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(In The Malone Hogan Clinic)
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 246

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County to seek jail construction manager

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners voted to begin the search for a construction manager to oversee the building of a new jail facility Monday morning, as the court prepares to move forward with a multi-million-dollar bond election in November.

Commissioners — with

County Judge Mark Barr making the motion — voted unanimously to advertise for bids from construction managers at risk — as opposed to a general contractor or construction manager agent — within what project architect Jeff Heffelfinger described as “the triangle.”

“We’ll advertise in Big



“We’ll advertise in Big Spring, Midland-Odessa, San Angelo, Lubbock and maybe even Abilene — the whole triangle.”

—Jeff Heffelfinger, project architect

Spring, Midland-Odessa, San Angelo, Lubbock and maybe even Abilene — the whole

Heffelfinger explained to the court. “I’ll be surprised if we get more than three bids back, at which

point the court can interview who they want, or if you don’t see someone you like we can look at going another route.”

Heffelfinger told the court the advantages of utilizing a construction manager at risk outweigh the benefits of using a general contractor.

“The construction manager at risk is basically

an employee of the county,” said Heffelfinger. “You’ve negotiated the fee ahead of time, and it’s their responsibility to be on the job site overseeing the construction pretty much six days a week. They make sure everything is done the way it’s supposed to be done.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A



Local senior Bob Wash discusses the recent closure of the main dance floor at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center with Howard County commissioners Monday morning.

Seniors: Don't stop the dance!

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County senior citizens filled the county commissioner’s courtroom to capacity Monday morning to fight for their right to — dance?

As strange as it may sound, that’s exactly what commissioners faced during their regular meeting, as local senior Bob Wash — joined by a number of other local senior citizens — pleaded with the court to look into the recent cancellation of the Friday night dances at the Spring City Senior



Staulcup

Citizen’s Center. “I have a pacemaker and a defibrillator. I’m wired,” Wash told commissioners. “And with all of the different aerobics and treadmills and everything out there, my doctor said the best exercise for my condition is dancing.”

“My understanding of the situation is there was a problem with the dance

See **DANCE**, Page 3A

Howard College Foundation to host Lecture Series

CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

Judith Viorst, poet and author of books for children, will be the guest lecturer at the Howard College Foundation Lecture Series to be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 20, at the Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus.



Viorst

The lecture, “Parenting Our Children from Newborn to Thirty-Year Old — and Beyond,” is sponsored by the Howard College Foundation and will be free to the public.

It is an opportunity for area residents to enjoy an evening depicting a funny and touching trip through all the stages of parenthood.

Viorst lectures widely on a variety of topics but will be focusing the September lecture on the many aspects of parenting such as the joys, messes,

aggravations, heartbreaks, the breaking away, the passionate pride and the proverbial “Did I do something wrong?” question that we all ask at one time or another.

Viorst is noted for her work in children’s literature as well as poems and literature for adults. One of her most notable

children’s characters is “Alexander” and his many trials of childhood such as “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.” She has authored 17 books for children, eight collections of poems for adults, five

See **LECTURE**, Page 3A

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

Nation bows head to recall 9/11

By **AMY WESTFELDT**

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Relatives of World Trade Center victims bowed their heads in silence at a small park Tuesday to mark the moment exactly six years earlier when the first hijacked plane struck the towers. The dreary, gray skies created a grim backdrop, and a sharp contrast to

the clear blue of that morning in 2001.

“That day we felt isolated, but not for long and not from each other,” Mayor Michael Bloomberg said as the ceremony began. “Six years have passed, and our place is still by your side.”

Construction equipment now fills the vast city block where the World Trade

Center once stood. Work is under way for four new towers forced the ceremony to be moved away from the twin towers’ footprints for the first time.

As people clutched framed photos of their lost loved ones, Kathleen Mullen, whose niece Kathleen Casey died in the attacks, said the park across the street was

close enough.

“Just so long as we continue to do something special every year, so you don’t wake up and say, ‘Oh, it’s 9/11,’” she said.

Presidential politics and the health of ground zero workers loomed over the sixth anniversary of the terrorist

See **9/11**, Page 3A

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B
Tuesday, September 11, 2007

IN BRIEF

Howard College cheer camp set

Howard College is holding a mini-cheer camp Saturday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The camp is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with registration starting at 8 a.m. Cost is \$25.

Campers need to bring a lunch, water bottle and tennis shoes and will get a chance to meet the Howard College cheerleaders.

All registered participants will perform in the Battle of the Cheerleaders at 5:30 p.m.

Howard College schedules Battle of the Cheerleaders

Howard College is the place to be Saturday.

The Battle of the Cheerleaders will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

All area high schools have been invited to compete.

There will be both cheer and dance competitions.

Top cheer, dance and mascot awards will be presented.

Admission is free for the public, who is invited to stick around after the Battle for a community pep rally.

All area schools and communities are invited to participate. Each school will be given the opportunity to recognize their student athletes.

Area high school sports calendar

Here's a look at this week's area high school varsity sports calendar:

TODAY

Big Spring volleyball vs. Lubbock Coronado, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring tennis at Midland High, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY

Big Spring football vs. Hereford, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football vs. Forsan, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football vs. Ballinger, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Garden City football vs. Midland Trinity, 7:30 p.m.

Grady football at New Home, 7:30 p.m.

Sands football at Westbrook, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Big Spring volleyball vs. Lubbock High in Greenwood, TBA.

Big Spring cross country at W.T. Micro-Graphics meet in Lubbock.

Big Spring tennis vs. Plainview, 10 a.m.

TUESDAY

Big Spring volleyball vs. Plainview, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring tennis at Sweetwater, 4 p.m.

QB Club meeting set for Monday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its weekly meeting at 7 p.m. today at the Athletic Training Center.

Contact Denise Carillo at 816-1685 or Frank Stiles at 270-3041 for more details.

Rangers sweep A's; win fifth straight

By DAVID JIMENEZ

Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON — Sammy Sosa has mostly watched his Texas teammates run off a hot streak the past two weeks.

On Sunday, the slugger made the most of his chance to contribute to it.

Sosa hit a three-run homer to cap an eight-run second inning, then drove in another run as the Rangers held off the Oakland Athletics 12-9 to complete a three-game sweep.

Sosa's 607th career homer and 19th of the season came on the

second pitch he saw from Oakland reliever Colby Lewis. The shot, estimated at 442 feet, landed in the second deck above a left field scoreboard.

Sosa had only one at-bat and no starts in September coming into the game. The Rangers have won five straight and 12 of 14 to move into a tie for third place with the A's in the AL West.

Texas had been in last place since April 25.

"We just want to take care of business," said Sosa, who has lost playing time in favor of youngsters Jason Botts and Nelson Cruz. "We got a good

chemistry here around the clubhouse. We need to stay focused."

Bill White (1-0) allowed a run in two innings of relief to earn his first career win in a game that ended more than five hours after it started and included two rain delays.

By the time Joaquin Benoit struck out Jack Cust for the final out, most of the announced crowd of 25,054 had already left.

"It was a long, strange game," Sosa said. "But we still wanted to go out there and play good."

Nick Swisher had two homers, his second a solo shot that got Oakland within 12-9 in the ninth,

as the slumping A's lost for the 11th time in 15 games.

The A's were eight games over .500 in mid-June. But they slipped to six games under on Sunday and are in danger of having their first losing season since 1998.

"This has been a tough series," Oakland manager Bob Geren said. "(Texas) is playing really well right now."

After Sosa's RBI single made it 9-3 in the sixth, the A's scored five times in the seventh. Kevin Thompson and Jack Hannahan

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

Lady Steers hope to start season turnaround tonight



Big Spring's Callie Partee jump serves to Andrews during a match Saturday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The Lady Steers play Lubbock Coronado's Mustangs today at Big Spring Junior High. The freshman and junior varsity teams will also be in action starting at 6 p.m.

Herald photo/Jonathan Hull

49ers rally to beat Cardinals

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Alex Smith acknowledged he couldn't have played much worse in the first 57 minutes of the San Francisco 49ers' opener, which made his final three minutes even more stunning.

Yet no matter the year or the coaching staff, there's nothing surprising about another gut-wrenching loss for the Arizona Cardinals.

Arnaz Battle scored on a 1-yard end-around with 22 seconds to play, and the 49ers erased an inept offensive performance with an 86-yard scoring drive to cap a 20-17 victory over the Cardinals in the NFL's final opener Monday night.

Smith knew he looked terrible until leading that near-flawless march on chilly Bill Walsh Field for the 49ers, who beat the Cardinals for the first time in five tries during coach Mike Nolan's tenure.

"The win is the most important thing, ugly or not," Smith said. "I think we (showed) character to really hang in there and know we were going to get it done."

Smith finished 15-of-31 for 126 yards — 60 on the final drive. The third-year quarterback also made a key 25-yard

See **NFL**, Page 2B

Where's the D? Cowboys defense struggles in opener

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Asked what stuck out in his mind the day after the season opener, Dallas Cowboys cornerback Anthony Henry didn't talk about winning the game.

"We gave up a lot of yards. Teams are going to look at that," Henry said Monday. "It was a bittersweet win. If we don't get in and correct those things, then it's going to be a problem for us throughout the season."

While a 45-35 victory over the New York Giants showed the potential of the Tony Romo-led offense with new coordinator Jason Garrett's aggressive play calling, the opener Sunday night raised concerns about what is supposed to be a much better defense under Wade Phillips.

The Cowboys gave up 438 yards and several big plays, including a 60-yard touchdown pass on the third snap of the game. Then Eli Manning had two more TD passes in a three-minute span in the fourth quarter that cut the Giants' 16-point deficit to a field goal.

"I was really surprised because a lot of those plays were maybe blown coverages or somebody not getting pressure, probably me not getting pressure, on a couple of plays," linebacker DeMarcus Ware said. "I think that will be corrected this week." The flaws were already sup-

posed to be fixed under Phillips, the renowned defensive coordinator who replaced the retired Bill Parcells last winter and brought a more aggressive 3-4 scheme.

"Fortunately, we won the game. It's easy to fix everything when you win," defensive end Chris Canty said.

"I'm an offensive coach now," Phillips joked Monday. "I'm encouraged by the 45 points and I'm discouraged by the 35. ... We made too many mental mistakes, assignment mistakes. We're not a big-play, give-up defense."

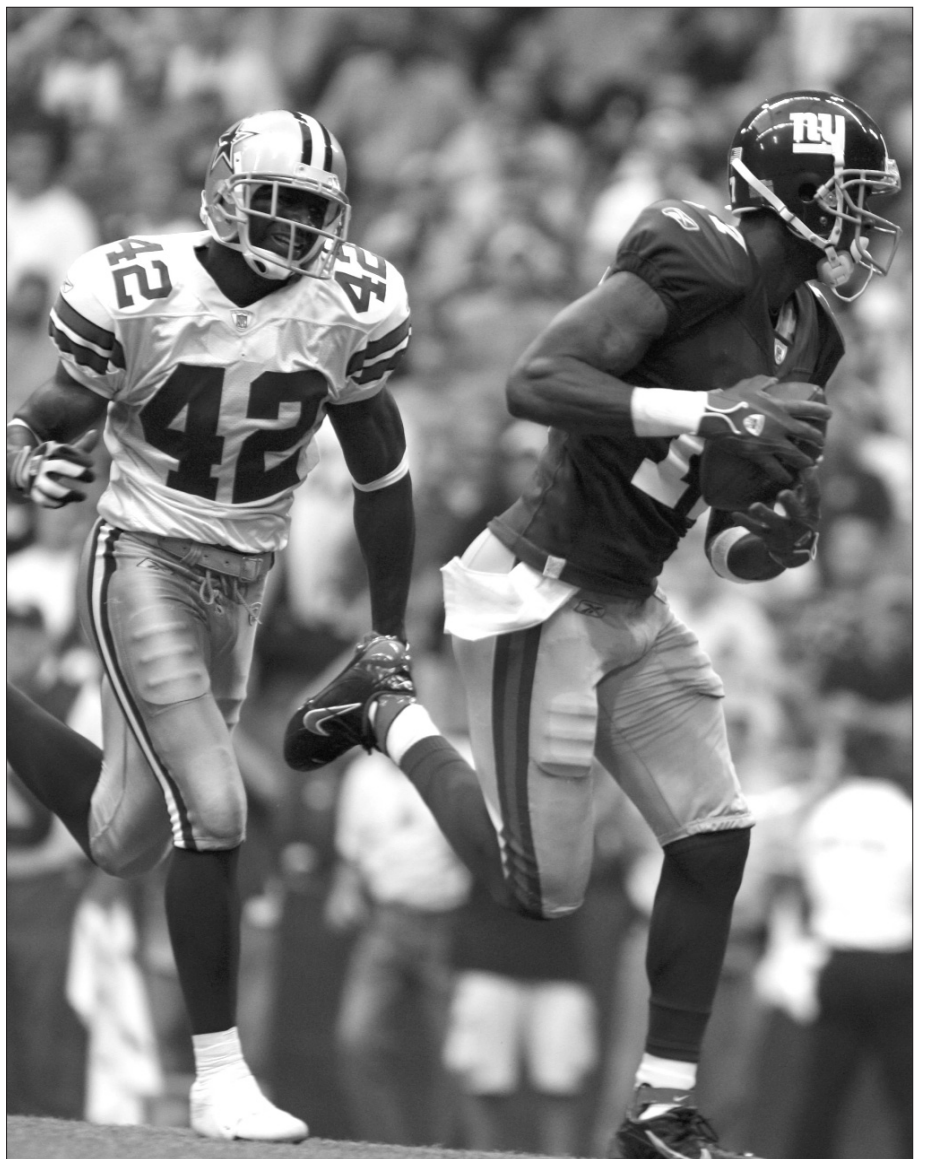
But the opener eerily resembled the end of last season when the Cowboys blew a chance to win their first NFC East title since 1998 by losing three of their last four games. They allowed 34 points and 394 yards a game in that closing stretch.

