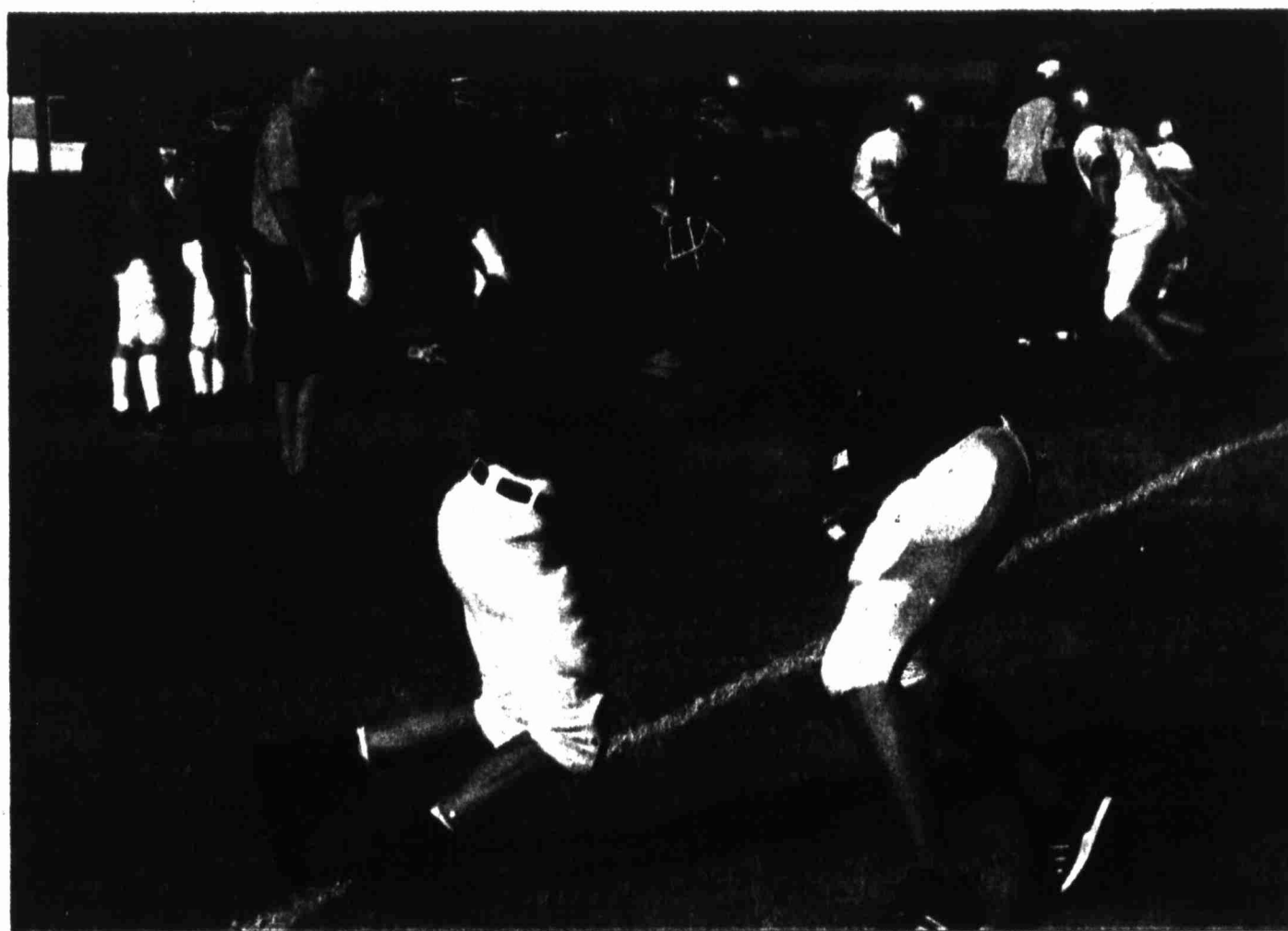


PREPARING FOR THE SEASON



Big Spring High School varsity and junior varsity football players get a workout Friday morning as two-a-day practices continue. The Steers open the season Aug. 26 at home against Odessa High School. Season tickets are still available through the Athletic Training Center on the high school campus.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Public a no-show for BSISD hearing on budget, tax rate

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Call it the public hearing that wasn't.

The Big Spring Independent School District held a public hearing Thursday night to give the public the chance to comment on the district's proposed budget and tax rate for the coming school year.

The public declined the invitation.

With no one speaking either for or against the new budget and tax rate, the way appears clear for BSISD trustees to formally adopt the financial package for 2005-06 by the end of this month.

The board has tentatively set Aug. 25 for the date when the budget and tax rate will be formally approved.

The \$24.9 million package is essentially a "bare bones" budget, officials



Waggoner



Downes

said. Many big-ticket items requested prior to the school year have either been nixed, pared down or put off for at least a year.

The only major additions come in the form of the purchase of two new school buses (the last new buses were bought three years ago) and

salaries.

Trustees have approved a salary schedule that features raises for virtually all district personnel.

Teachers will receive their normal "step" raise based on the state teacher salary scale. Those

See BSISD, Page 3A

Certified values up for most Howard County entities

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

As area taxing entities struggle with skyrocketing utility and fuel costs, there is a bit of good news from the Howard County Appraisal District, which recently announced value increases for most entities.

Thanks to a favorable fluctuation in mineral prices, all local taxing entities except one saw an increase in its certified values.

Howard County and Howard College both saw the largest jump, going from \$1,142,979,337 in 2004 to \$1,241,381,687 in 2005, an increase of \$98,402,350 in taxable values.

"We have minerals here, so our prices can fluctuate from year to year, depending on several factors on the mineral

side," said Brett McKibben, chief appraiser for the district. "Price, costs and reserves are what drive the mineral values. The most common mineral here in Howard County, of course, is oil and gas."

Big Spring Independent School District also saw a jump, coming in \$24,120,645 ahead of 2004's \$614,591,913 with a taxable value of \$638,712,558 in 2005.

Forsan ISD also saw a substantial jump in its values, increasing by \$47,003,307 from the 2004 value of \$233,032,699 to a taxable value of \$280,036,006 in 2005. The city of Forsan also saw a

Howard County Appraisal District 2005 Certified Estimates

Taxing Entity	2004 Certified Values	2005 Certified Values	Difference
Howard County	\$1,142,979,337	\$1,241,381,687	\$98,402,350
Big Spring ISD	\$614,591,913	\$638,712,558	\$24,120,645
Coahoma ISD	\$197,701,866	\$217,454,662	\$19,752,796
Forsan ISD	\$233,032,699	\$280,036,006	\$47,003,307
City of Big Spring	\$412,076,893	\$416,702,369	\$4,625,476
City of Coahoma	\$15,908,207	\$15,417,160	-\$491,047
City of Forsan	\$3,307,547	\$4,841,620	\$1,534,073
Howard College	\$1,142,979,337	\$1,241,381,687	\$98,402,350
PBUGW District	\$607,076,222	\$675,530,505	\$68,454,283

jump of \$1,534,073, coming in well ahead of the \$3,307,547 posted in 2004 with \$4,841,620 in 2005.

McKibben said the jump in values for Forsan is thanks to one account that more than doubled

between 2004 and 2005.

"Forsan saw a pretty significant increase, and that was because of a single account," said McKibben. "There were some workover rigs from Key Energy in Forsan,

and you know how those things move in and out. So that account went from about \$800,000 to about \$2 million. So it kind of just depends on where some of this stuff is on Jan. 1 because workover rigs

like these move around, and they're taxable wherever they are on that date.

"We have wells that go dry and new wells being drilled. Forsan's values

See VALUES, Page 3A

Sales tax rebates show near double-digit increase

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Sales tax rebates took a near double-digit upswing for the city of Big Spring this month, according to the Texas Comptroller's Office. Ironically, the improvement was less than many other area West Texas communities.

Big Spring received \$466,285.27 this month, up 9.3 percent when compared to the

\$426,609.90 taken in during August of 2004. For the first eight months of 2005, Big Spring has collected \$2,883,641.59, an amount ahead of last year's collections by 6.4 percent.

Most area communities received positive sales tax rebates when compared to a year ago, according to the Comptroller's Office — many in double figures, percentwise.

Coahoma received \$7,522.24

for the month, up 28.94 percent when compared to the \$5,833.53 received a year ago. For 2005, Coahoma has received \$40,603.52, a pace that is 10.65 percent higher than 2004.

After two months of declining sales tax rebates, Forsan witnessed a strong improvement this month. The community received \$9,158.11 this month compared to \$6,872.52 in August 2004. That's an increase of 33.25 percent. The previous two

months, Forsan had suffered drops of 25.35 percent and 29.91 percent. For the year, Forsan has received \$50,546.56, still a healthy increase of 20.1 percent.

Rebates went up 7.58 percent for Abilene, comparing August 2005 rates of \$2,875,059.58 to August 2004 rates of \$2,672,461.83. For the year, Abilene has received \$19,566,437.38, up 8.2 percent.

Andrews enjoyed a double-digit increase again. The

\$113,776.47 received this month is a 31.48 percent increase compared to the \$86,528.94 collected in August 2004. Andrews had received a 10.58 percent increase in June and a 13.18 percent increase in July. For the year, the city has collected \$681,996.05, up 16.93 percent.

Brownfield took in \$121,994.51 this month compared to \$89,121.53 a year ago, for an

See REBATES, Page 3A

INDEX

Classified 3-5B

Features 6-8A

Obituaries 2A

Opinion 4A

Sports 1B

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ATTENTION OR ANSWERS?

With the death toll in Iraq mounting at an alarming pace, Cindy Sheehan has become a flashpoint for emotions about the war.

Her efforts to shame the president have won praise from the left, condemnation from the right and have divided her own family.

See Page 5A



BITE WORSE THAN BARK

HOUMA, La. (AP) — A mail carrier got bitten — by a barking man, police said.

Mark D. Plumb, 20, of Butler, Mo., was arrested and charged with simple battery Wednesday after he ran barking from a house and bit the letter carrier on the shoulder, police spokesman Lt. Todd Duplantis commented.

Plumb said he bit the carrier as a joke, and has no history of criminal activity or mental illness, police said.

Plumb was released from the Terrebonne Parish jail after posting \$165 bond.

COMING THIS WEEKEND

Cover Story: American Profile presents the latest in affordable back-to-school fashions that are available everywhere. A celebrity stylist helps students make trendy outfits on a budget.



Obituaries

Wilma Faye James



Wilma Faye James, 77, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2005, in a local hospital. Funeral services are 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 15, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Gene Collins, minister of South Church of Christ, Odessa, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

She was born April 18, 1928, in Lincoln and married Pat James April 8, 1961, in Odessa. He preceded her in death April 13, 2003. She came to Big Spring in 1977 and worked at the Big Spring State Hospital for more than 12 years as an licensed vocational nurse before retiring. She was a member of Cedar Ridge Church of Christ.

Survivors include five daughters, Patsy Brown and husband, Clarence of Big Spring, Creovis Brown and husband, Dan of Fort Worth, Lola Monroe of Bryan, Lenora Francis and Devora Dobson, both of Boston, Mass.; two sons, Billy James and wife, Marie of Carson, Calif., and Jimmy James and wife, Mary of Abilene; two sisters, Norris Brown Pittman and husband, Leonard of Waco and Girlean Brown of Austin; two brothers, the Rev. E.B. Brown and wife, Mattie Evelyn of Austin and Gordon V. Brown and wife, Ruth of Fort Worth; one sister-in-law, Idella James of Abilene; 40 grandchildren; 80 great-grandchildren; 40 great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by one daughter, Eva James, her parents, Evans and Katie Brown, two sisters, Eunice Theola Brown and Alonia Crook, one brother, Alton Brown Sr., and one great-grandson, Brandon James.

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

Ruby Tate

Ruby Tate, 81, of Big Spring, formerly of Midland, died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005, at her residence. Graveside funeral services are 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15, 2005, at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland with the Rev. Joe Torres, chaplain with Home Hospice, officiating.

