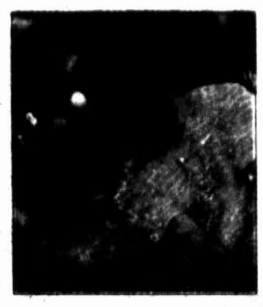
BIG SPRING
HERALD



INSIDE

Tiger wins 52nd event in wild up and down play and playoff.
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VOLUME 102, NUMBER 236 | MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2006 | COPYRIGHT 2006 | 50 CENTS DAILY/$1.25 WEEKEND

Donations mean chapel coming for cemetery

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

More than three years of work will come together in the shape of a rustic, late 1800s-style chapel at Mount Olive Cemetery, thanks to the generosity of a Big Spring man and a local charitable foundation.

A pair of $10,000 donations from area resident Jerry Worthy and the Dora Roberts Foundation — coupled with $20,000 in matching funds from the city of Big Spring — will pay for the construction of a $40,000 limestone chapel at the municipal cemetery, a project Councilwoman Gloria McDonald began more than three years ago.

"Several citizens came to me in the beginning and said they felt the chapel would make the cemetery more inviting," said McDonald. "So I put together a committee two budget sessions ago and we approached the city about it, and they agreed for match whatever funds we could raise."

McDonald said city needs, including streets and infrastructure, took priority shortly after that, forcing the city to place the idea of a new chapel on its fiscal back burner.

However, when the project finally got the green light, McDonald said it was off to the races for her.

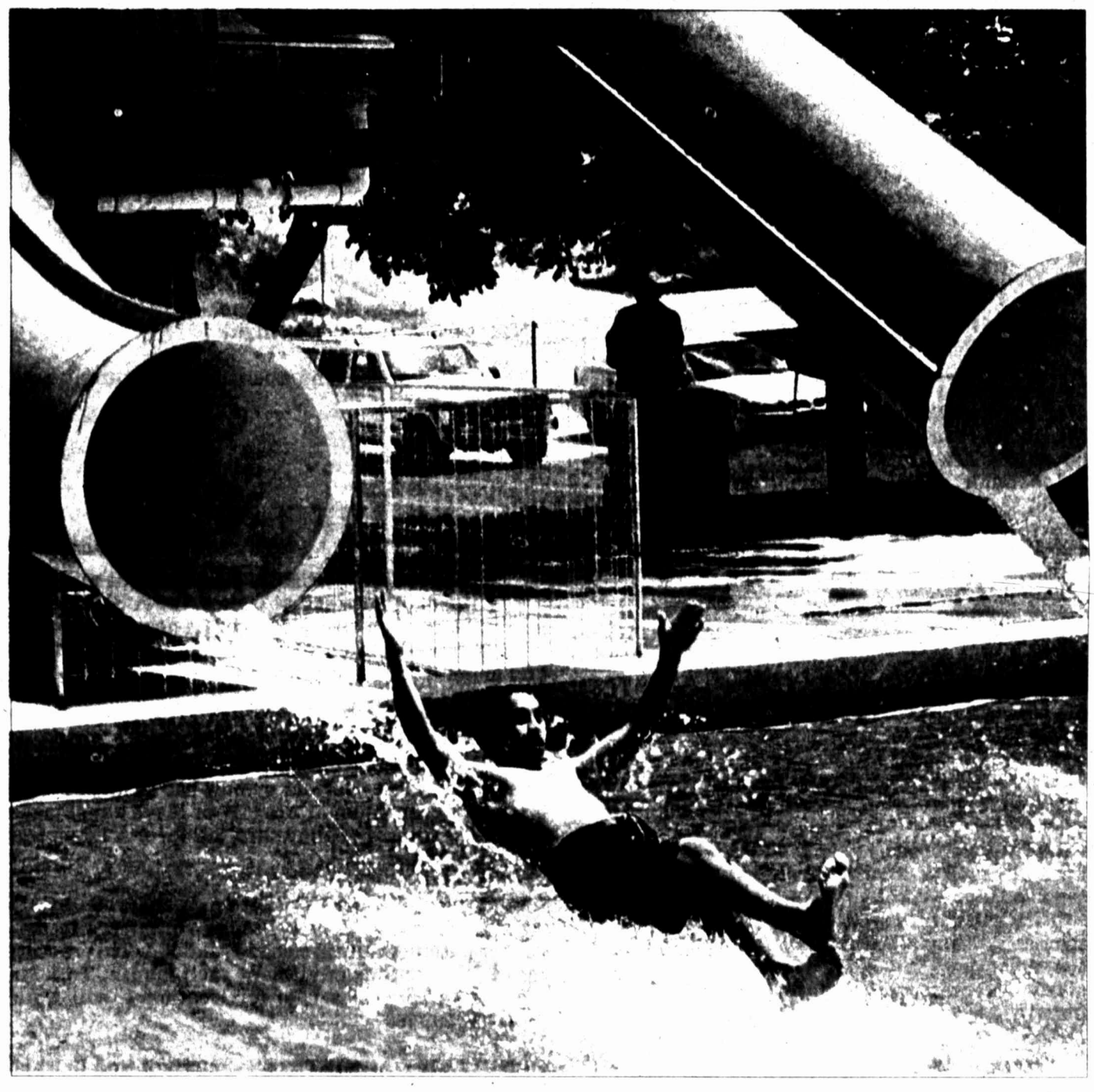
"I approached the Dora Roberts Foundation and they agreed to fund $10,000," said McDonald. "After that, I spoke with Jerry Worthy, who has a lot of family interred at the cemetery. He agreed to put up the remaining $10,000, and has even donated the special Spanish-style roof tiles that will really help bring the look of the project together."

McDonald said the chapel will be located in the back part of the cemetery and will have a rather rustic look.

"We really wanted this chapel to be special," said McDonald. "I like to think of it as a John Wayne chapel, because it's has a very old, rough look to it. It will have the heavy wooden door like you used to see on the homes back at the turn of the century, as well as the large wooden shutters on the win-

See **CHAPEL**, Page 3

STARTING OFF WITH A SPLASH



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

A boy exits the tube slide and enters the water at the city pool Saturday afternoon as part of the United Way Splash In. United Way agencies provided free food and entertainment to the public during the event.

Anniversary:

With Ernesto threatening, President Bush visiting Katrina-ravagedGulf Coast

By JENNIFER LOVEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush marks the anniversary of the hurricane that still haunts his presidency with worries a new tropical storm could bring the first test of his promise that the botched post-Katrina response will not be repeated.

As Ernesto cut a path through the Caribbean, Bush prepared for a visit Monday and Tuesday to the region that is little recovered from Hurricane Katrina's devastating strike last August. Forecasters believe Ernesto, which grew into the first hurricane of the season Sunday and then weakened back to a tropical storm, will emerge with some force into the Gulf of Mexico later this week.

The latest tracking indicated the system would most threaten southern and western Florida, a predication that seemed to shift New Orleans out of the expected danger zone.

Regardless, with Bush's image as a leader still tarnished by the halting federal response to Katrina, the president wants to make clear that he has been fully engaged in planning for Ernesto as he vacationed over the weekend at his family's summer home on the Maine coast. Aides noted he was briefed regularly and said White House representatives were coordinating with emergency management officials.

A poll earlier this month found two-thirds of Americans still disapprove of the president's handling of Katrina. Democrats are converging on the Gulf along with Bush, intending to make the case that the president and his Republican Party should be held accountable for failing storm victims not just at first, but still.

Democratic National Committee chairman Howard Dean said Bush's promises of help for Katrina victims and changes to the federal response effort remain largely unfulfilled. He called Bush's trip nothing more than a public relations offensive designed to paper over failures.

Bush's trip is his 13th to the Gulf Coast since Katrina, and his first in over three months. The highlights this time are a pair of speeches, one each in Mississippi and Louisiana.

He wasn't bringing any new aid announcements or fresh policy proposals. Instead, the president was hoping the addresses would persuade local residents and doubters elsewhere that he remains committed to seeing the region rebuilt better than before.

On one matter that has become a subject of some finger-pointing between Washington and the region, aides said Bush would stress that the states and local governments need to do their part to get federal money to victims — an unmistakable jab at leaders in Louisiana and New Orleans, where federal money for citizens to rebuild homes has not yet begun flowing.

So far, Congress has approved $110 billion in hurricane aid. The Bush administration has released $77 billion to the states, reserving the rest for future needs, but $33 billion of that has not yet been spent.

Don Powell, Bush's federal Gulf Coast coordinator, also warned in an interview that no more money would flow to the region until there is proof that what has been

See **VISIT**, Page 3

No parking zone set at BSHS

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

When Big Spring High School officials looked along 11th Place in front of the school as students were arriving or leaving, they saw an accident waiting to happen.

During the early morning and mid-afternoon, the street was a jumble of activity, with students darting between parked cars and crossing a very busy thoroughfare. Principal Mike Ritchey believed it was only a matter of time before a serious accident occurred.

So while some grumbles might be heard concerning the new no-parking ordinance in front of the high school, you won't hear any from Ritchey.

"It's just tight quarters there; it's a busy place," he said of the front of the school. "It wouldn't take but a split-second for someone to get seriously hurt."

The city council recently instituted an ordinance making the portion of 11th Place that runs past the high school a no-parking zone from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Big Spring Police Department has stationed extra officers in the area to enforce the new law.

Ritchey concedes that the ordinance has caused inconvenience to some, but believes that inconvenience is counter-balanced by increased safety for students.

"It's basically a safety issue," he said. "The kids have to get across the street, and when you've got 1,000 students leaving or arriving at the same time, you're bound to have a problem."

Ritchey said the ordinance does not prohibit parents from stopping briefly to pick up or drop off students. "They just

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County's jobless rate takes slight drop

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Unemployment took a small dip in Howard County for July, comparable to that of many area counties.

The jobless rate dropped from 6.4 percent in June to 6.3 percent in July, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

"The labor force statistics for this area should change in the next few months as Solitaire, StarTek and Fiber Glass Systems complete their hiring and expansion projects," said Mary Gregg, Workforce Network of Big Spring assistant area manager.

According to the TWC's numbers, Howard County posted a civilian labor force of 13,286 in July, of whom 12,444 were employed. The remaining 842 unemployed but seeking employment represents 6.3 percent. Unemployment for July of 2005 was 5.7 percent.

The Texas unemployment rate is 5.5 percent for this July, while the Permian Basin Workforce Development Area is listed at 4.9 percent. Within the Permian Basin Workforce Development Area, there are 186,807 people employed, compared to last year's figure of 180,390.

Area unemployment figures for July include Midland County, 4 percent; Ector County, 4.7 percent; Martin County, 5.1; Dawson County, 8.1; Borden County, 4.2; Glasscock, 5.8; Andrews County, 4.8; and Upton County, 4.5

"As of this date, the local Workforce Network has 110 open jobs," said Gregg. "All job seekers are encouraged to utilize the www.workintexas.com system, whether employed or unemployed.

See **JOBS**, Page 3

Sheriff's report

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

• **JUAN MANUEL RIVERA JR.,** 19, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.

• **JAMESON WAYNE BEARDEN,** 20, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon. Bearden was also arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal trespass.

• **JOSE JESUS RICO,** 42, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear.

• **BUCK B. CHAPPELL JR.,** 33, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation and a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ARMANDO FRANCO,** 21, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation.

• **ANTHONY TREVINO,** 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ADAM RODRIGUEZ CANALES,** 39, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.

• **ROBERT ALDRIDGE,** 22, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a habitation and credit/debit card abuse.

• **JUAN CARLOS GARZA-BENITEZ,** 20, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear - theft by check.

• **FRANCIS MAURICE OVERTON,** 22, was arrested Friday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and driving while license invalid.

• **RANDOLF ROBLEDO,** 38, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - open container, second offense.

