CLAF TO DIFFEE DE

desirable.

CRMWD promotes waste water reclamation

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

John Grant believes that once people get over what he calls the "yuck factor," the idea of reclaiming waste water will make tons of sense to West

Grant and other officials with the Colorado River Municipal Water District discussed the possibility of constructing a waste water reclamation plant in CRMWD member cities during a meeting at the Dora Roberts Community Center Tuesday afternoon.

About 30 people attended the meeting, which focused on explaining both the need for such a facility and how it would be economically feasible for this area.

Grant, CRMWD's general manager, said reusable waste water could be used in three major areas — for industrial use, in irrigation projects and as drinking water.

"Why should we do this? Because the water is already available at the location where it's needed," Grant said. "Today, the technology exists to dramatically improve the quali-

"This is safe. We wouldn't be here today talking about this if the science ... didn't show that it was absolutely safe."



ty of water coming out of a waste water treatment plant ... This would allow us to use 100 percent of our water 100 percent of the time."

As to the need for such a

plant, Assistant Sloan said. General Manager Chris Wingert said that, with a multiyear drought still in effect, the district finds itself in a position of having demand outstrip supply, making alternative means of securing water even more

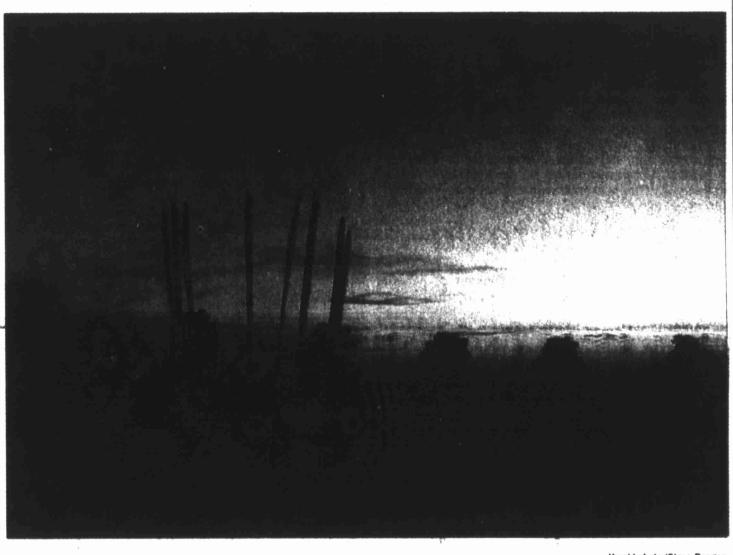
David Sloan, with the engineering consulting firm of Freese and Nichols, provided some of the nuts-and-bolts details on how the plant would work.

Preliminary plans for a water reclamation plant would involve a three-step process, See CRMWD, Page 5A

First, the waste water would pass through a filter system that would trap all but the tiniest microscopic organisms and particles. That would be followed by treating the water in a reverse-osmosis system — the primary method for producing bottled water - that would remove even more material, and would desalinate the water. Finally, the water would undergo ultraviolet disinfection. which would sterilize the water and break down any chemicals

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Forsan sunset



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Trees and shrubbery near Forsan High School are allhouetted by the setting sun Monday evening. Skies should remain partly cloudy for the next few days, with temperatures expected to reach into the upper 90s.

Drum corps will rehearse tonight for Midland contest, public invited

The Crossmen

will rehearse at

Blankenship

8:15 p.m. today at

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

One of the two drum corps scheduled to stay in Big Spring tonight had a change in plans, thanks to a minor accident en route to here.

The Cadets, a musical group out of Allentown, Pa., was involved in a minor accident while en route to Big Spring earlier today. They and their sister group, The Crossmen, are scheduled to participate in the Thunder in the Desert Drum Corps competition Thursday in Midland.

staying in Big Spring tonight. Anyone wishing to see the group perform

Field. "Essentially, this is going to be a marching clinic for the Big Spring High School band," said **BSHS** band director Rocky

Harris "They're the best of the December, and would be like the Dallas

The Crossmen will be ball clinic here for a cou-best of the best in our ple of days.'

Drum corps are similar to regular marching is invited to a rehearsal at bands except that they 8:15 p.m. at Blankenship feature brass, percussion and flag lines

exclusively, Harris said. Members of groups the come from across

country. "They meet once a month starting

once best ... In comparison, it school's out they go 24/7 until August," Harris Cowboys holding a foot- said. "They really are the

field. Their shows are what set the standard of all marching bands in Texas."

After performing at Thursday's event in Midland, the two groups will perform at a regional competition in San Antonio later this month, before competing in the national drum corps event in August, he added.

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

Fee hikes

City council works out plans to deal with rise in operating expenses

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

An increase in water rates will be passed on to all customers but businesses alone will be asked to absorb a hike in waste water fees, Big Spring City Council

members determined Tuesday.

Council members made the decisions during a workshop on the proposed 2005-2006 bud. McEwen get so they are still subject to change However, both widespread support on the council.

As it stands, all city cuswill McDonald tomers

incur a 12-cent increase in the consumption rate per 1,000 gallons of water. That's the rate being imposed on the city by the Colorado River Municipal Water District. The council - already looking at a budget deficit of slightly more than \$162,000 – has decided to pass on that increase to

its customers. Council members were told Tuesday that an average customer uses 8,000 gallons a month, meaning they will see a 96-cent increase on their monthly water bill. A customer using 3,000 gallons a month would shoulder an increase of 36 cents.

The council went ahead with the pass through despite a determined plea from a local senior citizen who said any increase See RATES, Page 5A

 All customers will see a 12-cent per thousand gallons increase in their water rates.

 Commercial customers will see their base rate waste water fees increase \$5 and consumption fees increase 50 cents.

was too much. "You cannot go up anymore. You've got to tell the water district they've got to hold down their cost," the woman said.

But Mayor Russ McEwen told the woman that CRMWD was having to increase rates because of a rise in utility costs, and that there was little either entity could do other than for the city to raise taxes — to alleviate the situation. Cost to the city would be about \$215,000, council members were told.

"Does anybody here have a problem with passthrough increase?" McEwen queried the council.

"What would we do if we didn't?" responded councilwoman McDonald.

"Eat it," said McEwen. "We can't do that," retorted McDonald.

"No, we can't," McEwen

The council hopes to offset costs to residential customers somewhat by excluding them from a

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Classified **Features**







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To reach us: Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

Bragging in Jail Now

CHICAGO (AP) - A man who called a radio station to brag about his role in a bank robbery may be

regretting picking up his phone. Randy Washington, 24, pleaded guilty Monday to federal charges that will likely put him behind bars for more than four years. He admitted he and five others robbed the South Chicago Heights TCF Bank branch in April 2004. There were no leads in the case until someone called the popular confessions show on WKSC-FM to talk about the heist. Authorities quickly traced the call back to Washington's cell phone and arrested him.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Cover Story: American Profile announces the winners of its Best Recipes in America contest.

Hometown Hero: At 97, Dorothy Geeben is believed

to be the nation's oldest mayor. Geeben, who was re-elected to a twoyear term in Ocean Breeze Park, Fla. (pop. 463) last year, previously served as the town council's president for 31 years. Asked if she'll seek re-election she says, "Sure, if I'm still alive."

MOORE DEVELOPMENT

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors will consider 4B projects when they hold their meeting at 5:15 p.m. today at the Chamber of Commerce Board Room.

Officials say that 4B projects differ from current Moore Board projects in that they would allow money to go directly into improving the city, instead of trying to draw business and industry into Big Spring.

The board will also hear an update on Big Spring State Hospital and West Texas Center for MHMR, as well as consideration of the proposed budget for 2005-06.

Take note

- THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.
- · ROAD TO RECOVERY, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.
- · CLASS OF 1970 35th ANNIVERSARY HOME-**COMING** set for September. All classmates should send an e-mail address to Clarinda Harris Wright at richardwright@cox.net. For more information, visit www.bshsalumni.com/SiteMap/htm.
- 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.
- HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD is seeking financial donations to provide support for children in Howard County who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. Contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or mail donations to HCCWB P.O. Box 3101 Big Spring, 79721.
- LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.
- · A SAVINGS ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT LOVE FROM HOME has been established at Citizen's Federal Credit Union. Love From Home is a local effort to provide personal items needed by the soldiers serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Contact the credit union at 267-6373 to contribute funds to offset the cost of postage for the packages mailed to the soldiers.
- THE FAR WEST BOYS HOME is in need of donations of household, office and recreational items to benefit boys 5-17 who are unable to live with their families due to abuse or neglect. Items needed include dressers, bunk beds, mattresses, cookware, recreational and exercise equipment, and a maintenance pickup; can or car. Cash donations to purchase these items are also appreciated. Far West is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. To arrange pick up of items or for more information, call 432-353-4464.
- CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.
- BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.
- SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy. Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

Support groups

- · Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m.

- · Alzheimers Support Group meets at noon the fourth Friday of each month at Spring City Senior Citizens Center. Lunch is provided. RSVP to Cindy Lopez at 213-4976.
- · AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

- · Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8
- West Texas Gluten-Free Awareness Support Group meets from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at Memorial Hospital west campus in Midland. Call Barbara at 432-520-2119 for more information.

 Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

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.
 - Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Tuesday:

- IRENE HINOJOSA, 40, 3910 E. Highway 350, was arrested on a charge of theft.
- LIONSO LEE JIMENEZ III, 26, 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested on a Howard County warrant.
- RAFAEL CRUZ LOPEZ, 60, no address given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHNNY RAY PAYNE JR., 25, 1509 Stadium, was
- arrested on a charge of theft. · LINDA ANN BRITO, 19, 1405 Oriole, was arrested on local warrants.
- RUTHIE MURPHREE, 35, 6701 Midway, was arrested on a hold for the Howard County Sheriff's
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.
- THEFT was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson, the 1200 block of 11th Place, the 200 block of FM 700 (twice) and the 300 block of Owens (twice).

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Tuesday: · ASSAULT was reported.

• HARASSMENT was reported in the 2200 block of

NOTE: The arrest log for the sheriff's office was unavailable this morning.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Tuesday:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- · MEDICAL was reported in the 3700 block of Wright. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of N.
- Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- · MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to VAMC.

Around town

- · RAILROAD MUSEUM at the corner of Second Street and Main Street is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday. Free admission. Call 432-559-3409 for more information.
- POTTON HOUSE, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.
- HERITAGE MUSEUM, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.
- · HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.
- FRIENDS OF THE MARTIN COUNTY LIBRARY have scheduled a used book sale from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. every Thursday in the new building across from the White Ford Motor Company, near the post office. The sale benefits the restoration of a library building. For more information contact Bud Lindsey at 756-2306.