She was born March 24, 1924, in Howard County and married Richard Tate April 26, 1943, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Sept. 19, 1981. She was office manager for the geological library for Ordovician for 25 years in downtown Midland before retiring. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Michael and Carol Tate of Omaha, Neb.; two granddaughters; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Craig Tate Jan. 9, 1971, her parents, Walter and Elizabeth Harrell, two sisters, Lottie Parks and Pauline Sundry and two brothers, Raymond Harrell and Eldon Harrell.

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

Raymundo Cruz Terrazas



Raymond Cruz Terrazas, 59, of Midland died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005, at the Hospice Midland Inpatient Unit of Midland Memorial Hospital. Rosary is today, Aug. 12, 2005, at 7:30 p.m. at Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral service is 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, 2005, at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

He was born Nov. 5, 1945, in Big Spring to Fred and Antonia Terrazas. He was raised and educated in Midland. He married Socorro Flores Sept. 6, 1964, in Midland. He was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his son, Ray Terrazas.

He is survived by his wife, Socorro F. Terrazas of Midland; two sons, Eddie Terrazas Sr., and Bobby Ray Terrazas Sr., both of Midland; three brothers, Fred Terrazas of New Mexico and Nick Terrazas and Albert Terrazas, both of Midland; two sisters, Joanne Perez of Austin and Linda Flores of Midland; parents, Fred and Antonia Terrazas of Midland; his mother-in-law, Pilar S. Hull of Midland; eight grandchildren; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services are under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home. Family messages and condolences may be e-mailed to Pipkin@nts-online.net.

Bill Ott

Bill Ott, 78, of Odessa died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005, in a Big Spring nursing home. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 15-23-29-32-34.
Number matching five of five: none.
Matching four of five: 93. Prize: \$529.
Matching three of five: 3,112. Prize: \$11.
Matching two of five: 31,832. Prize: \$2.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-14-29. Bonus Ball: 28.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 2.
Prize per winner: \$100,000.
Winning ticket(s) sold in: Dallas and Denison.
Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$200,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-9-1

Take note

• **HOWARD COUNTY FAIR WEB SITE** is www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

• **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

• **RSVP ICE CREAM SOCIAL** from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Dora Roberts Community Center. RSVP to 264-2397.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. today:

- **LAQUITA LASHAY GRAY**, 26, of 2613 Neill Road, was arrested Thursday and held for the HCSO.
- **JUSTIN IVIN SPEER**, 30, of 538 Westover Road Apt. 245, was arrested Thursday on three local capias warrants.
- **CHRISTENE MICHELLE BEAM**, 24, of 1308 E. 17th Street, was arrested Thursday on a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice.
- **LASANDRA JACKSON**, 39, of 1110 E. Fifth Street, was arrested Thursday on a U.S. Marshal warrant and a Midland County warrant.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of FM 700.
 - in the 400 block of Westover Road.
 - in the 2300 block of Wasson.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.
- **FRAUDULENT USE/POSSESSION OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION** was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell.
- **FORGERY** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane.
- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE** was reported in the 2900 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **CRUELTY TO ANIMALS** was reported in the 600 block of 16th Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 700 block of Aylesford.
- **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1300 block of Ridgeroad.

Tonight—Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows around 70. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain is 20 Percent.

Saturday—Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

Saturday night—Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Sunday—Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday night—Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Lows in the upper 60s.

Monday—Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Monday night—Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

• **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

• Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. in the Event Center, 1607 E. Third.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY

• Coahoma and Forsan students first day of school.

• Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association meets at 11:30 a.m. for lunch in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

• Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

• 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. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the north-west door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the La Posada Restaurant.

• DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.

• 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:

• **CHRISTOPHER RAYMOND LAIR**, 34, was arrested Thursday by DPS on charges of theft by check (two counts), driving while license invalid and open container.

• **ANNETTE TREVINO**, 37, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

• **CARLOS MONTANEZ SR.**, 52, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.

• **BRANDON NORRIS MARTIN**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor and possession of a dangerous drug.

• **ERNEST JOHN SUPANCIC**, 74, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of attempted kidnapping.

• **LAQUITA LASHAY GRAY**, 26, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for credit card or debit card abuse (two counts).

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2500 block of Carol. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Park. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Midway Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s.

Tuesday—Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

Wall Street

Dow 10,627.37 -58.52 (-0.55%)
Nasdaq 2,152.32 -22.23 (-1.02%)
S&P 500 1,231.57 -6.24 (-0.50%)
10-Yr Bond 4.281% -0.05
NYSE Volume 577,556,000
Nasdaq Volume 534,491,000

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

Support groups

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

• West Texas Gluten-Free Support Group (Celiacs Helping celiacs) meet from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Jan. 15 in the Odessa Regional Hospital. For more information, contact Barbara at 432-694-3614 days, or 432-520-2119 evenings.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group — All widows and widowers are invited to a covered dish dinner beginning at 6 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Rannels streets. Enter through the north door. For more information, call 398-5522.

TUESDAY

• The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m., a new time, the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Robber leaves ID at bank

COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP) — It wasn't hard for police to track down the man they say robbed a Trustmark Bank this week — the suspect apparently left his wallet and identification at the scene of the crime.

Terrell Green, 26, of Jackson, was charged with Wednesday's robbery.

Police Lt. Tom Thompson said a man walked into the bank wearing a white T-shirt, blue jeans and sunglasses, and handed the teller a note from his wallet demanding money.

When the teller asked what she should do with the money, the man handed her a white pillowcase into which she placed seven \$100 bills, 17 \$50 bills and numerous smaller bills and a dye pack, Thompson said.

The man took the pillowcase and left, authorities said.

Police set up checkpoints to search for the suspect but had to look no further than the bank counter, where the suspect's wallet was found with his identification inside.

Following information from the wallet, Thompson said investigators went to the suspect's mother's home and arrested Green as he was walking out the front door.

Man pleads guilty to securities, mail fraud

TYLER (AP) — A California businessman has pleaded guilty to bilking hundreds of victims — including dozens of East Texans — of \$27 million in a real estate scam.

Jules Bernard Fleder, 64, pleaded guilty in a Tyler federal court Thursday to conspiracy to commit securities and mail fraud, and committing securities fraud.

The plea agreement includes a 10-year prison sentence and restitution.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Arnold Spencer said that 90 percent of the money he bilked would be returned to the more than 250 victims involved.

Based in Los Angeles, Fleder controlled more than 130 businesses in several states.

In the East Texas scheme, Fleder obtained nearly \$2 million from investors to start a modular home manufacturing plant and establish a residential subdivision on land in Lindale.

Nationally, the scheme included Sunshine Real Estate Development in South Carolina; Tyler Real Estate Development, formed to raise money to develop real estate in South Carolina; Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia; and Prairie Lake Estates in Lindale.

Fleder used the investment money to buy luxury automobiles, expensive boats and a house in Beverly Hills.

Publishers agree to send books to classrooms

AUSTIN (AP) — Textbook publishers agreed Thursday to begin shipping overdue textbooks that haven't yet been paid for to Texas classrooms as soon as school districts start making their orders.

Millions of new health, fine arts and foreign languages textbooks have been ordered and are sitting in warehouses awaiting shipment to Texas schools. So far, the Texas Legislature hasn't funded the books, which are scheduled to replace materials that could be as much as 14 years old.

"We will ship these textbooks based

on public assurances by the governor, lieutenant governor and the speaker that the textbooks will be funded by the state," said Collin Earnst, a spokesman for publisher Houghton Mifflin.

Lawmakers, in their second special session on school funding of the summer, still haven't determined how they'll pay for \$295 million in books. But state leaders have each expressed a determination to get the books funded in a timely manner.

"Given the time constraints, I personally spoke this afternoon to the largest classroom textbook publishers and all have agreed that based on Governor (Rick) Perry, Speaker (Tom) Craddick and my statements yesterday, they will immediately begin shipping the new textbooks once they have been ordered by the Texas Education Agency," Dewhurst wrote in a letter to school administrators.

State assigns monitor to ensure no transfers of white students

MUMFORD (AP) — The state has assigned an educator to monitor the Mumford school district to ensure it complies with a recent court order preventing the district from accepting white transfer students from Hearne.

Don Robbins, a former superintendent in Calvert and four other Texas school districts, will monitor Mumford for the next three years, according to a letter by state education commissioner Shirley Neeley.

Senior U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice ordered the appointment of a monitor when he ruled last week that Mumford had to turn away white transfers from Hearne. Justice said in the ruling that the transfers caused neighboring school districts to become segregated.

He described the transfers as illegal white flight in the ruling that resulted from a 2003 lawsuit filed by the Hearne school district and three students.

Earlier this week, Justice denied Mumford Superintendent Pete Bienski's request to allow the transfer students to remain in Mumford pending an appeal.

Many parents in Hearne argue that they live in a dangerous district that doesn't provide students with a quality education. They say they should be allowed to choose where their children attend school.

Crash kills two, injures dozens

LUCIO BLANCO, Mexico (AP) — A small settlement catering to travelers along a nearby bridge to the United States was reduced to little more than smoldering rubble when a tanker truck collided with a train, killing two people and injuring at least 44.

Witnesses said they heard two large explosions Thursday followed by a series of smaller ones, with gusts of fire ripping through cement-wall homes and blasting off corrugated metal roofing.

The truck owned by Techno Gas of Monterrey, Mexico, was hauling two tank loads of liquid petroleum gas. Witnesses say the truck failed to stop when the train sounded. The collision occurred about 3:20 p.m.

One tank exploded and the other seeped gas through a puncture, fueling flames that took a team of Mexican and Texas firefighters hours to extinguish.

Orlando Garcia, director of emergency services for Matamoros, Mexico, said the driver of the truck and the train's engineer died. The injured were taken to area hospitals.

VALUES

Continued from Page 1A

were't hurt as bad as Coahoma's in some years because the Forsan properties have a longer life — they have more reserves. That's what's taxed, what's in the ground."

Coahoma ISD also saw a considerable jump in its values, coming in at \$19,752,796 ahead of \$19,701,866 in 2004 with \$217,454,662 in 2005.

The only taxing entity that didn't come out ahead of last year's values was the city of Coahoma, which saw a \$491,047 drop from the \$15,908,207 posted in 2004 and the \$15,417,160 taxable value recently released.

"If you look at the val-

ues in the county over a five-year period, you can see how it's bounced around all over the place," said McKibben. "The city of Coahoma is the only entity that's not up at least some at this point, and that's because they don't have minerals. So their values are pretty constant."

"The values for the city of Coahoma saw a \$491,047 drop between 2004 and 2005. Part of that is because of their lack of mineral values, but also because in 2004 we had a double assessment there. They lost about \$300,000 off the 2004 value of \$15.9 million, bring it to about \$15.6 million, which is very close to where they are this year."

The city of Big Spring saw a \$4,625,476 increase,

up from \$412,076,893 in 2004 to \$416,702,369 in 2005. The Permian Basin Underground Water District also posted an increase, coming in at \$68,454,283 ahead of the \$607,076,222 posted in 2004 with \$675,530,505 in 2005.

"It's good news for the entities any time they have an increase in value," said McKibben. "I really don't think any of the entities should have to go up on their rates much, if at all. If the entities just need the same amount of money as last year, they have more to tax this year."

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

REBATES

Continued from Page 1A

increase of 36.88 percent. For the year, Brownfield has taken in \$604,804.80, an increase of 9.29 percent.

Colorado City collected \$45,101.43 for August 2005. That's a 2.72 percent setback when compared to the \$46,365.77 the Mitchell County seat collected in August 2004. For the year, Colorado City has collected \$298,776.38, which is down 0.32 percent.

Fort Stockton collected \$149,164.08 this month, 1.95 percent less than the \$152,143.95 taken in during August 2004. For the year, Fort Stockton is nearing the \$1 million mark at \$992,407.79, up 1.41 percent.

Kermit witnessed a good increase, comparing the \$36,357.92 received in August 2005 to the \$30,822.08 received in August 2004. That's an increase of 17.96 percent. For the year, Kermit has received \$232,488.75, up 11.27 percent compared to a year ago.

Lamesa took in \$103,702.88 this month, an increase of 9.75 percent when compared to the \$94,486.28 received in August of 2004. For the year, the Dawson County seat has received \$618,248.31, up 7.16 percent.

