don't want to have a falling out with my fiance over this, but I am tired of being broke after each payday. Please help. — Wisconsin

Dear Wisconsin: This sounds like the plot of "You, Me and Dupree." The situation with Josh is not likely to get better, and even if he becomes a more reliable tenant, you will still have to deal with the ex and their daughter. Your living arrangements are not working, and you must find a way to transmit this information to your fiance so he understands how serious an issue it is. If he is unwilling to toss out his best friend, you may be stuck with Josh until your lease is up. But insist that the next place you rent will be just the two of you. Make it about privacy and not about Josh, and your fiance may be more receptive.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Lisette," who hasn't spoken to her sister "Lana" in over a year. Get

over it! My sister and I were close at one time but had



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

horrible argument. Except for an occasional family gathering we did not speak for over 10 years. At the age of 57, she had a heart attack. We reconnected briefly before she died six weeks later.

Because of pride, I wasted all those years I could have had with her and her family. Is the argument worth losing your sister permanently or carrying the guilt with you the rest of your life? Accept each other's faults and enjoy one another. -

**Forever Guilty** Dear Forever: You learned a harsh lesson, but please know that your sad experience will serve as a warning to others.

Thank you. Dear Annie: Thirty years ago, my wife, "Alicia," had an affair with a prominent citizen in our community. It began when she was asked to co-chair a charitable organization with him. He started driving her back and forth. She would return later and later, and then the two of them would sit in his car outside our house for another half-hour. Two years into the affair, Alicia went away on a "business trip," where she spent a week with him at a vacation resort. She also gave me a venereal disease.

Most people in our community know the two of them had a fling. Early in the affair, we went for counseling, but Alicia repeatedly lied in the sessions. We stayed together, but our marriage has

never been the same. I'm what children post online. still in counseling. She won't go.

This man is now 80 years old. When he dies, Alicia will want to go to his funeral. I am not in other adult and meet the favor of this, but I know online friend in a public sne won't listen to me. Should I allow her to attend his funeral, and

should I go also? — Still

Coping Husband

Dear Husband: Allow her to attend? You apparently have no say in the matter. Alicia has been walking all over you for 30 years. Unless she takes responsibility for the damage she's done to your marriage, counseling will only do so much. Since she is going to attend the funeral anyway, we say go with her. The woman

needs a leash. Dear Annie: Many of your readers may be concerned about risks to children on the Internet. As more and more children go online, so do child predators. **Families** should know that children too often make themselves vulnerable targets.

In a national survey of children (8-18) last fall, we found that half of teenagers post personal information about themselves online, one-third talked about meeting someone they knew only online, and one in eight discovered an adult posing as much younger. We recommend positive communication with your child and steps, such as:

Tweens, ages 8-12, take fewer risks and should be praised for caution. Teens, 13-18, must be convinced of risks and may need to hear stories of kids manipulated because of their Internet behavior.

Know what your kids do online. Ask them to show you their profiles and what activities are popular on the Web. Let children know from

the start that you will monitor their Web use. Keep computers in public rooms and limit use to when you are present.

Search the Internet for

name.

child's

Millions of people can see

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.n et, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190. Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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#### **MONDAY**

			WFAA (2)	KMID 3	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (II)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	DISC 20	AMC (21)	SPIKE 22	TNT 23	BET 28	DISN 27	ESPN2 (28)		
10		- 1	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Science Fic.
	-	:PM	News (CC)	News	Heridas de	King of the Hill	News	Viuda de	News	Raymond	Van Impe Pres	News-Lehrer	American	the Enemy	CSI: Crime	Without a	Live (CC)	Phil of Future	m indice address of		Dark Angel
1	6	:30		Wheel-Fortune	Amor	The Simpsons	Entertainment	Blanco	Be a Millionaire	Raymond	John Hagee	1 2	Chopper	(CC)	Scene Invstgtn.	Trace (CC)	Hotwyred	That's-Raven	The Contender		(CC)
1	_]Wi	ite Swa	ID .	Wife Swap	La Fea Mas	Prison Break	The Class	Tierra de	Deal or No	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	Antiques	American Hot	Movie: The In-	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Movie: Beef II	Movie: Stuart			Dark Angel
	7(0			(CC)	Bella	(CC)	How I Met	Pasiones	Deal (CC)	Friends (CC)	Charles Scott	Roadshow	Rod (CC)	Laws (CC)	Scene Invstgtn.	(CC) (DVS)	(CC)	Little (CC)	The Contender	the same of the sa	(CC)
		1 101	Lost (CC)	Lost (CC)	Barrera de	Vanished	Two/Half Men	Amores	Heroes (CC)	Friends (CC)	Light of the	Marie	Biker Build-Off			Law & Order				Atlanta	
	8	:30			Amor	(CC)	Old Christine	•	•	Friends (CC)	Southwest	Antoinette			Scene Invstgtn.	(CC) (DVS)			Bowling		Dark Angel
		PM	1.5		Cristina	Becker (CC)	CSI: Miami	Decisiones	Studio 60-	Family Guy		(CC)	American	Movie: What	Disorderly Con.	Law & Order	Soul Food	Life Derek		New Orleans	(CC)
	9	:30				Friends (CC)	(CC)		Sunset Strip	Family Guy			Chopper	About Bob?		(CC) (DVS)	(CC)	Phil of Future	•	Saints (CC)	
		PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	70s Show	News	Noticias	News	Funniest Wed-	The Hour of	Charlie Rose	American	(CC)	The Ultimate	Cold Case	Jamie Foxx	Zack & Cody	Billiards		
1	10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	Late Show-	Laura	Tonight Show	ding Outtakes	Healing	(CC)	Chopper	•	Fighter	(CC)	Jamie Foxx	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	Quite Frankly	SportsCenter	The Outer
	:	PM	The Insider	Jimmy Kimmel	La Hora de la	King of the Hill	Lettermañ			Midnight	<b>CCM Ministries</b>	Sign Off	American Hot	Movie: Slap	CSI: Crime	The X-Files	In Living Color	Phil of Future	With Smith	(CC)	Limits (CC)
1 "	11	:30	Jimmy Kimmel	Live (CC)	Risa	Malcolm-Mid.	Late Late	IAI Rojo Vivol	Late Night-	Money	Scrivner		Rod (CC)	Shot 2:	Scene Invstgtn.	(CC)	In Living Color	Kim Possible	Streetball		Twilight Zone
	:			Extra (CC)	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids	Show		Conan O'Brien	Madness	Update/Israel		Biker Build-Off	Breaking the	MXC	The X-Files	Comicview	Proud Family	Streetball	NFL Primetime	Twilight Zone
1	12			Paid Program		Malcolm-Mid.	The Insider	Pagado	Paid Program		Booker			ice (CC)	Blind Date	(CC)	(CC)	Sister, Sister	2006 World	(CC)	Twilight Zone

