

CRAWFORD, TEXAS

Vol. 7, No. 32

AUGUST 9, 2006

75¢ Per Copy

© 2006, THE LONE STAR ICONOCLAST

INSIDE



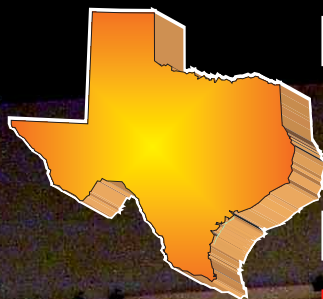
George W. Bush

Bush Is Back ... But So Is Sheehan

Page 2



Cindy Sheehan



The Lone Star



ICONOCLAST

Infinite Passion

Fellini Film Lover's Wish Comes True



'Tutto Fellini' Coming To Cowtown

Interview with Don Young,
Fellini Memorabilia Collector

Page 3

DON YOUNG's decade-long struggle to bring a retrospective of Federico Fellini's body of film work to Fort Worth paid off this year.

— Staff Photo By Nathan Diebenow

W

hile I'm doing it for love, I'm hoping to make Fort Worth more than what it is now.'

— Don Young

Camp Casey III: It's All About Peace Page 8

Interfaith Service,
Sheehan Press Conference Held

Bush Is Back...But So Is Sheehan

CRAWFORD — National attention is again focusing on Crawford, Texas and President George W. Bush's annual August vacation at his 1,600-acre Prairie Chapel ranch, but this year's tune also carries with it, as last year, the refrain of peace mom Cindy Sheehan attempting to draw attention toward ending the war in Iraq.

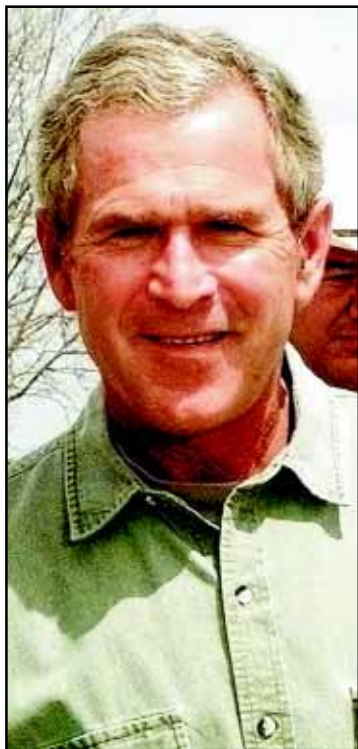
Amid a Texas heat wave and a tidal wave of conflicts in the Middle East, Bush arrived at the ranch Thursday night and issued a statement regarding the pending change of power in Cuba. Bush encouraged all democratic nations "to unite in support of the right of the Cuban people to define a democratic future for their country."

He said, "I urge the Cuban people to work for democratic change on the island. We will support you in your effort to build a transitional government in Cuba committed to democracy, and we will take note of those, in the current Cuban regime, who obstruct your desire for a free Cuba."

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who was at the ranch this past weekend, encouraged Cubans to stay the course...over there...during the time of transition, and foregoing an exodus to Florida that might be considered during a period of uncertainty in Cuba..

This trip to the ranch marks President Bush's 59th. As of Saturday, he had spent all or part of 384 days (more than a year of his presidency) in the area, which has drawn considerable criticism among those who believe that presidential vacations should be limited, especially when catastrophes abound throughout the world.

His August vacations, where he traditionally spends his time getting back to nature, clearing brush, bicycling, reading, enter-



George W. Bush

— Lone Star Iconoclast Photo

taining foreign heads of state, and raising funds for Republican political hopefuls, have included 27 days in August 2001, 27 days in August 2002, 29 days in August 2003, 13 days in August 2004, and 29 days in August 2005. Bush tentatively plans to depart Crawford on Aug. 13, but might return for a short visit early next month.

This year, he plans to limit his vacation to 10 days, upon the suggestion of his advisers who have said that last year's extended vacation ushered a dramatic downturn in his poll ratings, what with the presence of Sheehan and the emergence of Hurricane Katrina.

According to Press Secretary Tony Snow, Bush plans to spend some time reading during this vacation period, having selected

two books about former President Abraham Lincoln and one about the history of polio in the United States.

Sheehan, whose son was killed in Iraq, last year participated in a 26-day vigil near the Bush ranch as she sought a personal conversation with President Bush to ask "what noble cause" her son had died for. That meeting never happened, but during the ensuing year Sheehan kept her message alive by traveling with peace activists throughout the world challenging the Iraq war. She was in Amman, Jordan this past week to meet with members of the Iraqi Parliament and rearranged her schedule in Crawford to coincide with the president's.

Recently, she purchased five acres of land near Crawford to be the home of Camp Casey III, which, according to Sheehan, will better accommodate a larger crowd of anti-war protesters. According to Sheehan, a march toward the Bush ranch is planned, along with other activities, although an exact schedule is yet to be determined.

Last year, Sheehan and company camped on the road leading to the Bush ranch, promising not to leave until he

had met with her. At one point, when Bush attended a Republican fundraiser, his caravan sped past Sheehan and other protesters who were holding signs and chanting at him.

Several pro-war groups last year did verbal battle with Sheehan and her supporters, and similar confrontations could be on tap for this year, since a grassroots pro-military group called "American Pride" is petitioning people to come to Crawford between Aug. 14 and 22. In an e-mail to Military.com, Leonard Wahl, on behalf of the pro-military group, wrote, "We are urging every veteran to join the fallen families to support our troops. This is our way to confront Cindy Sheehan. Soldiers did not pick this war. We cannot allow America to fail its soldiers as it did in Vietnam."

Businesses in Crawford have seen some increases in retail sales when Sheehan's supporters come to town, but not enough to counter the downturn in retail sales that have seemed to coincide with the president's poll rating drops. According to State Comptroller sales tax rebate figures, total sales this year in Crawford appear to be down from last year, which tends to signal less trade.



Cindy Sheehan

— Lone Star Iconoclast Photo

Abramoff Investigators Subpoena Christian PAC

WASHINGTON — America 21, an evangelical Christian political action organization in Nashville, was subpoenaed last week for documents in connection with investigations into the Jack Abramoff scandal.

The group's president J. Thomas Smith issued a statement denying any wrongdoing with regard money transfers to the

Washington lobbyist's associates. However, in a memo, Abramoff asked a Native American tribe to send money to America 21.

Abramoff, who has pled guilty to charges of conspiring to corrupt public officials, told the Coshatta Indian tribe in Louisiana that a check to then-Majority Whip Tom DeLay

(R-Texas)'s Texans for a Republican Majority PAC should be cancelled and resent to America 21.

The National Journal, a political publication based in Washington, reported that Abramoff said in emails that America 21 was a "critical friend." America 21's self-described purpose is "educate, engage, and mobilize Christians to influence national policy at every level."



The Lone Star Iconoclast (USPS 022-833) is published weekly, on Wednesdays, by Smith Media, Inc., P.O. Box 420, Crawford, TX 76638 and 310 W. 5th St., P.O. Box 569, Clifton, TX 76634

Periodicals Postage is Paid at Clifton, TX 76634.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: McLennan & Bosque Counties, one year: \$48.00; Elsewhere, one year: \$58. Give old address when requesting change of address.

POSTMASTER: Please send address change to: The Lone Star Iconoclast, P.O. Box 353, Clifton, TX 76634.

DEADLINES: 5 p.m. Fridays.

Telephone (All Departments) — (254) 675-3634

Fax No. — (254) 675-4090 • Email: news@lonestaricon.com

Web Newspaper: www.lonestaricon.com

EDITORIAL
Associate Editors:
Don M. Fisher
Nathan Diebenow
Reporter:
Deborah Mathews

ADVERTISING
Melanie Harvey
Tammy Shelton
Tiffany Shelton

PUBLISHER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
W. Leon Smith

BUSINESS
Kay Ortiz, Front Office Manager
Allison Smith, Internet Manager

CIRCULATION
Charlie Gandy
Pernie Stanford
Wayne Thompson
Bud Shaffer
Wanda Raines
Georgia Bell

THE LONE STAR ICONOCLAST welcomes letters of up to 150 words on any public issue. Any letter that exceeds the word limit may not be considered for publication. We publish only original letters addressed to The Iconoclast. An address and daytime phone number must be included so the author's identity can be verified. No letters will be published until authorship is confirmed. Those who write letters are asked to limit their entries to one per month. All letters are subject to editing. The Iconoclast reserves the right to decline publication of any submission. Letters must be signed. Letters written in the promotion of political candidates or issues to be decided by an election will not be considered for publication unless they are scheduled for publication three weeks or more prior to the election. Individuals may purchase advertising space during the period prior to the election in support of candidates or issues to be voted upon. Letters written as cards of thanks may be charged classified ad rate and be placed in classified section of newspaper, at editors' option.

THE ENTIRE CONTENTS of each issue of The Lone Star Iconoclast are protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue will not be permitted without the express permission of Smith Media, Inc.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: Any error or erroneous reflection upon the character, standing, or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in this newspaper will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the management.

Infinite Passion

Fellini Film Lover's Wish Comes True

Tutto Fellini Coming To Cowtown

Interview with Don Young, Fellini Memorabilia Collector

By NATHAN DIEBENOW
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

FORT WORTH — Don Young says he feels like a fish out of water in Fort Worth, but this feeling has been all the more reason he wanted to bring a film festival devoted entirely to his favorite director, the late Federico Fellini, to his hometown.

"Fellini is the opposite of Fort Worth," Young told the *ICONOCLAST* in a recent interview. "By bringing Fellini here, I'm exposing myself in a sense and putting something totally different and fairly radical here that has nothing to do with cowboy culture."

Young acknowledges that Fort Worth has its own fine arts community, corporate though it is, yet his goal is to use that stage to feed new ideas to his "conservative cowtown" neighbors.

"While I'm doing it for love, I'm hoping to make Fort Worth

more than what it is now," he said. "I'm just making my little contribution to raising the awareness level to this town, so that it will ripple into other things like political awareness and involvement, and environmental awareness and activism, even though Fellini films themselves don't address those topics necessarily."

Young has a lot of love for the great Italian filmmaker — so much in fact that his collection of "Felliniana," aka Fellini memorabilia, is unrivaled. Some of his 5,000 vintage Fellini movie posters will be on display at the Fort Worth Community Art Center Gallery from now until Aug. 31.

"I collect the posters because I love the movies. I appreciate what Fellini did. He's still very contemporary. He's probably considered the most original filmmaker ever. In addition to that, he managed to win a bunch of Oscars — the most Oscars of

any director in the world," the glass art business owner explained.

In conjunction with Young's show is *Tutto Fellini*, a retrospective of Fellini's 24 films, running from Aug. 18 - Sept. 3 at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. Young says that the festival will celebrate the work of the four-time Academy Award winner with a film each day, lectures by guest speakers and film critics, and live music from Orchestra Nostalgico.

THE *ICONOCLAST*'S Associate Editor Nathan Diebenow caught up with Young at his home in Fort Worth to discuss his interest in Fellini, the struggle to bring these films to Texas, and the importance of experiencing other cultures and points of view.

.....
ICONOCLAST: How did your fascination with Fellini start?

YOUNG: Well, I was about 19 years old when some of my hip-

TUTTO FELLINIANA — Don and Debra Young mount his Federico Fellini posters at the Fort Worth Community Art Center Gallery for a Fellini movie poster exhibit that runs until Aug. 31. The exhibit is running in conjunction with a retrospective of Fellini's 24 films showing at the Modern Aug. 18 - Sept. 3.

— Staff Photo By Nathan Diebenow

pie buddies said, "Hey, we're going to the movies to see Fellini, man. Let's go. He's a cool guy. You gotta check him out." This was back in the drug days of the 60s. In fact the TCU (Texas Christian University) Theater here in Fort Worth was showing *Juliet of the Spirits* which was from '65, and it was like we were seeing it in '69 there in the theater. We walk in the door and marijuana smoke filling the place.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs) This is Fort Worth?

YOUNG: Things have changed a lot. It's very conservative now. You wouldn't see that, of course, but in those days, it was different, so Fellini appealed to not just the hippies,

but he was speaking their language. When I say "hippies," I mean the counterculture. You know, people who were seeing things a little different with or without drugs. Fellini's movies were trippy, so to speak, in addition to being very, very deep, good movies. You could watch them on many levels.