"Oh yeah, I thought we were past it," Ware said.

"It's a different scheme. Everybody is in a whole new situation. Everybody is still learning something new," Henry said. "It's going to take time, but we don't have time. You just have to take it at full speed."

The unit also took a big hit when nose tackle Jason Ferguson tore his right biceps in the first quarter of the opener and is done for the season. In his 11th NFL season, the 6-foot-3, 312-pound Ferguson was the team's

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B



Giants wide receiver Plaxico Burress (17) outraces Dallas defender Anthony Henry (42) to the end zone on a 60-yard pass play on the Giant's first possession as they faced the Dallas Cowboys Sunday in Irving on Sunday.

MCT photo/Ron T. Ennis/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Obituaries

Gordon 'Moe' Madison



Gordon "Moe" Madison, 77, of Granbury, a native of Big Spring, passed away Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007, in Granbury. Funeral services are set for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2007, at Granbury First Baptist Church. Burial will be in Holly Hills Memorial Park in Granbury. Visitation is set for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Wiley Funeral Home.

Mr. Madison was born June 19, 1930, in Big Spring to Carl and Jewell Gordon Madison. He married Kylene Perkins on Aug. 7, 1956, in Odessa. He was a counselor, coach and administrator for the Ector County Independent School District in Odessa. He retired and moved to Granbury in 1991. Mr. Madison was a deacon of the First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Carla Hatch.

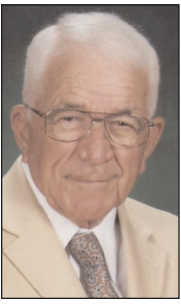
Survivors include his wife, Kylene Madison of Granbury; sons, Mike Madison and wife, Jean, of Hurst and Mitch Madison and fiancée, Jogina Malone, of Keller; daughters, Mindi Wilson and husband, Don, of Plano and Kim Lamphere and husband, Scott, of Marietta, Ga.; grandchildren, Chris Madison, Katie Madison, Kelsey Madison, Hayden Madison, Jordan Madison, Waide Wilson, Taylor Wilson, Lindsay Lamphere and Madison Lamphere; a brother, Dick Madison and wife, Carolyn, of Richardson; three nephews; and a niece.

The family suggest memorials be mad to Pecan Plantation EMS or the First Baptist Church of Granbury Building Fund.

Wiley Funeral Home has charge of arrangements.

Paid obituary

Granville James Hahn



Granville Hahn, 76, of Burnet died Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007. Memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007, at the Interdenominational Worship Center in Georgetown with Al Cummings officiating.

Born Feb. 7, 1931 in Tyler, Granville was the son of Arthur and Agnes (Wilkerson) Hahn.

Granville was employed by Cosden Oil and Chemical Co., later purchased by Petrofina of SA and Belgium of Big Spring in 1950. He worked in research and development and was promoted to senior management positions. This resulted in global travel, plant design changes and general consulting for licenses. Granville retired in 1992 as president and general manager of Permian Research Corporation. He was listed as either an inventor or co-inventor on 34 U.S. Patents, most of which are world wide, all assigned to Fina or Wagner-Brown. He served two terms as president of the Big Spring's Industrial Foundation. He was named Industrial Developer of the Year for the state of Texas in 1980. Granville also served as president of the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce from 1985-1986. He was appointed to the Society of Plastic Engineers and served two terms as the president of the Society of Plastic Industry of the state of Texas. Two of his published articles included "Single Screw-vented Extruder Design" SPE 1967 and "Production of Polystyrene Modern Plastics."

Of his many accomplishments, he was the proudest of his and Marie's wonderful children and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Marie of Burnet and Georgetown; son and daughter-in-law, Greg and Lisa Hahn of Santa Fe, Texas; brothers Wendell Hahn and wife, Vinnie, of Tyler, Fred Altom of Odessa and Jerry Altom and wife, Cheryl, of Granbury; and sisters Iris Peebles of Lubbock, Doris Haynes and husband, Dwayne, of Oklahoma City, Betty Scarborough of Oklahoma City and Linda Glenn and husband, John, of Lubbock. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Daniel Hahn, Adam Hahn, Haley Pannier and Beth Hahn.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Randall Hahn.

Arrangements are under the direction of Clements-Wilcox Funeral Home of Marble Falls.

Paid obituary

Billy Ray 'Hoss' Jones

Billy Ray "Hoss" Jones, 77, of Dallas, a former resident of Knott, died Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2007, in Dallas. Funeral services were held Friday, Sept. 7, 2007, in the Laurel Oaks Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was made in Laurel Oaks Memorial Park in Mesquite.

Mr. Jones was born Aug. 22, 1930, in Big Spring to Clarence and Pearl Jones. He attended school in Knott and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After returning home from the service, he helped build the Big Spring VA Hospital and then moved to Dallas to continue his bricklaying career.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, C.O. Jones Jr., Donald Larry "Buck" Jones and Johnny Jones.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Joyce Jones; two daughters, Deborah Ann Gurney and Tina Denise Banda; three sisters, Geneva Howell of Big Spring, Melba Cody of Midland and Doris Monteaux of Dallas; his mother-in-law, Elena Chapman; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Sherry Jackson Jones

Sherry Jackson Jones, 52, of Big Spring, died Monday, Sept. 10, 2007, in a Midland hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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Police blotter

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

- **EUGENE FRANCO**, 18, of 1200 Grafa, was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft.
- **STEPHANIE M. LOPEZ**, 18, of 1200 Grafa, was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft.
- **MARCUS HATTENBACH**, 35, of 1806 E. 15th Street, was arrested Sunday on a local warrant and charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest.
- **WESLEY JAMES SHOUP**, 39, of 1301 Colby, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LAZMINDA L. VILLAREAL**, 31, of 1602 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on charges of driving while license suspended, no insurance and displaying an expired motor vehicle registration.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 900 block of Willia.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of Sixth Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
 - in the 2500 block of Barksdale.
 - in the 1400 block of Wood.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.
- **TRAVIS ALLEN MELTON III**, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.
 - **JOHNNY BARRAZA**, 39, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
 - **MARCUS LANCE HATTENBACH**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence and resisting arrest, search or transportation.
 - **JULIE ANN MINCE**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
 - **STEPHANIE MICHELLE LOPEZ**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
 - **ADRIANNA MARIE VALENCIA**, 18, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of hindering apprehension/prosecution.
 - **LEVI PATRICK CARTER V**, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of failure to appear - violation of probation/possession of marijuana.
 - **EUGENE GILBERT FRANCO**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
 - **CHESTER MCKINNEY**, 37, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and bondsman off bond for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Edwards. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of N. Highway 87. Service refused.

Take Note

• **A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED** for David English of Snyder, who was recently injured on the job in Big Spring and is in critical condition at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. Donations can be made at American State Bank, 1411, S. Gregg St., Big Spring.

• **A CHLIDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASS** will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 15, at the OB Classroom at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The instructor will be Laurie Burks, RN. Snacks and lunch will be provided. To register, call (432) 268-4550.

• **MARANATHA BAPTIST ACADEMY** still has openings in kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information, call 263-7696 or come by 903 Johnson St.

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

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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
 • The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY
 • Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
 • Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
 • Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
 • Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
 • Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
 • 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, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
 • Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
 • Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
 • 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.
 • American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
 • The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.
 • Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY
 • Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
 • AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
 • Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.
 Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
 Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 60. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
 Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds around 10 mph.
 Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s.
 Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.
 Friday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.
 Saturday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s.
 Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s.
 Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.
 Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.
 Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 3-14-18-20. Bonus Ball: 10.
 Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
 Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$850,000.

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery: 2-13-14-30-36

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-6-9

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Junior high wrapup: 8th and 7th grade football teams sweep Snyder

Herald Staff Report

All four Big Spring Junior High football teams found victory in their season opening games against Snyder's Tigers Saturday, outscoring the Tigers by a combined score of 102-8.

Big Spring 8th grade A 20, Snyder 0

Big Spring 8th grade B 32, Snyder 0

The B team recorded a dominating shutout of the Tigers with Offensive Most Valuable Player Andrew Yanez and Defensive MVP Will Currie leading the way.

Sergio Torres was named

Offensive MVP and Lee Garcia was given Defensive MVP honors as the A team gave an encore performance of what the B team had accomplished.

Big Spring 7th grade A 24, Snyder 8

Big Spring 7th grade B 26, Snyder 0

The seventh graders also made a clean sweep of the Tigers Saturday, with the B team opening with another shutout. Ranson Parks was named Offensive MVP and Gunner Kennedy received Defensive MVP honors.

The A team followed up with

a solid performance led by Offensive MVP Jerrod Doporto and Defensive MVP Diamond Bailey.

All four junior high teams will be back in action Thursday against Sweetwater's Mustangs. The eight grade will play its games at Memorial Stadium while the seventh grade will take Blankenship Field. Games start at 4 p.m.

Big Spring Junior High Volleyball Tournament

The Big Spring Junior High hosted an A team volleyball tournament this weekend.

The eighth graders lost their first match to San Angelo Lee

11-25 and 16-25.

After dropping the first match to Snyder, 20-25, they were able to come back and win the next two 25-19 and 15-10. However, the Steers dropped the consolation game to San Angelo Glenn 10-25 and 23-25.

Playing well for the tournament was hitter/setter Cerbi Ritchey. She had numerous kills and set the ball up well to her teammates. Morgan Slaughter played a good game at the net and Mai Gomez played well defensively.

LaShaunte Anderson did a good job on the back row. Top servers for the day were Cassie Boehringer and Bridgett Tuitt.

The girls showed much improvement throughout the day and their hustle should be praised.

The seventh graders opened up the morning play with a loss to San Angelo Lee by the score of 25-15, 22-25, 16-14.

They came back and defeated Greenwood 25-14 and 25-15.

They also lost the consolation game to San Angelo Glenn.

Playing great defense during the tournament were Logan Yarbar, Belinda Gonzales and Paige Knowlton.

Carson Reibe and Yarbar played a good game at the net and were top servers at the tournament.

NFL

Continued from Page 1B

scramble on fourth-and-1, and Battle hauled in a gutsy catch at the 1 before running it in for the decisive score.

"Offensively, we saved our best for last, which is the best thing I can say for us," Nolan said.

Both teams' high-priced offenses floundered amid the swirling winds in the first game since the field was renamed in Walsh's honor — but the Cardinals' slip was particularly cruel, even by Arizona standards.

Anquan Boldin caught a 5-yard touchdown pass from Matt Leinart with 6:40 to play for the Cardinals, who kept the 49ers out of the end zone for 55 straight minutes between Frank Gore's early score and Battle's final TD.

"The defense held up the whole game until that last drive," cornerback Eric Green said. "You can play great the whole way, but if you mess up one play, it's like you didn't play well at all."

Arizona's defense finally bent at the end, handing new coach Ken Whisenhunt a typically crushing Cardinals loss in his debut. He's the ninth straight coach to lose his first game with the Cards.

A look at the stat sheet will hurt: Arizona held the 49ers to 194 total yards, just 30 in the second half — until that final drive.

"We had a chance at the

end," Whisenhunt said. "We hung in there, we fought, but we just didn't get it done. Just a disappointing loss for our football team."

Edgerrin James rushed for 92 yards and a score, and Leinart was 14-of-28 for 102 yards with two interceptions in the meeting between two long-struggling NFC West clubs with cautiously high hopes for the season.

"I'm very disappointed in myself, the way I played as the leader of this football team," Leinart said. "It starts with me getting the ball to the right guy and making the plays. I didn't do that. That falls on me. We're not going to win football games if I play like that at quarterback."

After Leinart hit Boldin to cap the Cardinals' go-ahead drive, San Francisco finally got something going two series later.

After Darrell Jackson let a 45-yard pass go through his hands in the end zone with 1:37 left, Smith scrambled to the Arizona 20 on the Niners' longest play of the game. Battle then caught a pass near the goal line with about 30 seconds left, but safety Terrence Holt knocked it out of his hands as he stretched for a touchdown.

The ball dribbled into the end zone, where Green misplayed it and Jackson recovered. Because only the fumbler can recover for his team if the ball goes forward in the final two minutes, it was placed at the 1.

Battle, who promised a

steak dinner to Jackson for recovering the fumble, scored on the next play.

Whisenhunt remained mystified by the rulings around Battle's catch at the 1.

"I asked them, and they said they thought it was a catch," Whisenhunt said. "I went to the official and asked him, are they going to review it? He said they came back and said it was a catch. I didn't see it. I saw it on the screen. The only thing I saw was the ball coming out."

Shawntae Spencer intercepted Leinart's final pass with 8 seconds left.

Gore rushed for 55 yards and an early score after sitting out the entire preseason to heal his broken right hand.

Even while wearing their cherry-red throwback uniforms, the San Francisco offense struggled without a big game from its catalyst.

"They came at us with a tough defensive scheme, but somehow we were able to put together that last drive," Gore said. "I feel we can move the ball against anyone."

Both quarterbacks made turnovers that led to touchdowns in a defense-dominated first half.

Leinart's first pass of the night was easily intercepted by Pro Bowl cornerback Walt Harris, and Gore scored on a 6-yard run just 3 1/2 minutes in. But Smith fumbled midway through the second quarter when linebacker Karlos Dansby easily eluded Gore's block for a sack. James capped the short drive with a 7-yard scoring run.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

had RBI singles before Mark Ellis' 3-run double. Wes Littleton then retired Dan Johnson on a grounder to protect the lead.

