



# Pops in the Park full of 'firsts'



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Fireworks light up the sky behind the Comanche Trail Amphitheater Sunday night as the Pops in the Park July Fourth celebration comes to a close.

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Prayer, patriotism and pyrotechnics came together Sunday evening at Pops in the Park.

The eighth annual event, held at Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater, combined the usual (the Big Spring Symphony and a fireworks show), the new (the first-ever prayer rally held in conjunction with the event) and the unexpected (brush fires ignited by the fireworks display).

Thousands of people filed into the amphitheater, ignoring scorching temperatures and sometimes-threatening skies to enjoy what has become a holiday tradition in Big Spring.

Tim Blackshear, who is retiring as chairman of the organizing committee after five years at the helm, said Pops in the Park has become a bigger and better event each year since it began in 1995.

"When we started out, we were upside-down financially. We had some outstanding bills and we had to count ever dollar," Blackshear said. "Now, we have a credible program where people are calling us up wanting to be a part of this thing. That's what it's going to take to keep Pops in the Park going forever."

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## For soldiers back home, freedom not taken lightly

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While Independence Day is something most Americans have learned about from books with neatly drawn illustrations, the cost of freedom is still fresh in the minds of at least two native sons of Big Spring.

Sgt. Danny Wilson, part of the Army's 1st Calvary Division - 2nd Brigade, and fellow soldier Jesse Herrera, were able to take a break from the fighting in Iraq and attend the Pops in the Park Independence Day celebration held at Comanche Trail Amphitheater Sunday night.

Both Herrera and Wilson are currently home on leave and said they relished the chance to be a part of Pops in the Park. Wilson spoke to the masses during an hour-long prayer rally prior to the annual event, while Herrera was a flag-bearer during the patriotic display.

Both men said being home for the event was bittersweet.

"I kind of have mixed feelings about it. I'm glad to be home, but I know I'm about to have to go back, so I don't want to get too settled," said Wilson.

"It feels pretty good to be home, even though I'm going to be deployed again really soon," said Herrera. "It's really good to be here today for Pops in the Park. I haven't been here in about five years."

Herrera said the fighting has taken a dangerous turn in Iraq, but it's important to concentrate on the big picture, not just the violence.

"It's pretty dangerous right now in Iraq. It's the worst it's been in a while. More people are dying every day. Car bombs and more," said an obviously emotional Herrera. "But we've been able to accomplish a lot. While I was there we were able to get some of the girls back into the schools and we've been doing a lot to help build up their economy."

"Helping out the people of Iraq is a good thing and it feels good to serve my country," Herrera added. "But it's rough. There are people shooting at you every day, car bombings and stuff like that. It's really dangerous over there."

Wilson said there are a lot of positive things going on in Iraq right now that

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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Jesse Herrera, a Big Spring native currently serving in the U.S. Army, was one of several active-duty personnel that participated in the annual Pops in the Park July Fourth celebration Sunday afternoon.

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### GOOD NEWS



Today's Good News Page provides more photos of the celebration.

Rosemary Castillo prepares a cherry sno-cone to help cool off celebration goers during the annual Pops in the Park July Fourth presentation Sunday afternoon.

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### TO YOUR HEALTH

Rosanne Tassitano's headaches were so painful that she quit her job last year and spent most of her days in bed.

She would ask her husband to put her socks on "because my head hurt too much to bend down," she said.

Now, she is practically jumping up and down. Tassitano recently was fitted with a device called Best-Bite.

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### FATALITY ACCIDENT

A child was killed and six other people injured after a two-vehicle crash on North U.S. Highway 87 Sunday afternoon approximately 15 miles north of Big Spring.

According to Department of Public Safety Communications Supervisor Jackie Taylor, the accident occurred at the intersection of Highway 87 and FM 846 when a 2005 Dodge Durango, which was traveling east on FM 846, failed to yield the right-of-way to a 2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer, which was traveling south on Highway 87.

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## Obituaries

## Jimmy Estep



Jimmie Ray Estep, 59, of Big Spring died at 10:45 a.m. Friday, July 1, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 5, 2005, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday, July 4, 2005, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jimmie was born April 25, 1946, at Menard, to Paula Lee and Walter Blanton Estep. He had been a resident of Big Spring for more than 30 years. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army, having served in Germany.

He was a truck driver for many years, and for the last five years he was a paper carrier for the Big Spring Herald, delivering to Route 707 in the Tubbs Addition. Jimmie married Pamala Johnson on May 6, 1995, in Big Spring. He was a Baptist. Jimmie loved old cars and enjoyed working on them. He loved to fish and he loved to tell jokes. He would call you up just to tell you a joke.

He is survived by his wife, Pamala Estep of Big Spring; one son, Michael David Estep of Dallas; one daughter, Helen Sue Evans of La Grange, Ga.; one granddaughter, Morgan Dakota Evans of La Grange, Ga.; one brother, Walter Estep of Lake Tawokani; three sisters, Jodi Dye of Dallas, Gidget Lane of Denton and Bea Hass of Red Oak; several cousins, nephews and nieces; and his best friend, Dale Patterson.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Ellie Howell on Dec. 6, 2004.

Special thanks go to Carl Howell, Linda and Dale Patterson, Terri Hobbs and Wayne Pusley.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, c/o Mrs. Wayne Bonner, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

*Paid obituary*

## Jane Rogers



Jane Rogers, 69, of Big Spring died Sunday morning, July 3, 2005, at the home of her son at White River Lake in Crosby County. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, 2005, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Sweetwater Cemetery in Sweetwater. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday, July 4, 2005, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Jan. 6, 1936, in Fort Worth. She lived most of her life in Sweetwater, coming to Big Spring 15 years ago. She married Don Rogers on June 23, 1951, in Merkel. She was Lake Keeper at Lake Trammell at Sweetwater for 16 years. She attended nursing school in Brownwood and worked at the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center as a LVN until retiring due to ill health in 1995. After retirement, she was a volunteer at the VAMC.

Mrs. Rogers was a Baptist and an active member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by her husband, Don Rogers of Big Spring; one daughter, Debbie Daniel of Brownwood; one son, Mickey Rogers of White River Lake; two sisters, Joy Ann Dooling of Aztec, N.M., and Geraldine Childers of Mesquite; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Randy Don Rogers, in 1956, and a brother, Richard Lindsey.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Ozella Neill Long

Ozella Neill Long, 79, of Kerrville, formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, July 1, 2005, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 9-10-18-26-41. Bonus Ball: 2.  
Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.  
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$18 million.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 15-16-21-26-28.  
Number matching five of five: 0.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 9-8-9

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 1-9-2

## Support groups

## TUESDAY

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

Due to the July 4 holiday on Monday, the Encourager's Support Group, for all widows and widowers, will meet Tuesday, July 5, at 6 p.m. at the Spanish Inn Restaurant, 200 NW Third. For more information, call 398-5522.

## THURSDAY

Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. today:

- JESSICA MATTHEW, 36, of Midland, was arrested Sunday and held for the HCSO.
- LARRY RAMIREZ, 36, of 1104 S. Austin, was arrested Sunday on a charge of criminal mischief/family violence.
- THEFT was reported:
  - in the 1200 block of E. 11th Place.
  - in the 300 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1100 block of Austin.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 700 block of Third Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1300 block of Ridgeroad.

## Sheriff's report

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

- UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 15000 block of N. County Road 41.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of FM 846 and N. U.S. Highway 87.
- GRASS FIRES were reported:
  - near the intersection of N. County Road 33 and FM 846.
  - near the 194 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20.
  - near the intersection of Old Colorado City Highway and Highway 350.
  - in the 5200 block of Midway Road.
  - near the intersection of FM 818 and Highway 461.
  - in the 1700 block of N. FM 700.
  - near N. Service Road 8415.
  - near the S. Highway 87 roadside park.

## Weather

Today — Partly cloudy. A 40 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Some thunderstorms may be severe with damaging winds and large hail in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 90s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorms. Some thunderstorms may be severe with damaging winds and large hail in the evening. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. The chance of rain is 40 percent.

Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s. Southeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the south in the afternoon.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs around 100.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the upper 60s.

Friday — Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 90s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Friday night — Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the lower 70s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Saturday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Saturday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

Sunday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

## Take note

TNT FIREWORKS STANDS OPERATED BY THE BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2007 as a fund-raiser will be open 9 a.m. until midnight through July 4 at two locations, Highway 87 South and Highway 350. Funds will be used for the 2006 junior/senior prom.

GROUP PHOTOS TAKEN BY BRUCE SCHOOLER AT BIG SPRING DAY IN AUSTIN are available for purchase from the chamber of commerce Tuesday through July 15. Cost is \$10 for an 8x10 and \$5 for a 5x7. For more information, call Schooler at 264-7728 or 213-1760.

PERMIAN BASIN MENSA is accepting donations of cash or merchandise for their scholarship program. For more information, e-mail [scholarships@pb.us.mensa.org](mailto:scholarships@pb.us.mensa.org) or write to 301 E. Fifth St., Big Spring.

THE BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL OLDTIMERS (those who graduated before 1940) are planning a reunion for the annual BSHS Homecoming Sept. 16-17. Anyone able to attend a reunion Sept. 17 should call 432-267-2900 and leave phone and address information.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP is looking for children interested in attending camp this summer. Sessions are for children with physical disabilities 7 through 16 years of age. Camp is free for these children. For more information, call Bob Noyes at 267-5811 or 270-0811.