Anyway, that's how I ended up in the theater seeing this movie, which happened to be Fellini's first color movie and the trippiest Fellini-esque movie that he had made. It was much different than anything before it. It was fun. It was way over my head. I didn't get the movie at all, but the visuals were real psychedelic and col

Continued On Next Page

Infinite Passion

From Previous Page

orful and drew you in.

ICONOCLAST: Were you an art student at that time or was this poster collection just a hobby you picked up along the way?

YOUNG: I was kind of in between high school and college when I saw it. I started collecting posters really only about 12 years ago, but I already had the collecting gene in my system because I collected Marvel comics as a kid. I read them and kept them religiously. My dad raised me to collect coins, so I already had the collecting bug.

But really with Fellini, he was so popular world wide — literally every country in the world liked Fellini. His films showed in Pakistan, Russia, and all over Europe and places where directors might only show in two or three places, especially in those days. As a result of that, every country had their own poster design which was a little different, their own view of the movie, so to speak. It wasn't regimented as it is now with the studios sending them the posters.

I'm in an art related business — the art glass business — and I have been since I was 25, so I appreciated the posters, and just started collecting them. I wouldn't say it's an obsession. Well, it is an obsession (laughs) — when you've got 5,000 of them.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs)

YOUNG: But it's not just about having the posters because I really appreciate the films. In other words, I'm not a complete-ist. Like with a lot of collections, people want the entire set. That's sort of impossible with Fellini posters because there's so many. I don't even know if anyone knows what the whole set is. Some of these sell for \$50,000 a piece, so it's impossible for me at this point anyway to have them all.

ICONOCLAST: What was the first one you bought?

YOUNG: *Amarcord* (1973) was the first poster I bought, and then I didn't buy any for a long time. This was before eBay, so when I wanted to buy posters, I had to send off for catalogs. They send them out in black and white, and you have to pick the best ones, and sometimes, there were just the name of the film.

I have other memorabilia, too. I collect old books and magazines from Europe. I like to read about Fellini because not only did he make really good films, he was a great talker. He was a

great thinker. He was a philosopher basically. A lot of his stuff is hard to come by, his interviews especially. He did a lot of interviews. He never said "no" to an interview, so I have a huge collection of magazines from the '40s to today. I have a book collection of several hundred volumes on Fellini in about 12 languages. I know Fellini pretty well. It's a fascination bordering on obsession.

ICONOCLAST: What was his favorite color?

YOUNG: I'm not that obsessed.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs) We've found your limit. Well, what strikes you the most about his life and work?

YOUNG: It's really an appreciation. The films are it. He made so many good ones, but Fellini was different from all the rest that came before him. The more he matured you could see it more and more. As he matured, more people tried to copy him, but he's one of those guys who is so original that you really can't copy him, even though people tried. You know, some people come along, and they are so original and so unique that to copy them is ridiculous. It just can't be done.

He had this humanistic sweet side of him, but he also had a very cutting side that exposed what was going on in the world at the time from a very personal level inside your own head to the society at large, and he did it in

some really unusual ways. But what a lot of people identify with Fellini is the images. He managed to create images on film that — well, there's an adjective now called Felliniesque that refers to something strange, weird, bizarre, a mixing of fantasy and reality. He was kind of the first guy to do that. It's not that uncommon nowadays, but no one did it quite like Fellini did with these particular images. When you saw his films, you know it was a Fellini film. You didn't mistaken it for a Rossellini, an Antonioni, or the other guys. Fellini stood out quite a bit.

‘We beat Austin. We beat Dallas. We beat Houston. We beat them all. We got it right here in cowtown.’
— Don Young

ICONOCLAST: You're pretty much the fulcrum for this film festival. How did you get it off the ground?

YOUNG: I've been working for 10 years to get this project going. I wanted to see all these films. I had heard about this thing called Tutto Fellini, which had played in foreign countries, New York, and Los Angeles. Tutto Fellini means "everything Fellini," so it's all 24 of his films that had been restored right after Fellini died in 1993.

I wanted them so bad. I wanted a Fellini festival. You know, I had been having Fellini parties once a year at my house here and have people come, dress up, drink wine, watch a movie, and celebrate Fellini. I thought that we had to do this bigger and better, so I started contacting different organizations for a place to screen them on 35 mm, and I realized that it was going to take a major institution.

I approached the modern art museum about five years ago. The first time I contacted them, they kind of went, "Well, maybe, maybe not." And then last year, they said, "Yeah, let's do the Fellinifest." It was like they woke up one day and decided to focus on it because Fellini still has a modern sensibility, and the Modern Art Museum in Fort Worth is one of the cutting edge institutions in the world actually. They came through for me. They wanted to be a part of it. They felt Fellini fit in with their scene in there.

They helped me by contacting the right people in Italy. It actually took years to find out who to contact, to see who actually has these films, and they made us jump through all kinds of hoops to get the films here. Of course, you have to pay to rent them, and you need state-of-the-art equipment to show them.

ICONOCLAST: Where did these films come from exactly?

YOUNG: These 24 films are coming directly from the film vault in Italy, which is government owned. It's called "Cinecitta International" The films have been resorted to pristine, beautiful prints. You can rent a Fellini film on 35 mm, but

it's not a restored print.

It was a real struggle get it to Fort Worth. The films have never been shown outside of LA, Chicago, New York, and foreign countries. We beat Austin. We beat Dallas. We beat Houston. We beat them all. We got it right here in Cowtown. My obsession paid off. I'm not sure we'll have an audience for it, but we'll see in a couple of weeks.

Houston, by the way, is a part of this, and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts is going to also show all the films, so I sent posters to Houston, and I have posters at the modern art museum, and I have another very large exhibition in this arts neighborhood here near the Modern. I have enough posters to fill up several museums.

As part of his Tutto Fellini film retrospective, I just happened to have all these posters, so we're having the Tutto Felliniana exhibition which means "all Fellini posters." "Felliniana" means "Fellini memorabilia" basically.

ICONOCLAST: So this is a really big deal. This is the first Fellini exhibition in the Midwest even.

YOUNG: I think so. I've been trying to get the word out that this is unique. Fellini is still pretty high on the screen. You know, I've learned to appreciate Fellini, so I've shared what I've learned. He still has a lot of influence on popular culture. In fact, I have an email newsletter I put out quarterly that's called *Fellini News Update*, that is about Fellini's influence on popular culture.

ICONOCLAST: Give me some examples. I know of only one, which is the term "paparazzi" was coined after the name of one of his characters.

YOUNG: Yeah, like from *La Dolce Vita*. There's a half a dozen words that were coined from Fellini films. *La Dolce Vita* was meant with dripping irony, by the way. When Fellini said "the sweet life," it was very ironic because it was really a corrupt society he was talking about.

A lot of filmmakers still emulate Fellini big time. More than ever. In fact, Woody Allen is practically a Fellini clone.

A good example is just recently the largest beer company in the world is basing their new international campaign on Fellini's *La Dolce Vita*. They're using a famous scene in that movie where the actress Anita Eckberg is kissing this actor in this famous fountain in Italy called the Trevi Fountain. In fact, they're spending \$50 million to do it.

Every shoe company in the world seems like they want a Fellini shoe nowadays.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs) It's a world-wide brand.

YOUNG: There you go. Here in this part of the country, though, that's what makes this festival unique. I even mention it to people who grew up here in the '60s, and they go, "I've never heard of the guy." Especially in this part of Texas, he's pretty much an unknown, so I've had a real uphill battle trying to educate people and say, "You're an intelligent person. You're interested in the arts. You're interested in the world. You're really missing out on this. Catch up. Take a look at these films and see." I envy them because now they can start over.

ICONOCLAST: (laughs) Well, I've read recently that Americans are getting more isolationist because of the "war on terror," the conflict between Israel and Lebanon, and whatnot, and so it would seem that a film festival such as this one is an opportunity to expand people's awareness of culture outside of our own.

YOUNG: They're not just pushing away things internationally. They're pushing away gays, blacks, Jews, everybody. This seems to be getting more conservative, especially here in Fort Worth. We're in the most conservative city in the most conservative state in the whole world right here.

And also not just isolationist but dumber. Fellini was the kind of director that was very popular. He was in *Life* magazine and the common everyday magazines back then in the '50s and '60s. He kept growing, but America kept getting dumber and dumber to where you mention Fellini now, and they don't know anything about him. To me that's a sign that people and society in general are dumbing down. They can't put out enough effort to understand what a complex artist is up to. They got to go watch *Roseanne* reruns or *Friends* reruns or whatever is on TV these days. I also see it among friends of mine. They can't watch it all the way through. They either fall asleep or they have to work a little too hard.

I've found in my life that things that are easy are rarely worth the effort. Things that are good, you have to work at. You know, the best places to go camping are hard to get to. That kind of attitude is just like Fellini. You have to put out a little bit, but the rewards are huge, and it enriches you as a person when you take the time to do that. But it's hard to get the message through to the people because they are getting so many counter messages from the media, that all it matters is how you look or what's the latest iPod or what's the latest song.

Continued On Next Page



RARE AND BEAUTIFUL — Debra Young helps her husband, Don, both of Fort Worth, place film posters from his Federico Fellini collection for the *Tutto Felliniana* exhibit at the Fort Worth Community Art Center Gallery. The exhibit runs from now until Aug. 31. For more information, visit the website (www.themodern.org).

— Staff Photo By Nathan Diebenow

Infinite Passion

From Previous Page

People are becoming more homogenized, instead of beautiful diversity that I recognized in the '60s and '70s. People were intelligent and interested in things, and nowadays, especially in Fort Worth, with a few notable exceptions, you don't see that. You see the average person as interested in what they're supposed to be doing rather than what they want to do.

I just went to Austin, and it's like the '60s just started down there, but it's been that way for a long time. When I say "60s," I'm not necessarily referring to drugs and rock & roll. I'm talking about the consciousness and awareness and the wanting to learn new things and live life to the fullest. I don't know. I'm just really disgusted with this Fort Worth area — north central Texas.

For example, environmental issues don't seem to matter around here, like they do in Austin. I've been fighting for a year to get people to wake up and see that the developers, the gas drillers, the elected officials are taking the city away from us. What's good about this place is disappearing fast — real fast. But there's just real entrenched apathy here, so the developers thrive.

We don't even have a tree ordinance in this town, which is incredible. They just clear out hundreds of acres all the time and put in the same cookie cutter, ticky-tacky houses, as they used to call them. This used to be a beautiful native prairie here. There's very little of it left. I've tried to wake up people and preserve as much of that as we can. There's a few others out there doing it, but by and large, most people don't give a flip.

That has nothing to do with anything with Fellini, but Fellini is an inspiration of mine, a hero of mine. Edward Abby is a big hero of mine. Are you familiar with Ed Abby?

ICONOCLAST: No, but he sounds familiar.

YOUNG: He's considered the godfather of the environmental movement in the United States. He wrote a book called the

Monkeywrench Gang back in the '60s. He wrote another one called *Desert Solitaire*. They are considered the gold standards of how the environmental movement started in the United States. He was the guy who set it in motion.

So all my heroes influenced me, and Fellini is definitely one of them, and if you see a few of his films, you could see why, although he is not an environmentalist or overtly political. But if you know where to look, they're just full of political and philosophical messages that people need to be listening to.

INFO

Don Young Felliniana Archive
www.felliniana.com
 The Modern
www.themodern.org
 MFA Houston
www.mfah.org/films

Largest Test Evacuation In Illinois Continues This Week

EDWARDSVILLE, Ill. — The largest evacuation and sheltering exercise, the first of its kind in Illinois history, continued this week here. The test is the second in three months that coordinates federal, state, and local response units to determine the effectiveness of the state's plans for a terrorist attack.

"Much of the human suffering we saw last year following Hurricane Katrina was the result of inadequate evacuation planning," said Gov. Rod Blagojevich. "This exercise will also enable us to build on lessons learned during our successful pandemic flu and terrorism exercise in May and help us further strengthen Illinois' overall emergency preparedness."

The Prairie Thunder Exercise, which began last Friday, is a five-day simulation being conducted around Edwardsville in Madison County. The Illinois National Guard and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force selected the area which contains warehouses, a middle school, and two other cities.

