



Council opts for Moore control

Places three restrictions on economic development board

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council put several restrictions on the board of directors for Moore Development Tuesday night, following strong urging from Councilwoman Jo Ann Staulcup.

"I brought this need before the council for the first time more than five years ago,"

"We're responsible to the public, and we can't discharge our duties adequately by looking at line items that don't tell us what happened during the meeting."

—Jo Ann Staulcup, council member



Staulcup told the council. "The council has changed since then, and so have the members of the Moore Board. But we have to do a better job of overseeing how this board spends the public's

money."

Staulcup said she feels the ultimate responsibility for the funds Moore Development utilizes for economic development falls to the city council.

"I can't speak for every city, but I feel the public hands their funds to the Moore Board, and the Moore Board is appointed and they're not responsible to the public for that money," said

Staulcup firmly. "We (the city council) are elected, and we are responsible to the public."

"I'm not suggesting we tie Moore Board's hands... However, I'd challenge anyone to tell me and prove to me there has been any oversight of Moore Board by approving minutes... We're responsible to the

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Master the Mountain

• State Park provides challenging course for runners

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Faith may be able to move mountains, but it will take sheer will and determination for runners from all over the state to attempt to master the hills and slopes of Scenic Mountain during the Master the Mountain Fun Run/Walk.

Slated for April 14, Big Spring State Park Manager Ron Alton said the annual fun run poses a challenge to serious runners that



Alton

many can't find anywhere else.

"You really can't find the kind of hills that we offer with this run anywhere else. I've heard runners refer to one of the hills on the run as Terminator Hill," laughed Alton. "The steep grades really offer a challenge to runners."

"The Permian Basin Running Club usually sends a team over, and we get runners from Midland,

Merkle and San Angelo, just to name a few. They really look forward to the challenge the terrain here offers."

While the 10K and 5K races seem to draw the serious competitors, Alton said the beauty of the mountain draws just as many people for the walking division.

"You don't have to run to be a part of the fun," said Alton. "We get a lot of people who participate in the walk just because of the

See RUN, Page 6A

Michael Bell, left, director of the Big Spring VA Medical Center, and Jan Lynch, a social worker with the extended care transitional unit at the facility, unveil a U.S. flag that was flown over an American compound in Afghanistan. The flag was sent by U.S. service men as a gesture of thanks for a banner officials at the VAMC sent to help lift their spirits. The flag will be on display in the hospital's extended care and treatment unit.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins



HERALD file photo Ty Clark takes a ride on his galloping steed in the 2006 Coahoma Kindergarten Stickhorse Rodeo. This year's edition of the annual event is set for 9 a.m. Thursday in the Coahoma Elementary School gymnasium.

Ride 'em, buckeroo!

Stickhorse rodeo set to make a stir in Coahoma

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

For three decades, Coahoma's littlest cowboys and cowgirls have been whooping it up at their own rodeo, a colorful, action-filled ride that leaves a grin on the face of every fan in the crowd and memories to last a lifetime in the heart and mind of each student who gets involved.

"I think it is a very

important part of their school life," said Coahoma Kindergarten teacher Shayla Seymore, who was preparing for Thursday's Kindergarten Stickhorse Rodeo, set for a 9 a.m. grand entry in the elementary gymnasium. It's her sixth time to help put on the rodeo. "You can hear the older ones saying 'I remember when I was in the rodeo.'

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KBSB FLEA MARKET

The Third Annual Spring Clean Community-Wide Flea Market is set for 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the Big Spring Mall parking lot.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful invites everyone to be involved.

Pick up an application for booth space at the Mall office or the Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Third. Prices for the 10x10 booth spaces are \$25, 12x12 spaces are \$45, 24x12 spaces are \$65.

Call 263-8235 or 263-7641 for more information. Mail applications and checks to: Keep Big Spring Beautiful, P.O. Box 1350, Big Spring 79721

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Mark your calendar for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event slated for mid-April.

"A ShowCase of Airpark businesses" will be hosted by the McMahon-Wrinkle Airport and Industrial Park.

The reception is set from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. April 12 at the air terminal, 3200 Rickabaugh Drive West.

There will be door prizes and refreshments. Merchants are invited to bring their business cards for exchange.

Business After Hours is a program designed to encourage networking and showcase sponsors.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Hangar 25 Air Museum has announced that Wayne Bonner, a U.S. Army World War II veteran of 1943-1945, has been named Veteran of the Month for April.

A reception will be held in his honor at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 5, in the museum's Briefing Room.

Veteran of the Month receptions are open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the Veteran of the Month series or other activities at Hangar 25 Air Museum, call 264-1999.

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Courtesy photo
Coahoma Junior High School students recently competed in the Texas Math and Science Coaches Association Regional Qualifier. Pictured are, left to right, front row, Calvin Stansel, Chris Henry and Dustin Fontana, and back row, Joe Sweeney, Reagan Reid, Rachel Barbee and Rebecca Mince.

Coahoma Junior High Math Team fares well at regionals

Special to the HERALD

Coahoma Junior High Math Team fared well at the Texas Math and Science Coaches Association Regional Qualifier in Plains earlier this month. Several of the students have advanced to state competition this weekend.

Coahoma results from the regional meet are:

Eighth grade

Reagan Reid: Fifth in mathematics and number sense; sixth in calculator.

Rachel Barbee: Sixth in number sense.

Seventh grade
Rebecca Mince: Fourth in number sense; fifth in mathematics.

Calvin Stansel: Third in number sense (state qualifier); fourth in mathematics; seventh in science.

Chris Henry: First in number sense (state qualifier); third in mathematics (state qualifier).

Sixth grade
Dustin Fontana: Third place in science (state qualifier); fourth in number sense.

The state meet will be held in San Antonio this Saturday at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

public, and we can't discharge our duties adequately by looking at line items that don't tell us what happened during the meeting. It has to be that way for a reason, and I understand that. But it doesn't have to stop there."

Mayor Russ McEwen said he felt the council had been lax in its duty to examine the minutes of the board's meetings.

"It's our responsibility to ask those questions," said McEwen. "If it's on that consent agenda and we approve that consent agenda, that's on us. I think approving minutes is a legitimate way to do this. And if we have questions and it's on our agenda tonight, we need to ask questions and they (Moore Board) need to be here."

The council unanimously approved three restrictions for the economic development board.

The first restriction requires the Big Spring City Council to take the minutes of Moore Board meetings off its consent agenda, where it has been approved routinely for years, and examined and voted on independently.

The second restriction requires the board to receive approval from the council before a check is made out for any non-budget item.

The third restriction

requires a quorum of Moore Board members to meet with the council in an executive session quarterly to discuss what actions the board is taking.

Moore Board President Larry McLellan said all three conditions are not only acceptable by the economic development group, but welcome.

"I think the dialogue with the council is a very good idea," said McLellan. "I believe it will only improve their job to respond to the community and our job a lot easier because they will know what we're doing. And that may have been an issue in the past, be it a small project or maybe it takes a large project to get us to this point and get the attention."

And while the restriction on check-writing may seem like the council is locking down Moore Development's check book at first glance, McLellan said the move will have no effect on the economic development corporations operations.

"The restrictions placed on checks by the council tonight will have no effect whatsoever," said McLellan. "Typically, after we approve a project, it takes six to eight weeks before Moore Board actually issues the check. There's always

plenty of time for the council to approve our minutes and know what's going on.

"If you look at most of our proposals and projects — all of them, actually — there's a statement on everything we issue that says it's subject to city council approval. So, it will absolutely not effect us. My problem with this is please don't do anything that will tie our hands. And this won't do that."

The council also OK'd:
• A resolution authorizing the city manager to execute an agreement with Rick Boiles as Moss Lake caretaker.

• Emergency reading of a resolution authorizing the fire chief to execute education agreements with firefighter and emergency medical technician recruits, requiring reimbursement for tuition, fees and costs by recruits if their employment terminates within one year of completion of training and containing a non-competition agreement.

• First reading of a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute a letter of engagement with Texas Trails Education and Motorized Management for consultant services and the creation of the Moss Creek Lake motorized recreational trail.

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Fred Cole, 63, died Saturday. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Ronnie Freeman, 49, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Don't forget
we like your
letters to us

Spring has sprung and there is quite a bit of activity happening in and around our community. We here at the *Herald* want to take this opportunity to remind our readers that we welcome your letters to the editor and want to publish them in the paper.

On an almost daily basis, you can find our policies concerning letters to the editor located on our "Opinion" page, but here is a reminder:

While it is not an absolute requirement, we ask that letters be limited to no more than 300 words.

Yes, we have printed quite a few letters in the past year that were considerably longer than 300 words. However, letters are printed on an "as space is available basis," and longer letters are more difficult to find space for publication.

Letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address, for verification purposes. Anonymous or unsigned letters, or those that do not include a telephone number or street address, will not be considered for publication.

Letters determined to be libelous or slanderous will also not be printed.

