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# BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 257

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND



## INSIDE

Steers to  
face Abilene  
Wylie still  
seeking first  
win of the  
season.  
Page 1B

## Forsan RCCI will hold clean up day Saturday

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

FORSAN — Residents here are joining their Howard County brethren in getting into the community cleanup act.

The first-ever Forsan City Wide Cleanup Day will be held this Saturday, organizers said.

The cleanup day is the brainchild of the Forsan Rural Community College Initiative, a group of local residents who

work on community development ideas. "They decided that a cleanup would be one of their main priorities right now," said Jan Foresyth, facilitator of the RCCI efforts in Forsan, Big Spring and Coahoma.

In conjunction with the cleanup Saturday, the Forsan Baptist Church will host a prayer breakfast at 8 a.m. and a hamburger and hot dog lunch at noon. Persons interested in participating in the cleanup should contact Stacey

Park at 457-0009 to be assigned an area or task.

Work on the RCCI group's other main task, construction of a road to directly connect Forsan with the Tubbs Addition, is proceeding smoothly, Foresyth said.

The right of way for the route, which would connect Kay Road with Highway 461, has been donated, and Howard County officials have pledged the labor needed for the project. Foresyth said a

grant will be sought to pay for the necessary paving and fencing materials.

In all likelihood, it will be early next year before officials learn if the grant has been secured, she added.

"The group wanted the road to be one of their top priorities, because of the safety of students traveling to and from school," she said.

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

## Dewhurst to keynote AgExpo

### Tour of area farms slated for morning session of event

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Area farmers and ranchers will get a heartfelt pat on the back Thursday, Sept. 28, as the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce prepares to hold its annual Ag Expo and Appreciation Luncheon in conjunction with the Howard County Fair.

Debbie ValVerde, executive director for the chamber, said the decision to join the two events, which will both be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds, has worked out great so far.

"The committee feels like this is a good move for the expo to be going on alongside the Howard County Fair," said ValVerde. "The fair association has worked great with us and helped us logistically with having room for all the farmers... and the extension office has been helping as well, getting the farm tour

together. We feel like it's been a really good move for us, and we hope the fair association feels the same way.

"It's going to be different this year. Instead of offering the morning classes like we have in the past, we're going to have a tour of the area farms. We're providing the transportation, which is being donated by Howard College, and seating is limited. We're really hoping the area producers will sign up for the tour. Bonnie Franklin is going to be handling catering during the tour, so we're really looking forward to it because she has some really good food.

"This going to be our first year for it, so it's kind of like a trial run," she said. "We'll have to see what happens. This could turn into an ongoing annual event with the county fair."

Keynote speaker for the luncheon will be Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, according to ValVerde.

See EXPO, Page 3A



Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, right, looks on as Texas Gov. Rick Perry speaks at a press conference. Dewhurst will be the keynote speaker at the annual Ag Expo and Appreciation Luncheon, which is slated for Thursday.

## Moore Board approves runway improvement project

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

The board of directors for Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. approved \$200,000 — which could possibly grow to \$400,000 — to match funds that may be provided by a runway improvement grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The funding, which includes \$200,000 for improvements to the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark's main runway and a second \$200,000 for the taxi way, would be part of a project that could bring more than \$5 million in renovations to the runway's infrastructure.

"Pending approval from TxDOT and the city of Big

**"We all pulled our heads together and came up with this proposition, which would have the city match the funds and get the runway and the taxi way improved enough so when a company comes in and asks if we can land a 737 because that's what they are painting, we can tell them yes, we can. You can land 100 of those things out here a year if you want."**

Spring for the runway, I make a motion we authorize up to \$200,000 in matching funds," said board member Mike Niklasch. "Also, along with that another \$200,000 if TxDOT will approve the taxi way improvements."

According to Moore Development Executive Director Kent Sharp, the funding is part of a much broader scope the economic development corporation, along with many local government entities, have been studying for some time.

Moore Development and the city — along with a number of different entities — have been trying to utilize our airport closer to its capacity," said Sharp. "And what that boils down to is being able to land heavier aircraft, such as the 737s that Southwest uses, out here for anything from painting



SHARP

to maintenance. That is really an explosive field right now because there's just not enough space out there.

"The biggest misconception about the airpark is we have a former air base that can land any kind of plane. You can land 737s now, but you can't do it on a day to day or month to month basis. The infrastructure just can't handle it. It's going to stress the main runway to the point you'll have to do something, and the taxi ways are asphalt and just aren't strong enough to handle that kind of weight."

Sharp said the project, which would replace existing asphalt runways — and taxi ways, if

See MOORE, Page 3A

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

### DEMONSTRATIONS SET

Daily cooking and decorating demonstrations will be conducted at 6 p.m. during the Howard County Fair, scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, Sept. 27-30.

- The schedule for demonstrations is as follows:
  - Sept. 27 — Ellen Austin, edible centerpieces.
  - Sept. 28 — Dana Baker, Lithuanian cooking.
  - Sept. 29 — Margarita Durand-Hollis, paper flowers.
  - Sept. 30 — Kori Myers, using pressure canners.
- Myers will also test pressure canners brought to the fair.

### LVFD FUNDRAISER

Dancing for firefighters? You bet! Four Way Gin will be the site for the annual Lenora Volunteer Fire Department dance and barbecue, set for Saturday. All funds raised at the event — admission is by donation — go to help the volunteer fire department. LVFD Fire Chief Dusty Wells said they are expecting 300 to 400 people at the fund-raiser, which begins at 7 p.m. with the serving of brisket and continues with the dance from 9 p.m. to midnight. He said the department normally responds to 30 fires by this time of the year, but has been called out 58 times already in 2006.

### ANGEL FOOD PICKUP

Angel food pickup Saturday at 2702 N. Birdwell Ln. October orders will also be taken at this time, if desired. Orders for October delivery will be taken Sept. 26 and Oct. 3 and 5 between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. at North Birdwell United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell Ln. October orders will also be taken Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Westside Community Center 1311 West 4th St. For more information please call Madeline Boadle at 267-2203, if no answer please leave message. Angel food ministry in a non-qualifying food ministry for Big Spring and surrounding communities.

Obituaries

Carla Jean Madison Hatch



Carla Jean Madison Hatch, 63 of Bastrop died Sunday Sept. 17, 2006, at her residence. Carla was born in Big Spring on March 22, 1943, the daughter of Carl and Jewel Madison. She was an eighth generation native born Texan. She graduated from Big Spring High School class of 1961. She married John R. (Jay) Hatch on July 7, 1976.

Carla began her career in hotel management and bookkeeping. She retired from Bastrop Veterinarian Clinic as a bookkeeper in 2005. During her life, she served as former secretary treasurer of Bastrop Citizens Police Academy, was an active participant in Bastrop County Relay of Life and a passionate animal lover. Her hobbies included sewing, crafts, fishing, reading and spending time with her grandchildren.

Her parents, Carl and Jewel Madison, preceded her in death. She is survived by her loving husband Jay; one son Cody Carroll of La Grange, and one daughter Kathy Wells and her husband, Steve of Big Spring; two brothers, Dick Madison and his wife, Carolyn of Richardson and Gordon Madison and his wife, Kylene of Grandbury; three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services are pending at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington.

She will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, sister and special friend to many. She will be forever in our hearts.

William E. Jensen

William E. Jensen, 85, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Private Interment was held on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2006, at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on May 29, 1921, in Gillette, Wyo. He married Velma Huddleston in April 1952 in Portales, N.M. She preceded him in death on Aug. 16, 1991. He was a Baptist. He served in the U. S. Air Force where he worked as a cook at the officer's club at the former Webb Air Force Base. He had also been a prisoner of war in Japan for five years and retired from the military in 1962.

He is survived by two daughters, Gwen Faulkner of Big Spring, and Jo Beth Gerk of Denver, Colo.; and one son, Leon Gass of Odessa, six grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Arrangements were by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Carol A. Seale

Rosary services for Carol A. Seale, 64, of Andrews will be 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006, at McNett Funeral Home Chapel in Andrews. Funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 22, 2006, at Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Church in Andrews with Rev. Bernard Gully, Pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the Andrews North Cemetery.

She passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2006, at her residence in Andrews.

She was born on March 3, 1942, in Wichita Falls to Elbert Carlton Crow and Esta Ethelynn Parks Crow. She married Buddy Seale on Dec. 19, 1959, in Vernon. They moved to Andrews in 1978 from Fort Stockton. She had worked for J. Cleo Thompson Oil Company as a secretary since 1978. She had been involved in St. Agnes Catholic Church in Fort Stockton while living there. She was a member of Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Church in Andrews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Buddy, on Sept. 17, 2002; twin sons, Charles Keith and Buddy Carlton Seale in 1972; and her parents.

She is survived by her two daughters, Carla Gentry of Midland and Terry Seale of Big Spring; one sister, JoLynda McDonald of Scotland; one brother, Lester Crow of Dumont, Colo.; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Church, 201 NE Avenue K, Andrews 79714.

To register, send condolences, or view the obituary; go to www.mcnettfuneralhome.com

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Northeast Ninth Street. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Northeast 14th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported near the intersection of Allen Road and South Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Carol. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4100 block of South Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of State Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS/DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 600 block of McEwen.

Ruby Inez Dyer Bearden



Ruby Inez Dyer Bearden, 88, of Big Spring, died on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006, at her residence surrounded by her four children. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 22, 2006, at the First United Methodist Church, Big Spring, with Rev. Elwin Collom, Home Hospice chaplain, officiating and her grandsons, assisting. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

She was born Oct. 22, 1917, in Parker County and married J. C. Bearden on Nov. 30, 1935, in Dawson County. He preceded her in death on Sept. 21, 1983.

She was a longtime resident of Ackerly and Big Spring, and was a homemaker.

In recent years Inez was a much loved volunteer of Big Spring RSVP. In the 21 years and seven months that she volunteered, she touched many lives and was always looking for ways to help others. She served with the S.W.A.T. (Seniors With Available Time) team to help promote RSVP in the community. Inez volunteered at the City of Big Spring with EMS Department for 10 years and kept the city scrapbook for six years. She had the distinction of being the individual who raised the most money for the Alzheimer's Memory Walk for four years. Inez was a Spring City Stompers line dancer and entertained at nursing homes at senior activities for more than eight years. She also worked with the children in the Kid's Klub at her church, the "Read to Me" summer reading program and sewed tote bags for the "Learning Kit" program to benefit children of incarcerated parents. Inez was a wonderful seamstress; she used her talent to sew hundreds of "Pillow Pals" for patients at the Big Spring State Hospital. Her last major volunteer venture was to deliver meals for the Mobile Meals program. She drove every Tuesday morning for more than two years. Big Spring RSVP is richer for having a loving, caring volunteer like Inez and she will be missed. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include two sons, Derrell Bearden and wife, Sandra of Ackerly and David Bearden and wife, Rebecca of Houston; two daughters, Faye Noll and husband, Stanley of Havana, Ill. and Janice Walton and husband, Raymond of Stanton; nine grandchildren, Leland Bearden and wife, Stacey, Melinda Rainwater and husband, Carlos, Wayne Noll and wife, Cindy, Sherry Gibson and husband, Kevin, Steve Walton and wife, Georgeann, Gary Walton, David Bearden, Jr. and wife, Trish, Sarah Smith and husband, Thad and Gabriel Bearden and wife, Caren; eighteen great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; a grandchild, Jessica Bearden; one brother and four sisters.

The family suggests memorials be made to a charity of choice.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

*Paid obituary*

Weather

Tonight — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph.

Friday — Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 90s. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts to around 40 mph.

Friday night — Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 60s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-25-41-45-51-53.

Number matching six of six: 0.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$10 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 13-19-23-26-27.

Number matching five of five: 3.

Prize per winner: \$9,015.

Winning tickets sold in: Fort Worth, Houston and Texas City.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night, in order: 1-1-3

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday afternoon, in order: 3-3-7

Police blotter

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

• **TEKIA WILLIAMS**, 23, of 910 N.W. Fourth Street, was arrested Wednesday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, stealing/receiving stolen checks and forgery.

• **MORGAN LOPEZ**, 25, of 2501 Barksdale, was arrested Wednesday on charges of stealing/receiving stolen checks, forgery, two Midland County warrants and a Curry County warrant.

• **RUBEN LEE TREVINO JR.**, 28, of 2310 S. Runnels, was arrested Wednesday on a Nolan County warrant.

• **CYNTHIA SALAZAR**, 23, of 2310 S. Runnels, was arrested Wednesday on two local warrants.

• **CHRISTINA YANEZ**, 31, of 1408 Oriole, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.

• **MARIO YANEZ**, 25, of 1408 Oriole, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.

• **KRYSTAL YANEZ**, 17, of 1408 Oriole, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.

• **POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg Street.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE** was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg Street.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 200 block of Third Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 700 block of Douglas.

Sheriff's report

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

• **CLINT RANKIN ELLIOT**, 43, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

• **TERRY RAY SPEARS**, 43, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of theft by check.

• **LIONSO LEE JIMENEZ III**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify - giving false information.

• **HOLLY KAY ROGERS**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear - unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

• **CAMERON ROBERT SEAGO**, 29, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense, driving while license suspended/invalid - enhanced and theft.

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# TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

## Prosecutors trying former nurse in 10 deaths

MONTAGUE (AP) — Prosecutors will try a former nurse in 10 patients' deaths instead of two at her murder trial next month.

State District Judge Roger Towery on Wednesday granted prosecutors' motion to amend one capital murder indictment, which charged Vickie Dawn Jackson in two deaths, to add the other eight victims' names.

Prosecutors had planned to try Jackson in those two deaths, although she had already been charged in a total of five indictments with killing 10 elderly patients at Nocona General Hospital in late 2000 and early 2001.