Weather

- Tonight—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.
- Thursday-Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s.
- South winds 10 to 15 mph. Thursday night-Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower
- 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light and variable. Friday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. Light
- and variable winds becoming south around 10 mph in the afternoon.
- Friday night—Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 70s. Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower
- Sunday—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 90s.
- Sunday night—Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower,70s.
- Monday-Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 90s.



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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

- · Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- · Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in 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, 703 W. Third St.

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
- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-
- 6479. · Spring City Senior Citizens Center offers bingo beginning at 12:45 p.m.
- · Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the RSVP office at 501 Runnels. American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call
- 263-2084 for more information. · Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.

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 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in
- the Howard College Cactus Room. · 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 seniors are invited.

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

- 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. • 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 northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.
- Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome. • Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at
- 606 E. Third. **TUESDAY**

Tracey Pounds at 268-4948.

- · Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Spring City Senior Citizens Center offers bingo
- beginning at 12:45 p.m. The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1105 Birdwell Lane. For more information, call

Lottery

The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery

drawing grew to \$170 million Wednesday. None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$145 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega

Ball. The next drawing will be Friday. The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 7, 13, 48, 51, and 54. The Mega Ball number was 11.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-9-12-15-28. Number matching five of five: none. Matching four of five: 109. Prize: \$412. Matching three of five: 3,628. Prize: \$9. Matching two of five: 33,223. Prize: \$2. Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-3-0

BIG SPRING

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The Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Inland Press Association National Newspaper Association, Newspaper Association of America Small Newspaper Federation, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and American Newspaper Association

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Bush's first Supreme Court nominee faces questioning on host of contentious issues

By DEB RIECHMANN

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Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) President Bush urged lawmakers Wednesday to give Supreme Court nominee John G. Roberts "a timely hearing, a fair hearing" during a Senate confirmation battle that both sides expect to center on abortion.

"We will push the process forward," Bush said, joined at the White House by Roberts on steps outside his office-after the pair had breakfast. Both he and Roberts said they believe he should be sworn before the new court term begins in October.

Abortion, a polarizing issue for lawmakers, will be the "hot button" issue in the confirmation battle, conceded Fred Thompson, the former senator who will shepherd Roberts through the Senate. But Thompson cautioned lawmakers not to read too much into Roberts' seemingly conflicting legal positions on Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

"Many of the positions he's taken are positions he took as an advocate ... representing a client," said Thompson, whom Bush has asked to take charge of helping Roberts through the advice-and-consent process.

Democrats will demand 'straight answers" from Roberts on the abortion issue, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee that will holding hearings on the nomination, said Wednesday.

"If he wants to be on the Supreme Court, he has to be more forthcoming to convince the American people that a man who could serve on the court for 20 to 30 years really is in the mainstream of American thinking," he said.

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, promised "full, fair and complete" hearings on the nomination and said



pointed that liberal some organizations view Roberts as unsuitable over the issue of abortion. He said the panel will go into Roberts' legal "in positions detail" but would not ask the judge how

he would rule as a Supreme Court justice.

Bush ignored reporters' ques-

tions about whether he would talk to Democratic senators who worry that Roberts would push the nation's highest court too far to the right on abortion and other issues.

He said conversations with senators the evening before had convinced him that "we're off to a very good start for his nomination" and promised Roberts "all the support that's necessary for the senators to be able to make up their minds."

"We discussed how important it is for Judge Roberts to get a fair hearing, a timely hearing and a hearing that will bring great credit to our nation," Bush said. "I wish him all the best."

After his meeting with Bush, Roberts headed to Capitol Hill for meetings with leaders in the Senate, which will decide whether he will replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and thus become the first new Supreme Court member in more than a decade.

He might have seen several hundred women who were marching in front of the Supreme Court, which faces the east front of the U.S. Capitol, carrving signs that said. "Save Roe!" and "Our bodies, our lives, our right to decide!'

Democrats' Roberts' abortion views stem from two seemingly contradicto- Thomas and Antonin Scalia. tion hearings are completed.

Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

In a brief that he filed with the Supreme Court while serving as deputy solicitor general in the administration of the first President Bush, Roberts said that Roe v. Wade "was wrongly decided and should be overruled." But he told senators during his 2003 confirmation hearings for his current appellate i "the settled law of the land."

Thompson said the administration expected lawmakers to ask tough questions about Roberts' abortion views.

But he also said they should distinguish between Roberts' role as a policy advocate as a one-time deputy solicitor general in a Republican administration and his contrasting role as a

"It's not a question of whose side he's on," Thompson said. "He's on the side of the litigant that comes into court with the facts and the law on their side. And he will not be prejudging any cases before the committee or anyone else."

Bush introduced the 50-yearold Roberts to the nation Tuesday night, calling him a man with "a good heart" and a jurist who will "strictly apply the Constitution in laws _ not legislate from the bench."

Reaction from Republican senators was overwhelmingly supportive.

Majority Leader Bill Frist of Tennessee called for confirmation proceedings that "treat Judge Roberts with dignity and respect" and lead to a yes or no vote before the court's term begins Oct 3.

Conservative interest groups were elated, saying the president kept a campaign promise to concern over nominate someone akin to conservative Justices Clarence

he was disap- ry positions that Roberts took on Liberal groups, meanwhile, expressed concerns about Roberts' views on abortion, religious freedom, environmental protections and the First Amendment.

While he lacks national name recognition, the Harvard-educated Roberts is a Washington insider who has worked over the years at the White House, Justice Department and in private practice.

Roberts was born in Buffalo, court post that the decision was 1N.Y., and raised in Long Beach, oInd., outside Gary. He was high school class president, captain of his football team and worked summers at a steel mill, where his father was an electrical engineer, to help pay his way through college

> After graduating with honors from Harvard Law School, he William H. clerked for Rehnquist when he was an associate justice on the Supreme Court.

It was Rehnquist who presided over the swearing-in ceremony when Roberts took his seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

He was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in 1992 by the first President Bush and again by the president in 2001. The nominations died in the Senate both times. He was renominated in January 2003 and was confirmed by voice vote. At the time, his nomination to the appellate court attracted support from both sides of the ideological spectrum.

Liberal advocacy groups like the People for the American Way immediately began challenging Roberts' judicial views. The group sent out "emergency alerts" to more than 400,000 supporters, telling them to contact their senators posthaste and ask them to withhold judgment on Roberts until after the confirma-

Toddler killed after crash involving reserve deputy

SAN ANGELO (AP) -Police have turned over to a grand jury the investigation of a collision involving a reserve sheriff's deputy that killed a 2-year-old boy.

David Andrew Campos died after the car he was in was hit by Tom Green County Deputy Sheriff Tommy J. Williams, who ran a red light while responding to a call, authorities said.

San Angelo police say Williams did not use "due care and caution" while entering the intersection, and that the other driver failed to yield to an emergency vehicle.

No citations have been issued.

The grand jury investigation will determine whether any charges should be filed.

Police Lt. Curtis Milbourn said Tuesday the department wanted an outside party to look at the evidence.

"Going to the grand jury removes the taint of (potential) Milbourn said. "It's in the best interests of the citizens of Tom Green County and the agencies involved."

Williams was responding to a call to back up another officer dealing with an armed suspect about 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Police said his car's emergency lights and siren were activated when, approaching a red light, Williams entered the intersection and collided with a Ford Expedition, which hit a

The boy was sitting in a child restraint seat in the back seat. He was flown to a Fort Worth hospital, where he died Sunday.

South Texas residents brace for Hurricane Emily

By LYNN BREZOSKY

Associated Press Writer

SANTA ROSA (AP) — South Texans awoke Wednesday to rain, high winds and spotty power outages, but no apparent significant damage from Hurricane Emily.

The Category 3 storm packing 125 mph winds hit just before dawn near San Fernando, Mexico, a coastal town about 85 miles south The Brownsville. Hurricane National Center in Miami said hurricane force winds extended outward 70 miles.

About 7,000 customers were without electric power, with about half of those in Harlingen, said Larry Jones, spokesman for AEP Texas, the region's utility company.

Buddy Finch, a supervisor with AEP Texas' Port Isabel office, said the hurricane's blow was much less than what he and his crews prepared for.

"We have not had many problems," Finch said. "I guess it probably cut us a break as far as damage or a direct hit. It's not a bad one for us. I'm sure Mexico is catching heck but we're OK. You feel for the people who are south of us.'

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emergency management spokesman, said authorities were still accessing whether there was any property damage along the coastal areas.

Storm surges of up to 10 feet along with high tide were expected to cause flooding along the Texas coast. While Texas was not in the direct path of the storm, meteorologists said 2 to 4 inches of rain could fall over the lower Rio Grande Valley.

the hurricane approached Tuesday night, South Texas residents toting televisions, video games and coolers filled with drinks and snacks settled down on mattresses and blankets to wait out Emily in some of the 14 shelters set up across the region. The American Red Cross estimated about 4,000 people stayed in the shelters overnight.

"Why take a risk?" asked Zulema Longoria, 43, who was among about 160 people spending the night at Elma E. Barrera Elementary.

Aurelia Perez, 74, lay on a pile of blankets, with her husband next to her. The threat of the storm was especially worrisome for Perez. Her home was destroyed by Hurricane Beulah in the 1960s.

"We're just waiting and

HILLCREST CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER Fall Enrollment 2000 W. FM 700 267-8449

seeing," she said in Spanish.

Cindy Ruiz, 32, came to the school with 12 other family members, including her husband and eight children. The children worked on puzzle books while the adults watched weather reports on the TV they brought along.

"This is our first hurricane," said Ruiz, who moved with her family to Texas from Iowa a few months ago. " ... We didn't want to take any chances with that many

kids at home." Outside, a line of school buses stood ready to transport everyone north if the hurricane brought torrential flooding.

Some South Texans had already decided to leave.



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With heavy wind whipping the coast and giant tides swallowing up beaches, Risa Jones and her husband decided to take their two young children and head to San Antonio, where Jones planned to entertain the kids at SeaWorld.

"It's just better than sitting here and doing nothing inside and hoping for the best," said Jones, 24, a lifelong resident of South Padre Island. "We just hope to come back to something."