During the drill, agencies will conduct a variety of missions, such as information acquisition, resources distribution, searches, rescues, and field hospital set-ups. U.S. military per-

sonnel and their vehicles involved in the drill would pose no threat to the safety of the local residents, according to officials, adding that the locals would be notified if the drill goes awry.

The total cost of the drill is estimated at between \$2 million and \$3 million. The local police departments are expecting a reimbursement for their efforts.

The exercise wasn't without criticism post-Hurricane Katrina mistakes from the governor's political GOP rival, State Treasurer Judy Barr Topinka.

"There is great irony in Rod Blagojevich talking about an emergency response exercise in the Metro-East," Topinka said. "Two weeks ago, when strong summer storms created an actual emergency in the Metro East, Rod Blagojevich didn't even bother to make a personal visit to the region. During my visit to the region following these strong, summer storms, residents asked me, 'Where is the governor?' That is a question a lot of people in Illinois have asked the last four years."

Last May, federal and state agencies conducted a three-day simulation of emergency services in Chicago.

Researcher Develops Net Neutrality Test To Keep ISPs Honest

SEATTLE, Wash. — A security researcher from Seattle unveiled a test he said that could tell if some Internet traffic is treated differently than others. This test could help advocates for "network neutrality" convince Congress to back laws that would prevent the privatization of the Internet's infrastructure. At the Black Hat USA security conference in Las Vegas last Wednesday, Dan Kaminsky said he intends to release his technique which he calls "TCP-based Active Probing for Faults" as a free software tool in the next six months called Paketto Keiretsu, version 3.

Kaminsky recently told the IDG News Service that while he believes that Congress will make

net neutrality law, his software will users keep Internet service providers from manipulating their traffic.

"If you're going to enforce by law that networks be neutral, the question becomes, 'How do you test for this?'" he said. "I'm going to make sure that the tools are going to be in place."

The net neutrality fight in Congress itself is a struggle over ownership of quality services. Telephone and cable companies say they want to provide a variety of services for different fees, but a coalition of net neutrality advocates say that such laws would prevent companies from censoring content with which they disagree as have happened in the past.

U.S. Workers Want 'Green' Working Environs: Poll

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. — A new poll indicates that an overwhelming majority (94 percent) of American workers want their working conditions to be environmentally friendly and energy efficient.

In addition, the Mortgage Lenders Network USA (MLN) survey

found that more employers are also moving into greener buildings.

This trend reflects the 150 percent rise in the number of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certifications that the U.S. Green Building Council has approved

over the last three years.

MLN itself is considering applying for a LEED certification — the nation's only standard for sustainable buildings — for its own proposed \$75 million headquarters in Wallingford, Conn.

Plans for this building include

such amenities as a cafeteria and break areas stocked with free snacks from vegetables and fruits grown in local gardens and orchards. The company also plans to use solar panels and hydraulic power to fuel its sustainable energy needs.

Decision On Camping, Parking Ordinances Could Fall Wednesday

WACO — A compromise on ordinances prohibiting parking and camping near President George W. Bush's ranch could be reached this Wednesday between McLennan County and attorneys for Cindy Sheehan, the peace activist who staged a month-long vigil there last year.

The order for the compromise came from U.S. District

Judge Walter S. Smith Jr. after both sides gave two hours of testimony at a hearing last Thursday.

Sheehan's attorneys argue that the ordinances, passed last September, are too broad and therefore hinder free speech on parts of the 14 county roads around the ranch. To meet the county half-way, her attorneys

said that it would be fair and safe to limit the parking and temporary toilets to a predetermined spot near the protest site.

The county's attorney, however, noted that the ordinances were leveled to only protect the health and safety of area residents and protestors, the former of whom submitted affi-

davits showing their daily troubles during Sheehan's vigil, such as school buses dropping off children. The county's attorney also stated that prohibiting portable toilets along the right-of-way, as the second ordinance mandates, does not constitute a First Amendment violation.

Sheehan's attorney said that

even though the summer vigils will be at his client's newly acquired property in Crawford, protestors still want opportunities to picket there.

If the county's attorney fails to reach a compromise with the county commissioners as he planned on Tuesday, the federal judge could rule Wednesday.

Congress Passes Bills Allowing Offshore Oil Drilling

WASHINGTON — Both houses of Congress have passed bills that would allow oil companies the opportunity to drill for oil off the shores of Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, and Alabama. Environmentalists, however, say that the oil giveaway ignores smarter, safer, and cheaper energy solutions for the United States.

The Senate version, with a final vote of 71-25 last week, opens about eight million acres of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. This entire area is believed to hold enough gas to power six million American homes for 15 years and enough oil for two months of U.S. demand.

The House measure passed in June would basically end the federal government's 24 year moratorium on offshore drilling around the majority of the Atlantic and Pacific's outer continental shelf.

Though the houses must still meet to hammer out the details, the oil companies love both plans for the most part. States, through the House bill, would have the power to decide on certain distance of drilling offshore as well as opportunities to share in the revenues from the leases

and royalties. The Senate bill adds 10 years to the 2012 drilling moratorium in a few Florida coast areas, but the House gave the states the option to override the moratorium.

Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope criticized both measures, arguing that energy security can be obtained through smarter energy solutions that reduce America's dependence on oil while saving fuel costs at the pump.

"Instead of increasing oil drilling, Congress could be raising the fuel economy of our cars, encouraging the use of renewable energy like wind and solar power, and adopting other existing energy-saving technologies that cut pollution, curb global warming, and create good jobs," Pope said in a statement.

He added, "We know there is no single magic solution to our energy problems. But if we want to leave our children and grandchildren a healthy planet, we must decrease our dependence on polluting, global-warming causing petroleum and other finite fossil fuels. We know our nation can do it — our history shows that there are few challenges we have not overcome with American ingenuity."

9/11 Panel Felt Pentagon Lied

WASHINGTON — THE WASHINGTON POST reported last week that the Pentagon and aviation officials might have lied to the Sept. 11 panel about the accuracy of its first response to the attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C. in 2001.

Staff members and commissioners of the 10-member panel in fact suspected so much that the commission met in secret in 2004 and later agreed to submit their allegations to the inspectors general for the Defense and Transportation departments, instead of referring to the Jus-

tice Department for a criminal investigation.

Thomas H. Kean, the former New Jersey Republican governor who led the commission, told the Post that he doesn't know why NORAD (the North American Aerospace Command) explained events the way it did. "It was just so far from the truth... It's one of those loose ends that never got tied," Kean said.

The inspector general's office is expected to release a report on the accuracy of the Pentagon's testimony to the

commission soon. A 2005 secret report to Congress released to the public last week showed that the Defense Department's record keeping was to blame for the perceived falsities.

A VANITY FAIR magazine article that hit newsstands last week reports that NORAD and the FAA gave false testimony on the 9/11 hijackings to the panel and in the media for over two years. According to audio tapes from NORAD and other evidence, the military had not tracked any hijacked airliners nor prepared itself to shoot down United Airlines Flight 93.

Because the agencies refused to release these tapes as well as emails, the commission was forced to use its subpoena powers, a move that led some members to think they were being misled on the details of Sept. 11.

54 Percent Of Americans Support Mideast Cease-Fire: Poll

WASHINGTON — A 54-percent majority of Americans back a quick cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah, according to a new poll.

International Communications Research, a polling and market research firm commissioned by the Washington-based Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), also found that 63 percent want the United States to remain neutral in this Mideast conflict.

The firm conducted a random telephone survey of 1,000 Americans from July 28 to Aug. 2. The poll's margin of error is +/-3 percent.

The survey also discovered that 35 percent of Americans see the U.S. as biased toward Israel. Thirty-seven percent view their government's Mideast policy as being balanced and neutral.

Only two percent believe that the U.S. government is sided with the Palestinians and Lebanese.

CAIR, during a press conference last week, called on more elected officials to back the opinions of their constituents with the launch of an online petition drive called "Not in America's Name."

"The Bush administration's Mideast policy should reflect the opinion of the majority of Americans, not the narrow political agenda put forward by special interest groups," said

CAIR Board Chairman Parvez Ahmed in a statement.

So far, a small bipartisan group of congressmen have spoken out in support of an immediate cease-fire, including Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Nebr.) and Representatives David Price (D-N.C.), Lois Capps (D-Calif.), James Leach (R-Iowa), and Bob Filner (D-Calif.).

In the House, Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) drafted a resolution last week calling for President Bush to help stop the violence between Israel and Hezbollah.

INFO

Not In America's Name
www.notinamericasname.org

WAR IN IRAQ
Casualties:
U.S. Military Deaths
2,586
U.S. Govt. Statistics

SUBSCRIBE TO THE ICONOCLAST!

Classifieds 1-254-675-3634
Classified Word Ads
are non-bordered, text-only, ads that are categorized on the classified page's by: For Sale, For Rent, Garage Sales, Miscellaneous, Notices, Employment, Services, Cards of Thanks, and Real Estate.
Ad Rate: \$5.00 (paid in advance) or \$6.00 (billed, WAC) minimum for 10 words or less, then 20¢ per word thereafter.
We Accept Bordered Ads Are Charged At The Regular Display Rate

Real Estate

TEXAS LAND BANK
We Make Farm & Ranch, Country Land & Home Loans
That's What We Do.
TexasLandBank.com
1-888-467-6411
Steve Ostrom or Justin Wiethorn
Waco Credit Office
Part of the Texas Credit System

Family Is Most Important. Be Home For Them Daily.
Positions Available for the **Petroleum Products Delivery Drivers** in the **DFW and Waco Area.** **\$1,000 Sign On Bonus**
Waco 1-800-782-5064
DFW 1-888-371-9107
• Excellent Pay • Great Benefits
• Paid Holidays • Paid Vacation
• 401K Retirement • Paid College Tuition for Children
Class A CDL License with X Endorsement and 1 Year recent driving experience necessary
www.coastaltransport.net

Texas Takes Lead As Top Wind Energy State

WASHINGTON — Move over, California. Texas became the new leader in wind-power capacity in the United States this last quarter by adding a total of 375 megawatts (MW). Texas' total capacity is now 2,370 MW, followed by California's 2,323 MW, according to the American Wind Energy Association's (AWEA) Second Quarter Market Report.

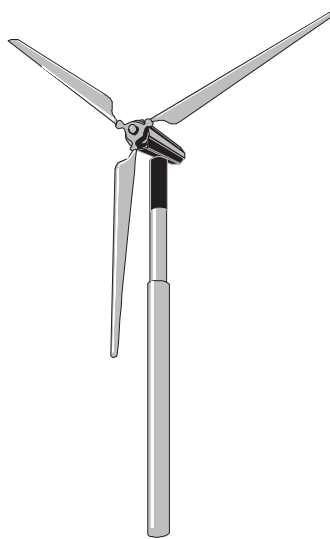
The transition came after California's 25-year uninterrupted streak as a wind-power giant, which at one time boasted to hold more than 80 percent of the world's wind-power capacity. The 1980s oil shock, however, dropped prices enough to prohibit the Golden State's windy renaissance.

All in all, the report shows that a total capacity of 822 mega-

watts (MW) was created in the first half of the year. Now at a 9,971-MW national capacity, the 10-gigawatt milestone is near reach, but to do so would mean problems between wind turbines and military radar need to be solved in the meantime.

In the long-term, an action plan to provide 20 percent of the nation's electricity from clean, renewable wind energy will be released at the WINDPOWER 2007 Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles, Calif., June 3-6, 2007. Input for the plan is being sought from environmental groups, utilities, policy planners, investors, educators, and communities.

Already, it is seen that the federal production tax credit set to expire in December 2007 should



be extended to meet the 20-percent benchmark. This move

would give the wind energy sector time to reinvest in a stable business climate, according to the AWEA.

Radnofsky Wants To Debate Hutchison

HOUSTON — In what is shaping up as a highly charged contest for U.S. Senate, Democratic nominee Barbara Ann Radnofsky says that her incumbent opponent, Kay Bailey Hutchison, is avoiding debating her.

Radnofsky says that Hutchison has avoided an offer to travel to Amarillo for a public issues discussion at a location already chosen by the Hutchison campaign for a Monday, Aug. 7, public issues discussion sponsored by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce and the Globe-News Performing Arts Centre.

Said Radnofsky, "My opponent has no valid reason to avoid the many debate opportunities offered to her, other than her fear and reluctance to defend her liberal spending and her ineffective legislative puffery, a tactic that has never worked in Congress. After her tour of the Performing Arts Centre on Monday she will take questions from the audience and hold a press conference. The voters of Texas deserve to see a public debate."