Jack McGaughey, district attorney for Archer, Clay and Montague counties, said he could have presented the other deaths as extraneous offenses. But he said that when prosecutors have done that in other cases, some appeals courts have not ruled favorably.

## Woman found in Oklahoma; details sketchy

PETERSBURG (AP) — Authorities said Wednesday that the schoolteacher who went missing from this small West town called her parents and told them she had been abducted and taken to Oklahoma.

Hollie Christine Wright, 23, was found physically unharmed Tuesday evening in Stroud, Okla., but Texas officials declined to say whether she got there on her own or had been abducted from her home.

Texas authorities started looking for Wright on Monday after the new teacher failed to show up for classes, officials said. They were signs of a struggle in her Petersburg home and Texas authorities believed she had been kidnapped.

Wright's car, which was missing from her home, was found east of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma officials said.

Oklahoma authorities, however, said Wednesday that Wright could face false report charges there after they investigated her claim that a truck driver assaulted her.

## Country star Walser dead at 72

AUSTIN (AP) — Country music singer Don Walser, whose wide appeal made him a popular opening act for

performers ranging from Johnny Cash to the rock band Ministry, has died. He was 72.

Walser died Wednesday after a lengthy illness, said Howard Kalish, who played fiddle in Walser's Pure Texas Band.

Dubbed the "Pavarotti of the Plains," Walser's biggest success came at age 64 when he signed with Sire Records, the label of Madonna and the Ramones.

He debuted at the Grand Ol' Opry in 1999 but was most interested in exposing country music to new audiences, the Austin American-Statesman reported Wednesday. Walser opened for rock bands like the Butthole Surfers, introducing younger crowds to Western classics like "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" and "Cherokee Maidens."

"He loved it when some kid with a ring in their nose would bring their parents and their grandparents," Kalish told The Associated Press. "It was part of his genuineness that came across."

## Judge orders quiet during hunting season

ITALY (AP) — An Ellis County man has been ordered by a judge to keep the noise down on his property during deer season after he was found guilty of a misdemeanor charge of disrupting hunters.

An Ellis County jury found Galen Morris, 38, guilty on Tuesday of violating one count of the state Sportsman's Rights Act. He was found not guilty of a second, similar charge.

The judge in the case ordered Morris to make sure his children don't disturb hunters on a neighboring property by playing loud music or driving four-wheelers before noon or after 4 p.m. during deer season, which starts in November. Morris was also issued a \$250 fine and a year of probation.

"I kind of got mixed feelings out of it," Morris said. "Basically what they're saying is, during deer season you got to keep your kids indoors. You could sneeze and scare a deer off."

The Sportsman's Rights Act makes it illegal "to intentionally interfere with another person lawfully engaged in the process of hunting or catching wildlife."

Peggy Carroll, part owner of a ranch neighboring the Morris property, said the court's decision is fair. She said she hopes the noise restrictions and threat of jail

time will keep it quiet for the hunters who use her land.

But Morris' lawyer, Waxahachie attorney Mark Griffith, said he's advising his client to appeal.

"This is just unbelievable to me," Griffith said. "This is really about what rights do you have on your own property."

## Police dog attacks baby

SPLENDORA (AP) — A 4-month-old boy was being treated for bites on his torso and head after his father's police dog attacked him.

Marek Montgomery was in stable condition at a Houston hospital after the Wednesday attack.

"The baby was hurt pretty bad, but it was not life-threatening," said Greg Miller, a supervisor with Cleveland Emergency Medical Service.

The dog, a Dutch shepherd, was considered a family pet but was owned by the Splendora Police Department, investigators said. The baby's father, Kyle Montgomery, was the dog's handler.

The dog had been quarantined at a veterinary office.

The baby was in a chair in the family's front yard when the dog bit the baby and dragged him around the yard by his diaper, investigators said. The father was at work. The baby's mother hit the dog to get it to release the boy.

"We don't know what, if anything, provoked it. It's still under investigation," said Liberty County Sheriff Greg Arthur.

The parents could not be reached for comment.

## Border agents hold suspected MS-13 member

PROGRESO (AP) — A 23-year-old Salvadoran with suspected Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) gang ties and a conviction for assaulting a New York police officer was arrested Wednesday trying to re-enter the country, Customs and Border Protection officials said.

Santos Chileno-Gomez was arrested about 12:30 a.m. near the Pharr port of entry. He was one of four illegal immigrants spotted by Texas National Guard members equipped with night vision equipment.

The guard members informed Border Patrol agents, who made the arrest.

Chileno-Gomez was identified by his fingerprints as an MS-13 member.

## MOORE

Continued from Page 1A

approved by TxDOT — with concrete runways, would easily take the city into the next 20 years.

"They'll (TxDOT) fund 90 percent of the project, but they like to see the community come up with 10 percent," said Sharp. "Jim Little (director of the airpark) and the engineers got together and said, 'Instead of doing an asphalt overlay at several million dollars, we can do concrete that will last 20-

plus years for another \$1.5 million.' That means more money from TxDOT and more money from the community.

"We all pulled our heads together and came up with this proposition, which would have the city match the funds and get the runway and the taxi way improved enough so when a company comes in and asks if we can land a 737 because that's what they are painting, we can tell them yes, we can. You can land 100 of those things out here a year if you want."

Sharp said attracting businesses that provide services for larger aircraft, such as mechanical maintenance and painting, will bring a level of payroll into the community that hasn't been seen in quite some time.

"Those types of industries create \$20 and \$25 an hour jobs," said Sharp. "The kind of jobs Big Spring wants. If you know what you want in the future, which is to be able to service large aircraft because they create high paying jobs, you have to put in place the

infrastructure to get there. And I feel like that's what the board did tonight. They demonstrated a commitment to do just that."

While the project may seem like a godsend, Sharp said it will still need approval from two other agencies to ever become a reality.

"This is all contingent on the city of Big Spring and TxDOT," said Sharp. "I don't know for sure that the city will support it, but they have always been supportive for these types of projects in the

past and I feel fairly confident they will approve it. It also has to receive approval from TxDOT."

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

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Pascual Mendoza Porrás, Sr., 79, died Tuesday. Funeral Mass will be 2PM Thursday at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Interment will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

J. D. Moore, 73, died Tuesday. Graveside Services will be 11AM Monday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

## EXPO

Continued from Page 1A

"Mr. Dewhurst was going to be in town and we just saw the opportunity and asked," said ValVerde. "And he's going to be here. We're really looking forward to it. I'm looking forward to meeting him."

Dewhurst is a native Texan, businessman and rancher who serves as president of the Texas Senate and says he is proud of the broad support he has earned during his tenure as Lieutenant Governor.

And while the annual expo and luncheon are free to area producers, ValVerde said it's important to remember who is footing the bill for the half-day event.

"We ask the chamber members to be sponsors

for the luncheon," said ValVerde. "So it's paid for by our membership. It's free to all area farmers and ranchers. Al's and Sons Barbecue will be catering the event. Non producers can attend, they just have to purchase a ticket for \$10. We'll have those tickets available here at the chamber until Tuesday.

"We won't have any tickets available at the door, so we're asking anyone that wants to attend to please get their tickets

soon. Area farmers and ranchers can pick up their free tickets at State National Bank, Big Spring Farm Supply and Porter-Henderson Implement."

For more information on the expo and luncheon, contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641.

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

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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

Memory Walk  
needs all our  
money, effort

One step at a time. That's once again the way the local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is doing its part in the fight against Alzheimer's, as it makes final preparations for the annual Memory Walk on Saturday.

The vast majority of the money raised by the annual event, which includes both a 1-mile walk and a 2-mile jaunt, stays where its needed most — right here at home.

"The money we raise each year stays right here in Howard County," explained Nancy Jones, coordinator of the event for the Alzheimer's Association and a director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. "It goes to help the families that are dealing with the disease and offers them the education and group services they need. It funds the different services the Alzheimer's Association provides. A percentage of the money is also used to help fund research on the disease."

That percentage is important, because recent progress in research on Alzheimer's shows just how much can be accomplished with the money raised.

There are a lot of new drugs out that are used to treat the Alzheimer's, including different drugs for the different phases of the disease. Plus, researchers have also been able to identify some of the genetics that factor in the disease, which also promises new avenues for treatment.

Those who want to participate in the Memory Walk can sign up until the very last moment.

Some 400 people took part in the walk last year and Jones would like nothing better than to see 500 walking this year.

Late registration is set for 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Old Settler's Pavilion in Comanche Trail Park. The walk get under way at 9 a.m. sharp.

And don't worry if you feel you can't walk an entire mile or two. While many will be walking the main courses, Jones said that doesn't mean anyone has to walk any particular distance.

More importantly, you can offer a financial pledge to someone already registered to walk.

Remember, it's all for a good cause. We should give it our complete support.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we share our needs with You, Lord, through prayer.  
Amen

## A really partisan speech?

Can you imagine what would happen if President Bush truly had delivered a partisan speech on the evening of September 11? We would never hear the end of it.

Other than honoring the victims of 9/11 and their families, the most important message the president could have sent on that solemn anniversary was that he remains committed to ensuring the victims did not die in vain.

The only way the United States will lose this protracted war is if its citizenry loses the resolve to fight it. And the American left and the Democratic Party are engaged in a rhetorical war either aimed at or having the inevitable consequence of demoralizing America's will to win. President Bush, as commander in chief, has a duty to answer their destructive rhetoric and refute their misinformation so that the public does not lose its will.

The president's Democratic war critics have been up in arms over his speech because he mentioned the war on terror and Iraq and defended his policies to the American people. Is it too much to ask that as fellow Americans they applaud his efforts rather than viewing them only as damaging to their interests?

It must be, because they have reacted hysterically to his speech, suggesting that just by virtue of outlining his policies President Bush was being unacceptably political — even partisan.

Nonsense. A partisan speech would have been crafted and delivered quite differently. President Bush would not only have outlined the necessary steps he has undertaken to prosecute this glob-

al war on terror, such as the NSA terrorist surveillance program, the Patriot Act, the SWIFT financial tracking program, the data mining program to track terrorists' phone records and the multitude of other intelligence initiatives currently underway.

But he wouldn't have stopped there. He would have added, indignantly, "We are implementing a multi-pronged strategy to fight this war, but I'm sad to inform you that every step of the way, the once great Democratic Party is obstructing our efforts. This is mystifying to me, and I hate to point fingers, but unless I do our chances of succeeding will be greatly reduced because the only way we can lose is if you, the American people, decide we must terminate the mission before its successful completion."

"Let me outline the specific ways the Democrats have been obstructing our prosecution of the war. They have not only opposed every single terrorist tracking tool I referenced before, but they have persisted in wrongfully accusing me — before the entire world community, whose favorable opinion of America they profess to value above all else — of lying about Iraqi WMD, about a relationship between Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden, about conducting a unilateral foreign policy and about describing Iraq as an 'imminent threat.' They have misled the American people into believing we 'outsourced' the capture of Osama to Afghan warlords, all so that we could divert our military resources toward dethroning the unthreatening, benign regime of Saddam Hussein.

"They have also been inexplicably sympathetic to murderous terrorists held in our prisons in Guantanamo Bay, fraudulently alleging that we have authorized and conducted their systematic

torture. They want to provide full constitutional rights and Geneva protections to our enemies. And they have the audacity to lecture us about harming America's image in the world, and causing Muslims to hate us and join the global jihad against us?"

"I've tried not to respond in kind, but, folks, it is becoming increasingly difficult to prosecute this war with the barrage of self-serving distortions emanating from Democrats. So please do the responsible thing, honor the victims of September 11, help me to protect America, and throw these bums out in November."

As you know, President Bush didn't come close to such rhetoric. He merely defended his prosecution of the war. But the Democrats' response was little different than if he had delivered such a speech.

The Democrats' position, in essence, is that President Bush should not defend his war policy to the American people — even though such defense is critical to the national interest — if in any way it could be construed as criticizing Democrats. No, President Bush must not make his case to the American people because it might work to the Democrats' political detriment.

In short, President Bush should — like the Democrats — put the Democrats' partisan interests above the nation's best interests. He should let them continue to slander him, undermine the war effort, damage the national interest, regain control of congress and virtually surrender in the war.

Not gonna do it. Wouldn't be prudent.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com).

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DAVID  
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## Remembering Ann Richards

She was so generous with her responses to other people. If you told Ann Richards something really funny, she wouldn't just smile or laugh, she would stop and break up completely. She taught us all so much — she was a great campfire cook. Her wit was a constant delight. One night on the river on a canoe trip, while we all listened to the next rapid, which sounded like certain death, Ann drawled, "It sounds like every where in El Paso just flushed her john."

She knew how to deal with teenage egos: Instead of pointing out to a kid who was pouring charcoal lighter on a live fire that he was idiot, Ann said, "Honey, if you keep doing that, the fire is going to climb right back up to that can in your hand and explode and give you horrible injuries, and it will just ruin my entire weekend."

She knew what it was like to have four young children and to be so tired you cried while folding the laundry. She knew and valued Wise Women like Virginia Whitten and Helen Hadley.

At a long-ago political do at Scholz Garten in Austin, everybody who was anybody was there meetin' and greetin' at a furious pace. A group of us got the tired feet and went to lean our butts against a table at the back wall of the bar. Perched like birds in a row were Bob Bullock, then state comptroller, moi, Charles Miles, the head of Bullock's personnel department, and Ms. Ann Richards.

Bullock, 20 years in Texas politics, knew every sorry, no good son-of-a-gun in the entire state.

Some old racist judge from East Texas came up to him, "Bob, my boy, how are you?"

Bullock said, "Judge, I'd like you to meet my friends: This is Molly Ivins with the Texas Observer."

The judge peered up at me and said, "How yew, little lady?"