Lubbock, which increased its sales tax from 1.25 to 1.5 cents in November, saw rebates soar by 39.2 percent this month. The city received \$4,109,480.65, compared to \$2,952,208.17 in August 2004. For the year, Lubbock has received \$27,417,456.07, up 35.47 percent.

Midland collected \$2,441,847.68 this month,

up 14.09 percent compared to the \$2,140,137.23 collected a year ago. For the year, Midland has received \$16,269,709.56, up 11.75 percent.

Monahans witnessed rebates go up 28.59 percent, comparing this month's collections of \$127,461.18 to August 2004's \$99,121.62. For the first eight months of 2005, Monahans has received \$700,636.53, an increase of 15.28 percent.

Odessa received \$1,767,649.58 this month, an 11.25 percent increase when compared to the \$1,588,778.41 received in August 2004. For the year, Odessa has received \$11,307,948.75, up 11.4 percent.

Pecos collected \$87,241.76 this month, 3.64 percent more than the \$84,170.82 received in August 2004. For the year, Pecos has collected \$579,808.59, up 8.51 percent.

San Angelo managed \$1,466,640.58 in the year's eighth month, up 4.42 percent when compared to the \$1,404,516.15 received in August 2004. For the year, the Tom Green county seat has collected \$10,259,265.86, up 4.15 percent.

Snyder collected \$184,841.99 this month, up 15.33 percent when compared to the \$160,268.19 the Scurry County seat received in August 2004. For the year, Snyder has struggled. The \$1,115,036.97 collected for the year is down 5.49 percent when compared to the first eight months of 2004.

Stanton, which raised its tax from 1 cent to 1.75 cents in November, continues to experience strong increases in sales tax rebates. The Martin County seat collected \$27,146.33 this August

compared to \$16,607.71 a year ago — an increase of 63.45 percent. For the year, Stanton has received \$182,629.06, up a whopping 96.1 percent.

Sweetwater received \$236,798.76, a 21.99 percent hike when compared to the \$194,107.03 received in August 2004. The Nolan County seat has received \$1,490,980.73 for the year, up 13.5 percent.

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Annetta Sue Parnell, 61, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

already maxed out on the scale will receive an additional \$600 this year, Business Manager Sandra Waggoner said.

Administrators (with the exception of the superintendent), para-professionals and full-time auxiliary staffers also will receive a \$600 raise this year; part-time employees will realize a raise of \$300.

One exception to the schedule is a \$2,000 annual raise for the district's director of special education, Bobby Waldrop. That action was taken to bring his salary more into line with other department heads, Waggoner said.

Almost \$900,000 of this year's budget will be devoted to debt service —

paying off obligations from the 1996 bond issue.

To fuel the new budget, trustees have tentatively approved a tax rate of \$1.5763 per \$100 valuation. Waggoner said \$1.50 of that rate will be used to finance operations within the district, with the remainder earmarked for debt service.

Superintendent Michael Downes said mandates in the budget left trustees no leeway in setting the tax rate.

"We can't go up (under state law), and we never seriously considered cutting it; we're cutting projects and staff positions just to keep the rate where it is," Downes said. "Essentially, we have no local discretion on the tax rate."

In other business, trustees approved:

• The following resignations: Richard Cypert,

special education teacher; Kenny Lowery, special education teacher/coach; Tanya Nolen, special education teacher; Jill Ware, physical education teacher.

• The following employment: Lance Brock, science teacher/coach; James Denney, biology teacher/coach; Ryan Guinn, reading teacher/coach; Kenny Lowery, special education teacher; Tina Miles, fourth grade teacher; Lee E. Morrison, English teacher/coach; Via Myers, physical education teacher; Tanya Nolen, special education teacher; Ram s a r o o p Ramkhelawan, IPC teacher; Lelia B. Renteria, fourth grade bilingual teacher; Melissa K. Sorrells, fifth grade teacher.

• An agreement between Big Spring, Coahoma and

Forsan school districts for Big Spring to provide alternative education programs for the three schools.

• Bids for Career and Applied Technology Education programs, and for athletic supplies and equipment.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- The Cossacks Motorcycle Club, on its recent donation to Victim Services as well as all of the other causes this worthwhile biker organization takes part in: Everything from helping needy families and individuals who have been hit with tragedy to making sure children have gifts at Christmas.

- Teachers, staff and administrators throughout the Crossroads area as you prepare to return for the 2005-2006 school year. Children may be our future, but we rely on you to help get them there.

- Shirlene Sulatan, a psychiatric nurse at Big Spring State Hospital who made a 36-day visit to Thailand with the Naval Reserve to provide humanitarian patient care and medical cross-training.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

Iraq: No easy answers

The Iraq war is becoming more and more unpopular with the American people as it becomes clear that no matter how noble our goals are, we have little chance of achieving them.

In other words, more people are asking themselves this question: How many Americans have to die to defend democracy in Iraq before the Iraqis step up and start defending it themselves?

The administration position is that we will "stay the course" in Iraq no matter what, but that is not the same thing as having a realizable plan for victory.

As I wrote earlier, from a political standpoint, about the best thing the Republicans have going for them regarding the war is that the Democrats present few alternatives.

Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., however, offers at least a partial exception to the "stay the course" philosophy.

Feingold, who may be considering a run for the presidency in 2008, has introduced a resolution in the Senate that calls on President Bush "to provide a public report clarifying the mission that the U.S. military is being asked to accomplish in Iraq and laying out a plan and timeframe

for accomplishing that mission."

Feingold, however, makes clear that a "timeframe" is not the same thing as a "deadline."

"My resolution does not dictate deadlines or dates certain," he said in introducing the resolution. "And it does request flexible timeframes for achieving our goals in Iraq, rather than imposing any, because drawing up timeframes is best and most appropriately left to the administration, in consultation with military leaders."

So call it a toe in the water — but more toes may follow as the war drags on.

If you wanted to jump in the water, however, you might simply demand that we bring our troops home.

We can't do that, critics say, because after smashing up Iraq, we can't just desert the people there and leave them in chaos.

Did we help screw up Iraq? Yes, no doubt about it. We bombed it, blew up buildings, killed people, and made it possible for terrorists to freely invade and operate inside its borders.

On the other hand, we got rid of an evil dictator and made democracy possible there.

So maybe we're even.

And maybe it's time to say to the Iraqi people: One year from today, you have to stand up and fight for your own country. Because after that, we Americans are gone. Hasta la vista, baby.

Tough? Yes. Unfair? No.

If we continue with our open-ended military commitment in Iraq, why will the Iraqis ever stand up and fight?

To put it another way, if young Americans are doing the fighting in Iraq, why should young Iraqis risk their lives to do so?

I admit that being an Iraqi right now is no picnic. Iraqi civilians are getting blown up by insurgents in greater numbers than U.S. military forces.

But that alone should make the Iraqis angry enough to fight the insurgents for their country.

Becoming a democracy is about more than voting and getting a blue index finger. Sometimes, it's about standing up and fighting.

Stay the course? We have.

Come back home? It's time.

I can remember during the Vietnam War when the chicken-hawks — those who were eager to send others to fight and die but who risked nothing themselves — kept wringing their hands and saying: "But how can we leave? How can we leave?"

"By plane," came the answer. "By plane."

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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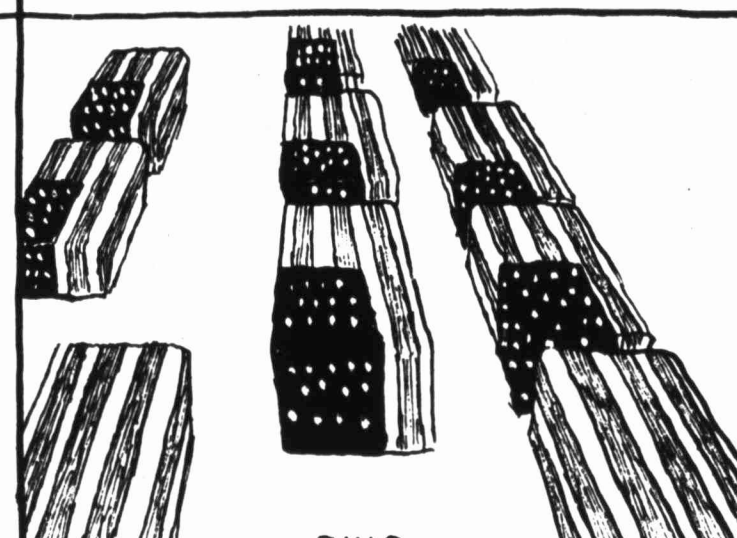
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GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

The Big Spring Herald is featuring a four-week series on issues related to the need of a new jail for Howard County. The Herald gives various officials a question and asks us to respond in 100 words or less. My response this week is 109 words. Personally, I think it is impossible for these hotly-debated questions to be answered in such few words. By placing the word limits, officials must touch the bases, but have no possible way of explaining their answers to the public in a manner they will clearly understand.

So, as you read the answers to the questions by your local officials in the paper, please understand that in order to get "the rest of the story" you'll need to personally ask them for it.

Before reading my answer in the column, understand that I would really like to see a 144-bed jail built, with a law enforcement center for the Sheriff's Office and police department. I also believe the Jail Commission is making a correct recommendation of 144 beds.

I also know the differences between wants and needs. In reality, the sheriff's administrative offices are sufficient for today's needs. The jail is a true need for the community.

I wouldn't be devastated if the sheriff's administrative offices remain in the courthouse if the jail was built adjacent to the courthouse. However, if the jail is

to be built blocks away, then I need to be in the same building to adequately do my job in supervising the staff of my department.

Remember, I have two budgets and departments within my organization. I have the jail inmates and staff and then I have the law enforcement side comprised of deputies for patrol, dispatch, civil and investigations.

I have already seen our jail population peak at 103 prisoners and that is not a projection.

I clearly see that the general public is divided on the size of the jail. I believe if we go with a 96-bed jail now, it won't be long before we outgrow it and have this issue return once again to the voters.

Remember, the current jail is more than 50 years old and people are fighting over deciding if we need a new jail or not. I'm sure they don't want to see this issue again for at least 50 more years. I leave the decision of including the police department to the voters.

You have heard me say that we are all willing to work together. I don't want to see the public divided on the jail anymore. I stand accountable to the citizens and I proudly come before you all and do away with the ego and tell you that I will work with what you allow me to work with.

I am a taxpayer also and I don't want higher taxes either. The fact is that we

have to do something about the jail. It is going to cost money. It is your responsibility to get involved and work for the betterment of Howard County citizens as a whole.

I am praying to God that this community will seek his wisdom and guidance on this issue. That is the only way we can unite and reach a decision that is really needed for Howard County residents.

SHERIFF DALE L. WALKER
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

An excellent reason for shopping here in our home town! I got home from work at noon Wednesday and noticed my wife's pickup had a flat tire.

Have you ever noticed there's never a good time for a flat? I keep 'stop leak' cans in both of my vehicles for such emergencies, and fortunately had a can that worked. Upon injecting the nasty liquid into the tire, I realized that the actual problem was the valve stem.

I eased to a station that had air and began to add some. By the time I had 30 pounds in the tire, the stem opened up and began to spew. I headed for Tire Time where I had purchased the tires some three years or so ago. By the time I crept up in front of the work bay door, I was riding on the rim. I was afraid I had ruined the tire. I walked in during

the lunch hour and found Mike Hughes, the owner, and the secretary/saleswoman there. The mechanics were at lunch. Mike had his decent clothes on and was preparing to go to an important meeting.

He hadn't even eaten lunch yet! Seeing the situation I was in, he immediately came out and even though I couldn't even bring the truck into the shop, began connecting lengths of air hose together and finding sockets, air gun, floor jack, etc. to solve my problem.

I was so amazed and elated that he would do this without a second thought. He was so cool and kind and thoroughly professional and he blew off my thanks and appreciation with, "That's exactly what we're here for! Don't thank me!" etc.

I was completely blown away by his kindness and exceptional business quality. He naturally got his clothes dirty. Anyone who has ever broken down and repaired a tire knows it's impossible not to. I was so amazed, but it didn't even faze him. I'll tell you, this is just one example of the kind of businesses we have here in our awesome little city!

