

See Progress '94 in Today's Herald

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SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 1994

BIG SPRING Herald

"Reflecting a proud community"

Vol. 90 No. 248

\$1.25 at the Newsstand

NEWS DIGEST



▲ Having lots of fun with grandmother

Mason Parker sits on the lap of his grandmother, Bobbie Marshall, as the two were at the Comanche Trail Park playground swinging on the swings on a warm Saturday afternoon.

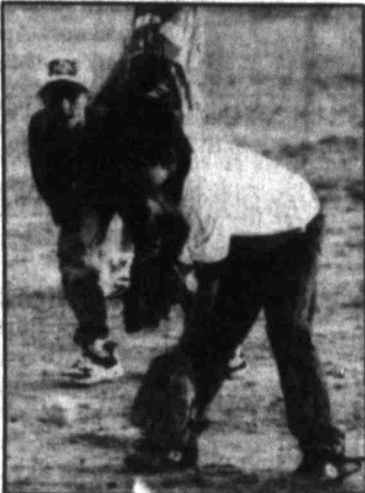


◀ Keeps up

With rows of numbers sitting in front of her, Marie Calvert marks off those that were called while playing bingo at the Lion's Club Bingo building Friday evening.

Ground ball

Romero Villarreal reaches down to grab a baseball that rolls toward him, as members of the Little League Rangers were practicing near the American League park Friday afternoon.



Briefs

- Art Association show:** The Big Spring Art Association will have its annual invitational show May 27-28 at the West Texas Center for the Arts at Howard College. For information call 263-0446 or 263-3224.
- Scout-O-Rama set for Saturday:** The Big Spring Art Association will have its annual invitational show May 27-28 at the West Texas Center for the Arts at Howard College. For more information, call 263-0446 or 263-3224.

Weather

•**Mostly cloudy, low around 40:** Today, mostly cloudy and not as warm with a 30 percent chance of rain or showers. High around 50. North wind 10 to 20 mph and gusty. Low near 40.

•**Perman Basin Forecast:**
Monday: Partly cloudy. High in the 40s. Low in the 30s.
Tuesday: Partly cloudy. High in the 50s. Low in the 30s.
Wednesday: Fair. High in the 60s. Low in the 30s.

TONIGHT	TOMORROW	TONIGHT
CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SUNSET 6:47 PM
		SUNRISE 7:01 AM
		TOMORROW

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Call The Herald at (915) 263-7331

Charter amendments must wait until August

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

It looks like a special election will have to be held in August for citizens to vote on a charter amendment that would provide civil service protection for Big Spring police officers.

During last Tuesday's city council meeting, members looked over amendment 8 and the "wording was confusing and hard to understand, so it is being sent back for a rewrite," explained City Manager Lanny Lambert.

Some of the comments made at the meeting did not sit well with fire department personnel, because the issue of state civil service was brought up.

City council candidate Pat DeAnda commented that if the charter amendment was not passed, a state civil service proposal could become an issue and be voted on.

"In my view state civil service has turned into a benefit package," DeAnda said. "It is not friendly to affirmative action. Since the fire department has implemented the state-type civil service, no minorities have been hired."

Fire department officials disagree. "If the record was checked, she would find that several minorities have either been hired or offered employment in the fire

department since civil service was adopted," said Paul Brown, president of the Big Spring Professional Fire Fighters Association. "Our records show that since the adoption of civil service, at least three minorities have been promoted to command positions."

Another issue fire department personnel spoke out about concerned comments made by Lambert.

During the council meeting, Lambert said that implementing state civil service is more expensive and unfair to cities. "In the studies I've seen, cities have lost about 90 percent of the cases that were brought up," said Lambert.

Brown countered by saying, "It is not true that the cities lose more cases than they win. In fact, the state average is about 50/50. One only needs to read the law to see that the system is equally fair to the city and the employees."

Lambert says he's not interested in arguing the matter.

"I don't want to debate the merits or demerits of civil service," he said. "Now is not the time or place. We negotiated an alternative to civil service with the police department and came up with the charter amendment."

Please see CHARTER, page 2A

Big Spring man held for threats against Clinton

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Police say they have identified the 58-year-old Big Spring man who threatened the life of President Bill Clinton Friday and have taken steps to make sure he cannot endanger the president's life.

David Van Ostrand, 58, of Big Spring allegedly made telephone calls directly threatening the life of President Clinton Friday around 8:15 a.m., according to U.S. Secret Service agents.

Law enforcement officers in Big Spring were contacted by the Secret Service Friday morning and they began an all-out attempt to locate Ostrand.

Around 3:30 p.m. Saturday, officers with the Big Spring Police Department made contact with Ostrand and "we have taken appropriate steps to keep him from being a threat to President Clinton," said Sgt. Drew Bavin.

Secret Service agents in Dallas were unable to comment further about the investigation when contacted Saturday.

SNAKES!

AMBUC roundup draws big crowd

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Ssssssssss! That is the sound you here as you enter the activity barn on the Howard County Fairgrounds at the 32nd Annual Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup being sponsored by the American Business Club of Big Spring and Coors Distributors.

"We have had a real good turnout so far and the reaction from those coming out here range from terrified to elated," said AMBUC member Keith Toomire. By mid-afternoon Saturday, there had been about 1,200 visitors to the roundup, 342 pounds of rattlesnake meat bought and about 12 hunters participating.

There are all sorts of snake demonstrations taking place at the roundup like handling, milking and balloon popping. There are also snake races and skinning demonstrations.

Perhaps the biggest attraction is the handling demonstrations of live poisonous snakes and educational exhibitions of Western Diamondback rattlesnakes by "MI MO JO," the parent company of "Rattler's Plus."

During the past week, MI MO JO professionals have visited area schools demonstrating their skills, including one stunt where a member kisses a king cobra.

"People are great, they treat us great and we have a lot of fun," said David Estep of Rattler's Plus.

"Attendance over the last three years has gone up and we get a percentage from the gate and by us going to the schools, this gets the interest up with the kids telling their parents about the king cobra," Estep added. "We hope it's a continuing relationship because we enjoy it."

There are other events currently taking place in conjunction with the roundup — an arts and crafts show and flea market. Admission to the crafts show and flea market is free, but it costs \$3 for adults and \$2 for children ages six to 12 to attend the rat-

Please see SNAKES, page 2A



Kim Alexander pulls rattlesnake skin from the meat during a skinning demonstration during a media performance at the Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup Friday evening. For additional photos on the event, see page A-7.

DeAnda seeking Place 2

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Pat DeAnda, a former two-term city council member and professional educator for 22 years, is vying to sit on the council again, as a candidate in District 2.

"I am running again because I feel there are many things that need to be done," DeAnda said.

"Of great concern to me is the Moore Development for Big Spring board," DeAnda explained, "and what I consider the lack of accountability to the taxpayers. Sales tax contributions from all our citizens provide the money for these activities, and I really believe the city should take a more active part in Moore's business ventures."

"Even if I am the lone voice in the wilderness for change in that area," DeAnda said, "I will take that chance."

DeAnda is also concerned with the "dirtiness" of Big Spring, "from diapers to beer bottles."

"It seems that citizens do not take pride in how their city looks," she complained. "Littering ordinances must be enforced."

DeAnda said she'd propose eliminating glass containers in Big Spring, and maintained that if only aluminum was allowed, the problem would take care of itself.

DeAnda stressed that she's been a responsible citizen, having voted as soon as she was old enough and has not missed an election. DeAnda organized a voter registration drive in Big Spring that netted more than 1,000 new voters for the county's rolls.

"I believe that everyone should be aware of the importance of this privilege," she explained.

On the local level, DeAnda said she has worked on issues pertaining to fair housing, as well as discrimination on jobs by gender, age and ethnicity. She was on the original board of the Northside Community Center and volunteered to tutor during after school and in the summer months.

DeAnda is a member of the Hispanic Women for Progress, and is a charter member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

"As a member of LULAC, we were

Please see DeANDA, page 2A

Marquez files for Place 2 on council

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Raul Marquez, a native of Big Spring, is among four candidates seeking election to the city council in Place 2.

Marquez said he feels his time has come to serve at the level of public office. He's been involved in city issues for about 10 years, he said, citing having served on the Big Spring Zoning and Planning Commission, spearheaded an ad hoc committee to organize the Citizen's Advisory Board and a director of the Northside Community Center.

He has been involved in the local mental health Corral program, United Way fund

"I'd like to see more minority representation in all areas of city government."

Raul Marquez Council candidate

drives and on the board of directors of the local YMCA. He is a past president of the local chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

Marquez said that his dedication for a better life in the city includes a deep concern for the Hispanic community.

"I'd like to see more minority representation in all areas of city government," Marquez commented. "The city needs to reward its employees who provide hard work and labor with appropriate cost of living salary increases. Higher salaried employees need an adjustment, too, but not as much."

Marquez favors the small business community and said, "With my involvement, I

have become a representative for others. I try to represent not only Hispanics, but the business community. I want them to have a voice."

Marquez said he personally favors a Northside city-county jail site, and believes that acquiring an Interstate 27 route through Big Spring is of extreme importance.

Marquez graduated from Big Spring High School in 1968, and served as a diesel mechanic in the U.S. Navy from 1968 to 1972. He received an associate's degree in electronics from Howard College in 1979.

He and other family members are in the retail radio-television and satellite sales and repair business as T. Marquez and Sons. In 1990, Marquez was named as Small-Business Person of the Year by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Since 1990, Marquez has been associated with KBYG Radio AM 1400, as director of the station's Hispanic/Tejano programming.

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4

SPRING is HERE! It's time to clean out the attic or garage! Nothing works better than a Herald Classified Ad! Call 263-7331

3 Alabama students hurt in I-20 accident

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Three University of Alabama students on their way to the Rio Grande for a camping trip are lucky to be alive after their 1994 Jeep Cherokee Laredo overturned on Interstate 20 Saturday afternoon.

According to a witness, the vehicle was westbound on the interstate when it veered onto the center median. The driver over-corrected and flipped the car several times, landing on its roof in the center median. With the windshield shattered, the front portion of the roof buckled under the weight of the car and was touching the door frame.

Rescue crews used the Jaws of Life to remove the driver, Michael

Wahiba, from the vehicle. Wahiba had a deep wound on the right side of his head, was placed on a backboard and transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

There were two other men in the vehicle and they were able to crawl out of the Cherokee to wait for help. The passenger in the back seat told officers on the scene that he was not wearing a seat belt, but the two in the front were. He was able to tell a Department of Public Safety trooper his last name but could not remember any other details of the accident.

All three students are listed in stable condition at the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The names and further details of the accident will be released Monday.



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Three University of Alabama students were seriously injured after their vehicle overturned on Interstate 20 near the Hwy. 350 exit Saturday afternoon. One person was removed from the vehicle with hydraulic jaws while the other two were thrown from the vehicle.

Scouts display skills during Scout-O-Rama

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Boy Scouts from Big Spring and Howard County, Garden City and Sterling City were in town for their annual Scout-O-Rama at the Big Spring Mall Saturday.

About 360 scouts participated in the expo staged in the old JCPenny's building. This type of event has been going on since the 1950s and gives the public an opportunity to learn more about what Scouts do during the year.

"March is considered derby month with the local scouts and we have pinewood car, rain gutter regatta and space derby races," said Warren Wallace, district executive with the Buffalo Trail Council. "Several troops and packs are here to demonstrate different aspects of the Boy Scouts like first aid, camping, life skills and making bird houses."

"Character Counts" is the motto of the Boy Scouts for the next two years and different lessons will help the boys be prepared for the 21st century.

Conoco is the sponsor of the V.C. Eissler Wildlife Enhancement Area that is located south of town and had a display at the expo.

"The scouts went out there and helped clean up the place and cleaned out the birdhouses. We set up some birdhouses and repaired the others. During the next eight months we will monitor it and learn what kinds of birds are in the area," said Wallace.



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Younger scouts watch as older scouts practice their first aid skills on 'patient' Clay Kuykendall during the Boy Scout Expo in the old J.C. Penny building at the Big Spring Mall Saturday afternoon.

COPE or Challenging Outdoor Personal Experiences was another demonstration at the expo. "This is the single most life changing thing that a Scout can do," Wallace noted. "We are trying to get the funds to

build it here. It is made up of several obstacles and problems that each scout must do. They must learn how to solve problems, overcome obstacles and work together to survive." One of the COPE demonstrations

was a group of Scouts pretending to be on an island and having to cross an area of shark-infested water to get to safety. They have two boards and must figure out how to use them and get everyone safely across.

Deaths

Lala Mae Prichard

Funeral services for Lala Mae Prichard, 80, of Big Spring are set for 2 p.m. Monday, March 28, 1994, in the Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Darrell Hendrickson officiating. Burial will follow in the Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Mrs. Prichard died Friday, March

25, 1994, at her home. She was born on Oct. 21, 1913, in Laurel, Miss. She married Wilford E. Prichard on Aug. 4, 1933, in Lovington, N.M., and he preceded her in death on April 15, 1990.

She was a longtime resident of Big Spring and was an active member of the Senior Citizens Center. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Church of God.

Survivors include one son, Robert E. Prichard Sr., of Midland; two brothers, Alvin Alderman of Virginia Beach, Va., and Elmer Alderman of Monticello, Ark.; six sisters, Lucille Krumnow of Big Spring, Hazel Perkins and Margie Padgett, both of Houston, Almeda Lovell of Little Rock, Ark., and Ethel Davenport and Juanita Price, both of Benton, Ark.; and two grandsons.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home
and Rosewood Chapel
906 GREGG
BIG SPRING



John Wayne METCALF

Republican Candidate for Howard County Commissioner - Precinct 2

"I would sincerely like to thank you for your support on the March 8 primaries. Again I ask for your vote on April 12 run-off."

Pd. pol. pd. by John Wayne Metcalf

Big Spring Herald
ISSN 0746-6811

Published afternoons Monday through Friday, and Sunday mornings, by the month HOME DELIVERY Evening and Sunday, \$6.65 monthly; \$69.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS \$10.85 monthly Howard, Martin, Glasscock, Mitchell and Borden Counties, \$11.45 elsewhere.

The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, American Newspaper Association and West Texas Press.

POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1491, Big Spring, TX. 79720.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Lala Mae Prichard, 80, died Friday. Services will be 2:00 P.M., Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel, with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

RITZ
CHILD \$1.50 4th St. Main 263-7480 ADULT \$1.50

Sister Act II PG
7:00 Sat. & Sun. Matinee 2:00

Wayne's World 2 PG-13
9:10 Sat. & Sun. Matinee 4:10

Mrs. Doubt Fire PG-13
6:50 9:20 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:50 & 4:20

Beethoven's 2nd PG
7:10 - 9:00 Sat. & Sun. Matinee 2:10 & 4:00

CINEMARK THEATRES

MOVIES 4
Big Spring Mall 263-2479

*MIGHTY DUCKS II PG
STEREO 2:00-4:30-7:00

LIGHTNING JACK PG-13
STEREO 2:20-4:50-7:10

*NAKED GUN 33 1/3 PG-13
STEREO 2:30-5:00-7:30

8 SECONDS PG-13
STEREO 2:10-4:40-7:20

* Pass & Super Saver Restricted

Snakes

Continued from page 1A

ties snake demonstrations. The roundup continues today from noon until 6 p.m. At 5 p.m. trophies for most pounds brought in, heaviest

DeAnda

Continued from page 1A

responsible for amicably settling with the city, school and college for single member districts," DeAnda explained. "With this success, for the first time in Big Spring's history, minorities were elected to all three boards, and as a result, reflect a voice from all segments of the community."

DeAnda is a mother of three daughters and a grandmother of two, Ross and Mariah. "As you can see," she said, "I have

snake and snake with most rattles will be awarded.

Proceeds of the roundup benefit the AMBUC's scholarship fund for therapists and the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

a vested interest in what happens in this city's future.

"I think that I have much to offer the citizens of this community in character, leadership and responsibility. My track record shows that I vote with the best interest of the whole community at heart," DeAnda added.

"I am not part of any interest group," she said. "I deal on the sole basis of fairness, and to that end, I would hope that the citizens in District 2 will consider me qualified to honorably represent them."

City Bits

MINIMUM CHARGE \$5.89 DEADLINES FOR ADS
DAILY - 3 p.m. day prior to publication
SUNDAY - 3 p.m. Friday

WONDERING WHAT'S GOING ON in Big Spring? Call 267-2727. A service of the Convention & Visitors Bureau, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Michelle Wiggins, D.C. has moved her practice to Snyder Chiropractic Clinic

(formerly Whitmire Chiropractic Center)
3413 Snyder Shopping Center



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573-3521

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Charter

Continued from page 1A

"We would like to avoid civil service with the police department."

The charter amendment would give police officers another avenue to appeal for action involving termination and disciplinary action. "This is something that the police department wants and I support the department's request for a charter amendment to avoid having to go state civil service," Lambert added.

If the amendment is reworded correctly and approved by the city council, the charter amendment and nine others will be put on a ballot and voted on in a special election in August.



The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents:

•Police responded to a number of loud parties in the city: 1600 block of E. 11th Place, 500 block of Westover, 1200 block of W. 2nd, 1200 block of S. Johnson, 1400 block of Park and in the 1200 block E. 3rd. Verbal warnings were issued.

•A minor accident was reported in the 200 block of Birdwell. No injuries were reported and no citations were issued.

•A minor accident was reported in the 1500 block of Benton. No injuries were reported and a citation for driving while intoxicated was issued.

Lotto

AUSTIN (AP) — Here are the Lotto Texas winning numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery:
12-17-26-40-41-46
Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: \$3 million

Here are the Lotto Texas Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery:
3-5-0

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Thursday, March 31, 1994

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Grad host cont

By BARBARA M
Staff Writer

GRADY — The School District has host the 1994 School University League University 31.

"It's our first time to meet and we're Grady Principal I. We're the defen pion for the life we're hoping to r Gibson said this will begin at 8 a. the last event tha uled to begin at competition will with the final con 6:45 p.m.

Students will c lowing events: inl persuasive speaki tion, poetry int examination deba debate, one-act p feature writing, headline writing, ator applications current issues an ing, literary critic number sense, spelling and vocal

"The days will son explained. "W dents to enter al they want to. Be won't be able to eents at a time. The pliance will all the explained.

Grady school off ees are busy mal for the more than petitions. Twelve s ticipating. They ar Dawson, Grady, Meadow, New Ho land, Union, Welln

"Right now, we' to put together al and make sure th pliance will all the explained.

City c

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

During a specia at 5:30 p.m. Mond City Council is ex several urgent i among them being pation with Howar jail project.

Among other u the award of big square-foot expa Container's facility Wrinkle Airpark, bids to install wat

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PREPARED BATTERY

Grady will host UIL contests

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

GRADY — The Grady Independent School District has announced it will host the 1994 District 8-A High School University Interscholastic League Literary Meet on March 30-31.

"It's our first time to ever host the meet and we're real excited," said Grady Principal Richard W. Gibson. "We're the defending district champion for the literary contest and we're hoping to repeat that."

Gibson said the two-day contest will begin at 8 a.m. Wednesday and the last event that evening is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Thursday's competition will start at 8:30 a.m. with the final contest set to begin at 6:45 p.m.

Students will compete in the following events: informative speaking, persuasive speaking, prose interpretation, poetry interpretation, cross examination debate, Lincoln Douglas debate, one-act play, news writing, feature writing, editorial writing, headline writing, accounting, calculator applications, computer science, current issues and events, keyboarding, literary criticism, mathematics, number sense, ready writing, spelling and vocabulary and science.

"The days will be very long," Gibson explained. "We are allowing students to enter all the categories if they want to. Because of that, we won't be able to run more than one event at a time since many of the kids are entered in more than one and wouldn't be able to be in two places."

Grady school officials and employees are busy making preparations for the more than 100 student competitors. Twelve schools will be participating. They are: Borden County, Dawson, Grady, Klondike, Loop, Meadow, New Home, Sands, Southland, Union, Wellman and Wilson.

"Right now, we're real busy trying to put together all the tiny details and make sure that we are in compliance with all the UIL rules," Gibson explained.

Coahoma enters 'playlette' in UIL one-act play contest

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

play — n., a dramatic composition or performance; drama (Webster's New World Dictionary).

playlette — n. a smaller version of play; a Coahoma High School composition to be performed as a one-act play in regional U.I.L. competition.

Drums, chimes, tambourines and cymbals are only a few of the menagerie of instruments which opened the performance Tuesday evening at the presentation of Fables, a play in one act by Jerome McDonough.

With a cast of 15, four crew and four helpers, the composition of five playlettes was performed with a definite taste for the dramatic in the CHS auditorium.

The cast entered the auditorium in total darkness, with the steady beat of the snare and the clanging triangle sprinkling the audience with a medieval flavor. Actors were dressed in black, faces painted white — giving the impression of mimes.

Symbolism and interpretation were the key elements in this ironic expression of several of life's dominant issues. It was the challenge of the script which seemed to excite the cast.

"You have to really think to figure it out," explained senior Jennifer Ledbetter. "For example, the part called 'The Clowns' is about lost souls and death."

Other themes included an excellent portrayal by Alyssa Taylor of the world's haughty caught up in a dream world. Kelly Gray and Adrian DeLaRosa led the audience down a trail leading to the discovery of the nonsense of war and Karen Best was able to show the futility of worry.

While the performance of the entire cast was a lesson in excellence, the Tuesday night production served as a dress rehearsal for the upcoming regional competition.

Director Sandy Wegman, an instructor in junior English, said this is her first year to lead the group. "These are the best bunch of



Herald photo by Barbara Morrison
"You'll eat, sleep and dream," Karen Best tells Kelly Gray while Sean Scott sits high above, watching and listening. The three Coahoma High School students are part of a cast and crew of 23 CHS students participating in the U.I.L. one-act play competition.

kids," she explains. "They've been putting in long hours every day after school since January. We've had to trim the practices a bit to fit around other school activities, yet they never complain."

The selection of the play for the competition was made by Wegman. "I chose it because it offered a challenge. It's a group of five playlettes with each one offering a statement on life. It called for a large cast and that way I could get a lot of kids involved." Wegman explains that the maximum cast size for U.I.L. competition is 15.

Members of the cast and crew are: Lori Brockman, Chandra Mullins, Jerriann Mitchell, Alyssa Taylor, TaNeal Anderson, Emily Sanders, Jamie Wright, Ashlee Burham, Deana Ross, Carol Garcia, Krissi Hayes, Nick Ledesma, Jennifer Ledbetter, Jason Ramsey, Adam Tindol, Michelle Barrera, Karen Best, James Best, Justin Wood, Dianne Hayes, Kelly Gray, Aaron Hunsaker, Sean Scott and Adrian DeLaRosa.

Prior to the show, typical backstage bustle was evident and pre-performance jitters ran rampant.

Briefs

Forsan schedules reunion or Aug. 6

Forsan School's All-Class Reunion will start 9 a.m. August 6, 1994, at the Forsan High School cafeteria.

Ex-students, teachers and friends are invited to renew friendships and exchange notes. Dress is casual. Pre-registration is desired. Fee is \$10.00 per person; students and children under 17 years old are \$6 each.

For more information, contact Boyce Hale, HC-76, Box 157-F, Big Spring, Texas 79720, 1-915-267-6957; or Darrell Adams, 2808 South County Road, Midland, Texas 79703, 1-915-697-4352.

Donations are welcomed so the ex-student newsletter can be continued. Please contact other students and let them know about the reunion.

UTPB now accepting Pioneer nominations

Nominations for Permian Pioneers are now being accepted by the Permian Historical Society based at the University of Texas Permian Basin.

Specifications for this award are that those nominated be living pioneers who have resided in the Permian Basin for 50 years or more, and who have continuously worked for its religious, educational, cultural, recreational or economic development.

The Permian Historical Society presents these awards at their spring meeting. This year the meeting is to be held at the UTPB Center for Energy and Economic Development on May 21. An artistic rendering of the honoree, prepared in the past by renowned artist and illustrator Clyde Heron, will be on permanent display in the society's Hall of Fame in the UT-Permian Library.

Nominations should be made by letter and include biographical information with civic, cultural and social involvements. Please mail by March 26 to PHS Awards Selection Committee, c/o Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

Contributions sought for scholarship fund

The 1941 Study Club has named its annual scholarship in honor of Doris Tiller, who had been a club member for 30 years. This scholarship is given annually to a senior

from Coahoma High School, where Tiller taught for more than 25 years.

The scholarship has been set up at Coahoma State Bank and anyone may contribute. Contributions may be given in person or sent to Coahoma State Bank, P.O. Box 140, Coahoma, Texas 79511.

Essay contest for seniors sponsored

The Big Spring Board of Realtors is sponsoring an essay contest for high school seniors from Big Spring, Forsan, Coahoma and Ackerly. The topic is "The American Dream." Essays must be 500 words or less and can be turned in to school counselors through March 31.

The winning essay writer will receive a \$500 savings bond. The board will announce the winner at its next meeting, tentatively scheduled for April 21.

The contest is being sponsored in conjunction with American Home Week, the last week of March.

Steer Band Boosters selling discount books

Big Spring High School Band Boosters are currently selling discount coupon cards to raise funds for band projects including the annual end-of-the-year band banquet and the 1995 band tour.

The cards, designed like a credit card for convenience, are identified by the Steer band name and logo and feature valuable discounts at area merchants.

Discounts available through the card are categorized into a restaurant section, automotive section and bonus section.

The total redeemable value of the cards is more than \$1,200 and they have an expiration date of Jan. 31, 1995.

Priced at \$15 each, the cards may be purchased from band parents and students. They may also be purchased from band directors.

For those wishing to purchase a card or those needing additional information, call 264-3641, extension 170, and ask for band director Steve Hankins.

Teachers can receive a pass to 'Epcot '94'

Certified public and private teachers in grades K-12 may receive an "Epcot '94 Teacher's Pass" for unlimited visits to Epcot Center.

City council to meet in special session

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

During a specially called meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday, the Big Spring City Council is expected to address several urgent topics, foremost among them being the city's participation with Howard County in a joint jail project.

Among other urgent matters are the award of bid for the 70,000-square-foot expansion of Western Container's facility at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, and the award of bids to install water and sewer lines

to the Mid-Tex Inc. city-federal prison expansion project.

Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart said Friday that the jail project is at a stage where the city needs to decide its involvement financially. Then the final direction toward building a jail can begin to be fully addressed.

City officials met with county leaders last week.

Another item for further consideration and action is an employee salary program. Incremental considerations are a five percent across the board cost of living increase for all

city employees; or either a \$75 or a \$100 increase per employee per month.

To fund the five percent increase, \$129,147 is needed from now until the end of fiscal year 1993, which is five months away. It would take \$138,001 to cover the \$100 increase; and \$103,490 to implement the \$75 increase.

City Manager Lanny Lambert said there is a 20 percent turnover rate or loss of work force yearly.

The meeting will be in Building 1106 at the airpark.

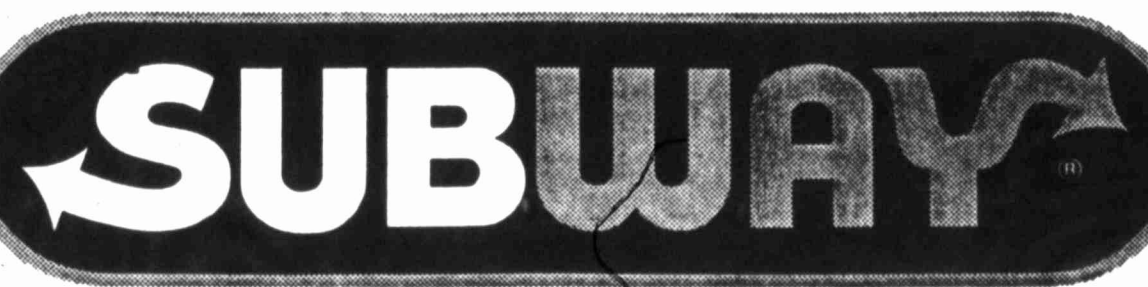
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"The ultimate expression of free speech lies not in the ideas with which we agree, but in those ideas that offend and irritate us."

Chuck Stone, columnist, 1991

BIG SPRING Herald

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

Patrick J. Morgan Publisher
DD Turner Managing Editor
John A. Moseley News Editor

Get our money's worth

For several years, local law enforcement and the general public, have been calling for a new county jail.

The need has been obvious for some time, especially since the current jail has been out of compliance with state jail standards.

Several months ago, Howard County commissioners finally took steps toward building a new jail. An architect was hired to look at the feasibility of several sites and to determine projected costs.

What is now being considered, out of myriad proposals, are basically two concepts - a downtown site or a remote site. Both would be a joint venture for the county and the city of Big Spring.

Now city council members need to decide how much Big Spring willing to put into the facility.

In order for any further steps to be taken, as a joint effort, county officials need to know the extent of the city's commitment.

The council is expected to decide that during a special meeting Monday.

Right now the main determinant is cost. How much are we willing to pay for a joint jail and justice center?

What we need to keep in mind, as city and county officials make the decision we elected them to make, is we will be paying the bill.

From the comments made at previous, citizens are willing to pay whatever is necessary to build a jail large enough to hold this community's criminals for the time they are supposed to be in jail.

The downtown site seems to be preferred by most. The cost differential, if any, shouldn't be too much of a consideration. Especially if a downtown site will help to enhance the area by ridding it of unsightly buildings and improving the tax base.

What should be uppermost in the minds of commissioners and council members is simply this - the citizens want the best and most secure jail for their money.

Write the Editor

- All letters must be signed and include an address and telephone number.
- Neither form nor libelous letters will be published.
- Letters should be no more than 300 words in length, or about two handwritten pages.
- The Herald reserves the right to limit publication of letters to one per month per writer.
- Representative letters may be published when numerous letters are received on the same topic.

Published Daily • Sunday through Friday

BIG SPRING Herald

(915) 263-7331
Fax #915-264-7205

"Reflecting a proud community"

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Office Hours Monday thru Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, Texas Press Association, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and West Texas Press.

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Published afternoons Monday through Friday, and Sunday Mornings. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Second class postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-68

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Big Spring Herald
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Big Spring, Texas 79721

Letters to the Editor

Many questions about the operation

Dear Editor:

After reading the story in the Big Spring Herald sometime ago about the trial between Caprock Electric and Texas Utilities pending the outcome, several questions have surfaced as to the operation of Caprock. I think that these questions deserve an answer and answers are pretty hard to come by, if my source is right.

Why is it necessary for Cap Rock Electric Cooperative to solicit proxy votes by paying \$2 for them when a quorum has always been present at the annual meetings? Was the decision to solicit proxy votes made by the Board of Directors? Is this the same as buying votes?

How was the Cap Rock-Hunt collin merger introduced? Were any family ties involved in the merger? Were proxy votes solicited at Hunt Collin for the approval of this merger? Was a \$10 credit on members' electric bills offered to solicit proxy votes? Is this more vote buying?

Why is it necessary for Cap Rock

to maintain an office and full-time staff in Austin, Texas? Why does Cap Rock own an office building in Midland when the business is in Stanton?

What dollar amount has been paid to management and others in bonus and success fees over the past three years? What percentage of the net margins were these bonuses and success fees?

Why it is necessary for a cooperative to use subsidiary companies to conduct its business? How many millions of dollars has Cap Rock loaned to or guaranteed loans for Cap Rock subsidiaries and their affiliates? Who owns the stock and manages these companies? What business does Cap Rock have owning a gas field through one of its affiliates?

Lastly, but not least, if Cap Rock management lied under oath to the court in Midland, how much trust should the member-owners of Cap Rock Electric have in this same management?

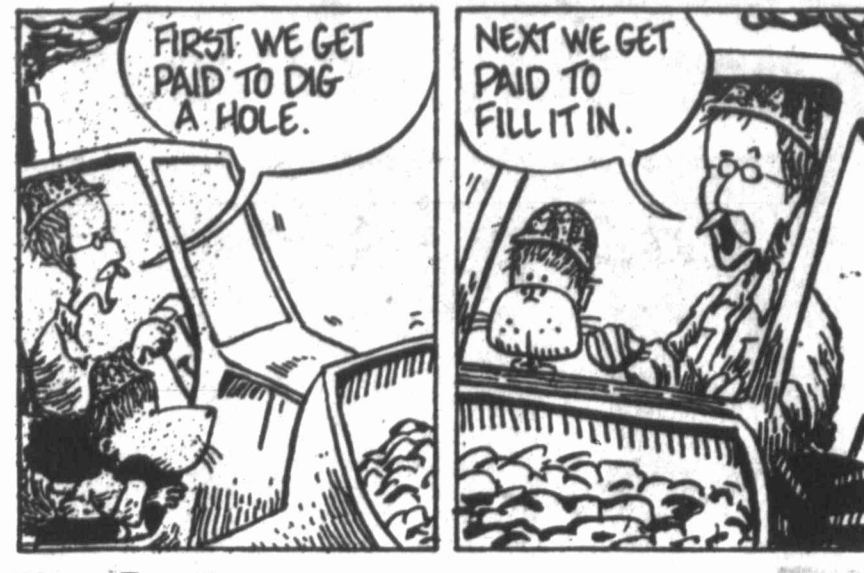
JOHN R. (RICH) ANDERSON
Member since 1953

Tear the old one down

Editor:

In regards to the new jail, I feel like the citizens should have some input on this since we're the ones who will be paying for it. My viewpoint is to tear down the old building and build a new one. You have bids

THADEUS & WEEZ



by Charlie Fincher



Point

Reduce immigrant numbers coming in

DAN STEIN
For Scripps Howard News Service

From amidst the cacophony of discordant immigration proposals, one hears the emergence of some simple truths.

First we now know that immigration is costing somebody, or some people, a lot of money. Whether its hundreds of millions or billions (the studies never seem to agree), it's clear that immigration is not a self-financing proposition.

State taxpayers in California, Florida, New York, Illinois, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia and Texas are demanding action.

Second, it's clear that immigration is now a political issue of some potency. Polls indicated that most Americans generally oppose immigration, if for no other reason than they think immigration is needless. Some is OK, they say, but only as long as there are no noticeable ill effects.

All that changed in the face of Haitian boats, the World Trade Center bombing, Chinese boats, international immigrant-smuggling and crime syndicates, persistent illegal immigration from Mexico, and high profile tales of immigrant-related welfare rip-offs.

Now a public consensus has emerged: let's hold off on more immigration. If immigration is costing money and creating other problems, why not just give the country a break from immigration for a while?

So far, the political leadership in this country has failed to grasp this whole analysis. Most Democrats and Republicans have suggested either beefing up the Border Patrol or cutting benefits for illegal immigrants. Within these two broad strategies is an array of often inconsistent ideas to "defuse immigrant bashing," as it's often called.

The administration's "border enhancement plan," for example, includes measures to accelerate naturalization ceremonies. This noble-sounding initiative to create more citizens will actually produce longer backlogs for waiting relatives (now at 4 million) and only increase future pressures for illegal immigration.

Eventually political leaders will have to face facts: immigration is costing money. Rather than cut off welfare to immigrants, or rubber stamp more applications, Congress and the president need to think about cutting the number of immigrants. That's really what the public wants. And it is probably only a matter of time before most politicians figure this out.

Unfortunately, the current laws take us in exactly the wrong direction. Under the national leadership of Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.,

who as chairman of the Senate Immigration Subcommittee has for decades maintained central control over the direction of America's immigration laws, immigration levels are only going to increase.

Based on current projections of temporary and permanent immigration, new labor market entrants are likely to exceed available jobs by more than 8 million in the next 10 years. This cannot be allowed to happen. We need a pause in immigration for a while.

Now don't me wrong. To reduce immigration, or provide a moratorium or time out, is not to suggest that many immigrants do not become hard working, model citizens. It simply means that the country needs a break to absorb and handle its critical social and internal problems, and clean up its affairs to face the 21st century. It needs to strengthen its national institutions, civilization and culture to withstand the future stresses and strains likely to emerge later this decade.

We've had such immigration breaks in the past. In the early 19th century, and for a good part of the 20th, we've enjoyed sustained periods of very low immigration. And the truth is, sustained pauses have been good for the country and especially good for recent immigrants.

Former Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm once observed that "one common fatal mistake runs throughout the history of civilizations: they think of themselves as immortal. This is folly. Great civilizations clearly cannot be apathetically presumed to be immortal, or to have God on their side. This may not be popular, but it is reality. Better a sad truth than a pleasant lie."

A few in Congress have already figured this out. Despite feeling that it would be wonderful to take anyone who wants to come here, they are facing the sad truth that we need to limit immigration significantly to preserve the nation.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., has come forward with a comprehensive bill, and there is a companion bill in the House, that would cut immigration to 350,000 a year. Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., has an immigration moratorium bill this Congress and it already has 61 cosponsors.

So things are beginning to happen. But for the most part the discordant noise of a bewildered and perplexed national leadership is still drowning out the tough truths needed for a brighter future. While the immigration issue is now firmly on the national radar screen, we may by years away from serious immigration reform. The only question that remains is how long can we wait?

Dan Stein is executive director of the Federation for American Immigration Reform

Counterpoint

Don't shut immigrants out of America

FRANK SHARRY
For Scripps Howard News Service

What if there were a government program that reunited families who have been separated, stimulated our economy and increased wages and employment opportunities for all, promoted the protection of human rights, and created an annual revenue surplus for the government of \$30 billion a year?

Would you support it?

Well, there is such a program. It is our legal immigration and refugee program by which we admit approximately 800,000 newcomers every year. Surprised? I thought so.

Contrary to the myths and misinformation put out by some politicians and interest groups, who attempt to blame immigrants for everything from budget deficits to slow economic growth, a rational examination of relevant facts, figures, and findings shows clearly how admitting refugees and immigrants into the United States is in our national self-interest.

Here are the facts:

The vast majority of immigrants come to the United States legally. According to Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) figures, in 1993 we admitted 810,000 legal immigrants and refugees, while an estimated 300,000 immigrants entered illegally. This means that 8 out of 11 people who enter the United States do so at our invitation.

Our legal admissions system rewards family, freedom and work. Our laws are carefully conceived to serve three primary goals:

1. Family reunification: This is the cornerstone of our legal immigration system. Eighty percent of the 700,000 legal immigrants admitted each year join close family relatives. We are not talking about cousins and brother-in-laws, we're talking parents, spouses and children.
2. Skilled workers: The second priority of our legal admissions system allows employers to bring in a relatively small number of skilled workers from overseas when there are no qualified Americans available to fill the job. As a result, the United

States attracts top scientists, entrepreneurs, doctors, nurses, and artists who make enormous contributions to our society. Companies stay competitive in a global marketplace, inner city hospitals attract staff to serve needy communities, and our nation's economy benefits.

3. Refugee Protection: The third priority for admission is reserved for those brave men and women who face the prospect of ethnic cleansing, religious oppression, torture and even death. One reason we accept these refugees is because our nation was founded in large part by those who fled various kinds of political and religious persecution.

In addition, we do so because the protection of refugees serves legitimate national interests. As the world's lone superpower and a nation that promotes the protection of human rights as a central tenet of our foreign policy, we send a signal to the entire world by the way we treat those who flee human rights violations.

Immigrants create economic growth. In the most comprehensive study to date, the U.S. Department of Labor found that immigrants keep U.S. industries competitive, increase employment through higher rates of self-employment, and increase wages and mobility opportunities for many groups of U.S. workers.

The same report notes that in cities with many immigrants, U.S. natives have not experienced widespread job displacement. Those who most directly felt the impact of job competition and wage pressures are earlier groups of immigrants.

With respect to tax revenues and service costs, the balance sheet is overwhelmingly positive. The non-partisan Urban Institute recently concluded that immigrants and refugees pay \$30 billion a year more in taxes than they consume in services.

Those who suggest that immigration is a threat to the United States and want to close the doors to those who play by the rules and come here legally are ill-advised at best and mean-spirited at worst.

The bottom line is this: We don't accept newcomers because it's a nice thing to do, we admit them because it's a smart thing to do. It makes our nation stronger, it helps families come together, it supports our foreign policy goals of promoting human rights, and generates economic growth that benefits all Americans. Now that's a government program worth supporting.

Frank Sharry is executive director of the National Immigration Forum, an umbrella group of more than 200 organizations that advocate fair and generous immigration policies.

Lam

The Associated Press

LAMESA — The somewhere halfway and El Paso, saw r ers and travelers West Texas.

Now, as the Dal recounting the h and Dawson Cou the first pioneer 1870s.

Some visitors to those long-ago hon married now for are tourists who t ing the hotel durin noting their relief couldn't talk."

Old folks tell ab in a corner room the top of the st gamblers about a enforcement or a corner room was a fire escape was qui

All of this and Wayne Smith, mus county historian.

He not only kno history, but he ha portion of it. He w outside town and l local history from from his grandpar in the county in 19

"The Dal Paso M the Dal Paso Hotel. Dal Paso became i a halfway mark be El Paso," Smith sai

"The Dal Paso I 1924 and operated then it was used i and drug store unt it was used off an functions, but ne Smith said.

The county had old house on the w but Smith said it w tain. In 1988, the o was reopened as th

Smith said the id the hotel and creat um was toyed wit local residents. The renovate the buildir the building as th Chamber of Comm located in another

Clinton while child

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Presid ed a children's hc morning, using th pitch a short game Fort Worth boy an call for universal l coverage.

"These childre because this hospid ren treatment w means." Clinton s his wife spent abou five children in a room at the Scottish Children.

"The message fro lies with children erage so they can

The administratio health care refor would guarantee t coverage for all Am Clinton, in town Roger's wedding Sa children before m radio address in th um.

He was accompa tal tour by a delegat cials, including Tr Lloyd Bentsen and Bryant, Martin Fros nice Johnson, all Da Clinton attended tion with Gov. Ann the morning.

The president a toured a colorful j unit. They met indv dren who are rece care to correct var hamper their mobili

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With the First La the president pic three times to th bing from juvenile rh

SHIRLEY S welcomes PRESC For Our East Discount Drawings Complementary Gifts 1307 Gregg 263-4247

Lamesa's Dal Paso has new crowd

The Associated Press

LAMESA — The Dal Paso Hotel, somewhere halfway between Dallas and El Paso, saw many honeymooners and travelers come and go in West Texas.

Now, as the Dal Paso Museum, it is recounting the history of Lamesa and Dawson County, going back to the first pioneer settlers of the 1870s.

Some visitors to the museum are those long-ago honeymooners, some married now for 50 years. Others are tourists who tell stories of visiting the hotel during its heyday and noting their relief that "the walls couldn't talk."

Old folks tell about playing poker in a corner room with a lookout at the top of the stairs to warn the gamblers about approaching law enforcement or angry wives. The corner room was chosen because a fire escape was quick route out.

All of this and more is told by Wayne Smith, museum curator and county historian.

He not only knows the county's history, but he had lived through a portion of it. He was born 15 miles outside town and learned to love the local history from hearing stories from his grandparents who arrived in the county in 1914.

"The Dal Paso Museum used to be the Dal Paso Hotel. It was named the Dal Paso because it was supposedly a halfway mark between Dallas and El Paso," Smith said.

"The Dal Paso Hotel was built in 1924 and operated until 1971. From then it was used as a barber shop and drug store until 1981. After that it was used off and on for various functions, but never caught on," Smith said.

The county had a museum in an old house on the west side of town, but Smith said it was hard to maintain. In 1988, the old Dal Paso Hotel was reopened as the new museum.

Smith said the idea of renovating the hotel and creating a new museum was toyed with by a group of local residents. Their thought was to renovate the building and use part of the building as the office for the Chamber of Commerce, which was located in another part of town at



Curator Wayne Smith stands along a wall containing the Dal Paso Museum's collection of old newspapers in Lamesa. The museum was originally the Dal Paso Hotel, built in 1924 and operated until 1971. After holding a succession of other businesses, it became a museum in 1988.

the time. Smith said he didn't know if anyone would be interested in spending the money to fix the hotel up until the local newspaper editor, Walter Buckel, wrote a number of articles about the proposed project — then citizens began sending in donations.

Later the Mabee Foundation in Midland matched contributions, adding \$50,000. In total, \$150,000 was raised to redo the hotel, Smith said.

"The building started out a mess with a leaking roof ... plaster ripped up," Smith said. He added the project was a major undertaking. But to look at the results now, it is a beautiful piece of West Texas history.

"This is strictly a West Texas museum ... we wanted something to preserve our culture," Smith explained.

The museum has artifacts and memorabilia dating back to the developmental stages of Dawson County. Smith said the first land sale was in 1875. He said the displays

carry through the big growth of the community in the 1930s and even has more current displays because "history doesn't become static, it's ongoing."

But, for the most part, it's a pioneer museum.

The lobby serves as a comfortable welcome to the old hotel with a parlor off to the side, which is rented for parties and gatherings. A feel of nostalgia hangs in the air as visitors walk into the lobby with a feel for how honeymooners and cattle barons felt as they stepped in to get a room for the night.

An authentic chair lift attached to rails along the wooden staircase assists handicapped people get up the stairs to where the displays are located on the second floor.

Each of the hotel's rooms, which still have numbers of the doors, hold a variety of displays with each room matching a theme of just one small portion of Dawson County history. Each item on display was a personal belonging of a Dawson County fami-

ly, Smith said. Religious history, which played a big part in the lives of the pioneers, is the first room visitors encounter at the top of the stairs.

Smith said the early settlers started their own churches and would even start their own schools.

"They were more than just a place of worship — they were the center of activity," Smith said about the small community churches.

Another large part of the settlers' lives was the family life and ranching.

On display in the ranching heritage room are a number of what were items used daily including side saddles, ice hooks, animal traps and leather kneepads used for picking cotton.

"Kids don't realize branding irons were used on a daily basis by the frontiers ... they were a functional part of life," Smith said. "We wanted to create a living museum to show youngsters what their ancestors endured."

Videotape rekindles storm of criticism on Medina brutality

The Associated Press

HONDO — It was like the scab was picked from an old wound when a videotape surfaced showing Medina County and Hondo law officers kicking Hispanic suspects they'd arrested.

Police brutality claims have a long history here.

And a persistent small citizens group, rallying around the recent disclosure of the videotape, is vowing to keep reminding the public of that disturbing legacy.

"We are capitalizing on the incident that was captured on the video because we can show the world that this time we have evidence, that there is police brutality here in Hondo," said Chavel Lopez, spokesman for People Against Police Abuse.

"I think that the people in Hondo, at least the Mexican-American people in Hondo, are outraged and frightened," said James Myart, an attorney whose San Antonio law firm represents two men beaten in the videotaped arrest. They have filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against assorted officers and city and county officials.

Law officers in this rural community west of San Antonio deny there is widespread police abuse.

"There is no ongoing problem of any kind like that ... It's a problem they are trying to make," said Medina County Sheriff Wesley Scott.

Hondo police Lt. Doug Rivers, the acting police chief, agreed, calling Lopez and his group "professional protestors."

Even though the videotaped arrest happened 16 months ago, on Nov. 27, 1992, the Department of Public Safety tape wasn't disclosed until February, after KENS-TV in San Antonio waged a Texas Open Records battle for nearly a year to obtain it.

The tape shows officers kicking and jumping on some of the five Hispanic suspects, who were lying on the ground handcuffed after being apprehended in a car chase. The men originally were charged with evading arrest, but charges were dropped.

Two law officers who were

involved have pleaded guilty to criminal charges. Sheriff's deputy Anthony Perales pleaded guilty to a felony civil rights violation and received 1 year's probation. He was fired from his job. Hondo police officer Mark Chadwick, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and received no jail time, was let go in city layoffs.

Lopez's group insists justice hasn't been done in that case or other violent police incidents, some dating back to the 1970s. The group, known as PAPA, points out: —Rogelio Lopez, 17, was unarmed when he was shot to death in 1984 by Medina County deputy Richard Wells after a 15-mile chase. Wells was not-billed by a grand jury. PAPA formed as a result of the case.

—Medina County deputy Scott Tschirhart resigned his deputy post in May 1993 after the FBI investigated two arrests he made in which suspects were struck. Tschirhart, earlier as a Houston police officer, was involved in the shooting deaths of three black men in separate incidents. Grand juries cleared him of wrongdoing.

—Hondo resident Gerardo Velasquez says he now is wheelchair-bound after a city police officer further injured his ailing back by ramming him into the floor with his foot during a drug sweep in March 1993. Velasquez was not charged. The city declined to comment.

There is one federal lawsuit pending against the city alleging civil rights violations, and there are four against the county sheriff's department, officials said.

"We know that some way, some how, the sheriff's department and the city police department simply got out of control," said Randall Jackson, a San Antonio attorney who represents Velasquez in an anticipated lawsuit.

Chavel Lopez, Velasquez and five others last week staged a now-familiar protests at the Medina County Courthouse to demand Sheriff Wesley Scott resign because of what they called a "pattern" of employing deputies with shady backgrounds and of allowing police abuse to thrive.

"There will not be a resignation. I will not resign," Scott declared, denying the group's allegations.

Clinton pushes plan while visiting Dallas children in hospital

The Associated Press

DALLAS — President Clinton visited a children's hospital Saturday morning, using the opportunity to pitch a short game of baseball with a Fort Worth boy and to reiterate his call for universal health insurance coverage.

"These children got this care because this hospital gives all children treatment without regards to means," Clinton said after he and his wife spent about 10 minutes with five children in a physical therapy room at the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

"The message from this is all families with children should have coverage so they can get care like this."

The administration has proposed a health care reform package that would guarantee health insurance coverage for all Americans.

Clinton, in town for his brother Roger's wedding Saturday, met with children before making his weekly radio address in the hospital solarium.

He was accompanied in his hospital tour by a delegation of Texas officials, including Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and U.S. Reps. John Bryant, Martin Frost and Eddie Bernice Johnson, all Dallas Democrats.

Clinton attended a private reception with Gov. Ann Richards later in the morning.

The president and Mrs. Clinton toured a colorful physical therapy unit. They met individually with children who are receiving specialized care to correct various defects that hamper their mobility.

The last of the five, Geoffrey Martin, 6, of Fort Worth, was holding a toy bat and styrofoam ball and asked the president if he wanted to pitch to him.

With the First Lady as his catcher, the president pitched underhand three times to the boy, who is suffering from juvenile rheumatoid arthri-

tis. The boy struck and missed each time.

"Once more. You've got a bad pitcher," Clinton said, and the boy connected solidly on the fourth pitch.

The other children were Nicholas Navarro, 12, of Cedar Hill; Dirlecha Jones, 11, of North Richland Hills; Shea Cantrell, 4, of Celina; and Edgar Valdez, 6, of Dallas.

Two couples who said they have been unable to get medical insurance greeted the president upon his arrival at the hospital and gave him letters urging him to continue efforts for guaranteed health coverage.

During his radio address, Clinton referred to one of the couples — Steve and Georgianna Leonard of Sherman — who said they couldn't get health insurance for their 5-year-old twin sons. Davis and Drew Leonard are among the more than 11,000 patients at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital.

"The boys have some undiagnosed medical difficulties, but they cannot get any health insurance because of that. The father and the mother have been under great stress and great difficulty," Clinton said.



President Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, visit with Nicholas Navarro, 12, during a visit to the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas Saturday. At right is Holly Wilson, the assistant director of physical therapy at the hospital.

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M A R 27 1994

Air Force defends new F-22

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A congressional report critical of the new F-22 stealth fighter underestimated Russian capabilities and neglected to consider the impact of defense spending cuts, the Air Force says.

Scrambling Friday to protect a cherished weapons program from criticism, the Air Force gave a background briefing on the F-22 following a General Accounting Office report that urged the Pentagon to postpone development of the F-22 for seven years. The report by the GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, came weeks after the Air Force disclosed shortcomings in the radar-evading design of the aircraft.

The GAO study said the Air Force's current high-performance fighter, the F-15, will outperform any potential competitor well into the next century, and possibly until 2015.

In its reply, the Air Force argued that the report was "simplistic," underestimated existing enemy air capability, and "failed to consider surface-to-air missile systems altogether."

While the GAO report referred to an F-15 fleet of about 900 aircraft, the Air Force noted that President Clinton's long-term defense plan foresees a fighter force of 288 aircraft available for combat.

And because the president's defense plan assumes an ability to fight two nearly simultaneous regional wars, "we must plan to face a numerically superior adversary in any future conflict," the Air Force said.

Both the F-22 and the F-15 are considered "air superiority" fighters. That means their role is to be able to destroy enemy aircraft in a specific combat sector, thus giving U.S. forces the ability to attack enemy targets without fear of air attack.

Both the Air Force and the Pentagon civilian leadership under Clinton support the F-22. Its radar-evading characteristics, they argue, will be needed in future air wars against enemies armed with improved aircraft and ground-to-air missiles.

The Air Force response states that the F-15 could continue to succeed against enemy aircraft "but with much higher losses." Aside from the concern about losing pilots to death or capture, the Air Force response notes that with lower budgets and smaller numbers of aircraft, it can tolerate fewer combat losses.



Associated Press photo

Somali looters make off with booty from an American military camp at the Mogadishu airport shortly after the last U.S. soldiers departed from Somalia Friday. Banditry in Somalia had been on the rise with the scaling down of U.S. military involvement. Now many people fear a further increase of violence and lawlessness is imminent.

American withdrawal marked Somali limits

The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The American flag fluttered above a Marine amphibious assault vehicle that withdrew into the sea, lolled like a drunken whale in the surf and pattered slowly back to its ship.

It was the unceremonious end of a mission that began in hope and ended in disillusion.

There are lessons to be learned from Somalia regarding the U.S. role in U.N. peacekeeping and the use of force to provide humanitarian relief.

Washington has time for study and debate. In Somalia, the clock is running down.

American troops, who once numbered more than 26,000 here, were more than the backbone of the U.N. force. They were the symbol of its resolve. President Clinton's order for them to withdraw was followed by similar orders from other Western capitals.

When the last American Marines pulled out Friday they drew the line on how much the richest countries in the world are willing to do for Somalia.

Former President Bush ordered

1,800 Marines ashore on Dec. 9, 1992, as the vanguard of a multinational force to ensure that emergency food supplies got through to the starving.

At least 350,000 Somalis died in the famine that followed civil war and anarchy. Up to a 1,000 a day were still dying when the Marines stormed ashore.

"We are grateful because we remember and will not forget that 250,000 children died in the famine and now they are not dying," Staffan de Mistura, the Somali director for the U.N. Children's Fund, said as he watched the last American troops depart.

"They turned a page and in turning the page we hope the Americans do not forget Somalia."

The mission was never without danger. On Jan. 12, 1993, just over a month after the Americans arrived, Marine Pvt. Domingo Arroyo, 23, of Elizabeth, N.J., was shot dead by Somali gunmen in an attack near Mogadishu's airport. He was the first American serviceman to die in Somalia. In all, 44 Americans would die, 30 in combat.

There had been warnings. In a December 1992 diplomatic cable, Smith Hempstone, then the U.S. ambassador to neighboring Kenya, advised Bush "not to embrace the Somali tarbaby." He said Somalia should be left to its own devices even though famine still threatened 2 million people.

"They will lay ambushes. They will launch hit-and-run attacks. They will not be able to stop the (humanitarian) convoys from getting through. But they will inflict — and take — casualties," Hempstone advised.

Somali militias could not stop the convoys. The famine, already waning by the time the Americans arrived, was over by late spring of 1993 and the Americans turned the mission over to the United Nations in May of that year.

But Somalis did lie in ambush. And they did take and inflict casualties.

On June 5, militiamen loyal to warlord Gen. Mohamed Farrah Aidid killed 24 Pakistani soldiers and wounded 54. That ambush led to reprisals, retaliation and four months of urban guerrilla warfare.

White House aides questioned hiring of GOP prosecutor

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two top White House officials challenged a government agency's hiring of a former Republican prosecutor to probe a failed Arkansas savings and loan now at the center of the Whitewater investigation, according to government sources.

Senior White House officials George Stephanopoulos and Harold Ickes placed a conference call Feb. 25 to a ranking Treasury Department official to express outrage over the decision of the Resolution Trust Corp. to retain former GOP prosecutor Jay B. Stephens, RTC sources said. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

Stephens, who sharply criticized the Clinton administration after being fired as U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia last March, was hired to handle possible civil suits growing out of the failure of Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan.

Stephanopoulos, in an interview with CNN, said he was "just trying to get information" and that he had expressed anger at the hiring of Stephens.

"Do I wish now that I hadn't have gotten angry, that I hadn't blown off steam? Of course I do," he said. "I wish I hadn't gotten angry."

He said he would not resign. White House spokesman Jeff Eller said the president and Chief of Staff Mack McLarty both had confidence in Stephanopoulos.

Eller described Clinton's reaction to the latest reports of contacts between the White House and federal regulators as "matter of fact."

Clinton administration aides have long regarded Stephens as a zealous political opponent of President Clinton and the two officials are said to have described his appointment in

the Whitewater affair as "an outrageous choice."

The Washington Post and Time Magazine reported that Stephanopoulos and Ickes asked Deputy Treasury Secretary Roger Altman, the acting head of the RTC, "Can anything be done about it? Is it final?"

Time also said it learned that special counsel Robert Fiske has asked a grand jury in Washington to explore the question of whether the two officials used their influence to try to have Stephens fired.

The magazine quoted an unidentified administration official as speculating that the grand jury investigation could lead to one or more indictments for obstruction of justice.

It quoted Stephanopoulos as saying he merely asked Altman how Stephens came to be hired, adding that he "blew off steam over the unfairness of that decision."

Stephanopoulos did not return a message left on his answering machine Saturday.

Stephens was one of 93 Republican U.S. attorneys, all hired by former President Bush, who were fired by Clinton in February 1993. Stephens maintained the action was aimed at undercutting an investigation he was conducting.

Time reported that Joshua Steiner, the Treasury Department chief of staff, will be questioned by the grand jury this week about his own notes, contained in a personal diary, of a phone call with Stephanopoulos similar to the one Altman received.

But sources at the Treasury Department, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press that Steiner kept no such notes on that phone call.

Americans, come back home

From his editor's desk at the Livestock Market Digest in Morro Bay, Calif., Lee Pitts keeps me in touch with his constituency.

Recently reminiscing, he recalled how Americans and America have changed since we drifted away from home.

Our generation could get kicked out for bringing water balloons or rotten eggs to school.

Today's school-agers sneak guns and knives past metal detectors.

In the old schoolhouse, the scandal of the year was when a senior girl, "in the family way," quietly dropped out.

Today, one in three school-age girls is pregnant before graduation.

We got in trouble just for talking in class. Today, you can deal drugs without leaving your desk.

A shop teacher kept order by padding a few behinds. Today, civil libertarians would have the teacher in court for child abuse.

Significantly — today, Congress makes rules for our PUBLIC schools, while most of the 535 members of Congress send their children to PRIVATE schools.

Lee suggests that the prevalent problems of literacy, crime, drugs, delinquency and disease would respond to the two-word formula the neighbor lady used to use when you misbehaved: "Go home!"

Lost animals instinctively seek to find their way home. Dogs and cats, turtles and pigeons, alligators and salmon — they go back to where they were born to have their babies. Any frightened calf or fawn will run back to where its mother last left it. Even a few days old, they have that innate sense of direction.



Paul Harvey

Americans, instead of running home, have been running away.

Sociologists, as recently as this month, affirm that families that share meals together are happier and healthier.

But who eats at home anymore? Americans, go home!

I mean the divorced parents of a dysfunctional family ...

The shiftless father with a "will work for food" sign in his hand ...

Go home to that unmarried mother and the kids you begat, and they won't need to search for "family" in gangs. They won't need to seek self-worth in drugs.

Go home, Americans! Back to where parents take care of their own parents and their own children.

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Americans running away led to an alternative that's sad, sick, lonely and loveless.

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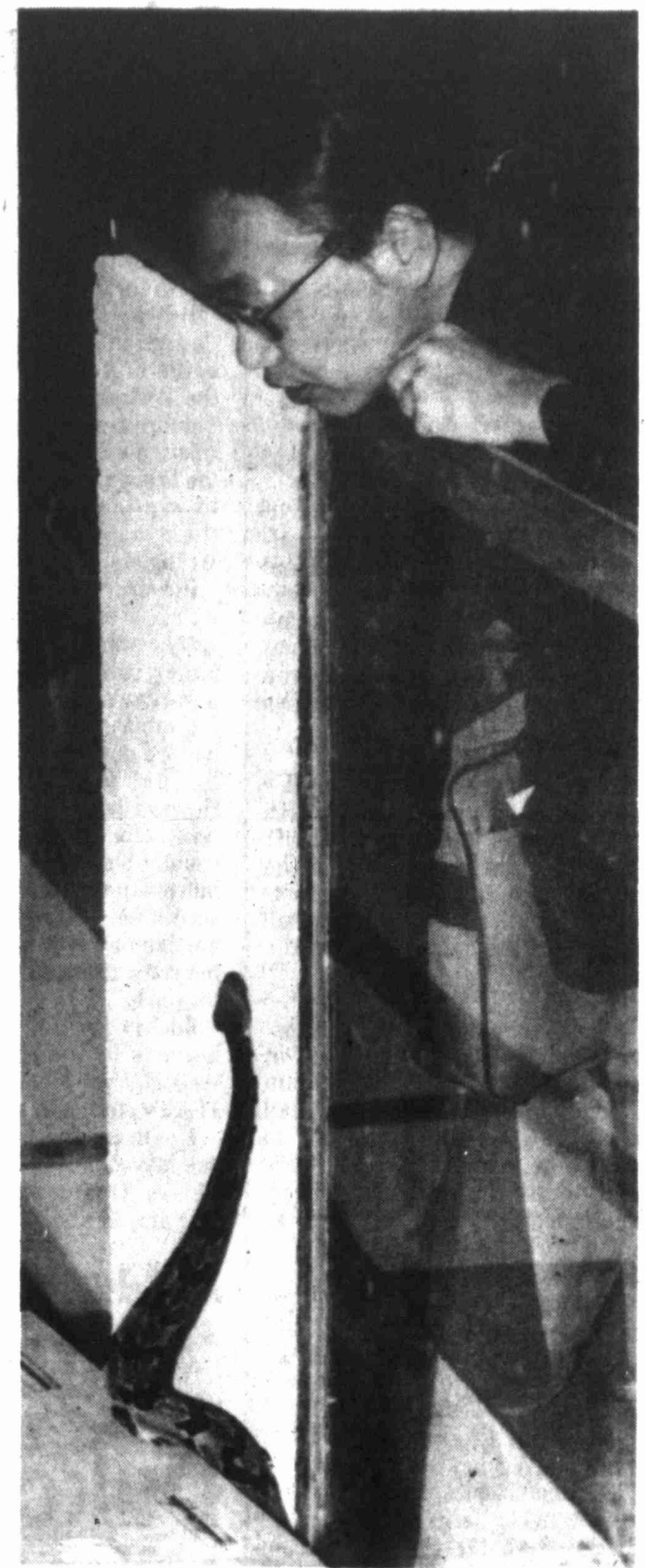
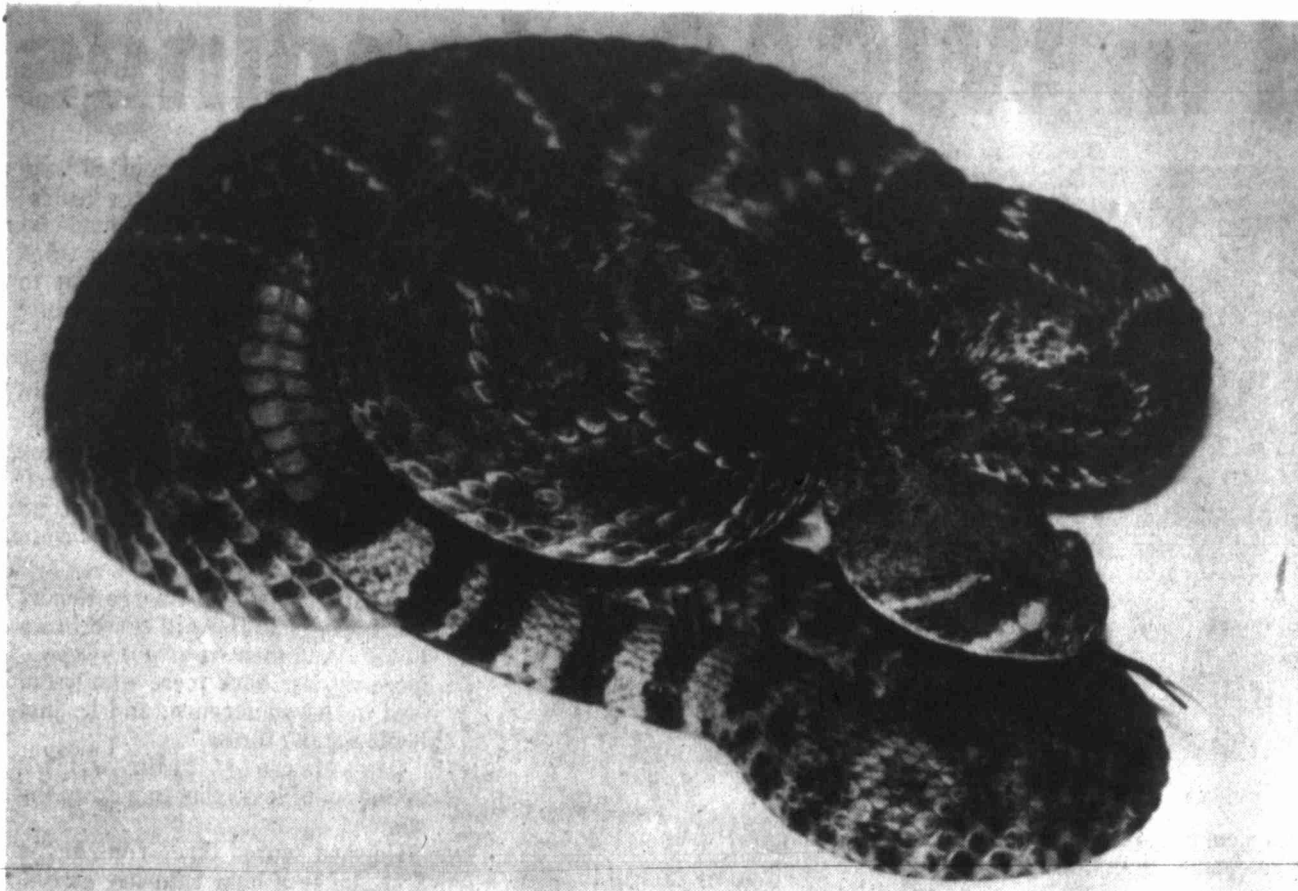
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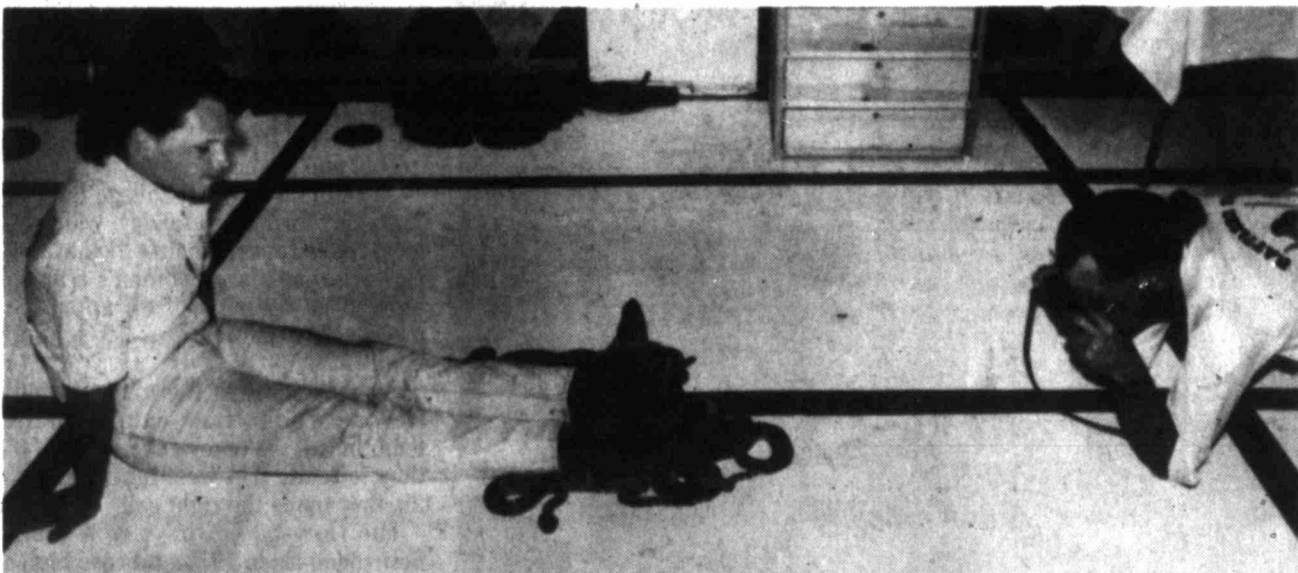
Zaquet WATER DAM

INSU

Snakes, snakes ... lots more snakes



The AMBUCS 32nd annual Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup was in full swing at the Howard County Fairbarns Saturday, with several different demonstrations on handling the snakes. Clockwise, from above: A snake sits in the middle of the pit floor; Brandi Preston and Matthew Thorp taste rattlesnake meat; a member of the Japanese film crew gets a close look at a snake; outside, Adam Ramirez gets his photo taken with a 12-foot python; with snakes at his feet, Kyle Estep gets his photo taken by dad David, volunteer Heather Preston gets to hold one of the reptiles.



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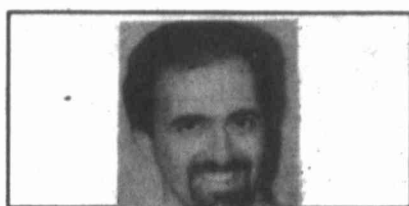
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Sports



Dave Hargrave

Call a TO on this OT idea

Finally, one of my most desired sports wishes has come true. But I'm still going to complain. The long-awaited two-point conversion became part of the National Football League Tuesday. Next season, when the Cowboys are trailing the Redskins 28-20 at the 2-minute warning, you can still watch the game with the hope the Cowboys can come back and win. No onside kicks necessary. It was a superb move by the NFL's competition committee - who cares if the coaches weren't consulted? The two-point conversion is the most exciting play in college football, especially at the end of a ball game, and the same could be the case in the NFL.

Or could it? NFL coaches are, for the most part, conservative, and most of them probably have some disdain for the two-pointer since they had no say in the matter. With that in mind, how many NFL coaches are going to use the two-point conversion, especially when they have the option of overtime?

Oh, that's right. You forgot about that infernal overtime period. Can you believe the NFL is progressive enough to adopt the two-pointer but stubborn enough to leave in place a flawed sudden-death overtime concept, where the winner is often decided by a coin toss?

Talk about schizophrenia. If you have the two-point conversion in effect, there's no reason to have an overtime. The NFL should make its situation just like college - if the game is tied at the end of four quarters, call it a tie, kiss your sister and go home.

Jimmy Johnson, seeing his Cowboys scores with 2 seconds left to move within one point, 28-27, of the Giants, shouldn't get to say: "Do I want to go for the win now, or go for the win in overtime?" Make him say: "Do I want to win, or do I take the tie?"

OK, NFL. If you really want to keep the silly overtime, at least change it. Drop the sudden-death deal. Play an extra quarter - the full 15 minutes. At least then the coin toss won't mean much, and the two-pointer can still be a factor. Under the current rules, Jimmy Johnson can delay his try for the win until overtime, then choke on his decision when the Giants run back the overtime kickoff for a touchdown.

"Guess I should have gone for two before the overtime," Johnson will say in the postgame press conference.

Too bad he wasn't forced to. The two-pointer will be great when a team is trailing by eight or 11 points, but other than that it seems pointless. Buffalo coach Marv Levy has already said he may use the two-point play once every four years.

It's a case of replacing a dream come true with a new wish. It's nice that the two-pointer has arrived, but now I have to wish for the NFL to dump overtime.

But I have no one to blame but myself. We all know the saying: Be careful what you wish for.

The Howard College women's basketball team got most of what it wished for this season, expect a national championship. Minus that one major prize, the Lady Hawks still accomplished tons this season, and Howard College gave the team a nice season-ending tribute at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Thursday.

The Lady Hawks have received their recognition. One group that hasn't is Howard's fans, especially those that are part of the Adopt-A-Hawk program.

In the program, families that support Howard athletics open their homes to one or perhaps two or three Howard athletes. They might have the athletes over for dinner, invite them to church or family outings, or anything that gives the athlete a home away from home.

It was those people who welcome Howard's athletes, those people that come to most if not all of the games, that Howard athletic director and women's hoops coach Royce Chadwick was praising Thursday at the reception for the Lady Hawks.

"This is nice, and this is what the program is all about - these people in the stands," Chadwick said. "They've been here all season, and they'll be here next season at the opening tip. This is one of the best junior college athletics programs in the nation, and it's our fans and our supporters that really make the difference."

Hawks pad lead in WJCAC standings

By DAVE HARGRAVE
Sports Editor

A rude wind blew into Jack Barber Field Saturday, but nobody was blown away.

Howard College fought Odessa College in a tense doubleheader, a battle of the two superior teams in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. While Odessa snapped Howard's 20-game winning streak in the first game, the Hawks came back to win the second game and pad their conference lead over the Wranglers.

Howard (32-2, 11-1 in the WJCAC) won 8-6 Friday thanks in part to a gutsy complete-game victory by John Major (6-0), but a biting wind at Saturday's twinbill seemed to turn the tables in favor of Odessa's left-handed power hitters.

"That wind was brutal," said Howard left fielder Troy May, who went 4 for 7 in the doubleheader. "It usually blows foul pole to foul pole, but today was the first time I'd ever seen it blow straight out. Not to take anything away from Odessa's hitters, but some routine fly balls went out of the park."

Odessa (17-14, 8-4) blasted four homers in the first game, a 9-6 Wrangler win, and three in Howard's 11-10 victory in the second game.

The drama-packed second game - one May said was a must win for the Hawks - featured a second inning that played about as long as Dances



Howard College batter Sergio Martinez takes a cut at the ball during Saturday's second game against Odessa College at Jack Barber Field. Howard took two of three games from Odessa in the series.

With Wolves. Twelve runs scored in the frame - six by each team. Despite the power show, however, the game went Howard's way on a ball that trickled under a third baseman's glove.

Howard trailed 10-9 going to the bottom of sixth, facing the distinct possibility of seeing its conference lead cut to one game. With one out, designated hitter Jason Long started the Hawks with a double down the left-field line. Kevin Thompson - who

had a monstrous 5-for-7, five-RBI day - laced an 0-1 pitch from Jason Lawson (2-4) into the left-center field gap for a game-tying double.

After Chad Morford flied to center for the second out, Hawk shortstop Freddy Rodriguez hit a 3-1 pitch to the left side. Odessa third sacker Scott Wilson dove to his left and had the ball in his range, but it went under his glove and into left field.

Rodriguez's single plated Thompson with the go-ahead run.

but Howard still had to sweat through the seventh.

Freshman reliever Skip Ames hit Odessa's Jake Bade with his first pitch, then walked Tony Kurtz. Stepping to the plate was George Kellert, who already had hit two homers in the game, and Howard's lead looked as shaky as a house of cards.

Ames responded, striking out Kellert with heat, then his battery-mate, Morford, made perhaps the

play of the game. Bade took off from second as the lead man on a double-steal attempt, but Morford gunned a strike to Kevin Thompson at third base and nailed Bade with time to spare. Ames then whiffed Robby Severance to end the game.

"It was a hit-and-run play. Robby has hit into a lot of double plays, and we were trying to stay out of the double play," said Odessa coach Rick Zimmerman. "If he makes contact, we've at least got runners on second and third with our best RBI guy coming up next."

"That strikeout on George Kellert was huge," said Howard coach Brian Roper. "And then we've got a sophomore catcher back there who is the best in the conference, and he just made a super throw."

Dave Maurer (6-1) threw 1 1/3 innings of hitless relief to pick up the win.

Howard scored three runs in the first inning of both Saturday games, but saw Odessa take the lead in the second inning both times. In the first game, Odessa's Kurtz nailed a fifth-inning, three-run shot, his first dinger of the season, to give the Wranglers a 7-4 lead against Howard starter Brian Thompson (5-1). Kurtz homered again in the seventh, and Scott Wilson went deep as Odessa scored insurance runs that came in handy when Howard's Jeff Orth hit a two-run shot in the bottom

• Please see HAWKS, page 9

NCAA men's tournament

'Cats blast Mizzou; Duke downs Purdue

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It was over at the opening jump. Arizona's ball, Arizona's game. Final Four coming up.

They glanced at each other before the ref flipped the ball into the air, got that special feeling when they came downcourt, knew it for certain when Damon Stoudamire hit his first running jumper.

The Wildcats never had any doubt they would tear apart Missouri, and if that sounds cocky or presumptuous, tough. Their 92-72 victory to win the NCAA West final Saturday justified that faith and will carry them to Charlotte, N.C., next week against the winner of Sunday's Arkansas-Michigan game.

Stoudamire, Khalid Reeves and Reggie Geary, arguably the best backcourt in the country, shredded Missouri from the outside, inside and on defense. Asked when they knew the game really was over, Geary didn't hesitate a second: "Tipoff," he said with a smile. "I looked at our eyes, and I saw our confidence."

They also looked at Missouri's slow legs and wide bodies and realized how they could win.

"Missouri is a team that we thought didn't get back well on defense," said Stoudamire, at 5-foot-10 perhaps the best little man in college basketball. He scored 27 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and had four assists.

"We felt if we got the rebounds, we could push them on the break."

All of Missouri's size and strength meant nothing when Stoudamire sank his first four 3-pointers. Missouri couldn't stop Reeves from slashing through the middle for most of his 26 points, and it couldn't do anything about the clever passing of Geary, who scored 14 points and had

five assists.

But more than putting on an offensive show, these three guards pestered No. 5 Missouri to death on defense, swiping balls, denying shots, getting in the way of drives and sneaking in for rebounds.

Arizona, ranked No. 9 and coming off two straight years of first-round losses in the NCAA tournament, is 29-5 but has gotten little respect this season. That will all change if Stoudamire, Reeves and Geary keep playing the way they did against Missouri (28-4), the Big Eight champion.

"We knew we had that burden," Stoudamire said about Arizona's previous early exits from the tournament. "But we knew if we got past that first game we'd be dangerous."

Duke 69, Purdue 60

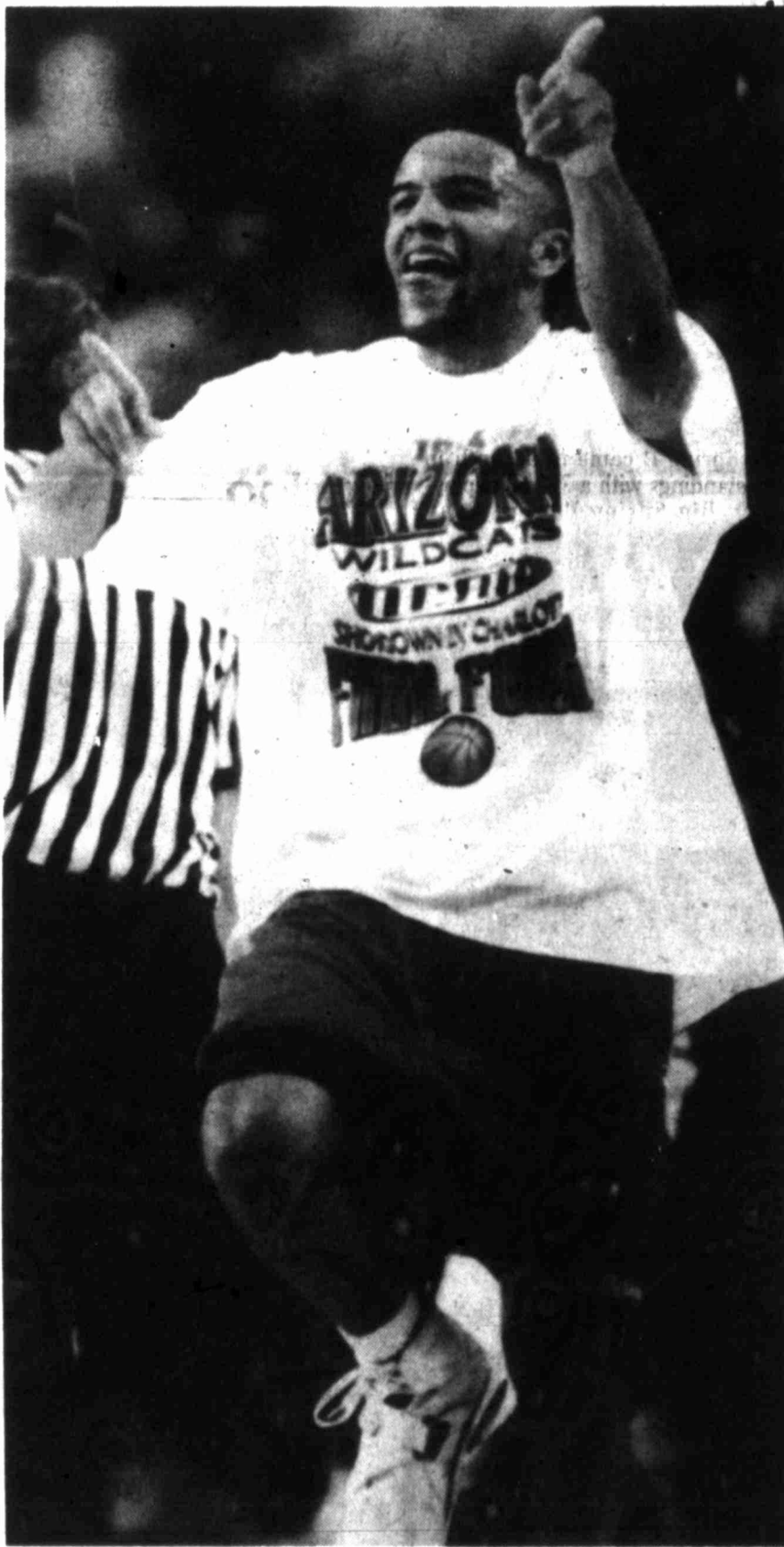
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Duke muzzled the Big Dog and is back in the Final Four.

The second-seeded Blue Devils shackled Glenn Robinson like no one else had all season and beat top-seeded Purdue 69-60 Saturday night in the Southeast Regional championship game to advance to the Final Four for the seventh time in nine years.

They are unbeaten in seven regional final games under coach Mike Krzyzewski and this one comes after a second-round exit last year as two-time defending champions.

Robinson, the nation's leading scorer at 30.8 points per game and who had averaged 36 points in his three NCAA tournament games, finished with a season-low 13 points and for just the third time this season he didn't lead the Boilermakers (29-5) in scoring.

Duke, meanwhile, got a big game from freshman Jeff Capel, who stepped up to score 19 points.



Arizona's Damon Stoudamire celebrates the Wildcats' 92-72 win over Missouri in the NCAA West Regional Final in Los Angeles Saturday.