• **AARON PAUL DELEON,** 20, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated and evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

• **ERICA LEIGH CERVANTES,** 27, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• **JOE DAVID FEWELL,** 46, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of indecency with a child - sexual contact.

• **ROYCE KATHLEEN FEASTER,** 41, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a Taylor County warrant for theft of service and a Reagan County warrant for theft by check.

• **JIMMY WAYNE BLEDSOE,** 52, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.

• **LARRY DALE KING,** 23, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for no driver's licence, bondsman off bond for no liability insurance and bondsman off bond for violation of a promise to appear.

• **SCHEMICKIA MARIE CROSBY,** 24, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify.

• **MARK ANTHONY MOLINA,** 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of resisting arrest, search or transportation.

• **ANASTACIO S. ESPARZA,** 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of harassment of a public servant - harassment by person in correctional/detention and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

• **MARK ANGELE,** 36, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of terroristic threats.

Weather

Today — Mostly cloudy with showers and thunderstorms likely. Locally heavy rainfall possible. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming east 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon. The chance of rain is 70 percent.

Tonight — Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday — Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s. East winds around 10 mph. The chance of rain is 50 percent.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. Southeast winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable. The chance of rain is 40 percent.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Southeast winds around 10 mph. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

Friday — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Police blotter

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

• **MARK MOLINA,** 41, of 502 E. 11th Place, was arrested Saturday on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest.

• **STACEY RICHARDSON,** 34, address not provided, was arrested Sunday on charges of driving while license suspended and possession of marijuana.

• **LAURIE MARTINEZ,** 26, of Arkansas, was arrested Sunday on a Lubbock County warrant.

• **THEFT** was reported:
- in the 300 block of Owens.
- in the 900 block of 15th Street.

• **RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION** was reported in the 2900 block of Highway 80.

• **POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 1600 block of Gregg Street.

• **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** was reported:
- in the 1300 block of State.
- in the 900 block of Willia.

• **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported:
- in the 1300 block of State.
- in the 2100 block of Main Street.
- in the 1600 block of Gregg Street.
- in the 900 block of Willia.

• **EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION** was reported in the 2100 block of Main Street.

• **CRIMINAL TRESPASS OF A HABITATION/SHELTER CENTER** was reported in the 800 block of Creighton.

• **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 1400 block of Bluebird.

• **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
- in the 1900 block of Wasson.
- in the area of 11th Place (no block number provided).

• **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY - FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 600 block of 12th Street.

• **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** was reported in the area of Second Street (no block number provided).

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87 at 1:40 a.m. Friday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 9500 block of Old Colorado City Highway at 2:47 a.m. Friday. Service was refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20 at 5:53 a.m. Friday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87 at 8:45 a.m. Friday. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87 at 9:38 a.m. Friday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Lloyd at 8:29 p.m. Friday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87 at 8:36 a.m. Saturday. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Wasson at 8:52 a.m. Saturday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1400 block of Bluebird at 10:56 a.m. Saturday. Service was refused.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway at 9:23 p.m. Saturday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4100 block of Bilger at 1:39 a.m. Saturday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87 at 1:11 p.m. Saturday. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Northwest Ninth Street at 7:21 p.m. Saturday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane at 8:22 p.m. Saturday. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of North Birdwell Lane at 8:14 p.m. Sunday. Service was refused.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 6000 block of the Interstate Highway 20 South Service Road at 7:43 a.m. Sunday. One person was transported to SMMC.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

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

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

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

TUESDAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.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.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 12-28-33-38-40-53.
Number matching six of six: none.
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $26 million.

•••

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-6-18-19-35.
Number matching five of five: one.
Prize per winner: $29,950.
Winning tickets sold in: Plano.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

•••

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:
5-2-2

Take Note

• **THE ACKERLY LUNCH BUNCH** will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1200 E. Fourth. Lunch will be served at noon for $6.25 per person. Lunch will be Mexican food, including dessert and drink

• **CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS.** These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• **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 Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• **NEW LIFE MINISTRIES** Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free
Call 264-0771 for more information

• **THE PET PATROL** helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES** to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1999 for recipe forms.

• **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for $18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

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BSHS

Continued from Page 1

can't park there for a long time," he noted.

Officials said there are two advantages to the new ordinances — aside from the increased safety factor, they claim traffic flow along the street is much smoother now.

For Ritchey, however, increased safety trumps all other considerations.

"The safety factor ... is the biggest difference," he said. "The main thing is that is gives us more peace of mind; it puts us at ease a little more."

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

JOBS

Continued from Page 1

"New job listings are received daily and opportunities arise for those who have been discouraged with the type of jobs available in the past, or for those exploring new career opportunities," added Gregg.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or he can be-mailed , at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

An artist's depiction of the new chapel planned for Mount Olive Cemetery, the limestone-faced structure will be approximately 30 feet by 40 feet and located near the back of the municipal facility.

CHAPEL

Continued from Page 1

dows. The outside will be limestone, and the Spanish roof tile is going to really give it a very distinct look."

The same limestone that will be used to construct the chapel will also find its way on the cemetery office, according to McDonald.

"They are renovating the office and will be using the same style limestone on the outside of it," said McDonald. "When they complete those renovations, they will begin construction of the chapel.

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

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

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VISIT

Continued from Page 1

approved is being well-spent.

"It's now time for the people to demonstrate they're going to use this money wisely," he said in an interview. "We need to see plans, execution."

Bush's itinerary looks a lot like previous trips, many of which have been criticized as featuring too much staged contact with supportive locals and overly dominated by meetings with officials.

He is spending a little more time freely roaming Mississippi than harder-hit, less-recovered New Orleans. Today, after lunching with community leaders in Biloxi, Miss., he was to walk through a damaged neighborhood and visit a Gulfport company that builds and repair boats. He will end the day in New Orleans, for dinner with state and local officials.

NASA scrubs Tuesday launch plan, readies to move Atlantis indoors

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — With Tropical Storm Ernesto breathing down their necks, NASA managers gave up on a Tuesday space shuttle launch and prepared to move Atlantis indoors if the storm continues to threaten.

The National Hurricane Center's Monday morning forecast put Ernesto's track almost directly over Kennedy Space Center late Wednesday or early Thursday, and listed a nearly 50 percent chance of tropical storm force winds just south of the cape.

If NASA decides to move Atlantis, it won't start actually moving the shuttle until Tuesday, giving engineers the opportunity to still launch on Sept. 3 if Ernesto's track moves away from Florida, NASA spokesman Bob Jacobs said Monday.

The preparations are already started but the final decision on whether to move the shuttle likely won't be made before Tuesday morning, he said.

NASA is caught between two competing interests: a tight launch schedule to get Atlantis in orbit and a need to keep the multibillion shuttle from preventable damage. NASA rules say the shuttle should not be outside in winds of more than 45 mph.

It takes nearly two days of preparations to get Atlantis from the launch pad into its massive Vehicle Assembly Building.

The first step was the delicate removal of Atlantis' super-cooled on-orbit fuel and other potentially dangerous supplies. After that, NASA removes the explosive devices on the shuttle, its external fuel tank and twin rocket boosters. The slow-moving crawlers then take about 12 hours to get the shuttle from the launch pad safely indoors.

Moving Atlantis off the pad would put the space agency in a time crunch, and a delay of Atlantis' launch could threaten the space agency's short-term goal of finishing construction of the international space station and its long-term goal of returning people to the moon, space experts say.

NASA wants to launch by Sept. 7 so the shuttle's visit to the international space station doesn't interfere with the trip of a Russian Soyuz in mid-September.

The launch window for the mission is also tight, running only through Sept. 13 because NASA wants to launch the shuttle to the space station during daylight so it can photograph the shuttle's external fuel tank, where insulating foam has fallen off during previous launches. The shuttle Columbia was doomed after foam hit a wing, causing a breach that allowed hot gases to penetrate during its return to Earth.

After September, there are only two days to try a launch in October and only a few days in December. If they miss those, NASA would have to wait until next year.

If the decision is made to move Atlantis, it would take at least nine days to move Atlantis indoors, then back out to the pad and launch — the fastest time NASA has done something like that was over 11 days in 1999.

Liftoff originally had been set for Sunday afternoon, but it was delayed until Tuesday to give engineers more time to figure out if a lightning strike Friday damaged the spacecraft's solid fuel rocket boosters and other systems. NASA cleared the solid rocket booster system late Sunday for launch.

Part of the Atlantis mission is to add a key construction truss to the space station. Fourteen later shuttle flights until 2010 depend on its success.

"This flight has to work for the next flight to occur and the next flight to occur and the next flight to occur," NASA space station program director Mike Suffredini said Friday.

And that means NASA's long-term goal of returning to the moon also depends on Atlantis and subsequent flights getting off somewhere close to on schedule.

"They're in a bad situation," said Syracuse University technology professor W. Henry Lambright. "If any one flight gets pushed back and the time frame gets cramped, that raises risk... That's the bind they're in. It's very tight."

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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

Prayers answered, but we still need to be very careful

Manna from heaven ... that's exactly the way to describe the rains our area has received in the past couple of weeks. The prayers of thousands of West Texans seeking a break in what sometimes seems as a perpetual drought have been answered.

And as a result, Howard County officials have ended the county-wide burn ban that was enacted in June.

"Since Howard County has received substantial rainfall during the last two weeks and there is no longer the threat of disaster from wildfire, the emergency regulation imposed... has been rescinded," County Judge Ben Lockhart said last week in issuing an rescinding the burn ban.

While the burn ban has been lifted and it seems as if a state of emergency not longer exists, Texas Forest Service officials are reminding us that we all need to use extreme caution when it comes to any outdoor burning in the coming months.

Simply put, this is still West Texas and there's little doubt that conditions will once again be dangerously dry.

In fact, the rains of the past couple of weeks will more than likely only produce a greater risk in the future, as new growth they foster dries out and becomes fodder for possible wildfires.

State officials say approximately 90 percent of the wildfires they see are caused by people.

We should all remain vigilant, because here in dry and windy West Texas, it only takes a spark or two to create a serious problem. Simply riding on the rim of a flat tire on your car or pitching a cigarette butts out the window of one's vehicle is enough to create a potential catastrophe.

Obviously, fireworks is another major cause of fires and are always best if left to professionals.

But many of us would never think about the exhaust pipes and catalytic converters on our vehicles as a potential hazard, but they certainly can be if we're driving over dry brush and grass.

Officials say if you have to pull off the road, be sure to look for a gravel area and stay away from areas where the grass is tall enough to come into contact with your vehicle's exhaust system, because it only takes a few minutes of being parked there to start a small fire that can grow quickly.

That's advice farmers and ranchers obviously need to heed, but also something all of us need to know and remember.

After all, when it comes to fire in this country, you really can't be too safe.

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

A Small Prayer

by K. Rae Anderson

May we cross over our earthly barriers, Lord, to Your heavenly place through our study of Your word.

Amen

Great parks for a great state

"As the population and demand for recreation and conservation of our natural resources continue to grow, the State system of parks and outdoor recreational resources will be strained for staffing and will be inadequate in size, number, and geographic distribution to accommodate the citizens of Texas." — October 2000 report of the Governor's Task Force on Conservation

Recent newspaper accounts describing the critical state of Texas' park funding come as no surprise to those of us who signed the above quoted report nearly six years ago. Since then, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has struggled to maintain its system of 114 state parks in the face of escalating costs, declining budgets, and the growing demands of an urbanizing state.



JOSEPH FITZSIMONS

Even more significant than the shortage of funding to maintain our existing state parks is the inability to pursue park acquisitions necessary to meet the demands of the 21st Century. It will not be enough to simply repair or restore the park resources that have fallen into disrepair due to budget cuts. In the long run, it is equally important to create a funding structure that allows us to meet the challenges of a growing state.