On South Padre Island, the evacuation of hundreds of RVs at a beachside park began Monday. Cameron County emergency management coordinator Todd Hushen said the RV and trailer owners who refused to leave were

Blum's one deautiful place

10-6 Monday-Saturday

267-6335

urged to at least tie down their mobile homes. Emily hit Mexico's

Yucatan Peninsula early

Monday with 135 mph wind, causing flooding and other damage. After losing strength, regained momentum as it crossed the Gulf of Mexico and was upgraded to a Category 3 hurricane with 125 mph winds Tuesday night.

A hurricane warning was posted for about 40 miles of the lower Texas coast from the Mexico border to Port Mansfield, and from the border south to La Cruz. A hurricane watch was in effect north of Port Mansfield to Baffin Bay, and flood and tornado watches were issued for most of South Texas through

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Wednesday morning.

Earlier Tuesday, the rain, strong winds, and huge waves were just too much to pass up for some South Padre vacationers.

"It is amazing," said Marc Lambert, a tourist from New York who spent two hours boogie-boarding before the storm. "It is cool to see what Mother Nature can do. Hopefully she don't get too mad."

Other residents said a nice drenching across their otherwise parched region would do them good. Brownsville got only 2.85 inches of rain during the first six months of this year, about 8 inches below normal.

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

> Susanne Reed Publisher

John A. Moseley

Bill McClellan

OUR VIEWS

Weekend fires remind us all to use caution

📭 were all delivered a reminder during the weekend that human carelessness is too often the cause of fires in our homes.

Of the four structure fires the Big Spring Fire Department and Howard County Volunteer Fire Departments were called on to extinguish over the weekend, three of those blazes have been blamed on human carelessness. The fourth fire's cause is still under investigation.

While there were no injuries reported in any of those fires, it wound up being one of the busiest weekends this year for Big Spring firefighters and that is never a good sign.

Total damage estimates topped \$75,000. That's not a huge damage figure for four fires, but it would certainly be bad enough if part of that figure were your home or property.

A controlled burn that got away from property owners resulted in the near-total loss of a barn about 17 miles north of Big Spring Friday afternoon. Fire Marshall Carl Condray estimated total damage at around \$18,000.

Carelessness is being blamed as the cause of a house fire on the 2600 block of Crestline where a family was in the process of moving when flammable material caught fire atop the kitchen stove and resulted in minor damage.

A small child playing with matches was the reported cause of a house fire on the 2600 block of Albrook on Saturday. That blaze was contained to the bedroom area of the home and caused an estimated \$6,000 in damages.

The fourth fire resulted in the total loss of a trailer home on Lindbergh Street, accounting for about \$50,000 of the weekend's total loss estimate.

While the cause of that fourth fire is still under investigation, it is clear that we all need be sure we're being responsible with flammable substances and outdoor burning of any kind. And we should always make children can't get their hands on matches, lighters and other means of starting fires.

We'll not only be helping protect property, but could very well be saving lives.

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

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

I got to interview one of my heroes

interviewed Cotton Davidson in the lobby of the Gatesville newspaper building. Before sitting down with him face to face, I saw him talking to a couple of men soon after he

came in the front door. He stood tall and straight and had the same stance he had 50 years ago when he played quarterback for Baylor. In my mind I saw him in a huddle during an important game, planning strategy for a crugial play. I was a freshman at Baylor when he was a senior



Baylor had quite a football team in the fifties. During my freshman year, Baylor was ranked third in the nation. In my senior year Baylor beat Tennessee in the Sugar Bowl.

Cotton was born Francis Marion Davidson. He didn't particularly like his name and welcomed the nickname Cotton, given to him

because of his white hair. Nobody calls him Francis or Marion. He started playing football in elementary school. When it came time to go to college, he seriously considered enrolling in Rice, but a preacher friend talked him into going to Baylor.

"It made good sense," says Cotton. "Baylor was close to my home here in Gatesville and I didn't want to get too far away from my family and friends."

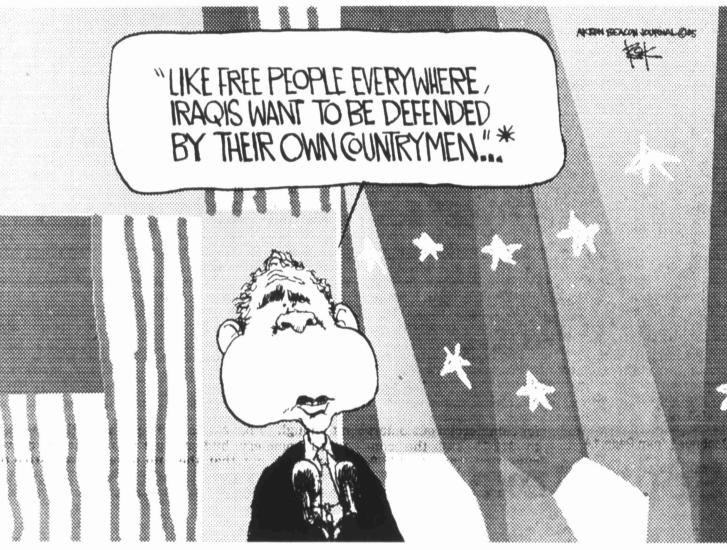
After his football success at Baylor, he went to the Pros. He was the number one draft choice of the Baltimore Colts. After a year there, he was drafted into the Army and spent his military years playing football. He was selected quarterback of the All-Army team. After the Army, Cotton played for the Colts, the Dallas Texans and the Oakland Raiders. While playing for the Raiders, he set a record for throwing the most yardage in a game. For the Colts he not only played quarterback. He was also the punter and kickoff return man. He thinks there's too much specialization in pro football today and players move from team to

team too much.

Cotton has a roomful of trophies, plaques and awards. He was voted the most valuable player in the first AFL All-Star Game. He is in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. When he stopped playing, he started coaching. He was a Baylor football coach 22 years. Now he holds a summer clinic for high school quarterbacks and receivers.

"So many of the coaches, when working their system, just don't have the time to spend on the passing game. Most of the effort at practice is concentrated on the running game. So we started this little four-day clinic just for quarterbacks and receivers in area schools. We teach techniques and do lots of drills. The clinic is in late July when it's getting close to the season and helps the players get in shape. It puts the kids in a good frame of mind because they feel like they've got something new to carry into the season.'

Cotton lives on a ranch, has been in the oil business and is partner in a funeral home. His son and grandson are football players.



GERMANY AND JAPAN NOT INCLUDED

Your Views

TO THE EDITOR:

I am a soldier currently assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood. I am what you'd call a Big Spring carpetbagger. My wife and I recently purchased a home in Big Spring in anticipation of my pending retirement.

Currently I am a master sergeant

with 21 years of service. While I was deployed to Iraq, my wife traveled back and forth from Killeen to Lubbock to visit my daughter, who is attending Texas Tech. During her travel, she stopped in and fell in love with the small town environment of Big

Spring. After I returned from a 15-month deployment, she convinced me to retire. Not knowing where we wanted to retire, we explored several cities and states. We eventually decided that our retirement check would go further if we stayed in Texas. We also wanted to find somewhere kind of close to our relatives in San Angelo, Dallas and our daughter in Lubbock.

Once all the math was done, I decided she was right. Big Spring was the exact type of community we were looking for and we are looking forward to retiring and getting moved.

MASTER SGT. KENNETH B SCOTT FORT HOOD

TO THE EDITOR:

My name is Sheldon Roy Brown and I am searching for a friend.

I served aboard the USS Carpenter from 1963 to 1966 with a Roger Glen Flowers who was from Big Spring, but I don't think he stayed there after leaving the Navy.

I know that he had a brother-inlaw that was the manager of the

Wackers store there. I think his dad's name was Otto and moved to Idaho, but I am not sure of that. I have searched everywhere on the web that I can think of but have had no success.

The last time I heard of Roger, he was in Washington state or Oregon. My hopes are that there is someone in Big Spring that knew him or his family and can possibly give me a lead on finding him. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

I can be reached at srbrown@consolidated.net or you could mail information to me at 2364 Jeffcote Road, Conroe 77303.

> SHELDON R. BROWN CONROE

TO THE EDITOR:

Well, we keep reading about the new jail facilities, and if you drive around town, you will see two buildings that would be an excellent place to make a jail for the city and a place for the county.

That would be the old Wal-Mart Building and the old K-Mart build-

So why not suggest it to the city. council or whoever is trying to spend our money?

> RICARDO BELTRAN **BIG SPRING**

TO THE EDITOR:

Texas statistics reveal that 40 percent of Hispanics in the state are without health insurance. This fact - combined witht he high cost of health care, cultural and language barriers, immigration issues and a lack of outreach programs — may impede access to health care for many Hispanics in Texas. This is a cause for concern as nearly half of

all babies born in Texas are Hispanic, and regrettably, one in four Hispanic mome do not receive early prenatal care.

The goal of prenatal care is to monitor the progress of a pregnancy and to discover potential problems before they become serious for either mom or baby. One of the most serious complications that could lead to lifelong or life-threatening health problems is premature birth. The key to preventing preterm birth if preterm labor occurs is to get medical assistance quickly.

I want to take this opportunity to tell your readers that March of Dimes can help. It is leading the fight against premature births and has a culturally appropriate, bilingual, prenatal education curriculum for Hispanic women called Comenzando bien.

Eight education sessions provide information about healthy pregnancy, create a supportive environment that promotes healthy behaviors and empowers participants to become assertive, informed consumers of prenatal care services.

It is designed for implementation by trained facilitators in a variety of settings including worksites, churches, health departments and Hispanic community-based organizations and neighborhood centers.

I encourage proactive organizations and educational institutions interested in implementing the curriculum to contact the local March of Dimes or visit www.marchofdimes.com for more information on this lifesaving program.

> DR. JOSEPH GARCIA-PRATS CHAIRMAN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL MARCH OF DIMES Houston

Cc an

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By STE Staff W COAL meetin Commi mainly areas i munity to deal With for va RCCI n dance, present of idea problei Dr. G ologist Univer

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By BILL

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Coahoma RCCI members to identify answers to questions, recruit others

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

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COAHOMA — An abbreviated meeting of the Coahoma Rural Community College Initiative dealt mainly with identifying problem areas in this Howard County community and formulating strategies to deal with those problems.

With many members out of town for various reasons, Tuesday's RCCI meeting was short on attendance, but that didn't stop those present from starting the process of identifying and dealing with problem areas facing Coahoma.

Dr. Gene Theodori, a rural sociologist with Texas A&MUniversity, urged those in attendance to identify both short-range and long-range goals for the organization, which was formed a few months ago as an offshoot of a larger RCCI effort in Big Spring.