Bullock, "And this is Charles Miles, the head of my personnel department." Miles, who is black, stuck out his hand, and the judge got an expression on his face as though he had just stepped into a fresh cowpie. He reached out and touched Charlie's palm with one finger, while turning eagerly to the pretty, blonde, blue-eyed Ann Richards. "And who is this lovely lady?"

Ann beamed and replied, "I am Mrs. Miles."

One of the most moving memories I have of Ann is her sitting in a circle with a group of prisoners. Ann and Bullock had started a rehab program in prisons, the single most effective thing that can be done to cut recidivism (George W. Bush later destroyed the program). The governor of Texas looked at the cons and said, "My name is Ann, and I am an alcoholic."

She devoted untold hours to helping other alcoholics, and anyone who ever heard her speak at an AA convention knows how close laughter and tears can be.

I have known two politicians who completely reformed the bureaucracies they were elected to head. Bob Bullock did it by kicking ass at the comptroller's until hell wouldn't have it. Fear was his m.o. Ann Richards did it by working hard to gain the trust of the employees and then listening to what they told her. No one knows what's wrong with a bureaucracy better than the bureaucrats who work in it.

The 1990 race for governor was

one of the craziest I ever saw, with Ann representing "New Texas."

Republican nominee Claytie Williams was a perfect foil, down to his boots, making comments that could be construed as racist and sexist. Ann was the candidate of everybody else, especially for women. She represented all of us who have lived with and learned to handle good ol' boys, and she did it with laughter. The spirit of the crowd that set off from the Congress Avenue Bridge up to the Capitol the day of Ann's inauguration was so full of spirit and joy. I remember watching San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros that day with tears running down his cheeks because Chicanos were finally included.

Ann got handed a stinking mess: Damn near every state function was under court order. The prisons were so crowded, dangerous convicts were being let loose. She had a long, grinding four years and wound up fixing all of it. She always said you could get a lot done in politics if you didn't need to take credit.

But she disappointed many of her fans because she was so busy fixing what was broken, she never got to change much. The '94 election was a God, gays and guns deal. Annie had told the legislature that if they passed a right-to-carry law, she would veto it. They did, and she did. At the last minute, the NRA launched a big campaign to convince the governor that we Texas women would feel ever so much safer if we could just carry guns in our purses.

Said Annie, "Well, you know that I am not a sexist, but there is not a woman in this state who could find a gun in her handbag."

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By STEVE

The Orland

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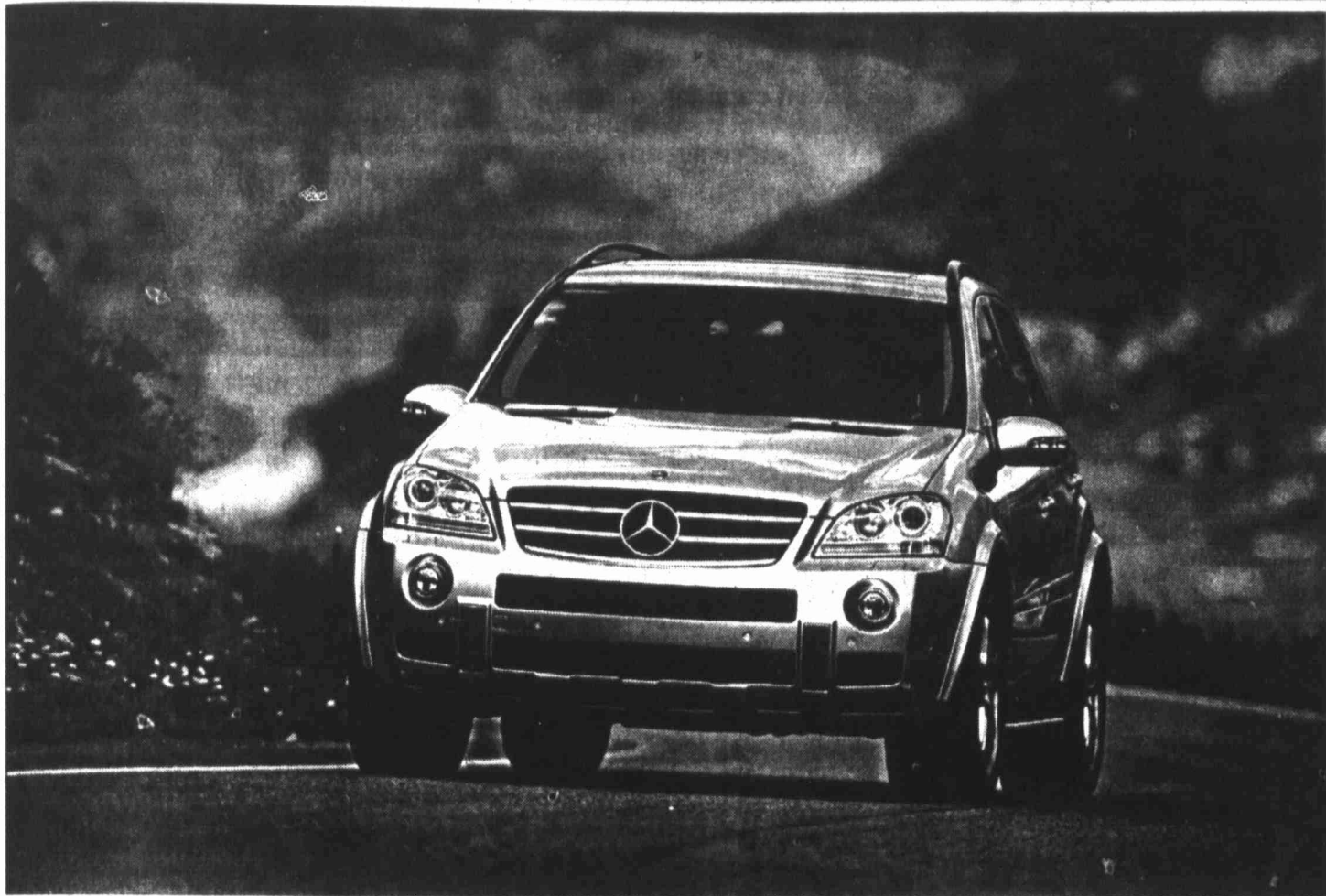
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The 2007 Mercedes-Benz ML63

# MERCEDES-BENZ'S ML63

## This SUV packs power and quality

By STEVEN COLE SMITH  
The Orlando Sentinel

We could be here all day debating the logic of an ultra-high-performance sport utility vehicle. Even enthusiasts who love fast vehicles wonder why anyone would need a super-powerful SUV.

Listen: I don't build 'em. I just write about 'em. I've written about the 420-horsepower Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT-8 and the 450-horsepower Porsche Cayenne Turbo.

But now comes — depending on your perspective — perhaps the most compelling, or the most absurd, SUV of them all: the 2007 Mercedes-Benz ML63 AMG, with a 6.3-liter, 503-horsepower V-8 engine.

How Mercedes — or more accurately, its in-house hot-rod shop, AMG — accomplished this is pretty simple: It took a 6.3-liter V-8 used in other products, such as the E63 AMG station wagon or the CLS63 AMG sedan, and jammed it under the hood of Mercedes' Alabama-built M-Class sport ute, which was redesigned in 2005. The M-Class sport ute came with either a 3.5-liter, 268-horsepower V-6 or a 5.0-liter V-8 with 302 horsepower.

Mercedes-Benz added a beefed-up seven-speed automatic transmission, big P295/40ZR-20 performance tires on alloy wheels and a specially tuned suspension that make you forget the ML63 AMG weighs a whopping 5,093 pounds and is 73.3 inches tall. That suspension, plus every electronic bell and whistle you can imagine, lets the ML63 AMG corner like a sports car, but still, the ride is more than acceptably smooth.

And to make this whole proposition even stranger, Mercedes-Benz insists that the ML63 AMG can be taken off-road, though that thought never occurred to me. Specifications list a transmission that, when you drive off-road, adapts its shift patterns to your requirements. Performance listings include a "maximum low-speed water fording depth," but that depth is "to be determined," presumably waiting for a

report from the first customer who tries it. But there just isn't much ground clearance, and there are a lot of expensive-looking aluminum suspension pieces under there, so let's just keep it on the pavement, OK?

Mercedes does, however, rate the ML63 AMG to tow 5,000 pounds, which isn't bad for a vehicle that, the company says, can go from 0 to 60 mph in 4.8 seconds.

Inside, the ML63 AMG has some of the nicest leather upholstery and burl walnut trim you have ever seen. Instruments and controls are typically means-business German, though they aren't hard to figure out. After all, this is a vehicle that was developed for an American market, and it shows in the nice cupholders, a big, illuminated two-tier glove box and zillion-watt Harmon Kardon stereo with "digital surround-sound."

For what it is, I can't fault the ML63 AMG, except for its penchant to visit gas stations, 91-octane premium, please. The quality and fit is impeccable, and the performance astounding, especially because it is accomplished without turbochargers and superchargers. BMW used to be the dominant German premium manufacturer for high-performance vehicles, but man, these past few years AMG has

**Mercedes ML63**

Base price: \$85,500.  
Price as tested: \$86,275.

EPA rating: 12 mpg city, 16 mpg highway

Details: Front-engine, all-wheel-drive SUV with a 6.3-liter, 503-horsepower V-8 engine and a seven-speed automatic transmission.

tweaked most every Mercedes product into a roster of super hot rods. You already know it doesn't come cheap, right? With shipping, the ML63 AMG costs \$86,275, about double the cost of the Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT-8, which isn't quite

as fast, but is every bit as compelling — or absurd. Your call. Your money.

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# Contract Bridge

## The Philosophical Approach

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ Q 8 4  
♥ Q J 8 7  
♦ J 9 6 4  
♣ J 2

**WEST**  
♦ J 10 9 7 5 2  
♥ 5  
♦ A K Q 10 3  
♣ 6

**EAST**  
♦ K 6 3  
♥ 4 3  
♦ 8 7 2  
♣ Q 10 9 5 4

**SOUTH**  
♦ A  
♥ A K 10 9 6 2  
♦ 5  
♣ A K 8 7 3

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ 1♣ 2♥ Pass  
6♥  
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

There is only a razor-thin edge between good play and perfect play. For example, consider this deal from a duplicate game where most of the North-South pairs got to six hearts. Unfortunately, the slam went down at most tables after West started with the K-A of diamonds. The unsuccessful declarers ruffed, drew two rounds of trumps and cashed the A-K of clubs. West

showed out, and South, who could not ruff all three of his club losers with only two trumps in dummy, had to go down one.

Several declarers made the slam by adopting a slightly better line of play. It was only a little different, but it paid off. They realized that the only real danger to the slam was a 5-1 club division, and they took a small but simple step to cater to that possibility.

They drew only one round of trumps before cashing the A-K of clubs, and this allowed them to ruff three clubs in dummy and make the slam.

It is true that by adopting this method of play, the successful declarers ran the risk of either opponent ruffing the second club lead. However, if one opponent actually had a singleton club and two trumps, the slam could not be made by any line of play, so nothing could be lost by not drawing a second round of trumps.

The best a declarer can do in such situations is to guard against whatever he can do something about, and not worry about lies of the cards he cannot protect against. One has to be philosophical in matters of this kind.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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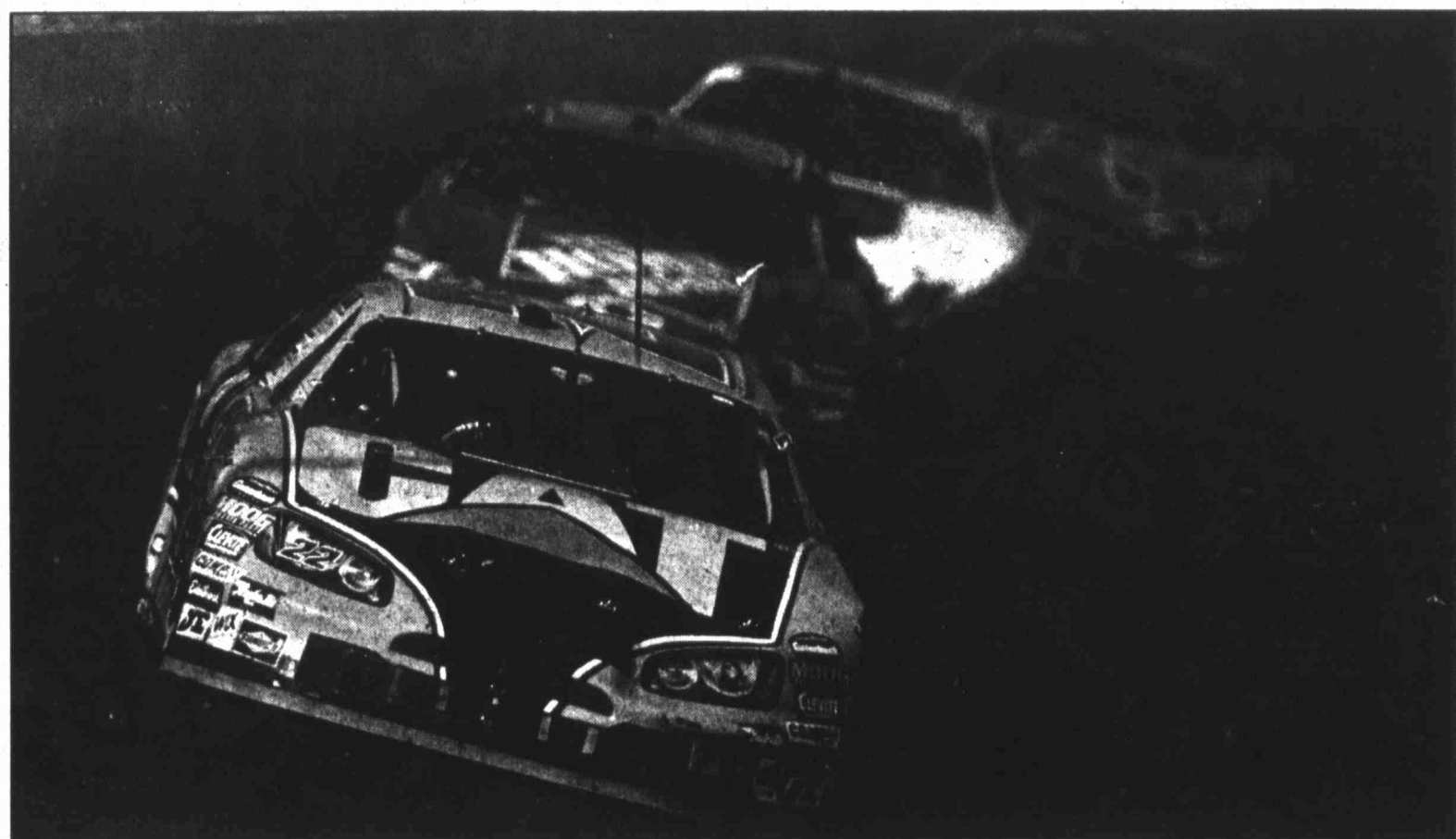
# That's Racin'

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Go online and check out [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com) for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

"It's going to be a tough nine races. It could have made it a lot easier coming out of here (with a good finish). Knowing that we've already burned up what we needed to save, we're kind of (in trouble)."

