
Vicki Slaton

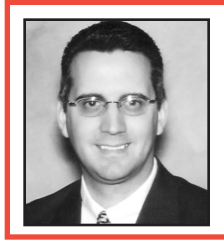
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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
MAY 28, 2008

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 153

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50 CENTS DAILY/$1.25 SUNDAY

Local man shot outside business

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The slew of apparent gang-related violence in the Big Spring area shows no sign of slowing down, as a local man was shot multiple times Tuesday night in front of a business located in the 1600 block of E. Third Street.

Antonio Florez Jr., 27, was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and later transferred to Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after he was shot several times, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department.

"At approximately 7:02 p.m. officers responded to the Detail Shop, located at the corner of Third Street and Birdwell, in reference to a shooting," said Everett. "Officers found that a male subject had been shot numerous times. He was identified as Antonio Florez Jr. of Big Spring. His condition is not known at this time."

Officials with Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock confirmed that Florez is under their care, but declined to provide an update on his condition. However, they did confirm that Florez was not in the hospital's intensive care unit as of 8 a.m today and had been placed in a normal room.

Everett said the investigation is ongoing.

"Witnesses are being interviewed and two subjects are being sought for questioning in the shooting," said Everett. "This shooting is gang related."

Everett declined to identify which gang or gangs are believed to have been involved in the shooting.

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

Sports complex bid OK'd

No free splish splash for Boys & Girls Club though

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Hammers could begin swinging at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex as soon as the first half of July, after the Big Spring City Council approved a $4.8 million contract with Lubbock-based Craig Wallace Construction Tuesday night.

According to Butch Davis, an engineer with Parkhill Smith & Cooper and project coordinator, bids were received for the construction of the complex from Wallace and local construction company Earthco, whose base bid for the project was more than $600,000 higher than the Lubbock contractor.

"Demolition and site preparations could begin as early as the first half of July," said Davis. "The target date to be able to play at the complex is 2010. That will allow a year for grow-in of the grass at the facility, which is very important. If everything goes as planned, the 2010 softball and baseball season will be able to start at the complex."

Voters approved bonds for the project — along with street improvements for the city's downtown area — in a November 2006 election.

The council also approved the award of the bid for the utility portion of the street renovation project during the meeting, giving the nod to Murphy Pipeline of

See **CITY**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Jenny Sayles, left, chairperson of the Howard-Glasscock Relay for Life, and co-chair Angela Kennedy address RFL supporters at Tuesday's wrap-up meeting in First United Methodist's Garrett Hall. Sayles announced this year's Relay raised more than $195,000.

Not surprisingly, local Relay effort leads entire ACS region

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Barbi Jones is no longer surprised.

Jones, the American Cancer Society district representative for this area, says it is no longer a pleasant shock when she learns that the Howard-Glasscock Relay for Life has once again exceeded its goal.

The news is still pleasant, but no longer a shock.

Officials gathered Tuesday night to hold their wrap-up meeting and deliver the final tally from this year's Relay, which raised almost $200,000 to fund cancer research.

Jenny Sayles, event chairperson, said the event raised $197,488 in gross receipts this year, more than $20,000 in excess of its goal.

Of that total, $127,000 was collected by team fundraising, with the rest coming from underwriters, online contributions and special events.

> ***"It's the community. That's all I can say. The people of Howard and Glasscock counties just go above and beyond year after year."***
>
> —Jenny Sayles, Relay chairperson

The team representing TexaStone took top collection honors, bringing in $24,603. Scenic Mountain Medical Center's team placed second, collecting $21,125.

This year's effort cements the local RFL's reputation as one of the most successful in the nation. Jones said this marks the second year in a row that Howard-Glasscock leads the ACS region — which encompasses Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Hawaii — in per-capita collections.

""It says that it takes a community to fight the battles and this is one community that truly exemplifies that," Jones said. "You shouldn't be able to do this. You compete against the big guys every year — and you blow them out of the water."

Jones said a small-town approach works perfectly here.

"I think that in a smaller community ... you do depend on each other," she said. "When tragedy hits a small community, everyone pulls

See **RELAY**, Page 3A

County, Coahoma to work land deal

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners voted to begin negotiations with the city of Coahoma for a parcel of land the municipality plans to use as a bargaining tool to expand its cemetery.

Commissioners Jerry Kilgore and Emma Brown, along with County Judge Mark Barr, voted unanimously to hand the matter over to County Attorney Mike Thomas to begin negotiations.

"The property is a very small parcel basically out in the middle of a field on Midway Road," explained Barr during Tuesday morning's meeting. "The city of Coahoma is hoping to trade the property back to the land owner in that area to secure property to expand their cemetery."

Barr said his first reaction was to simply deed the property to the city of Coahoma as a courtesy, but county law doesn't allow that.

"I spoke with Mike Thomas about this and he said there has to be some sort of consideration to make it legal," said Barr. "It looks like we may have to have it appraised. This whole thing is more or less a courtesy to the city of Coahoma, however."

Commissioners Bill Crooker and Gary Simer were absent from the meeting. According to Barr, it was due to illness.

Also Tuesday, commissioners voted unanimously to terminate its contract with Net Plea, the company currently in charge of collecting delinquent fines and fees for the county, in favor of hiring a new company.

"This would terminate the contract we have with Net Plea and allow us to hire the firm of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

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IN BRIEF

Forsan cheer squad washing cars at Wal-Mart

The Forsan High School cheerleaders will be holding a car wash Saturday and then again the following Saturday, June 7.

The times for each day are from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Howard College girls' basketball camps scheduled

Howard College womens' basketball head coach Earl Diddle is holding three girls' basketball camps for three different age groups this summer.

The Little Hawk Camp is for girls in kindergarten through third grade and is set for June 2-5 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Individual Day Camp is for fourth through eighth graders and also takes place June 2-5 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Finally, the Shooting and Position Camp for seventh through 12th graders will be held June 16-19 from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

For more information, call Diddle at 264-5043 or Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

BSHS schedules start of several summer camps

The school year may be over soon, but Big Spring High School's athletic department will be keeping itself busy with the start of several summer programs and camps.

Camp of Champs

The Camp of Champs is a weight conditioning program that begins June 2 and runs through June 19.

Fourth and fifth graders lift from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

Sixth and Seventh graders occupy the weight room in the ATC from 11 a.m. to noon on the same days.

Cost is $25 per person and $10 for T-shirt.

Boys Basketball Skills Camp

From June 2 to June 5, Steers basketball coach Marc Morris will conduct a skills camp for second through eighth graders at the junior high.

Second through fifth graders will have their session from 9 a.m. to noon.

Boys in grades 6-8 take the court from 1-4 p.m.

Cost is $25 a person and $10 for a T-shirt.

Volleyball Skills Camp

Girls going into grades first through eighth can participate in the Volleyball Skills Camp coordinated by Lady Steers coach Amanda Whitaker June 2-5 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Cost is $25 a person and $10 for a t-shirt.

Summer Running Camp

Cross country coach Randy Britton will once again be offering his services to a Summer Running Camp.

The camp begins June 4 and runs through July 18.

Coahoma plays for first title in a decade



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Coahoma Bulldogettes center fielder Krista Kerby attempts to lay down a bunt in the seventh inning of Coahoma's 4-3 win over Hawley in Game 2 of a best-of-three regional semifinals series Saturday in Snyder. The Bulldogettes play S&S Consolidated at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Class 2A state softball semifinals at McCombs Field in Austin.

By JONATHAN HULL
Herald Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Sometimes a decade can feel like a century, especially when it comes to winning a championship.

The storied Coahoma Bulldogettes softball program is making it's 10th trip to the Class 2A state tournament in Austin, playing a semifinals game at 2 p.m. against Sadler S&S Consolidated's Lady Rams at McCombs Field.

However, in their nine previous trips to Austin, the Bulldogettes have brought home just one state championship. Ten years ago, in 1998, Coahoma defeated Blooming Grove 4-2 for its first and only state title.

Now, the plan is to grab that elusive championship and end a decade-long drought.

"Our goal from the beginning of the year hasn't been to make it to state. It's been to win state," Bulldogettes Head Coach Tracy Tadlock said.

Four Bulldogettes from the 2008 version of the squad — Shelbi Paige, Laci Sterling, Christie Rich and Krista Kerby — had sisters

See **COAHOMA**, Page 2B

Lakers hold off late Spurs' rally, win 93-91

L.A. takes 3-1 series lead with Game 4 victory

By ELIZABETH WHITE
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Even though his Los Angeles Lakers are one win away from the NBA finals, Kobe Bryant knows of a reason to remain wary of the San Antonio Spurs.

"They're the defending champs," Bryant said after the Lakers beat the Spurs 93-91 Tuesday night in Game 4 to take command of the Western Conference finals.

Still, winning three straight is a tall order even for the Spurs, and they know it.

"We had a hill to climb being 0-2. Now we've got Everest to climb being down 3-1," said Brent Barry, who had 23 points for the Spurs off the bench and launched a last-second 3 that would have given San Antonio the win if it had gone in.

It was the first loss in eight games for the Spurs at home this postseason and they face elimination when they play Game 5 in Los Angeles on Thursday.

"Just focus on one game," Bryant said of the Lakers' mind-set for Game 5. "We have been doing a good job of that all year."

The Lakers were last in the finals in 2004 when they lost to Detroit in five games.

Bryant led the Lakers with 28 points and 10 rebounds. Lamar Odom, who was upset with his Game 3 performance, scored eight of his 16 points in the fourth quarter, and Pau Gasol had 10 points and 10 rebounds and Vladimir Radmanovic added 11 points.

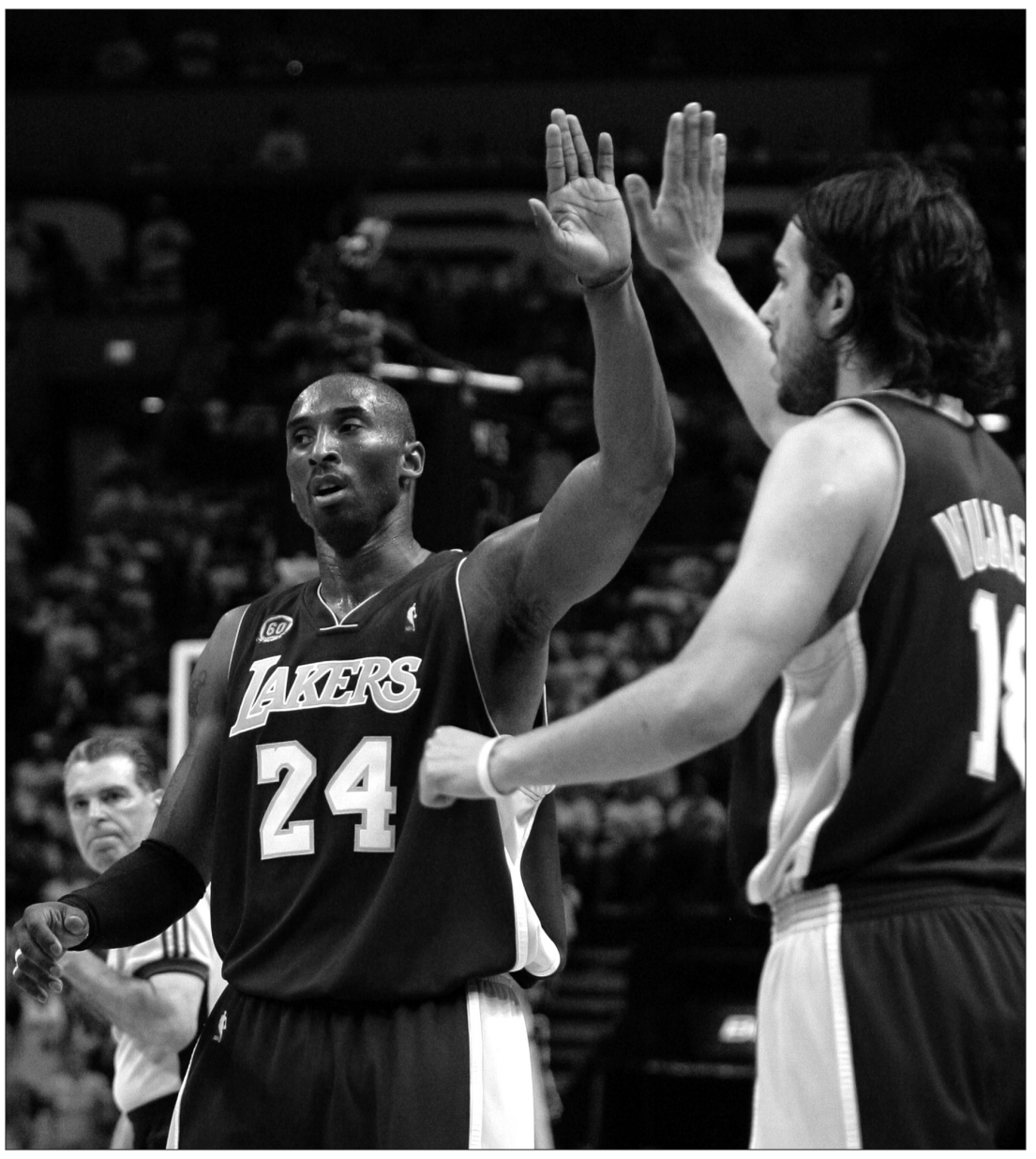
"I think we wore them down a little bit," Gasol said. "Even though they fought back and had a chance to win it at the end, we have to be proud of ourselves the way we came in here and won this game."