Of immediate concern was increasing membership in the Coahoma RCCI organization, and those in attendance Tuesday were tasked with encouraging others to join in the effort.

Other issues identified centered mainly on housing issues — the availability of land for housing in Coahoma, zoning and code enforcement issues and the general lack of adequate housing in the area.

It's not that there's a housing shortage in Coahoma, members said, but many homes in town are

substandard.

Adding to the problem is a lack of zoning and code enforcement standards.

There is no adequate method of ensuring that local residents keep their properties in good repair, members said.

Finally, members said there is plenty of vacant land on which to build homes, but it is unclear as to the availability of that land for such purposes.

Members will attempt to identify answers to some of these questions before their next meeting Sept 27. At that time, Theodori and the group will begin to identify longrange goals.

said Mayor Russ McEwen

in lauding the foundation.

council approved:

agreement

improvements.

In other business, the

Final reading of a res-

olution accepting offer to

purchase property for less

than the amount of judg-

ment or appraised value.

· Final reading of a res-

olution authorizing the

mayor to execute an

Insituform Technologies

Inc. for sanitary sewer

Final reading of a res-

olution authorizing the

public works director to

execute a change order

for the sanitary sewer

Lawmakers expected to vote on education spending plan today

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Stalled on tax talks but touting progress on a \$2.4 billion education spending plan, lawmakers entered the last day of a special legislative session today expecting to be called back for another 30-day special session.

The education bill agreement, which would increase pay for teachers, was set for a vote before the full House and Senate today. If it passes in both chambers, the measure would go to the governor for his approval.

But without the tax legislation, the funding bill would die. Republican Gov. Rick Perry has vowed to keep lawmakers in Austin until they achieve a finance plan.

Perry called the special session to pump new dollars into education and restructure the taxes that fund schools.

It is the fourth attempt in two years in regular and special sessions to restructure the school funding system that a judge last year deemed inadequate and unconstitutional. The system has been called Robin Hood by some because it redistributes property taxes from wealthy districts to poorer ones.

Previous special sessions have cost about \$1 million each.

"We're going to continue to work on this whether it's sooner or later," said Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland. "We can't do it quickly because everything we do has a ripple effect."

Negotiators, led by the state's top three leaders,

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were continuing to try to reach a compromise tax plan.

The education measure would give districts enough money for teachers to get about \$2,000 more in 2006 and then an additional \$500 in 2007. That pay raise includes the full restoration of a \$1,000 health care stipend that was cut in half two years ago.

The bill also would put more money into bilingual education and trans-

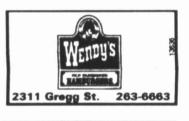
"It's a real good bill," Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said. House Speaker Tom Craddick called it fantas-

The measure would overhaul the textbook adoption process, replacing textbook funding with a new allotment that could also be spent on new technology. Each local school district would be allowed to select the books and instructional materials.

The education bill also sets a mandatory school start date, the Tuesday after Labor Day, and calls for school board elections in November.

The recapture provision, which is the term for money that property wealthy districts give to the state to be shared, is scaled back in the latest agreement.

Sen. Leticia Van De Putte, D-San Antonio, was one of two Democratic Senate negotiators who did not sign the bill.



City council approves clarifier bid, no parking zone along 11th Place

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

As expected, Big Spring City Council approved a bid for the rehabilitation of a clarifier at the wastewater treatment plant and an ordinance dealing with parking in front of the high school Tuesday.

Both items had been tabled at the council's June 28 meeting - the clarifier because the only two bids came in over budget and the street ordinance because of wording on the agenda.

Tuesday, the council elected to finance the clarifier through capital revolving fund over a 10year period at 3 percent interest. Rehabilitation of

Continued from Page 1A

hike in wastewater treat-

ment fee increases.

Monday, the council was

told that more than

\$230,000 would be needed

for repairs at the waste-

water treatment plant

over the coming year, a

figure that could be

accounted for by an

increase of \$2.50 on cus-

tomers' wastewater base

RATES

the clarifier, which city officials said must be done to meet with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules and standards, had been projected to cost about \$180,000. However, that went out the window when bids came in at from \$244,000 **Environmental of Wichita** Falls and \$312,000 from

As finalized, the city will finance some \$277,000 through the capital revolving fund, paying about \$33,000 annually. As such, the board approved the bid with BW Environmental.

Approved on second

sumption rates. That

reading was an ordinance nity and of West Texas," dealing with 11th Place in front of Big Spring High School. Among other provisions, the ordinance calls for no parking on the street between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

In other business, the council approved a bid of \$169,384 from Johnston Control Group for construction of a new build-Red River Construction of ing for the Northside Community Center. The funding comes from the Dora Roberts Foundation, whose board agreed to increase the original amount after the only bid came in over budget.

"The Dora Roberts Foundation has changed the scope of our commu-

In response, councilman

Greg Biddison said it was-

n't enough to have a bal-

anced cemetery budget.

general fund balance for

"What do you want to

"Make further cuts.

However, none of the

council suggested ways to

bring the budget into bal-

ance without cutting ser-

vices or raising taxes and

no one actually suggested

that any specific item in

the budget be cut. It was

pointed out that short of

trimming from essentials

such as police, fire, ambu-

lance, street repair and

the like, the city would

have to eliminate funds it

provides for upkeep of

ballparks, the senior cen-

ter, museum, swimming

pool and other "non-

More belt tightening,'

the proposed budget was

\$162,341 in the red.

do?" said McEwen.

said Biddison.

Project.

improvements

essential" areas. City Manager Gary Fugua noted that the budget was purposely drawn up to be conservative on the "revenue side." It was noted, for instance, that despite increases each year in sales tax rebates, the city actually budgeted \$25,000 less for the com-

ing year. Later, the mayor pointed out that the budget would be reviewed six months into the year and if it still appeared there would be a deficit steps could be taken to elimi-

nate it at that time. "I think it is a reasonable budget that allows us to provide the services to our community in a very equitable way," he said.

Contact News Editor Bill McClellan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.co

rate fees. However, after looking at comparisons between

Big Spring and area communities, the council asked city staff to work up scenarios whereby commercial customers would bear the entire

brunt of the increase. Tuesday, the council settled on a \$5 increase in commercial customers' base rate, plus an additional 50-cent hike on con-

would bring the base rate for commercial customers to \$16.75 and the consumption rate to \$1.70. He pointed out that the Together, the fees for 770 accounts commercial would bring in an additional \$233,700. Also under study

Tuesday was the city's cemetery fund, projected for a shortfall of \$126,296 for 2005-2006. It's a growing problem; the cemetery came up short \$30,489 for 2003-2004 and \$87,749 for 2004-2005.

Mayor McEwen told staff that it is imperative the cemetery's budget be balanced. Staff members replied that they had a variety of ideas to "look at," including some that would generate revenue and at least one that would cut costs. They'll bring that information back to the council during an Aug. 2 workshop.

> the process — which is in effect in other places produces perfectly satis-

"This is safe," he said. "We wouldn't be here today talking about this if the science ... didn't show that it was absolutely safe.'

factory water.

Besides that, Grant said anyone could see the benefit of added water resources in West Texas. "Reclamated water just

Texas," said. "Somebody just needs to step up and do it."

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



CRMWD

Continued from Page 1A

that might make it through the filtering process, Sloan said.

Cost of such of a facility was estimated at \$7.7 million for construction, with annual operating expenditures expected to be around \$500,000, he

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Benny Boyd

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would be preliminary design work, followed by securing of necessary permits and land, a pilot testing project, then final design and construction. Grant estimated the entire process — from preliminary design to completion — could take between three and four

Grant admits the thought of drinking recycled waste water may be off-putting, but insisted

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RATS UNCIL IMES STON

Library New

I am a fan of the crime shows — "The First 48," "American Justice," "Cold Case Files," etc. on A&E. I have kind of gotten tired of all the CSI shows, love watching reruns of "Law & Order" with Lenny Briscoe.

Several books on forensic science or crime shows have come in. The first is DK's "Crime Scene: Ultimate Guide to Forensic Science," (363.25 PLA D) by David Platt.

Dorland Kindersley Publishing is well known for their Eyewitness Books for children. This is built along the same

There are plenty of photos, easily understood explanations and case studies for each subject. Chapters on crime scenes, the victim, evidence analysis, the suspect, lethal agents and case studies are described. Excellent book.

"Crime Scene," (363.252 REA D) by Reader's Digest is perhaps a more scholarly book. It takes a much more detailed look at crime scenes and the clues that are found there and is written for a person who (how do I say this) reads at a higher level of sophistication.

Another volume that looks at crime from a different point of view is "What Would Sipowicz Do? Race, Rights and Redemption in NYPD Blue," edited by Glenn Yeffeth. This takes an entertaining, intelligent look at the culturally influential 11-year television run of "NYPD Blue."

This is a collection of essays on topics ranging from the series' portrayal of race relations in New York City to Sipowicz's thorny demeanor. A media critic, the early narrative and two police psychologists, and addiction, interrogation and sex experts contribute essays that take an accessible, intelligent look at a show that has redefined the police drama genre. (Review is from Amazon.com)

We have received two Pulitzer Prize winning books: "1776," (973.3 MCC D) by David McCullough and "Gilead," (F ROB M) by Marilynne Robinson.

In "1776," esteemed historian David McCullough covers the military side of the momentous year of 1776 with insight and a gripping narrative. He adds new scholarship and a fresh perspective to the beginning of American Revolution.

McCullough writes vividly about the dismal conditions that troops on both sides had to endure and he explores the importance of motivation and troop morale.

Some of the strongest passages in "1776" are the revealing and well-rounded portraits of the Georges on both sides of the Atlantic. King George III is given a thoughtful treatment

McCullough, who shows that the king considered the colonists to be petulant subjects without legitimate grievances.

Washington George lives up to his considerable reputation in these pages and McCullough relies on private correspondence to balance the man and the myth, revealing how deeply concerned Washington was about the Americans' chances for victory.

McCullough has done a superb job.

In "Gilead," (F ROB M) Marilynne Robinson, has written an amazing book. In a review by Mary

Reinart, she writes that the themes of forgiveness, jealously, love, grace, faith, fear and resentment are tightly woven into this well-written story.

Incidents in the story take place in rural Iowa and Kansas from the time of the Civil War through the 1950s. Although that time and culture is much different than most of us are now living, the characters of the Rev. John Ames, his father, his grandfather and his namesake, John Ames Broughton are some of the most authentic that I have ever met in fiction.