On top of all this, he didn't even charge me a cent because I bought the tires there!

Thank you, Mike, and thank you, Tire Time.

JOHN DOLL
BIG SPRING

Mother demanding answers gets response from Bush

Family distances themselves from 'concerned' mom of son killed in Iraq

By RON HUTCHESON
Knight Ridder Newspapers

CRAWFORD — By Thursday, President Bush could no longer ignore the grieving, angry mom camped outside his Texas ranch.

Cindy Sheehan of Vacaville, Calif., set up her tent beside the road leading to Bush's 1,600-acre spread last week, demanding to talk to the president about her son's death in Iraq. She's endured blistering heat, drenching rains, an earth-shaking thunderstorm and an army of fire ants, but she's also set off a storm of her own.

With the death toll in Iraq mounting at an alarming pace, Sheehan has become a flashpoint for emotions about the war. Her efforts to shame the president have won praise from the left, condemnation from the right and have divided her own family.

Journalists and supporters have flocked to her makeshift roadside campground on the central Texas prairie.

"I sympathize with Mrs. Sheehan," Bush told reporters Thursday after more than a week of intense media focus on his uninvited visitor. "I've thought long and hard about her position. I've heard her position from others, which is, 'Get out of Iraq now.' It would be a mistake for the security of this country."

Not surprisingly, the answer didn't satisfy Sheehan, who vowed to continue her vigil for the duration of Bush's five-week visit to Texas.

"The president says he feels compassion for me, but the best way to show that compassion is by meeting with me and the other mothers and families who are here," she said in a response distributed by e-mail. "Our sons made the ultimate sacrifice, and we want answers."

Sheehan, 48, has been looking for answers since April 4, 2004, when her son, Army Spc. Casey Sheehan, died in Sadr City, a notorious Baghdad slum. The 24-year-old



As photographers look on, Cindy Sheehan pauses at a cross marked with the name of her late son at the designated protest site outside George W. Bush's ranch near Crawford.

Humvee mechanic had been in Iraq about a week.

While many grieving mothers take solace in the thought that their sons died in a noble cause, Sheehan reached the opposite conclusion. She's convinced that her son died in an immoral and unnecessary war, and no words of consolation from Bush can change her mind.

Now the war that

divides Americans has split Casey Sheehan's own family.

"I was proud of Casey. I am pro-Bush," said Angela Caspary of Corona, Calif., the slain soldier's aunt. "He didn't kill my nephew. Even on the day we found out about Casey, we had no bad feelings toward George Bush."

In a joint statement e-mailed to Knight Ridder in response to interview

requests, Casey Sheehan's grandparents and other relatives from his father's side of the family said Cindy Sheehan "appears to be promoting her own personal agenda and notoriety at the expense of her son's good name and reputation."

They added, "The rest of the Sheehan family supports the troops, our country and our president, silently, by prayer and respect."

Cindy Sheehan and the president have talked before, about two months after Casey's death, when Sheehan and her husband, Patrick, joined other grieving parents for a private meeting with Bush at Fort Lewis in Washington.

The Sheehans debated before the meeting whether to confront Bush with their criticism but decided it would be inappropriate.

"I now know he's sincere about wanting freedom for the Iraqis," she told The Reporter, her hometown paper in Vacaville, after the session. "I know he's sorry and feels some pain for our loss. And I know he's a man of faith."

Sheehan now says that Bush treated the meeting as if it were "a tea party" and behaved inappropriately by referring to her as "mom."

Death toll among part-time troops in Iraq soars

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Guard and Reserve suffered more combat deaths in Iraq during the first 10 days of August — at least 32, according to a Pentagon count — than in any full month of the entire war.

More broadly, Pentagon casualty reports show that the number of deaths among Guard and Reserve forces has been trending upward much of this year, totaling more than 100 since May 1. That ranks as the deadliest stretch of the war for the Guard and Reserve, whose members perform both combat and

support missions.

There is little evidence to suggest that part-time troops are being specifically targeted by the insurgents, since the Guard and Reserve troops are mostly indistinguishable from — and interchangeable with — regular active-duty troops.

The 42nd Infantry Division of the New York Army National Guard is commanding a combat force in north-central Iraq that includes two brigades from the active-duty 3rd Infantry Division, and a brigade from the Mississippi Army National Guard is operating with

the Marine Corps.

The Pentagon rejects any suggestion the Guard and Reserve are more vulnerable in combat because they are part-timers.

"We will not deploy a soldier, sailor, airman or Marine who is not fully trained and prepared for the mission," said Air Force Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a Pentagon spokeswoman. "Combat operations are inherently dangerous and despite the best training and the best equipment, we will unfortunately have service members killed and wounded in action."

Tens of thousands stranded as British Airways cancels flights

LONDON (AP) — At least 70,000 travelers were left stranded Friday as British Airways canceled all flights to and from Heathrow Airport after a wildcat strike among catering staff spread to baggage handlers and other ground crew.

Staff handed out food and water to hundreds of tired and frustrated passengers, many of whom had spent the night on airport benches and

floors. Travelers stood in long, slow-moving lines in an attempt to get on alternate flights.

"We're trying to get on any flight to Germany," said Helge Kreckel from Frankfurt. "We don't care where or which airline, just any flight. Then we can take the train to Frankfurt. We're not leaving this line until we get it."

With almost 100 BA aircraft and 1,000 pilots and

cabin crew out of position around the world because of the strike, Heathrow management warned that disruption at the world's busiest international airport could last for days.

Problems for British Airways' flights started Thursday after baggage handlers and other ground staff walked out in support of employees who were fired by the airline's caterer after going on strike.

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Example Shown Above

Church News

First United Methodist Church

Sunday the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring's sermon topic is "More Than Suggestions — Part 2." The Old Testament scripture text is Exodus 20:1-17.

"Active Parenting Today," is a video-based parent education program for parents of children 2 to 12 set for Oct. 1. This is designed to address today's issues and talk them through as a family. Cost is \$14 for a take-home book. Register before Sept. 2. Child care is provided. Bring a lunch for your child.

Registration is also being accepted for Disciple I Bible Study, that begins Aug. 30. This is a 34-week tour of the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelations.

The Senior Adult Ministry will observe Labor Day with a snack supper and bingo party in Garrett Hall at 6 p.m. Sept. 5.

The church Web site is www.fumcbs.org/. First United Methodist Church is located in downtown Big Spring at Fourth and Scurry streets. Call 432-267-6394 for more information.

Friends of Unity Center

Located in the Railroad Plaza at 100 S. Main in the East Boxcar, the Center is a gathering place for people who desire to increase awareness of oneness with Jesus Christ and the Father. Meetings are open to all. For more information, call 267-8783.

Catholic Churches of Howard County

Weekly sessions about the Catholic faith are Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1009 Hearn St., in the house between the church and the school.

Catholics and non-Catholics are invited to learn more about the Catholic faith, traditions and how these are based on holy scripture. Also, sessions are held for baptized Catholics who need to receive one of more of the sacraments of Holy Eucharist, confirmation or marriage.

Fully initiated adult Catholics are also needed as sponsors.

For more information, call Elfi Tucker at 816-6247 or 393-5313. You may also call any of the church offices: St. Thomas Church at 605 N. Main St., 263-2864; Sacred Heart Church, 263-7884; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 267-4124; or

St. Joseph Church on South Street in Coahoma, 267-4124.

YoungLife

YoungLife is a non-profit Christian organization for high school students. For more information or to contribute to YoungLife, call 264-1234.

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church is located at 1200 W. Fourth Street. Preaching services are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and Wednesday Bible study is at 5 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from Matthew 15:10-28 Sunday at worship service. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take 10 starts at 10:35 a.m.

Activities for the week include committee meetings Wednesday and the Men's Breakfast at 7 p.m. as well as Bible study at 5:17 p.m. in the chapel.

First Presbyterian Church is located on Runnels St. between Seventh and Eighth streets.

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone Church, an Every Nation Ministries church, has worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities.

Cornerstone, located at the corner of 12th and Owens streets, offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship. Childcare is available for newborns through preschool. Call Pastor Craig or Cherise Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

Church members of East Fourth Street Baptist Church at 401 E. Fourth St. invite the Big Spring community to Sunday services.

Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. for all age groups and the morning

worship service begins at 11 a.m.

Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children and youth of all ages Sunday nights at 4:45. Choir practice begins Sunday night at 5, and the evening worship service begins at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, there will be a prayer and Bible study service for the adults and a youth discipleship class at 7 p.m.

Call Amy at 267-2291 for more information.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's Sunday. The summer time change continues with Holy Eucharist celebrated at 9:30 a.m.

The Episcopal Church Women will meet Sunday at 10:45 a.m. in the church library.

The Vestry meets Monday at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site at www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

First Christian Church

The first in a series of four programs focusing on archeology in the Holy Land will be presented at the First Christian Church at 5:30 p.m. Sunday in the fellowship hall.

Ernie Williams, interim minister and senior staff member of the Joint Archaeological Expedition to Tell el-Hesi in Israel, is making these presentations.

"The Stage of the Biblical Drama" is the program to be presented Sunday.

According to Williams, the unique geographical location and the topographical features of the Holy Land were major factors in the development of the settlement patterns of the various periods of biblical history.

This program provide a better understanding of the geography of the land and the impact it had on various parts of the biblical story.

cal story.

A light snack supper is offered and the public is invited.

There is no charge for the program nor will an offering be taken.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Josh Bishop, who was a member of the church's youth program while in high school, returns to the 11 a.m. Sunday service meeting as speaker. Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. The church is located at 401 N. Main in Coahoma. Call 395-5532 for more information.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The members invite you to come worship at 1512 Birdwell Lane.

During the last two days, the youth have been to a back-to-school youth fellowship. Let's keep them in mind with school starting next week.

Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Salem Baptist Church

Salem Baptist Church invites you to Sunday morning for Sunday school at 10 a.m., morning service at 11 a.m. and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service is held at Parkplace at 6 p.m.

East Side Baptist Church

Sunday services are at

10 a.m. and 6 p.m. East Side Baptist is located at 1108 E. Sixth St.

Midway Baptist Church

Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Sunday morning worship is at 11 a.m. Choir practice is at 5 p.m. Team Kids, Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action meet at 5 p.m. Cross Training is at 5 p.m. and the evening service is at 6 p.m.

Wednesday activities include a fellowship meal at 5:30 p.m.; children's choir at 6 p.m.; adult Bible study at 7 p.m.; Little Dribblers 7 p.m.; and Solid Rock at 6 p.m.

Midway Baptist Church is located at 6200 S. Service Road.

For more information, call 263-6274 or e-mail midway@crcom.net.

New Covenant Christian Worship Center

The Rev. Michael and First Lady Bella Willard, staff and members personally welcome everyone to any of the worship services offered at New Covenant.

Sunday morning worship services at 11 a.m.,

doors open at 10:45 a.m. Wednesdays at 6 p.m. is Young Ambassadors Youth Ministry.

The church is located at 1607 E. Third St. For more information, call 264-0015 or e-mail nccwc1@yahoo.com.

First Church of the Nazarene

Family ministries night is Wednesday. Choir rehearsal is in the sanctuary from 7:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Coffee, donuts and fellowship time is 9 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. Sunday and Sunday Celebration is at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Children's Church and KinderChurch is in the Kid's Building. Sunday night Celebration of Praise is at 6 p.m.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Josh Bishop, who was a member of the church's youth program while in high school, returns to the 11 a.m. Sunday service meeting as speaker.

Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m.

The church is located at 401 N. Main in Coahoma. Call 395-5532 for more information.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Sands CISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Sands CISD Board room, Tuesday, August 23, 2005. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund *	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.48	\$ -0-	\$1.48	\$7,129	\$2,640
Rate to Maintain Same Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.3430	\$ -0-	\$1.3430	\$8,940	\$829
Proposed Rate	\$1.50	\$ -0-	\$1.50	\$9,930	\$829

*The Interest and Sinking fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$35,491	\$44,495
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$13,392	\$20,596
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.50
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 198.20	\$ 308.94
Increases (Decrease) in Taxes	Increase	\$ 110.74

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or the surviving spouse of such as person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.35555. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.35555.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 501,598
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-

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The Big County 1 Associatic in the C Howard (will be s a.m.