Radnofsky will make a campaign swing through the South Plains and Panhandle on Aug. 9. Radnofsky's trip follows more than 455 campaign visits, and she will begin with a press conference in Lubbock followed by a press conference in Amarillo.

Radnofsky says that during her press conferences she will discuss the issues Texans care about including the costs of corruption and how Texans have been shortchanged, government waste, fiscal responsibility, the Trans-Texas Corridor, and the inadequate federal relief dollars for water and drought issues.

The Democrat says she will identify the repercussions to the South Plains and the Panhandle from the massive government waste that has become commonplace in Washington, D.C.

Radnofsky says she clearly opposes "the land grabbing, double taxing, community ruining Trans-Texas Corridor, which represents a huge waste of over a quarter of a trillion of our tax dollars." She says she will draw attention to her opponent's anti-Texas vote for tolling projects in last year's transportation bill, which gave massive preferences to Alaska, leaving Texas a net gas tax donor to the rest of the country, as Texas ranks 49th in the U.S. in per capita transportation spending.



Radnofsky



Hutchison

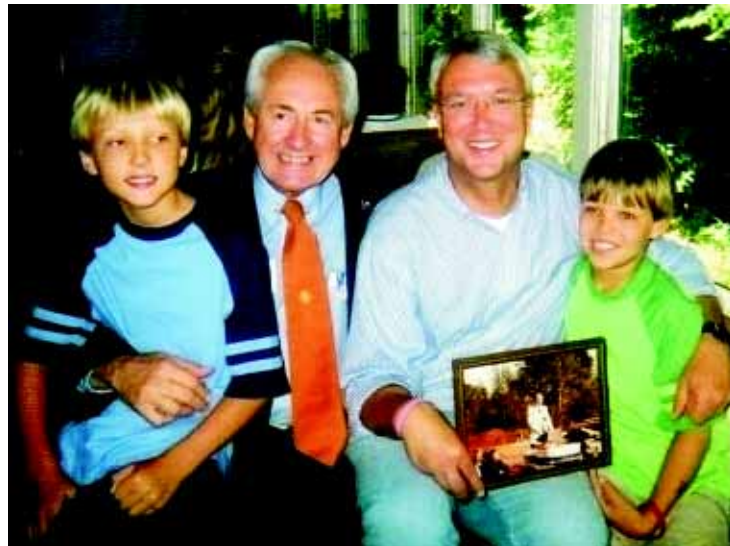
Bell Says TPWD Funds Raided

AUSTIN — Democratic candidate for Governor Chris Bell of Houston and his two sons, Connally and Atlee, visited with Fred Head of Athens, candidate for Comptroller of Public Accounts, as they rode the train on the Texas State Railroad between Palestine and Rusk on Saturday, July 29.

Bell and Head both strongly support full funding for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to elevate it from its present position of 49th out of the 50 states in funds spent to support public parks.

The People of Texas passed a provision levying a tax on sporting goods in 1993 with the stipulation that the funds be spent for the support of the activities of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, but subsequent Legislation has been passed raiding these funds and transferring a large portion to the General Revenue Fund.

Bell and Head have pledged to return this money to the use pro-



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE for Governor Chris Bell of Houston and his two sons Connally (left) and Atlee (right) are shown with Fred Head (second from left) of Athens, candidate for Comptroller of Public Accounts, as they ride the train on the Texas State Railroad between Palestine and Rusk on Saturday, July 29.

vided for by the People of Texas when they supported the tax, that

being for the support of the Public State Parks of Texas.

Health Insurance For All Americans By 2012: Sen. Kerry

BOSTON — Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) last Monday called for the U.S. government to mandate and fund a health insurance program for all Americans by 2012. His speech was delivered on the same stage in which the current Republican governor of Massachusetts signed a bill this last April creating a state-backed health insurance program.

Sen. Kerry, a potential presidential candidate for the

Democratic Party in 2008, told a crowd at Faneuil Hall that the federal Medicaid program should be expanded to cover children. Another program should be created to assist workers whose employers pass on their healthcare costs to them, he said.

Though Kerry failed to explain the means by which he would legislate such a mandate, he did propose paying for it by removing President George W. Bush's tax cuts for citizens who

earn over \$200,000 a year.

Kerry said that his health care proposal remains in tact from when he ran for president on the Democratic ticket in 2004. At the time, his opponent's supporters called the junior senator a "flip-flopper."

The state of Massachusetts is already a step ahead of him. Gov. Mitt Romney, a Republican who is also seen as positioning himself for a run as president, negotiated

a healthcare program that the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has called a "model."

The program, which was passed with a Democratic Legislature, expands Medicaid for 100,000 people. Another 200,000 have their premium costs



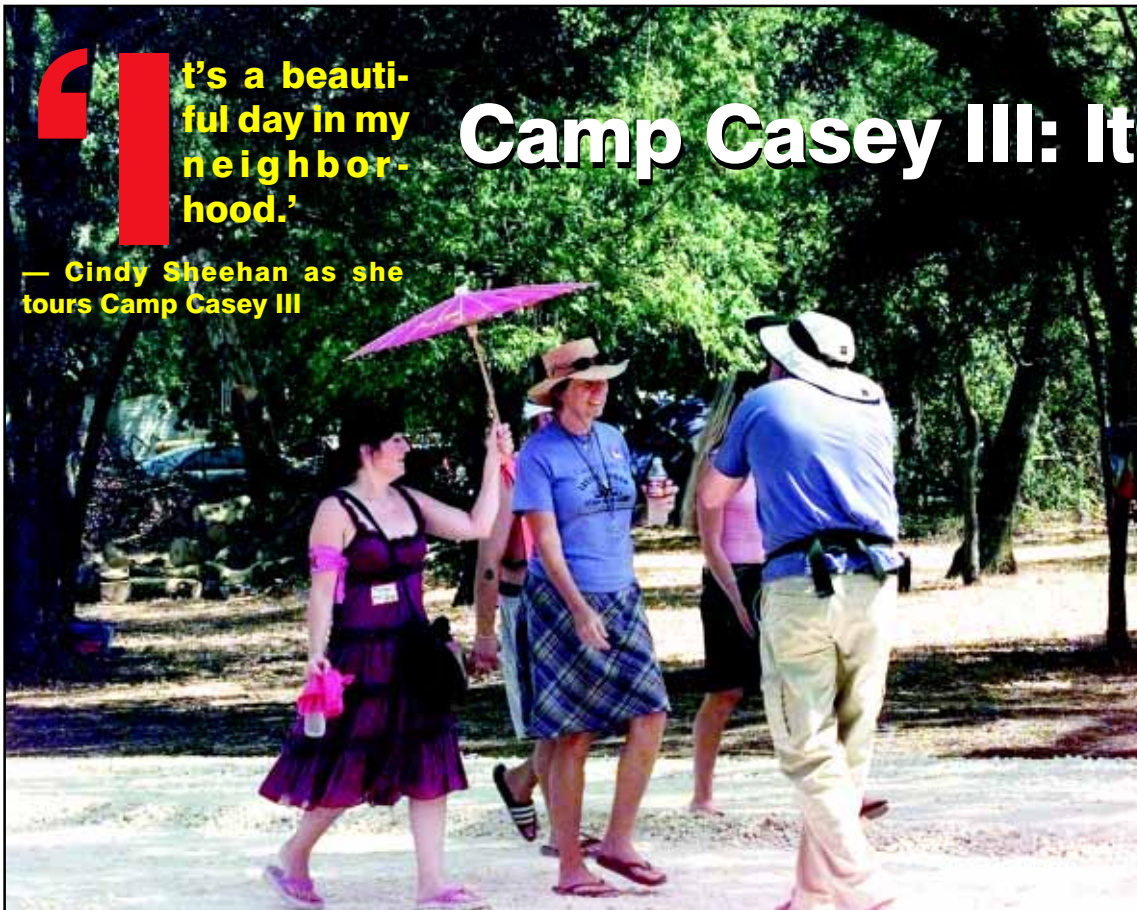
John Kerry

covered when they buy private programs. Private companies also offer another 200,000 people low-cost policies backed by the government. The federal government pays for the program with a yearly \$385 million allocation.

It's a beautiful day in my neighborhood.'

— Cindy Sheehan as she tours Camp Casey III

Camp Casey III: It's All About Peace



AS CINDY SHEEHAN (second from left, first photo) toured Camp Casey III, she commented, "It's a beautiful day in my neighborhood." — Iconoclast Photos By W. Leon Smith

New Vigil Begins At Camp Casey III

By W. LEON SMITH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CRAWFORD — Blessings were bestowed upon Camp Casey III during an interfaith service held under a shaded tent as a hot Texas sun blazed down on the approximately 60 participants late Sunday morning.

Earlier, Cindy Sheehan began the morning with a short press conference about 80 yards from where the religious service was held, saying, "This is the fourth time we've been here. Last year we made a commitment to be here whenever George Bush is supposed to be on vacation because he never met with me last summer. The troops are still in Iraq. My goal is to get the troops home. We're going to be doing it here now until our goals are accomplished."

It had been a year since Sheehan made her original internationally acclaimed trip to Crawford to ask President Bush "for what noble cause" her son, Casey, had died in Iraq and to encourage the bringing home of troops. Bush did not meet with her during the 26-day vigil last year that coincided with his annual August vacation on his Prairie Chapel ranch.

During that period, two camps were eventually established, Camp Casey I and Camp Casey II. On the first day of the original trip to Crawford, Sheehan and other peace activists walked

in ditches to a point near the Bush ranch where they were blocked by law enforcement personnel from getting any closer to the ranch.

Sheehan explained Sunday that during their rallies last Easter, "We had about 300 people and it (Camp Casey II) wasn't big enough and since they (the McLennan County Commissioners' Court) passed the ordinances that we can't camp at Camp Casey I, we needed to either rent a bigger property or buy something. We were having trouble finding something for rent so I decided to buy something. When we don't need Camp Casey III (located on the outskirts of Crawford) anymore and when the troops are home and after



CINDY SHEEHAN takes a question at her first press conference during this visit to Crawford.

— Iconoclast Photo By W. Leon Smith

we use it as a peace camp I'm going to donate the property to

the town of Crawford to use as a park. We're going to build a playground and put in some picnic benches and we're going to name it the Specialist Casey Sheehan Memorial Peace Park."

When asked whether local residents were resentful about the way the property was purchased, through a third party, Sheehan said, "A lot of people have a third party buy land for them. I could have hired a lawyer, but it would have cost me more. I think they should be more resentful to a president that lied to the American public and lied to the world.

"I think Camp Casey III will be safer than where we were before, and we won't be in the way as much as we were before.

We are good neighbors. We were good neighbors out there. If they can't put up with our presence for a few weeks, when our soldiers and the people of Iraq are suffering constantly because of what our other neighbor George Bush did, then I think they need to learn to relax a little bit and learn to live with us because, I promise you, I love Crawford and we will be good neighbors."

Sheehan has just returned from Amman, Jordan, where she met with Iraqi officials, and planned to make a formal statement on Monday about that meeting, but she mentioned during the press conference that her contingency had met with several factions of opposition parties, with the Iraq prime min

Continued On Next Page

PERSONAL INJURY & WRONGFUL DEATH



IN WACO: 254-772-7500
www.withvic.com

1-877-WITH-VIC
9 4 8 4 8 4 2

SERVING CENTRAL TEXAS
WITH OFFICES IN WACO,
TEMPLE AND AUSTIN

THE LAW OFFICES

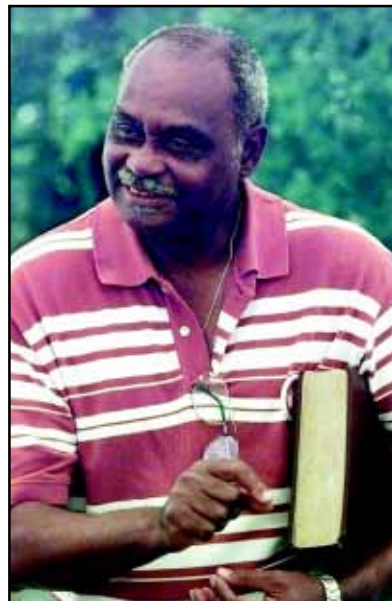
Vic Feazell P.C.