In 2003, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved a comprehensive 10 year plan to guide the department to meet its mission of managing the natural and cultural resources of Texas and providing present and future generations with outdoor recreation opportunities.

But the reality is that our present funding structure cannot even maintain our existing parks, much less acquire what we will need for the future.

During the 2003 legislative session, Rep. Harvey Hilderbran attempted to address these systemic park funding problems by authoring a bill that would have raised the cap on the portion of state sales tax attributed to sporting goods that is allocated to state parks. There is a logical connection between the money Texans spend on sporting goods and providing adequate outdoor opportunities. Presently, only about 20 percent of the estimated tax attributed to sporting goods is actually appropriated to parks. With a structure where the resources are capped, but demand continues to grow, it should be no surprise that our parks are under funded.

After the failure of last session's park funding bill, I resolved to keep this issue alive during the interim and identify recommendations to provide Texas with a park system worthy of its citizens.

With the support and encouragement of Gov. Perry, I chose 17 Texans I knew could offer the clear-sighted recommendations needed for our parks and historic sites. I asked former State Sen. John Montford to chair the Texas State Parks Advisory Committee.

The advisory committee studied this matter carefully, and its recommendations are now out. The responsibility now falls to all Texans, but especially to those of us in leadership positions, to see those recommendations translated into action.

I fully support the committee's recommendations, and they are reflected in the department's recently submitted Legislative Appropriations Request for 2008-2009. I also know that Gov. Perry and members of the House and Senate support increased funding for parks.

Our parks are not a luxury. They provide real economic returns to communities across the state. Equally important is what parks return to us in the quality of our lives, an understanding of our history, and our relationship to the land.

Will the Texas school children of tomorrow only know about our open spaces by seeing pictures in a book or images on a screen? Or will they relate their history to first-hand experiences? If it is the latter, they will value the experience beyond mere words or pictures and it will become part of who they are as Texans. If not, it will be no surprise that future Texans do not value open spaces and historic sites, or miss them when they are gone.

Why are parks so important to the future of Texas? Because Texas is supposed to be different, and one of the things that make us different is our relationship to the land. That relationship will be lost if we do not provide great parks for a great state.

Joseph B.C. Fitzsimons of San Antonio is an attorney and rancher with a long interest in wildlife and the environment. He serves as chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission.



From 'tag' to today's postal system

In colonial times, mail service in America was a lot like a game of tag. Correspondents gave their letters to traveling friends, who in turn entrusted them to merchants and trappers, who ultimately dropped them off at taverns or stores or other places people congregated, hoping the recipient would stop by, see the letters, and take them home. Tag, you're it!



GARY CRITTENDEN

But as written communication between the colonies and England and among the settlements grew increasingly important, the Crown decided to formalize mail service in the New World. In 1639, the General Court of Massachusetts designated Richard Fairbanks' tavern in Boston as the official repository of mail brought from or sent overseas, in line with the practice in England and other nations to use coffee houses and taverns as mail drops.

A New England tavern became our first Post Office.

Post Offices and post routes eventually sprang up throughout the colonies. In 1673, Gov. Francis Lovelace of New York set up a monthly post between New York and Boston, and William Penn established Pennsylvania's first Post Office in 1683.

When the Continental Congress named Benjamin Franklin the first Postmaster General in 1775, the United States was a weak confederation of colonies scattered along the eastern seaboard. The founders of our nation realized the important role that mail would play in the development of our country — helping to bind the new nation together, support the growth of commerce, and ensure a free flow of ideas and information.

In the more than two centuries since, the United States and its Postal Service have grown and changed together. As mail delivery evolved from foot to horseback, stagecoach, steamboat, railroad, automobile and airplane, with forays into the use of balloons, helicopters, pneumatic tubes — and once, even a guided missile — it was mail transportation contracts that ensured the income necessary to build the great highways, rail lines, and airways that eventually spanned our nation.

Today, mail service in the United States has evolved from a game of tag into the world's largest hard-copy relay race. The Postal Service delivers more than 40 percent of the world's mail — more than 200 billion pieces to 142 million addresses, using the largest non-military transportation fleet in the world. It is a world leader in developing and using optical character recognition, with high-tech sorting equipment that "reads" and processes more than 91 percent of all handwritten addresses on envelopes.

Currently, 96 percent of overnight-committed First-Class Mail is delivered on-time, an all-time high.

The Postal Service hosts one of the most popular Internet Web sites in the world, visited by more than 260 million people a year. Today, almost anything you can do at a Post Office you can do from your home or office online by going to USPS.com.

Bottom line, your Postal Service is a giant, smoothly running engine that powers our nation's economy — the heart of the $900 billion mailing industry which employs nine million people and accounts for 8 percent of the gross domestic product in the U.S.

And it still binds our nation together — eight million businesses and nearly 300 million Americans strong, address by address, community by community, coast to coast.

Gary Crittenden is Big Spring's postmaster. His weekly column centers on the United States Postal Service's history and the services it provides.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

A&M student killed by train

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A Texas A&M University student was killed while trying to jump aboard a moving train, police said.

Robert Walker Best, 23, was killed early Saturday when he slipped under the train on a rail line located a few blocks from the university campus. He was pronounced dead at the scene, officials said.

Best, of San Antonio, would have been a fifth-year senior biology major when classes resumed Monday.

Police said Best was with two male friends when the accident occurred — one a student at Blinn College and the other a University of Texas student.

College Station police Lt. Mark Langwell said Sunday that toxicology reports were pending.

Low water level reveals skeleton

AUSTIN (AP) — Archeologists say a prehistoric skeleton and campsite discovered on the muddy shore of Lake Travis could be between 700 and 2,000 years old.

An archaeology crew excavated the nearly intact skeleton on Sunday so that it can be donated to the University of Texas for further study.

"The significance of this is really an understanding of the ways of people who lived here in the past," said Andy Malof, an archaeologist with the Lower Colorado River Authority.

He said that an on-site examination of the body indicated that it is less than 1,000 years old. But arrowheads collected at the site suggest a burial taking place between 1,500 and 2,000 years ago, he said.

David Houston, of Austin, came across the skeleton on Aug. 9 when he pulled his personal watercraft onto the lake shore to admire a nearby house. He said he saw a jawbone, teeth and a forearm in the clay soil.

Scooter scam nets jail time

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) — A Houston woman must serve 15 months in prison for a wheelchair scam that prosecutors said bilked Medicare out of more than $2 million, and her daughter was given home detention.

Pearlie Warfield, 56, and her daughter, Veronda S. Warfield, 38, both of Houston, admitted making more than $100,000 in commissions — $200 for each person they signed up for an unneeded motorized wheelchair.

Instead of a wheelchair, the people got less expensive motorized scooters; Houston-based Legend Medical Services kept the difference in price.

The Warfields pleaded guilty last year and testified in May against Legend's director, Obot Nelson Udoh, 48, of Houston. He faces up to 10 years in prison and $250,000 in fines for his conviction on 11 counts of health-care fraud and one count of conspiring with others to commit health-care fraud.

Legend submitted 1,144 Medicare claims, 80 percent of them from Louisiana, according to trial testimony.

Katrina evacuee fatally shot

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a 25-year-old Hurricane Katrina evacuee who had been wanted by Houma, La., authorities on a murder warrant.

Houston police said they didn't know Sunday if the shooting of Cory Chevell Stovall was connected to his Louisiana warrant.

Stovall was shot and killed about 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the courtyard of a Houston apartment complex. Police say they have not established a motive. They said in a news release that it did not appear that Stovall was the victim of a robbery.

Two Katrina evacuees are being questioned in the death, but no charges have been filed.

Prosecutor calls for change

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Authorities knew Matthew O'Connor was on the move because of the alerts given by the electronic ankle monitor he'd been ordered to wear.

They assumed he was driving to work Wednesday morning. But O'Connor was in fact driving to his ex-wife's house armed with three guns.

He broke down the door at the house of Evairene O'Connor and shot her at least 20 times with a 9 mm handgun and two Tech-9 guns, police said. Then, he shot and killed himself.

"I know people are saying, 'We (authorities) did all we could,'" said Floria Roberts, the slain woman's sister. "But I just can't believe that. I can't believe we can track a letter through the postal system, and we can track a stray dog. Why can't we track these kinds of people?"

Following the deaths of the two, District Attorney Susan Reed released a statement pledging to petition state lawmakers to change law so judges can order people who violate protective orders to remain in jail without bond.

"I want (them) locked up. It's that simple," Reed said.

The monitoring system used by Bexar County was mainly meant to reduce the number of inmates in jail, not track sex offenders or violent criminals, said Keith Charlton, executive director of the county's Criminal Justice Planning and Coordination Department.

The judge who ordered O'Connor to wear the monitoring device thinks a global positioning system could have helped. Judge Monica Guerrero has renewed her calls for the county to adopt the technology.

Evairene O'Connor had alerted authorities about her former husband's assaults and repeated threats against her. She even wrote a letter last year in anticipation of her death.

She had been granted a protective order against O'Connor in March but told police her husband continued to harass and follow her.

Hispanics leaving rural counties

HOUSTON (AP) — Fading opportunity in rural Texas is pushing the younger generation of long-established Hispanic communities toward major metropolitan centers.

"For the most part they really love it out here," said Paul Wright, a rural demographer at Sul Ross State University in nearby Alpine. "They would stick around if they thought they could make a good living."

While the Latino population in cities and suburbs around the country has surged, it's plunged since 2000 in 40 rural counties concentrated mostly in West Texas and near the Mexican border, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The lack of interest by immigrants and locals in many rural counties alludes to the decline of businesses such as railroads, petroleum and agriculture, officials and experts say.

"They don't stay around here; they just keep on going," said Jim Hogg County Judge Agapito Molina from his office in Hebbronville.

All of the 6 percent population decrease in Jim Hogg County from 2000 to 2005 centered on Hispanics. Whites remained at a nearly steady rate in Jim Hogg County, which is 90 percent Hispanic, according to government figures.

Most residents in the county live near the northern edge in Hebbronville, a town established by the railroads. It was once a ranching and petroleum center, but those industries have collapsed and now require less workers.

Near the Rio Grande in Sanderson, railroad and wool and mohair jobs diminished in the 1990s. Sagging oil and agricultural activity in Pecos led to a loss of one-third of its population since 1990.

"Pecos looks like a neutron bomb has hit it," said Wright. "It wipes out the population, but the buildings are still standing."

Escapee captured hitchhiking

DALLAS (AP) — Investigators from the Texas prison system apprehended Saturday an inmate who escaped from a privately run pre-parole center in Mineral Wells.

Harvey Veal, 43, was spotted by investigators around 8 a.m. hitchhiking along Highway 51 near Granbury. He was taken into custody without incident, said Michelle Lyons, spokeswoman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Veal disappeared some time between 7 and 9:15 p.m. Thursday while he was supposed to be attending a class. A preliminary search failed to find Veal overnight, but it did find a clipboard stuck in a fence, Lyons said.

He was serving a four-year sentence for a Tarrant County felony firearms possession conviction. The inmate will now face a charge of felony escape, Lyons said.

Veal escaped from a facility that houses inmates within a year of their parole availability.

Thanks to pesky comrade, Iraq soldier meets father for first time

By ELIZABETH WHITE
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — It was clear Saturday that the nervousness Felecia Dorsey said she felt a day earlier had given way to the raw, beautiful emotion that often accompanies a life-changing experience.

Dorsey had waited all 34 years of her life to meet her biological father. At the San Antonio International Airport her shaking turned to crying as Larry Maston, 63, hugged his daughter for the first time.

"That's your big brother," Maston said after a long embrace and many tears, directing Dorsey, 34, to Ugene Wilson, the sibling she never knew she had.

Maston had thought until earlier this year that his daughter was stillborn in 1971, even though in reality Dorsey's mother, who was never married to Maston, put the baby up for adoption immediately.