— Kyle Busch, on finishing 38th in the 2006 Sylvania 300.



Dave Blaney, who drives the No. 22 Caterpillar car for Bill Davis Racing, has had finishes of fourth and ninth place in the last two Nextel Cup races.

## Gaining ground

Recent top-10 finishes have Bill Davis Racing feeling optimistic

BY JIM UTTER  
McClatchy Newspapers

It's been a while since Bill Davis has been able to enjoy success as an owner in the Nextel Cup Series, so pardon him if he wishes to savor the past two weeks just a little longer.

Although the consecutive top-10 finishes by driver Dave Blaney have been overshadowed by the start of this season's Chase for the Nextel Cup, their significance has not been lost on Davis, who has fielded cars in NASCAR's biggest series since 1993.

"I really think we have done Dave Blaney a disservice. He is much better race car driver than we've shown the first three-quarters of the season," said Davis, who has five Cup wins as an owner, all coming with the team's former driver, Ward Burton.

"I think these last two weeks is indicative of how we should have been running all year long."

Through the season's first 25 races, Blaney's best finish in Bill Davis Racing's No. 22 Dodge was 13th at the first New Hampshire race.

He broke into the top five for the first time this year two weeks ago at Richmond, Va., when he finished fourth. Then, using the same car, he followed that with a ninth-place run last weekend at the season's second race at New Hampshire.

"I like being in really competitive race cars. I really like the team we have put together right now from top to bottom," said Blaney, 43. "The more confidence we get built in everybody the better, from the driver on down."

"Confidence is huge. My pit crew has been working great together. The cars are getting more competitive. We have really good people



Blaney, left, works with a member of his crew during a testing session in February. Blaney believes his recent top-10 finishes have boosted morale at the Bill Davis Racing shop.

in place and we should be running good in my opinion."

The newfound confidence arrives just in the nick of time as BDR prepares to enter the 2007 season as one of three teams fielding Toyota entries.

The struggles of BDR's Cup program were well documented, and BDR's two planned Toyota entries next season hardly brought a buzz during NASCAR's "silly season" — the unofficial term to describe the period when new drivers are courted or swap rides.

Eventually, BDR announced Blaney was going to remain in its No. 22 and in late summer the organization added Jeremy Mayfield to its lineup for 2007 with large fanfare.

Although BDR has had great success with its Toyota Truck teams — BDR driver Johnny Benson is tied with Mark Martin with the most wins (four) in the series this season — its Cup program has had a far more difficult time developing consistent success.

Davis is counting on Toyota's help to jumpstart his Cup program in much the same way his Truck teams have progressed. To assist in the development, Davis brought back former crew chief Tommy Baldwin as competition director this season.

"We've got a lot of confidence going into next season. This sport is all about people and having the right motivation and the right direction and that's what Tommy brings to the table," Davis said.

"He's a great motivator. He's got the shop clicking like it's supposed to be. Things are getting done right and on time and that's what it takes to be successful."

Two top-10 finishes does not translate to an invitation to the Chase, but for Davis and the rest of his organization, the performance by Blaney the past two weeks has added a spark to an otherwise lackluster season.

"Things go in cycles. Ward Burton had some great years in Bill's cars. We'll get back to that point and with Toyota's help, that's going to be huge," Blaney said. "You have to get the right people in place and then keep them there."

"I'm getting the feeling we are gaining on things at the race shop, and for all the guys at the shop, it's huge. They know they can build cars that can run up front in these races and it's just a question of putting all the pieces together once you get to the track. It's a big morale booster."

Davis hopes Mayfield has also been paying attention.

"It was a big decision for Jeremy. He probably could have gone to more established places," Davis said. "I guess we've been around as long as anybody but it's been a while since we've had success and we certainly plan on having more of it in the future."

won in June. Last week: 1.

3. Denny Hamlin (car No. 11): The tension between Hamlin and Harvick is fun and games for now, but keep an eye on that. Last week: 5.

4. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): Dover's big for this team. It won there last fall and every point counts after last week. Last week: 3.

5. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): He'll take the third he got Sunday, multiply

by 10 and take his chances in the Chase. Last week: 7.

6. Kyle Busch (car No. 5): Not ready to write this team off just yet, but somebody's going to finish 10th in the Chase. Last week: 4.

7. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): Liked his spirit after late fade at New Hampshire. There's a lot of fight left in this team this year. Last week: 6.

8. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): The minimum points money for 11th is \$1 million but there is no \$1 million

"bonus." Last week: 11.

9. Jeff Burton (car No. 31): Really upset he let two positions get away late Sunday. His team had little margin for error. Last week: 10.

10. Mark Martin (car No. 6): Like Busch, Johnson and maybe a couple of others, Martin needs big points at Dover. Last week: 9.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com).

### RANKINGS

#### THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29): And to think six months ago everybody was sure Harvick was heading into a Toyota. Last week: 2.

2. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Persevered at New Hampshire, looking for better luck at Dover, where he

## Harvick regains swagger after a tough 2005 season

Kevin Harvick has spent the better part of his NASCAR career treading up against that fine line between confident and cocky.

In fact, after he took over in Nextel Cup for Richard Childress Racing in 2001 under impossible circumstances after the death of Dale Earnhardt, for a while, his youthful exuberance often lured him to the wrong side of that demarcation.

But he backed it up on the track, winning the Busch Series championship and doing an admirable job in the Cup car to earn the Richard Petty Driver of the Year Award from the National Motorsports Press Association.

"I have been on the arrogant side of it and the cocky side of it," Harvick admitted Sunday after winning the Sylvania 300 at New Hampshire International Speedway and taking the lead in the Chase for the Nextel Cup. "I know that you don't want to stick your foot in your

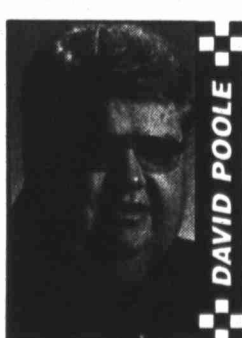
mouth. "Maybe at the end of the year I can be a little bit proud of what (I've) done. But we don't want to fall on our face."

The relevant term in this discussion is "swagger."

Swagger, best defined, is an air of invincibility. When it is projected from a team or athlete on a roll, it is immensely compelling. Think of Tiger Woods at a major golf championship. Duke basketball. Bob Gibson on the pitcher's mound (if you're not at least my age, ask your dad). Any truly great NFL quarterback.

For a generation, Indiana basketball fans believed Bob Knight was an acceptably intense genius.

He had swagger. Most everyone else saw Knight as a jerk.



DAVID POOLE

Harvick might have come across similarly to some, especially during the past couple of years, when racing has been more of a struggle than it seemed at first for him.

Harvick was fifth in the final standings in 2003, his third year in Cup, but in each of the past two he's finished 14th and missed the Chase. He also won just one time in those two seasons combined.

There's no question Harvick's No. 29 Chevrolet team at RCR has improved every aspect of its program this year. He has four victories and 12 top-five finishes this year after having eight total in 2004 and 2005.

There's also no question Harvick's bravado, along with the stresses that tug and pull and jerk on a NASCAR team when it's not running well, nearly tore his team apart.

Harvick spent the early part of this

season deciding he wanted to stay right where he has always been in NASCAR's top series, passing on the opportunity to jump to one of the new Toyota teams coming in next year and on other potential deals.

With that decision made, and with a corner apparently turned in what was a long fight to get RCR back into the sport's competitive mainstream, clearly now more things are pulling Harvick's team together than prying it apart.

The result? Two straight Cup victories, first place in the Chase and a commanding lead in the Busch Series standings.

The Chase is still anyone's game. Right now, though, Harvick and crew chief Todd Berrier have momentum and plenty of recent success to build upon. Most importantly, they have begun to believe they're just as capable as anybody of winning it all.

That makes them dangerous.

### THIS WEEK'S RACE

#### DOVER 400

Where: Dover International Speedway, a highly banked concrete 1-mile oval located in Dover, Del.

When: Sunday at 12:30 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.

TV: TNT.

Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$5,028,146.

Worth mentioning: Ryan Newman (2003), Jimmie Johnson (2002) and Tony Stewart (2000) each swept both races at Dover. There have been nine sweeps at Dover since twice-a-year racing began there in 1971.

Jeff Gordon has led 2,198 laps at Dover — the most of all active drivers, leading in 17 of his 27 races.

### POLL POSITION

#### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Kyle Busch and Jimmie Johnson ran into trouble — or trouble ran into them — last weekend and put them in a hole in Chase points. Can they rebound and contend for the championship over the next nine races?

Cast your vote at: [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com)

#### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Two of NASCAR's biggest box-office draws, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jeff Gordon, are in the playoffs this season. Which will have the better finish when it's all over?

Number of votes: 8,272

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
Dale Earnhardt Jr.	4,245	51%
Jeff Gordon	4,027	49%

### STOP 'N' GO

#### WHO'S HOT

■ Kevin Harvick: So hot he probably glows in the dark.

■ Denny Hamlin: Suddenly a championship doesn't seem out of reach for the rookie.

#### WHO'S NOT

■ Jimmie Johnson: Going to have to earn his first championship the hard way — playing catchup.

■ Joe Nemechek: "I'll take 'Drivers who can't buy a break' for \$100 please, Alex."

#### RANDOM THOUGHTS

■ NASCAR seems to be seriously cracking down on driver retaliation. In the past two race weekends, one Nextel Cup driver, one Busch East driver and one Truck series driver have been parked during races for retaliating. Keep up the good work.

■ ChampCar World Series driver A.J. Allmendinger's debut in the Truck series was both eventful and successful. He wrecked during qualifying, but then drove a backup truck he hadn't turn a lap in to a 13th-place finish. Impressive.

— Jim Utter

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Sept. 17:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	5230	21. Scott Riggs	2781
2. Denny Hamlin	5195	22. Fred Sorenson	2722
3. Matt Kenseth	5189	23. Martin Truex Jr.	2633
4. Jeff Gordon	5180	24. Dale Jarrett	2551
5. Jeff Burton	5166	25. Bobby Gordon	2523
6. Mark Martin	5155	26. J.J. Yeley	2490
7. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	5149	27. Bobby Labonte	2481
8. Casey Kahne	5120	28. Dave Blaney	2449
9. Jimmie Johnson	5091	29. Ken Schrader	2353
10. Kyle Busch	5084	30. Jeff Green	2307
11. Tony Stewart	3473	31. Joe Nemechek	2251
12. Greg Biffle	3160	32. Sterling Marlin	2130
13. Carl Edwards	3120	33. Kyle Petty	2075
14. Kurt Busch	2934	34. David Stremme	1985
15. Casey Mears	2915	35. Travis Kvapil	1847
16. Ryan Newman	2880	36. Michael Waltrip	1842
17. Clint Bowyer	2846	37. Tony Raines	1691
18. Brian Vickers	2834	38. Jeremy Mayfield	1647
19. Jamie McMurray	2798	39. Scott Wimmer	1630
20. Elliott Sadler	2789	40. Kevin Lepage	1226

#### BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of Sept. 8:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	4480	11. Jason Leffler	2923
2. Carl Edwards	3841	12. Kenny Wallace	2906
3. Denny Hamlin	3801	13. John Andretti	2895
4. Clint Bowyer	3615	14. Jon Wood	2754
5. J.J. Yeley	3568	15. Ashton Lewis	2703
6. Paul Menard	3357	16. Burney Lamar	2615
7. Kyle Busch	3237	17. Stacy Compton	2613
8. Greg Biffle	3190	18. David Green	2573
9. Johnny Sauter	3003	19. Danny O'Quinn Jr.	2563
10. Fred Sorenson	2936	20. Todd Kuever	2523

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Dover 200, Dover, Del.