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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](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

## TUESDAY

Intermediate Line Dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628.

Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.

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

Due to the July 4 holiday on Monday, the Encourager's Support Group, for all widows and widowers, will meet Tuesday, July 5, at 6 p.m. at the Spanish Inn Restaurant, 200 NW Third. For more information, call 398-5522.

Texas Motorcycle Rights Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Spanish Inn. The public is invited. Call 268-6421 for more information.

VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.

Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. with special guest singers from Midland and Colorado City. Everyone is welcome.

Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

## WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.

Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.

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

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

## THURSDAY

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

Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.

Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

## FRIDAY

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

AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

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

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

## SATURDAY

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

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

## MONDAY

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

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

Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the north-west door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

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

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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# Child killed in rollover accident on U.S. 87

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

A child was killed and six other people injured after a two-vehicle crash on North U.S. Highway 87 Sunday afternoon approximately 15 miles north of Big Spring.

According to Department of Public Safety Communications Supervisor Jackie Taylor, the accident occurred at the intersection of Highway 87 and FM 846 when a 2005 Dodge Durango, which was traveling east on FM 846, failed to yield the right-of-way to a 2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer, which was traveling south on Highway 87.

"One juvenile subject, whose name I cannot release, was pronounced dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center at 5:28 p.m.," said Taylor. "The child, who was from Buda, was traveling in the Chevy Trailblazer and was not wearing a safety belt."

Taylor said the child was accompanied by Scott Haring and Sallye Haring, also of Buda, and a second child, all of whom were transported to SMMC in stable condition.

"None of the passengers or the driver of the Trailblazer were wearing a seat belt," said Taylor.



Department of Public Safety Troopers try to sort out this accident that happened on North U.S. Highway 87, approximately 15 miles north of Big Spring at 4:42 p.m. Sunday.

Taylor said the Dodge Durango was driven by Misty Smith of Midland, who was listed in stable condition at SMMC with

minor shoulder injuries. Cory Maxwell, of Midland, and a 6-year-old boy, who were passengers in the Durango and were

also transported to SMMC, where they are currently listed in stable condition.

The accident was inves-

tigated by DPS Trooper Robert Munsell with the Big Spring Highway Patrol Office.

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

## SOLDIERS

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the American media simply ignores.

"They don't see the coming together of two cultures like we do," said Wilson. "As Americans, we go over there and teach these people our way of living because they've never had a way of living like this. They've never experienced it. In return, these

people teach us to go back to the basics and to find out where we come from — find out what we are defending — and that brings us back to our roots.

"We help the people there build schools, build sanitation systems and help provide them with water and electricity," he continued.

"We're rebuilding their communities, but people never see that. The media only shows you the violence — who's killing

who. There's a lot more going on than that," he added.

As for the price of freedom, both Herrera and Wilson have seen it first hand during their time in Iraq. However, Wilson said it's worth it to see the continuing change in the country and its people.

"I think the good outweighs the bad," he said. "Change is slowly taking place. The way the media shows it, however, you're never going to see it until

you reach the end effect. The soldiers and civilians that work over there on a day-to-day basis see the change. It's slowly changing, and maybe some day it will get to where we can claim Iraq as an ally again. There is just so much going on over there that the American people are blind to. They have no idea what it's like."

Wilson said he hopes the war in Iraq will serve as a reminder that the freedoms Americans enjoy on a day-to-day

basis are anything but free, paid so long ago by this country's forefathers.

"As Americans, we all take our freedoms for granted," he said sternly. "We don't cherish the things in our lives that we're supposed to cherish, like family and finances. We take it for granted all the time. I learned that in Iraq. I experienced it. It's a valuable lesson I hope I can teach people."

Contact Staff Writer

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

## POPS

Continued from Page 1A

The event began with the first-ever prayer rally — or as rally chairman Everett Bender called it, "a family reunion for the family of God."

Sgt. Danny Wilson of the U.S. Army, who recently returned from a 14-month tour of duty in Iraq, was the featured speaker for the rally.

Wilson, who was born and raised in Big Spring, talked about having a religious experience dur-

ing a fierce firefight with insurgents near an Iraqi cemetery.

"I was thinking, 'There's no way we're going to get out of here,' ... and then a heard of voice say, 'Calm, down, you're going to be fine.' I thought I was going crazy," Wilson said. "After we got back, I took a little walk, and I heard that voice say, 'I told you everything was going to be all right.' Right then, I knew I wasn't talking to myself. I knew it was the Lord talking to me."

Wilson said his newfound faith sustained him

during the remainder of his tour of duty in Iraq, and will bolster him when he returns for a second tour within a month.

Other speakers at the rally included Restoration Ranch founder Rex Rainey, Loy and Linda Serrano, N. Birdwell Baptist Church Minister Joel Miller and Howard County Commissioner Bill Crooker.

Bender expressed appreciation for support given to the rally by community and church leaders.

"I was excited that so many community leaders and church people weath-

ered the heat and opened their hearts about not only what freedom means, but also about their faith."

Later in the evening, the stage was turned over to Dr. Keith Graumann and the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, that entertained the crowd for more than two hours with a mix of popular and patriotic music.

The finale was the biggest-to-date fireworks display, which thrilled the audience but had some unintended consequences.

Brush fires erupted near the fireworks' launch site and the amphitheater, but Big Spring Fire Department personnel were able to quickly contain the blazes.

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

## MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Jimmie Ray Estep, 59, died Friday. Funeral Services will be at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jane Rogers, 69, died Sunday. Funeral Services will be at 1:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be at 3:30 PM Tuesday at Sweetwater Cemetery in Sweetwater. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 PM Monday 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.

Susanne Reed  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

## Please remember what we're truly celebrating today

A great many of us in Big Spring began celebrating the Fourth of July on Friday or Saturday in much the same way most Americans have for many years celebrated our nation's independence — picnics in the park or sampling the fare of concession vendors, live music, patriotic songs and fireworks.

That, after all, is the American way, isn't it? However, it behooves us all to take a moment to think about the events that had to take place to make to make this our Independence Day.

Some 225 years ago, our founding fathers gathered in Philadelphia to sign a document that became known as our nation's Declaration of Independence.

Men, women and children — persecuted in Europe and wanting more control over their respective lives — had come to the land we now know as the United States of America to start anew.

Their freedom was not easily obtained. It was paid for with the blood, sweat, tears and lives of many. That same freedom we enjoy today has had to be paid for on numerous occasions.

While there are those who would quickly complain of our nation's shortcomings, and we most assuredly have our share, we need to remember that even though our democratic system of government oft times reveals flaws, it is still the strongest and longest surviving of any in the world.

When revolt rocks other nations, our system continues to stand the test of time.

So, today when you fire up the grill for hamburgers and hot dogs, head to the lake, the Fantastic Fourth activities downtown or simply turn on the TV to watch its fare for the holiday, take a moment to remember those who gave us our country and those who have since helped preserve and protect it.

In fact, it wouldn't hurt to offer a little prayer of thanks while we're at it.

Then go ahead and unfurl your flag. Display it proudly because it truly is a grand old flag and this is grand old nation is another year older. God bless America.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

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

## Your home can be Pfizer's castle

Americans who want to keep government out of the bedroom, beware. Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision that makes it too easy for the government to seize your bedroom — and kitchen, parlor and dining room — then hand your precious home over to a corporation.

The Fifth Amendment stipulates, "... nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." Lawyers call it the Takings Clause.

In its decision, the Supreme Court expanded the concept of "public use" to apply it not to a highway, or school, or railroad, but to economic development sanctioned by a government entity.

The city of New London, Conn., found itself in economic doldrums. Redevelopment was supposed to be the bromide. State and local officials created the New London Development Corp. That unelected entity decided to increase tax revenues by pushing middle-class families out of their waterfront homes and using eminent domain — the other E.D. — to make way for a revitalization project, anchored around a Pfizer Inc. research facility.

Some families in the redevelopment area agreed to be bought out. Susette Kelo and Wilhelmina Dery, who was born in her home in 1918, were among those New Londoners who balked.

The city didn't contend there was any blight in the neighborhood to warrant government action. Why should they move out because Pfizer wanted in? In a 5-4 ruling on Kelo written by Justice

John Paul Stevens, the Big Bench answered the why question: Because the government says so.

Connecticut law says economic development constitutes "public use." And that's that. If states want to write laws that stipulate otherwise, they can do so. But don't expect America's top court to hold land-use commissions to the same standards they save for police.

As Justice Clarence Thomas quipped in a sharply worded dissent, "Though citizens are safe from the government in their homes, the homes themselves are not."

Another dissenter, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, noted that if governments can kick people out of their homes under the banner of economic development, "the specter of condemnation hangs over all property. Nothing is to prevent the state from replacing any Motel 6 with a Ritz-Carlton, any home with a shopping mall, or any farm with a factory."

Thomas noted that when governments seize homes to enrich their own coffers, the poor and the black are likely to lose their homes.

"It's desperately hard to believe that in this country you can lose your home to private developers," New London homeowner Bill Von Winkle told The New York Times after the ruling. "It's basically corporate theft." But it's corporate theft that will enrich New London, so Von Winkle's home could become Pfizer's castle.