Martinez pulls Steers back in race

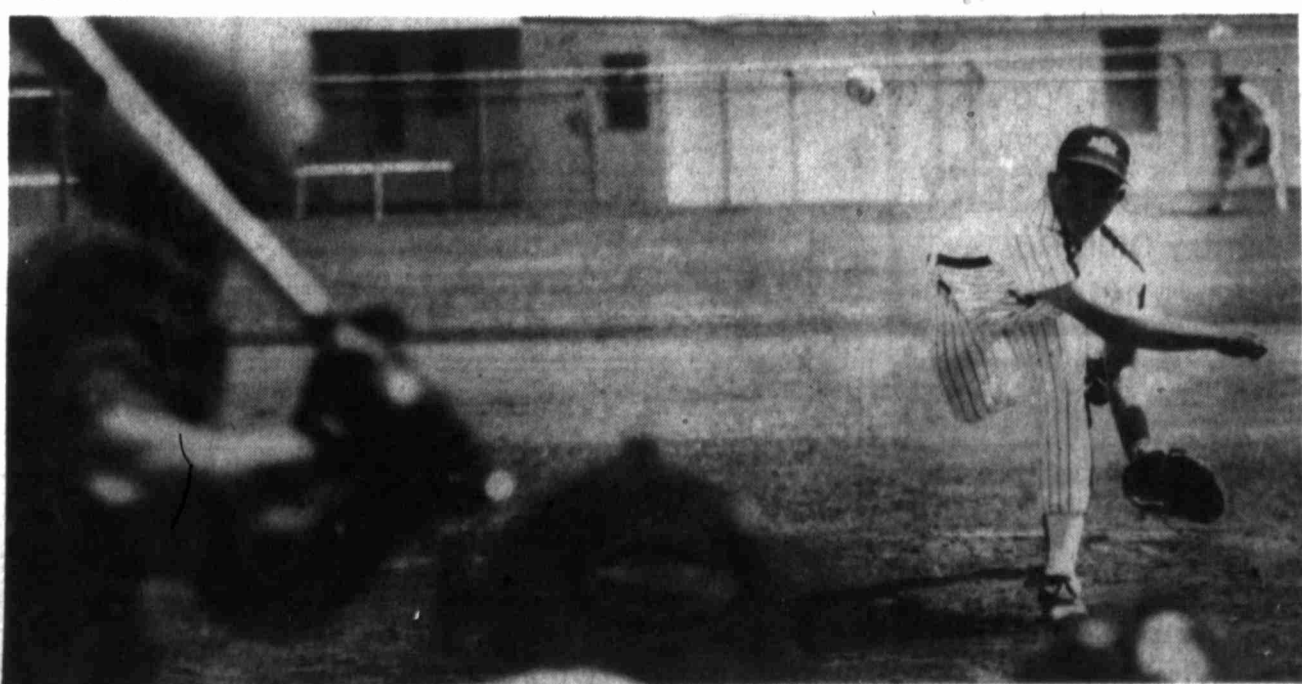
By STEVE REAGAN
Sportswriter

After committing five errors in their district-opening loss Tuesday, the Big Spring Steers discovered that the best defense was Frankie Martinez's fastball.

Martinez fanned 11 batters and allowed only two hits in leading the Steers to a 3-2 win over the Pecos Eagles Saturday afternoon in Steer Park.

Big Spring won in the bottom of the seventh. Terrazas led off with a double to deep center and, one out later, came home on a single to center by pinch hitter Mike Smith.

Martinez, a junior right-hander, overcame a shaky first inning, in which he allowed both Pecos runs, to pitch no-hit ball over the last six innings. His major weapon was a fastball that the Eagles never quite



Big Spring pitcher Frankie Martinez delivers toward home plate during first-inning action against Pecos Saturday at Steer Park. Big Spring scored in the bottom of the seventh inning to take a 3-2 win.

caught up to.

"In the first inning, with my curveball, it seemed like I was falling off the mound every time," said Martinez, who improved to 5-1 with the win. "I came out in the second inning and just did what the coaches

said, to follow through with my pitches - and my fastball started clicking."

The game began as if it would be a slugfest. Pecos struck for two runs in its first at-bat on an RBI single from Art Hinojos and a passed ball

charged to Big Spring catcher Brandon Hamblin.

The Steers got back one of those runs in their half of the first when Mike Oliva walked then came home on Todd Parrish's two-out double off Ames.

• Please see STEERS, page 9

College rodeo kicks off Thursday

By DAVE HARGRAVE
Sports Editor

Unlike all of the other athletic teams at Howard College, the rodeo team gets just one chance to perform for the home folks.

That one chance begins Thursday. The annual Howard College Rodeo, Thursday through Saturday, will give local rodeo fans their first look at the Howard men's and women's teams, as well as the rest of an approximately 300-contestant, 15-school field.

Perhaps some of the more devout Howard rodeo fans caught their team in Odessa two weekends ago. If they took the trip west on Interstate 20, they made the right call.

The Howard cowboys won their first rodeo since 1979 and rose higher in the Southwestern Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. With five rodeos down and five to go, Howard's men have 1,030 points, which is third behind Western Texas College (1,237.5) and leader Vernon Regional Junior College (1,460). The top two teams in the Southwestern Region after the last rodeo - April 28-30 at Tarleton State University - go to the national championship in June at Bozeman, Mont.

Winning in Odessa gives the Howard cowboys a full head of steam heading into their home rodeo, but it also gives them a positive omen. The last time Howard won a rodeo before Odessa - 1979 - was also the last time Howard's men won the Southwest Region.

Two cowboys are currently leading the Southwest Region in their individual events. Ross Hataway, a freshman from Snyder, is tops in bull riding, while Brad Stewart, a sophomore from Charlotte, N.C., is first in steer wrestling.

Howard's hunt for a team trip to Bozeman, individual contenders like Hataway, Stewart, and hometown favorite Dane Driver of Big Spring, plus the women's team - which is out of contention for the region title - should be enough to draw even the most casual fan to the Rodeo Bowl this weekend.

"People have to remember - Howard College competes against juniors and seniors in rodeo," said Howard coach Mike Yeater. Since college rodeo comes under the NIRA, Howard competes on equal footing against Texas Tech and any other four-year institutions with rodeo teams.

"That difference is really big on the women's side, bigger than it is on the men's side," Yeater said. "Junior colleges, especially in this part of the country, have the better programs. Especially on the men's side."

Yeater said most if not all of the Howard competitors will perform Thursday, Thursday and Friday are the preliminaries; Saturday will be

• Please see RODEO, page 9

Snip, snip

Howard College Dorothy Garrett. The team received and Ray was named.

Br

Local Sports

Biddison, C win at Mor

MONAHANS School's tennis place honors girls division Invitational Tournament Saturday.

Senior Greg honors in boys win over Jas Stockton. Also Spring was the Amy Dominguez who defeated T of Boone and G

Other Big Spring Paul McKinney, Donnie Danner third in boys Griffin and Kir

Big Spring vices of Maria Wegman, who because of injury Odessa High and girls division

The Steers are to action Thursday an informal Country Club. T will be held Apr

Greenwood C-City tournament

COLORADO City pitching star wall Saturday Rangers slugged victory in the Colorado C ball tournament

The loss dropped 5-7 overall.

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They hit the ran out of pitch Doc Rowell said loss for Coahoma

In other action defeated Abil School for fifth JV defeated the for seventh plac

Boys golf to thick of dis

SWEETWATER boys' golf team thick of the post strong effort Saturday.

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Hogs, Michigan meet in Midwest

By The Associated Press

DALLAS — The championship game in the NCAA Midwest Regional involves two teams that, like it or not, have grown accustomed to great expectations.

One side is Arkansas. The top-seeded Razorbacks (28-3) spent nine weeks ranked No. 1 in the Associated Press poll on their way to the Southeastern Conference regular season title, and they're seeking their second Final Four trip in the past five years.

Arkansas also counts among its ardent fans President Clinton, who

may be in attendance Sunday.

Arkansas' opponent is No. 3 seed Michigan (24-7). This is the Wolverines' third straight visit to the final eight; they have reached the NCAA title game in each of the past two years.

"A lot of people would say the season is a failure if we lose," Michigan guard Jalen Rose said Saturday. "Some would say it was a great season. We can't get caught up in that. I'm not ready to hear it yet, frankly."

Michigan coach Steve Fisher put it this way:

"It'll be a disappointment if we don't get there, just as it will for Arkansas and just as it has been for

all of those who had that goal realistically coming into the field of 64 who are no longer there.

"We've had a good season. We can make it better than good for every step we continue to make."

Making that next step figures to be a chore. Arkansas has played a little better in each of its three tournament games, and enters Sunday's game after a 19-point victory over Tulsa in the regional semifinals.

The Razorbacks are known as a team that loves to press and play a frenetic style. But particularly in their past two games, they have shown the ability to dominate oppo-

nents with solid halfcourt defense.

"If you're a good team — a really, really good team like Arkansas is — then you have some flexibility," Fisher said. "They're a team that has proven they can play halfcourt, full court, whatever it takes to win."

Coach Nolan Richardson said Arkansas' zone defense, which it used with great success against Georgetown and Tulsa, is more formidable now because of the development of 6-foot-11 freshman Darnell Robinson and Lee Wilson. Both missed stretches of games during the regular season due to injuries.

"In the last month I could see the improvement in those kids," he said.



Herald photo by Dave Hargrave

Snip, snip here

Howard College Lady Hawk Eureka Ray smiles as she cuts a bit of the net at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum during a reception for the Lady Hawks Thursday. The team recently finished sixth at the national junior college tournament and Ray was named to the all-tournament team.

Briefs

Local Sports Roundup

Biddison, doubles team win at Monahans tourney

MONAHANS — Big Spring High School's tennis team took second place honors in both the boys and girls divisions at the Monahans Invitational Tennis Tournament Saturday.

Senior Greg Biddison captured top honors in boys singles with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Jason Lester of Fort Stockton. Also placing first for Big Spring was the girls doubles team of Amy Dominguez and Lara Stevenson, who defeated the Fort Stockton duo of Boone and Garcia, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Other Big Spring placings included: Paul McKinney, third in boys singles; Donnie Dennard and Jeff Johnston, third in boys doubles; and Angela Griffin and Kirstie Moates, consolation champs in girls doubles.

Big Spring was without the services of Maria Villareal and Colby Wegman, who missed the meet because of injuries.

Odessa High won both the boys and girls divisions.

The Steers and Lady Steers return to action Thursday when they play an informal match at Lubbock Country Club. The District 3-4A meet will be held April 8.

Greenwood wins C-City tournament

COLORADO CITY — The Colorado City pitching staff apparently hit the wall Saturday as the Greenwood Rangers slugged their way to a 15-5 victory in the championship game of the Colorado City Invitational baseball tournament.

The loss dropped C-City's record to 5-7 overall.

The Coahoma Bulldogs also suffered from lack of pitching depth Saturday, dropping a 9-4 decision to Big Spring's junior varsity in the third place game.

"They hit the ball well, but we just ran out of pitching," Coahoma coach Doc Rowell said. Brian Ruiz took the loss for Coahoma.

In other action Saturday, Loraine defeated Abilene Christian High School for fifth place, and Lake View JV defeated the Big Spring freshmen for seventh place.

Boys golf team in thick of district race

SWEETWATER — The Big Spring boys' golf team placed itself in the thick of the postseason hunt with a strong effort in Sweetwater Saturday.

Monahans won with a 307, and Andrews was runner-up at 312, but Big Spring was on the leaders' tails with a 314. Sweetwater was fourth

at 315, and Lake View was a distant fifth at 331.

Big Spring's Jake McCullough was fourth in the tournament, shooting a 75. McCullough's effort was especially noteworthy, said BSHS coach Gary Simmons, since he came back from shooting a triple bogey on the first hole.

Pat Carter and Ryan Williams both shot a 79 to tie for ninth overall. Jimmy Cox shot an 81 (16th), and Charlie Marmolejo turned in an 84 (25th).

"We put ourselves in a position where we've got a chance," Simmons said. "We've got to improve every week, though. Monahans and Andrews are not going to let up; they've proven that in the past."

Big Spring B came in seventh in team standings with a 342. The players on Big Spring B were Ryan Hamby (84 - 25th), Josh Palmer (84 - 25th), Derek Hicks (86 - 30th), Mike Balderach (88 - 36th) and David Emmerson (88 - 36th).

Weldon Gibbs (86) and Justin Cole (89) played as individuals for Big Spring.

Jay Moore of Sweetwater was top medalist with a 70.

Big Spring plays again Friday at Pecos. Saturday's tournament in Sweetwater was the first of four that will determine the district champion and the runner-up. The champion and runner-up advance to the post-season.

Lady Steers sit in fourth place

MONAHANS — The Big Spring Lady Steer golf team battled the wind Saturday in Monahans, and some of the scores reflected how strong the wind was. Big Spring finished fourth in the first of three tournaments to decide the district champion and runner-up.

The champion and runner-up teams advance to the postseason.

Andrews won the event with a combined score of 354. Andrews had the top two finishers — Marissa Fleming (85) and Tori Hester (87). Andrews was followed by Andrews B (387), Fort Stockton (403), Big Spring (405), Monahans (414), Pecos (414) and Fort Stockton B (415).

Jennifer Edgar and Kristie Hale both shot 99, tops for Big Spring. Stacey Hollar shot a 100. Also playing for Big Spring were Jessica Sanchez (107), Vanessa Billalba (108) and Jennifer Broadrick (118).

Green resigns at Midland College

Midland College men's basketball coach Steve Green resigned Friday, less than a week after leading the Chaparrals to a sixth-place finish at the national tournament in Waco.

Green, who coached at Howard College before moving to Midland, compiled a 74-23 record in three seasons with the Chaparrals.

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — Three years ago, the idea of an NCAA regional final between Florida and Boston College would have seemed farfetched — even to fans in Gainesville or Chestnut Hill.

Two weeks ago, the matchup still was implausible.

Hawks

Continued from page 8

Howard's second-game win gave the Hawks a three-game lead in the standings with 12 conference games remaining. The race may not be decided until the final conference series of the season, April 29-30,

when Howard goes to Odessa.

Howard's next game is Monday at 2 p.m. in Lubbock against Texas Tech's junior varsity.

Friday					
Odessa	100	000	311	-	6 8 5
Howard	211	000	40x	-	8 9 1

Emiliano, Bivins (7) and Allison, Major and

Morford, W - Major (6-0), L - Emiliano (4-2), 2B - Howard: Orth, K, Thompson, Morford.

Saturday					
Game 1					
Odessa	040	030	2 - 9 7 3		
Howard	300	100	2 - 6 10 0		

Weibl, Gatlin (7) and Allison, B. Thompson, Maurer (5) and Morford, W - Weibl (5-1), L - Thompson (5-1), SV - Gatlin, 2B - Odessa: Mangual; Howard: May, HR - Odessa: Kurtz 2 (2),

Wilson (2), Duvall (4); Howard: Orth (6), K. Thompson (5).

Game 2					
Odessa	062	110	0 - 10 12 0		
Howard	360	002	x - 11 12 2		

Rounding, Lawson (2), Gatlin (6) and Allison, Pearson (2), Jones, Maurer (5), Ames (7) and Holland, Morford (5), W - Maurer (6-1), L - Lawson (2-4), SV - Ames, 2B - Odessa: Duvall; Howard: Ogle, Long, K. Thompson 2, HR - Odessa: Keller (6), Duvall (5); Howard: Martinez (7).

Steers

Continued from page 8

the left-field fence.

Then, in the second, Big Spring tied the game at 2 when third baseman Luis Bustamante crushed a curveball from Pecos starter Gary Herrera over the wall in left for a solo home run.

After that, however, the game became a pitching duel. Martinez started racking up the strikeouts, while Herrera and Pecos reliever Zeke Dutchover relied more on solid defense by the Eagles.

After committing five errors in their district opener against Lake View, the Steers' defense settled

down considerably. Big Spring did commit two errors, but neither ended up hurting the Steers.

In the sixth, second baseman Trey Terrazas bobbled a grounder that allowed leadoff hitter Hinojios to reach first. But Terrazas immediately redeemed himself, initiating a 4-6-3 double play that ended the Eagles' threat.

The Steers' second error came in the top of the seventh, when Hamblin's throw to second on a stolen-base attempt ended up in short right field, allowing pinch runner Steve Rodriguez to move to third with two outs. But Martinez respond-

ed, forcing Rudy Magana to pop out to center.

The Steers (12-4, 1-1 in District 3-4A) didn't exactly tear the cover off the ball, collecting only five hits off Herrera and Dutchover, but three of those hits led directly to runs.

"We hit it when we had to," BSHS coach Bobby Doe said. "Basically, the whole team was tense at first. After losing early in the week, everybody was tense, waiting to get the first inning out of the way."

But the key to the game, Pecos coach Bubba Williams said, was simple: Martinez.

"Frankie did a good job pitching,

and we did a poor job hitting," Williams said. "We weren't even close to getting a hit against him."

Pecos is 1-1 in district. In other district action over the weekend, Lak View beat Fort Stockton 11-8, and Sweetwater beat Monahans 2-1 in nine innings.

Pecos	200	000	0 - 2 2 0
Big Spring	110	000	1 - 3 5 2

Herrera, Dutchover (5) and Vasquez, Martinez and Hamblin; W - Martinez (5-1); L - Dutchover (1-2); LOB - Pecos 5, Big Spring 5; DP - Big Spring 1; E - Terrazas, Hamblin; 2B - Parrish, Terrazas; HR - Bustamante; SB - S. Rodriguez, Sac - Bustamante; HBP - By Martinez (Dutchover); WP - Herrera, Dutchover; PB - Hamblin.

Williams said, "After two years of watching them, I'm addicted to rodeo. They are just outstanding ath-

Rodeo

Continued from page 8

the finals. In the finals, or the short go-round, the top 10 finishers in the preliminaries of each event will compete.

Howard has more than 20 cowboys on the men's team, but only six score team points. Yeater chooses which six will be counted toward team points before each rodeo; the rest of them compete individually. The situation is the same on the women's side, except only three contestants count toward their team's points.

While many people in Big Spring may not understand all of the rules or nuances of rodeo, or know the names and faces of Howard's team, the Howard College Rodeo continues to be a popular event each year. The rodeo brings money to Big Spring, since out-of-town competitors will be streaming in, but it's also the only chance for the Howard rodeo team to be in the local spotlight.

Expect the Howard cowboys and cowgirls to be gracious hosts. That's just cowboy tradition: Yes, sir; Yes, ma'am.

At least until they hop on that bull or wrestle that steer. Then it's all-out war.

"The kids on the rodeo team here are all such hard workers. They have such a strong sense of standards," said Howard College President Cheryl Sparks. "They're just so committed to what they do, and they're all just All-American kids."

Royce Chadwick, Howard's athletic director, said: "After two years of watching them, I'm addicted to rodeo. They are just outstanding ath-

letes, to do the things they do, to be as tough as they are. I feel like I could go out there on the court and play basketball, and I feel like I could go out on the baseball diamond and at least give it a try, but I'm not prepared to do what those rodeo people do. There is no way. I mean, no way. I have a lot of admiration for those kids."

"This is a great showcase for us, because we only get so many opportunities to host events like this in Big Spring. And our team can do really well. It's not much fun to host an sporting event when you can't win it, but we can win at this one."

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Baseball '94: Fans buzzing about changes

By The Associated Press

John Olerud scrunches up his face, trying to imagine how this year's standings will look in his morning paper.

"It will be different," the AL batting champion said. "It might take a little while to figure out."

But even before the first pitch is thrown, at a rare Sunday night opener in Cincinnati, baseball fans already know how they feel.

To purists, realignment and wild-card playoffs are the absolute worst thing that has happened to baseball since the DH debate began in 1973 — far worse than even Michael Jordan trying to make the majors. They say it represents yet another step toward the NHL-ization of baseball, where the regular season means little, and completely eliminates any hope of a pennant race like the one between Atlanta and San Francisco last fall.

To proponents, splitting each league into three divisions is a big change for the better. They say that teams such as Texas and St. Louis, which would've made the playoffs last season under the new format, now have an increased chance of taking on the two-time World Series champion Toronto Blue Jays in October, and contend that will mean more interest for a sport whose appeal has been declining.

To Jim Fregosi, it's all a lot of hot air.

"It doesn't have a damn thing to do with anything," the Philadelphia Phillies manager said.

"You still have to win the games," he said. "You have to win 95 games

to make the playoffs. You're all playing the same schedule. What's the big deal?"

The big deal is that for the first time in the 125-year history of baseball, a team won't have to finish in first place to reach the postseason.

That means, for the first time, teams will have to win a best-of-5 first round and then a best-of-7 before reaching the World Series. And, because of a new television package, all of the opening-round games won't be shown to all areas.

That all has people talking, far more than they did about Jordan's spring fling or Chan Ho Park's bows and hesitations. And it is topic No. 1 as baseball prepares for a season that will feature the Blue Jays trying to become the first three-time World Series winners since Oakland in 1972-73-74; Barry Bonds chasing his third straight MVP award, Cal Ripken pushing toward Lou Gehrig's iron man streak, new ballparks in Cleveland and Texas, and no more Nolan Ryan, George Brett and Robin Yount.

On the field, the game will remain exactly the same in 1994. No disputes about whether to use designated hitter in interleague games — which is still a few years away, maybe — and no extra lively balls, though there was a rash of high scores in recent exhibition games. There is a chance, however, of another strike by players around Labor Day, and almost no chance there will be a commissioner by the end of the season.

How the game looks, or at least how it is perceived, will be much different from the start.

Now, it will require more than

skimming the top of the standings to see who's playoff-bound. Instead, it will take scanning the records of all the second-place clubs to figure out which is ahead for a wild-card spot.

Last year, that would've been simple in the NL. The Braves and Giants, who began the final day tied with 103 wins, would have both been in first place to reach the postseason. Instead, the last-day drama, which wound up with Atlanta winning and San Francisco losing, would have been merely for playoff positioning.

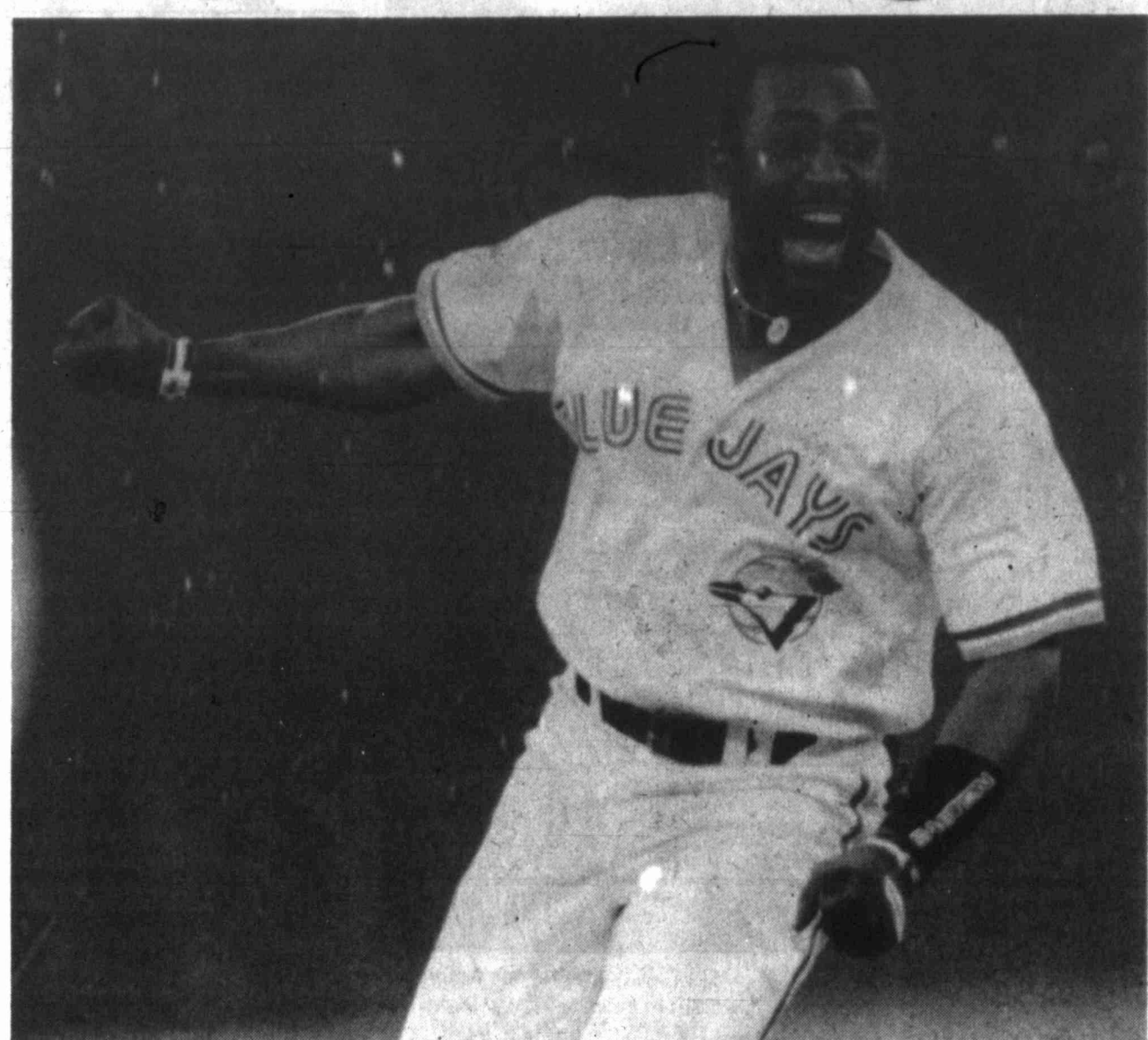
"You're going to lose things like that," Pittsburgh outfielder Andy Van Slyke said. "You've taken away those kinds of races, and that's what makes baseball exciting."

Then again, a team like Seattle, which has never made the playoffs, could get in this year with a second-place finish in the weak, four-team AL West. Or the charged-up Cleveland Indians could extend their season by finishing behind Chicago in the new AL Central and winning the wild card.

"I think the fact that more teams will be involved in races might be a good thing for baseball," Olerud said. "You might see teams in it that have not made it for awhile."

That's what happened in 1969, the first time the leagues were ever split into divisions.

Coming off a 1968 season in which Detroit and St. Louis were runaway pennant winners, a total of seven teams were given permission to print playoff tickets when the 1969 races entered the stretch. One of those clubs was the New York Mets, who capped off one of baseball's most incredible stories by winning the World Series.



Toronto's Joe Carter celebrates as he runs the bases after his game-winning three-run homer to win the World Series last October. The Blue Jays will be seeking their third straight world championship this season.

AL preview

Blue Jays seeking rare three-peat

By The Associated Press

For six straight years, the American League has won the All-Star game. For six straight years, a lot of people have said it doesn't mean anything.

It does. For a long time, the AL has been leading up with the best young talent in baseball. Ken Griffey Jr., Frank Thomas, Juan Gonzalez, Carlos Baerga, John Olerud and Tim Lincecum are just some of the names, and almost every team seems to have at least one bright new star.

While the NL has some top youngsters, like Mike Piazza, the balance of power in the majors has shifted strongly back to the AL. And that should make for some nifty races in the first year of realignment.

The Toronto Blue Jays, trying to become the first team to win three straight World Series since the 1972-73-74 Oakland Athletics, figure to be the favorites in the East until somebody steps up and beats them. Baltimore and New York, both boosted by off-season moves, could challenge and one of them may wind up with the wild-card spot.

The Chicago White Sox, winners of the West last season, should be the class of the Central because of their pitching and Frank Thomas. But improved Cleveland and solid Kansas City will contend.

The West, which lost the White Sox and Kansas City, is wide open. Seattle and Texas, the only AL teams along with Cleveland never to reach the postseason since the divisions split in 1969, each have enough to make the playoffs.

A team-by-team look at the AL, in predicted order of finish:

AL EAST

Toronto Blue Jays

Even without making any major moves in the winter — Greg Cadaret was the only player they added — the Blue Jays return the top three hitters in the league, all of their key pitchers, plus a couple of talented rookies. In all, that should be enough to win the division, although who knows whether it can win Cito Gaston an overdue manager of the year award.

John Olerud (.363, 107 RBIs, 114

BB), Paul Molitor (.332, 111 RBIs, 22 SB) and Roberto Alomar (.326, 93 RBIs, 55 SB) formed the first trio from the same team to finish 1-2-3 in the batting race this century. Joe Carter (33 HR, 121 RBIs), who joined Bill Mazeroski as the only players to end a World Series with a home run, broke his thumb when he was hit by a pitch in spring training, and may not be ready to start the season.

Carlos Delgado (102 RBIs in Double-A) may move from catcher to left field to begin the year. Fellow rookie Alex Gonzalez will share time with veteran Dick Schofield at shortstop.

Juan Guzman (14-3), Pat Hentgen (19-9) and Dave Stewart (12-8), perhaps in his last year, anchor the rotation. Duane Ward (45 saves) was bothered by biceps tendinitis in spring training.

Baltimore Orioles

The Orioles spent about \$45 million on free agents in the winter, and are eager to get back to the playoffs for the first time since 1983.

Lee Smith (43 saves for St. Louis) is expected to replace injured stopper Gregg Olson, who left for Atlanta. Rafael Palmeiro (37 HR, 105 RBIs for Texas) solidifies the spot at first base and Chris Sabo (21 HR for Cincinnati) does the same at third. Sid Fernandez was tough to hit when he was healthy for the Mets, but came down with tendinitis in March.

Outfielders Brady Anderson and Mike Devereaux need to get back to their 1992 levels. Rookie Jeffrey Hammonds hit .305 in 33 games as rookie, and will start in right.

For those keeping count, shortstop Cal Ripken has played 1,897 consecutive games. If he does not miss a game, he would break Lou Gehrig's record of 2,130 in June 1995.

New York Yankees

The Yankees made the trade they wanted for a starting pitcher, getting Terry Mulholland, although they may have left themselves short in the bullpen.

Mulholland (12-9, 3.25 ERA for Philadelphia) joins fellow left-handers Jimmy Key (18-6) and Jim Abbott (11-14) in a rotation that could also include Bob Ojeda. Despite pitching a no-hitter, Abbott was a disappointment last year, and so was

Melido Perez (6-14).

Owner George Steinbrenner said this spring that he wants Abbott to cut down on his charity work and concentrate more on pitching. What would really help is a reliever — newcomers Xavier Hernandez and Jeff Reardon and Steve Howe are among the candidates to close.

Don Mattingly (.291, 86 RBIs) and Wade Boggs (.302) bounced back and Mike Stanley (.305, 26 HR) was a big surprise. Free agent Luis Polonia was signed to bat leadoff, although he's suspect in left field.

Detroit Tigers

As always, Cecil Fielder and friends will put some points on the board. The question is whether newcomer Tim Lincecum and the other pitchers can stop the other teams from scoring.

Fielder (30 HR, 117 RBIs) has seen his homer total drop every year since he hit 51 in 1990. Still, he's a force, as is Mickey Tettleton (32 HR, 110 RBIs, 109 BB) and Travis Fryman (22 HR, 97 RBIs). Alan Trammell (.329) and Lou Whitaker (.290) are productive at age 36, and Tony Phillips (.313, 132 RBIs) had a .443 on-base percentage, second in the league to Olerud's .473.

Belcher (12-11 with Cincinnati and the White Sox) was signed to help steady a staff that includes Bill Gullett and Mike Moore, both 13-9. Manager Sparky Anderson hopes to preserve stopper Mike Henneman (24 saves) by using him only one inning at a time.

Boston Red Sox

The Red Sox signed Otis Nixon in hopes of speeding up the offense, although Boston really needs Roger Clemens to quickly return to form. Clemens (11-14) hopes to rebound from his worst season and perhaps win his fourth Cy Young Award, which would tie Steve Carlton's record. Danny Darwin (15-11) and Frank Viola (11-8) were Boston's best pitchers last season.

Nixon (47 SB with Atlanta) will bat leadoff and roam center field. The Red Sox want Mo Vaughn (.297, 29 HR, 101 RBIs) and Andre Dawson (67 RBIs) to drive him in. The Red Sox tied for last in the league with 114 homers last season and stole

• Please see AMERICAN, page 12

NL preview

Braves still the team to beat

By The Associated Press

Critics who hate baseball's new realignment simply point to last year's race between Atlanta and San Francisco to illustrate why the game is now wrecked.

That kind of chase, they claim, can never happen again because those two teams would've easily made the playoffs without their late-season drama.

True, a team that wins more than 100 games won't get shut out in the future. But there still will be intrigue: just try to figure out who will win the NL Central or who will wind up with the wild card.

The Braves, again, begin the year as perhaps the best team in the league. They should hold off Montreal and Philadelphia in the East, which might put them in position to become the first-ever team in the majors to reach the postseason for four straight years and not win the World Series.

The Central is full of look-alikes with Houston, Cincinnati and St. Louis. The Giants figure to romp in the West, now that the Braves are gone.

A team-by-team look at the NL, in predicted order of finish:

NL EAST

Atlanta Braves

As long as they keep the rotation intact, the Braves will be hard to beat in a 162-game season.

Greg Maddux (20-10, 2.36 ERA) shoots for his third straight Cy Young, while Tom Glavine (22-6, 3.20) tries to win the award for the second time. John Smoltz (15-11) and Steve Avery (18-6) each are playoff MVP winners. All of them are signed for awhile, too.

Once again, the bullpen may determine how far the Braves go. Gregg Olson (29 saves, 1.60 ERA for Baltimore) did not pitch down the stretch because of arm trouble, but seems healthy. He could become the

closer that Atlanta has needed for a long time.

Fred McGriff (37 HR, 101 RBIs) begins his first full season with Atlanta and Deion Sanders (276, 19 SB) starts his first year as a full-time player, thanks to Otis Nixon's departure. Rookies Tony Tarasco and Ryan Klesko starred at Triple-A, and get their chance now that injured left fielder Ron Gant was cut.

David Justice (40 HR, 120 RBIs) had his best season, although Jeff Blauser (.305) was the only Atlanta regular to make the All-Star team.

Montreal Expos

Even with the trade of Delino DeShields and the loss of free agent Dennis Martinez, Montreal remains a young team on the rise.

Marquis Grissom (.298, 95 RBIs, 53 SB) is a Gold Glover in center. Larry Walker (86 RBIs, 29 SB) and manager's son Moises Alou (85 RBIs), back from a leg injury, fill out the outfield.

Cliff Floyd (29 HR, 121 RBIs, 33 SB in three levels last season) may be ready at first base at only 21.

Pedro Martinez (10-5) came from the Dodgers for DeShields and joins surprising Jeff Fassero (12-5) in the rotation. John Wetteland (43 saves, 113 strikeouts in 85 1-3 innings) can be a dominant stopper.

Philadelphia Phillies

The Phillies put everything together last season in climbing from last place to first. To stay on top, they'll need a lot to go right — even with Mitch Williams long gone.

John Kruk (.316, 85 RBIs, 111 BB) will miss the start of the season after undergoing surgery for testicular cancer. Terry Mulholland (12-9) was traded to the Yankees, and unproven reliever Bobby Munoz was mostly what the Phillies got in return.

Lenny Dykstra (.305, 129 BB, 37 SB) hit four home runs in the World

Series and showed the down-and-dirty spirit that made the Phillies the fans' favorite. Darren Daulton (24 HR, 105 RBIs, 117 BB) adds to a high-scoring offense that featured a league-best .351 on-base percentage.

NL playoff MVP Curt Schilling (16-7), Tommy Greene (16-4), Danny Jackson (12-11) and Ben Rivera (13-9) lead a starting staff that slowed down at the end. The big question is who will make up the 43 saves Williams had before he was traded to Houston; Doug Jones (26 saves, 4.54 ERA for the Astros) is the leading candidate.

New York Mets

The Mets lost 103 games last season, and had even more problems off the field. Vince Coleman, who threw a firecracker at fans, was traded, and sullen Eddie Murray was not re-signed, leaving the Mets hoping they've added by subtraction.

Kevin McReynolds (42 RBIs for Kansas City) returns to New York to bat cleanup for a team that does not have much offense. Bobby Bonilla (34 HR) can hit, but may have trouble at third base. Jeff Kent (21 HR) needs to improve at second base.

Dwight Gooden (12-15) is the Mets' last link to their World Series championship team of 1986. Bret Saberhagen (7-7) remains a topic of trade talk.

Florida Marlins

Like most expansion teams, the Marlins are going through growing pains. They might be better this season, although it will be tough to move up in a division that now includes Atlanta.

Gary Sheffield (.294, 20 HR) brought Florida a major presence last season when he was traded from San Diego. The Marlins hope he won't present too many problems in his new spot in right field.

• Please see NATIONAL, page 12

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MENS MAJOR
RESULTS - Bob I Chevrolet, 8-0; Trio Repair, 8-0; O'Daniel Big Spring Herald of Construction over W Container split Fine Conv, Cawover maly High single game series Jeff Dukett, 7 Conv, Center, 1085; Spring Herald, 3087.

STANDINGS - Pa
Parks Conv, Center, 123-92; Big Spring H Trucking, 130-84; R Chevrolet, 100-115; 116; Trio Fuels, 101-121; Hagen TV Repair 84-140; B.S.I., 81-143 73-151.

STARS
RESULTS - Holy 0; T.A.D. over Team Team 86, 8-0; and 3 For Words, 6-2.

Hi. sc. series Bart
Barts Team, 512; Jun Jackson, 544 and Sh Craig Jackson, 238.

MAJORS: hi. sc. series
Leann Campbell, 488 Everett, 203 and Lea series T.A.D., 1700; Juniors: Craig Jack Earnest, 561; hi. gam Shama Earnest, 222; Everett, 574 and Judi Michael Everett, 216.

STANDINGS - Tea
108-88; Holy Rollers, Bad News, 94-82; T.J Words, 74-102 and Tr

STRIKERS
Thunderbirds over Cobra's over Vipers, Crystals, 8-0; Three 6-2.

Hi. sc. series Three
game Thunderbirds, series Anthony Boot Mitchell, 189; hi. gam Natasha Mitchell, 82; Michael Rowden, 382 hi. game Michael Row Brate, 127. Hi. hdp 1 high game Cobra's, 4 Brad Fuqua, 492 and game Brad Fuqua, 17 189. Prep: hi. hdp 1 532 and Traci Beltran Shonk, 192 and Traci

STANDINGS - Thu
Cobra's, 113-63; Three Assassins, 97-79; Fin 86; Texas Hot Shots, 136.

MENS MAJOR
Parks Insurance an Walker LP Gas over W Frank Hagen TV and E Parks Convence on Trucking over Rocky's Fine Engineers, 8-0; a over Bob Brock Ford, Hi. sc. hi. series ind team Walker LP Gas Jeff Dukett, 255 and W hdp hi. series ind. Pa Walker LP Gas, 3109; 263 and Pollard Chev

STANDINGS - Pa
Parks Convence, 1; 123-92; Big Spring H Trucking, 122-84; R Chevrolet, 100-107; Fr 116; Trio Fuels, 98-112; Hagen TV, 81-143; Fine Engineers, 80-134 69-147.

GUY'S & DOLLS
Quail Run over Pho Rock Terrace over Sig Arrow Refrigeration of and Fifth Wheels over Hi. sc. ind. game Sh Williams, 227; hi. sc. i 555; Evelyn Williams, i Dewey Sigmon, 242; E hdp ind. series ind. R Ringner, 624; hi. sc. i hdp Arrow Refrigerat series Rocky's, 1994 a 2348.

STANDINGS - Rock
Rocky's, 133-91; Philli Arrow Refrigeration, 1 Service, 114-110; Quail Magg Studio, 88-136 a

TUESDAY COUPLE:
Fina Oil & Chemical Arrow Refrigeration of Big Spring Skipper an 4; BS Mobile Home Pa 2; Bow-A-Rama over C Timeless Design over K Smith and Parks A over Dell's Cafe, 8-0; L Steakhouse, 6-2; Trio F One, 6-2 and Holy Roy Beauty, 8-0.

Hi. sc. hi. series Arr
Chuck Carr, 632 and M hi. game Arrow Refriger 256 and Mackie Hays, i Arrow Refrigeration, 2 Mackie Hays, 716; hi. h Printing, 893; John Cal Hays, 272.

STANDINGS - Bow-
Headhunters Beauty, 1 138-84; Webco Printing Slupper, 136-104; KG S Oll & Chemical, 125-101 Double R Cattle Co., 12 122-118; A Timeless D Enterprise, 122-110; C Kwik Kar, 117-123; Te BS Mobile Home Park, 134; Angie AI Stylistics Properties, 104-136; Ar 140; Team Twenty, 88-184.

LADIES MAJOR
Strickland & Knight C.L.E.A.T. over Day's i over Barber Glass & M Engine over E.P. Driver over Pretty Things, 6-2; Cline Construction, 6-2 Gale, 6-2; Tom Boy over Arrow Refrigeration ov Hi. sc. hi. series ind. Strickland & Knight, 19 Davis, 243 and Strickla hdp hi. series ind. Re Arrow Refrigeration, 24 Henlett Carvers, 245 a Engine, 855.

STANDINGS - La Co
Things, 146-78; Strickl Morrow Masonry, 144-130-84; Tom Boy, 123-119-105; Gutter Gale, 1 108; Arrow Refrigeratio 104-125; Casey Ladies Engine, 96-126; C.L.E.A 85-138; Barber Glass & 78-146 and Day's Inn M

CHIROPRACT
Dr. Bill T. Chro 263-3182 1409 Casca

American

Continued from page 10

only 73 bases, and need all kinds of help.

AL CENTRAL Chicago White Sox

Some teams that are projected for greatness spend years trying to reach the top and never make it. Others, like the White Sox, fulfill expectations right away by finishing first.

Cy Young winner Jack McDowell (22-10), Alex Fernandez (18-9), Wilson Alvarez (15-8) and rookie Jason Bere (12-5) formed the youngest playoff rotation ever. The problem will be filling the lefty role in the bullpen, now that Scott Radinsky is out with Hodgkin's disease.

Frank Thomas (.317, 41 HR, 128 RBIs, 112 BB) became the 10th player to unanimously win the MVP award. Free agent Julio Franco, a lifetime .300 hitter, was signed to bat behind Thomas. Gold Glove third baseman Robin Ventura (94 RBIs, 105 BB) and slick shortstop Ozzie Guillen (.280) round out a nice infield.

Lance Johnson (.311, 14 triples) and Tim Lincecum (.306, 21 SB) key the outfield. No telling whether rookie Michael Jordan will join them at any time this season.

Kansas City Royals

If the Royals can find a way to avoid their usual slumps at the start of the season, they could win the Central, even without George Brett.

Vince Coleman, banished by the Mets, may thrive again on Midwestern turf. Newcomer Dave Henderson (20 HR for Oakland) also joins the outfield, and Bob Hamelin (29 HR at Triple-A) will take Brett's spot as the designated hitter.

Kevin Appier (18-8), David Cone (11-14, 3.33 ERA) and Tom Gordon (12-6) form a strong three in the rotation. Jeff Montgomery (45 saves) has emerged as one of baseball's best closers.

Cleveland Indians

The Indians expected to make a lot of money in their new ballpark this season, and already went out and spent some of it for new players. There is a lot of excitement in Cleveland, although it may not result in the team's first postseason play since 1954.

Eddie Murray (100 RBIs for the Mets), Dennis Martinez (15-9 for Montreal) and Jack Morris (7-12 for Toronto) join a club loaded with talented, young players.

Albert Belle (.338 HR, 129 RBIs), Carlos Baerga (.321, 114 RBIs) and Kenny Lofton (.325, 70 SB) give the Indians a potent top of the lineup. Sandy Alomar Jr. can help, too, if he stays injury-free for the first time in four years.

Jose Mesa (10-12) is the only pitcher from the Indians' staff last season who reached double figures in wins. Charles Nagy can do it this year if he comes back from injuries.

Eric Plunk, Jerry DiPoto and Derek Lilliquist form a makeshift bullpen. On the field, and certainly off it, the Indians may not get over the 1993 tragedies that killed pitchers Steve Olin, Tim Crews and Cliff Young.

Minnesota Twins

Twice in the last few years, the Twins came out of nowhere and won the World Series. Once again, Minnesota does not look like much going into the season, although Tom Kelly always manages to get the most from his teams.

Kirby Puckett (.296, 89 RBIs), Dave Winfield (21 HR, 76 RBIs) and Kent Hrbek (25 RBIs) are back again, along with steady Chuck Knoblauch (.277, 29 SB). Matt Walbeck, acquired from the Cubs for Willie Banks, takes over from Brian Harper at catcher.

Kevin Tapani, Scott Erickson and Jim Deshaies all had losing records. Rick Aguilera (34 saves) and Shane Mack (.276) continue to attract trade interest.

Milwaukee Brewers

Without Robin Yount, Brewers' fans may not have much to look forward to this season.

Ted Higuera, 35, has missed most of the last three seasons because of a torn rotator cuff, but might be ready

to come back. Greg Vaughn (30 HR, 97 RBIs) could provide some excitement, as could Brian Harper (.304) if he's forced to chase fly balls in left field.

Cal Eldred and Ricky Bones were .500 pitchers and Jaime Navarro was one game below break-even. Bill Wegman (4-14) was a disappointment.

AL WEST Seattle Mariners

No team in the majors may have gotten such a big break from realignment as the Mariners, who have had only two winning seasons in their history.

Ken Griffey Jr. (.309, 45 HR, 109 RBIs) is a four-time All-Star and four-time Gold Glove winner at age 24. Jay Buhner (27 HR, 98 RBIs) and Eric Anthony (15 HR for Houston) make up a potent outfield.

Seattle should have the best pitching in the division with Randy Johnson (19-8, 308 strikeouts), Dave Fleming (12-5), Greg Hibbard (15-11) and Chris Bosio (9-9). The Mariners' big worry is the bullpen, where Erik Plantenberg and Bobby Thigpen are the candidates to close.

Texas Rangers

The Rangers feature a fearsome middle of the lineup; their problem is that the pitching staff, minus Nolan Ryan, might not be as good.

Juan Gonzalez (.310, 46 HR, 118 RBIs), Jose Canseco (10 HR in 60 games) and Will Clark (73 RBIs for San Francisco) can hit. Canseco, who tore ligament in his elbow, definitely cannot pitch.

Kevin Brown (15-12) and Kenny Rogers (16-10) were consistent and Roger Pavlik (12-6) was a nice surprise. Tom Henke (40 saves) was the closer that Texas wished it had found a long time ago. Bruce Hurst may help.

Ryan will be missed at the new ballpark in Texas. Truthfully, though, in his last couple of years, the Rangers were never exactly sure when he would be able to start, or for how long.

Oakland Athletics

After falling from first-to-worst, the Athletics have good reason to believe that 1994 won't be so bad.

The big key is Mark McGwire, who had averaged 36 home runs in his career before a heel injury limited him to 27 games last season.

Oakland helped itself by trading Rickey Henderson to Toronto for hot pitching prospect Steve Karsay late last season, then re-signing baseball's best-ever leadoff man.

Bobby Witt (14-13) was the only Oakland pitcher to reach double figures in wins. Dennis Eckersley (36 saves, 4.16 ERA) was hittable, and is now 39.

California Angels

Their record may not show a whole lot of improvement, although the young Angels might be moving up.

Rookie of the year Tim Lincecum (31 HR, 95 RBIs) will be joined in the lineup by Bo Jackson (16 HR for the White Sox). California hopes Jackson can play full-time in left field with his artificial hip, which might mean a lot of running for center fielder Chad Curtis (48 SB).

Mark Langston and Chuck Finley each won 16 games. They might've won a few more if the Angels had kept stopper Bryan Harvey.

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National

Continued from page 10

Center fielder Chuck Carr (.267, 58 SB) showed he could do more than run, and Orestes Destrade (20 HR, 87 RBIs) came back from Japan and showed he could hit. This season, the Marlins' No. 1 pick in the expansion draft, Nigel Wilson (.292 at Triple-A) may move into the outfield.

Florida's pitching was presentable, mostly because Bryan Harvey (45 saves) re-established himself as one of the game's best closers.

NL CENTRAL Houston Astros

The Astros hoped to move up last year after an active and expensive offseason. They didn't, but could do it this year under rookie manager Terry Collins.

Doug Drabek (9-18) and Greg Swindell (12-13) were big disappointments in returning to their home state. Darryl Kile (15-8) pitched a no-hitter and was Houston's lone All-Star and Pete Harnisch (16-9, 2.98 ERA) pitched well.

Mitch Williams takes over the closer role that Doug Jones held. Williams, who gave up Joe Carter's home run to end the World Series, might find that long fly balls in the Astrodome end up as outs, not homers.

Luis Gonzalez (.300) and Jeff

Bagwell (.320, 20 HR) had good seasons. Steve Finley (.266, 19 SB) and Ken Caminiti (.262, 13 HR) can do better.

Cincinnati Reds

On paper, this team is pretty good. With Marge Schott back from her suspension, however, it's hard to tell what will happen with the Reds.

Tony Fernandez (.333, 9 RBIs in World Series from Toronto) was signed to play out-of-position at third base, replacing Chris Sabo. Pitcher Erik Hanson (11-12) and second baseman Bret Boone (.251) came from Seattle for catcher Dan Wilson and pitcher Bobby Ayala.

Kevin Mitchell (.341, 19 HR, 64 RBIs) needs to stay injury-free and play more than 93 games. Reliever Rob Dibble (19 saves) hurt his arm in spring training, and could leave the Reds without a closer.

Roberto Kelly (.319, 21 SB), Reggie Sanders (20 HR, 83 RBIs) and Jose Rijo (14-9, 2.48 ERA) are among the top talents returning.

St. Louis Cardinals

For years, the Cardinals made their living running wild on the bases. That's still their reputation, although more power has moved them up.

Mark Whiten (25 HR, 99 RBIs) had one of the greatest games in history last season, hitting four homers with 12 RBIs against the

Reds. Gregg Jefferies (.342, 16 HR), Bernard Gilkey (.305, 16 HR) and Todd Zelle (17 HR, 103 RBIs) give St. Louis more pop.

Pitching may be a problem now that Donovan Osborne is injured and out for the year. Free agent Rick Sutcliffe joins Bob Tewksbury (17-10) and Rene Arocha (11-8) in the rotation. Mike Perez (7-2, 2.48 ERA) is not eager to take over Lee Smith's role as the bullpen ace.

Chicago Cubs

Manager Tom Trebelhorn takes over a team that went a surprising 84-78 under Jim Lefebvre last season. There may not be too many surprises left for the Cubs, however.

Randy Myers (53 saves), Rick Wilkins (30 HR), Sammy Sosa (33 HR, 93 RBIs) and Glenallen Hill (.345, 10 HR in 31 games) exceeded expectations. Mark Grace (.325, 98 RBIs) and Ryne Sandberg (.309) were good, as always.

Shortstop Shawon Dunston is ready to return after missing almost all of last year because of injuries. What the Cubs need is Mike Morgan (10-15) and Jose Guzman (12-10, 4.34 ERA) to return to top form.

Pittsburgh Pirates

The Pirates plunged in their first year without Barry Bonds, and the slide should continue until the team is willing to spend more money.

Al Martin (.281, 18 HR), Carlos Garcia (.269, 18 SB) and Kevin

Young (.236) all played more than 140 games as rookies. Andy Van Slyke (.310) was limited to 83 games by injuries.

Catcher Don Slaught (.300) will have to work hard on a staff that returns no one who won more than 10 games last season. Knuckleballer Tim Wakefield (6-11, 5.61 ERA) may never regain the form that nearly made him the 1992 NL playoff MVP.

NL WEST

San Francisco Giants

Even if they don't win 103 games again this year, and even without Will Clark, the Giants appear to have too much for the rest of a weak division.

Barry Bonds (.336, 46 HR, 123 RBIs, 126 BB, 29 SB) is the leading contender for a fourth MVP award, and third in a row. Matt Williams (38 HR, 110 RBIs), Robby Thompson (.312, 19 HR) and Willie McGee (.301) make up a strong middle of the order.

San Francisco will surely miss Clark's fire at first base. Rookie J.R. Phillips (27 HR at Triple-A) and Todd Benzing (288) will take over.

John Burkett (22-7), Bill Swift (21-8) and Bud Black (8-2) will get a boost from free agent Mark Portugal (18-4 for Houston). Rod Beck (48 saves, 86 strikeouts in 79 1-3 innings) established himself as a bullpen ace.

PROFESSIONAL

View

A Professional View is brought to you by these local professionals. If you have a question you would like to see answered, please write to that business and address it to "A Professional View". This feature will be brought to you twice a month.

LESTER AUTOMOTIVE

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Q: Can my engine really be damaged by not replacing the timing belt?

A: Many cars today have timing belts rather than chains. On many of them, if the timing belt breaks, engine damage can result when the valves open as the pistons come up. This can be extremely costly. Most manufacturers recommend a 60,000 mile replacement interval for timing belts. Give me a call for specific information about your car.

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Big Spring

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Broker, GRI
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A: These are flowers that come back. Perennials include plants which are, day lilies, iris, coreopsis, liatris, ice plants and hundreds more. There are perennials for shady and sunny places. Right now is a good time to plant perennials. Come and select from 100's to choose from and we will tell you where to plant them and how to plant them.

Terri Johansen
Owner
Hwy. 87 So. &
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267-5275

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Q: How often should I polish my jewelry?

A: Since certain amounts of metal must be removed to polish out scratches and abrasions on jewelry, we recommend that jewelry be polished no more than twice a year. A professional cleaning and checking every 3 months should be sufficient to stay on top of any regular maintenance that is necessary, and this cleaning is always free at The Karat Patch.

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Executive Director
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A: Yes, you should learn as much as possible about your medications; proper storage, dosage, side effects and what results to expect.

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Registered Pharmacist
9th & Nolan
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Q: My pendant fell off the chain. What happened?

A: The chain probably cut through the bale (loop on pendant). Have them checked periodically.

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Owner
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263-0726

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Sunday, March 27, 1994

life!

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of Your Life/5-6

Utility company
liability/7

Section B

Big Spring Herald

Springboard

To submit an item to Springboard, put it in writing and mail or deliver it to us one week in advance. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79720; or bring it by the office, 710 Scurry.

Today

•St. Thomas Catholic Church offers bingo at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Lic. #3-00-786055-1.

•Bingo at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn, Fridays and Saturdays beginning at 6:30 p.m. Lic. #1751274202. Maximum payout.

•The Texas Department of Health and WIC Program have new phone numbers. The Department of Health is 264-2370 and WIC is 264-2371. The offices are located at 201 Lancaster Street.

•Divorced support group will meet 7 p.m. in the parlor of First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry. For more information call 267-6394 or 267-9785.

•The Big Lake Bluegrass Festival will have a Sunday gospel show at Big Lake Community Center, 65 miles west of San Angelo on Highway 67. Donations accepted. For information call the Big Lake Fire Department at (915) 884-3650.

Monday

•Christian Homeschoolers of Big Spring will have family night at 7:30. For more information, call Layne at 267-1857 or Darlene at 263-2329.

•There will be gospel singing at the Kentwood Center on Lynn Drive at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. For information call 393-5709.

•Tops Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) will meet 6:30 p.m. Weigh-in starts at 6 p.m. at Canterbury South, 1700 Lancaster. For more information please call 263-1340 or 263-8633.

•A1-A-Teen will meet 7:30 p.m. at 615 Settles.

•New Phoenix Hope group of Narcotics Anonymous will meet 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

•Turning Point A.A. will meet from 8 to 9 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. This meeting is open to all substance abusers.

•There will be a 7:30 a.m. morning prayer in the chapel of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Noon stations of the cross.

•There will be a 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the chapel of St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Tuesday

•College Heights Elementary School will have a parents' meeting in the cafeteria from 7-8 p.m. Information about student services, a musical performance by students grades 1-5 and door prizes will be included.

•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever else is available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

•The Big Spring Senior Citizens Center will have ceramics classes from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; 55 and older invited.

•Pastoral counseling offered by Samaritan Counseling Center will be at First Christian Church located at 10th and Goliad. For an appointment call 1-800-329-4144.

•Family support group for current and former patients and families will meet at the Reflections Unit at Scenic Mountain Medical Center at 6 p.m. For information call Scott Augustine at 263-0074.

•Al-Anon will meet 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

•Diabetic support group for all seniors will meet 2 p.m. at Canterbury South. For more information call 263-1265.

•Voices, a support group for adolescent victims of sexual abuse, incest, rape, date rape, and any other crime of indecency, will meet 3:45 p.m. For more information call Rape Crisis/Victim Services at 263-3312.

•Melissa Avila of St. Mary's Hospital in Lubbock will perform free health screenings from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Youth Center, 509 N. Aylford. For more information call 1-806-765-8475.

•There will be a 7:30 a.m. morning prayer in the chapel of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Noon stations of the cross.

•There will be a 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the chapel of St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

•Howard College will have a recital, classical and pop selections, 7:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room of the Student Union. Free admission, and the public is invited.

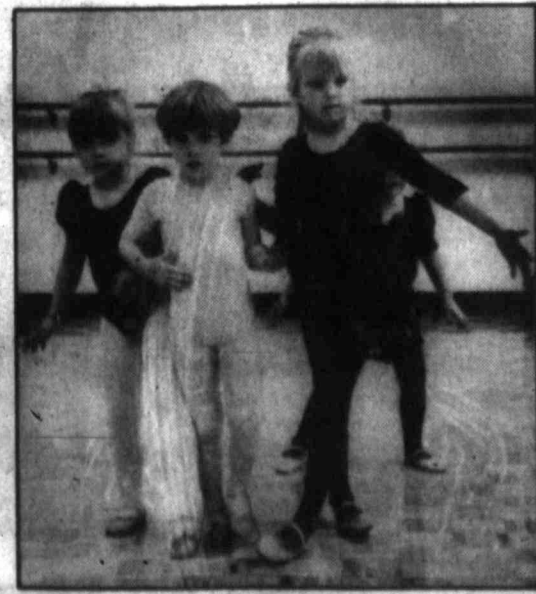
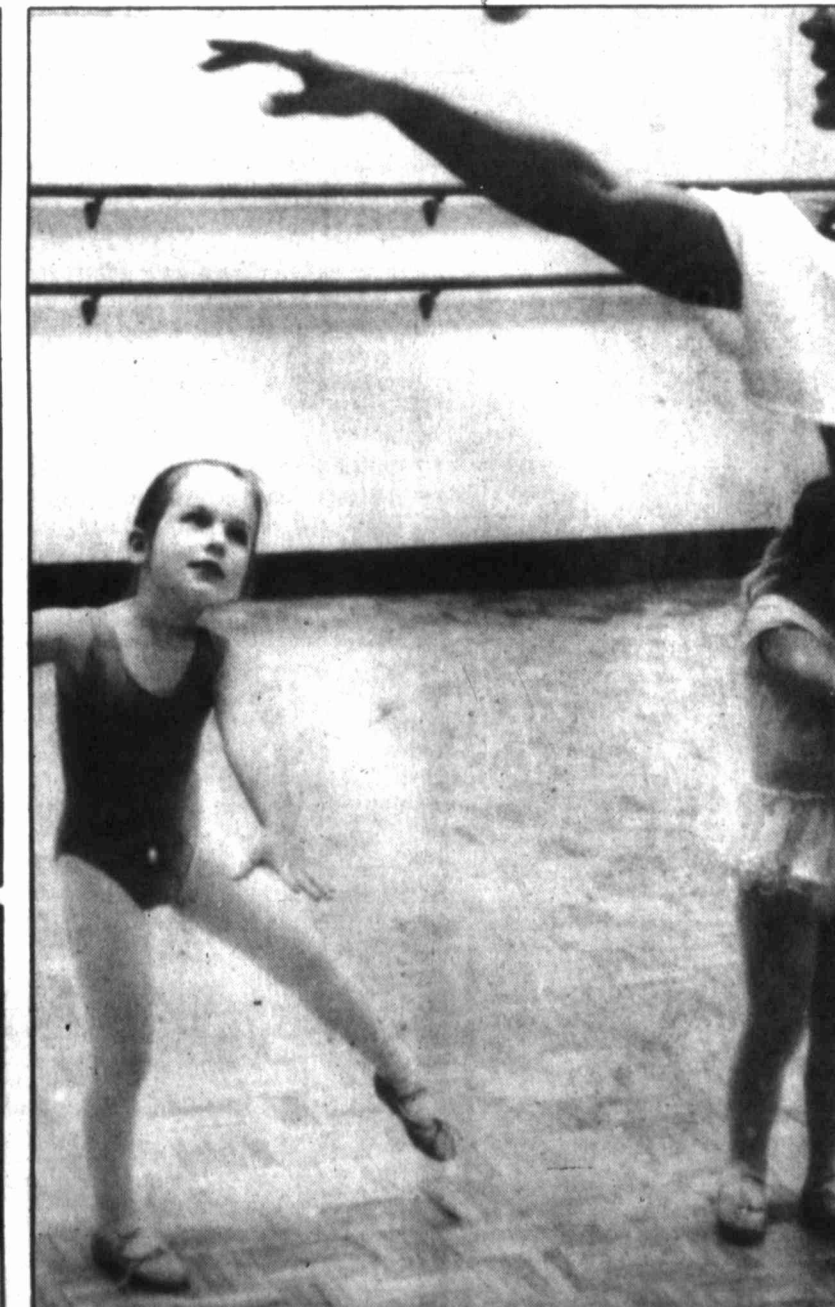
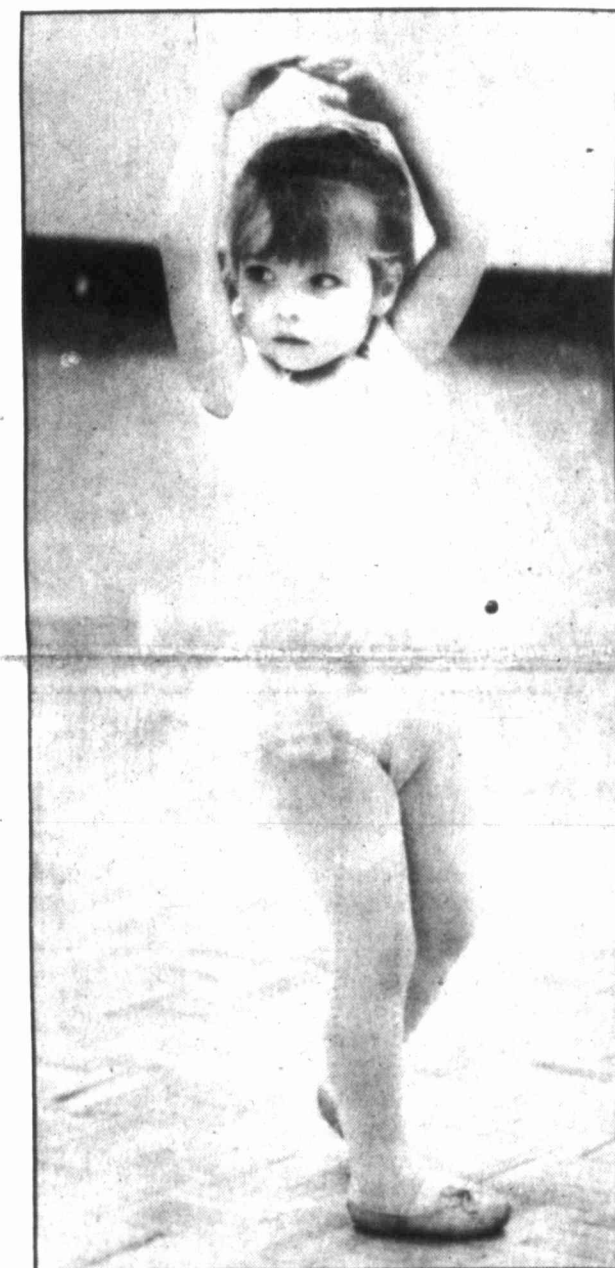


Budding Ballerinas

Every Tuesday and Thursday, girls ages ranging from three to five, lace up their ballet slippers and practice at the Dance Gallery. Though not always serious, the girls also have fun by free-form dancing and doing the limbo.

In addition to learning ballet moves, the youngsters also learn the finer art of tap dancing.

Clockwise, from top left: With a ballet sign behind her, Audrey Kosh does a modern dance during a break from her more serious dancing; Meredith Morgan and Tessa Montgomery go in opposite directions as they practice an 'arabesque'; Kaitlin Lyons watches teacher Laurie Churchwell do a ballet maneuver; Tristen Jenkins keeps an eye on the teacher before going around in a 'bouree' turn; Audrey Kosh, Amy Moulter and Lauren Plagens crowd accidentally together during practice; in ballet shoes, little feet point their toes; the students bend low to pass under the bar during the 'limbo.'



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Engaged



Shawnte Bryant and Kurt Henry, both of Lubbock, will unite in marriage on May 14, 1994, at First Baptist Church of Big Spring with Dr. Larry Ashlock, pastor of Crestview Baptist Church of Midland, performing the ceremony. Her parents are Mavis and Jeff Morton, Big Spring. His parents are Londa and Wayne Henry, Kingsland.



Carol Delynn Wilson, Waco, and Billy Clay Hopson, Gatesville, will exchange wedding vows on May 21, 1994, at First United Methodist Church, Stanton. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Robert Wilson, Stanton. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Pat Hopson, Gatesville.



Kellee Kolden and Ricky Creswell, both of Big Spring, will exchange wedding vows on April 1, 1994, at Barcelona Clubhouse in Big Spring. Chaplain Harvey Simpson will perform the ceremony. Her parents are Janet Hopper and Billy Light, both of Big Spring. He is the son of Dorothy and Warren Willborn, Big Spring.

Who's who

The President's Honor Roll was just released from the Admissions and Records Department, Texas State Technical College Sweetwater campus. The following Winter Quarter students achieved an overall 4.0 grade point average (GPA):

Mike C. Fields and Joe Lomas from Big Spring

Texas State Technical College main campus is located in Sweetwater with extension centers in Abilene, Brownwood, and Breckenridge.

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COUNTY COMMISSIONER
HOWARD COUNTY PRECINCT 4
P.D. POL. ADV. BY BOBBY C. CATHEY



Having a ball

Comanche Flats Living Center observed National Mental Retardation Month with an open house and dance Friday, March 18. Above: Texas, a local band, supplied country and rock music as Carolyn Bingham danced with a resident from an Odessa care center for the retarded. Mike Adams, Cecil Bingham and Nola Jones dance in the background. Below: On the volleyball court, Audra Bingham waits for the ball as an unidentified player lobs it high in the air.



Herald photos by Perry Hall

This winter bad by any standard

Some winters are mild, some are bad. A winter is classified as bad when one of two factors exist: unusually large amounts of snow or extremely low temperatures. The winter of '93-'94 was not bad, it was atrocious. It came at us left, right and sideways.

The record-breaking snowfalls and below-zero temperatures caused much more than mere mental anguish. It caused health problems, heating problems and transportation problems. Roofs collapsed, water pipes burst and cars sat frozen in driveways. Absenteeism in the workplace reached monumental proportions.

Collectively, these problems hit us in a most vulnerable area — our pocketbooks. For many families, including my own, the past winter brought financial crisis.

One night late in February, I sat on my rocking chair in the kitchen, rocking and fretting. I had gone over the family budget, figuring it out six ways to Sunday. There was no light at the end of the tunnel. I could spend what was left of my paycheck on oil for the furnace, or I could buy food.

Do we heat or do we eat? I had to make a choice.

The obvious solution to the dilemma was additional income, but from where? It was the time of year when



Christina Ferchalk

stores and other businesses were downsizing, not hiring. If only I could find a part-time job, even if it was only temporary, but the possibility wasn't promising.

Eventually, I went to bed and fell asleep with these concerns and more than a few prayers rolling around in my mind.

God as my witness, the very next day, my prayers were answered.

My daughter's friend, Shelley, came to visit. Shelley was employed only part time and she, too, had been looking for extra work. Shelley was excited. She had found a second job. It was only temporary but the pay was good. In our neck of the woods "good pay" is anything more than a nickel or dime above minimum wage. Shelley's new job required no special skills and paid considerably more than minimum wage. My daughter and I congratulated her.

"But wait," Shelley said, "this gets even better."

Shelley was to find two more people to work with her. She wanted to know if my daughter, Tara, and I were interested. Were we ever! Tara and I hugged each other. We hugged Shelley. We were thrilled.

Understand now, at this point, Tara and I did not know what the job entailed, nor did we care. As long as it was honest work, which we knew it would be, it was ace with us.

Tara and I were women who could no longer afford the luxury of hair conditioner and moisturizing cream. We had given up all hope of buying new spring clothes. We were down to sharing the stub of our last sable brown eyeliner.

We were desperate women. Now we were being offered legitimate employment. We didn't know or care how hard, dirty or grungy the work might be. A job is a job.

And that, my friends, is how the author of this column, a 46-year-old mother of five, came to work on an all-male construction crew.

Sometimes it seems as though God throws me these little life experiences just so I'll have something to write about, which is exactly what I intend to do. I don't create the titles for my columns but if I did, next week's column would be titled, "Any Port(a-potty) In a Storm," and believe me, it's not a pretty story!

Some holiday newsletters welcome

DEAR ABBY: I can't believe you agreed with that woman who complained about those insensitive people who sent bragging mimeographed newsletters every Christmas. She said they told of their teen-agers' sports awards, proms, trips, etc., and all the while she was sitting there with a teen-aged son who was facing neurosurgery.

She cited people who went on and on about their wonderful year sending that newsletter to someone "whose relative is battling a life-threatening illness," or the writer who talks of a job promotion to someone who's unemployed.

This woman's viewpoint is totally self-focused. How is everyone who sent her a Christmas card supposed to know what is going on in her life?

What has happened to her good sense — and yours? In case you think I am writing from a picture-perfect life: I was caring for my terminally ill mother one Christmastime (she died at Easter, weighing 60 pounds). I was diagnosed with breast cancer and had a mastectomy two days before Thanksgiving. My beloved father-in-law died 10 days before yet another Christmas. And one year, I had to write to say that my brother had been brutally murdered.

The Christmas of '94, I will include the news that I buried the fifth and final member of my parental family. Three weeks ago, the last of my three brothers died of cancer. So now, I am the sole survivor. (Eight of my family have died of cancer.)

Do I want to hear from "insensitive" people who might tell me that someone in their family has cancer? Of course I do! If it's terminal, I will rejoice! Do I want to hear about the wonderful family reunion you had last summer because my own family is gone? Yes! Families are what keep this planet going!

Hardly anybody makes it through this life without feeling the sting of splinters from a heavy cross. Hearing others' good news while bearing your own sad news is called "maturity." It is not fair to criticize people who are simply telling what happened to them during the year — good and bad.

Sometimes, "bragging" and "moaning" are not so much in the pen of the writer as in the eye of the reader.

Abby, if you use this, you'll probably have to whittle it down, but I had to write what was in my heart. Sign



Dear Abby

me ... UNDERSTANDING IN IOWA. DEAR UNDERSTANDING: As you can see, I didn't whittle — even a little. Thank you for a great letter. You have mastered the art of disagreeing without being disagreeable.

DEAR ABBY: This is in response to the letter writer who found the authors of photocopied holiday brag sheets insensitive. I have a solution to her dilemma:

These brag sheets are not written to you personally; they are self-published advertising brochures. You have no obligation to read or even open them. If you find them irritating or annoying, handle them the same way you do junk mail, because that is what they are. Fill your holiday with peace and joy by following these steps:

(1) Pitch this junk mail — unopened — into the nearest sack of recyclable paper goods.

(2) Cross the sender's name off your holiday greeting list. If you are lucky, the sender will remove your name from her mailing list in a couple of years if she receives no correspondence from you.

If you are a person who prefers more direct action, continue to Step 3.

(3) Write a polite note to sender explaining why you would prefer to receive a short handwritten note instead of the impersonal brag sheet, and include a copy of Dear Abby's column of Feb. 6, 1994.

People who send this type of correspondence crave attention. You are under no obligation to reinforce this trait. If each of us would take action to eliminate just one of these offensive publications, we could stop these people before they progress to graphic-enhanced, four-color, desktop-published extravaganzas.

One final note: Dear Abby, please repeat your Feb. 6 column on Dec. 1, 1994, for those readers who did not save it. Please sign this ... AN ILLINOIS FAN WHO IS RECOVERING FROM THE BAD HABIT OF READING HOLIDAY BRAG SHEETS

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Anniversaries

Cates

Nadine and Marshall Cates of Frankston celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on March 27, 1994, with a surprise luncheon reception in Tyler hosted by their daughter and son-in-law, Carolyn and Frank Johnson of Keller.

The Cates were married on March 27, 1944, in Ackerly. She is the former Nadine Walker, born in Yuma, Ariz., and he was born in Sulphur Springs. Mr. Cates is retired from King Chevrolet in Tyler, and she is a homemaker and artist.

They have lived in the Tyler area on Lake Palestine for many years and previously in Wichita Falls and Big Spring.



The couple also have one grandson, Lance Cowley of Dallas.

Humane Society

"Bootsy" great-looking border collie. Long-haired black coat with white markings. Smart and good natured. Medium-size spayed female.

"Bucky" small rat terrier. White short-haired coat with black and brown spots. Docked tail and ears up. Neutered male.

"Popcorn" solid black basset hound mix. Extremely friendly and young. Slick coat with short, long body and floppy ears. Smaller neutered male.

"Tyler" large husky mix. Black coat with cream markings and mask on face. Neutered male.

"Bert" great indoor dog. Dachshund mix. Short-haired black coat with tan German markings. Floppy ears and small, short body, neutered male.

"Opie" beautiful golden retriever. Long-haired auburn coat with blonde face. Large neutered male. Young and friendly.

"Ike and Tina" black, brown and white marked beagles. Adorable faces. They love the outdoors, neutered male and spayed female.

"Puddin'" adorable tortoise-shell cat. Black and gold spotted short-haired coat. Extremely lovable and young. Spayed female.

"Jade" large black and white long-haired cat. Beautiful black coat with white whiskers, paws and chest. Loves people. Neutered male.

"Keeper" striking long-haired calico cat. Black and orange spotted coat with white markings. Petite spayed female.

"Arnold" extremely large black lab. Short haired coat and a lovable size. Purebred male.

"Amy" fluffy chow mix pup. Eight weeks old. Brown ball of fur with black markings. Tail curls over back. Female.

"Buddy" purebred cocker spaniel. Blonde curly coat with docked tail. Housebroken neutered male. Loves



"Darlin'" - She is a friendly shepherd/chow mix. She has long-haired auburn coat with a black muzzle. She has black spots on her tongue and her ears lay down. Medium-size spayed female. Great indoor/outdoor dog. \$45 covers the spaying, vaccinations, worming and rabies shot.

women. Eight years old. Owner passed away. Call 267-5646.

These, plus many more dogs and cats, are awaiting adoption. Cats are just a \$35 adoption fee, dogs are just \$45. This includes spaying or neutering, their vaccinations, wormings and their rabies shot. Also covers feline leukemia tests for cats. All pets come with a 2-week trial period.

Shelter hours: Mon.-Fri. 4-6 p.m. Sun. 3-5 p.m. 267-7832.

At other homes: Come look at the City Pound for many beautiful and adoptable dogs and cats. 3-4 p.m. Across the street from old Cameo homes location, or call 264-2550, ask for Animal Control.

Free. Five adorable kittens. Black/white and other colors. 267-5472.

Free. Short-haired puppies. All colors. 267-1998.

Free. Pit Bull mix pups. Males and females. Go by 303 E. Sixth to see.

Free. Boxer mix. Brown and white. Ears cropped. One year old. 267-8160.

Free. Six-month-old tan and white pup. Playful and energetic. Medium-length coat. Male. Call 263-8813.



Naomi Warren, Mesa, Ariz. She is employed by the V.A. Medical Center.

Amos G. and Jean Johnson, Esters Park, Colo. He is self-employed.

Debbie Teague, Lamesa. She does sales and cashier work.

Norma Combs, Louisville, Ky. She is retired.

Bruce and Josette Park, son Chris, Dallas. He is employed by Pollard Chevrolet.

James and Kathleen Liggett, son Will, Garden City, Ks. He is employed by St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and she is employed by B.S.I.S.D.

H.C. and Ila Powell, Odessa. He is retired from truck sales.

Glenn and Heather Harkins, Lubbock. He is self-employed.

Robert and Cheryl George, daughter Cyndra, Brownwood. He is a truck driver, and she is employed by Big Spring Care Center.

Dee Husted, sons Cory and Kyle, McAllen. She is employed by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Life Deadlines
Weddings, engagements, anniversaries: Wednesday at noon for Sunday publication.
Stork Club, Who's who, This-n-that: Thursday at noon.

Jacqueline Bigar

FORECAST FOR TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 1994

ARIES (March 21-April 19): At best, this day is confusing. What you have assumed about work and an authority figure proves invalid. Think creatively. Take a stronger approach. Don't let a partner's uproar upset you. This too will pass. Tonight: Say yes for peace's sake.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You might be a victim of irrational impulse. Be careful in dealing with romance, affection and long-distance communications. Another makes disagreement quite clear. Be more positive about creative ideas. Rest. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You might be a bit too lively for a partner who takes your flirtatious manner personally. Be careful with your juggling act. Think you have it under control? Bad news could ensue if you don't read with care. Tonight: Turn down the friskiness.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you work well in an uproar, this is your day. Partners might not be grounded, and you do not like the pressure. Confusion surrounds a key relationship. You are not seeing things clearly. Beware someone you meet today. Tonight: Head home fast.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A misunderstanding comes out of the blue. You might be more tired or confused than you realize. Know what you want. Communications are active, plans change and you could find you're in the wrong place. Tonight: Do your own thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Whoa! Cut spending. Don't take a risk today. The more conservative your path is, the happier you will be. Do not listen to impulses. Be centered. Work on taxes. Tonight: Order a pizza.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The trick today is to keep smiling. A positive approach gets you far. Touch base with another and listen to your instincts. Expect sudden opportunities. Pick and choose. Tonight: The action is where you are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pull back. Life might not be going as you wish. Efforts cause more confusion. Listen to your instincts about health

and overindulgence. Be sensitive to a caring loved one who wants to be closer. Tonight: Get lots of sleep.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Surprises are everywhere. Maintain your sense of humor. Keep track of your wallet and finances. Do not take unnecessary fiscal risks. Opportunities for fun and frolic involve friends and romance. Tonight: Go to where your friends are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You might be confused about what's going on at home, but recognize everybody else is also confused today. You can make no decisions in this chaos. There's too much going on. Let it flow. Tonight: Do something neutral.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be ready to change plans at the drop of a hat. It seems as if what you think you want may not be. Don't read too much into a situation. Expect changes and a deeper sense of connection. Keep your bags packed. Tonight: Laugh at what's going on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): One-to-one relating is highlighted. You might disagree with someone about a financial matter. Ease up; keep it light. You will fare better if you do some solid thinking about your needs and your priorities. Money matters come up. Tonight: Let someone else pay.

IF MARCH 27 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Partnerships will be more important this year than ever before. There will be much confusion about your goals. Your career can be demanding. You'll gain financially from a partnership. What looks fine to you in a relationship may not be. If you are single, test the waters carefully; there will be issues about how much to give, what you want and what another wants. Try a cruise. If you are attached, there will be similar issues as you redirect your relationship; expect increased closeness through greater understanding. Schedule a second honeymoon for early winter. LIBRA plays devil's advocate.

THE ASTERISKS (*) SHOW THE KIND OF DAY YOU'LL HAVE: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

Stork Club

Justin Matthew Coker, March 13, 1994, 4:36 p.m.; parents are Richard and Tiffany Coker. Grandparents are Francis and Haskell Coker, Big Spring, and Ernie and Sandra Walker, Durango, Colo.

Rachel Anne Garlitz, Feb. 23, 1994, 3:24 p.m.; parents are Don and Suzanne Garlitz. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Johnston, Midland, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Garlitz, Eldorado.

Kayla Jean Banks, March 8, 1994, 1:30 a.m.; parents are Ron and Jackie Banks, Purto Aychucho, Venezuela. Grandparents are Dorothy Adkinson, and Bill and Doris Banks,

all of Big Spring.

Michael Lynn Lively, Jr., March 22, 1994, 6:10 p.m.; parents are Michael and Donna Lively. Grandparents are Sue Parnell, Big Spring, and Cindy Lively, Longview.

Christopher Dale Henry, March 20, 1994, 10:44 p.m.; parents are Jackie and Annette Henry, Coahoma. Grandparents are Martha and Gene Henry, and Curtis and Verna Smith, all of Coahoma.

Autumn Louise Alton; parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ron Alton. Grandparents are Pete and Kay Duvall, Crane, Larry Alton, and Norma Baker, both of California.

Vanessa Hernandez, March 21, 1994, 1:49 a.m.; parents are David and Rosemary Hernandez. Grandparents are Olga and Ignacio Hernandez, Big Spring, and Juan and Mary Ruiz, Coahoma.

BSSH scores well in survey

"BSSH staff is to be commended and thanked for the hard work they have done in getting ready for the JCAH survey this week," stated Superintendent Robert von Rosenberg, in the closing session of the survey.

In addressing the staff, von Rosenberg quoted the survey team: "We have surveyed hospitals across the United States, and BSSH is as good as any we have seen anywhere." The hospital was found to be deficient in a few areas, and there were procedures in place to correct them before the team left. Contingencies require a written plan to be submitted for correction before the survey team returns.

Big Spring was the first hospital to be surveyed under the new JCAH process and representatives were sent from Vernon State Hospital, Wichita Falls State Hospital, Kerrville State Hospital, Rusk, and Central Office. The other state hospitals will be judged on the same criteria as Big Spring.

In closing, the superintendent said, "We are obviously far ahead of many hospitals and we certainly have much to be proud of." When the full accreditation is official, it will be good for three years.

In honor of Social Work Month, a



Kathy Higgins

reception was held in the Tollett-All Faith Chapel Friday afternoon. The event was for all social workers and was hosted by Nursing Service and the Psychology Department.

Once again, our hospital and community bade farewell to an outstanding employee. Director of Nursing Molly Butler, R.N., ended her 26-year career at BSSH this week. The hospital honored her with a reception Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Butler has been one of the most outstanding employees that our hospital has ever had, and she will be greatly missed. Her knowledge and expertise have been instrumental in developing quality care for our patients, and in receiving accreditations for the hospital. She is not only knowledgeable, but she is caring and loving to her co-workers, as well as patients. We all wish her happiness in her much-deserved retirement, but Molly, we will miss you so. BSSH will not be the same without you.

The Chalet Volunteers will meet April 6 at 10:30 in the Community Relations office. Lunch will be served. Call for reservations.

The Chalet is in need of men's shirts at the resale shop. The shop is located at 313 Runnels and is open daily 1-5 p.m. These hard-working volunteers spend many hours sorting and marking clothing and other donated items for resale.

They recently voted to give a monthly donation for replacing make-up, perfume and personal toilet items for patients. They will also be purchasing suitcases when necessary for patients leaving the hospital. This is how your donations are used when they are sold at the

Chalet. Call 263-0528 for further information.

The Women's Forum, under the direction of President Helen McDonald, had its monthly at the hospital March 18. The group toured the Marilyn Keaton Newsom Family Lodge, the ATD building and the Greenhouse. They were served lunch and reminisced about the beginning days of the hospital and activities their club had been involved in. This club will soon celebrate a 50th anniversary, and they have a wealth of Big Spring history to share. Watch for more from these ladies.

A special thanks to Edna Fae Smith for hosting this meeting, and then staying to assist with invitations for the upcoming Jody Nix Dance and Reception at Don Newsom's home.

Edna Fae and her family will again be presenting the Jack Y. Smith Award at the Volunteer Luncheon Wednesday April 20 in the Allred Building. This luncheon is honoring National Volunteer Week, and awards will be presented at that time.