"Gilead" is a spirituallyfulfilling book in spite of the fact that most of the major characters are preachers. This provides a clearer lens in which to see the issues of belief and doubt and how that belief or doubt affects our daily lives.

Interesting note that one reviewer, who states he is an atheist, wrote the book "becomes a meditation on how even the simplest life can be touched by grace and wonder."

Perhaps it is the simplest life that is most likely touched by grace and wonder as these characters demonstrate so beautifully in many ways, such as the Rev. Ames' final blessing of John Ames Broughton and the heartrending scene of the young neglected mother and her naked, unnamed child playing in the stream.

It is a book that should be read over and over. There is a quiet humor that often surfaces in the least expected places. I only hope that those with a cynical nature do not give up on it during the first part; it takes a while to work through some of what some might consider religious rambling, but which provide the context for the confrontations that take place in the last third of the book.

The Howard County Library is open from 9 a.m. until to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The internet/video room closes one-half hour earli-

The library is located at 500 S. Main St.; the phone number is 264-2260. The library is closed Saturdays during the

Hollis McCright is the Howard County librarian.



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Dicky Wright, left, owner of Water, Water, Inc., received the Doing Your Part Award for a business from the Code Enforcement for the City of Big Spring for July. Linda and Mike Weaver, right, at 201 E. Sixth St., received the Doing Your Part Award for a home, as presented by Nick Reyna, an inspector for the city. Each will receive \$50 off their water bill for July, a one-year subscription to the Big Spring Herald, a complete makeover gift certificate from Uptown Salon and Day Spa, and gift certificates from Sky's Restaurant, Harris Lumber and Hardware, Johansen Landscape, Higginbotham-Bartlett, Ponderosa Nursery, Wendy's and Blockbuster Video.

Children's Library News

again to tell you the news about the summer reading program and some new arrivals in the library.

We had many children sign up for the "Go Wild Read!" program this year. We had about 300 children register for the program. I was really impressed with their enthusiasm about read-

The goal was to read 10 books, or for the little ones, have 10 books read to them. The program lasted four weeks. We had two separate classes.

The Wednesday class was reserved for the babies through first grade children. Their average attendance was around 80 per class. The Thursday class was for the second through the fifth grade children. The Thursday average was around 30.

During each class we tried to have three different stations.

One station was the arts and crafts. We made pinecone bird feeders, masks, colored pictures and made paper puppets.

The next station was for stories. Sometimes, we would have books, puppet

This is Janet Osburn shows, videos or use finger plays and songs to tell stories.

> The last station was for the snacks. This was my personal favorite. We made and ate Trail Mix. Made "mud" with Oreos and milk, added a few peanuts for rocks and topped it off with gummy worms for well-worms.

Some of the children were a little reluctant to eat their mud, go figure. Some of them just ate it right up and went home and made more! One day we had a picnic on the floor.

It was really a wonderful time to visit with the children.

The closing party was a blast. We had hot dogs, chips, cookies and soft drinks, yum. There was a duck pond, cow ring toss, coke ring toss, prizes, Dimples the Clown and balloons for everyone.

There were some really special people who helped to make the reading program a reality. They are the volunteers who so graciously gave of their time to help with the activities.

The Friends of the Library sent some very wonderful people to help: Barbara Hulsey, Gloria have some new arrivals Hopkins, Linda Holmes, Fran and Lee Emerson, Wally and many more who called or came by.

We also had several students: Johnathan Purcell, Eric Ochoa, Curtis Osburn, Kevin Osburn, Kenzie and Karley. There were many parents and adults who helped as well.

Without you, this program would not have been possible.

Quail Dobbs made a special appearance for the Thursday class during them. The long awaited rodeo week. Wells Fargo Harry Potter book, Bank and H-E-B also "Harry Potter and the made donations to the program. Our thanks go to you and all the others who helped. I am sure I have forgotten someone. There were so many, it is difficult to name them all.

There were more than 90 children who completed their goals and turned in their reading logs. If you were participating in the program and did not turn in your log, you may still do so. I will be glad to make out your certificate.

Not only was the reading program exciting, we in the library as well.

We received some of Tamora Pierce's books. They complete a couple of sets of her books. They are set in the middle ages and are about the first girl to become a knight.

Some of these books are in the Juvenile section and some are in the Young Adult section.

We also have another set of the Girls in Pants Books for those of you who would like to read Half-Blood Prince' released July Hopefully, our copies will be in.

Well, I'll see you at the

Janet Osburn is the children's librarian at the Howard County Library.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Reader recipe winners

The results of our first-ever reader recipe contest are now history. Check out five of the delicious dishes that were judged to be the best of the many thousands that were submitted. Plus, sharing family stories and Our Picks.

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sets Junior clinics The Big Spring Country Club has set ip a summer junior clinic and an advanced ummer junior clinic. The clinics run through August 4. Both clinics will be Tuesdays from 9 a.m.

to 11 a.m. For more information, call the golf shop at 267-5854.

Howard announces men's basketball camps in mid-July

The Howard College men's basketball staff will host another week-long camp July

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

The camp sign-up will take place July 24 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. The first day of the camp will be July 24 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The camp will run each day from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. The Hawk camp format consists of morning and afternoon sessions.

For more info, contact Howard head coach Mark Adams at 816-6957 or Howard ssistant coach Jason autter at 816-3200.

Signups for football to begin July 22

The Crossroads Youth Football Association will begin its annual signup session Friday.

Signups will take place at the Big Spring Mall Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. The cost to play football is \$70. Flag football costs \$30, while cheerleaders should expect to pay \$75.

For more information, call Daphne Castilaw at 714-4688.

NFL allows Williams to report to camp

MIAMI (AP) Miami Dolphins running back Ricky Williams has been cleared by the NFL to report Sunday with the rest of the team for the start of training camp, a year and a day after he abruptly retired.

The league's 2002 rushing champion decided to seek reinstatement after sitting out last season. He still faces a four-game suspension at the start of the season for violating the NFL substance abuse program.

Roddick records rough win in Indy

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) Top-seeded Andy Roddick had to work extra hard to keep alive his bid for a third consecutive RCA Championships, playing three tiebreakers in a win over Russian Dmitry Tursunov in a econd-round match.

atch with his 17th

Blalock's blast pushes Rangers past Yankees

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer ARLINGTON (AP) -Hank Blalock was glad to know he was going to knock in the tying run with his hard hit toward the gap. The Texas Rangers third baseman felt even better when the ball hit the top of the fence — and went over.

Blalock's two-out, tworun homer in the eighth inning dropped into the Texas bullpen, giving the Rangers a 2-1 win over the New York Yankees on Tuesday night.

"It was a breaking ball. I just reacted to it and hit it," Blalock said. "Off my er because Mariano and dropped a half-game

drive the tying run in. Then it bounced off the top of the fence."

David Dellucci and Michael Young started the eighth with consecutive singles off Wayne Franklin (0-1) before Mark Teixeira grounded into a double play. Blalock then hit a breaking ball for his 19th homer, the major leagueleading 157th for the Rangers.

Tanyon Sturtze was unavailable after pitching 2 1-3 innings Monday, and the Yankees were saving Tom Gordon as their clos-

bat, I was glad I could Rivera had pitched four of the previous five days. That left Yankees manager Joe Torre with no reliable options.

> "It wasn't a bad outing for Franklin, but it was a bad pitch," Torre said. "He'd gotten three ground balls in a row, but he left a breaking ball up."

> Texas manager Buck Showalter joked that the pitchers sitting in the bullpen had their feet on the fence pushing forward as Blalock's ball came toward them. It was that close.

New York lost for only the third time in 14 games behind Boston in the AL East, one day after taking sole possession of first place for the first time since a season-opening victory over the Red Sox.

The Rangers had lost four of its previous five games, including consecutive one-run losses.

A night after the Yankees won 11-10 in the opener of the series matching two of the three highest-scoring teams in the major leagues, pitching and defense dominated.

"It was a funny win tonight," Showalter said. "It's hard to believe they

The Yankees, who lead the majors with 511 runs, got their only run in the eighth off Chan Ho Park. Bubba Crosby drew a leadoff walk, moved up on Derek Jeter's sacrifice bunt and came around on Robinson Cano's single.

Mike Mussina pitched six shutout innings without getting his 10th win, leaving with the game scoreless after throwing 109 pitches. Park struck out five, but allowed six hits and three walks while hitting two other batters over 109 pitches

were the same teams out See RANGERS, Page 2B

Astros take two from Pirates

By ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Houston Astros, and yes, the Pittsburgh Pirates, might have anticipated this from Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte. They probably didn't expect it on the same night from rookies Ezequiel Astacio and Wandy Rodriguez.

Rodriguez took Astacio's on spot Houston's roster minutes after Astacio beat the Pirates in the opening game Tuesday night, then pitched even better than he did as the Astros completed a doubleheader sweep with a 6-4 victory.

Lance Berkman hit a two-run homer in the second game and had four hits in the Astros' first road doubleheader sweep since Aug. 4, 1995 — also in Pittsburgh.

In the opener, Astacio limited Pittsburgh to two runs over six innings for his first major league victory, and Morgan Ensberg and Berkman keyed two early scoring innings in a 9-3 victory.

"Going into a doubleheader in somebody else's ballpark and you've got two kids on the mound, you're always concerned, but they did a marvelous job," manager Phil

Garner said. Houston has won 10 of 14 to get back to a game over .500. The Astros (47-46) are 31-16 since starting

the season 15-30. The Astros, held to five runs and 20 hits during a three-game sweep by St. Louis last weekend, have outscored the Pirates 26-8 in the first three games of a four-game series that likely will played in less

game Wednesday following a doubleheader presented a precarious situation for the Astros with two rookie pitchers going.

"They've taken their bumps and bruises at times, but they made some adjustments and came out and pitched well," said Craig Biggio, who had two hits and scored twice in the second game — his 2500th in the majors.

The Pirates have been outscored 56-16 in losing seven of eight and are 1-6 since the All-Star break, and seldom-used players are doing much of the damage.

Just as in the opener, when Houston took a 5-0 lead in the third inning, against rookie Ian Snell (0-1), the Astros jumped up early with a four-run third against Mark Redman (4-10), who lost

his sixth straight start. Burke Chris Humberto Quintero singled ahead of Biggio's walk, loading the bases with one out. Eric Bruntlett, a utility infielder making an infrequent start, cleared the bases with a triple and later scored on Ensberg's sacri-

fice fly. Previously, Bruntlett had only two RBIs in 44 games this season. On Monday, Quintero drove in four runs to lead an 11-1 win after previously having only one RBI.