The libertarian-learning Institute of Justice, which represented Kelo, Von Winkle and their neighbors, held a press conference Wednesday to announce a new effort to fight back, as it champions the thousands of homeowners it believes are the targets of over-reaching eminent domain. The campaign's name: Hands Off My

Home.

Another victim of this government-run-amok trend, Denise Hoagland, who owns a home on the Jersey shore, told reporters: "Our homes are not blighted. This can happen to you." Institute for Justice spokesman John Kramer noted governments' appetite for seizing waterfront homes and figured their philosophy must be, "The poor don't deserve a view."

The Institute for Justice is well aware of the fact that both liberals and conservatives are appalled at the Kelo v. New London ruling. San Francisco Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi told me he was "fearful of" the ruling, as it may adversely affect "people who are not able to defend themselves." Meanwhile, Thomas' dissenting opinion addresses the inequities of a policy that falls hardest on "the least politically powerful" — that is, owners of lower-end homes.

Institute for Justice attorney Dana Berliner argued that New London could have had its development project and still accommodated the homeowners.

New London, she noted, "doesn't need these homes." But the New London Development Corp. didn't want these older homes in its tony project. So the homes must go.

On July 5, protesters will ask the New London City Council to spare the homes of Kelo, Dery and their co-litigants. New London should corporate theft. Why? The New London Development Corp. wants to seize these homes for the worst reason of all: because it can.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## All this and more make America great

Once again, we celebrate America — despite absolutely everything, still a great nation after all these years. Happy birthday to us.

Yet again, we rejoice not so much in what makes America great, as in what makes it really peculiar. This is in the belief that one of America's finest traits is that it is a blissfully funny place to live.

In the You Gotta Be Kidding Category, we now have doggie plastic surgery for neutered male dogs. So far, no Botox.

In reporting on Christmastime USO tours, one television network happily announced, "Wayne Newton is the new Bob Hope." I would comment, but I'm still speechless.

Lynne Cheney, the veeper's wife, has formed the Committee to Protect American Civilization, which is publishing 100 examples of allegedly unpatriotic assertions by professors in our nation. For example: If all Lynne Cheney's brains were dynamite, she couldn't blow her nose?

True, we are at war, which would be sobering if the cable news channels paid attention to anything except shark attacks and missing white females.

The Texas Legislature decided gay couples can be foster parents, but only if they're not married. The governor of Texas recently bid adieu to an interviewer by saying, "Adios, mofo."

John Ashcroft has left the attorney general's office, so we can once more view the nekkid breasts on the statues of Majesty of Justice and Spirit of Justice. So far, no noticeable deterioration in the national moral fiber has ensued.

We continue our charmingly eccentric habit of polling ourselves to find out how ignorant we are. Then we all slap our foreheads in dismay over the national dumbness. This particular oddity yields such nuggets as: 37.2 percent of us think the Mexican border should pay rent.

The University of Connecticut is planning to offer a master's degree in homeland security. Movies have been made from the TV series "Bewitched" and "The Dukes of Hazzard." You get to make up your own joke about that. Martha Stewart was convicted. Michael Jackson was acquitted. No one ever claimed justice in our nation was perfect.

According to the president of the United States, "disassemble" means not to tell the truth.

The U.S. Navy sent a letter to Fola Coats, an 80-year-old Arkansas woman, asking her to join the Seabees. The president and CEO of Formula One racing, discussing racer Danica Patrick, said that "women should be dressed in white, like all other domestic appliances." Except for those in Harvest Gold or Avocado Green.

Deep Throat and the Runaway Bride are both working on movie deals. Last month, Donald Rumsfeld, that little ray of sunshine, admitted that, statistically, things are just as bad in Iraq as they were at the time Saddam Hussein was deposed. However, he said, "a lot of bad things that could have happened have not happened." This requires deep pondering. (Note: All items in the last two paragraphs were from various issues of Harper's Weekly, researched by Paul Ford.)

Among the official job-title changes put in place by the Scottsdale, Ariz., school district this year were those for receptionist (now "director of first impressions") and school bus driver (now "transporter of learners"). (From "News of the Weird.")

All this and so much more make America the country we love.

Anyone who is blasé, jaundiced, bored or seldom-startled just isn't paying attention. So here's to all of us who make this a great nation, including the school-crossing guards, the people who line up hundreds of dominos to fall over on other dominos and the bingo players who carry their little plastic chips in blue velvet Crown Royal scotch bags.

Here's to baseball in spite of everything, to the bagpipers, the bakers, bongo-players and bull-riders. Here's to the skateboarders and especially to all the bald kids in all the cancer wards who use their IV poles as skateboards. They put one foot on the base of the pole and use the other to push with, and then hold IV-pole races in the hospital hallways. And to all the kids too sick to do that — we love you.

Here's to the lifeguards and the skydivers, to the people who read physics textbooks onto tapes for recordings for the blind and to the blind people who listen to them. Here's to the musicians, the math teachers, the Muppets and the merry pranksters. Here's to Aleet Alex, the great racehorse who made that brilliant recovery after he was almost knocked off his feet.

And here's to all the angry liberals and to all the angry conservatives — take the day off, and enjoy the hot dogs and the fireworks. And try to remember when we come back to normal partisan warfare that all of us do, actually, love this ridiculous, wonderful place.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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DEBRA  
SAUNDERS



MOLLY  
IVINS



# Got headaches? Now you can bite back

By SHIRLEY WANG

Knight Ridder Newspapers

PHILADELPHIA — Rosanne Tassitano's headaches were so painful that she quit her job last year and spent most of her days in bed.

She would ask her husband to put her socks on "because my head hurt too much to bend down," said Tassitano, 56, of Stamford, Conn.

Now, not only can she bend her head, she is practically jumping up and down. Tassitano recently was fitted with a device called Best-Bite. It sits in her mouth to center her jaw.

Her doctor, Best-Bite inventor Jerry Simon, "put this little device in my mouth and within two minutes, all of a sudden it just overcame me — the relief," she said.

This is great news for Tassitano — and possibly for some of the 28 million Americans who suffer from migraines.

Best-Bite was one of many new treatments discussed at the American Headache Society meeting that began last week in Philadelphia. Other encouraging research involved intravenously administered pain relievers and a nasal spray that provides some migraine relief

for youngsters.

One study, headed by Rami Burstein of Harvard Medical School, focused on treating allodynia, a condition in which the skin is painful to the touch. Two-thirds of migraine sufferers develop this condition.

After people get allodynia, triptans, the front-line migraine drugs, no longer work, and about 800,000 people go to hospitals each year for the pain.

Burstein's team intravenously administered nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) to 32 migraine patients with allodynia and found that 68 percent became pain-free. The rest got no relief.

Why didn't some benefit? The critical factor was a previous history of opioid treatment, another medication patients often get in hospitals. Those who were given opioids regularly failed to respond to NSAIDs. Among nonregular opioid users, every patient responded.

The lesson, said Burstein, is that emergency-room patients are better treated with anti-inflammatory intravenous drugs.

He advises patients to take medication immediately after symptoms start. After allodynia sets in, the neurons in the central nervous system change, rendering triptans ineffective.

Children who suffer migraines — roughly 8 to 12 million of them — may also be helped by a nasal spray used as a decongestant in adults.

A study headed by Dr. Paul Winner, director of the Palm Beach, Fla., Headache Center, examined the use of zolmitriptan.

Two hours after taking the drug, nearly 40 percent of the 12- to 17-year-olds were pain-free, compared with 19 percent of those who used a placebo spray.

The medical profession is getting more serious about headache pain. It became a new subspecialty in medical training in June, said Stephen Silberstein, president of the American Headache Society and a professor of neurology at Thomas Jefferson University.

David Dodick, a professor of neurology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, said managing migraine patients' pain is complex.

"There's more encompassed



Dr. Jerry Simon, a dentist from Stamford, Conn., demonstrates the Best Bite device on the teeth of Charles Mans of Philadelphia, Pa. The device is one of several new options aimed at helping people who suffer from severe headaches.

in their care than giving them a drug," he said. "It really should be under the auspices of someone who's an expert."

Maybe so, but Tassitano got her relief, Best-Bite, from a dentist.

The \$15 device is best for those with headaches that have no clear cause. A small study

by the Kaiser Permanente network in California found that 70 percent of patients got some, or complete relief with Best-Bite in five minutes.

Tassitano wears it for 10 minutes twice a day.

"I used heat, I used ice, I took Percocet," she said. "Now I'm just so thrilled."

## Rural communities can take steps to help prevent obesity

Obesity is a growing problem for many communities. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that nearly two out of every three Americans are overweight, and one in every three is obese. Health problems caused from obesity, such as diabetes, heart disease and high blood pressure, are contributing to higher medical and insurance costs. Last year, obesity in the United States cost more than \$75 billion in related health care expenses.

Obese children are at the highest level of concern. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, more than 40 percent of Texas' fourth-graders are overweight or obese. This is especially alarming because of the potential for a long-term negative impact on our communities, both urban and rural.

Rural communities can

be particularly affected by obesity because of the challenges presented by living in a remote location. There is less access to grocery stores packed with a wide variety of healthy foods. There are fewer gyms and recreation centers for community access, and, due to the distances, it is more common to use motor vehicles to travel than to use a bicycle or be on foot. Additionally, there are fewer restaurants with healthy menus from which to choose.