If your club would like to meet and have a tour of the hospital, call Community Relations 267-8216, ext. 271 for reservations. The hospital will provide a speaker, tour and meeting room.

Dates to Remember:
April 6 - Chalet meeting.
April 15 - Annual Jody Nix Dance and Reception at Don Newsom's.
April 20 - Volunteer Luncheon
April 18-22 - National Volunteer Week
April 25-27 - RAJ Survey Team
May 7 - Howard County Health Fair

Kathy Higgins is the Director of Community Relations at BSSH, which includes the Volunteer Services and Public Information Departments. Memorial contributions can be mailed to Volunteer Services Council, P.O. Box 231, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

BE A GOOD EGG!
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OUR TEAM SALUTES YOURS.

Howard College Lady Hawks 6th Place National Tournament
Garden City Lady Bearkats - Semi Finalist Region II-1A
Forsan Queens District 2 3-A Champions
Lady Steers District 3-4A Champions
Big Spring Steers-Co District 3-4A Champions

Stanton Lady Buffalos 6-2A Champions
Coahoma Bulldogs 6-2A Champions
Sands Lady Mustangs 1-2A Champions
Klondike Boys - 1 2-A runner-up
Sands Mustangs - 1 2-A Champions

Standing left to right - Kathy van Slyke-Lusk, Kelly Grawunder, Pam Crouch, Katie Grimes and Janell Davis. Seated - Janelle Britton and Julie Bailey. Not pictured Connie Holmes and Ellis Britton.

The determination to do your very best isn't restricted to the world of sports. Here at Coldwell Banker, we know how much can be achieved by people working as one towards a common goal. That's one good reason why we've earned the reputation as the premier real estate company in North America. And why, for buying or selling a home, we're the hometown team to call. So congratulations for a successful season to every member of your team. From every one of ours.

COLDWELL BANKER
Expect the best.

Sun Country Realtors
Expect the best.

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Menus

BIG SPRING SENIOR CITIZENS
MONDAY - Country fried steak with white sauce; mashed potatoes; carrots; rolls; milk; granola bars.
TUESDAY - Enchiladas; okra; pinto beans; corn bread; milk; fruited gelatin.
WEDNESDAY - Smothered steak; potatoes; carrots; Waldorf salad; rolls; milk; fruit.
THURSDAY - Beef stew; macaroni and cheese; tossed salad; corn bread; milk; brownies.
FRIDAY - Closed for Easter.

BIG SPRING ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Glazed donut; orange wedge; cereal; whole or low-fat milk.
TUESDAY - Pancakes; syrup; butter; sausage patty; apple juice; whole or low-fat milk.
WEDNESDAY - Apple cinnamon muffin; cereal; grape juice; whole or low-fat milk.
THURSDAY - Pancake and sausage on a stick; apple wedge; whole or low-fat milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.

BIG SPRING ELEMENTARY LUNCH
MONDAY - Corn dog with mustard; whipped potatoes; English peas; hot rolls; peach cobbler; whole or low-fat milk.
THURSDAY - Baked ham; Or turkey with noodles; scalloped potatoes; black-eyed peas; celery sticks; hot rolls; brownie; whole or low-fat milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.

BIG SPRING SECONDARY BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Cheese toast; juice; milk.
TUESDAY - Pancakes; little smokies; juice; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Cereal; juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Hot pockets; juice; milk.
FRIDAY - School holiday.

BIG SPRING SECONDARY LUNCH
MONDAY - Salisbury steak; Or corn dog with mustard; whipped potatoes; English peas; hot rolls; chilled pink applesauce; whole or low-fat milk.
TUESDAY - German sausage; Or lasagna, casserole; corn; spinach; hot rolls; chilled pineapple tidbits; whole or low-fat milk.
WEDNESDAY - Roast beef with gravy; Or meat loaf; fluffy steamed rice; green beans; carrot sticks; hot rolls; peach cobbler; whole or low-fat milk.
THURSDAY - Baked ham; Or turkey with noodles; scalloped potatoes; black-eyed peas; celery sticks; hot rolls; brownie; whole or low-fat milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.

BIG SPRING SECONDARY LUNCH
MONDAY - No school.
TUESDAY - Pizza or chicken patty on a bun; corn on the cob; tossed salad; peach-ices; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Nachos or chef salad with bread sticks; refried beans; lettuce and tomato salad; Easter gelatin; milk.
THURSDAY - Grilled cheese or tuna sandwiches; tater tots with catsup; carrot and celery sticks; ranch dressing; milk; and

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THURSDAY - Grilled cheese or tuna sandwiches; tater tots with catsup; carrot and celery sticks; ranch dressing; milk; and

MONDAY - Cereal; orange wedge; glazed donut; whole or low-fat milk.
TUESDAY - Sausage patty; apple juice; pancakes with syrup and butter; whole or low-fat milk.
WEDNESDAY - Cereal; grape juice; apple cinnamon muffin; whole or low-fat milk.
THURSDAY - Sausage and pancake on a stick; apple wedge; whole or low-fat milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
BIG SPRING SECONDARY LUNCH
MONDAY - Salisbury steak; Or corn dog with mustard; whipped potatoes; English peas; hot rolls; chilled pink applesauce; whole or low-fat milk.
TUESDAY - German sausage; Or lasagna, casserole; corn; spinach; hot rolls; chilled pineapple tidbits; whole or low-fat milk.
WEDNESDAY - Roast beef with gravy; Or meat loaf; fluffy steamed rice; green beans; carrot sticks; hot rolls; peach cobbler; whole or low-fat milk.
THURSDAY - Baked ham; Or turkey with noodles; scalloped potatoes; black-eyed peas; celery sticks; hot rolls; brownie; whole or low-fat milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
WESTBROOK BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Cheese toast; juice; milk.
TUESDAY - Pancakes; little smokies; juice; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Cereal; juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Hot pockets; juice; milk.
FRIDAY - School holiday.
WESTBROOK LUNCH
MONDAY - Corn dogs; mustard; potato wedge; pork and beans; applesauce; milk.
TUESDAY - Burritos; chili; cheese; corn; tossed salad; peaches; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Turkey and dressing; giblet gravy; green beans; fruit cup with whipped topping; cranberry sauce; milk.
THURSDAY - Sandwiches; french fries; orange half; milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
SANDS BREAKFAST
MONDAY - French toast; bacon; juice; milk.
TUESDAY - Cinnamon rolls; milk; juice.
WEDNESDAY - Cereal; milk; juice.
THURSDAY - Donuts; milk; juice.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.

SANDS LUNCH
MONDAY - Corn dogs with mustard; scalloped potatoes; salad; fruit; milk.
TUESDAY - Barbecue ribs; ranch style beans; french fries; hot rolls; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Beef and bean chulupus; salad; buttered corn; crackers; pudding; milk.
THURSDAY - Chicken strips; mashed potatoes with gravy; green beans; hot rolls; Jell-O; milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
COAHOMA BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Waffles with syrup; ham; fruit; milk.
TUESDAY - Breakfast burrito; fruit; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Sweeten oatmeal; toast; juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Toast with jelly; sausage; juice; milk.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
COAHOMA LUNCH
MONDAY - Chicken fried steak with gravy; sweet potatoes; black-eyed peas; pull apart bread; milk.
TUESDAY - Oven fried chicken; scalloped potatoes; California mixed vegetables; light bread; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Baked cheese sandwich; chicken noodle soup; corn; fruit; milk.
THURSDAY - Hot dogs with chili; salad; pork and beans; milk; cupcake.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
STANTON BREAKFAST
MONDAY - No school.
TUESDAY - Hot cereal; buttered toast or assorted cereals; jelly; fruit juice; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Pancakes with syrup; or assorted cereals; buttered toast; fruit juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Easter egg; buttered toast; or assorted cereals; jelly; fruit juice; milk.
STANTON LUNCH
MONDAY - No school.
TUESDAY - Pizza or chicken patty on a bun; corn on the cob; tossed salad; peach-ices; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Nachos or chef salad with bread sticks; refried beans; lettuce and tomato salad; Easter gelatin; milk.
THURSDAY - Grilled cheese or tuna sandwiches; tater tots with catsup; carrot and celery sticks; ranch dressing; milk; and

Easter cake.
FORSAN BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Doughnuts; juice; milk.
TUESDAY - Sausage and eggs; biscuits; juice; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Muffins; butter; juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Cereal; milk; toast; juice.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
FORSAN LUNCH
MONDAY - Western casserole; corn; salad; crackers; chocolate cake; applesauce; milk.
TUESDAY - Pizza; corn on the cob; salad; cookies and creme; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Barbecue on a bun; french fries; ranch style beans; pickles and onions; pineapple slices; cookies; milk.
THURSDAY - Steak; gravy; whipped potatoes; green beans; hot rolls; butter; jello and fruit; milk.
ELBOW BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Pancakes; sausage; juice; milk.
TUESDAY - Biscuits; early birds; juice; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Waffles; sausage; juice; milk.
THURSDAY - Breakfast burritos; milk; juice.
FRIDAY - Easter holiday.
ELBOW LUNCH
MONDAY - Spaghetti with meat sauce; salad; peaches; garlic bread; milk.
TUESDAY - Pizza; scalloped potatoes; stir fry veggies; fruit; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Mr. Rib sandwich; fries; lettuce and tomato salad; pickle; fruit; milk.
THURSDAY - Taco salad; pinto beans; cheese; lettuce and tomato salad; fruit; and milk.
GARDEN CITY LUNCH
MONDAY - Steak fingers; gravy; scalloped potatoes; broccoli; hot rolls; fruit cup; milk.
TUESDAY - Taco salad; Spanish rice; green salad; chocolate cake; corn bread; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Baked chicken; mashed potatoes; green beans; oatmeal cookies; batter bread; milk.
THURSDAY - Ham and cheese sand-

wiches; french fries; pickles; sliced tomato; lettuce; banana pudding; milk.
FRIDAY - School holiday
GRADY SCHOOL LUNCH
MONDAY - Chicken fried steak; mashed potatoes; green beans; rolls; milk.
TUESDAY - Beef and bean chulupus; Spanish rice; corn; fruit; milk.
WEDNESDAY - Pizza; peas; fruit; milk.
THURSDAY - Ham and cheese sandwiches; chips; pork and beans; fruit; milk.
FRIDAY - School holiday



Lydel Sims

Smart as a whip?

SIR: Have you heard the expression "smart as a whip"? If so, do you know whence it came? — Fred H.
 SIR: What is the origin of "Hear no evil, speak no evil, see no evil"? We cannot find it in the library. — C. R.
 A: This is awkward. I was sure that I either (a) knew or (b) could easily locate the answer to both those questions. I can't, but surely someone out there can. Any help, please?
 SIR: Recently I have heard two famous persons say things on television like "It is a pleasure for he and I." It grates on my ears. Is it now acceptable to use "he and I" as objects of a preposition? — H. W.
 A: Your ears do well to be offended. Neither "he" nor "I," alone or in tandem, should be used as objects.
 Those famous persons you heard should have said something like, "It is a pleasure for him and me."
 Your letter is doubly disturbing because the error usually is limited to one word, which is bad enough, as in the case of "It is a pleasure for him and I." But if folks have begun doubling up on this shameful conduct, there's no telling what will become of decent language as we know it.
 SIR: I read a recipe for a very rich chocolate dessert described as "decadent." Decadent? The definition my dictionary gives for decadent would not tempt me to try it. Has decadent been elevated to a higher standard? — A. G. K.
 A: Maybe it has, in a way. We've learned a lot of exaggeration in recent years, and one definition of decadent is "marked by or providing unrestrained gratification; self-indulgent." It follows, then, that people who want to thrill you with descriptions of very rich chocolate will call it decadent.
 As for whether the standard is higher or lower, I suppose that depends on how much you like very rich chocolate.
MODEST QUERIES of the Week, put by Max P.:
 "A nearby firm is advertising that it is giving away something 'absolutely free.' Is there any other way to give away something? And what is the difference in free and absolutely free?"



Billy Graham

Friends need to understand born-again pal

DEAR DR. GRAHAM: I became a Christian last year, after my marriage almost broke up and I realized I needed God. But how should I deal with my old friends, who laugh at me and keep after me to do the things I used to do? Should I turn my back on them? They think I will get over this and forget about God again, but I know I won't. — B.J.

DEAR B.J.: I am thankful for your determination to stay faithful to Christ. Satan will do all he can to divert you (even trying to use your old friends to discourage you and make you doubt), but never forget that 'the one who is in you (Christ) is greater than the one who is in the world' (1 John 4:4).

If your friends persist in trying to pull you down and are determined to have a bad influence on you, then they are not really your friends — that is, they do not really want what is best for you. In that case, it is better to withdraw from them instead of allowing them to draw you away from Christ. The Bible says, "Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way. ... The way of the wicked is like deep darkness" (Proverbs 4:14-15,19). Instead seek new friends who are Christians and who encourage you instead of tear you down.

At the same time, pray for your friends and ask God to help you be a witness for Christ to them. When people laugh at us because of our faith, sometimes it is because deep inside they know they also have a need for God, but are trying to suppress it.

The strongest witness you can give your old friends is that of a life which has been changed by Christ. "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8).

Build your food pyramid

in **The Mini Pages**
 by Betty Debnam
 Appearing in your newspaper on 3/27.

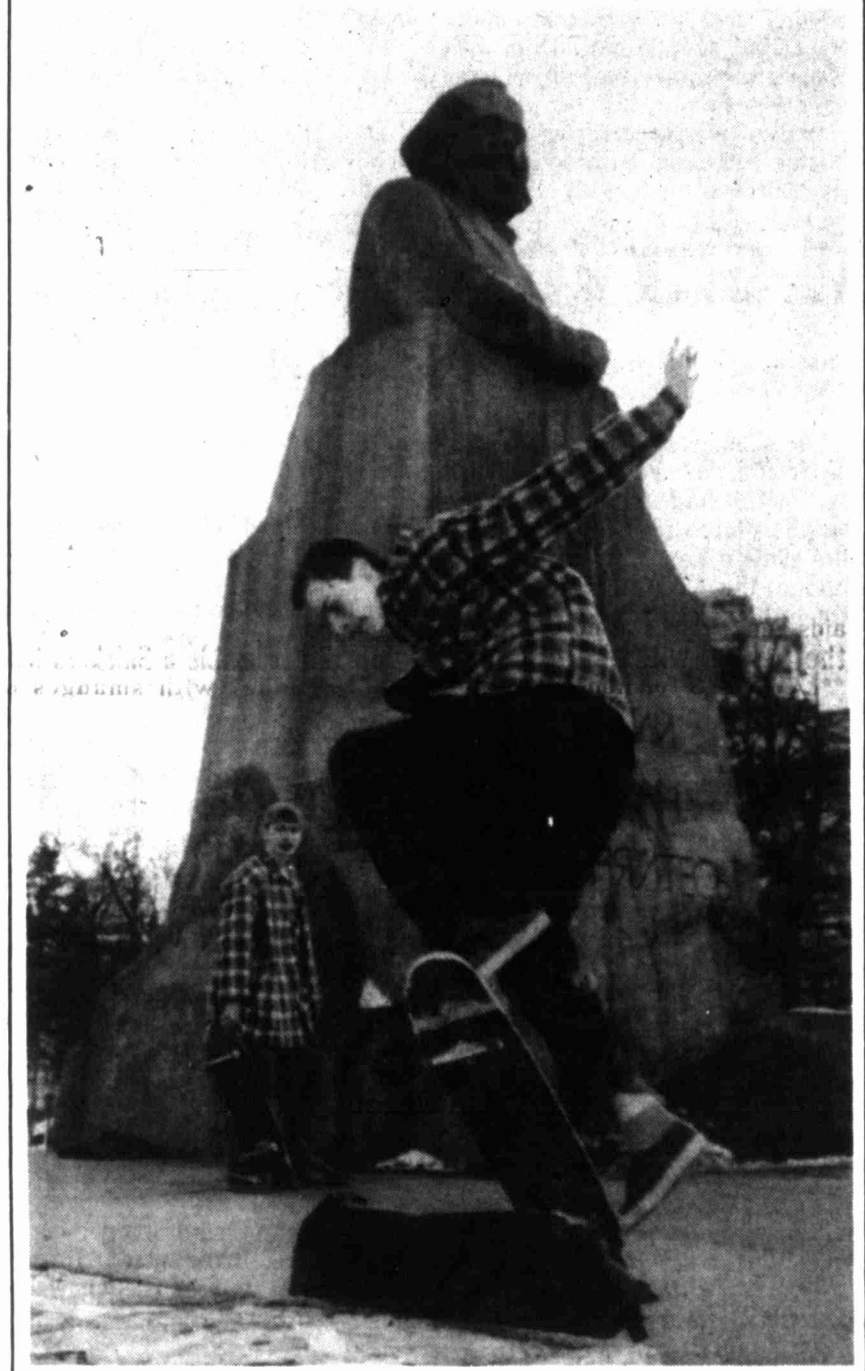
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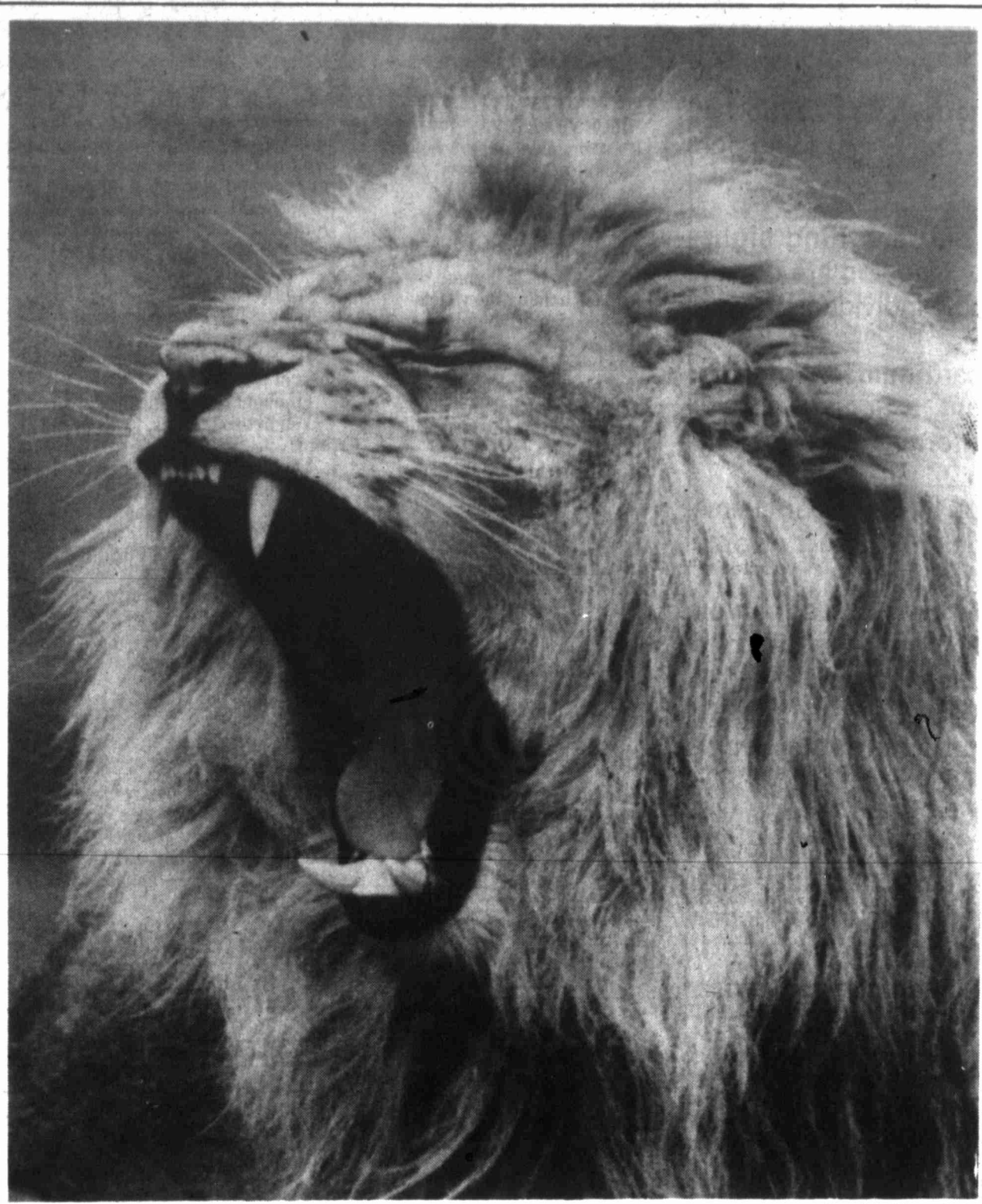
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Surf the earth
 A Russian teen-ager takes advantage of a break in the rainy spring weather to practice on his skateboard under the watchful gaze of the Karl Marx statue in downtown Moscow Friday, March 25.

NOBODY ASKS FOR IT
 Help STOP Sexual Assaults
 Call 263-3312
 Rape



Associated Press photo

Nap time

Hassan the Second, a four-year-old lion, yawns a yawn worthy of the king of beasts in his open-air enclosure at the Dortmund Zoo Wednesday, March 23. Hassan is tough—he was born in the northern latitudes of Germany—but he seems to miss those warmer temperatures of his normal habitat.

Understanding the ADA

By BILL WARNER
Prime Writer

Editor's Note: This is Part One of a two-part series about the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ADA Benefits
The ADA will provide tremendous opportunities for those people who use the ADA to their fullest extent.

What is the ADA
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is revolutionary Civil Rights legislation designed to protect the civil rights of people who have physical and mental disabilities.

What is a bond? It is a promissory note issued by a business entity or a government agency for a fixed sum of money due at a fixed date and yields either a fixed or variable rate of interest from the date it is sold until maturity.

Bonds make good investments

What is a bond? It is a promissory note issued by a business entity or a government agency for a fixed sum of money due at a fixed date and yields either a fixed or variable rate of interest from the date it is sold until maturity.

In some ways it is similar to a certificate of deposit. The majority of the bonds are rated either by Standard and Poors or Moodys. The grades start with AAA, that is the safest, AA being lower and so forth.

An individual called me stating that his bond portfolio had taken a dramatic drop in price from January 31 to February 28, 1994. My answer was: do not worry, you do not have a problem so long as you hold the bond until maturity.

There are two ways to acquire a bond. One, is the original issue or initial offering. That is you acquire the bond first. Generally the first offering is at par which is normally at face value of \$1,000 per bond.

The other market is called the secondary market. That is, the original or intermediate owner decides that he wants to sell the bond before maturity. The market demands

toward people who have hearing or speech disabilities.

Disclaimer: The following information was obtained from various sources including a publication produced by the American Hotel & Motel Association with a grant from the US Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.

Title I - Employment
Prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities with regard to employment.

Title II - Public Services
Prohibits discrimination in the programs, services, or activities of public entities including state, county, municipal and local governments.

Title II - Public Accommodations and Commercial Facilities
Requires that businesses or organizations that provide products, services or amenities to the public must provide reasonable accommodations to allow individuals with disabilities to have equal access to those products, services, and amenities.

Examples of public facilities are hotels and motels, hospitals and health care facilities, restaurants, department stores, convenience stores and specialty stores, resorts and resort condominiums. Religious organizations and private clubs not providing access to the public are

exempted from Title III.

Title III mandates among other things, the provision of auxiliary aids and services at no expense to the person with the disability.

Title IV - Telecommunications
Requires telephone companies to make relay services available to people with speech or hearing impairments.

Title V - Miscellaneous
This section ties the ADA to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and includes various legal and technical provisions.

What is a Disability?
A person is considered disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.

Examples of major life activities:
caring for one's self
walking
hearing
learning
performing manual tasks
seeing
breathing
working

Be sure to look for next month's Prime of Your Life issue and Part 2 of this series: What are the issues, and what are an individual's rights under the ADA.



Max Green

determine the trading price of the bond.

If you pay more than par value for the bond you have paid a premium. The premium is the excess over face value. Your yield to maturity will be less than the fixed rate stated in the bond document.

I am always amazed at people's attitudes about predicting the future movement of interest rates. All an expert can do is make assumptions based upon current market pressures. So, what are the market pressures that determine the price of a bond which determines its yield to

maturity? I think that you have two basic pressure points.

One is the rate of inflation. That is, the yield must be more than the current inflation rate in order to stay up with current economic conditions.

The other market pressure is called demand. That is, how many businesses and individuals plus government wants to borrow money. This is the toughest gage of all to predict.

If loans and deposits are increasing, there is a good chance that demand is high. On the other hand, if loans and deposits are decreasing, probably the demand is low.

Bonds are good investments for those who desire a stable income with security. You may want to do more research at your county library. Have a good month. Let's all believe that Big Spring will grow and prosper.

English tough to learn

It is often stated that the English language is one of the hardest of all to learn. Have you ever wondered why? Most of us give it no thought at all.

Shall we explore some of the reasons this is true? One factor is probably our everyday usage. We use so many slangy phrases and words besides a great deal of improper grammar.

If that isn't enough, the language in its own right has all kinds of confusing plurals, and words spelled the same but having different meanings and pronunciations. Then there are words spelled the same but with different meanings but pronounced the same depending on how they are used.

Imagine, if you will, an immigrant with no knowledge or understanding of English but eager and willing to become a naturalized citizen of the U.S.A. For simplicity let's call him/her - "Student." First we will examine a few of the plurals:

One is a goose, more are called geese, but the plural of mouse is never meece. So one is a mouse and more are mice why shouldn't the plural of house be called hices? One is an ox, more are oxen, but the plural of fox is never foxen, nor is the plural of box ever boxen.

You may have a sock, and two would be a pair but the plural of rock isn't hair. If I speak of a foot and you show me your feet, and I hand you a boot would two be called beets?

If the singular can be that and the plural is these, this does not mean that the plural of kiss is kesse. Or one is that and the plural can be those, but the plural of hat can never be hose. If the masculine pronouns are he, his, and him why aren't the feminine pronouns she, shis, and shim?



Myrtle Griffith

The plural of cow is cows or kine but the plural of vow is never vine. Now, one is a tooth and more are teeth, but more than one booth is not beeth. The list could go on and on, but by now the poor student must be well mixed up.

Now about a few words, there's rite, meaning a ceremony, write, meaning penmanship, and right, meaning a correct thing. They are all pronounced the same, but the meaning is so different. How about the word tear? It may mean a drop of water from your eye or a rip in your clothing.

Then there are words that can be nouns, verbs or adjectives, for instance: Monkey, a primate, animal, ape (noun) monkey as in monkey business: deceit, conniving, misconduct, (noun, verb, or adverb). Monkey: to fool with or tamper, (verb) The student might wonder if monkeys could actually conduct a business.

Let's look at some of the common slang, e.g. "A broken cog on his go wheel," meaning a lazy person. The student thought might be "Is a go wheel on an automobile?" "Bats in his belly," meaning a crazy person. Student might think, "Bats? They live in caves, not bellfrys, don't they?" "A few bricks short of a load," meaning a slightly retarded person.

Student, "Why would a few bricks make any difference, are loads a

certain number?" "Two many birds on his antenna," meaning the person has too many things going at the same time.

Student, "Birds? Antenna? TV and radios have them but I've never seen enough birds on one, to bend it over. How many would be too many?"

"No salt in my wound" meaning I don't care.

Student, "That's silly, who would put salt in a wound, it would be very painful."

"Don't cut your nose off to spite your face," meaning don't do something to cause you trouble or harm you eventually.

Student, "Nonsense! nobody would cut off his own nose."

"A half bubble off center," meaning a person with a slightly low I.Q.

Student, "People do not have center bubbles. These U.S. people say some really crazy things." No doubt you can think of dozens more examples.

The younger generation has its own brand of slang. They might say "That's cool!" meaning good, neat, fine or just right but not referring to temperature in any way. Or they might use the word "gross," but not to refer to 12 dozen of anything. They use the word for anything crude, distasteful, dirty or awful.

By now don't you agree that it would be a difficult language to master?

Most of us never given our speech much thought; we just take the language for granted.

Immigrants who become naturalized citizens have every right to be proud of the accomplishment. Not only do they have to learn to read and write the language, but they must learn customs, history, and government as well.

I'm sure you will all agree it is a most confusing language.

Snickers the cat charms everyone

By MARY RANDLE
Prime Writer

This is the story of an unusual fellow, actually a cat, whose name is Billy TomTom, a.k.a. Snickers.

Adrian told me there was a cat hanging around the garage, so I went out to take a look. I immediately named him Snickers; you may remember my fondness for that candy bar.

He did resemble a Snickers bar; he was black with smudges of brown. He had a large head and neck, one ear was scalloped and the other seemed to have seen its share of fights. There was a bald place on his head with another scar.

His tail was extra long and swished gracefully. There was something unusual about him, but I couldn't put my finger on it. Even though his voice had a definite croak, he was so pleasant, following us around, we decided he would be the official garage cat.

He took his job seriously, spending more and more time in the garage. He even started sleeping on the hood of my car, using the aerial for a pillow, no doubt to protect everything.

He soon had his own feeder and water bowl, later a box and rug, and we left the door up each night so he could come inside for safety. Most of the time he still slept on the car, sometimes on the hood, other times on the top.

The fur around his neck and shoulders was thick and coarse, but his other fur was soft and fine. He really didn't like it, but he permitted

my brushing. His undercoat was white, so he had a striped coat when he lay on his side.

We were spending too much time in the garage, and we worried about him. An outside cat's life is not a safe one; too many fast cars and other hazards.

He discovered we didn't live in the garage by peering in the open front door. He would lie there and watch what was going on, as well as the inside cats, who didn't seem to mind him.

Snickers was at his post by the door when I had Garden Club. As the ladies began to arrive, he greeted each one with his croaky meow and would walk them to the door, as if he were the doorman, and then wait for the next arrival. He charmed all the ladies and really started the meeting off with a meow!

We were going on a trip and I couldn't bear worrying about him while we were away. We have a wonderful house sitter who takes good care of him, as well as the other pets, but—

After talking to the vet, Adrian took a carrier to the garage one morning, and Snickers, who must have trusted Adrian implicitly, got in and sat down. Later the Vet brought Snickers home, neutered and with all his shots. I am sure he was in pain that night, but he never cried or complained.

The other cats were livid with rage! Who was this interloper? Very quickly we realized that Snickers was the first grown cat to come in the house. All the others came as

kittens, and had grown up together. Annie, the Springer, had some more cat fights to referee.

With the opportunity to examine Snickers, I realized he was different. Although his two-and-a-half-inch-long front legs were heavy and bowed, his back ones are almost twice that length.

His teeth were much larger than those of a regular house cat. Most people noticed his eyes, one visitor said he had "people eyes." He wanted to stay inside so much he watched what the other cats did, hoping not to make any mistakes and be put outside.

When he discovered milk, he would do anything to get it, and he savored every drop. He will sit on your paper, or stare you down to get more milk.

Now he wouldn't come when we called him "Snickers." The other cats all had two names, Texas fashion. So he became Billy Tom, BT, or Billy TomTom, because that's what it sounds like when you pat his sides.

At first, we would show him off, pointing out his short legs and other unusual attributes. People would laugh; he does look odd, but I noticed that Billy T appeared to be hurt by their laughter. He seemed to be saying, "I'm doing my best." Now we tell him how beautiful he is, because he is—

It's late winter now, and we are glad Billy T is the cat who came in from the cold. He has retaught us that old lesson — each of us is different, and wonderful in his own way.

Easter brings chicks, eggs, new children's books

By The Associated Press

Ducks and chicks and lots and lots of colored eggs. Easter and its children's books are upon us. The bad news: Most of the new stuff is formulaic, boring or both. The good news:

there are a few notable exceptions.

"Eggbert, The Slightly Cracked Egg" (G.P. Putnam's Sons, \$14.95), does Humpty Dumpty one better by coming to terms with a character flaw: a slight crack. Eggbert is evicted from the only home he's ever

known — a refrigerator — when the other residents notice his imperfection.

The message here — that differences are OK — never gets in the way of a very charming story, aptly illustrated by Rex Barron. For ages 4 to 8.

Advertisement for Leonard's Pharmacies. Includes a photo of a U.S.A. Insurance policy for Jack G. Smith, phone number 035215971, and a list of pharmacy locations: Leonard's Rx Pharmacy (308 Scurry, 263-7344), Professional Pharmacy (10 th & Main, 267-2546), Leonard's Clinic Pharmacy (1501 W. 11th Place, 267-1611), and Rx Prescription Services, Inc. (Home IV Service, Nursing Home Pharmacy Service, 606 Gregg Big Spring 267-2711, Toll Free 1-800-638-4860).

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YMCA good for children

One of the many fine programs at the YMCA is youth basketball. This year the program involved 28 teams of 232 boys and girls, ages 6-12. Teams from Grady, Stanton, Forsan and Ackerly, as well as Big Spring, participated in the nine-week session that concluded March 5.

Fundamentals were stressed in the program, and every child played in every game. My great nephews, Chris and Jaime Smith, played on the Phoenix Suns in the conference for third and fourth graders. The boys had never played basketball before. Watching them learn has been fun.

Once a player was throwing the ball to Chris, and he dodged. Another time the coach admonished a young player to be more aggressive. "What does that mean?" the boy asked. When the coach explained, the youngster replied, "But I'm only in the third grade!"

A friend who regularly attended the games of first and second graders says that one young player became so possessive of the ball that she refused to surrender it to one of her teammates. Another shot a basket at the opposing team's goal.

Watching the practices and the games, I have been impressed with the coaches and their dedication. Two practices and a game every week required a great deal of time over a nine-week period.

The Suns were coached by Kenneth Greathouse and Randy Crockett. Greathouse said, "The Suns were a very inexperienced team, but all the boys got along well together. They learned a lot and they had fun. It was a real satisfaction to teach them the fundamentals of what can become a lifetime sport."

Crockett, who was assistant coach, commented, "I enjoy working with kids, and I know how important participation in a sport can be to a youngster. When I played in Little League, our team won a city cham-



Jean Warren

ampionship. Johnny Hobbs was our coach, and I was the winning pitcher. I have never forgotten that experience."

Craig Felty, who coached in the fifth and sixth grade conference, said, "Somebody's got to take time to work with the kids. Today too many kids grow up without guidance. This was an opportunity."

YMCA director Gary Wollenzien emphasizes that much parental involvement. Each team needed a volunteer coach, a co-coach, a team parent, and a score keeper. The YMCA provided a handbook, "Rookie Coaches' Basketball Guide," for the team coaches.

Wollenzien points out that basketball actually began at the YMCA more than 100 years ago. It was the invention of Canadian-born James Naismith at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1891.

Naismith sought to create a game that would be "interesting, easy to learn, and easy to play in the winter and by artificial light." He planned to call the game boxball, but he was unable to locate two boxes 18 inches square to use as goals. He had to settle for two old peach baskets which he tacked to the lower rail of the balcony jogging track on either side of the gym.

After their last game, the Suns enjoyed a party at McDonald's. Everyone received a trophy. As we were leaving, Chris said, "I wish basketball season wasn't over."

Naismith would have been pleased.

The anatomy of anger

By WANDA DENSON
Prime Writer

"Every time you get angry, it's as if you'd picked up a needle and injected adrenaline into your heart," said Margaret Chesney, who is a behavioral scientist at the University of California.

The mere thought of how angry you were probably causes your heart to race. Anger shifts your body into "fight or flight" mode and numerous changes take place. In addition to the release of more adrenaline, other stress hormones are poured into the blood stream.

These hormones trigger increases in heart rate, blood pressure and muscle tension. Extra glucose raises your blood sugar level. This process also alters your immune system, making you more susceptible to illness.

At this time, your body is in a combustible state. Cliches such as: "That makes my blood boil," or "That burns me up," aptly describe the effect of anger. Other results of frequent anger are depression, exhaustion, anxiety, muscle aches and sleep disorders.

Research shows that a hard-driving, impatient, aggressive, hostile personality is bad for the heart. More than 30 years ago, Dr. Meyer Friedman observed that certain personality traits placed persons at high-risk for heart disease. His updated assessment of this "Type A" personality appeared in a more recent issue of American Heart Journal.

The "Type A" profile includes: Speed in walking, eating and leaving the table after meals. Speaking in a

harsh voice, impatience, interrupting the speech of others. Often making snide remarks, easily irritated by trivial things, quick tempered and loathes waiting in lines.

Chesney says that people who consistently exhibit Type A behaviors may double their risks of developing heart disease.

However, researchers point out that anger is not always a bad emotion. The cause of anger and how it's handled is what determines whether it is harmful or useful. Properly channeled, anger can be strong force against injustice, violence, and irresponsibility.

For example, look at the accomplishments of M.A.D. D. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Anger can result in action that demands accountability for wrong doing.

If you frequently feel angry, behavioral scientists suggests the following:

1. Determine why. Has anger simply become a habit for you or is it the result of a legitimate cause?
 2. Weigh the consequences of the anger. Is holding onto it worth possible damage to your health?
 3. How is your anger affecting those you love? An angry person always affects those close to him or her.
 4. Methods of coping with anger include: exercise and deep breathing, controlling your thoughts - don't dwell on and magnify offenses. Do something constructive such as gardening or house cleaning. Do something nice for someone else.
- If you are still unable to overcome your anger, seek spiritual, professional help.

Seniors' ID's now available

Special to the Herald

Seniors' ID's identification system is currently enrolling new members by mail. Seniors' ID's provide standard information plus personal information including: sex, height, weight, hair color, distinctive details, family contacts, and medical information to law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and other public agencies. This information is vital in identifying accident victims and lost or missing individuals.

Upon completing and returning a questionnaire, the information is maintained in a Seniors' ID's database. Identification is provided through a personal serial number. All members are given 50 cloth adhesive patches to iron or sew on to garments, plus a billfold card with identification numbers.

The Seniors' ID's program is available to individuals over 21, and is recommended for the elderly, indi-

viduals with special medical needs, residents of nursing and rest homes, and special care facilities.

Also available is a program for care facility groups. The group facility is given computer printouts and information diskettes of their members information, along with the patches. Upon request this information will also be provided to local law enforcement agencies.

Telephone/fax numbers are provided to members and local law enforcement agencies on how to obtain a member's information in case of emergency. The Senior's ID's program is recommended by law enforcement agencies and elderly care agencies nationwide. Registration cost is \$24.95 per person.

For more information or a registration kit, contact: Seniors' ID's, P.O. Box 92, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. For editorial information contact: Customer Service, Seniors' ID's, P.O. Box 92, Grinnell, Iowa, 50112, (515) 236-6209.

Don't plan your evening without checking 'Calendar'
Big Spring Herald 263-7331

HOW TO AVOID BECOMING A SCAM VICTIM

WASHINGTON — The American Association of Retired Persons offers these tips on avoiding con men targeting older Americans:

— Don't send money or buy anything sight-unseen over the telephone unless you are certain you are dealing with a reputable individual or business.

— Never give your credit card number, information about your bank account, a Social Security number or other personal information to anyone you don't know.

— Don't pay for a "free prize." If the caller claims the payment is for taxes on the prize or some other purpose, you should hang up.

— Don't stay on the phone with someone you suspect is a con artist. The longer the call, the more likely you will be tricked or coerced.

— Refuse to be rushed. The more a caller tries to hurry you, the more likely the offer is not legitimate. Hang up.

— Take action if you suspect a scam or are a victim. Call the National Fraud Information Center (1-800-876-7060), your Better Business Bureau, state attorney general's office, or consumer protection agency.

—Thomson News Service

Getting older can mean getting taken

By MARIO CHRISTALDI
Thomson News Service

WASHINGTON — Getting older can mean getting taken, a new study has found.

Researchers said the elderly are the group most vulnerable to con artists who peddle everything from unneeded home repairs to phony sweepstakes prizes.

The oldest Americans — those 75 and above — were rated the most likely victims of scams blamed for bilking consumers out of \$100 billion a year.

The study, commissioned by the American Association of Retired Persons, said older people tend to be more trusting and less aware of deceptive sales practices.

"It's amazing the number of predatory people who prey on the elderly," AARP board member Joseph Perkins said Wednesday.

Perkins told the story of a 90-year-old California woman who received a call from a "very nice man" who told her she had won a national sweepstakes. Instead, her credit card was billed nearly \$10,000 for sporting goods, baseball caps and "space pens" that write upside down.

"She was assured she had won enough to pay for her purchases, and more," Perkins said.

The study used an "index of consumer vulnerability" that rated awareness of consumer information, knowledge of consumer rights and wariness of sales pitches and misleading practices.

The index showed "persistent age differences," said Diane Colasanto, president of Princeton Research Associates, which prepared the study for AARP. She said older people, particularly women, were con-

vinced by the AARP study are consistent with criminal investigations by law enforcement agencies.

Monroe Friedman, a psychology professor at Eastern Michigan University, surveyed 291 police departments and found the elderly were the most common scam victims. He said victims often lose between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to con artists.

"Few reported cases of these swindles are solved," Friedman said.

Experts say the elderly are targeted for a number of reasons. They are often more open to sales appeals, are financially stable, and tend to be home during the day. Because they are retired, they are interested in the resort homes or vacations sometimes offered by crooked salesmen.

"They're easily intimidated, they're easily duped," said Richard Riss, an FBI agent who has worked to crack down on consumer fraud. "The best defense for anybody, particularly the elderly, is to end the telephone call as quickly as possible."

One fraud expert applauded the AARP effort but said previous efforts to educate consumers have been largely unsuccessful.

"People are still falling for the same scams," said John Barker, director of the National Fraud Information Center.

Perkins said the study found that elderly are less wary of fraud and deception by telemarketers, repair shops, home contractors and other businesses.

More than a third — 34 percent — of people 75 and older were rated "very vulnerable." Just 24 percent of people age 65 to 74, and 7 percent of those age 18 to 64 were put in the same category.

Determining Easter's date

By BILL BIRRELL
Prime Writer

When is Easter?
35 years ago, Bob Bradbury, my boss at KHEM Radio Station, asked me, "When is Easter?" I replied, "On Easter Sunday."

"Yes," he said, "but how is that date determined?"

Well, I thought, I will ask some member of the clergy, but I found out that the answer was not common knowledge.

Then I went to my encyclopedia

where I got the following information:

Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon on, or after March 21, so that it could be anywhere from March 22 to April 25.

Several years after my assignment Easter Sunday did not follow the formula. After more research I learned that if Easter falls at the same time as the Jewish Passover then Easter week is postponed one week. The encyclopedia also states that the name Easter is derived from the Anglo Saxon goddess of light, Eastre.

Poem

"BLUE VIOLETS"
It's springtime and the violets bloom by the old school, the beautiful violets, all sparkling with dew.

I dream of a lady, and an old fashion man, and she holding the violets he placed in her hand.

The beautiful violets, that bloom in the spring, when he gave her the violets, you could hear the birds sing.

And the violets are blooming It's springtime again, I fancy I see her, That dear lady again.

She holding the violets, as she walks down the road, and there close beside her, her old fashion bo.

As they go a walking, just walking along, I dream I hear music, and an old fashion song.

And the violets are blooming. Just like on that day, but the violets he gave her, Have faded away.

—Bernice Reed Jones

Editor's Note: Waymon Lee Burns was an early settler in Big Spring. He lived here more than 50 years and worked more than 30 years for the Texas State Highway Dept. Fannie Price wrote the following poem, "Old Cowboy" about him.

"OLD COWBOY"
He was just an old cowboy. My how that man stood tall. He could ride and rope with the best of them. I thought he was the best of all. You bet your boots, I was proud of him.

That old cowboy was my pa. I sure miss you, Pa!
—Fannie Price

"COWBOY ON THE PRAIRIE"

The mournful cry of a coyote is carried with the wind. A moonlit night on the prairie seems to have no end. A cowboy lost his life today.

A new life just begins. Where will this new life end?

A cowboy on the prairie. Is this where it begins?
—Fannie Price

Reflections

Q & A
Answers to common questions

Q: I am 71 years old and in failing health. I do not wish to have any life support or heroic measures should my condition worsen. What are my rights regarding a living will, and where can I obtain one?

A: Any competent individual may execute a directive (living will) at any time. There is no required form for a directive, and it may be either written or verbal. For any directive to be valid, however, it must be properly witnessed and dated. Verbal directives must be made to your physician. They must be documented and witnessed in your medical record.

The directive may specify the treatment or procedures you wish to be withheld or withdrawn, as well as any treatments or procedures you would like to have, i.e., pain medication or comfort measures.

Directives remain valid until it is revoked or a more current directive is issued unless otherwise stated in the directive. A directive may be revoked at any time, regardless of your mental or physical condition. The revocation may be either written or verbal.

It is important that you make your wishes known to your family and physicians, and it is advisable to give them copies of your directive. If the directive is revoked, or a more current directive is issued, make sure that you have the invalid directive and all copies destroyed.

For more information, or a free copy of a directive and your rights, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Reflections Senior Care Program
1601 West 11th Place
Big Spring, Texas 79720
915-263-0074

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MEDICARE & INSURANCE ASSIGNMENT ACCEPTED ON APPROVED EQUIPMENT

COLLEGE PARK SHOPPING CENTER (NEXT TO ECKERD DRUG)

Fast

To submit an item put it in writing, deliver it to us in advance. Mail to: Spring Herald, P.O. Box 92, Big Spring, TX 79720. By the office, 710 S.

New business grand opening
Box Car Char Gallery, located in Main, will continue celebrating its grand opening through 6 p.m.

The new business, Charlie Howell, a V specializes in South elry items and car array of other mer

Herald announces Mezick promotion

Conrad Mezick, 29, has been promoted to the position of district sales manager at the Big Spring Herald.

Mezick, who will oversee single copy sales of the paper and supervise rural replaces Steve D. accepted a position Reporter-Telegraph

Prior to assuming Mezick had been t tant mailroom fore

A Big Spring nat gle. He began his farm hand in St. age of 15.

Herald staff take contest

Herald staff writer Barbara Morrison was the recipient of the Thomson Award of Excellence for February in the non-dead-line category.

Morrison received her award for her Kingston's fight w trophy.

The Kingston s into competition by writers from e son newspaper in

Herald sports writer Steve Reagan was the recipient of an honorable mention award in sports column writing during the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors' annual meeting last week.

Reagan won the umn he wrote de fort experienced larly cold footba last fall.

Big Spring wins Connie Rice

SAN ANGELO — employees were winners when Inc. held its 15th Banquet.

Apparel Mana Assistant Mana and Shoe Mana received honors sales and inv bonuses. Norma award for high b

The Big Spring stores in the which was single the Year honors.

Automatic available for

Have you sud April 15 is just and you still records to round file?

An automatic sion of time to f the Internal Rev mitting Form 48 extension applie return. Any tax estimated and April 15 to avoi and penalties.

Anyone unabl taxes owed, is a file the return and request to monthly installm

To avoid late payers must file or an applicati April 15.

Fast Track

To submit an item to Fast Track, put it in writing and mail or deliver it to us one week in advance. Mail to: Fast Track, Big Spring Herald, P. O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721 or bring it by the office, 710 Scurry.

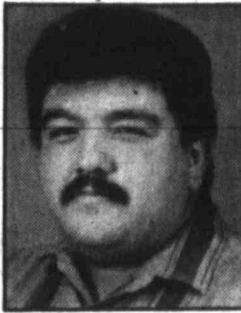
New business continues grand opening event

Box Car Charlie's Southwest Gallery, located at 100 A South Main, will continue its grand opening celebration today from 10 a.m. through 6 p.m.

The new business, owned by artist Charlie Howell, a West Texas native, specializes in Southwestern art, jewelry items and carries an extensive array of other merchandise.

Herald announces Mezick promotion

Conrad Mezick, 29, has been promoted to the position of district sales manager at the Big Spring Herald. Mezick, who will oversee single copy sales of the paper and supervise rural route carriers, replaces Steve Decker, who has accepted a position with the Midland Reporter-Telegram.



MEZICK

Prior to assuming his new duties, Mezick had been the Herald's assistant mailroom foreman since 1990.

A Big Spring native, Mezick is single. He began his work career as a farm hand in St. Lawrence at the age of 15.

Herald staff efforts take contest awards

Herald staff writer Barbara Morrison was the recipient of the Thomson Award of Excellence for February in the non-deadline category.

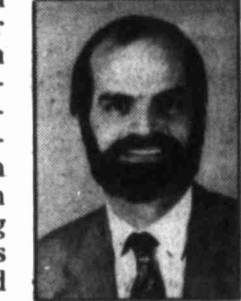


MORRISON

Morrison received her award for her story on Clay Kingston's fight with muscular dystrophy.

The Kingston story was entered into competition with submissions by writers from every other Thomson newspaper in the United States.

Herald sportswriter Steve Reagan was the recipient of an honorable mention award in sports column writing during the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors annual meeting in Corpus Christi last week.



REAGAN

Reagan won the award for a column he wrote detailing the discomfort experienced during a particularly cold football game in Lomax last fall.

Big Spring employees win Connie's awards

SAN ANGELO — Three Big Spring employees were among the award winners when Connie's Fashions Inc. held its 15th Annual Awards Banquet.

Apparel Manager LaRue Cluck, Assistant Manager Roxi Rutledge and Shoe Manager Candy Norman received honors for high personal sales and inventory shrinkage bonuses. Norman also received an award for high boot sales.

The Big Spring store was one of the stores in the Lubbock district, which was singled out for District of the Year honors.

Automatic extensions available from IRS

Have you suddenly realized that April 15 is just around the corner and you still have a lot of tax records to round up before you can file?

An automatic four-month extension of time to file is available from the Internal Revenue Service by submitting Form 4868 by April 15. The extension applies only to filing the return. Any taxes owed should be estimated and sent to the IRS by April 15 to avoid possible interest and penalties.

Anyone unable to pay all of the taxes owed, is advised by the IRS to file the return as soon as possible and request to pay the balance in monthly installments.

To avoid late filing penalties, taxpayers must file either a tax return or an application for extension by April 15.

Where'd the lights go?

And who's going to pay for this #\$\$% damage?

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

The lights went out at approximately 6:45 p.m. Thursday, March 10, for a large number of Big Spring residents.

Between 1,500 and 1,600 TU Electric customers went without power for periods of one to several hours.

In some locations near downtown, there were only momentary disruptions in supply — outages that lasted only an instant. Such occurrences, however, can be the most damaging to computers and other sensitive electronic equipment. Surges in power can be even more devastating.

Disruption of service, in and of itself, creates a situation that pleases neither Texas Utilities nor its customers, and TU officials say equipment damage resulting from such situations compounds the matter.

To date, TU Electric officials say they've heard from only two Big Spring residents seeking reimbursement for damages to equipment as a result of the March 10 outage.

They have not liked TU's answer.

Craig Balthrop, who believes a power surge occurred when power was restored that night, damaging a fax machine.

"Lying in bed after the power came back on, I heard a weird noise," Balthrop said. "I traced the noise to my fax machine."

"I'd gotten a fax from a business associate earlier that day, but now its lights were flashing, it was making a clicking noise, and it was hot," Balthrop added. "I turned it off once, but it still acted strange, so I unplugged it."

"My only beef with TU is that they are saying there were no current fluctuations that night at the residential level," he said. "Then why is my \$450 fax totaled?"

Monroe Casey, who has not yet approached TU, said he was using his computer when outage occurred.

"I was using my personal computer at the time, working on a long-distance bulletin board. My motherboard and screen are damaged beyond repair," Casey explained. "I was using power surge protection equipment at the time. I went ahead and bought another computer system, although I've been told the old one can be somewhat salvaged."

Balthrop was told by his homeowner's insurance company the policy only covers lightning damage. He then called TU to file a claim.

Gilbert Rascon, Texas Utilities' distribution manager for the Big Spring District said, "Our policy has always been if bad workmanship or damage caused by our workers have caused any losses, we will pay those types of claims."

"But, if it is due to equipment failure or acts of nature which are really situations beyond our control, we cannot pay," Rascon explained. "It was ideal weather

and the outage was due to an underground piece of equipment falling and a switch at a substation burning up."

Rascon said that in TU's tariff with the Public Utilities Commission, it states that as an electrical power supplier, TU is expected to provide as continuous power without interruption as possible, but the PUC does understand maintenance and installation problems and intermittent brief power interruptions are inevitable.

Balthrop said he'd be interested to know if any other customers suffered equipment damage.

That sentiment was shared by TU Western Region Manager Mike Seibold.

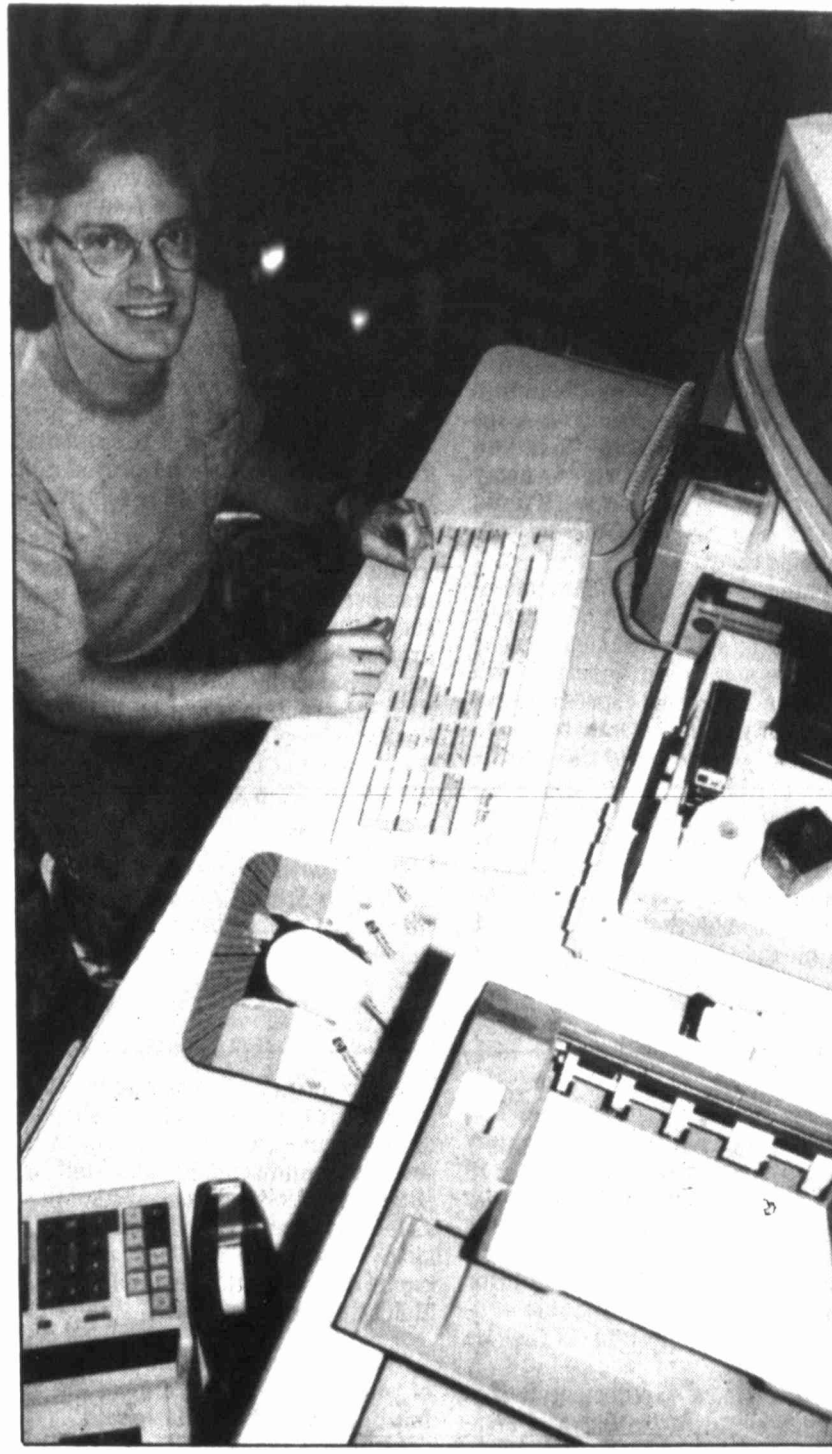
"We've only had two people file claims of damage resulting from the March 10 outage," Seibold said from his Midland office. "I've rechecked our records. An underground cable located at the hospital failed, and as best as we can tell, there were no workmanship or maintenance problems involved."

"In cases like that," he added, "our position would be not to pay a claim."

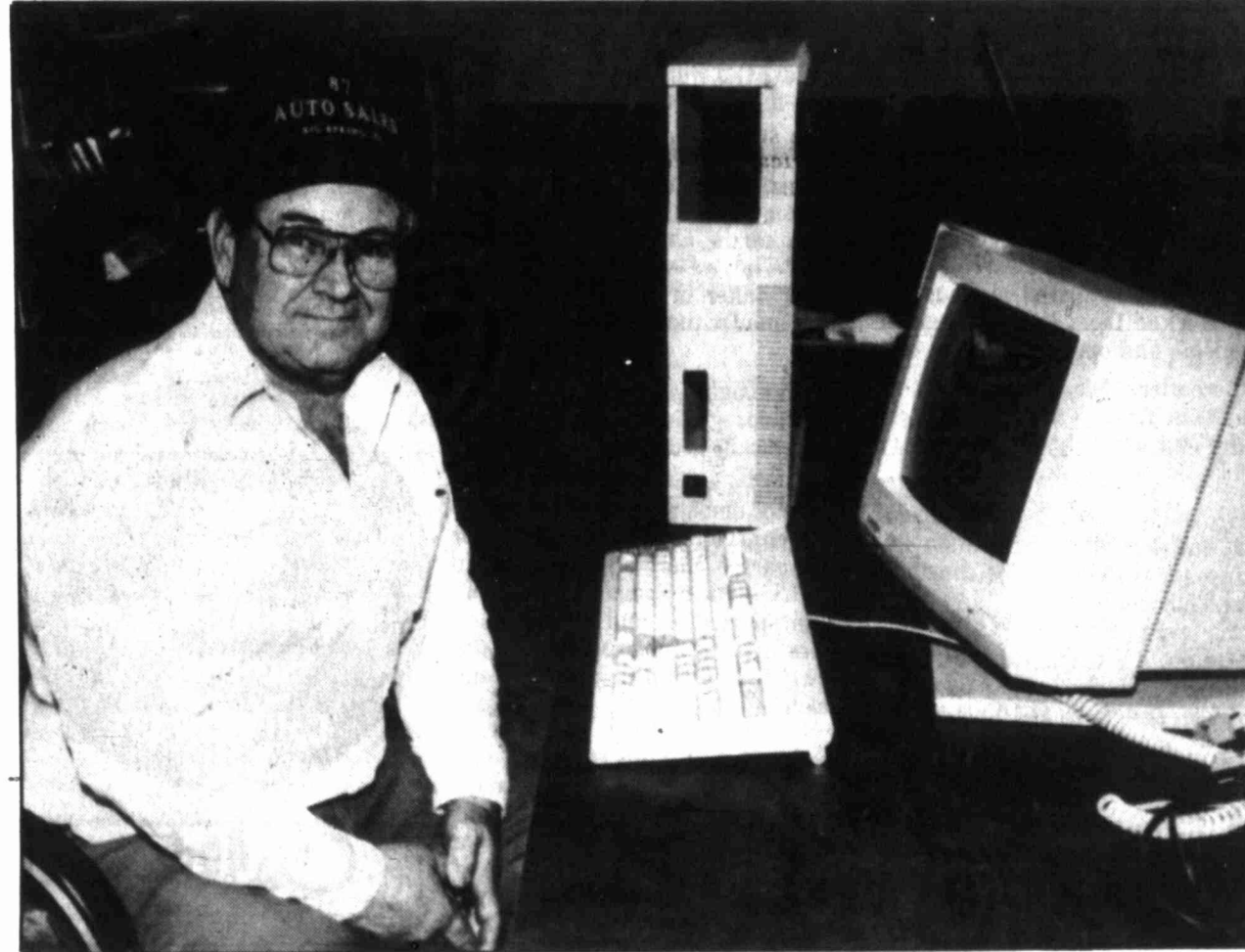
Seibold noted that his office receives about three or four payable damage claims per week — 150 to 200 per year — most of them for between \$50 and \$100. "We probably turn down as many claims during the same period," he said.

John Toone, TU's district manager for Big Spring, said he considered the entire situation unfortunate.

"People don't like it when their power goes out, period," Toone said. "And when something's damaged, please see LIGHTS, page 8A"



Craig Balthrop's home fax machine was destroyed, he says, during the March 10 power outage and he's experienced frustration pursuing a claim effort with the utility company and his insurance company.



Monroe Casey was actually using his personal computer when the March 10 power outage, he says, damaged it, even though he was using power surge protection equipment.

Mexico's upheaval temporary

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just four months after they rejoiced in the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement, U.S. firms planning to expand into Mexico are less euphoric now.

A guerrilla uprising, the kidnapping of a prominent business executive and the assassination of the governing party's presidential candidate, Luis Donaldo Colosio, have jarred some investors who saw Mexico as a stable, business-friendly country.

But analysts say U.S. companies will still consider Mexico a favorable place to do business — as long as Wednesday's assassination of Colosio turns out to be an isolated act and the governing party maintains stability.

"This assassination may cause some companies to slow down and wait and see if there are any problems," said Sandy Smith, head of the NAFTA center at KPMG Peat Marwick, a consulting firm that advises companies on doing business in Mexico.

"If there are political overtones in the assassination, it could get very dangerous," he added. "If it's a random act of violence by a disgruntled person... hopefully (it) would not make a lot of difference."

Analysts said it was critical that Mexico's governing party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, quickly choose a new candidate who will pledge to continue implementing free-market reforms.

"There's obviously going to be a short-term wait-and-see attitude to see how the PRI reacts to this," said Christian Carrington, a New York-based consultant.

"Once they come out and show stability there, I think things will move on."

Mexico has attracted billions of dollars in foreign investment in recent years as President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's government reduced state ownership in the economy and encouraged trade.

It aggressively backed the free trade agreement between Mexico, Canada and the United States that took effect Jan. 1. Many U.S. companies supported the accord because it lowered tariffs and made it more secure to set up business in Mexico.

The Mexican government has moved swiftly to contain the economic damage from Wednesday's assassination. It closed financial markets for a day, announced measures to stabilize the Mexican peso and revealed it had been accepted into the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development.

Analysts said the killing was of greater concern to U.S. business executives than the peasant uprising in the southern state of Chiapas in January and the kidnapping of a leading Mexican banker this month.

"Most people felt they (those events) were at the other end of the country," said Carrington.

Of course, U.S. businesses expanding abroad operate with long-term plans that weigh factors like potential sales and costs, as well as political instability. Companies aren't likely to quickly abandon their invest-

Please see MEXICO, page 8B

Small Houston shop specializes in violins

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The working area of this shop in Rice Village is only 850 square feet, it only produces an average of 50 items per year, but the possibility for repeat business in the form of rentals, repairs, restorations and upgrades is endless.

Three Lisle Violin Shops in Houston, Pasadena and Alexandria, La., bring in a minimum of \$1.2 million in annual revenue.

That's not bad for a such a specialized niche, with a customer base of only 10,000 in the Houston area, and a staff of 12. Lisle Violin and a handful of other instrument makers here have kept Houstonians in strings for the past 10 years.

More so than with many retail and service businesses, Margaret and Mark Lisle can hang a name and a number on their customer base.

Lisle Violin Shop, and other violin shops in Houston, target a "pyramid" customer base, that starts with pre-school children and peaks with professional soloists and Stradivarius collectors.

Margaret and Mark Lisle figure at least 15 growing school orchestras in the Houston area are their largest customer base — and they stay in touch through weekly visits. The next step up on the pyramid consists of at least 800 adults playing in amateur or community orchestras and advanced students. And the top level consists of about 200 professional string musicians in Houston, playing for the ballet, opera and various professional theater and orchestral groups. Apparently violin makers and repairers can decide what part of the pyramid they want to target, and still have a brisk business.

Local violin makers say Houston provides the best market for them in Texas, although fertile markets also exist in Dallas, Austin and San Antonio.

The resale and upgrading possibilities here are endless, since "everybody's always looking for a better instrument," according to Leonard Gold of Gold Violin Shop Inc. For example, young children starting out will grow through six or seven instruments.

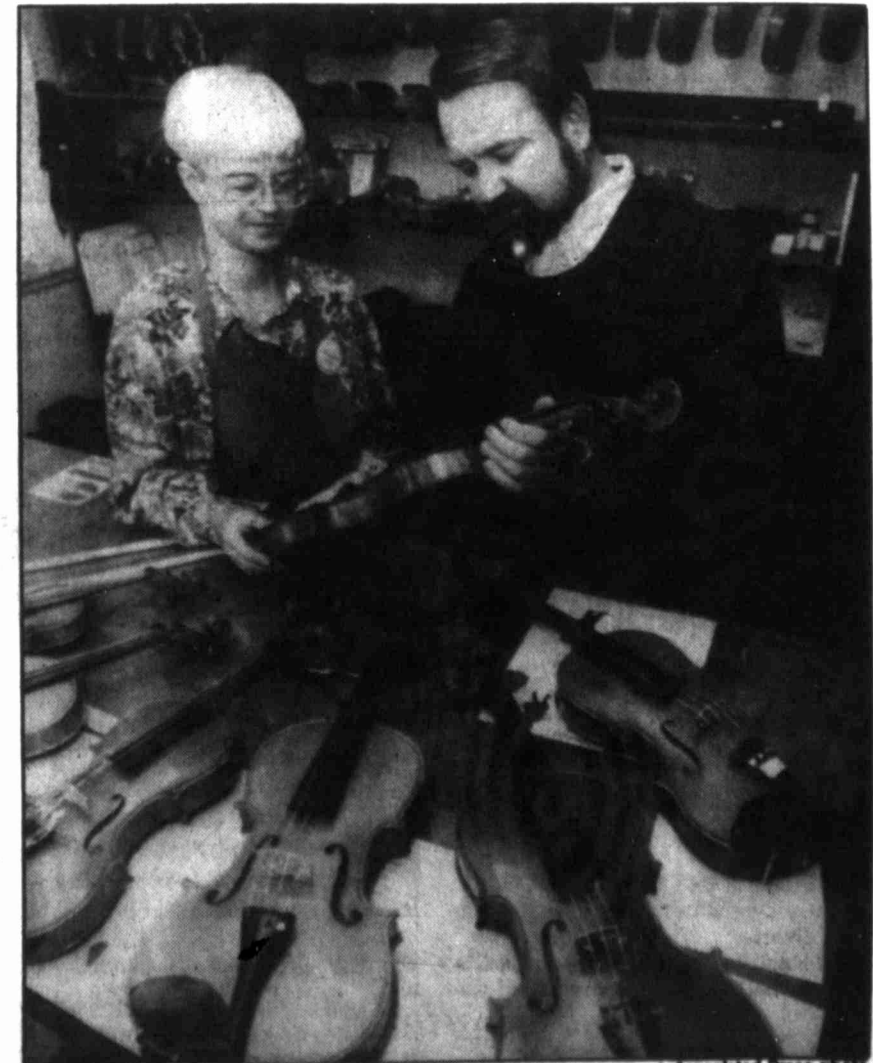
The Lisles depend mostly on school business — prices for their instruments start at about \$300 for a small, machine-made instrument, and escalate to many thousands of dollars.

The Lisles share their business with about five other violin shops in town — and each has its own specialty. Amati Violin Shop specializes in restoring instruments, while Gold Violin specializes in bowmaking, and Suretone Products Inc. manufactures shoulder rests only for wholesale.

So specialized is this low-key, yet lucrative niche that only two trade publications exist on the subject in English. And before a new publication hits the press, publishers contact the Lisles and others in the industry for their orders.

Those in the business also say they've seen a dramatic increase in global demand for violins — specifically as an investment.

"As investments, violins have pretty much outstripped everything else," said Jim Scoggan of Violin



Margaret and Mark Lisle inspect part of their inventory — a collection of contemporary and antique violins gathered over the past 10 years at the Lisle Violin Shop in Houston.

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Register your complaints, but don't quit the Chamber

One of the things that I like to do in this space is to take questions or comments that I deal with from an individual or two and address them in its column.

The reason is the fact that for every person that is willing to come address a problem, there are generally several that have a similar concern, but don't bring it to us.

This week I wrote a letter to an individual who didn't want to pay their dues because of a statement they disagreed with from one of our officers. I said in the letter that I understood the basis of their complaint, but if members quit the chamber every time they disagreed with an officer or member of the staff, we'd have no members left.

What is important is do you support the chamber itself? Do you support our efforts to get I-27? To greatly enhance tourism? To be a better spokesman for business? If you support these and other efforts to improve our economy and build a better community, then it is important that you be a member.

The same is true when a particular task the chamber is pursuing is not to a member's liking. We have 600 members, and we do the things that the majority of them wish to do.

However, I know that I don't have to tell anyone that we can't please everyone, so we constantly have people in disagreement with us on some issue. If we are doing anything



Terry Burns

of any consequence, that is; and if we aren't, then we'd lose support because we weren't doing anything worthwhile. A friend of mine used to illustrate this fact by saying that "barking dogs don't chase parked cars!"

If you agree with most of the things that the chamber is doing, then you should express your opinion and try to affect the task you don't agree with, not throw away support for a lot of good work in an effort to express dissatisfaction with one single task.

Fortunately, not very many members choose this method of expressing dissatisfaction, but each year there are some. We hope you will offer your input and express dissatisfaction if you have some, but don't withhold your support as that's counterproductive.

After all, this is a privately owned, non-profit corporation, owned and operated by our members, and trying to respond to the wishes of the largest number that we can serve. This means that the chamber is the

business community, personified, and we will be successful in direct proportion to the degree that we can put differences aside and pursue common objectives and goals.

Also received a complaint that a major construction project going on was not using any local contractors.

As a chamber, we're unhappy about that as we'd like to see those dollars kept locally. However, as the leading proponent of the free enterprise system, we would be even less happy if private enterprises weren't free to build or remodel as they needed (as long as it doesn't conflict with the public good).

Only in socialist countries can government dictate such things to private business whether it is economical or not, and we certainly don't need government dictating to private business.

The businesses that comprise our membership might be willing to see such intervention on this single, big project, but on further thought, they would object because in the future such intervention might be aimed at their business and restricting their freedom. That's too high a price to pay just to keep some money in our local economy.

Terry Burns is executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. His column appears on Sundays.

Violins

Continued from page 7B

Gallery Inc. "They're up there with Van Goghs — they just keep increasing in value at auction."

The less favorable exchange rate of the dollar vs. European currency recently also has brought Europeans to the U.S. looking for bargains on instruments, driving prices up.

"The price of violins has snowballed in last 10 to 20 years," said Peter Shaw of Amati Violin Shop.

Asians especially have entered the violin-collecting market in force in the last 10 years, driving up prices all over the world.

The Taiwanese government, for instance, has been combing the world, paying premium prices for the best violins for its orchestras — and as investments — about \$5 million each year for the last few years, according to Scoggan.

And the owner of a Japanese conglomerate apparently owns about 40 of the world's only remaining 650 Stradivarius.

"And they pay whatever the asking price is, because they know that will drive up the price of their other violins," Scoggan said.

As far as those investments in Houston are concerned, violin makers and restorers say there are three Stradivarius — universally acknowledged as the world's best-made violin — in Houston, and that they're all being played.

A violin made by Italian violin maker Antonio Stradivari (1644-1737) starts at about \$1 million.

Both Scoggan and Lisle say they have had to escort a particularly rare, insured violin on a flight to Houston from time to time. These are pedigreed violins — violins that come with their own papers.

And it's especially frustrating to those in the business when they can't identify an instrument they know is old and valuable, Lisle says.

"That's why it's so important to retain all the papers, every bill of sale, every appraisal, every photograph, documentation from every

player."

In fact, since some of the older, rarer violins would be extremely expensive — if not impossible — to replace, Lisle says he has recently decided to hand-deliver instruments from his Louisiana shop with estimated value exceeding \$10,000 for insurance reasons. That value ceiling might be higher in Texas, he said.

Mark Lisle, a violinist, orchestra conductor and carpenter; and Margaret Lisle, a trumpeter and cellist, began repairing violins in their garage out of need. Their students at various school orchestras constantly needed repairs and upgrades for their instruments. "I could never get violins repaired to my satisfaction," Mark Lisle said.

Even during a short stint as a high school orchestra conductor in the relatively small town of Hayes, Kan., the Lisles had more than enough requests for repairs and restorations — because the nearest repair shop was a four-hour drive away.

When they returned to Houston, they worked from their garage in Pasadena, and opened a shop shortly thereafter. "We were pretty nervous that first year," Mark Lisle said. "But actually, we did pretty well."

They say business has never been slow, but they've expanded slowly because the work is so time-consuming and labor-intensive.

"For us, it's a question of how much we allow the business to grow. What we can handle is 10 percent a year — it's so labor-related," Mark Lisle said. "This kind of business doesn't grow geometrically. We work on everything that comes in the door. I've looked at carving equipment, but nothing replaces woodcarving by hand."

But it's not by chance the Lisles have had the opportunity to expand. Lisle Violin Shop immerses itself in

the community's musical life by sponsoring music scholarships, donating time and expertise to youth orchestras and sending sales staff to judge music competitions around the state. And every Saturday in March, Lisle Violin Shop will host a violin repair demonstration at the Houston Children's Museum.

"We make our effort in the futures of young players. We're investing in future professionals," Lisle said.

Although machine-made violins exist, violins are simply better made by hand.

The Lisles find their violin makers through the grapevine. For instance, they found Xiao Hua Wu, who works at the 2370 Rice Blvd. location, at violin-making competition in Oregon.

So far, they have arranged for five Chinese violin makers to work in Houston and Alexandria with special green cards, and H-1 professional visas. They've even hired the only violin maker in the entire state of Louisiana for their Alexandria office.

But recognition — at least widespread recognition — in this profession typically is delayed.

It's not unusual for a violin maker to attend violin-making school for four years — there are only three in the U.S. — then spend several years as an apprentice, and several more years making instruments before being considered a master violin maker.

According to Xiao Hua Wu, you can spend hundreds of hours making an instrument — 300 is about average — but you won't draw a high price until the feel and tone of the instrument have mellowed over about 40 years.

The going price for a Xiao Hua Wu violin is about \$7,000.

Lights

Continued from page 7A

aged in the process, they're not going to be very happy about the situation."

He also noted that TU's closure of its business office in Big Spring, doubly frustrates customers. "They're used to being able to walk in the doors, talk with someone they're familiar with. But they also want the lowest rates for

power possible ... it's going to be a long education process."

Toone also said TU is very careful before denying a customer's claim of damage. "I myself have paid claims when I wasn't sure we'd made a mistake, but we're going to give the benefit of the doubt to the customer."

Seibold concurred. "Believe me, if we'd gotten out there, checked

that line and found out it hadn't been properly maintained, we'd be telling these people to send us a bill and we'd be sending them checks.

"We have to be that way," Seibold continued. "I couldn't go home and sleep at night if we worked any other way."

News Editor John A. Moseley also contributed to this story.

Mexico

Continued from page 7B

ments, as investors in the Mexican stock or bond markets might do.

"At this point, we would think that (assassination) was an aberration," said John Ruch, a spokesman for PPG Industries of Pittsburgh. The company plans to open a second paint factory in central Mexico, and is looking to expand in the Mexican glass, chemicals and coatings industries.

"Overall, we would expect the

opportunities are still there in Mexico, and have not changed," he said. Several other firms echoed his comments.

"As far as any kind of impact on our expansion, there is no change in our plans," said Bonnie Malamut, a spokeswoman at the Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse Corp.

The Burlington, N.J.-based company opened a clothing store in the northern city of Juarez last Decem-

ber, and plans others in Mexico.

Even investors in Mexican financial markets seemed to be taking a wait-and-see attitude. Stock prices fell Thursday, but not by much.

"It's still a volatile market, and it will be watching closely the political developments and Salinas' leadership," said David Malpass, director for international economics at the Wall Street firm Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

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CORONADO HILLS APARTMENTS has long been the prestigious apartment address in Big Spring where the residents enjoy a beautiful, serene and secure living environment. The pleasant complex is located very conveniently at the intersection of Marcy Drive and FM 700. Coronado Hills offers 68 large apartments with one, two, or three bedrooms. These homes are sized from 700 square feet to 1600 square feet, and feature one, one & one-half or two baths. The apartment property is owned by local residents and managed by Nelda and Leon Alfano.

Each apartment home at Coronado Hills has a private patio and direct access to a lovely courtyard which features pool and party room. The two and three bedroom units have double attached carports, while one bedroom units have reserved front door parking. Most larger units have washer and dryer connections and two laundromats serve the remaining units. All apart-

ments are heated by gas and the gas and water are included in the rent.

Coronado Hills offers rental and lease plans to fit the needs of the resident. Rates are available for longer term leases or monthly or daily rentals. A popular offering at Coronado Hills is the "Executive Suite" or "Resort Condominium" rental which provides apartment comfort with total furnishings, kitchen equipment, telephone and other utilities, television and maid service to enable the occupant(s) to be "at home" immediately. This service is popular with businesses with employees on temporary assignment in Big Spring and with families who need convenient, comfortable quarters for guests for any period of time.

Whatever your housing need, Coronado Hills can serve you with a comfortable, pleasant living environment. Remember ... "You Deserve the Best," and the BEST in Big Spring apartment living is CORONADO HILLS APARTMENTS, 801 Marcy Drive.

SPORTS & More Sports
in the Big Spring Herald daily

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Bustamante, Anne Marie-1200 Madison, City.
Deubler, Angelica-2516 Ent, City.
Guthrie, Will W.-P.O. Box 3715, City.
Guzman, Margie-314 N.E. 9th, City.
Harris, John Allen-910 N. 2nd, Lamesa.
Hernandez, Delma-910 N. 2nd, Lamesa.
Hernandez, Sylvia-414 28th, Snyder.
Stanford, Lisa-101 W. Daggert, Pecos.
Theissen, Heinrich N.-P.O. Box 294, Garden City.
Willis, Marva Dean-61 Marcy, City.

MARRIAGE LICENSES
Daniel Arthur Johnson, 26 & Anne Elaine Everett, 26.
David Bryan Britton, 20 & Elizabeth Lopez Alvarez, 24.

118TH DISTRICT COURT FILINGS
Terry Lynn Kinsey vs. Susan Jill Kinsey, divorce.
CEI Inc. vs. Unknown Party dba Industrial Fabrication, injuries, damage of others.
Michelle Hartley vs. Armando Enriquez Jr., family.
Donald M. Green vs. Janice K. Green, divorce.
Lynda D. Pippins vs. Oscar G. Pippins, divorce.

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Member FDIC

Uncal

The Associated

Like an under way, an almost steel pipeline crisis unseen, moving natural gas be through mountain

The main lines some 280,000 million miles of streets branching — deliver the gas to the cooking

Despite the show by the catastrophe explosion of a Ne this week, industry people shouldn't atop potential dis-

"Pipelines are other mode of transport than one-hundred transportation fat related," said Jol man of the safety Interstate Na tion.

The industry says millions of dollars maintain lines that of the nation's and the entire of the U.S. Department, the agency more visible mod planes, ships, school buses.

Around the require that not an average of 5 eight apartment ed in Thursday's son, N.J., were a the gas line.

Gas companies under 24-hour ing the pressure to detect leaks, se device called a the pipes to ch walking or flyin look for gas-dam

Because pipes prone to rust, gas the steel with an that keeps the ste

And because methane, is color companies add a sulphur-like sme residents in urba leaks.

"These kinds c rare. Our safety ing. It's going to tion to find out

OPEC

The Associated

GENEVA — slide in oil pri months, OPEC considered idea their crude prod 1.5 million barre

Ministers of th the Organizati Exporting Countr on the opening d sion called to try from some of th five years.

Sources dem- said the minist leaning toward although no firm on the bargaining

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Area crop and who plan to uti pesticides or en will use these I obtain a Texas I culture issued I License to compl uations regardi acts. Many local hold this licens need this traini

TDA officials v day at the Dora Building in Big and area produc tunity to obtain a charge of \$50

The training p 8:30 a.m. and is accepted. Testin training session will know at tha the test or not.

This training i tors only. The applicators as restricted-use pesticides for th ing an agricult the past, restri were generally f tural uses.

As of 1993, l may want to e licensed due to

Underground lines called 'safest way'

The Associated Press

Like an underground superhighway, an almost endless network of steel pipeline crisscrosses the country unseen, moving huge volumes of natural gas beneath rivers and through mountains.

The main lines of 3-foot pipe span some 280,000 miles. Another 1.2 million miles of smaller pipe, like streets branching out from highways — deliver the gas to individual customers for cooking and heating.

Despite the shock waves produced by the catastrophic rupture and explosion of a New Jersey gas main this week, industry experts insist people shouldn't fret about flying atop potential disaster.

"Pipelines are safer than any other mode of transportation. Less than one-hundredth of 1 percent of transportation fatalities are pipeline related," said John Zurcher, chairman of the safety subcommittee of the Interstate Natural Gas Association.

The industry spends hundreds of millions of dollars each year to maintain lines that carry 20 percent of the nation's annual energy needs. And the entire grid is monitored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the agency that keeps its eye on more visible modes of transport: airplanes, ships, trucks, cars and school buses.

Around the main lines, regulations require that nothing be built within an average of 50 to 60 feet. The eight apartment buildings obliterated in Thursday's explosion in Edison, N.J., were about 900 feet from the gas line.

Gas companies keep the mains under 24-hour surveillance, checking the pressure at regular intervals to detect leaks, sending an electronic device called a "smart pig" inside the pipes to check for flaws and walking or flying over the lines to look for gas-damaged vegetation.

Because pipes in the ground are prone to rust, gas companies protect the steel with an electric force field that keeps the steel from corroding.

And because natural gas, or methane, is colorless and odorless, companies add a chemical with the sulphur-like smell of rotten eggs so residents in urban areas can detect leaks.

"These kinds of accident are very rare. Our safety record is outstanding. It's going to take a lot of investigation to find out what happened."

Gas line route

A natural gas pipeline exploded early Thursday morning, igniting a fierce blaze that destroyed nine apartment buildings and injured some 50 people. The ruptured section is part of 10,000 miles of pipeline which runs from the Texas-Mexico border to the New York metropolitan area.



Source: Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation

APCarl Fox

said Julie Stewart of the Virginia-based American Gas Association. According to federal statistics, pipeline accidents caused 14 deaths in 1991, the last year for which numbers are available. Compare that with the 35,000 Americans who died in highway accidents that year.

Two-thirds of all pipeline leaks are caused by contractors or excavators with backhoes digging near a main, officials said. The rest are blamed on pipe corrosion, material defects or improper installation.

But the company that owned the pipeline that ruptured — Texas Eastern Transmission Corp. of Houston — had three pipelines explode in the mid-1980s. The company was faulted for improper installation and failing to detect corrosion.

Natural gas is moved under pressure because it's the most economical way over long distances. If you double the pressure, you can get double the volume in the small amount of space. The gas in New Jersey was moving at 50 to 70 times normal atmospheric pressure.

Compression stations located 50 miles apart keep the gas at high pressures. That meant gas whooshed out at very high speeds in New Jersey, where the pipeline was 7 feet below the surface.

Residents said they heard the pipe burst just after midnight on Thursday. The fire followed seven to 10 minutes later. Anything could have set the gas ablaze — a spark, a passing car, a light switch, a light switch or a telephone. Once lit, methane burns at 1,163 degrees Fahrenheit.