Tim Duncan led the Spurs with 29 points and 17 rebounds and Tony Parker scored 23 points and had nine assists.

The Spurs brushed off talk that Barry was fouled on the play by Lakers guard Derek Fisher.

"If I was the official I wouldn't have called that

See **WEST**, Page 2B



AP photo/Matt Slocum

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (24) celebrates scoring against the San Antonio Spurs with teammate Sasha Vujacic during the second half of Game 4 of the NBA Western Conference finals Tuesday in San Antonio. The Lakers won 93-91.

Hamilton's 5 RBIs leads Rangers past Rays

By FRED GOODALL
AP Sports Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — With one big swing, Josh Hamilton put his old team away.

The one-time Tampa Bay prospect hit a grand slam and matched his career high with five RBIs, helping Vicente Padilla and the Texas Rangers cool off the AL East-leading Rays 12-6 on Tuesday night.

Hamilton, the former No. 1 overall pick in the draft whose career with the Rays was derailed by drug addiction and injuries, had an RBI double off Andy Sonnanstine (6-3) in the first. The Rangers avoided a possible late-inning collapse when he added his second grand slam of the season in the eighth off J.P. Howell.

"It felt good ... especially in that situation," Hamilton said. "This is where I started, and it's my first home run here."

The five RBIs matched a career best set May 16 against Houston and boosted Hamilton's season total to a major league-leading 58. He's also batting .329 with 13 homers after hitting 19 with Cincinnati in 2007, his first season in the bigs.

The 27-year-old outfielder, 0-for-4 Monday in his first game against his old team, is 4-for-6 and has driven in 14 runs with the bases loaded this year.

To hear him, though, his first-pitch homer off a sinker was pure luck.

"I've never been more frustrated after hitting a grand slam in my life," Hamilton said. "I was having so much trouble picking the ball up. When I made contact, I actually closed my eyes for a split-second because I thought (the ball) was going to run on me, that it was going to hit me."

Padilla (7-2) allowed five runs and seven hits in six innings to win his fifth straight decision and stop Tampa Bay's four-game winning streak. The right-hander walked four and struck out a season-high 10.

Brandon Boggs had an RBI single in the first and a two-run double in the second, when the Rangers scored five unearned runs off Sonnanstine to build a 7-0 lead that Padilla was barely able to protect.

Cliff Floyd and Eric Hinske hit two-run homers for Tampa Bay, which cut its deficit to 7-5 when Padilla got Hinske to ground into a double play in the sixth. Hamilton broke the game open after Ian Kinsler's RBI single put Texas up 8-5 in the eighth.

"In the seventh inning, I had a good feeling," Rays third baseman Evan Longoria said. "We hung around long enough. We were going to give ourselves a chance to win the game. Unfortunately, Hamilton comes up with a big hit like he's been doing and kind of put us away."

Tampa Bay began the night with the best record in the majors, leading Boston by a half-game in the AL East.

The loss was the second straight for Sonnanstine, who had won five straight decisions before struggling in an outing last week at Oakland. The Rangers were 6-for-12 with runners in scoring position in the first two innings.

The Rays had gone eight games without an error, two shy of the franchise record, before Longoria mishandled Hamilton's grounder, allowing the first of five runs the Rangers scored with two outs in the second.

Obituaries

Darrell Turner



Darrell Turner, 59, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 25, 2008, at her residence. A memorial service will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 31, 2008, at the Big Spring State Park's large pavilion.

She was born Feb. 2, 1949, in Eupora, Miss., to Maurice and Clarice Crenshaw. She became an elementary school teacher and began her teaching career in Hugo, Okla., after graduating from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

She married John Turner June 12, 1976, in the Jemez Mountains of New Mexico. He preceded her in death Oct. 31, 2007. She taught elementary school in Belen, N.M., before moving to Aztec, N.M. She was very active in the Aztec Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Sarah Turner and Maureen DeNio and husband, Dustin; two grandchildren; her mother, Clarice Crenshaw; and a brother, Fred "Butch" Crenshaw.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her father, Maurice Crenshaw.

The family suggests memorials to the ALS Association, Arizona Chapter; 4643 E. Thomas Rd., Suite 1, Phoenix, Ariz. 85018; or Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., Suite A, Big Spring 79720.

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

Robert Crane

Robert Crane, 76, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Wynelle Bailey

Wynelle Bailey, 91, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, May 28, 2008, in a local nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

• June is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Any group that would like a program a program on the topic can contact Bill Birrell at 263-0659. He has an 18-minute American Cancer Society VCR tape edited by Sidney Poitier.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from students currently enroilled at Texas A&M University who have been accepted for the fall semester. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. More information and an application may be found on the club Web site at http://bondwebs.com/

• State Honor Band concert CDs and DVDs are on sale in the Big Spring High School band hall. Prices are $13 per D, $30 per DVD or $40 for both. Limited quantities are available; first-come, first-serve.

• The Howard County Pachyderms (local Republican Club) will have their monthly meeting at the Big Spring Country Club off Driver Road Thursday at noon. Everyone is welcome to hear the guest speaker Jay Lawrence with Texans For Lawsuit Reform. Lunch is buffet style for a nominal fee. Call Melanie Gambrell for more information at 267-7387 or the Big Spring Country Club at 267-8241.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• 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.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Sopring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.0, 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

• 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.

Police blotter

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

• **GARY WAYNE LEE,** 46, of 407 S. Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on a local warrant.

• **JULIE LACHELLE LAWSON,** 24, of 703 Aylesford, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **NATHAN DELCO ROBINSON III,** 33, of 1209 Wood, was arrested Tuesday on a local warrant.

• **ENRIQUE SABEDRA JR.,** 38, of 1509 Sycamore, was arrested Tuesday on a local warrant.

• **MONICA J. MCGRUDER,** 35, of 100 Lockhart, was arrested Tuesday on a local capias warrant and a charge of failure to identify.

• **SALENA MARIE TAYLOR,** 28, of 3506 Webb Lane, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

• **JERRY FRASIER,** 37, of Fort Worth, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **CADRIC RAY JEFFERSON,** 46, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on a parole warrant and a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **LINDA SMITH,** 56, of 1210 Main Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **SANDY D. HERNANDEZ,** 26, of 1910 Scurry, was arrested Wednesday on two local warrants and a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• **ELIZABETH CRUZ RIOS,** 20, of 2601 Ent Drive, was arrested Wednesday on 14 local warrants, a local capias warrant and a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• **DAMIAN ANGEL CAMPBELL,** 18, of California, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

• **TERRORISTIC THREATS** was reported in the 500 block of 14th Street.

• **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 300 block of Main Street.

• **ATTEMPTED MURDER** was reported in the 1600 block of Third Street.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 block of Marcy.

• **ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 1700 block of Scurry.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 62 inmates at the time of this report.

• **KYLE ALLYN BOUCHEY,** 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• **CHRISTOPHER DON HUDGINS,** 20, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

• **CHANCELLA PARRISH,** 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

• **FLORENCIO ANTHONY CARRILLO,** 18, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana.

• **MITCHELL RAY COVINGTON,** 44, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear/motion for enforcement on an attorney general case.

• **JANIE AGUILAR,** 41, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction, driving while intoxicated – second offense with open container and driving while license suspended/invalid – enhanced.

Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of E. 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2000 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Highway 350. No one was transported.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1200 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.



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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

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

• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact John Ybarra at 264-1628. The public is invited.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

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

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

• District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.

• Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.

• The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $16 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $12 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 14, 24, 32, 45 and 49. The Mega Ball number was 17.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 5-11-16-34-36
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
7-1-8-7. Sum It Up: 23.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
6-8-1. Sum it Up: 15.

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WEST

Continued from Page 1B

a foul," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said.

Fisher said he "never thought they would blow a whistle."

"I felt like both of my arms were down," Fisher said. "I didn't really initiate any contact."

The Lakers opened the game on a 22-8 run and never trailed. The Spurs, who tied the game five times, got to 81-79 in the fourth quarter, but the Lakers scored seven straight points.

With the Lakers up 93-86 and 50 seconds to play, Gasol missed two free throws.

Manu Ginobili, who struggled all night, hit a 3-pointer to bring the Spurs within four. After a miss by Bryant, Parker scored on a fast break when Odom was called for goaltending, bringing the Spurs to 93-91 with 28 seconds to play.

Fisher missed a shot for Los Angeles but the ball went out of bounds and remained in the Lakers' possession with 2 seconds on the shot clock.

Bryant missed a jumper and the Spurs had 2.1 seconds left. When Barry's 3 missed, Bryant pumped his fists in the air and the Lakers were headed home in command of the series.

The Lakers were up 77-70 heading into the fourth quarter. Barry's 3 brought the Spurs to 77-75 and his running jumper got them to 79-77.

Odom's dunk started the 7-0 run, then his layup balanced on the rim before falling in, and he hit a free throw for a three-point play. Bryant stole the ball for a slam to put the Lakers up 88-79 with 3:29 to play.

Parker got the Spurs within five, then Odom hit two free throws to put the Lakers back up by seven with just under a minute to play.

Los Angeles came out with energy and took advantage of sloppy play by the Spurs to lead by as many as 14 points in the first quarter.

The Lakers dominated the offensive glass, racking up 20 second-chance points in the first half off 11 offensive rebounds.

Odom highlighted the Lakers' aggressiveness. Early in the first quarter he missed a shot, then suddenly appeared under the basket to grab the rebound and was fouled, making both free throws.

Notes: Ginobili got his first points of the game with 1:32 left in the third quarter on two free throws. He finished with seven points, 23 less than he had in Game 3.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

on the 1998 state championship team. However, most of them can't recall the experience too well because they were so young.

"I remember going to the game, but most of what I can remember from it is what my grandfather has on tape," Kerby said. "Just seeing that on video, winning state would just be awesome."

This is Kerby's fourth trip to Austin, having advanced with the team the previous three years. None of those teams advanced past the semifinals round of the tournament. However, according to the senior center fielder, of the four squads she's played with at state, this year's team has the best chance of winning it all.

"We've all known each other since we were young. The other teams knew each other, but hadn't played together as much as this one has," she explained. "This team has known each other forever and having worked together for so long helps us get through."

Last season, the Bulldogettes lost to Troy's Trojanettes, who eventually won the state title, in the semifinals, 11-1. The game was called in the sixth inning due to the 10-run mercy rule. It was Coahoma's only run-rule loss of the season.

Tadlock says he doesn't think Coahoma will fall prey in the same fashion this year.

"If we had played better defense last year, then we wouldn't have been beaten nearly as bad. We probably would've still lost, but we ran into a great senior-laden team. We were a young team, though, and we let the game get away from us," he said. "We're a little bit better team this season as well. We've got better team speed and play better defensively. We only lost one girl, so we've go so much more experience than last season."

Tadlock also noted improvement in pitcher Heather Newton's abilities.

"Heather probably only throws one of two miles per hour faster than she did last year. The big improvement for her is mentally and emotionally," he explained. "The mental part has been the toughest thing for her to get under control. She quite a bit better than she was in those areas."

First things first, the Bulldogettes (32-9) must get past S&S (31-4) — making its first appearance in program history at the state tournament — in Thursday's semifinal in order to play for a state title.

