

Operation Big Heart funds beginning to be disbursed

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The funds raised by Operation: Big Heart, a grassroots Hurricane Katrina relief effort, are now being disbursed among the hurricane survivors still in Big Spring.

Joe Concienne, president of the board of directors for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, said the money — which totaled approximately

"We're really not expecting the fund to grow anymore than it already has, and it peaked out at \$73,000. Right now, approximately \$9,000 of it has been disbursed among the survivors, and it's required the money be used right here in Big Spring.



CONCIENNE

\$73,000 — has begun making its way into the hands of the families that need it. "We're really not expecting

the fund to grow anymore than it already has, and it peaked out at \$73,000," said Concienne. "Right now, approximately \$9,000 of it has been disbursed among the survivors, and it's required the money be used right here in Big Spring. That way it's not just going out of the community to some place like Midland."

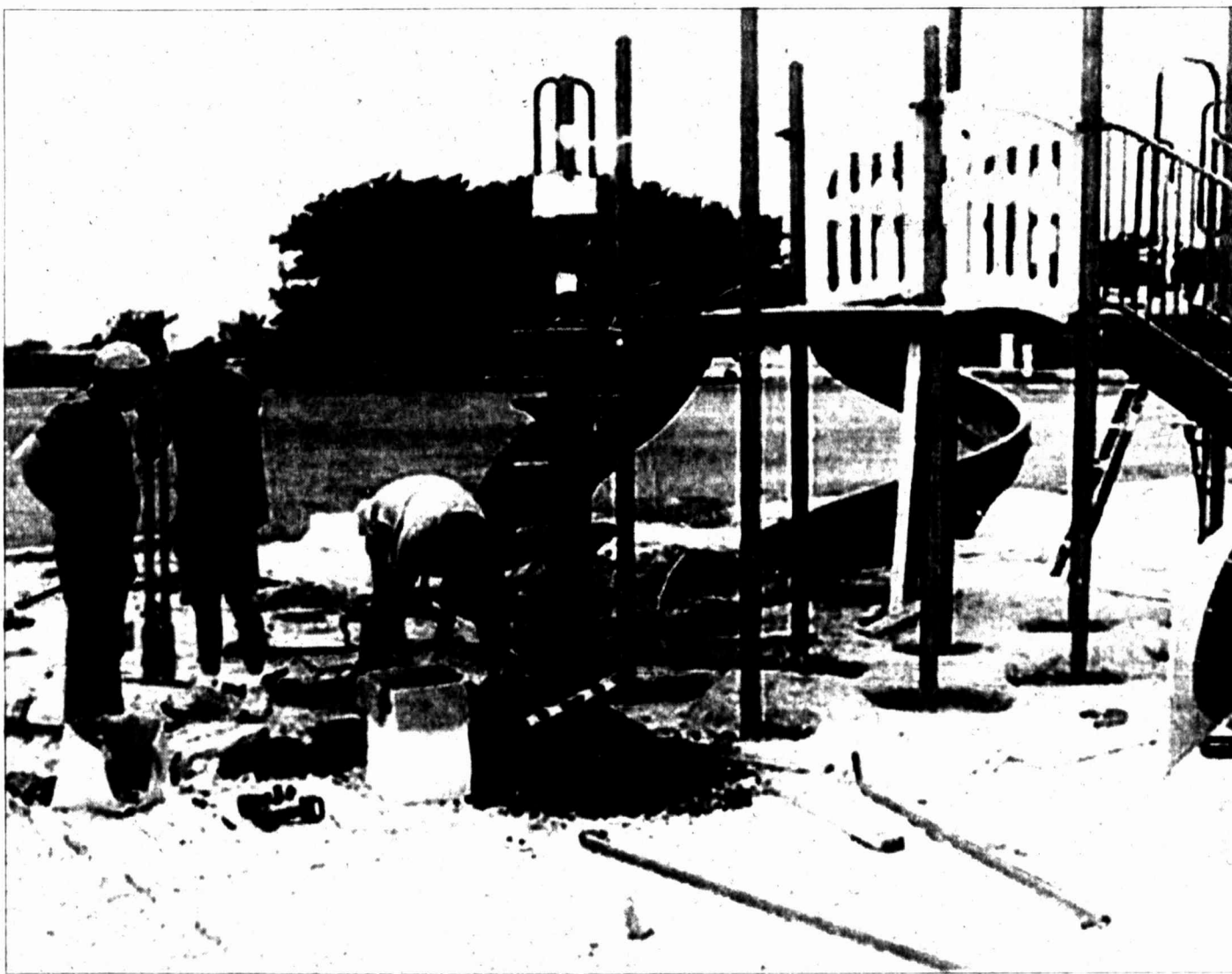
Concienne said the charitable trust fund, which was provided by the chamber, is being over-

seen by a committee including himself, Gary Fuqua, Leigh Corson, Debbie Green, Brian Jensen, Terry Hansen, Sandra Waggoner, Kent Sharp and Debbye ValVerde.

"I feel like we have a really good cross section of the community represented by the committee," said Concienne. "We still have 63 evacuees living in Big Spring, and many of them

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NEW PLAYGROUND FOR SCHOOL



Courtesy photo

Volunteers install playground equipment at Elbow Elementary recently. As part of Forsan ISD's bond project, the school purchased a multi-stage play area that includes four slides, three decks, archways, climbing pods and more. It has 31 support posts or anchors that required more than seven tons of concrete.

Angel Trees

Salvation Army now taking applications for Christmas

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

It may seem a little strange getting ready for the Christmas holiday when everyone is still wearing shorts outside, but it's an awkward feeling the local Salvation Army goes through every year.

The Big Spring Salvation Army will begin accepting applications today for its annual Angel Tree Program, as the local charity gears up to put Christmas gifts under the trees of low-income families. Applications will be taken through Friday.

"This program is extremely special to me. Of all the programs that we do, this one is my heart because of the young people it helps," said Capt. Russ Keeney, who along with his wife, Linda, directs the program. "When we take the toys to a family and there's nothing in the house for Christmas and he gets a bike, it's just

chaotic with excitement. That's what it's all about, helping a child see somebody out there cares."

Applicants who miss the initial sign up will get a second chance Oct. 31 through Nov. 2.

Keeney said once the applications are approved, the name of each child will go on a card which will be placed on one of the Salvation Army's Angel Trees, which will be located at several Big Spring businesses.

Area shoppers are encouraged to choose an "Angel's" card from the tree. The card contains information such as the child's clothing and shoe sizes, along with a wish list of items the child has asked for. Good Samaritans can purchase those items and return the card and the presents to the Salvation Army.

"We do ask that they be reasonable in what they are asking for," said Keeney. "If a child asks

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Workforce Network has funding to help hurricanes' victims

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

For evacuees of the recent hurricanes along the Gulf Coast, the daunting task of putting the pieces of their lives back together may seem like an uphill struggle.

Add to that the challenge of finding a new job, and the situation might seem hopeless. However, there is help.

The Big Spring Workforce Network announced this week approximately \$70,000 has

been set aside to help train and employ evacuees of Hurricane Katrina and Rita, thanks to a National Emergency Grant.

"There's a lot of different things workforce networks can do with these funds," said Mary Gregg, assistant director of the Big Spring Workforce Network. "It's mainly intended for public service employment or temporary employment, where on the job training

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REALLY ENJOYING A DAY AT THE PARK

Six-year-old Krista Cannady, the daughter of local resident Autumn Vaughn, shows off her climbing ability at Comanche Trail Park Friday.

HERALD photo / Thomas Jenkins

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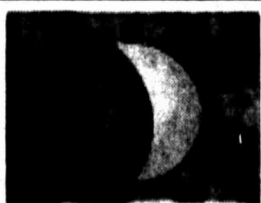
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Opinion 4A

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

UW LUNCHEON TUESDAY

The 58th campaign for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County continues with a mid-campaign luncheon Tuesday.

Dr. David Watts, president of UTPB, will be guest speaker for the event, which will be held Tuesday in the East Room of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

In addition, campaign division chairs will be announcing their current totals and companies that have finished their campaigns will be recognized. The total that the campaign has raised will be announced.

Catering will be provided by Gregg's Grill. The cost is \$10 at the door.

TASTE OF BIG SPRING

Wednesday is the deadline for area business owners interested in participating in the Taste of Big Spring Holiday Showcase.

The event is set for Nov. 8 at the Dora Roberts Community Center and will help area businesses and restaurants start the holiday season with a bang.

Booths are 10 feet by 10 feet and a table will be provided. The cost is \$50 for chamber members and \$100 for non-members.

For more information or to register, contact ValVerde at 263-7641 or drop by the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce at 215 W. Third Street.

EARLY VOTING BEGINS

Early voting in this year's state constitutional amendment election got under way this morning.

Set through Nov. 4 at the Howard County Courthouse, early voting will give area residents the chance to cast their ballot without standing in long election-day lines. The election is Tuesday, Nov. 8.

However, there will be no branch or weekend voting during this year's election due to an expected low turnout, according to Howard County Voter Registrar Sandra Bloom.

Voters can cast their ballots during early voting from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Obituaries

Olga A. Vidal



Olga A. Vidal passed away Friday, October 21, 2005, in Midland.

Gilbert and Mary Diaz were blessed with Olga Arsiaga June 21, 1952. When Olga was small her family moved to Tulia so her father could fulfill his call to the ministry. Olga later returned to Midland and graduated from Midland High School. After graduation she attended West Texas State University.

Olga married Joe G. Vidal April 7, 1972, in Midland in the First Baptist Church. She was a member of the Latin Free Methodist Church in Midland.

Olga was preceded in death by her father and her brothers, Gilbert Arsiaga and Rudy Arsiaga.

Olga is survived by her husband, Joe Vidal; her mother, Mary Diaz; her son, Joe Jeffrey Vidal and wife, Amy; her daughter, Marissa Fuentez and husband, Ray; her grandchildren, Jordan Ozuna, Nathan Vidal and Isabella Fuentez.

She is also survived by her brothers and sisters, Mary Lopez, George Arsiaga, Luis Arsiaga, Ruben Arsiaga, Sulema Arsiaga, Lencho Jurado and Joe Angel Jurado.

The family will receive friends at Ellis Funeral Home today from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2005, at the Latin Free Methodist Church. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Hwy., Midland 79701.

Pallbearers will be Matthew Houston, David Navarro, John Valles, Mark Salazar, Michael Martinez and Johnny Ray Galan. Honorary pallbearers will be Martha Cano, Jordan Ozuna and Nathan Vidal.

Memorials may be directed to the Latin Free Methodist Church, 411 S. Terrell, Midland 79701.

Paid obituary.

Richard C. Thomas



Richard C. Thomas, 87, of Big Spring died Saturday morning, Oct. 22, 2005, at Lamun Lusk Sanchez Texas Veterans Home. Memorial services are 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2005, at College Baptist Church with Chaplain Jim Wright officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Jan. 28, 1918, in Big Spring and married Mary O. Clanton April 8, 1946. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County and was a veteran of World War II. He had farmed in Howard County and had also retired from the Big Spring State Hospital.

He is survived by his wife Mary O. Thomas, of Big Spring; one son, David Thomas of Dallas; one daughter, Anne Tubb of Big Spring; one brother, Ray Thomas of Houston; and three sisters, Ruth Salisbury of Midland and Rebecca Plunkett and Peggy McDuff, both of Fort Worth.

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

Dwight Earwin Moore

Dwight Earwin Moore, 74, of Lamesa died Friday, Oct. 21, 2005, at Sage Healthcare of Lamesa. Services were 2 p.m. today, Oct. 24, 2005, at the Second Baptist Church Chapel with the Rev. Clifton Igo and the Rev. Rush Coffman officiating. Burial followed in Lamesa Memorial Park.

He was born March 26, 1931, in Littlefield to William Graham and Ruth Pauline Moore. He married Annie Mae Caster April 19, 1952, in Clovis, N.M. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and worked in the oil field trucking industry as well as owner of Morris' Market for 15 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Scotty Lee Moore in June 1999.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Moore of Lamesa; his daughter, Sandie and husband, Don Osborne of Big Spring; two brothers, Dan Moore and Bobby Moore, both of Lubbock; and two grandchildren.