"I like it when guys like Bruntlett have some success," Garner said. "You pull for guys like that."

Rodriguez (5-4) made the lead stand up to win his third in four decisions, returning from a short stay in the minors so he

than 48 hours. A day could pitch during the All-Star break. He took the roster spot of Astacio, who was sent back to Triple-A Round Rock between games, and gave up three runs, two in six-plus earned, innings.

Berkman made it 6-2 in the fifth with a two-run homer, his seventh. Berkman is 18-for-44 (.409) in his last dozen games and is 6-for-13 in the Pirates series.

Astacio (1-4) needed six starts and eight appearances to finally win in the majors, holding the Pirates to five hits — four singles — over six innings in the first game.

While losing seven of eight, the Pirates have been beaten by star-caliber pitchers such as Pedro Martinez, Mark Prior and Greg Maddux. But, going into the doubleheader, Astacio and Rodriguez had only four wins between them, all by Rodriguez.

"When you're in a little bit of a rut, it doesn't matter who's out there," Pittsburgh's Matt Lawton said. "Right now we've got to turn it up. I don't know who's going to do it, but we've got to get it

done." Pirates manager Lloyd McClendon shuffled his lineup to try to generate some offense but Lawton, batting third for the first time this season, went 0for-6 with three strikeouts

and hit into a double play. "But we have to stay professional with 'our approach and continue to grind it out and continue to believe in each other,' McClendon "Nobody's going to feel sorry for us."

Jason Bay generated most of the Pirates' second-game offense with doubles. Ryan Doumit hit his first two career homers in the opener.

Ensberg, Willy Taveras and Jose Vizcaino each drove in two runs in the first game for the Astros.



Courtesy photo

Maxwell Papajohn of Big Spring completed a two week session of intensive baseball training at the Mickey Owen Baseball School located near Miller, Mo. The two week session includes 15-20 games and includes use of video tape replay and personalized training from top professional baseball instructors from college and professional baseball.

Armstrong leaves moutains with lead at Tour de France

Austin native closes in on seventh straight race championship

By JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer PAU, France (AP) -Lance Armstrong simplified his game plan after scaling the last tough mountain of his Tour de France career.

"The big, big days and the big difficulties are done," Armstrong said after Tuesday's 16th stage. "Now we have to stay safe, stay conservative and look to the final time trial and try and close it out."

Completing the last of three days in the Pyrenees left just a mostly flat stage, two medium mountain stages and the time trial for Armstrong to negotiate before what he hopes is a final victorious pedal up Paris' Champs-Elysees.

Armstrong set off Wednesday on the Tour's longest stage so far, a 148.8-mile trek from Pau to Revel. Shortly after the stage began, Andreas Kloeden, a German rider from the T-Mobile team, dropped out. He fractured his right hand in a fall

See TOUR, Page 2B

KRT photo/Charles Fox, Philadelphia Inquire The Phillies' Pat Burrell slides safely into third base, beating the tag by the Dodgers' Oscar Robies in the bottom of the ninth inning. The Phillies beat the Dodgers 5-4 at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, Penn., Tuesday.

Major League Baseball - current league-wide standings National League - Central American League - East American League - West 60-33 51-42 -Chicago Cubs 48-45 -12 50-42 -.5 47-46 -13 50-43 -1 48-45 -7.5 46-47 -5 41-51 -14 40-54 -20.5 32-63 -20 38-55 -22 American League - Central 50-42 -12

TOUR

Continued from Page 1B

Tuesday.

Spaniard Oscar Pereiro won Tuesday's stage, with Armstrong finishing in a group that included Ivan Basso, T-Mobile leader Jan Ullrich and other top riders — all 3 minutes, 24 seconds behind Pereiro.

Armstrong's lead over Basso, looking to improve on his third-place finish last year, remains at 2:46. Mickael Rasmussen of Denmark is third, 3:09 behind the six-time champion. Ullrich is fourth overall and trails Armstrong by 5:58.

Armstrong was untroubled during Tuesday's stage, he felt as if he was freewheeling.

"It was an amazing day. Today there was no chain on the bike," he said. "Maybe today was one of my best days. I don't Mourenx to Pau. "So they know why, I don't have a were doing everything

First Flight

real explanation, but I felt totally confident. I felt the team was very strong. It was a great day for us."

Armstrong's rivals, sensing that their chances of catching the American are slipping away, tried testing him again on two rigorous climbs.

But he brushed off the challenges, easily matching their uphill accelerations to defend his comfortable lead. So, the challengers concentrated on Rasmussen — who has a nearly three-minute lead over Ullrich and could prevent the German from finishing on the podium for only the second time in his career. Ullrich, the 1997 Tour champion, was fourth last year and has placed second five times — three to Armstrong.

"T-Mobile was apparently trying to take back time from Rasmussen," Armstrong said after the 112.2-mile trek from

Permian Basin Ladies

Association Playday

Big Spring Country Club

1st gross - Annie Ward: 81, Comanche Trail

1st gross - Peggy Wilson: 92, Big Spr 2nd gross - Lois Guthrie: 94, Hogan P

1st gross - Nell Carson: 93, Sunset

2nd gross - Daury Cockreel: 98, Con 1st net - Darlene Peel: 64, Androws

2nd net - Janell Davis: 68, Big Sprin Low putts - Dottle Rogers: 33, Hogar

2nd gross - Dorothy Mooring: 84, Ranchland 1st net - Eileen Been: 68, Sunset 2nd net - Donna Winborn: 69, Ranchland Low putts - Pat Underwood: 25, Big Spring C.C.

1st net - Patsy Sharpnack: 68, Comanche Trail 2nd net - Carolyn Aliney: 73, Andrews

Low putts - Lydie Thompson: 30, Hogan Park

Relieved to be done with

they could."

France's tortuous Alps and Pyrenees for good, the 33-year-old Armstrong has a clearer idea of what's needed to seal the race.

"It's always nice to get through the mountains," he said. "If you avoid problems, if you avoid accidents ... don't get some freaky illness, a sort of catastrophe, the odds are good."

Ullrich, Basso and Rasmussen will not be pleased to hear that Armstrong is "feeling betterand better every day," - even if he isn't taking victory for granted.

"The road is open and anything can happen and I know that better than anybody," he said.

Armstrong praised his team - particularly George Hincapie — after Tuesday's stage, which featured two potentially tricky ascents: a category 1 climb up Marie-Blanque, and the Col d'Aubisque, a harder

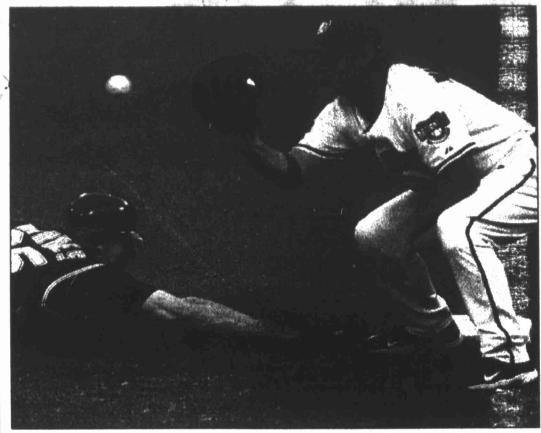
"He's a champion in his own right, and he rode brilliantly today. You saw confirmation of that," Armstrong said of Hincapie.

ascent which doesn't have

a rating.

Aside from staying safe, Armstrong has one more objective — winning a stage. He hasn't won an individual stage so far this year.

In his winning Tours from 1999-2004, Armstrong won a total of 19 stages, 10 of them time trials. In all but 2003, his shakiest victory, Armstrong's winning margins in Paris have all exceeded six minutes. In 2003, he beat Ullrich by just 61 seconds.



Colorado Rockies' Eric Byrnes, left, dives safely back to first base before the tag of Washington Nationals Brad Wilkerson during their game played at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C., Tuesday night. The Nationals won the game and remained in first place in the National League East.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

through 7 1-3 innings. Kameron Loe (4-2) got

two outs in the eighth, and Francisco Cordero worked the ninth for his 22nd save in 27 chances, getting pinch-hitter Tino Martinez to fly out with two on.

Mussina struck out seven while allowing four singles and three walks in the right-hander's 29th career start against the Rangers.

"I came in after the sixth and (Torre) said that's good enough," Mussina said. "I still felt pretty good. I looked at him kind of funny. But Joe said 109 pitches was option. It wasn't up to debate." After allowing two run-

ners against the first three hitters, Mussina faced the minimum 11 batters over the next 3 2-3 innings. Two runners reached during that stretch, but both were caught stealing by catcher Jorge Posada.

Kevin Mench and Richard Hidalgo had consecutive singles to start the fifth, but Mussina got the next three batters out.

Felix Rodriguez, activated from the disabled list earlier Tuesday after missing 55 games recovering from left knee surgery, pitched the seventh for New York.

Park benefited from three double plays in a

enough, so I didn't get an span of four innings, the most crucial being the last one in the sixth with runners at first and third. AM t

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Young snagged Alex Rodriguez's grounder to shortstop to start an inning-ending double play. On the previous play, Young made a diving stop on Gary Sheffield's ball up the middle to force Cano, who had reached on a one-out double, to hold at third base.

Alfonso Soriano fielded Jeter's grounder near second base to start an inning-ending double play in the third. Two innings later, Soriano tagged Posada running in front of him before turning a full circle and throwing to first.

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BUILT in 1992, 2.27 acres 4/3/3, 2 Living areas, formal dinning, spacious kitchen, large breakfast room. Beautifully landscaped yard, water well 1700 Allendale. \$259,000.00. (432)263-3778.

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This newspaper will not know ingly accept any advertising for eal estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this ewspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

An opposition involving Saturn in Leo creates a colorful, cosmic playground, complete with crazy slides

and an ice cream truck, and then invites us to play in it for a fee. The fee is that must we check our egos at the

HOLIDAY **MATHIS**

gate. Those who are able to do so will enjoy a workout on life's jungle gym. Talents are honed and seeds of love

are planted. ARIES (March 21-April 19). An extremely productive day lies before you. All you have to do is get people on your side. With

Vehicles

'04 Nissan Xterras \$3000 OFF **MSRP Bob Brock Ford**

500 W. 4th 267-7424 1994 CROWN Victoria Ford. Excellent condition. Lots of miles but a great looking car.

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East Midway Rd. GREAT SCHOOL Car. 2003 Oldsmobile Alero, 4 door, 6230 actual miles. Like new. Asking \$11,500.00. If interested call (432)263-4342 or 213-4202.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Howard County Auditor will receive sealed bids until 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 5, 2005, for prescription medicine and services for the County Indigent Health Care, County Welfare, Howard County Jail and the Howard County Juvenile Probation Programs.