But thanks to a bit of pestering from a military colleague of Dorsey's during a tour in Iraq, the U.S. Army sergeant began the process earlier this year of tracking down the birth parents she knew nothing about.

"I felt that if my mom wanted to see me she would have looked for me," Dorsey said. "So I was more nervous that they didn't want to know who I was than not finding them."

In early July, the private investigator who was working for free gave Dorsey the good, and bad, news. Her father was alive and running a hair salon in Los Angeles. Her mother, Mary Santos, had died in 2005 of heart disease.

Dorsey became the adoptive daughter to Ruby and Louis Dorsey, both now dead, at a young age after being shuttled through two other foster homes where her birth name of Juli had been changed first to Barbie and then to Mimi.

Dorsey had very little information to offer Susan Friel-Williams, of Internationallocator.com, besides that her name was once Mimi and that she was born in Los Angeles.

"We can only do so much as far as doing an investigation but we have to have something to start with," Friel-Williams said from Florida. She said the firm wanted to help Dorsey, despite the challenges her location in Iraq posed, as "our way to support the troops."

Friel-Williams, herself adopted, used Dorsey's birth date and mother's ethnicity, Hispanic, to figure out who she was in public records. Ultimately Friel-Williams was able to connect Maston to Dorsey, who shared an emotional phone introduction between Los Angeles and Iraq.

"He just started screaming, 'This is my daughter!'," Dorsey said.

"It was just absolutely wonderful, just to hear from her," Maston said. "She called every day for three weeks."

Maston said he would not have been mad at Santos, who was also Ugene Wilson's mother, for not telling him about Dorsey.

"If Mary had been alive, we'd have gone around arguing for about an hour but then it would have been over because this is more joyful than the anger would have been," he said.

At the airport where Dorsey also met her maternal aunt, Priscella Santos, and sister-in-law, Vanessa Wilson, her newfound brother, Ugene, said "it's like seeing mom all over again."

"She looks like my sister. It's kind of scary, but it's good, it's definitely good," Priscella Santos said.

Dorsey arrived back from Iraq this month and is now based at Fort Hood. She's due to be discharged from the Army at the end of the year, and she and her fiance plan to marry in October.

Two half brothers and a half sister have yet to meet Dorsey and her daughter, Ta'Tiana Miles, 14. But there's time for that. Family and friends are planning a big party in California in December.

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Aching head? See an NTI dentist!

Do you suffer the agony of migraine headaches? How about frequent tension headaches or TMJ. Do you swallow tons of pain relievers?

Believe it or not, headache prevention is found for many headache sufferers with dentists trained in NTI therapy, which was developed by a migraine suffering dentist.

So what can NTI dentists do to prevent migraines and tension headaches? The answer is NTI therapy, which involves sleeping with a small, specially designed "night guard" on the front teeth. NTI therapy is proven, patented, and FDA approved for migraine, tension headache and TMJ pain prevention.

How does it help? NTI therapy has been featured on "Good Morning America" and other national news media. It works by greatly reducing clenching of the jaws while sleeping. Additional temporary use of a daytime NTI is used for migraine prevention.

Is clenching bad? Yes! Clenching doesn't usually harm the teeth or jaw joints. It does promote headaches in many people. Physicians know this too, and some even inject Botox repeatedly into the main clenching muscles to paralyze them. NTI therapy however is painless and requires usually only a few visits.



DR. DAVID WARD

How bad is clenching? Studies show that many migraine sufferers clench up to 14 times more intensely at night than normal. It is hard to imagine not having pain under those circumstances.

How does the NTI work? Put your hands on the sides of your head and clench. You feel the temporalis muscles (your main clenchers) bulge. Now, put a wooden pencil between your front teeth and clench. The muscles won't bulge, so the force is greatly reduced

Is it really that easy to prevent headaches? For many people, yes! In one study, 82 percent of migraine sufferers reported improvement with the NTI.

How much improvement? They reported an average of 77 percent fewer headaches.

Where can I learn more about NTI therapy? Go to the Web site at www.nti-tss.com or come by my office for a brochure or brief, free consultation.

I love to do NTI therapy for my patients when indicated. It literally changes their quality of life, often starting the first night.

They feel much better and lower their drug and doctor bills. It won't help everyone, but it is fairly easy to tell who will benefit. Please talk to an NTI dentist soon!

Dr. David Ward practices family dentistry in Big Spring. He is currently president of the Permian Basin Dental Society. He is also a member of the Texas and American Dental Associations and the Academies of Cosmetic Dentistry and Gp Orthodontics.

Living Well



By Kori Myers

How to avoid osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a disease that weakens bones to the point where they break easily. Because there are no real outward symptoms of osteoporosis, you may not notice any changes until a bone breaks; but, your bones have been losing strength for many years. Millions of Americans have osteoporosis. They are mostly women, Caucasian and Asian women more so than others, but more than 2 million men also have this disease. The risk of osteoporosis grows as you get older for both men and women.

Bone is living tissue. To keep bones strong, your body is always breaking down old bone and replacing it with new bone tissue. As people enter their 40s and 50s, more bone is broken down than is replaced. A close look at the inside of bone shows something like a honeycomb. When you have osteoporosis, the spaces in this honeycomb grow larger. And the bone that forms the honeycomb gets smaller. The outer shell of your bones also gets thinner. All this loss makes your bones weaker.

A couple of other terms you may hear when discussing osteoporosis are osteopenia and osteomalacia. Osteopenia is a decrease in bone tissue, regardless of the cause. Osteomalacia is softening of the bones so that they become flexible and brittle.

Regarding diagnosis, the first sign of osteoporosis may be to realize you are getting shorter or to break a bone easily. Following a comprehensive medical assessment, your health provider may recommend that you have your bone mass measured. A bone mineral density (BMD) test is the best way to determine your bone health. BMD tests can identify osteoporosis, determine your risk for fractures and measure your response to osteoporosis treatment. The most widely recognized bone mineral density test is called a dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry scan or DEXA-scan. It is a painless procedure that is a bit like having an x-ray.

For persons with coverage under Medicare Part "B" — the optional outpatient health coverage — bone mass measurement tests are covered once every 24 months. If your health provider determines that you are at high risk or that it is medically necessary, Medicare may pay for screenings more often.

There are things you should do at any age to prevent weakened bones:

• Calcium. Getting enough calcium all through your life helps to build and keep strong bones. Foods that are high in calcium are the best source: low-fat dairy foods, dark green leafy vegetables and calcium-fortified foods like orange juice, breads and cereals. If you think you are not getting enough calcium in your diet, check with your health provider. He or she may tell you to try a calcium supplement. You have to be careful though — too much calcium can cause problems for some people.

• Vitamin D. Your body uses vitamin D to absorb calcium. Most people's bodies are able to make enough vitamin D if they are out in the sun for a total of 20 minutes every day. You can also get vitamin D from eggs, fatty fish and cereal and milk fortified with vitamin D. If you think you are not getting enough vitamin D, check with your health provider. As with calcium, be careful, too much Vitamin D may cause harmful side-effects.

• Exercise. Your bones and muscles will be stronger if you are physically active. Weight-bearing exercises, done three to four times a week, are best for preventing osteoporosis. Walking, jogging, playing tennis and dancing are examples of weight-bearing exercises. Try some strengthening and balance exercises, too. They may help you avoid falls which could cause a broken bone.

• Medicines. Some common medicines can make bones weaker. These include some types of steroid drugs, some anti-seizure drugs, certain sleeping pills and some cancer drugs, among others. An overactive thyroid gland or using too much thyroid hormone for an underactive thyroid can also be a problem. If you are taking any of these medicines, talk to your health provider about what you can do to help protect your bones.

• Lifestyle. Smoking increases loss of bone mass. For this and many other health reasons, stop smoking. Also, limit how much alcohol you drink — too much alcohol can put you at risk for falling and breaking a bone.

Treating osteoporosis means stopping the bone loss and rebuilding bone to prevent breaks. Diet and exercise can help make your bones stronger but they may not be enough if you have lost a lot of bone density. There are several medications which you may take to help lessen your risk of developing osteoporosis or lessen its effects. Some will slow your bone loss, and others can help rebuild bone. Talk with your health provider to see if one of these types of medicine might work for you.

Preventing falls is a special concern for men and women with osteoporosis. Falls can increase the likelihood of fracturing a bone in the hip, wrist, spine or other part of the skeleton. In addition to environmental factors, falls can also be caused by impaired vision and/or balance, chronic diseases that affect mental or physical functioning and certain medications, such as sedatives and antidepressants. It is important that individuals with osteoporosis be aware of any physical changes that affect their balance or gait and that they discuss these changes with their health provider. For more information on preventing falls, visit the Texas Cooperative Extension Fall Prevention Website: http://fcs.tamu.edu/families/aging/fall_prevention/.

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

Kori Myers, M.Ed., is the Cooperative Extension Service Family and Consumer Services agent for Howard County. She can be reached at krmyers@ag.tamu.edu or by phone at (432) 264-2236.

Contract Bridge

Famous Hand

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7
♥ K 8 6 3 2
♦ J 7 5 4 2
♣ 9 3

WEST
♠ 9 8 6 4
♥ J 10 7 5
♦ 9 8 6
♣ 10 7

EAST
♠ J 5
♥ A Q 9 4
♦ A K Q 10 3
♣ Q 6

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 3 2
♥ —
♦ —
♣ A K J 8 5 4 2

This deal occurred in a regional pair championship in Los Angeles many years ago. The hand was played at many tables, of course, but our story concerns itself solely with the table where Mrs. Kelsey Petterson held the South cards.

When she first looked at her extraordinary hand, Mrs. Petterson wondered whether it would be better to open the bidding with two spades (strong) or two clubs when it was her turn to bid. A good case can be made for either of these calls, and even the best players would differ as to the correct opening.

However, the problem became altogether academic when Mrs. Petterson thought she heard the player on her right open the bidding with seven diamonds!

Undaunted by this totally unexpected development, Mrs. Petterson bid seven spades. East doubled, and, after three passes, West led the jack of hearts.

There was nothing much to the play. Declarer ruffed the heart and drew four rounds of trumps, the jack obligingly falling on the second round. When she then cashed the A-K of clubs, the missing queen also fell on the second round, so the upshot was that she made seven spades doubled for a score of 2,470 points.

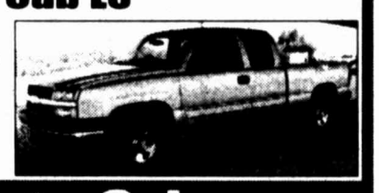
East-West were understandably nonplussed by this dreadful result. They realized they would get a very bad score on the deal, especially since East had elected to double the grand slam, giving North-South an optimum result that was unlikely to be duplicated at the other tables.

As the East-West pair were disconsolately putting their cards back into the duplicate board, Mrs. Petterson turned to her right-hand opponent and asked, "May I please see what an opening seven-diamond bid looks like?"

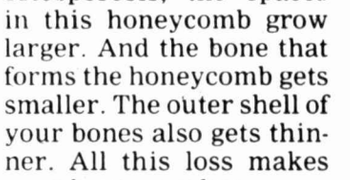
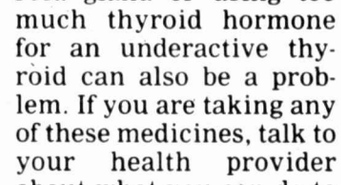
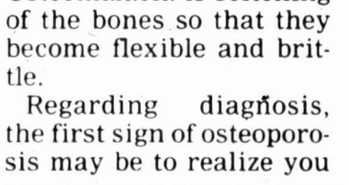
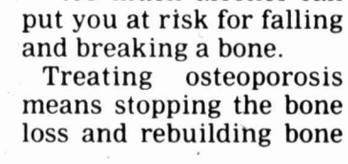
"I opened the bidding with one diamond," East sadly replied.