#### **DENNIS THE MENACE**



RUFF MAY HAVE ONLY ONE LIFE, BUT THAT'S PLENTY ENOUGH FOR ME!

HARBORING A CRIMINAL

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"If we had a leaf blower we wouldn't have to rake that."

PROTECTING SOMEONE WHO STOLE A BOAT

THE BOOK

PHRASES

**HAGAR** 



**BLONDIE** 







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ISN'T THAT A YEAH, LITTLE EXTREME? YOU'RE RIGHT, SHOOT HIM

**AGNES** 

BC





YOU WANT SLIMY, STICKY OR ROUGH RIDERS SURPRISE ME.

HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST







**SNUFFY SMITH** 





BEETLE BAILEY





# This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Sept. 25, the 268th day of 2006. There are 97 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 25, 1789, the first United States Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. (Ten of the amendments became the Bill of

On this date: In 1506, King Philip I of Castile died.

1775, American Revolutionary War hero Ethan Allen was captured by the British as he led an

attack on Montreal. In 1890, Wilford Woodruff, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, issued a Manifesto formally renouncing the practice of polygamy.

In 1906, Russian composer Dmitry Shostakovich was born in St. Petersburg. In 1919, President Wilson

collapsed from a stroke after a speech in Pueblo, Colo., during a national speaking tour in support of the Treaty of Versailles. In 1956, the first trans-

Atlantic telephone cable went into service.

In 1957, with 300 U.S. Army troops standing guard, nine black children forced to withdraw from Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., because of unruly white crowds were escorted to class.

In 1973, the three-man

crew of the U.S. space laboratory Skylab 2 splashed down safely in the Pacific Ocean after spending 59 days in orbit.

In 1978, 144 people were killed when a Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 and a private plane collided over San Diego.

In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn in as the first female justice on the Supreme Court.

#### Answer to previous puzzle

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	DESPISED SWINGS													

37 Rowboat

41 Pet with a

44 Business-

tool

equipment

cage wheel

43 Have breakfast

school subj.

45 Seamstress

46 Water vapor

47 National bird

50 Sit for a portrait

#### **Newsday Crossword**

63 In that place

chalkboard

1 Attorney's field

2 Boise's state:

Vegas

credit card

M\*A\*S\*H

numbers

8 "That makes

9 Teachers' org.

inexpensive

10 Get it wrong

7 Minimum

sense"

11 Store with

items

64 Clean the

**DOWN** 

Abbr.

4 Garbage

holders

5 Use a

6 Alan of

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Purple flower 6 Drop (write to)
- 11 Passing trend 14 Add \_\_ of spice
- 15 Defeated one 16 Anger
- 17 Like drip-dry garments
- 19 Mover's truck 20 Trouser-leg line 21 Young
- socialites 22 Desert illusion 25 Auto
- mechanic's lubricant 27 Removed
- clothing wrinkles
- 28 Storm-door insert 30 Autumn apples,
- for short 31 Tennis pro **Becker**
- 32 AMA members 35 Pen filler 36 Car-radiator
- contents 38 River barrier 39 Espionage org
- 40 Sultan's wives 41 Bees' home 42 Got closer to
- 44 Glossy paint 46 Family cars 48 Sidewalk
- material 49 Small pie
- 50 Tea types 53 Self-image 54 Elementaryschool activity
- 59 Everyone
- 60 Artist's stand 61 River barrier 62 Gibson of film

#### FOUR BY FOUR by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- **12** Some Mideasterners 13 Thickly packed
- 18 Must have 21 Below-average
- grade 22 Imitative one
- 23 Teheran native 24 Elvis' music 25 Broad smile
- **26** Take a breather
- 28 Did shoe repair
- 29 Study at the last minute
- 31 Tiresome

Charlie

- speaker 33 Bird in a
- Poe poem
- 34 Refine, as metal
- 51 Water pitcher 52 Cabbagelike plant
- 54 Harden, as 48 Across 55 Defiant
- exclamation **56** TV actress
- Longoria \_ Miserables
- 36 Movie detective 58 General Grant's foe 110 111 112 113

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VOLUME

By CIND

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By NAN

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By THO Staff Wr

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