We do reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity and we also reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period for each author.

Unfortunately, the limited size of our staff makes it impossible for us to acknowledge the receipt of letters. And, as one might expect, letters submitted from those living in our readership area will receive priority.

There are a number of ways to submit letters. They can be mailed to: Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721. Or they can be hand delivered to our offices at 710 Scurry St. during normal business hours Monday through Friday. In addition, you can go to our Website at www.bigspringherald.com and click on the Letters to the Editor icon and be provided with a form that will guarantee it arrives in the editor's office.

We also encourage readers to submit letters via e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.

The thing to remember is that the *Big Spring Herald* is your community newspaper and we want to provide you with a forum to express your views.

So, please let us hear from you.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I was just reading the story in your newspaper about Daniel Ray Jones, the now known child molester. The more I think about this story the madder I get.

My question is, where is the justice — justice for these two little girls and many more like them? There is none when you have officials that let someone like Jones take such little time on a plea bargain. It is my understanding that he only gets to spend three years behind bars (even less if he makes parole) when he could have received up to 20 years on the one count, a second-degree felony.

The two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child he faced — a first-degree felony punishable by two 99-year terms — were dismissed in a plea bargain. It is with my strongest belief that these little girls' ages were 10 and 7 at the time this was going on and from what I read the abuse was going on for awhile.

They did not receive any justice. How can this criminal get so little time when these girls will

have a lifetime to deal with what happened to them? Their lives will never be the same, nor will any other child that has been invaded and destroyed by the ruthless acts of a sex offender.

In my opinion there should never be a plea bargain for anyone who violates a child. They should get the maximum sentence the law allows, no questions asked.

What I'm about to say may seem cold hearted to some, but Daniel Ray Jones will get what he deserves when he gets to prison. I feel for these little girls and their family, and no, I don't know them at all.

One more question. What would the officials that gave Daniel Jones and all the molesters such little time on a plea bargain do if it were one of their children? Would it be justice then? I think not.

Something more needs to be done for our children who get hurt and not let the scum walk so freely. Who agrees?

BRENDA SUTHERLAND
BIG SPRING

Vigilante radio stoops to new low

Just when we thought American xenophobes couldn't stoop any lower, when their mean-spirited behavior couldn't be any more repulsive, two New Jersey radio shock jocks are seeking to reach a new low.

The two jocks, known as "The Jersey Guys," are calling on their listeners to rat on illegal immigrants, as if they were doing a service to society by promoting cruelty against other human beings. They are exhorting their listeners to report neighbors, strangers and "anyone suspicious" to the immigration authorities or to their misguided radio station, WKXW, 101.5 FM in Trenton.

But their hate-mongering campaign is clearly much more than just an affront to illegal immigrants. Many of the state's 1 million Latinos are very offended.

The radio campaign is called "La Cucha Gotcha," which is a play on the Spanish word "cucaracha," meaning cockroach. When they encourage their listeners to report suspected illegal immigrants, who could easily be non-Latinos, they play mariachi music in the background, and they claim the bigoted drive will last until the Cinco de Mayo Mexican holiday.

It is clearly a sick effort to draw attention, as well as a cheap publicity stunt to raise the program's ratings.

Some New Jersey Latinos argue that the best thing to do with

these two characters is to ignore them. They say that most Americans are much more compassionate than these attention-hungry clowns, and that Latinos should not give them a platform on which to seek fame.

But other Latinos say the radio campaign may lead to harassment of Hispanics who are here legally — including American citizens — because xenophobes are being encouraged to report anyone simply because they may "look suspicious."

New Jersey's Hispanic leaders say the campaign could encourage racial profiling and incite violence against Latinos. They say it is "poisonous," "despicable" and "idiotic."

"The broad-brush characterization against Latinos by 'The Jersey Guys' dehumanizes a portion of our state's population," said New Jersey State Assemblyman Wilfredo Caraballo, in a press conference where Latinos condemned the radio program. "And it fosters hate."

In spite of the protests, the two jocks — Craig Carton and Ray Rossi — have refused to apologize or stop their inflammatory rhetoric, forcing Latino leaders to organize a boycott of the show's advertisers.

Nevertheless, The Jersey Guys held an on-air press conference, in which they said the name of the campaign is irrelevant. "The program is to get rid of illegal immigrants because they are a danger to our country," Carton said.

He went on to display remarkable ignorance, blaming illegal immigrants for New Jersey's high

property taxes and violent crime. He even insinuated that illegal immigrants are more likely to become terrorists.

"If you're here illegally, you are breaking the law — no better, no worse than the guy who robs the liquor store or the guy who waits to case your house out and robs you of your belongings," Carton said. "You are a criminal."

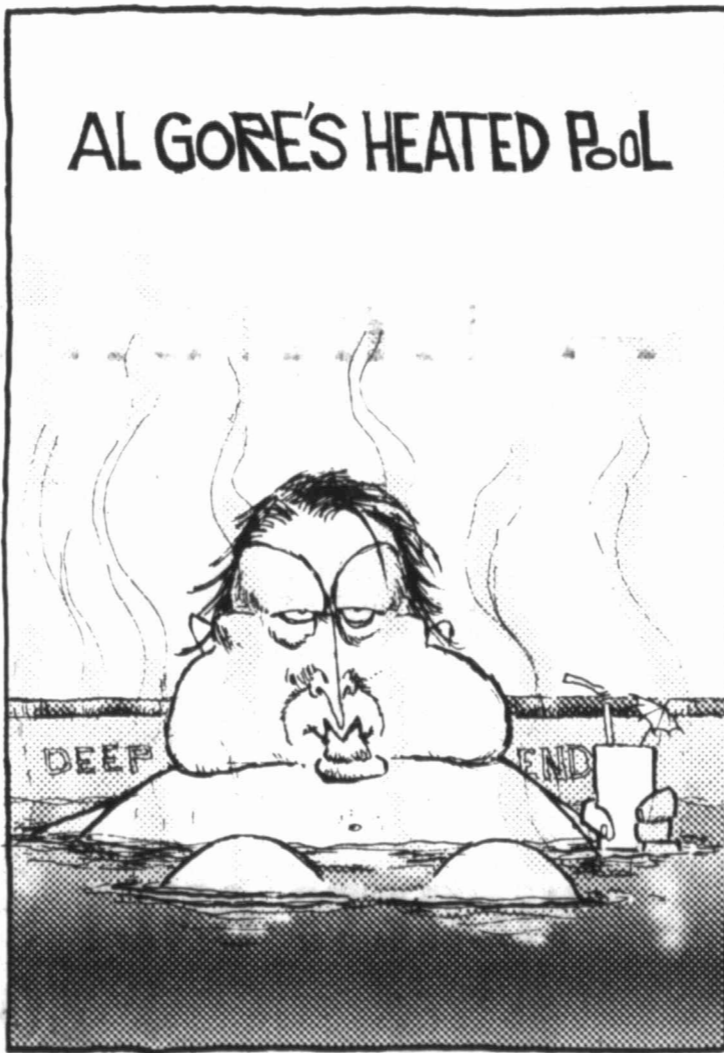
In fact, you are not! Right-wing extremists tried to turn them into criminals in Congress last year, but they failed.

In fact, coming into the country illegally is equivalent to failing to pay a parking ticket. It doesn't make you a criminal.

Amazingly, these two radio vigilantes don't realize that the last thing immigration authorities want is to get inundated with calls from people who simply "suspect" that someone is an illegal immigrant.

The Department of Homeland Security has repeatedly stated that it wants to go after real criminals — terrorists or people who have violated a court order to leave the country — not every decent, hard-working immigrant who is only trying to put food on the dinner table.

"We don't apologize for any aspect of this project," Carton said, demonstrating — in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty — the kind of intolerance and xenophobic bitterness that is making some Americans forget our immigrant heritage, and tearing this country apart.

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ARTIST: SEAGAN JOURNAL 2007

CARBON OFFSET GAP

Blue Bell Ice Cream is 100 years old

The Brenham Creamery Company opened on Aug. 3, 1907, as a butter manufacturing company. The company bought cream and milk from area farmers to make butter. Nineteen stockholders put up \$2,200 to start the business.

In 1911 it started making ice cream at the rate of two gallons a day. By 1919, the company was floundering and some thought was given to closing the company. A new manager, E.F. Kruse, was hired at a salary of \$60 a month. He was 23 years old, just back from World War I and had the opportunity to get a

job as superintendent of schools in a nearby community. But he accepted the offer from Blue Bell. He didn't cash any of the checks from Blue Bell for six months because he didn't want the company to go into the red. In 1930 he changed the name of the company to Blue Bell Creameries, named for a flower that blooms in July. Blue Bell's growth has been slow

and steady. Its ice cream entered the Houston market in 1959, the Austin market in 1965 and the Dallas market in 1978. Waco felt slighted and put up a billboard with the words "YOU CAN'T GET BLUEBELL ICE CREAM IN WACO." Soon Blue Bell entered Waco.