"It was not so much an explosion as a whole bunch of air moving very fast, like a windstorm. The gas rushing out of the rupture would have been moving at the speed of sound, at about 600 mph," John Erickson, vice president of engineering for the American Gas Association.

"It's the worst-case scenario for a pipeline accident. Something happened here that was out of the ordinary. We're all real interested to find out what happened. No one thought this could happen," Erickson said.

OPEC eyes output cut to boost prices

The Associated Press

GENEVA — Fearing a further slide in oil prices in the coming months, OPEC nations on Friday considered ideas for a deep cut in their crude production of as much as 1.5 million barrels a day.

Ministers of the dozen nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries floated the ideas on the opening day of a strategy session called to try to lift crude prices from some of their lowest levels in five years.

Sources demanding anonymity said the ministers appeared to be leaning toward a reduction, although no firm proposals were yet on the bargaining table.

Under discussion were ideas for a 4 percent to 6 percent cut in the group's current ceiling of 24.5 million barrels a day. That would amount to a cut in the ceiling of about 1 million to 1.5 million barrels a day in the spring.

Delegates cautioned, however, the nations were far from agreeing on any plan because of the difficulty of getting all producers to abide by a reduction. The cartel has a reputation for cheating on any quota cuts and is now producing more than the current ceiling.

"Theoretically, everybody wants to see a cut, but is it possible? That's another thing," said a delegate, who demanded anonymity. "Everybody wants to see higher prices."

With markets awash in crude oil,

prices are hovering around their lowest levels in five years. The average price of a group of OPEC oils has been running more than \$7 a barrel below the group's \$21 target.

On the eve of the meeting, the cartel's executive staff gave the ministers a confidential report warning that prices could skid several more dollars a barrel if the ministers refused to act.

The report said prices would improve only if the group slashed production by more than 1 million barrels a day.

The low prices are blamed on oversupplied markets. Demand has been weaker than expected, and non-OPEC producers, such as Britain and Norway, have produced more oil than anticipated.

Seminar scheduled for anyone needing applicators' licenses

Area crop and livestock producers who plan to utilize restricted-use pesticides or employ persons that will use these pesticides need to obtain a Texas Department of Agriculture issued Private Applicators License to comply with laws and regulations regarding use of these products. Many local producers already hold this license but several still need this training.



Don Richardson

TDA officials will be on hand Monday at the Dora Roberts Fair Barn Building in Big Spring to offer local and area producers one more opportunity to obtain this license. There is a charge of \$50 for this testing.

The training program will begin at 8:30 a.m. and late arrivals cannot be accepted. Testing will begin after the training sessions and participants will know at that time if they passed the test or not.

This training is for private applicators only. The TDA defines private applicators as individuals using restricted-use or state-limited-use pesticides for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity. In the past, restricted-use pesticides were generally for crop and horticultural uses.

As of 1993, livestock producers may want to consider becoming licensed due to the list of livestock

protection products now being added to the restricted-use products. TDA currently recognizes two different categories of private applicator licenses (1) Certified Private Applicator (certified before Jan. 10, 1989) — may use restricted-use pesticides but cannot supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides — may recertify by obtaining 15 Continuing Education Credits prior to Dec. 31, 1995 — may recertify by training and taking the Licensed Private Applicator exam.

License Private Applicator (license after Jan. 1, 1990) — may use restricted use pesticides — may supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides — must obtain at least 15 Continuing Education Credits within the five year period after the license was issued.

Perhaps of equal importance to local producers is the new Workers Protection Act that goes into effect April 15, 1994, affecting farm workers.

To acquaint local farm and ranch operators about this new law and how they may comply with it, a special training meeting will be offered beginning at 1 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Fair building following the Pesticide Licensing training.

Producers attending this meeting and are holders of Private Applicators licenses will be able to obtain one hour credit of CEU's in the laws and regulations categories. License holders are reminded that they are required to have at least two hours of such training in laws and regulations to maintain their certification from TDA.

A training meeting for employees that will assist employers in meeting the act's requirements will be conducted in the near future so please watch this column for notification of this program.

Both of the above training opportunities is open to all individuals in Howard or surrounding counties who wish to obtain a license. Contact the Howard County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at 264-2236 for additional information on either of these training meetings.

Don Richardson is Howard County Extension Agent for Agriculture. His column appears on Sundays.

TOO LATE

Too Late To Classify 001

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed your advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount actually received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

YARD SALE, Sunday & Monday, Dryer, incubator, water softener, Antique bed, crafts, rocker, books, lots of misc. New items added daily. Oil Mill Road. Call for directions 263-7827.

TOP TEN REASONS TO BECOME A BIG SPRING HERALD SUBSCRIBER

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- 7 You Like the Local Columns
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- 2 Find Out Who's Winning in Local Sports
- 1 You Want the Local News

YES! I would like to become a Big Spring Herald Subscriber

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Zip _____

Mail to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79710 or Call 263-7331

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION REQUEST FOR BIDS The City of Big Spring is seeking bids for the procurement and installation of a Motor Truck Sales at the Signal Mountain Baler, 4100 E. FM 700. Sealed bids shall be addressed to the Office of the Assistant City Manager, Room 206, 310 Nolan Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720-2657 on or before 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, April 19, 1994. After this time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Bid Award will be considered at a legally scheduled meeting of the City Council.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PERMIAN BASIN PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL The Permian Basin Private Industry Council will hold its regular monthly meeting for the purpose of routine business matters Wednesday, March 30, 1994, 3:30 p.m. at the UTPB-CED, 1400 N. FM 1788, Midland, Texas. For more information call Carole Burrow, PIC Coordinator (915) 563-1061.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of opportunity to make comments or request a public hearing is hereby given by West Texas Opportunities, Inc., 803 North 4th Street in Lamesa, Texas on the continuation or initiation of rural public transportation services within Lamesa and Dawson County; Stanton and Martin County; McCamey/Rankin and Upton County; Seminole/Sagravines and Gaines County; Andrews and Andrews County; Big Spring and Howard County; Crane and Crane County; Garden City and Glasscock County; Monahans and Ward County; Pecos and Reeves County; Ft. Stockton and Pecos County; Kermit and Winkler County; Sanderson and Terrell County; Mentone and Loving County; and Gandy and Borden County. Financial assistance to provide this service is being sought from the Federal Transit Administration and the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of \$659,936 through the Texas Department of Transportation. Service will be for the general public, will be on demand response, and fares will be charged for the service. The purchase of three 7-passenger mini-vans will be required to provide this service. Written comments or a written request for a public hearing are being accepted at P.O. Box 1308, Lamesa, Texas until 4:00 p.m. on April 18, 1994. Further information can be found at West Texas Opportunities, Inc. 8746 March 20 & 27, 1994

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (TIP) The Texas Department of Transportation will conduct public hearings at two sites in the Abilene District to discuss the 1995-1997 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The 1995-1997 Transportation Improvement Plan is a three-year plan developed by the Texas Department of Transportation for Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Taylor counties. The TIP includes the following: "A priority list of projects and project segments that will be carried out within the 3-year period, and "A financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be implemented, indicates resources from private (if any) and public sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the plan, and recommends any innovative techniques to finance needed projects and programs. The public hearings will be held: "April 5 at 6 p.m. in the V.J.P. Building, 508 East Gould, Stamford. "April 7 at 6 p.m. in the District Courtroom, 348 Oak Street, Colorado City. A 10-day comment period following the public hearings will permit other interested persons to submit written comments to Maribel P. Jaso, District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation, Abilene District, P.O. Box 150, Abilene, Texas 79604. All written comment must be received at the Abilene District Office no later than 12 noon on April 17, 1994. Those desiring to make oral comments or presentations at the meetings may register standing at 8:30 p.m. Any interested persons may appear and offer comments, either orally or in writing. Comment cards will be available at registration. The Texas Department of Transportation's TIP proposal can be examined during business hours through May 31, 1994, at the Abilene District office, 4250 N. Clark, Abilene, 8731 March 6 & 27, 1994

Too Late To Classify 001

1992 GRAND PRIX. Four door, excellent condition. 70,000 miles. \$9,250. 267-1512

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, refrigerated air mobile home for rent. 1407-A Mesquite. \$250 month rent, \$100 deposit. No bills paid. 267-6667

3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath. \$175.00 deposit, \$350.00 per month. No pets! 263-3629

ASSISTANT MANAGER needed for upscale gift shop. Experience in merchandising, stocking, ordering, customer oriented a must. Must be willing to work varying hours and weekends. Send resume to: c/o Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431/200, Big Spring, TX 79721.

BE THE BANKER! Own your own A.T.M.'S. Earn High monthly income. \$17,500 Inv. Reg. 100% tax deductible. Absolutely NO work! Serious investors only. 800-455-ATMS(2867)

EASTER BUNNIES: White with pink eyes. \$15. 353-4238 leave message.

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED CUSTOMERS IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL OR MAKE CHANGES IN YOUR AD, PLEASE CALL BY 8:00 AM THE DAY THE CHANGE IS TO OCCUR.

THESE CARS MUST BE SEEN AND DRIVEN! "Hurry, They Won't Be Here Long"

#515 '91 OLDS DELTA ROYAL SEDAN \$8995

#521 '89 NISSAN MAXIMA 4 DOOR \$8995

#544 '90 CHEVROLET SILVERADO CLUB CAB W/CONVERSION PKG. \$11995

#548 '91 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN SILVERADO \$19995

#549 '89 DODGE CARAVAN SC WITH WOOD PANELING \$7995

#562 '91 MERCURY TOPAZ 4 DOOR SEDAN \$5995

BIG SPRING Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge, Jeep, Eagle, Inc. 502 East FM 700 264-6886

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GOOD USED CARS. Low down payments beginning at \$300. Low monthly payments Ferrells, 901 E. 4th. 267-6504.

INVAOR BOAT- 85 HP Johnson Motor Good fishing and ski boat. Runs great with extra's. Call 267-4659

MISSING Brown Boxer with white chest. Answered "Star" 263-5064 or to return to 2606-1444

YARD SALE. Sunday 8:00-2:00. Various kitchen items, boat, toys and lots of other 1701 Runnels

SPECIAL OWNER FINANCING 3 BR 1 room, 1 1/2 bath. (915)682-0198

THREE BEDROOM 1 bath, was in great connections, central air, ceiling fans, new college and shopping center. \$1000 deposit. 263-1371 or 263-6646 after 6 p.m.

VERY CLEAN, 1 bedroom house with central air, carpet. \$250.00 per month. \$100.00 deposit. 263-2382 or 267-4672

Autos for Sale 016

1982 AUDI 5000, automatic, 4 door, leather seats and windows, excellent condition. \$2,500.00. Call 263-2356.

1987 GMC JIMMY 4 wheel drive, clean, good condition, one owner. Call (915)267-8324

WESTEX AUTO PARTS INC. SELLS ALL MAKE GUARANTEED RECONDITIONED PARTS

'93 GEO METRO, \$1,995.00

'92 CAMARO, \$1,995.00

'92 LEAMANS, \$1,995.00

'91 DAKOTA, \$1,995.00

'89 HONDA CRX, \$1,995.00

'89 FORD F150, \$4,995.00

'89 FORD ESCORT, \$1,995.00

'86 CUTLASS CRUISER, \$1,995.00

'85 SIO BLAZER, \$1,995.00

SNYDER HWY. 263-2356

COMPARE OUR PRICES

FOR SALE: 1982 Lincoln Continental, excellent condition. \$2,700.00. Call 263-3539

FOR SALE: 1992 S10 Truck, one owner, excellent condition. 915-263-1859

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CHRYSLER DISCOUNT..... \$1,000

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We'll take a picture of your car and run it for only \$7.00 extra per week!

Call the Herald TODAY! Ask for Debra or Chris (915)263-7331

*offer available to private parties only. Payment due at consecutive weeks. No refunds. No copy charges.

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Oil Field Service	Jobs Wanted	090	Miscellaneous	395	Housing Wanted	523
Pickups	Loans	095	Musical Instruments	420	Office Space	525
Recreational Vehicle	FARMER'S COLUMN		Office Equipment	422	Room & Board	529
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Travel Trailers	Farm Equipment	150	Produce	426	Storage Buildings	531
Trucks	Farm Land	199	Satellites	430	Unfurnished Apts.	532
Vans	Farm Service	200	Sporting Goods	435	Unfurnished Houses	533
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Grain Hay Feed	220	Taxidermy	440	WOMEN, MEN, CHILDREN	
Adoption	Horses	230	Telephone Service	445	Books	608
Announcements	Horse Trailers	249	TV & Stereo	499	Child Care	610
Card of Thanks	Livestock For Sale	270	Want To Buy	503	Cosmetics	611
Lodges	Poultry For Sale	280	REAL ESTATE		Diet & Health	613
Personal	MISCELLANEOUS		Acreage for Sale	504	House Cleaning	614
Political	Antiques	290	Buildings for Sale	505	Jewelry	616
			Business Property	508	Sewing	625

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



On what was to be his last day on the job, Gus is caught asleep at the switch.

RATES

WORD ADS (1-15 WORDS)	
1-3 days	\$10.85
4 days	\$11.98
5 days	\$13.85
6 days	\$14.91
2 weeks	\$29.85
1 month	\$46.86

Add \$1.75 for Sunday & Advertiser

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Cash, check, money order, visa or mastercard. Billing available for preestablished accounts.

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Line ads...Monday-Friday Editions
12:00 Noon of previous day
Sunday...12:00 Noon Friday

LATE ADS

Same day advertising published in the "Too Late to Classify" space call by 8:00 a.m. For Sunday "Too Late to Classify" Call by Friday 5:00 pm.

GARAGE SALES

List your garage sale early! 3 days for the price of one at only \$12.65. (15 words or less)

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

15 words
30 times
\$50.00 for 1 month
Display ads also available

CITY BITS

Say "Happy Birthday", "I Love You", etc. in the City Bits. 3 lines for \$5.88. Additional lines \$1.80

3 for 5
3 days \$5.75
No business ads, only private individuals. One item per ad priced at less than \$100. Price must be listed in ad.

Boats 020

1984 CONROY 19ft. 170 horsepower, good ski or family boat. Asking \$4000.00. 267-4090.

1991 CAJAN 1850 Fish & ski. 2 depth finders and many extras. Call 267-3301 after 5:00pm.

Pickups 027

1987 CHEVROLET SILVERADO. New motor with warranty, rebuilt transmission. Excellent condition. 267-4650 after 5:00.

1993 CHEVROLET 4x4 EXTENDED CAB. 2300 miles, grill guard, tool box, headcage rack, bed liner, 2-71 off road package. No dents or scratches. \$19,000. (915)644-5311.

FOR SALE. 1992 FORD XLT V. Ton. 460 engine, loaded with a sleeper. Asking \$16,500.00. Call 263-9276 ask for Teresa. After 6:00, 394-4073.

Motorcycles 024

1987 KAWASAKI 305 LTD. 4,200 miles. Excellent condition. \$850.00. Call 394-4470.

Lone Star Auto Sales

We Finance.
Low Down Payment.
No Credit Check.
Easy Terms.
1505 W. 4th
263-4943

Autos for Sale 016

1988 SUZUKI CONVERTIBLE. 4 wheel drive, AM/FM, 3 tops, good tires and condition. \$3,300. 263-1648.

1989 MAZDA 323. Red w/gray interior, automatic, A/C, AM/FM, 46,000 miles. Great college car! See at 1008 11th Place. Call 267-1480 day/353-4567 after 6:00pm.

'85 CHEVY MILLER Conversion Van. Loaded, low miles. \$5,200. '83 Honda Civic. Low miles. \$1,700. 752-5924.

Recreational Veh. 028

1976 GMC EL DORADO Motorhome. Low mileage. \$4500.00. Call 267-2324.

Pickups 027

1993 Ford Thunderbird LX - Cayman green with cloth, fully equipped, spoiler, local one owner with only 6,000 miles. Sale Price \$14,995

1993 Nissan Pickup W/Camper Shell - Strawberry red, cloth, 5 speed, air, AM/FM cassette, one owner with only 40,000 miles. Sale Price \$8,995

1993 Nissan Altima - Beautiful black with cloth, 5 speed, air, fully equipped, local one owner with 12,000 miles. Sale Price \$14,995

1992 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Tutone mocha, cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 25,000 miles. Sale Price \$15,995

1990 Chevrolet Lumina APV Mini-Van - Red with red cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 41,000 miles. Sale Price \$9,995

1990 Ford F150 Supercab XLT Lariat - Black/silver tutone, cloth interior, fully equipped, one owner with 40,000 miles. Sale Price \$11,995

1990 Mercury Sable L.S. Station Wagon - White with red cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 48,000 miles. Sale Price \$7,995

1989 Mercury Cougar XR7 Supercharged - White, leather, high performance Cougar, 50,000 miles. Sale Price \$9,995

1985 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham - Beige with leather, fully equipped, 55,000 miles. Sale Price \$5,995

1985 Mercury Lynx - Beige, automatic, air, 42,000 miles. Sale Price \$2,995

Travel Trailers 030

'30 IDEAL TRAVEL Trailer, self-contained, new awning, ELE jack, excellent condition. \$4,750.00. 267-5700.

Vans 032

LIKE NEW. 1990 Oldsmobile Silhouette. Totally loaded. 60,000 miles. \$9450.00. 87 AUTO SALES.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements 036

AS OF 3-23-94, I, Kyle Heckler will no longer be held responsible for any debts made by Patty Heckler.

NOW AVAILABLE IN TEXAS. E.R.I.S.A. HEALTH PLANS FOR SELF EMPLOYED & SMALL BUSINESS 24 hour coverage. Any doctor/hospital. 2 Yr rate guarantee (basic). Rx cards. Plan up to 100% tax deductible. For more info & quote call Bill Parsons 1-800-928-5349.

Cards of Thanks 037

THANK YOU ALL
For the Beautiful
Baby Showers Gifts
GOD BLESS YOU
Diana Vera

Personal 039

WHITE MALE, 48, looking for a helper and companion/relationship. This weekend I'll be at the Big Spring Rattletail Roundup. Look for the stand with 12 flags flying above it. My name is Wayne.

Business 050

Business Opp. 050

COKE/M&M'S Vending
Local route, need to sell
last. 1-800-568-2134

I AM LOOKING for motivated, hard working people (ages 10 and up) to spend a few minutes a day delivering papers. Profit is \$150 a month and up. Call Dana Hicks at 263-7331.

OWN A PAYPHONE Route. \$1200/week potential. Unique opportunity. 1-800-488-7632.

Instruction 060

PRIVATE PIANO Lessons. Beginners thru advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call 263-3367.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted 085

ABILENE STATE SCHOOL
THERAPIST TECHNICIAN V
\$1,516/MONTH

INTERVENTIONIST. A full-time position with Rolling Prairies Early Childhood Intervention. Will implement programs developed for families of children, 0-3 years of age, with developmental delays. Services provided in a variety of settings (homes, child care, etc.). Will be required to read, write and speak in Spanish, to assist with translation during intake and assessment process. Must be able to work independently but cooperatively as part of a team. High school graduation or GED required, plus two (2) years of full-time progressively responsible experience in childhood development activities. College work which includes courses pertinent to childhood development may be substituted for experience on a year-for-year basis. Prefer prior experience working with infants and toddlers and/or child development. Must use own vehicle to provide services. Travel required. MUST RESIDE IN BORDEN, HOWARD OR MITCHELL COUNTIES.

Business 050

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Instruction 060

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\$1,516/MONTH

INTERVENTIONIST. A full-time position with Rolling Prairies Early Childhood Intervention. Will implement programs developed for families of children, 0-3 years of age, with developmental delays. Services provided in a variety of settings (homes, child care, etc.). Will be required to read, write and speak in Spanish, to assist with translation during intake and assessment process. Must be able to work independently but cooperatively as part of a team. High school graduation or GED required, plus two (2) years of full-time progressively responsible experience in childhood development activities. College work which includes courses pertinent to childhood development may be substituted for experience on a year-for-year basis. Prefer prior experience working with infants and toddlers and/or child development. Must use own vehicle to provide services. Travel required. MUST RESIDE IN BORDEN, HOWARD OR MITCHELL COUNTIES.

POLLARD'S

1501 E. 4th 267-7421





★ PICKUPS, TRUCKS & VANS ★

MODEL	MILES	MODEL	MILES
'93 CHEVY S-10 4 DR. BLAZER 4X4	23K	'92 FORD A1 2 TONE BROWN/REG	14K
RED/GRAY BUCKETS, 4.3 V-6		'91 GMC REG. CAB S.B.	36K
'93 CHEVY ASTRO EXT. VAN	23K	MAROON/GOLD INT., LOCAL OWNER	
MAROON/GRAY INT., 8 PASS. HEATING		'91 NISSA	16K
'92 CHEVY S.B. EXT. CAB SILVERADO	22K	REDA/GRAY CL	
RED/RED CLOTH, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'91 FORD AEROSTAR EXTENDED	34K
'92 CHEVY SILVERADO	30K	BLACK & GRAY /GRAY INT., LOADED XL	

★ GREAT PRE-OWNED CARS ★

MODEL	MILES	MODEL	MILES
'93 O1 MAROO	17K	'93 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE	26K
'93 CI	19K	WHITE/RED LEATHER, PROGRAM CAR	
WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, V-6, POW. WINDOWS & LOCKS		'93 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE	19K
'93 CHEVY CAVALIER RS SEDAN	19K	SILVER/GRAY CLOTH, PROGRAM CAR	
MAROON/GRAY CLOTH, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE, POW. LOCKS		'93 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE	28K
'93 CHEVY CAVALIER RS COUPE	27K	MAROON/MAROON LEATHER, PROGRAM CAR	
TEAL BLUE/CHARCOAL BUCKETS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE, POW. LOCKS		'93 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE	18K
'93 BUICK REGAL	26K	SILVER/MAROON LEATHER, PROGRAM CAR	
MAROON/MAROON CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE		'92 FORD MUSTANG LX	28K
'93 BUICK REGAL	25K	SILVER/RED INT., POW. WIN. & LOCKS, CRUISE, TAPE, AIR	
WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, POW. WINDOW & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'92 NISSAN SENTRY	41K
'93 BUICK SKYLARK	21K	RED/GRAY INT., 4 CYL., 5 SPEED, TAPE, AIR	
WHITE/GRAY CLOTH, POWER LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'92 BUICK REGAL	31K
'93 CHEVY LUMINA	21K	WHITE/RED CLOTH, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE	
SILVER/GRAY CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCK, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'92 BUICK REGAL COUPE	28K
'93 CHEVY BERETTA GT	20K	SILVER/MAROON CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE	
RED/GRAY CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'92 BUICK REGAL	28K
'93 CHEVY LUMINA	22K	MAROON/MAROON CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE	
WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'92 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE SEDAN	34K
'93 BUICK REGAL COUPE	24K	MAROON/GRAY CLOTH, POW. LOCKS, QUAD 4 CYL.	
MAROON/GRAY CLOTH, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'91 CAPRICE CLASSIC	44K
'93 CHEVY BERETTA GT	17K	BLUE/BLUE CLOTH, LOADED, LOCAL 1 OWNER	
WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'91 PONTIAC SUNBIRD LE CONVERTIBLE	40K
'93 CHEVY LUMINA	27K	RED/GRAY CLOTH, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE	
GOLD/TAN CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'90 CHEVY LUMINA	44K
'93 CHEVY CAPRICE CLASSIC	21K	WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE	
WHITE/BLUE CLOTH, V-6, POW. WIN. & LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, TAPE		'90 CADILLAC SEVILLE	54K
'93 BUICK PARK AVENUE	22K	SILVER/BLUE LEATHER, LOADED, 1 OWNER	
BROWN/TAN LEATHER, LOADED, 1 OWNER		'87 BUICK LESABRE	63K
		MAROON/MAROON CLOTH, LOADED, 1 OWNER	

Out These Great Deals! All Are Local One Owner Vehicles

'92 Pontiac Grand Prix SE
SOLD
Only 10,000 Miles

'93 Buick Regal Grand Sport
SOLD
Only 10,000 Miles

'92 Chevy
SOLD
Only 30,000 Miles

'92 Lumina Euro Coupe
SOLD
Only 32,000 Miles

'91 Pontiac Grand Am
SOLD
Only 37,000 Miles

Quik Century
SOLD
Only 19,000 Miles

The choice is YOURS

★★★ New Trade-Ins ★★★

1993 Ford Thunderbird LX - Cayman green with cloth, fully equipped, spoiler, local one owner with only 6,000 miles. Sale Price \$14,995

1993 Nissan Pickup W/Camper Shell - Strawberry red, cloth, 5 speed, air, AM/FM cassette, one owner with only 40,000 miles. Sale Price \$8,995

1993 Nissan Altima - Beautiful black with cloth, 5 speed, air, fully equipped, local one owner with 12,000 miles. Sale Price \$14,995

1992 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Tutone mocha, cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 25,000 miles. Sale Price \$15,995

1990 Chevrolet Lumina APV Mini-Van - Red with red cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 41,000 miles. Sale Price \$9,995

1990 Ford F150 Supercab XLT Lariat - Black/silver tutone, cloth interior, fully equipped, one owner with 40,000 miles. Sale Price \$11,995

1990 Mercury Sable L.S. Station Wagon - White with red cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 48,000 miles. Sale Price \$7,995

1989 Mercury Cougar XR7 Supercharged - White, leather, high performance Cougar, 50,000 miles. Sale Price \$9,995

1985 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham - Beige with leather, fully equipped, 55,000 miles. Sale Price \$5,995

1985 Mercury Lynx - Beige, automatic, air, 42,000 miles. Sale Price \$2,995

★★★ In Stock Too Long ★★★

(Our Loss Your Gain)

1993 Taurus GL Station Wagon - Caribbean green, gray cloth, fully equipped, Program car, 13,000 miles. Was \$16,995. Sale Price \$15,995

1993 Ford Escort LX 4-DR - White with cloth, automatic, air, AM/FM cassette, Program car with 9,000 miles. Was \$8,995. Sale Price \$7,995

1993 Ford Probe GL - Silver with blue cloth, fully equipped, Program car, 18,000 miles. Was \$12,995. Sale Price \$11,995

1993 Mercury Tracer 4-DR - White with blue cloth, automatic, air, stereo, Program car, 16,500 miles. Was \$8,995. Sale Price \$7,995

1992 Ford Thunderbird LX - Blue with cloth/leather, fully equipped, tinted glass, Program car with 19,000 miles. Was \$11,995. Sale Price \$10,995

★★★ Don't Pass Up These Terrific Buys ★★★

1993 Mercury Cougar XR7 - Blue, 20,000 miles, Program car. Sale Price \$14,995	1993 Ford Thunderbird LX - White, 18,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$13,995
1993 Mercury Topaz GS 4-DR. - Blue, 16,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$9,995	1993 Ford Tempo GL 4-DR. - Green, 18,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$9,995
1993 Ford Thunderbird LX - Red, 18,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$13,995	1993 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Silver, 19,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$17,995
1993 Mercury Sable GS - Blue, 21,000 miles. Program car. Sale Price \$13,995	1993 Dodge Shadow ES - Green, 13,000 miles. Local one owner. Sale Price \$8,995
1992 Ford Escort LX 4-DR. - White, 28,000 miles. Local one owner. Sale Price \$6,995	1992 Ford F150 S/C XLT - White/blue, 37,000 miles. Local one owner. Sale Price \$15,995
1992 Ford Escort LX - Red, 30,000 miles. Local one owner. Sale Price \$7,995	1992 Ford Tempo GL 4-DR - Green, V-6, 30,000 miles. Local one owner. Sale Price \$7,995

Where Your Trade-In Is Worth More!!






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BIG SPRING, TEXAS

THE D

ACROSS

- Lively
- Swelling
- Perform at home plate
- Kelton position
- Helm mandu's land
- Melange
- Swanson/Ho den film
- Self-esteem
- Makes doilie
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- Like sad ey
- Friendly talk
- Rich cake
- Ballpoint flk
- Michael Lan
- TV series
- Comp. pt.
- Tree with fluttering lea
- Like a day in June?
- Combos
- Small fish
- Buddhist structures
- Byway
- Day's march
- Crosby
- Good deed doers: abbr.
- Hedonistic w
- Dover fish
- Remember the "I"
- Ashtabula's waterfront
- Russian Em part: abbr.
- Mangle
- Microbe

DOWN

- MSS enclos
- Stopper
- City on the Truckee
- O.K.
- Involve
- Red ink item
- Literary worl

Help Wan

AREA INDEPE CSR position. Pe sume to: c/o Bk 1431/250, Big Spi DIESEL MECHA repair a must. O cellent pay and b Service Center.

EXPERIENCED NEEDED. Prefer ing practice, ne ment. We pride o fun-loving atm Send resume to: 79701.

FIRE Entry level, M \$11.58-\$14.29 benefits. 1-219-736-4711 7 days.

FULL-TIME. In st perience, but n cuded. Send re ald, P.O. Box 79721.

GOT L Come share it Trail Nursing i team providin care with digni (only the BES 2-10; RN- relie son at 3200 P riard, RN, D.O.I

GROWING, INN facturing compa secretary. Should ledge of Works a vary from recep ports, preparing counts receivabl write to Freecor Spring, TX 79721 HELP WANTED: assembling prod; info 1-504-646-17

INSURANCE SA TATIVE Neede good work ethic, preferred, but w Send resume to: Texas 79721-294

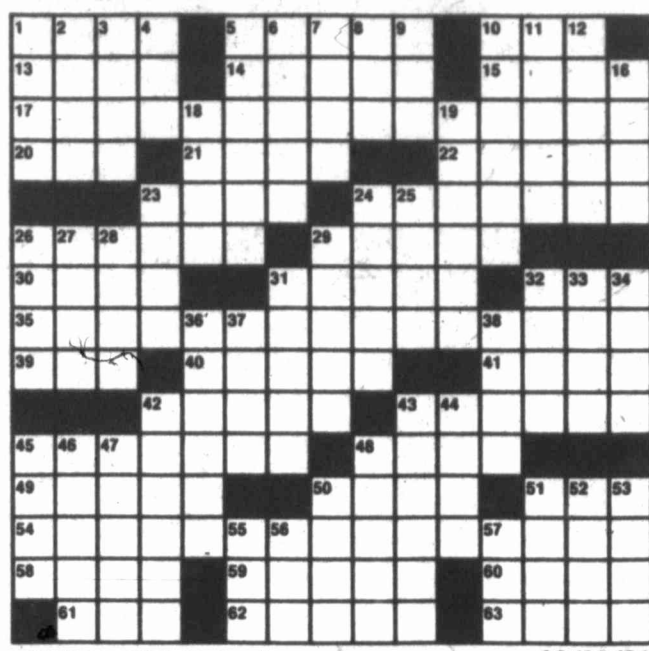
KITCHEN I work spill-s 1201 Gregg CA

LOOKING FOR Home care age RN or LVN willing IV skills re ask for Marlyle.

NEEDED EXPEF Knowledge of RN able to lift 50-1 Hardware, 1515 I

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

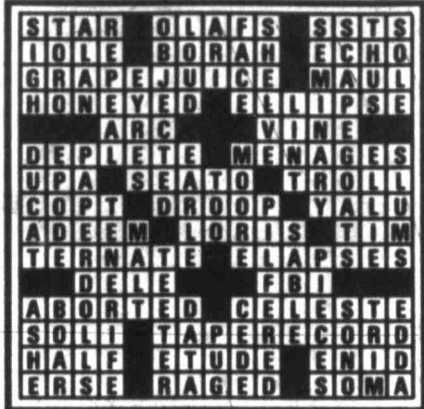
- ACROSS
1 Lively
5 Swelling
10 Perform at home plate
13 Helm position
14 Katmandu's land
15 Melange
17 Swanson/Holten film
20 Self-esteem
21 Makes dollies
22 Designated
23 San - Obispo
24 Souped-up cars
26 Set upon
29 Like sad eyes
30 Friendly talk
31 Rich cake
32 Ballpoint fluid
35 Michael Landon TV series
39 Comp. pt.
40 Tree with fluttering leaves
41 Like a day in June?



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03/26/94

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



03/26/94

- 42 Combs
43 Small fish
45 Buddhist structures
48 Byway
49 Day's march
50 Crosby
51 Good deed doers: abbr.
54 Hedonistic way
58 Dover fish
59 "Remember the -!"
60 Ashtabula's waterfront
61 Russian Empire part: abbr.
62 Mangle
63 Microbe
DOWN
1 MSS enclosure
2 Stopper
3 City on the Truckee
4 O.K.
5 Involve
6 Red ink items
7 Literary work
8 Half a Kenyan?
9 Everything
10 Mme. Emma
11 Poplar
12 Weary
16 Ends' partner
18 Needle case
19 Main course
23 Skinny board
24 Wading bird
25 Sworn word
26 Throb painfully
27 Pull oneself up
28 Poultry seasoning
29 Shopping bags
31 Secretarial slips
32 Czar name
33 Sleuth Wolfe
34 Was cognizant
36 Gate watchman
38 Burma is here
39 Eng. composer
42 Short coat
43 Reverends' residences
44 "The Gloomy Dean"
45 Gerbils
46 Musketeer
47 Highlanders
48 Pride members
50 Soft cheese
51 Unadorned
52 Move
53 Attention-getting word
55 Gremlin
56 Deface
57 Fastener

Help Wanted 085

PIZZA HUT, INC. Now hiring Delivery Drivers, Cooks. We Offer:
* Flexible work schedules
* Free meals
* Free uniforms
* Pizza Hut Discount card
* Twice per year merit reviews
* Discount shopping network
* Credit Union membership
* Paid vacation
* Medical insurance option
* Sharepower (PepsiCo Stocks)
If these benefits are important to you talk to our manager at: 2601 Gregg

ATTENTION STUDENTS The Texas Department of Transportation has summer employment opportunities for students age 17 and older who intend to return to school in the fall. Applications will be accepted from March 11, 1994 until April 14, 1994 at 8:30 a.m. These positions are for Temporary Employment from May 16, to August 15, 1994. For information on how to apply, contact the Personnel Office, Abilene, Texas. (915) 676-6845. **An Equal Opportunity Employer**

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST Secretary/Receptionist needed for busy manufacturing plant located in Big Spring, Texas. Job duties will include typing, filing and receptionist duties. Candidate must have previous office experience with excellent organizational skills. Wordperfect and spreadsheet experience a must. Send updated resume to: Plastic Flamecoat Systems, Inc. Attn: Randy Burks P.O. Box 70 Big Spring, Texas 79721-0070.

SECURITY PERSON Don's IGA is hiring a full time individual to catch and prevent shoplifting. Apply in person at Don's IGA College Park store. Starting pay \$5.00 hour. SMALL SOUTHERN Baptist Church currently seeking part-time Bi-vocational Youth Director. If interested send resume to Russell Hayes, 1108 West County Road 130, Midland, Texas 79706.

McDonald's A Great American Success Story McDonald's* Makes It Happen McDonald's* is offering rewarding opportunities for career-minded, goal oriented men & women for Mgt. Trainee positions to share in our future benefits:
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Help Wanted 085

WAITRESS NEEDED. Must work Monday-Saturday split shifts. 18 years of age and reliable references required. Apply at Red Mesa Grill, 2401 Gregg.

Jobs Wanted 090 ECONOMY LAWN SERVICES Most lawns \$20.00. Residential, commercial, hauling, cleanup, painting. RANDY 267-3024. FLORA ROBERTSON will care for the sick or elderly. Call 399-4727.

FARMER'S COLUMN

Farm Equipment 150 4020 JOHN DEERE LPG tractor. Tandem disk, grain drill, chisel plow, hay lift. 394-4557.

Horse Trailers 249 HALE 14' STOCK Trailer. Excellent condition. 2 years old, used very little. \$180.00. 267-3387. HALE FOUR-HORSE, enclosed, bumper pull. Good floor, mats, tires and lights. Fair condition. 263-3738.

Livestock For Sale 270 WEANED CALVES \$150-\$350. 263-0412 -- 267-1753. Great for kid ropers.

MISCELLANEOUS

Antiques 290 ANTIQUES & FINE FURNITURE. over 450 clocks, lamps, old photograph players, and telephones. We also repair & refinish all of the above. Call or bring to House of Antiques, 4008 College, Snyder, Texas. 915-573-4422. 9am-6:30pm.

Appliances 299 GOOD SELECTION of used gas and electric stoves. Guaranteed and clean. Branham Furniture, 2004 W. 4th. 263-1469.

Auctions 325 SPRING CITY AUCTION-Robert Pruitt Auctioneer, TXS-079-007759. Call 263-1831/263-0914. We do all types of auctions!

Dogs, Pets, Etc 375 AKC CHIHUAHUA Female Pups. \$150.00 w/ shots. 393-5318. 8805 North Service Road, Sand Springs. AKC REGISTERED Shar-Pei puppies. Lots of wrinkles. Unique colors. Adorable Easter gifts! Call now 264-0406.

FREE KENNEL CLUB BREEDER REFERRAL SERVICE: Helps you find reputable breeders/quality puppies. Purebred rescue information. 263-3404 daytime.

FREE PUPPIES to a good home. Call 264-9520.

Garage Sale 380 CARPORT SALE. Formal wedding gown, nice 3 piece cocktail dress, baby items, books, seldom played video cassettes and CD's. 2114 Grace, Saturday-Sunday, 8:00-5:00. GARAGE SALE, 1503 E. 3rd. Saturday 10:00 a.m. till 7 Sunday 1:00 till 5:00. Guns, computer, Hamm radio equip., air conditioner, tools, misc.

YARD SALE, Saturday & Sunday, 800 Settles. King size waterbed and exercise equipment.

Household Goods 390 TWO YEAR OLD Blue recliner \$150.00; blue striped love seat with rose brown flowers \$250.00. 115 E. 18th St. 267-4378.

Miscellaneous 395 25in. GE CONSOLE TV w/remote. High Spirt Pleasure riding bicycle, 26in. 27in. Ciera racing bike, 12 speed. 267-9600 anytime after 8:00am. BUYING APPLIANCES, TV's/VCR's and lawn mowers needing repair. Will haul off. 263-5456.

Miscellaneous 395

BUYING RATTLESNAKES We pay top prices. Call 737-2403 - Lorraine, Texas. FLOWERS & CAKES

Just returned from Dallas Market Wedding Floral and Cake Design Show! New ideas galore! Call now for your special cake or to make plans for your Wedding. See window at... Big Spring Mall

Creative Celebrations • 267-8191

FOR SALE: 2 Prom Dresses. Size 4. \$50 and \$75. Call 263-5145. FOR SALE: 3 CUSHION Sofa & 2 chairs. Excellent condition. Call 267-6110.

FOR SALE: Used Down Draft Master-Cool Evaporative Air Conditioner. Very good condition. Call 267-5906. FOR SALE: Zenith console TV & VCR. Excellent condition. \$500.00 OBO. Call 263-0844 or 263-0667.

GEORGE STRAIT TICKETS!! April 7th in Odessa. First 5 rows, floor. 214-686-0962, ask for John. NOW TAKING BIDS on NCR computers and printers, desks, and one fax detector. State Hospital Credit Union, 2123 N. Hwy 87. 915-267-6468.

X AND XXX RATED MOVIES for sale, \$10.00. Ultra Video, 267-4627. Open 7 days a week.

Insect & Termite Control SOUTHWESTERN AIR PEST CONTROL 2008 Birdwell 263-6514

Musical Instruments 420 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. Call McKiski, the Music Man, for band instruments, repairs, supplies, music and PRIVATE LESSONS. 263-3135.

SPAS 431 SPAS! MUST SELL all of 93 models, getting shipment of 94's in, from \$2595.00. 563-1860. SPAS! I SERVICE all brands. Get ready for summer. Morgan 563-1807.

SWIMMING POOLS 436 POOLS. ABOVE GROUND. Very limited supply leftover from last year. Must Sell! Terms, installation available. 563-1860.

REWARDS UP TO \$150 FRED SALGADO 4000 W. Hwy. 80 Apt. F YOLANDA GOMEZ 2619 CHANUTE IRENE ALVAREZ 811 W. 8TH BENNY ISLAS 4115 PARKWAY KIMBERLE PHIPPS 408-1/2 W. 5th KATHRENE CHAVARRIA 620 Caylor Ask for Stan 267-6770

Telephone Service 445 TELEPHONE JACKS installed for \$32.50 Business and Residential Sales and Service J-Dean Communications. 399-4384

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Marie Rowland REALTOR 2101 Scurry - VA AREA MANAGEMENT BROKER - 263-2591 Dorothy Jones.....267-1384 Rufus Rowland, Appraiser, GRI VA Repo's No Down Payment - Closing Cost Only (VA Acquired Property) - 2708 Larry, 3 BR, 2 bath, \$46,000, SR-2-CBP. New Carpet & appliances. 3 car garage, workshop, PM#49-49-2-0526108. COB-3-30-94, 2:00 PM Rowland Real Estate. See to appreciate. FHA 221D2-Nice 3BR, carpet, less than \$1,000 closing cost & down payment your total cost to move in. See to appreciate.

Why Rent An Apartment When You Can Lease A Brick Home For Less?? Brick Homes with washer, dryer, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, ceiling fan, fenced yards, covered carports, patios and central heat/air. HILLSIDE PROPERTIES 2501 Fairchild 263-3461

Acreeage for Sale 504

APPROXIMATELY 10 SCENIC acres for sale in Silver Hills. Good water well. \$12,000. or paid on contract. 267-2824.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Business Property 508 FOR SALE: Great Business Location-Hwy Frontage, Near AirPark, 1+ acres with 600 sq. ft. metal shop building, 240 sq. ft. storage trailer. \$28,000.00. SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY. Call 263-8914. VACANT BUILDING for rent or lease. Good location. 907 E. 4th St. For more information call 263-6319.

THRIVING AIR CONDITIONING/HEATING BUSINESS FOR SALE. Carrier dealer for 37 years. For more information call Johnny Jones, 806-759-7524 Lamesa.

Commercial Real Estate 511 WANT YOUR OWN BUSINESS? Station, 4th & Birdwell. Will sell or lease. Coldwell Banker, Katie Grimes 267-3613.

OPEN HOUSE 4044 VICKY SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 1994 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. HOME REALTORS 110 W. Marcy 263-1284

Houses for Sale 513 5 BEDROOM! 2 1/2 BATH! With 5 room house! 2 corner lots! Pecans! Fruit! Water well! Good locations! \$50,000! 2 Mobile! 1/2 Acre! Corner! \$10,000 cash! 267-8745. TROY HUNT HOMES IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE US, CALL US! NEW CUSTOM HOMES \$43.50 PER FOOT GUARANTEED! CALL US 1-553-1391

BY OWNER - The Kentwood Area. 3-2, brick, recently remodeled, fenced yard. \$39,500. Call 267-7884. COAHOMA - Large 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath on approximately one acre. Call Linda Barnes, 353-4788 or South Mountain, 263-8419. DRASTIC REDUCTION! Seller eager to sale has just reduced the price of this wonderful College Park brick home. You'll love the plush carpet, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and wood burning fireplace, plus enclosed sunporch! \$40's. Call ERA REEDER REALTORS 267-8266. FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Owner financing available. Handyman can work out part of down payment. Appointment only. 4203 Dixon. 1-800-543-2141 or 263-4593.

MOBILE HOME New & used 2,3 & 4 bedrooms. 16 wide and double wide. Free delivery and set-up. Lowest prices around. 806-894-7212.

Help Wanted 085

AREA INDEPENDENT Insurance Agency CSR position. Personal/Commercial. Send resume to: c/o Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431/250, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

DIESEL MECHANIC. Minimum 2 years. AC repair a must. Own hand tools required. Excellent pay and benefits. Apply at Rip Griffin's Service Center.

EXPERIENCED APPLIANCE TECHNICIAN NEEDED. Prefer someone with air conditioning experience. Apply or send qualifications to: Cooper Appliance AC/Heating, 806 Coliseum Dr. Snyder, Texas 79549.

EXPERIENCED REGISTERED Dental Hygienist needed in Midland, Texas. Fast growing practice, new hygiene room and equipment. We pride ourselves in our pleasant and fun-loving atmosphere. Salary negotiable. Send resume to: 1111 W. Wall, Midland, TX 79701.

"FIRE FIGHTER JOBS" Entry level, M-F position. Now hiring. \$11.58-\$14.29/hour. Paid training and benefits. Applicants call 1-219-736-4715, Ext. A6033. 8am-8pm, 7 days.

FULL-TIME, in store floor security. Prefer experience, but not necessary. Benefits included. Send resume to c/o Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431/100, Big Spring, TX 79721.

GOT LOVE TO GIVE? Come share it with us at Comanche Trail Nursing Center. Be apart of our team providing progressive long term care with dignity and love. Now hiring (only the BEST) CNA's - 2-10; LVN's - 2-10; RN- relief/weekend. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway, see Ann V. Bullard, R.N. D.O.N.

GROWING, INNOVATIVE, Big Spring manufacturing company looking for experienced secretary. Should be computer literate. Knowledge of Works and Lotus 123 helpful. Duties vary from receptionist/secretary, Lotus reports, preparing shipping documents and accounts receivable. Call Tresa at 263-8497 or write to Freecom Inc., P.O. Box 2119, Big Spring, TX 79721.

HELP WANTED: Earn up to \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. Info 1-504-646-1700. DEPT. TX-2174.

INSURANCE SALES/SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE Needed. Must be pleasant with a good work ethic. College helps. Experience preferred, but will train the right individual. Send resume to: P.O. Box 2947, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2947.

KITCHEN I want be able to work split- in Restaurant, 1201 Gregg

LOOKING FOR AN EXCITING CHANGE? Home care agency is seeking an excellent RN or LVN willing to do contract visits. Excellent IV skills required. Call 1-800-443-8125 ask for Marcy.

NEEDED EXPERIENCE Retail Sales Person. Knowledge of lumber and hardware. Must be able to lift 50-100lbs. Harris Lumber and Hardware, 1515 E. FM 700.

Help Wanted 085

CONVENIENCE STORE SUBWAY MANAGER Seeking experienced convenience store manager for 24-hour State-of-the-Art Travel Center. Responsible for overall operations of unit including Subway. Two years verifiable experience in convenience store operations required. Person selected can expect: * Competitive wages and benefits. * Bonuses. * Positive Environment and Support. Qualified applicants should send resume to: Rip Griffin Truck/Travel Center Box 1067 Big Spring, Tx 79721 915-264-4444 Attn: Carolyn Cawthron

PERSONABLE EMPLOYEE-Work well with customers/miscellaneous restaurant work. Part-time. Apply between 8:30a.m.-10:30a.m. 1:30p.m.-3:30p.m. Al's Bar-B-Q, 1810 S.Gregg.

PHONE SURVEYORS Several individuals needed in Big Spring area. To start week of 3-30-94. Full-time/Part-time, \$200. to \$350. per week salary. For details call H & R Block Marketing. 617-695-8061.

Now Hiring Apply in Person Restaurant (No Phone Calls) 1710 E. 3rd

POSTAL JOBS Start \$11.41/hr. For exam and application information call (219) 769-8301 ext TX541 8am-8pm, Sun-Fri.

RN, CIRCULATING NURSE for busy OR in 99-bed JCAHO accredited hospital. Full-time position plus call. Competitive salary and benefit package. EOE Contract Brenda Row, RN, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549. 915-573-6374.

Salesman 40,000 per year 10yr Home Improvement Company Needs Person With Desire for good income * Good work ethic * Good character 20 phn leads per week and weekly expense acct. Call for Appt. West Texas Exteriors 1-800-999-0032

THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE An Employee Owned Company COME EXPERIENCE THE TOWN AND COUNTRY DIFFERENCE Town & Country Food Stores is growing again! Currently we have 140 units with 3 stores in the Big Spring area. New units are opening soon. If you have a background of stable, successful retail management experience we would like to talk with you. GREAT BENEFITS GREAT PAY GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT Starting salary \$20-\$24,000/year based on experience. Food service experience and willingness to relocate is advantageous but not a prerequisite. Many of our managers earn in excess of \$35,000 annually. To apply, send resume now to: Town & Country Food Store 2126 Sherwood Way San Angelo, Texas 76901 Attn: Sonya Doucet Qualified applicants will be contacted Drug testing, Background and Reference Check Required An Equal Opportunity Employer THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE

Houses for Sale 513

OWNER TRANSFERRED-MUST SELL Large 3 bedroom-2 bath, brick on .8 acre in Kentwood. Loft and basement. Loads of extras. Call for appointment or details 263-7320 after 4:00pm.



FOR SALE BY OWNER Beautiful updated home at 404 Washington Blvd. Approximately 2,100 sq. ft. with large screened in patio. 3/2 large covered carport, large den, living area and formal dining, large kitchen. Many new items. Serious inquiries only. \$77,500. 267-3394.

FORECLOSED GOVERNMENT HOMES AND PROPERTIES! HUD, VA, RTC, ETC. LISTINGS FOR YOUR AREA. FINANCING AVAILABLE. CALL TOLL FREE! 1(800) 436-6867 EXT. R-1908

ONLY ONE LEFT! \$935.00 down and \$201.80 per month buys NEW two bedroom, two bath mobile home. Hard board siding and 5 year warranty. 10.99 APR. 180 mos. Homes of America - Odessa. (800) 725-0881 or (915) 363-0881.

USED 14x65 Mobile Home. Call 267-1180.

Portable Buildings 518

SIERRA MERCANTILE

Has portable buildings. Many sizes in stock. Custom orders are welcomed. Call 263-1460. THIS IS ABOVE AVERAGE - Large bedrooms & closets, peaceful setting - big den/kitchen, workshop, 40's. Coldwell Banker, Kathleen Giffins 267-3613.

GREAT INVESTMENT IN GREAT SHAPE. LIVE IN front 2 bedroom, rent out the efficiency apartment in back. After rent income, your net monthly payment is only about \$150-\$175.00 and you would be paying off 2 houses. Can not own. Income. 1315 Wood-528-5500. Call Midland 570-4663 evenings or 687-1200, daytime.

UNEQUALLED BIG SPRING QUALITY! Owner constructed 3-Bedroom, 2-Bath. Open family-dining-kitchen, double garage, large covered patio, separate office-storage-workshop. \$105,000. 675-5722.

Mobile Homes 517

1994 Four bedroom mobile home for only \$235.37 per month. Five year warranty, air conditioning, and delivery. 10% down, 10% APR. 240 mos. Homes of America - Odessa. (800) 725-0881 or (915) 363-0881.

FIRST TIME BUYER? PAST BANKRUPTCY? BAD CREDIT? We can put you in a new home. Homes of America - Odessa. (800) 725-0881 or (915) 363-0881.

HAVING TROUBLE SELLING your mobile home? Let me help. (Your home will bring up top dollar in todays market) Don't let a wholesaler steal your home. Call me first, Dewayne Click 915-563-8849.

NO CREDIT CHECK Assume Loan. 1985 nice double wide mobile home. \$3,150.00 equity. Call 915-563-8849 ask for Dewayne.

NO CREDIT NO PROBLEM First time buyers. Quick approvals. Call 915-563-8849 ask for Dewayne.

RENTALS

Business Buildings 520

CAR LOT with office. Good location. 710 E. 4th. \$100 deposit, \$125 a month. Call 263-5000.

SALE OR RENT: 30x80 Metal building, 3 overhead doors, front show room. 1311 E. 3rd. 267-3259.

APARTMENTS

Ponderosa Apartments advertisement with decorative border and text: All Bills Paid, Covered Parking, 1, 2, & 3, Bedroom, 1425 E. 6th, 263-6319.

\$100 Off First Month's Rent With 6 Month Lease advertisement.

Barcelona advertisement: 538 Westover, 263-1252, listing amenities like pool, sauna, tennis courts.

Park Village advertisement: 1008 WASSON, 267-4421/F, 64.

Furnished Apts. 521

VERY NICE AND CLEAN 1 bedroom fully furnished. Carpet, mini-blinds, drapes. Basic cable paid. Mature adults only. \$220 month, \$200 deposit, 267-4000.

Northcrest Village advertisement: All Bills Paid, 100% section 8 assisted, Rent based on income, 1002 N. Main 267-5191.

Western Hills Apts. advertisement: Eff., 1, 2, 3 & 4 Bd. Apts. \$200.00-\$350.00, Phone: 263-0906, at 2911 W. Hwy 80 or 267-6561 at 3304 W. Hwy 80.

HANA-HOU PROPERTYMANAGEMENT

Classified Service Directory

Furnished Apts. 521

999. Move in Plus Deposit. Nice 1,2,3 bedroom. Electric, water paid. HUD accepted. Some furnished. Limited offer, 263-7811.

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX advertisement: CARPORTS - SWIMMING POOL, MOST UTILITIES PAID, FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED DISCOUNT TO SENIOR CITIZENS.

KENTWOOD APARTMENTS advertisement: 1904 EAST 25TH STREET, 267-5444 - 263-5000.

PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS advertisement: 800 WEST MARCY DRIVE, 263-5555 - 263-5000.

Furnished Apts. 521

ONE-TWO bedroom apartments, houses, or mobile home. Mature adults only, no pets. 263-6944-263-2341.

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD advertisement: SWIMMING POOL - PRIVATE PATIOS, CARPORTS-BUILT-IN APPLIANCES, MOST UTILITIES PAID.

For Your Best House Painting & Repairs advertisement: Interior & Exterior - Free Estimates, Call Joe Gomez, 267-7587, 267-7831.

HOME INSURANCE

Farmer's Mutual Protective Association of Texas (RVOS) advertisement: Best Key Rating A+, Call David Budke, 263-4505 After 5 p.m.

INCOME TAX

TAX RETURNS advertisement: PERSONAL & BUSINESS, ALL TYPES OF BOOKKEEPING, PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATIONS.

LAWN & TREE SERVICE

M & M LAWN SERVICE advertisement: LAWNS MOWED, TRIMMING, CLEAN FLOWER BEDS, FREE ESTIMATES.

Dustdevil Lawn Service

Lawns bagged or mulched, edged, trimmed, clean flower beds, clip hedges. FREE ESTIMATES.

METAL BUILDINGS

24 x 24 Metal Carport. Material labor. \$1249.00, 20 x 20 Metal Carport. Material labor. \$1049.00.

MEAT PACKING

HUBBARD PACKING INC. advertisement: Custom Slaughter, Home Freezer Service, Half Beefs and Quarter Beef For Your Home Freezers.

MOBILE HOMES

STOP!!! Before you buy your new or pre owned home call: NATIONWIDE MOBILE HOMES, 1-800-456-8944 6910 W. Hwy 80 MIDLAND.

\$136.27 per month buys BEAUTIFUL two bedroom mobile home. 5 Year Warranty. 10% down. 180 months. 9.5% APR.

Three bedroom used mobile home. \$5,900. Homes of America - Odessa (800) 725-0881 or (915) 363-0881.

Finance company sacrifice. 3 Bedroom double-wide completely remodeled. \$16,500.00. Homes of America - Odessa (800) 725-0881 or (915) 363-0881.

MOVING

CITY DELIVERY FURNITURE MOVING advertisement: One Item Or Complete Household. "Excellent" References Since 1956.

HELPING HANDS LOCAL FURNITURE MOVERS advertisement: We Can Also Help Load U-Hauls, Senior Citizens Discounts, Good References.

Furnished Houses 522

VERY NICE AND CLEAN 2 bedroom fully furnished. Carpet, drapes, ceiling fans. Mature adults only. \$350 month, \$200 deposit. 267-4000.

Office Space 525 advertisement: VERY NICE office building for rent. 5 rooms, 900 sq.ft., refrigerated air and heat.

Storage Building 531 advertisement: 14x32 SHOP/STORAGE/GARAGE. Heavy duty floor, double door. Terms and delivery. Must Sell! 563-1860.

Unfurnished Houses 533

FOR LEASE: 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Excellent condition. References & deposit required. No pets! \$325.00 to \$425.00 a month. 263-3514 or 263-8513.

COMPLETELY REMODELED: 2 bedroom, fenced front & backyard. \$300.00 per month. 1109 Mulberry. Call 267-5818.

FOR LEASE: 3 bedroom - 1 bath brick with central heat/refrigerated air, \$295.00 mo. - \$150.00 deposit. Call Home Realtors 263-1284.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

CASEY'S MUSIC advertisement: 263-8452, GUITARS & AMPLIFIERS, ELECTRIC & ACOUSTIC.

PARTY BUILDINGS

CRESTWOOD HALL AT TEXAS RV PARK advertisement: 1001 HEARN STREET, Maybe used for parties, receptions, family reunions, weddings, and as a conference center.

Your Ad can run in this space for as little as \$1.92 a day. Call 263-7331 for more details.

PEST CONTROL

SINCE 1954 SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL advertisement: 263-6514, 2008 BIRDWELL LANE, MAX F. MOORE.

PICK-UP AND CAR ACCESSORIES

STAN'S WESTERN WHEELS advertisement: Trucks and Van Seats - Sofas, Tires - SH Stock Trailers, North I-20 Service Road, Coahoma, (915)394-4866.

PLUMBING

RAMIREZ PLUMBING advertisement: For All Your Plumbing Needs. Service & Repair. Now accepting the Discover Card. 263-4690.

Kinard Plumbing advertisement: FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING, HEATING, SEPTIC PUMPING, REPAIRS, OR INSTALLATION. CALL GARRY KINARD, 394-4369.

POOLS

West Texas Dolphin Pools advertisement: Complete Maintenance & Repairs, All Chemicals, 24 hr. Emergency Service, 100% Financing, Now on Pools & Spas, No Equity, Low Payments. 1001 E. 3rd, 267-8426 DAY, 267-8451 NIGHT, Mon. - Sat. 10 - 5.

PREGNANCY HELP

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? advertisement: Call Birthright, 264-9110, Confidentially assured. Free pregnancy test.

REMODELING

Bob's Custom Woodwork advertisement: Remodeling Contractor, Slab to Roof, Remodeling, Repairs, Refinishing, 613 N. Warehouse Rd. 267-5811.

Unfurnished Houses 533

1605 Avlon. \$225.00. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, HUD approved. \$75.00 deposit. 267-7449.

CLEAN 3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, above refrigerator, fenced yard. No dogs. \$400 plus deposit. 263-4135.

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, central heat/air, fenced yard. \$400/month, deposit required. 1-853-3463.

FOUR-2 BEDROOMS. Partially furnished. 2 with lots, fenced all the way around. No Pets. References. Call 267-3104.

THREE BEDROOM, 1 bath, fenced yard, good condition. Central air/heat. \$350.00 per month. Appointment only! 1304 Colby. 1-800-543-2141 or 263-4593.

TWO & THREE BEDROOM HOMES AND APARTMENTS for rent. Pets fine. Some with fenced yards and appliances. HUD accepted. To see call Glenda 263-0746.

WOMEN, MEN CHILDREN

Child Care 610

QUALITY DAYCARE Center care at home daycare prices. Initials - Age 12. SUNSHINE DAYCARE, 263-1696.

RENTALS

VENTURA COMPANY advertisement: 267-2655, Houses/Apartments, Duplexes, 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms furnished or unfurnished.

R/O WATER SALES & SERVICE

Culligan advertisement: Service, Rentals & Sales, 405 Union, 263-8781.

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING advertisement: Shingles, Hot Tar, Gravel, all types of repairs. Work guaranteed, free estimates. 267-1110 267-4289.

SEPTIC TANKS

CHARLES RAY advertisement: Dirt and septic tank service. Pumping, repair and installation. Topsoil, sand and gravel. 267-7378.

B & R SEPTIC

Septic Tanks, crease, and sand traps. 24 hours. Also Rent Port-a-potty. 267-3547 or 393-5439.

Specialty Shops

Blossom's advertisement: For The Young & Young at Heart! Specialty items, new & used clothes, handcrafted items, gift baskets, pageant clothes, & accessories.

TAXI TRANSPORTATION

Big Spring Taxi is Here For You! 24 Hours a Day - 7 Days a Week. In town, Out of town, Deliveries, Midland Airport. 267-4505.

TV/VCR-CAMCORDER REPAIR

VIDEO CLINIC advertisement: Free Estimates on Repair, TV's, VCR's, Camcorders & Satellite Repair. 9:00 - 8:00 Monday - Friday, 10:00 - 2:00 Saturdays, 305 W. 16th 264-7443.

USED CARS

AUTO SUPERMARKET advertisement: USED CARS 12 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM \$500-\$1500, WE FINANCE, 905 W. 4TH 263-7648.

USED CARS

87 AUTO SALES advertisement: Has moved to 210 Gregg Street. We are paying top prices for used cars. 263-2382.

WEIGHT LOSS & HEALTH

Lifetime WEIGHT LOSS advertisement: Call Carol, (915) 353-4271.

WINDSHIELD REPAIR

STONE DAMAGED WINDSHIELD REPAIR advertisement: Mobile Service. Most Insurance Companies Pay Repair Cost. JIM HAYWORTH, 915-263-2219.

WRECKER SERVICE

THANKS BIG SPRING! advertisement: for using Mitchem & Son Wrecker Service. We are an authorized AAA wrecker service and most other motor clubs. "We Don't Ask for Your Arms or Legs, But we do want your Tows!" 267-3747, We're Here For You!

Big Spring Airpark Sunday, March advertisement: Competing with a supercenter, Products and services mainstream - like products or persons will be important, Stores Inc. finishes Supercenter it's built Highland Mall site, U.S. Highway 97. Se, Mail recipient supercenter's, "Synergist - s enhances the effective agent.", Wal-Mart's Super businesses and prop the Webster's Ninth tory definition. S, Cosden gets by rollin' on re, It was in the late when oil tycoon Jos the local refinery sits. There were miles within miles of Howard County also, Realtors enjoy market's reb, With three solid home sales under real estate brokers pleased with the rebound, but comp ally running out of page 5C, Company turn into electrical, Power Resources Houston-based P Resources Inc., sim erates electricity fo Inc. and steam to and Chemical Inc. C.R. Wing Cogener page 6C, City wants fre from FAA at a, City of Big Spring they've gotten the Administration's at See page 7C, A & E Cleaners, A-1 Bookkeeping, American Legion, Auto Supermarket, Barber Glass & Mir, Barcelona Apts., Big John's B-B-Q, Big Spring Farm, Big Spring Mall, Big Spring Printing, Big Spring State C, Casey Campers, Charles Ray Dirt, Churchwell Insuran, Co-Ex Pipe, Dibrells, Earthco/Blackhear, Feagin's Implement, First Nat'l Bank, Gamco, Green & Fillingim, Guy White, CPA, H & R Block, House of Frames, Howard Co. Farm, Jay's Farm & Ran, Lee Rental, Lone Star Aviation, McDonald/Century, Medicine Shoppe, QM Frames, Quita's Hair Fashion, Rocky's, Rural Metro, S & S Wheel Align, Security State Bank, Sherry Wegner, Sid Richardson, Squeaky Thompson, St. Mary's School, Tatum Jewelers, Texas Finance, TexPure, Third Coast, W.T. Well Service, Willie's Cafe.

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Big Spring Mall

Airpark

Sunday, March 27, 1994

PROGRESS '94

Realtors

NAFTA

Section C

BIG SPRING HERALD

DIGEST

Competing with a supercenter

Products and services out of the mainstream — like old-fashioned products or personalized service — will be important when Wal-Mart Stores Inc. finishes the five-acre Supercenter it's building on the old Highland Mall site at FM 700 and U.S. Highway 97. See page 2C.

Mall recipient of supercenter's move

"Synergist — something that enhances the effectiveness of an active agent." Wal-Mart's Supercenter to many businesses and property owners, fits the Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary definition. See page 3C.

Cosden gets ball rolling on refinery

It was in the late 1920's oil boom when oil tycoon Joshua Cosden built the local refinery where Fina now sits. There were three other refineries within miles of each other in Howard County alone. See page 4C.

Realtors enjoying market's rebound

With three solid years of strong home sales under their belts, local real estate brokers say they're very pleased with the market's prolonged rebound, but complain they're literally running out of homes to sell. See page 5C.

Company turns steam into electrical power

Power Resources Inc., owned by Houston-based Falcon Seaboard Resources Inc., simultaneously generates electricity for Texas Utilities Inc. and steam to the the Fina Oil and Chemical Inc. refinery, at the C.R. Wing Cogeneration Plant. See page 6C.

City wants freedom from FAA at airpark

City of Big Spring officials hope they've gotten the Federal Aviation Administration's attention this time. See page 7C.

A	
A & E Cleaners	C-11
A-1 Bookkeeping	C-11
American Legion	C-10
Auto Supermarket	C-6
B	
Barber Glass & Mirror	C-8
Barcelona Apts.	C-9
Big John's B-B-Q	C-8
Big Spring Farm	C-7
Big Spring Mall	C-7
Big Spring Printing	C-4
Big Spring State C.U.	C-5
C	
Casey Campers	C-8
Charles Ray Dirt	C-2
Churchwell Insurance	C-10
Co-Ex Pipe	C-4
D	
Dibrella	C-9
E	
Earthco/Blackshear Rental	C-11
F	
Feagin's Implement	C-3
First Nat'l Bank	C-12
G	
Gamco	C-6
Green & Fillingim	C-4
Guy White, CPA	C-6
H	
H & R Block	C-3
House of Frames	C-6
Howard Co. Farm Bureau	C-5
J	
Jay's Farm & Ranch	C-8
L	
Lee Rental	C-2
Lone Star Aviation	C-10
M	
McDonald/Centery 21	C-7
Medicine Shoppe	C-8
Q	
QM Frames	C-7
Quita's Hair Fashions	C-5
R	
Rocky's	C-11
Rural Metro	C-3
S	
S & S Wheel Alignment	C-8
Security State Bank	C-10
Sherry Wegner	C-9
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St. Mary's School	C-5
T	
Tatum Jewelers	C-9
Texas Finance	C-2
TexPure	C-5
Third Coast	C-2
W	
W.T. Well Service	C-6
Willie's Cafe	C-7

Supercenter is coming

Wal-Mart expects to open huge store by end of year

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

After almost two years of on-again, off-again "it's a done deal" rumors, a four-acre Wal-Mart Supercenter will soon stand on the location once occupied by Highland Mall.

The new store is expected to open sometime this fall.

All that remains of the old mall is a portion of its interior structural steel skeleton — a Lubbock-based demolition company having virtually erased the old 130,000-square-foot shopping center from sight in less than a month.

The last hurdle to Wal-Mart officially announcing it would begin work at the site was cleared on Sept. 30 when Wal-Mart signed a contract for the purchase of the old mall.

That signing came six months after Wal-Mart Stores Inc. first announced plans to build a Supercenter at Wasson and Thorpe streets and coincided with a final agreement with Furr's-Bishop's Cafeteria Inc. that allows Furr's to build a new cafeteria about the same size on adjacent property. Dunlap's store will remain at its location in the parking lot.

The 179,920-square-foot Supercenter will be more than twice as large as the 69,985-square-foot Wal-Mart store now across the street, but not quite as big as the 199,000-square-foot facility originally announced.

It will employ 265 more people than the current Wal-Mart location. Please see WAL-MART, page 2C.



There is not much left of Highland Mall except for the rubble to be hauled off. Highland Mall was selected as the site of the new Wal-Mart

Supercenter, expected to be open sometime late this year. Merchants at Highland found new homes, most moving to Big Spring Mall.

Fire didn't hamper Fina

Still earned NPRA's prestigious award

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Despite a fire last March, the local Fina Oil and Chemical Inc. refinery qualifies for three of the National Petroleum Refiners Association's most prestigious safety awards and set all-time production records for gasoline and diesel production at the local Big Spring plant.

"In spite of four minor injuries related to the fire, the Big Spring plant is clearly among the best in the industry for our performance in on and off job injuries for the year," said refinery manager Jeff Morris.

"It took only six weeks to completely repair the fire's damage and make the plant 100 percent operational," said Morris, "the tireless efforts of our employees made that possible, and in spite of the time lost because of the fire, we still surpassed all previous production records."

The fire occurred shortly after 4 p.m. on March 3, 1993 when heat ignited leaking gas from a reformer unit, used to convert naphtha into high octane benzene, toluene, xylene and small amounts of hydrogen. Gas leaked from a gasket and filter for feeder lines, which company officials said had been regularly maintained since the unit was built in 1971.

"It's worked and had run reliably for a number of years, so it was a surprise when it failed," Morris explained. "We weren't doing anything different or unusual, just normal operations."

The absence of serious injuries was attributed to quick and effective response by Fina personnel in keeping with the refinery's Emergency Response System.

Paul Hinton, the plant's administrative manager said "It shows the people did what they supposed to do."

Hinton added, "They followed their safety training. Our policy is 'protect human life first and worry about equipment...later.'"

The incident caused millions of dollars worth of damage and cut production in half for approximately six weeks. This was certainly bad news for Fina, but was actually good news for Big Spring.

Two-hundred contract employees and 20 to 30 Fina out-of-town



The March 3, 1993, fire which caused millions of dollars of damage to a Fina Refinery reformer unit. It took only six weeks for repairs to be completed and to get Fina back up and running at full capacity.

employees were called in to work around the clock, which poured money into the local economy. At an average pay of \$12 an hour, the increased payroll weekly amounted to about \$1,250 for each worker, or \$250,000 a week. The complete repairs and cleanup took

approximately six weeks. "Each out of town guest spends an estimated \$200 to \$250 a week," said Marae Brooks, director of the Big Spring Visitors and Convention Bureau. "That's just for food and lodging alone." Please see FINA, page 4C.

Wright's note called; board looks for new ways to get it going

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

When Moore Development of Big Spring called Herb Wright's note this month, it signaled an end to Wright Fibers' involvement in the textile industry locally, but not an end to the industry itself.

It was simply a matter of Moore Development of Big Spring losing patience with Herb Wright and Wright Fibers Inc.

Wright, who says he needs at least six more months before returning to a point where his business has a cash flow, will more than likely default on the loans.

That will leave the Texas Department of Agriculture and Moore Development owning the Wright Fibers operation — 64 percent belonging to the state, 36 percent the city's.

Rather than write off the loss, the two governmental entities are expected to initiate a search for an individual or business capable of taking over the textile mill. The result would be a new industry creating the jobs initially hoped for.

Following a half hour's discussion, Wright was given notice March 10 by Moore Board officials that they were calling his \$2.2 million note.

That decision leaves Wright virtually no time with which to save his dream — a vision that seemed to have reached fruition after 16 months of negotiation in January of 1993.

It was at that time that Moore Board officials and Wright were talking in terms of putting 100 people to work within 90 days.

Nobody could have been more positive than then Moore Board president O.H. Ivie and Wright.

"There's no doubt ... the industry will be a success," Ivie said when the city's industrial recruitment arm and Wright Fibers finalized their agreement. "I don't think it's being too optimistic to say that in three years we can have 300 employees working in this industry."

Wright Fibers was the Moore Board's feature effort. It had backed Wright with an \$800,000 loan and another \$550,000 loan for the purchase of the old Cameo Homes building at FM 700 and 11th Place.

Interest on the facility was designed to drop by 1 percent from the prime rate for every 25 people employed each quarter.

The Texas Department of Agriculture backed another \$1.4

million in loans. Wright put up \$750,000 of his own money.

Wright was optimistic at the time, as well, saying, "We're going to be an asset to this community. Until I came here, it looked like I was the only one who believed in this project."

Wright planned to make cotton bale bags made of cotton using a patented warp knitting process instead of the loom process. Because cotton bags are cleaner than polypropylene, they can reduce cotton-cleaning costs when parts of bags are accidentally shredded in processing and caught in the bales.

He had also planned to use the 27 knitting machines to knit cotton and cotton-wool blends for pants and shirts — making strides into a relatively new market.

Wright approached several Texas communities with his ideas before a local cotton ginner recommended he talk to one of Big Spring's banks. The bank referred him to city officials, who in turn, referred him to Moore Development Director Ted St. Clair.

Four months later, in December 1991, a tentative agreement was reached with Moore Development. The Texas Agriculture Finance Authority in April rejected a request to back \$1.98 million in loans, but in June agreed to loan the project \$1.4 million. A \$500,000 loan grant from the Texas Department of Commerce was turned down because Wright did not want to put up his land as collateral.

When Wright had to seek a 30-day postponement in making his first principal payment of \$18,333.33 in June of 1993, Moore Development officials unanimously granted the request and cited the delay lay within "normal business."

Among the unforeseen problems encountered by Wright was hardened resin, used in fiberglass manufacture, as much as an inch thick or more that had to be cleaned from the Cameo Homes building's floor.

A month later, Wright Fibers was moving machines into the building and the company had made its first principal payment.

At that time, St. Clair, noted that Wright indicated the plant would begin production by Aug. 5, 1993, in plenty of time to catch the last part of the cotton harvest season for sale of the cotton bale bags.

On Aug. 8, however, the plant was still on hold. Equipment filled the

Please see WRIGHT, page 6C.

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The parking lot is full at Wal-Mart in Coronado Plaza. By the end of the year, Wal-Mart expects to move into the new supercenter, at the site of the former Highland Mall.

Diversity, specialization keys to dealing with a Supercenter

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Products and services out of the mainstream — like old fashioned products or personalized service — will be important when Wal-Mart Stores Inc. finishes the five-acre Supercenter it's building on the old Highland Mall site at FM 700 and U.S. Highway 97.

"Diversify" and "specialize" became key words in the six towns where the first Supercenters opened in Texas, all during 1992.

Business leaders in Big Spring are making plans to prepare businesses to take advantage of traffic generated by Wal-Mart and to compete by finding niches not served by the giant chain.

"We're in the process of trying to schedule a seminar that will teach people the portion of the market that Wal-Mart doesn't occupy and the portion of the market they can be successful in," said Terry Burns, director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Part of the strategy in Mount Pleasant, with a population half the size of Big Spring but in a county similar in population to Howard County, was to use a redeveloping downtown as a magnet. New businesses that opened there since the Supercenter opened in late August 1992 included an antique shop, art gallery and title company. Also a bookshop was expanded and a gym was opened.

"It changes downtown small America," assures Charles "Bo" Howard, an auditor with Guaranty Bank in Mount Pleasant.

"If they adapt they'll prosper. If they don't, they'll be hurt," warns Don Boggs of Mount Pleasant, who

owns a specialized meatpacking business, floral shop and recently opened a Southwest cuisine restaurant to take advantage of traffic.

Supercenters are designed to bring in shoppers for the region. A Big Spring Herald study of all six Supercenters in Texas indicates they increase city retail sales by as much as a fourth, while county employment remains unaffected. Retail sales outside at least two cities dropped.

A number of Big Spring businesses — including some displaced by Wal-Mart's purchase of the Highland Mall property — will have an advantage those in other towns didn't enjoy, the opportunity to relocate at Big Spring Mall.

Greg Brooks, co-owner of Blum's Jewelers, moved his business from Highland Mall where it had been located for more than seven years to Big Spring Mall.

Brooks noted that Highland Mall's fate was similar to that experienced by many downtown business districts across the nation.

"It's kind of sad, but what's happened here is similar to what happened to downtowns ... we saw what happened to downtown," he said, noting that Blum's had two downtown locations before moving to Highland Mall. "We really downsized our business when we moved here ... smaller store, fewer employees and started concentrating on the jewelry business."

Athletic Supply, too, moved to Big Spring Mall. "We have a whole new store with a brand new look," the store's manager said.

"Malls, the businesses in them, rely on foot traffic. A guy who came to the mall shopping with his wife probably isn't going to sit around while she experiments with cosmet-

ics. He's probably going to roam around and find his way in here.

"He might find something he wants, then again, he might not, but be reminded of something he'd seen in here a couple of weeks later. It's hard to determine what that dollar value is."

Blum's and Athletic Supply, like other local businesses, have already seen the secret to succeeding with Wal-Mart's discounting monolith sitting nearby, providing a service the chain store simply can't compete with — personalized attention.

"You might buy a tennis racket at Wal-Mart," a sales representative at Athletic Supply explained. "Might even buy a really good one. But if you wind up wanting or needing it restrung, the people at Wal-Mart are going to just shrug and tell you to take it to a sporting goods store."

"You bring it to us, we take care of it, and the next time you need sporting goods, you might think of us before going there ... it really all depends on what it is you're buying."

As businessmen, most of Highland's former residents realize Wal-Mart's efforts to purchase the property were not the only reason for the mall's failure — the location of Big Spring Mall just a couple of miles east on FM 700 and the general economic downturn West Texas experienced in the early 1980s took their toll as well.

"I guess 1983 was the year," Brooks said. "In 1982, there were 11 or 12 jewelry stores in Big Spring. Today there are four or five."

"I didn't ever have to say no to a salesman until 1982 or '83," he added. "Before then, it didn't matter what I bought from them, I could sell it. That's not the case now, we have to be more careful ... more selective."

environment, more attention has been focused on natural gas as the energy source of the future, company officials said.

"We believe the future for natural gas and our company continues to be very bright," said Mike Mancil, Energas' district manager in Big Spring. "Natural gas has always been a good value for the consumer, and now it's gaining even more recognition because it is domestically produced and so clean-burning. It can help reduce air pollution."

Mancil also noted that the company continued its program of making

capital improvements during the past year, including natural gas equipment in the Big Spring area.

The local office serves not only Big Spring, but also customers living in Coahoma, Forsan, Tarzan, Knott and Lenorah.

The Big Spring office has 21 employees with an annual payroll of more than \$500,000.

Energas is a division of Atmos Energy Corporation of Dallas, providing natural gas service to more than 300,000 customers in West Texas.

Wal-Mart

Continued from page 1C

does (350), which is almost double the number of new jobs originally announced by the Bentonville, Ark.-based discounting chain.

A decision has not yet been made as to whether the store will be open 24 hours, seven days per week, as was originally announced. A Wal-Mart spokesperson said that decision "will probably be made closer to the grand opening."

The Supercenter will have a full-line of grocery products complete with a meat counter, produce and frozen foods sections, as well as a wide variety of general merchandise.

It will also have a garden center, pharmacy and a tire, battery and auto center.

The new store is designed to target a regional market. During peak hours, 951 vehicles an hour are expected, equal to three percent of all 30,000 vehicles registered in Howard County last year.

Wal-Mart's original announcement of its decision to build at Wason and Thorpe created considerable controversy, including protests from homeowners in the area who complained the store's location would drive down property values in the area.

Succumbing to the initial furor, Wal-Mart withdrew its request for a zoning change of the proposed site, but later re-submitted its request, again stating the chain's decision to build its store at the originally proposed site.

Wal-Mart's apparent balk in withdrawing its zoning change request created still another furor, as residents throughout the area drew up petitions intended to show that a majority of the area's shoppers did not share the opinions of homeowners near the proposed site.

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce board members were unanimous in expressing support for Wal-Mart and construction of a new building at Wal-Mart's "preferred site."

Among the chamber's considerations was the effect the new store will have on tax values in the area.

Using a \$40 million construction cost as building valuation and \$7.5 million in inventory extrapolated from the current store's size, property taxes would be approximately \$1.3 million a year for the Supercenter, as compared to \$506,746 for the current store.

That would make Wal-Mart the fifth largest property taxpayer in the county, largest in the city. Even if the building were valued at only \$10 million, what the first Supercenter in Texas was appraised at, along with \$8 million in inventory, Wal-Mart would still pay \$800,000 annually, making it the county's 10th largest taxpayer, and still the largest in the city.

Expected annual sales of \$54 million would generate \$1 million in sales taxes for the city, compared to \$360,000 by the current store. Projected sales equal one-third of the total \$158 million in Big Spring during the 1992 calendar year.

Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton, who died in 1992, personally said he wanted Big Spring to get either a distribution center or a Supercenter. Wal-Mart Vice-president Tom McCall told city officials.

Walton was apparently fond of Big Spring because he had a friend in Howard County and the two hunted quail here. On occasion, Walton dropped by unannounced at the present Wal-Mart store to say "hi," and "do a little shopping himself."

It was reported that he planned to expand the store which opened here in 1983.

Wal-Mart is among the nation's fastest-growing retail chains, with \$43.9 billion in net sales in 1992. Net income on those sales was \$1.61 billion.

Wal-Mart works to lower prices by buying merchandise in bulk and moving it from stockrooms to store floors with no extra processing or holding time. All products have a "satisfaction guaranteed" return policy.



With a little help, Blum's Jeweler makes the move from Highland Mall to Big Spring Mall after Highland was chosen as the site of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter.

Highland Mall residents find a new home at Mall

Herald Staff Report

Greg Brooks, co-owner of Blum's Jewelers, moved his business from Highland Mall, where it had been located for more than seven years, to Big Spring Mall.

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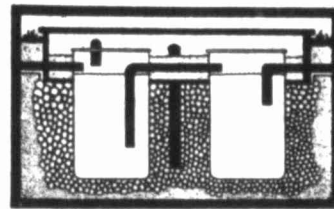
"He might find something he wants, then again, he might not, but be reminded of something he'd seen in here a couple of weeks later," Blake added. "It's hard to determine what that dollar value is, but it's sure not there if you're the only business here ... it's not a mall anymore."

As businessmen, most of Highland's residents realize Wal-Mart's efforts to purchase the property were not the only reason for the mall's failure — the location of Big Spring Mall just a couple of miles east on FM 700 and the general economic downturn West Texas experienced in the early 1980s took their toll as well.

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Energas: Promoting natural gas use

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

The Energas Company of Big Spring continued to promote the use of natural gas, enhancing environmentally-safe service and making investments to upgrade its equipment during 1993.

Energas provided natural gas service to almost 11,000 accounts in Big Spring last year, a slight increase over the prior year.

With recent national energy legislation and public concern about the

environment, more attention has been focused on natural gas as the energy source of the future, company officials said.

"We believe the future for natural gas and our company continues to be very bright," said Mike Mancil, Energas' district manager in Big Spring. "Natural gas has always been a good value for the consumer, and now it's gaining even more recognition because it is domestically produced and so clean-burning. It can help reduce air pollution."

Mancil also noted that the company continued its program of making

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Wal-Mart Mall

DD TURNER
Managing Editor

"Synergist - s enhances the effe active agent."

Wal-Mart's Super businesses and prop the Webster's N Dictionary definiti

With Wal-Mart o center in Big Spring ergy being develop Elphick, presiden Commercial Investm which manages Shopping Center. "I hurt but to add to th Elphick, Big Sprin Tammy Watt and Gregg Street and have a shared go increased traffic in and bring those cu businesses.

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Because of the n FM-700, Watt belie position to claim s going to and from th

Big Spring Mall largest recipient of had to move becau choice to build on t site.

NAFTA

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Passage of the Free Trade Agreee not only Texas' e development of We Spring, in particula

Big Spring seen from NAFTA's pass location on Intersta lines. More importa even better chance north-south inter Interstate 27 — southward from I this area and on to der.

The three-natio the United State Canada, will elimi most duties and o between the thre the next 15 years.

As a result, all anywhere in Nort move freely acros While it is assum full impact will see wage jobs moving into Mexico were are paid as little hour, those losses by the eventual high-tech jobs in where worker pu much as five times

The Big Spring Commerce, along national chamb agreement, doing for the accord.

Potential win agreement that ha world's largest a bock, include te industry, service machinery and he The list of pot firms manufactu glassware.

Side agreeme original NAFTA d tecton for suga, bles subjects t addressed before could line up en the House of R

Other side ag required on min the environment.

Wal-Mart takes, Mall receives

DD TURNER
Managing Editor

"Synergist - something that enhances the effectiveness of an active agent."

Wal-Mart's Supercenter to many businesses and property owners, fits the Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary definition.