Arrangements were under the direction of Branon Funeral Home in Lamesa.

David W. Young

David W. Young, 84, of Big Spring died Monday, Oct. 24, 2005, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Scott Bigham

Scott Bigham, 42, of Big Spring died Sunday morning, Oct. 23, 2005, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Harvest Time

• BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS 'THE HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN' at 7:30 p.m. today and Thursday in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors.

• BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS 'THE HOUSE OF DRACULA' at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and 8 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors.

• THE 'MIDDIES' ARE HAVING A FALL FESTIVAL at Coahoma United Methodist Church beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday. The Middies are the Mid-High Youth. Dress retro from the following time periods: 20s, 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s or 90s. The church is located at 401 N. Main in Coahoma. For more information, call 394-4432.

Police blotter

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

- TRESA LANELL RITCH, 45, of Midland, was arrested Saturday and held for the HCSO.
- DELMA ZAMORA, 25, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license suspended - enhanced.
- SALLY ANN SOLIS, 35, of 1305 S. Nolan, was arrested Sunday on four local warrants.
- JOEY MARTINEZ, 31, of 507 N.E. Eighth Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHN MICHAEL SOLIS, 22, of 2609 Wasson, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- FLAVIO GARCIA, 20, of 1806 Laurie, was arrested Sunday on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage, resisting arrest and evading arrest.
- DAVID FRANCO, 27, of 1407 E. 18th Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of criminal mischief and resisting arrest.
- EVERETT PAUL AUSBIE, 35, of 1303 College, was arrested Sunday on three local warrants.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1800 block of FM 700.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of Young.
 - in the 400 block of Eighth Street.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 400 block of Eighth Street.
- CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR was reported in the 400 block of Eighth Street.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of U.S. Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

- MOSES CANALES, 17, of 1206 Dixie, was arrested Friday on a charge of harassment.
- MARIA ESTER VIERA, 33, of 1907 S. Main Street, was arrested Friday on capias warrants for parent contributing to non-attendance.
- FREDDIE ORTEGA SOSA, 23, of 511 N.W. Eighth Street, was arrested Friday on a motion to revoke probation for purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.
- FRANK LEE JACKSON, 47, of 1102 Highway 176 Lot 3, was arrested Friday on a charge of making a false report to police/law enforcement officials.
- JOSE AVINA, 29, address not provided, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- STEVEN TIPTON, 45, of 507 Highland Drive, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JESSE ROY PEREZ, 38, of 213 N.E. Ninth Street, was arrested Saturday on a motion to revoke probation for terroristic threats.
- VIRGILE RENE GARZA, 19, of 1606 Oriole, was arrested Saturday on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and evading arrest or detention.
- MATTHEW BRANDON SCHAEFFER, 20, of 5609 Kemper, was arrested Saturday on charges of displaying an expired registration, driving while license invalid theft and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- ALBERT WAYNE THOMASON, 23, of Runnels Street (address not provided), was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft by check.
- EVERETT PAUL AUSBIE, 35, of 1907 N. Monticello, was arrested Saturday on charges of expired motor vehicle inspection certificate, allowing a child to ride unsecured, allowing a child age one to ride without a seat belt and a warrant.
- TRESA LANELL RITCH, 45, of Midland, was arrested Saturday on charges of possession of a dangerous drug without a prescription, failure to maintain financial responsibility and an expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.
- DELMA ZAMORA, 25, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 139, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- FLAVIO GARCIA, 20, of 1806 Laurie Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- DAVID FRANCO, 27, of 1407 E. 18th Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of criminal mischief and resisting arrest.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 400 block of North West Broadway.
- UNATTENDED DEATH was reported in the 4700 block of Parkway.

Weather

Today - Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the upper 50s. Light and variable winds.
 Tonight - Clear. Lows in the upper 30s. Light and variable winds.
 Tuesday - Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the upper 60s. Light and variable winds becoming south around 10 mph in the afternoon.
 Tuesday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
 Wednesday - Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s. Southeast winds around 10 mph. The chance of rain is 20 percent.
 Wednesday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 40s.
 Thursday - Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the mid 60s.
 Thursday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.
 Friday - Partly cloudy. Highs around 70.
 Friday night - Partly cloudy. Lows around 50.
 Saturday - Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.
 Saturday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper

Bulletin Board

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

MONDAY

- 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

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 7 p.m. in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1105 Birdwell Lane. For more information, call Tracey Pounds at 268-4948.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-16-28-36-37 Bonus Ball: 19. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$10 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-12-20-24-33 Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$16,463. Winning tickets sold in: Desoto, Houston. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 4-9-7

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of West 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of Craigmont. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2100 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 9000 block of Midway Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 300 block of North East Second Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of East Third Street. Service was refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 600 block of FM 700. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of Courtney Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Dallas. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of Old Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Donley. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of Maple. One person was transported to SMMC.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

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Recent medical studies...
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Wealthy Texas businessman seeks Haitian presidency

By STEVE QUINN

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — Dumarsais Simeus remembers running through the fields barefoot as his parents, illiterate peasant farmers, worked the land in Haiti to feed him and his 11 siblings. He left his native home at 21, and went on to build the largest black-owned business in Texas. He became a multi-millionaire, wealthy enough to bring his brothers and sisters to the United States, fund their college education and enjoy affluence that for years appeared out of reach.

Now, he wants to return to Haiti as president — an ambition that has landed him in a volatile political and legal fight to keep his name on the Nov. 20 ballot and himself out of jail.

"This is not about Dumas Simeus," he said from his hotel room in Port Au Prince, Haiti. "This is about getting the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere out of poverty, giving people hope and taking away their misery."

In the country of about 8 million people, more than half of Haiti's adults can't read and the minimum wage is about \$1.70 a day. Haiti's lawlessness and corrupt government, beset by coups and handgun, street-level justice, has prompted the U.S. State Department to issue regular travel warnings.

Over the last 25 years, about 300,000 Haitians looking for a safer home have settled in South Florida. Miami radio host Ed Lozama said Simeus' presidential pursuit has kept his station's phone lines jammed, with people divided on whether he

should run. "To build what he has, I'm sure he is a man who can do the kind of consensus building that Haiti needs; I don't doubt that," Lozama said. "But here is a Haitian who made it happen for himself, someone we held in high esteem until he decided to do this. All I'm saying is let's do it right, the way the constitution says."

Three months ago Simeus declared his candidacy, joining 33 others in the race. Critics challenged his candidacy, saying it violated Haiti's constitution, which requires candidates to have citizenship.

Simeus, 66, said he never renounced his Haitian citizenship when he moved to the United States more than 40 years ago, and he is a dual citizen.

The Haitian Supreme Court recently ruled that Simeus could place his name on the ballot, but he still faces election council challenges to his candidacy and a threat of prosecution alleging false candidacy claims on election papers.

Supporters and critics, however, seem to agree on one thing: Simeus' ascent in the business world is nothing short of remarkable.

Simeus' start began in the early 1960s when his family sold some land so he could fly to the United States to pursue a college education.

He left a country that drew lines between light-skinned blacks and dark-skinned blacks, marking them as privileged and poor, he said. He arrived in the United States at a time when the nation was steeped in civil rights struggles.

He attended Howard University, a predominantly black college in Washington.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Victims' families learn to forgive, become friends with murderers

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A group that links people on opposite ends of the justice system by opposing the death penalty has also linked some victims' families and inmates in acts of forgiveness, even friendship.

Most Journey of Hope members gather to share similar beliefs of capital punishment; but about half a dozen members have forgiven, even befriended the convicts who killed family or friends.

One such member, Bill Pelke, writes to the woman who murdered his grandmother. He said he finds it therapeutic to share his feelings in letters to the inmate, Paula Cooper.

"With her, I just felt like I could write and share things," Pelke said.

Members met Sunday in church groups around San Antonio. But their goal is not strictly to share a religious message to love their enemies.

Members said that executions spread additional anguish, and forgiveness offers a healthy path of mourning.

Southeast Texas churches still reeling from Hurricane Rita

ORANGE (AP) — An East Texas pastor wanting to make a point filled a wheelbarrow with bricks, ceiling tiles and roofing materials from the Old First Orange Baptist Church sanctuary, which had huge portions of its roof ripped off by Hurricane Rita.

The Rev. Bailey D. Harris asked congregants gathered in the church's gym Sunday whether those materials or the people who worshipped in the structure made up the church.

"It's just a building," Harris said. "Our church has not been devastated in a sense of who we are as a church."

But the building is far from what it was before Rita slammed ashore near the Texas-Louisiana border a few miles from this city in late September.

Rita ripped off roofs, toppled steeples, flooded sanctuaries and blew in stained glass windows at dozens of churches throughout Southeast Texas.

"It was a bit overwhelming," Bailey, who has led the Baptist congregation for a decade, said of the first time he returned following Rita.

State leases 11,000 acres offshore for wind farm

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas has leased 11,000 acres offshore in the Gulf of Mexico for what could be the first wind farm along the U.S. coast.

The farm of wind turbines is planned for seven miles off Galveston Island and could provide 40,000 homes with power and generate millions of dollars for state schools.

"This could be the Spindletop of this century," said Texas General Land Office Commissioner Jerry Patterson, making a comparison to the legendary oil strike that launched Texas' energy boom a century ago. Patterson officially will make the announcement at a news conference Monday in Austin.

Galveston Offshore Wind, a subsidiary of Louisiana-based Wind Energy Systems Technologies, purchased the 30-year lease for \$10,000 a year, for the first five years.

The company estimated production to begin between 2010 and 2012. The state will then receive a minimum of \$4.9 million in royalties, growing to at least \$14.9 million in years 17 to 30.

All the money will go to a fund that pays for schools statewide.

Texas ranks second in the nation behind California in kilowatt hours produced by breezes and gusts. But company officials believe wind farms offshore can tap

more consistent winds.

"We know it's a good site," said Herman Schellstede, president of Wind Energy Systems. "We have a tremendous amount of wind data at low elevations. It only increases as you go up"

Regulators looking into death of plant worker killed in fall

INGLESIDE (AP) — Federal regulators are looking into the death of a plant employee who died after falling at work.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration was called after the death Saturday at Kiewit Offshore Services, authorities said. Details about the man's death, his name and age were not immediately available.

Deputies determined the man's death wasn't caused by a criminal act, said San Patricio County Sheriff Leroy Moody.

Kiewit Offshore Services was founded in 2001 and builds offshore oil and gas structures as well as large structural steel components.

Second man arrested in El Paso immigrant kidnappings case

EL PASO (AP) — Authorities have arrested a second man suspected in the kidnapping of two teenage illegal immigrants.

Acting on a tip, El Paso police arrested Jesus Martin Bernard, 21, Saturday night at a business on a charge of unlawful transport.

Bernard and another man are accused of kidnapping an 18-year-old man and 18-year-old pregnant woman after they crossed the border into the United States and holding them for ransom.

Investigators said Bernard and Ismael Delgado, 21, picked up the teenagers last weekend under the guise of helping them. They then drove them to a hotel, where they threatened and held the pair against their will. Police say Bernard and Delgado called the teenagers' families from the hotel and demanded money.

Delgado was arrested on a charge of illegal transport after he was stopped for traffic violation and investigators found the victims inside the car.

Three Texans arrested for false hurricane-related claims

HOUSTON (AP) — Three Texas residents have been arrested on charges of falsely claiming to be hurricane victims to secure financial aid from the government, authorities said.

The arrests bring to four the number of Texans charged with fraudulent hurricane-related schemes, officials said.

LaToya Harris, 33, and Jimmie Williams, 27, of Houston, and Robert Foster, 39, of Galveston were charged with making a false claim to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

According to a complaint, Harris, who shares an apartment with Williams, claimed to be a Hurricane Katrina victim from Mississippi to obtain a \$2,000 disaster-relief check.

Williams falsely claimed that Hurricane Rita damaged his Houston apartment, although a Department of Homeland Security investigator found no damage, the complaint said.

Foster allegedly received a \$2,000 check after claiming to be a Hurricane Katrina victim from Louisiana, although he has lived in Texas since June 15.