When the distribution center for West Texas opened in Big Spring, Blue Bell had its biggest sales week in the company's history up to that time.

Blue Bell is now in 16 states, from Arizona to North Carolina and is the third largest ice cream company in the country. Some 2,800 people work at Blue Bell, 800 of them in Brenham. The employees own 40 percent of the company.

E.F. Kruse managed the company until he passed away in 1951. At that time his son, Ed Kruse, took over as manager. Ed's brother, Howard, followed him and now Ed's son, Paul, is president and CEO of Blue Bell. The Kruse family has run the company for 88 years.

Milk for Blue Bell ice cream comes from a 200-mile radius of Brenham. The company uses milk

from 50,000 cows daily.

"The milk we use today was grass yesterday," says Howard Kruse. "It's fresh."

Blue Bell uses 500 tons of pecans each year.

Howard has been responsible for many of Blue Bell's flavors. He says it took two years to develop Homemade Vanilla, the company's bestseller. Cookies and Cream is No. 2.

To celebrate the company's centennial, a new flavor named Century Sundae was introduced. It is Homemade Vanilla with caramel and chocolate sauce, whipping cream and a cherry garnish.

A big moving van carrying displays and the history of the company is traveling to areas where Blue Bell is sold. Big events are planned at the Brenham plant leading up to the Aug. 3 anniversary. That plant, by the way, gets more than 100,000 visitors a year.

Howard Kruse says ice cream is the fun food in America. "It's the happiest food in the world. You eat it when you're feeling good, walking down the street, at a party, in your backyard. It's just fun."

TUMBLEWEED
SMITH

Why not check this out?

Please be advised the library will be closed on Good Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7.

Did you know that you can get IRS forms here at the Library? Or, you can go to www.irs.gov, click on "Forms and Publications" tab and print out your own forms. We also have "J.K. Lasser's Your Income Tax 2007," if you have questions. If you are filing online, we do have computers available. If it takes you over an hour to file your taxes, let the staff know and they can disable the timer and allow you more time on the computer. However, please remember that we can only provide the forms and the computer, we cannot tell you how to fill them out.



HOLLIS
McCRIGHT

Lots of computer books have come in: "Hacking Web Applications Exposed" (005.8 SCA J), by Joel Scamby; "Office 2007 Simplified" (005.5 KIN S), by Sherry Kinkoph and another "Office 2007 Solutions" (005.5 BAL J), by Joli Ballew; "Over the Road Wireless for Dummies" (004.68 HAL E), by E. Phil Haley; and "Excel 2007 Formulas and Functions for Dummies" (005.36 BLU K), by Ken Bluttman. For those of you who work in depth on computers, "Java: A Beginner's Guide" (005.133 SCH H), by Herbert Schildt and "CWSP Official Study Guide" (005.807 MOE G), by Grant Moerschild, are available.

"Spanish for the Educator" (468.342 DIA J), by Jose Diaz; "Algebra II for Dummies" (512.9 STE M), by Mary Jane Sterling; and "10 ACT Practice Tests" (973.18 2007), all would be great to check out. It is probably time for SAT and ACT testing to be going on, either for a pre-test or the real

thing. Brushing up on your algebra skills before testing and improving your communication skills in the classroom with either students or their parents would be of benefit.

Many new parents are using sign language in order to communicate with their children. "Baby Signing for Dummies" (419.708 WAT J), by Jennifer Watson, would be a great way to learn how. My niece has taught her son how to sign and when he was ill with an ear infection, he signed "ear hurt," and so was able to tell his mother what the problem was.

Are you just beginning your career? What is a 401(k)? Bonds? Stocks? Take a look at "Financial Planning Demystified" (332.6 LIM P), by Paul J. Lim. It is a simple, easy to understand guide to planning your financial future and ensuring a successful retirement. And if you didn't do your financial planning and have been laid off and used up your savings, then check out "How to Find a Job After 50"

(650.140 CUM B), by Betsy Cummings. She will show you how to go from part-time to full-time or even moving into a completely different career.

A neat little book that has come in is "What Happens to a Torn Dollar Bill?" (332.494 REI C) by Charles Reichblum. It is full of fascinating facts about money. Did you know that President Warren G. Harding was the first president to pay income taxes? What year was it?

Are you pregnant? Curious as to what is going on with your body? Check out "The Everything Pregnancy Book" (618.24 FOR P), by Paula Ford-Martin. One thing that I didn't know is that morning sickness doesn't always occur in the morning and a due date is a suggestion, not a mandate. Two more baby books: "Having Twins and More" (618.25 NOB E), by Elizabeth Noble and "Having a Baby, Naturally" (618.45 OMA P), by Peggy O'Mara.
From Gregory Curtis

comes "The First Cave Painters" (759.012 CUR G). They are among the most familiar paintings in the world and they are also among the oldest. Within caves that are still being discovered in France and Spain are paintings and engravings on the rocks, some of them 30,000 years old. After touring one of the most famous such caves, Lascaux, Picasso himself was humbled, and said, "We have learned nothing in twelve thousand years." One of the things we have learned, however, is that the paintings are far older than that, and we have learned such facts because of improvements in basic research. Curtis has given an overview of much else we know about these strange and beautiful works, and also how much people have speculated about them. There is so much we can-

not know about the people who made them that the cave paintings are sort of like a Rorschach test for each era that views them.

Longing for the rooster's crowing, hens scratching in the yard? Check out "Keeping Poultry" (636.5 ROB V), by Victoria Roberts, and learn how to raise poultry.

Howard County Library hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is manager of the Howard County Library.

DNA 101

As promised in my last column, here are a few facts about DNA testing and its use in genealogy.

Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is the chemical inside the nucleus of all cells that carries the genetic instructions for making living organisms. Chromosomes are paired threadlike "packages" of long segments of DNA contained within the nucleus of each cell.

In humans there are 23 pairs of chromosomes. In 22 pairs, both members are essentially identical, one deriving from the individual's mother, the other from the father. The 23rd pair is different. In females this pair has two like chromosomes called "x." In males it comprises one "x" and one "y," two very dissimilar chromosomes. It is these chromosome differences which determine the sex of a child.

Each child gets two chromosomes, one from each parent — the mother's will always be an "x," the father's can be either, which determines the sex of the child. The "y" chromosome is carried from father to son only. It is this "y" chromosome which is useful to genealogists.

By comparing DNA results with other participants we can get a very good idea if these participants are related, and depending on the number of matches from the test, how many generations we share a common ancestor.

In a 12-marker test, if two individuals match all markers, they have a 50 percent chance of having a common ancestor within 14 generations. With a 25-marker test, they have a 50 percent chance of a common ancestor within seven generations, if all 25 markers match.

There is currently a 67-marker test that can be used in DNA research.

In my last column I noted that Silas Rawls, my fourth-great-grandfather, and Willis Ralls, the ancestor of a fellow researcher, David A.

Ralls, are proven by DNA to be closely related.

Since Silas was born around 1750 and Willis was born around 1780, it is logical that they were at least close cousins, if not uncle and nephew.

Willis Rawls was born in South Carolina, which is where Silas Rawls was during the same time period. Silas' oldest son was born in South Carolina around 1803 and Willis' first child was born in Hopkins County, Ky., in 1809.

The 1810 census of Hopkins County lists a Larkin Rolls, age 26-44, born 1766 to 1784. More in line to be a brother than a father, but since census takers often made mistakes in age ranging up to 10 years or so, Larkin is very likely a candidate as Willis Ralls' father. More research is needed to make the connection.

My next column will be on successions or early probate records and will concern people involved with Stephen F. Austin's "Old Three Hundred."

Bobby Rawls is a resident of Big Spring and can be e-mailed at brrawls@crcom.net.

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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

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7		8				2		4
	5	4				6	7	

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Contract Bridge

Insurance to the Nth Degree

East dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ 10 5 2
♥ A 7 3
♠ Q J 10 8 3
♣ A 6

WEST
♦ K J 9 6 3
♥ J 8 4 2
♠ K
♣ 10 8 7

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

SOUTH
♦ A 8 4
♥ K 9 5
♠ A 7 5 2
♣ K Q 3

The bidding:
East Pass South 1 NT West Pass North 3 NT
Opening lead — six of spades.

You sometimes hear it said that the best players seem to see through the backs of the cards. They don't, of course, but in a very high percentage of deals they do play as though they were looking at both opponents' hands.

For example, take this deal where West led a spade against three notrump. East's queen won the first trick, his spade return was ducked to West's jack, and a third spade was taken by the ace as East discarded a low club.

Declarer had no chance to make the contract without utilizing the diamond suit, where a straightforward finesse was available. But instead of crossing to dummy to attempt the finesse, South played the ace of diamonds at trick four, caught West's king and wound up making five notrump! Had he tried the finesse, he would have gone down one!