Joe Co speak on Refinery the Futur school invited meeting.

Keep Big Beautiful

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meeting tions to Star Affi The ne Love You Aug. 27 noon at Lake. C to help 2

Dr. 1-4

Club News

The Big Spring - Howard County Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association meet Monday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Joe Conciencie will speak on "The Alon Refinery - Now and in the Future." All retired school personnel are invited to attend the meeting.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful

The Keep Big Spring Beautiful awards luncheon honored a number of local members for their hard work during the last year.

Award Book recognitions went to Terri Blackshear, Loyce Phillips and Debbie Wegman. The outstanding sub-committee went to our fund-raising/finance group which included Brenda Conciencie, Verna Davis, Willia Ledford, Teri Johansen and Carolyn Quintero.

Outstanding Service Awards went to Sara Bavin, Wildflower Seminar; Janell Davis, news media and scrapbook; Verna Davis, outstanding fund-raiser; Todd Dardin, securing the grant for the Waste In Place Workshop; Perry Hall, Waste In Place Worship; Jo Ann Stalcup, Summer Trooper Program; and Kathryn Wiseman, public awareness and mascot.

The Above and Beyond Gold Star Award was given to Loyce Phillips for writing and directing the Recycle Skit with Randy Recycle, Betty Baggett, Clarie Clutter and Susie Shopper. The skit took the H-E-B School Recycling Program to 970 elementary students and 68 teachers.

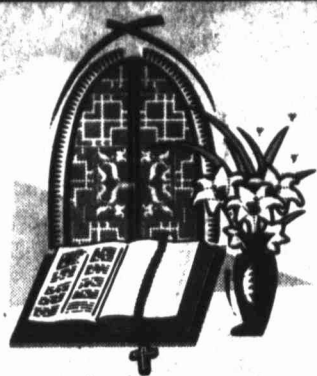
Loyce also chaired the committee and worked with Todd Darden and Perry Hall on the Waste in Place Worship and training for 11 teachers from Big Spring and surrounding schools and eight volunteers. She also prepared the entry book for the Bauer Magnet Junior Master Gardeners.

Outstanding Business Recycling Partner was H-E-B for its excellent program of the schools. Outstanding Business Partner went to Alon USA and Joe Conciencie. They helped with T-shirts for summer troopers, prize donations for a golf tournament, meeting places and allowed Verna Davis to share her many talents.

Jan Hansen and Jan Foresyth took time to attend the state convention and bring home many ideas to be used in years to come. Special appreciation was extended to Mayor Russ McEwen for his help in the convention and in meeting the qualifications to be named a Gold Star Affiliate.

The next project is the Love Your Lake Clean Up Aug. 27 from 9 a.m. to noon at Comanche Trail Lake. Call Pat Simmons to help 263-4607.

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John 15:13

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Psalm 23: 1

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
1 Cor. 13: 6

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever.
Psalm 136: 1

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And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.
1 Cor. 13:13

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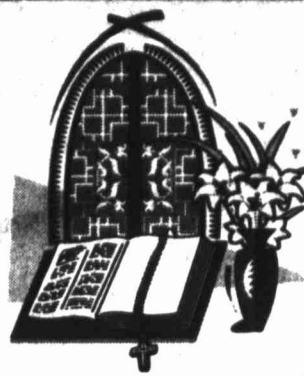
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Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

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Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
Romans 5: 1

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If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.
1 Cor. 13:1

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TAKING TO THE AIR



Pilots competing in the U.S. Hang Gliding National Championships take to the air at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark during day four of the competition. The championships will continue through Saturday near the park's air terminal, with launches expected around noon daily.

A Pastor's Message

One of my favorite passages is found in the biblical book of Hebrews. This First Century letter was written to encourage early followers of Jesus Christ. Well known passages such as the definition of faith (Heb. 11:1), the hall of faith (Heb. 11) and the sinlessness of Jesus (Heb. 4:15-16), still assist modern believers along our journey.

In Hebrews 10, the author cries out, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much more, as we see the day approaching." (vss. 23-25 KJV)

In these few verses those who have put their faith in Christ have been given a biblical mandate to hold on to their faith, to hold on to the church and stay firm until the end.

Hebrews tells us, because God is faithful, we are to be faithful also. "Holding fast" to our profession means to not be easily swayed from what we believe. I have found that those most easily swayed from the truth are those who are dogmatic, but unfounded. Believing firmly in the authority and infallibility of God's

word will help keep us grounded in faith.

If I do not understand what I believe, I become prey for any deceiver. Deceivers are rarely ugly and vile. More commonly, they are winsome and attractive. II Corinthians 11:14-15 states, "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness."

What we teach and believe about God and the authority of his word must be biblically, not culturally, based. When God says it, that settles it!

The early Christians were called to consider one another, love one another; provoke (stir up) one another; challenge one another, and exhort (call into accountability) one another. Their coming together was called "the local church."

"One Another" prohibits the solo warrior. A solo warrior is accountable to no one! He lives and dies to himself. He may be convinced that he alone holds the keys to truth, but God's plan calls us into mutual submission. Knowledge without submission is self deception. As we follow Christ, we must also draw close to one another.

Finally, we are called on to intensify every effort "as we see 'the day'

approaching." One of the most troubling things that Jesus said during his ministry is found in Luke's gospel, Chapter 18, verse 8. He states, "When the Son of Man comes, will he really find faith on the earth?"

From my perspective, that was a pretty strong indictment on future believers (us.) He didn't say, "Will they still be doing church?" He didn't say, "Will they still be singing?" The question was specifically about our faith (belief) in his person and plan.

The Old Testament prophets preached repentance. John the Baptist preached repentance. Jesus preached repentance. The Apostles preached repentance. Repentance means a change of mind, heart and direction.

Regardless of how we feel about ourselves, have we experienced the change in life that only Jesus can bring? (John 14:6)

If not, we've got some repenting to do. When you are face to face with Jesus, will he count you faithful?

My prayer and desire for you, is that you will be found faithful to Christ, to his word and to his church.

Pastor Ken McMeans is the minister of College Baptist Church.

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IN BRIEF

'Meet the coaches' set for Aug. 20

The Big Spring football team has announced a "meet the coaches" night will take place at Blankenship Field Aug. 20.

The football team will have a practice from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and fans are welcome to attend. There will also be a hamburger supper starting at 5 p.m.

The supper is \$5 for a burger, chips and a drink and anyone who purchases a meal will be put into a drawing for a chance to win Big Spring season tickets and a Steer gear package.

Community pep rally set for Aug. 22

Fans will get their first chance to see the teams for Big Spring's fall sports season at the community-wide pep rally has been set up for Aug. 22 at the Amphitheater inside Comanche Trail Park. The event will start at 6 p.m. All sports teams from seventh through 12th grade will be included.

Howard sets mini cheerleading camp

Howard College will hold a mini cheer camp Aug. 27 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for grades first through six.

Registration will take place at 8 a.m. and the cheer/dance class session will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Participants are supposed to bring a lunch to eat at noon and, bring a water bottle and wear tennis shoes. They are also supposed to put their names on their belongings and plan on meeting the Howard College cheerleaders.

All registered participants will also compete at the Battle of the Cheerleaders at the Rodeo Bowl that night during the county fair.

The cost of the camp is \$25.

For more information, call 264-5024.

Quarterback club sets remaining weekly meetings

The Big Spring football booster club (quarterback club) will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at the ATC through the football season. However, there will not be a meeting Aug. 22 due to the community pep rally.

For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 818-1134.

B.S. football season tickets on sale now

Football season tickets for the Big Spring Steers are now on sale for the general public.

Tickets can be purchased at the Big Spring Athletic Training Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

For more information, contact Ray Cook at 264-3662.

Dellucci homers not enough as Rangers fall

• Back-and-forth game ends with Yankees on top

NEW YORK (AP) — There's no surprise Derek Jeter and Mariano Rivera played key roles in the New York Yankees' victory.

But Scott Proctor filled a void better than anyone could have expected.

Jeter hit a tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning after the Yankees' bullpen blew a strong spot start by Proctor, and Rivera shut down one fast Texas Rangers rally in a 9-8 win Thursday night.

Proctor was making his first big league start in place of Randy Johnson, who was skipped because of a bad back, and held Texas to three hits — two on solo homers to David Dellucci — before leaving with a 6-2 lead after five-plus innings.

"He did a magnificent job," said Yankees manager Joe Torre. "He was the

star of the night for me."

But the Yankees' weak middle-inning relievers let the Rangers back in the game. Trailing 8-4 in the seventh, Texas scored four runs off Felix Rodriguez, and Tanyon Sturtze (4-1), who gave up a tying three-run home run to Michael Young.

In the bottom half, Jeter hit a 2-0 fastball from James Baldwin (0-2) to give the Yankees the lead.

Texas loaded the bases with two outs in the eighth against Tom Gordon and Torre reluctantly summoned Rivera, who pitched two innings Wednesday.

After falling behind, 3-1, Rivera got David Dellucci, who had already homered twice and had four hits, to foul out to end the inning.

Rivera then finished for his 31st consecutive save, the longest streak of his career.

The Yankees moved within five games of the AL East-leading Boston

Red Sox. Texas matched a season-high with its fifth straight road loss.

New York trailed 2-0 in the third after Dellucci homered in his first two at-bats. Dellucci tied a career high with four hits and scored four runs.

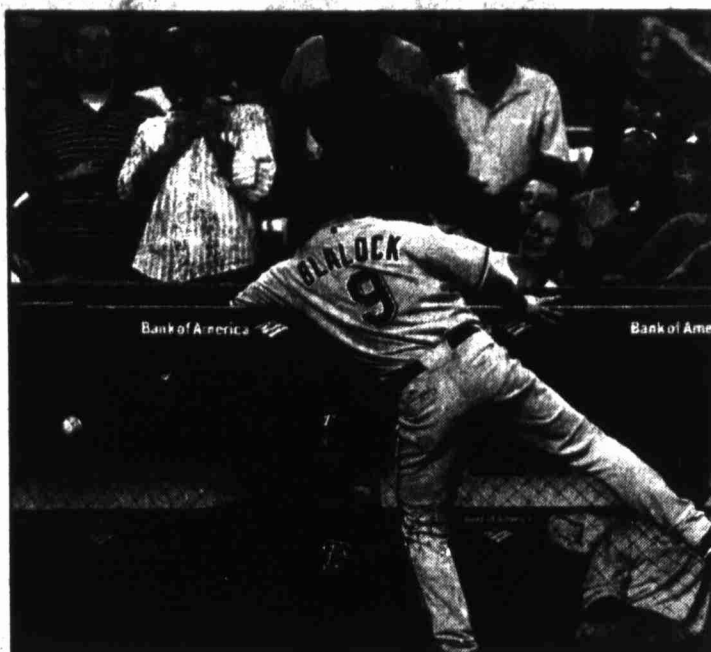
The Yankees closed to 2-1 on Hideki Matsui's RBI single in the bottom of the third and went ahead on Robinson Cano's two-run double in the fourth.

Matsui's leadoff homer — his 18th of the season — in the fifth inning made it 4-2, chasing John Wasdin.

Reliever Erasmo Ramirez hit Jason Giambi with a pitch and Jorge Posada followed with a two-run homer to deep left-center to make it 6-2.

Wasdin, making his seventh start of the year, allowed four runs and eight hits in four-plus innings. He walked three and struck out four.

Dellucci's home run leading off the game was Texas' first homer in four



The Rangers' Hank Blalock misses a foul hit by the Yankees' Robinson Cano in the third inning of their game at Yankee Stadium Thursday. The Yankees won, 9-8.

games. The Rangers have 192 home runs, most in the majors. It was Dellucci's third multi-homer game this season and sixth in his career.

Texas scored twice in the sixth inning. Alan Embree relieved Proctor

with Rod Barajas on first. Embree relieved and allowed an RBI double by Young and a run-scoring groundout by Mark Teixeira.

Proctor gave up three runs and struck out three without walking a batter.

Tiger struggles in first round

By JIM O'CONNELL

AP Sports Writer
SPRINGFIELD, N.J.

(AP) — Forget the crowd of 17 players either tied for the lead or within one shot after the first round of the PGA Championship. The real surprise was who was missing.