With Wal-Mart opening a supercenter in Big Spring, "there is a synergy being developed," said John Elphick, president of Southwest Commercial Investment in Midland, which manages College Park Shopping Center. "I don't expect it to hurt but to add to the total."

Elphick, Big Spring Mall Manager Tammy Watt and businesses along Gregg Street and Eleventh Place have a shared goal to draw upon increased traffic in the community and bring those customers to their businesses.

Watt expects traffic to be slower for existing stores for about four to six weeks after the supercenter first opens, but smooth out afterwards.

"Now is the time to work and plan to be prepared for the fall out" she said. "It will be tough for a while."

Because of the mall's location on FM-700, Watt believes it is in a good position to claim some of the traffic going to and from the supercenter.

Big Spring Mall has been the largest recipient of businesses who had to move because of Wal-Mart's choice to build on the Highland Mall site.

Of the new tenants, seven have moved from Highland Mall.

"When you are looking at the long term, you want to be sure of something," said Watt.

Right now, Watt is exploring all the possibilities to fill two anchor spots where J.C. Penney and Sears used to be. Right now, the mall is 95 percent rented in small shop space.

"I welcome Wal-Mart," said Guy Talbot, owner of Talbot Properties and several properties along Gregg Street. "I welcome the competition to Big Spring."

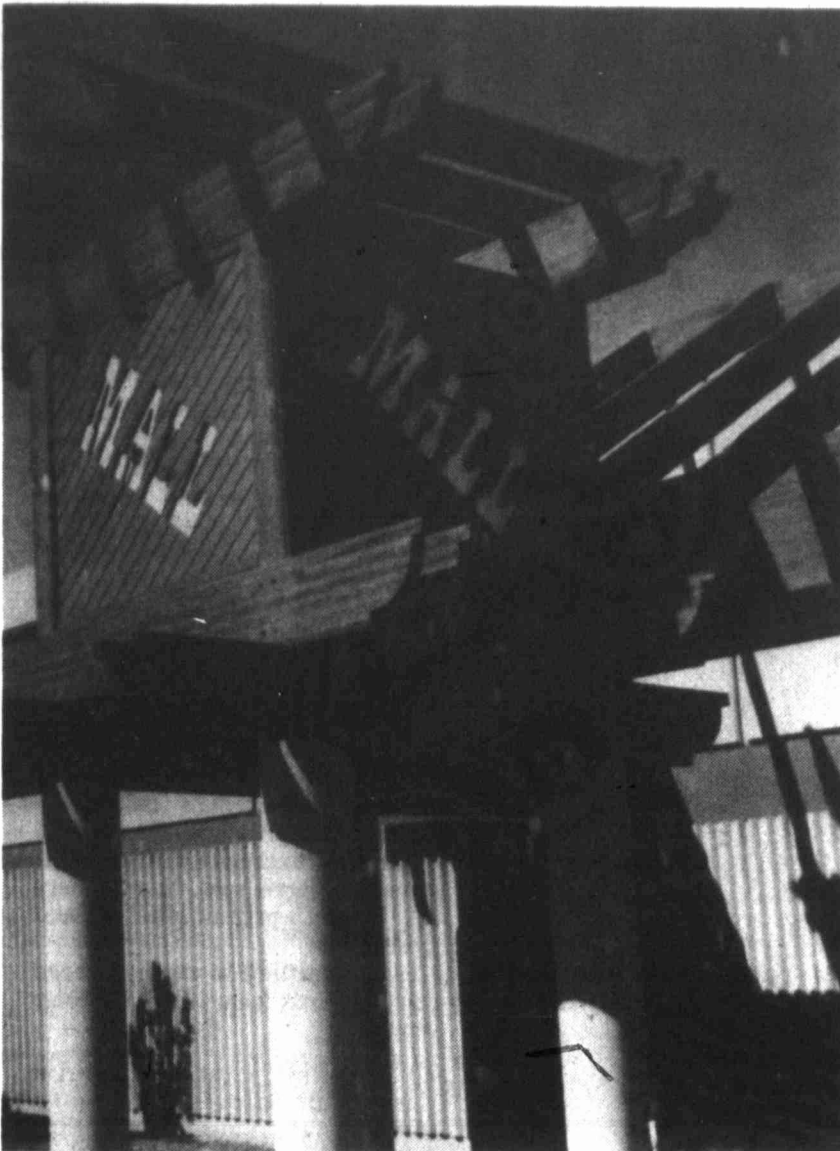
Sharpening business skills in order to compete along side of Wal-Mart is a bonus Talbot thinks will benefit the entire business community. "Competition can only make you better, sharpen your skills, making you better at what you do," he explained.

At College Park Mall, Elphick said a "win-win" deal was worked out between the management and Main Street Big Spring to use the 30,000 square foot building for a bingo operation.

"This is a good deal for everybody," he said, describing the deal as an atypical real estate transaction because of working with a non-profit group.

"We have quality property and good tenants and an OK location. The whole thing is going to help," Elphick said.

Although the merchants on Eleventh Place haven't experienced much benefit from others looking for



Big Spring Mall is nearly filled to capacity with stores, as many former Highland Mall merchants took up residence there.

a new home, they do feel there will be a positive benefit from more money being spent in the community and the increased traffic. Please see MALL, page 4C

In only her second job, Watt takes on the mall

Herald Staff Report

Tammy Watt, manager of Big Spring Mall, has applied for only two jobs in her 17-year career.

She got both of them. "That's pretty good, pretty fortunate," she said laughing.

But the two jobs she'd list on a resume are impressive, five years as mall manager and 12 years as manager and buyer for Highland Card Shop in the former Highland mall and Henderson Hallmark in Big Spring mall.

It started soon after graduating from Midland High School.

She married Freddie Watt of Big Spring right out of high school, moved to Big Spring and six months later decided she wanted to work. She had never had a job.

She decided to go knocking on doors and tried Highland Card Shop, her first and only stop as far as she can remember. She was attracted to the shop because of her grandmother's love of cards and because of the types of gifts sold.

"I was kind of raised going into

places like that and reading cards like that," said Watt, whose grandmother died two weeks before her marriage. "What better place than to go to a store that you liked."

She asked the manager if she needed help and to her surprise the woman said yes. Freddie was surprised, too.

"My husband really was because he didn't know I was looking for a job," Watt said.

Watt started working one day a week but quickly started taking on more hours and moved into management. The 700-square-foot store was soon sold to R.E. Henderson who moved it into another Highland space, tripling its size. By the early 1980s, Henderson opened the Hallmark store in Big Spring Mall.

As manager and buyer for both of Henderson's stores, Watt said she thoroughly learned the retail business; buying and customer service from Mrs. Henderson and ethics from Mr. Henderson.

But after 12 years in the business, Watt began getting bored and started keeping her eyes and ears open for something else in Big Spring.

"You might say I just suffered retail burnout," she said. "I really didn't know when I was going to make a change or how I was going to please see WATT, page 11C

NAFTA holds promise for W. Texas

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement earlier this year, continues to hold promise for not only Texas' economy, but for development of West Texas and Big Spring, in particular.

Big Spring seems likely to gain from NAFTA's passage, thanks to its location on Interstate 20 and its rail lines. More importantly, it stands an even better chance of seeing a new north-south interstate highway — Interstate 27 — being extended southward from Lubbock through this area and on to the Mexican border.

The three-nation accord, linking the United States, Mexico and Canada, will eliminate all tariffs and most duties and other trade barriers between the three nations during the next 15 years.

As a result, all goods originating anywhere in North America could move freely across the continent. While it is assumed that NAFTA's full impact will see quite a few low-wage jobs moving across the border into Mexico where unskilled workers are paid as little as 60 cents an hour, those losses should be offset by the eventual creation of more high-tech jobs in the United States where worker productivity is as much as five times as great.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, along with the state and national chambers, backed the agreement, doing its best to lobby for the accord.

Potential winners under the agreement that has now created the world's largest and richest trading block, include textiles, the auto industry, service industries and machinery and heavy equipment.

The list of potential losers are firms manufacturing apparel and glassware.

Side agreements added to the original NAFTA draft provide protection for sugar, citrus and vegetables subjects that had to be addressed before President Clinton could line up enough votes to win the House of Representatives.

Other side agreements were required on minimum wages and the environment.

"I think the bottom line is that the business community still feels pretty solidly that the positive aspects of the agreement far outweigh the negative aspects," explained Terry Burns, the chamber's executive vice-president.

Textile industries, officials said, could be one of the biggest winners of all, because Mexico is considered a fast-growing market. Wages and competition are supposedly not issues, because the U.S. industry is larger, produces more economically — and thanks to recent modernizations, is considerably less labor intensive.

Prior to the agreement, Mexican textile tariffs averaged 16.5 percent, while U.S. tariffs were only about seven percent.

However, apparel workers in the U.S. are likely to suffer to some degree, experts say. There are, however, firms like Walls Industries Inc., which manufactures work and sporting garments in Big Spring and seven other factories around the state and one location in Mexico, that expect to benefit by exporting more to Mexico.

Start-up costs aren't worth moving factories to Mexico and piece-rate pay is the same, according to many apparel company officials.

"The apparel industry is based on a piece-rate system," explained Albert Archer, Walls' chief executive officer in Cleburne. "The more effi-

cient the worker, the more money they make. I don't see anything in NAFTA that will change that."

There are other contradictions, as well.

While many agriculture interests — sugar, citrus and vegetable growing interests, specifically — sought side agreements before agreeing to support the agreement, Howard County Extension Agent Don Richardson says most agriculture experts believe opening trade barriers will be good for the country.

West Texas, Richardson said, will benefit more than some others, because NAFTA should result in widened markets for both cotton and beef.

And it is that geographic location, according to State National Bank President Jim Purcell, who also serves as president of Moore Development for Big Spring Inc., that will mean the most to Howard County and Big Spring.

The principle of free trade, Purcell noted, is philosophically acceptable to most Big Spring residents and West Texans.

"Couple our location with the fact that we have the transportation that others do not have," Purcell added, "and throw in our high work standards here ... we will survive just fine."

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Fina: It all started with Cosden

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

It was in the late 1920's oil boom when oil tycoon Joshua Cosden built the local refinery where Fina now sits. There were three other refineries within miles of each other in Howard County alone.

A self-made man, Cosden rose from a \$20 a week job in a drugstore to a \$50 million empire in Oklahoma before coming to West Texas.

After losing his Oklahoma refinery, Cosden saw the barren oil field in West Texas as an opportunity to stage a comeback. He purchased oil leases in Howard County on 480 acres on the Dora Roberts Ranch and 1,327 acres on the Clayton Steward Ranch.

He paid purportedly the highest price at that time for acreage, with the purchase of 160 acres from Roberts for \$1.2 million.

After acquiring the money to build a plant, Cosden looked to the Texas and Pacific Railroad to purchase his product. T & P contracted Cosden to supply fuel oil for the line at market value. The railroad built 12 storage tanks, with 80,000 barrel capacity, to store the fuel oil.

The next spring, the refinery opened with a crude unit and combination warehouse and laboratory. It produced about 7,500 barrels of gasoline and distillate (diesel). Prices for crude were between \$1.50 and \$2.00 a barrel.

In the 1930's, the refinery did not escape the blows of the Great Depression, when prices dropped to a nickel a barrel. In the 1930's, Cosden went into receivership twice, and the second one cost Cosden his claim to it.

But the plant was the only one of four that survived the economic malaise of the depression years. The survival was probably because Cosden had a contract with T & P, to buy fuel oil for fifty cents a barrel, after oil prices bottomed out. Since T & P built the storage tanks, they were more or less bound to keep the plant going so they could ship gasoline out.

In 1937, a longtime friend of Cosden's, his attorney, Henry Zweifel, reorganized the company as director and vice-president of the then, Cosden Petroleum Corporation. A year later, Zweifel became the refinery president.

Zweifel hired Raymond L. Tollett as secretary-treasurer, who became executive vice-president, and assumed the presidency when Zweifel returned to the practice of law.

Tollett had received a law degree, was a certified public accountant and also had been with the Federal Bureau of Investigation as head of their New Orleans, La. office.

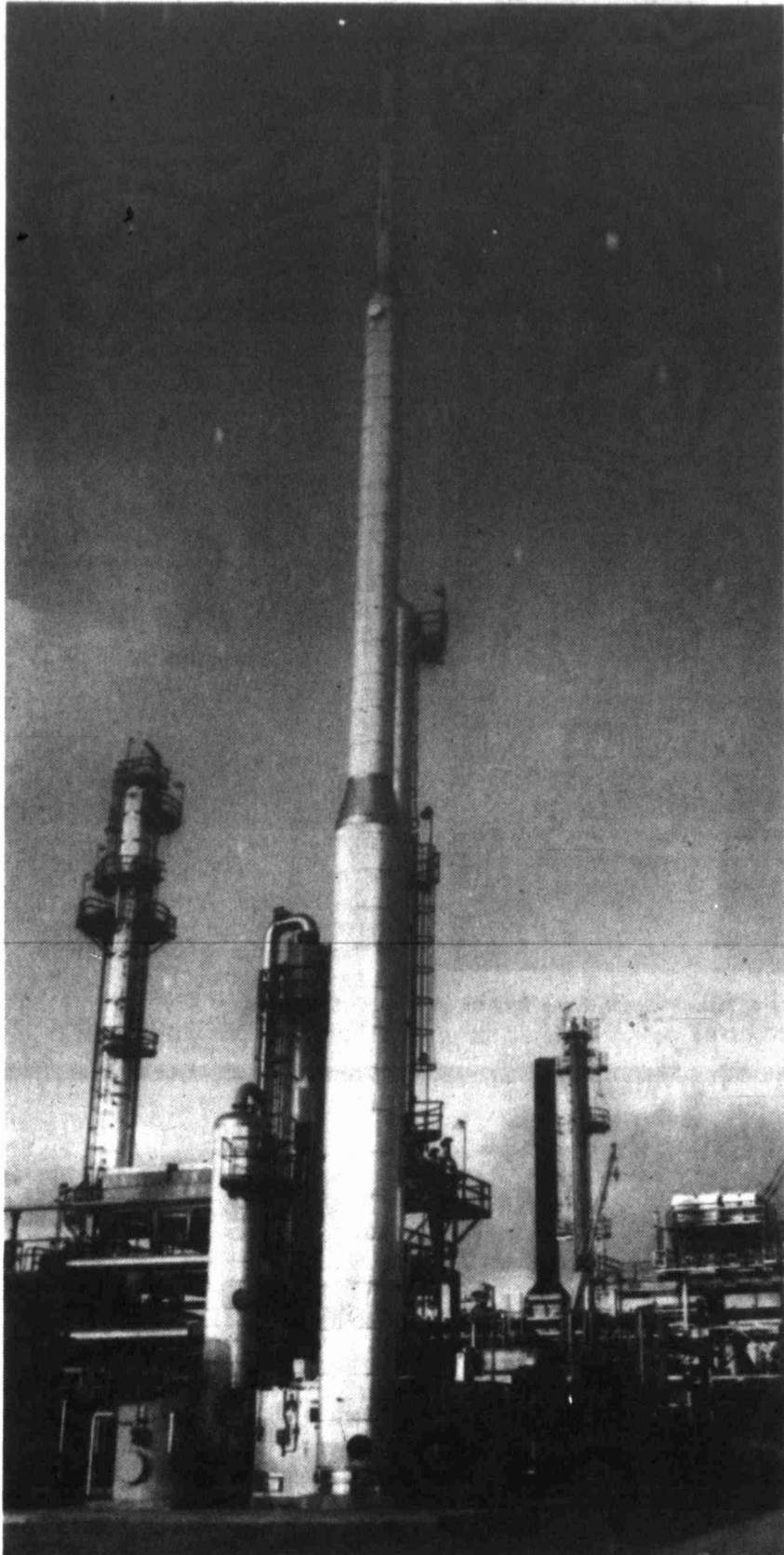
Under Tollett's direction, the plant experienced its greatest growth.

Between the 1940's and the 1960's, the refinery constructed more than 20 units for petrochemical production, beginning in 1949 with the "cat cracker", increasing the retrieval of gasoline from crude oil from 30 to 50 percent. The unit allowed an intensive breakdown of heavy gas oil. With a smaller molecular breakdown, the number of petrochemical products they could produce at Cosden increased.

In the 1950's, emphasis shifted to producing aromatics, which were characterized by the presence of at least one benzene ring. The new units upgraded the products already being made, and allowed them to make more of them.

The plant construction over the period 1945 saw 22 units built, 15 of which were used in the production of chemicals.

They were: the unisol unit in 1945, cat cracker unit in 1949, asphalt plant in 1949, crude unit # 2 in 1951, BTX unit in 1952, paraxylene unit in 1953, alkanol unit in 1954, unifier unit # 1 in 1954, polybutane unit in 1956, reformer unit in 1956, styrene monomer in 1957, polystyrene/plastics unit in 1957, metaxylene unit in 1958, orthoxylene in 1958, unifier unit # 2 in 1959, alkar unit in 1961, heptane



This low sulfur diesel unit was completed last spring after 18 months of construction at a cost \$27.5 million. The unit removes sulfur from the fuel.

Fina

Continued from page 1C

Add in a mere \$50 a week in to cover for both incidental shopping and gasoline. That's \$300 a week for 225 workers for six weeks, which means the fire put approximately \$405,000 into Big Spring's economy.

The refinery, which employs around 250 workers, not including contract workers, is Howard County's largest private employer and the largest taxpayer.

Last year saw Fina achieve all-time production figures, setting a record for the Fina plant at 55,800 barrels average a day. The old record, set in 1988, was 55,400 barrels a day.

Gasoline and diesel production at Fina was at an all-time high as well, with 42,000 barrels a day. The old record, from 1989, was 41,000 barrels a day.

"Within Big Spring's 'golden-circle' market area, representing a market of over one million consumers," Morris said, "our refinery sells 50 to 75 percent of all gas and diesel used."

Fina qualified to receive three safety awards from NPRA this past year.

"The first award is NPRA's Meritorious Safety Performance Award, which to qualify for, means you're in the top 10 percent nationally," said Morris.

"The second is NPRA's Gold Award which indicates an improvement by more than 25 percent, based on the previous three years," Morris explained.

"The average worker at Fina gave at least \$100," Morris said, "while the average employee in the county in general gave a little over \$1 a month. Fina workers are giving 10 times as much, but they do not make 10 times as much money."

Every year the goal has been raised at Fina, the new goal has been met.

"We're blessed and we share what we have," Morris said, "he challenged other equally blessed employers to share what they have."

"The level of giving by Fina's employees, one-quarter of all Howard County donations, reflects their caring about the community

and its less fortunate residents," Morris said, "much of the community was down in donations this year, we were up."

The Fina foundation matched the \$30,000 its workers gave to United Way with \$17,000, totaling \$47,000 in donations from the company and its employees to the local United Way, which was over 20 percent of the total \$200,000 goal for the agency this year.

United Way's executive director Shari Bordoske said, "It would be difficult to do without the Fina employee's caring. They are an excellent example for the community."

Averting a threatened strike last May, Fina Oil and Chemical Inc. and the 94 percent membership of Fina employees belonging to Local 826 International Union of Operating Engineers, reached a three-year contract agreement.

"I think the agreement will be beneficial to all associated with the refinery and will help us to become more competitive with other refineries in the area," Morris said last May.

Key points in the contract included:

- Three pay raises of 3.5 percent each; the first which took effect July 1, 1993, followed by pay raises this April 1, 1994 and again on April 1, 1995.

- Workers will be allowed to cross-train, certify in other jobs and be paid extra for the certification. Proposed by the union, cross-training Morris said, will increase the refinery's flexibility.

- They'll also be getting paid for what they know, beyond seniority and other limitations," Morris explained.

- More empowerment of shift leaders, allowing more in-field decisions and more pay to go with the extra responsibility.

- Seniority as a criteria for promotions was retained in the contract agreement.

Joe Merrick, then president of Local 826 I.U.O.E. said, "I'm glad we're reaching an agreement and we're getting back to the business of running a refinery."

"We've received the Gold Award the last four consecutive years," he said, "which means since 1988, the Fina plant in Big Spring has

improved its performance by a factor of seven."

The third award is NPRA's Safety Achievement Award, for one year with no lost-time injuries. "Our OSHA incidence rate is low," Morris said, "in 1988 it was 15 and in 1993 it was two."

The single largest project at Fina was the \$27.5 million low sulfur diesel unit (LSDU) to remove sulfur from fuel, completed last spring after 18 months of construction.

The LSDU was the single largest project in more than \$100 million spent since 1990 on plant improvement projects to meet clean air standards required by the U.S. Clean Air Act. Since 1982, approximately 132 refineries have closed rather than make the necessary improvements.

A 30 month study by the National Petroleum Council estimated that some \$31 billion will be spent nationally, between the years 1991 and 2010, for all 187 U.S. refineries to meet new standards.

"The LSDU came on line ahead of schedule," Morris said, "and is now operating at 20 percent efficiency over its design, a great success."

The LSDU project alone is "closely linked to both the survival and the future success of the local Fina refinery," Morris explained. "This piece of equipment separates the have's from the have not's in our industry, and the entire community of Big Spring can be proud that their local plant has kept its competitive edge."

The unit is required to produce low-sulfur diesel, which as of October 1, 1993 is mandated for use in on-road applications. The old style diesel is legal only for use on off-road applications.

"The project employed approximately 58 people per day in construction who lived in Howard County," Morris said, "for a payroll of approximately \$2.3 million. During the project's construction, Fina spent \$3 million in Howard County, and purchased approximately \$700,000 worth of materials from local businesses."

Morris is proud of Fina employees and their increased contributions to United Way during the past five years.

In 1988, Fina workers gave \$20,000; this year they met a \$30,000 goal with fewer employees than 1988.

Mall

Continued from page 3C

"I don't think it will affect my business in that Wal-Mart doesn't rent movies or video games," said Bob Wilbanks, owner of Ultra Video. "Where I think it will affect me and be beneficial is that more people will be working and have more money to spend."

Al Scott, a partner in Big Spring Video Concepts, said he doesn't expect Wal-Mart to hurt his business "unless they start renting videos."

Kim Phinney, co-owner of the Karat Patch, a specialty jewelry store, said "We're going to let Wal-Mart draw in the out-of-town customers and maybe get some business from them."

Talbot noted those driving into Big Spring to shop at the supercenter will more likely make a day of it, spending more time at other businesses, restaurants and such.

Watt, who serves as chair for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Business Council, said preparing for Wal-Mart by finding options is extremely important for business owners right now.

"The main goal should be to have an excellent Christmas this year, to help carry through the next year when it could be tough because of Wal-Mart," she explained.

But, many agreed, preparation and a positive attitude is a key to continued success after the arrival of the supercenter.

"Things will improve for the merchants of Big Spring but you have to approach it positively and not pull out," said Watt.

Terry Burns, executive director of the chamber, said a seminar is being planned that will teach local business owners how to survive.

"Today, the abundance of units built in the height of the plant's petrochemical production years have been demolished or sit dormant with a few converted to meet other needs."

Jeff Morris
Fina Refinery Manager

unit in 1961, Grace ammonia plant in 1962, hydeal unit in 1965, cyclohexane unit in 1965, dripolyne unit in 1966, new gasoline dock in 1968, crude unit in 1969 (which replaced Joshua Cosden's original unit built in 1928) and the reformer unit in 1971.

The refinery obtained patents on its developments and other refineries came to study them.

In 1957, W.R. Grace purchased the plant. In 1963, Fina Inc. purchased the refinery.

Jeff Morris began his career with Fina in 1974 in their plastics plant. In 1985, he relocated within Fina, and in 1989 became plant manager.

After Fina acquired control of the plant, chemical production began to decrease, as did unit construction. After the reformer unit was built in 1971, the plant's construction was interrupted until the sour water stripper was added in 1992.

"Today, the abundance of units built in the height of the plant's petrochemical production years have been demolished or sit dormant with a few converted to meet other needs," said Morris.

"In the 1950's and 1960's, it was

a chemical plants complex," he explained, "beginning in the 1970's, the plant became non-competitive. Many of the units were shut down between 1978 and 1982, letting them deteriorate until they could be demolished."

During the past two decades, the plant consolidated with the conversion or demolition of many of the units.

Beginning with the 1992 sour water stripper project, new construction was seen at Fina. Also in 1992, a propylene recovery unit was added. Then an 18 month long construction began, which was completed last spring, on the low sulfur diesel unit.

The industry has seen a drop in the number of refineries since 1973, from 400 to less than 190. By the turn of the century, Morris said, the number will drop to 100 to 125.

"We will only get there if we are willing and able to change," Morris said. "Howard County Commissioners did not choose to help us through this difficult period. We will go forward on our own and be in that last quarter of refineries without their help."

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Real market

By JOHN A. MO
News Editor

With three solid home sales under real estate brokers pleased with the rebound, but generally running out of

"We talked about er's market a year being any homes sell," said Marjorie of South Mountain rates were down. We had a when the rates stayed good.

"It's not like the ly to complain added. "But it w if we had more pr

Dodson's sentin by Lou Knight, an 21-McDonald Res

a great year last good so far last about gotten to there's not much \$55,000 of \$80,00

"As a matter where we're all customers the sa

said, adding that time for homeow about buying a decided to ente

rental market. "one's ready for s 3-bedroom, 2-b price range to ca

want to put their ket. They sure w like getting anyo them."

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Realtors enjoying market's rebound

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

With three solid years of strong home sales under their belts, local real estate brokers say they're very pleased with the market's prolonged rebound, but complain they're literally running out of homes to sell.

"We talked about it being a seller's market a year ago and there not being any homes on the market to sell," said Marjorie Dodson, owner of South Mountain Realty. "Interest rates were down and have stayed down. We had a very good market when the rates went down and it stayed good."

"It's not like there's anything really to complain about," Dodson added. "But it would be a lot better if we had more properties to sell."

Dodson's sentiments were shared by Lou Knight, an agent for Century 21-McDonald Real Estate. "We had a great year last year and it's been good so far this year, but we're just about gotten to the point where there's not much available in the \$55,000 of \$80,000 range."

"As a matter of fact, it's getting where we're all showing the same customers the same houses," Knight said, adding that it is most definitely time for homeowners who thought about buying a new home or have decided to enter the real estate rental market. "Believe me, everyone's ready for someone with a nice 3-bedroom, 2-bath home in that price range to call up and say they want to put their house on the market. They sure won't have any trouble getting anyone to show it for them."

The most recent assessment of Big Spring properties on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) shows the

number of homes for sale at well less than 200, according to Kay Moore, owner of Home Realtors. Some three years earlier, there were as many as 400 MLS listings in Big Spring.

"Locally, we saw things start to change back in October of 1990," noted Bobby McDonald, owner of Century 21-McDonald Real Estate. "Then we had a good selection of homes, but that changed to the point where we were seeing some shortages in certain types of homes. Now we're short of just about everything."

Dodson said the shortage of homes is particularly difficult for many of her clients, since most of South Mountain's buyers tend to seek FHA financing.

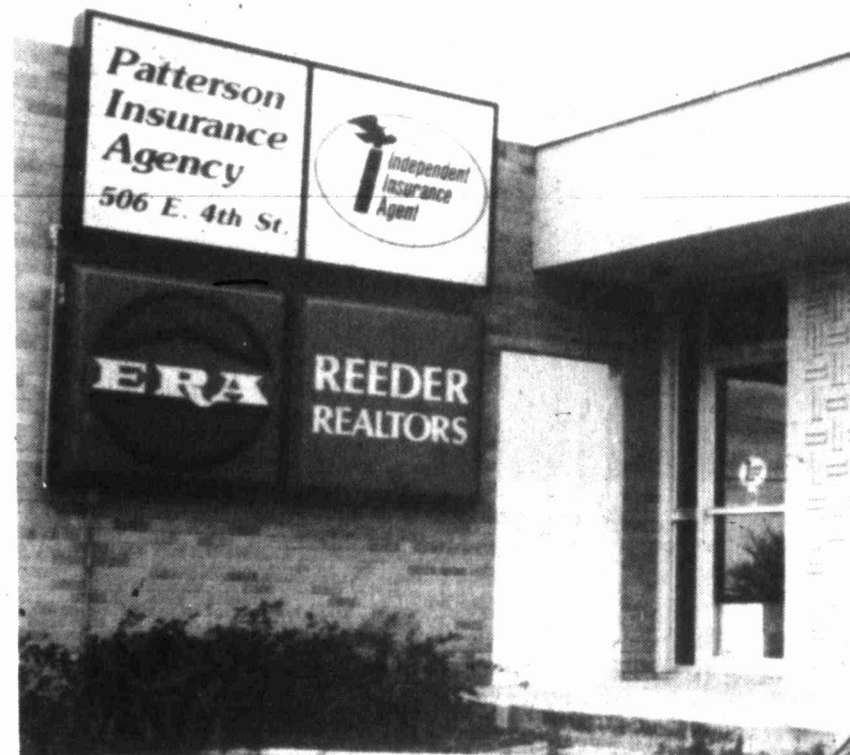
"Most of the people we deal with have enough money to make their payments, but don't have a lot of money to put up front," she explained. "With FHA mortgages, you're basically dealing with preexisting homes. New homes usually require a higher down payment."

While interest rates are still around eight percent — Moore received a quote from a local lender Friday at 7 3/4 percent with no discount points and no origination fee on a 30-year mortgage — they have begun to climb.

At one point last year, some homeowners were financing homes with conventional loans at rates of less than 7 percent.

"It does look like the interest rate is beginning to creep up," Moore said. "It's a trend that no realtor wants to see. We don't know right now whether it's a temporary trend, or if it's something we really need to be concerned about."

Dodson, Moore and Lila Estes of Please see REALTORS, page 11C



Gas tax raises prices by \$29.35

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

When the fumes cleared last October, a 4.3 cent per gallon gas tax was approved by Congress and endorsed by President Clinton.

As a result, consumers are expected to pay an average \$29.39 more for gasoline this year than they did a year ago. That's for 15,000 miles in a vehicle getting 21 miles per gallon average, according to the American Automobile Association.

Prior to the hike, the federal gas tax was 14.1 cents.

For some, however, particularly those who make their living in the trucking industry, fuel costs proved to be almost astronomical last fall.

Diesel fuel prices skyrocketed throughout most of West Texas during the fall of 1993, bringing on grumblings of wildcat truckers' strikes and an eventual investigation by Railroad Commissioner Mary Scott Nabors.

The results of the Railroad Commission investigation were recently released. The report revealed that the price hikes were the result of a variety of factors — flooding in the Midwest, the untimely shutdown of a Kansas refinery, and as diesel became scarce, market forces of supply and demand impacted the diesel.

"The result was that lots of Texas consumers suffered and the state experienced dramatic price discrepancies," Nabors said.

Nabors said her call for the investigation was a response to requests from State Sen. John Montford of Lubbock and Sen. Peggy Rosson of El Paso.

Prices in West Texas during October reached levels 15 to 25 cents higher than comparable prices in other parts of the state, Nabors said. The Railroad Commission's investigation determined several contributing factors. Flooding in the Midwest cut off Houston's Explorer Pipeline for 10 days at the same time as a Kansas refinery shut down — which created a fuel shortage in the Midwest.

"West Texas refineries supplied more diesel to help alleviate the disruption," Nabors said, "leaving less



The cost of filling a tank with gas rose by 4.3 percent thanks to a new tax imposed by Congress which means consumers pay \$29.39 more for gas this year.

available to West Texas markets."

Nabors said these free market supply and demand forces resulted in West Texas diesel prices rising much higher than the price fluctuations caused by increased federal tax and low sulfur requirements put in place Oct. 1. The seasonal price increases for diesel that occur each fall due to demand for heating oil were another factor.

Since that time, however, diesel prices have basically returned to normal levels.

"Market forces have reduced prices of crude oil on international markets worldwide," Nabors noted, "which have in turn dropped diesel prices in West Texas to the same point as before the tax and low-sulfur requirements took effect."

"In short," she concluded, "our investigation concluded that Mother Nature, in concert with market forces, temporarily drove up the prices in West Texas."

Main Street works to revitalize downtown

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Main Street Inc. is a non-profit group working to revitalize the downtown district.


Richard Atkins, president of Main Street, recently named Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year, enu-

merated last years accomplishments by Big Spring Main Street Inc.; re-establishing a bingo operation, assisting eight businesses in expanding or locating downtown, selling one property and locating a new business downtown.

Please see MAIN, page 6C



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Chronology of Wright Fibers

Steam into electricity

Power Resources provides economical source

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

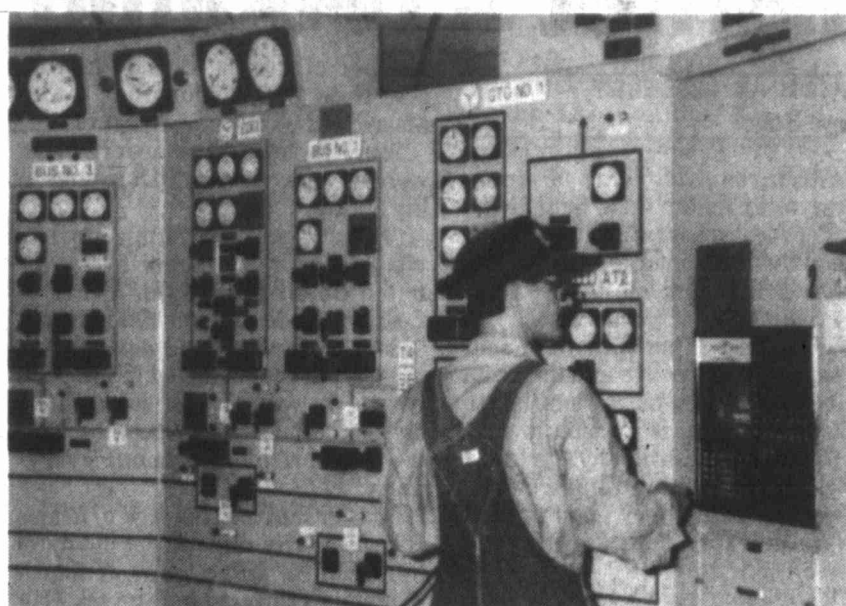
Power Resources Inc., owned by Houston-based Falcon Seaboard Resources Inc., simultaneously generates electricity for Texas Utilities Inc. and steam to the Fina Oil and Chemical Inc. refinery, at the C.R. Wing Cogeneration Plant.

"The cogeneration industry," said Ken Lewis, plant manager at Power Resources Inc., "generates economical electrical power by simply condensing the heat which is exhausted from producing electrical power. Instead of returning the heat to the atmosphere, we recollect the heat, turning it into steam, which drives a turbine, and 1/3 megawatts of 'free' electricity are generated."

Lewis said Power Resources originally employed 35 workers, and based on the size of the contracts they had with TU and Fina, needed no tax abatement from the local government to get started.

Lewis said they asked for a \$3.3 million tax abatement in May 1991 to improve their water treatment facilities and increase the capacity of the plant's water system, due to the poor water quality locally, to make arrangements for purer steam.

"We make super-distilled ultra-pure water for boiler makeup and to run the steam turbine," Lewis said. In 1993, the appraised value of Power Resources was \$80.4 million,



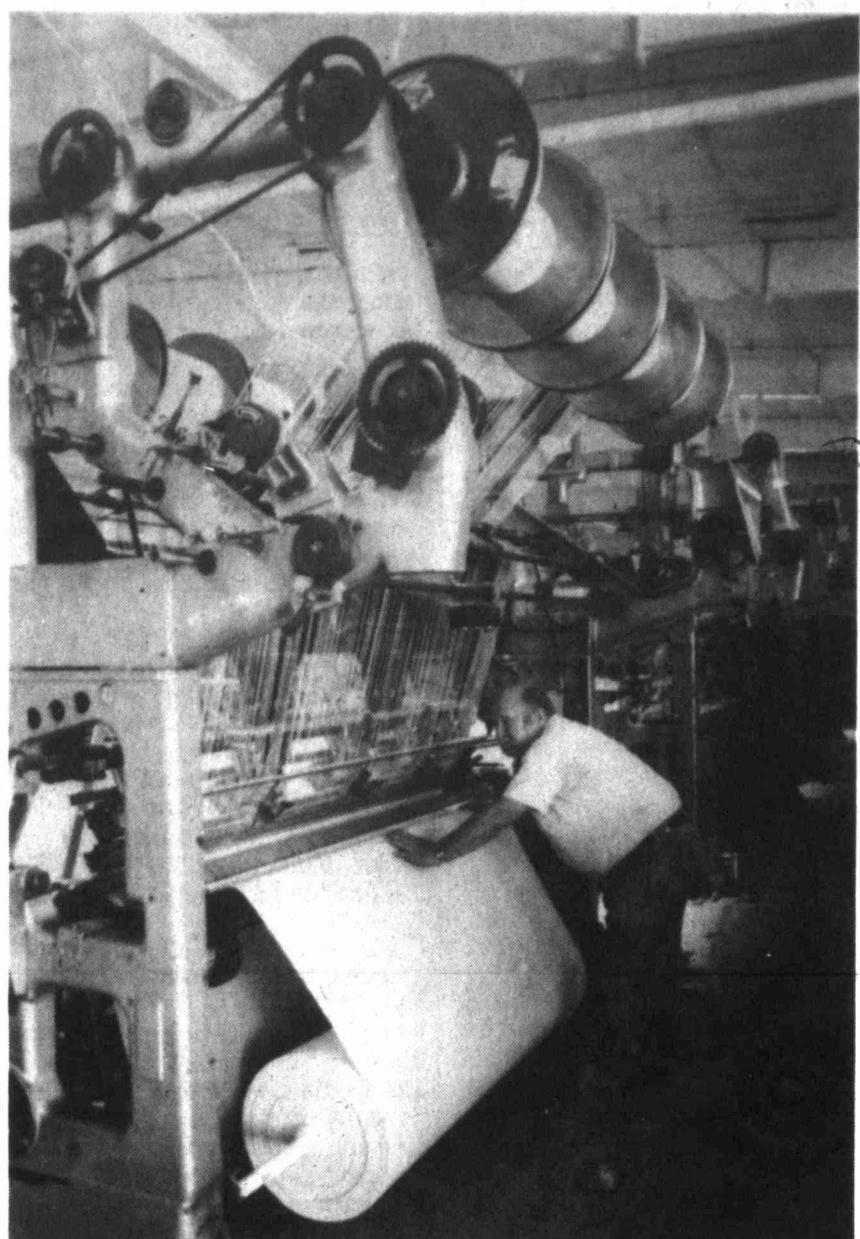
A worker checks on the equipment at Power Resources a company which turns steam into an economical supply of electricity. The cogeneration company supplies Fina with steam and Texas Utilities with electricity.

which was \$2.9 million lower than their base-value year value, which was \$83.4 million, upon which the May 1991 tax abatement was calculated.

Base-year value means the assessed value on the eligible property as of January 1, preceding the execution of the tax abatement agreement. The abatement contract sets a base value over which no taxes can be abated.

Since the 1993 appraised value was lower than the base-year value, none of Power Resources' 1993 taxes were abated.

Kathy Sayles, Howard County's tax assessor/collector, said Power Resources paid taxes on \$81,811,600 worth of appraised value, real and personal, based on a Aug. 25, 1993 report. They are the second largest taxpayer in Howard County behind Fina Oil and Chemical.



Trying to put the Wright Fibers' plant into operations has been an ongoing struggle for Herb Wright, who was recently notified of the Moore Board for Big Spring's intention to call his note.

years back 30 days. Wright Fibers doesn't ask for a delay on monthly interest payments of as much as \$12,000 it had been paying since April. Plans call for plant to be in operation by August.

July 5, 1993 — Wright makes first principal payment of \$18,333.33. Spinning machines are being set up in the plant. Wright says he expects to have plant in production by Aug. 5.

Aug. 8, 1993 — Wright Fibers announces that plant opening will be delayed at least another month. Wright says the plant will be in production by September at the very latest.

Sept. 21, 1993 — Wright Fibers given a boost by Moore Board, when it buys the Cameo Homes building.

March 4, 1994 — Three representatives of the Texas Department of Agriculture arrive for a visit with Moore Board officials and Wright, saying it was nothing more than a site visit.

March 10, 1994 — Herb Wright given notice that Moore Development of Big Spring is calling his note.

January, after a slowdown attributed to the Texas Lottery.

Other factors included spending \$15,000 to help open the West Texas center for the Arts last summer and another \$7,000 spent for a railroad display.

Goals for 1994 include activation of a Settles Hotel committee, as the

group paid up \$5,856 to Lion's for a months back rent in

January, after a slowdown attributed to the Texas Lottery.

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rumors began to fly that the company was in trouble. And when three representatives of the Texas Agriculture Department arrived in town for a site study last week.

When asked what he planned to do after the Moore Board called in its note Thursday, Wright said, "I'll be out there working like I always have been. I'll do what I can in whatever time I have."

Jim Purcell, the Moore Board's current president, noted that Wright Fibers was "past due on performance in terms of the overall project."

"The original goal," Purcell said, "of our involvement with Wright Fibers was to create 60 new jobs for Big Spring."

Walls celebrates 20 years in business

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Currently celebrating its 20th year of local operation, Walls Industries Inc. is by no means a newcomer to the Big Spring community.

A manufacturing industry and employer in Big Spring since 1973, the local factory currently employs about 100 people and sprang from a Dallas company started by George Wall in 1943.

Walls' factory produces about 8,000 suits each week, enabling the local facility to accumulate about \$90 million in annual sales.

Annual fashion changes are made in the clothing and, according to Plant Manager Jack Letts, the company is always looking for ways to improve its product, lower its costs and expand its markets.

During the past few years, the Big Spring plant has replaced about 75 percent of its machinery.

One of eight Walls plants in the state, the local factory is the largest sewing facility making non-insulated work and sports coveralls.

Using an assembly line system, 86 sewing machine operators sew about 50 different styles of coveralls. The material is cut in the Walls facility in Sweetwater and transported to the Big Spring plant for assembly.

"All we do here is sew," Letts explained.

The average suit takes about 26 minutes to make, Letts added. The same suit would require two hours of production if made by only one person.

The Big Spring facility maintains a

fairly stable work flow from year-to-year, he added. "The business fluctuates quite a bit, but when business is slow, they (the company's main office) keep the plant busy."

Walls Industries' coveralls are sold to numerous stores, including K-Mart, J.C. Penney, Montgomery Wards, Sears and several sporting

goods chains.

Operators at the factory are paid on a "piece rate" system, with earnings based on the number of pieces they sew. Employees earn from minimum wage up to \$10 per hour with the average being about \$5.35 per hour, Letts said. Employee benefits

Please see WALLS, page 11C

Main

Continued from page 10C
Various revenue sources were sought this year so reliance on bingo wouldn't be necessary, as bingo was shut down in January 1993, after the Lion's Club, citing late rent, released them from a lease at 1607 E. Third St.

The group derives almost all of its

Wright

Continued from page 1C
building and was in the process of being assembled, while workers continued completing plumbing and air conditioning work.

Wright announced he'd received an order for 30,000 of the cotton-bale bags and the \$150,000 order should be ready by mid-October.

As 1993 drew to a close without significant progress, however,

\$70,000 annual income from bingo. There were rumors that Lion's was considering moving the Bingo operation, but Bob Noyes of the Lion's Club said at the time they were renegotiating the leases with the group.

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By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

City of Big Spring they've gotten the Administration's a

Four represent journeyed to Was early March in h informally with fe cerning the condit the McMahon-Wri

In addition to v Transportation Ag bying for the exte 27 being routed s Spring, City M Lambert, Mayor T council members and Charles Bell officials.

City officials inquiring about negotiating mor from the FAA in r ace airport.

Imagine being in fathers learned th years ago — they' lion from Hanscon early 1980s from term lease at Big Wrinkle Airpar taken over owner Oil Industry Lines.

But the lease \$70,000 in inter year can only be u port services, acc ture signed in 19 field was transferr al government to maintenance is h from other proper

As a result, th there accumulat started gaining int

Soon the oil bus erty values began

City use of

JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Since being give Spring in 1978, Industrial Park h low-cost space fo and established in

Acquiring the re Force Base, Big S buildings, land ar Industrial Park w ous, courageous, imaginative" by st

Over the years, has has been the businesses. Som some not so succes

The most rece family of business Star Aviation, whi in May.

A fixed-base o standards, Lone S vides a full serv facility.

At the time of W city appointed a s to arrange to take Air Force land. Co previously Webb A der, was appointe park manager, o port and industrial

These areas wer McMahon-Wrink two Big Spring bu McMahon and B. McMahon was ins verting the Webb what is now the m

There were cons as Big Spring took structures. There ent federal divisi that governed th and some of the would not coop other. The red tap just unbelievable, 1984.

The primary p park was provid industry, offsetting

WILSON'S

BREAKFAST SPECIALS WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

15 years

Airpark: Key to industrial development

Freedom from FAA could spur growth around the airpark

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

City of Big Spring officials hope they've gotten the Federal Aviation Administration's attention this time.

Four representatives of the city journeyed to Washington, D.C., in early March in hopes of speaking informally with federal officials concerning the condition of buildings at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

In addition to visiting with Federal Transportation Agency officials, lobbying for the extension of Interstate 27 being routed south through Big Spring, City Manager Lanny Lambert, Mayor Tim Blackshear and council members Stephanie Horton and Charles Bell also met with FAA officials.

City officials say they're still inquiring about the possibility of negotiating more independence from the FAA in running the 1,250-acre airpark.

Imagine being in the position city fathers learned they were in a few years ago — they'd acquired \$2 million from Hanscom Industries in the early 1980s from buyout of a long-term lease at Big Spring McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. Hanscom had taken over ownership of bankrupt Oil Industry Lines.

But the lease money and the \$70,000 in interest it earns each year can only be used for public airport services, according to an indenture signed in 1978 when the airfield was transferred from the federal government to Big Spring. Park maintenance is handled with rent from other properties there.

As a result, the \$2 million sat there accumulating interest that started gaining interest itself.

Soon the oil bust hit and city property values began declining. Worse,

a two-decade trend of decreasing population continued. Eventually, local government entities began scrambling to provide the same services spread over the same area to fewer people and with less money.

The city was strapped for cash and the Big Spring City Council pulled out the chopping block.

Among controversial cuts were elimination of six firefighter positions in 1986, bringing firefighters down to 44 and only two firefighters per truck instead of a state recommended minimum of three. In 1991, seven police officer positions were cut, bringing police down to 39.

Meanwhile, interest on the \$2 million lease money kept piling up.

"It's especially aggravating ... if you looked at available funds," said Councilman Mark Sheedy, who joined the fray in 1991 and frequently found himself as the swing vote on controversial budget issues that year.

After failed efforts to get released from the indenture's stipulation with lobbying through Sen. Phil Gramm and U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm, creative juggling of funds was used to solve problems.

An attempt to assess property taxes for the airpark wasn't allowed by the FAA, which oversees the handling of airpark money. But the city was allowed to do a cost analysis for reimbursement of support services.

The city now transfers more than \$30,000 a year out of the airpark budget, according to Public Works Director Tom Decell. Also, since 1991, salaries and benefits for three city firefighters are paid out of airpark funds, a savings of \$85,000 or more a year.

In 1991, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection advised the city more

Please see FREEDOM, page 11C



The Big Spring McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark is a drawing card in the city of Big Spring's efforts to bring industry to this area. The airpark is home to many different and varied industries who have taken up residence in the old Webb Airforce Base buildings.

Airpark, tool for promotion of industry

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark is considered one of Big Spring's biggest drawing cards to attract industry. What's more, however, it is also the location of the city's fastest growing businesses.

"It is the only place we have in the city that provides rail, interstate and air travel to potential industry," explained Tom Decell, the city's public works director. "We have adequate water and other supplies. We have facilities and the space to build more if needed."

Leasing out available space to business and industries generates more than \$500,000 in revenue each year. The money is put into an air park fund, earmarked for building repairs, maintenance of taxways and improvement of airpark property.

During the past year, Western Container Corp. announced plans to virtually double the size of its facility at the airpark.

Western Container late last year reached agreement with city officials whereby the city will construct a \$1 million structure with a repayment schedule of five to seven years.

The expansion would increase Western Container's number of employees by about 40. The manufacturer produces millions of plastic Coca Cola™ bottles each year.

In October, American Limestone of Dallas opened a stone-cutting operation, employing six and expected to employ 26 by the end of the year.

"We have a very diverse situation at the airpark," Decell said. "American Limestone is a precious thing to have. Not too many cities have something like it."

Please see TOOL, page 8C

Airpark businesses a varied lot

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

A number of businesses began operations at the city's industrial park but some have gone out of business during the airpark's 14-year history.

Individuals and businesses making use of facilities at the Big Spring McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark include:

- The Westside Day Care Center is license to care for as many as 85 area preschoolers. Their care is on a sliding scale to help area residents work and provide for their children.

- Fraser Industries produces thousands of wooden pallets for industrial use, shipping them across the country.

- Fibertex Inc., produces fiberglass rods for national and international sale.

- Bob's Custom Woodwork does cabinet and other fine carpentry work, as well as remodeling.

- Kenny Thompson maintains offices at the industrial park, as does Advanced Telephone Systems, Inc.

- Western Container Corp., produces plastic soft-drink bottles, and is one of the largest local property tax payers.

- Strickland & Knight Construction Co. is located on the old air base, as well as Industrial Electrical and Electronic Co.

- Avantech Inc., designs and produces robotics and other electronic devices for government and private-sector sales.

- Freecom Inc., manufactures and applies ceramic coating, primarily for tubular goods used in the oil industry. The coating is produced and packaged locally for shipment throughout the world, as well.

- Oil-field-related industries include Harmony Drilling Co., Unichem International and Graham Energy Services, Inc., which is involved with oil-field production.

Other industries: Steve's

Handyman Service, Liberty Machine Shop, Ryder Truck Rental, M&T Home Improvement, Southwest Builders, Microbes Research and Development Inc., American Limestone Inc. and West Texas Counseling, which provides psychological counseling.

A number of individuals have businesses there as well. Jimmy Estep and Gary Smith have an automotive repair shop, Kelly Chesworth does auto painting, John Stowers has home construction, David Buchanan does plumbing, Patrick Bruton has an auto detail shop, Jeff Harris does cabinet work, Mel

Porter refurbishes classic cars and Joe Whitten performs prison ministries.

Other businesses located at the airpark include UNICOR, Lane Weather Mart, Crossroads, Kerr Management, Citgo Petroleum, Templeton Construction, Industrial Electric, Graham Industries, Talbot Properties and Southwest Builders.

Those with offices located at the airpark also include those of Dr. Porter, Dr. Adusumilli, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Malone & Hogan Clinic, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

City has made good use of gifted airpark

JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Since being given to the city of Big Spring in 1978, the Big Spring Industrial Park has been providing low-cost space for both burgeoning and established industries.

Acquiring the remains of Webb Air Force Base, Big Spring's use of the buildings, land and utilities at the Industrial Park was termed "rigorous, courageous, determined and imaginative" by one government study.

Over the years, the industrial park has been the home of many businesses. Some successful and some not so successful.

The most recent addition of the family of businesses located is Lone Star Aviation, which signed its lease in May.

A fixed-base operation by FAA standards, Lone Star Aviation provides a full service maintenance facility.

At the time of Webb's closure, the city appointed a steering committee to arrange to take possession of the Air Force land. Col. Harry Spannaus, previously Webb AFB wing commander, was appointed as the first airpark manager, overseeing the airport and industrial park areas.

These areas were later named the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, after two Big Spring businessmen, Clyde McMahon and B. Winston Wrinkle. McMahon was instrumental in converting the Webb landing strips to what is now the municipal airport.

There were considerable obstacles as Big Spring took over the land and structures. There were "eight different federal divisions of government that governed the Webb property and some of these divisions just would not cooperate with each other. The red tape and politics were just unbelievable," Spannaus said in 1984.

The primary purpose of the airpark was providing for increased industry, offsetting some of the economic losses from Webb's closure.

Some early successes include Western Container Corp., which produces millions of plastic Coca Cola™ bottles. Fibertex Inc. is producing fiberglass rods for oil production, for sale around the world.

Through inter-agency networking in the federal government, the airpark was selected as the site for what are now the Federal Correctional Institution and the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

A spectacular early success, which later failed with the oil bust, was Oil-field Industrial Lines, or OIL. This company employed a thousand Big Spring residents, building oil exploration equipment, and pumped millions of dollars into the area economy.

The industrial park had other early boom and bust companies, operating for a time and then closing. These include Lubbock Manufacturing Company, an oil tank repair business; Cotton Manufacturing Co., a firm making farm machinery; and Midas Recreational Vehicle Manufacturing Company.

Please see HISTORY, page 11C

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Commercial airline plans in holding pattern

City hasn't heard from Resort Air for a long time

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Plans for providing Big Spring with its first commercial air service in recent years may be in a holding pattern of sorts, as Ruidoso, N.M.-based Resort Air Lines Lt. tries to get off the ground.

Then again, it has been so long since the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Board has heard from Resort Air and its officials, plans for the commuter airline may have crashed without Big Spring having been notified.

"It's been a long time since we've heard anything from them," said Tom Decell, the city of Big Spring's public works director who also sits as an ex-officio member of the airpark board.

Resort Air, a public not-for-profit firm founded to promote economic development in rural and resort cities in New Mexico and Texas, was seeking daily service between McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark and Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport.

In addition to daily service between Big Spring and DFW, the airline wanted to serve Ruidoso, Santa Fe, Alamogordo and Clovis, N.M.

According to Dick Weber, presi-

dent of Resort Air Lines, there are two routes the airline wants to follow. The first would originate in Alamogordo, go to Clovis and into DFW. The second would go from Santa Fe to Ruidoso to Big Spring to DFW.

Big Spring was selected for a number of reasons, Weber said.

"First we wanted to look at communities that have adequate airport facilities, but no commercial service, and second, we wanted to look at communities with good traffic potential that could also use regularly scheduled commercial air service as an economic development tool," he explained.

"We felt Big Spring fits into both those categories," he added.

At the time Weber presented his first plan, Resort Air expected to fly 50-passenger Convair 580 jet prop aircraft. The Convair 580 is rated as one of the three safest planes ever constructed.

"We chose the 580 because of our customers," Weber explained. "Many passengers express concerns about their safety in the small 10-19 passenger planes utilized by many small companies."

The stumbling block for Resort, at that point, had been funding.

But at the time, Resort Air's choice of airplanes was a major stumbling block for both Big Spring and the airpark board.

"To service planes with that kind of capacity meant we'd have to be able to meet what the FAA calls Type 139 requirements," Decell explained. "That gets awfully expen-

'That's something we actively pursue every chance we get. The city council and airpark board have made it clear that commercial air service is definitely desirable.'

Tom Decell
Public Works director

Judging from Weber's experiences early on, nothing involved in the plan would have come cheap.

"We started out seeking a total of \$9.5 million to start the service," he explained. "Those funds will be utilized to purchase aircraft, ground equipment, office equipment and provide working capital."

A portion of the funding was located and officials of Resort Air said they were working with the federal Rural Economic Development Agency for the balance.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce conducted a survey of local travel agents that determined Resort Air's proposed fare structure was in line with fares then offered out of Midland International Airport.

When the survey was conducted in 1992, seven fares were available between Midland and DFW. Resort Air's proposed fares fell in the middle of the pack.

Weber then said Resort Air would continue to seek sources of funding and explore various options for getting the airline off the ground.

"This is something that's going to happen," he said during the plan's initial announcement. "We're going to serve the people of West Texas and Eastern New Mexico with good, solid, dependable air service."

However, recent attempts by the Herald to reach Weber have been fruitless. There is no telephone number listed for Resort Air Lines in Ruidoso, nor is there a residential listing for Dick Weber.

Decell says there's nothing the city of Big Spring and the airpark board would like better than being able to establish some sort of commercial air service at the airpark.

"That's something we actively pursue every chance we get," Decell added. "The city council and airpark board have made it clear that commercial air service is definitely desirable."

Plastic Flamecoat moves headquarters to Big Spring

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Plastic Flamecoat Inc. was provided \$67,000 to help defray moving costs from the Moore Development For Big Spring Inc. The former League City, Texas based firm moved its headquarters to Big Spring in December 1993.

Flamecoat, which owns Permian Research Corporation at 3400 W. Seventh Street, occupied a majority of the 66,000 square foot building, and created 25 jobs for Big Spring. Their annual payroll was estimated at more than \$1 million, and officials plan to market internationally, and double their market within two years.

The facility is also used as a center for training of Flamecoat distributors and applicators. Flamecoat, a registered trademark, is one-

coat thermoplastic polymer coating applied to protect against chemicals, weathering and abrasions in industrial, government and original equipment applications.

"Thermoplastic coatings have a lot of applications in West Texas and New Mexico," said Moore Director Ted St. Clair, "although they'll be marketing nationally, as well."

Big Spring was selected because the building has production and research capabilities needed for company growth and because of high quality technical and manufacturing skills available at the facility and in the community, said Jeff Loustaunau, vice-president of sales and marketing, who was in Big Spring on Oct. 14, 1993 when the board approved giving the relocating enterprise the financial assistance to move here.

Please see MOVE, page 11C

City-owned federal prison is expanded for third time

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

By fall, Big Spring will see the completion of a new \$4.5 million expansion for Mid-Tex Detention Inc., the city federal prison contract facility, adding a 500-bed capacity in the joint project.

City Manager Lanny Lambert explained that the city contracts with the federal government to house its prisoners; the city in turn, subcontracts with Mid-Tex, to run the prison facilities for us.

"The reason for this arrangement is for a 'pass through,'" Lambert says, "because a federal governmental agency cannot contract with indi-

viduals."

"We'll get 90 to 100 new jobs from this," Lambert said, "making a 268 total of city prison system jobs."

The payroll is estimated to double with this third expansion, to \$4 million annually.

Adding 500 beds to the current 785, will net 1,285 beds in the total city's federal prison project.

"They're an excellent employer for Big Spring," said Mayor Tim Blackshear.

Mid-Tex will build a building across from Building 1106 at the McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park, and the new facility will handle medium-security prisoners, mostly illegal

Please see PRISON, page 11C



The McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark has been put to good and varied use by the city of Big Spring since it was turned over to the city in 1978. The airpark is used as a tool for industrial development for the city.

Tool

Continued from page 7C

"We also have Coke Cola and its support trucking operations, the two prisons and their support functions, a hardware store, oil field-related activities, a pallet manufacturer,

electronic technology and have a number of small shops."

After Webb Air Force Base closed in the late 1970s, the city acquired the airpark to provide low-cost space. In accommodating business-

es, the impact of the base closing was mitigated. Rental rates for airpark industrial buildings is 7.5 cents per square foot/per month.

The airpark is touted by officials as a tool to promote industry, not a

profit-making endeavor.

The federal government controls areas of the park where the Federal Correctional Institution and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf are located.

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By TIM JONES
Staff Writer
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The move was measure, which TU them \$100 million... Since about 90... customers were a... mail, the change a... who were still payi... All requests for connection and c... inquiries is now d... by dialing 1-800-2... a 1-800 number for... vices as well.
In 1992, TU c... employees from i... force statewide, off... ment incentives an... ance packages.
As of March 19... positions remaini... stood at 48. The... 1992, there were 7...
Cap...
By TIM JONES
Staff Writer
A Cap Rock Elect... lawsuit originated i... cial District Cour... 1992.
At issue in the ori... Cap Rock Electric f... against Texas Utili... right to purchase a... sale electric power... other than TU.
"For Cap Rock E... 1992 in Midland w... we'd ever have got... Peggy Luxton, CRE... tion spokesperson... cule company com... we're outgunned.
Steve Collier, C... president of energ... governmental aff... agreement we rea... May of 1990 allow... wholesale electric... we pleased, and inc... ery of such power... over its transmission... Rock. We knew w... chasing wholesa... Southwestern Publi... ny (SPS) by 1994, I... find a cheaper inte... ply."
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TU closes Big Spring doors as part of cost cutting means

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Dallas-based investor owned TU Electric Utilities Inc. closed their walk-in service and bill-paying office in Big Spring as well as all such facilities statewide this past April.

TU Electric provides electricity to more than 6.5 million people in 88 counties of West, North Central and East Texas.

The move was a money saving measure, which TU said would save them \$100 million annually.

Since about 90 percent of TU's customers were already paying by mail, the change affected only those who were still paying in person.

All requests for connection, disconnection and customer service inquiries is now done by telephone, by dialing 1-800-242-9113. There is a 1-800 number for emergency services as well.

In 1992, TU cut some 4,700 employees from its 15,200 workforce statewide, offering early retirement incentives and attractive severance packages.

As of March 1993, TU employee positions remaining in Big Spring stood at 48. The year before, in 1992, there were 73 workers here.



TUELECTRIC

John Toone, TU district manager for Big Spring, said at the time the office at 409 Runnels was closed that "there will be no change in services."

In the summer of 1993, administrative and other functions were moved from downtown to a TU service center on Interstate 20. The downtown building was put up for sale.

TU this year requested proposals from companies supplying electricity generated by solar technology and wind turbines, which are called "demand-side management" services.

Considering the use of renewable energy resources like these, as well as expansion of programs to limit increases in demand, are part of a

plan by TU to meet its customers' future electrical needs.

Demand-side management programs are used to promote increased efficiency in use of power and to encourage a decrease in the demand for energy, reducing the need to build costly new electrical power generation plants.

TU Electric has had a successful and nationally-recognized demand-side management program since 1983," said Tom Baker, TU's executive vice-president. "The program already has reduced growth in demand for electricity to defer the construction of two large generating plants."

July 1993 saw implementation of a 15.3 percent rate increase by TU, which was opposed by the City of Big Spring and more than 50 cities in Texas.

The state's Public Utilities Commission in Austin said the hike was expected to net TU about \$760 million. TU had said the change would add about \$11 to the average customers' monthly bill.

The hike followed TU's implementation of the controversial second Comanche Peak nuclear power plant which TU said was needed to meet

Cap Rock takes rate case to PUC

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Despite that a 1990 power supply agreement contract between Cap Rock Electric Cooperative and Texas Utilities has been challenged and held valid in two Texas courts, the Stanton/Midland-based cooperative said in a March 4 release the Dallas-based investor-owned TU is "maneuvering once again to block West Texas power users from benefiting from wholesale power competition."

CRE says they've been attempting to switch to a cheaper supplier since 1990, when the agreement they ended up contesting in court began. The Midland District Court, two years ago, called for a gradual connection process from TU to an alternate supplier.

In a motion filed with the state's Public Utilities Commission, CRE presented wholesale bills from a new supplier they've been using since Feb. 1. The northern half of CRE's 17-county West Texas service area now receives its wholesale power from the Amarillo-based Southwestern Public Service Company.

SPS' bills for the 24 days between Feb. 1 and March 4 showed SPS has



supplied wholesale power at a 40 percent reduction over rates charged by TU, the press release said.

TU intervened in late February with the PUC to keep Cap Rock from completing a transmission line that would also link the lower half of CRE's service area to SPS, which would allow CRE to totally stop buying wholesale power from TU.

"TU is trying to block the ability of CRE to switch wholesale suppliers," said David Pruitt, CRE's president and chief executive officer, "even

though the company included loss of CRE's revenue in its justification for a major rate increase this year."

"We've been captive wholesale customers of TU Electric for 50 years," noted Pruitt, "They just don't want to let us go, even though their wholesale power rates keep rising way above market."

"SPS' bill to CRE for its first 24 days' wholesale electric service showed a cost per kilowatt hour of 3.3 cents. TU's bill the month before," the CRE's Pruitt said, "was 5.3 cents per KWH

Cap Rock vs. TU: Co-op loses case on appeal

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

A Cap Rock Electric vs. TU Electric lawsuit originated in the 238th Judicial District Court in Midland in 1992.

At issue in the original lawsuit that Cap Rock Electric filed in early 1992 against Texas Utilities was CRE's right to purchase and receive wholesale electric power from companies other than TU.

"For Cap Rock Electric and staff, 1992 in Midland was the first time we'd ever have gone to court," said Peggy Luxton, CRE's public information spokesperson. "We are a minuscule company compared to TU, we were outgunned."

Steve Collier, Cap Rock's vice-president of energy resources and governmental affairs, said "the agreement we reached with TU in May of 1990 allowed us to purchase wholesale electric power wherever we pleased, and included TU's delivery of such power by 'wheeling' it over its transmission system to Cap Rock. We knew we would be purchasing wholesale power from Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS) by 1994, but we needed to find a cheaper interim power supply."

Collier continues, "But when we found an interim supplier of wholesale power 20 percent cheaper than TU, a new supply that would save our customers about \$250,000 a month, TU reneged on our agreement."

Even though CRE was dwarfed by the size of TU's organization, the CRE board and management decided to challenge them in an all-out court battle.

"We knew we were right," said David Pruitt, president and chief executive officer of Cap Rock.

"We had a chance to save our customers some money by purchasing an interim power supply until the transfer to SPS was complete. We would have paid TU a reasonable fee for the use of their lines, and still have realized tremendous savings over buying wholesale power from TU."

When TU refused to 'wheel' the power, CRE brought lawsuit in Midland's District Court.

"We had a responsibility to provide our customers with the best and cheapest possible electric power," said Pruitt, "that responsibility included a court fight, if necessary."

A judgment by the Honorable Richard Barajas of the Court of Appeals, 8th District of Texas in El Paso of the Midland District courts findings was issued Feb. 2, 1994 after an appeal by Cap Rock Electric Cooperative.

There were two issues in the lawsuit between the two utilities.

The first, was a contract dispute which falls under substantive law, which is law describing what one's legal rights are.

The first issue asks: Is the 1990 PSA between TU and Cap Rock a valid, enforceable contract requiring the purchase of power by Cap Rock



TUELECTRIC

to be exclusively from TU?

Cap Rock's attorneys argued that two essential terms were missing: 1. quantity of power to be bought/sold, and 2. points of delivery.

The Court of Appeals said the terms were defined within the contract, and taken as a whole, the contract is clear and enforceable.

The second area in the lawsuit is sanctions, which fall under procedural law, prescribing steps and methods of enforcing one's rights in court.

Under the provisions of Rule 215 of the Texas Code of Civil Procedure, the trial court in Midland imposed sanctions against Cap Rock Electric. The trial court ordered officers or directors of Cap Rock to perform 200 hours of community service within a year's time.

The appellate court in El Paso said the sanctions were proper and appropriate. Why?

The trial court's findings of fact and conclusions of law formed the



basis for the sanctions. Findings of fact "are reviewable for legal and factual sufficiency of the evidence supporting them," page 6 of the judgment states.

The appellate court determined three reasons for the imposition of sanctions. They said Cap Rock and its attorneys had violated the Midland court's order for discovery of documents, they misled the trial court, and acted in bad faith in a scheme intended to deceive the court.

The appellate court determined that the trial court did not err in awarding TU attorney's fees. The law allows for award of fees in this type of case, based on Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code 37.009, and that additional time, expense and hearings were necessary for TU and its lawyers.

The attorney fees for TU that Cap Rock is to pay, to date, total \$135,000.

There are provision for further

sanctions, "\$25,000 as fees in the event there is an application for writ of error to the Supreme Court of Texas, and \$15,000 if the writ is granted," per page 13-14 of the judgment.

TU filed appropriate affidavits about the amount and necessity of attorneys fees, and Cap Rock failed to respond or contest.

Also noteworthy, a footnote on page 8, states that in regard of two of Cap Rock's attorneys, Richard C. Balaugh and Tom W. Gregg Jr., the appellate judge forwarded the opinion, record and findings of fact and conclusions to the State Bar of Texas for further disciplinary action, if necessary.

TU spokeswoman Kathi Miller, in Dallas, commented by phone, "Judge Barajas' comments speak for themselves. TU is pleased with the verdict, especially that it came quickly, only three days after the end of oral arguments, and that our contract is valid."

Collier said, "If we had won the original lawsuit, we would have realized tremendous savings. Now, we have just switched the northern portion of our system to SPS wholesale power, on Feb. 1, 1994. Winning the appeal would have been a matter of 'too little too late,'" he said.

"Even if the decision had been in our favor," Collier added, "it is too late for it to financially benefit our customers. It's another instance of TU getting its way-right or wrong. It was a win-win situation for them, even though we appealed the court decision," he said. "They knew any reversal of the court's findings would come too late to be of value."

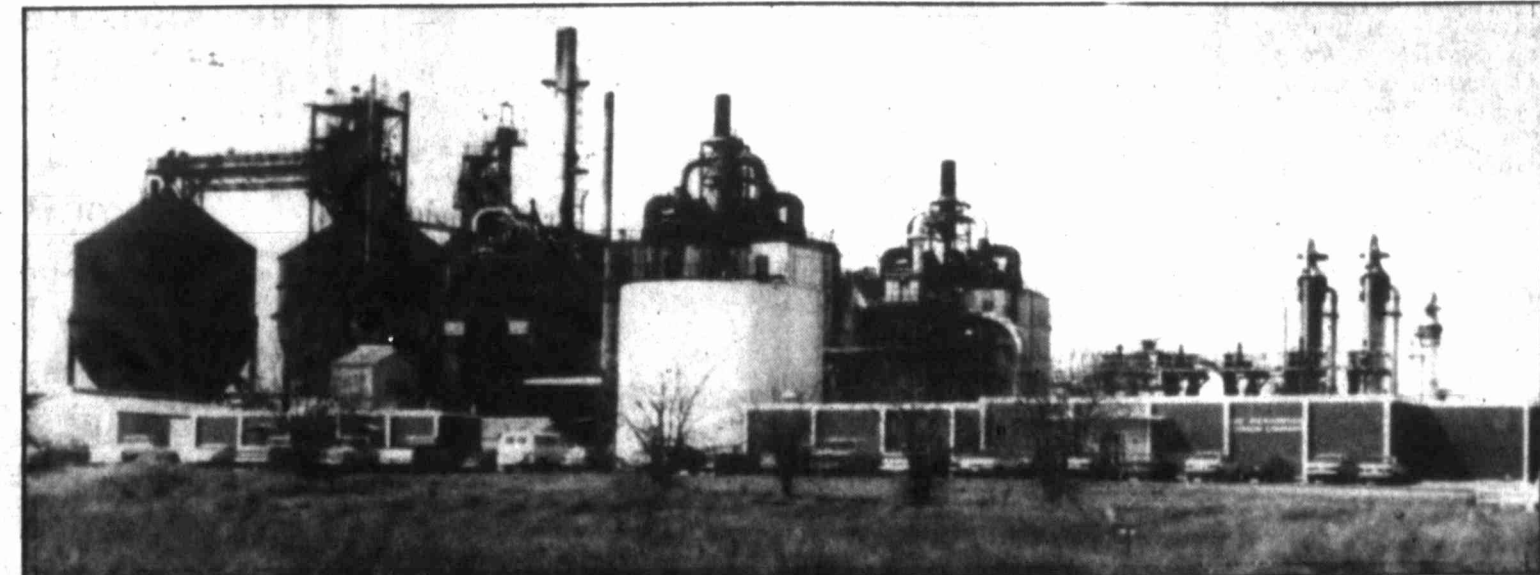
"TU Electric has made it more difficult and more expensive for us to fulfill our responsibilities to our customers," Pruitt charged. "But we refuse to let them make it impossible. The lawsuit is history. The appeal is history. But we intend never to give up the fight for our customers' rights."

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American Limestone produces big

Company employs eight, expects to add to total

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

American Limestone Co.'s Big Spring facility isn't a secret, but little of its product is consumed locally, so it's not a surprise that many local residents might not know what the company does or where it's located.

Currently employing eight, American Limestone's local facility quarries, cuts and fills orders for limestone sold around the nation. In addition, the company has its own design for building modular housing units using products from its quarries and the local plant.

And according to plant manager Clay Garrett, who's only been on the job for four months, the company's getting plenty of orders to keep the local operation busy.

The company consists of a central office and sales staff in Dallas, with the Big Spring cutting facility and limestone quarries at the Edwards Ranch near Garden City and another at Lueders near Abilene.

Limestone deposits used by American Limestone are exceptionally large, containing several million cubic feet of usable limestone, Garrett explained. Deposits in West Texas are considered some of the largest in the country.

Garrett oversees the quarrying of limestone blocks — measuring roughly 8 1/2 feet by 4 1/2 feet, as well as the facility at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark where the stone is cut into slabs for floor tile, wall veneer and other uses.

"Most of our business is for custom cut slabs," Garrett explained. "But we also sell quite a bit of the raw quarry blocks. Both are primarily used in residential and commercial construction, but most of it is shipped to the metropolitan areas ... you don't see much of our product here in this area."

However, the Big Spring facility is regularly inspected by buyers from throughout the country.

One of the largest orders for limestone from the company was that for blocks and slabs to build a 200-foot wide building in New Mexico. The Big Spring plant supplied almost \$100,000 worth of limestone from the Garden City quarry for that project.

'Most of our business is for custom cut slabs. But we also sell quite a bit of the raw quarry blocks. Both are primarily used in residential and commercial construction.'

Clay Garrett
Plant Manager

Lynn L. Northrup Jr. of Dallas, chairman of the company, said several other large orders have been obtained or are currently in negotiation.

Limestone blocks from the Big Spring plant were used to construct a "Romanesque" stone building for the Cisterian Abbey Church in Irving which was featured in the October 1992 edition of Architectural Digest magazine.

Each of the blocks used in construction of the church was two feet by three feet by six feet.

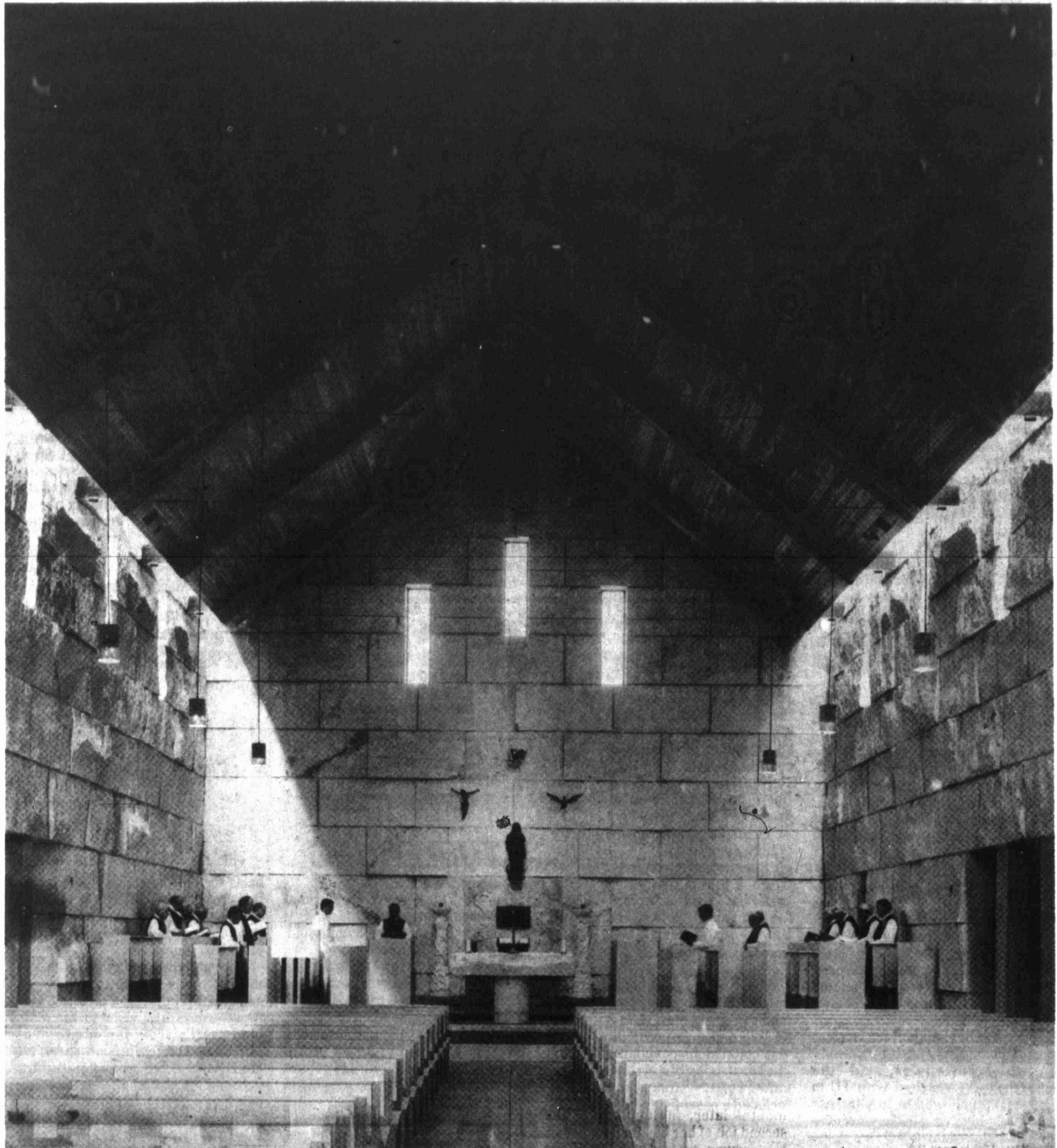
Garrett noted that the company is also getting good response to one of its newer products — the natural face or split face parts of the large blocks which provide unique, rustic veneers for buildings.

The use of veneer, he noted, costs much less than common rock wall construction techniques.

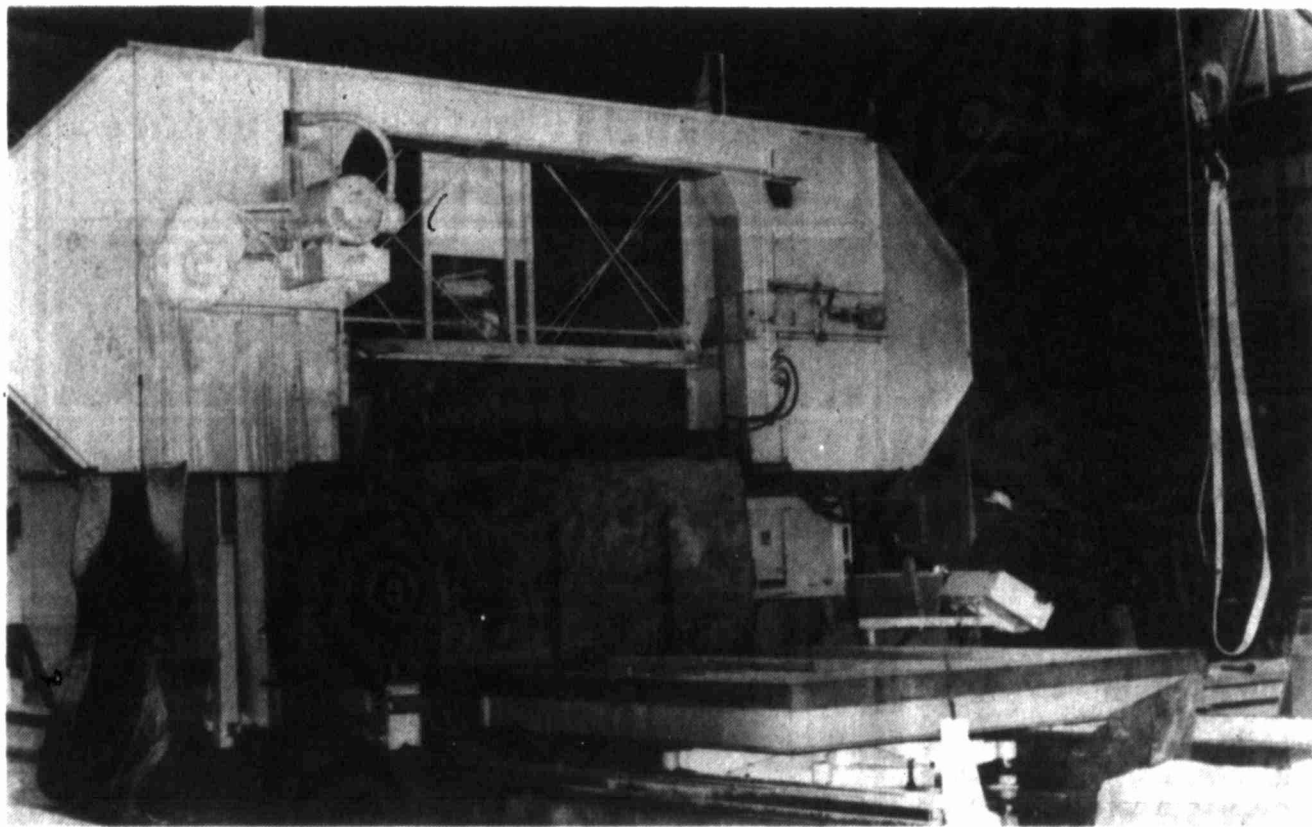
Garrett virtually beamed in describing the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark facility the "finest for a stone plant that I've ever seen."

In creating the veneer panels, the plant takes the 2,500-pound raw quarry blocks, transports them to Big Spring and processes them with a diamond saw unlike any other currently in use in Texas.

The saw uses a diamond-encrusted belt to slice the stone into computer-controlled thicknesses. Garrett explained that the new saw can slice through raw blocks in just a few minutes, whereas previous methods required as much as five hours before saws could cut through a single block.



Above, limestone blocks from the Big Spring plant were used to construct a "Romanesque" stone building for the Cisterian Abbey Church in Irving which was featured in the October 1992 edition of Architectural Digest magazine. At left, workers oversee the cutting of the huge limestone blocks.



Main

Continued from page 6C
once tallest building between Fort Worth and El Paso, is a concern of many residents. The group says they still haven't hit the right people just yet.

Locating the tourist information center downtown is a relatively a newly conceived project. Recently, Rip Griffin's Truckstop/Cafe notified the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce it would be restructuring the manned visitor and information

center with a display counter and a direct telephone line to the Chamber of Commerce office, due to remodeling and expansion at their truckstop.

Pursuing a downtown jail project, the group says, is a crucial goal for this year, if it's found to be financially prudent. Also, the group plans to more actively pursuing new members and forming a downtown merchants committee.

Representatives of Main Street
Please see MAIN, page 11C

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Big Spring Herald

Freedom

Continued from page 7
fire protection is Westside and the donation isn't needed because of the existing fire service. Solutions for the building at the air central fire station Airpark funds have

History

Continued from page 7
Rental rates for industrial buildings are low 7.5 cents per month, according to The facilities are used by industry and are not a venture.
Large portions of taken back, when decisions decided to purchase Correctional Institute SouthWest College the Deaf in that area.
These facilities, the longer part of the

Mall

Continued from page 7
business owners how Wal-Mart.
The seminar will be an organization, where successfully competing to 1992 Wal-Mart.

Watt said finding use a limited advertising difficult. But she said the key to making

"You have to come from different angles, use the fullest to make the you," said Watt, adding many ways to accomplish telemarketing to direct mail.

"Wal-Mart will be that will happen. It's into a positive. It's a job but that's the challenge."

Prison

Continued from page 7
aliens.

Johnny Rutherford, officer for Mid-Texas the market's right time's right."

This third expansion federal prison operation is positive for Big Spring bids for state prison been lost since 1989.

TU

Continued from page 7
last summer's anti-supply power demand.

TU officials said the 15.3 percent increase will be below the average of the nation's 25 largest cities.

"We intend to make competitive rates," TU Executive Director Erle Nye said, "which have compared very well with other utilities in the area."

In August 1993, TU will pay half their rate the next two months, October, 1993.

The hotter weather the July 1993 rate is recognized by TU as a that justified accommodations' this way charges were a deferred portion.