However, those who live in rural communities can still do many things to maintain a healthy weight. One of the biggest steps to take is to learn the right portion sizes for the food you eat. Many Americans are not aware of what is the correct portion size for different foods, and they end up eating far more than is needed.

In addition, you can improve your health by eating more fruits and vegetables. The CDC recommends eating 9 to 13 servings of fruits and vegetables every day, but nearly half of all Americans only eat half of that amount. Fruits and veggies can be the

ultimate convenience food in some ways. It comes pre-packaged, a lot of it travels really well, it doesn't need to be refrigerated, and it tastes great. It is also a powerhouse of nutrition for you. (And frozen is just as good for you as fresh.)

Another step that you can take, regardless of where you live, is to make a conscious effort to move your body more. You don't have to become a super athlete — just aim to walk "more than you did yesterday." It may mean walking to your friend's house, or blowing the dust off your old bike, or playing with your kids. In some communities, the high school gym is available for community use after school hours. While you are becoming more active, encourage your children to spend more time playing outside than watching TV or playing video games.

Summer celebrations are the perfect opportunities to start a healthier lifestyle. These festivities are always full of fun, yet they often revolve around fattening foods. Instead of sitting around at your next gathering, plan to take a long walk or

engage in a game to get your blood pumping. Burn off some of those calories.

For more information about improving your health, go to the Healthy Lubbock Initiative website (www.healthylubbock.org), which has links to tools that help you determine your personal body mass index to

measure your weight status. You can also calculate your target heart rate, which is the range where you should exercise for best results. A walking quiz and a weight-loss quiz are also available. The site has special links for kids and teenagers, as well as healthy meal ideas and a health tip of the week.

For more information or tips on how to bring the focus of healthier lifestyles to your community, contact Liz Inskip-Paulk at (806) 743-1338.

Dr. Patti Patterson is vice president of rural and community health at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.



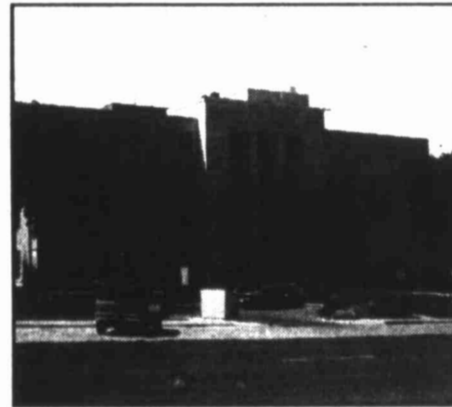
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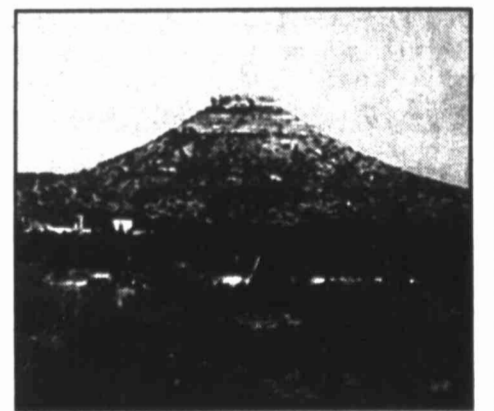
## 2005 COMMUNITY GUIDE



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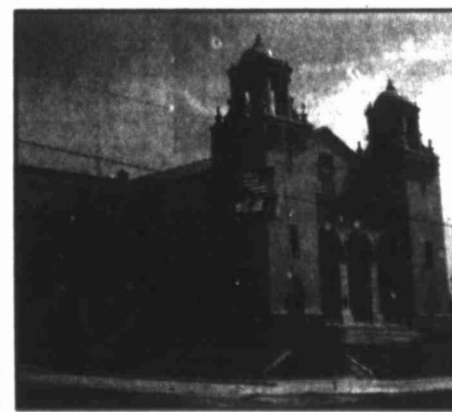
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The King's Men, a local gospel group, performs at a prayer rally held in conjunction with the eighth annual Pops in the Park Sunday at the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater.



Manuel Sosa, right, and Steven Robles, members of the Yellow Dog Daredevils, a fundraising team for the annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life, flip burgers during the Pops in the Parks celebration Sunday afternoon.



Vincent Garcia, right, indulges in a pineapple-fizz compliments of Joan Williams during the annual Pops in the Park July Fourth celebration Sunday afternoon.



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins Sgt. Danny Wilson, 1st Calvary Division - 2nd Brigade Combat, gives testimony about how God has changed his life, both personally and within the military, during the prayer rally prior to the Pops in the Park July Fourth celebration.

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## IN BRIEF

### CGA slates golf tourney to benefit B.S. golf teams

The Chicano Golf Association has set up a golf tournament fundraiser to benefit the Big Spring golf teams.

The tournament will take place July 17 at Comanche Trail Park and it will be a four-person pick your own team low-ball tourney.

The tournament starts at 10 a.m. and all teams must be registered by 9:45 a.m.

For more information, contact Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

### Howard announces men's basketball camps in mid-July

The Howard College men's basketball staff will host two week-long camps in the month of July.

The first camp will take place July 11-14, while the second camp starts July 25 and ends July 28.

Both camps will cost \$250 per player who wants room and board and \$175 for a commuter. Both camps will take place at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Sign-ups for the first camp will take place July 10 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., while the second camp sign-up will be July 24 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Both camps run each day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Hawk camp format consists of morning and afternoon sessions. All sessions include specialized clinics on both the offensive and defensive phases of the game.

For more info, contact Mark Adams at 816-6957 or Jason Sautter at 816-3200.

### Big Spring sets first Quarterback meeting

The Big Spring football booster club has set its first quarterback club meeting of the year Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Big Spring Athletic Training Center.

For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

### Howard women's basketball sets three camp dates

The Howard College women's basketball program will be hosting two more camps this summer.

The camps will both take place July 18-21.

The first camp is open for kindergarten through third grade boys and girls. Registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. July 18.

The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and costs \$50 per person.

The second camp is for fourth through sixth grade girls. Registration for this camp will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. July 18. The camp runs from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and costs \$60 per person.

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

# Fabulous Federer smokes No. 2 Roddick again

• No. 1 Federer wins third consecutive Wimbledon crown

By STEVEN WINE

WIMBLEDON, England — Roger Federer strengthened his claim to greatness Sunday, winning his third consecutive Wimbledon title by beating Andy Roddick 6-2, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

With an impeccable performance, even by his high standards, the top-ranked Federer became the third man since 1936 to win three straight Wimbledon crowns, joining seven-time champion Pete Sampras and five-time winner Bjorn Borg.

"Nice group," Federer said during the trophy ceremony. "Sampras was one of my favorite players of all time. Borg, what you can you say about him, he's just fantastic. ... I hope it's not going to stop with three. Maybe one day I'll win a fourth one, but this one is already very, very great."

Federer defeated the second-seeded Roddick at Wimbledon for the third year in a row, including the past two finals, and leads the rivalry 9-1. Roddick is 32-0 against everyone else on grass since 2003.

"Pity for him," Federer said, "but I really did play my best."

Federer won his 21st See WIMBLEDON, Page 2B

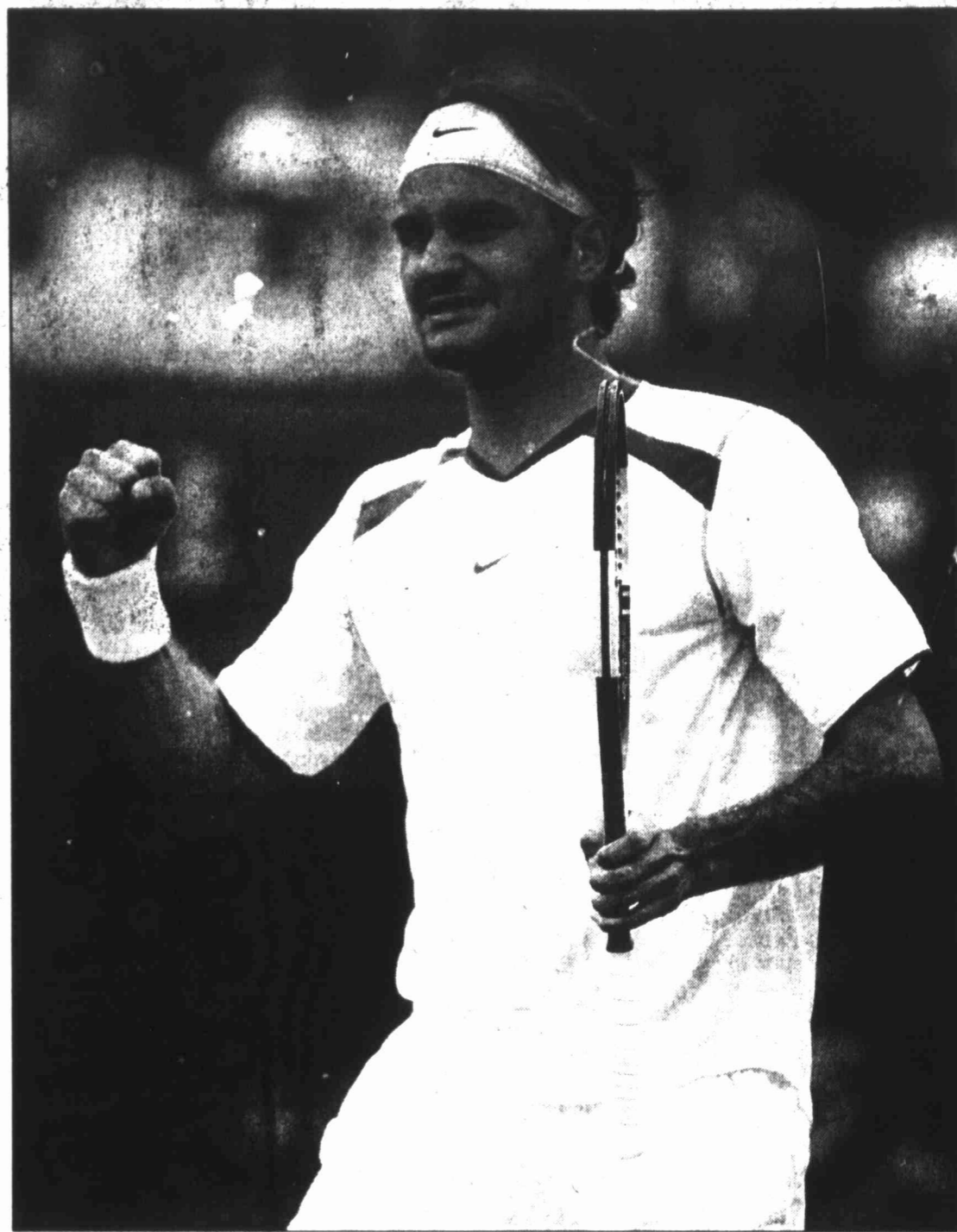
consecutive final and improved to 5-0 in Grand Slam finals. The 23-year-old Swiss became the first man since Tony Trabert in 1953-55 to win his first five major finals.