The question that naturally arises is how could South possibly have known that the king would fall on the ace? The answer is that he didn't know the king was singleton, but he did know that taking a diamond finesse was the wrong play.

Declarer reasoned that if West had the guarded king, the contract could not be made, since West would cash his two remaining spades for down one. South therefore had to assume that either East had the king of diamonds or West had the singleton king.

The ace-of-diamonds play catered to both possibilities. Had East held the guarded king of diamonds, all that South's safety play would have cost him was the extra 30 points he could have scored by taking a finesse.

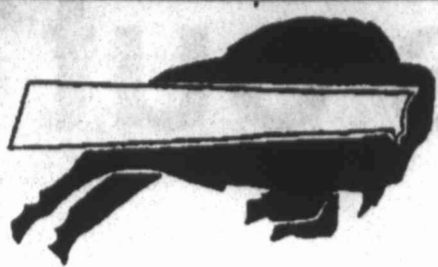
But when it is considered that losing a finesse to the singleton king could cost declarer 960 points — 700 West's jack, and a third spade was taken by the ace as East discarded a low club.

Declarer had no chance to make the contract without utilizing the diamond suit, where a straightforward finesse was available. But instead of crossing to dummy to attempt the finesse, South played the ace of diamonds at trick four, caught West's king and wound up making five notrump! Had he tried the finesse, he would have gone down one!

Tomorrow: A wild night at the club.
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Buffalo Tales

Forsan hosted the Zone One Act Play Contest for District 11-A on Thursday.

The Forsan play, "Dearly Departed," was chosen as the alternate play. The plays from Miles and Rotan will advance to district competition. Tim Ballard was awarded all-star cast honors and Sheree Atkerson, Evan Burton and Alex Newsom received honorable mention awards. Aaron Johnson was given an award for technical support.

Other cast members were Stephanie Williams, Jessica Ballard, Laura Spence, Clint Lockhart, Kaleb Wiley, Tessa Kendrick and Kyle Bailey. The crew consisted of Aaron Johnson, Shelby Jones and Kelsie Jones. The play was directed by Jim Rhodes and Kelly Ballard.

Forsan will host the district contest on Thursday. Students will participate in District UIL

Academic contests in Christoval on Tuesday of next week and in Rotan on Wednesday.

The school board recognized student achievement last week. Members of both the girls' and boys' basketball playoff teams, the state advancing debate teams, All-State Band qualifier Eric Ellis and members of the all-district band and orchestra were awarded certificates by Board President Allen McDowell.

The Math Team participated in the Texas Math and Science Coaches State Meet in San Antonio during spring break. Jonathan Purcell received a \$700 scholarship for his achievement finishing fourth in the "Top Gun" rankings. He placed fifth in number sense and sixth in mathematics.

In the senior division, Courtney Holdampf placed second in number

sense the Eric Ellis was ninth.

In the junior division, Rowena Suazo received a sixth-place trophy in mathematics and a ninth-place ribbon in number sense and calculator.

Amanda Longorio placed sixth in the freshman division.

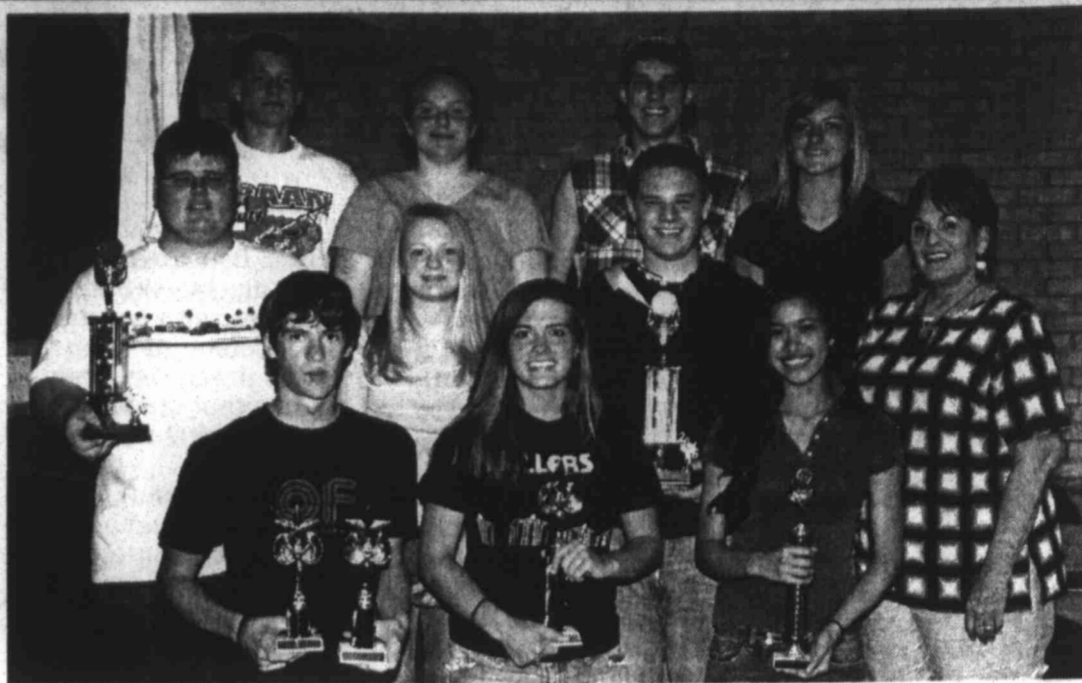
Other team members participating were Seth Johnson, Charlene Stanley, Jeremy Robbins, Sandi Golleher, Evan Burton, Aaron Johnson and Aric Denton.

Out of 20 schools participating, Forsan was fifth in number sense and calculator and seventh in mathematics.

The Forsan boys' golf team finished fourth at the Iraan Invitational Golf Tournament this week. Leading the Buffaloes was freshman Jake Moore with a round of 82. Other team members were Seth Johnson, Justin Epley, Josh Hatfield, Rick Bailey, Brantley Cahoon and Ryan Flores.

The next tournament for both the boys' and girls' teams will be in Colorado City. District golf tournaments will be April 2 and April 9.

The Forsan baseball team lost to Miles, 10-9, last week. They played Winters on Friday night at Forsan.



Courtesy photo

Members of the Forsan High School Math Team are, left to right, front row, Jon Purcell, Courtney Holdampf and Rowena Suazo; middle row, Eric Ellis, Charlene Strickland, Aaron Johnson and coach Susan Alexander and back row, Jeremy Robbins, Amanda Longorio, Evan Burton and Sandi Golleher.

The Lady Buffs softball team defeated Menard, 22-0, ending the game on the run rule. Pitching for the team were Haylie Burleson and Alex Pappajohn. Shelby Jones hit two triples and Amanda Longorio added two doubles to lead the Lady Buffs at the plate. The Lady Buffs are now 1-2 in district play.

Forsan's tennis players competed in the Greenwood Tennis Tournament last weekend.

RODEO

Continued from Page 1A

They really look forward to it and they have great memories."

Those memories sometimes date back to mom and dad because the rodeo is in its 29th year.

Pre-K through sixth grade students make up the majority of the clowns and competitors, who compete in barrel racing,

bronc riding, bull riding, pole bending, flag racing and milking. A princess is selected from each classroom and Patricia Bennett, elementary school principal, has agreed to be the rodeo queen.

Students have been practicing for a couple of weeks — bull riding is serious stuff, even on a stickhorse. They've been perfecting their moves and learning songs, putting on the final touch-

es. In addition to the queen, other dignitaries will be there. They include Rob Smets, professional bull-fighter from Merkel, announcer Ben Clements and, of course, Quail Dobbs, justice of the peace, Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame inductee and two-time PRCA Clown of the Year.

They'll likely be joined by PRCA champion Wacey Cathy and western swing musician Jody Nix,

among others.

"We'll also have the Howard College Rodeo team. They help us out and even participate in some of the events," added Seymore.

Come early for a good seat. The gym is expected to be no concessions, but those who attend the rodeo are welcome to visit the cafeteria and snack bar following the event.

Everyone is invited. There is no admission fee.

RUN

Continued from Page 1A

beauty of the park, and the view from the 200 foot bluff is just unbelievable. Whether you're running hard or just walking along, it's hard to ignore the beauty from there."

Alton said the Fun Run doubles as a fund raiser for the State Park, and helps show the state just how important the park's role is in the community.

"The money we raise from the Master the Mountain Fun Run/Walk will be used to put the same event on again next year," he said. "There's a \$15 entry fee — \$18 after April 5 — to walk or run

in the event, and the entry fee includes a T-shirt.

"The state really looks at events like these when it comes to the state parks and the funds each one is allocated. So this run is really important — not just to the health of the runners and walkers in and around the community, but to the longevity of the park itself."

Set to start at 9 a.m. on April 14 — with a late registration set for 8 a.m. the morning of the event — Alton said he hopes people take a very special reminder about exercising away from the annual event.