TRIAL ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS OF LAW

Principal office in Austin.
Meetings with attorneys by appointment only.





SPEAKERS at the Interfaith service included (from left) Baba Ifayomi (greeting Cindy Sheehan), the Rev. Diane Baker, Sheehan, Immalhedayah Moujahed Bakhach, and the Rev. Peter Johnson.
— Iconoclast Photos By W. Leon Smith

THE INTERFAITH SERVICE was temporarily disrupted by a man identified as William McGlothlin of Arkansas who shouted, "This is anarchy right here."
— Staff Photo By W. Leon Smith

Camp Casey III: It's All About Peace

From Previous Page

ister, and "with Iraqi parliamentarians, elected officials who have peace plans and goals they want to accomplish in Iraq. And all of them say that occupation is the cause of the problem and the occupation has to end."

Following the press conference, Sheehan toured Camp Casey III, which includes an area of crosses, a teepee, and roads that were recently cut among tree-laden areas.

At one point, she commented, in a fashion akin to the song often chanted by the late Fred Rogers on the *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood* kids' television show that teaches being a good neighbor: "It's a beautiful day in my neighborhood," as she walked among the trees.

The Interfaith service included words of peace and unity by several speakers, including Baba Ifayomi of Dallas, who led the service; Immalhedayah Moujahed Bakhach of the Islamic Center, Ft. Worth, the Rev. Diane Baker, Methodist minister; and the Rev. Peter Johnson.

During his address Bakhach called for an immediate halt to the "killing of innocent people all over the world," a message that was mirrored by the other speakers.

Baba Ifayomi offered a chant, recited by the congregation, "Blessed be Camp Casey. Blessed be Camp Casey."

"We want to stay focused on why we are here," he said, "so that the prayers that we pray go out into the universe unified. We want to be focused and unified so that the energy we put out moves what we want to move."

"If there's any goal we wish to accomplish, we must move as one."

He introduced Cindy Sheehan as one of many who have made great sacrifices.

Sheehan recited the physical address of the five acres of property on which sits Camp Casey III and said she will soon be "registering to vote here" and will be getting a Texas drivers' license.

She noted that her trip to the Middle East was an "eye-opening experience," and explained that she was told by a Middle Easterner, "It's too late for my country," since many families have left. "Tens of thousands of people are dead," and the country is in ruins.

Sheehan said that a common denominator of what was being said in Amman was the need to erase borders, "the need to stop labeling ourselves. If you label yourself a Christian or a Jew or a Muslim or an American or a Jordanian or an Iraqi or a Palestinian, you are labeling yourself as somebody it's okay to kill," she said. "We were talking about the need for us to recognize and realize that we are human beings

first. Before we are Americans, before we are Christians, before we are anything. We are human beings first.

"No matter what we look like on the outside, our hearts are connected. No matter what color we are, because colors can change — you know, by the end of the summer I'll be a lot darker than this ... look at Michael Jackson, he used to be black but now he is white — colors can change. Religions can change. Borders can change."

Sheehan said that "even President Bush's heart is connected."

"What we have to do is remind him that with every bomb that drops in Lebanon or Palestine or Israel or Iraq or Afghanistan, he's killing someone who his heart is connected to, and you know what, he's killing my brothers and sisters. And I'm not okay with that."

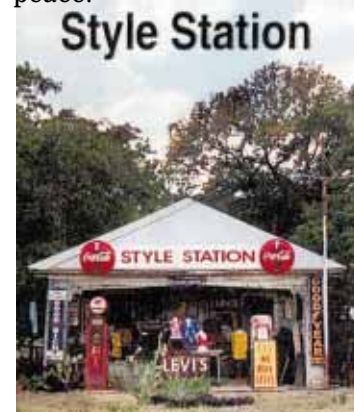
Sheehan's remarks were interrupted by a man identified as William McGlothlin of Arkansas who disrupted the service by shouting, just a few feet from

Sheehan, "Is your heart connected to Al Qaeda?" He went on to yell, as he was asked to not interrupt, "I spent 20 years in the Army for people like this. ... This is ridiculous. ... They tried to kill us. You guys have a problem. Why don't you just move over there. I'm sure they'll let you. This is anarchy right here. And now the Arabs are trying to kill us and rob us of oil. This is disgusting."

The man was escorted away from the service, but continued to shout from a distance as the service continued with a talk by the Rev. Johnson, who said, "Solving your problems through violence is wrong." He asked how does one tell a 19-year-old to solve his problems without violence when he sees that this is the government's answer.

Baba Ifayomi concluded the service with this: "Our message at Camp Casey is 'on war, we put peace.' Where Camp Casey has to go is where we're going to take it. The original sacrifices have

been made, the direction is there, and clear. We're going to stay here and keep putting out that energy. We're going to go back to our cities, and keep organizing and putting out that image of peace. We have to find creative ways of relaying the messages of peace."



Vintage Clothing
17265 NIH 35, West, Texas 76691
between exits 347 and 349
254-829-0047
ART and REBECCA DE VITALIS
PEACE T-SHIRTS

BULLETIN BOARD

To Advertise In This Section,
Call (254) 675-3634



CC, Etc.

675-3511 • 675-3732 • Toll Free 866-439-4794
402 N. Ave. G (Hwy. 6), Clifton

Some Things Are Better Rarely Served

As Uncle Hugh used to say, "You ort'n to torment fools. They do that themselves."

Forget the Middle East crisis, the Iraqi Civil War or Iran's nukes.

What are we going to do about Elvis' Teddy Bear!??

Barney beheaded it.

Not through any PB-esque pique, understand.

Barney is a Doberman who was supposed to be guarding the teddy bear at a Wells, England, children's museum.

But you don't want to be a Doberman, 'cause pinschers play too rough.

And evidently Mabel, as Elvis' bedtime bruin was called, wasn't the kind that Barney loved enough.

Neither were the rest of the museum's estimated (for insurance purposes, naturally) million dollar rare teddy bear collection.

And rare is obviously the way Barney likes his bear.

He chewed them all up.

In the morning, museum officials reportedly put a chain around his neck and led him . . .

OK, I'll stop.

I should have known you couldn't bear up under the strain of this story and song.

Porous Another One.

GAO investigators asked all the questions but the right one when 18 of their number entered U.S. border checkpoints using fake ID's between February and June.

The Department of Homeland Security complained they don't have enough money.

Were you aware that common sense was so expensive?

After all, a \$7 an hour Austin bartender picked off the First Twin's fake ID.

It was notoriety at first glance.

So if the Secret Service can't produce a believable phony driver's license, how could an Afghani spelunking techy with a Dell laptop he hasn't charged since 2001 produce even a University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff student card that an Easy Mart midnight-to-seven clerk wouldn't catch?

Don't misunderstand, I'm all for hiring the visually-impaired, but you'd think even the seeing-eye dog would ask for identification. Apparently in two of the border-crossing cases, the undercover didn't even get a cursory interrogation.

Like, maybe, "Who are you?"

But the real question here is, since we are supposed to be at war with terrorism, and with all this heightened insecurity on our borders such that a Piedras Negras plumber's apprentice can find happiness at half the prevailing wage on a Chicago city construction site, how come we haven't had any more attacks from the Axis of Evil's vile henchmen?

Call To Mind

By Don M. Fisher



It couldn't be that somebody just made up the boogeyman to scare the children into being good.

No, it couldn't be.

Gosh, maybe we've won!

You Can't Tell The Fascists

Apart Without A Pogrom!

So OK, the Republican Party in Texas finally admitted they *DID* execute a survey to determine how strong "moderate" Republican legislators are in their districts.

The Republikanische Partei-Zentralausschuß didn't do it so they could funnel money into the fascist opposition's campaigns more effectively.

They wanted to find out where the anti-gay sentiment lay so they could ensure passage of the gay marriage ban amendment this November.

Right.

And a pro gay marriage campaign in this state stands about as much chance of passing as a Volkswagen bus in a 40 mile per hour headwind.

Even if every Republican in the state has barbecued cholesterol at every meal for the next decade.

Which, incidentally, most will.

Understand that in Texas, a "moderate" Republican wants to deny homosexuals equal protection.

Conservative Republicans want to deny homosexuals air.

Legislative Cleansing, anyone?

Heated Exchange

The Fascist Republican trash-mouths yucked it up over Democrat Chris Bell's assertion that, as governor, he would dedicate his efforts to relieving global warming.

Specifically, he said he plans a campaign to reduce greenhouse gasses throughout the state.

How stupid, chided the propa-

ganda ministers of Lying Texas Governor Tricky Ricky Perry!

The govner of Texas cain't do nothin' 'bout no global warmin', even if it did exist.

Which it don't.

Not no way, not no how!

Them dead people in California ain't dead; them are marijuana overdoses or AIDS queers or they got bird flew or sumpum like 'at.

Uh, well, as it actually turns out, the governor hasn't the power to do anything about CO₂ emissions, but the Texas Legislature could.

It seems that only seven other countries worldwide put out more greenhouse flatulence than Texas.

Bell's plan to cut emissions by 80 percent would make a significant change.

Like Big Oil is going let its pet Legislature bite it in the quarters, or a broker in the Woodlands is going to walk to the 7-11 to buy cigarettes!

Now, my fellow Texans, given a choice between naiveté and stupidity . . .

Show Your ASS

From the Devour Your Young department:

When the Tricky Ricky campaign received two-cent checks from members of Citizens Lowering Our Unfair Taxes, workers marked them ASS 06, and cashed them.

CLOUT fascists were upset because the legislature only cut \$5 billion from Texas school funding and wanted REAL property tax relief.

And exploitable ignorance among Texas school children.

Oh, no, cried the Perry pundits. It was a misunderstanding.

ASS stands for A Small Supporter.

And BULL stands for Bureau of Uninspired Lying Lollygaggers.

Even a Texas third grader who couldn't pass the governor's TAKS test knows an ASS when he sees one.

And he knows it from a hole in the ground.

Editorial

Hutchison Should Debate Radnofsky Is Libertarian Nominee For Governor A Nobody?

U.S. Sen Kay Bailey Hutchison has just released a column elaborating on her Senate accomplishments this year, such as supporting the PATRIOT Act, authorizing certain funds for the armed forces in their "War on Terror," providing tax cuts in order to achieve economic growth, authorizing the opening of 8.3 million acres in the Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas production, increasing Pell Grants, and assuring that Hurricane Rita victims were treated fairly by the federal government. This is what she said she did.

Some might argue a few of these as positives, others as negatives, especially when you read between the lines and attempt to draw parallels of her words to the real world.

And some, like her opponent in the race, Barbara Ann Radnofsky, might feel compelled to point out where Hutchison failed to stand up for Texans, especially regarding Alaskan pork, or simply to question Hutchison's cheerleading theatrics on other issues.

And there *are* other issues — like immigration, stem cell research, the conflicts in the Middle East, depleted uranium, why soldiers coming home are not being adequately taken care of, and the list goes on.

Let's hope Hutchison answers Radnofsky's challenge to debate. We need to know where these two women really stand, what their approaches to governance are, and who they are looking out for "in the real world."

In another debate issue, Libertarian Party nominee for Texas governor James

Werner says something stinks at TV station KERA and claims that a spot in the October debate involving his opponents is being unlawfully denied him. He says that, unlike the four other candidates in the debate, he was not given an invitation by public TV station KERA, while IRS regulations require the not-for-profit broadcaster to treat all candidates the same or possibly lose its tax-exempt status.

"Instead," says Wes Benedict, executive director of the Libertarian Party of Texas, "KERA asked the Libertarian candidate to defend the newsworthiness of his campaign using a questionnaire."

"We think it's unfortunate that KERA chose to treat James Werner differently by asking him to complete a questionnaire that it did not even send to the other candidates," said Benedict. "What's important is that Texas voters have access to an open and fair debate among all the candidates."

Too often, the supposed "top candidates" are treated with all the attention, while "minority parties" are discriminated against. After all, "It's a two-party system," say some.

Sure, Bell, Perry, Friedman, and Strayhorn have gotten most of the press by utilizing campaign tactics in order to be heard. And nothing is keeping the Libertarian candidate from pursuing a similar track.

But a debate on public television should include all the candidates.