On championship point Federer hit a 120 mph service winner, his fastest of the match. He screamed with joy, fell to his knees, rolled onto his back and covered his face with his hands. He rose and met Roddick with a hug, then raised his arms to the cheering crowd, tears in his eyes.

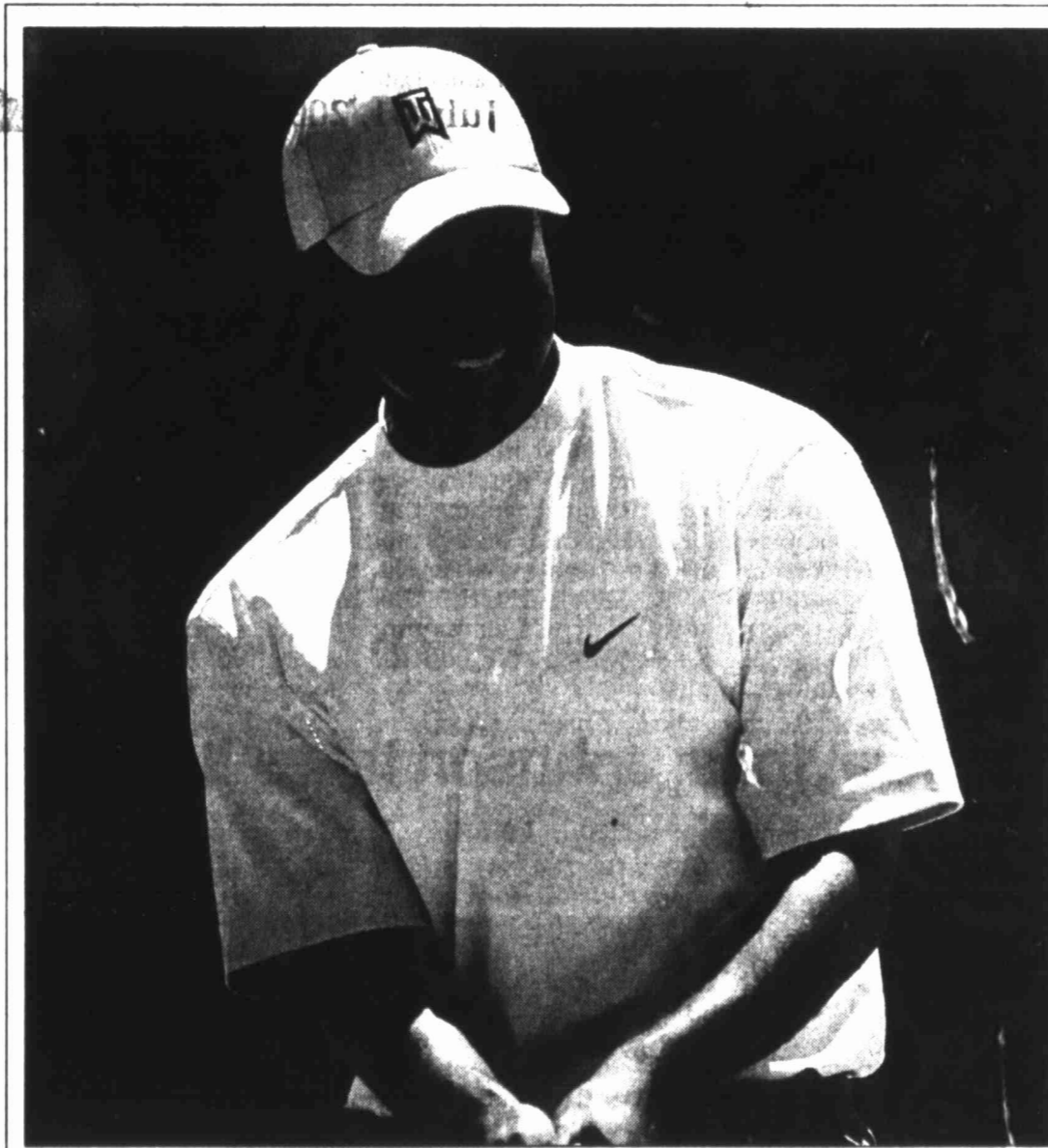
Federer finished with 49 winners and just 12 unforced errors, an astounding ratio. During the trophy ceremony, Roddick wryly acknowledged he wasn't in the mood to talk about being overmatched.

"I'm more in the mood for a beer right now," he said, prompting cheers from the Centre Court crowd. "I couldn't have asked more of myself. I put in all the work, and I wanted to win this so badly. This guy is the best for a reason and he really deserves a lot of credit. ... Maybe I'll just punch him or something."

It's not just the rivalry with Roddick that underscores Federer's superiority. In the semifinals, he easily beat No. 2-ranked Lleyton Hewitt for the



KRT photo/Lawrence Lustig, Express Syndication  
Switzerland's Roger Federer celebrates during his fourth round victory over Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero at Wimbledon. Federer defeated No. 2 Andy Roddick in straight sets Sunday morning and won his third consecutive Wimbledon crown.



KRT photo/Scott Strazzante, Chicago Tribune  
Tiger Woods reacts after missing a birdie putt on the 11th hole during the third round of the Cials Western Open at the Cog Hill Golf Club in Lemont, Ill., Saturday. Woods came up a little short in the final round, losing to Jim Furyk by just two strokes. However, the second place finish was enough to put Woods over the \$50 million mark for career earnings.

## Armstrong secures second in France

By JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer  
LES ESSARTS, France — Lance Armstrong finished in the main pack of the second stage at the Tour de France on Sunday, while Belgium's Tom Boonen took the victory.

Armstrong, going for a record seventh straight Tour victory before he retires, kept his grip on second place in the overall standings after placing 63rd in the stage, 5 seconds behind Boonen. American David Zabriskie retained the yellow jersey as the overall leader.

Boonen won the 112.5-mile trek from Challans to Les Essarts in 3 hours, 51 minutes, 31 seconds, just ahead of Norway's Thor Hushovd, who posted the same time.

Armstrong continued his strong pace after delivering an early blow to his rivals Saturday with a second-place finish in the opening time trial.

"My legs were terrible," Armstrong joked. Although Armstrong wasn't looking to win the

stage, he still felt nervous about it.

Flat stages generally favor sprinters, meaning there is often a mad rush to the finish line and riders can often be involved in a crash.

"Everybody's a bit nervous, everybody's cracking a little bit," Armstrong said. "These finishes still scare me. I won't miss them."

Jan Ullrich, one of Armstrong's main rivals, made up 5 seconds on the American after finishing 19th in the same time as Boonen.

Although the German is still feeling the effects of crashing through his team car rear window during a training session Friday, Armstrong believes Ullrich is still a serious threat.

"I talked to him today," Armstrong said. "If you go into the back of the car and shatter the window with no helmet on that's got to affect you. So you can't take anything away from him after the way he rode yesterday. He'll be better in a few days time."

## Clemens shuts down Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — Roger Clemens rarely needs help from his opponents. He got some from the Cincinnati Reds, though.

Clemens threw seven shutout innings for his 335th win and got two hits as the Houston Astros sent the sloppy Reds to their worst first-half record in 71 years with a 9-0 victory Sunday.

"It was a good game for us," said Clemens, who wanted to pitch the eighth. "We played two games yesterday. They don't need to protect me. I'm the old goat. Let them

protect the young guys."

Clemens (7-3) allowed four hits and one walk with four strikeouts, lowering his major league-leading ERA to 1.41. He has allowed just one run in 46 innings over seven starts on the road. He also drove in a run with a single and hit a ground-rule double.

