



Realizing a dream

Temple graduate Hernandez signs with Cincinnati Reds — Page 1C

Rough opening night

Stock outduels competitors as Belton rodeo kicks off — Page 1C



Water restrictions

Residents in west Temple and Morgan's Point Resort will get some relief — Page 1B

Today's Outlook

Mostly sunny High: 98 | Low: 76

Older workers struggle to overcome bias

BY CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

WASHINGTON — Like many unemployed older workers, 64-year old Allan Kellum fears his age has made it harder to find a new job. At a recent job fair, Kellum expressed interest in a supervisory role coordinating an international health

assistance program. A recruiter set him straight: "The people applying for that are young." So now Kellum, who lives in McLean, Va., takes no chances. He's deleted his college graduation date from his resume and reduced the number of years it covers. He's hoping that will help move his resume past any screeners who

would be put off by his age. Kellum, who's been out of work since January, may be right to be concerned. Despite their years of experience, out-of-work older people are finding it harder than other adults to find new jobs. And attempts to appear younger on resumes and in person — some are even taking Botox injections

— may be no match for the squeeze this recession is putting on employers. Older workers have always found it harder than others to land a new job after a layoff. In part, that's because many employers assume they're more expensive or won't stay long in jobs that pay less than they've earned previously.

But this job market has been especially frustrating for them. The Labor Department said Thursday that as of June, unemployed workers 55 or older were jobless an average of nearly 30 weeks, compared with about 21 weeks for those under 55. That gap has widened during the recession: In 2006, it averaged only six

weeks. And the jobless rate for those 55 and older rose to 7 percent in June, the highest for that age group on records dating to 1948. "This recession seems to be a little bit different" because of the "unusually large increase" **Please see BIAS, 8A**



Telegram file photo

Dr. Will Long's son will be leading the wagon train at the Belton Fourth of July Parade this year.

Son follows in pop's tracks

BY PAUL A. ROMER
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

INSIDE

■ Fourth of July activities, today and Saturday. 9A

BELTON — A man who literally links generations of his family together and parades them down the street is not going to be the engine that pulls the train this year. After 31 consecutive years at the head of a wagon train that has become a signature entry in the Belton Fourth of July Parade, Dr. Will Long, 88, will cede the controls this Saturday to his 63-year-old son, Dr. Bill Long. Rather than manning the lawnmower that pulled the 32-wagon train last year, Long the elder will be riding alongside the train in a golf cart this year. It's a move that has been forced upon him after he fell

twice this year, breaking each hip within about a three-month span. "I really had plans to keep doing it as long as I could," Long said. "I didn't realize something so dramatic would end my driving career." While the train will continue to roll down the street, the number of wagons connected to it will be reduced by more than a third, a move based on logistics more than anything else. Long the younger has tradi-

Please see TRACKS, 9A

The family that rides together



Courtesy of Dunlap family

Brooke Dunlap, 6, on Dunny during Belton's July Fourth parade in 2008. She's the daughter of Ryon and Andrea Dunlap.

There's been a Dunlap astride a horse in the parade for 25 years

BY HARPER SCOTT CLARK
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

BELTON — Ryon and Andrea Dunlap of Salado follow a family tradition that goes back

nearly three decades — riding horseback in the Belton July Fourth parade. "My husband's family has done this more than 25 years," she said. "When we married, it's a tradition we wanted to involve our children in. We've done it 15 years." Her daughter, Brooke, 7, is quite an equestrian, she said. "She runs barrels and every-

thing." Logan, 3½, will ride for the second time this year. He rode in the saddle with his dad last year. But he has his own pony for this year's parade. "He really handles his horse very well," Mrs. Dunlap said. She said her husband rodeos with the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. "He's usually signed up for

the Belton rodeo but didn't sign up this year," she said. "We'll be going to some rodeos, though, in Belton, Wimberley and Lake Inn." Mrs. Dunlap said her sisters-in-law decorated their horses for the Belton parade when they were children. One year they were all pink. **Please see RIDES, 9A**

If it can be decorated, it rolls in Milano

BY JEANNE WILLIAMS
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

MILANO — Patriotism is alive and well in Milano, but it rules on July 4. For the past five years, July Fourth has arrived in Milano with a bang, transforming downtown, the normally peaceful center of gravity, into a brightly animated potpourri of red, white and blue — decorating clothing, flags, balloons, streamers, tractors, four-wheelers, bikes, marchers, and

vehicles — in a patriotic cavalcade that originates across town at the Charlie Martin Memorial Park. Milano City Councilwoman Carol Newman said the city sponsors the event because, while there may be other events in Milam County that celebrate Independence Day, tiny Milano still boasts the county's only parade. "We are very proud to be Americans," Mrs. Newman said. **Please see MILANO, 8A**



Shirley Williams/Telegram

Sisters Frankie Hill and Nellie Ryan of Milano are parade regulars and have brought to the event a variety of creative entries over the past five years.

'Hometown gathering'

BY NOELLE YAQOUB
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Uncle Sam will be joining the festivities at this year's children's parade in the Temple Historic District. The parade begins at 9 a.m. on the corner of North Ninth Street and French Street, with children marching north toward Nugent. "At the end, we have stuff like cotton candy and lemonade for the kids," said Shana Jeter, president of the Temple Historic Preservation League.



Courtesy of Christina Marshall
Historic Temple's Fourth of July parade.

Christina Marshall, parade chair, said last year they provided one platter of pigs in a **Please see HOMETOWN, 9A**

Families' tradition

BY TANYA COOPER
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Memories are made of this. About 25 years ago a young couple purchased their first home on Nugent Avenue in Temple. About six months later another young couple purchased the home next door. Right from the start they found they had a lot in common. Both couples were new **Please see FAMILIES, 9A**

American soldier feared captured in Afghanistan

BY FISNIK ABRASHI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL — An American soldier, who disappeared after walking off his base in eastern Afghanistan with three Afghan counterparts, is believed captured, officials said Thursday. Spokeswoman Capt.

Elizabeth Mathias said the soldier disappeared Tuesday. "We understand him to be have been captured by militant forces. We have all available resources out there looking for him and hopefully providing for his safe return," Mathias said. Mathias did not provide

details on the soldier, the location where he was captured or the circumstances. The news broke as thousands of U.S. Marines launched a major anti-Taliban offensive in southern Afghanistan. The missing soldier was not part of that operation. "We are not providing further

details to protect the soldier's well-being," she said. Afghan Police Gen. Nabi Mullakheil said the soldier went missing in the Mullakheil area of eastern Paktika province, where there is an American base. The missing man is an enlisted soldier, and his family has

been notified. Zabiullah Majaheed, a spokesman for the Taliban, could not confirm that the soldier was with any of their forces. A myriad of insurgent groups operate in eastern Afghanistan, and the Taliban is only one of them. The most important insurgent

group operating in that area is known as Haqqani network and is led by Siraj Haqqani, whom the U.S. has accused of masterminding beheadings and suicide bombings. **Associated Press writer Pauline Jelinek in Washington contributed to this report.**



TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." — Matthew 4:19

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