The Lady Rams defeated Aubrey in a series that took the maximum three games to complete. After dropping Game 1, 8-0, S&S rallied to win a doubleheader Saturday, 5-2 and 8-0.

One of the reasons, the Lady Rams were dominated by state runner-ups in Game 1 was the absence of pitcher Angela White and catcher Nikki Jones, who received a one-game suspension after apparently calling for a pitch aimed at the home plate umpire in a regional semifinals game.

However, the duo returned for Games 2 and 3 and the swing of momentum was dramatic. Jones is the team's top hitter, batting in the No. 3 hole and leading the team in RBIs. White has been a dominant force for the Lady Rams throughout the season and threw a three-hitter in the decisive Game 3 against Aubrey. She also tossed a no-hitter against Ponder in the first round of the playoffs.

"I don't know a whole lot about this team. I've seen some stats, but that doesn't tell you everything," Tadlock said. "I know they've got a good pitcher and it looks like they have four or five strong hitters. We're going to have to play our best."

Waiting for the winner between Coahoma and S&S is the victor between Thursday's second Class 2A semifinal between East Bernard (28-4-1) and Big Sandy Harmony (37-9). The final will be played at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

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★ ★ ★ DIESELS ★ ★ ★

2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab King Ranch FX4 6.0 Diesel - White w/King Ranch Leather, Heated Seats, All Power, One Owner, Nice Truck, Low Miles.
Was $32,995 NOW $31,995

2006 Ford F250 SD 4X2 6.0L Diesel Lariat - Black w/Gray Leather, One Owner, New Truck Trade In, Nice Truck.
Was $29,995 NOW $28,995

2005 F250 SD Crewcab Diesel FX4 King Ranch - Dk. Red w/King Ranch Leather, Loaded, Like New, New Truck Trade In, One Owner.
Was $31,995 NOW $30,995

2005 F350 SD Crewcab Diesel Fx4 King Ranch - Green/Tan w/Tan Leather, Loaded, Like New, New Truck Trade In, One Owner.
Was $31,995 NOW $30,995

2005 Ford F350 Crewcab DRW Lariat Diesel - Tan w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD, New Car Trade In, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, Only 60,000 Miles.
Was $31,995 NOW $30,995

2004 Ford F250 Super Duty Crew Cab Diesel - Blue w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, Short Bed, Great Truck.
Was $23,995 NOW $22,995

★ ★ ★ TRUCKS ★ ★ ★

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Black w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Like New, Bedliner, 20,000 Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $23,995

2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Red w/Gray Cloth, 40/20/40 Seating, CD Player, Bed Liner, Only 7,000 Miles.
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2007 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Crewcab SL - Lt. Blue w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Like New. Only 28,882 Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $23,995

2006 Ford F250 SD 4X4 5.4L V 8 Lariat - Blue/Tan w/Tan Leather, All Power, Like New, Nice Truck, Low Miles.
Was $28,995 NOW $27,995

2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT V8 - Dk. Stone w/Tan Cloth, 6 Disc CD Player, One Owner, All Power, Only 20,000 Miles.
Was $22,995 NOW $21,995

2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X2 5.4L V8 - Dk Red w/Tan Cloth, One Owner, New Car Trade In, CD Player, Only 18,000 Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $23,995

2006 Chevrolet Avalanche LT 4X2 - Black w/Tan Leather, Loaded, One Owner, All Power, OnStar, Only 34,000 Miles.
Was $28,995 NOW $27,995

2006 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado - White w/Gray Cloth, Nice Truck, All Power, Local One Owner, CD Player, Low Miles.
SOLD
Was $23,995 NOW $22,995

2005 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat - White/Tan w/Tan Leather, All Power, Clean Truck, New Car Trade In, Low Miles.
Was $21,995 NOW $20,995

2005 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 5.4L V8 - White w/Tan Leather, 6CD In Dash Player, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $23,995

2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/Cloth, Local One Owner.
MSRP $18,995 NOW $14,995

2005 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado 4X4 - White w/Gray Leather, Crewcab, CD Player, One Owner, All Power.
Was $25,995 NOW $23,995

★ ★ ★ TRUCKS ★ ★ ★

2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 5.4L V8 - Blue/Silver w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Like New, All Power, CD Player, New Truck Trade In, Only 54,000 Miles.
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★ ★ ★ SUV'S & VANS ★ ★ ★

2007 Ford Edge SEL - Creme Brulee w/Tan Leather, 6 Disc CD Player, All Power, Loaded, Only 8,838 Miles.
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2007 Ford F350 15 Pass. XLT 5.4 - White w/Gray Cloth, Remote Keyless, Panic Alarm, Only 20,000 Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $22,995

2006 Ford Explorer XLT - Tan w/Tan Cloth, All Power, New Car Trade In, Like New, Only 31,000 Miles.
Was $19,995 NOW $18,995

2006 Nissan Pathfinder LE - Black w/Tan Leather, Moonroof, All Power, Nice SUV, Must See, Only 23,000 Miles.
Was $26,995 NOW $25,995

2006 Jeep Wrangler SE - Tan w/Tan Cloth, 5 Speed, CD Player, AC, Nice Unit, Only 14,000 Miles.
Was $18,995 NOW $17,995

2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT - Red w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Nice Unit, Low Miles.
Was $18,995 NOW $17,995

2005 5 Toyota Sequoia SR5 - Silver w/Cloth, CD Player, One Owner, Nice SUV, Low Miles.
Was $27,995 NOW $25,995

2004 Nissan Murano SE - Black w/Gray Cloth, All Power,One Owner, 6 Disc CD Player, Low Miles.
Was $20,995 NOW $19,995

2004 Nissan Xterra SE 4X2 - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, One Owner, Low Miles.
Was $19,995 NOW $15,995

2004 Nissan Murano - White w/Tan Leather, Loaded, All Power, Very Nice, New Car Trade In.
Was $20,995 NOW $19,995

2004 Nissan Xterra SE 4X2 - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power,One Owner, Low Miles.
Was $19,995 NOW $15,995

2004 Honda CRV 4WD - White w/Gray Cloth, Loaded SUV, Like New, One Owner, Low Miles.
Was $14,995 NOW $12,995

2002 Ford Expedition XLT 4X4 - Tan/Black w/Tan Leather, Loaded, One Owner,Very Nice, SUV, Low Miles.
Was $17,995 NOW $12,995

2001 Lincoln Navigator 4X4 - White w/Gray Leather, Moonroof, GPS, All Power, Great SUV, Must Sell.
Was $16,995 NOW $14,995

★ ★ ★ CARS ★ ★ ★

2007 Lincoln TownCar Signature LTD - Dark Chocolate w/Tan Leather, All Power, Power Moonroof, Audiophile, AM/FM/CD, Woodgrain, Only 14,000 Miles.
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2007 Lincoln Town Car Signature LTD - Lt. French Silk w/Tan Camel Leather, All Power, Power Moonroof, Audiophile, AM/FM/CD, Woodgrain, Only 12,000 Miles.
Was $30,995 NOW $29,995

2007 Lincoln MKZ - Black Clearcoat w/Dove Charcoal Leather, Wood Trim Accent, Moonroof, All Power, Heated and Cooled Seats, Only 10,000 Miles.
SOLD
Was $28,995 NOW $27,995

2007 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Premium - Smoke Stone w/Gray Leather, Remote Keyless, Power Seats, Loaded, Like New, Only 10,000 Miles.
Was $19,995 NOW $18,995

2007 Ford Focus SES - Red Clearcoat, 5 Speed, Automatic, Trans., Spoiler, Keyless Entry, All Power, Cruise, Only 12,000 Miles.
SOLD
Was $14,995 NOW $13,995

2007 Ford Focus SE - Black Clearcoat, 5 Speed, Automatic, Trans., Spoiler, Keyless Entry, All Power, Cruise, Only 12,000 Miles.
SOLD
Was $14,995 NOW $13,995

2006 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Gray w/Gray Leather, All Power, Nice Car, Wood Trim Accent, Heated Seats, One Owner, Low Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $23,995

2006 Ford Fusion S - Oxford White, Stone Cloth, All Power, 2-3-4 Cyl., 12,000 Miles.
Was $16,995 NOW $15,995

2006 Ford Taurus SE - Tungsten Metallic w/Cloth, All Power, Locally Owned w/32,000 Miles.
Was $14,995 NOW $12,995

2005 Nissan Altima 2.5S - White w/Gray Cloth, CD Player, All Power, Automatic, 35,000 Miles.
Was $18,995 NOW $15,995

2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Black w/Gray Leather, All Power, Skylight Roof, Local One Owner, Low Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $18,995

2004 Ford Mustang V6 Convertible - Black w/Tan Leather, CD Player, Like New, One Owner, Only 19,685 Miles.
Was $18,995 NOW $14,995

2004 Ford Taurus LX - Tan w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Nice Clean Car, Local Owner.
Was $9,995 NOW $6,995

2004 Ford Focus SE - Green w/Tan Cloth, Loaded, One Owner, Like New, Low Miles.
Was $10,995 NOW $9,995

2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Lt. Tan w/Tan Leather, One Owner, All Power, Wood Trim, Low Miles.
Was $15,995 NOW $13,995

2004 Lincoln Town Car Ultimate - White Cashmere w/Lt. Tan Leather, Very Nice Car, All Power, One Owner, New Car Trade-In. Only 32,000 Miles.
Was $20,995 NOW $19,995

2004 Mercedes-Benz LK C240 - Gold w/Tan Leather, Woodgrain, Moonroof, Heated Seats, 6 Disc CD, Loaded, Low Miles.
Was $24,995 NOW $20,995

2003 Ford Escort ZX2- Black w/Cloth, Automatic, All Power, Great Gas Car.
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2002 Chevrolet Cavalier - Blue w/Gray Cloth, Like New, One Owner, Only 38,000 Miles.
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These students received scholarships from KBST and Sonic Drive-In. Seated, left to right, are Lani Mow, Coahoma, Bree Feaster; Big Spring; Tessa Williamson, Coahoma; Nita Cotton, Big Spring; Krista Kerby, Coahoma and Morgan Garrett, Forsan; and standing, Keith Fontana, business partner, Sonic Drive-In; Blake Grantham, Forsan, Braden Schaffner, Big Spring; Malinda Flenniken, executive consultant, KBST; and Mike Abusaab, owner, Sonic Drive-In.

State Briefs

Sex offender banned from school, met child for lunch

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A registered sex offender remained in jail Tuesday night and has been banned from Corpus Christi public school property after meeting his child for lunch in an elementary school cafeteria last week.

Prosecutors on Tuesday said they have filed a motion to revoke the 34-year-old man's probation. He was sentenced to 10 years probation in 2004 for the aggravated sexual assault of a child. One of the terms of his probation was that he had to stay away from schools, prosecutor Sandra Eastwood said.

Officials said the man met his child for lunch at Allen Elementary School. Another parent in the cafeteria noticed him and immediately reported his presence to administrators. School officials called police, but the man left by the time authorities arrived.

The man subsequently was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass and remained in the Nueces County Jail on Tuesday, a jail officer said.

"There is no evidence any students were in danger when he was in the cafeteria, but certainly we do not want registered sex offenders on our campuses," Corpus Christi Independent School District Superintendent Scott Elliff said.

Regents name Harvard professor as new UT Southwestern leader

DALLAS (AP) — A Harvard Medical School professor is expected to be the next president of the UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

The University of Texas System board of regents on Tuesday named Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky as the sole finalist for the job. The regents are expected to finalize his appointment next month.

Podolsky would replace Dr. Kern Wildenthal, who has announced he will step down in September after 22 years.

RELAY

Continued from Page 1A

together."

It's a lesson local officials have learned well.

"It's the community," Sayles said, explaining the key to the event's success. "That's all I can say. The people of Howard and Glasscock counties just go above and beyond year after year."

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

and Mott," Barr told the court audience, which included representatives from the legal firm's Lubbock and Midland offices. "Most of the counties in this immediate area have gone with this company, and they all seem very pleased with their service."

Barr said the services performed by Net Plea had been satisfactory in the past, but as the contract between the county and the company matured, the level of service the court was receiving from the company had waned considerably.

The terms of the contract with the Texas-based firm calls for the same schedule of fees the county approved with Net Plea, according to Barr.

Commissioners also gave the go-ahead for County Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson to compensate a grader operator at a higher rate than normal.