— W. Leon Smith

MUELLER, INC.
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS & COMPONENTS

Now Stocking Material for Customer Pickup
Call For Availability — Delivery Available

Waco: 800-525-3814
Mark Noland (ext. 5426) - Roland Hicks (ext. 5427)
5591 N. Hwy. 6, Waco • 254-848-2560 • Fax: 254-848-9997
www.muellerinc.com



In Memory Of My Friend The Soldier

On Friday, July 14, 2006, while I was sitting in a newsroom pecking away at a keyboard, my friend Brooke Wood was dying.

Brooke and I were good friends through all of our high school days. He was in R.O.T.C., and talked about becoming a soldier all the time. I was in journalism, and talked about becoming a professional writer all the time. We were on two very different paths, but that never stopped us from being friends. Even when we had fights over girls, it was just water under the bridge.

I remember my graduation night like it was just yesterday. Brooke and I practically walked the stage together, given both our last names start with the same letter. He told me after we sat back down, having turned our tassels, that he had joined up. That night, he said, would be his last in town, at least for a few years.

After the ceremony, Brooke and I went to his church, just down the street. We were both living in a rather small town, so even though I did not frequent this particular house of worship, pretty much everyone there knew me anyway. They were having a going away party for him. While he was social with all the well-wishers, I just sat quietly in the back of the sanctuary, wondering what other radical changes were coming down the pipeline. We drank Red Bull and stayed out all night, putzing around. We had a good time, and then I said goodbye.

I never saw him again.

He joined the Army and became a demolitions expert. If it could explode, Brooke wanted to play with it. It was just in his



The Webster Retort

By Stephen Webster

nature, I guess. He worked with all kinds of various munitions; even Depleted Uranium. Especially Depleted Uranium. What with the Army dumping hundreds of millions of dollars into new DU bombs, and refusing to research the long-term effects of DU poisoning, maybe Brooke was in over his head.

Fact of the matter is, Depleted Uranium is more deadly than Agent Orange. Millions of people have been exposed, and a vast majority suffers because of it. Many die. It causes tumors, birth defects, infections, nervous system disorders and brain damage, to name a few. Some who are poisoned do not know it, and pass on mutated, irradiated DNA to their children who are born terrifying effigies of nature run amok. But, it is the best of the best. A single DU-tipped bullet can cut through tank armor like butter. It is one of the most powerful weapons in the Army's arsenal.

And when I think about it, he probably knew all those things and simply did not care. He was like that: a big fan of overwhelming force; the next few generations be damned.

Brooke served his country with pride. Hell, he probably had some fun too. He was a man that Stomped on the Terra. I'd bet Dollars to Dinars that those insurgents never saw what was coming. One minute, they're planting a roadside bomb. The



Charles Brooke Wood,
1983 - 2006

next ... Well, let's just say he had a sharp eye. He almost went to sniper school.

He returned from his third tour in Iraq this past February, unbeknownst to me. From what my friends tell me, he was just fine. He had changed a lot from being in the sand trap, in the shit, right there, in the thick of the fighting. He wasn't a high

school punk anymore. He was a soldier; and damn proud of it. We both broke into the careers we love; him with his bombs, and me with my words.

According to a few accounts, he was just fine on Tuesday, the 11th. He was partying with friends, downing beers like only a military man can, laughing out loud and having a good time. All

the sudden, he fell ill. It came out of nowhere, practically. A brain infection. Tumors. Hemorrhaging. Headaches. Uncontrollable shaking. No energy. And like a bullet taking the short trip down a hot barrel, he died just days after it was discovered. His brain was so swollen that doctors induced a coma. The pain was too great.

I was told about his death by an old friend who I talk to on MySpace.com. She asked me if I remembered him. Like I could forget. I found out he was engaged to a girl named Sarah. And he had a kid on the way. It is a boy, due next March. She found out about the pregnancy just three days after he died.

Was my friend Brooke one of many victims of Depleted Uranium poisoning? That is the question that is weighing heavily on my mind right now. I do not know, but it seems likely. Though I have not seen him in years, when I heard he died, the memories came flooding back. I remember it all, perhaps too clearly.

From the deserts of Iraq to the green fields of Brenham, Charles Brooke Wood's passing will be lamented for years to come. He was my friend. He was a soldier. He placed his faith in the barrel of a gun, the trigger of a bomb and the policy of a King.

The Sand Trap couldn't kill him. He was too good for that. But the stink of it ... That's what did him in.

Pray for his son, that he may not suffer the horrifying effects of Depleted Uranium upon his birth.

I have missed my friend, all these years. Now, I will miss him forevermore.

Charles Brooke Wood, R.I.P.

Libertarian Nominee For Texas Governor Wants Debate Spot

AUSTIN — The Libertarian Party nominee for Texas governor recently requested a spot in a televised debate against his opponents in October — a spot his party says is otherwise being denied him unlawfully.

Nominee James Werner, unlike the four other candidates in the debate, was not given an invitation by public TV station KERA, while IRS regulations require the not-for-profit broadcaster to treat all candidates the same or possibly lose its tax-exempt status. Instead, KERA asked the Libertarian candidate to defend the newsworthiness of his campaign using a questionnaire.

"We think it's unfortunate that KERA chose to treat



James Werner

James Werner differently by asking him to complete a ques-

tionnaire that it did not even send to the other candidates," said Wes Benedict, Executive Director of the LPT. "What's important is that Texas voters have access to an open and fair debate among all the candidates."

"We have faith that KERA and the other sponsors are going to do the right thing and include all five candidates," he added.

Warner, a sales executive for a major software firm, holds a Bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University and a Master's degree in Spanish and Latin American literature from the University of California, Los Angeles.

For more information on tax-

exempt organizations, visit the IRS website's online election-year guide and look at pages 372-375.

INFO

IRS website
www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/

eotopici02.pdf

Werner for Governor Campaign:

www.werner4texas.com

Libertarian Party of Texas

web site:

lptexas.org

SPECIAL PROMOTION
BUSINESS CARD ADS

Call **ON THE INTERNET and IN THE PAPER!**
(254) 675-3336



Young Men, Alcohol, Guns — A Deadly Combination

By July 26, 1881, the reckless young cowboy had put a hundred miles between him and a blood-splattered barroom in Bryan.

Three days of hard riding in the sweltering summer heat must have seemed like an eternity to Reuben Stillwell. But with the Brazos County sheriff breathing down his neck, the 21-year-old cowpoke dared not stop.

Never in his worst nightmare could he have imagined Saturday would be the fateful day that forever changed his life. After taking in the horse races with his best buddy Lucien Reed, the two adjourned to their favorite watering hole to get out of the sun and to quench their thirst.

Stillwell and Reed did their drinking standing up with their backs to the table, where the town doctor and the Porter brothers sat. The trio had started an argument over a bet at the racetrack, and now they tried to pick a fight by taunting the boys at the bar.

Stillwell could tell from the look on Reed's face that his companion had had about all he could take. "Let it go, Lucien," he advised draining the last drop from the glass.

This Week In Texas History

By Barte Haile



But the tipsy physician would not leave well enough alone and without a word of warning sprang at Reed like an arthritic tiger. The doctor landed face-first on the younger man's fist and collapsed unconscious to the floor.

An article in the fall 1998 issue of OLD WEST magazine described what happened next: "Instantly, the Porters leaped to their feet, and out of the corner of his eye Stillwell saw them going for their guns. Instinctively, he and Reed went for their own and four shots roared out."

Even through the thick gun smoke, two dead bodies were plainly visible. Jim Porter had taken a bullet through the brain, and brother Cicero had caught one in the heart.

Reuben Stillwell panicked. Maybe a jury would see things his way — a clear case of self-defense — and maybe not. He was not going to hang around to find out.

Stillwell kept the threatening throng covered, as he retreated toward the door. He urged his accomplice to join him, but Reed turned down the invitation. "I got no place to go," he said with a shrug and wished his friend well.

Stillwell was long gone by the time the sheriff arrived on the scene. He locked up Lucien Reed, organized a posse and rode off in pursuit of the double-murder suspect.

Stillwell had no way of knowing that the law was never hot on his heels. After three weeks on the run, he risked showing his face in Waxahachie, a jumping-off place for northbound cattle drives.

He heard a beef baron from the Pacific Northwest was hiring hands to drive a herd of longhorns all the way to the Idaho Territory. The fugitive figured that was far enough and signed on as "Tom Hall."

The cow caravan provided safe passage out of Texas, just as Stillwell had hoped. Rather than wander aimlessly and attract attention, he stayed in Idaho. The cold climate was a tough adjustment, but practically everyone was a stranger

in the sparsely settled territory and work was easy to come by.

Stillwell's lonely existence ended in February 1886, when he married Anna Nelson. Only after they tied the knot did he tell her his terrible secret. Anna took the truth in stride but insisted he marry her a second time under his real name.

That may have been what put D.D. Dawson on the Texan's trail. The new sheriff of Brazos County showed up in Silver City, Idaho, in September 1887 with an arrest warrant. After he convinced his counterpart that well-liked "Tom Hall" and killer Reuben Stillwell were one and the same, the two sheriffs and a deputy rode out to the couple's ranch.

Stillwell did not go along quietly. No shots were fired, but Reuben and a loyal friend put up a heck of a fight before they were finally subdued at gunpoint. Fearing an attempt to free the popular prisoner, Dawson left for Texas that very day.

Once back in Bryan, the sheriff had to worry about a different kind of mob. Some folks wanted to spare the county the trouble and expense of a trial, but armed guards at the jail and the appearance of Stillwell's aged

mother silenced the lynch talk. Encouraged by her mother-in-law to show support for Reuben, Anna Hall/Stillwell made the long trip to Texas. Weakened by the difficult journey, she soon took sick and died.

Since there was no doubt as to Stillwell's guilt, his March 1888 acquittal must have been the result of public sympathy for his private tragedy. Jurors could not find it in their hearts to send the grief-stricken widower to prison.

The story of Reuben Stillwell does not have a happy ending. He returned to his Idaho ranch right after the trial but was wiped out by the worst winter on record.

After tending bar in mining towns for more than 25 years, "Tom Hall," as he continued to call himself, wound up a guard at the Idaho state penitentiary. He never remarried and died alone in 1934 at the age of 76.

"Outlaws & Lawmen" - "Best of This Week in Texas History" Vol. VI is \$10.95 plus \$3.25 postage and handling from Barte Haile, P.O. Box 152, Friendswood, TX 77549.

And don't forget to visit www.twith.com.

Services

"NEVER PAINT AGAIN"
NORANDEX/REYNOLDS

FARM & HOME BUILDERS
Vinyl Siding & Window Specialists
ED PETTIT, Owner/Operator
www.farmandhomebuilders.com

206 Hickory Hico, TX 76457 254-796-4507
TOLL FREE 866-219-1923

Texas "Ranch" Improvements
LAND OWNERS
Are young Cedar Trees taking over your Pastures or Deer Leases?

- Cedar Tree Grubing - Young trees: removes tree & "root"
- Cedar Tree Shearing - Ground level
- Mesquite Field Shredding
- Oak Tree Undergrowth Removal
- Oak Tree Removal
- Mesquite Tree Shearing
- Welding

Les Ratliff • (254) 675-6776 794 FM 1991, Clifton

INFOSUPERSTORE
geocities.com/horsewoman102/infosuperstore.html

Quit Smoking Without Patches or Pills!
Save BIG \$ On Your Disney/Orlando Vacation!
Keep Your "Long-Distance" Romance Alive!
2500+ Native American Names & Meanings!
Legally Fight/Beat Speeding Tickets!
Download Unlimited PSP games!
Make Your Own Cooling Vest!
Many More Topics!
NEW/VALUABLE INFO ADDED WEEKLY!

Truck Repair
A/C • Clutches • Engines
Transmission • Repair
Some Mobile Work Done
Call Justin at (254) 945-3618 or 749-8834

Wrecker Service 24 Hr. Full Service Glass Work Service by Lynx Foreign & Domestic

Bill's Body Shop
REPAIR FACILITY ALWAYS OWNER'S CHOICE
Brewco Frame Machine & Measuring System

Highway 6 in Valley Mills, TX phone: (254) 932-6536 fax: (254) 932-6588 cell: (254) 709-2235

Leon's
FLOOR COVERING
Carpet & Vinyl
Formica Cabinet Tops
Wallpaper
Eureka Vacuum Cleaners and Service

QUALITY MATERIAL SOLD AND INSTALLED WITH PRIDE
302 West 5th Clifton, Texas FREE ESTIMATES Mike & Kim Prescher Phone 675-8686 Home 675-8291

Turning Down The President

Recently, Miami Dolphins' head football coach Nick Saban was invited to join President Bush for dinner. The coach turned down the President, saying he was too busy.