"I started running about seven years ago, and it's had a tremendous impact

on my health," said Alton. "You can't believe the amount of energy that it creates. It sounds funny, but exercise breeds energy. At the end of the run you're so tired you can barely stand up, but the next day you have even more energy."

Alton said medical personnel will be on duty throughout the walks and runs, which are being held in conjunction with the annual Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair.

For more information on the "Master the Mountain" Fun Run/Walk, contact Alton at (432) 263-4931.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Reminiscing

Our readers share their favorite Easter memories from seasonal rebirth, acts of kindness, and unexpected blessings to candy-filled baskets and even the joy of discovering rabbit tracks in new-fallen snow. Plus, sharing the harvest and devils food cake.

American Profile

KIM L. BANGO, MD

Board Certified in Family Medicine

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF STAFF'S PETITION RELATING TO REALLOCATION OF STRANDED COSTS

On June 26, 2006, the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") filed a petition to initiate a proceeding to address generic issues relating to reallocation of stranded costs in accordance with section 39.253(f) of the Texas Utilities Code ("Staff's Petition"). Section 39.253(f) requires reallocation of stranded costs among retail customer classes if total retail stranded costs exceed \$5 billion on a statewide basis. Staff's Petition seeks a Commission determination as to the amount by which total retail stranded costs exceed \$5 billion and how the excess, if any, should be reallocated. The Staff's Petition was initially litigated based upon the assumption that there would be no reallocation of stranded costs among retail customer classes in TXU Electric Delivery's service area. However, the Commission has recently reversed that assumption and remanded the case for consideration of whether stranded costs should be reallocated among retail customer classes in TXU Electric Delivery Company's service area if total retail stranded costs exceed \$5 billion on a statewide basis. Any reallocation of stranded costs could affect all retail electric providers ("REPs") serving end-use retail electric customers in TXU Electric Delivery Company's ("TXU Electric Delivery") certificated service territory as it existed on May 1, 1999, and may

affect the retail electric customers of those REPs depending on how the REPs are required to or choose to pass along to their retail electric customers TXU Electric Delivery's charges. Persons with questions or who want more information about Staff's Petition may contact TXU Electric Delivery at 1601 Bryan Street, 23rd floor, Dallas, Texas 75201, Attn: Regulatory Support or by calling Regulatory Support at 214-486-2323. A complete copy of Staff's Petition will be available for inspection at the address listed above and at the Commission's offices in Austin, Texas. The Commission has assigned Docket No. 32795 to Staff's Petition and the generic proceedings. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission by April 27, 2007. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326 and should reference Docket No. 32795. Further information about this proceeding may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

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Capitol almanac

METH HOMES

If a home once had termites or flooding or lead-based paint, the seller has to disclose that to a potential buyer.

A meth lab? Ditto, according to a bill tentatively approved by the House on Tuesday.

Rep. Veronica Gonzales, D-McAllen, said the disclosure would protect the buyer from possible adverse health effects in the future from a methamphetamine lab.

"The buyer should know what she or he is getting," she said. It also would protect the seller, real estate agent and buyer from a future lawsuit, Gonzales said.

The House gave preliminary approval to the measure with a non-recorded voice vote.

CASH FOR PARKS

With the House set to debate a state budget proposal later this week, environmentalists called for lawmakers to keep a pledge to boost funding for the state's decrepit state parks system, but to halt a plan to move some parks to the Texas Historical Commission.

"We have not been putting our money behind this for years," said Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin. "We need more money for our parks system."

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has pressed for a bigger budget, but legislators have voiced disappointment after a state audit found that the agency fails to accurately estimate and justify repair costs.

STATE SCHOOL INVESTIGATION

Sen. Jane Nelson confirmed she will hold a hearing on Thursday to update her colleagues on the federal investigation into conditions at the Lubbock State School.

A U.S. Department of Justice report released in December says shoddy health care, substantial neglect and harmful treatment techniques have jeopardized the lives of the 350 residents at the facility for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

State briefs

Governor signs 'castle doctrine' deadly force bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry signed into law Tuesday a bill that gives Texans a stronger legal right to defend themselves with deadly force in their homes, cars and workplaces.

Both chambers of the Legislature overwhelmingly approved the measure earlier this month. The bill, backed by the National Rifle Association, states that a person has no duty to retreat from an intruder before using deadly force.

"The right to defend oneself from an imminent act of harm should not only be clearly defined in Texas law, but it is intuitive to human nature. You ought to be able to protect yourself," Perry said, surrounded by lawmakers who pushed for the law.

This is the first bill-signing this legislative session by the Republican governor. The law takes effect Sept. 1.

"This is reasonable legislation," Perry said.

The building or vehicle must be occupied at the time for the deadly force provision to apply, and the person using force cannot provoke the attacker or be involved in criminal activity at the time.

Some refer to the measure as the "castle doctrine," drawing from the idea that a man's home is his castle and that he should have the right to defend it.

Sen. Jeff Wentworth, a San Antonio Republican who pressed the issue in his chamber, said the law changes previous Texas law that in some cases requires a per-

son to retreat from an intruder.

The new law will also provide civil immunity for a person who lawfully uses deadly force in any of the circumstances spelled out in the bill. Police and prosecutors can still press charges if they feel deadly force was illegally used.

Convicted killer of carjacked Air Force officer to die

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — After a carjacking left a San Antonio man dead, the gunman needed to change out of his blood-spattered clothes.

The shooter, Vincent Gutierrez, threw his clothing in a trash bin and donned some gym shorts and a T-shirt bearing the U.S. Air Force logo. They were in the back of the red Mazda sports car he and a buddy had stolen and belonged to their victim, Capt. Jose Cobo.

"They looked so awkward on him," Bert Richardson, the former assistant district attorney in Bexar County who prosecuted Gutierrez and his 17-year-old companion Randy Arroyo, recalled witnesses saying.

Gutierrez, who was 18 at the time of the shooting, was set to die Wednesday evening for the officer's slaying.

Federal officials seek critical habitat for Pecos sunflower

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wants to designate as critical habitat nearly 1,600 acres for the Pecos sunflower — a native plant protected under the Endangered Species Act.

The showy plant survives in fewer than two dozen locations in the desert wetlands of New Mexico and West Texas. The critical habitat include areas of Chaves, Cibola, Guadalupe, Socorro and Valencia counties in New Mexico, and Pecos and Reeves counties in Texas.

Public comments on the proposal are being accepted until May 29.

In designating an area as critical habitat, the Endangered Species Act requires that economic and other impacts be considered. If the benefits of excluding an area outweigh the benefits of including it, the U.S. Department of Interior may exclude an area from critical habitat, unless that would result in the extinction of a threatened or endangered species.

Woman sues state after child's death

DALLAS (AP) — The mother of a boy who died of a heat stroke last summer is seeking at least \$5 million in damages from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

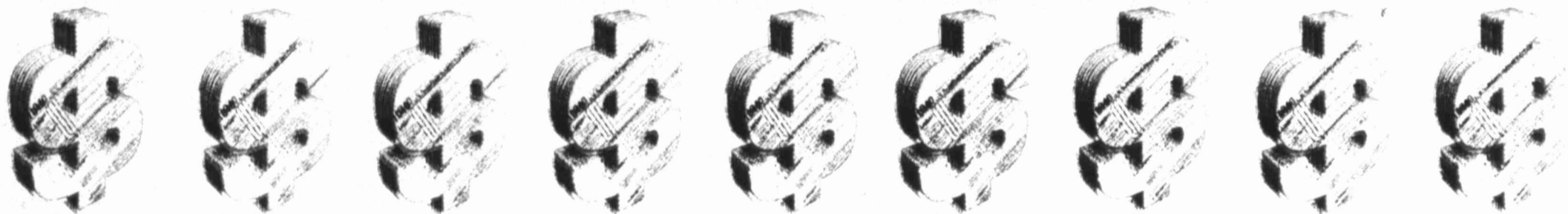
Avonda Fox alleges the state violated her 4-year-old son Jacob's civil rights by not providing a safe environment at the state-licensed day care facility in Pleasant Grove where her son went. She filed a lawsuit Monday in civil court in Dallas.

Fox's son, Jacob, died July 20 after being left in a day-care van, authorities said.

Balch Springs investigators said Jacob's body was moved to a park and his death not reported for hours.

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Democrats say Bush will have to swallow Iraq bill

By ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats are showing no signs of backing down on their rebuke of the Iraq war, insisting President Bush will have to accept some sort of legislative timetable in exchange for the billions of dollars needed to fund the war. "We would hope that the president understands how serious we are," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., after the Senate voted to uphold a proposal in a war spending bill calling for the troop withdrawal. With the Senate resuming debate on the \$122 billion bill Wednesday, President Bush

reminded lawmakers their move will not prompt him to negotiate, but to veto any funding legislation that includes a deadline for withdrawal. "Members of Congress need to stop making political statements, start providing vital funds for our troops and get a bill to my desk that I can sign into law," Bush was expected to say in a speech at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association meeting in Washington. Excerpts were released in advance by the White House. "If Congress fails to pass a bill to fund our troops on the front lines, the American people will know who to hold responsible." But Reid and other Democrats say they won't back down.