Harris was released Thursday on a \$50,000 recognizance bond. Williams and Foster remain in custody. If convicted, all three face up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

In September, Barney Spears, 38, was arrested in Louisiana. Authorities say the Houston resident filed an online FEMA application listing a New Orleans address to qualify for aid.

REGISTER

Continued from Page 1A

for a 60-inch television, chances aren't very good they're going to get it. If they say they want a Hot Wheels car or something like that, it's a lot more feasible."

Keeney said donors can get the most out of the program by involving the

entire family in the process.

"When you choose an angel, choose one that you as a family can go out and shop for," said Keeney. "You can make it a family event, and it gives you a sense of helping someone else. Most of us in this community are very blessed, but there are children out there who struggle daily with

just basic needs, like a warm coat or shoes." Involving children in the program is another important matter Keeney takes seriously. "It's everything," she said firmly. "A child who has everything they need provided for them has no concept of children out there who do without. If we, as parents, don't show our children to share and

to give back then they won't learn those things. That's why it's important, as a parent, to show these children there are others out there who are much worse off, who do without things that we take for granted everyday. If we show that to our children, I think it makes them a kinder, more giving person as they grow."

To apply, applicants must provide a picture ID, along with Social Security cards for all of the household members and birth certificates for children 12 and under. Applicants must also show proof of income, including check stubs from work, food stamps, AFDC, TANIF, HUD or any other type of income. Applications will be taken from 9 a.m. until

noon and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. during both sign-up periods.

For more information on the Angel Tree program, call 267-8239 or stop by their office, located at 811 W Fifth Street.

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

JOB

Continued from Page 1A

is provided for those people not intending to stay where they are."

Gregg said the \$70,000 grant, which is being shared by the workforce region, can provide many different types of assistance for hurricane evacuees.

"It will pay their salaries for up to 30 days," said Gregg. "It can also provide a number of

other services, including transportation to and from work, clothes and child care. If they're eligible, it will also provide for short term training up to six months.

"If they had training but can't go back to their old job, these funds will also provide for training to do something else. They have the opportunity to pick up a new trade if that's what it takes."

Gregg said the funds are being spread out, and depending on demand,

workforce networks could receive more at a later date.

"They are giving it out in portions," said Gregg. "There may be more funding available in the future if the need arises. I've been working with one of the Operation: Big Heart coordinators here in Big Spring to make sure the evacuees that are still here know about the program, and we're trying to get the word out to the media about it."

According to Operation:

Big Heart coordinator Brian Jensen, of the more than 100 people that were initially evacuated to Big Spring following Hurricane Katrina, 28 families — made up of 63

BIG HEART

Continued from Page 1A

have expressed a desire to stay here permanently. So this is a good place to start."

Concienne said the committee will begin looking at individual requests

people — remain in Big Spring.

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

from the survivors soon. "We have 63 people and \$73,000," said Concienne. "It's not going to go very far."

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Richard C. Thomas, 87, died Saturday. Memorial services will be at 2:00 PM Tuesday at College Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Scott Bigham, 42, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

ZYPREXA Diabetes, Coma, Death & Diabetic Ketoacidosis
Recent medical studies show that some users of the antipsychotic medication, Zyprexa are at an increased risk of developing Diabetes, Hypoglycemia and Ketoacidosis. The FDA has required new warnings. Eli Lilly issued a Physicians letter in March, 2004, advising doctors of these complications and increased risks of diabetes. If you take this drug, consult your doctor before discontinuing its usage.
If you or a loved one took Zyprexa before March 1, 2004 and later developed Diabetes, Ketoacidosis or a loved one died, then you may have a right to file a products liability claim or lawsuit against the Eli Lilly Company. Cases are likely to be resolved, even if a Free Confidential Consultation. **FILED DEADLINES ARE RUNNING!**
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's all get on board with our United Way

Tuesday, the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County will hold its mid-campaign luncheon in the East Room at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. It is time to put forth our energy and effort for this extremely important drive.

As most of you know, United Way's goal is \$300,000 — more than impressive considering last year's drive of \$250,000 fell just short. It's important to understand where that money goes, however.

Agencies that receive funds from the United Way are the West Texas Chapter of the American Red Cross, Boys Club of Big Spring, Buffalo Trail Council Boy Scouts of America, Council on Aging, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Humane Society, Northside Community Center, Victim Services, The Salvation Army, West Side Community Center, West Side Day Care Center, West Texas Girl Scout Council, Isaiah 58, CASA of West Texas and the YMCA of Big Spring.

These agencies offer a wide variety of services to an equally wide range of clients, from the very young to the elderly. While some of the programs such as Salvation Army and senior meals are geared toward the disadvantaged, others, such as scouting, have a far simpler yet equally important goal of teaching a better way of life.

What that means is whether your or your family utilize any of these agencies, they do impact your way of life, your quality of life. For instance, Victim Services, the Red Cross and Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, among others listed here, help rebuild lives following a crime, fire or accident. They help people cope with tragedy or physical ailment so that they can return to the workforce and be productive in our society. Agencies such as Scouts, the YMCA and Boys Club provide places to go and activities for our youth. Through these agencies, our youth learn how to work and play with others. Meanwhile, this lessens the chances they will roam the streets or get involved with the "wrong crowd."

The YMCA serves adults too, of course. In fact, most of these agencies serve people of all ages.

We hope you'll go to Tuesday's noon luncheon. Guest speaker will be Dr. David Watts, president of UTPB. The meal will be catered by Greg's Grill and tickets are \$10 at the door.

If you go, you'll learn of the current campaign status and how you can help.

If you can't go — and we realize some just can't get off work — please consider giving to the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County. You can do so by calling 267-5201.

It's really important... for all of us.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, thank You for Your kindness and the peace You bring to our lives.

Amen

The major's disappointment

Army Maj. Steven Warren, 39, is not happy, because he believes the media are painting an inaccurate picture of what's happening in Iraq. In a call arranged by the Florida-based Central Command of U.S. forces in Iraq, Warren spoke from Diyala province in the Sunni Triangle, where he has been stationed since January.

"I walk into the mess hall every day," he told me. He watches American TV news reports from Iraq, "and I ask myself, 'Where are they?'"

Recently, Warren saw a cable TV story on what the reporter called a fierce firefight in Diyala province. Warren believes the reporter got it all wrong. An IED (improvised explosive device) had gone off near Iraqi troops. Whenever that happens, "the first thing the Iraqis do, they start pulling their triggers" and shooting toward the wood line, he said.

That's not a fierce firefight; it's

not even a firefight, Warren tells me, because a firefight requires that two sides shoot at each other.

You hear the bad news stories. Warren wants Americans to read some good news, too. A translator with his outfit began monitoring a local talk-radio show, "Good morning, Orange City." Callers complained bitterly about U.S. troops and Iraqi police. Locals also complained about the trash in Baquba, and that resonated with U.S. troops, who were drilled from boot camp to appreciate "clean and tidy."

Warren said, "We came up with the idea" of cleaning up the town. They got garbage trucks, hired trash collectors. The city is cleaner. Iraqis are seeing a future, and now their biggest complaint on "Good Morning, Orange City" is unemployment.

On Oct. 15, as Iraqis voted on their constitution, "I saw a lot of people walking around with purple fingers," Warren said. This is big, because the voter turnout in the Sunni-rich Diyala province doubled, from 34 percent in January to 65 percent this month. Voters came out, Warren believes, because it was safer to vote, but

also because many Sunnis who boycotted the Jan. 30 elections later realized "they missed the boat, they got left behind."

On Oct. 14, Warren said: "I wasn't too concerned one way or the other if (the proposed constitution) passed. I'm not sure it's the best constitution that's ever been written." Now, Warren hopes, the new constitution and Sunni participation "will take a little wind out of the sails of the insurgency."

The streets are cleaner. Talk-radio callers are grousing about schools and unemployment. There's shopping and greenery by the two rivers. Despite all the bad news, a visitor to Warren's territory would look around, he said, and say, "Wow, this place really has a future."

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfnchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS



EXTREME GOOD CITIZENSHIP

Issue is simple: How do we get out?

As the war grinds on in Iraq, and more and more Americans are looking for a way out, they are not finding much leadership from their leaders.

As millions of Democrats learned in 2004, the rank and file of the party may have been against the war, but they had no real peace candidate in the presidential race.

In the primaries (and he didn't last long), Howard Dean attacked other Democrats (John Kerry, John Edwards and especially Dick Gephardt) for voting for the Iraq war resolution in Congress. It was easy for Dean to do this, since as a governor, he was never in the position of having to vote for or against the war.

We can assume that those who did vote for it were either genuinely in favor of armed intervention in Iraq or were scared to death of being smeared as weak and unpatriotic by the White House.

In reality, however, none of the major Democratic candidates really differed on the war — nor, in fact, did they differ very much from President Bush.

All were for continuing the war, including Howard Dean. On that issue, voters were offered very little choice.

But what about 2008? Will we see real peace candidates for president in that race?

It might depend on the state of the war, of course, though it takes a real optimist to imagine the United States will be out of Iraq by the start of the race.

Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., keeps flirting with being a peace candidate — he favors a non-binding, adjustable deadline of getting out of Iraq by Dec. 31, 2006 — but he is still hedging.

Both Kerry and Edwards will probably run again. They may be joined by Sen. Evan Bayh of Indiana, and Hillary Clinton is a sure bet to run. All voted for the war resolution.

Dick Gephardt, now in private life, will not be running again. Which may be why he is speaking so candidly about his vote in favor of the war.

"It was a mistake. ... I was wrong," Gephardt was quoted as saying recently in Seattle.

According to the blog The Next Hurrah, Gephardt also said: "We never comprehended the complexity of the undertaking. I didn't. None of us did. ... The president has never been honest about the sacrifices required ... the lives lost, the eyes blown out. Bush fails the first test of leadership: 'Can you be honest with the people you lead?'"

Asked if he thought the United States would withdraw its troops, Gephardt said:

"Until very recently, I thought we (Bush) would pull out in time for the 2006 elections. Now, it doesn't look like we will."

According to the Gallup Tuesday Briefing analysis released yesterday, 54 percent of Americans do

not believe the United States will win the war in Iraq.

And if we are not going to win it, what on earth are we doing there?

But Democrats are not the only hope for those who seek a peace candidate in 2008.

Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska said recently of Iraq, "We should start figuring out how we get out of there."

Speaking on ABC's "This Week," he said that "stay the course" is not a policy and "we're not winning."

Hagel, a decorated Vietnam veteran who is thinking about running for president in 2008, said: "We are locked into a bogged-down problem not unlike Vietnam. The longer we stay, the more problems we're going to have."

In order to avoid the confusion of 2004, we should keep in mind that the issue is not whether the war was wrong or right when we invaded.

Nor is the issue whether it was good or bad to vote for going to war.

Today, the issue is simply this: How do we get out? How fast? And which candidate is willing to speak the truth about it.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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White House: Bush confident Miers will be confirmed

By NEDRA PICKLER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The White House said Monday that President Bush is confident Harriet Miers will be confirmed to the Supreme Court, even though a Democrat on the Senate panel that will hold hearings on her nomination said she doesn't have the votes.

Republicans countered that Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., cannot predict how the GOP-controlled Senate will decide Miers' fate. Many Republicans have yet to commit to approve President Bush's second nominee to the high court.

Presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said Bush is committed to sticking with Miers until the Senate vote.

"He's confident that she will be confirmed because as senators come to know her like the

president knows her, we're confident that they will recognize she will make an outstanding Supreme Court justice," McClellan said.

Miers' confirmation hearings begin Nov. 7. Meanwhile, Schumer, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee that will hold hearings on Miers' nomination, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press," that lawmakers of both parties are concerned about Miers' independence and judicial philosophy.

"I think, if you were to hold the vote today, she would not get a majority, either in the Judiciary Committee or on the floor," he said. "I think there is maybe one or two on the Judiciary Committee who have said they'd support her as of right now."

While Democrats pressed the White House to provide docu-

ments from Miers' work as the president's counsel, Republicans said the nomination that has riled conservatives is neither in trouble nor in danger of being withdrawn.

Judiciary Committee chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., rejected the notion that Miers' nomination was shaky.