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Freedom

Continued from page 7C

fire protection is needed on the Westside and the downtown fire station isn't needed because of overlapping service. Solution: renovate a building at the airport and move central fire station equipment there. Airpark funds have been used.

History

Continued from page 7C

Rental rates for the airpark's industrial buildings is a relatively low 7.5 cents per square foot per month, according to airpark officials. The facilities are used to promote industry and are not a profit-making venture.

Large portions of the airpark were taken back, when federal departments decided to place the Federal Correctional Institution and the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf in that area.

These facilities, therefore, are no longer part of the properties man-

aged through the industrial park office, and no rent is paid for their use.

There has been some discussion about expanding airport services, initiating some commuter flights, but no actual proposals have been made, according to Tom Decell, the city's public works director.

The city is continuing to upgrade airport facilities, "using an airport master plan," Decell said. As these upgrades are made, the airport will make progress toward meeting Federal Aviation Administration regulations for small commercial airports.

There's more. This year, three more firefighters

will be paid out of the airpark fund. The \$85,000 saved will be used to hire three city firefighters to bring truck manning up to three. It was justified because firefighters at the airpark back up calls in the city just as other city firefighters answer calls at the airpark.

"You have to be careful," Sheedy said. "There's only certain things we can spend it on."

"The fire station does, and has and will be providing support," Decell assured.

In addition, a 1977 Mack pumper truck was refurbished to 1992 standards, using \$85,000 in airpark funds, and stationed at the airpark. Fire administration was also moved there, including offices of Anderson and Fire Marshall Burr Lea Settles. The downtown location will be used for expansion of City Hall.

"We killed two birds with one stone," Sheedy said.

Better Westside coverage should drop the city's insurance key rate from 18 cents to 17 cents, Robert Schultz, of the state fire commission, wrote Fire Chief Frank Anderson last April. Bringing truck manning up to minimum affects 2 cents of the key rate.

In general, a decrease in the city key rate would tend to reduce commercial type insurance policies. How much, if any, this key rate reduction would affect commercial type policies would depend on many additional factors," Schultz stated in his letter.

What concerns the council now is dipping into the \$2 million generating interest.

This year's airpark budget has \$691,736 in expenditures compared to \$588,420 revenue. Spending is about half what it was in fiscal 1993. It includes 14.6 employees at \$370,000 a year plus another \$300,000 in capital expenditures.

Realtors

Continued from page 5C

Reeder Realtors ERA noted that some customers have wanted to invest in rental property, but there is little to be found.

Dodson said local builders are still building custom homes, which means a few more homes are moving onto the market as those families move into their new homes.

"You'd really have to say that all the realtors are optimistic," she said. "We're all still very busy and that's good."

Estes, however, refuses to let the limited number of listings on the market at this time be a discouraging factor.

"There are plenty of houses for sale and we're getting new listings every day, because there's a pent up desire for new homes out there right now," she said. "The builders are staying busy, and that means people are putting a few houses on the

market every month."

Estes also noted that interest rates are beginning to inch up again, and added that some customers are beginning to see discount points added to their loans. "That's not something we like to see, but I guess it's a necessary part of doing business sometimes," she said.

Two new players in the local mortgage market have Estes admittedly excited.

"There are some new loans coming out that are very interesting," she noted. "One mortgage company sent representatives in last week for a presentation of a new mortgage they're offering in which they propose to pay a portion of the closing costs with the remainder being paid by the seller."

"That kind of mortgage would be great for the first-time buyer," Estes added. "I've been in this business a long time and I've never seen any-

thing like it. We're telling all of our buyers about it and make it available to them."

She also noted that the First National Bank of Big Spring has returned to the mortgage lending field, offering competitive rates to those from lenders outside the area.

"This is really the first time in the last 18 months to two years that we've had a local lender offering competitive mortgage rates," she said. "We're very excited about that, as well."

Remaining up tempo, Estes said she believes the local economy is excellent at this time.

"I believe it's ready to take off ... really, it's already taken off," she said. "We've already been contacted by three or four restaurant chains indicating an interest in property located in the vicinity around the new Wal-Mart store."

Mall

Continued from page 4C

ness owners how to compete with Wal-Mart.

The seminar will cover Wal-Mart's organization, where businesses can successfully compete and where not to fight Wal-Mart.

Watt said finding the best way to use a limited advertising budget is difficult. But she says being innovative is the key to making it work.

"You have to come at it from different angles, use all means to the fullest to make the money work for you," said Watt, adding there were many ways to accomplish this from telemarketing to advertising to direct mail.

"Wal-Mart will be in Big Spring, that will happen. The key is to turn it into a positive. It won't be an easy job but that's the challenge."

Prison

Continued from page 8C

aliens. Johnny Rutherford, chief financial officer for Mid-Tex said, "We think the market's right, we think the time's right."

This third expansion at the city-federal prison operated by Mid-Tex is positive for Big Spring, as three bids for state prison facilities have been lost since 1989.

TU

Continued from page 9C

last summer's anticipated higher supply power demands.

TU officials said that even after the 15.3 percent increase, their rates will be below the average rate of the nation's 25 largest cities.

"We intend to maintain our competitive rates," TU Electric chairman Erle Nye said, "which traditionally have compared very favorably with other utilities in the nation."

In August 1993, TU offered its residential customers a unique opportunity to pay half their August bill over the next two months, September and October, 1993.

The hotter weather in August plus the July 1993 rate increase was recognized by TU as a financial burden that justified accommodating its customers' this way. No interest charges were accrued on the deferred portion.

Walls

Continued from page 6C

include holidays, a two-week vacation, group health insurance and a profit sharing program.

Company officials say they believe they'll benefit from the North American Free Trade Agreement, because the company already owns facilities in Mexico.

Start-up costs aren't worth moving factories to Mexico and piece-rate pay is the same, Letts noted.

"The apparel industry is based on a piece-rate system," explained Albert Archer, Walls' chief executive officer in Cleburne. "The more efficient the worker, the more money they make. I don't see anything in NAFTA that will change that."

Walls also operates an outlet store near the factory on Highway 350.

Although work at the factory is sometimes grueling, Letts admitted, a core group of workers have been employed for more than 15 years, and three of the factory's employees have been with the company for 20 years — almost form its inception.

Watt

Continued from page 3C

to make a change."

She didn't wait long. A few months later, she applied for the second job of her life, mall manager. Her resume, as you now, listed one job.

Was she surprised that she got it? "I was, of course, very hopeful but I was a little surprised," she said. "I knew I could do it."

Watt says coming from a retail background helps her relate to renters.

"It helps me to see both sides of a situation because I have been where the merchant is."

MOVE

Continued from page 8C

The company started in the mid 1980's and provides service throughout North America with a distributor/appliator network backed by technical field assistance. Efforts are underway to expand distribution to Japan and other foreign locations.

Main

Continued from page 10C

recently took the downtown jail site project to task.

On Feb. 28, Pat Porter, Main Street treasurer and owner of the Sparenberg Building on the third block of Main challenged the county commissioners' court to seriously consider using the Petroleum Building as a joint law enforcement center alongside which a new county jail could be built downtown.

The downtown location may end up cheaper than a more remote site just south of Interstate 20, at the intersection of Douglas Street and the Lamesa Highway.

"We can significantly enhance the property values downtown, which is an ongoing return to the tax base," said Terry Burns, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The historical experience of downtown is unique to the area, Porter said, "these buildings down here have a little character, a little experience, they're all a little different," she said. "I think they show the pioneer spirit, the individuality."

Atkins, owner of Big Spring Hardware Co. and Big Spring Antique Mall, both on the first block of Main, said "it's important to fill up every building in downtown Big Spring with something."

Signs along Interstate 20 help attract some 12,000 travelers driving by Big Spring daily. Travelers stop in from all over the nation as well as other countries, as proven by the chamber's visitor and convention bureau reports.

There's plenty of available buildings downtown, some ready to move

in. There's lots of other vacant buildings but many need renovation work.

Parking is no problem, in fact, Atkins said. "That would be a great problem for us to have."

"There's not a week that goes by that I don't get an inquiry or someone saying, 'Hey, I wish I owned that building,'" Atkins said.

Downtown could also be ideal for professionals and entrepreneurs needing small office space or doing business involving the county and city government. Several lawyer offices already dot the square around the courthouse as well as an abstract office, bail bondsman and an optician.

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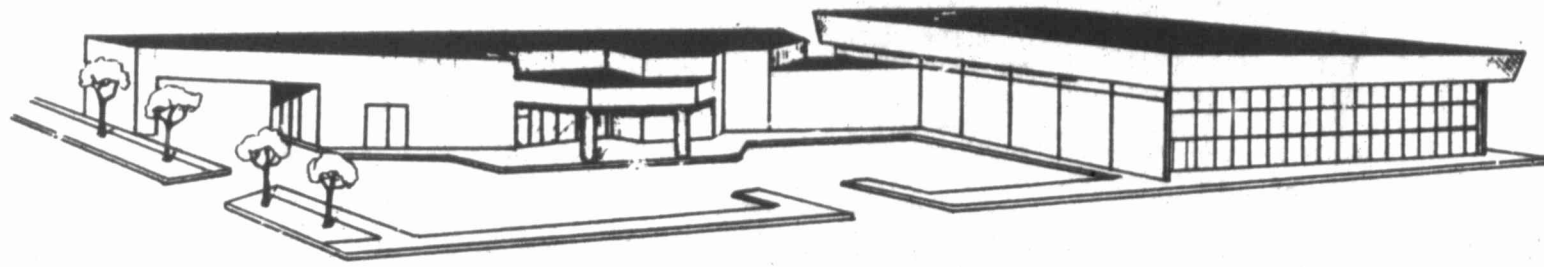
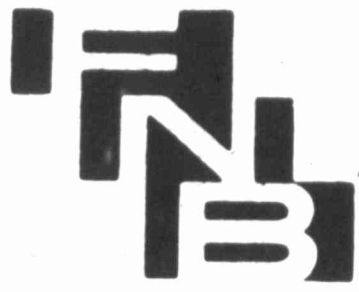
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BIG SPRING Herald

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PROGRESS '94

BIG SPRING HERALD

DIGEST

Declining tax base being felt in county

This year saw changes for Howard County government, possible changes in the commissioners court and an increasing problem of a declining tax base for the county and other taxing entities, accelerated by lower mineral values. See page 2D.

CRMWD pipeline nearly completed

Water supplied to the city of Big Spring by the Colorado River Municipal Water District will increase in price for 1994 - an increase in actuality less than was projected in June 1991 - before bonds were sold to finance the construction of the Ivie Supply Pipeline from the Ivie Reservoir to Odessa. See page 3D.

Tourism attractions are underdeveloped

"Big Spring has an abundance of tourist attractions, but they are not adequately developed or marketed to achieve maximum economic impact," said "Tourism in Big Spring: A Strategic Plan". See page 4D.

Cotton harvest up over 1992 crop

Howard County cotton farmers managed to harvest a \$20 million crop last year, not what many had hoped for, but considerably better than the \$17.2 million cotton harvest for 1992. See page 5D.

Chamber accomplishes most of its goals in 1993

Terry Burns started his new job here last April as executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, replacing Linda Roger who held the job since early 1991, and moved to join her husband in Fayetteville, Ark. See page 6D.

City park attraction for visitors and residents

Comanche Trail Park has been an attraction for Big Spring residents and visitors alike for decades. The park offers many attractions, from the historic spring that gave the community its name to a refreshing swimming pool that relieves summer's heat. See page 14D.

Chamber makes strides in bringing in tourists

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau are making strides to bring more tourists and money to the city. See page 15D.

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Steve Stone, CPA.....D-7

T
Trinity Memorial.....D-8

Reviving a battered oil industry Key could be in West Texas



Commonly known as "grasshoppers," these pumpjacks dot the West Texas countryside. Industry representatives believe West Texas has the key for reviving a battered oil industry and have taken their idea to Washington D.C.

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

State officials and oil industry representatives from West Texas say they have the answers to revive the battered industry and are taking that message to the nation's capitol.

A Clinton administration initiative to revive the oil industry, while eyed pessimistically by some in West Texas, is recognized by most as a step in the right direction.

The problem is it doesn't do enough for crude oil production, said Harry Spannus, executive vice president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, a 1,250-member organization of mostly independent as well as major oil producers.

Spannus says oil producers and others in the industry want a floor price on crude.

"We admit it (president's plan) has some beneficial features for the nation's energy posture," Spannus said in December. "But, it deters around the issue of domestic crude oil production and the problem we face. It puts domestic production second fiddle to any and all other energy issues."

World crude prices plummeted to five-year lows in December, to less than \$15 a barrel, when an Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meeting last November failed to produce an agreement on limiting production. Small U.S. producers were hit hardest, and declin-

ing prices were blamed for 450,000 lost jobs during the past decade.

Prices have only mildly rebounded since, a March 14 quote for West Texas intermediate crude — the benchmark in domestic production — climbing to just a few pennies over \$15 a barrel for delivery in April.

Clinton's plan would help independent producers use new technology to cut exploration and drilling costs to benefit in the long run, ease environmental regulations for refiners, make it easier to market natural gas and lower royalties for drilling offshore and on government land.

"It's a step in the right direction, but we're going to have to do quite a bit more in the way of a national

energy policy," said U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm.

Stenholm and some other lawmakers from oil producing states want to see an oil import fee to provide a floor price on crude oil. Somewhere around \$22 to \$25 would be good, he said.

"That obviously would put a lot of people to work in the oil patch," he said. "Otherwise, I think we would be completely at the whims of other countries, that would be OPEC."

In addition, Stenholm and others are calling for use of a \$70 million surplus in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to buy oil and stabilize prices.

Among more positive aspects of Please see OIL, page 2D

1993, a full year for city

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

City of Big Spring government had an eventful year in 1993, with difficult decisions and controversial issues. Improvements like the paving of Johnson Street from Fourth to 10th streets and implementation of a new affirmative action program were made.

May 1993 saw a 5 percent pay increase for non-management City of Big Spring employees, with management level pay increases to be considered individually.

The raises would cost \$70,000 a year. City manager Lanny Lambert said that 72 out of the 248 non-management employees were eligible for food stamps. The pay scale begins at \$5 an hour, and turnover has been 17 percent.

The city's low pay scale was virtually across the board, with lower salaries than 15 cities in Texas of comparable size. Of 37 job descriptions in Big Spring, 12 local jobs pay 25 percent less than other cities did, said personnel director Emma Bogard.

June 6, 1993, was a day-long retreat/workshop for city councilpersons and city management personnel at a remote ranch location.

Problems identified were in areas of attitude and pride, infrastructure, water, cooperation between city and county governments, appearance, declining tax base, community decline, inadequate minority involvement and low incomes for local residents.

Positive assets were noted as past success, climate and natural beauty, location, good schools and people, and qualities of life like golf courses, lakes and local business.

July 1993 saw a new city budget with a hike in garbage collection Please see CITY, page 3D



This is one of the sites, referred to as the "remote site" for a proposed new county jail. The Howard County Commissioners' Court will be working with city and other officials to try and determine the best site - the remote site or downtown - for the new jail.

Tough jail decision awaits county

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

One of the biggest problems Howard County government now faces is the present overcrowded Howard County jail, which continues to house inmates, many of whom are parole violators with new commitments.

These "paper-ready" inmates are waiting to go to state prisons and would otherwise already be in prison.

The situation is made worse because it requires about 120 days to complete the revocation hearing process. Revocation changes the warrant holding the inmate from a blue one to white. Only after this change occurs does the county receive state funds to house these state "paper-ready" prisoners.

Howard County Sheriff A.N. Standard said, "We used to send 40 to 60 each year, but that's changed in recent years. Now, the county receives a percentage allotment from the state. That translates that one prisoner a month, or 12 a year actually being sent." Standard added, "Even when a new state

prison unit opens, Howard County would only receive two or three allotments."

When Standard contacted the state comptroller's office in Austin, he was told "that even with the completion of all new prison construction by the end of 1996 that the situation will be no better."

County officials have said they feel that the public views a new jail as a public necessity.

Commissioners have tried to compare the downtown site acquisition and site preparation costs, which would require \$270,000 for demolition of the Permian Building, to a remote free-standing site on the Lamesa Highway near Douglas Street.

Until recently, cost comparisons presented appeared to favor the remote location in terms of total costs.

Representatives of Big Spring Main Street Inc. and officials from the city of Big Spring had asked serious consideration of using the Petroleum Building be entered into before the commissioners voted to rule out a downtown jail site.

The Petroleum Building contains

approximately 27,000 square feet, six floors at 4,500 square feet per story, and needs only interior refurbishing for the most part.

"Big Spring Main Street Inc. is willing to provide the building for a price of about \$25,000," Pat Porter exclaimed.

"Downtown is really everyone's neighborhood," said Charles Beil, city councilman, explaining the "premium of improving our community."

"It's not just a financial concern, we can significantly enhance property values downtown, which is an ongoing return to the tax base," said Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce executive director, Terry Burns.

Burns, who made a telephone survey representing 535 chamber members said, "that 89.2 percent support the downtown site, even if the cost is higher, while the remaining 59 members support the remote site, with 1 percent, or six members, not supporting any location."

"We need to get with the city council, city manager, assistant city manager and the mayor together with us if we are going to do this." Please see JAIL, page 3D

A good year is predicted

Enthusiasm for 1994 economy widespread in business community

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

While some were wary of the local economy a year ago — citing numerous indicators that had been virtually unchanged for a year — there were those that saw a 22 percent increase in home sales, 6 percent unemployment and minuscule gains in other areas to be optimistic.

For 1994, however, there are no naysayers.

To the man or woman, enthusiasm pervades the economic outlook most Big Spring residents hold for the near future.

"People may get tired of hearing this ... or of hearing me say this, anyway, but two of your best indicators of economic activity in a community are the total number of people employed and what kind of sales tax receipts retail businesses are taking in," said Ted St. Clair, executive director of Moore Development for Big Spring Inc.

"There are about 1,000 more people working in Big Spring and Howard County today than there were in the summer of 1990," St. Clair said. "That's an indication of economic activity to me ... a positive one."

"And as far as sales tax receipts have gone, Howard County's total was \$749,000 three years ago," he noted. "That increased to \$762,000 two years ago, and for the last year — Oct. 1, 1992, through Sept. 31, 1993 — Howard County's total sales tax receipts were \$837,000."

"That's not only a tremendously good sign about the local economy, it's a sign that people living here are pretty confident about the future," St. Clair added.

During the period in which the county's sales tax receipts climbed and employment jumped 1,000, St. Clair noted, Big Spring lost two of its larger retail outlets with the closure of J.C. Penney's and the Sears catalog store.

While Big Spring's H.E.B. supermarket opened during that span, St. Clair noted that much of its sales are not subject to sales tax and that it had minimal effect on the county's increased receipts.

State National Bank President Jim Purcell, who serves as president of the Moore Development board, was equally optimistic.

"I think our economy is moving along very well right now," he said. "Loan requests are up on bankable deals, unemployment is down and home sales in the community were way up this year over last."

What's more, Purcell says he's convinced that local economic trends "will only get better during the next year."

He admitted that some of that optimism has been sparked by signs of cooperation in the community that one doesn't see in many other communities.

"One of the best examples I can think of is the city council and commissioners' court working together trying to build a joint jail and justice center," Purcell said. "There are several counties across this state where you just wouldn't even entertain the thought of trying to get those two entities to discuss anything."

At the same time, however, Purcell notes that government intervention and taxes are the biggest obstacles still facing communities.

"We can't make good business decisions because we have to check too many places to see how they comply with government regulations," he said. "And even worse, the federal government has a bad habit creating programs ... mandating this or that ... and then telling us to pay for them at the local level."

At some point, Purcell said, government has to recognize that "it can't keep growing itself without providing additional services and that there's no way to legislate perfection or a solution to all the world's ills."

St. Clair did note, however, that the economy has improved overall at the national level, as well as locally.

"The national economy has done better, too," St. Clair said. "I'm certainly not going to stand here and say the Clinton administration is responsible for the improvement, but by a like token, I'm not giving credit to George Bush and his people." Please see ECONOMY, page 2D

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New video helps Moore board to attract industry

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

The Moore Development For Big Spring Inc. is in its fourth year of successful operation serving local citizens and businesses.

Created by a referendum approved in May 1990 by the citizens of Big Spring, Moore Development began operations Oct. 1, 1990.

The referendum called for the creation of a half cent sales tax to be used to support economic development activities.

A video produced by Moore Development this year entitled "Big Spring: A City Spurred by Growth" highlights the activities of the board.

The video shows the board's efforts in promoting Big Spring's strengths in agriculture, retail, medicine, oil industry, manufacturing and marketing Big Spring as a distribution center, servicing a million people in what has been come to be known as the "golden-circle" area, with Big Spring as the crossroad to West Texas.

The video also features 100,000 available square feet of commercial space at the McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park, with 8,000 feet of runway. The air park is described as one of the best "non-controlled" airports in the state.

The 60 churches of Big Spring, with 20 denominational choices is

accentuated as well as the vital support of the community, with ample utilities such as natural gas, water and electricity.

The four stable financial institutions are mentioned as is the local resource of a 15,000 member work force.

A "pro-business" climate in businesses and in local government is touted in the video. The advantages of lower initial investment costs to start a business, as well as lower operational costs, is highly promoted.

The conclusion features a long list of local businesses, some of which Moore Development helped to attract and assist in start-up.

A special broadcast premiered the video in January this year. Also featured were interviews with Moore Board Executive Director Ted St. Clair and current board members Jim R. Purcell, president of State National Bank; Charles Dunnam, owner of Ackerly Oil; Glenn Fullingim, vice-president of Green & Fullingim; Steve Fraser, vice-president of Fraser Industries; and Scott McLaughlin, president of Saunders Company.

The board's 1992-1993 annual report states its activity "has established the course for economic development that has been effective and will continue to produce both a diversified job base as well as an

increased tax base.

"The primary challenge facing our organization continues to be achieving the maximum public benefit for every dollar spent," the report said. The board "will continue its focus on specific business and industry groups that will help to diversify the Big Spring economy."

Highlights of some of the major accomplishments for the period beginning Oct. 1, 1992 and ending Oct. 1, 1993 by the board include:

- Committed \$967,150 to economic development projects in Big Spring.
- Installed a crane and railroad system in building at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, attracting American Limestone Company to Big Spring.

- Brought in and established Lone Star Aviation at the airpark to service private aircraft landing here.
- Worked toward a new tax abatement plan, to attract businesses.

- Worked with city officials on approval of enterprise zone application to enhance competitiveness.
- \$100,000 in funds were made available to prepare a comprehensive long range master plan as a tool for cohesive development planning by all governmental entities of Howard County.

- Loan commitments to companies, such as \$120,000 for Avantech Corporation to create 12 new jobs man-

Please see MOORE, page 3D

Oil

Continued from page 1D
the administration initiative is efforts to make it easier to market natural gas, Stenholm said. That would help investments.

Other initiatives are also welcomed, such as easing of regulations on refineries.

Railroad Commission Chairman James E. (Jim) Nugent and Commissioners Mary Scott Nabors and Barry Williamson traveled to Washington in mid-March to preach a gospel of tax incentive programs which have encouraged the drilling of hundreds of new wells and the production of sizable quantities of oil and natural gas in Texas.

What has worked in Texas, they say, will work on a national scale, as well.

"The plain truth is, tax incentives in Texas have added at least 945 million barrels of oil to our reserves," Nugent said. "This is more than 1 1/2 times oil that is contained in the entire national strategic petroleum reserve. The oil in the reserve cost taxpayers \$19.2 billion. The additional oil under the Texas program costs the taxpayer nothing."

Nugent said severance tax exemptions have been particularly effective in encouraging secondary and tertiary recovery programs which squeeze additional oil out of fields that might not otherwise be recovered.

Beginning in 1989, a 10-year, 50 percent exemption on all oil produced from new secondary and tertiary recovery projects was put into place. Two years later, the incentive was extended to incremental production from expansion of existing projects, Nugent added.

"Some said Texas would lose more in severance tax revenue than it would ever bring in through additional production," Nugent said. "They were wrong. This past year when we asked the Legislature to renew the program for four more years because the results have been spectacular."



Workers check an oilfield drill. The oil industry has suffered many ups and downs but now area representatives think West Texas may hold the key to reviving the industry.

To date, 743 projects have qualified for the tax incentive, Nugent added. They are expected to produce more than 945 million barrels of oil during their lifetimes. The wellhead value of that additional production should exceed \$14 billion and the total economic value to the state would be some \$41 billion over time.

Nabors and Williamson, testifying before the Senate Finance Committee's Subcommittee on Taxation, stressed the importance of offering incentives to return stripper wells to production.

Nabors noted that 80,000 of Texas' wells were stripper wells. "We made it possible for an operator to revive a well that has been inactive for at least three years and get a 10-year, 100 percent severance tax exemption for all oil and gas production," she explained. "In just the first six months of the program, 1,063 of the targeted wells have been brought back to life — over three times the number for the previous year."

The reactivated wells should produce more than \$126 million of oil and gas valued at the wellhead, Nabors added. Sales tax revenue along on that value is an estimated \$7.3 million.

The time the effect ripples through the state's economy, Nabors continued, the total economic value will exceed \$366 million.

Nabors also pointed to another incentive program that encourages the drilling of new wells. Producers are able to get a \$10,000 severance tax credit for every new field discovery well drilled in 1994, if at least 521 fields are found statewide. Higher numbers of new field discoveries will give operators higher tax credits.

However, Nabors said Texas' incentives are just the start.

"Incentives like these are just the beginning," she said. "We need more incentives and we need them on-line as soon as possible. Immediate federal action is critical. We are losing infrastructure, service companies and industry expertise. As a nation that wants to remain competitive, we're risking way too much."

Williamson told the subcommittee that much of Texas' oil industry is balancing precariously on the brink of unprofitability.

"The vast majority of our wells are stripper wells ... eking out less than 10 barrels a day or 60,000 cubic feet of gas," he said. "A small drop in price, increase in operating costs or extra regulatory burden can quickly drive them under."

Williamson said Texas incentives were designed to assist the state's largest industry without creating a burden on the state budget.

"When we manage our resources efficiently, we strengthen our economy, create jobs, keep taxes low and reinvest in our industry base," Williamson concluded. "Have these incentives been a success? You bet they have. We've proven the oil and gas industry will respond to this kind of incentive... It's time to put a federal plan in place."

Effect of declining tax base felt

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

This year saw changes for Howard County government, possible changes in the commissioners court and an increasing problem of a declining tax base for the county and other taxing entities, accelerated by lower mineral values.

Sixteen candidates vying for nomination in the March 8 Democratic and Republican primaries sent a strong message that voters may be anticipating a change, as incumbents were challenged in Precincts 2 and 4.

Bobby Cathey prevailed in defending his Precinct 4 seat, while John R. Stanley will relinquish his Precinct 2 spot this November.

The taxable value of Howard County has fallen from \$1,297,584,908 in 1990 to \$1,132,547,312 in 1993. That is a total decline in the tax base of \$165,037,596 or a 10.763 percent decrease.

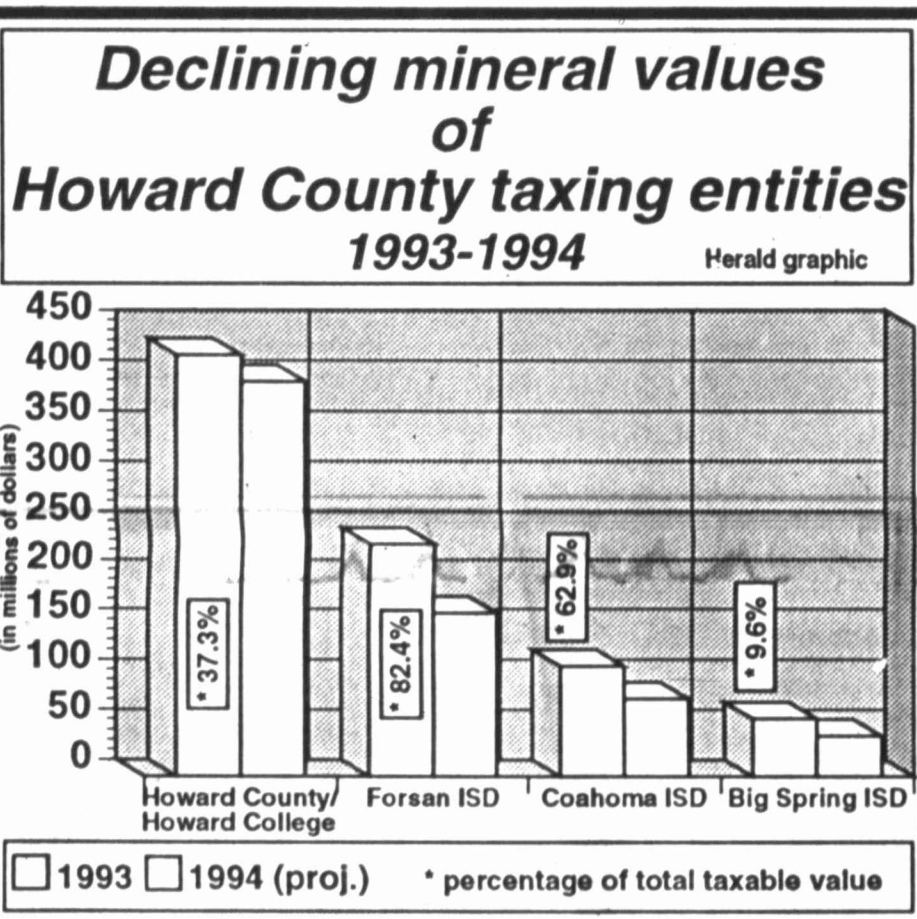
"To replace that \$165 million decline in its tax base, Big Spring and Howard County needed to bring in a new \$250,000 business every working day for the last three years to offset the declining tax base," said incoming Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce President Jeff Morris during the Jan. 19 chamber board meeting.

As the tax base declines, ad valorem taxes, applied to the value of what is being taxed, go up correspondingly, affecting all consumers.

Declining mineral values in the county tax base and falling oil prices are causing the situation to escalate even more rapidly. For every barrel of oil that comes out of Howard County fields, consumers taxes go up, until more revenues come in from economic development.

Mineral values have declined at alarming rates for local taxing entities from 1990 to 1993.

As taxing entities generate less



money they have less funds from which to provide services. Either taxes go up to continue supplying those services, or if taxes do not go up, a decline in those services is inevitable.

Howard County originally adopted a tax abatement policy establishing guidelines, criteria and a uniform policy of tax abatement in Feb. 1990. The policy was amended in July 1990, then further revised and adopted in Dec. 1992, by a unanimous vote by the Howard County Commissioners' Court on Dec. 14, 1992.

There is a sunset provision of two years; which means that by Dec. 14, 1994, the policy must be reviewed and modified, renewed, or eliminated.

Two companies have received abatement of taxes since the inception of the abatement policy; Power Resources and the Fina Refinery.

Abatement "means the full or par-

tial exemption from ad valorem taxes of certain property in a reinvestment zone designated by Howard County or the city of Big Spring for economic development purposes," the abatement document explained.

The 1993 appraised value of Power Resources was \$80,467,200 which was \$2,970,200 below the base-year value of \$83,437,400.

Power Resources received a \$3.3 million abatement in May 1991.

Base-year value means the assessed value on the eligible property as of Jan. 1 preceding the execution of the agreement. The abatement contract sets a base of property value under which no taxes can be abated.

Since the 1993 appraised value was lower than the base-year value, none of Power Resources 1993 taxes were abated.

Fina received two abatements. Please see TAX, page 3D

Economy

Continued from page 1D
ple. It was just time for the economy to begin making some improvement.

St. Clair added that the community has to keep making every effort to diversify its economy. "We have to diversify," he added. "We've learned that we can't depend on oil values to continue to pay our way. If oil suffers, we're going to suffer until we can get our local economy diversified as much as possible. In the process, we'll become more immune to fluctuations in the oil markets."

Terry Burns, executive vice president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, said he, too, is encouraged by current economic indicators.

Pointing to strong retail sales by local merchants during the Christmas season; expansions at Western Container and Mid-Tex Detentions that will create still more jobs for the community during the coming year;

a steady increase in new housing starts and construction business that, as a result, stays busy, Burns says one has to be enthusiastic when looking at the overall picture. "It's tremendously positive, if you ask me."

Cleo Young, president of the Government Employees Federal Credit Union, cited several of Burns' examples in declaring the local economy to be "on an upswing."

"We've got those two major expansions (Western Container and Mid-Tex), several new businesses have come in and there's new building going on," she explained. "What's more, there aren't many homes for sale out there, because interest rates have been down and homes have been selling well."

"It's really unbelievable how well our business is going, too," Young added. "We're working on getting a

new drive through window and adding parking space. And we're 94 percent loaned out. That's how every credit union would like to be!"

Lila Estes, owner of ERA Reeder Realty, said she sees continued growth in several areas in the new future. "We've already heard from several food chains indicating an interest in acquiring property in the vicinity of the new Wal-Mart store," she said.

However, perhaps the most encouraging point made by any concerning the local economy, was Estes' observation that the First National Bank of Big Spring is now offering mortgage money at competitive rates.

"We're really excited about that," Estes said. "This is the first time in at least the last 18 months to two years that I can remember there being any competitive local mortgage money on the market."

Jail

Continued from page 1D
W.B. "Bill" Crooker said.

A final site feasibility report was presented March 14 to the Howard County Commissioners by Aguirre Associates' architects. It demonstrated six possible configurations, and made an in-depth study accurately breaking down all the costs to facilitate joint discussion of the construction project.

The architects with Aguirre Associates, David Snelson and Norris Fletcher, maintained the value of their report is the numbers are as true a comparison across the board from one scenario to another.

The report figured a \$3,090,767 jail construction cost figure into every option. The plans are struc-

tured around building a 96 bed facility with a pod to allow for expansion to a 144 bed capacity.

All downtown proposals figure in the Permian Building being demolished, at a cost of \$270,000.

One of four configurations proposed downtown, "C", came to \$6,470,459. The \$6,470,459 figures builds a jail east-west, parallel to Second Street on the northern-half of the same block, between Scurry and Main streets.

The cheaper way figures to \$6,357,459, subtracting a lot's acquisition cost of \$113,000.

A possible \$113,000 savings beyond that figure could be realized by building the jail north-south between Second and Third streets,

parallel to Scurry Street on the western-half of that block.

The remote site projection was option "D" of the six proposals, coming in at \$5,781,009.

Mayor Pro Tem Ladd Smith asked the court if they had a firm price on the land acquisition costs at Douglas Street's remote site. Smith said "The \$50,000 you've been saying it would cost is not a realistic figure. I've heard it closer to \$200,000."

Crooker said the appraised value for both parcel of land in the Douglas Street site amounts to about \$60,000, and "a \$200,000 figure would be prohibitive."

Other downtown options, "B" and "B-1", figure in the remodeling of Please see JAIL, page 4D

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Old wa lines c Program in to correct j

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

"Repairing older be our number-one for 1994," said Ager Tom Decell. literally eat our lunch, our equipment and machinery.

An example Dec breaks that occurred during the Christmas season. He said "we average 41/2 hours."

Decell explained happens when a worker is older and the technology then in joints using caulking lead. A chemical dissimilar metals, creates a flow of iron between the iron cast iron acts as a giving up its molten and thus weakens sion occurs at the joints and moisture and unusual pressure inside."

Decell indicated problem areas that first.

On Dixon, they wlematic area from well fields. Morris streets have long sand are targeted as Decell said, "I main from the city park will be a big repairs downtown curb and gutter."

"We will periodically with the problem and will use barrier overall safety an extensive work that done. Pipe is in

City

Continued from page fees, which was \$241,000 to pay for equipment change Federal law for the

"The budget also for streets, \$20, course improvem for fifty new dump

The summer of undertaking of a repaving project, contracting out on From Fourth Street the old concrete st the sub-grade was added. Compl was the necessary 12-inch water main of the street.

"City crews gain expertise on this account" project," assistant city manager enjoyed the bagpipe formed by killed R much as anyone I work the city put in

"We feel we can some projects, w expertise," Decell example is like on ject, much like the expansion at the /tate both Western Mid-Tex's city-fede sion projects.

Decell explained Spring can spend \$ rials, and because are lower, we can save enough money ment procureme we'd be otherwise contractor."

In August 1993 unanimously appro property tax incre cent hike in garba which came to \$ residential users.

Also in August, ment of Commer city's application zone. Areas appra are McMahon-W most areas west o not southwest, and of the railroad trac

The city last year native action plan

Tax

Continued from page The first abatement 75 percent of tax \$15.5 million am and 50 percent for

In other word was given so that the money now, a ment expires the taxes on all of the longer than the pe

Fina's second a was for \$38.1 mill granted only 30 years on \$27.5 mill ment of 17 percent amount.

Old water lines costly

Program in place to correct problems

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

"Repairing older water mains will be our number-one concern by far, for 1994," said Assistant City Manager Tom Decell. "These time-bombs literally eat our lunch; consuming manhours, our budget and increase equipment and maintenance costs."

An example Decell cited was 19 breaks that occurred in one day during the Christmas holidays last year. He said "we average one break every 41/2 hours."

Decell explained what actually happens when a water main breaks.

He said, "Many of the water mains are older and the state of the art technology then involved sealing the joints using caulking compound and lead. A chemical reaction between dissimilar metals, called electrolysis, creates a flow of electrical current between the iron and the lead. The cast iron acts as a sacrificial anode, giving up its molecular structure, and thus weakens the joint. Corrosion occurs at the pipe's joint due to the soils and moisture on the outside and unusual pressures exerted on the inside."

Decell indicated there are some problem areas that will be targeted first.

On Dixon, they will rebuild a problematic area from the old O' Barr well fields. Morrison and Armstrong streets have long standing problems and are targeted as well.

Decell said, "The transmission main from the city park to the state park will be a bear. Water main repairs downtown involve replacing curb and gutter."

"We will periodically have to live with the problem of an open hole and will use barricading to insure overall safety and facilitate the extensive work that will have to be done. Pipe is in 20 foot sections,



City crews work to fix a water main break which Assistant City Manager Tom Decell describes as a "timebomb," which is very costly to the city in terms of equipment, manhours and maintenance.

blocks are 300 feet long, that's 60 joints per block."

But Decell noted "Water and sewer connections for the new Walmart site at the current Highland mall location are at 100 percent operating status."

Major efforts on street seal coating will be done in conjunction with Howard County.

Decell said, "We'll undertake a number of intersections in poor shape pavement-wise. But first we'll determine if the underlying water

lines need repair at the same time. We have developed a fast-track procedure that takes only two days to tear out and repair those intersections."

Decell said, "Among the other city projects will be the 70,000 foot expansion at Western Container. Also planned is construction for Mid-Tex Detention's new 500 bed contract jail facility building which will be operated by the city of Big Spring."

City

Continued from page 1D

fees, which was raised to bring in \$241,000 to pay for employee and equipment changes mandated by Federal law to the existing landfill."

"The budget also set aside \$20,000 for streets, \$20,000 toward golf course improvement and \$50,000 for fifty new dumpsters."

The summer of 1993 saw the undertaking of a Johnson Street repaving project, with city crews contracting out one block at a time. From Fourth Street to 10th Street, the old concrete street was torn out, the sub-grade was rebuilt, and base was added. Complicating this effort was the necessary replacement of a 12-inch water main down the middle of the street.

"City crews gained experience and expertise on this in-house or 'force-account' project," said Tom Decell, assistant city manager, "and we enjoyed the bagpipe ceremony performed by killed Rev. Flynn Long as much as anyone because of all the work the city put into the project."

"We feel we can be competitive on some projects, where we have the expertise," Decell added. "A good example is like on a \$500,000 project, much like the water and sewer expansion at the Air Park, to facilitate both Western Container's and Mid-Tex's city-federal prison expansion projects."

Decell explained, "The city of Big Spring can spend \$300,000 on materials, and because our labor costs are lower, we can do most of it and save enough money to make equipment procurements out of money we'd be otherwise handing over to a contractor."

In August 1993, the city council unanimously approved a 2.9 percent property tax increase and a 25 percent hike in garbage collection fees, which came to \$7.50 a month for residential users.

Also in August, the Texas Department of Commerce approved the city's application for an enterprise zone. Areas approved for the zone are McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park, most areas west of Gregg Street but not southwest, and most areas north of the railroad tracks.

The city last year updated its affirmative action plan after a lapse of

18 years. City councilperson Stephanie Horton said "I think the city is doing the best it can but they should do a better job of recruiting and training of minorities."

Horton is black and represents District 1. She's the only ethnic minority and woman on the seven-member council.

The updating of the affirmative action policy was tabled one month because women were lumped together with ethnic minorities in calculated percentages by departments.

"We (ethnic minorities) cannot accomplish these goals with a percentage based on white females," Horton explained, "White females have a special goal of their own that they're trying to accomplish - handicapped people have their special goals."

City manager Lanny Lambert said, "The affirmative action plan is the city's policy statement that we will recruit and train qualified minorities for the city of Big Spring - our work force should reflect the community it serves."

Another two controversial issues the council addressed were the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and prairie dog population control.

STEP was given a month long trial. The chief implementation area was used in school zones, and along Washington Street. The program was heralded a success, by the

entire city council and Acting Police Chief Jerry Edwards.

A proposal to pay a \$1,500 fee to humanely remove prairie dogs from several areas around the Airpark was unanimously approved. Also approved was a request to return after April 1 to remove the new babies, at no cost.

A discussion item was to draft a firm city policy in resolution form concerning their controlling the prairie dog population. It was agreed that no poison for prairie dogs be used. If they are removed, it will be humanely done and will be environmentally safe. No action could be taken as this was an agenda item for discussion.

"A goal, but not a requirement will be to limit the population to 3,000, and to do so we'll need to capture 3,000 to 5,000 every spring," Lambert explained.

Recently in building 12 at the Air Park, Lambert said they discovered 16 remaining bags of prairie dog poison out of 20 bags that were purchased in the years 1988 and 1991. He says that the four bags might have been used, were lent out or are missing. Mayor Pro Tem Smith said they might have been used on ground squirrels at the golf course.

Two padlocks have been placed on the storage area door, and two different city officials have the keys, safeguarding any concern about the poison, Lambert said.

CRMWD's prices increase but pipeline is moving right along

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Water supplied to the city of Big Spring by the Colorado River Municipal Water District will increase in price for 1994 - an increase in actuality less than was projected in June 1991 - before bonds were sold to finance the construction of the Ivie Supply Pipeline from the Ivie Reservoir to Odessa.

"In 1991, when we approached Big Spring, one of our CRMWD member cities in June 1991, we told city officials that in order to finance the pipeline project, a two-year price increase would occur, resulting in a total projected price increase of 13 to 14 cents per thousand gallons," said O.H. "Owen" Ivie, general manager of CRMWD.

"We asked the City of Big Spring, do you want us to do it? Big Spring said yes. In actuality, the price increases occurred in 1993 and 1994. They have not been over 10 cents," Ivie explained.

Based on a projected 2.5 billion gallon consumption for Big Spring, the fixed annual charge for 1994, established by the CRMWD board of directors was calculated at 74.82 cents per thousand gallons, based on the estimated consumption for 1994. The 1994 rate calculated based on actual 1993 consumption was 77.01 cents per thousand gallons.

The projected rate for 1993 was 68.96 cents per thousand gallons, and the actual rate for 1993 was 70.94 cents per thousand gallons.

The projected increase for 1994 over the actual 1993 consumption is a 6.07 cent increase, per thousand gallons.

A delivery charge for the electrical energy costs to deliver water to the city will be 14.55 cents per thousand gallons in 1994.

The pipeline's projected cost is \$115 million dollars. The project consists of 158 miles of pipe and seven pump stations, and will serve adequately in water delivery to the member cities for 40 years.

"By mid-January 1995, a newly completed water system will deliver water from a new source, the Ivie Reservoir, to the member cities of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, Big Spring, Snyder and Odessa," said CRMWD's Ivie March 16.

"With the completion of this system, the district will continue and more vigorously involve itself in doing what it can do to improve the water quality of the water it delivers," Ivie remarked.

Joe Pickle, public information officer for CRMWD reports approximately \$1 out of every \$20 goes strictly to "protect or improve the quality of water."

"This year, the CRMWD will have

completed 42 years delivering water to member cities without ever having to ration water," Ivie explained.

"As the CRMWD's board of directors like to mention, all facilities owned and opened by the district have been paid for with money derived from the sale of revenue bonds," Ivie said. "There is absolutely no state, federal or local tax money involved in this district."

"We can build facilities for up to two-thirds less than what the Federal government would pay for similar projects, and we can do so within a more timely manner," he commented.

In praise of the likely January 1995 completion date of the pipeline project, Ivie said a big factor "was the result of the CRMWD's ability to receive bids on the Ivie supply line's pump station network that were within engineers estimates and that contracting companies submitting bids are all capable firms with past proven track records."

The district agreed to contribute \$15,000 to the Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition, a national group seeking a "more balanced and realistic base for dealing with threatened species."

Ivie said he was hopeful that "in the long run, scientific fact would replace unfounded suppositions and hypotheses."

Moore

Continued from page 2D

ufacturing "tank level gauges" which are environmentally safe as well as more accurate.

•Development of video for industrial and individual recruitment to Big Spring.

•Advertisement of the airpark in various publications, such as the "U.S. Real Estate Register"; "Plant, Sites and Parks Magazine" and the "Industrial Machinery Digest".

•Funded the Howard College Business Development Center among whose highlight services have been: research and creation of a tourism plan, conducting seminars to help those starting a business, establishing a minority and small business breakfast and research to acquire

economic development suggestions and assistance from the Texas Department of Commerce.

Unfortunately, one project with Wright Fibers Inc. has ended in the board's unanimous action to call the firm's note with Moore Development, according to the written agreement between them executed January 1993.

At that time, the board approved a \$800,000 loan guarantee of a total loan of \$2.2 million in 1992-1993 in conjunction with the Texas Department of Agriculture. The loan closed in January 1993, along with a further commitment by the board in the amount of \$550,000 for purchase of the manufacturing facility upon completion of renovations.


"Past due performance in terms of

the overall project," board president Purcell said, "is the main reason we voted to call the note."






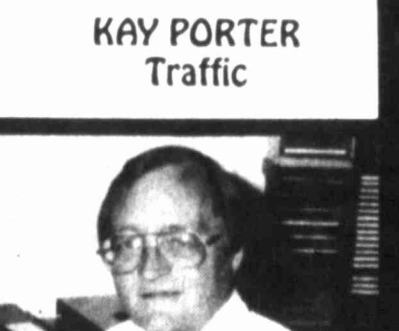
"The original goal," he added, "of our involvement was to create 60 new jobs for Big Spring."


Moore chose to call the note, while Herb Wright, who invested over \$700,000 himself into the Wright Fibers Inc. textile enterprise, wanted to obtain an extra six months he said he needed to return to a positive cash flow stance.

Wright, the board felt, originally had some solid ideas about marketing products in the plant by adding value to locally grown upland cotton and recycling cotton scrap material. However, the interest due on the note alone was approximately \$100,000.



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Tax

Continued from page 2D

The first abatement contract abated 75 percent of taxes on the requested \$15.5 million amount for 5 years, and 50 percent for five years.

In other words, the abatement was given so that Fina would spend the money now, and after the abatement expires the county will collect taxes on all of the amount, for much longer than the period of abatement.

Fina's second abatement request was for \$38.1 million, but Fina was granted only 30 percent for five years on \$27.5 million, a net abatement of 17 percent of the requested amount.

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Tourism plan, a 'positive' step

Big Spring has number of underutilized attractions

By **TIM JONES**
Staff Writer

"Big Spring has an abundance of tourist attractions, but they are not adequately developed or marketed to achieve maximum economic impact," said "Tourism in Big Spring: A Strategic Plan".

The published plan was authored by Danette Toone and researched by the Howard College Business Development Center, as commissioned by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Tourism Task Force Committee lead by Fina refinery manager Jeff Morris, then Vice-President and Chairman of the Tourism Steering Committee.

Five specific areas of concentration were recommended, "to yield the quickest, most productive results," the plan said.

•Convention and Visitors Bureau: Restructure the CVB away from promoting events and toward bringing more visitors to stop in and visit Big Spring.

Over a million persons live within a 100 mile radius of Big Spring, and Interstate 20 and U.S. Highway 87 brings approximately 21,700 cars a day through Big Spring. CVB can aggressively increase its marketing to convert those present passers-by into future well-informed visitors.

Events do attract visitors to town, and the CVB should help others with their events. Rather than running the events themselves, the CVB should focus on marketing.

•Comanche Trail Park and Lake Area: Secure financing from private investors to build a courtyard type hotel and upgrade the facilities to create a public/private golf-tennis resort at Comanche Trail Park. Amenities needed to attract such a project would include park clean-up and landscaping, implementing a cost-effective working spring, upgrading the golf course and the tennis, swimming, baseball facilities,



Citizens and members of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Tourism Committee met during a town hall meeting in 1993 to determine ideas on what would make great tourism for Big Spring and Howard County. The meeting's ideas were incorporated into a plan for developing tourism.

for example.
•Downtown Historic District: Working in concert with Big Spring Main Street Inc. and the Antique shops; prioritizing the refurbishment of buildings along with a tour of the Historical Downtown district. Attract and better market Downtown Big Spring.

•Natural resources: Develop and enhance existing natural resource sites; for example, upgrade the State Park's scenic overlook with interpretive trails and a visitor's center, make improvements linking mountain and water areas by a hike-bike trail, and increasing viable plant and animal life in recreational areas.

•Advertisement/Focused Marketing: Market to areas outside town, for example billboards are needed up to 100 miles away incorporating a logo and advertising theme for Big Spring, to entice visitors for local

events at Howard College, Big Spring State Hospital, the Veteran's Medical Center, and the Federal Prison to know more about us and get more out of their visits here.

Danette Toone is the Vice-President of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and she has organized committees under her toward implementation of the tourism plan.

Chairpersons from each committee make up an advisory board, with Toone as chair and Janelle Britton as vice-chair. The committee vice-chairpersons are:

- Cultural Affairs, Vicki Purcell.
- Athletic Events, Ray Kennedy
- Grant Money, Mel Prather.
- Visitor Information Center, Elva Clark.
- Dora Roberts Center, Clyde & Beverly McMahon.
- Comanche Park Trail Project, Terry Hansen.

•Historical District, Katie Grimes.
•Natural Assets, Jerry Worthy.

•Marketing & Advertising, Pat Atkins.

•Ex-officio members are Ron Alton, Tom Ferguson, Angie Way, Max Coffee and Judy Smith.

"Big Spring is one of four cities in Texas that received a level two commitment of support from the Texas Department of Commerce, giving us more hands on support, and lending us their expertise, especially in the hotel aspect" said Jeff Morris, chamber president.

"I feel very positive about this plan. This is not fluff and stuff; it is real economic development. Tourism is a viable industry, and the state commerce department's support indicates they know we are doing something right and that Big Spring has real potential as an attractive city," said Morris.

Program helps develop a pool of local leaders

By **KELLIE JONES**
Staff Writer

The nine-month long Leadership Program sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is in full swing.

The program is designed to train young people of the community to learn about the city and how to use that information to gain leadership positions over the years.

"The goal is to take some emerging leaders and train them to start them into chamber and other non-

profit organization and city positions. They will be the base of new leadership for the community," according to Executive Vice President Terry Burns.

The most recent program started in September 1993 and the 25 or 30 in the class will graduate in May. They attend the class once a month for a full day, learning about economic development and other important factors that will help them succeed in leadership roles.

Burns adds a new goal for 1994 is Please see POOL, page 6D

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Electronic needs solved at Radio Shack

By **MARY McATEER**
Contributing Writer

Radio Shack in the Big Spring Mall offers a full range of electronic equipment, computers, accessories, tools and supplies.

The store, owned by Tandy Corporation, has been in the mall for about 10 years.

Radio Shack employees are always happy to help customers, offering advice and suggestions as well as parts.

The store employs one full-time and one part-time salesperson as well as a full-time manager.

Manager Jim Dougherty is new to the area, having been assigned to manage the Big Spring store a little over three months ago, and still commutes daily to and from San Angelo.

He says he's not enthusiastic about the driving, but so far, he likes Big Spring.

Jail

Continued from page 2D

the Petroleum Building. Architects used a \$30 a square foot cost for minor renovation estimates, and a \$65 a square foot cost for major renovation.

The minor renovation, or "B" will cost \$5,403,847 and the major renovation "B-1" is \$6,157,547.

City and county officials will be meeting to jointly determine where and what kind of jail, law enforcement center and/or juvenile detention facility will get built in Big Spring.

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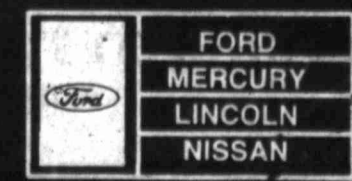
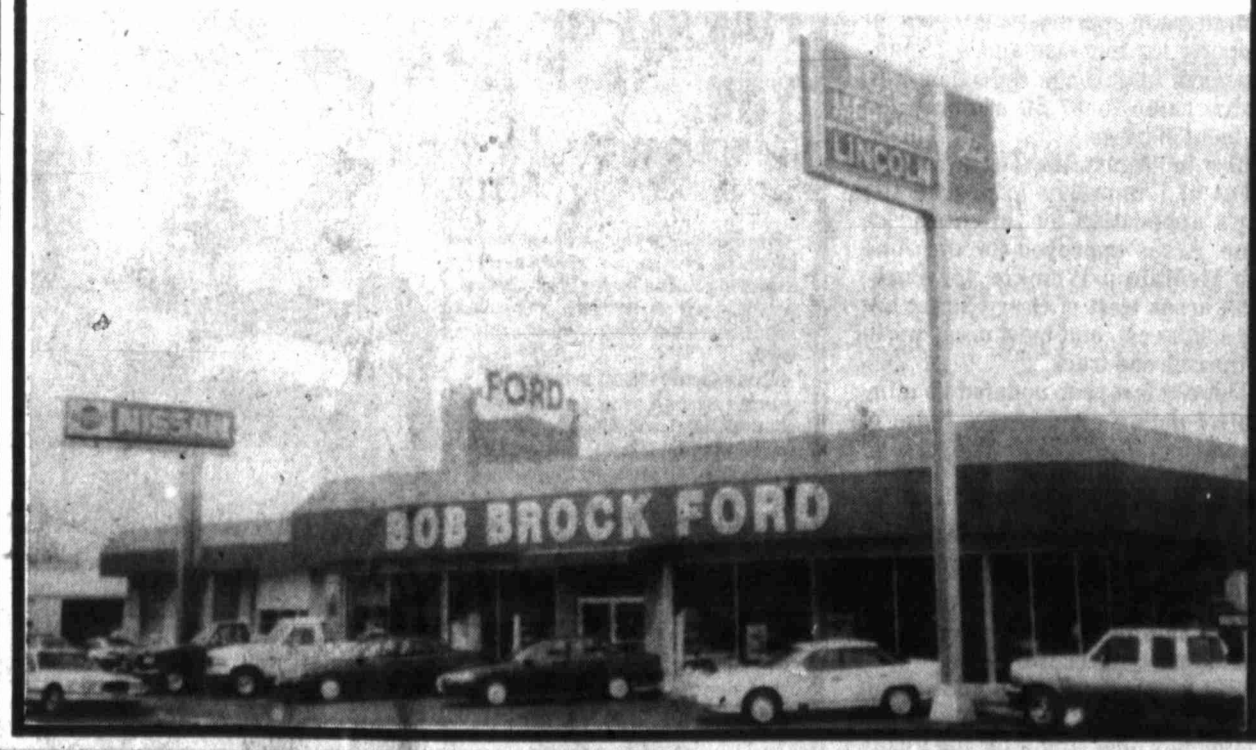
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Farm

Cotton harvest but still

By **JOHN A. MOSI**
News Editor

Howard County managed to harvest a crop last year, no one hoped for, but more than the \$17.2 million for 1992.

"It was a pretty good year," said Rick Liles, Howard County Agricultural Stabilization Director. "We lost about 20 percent of our crop due to weather, but it was better than last year. We had our acreage in 1992, but it was not as good as 1993. Prices for that crop were the primary reason between the two years. In 1992, prices were over \$1.00 a bale, but in 1993 they were around \$0.75 a bale. The basic cost of production was \$150 per acre. In a worst case scenario, if there was a drought or other condition, those 180,000 acres would produce a crop and the cost of production would be about \$1.50 a bale. That's what we had when we had just a \$5 million harvest. Consider it a good year. Yields gross receipts million like it did this year. Liles noted that the county crop exceeded 1992. However, prices for cotton are only fair at between \$0.75 and \$0.80 a bale. Alternative and regular in the county include peas, grain sorghum and some small grains and vegetables. "I don't know of any recent years who I raised an alternative crop," Liles said. "Of the potential crops, black-eyed peas are the favorite in this area."

M

Farming, ranching top county industries

Cotton harvest better in 1993, but still not what farmers hoped

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Howard County cotton farmers managed to harvest a \$20 million crop last year, not what many had hoped for, but considerably better than the \$17.2 million cotton harvest for 1992.

"It was a pretty good year, actually," said Rick Liles, director of the Howard County office of the U.S. Agricultural Stabilization Service. "We lost about 20,000 acres in the southern portion of the county to dry weather, but it was a better crop than last years. We probably lost half our acreage in 1992."

Prices for that cotton harvested were the primary difference between the two years. With the number of harvested acres down in 1992, prices were considerably higher than in 1993 when a better crop was grown.

In any given year, Liles said, Howard County farmers will have 180,000 acres devoted to dryland cotton. Under optimum conditions, that acreage would produce 100,000 500-pound bales of cotton with a basic cost of production of \$100 to \$150 per acre.

In a worst case scenario, such as drought or other inclement weather condition, those 180,000 acres fail to produce a crop and still have a production cost of about \$100 per acre.

"That's what we ran into in 1991 when we had just a little more than a \$5 million harvest," Liles said. "We consider it a good year when cotton yields gross receipts of about \$20 million like it did this year."

Liles noted that the 1993 Howard County crop exceeded 80,000 bales. However, prices for the crop were only fair at between 50 and 60 cents per pound.

Alternative and replacement crops in the county include black-eyed peas, grain sorghum, wheat, sesame and some small tracts of fruits, nuts and vegetables.

"I don't know of any producer in recent years who has successfully raised an alternative cash crop on a regular, large scale basis," Liles said. "Of the potential alternative crops, black-eyed peas seem to be the favorite in this area because

'It was a pretty good year, actually. We lost about 20,000 acres in the southern portion of the county to dry weather, but it was a better crop than last years. We probably lost half our acreage in 1992.'

Rick Liles
ASS director

their residue helps fertilize and build up the soil."

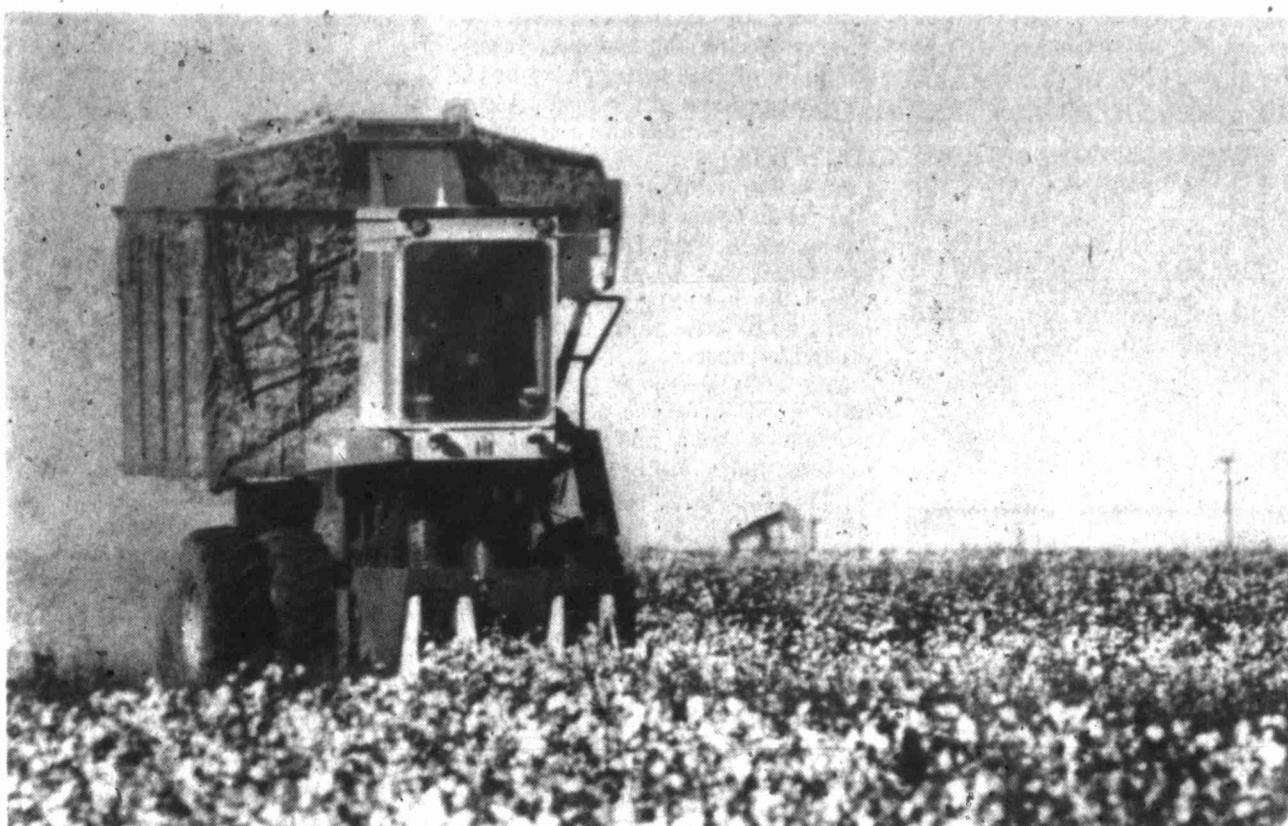
Liles also noted that livestock production is an important agricultural industry in Howard County.

There are approximately 150 livestock producers in the county with total gross annual receipts of more than \$3 million.

Like dryland cotton farming, ranching can also be a hard proposition. Ranchers have to adjust the number of livestock according to available grazing.

Cattle are the primary livestock produced in the county, however, there are sheep producers in the county, some with relatively large scale operations. In addition, there are some ostrich and emu producers in the county.

The agriculture industry is easily one of the largest employers in Howard County, as well. At peak season, agriculture will employ about 1,000 people in the county. Cotton gins, cotton seed companies, cotton warehouses, farm implement dealers, farm chemical companies and food dealers rely entirely on agriculture, but all other businesses — auto dealers, grocery stores, department stores and every other local merchant and institution benefits from the dollars generated by Howard County's agribusiness community.



In 1993, cotton farmers made up slightly for a down year in 1993 with a \$20 million harvest. Agriculture in Howard County is one of the largest employers and most risky of local businesses. Along with cotton, cattle and sheep are also raised in Howard County.



Cotton farming is one of the largest industries in Howard County. In 1993, farmers realized \$20 million in harvested cotton, slightly better than the previous year.

Program fights pesky weevil

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Implementation of a new statewide boll weevil eradication program is slowly but surely getting started, following Gov. Ann Richards' signing of a bill creating the program a year ago.

The law allows cotton farmers to vote on creating a cotton foundation that administers eradication programs in six zones. Two-thirds approval by voters is needed to create a zone, and producers in each zone would select board members.

To date, only one of the zones, has held elections for board members, but others are making progress toward that end, state officials noted.

When she signed the bill, Richards noted "The cotton industry, environmental and consumer groups worked with my office to come up with a bill that is the best boll weevil eradication bill in the country."

That kind of cooperation, she added, "does not happen enough, but when it does, Texas is the big winner."

According to Roger Haldenby of Plains Cotton Growers Inc., passage of the enabling legislation gives Texas cotton growers an opportunity to see the boll weevil "beaten back to Brownsville and beyond ... where it came into the United States 100 years ago."

Haldenby, citing Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry's assessment, said the bill strengthened the cotton industry, and at the same time, protected the environment.

Funding for eradication over a five- to seven-year period will include \$45 million in federal funding, 30 percent of the total cost, with the rest coming from producer checkoff dollars.

Pesticide use is expected to decrease 70 percent at the end of that period. The new eradication effort does not affect the 25 counties involved in

the Plains Cotton Growers boll weevil containment area, which includes Howard and Borden counties.

That 30-year program, monitoring a half-million cotton acres along the Caprock, prevents boll weevils from migrating past Howard and Dawson counties.

Three years ago, the governor vetoed an eradication bill, saying she wanted better definitions on producers who would vote for approval and other language changes to ensure such things as limited government rights to enter private property and destroy crops.

"Gov. Richards and her staff listened very carefully to the comments of hundreds of cotton growers across the state," Haldenby noted. "There were a great many people ... representatives from grower organizations, including Plains Cotton Growers Inc., on numerous occasions, as well as with politicians and environmental groups. Everyone's concerns were weighed and included in a bill that everyone could agree on."



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Local RV park owner is elected TACO president

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Jerry Worthy, the owner of Texas RV Park of Big Spring, has been elected president of the Texas Association of Campground Owners (TACO) for 1994.

An active member of the association for the past six years, Worthy has served in other TACO leadership positions, and as president, will direct the industry association of more than 200 park and campground members.

Now in its 20th year of organization, TACO provides professional seminars to park and campground owners, and offers the professional designation of "Certified Park Operator."

In addition, Worthy notes the association is actively involved in monitoring and initiating legislation which is in the best interest of the park and campground industry in Texas.

Worthy also notes that one of the association's most notable achievements is the printing and distribution of 170,000 copies of the "RV and Camping Guide to Texas."

"The guide is probably the most important thing the association does," Worthy explained. "It not only lists all the RV parks and campgrounds in Texas, but provides maps showing their location in each city."

Worthy makes it clear he believes the guide is every bit as important to the recreational vehicle owner, as it is an advertising tool for the owners and operators of RV parks and campgrounds.

The Texas Department of Transportation must agree, since it will distribute thousands of the guides at its visitor centers located throughout the state. In addition, Worthy noted that the guides are available at virtually all recreational vehicle dealerships and that TACO representatives travel to RV shows throughout the nation distributing them, as well.

He also takes an active role in



JERRY WORTHY

A graduate of Baylor University, Worthy has been a resident of Big Spring since his discharge from the U.S. Air Force in 1955. He established a real estate company in 1960 through which he has been responsible for residential and commercial development in the area.

In 1989, Worthy expanded his real estate development by converting a mobile home park to include 100 spaces for recreational vehicles.

The park has one of the highest ratings for quality nationwide — ranking in the top 4 percent of all parks in the United States. It already displays the "Good Sam" sign of professional quality, and its national ranking recently warranted an invitation to join the "Best Holiday Travel Parks" association.

Worthy recently expanded his business ventures to include a retail recreational vehicle dealership — Texas RV Sales and Service, located eight-tenths of a mile north of the RV park on U.S. Highway 87 South.

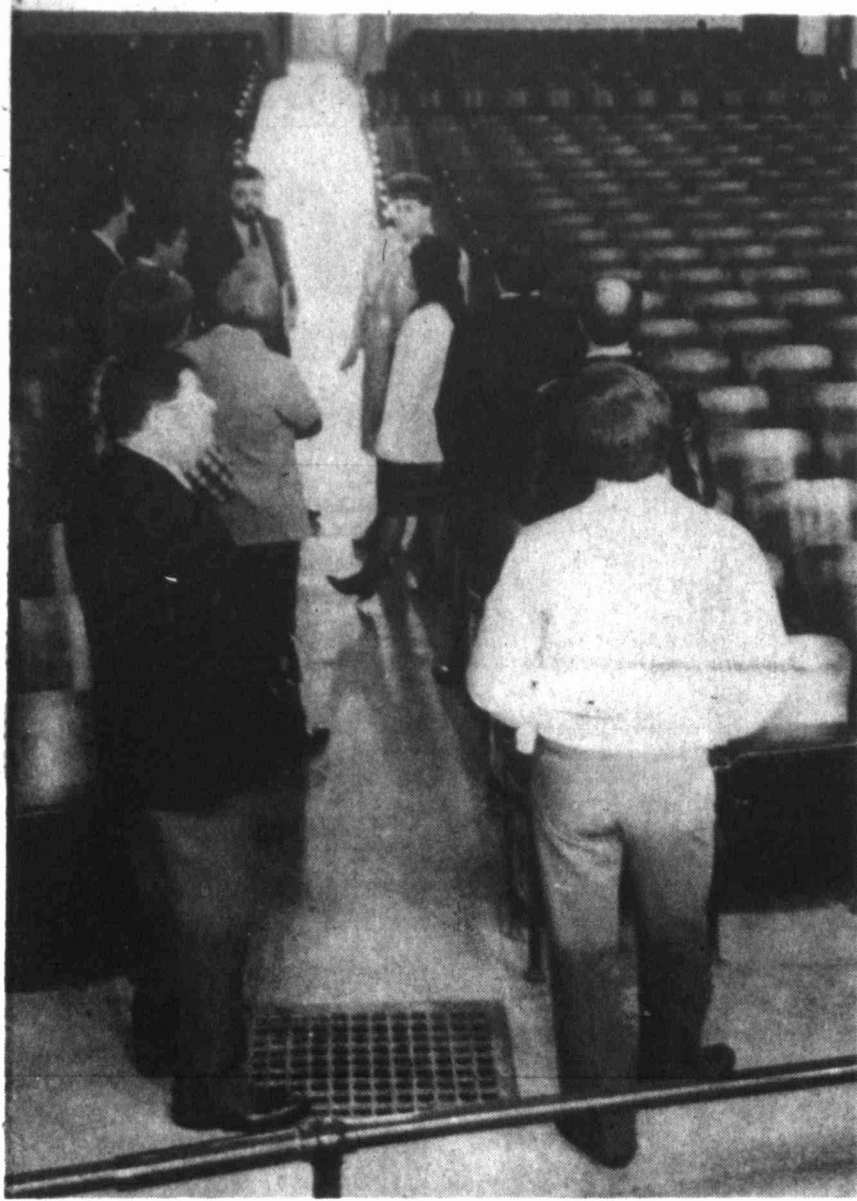
He also takes an active role in

community affairs as a member of the Big Spring Rotary Club, the Ranching Heritage Association of America, the Big Spring Heritage Museum, Salvation Army, and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, serving on the Tourism Task Force and Transportation Committee.

Worthy also holds a Texas real estate broker's license. He and his wife, Louise, are members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and have three children. One son, Jeb, works with Jerry in the businesses in Big Spring, while the other two children, Ann and Roy, live and work in the Dallas area.

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Members of a Leadership Big Spring class learn about municipal and county government during one of the classes. The program is used to develop a pool of leaders for the community.

Chamber sees goals achieved

Receives a 15-year accreditation

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Terry Burns started his new job here last April as executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, replacing Linda Roger who held the job since early 1991, and moved to join her husband in Fayetteville, Ark.

Burns came to Big Spring from Poteau, Okla., with 23 years of chamber experience. He was selected from a field of 40 applicants and had economic development experience as well, serving two years at two positions with the City of Amarillo and Houston Lighting and Power. Burns also has experience with tourism and retirement solicitation.

Burns boosted chamber membership in every place he's worked.

Burns said he saw very little in the chamber operations that needs improving, but noted Big Spring has potential for growth.

"The community is really poised to be more than what it is," he said. "It's a community with a lot of promise. It's been very solid and persistent."

In an annual report, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce listed 40 accomplishments for its investors over the 1993 year. These accomplishments compliment and affect a positive business climate in Big Spring. These are some of the 40 tasks realized in 1993:

•Accreditation: the chamber completed necessary in-depth studies and was granted a 15 year accreditation, one of less than 300 Chambers nationally achieving this status.

•Only about 10 percent of the 5,000 chambers in the nation are accredited, 42 in Texas, and less than 2 percent have received the 15 year accreditation. That puts us in pretty good company," said Burns.

•Ag-Expo: recognition of the impact agriculture and ag-products has on the community, which featured speeches by Richard Rominger, assistant secretary of agriculture from Washington and Rick Perry, state agricultural commissioner. It also featured a floor of widely varying exhibitors and educational workshops at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at Howard College.

•Clean Committee: conducted several community wide clean up days, and is pursuing a number of efforts to improve appearance of Big Spring.

•Cultural Affairs: improving the arts and cultural offerings locally, brought "The Nutcracker" ballet and assisted the symphony as well as a successful "Artfest" in Comanche Trail Park.

•Health Fair: promoted the local medical community, which is a stronger resource than many larger towns, gave physical exams to the public.

•Leadership Big Spring: develops a civic pool of leaders by training for leadership roles in the community.

"If you are in a leadership role in the community, but wish you knew more about government, other organizations and how everything in our community ticks, the you should apply," said Burns, in one of his weekly newsletters.

•Membership Directory: refers

"The community is really poised to be more than what it is. It's a community with a lot of promise. It's been very solid and persistent."

Terry Burns
Chamber vice president

members to other members; an advertising value as a free listing, making chamber membership an investment.

•Newsletter-Newspaper Column: newsletter, informs members how the chamber is paying dividends to them; the column provides higher visibility to the community and informs public of items of interest, what problems need solving and what opportunities are available.

•Promoting Local Buying: "Shop Big Spring", aggressively building local sales, gets members to trade with other members, and encourages the public to trade here, since we live and mostly work here, so let's keep our money here, said Burns.

•Retirement Solicitation: attracting retirees to Big Spring, can average over 100 new families a year with an income of \$30,000 and better.

•Transportation: attracting Interstate 27 through Big Spring, which will have a tremendous future impact on Big Spring.

Burns gave a "David Letterman-style" top 10 list of reasons to join now:

10 - A sales representative for less than \$1 a day. In an average month, they respond to over 1,000 inquiries.

9 - A free listing in the membership directory. Year long advertising alone worth the membership investment.

8 - Resources and assistance provided. A library of available phone books, city directories and information and statistics of all types.

7 - Representation on the national, state and local level on issues with impact as a group an individual could never achieve.

6 - Publicity and exposure to over 500 member firms in your community.

5 - Local buying keeps jobs. Do your business with other members and they'll be trading with you.

4 - New business contacts, every chamber activity has networking built right in. Do business with folks you know.

3 - We keep members informed via the newsletter, a weekly newspaper column, Fax-net and mailings.

2 - We offer the chance to make a difference. Join with others seeking to improve their quality of life and the economic climate of Big Spring.

1 - If you don't do it, who will? No one else is trying to directly assist business in town like your chamber.

"You don't buy a chamber membership," Burns said, "you buy the cooperation and assistance of the most able business and professional people in the community. You buy a better business climate and a better community. If you're in business, you should be in the chamber."

Pool

Continued from page 4D
"looking to start naming vice-chairmen positions for the different committees within the chamber and trying to develop leadership through the program and use those people to fill the vice chairman spots."

"The concept of Leadership Program is what is important. Some graduates of the program retire or move away and the community has depended on chance to find its community leaders. We are trying to develop new leadership that will stay in Big Spring and help the community and businesses to grow. No community is stronger than its leadership," Burns added.

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Who

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

As the Howard declines, ad value applied to the valsonal property bup.

The taxable County fell 10.1990 to 1993, fro \$ 1.132 billion plunge in three ye

As taxing en money, they have which to provide Eithe taxes go current level of s do not increase, declining in am

Winn-Dixie has store or finding

Winn look

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

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"When H.E.B. here, we experie decline in our 1 month or so," Sa that, though, w steady increase a to do so from m expect something

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Who's shouldering tax burden?

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

As the Howard County tax base declines, ad valorem taxes which are applied to the value of real and personal property being taxed, is going up.

The taxable value of Howard County fell 10.763 percent from 1990 to 1993, from \$1.297 billion to \$1.132 billion, a \$165 million plunge in three years.

As taxing entities generate less money, they have less funds from which to provide services.

Either taxes go up to continue the current level of service, or, if taxes do not increase, then the services declining in amount or quality is

inevitable.

To offset this, present business will bear the burden until economic development brings in new business.

The top 25 commercial and industrial taxpayers the county tax assessor/collector's office listed in August 1993 who shoulder this burden (along with the private sector) are:

Fina Oil & Chemical, \$108,626,500; Power Resources Inc., \$81,811,600; Texaco Producing Inc., \$14,516,900; Western Container Inc., \$10,465,930; Malone & Hogan Hospital Inc., \$7,966,857; Richardson Sid Carbon Co., \$6,897,400; First National Bank, \$3,021,400; Cerros Morado Corporation, \$2,963,776; Scenic Mountain Medical Center, \$2,868,012; Ed Dav-

enport, \$2,844,180; Walmart Discount City 513, \$2,656,358; Malone & Hogan Clinic, \$2,565,900; H.E. Butt Grocery Company (real property), \$2,239,982.

Also, Union Carbide-Linde Division, \$1,949,200; Permian Research Corporation, \$1,816,740; H.E. Butt Grocery (personal property), \$1,764,000; Fiberflex Inc., \$1,734,010; Rip Griffin Truck Stop, \$1,697,882; Conoco Inc., \$1,664,882; State National Bank, \$1,647,434; Peterson D.L. Trust, \$1,539,900; Lloyd G. Hobbs, \$1,509,380; Ainbinder Co., \$1,500,000; Pollard Chevrolet Buick Cadillac, \$1,331,000; Duncan Drilling, \$1,299,650.



Winn-Dixie has no plans to move out of Big Spring, instead are looking t the possibility of expanding their current store or finding a new location.

Winn-Dixie plans to stay; looks to expand the store

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

While the competition seems to change and come at them from a different location from one minute to the next, local Winn-Dixie Supermarket officials say they're pleased with the success their grocery has enjoyed in Big Spring and would like nothing better than to expand.

"That's an opinion that's not only held locally, but at the corporate level, as well," explained Winn-Dixie manager Julio Salazar.

"We were notified a couple of months ago by the corporate offices that our lease was coming up for renewal this year and that we would be signing a shorter lease than we had been in the past," Salazar added. "The main reason for seeking a shorter lease was to keep our options open, in case we have to move somewhere else in town to facilitate expansion of the store."

But with the prospect of Wal-Mart Stores Inc. planning to open its new Supercenter across U.S. Highway 87 from the current Winn-Dixie location, wild rumors began to fly the minute it was announced that the company would be signing a shorter lease.

New competition, Salazar explained, is something Winn-Dixie has experienced recently, and company officials don't expect a great deal of problems adapting to a new competitor on the block later this year.

"When H.E.B. opened its store here, we experienced a significant decline in our business the first month or so," Salazar noted. "After that, though, we experienced a steady increase and have continued to do so from month to month. We expect something along the same

"I mean we put them in charge. The idea is to show our younger people what it's like to hold a management position with Winn-Dixie ... give them a better understanding of what we do, and maybe create some interest in our training program."

Julio Salazar
Manager

lines when Wal-Mart opens its Supercenter."

Conversely, Salazar said the store noticed only a minor jump in its business when Furr's sold its College Heights Shopping Center store to locally-owned Newsom Food Centers.

"We feel like most of that store's business stayed with them, since it's the only supermarket on the far east side of town," Salazar said. "I'm sure H.E.B. probably picked up a little ... just like we did, but if really wasn't enough to really pay attention to."

At this time of year, Salazar said much of his attention is directed to setting a date for and coordinating Winn-Dixie's local observance of "Youth Management Day."

The program, he noted, puts young people currently employed by the store into positions of management for one day.

"I mean we put them in charge," Salazar said. "The idea is to show our younger people what it's like to hold a management position with Winn-Dixie ... give them a better understanding of what we do, and maybe create some interest in our training program."

Salazar says the local Winn-Dixie

has already seen the program pay dividends, following Barbara Mitchell's serving as location manager on Youth Management Day two years ago.

"Barbara was a part-time employee-then," he explained. "But today, she's a not only in a full time position, but is our head cashier with a bright future ahead of her with Winn-Dixie."

The local grocery has a total of 67 full and part-time employees and is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week, closing only on Christmas Day.

Salazar also noted that Winn-Dixie is continuing to promote its "Every Day Low Price" policy, and plan to do so in the future — another sign, he stressed, of the company's commitment to stay in the Big Spring market.

"It has never been our corporate policy to participate in pricing wars and we don't plan on doing so when Wal-Mart's Supercenter opens," he said.

"We will, however, be monitoring prices just like we do today and staying as competitive as possible," Salazar added. "And when we can be, we'll have the lowest priced item."



Don's IGA bought out Furr's last year, opening their third and largest store in Big Spring. Don Newsom said the stores were the first in Big Spring to have full catering services, produce misting racks, electronic cash registers and fresh-squeezed orange juice and coffee grinding machines.

Newsom's opens third store, largest in local-owned chain

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

It took a little more than a month to get things finalized last year, but one of Big Spring's better known grocer families sent one of West Texas' best known grocery chains packing.

Furr's Supermarket in the College Park Shopping Center closed at 5 p.m. on Aug. 31 and reopened the next morning as Don's IGA — the third and largest IGA store in Big Spring.

Kent Newsom, who heads Newsom Food Centers with his father, Don, expressed his pleasure with finally getting the agreement approved.

"We have finally, finally, finally — this is like the boy who cried wolf —

but we finally got things worked out," Newsom said.

The local chain, which began seeking a new direction after H.E.B. Food Stores Inc. opened its Big Spring store in October of 1992, had earlier announced the purchase of two Furr's groceries, one in Snyder and the Big Spring store.

The agreement had been temporarily snagged because the stores were part of a package deal with two stores in Odessa, but the Odessa stores were kept by Furr's.

"It's a big deal for us," Newsom said. "This marks a culmination of our taking a new direction. We have growth plans beyond that and this is the first step. I anticipate our growth will stay in the West Texas area."

The sale to Newsom Food Centers

was part of Furr's five-year plan to maximize strength and profitability. "Big Spring," a Furr's official said, "does not fit our geographic market strategy."

However, the store's sales in Big Spring were strong, and the Newsoms say they haven't been disappointed by the business their new store has done.

The two newest Newsom stores are both about 35,000 square feet in size, compared to the 25,000-square-foot Don's IGA store on South Gregg Street and the 16,000-square-foot Fiesta IGA store on North Gregg Street.

Newsom's first goal upon taking over the College Park Center store was to "put the level of service in

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For custom remodeling, see Bob's Company offers full woodworking range

MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

Bob Noyes came to Big Spring in 1970, when he was in the U.S. Air Force, and began a career as a custom woodworker and remodeler in 1971, when he first opened Bob's Custom Woodwork.

In 1979, he retired from the military and returned to Big Spring to re-open Bob's in the old location. They've been at the current location, 613 North Warehouse Road, for 13 years.

Bob's Custom Woodwork, with eight employees, specializes in remodeling, repair, and renovation.

They can do anything from a new countertop in the bathroom to adding a whole new room to the house, or putting it back together after a fire or flood.

People have to understand that remodeling is a different art than building, Noyes says. It's a lot more complicated, because the remodeler "has to tear it apart so that you can blend it back together."

It isn't just a matter of throwing a pile of studs down on a corner of a lot and putting them together into a frame - if you're rebuilding, you have to replace them and match them, one by one, he explained.

It's the taking it apart and putting it back together, and the surprises you find once you've taken something apart, that raise the costs of remodeling, Noyes says. "We appear to be expensive, but we know what to look for up front. There are very few surprises to us."