"My construction grader operator is having back trouble, so he's unable to operate that equipment," Jameson told the court. "So I have a grader operator doing that work, and I'd like to be able to pay him at the rate he's working, which is construction grader."

Jameson told the court he's had problems in the past with swapping employees from one position to another and not being able to pay them for the grade of work they are performing.

The court approved the change in pay rate and gave Jameson the discretion to pay his department's employees at the rate they are working.

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

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

Jacksonville, Fla. According to Davis, the company's $1.09 million bid includes some interesting technology.

"The technology they are using is very new," said Davis. "It will allow them to replace the water lines without having to dig anything up. The existing line is exploded and the new is basically run into its place."

Also Tuesday, the council voted down a request from the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club — a local non-profit organization — to allow participants in its summer program free entry to the municipal pool on Fridays.

Councilmen Manuel Ramirez Jr. and Greg Biddison voted in favor of the measure, which members of the city staff estimated would cost the city $150 in admittance revenue per Fri day. The remaining council members, as well as Mayor Russ McEwen voted against the waiving of fees.

"When I was a kid I participated in these types of programs, and it had a very positive effect on me," an emotional Ramirez told the council after making the motion to accept the request. "It was one of the best experiences of my life."

Councilwoman Stephanie Horton opposed the waiving of fees, saying it would set a bad example.

"We've gotten requests like these in the past, and we've denied them," said Horton. "If we're going to do this, Friday should be free to everyone."

McEwen said he felt the approval of the measure for a single group could present problems for the council in the future.

"I think this sets a precedence," said McEwen. "Anyone can come in and make the same request, and it would be difficult to do it for one group and say no to others."

According to members of the city staff, admittance to the pool located at the Northside Community Center is being provided to the local Boys Club — not associated with the Salvation Army endeavor — at no charge, an arrangement Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said would extend to the Salvation Army.

Local resident Aubrey Weaver Jr. spoke in favor of the waiving of the fees, urging the council to consider the effects it could have on low-income families in Big Spring.

"I encourage you to approve this," Weaver told the council. "Many of the children that use this program are under-privileged. More than 50 percent of the children at Big Spring Independent School District are on free or reduced-price lunch programs. The entry fee is $2, and that may not seem like a lot of money to the business people on this council, but to these kids, who come from underprivileged families, it's a lot."

Following the defeat of the measure, McEwen called for the city staff to gather more information on the issue and look at possibly providing a free day at the pool for area children.

"I'm not sure that Fridays are the right day for it, but I think we definitely need to look into this," said McEwen.

Also during the meeting, the council approved:

• Final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance No. 2812007 which adopted the annual budget for the city fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2007, and ending Sept. 20, 2008, providing for increasing the general fund budget for the purpose of purchasing property from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

• Final reading of an ordinance approving a final plat of Payal Hotel Enterprises Inc. Subdivision, described as a 2.107 acre tract out of the SE/4 of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey.

• First reading of an ordinance assessing impound fees and administrative fees to reimburse the city for the cost of towing vehicles associated with the police department towing policy as it relates to vehicles and drivers without proof of financial responsibility. The change would up the current fee of $90 to $150. The ordinance passed on a 6-1 vote with Ramirez voting against it.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing continued participation with the steering committee of cities serviced by Oncor and authorizing the payment of 10 cents per capita to the steering committee to fund regulatory and related activities related to Oncor electric delivery.

• Final reading of a resolution authorizing the auction of Howard County trustee properties to the highest bidder for cash without reservation.

• Final reading of an ordinance granting a partial residence homestead exemption for tax year 2008 and granting a partial residence homestead exemption to any individual who is disabled or age 65 or older.

• Final reading of an ordinance providing for an additional 20 percent penalty to defray costs of collecting delinquent taxes that remain delinquent July 1 of the year in which they become delinquent.

• Final reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article 1, entitled "Unsanitary, Unsightly, Etc. Conditions on Private Premises" by renaming it "Unsanitary, Unsightly and Public Nuisance Conditions on Property," by adding definitions for abate, building, garbage, premises, and undeveloped property; declaring nuisances, making nuisance abatement authority applicable inside the city limits and within 5,000 feet outside the city limits; repealing the administrative lien fee of $100; adding additional authority to abate weeds more than 48 inches; providing notice and hearing procedures; providing for minimum and maximum penalties for first and subsequent offenses; and providing for severability.

• Final reading of an ordinance amending Chapter l, Article 3, of the City Code entitled "Police Reserve Force" by amending Section 1-55 entitled "Basic Qualifications of Applicants" to provide that all members of the Police Reserve Force must meet TCLEOSE licensing standards for reserve officers; and by adding Section 1-68 entitled "Compensation" in order to provide that members of the Police Reserve Force shall be compensated for time spent in training for and in the performance of official duties of the Police Reserve Force.

• First reading of an ordinance establishing procedures for the consideration of economic development projects.

• Approval of a tax abatement agreement with Western Motels Inc. — dba The Luxury Inn — and authorization for the mayor to execute the agreement.

• First reading of a resolution approving changes to the articles of incorporation and other documents of Moore Development to reflect the economic development firm's recent name change to the Big Spring Econimic Development Corporation. The council is also expected to consider approval of the minutes from the board's last two meetings.

• First reading of a resolution allowing for recruitment incentive agreements and a relocation incentive agreement with newly hired police and fire department recruits requiring the employees to reimburse the city if they voluntarily terminate their prior to the completion of the agreement.

• First reading of an ordinance providing for the issuance of a specific use permit for Lot 7 and the S/2 of Lot 8, Block 43, Original Town of Big Spring, providing for a severability clause.

The council also voted unanimously to deny a permit request from local resident Justin Meek to keep chickens at 1314 Mt. Vernon.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Darrell Turner, 59, died Sunday. Memorial Services will be at 7:30 PM Saturday at the Big Spring State Park large pavilion.

Robert Crane, 76, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Garage Sales

CARPORT SALE: 1001 East 17th Street, Friday 6pm-8pm. Girls Clothes 18mo-5T, AB lounger, DVD's, lots of misc. items.

FRIDAY & Saturday Garage Sale: 1317 Wood Street. 9:30am-5:00pm. Children clothes, furniture and lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 3602 Parkway, Saturday 7-12. Living room furniture, baby furniture, saddle, 12-18mo baby clothes, toys, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 622 Tulane Ave., Friday & Saturday 8-12. Furniture, plus size clothing men's & women's and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: with lots of furniture, Broyhill end tables (4), sofa and chair. Rocker with gliding stool, 6' table with 6 chairs. Lots of boys clothes, other stuff spring cleaning 4565 North FM 2212 just South of Ackerly, Friday & Saturday 9am-4pm. FMI 432-517-0755.

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YARD SALE: 204 E. Robinson Rd., Saturday Only 8am-2pm. Knick-knacks, collectibles (Barbie, Marvin, Ertl), electric water heater, 5 HP electric air compressor, tools, kitchencabinets, lots of misc. 816-1412.

Help Wanted

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EDITORIAL

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

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Other Views

Sect's children should return only when safe

No one disputes that removing more than 450 children from their parents in the Yearning For Zion ranch outside Eldorado had to be disruptive — even traumatizing — to those youngsters.

The question is whether the children's interests were better served by placing them in foster care than by leaving them with a sect in which girls are made to marry and have children while still children themselves.

It's hard for child welfare officials to win. They're accused of overreacting because they removed all the children from the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints compound. Had they not acted, they might be accused of not protecting children from sexual abuse.

On Thursday, a three-judge appellate panel in Austin ruled that officials acted hastily, that they hadn't proved that a large number of younger children were in immediate danger and that a trial judge should have returned almost 130 children to their families after custody hearings in April.

But on Friday, the state appealed to the Texas Supreme Court, saying the appellate panel wrongly second-guessed the trial judge and would force the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to return children to an atmosphere of "continuing sexual and emotional abuse."

Ruling on a petition filed by about three dozen mothers, the court said that state District Judge Barbara Walther erred in not overruling the decision to remove the children from their families on an emergency basis. The court's reasoning: Though the state identified 20 women at the ranch who became pregnant while they were between 13 and 17 years old, all but five now are adults, none lived with the women petitioning the court, and there wasn't evidence younger children had been physically or sexually abused.

The appeals court rejected the state's arguments that the ranch community was one "household" and that all the children were in danger because of the "pervasive belief system" that young girls should marry and have children. The court also said that the state hadn't tried ways of protecting the children that would keep families intact.

The sect's belief system by itself doesn't put the children in physical danger, said Chief Justice Kenneth Law and Justices Bob Pemberton and Alan Waldrop.

"Even if one views the FLDS belief system as creating a danger of sexual abuse by grooming boys to be perpetrators of sexual abuse and raising girls to be victims of sexual abuse as the department contends, there is no evidence that this danger is 'immediate' or 'urgent' ... with respect to every child in the community."

But in its Friday petition, the agency argued that Walther had done "what was prudent and cautious based on the evidence available" at the hearing and that the appeals court engaged in "a poor analysis of misstated facts."

Though the ruling would require that children be returned to their parents, agency lawyers argued that it's still not clear which children belong to which parents.

The authenticity of the abuse report that triggered the state's raid now is in question, but it's clear the community encouraged, even forced, underaged girls to have children.

The case has raised difficult legal, moral and social questions. And no doubt it's agonizing for families to be split while the legal process runs its course.

Children and their parents should be reunited as soon as possible — but not until state officials and the courts are assured that children now in foster care aren't being returned to a situation that clearly risks their welfare.

The Star-Telegram
Fort Worth

A Small Prayer

by K. Rae Anderson

You promise, Lord, what You can deliver.

Amen

Desegregation needs new angle

If America truly believed in desegregation we would all be desegregated by now. But we aren't. And we're already pushing 150 years since slavery and 60 since Brown vs. Board of Education. That should have been plenty of time.



William A. Collins

Unfortunately as a nation we continue to drag our feet. Indeed the Supreme Court recently ruled against the desegregation we already have. It said that cities may no longer bus kids for the purpose of racial integration. It's unconstitutional, they say. Who hired those guys, anyway? While plenty of morally-grounded citizens winced at that decision, the press only treated it very matter-of-factly, as though it were no big deal. No protesters filled the streets.

And so the defendants, Louisville and Seattle, were ordered to stop assertively mixing races in their schools, and you can bet parent watchdog groups will make sure that similar retrenchment in Connecticut is not far behind. No doubt inventive and moral school officials will dutifully keep nibbling away at the malign effects of residential segregation, but their sharpest tool, busing, has now been lost. Not that busing had moved us remarkably far ahead anyway. Connecticut remains nearly as segregated today as when the Brown lawsuit was originally filed.

Norwalk offers a classic example of how that current inauspicious system works. A very mixed and reasonably high-minded place, its minority population runs about 28 percent. But its minority school population runs 50 percent. The causes of this disparity are no great mystery. Many white parents of means, fixated on their kids' education, send them to nearby private schools. Others, when their offspring reach school age, simply move to suburbs beyond the price range of blacks and Latinos. Presto! — a deeply segregated system.

Progressive cities with large school districts, like Louisville and Seattle, tried to cure this poisonous problem with busing. Now that's been overturned. States that use smaller districts, as Connecticut, have tried inter-town magnet schools. But not enough suburban white parents sign up to send their kids to the city, no matter how good the school. And what can you do anyway in huge places like New York and Chicago? Not much.

We do read from time to time about heroic and inspired teachers, administrators, parent groups, or researchers who make a real difference someplace. For a while. But eventually they burn out or retire and the sea closes back in over them. In any case no large scale systemic solutions have emerged.

Thus it may be time for a strategy change. Plaintiffs who sue school boards and governors to integrate classrooms might instead want to cast a wider net. With so many years of disappointing experience in hand, perhaps it's time to sue instead for the placement of assisted housing in every neighborhood. If the courts recoil from mixing races in the schools, let's mix them where we live. Then the schools will take care of themselves. Our present housing arrangements must surely constitute purposeful illegal segregation. Discriminatory zoning rules are plainly the worst of society's ill-intentioned tools.

Other recent high-profile events also demonstrate the biased result of malevolent government actions. The response to New Orleans plainly shows racial preference, as does the sub-prime mortgage collapse. Minorities were, and still are, steered to the most vicious loans. And we already know that drug law enactment, enforcement and incarceration are aimed at minorities, as are second-rate medical care and voter identification laws. Further, the average wealth for whites in Connecticut today is $179,000; for minorities, only $7,000.