He said most senators are waiting for the hearings before making up their minds. "There are no votes one way or another," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Another committee Republican, Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, told "Fox News Sunday" that he has not seen "anything coming from the White House that says that they're going to pull this nomination."

Brownback, who has been skeptical of Miers and has not announced how he will vote,

added, "They're doing everything they can to prepare Harriet Miers for the hearings right now."

Miers, a longtime Bush confidante who has never been a judge, was nominated to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

The choice has troubled some conservatives who say it was risky because Miers was a blank slate on issues such as abortion and gay rights.

Democrats, too, have expressed concerns about whether Miers could sever her close ties to Bush and rule independently once on the bench.

GOP Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, one of Miers' strongest supporters and a Judiciary Committee member, criticized Schumer for trying to predict how senators would vote.

"This really represents a radical departure from the sort of

civil and dignified process that we set up" during the hearings to confirm Chief Justice John Roberts, Cornyn said in a telephone interview. "To prejudice the nominee before she's even had a chance to participate in the hearing just strikes me as unfair."

Republicans hold a 10-8 majority in the committee.

"The hearings are going to be made or break for Harriet Miers in a way that they have not been for any other nominee," Schumer said. "And she's going to have to do real well there."

Schumer agreed with Cornyn and other Republicans that Bush is not considering withdrawing Miers' nomination despite a wave of negative publicity in recent days. "George Bush, say whatever else you want about him, does not back away from a fight," he said.

Hurricane Wilma plows into Florida's southwest coast

By MIKE SCHNEIDER

Associated Press Writer

NAPLES, Fla. — Hurricane Wilma crashed ashore early Monday as a strong Category 3 storm, battering southwest Florida with 125 mph winds and pounding waves as it began a dash across the state. At least one death in Florida was blamed on the storm.

The same storm that brought ruin over the weekend to resort towns along Mexico's Yucatan Coast flooded large sections of Key West and other areas and knocked out power to more than 300,000 homes and businesses in the Keys and in such places as Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

In Cuba, huge waves crashed into Havana, swamping neighborhoods up to four blocks inland with floodwaters reaching up to 3 feet in some places. Basement apartments were submerged. In Cancun, Mexico, troops and federal police worked to control looting at stores and shopping centers ripped open by the hurricane, and hunger and frustration mounted among Mexicans and stranded tourists.

Wilma, Florida's eighth hurricane in 15 months, made landfall in Florida at 6:30 a.m. EDT near Cape Romano, 22 miles south of Naples, bringing with it a potential 18-foot storm surge, the National Hurricane Center said. Up to 10 inches of rain and tornadoes were forecast for parts of central and southern Florida.

"I looked out our place and I saw a bunch of stuff flying by," said Paul Tuccinino, who was riding out the storm in a condo three blocks from the beach in Naples. "It sounds like someone threw a bunch of rocks against the boards. It's wicked."

Within 2 1/2 hours after Wilma came ashore, it had weakened to a Category 2 storm with 110 mph winds as it raced across the state toward heavily populated Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties on the Atlantic coast.

A man in the Fort Lauderdale suburb of Coral Springs died when a tree fell on him.



A large waterspout from the first feeder bands of Hurricane Wilma approach Key West, Fla., as a man walks on the beach Sunday.

KRT photo/Tim Chapman/Miami Herald

Wilma's waves rock Havana; looters hit Cancun after storm

By ANITA SNOW

Associated Press Writer

HAVANA — Massive waves churned by Hurricane Wilma crashed into Cuba's capital city early Monday, flooding a coastal highway and seeping into nearby neighborhoods of old, crumbling buildings.

The outer bands of Wilma also drenched western Cuba and flooded evacuated communities along the island's southern coast after the hurricane clobbered Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. The extent of damage in Cuba's north was not immediately known.

The ocean penetrated

Havana's coastal neighborhoods up to four blocks inland, with floodwaters reaching up to 3 feet in some places. Basement apartments were submerged.

In Cancun, Mexico, troops and federal police on Sunday worked to control looting at stores and shopping centers ripped open by Hurricane Wilma on Saturday, as hunger and frustration surfaced among Mexicans and stranded tourists.

Police shot into the air to scare looters away from a shopping center, and crowds responded by hurling rocks and chunks of concrete. In one downtown block, looters pried

open the metal shutters of stores and emptied the entire block, despite knee-high water. They would run away when soldiers arrived, only to head back when they left.

"As soon as the hurricane arrived, the people went robbing," said Eva Bernabe. "It's sad because Cancun is a relaxed place. We're good people. It's not like this normally."

In downtown Cancun, officials feared looters would turn on tourists, so they quickly evacuated more than 30 foreigners from an area overrun by people raiding stores.

Arturo Campos said his shoe store was emptied by looters

"The hurricane was ugly," he said. "The people were worse."

Some residents and tourists stood in line to buy supplies on Sunday, as showers tapered off. Others raided groceries and hotel mini-bars — or dragged away furniture and appliances.

Dozens were arrested as military officials and police set up patrols and checkpoints to seize looted goods.

Mexican officials said at least three people were killed.

Late Sunday, Cuban President Fidel Castro appeared on a television program to calm Cubans anticipating increased winds and flooding as Wilma passed overhead.

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Del Monte Vegetables.....	79¢ 14 1/2-OZ. <small>Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Green Beans & Green Peas</small>
Shurfine Variety Instant Oatmeal.....	\$1 ⁹⁹ 12.5-OZ.
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Bleeding gums? How's your heart?

Most people know that gum disease can eventually cause tooth loss to the point of needing dentures. Did you know that it has also been associated with making heart disease worse?

Let's start by defining some terms. By gum disease, I mean periodontitis, which is a chronic infection of the gums and the bone surrounding the roots of the teeth. Periodontitis is very common in people 40 and over and in fact is the most common reason for people to lose all their teeth. We'll discuss the warning signs of periodontitis, also known as periodontal disease, later.

Now I don't pretend to be a cardiologist, but as most people know cardiovascular disease is what generally causes heart attacks. Other names for

it are atherosclerosis and hardening of the arteries. It is characterized by plaques, or blockages, which form in the arteries that nourish the muscle tissue of the heart.

A heart attack occurs when one of these vessels is completely blocked, thereby causing death to part of the heart muscle.

In recent years, it has been discovered that higher levels of "markers" of chronic inflammation that are detectable in the blood are associated with higher levels of heart disease.

It has been known for several years that there is a link between cardiovascular disease

and periodontal disease. In other words, groups of people with periodontal disease had a higher rate of heart disease. There was a "which came first, the chicken or the egg?" question. Did periodontal disease promote heart disease or were people with heart disease more susceptible to gum disease? Or does the fact that many of both groups smoke account for the relationship?

A number of university studies have been done lately to try to answer these questions. Most of them have shown that periodontal disease is indeed a risk factor for heart disease, especially in younger heart patients. Some of these studies show: bacteria that cause periodontal disease have been found in the plaques in coronary arteries; that patients with periodontal disease are

more likely to show ECG (electrocardiogram) abnormalities associated with cardiovascular disease; that for adults under 55 years old, periodontal disease increased heart attack rates by two to four times; and that treating periodontal disease reduced the inflammatory "markers" associated with heart disease significantly.

So what are the signs of periodontal disease? According to the American Dental Association they are gums that bleed during brushing, gums that are red or swollen, persistent bad breath, gums that are pulled away from the teeth, pus that appears when gums are pressed, teeth that are loose, a change in your bite, a change in the fit of a partial.

So, my advice to you is what? If you have heart disease yourself or if you have a

family history of it, see your physician first and find out how to get your other risk factors under control... blood pressure, cholesterol levels, smoking, obesity, inactivity, etc. Then go see a dentist who will give you a thorough periodontal exam including full mouth X-rays and probing. Most periodontal therapy can be accomplished easily and without surgery.

Remember, the majority of people over 40 will show some degree of gum disease.

Dr. David Ward practices family dentistry in Big Spring. He is currently president-elect of the Permian Basin Dental Society. He is also a member of the Texas and American Dental Associations and the Academies of Cosmetic Dentistry and Gp Orthodontics.



DR. DAVID WARD

How most common drugs compare on safety in pregnancy

By JANUARY W. PAYNE
The Washington Post

While no drug — prescription or over-the-counter (OTC) — has been proven "absolutely safe" when you are pregnant, many medications are thought to be safe for the mother and developing fetus, according to the National Institutes of Health's Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction.

Particularly for women with chronic medical conditions like asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure, the risks of allowing health problems to go uncontrolled during pregnancy may outweigh the risks of the medications typically prescribed for them, say experts. This stance assumes that the drugs are taken under a doctor's supervision, and then only for the shortest time and at the lowest dose needed.

Calculating Risk — The Food and Drug Administration uses five risk categories — from A, the least problematic, to X, the most dangerous — to rank the safety of prescription drugs during pregnancy. The FDA does not categorize OTC drugs but requires them to carry at least this standard warning, "If pregnant or breast-feeding, ask a health care professional before use." Tylenol (acetaminophen), for example, carries this warning and is generally considered safe to take during pregnancy. Some OTC drugs must carry a more specific warning. Labels on aspirin, naproxen sodium (Aleve) and ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) advise against use during the last trimester because they may harm the fetus or cause complications during delivery.

The FDA is currently revising its pregnancy risk categories; below is where some drugs currently reside:

Category A — Includes drugs where studies did not indicate a risk during the first trimester and produced no evidence of risk in later pregnancy. Very few drugs fall into this category; thyroid medications are one example.

The Food and Drug Administration uses five risk categories — from A, the least problematic, to X, the most dangerous — to rank the safety of prescription drugs during pregnancy.

Category B — Includes medications that have been used often during pregnancy and do not seem to cause major birth defects or other problems. Examples: some antibiotics, famotidine (Pepcid) and some types of insulin. The corticosteroid nasal spray Rhinocort Aqua (budesonide) was moved into this class last year from Category C, where many allergy and asthma drugs reside.

Category C — Includes drugs that may be more likely to cause complications for the mother or the baby and those for which there are insufficient safety data. Examples: fluconazole (Diflucan), ciprofloxacin (Cipro), fexofenadine (Allegra) and some antidepressants.

Category D — Includes drugs that are known to impose health risk for the fetus. The placement of a drug into this category indicates that "positive evidence of human fetal risk exists, but the benefits from use in pregnant women may be acceptable despite the risk," states a report by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). Examples: chemotherapy drugs and phenytoin (Dilantin).

Category X — Includes medications demonstrated to cause birth defects. Indicates that "risk in pregnant women clearly outweighs any possible benefit," states the ACOG report. Includes the acne drug Accutane and psoriasis medications Tegison and Soriatane.

Register to Help — One way drug manufacturers learn about the safety of medications is through pregnancy registries — studies that enroll pregnant women after they've begun taking a drug but before the birth of the baby. "Babies born to women taking a particular medicine are compared with babies of women not taking the medicine," reports the National Women's Health Information Center. For a list of registries currently accepting participants, see www.fda.gov/womens/registries/

Quick Study

By LINDA SEARING
Special to The Washington Post

COGNITIVE DECLINE
Eating more fish seems to slow the loss of mental abilities.

THE QUESTION: Many people have increased the amount of fish in their diet because of the protective effect its omega-3 fatty acids can have on the heart. Might fish also benefit the brain—specifically the thinking, memory and language skills that so often wane as people age?

THIS STUDY analyzed data on 3,718 people, aged 65 and older, who completed questionnaires about the foods they ate and were given a battery of cognitive tests three times in six years. Overall, cognitive ability declined during this time. It fell 10 percent more slowly every year among people who ate fish at least once a week and 13 percent more slowly among those who ate fish two or more times a week than among those who consumed it less often. The authors described the benefit as the equivalent of being three to

four years younger. **WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THESE FINDINGS?** Older people. Although some mental changes occur as people get older, more serious decline, or dementia, is not a normal part of aging.

CAVEATS: The study did not determine whether certain components of fish were more beneficial than others.

FIND THIS STUDY: December issue of the Archives of Neurology; abstract, published early online, available at www.archneurology.com.