#### TRUCK POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of Sept. 16:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Todd Bodine	2764	6. Tad Muesgraves	2450
2. Johnny Benson	2690	7. Ron Hornaday	2371
3. David Reutimann	2521	8. Jack Sprague	2365
4. Rick Crawford	2466	9. Terry Cook	2345
5. David Starr	2450	10. Mike Bliss	2318

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Smith's Las Vegas 350, Las Vegas

# Bush plan easing road-building limits in national forests overturned

By **TERENCE CHEA**

Associated Press Writer  
SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge on Wednesday reinstated the "Roadless Rule," a Clinton-era ban on road construction in nearly a third of national forests. U.S. District Judge Elizabeth Laporte ruled that the Bush administration failed to conduct nec-

essary environmental studies before making changes that allowed states to decide how to manage individual national forests. The 2001 rule prohibits logging, mining and other development on 58.5 million acres in 38 states and Puerto Rico, but the Bush administration replaced it in May 2005 with a process that required gov-

ernors to petition the federal government to protect national forests in their states. Laporte sided with 20 environmental groups and four states — California, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington — that sued the U.S. Forest Service over the changes. "This is fantastic news for millions of Americans

who have consistently told the Forest Service that they wanted these last wild areas of public land protected," said Kristen Boyles, an attorney for Earthjustice, which represented the environmental groups. The Bush administration was reviewing the ruling to decide on an appeal, said Dave Tenny, deputy undersecretary for

the Department of Agriculture, which oversees the Forest Service. Representatives of the timber industry denounced the decision, saying it would leave roadless areas vulnerable to catastrophic wildfires because firefighters could not access blazes in remote forests. Chris West, vice president of the Portland-based

American Forest Industry Council, said states should be allowed to decide how best to manage and protect their forests. West said, "This lawsuit and this decision is all about politics." Despite the judge's ruling, logging would likely continue in two regions of Oregon where timber sales were approved after the rule was changed.

# Investigators focus on nine California farms in hunt for source of outbreak

By **KASIE HUNT**

Associated Press Writer  
WASHINGTON — Health authorities hunting the source of a nationwide E. coli outbreak are focusing on nine California farms after discovering what could be a crucial clue: an opened bag of spinach left in the refrigerator of someone sickened by the bacteria. The bag of tainted Dole baby spinach is the "smoking gun" that has allowed investigators to zero in on three counties in California's greater Salinas Valley, said Dr. Mark Horton, the state public health officer. Authorities also were checking processing plants, Horton said.

said Dr. David Acheson of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. "There are others in the works." New Mexico Department of Health officials confirmed the tainted bag of spinach was found after a person who ate some of the leafy greens became one of 146 people in 23 states sickened by the outbreak. One person has died. The spinach tested positive for the same strain of E. coli linked to the outbreak, Acheson said. Dole is one of the brands of spinach recalled Friday by Natural Selection Foods LLC of San Juan Bautista, Calif.

The tainted greens — conventionally grown spinach and not organic — came from one of the farms that supplies spinach to Natural Selection, said Samantha Cabaluna, spokeswoman for Natural Selection. Government and industry officials were working on how to allow spinach grown elsewhere back on the market, Acheson said. New Jersey Democratic Sens. Robert Menendez and Frank R. Lautenberg urged the FDA to assure

the public spinach grown in their state was safe. "As the nation's fourth-largest spinach producer, spinach farming is a multimillion-dollar industry for the Garden State," Menendez said. "That is why we are imploring the FDA to move quickly in identifying the source of the infected spinach." Investigators began visiting farms in the Salinas Valley on Tuesday, seeking signs of past flooding or cases in which contaminated surface areas had come into contact with crops. They also were looking for potential sources of bacteria inside packing plants. California produces 74 percent of the nation's fresh spinach crop. The Salinas Valley accounts for roughly three-quarters of the state's share, and it has been the focus of the investigation. The area has links to both Natural Selection Foods and a second company that also recalled fresh spinach products, River Ranch Fresh Foods of Salinas. A third company, RLB Food Distributors of West Caldwell, N.J., has recalled Balducci's and FreshPro brand spinach

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# Filling the doughnut hole expensive for senior citizens, Democrats report

By **KEVIN FREKING**

Associated Press Writer  
WASHINGTON — Most seniors and the disabled selected Medicare drug plans with a significant gap in coverage and Democratic lawmakers say that's because bridging it would have cost them, on average, nearly \$40 a month more. Contending that's far too much money, Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee were issuing a report Thursday estimating that 88 percent of

Medicare beneficiaries with stand-alone coverage opted for plans with a coverage gap. Scores of people upset about the gap, nicknamed the "doughnut hole," have called Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz. The Florida Democrat recalled during a news conference Wednesday the experience of one constituent. "She takes Nexium for her acid reflux, and the short-term solution for her is that she had to ask her siblings for hand-outs," Wasserman Schultz said. "That's the reality of

one individual's life who fell into the doughnut hole." Under the standard Medicare plan, the government subsidizes the drug costs for seniors and the disabled. But after costs reach \$2,250, the subsidy stops until a beneficiary has paid out \$3,600 of his or her own money. Then, the government will start picking up 95 percent of each purchase. Beneficiaries qualifying for a low-income subsidy are not included in the Democrats' estimate.

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THURSDAY

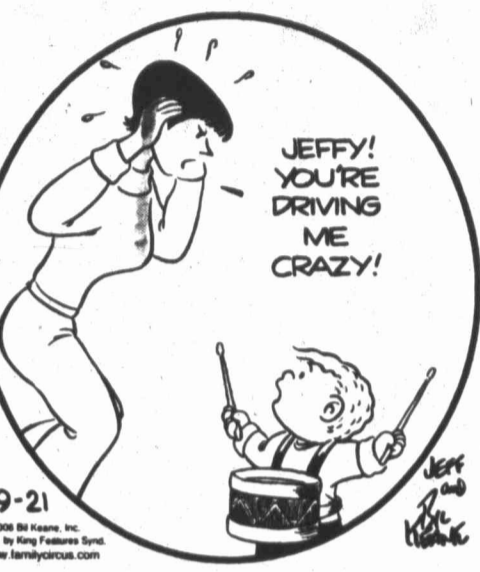
	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (64)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Science Fic.
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	La Fea Mas Bella	King of the Hill The Simpsons	Survivor: Cook Islands (CC)	Pro-Game	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lesher	48 Hours: Hard Evidence	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Without a Trace (CC)	Live (CC) Black Carpet	Phil of Future That's-Raven	MLB Baseball: Teams to Be	College	Movie: It Walks (CC)
7	Gray's Anatomy	Gray's Anatomy	Latin Grammy Celebra	Til Death Do Us Part	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Futbol Americano	Name Is Earl The Office	Friends (CC) MLB Baseball	Update/Israel Sid Roth	TX Mrshy Talk TX Mrshy Talk	A Haunting (CC)	Movie: Hard to Kill	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers The Parkers	Movie: Kill Bill: Again (CC)	Announced	Football: Virginia at Georgia Tech (CC)	Movie: Sasquatch Mountain
8	Gray's Anatomy	Gray's Anatomy	Nuestra Musica	Celebrity Duets (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Shark (CC)	ER (CC)	Rockies (CC)	Light of the Southwest	American Masters (CC)	A Haunting	UFC Unleashed	The Ultimate Fighter	10 Movie: Kill Bill: Vol. 2	Comicview (CC)	Lile Derek Phil of Future	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	Movie: Aberration (CC)
9	Six Degrees (CC)	Six Degrees (CC)	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Not-Telemundo Titulares y Mas	News-Tonight Show	Raymond	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	The Real Miami Cops	Sign Off	A Haunting (CC)	Movie: Red	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Zack & Cody Phil of Future	Quite Frankly With Smith	Baseball NFL Live	Movie: Twilight Zone
10	News (CC)	News Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Fieca	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Late Night: Laura (AI Rojo Vivo)	Late Night: Conan O'Brien Core Rhythms	Madness	Update/Israel Booker	A Haunting	Corner	UFC 63 Countdown	BET After Dark (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister	Summer House	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone	
11	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids Malcolm-Mid.	The Insider	Pagado													
12	News (CC)	Apex Media																	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MR. WILSON SAYS HE USED TO WALK TWO MILES TO SCHOOL WHEN HE WAS A KID. I GUESS THAT'S WHY HE'S SO TIRED NOW."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I thought Billy already drove you there yesterday!"

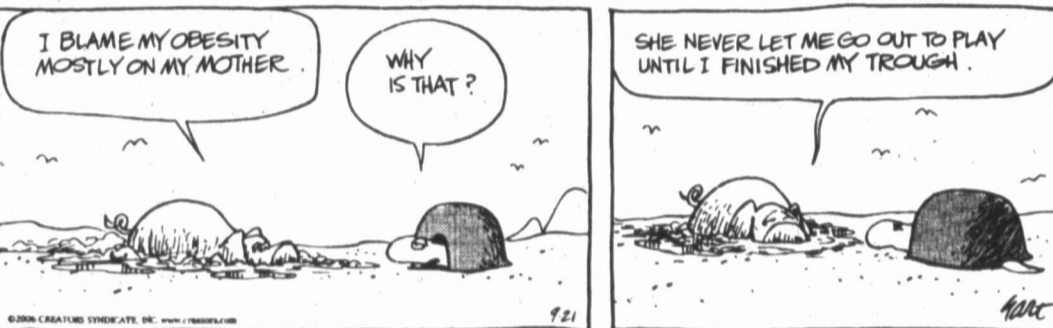
HAGAR



BLONDIE



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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



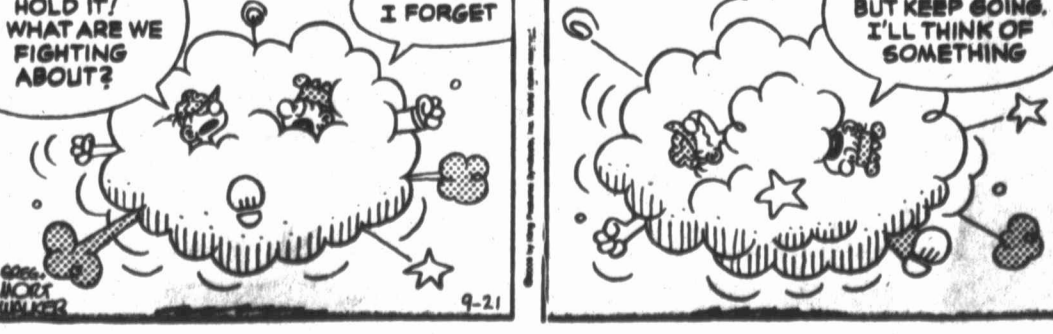
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 21, the 264th day of 2006. There are 101 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On Sept. 21, 1938, a hurricane struck parts of New York and New England, causing widespread damage and claiming some 700 lives.

**On this date:**  
In 1792, the French National Convention voted to abolish the monarchy.  
In 1897, the New York Sun ran its famous editorial that declared, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."  
In 1937, "The Hobbit," by J.R.R. Tolkien, was first published.  
In 1964, Malta gained independence from Britain.  
In 1973, the U.S. Senate confirmed Henry Kissinger to be Secretary of State.  
In 1976, Orlando Letelier, one-time foreign minister to Chilean President Salvador Allende, was killed when a bomb exploded in his car in Washington, D.C.

In 1981, the Senate unanimously confirmed the nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor to become the first female justice on the Supreme Court.

In 1989, Hurricane Hugo, packing winds of up to 135 mph, crashed into Charleston, S.C.

Five years ago: Congress again opened the federal coffers to those harmed by terrorism, providing \$15 billion to the airline industry, which was suffering mounting economic losses since the Sept. 11 attacks.

One year ago: Japan's Parliament re-elected Junichiro Koizumi prime minister.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Larry Hagman is 75. Poet-songwriter Leonard Cohen is 72. Actor-comedian Henry Gibson is 71. Author-comedian Fannie Flagg is 62. Author Stephen King is 59. Producer Jerry Bruckheimer is 59. Musician Don Felder (The Eagles) is 59. Actor-comedian Bill Murray is 56. Rock musician Philthy Animal is 52. Movie producer-writer Ethan Coen is 49. Actor-comedian Dave Coulier is 47. Actor David James Elliott is 46. Actress Nancy Travis is 45. Actor Rob Morrow is 44. Country singer Faith Hill is 39. Rock musician Tyler Stewart (Barenaked Ladies) is 39. Actress-talk show host Ricki Lake is 38. Rapper Dave (De La Soul) is 38. Actor Alfonso Ribeiro is 35. Actor Luke Wilson is 35. TV personality Nicole Richie is 25. Actress Maggie Grace is 23. Actor Joseph Mazzello is 23. Actors Nikolas and Lorenzo Brino ("7th Heaven") are 8.

**Thought for Today:** "The very idea that there is another idea is something gained."  
— Richard Jefferies, English author (1848-1887).

Answer to previous puzzle

W	A	S	P	S	M	A	M	A	S	O	N	E
I	N	P	U	T	A	M	U	S	E	R	O	M
S	N	A	R	E	R	A	S	T	A	I	M	P
P	A	S	S	I	N	G	S	H	O	T	O	A
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U	P	R	I	S	E	R	C	O	N	S		
S	O	O	T	I	N	C	A	P	A	B	L	E
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A	I	R										
T	E	A										
E	L	F										
D	D	T										

Newsday Crossword

DO YOUR CHORES by Harriet Clifton  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 From the US
  - 5 Nordstrom competitor
  - 9 Ranchero's rope
  - 14 Just tolerable
  - 15 Skillet lubricant
  - 16 Conclude
  - 17 Wall Street options
  - 18 Gallery display, perhaps
  - 19 Call
  - 20 Household chore
  - 23 Tonsils neighbors
  - 24 Pen point
  - 25 Rheims refusal
  - 26 Curmudgeonly
  - 30 Household chore
  - 34 "The Gold Bug" author
  - 35 Second Bull Run victor
  - 36 Receipt line
  - 37 Household chore
  - 44 Contract stipulations
  - 45 Shaq's sch.
  - 46 Shaq's pos.
  - 47 Workshop machine
  - 52 Household chore
  - 55 Kitchen herb
  - 56 Horse color
  - 57 instant
  - 58 The Tempest character
  - 59 Et (and others: Lat.)
  - 60 Big Apple force: Abbr.
- DOWN**
- 1 Pet protection org.
  - 2 Penicillin source, in Sussex
  - 3 Lauder of lipstick
  - 4 Actress Arquette
  - 5 Going it alone
  - 6 Not sotto voce
  - 7 Um odist
  - 8 Air or number
  - 9 Impress further?
  - 10 Call home
  - 11 "It shouldn't happen to"
  - 12 Air or number
  - 13 Big galoot
  - 21 When both hands are up
  - 22 Author Seton
  - 26 Staff header
  - 27 Quote
  - 28 Smell (be leery)
  - 29 Kevin, in Superman Returns
  - 30 Spiral shape
  - 31 Numerical prefix
  - 32 Lodge brothers
  - 33 Tina of SNL
  - 34 Sgt.'s subordinate
  - 38 More fortunate
  - 39 Parsons or Getty
  - 40 Sol starter
  - 41 Greece neighbor
  - 42 Exploiter
  - 43 Cutting back on
  - 47 Took illegally
  - 48 One more time
  - 49 Casio rival
  - 50 Visibly stunned
  - 51 Proceeds on one's way
  - 52 Sharp-tasting
  - 53 Minor (Turkey's region)
  - 54 Russian river
  - 55 Undergrad degs.