There's got to be another lawsuit in there somewhere. And if all else fails, there's always the generous application of government money. Lots of money. Food, heat, health care, and tutoring need to be provided to kids who lack hem. Might as well start now. School integration lawsuits have shown that they simply can't do the job by themselves. It's time to try something stronger.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

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Missing the neighborhoods of old

As a kid growing up in a fairly small town I always knew the names of everyone on my street. While I can never remember my parents knocking on someone's door to borrow an egg or a cup of sugar, they certainly could have and most likely they would have been successful.



Daniel Kline

We didn't live on one of those streets that had block parties, but everyone knew everyone and kids played together across a network of backyards. Children knew which houses contained a crotchety old man who wouldn't give your ball back if it got on his lawn and which people didn't want you cutting through their yards.

It wasn't some fantasyland where everyone smiled all the time and nothing bad happened, but people smiled sometimes and plenty of good happened along with the bad. There was a sense of neighborhood and when somebody new moved in an effort was made to be welcoming.

Today's world, at least in an awful lot of places, no longer seems quite as friendly. Having lived in a number of different communities across New York and Connecticut with my wife it took me a long time to realize that many people no longer want to know their neighbors.

Instead of being potential friends, or at least friendly acquaintances, neighbors now represent potential criminals. Everyone regards everyone else with distrust and people barely make eye contact let alone make an effort to know each other.

Even though most crime statistics are way down since my childhood in the '70s and '80s, people's fear has risen. The world – at least in America's small towns — is in fact less dangerous than it was. People ignore that though, and act like every random face might murder them, kidnap their children or commit some heinous crime they probably learned off the Internet.

We have become so cynical, afraid and mistrusting that we have forgotten that the world contains far more decent folks than it does evil ones. Perhaps we've grown scared because the bad things people do get publicized more or maybe we've just become so jaded that we assume every stranger is a villain.

Our inherent distrust of our fellow man has led to a world where everyone is a suspect and people remain guilty until proven innocent. We want so much to protect our families from potential ill that we fail to notice that isolating them from building a sense of community also protects them from potential joy.

People do this because they think the world has gotten scarier. A whole lot of bad things can happen and we do live in a time where murderers, rapists, pedophiles, reality show contestants and other evildoers may lurk around every corner. Our world also contains terrorists who might blow us up, weapons of mass destruction, Ryan Seacrest and whole countries that consider America the devil.

Of course, none of these problems likely involve the family next door. It's possible that your neighbor might be the next Charles Manson, but it's a whole lot more likely that he's a nice guy who you might borrow something from every now and again.

I'm no longer expecting people to drop by with cakes and cookies when I move into a neighborhood and I've even given up on the idea of having more than a few neighbors whose names I know. I refuse, however, to give into the idea that people are inherently bad and not worth being trusted.

You can continue ignoring me, walking quickly into your house and bolting the door. I'll be the slightly disheveled guy, probably in a black shirt attempting to smile at you or maybe even, waving hello.

If you want, I even have a spare egg or a cup of sugar I might be willing to send your way.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in over 100 papers weekly. His parenting blog can be found at babydidwhat.com. Daniel B. Kline can be reached at dan@notastep.com.

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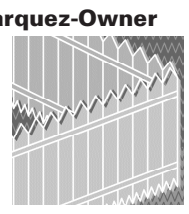
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At the Howard County Library

Nothing like getting a phone call from the newspaper inquiring about this week's column to get your heart racing! With the Yearning for Zion polygamy situation playing out in San Angelo, here are a couple of books for those of you who want to read about it. Just in are **"When Men Become Gods"** (306.842 SIS S) by Stephen Singular and **"Stolen Innocence"** (B WAL E) by Elissa Wall. Other books the library has on the Fundamentalist Church of the Latter Day Saints are Carolyn Jessop's biograprhy "Escape," "The Secret Story of Polygamy" (306.842 TRA K) by Kathleen Tracy and "Predators, Prey, and Other Kinfolk: Growing Up in Polygamy (289.3092 SOL D) by Dorothy Allred Solomon. Be prepared to put your name on the reserve list because of news accounts and peoples' interest in the subject.

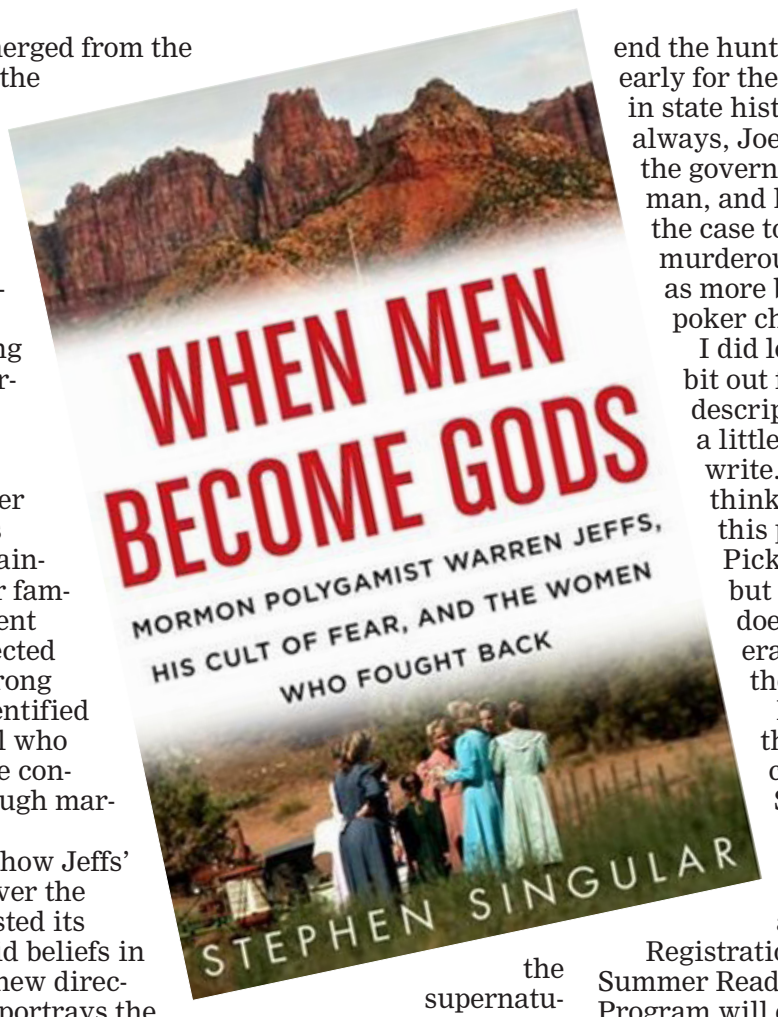


HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

"When Men Become Gods" — Edgar Award nominee Stephen Singular traces Warren Jeffs' rise to power and the concerted effort that led to his downfall. It was a movement championed by law enforcement, private investigators, the feds, and perhaps most vocal of all, a group of former polygamous wives seeking to liberate young women from the arranged marriages they'd once endured.

The book offers new revelations into a nearly impenetrable enclave, a place of nineteenth-century attire, inbreeding and eerie seclusion which provides readers with a rare glimpse into a tradition that's almost a century old, but that has only now been exposed.

Elissa Wall wrote **"Stolen Innocence,"** which tells the incredible and inspirational story of how she emerged from the confines of the FLDS and helped bring one of America's most notorious criminals to justice. Offering a child's perspective on life in the FLDS, Wall discusses her tumultuous youth, explaining how her family's turbulent past intersected with her strong will and identified her as a girl who needed to be controlled through marriage.



Detailing how Jeffs' influence over the church twisted its already rigid beliefs in dangerous new directions, Wall portrays the inescapable mind-set and unrelenting pressure that forced her to wed despite her repeated protests that she was too young.

On a lighter note, you might find James Van Praagh's book **"Ghosts Among Us"** (133.91 VAN J) to be interesting. Van Praagh, the *New York Times* bestselling author and co-executive producer of the CBS series The Ghost Whisperer, shares his knowledge and life experience about ghosts, a subject that can seem to many of us both bizarre and terrifying.

But when the world beyond is explained fully by an experienced guide, dismissal and apprehension can be turned into knowledge and inspiration. With incredible true ghost stories and surprising details about how ghosts actively participate in our lives, Van Praagh challenges us to question our perceptions and shows us how we can live more fully through understanding the world of spirits. Including eerily accurate readings, the author's development as a medium, and detailed how-to information, "Ghosts Among Us" is an all-encompassing guide to the supernatural.

Other books just in are **"The Lady Elizabeth"** by Alison Weir, a novel about Queen Elizabeth I; or maybe **"Escape from Andersonville"** by Gene Hackman and Daniel Lenihan, a novel of the Civil War. When I visited my sister at Fort Benning, they took us to the prison at Andersonville. It is a national park and really brought home to me the inhumanity of prisoner of war camps that existed both in the North and South during the Civil War. There was no shelter for the prisoners, the only water available to drink was from the one or two wells within the prison or from the stream that ran through it.

A new mystery by C.J. Box is in, **"Blood Trail."** It's elk season in the Rockies, but this year a different kind of hunter is stalking a different kind of prey. When the call comes in on the radio, Joe Pickett can hardly believe his ears: Game wardens have found a hunter dead at a camp. A spent cartridge and a poker chip lie next to his body. Ripples of horror spread through the community, and with a possibly psychotic killer on the loose.

Gov.Rulon is forced to end the hunting season early for the first time in state history. As always, Joe Pickett is the governor's go-to man, and he's put on the case to track the murderous hunter, as more bodies and poker chips turn up.

I did leave a little bit out from this description, it was a little too icky to write. I don't think I will read this particular Pickett mystery, but the library does have several more in the series.

Remember, the library is closed Saturdays for the months of June, July and August.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program will end this Monday and begin Tuesday.

Howard County Library hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Internet/Video room is closed from noon until 2 p.m. and it will close one-half hour before closing. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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In *Sunday's* Big Spring Herald



Automobile love affairs

Americans love their cars, and for many, reminiscing about their first set of wheels evokes memories of freedom, fun, fast engines and fender-benders. Plus, a sailing ships parade and tasty taco dip.

American Profile

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2	1	4	8	6	3	5	9	7
7	9	2	4	8	1	6	5	3
1	8	5	3	7	6	9	4	2
4	3	6	5	9	2	8	7	1
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6	2	9	7	5	4	1	3	8
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS


HOLIDAY MATHIS

Is the world communicating through our five senses, only speaking the language of those things we can see, taste and touch -- or is there a sixth? Today's Pisces moon peels back layers of natural information to reveal the supernatural. Omens, epiphanies, intuitions are fun to figure out, but tuning into your unique sense of things is magical, too.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The general tone around you seems muted. You'll have to be more expressive than ever in order to drum up enthusiasm. Deliver the big joy and by afternoon you'll start to see some sunshine from others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're not sure if someone likes you for you, or whether it's some other part of the "you package" that's getting the love. Either way, enjoy the attention and, for now, guard your heart.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's hard to narrow your interest to one thing when you're as good at multitasking as you usually are. You'll be more productive when you slow down and hone in on the single most important endeavor.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don't have to take formal lessons to learn a lot. You pick up bits and pieces practically by osmosis, and before you know it, you're moving right along with those in the know.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not always the gregarious extrovert others have come to expect. You're deep, too, and there's a private side of you. Those who think they know you will not be able to predict what you'll do today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Things are picking up. You find a way to feel exhilarated over the same work that once made you feel tired and cranky. The quality of your thoughts keeps improving. You are empowered.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As cumbersome as a burden seems now, you have the ability to handle 10 times more. Prove your grace. The key is in not giving it too much attention, and marching on like there's nothing on your back.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Alert the media -- you're about to spin a new incarnation of yourself. This is one you can't plan out too carefully. Instead, you see a need and change yourself ever so slightly to fill it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you know what you want, you're a firecracker. You're in emotional control and unafraid of taking things to a heightened level of excitement. Passion builds to a three-alarm fervor tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). As mountain climbers would attest, the climbers around you will determine the height you are able to achieve. You only win if everybody wins. It's worth it to pay the best Sherpa you can find to accompany you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The sacrifices you make may seem to go unnoticed. Acts of selflessness are never a wasted effort. However, if you withdraw for a day, you might find that you are better appreciated tomorrow.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You hunger to delight your eyes, tantalize your sense of touch and open your ears for sparkling music to pour in. Every day is a sensual extravaganza when you're living in the moment.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm an Aries born March 25, 1981. I recently said goodbye to a Libra man born October 12, 1973. I thought we were meant for each other. But he wants to be friends right now and can't give me what I want. Is there any chance for us at all? I've never had a serious relationship. I'm not sure what I want in a man."