"I expect it," Astros manager Phil Garner said. "That's the way he pitches every game. I've seen it for a whole year now. That's the way he pitches, and he's hitting a

See ASTROS, Page 2B

### Major League Baseball - current league-wide standings

American League - East		American League - West		National League - Central	
Boston	46-34 —	L.A. Angels	49-31 —	St. Louis	51-30 —
Baltimore	44-36 -2	Texas	42-38 -7	Chicago Cubs	40-40 -10.5
N.Y. Yankees	41-39 -5	Oakland	40-41 -9.5	Houston	38-42 -12.5
Toronto	42-40 -5	Seattle	34-46 -15	Milwaukee	38-43 -13
Tampa Bay	27-55 -20			Pittsburgh	35-45 -15.5
				Cincinnati	31-50 -20
American League - Central		National League - East		National League - West	
Chicago Sox	54-26 —	Washington	50-31 —	San Diego	44-37 —
Minnesota	45-34 -8.5	Atlanta	44-37 -6	Arizona	40-42 -4.5
Cleveland	43-26 -10.5	Florida	42-37 -7	L.A. Dodgers	38-42 -5.5
Detroit	37-41 -16	Philadelphia	41-40 -9	San Francisco	34-45 -9
Kansas City	26-53 -27.5	N.Y. Mets	40-41 -10	Colorado	28-52 -15.5



## ASTROS

Continued from Page 1B

lot of them, too. He takes pride in everything he does — hitting, hunting, golf, blackjack, whatever you have, he wants to beat you. Perhaps you're seeing the greatest right-hander who ever pitched."

Brad Ausmus delivered run-scoring singles in each of his first two at-bats and Willy Taveras tied his career high with four hits, including three infield singles, as the Astros built a 4-0 lead with four unearned runs on the way to their third win in the four-game series and fifth win of a seven-game road trip.

Morgan Ensberg hit his 22nd homer and Lance Berkman had a two-run double for Houston, just 14-29 on the road.

The Reds have lost seven of eight. They are 31-50, their worst record after 81 games since the 1934 Reds were 27-54 on their way to finishing 52-99.

"We've been looking for a clean game," interim manager Jerry Narron said. "We want a clean game, physically and mentally. You can't make mistakes against a guy like Roger Clemens."

Clemens is 4-0 in six starts since losing 9-0 to the Reds on May 30 in Houston. He allowed just two runs in eight innings in that game.

Reds starter Brandon Claussen (4-6) lowered his ERA from 3.97 to 3.64 but fell to 1-3 in his last four starts. Claussen allowed five hits and four runs, none earned, with one walk and four strikeouts in six innings.

"A day like today, going against a guy like Clemens, you've got to stay aggressive and be on top of your game," Claussen said. "Mistakes have to be limited at the big league level, more so when you're going against a guy like Clemens."

Houston scored two unearned runs in the second. Ensberg was on first base with one out when third baseman Joe Randa dropped Adam Everett's potential double-play grounder for an error. Eric Bruntlett struck out, but Ensberg scored from second and Everett moved to third on Ausmus' single. Everett scored on Claussen's wild pitch.

The Astros added two more unearned runs in the fourth. Reds shortstop Felipe Lopez was charged with an error on Bruntlett's two-out grounder. Bruntlett stole second and scored on Ausmus' single. Ausmus moved to second on Ken Griffey Jr.'s throw home and scored on Clemens' single to left.

"Since I've come over here (from the American League), I've worked on my hitting a lot more," Clemens said. "I'm convinced that, if you can handle the bat, you can really help yourself every three or four starts."

The Astros broke it open with four seventh-inning runs on Berkman's two-run double, Jason Lane's sacrifice fly and Everett's RBI double.

Ensberg connected in the ninth.



KRT photo/Lawrence Lustig, Express Syndication  
Switzerland's Roger Federer celebrates during his fourth round victory over Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero at Wimbledon. Federer defeated Andy Roddick Sunday and won his third consecutive Wimbledon title.

## WIMBLEDON

Continued from Page 1B

eight time in a row.

"A rain delay after the second set slowed Federer for only 25 minutes in his pursuit of the title. He has won 36 consecutive matches on grass, including 21 at Wimbledon, since losing to Mario Ancic in the first round here in 2002.

Also winning a third title at the All England Club was Venus Williams, who overcame a championship point to beat top-ranked Lindsay Davenport in the women's final Saturday.

Federer's victory ended a brief Grand Slam slump. He won three major titles last year, then lost this year in the semifinals of the Australian Open and French Open.

As usual, Federer won with a mixture of precision and power. On one point he placed his serve on a line, hit his second shot on another line, then slammed an overhead winner. He hit 11 aces, including a sly one on a

108 mph changeup.

At the net, he made even difficult volleys look easy. During one exchange from close range, Roddick rifled three consecutive shots at Federer, who casually responded with graceful volleys, the third a winner.

Only Roddick's big serve kept things close. He had little chance in baseline rallies and tried coming forward, but Federer happily accepted the invitation to tee off on passing shots, hitting 16 for winners.

As Federer pulled away, there were shouts of "Come on, Andy!" from fans eager for a more competitive match.

Federer refused to cooperate, saving several of his most spectacular shots for the seventh game of the final set, when he broke for a 4-3 lead. Three passing shots won points, and he smacked one return so hard it sailed between the legs of an onrushing Roddick. Reaching behind him, Roddick somehow managed to block the ball back, but Federer put away his next

shot. Roddick stayed even only until the match's sixth game, when he made the mistake of hitting an overhead back to Federer, who yanked it crosscourt for a winner. That gave the Swiss a break point, which he converted.

Federer broke again to take the first set. After winning 20 of his first 21 service points, he was broken for the only time and fell behind 3-1 in the second set.

Federer broke back for 3-all. Roddick overcame two set points serving at 4-5, but in the tiebreaker he quickly fell behind, and when the deficit reached 5-2, he slammed his racket to the grass.

He shouldn't have been so hard on himself: In the first two sets, Federer hit 33 winners with just three unforced errors.

Federer improved to 7-1 in tiebreakers against Roddick, who has won one of 10 sets in their three Wimbledon showdowns.

For his 30th career title, Federer won \$1.1 million and Roddick earned \$557,550.

## Patrick's first pole provides ninth place finish at Kansas

By STEVE BRISENDINE

AP Sports Writer  
KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Danica Patrick's first Indy Racing League pole proved to be the only highlight of her day.

Patrick battled mechanical problems and fell off the pace early, and defending series champion Tony Kanaan won a late duel with Andretti Green teammate Dan Wheldon to win the Argent Mortgage Indy 300 on Sunday. Patrick, just the second woman to start from the pole, finished ninth at Kansas Speedway.

"The biggest nose won," Kanaan said after his first victory of the season.

With only three cautions and the last 61 laps of the 200-lap race under green, Wheldon's strategy of pitting earlier than the rest of the field appeared to have him headed to his fifth victory in eight races this season.

The points leader and Indianapolis 500 winner took the lead with three laps to go, when defend-

ing race champion Buddy Rice had to pit.

But Kanaan, who pitted in the 190th lap, went ahead on the next lap and then held on to beat Wheldon by .012 seconds — the sixth-closest finish in IRL history — for his fifth career victory.

"I love Tony to bits. I'm glad he beat me instead of somebody else, but losing like this is difficult to take," said Wheldon, who led 111 laps after struggling to find speed all week and starting 11th.

Vitor Meira, running just behind the leaders, made a last-second dive to the inside, crossing below the white line, but still came up third. It was the only bright spot in an otherwise disappointing day for Rahal Letterman Racing, which took the top three spots in qualifying and hoped to match last year's one-two finish.

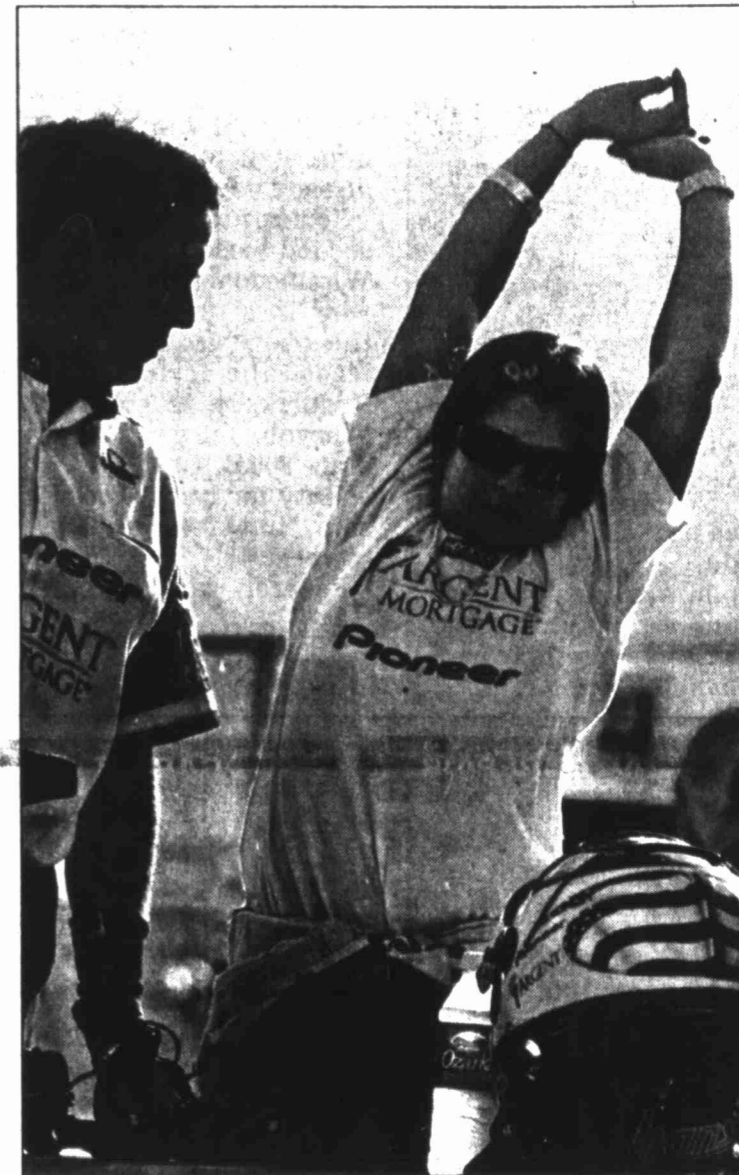
Dario Franchitti, another Andretti Green racer, was fourth, followed by Tomas Scheckter, Scott Sharp, Darren Manning, Helio Castroneves,