### IN BRIEF

#### Quarterback Club meeting is Monday

Big Spring High School's Quarterback Club will meet at 7 p.m. Mondays at the BSHS Athletic Training Center.

Mark Tissue, the booster club's president, encourages all parents of BSHS football players and fans of the Steers to attend.

For more information, call Tissue at 816-3458.

#### Hunter education course Saturday

A hunter education course will be offered beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce building.

Cost for the two-day course is \$15 per person. If you were born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, you must successfully complete a hunter education course to be licensed in the state of Texas.

Students must be 12 years of age or older to be certified. Those under 17 years of age must have their registration signed by a parent or guardian.

Certification is good in all 50 states.

For more information, or to register, contact Steve Poitevint at 264-7033 during the evening hours.

#### Junior Tennis League continues

A free Junior Tennis League continues at the Figure 7 Tennis Center.

The league, open to players ages 8 through 12, is held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Players should bring their own racquet, or one will be provided when available.

#### Stanton club to host scramble

STANTON — Phoenix Country Club in Stanton will host its Friday Night Golf Scramble beginning at 8 p.m. Friday at the club.

Entry fee is \$25 per person.

For more information, call 756-2556.

## Friday Night Lineup

Big Spring at Abilene Wylie, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma, open

Forsan, open

Stanton, open

Abilene

Christian at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.

Sands at Loop, 7:30 p.m.

Trent at Grady, 7:30 p.m.

# Steers expect to get physical against Wylie

By MIKE GRIMES  
Sports Editor

Big Spring quarterback Raul Aguilar had some great passing stats against Hereford last week. His head coach doesn't want a repeat performance.

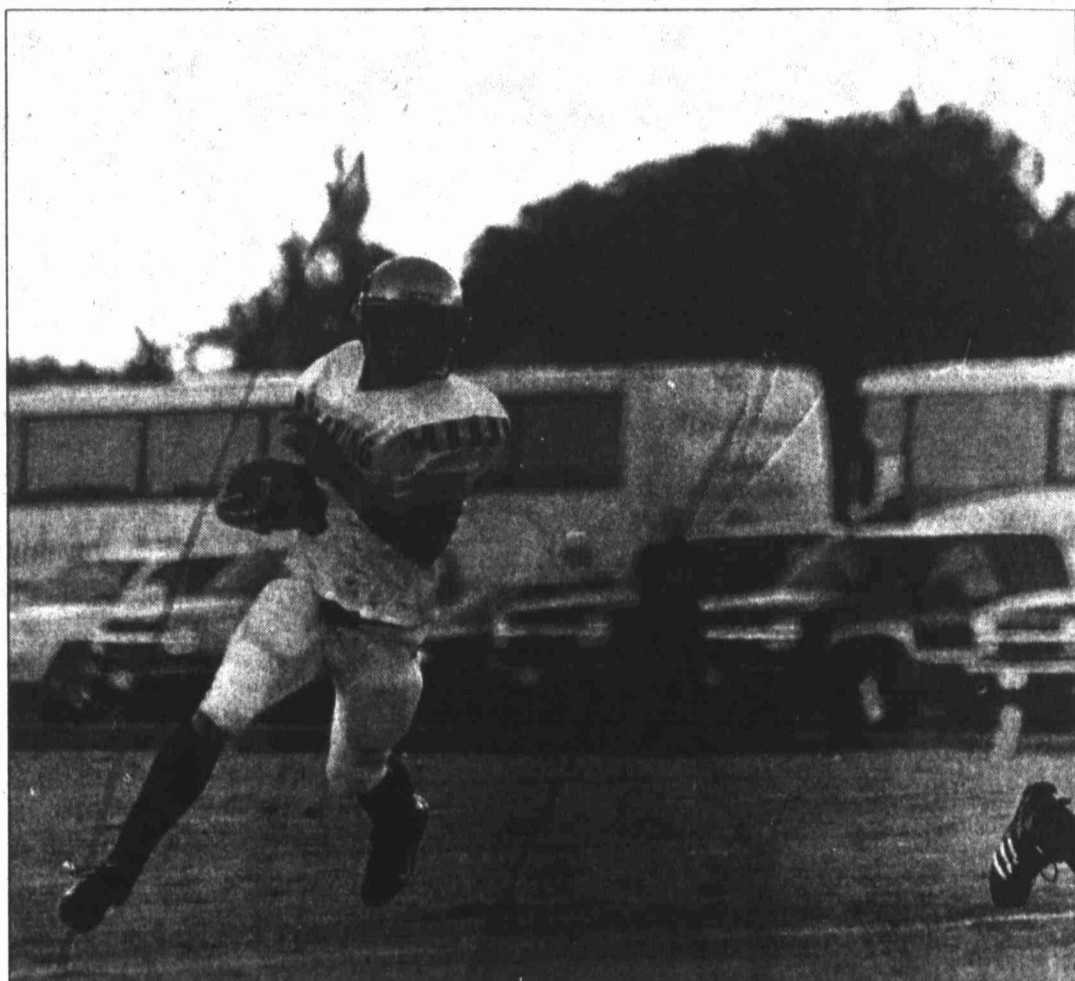
Friday night, the Steers will travel to Abilene Wylie (2-1) to take on the Bulldogs in what coaches and players expect to be a very physical contest.

"We are going to have to continue to get the running game going and that is what I have stressed all week," Coach Holt said after practice. "This is a very physical football team we are scheduled to play and we're going to have to match them up

front. We had a great practice on Monday and another one on Tuesday. This week we have spent a lot of time working on our offensive line calls, our foot work, and on proper helmet placing when we run our sweeps."

Aguilar, starting at QB for the second consecutive week because of Ryan Tannehill's shoulder injury, expects to play a different style this week. After throwing for more than 300 yards and 5 touchdowns in last week's loss, the quarterback said that they are expecting to see sophomore tailback Giorgio Taylor step up and lead

See STEERS page 2B



Sophomore tailback Giorgio Taylor looks to turn the corner and head to the end zone during last week's game vs. Hereford. Friday night Taylor and the Steers will visit Abilene Wylie.

# Clemens returns in Astros' victory

By CHRIS DUNCAN  
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros' fans gave Roger Clemens a warm send-off after the Rocket delivered one more performance to remember.

Clemens pitched six scoreless innings in his final home start of the season for win No. 348 to lead the Houston Astros to a 7-2 win over the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday.

The 44-year-old Clemens will have two more scheduled starts this season - and possibly forever - at Philadelphia on Monday and at Atlanta on Sept. 30.

Clemens won't say what he'll do beyond that.

"It's definitely a challenge physically and mentally every year," he said. "If I commit to come back and play, I want to be able to perform."

"I don't know what tomorrow brings - but if this is it, I've really enjoyed it."

The seven-time Cy Young winner is sure about one thing - if he ever starts to feel like he

can no longer dominate, that's when he'll retire for good.

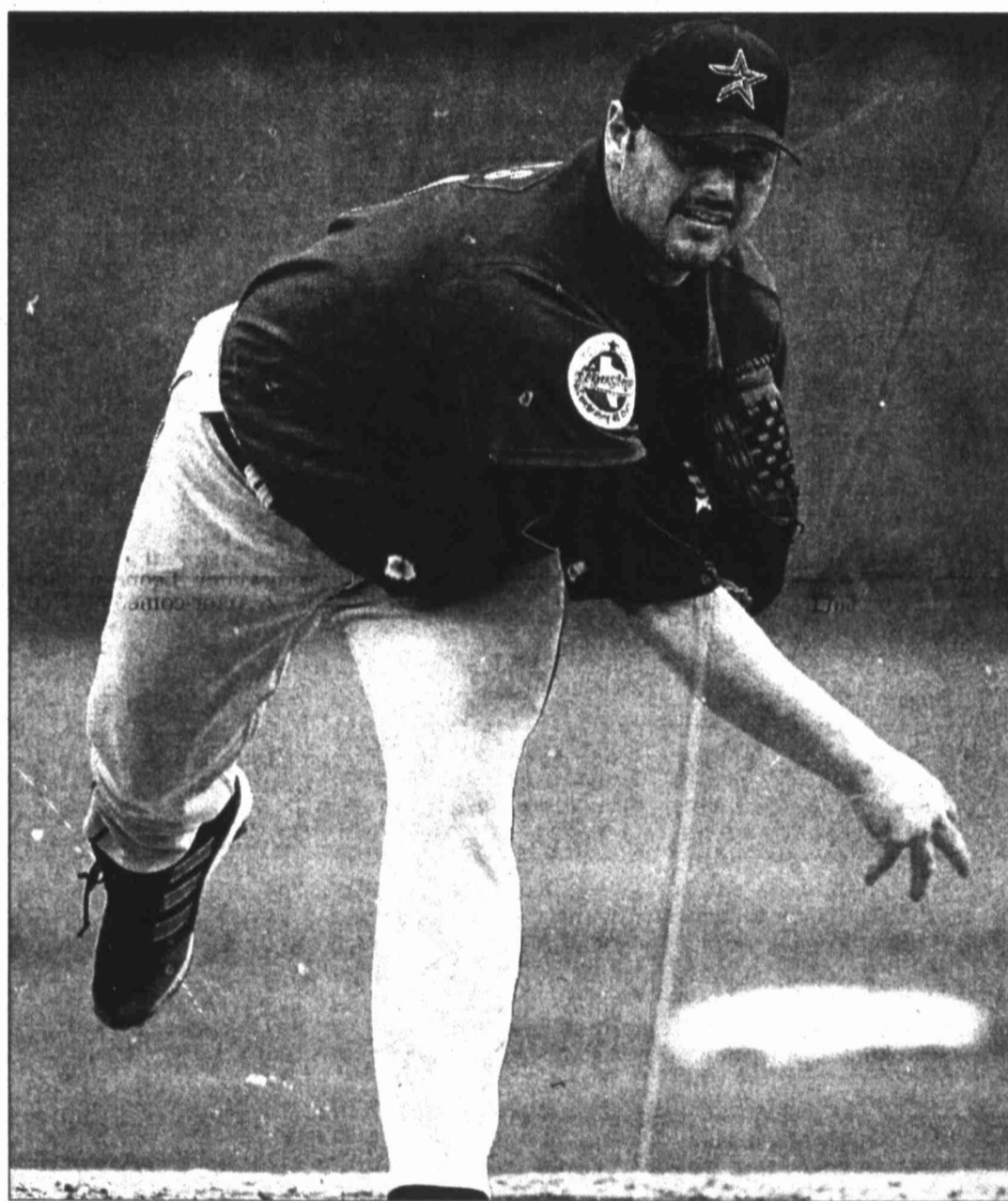
"I can't handle being average," said Clemens, who lowered his 2006 ERA to 2.37. "I guess there's a time when you know and I thought that was three years ago. But I had to come back and really challenge myself to get it done."

Luke Scott had a three-run triple and a solo homer and Craig Biggio hit a three-run homer as the Astros won for just the third time in 10 games, a slide that has left them with fading hopes in the wild-card race. The Astros were 6 1/2 games behind the wild-card leaders coming into the game.

Clemens (7-5) struck out six and allowed three hits with three walks. He did not yield an earned run for the fourth time this season and allowed fewer than three for the 15th time in 17 starts.

Before he threw his first pitch, catcher Brad Ausmus met him at the

See CLEMENS page, 2B



Houston Astros' Roger Clemens shown in this file photo, returns to action after a lengthy absence when the Astros faced the Cincinnati Reds Wednesday night.

# Ryder Cup rained out; Americans still lose

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

STRAFFAN, Ireland—There are times when the Americans just can't win, such as the Ryder Cup.

And sometimes, they don't even have to wait for the matches to get under way.

The weather turned so nasty Wednesday morning, with 40 mph gusts that toppled a few trees and brought the rain sideways, that The K Club was closed to the public for nearly three hours. U.S. captain Tom Lehman sent his players back to bed, and only later did both teams believe it best to play for thousands of spectators who eventually got onto the course.

But it was no time to take golf seriously, not with the wind blowing the ball all over the place.

Lehman fulfilled a prediction he made in February by creating what was believed to be the first "twelvesome" game in Ryder Cup history, his entire team playing nine holes on a gray, miserable afternoon.

But there was a twist.

They worked on their short game, starting each hole from about 120 yards away. The gallery wasn't aware of this, so

when Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and the rest of the Americans walked from the fourth green, past the fifth tee and kept marching down the middle of the fairway, the Ryder Cup got its first dose of booing.

"You don't give a damn about Ireland's public," shouted one man behind the tee, and hundreds of others nodded.

Another man asked Jim Furyk to stop for a picture. He walked over to man's wife, put his arm on her shoulder and posed with a smile.

Walking back toward the fairway, Furyk said, "I guess we're just the ugly Americans."

Lehman later asked for a mulligan.