Jerry Hairston drove in three runs and gave the Rangers an 11-8 cushion with a two-run single in the seventh. Michael Young followed with another run-scoring single.

Oakland starter Lenny DiNardo (8-9) allowed seven runs — only three of which were earned — in 1 2-3 innings to fall to 0-3 in his last four starts. He was relieved by Lewis just before Sosa's homer.

The start of the game was delayed 16 minutes by rain. The teams got through the first inning before another storm blew through that trig-

gered a one-hour, 13-minute delay.

Texas starter Kevin Millwood, who pitched a perfect first inning, gave up a one-out single in the second to Mark Ellis before the rain came. After the second delay, Frank Francisco relieved Millwood.

Along with the poor weather, there was also sloppy play on the field. Francisco and reliever Scott Feldman combined to walk eight batters in 2 2-3 innings, and the Rangers committed three errors — two of which came during Oakland's big seventh inning.

The A's couldn't capitalize, leaving the bases loaded in the second, third and fourth innings.

There were 425 pitches in the game.

"It was just a weird game and a weird day all around," Texas second baseman Ian Kinsler said.

"I've never seen anything like it and I probably never will."

Jeff DaVannon's bases-loaded walk gave the A's a 1-0 lead, but Texas greeted DiNardo with four straight singles, including RBI hits from Botts and Cruz.

DiNardo recorded two outs before things unraveled.

He walked Kinsler and Hairston to force in another run, and shortstop Donnie Murphy threw wildly to first on a routine grounder to bring in two more runs.

Lewis then became the 368th pitcher Sosa has homered off in his career.

"He's like an RBI machine," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "He smells them and picks them up."

Swisher had a sacrifice fly in the third and homered in the sixth.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

most experience defender.

Jay Ratliff, a third-year player from Auburn, had three tackles and the Cowboys' only sack after taking over for Ferguson. Ratliff probably will get his first NFL start Sunday at Miami.

After announcing that Ferguson was out, Phillips said the team was closer to getting cornerback Terence Newman and outside linebacker Greg Ellis back on the field. Both could practice this week.

"Maybe we'll get two

guys back after losing one," Phillips said.

Newman has been sidelined since after the first preseason game because of a slight tear in the tissue in the base of his right foot that could be a lingering problem. Ellis has been rehabilitating from a torn left Achilles' tendon sustained last season.

Jacques Reeves, who started in Newman's place, had the only interception against Manning. His pick in the second quarter came right after the Cowboys had gone ahead 10-6, and set up another touchdown.

While the defensive performance wasn't what Phillips envisioned for his debut, Romo and Co. rolled up 478 yards and the Cowboys got an opening victory — and a one-game jump in the NFC

East.

"There are going to be games where we're going to try to win 10-7 and you guys will be getting on the offense too," said Romo, who threw four TDs and ran for another. "At the end of the year, we'll look back and say this was a big win."

Notes: Phillips gave out five game balls — to Reeves, Romo, tight end Jason Witten, center Andre Gurode and Terrell Owens, who was shut out in the first half but then had two TDs in his three catches after that. "He came in at halftime, he had as good an attitude as any of the rest of our players," Phillips said. "In fact, he was urging everybody on." ... Phillips also got a game ball from his first Cowboys victory, given to him by owner Jerry Jones.

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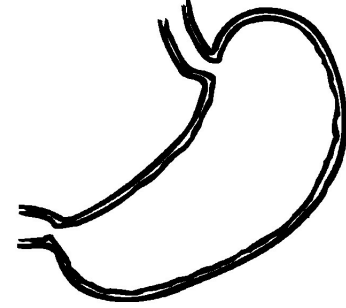
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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

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Contract Bridge
By Steve Becker
A Case of Finesitis

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ AK 3
♥ 10 9 6
♦ 8 4
♣ AJ 9 7 3

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

EAST
♠ Q 10 7 5
♥ 8 2
♦ K 9 6 5 3
♣ K 2

SOUTH
♠ 9 6 2
♥ A Q J 7 4
♦ A 7
♣ Q 10 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass
3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

The finesse is undoubtedly one of the most formidable weapons in declarer's bag of tricks, and many thousands of contracts are made every day thanks to a successful finesse. However, it is also true that many other hands go down because declarer took a finesse that should not have been taken.

Consider this case where South failed to make four hearts. He won the diamond lead with the ace, crossed to dummy with a spade, led the ten of hearts and finessed after

East followed low. West took his king, cashed the diamond jack and returned a spade.

After winning the spade, South drew trumps, ending in his hand. He then led the club queen and let it ride, but East won with the king and cashed his queen of spades for down one.

Granting that declarer was unlucky to find both the king of hearts and king of clubs offside, the fact remains that he was guilty of finesitis. Neither finesse was needed to make the contract, but one of them was clearly responsible for doing him in.

After winning the diamond lead, South should play the ace and a low heart, willingly conceding a trick to the king. West can win, cash a diamond and shift to a spade, but declarer is now in the driver's seat. He takes the spade, draws trumps and tries the club finesse. Although the finesse loses, South wins any return and discards his spade loser on one of dummy's clubs.

By leading a spade to dummy at trick two in order to try the nonessential heart finesse, South gave the defenders an opening they could exploit, and they took full advantage of it. West was able to establish a spade trick for his side before declarer could develop his clubs, and a virtually certain contract went down the drain.

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COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

"The construction manager we choose needs to know this book better than anyone," he said, pointing to a folder containing state guidelines for jail construction. "We want to look at how many county jails they have built and how they have been to work with. And building prisons doesn't equate to building jails, because the guidelines are very, very different."

The project — estimated at \$11.57 million — will have to get the nod from Howard County voters before the first spade can be turned, however.

The commissioner's court placed a similar bond election on the November 2006 ballot, asking voters to approve a bond for slightly more than \$10 million to finance a 144-bed jail, which was voted down by more than 60 percent. According to Saundra Bloom, elections administrator for Howard County, 2,618 votes were cast in favor of the 2006 bond, while 3,949 ballots were cast against it.

Commissioner Bill Crooker said it will be vital for the commissioner's court to educate the public on the bond issue.

"We've talked with our bond attorney on this matter," said Crooker. "A year ago, we spent between \$2,500 and \$3,000 on brochures that contained the

facts on the bond issue, and I think we're going to have to look at doing the same thing this time around."

Heffelfinger pledged the support of himself and his staff for materials to be added to the brochure, and according to Barr, several other officials have agreed to field questions for local voters prior to the election.

"I spoke to Carl Griffith (jail consultant), and they are consulting with their media experts on the matter," said Barr. "Also, Adam Munoz (executive director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards) has agreed to come and answer questions at a town hall meeting if we need him in person." Heffelfinger told commission-

ers he and his team of designers are working on drawings and floor plans that will give voters a better idea of the scope of the project, and encouraged the court to begin putting together a construction schedule.

"It's not too early to begin thinking of a schedule," he said.

Barr agreed, saying the court would have its hands full in the coming months.

"I think it's safe to say we have a full slate in front of us," said Barr. "I think what we're going to have to do is just lay the facts on them (voters)."

The existing county jail was shut down by the Commission on Jail Standards in November 2006, after the facility's smoke

evacuation system failed to meet requirements during a pair of tests in 2006.

Officials with TCJS have told county commissioners if the court doesn't pass the bond — or find another avenue of financing a new jail facility — the existing jail will once again be shut down, forcing the county to house inmates in other counties.

The cost of the last closure, which lasted approximately six months, has been estimated at close to \$1 million.

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

DANCE

Continued from Page 1A

floor at the Senior Center, and that's why the dances that have been held on Friday nights for years and years have been canceled up until this point. The floor has been repaired — all except one spot — and now we're being told it will have to wait because the tar under the wood may contain asbestos."

Wash said the cancellation of the weekly dances isn't just an inconvenience for local seniors, but also a loss to the city because of the number of out-of-town dancers the event draws.

"You have people coming from Midland, Odessa and other surrounding cities," said Wash. "I haven't been able to get a straight answer out of the senior center's board of directors on who makes the deci-

sions, and that's why I'm here today."

According to Joann Staulcup, who serves on the board of directors, repairing — or most likely replacing — the dance floor is being considered by the group, but state law requires they meet certain environmental guidelines before simply ripping up the existing floor.

"We went through this with the state a few years ago when we went in and made renovations to the building," Staulcup told the court. "We have to have the floor tested for asbestos before we can go ahead with any plans. It's been popping up everywhere, and it seems like the only real solution is going to be to replace it. But we may have to have it abated first, so that's what we're waiting on right now."

In the meantime, according to Staulcup, dances will resume

this week and will be held in one of the center's back rooms.

Wash said holding the dances in the back area of the facility is certainly no long-term solution.

"How would you feel if you had a party, and you had to have it in two separate rooms?" Wash told commissioners. "There's nowhere for the tables for people to sit at in the room we're being asked to use. If we could just take one wall out, we could open that entire area up and it would be just fine."

Staulcup said knocking down a wall at the center isn't as simple as taking a sledgehammer to the structure.

"The building belongs to the city," said Staulcup. "And even if we had permission from them, we would still have to have someone come in and test the wall for asbestos before we could knock it down."

In addition to complaints concerning the closure of the center's main dance floor, Wash and other seniors complained about what they described as the center's board of directors failure to allow them a voice in their meetings.

"We were not allowed to speak at the board's meeting," Wash told commissioners. "We were told we couldn't be allowed to address the board because we weren't on the agenda. However, by the time the agenda comes out, there's no way for us to get on it."

Staulcup said the reason the area seniors were not allowed to speak at the meeting is because the issue they wanted to address — the use of the main dance floor — wasn't on the meeting agenda.

Barr confirmed Staulcup's reasoning concerning the agenda, but said it should not stop

the citizens from being able to address the board.

"If what you're wanting to talk about isn't on the meeting agenda, then the board cannot address the matter," said Barr. "However, they can hear your concerns. They can listen, but they can't take part in a discussion on the matter."

Staulcup said tests for asbestos in the main dance floor's adhesive should take place by the end of the week.

Funding for repairs to the floor — or possible replacement — are expected to come from donations from seniors who use the facility, according to officials.

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

LECTURE

Continued from Page 1A

non-fiction books and a column in Redbook magazine for more than 25 years.

"Ms. Viorst is one of my favorite authors," said Linda Conway, professor of English at Howard College. "She is well accomplished in her field and will certainly be an

inspiration for all who hear her speak."

To add another special aspect to this lecture, music from the Dr. Malone collection will be played before and after the lecture to highlight the special record collection which was donated to Howard College.

"We have such a treasure in Dr. Malone's record collection and we want to be able to share it with the public as often as

possible," said Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Howard College president.

A reception and book signing will follow the lecture and several of Ms. Viorst's books will be available for purchase as well.

Howard College Foundation serves as the host for the lecture series that is a new addition to the programs being offered to the public through the new Hall

Center for the Arts on the campus of Howard College.

"The Foundation has been wonderful in their support of the lecture series which is one way we are bringing different types of culture to the community," added Conway. "As we bring new lectures in, we hope to develop 'Friends of the Series' to allow more businesses and individuals the opportunity to

sponsor an event."

Although a ticket is required for admittance, the lecture is free of charge to the public. The evening will begin at 7 p.m. in the Granville T.

Hall Auditorium at Hall Center for the Arts with a reception following.

For more information or to obtain free tickets, call 432-264-5161.

9/11

Continued from Page 1A

attacks this year, perhaps more than any other Sept. 11.

The firefighters and first responders who helped rescue thousands that day in 2001 and later recovered the dead were to read the victims' names for the first time. Many of those rescuers are now ill with respiratory problems and cancers themselves, and they blame the illnesses on exposure to the fallen towers' toxic dust.

Also for the first time, the name of a victim who survived that towers' collapse but died five months later of lung disease blamed on the dust she inhaled was added to the official roll.

Felicia Dunn-Jones, an attorney, was working a block from the World Trade Center. She became the 2,974th victim linked to the four attack sites where hijacked airliners hit the two towers, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pa., where federal investigators say the passengers of United Airlines Flight 93 fought the hijackers on the rallying cry "Let's roll!"

A memorial honoring Flight 93's 40 passengers and crew was to begin at 9:45 a.m., shortly before the time the airliner nose-dived into the empty field.

"The ceremony will be

brief but solemn," said Kevin Newlin, an official with the National Park Service. Bells will toll, and the names of the passengers and crew will be read at the site of a temporary memorial at the crash site.

In Boston, where two of the hijacked airplanes took off that morning, church bells rang to the tunes of Amazing Grace and America the Beautiful on Tuesday.

In New York, drums and bagpipes played as an American flag saved from the collapse was carried toward a stage. Firefighters were to share the stage with former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who many victims' families and firefighters said should not speak because he is running for president. Giuliani has made his performance in the months after the 2001 terrorist attacks the cornerstone of his campaign, but he has said his appearance wasn't intended to be political.

"I was there when it happened and I've been there every year since then. If I didn't, it would be extremely unusual. As a personal matter, I wouldn't be able to live with myself," Giuliani

said late last week.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, seeking the Democratic Party presidential nomination, also planned to attend the ceremonies at ground zero.

President Bush, with the first lady at his side, held a moment of silence on the South Lawn of the White House.

At the Pentagon, Gen. Peter Pace, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke at the wall where the plane crashed and told the victims' families that their loved ones will be remembered.

"I do not know the proper words to tell you what's in my heart, what is in our hearts, what your fellow citizens are thinking today. We certainly hope that somehow these observances will help lessen your pain," he said.

Pace also spoke of the military, calling the anniversary "a day of recommitment." At the main U.S. base at Afghanistan, a memorial ceremony was also planned.