"Rather than making all the threats that he has, let's work with him and see if he can give us some ideas how we can satisfy the wishes of a majority of the Senate, the majority of the House and move forward," Reid said. The bill finances operations in Iraq and Afghanistan but requires Bush begin bringing home some combat troops right away with a nonbinding goal of ending combat missions as of March 31, 2008. The House last week passed a similar bill by a 218-212 vote. That bill orders combat troops out by Aug. 31, 2008 — guaranteeing the final spending measure negotiated with the Senate will include some sort of

timetable on the war. Sen. John McCain, a 2008 Republican presidential aspirant, called the vote "a very bad decision." McCain, appearing on NBC's "Today" show Wednesday from Orlando, Fla., said the war "was badly mismanaged. But there are signs of progress everywhere. ... I am confident that given the opportunity, we can have success. The consequences of failure are catastrophic because if we come home, bin Laden and Zarqawi, they are going to follow us." Senate Republicans tried Tuesday to strip out the withdrawal language but failed in a 50-48 vote. One Democrat — Sen. Mark Pryor of Arkansas —

sided with Republicans in opposition to the public deadline, contending such a measure would broadcast U.S. war plans to the enemies. "Congress should not define how long our enemy has to hang on to win," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. Sen. Chuck Hagel delivered the deciding vote by joining anti-war Republican Gordon Smith of Oregon in breaking ranks and voting with Democrats to put a nonbinding end date on the war. "We have misunderstood, misread, misplanned and mismanaged our honorable intentions in Iraq with an arrogant self-delusion reminiscent of Vietnam," said Hagel, R-Neb.

News at a glance

Day-care center owner takes busload of students hostage in Philippine capital

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A man with a history of attention-grabbing stunts took a busload of students and teachers hostage from his day-care center and drove them to City Hall Wednesday, keeping them onboard for hours and demanding better lives for the children. Jun Ducat reportedly chartered the tourist bus for a field trip marking the end of the school year. Instead, he and at least one other hostage-taker had the driver take them to City Hall, where they taped a handwritten sheet of paper to the windshield, saying they were holding 32 children and two teachers and were armed with two grenades, an assault rifle and a .45-caliber pistol. The driver was released soon afterward, and a child with a fever was freed after four hours and driven away in an ambulance. "I love these kids; that's why I am here," Ducat, identified by police and parents as the owner of the 145-student day-care center, told DZMM radio by mobile phone. "I invited the children for a field trip."

Aides key to Gonzales' credibility with lawmakers in prosecutors' firing flap

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two senior Justice Department aides who orchestrated the firings of eight U.S. attorneys could hold the key to embattled Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' credibility with Congress as a growing number of lawmakers call for his ouster. One of the aides, former Gonzales chief of staff Kyle Sampson, is scheduled to testify Thursday in front of a Senate panel investigating whether the dismissals were politically motivated. The other, Monica Goodling, has refused to testify and will take the Fifth Amendment to protect against incriminating herself while testifying under oath. Both are fiercely loyal to Gonzales. And both could clarify how involved Gonzales was in planning the dismissals — a sore point for lawmakers who say they

feel deceived by conflicting Justice Department statements about the purge. "We were misled, apparently, by some ... Department of Justice officials, and we have a right as a Congress to find out exactly what happened," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said last weekend on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Mother Nature gives it her all during a wild day in Southern California; thousands lose power

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Volatile weather swept through Southern California on Tuesday, delivering downpours, hail, snow, and fierce winds that capsized boats and toppled power lines and trees. Nearly 185,000 customers lost power. The roof was torn off the Orange County Fire Authority's aviation building, and harbor patrol officers made rescues in Newport Bay and offshore. Gusts up to 40 mph capsized a small powerboat and three outriggers, sheriff's Sgt. David Ginther said. In Newport Bay, 24 members of a University of California, Irvine, rowing crew were thrown into the water when their boats flipped. Some swam ashore, and others were rescued, Ginther said. A large section of roof laminate and asphalt tile landed on four cars and caused minor damage but no injuries, fire Capt. Stephen J. Miller said. Fire crews were responding to numerous reports of downed trees and power lines, he said.

Cancer society recommends MRIs for women with breast cancer gene or family history

ATLANTA (AP) — Up to 1.4 million U.S. women — those with an unusually high risk of developing breast cancer — should get annual MRIs as well as mammograms, the American Cancer Society advises in new guidelines. And a new medical study suggests that all women newly diagnosed with breast cancer should get MRIs, too. The scans revealed cancers in the opposite breast that were missed by ordinary mammograms in 3 per-

cent of these cancer survivors. The study came out after the cancer society developed its guidelines, which are the first to recommend MRI for screening women who show no signs of cancer.

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IN BRIEF

Relay for Life Volleyball Tourney

Saturday, April 7 there will be a volleyball tournament at the Goliad Gym for Relay for Life.

Registration will start at 10 a.m. and the first game will be played at 11 a.m.

Cost is \$5 per player and each team will consist of three boys and three girls.

The tournament is open to all age groups.

Tech rips New Mexico State

Roger Kieschnick went 2-for-4 and hit a two-run double in the fifth inning to help lead Texas Tech to a 10-3 win over New Mexico State on Tuesday night.

With the score tied at 2-2, Texas Tech (19-10) scored four runs in the fifth inning on Kieschnick's double and a throwing error by New Mexico State third baseman Marcos Rosales that allowed two runs.

Matt Smith's two-run double contributed to Texas Tech's three-run seventh inning, which broke the game open and gave the Red Raiders a 9-2 lead. Smith went 2-for-3 on the night and scored twice.

New Mexico State starter Noah Garza (1-2) was roughed up for the loss. He gave up six runs, six hits and two walks in 4 2-3 innings. Garza struck out two.

3-person scramble at Big Spring CC

There will be a scramble golf tournament March 31 and April 1 that includes a practice round Friday and a barbecue lunch Saturday for all players.

The field will be flighted by first round score and the number of flights will be determined by the number of participants.

There will also be optional cash players pools for each day.

Entry fee is \$60, plus a cart fee.

For additional information, contact Larry Bryan at the Pro Shop at 267-5354.

W. Texas Disc Golf Tournament slated

The West Texas Disc Golf Champions Tournament has been scheduled for April 21-22 at Comanche Trall Park.

The tournament will be three rounds of 27 holes.

Entry fees are \$50 for the open division, \$45 for the open master division, \$35 for the amateur master division, \$30 for the women's division, \$40 for the advanced division, \$30 for the amateur division, \$20 for novices and \$10 or juniors (under 16).

On Friday, a random draw doubles event is scheduled, as is a Lake and par 9s event. Entry fees are \$10 per person.

For more information, contact Greg Brooks at 267-1465.

Lady Steers' blast Frenship in softball

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

Kelly Sage pitched a near flawless game against Frenship and in the fourth inning the Lady Steers scored all the runs they would need to capture their first district win of the season.

Big Spring (11-15) evened its district record at 1-1 and handed the district favorite Lady Tigers their first loss of the season at the Big Spring Softball Complex, 6-0. Sage picked up her eighth win of the season and continued to sparkle on the mound as she shut down and shutout Frenship.

"Kelly did an outstanding job for us this afternoon," Lady Steers head coach Jennifer Reyes said. "She's a freshman and for her to perform this well for us is impressive. She never let the importance of this game get to her and she never rattled. Our defense played really well today and this shows that when we can play with anyone in our district."

The Lady Steers committed two errors in the game, but Sage pitched around both — she had four strikeouts and catcher Baylea Fox threw out one runner trying to steal second.

In the bottom of the fourth with the game scoreless, the Lady Steers erupted for six runs.

With one out, Amber Sides and Bridget Rodriguez walked to set the stage. Kenzie Hunt hit a sharp grounder to third and beat the throw to load the bases. Brenna Phernetton stepped to the plate and with two strikes, roped a single to left field that drove in the first two runs of the game. With two on, Linzee Yarber kept things going with a



Amber Sides takes a look at a pitch in the fourth inning of the Frenship vs. Big Spring softball game Tuesday afternoon. The Lady Steers upset the Lady Tigers 6-0, at the Big Spring Softball Complex.

well placed single in front of the right fielder and the Lady Steers were leading, 3-0.

After the Lady Tigers made a pitching change, Heather Whitt

accepted the fourth walk of the inning and another run crossed the plate. With the bases still full of Lady Steers, Sage did the rest of the damage by doubling to

left and driving in two more runs.

Big Spring 6, Frenship 0.

See **STEERS**, page 2B

State Senate to vote on High School drug testing

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Texas public high school athletes would face a 30-day suspension for a first-time positive test for steroids under penalties proposed for a sweeping testing program pending in the state Senate.