If the break happened in the weeks surrounding the full moon in Libra on March 21, I would venture to say he's made up his mind. The endings that moon brought are the irrevocable kind. But as you've discovered, this loss is seasoning you to become more aware about what you're looking for in relationship. Over the next year, you're examining your heart for the answers to the questions you ask of it, like, why am I alone? Or, what am I looking for in a partner? Some of this may involve healing old scars, releasing grudges or recognizing what partnerships are good for you. Consider devoting some time and effort to developing your own interests. There's nothing more stunning than an Aries in charge of her destiny.

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Annie's Mailbox ®


KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My husband has a stressful job. To combat the stress, he and a co-worker play with airsoft guns after business hours. Sometimes, my husband does target shooting with the guns in the basement.

I get very nervous listening to the sound of gunfire in my home. I don't want to say anything because the last time my husband needed stress relief he opted to drink. Please help. -- Desperate Wife

Dear Desperate: Airsoft guns are not lethal. While it's not recommended that they be used in the house, if your husband is taking appropriate safety precautions, he should be OK. Suggest that he join a team and play on the weekends. There may even be shooting ranges near your home where he can practice, and you can get some peace.

Dear Annie: Our home is almost 100 years old with original hardwood floors.

Last weekend, our daughter and a friend hosted a bridal shower at our house. After all the guests had gone home, we noticed one woman's stiletto heels left small indentions everywhere. I counted over 30 holes in the living room alone. I thought the rubber tip had come off the heel and she was walking around on a nail head.

Should we say something to this guest so she doesn't do it to someone else's beautiful floors? Would it be OK next time to ask guests to remove their shoes at the door? -- Seething and Sad in Greensboro, N.C.

Dear Greensboro: Unfortunately, this is one of the costs of entertaining in your home. Not all guests are willing to remove their shoes, but there is no harm in asking. Perhaps if you provide little slippers, they will find the idea more appealing.

Dear Annie: "Healthy and Scared" said she had no health insurance and you sympathized. Come on, Annie.

When I was too old to be covered by my parents' insurance, I bought my own and I was only working part time. Expensive? I thought so. But it was the responsible thing to do. "Healthy and Scared" has many options to access health insurance. My guess is that she is unwilling to do so until someone else actually fills out the paperwork and foots the entire bill. You should have told her to pick up the phone and call any one of the myriad social service agencies in her area. Someone will be glad to take the responsibility for her health care and lay it squarely on our paychecks.

I teach in a public school that still has uninsured students because their parents won't take the time to enroll them in the government-subsidized plan we offer. But these same kids have the latest technology and clothes. My husband is a pharmacist, and two of my children work in pharmacies. They are constantly amazed by how many clients are on welfare and don't pay a dime for their very expensive, non-generic drugs. These same people also have the rudest, most demanding entitlement attitudes.

Forty years of cradle-to-grave government has produced at least two generations that don't know what personal responsibility means. If an adult is hungry, homeless or uninsured in this country, they have made a conscious decision to remain so. -- Not an Enabler

Dear Enabler: You must live in a different country than we do. Insurance is much more expensive and complicated now than when you were young. A pre-existing condition can get you turned down. Single-parenthood can make your life a choice between insurance and child care. A disabled spouse or child can turn your finances into a nightmare. One hospitalization can cause you to lose your insurance and go into debt all in one blow. Yes, there are some who take advantage of the system, but you aren't seeing the ones who struggle every day to get by. Open your eyes a little wider.

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Legals

Public Notice
The Construction Manager - At Risk, Dinosaur Valley Construction, will receive sealed Proposals at his office until 10:00 am on June 4, 2008 for fencing, laundry equipment, and fire protection for the new Howard County Law Enforcement Center/Jail.
Mail proposals to Dinosaur Valley Construction, Inc., P.O. Box 7378, Glen Rose, Tx 76043 (telephone number 254/897-4901).
Jackie Olson, Auditor
#5786 May 21 & 28, 2008

Texas prepares: Ready or not?

Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and other disasters can strike with little or no warning, forcing you to evacuate or causing extensive damage to your property in a matter of minutes. Knowing in advance how you'll respond to these situations is the best way to protect your family.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), through its "Ready or Not? Have a Plan" public education campaign, wants your family to be prepared for any emergency.

"Family emergency planning is essential," said Dr. David Lakey, DSHS commissioner. "The time to plan is now, not when an emergency is just down the road. We all need to set a simple goal to do at least one thing this week to get ready for



any emergency."

Before an emergency happens, sit down together and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency essentials kit or another safe place where you can find it in the event of a disaster.

The "Ready or Not?" campaign focuses on three key elements: family, essentials and information. Build your personal family emergency plan around these elements to include:

Wallet cards for each member of your family reminding them whom to call and where to meet in case of an emergency. Share your plan with family, neighbors and friends. Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the family's contact. Make sure everyone knows the telephone number of this contact.

An emergency essentials kit with non-perishable foods, a three-day supply of water (a gallon per person per day), first aid kit, waterproof whistle, personal hygiene products and flashlights. Think about family-specific needs such as medications, contact lens solution, diapers or pet supplies.

A waterproof document bag to keep your essential documents safe. Get copies of driver's licenses, photo IDs, passports, insurance documents and lists of medications or copies of prescriptions and put them in a waterproof storage bag in a safe place.

Basic ground rules to help your family decide whether to stay put or get away. Know where to get trusted information and plan for both possibilities. For example, prepare for possible evacuation by familiarizing yourself with available escape routes. Keep maps in your car.

An information link to the outside. Keep a battery-powered radio and extra batteries on hand. Make sure family members know where the radio is kept.

Family meeting places outside your neighborhood in case you are separated. Be sure everyone knows exactly where those meeting places are.

If you have pets, be sure to include them in your family disaster plan. Prepare a list of kennels, friends or family members who may be able to care for your pet in an emergency. Some evacuation shelters may not allow pets.

Be prepared to assess the situation, use common sense and make a mental inventory of whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and your loved ones. Think about the places your family spends time: school, work and other places you frequent. Ask about their emergency plans. Find out how they will communicate with families during an emergency. If they don't have an emergency plan, consider helping them develop one.

Visit the "Ready or Not?" website at www.TexasPrepares.org or www.TexasPrepara.org (Spanish) to build a custom plan step by step. Several interactive features allow you to get the full list of documents that families should put in a waterproof storage bag, a customized emergency supply list, wallet-size cards to designate emergency contacts and links to emergency information. Those without Internet access may dial 2-1-1 for help finding local sites that offer free Internet access.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Recognition Factor

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 6
♥ Q 5 3 2
♦ A Q 10
♣ J 9 7 2

WEST
♠ Q J 9 4 3
♥ 10
♦ 6 5 2
♣ Q 8 5 3

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

SOUTH
♠ 8
♥ A K J 9 8 7 6
♦ 9 7 4
♣ A K

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	6 ♥	

Opening lead — queen of spades.

Assume you're declarer at six hearts and West leads the queen of spades to dummy's ace. How would you continue?

When the deal occurred, declarer led a heart to the ace and cashed the A-K of clubs. He then returned to dummy with a trump and ruffed the nine of clubs, hoping the queen would fall. When it didn't, South next led a diamond to the ten, losing to the jack.

Declarer ruffed East's spade return and then played a diamond to the queen. East produced the king, and that was that. Down one.

There is no doubt that South was extremely unlucky. Had West held either diamond honor, or had the queen of clubs fallen in three rounds — about an 85 percent chance altogether — he would have made the contract. Nevertheless, the fact remains that he could have increased his chances substantially, and the oversight cost him the slam.

All declarer had to do to make the contract was to ruff dummy's six of spades at trick two and then proceed exactly as before, including a ruff of the third club in his hand. After the ten of diamonds lost to the jack, East would no longer have had the safe spade return available, as that would now have handed declarer a ruff-and-discard. The alternative — a diamond into the A-Q — would have been equally disastrous.

By ruffing the spade at trick two, declarer assures the slam whenever East has fewer than four clubs. He fails only if East began with four or more clubs including the queen, together with the K-J of diamonds.

The importance of the spade ruff is admittedly not easy to recognize at such an early stage, but since the ruff can do no harm and may do some good, it is clearly the right play.

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75TH BIG SPRING COWBOY REUNION RODEO PARADE

5:30 p.m. - Thursday, June 19

Let's make this the biggest and best rodeo parade ever! Award categories include floats, tractors, riding clubs, motorcycle, custom and classic cars and bicycles. First- through third-place entries will receive cash awards of $100, $50 and $25, respectively; while the top entries from the six categories will receive a plaque.

ENTRANT _____

TYPE ENTRY (Check type)

❒ Float ❒ Riding Club
❒ Custom/Classic Car
❒ Bicycle ❒ Tractor
❒ Motorcycle

CONTACT _____
PHONE No. _____

Return entries to the Big Spring Herald, 710 Scurry, no later than noon on Monday, June 16th, then get your boots, hat and western wear ready to join us in the celebration!

BIG SPRING HERALD

Big Spring Cowboy Reunion & RODEO

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www.bigspringrodeo.com

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	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
5 :PM	News	News	Locura	Simpsons	News	Noticias	News	Friends	Cortes	News	Cash Cab	Karate Kid, Part Two, Martin Kove	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards		SportsCenter
:30	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	King-Hill	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Raymond	Israel	Business	Cash Cab		CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order		Wizards	NASCAR	
6 :PM	News	Jeopardy!	Yo Amo a Juan	Simpsons	News	12 Corazones	News	Raymond	Prophecy	News-Lehrer	Made					Montana	Interrupt	
:30	Entertain	Fortune		Two Men	Entertain		Millionaire	Raymond	Hagee		Made				The Boot	Suite Life	NFL Live	NBA Shootaround
7 :PM	Wife Swap	Wife Swap	Diablo-Guapos	So You Think You Can Dance	Price Is Right	La Traicion	Moments	Fam. Guy	Israel	Secrets of the Dead	Sasquatch: Legend	**Movie:** Jurassic Park, Jeff Goldblum	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Usher	**Movie:** The Cheetah Girls 2	MLB Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers at Chicago Cubs.	
:30							Last Comic Standing	Fam. Guy	Scott						Access			NBA Basketball: Conf. Final
8 :PM	Supernanny	Supernanny	Fuego en la Sangre		Criminal Minds	Victoria		Payne	Light of the Southwest	Great Performances	MythBusters		UFC Unleashed	Law & Order	College Hill: Atlanta			
:30								Payne										
9 :PM	Men in Trees	Men in Trees	Don Francisco	TMZ	CSI: NY	Pecados Ajenos	Law & Order	Payne		Eden at the End	Factory		The Ultimate Fighter	Cold Case	The Wire	Wizards		
:30				Raymond				Payne			Factory	(:45) **Movie:** Sniper, J.T. Walsh				Life De		
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	Friends	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made		UFC Unleashed	Cold Case		Suite Life	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter
:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Late Show	Titulares	Tonight Show	Friends	Dr. Young		Made				Hell Date	Montana		
11 :PM	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nuestra Belleza	Law Order: CI		Decisiones		Sex &	CCM	Smiley	Sasquatch: Legend		CSI: Crime Scn	Without a Trace	Diff Wrld	So Raven	NFL Live	
:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live				Late Late Show		Late Night	Sex &	Scott	Smiley		(:45) Missing in Action 2: The Beginning			Diff Wrld	Phil	NASCAR	Fastbreak
12 :AM		Extra	Niña Amada Mia	RENO 911				**Movie:** Metro, Michael Wincott	Israel	(Off Air)	MythBusters		**Movie:** Octopussy, Louis Jourdan	Without a Trace	Comicview	Replace	Series of Poker	SportsCenter
:30	News	Paid		Lopez	Insider	Programa Pagado	News		Sanchez							Kim		
1 :AM	Paid	Investools	Clasicos	RENO 911	Entertain	**Pelicula:** La	Poker After Dark		Light of the Southwest		Factory			Without a Trace	College Hill: Atlanta	Emperor	MLB Baseball: Dodgers at Cubs	SportsCenter
:30	Teach Me	Marketing	Humor	King-Hill	Paid						Factory	(:45) **Movie:**				Dragon		