Major champions Phil Mickelson and Ben Curtis were in the group of six players tied after shooting 3-under 67s on Thursday.

Steve Elkington, Bernhard Langer, Davis Love III and Retief Goosen — also major winners — were in the gaggle who shot 68s at the 7,392-yard Lower Course at the Baltusrol Golf Club.

It was way down the scores list before the name of the man who has dominated the majors appeared: Tiger Woods shot a 5-over 75 and was tied for 113th in the field of 156.

The others who got off to a good start in the year's final major were Trevor Immelman, Stuart Appleby, Rory Sabbatini and Stephen Ames — all in the lead group at 67.

Heath Slocum, Greg Owen, Lee Westwood,

Jesper Parnevik, Pat Perez, Ben Crane and John Rollins were the others at 2 under.

Defending champion Vijay Singh, like Woods looking for a third PGA title, started with an even-par 70.

The second round got under way Friday morning under partly cloudy skies. The forecast called for humid conditions with temperatures in the low 90s.

Mickelson was 1 over through eight holes when he made consecutive 35-foot birdie putts to break into red numbers.

Then he added another bomb from about the same distance to birdie No. 14, and he capped his round with a two-putt birdie, again from about 30 feet.

Mickelson and Woods have been on opposite ends of major success this year.

Woods started this tournament looking to win three majors in one year for the second time in his career; the first time he did it was 2000, matching Ben Hogan's feat from 1953.

This year, Woods won

the Masters and British Open and was second in the U.S. Open.

Meanwhile, Mickelson was 10th in the Masters, tied for 33rd in the U.S. Open and tied for 60th in the British Open.

Woods seemed far from rattled after his round where his only birdie came on his 17th hole and he had four bogeys and a double on the par-4 7th.

Curtis, the 2003 British Open champion, may have been the biggest surprise of the leading group. This is his third PGA and he has never made a cut. He has only made three cuts in 16 starts this year on the PGA Tour.

Immelman, whose best finish in two PGAs was a tie for 37th last year, was one of the few players not to complain about Baltusrol's deep, gnarly rough.

Sabbatini waited until the closing par-5s to make his move.

He birdied both: the 650-yard 17th from about 10 feet and the 554-yard 18th with a 12-to-15 foot putt.

Woods hit only six of 14 fairways, reached 13 greens in regulation and took 35 putts.



Tiger Woods shows discomfort during the first round of the PGA Championship at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., Thursday. He shot a first round 75 and nine strokes off the lead.

Houston swingman re-signs with team

HOUSTON (AP) — Free agent guard Jon Barry re-signed with the Houston Rockets Thursday.

Barry joined the team in December and averaged seven points in 53 games. He made 60 of 133 3-point attempts for 45.1 percent last season, a single-season record for the Rockets.

Terms of his contract

weren't immediately available.

The 6-foot-5 Barry was traded to Houston from the Atlanta Hawks last season in exchange for Tyronn Lue. He ranks seventh in the league with a 43 percent career 3-point percentage. He has spent time with eight teams in his 13-year career.

MLB Wild Card Standings

American League	National League
1. LA Angels	1. Houston
2. Cleveland -2.5	2. Philadelphia -2.5
3. N.Y. Yankees -3.5	3. Florida -3
4. Toronto -4	4. Washington -3
5. Minnesota -7	5. N.Y. Mets -4
6. Baltimore -9	6. Milwaukee -6.5
7. Texas -9	7. Chicago Cubs -7.5
	8. Arizona -8
	9. Cincinnati -10



The Forzan High School cheerleaders attended a UCA Cheerleading Camp at San Angelo State University recently and came away with several awards, including overall camp champs cheer division, overall mascot award, first place in home pom routine, the tradition award, the coveted top because spirit award as well as spirit sticks and superior performance ribbons each day. Front row, from left: Kasia Strickland, Faith Bales, Tara Kuykendall, Toni Galar, Alex Pappalardo and Whitney Price. Back: Marissa McDonald, Texas Montgomery, Cayley Eggleston, Corina Barman, Kandi Walsh, Kinsey Berry and Crystal McNew.

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GARAGE SALE Saturday. 8:00-12:00. 2618 Fairchild. Clothes, kitchen items, toys and lots of misc. Lots of good stuff. Priced Cheap.

GARAGE SALE, 608 Edwards Blvd. Saturday, 8:00-7:00. Baby clothes, toys, ladies clothes, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE, 807 Baylor. Friday & Saturday, 8:00-5:00. Lots of Name Brand clothes, dryer, Sega Dreamcast, games, new receiver hitch, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE, Saturday only! 8:00-2:00. 4403 Chaparral Road. Girls summer & winter clothes, 6x-16, dresser, Faux wood blinds (all sizes) stackable washer & dryer, booster seat, oak mantle and twin headboards. (Cash Only!)

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GARAGE SALE, Saturday, 8:00-1:00. 1804 Benton. Electric chair, dryer, antique washer, refrigerator, stove, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE: 1104 Ridgeroad Drive, Saturday 7:00-7:00. Wood chipper, gas weed eater, tiller, pruning shears, dishes, cabinets, computer, clothes and 1996 Sunbird.

GARAGE SALE: 1211 Pennsylvania, Friday & Saturday 8-1. Piano, clothes, metal window frames and lots and lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 1605 Kiowa (Indian Hills Addition next to Osage), Saturday 7:30-12:00. Little girl clothes, toys, curtains, household items, collectable, and lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 605 Washington, Saturday 8:00-7:00. Kid's clothing, adult clothing, shoes, knick-knacks and lots more.

MOVING SALE: 1402 Runnels, Saturday 8:00-7:00. Furniture, appliances, clothing, baby items and lots more.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 811 Baylor, Saturday 8:00-12:00. Twin/full mattress, bunk bed, men - women & girl clothing, girls bicycle and misc. items.

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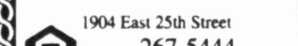
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The Scorpio moon is life in film noir. The interplay of shadows, the high contrast between what people say and what they mean, the moral ambiguity of it all ... and under the theatrical Leo sun, drama drips from every scene. Don't play the victim. In film noir, as in life, there really are no victims — just characters making choices with consequences.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's apparent that the plans you made aren't going to work. Somewhere in your soul, a private lament may go up. It's OK to revisit a situation and form a new opinion. Even good ideas are subject to change.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can't help but look for the fun in every responsibility. Hint: When you're involved in

doing things you have a taste and a talent for, the fun is automatic. Inviting a Leo along doesn't hurt either!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your life is like a block party. You'll get together with your "people," and memories will be made, associations will be created and good times will be had. The positive vibes help your love life, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Deadlines and due dates are omnipresent. The ticking clock may be off in the distance, but you hear it as clearly as if you were carrying it in your pocket. Express the urgency you feel to others to get them to hurry up!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Annoyances abound. Your mind is going a million miles a minute, and there's hardly a soul who can keep pace with you. Life improves only when you muster up some care, kindness and understanding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Negativity on the news has the potential to pull you in. It's one of

those days when it's better not to watch at all. The world is a mirror. Shine a light into it, and you'll be dazzled by the reflection that bounces back at you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Maybe all things are not equal, but it behooves you to think of them as though they were for today. Keep going for your big deal dream, but treat all of those small daily tasks as if they, too, were your big deal dream.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's no mystery involved in being fulfilled. Acts of charity make you feel complete — like you've really achieved something. Give something that will probably never be repaid. Whimsical encounters are featured tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have no problem taking social risks, but sometimes, you scold yourself inwardly when they don't turn out as anticipated. It's not other people's opinions that scare you, but your own harsh critic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). People don't often associate money with spiritual matters, but you integrate the two areas of your life with perfect fluidity. Perhaps poverty is not the virtue that many people think it is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The importance of sharing is emphasized. Communicate what you think and feel. When the chance to tell someone what he or she means to you arises, don't hold back.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Instead of making sensational offers and promises, be content with what's going on in the moment. Two people laughing and enjoying togetherness is no small feat, and such an occurrence shouldn't be taken for granted.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: Mercury squares Mars, bringing attention to the wide chasm between what is talked about and what is actually accomplished. Expectations may be dashed, but perhaps it was wrong to expect in

the first place. ARIES: Watch how you deliver that "Honey Do" list — it could cause a backlash. TAURUS: The tenderness you show your love will bring sweet affection in return. GEMINI: Woe be to anyone who tries to control you — you're a true independent, even with those you care for deeply. CANCER: Flirting is an attitude. You nail it this weekend. LEO: You are lighthearted and spontaneous even when the situation calls for seriousness. VIRGO: The element of surprise is working for you — you keep potential loves guessing. LIBRA: Your quirks endear you to someone nearly as quirky. SCORPIO: It's impossible for anyone to stay mad at you. SAGITTARIUS: Loved ones know where you draw the line and won't cross you. CAPRICORN: A sensual weekend is ahead. Add new locations to your dating repertoire. AQUARIUS: You're determined not to disappoint your love. PISCES: An entire range of emotions is at your

command. You have the ability to be as friendly or as intimate as you want to be.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Libra and Capricorn know how to make an impression — on each other or on the world at large. These signs have gracious manners and a keen aesthetic sense, so they're natural hosts. When friends satellite around the power couple, it only adds to their attraction to each other. This weekend, Libra and Capricorn can steer heavily dramatic relationship vibes into a positive direction.

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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Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My husband recently had a heart attack. While the paramedics worked over him, I was shocked by my reaction. I hoped he would die.

For the last 30 years, I have begged, threatened, bribed and cried to him to show me some physical affection. He always says he'll change but has never once kept his promise. When he finally decides to make love, his approach is so unenthusiastic, it makes me ashamed.

I have asked him if he is gay, and he says no. He has never cheated on me, as far as I know. Our day-to-day existence (we are both retired) is depressing. I am attractive, slim and energetic, and our home is a showplace due to my construction, design and organizational abilities. Our children are successful, well-adjusted adults who love our family life. Our assets are too considerable to divorce.

How shall I live the rest of my life? I no longer want to provide amenities to this man when he gives nothing in return. — Unloved and Fed Up

Dear Unloved: Some people, often men, are simply not demonstrative. They were not shown affection as children and, consequently, don't know how to show it to others. This doesn't mean he has no feelings for you. After 30 years, he probably would be devastated if you left him.

Have you had any couples counseling? You shouldn't have to spend the rest of your life resentful that you could have done better. There is still time to make improvements. Otherwise, consider spending some of that pent-up affection doing volunteer work at your local hospital. They could use you.

Dear Annie: I am a young mother of four with a disabled husband. I work two jobs. We recently moved into a house with a lower rent. However, we are in a neighborhood of old biddies with nothing better to do than tell us how to live.

I know our backyard is a mess and our car is a pile of garbage. I am aware that sometimes our grass gets long. Yes, my kids can be loud. I'm sorry my dog got out of the yard. I try to be the



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

perfect neighbor, but I'm on overload.

We have been harassed repeatedly by two neighbors who want us to tend to business more promptly. I'm always polite, but my husband wants to tell them where to stick their complaints. Is there a delicate way to handle this situation without upsetting our neighbors more? — Bad Neighbor

Dear Neighbor: Your rental agreement may include something about keeping the lawn neat, and your city may have restrictions about the dog. However, we cannot imagine it's anyone's business what kind of car you drive. Tell the neighbors, "Thank you for your interest. We'll get to it as soon as we can." Repeat as needed.

Dear Annie: I am at the

end of my rope with a medical problem. I am 42 and have been hearing-impaired since birth. I also have tinnitus, or ringing in the ears. For the past 15 years, I've noticed that every time I eat something containing citric acid, I come down with a bad spell of vertigo a day or two later. I wake up with ringing in my ears, dizziness and nausea. I also throw up a lot. It can be an orange, lemon juice or any processed food with citric acid used as a preservative. Lately, I find that tomato sauce also gives me vertigo.

I have seen a dozen doctors, including otolaryngologists, but not one has heard of this. Meniere's disease, diabetes and an allergy to citric acid have been ruled out. Two doctors said it might be stress induced, but I don't see it.