Two more positive tests would result in a permanent ban, said Sen. Kyle Janek, the Houston Republican pushing the testing program that Texas officials are calling the nation's largest for high school students.

Only a ban on playing football, basketball or any other sport will discourage athletes from taking performance-enhancing drugs, Janek said.

"That's what these kids are going to understand," Janek said.

Although Janek's bill has been pending in the Senate for a few weeks, it is the first time he has outlined specific penalties.



Coahoma football players surround the Pecos Eagle's quarterback in a scrimmage game before the 2005 football season. High School football players and other athletes are being tested for steroids in many of schools around the state.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has made a mandatory, random high school testing program

one of his top priorities for the legislative session. Janek's bill would test at least 22,000 stu-

dents, 3 percent of the state's 733,000 public school athletes.

Although previous test-

ing bills have failed under objections over costs to local school districts, the Senate proposal would have the state pay the estimated \$4 million per year. The House is also considering a testing program.

Janek said penalties could be added to his bill this week and would write punishments into law, rather than leave it up to the University Interscholastic League, the state's governing body for high school sports, to enforce by rule.

The proposed penalties include:

— Refusal to take a test will be considered a positive test.

— A first positive test would bring a suspension of at least 30 days. A second would bring a one-year suspension, followed by the permanent ban for a third.

The bills do not include sanctions for schools whose athletes

See **STERIODS**, page 2B

Dallas downs New Orleans

Mavericks 105, Hornets 89

By JEFF LATZKE

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Even a throwback night couldn't help the New Orleans Hornets hearken back to the times when they beat the Dallas Mavericks.

Not against a team so proven at establishing and extending winning streaks.

Josh Howard had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and the Mavericks beat New Orleans 105-89 Tuesday night for their 21st straight victory over

the Hornets.

For a team that's already become the first in NBA history to have three winning streaks of 12 games or longer in a single season, it was also the seventh straight win for the Mavericks and their sixth in a row on the road.

"It was really a fun trip, obviously. We're trying to work hard offensively moving the ball, and everybody's making shots," said Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki, who scored 15 points while shaking off an illness. "It was a fun trip."

Jason Terry added 19 points and seven assists, and Devin Harris scored

14 points for Dallas. The Mavericks are already past halfway to an unprecedented fourth 12-game winning streak.

Dallas needs only one more win to match the franchise record of 60, set in 2002-03 and matched last season.

"We just knew we wanted to get better as a team going on this road trip. In the playoffs, you need wins on the road," Howard said. "We've kind of proven to ourselves right now that we can get wins on the road."

The Hornets haven't beaten Dallas since the turn of the century, the

See **DALLAS**, page 2B



Mavericks Head Coach Avery Johnson is shown trying to get the attention of his players.

Broyles says he's offered basketball job

By NOAH TRISTER
AP Sports Writer

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles says he's offered the Razorbacks' basketball coaching job to someone, but he wouldn't say to whom. "We could have a quick announcement," Broyles told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. "Or it could fall through. I've offered the job, and we're waiting to hear." Speculation has centered on Texas A&M coach Billy Gillispie, who took the Aggies to the Sweet 16 this year. Arkansas fired Stan Heath on Monday, and attention immediately turned to Gillispie. Broyles said he has not talked to any coaches, but that "the one I'm trying to get knows I want him to have the job." No matter who ends up coaching Arkansas, it will be time for the Razorback Foundation to open its check-

book again. The school's private fundraising arm will be indebted to three different basketball coaches once the Razorbacks hire a new one. With Heath's firing, his contract must be bought out, and Arkansas' financial obligation to Nolan Richardson — fired in 2002 — doesn't end until next year. And the new coach will be compensated in part with money from the foundation in addition to the salary paid by the university, as has been the case with every major coach for several years. Chuck Dicus, the foundation's president, says his group has no say in personnel matters such as Heath's firing. "We don't involve ourselves in decisions about hiring or firing. That's purely a university matter," Dicus said. "We know what our contractual obligations are. We're willing to follow through on those when someone is terminated.

When someone is hired, we of course work with the university as far as making them aware of funds available for certain things." Richardson's buyout was for \$500,000 a year, and Heath's is reportedly for \$300,000 a year for three years. Dicus said he trusts Broyles to make smart decisions when it comes to financial commitments. "He's real good at what he does," Dicus said. "He knows what it takes to hire a coach. He's not going to overstep his bounds." Heath indicated Monday that Broyles was concerned about season ticket sales and the state of Arkansas' fan base. Arkansas' actual attendance was around 14,400 per home game this season. The Razorbacks averaged 18,294 fans at Bud Walton Arena in 1998-1999, a figure that fell to 15,065 by 2001-02, the season Nolan Richardson was fired.



MCT photo/Tom Fox/Dallas Morning News
Texas A&M's head coach Billy Gillispie feeds the ball to his players as they practiced early in the season. Gillispie is rumored to be heading to the University of Arkansas.

STEERS

Continued from 1B

"This win puts us in the race for district," Reyes explained. "I'm expecting a three team race and it should go right down to the end of the season — Frenship, Plainview and us. We're all battling, but if we can continue to cut

down the errors then we have a really good chance. We had six errors in one inning against Plainview and we lost 4-3. We can't play like that, but if we keep our heads in the game and play good defense like we did today ... we can win this thing." The Lady Steers will travel to face Estacado, Friday at 6 p.m.

STERIODS

Continued from page 1B

test positive. The bill would also require middle school and high school coaches to complete a training program on the dangers of steroid use, which can include dramatic mood swings, heart disease and

cancer. A state study among 141,000 Texas students in grades 7-12 conducted by Texas A&M University found that steroid use fell from 2 percent in 2004 to 1.5 percent in 2006. About 130 of Texas' 1,300 public high schools have already implemented a drug testing policy for their student athletes.

DALLAS

Continued from 1B

Hornets haven't beaten Dallas since the turn of the century, the longest losing streak for one team against an opponent in the NBA, NFL, NHL or Major League Baseball. The Mavericks' last loss in the series came on

Nov. 17, 1999, in Charlotte. Scott said he didn't think the losing streak against the Mavericks "had anything to do with it." Tyson Chandler scored 11 of his 13 points in the first half as the Hornets overcame an early 11-point Dallas lead before losing the lead for good.

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MARCH MADNESS Inventory Reduction Sale

Advertisement for Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan featuring a grid of vehicles for sale, including Ford Taurus SEL, Lincoln Town Car Executive, and various SUVs and vans. Many items are marked 'SOLD'. The ad also includes a motorcycle and truck section. Contact information for Bob Brock is provided at the bottom.

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WEDNESDAY

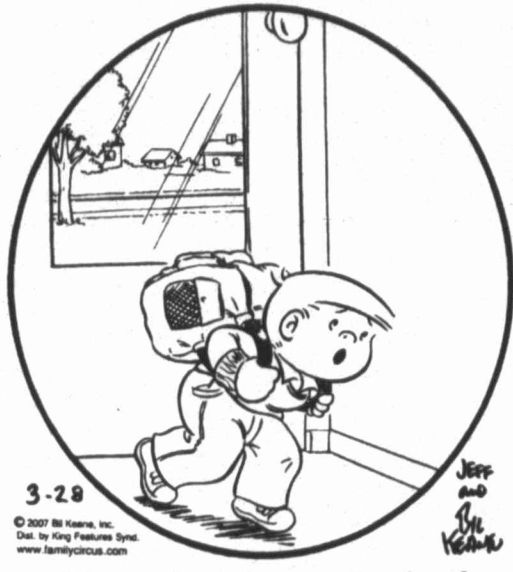
Table of TV schedules for Wednesday, listing channels (WFAA, KMI, UNI, KPEJ, etc.) and programs (News, Entertainment, CSI, etc.) with their respective times and categories.