He realized his squad should have performed at least on the first tee, where the grandstands were packed with people. And when he caught up with his team on the seventh hole, he told them to tee off on No. 9, the only drives they hit all day.

"We walk down the first hole to about 120 yards short of the green and started from there, and kind of left everybody sitting in the stands by the first tee waiting," Lehman said. "That was a mistake. We should have hit a tee shot at least on the first

hole. To all of those fans left waiting, I apologize. That was my mistake."

There's always something at the Ryder Cup.

Woods riled the English fans at The Belfry four years ago when captain Curtis Strange allowed him to practice at 6 a.m., as he normally does, finishing about the time fans were just showing up.

Last time outside Detroit, the Americans were criticized by their own gallery for not signing autographs during the practice rounds. There was a policy against autographs, which the Europeans gladly violated with hopes of winning favor on foreign soil, and it worked.

Lehman's apology was sincere, but he had no regrets about what unfolded on The K Club.

Furyk recently described the Americans as looking "constipated" when they get to the Ryder Cup, but not on this day. Asked to describe what kind of game it was, Scott Verplank replied, "Fun."

It was quite a scene, the 12 Americans and their caddies on the same green, all dressed in black rain suits (an appropriate color).

Each player put \$100 into the

pot on each hole, and formed teams for an alternate-shot match that started within about pitching wedge range except on the par 3s. In case of a tie, there was a chip-off on each hole to determine the winner.

Verplank and David Toms were formidable, although don't read too much into that pairing.

Verplank won a chip-off on the third by pitching from a knoll beyond the green, over a bunker to within a foot. On the next hole, the par-5 fourth, the players started from 240 yards away, and Woods, Furyk and Brett Wetterich were the only players to reach in two. No matter: Toms chipped in for eagle and the other guys missed their putts.

The drama came at the par-4 seventh, a peninsula green.

Not only did Lehman have them stop short of the pond, they had to skip the ball off the water and over the rocks rimming the green, similar to a tradition during practice at the Masters.

Verplank hit a masterful shot that skipped off the water, over the rocks and banged hard enough into the slight slope that it rolled about 20 feet away from the pin. J.J. Henry and Zach

See RYDER, page 2B

12 13  
28 29  
50 51  
9/21/06

# Armstrong to try hand at marathons

By BEN WALKER  
AP National Writer

NEW YORK—Right around the corner from Trump Tower, Lance Armstrong jogged across Madison Avenue during rush hour, dodging a police motorcade speeding to the United Nations, a bicyclist delivering Chinese takeout and two women in heels scrambling for the bus.

A crowded, hectic setting in midtown Manhattan, much like what he'll see in 6 1/2 weeks when he runs his first New York City Marathon. He thinks he can finish within one hour of the winner, and has done 6 1/2-minute miles in training.

But for all 26.2 miles? "It's been harder physically than I expected," the seven-time Tour de France winner said Wednesday. "Just the pounding. The aches and

pains associated with running. My hips, joints. Running is an impact sport, certainly as opposed to cycling."

"The longest run I've done, I think is 13," he said. "I better do a longer one soon. Probably not a bad idea."

The Nov. 5 race will certainly help Armstrong raise awareness and money for his foundation and cancer research. It will come a month after an important date in his life: Oct. 2 will mark 10 years since he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Armstrong is ready for something that will last well past the marathon questions about whether he ever used performance-enhancing drugs.

"I've sort of prepared myself to deal with it for a long time," he said.

And could he envision a time when people will

stop asking?

"Probably not," he said.

Drug use has been a hot-button issue in all sports, especially cycling of late. Recent Tour de France winner Floyd Landis tested positive for elevated testosterone and suspended American cyclist Tyler Hamilton is facing a new doping investigation.

Last week, Frankie Andreu and another former Armstrong teammate who spoke on condition of anonymity told The New York Times they used an endurance-booster before the 1999 Tour de France, the first of Armstrong's seven victories. Neither rider tested positive and both said they never saw Armstrong take any illegal substance.

Armstrong, who's often said he's the most tested athlete in the world, has never tested positive for drugs. Before he retired from cycling, he was sub-

ject to tests at any time - his manager said testing officials once showed up at the home of Armstrong's then-girlfriend, Sheryl Crow.

"I get lumped in with all of the stuff that happened," Armstrong said. "I mean, if something happens with Marion Jones or Barry Bonds or Floyd Landis or Tyler Hamilton, I get lumped into that."

Bonds, closing in on Hank Aaron's career home run record, has repeatedly denied taking steroids. A federal grand jury is looking into whether Bonds lied to another grand jury that was investigating the Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative.

"I have to say I understand what he's going through," Armstrong said. "I think there's probably more of an association."

# Defense still problem area for winless Texans

By KRISTIE RIEKEN  
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Houston Texans said they were putting a premium on defense when they took defensive end Mario Williams with the first pick in the draft. They also chose defensive tackle Travis Johnson in the first round last year and cornerback Dunta Robinson and defensive end Jason Babin in 2004.

With all this emphasis on the defense, why is it still so bad?

There are plenty of excuses for the poor start, including youth (seven starters have three years or less of experience), learning a new system (Houston switched from the 3-4 to the 4-3 this season) and facing two good teams in Philadelphia and Indianapolis.

But none of them explain exactly why the Texans are giving up an NFL-worst 478 total yards. Houston is also dead last with 351 yards passing a game.

Perhaps the most telling statistic is that the Texans have allowed teams to convert 17 of 25 third downs, or 68 percent, also not surprisingly - worst in the league.

"Figuring out a way to

get off the field on third downs is probably the biggest issue right now," Kubiak said. "We did it in the first half against Philly, but from there on we haven't been able to get them off the field in the last six quarters. That's disturbing."

Kubiak said his team has focused on improving its performance in that area this week.

"That's a point of emphasis and I know it's on everybody's mind right now," he said. "All you can do is really work on it and have players step up and make plays. There's no way around it."

The good news for Houston is that this week's opponent, the Washington Redskins, have struggled with third-down conversions.

Though teams have been gaining the majority of their yards against the Texans in the passing game, Kubiak insists that the defensive problems aren't limited to the secondary, and defensive end Anthony Weaver agrees.

"We've had situations where we had guys third and long and we weren't able to get to the quarterback."

# CLEMENS

Continued from page 1B

mound and thanked him for a memorable 2 1/2 seasons with the Astros.

"I personally hope that it isn't it," Ausmus said, "but catching Roger has been a highlight of my career. He's the ultimately prepared professional and certainly a first-ballot Hall of Famer."

Clemens walked out for the seventh, but Astros manager Phil Garner came out before he threw a pitch and replaced him with Russ Springer.

The fans stood for a roaring ovation and Clemens tipped his cap as he walked off the field.

"He wasn't going to pitch anymore," Garner said, "but the way things played out, everything came together for that

moment. The fans' reaction was unbelievable and Roger's reaction to that was just as special."

The cheering continued and Clemens came out for a curtain call, shirt untucked, pumping his fist in the air before disappearing into the dugout.

"That's what it's been about since I've been home," he said. "Obviously, winning and making it enjoyable for our fans at home."

Reds starter Bronson Arroyo (14-10) lost for first time in five starts, giving up seven hits and striking out four in 5 1-3 innings.

The Reds have also slipped from view in the wild-card race, entering the day five behind the leader.

Scott, who had a double, triple and home run in Tuesday's 5-4 loss to the Reds, hammered Arroyo's

first pitch of the second inning into the upper deck in right field. Scott's eighth homer of the season was his fourth since Sept. 9.

Ausmus led off the Astros' fifth with a double of the left-field wall and Clemens bunted him to third.

With one out, Arroyo walked Mike Lamb and hit Lance Berkman with a pitch to load the bases.

Scott, a 28-year-old rookie, then lined a 3-2 pitch into the right-field corner, clearing the bases with his sixth triple.

Clemens struck out two Reds each in the second, third and fourth and allowed two harmless singles through the first five innings.

"You look out there and you say, 'How's this guy still putting up zeros?'" said Arroyo.

"You take some of his velocity away and nor-

mally a guy starts to slip. But he's out there throwing cutters and split-fingers. It's amazing what he can still do."

Ray Olmedo hit a one-out single in the sixth and Clemens walked Adam Dunn, reaching 100 pitches for the ninth time this season.

But Scott Hatteberg and David Ross flew out to end the inning and the crowd, sensing Clemens was done, gave him a standing ovation.

Adam Everett walked and Ausmus beat out an infield single leading off the Astros' seventh. Clemens came out to bat and the fans stood and cheered again before Clemens laid down a sacrifice bunt.

Biggio followed with a homer to left, his 20th of the season, and Reds manager Jerry Narron replaced Arroyo with left-hander Bill Bray.

# RYDER

Continued from page 1B

Johnson hit shots that plopped and sank. Chad Campbell was last to hit, and he skipped it over and up to within 3 feet. Wetterich, his partner, knocked in the putt with the entire team watching.

Chris DiMarco gets into the Ryder Cup, even in practice.

He won a chip-off from the bunker on No. 8 by blasting out to 15 feet, while Wetterich left his in the sand. It must have been the first skin for DiMarco, because he instinctively raised and shook his fist, looking at the fans for some cheers, not realizing they didn't care.

But there was banter along the way, even with the caddies.

Mike "Fluff" Cowan was walking to the eighth tee when he spotted an Irish teenager wearing a New York Yankees cap. Cowan has roots in New England, and he couldn't resist.

"Name me one player on the New York Yankees. Just one," he challenged him.

The kid shrugged his shoulder and Cowan walked away in mock disgust until the kid returned the challenge.

"Name me a Kerry footballer," he said.

"Ian Coughlin," Cowan replied, choosing two common names from this part of the world.

Then they headed off to the practice range, where the Europeans worked quietly. There wasn't much time left, for the black-tie gala dinner was to start at 7:30 p.m.

"We took a day that could have been not a whole lot of fun out there - grinding it out, putting for pars and bogeys and not making very many birdies - to having a good time," Toms said. "That's what we've been stressing to each other. Enjoy the competition, and I thought we did some things where the fans seemed to be enjoying what we were doing."

"Plus, I won some money," Toms said. "So it was good."

# STEERS

Continued from 1B

the Steers against Wylie.

"Coach has explained all week that the key is going to be establishing the run," Aguilar said. "Last week we fell behind early and we know our defense is not going to allow that to happen again. This is going to be a tough game and we are going to need a good ground attack to keep their defense honest."

Giorgio is going to stand up and have a big game for us, and even though that could open up some passing opportunities, I'm expecting us to keep the ball on the ground."

Simply talking about getting the running game going puts a big smile on Taylor's face.

The tailback has been looking forward to lacing them up all week and he is expecting big things from the offense this week.

"We have worked some things out on offense this week and it shows in

practice," Giorgio explained. "In film and on the field, this week has been different. There is a different attitude and the intensity is back where it needs to be. We're looking forward to Friday night."

Offensively that sounds good, but the Bulldogs possess one of the best ground games in the area. They are led by four-year starter Gary Edwards, a quarterback who can take it the distance on any play.

"He can flat-out fly," Coach Holt reiterated. "We are going to change

some fronts this week, but we need to make sure we take good angles and that we tackle and wrap-up in the open field. Eliminating the big play by number 20 (opposing QB) is what our defense needs to do this week. That is the biggest thing for our defense."

According to the coaching staff, one of the changes on defense will be a eight-man front.

This is to help shut down the big play that the Bulldogs are always looking for on offense, they say.

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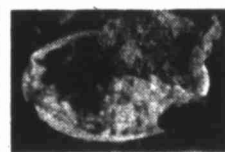
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**Cemetery Lots**

**TRINITY MEMORIAL** Park Space 1 & 2- lot #577. Section "Garden of Machpelah". Call (432)399-4470.

**Garage Sales**

**4 FAMILY** Carport Sale: Saturday 8-?, 1907 Eubanks (Corner of North Birdwell & Eubanks). Cookbooks, keyboard, home family gym and lots of misc.

**4 FAMILY** Sale: 6013 E. Midway Rd., Saturday 8:00-? Dining table, twin canopy & water bed, small refrigerator, bedding, much more.

**GARAGE SALE:** 2400 Cindy Lane, Saturday 8:00-? Lots of home decorations, teen clothes, and lots of misc. items.

**GARAGE SALE:** 517 Foster (Coahoma), Sat. Only 8-12. Exercise equipment, clothes and lots of STUFF.

**GARAGE SALE:** Saturday 8:00-?, Power House Church, 1311 Goliad.

**MOVING SALE,** 3205 Drexel. Saturday, 9:00-2:00. Furniture, household items, lots of misc.

**Garage Sales**

**MOVING SALE:** 1111 Settles St., Friday Evening 6-8pm & Saturday 8am-3pm. Furniture, household items, grill, stove. No Early Birds!

**MULTI-FAMILY** Garage Sale. 4907 Ratliff Road. Saturday Only, 8:00-12 Noon. Cooktop, furniture, lots of miscellaneous.

**MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE** Sale: 8am-12noon Saturday, 1905 Nolan. Dinette set, kitchen stuff, clothes, misc. No early shoppers.

**MULTI. FAMILY.** 1507 East 17th. Friday, & Saturday, 8:00-? Clothes all sizes, furniture, Betty Boop items, bar stools, tools, toys, computer desk and lots more.

**TWO FAMILY:** Friday, 8:00-6:00; Saturday, 8:00-2:00. 1302 Hwy. 176 (Andrews Hwy.) Lots of toys, Baby High-chair, swing, playpen, dishes, all size clothing and few plants.