Tomorrow: Choosing the right line of play.

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IN BRIEF

Coahoma Boosters event is tonight

The Coahoma Booster Club will hold its annual Meet the Bulldogs Night at 7:30 tonight in the Coahoma Elementary School cafeteria.

Quarterback Club to meet tonight

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

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

For more information, call Tissue at 816-3458.

MacKenzie takes win at Reno-Tahoe Open

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Will MacKenzie made a 10-foot birdie putt on the final hole to close out at 1-under 71 and pick up his first PGA Tour victory by one stroke over veteran Bob Estes.

MacKenzie led by three strokes with five holes to go and was ahead by one before he bogeyed the par-5 17th. Estes could have taken the lead there, but missed a 20-foot birdie attempt and missed another on the 18th from about 16 feet. He shot an even-par 72 in the final round.

MacKenzie, a 31-year-old former door-to-door hammock salesman in his second year on tour, finished at 20-under 268.

Ochoa takes win in LPGA event

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — Lorena Ochoa won a head-to-head duel with Jee Young Lee, pulling away with two consecutive birdies to shoot a 7-under 65 and win by three shots.

Ochoa and Lee, playing in the same group, were tied at 22 under through 12 holes. But Ochoa birdied the next two holes for a two-stroke lead and was never threatened again as she parred out to finish at 24-under 264.

Romero wins playoff for Tradition victory

ALOHA, Ore. (AP) — Eduardo Romero knocked in a 2-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole against Lonnie Nielsen to win The Tradition, the final major this season on the Champions Tour.

Romero almost eagled the first playoff hole, leaving his 19-foot putt just short on No. 18. Nielsen bogeyed.

Scotsman Ramsay wins U.S. Amateur

U.S. Amateur

CHASKA, Minn. (AP) — A flawless iron game and an unflappable demeanor forged from hardships endured earlier in the week made Richie Ramsay the first Scotsman to win the U.S. Amateur in 108 years.

Ramsay made just two bogeys and hit 30 of 34 fairways and greens on Sunday. That consistency overwhelmed 21-year-old John Kelly, who conceded the 16th hole to give Ramsay the match, 4 and 2.

A roller coaster day, another Woods win



MCT photo/Lew Stamp/Akron Beacon Journal

Tiger Woods watches his sand shot on 18th hole, the third of four sudden death holes, during the WGC Bridgestone Invitational at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, Sunday.

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

AKRON, Ohio — Ten years to the day, Tiger Woods asked a publicist for IMG to dictate a statement to the PGA Tour that changed the landscape in golf more than anyone could have imagined.

"This is to confirm that, as of now, I am a professional golfer."

Woods celebrated that 10-year anniversary Sunday at the Bridgestone Invitational with the 52nd victory of his career. He took a three-shot lead with a burst of birdies, blew a three-shot lead with three holes to play, then made an 8-foot birdie putt on the fourth hole of a sudden-death playoff to outlast Ryder Cup teammate Stewart Cink.

"It was kind of a roller coaster out there in a sense," Woods said.

Not so for his career. His decade on the PGA Tour has strictly been an upward cycle.

Woods sat next to the trophy — his fourth in a row and sixth in 13 starts this season as Bridgestone Invitational tournament director Tom Strong leaned against a wall and reminisced.

Strong was the tournament director at the Greater Milwaukee Open in 1996 and offered Woods a sponsor's exemption for him to launch his professional career. To see Woods posing with another trophy was hard to fathom.

"You knew he had special talent," Strong said. "But who knew that he could be where he is today?"

See **WOODS**, Page 12

'Pokes stay perfect

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Every snap Terrell Owens misses is another chance for Drew Bledsoe to throw to Terry Glenn. Not that they need the work.

Glenn made a spectacular touchdown catch for the second straight game and hauled in a 52-yard pass in double coverage to set up another touchdown, then the defense took care of the rest in a 17-7 victory over the San Francisco 49ers on Saturday night.

Bledsoe continues removing any doubt he'll start the opener, going 12-of-17 for 200 yards and a touchdown. He completed his last nine throws and left at halftime with Dallas leading 17-0. The Cowboys would've scored on all four of his drives had Shaun Suisham made a 35-yard field goal in the closing seconds of the second quarter.

Glenn caught four of Bledsoe's passes for 98 yards, showing he's more than ready to be the No. 1 receiver — with or without Owens.

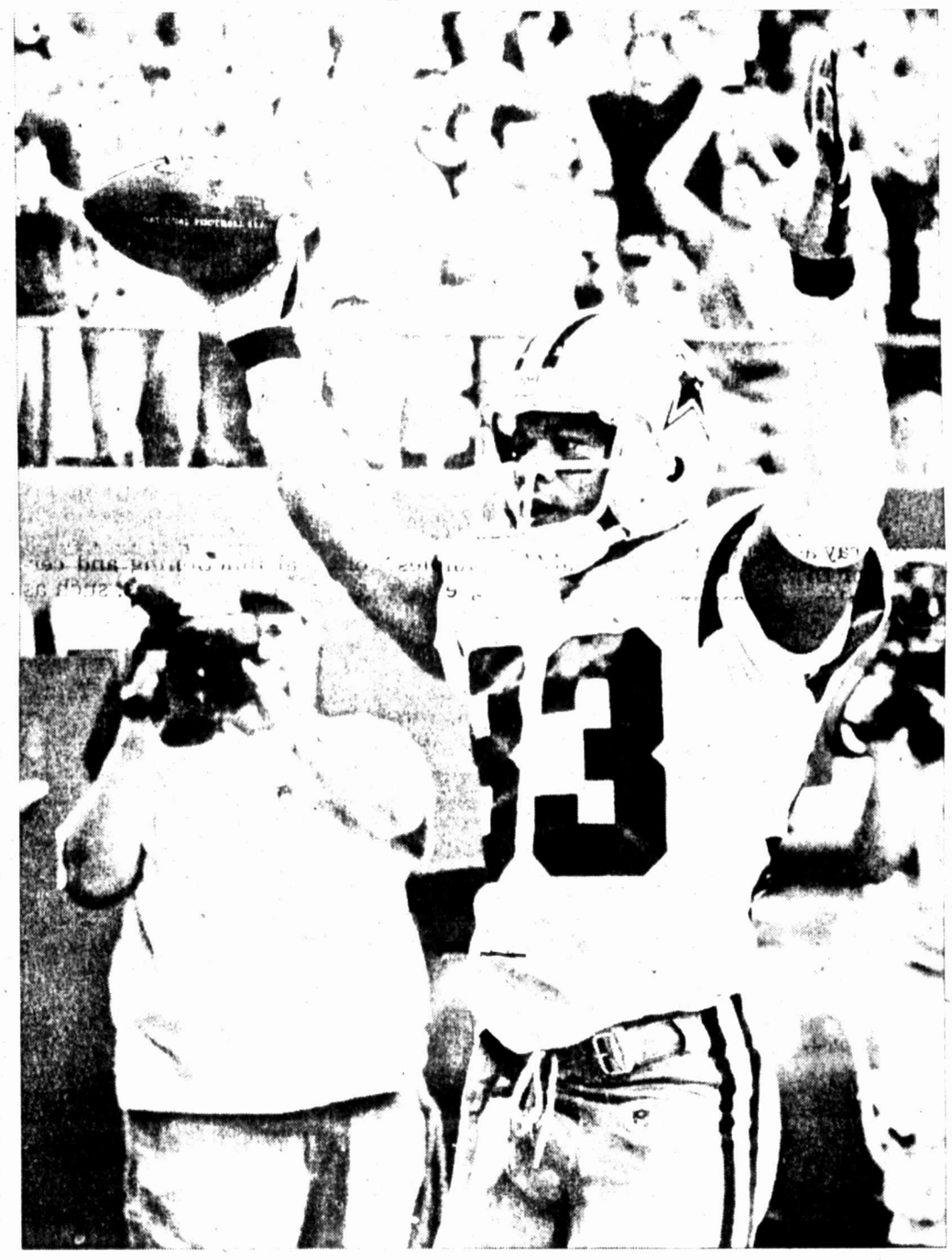
"Terry's playing very well. I hope he can maintain it," said coach Bill Parcells, adding that he sat Glenn midway through the second quarter to avoid risking injury. "He's a very smart receiver, very smart. ... I just want to get him to the rodeos."

Especially since T.O. remains in the holding pen.

Owens hasn't played a preseason game and has missed most practices because of a pesky hamstring problem. He wasn't on the sideline for this game — Dallas' first at Texas Stadium since signing the one-time star-logo stomper — but neither was fellow injured receiver Patrick Crayton.

Owens' last chance to play this preseason is Thursday night at home against Minnesota. Otherwise, he won't make his Cowboys debut until the opener — providing he's ready to go then.

"There's no question our best thing to do is get him well," owner Jerry Jones said. "I want him out there and would've wanted him to make every practice. I under-



MCT photo/Khampha Bouaphanh/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terry Glenn celebrates after a scoring a touchdown against the San Francisco 49ers in Saturday's preseason game at Texas Stadium in Irving.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 12

Southlake still No. 1 in AP poll

By PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — Southlake Carroll begins this season like the end of the last one — ranked first and holding off Lufkin.

Carroll, the perennial North Texas power with three state titles and a 63-1 record the past four seasons, is the preseason No. 1 in Class 5A for the third straight year in The Associated Press high school poll released Sunday.

The Dragons received 14 of the 20 first-place votes but are just seven points ahead of Lufkin, which was ranked No. 1 on the six other ballots. Carroll beat Lufkin 46-28 in the Division II semifinals in December before defeating Katy for the championship.

Carroll has remained No. 1 for 23 consecutive AP polls. In other words, being the state's No. 1 team is all new Carroll quarterback Riley Dodge has known since he started high school in 2004.

"I do believe that the longer this goes on, the kids get better with playing with that bull's eye on their chest," said Carroll coach Todd Dodge, Riley's father.

Garland, A&M Consolidated and Euless Trinity round out the top five in 5A.

Brenham begins the season No. 1 in Class 4A after picking up 13 first-place votes. Texarkana and Copperas Cove each received three first-place votes and are Nos. 2 and 3, respectively.

Brenham's only loss

See **POLL**, Page 12

Rangers end skid with shoutout of Oakland

By The Associated Press

A big performance from Vicente Padilla kept the Texas Rangers from a double-digit deficit in the AL West.

Padilla struck out eight and allowed just four hits in eight innings, equaling his longest outing of the season as the Rangers beat Oakland 3-0 Sunday night to stop the Athletics' three-game winning streak.

"I thought it was his best all season," Rangers catcher Gerald Laird said. "He went out and competed. He let his fastball go so they had to cover his curve."

Texas salvaged the final game of the three-game series and moved within eight games of Oakland. The A's hold a 5 1/2 game division lead over the Angels.

"We just wanted to stay alive," Laird said. "We kept a heartbeat tonight."

Dan Haren had won six straight decisions for the AL West-leading A's, but Padilla outpitched him.

Padilla (13-8) improved to 3-1 with a 2.84 ERA in his six starts against Oakland this season, using a fastball in the mid-to-high 90s and an effective curve to match his season-high for strikeouts. Padilla also had four walks.

"It was great that he attacked the zone," Rangers manager Buck Showalter said. "Certainly it was one of our better starts this season. He continued to make good pitches. He was not letting them get back in the count. He stayed aggressive."

Padilla, who started the night with a league-high 16 hit batters, did not come close to hitting any on Sunday night. He was making

See **RANGERS**, Page 12



MCT photo/Jeffery Washington/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Matt Stairs, right, gets congratulated by teammate Hank Blalock after his two-run home run in the second inning against the Oakland Athletics. The Rangers defeated the A's, 3-0, at Ameriquest Field in ArlingtonSunday.