National intelligence director Mike McConnell said Tuesday that U.S. authorities remain vigilant and concerned about "sleepers cells" of would-

be terrorists inside the United States.

"We're safer but we're not safe," McConnell said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

We must make sure of our aim in war on terror

Now it's been six years. The anger, shock and disbelief have subsided with time. And, to some extent, so has resolve. We as Americans survived the best terrorists could muster six years ago and started battling back.

We call today Patriots Day and honor those whose lives were forever changed on Sept. 11, 2001.

While there are still plenty of questions that we may never have answers to, as a nation we've been able to rebound from the shock of that day and are now engaged in a war on terror against those avowed to deprive us of our way of life.

There's no longer a shred of doubt in anyone's mind that Osama bin Laden and his fanatical following were responsible for the hijacking attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon six years ago today.

But what has become even more evident in the past few years of this war on terrorism in which we are now engaged is that it is unlike any war the United States has ever waged — one that sadly we've all gotten used to.

A year ago we lamented in this space that it seems in some very serious ways we've gotten off track. That has not changed.

America is still mired in what seems an unending mess in Iraq — a war that has now taken as many U.S. military lives as the total number of souls lost in the Sept. 11 attacks.

News from Afghanistan still indicates that the Taliban has regrouped there and become stronger. As a result, we've had to increase our efforts in that arena.

And bin Laden? U.S. intelligence sources haven't had a good lead on his whereabouts in years, and new “Osama videos” have been released that seem to taunt America.

The real problem, is that the “war on terror” has become a political football and becomes more so with each passing day.

We still believe the real problem in our nation's war on terror deals with the fact that we ever thought the way to deal with Islamic terrorists was using our military might.

You simply don't win the hearts and minds of anyone by killing people. Instead, you develop fear and hatred, and in the process, create a vicious cycle.

As we have noted before on this date, perhaps we need to remember this war is a test of faith.

Will the truths our forefathers termed “self-evident” outlast religious fanaticism?

We still believe they will.

But we need to remember that our forefathers pointed to those self-evident truths in explaining their reason for rebelling against a nation trying to impose its political will on its American colonies.

And, more importantly, we need to remember that fanaticism is the enemy.

Those fanatics wanting to destroy the freedoms Americans have fought and died for during the past 231 years still need to understand that we can be ruthless and will continue to be when necessary.

But we need to make sure our wrath is visited on those who attack us.

Otherwise, we cheapen the loss of those who not only lost their lives on Sept. 11, but those who've died in our defense during the past six years.

We should remember and honor all of them.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

• Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

• Sign your letter.

• Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

• We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*When we walk with You, Lord, we can get more R and R.
Amen*

We should have stayed in Vietnam?

The generally accepted definition of the Yiddish word “chutzpah” (pronounced as though you're clearing your throat) is the quality exhibited by a man who murders his father and mother, then asks for clemency because he's an orphan. In other words, brazen arrogance.

President George W. Bush, however, is threatening to supplant that self-made orphan in the Yiddish lexicon.

The other day he said that we couldn't pull out of Iraq because it would result in a bloodbath and political catastrophe, *just like our pulling out of Vietnam did!*

Speaking to the national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, always a receptive audience for saber-rattling presidents, he said:

“One unmistakable legacy of Vietnam is that the price of America's withdrawal was paid by millions of innocent citizens whose agonies would add to our vocabulary new terms like ‘boat people,’ ‘reeducation camps’ and ‘killing fields.’”

Can you believe the gall of the man?

Not only is he arguing for the wisdom of having continued a war that he and his right-wing cohort, for the most part, didn't choose to participate in, he is blaming the people who opposed the war for its consequences.

No, no, no Mr. President. No. As your father (whom you make look

better every minute) might have said:

“This will not stand.”

Getting out of Vietnam was not what caused the area-wide tragedy that Southeast Asia became; getting into it did.

Our conduct of that miserable war, which saw us drop more bombs on that relatively small country than we did everywhere during all of World War II, atomized the societies of the region, leaving them vulnerable to their most vicious, lunatic elements.

Perhaps if we'd stayed there forever — bombing, bombing, bombing — we could have held off those elements, but you can't stay there forever. Sooner or later, you have to leave.

The president is right about one thing, when we leave Iraq we shall leave behind a chaotic situation that could resemble post-war Vietnam and Cambodia and Laos. But staying there won't prevent that either. (The other day dozens died in Karbala when a fight broke out between two Shiite factions, never mind the Sunnis.)

Like a substitute teacher in an unruly classroom, as soon as we turn our backs, the children start lobbing grenades at each other.

Our intelligence agencies, in a report issued the day after the president's speech, basically agree with that, predicting that quickly pulling out of Iraq would be disastrous but that staying there in support of Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki's government is all but futile. That is the corner into which Mr. Bush and his gang have painted us.

But still the man, armed with nothing but chutzpah, continues to

talk nonsense about resisting “the allure of retreat,” to quote another fanciful phrase from the VFW speech.

Right-wing chicken hawks have done a wonderful job of rejiggering the history of the Vietnam War. They seem to have convinced many Americans that the war was lost because the war protesters at home undermined the effort.

You saw that play out in the 2004 presidential election, when John Kerry — who was both a decorated war veteran and later a prominent war protester — chose to emphasize his combat record rather than his anti-war history. All he got in return for his efforts was a Swift-boating.

Believe me on this, kids, the protesters did not lose the Vietnam War; it was lost because we were on the wrong side of history, fighting a colonial war in a post-colonial period. We had no chance.

There is a variation of chutzpah that fits Mr. Bush, as well as the rest of the “vast, right-wing conspiracy.” The word is chutzpahnik, defined (by Leo Rosten in “The Joys of Yiddish”) as “the man who shouts ‘Help! Help!’ while beating you up.”

When we finally do abandon the war in Iraq, as we most certainly shall, the Bush people will blame not their own incompetence but those who opposed it.

Count on it.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaul1@verizon.net.

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Reclaiming the high ground in Iraq

Given our success with the counterinsurgency operations and the stakes involved in the outcome of the war in Iraq, President Bush and other Republicans have a window to restate their case for the importance of Iraq in the War on Terror. They should seize the opportunity before war opponents have another chance to discourage the war effort.

Let's agree to disagree right now on whether we should have attacked Iraq in the first place. Let Democrats savor the prospect of using that issue for the 2008 elections — if things turn back around for them and against our progress in Iraq.

But we're in Iraq now, and whether we win or lose matters — believe it or not — and when we begin to withdraw our troops matters because it will affect whether we win. But we shouldn't allow the answer to either question to be affected by disputes over the justification for our initial attack.

The preliminary success of the “surge” has greatly undermined the Democrats' position on a number of fronts, which is why they are trying to destroy General David Petraeus's credibility in advance of his favorable report. It is why they are developing new strategies to secure our withdrawal, such as backing off their demands for a firm withdrawal date to lure “moderate” Republicans into joining their cut-and-run scheme.

Democrats have said this is a civil war, that America's presence is exacerbating the ethnic rivalry and prolonging the war, that Al Qaeda's involvement is marginal, that the war is “unwinnable,” and

that even if we are making great strides militarily, we are getting nowhere politically.

They've said that remaining in Iraq fuels Al Qaeda recruiting efforts while withdrawing would deter them.

They've said Iraq is not part of the War on Terror and implied that our withdrawal will not constitute a setback to us in the WOT, nor will it result in disastrous consequences for Iraq, the Iraqi people or the Middle East.

They've said we should refocus our efforts on Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and on better pursuing Osama bin Laden.

It's not just the success of the surge that is unraveling the Democrats' war against the war but also the primary reasons behind that success. Our revised strategy to capture and hold territory has reportedly emboldened Iraqi ethnic groups formerly helping Al Qaeda to turn to us and against Al Qaeda. Democrats are well aware of this, which is why some of them, like Sen. Chuck Schumer, are denying our military the credit for turning things around.

If the surge is neutralizing Al Qaeda, and this neutralization is leading to a dramatic turnaround in the Iraq War overall, the Democrats' multipronged excuses for opposing the war fall like dominoes.

Exposing Al Qaeda as the main catalyst for the war militates against concluding this has been a civil war as opposed to terrorist activity and ethnic conflict escalated to violence largely at the instigation of Al Qaeda and other outside forces. It also proves that Iraq truly is part of the War on Terror — if we need further proof than Al Qaeda's blood commitment to our defeat in Iraq.

In Iraq, Al Qaeda is not just fighting over Middle Eastern real

estate but is also testing our resolve in the War on Terror. Al Qaeda knows, even if some of us don't, that the outcome in Iraq will greatly affect the outcome of the larger WOT. If Al Qaeda drives us out — by wearing down our will — it will take that as a green light to attack us and our interests elsewhere, just as with Mogadishu.

Our victory will also turn on its head the Democrats' claim that Iraq serves as Al Qaeda's best recruitment tool. Regardless of whether our attacking Iraq stimulated Al Qaeda recruitment, cutting and running at Al Qaeda's behest would seal the deal. Conversely, it will greatly demoralize Al Qaeda if we defeat it in Iraq, especially with the help of Iraqis.

The Democratic leadership is way too invested in defeat to climb on board the reality train now. But Republicans should use this favorable Petraeus report to insist that we change the terms of the debate on Iraq.

Republicans have been far too defensive about Iraq and thus too malleable to Democratic demands that we begin withdrawal. If the mission is as important as we claim, we should refuse to allow consideration of the withdrawal date to be the focal point of the debate.

Instead, we should be concentrating on achieving a victory in Iraq — for as long as it takes — because a victory there is essential to our victory in the War on Terror. The better we fare in Iraq, the safer we'll be going forward — no matter how adamantly Democrats deny it.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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Bird Poop: 'Charlie's Owl' becomes ferocious predator in rehabilitation



Bubo, who bears the Latin name for owl, accepted Charlie's owl as her own. From late April until nearly July, the owl was watched, protected and fed by this surrogate parent. After a successful stay in the flight cage, Charlie's owl was returned to the wild.

Planted when the family first moved to the county, the pine tree had grown into a towering giant. Anticipating the pine cones to be gathered from last week's storm, the owner looked forward to standing in its shade and listening to the wind as it hurried through the needles. When he started out the door, he paused. Under the tree on the thick mat of St. Augustine was something almost round and white. With the movement of the fluffy ball, he realized it was a large baby bird. Having seen the parents building or repairing their nest near the top of the 30-foot tree, he knew their spring ritual usually resulted in two offspring. Since all had previously succeeded in



BEBE
MCCASLAND

remaining in the nest, he wondered how this chick-like nestling had managed to arrive safely from such a height. After glancing around and making sure he knew where the parents were, the man walked to the bundle of down. Because it couldn't be more than a month old, he knew it would be quite a while before the bird ever took its first flight. Perhaps its developing wings helped break its fall. Knowing he could not put the youngster back in its nest, and fearful of night predators, he decided the chick needed help. When he placed the great horned owl in our care, Charlie was beaming with pride. "It doesn't seem to be hurt," he added, but still could not fathom how the baby had fallen so far without injury. "Thank the tree," I suggested. The dense needles and the closeness of the limbs had possibly allowed the chick to bounce and slide from

See OWL, Page 6A

Laura on Life: On the face of things, we shouldn't be alive

I didn't know it when I was a kid, but I went through a very dangerous upbringing. In fact, everyone who was born in the same generation as me should be dead. No I wasn't born in a war zone. I didn't have abusive parents. And I didn't live on gang-infested streets. Over all, I led a pretty average life. I began by being sent home from the hospital in my mother's lap



Laura
SNYDER

rather than an infant car seat. Luckily, I was never ejected through the front windshield as apparently happened with other babies. I was born at a time when breast-feeding was considered "dirty" and unhealthy for babies. It was only acceptable in the third world countries I saw on documentaries, where boiling bottles and nipples was not possible. At night, I was laid on my stomach when I was put in my crib and I woke up gumming the rails that were painted with lead-based paint. That way, if Sudden Infant Death Syndrome didn't get me, lead poisoning would. I didn't know my parents were so

heartless. When I got sick, my mother would lovingly crush half an aspirin in a spoonful of water to take away my pain and give me a fair chance to contract Reyes Syndrome. Despicable! My parents apparently thought lung cancer from second-hand smoke would build character, so they each religiously smoked two packs of cigarettes a day. Our toys not only had lead-based paint on them, but they were filled with an amazing array of magnets, springs and buttons guaranteed to choke even the most savvy of toddlers. They hated me, I think. When we were old

enough to play outside without eating sand or yellow snow, we were gone all day. I don't think my parents ever knew where we were and, I swear, they liked it that way. We rode bicycles without a helmet. They were for sissies. Seat belts were not even invented yet. All four of us sat, stood, kneeled, or squatted in the back seat area built for three. No one ever wanted the "hump" seat so we played musical seats entire car rides. It was amusing, but our parents didn't like it much. They would take random swats with their arms trying to make contact with our bodies without their eyes leav-

ing the road. "Don't make me come back there!" they'd yell. Like they would fit back there. We ate fruits and vegetables once a week whether we needed it or not. And those that we ate had been sprayed with poisonous insecticides. We lived in houses made with asbestos insulation and radon silently lurked in the low spots. Our parents never even told us about those important issues. We breathed in carbon monoxide from our cars and smokestacks. There was no need for smoke detectors or sunscreen. My father, a man who could sleep through

a train wreck, assured us that he would hear a fire if one broke out in our house. As for sunscreen; why would we want to deny ourselves the fun of peeling the dead skin off each other's backs after getting sunburn? Melanoma? Pshaw! My generation could have and should have died out due to anything from AIDS to Mesothelioma. All evidence to the contrary, none of us should have lived through all of that. I guess that my generation was a group of real survivors. Laura Snyder can be e-mailed at lsnyder@lauraonlife.com.