LEARN MORE ABOUT elements of cognitive decline at www.niapublications.org (search for "forgetfulness") and <http://familydoctor.org> (search for "memory loss").

The research described in Quick Study comes from credible, peer-reviewed journals. Nonetheless, conclusive evidence about a treatment's effectiveness is rarely found in a single study. Anyone considering changing or beginning treatment of any kind should consult with a physician.

Enter Your Favorite Family Recipe In Our 6th Annual HOLIDAY COOKBOOK CONTEST

CATEGORIES:
Breads • Appetizers
Candies/Cookies/Cakes
Vegetables
Casseroles • Entrees • Salads
& Miscellaneous

GRAND PRIZE: CURIO CABINET FROM ALLAN'S FURNITURE

RECIPE ENTRY DEADLINE:
Friday, November 4, 2005
Limit 3 recipes per person.

Winners will be published in the cookbook on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2005.

We will NOT have a taste testing this year.

HOW TO GET YOUR ENTRY TO US:
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Bring to: 710 Scurry, Big Spring
Fax to: (432) 264-7205 or
Email to: advertising@bigspringherald.com

• Official Entry Form •

Yes! Enter my recipe(s) in the 6th Annual Holiday Cookbook Contest.

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City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please type or print your recipe legibly and submit it with this form.

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IN BRIEF

Quarterback club sets meetings

The Big Spring football booster club (quarterback club) will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at the ATC through the football season.

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

Flag football league to begin Nov. 6

The Midland Flag Football League will begin play Nov. 6, said Wayne Brandt.

The eight-on-eight tournament costs \$250 per team and takes place every Sunday through the middle of January.

For more information, contact Brandt at 432-230-5255.

Comanche Trail Golf Course sets date for chili ball tournament

Big Spring's Comanche Trail Golf Course has announced its chili ball tournament will take place Sunday.

The tournament will cost \$25 per person and all competitors must be pre-paid by noon for the 1 p.m. shotgun start times.

Teams will be determined by the number of 'A' players on each team. Each team will consist of four players. Competitors should enter early to insure a spot.

For more information, contact Comanche Trail Golf Course at 264-2366.

Basketball officials needed for new year

Basketball officials are needed for the 2005-2006 basketball season involving junior high, freshman and junior varsity games in Coahoma, Forsan, Garden City and Sterling City.

If interested in officiating, contact Adam or Mandi Rodriguez at 263-8731 (after 6 p.m.), 517-0300 or 816-1963.

C.G.A. announces make-up tourney

The Chicano Golf Association has announced its final tournament of the year — the Grand Tournament — will take place Sunday beginning at 10 a.m. at Comanche Trail Golf Course. This is a change from its original date as the tournament has been rescheduled.

Participants must be registered by 9:45 a.m. and nonmembers are welcome. There will also be food and refreshments after the tourney.

For more information, call Willie Mendoza at 267-7977.

Mazzone agrees to terms with Orioles

BALTIMORE (AP) — Pitching coach Leo Mazzone agreed to terms on a three-year deal with the Baltimore Orioles, joining the team managed by his best friend, Sam Perlozzo.

Sox slam Houston to take 2-0 Series lead

2005 World Series Chicago leads, 2-0

Game 3:
7:05 p.m. Tuesday
Minute Maid Park,
Houston

By RONALD BLUM

AP Baseball Writer

CHICAGO — Scott Podsednik made it two electrifying home runs for the White Sox — and two World Series wins.

Podsednik's home run off Brad Lidge in the ninth inning gave Chicago a thrilling 7-6 victory over the Houston Astros on

Sunday night and put the White Sox halfway home to their first World Series title in 88 years.

"Incredible. What a ballgame," Podsednik said. "I was sitting on a fastball the entire at-bat."

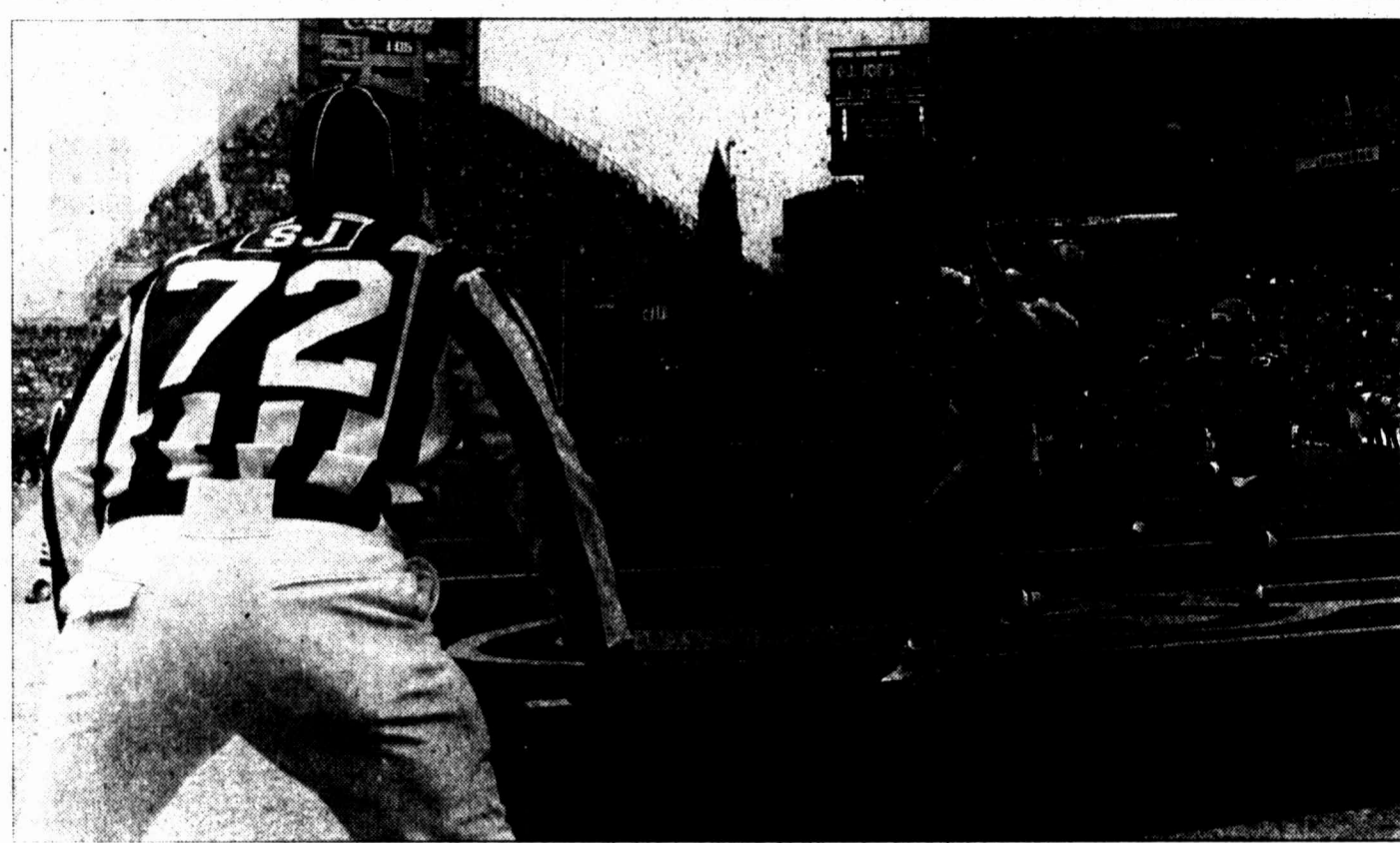
After yet another disputed umpiring call, Paul Konerko capped a momentous week with a seventh-inning grand slam on

reliever Chad Qualls' first pitch, giving the White Sox a 6-4 lead and sparking the crowd of 41,432 to life on a drizzly, dreary night.

But Game 1 hero Bobby Jenks couldn't work his magic two nights in a row.

Jose Vizcaino, pinch-hitting for

See SERIES, page 2B



Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson makes a touchdown reception against the Seattle Seahawks during the first quarter at Qwest Field in Seattle, Washington, Sunday. Seahawks cornerback Kelly Herndon (31) defends on the play.

Howard riders fare well

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK

The Howard College rodeo team is starting to put things together at the right time and, after solid performances over the weekend, the Hawks are just about where they need to be to qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo.

The women led the way for Howard at Texas Tech Saturday this weekend as Kendra Watts and Kasey Kramps each took top-five finishes in the goat tying competition.

Watts scored two straight 8.0 times. She was 10th heading into the short round and was able to take fourth in the final and got fourth in the average.

Kramps entered the short round in sixth place after scoring a 7.8. She scored an 8.4 in the final round and was tied for fifth and her whole overall average got her fifth place as well.

The other two top finishers both came in the steer wrestling competition as Laramie Hall and McClain Miles each got top seven finishes.

Miles scored a 4.6 in his first run and entered the finals in third place. His 6.4 final run did not get him a place in the short go, but his overall average for both rides got him sixth overall.

Hall scored a 5.1 in the first round and was in eighth heading into the short round. After scoring a 6.2 in the championship run Saturday, Hall grabbed seventh

See RIDERS, page 2B

Late turnover sinks Cowboys

By GREGG BELL

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE — With the Dallas Cowboys moving the ball near midfield and 14 seconds remaining in a tie game, Seattle kicker Josh Brown was preparing for overtime.

"I'm on the sideline trying to get mentally ready, trying to be by myself," Brown said. "It's one of those moments where you know what's coming. You know it's going to come. You just have to win the coin toss."

Instead of a coin toss, Seattle nickel back Jordan Babineaux tossed Brown's — not to mention the Seahawks' and Cowboys' — worlds upside down.

Babineaux intercepted Drew Bledsoe's sideline pass intended for Terry Glenn with 5 seconds left and returned it 25 yards to the Dallas 32.

Brown rushed onto the field and nailed a 50-yard field goal with no time left to give Seattle a 13-10 win. Dallas had controlled the first 58 minutes of the rainy

"I'm not into a State of the Union after one of those kinds of games. We'll have to wait a while."

Bill Parcells
Dallas head coach

grudge match of NFC division leaders.

Brown, who made a 55-yarder in the second quarter, threw his helmet into the Seattle mist and braced for the entire Seahawks roster, which was rushing him at midfield.

"I took my helmet off, that way they couldn't throw me to the ground," Brown said. "There is a little planning in there."

The thrilling turnabout was Seattle's third straight win and kept the Seahawks two games ahead of St. Louis atop the NFC West. They go into their bye week 5-2 for the sixth time in their 30-

year history. Four times, they have made the playoffs after such a start. The fifth time, in 1986, they finished 10-6.

Dallas (5-3) fell out of the NFC East lead, a half-game behind Washington, Philadelphia and the New York Giants. The frantic finish — the opposite of the Cowboys' 10-point rally in the final 2 minutes here last December that beat the Seahawks 43-39 — also denied the Cowboys their first three-game winning streak since October 2003, Bill Parcells' first season in Dallas.

It was the second late-game collapse for the Cowboys this season. In Week 2, Washington scored two touchdowns in the final 3:46 to beat Dallas 14-13.

But Dallas owner Jerry Jones called it "as tough a game to lose as any game we've had, any game we've ever had."

Whatever, said the irascible Parcells.

"I'm not into a State of the

See COWBOYS, page 2B

Longhorns still No. 2, Tech tumbles to 17th in poll

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP Sports Writer

Texas is changing some minds.