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NOW ACCEPTING applications for:
4 CNA- 2- 7AM to 7PM and 2-7PM to 7AM- Mitchell County Hospital
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These are full time positions, unless noted, with competitive salary and benefits. Contact Human Resources at (325)728-3431, ext 7105.

NOW HIRING
COMMERCIAL
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must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction.
Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required.
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PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now Hiring for Evening Cook, Full Time Position. Experience Preferred. Please Apply In Person At 3200 Parkway Rd.

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Drive for the Best. Our Delivery Drivers earn $10-$12 per hour. Up to $100 hiring bonus. Must be 18 yrs. old with clean driving record. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St.

PIZZA INN
Now Hiring wait Staff Must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.

RETAIL SALES needed full time. Must be dependable, honest w/good people skills. Pre-fer non smoker. Send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/147, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

SERVICE COORDINATOR. Full time position with benefits. Office experience required. Apply in person at Trinity Memorial Park, 5 miles south on Highway 87, Big Spring.

TexaStone Quarries is hiring full time laborers to work in the plant and also in the quarry. Benefits available. Apply in person 1400 Sherrod Road, Garden City or call 432-354-2569.

Help Wanted

SPORTS EDITOR to cover high school and college sports for The Big Spring Herald. The candidate should have writing experience and the ability to take photos and design pages using NewsEdit Pro and QuarkXpress. Salary based on experience. Benefits. Please email resume and writing clips to editor@bigspringherald.com or mail to John A. Moseley, Managing Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

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WILLING TO Work for a Paycheck! Evening position for self motivated individual. Above average pay. Apply in person, Red Mesa Grill, 2401 S. Gregg.

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SPECIAL PURCHASE - 12'x20' Workshop/ Garage. 2 Remaining. 432-563-3108.

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WHY PAY Rent? 10'x16' Storage Buildings $59.00 a month. Delivery/ Financing. 432-563-3108.

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MISSING ONE - 3 year old black bull. Branded on right hip, 7 & J connected brand. Call (432)394-4527.

Miscellaneous

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Books 25¢-50¢, all clothes 50¢-$1.00, Hundreds of movies.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP mattress set, $145.. TWIN MATTRESS set, $99. KING PILLOWTOP mattress set $239. Full orthopedic mattress set $135. Brand new, warranty. 806-549-3110.

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FOR SALE: AKC Registered Miniature Dachshund puppies, 6 wks old. Call (432)394-4733.

SCHNAUZER PUPPIES, 6 weeks old. Only have 2 males left. $100.00 Each. Call 432-935-3660.

Real Estate for Rent

104 WEST 13th. One bedroom, 1 bath. $300. month, $150 deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

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

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

1202 LAMAR. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. $435. Month, $200. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

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FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT
Career Development Program
Registration will be held on Tuesday, August 29th for residents of Odessa and surrounding areas

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(GS-1897) Airport Screener/Customs
(GS-072) Fingerprint/Corrections
(GS-085) Security/Prison Guard
(GS-025) Park Ranger/Bailiff
(FV-1801) Immigration Officer
(GS-083) Police/Trooper/Sheriff
Federal Agent & more

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE
(GS-335) Computer Operator
(GS-2123) Motor Vehicle Operator
(GS-986) Medical/Legal Clerk
(GS-305) Mail & File Clerk
(GS-318) Secretary/Receptionist
(GS-120) Food Service worker
(GS-186) Social Service Asst.

Average Starting Pay Up To $20/hr.
Entry Level & Full Titled Positions - Ages: 17 to 65
Non-Citizen, Convicted Felons May Not Apply
For National Homeland Security & Law Enforcement Positions
Job Eligibility To Those Who Complete Career Development Program
90 MINUTE ORIENTATION
Administered By: Law Enforcement Career Development, Inc.
No Calls, Information will be presented in-person only to those able to attend Orientation.
At: **Grande Hotel**
6201 E. Business 20, Odessa
Tuesday, August 29th ONLY!
3:00pm or 6:00pm
No Late Arrivals Limited Seating Bring Pen No Children
22640

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NOW Hiring!
Are you tired of being stuck in a dead end job that has you boxed inside an office from 8am to 5pm? Join the *Dr. Pepper/Pepsi Cola/7Up* team for an exciting career that allows you to work with the public, enjoy great benefits and competitive pay. We offer a comprehensive benefit program, including group health, profit sharing, 401K, Life insurance, short/long term disability, vacation, personal days, etc. This job is fun, challenging and filled with new opportunities daily. Apply in person at 3611 Hwy. 87 North Big Spring, Texas between 8am and 5pm Monday through Friday.
We have the following open positions:
Class A CDL required Delivery Drivers
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Field Service Technicians $8.50 and Up
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1800 DUQUOIN, 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den. $600.00 Month, $600.00 deposit. Call after noon. (432)264-3976.

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

4211 HAMILTON. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. CH/A. $450. month, $250. deposit. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

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

BEAUTIFUL FURNISHED home. Lovely lawn. Separate garage and workshop. Must see. References required, Call Mike @ 432-263-3172 or 1600 Runnels. No pets.

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

FOR RENT, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, stove, fenced yard. 1202 Austin, two blocks from high school. $425. month, $250. deposit. References required. (432)213-4960.

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

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

Real Estate for Sale

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

1801 ALABAMA 3 bedroom, large den/fireplace, fenced back yard, central heat/air, garage. Call: (432)263-1281.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call **Maria (432)263-3461.**

AMAZING FORECLOSURE! $30,000!! 4 Bedrooms. Won't Last! For listings call 800-749-8106 ext. F-086.

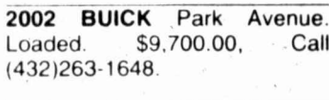
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FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only $20,500! Must Sell! For listing Call 800-749-8106 ext F906.

Real Estate for Sale

CUTE 2 and 3 bedroom Homes. New carpet, paint and tile, big rooms and closets. Very Nice. Starting at $35k. Owner financing available. Call Gary Dennis Realtor at Keller Williams Reality Cell 432-556-1676 or 432-520-5151.



FORSAN ISD Brick 3 Bedroom 2 Bath, CH/A, wood burning fireplace, double garage, 20 acres, fenced. Vacant. Ratliff Road. Call Dorthy (432)267-1384.

OWNER FINANCE - 1409 Sycamore, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, CH/CA, wood floors, fireplace, $30,400.00. Easy Terms. Call 325-893-1973.

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500 W. 4th 267-7424

$500! POLICE Impounds! Hondas, Toyotas, Nissan, etc. For Listing, 800-749-8104 ext. A106.

1984 SUBURBAN for sale, 51,000 actual miles, some hail damage. Great crew vehicle. $1,100. Call (432)213-5517, leave message.

1993 FORD Thunderbird only $700! Must Sell! For Listing, 800-749-8104 ext. N-237.

2002 BUICK Park Avenue. Loaded. $9,700.00, Call (432)263-1648.

2003 YAMAHA 1100 Silverado. Excellent condition. $7000.00 Firm. Call (432)394-4716.

su|do|ku

Puzzles by Pappocom

ANSWERS

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

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BIG SPRING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S: State Financial Accountability Rating

The Big Spring Independent School District's Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting at 5:15 P.M. on September 14, 2006, in the Big Spring High School Board Room, 707 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Big Spring Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

#5054 August 21 & 28, 2005

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

This Venus/Neptune arrangement is highlighting the "shoulds" and "have-tos" of life, while making a good case for the "wants." Paradoxically, the things you once considered to be healthy choices may cause too much stress and anxiety. Be easy on yourself and more accepting of all sides of your complex human existence.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's been said that wise men don't wish to be younger. Then you must be wise indeed, because your ever-youthful approach is always striving for maturity, in the manner of a 5-year-old saying he's "5 and a half."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Why find opportunity when you can make it? The former is lucky, the latter is satisfying, empowering and life affirming! Your love life sparks up with the opportunity you create today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Endeavors you believe are difficult are no more difficult than 100 things you do every day with great ease. The planets emphasize the gift of repetition. A lack of familiarity is the only thing that makes an endeavor hard.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You brilliantly figure out that just because someone is funny doesn't make him a fool, and just because someone is serious doesn't make him smart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Could it be that you're in love again? The urge to immortalize someone in art, words or song is overwhelming. There's so much else you should be doing! What's the most important?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Have no fear! Life only asks you to do your best, not the impossible. Whatever the problem, there's always a way to turn things around. Believe it, and it'll be true.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Don't be afraid of what others will think if you really put yourself out there. Everyone's too busy trying to express themselves to even think about what anyone else looks like.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The planets align to encourage you to explore the realms of imagination. Boring jobs get better, and you could even find something fascinating about a formerly boring person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you know what you want, it's basically on the tip of your tongue all the time. This sets the scene for bartering and negotiation. The wackiest trades are the ones you'll be the most proud of.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Outstanding results happen because of your standout performance. So don't be surprised by a sudden wave of popularity. You're so attractive when you live your values.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Wow! Today's challenge is right up your alley, providing you with the perfect high-pressure situation to let you shine! On a social note, someone's idea of fun isn't yours at all. Spend more time with people who "get" you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have enough faith for 10 people, and because of this faith, you're powerful. Your spontaneous choices make for a nonstop adventure. A long shot could even come through.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I just saw the most fantastic version of the musical "Hair" in my local community theater. In the musical, there's a song about the Age of Aquarius and how it'll bring about a magical time. This got me wondering: Did the Age of Aquarius dawn in the '60s? Or has it dawned yet?"

Congratulations. You've asked the one astrological question that no astrologers can seem to agree upon — for this, there must surely be a prize, most likely a crystal of some sort. Yes, when will that time of "harmony and understanding/sympathy and trust abounding/no more forces of derision, golden living dreams of visions/mystic crystal revelations and the mind's true liberation" begin? According to lauded astrologers, the Age of Aquarius either started in 1905, 1936, 1962, 1987 or 2000, or any of hundreds of dates in between, or it hasn't started yet. Apparently, an astrological age isn't that precise a thing. They tend to last around 2,150 years. It'll be 2,600 before the "Vernal Equinox" enters the realm of the Aquarian constellation. Many believe that the consciousness of Aquarius — expansive, all for one and one for all — has already been adopted by a percentage of the population and will continue to be, exponentially!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Charming country chanteuse LeAnn Rimes has been on a "one-way ticket" to stardom since childhood. Her parents attest that they never pushed her into show business. Instead, it was her pushing them! Focused Virgos can spin dreams into gold — and in Rimes' case, multiplatinum! I see an artistic breakthrough for Rimes in 2007, as she begins to write the songs she so powerfully sings.

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



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My wife, "Callie," and I have been married for 33 years and have not been intimate for the last 12. The only reason I've stayed so long is because my father died when I was 14 and I didn't want my children to grow up without their dad.

I recently discovered that Callie, an operating room nurse, is having an affair with a doctor. It's a very nice set-up, since she gets called in after-hours for emergency cases and then she and the doc can meet at the hospital.

I confronted her and even have a tape of her talking to her best friend about the affair. Callie doesn't seem to know what she wants to do about it. One day, she says she wants a divorce, and the next day, claims she never said any such thing. I offered to go for counseling, and she waffles on that, too. I have filed for divorce, though that is really not what I want. The last time we talked about counseling, she said she has to pass it by her lawyer first. That was over three weeks ago.

Oh, by the way, I have prostate cancer. I've been taking chemo, and everything is going well. Of course, Callie has never once asked me how I'm doing. Instead, she tells everyone that I will be dead in less than a year, despite the fact that she has never spoken to my doctors.

Callie seems to be dragging her feet on the divorce. Several times I've told her I am willing to forgive and forget if we can work on our problems and rebuild our relationship. Now I think she is just waiting for me to die. What should I do? — D.S. in Whitesboro, N.Y.