Quality counts at Bob's, so much that Bob's includes a Trustworthy Hardware store the company established to fill their own needs for hardware for remodeling, as well as quality hardwoods and plywoods for cabinetmaking.

"We're not afraid to order - we can special order anything," Trustworthy has the largest selection of hardwood and plywood in Big Spring.

They do windows, too - and doors. Any kind of doors - steel or wood, plain or fancy, including selling, servicing, and installing garage door openers. And any kind of win-



Bob's Custom Woodworking offers just about everything to fill your remodeling needs including a Trustworthy Hardware store which provides the finest in woods. The company also refurbishes and repairs furniture.

dows, plain or fancy, large or small, standard shape or not, even leaded glass. And cabinets - kitchen cabinets, bathroom cabinets, stereo cabinets. With hardware from Trustworthy.

Custom Woodworking at Bob's also includes The Furniture Doctor specializing in furniture refinishing and repair; and the Strip Shop, where renovations take place. Repairing fire, smoke, or flood damage are included in their expertise.

Bob Noyes and wife, Jan, have raised three sons, all grown, married, and moved away, one to Amarillo, one to Fort Worth, and one just returning from a tour with the Army in Germany. They have four grandchildren.

The Noyes are active in the Big Spring Lions Club. Bob is a past district governor of the Lions, and is currently president of the Lions Eye-bank, which collects donor tissue for transplants; and is the official bingo

caller for Lions Bingo.

The Lions club uses the bingo and other activities to raise funds for sending kids to camps, buying eyeglasses, and helping with the purchase of hearing aids. Recently, the Lions bought a motorcycle for a handicapped man and helped Canterbury residents raise funds to buy a sidecar to be installed on it to help make him more mobile and independent.

In 1987, Noyes participated in the founding of Christmas in April, and was elected president at the second meeting. He's been president since. "They won't let me resign," he says. "Running their business, raising a family, and devoting time to their civic activities have kept the Noyes very busy over the years, but they enjoy it."

"Big Spring's been good to us, and we've worked hard for Big Spring," Noyes says.

Don's

Continued from page 7D

that store that's been needed for some time."

"We've brought the produce department ... primarily the produce department, up to speed," Kent Newsom said. "And we believe we've improved on their meat department, which had already been their strongest area."

"With four stores to buy for, we can have a greater economy of scale," he added. "We have always pledged to work for the most competitive prices for our customers, and we hope to increase the numbers of people coming into Big Spring and Snyder to shop."

Newsom-owned stores have been in operation in Big Spring since October of 1933, according to Don Newsom. "Our hallmark is that we have always been able to change with the times and needs of our customers ... and we're noted for customer service."

The elder Newsom added that the family's stores were the first in Big Spring to have full catering services, produce misting racks, electronic cash registers and fresh-squeezed orange juice and coffee grinding machines.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch shares in the community's history

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

Loy and Jessie Nalley opened the Nalley Funeral Home in 1938 at 611 Runnels St., moving in 1941 to 906 Gregg St., the present location of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

In 1956, C.O. Nalley and J.C. Pickle formed a partnership, creating the Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home. The Rosewood Chapel was built in 1964.

Charles and Ann Eberley began the Eberley Funeral Home in 1920 and operated it until 1953, when they sold the business to Raymond and Martha River. It was then renamed the River Funeral Home.

In 1955 the Rivers sold an interest in the funeral home to Ernest and Mary Lynn Welch. They bought the Rivers' interest in partnership with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schlecht in 1958 and operated the funeral home as a partnership until 1963 when the Welch Corporation was formed. Welch's bought their partner's interest and the name of the business was changed to River-Welch Funeral Home.

In 1972, Ernest Welch Jr. and the Welch Corporation bought the Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home. The two businesses, Nalley-Pickle funeral home and River-Welch funeral home, were combined, eventually becoming the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel, which is still at 906 Gregg St.

Since 1972, Nalley-Pickle & Welch has been operated by the Welch family. With a combined heritage of more than 73 years of service to Big Spring, Howard County, Glasscock County and other surrounding areas, the funeral home takes great pride in its many years of service to the families of Big Spring and this area.

One of the many services offered to the local community is maintenance of funeral records dating back



Nalley-Pickle & Welch, 906 Gregg St., offers a full line of services and preplanning for funeral services. The company recently expanded to meet the needs of its customers.

to the 1920s. Many families inquire about these records of family history for genealogical purposes.

Through the years, Nalley-Pickle & Welch has made great efforts to keep their facilities up to date.

In 1977, the funeral home was extensively remodeled and updated. Major remodeling was undertaken in 1992. The exterior was completely renovated. A new casket selection room was built, accommodating the handicapped by eliminating any steps, and a family lounge and reception area was incorporated into the existing chapel area. This allows families to gather before a funeral service in a comfortable and convenient atmosphere. A recently completed renovation of the restrooms has made the facilities completely handicapped accessible and in compliance with the Americans with Dis-

abilities Act.

Plans are currently underway for joining the chapel and funeral home foyers to enlarge the funeral home's facilities for the convenience of the families. The facility is more than 11,000 square feet and fully able to serve all the needs of any family that selects their services.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch employs a staff of 10 full-time and six part-time employees. The staff includes four licensed funeral directors and embalmers and two provisional licensees who have attended mortuary school. Two full-time secretaries provide help in completing and filing necessary papers with government agencies and insurance companies during and after funeral services.

The staff is available to help families that choose to preplan and pre-

Please see NALLEY, page 9D



Making coveralls

In its 20th year in Big Spring, Walls Industry employs about 100 people in manufacturing of coveralls and other garments. The company, in Big Spring since 1973, sprang from a Dallas company started by George Wall in 1943.

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In 1983, Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home became sole owner of Trinity, insuring the continued history of excellence for which Trinity Memorial Park is known.

The Community Mausoleum

"Our Little Lambs" feature, in memorial to the children who lie in rest in Lullabyland, dedicated Memorial Day 1976.

Thank you Big Spring and the surrounding area for the continued trust you have placed in us. Since Trinity was founded in 1950, thousands of families have established their burial estates here. Our goal is to provide and maintain the best memorial park in West Texas.

A portion of every property and marker sale is placed in trust, never to be withdrawn. Income from these trusts is used to help maintain the cemetery. With your support these funds continue to grow each year and help us better serve the families of this area.

Thank you again West Texas for your support.

Phillip Welch
President

Tommy Welch
Secretary/Treasurer

Statement of Perpetual Care Trust Funds As of December 31, 1993 Trustee: NationsBank of Texas-Dallas	
Property Trust Fund	Book Value
Cash & Money Market	12,104.09
U.S. Government Bonds	59,155.74
Common Trust Funds	11,594.56
Other Investments	25,267.24
Total Property Trust	212,476.63
Bronze Maintenance Trust Fund	
Cash & Money Market	12,629.23
U.S. Government Bonds	79,506.25
Corporate Stocks	26,596.25
Common Trust Funds	17,235.89
Total Bronze Trust Fund	135,967.62
Total Combined Principal	348,444.25

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Otto

By JOHN A. MOE
News Editor

After celebrating business locally last year, Big Spring Otto Meyer says "love affair" with the town.

"I couldn't be here if I hadn't had a business," Meyer says. "I love it here. I've been successful, great in school and opened its arms up to us. Could we ask for more?"

Meyer, in fact, is so enthusiastic about one would get the for every new family that moves here.

"I was kind of the first moved here, and a few people that I know in the world I'd like to see," Meyer said. "But I like minute I set eyes on the state of West Texas, I knew we've been blessed."

Myers

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

When Myers & Sons was founded in 1930 at 24th St. and Johnson, it was a family business. Myer's goal was to get away from the city and have a quiet setting.

Owner Bill Myers makes it a little easier. Myers isn't a Big Spring person, although he's lived here since 1969. He says he's here long enough to know if that doesn't count, who teaches Washington Elementary School.

So are the Myers. Charles, a junior at Big Spring High School. "One of the best," Myers comments with a smile.

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Otto Meyer, Chrysler find a home in Big Spring

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

After celebrating his first year in business locally during October of last year, Big Spring Chrysler owner Otto Meyer says he's involved in a "love affair" with this city.

"I couldn't be happier ... couldn't have imagined a better place to live or do business," Meyer said. "I simply love it here. My business has been successful, my kids are doing great in school and this town has opened its arms up to us. What more could we ask for?"

Meyer, in fact, sometimes sounds so enthusiastic about his new home, one would get the idea he gets paid for every new family moving into town.

"I was kind of taken back when I first moved here, because a ran into a few people that would ask me why in the world I'd come here," Meyer said. "But I liked the place the minute I set eyes on it. I like the natural state of West Texas ... it's beautiful country in its own way, and we've been blessed with some of

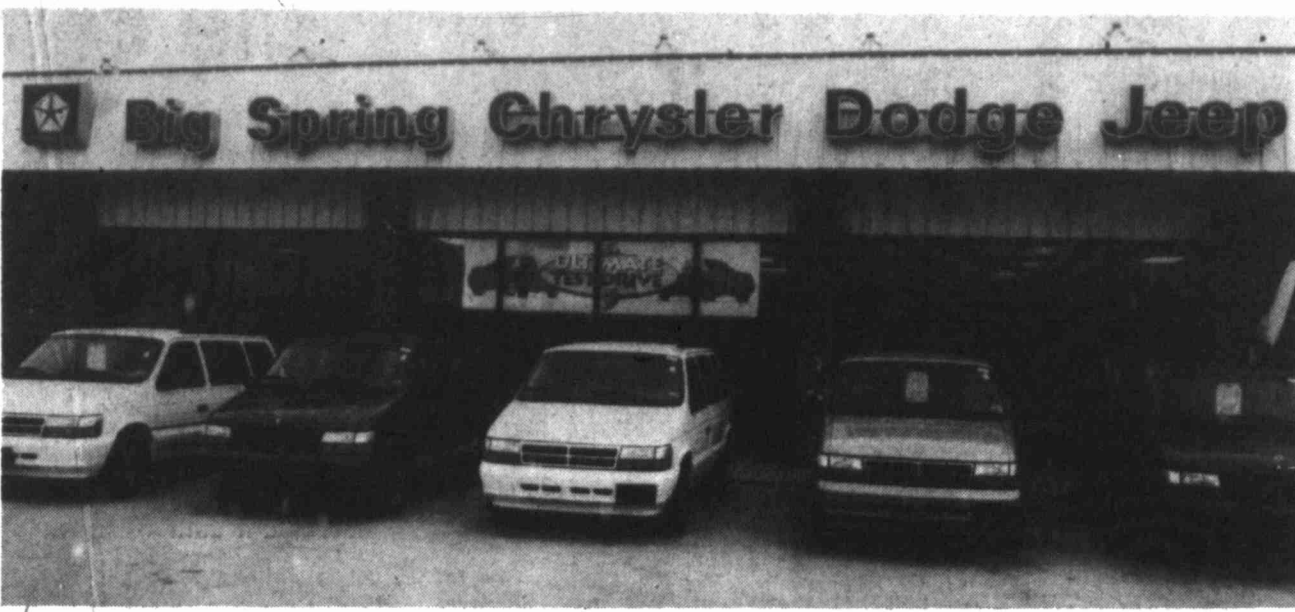
West Texas' prettiest landscaping here in Big Spring."

Meyer gives a large portion of the credit for his business' success during the past 17 months to Jimmy Taylor at the First National Bank.

"There were a lot of people here that told me that a Chrysler dealership wouldn't make it in this town because of my predecessor," he said. "But that hasn't been the case. Our customers have received us well, and Jimmy has been an enormous help."

"He (Taylor) has been there for us ever since we moved here. It's easy to see why he might be considered one of the top 10 bankers in the country," Meyer added. "He's proof that banking without computers works. He lets you grow, and I've depended on him for not only First National's help in financing customers' cars, but in seeking his financial advice. He's part of our team and we appreciate his guidance and help."

Meyer also heaped praise on Citizens Federal Credit Union and the Government Employees Federal



Otto Meyer's Big Spring Chrysler had a good year in its first year of operation in Big Spring. Both the new Chrysler dealership and Meyer have found a home in Big Spring.

Credit Union, crediting them as being "excellent to work with."

"I'll tell you, the Government Employees' credit union is just one of the best credit unions I've ever

worked with anywhere," Meyer said. "I don't mean to take anything away from Citizens' because they deserve a lot of praise, but the Government Employees' folks have just been terrific."

Big Spring Chrysler currently employs 17 with a payroll that Meyer estimated has almost exceeded \$1 million since the dealership

opened its doors.

Meyer was also quick to heap praise on several of his employees.

"I've said a lot about (general manager) Ben Elliott in the past, and there's no doubt he's a big plus for this dealership," Meyer said. "But we've got a couple of other guys that have also done a tremendous job for us. Ray Martinez is our new sales manager and our Kyle Choate, our comptroller, who's a Big Spring native, has been a major asset. We're grateful to have them both."

Martinez, who has been with the firm for a year, was named the dealership's sales manager on Feb. 1. He and his wife, Diana, have three children.

"These are the type of people we believe are not only an asset to our business, but to our community, as well," Meyer concluded. "And that's something we're committed to as a dealership, too — trying to make sure that we're supportive of our community and civic-minded projects in every way possible."

Myers & Smith's quiet setting benefits clients

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

When Myers & Smith Funeral Home was founded in 1985, the location at 301 East 24th St., on the corner of 24th and Johnson, was chosen deliberately to get away from heavy traffic and have a quieter neighborhood setting.

Owner Bill Myers explains that makes it a little easier on people.

Myers isn't a Big Spring native, as people occasionally remind him, although he's lived in Big Spring and been a funeral director here since 1969. He says he feels like he's been here long enough to be a native, and if that doesn't count, his wife, Charlsa, who teaches third grade at Washington Elementary School, is.

So are the Myers' two children: Charles, a junior at Texas Tech, and Christi, a sophomore at Big Spring High School. "One child raised here, and another one nearly raised," Myers comments with a smile in his voice.

Asked about other interest and

civic activities, Myers said since this is a story about Myers & Smith, he'd rather talk about his staff than about himself.

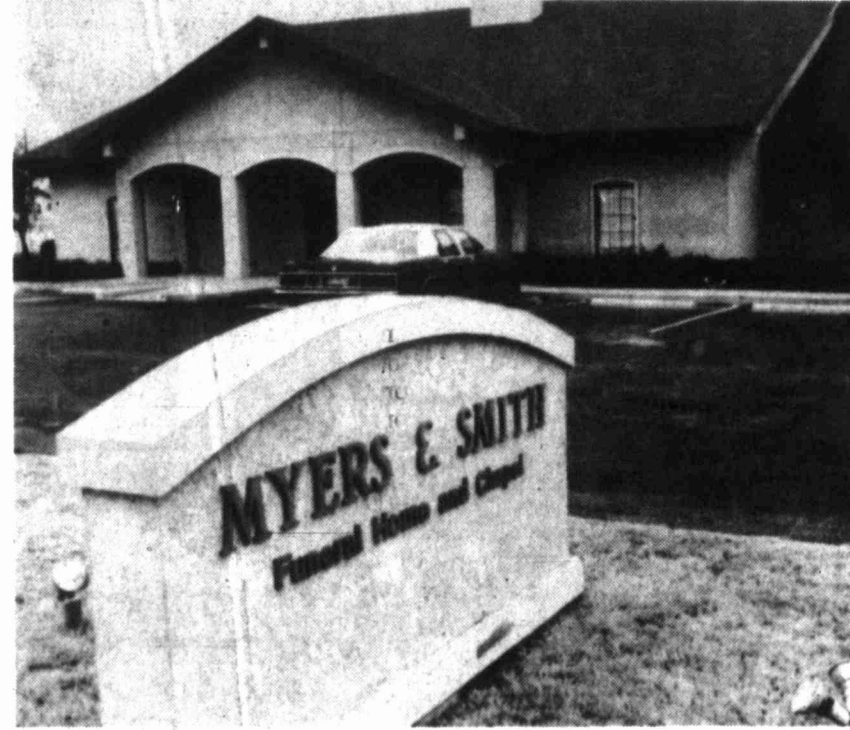
Staff members at Myers & Smith Funeral Home are: Peggy Sherrill, Herb McPherson, Melvin Duratt, Mark Juarez, Lola Sheppard, Rocky Vierra, and Warnell Avants.

Myers & Smith is a full-service funeral home and can arrange services in all cemeteries.

They also offer prearrangement plans. When asked if prearrangement was becoming more common, Myers said about a third of the funerals they handle now are prearranged. People find that knowing everything is taken care of a comfort, and it takes some of the burden off survivors.

Myers & Smith also offers a monument service.

Myers & Smith are members of the National Funeral Directors' Association, the Texas Funeral Directors' Association, and the West Texas Funeral Directors' Association, of which Myers is a past president.



Myers & Smith find a quiet setting, away from heavy traffic and noise to benefit their clients. The funeral home offers a full line of services, including a monument service.

Nalley

Continued from page 8D

finance funeral arrangements. A family service counselor is available to provide preplanning services.

The wide range of services Nalley-Pickle & Welch provides to the community is structured to meet all the needs of a family either at the time of a death or before a death occurs.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch is committed to continuing to provide the finest care in a professional, caring and supportive manner to Big Spring and surrounding areas.

"Our staff is committed to excellence in all aspects of service to our community," said Thomas Welch.

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Aviation repair service takes off

By **TIM JONES**
Staff Writer

Big Spring now has a fully licensed aviation mechanical repair and aircraft service in the 14,671 square foot facility called Lone Star Aviation.

The company is in the middle hangar of the the McMahon-Wrinkle Air Park.

Jack Perry is the owner and he is licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration. He meets criteria in three separate areas; airframe certification, power plant certification and inspection authorizations.

Perry trained for four years in the U.S. Navy and has been licensed 14 years, since leaving the service in 1977. He worked two-and-a-half years at Sky West Airport before opening Lone Star recently in Big Spring. He is also a private pilot.

Lone Star Aviation received \$7,200 from Moore Development for Big Spring, to pay a year's lease. The idea was to promote small aircraft to fly directly into the Air Park instead of Midland due to the addition of an aviation service facility which can provide emergency repair and maintenance.

Paul Armstrong assists Perry and is an apprentice mechanic. Vickie Fryar helps keep accounts receivable part-time, and Perry's wife, Vickie, also helps run the office.

Perry offers Big Spring aviation routine maintenance, minor and major repairs and alterations. He has worked at Cessna, Piper and Beechcraft dealerships, but he said "this shop is like an independent garage."

He has hardware, filters and tires in stock and has open accounts with all the major dealership suppliers and with half dozen independents.

There a presently four locally owned aircraft stored there, as well as a hang glider.

Perry's optimistic about his business and the direction it's already heading in and has plans for expansion if it takes off.

In need of a car?



If you are, then try one of these local dealerships who can offer what you are looking for in an automobile. Bob Brock handles the Ford, Lincoln, Mercury and Nissan lines while Pollard Chevrolet handles your Chevrolet and Geo needs along with Buick and Cadillac and GMC models. Shroyer Motor can take care of your Oldsmobile or Pontiac needs.

Dunlap's celebrating 19 years in Big Spring

By **JANET AUSBURY**
Features Editor

Dunlap's, located near the former Highland Mall area, will celebrate its 19th year of business in Big Spring and its 104th anniversary as a company in 1994.

The Big Spring outlet carries a wide range of clothing and accessories for women, men and children, cosmetics, shoes, gifts, linens and towels. Margureete Wooten, an office employee at the store, said the store offices were moved from the center of the store to allow the linens and gifts to be displayed more prominently.

The store employs about 13 people and continues to do well despite the relocation of Highland Mall businesses. "We wondered what would happen, but we've continued to do

really well," said Wooten.

The store, which came to Big Spring in 1975 and took over the former Hemphill-Wells building, has been in its current location since 1980. "We plan to be here for a long time," said Wooten.

Dunlap's received permission from Wal-Mart to continue occupying its current space and will not have to relocate because of the construction of the new Wal-Mart superstore in the old Highland Mall location.

The store was remodeled in the last year to keep its appearance up to date. A new manager, Jeff Raley, took over last November.

Dunlap's is part of a chain of stores that makes up the largest independently-owned group of retail department stores in the Southwest. Corporate headquarters are located in Fort Worth.



Anthony's offers a wide selection of clothing for men, women, teens and children in College Park Mall.

Anthony's offers wide variety in men's and women's clothes

By **MARY McATEER**
Contributing Writer

C.R. Anthony Company Retail Department Stores was established in 1922, and came to Big Spring in 1941. Originally located downtown, Anthony's moved to its present location in the College Park Shopping Center in 1979.

Anthony's employs 13 to 20 people, depending on seasonal requirements.

The store offers a wide variety in clothing for men, women and children. They carry casual to dressy clothes for both men and women, including a good selection of sizes in Levi Ducker's, Bugle Boy, and Hag-

gar for men. They also offer a large selection of shoes and accessories, including jewelry, hair bows, handbags, and scarves.

Anthony's first priority is good customer service. "Our motto is 'the customer comes first.'" This attitude has led to some good years in Big Spring, and the store looks forward to even better years in the future.

"We appreciate all our customers that shop with us. They have all become our friends, not just customers, and we're hoping to make some new friends in the future."

Anthony's is open from nine a.m. to eight p.m. Monday through Friday, nine-thirty to six on Saturday, and twelve-thirty to five on Sunday.

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Lunchtime is a Rocky Hale's b...

Busi

By **JANET AU**
Staff Writer

Food is Rocky business is good

Rocky's, local Street, has be American and three and a half

No microwave will be passed plate, however. and his crew of the menu's ingr

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Hale is at the from 7:30 a.m. rush, keeping preparation an He is quick to stopping by for

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Lunchtime is a busy time at Rocky's. The business recently expanding, adding a dining area for patrons. The goal of Rocky Hale's business is to provide good and fast food.

Business is good food at Rocky's

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

Food is Rocky Hale's business, and business is good.

Rocky's, located at 1100 Gregg Street, has been a staple of all-American and Mexican fast food for three and a half years.

No microwaved chicken nuggets will be passed to any customer's plate, however. Hale is proud that he and his crew of 15 prepare most of the menu's ingredients on site.

Beans and meat are cooked at Rocky's, not prepared beforehand and shipped frozen to the restaurant. Corn tortillas are also fried at the restaurant to ensure their freshness.

Hale is at the restaurant every day from 7:30 a.m. through the lunch rush, keeping an eye on the food preparation and quality of service. He is quick to chat with customers stopping by for a meal.

His 13 years in the restaurant business have made him aware of what works and doesn't work in the fickle industry of food. He spent many of those years as a manager or onsite troubleshooter for established food chains.

Nearly four years ago, the company Hale worked for underwent a change of ownership. "I decided to do something else," he said. That "something else" turned out to be his own operation.

A former Church's Fried Chicken building, which had sat vacant for about two years, became home to Hale's dream. With the help of his mother and First National Bank, he found the resources to convert the building into his own restaurant.

First, however, there was the matter of getting rid of the deep fryer. "We had to get a moving company to

Rocky Hale, owner of Rocky's, credits a good crew, supportive wife and good customers for the success of the business.



Rocky Hale works at his restaurant, Rocky's. If it is not good, it won't be sold, said Hale, who experiments with different treats for the taste buds.

get it out, it was so big," he recalled.

He is currently keeping it in storage. "I'd let it go if anyone wanted it. I have no use for it."

After three months of renovation, government paperwork, ordering signs and hiring a crew, he was ready for business. Hale chose a menu of foods in which he had the most experience.

Originally from Odessa, he moved to Big Spring in 1970 and lived here except when working in Lubbock, Odessa, Amarillo and other cities. He credits part of his restaurant's success to his "local boy" appeal; he is not a stranger.

The restaurant experienced a slightly turbulent first few months; but is now on solid ground. "It's really increased," he said. "That's how I was able to add on (a customer seating area)."

Hale remembers working 65 to 75 hours a week when the restaurant first opened, but he has been able to settle into a less demanding routine, allowing him time for golf and other pursuits.

He credits a good crew, "a very supportive wife" and good customers for making his restaurant a success. He and the crew pay close attention to the quality of the food and taste-test items before adding them to the menu.

"If it's not any good, I won't sell it," he said. He occasionally tries new items he thinks might appeal to customers, but won't radically change the menu.

Hale has been approached to expand Rocky's to Snyder, Colorado City and other locations. It is in his five-year plan to branch out with restaurants similar to his own. "I'd kind of like to have 10 stores," he said.

For now, Hale and his crew are committed to providing quick, quality food from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. five nights a week; hungry weekend customers are in luck until 11 p.m.

Professional Pharmacy takes care of client needs

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

Dwain Leonard and Paul Lawrence founded Leonard's Pharmacy in Big Spring in 1944, in the old Battle Barbershop location, behind the old State National Bank.

At the time, and for many years after, most Big Spring doctors were downtown, and having the pharmacy nearby was handy for them and for their patients. Leonard and Lawrence, and the people who've worked at Leonard's since 1944, believed it was important to serve the needs of the community.

In 1950, Leonard's Pharmacy moved to another downtown location, 308 Scurry, and is still there. Leonard's downtown Pharmacy is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to noon and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.

When the new Malone-Hogan Clinic was built in 1962, Leonard's established a new location, Professional Pharmacy, at 10th and Main, staying abreast of the needs of the community by establishing a location convenient to the clinic. The Professional Pharmacy is open from 8:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center brought more changes to the community. Leonard's Clinic Pharmacy, at 1501 West 11th St., provides another location handy for doctors and patients who need a pharmacy's services.

Prescription Services Inc., was built in response to changes in medical and pharmaceutical practices. Prescription Services meets the needs of patients requiring home infusion, and also enabled Leonard's, to better serve the needs of nursing home patients in Big Spring.

Leonard's was incorporated in 1966, and is owned by the pharmacists who work in the company. The company considers it a responsibility to serve the needs of the community by providing emergency service, evening hours, and Sunday and holiday hours at one of their locations.

They are concerned with an accurate product and a positive outcome from patients' medication regimen.

They believe in keeping abreast of changes in pharmaceutical practices which will enhance their ability to counsel and communicate with patients, providing a pharmacist specially trained in modern pharmacy compounding, which enables them to serve the needs of the hospice program in formulating special dosages and compounds for terminally ill patients; a senior citizens' plan, maintenance of patient profiles, and delivery and emergency service.

Twenty-six people work at the four pharmacies, seven are licensed pharmacists.

Wheat's Furniture to continue in its tradition

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

James F. Wheat began Wheat Furniture and Appliance Company in Big Spring more than 45 ago, and the long-established family business still serves Big Spring customers.

James' son, Walter, and his wife, Frances, purchased the business from James in 1969. Since Walter Wheat passed away on March 3, Frances, a Big Spring native, has taken over running the business on her own.

Mrs. Wheat says she intends to continue to run the business as her husband would have, and that Wheat Furniture will continue to offer the same service in the future. "We like to think one of the reasons we've been here this long is the service we give to the customers," Mrs.

Wheat says.

Wheat Furniture offers a complete line of home furnishings, featuring Maytag, GE, Gibson appliances; La-Z-Boy, Mayo, Bassett, Best, and ESI Upholstery furniture; Sealy and Restonic bedding; and GE televisions. In-store financing is available.

Being a part of the community is important to Mrs. Wheat and the seven employees of Wheat Furniture and Appliance. "Big Spring's been good to us and we want to be good to them in return."

Wheat Furniture and Appliance helps co-sponsor daily distribution of the Big Spring Herald to patients at the Big Spring VA Hospital.

Wheat Furniture and Appliance Company, 115 East Second St., is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday.

Elrod Furniture's success keyed into honest attitude

MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

Elrod Furniture Company has been a family-owned, family-operated business since John William Elrod first came to Big Spring from Sweetwater in 1926.

J.W. Elrod opened a store in March 1937 in a 25-foot building on Main Street between First and Second streets, about four doors from the corner next to the railroad on the east side of the street. That first year, J.W. Elrod did about \$9,000 in business.

In 1938, the business moved to 110 Runnels, in the old Ricks building. It must have been a good move because the company's business had increased to \$25,00 by 1939.

The three Elrod brothers, J.W. Jr.,

Joe and David, were raised in and all graduated from high school in Sweetwater. J.W. Jr. and Joe were both in the service during the 1940s, but David, who turned draft age just after the Battle of the Bulge, missed military duty by being six or seven months too young.

In 1946, J.W. Elrod turned the store over to the three brothers, who continued to run it as a family business. In 1950, Joe and David bought out J.W. In 1954, David bought out Joe. He continued to run the store throughout the 1950s and 1960s, while the next three Elrod children, Dee, Karen and Jon, were growing up as Big Spring natives.

In 1960, Elrod's moved to the current location, 806 E. Third St. Things went very well until 1966, when a

Please see ELROD'S, page 12D

For 46 years, Carter's has served area's furniture needs

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

For 46 years, Carter's Furniture has been helping Big Spring residents find just the right sofa-sleeper for the living room, just the right easy chair for Dad's den, the perfect oak desk for the study, or just the right table and chairs for the dining room.

Owners Terry and Dorothy Carter and their 10 employees take great pride in their business, leaving no doubt that as far as they're concerned they're about the finest in Big Spring.

Carter's carries La-Z-Boy chairs, Spring Aire bedding, Mayo sofas and sleepers, Styline lamps, and Homecraft dining room furniture, and select pieces from Broyhill. Their main lines in fine dining and living room furniture are Sumter and Tell City, and oak desks and computer

desks by Eagle Craft.

Carter's staff really enjoys their work, and several members have gone to Tell City, Ind., to tour the Tell City Furniture factory, which they say is "fascinating."

Staff members also say Tell City furniture is very well-built, citing a dining room set that's been in the family 27 years. After two daughters and all their boyfriends have grown up it still looks brand new, they explained.

Grandpa's roll-top desk has never truly gone out of style, and now it's been updated for the electronic age. Carter's has a great selection of roll-top desks, regular and specially designed for computers.

If you're looking for good quality furniture, Carter's is a good place to start with its large inventory and the low prices. The store is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday at 202 Scurry St.

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Customers pack the HEB store when it first opened in 1992. Since that time, HEB has committed itself to Big Spring by helping local organizations such as the Northside Community Center, Big Spring cowboy Reunion and Rodeo, schools and others with donations.

HEB is committed to Big Spring, area

Special to the Herald

HEB Grocery Company means many things to many people. But to the residents of Big Spring and surrounding areas, the name means low prices and a spirit of community giving.

"HEB is committed to Big Spring," said store director Percy Parsons. "We are seeing signs of immediate growth in the community and HEB plans to be a part of it." Parsons, originally from Abilene, has been with HEB in Big Spring since May 1, 1993. He says the reason he joined HEB is "because they are involved in the community and make it a priority." Parsons and his wife Holly are building a house in Big Spring and plan on being permanent residents.

Education is a priority for HEB. HEB's Adopt-A-School Program, established in 1988, has formed partnerships with over 1,250 Texas schools. As part of the extensive program, each school is offered assistance from the local grocery store through a \$500 contribution. Bauer Elementary School, College Heights Elementary School, Kentwood Elementary School, Marcy Elementary School, Moss Elementary School, and Washington Elementary School are all Big Spring adopted schools. In addition to financial support, the schools are invited to exhibit projects in the store. To celebrate Mother's Day, students will write an essay about why their mom is the greatest and these will be posted in the store for all mothers to enjoy.

HEB's community involvement goes beyond education. Several local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the State Hospital, the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo, and the Northside Community Center, have received financial assistance from HEB. "The community believes in HEB, so we want to give back to the community," said store director Percy Parsons.

Some HEB customers come from miles away to shop at the Big Spring store. The low prices draw customers from Snyder, Lamesa, Stanton, Colorado City, and even Midland. "We offer competitive prices and a friendly place to shop," said store director Percy Parsons.

HEB opened in Big Spring, in October 1992 and employs 125 people.

Founded in Kerrville by Florence Butt, HEB Grocery Company operates 246 stores in 118 communities throughout Texas and employs more than 41,000 Texans. HEB Grocery Company is the nation's 10th largest supermarket organization.

Elrod's

Continued from page 11D

big wind raised the roof and blew the back wall down, leaving water four inches deep through the entire store.

About 150 townspeople and 50 Big Spring High School students, most of them in the hand with Karen, pitched in to help quickly dry things out and clean up the mess. The stock had been ruined, though, and the store was closed for about five months before re-opening with all new stock.

Dee and his wife, Linda, took over the store about 1982 and David semi-retired, coming in at noontime to keep an eye on things. Karen now teaches school at Granbury and Jon has returned to North Texas University to pursue his master's degree in Graphic Advertising.

Dee and Linda Elrod have two children, one a sophomore and one a junior at Big Spring High School, both on this year's varsity basketball team. "They're my tall grandchildren," David Elrod says. The Elrod family has attended the Church of Christ at 14th and Main streets since being in Big Spring.

Elrod Furniture carries Broyhill,

Dale Martin & Sons keeps Big Spring rolling

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

When you need tires, you don't have to go out of town to get the best price, the best quality lines or the best and most experienced service.

Eddie Wilson, of Dale Martin and Son Firestone, 507 East Third St., says people in Big Spring should know they don't have to go out of town to get competitive pricing on tires. "We're as competitive or more than any place in Midland," Wilson

says.

Dale Martin and Son carries Firestone, Dayton, Bridgestone, Triumph, and selected sizes of Uniroyal and Michelin tires for all makes and models of cars and pickups.

The six employees of Dale Martin and Son have more than 100 years of tire experience among them, so there isn't much they don't know about tires. They sell, repair, install, rotate, and balance them. They also specialize in front end and brake repair.

The company offers complete farm tire service, featuring Firestone tires. About 90 percent of farm tires installed are radial, offering long wear and safety under almost all driving conditions. The non-radial farm tire, while still available, doesn't wear as well.

While most tire blowouts and flats are caused by tread punctures, sidewall ruptures can occur in farm tires and off-road vehicles, due to hazards presented by rocks encountered in

West Texas' terrain.

In addition to tire and auto service, Dale Martin and Son sells Frigidaire appliances and seasonal items like lawnmowers and rototillers.

Dale Martin and Son has been in business in West Texas for more than 30 years, and the Big Spring location has been open about three years. The store is open from 7:30 till 5:30 daily, and 7:30 till noon Saturday.

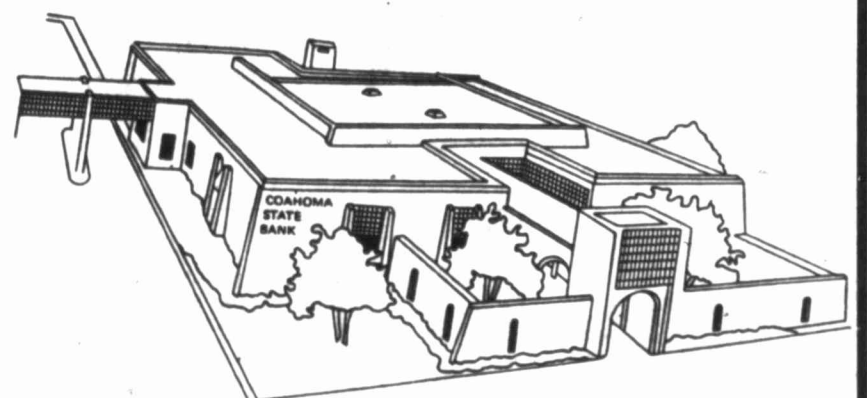


Dale Martin and Son Firestone keeps Big Spring rolling with a wide selection of tires for automobiles and farm equipment. The store, at 507 E. Third St., offers Firestone, Bridgestone, Dayton, Triumph, and selected sizes of Uniroyal and Michelin and employs six people.

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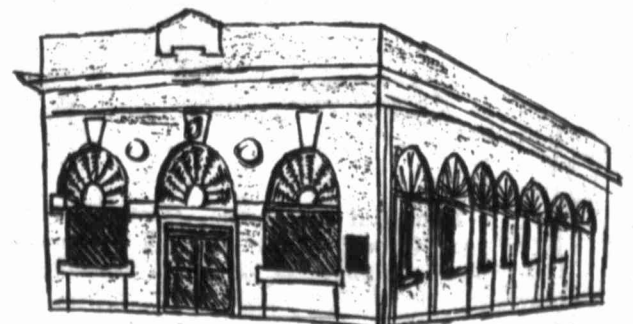
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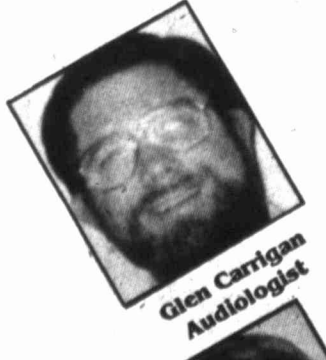
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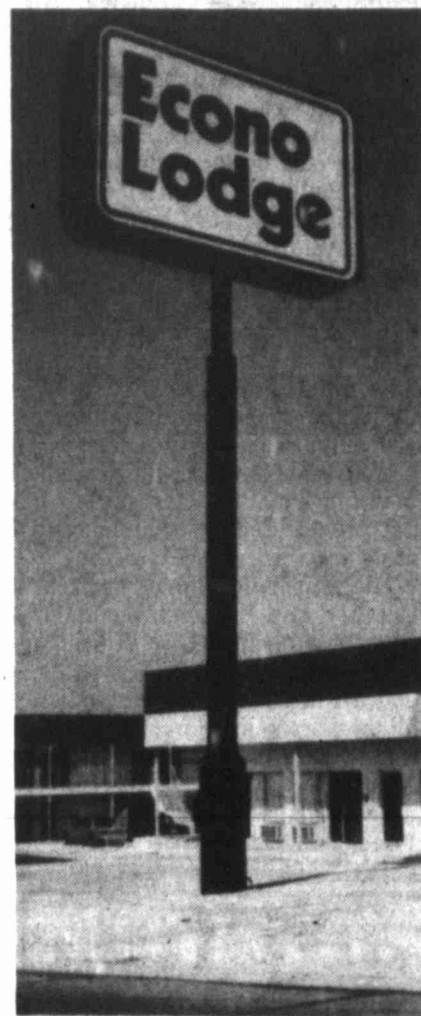
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Econo Lodge opens doors in Big Spring



Econo Lodge recently opened its doors in Big Spring and offers a family plan, discounts and non-smoking rooms.

By **TIM JONES**
Staff Writer

Econo Lodge of Big Spring opened for business in Big Spring on Feb. 16, 1994.

The 52 room hotel, owned by Roy Burnes of Eden, is located near the northwest corner of the intersection of Interstate 20 and U.S. Highway 87.

The construction began August 1993 and the project employed about 50 people. The new motel created approximately 20 positions locally.

"We feel that we have a prime location with the possible advent of I-27 through Big Spring using U.S. 87 as a route," said Don Johnson, general manager of the hotel.

"The closest flagship to Big Spring in Choice Hotel's International franchise is an Econo Lodge in Abilene," Johnson added. "We are the only newly remodeled hotel in Big Spring as far as we can tell."

Choice Hotel International operates a nationwide reservation system, and this Econo Lodge features first-class guest facilities with a swimming pool, exercise room and restaurant, which will be opening in the near future.

Econo Lodge offers a family plan, where children under 18 stay free, and extra roll-away-beds are available. They offer government and American Association of Retired Persons discounts, and non-smoking rooms are available.

The hotel facility is operated by Sierra Properties Management Inc., a Texas corporation.

Bealls says clothing with a sense of style

By **MARY McATEER**
Contributing Writer

Ladies with an interest in style and quality and a taste for variety value their Bealls' charge cards highly and use them often.

Big Spring's Bealls' store, established in the Big Spring Mall in 1980, offers a wide range of men's, women's, and children's clothing, shoes and accessories. In addition, they have a select stock of fine wedding and gift items available.

The store has grown since its establishment in Big Spring, most recently as a result of a major remodeling and renovation about fourteen months ago.

Business has taken off since then, making 1993 Bealls best year ever in Big Spring. Store personnel say 1994 will be bigger still, and look forward to serving more discriminating customers as well as continuing to welcome old friends.

Twenty-five people from Big Spring and the surrounding area work at Bealls.

Bealls' manager, Steve Kordek, moved to Big Spring about twelve years ago from San Angelo and says although he wasn't sure about it at the beginning, he's become quite fond of Big Spring.

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Faye's Flowers, owned by Debra Lusk, is kept busy during the holidays. Mother's Day is a particularly busy day for the floral shop which offers a wide range of arrangements and gifts.

Holidays keep Faye's Flowers busy

By **JANET AUSBURY**
Staff Writer

When Big Spring residents want to "say it with flowers," they call Faye's Flowers. Since 1937, Faye's Flowers has been a shopping tradition for local residents.

Debra Lusk, the current owner, is a longtime operator of local nursery and flower shops. She has owned Faye's Flowers since 1989. "We try to do everything possible for our customers to make sure their orders are handled properly," she said.

In an effort to expand customer service, Faye's Flowers increased showroom space two years ago and remodeled the front area. Many

new gift items were added, such as candles, glassware, crystal, potpourri, dolls, stuffed animals, and novelty balloons.

Mother's Day is their busiest day, but all holidays keep the Faye's Flowers staff occupied. They carry gifts for all occasions, from a get-well bouquet to a "just to say I love you" red rose.

Lusk estimated most of their business comes from deliveries rather than pickups—the Faye's Flowers van is a familiar sight around town—and fresh flowers are their biggest-selling product.

The front area was remodeled again in December and January, but not simply for aesthetic reasons.

During the last year and a half, three cars on separate occasions crashed into the front of the store.

The last accident occurred Dec. 1, 1993, and caused structural damage to the front display area as well as breaking a water pipe and causing the store to be flooded. The outside of the store now has three large concrete barriers in front of the windows.

These problems did not keep Faye's Flowers from supplying floral items and gifts to its Christmas customers, and all hardships aside, the store remains ready to serve Big Spring.

Ponderosa home for its residents

By **MARY McATEER**
Contributing Writer

The neighborly mixture of single people, families, and seniors who live at Ponderosa Apartments think of it as home, not just a place to stay.

Security is a very important factor. "We check on our tenants to make sure everything's all right. They feel good about it. They feel secure," says Jan Morgan. Morgan manages the apartment complex which was built by her husband, Kent Morgan, in 1963.

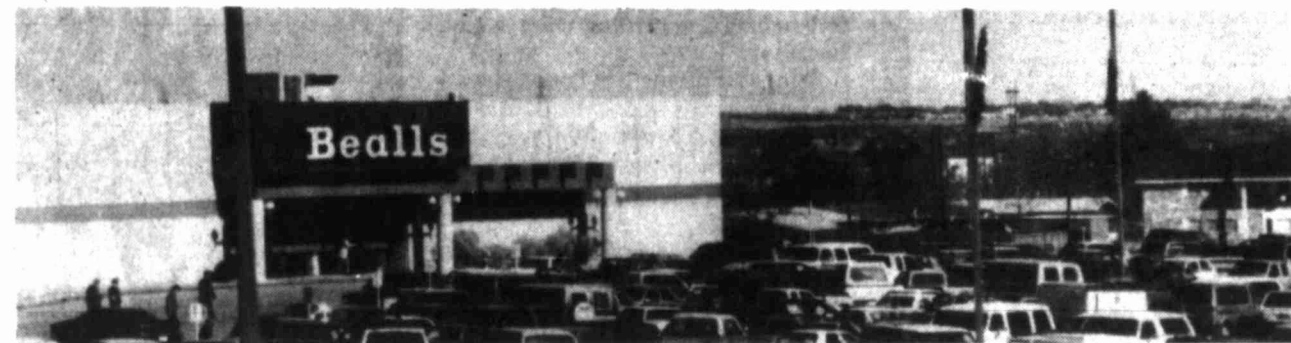
Ponderosa Apartments, at 1425

East Sixth St., has 78 units, ranging from one to three bedrooms, in two building complexes with swimming pools and covered parking. All utilities are paid, making it very convenient to keep track of household expenses with one payment instead of several.

Many older residents of the Ponderosa Apartments have lived there for 15 to 20 years or more. They've established a check system, calling each other regularly to make sure everything's all right. "If they need anything, we'll go get it for them," Morgan says.

Small pets are allowed with a non-refundable deposit. Morgan believes apartment living is too confining for a large animal. "They need a yard."

The Morgans are both Big Spring natives. While Jan manages the apartments, Kent operates a cattle ranch. Kent has two children, Katie Bess Williamson and Emmett Kent Morgan; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Katie Bess and her husband are missionaries serving in India. Jan has one son, Jim Weaver, president of Citizens' Federal Credit Union, who lives in Big Spring.



Bealls Department Store offers a fine choice in both men's and women's clothing along with a wide selection. Bealls is in the Big Spring Mall. See story, page 13D.

Barcelona prospers under new ownership

By **JANET AUSBURY**
Features Editor

A change of ownership, back taxes and remodeling made 1993 a challenging year for Barcelona Apartments. However, manager Sandra Fannin said the complex has prospered under the new ownership.

Fannin became manager in January 1993, about one month after Univesco Inc. of Dallas acquired the

of the entire complex.

The improvements seem to be paying off. At this time a year ago, said Fannin, occupancy of the 124-unit complex was at 69 percent. Now the apartments are 96 percent occupied.

The rent ranges from \$319 for a small one-bedroom apartment, \$329 for a medium one-bedroom apartment and \$339 for a large one-bedroom to \$379 for a small two-bed-



Under new ownership, Barcelona Apartments is prospering and remodeling of the apartments and laundry facilities has been done and more is expected in the future.

complex. At that time, the 20-year-old complex owed back taxes and penalties of nearly \$40,000 and needed many improvements to its apartments and facilities.

Since then, the back taxes have been paid and a new mortgage loan was worked out. Problems with plumbing, appliances and carpets have been fixed, patios have been remodeled and the two laundry facilities have been remodeled and fitted with new equipment.

The next major project will be a new paint job for the exterior walls

room, \$399 for a medium one-bedroom and \$419 for a large two-bedroom.

Rents were increased by \$18 to \$20 a month a year ago to help pay for the improvements and remodeling.

The apartments are all electric and include kitchen appliances, including stove, refrigerator and garbage disposal. Most of the units have patios or balconies. The complex has a swimming pool, tennis court and sauna, and 24-hour maintenance service is available.

Western Container ready for third facility expansion

By **TIM JONES**
Staff Writer

Western Container Inc. is about to implement its third expansion in Big Spring, which will be a new 70,000 square foot addition adjacent to the current 190,000 square foot plant at the McMahon/Wrinkle Air Park.

The city is using \$1.4 million in airport money, plus 5 percent interest through a 12 year lease-purchase agreement to assist in the construction, according to Lanny Lambert, city manager.

"The construction will take about six months to complete," Lambert said.

"They have been a stable part of our business community over the last 10 years," he said.

The expansion, Lambert said, will create 40 more Big Spring jobs and

their payroll will increase to \$1 million.

The plant manufactures plastic Coca-Cola bottles for the western United States. Greg Broch, the plant's chief financial officer said, "We're gearing up for plastic's increased popularity over glass, as well as the new 20-ounce plastic bottles introduced a couple of years ago."

"The addition of this new facility is a big plus for Big Spring," said Mayor Tim Blackshear. "Western Container has been an excellent employer for us."

Jobs at the plant require certain skills, but on-the-job training is provided as well.

The plant opened in 1980 and produces all preform capsules and 40 percent of blowmolding to turn capsules into bottles.

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Hang glider haven

By STEVE REAGAN
Sportswriter

The average person looks at the West Texas countryside and sees miles and miles of flat, windy, uninviting landscape.

But to a hang glider, you're talking about heaven.

The fifth annual Big Spring Cross Country Championship and Fun Fly-in is scheduled for June 8. And if past results are any indication, the event is a growing concern.

Last year's event attracted hang gliders from throughout the country. The major attraction, they agree, are the flying conditions - and the hosts.

"It's a wonderful place to fly," said Mark Dodge, who directed the meet



The fifth annual Big Spring Cross Country Championship and Fun Fly-in is scheduled for June 8. This area's strong ground winds and unstable air, combined with the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark's ample runway space, make the event ideal for tow-launched hang gliders.

last year. "Everybody's so friendly and helpful."

The event, which also serves as an official regional competition for the North Texas Hang Gliding Association, is a hit with participants because of the elements.

This area's strong ground winds and unstable air, combined with the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark's ample

runway space, make the event ideal for tow-launched hang gliders.

"It's great for flying," Dodge said. "The (air) thermals are gigantic and the winds are strong. It's what you need for good cross country flying."

The regional portion of the meet consists of distance flying and "race to goal" or "out and back" competition. Pilots holding the top two rat-

ings from the U.S. Hang Gliding Association compete in this portion of the event.

The Fun Fly portion consists of spot landing, most improved and most unusual flight.

The event is also sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact the chamber at 263-7641.

State Park offers many activities, including nature walks, star gazing

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Scenic Mountain, which rises 210 feet above Big Spring, is not only a major city landmark but is also home to Big Spring State Park.

The 370 acres of park land were acquired in 1934 by deed from private landowners and the city of Big Spring. Approximately 200 men from the Civilian Conservation Corps worked one and a half years to build the park, constructing the original park facilities from limestone quarried on the site.

Even before the mountain was turned into a park, visitors traveled up to the highest levels to enjoy the view. Some of the names and initials carved into the limestone are more than a hundred years old.

Park facilities include picnic sites with shade shelters, a lighted open pavilion that holds up to 25 people, playground facilities and modern restrooms. The pavilion can be rented for \$25 per day and, according to Park Superintendent Ron Alton, is becoming a popular site for weddings.

The headquarters building houses park offices, exhibits of fossils and Indian artifacts and an open-air shelter with picnic tables. Many brochures describing the mountain, park and area tourist sites are available.

The park has a 2.4-mile nature trail and a three-mile drive that

encircle the mountain. Careful travelers by foot or by car can spot prairie dogs, snakes, horned lizards, sandhill cranes, foxes and other forms of wildlife. The prairie dog town was established in 1970.

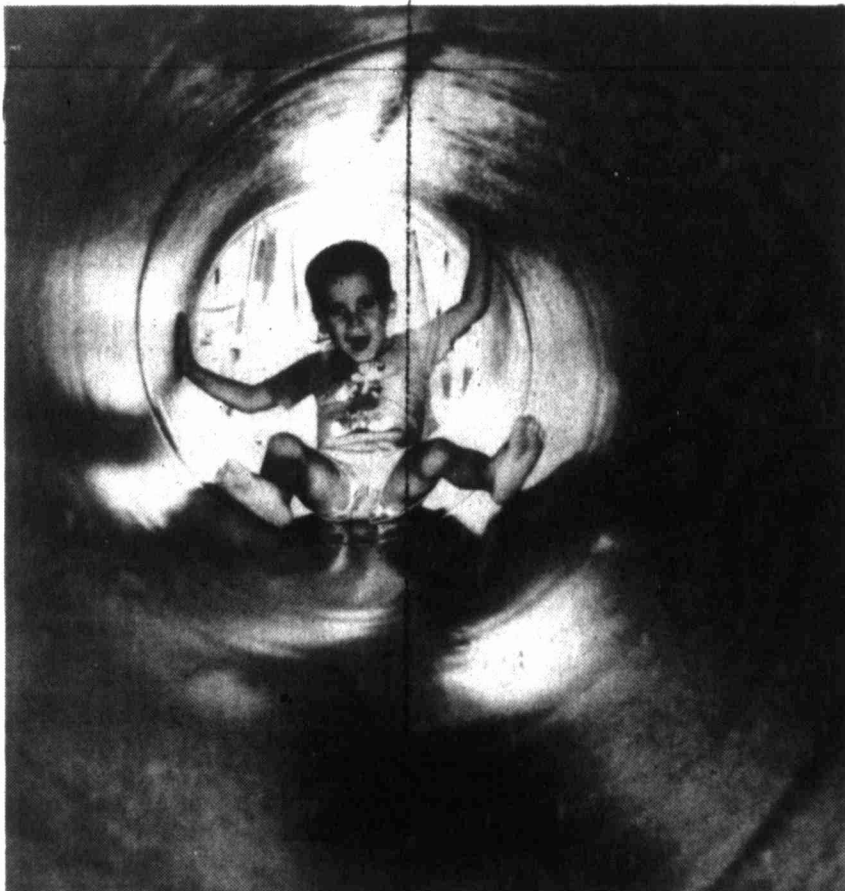
Public alcohol consumption is not allowed in the park, but picnickers can bring food and beverages.

Admission to the park is \$3 per car; for those traveling on foot, the cost is \$1 for anyone 13 or older and 50 cents for children under 13. "We don't charge for babies in strollers or if a child is too young to walk around and enjoy the park," said Alton. "That's just not fair."

Big Spring State Park is one of 42 state parks, out of 113 total state parks, selected to operate more like a small business. One of Alton's plans to keep admission costs down is to sell souvenir and promotional items such as buttons, t-shirts and postcards.

Park activities planned for 1994 include nature walks every Saturday in June and July except July 2. Alton recommended the top of Scenic Mountain as the best place to watch Fourth of July fireworks.

Other activities include a stargazing party to take place 8:30 p.m. July 16; a triathlon that will involve both the state park and Comanche Trail Park on July 31 and a "Spooky Special Saturday" in October with hayrides around the mountain and a pumpkin hunt.



A child enjoys one of the playground items at Comanche Trail Park. The park offers a refreshing stopover for residents and visitors alike with a swimming pool, golf course, amphitheater and jogging and walking trails.

Comanche Trail Park, a refreshing stop over

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Comanche Trail Park has been an attraction for Big Spring residents and visitors alike for decades. The park offers many attractions, from the historic spring that gave the community its name to a refreshing swimming pool that relieves summer's heat.

Last year, police and the Public Works Department began to crack down on alcohol and cleanliness problems at the park to increase its appeal to families. Assistant City Manager Tom Decell said improvements continued this year with extensive improvements and cleanup to the park's west side.

Other efforts to improve the park during the last few years have included rebuilding the barbecue pit at the Old Settlers Pavilion and performing landscaping and drainage work on the Big Spring Draw, which runs through the park.

The swimming pool is opened during the warmest months of the year and operates at a loss, said Decell.

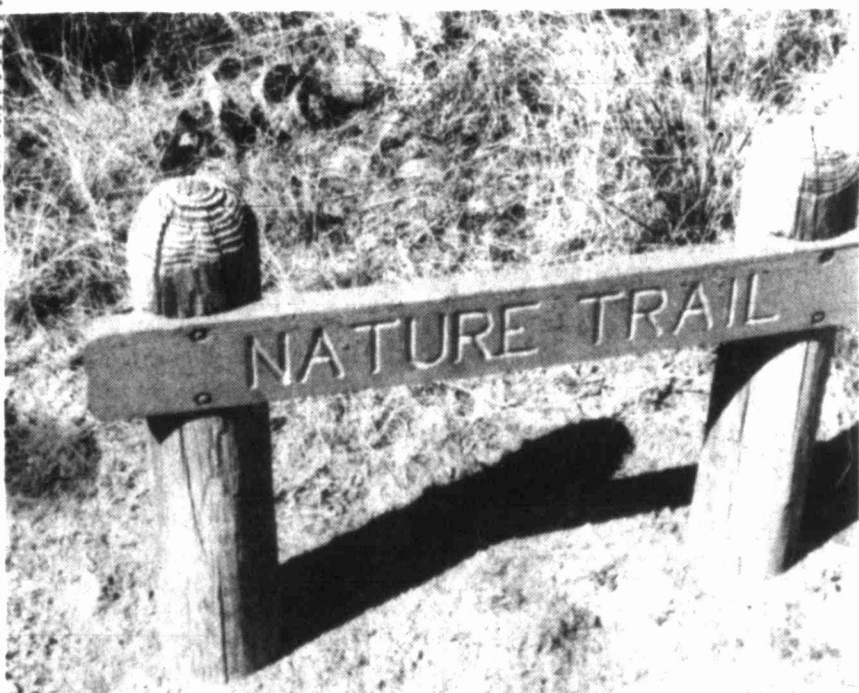
The \$1 fee falls well below the maintenance and operating costs of the facility.

A large network of jogging and walking trails allows visitors to explore wilder areas of the park and view Comanche Lake. The lake has become a popular fishing area in the last few years.

Covered areas and pavilions can be leased from the city and permits for alcohol consumption can be obtained for social gatherings. For larger events, the Dora Roberts Community Center offers a large meeting room and parking area for rent from the city.

The park's amphitheater, built out of limestone during the Depression, provides a low-cost area for concerts. The Municipal Golf Course and adjoining pro shop are not only popular with local residents, but are often rented by large groups from cities across West Texas.

Playground equipment keeps children entertained and draws families to the park almost daily. The baseball field is also well maintained; the



The 2.4-mile Nature Trail is just one of the many attractions the State Park at Scenic Mountain has to offer. Activities scheduled for this summer include nature walks and star gazing.

Symphony adds a touch of melody to community

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, now approaching its 15th season, is continuing to expand its programs and increase concert attendance.

The symphony has about 63 musicians, not all of whom are required for all pieces performed. Season ticket chairman Pam Welch said some musical pieces may require the full orchestra and others may require 50 to 55 musicians.

Concerts are presented in the Municipal Auditorium where the symphony generally plays all but one show. Concerts this season were Nov. 13, Jan. 29, and two upcoming shows March 28 and May 7.

The March 28 show will feature the Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra. The May 7 show is the yearly Pops Concert, which will feature Jody Nix along with the symphony orchestra this year.

The Nov. 13 show featured pianist Larry Wheat, son of local merchants Frances Wheat and the late Walter Wheat. The Jan. 29 show featured Brazilian pianist Alexandre Cabral. Season tickets this year were \$35

for adults and \$25 for children and senior citizens. Tickets to individual performances are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for children and senior citizens.

The orchestra drew one of its largest crowds ever—600 people—for the Nov. 13 show. Welch said other events traditionally draw 350-400 people. "We've had excellent attendance this year," said Welch.

Next year, the Symphony Association, which runs the business affairs related to the orchestra, plans to expand the concert season. The number of shows will depend on how much money the Symphony Guild, the support and fund-raising arm of the orchestra, is able to raise.

Welch said fund-raising efforts will begin in May. The association has not yet decided whether next season's ticket prices will increase.

The association hopes to present October and November concerts, sponsor a performance of the Nutcracker Suite Ballet in December, a concert in January, a performance by the Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra in March and the Pops Concert in April.

In addition to increased attendance see MELODY, page 15D

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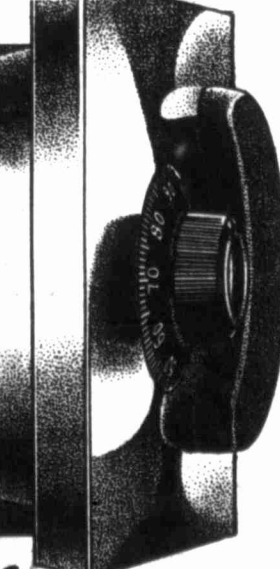
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Festivals planned to attract tourists

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau are making strides to bring more tourists and money to the city.

In fact, 1994 will be the first year that the Visitors Bureau will be out of the business of managing the festivals and events. The director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Marae Brooks, says she will be available for consultation and support but from now on, event managers will be handling everything.

"This is a management decision spurred on by our strategic plan to promote travel and tour buses to the area and this will be handled by the Convention and Visitors Bureau," Brooks said.

"In the past, the Convention and Visitors Bureau has been extremely active in originating and putting on events. I'm real excited about the fact that we have great leadership that will pick up those events. I feel like the way for them to grow is to get the private sector involved and that way the community feels ownership and through their excitement, there will be more potential for success," Brooks added.

Brooks says that the 1993 festivals brought in about 30,000 people from out of town. "The economic impact is great anytime you bring visitors into Big Spring. They spend about \$19 a day and that is free money (about \$570,000) that is circulated many, many times throughout the community" Brooks said.

Brooks adds that the 1994 events will be bigger and better than in years past. The events that have already taken place this year have been very successful according to Brooks.

The West Texas Ag Expo had exhibitors from all over the country and there were about 5,000 visitors; with half of those being from out of town.

The Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup, March 26 and 27, is expected to bring in about 15,000 visitors this year which Brooks says will be about the same as last year. People from as far away as New York state and Chicago attended last year's roundup.



The 1994 Ag Expo drew more than 5,000 people. The expo celebrates the impact farming and ranching has in Howard County and includes exhibits and a banquet.

The one event that will not be anymore is the Heart of the City Festival that was conducted for eight years.

Brooks said the main reason for the cancellation is because "the city doesn't want the roads closed." The event took up about eight city blocks and was made up of all sorts of things to do such as street dancing, entertainment, antique furniture displays, games, vendors and baby contests.

The Cinco de Mayo celebration will be at the McMahon - Wrinkle Air Park for the first time as well as the Diez y Seis celebration in Sept.

Some of the events scheduled for the rest of this year include:

- March 28 - Big Spring Symphony Orchestra
- March 31 through April 2 - Howard College Rodeo
- April 9 and 10 - Spring City Arts & Crafts Show
- May 5 - Open house for West Texas Center for the Arts
- May 5 - Cinco de Mayo

- May 7 - Big Spring Symphony Pops Concert featuring Jody Nix

- May 19, 20 and 21 - "Noises Off" will be the first production presented by the West Texas Players Theatre Company.

- May 20 and 21 - Big Spring Square & Round Dance Festival

- June 11 - Model Aircraft/Fun Fly In

- June 11 - Big Spring Police Department plays former Dallas Cowboys players to raise money for the D - FY - IT program.

- June 14 - TDOC Workshop
- June 14 through the 22 - National Hang Gliding Competition

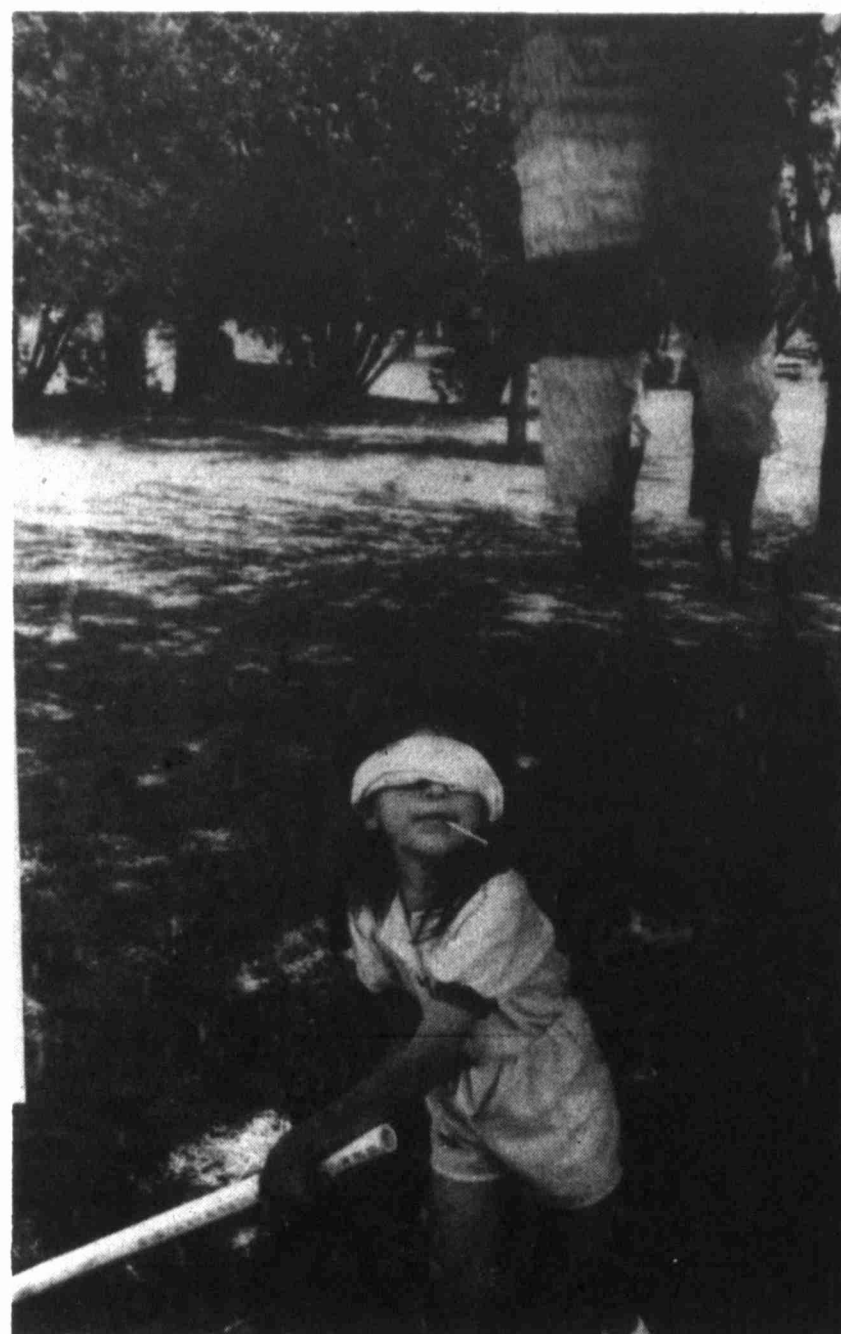
- June 22 through the 25 - Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo

- June 25 - March for Jesus
- July 23 and 24 - M.S. Bike-A-

- July 27 through 30 - Howard County 4 - H Junior Rodeo
- July 31 - Comanche Warrior Triathlon

- Aug. 6 and 7 - RDA Boat Races
- Sept. 1 - United Way Kickoff
- Sept. 3 and 4 - Chicano Golf Tournament for United Way
- Sept. 16 - Diez y Seis
- Sept. 5 through 10 - Howard County Fair
- Sept. 23 - Old Settlers Reunion
- Oct. 15 and 16 - Fall Arts and Crafts Festival
- Nov. 4 and 5 - Southwestern Artist Pena will be here
- Dec. 3 - Community Christmas Parade
- Dec. 3 and 4 - Living Christmas Tree
- Dec. 10 - Nutcracker Musical
- Dec. 13 through 16 - Drive-through Nativity

If you need more information about any festival or event listed, you can contact the Chamber of Commerce at 263 - 7641.



A youngster takes a swing at a pinata during a Cinco de Mayo. Cinco de Mayo is just one of the many festivals offered throughout the year in Big Spring and celebrates the Hispanic cultural heritage of this community.

Melody

Continued from 14D

dance and expanded programs, the association has another accomplishment to record: expansion into new office space located near St. Paul Lutheran Church in the 800 block of Scurry Street. They will move into the new office around the beginning of April and will receive a new phone number at that time.

Trail

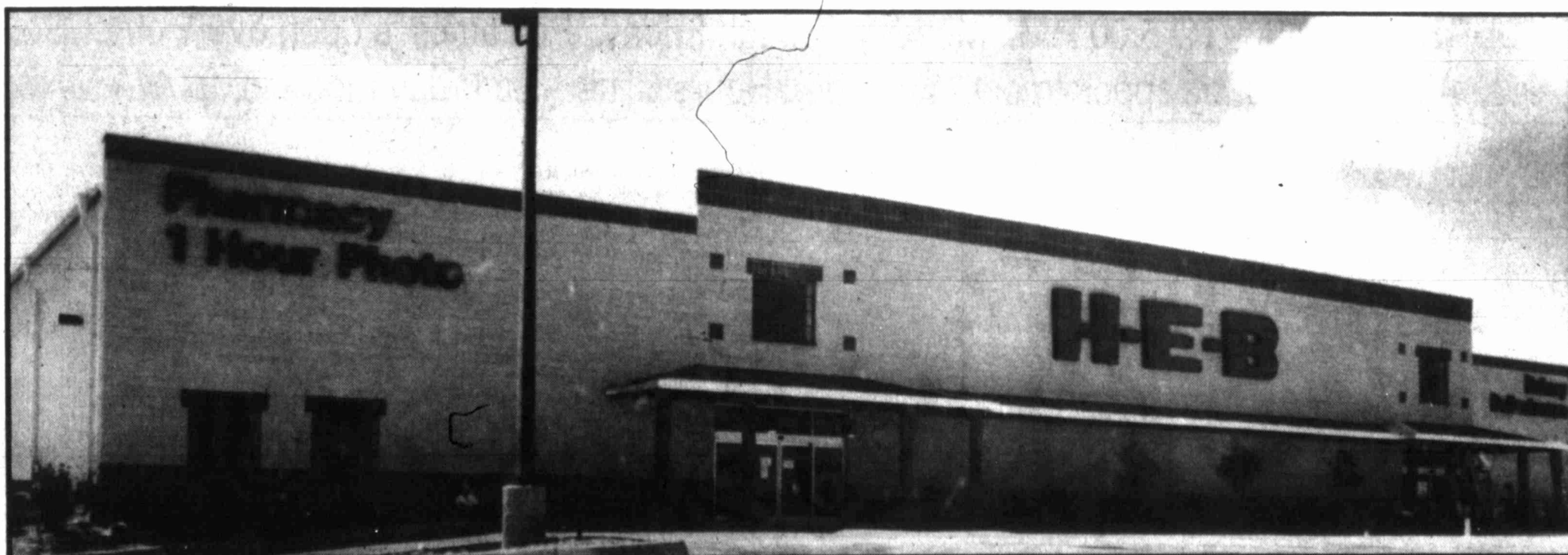
Continued from page 14D

infield was resurfaced within the last three years.

The scenic appeal of the park and historical information accompanying it add to the appeal of one of the park's highlights—the big spring itself. The area was a gathering place for native Americans and explorers and remains a peaceful stopping point for those passing through the park.



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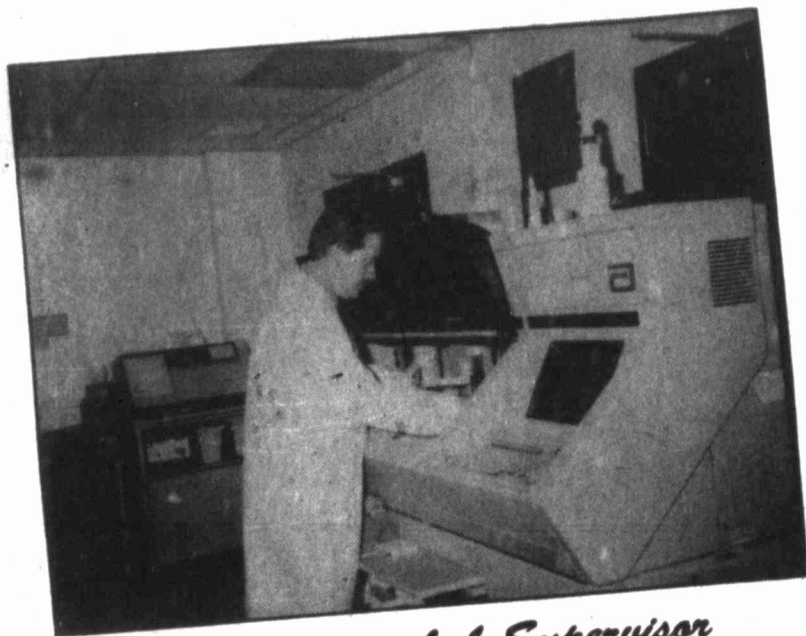
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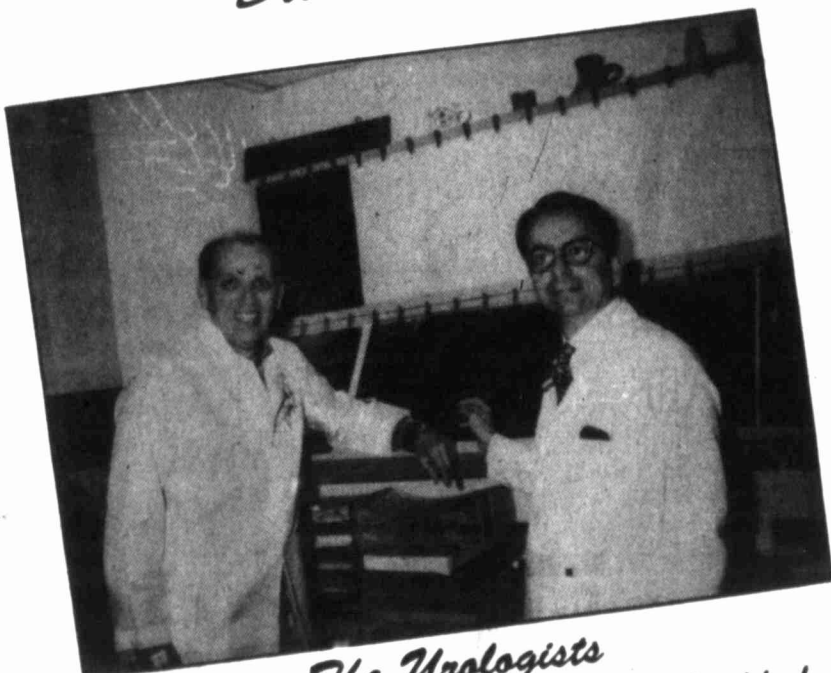
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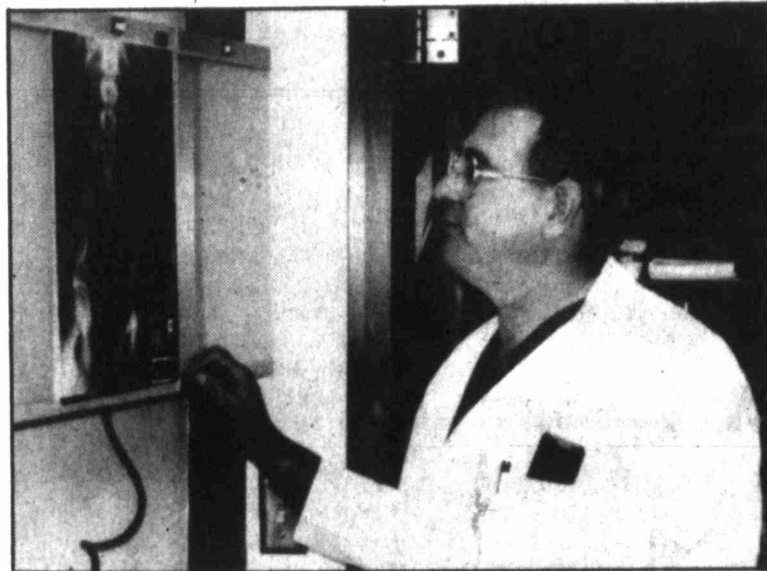
Steve Elder, Lab Supervisor



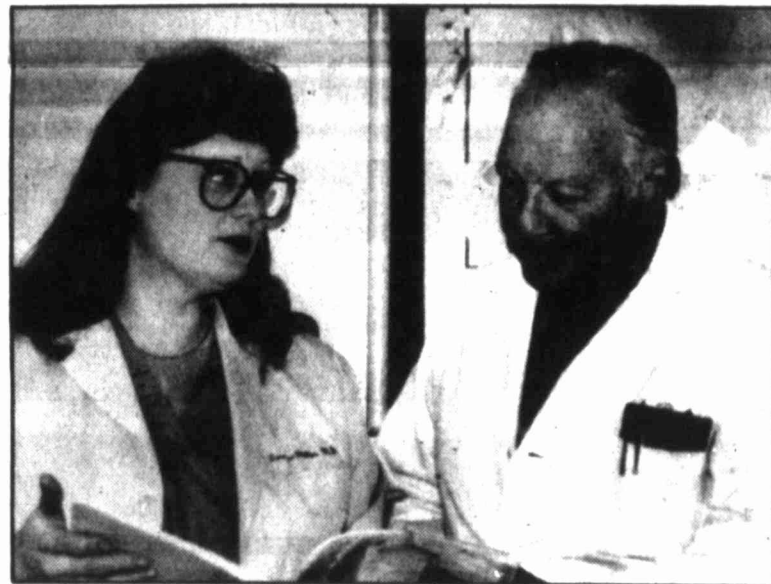
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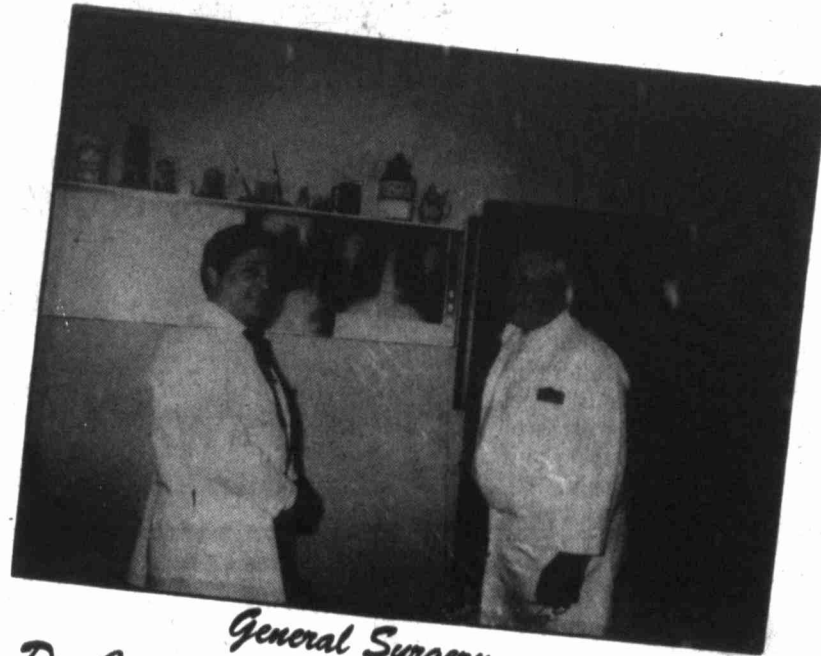
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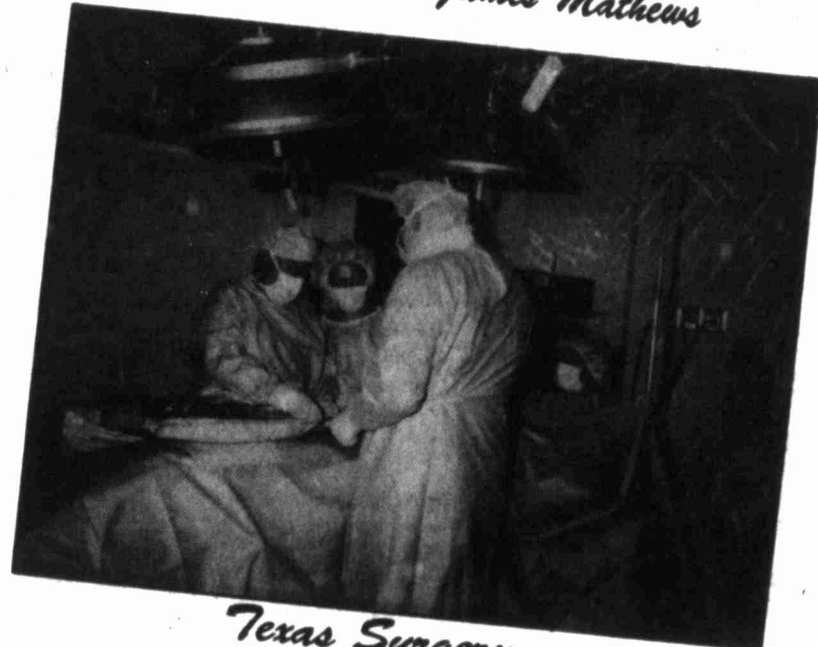
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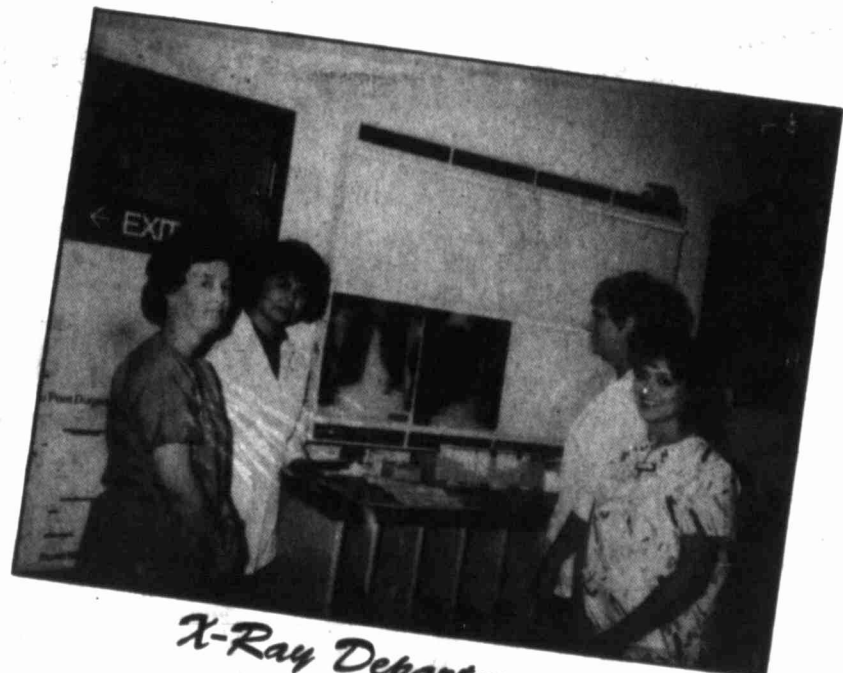
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PEDIATRICS: B. Ray Owen, M.D., F.A.A.P.

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PSYCHOLOGY: Ron L. Cohorn, Ph.D.

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DIGEST

Car race helps teach metrics

"On your mark, get set, go!" And then it's over. A split second race, a pop, a whooshing noise, and that quick it's over. See page 2E.

New dental lab state of the art

The newly expanded dental technician training laboratory at the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf is the first of its kind in the United States. See page 4E.

Rehab center offers up-to-date help

For 33 years, the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center has provided up-to-date rehabilitation care for area patients. See page 6A.

Bed caps delayed at state hospital

Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Robert von Rosenberg said that bed capping, an issue which last year had become a major concern due to the Texas Mental Health and Mental Retardation department's shift for more community-based programs, may or may not even happen. See page 7E.

Hall-Bennett adapts to community needs

Hall-Bennett Memorial Hospital was established in Big Spring during the 1920s, serving the medical needs of the community for over 50 years. See page 8E.

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- T & P Federal Credit Union.....E-10
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College faces changes

Preparing for future tax base reduction

By KELLIE JONES Staff Writer

A new procedure for registering students for the spring 1994 semester was hailed as a success by Howard College officials.

The change was to assign specific times for students to come to the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum to sign up for their classes. Once registration was over, there were approximately 800 or so people signed up to take classes this spring.

Another positive thing that came out of this new program is the college will be reinstating fall semester preregistration for 1994 after a two year absence. Officials had discontinued the preregistration process because lots of students who had taken advantage of it changed their schedules at a later date.

College officials are also trying to plan for the future after receiving news that a new tax law could dramatically reduce their tax base. The law is changing the way in which taxes are computed on oil, gas and mineral reserves. Preliminary figures indicate that Howard College could lose between \$105 million and \$126 million of their tax base.