WILSON AND HOMA JR FINALLY MEET

Do you remember the story about Wilson Woodpecker? I told you this story a long time ago. I hope you remember! Wilson lived on one side of the country, near a large ocean. Do you remember the story about Homa Jr the Condor? I told you this story a very long time ago, too. Homa Jr lived on the other side of the country. He lived near a very large ocean, too. Which two oceans do you think they might live near? The chances of these two meeting each other were very slim. What could make a woodpecker and a condor come together and be friends? Can you think of anything? You probably know what a woodpecker looks like, don't you? But do you know what a condor looks like? You probably already know where a woodpecker lives, don't you? But do you



know where a condor might live? Will you promise me that you will look in an encyclopedia tomorrow and see just where a condor might be found? I knew you would! I hope so because I just might ask you someday. The story begins with Wilson Woodpecker and a friend of his who needed help. Wilson's friend was called Wynona. Wynona Woodpecker! Wynona had decided to go very far away to find some new, big trees that she had heard about. Some friends of hers at the woodpecker bowling alley had told her about the large trees that had died and were just right for woodpeckers to peck on. Are you laughing because you don't think woodpeckers have bowling alleys? In bedtime stories, they do! Wynona was very good at bowling too, and I will tell you all about it, someday. If you will stop laughing, we will go on

with the story! Wynona flew for days, looking for the woods that were full of huge dead trees. She couldn't wait to find them. She loved pecking on trees and she just knew she would love these big trees even more! Finally she found the woods with those big trees and she couldn't wait to start pecking. She started on the biggest tree in the woods. She loved these woods! She loved these trees. She wanted to carry one of the big trees back to Wilson so he could have fun, too. She tried and tried to lift the big tree, but couldn't budge it. It was too heavy. She tried again. No, it was just too big. Maybe she would never be able to get this big tree back to Wilson. Just as she was trying for the last time to lift that big tree, a little raccoon came strolling by. "What are you doing?" asked the little raccoon. Wynona explained to the raccoon what she was trying to do and why she was trying to do it. "I know someone who may be able to help you," said the little raccoon. "He is

so nice and he loves helping everyone. His name is Homa Jr, and he is a Condor. He even saved my life once during a forest fire. He saved all of the other birds and animals that day, too. He is so big that all of the other birds and animals could ride on his back while he flew them to safety, away from the fire. I will call him and ask if he will help you!" The little raccoon dialed his cell phone and called Homa Jr. Are you laughing because the little raccoon had a cell phone? Homa Jr answered! He would love to help! In a very short while, Wynona heard the loud noise of big wings flapping. "It must be Homa Jr. He must be huge!" Then, as if a large cloud had appeared to cover the sun, Homa Jr landed softly near the big dead tree. He had a bright smile on his face. "Is this the dead tree you want to take back home with you?" he asked Wynona. "Yes, and I

can't lift it but I think you can," she said. "Show me the way to your friend's home," Homa Jr said to Wynona. Then, he lifted the big dead tree as if it were as small as a matchstick and followed Wynona all the way back home. Wilson saw them coming! At first, he didn't know what was happening. He didn't know whether to run, hide, or stay put. He decided to stay put after he saw Wynona leading that huge bird, with that great big dead tree in his claws. Wynona landed first. She asked Wilson where he would like his new, old dead tree. Wilson wanted it in his front yard so all the neighbors could see it. That's exactly where Homa Jr put it. After Homa Jr let go of the tree, he said to Wilson, "She must really be a



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good friend," as he pointed to Wynona. "She wanted this tree to be a gift to you." "She is a good friend," said Wilson, "And I think you will be a very good friend, too! I have heard about you from other birds and animals before. I am so glad I finally get to meet you. Will you join me for dinner tonight? Homa Jr accepted the invitation because he was really hungry from all that hard work. But it was worth it because he had made two new friends! That night, after dinner, Wilson asked Homa Jr to spend the night and asked if he could stay and visit for a few days. Homa Jr said that he would love to. As Wilson was getting ready for bed that night, he thought to himself, "What a wonderful friend I have in Homa Jr. I must remember to tell him, "Good Night"

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Legals

Notice for Early Public Review of a Proposal to Support Activity in the 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland
To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals.
This is to give notice that the City of Coahoma has received funds through the Owner Occupied Program under HOME Contract #1000747 to reconstruct or to do major rehabilitation on the following unit(s) in the City of Coahoma, Howard County.
This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management, and by Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11990 for the Protection of Wetlands, and is implemented by HUD Regulations found at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management. The 8-Step Decision Making Process includes public notices and the examination of practi-

cal alternatives to building in the floodplain.
This notice is to inform the public that the unit(s) proposed for reconstruction or major rehabilitation is/are located within the floodplain area. The unit(s) is/are located at: (1) 104 4th Street, (2) 400 Texas Street, Coahoma, TX.
Written comments with a request for public comment was mailed to the regional office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State office of Environmental Protection (EPA).
Additional information may be obtained by contacting: **Bill Read, Mayor** at (432) 394-4287.
Written comments must be received by the City of Coahoma at the following address on or before **Sept. 27, 2007. City of Coahoma, 122 North First Street/ PO Box 420, Coahoma, TX 79511** Attention: **Bill Read, Mayor.** #5510 September 11, 2007

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am an only child, and my parents are deceased. The only relatives left on my mother's side are an uncle and cousin by marriage, both over 80, who live out of state. My father's family is also gone except for one 80-year-old cousin with whom I have little contact, and some second cousins closer to my age (64), who live far away. My late husband was an only child. His parents are dead. He had two children before we married, but I am not in touch with them.

Are there support groups for people who are so totally alone in the world? The grief and depression of having no family is overwhelming. Please don't suggest senior groups. I've found them to be a collection of white-haired folks nearer to my parents' age who like to listen to music from before my time. I don't want to hear "I've Been Working on the Railroad." I like AC/DC and ZZ Top.

I volunteer two days a week, but that doesn't provide a "family" for me to come home to. My church has nothing, either. Can you find anything for me? — Dying of Loneliness in Oregon

Dear Oregon: You can reach out to those family members you still have and make an effort to get closer. Or you can make new friends who will become your family. You are wrong that senior organizations aren't for you. Take another look at AARP (aarp.org or 1-888-687-2277). Boomers are members now, and they are singing your songs. Also, check out the Red Hat Society (redhatsociety.com). In addition to your volunteer work, consider joining a book club, community choir or theater production. Work for a political candidate. Put up a notice at your church and see if others are interested in starting a support group for those without nearby family. You will have to make an effort to get involved, but once you get started, you'll feel better.

Dear Annie: I just received the wonderful news that my sister is pregnant, and I couldn't be happier for her. The downside is the baby is due in April, which is when I am scheduled to get married in the Caribbean.

Some of the guests have already booked their travel plans, but my sister is the matron of honor, and I can't imagine her not being there. I want to reschedule the wedding and offer to compensate the guests who have to change their plans, but my fiance doesn't agree. What should I do? — Caught in the Middle

Dear Caught: Pregnancies are unpredictable, but if you want to reschedule to make sure your sister can participate, go right ahead. You shouldn't spend your wedding day sad because such an important person couldn't attend. You are not obligated to reimburse guests for their expenses, although such a conciliatory gesture will help ensure their presence when you reschedule.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Frigid Mom," who is married and has two children and says she's lost her sex drive.

I have a suggestion for her: exercise. She should particularly use weights (2-5 pounds are sufficient). I had the same problem with depression and a very low sex drive. I started exercising, and the sex drive went up, up, up. Before, I wanted nothing to do with it, and now there are times where I can't get enough. It also has helped my depression. Exercise and healthy eating are some of the best ways to help bring you to a normal state of mind and body without using pills. — Feeling Better Now

Dear Feeling Better: There is no question that exercise raises endorphins and can help relieve symptoms of depression, and a healthier body makes everything work better. Thanks for the reminder.

Dear Readers: Today is the sixth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Please take a moment to remember the victims, and the families and friends who mourn them.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Ancient astrologers used solar eclipses to predict the rise and fall of leaders. Does it still bear out today? We are living in a mysterious, compelling time; turning points catapult us into our future. With today's new-moon solar eclipse in Virgo, previously buried concerns about productivity, agriculture, health care and work spring to light.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are so used to a certain excitement level that you don't know what to do with yourself when tranquility sets in. You find yourself striving when you could be content — focus on the joy of what's good in your day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're cool in any

planets angle to connect you with your allies in mysterious ways.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). One foot in front of the other takes us "there," even if we don't know where "there" it is at the start. Since it's all about doing the appropriate work, the destination, for now, is irrelevant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Loved ones may try to impose their rules on you, but it's only a matter of time before they realize it takes too much energy to control you. Besides, you're brilliant when others leave you to your thing.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPICS: Your Sun Sign and Your Health. What's the point of running around in a fall frazzle? The sun in Virgo reminds us that there are many paths to wellness. When you chalk up low energy and chronic health problems to "That's the way I am,"

you lose the awareness of your self. By reflecting on your character, you become a better, healthier version of you! **AQUARIUS:** The body electric. Oh, erratic one, your body is as electric as your mental energy. Your nifty spirit, the same one responsible for leaps of ingenuity, craves silent containment. Otherwise, you dissipate your genius energy, which the world needs. The thinker is not his thoughts. Meditation helps you separate your identity from worldly distractions, allowing you the space to observe your thoughts.

PISCES: Mysterious ailments plague you until you dive into the mystery of you. When you allow your spectacular inner experiences to guide your day-to-day world, malaise is replaced with enchantment. No, you're not crazy — you need to swim with dolphins AND talk to angels. Do you know who your angels are? Flower essences soothe your emotions. Past-life regression answers secrets, and so does hypnosis.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Financial maven Maria Bartiromo knows good stock market — so well, in fact, that former musician Joey Ramone of The Ramones once wrote a song about her expertise. Virgos may have a reputation as bean counters, but with her head for numbers and business savvy, she helps us make a hill of them. As the provider of the zodiac, Virgo's harvest serves everyone's best interest.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are not one to ask, "What is this world coming to?" because you're too involved in shaping it. This afternoon, you'll be shaping it into something that brings you joy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your life is only as beautiful as it is simple. That involves giving one thing away for every one thing you buy. Organizing — indeed, shelving and labeling — are involved in this story.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Bit by bit, you're putting it together. It's not the puzzle you thought it was. Piece by piece, this work of art you call your life is becoming a picture more grand than you ever thought possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't even know who is on your side until you dive into your project. There is nary a dull moment as the

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Parent's Corner:

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I recently read a story of the violinist Itzhak Perlman who was stricken with polio as a child, and therefore wears braces on both legs and walks with the aid of two crutches.



DARRELL RYAN

It has been said to see him walk across the stage one step at a time, painfully and slowly, is an awesome sight. Just getting on stage is no small achievement for him. He walks painfully, yet majestically, until he reaches his chair.

Then he sits down, slowly, puts his crutches on the floor, undoes the clasps on his legs, tucks one foot back and extends the other foot forward. Then he bends down and picks up the violin, puts it under his chin, nods to the conductor and proceeds to play. On Nov. 18, 1995, he was to give a concert at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York. The audience sat quietly while he made his way across the stage to his chair. They remained reverently silent while he worked the clasps on his legs. They waited until he was ready to play. But then, something went wrong. Just as he

finished the first few bars, one of the strings on his violin broke. You could hear it snap; it went off like gunfire across the room. There was no mistaking what that sound meant. There was no mistaking what he had to do. The audience figured that he would have to get up, put on the clasps again, pick up the crutches and limp his way off stage — to either find another violin or else find another string for this one. But he didn't. Instead, he waited a moment, closed his eyes and then signaled the conductor to begin again. The orchestra began and he played from where he had left off.

And he played with such passion and such power and such purity as they had never heard before. Of course, anyone knows that it is impossible to play a symphonic work with just three strings, but that night Itzhak Perlman refused to know that. One could see him modulating, changing, re-composing the piece in his head. At one point, it sounded like he was detuning the strings to get new sounds from them that they had never made before. When he finished, there was an awesome silence in the room. And then people rose and cheered. There was an extraordinary outburst of applause from every corner of the auditorium. Everyone

was standing, screaming and cheering, doing everything that could be done to show the correct appreciation for what he had done. Perlman smiled, wiped the sweat from this brow, raised his bow to quiet the audience and then he said, not boastfully, but in a quiet, pensive, reverent tone, "You know, sometimes it is the artist's task to find out how much music you can still make with what you have left." What a powerful line that is. Perhaps that is the definition of life, not just for artists but for all of us. Here is a man who has prepared all his life to make music on a violin of four strings, who, all of a sudden, in the mid-

dle of a concert, finds himself with only three strings; so he makes music with three strings and the music he made that night with just three strings was more beautiful, more sacred, more memorable, than any that he had ever made before. So, maybe, in the shaky, fast-changing, bewildering world in which we live, it is our task to make our music, at first with all that we have, and then, when that is no longer possible, to make our music with what we have left. It's worth a thought!

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

OWL

Continued from Page 5A

one level to the next until plopping on the thick grass. The tree's very structure and greenery had played a part in sparing this bird. During the time the little owl shared our home, we could feel its emerging strength as it clutched our fingers. Its white down was rapidly being replaced by a coat of buff-colored down. Its light yellow eyes readily anticipated its next feeding and it was not bashful in grabbing minced and baby mice.

When delivering the bird to the wildlife center, we casually called it "Charlie's Owl." Soon, whenever we or Gail Barnes, the manager, talked regarding the development of the owl, the name would be used. Planning to use Bubo, their educational great horned owl, as the nestling's surrogate parent, Gail had us accompany her to a mew in the barn.