I'm hoping if you print this, it will generate a response from someone with answers. — Dizzy in New York

Dear Dizzy: All we know is that citric acid is often used in homeopathic remedies for vertigo, which doesn't help you one bit. If any of our readers have information that proves interesting, we will let you know.

Dear Annie: I have a

toddler grandson (18 months old), and his mother leaves him alone in the bathtub. The other day, when I walked into their home, he was by himself in the tub while she was feeding his newborn sister in another room.

I am so worried that something may happen. We all know how fast a tragedy can occur. Please don't tell me to say something to her or to my son. I have, and it hasn't worked. My son's response the other day was, "I've already warned her. I've told her that she is going to have to deal with the consequences."

Can you please publish statistics along with a warning to parents about NEVER leaving their children unattended in a bathtub or any water for any reason? — Going Gray (Early)

Dear Going Gray: So, Mom has to deal with the consequences, but not Dad? Your son also is going to be plenty sorry if he doesn't insist that his son be watched more closely. Shame on him for his cavalier attitude, and your daughter-in-law needs to have her head examined if she thinks her son is immune from harm.

Here are your stats,

Grandma: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (cpsc.gov) warns that young children can drown in as little as two inches of water. Accidental drowning is the third leading cause of death for children under 5 years of age. About 100 children under age 5 drown each year in bathtubs. Some of these bathtub drownings occurred when children were in bath seats or rings.

The CPSC recommends that caregivers ALWAYS provide supervision when children are around bathtubs or any type of containers with liquids. NEVER leave young children alone or with young siblings in a bathtub, even if you are using a bath seat or ring. Children can drown in just a few minutes.

Dear Annie: I read with amusement and frustration the numerous letters on handicapped bathroom stalls.

I am a special education teacher in college, and we needed to do something to raise the awareness of issues that people with handicaps deal with. I borrowed a family friend's wheelchair and spent an afternoon exploring. Luckily for me, a classmate and I embarked on this adventure together, because I could not

budge the chair out of the backseat. I needed help. I will never forget the attempt to go into a non-accessible restroom. It was impossible! However, I feel that when there is a line waiting for the restroom and the handicapped stall is available, people should not wait in misery. It is silly.

That said, what able-bodied people need to realize is that if they don't want to touch the seat, and they leave a mess, the toilet becomes unusable for a disabled person who cannot balance over the seat. All people must use common courtesy. Please clean up after yourself. — We All Need a Little Tolerance in Louisville, Ky.

Dear Louisville: We appreciate your weighing in.

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

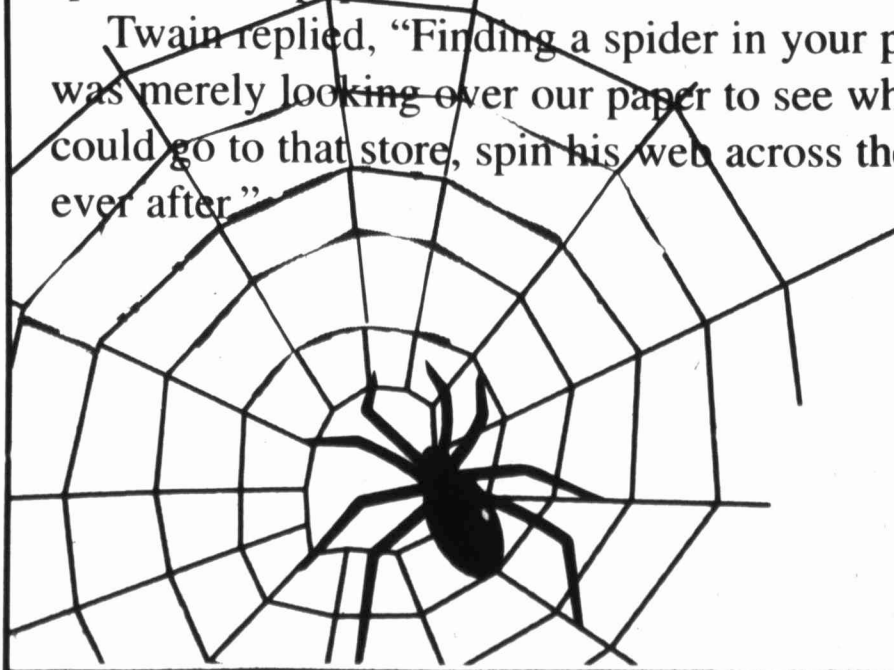
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The Spider

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

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

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



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6	PM	30
7	PM	30
8	PM	30
9	PM	30
10	PM	30
11	PM	30
12	AM	30



FRIDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLN (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPICE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (25)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (30)
6	News (CC)	News (CC)	Incorde de TI	King of the Hill	News (CC)	Amarte Al	News (CC)	Raymond	N. McBride	News (CC)	American	Classics	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	That's Raven	ATP Tennis	Little League	Sci-Fi
7	8 Simple Rules	8 Simple Rules	Apueta por un Amor	Arrested Dev.	Veronica Mars	El Cuerpo del	Dalene NBC	Arrested Dev.	Update/Israel	Wash. Week	Monster House	Movies: You	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Movie: Hair	Proud Family	Masters	World Series	Stargate SG-1
8	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	La Madrastra	Arrested Dev.	The Cut	Los Plateados	at Atlanta	Arrested Dev.	Light of the	TBA	American	Twice	CSI: Crime	Movie: Jurassic	Movie: Monsters, Inc.	Movie: Lilo & Stich	Boxing: Donald	Little League	Stargate SG-1
9	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Casa Pasa	70s Show	NUMB3RS	El Principe	Crossing	70s Show	Raymond	To Be	American	Movie: You	Super Agent	Classic	Classic	Movie: Camarena vs.	Jorge Alberto	World Series	Ballstar
10	News (CC)	News (CC)	Primer Impacto	70s Show	News (CC)	Noticias	News (CC)	70s Show	Movie: O Brother, Where	Charlie Rose	Monster House	Only Live	CSI: Crime	Movie: Jurassic	Nightly News	That's Raven	Karate: ISKA	SportsCenter	Stargate SG-1
11	Ent. Tonight	Jimmy Kimmel	Movie: Clancio y Pareja	Becker (CC)	Lettman	PGA Highlights	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night	Art Thou?	Sign Off	American	Chopper	Star Trek: Next	Movie: Deep	Mead Sports	Buzz-Maggie	Karate: ISKA	Baseball	Stargate SG-1
12	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Spin City	Becker (CC)	Late Late	Marla Celeste	Conan O'Brien	Minding-Store	Minding-Store	Update/Israel	American Hot	Movie: Prophecy	Star Trek: Next	Movie: Deep	Classic	American Drgn	Karate: ISKA	SportsCenter	Ballstar

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MOVE IT, RUFF! WE CAN'T BE PIONEERS IF YOU JUST SIT THERE!"

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"MOMMY!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



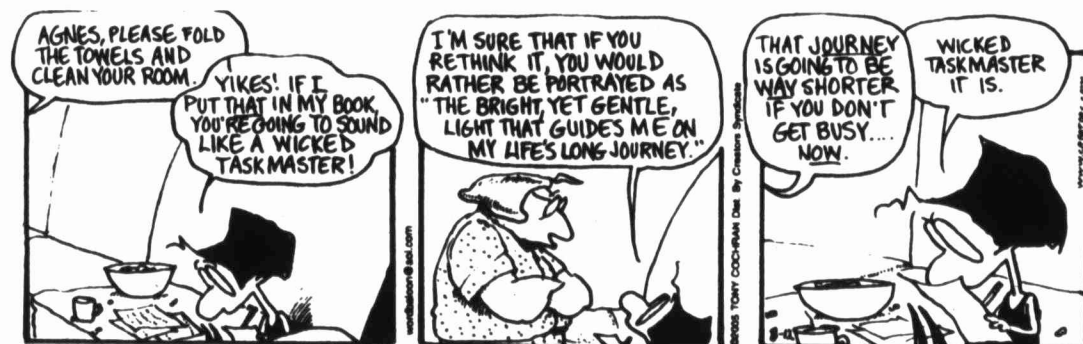
"I'D FOLLOW YOU TO THE END OF THE EARTH, TRIxie!"



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 12, the 224th day of 2005. There are 141 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 12, 1944, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., eldest son of Joseph and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot when their explosives-laden Navy plane blew up over England.

On this date:

In 1867, President Andrew Johnson sparked a move to impeach him as he defied Congress by suspending Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.

In 1898, the peace protocol ending the Spanish-American War was signed.

In 1953, the Soviet Union conducted a secret test of its first hydrogen bomb.

In 1960, the first balloon satellite — the Echo 1 — was launched by the United States from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

In 1962, one day after

launching Andrian Nikolayev into orbit, the Soviet Union also sent cosmonaut Pavel Popovich; both men landed safely Aug. 15.

In 1972, the last American combat ground troops left Vietnam.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI, who had died Aug. 6 at age 80, was buried in St. Peter's Basilica.

In 1985, the world's worst single-aircraft disaster occurred as a crippled Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 on a domestic flight crashed into a mountain, killing 520 people.

Ten years ago: In a methodical, daylight procession, Republican presidential candidates courted Ross Perot's followers at a United We Stand America conference in Dallas.

Five years ago: The Russian nuclear submarine Kursk and its 118-man crew were lost during naval exercises in the Barents Sea.

One year ago: The California Supreme Court voided the nearly 4,000 same-sex marriages sanctioned in San Francisco between Feb. 12 and March 11, 2004.

Today's Birthdays:

Choreographer Michael Kidd is 86. Former Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., is 80. Singer-musician Buck Owens is 76. Actor George Hamilton is 66. Singer Kid Creole is 55. Jazz musician Pat Metheny is 51. Country singer Danny Shirley is 49. Pop musician Roy Hay (Culture Club) is 44. Rapper Sir Mix-A-Lot is 42. Actor Peter Krause is 40. Tennis player Pete Sampras is 34. Actor Michael Ian Black ("Ed") is 34. Actress Rebecca Gayheart is 33. Actor Casey Affleck is 30. Rock musician Bill Uechi (Save Ferris) is 30. Actress Dominique Swain is 25.

Thought for Today: "Wisdom is born, stupidity is learned." — Russian proverb.

Answer to previous puzzle

DEPOT	ALARM	PEP
ARUBA	LEVEE	ETA
MINOR	DETAIL	TAR
PETITE	BIN	STIR
SAMUEL	SLYLY	
BISTROS	SPLIT	
ALMS	FLED	AUTHOR
CIA	FIREARM	EGO
HELLOS	FIT	AFRO
LIGHT	DILUTES	
SAPPY	SPACELAND	
ERRS	CELESTENS	
POL	LUIT	LEDEVIL
ION	ATSEA	ERICA
ANT	PEERS	RELET