Specifications may be obtained at the County Indigent Health Care Office, Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main Street, Room #310, Big Spring, Texas 79720. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court on August 8, 2005 for their consideration. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Jackie Olson, County #4636 July 20 & 29, 2005.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

you (and a few others) picturing yourself completing a project, you surely will get it done.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Indulge yourself in sensual pleasures - a long, hot bath, a foot massage, a cup of hot chocolate with whipped cream. a kiss or a barefoot walk at sunset on the beach even if it's only in your dreams.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You are being hounded for payment — this could be monetary or a favor that may cost you some time. Either way, it is time to stop avoiding the situation. Take care of the debt ASAP so you can get on with your life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If only you could solve the mystery of the empty wallet! The bills seem to disappear as fast as they're put in. It's not a ghost, but your evil impulse-buying twin. Control this side of yourself for the sake of your bank account.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Try doing things a little differently today. Do your work in the opposite order, eat dinner away from the table, sleep on the other side of the bed. Small changes in routine alter your perspective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Making a change to your lifestyle will require an adjustment in your social network. Finding a

partner to share your zeal for healthy living will make the transition more bearable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The key word of the day is passion. It is an important aspect to both work and love. One of the two areas is lacking, and your desire for balance cannot let that be. Brainstorm ways to reignite the extinguished spark.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're uncomfortable calling in favors from friends, but you need to do just that. You give so much that they are more than happy to assist you. And with your pals' crazy antics, you'll have ample opportunity to repay them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be fearless in the face of adversity. Obstacles try to clutter your path to happiness. Take life at your own pace, and simply walk around them. If you need inspiration, think of the people before you who have done the same.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The best things in life are free, so make it your personal mission to find where these things are. Newspapers have a wealth of information on no cost entertainment that will enrich your mind and spare your wal-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It seems as if

everyone around you has been given the gift of gab. Remain thoughtful and contemplative, even if it makes others think you're being anti-social. You won't be the one regretting embarrassing confessions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The word of the day is patience. You're going to need a good supply of this particular virtue when dealing with stores, traffic and people in general. The world is just not moving at its usual pace today. Accept it with a smile.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm an Aries woman and have been infatuated with a Cancer man for over 10 years. We dated and broke up several times, though if I had my own way, I would have married him the day after I realized how deeply his presence affects me. We have children by other ex-partners but have always gotten on very well, each having qualities admired by the other. I know he cares deeply for me — he shows/voices it sometimes but struggles to conceal it at other times. Do you see a future for us? Marriage? More children?"

You know yourself well. Aries. You were careful to use the word "infatuated" and have conveniently left "love" out of this

equation. Your sign feels alive in the throes of a romantic pursuit. But you've forgotten what it was like when the pursuit ended and it was just a regular old relationship. This Cancer man doesn't want to get hurt again by you (it was too painful the first time), and in order for him to open up to you again, he would have to really believe that you were staying for good this time.

CELEBRITY FILES: Cancer is a deeply compassionate Many Cancer people turn to religion to help them bear the unfathomable parts of human existence. Carlos Santana has explored his spirituality in various ways throughout his life, perhaps not even realizing that his music is a form of prayer in and of itself. Playing music sends a meditative vibration out into the world that can heal and uplift.

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

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Annie's Mailbox «: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My wife and I have a baby girl, stantly ever since.



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

"Alice," now a year old. My wife's divorced sister, "Leora," stayed with us during most of my wife's pregnancy and moved into an apartment across the street several months after Alice's birth. She has been around con-The sisters always have

> been best friends. The two of them ended up giving the baby her first bath, taking her on her first stroll, her first trip to my mother-in-law's, lots of "firsts," while I am left out. I would like Leora to go home, so my wife and I can enjoy our

baby's accomplishments. I was hoping my wife would realize what was going on, but I fear she took my passivity as indifference. At one point I told her how I felt, and she said she understood, but things haven't really changed. Meanwhile, I have gotten reports from friends and family that Leora talks behind my back, questioning my parenting skills since she "always has to do everything." Worse, my wife says similar things about me to others.

Sex is almost nonexistent, and not from lack of interest on my part. When I try to discuss it or ask why she's never in the mood, she says nothing is wrong. But obviously there is.

I believe we are both good parents, and we provide a decent home. So, how do I get my wife to realize that her relationship with her sister has driven a wedge between us? And how do I do it in such a way that there is no animosity between all of us? - Mister Sister Blues

Dear Sister Blues: Leora has become a convenient way for your wife to avoid you, both sexually and emotionally. Worry less about offending Leora and more about the health of your marriage. Tell your wife in plain English that you are unhappy, and ask her

to go with you for counseling. (Don't wait until Leora walks Alice down the aisle at her wedding.)

Dear Annie: I have been in an openly gay relationship for four years. For the past 20 years, I have celebrated holidays with former high-school friends. Spouses and significant others have never been included. I recently received two invitations from individuals who, since I "came out," have stated that I am welcome in their homes. However, the invitations I received are addressed to me only.

Proper etiquette teaches us that a single person would be extended an invite which includes "and guest." I doubt they addressed their single, heterosexual guests in the same manner. Please remind your readers that those of us who are openly gay take offense when their partner is discounted to the point of nonexistence. — Not Closeted and Not Attending

Dear Not Closeted: Actually, you have it backward. Unattached guests may be invited without dates. Attached guests are invited WITH their spouses or

significant others. Your partner should have been invited since you have a long-term relationship. If spouses and significant others have never been included in these parties, your partner would not be, either, and it has nothing to do with your sexual orientation. If you object to this policy, by all means, decline.

Dear Annie: If a person behaves badly toward someone, then sends a note of apology asking for forgiveness, who should make the next move? The person who behaved badly or the recipient of the note? - Troubled Sister

Dear Sister: The recipient of the note should have the grace to let you know you are forgiven. If, indeed, you are.

Dear Annie: After my father passed away, my husband and I brought my mother to live with us. We should have known better. Mom always ran things, and now that she lives with us, she still wants to control everything.

Mom doesn't like it when her grandchildren and great-grandchildren come over to visit. These are my children and their families, and I want them to feel comfortable here. One of the grandchildren is coming in from out of state, and Mom has decided to leave while he is here.

Mom has asked me on several occasions if we are happy with her living with us, and I've told her "yes." I thought, since she brought up the subject, that perhaps she was trying to tell me that she was unhappy, but she claims otherwise. She also mentioned that she couldn't afford another place to live, but that isn't so.

I think we may have made a mistake taking her away from her home. Mom is still very independent, and it might be better for her to be around people her own age. No house is large enough for two families, no matter how much love there is. I don't want to hurt my mother. Annie. Please help me decide what to do. The pressure is getting to me. — Phoenix

Dear Phoenix: If your mother is independent and dislikes being around the grandchildren, she would probably thrive at a retirement home. If it is affordable, there is no reason for you to feel guilty about suggesting it. It would be much worse for your relationship to curdle because your house isn't a good fit for her and resentment builds.

Make an appointment with the retirement homes and assisted-living centers in your area, and let Mom see what activities are offered and what accommodations would be like. You all might be pleasantly surprised.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail vour questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611.





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DENNIS THE MENACE



MY PARENTS ARE CONFUSED, MR. WILSON. MY MOM SAYS YOU'RE RESTIN', BUT MY DAD SAYS YOU'RE GOOFIN' OFF!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 20, the 201st day of 2005. There are 164 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in

History: On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon as they stepped out of their lunar

module. On this date: In 1861, the Congress of the Confederate States began holding sessions in

Richmond, Va. In 1881, Sioux Indian leader Sitting Bull, a fugitive since the Battle of the Little Big Horn, surrendered to federal troops.

In 1942, the first detachment of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps - later known as WACs - began basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

In 1944, an attempt by a group of German officials to assassinate Adolf Hitler

with a bomb failed as the explosion Hitler's at Rastenburg headquarters only wounded the Nazi leader.

1944, President Roosevelt was nominated for an unprecedented fourth term of office at the Democratic convention in Chicago. In 1976, America's Viking

One robot spacecraft made a successful, first-ever landing on Mars. In 1977, a flash flood hit Johnstown, Pa., killing 80 people and causing \$350

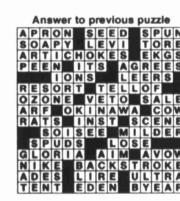
million worth of damage. In 1999, after 38 years at the bottom of the Atlantic, astronaut Gus Grissom's Liberty Bell 7 Mercury capsule was lifted to the sur-

One year ago: The United Nations General Assembly demanded that Israel tear down the barrier it was building to seal off the West Bank; Israel vowed to continue construction.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Ann Howes is 75. Video artist Nam June Paik is 73. Rockabilly singer Sleepy LaBeef is 70. Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski, D-Md., is 69. Actress Diana Rigg is 67.

Rock musician John Lodge (The Moody Blues) is 62. Country singer T.G. Shepherd is 61. Rock musician Carlos Santana is 58. Rock musician Paul Cook (The Sex Pistols) is 49. Country singer Radney Foster is 46. Actor Frank Whaley is 42. Rock musician Stone Gossard (Pearl Jam) is 39. Actor Josh Holloway ("Lost") is 36. Singer Vitamin C is 36. Actor Charlie Korsmo is 27. Actor John Francis Daley ("Freak and Geeks") is 20. Bruno Actress Billi ("According to Jim") is 9.

Thought for Today: "A very great part of the mischiefs that vex this world arises from words.' Edmund Burke, British statesman (1729-1797).