The adult owl with her long feathery tufts (horns) glared at our intrusion. Only Gail and the youngster entered the space. After placing the nestling in a box on the floor, Gail left.

As we watched through the vertical slats, Bubo left her perch to investigate the young owl. Soon the epitome of owl parenting took place. With Bubo in the box, the nestling cuddled under her protective wing. Later that day, when we checked back with the owls, Bubo was nearly hiding the young owl. The bonding was complete. Taking over the mealtime feeding, the adult owl would raise the nestling.

Within two weeks, the youngster was twice as big. First in the wings, then on the back and tail, followed by the rest of the body, the owl's plumage pushed through its downy coat. Finally, the head started to receive its share of feathers, although its ear tufts the first year would be smaller.

As it started to act like an owl, the youngster often bristled its plumage, spread its wings, snapped its bill and threatened to attack. With more time, it was flying to the lowest perches. Soon, it mastered the highest roosts and could fly to any part of the mew. Every time we paid a visit to check on its progress, Bubo, in defense of her young, would fly at the slatted walls to try to scare us away. Her continuous deep, guttural hooting sounds were warning enough. No one but Gail, who feeds all of the owls, dared to enter.

The adult owl's acceptance of the manager seemed logical. When fresh food and water were brought, there was always a treat for Bubo. We had watched several times as Gail offered a plate of beef heart to the working parent. Then she would gather the empty dishes and leave. Bubo always received her reward.

By June, the juvenile was nearing the time when it would leave Bubo and enter the flight cage with other juveniles. Making her daily trip to replenish food and water, Gail stood beside Bubo while she ate. With her back blocking the younger owl's view of its parent, Charlie's Owl shifted its feet and crouched. Suddenly airborne, the juvenile extended its talons. In less than a second, two slashes went down the woman's cheek. As quickly as it had attacked, the juvenile

was back on the roost before Gail realized the full extent of what had happened. With blood streaming down her face, she hurried out of the mew. "It was my fault," she related to us later. "I took my eyes off that bird, my back was turned. I know better," was the blame she placed on herself for having been lax for a moment. Fortunately, the cuts were not deep enough for stitches, but required antibiotics.

In spite of what hap-

pened, the manager continued the same routine until Charlie's Owl was moved to the flight cage with three other juveniles. Weeks later, the four-some was ready for

release. East of Lubbock, where the flat acres of cotton give way to rolling ranch land and a deep canyon promises wildlife, the great horned owls gained their freedom.

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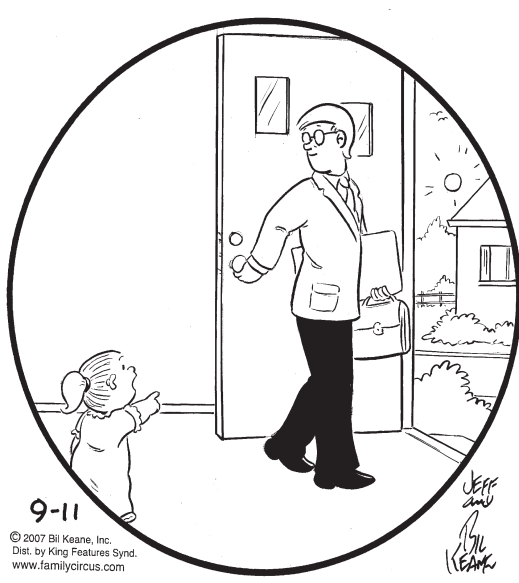
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6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	Dame Chocolate	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Young John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Lobster Wars		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Hell Date	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	Mix Tape Tour Shootaround	NFL Live	Flash Gordon (CC)
7:PM :30	Just Laughs Just Laughs	Just Laughs Just Laughs	Amar sin Limites	Bones (CC)	Power of 10 (CC)	Madre Luna	The Biggest Loser (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Update/Israel Booker	Nova (CC) (DVS)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: Insomnia (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Next Friday (CC)	Movie: A Goofy Movie (CC)	WNBA Basketball:	2007 World Series of Poker	Eureka (CC)
8:PM :30	i-Caught (CC)	i-Caught (CC)	Destilando Amor	House (CC)	Big Brother 8 (CC)	La Esclava Isaura		Family Guy Family Guy	Light of the Southwest	Wide Angle (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	(CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)		(CC)	Finals Game 3 -- Teams TBA	2007 World Series of Poker	Eureka (CC)
9:PM :30	PrimerTime: Crime (CC)	PrimerTime: Crime (CC)	S.O.S. Sexo y Otros Secretos	TMZ (CC) King of the Hill	NCIS (CC)	Amor Mio	Law & Order: SVU	The Office The Office	P.O.V. (CC)	How It's Made How It's Made	Movie: Escape (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	The Closer (CC)	Girlfriends Girlfriends	That's-Raven Life Derek	Baseball Tonight (CC)	The Contender	ECW	
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Raymond Two-Half Men	News Late Show-	Noticias 12 Corazones	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update/Israel N. McBride	Visiones	Dirty Jobs (CC)	From Alcatraz (CC)	CSI: NY (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Take the Cake Han, Montana	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	Women's Soccer: FIFA	SportsCenter NFL Live	Destination Truth (CC)
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Reno 911! 70s Show	Letterman Late Late	!Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night	My Boys My Boys	Joe McGee Biblical Israel	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Dirty Jobs (CC)		Murder (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Hell Date Jamie Foxx	Replacements Kim Possible	World Cup	Baseball NFL Live	Eureka (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Express Media	Salome (SS)	My Wife-Kids 70s Show	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Movie: Dave (CC)	Update/Israel J.R. Church	Sign Off	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: Bullitt (CC)	Star Trek: Voyager	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Next Friday (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	The Contender	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



"ME AN' MARGARET ARE GONNA BE CONDUCTORS WHEN WE GROW UP."
"SYMPHONY FOR HER, AN' TRAIN FOR ME."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

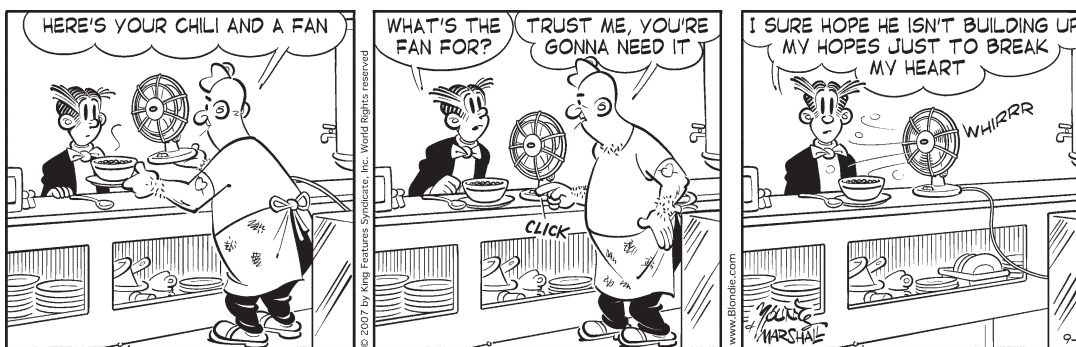


"Remember, Daddy, it's not nice to hit or poke your friends."

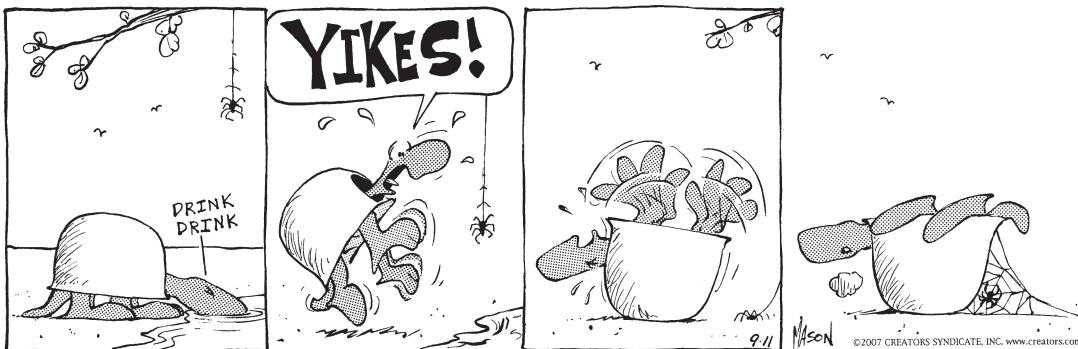
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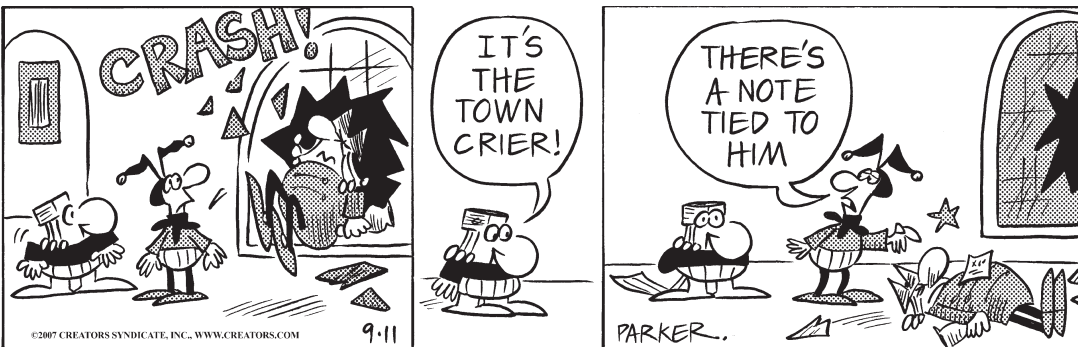
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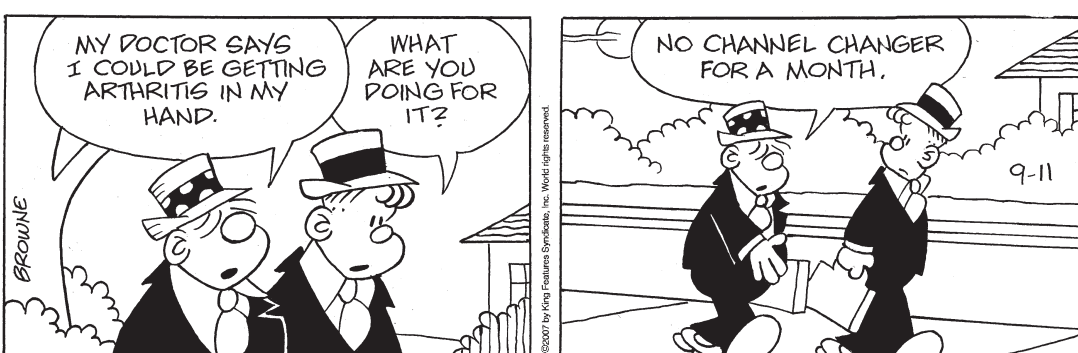
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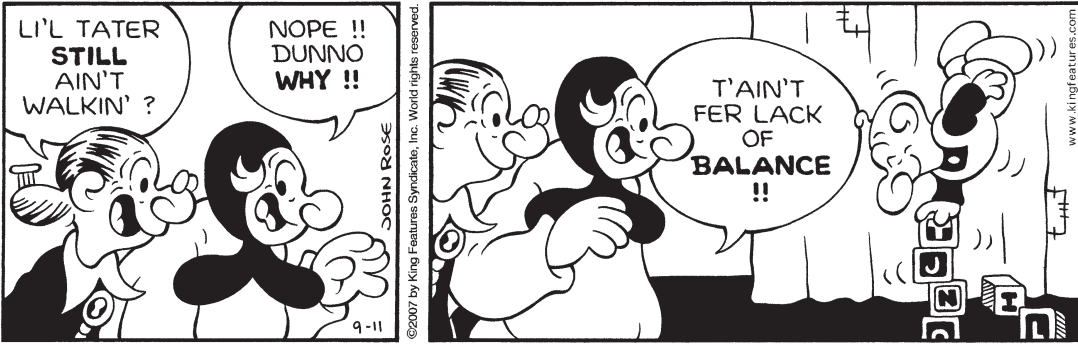
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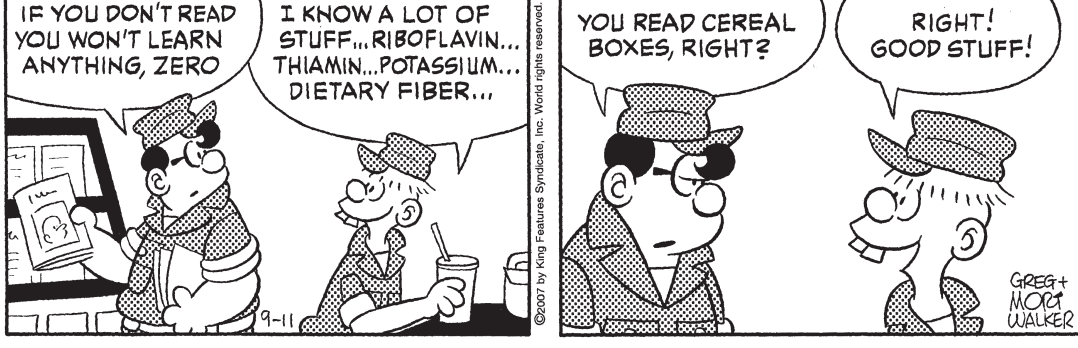
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 11, the 254th day of 2007. There are 111 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Sept. 11, 2001, in the single worst act of terrorism committed on U.S. soil, nearly 3,000 people died when two hijacked jetliners crashed into New York's World Trade Center, causing the twin towers to fall, a commandeered jetliner smashed into the Pentagon and a fourth hijacked plane crashed in western Pennsylvania. The day is marked as Patriot Day.