Patrick and Rice.

Patrick, who joined Sarah Fisher as the second woman to win a pole after qualifying first Saturday, lost the lead to Rice on the opening lap and dropped to fifth in the second. She got as high as fourth late in the race, after falling as low as 15th, but never challenged for the lead.

"On the start, there's nothing I could have done," Patrick said. "It was foot to the floor. I couldn't run fourth gear, and fifth gear was so long that everyone passed me." Patrick's engine also cut out on her once, and she had problems getting away from pit stops because her crew had her traction control turned off.

But winning the pole was the latest in a string of firsts for Patrick. In May, Patrick became the first woman to lead a lap at the Indianapolis 500 and placed fourth, the best finish by a woman in the 89-year history of the race.



KRT photo/Allison Long, Kansas City Star  
Danica Patrick talks to mechanic William Paul before practice at the Kansas Speedway Saturday in Kansas City, Kan. Patrick started the race Sunday on the pole but suffered mechanical problems throughout much of the day and finished ninth overall.

## Stewart dominates Daytona, Johnson takes back over points lead

By JENNA FRYER

AP Motorsports Writer  
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — After numerous frustrating finishes, Tony Stewart finally won at NASCAR's most famous track.

Stewart dominated the rain-delayed Pepsi 400 Saturday night, but still needed a dramatic four-wide pass to move to the front, then pulled away on a restart with nine laps left to seal his first Nextel Cup victory in 14 starts at Daytona International Speedway.

The only thing that could top this would be winning the Daytona 500 or a race — any race — at his beloved Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

But Stewart will settle for this for now, and celebrated by climbing the

fence into the flag stand to claim the checkered flag.

"I'm too damn fat to be climbing fences, but I had to do it once," Stewart said. "I finally got me a Daytona trophy."

It was his second consecutive victory and showed that the 2002 series champion will be a contender again this year. He started from the pole, led a race-record 151 of 160 laps, and moved to third in the standings.

Jamie McMurray finished second and was followed by Dale Earnhardt Jr., who was far from the dominating driver he has been here in recent years. But the finish was encouraging for Junior, who is stuck in a season-long slump, but matched his best finish of the year — here in the season-

opening Daytona 500.

Rusty Wallace was fourth in his final scheduled start at Daytona, followed by Dale Jarrett and Jimmie Johnson.

Johnson reclaimed the top spot in the standings after dropping behind Greg Biffle last week. Biffle was involved in an early accident, wound up 36th, and fell to second in the standings.

Jeff Gordon, winner of four of the last five restrictor-plate races — including two consecutive at Daytona — was never a factor and finished seventh.

Stewart was running away with the race until a late round of pit stops shuffled him back to fifth with 17 laps to go. It took him just minutes to regain the lead and he did it with the most daring of

moves: He tucked in next to the wall and slid on the outside past Matt Kenseth, Kasey Kahne and Johnson, who were all lined up door-to-door across the track.

Stewart's pass would have been enough to seal the victory, if not for one last caution. The race restarted with nine laps to go, and Stewart was never challenged as he pulled away.

Stewart was the Daytona 500 favorite in 2002, when he won two of the three races leading up to the season opener. But his engine blew on the second lap, and Stewart was already home in North Carolina when the race ended.

That made it so much more frustrating this February, when Stewart led a race-high 107 laps

and seemed headed to his breakthrough win. But when it came time to find a drafting partner, Junior hung him out to dry and Stewart drifted back to a disappointing seventh-place finish.

So to finally break through at Daytona was a relief for Stewart. Sure, the summer race doesn't come close to rivaling the Daytona 500 in significance. And Stewart is the first to admit a win in Indianapolis — in either NASCAR or an open wheel car — would make his career.

Earnhardt knew Stewart would savor the win.

The race was delayed by rain for just over 2 1/2 hours, and when NASCAR did start it, the cars ran the first 11 laps under caution.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHS  
It's as though the events of this Independence Day occur outside of time. The void moon gives the day a lazy pace.

The lack of urgency makes the small interactions seem more meaningful than a fireworks show. That's because the small interactions are the fireworks — little bursts of light to decorate a perfect summer day.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** What you dreamed is coming true. See if you can manipulate your dreams by working consciously on rewriting them during your waking hours. Family dynamics get complicated. If you can't help, at least don't hurt the situation.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** As much as you love your family members, in their absence, you experience an unexplainable peace. Libra or Pisces makes you feel like the most attractive, important person in the world.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Readers: Happy Fourth of July! Here's a little information on the Liberty Bell that we gleaned from the U.S. Department of State website:

In 1752, the new bell arrived safely from England, but at the first blow from a hammer to test it, it cracked. Philadelphia bell founders recast the bell twice before it was finally ready to use.

On July 8, 1776, the bell rang to mark the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. On April 16, 1783, it announced the proclamation of peace after the Revolutionary War. At every event of national importance, the Liberty Bell rang: in 1789, the election of George Washington; in 1797, the election of John Adams; in 1799, the death of Washington; and in 1801, the election of Thomas Jefferson.

On July 4, 1826, the bell was nearly three quarters of a century old, and the nation was 50. Then, on July 8, 1835, while tolling for the funeral procession of John Marshall, chief justice of the Supreme Court and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, the bell cracked.

Fearing that the crack would eventually destroy the historic bell, officials ordered it taken down from the tower. It was after this that the Liberty Bell received its name. Since then, the bell has been on display but has never rung. The crack that appeared on that occasion is prevented from widening by a mechanical device, called a spider, installed inside the bell.

A few years ago, the bell foundry in London that originally cast the great bell made a friendly proposal — to ship the bell back to England, melt it and recast it at no cost to the United States. The keepers of the bell considered the offer very seriously before they decided that the cracked Liberty Bell is a cherished symbol of America's struggle for freedom. Therefore, on behalf of the American people, the officials thanked the London foundry for its generous offer but refused, adding: "We like the bell as it is, crack and all. It is an important part of our heritage."

Tomorrow's Horoscope

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You're there to protect the weak, but someone strong also needs your protection. Just knowing your support is available may be enough to bolster this person's confidence or make him or her feel safe.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Your home is your domain and the place where you feel most powerful. However, the most mind expanding thing you can do now is travel — the benefits of which are too numerous to impart.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** If you feel you are up against difficult odds, take heart in this: One must be a force before he can be resisted by another force. Great opposition implies that you must also be greatly powerful.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** It seems there is so much that you need. Is this real, or only a perception? Either way, spending on credit is unnecessary. Besides, what you invent instead of buying is brilliant.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Loved ones don't have your diplomacy — in fact, you wish you could impose a three-second

delay on a certain person's mouth. Continue to be a shining example of good manners, and eventually, others will "get it."

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Creative yet practical plans are featured. You'll learn something amazing about a loved one ... that he is human! Reach an agreement tonight, no matter how long you have to discuss the issue.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You can see a clear path to profit where others see only obstacles. Share your vision, and give advice. On a personal note: There's no need to wonder whether you are noticed by that special someone — you are.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** The jolt of energy you get from being spontaneous is good for your love life, your family life — even your immune system. Note: If children misbehave, it's due to a lack of creative outlets.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Your role as trendsetter is featured. You know what buttons to push to get people all atwitter with questions, assumptions and general excitement! If you can just cut out one single substance, your health will be better.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** If you wait for motivation, your action will be too little, too late. Take initiative, and do whatever it takes to kick your attitude into high gear. Surround yourself with others who will remind you of your greatness.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Liv Tyler is rock 'n' roll royalty who is now busy raising the next generation of rock royalty, her son with musician husband Royston Langdon. Cancer is the sign of the maternal moon, and Cancer mothers are generally attentive to their child's every mood and move. The Cancer mother is hands-on when it comes to parenting, and even if she can afford a nanny, she is more comfortable without one.

If you would like to write to Holiday Maths, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Maths page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Maths and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I know that you have talked about this subject in your column before, but I think it is time for an update about military members returning home.