Newsday Crossword

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BRACE YOURSELF by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman

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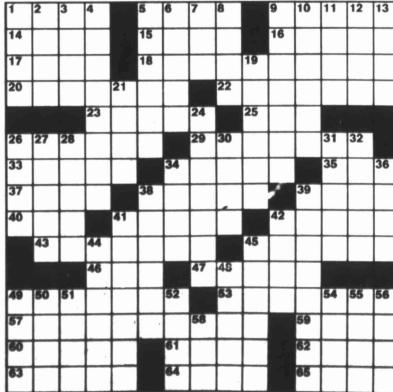
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state of Israel. The Palestinian Authority (PA), the successor of the murderous PLO, has not abandoned its core objective, namely to kill the Jews and to destroy the State of Israel. While the latter objective is until now beyond its reach, it has been most successful in the former. Over 1,000 Jews have been and countless thousands have been EGYPT grievously wounded. It seems almost

incomprehensible that the supposedly level-headed men who are the government of Israel would be trustful of such people and, under whatever pressure from "the international community," would countenance the establishment of a Palestinian state on its border. Despite statements to the contrary, the PLO (and its successor PA) have still not complied with one of Israel's main requirements, namely that it abrogate the clauses in their covenant that call for the destruction of Israel. Abu Mazen, though better tailored, better barbered and better spoken than his thuggish predecessor still pursues the old goal of destroying Israel in "stages" - first by creating a Palestinian state, from which an allied all-out assault against the critically vulnerable Jewish state can be

launched and then, hopefully, the deathblow delivered.

The myth of demilitarization. The assumption that "Palestine" would be demilitarized is not tenable. The Arab

hit-and-run raids against Israel. Israel could not prevent them from flooding Palestine. A look at the map makes clear that these rockets, short-range though they may be, would dominate the heartland of Israel. Easily moved and hidden along Israel's new eastern borders - to be increased from less than 40 miles in length to over 200 miles - these Katyushah rockets would

A Palestinian state-demilitarized? Israel's narrow waist that holds 70% of the Jewish population of the country, 70% of its industrial base, its only international airport, and its most important military installations. The Arabs who live in Judea/Samaria (the "West Bank") danced on the roofs of their homes when Iraqi Scud missiles fell on Tel Aviv during the first Gulf War. They have continued to engage in unremitting terror and murder against the Jews. Only incurable optimists can believe that an "autonomous" Palestine would become a peaceful neighbor of Israel. Foolishly, Israel has now ceded the Gaza Strip - the invasion route since before biblical times - with Judea/Samaria (the "West Bank") perhaps not too far

behind. With Gaza and Judea/Samaria in the hands of its implacable and sworn enemies, it would make the country indefensible and Israel would have laid the groundwork for its own destruction.

Tanks, warplanes, and missiles would only be needed for the final mopping-up process. In the meantime, mortars and Katyushahs located on the Judean ridges – Israel's proposed new borders – would suffice to paralyze life and industrial and military activity in Israel. But one can hope that the leaders of Israel clearly understand this danger and that they will ultimately not make concessions that will endanger the security of their country.

P.O. Box 590359 San Francisco, CA 94159 Gerardo Joffe, President

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Bernardino County in California. Israel

has for some time been in a "cold

peace" with Egypt and with Jordan.

Other Arab states are still in a declared

or undeclared state of war with Israel.

Iran, Moslem though not Arab, is the

most determined and deadly of them

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foremost military and political objective being the destruction of the

Israel threatened by enemies. Israel is a very small

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EXPERIENCE TRUCK mechanic needed to work on Cummins & Caterpillar engines. Salary DOE, health insurance, 401K plan. Apply at Price Construction, 2701 N. 350, Big Spring, TX Hwy. 350, resume to (432)263-6012. EOE.

A Demilitarized Palestinian State

Should Israel, should the world, rely on it?

To most people, the establishment of a Palestinian state seems to be the indispensable outcome of the decades-long attempt

to settle the Arab/Israel conflict. Such an outcome might be desirable between two countries that could live side-by-side in

peace with each other. The Arabs, however, have never changed their position and are sworn to destroy the Jewish state.

a fast pace job. Pick up applications at 1109 N. Aylesford. TROY VINES INC. Ready Mixed Concrete **Big Spring** 432-267-5122 Locations in Midland · Odessa · Crane · Pecos

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

minded individual with experience in Real Estate, Title or Escrow Closings. Salary commensurate with experience. Please respond to P.O. Box 189, Big Spring, TX 79721.

OPPORTUNITY for career

EMPLOYMENT

EVENING CASHIER full time at WES-T-GO. Vacation and benefits available. Starting pay \$5.15 per hour. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.

HILLCREST CDC is looking for part time Caregivers. Hours are 3:00-6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.

INDIVIDUAL LOOKING to buy Oil & Gas Royalties. Get big cash payout now. Sell at peak gas prices (\$7.80mcf). Call Jeff at 800-258-8495.

MAINTENANCE

POSITION AVAILABLE The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for a Maintenance Worker in Martin County. A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. District benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. The District is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by

calling (432)267-6341. MEDICAL SUPPLY Company, now taking applications for delivery technician. Must have excellent driving record & be able to lift. Experience a plus. Public oriented personality. (432)267-6994

PART TIME COOK

nations would not allow it, even in the most unlikely case

that the Palestinians themselves so desired. Also, the

Palestinian entity would have thousands of trained soldiers,

camouflaged as police. They could be

helicoptered in minutes to positions

on the border with Israel, with

armored forces from Syria reaching

them within the same night. But such

mobilization of the "demilitarized"

Palestine would not be required. The

weapons of preference of Arab terrorists are the Soviet-made

Katyushahs, highly effective missiles,

truck-mounted and mobile, ideal for

rain destruction over most of Israel.

They would cover in their entirety

Howard County Senior Citizens Center is seeking a part time cook. Dependable person required. Pays \$7.00 per hour. Contact Yolanda Mendoza at 432-267-1628.

RAINBOW 48F

Help Wanted

MIDWESTERN SERVICES,

Inc. Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 1913 7th St., Snyder, TX.

MITCHELL COUNTY Hospital District is taking applications

Mitchell County Hospital is taking applications for a Registered Nurse to work the 7 am to 7 pm shift. This is a full-time position with benefits. Pick up an application at Mitchell County Hospital at 997 West I-20 or call Human Resources Director at 325-728-3431, extension 7105.

NEEDED ROUSTABOUT & Backhoe operators. Experience a must. 50+ hours per week. Must pass drug screening. Fax resume to (325)573-8047 or pick up application at Circle M Welding & Services, Inc. 7393 W. Hwy 180, Snyder, TX No Phone Calls Please! NURSING

DIRECTOR of **NURSING**

Small, local Long Term Care facility seeks a Director of Nursing to oversee Nursing Services and provide direct quality care in our skilled nursing facility. Requires an RN with supervisory experience and superior communications skills. Must be thoroughly famil-

tory requirements. We can offer a competitive salary and benefits (health, dental & life insurance avail), & 2 weeks vacation after 1 year. EOE. Fax cover letter & re-

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sume, with salary history to Ad-ministrator, (806) 872-2490, or apply in person, 9am to 3pm, at SAGE HEALTH CARE CENTER, 1201 North 15th,

Lamesa PART TIME Cashier/ Hostess. Minimal wage. Apply in person at Sky's, 1513 East FM 700, see manager.

PIZZA INN accepting applications for qualifed people to join our Management Team. Looking for individual with management and food experience. Apply in person with resume, 1702 Gregg Street.

CHRISTIAN Pre-School needs full time Child worker. Must be 18 with HS Diploma and experience required. Come by 409 Goliad to apply

Help Wanted

TRINITY HAVEN Healthcare is now receiving applications for the position of Director of Nursing Service. Long Term Care experience preferred. Competitive salary & benefit package. Apply in person, fax resume, or call, 3202 Sage St., Midland, (432)683-5403, (432)682-5105 EOE

UNLIMITED BONUS POTEN-TIAL with above average base pay as Manager at Coahoma DQ. Looking for friendly, customer service leader. Holiday and vacation pay. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test and background check required. Call District Manager, David Peery, (940)550-8387.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Golf Course Technician, Utility Service Worker, Jailer, Communications Officer, and Heavy Equipment Worker/ Streets. Applications may be obtained at City 310 Nolan 9432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Items for Sale

SELLING POTTERS wheel and electric kiln with over 100 molds. Call (432)466-0636 after 6:00 p.m. or leave mes-

Lost and Found

LOST FEMALE black Pomeraniah, in the vicinity of 600 block of East 15th. Needs medica-Call (432)263-4172, 466-3222.

Miscellaneous

FOR SALE: Working used ap-Electric pliances. Stoves \$50.00; Refrigerators \$75.00. Call Stemple at (432)714-4840.

JUNQUE MART Big Spring's Newest Store is now OPEN! 10:00a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Monday-Saturday 600 Lamesa (behind Kwikie) New items arriving every other day!! (432)264-0542.

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800 1/2 NOLAN, 1 Bedroom, bath. Utilities included.

\$400.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

THREE BEDROOM, one bath. CH/A. 3704 Calvin. Call (432)270-3848 for more infor-

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Newly Remodeled Studios, 1 & 2 Bdrm Units

Move In Special W/6 Mo. Lease *1 Move In

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1702 MORRISON Dr. 3 bdr., 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard, newly remodeled. Nice neighborhood. \$500. month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-8005, 816-1330.

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3 BEDROOM, CH/A, garage, fenced yard. 1800 Wallace. (432)270-3848 for more infor-

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412 Edwards, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$675. month, \$500. deposit. 2523 Dow, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, carport. \$395. month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

607 HOLBERT. Three bedroom, one bath, garage. \$350/month, \$260/deposit. (432)263-8005 Call 816-1330.

624 CAYLOR. Very nice brick home. Possible 4 bedrooms, 1 bath, central heat and air, washer/ dryer connections, fenced backyard. Deposit \$550. Rent Call \$200. (432)267-2112, leave message.

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Midway Area - Small 3 Bdrm mobile home. Stove & refrigerator, washer & dryer. CH/A. \$350.00 month \$150.00 deposit. HUD approved. Call 432-393-5585 or 270-3928.

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Sunget Ridge Apts \$99 Move-In Special TNT, ESPN, CNN Nickelodeon **Disney Channel Expanded Cable** No Water Bill! 24 Hour Laundry On-Site Mgr & Maint Family Friendly Large 2 BR avail.

Melinda (432)263-2292 THREE BEDROOM, one bath. CH/A. \$525.00 monthly, plus deposit. 2410 Carleton. 432-263-6997.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath, 2502 Cheyenne. \$550. month, \$350. deposit. (432)264-9907.

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50 ACRE tract on I-20 in city limits. Super commercial building site. All or part. Call (432)213-2319.

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The WARMEST HOME you'll ever own. Spacious home in Kentwood for sale, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 living rooms, open kitchen, covered patio, workshop. (432)816-3467.

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1992 PONTIAC Grand Prix, red, 2-door, automatic, cold A/C, super condition. \$1,950. Call (432)270-7920.

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