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



HAGAR

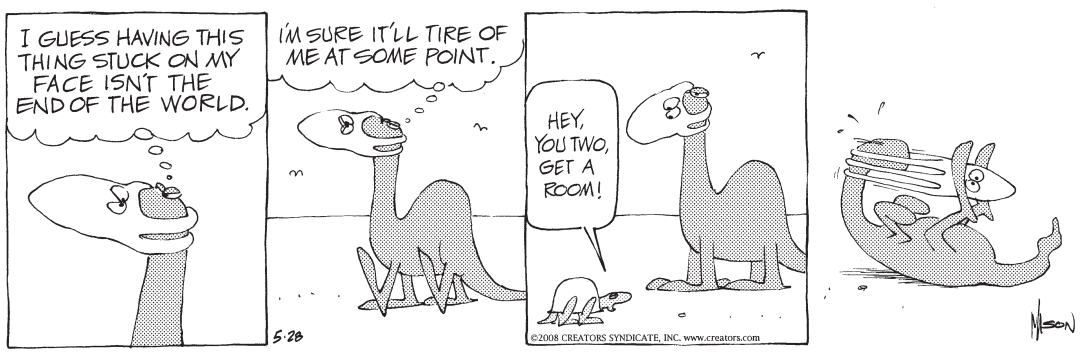




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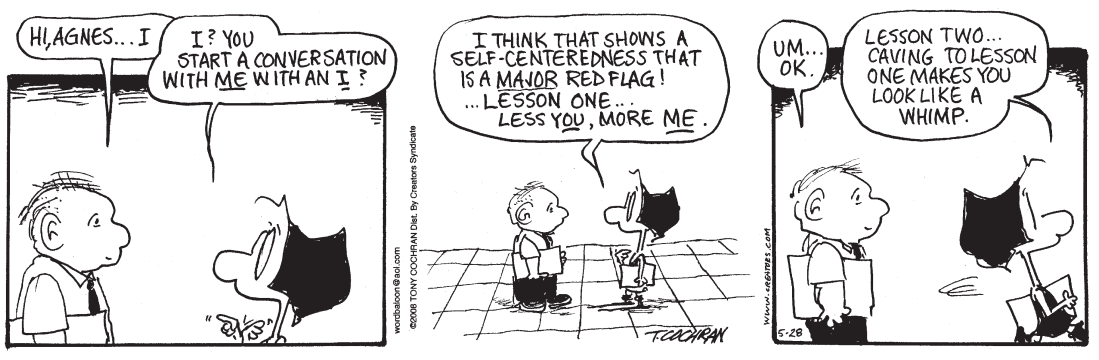
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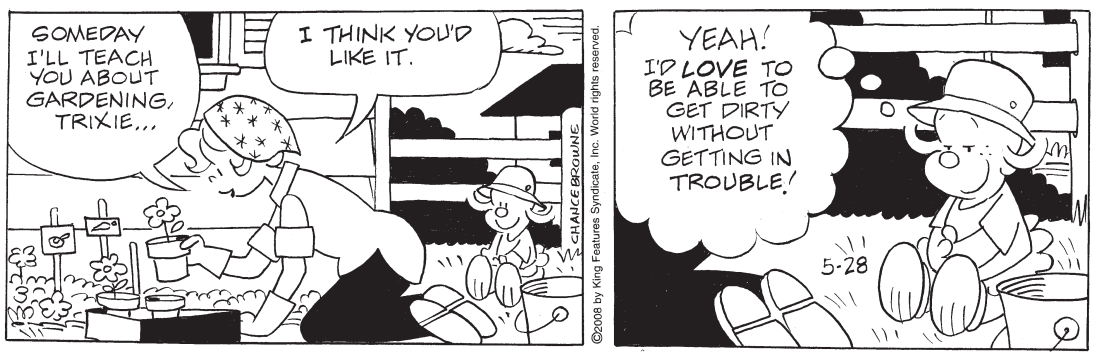
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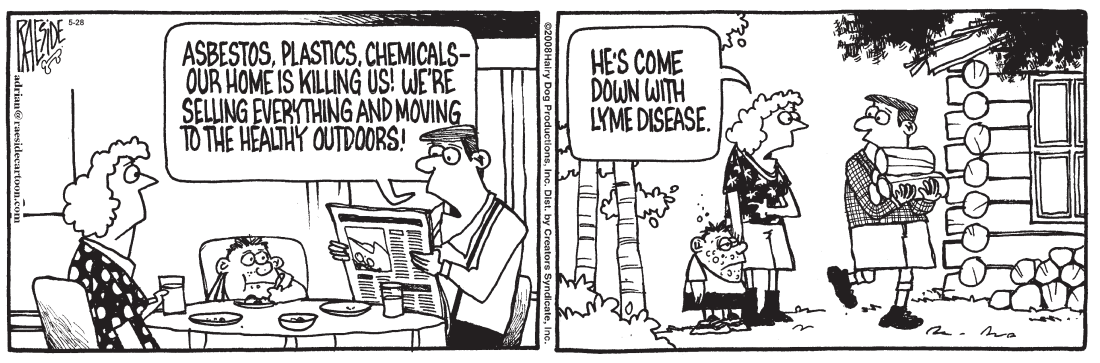
AGNES



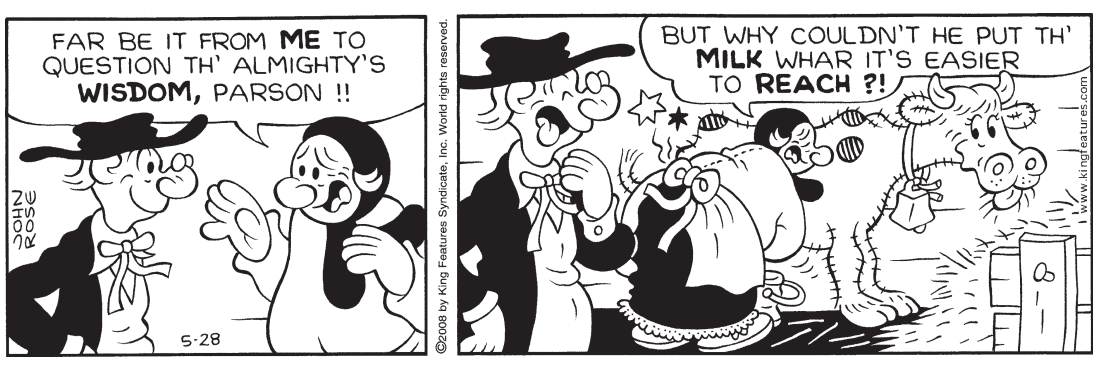
HI AND LOIS



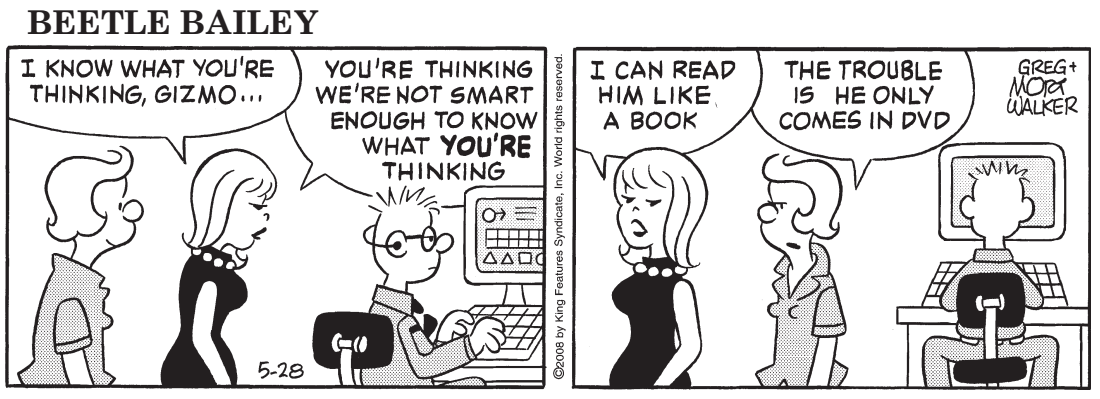
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 28, the 149th day of 2008. There are 217 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 28, 1918, the Battle of Cantigny began during World War I as American troops captured the French town from the Germans; the Americans were able to resist German counterattacks in the days that followed.

On this date:

In 1533, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, declared the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn valid.

In 1863, the first black regiment from the North left Boston to fight in the Civil War.

In 1892, the Sierra Club was organized in San Francisco.

In 1908, British author Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond as well as "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," was born in London.

In 1934, the Dionne quintuplets , — Annette, Cecile, Emilie, Marie and Yvonne , — were born to Elzire Dionne at the family farm in Ontario, Canada.

In 1937, President Roosevelt pushed a button in Washington signaling that vehicular traffic could begin crossing the just-opened Golden Gate Bridge in California.

In 1937, Neville Chamberlain became prime minister of Britain.

In 1972, Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, who had abdicated the English throne to marry Wallis Warfield Simpson, died in Paris at age 77.

In 1977, 165 people were killed when fire raced through the Beverly Hills Supper Club in Southgate, Ky.

In 1987, Mathias Rust, a 19-year-old West German pilot, landed a private plane in Moscow's Red Square.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Carroll Baker is 77. Rockabilly singer-musician Sonny Burgess is 77. Producer-director Irwin Winkler is 77. Actor John Karlen is 75. Basketball Hall-of-Famer Jerry West is 70. Actress Beth Howland is 67. Former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is 64. Singer Gladys Knight is 64. Singer Billy Vera is 64. Singer John Fogerty is 63. Actress-director Sondra Locke is 61. Country musician Jerry Douglas (Alison Krauss and Union Station) is 52. Actor Brandon Cruz (TV: "The Courtship of Eddie's Father") is 46. Country singer Phil Vassar is 46. Actress Christa Miller is 44. Singer-musician Chris Ballew (Presidents of the USA) is 43. Rapper Chubb Rock is 40. Singer Kylie Minogue is 40. Actor Justin Kirk is 39. Television personality Elisabeth Hasselbeck ("The View") is 31. Actor Jesse Bradford is 29. Actress Monica Keena is 29. Pop singer Colbie Caillat is 23. Actor Joseph Cross is 22.

Thought for Today: "Like other spurious things, fastidiousness is often inconsistent with itself, the coarsest things are done, and the cruelest things said by the most fastidious people." ‚Äî Caroline Matilda Stansbury Kirkland, American author (1801-1864).

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Answer to previous puzzle

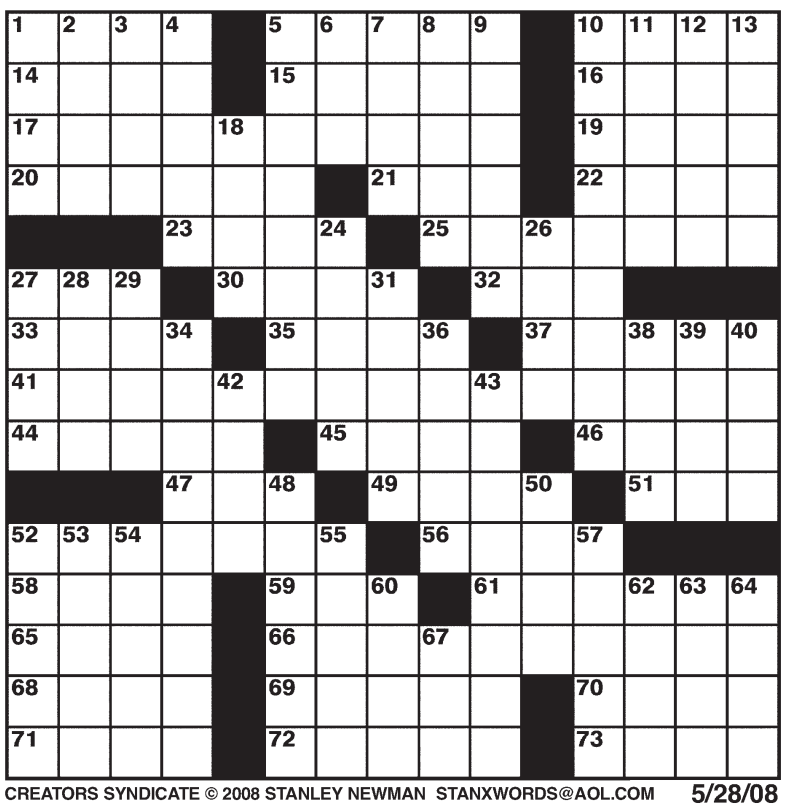
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Newsday Crossword