Dear D.S.: We don't see what you are getting out of this relationship, and right now, you need someone who is supportive and loving. We assume your children are older and their growing up "without a dad" is no longer an issue. You deserve happiness, and you've been without it for much too long. Divorce can be stressful and can affect your health, but so does your current situation. If Callie won't seek counseling, go on your own and work through what you need to in order to cut her loose completely.

Dear Annie: My 80-something neighbor, "Addie," is being kept in her home and out of a nursing facility by me. She's tough but sweet. A lot of neighbors used to take turns helping out, but have dropped off.

If her children would split the work, it wouldn't be too difficult. Addie needs help with cleaning, yardwork, shopping, cooking nutritious meals, minor home maintenance and trips to the doctor. So how do I get her relatives to take over? She's very particular, but she's spunky. — Worn-Out Woman

Dear Worn Out: You have a heart of gold, but this is obviously too much for you. You can't force Addie's relatives to take over, but you can suggest they pool their resources and hire a caregiver through the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers (caremanager.org). Information also is available through the National Family Caregivers Association (nfcacares.org) at 1-800-896-3650, or the Eldercare Locator (eldercare.gov) at 1-800-677-1116.

Dear Annie: I had to laugh at "Nonviolent in the Midwest," who was upset that her children were playing with guns at a friend's house. I, too, didn't like my boys playing with guns and didn't permit them in my home.

My oldest son is now starting his third year at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and my youngest recently enlisted and is at boot camp at Ft. Benning.

I am proud that my children are serving their country, but a part of me wonders if I had let them play with guns when they were children, maybe they would be less eager to do so as adults. — Military Mom in Georgia

Dear Mom: We suspect allowing toy guns in the house has very little to do with how boys turn out. Congratulations on raising two very patriotic young men.

Dear Annie: My sister, "Lana," and I are about to "celebrate" a year of not speaking to each other. We're both adults with children of our own, but we had a fight that resulted in a phone hang-up, and then it spilled over to her wedding. It has now snowballed, and at family events, she won't even look at me.

Lana refuses to acknowledge her part in all this and is insistent that I should have apologized on her wedding day. I disagree, but in the end, it really doesn't matter. Nothing can change what's already happened.

It has gotten so bad between us that we can no longer be in the same room together. Lana doesn't hide her feelings in front of her children or mine, and has made it clear she may forgive me, but she'll never forget. I'm still not willing to grovel, which I believe is what she wants.

Is there any way to resolve things, or at least get Lana to control herself in front of the children? — Lisette

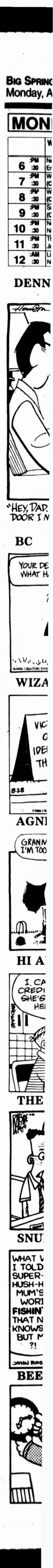
Dear Lisette: Are you willing never to speak to your sister again? This is where you're headed. It seems a steep price to pay for a disagreement, no matter how bad. Some of this is surely your fault, so we want you to swallow your pride and sincerely apologize to Lana for your part in the fight. Tell her you miss her friendship and want your children to be close. It would be nice if Lana did the same, but she sounds just as stubborn as you. However, you cared enough to write to us for help, so we believe you can be the bigger person. Please try.

Dear Annie: I've been dating a wonderful woman the past few months. We get along great, have similar interests, and I look forward to being with her.

This woman has been divorced twice, has "been with" well over a dozen men before, between and after her marriages, and has made a lot of sleazy decisions along the way. She was never unfaithful to either of her spouses. She is a very sweet person who just made some bad choices. She says it's all behind her and she's learned from it and become a better person. But I'm having a tough time rationalizing everything away.

My question is, how much is too much when it comes to a person's colorful past? — Torn in Tacoma

Dear Torn: The number of past partners doesn't matter so much as the quality of the person you are seeing. You say she is a sweet person. She never was unfaithful. She admits she made bad choices and has learned from them. We assume her doctor has given her a clean bill of health. If you can consider it a "clean bill" as well, you may have a future with her. But if you are not capable of putting her prior history out of your mind, please break it off — for her sake as well as yours.



MONDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic
6 :PM	News (CC)	News	Heridas de	King of the Hill	News	Viuda de	News	Raymond	Van Impe Pres	News-Lehrer	American	"	CSI: Crime	Without a	Live (CC)	Phil of Future	2006 World	Monday Night	Dark Angel
:30	Entertainment	Wheel-Fortune	Amor	The Simpsons	Entertainment	Blanco	Be a Millionaire	Raymond	John Hagee	"	Chopper	"	Scene Invstgtn	Trace (CC)	Movie: Blue	That's-Raven	Series of Poker	Countdown	(CC)
7 :PM	Wife Swap	Wife Swap	La Fea Mas	Prison Break	Two/Half Men	Tierra de	Katrina: Long	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	Antiques	American Hot	Movie: The In-	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Hill Avenue	Movie: Life Is	2006 World	NFL	Dark Ang
:30	(CC)	(CC)	Bella	(CC)	How I Met	Pasiones	Road Back	Friends (CC)	Charles Scott	Roadshow	Rod (CC)	Laws (CC)	Scene Invstgtn	(CC) (DVS)	(CC)	Ruff (CC)	Series of Poker	Preseason	(CC)
8 :PM	Wife Swap	Wife Swap	Barrera de	Vanished	Two/Half Men	Amores de	Medium (CC)	Friends (CC)	Light of the	History	Biker Build-Off	"	CSI: Crime	The Closer	"	"	Baseball	Green Bay	WWE Monday
:30	(CC)	(CC)	Amor	(CC)	Old Christine	Mercado	"	Friends (CC)	Southwest	Detectives	"	"	Scene Invstgtn	(CC)	"	"	Tonight	Packers at	Night Raw
9 :PM	Supernanny	Supernanny	Cristina	Becker (CC)	CSI: Miami	Decisiones	Medium (CC)	Family Guy	"	Great	American	Movie: Silver	Blade: The	Saved (CC)	Soul Food	Natural-Sadie	MLB Baseball	Cincinnati	(CC)
:30	(CC)	(CC)	"	Friends (CC)	(CC)	"	"	Family Guy	"	Performances	Chopper	Streak	Series (CC)	"	(CC)	American Drgn	Boston Red	Bengals (CC)	
10 :PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	'70s Show	News	Noti-Telemndo	News	Funniest	The Hour of	(CC)	American	"	The Ultimate	The Closer	Jamie Foxx	Zack & Cody	Sox at	SportsCenter	'02 Movie
:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero Univ.	Raymond	Late Show-	Laura	Tonight Show	Commercials	Healing	Encore! With	Chopper	"	Fighter	(CC)	Jamie Foxx	That's-Raven	Oakland	(CC)	Shocker
11 :PM	The Insider	Jimmy Kimmel	La Hora de la	King of the Hill	Letterman	"	"	Midnight	CCM Ministries	Sign Off	American Hot	"	CSI: Crime	The X-Files	In Living Color	Phil of Future	Athletics	Baseball	(CC)
:30	Jimmy Kimmel	Live (CC)	Risa	Malcolm-Mid.	U.S. Open	Al Rojo Vivo-	Late Night-	Money	Scrvner	"	Rod (CC)	Movie: History	Scene Invstgtn	(CC)	In Living Color	Kim Possible	(CC)	NFL Live	
12 :AM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids	Late Late	Maria Celeste	Conan O'Brien	Madness	Update/Israel	"	Biker Build-Off	of the World:	MXC	The X-Files	Comicview	Sister, Sister	2006 World	SportsCenter	
:30	News (CC)	Mercury Media	"	Divorce Court	Show	Pagado	Apex	"	Booker	"	"	Part I (CC)	Blind Date	(CC)	(CC)	That's-Raven	Series of Poker	(CC)	Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



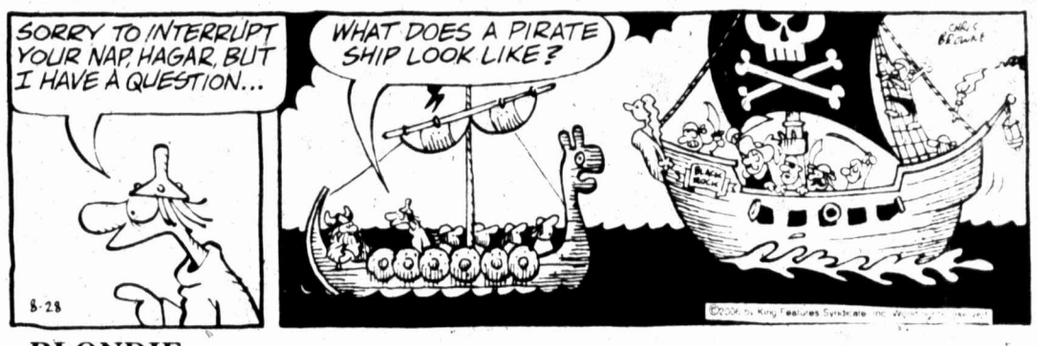
"HEY, DAD. COME AN' SEE THE COOL DOGGIE DOOR I MADE FOR OL' RUFF."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

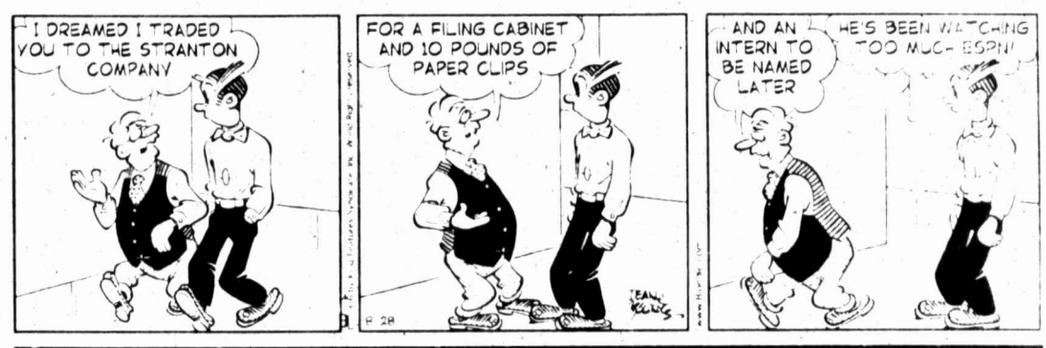


"The good news is we've still got plenty of UNbroken windows."

HAGAR



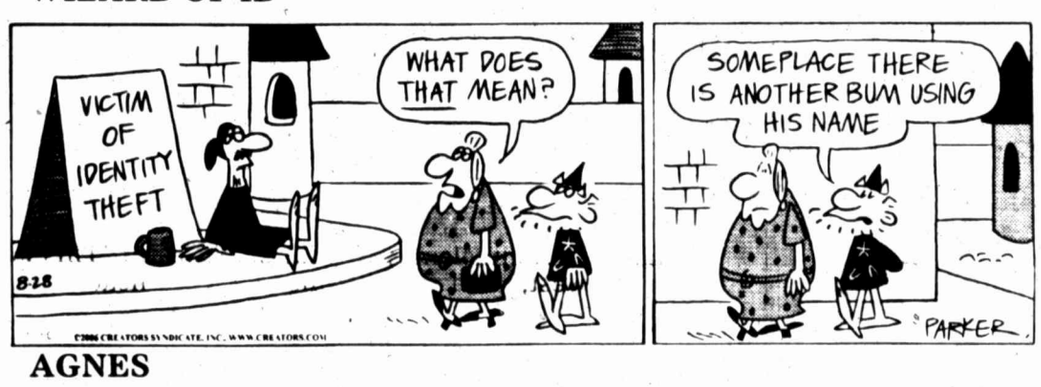
BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 28, the 240th day of 2006. There are 125 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 28, 1963, 200,000 people participated in a peaceful civil rights rally in Washington, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

On this date:

In 1609, Henry Hudson discovered Delaware Bay.