On this date:
In 1789, Alexander Hamilton was appointed the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury.
In 1814, an American fleet scored a decisive victory over the British in the Battle of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812.
In 1857, 150 years ago, the

Meadows Massacre took place in present-day southern Utah as a 120-member Arkansas immigrant party was slaughtered by Mormon settlers.

In 1941, Charles A. Lindbergh sparked charges of anti-Semitism with a speech in Des Moines, Iowa, in which he said "the British, the Jewish and the Roosevelt administration" were trying to draw the United States into World War II.

In 1967, "The Carol Burnett Show" premiered on CBS.

In 1971, former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev died at age 77.

In 1972, the troubled Munich Summer Olympics ended.

In 1973, Chilean President Salvador Allende died in a violent military coup.

In 1974, an Eastern Airlines DC-9 crashed during a landing attempt in Charlotte, N.C., killing 71 of the people on board.

In 1989, the exodus of East German refugees from Hungary to West Germany by way of Austria began.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Betsy Drake is 84. Actor Earl Holliman is 79. Movie director Brian De Palma is 67. Rock musician Mickey Hart (The Dead) is 64. Singer-musician Leo Kottke is 62. Rock singer-musician Tommy Shaw (Styx) is 54. Sports reporter Lesley Visser is 54. Actor Reed Birney is 53. Singer-songwriter Diane Warren is 51. Musician Jon Moss (Culture Club) is 50. Actor Scott Patterson is 49. Rock musician Mick Talbot (The Style Council) is 49. Actress Roxann Dawson is 49. Actress Virginia Madsen is 46.

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Answer to previous puzzle

CHAP	CACHE	AMID
LOBE	ALIAS	SIDE
IBET	DIGIT	KNEW
POLICE	CAR	TODAY
TATER SOUR		
LOWERS	HOSTESS	
ERASE	HAULS	ACT
VAT	WEDGE	DOE
ETC	GRASS	SCENE
REHIRE	SHARED	
SCAN AFTER		
DATED	GUARDRAIL	
AURA	FENCES	OSLO
STAG	ANTES	TILT
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Newsday Crossword

HOUSEWORK by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 ___ in the neck (pest) | 1 British taverns | 59 Zealous | 12 Install a sidewalk |
| 5 San Antonio landmark | 2 All over again | 60 Give a lecture | 13 Home for 44 Across |
| 10 Swiss mountains | 3 Off from work | 61 Fail to attend | 21 One living near the Leaning Tower |
| 14 Loosen, as a necktie | 4 Short letter | 62 Go out with | 22 Commercial, for example |
| 15 "Hearty appetite!" | 5 Aimless | 63 Aroma detectors | 25 What no Mensa member has |
| 16 "Billy" beast | 6 Tamer's beasts | 64 Tabbies and terriers | 26 Not together |
| 17 Pants accessory | 7 Wide-eyed | | 27 5 Across' state |
| 18 Perch | 8 Catchall category: Abbr. | | 28 Ireland nickname |
| 19 Be jealous of | 9 Exactly | | 29 Footwear for skiers |
| 20 Major overhaul | 10 Actor's representative | | 30 Otherwise |
| 23 "No __, ands, or butts!" | 11 Before ___ (soon) | | 31 Long stories |
| 24 Miami clock setting in Jul. | | | 32 Writer of praiseful poems |
| 25 Most up-to-date | | | 33 Religious groups |
| 29 Places for pillows | | | 35 Hosiery mishap |
| 31 Distress signal | | | |
| 34 Soprano's gig | | | |
| 35 By oneself | | | |
| 36 Lose brightness | | | |
| 37 Gabbing about the good old days | | | |
| 40 Tehran's country | | | |
| 41 Evaluate | | | |
| 42 ___ beef (sandwich meat) | | | |
| 43 Fractions of a gal. | | | |
| 44 Sows and boars | | | |
| 45 Tops of waves | | | |
| 46 Assist | | | |
| 47 Highway warning | | | |
| 48 After-bath skin soothers | | | |
| 56 Short skirt | | | |
| 57 Showed on TV again | | | |
| 58 Neck of the woods | | | |

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Recruitment sites rich target for identity thieves

Recruitment firm Monster.com has been hit by an attack that has compromised over 1.6 million pieces of information — including personal data — according to reports issued recently.



THOMAS JENKINS

Not surprisingly, the attack follows warnings that recruitment sites are a rich target for identity thieves. The employers' section of the recruitment Web site has been broken into by a program which then harvested 1.6 million pieces of information and stored them somewhere the people behind the hack could access them, according to security firm Symantec, makers of the Norton utilities suite.

Some Monster users have received e-mails pretending to be from Monster which encourage them to download software they say is a recruitment tool. It is in fact malicious software which encrypts the information on their computers and demands a ransom for it to be unlocked.

Isn't that just a kick in the head?

Symantec said that the same hacker group may be behind both sets of activity. "We have informed Monster.com of the compromised recruiter accounts so they can be disabled," said Symantec officials.

"To protect your identity when using recruitment sites, or at least limit your exposure to identity theft, you should limit the contact information you post on these sites, use a separate disposable e-mail address and never disclose sensitive details such as your Social Security number, passport or driver's license numbers, bank account information, etc. to prospective employers until you have established they are legitimate," they went on to say in a recent press release.

Monster itself recently warned that recruitment Web sites were prime targets for identity theft because of the wealth of biographical and bureaucratic information contained on them. It teamed up with security consultancy Cyveillance to warn site users that they should be vigilant about giving out their data.

In the UK, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has also warned that the recruitment industry is a rich target for ID thieves. It warned that half of recruiters were not registered with it as data controllers, which they ought to be by British law.

The ICO advises in its Employment Practices Data Protection Code that job applications and the information contained in them should be sent and stored securely.

"Ensure that a secure method of transmission is used for sending applications online (e.g. encryption-based software)," the Code reads. "Ensure that once electronic applications are received, they are saved in a directory or drive which has access limited to those involved in the recruitment process."

Symantec said that the program which broke into Monster.com did so by pretending to be an

employer. "The Trojan appears to be using the (probably stolen) credentials of a number of recruiters to login to the Web site and perform searches for resumes of candidates located in certain countries or working in certain fields," said Symantec in a blog about the vulnerability.

"The personal details of those candidates, such as name, surname, e-mail address, country, home address, work/mobile/home phone numbers and resume ID, are then uploaded to a remote server under the control of the attackers. This remote server held over 1.6 million entries with personal information belonging to several hundred thousand candidates, mainly based in the U.S., who had posted their resumes to the Monster.com Web site."

A Monster spokesman told the media the incident did not involve especially personal information.

"We are not aware of any cases of identity theft. In fact, the information that is gathered from Monster is no different than that displayed in a phone book," said Patrick Manzo, vice president of fraud prevention and compliance at Monster.

And while hackers may be playing havoc with Monster's servers, it

appears the United Nations is having woes of their own.

Computer hackers scrawled anti-American and anti-Israeli messages on several U.N. Web sites last month, exposing serious security holes in the international body's computer system.

The hackers were able to infiltrate the system, U.N. spokeswoman Michelle Montas said, by using what she referred to as "pseudonyms."

Their messages were posted on the sites of several U.N.-related agencies, including the page that posts Secretary-General Ban's speeches. The messages do not represent the secretary-general's views, Ms. Montas said.

Well, duh. Nothing like an overwhelming need to state the obvious.

Containing no punctuation marks, the messages left on the sites were variations on the following: "Hacked By kerem125 M0sted and Gsy That is CyberProtest Hey Israel and Usa dont kill children and other people Peace for ever No war."

Apparently the hackers have decent computer skills, but haven't quite gotten a hold on the English language. Surprise.

A similar message was also typed in uppercase

See JENKINS, Page 8A



To protect your identity when using recruitment sites, or at least limit your exposure to identity theft, you should limit the contact information you post on these sites, use a separate disposable e-mail address and never disclose sensitive details.

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PUBLIC NOTICE BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SPECIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2007

PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 103)
HJR 103 would update the constitutional reference to Angelo State University to conform with the statutory transfer of that institution from membership in the Texas State University System to membership in the Texas Tech University System.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the continuation of the constitutional appropriation for facilities and other capital items at Angelo State University on a change in the governance of the university."

PROPOSITION 2 (SJR 57)
SJR 57 would authorize the legislature to permit the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans to college and university students, and to enter into bond enhancement agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of \$500 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans to students and authorizing bond enhancement agreements with respect to general obligation bonds issued for that purpose."

PROPOSITION 3 (HJR 40)
HJR 40 would authorize the legislature to limit the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for property tax purposes in a tax year to the lesser of the most recent appraisal valuation, or 110 percent, or a greater percentage as determined by the legislature, of the appraised value in the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide that the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for ad valorem taxation is limited to the lesser of the most recent market value of the residence homestead as determined by the appraisal entity or 110 percent, or a greater percentage, of the appraised value of the residence homestead for the preceding tax year."

PROPOSITION 4 (SJR 65)
SJR 65 would authorize the legislature to permit the Texas Public Finance Authority to issue up to \$1 billion in general obligation

bonds, the proceeds of which would be dedicated to maintenance, construction, repairs, and equipment purchases, as authorized by the legislature for the following state agencies: the Texas Building and Procurement Commission; the Parks and Wildlife Department; the Department of the Adjutant General; the Department of State Health Services; the Department of Aging and Disability Services; the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired; the Texas Youth Commission; the Texas Historical Commission; the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; the Texas School for the Deaf; and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of up to \$1 billion in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for maintenance, improvement, repair, and construction projects and for the purchase of needed equipment."

PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 44)
SJR 44 would authorize the legislature to permit cities with a population of less than 10,000 to hold an election to allow the city to enter into an agreement with a property owner to temporarily freeze taxes on property either in or adjacent to an area approved for funding under the Downtown Revitalization Program or the Main Streets Improvements Program administered by the Department of Agriculture.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit the voters of a municipality having a population of less than 10,000 to authorize the governing body of the municipality to enter into an agreement with an owner of real property in or adjacent to an area in the municipality that has been approved for funding under certain programs administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture under which the parties agree that all ad valorem taxes imposed on the owner's property may not be increased for the first five tax years after the tax year in which the agreement is entered into."

PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 54)
HJR 54 would authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem tax one motor vehicle owned by an individual that is used by the individual for both business and personal use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional

amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation one motor vehicle owned by an individual and used in the course of the owner's occupation or profession and also for personal activities of the owner."

PROPOSITION 7 (HJR 30)
HJR 30 would allow a governmental entity to sell property acquired through eminent domain to its immediately previous owner at the original purchase price, if the public use of the property has been canceled, if no progress is made toward that public use by a prescribed deadline, or if the property is unnecessary to accomplish that public use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to allow governmental entities to sell property acquired through eminent domain back to the previous owners at the price the entities paid to acquire the property."

PROPOSITION 8 (HJR 72)
HJR 72 would clarify home equity loan procedures and protections and make conforming changes to the written disclosure provided to the borrower at the loan closing. The amendment would establish that the status of whether property is an agricultural homestead for the purpose of receiving homestead protection, would be determined by whether it was designated for agricultural use on the date of the loan closing. The amendment would provide that a declared state of emergency (e.g., following a natural disaster) would justify execution of a second home equity loan on the same property less than one year after the first home equity loan. It would provide that non-substantive omissions on a loan application would not affect the agreement. It would require a borrower to receive a copy of all executed loan documents, and a disclosure list of fees and costs at closing. It would prohibit the use of preprinted checks for the use of unsolicited loan advances to obtain a home equity line of credit.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to clarify certain provisions relating to the making of a home equity loan and use of home equity loan proceeds."

PROPOSITION 9 (SJR 29)
SJR 29 would authorize the legislature to exempt all or part of the market value of the residence homesteads of veterans certified as having a service-connected 100 percent

disability rating. SJR 29 would also clarify the progression of property tax exemptions available to veterans who are less than 100 percent disabled.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt all or part of the residence homesteads of certain totally disabled veterans from ad valorem taxation and authorizing a change in the manner of determining the amount of the existing exemption from ad valorem taxation to which a disabled veteran is entitled."

PROPOSITION 10 (HJR 69)
HJR 69 would remove constitutional references to the former office of inspector of hides and animals.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to abolish the constitutional authority for the office of inspector of hides and animals."

PROPOSITION 11 (HJR 19)
HJR 19 would require a vote taken in either house of the legislature to be recorded by record vote, if the vote was on final passage of a bill, other than local bills, a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment, or any other resolution that is not purely ceremonial. The record vote must be archived and available for public viewing on the Internet for at least two years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to require that a record vote be taken by a house of the legislature on final passage of any bill, other than certain local bills, of a resolution proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment, or of any other nonceremonial resolution, and to provide for public access on the Internet to those record votes."

PROPOSITION 12 (SJR 64)
SJR 64 would authorize the Texas Transportation Commission to issue up to \$5 billion in general obligation bonds for highway improvement projects, the proceeds of which will be used to pay for projects, costs, and payments owed under related credit agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds by the Texas Transportation Commission in an amount not to exceed \$5 billion to provide funding for highway improvement projects."

PROPOSITION 13 (HJR 6)
HJR 6 would authorize the denial of bail to a person who violates conditions of release

in a family violence case and permit the legislature to authorize the denial of bail to a person who violates certain court orders in a family violence case.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the denial of bail to a person who violates certain court orders or conditions of release in a felony or family violence case."