You've got to be awfully busy to be too busy to eat with the President. And this wasn't some big fundraising dinner. This was a casual dinner at Joe's Stone Crabs in Miami Beach. Saban said he was just "too focused" on the team right now. Too focused? The football season hasn't even started yet! And as my grandmother would have said, "You've got to eat."

I think Saban had every right to say, "No." And I don't think he was being disrespectful. I'm just surprised that anyone is too busy to have dinner with the President. I mean, how often do you get asked? If he invited me, I'd go — even if there were a big game on TV, and if I didn't like the restaurant he was choosing. I'd TiVo the game, and get a salad.

I'm sure some people think that maybe Saban decided not to go because he disagrees with the President's politics. I've seen no evidence to support this theory. Besides, if you disapproved of the President's policies, or if you just didn't like him, wouldn't you want to have dinner with him to give him a piece of your mind? Wouldn't you want a chance to tell him how you'd be able to run the country better than he's doing?

Perhaps Saban didn't want to join the President because it was one of those nights like we all have when we don't feel like putting on a clean pair of pants and would just rather stay home. Or maybe we should take Saban's reason at face value. Maybe he's a focused workaholic football coach who can't take a break for anything — even dinner with the President.

But I'm concerned that this rejection is really going to bother the President. To make things worse, other heads of state might tease him about it. And I don't want our leader distracted and depressed. If you didn't like "the sneer," how do you think you're going to feel about "the pout?"

If he's like the rest of us, he can't help but wonder why this guy turned him down. It's like when the Johnsons keep saying they're busy when you invite them to dinner. Are they really busy, or is that just an excuse?

At first, Mr. Bush will probably try to rationalize it. He'll tell himself things like, "I'm not upset. I know what an important job coaching a football team is. I'm lucky he took my call," or "Maybe he was afraid he'd have to pick up the check," or "Maybe he doesn't eat shellfish."

But then the President is bound to be plagued by questions like, "Was it because I called at the last minute?" "Is he holding out for an invitation from somebody who has a more important job than I do?" "Doesn't he like my new shirt?"

Obviously, by now he's consulted with Condi Rice and other advisors, so what's the President's next move? He might write Saban a note, saying if the coach's schedule ever frees up, he should just



Modern Times

By Lloyd Garver

give the President a call. But that sounds a little desperate. The President of the United States shouldn't have to beg people to eat with him. Besides, if Saban's too busy to go to dinner, he might be too busy to read and respond to the President's note. So, if he writes him and doesn't get an answer, he's

likely to be plummeted further into despair.

Feeling understandably hurt, the President could go with the "I'll show him" approach. He could invite all the pro football coaches except Saban to dinner. Then, Saban would certainly regret his decision to snub the President. Of course, if all the other coaches say, "No," that will only make the situation worse.

My advice to the President is to just move on. Don't obsess about this. Like the rest of us, you'll never know for sure why somebody doesn't want to go to dinner with you. Just accept it.

I have some advice for Coach Saban, too: for the rest of your life, don't ever take a break from work and be seen in public having dinner. Secondly, if I were you, I'd be really careful when you fill out your tax returns.

Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier" to "Home Improvement." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's Opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at lloydgarver@yahoo.com

Inheriting The Earth

Okra will inherit the earth. No question about it.

I was in the garden this morning, racing against time and temperature (before the day reached 100 degrees and more — about 9 a.m.) For the second year in a row, we let the garden get away from us. We prepare and plant with so much optimism, and then something or several things always happens/happen to take our attention from the almost daily weeding, watering, and care requirements that must accompany such an ambitious endeavor.

When we planned the garden, I hadn't taken the job I held for almost four months. I blame those long days for at least part of our garden disappointments. And even though we plowed and plowed, the okra that so successfully seeded last year became this year the gift that kept on giving. And giving. And giving. You have never seen so much okra in your life. I thought we had a lot last year, but that was nothing compared to this year.

Those seeds produced so many plants that they overshadowed the squash, the peppers, the cucumbers, watermelon, tomatoes, everything else we so optimistically planted. To add insult to injury, we're completely unable to harvest so much okra while it's young and tender. It's a physical impossibility. They grow long and tough before we can possibly pick them all. This doesn't bode well for next year either. More okra, more seeds, more plants, more okra, a vicious cycle. Throw in the second year of a drought, and you have a recipe for garden disaster. Most things we grow to eat need water to live. Not so with okra. It seems to grow no matter what. So when everything else shrivels up and fails, the okra thrives. Like hackberry trees, poison oak, weeds of all sorts. Go fig.

Somehow, miraculously, the little, yellow, pear tomatoes survived as well. We managed to pick about three kazillion of them today and about a third that many kazillion okra. (Most of the million kazillion there were too mature to harvest). After 30 minutes or so in an overgrown garden filled with insects and itchy plants — in the hot, hot sun collecting all those tiny little things, I developed an even greater respect for the migrant work-

ers and others who toil in that industry, indeed for anyone who must work outside when the temperature is dangerously high (including our soldiers in the Middle East). I also clearly understand now why small tomatoes of any kind are more expensive than their larger cousins. Gleaning them is labor intensive to the max.

Always one to look on the bright side, I considered how lucky we were to have this wonderful sauna opportunity at our fingertips, right here on our ranch. People pay hundreds of dollars a day at spas around the country for the privilege of washing the toxins from their bodies by this very same process. For all you regular folks, this is called "sweating." For the more delicate among you, consider "perspiring" or perhaps "shining." We were both shining from head to toe by the time we zipped into town to pick up a couple of parts at the hardware store for our next project of the day. This "shining" felt darn good when the A/C hit us. We had shined right through our clothes.

I didn't have time until late tonight to wash the vegetables we had gathered this morning. Rinsing three kazillion little, yellow, pear tomatoes and about a third that many kazillion okra allowed much time for reflection and thought. And do you know what I thought? I thought that the slimy residue the okra left on my hands felt strangely similar to the stuff I pay an arm and a leg for to de-frizz and add shine to my hair. No, I haven't tried it as a conditioner yet, but I'm certainly considering it. (And I'm pretty sure I read somewhere that okra's a relative of Devil's Claw, isn't it?)

I thought that it must have been a very brave (or a very desperately starving) cave man indeed that first made the plunge to taste okra. I mean, would YOU eat something that looked and felt like THAT? Remember that this was before the invention of gumbo and other methods of okra disguise and embellishment. I expect there's a lesson here about the persistence of the human spirit or something, the ingenuity of man, the courage. . . . All I know for sure is that I prefer it pickled.

Stay out of the heat, ya'll. Drink plenty of water.

Rustic Ramblings

By Dr. Gene Ellis



Gene Ellis, Ed.D. is a Bosque County resident who returned to the family farm after years of living in New Orleans, New York and Florida. She is an artist who holds a doctoral degree from New York University and is writing a book about the minor catastrophes of life.

Sen. Clinton: Rumsfeld Should Resign

WASHINGTON — After previously resisting similar statements from her Democratic colleagues, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) last Thursday called on Donald H. Rumsfeld to resign his post as secretary of the Department of Defense.

Sen. Clinton's call came in an interview with the Associated Press after a Senate Armed Services Committee public hearing where she labeled the president's policy on Iraq "failed."

"The secretary has lost credibility with the Congress and with the people," she said. "It's time for him to step down and be replaced by someone who can develop an effective strategy and communicate it effectively to the American people and to the world."

Sen. Clinton has supported the U.S.-led Iraq occupation and opposed a deadline for troop withdrawal there. Despite criticism from within her own party, she is still seen as the Democrats' early pick to be their nominee for presidential race of 2008.

Sen. Clinton blamed Rumsfeld's leadership for the insurgency and sectarian fighting in Iraq, but the defense secretary denied such criticisms, saying that he "never painted a rosy picture" of the war.

No Need To Fret...Rummy's Not Concerned

These past few weeks I had begun to wonder if the "war" in Iraq was still in progress.

Virtually every minute of news time seemed to be dedicated to the hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah.

Well, I suppose if a 24-hour news channel (that only presents live feeds about 16 hours a day) needs a real shootin' war to pull in viewers instead of a three-year-old watered down war predicated on lies for oil rights, the shootin' war gets the coverage.

To be perfectly honest, I've really been getting burned out on the whole Israel versus Hezbollah tragedy. Morning, noon and night, as if nothing else has been taking place on the Planet.

Not even so much as a run-away fiancé in Atlanta.

What a pleasant surprise was in store for me today, don'cha know.

This morning (Thursday, August 3, 2006) I turned the television on just in time to catch Hillary Clinton give Donald Rumsfeld a thorough going over, roasting him on a spit about 18 inches above red hot coals.

The Secretary of Defense was clearly out of his league.

"Under your leadership, there have been numerous errors in judgment that have led us to where we are in Iraq and Afghanistan," the junior Democratic Senator from New York chided Rummy.

"You underestimated the nature and strength of the insurgency, the sectarian violence, and the spread of Iranian influence."

Among Donny's plethora of failures Mrs. Clinton listed the lack of U.S. troop numbers, the poor planning for stabilization following Saddam Hussein's ouster, and the snail's pace progress in rebuilding the Iraqi military.

Flanked on either side by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen. Peter Pace, USMC, and the head of U.S. Central Command Gen. John Abizaid, USA, Rummy was not having a real good day visiting with the Senators.

Yet, his defensive demeanor and flippant responses attempted to hide the icy arrogance with which Rummy sends brave young Americans to senseless, unnecessary death and dismemberment.

Had we not seen and heard this routine from Donny so many times before — as Sen. Clinton pointed out when she stated, "There's a track record



Out Of The Blue

By Jerry Tenuto

here. This is not 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, when you appeared before this committee and made many comments and presented many assurances that have frankly proven to be unfulfilled." — it's possible that the American public might buy his pathos.

Instead of redeploying troops or reducing levels, more troops are being held over to secure Baghdad. Troop levels are going up, not decreasing, noted Mrs. Clinton.

Feigning hurt and surprise in response to the Senator's remarks, Rummy shot back with his typical homespun, "My goodness."

Yeah, that'll deflect any and all critics. How can they argue with

the response their old grandpas would have given?

Then he went into his patented maneuver of asking overly simplistic questions, then answering them himself with the only possible replies:

"Are there setbacks? Yes. Are there things that people can't anticipate? Yes. Does the enemy have a brain and continue to make adjustments on the ground requiring our forces to make adjustments? You bet.

"Is that going to continue to be the case? I think so. Is this problem going to get solved in the near term about this long struggle against violent extremism? No, I don't believe it is."

D'oh!
For the umpteenth time, the Defense Secretary indefensibly defended his position by trying to buffalo Sen. Clinton with jabberwocky about how a premature withdrawal would leave the fledgling democratic Iraqi government vulnerable to attack and overthrow by anarchists, blah, blah, blah.

What nation provided troops to protect our fledgling democratic United States Government when it was first learning to crawl?

Then it was Sen. John McCain's turn. He finally showed some impatience with the snail's pace of the war and occupation of Iraq. The Arizona Republican questioned both Gens. Pace and Abizaid as to whether either of them had anticipated the extreme level of sectarian strife a year ago.

Gen. Pace admitted that he had not expected such violence to erupt. An honest statement, yet a rather myopic view from the highest-ranking person in our military.

Gen. Abizaid recognized that the tensions were rising, but had not figured on such excessive violence. Despite having rarely seen a Middle East "so unsettled and so volatile," Abizaid is optimistic that the "slide can be prevented" and we will be successful in defeating al Qaeda, deterring Iran, and "developing a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Sen. McCain was not so sure of this rosy scenario. He referred to our troops as being engaged in a wide-spread "game of whack-a-mole": They go to Falluja to deal with a problem; a week or two later there's a situation in Ramadi, so the troops have to move there for a battle; then, the fight is on in

Baghdad, and on and on it goes. Wherever the insurgents or terrorists pop up, the American troops are expected to show up.

I find these answers incredulous. At least one year ago various British news media were reporting that civil war in Iraq was inevitable.

How could it be that the English saw it clear as day, but the Americans didn't recognize the situation for the disaster that was looming?