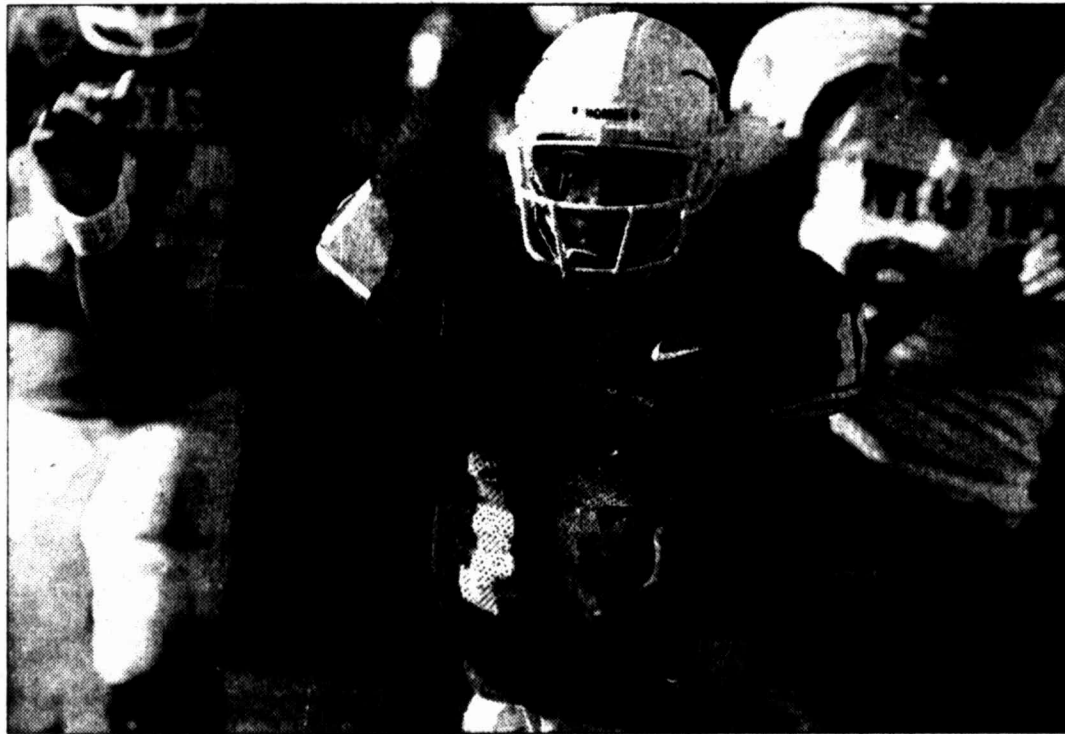
The second-ranked Longhorns picked up two more first-place votes in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday, gaining on No. 1 Southern California.

USC is on top of the rankings for a record 27th straight poll. The Trojans received 55 first-place votes and 1,615 points. The Longhorns, coming off a 52-17 victory over previously unbeaten Texas Tech, received the remaining 10 first-place votes and 1,569 points in the media poll.

"I didn't move USC down as much as I moved Texas up," said Joe Giglio of The New & Observer of Charlotte, N.C., one of two voters to switch Texas and USC this week.

"I feel (the Longhorns) have a more complete resume and I'm really impressed with how they've handled their business."

After a Saturday with



Texas quarterback Vince Young carries the ball into the end zone for a third quarter touchdown against Texas Tech. Texas defeated Texas Tech, 52-17, at Darrel K. Royal Stadium in Austin Saturday.

no major upsets, the top nine teams held their positions in the Top 25. Virginia Tech is No. 3, followed by Georgia, Alabama, Miami, LSU, UCLA and Notre Dame.

Texas Tech was the only top-10 team to fall. The Red Raiders dropped seven spots to No. 17 after their first loss of the season. That leaves six unbeaten teams — USC,

Texas, Virginia Tech, Georgia, Alabama and UCLA.

With USC and UCLA set

See POLL, page 2B

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

1. Southern Cal (55) 7-0 1,615
2. Texas (10) 7-0 1,569 2
3. Virginia Tech 7-0 1,496 3
4. Georgia 7-0 1,413 4
5. Alabama 7-0 1,328 5
6. Miami 5-1 1,268 6
7. LSU 5-1 1,219 7
8. UCLA 7-0 1,170 8
9. Notre Dame 5-2 1,067 9
10. Florida St. 6-1 1,055 11
11. Penn St. 7-1 980 12
12. Ohio St. 5-2 860 14
13. Boston College 6-1 846 13
14. Oregon 7-1 750 15
15. Wisconsin 7-1 698 19
16. Florida 5-2 617 18
17. Texas Tech 6-1 557 10
18. West Virginia 6-1 472 20
19. Auburn 5-2 456 16
20. TCU 7-1 400 21
21. Northwestern 5-2 240
22. Fresno St. 5-1 233 24
23. Tennessee 3-3 165 17
24. California 6-2 151 25
25. Michigan 5-3 134

Others receiving votes:
Louisville 126, Minnesota 113, Colorado 75, Missouri 17, Georgia Tech 9, Toledo 9, Texas A&M 7, Virginia 6, Iowa 2, Rutgers 1, Southern Miss. 1.

Series

Continued from page 1B

Adam Everett with two outs in the ninth, hit an opposite-field single to left off the burly reliever that drove in two runs and tied the game at 6. Chris Burke just beat Podsednik's on-target throw to score the tying run, slapping the plate with his hand, but Podsednik made sure in the bottom half that the game didn't go to extra innings.

Podsednik didn't have any home runs in 507 regular-season at-bats. He hit his first of the season in the division series opener against Boston.

He came up with one out in the ninth against Lidge, who hadn't pitched since Game 5 of the NL championship series against St. Louis, when he gave up a mammoth three-run homer to Albert Pujols that teammates joked rose to airplane cruising altitude.

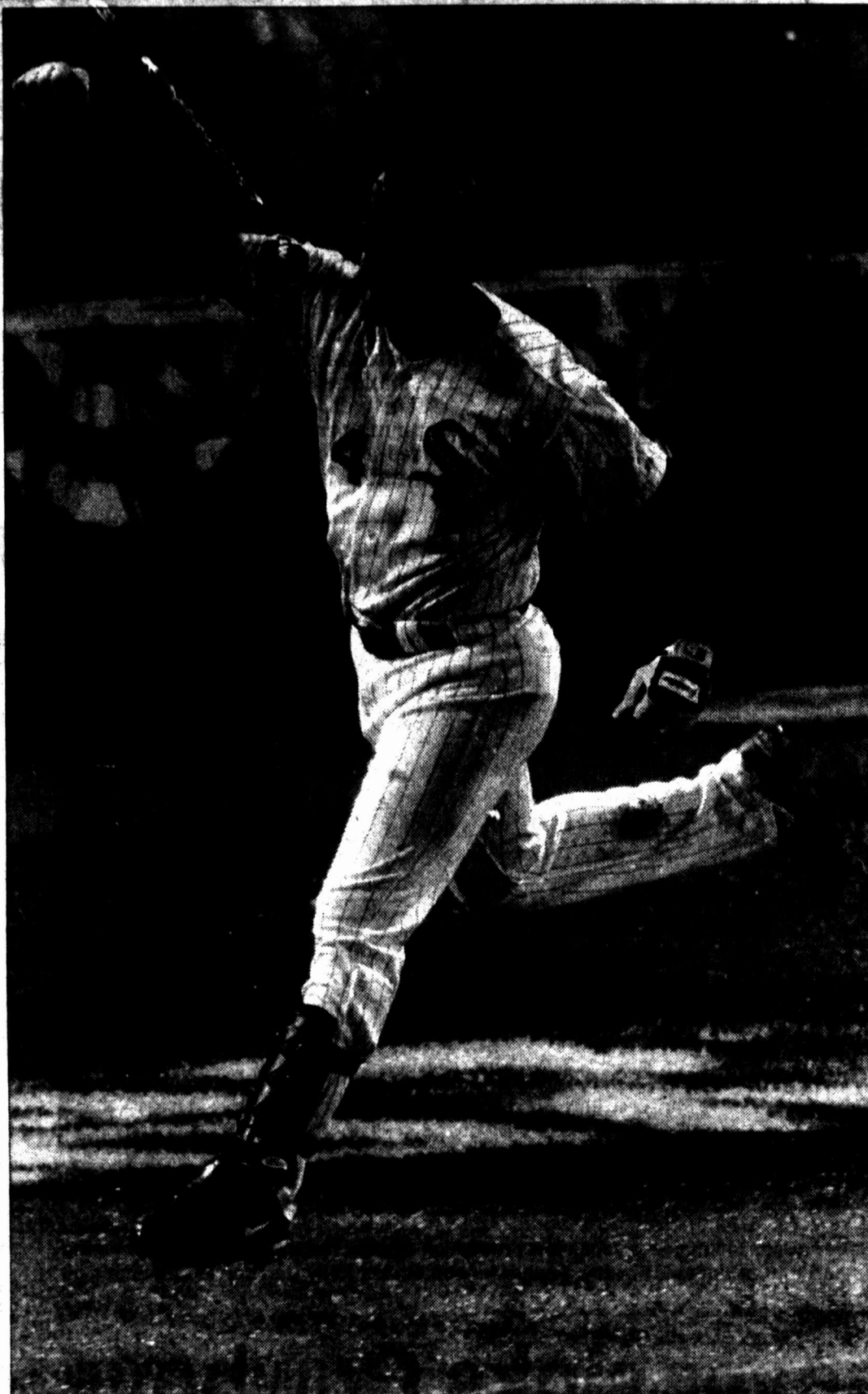
This one wasn't as long, but it was just as damaging.

Podsednik lofted the ball to right-center field, and players and fans craned to see whether it would clear the fence. When it did, Chicago players poured out of the dugout to greet Podsednik at the plate.

"Well, we're not in a good spot," Houston manager Phil Garner said. "We had a chance to win this ballgame. We have to go home and regroup. We'll make a series out of this."

Andy Pettitte had put his hometown team in position for its first World Series win, leaving after six innings with a 4-2 lead built largely by Lance Berkman, who had three RBIs.

Chicago pressured reliever Dan Wheeler on Juan Uribe's one-out double and Tadahito Iguchi's walk, and the White Sox loaded the bases when Jermaine Dye was awarded first base on a 3-2 pitch that umpires ruled hit his



Paul Konerko of the Chicago White Sox rounds the bases celebrating his grand slam home run in the seventh inning against the Houston Astros in Game 2 of the 2005 World Series. The White Sox defeated the Astros, 7-6, at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago Sunday.

hand. Houston disputed the call and replays appeared to show the ball striking his bat.

If it had been ruled a foul ball, the count would have remained full on Dye.

"I'm not going to tell him I fouled it off," Dye said. "Just go to first and,

hopefully, we get a big hit and we did."

A week earlier, Konerko was selected MVP of the AL championship series win over the Los Angeles Angels. Two days later, his wife gave birth to their first child, Nicholas.

It was Konerko's fifth postseason homer and the

first Series slam since the Yankees' Tino Martinez in 1998.

Rain started during batting practice, and it stopped and started throughout the game. The first pitch was delayed 7 minutes — the first rain delay at the beginning of a Series game since 1993.

Cowboys

Continued from 1B

Union after one of those kinds of games," the coach said. "We'll have to wait a while."

Seattle had to wait a while — 57:59 seconds of game time, actually — before its league-leading offense generated much. The Cowboys continually controlled the line of scrimmage by putting as many as nine defenders within 4 yards of the ball, even on passing downs. That left Shaun Alexander, the NFL rushing leader entering Sunday, mostly stuck in neutral.

During passes, Cowboys cover men continually hit receivers Joe Jurevicius, D.J. Hackett and Jerheme Urban — Seattle's replacements for injured starters Darrell Jackson

and Bobby Engram.

Alexander finished with 61 yards rushing on 21 carries. He gained 3 yards or less on 13 of his runs. His longest run was an 11-yard dash on the Seahawks' 81-yard drive within the final 2 minutes.

The Seattle offense, averaging 407 yards coming in, finished with 289.

"They had a lot of guys in the box," Pro Bowl guard Steve Hutchinson said. "It was like beating your head against the wall."

Seattle tied it at 10 with 40 seconds left when backup tight end Ryan Hannam caught quarterback Matt Hasselbeck's 1-yard TD pass while tumbling in the end zone.

Hasselbeck, 23-of-42 for 224 yards with the one touchdown and two interceptions, completed all four of his passes on the 81-yard march.

Forsan junior varsity runs past C-City, 35-12

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

The Forsan Buffalo junior varsity played in Colorado City Thursday night and defeated the host Wolves, 35-12.

Vince Pennick led the offensive attack with a three-touchdown performance, scoring on runs of 70, 40 and 55 yards, all of which came in the first half.

Forsan JV head coach Brad Batla praised his offensive line and the job it did to create holes to enable the backs to get loose.