**Help Wanted**

**Denny's**  
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All shifts available  
Apply at:  
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**SNYDER Healthcare Center**  
Is currently hiring:  
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Cook - experienced, and kitchen aides  
Apply in person to Debbie Collier, RN, DON, or Priscilla Barrera, LVN/ADON  
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Snyder  
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**Help Wanted**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:** Electrical contractor seeks full-time AA in Big Spring. Person is expected to have 10-key ability and provide clerical support by preparing invoices, reports, memos, letters and other related tasks. Candidate should possess 2+ years experience, excellent clerical & computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel. Candidate must be able to work independently. Position pays \$10.50/hour plus comprehensive benefits. Submit cover letter, resume and 3 professional references by Sept. 25th to: Human Resources Manager, PO Box 84, Odessa, TX 79760.

**ALL POSITIONS,** full or part time, all shifts available. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

Assistant Manager trainee. Must have good driving record, 21 yrs old, motivated, paid vacations, health insurance, salary. Apply in person. **Credit World**, 1611 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

**Help Wanted**

**BLAST MASTERS** has a position available for:  
\* Crew Technician  
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

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**Food Service - Great People - Real Opportunities SUPERVISORS**

**3-Day Work Week with Full Time Pay in Big Spring, TX!** Compass Group, the world's largest contract food service company, is now hiring several motivated individuals for our food service operation @ the Big Spring Correctional Complex. Great career opportunity, wages for qualified food service people start @ \$12.50, increasing to \$14.50 upon successful completion of 6 months probation. Outstanding benefits include paid training, supplied uniforms, & unlimited advancement in a global company. Food service/restaurant background required. Must pass drug test, background check & have a clean or repairable credit record.

**Opportunity is a call away!**  
Call Debby Greer @ 432-263-2366 or fax resume to 432-263-2358

**Food Service - Great People - Real Opportunities MANAGERS**

Compass Group, the world's largest contract food service company, is now hiring motivated individuals to manage our food service operation @ the Big Spring Correctional Complex. Great career opportunity, starting salary 38k to 50k dependant on experience plus annual incentives based upon performance & results. Outstanding benefits include paid training, supplied uniforms & unlimited advancement in a global company. Food service/restaurant management experience required, large volume environment preferred. Must pass drug test, background check & have a clean or repairable credit record. We offer competitive pay & dynamic benefits!

**Opportunity is a call away!**  
Please fax resume to 432-263-2358

EOE & AA Employer M/F/D/V

**FULL TIME Recovery Driver** needed, CDL required, willing to train. Pat Gray Towing and Recovery. Call (432)263-0582.

**GOT BILLS? AVON** can help! We have 10 immediate openings in this area. Up to 50% commission & great benefits! Call (432)270-2125 or 1-800-FOR-AVON NOW for a chance to win \$1,000 cash!

**HEAVY MACHINE** Mechanic Helper needed for Big Spring Oil Company. Limited Benefits. Must be able to pass drug test. Starting pay \$10.00 per hour. Cal 432-213-4857.

**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS** for Roustabout Helpers & Pushers. Apply at Rusty's Oilfield Service in Stanton, 1 Mile West of Stanton on North Service Road of 1-20 Monday thru Friday 8-5. (432)756-2821.

**LOOKING FOR** year round Gardener able to come weekly. Must be reliable and dependable. Call (432)264-6352.

**LUDLUM MEASUREMENTS, Inc.** now accepting applications/ resumes for Electronics Technician. Associates Degree or Equivalent Ability to read schematics and written work instructions. Ability to work well with others. Previous experience a plus.

Ludlum Measurements, Inc.  
Attn: HR Dept.  
501 Oak St./ PO Box 810  
Sweetwater, TX 79556  
(325)235-5494  
ludlum@ludlums.com  
AA/EEO

Help Wanted

**Martin County Hospital District of Stanton** is seeking a **FULL TIME INSURANCE BILLER**. Please contact Paul Israel, CFO or Alison Israel, Business Office Supervisor at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or call (432)756-3345.

**MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.**

Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas. (325)573-2013.

**NEED EXPERIENCED** Roustabouts including Forman for a stable Big Spring Oil Company that works close to home. Must be able to pass drug test. Benefits available. Send resume or application to P.O. Box 1870, Big Spring, Tx 79721.

**NEED FARM** Hand experienced in Cotton farming. Must be able to drive large equipment and be dependable. Call (432)394-4122 after 6:00 pm for more information.

**NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION** JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction.

Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to: GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND, TX 79711

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**PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation** Now Hiring for Certified Nursing Assistant. Great Working Environment and Competitive Pay. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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**PIZZA INN** Drive for the Best. Our Delivery Drivers earn \$10-\$12 per hour. Up to \$100 hiring bonus. Must be 18 yrs. old with clean driving record. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St.

**PIZZA INN** Now Hiring wait Staff Must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.

**WANTED: 29** Serious people to work from home using a computer. Up to \$1500 or \$5000 PT/FT. www.WorkNowNotLater.com

Help Wanted

**Pollard Chevrolet** is seeking an **ACCOUNTING CLERK**. Accounting experience required. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE/ UNIT COORDINATOR** needed to oversee and coordinate resident care. Must be LVN or RN. Applicant must be flexible with hours. Management experience a plus, but not required. Great starting salary and benefits. Please apply at Parkview Nursing & Rehab, 3200 Parkway Rd.

**RECEPTIONIST NEEDED** in busy doctor's office. Part-time to Full-time. Send resume to P.O. Box 2080, Midland, Tx 79720 or call (432)264-6830 for more information.

**SHELL STAR STOP** looking for new team members. Full & Part time cashiers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

**THE CITY** of Big Spring is taking applications for Administrative Technical/Landfill and for Airport Maintenance worker. Applications may be picked up at City Hall, 310 Nolan, (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

The Martin County Hospital District of Stanton is seeking personnel for a **FULL MAINTENANCE WORKER AND PRN HOUSEKEEPER**. Please contact Paul McKinney, CEO or Alison Israel, CFO at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or call (432)756-3345.

**TRAVEL U.S.A.**

Publication Sales Co. hiring 18 sharp enthusiastic individuals to travel the U.S. Two week all expense paid training with daily cash bonuses. 800-781-1344.

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**WILLING TO Work** for a Paycheck! Evening position for self motivated individual. Above average pay. Apply in person, Red Mesa Grill, 2401 S. Gregg.

Instructional

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**4,200 VHS & DVD** Movies. \$1,800. Call (432)264-7049 anytime.

Lost and Found

**FOUND PUPPY** (brown w/white markings) at the 400 Block of Johnson. Call 264-7247 to claim.

**LOST CAT** in the area of State & Wood Streets. Was wearing a red collar and dragging a leash. Call 432-267-5841.

Miscellaneous

**2 PC QUEEN** pillowtop mattress set New in plastic, \$145. **3 PC KING** mattress & foundation. Brand new, warranty. \$249. 806-549-3110.

**6 PC BEDROOM SUITE**, solid wood, dovetail construction, new in box. \$799.00. 806-549-3110.

**CAKES:** Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarios. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

**JUNQUE MART** Thrift Store 600 Lamesa (432)264-0542 Mon-Sat. 10:00-5:00 Like a Giant Garage Sale Every Day. Books 25¢-50¢, all clothes 50¢-\$1.00, Hundreds of movies.

**NEW FULL** size mattress AND box, in plastic, warranty. \$135. **NEW Twin** mattress sets. \$99. 806-549-3110.

**SCRUBS, CUSTOM** made. I also buy & sell scrubs. I do ironing, mending any type of sewing. Call 432-213-3510 or come by Ruby's Scrubs & Alterations, 1507 East 4th.

Miscellaneous

**SLEIGH BED** and mattress, new condition. \$369. warranty 806-549-3110.

Pets

**FREE PUPPIES** Lab & Grey Pyrenees, 6 wks. old, male puppies. Call (432)965-3393.

Real Estate for Rent

**(2) TWO** bedroom houses, CHA. 406 East 10th, 1005 East 12th. \$375. month, \$200. deposit. No HUD. No Pets! Must have references. Call (432)263-5818, 213-0820.

**1809 JOHNSON-** 2/1 House. CHA, washer & dryer connections, 2 car carport. \$600. month plus deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

**2 Thru 6** Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461-Tom.

**3 BEDROOM,** 1 1/2 bath, CHA, garage, fenced yard. \$550. Month, \$300. deposit. 1800 Wallace. Call (432)270-3848 for more information.

**448 ARMSTRONG,** 4 bedroom, 1 bath, \$425 month, \$200 deposit. Both CHA. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE** at 421 Main for rent. Approx. 3,000 sq. ft. includes executive offices, reception area, file storage and break room. Call (432)263-7676.

**SEVERAL OFFICES** available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

Real Estate for Sale

**1400 MARIJO,** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, garage, fresh paint, new carpet. Low down payment! \$65,000.00. American Realty (432)686-9020.

**1996 SQUARE** feet 3/2/2 in Kentwood, garage, storage, RV port, well water, large yard and trees. \$110K. I pay closing costs! Call 432-935-2521.

**2 Thru 6** Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

**2000 AMERICAN** Homestar doublewide 28x48 on 1 lot in Coahoma. Can also be moved. Cash only! No Owner Financing. Call (432)213-4030.

**3BD/2B/LIVING HOME** in Kentwood. Corner lot. Move-in condition. Must see. \$90's. Call 325-658-7363 for appointment.

**AMAZING FORECLOSURE!** \$29,900!! 4 Bedrooms. Wont Last! For listings call 800-749-8106 ext. F-086.

BEAUTY and PRIVACY in Unique Home

**608 Washington Boulevard** 4 bedrooms; 2-1/2 baths Landscaped; lots of trees 2 living areas Dramatic WB fireplace Abundant storage Storm windows Beautiful home office Pool (needs liner) with attached bath, sink, bar, covered cabana Guest house Storm cellar 2 garages with workshop, storage

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** Moving out of town; must sell our dream home! **WILL WORK WITH AGENTS** See by appointment only: 432-267-4585

**FORECLOSURE!** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$20,500! Must Sell! For listing Call 800-749-8106 ext F906.

**GREAT INVESTMENT** 3729 Adams - 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with garage. New carpet. Owner Finance \$39,000.00 or Best Cash Offer. Call (432)264-9907.

**I'M MAD... AT BANKS WHO DON'T GIVE HOUSE LOANS BECAUSE OF BAD CREDIT, PROBLEMS OR NEW EMPLOYMENT.** I DO, CALL L.D. KIRK, HOMELAND MORTGAGES, (254)947-4475.

**OWNER FINANCE** - 4204 Muir, 3 Bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, CHCA, \$32,500.00. Easy Terms. Call 325-893-1973.

**SALE BY Owner** 503 West 3rd in Stanton. Call for appointment (432)522-7831 or 559-0674.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS**

The dark Virgo moon has few, if any, suggestions as to how we should go about organizing ourselves for upcoming opportunities. She is clear on one thing — the "now" is more important than the "how." Action finds a way.

**HOLIDAY MATHIS**

Attack that pile of papers. Whether you burn them or file them doesn't matter. Just get the clutter out of your life!

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The stars show you as very imaginative now. Help out the uninspired. The low-mindedness of those with nothing to do is a downward spiral. Create projects. Teach.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You're so busy you hardly have time for the sorrow that once dogged you so persistently. And what's better, the fruits of your labor are something everyone can enjoy.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). There's nothing quite as satisfying under these stars as learning a skill from start to finish. Recognizing the abilities of others feels good, too. Compliment and reward competence wherever you find it.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Falsehoods are seductive today. Look for truth. As you do, it's challenging to see what you see — instead of seeing what

others tell you you should be seeing. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). A learning process that seems to be about piling data onto more data is not retainable. Understanding what things are for and how they work is crucial to your happiness now.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Thinking you have to spend big money for the best that life has to offer is a trap. If you choose to have a sensual experience, you will — this has nothing to do with economics.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's a fun-packed day with lots of "wouldn't it be cool if" kind of inspirations zinging about. Positive feelings are just as easily accessed as negative ones. Situations can turn around on a dime.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you've been neglecting your heart's desire in favor of a joyless reality, this is your chance to change all that. Downtime is dream time. Unexpected and late arrivals feed your fantasy.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're in no mood to be careful or go slow. You can be quite safe at high speeds if you practice. Repetition and experience allow you to live life at the pace you want to go.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A pattern repeats. This time you're conscious enough to recognize it and change the ending. Such action brings different results. You may not be completely happy with them, but they're closer to what you want.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Give yourself credit for what you're doing. If not, it's hard for others to give you credit, and you start to feel less energetic and purposeful. Celebrate yourself. Find many reasons to do so.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). There's no time like the present to make that big pitch or presentation and launch your career into the next dimension. If signing contracts, make sure you're happy with the terms — this deal will have long-term staying power.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I am a Libra, and my partner is a Leo. When we are getting along, things are great. We can finish each other's sentences, are connected at the hip and are best friends. When we disagree and argue, it's the extreme opposite, and it feels like we're speaking completely different languages, especially since we had a child. Communication seems near impossible at times! Is there something in our astrological charts that can explain this and any way to overcome it?"

There's something you should know about Leos. Even though they are the sign of children, and even though they usually adore children and are brilliantly playful and protective parents, they, in fact, are mostly children themselves. And they need attention. Lots of attention. (Indeed, I myself am a Leo and a full-grown person who has admittedly, at times, hired a babysitter, for myself, to watch and encourage me to do things such as file a big pile of papers. I really have done this!) Keeping this in mind, your Leo partner is resisting communication as an attention-getting tactic. The remedy is to make sure your Leo gets much-needed and special, loving attention. Sound exhausting? Well, it probably is, but the rewards are pretty great, too.

**su|do|ku**  
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**ANSWERS**

7	4	2	3	6	1	9	8	
8	9	6	7	2	1	3	4	5
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3	0	1	0	0	7	0	7	4
4	1	0	5	0	3	7	8	2
6	9	0	2	0	7	4	0	1
2	7	0	4	1	0	0	5	5

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