MINOR MISHAPS by Randall J. Hartman
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Fortune's partner
5 Terrible twos, notably
10 Huck Finn's transport
14 Mountain goat
15 Cars with bars
16 Singer Fitzgerald
17 "Stop it!"
19 Thick slice
20 Went to a diner, perhaps
21 Fitness center
22 Work hard
23 Ponce de __
25 Catch off guard
27 Indy 500 zone
30 Grumpy mood
32 Clean-air org.
33 Hoosegow
35 Italian desserts
37 Shinbone
41 Product of micro-encapsulation
44 *A League of __ Own*
45 Jacob's twin
46 Encl. for a reply
47 Small bite
49 Prefix for while
51 Miss Piggy, for example
52 Sort of salad
56 List ender
58 Hound's track
59 Sun or moon
61 Rodeo bull
65 Kid's block
66 Jellystone Park resident
68 Opposite of 6 Down
69 Provide with funds
70 One of the Great Lakes
71 Come clean, with "up"
72 Take the wrong way?
73 Entertainer Falana

DOWN
1 Pay-stub acronym
2 Border on
3 Ration, with "out"
4 Praise highly
5 Like some friends
6 Broadway success
7 Old Testament book
8 Borscht and bisque
9 Mansion and grounds
10 Holds back
11 Distribute
12 Thrash about
13 Spreadsheet, essentially
18 Shades
24 Specialized market
26 High-rise homes: Abbr.
27 "Hey, you!"
28 Hankering
29 Something in the trunk
31 Make fun of
34 Source of roof noise
36 Trapper's trap
38 Skewed view
39 In that case
40 Not very many
42 Piece of chamber music
43 *The Grapes of Wrath* setting
48 Space explorers
50 Poi ingredient
52 Author Tobias
53 Designer Simpson
54 Corporate symbols
55 Battle line
57 Record company
60 Foreshadow
62 Medal of Honor recipient
63 Daily delivery
64 Field of study
67 Amazon squeezer



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Texan brews gold-medal beer

By BARRY SHLACHTER
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — His reaction was so over the top — kicking a trash can, barnyard expletives shouted full throttle and eyes welling with tears — that Jamie Fulton's employees at The Covey Restaurant & Brewery thought their young boss had gotten some very bleak news indeed.

Nothing could have been further from the truth.

A friend and fellow brewer text-messaged Fulton from San Diego in late April to say The Covey's Vienna lager had taken top honors for its style at the World Beer Cup, considered the "Olympics of brewing."

Fulton, who had just turned 27, was emotionally shaken to win just two years after opening The Covey. The gold medal is a goal that takes some brewers decades to attain, and some never do.

"I always believed in my beer," said Fulton, whose lager beat out 24 other entries. "Now, to have it internationally recognized, well, it makes me feel good."

Aside from Fulton's gold, Fort Worth's Rahr & Sons microbrewery snared a bronze for its Bucking Bock, Spoetzl Brewery in Central Texas took a silver for its Shiner Dunkelweizen, and Houston's Saint Arnold's Brewery won a gold for its Wee Heavy Scotch ale called Divine Reserve No. 4 — a special release now out of production — and a silver for its Elissa IPA.

The blind-tasting competition is held every other year, pitting some of the globe's smallest brewers against one another and such giants as Anheuser-Busch, Coors and Miller, plus foreign producers like Carlsberg of Denmark and the Brazilian-Belgian behemoth InBev.

The late beer authority Michael Jackson of Britain considered the World Beer Cup the most professionally run international competition on Earth. And there's no national bias. Sixty-five percent of this year's blind-tasting judges were from abroad, and in several categories this year, no beer was deemed worthy of a gold.

"When your peers give you a gold award at the World Beer Cup, they place your beer at the pinnacle of achievement," said Garrett Oliver, brewmaster of prize-winning Brooklyn Brewery. "That's a mighty nice moment for any brewmaster."

It's been a rapid ride, not without bumps and potholes, that put a fine arts major from San Antonio's Trinity University perched over gleaming brew kettles on South Hulen Street.

The son of a Wise County immunologist and a dermatologist, Fulton knew he wanted to make brewing his career after graduating in May 2003. His parents told him to go for it, later backing him financially when he decided to build his own brewhouse-equipped restaurant in a market late to acquiring a craft-beer culture.

He worked as a brewhouse assistant at Blue Star Brewing, a San Antonio brewpub, then took an intensive brewing course at the Siebel Institute's World Brewing Academy in Chicago.

He followed that with further work at the Doemans Academy in Munich, Germany.

All the while, he worked at conceptualizing the sort of brewing operation he envisioned running one day.

After Germany, he returned to San Antonio and crafted a business plan, then began scouting for a possible location.

Quickly ruled out was an ultracasual brewpub with typical fare of brats and fish and chips.

Fulton said he believed then, and still does, that food is more important than beer to draw enough customers to make the venture viable in Texas. He chose the Bitter End, a now-closed, upscale brewery-restaurant in Austin, as a model.

"You just can't expect to serve beer and make a profit on it," he said.

He eventually chose the South Hulen location, which formerly housed a Fresh Choice salad buffet restaurant.

Fort Worth didn't have a brewpub at the time — one had failed downtown, as had another in the Stockyards, and the closest still fermenting were Humperdink's in Arlington and Big Buck Brewery in Grapevine, two chain-owned operations.

"Food and beer are both important, and people will drive long distances for a good beer," Fulton asserts. And while some might dispute how deep Cowtown's craft-beer culture runs, he notes, "We've got Central Market up the street, and people there are always talking beer."

Various complications, from wiring to plumbing to licensing, delayed the opening. It didn't help that the main contractor hadn't done restaurants — or brewhouses — before.

Equipment ran $500,000, and remaking the restaurant cost $400,000 more. The bulk of the capital was provided by Fulton's father, and the rest, about 15 percent, was bank-financed, he said.

"My father and I are best friends, and he has faith in me," he said. "God bless him."

Aside from typical launch hiccups after The Covey opened in April 2006, there were intermittent staff problems. And there was an early crisis with food preparation.

"If you don't manage the kitchen well, you upset a lot of customers," he said. "And it can be a one-shot deal. If they don't enjoy the meal, they don't come back."

Fourteen months ago, Sean Merchant took over as chef and improved food quality and consistency while introducing some new dishes. The Covey also called in VSAG, Dallas restaurant consultants, who came up with various cost-efficiencies and menu tweakings. Food costs now represent 26 to 31 cents of a menu dollar, down from 40 cents.

"What I've learned is to hire people with experience, lots of experience," he said. "You get what you pay for."

Meanwhile, Fulton has worked with Merchant to create gourmet beer dinners, with each course paired to a different ale or lager. The meals, usually $59.95 and held monthly, have been well-attended, even selling out at times. (Nonbeer drinkers can get wine instead).

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News in brief

U.S. military scores success in Iraq's 'triangle of death'

ISKANDARIYAH, Iraq (AP) — When the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division arrived in Iraq's once infamous "Triangle of Death," violence there and in neighboring Baghdad was so intense that hundreds were dying every day and the country was virtually in a state of civil war.

Now as the division heads home at the end of May, the region stretching south from Baghdad and across central Iraq has become a showcase for what the U.S. military hoped to achieve in Iraq.

"When we first arrived here 15 months ago there was nothing but sectarian violence, al-Qaida, Shiite extremists," the division commander Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch said as he wrapped up a tour of an industrial complex.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and U.S. officials are likely to tout successes like that here during a U.N. conference that begins Thursday in Sweden, aimed at reviewing political and security progress in Iraq. The gathering will also see pressure on Iraqi leaders to make similar movement on political goals, such as reconciliation between the country's Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds.

The U.S. military says violence across Iraq has reached its lowest level in more than four years after successes this year in breaking al-Qaida's and other Sunni insurgents' hold in western Iraq and — more recently — government crackdowns in the southern city of Basra and northern city of Mosul.

Chinese cinema owner says he'll ban Stone movies after her 'bad karma' comment on quake

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sharon Stone's "karma" is having an instant effect on her movie-star status in China.

The 50-year-old actress suggested last week that the devastating May 12 earthquake in China could have been the result of bad karma over the government's treatment of Tibet. That prompted the founder of one of China's biggest cinema chains to say his company would not show her films in his theaters, according to a story in The Hollywood Reporter.

"I'm not happy about the way the Chinese are treating the Tibetans because I don't think anyone should be unkind to anyone else," Stone said Thursday during a Cannes Film Festival red-carpet interview with Hong Kong's Cable Entertainment News. "And then this earthquake and all this stuff happened, and then I thought, is that karma? When you're not nice that the bad things happen to you?"

Ng See-Yuen, founder of the UME Cineplex chain and the chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Filmmakers, called Stone's comments "inappropriate," adding that actors should not bring personal politics to comments about a natural disaster that has left five million Chinese homeless, according to the Reporter.

Suu Kyi begins another year in detention in Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi began a sixth year under detention Wednesday as foreign donors said aid would continue to flow into the military ruled nation to save cyclone victims.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed regret over Suu Kyi's continued arrest while praising "a new spirit of cooperation" between the junta and the international community in the aid effort.

In Washington, President Bush said Tuesday he was "deeply troubled" by the extension of Suu Kyi's house arrest but stressed the U.S. would continue to provide aid to the victims.

Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace laureate who has been detained for more than 12 of the past 18 years, had her detention extended by one year Tuesday, a government official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

On Wednesday, her National League for Democracy party denounced the extension as "illegal," saying it would launch an appeal. Party spokesman Nyan Win said the regime should also open a public hearing on the case.

China works to keep roads open to provide a lifeline to survivors

CHENGDU, China (AP) — China struggled to keep roads open to provide a lifeline for quake survivors, while the government warned Wednesday that rebuilding after the disaster would be "arduous."

The magnitude 7.9 quake that struck May 12 sent dirt and rocks tumbling into valleys, blocking roads to hinder relief efforts and clogging rivers that have developed into fast-rising lakes.

"We are racing against time to repair damaged infrastructure," said Mu Hong, a deputy director at the National Development and Reform Commission, the country's top economic planning body, adding that some roads were only reopened on a temporary basis.

"The high risk of mudslides and landslides makes our efforts more difficult," he said.

Rebuilding infrastructure is just a part of the recovery effort that government officials have said earlier would take three years in hard-hit Sichuan province.

"Due to the immense magnitude of loss that resulted from the quake, production recovery and reconstruction of the quake-hit region will be arduous in the near future," the commission said in a statement.

Democratic lawyers say rules don't allow panel to reseat all delegates

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Democratic Party rules committee has the authority to seat some delegates from Michigan and Florida but not fully restore the two states as Hillary Rodham Clinton wants, according to party lawyers.

Democratic National Committee rules require that the two states lose at least half of their convention delegates for holding elections too early, the party's legal experts wrote in a 38-page memo.

The memo was sent late Tuesday to the 30 members of the party's Rules and Bylaws Committee, which plans to meet Saturday at a Washington hotel.

The committee is considering ways to include the two important general election battlegrounds at the nominating convention in August, and the staff analysis says seating half the delegates is "as far as it legally can" go.

Saturday's meeting is expected to draw a large crowd, with Clinton supporters among those encouraging a protest outside demanding that all the states' delegates be seated. Proponents of full reseating have mailed committee members Florida oranges and pairs of shoes to get their attention.

Bush says Iraq, Afghanistan require same patience as post-World War II Japan and Germany

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — President Bush, linking the wars of his tenure to the deadliest one in history, is asking the country to commit anew to postwar rebuilding.

In an address for Wednesday to more than 1,000 graduates of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Bush frames their futures by drawing back to the World War II generation. He links the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to postwar Germany and Japan six decades ago.

"America has assumed this obligation before," Bush said in prepared remarks.

"After World War II we helped Germany and Japan build free societies and strong economies. These efforts took time and patience, and as a result Germany and Japan grew in freedom and prosperity and are now allies of the United States."

The result, Bush says, was "generations of security and peace."

"Today we must do the same in Afghanistan and Iraq," he says in the prepared comments. "And by helping these young democracies grow in freedom and prosperity we will once again reap the benefits."

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