"The offensive line blocked great all night," said Batla. They really held their assignments well and gave the backs a lot of room to move."

The Buffs added two more scores in the second half, one coming in the third quarter as Jeremy Robbins connected with Jeremy Frietag on a 20-yard touchdown pass.

Frietag also stood out in the kicking game as he was a perfect five-for-five on extra points.

As time ran down in the fourth quarter, Curtis Gaston followed his blocking and got loose for a 10-yard touchdown run to end the Buffs scoring.

Batla was extremely proud of the defensive effort, as well.

"Defensively, we played very tough," Batla said. "Justin Stillwell, Raul Sanchez and Jeromy Gomez were huge for us (Thursday)."

Sanchez left the game late with a broken arm and will be evaluated later this week. The Buffaloes will wrap up

their season with a home game against Crane Thursday at 5 p.m.

Forsan Junior High blanks Hermleigh

The Forsan JH football team played host to the Hermleigh Cardinals Thursday night and came out victorious, 36-0.

Monte Anderson led off the scoring with a 57-yard run and Jake Moore added the 2-point conversion to make the score 8-0.

On Forsan's next possession, Steven Johnson scored on a 7-yard run and Anderson kicked the extra point to make the score 15-0.

Anderson added another touchdown in the second quarter as he scored from 42 yards away. His extra point increased Forsan's lead to 22-0.

The half-time score was 29-0 after Anderson added one more touchdown, this time scoring from 35 yards out.

Johnson scored on a 53-yard run early in the fourth quarter and Anderson kicked the extra point to make the final score 36-0.

Leading the defense in shutting out the Cardinals were Moore, Johnson, Anderson, Dillon Walker, Evan Burton, Zach Dykes, Kenneth Rawls, Josh Hatfield, Jake Rhoton, Aaron Johnson and Zack Gilliam.

The junior high team improves to 6-1 on the year. It plays its final game of the season next Thursday on the road against Roby.

Riders

Continued from 1B

overall in the average.

Cody Heiner also competed in steer wrestling and made it to the short round with a 4.5 first run, which was good enough for second place. However, a no time in the final run put him out of the running for a place.

Several other Hawks competed this weekend.

Jed Headley went against others riders in

the bareback riding event and advanced to the finals with a fourth-place 76 first run. He received a no score in the short round and did not place in the average.

Jonathan Fontenot competed in the short round of the bull riding competition, but got bucked off in his final run and did not place.

Several other competitors from Howard just missed qualifying for the final run. Shelly Combs was 11th in the break-

away roping and the cutoff was just a few tenths of a second faster. Headley scored a 62 in the saddle bronc competition and the cutoff was 63.

The cutoff for the tie down roping competition was 8.9 and Howard had a team score a 9.1. The barrel racing cutoff was 17.22 and the Hawks had two women nearly qualify as they scored times of 17.34 and 17.57.

"We are making strides," said Howard rodeo coach Greg

Kernick. "It's coming together. They are young and trying to find out to win and we should be ready to go again in the spring."

The Texas Tech rodeo concludes Howard's fall rodeo competition schedule. The team will now concentrate on classroom and grades the rest of the semester. The Hawks will conclude the rodeo season in the spring where they have five rodeos. The first one is scheduled for March.

Poll

Continued from 1B

to finish the season against each other and a Georgia-Alabama matchup in the Southeastern Conference title game possible, the regular season could end with four unbeaten teams.

Northwestern moved into the rankings this week for the first time since 2001. The Wildcats (5-2) defeated Michigan State 49-14 on Saturday and are now 21st in the country. The Spartans fell out of the rankings.

Michigan is back in the rankings after a 23-20

overtime win at Iowa. The Wolverines have been in and out of the poll in an up-and-down season that has been filled with close games.

Earlier this season, Michigan snapped a string of 114 straight weeks in the rankings, which was the longest in the nation and dated back to 1998. The Wolverines moved back into the poll after a win, then dropped back out after another loss. Two straight last-play victories over Penn State and the Hawkeyes have Michigan at No. 25.

The top five teams in the USA Today coaches' poll were identical to the

AP rankings with USC, Texas, Virginia Tech, Georgia and Alabama.

In the AP poll, No. 10 is Florida State, followed by Penn State and Ohio State.

No. 13 Boston College, which has its highest ranking since the end of the 1993 season, plays at Virginia Tech on Thursday night.

No. 14 is Oregon, followed by Wisconsin and Florida, which has a big game coming up on Saturday.

The Gators will try to hand Georgia its first loss in the World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party at Jacksonville, Fla. The

Bulldogs will likely be without quarterback D.J. Shockley, who injured his knee in a 23-20 win over Arkansas.

After Texas Tech at No. 17, West Virginia is 18th and Auburn fell three spots after losing 20-17 in overtime at LSU.

No. 20 TCU is followed by Northwestern, Fresno State and Tennessee, which remained in the rankings with a 3-3 record.

Falling out of the rankings along with Michigan State was Virginia. The Cavaliers followed up a win over Florida State with a 7-5 loss at North Carolina on Saturday.

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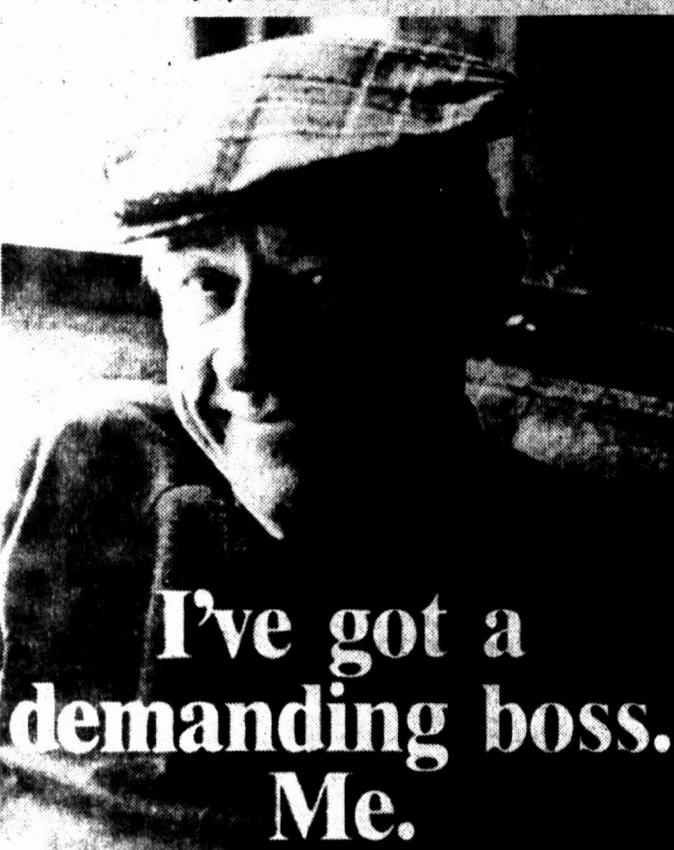
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TRACKS OF land for Sale. 5 miles South of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles West of Coahoma. Owner will Finance or Texas Veterans. Also have Beauty Shop for Lease. (432)263-8785.

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BIG SPRING HERALD CLASSIFIEDS

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The sun and moon in water signs this morning bring waves of emotion, some wonderful, some fearful. Roll with it. Evening sets a more even emotional tone. Anything that was upsetting early in the day should seem easier to handle — or even laughable — by nightfall. A creative boost is best used to kid and be a lovable pest to dear ones.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Progress doesn't always seem like progress. In fact, you feel like you're going in circles — probably because you are. But don't worry about it — it's the way of the cosmos. You are still growing in awareness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be mindful of and sensitive to how others are relating to you. Listening helps you learn fast without having to go through the pitfalls that other people must experience. Tonight, you harvest what you have sown.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's an area of work out there that would really resonate with you, so don't waste your time in a job you hate. People who don't actively promote your well-being are actually allowing you to stay stuck.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Expecting something is a powerful mood lifter. Something that's coming by mail or by phone gives you a charge. You'll also

Vehicles

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

get the chance to prove that you learned something from yesterday. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Decide what song you're going to sing — metaphorically or actually — and sing it loud and proud. It's so much more important to express your heart than it is to be acceptable to others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The obstacle you encounter, perhaps in the form of a Gemini or a fellow Virgo, is your greatest asset. In the long run, something good comes of this challenge, even if it takes awhile to see it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's silly to avoid work. By doing so, you ensure that you will have much more work than you can do. Instead, approach work with a playful attitude. You'll be well-paid and possibly promoted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Use your talents — however big, small, important or trivial you believe them to be. Your contribution is much more significant and far-reaching than you can comprehend from where you stand today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are consistent in your efforts to make someone feel for you. Eventually, you can win over absolutely anyone with your personality, but at some point, you have to ask yourself if it's really worth it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You come to a chasm in your life. There are several ways to get across: taking a hot air balloon, building a bridge or leaping. If you're going to leap, go full force — you can't cross the divide in two small jumps.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You feel as though you're in some kind of space opera today. The forces of good and evil battle it out against a strange backdrop, like in front of your office vending machine. Stay out of the conflict, lest you get lasered.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The costume of your life doesn't reflect your fine character nearly as well as it should. Take care of your clothes — get the hems stitched, the holes sewn, and the dry cleaning and pressing

done. Afterward, you'll feel like a star.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My husband and I have been together for almost 20 years. He is a Sagittarius, and I am a Capricorn. He recently had an affair, and after much heartache and talking, 'she' ended it. While he was in the hospital having heart surgery, 'she' replaced him with a new love. My husband says he's moved on, but I think he still pines for her. I can't get it in my head that it is really over. They have talked occasionally, but nothing else has happened. During a fight we had yesterday, he threatened to move out — which he did while he was seeing her. Do we have a chance to stay together?"

This sounds so stressful, and though Capricorn women can be quite stoic under duress, this disruption is enough to shake you to the core. His emotional blackmail is unacceptable, and you don't deserve it. Sagittarius men really need to feel as if they are free. If he knows that you'll be

happy without him, he'll shape up. So work on being autonomous and happy. Cut him free — he'll probably come back to you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Red-hot hip hop singer Ciara will "one, two step" herself into another No. 1 hit. Being at the top of the Billboard charts is a byproduct of public intrigue, which Scorpios cultivate so well. On a personal note, her relationship with fellow chart topper Bow Wow will intensify, but don't expect to hear about it in the tabloids! Scorpio is an expert at keeping things on the down low.

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. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I am a 69-year-old woman from a small town and will be celebrating my 50th wedding anniversary this year. The problem is, two years ago, I found out my 69-year-old husband was having an affair with a 20-year-old.

Although I can remember being suspicious of "Ralph" at least once in the past, this was the only time I had proof he actually was being unfaithful. (I found a letter the girl had written to him.) I don't know how long this business was going on, but I assume it started at the same time Ralph stopped being intimate with me.

I confronted Ralph with the letter, and he told me the affair was over. However, if I bring it up even now, he is still very quick to come to this girl's defense, and I can tell she still is often on his mind. Even though he insists he has stopped seeing her, I suspect he hasn't, because I am pretty sure he is in love with her.

Considering the enormous age difference, I don't know what they could possibly have in common, other than sex. We have some money in savings, and I am afraid this girl has ulterior motives and may trap Ralph by becoming pregnant.

I am losing the love I once felt for this man. I try hard not to let my emotions show to my family, because how in the world would I explain this to them? I can't even explain it to myself. Should I keep on pretending everything is fine and ignore this affair, or should I see a lawyer? — Devastated in Virginia

Dear Va.: We can't tell you whether or not to stay with Ralph, who apparently is desperate to feel young again. Only you can decide if he's worth it. But see a lawyer anyway, to be sure you are protected, legally, should he leave you.

It would be helpful if you could convince Ralph to come with you for some sessions with a counselor. If not, please go without him so you can make the decision that is best for you.

Dear Annie: I have a wonderful opportunity to join my grown children and young grandchildren in another state. I would love to do this.

I am not crazy about the city I live in, although I

(a second marriage for both, no children). During the entire duration of their marriage, Shania has complained about the lack of affection and sex.