Simple: Donald H. Rumsfeld and the agenda of the entire RoveBush Fascist Regime.

One of the first things I was taught after beginning Basic Training at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, was "Hope for the best, expect the worst." This was reiterated time and again throughout my Army days; it wasn't a suggestion, they were words to keep us alive. This phrase was an underlying tenet of both leadership schools the Army put me through.

Hell, most management courses will expect one to bear this in mind.

It would serve anyone in everyday life.

Even the Boy Scout motto is "Be Prepared."

Here we have the three most powerful men in our military command structure, responsible for hundreds of thousands — millions — of lives, and not one of them was prepared to react to what some rag-tag insurgents might do!

By their own admission, two generals ignored the basic military tenet of "Hope for the best, expect the worst!"

And Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld basically said to the United States Senate, "Look, it wasn't my fault. How could I foresee these things happening? You can't blame me."

Rummy's the damned Secretary of Defense, the same schmuck who in 1998 advised President Bill Clinton to invade Iraq! Thank gawd Clinton wasn't a power-mad megalomaniac lunatic!

How could none of this not be the fault of anyone but Donald Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney, Condoleezza Rice, Paul Wolfowitz, George W. Bush and Karl Rove? (Lest we forget William H. Rehnquist and his Federalist Supremes, along with the other peripheral players...)

Before the end of the day, Mrs. Clinton was calling for head of Donny Rumsfeld.

Well, not exactly, but she suggested in no uncertain terms that it would be good for the Nation were he to resign — and the quicker the better.

"I just don't understand why we can't get new leadership that would give us a fighting chance to turn the situation around before it's too late. I think the president should choose to accept Secretary Rumsfeld's resignation."

Sen. Clinton continued, "The secretary has lost credibility with the Congress and with the people. It's time for him to step down and be replaced by someone who can develop an effective strategy and communicate it effectively to the American people and to the world."

"I am frankly tired of hearing the same stories from the administration's national security team. The president changed his economic team, he changed his White House team — I think it's time for him to change his security and defense team."

I agree with everything Mrs. Clinton said in these last few paragraphs, with the exception of one item. She noted that Rummy "lost credibility... with the people." I doubt that he ever had that much credibility with the American public to begin with — nobody ever voted him into office. Hillary was just being tactfully diplomatic.

Speaking of being diplomatic, Condoleezza has been wearing those rose-colored glasses again, telling us there's going to be a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah. That was in an interview taped earlier in the week for airing on Larry King (not exactly) Live tonight.

The thing is, she has no idea when the ceasefire will begin... so don't hold your breath.

Aah, to be one of King George XLIII's true believers...

Shalom, y'all.

(Jerry Tenuto is an erstwhile Philosopher and sometime Educator. A veteran with seven years of service in the U.S. Army, he holds a BS and MA in Communications from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Depending upon your taste in political stew, you can either blame or thank Jerry for his weekly "Out Of The Blue" feature in THE LONE STAR ICONOCLAST. Visit his blog BLUE STATE VIEW at illinoiscentral.blogspot.com)

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION CO.

Sale Every Saturday

Cattle 12:00 Noon
Jody & Robin Thomas
(254) 865-8219

Date: 7-30-06

No. 1 Steers
under 300 lb. 150-195
300-400 lb. 125-155
400-500 lb. 115-140
500-600 lb. 110-125 \$1 Down
600-700 lb. 105-115
700-800 lb. 95-105

No. 1 Heifers
under 300 lb. 140-185
300-400 lb. 115-140
400-500 lb. 110-135
500-600 lb. 105-125 \$1 Down
600-700 lbs. 100-115
700-800 lbs. 88-99

Slaughter Cows
High Yielding 40 to 47
Low Yielding 32 to 38 \$1 Down
Fats 40 to 45
Thin & Shelly 30 to 35

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)
Yield Grade 1&2 52 to 6 Steady

Cow & Calf Pairs
Young Choice 850 to 975
Young Fair 700 to 850 \$10-20 Down
Aged Pairs 500 to 700

Young Pregnancy Test Stocker
Replacement Cows
350 to 820 \$10-20 Down
Number of Head....1297

Gatesville
Jody Thomas (254) 865-8219
Sale (254) 865-9121
Mobile (254) 223-2958

In Response To Letters: *Americans Provide Solutions to Israeli / Arab Warfare?*

So many Americans are communicating their interpretation and recommendations on the latest warfare in the Middle East between Jews and Arabs. That's much like Paris Hilton discussing what it's like growing up in a black ghetto. She

knows NOTHING about it. Most Americans know NOTHING about the thousands of years of prejudice, hatred, fighting and animosity between these two cultures. *By the way, who cares what Americans think about the topic anyway?* Not the Arabs, nor the Jews.

Did Americans care what Arabs and Jews felt before we invaded the Middle East?

It's funny how reductionistic American thinking is on this topic. Americans use their very American "logic" to propose resolving ancient customs, interactions, and behavior of Jews and Arabs. "They should make peace," is the common American refrain. How can you make peace and keep it when there is no trust? How can Arabs and Jews be friendly and co-exist when there is fear and hatred for each other?

Truth is that Americans will NEVER have a clue what life is like in the Middle East until they go there on an extended visit. I did several times and it left me with a completely different impression than I first had. It was a real eye-opener. Even doing so simply gave me a "taste" of life there. You don't really know that life unless you live it.

The reality is that you can cut the tension in the Middle East with a carving knife.

Life in Israel, for example, is living in fear of being killed by missiles or by suicide bombers. Yet life goes on. Every day is another long lesson in survival as Israeli soldiers with Uzis stroll along various populated streets and roadways watching out for anything suspi-

cious. Israel children grow up fearful, ready to run and hide at the slightest hint of danger. After all, Israel is a minority nation surrounded on three sides by hostile Arab nations and by the sea on the fourth side. Small wonder Israel has to flex its muscles to ensure its survival.



Texas Commentary

By Peter Stern

Arab nations despise Jews and forever refuse to recognize and accept the state of Israel. Arab nations have lived in the Mid-East region together periodically both in peace and in hostile climate for thousands of years before the Jews claimed Israel as their home state (1948/49). To Arabs, Jews are un-

wanted invaders, infidels who have taken what does not belong to them and who pose a threat to daily Arab life.

Is there any wonder why there is ongoing volatility in that region? *So, who is right and who is wrong?*

For years outsiders have proposed cease fires that go nowhere. Treaties are forever broken. Fighting and hatred is the way of life.

Do Americans really believe their oversimplified solutions will take root?

Dream on. *Peter Stern of Driftwood, Texas, a former Director of Information Services, University Professor and Public School Administrator, is a political writer well-known and published frequently throughout the Texas community and nationwide. He is a Disabled Vietnam Veteran and holds three post-graduate degrees. You may contact Peter Stern at: <psstern@austin.rr.com>.*



To The Editor:

Well its about time you got a decent person to move into the sewer state. Crawford will reap many benefits from Sheehan.

If you want to save your town, make your number one problem go away, Dumbya Bush.

Or you could even bring Cheney back and sell hunting trips with him to all the residents.

Nice talk'n to ya partin'er. Dead or alive the town is going down the tubes. HAHAAHAHAHA

Samuel Birtciel

To The Editor:

With generally vague documentation, and name-calling, there are many people promoting the idea of the U.S. as aggressors in the middle east.

Iran's fingerprints have been all over the aggression and murder of Americans at home and abroad for almost 30 years.

Saddam's fingerprints were all over the the WMDs, he used on his own people, and the training of the terrorists to oppose we "infidels."

The fact that the WMDs were spirited out of Iraq to Syria before we arrived, by the Russians, isn't a subject the media wants to address. They want a way to blame president Bush.

Iran's fingerprints are all over the current aggression by Hezbollah. What is it going to take to make people understand that the U.S. and Israel are defending themselves? Certainly, the media has the good guys and the bad guys mixed up.

There-in lies the problem. No public resolve to face the facts and the terrorists. I submit the will is there amongst the vast majority, it just doesn't get press. In recent memory, the only aggression by the U.S. was Monica's war in the Balkans. Done without the blessing of the inept UN. We are still there. Why?

I know why we are in the middle east. So does the president. The stakes are very high. Bud Garrett, Waldport, OR.

Dear Editor:

A massive two-part scheme is being perpetrated on our citizens by the federal government. Very few citizens are aware of it because the feds are quietly promoting it.

Part 1 started in 1994 when the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was sold to the American people as a simple trade agreement. It had nothing to do with free trade because it entangled us in a foreign bureaucracy that actually controlled our trade and forced us to modify some of our laws.

Also, NAFTA caused many citizens to lose their jobs.

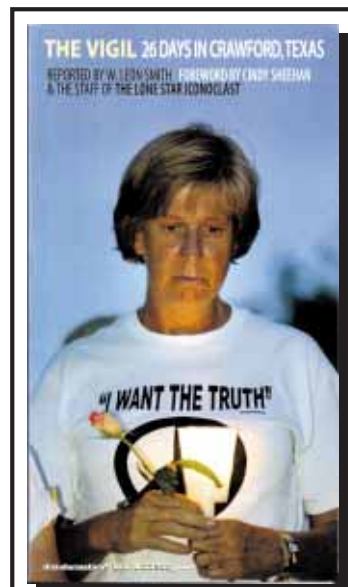
Now the feds want to build a NAFTA Super Highway throughout our country from Mexico to Canada. It will cost many billions of dollars. The right of eminent domain will be used to condemn private property for this highway. Also, customs inspection stations will be moved from the borders to hundreds of miles inland. Cargo will be checked only electronically at the borders. Go to <www.thenewamerican.com/article_4114.shtml> for details of this plan.

Part 2 began in 2005 when the feds wanted to entangle us in the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) with Mexico and Canada. If we enter this partnership, our borders with Mexico and Canada will be permanently erased.

Obviously, the federal government has no interest in securing our borders or we would not have many millions of illegals here today. The fed solution is to eliminate our borders using the SPP.

Concerned citizens need to contact their U.S. Representative and their two U.S. Senators to demand that this planned highway be stopped and the SPP be rejected.

Sincerely,
Nancy B. Brennan,
Camarillo, CA.



reported by
THE ICONOCLAST
\$9.95 +tax/sh
ORDER TODAY

at
www.disinfo.com

C & C Collision Center, LLC



- Truck
 - Trailer
 - Auto
- Repair Specialists

"We Make Friends By Accident"

- Free Estimates at your place or ours
- Pick-up & delivery (if needed)
- PPG certified paint specialists
- Fiberglass specialist
- Expert frame straightening
- Computerized Comp-Est and Mitchell Estimating Software
- Eagle Spray-on Bed Liners
- 30 day billing for Approved Fleet Accounts
- DOT inspections for commercial trucks and trailers
- State inspections for automobiles
- Lifetime warranty
- E-mail updates regarding your vehicle (pictures included)

www.cccollision.com

254-848-7008

1-888-345-1178

5849 N. State Hwy 6

(Speegleville Area) Waco

Pirates of the Caribbean Dead Mans Chest



When ghostly pirate Davey Jones (Billy Nighy) comes to collect a blood debt, Capt. Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) must find a way to avoid his fate lest his soul be damned for all time. Nevertheless, the wily pirate manages to interrupt the wedding plans of Jack's friends Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley).

PG-13

Runtime: 2 hours 30 minutes



306 W. 5th St.
Clifton, Texas

All tickets: \$5.00 per person
(254) 675-1229

Thurs., Aug. 10
7 p.m. - Adults Only

Friday, Aug. 11
7 p.m.

Sat., Aug. 12
7 p.m.

Sun., Aug. 13
7 p.m.

COMING SOON: Monster House, Lady in the Water, The Ant Bully, Barnyard

Key Questions in Crawford

To the White House Press Corps:

Rather than reporting that clearing brush in Crawford is “news”, consider instead putting these questions to President Bush:

- **Can you look the American people in the eye and tell them that if one of your *own* children lost her limbs in Iraq, you would consider her sacrifice to be worth it?***
- **Why has not a single member of the Bush family (nephews, nieces, daughters) volunteered for Iraq?*****

*If, for example, someone were to suggest that you put life savings into a particular investment, one key question is to ask if *he* is making that same investment. If the answer is “no”, are you likely to invest?

**Lyndon Johnson’s sons-in-law *volunteered* for Vietnam (as did John Kerry).