In 1774, Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born saint, was born in New York City.

In 1916, Italy's declaration of war against Germany took effect during World War I.

In 1947, legendary bullfighter Manolete was mortally wounded by a bull during a fight in Linares, Spain; he was 30.

In 1955, Emmett Till, a black teenager from Chicago, was abducted from his uncle's home in Money, Miss., by two white men after he had supposedly whistled at a white woman; he was found brutally murdered three days later.

In 1968, police and anti-war demonstrators clashed in the streets of Chicago as the Democratic national convention nominated Hubert H. Humphrey for president.

In 1973, more than 520 people died as an earthquake shook central Mexico.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Billy Grammer is 81. Actor Ben Gazzara is 76. Actor Ken Jenkins is 66. Former Defense Secretary William S. Conen is 66. Actor David Soul is 63. Baseball manager Lou Piniella is 63. Actress Alice Playten is 59. Singer Wayne Osmond (The Osmonds) is 55. Actor Daniel Stern is 49. Olympic gold medal figure skater Scott Hamilton is 48.

Answer to previous puzzle

T	H	E	A	T	E	R		S	E	T	B	A	C	K
H	O	S	T	I	L	E		P	R	A	I	R	I	E
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V	E	E	P	S		T	I	C		R	E	C	U	R
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T	E	R	R		B	R	E	N	D	A		E	P	A
E	V	I	N	C	E	D		D	I	S	P	L	A	Y
R	A	D	I	A	T	E		E	V	A	S	I	V	E
S	L	E	E	P	E	R		R	E	S	I	D	E	D

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Newsday Crossword

COSMETIC COUNTER by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Visit a store
5 Smart-mouthed
10 Mimicked
14 Exterior of a boat
15 Die down
16 Ripped
17 Region
18 Diet-food label claim
19 Small-size bed
20 Explain away
22 Ocean motions
23 Fork prong
24 Skin opening
25 Allows inside
28 Lost one's footing
32 Small amount
33 Farm storage buildings
34 Bikini part
35 Stir-fry pans
36 Toss
37 __ as a pancake
38 St. crosser
39 Salad-oil holder
40 Remote-control button
41 Gatherings for graduates
43 Prepares baby food, perhaps
44 __ moss (gardener's buy)
45 Valentine flower
46 Place for a cookout
48 Pink alcholic drink
53 Designer Cassini
54 Unskilled laborers
55 Whirlpool
56 Luxurious
57 Spine-tingling
58 Shakespeare-an king
59 Tennis-match units
60 Small songbirds
61 Canoeing locale

DOWN
1 Thick carpet
2 Toss
3 Muffin topping
4 Milk-bottle materials
5 Hairdressers' workplaces
6 Higher than
7 Ump's call
8 Milky Way unit
9 "Are we there __?"
10 Clothing
11 Pastel shade
12 Great Lake bordering Pennsylvania
13 Family rooms
21 Location
22 Preschoolers
24 Farm implement
25 Engaged in battle
26 Had control of the wheel
27 Absent student's exam
28 Forest ranger's worries
29 Tremendously
30 Wipe away
31 Goes out with
33 Avoid
36 Horse's gait
37 Parting word
39 Italian version of 37 Down
40 Propel a grocery cart
42 Sounds from a horse
43 Sheriffs' groups
45 Disagreeable encounter
46 Bursts, as a balloon
47 Spiny houseplant
48 Keg contents
49 Traditional knowledge
50 Notion
51 Bismarck's state: Abbr.
52 *Jane* __ (Brontë novel)
54 Church bench

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RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

his second start since serving a five-game suspension for throwing at a batter after being warned during a game against the Los Angeles Angels.

"Maybe he just likes pitching against us, and he didn't hit anybody tonight," A's manager Ken Macha said.

Padilla does not speak to reporters.

Akinori Otsuka pitched the ninth for his 28th save in 31 chances to complete Texas' eighth shutout.

Matt Stairs homered and Gary Matthews Jr. went 3-for-4 for the Rangers, who had lost five of their previous six.

The A's return to Oakland after a 6-4 road trip that got underway with a doubleheader defeat at Kansas City.

"It was a nice road trip," Macha said. "But we've got a very difficult schedule in September. We've still got a long way to go."

In other AL games, Detroit topped Cleveland 7-1, Seattle beat slumping Boston 6-3, New York downed Los Angeles 11-8, Chicago defeated Minnesota 6-1, Toronto topped Kansas City 10-6 and Baltimore beat Tampa Bay 5-4.

Haren (12-10), who had not lost since July 21, struck out a career-high 12 in seven innings. He allowed three runs and seven hits, walking two.

The Rangers went ahead 2-0 in the second when Hank Blalock walked and Stairs hit the first pitch for his 10th homer.

"Stairs is pretty aggressive on the first pitch," Haren said. "I tried to go away but the ball ran back over the middle of the plate. It was definitely a mistake."

Haren managed to get a victory in his previous start on Aug. 21 at Toronto. He allowed nine runs in 5 2-3 innings but the A's rallied for a 12-10 victory.

"I pitch good this time and lose and pitch bad the last time and win," Haren said. "It's a funny game."

Texas made it 3-0 in the third on Matthews' double and Michael Young's RBI single.

Padilla didn't allow a hit over the first 3 1-3 innings until Milton Bradley's double.

The A's loaded the bases with two outs in the fourth but Padilla struck out Nick Swisher to end the threat.

Oakland wasted another scoring chance in the seventh, putting runners on first and second with one out before Padilla got Mark Elli to ground into a double play.

Notes: The A's were shut out for the ninth time this season. ... Stairs broke an 0-for-16 slide with his homer.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 7

stand that and everyone else does, too. He wants to be out there, too. ... I know this — when he's healthy, he's going to help us win these ballgames."

They've done just fine so far, going 3-0 with the offense playing well and the defense doing even better. The starters have yet to allow a touchdown. The only points came on a field goal by Seattle in the opener against a unit mixing starters and backups.

"They haven't been tested," Parcells said.

The 49ers (1-2) had only 78 yards against Dallas' starting defense, then Alex Smith threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to rookie tight end Vernon Davis against the second-string defense in the third quarter.

Smith left after that drive, having gone 9-of-14 for 93 yards with a touchdown and an interception on an underthrown deep pass to former Dallas receiver Antonio Bryant. Another series fizzled when Smith overthrew Davis twice in a span of three plays, the second one going so far off target that it was obviously a miscommunication.

"We didn't play well," 49ers coach Mike Nolan said. "Their first group outplayed our first group. It looked like last year where we'd run around trying hard but things wouldn't go our way. We'd like to start seeing better results."

Nolan said his first string didn't get enough plays, mainly because Dallas ran over San Francisco's defense.

"I wasn't as disappointed in the offense as I was in the defense," he said.

Frank Gore gained 49 yards on nine carries, some coming while running behind former Cowboys star guard Larry Allen.

But the biggest standout for San Francisco might've been veteran punter Tom Rouen, who had three kicks inside the 5-yard line. The first one was fielded and the other two hit near the middle of the field and spun sideways.

Cowboys backup quarterback Tony Romo was 9-of-14 for 111 yards and an interception on a catchable pass that bounced off a receiver. He didn't put up any points, but likely impressed Parcells the most by rebounding from a sack and a fumble that put Dallas in a second-and-21 by throwing a 27-yard completion on the next snap.

Jamaica Rector helped his chances of making the Cowboys by catching seven passes for 80 yards. Dallas also got good production from its running backs, with Julius Jones gaining 56 yards on 15 carries and Marion Barber running for 49 yards and a touchdown and gaining 34 on a screen.

Suisham, who made a 25-yarder on the game-opening drive, kicked for Dallas because Mike Vanderjagt was held out for a second straight game with a groin injury. The Cowboys also were without left tackle Flozell Adams because of a bruised calf and safety Keith Davis, who had surgery Friday to remove a bullet from his right thigh. Davis was shot on a local highway in July.

WOODS

Continued from Page 7

Woods won the PGA Championship last week for his 12th career major, moving past Walter Hagen and into second place on the all-time list behind Jack Nicklaus and his 18. The victory at Firestone allowed him to join Byron Nelson in fifth place for career victories, trailing only Arnold Palmer (62), Ben Hogan (64), Nicklaus (73) and Sam Snead (82).

Cink, 33, also remembers Woods turning pro. He tries to forget his prediction.

"I told everybody he's going to have a hard time getting his card," Cink said with a laugh. "I think he ended up winning one or two and getting in the Tour Championship. I stopped making predictions about Tiger at that point, and I'm not going to do it now."

Cink had a one-shot lead going into the final round, and it was a four-man race for much of the day.

POLL

Continued from Page 7

last season was in the Division II semifinals to eventual champion Corpus Christi Callalen, which is ranked fifth. Stephenville is fourth, while defending Division I champion Highland Park cracked No. 10 in large thanks to a single first-place vote.

In Class 3A, a dozen first-place votes propelled Cuero to the No. 1 spot ahead of Gilmer, which topped the ballot of seven voters. Wimberley, the undefeated state champion in Division I last season, got one first-place vote and is ranked fifth.

Celina, the Class 2A Division II champion last year, begins its return to Class 3A ranked No. 10.

Gilmer's season ended last year in the Division II area playoffs at the hands of Canton and quarterback G.J. Kinne — the eventual 3A player of the year who has since transferred to Gilmer amid safety concerns and pledged to play college football at Baylor.

"This is easily the best team I've ever been a part of," said Kinne, whose family says felt threatened at Canton after a jury convicted a former teammate's father of critically shooting Kinne's dad, Gary Joe Kinne.

Canton's playoff run ended last year to eventual state champion Tatum, which dropped to Class 2A this year but elevated to rarified esteem: Tatum received all 20 first-place votes in Class 2A, becoming just the third team since 1998 to be unanimously selected No. 1.

Voters did the same for Carroll last season and Sealy in 1998.

In Class A, reigning state semifinalist Windthorst is No. 1 with 15 first-place votes. Chilton is No. 2 after topping the other five ballots.

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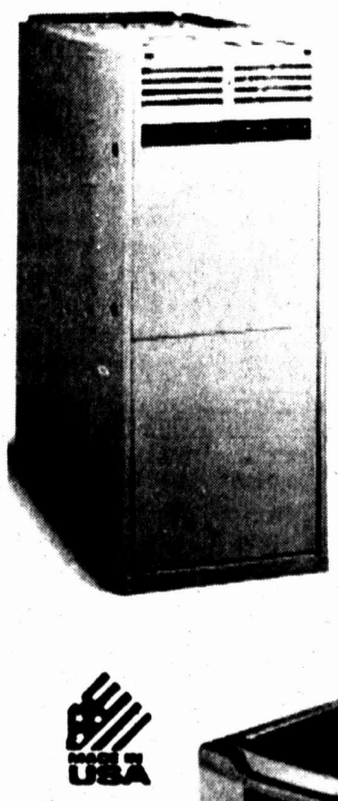
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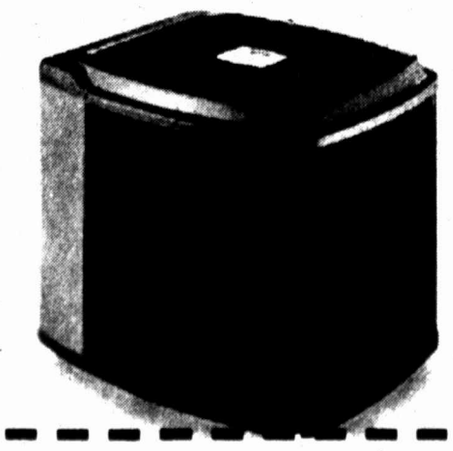
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