My husband has been deployed to the Middle East for a year and will soon be home. The problem is that family members on both sides want to visit us shortly after his return. This is causing a lot of stress.

Please tell parents and siblings of returning military members not to be offended that we are not ready for a visit. After a year apart, we are going to have to put our family back together, and it takes more than a couple of weeks.

We love our families, but my husband and I need to get reacquainted, too. Thank you for letting me vent. — Burned-Out Wife

Dear Burned Out: Letting our readers vent is part of what we do. We hope parents and other family members will respect your needs and give you time to readjust. Frequent phone calls will help. Try to understand, though, how difficult it is for parents and siblings to keep their distance. They want to be considerate of your time together, but they are on pins and needles waiting for an invitation to see their loved one, who has been away from home, in a dangerous place, for a year. Don't forget to make a little time for the rest of the family to say "welcome home."

Dear Annie: My mother passed away last December, after an illness that lasted several years. My parents were married for 46 years, and Dad took care of Mom in their home. During this time, my father had an affair with their housekeeper. He claims he was lonely. He married the house-

keeper exactly two months after Mom died.

My mother's wish (unfortunately, not in writing) was to share with her five children any money left over from the sale of her home. That didn't happen. Dad refused to sell Mom's house during her illness, which would have enabled us to use the money to help care for her. Instead, he sold the house when he married his new wife, and the money now belongs to the two of them.

I am having lots of trouble dealing with the idea of my father and another woman spending my mother's money. Especially someone who betrayed Mom while she was still living. My father didn't grieve for Mom, and he certainly didn't give me any time to start healing before he found me a stepmother.

I will never accept this marriage. I talked to Dad and bluntly told him how much I disapproved of his actions. He is 70 years old, but he's behaving like a teenage boy. Am I the one with issues, or is he? — Heartbroken Oldest Daughter

Dear Daughter: We know this is hard for you. Try to understand that your father mourned for your mother the entire time she was dying — a process that took years. By the time of her death, he had finished his grieving. Did the housekeeper take advantage of his fragile state? Possibly, but she also makes him happy.

We aren't asking you to like the woman, but please forgive Dad for being human. Try to accept the marriage. We guarantee you won't feel any better if you are estranged from your only living parent. Our condolences.

Dear Annie: One of my co-workers thinks I am her private ATM. Every couple of months, she asks me for pocket change so she can get a snack or soda. We're not even friends. In fact, she never asks those co-workers she is close to. And she has never paid me back. How do I let her know that I am not a cash station? — Out of Pocket Change

Dear Out of Pocket: By not acting like one. The next time she asks for money, say, "So sorry, but I don't have a dime to spare." Repeat as needed.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Former Teacher's Pet," the graduate student who had an affair with her professor. I am sure there are policies at this university regarding faculty-student relationships. And, in all probability, these policies state that the professor should have shifted his position as her advisor to some other faculty member. Because he did not, and he now is exacting retribution, he not only is in violation of his institution's policies, he is in violation of federal sexual-harassment laws.

My institution, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has a well-developed system to deal with sexual harassment. Contact information is posted throughout the university, as well as on our website. "Teacher's Pet" also can ask the department secretary or dean's office for specific advice regarding her rights and the steps she needs to take. I do NOT recommend she talk with her harasser, especially by herself. That may result in more harassment or the quick covering of his tracks.

Getting a graduate degree is difficult enough without adding this type of stress to her life. — Cheryl Hanley-Maxwell, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dear Dr. Hanley-Maxwell: Thank you for improving our answer. We hope "Teacher's Pet" and any other victim of sexual harassment is taking notes.

Annie's Snippet for Independence Day (credit Russell B. Long): "Democracy is like a raft: It won't sink, but you will always have your feet wet."

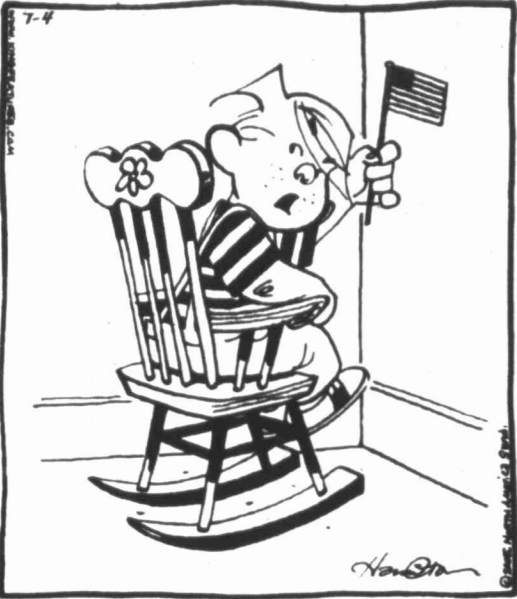
Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.



MONDAY

Table with 28 columns representing different TV channels and their programming for Monday, July 4, 2005.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"COME ON, YOU GUYS! IT'S JULY 4TH! I WAS JUST TRYIN' TO SHOW SOME INDEPENDENCE!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"The fireworks won't start 'til the sun is all the way down, Jeffy."

HAGAR



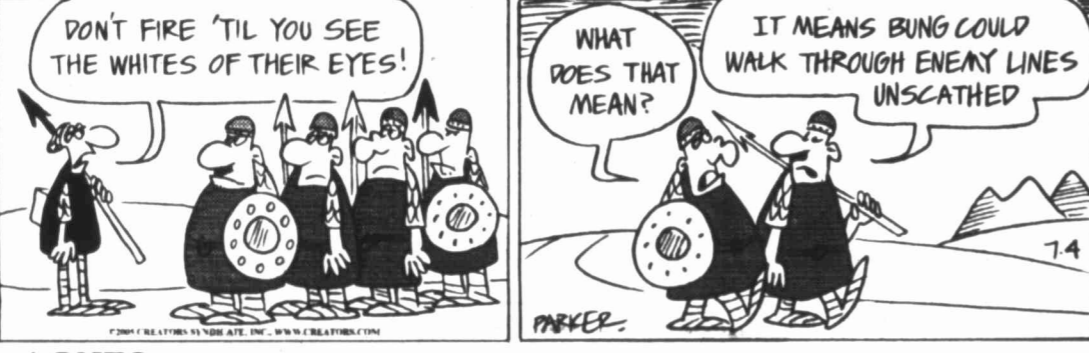
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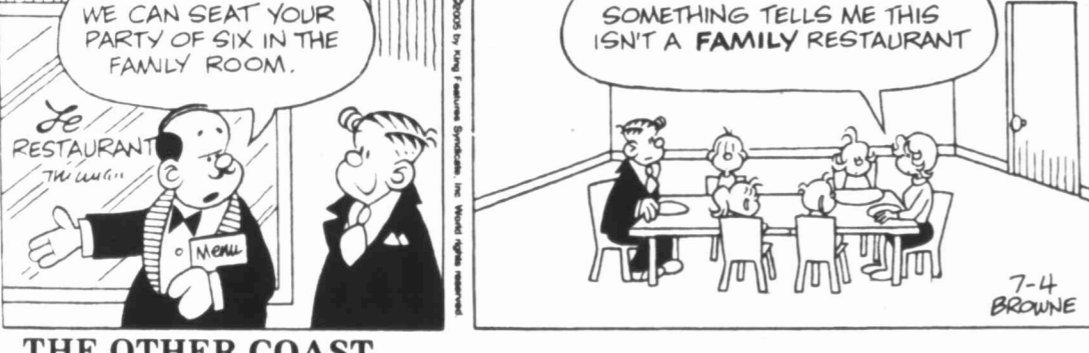
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THE OTHER COAST



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BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press
Today is Monday, July 4, the 185th day of 2005. There are 180 days left in the year. This is Independence Day. Today's Highlight in History: On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. On this date: In 1802, the United States Military Academy officially opened at West Point, N.Y. In 1826, 50 years to the day after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died. In 1845, Henry David Thoreau began his two-year experiment in simpler living at Walden Pond, near Concord, Mass. In 1917, during a ceremony in Paris honoring the French hero of the American Revolution, U.S. Lieutenant Colonel Charles E. Stanton declared,

"Lafayette, we are here!" In 1939, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, said farewell to his fans at New York's Yankee Stadium. In 1976, Israeli commandos raided Entebbe airport in Uganda, rescuing almost all of the passengers and crew of an Air France jetliner seized by pro-Palestinian hijackers. In 1997, NASA's Pathfinder spacecraft landed on Mars, inaugurating a new era in the search for life on the Red Planet. Ten years ago: The space shuttle Atlantis and the Russian space station Mir parted after spending five days in orbit docked together. Five years ago: Tall ships sailed through New York Harbor during OpSail 2000, celebrating Independence Day. One year ago: A 20-ton slab of granite, inscribed to honor "the enduring spirit of freedom," was laid at the World Trade Center site as the cornerstone of the Freedom Tower skyscraper that will replace the destroyed twin towers. Today's Birthdays:

Answer to previous puzzle
TASKMASTER OARS
OCCLUSIONS PLOP
KHRUSHCHEV ETAL
LEIGH EMPANADA
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SUE TASMAN SOLO
TENCENTS BARER
ETTA TOUGHTROUT
RTES ANNEBRITTE
SERA MYGOODNESS

Newsday Crossword HANCOCK AND CO. by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

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