PROPOSITION 14 (HJR 36)
HJR 36 would limit a state justice or judge's service to December 31st of the fourth year of the term if he/she is elected to all or part of a six year term, and reaches mandatory retirement age during the first four years of said term.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment permitting a justice or judge who reaches the mandatory retirement age while in office to serve the remainder of the justice's or judge's current term."

PROPOSITION 15 (HJR 90)
HJR 90 would require the legislature to establish the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, and would provide for its management, duties, and powers. It would authorize the issuance of up to \$3 billion in general obligation bonds to be used for operations and grants for the purpose of scientific research of all forms of human cancer.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment requiring the creation of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas and authorizing the issuance of up to \$3 billion in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for research in Texas to find the causes of and cures for cancer."

PROPOSITION 16 (SJR 20)
SJR 20 would authorize the issuance of up to \$250 million in general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board to provide financial assistance to economically distressed areas of the state to help provide adequate sewer and water supply services for residential use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$250 million to provide assistance to economically distressed areas."

Motel restoration brings back bygone American era

By **MONICA RHOR**

Associated Press Writer
WHARTON — A bit of American history — quirky and curious, but history nonetheless — huddles next to old Highway 59, past the tractor dealers and the rice mills, just before a green sign that proclaims Wharton's population of 9,237.
It's easy to miss. But it is there, just around the bend: a row of 10 freshly painted, sand-colored tepees.

As in the Tee Pee Motel, a throwback to the 1940s and '50s, when taking a drive was still in style and roadside businesses used gimmicky architecture — like a gas station that looked like an oil derrick — to lure customers.

The Tee Pee Motel is one of just a handful of tepee-themed lodges left in the country.

For years, however, Wharton's Tee Pee Motel was little more than eleven gutted shells engulfed by a tangle of overgrown weeds and a broken sign that once beckoned guests with neon lights and an image of an American Indian chief.

Then, a diesel mechanic named Bryon Woods won \$49 million in the Texas lottery in July 2003.

Four months later, Woods and his wife, Barbara, were driving by the ruins of the Tee Pee Motel, about 50 miles west of Houston, when Barbara Woods piped up.
"I want to stay there.

Let's buy it and renovate it."

Barbara Woods had dreamed of staying in the Tee Pee Motel ever since she was a little girl. And now, she was an adult with nearly \$50 million to spend.

After waffling for a few months, Bryon Woods gave in. He bought the 10-acre property for \$60,000 — and spent the next two years and \$1.6 million sweeping away the cobwebs and debris, remodeling, painting and fixing the neon sign.

"This wasn't about making money. It's having something no one else has," said Woods, 42, whose grandmother was Comanche. "This is a piece of Texas history."
Barbara Woods and her

sister decorated — adorning each of the tepees with Native American artifacts purchased at powwows and covering the full-size beds with handmade quilts.

Modern conveniences were added: barbecue grills outside each room, air conditioning units jutting from the exterior walls and high speed Internet and satellite TV in each tepee. One of the units was retrofitted to accommodate wheelchairs. An eleventh tepee, probably used as a coffee shop, has not been renovated.

The Tee Pee Motel reopened for business in October 2006.

Woods decided not to advertise, instead relying on a Web site, a page on

MySpace and word of mouth. And it didn't take long for word to spread.

Soon, couples who had spent their honeymoon at the Tee Pee Motel were paying the \$52.50 a night to celebrate their Golden Anniversary there. Adults who had pined to sleep inside the tepees as children came back to fulfill that long-ago yearning.

Girl Scout troops, a Houston classic Chevy club, and families holding reunions have also booked rooms. Then, there are the children who spot the tepees from the road, and beg their parents to pull over.

Usually, Woods said, once a family stops to get a motel brochure, they're hooked.

"We see a lot of families come out here. The kids love it," said Woods.

"They are running around, saying 'I'm staying at the Tee Pee Motel!'"
Although most guests are local, Woods has also housed visitors from as far away as Canada and Australia, who want to sample a bit of Americana.

That's not surprising, said Greg Smith, National Register Coordinator for the Texas Historical Commission. After years of disfavor, in which buildings like the Tee Pee Motel were viewed as tacky or in bad taste, interest has surged in the architectural style.

The first tepee-themed
See **MOTEL**, Page 9A

JENKINS

Continued from Page 7A

letters. On Sunday morning, when the messages first began to appear, a U.N. spokesman told a Web site that follows the organization's affairs,

Inner City Press, "We are reviewing to ensure that the security of our Internet services will be improved." The Inner City Press site, however, cited "skeptics" who said the "outdated" U.N. Web system remains vulnerable to hackers.
I have an idea. They

should switch to Macintosh. While they will forever live their days in the shadow of an ever-advancing PC world, they won't have to worry about being hacked because no one in their right mind would ever spend the time and effort it would take to figure

these silly, Apple-monogrammed contraptions out.

For several days after the attack, at least one site — belonging to the U. N. Environmental Program — was unable to rid itself of a message attacking "Ysrael and Usa."

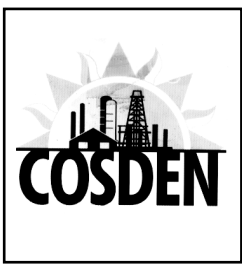
Ms. Montas said that, beyond the aliases that were posted on the messages, the United Nations has no idea about the identity of the hackers or whether any of them was a U.N. staffer.

No idea, eh? That's encouraging.
The most advanced

computer security companies in the world are based in America and Israel, according to experts. Oh, sweet irony.

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

Pigskin Pies Football Contest



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2. Ballinger
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Alabama
6. Michigan
7. Georgia Tech
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. St. Louis



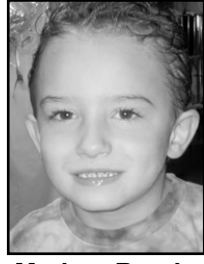
John Scott
First Bank Of West Texas

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Arkansas
6. Notre Dame
7. Georgia Tech
8. Miami
9. New England
10. 49'ers



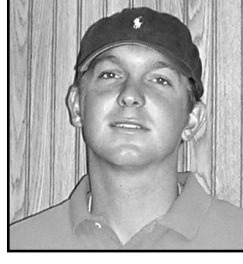
Don Bowles
Howard County Feed & Supply

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Arkansas
6. Michigan
7. Georgia Tech
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. St. Louis



Markus Boyd
Jazzy's

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Alabama
6. Michigan
7. Georgia Tech
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. St. Louis



Gary Harris
87 Auto Sales

1. Big Spring
2. Ballinger
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Alabama
6. Michigan
7. Georgia Tech
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. St. Louis



Wal-Mart

1. Hereford
2. Ballinger
3. Florida
4. USC
5. Alabama
6. Michigan
7. Boston College
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. San Francisco



Mike Abusaab
Sonic Drive In

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Florida
4. Nebraska
5. Alabama
6. Michigan
7. Georgia Tech
8. Dallas
9. New England
10. St. Louis

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____ Name: _____

2. _____ Address: _____

3. _____

4. _____ Phone Number: _____

5. _____

6. _____ Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored

7. _____

8. _____ **Indianapolis at Tennessee**

9. _____ Total Points _____

10. _____

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7. Boston College at Georgia Tech

5. Arkansas at Alabama

News in brief

Report: cadet convicted of sexual assault not racial bias victim

NEW LONDON, Conn. (AP) — A federal review has concluded that a former U.S. Coast Guard Academy cadet convicted of sexual assault was not a victim of racial discrimination.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued the ruling in the case of Webster Smith kicked out of the academy after his court-martial last year for sexual assault.

Smith, who is black, had complained that two academy leaders treated him differently than white cadets accused of sexual offenses.

In a letter to Smith dated Aug. 20, Carmen H. Walker, deputy officer for equal employment opportunity programs at the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, wrote: "This complaint is dismissed because it fails to state an actionable claim. This letter constitutes the final action by DHS on this complaint."

The Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security.

Smith, of Houston, was the first student court-martialed in the academy's 130-year history. He was acquitted of rape but was convicted of extortion, sodomy, indecent assault and other charges in a case involving four female cadets. He served all but one month of a six-month prison sentence and was released early for good behavior.

Smith originally filed the complaint with Coast Guard headquarters. H. Jerry Jones, civil rights manager for headquarters' support command, dismissed all but one of the 17 claims Smith raised.

The service investigated Smith's claim that his case was treated differently by Rear Adm. James C. Van Sice, superintendent of the academy, and Capt. Douglas Wisniewski, the commandant of cadets at the time.

Smith has 30 days to appeal the racial discrimination decision to the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

Study finds lower immunization rate for Texas children

AUSTIN (AP) — The vaccination rate among young Texas children fell 2.1 percent last year, dropping the state from 24th to 34th nationally, according to a survey by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The state's 2006 vaccination rate among children ages 19 to 35 months fell to 74.7 percent from 76.8 percent in 2005, according to the study.

"This is tragic," Corpus Christi pediatrician Jaime Fergie said in a statement released by the Texas Medical Association. "With low immunization rates Texas will see a comeback of once-rare diseases, and we will be victims of our past success."

Fergie said parents often forget about the dangers of diseases such as measles and polio because vaccinations have been successful in reducing them.

Emily Palmer, a spokeswoman for the State Department of Health Services, said the decrease was within the survey's margin of error of 3.4 percent.

"We really consider it holding our own," she said.

In Houston, immunization rates were down 6.7 percent to 69.9 percent.

Kathy Barton, spokes-

woman for the Houston Department of Health and Human Services, said fragmented records contribute to the problem. Children getting shots from various clinics may have incomplete records, resulting in incomplete shots.

Children who miss one dose of any of six difference vaccines are not considered fully vaccinated, health officials noted.

The state is encouraging parents to register their children for IMM-Trac, an electronic database that allows medical providers to access a child's shot records.

Texas rose above the national average for childhood immunization for the first time in 2005, when the rate increased 7.5 percent to 76.8 percent.

Senators move to stop Mexican trucks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two influential senators proposed a plan to ban Mexican trucks from U.S. roads on Monday, saying not enough has been done to make sure they are safe.

Sens. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., and Arlen Specter, R-Pa., want to strip funding for a pilot program launched last week giving Mexican carriers full access to America's roadways.

Their proposal, scheduled for a Senate vote Tuesday morning, came the same day the first Mexican truck participating in the long-delayed free trade program delivered its cargo to North Carolina.

Republicans said they would oppose any plan to keep Mexican carriers out of the U.S. They said Mexico has more stringent trucking standards than Canada, whose carriers already have full access to U.S. highways.

"Can't we use some

common sense here? This is not some enemy satellite on our border," said Mississippi Republican Sen. Trent Lott, adding that some critics want to make Mexico the "bogeyman."

The pilot program allows up to 100 trucks to travel anywhere in the U.S. Since 1982, Mexican trucks were prohibited from going further than 20 miles into the U.S., except in Arizona, where the limit was 75 miles.

Transportes Olympic, the only Mexican carrier granted full access to U.S. roadways as of Monday, has told the Transportation Department it will use only long haul trucks made within the past three years on U.S. roads.

Melissa Delaney, spokeswoman for the Transportation Department, said there were no problems with

the border crossing.

"Mexican trucks and drivers must meet safety standards that in many respects are higher than the standards for their U.S. counterparts," said John Hill, head of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. "It

is unfortunate that some in the Senate would seek to deprive U.S. consumers of the significant savings, and U.S. truck drivers of the significant new opportunities that the cross-border trucking demonstration project is generating."

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MOTEL

Continued from Page 8A

motels were designed by Frank Redford, who built a string of seven Wigwam Villages across the country in the mid-1930s. In addition to the Tee Pee Motel, only three Wigwam Villages remain. Two are on Route 66, in Holbrook, Ariz., and in Rialto, Calif. A third is located in Cave City, Ky., near Mammoth Cave National Park.

Texas has its share of attractions that were once

considered tacky, like the replicas of Stonehenge and Easter Island in Kerrville, and the Eiffel Tower topped by a cowboy hat in Paris (Paris, Texas, that is).

"This is a young coun-

try. This is a young state. A lot of our fantastic story is the 20th century story," Smith said. "These things are a tribute to American creativity and business savvy. They are also fun."

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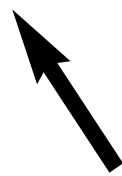
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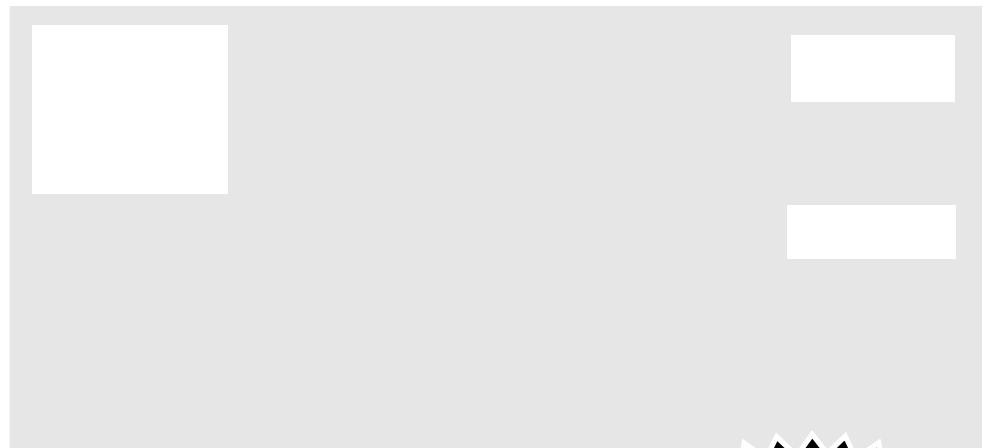
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