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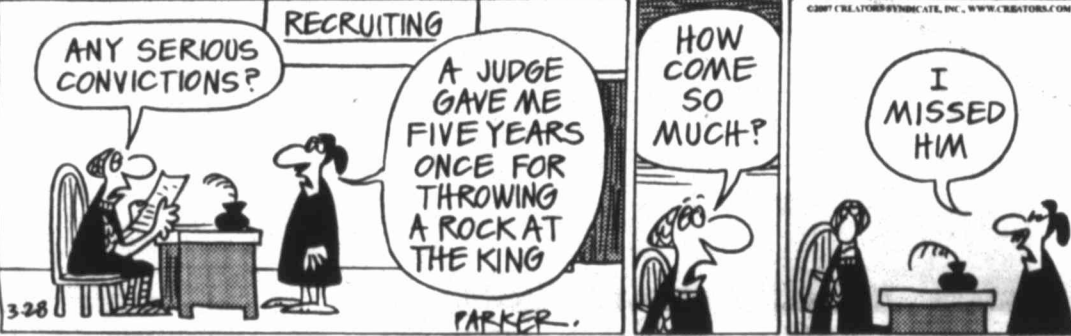
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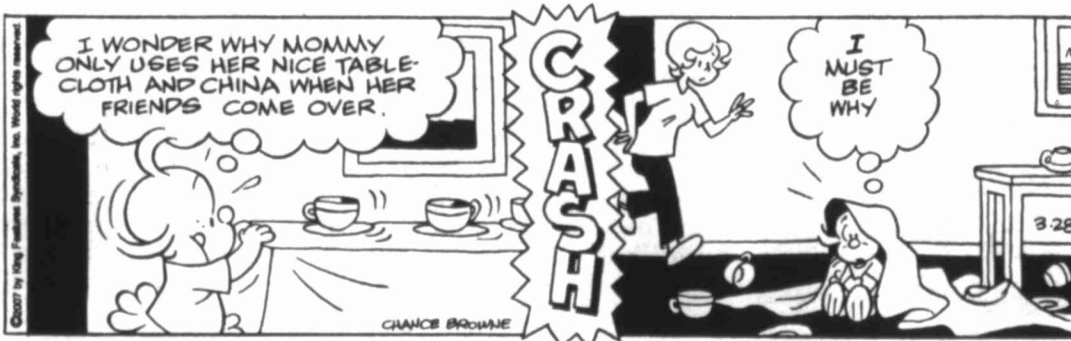
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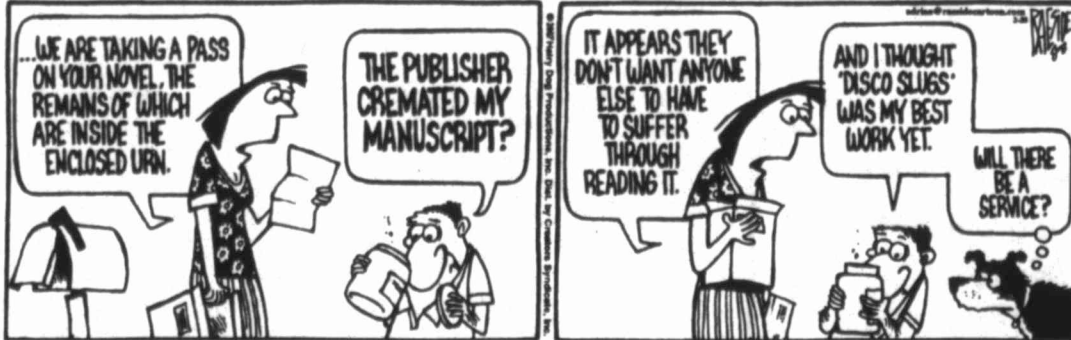
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, March 28, the 87th day of 2007. There are 278 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 28, 1979, America's worst commercial nuclear accident occurred inside the Unit 2 reactor at the Three Mile Island plant near Middletown, Pa. In 1834, the U.S. Senate voted to censure President Jackson for the removal of federal deposits from the Bank of the United States. In 1854, during the Crimean War, Britain and France declared war on Russia. In 1898, the Supreme Court, in United States v. Wong Kim Ark, ruled that a child born in the United States to Chinese immigrants was a U.S. citizen. In 1930, the names of the Turkish cities of Constantinople and Angora were changed to Istanbul and Ankara. In 1939, the Spanish Civil War effectively ended as Madrid fell to the forces of Francisco Franco. In 1942, during World War II, British naval forces raided the Nazi-occupied French port of St. Nazaire in Operation Chariot. Five years ago: The Arab League, meeting in Beirut, Lebanon, agreed on a peace plan that offered Israel normal relations in exchange for a full withdrawal from war-won lands and a Palestinian state. One year ago: Struggling to revive his troubled presidency, President Bush replaced longtime chief of staff Andy Card with budget director Joshua Bolten. More than 1 million people poured into streets across France and strikers disrupted air, rail and bus travel in the largest nationwide protest over a youth labor law. Today's Birthdays: Former White House national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski is 79. Country musician Charlie McCoy is 66. Movie director Mike Newell is 65. Actress Conchata Ferrell is 64. Actor Ken Howard is 63. Actress Dianne Wiest is 59. Country singer Reba McEntire is 52. Actress Tracey Needham is 40. Actor Max Perlich is 39. Country singer Rodney Atkins is 38. Actor Vince Vaughn is 37. Rapper Mr. Cheeks (Lost Boyz) is 36. Actor Ken L. is 34. Actress Julia Stiles is 26. Thought for Today: "Those who say they give the public what it wants begin by underestimating public taste and end by debauching it." - T.S. Eliot, American-Anglo poet and critic (1888-1965).

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Place for cranes, 6 Love-letter letters, 10 Lovers' quarrel, 14 '06 Supreme Court appointee, 15 Start to sag, 16 Pulled apart, 17 Retail come-on, 19 Cut and paste, 20 Comics shriek, 21 Canoeing locale, 22 Weapon in a scabbard, 24 Have the nerve, 25 Tibet's capital, 26 Actor Sean or John, 29 Avoid a pothole, say, 33 Easter event, 35 Oklahoma! role, 39 Cheese in wax, 40 Hospital areas, 42 Hawaiian coffee region, 43 Band's sampler, 45 Actor David Ogden, 47 Avoidance, 49 First stage, 50 Madrid museum, 53 Chinese gang, 55 "There be a law!", 57 Need liniment, 58 Links org., 61 Theater award, 62 Tropical snake, 65 Oscar winner Kedrova, 66 Pennsylvania port.
- DOWN: 1 Buck or boar, 2 Natural soother, 3 Put on the line, 4 Ave. crossers, 5 Where Utrecht is, 6 Tent securers, 7 Like EEE shoes, 8 YOU HERE, 9 Deborah of The King and I, 10 The Shining author, 11 Lecturers' spots, 12 Flam sign, 13 Aquarium swimmer, 18 Pitcher handle, 23 Thomas Edison, 24 Oahu landmark, 26 Did a takeoff on, 27 "Smooth Operator" singer, 28 Mine car, 30 Goods for sale, 31 Teacher's deg., 32 Antarctic sea, 34 McGregor of film, 36 Thumbs-down votes, 37 Concerning, in memos, 38 Toward sunup, 41 Simpsons storekeeper, 44 Traffic sound, 46 Turntable part, 48 Worker with acid, 50 Combines, as assets, 51 Cube creator, 52 Mentally acute, 54 Resistance unit, 56 Genesis son, 57 Home to most Turks, 58 Educ. groups, 59 Some toothpastes, 60 Mule-mascot team, 63 Suffix with press, 64 "Told ya!"

TOP DOGS by Fred Piscop

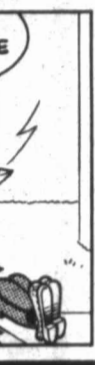
Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

Word puzzle grid with words like BLAG, ELLIS, AUNT, RIBA, MOUTH, SPUR, OVER, PUNCH, SITE, WILDPITCH, RINSE, HAIRSH, MOST, SESAME, CLOTHES, TRIP, GOALS, EAT, QAIT, HARRIET, AGE, PIST, ALLEN, TITLE, SESSTION, BARREL, PARE, SOUSA, CARDS, SPARK, PLUG, RUED, CLASS, PINE, ORAL, AUDIT, ERIN, WADE, PRESS, DATE.

Grid for the Newsday Crossword puzzle with numbers 1 through 70 indicating starting points for words.

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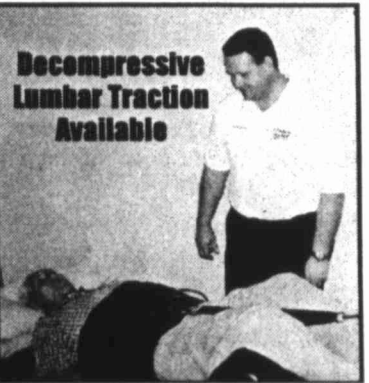


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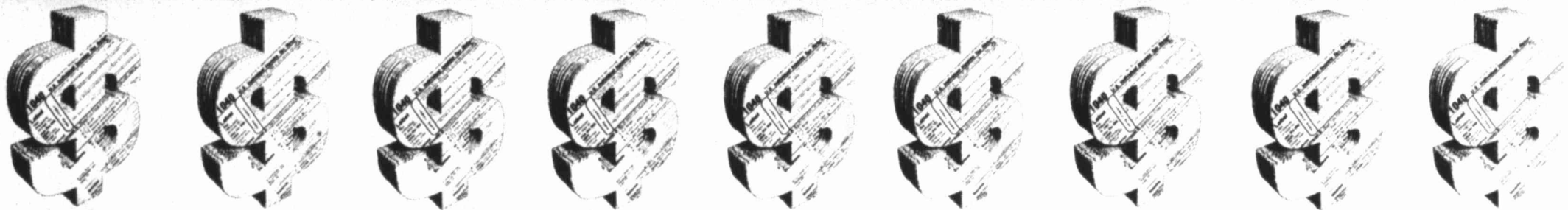
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