Recently, Shania was diagnosed with a serious back problem that required three operations. As a result, she is permanently restricted, which is difficult for her, because she always has been a very active person. Due to the medication she takes, our entire family is concerned about Shania's decision-making abilities, and we also are concerned that Al is taking advantage of the situation.

When they married, Al had some financial troubles, but Shania was financially well-off and paid for the wedding. After that, Al struggled at the company where he worked and Shania helped him start his own business. Since then, Al has purchased expensive cars, computers, furniture and other electronic equipment for his company.

They have moved twice into homes that Al wanted. Recently, Al remodeled the family room to fit around a flat-screen TV with custom speakers. Shania has no interest in any of this, but Al initially wanted a 30-foot boat (he has never sailed). Shania reluctantly said no, and Al pouted so much that Shania didn't object to the new family room, hoping it would appease him.

Al has been talking about moving again. Can we help Shania see that Al is just using her? — Frustrated in Chicago

Dear Frustrated: It sounds as if Al and Shania have had this same dynamic for years, with or without medication.

It's obvious that you do not like your brother-in-law, but Shania is not incompetent. If she loves Al, in spite of his parasitical pecuniary habits, that is her choice. What she really needs is your emotional support. If she decides to move, offer to help pack. If she seems reluctant to give up her home, suggest that she talk to a counselor about the strain she's been under. Do not bad-mouth Al. It won't help.

Dear Annie: I am a 14-year-old girl, and I have a curfew problem. On weekends during the school year, I have to be in the house by 7 p.m., and during vacations, it's 8 p.m. I

am a good student, and I've never gotten into trouble. I know kids need rules, but don't you think this is a little harsh? — Wondering in North Dakota

Dear N.D.: Yes, a bit. If you are in high school, your curfew can surely be increased by one hour on the weekends, and possibly more during vacation. Talk to your parents and ask what you can do to gain an extension. Good luck.

Dear Annie: I don't know a better way to get this information out to the public than through your column.

When someone is injured, paramedics often turn to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make their job easier by adopting the ICE system. ICE stands for In Case of Emergency.

Here's how it works: For those people you want contacted in an emergency, add entries under ICE-Mom or ICE-Husband's Name, along with the phone number. Most paramedics know what ICE means, and they will look for it. This not only saves them a lot of time, but it means your loved ones are contacted quickly.

Tell your readers to ICE their cell phones NOW. — Karen M.

Dear Karen: We think this is an excellent idea that should be adopted everywhere. We understand it was conceived back in April by Bob Brotchie, a British paramedic, and gained momentum after the recent bombings in London. (It also is recommended that you keep your ICE list regularly updated so the paramedics don't accidentally call your ex.

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

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MONDAY

OCT. 24

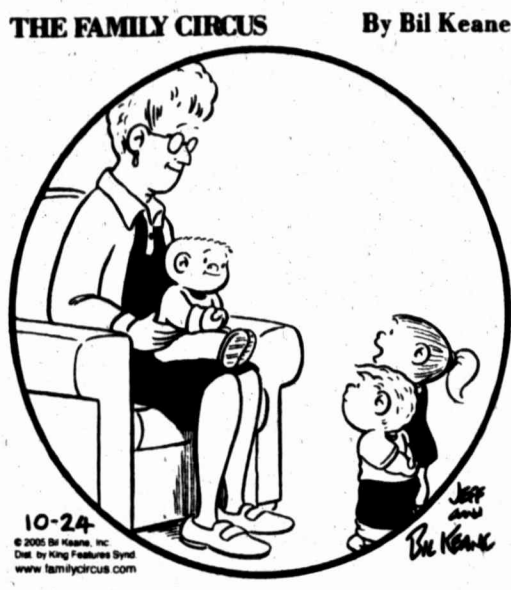
Table with 24 columns (WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 24 rows of program listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



Mrs. Wilson doesn't need air freshener. She bakes cookies every day.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



Don't be selfish, P.J. She's our Grandma too, y'know.

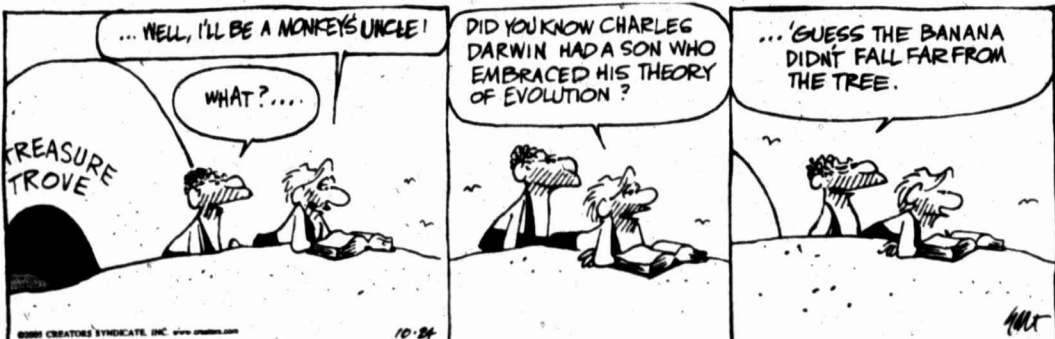
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Oct. 24, the 297th day of 2005. There are 68 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 24, 1945, the United Nations officially came into existence as its charter took effect. In 1537, Jane Seymour, the third wife of England's King Henry VIII, died 12 days after giving birth to Prince Edward, later King Edward VI. In 1861, the first transcontinental telegraph message was sent as Justice Stephen J. Field of California transmitted a telegram to President Lincoln. In 1901, Anna Edson Taylor, a 43-year-old widow, became the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel. In 1931, the George Washington Bridge, connecting New York and New Jersey, opened to traffic. In 1939, nylon stockings were sold publicly for the first time, in Wilmington, Del. In 1940, the 40-hour work week went into effect under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. In 1952, Republican presidential candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower declared, "I shall go to Korea" as he promised to end the conflict. (He made the visit over a month later.) In 1962, the U.S. blockade of Cuba during the missile crisis officially began under a proclamation signed by President Kennedy. In 1980, the merchant freighter SS Poet departed Philadelphia bound for Port Said, Egypt, with a crew of 34 and a cargo of grain; it disappeared en route. In 2002, authorities arrested Army veteran John Allen Muhammad and teenager Lee Boyd Malvo in connection with the Washington-area sniper attacks. One year ago: The Boston Red Sox beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-2 for a 2-0 World Series lead. Arizona's Emmitt Smith broke Walter Payton's NFL record for 100-yard games rushing with his 78th. Today's Birthdays:

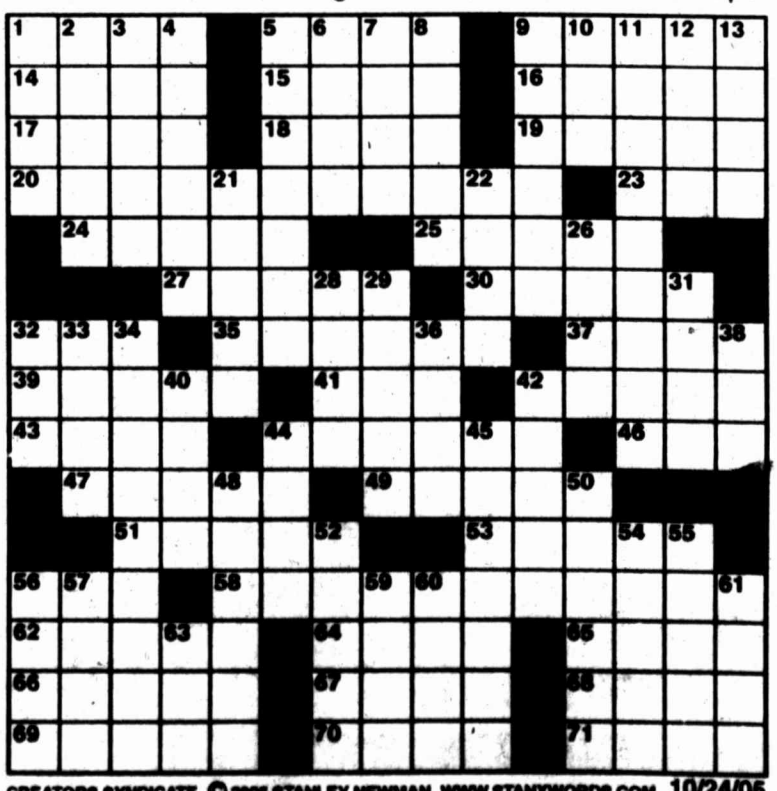
Football Hall-of-Famer Y.A. Tittle is 79. Rock musician Bill Wyman is 69. Actor-producer David Nelson is 69. Actor F. Murray Abraham is 66. Actor Kevin Kline is 58. Former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume is 57. Country musician Billy Thomas (Terry McBride and the Ride) is 52. Actor B.D. Wong is 43. Rock musician Ben Gillies (Silverchair) is 26. Singer-actress Monica Arnold is 25. Rhythm-and-blues singer Adrienne Bailon (31w) is 22. Thought for Today: "Vanity, vanity, all is vanity/ That's any fun at all for humanity." - Ogden Nash, American author and humorist (1902-1971).

Answer to previous puzzle: ABRIDGED MOWERS, LEONARDO ENAMEL, LAYANEGG DERIVE, IRAN WES DINGED, EELER TELL RAD, DRE OMSALE PALE, ABOARD PETER, CAVERN EARNED, RANIS TURNIN, URNS KANSAS IST, FOO VISE MANOR, FLUTES AWE EDIE, LTIERS TACITURN, ENCASE ENHANCED, DEEMED NEONATES

Newsday Crossword

AT THE DELI by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Bulletin-board fastener, 5 Of unknown authorship: Abbr., 9 Sounds of shock, 14 Aida of M*A*S*H, 15 Volcano outflow, 16 Video game name, 17 Unaccompanied, 18 Seize, 19 From the sun, 20 Lightweight cotton fabric, 23 Sailor's yes, 24 Stray from the script, 25 Sulk, 27 Sandal feature, 30 Old-time oaths, 32 Ooh and, 35 With little effort, 37 Detest, 39 Shawls and stoles, 41 Debtor's letters, 42 Credit-card user, 43 Soup bean, 44 Showy ornament, 46 Health resort, 47 Stage whisper, 49 Take care of, 51 Dog's reward, 53 Help for a climber, 56 Tavern, 58 Less than adequate, 62 Martini garnish, 64 Store sign, 65 Hawaiian feast, 66 Lou Grant actor, 67 Something prohibited, 68 Oklahoma city, 69 Thesaurus compiler, 70 British prep school, 71 Matinee days: Abbr., 6 Drug-fighting cop, 7 Egg-shaped person, 8 Influential person, 9 Uneconomical vehicle, slangily, 10 From Z, 11 Times of youthful inexperience, 12 Besech, 13 Kingly address, 21 Locations, 22 Deuce topper, 26 Pearl Harbor's island, 28 China's continent, 29 Devout, 31 Dance move, 32 Piercing tool, 33 Opera solo, 34 Leg tendon, 36 Garage job, 38 Historical period, 40 Set of socks, 42 Support, as with a wager, 44 Boyfriend, 45 Beirut locale, 48 Gobi or Sahara, 50 Lots and lots, 52 Steakhouse order, 54 Steam bath, 55 Characteristic, 56 Wild hog, 57 In addition, 59 Dry cleaner's challenge, 60 clock (coffee-break time), 61 Clothing, informally, 63 Neckline shape



BIG SPRING VOLUME 11 RE CO By THO Staff W The Sheriff's ting fou to help followir sioners' expendi ing. Comm unanim purchas tation Walker Gary Pr Pritch systems deputie ty's sch Arts con on s trus By THO Staff W Const Howar Perform is on se plannin visit L u b l archite consu firm and Nic the wor That messag ered Monda noon's Howar as the ward w ture m "Thir togethe local Furqu trustee tion o arts ce pleasc tor at things smoot "We they tently but w schedu here, i either where right r buildi feel l going fr ing fr Furq the pr ferent now - - whi coinci See AF INI Class Featu Obitu Opini Sport To r Pleas a.m. If you 263-7 noon