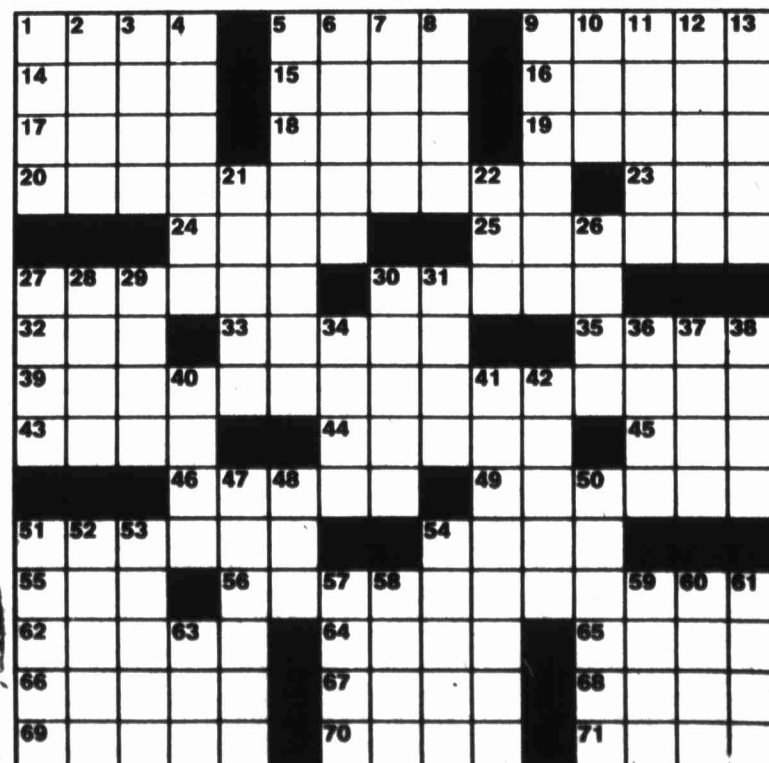
Newsday Crossword

FARE GAME by Merle Baker

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 65 Granny or square | 10 One-time connection | 38 "I've Got ___ in Kalamazoo" |
| 1 Bit of chowder | 66 Single-handedly | 11 Hard roll | 40 Beer holders |
| 5 Acorns, e.g. | 67 Alaskan port | 12 Wear down | 41 Aristotle |
| 9 Put an ID on | 68 Hairspray mom | 13 Like dryer vents | 42 Got takeout, maybe |
| 14 Fabled race loser | 69 Religious teaching | 21 Cause of some fires | 47 Beginning |
| 15 Elvis' middle name | 70 Pub offerings | 22 Start of a Latin trio | 48 Olympics chant |
| 16 Maker of Space Invaders | 71 Ivan or Nicholas | 26 When Operation Overlord began | 50 Illegal enterprise |
| 17 PC alternative | | 27 Year (for) | 51 One from Zagreb |
| 18 Shakespearean villain | DOWN | 28 Score for Beckham | 52 Links rarity |
| 19 Buckboard, for one | 1 Stylish | 29 Basics | 53 Hose material |
| 20 "Minnie the Moocher" singer | 2 Tibetan monk | 30 Catch on the diamond | 54 Stop on |
| 23 Summer hours in Fla. | 3 Saudi, e.g. | 31 Obi-Wan, for one | 57 Warrior Princess of TV |
| 24 Pound sounds | 4 Tourist attractions | 34 Salon worker | 58 Screen favorite |
| 25 Band offering, perhaps | 5 Sharp-edge smoother | 36 Regal address | 59 Stops |
| 27 Graf's mate | 6 Europe/Asia divider | 37 Machu Picchu native | 60 Gossipy Barrett |
| 30 Norwegian inlet | 7 Ordering option | | 61 Have the lead |
| 32 Corn holder | 9 Brief drafter | | 63 Ethyl ending |
| 33 Vintage platter | | | |
| 35 Where most people live | | | |
| 39 You've heard it all too often | | | |
| 43 Different | | | |
| 44 Silas Marner author | | | |
| 45 Motorola rival | | | |
| 46 Shell used as a dipper | | | |
| 49 Breakfast staple | | | |
| 51 Decennial count | | | |
| 54 Opera highlight | | | |
| 55 Oscar role for Jamie | | | |
| 56 Ballroom employees | | | |
| 62 Stares at | | | |
| 64 Prepare for publication | | | |



Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Why an expert may know best

By T.J. TOMASI
Universal Press Syndicate

Golf requires a skill set that must be learned, so an important element of playing the game is finding the right teacher. An expert teacher is close-mouthed and brief when necessary, but explicit down to the last molecule of explanation when the situation calls for it. The structure of the lesson depends not on the teacher's preference, but on the student's needs. Because some students need the whole enchilada while others need just a bite, the expert teacher is flexible, keeping his or her options open as the lesson unfolds.

Two things an expert teacher knows are (1) the subject matter and (2) the pupil. An expert knows that while all humans are mixtures of learning styles, most learners have a mode they are most comfortable in.

Visual, analytic learners need to see lines and angles because that's how they learn best. Theirs is a world of whys, a logical place where cause and effect run the show. This kind of learner wants to know particulars such as which joint is involved, how the hips work and the mechanics of the release.

Other students are kinesthetic/concrete learners who want the teacher to put him or her in the position to feel it. A teacher who is not on a student's wave length will still be diagramming the eight essentials of the setup as this student wanders away mentally.

Still others are auditory learners who want the teacher to help them translate the information into their own personal cadence, i.e., the overall auditory map that the learners use to navigate their environment. They want to "catch" the rhythm of the motion they're asked to perform so they can fit it to their timing and tempo.

Expert teachers understand that different people process the world differently by converting the information coming in through their senses into their dominant learning mode. That's why a teacher like LPGA certified teaching professional Heidi Papoosha, shown below, shapes her presentation not to her dominant learning mode, but to the mode that the student learns best in. It doesn't matter who you are, your age or even how you're dressed, Heidi will make you a better golfer.

Heidi's principles

1. Always find out what the students' goals are and what they expect from their lessons.
2. Keep the concepts of the golf swing simple.
3. I like my students to leave with confidence and excitement about their golf game.



Teaching professional Heidi Papoosha fixes a grip despite the blinding glare of red knickers.



Heidi gives a student the feel of the all-important position at the top.



Photos by Cox News Service

Vijay Singh, who won last year's PGA Championship, may be the only golfer who can stop Tiger Woods this week at Baltusrol. Singh recently beat Woods at the Buick Open.

Longer course in store at PGA

By GLENN SHEELEY
Cox News Service

With golf's final major of 2005, the PGA Championship, coming to Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., this week, we have:

- World No. 1 Tiger Woods, with 10 career majors, going for the three-quarter Grand Slam and trying to match his own record of 2000, when he secured the U.S. Open, British Open and PGA in the same season.

- Everyone other than Woods or U.S. Open champion Michael Campbell seeking a first major title of 2005, aware that the wait until April and the Masters is a long one.

- South Africa's Ernie Els, the world's No. 3 player, sidelined until December following surgery to repair a ruptured tendon in his left knee.

- Vijay Singh, the defending champion, with probably the best chance to stop Woods' major championship momentum, entering as the world's No. 2 player and peaking after two disappointing majors.

- Baltusrol, which last hosted a major at the 1993 U.S. Open, lengthened to 7,392 yards (par 70) and toughened with rough thick enough to claim everyone's attention. Oddly, Baltusrol's Lower Course concludes with two par 5s, highlighted by the 650-yard 17th, which only John Daly reached in 1993, when it was 20 yards shorter.

- A field with 25 club pros, but also 97 of the top 100 players in the world rankings.

After the fabricated links style of Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wis., last year, Baltusrol, originally designed by A.W. Tillinghast in 1922, is just good, old-fashioned, long, tight and tough. Jack Nicklaus twice won the U.S. Open there, in 1967 and 1980. Lee Janzen managed his first of two U.S. Opens at Baltusrol in 1993; Jeff Quinney won the U.S. Amateur

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

- **Where:** Baltusrol Golf Club; Springfield, N.J.

- **Rounds, playoffs:** Four rounds are scheduled to be played, concluding Sunday. If a playoff is necessary, it will be a three-hole, stroke play playoff immediately following the conclusion of regulation play.

- **Purse:** \$6.25 million; first-place money will be \$1.25 million.

- **Prize:** Wanamaker Trophy

- **Field:** 156 golfers will be cut after 36 holes to the lowest 60 scorers (and ties), and any player within 10 strokes of the leader.

- **Last year:** After a final round 76, Vijay Singh rebounded to make his only birdie the day on the first hole of a three-hole playoff to beat Justin Leonard and Chris DiMarco.

- **More information:** www.pga.com/pgachampionship



Tiger Woods has won two of three majors this season (Masters and British Open), and has two previous PGA titles.

there in 2000.

Although Singh, who won in a playoff last year at Whistling Straits, has fallen far behind Woods in the world rankings, he's coming off a successful defense at the Buick Open and putting superbly after a lull at the U.S. Open and British Open.

The 17th is certain to attract attention from the field's longest hitters — players such as Woods, Singh, Davis Love III, Phil Mickelson, Daly and Charles Howell III. Playing a practice round at Baltusrol earlier this summer, Singh said he hit his best driver/3-wood combination of the

day and was 70 yards from the green.

Mickelson managed some practice rounds at Baltusrol after the British Open, hoping for a majors rebound after a tie for 33rd at the U.S. Open and a tie for 60th at St. Andrews. As usual, he played the week before a major — at The International in Colorado.

Woods enters the PGA on quite a tear. Since missing the cut at the Byron Nelson in May, Woods has tied for third at the Memorial, finished second at the U.S. Open, second at the Western Open, won the British Open and tied for second at the Buick Open.

SCHEDULE

All Times EDT

U.S. GOLF ASSOCIATION ROYAL & ANCIENT GOLF CLUB OF ST. ANDREWS Walker Cup

- **Site:** Wheaton, Ill.
- **Schedule:** Saturday-Sunday.

- **Course:** Chicago Golf Club (6,782 yards, par 70).

- **TV:** The Golf Channel (Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Sunday, 4-6 p.m.).

- **Format:** Team match play. Four morning alternate-shot matches and eight afternoon singles matches each day.

- **United States:** Matthew Every, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Anthony Kim, La Quinta, Calif.; Brian Harman, Savannah, Ga.; John Holmes, Campbellsville, Ky.; Billy Hurley, Leesburg, Va.; Jeff Overton, Evansville, Ind.; Michael Putnam, Tacoma, Wash.; Kyle Reifers, Dublin, Ohio; Nicholas Thompson, Coral Springs, Fla.; and Lee Williams, Alexander City, Ala. Captain: Bob Lewis, Pepper Pike, Ohio.

- **Britain and Ireland:** Rhys Davies, Wales; Robert Dinwiddie, England; Nigel Edwards, Wales; Oliver Fisher, England; Gary Lockerbie, England; Brian McElhinney, Ireland; Richie Ramsay, Scotland; Matthew Richardson, England; Lloyd Saltman, Scotland; and Gary Wolstenholme, England. Captain: Garth McGimpsey, Northern Ireland.

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THE GOLF DOCTOR

Troubleshooting your swing: Part 3

If you understand the basics of ball flight, you can self-correct on the golf course, a valuable skill in a game where your swing can desert you without a moment's notice.

THE PUSH SLICE

This shot starts right of target (for a left-hander), then spins even farther to the right, indicating both a club face and a path problem — your path is too much inside-to-out and the club face is open.

Push slices are often caused by sliding ahead of the ball on your downswing so your swing center, located just below your throat, moves toward the target and past the ball. When you slide, you can't turn your hips in time, causing the club head and its face to be out of position at impact.

The second vertebra in your neck is the key. Use it as the non-moving axis around which your club head swings. Think of slinging the club head past your neck.

THE HOOK

Your ball starts at the target, so your path is OK, but then the ball curves away to the left, indicating that your club face is closed at impact. Chances are you hooked it because your hands are rolling at impact. It's a preventable release problem.

Using the fire of the cart or some other fixed object at ground level, take your address position and anchor your club head against it, simulating impact by applying force so that the head of your club is behind your hands and your right knee is kicked in toward the target with your weight on your front foot.

Now put even more pressure on the shaft

so that it bows a bit with the club head looking directly at the target, then reproduce this feel in your real swing.

THE PULL HOOK

When you pull hook (ball starts way left of target and curves even more left), you've got a face and a path problem stemming from a failure to turn correctly.

Because you've stopped your right side from turning into the ball during the downswing, your arms and right shoulder wrap violently around your spine, causing a shut face and a path that looks dead left of the target at impact.

It may seem strange, but, make sure you let your right side turn through the ball so you finish with your right knee and belt buckle pointing at the target. Basically, if you want to stop the pull hooks, simply keep your hips rotating through the shot.

ASK THE PRO



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is director of instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Conn. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.

Q: I don't hit it as far as I should, and a guy I play with a lot tells me I have to use my hands more, but every time I try it, I hit it even shorter. Should I keep trying to use my hands, or is there some other secret? — Jim, from Sebring, Fla.

A: I'll bet you're holding off your release and flipping your hands at impact — a bad combination. For power, use your trail elbow more and your hands less.

As the momentum of the downswing increases, your right elbow (if you're right-handed) should straighten on its own, but if you're not used to it, you may have to force it to happen for a couple of practice buckets.

Your goal is to let your power lever (aka, your trail elbow's bend) straighten through impact — and you certainly don't "throw" your hands at the ball.

To keep the club face square to the target, the right wrist remains bent through impact, just as it was at address. It is this position that gives you control of the club face while the right-elbow lever provides power.