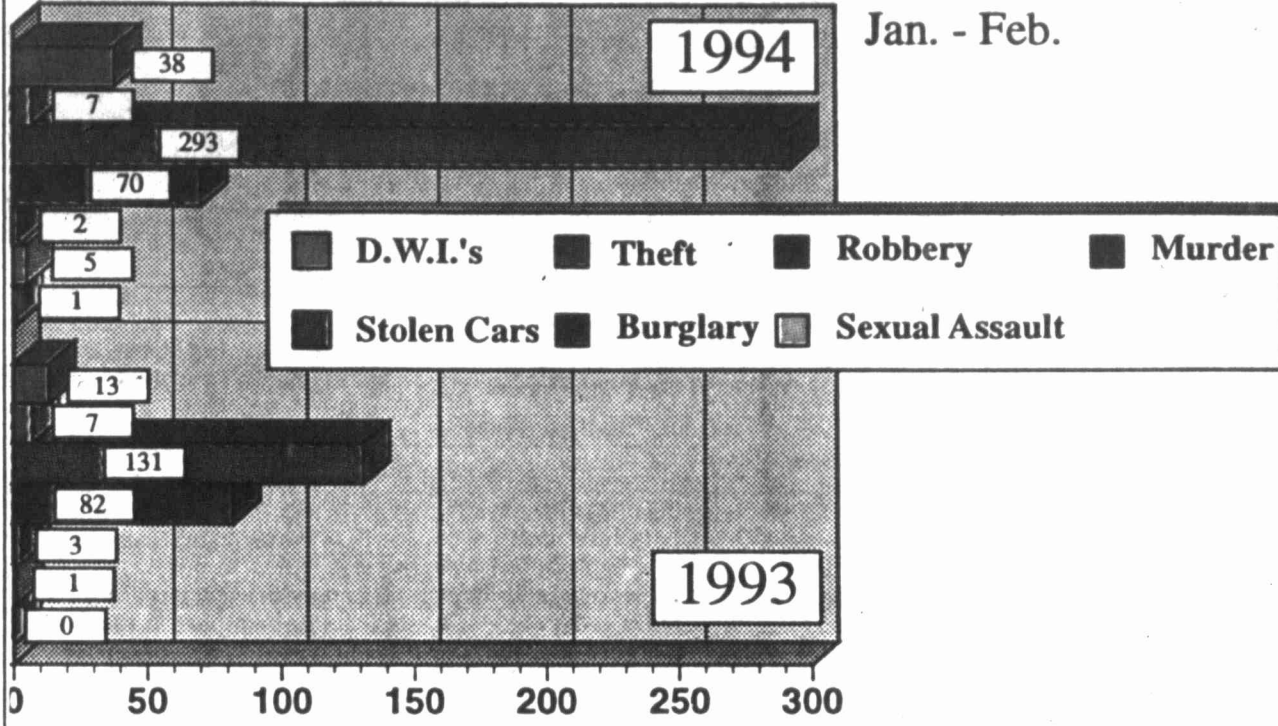
The old way of figuring out the value was based on the what the price of oil, etc. was selling for the first day of the year. Now, a starting price for each lease is determined on the average well-head price the producer received the year before.

"We are trying to get facts and figures and there are still lots of questions to be answered at all levels," said HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks. "We are talking with the tax appraiser to get the correct perception of the bill and planning for the future," said Sparks.

"As far as the national level, we are looking at studies that will tell us what to anticipate in higher education. As far as the state level, we are reading a report by Comptroller John Sharp called the Forces of Change. And we are updating our 1990 Howard College Economic Development Plan as well. We are looking at all of this information to help look at what we can anticipate and we can do is just put facts together, listen to trends and fore-

Please see HOWARD, page 2E

Big Spring Police Department Crime statistics



Herald graphic by Tim Appel

Changes challenge PD Resignation of police chief tops list

By KELLIE JONES Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department has seen a lot of changes over the past year. Perhaps the one thing that stands out in most people's mind is the resignation of Joe Cook who was chief for 5 1/2 years.

He resigned among controversy and allegations of mismanagement in September 1993. His successor, Police Chief Jerry Edwards, has made a lot of positive changes for the department since that time.

Edwards and the department list a number of accomplishments over the past six months:

- Response Team - this is team of 12 volunteer officers and three hostage negotiators that respond to emergencies, search and rescue, hostage and tactical situations.

"There had been several incidents occurring in the city and this prompted us to form the team," said Edwards. "The police department was told that because of the city's location on Interstate 20, having two mental facilities, several prisons and out-patients,

that Big Spring was prime for these types of situations. We are just as likely to have a situation as a town five times our size because of these special circumstances," said Sgt. Scott Griffin.

- Narcotics Arrests - there have been three times the number of narcotic related arrests this year than in years past. Griffin attributes this to Edwards' re-emphasis on the importance of narcotics intervention. "There is more discretion by officers to make these types of arrests," Griffin said.

- Ride-Along Program - this gives residents the opportunity to ride with an officer to learn more about the department and an officer's duties. Students and citizens have both taken advantage of this program that has recently been reinstated at the department.

- Citizens Police Academy - this also gives residents of Big Spring a chance to learn more about what it is like to be an officer, how those officers are trained and to clear up misunderstandings. "The department doesn't belong to us or to the city but to the residents and this gives them a chance to learn why we respond the way we do," Edwards said.

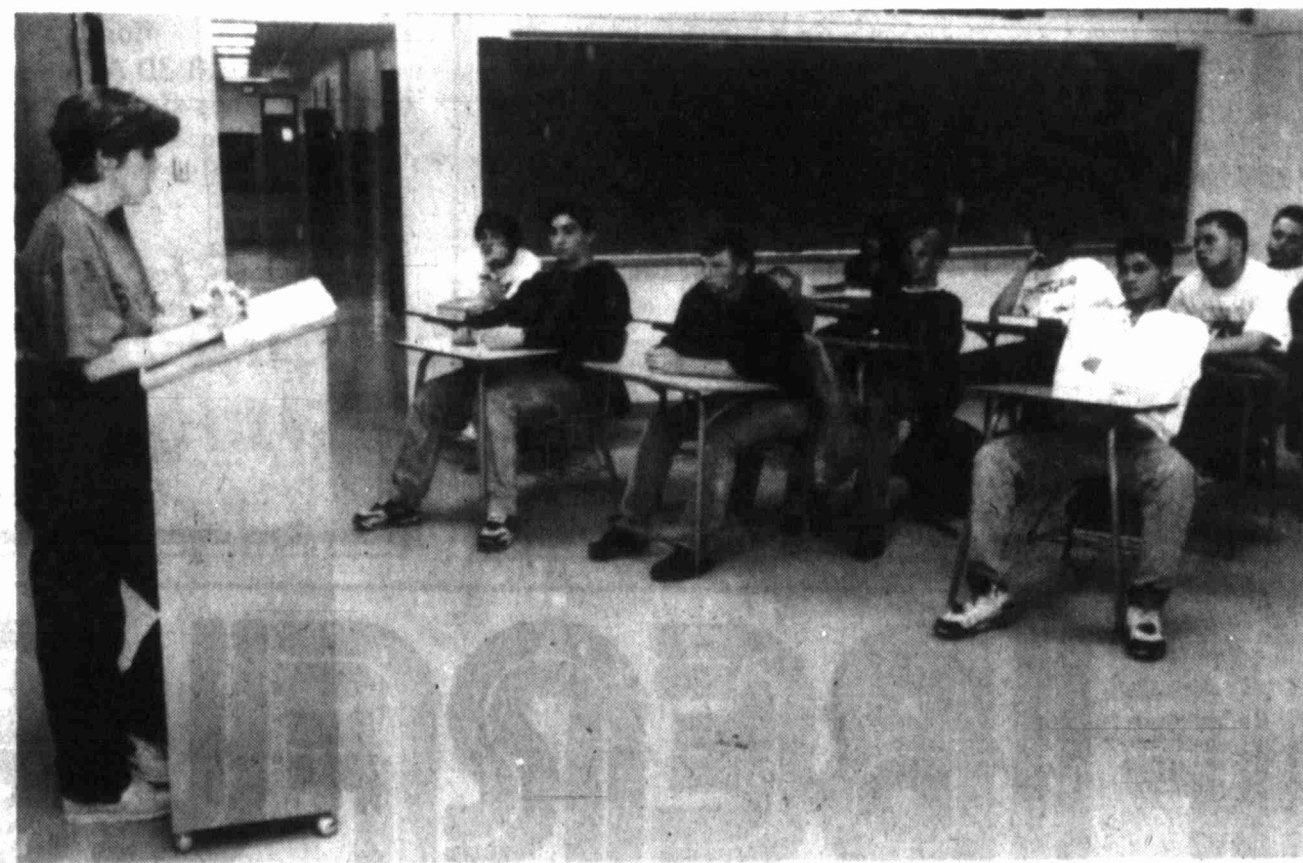
The first academy began on Thursday, March 17 and has 10 participants. It will run for 11 weeks which will be followed by a graduation ceremony. From there, the department will evaluate its success and determine how many people can sign up for the next class.

- New logos and badges - officers within the department submitted ideas and drawings for the new items and then voted on them. The department chose a star shaped badge and the new logo is an outline of Texas that is painted on all the cars.

- Canine Unit - "Lotta" is a German shepherd that has joined the department and has been instrumental in helping officers with executing search warrants and searching suspicious vehicles. Officer Jimmy Mays and Lotta have been working closely with the Permian Basin Drug Task Force in training exercises to learn more about drug interdiction.

- Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) - this was a month long pilot program in February designed to stop residents

Please see POLICE, page 10E



While it has been a good year for student instruction, upgrading technology and embracing learning at Big Spring Independent School District, Superintendent Bill McQueary said a cloud of uncertainty hangs over the school as the Legislature once again takes up the school finance issue.

It's been a good year at BSISD

By KELLIE JONES Staff Writer

The Big Spring Independent School District has seen a lot of changes over the past year.

The district received \$429,000 from Forsan and Borden counties through the Weighted Average Daily Attendance program in which Forsan and Borden shared their wealth with Big Spring. The two "property rich" school districts opted to help pay for the education of some Big Spring students through WADA.

A total of \$785,000 is being committed to upgrading the computer

technology within the school district. The state gave BSISD \$116,000 and the school board committed \$224,000 from local property taxes to help in this process.

"The money will be used to place at least four computers in every elementary classroom, to wire and network the computers and for a TV satellite system. Also, the computer labs in Goliad Middle School and Runnels Junior High will be expanded," said Superintendent Bill McQueary.

Right now, elementary classes have at least one or two computers in the classroom and "our goal is to

have four computers in the first through fifth grade rooms, including the teacher's station by the start of the fall 1994 semester," McQueary added.

The school district is also right in the middle of a five year management plan to try and maintain existing buildings and facilities.

"Until the state decides exactly what the final status will be on school finance... we will just continue to maintain the old buildings until we are sure of how the state will help out" McQueary said.

The district is making plans in the

Please see BSISD, page 2E

Jail tops sheriff's concerns

Department kept very busy in '93

By KELLIE JONES Staff Writer

The Howard County Sheriff's Department is kept busy year-round, responding to calls, serving warrants, making arrests, doing criminal background checks, solving crimes and even transferring prisoners to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The Sheriff's Department employs 22 people, including Sheriff A.N. Standard, 11 certified deputies, two secretaries, three dispatchers and five jailers. Although each employee is assigned to a specific duty, "we are wear several hats around here. I might have to pull a dispatcher or someone in the civil division to help with the jail on visiting day and things like that," said Sheriff Standard.

Right now, the jail houses 44 inmates and 33 of those are paper ready to be transferred to the Texas Department of Corrections. "If we become overcrowded and can't take them to TDC, we can transfer them to Colorado City or Snyder," said Standard.

On average, Howard County receives one allotment a month to transfer an inmate to TDC but that can change if more jail space is made available. "The Department of Criminal Justice is working towards a goal that by September of 1995 they will be able to take more paper ready inmates and 45 days would be the longest that they would have to stay in a county jail. We have inmates that have been waiting to be transferred to Huntsville for over a year right now," said Standard.

One concern of Standard is operating the jail in an efficient manner and trying to come up with solutions to do so. "The police department is trying to get out of the jail business and I can understand that. They want to be able to arrest someone and bring them here right then but we cannot operate that way. If I must do so in good faith, I need the basic tools to do so. I need more room, personnel and equipment to make this a safer and more efficient place to handle prisoners," said Standard.

Some improvements that have been made in the sheriff's department

Please see SHERIFF, page 10 E

It's a new beginning at Scenic Mountain

New director Boyer takes the helm

By KELLIE JONES Staff Writer

"A new beginning" is what Managing Director Harold Boyer is developing at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Boyer has been on board at the hospital since October 18, 1993 and is already seeing lots of positive changes.

"When I used to live in Odessa, SMMC was the envy of West Texas until the early 80's. People came from Lubbock, Odessa, Midland and even San Angelo to see the doctors here. I want to return to those days and build things back up to that level so that residents of the community will have pride of ownership. We have excellent physicians here and I want people to come back in to Big Spring to seek their medical care," said Boyer.

Boyer is not new to West Texas, he served as executive director at Odessa's Women and Children's Hospital from 1979 to 1982. "When I left Odessa, I regretted it. I missed people in West Texas and if you want to be among friendly people, West Texas is the place to be," Boyer said.

Boyer became director at SMMC after David Wiley resigned in September to continue his education. There was an interim director from the corporate office in Atlanta, Georgia that filled in for about a month and a half while the hospital was convincing Boyer to move to Big Spring.

"We are working on several aspects to help improve the hospital such as internal working relations, community relations and our guest relations program," said Boyer.

The most important thing, according to Boyer, is to get the employees to "have a good feeling about what they are doing. Our facility is no better than the employees we have and we have some excellent people working here.

"Our emphasis in 1994 is also on community relations. Education to the community is important and we are having monthly health talks that local physicians are hosting," said marketing director Julie Wolf.

Another emphasis is on the guest relations program that was started about a year ago. "We have an orientation for our new employees to teach them to treating our customers and patients the way they want to be treated."

A new facility that began once Boyer was on board is the mobile Magnetic Resonance Imaging laboratory which began operation in November of 1993. It is at the hospital every Wednesday and about 200 people have used the MRI. "This is not your typical MRI, this is the most modern MRI unit you can find," said Boyer.

The MRI is rectangle in shape instead of round. This allows a patient more room while laying on the bed. In the old MRI machines, patients had to lie very still in a small tunnel-shaped machine. But not so with this new one. "You don't have to be still. If a child has to go through it, and is nervous, he or she does not have to let go of his mother's hand. She can lie down with the child in the MRI so things will go smoothly," Boyer said.

There was no executive management when Boyer came to SMMC. Please see SMMC, page 9E

M A R 27 1994

Vroom, vroom!

Class learns metrics by building race cars

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

"On your mark, get set, go!" And then it's over. A split second race, a pop, a whooshing noise, and that quick it's over.

This was the scene last Friday at Coahoma High School in the gymnasium during the "Metric 500."

The "500" as it has become known in CHS tradition, is a special race involving cars designed and built by the students of Mark McLean, industrial technology instructor.

McLean explains that there is definitely no "happencence" involved in the design and completion of the cars. He explains that each student must follow a very specific set of 26 different criteria and each car must be built using the metric system.

The cars come as a single block of balsa wood with a kit containing the wheels and all necessary parts for the vehicle. The challenge to the student is to convert the specifications to the metric system and come up with the fastest design. "It's about a ten day project," explains McLean.

The cars are propelled by a single CO2 cartridge similar to a BB gun cylinder, according to McLean. The cartridge is placed in a cavity at the rear of the vehicle.

The "500" is exciting, with a gym



On your marks, get set and the tiny race cars are off. Mark McLean, industrial technology teacher at Coahoma High School uses the "Metric 500" as a way to teach his students how to use the metric system. All cars entered are built by the students, using metric measurements, as part of class project.

filled with teenage and adult screamers all yelling for their favorite car.

The starting gate pokes a hole, perforating the CO2 cylinder and causing a loud popping noise. The cars race along a wire to the finish gate and in a single second the race is over. The losing car is eliminated and the winning car advances on.

The average real time for the cars is 55 miles per hour on a track of 66 feet in length. The winning cars will reach speeds up to 65 or 70 miles per hour.

"The trick is to design a body that won't crack under those conditions,"

explains McLean. "The car is disqualified if the body cracks."

The race continues until one final vehicle emerges the victor, receiving the prize for the "fastest" car. That individual gets a special bonus by being able to race McLean who has designed and built his own car.

"Usually the student's car is much faster than mine," explains McLean. "The teacher usually gets the pants beat off of him."

This year, the fastest car honor went to Jackie Lang. In addition, a prize was awarded to the car with the "best appearance." Ronnie Blakely won that one for his creativi-

ty in creating a purple roadster with flame decals on each side.

"That was a tough one," McLean explained. "We had all kinds of entries—trucks, cars, roadsters. You name it."

This was the fourth year for CHS students to take part in the "Metric 500." The winners will advance to compete in regional and state competition.

So, what about the McLean - Lang match?

McLean "lucked out." "We ran out of time," he explained. "I guess we'll never know."

Howard

Continued from page 1E

cast at the same time," Sparks said.

One entity that is helping with this is the Continuous Quality Improvement or CQI. Through this process, committees are looking at ways to contain costs and generate new revenue.

CQI was developed in 1993 when all members of the college "met and brainstormed about ideas and the CQI process teams are looking at the ideas and how to adopt them," said Sparks.

Cost containment is the first topic that the CQI process teams are looking at. Among the ways to do so is to learn how to work smarter and leaner. Also to streamline the college and make programs more efficient. And "are we doing things we need to, are there things we could cut out that's not important to the mission of the college," said Sparks.

The ways to generate new revenue to help balance out the loss of the tax base is to look at ways to recruit more students, to pursue grants and fundraising.

The CQI process teams are also looking into services to non-traditional students, processing of purchase orders, faculty overload and salary schedules.

The college is also making some

"We are trying to get facts and figures and there are still lots of questions to be answered at all levels."

Cheryl Sparks
College president

changes to update its computer technology. During the February meeting of the Board of Trustees, members approved a \$78,500 purchase of 50 new computers.

Twenty four will be installed in the San Angelo campus and 26 at the Big Spring campus. Computer labs at both campuses will be replaced and the old computers will be utilized in other areas of the schools.

The college also continues to offer its Brown Bag Seminars on Tuesdays. The seminars offer students and the general public a chance to learn more about such things as single parenting, domestic violence, money management and sibling rivalry. These are free of charge and open to anyone in the area that wants to attend. The seminars are provided by the Howard College Special Services and Guidance/Counseling Office.

BSISD

Continued from page 1E

near future to begin installing air conditioning in half of the school buildings.

Right now, half are cooled by swamp coolers and those will be changed to refrigerated air. "The rest of the buildings already have refrigerated air conditioners."

Another challenge facing the district is the declining tax base which McQueary says "continues to deteriorate ever so little. We are facing some hard choices about how to educate the children, we may have to either raise taxes or cut programs if things don't improve."

Somewhere in the near future, the school board may propose another bond issue to the voters. The board is looking into the idea and putting some figures together.

"We will wait and see how the legislature addresses facilities and how we can go about replacing some of our existing facilities."

One other issue McQueary says the school district is looking into is the slow decline of attendance in the schools. "Before Webb Air Force Base closed in the 70's, there were about 9,000 students enrolled in the district, then with the oil bust we lost another wave of students. Over the past eight years, attendance has been pretty even. We have 4,500 enrolled for this 1993-94 school

"We are facing some hard choices about how to educate the children, we may have to either raise taxes or cut programs if things don't improve."

Bill McQueary
Superintendent

year," according to McQueary. On a positive note, attendance for this year is up slightly and the turnover rate for employees is fairly low.

"It's been a good year, instruction with students is good and we are upgrading the technology and embracing learning, but with all school districts in Texas, there is still a cloud of uncertainty when it comes to the school finance issue," McQueary added.

The state legislature is scheduled to take up the school finance issue once again when it convenes in January 1995.

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TAAS scores continue to rise at high school

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Attendance at Big Spring High School may be at its lowest level in seven years, but gradual improvement of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test results are steadily rising.

Big Spring High School Principal Kent Bowermon says the 1993-94 school year "has been going extremely smooth" and hopes the next year will be even better.

One concern of Bowermon is the number of students attending the high school this year. He says there are 1,005 students enrolled at this time and "that's the lowest level I've seen since I've been here."

Bowermon says there are two reasons for the low attendance: the ninth grade class is always small and there are several students who move away or their parents who work for the federal prison get transferred to another city.

On the positive side, Bowermon says they have had improvement in the test results of the TAAS tests. He credits that to a number of things, "teachers are helping students more, we are working on our curriculum and kids are becoming more test wise as they come through the district."

Writing, reading comprehension and math are the three components

that make up a TAAS test. Students begin taking them in the fourth grade, again in the eighth grade, then begin working on their exit tests in 10th grade.

"Usually we pass about 65 to 70 percent on all three parts the first time they take it (TAAS exit test) which would be in the fall of their sophomore year," according to Bowermon.

After that, of the remaining 30 percent who haven't passed all parts, will take it again in the spring of their sophomore year and about half of them will pass at that time. By the time the group reaches the spring semester of their senior year, there is about 3 or 4 percent of the students who still have not passed the entire test.

Bowermon says right now, there are 32 kids who had to take one or two of the sections over earlier this month as seniors and about five students needed to pass all three parts in order to graduate. "If a student does not pass the TAAS test by the end of their senior year, they can take it again during the summer and receive their diploma at that time," Bowermon said.

"Our goal is to improve the test scores, the main reason we are here is because residents expect us to educate the children and that's our number one goal," Bowermon said. Please see SCHOOL, page 4E

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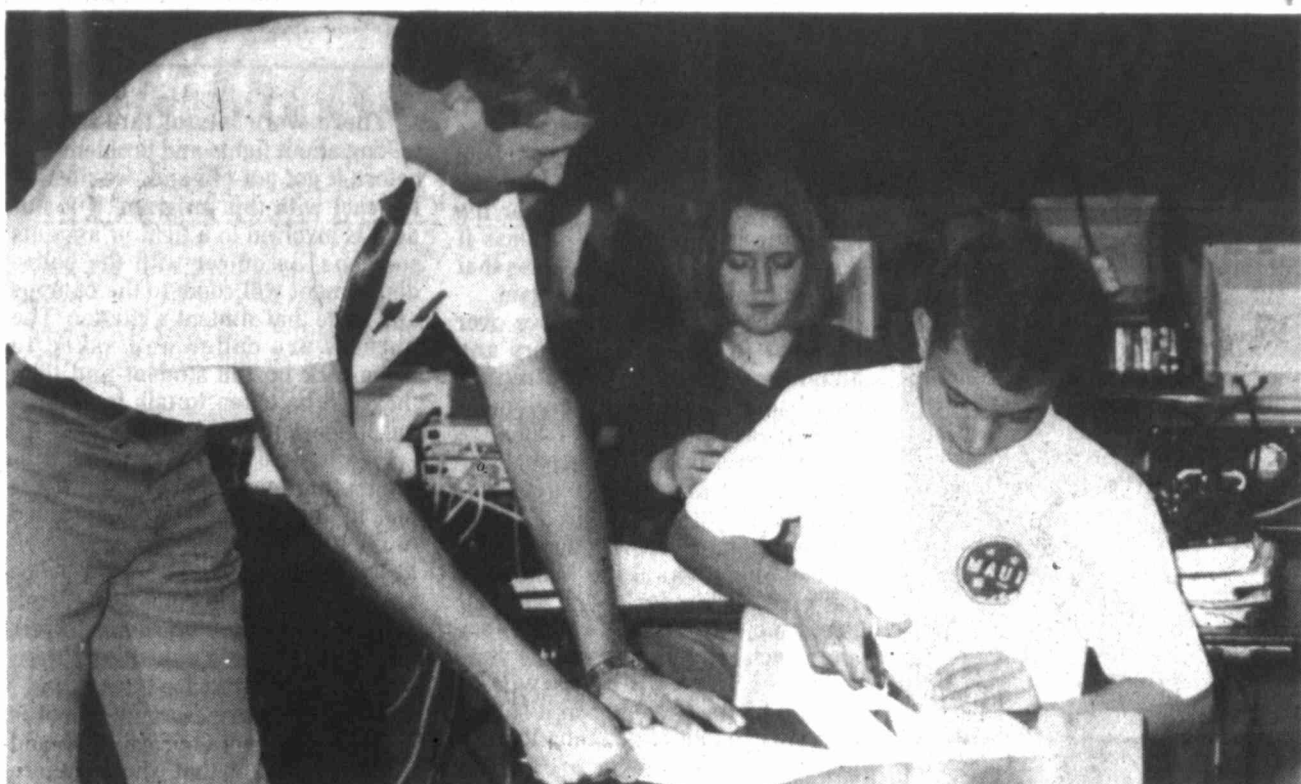
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Staff Writer
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Forsan Independent School District wants to keep it simple - improving in each aspect of education at the school. Above, a teacher works with a student in a graphics art class.

Reading a top priority at Forsan

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

When it comes to future goals, the Forsan Independent School District keeps it simple.

"We want to get better," says superintendent George White. "We want to become a little better at everything. If we are able to do that, then we've succeeded."

Looking back on 1993, White saw several areas within FISD to be applauded.

"We really emphasized reading and increasing our reading skills," White explained. "We see that subject as being of primary importance to every student." According to White, every school and every grade put reading at the top of their pri-

ty list. In addition, White commended Elbow Elementary School for their cooperative learning program. The program involves students working with students and teaches students to work in groups to aid each other, he explains.

"It's really a matter of kids working with kids," White explained. "Our teachers have gone through inservice instruction and have really begun to put the ideas they've learned into practice with everyone benefiting," he said.

In addition to inservice training on cooperative learning, White also commended the extra effort of elementary school principal Richard Light for his development of the "Wednesday Luncheon" program.

The Wednesday Luncheon provides weekly instruction on several learning-related subjects. While teachers attend the meetings, parents lead classes. "We can't tell you how much we appreciate them," Light said.

TAAS scores are heavily emphasized throughout the FISD as a statewide assessment of student skill level. "We're constantly striving to increase our scores," White explained.

Goals for the 1994 - 1995 school year are general, White explained. "We want to continue on with the cooperative learning idea and expand it," he explained. "We're looking at many different ways to increase student desire for learning."

Reflecting state requirements goal of Glasscock school district

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — Reviewing the Glasscock curriculum and finding ways to better reflect the state recommended curriculum for high school students are two of the goals the Glasscock Independent School District will strive for, according to superintendent Charles Zachry. G.I.S.D. is currently responsible for approximately 415 total students based in the Garden City area.

Elementary TAAS scores were up in 1993, Zachry said. "But we don't want to be complacent with that. We're always striving to increase our reading and writing scores."

As a means to help further these scores, Zachry explained that the 1994 - 1995 season will bring other changes. "We've set up a special committee of teachers to review the elementary instructional computer program," he explained. "We're going to expand that area in an effort to increase learning."

The high school program will also be revised, Zachry explained. "We're looking at restructuring some of our math programs and providing an additional foreign language." In order to accomplish this, Zachry explained the high school may have to go to an eight period day.

Zachry takes pride in the G.I.S.D. accomplishments for the 1993 -

1994 school year. "We've shown typical BearKat spirit in everything we've attempted," he said. "Our sports programs did well and UIL will be finishing up soon."

"We did well at Regionals in the Academic Decathlon, even though we didn't win State this year like we have in the past. Our students stay pretty involved in everything," he explained.

Zachry also proudly points out the successes of the agricultural students. "Angie Strube has done extremely well this year. And we've had several others who have won, too," he explained.

Small Grady achieving excellence

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

Grady Independent School District is based in a small West Texas community called Lenora. While small is referring to its geographical size, upon closer inspection this town nestled near Stanton is quick to show large achievements.

Superintendent Tom Walker explains, "we're kind of a small town, but we do well with that." Walker cites achievements in a full sports program and takes special pride in the Grady ISD 6 man football team.

1993 was a year of change within GISD. The elementary school achieved "departmentalization" which allowed students from the second grade up to move from class to class and separate to different teachers. In the Grady schools, the only self-contained classes are now the kindergarten and the first grade, according to Walker.

Walker cites special achievements in increasing standardized test scores district wide. He is specifically proud of the increased scores for the TAAS and NAPT tests.

A major achievement for the GISD was receiving the Spring award for overall district UIL achievements.

"We're kind of a small town, but we do well with that."

Tom Walker
Superintendent

The award encompasses gains in all UIL areas including track, tennis, one-act play and other literary events. In addition, Grady received the UIL district award for academic excellence.

Goals for 1994 include further

increases in testing scores. Walker explains that this is an ongoing objective within GISD. "Our teachers are continually striving for student excellence," he explains.

Walker also says the school district is looking at the addition of curriculum, specifically third year Spanish and Geography classes, which will better meet the state's recommended high school curriculum.

Finally, Walker explains the district is working towards innovations in scheduling. "We want our kids to be well-rounded," he says. "These are just some of the focal points we'll be examining this year."

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SWCID's dental lab first of its kind

School

Continued from page 2E

TIM JONES
Staff Writer

The newly expanded dental technician training laboratory at the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf is the first of its kind in the United States.

SWCID now has a self-contained, fully equipped facility with dental technician training for the deaf by a deaf instructor.

Ron Brasel, associate vice president-executive director of SWCID, is very proud of the recently refurbished lab, thanks to not only \$1,000 in funds donated by the Permian Basin Dental Society, but about \$51,000 in funds appropriated to SWCID for the new equipment and remodeling from the Texas Legislature.

Brasel expressed a special thank you to Rep. David Counts and Sen. John Montford for their extra efforts to keep SWCID competitive and seeing to its funding needs.

Instructor Dick Covell has 13 years experience here at SWCID and 20 years at Washington State College in Seattle.

"I'm a teacher," Covell said. "I sign and we do lots of hard work with a special population."

Covell cited one student for an example. This particular student had trouble reading and writing so he needed to work hard on acquiring those skills. He had gifted hand skills and after mastering them, got a good job in San Antonio in a plaster department in a large dental laboratory.

"The last I heard, he was one of their fastest and best quality employ-

"The last I heard, he was one of their fastest and best quality employees. I'm proud of him and what we do at SWCID to improve the quality of our student's lives."

Dick Covell,
SWCID instructor

ees. I'm proud of him and what we do at SWCID to improve the quality of our student's lives," said Covell.

Brasel and Covell both stressed the dental laboratory technician field is growing rapidly, and gainful employment for the deaf is the school's primary objective.

There are about 12 students in the program now and six will be graduating in December. Depending on their reading and writing skills, students can finish the program in about two years, with the average student finishing in three to four years. Each student progress at their own pace, Covell said. The students take three or four laboratory courses each semester.

There were formerly two certificate programs that have been merged into one newly revised curriculum, better explaining why it takes three to four years to graduate.

"Being first in the U.S. with this specific curriculum for the deaf is another example of the progressiveness of our institution," Brasel explained. "All of us at SWCID are proud of our new program."



Instructor Dick Covell works with a student in the dental technician program offered at SWCID. The newly remodeled lab is the first of its kind in the United States.

added. He also said the high school has a goal to have all the students who take the exit TAAS test for the first time in high school to pass it during their sophomore year so that they will not have to take it again.

"We are looking to improve over the next few years. Teachers and administrators are going to conferences to see if we can implement some ideas and improve education at the high school," Bowermon said when asked about other goals for the school.

One program that was implemented two years ago is the Mandatory Tutorials. "This deals with the four basic subjects such as English, science, social studies and math."

After school, students will be tutored by their teacher in a subject that they are failing. "Actually, it is not after school, if you are passing every subject, you get out of school at 2:55 and if you are failing a subject, you attend the mandatory tutorial class until 3:25," Bowermon stated.

Another program that is fairly new is the Fights and Assaults program that began Monday, Feb. 28.

"There were lots of threats and talking about fights and problems, so before it got out of hand, we needed to react with this program. If a student is involved in a fight or assaults someone, an officer with the police department will come to the campus and issue that student a citation. The parents are called and asked to come pick up the student and then they will be taken to talk to Municipal Judge John Rheinscheld."

"We looked at a variety of programs that other districts are taking part in and decided they overreacted to the problem." Bowermon referred to one in East Texas where a police officer will come to the school, handcuff the student, take them to jail, fingerprint and book them, then have the parent pay for the bond.

"We mean business and school is for education so this program should let students know that." So far, there has only been one incident involving two students since the program started.

Finally, Bowermon said "we have a very good staff that is extremely dedicated to the students and our students are as good as anyone, anywhere."

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VA

By KELLIE JC Staff Writer

When Conra director of the ical Center employees and nity hated to se

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VA under new leadership; continues good care

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

When Conrad Alexander retired as director of the Big Spring VA Medical Center last month, many employees and those in the community hated to see him go.

'Our regional director in Jackson, Mississippi is very sensitive to the needs of the community. Big Spring residents will be very pleased and very, very lucky to have this new director.'

David Keith
Acting director

the medical center will play an important role.
•Parking Facilities-construction is currently underway to build 70 or so additional parking spaces and the final number will be decided once Keith determines how many of those need to be for the handicapped.

•Interior Design Work-the center has hired an interior designer to modernize the patient care and visitor waiting areas.
"Putting veterans first" is the slogan at the center-patients and visitors will notice that all the employees believe that and are working hard to make the vets comfortable. "Our employees and service chiefs are moving forward and keeping pushing themselves forward. This

hospital has the highest work ethic I've ever encountered in my career. We provide high quality service, everyone is very active in the community and customer oriented. We must do so to be on the competitive edge," said Keith.
"My philosophy and the employees of the center is that we are part of the community and take pride in being active and supportive of Big Spring," Keith added.



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But the Lamesa native wanted to pursue a master's degree in public administration and now he is fulfilling that dream and is enrolled in graduate school at the University of Texas in Austin.

The acting director, David Keith, is also the medical center's chief operating officer and will continue in the interim position until a new director arrives the end of April. "Our regional director in Jackson, Mississippi is very sensitive to the needs of the community. Big Spring residents will be very pleased and very, very lucky to have this new director," said Keith.

The name of the director is not being announced at this time but will be made public the end of April.

Both Alexander and Keith worked on a number of projects together and now Keith and other employees at the medical center are working to fulfill those goals:

•Primary Managed Care-Each veteran who comes to the center will be assigned to a primary care team. Each team is made up of a physician, nurse and medical clerk. "Our goal is for everybody to be seen within 24 to 48 hours from the time they call for an appointment," said Keith. Of course, any emergencies will be tended to immediately.

•Outpatient Services-trying to enlarge the area to accommodate more veterans. "When the center was built in 1950, it was set up to serve 12 to 14,000 outpatients. This year alone, we anticipate 35 to 40,000 outpatient visits. "We have submitted our bid for \$2 million for an expanded out-patient clinic to be added to the main building to improve out-patient services. We hope to know something soon so we

can begin construction within the next two years," said Keith. If approved, the center will then be able to serve 50,000 out patients a year.

•Surgery Suit-in October of this year, the center will submit an application to be approved for \$3 million that will modernize recovery and operating rooms for urology, ophthalmology, orthopedics and general surgery. This will serve both the in and out-patients.

•3 West Project-Right now, part of the third floor of the medical center is closed. There are 42 beds that are not being used. Construction will soon be underway to build an intermediate medicine unit and a geriatric evaluation unit. "We have 180 beds available and that includes 40 being used for nursing home care," said Keith.

•Modernizing Equipment-on-going projects that are scheduled for completion in December 1995 include upgrading and modernizing the med gas and nurse call system. Right now, med gas is provided by oxygen tanks and in the future oxygen will

be piped into each patient's room. The nurse call system will be upgraded so patients can call for a nurse in an easier manner.

•Stand Down-for the first time at the center there will be a time set aside in June to bring in the homeless veterans and their families living in the area. "We will provide them with health care and other needed services and hopefully get them off the streets," Keith said.

•Sharing Agreements-there are several agreements in the working stages at the center including: the Federal Correctional Institution and potentially sharing resources with Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Another sharing agreement may be developed with the Big Spring State Hospital as well.

•Rural Health Network Alliance-the VA medical center and 22 other hospitals that are members of the Permian Basin Texas Hospital Association are meeting in April to talk about Texas hospital issues and National Health Care Reform. They are pursuing a grant to develop a rural health network alliance and

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Rehab center: 33 years of service

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

For 33 years, the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center has provided up-to-date rehabilitation care for area patients.

The center's 18 employees provides cardiac rehabilitation, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and audiology services. Center Director John Yater said the center averages 1,000 patient visits a month.

The center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Patients must be referred to the center by their physicians. "We're like a pharmacy—you have to have a prescription," said Yater.

After being referred by a physician, patients must also meet admission criteria specific to each program. For example, cardiac rehabilitation candidates must have a cardiac stress test before being admitted to the program.

Patients who are being admitted to the physical therapy program must have a doctor's statement that therapy will help the patient get better. The other programs have similar criteria.

Therapy sessions are usually scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or Tuesdays and Thursdays, depending on how often the doctor recommends the patient have therapy. The center's wound care program is available weekends and holidays for patients who require treatments for burns, diabetic ulcers or other problems that require daily care.

All programs have different equipment used to treat patients. The most expensive equipment is found in the physical therapy program. A \$15,000 Zuni machine was added last year, enabling the center to become an "unloading center."

Unloading, a relatively new concept in physical therapy, involves removing weight from a patient while therapists lead the person through full-motion exercises.

The equipment allows therapists to add more and more of the patient's weight over a period of time until full use of the limbs is recovered. The unloading technique reduces convalescent times for injured patients.

A Cybex resistance machine for knee therapy and a BTE work simulator, which simulates everyday

YMCA swimming fittingly along

By STEVE REAGAN
Sportswriter

The Big Spring YMCA made a big splash - pun intended - last year when it opened its new Horace Garrett Natatorium.

The natatorium, constructed at a cost of more than \$725,000, opened in late 1993 and has been a huge success, officials say.

The structure, complete with U.I. regulation swimming pool, is home base for the Big Spring High School swim team, and is available for members' use as well.

The swimming pool is the latest of a variety of programs offered by the YMCA, 810 Owens St. The facility is open from 6 a.m.-9 p.m. seven days a week.

Exercise classes are a very popular feature. Recent additions include computerized stair-stepping machines and a television set in the aerobics room. In addition, free weights and Nautilus equipment are available.

The YMCA also sponsors several sports leagues throughout the year. Flag football, volleyball and basketball.

Please see YMCA, page 8E



Workers at the Dora Robert's Rehabilitation Center check out the latest in therapy equipment. The center offers the latest in services and equipment to help people recover from injuries or other physical problems.

tasks such as opening jars or handling a car's steering wheel, are other critical pieces of physical therapy equipment. Yater said the \$42,000 work simulator is one of the most expensive therapy machines in the center.

Cardiac rehabilitation involves treadmills, ergometers, upper body exercisers and a defibrillation system that is kept handy in case of heart attack.

Occupational therapy requires less expensive tools, including putty to strengthen hands and ordinary household objects to simulate the activities of daily living.

Speech and audiology therapy is conducted in a soundproof testing booth to accurately determine the level of hearing and allow the patient to hear herself.

Upcoming improvements to the

center include a covered driveway that will be built this year to shelter patients from the weather as they enter the building. A recent grant from the Dora Roberts Foundation will fund this project. The center will also have a new physical therapist assistant, Cheryl Thomas, as of June 1.

In January 1995, the center plans to expand into the northern half of the building, after the WIC and Texas Department of Health office moves elsewhere. The center will remodel that side of the building at that time. "Expansion is desperately needed," said Yater. "We're pretty crowded for space in here."

Two or three years from now, Yater hopes to have enough funding for a new pool for the center. They are currently raising money for this

Please see DORA, page 7E

Warren Chiropractic:

Since 1949, many have experienced the benefits

Herald Staff Report

As chiropractic care continues to be one of the fastest growing health professions, it has received a great deal of positive acceptance in the scientific and medical community. Studies on the effectiveness of chiropractic, published by the British Medical Journal, the Rand Corporation, The California Division of Labor and Statistics, the Florida and Iowa Worker's Compensation commissions and, most recently, by the Canadian government in the Manga Study, all found chiropractic to be very effective, less costly and very safe.

Warren Chiropractic has been open in Big Spring since 1949. Owned and founded by Dr. Loran H. Warren, the center includes three chiropractic physicians on staff: Jay Warren, Howard Hornsby and Jody Reid.

1993 was a year of change for the center, adding Reid's services and also opening the Big Spring Rehabilitation Clinic, a chiropractic spinal rehabilitation center. According to Jay Warren, the new

clinic is one of the largest centers of its type in the country.

"Other physicians, both medical and chiropractic, are just amazed at the facility and quality of equipment we have when they come to visit," said Warren. "In addition to our truly state-of-the-art chiropractic, therapy and rehabilitation equipment, we will be adding some diag-

nostic equipment that very few facilities in this area will have."

He added the center is also in the process of bringing in a physical therapist onto our staff to further expand the services they can effectively offer. These changes are scheduled to occur this year.

Warren Chiropractic has a patient

Please see WARREN, page 7E

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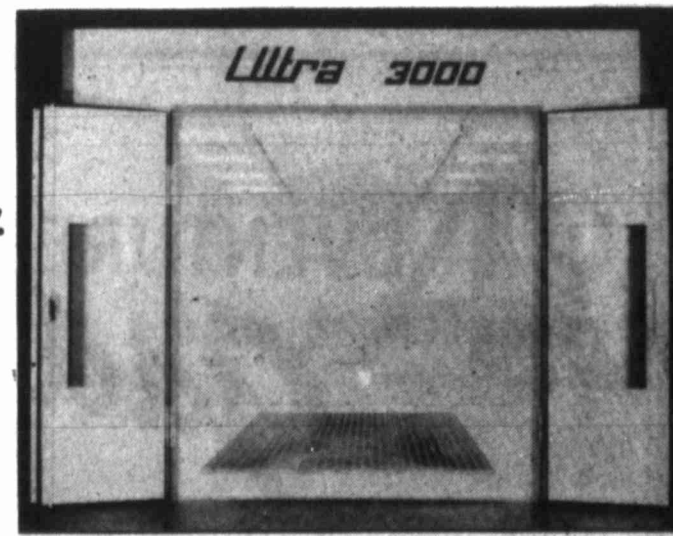
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Dora

Continued from page 7E
project. The center raising project is a tournament, which \$15,000 per year.

The center also from United Way \$10,000 in equipment from the American Club (AMBUCLUB). Part of the AMBU assist physical therapists and provide school therapists.

The center a Medicaid and v claims for the past sliding scale has how many families survive on that in need worry they pay for treatment. "That was a big thing this center," will be turned a pay."

Since 1 has been

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Dr. Bill T. Crane chiropractic business. His background Chiropractic College of science degree University.

Crane is also in his own words the community. team doctor for School for five years.

In 1987, he moved from Scurry Street Lancaster Street built. Two churches and an office main staff. The center 150 patient visits

The building is exercise room for an electrical machine, ultrasonic equipment spinal manipulation infrared heat

resistance for those whose the stress of traditional

The office is all latest equipment for electronic ing. Crane is among the first offices in the state claim filing capital

Services provided center include: rehabilitation of chronic pain conditions; exercise physiology and nutritional

The center has arranged

Warren

Continued from page 7E
base of 13,000 of which are Chiropractic treatments

includes removal along with spinal treatments

The center also such as ultrasound stimulation, intense stimulation, gal and soft-tissue tissue treatments muscle strength rehabilitation.

Warren Chiropractic shops on topic introductions to al spinal health tion and stress n workshops w Tuesday, April 5 19 at the center.



M.A. BRO

FARMS COMMERCIAL INVESTMENTS CONSULTING A

264-

Dora

Continued from page 6E

project. The center's biggest fundraising project is its Summerfest golf tournament, which raises \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year.

The center also receives funding from United Way and \$8,000 to \$10,000 in equipment each year from the American Businessmen's Club (AMBUCS). According to Yater, part of the AMBUCS mission is to assist physical therapy programs and provide scholarships for physical therapists.

The center accepts Medicare, Medicaid and will file insurance claims for the patient. Fees are on a sliding scale based on income and how many family members must survive on that income, so no patient need worry they will not be able to pay for treatment.

"That was a big factor for founding this center," said Yater. "No one will be turned away for inability to pay."

Since 1957, Chrane Chiropractic has been taking care of pain

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Dr. Bill T. Chrane has been in the chiropractic business since 1957. His background includes Texas Chiropractic College and a bachelor of science degree from Trinity University.

Chrane is also a businessman and, in his own words, "a big booster of the community." He also served as team doctor for Garden City High School for five years.

In 1987, he moved his practice from Scurry Street to its current Lancaster Street location, which he built. Two chiropractic assistants and an office manager round out his staff. The center has approximately 150 patient visits each week.

The building is equipped with an exercise room for physical therapy, an electrical muscle stimulation machine, ultrasound and x-ray diagnostic equipment, various tables for spinal manipulation, cold and infrared heat treatments and passive-resistance exercise machines for those whose joints cannot take the stress of traditional machines.

The office is also outfitted with the latest equipment, including computers for electronic insurance claim filing. Chrane said his office was among the first eight chiropractic offices in the state to have electronic claim filing capability.

Services provided at the health center include treatment and rehabilitation of chronic neck, back and pain conditions, sports injuries, exercise physiology, body building and nutritional/vitamin counseling.

The center has a reciprocal referral arrangement with local M.D.s.

Warren

Continued from page 6E

base of 13,000 people, about 6,000 of which are currently active. Chiropractic treatment of patients includes removing muscular tension along with spinal and joint misalignments.

The center also uses therapies such as ultrasound, low-volt muscle stimulation, interferential electrical stimulation, galvanic, microcurrent and soft-tissue treatments. Soft-tissue treatments include stretching, muscle strengthening and motion rehabilitation.

Warren Chiropractic offers workshops on topics such as general introductions to chiropractic, general spinal health and exercise, nutrition and stress reduction. Their next workshops will be 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, and Tuesday, April 19 at the center.

Bed capping delayed at Big Spring State Hospital

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Robert von Rosenberg said that bed capping, an issue which last year had become a major concern due to the Texas Mental Health and Mental Retardation department's shift for more community-based programs, may or may not even happen.

Taking time from the urgent business of a Joint Commission in Accreditation of Healthcare Organization's (JCAHO) survey at BSSH, von Rosenberg said, "The bed capping that was planned to start last year was essentially delayed by pressure from concerned communities having little or no resources to provide adequate community-based programs."

"TXMHMR is in favor of bed caps,

but this is not going to happen unless the state legislature wants it to. It's all on hold for now, and community pressure on concerned legislators will impact a final decision. The department has said they are not going to proceed with this, so fundamentally, this may or may not happen. If it does, there will be public hearings statewide," the BSSH administrator said.

"We are gradually receiving more disabled and acutely-ill patients, and their length of stay has increased as community-based programs are more refractive to treat such clients," von Rosenberg said.

"We're not the first line of defense. Our role as a treatment facility will be changing, but there

will, I feel, always be a state hospital treating patients for whom community resources are not appropriate. Crisis care with a goal to return as many patients as possible to their homes and communities will define BSSH.

Speaking about the overall quality at BSSH, which is yearly surveyed by JCAHO, von Rosenberg said, "We've worked real hard to improve the environment and quality of patient care. The new activity center has allowed more off-unit treatment, a more normalizing atmosphere for patients which is a revolutionary change and expansion in mental health treatment."

Von Rosenberg said that BSSH has overcome the impact of closing its

substance abuse treatment center last September.

"We lost approximately \$1 million in decreased budgeting as a result, but in spite of that loss of funding, no layoffs or job losses occurred, and approximately 50 workers were relocated within the system," von Rosenberg explained.

Individuals whose single diagnosis is alcohol and/or drug abuse/dependency are no longer being treated in the state hospital system but in community-based programs, as ordered by the state legislature, which started Sept. 1, 1993.

The Texas Mental Health Mental Retardation department (TXMHMR) still treats all clients with a mental health diagnosis; either singly or

dually diagnosed.

"TXMHMR's statutory mission is to treat mental illness and retardation," State MHMR Community Relations Director Sheila Allee said, "The Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) now has total responsibility for single diagnosis substance abuse treatment programs."

Senate Bill 834, passed during the 73rd State Legislature, appropriated \$7.6 million to TCADA for each year of the 1994-95 biennium to provide substance abuse treatment service for singly diagnosed adults committed to treatment under a civil commitment. The state transferred these clients liability over to TCADA in Sept. 1993 as well.

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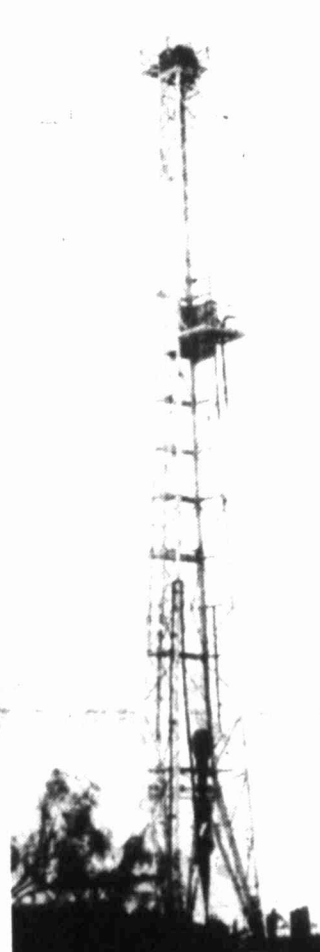


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Chiropractic is intended to fill a need for more natural treatments to improve neurological function and increase overall feelings of health. "Look at the health food stores nowadays, and the people who go to work out or attend exercise classes," said Chrane. "That's been at the forefront of chiropractic philosophy for a hundred years now."



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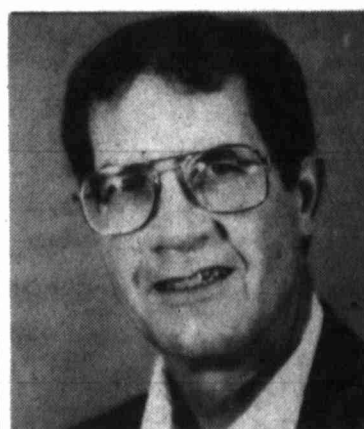
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Clinic offering specialized services

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

The Big Spring Specialty Clinic, a branch facility of the Odessa Women's and Children's Clinic, has provided specialized medical services such as obstetrics, gynecology, neurology, audiology and ear, nose and throat services for more than six years.

The clinic has increased its number of patients in the last two years due to the number of referrals about its low-cost services, according to staff member Melinda McCann.

Medicaid and private insurance are accepted by the clinic, and they file claims for the patient—"something a lot of local doctors don't do," said McCann.

In 1992, the clinic began offering the Norplant system of contraception. The tiny rods, implanted under the skin on a woman's arm, offer birth control that lasts up to five years. McCann said the implants have been widely used since the clinic began offering them.

Many patients use the clinic for obstetrics and gynecology services, including pregnancy testing, but several medical specialties are offered. A neurologist/neurological surgeon is busy with workman's compensation and back injuries, said McCann. An ear, nose and throat specialist puts ear tubes in children with chronic infection problems and also performs laser surgery that stops snoring.

A general surgeon is available who performs gallbladder and other similar surgeries. The clinic is currently recruiting for a pediatrician and dermatologist to add to the staff.

All surgeons are from Odessa and all major surgeries are referred to Odessa physicians.



Hall-Bennett Clinic, 411 E. Fourth St., has adapted to the changing needs of the community in its inception more than 50 years ago.

Hall-Bennett adapts to changing needs

MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

Hall-Bennett Memorial Hospital was established in Big Spring during the 1920s, serving the medical needs of the community for over 50 years.

Over time, the town's medical needs changed, and Hall-Bennett changed to serve them, completing the conversion from a hospital to a clinic in 1989. Since then, the clinic has continued to grow and change to meet needs of Big Spring residents, remaining one of the area's leading medical facilities.

Hall-Bennett Clinic employs 13 people aside from its physicians, including administrative personnel, clerical, insurance, and computer specialists, nurses, physical therapists, and x-ray technicians.

Dr. Bruce Cox, a general practitioner,

has been on the staff of Hall-Bennett Clinic for 12 years, during which he has several times been honored as Physician of the Year.

Dr. Robby Cooksey, a general practitioner, joined the clinic staff in August 1992.

Dr. Louis Bennett Worthy, a specialist in pediatrics, is a long time resident of Big Spring and the daughter of one of the founders of Hall-Bennett Memorial Hospital.

The newest member of the full-time medical staff, Dr. John Rawlins, a specialist in internal medicine, joined the clinic staff in November of 1993.

In addition to the full-time physicians, patients of Hall-Bennett clinic are served by two visiting physicians, Dr. R.V. Patell and Dr. Pankaj Patell. Both doctors, whose primary practice is in Midland, are cardiologists,

and, despite the fact they share the same last name, they are not related. The two cardiologists travel to Big Spring from Midland every Friday to serve the needs of Big Spring residents.

Hall-Bennett Clinic is staffed by friendly, small-town people interested in seeing their neighbors receive the finest medical care available and make every effort to see that every patient is treated as a friend. The clinic is planning on serving the needs of the community for a long time. Administrator Tom Leannah says, "We're growing for the future."

The clinic, located at 411 E. Fourth St., welcomed American Medical Lab, an independently owned and operated laboratory employing three people, to its facility in December 1993.

YMCA

Continued from page 6E

For persons participating in any of the above programs.

The YMCA is also home for the Sidewinders' gymnastics program. Under the direction of Russ McEwen, the group has won the state YMCA title five of the past six years, and recently placed in the top 10 at national competition in Tampa, Fla.

Monthly membership fees are \$20 for adults, \$5 for youths, \$30 for families and \$14 for senior citizens.

The facility has a 16-member board of directors and is operated by Director Gary Wollenzien and a staff of more than 20. For more information, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Fitness Center growing

By STEVE REAGAN
Sportswriter

The Harold Davis Fitness Center continues to experience steady growth as it nears its fifth year of operation.

The center, on the campus of Howard College, opened in June 1990, and has seen its membership grow from 200 to more than 400.

Center members can take advantage of several services, including a

20-minute exercise circuit. Abdominal exercise machinery was installed in 1993 and a free-weight room is in the plans for 1994.

Another service offered by the center is the health-risk computer profile. This service, which is available to area businesses and individuals, makes analyses of health factors such as blood pressure and cholesterol count, makes an assessment of those factors and gives the individual Please see FITNESS, page 9E

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The Original Coors 120th Birthday Celebration

GOLDEN, Colorado - In recognition of its historic brand, Coors Brewing Company today unveiled special packaging and a nationwide consumer promotion aimed at celebrating the 120th birthday of Original Coors beer.

The Original Coors 120th Birthday celebration will feature a unique, commemorative bottle and will include a special "Happy Brew Day" promotion where consumers get a chance to win a trip to Colorado and participate in brewing a batch of Coors from start to finish as an "Honorary Brewmaster."

The 120th year celebration will run from Feb. 1 through April 30. All 12-ounce longneck bottles of Original Coors will feature a commemorative, antique-style label that graphically represents the first Coors beer label of 1874.

"Breweries and brands come and go, but quality and commitment have a way of enduring," said Nancy Mammarella, Original Coors brand manager. "Original Coors symbolizes the finest family's 120-year heritage of brewing the finest beers in the world in the foothills of the Colorado Rockies. While this birthday celebration calls attention to that heritage, it is also intended to recognize and thank the millions of Original Coors drinkers."

Mammarella said that while the brand's 12-ounce longneck bottle labeling will change during the celebration period, the Original Coors recipe will remain the same. "We wouldn't change that," she said, "we want to deliver the same cold, crisp and refreshing taste that has made Original Coors the Rocky Mountain Legend."

Consumers can join the celebration through the Original Coors 120th Birthday "Happy Brew Day" Sweepstakes. Depending on state law, consumers enter the contest in one of two ways. In most states, key words will be printed inside the bottle caps of select bottles. When consumers collect two caps that combine to read "Happy Birthdays," "Happy 120th," or "120th Birthday," they qualify to enter the sweepstakes. In other states, consumers will join in the sweepstakes by completing the entry form available at most retail accounts.

Grand prize is a Colorado six-day vacation for two people, including airfare, lodging and \$500 expense money, with two days at the Coors brewery.

There are also thousands of additional prizes, including Original Coors merchandise.

A full array of points-of-sale materials will support and highlight the celebration and explain the stakes both on- and off-premise. For additional information, consumers can call a toll-free Happy Brew Day hotline: 1-800-COORS12. The hotline number and sweepstakes information will also be featured on the commemorative bottles' secondary packaging.

Adolph Coors, great-grandfather of current company Chief Executive Officer Peter Coors, opened the brewery in 1873, but it was not until February 1874 that the first bottles of Coors beer hit the marketplace.

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BIG SPRING
SMMC
Continued from page 9E
Boyer has had to and is learning about the hospital. "I've had to learn facility, both good and bad to learn personnel and how and what kind of like to work in."
Within the last employed a new lab director and resources. With days, Boyer hopes an assistant director officer and contractor.
Boyer says that has really seem he has been here time ago when I tal on a Sunday sitting with one of The housekeeper the door frames. Boyer, "you make and let me do my how. I want to do we can keep you time."
"The bottom have a facility that proud of. A lot of forth by the end been here. We're people here," Boyer.
Fitness
Continued from page 9E
a recommend improvement of The center is c Roy Green, who 14.
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SMMC

Continued from page 1E

Boyer has had to wear a lot of hats and is learning more and more about the hospital as the days go by. "I've had to learn the history of the facility, both good and bad points. I had to learn and get to know the personnel and how they like to work and what kind of environment they like to work in," Boyer remarked.

Within the last 30 days, Boyer has employed a new director of nurses, lab director and director of human resources. Within the next 30 to 60 days, Boyer hopes to bring on board an assistant director, chief financial officer and controller for SMMC.

Boyer says the employee morale has really seemed to improve since he has been here. He recalls a short time ago when he was at the hospital on a Sunday evening and was visiting with one of the housekeepers. The housekeeper was busy waxing the door frames and he remarked to Boyer, "you make my job enjoyable and let me do my job the way I know how. I want to do a good job so that we can keep you here for a long time."

"The bottom line is we want to have a facility that the community is proud of. A lot of effort has been put forth by the employees since I've been here. We have good dedicated people here," Boyer said.

Malone and Hogan joins Lubbock Methodist

Sheriff

Continued from page 1

Move prepares clinic for health care reforms

By TIM JONES Staff Writer

Malone and Hogan Clinic, P.A. and Lubbock Methodist Hospital System announced their affiliation on Jan. 18, 1994.

Methodist purchased the Malone and Hogan's ancillary medical services; which are day surgery, laboratory, X-ray, physical therapy and anesthesia. Methodist also took over the clinically management of the multi-specialty practices of thirteen physicians practicing at the clinic.

"This brought the 'Methodist difference' to Malone and Hogan and to Big Spring. The new affiliation added Methodist's expertise and resources that are helping us grow," said Penny Phillips, Malone and Hogan's clinic administrator.

Methodist is a "large, successful network," Phillips added, pointing out that one of the main reasons the clinic tied into such a well-developed system was in preparation for health care reform.

"By networking with the clinic in Big Spring, we are better able to

This brought the 'Methodist difference' to Malone and Hogan and to Big Spring. The new affiliation added Methodist's expertise and resources that are helping us grow.

Penny Phillips, Clinic administrator

offer our management expertise and resources so that health care in Big Spring remains on the leading edge," said Ray Reynolds, regional controller for Methodist's Regional Services/Rural Health Network.

Dr. Robert Hayes, president of the Malone and Hogan Clinic, said in January that he felt confident that "the combination of the two systems

will allow us to grow into the future and will be a benefit not only Big Spring, but for West Texas as well."

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Fitness

Continued from page 8E

a recommended program for improvement of any problems.

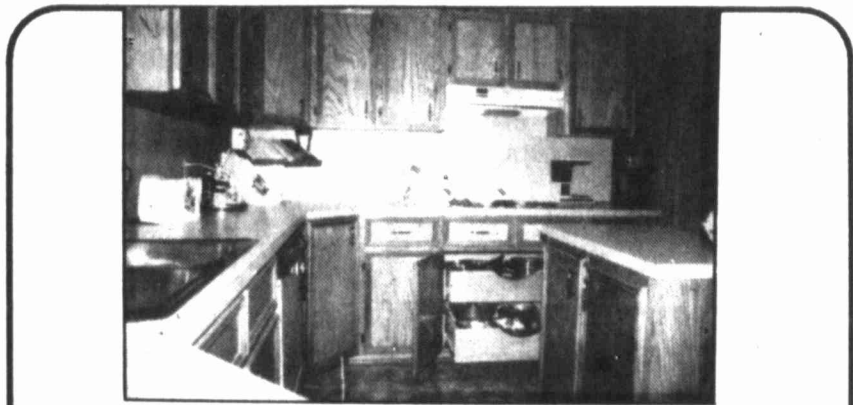
The center is operated by Director Roy Green, who supervises a staff of 14.

Membership fee for the center is \$85 for the first four months and \$75 for each renewal after that. If persons register during college registration periods, credit hours may be obtained for the sessions.

Senior citizen discounts, available to persons 62 or older, are \$56 for the first four months and \$46 for each renewal period after that.

The center also has a wellness consultant on staff to advise members.

The center is open from 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call 264-5098.



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Police

Continued from page 1E

from speeding in the school zones. Officers issued 115 citations, 198 warnings, and 118 other citations during the 30 day period. "STEP went real well and although we 153 more calls to answer during this month than in February of last year, officers were able to curb the speeding problems in the school zone," Edwards said.

• Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) - this program will teach kids how to resist tobacco, alcohol and drugs. If all goes according to plan, DARE will be in all fifth grade classrooms starting in the fall of 1994. "DARE will not compete with our Adopt-A-Cop and D-FY-IT programs, it will compliment them instead. DARE will prepare kids for the D-FY-IT program," Griffin said. Two offi-

cers will attend a training session in May to learn more about DARE.

Other accomplishments by the department during 1993 is property recovery is up \$100,000 and "we have had a higher clearance rate of crimes in the past year by three officers than with the five or six we had in years past. Our clearance rate of property crimes by the detective division is 80 percent and the national average of a department is 19 percent," Griffin said.

"The officers have made a lot of arrests and with any department, there is a manpower problem. We have more work than officers can handle but our clearance rate of the crimes is up and that is good. We have tripled the number of narcotics arrests in 1994 than we did in 1993," Edwards said.

"We have had a greater increase in sexual assaults. That

could be because more are being reported or more are happening. We hope it's because of better education and people are being told it's ok to come to the police and there are just more actually being reported. Rape is the most under-reported crime, only out of ten are actually reported. Hopefully people have more courage to come forward now," Griffin said.

Other programs the department participates in are the Vacation House Watch, Directed Patrol and Community Policing.

Vacation House Watch is something officers do when a resident goes out of town. All the citizen needs to do is contact the department when they are leaving and tell someone how long they will be gone. The officers in that district

will make sure they go by that house and check on it while the resident is gone. Once they come back, they will receive a notice in the mail that shows how many times and what officers came by to check on the house.

Directed patrol is designed to give officers a better opportunity to get to know residents. "Each officer is assigned to a certain district and is responsible for getting to know those people and business owners. That way, if there is a problem, residents will know who will take care of the situation," Edwards said.

Community policing is a branch of the directed patrol program. Officers are trained to get "out and about" and become acquainted with those residents living in their district.

Federal prison planning for more prisoner containment

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Prison overcrowding is a problem that continues to grow as more and more people are being put behind bars. In fact, there are 90,000 federal inmates in the United States and there will continue to be a growth of about 1,000 new inmates per month at the federal level.

The Federal Correctional Institute-Big Spring is aware of this growth and within the next five years may make some changes to house 400 to 800 more inmates, according to Executive Assistant Larry Steward.

"We are looking at our options. We could renovate the existing buildings or build new housing. We

will look at what is the most cost effective and wise," said Steward.

The U.S. Department of Justice has recently released the Bureau of Prisons goals for 1994 and building more space to house inmates is just one of the goals the Big Spring institution is looking at.

Another goal of the prison is to hire more minorities. "Right now, we have 258 people on staff and we would like more minorities in the workforce. We live in a diverse community in Big Spring and we want our workforce to reflect that," said Steward.

"Sixty percent of our inmates are Hispanic and of that, 57% are non-U.S. citizens. We need more Hispanic. Please see PRISON, page 11E

Sheriff

Continued from page 9E

ciently. "Jail improvements-installed a power generator as a back up in case of electrical failure; put in smoke fans and an automatic chemical fire extinguisher for fire safety and expanded the low profile inmate

section from eight beds to fourteen.

Other improvements Standard mentioned are the purchases of new cars and they added a computer to the 911 system so that the areas that are handled by the county are shown on a computer screen.

Although the department is busy handling many aspects in the coun-

ty, they are still able to clear a number of their cases. During 1993: there were 34 assaults reported and 30 of those were cleared by arrests, 12 forgeries and 10 of those have resulted in the arrest of the offender; one murder has occurred in the county and the suspect is currently in the county jail; all of the vehicles

that have been reported missing have been found and the suspects charged; and of the three sexual assaults that have been reported, two of those have been cleared.

The sheriff's department has also made 22 drug related arrests and 29 with assistance from the Permian Basin Drug Task Force.

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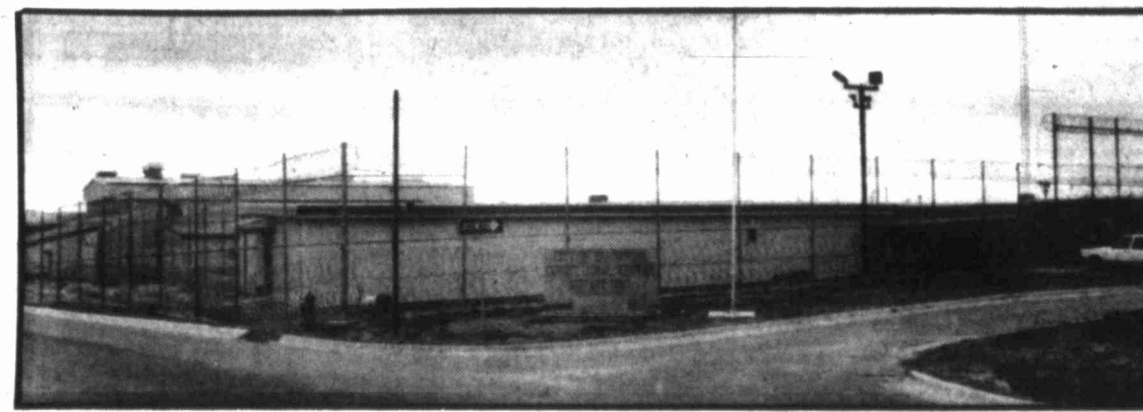
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MIDTEX DETENTIONS, INC. is a private correctional management corporation under agreement with the City of Big Spring to manage two federal contract detention facilities. MIDTEX staff is composed of highly skilled and trained individuals with combined extensive knowledge and experience in correctional administration, business management and medical technology.

Both Big Spring Correctional Center facilities are lease-own projects of the City of Big Spring and house adult-male inmates serving federal sentences averaging less than three years. The original facility located near Interstate 20 began operations in May of 1989. Utilizing a vacant hotel building sitting on a 4-acre site, renovation provided a detention facility with 365 inmate beds. It was operated for 18 months by approximately 50 employees. In this short period of time, the success of the operation was evident. Expansion was approved, and in February of 1991, a second facility was built with renovation of the former Webb AFB flight training center and surrounding 14-acre site. This facility provides 380 inmate beds. To distinguish between separate locations, the facilities were dubbed "Interstate Unit" and "Airpark Unit". Currently, the facilities employ 150 City of Big Spring employees.

Inmates are designated to the facilities by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to serve out their

federal sentences or to relieve overcrowding in other facilities. In addition, the Big Spring Correctional Center contracts with the Immigration & Naturalization Service to detain illegal aliens for deportation after serving their federal sentences. Immigration hearings involving federal immigration judges and attorneys are held at the Airpark Unit monthly.

Support services provided include medical, education/vocational training, religion, recreation, food services, clothing/laundry services, leisure and legal libraries, case management, commissary, drug/alcohol-abuse counselling, and pre-release/ life-coping programs.

Other specific operations which benefit the local community include vocational training programs in welding, which provides renovation of City dumpsters, and in composting, which diminishes organic waste in the City landfill.

Expansion of the operations also includes a Law Enforcement Training Center which was completed in September of 1992 with renovation of the former Webb AFB Golf Course Clubhouse. This center provides space and equipment for staff training which is utilized by both the Big Spring Correctional Center and Big Spring Police Department personnel.



The Christmas tree recycling project in January, was part of the city's composting program. Yard waste and other lumber products are currently being diverted from the city landfill to the composting program. This operation is an effort to preserve much needed space.

MIDTEX DETENTIONS, INC. wishes to express appreciation to the municipal government, the Big Spring community, and especially to all City employees who have been involved with our operation since its inception. Further, we wish to express our appreciation to Moore Development for Big Spring, the City Council, local banks and the citizens of Big Spring for enabling an accelerated schedule to develop our third facility now under construction. This expansion will provide 500 additional inmate beds and create approximately 100 jobs. This facility will be located across from bldg. 1016 in the Airpark.



The city's trash dumpster renovation program has been in operation since early 1992. Weathered dumpsters are repaired as needed, sandblasted and repainted, BSCC initials and a completion date are stenciled on each dumpster repaired under this program.

4-H

By MARY McA
Contributing Wr

"You don't have to be in Extension Agent. It's been a lot of programs we're doing projects for management pr

Boys and girl beginning in the nine, whichever stay until age doesn't stop the says. There's a lot to act as 4-H club

4-H is truly according to K grandparents, involved in ever ing and doing p ing to organizin an enthusiastic demonstrations.

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Kelsey says thous. Opportuniti ple, to travel to new things, get tacts both in an field are just a fe

Contacts mad can only benef opportunities fo virtually unlim \$100 scholarshi to \$15,000 sch statewide, said b

Projects under be modified or e 4-H projects can plement other i ple Kelsey ga involved in at develop a 4-H therapy, athletic physiology.

Programs in 4 tunities for deve personal charac

Prison

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One other goa ing towards is Operation an (SORT). "We d now at this inst est SORT team We have reque funding for our one locally th trained to resp any situation we

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on 1631

4-H reflects changing community

By MARY McATEER
Contributing Writer

"You don't have to be in agriculture to be in 4-H," says County Extension Agent Michael Kelsey.

It's been a long time since 4-H programs were limited to homemaking projects for girls and livestock management programs for boys.

Boys and girls can belong to 4-H beginning in third grade or at age nine, whichever comes first, and stay until age 19. Involvement doesn't stop there, though, Kelsey says. There's always room for adults to act as 4-H club leaders.

4-H is truly a family activity, according to Kelsey. Kids, parents, grandparents, everybody gets involved in everything from designing and doing projects to fund raising to organizing roundups to being an enthusiastic audience for project demonstrations.

One question a lot of busy youngsters might have is "why get involved with 4-H when I have so much else to do?"

Kelsey says the reason are numerous. Opportunities to meet new people, to travel to new places, learn new things, get out and make contacts both in and out of your career field are just a few.

Contacts made in 4-H programs can only benefit and scholarship opportunities for hard workers are virtually unlimited, ranging from \$100 scholarships available locally to \$15,000 scholarships available statewide, said Kelsey.

Projects undertaken for school can be modified or expanded for 4-H and 4-H projects can be designed to supplement other interests. One example Kelsey gave was a student involved in athletics who might develop a 4-H project in physical therapy, athletic training or exercise physiology.

Programs in 4-H offer great opportunities for developing the skills and personal characteristics necessary to

succeed in today's society. Once a project is developed, for example, record books must be kept, teaching 4-Hers skills like recordkeeping, documentation, money management, time management and organization.

Completing the project is a great boost to self-esteem as well as teaching qualities like persistence, determination and follow through.

Project demonstrations help develop skills in public speaking, time management, organization and resource management as the demonstrator illustrates step-by-step the development of the project, the process of completing it and explains the method of managing the project.

Project opportunities are virtually unlimited, Kelsey says. If you can think of a subject, we can develop a project around it. In fact, I can't think of a subject you couldn't cover in 4-H, said Kelsey.

To challenge his ingenuity, Kelsey was asked "What about martial arts?"

With out hesitation, Kelsey said he didn't really know anything about the Martial Arts, but suggested projects in athletic training to cover martial arts injuries, exercise physiology to study the motion involved in the various moves, health benefits from exercise and personal, academic and professional benefits from the discipline.

The Howard County 4-H program is an extension program of Texas A&M University with access to all its resources. It can also tap into sources available at Texas Tech. Kelsey says sometimes leaders have to learn the subject along with the kids doing the project, but "we can always find a way to do it."

District and State Roundups are coming up, with a variety of contest, demonstrations, projects and fashion shows. Kelsey says it's not too late to work up a demonstration. He tries to arrange demonstrations to be pre-

sented to local civic groups such as Rotary, the Lions and others, to give the participants a chance to practice.

Shooting sports activities, highly popular in West Texas, begin soon and kick into high gear in June.

Summer camps are also coming up. The three to seven day camps offer many themes and learning activities, as well as the opportunity to meet new friends.

Some recent camps have covered subject areas as diverse as water, electricity, wildlife, range conservation, horticulture, roping, leadership, horse management and show cattle.

While participants need a notebook and pencil for making lots of notes, the camps aren't just summer school classes, they're hands-on learning experiences. Participants in the range conservation camp, for example, go out and collect various prairie grasses, learning to identify and manage them. And participants at the horse and show cattle camps frequently take along a horse or cow.

The Howard County 4-H program currently has 214 members and would like to have 275 in 1994. Kelsey says he'd like to see more older girls get involved, adding project activity areas for girls are unlimited.

Adults interested in participating in the adult leaders association are always welcome.

The association does a lot of fund raising, trying to arrange that young people doing demonstrations at contests and roundups don't have to spend so much money on transportation and entry fees.

It's a great opportunity to get involved with kids and help them grow and develop, said Kelsey, who encourages anyone interested in participating to call the County Extension Office and they'll be glad to get you started. The office is in the Howard County Courthouse and the phone numbers is 264-2238.

Museum adds special touch to community

Special to the Herald

The Heritage Museum has operated as a non-profit organization for 24 years from its location at 510 Scurry.

Funding for the museum is provided by the 400 regular museum members, special fund-raisers, local and area donors, Howard County and the city of Big Spring. This funding goes toward operations of the museum and the Historic Potton House.

Operations funding also comes from sales in the museum gift shop. Several hundred books on history, Texana, cooking, nature, and children's literature are for sale. Also sold are special gift items and games.

Exhibits and special events for 1994 include:

APRIL
Heritage Museum Annual Membership Meeting

Exhibit - Points of Interest: Arrowheads from the museum's Collection Area Student Art Show

JUNE
Sunset Tales - storytelling at the State Park. Co-sponsored by the museum and Big Spring State Park
Museum summer classes begin

JULY
Houston Watercolor Society 1993 Showing

Stargazing Party at Big Spring State Park, co-sponsored by the museum and Big Spring State Park
Sunset Tales Continues
AUGUST THROUGH DECEMBER
Hispanic Celebration Exhibit and Fiesta

Please see MUSEUM, page 13E



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Prison

Continued from page 10E

ic and bilingual employees for that reason. We have 12 Native Americans, 14 African-Americans, 30% females and 45 Hispanic employees right now and we are looking to increase that," Steward added.

One other goal the prison is working towards is to have a Special Operation and Response Team (SORT). "We don't have one right now at this institution and the nearest SORT team is 300 miles away. We have requested budgeting and funding for our own SORT. We need one locally that is equipped and trained to respond immediately to any situation we may have."

Another thing the Federal Bureau of Prisons wants its local entities to do is provide a healthy environment by getting staff and inmates involved in recycling and energy conservation. The prison is environmentally conscious and is mandated by federal law to recycle. "We recycle cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, paint, freon, oil, computer ribbons and white paper."

Another goal is to enhance inmate programs and services such as providing productive work and education

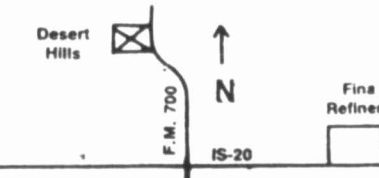
so that the inmates are not idle. "We have an electronic cable factory that 250 to 300 inmates work at. Also, as a U.S. citizen, inmates are required to take 120 hours towards getting their GED if they don't have it. Also, Howard College provides courses to the inmates here at the prison. We have vocational training in electrical, plumbing, building trades and brick masonry. We provide meaningful educational work so the inmates are not idle all the time," Steward said.

Quite a few of the inmates are

non-U.S. citizens such as illegal aliens or Mexicans who cross the boarder to sell drugs and the prison offers a plan of action. "Most of the inmates are here on drug related charges. We require them to take a 40 hour drug abuse educational and informative program."

We want to end the revolving door syndrome where an inmate keeps coming back because they lack the education and skills to stay out," Steward added.

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Sports, sports and more excellent sports

Herald Staff Report

Youth sports

The past year has been a fabulous one in the youth sports department. Perhaps the best day of all was a windy, rain-threatening July afternoon in San Angelo, where three Coahoma and two Big Spring girls' softball teams earned state championships.

The Big Spring and Coahoma United Girls Softball Associations' all-star teams went 5 for 6 at the state tournament July 20. In Class A, Coahoma won all three divisions, while in Class 2A, Big Spring won titles in Division I and II but had to settle for runner-up in Division III.

In perhaps the most exciting game of the tournament, Coahoma's Audra Bingham and Hawley's Amanda Cobb waged a scoreless pitcher's duel through nine innings in the Class A Division III title game. Coahoma broke through in the 10th to win 3-0.

However, Big Spring's win in Class 2A Division II definitely featured the best comeback of the tournament. Big Spring trailed San Angelo 8-3 in the final inning of the title game, but the local girls made good, winning 9-8 to take their third straight title in that division.

Moving to gymnastics, champions were also in evidence at the Big Spring YMCA, where the Sidewinders gymnastic club took top honors at the state YMCA meet at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

At the national YMCA meet at Tampa, Fla., in July, five Sidewinders - Karen Neighbors, Stephanie Stewart, Kristin Myers, Casey McKim and Lindsey Dickerson - qualified for final-round competition and helped the Sidewinders finish in the top 10 of the meet's team competition for the first time ever.

Track & Field

There was no shortage of talent on the track this past season in Crossroads Country.

Stanton's Jeremy Stallings, Klondike's Marilyn Franklin and Colorado City's Christi Hulme highlighted the year in track in this area when they harvested gold at the state UIL track meet at Austin in May.

Stallings, who is now a freshman track star at the University of Florida, capped a brilliant high school career with a gold medal in the 800-meter run, his third in three years.

His time of 1:49.2 broke the Class 2A record he had set the previous year and tied the overall state 800 record established in 1967. During his high school career, Stallings accumulated six medals at the state meet.

Hulme was a model of persistence. After a third-place finish in the Class 3A girls' discus her junior year, Hulme broke through for the gold in her final season.

Her winning toss of 137 feet, 2 inches outdistanced her nearest competitor, Kelli Schrader of Belville, by almost a foot.

Then there was Franklin. The Klondike sophomore did Stallings and Hulme one better by bagging two golds in the state meet. She won the Class A long jump with a lead of 18-1 and the triple jump with a leap

of 38-8.

For Big Spring, the top performance at the state meet came from senior shot putter Syreeta Shellman, who finished second in her event with a toss of 42-9 1/4. Teammate Anne Rodriguez was third in the Class 4A 800 with a time of 2:14.0.

Also medaling at the meet was Grady's Casey Robertson, who finished second in the Class A high jump, and the Stanton girls' relay team of Lupe Chapa, Stacey Tollison, Kristen Wyckoff and Laura Herm, who finished second in the Class 2A 800 relay and third in the 400 relay.

Other area finishes at the meet included:

- Forsan's Laurie Light, fourth in the Class A 300 hurdles.

- Big Spring's Wes Hughes, fifth in the 4A high jump.

- Big Spring's Justin Taylor, eighth in the 110 hurdles.

Cross country

In cross country competition, the big news over the past year was Big Spring's boys winning their first-ever District 3-4A title in October. The Steers easily outdistanced runner-up Pecos for the title.

Leading the way for Big Spring was Joe Franklin, who won a thrilling race with Andrews' Rosendo Lopez to take first place in a time of 16:35.55. Lopez was second at 16:35.76. Big Spring's Robert Rios and Jesse Ornales were third and fourth, respectively.

In the girls' competition, Big Spring's Evy Perez earned herself a slot at the regional meet with a win at the district meet.

At the regional meet, Perez finished seventh, and Franklin finished sixth as they both qualified for the state meet. At the state meet, Perez was 23rd and Franklin 40th.

Basketball

Following the Texas high school basketball playoffs was no easy task for area fans this season. So many



Basketball is just one of the many sports that area and local athletes excelled in in 1993-94. Baseball is just beginning as is track and field so look for the winning tradition to continue.

Crossroads Country teams made the playoffs that it was difficult to keep track of them all.

On the girls' side, Garden City, Forsan, Sands, Big Spring, Stanton all reached the playoffs.

Garden City lasted the longest, winning three playoff games before losing to Alvord in a double-overtime heartbreaker at the Region II-A Tournament in Abilene. Two more wins would have put Garden City in the Final Four in Austin, but Lady Bearkat fans had to be happy with the season. Bouyed by three 6-foot players - Brooke Eoff, Melanie

Machicek and Melinda Braden - and outstanding point guard Jamie Glass, the Lady Bearkats could not be tamed most of the time.

Forsan also reached the Region II-A tournament in Abilene, but the Queens lost in the first round to eventual state runner-up Jayton in the first round. Forsan beat Eden and Bronte in bi-district and area. The Queens, who won District 23-A in a playoff game with Garden City, say goodbye to superstar post player Jenny Conaway, who will be playing on college scholarship somewhere next season, but will return a host of talented players, including up-and-coming point guard Deborah Light.

Stanton won District 6-2A and looked to have Crossroad Country's best chance of a Final Four trip before the Lady Buffs ran into eventual state champion Jim Ned in Sweetwater. Still, Stanton will return four starters from this year's team - Lupe Chapa, Laura Herm, Kindra Woodfin and Sande Bundas - and should be even better next season.

Sands won District 12-A, led by super post player Courtney Fryar and guard Mandy Hodnett. Sands lost to Whiteface in the playoffs.

We're saving the most intriguing girls' season for last here. Big Spring started the season 1-4 and looked nothing like the two-time defending District 3-4A champions. The Lady Steers rebounded, however, and won the district title again, even after star senior Amy Earnst tore a knee ligament in January and was lost for the season.

Earnst was the only senior on the team that lost to Borger in the area round of the playoffs, so the Lady Steers should be equally tough next season under coach Ron Taylor, who won District 3-4A Coach of the Year honors for the third straight time.

On the boys' side, Big Spring, Coahoma, Sands and Klondike reached the playoffs.

Big Spring's boys' had a season much like the Big Spring girls. The

Steers started the season 3-15 but lost just once after that as they claimed a share of the district title with Sweetwater. The Steers were led by three-point gunner Wes Hughes, who shattered his own school record for three-pointers made in one season.

Big Spring lost to Pampa in the area round of the playoffs.

Coahoma dominated District 6-2A, winning both halves as it notched another 20-win season. Coahoma lost in the playoffs to Anthony, but the Bulldogs return District co-MVP Henry DeLaRosa and a host of other talented players.

Sands won District 12-A despite a slew of injuries. The Mustangs, led by coach Jerry Gooch and his son, guard Grant Gooch, finished 18-8 but lost to Meadow in bi-district. Grant Gooch was the only senior on the team, so look for the Mustangs to be back in the playoffs next year.

Klondike, runner-up in District 12-A, lost in the first round of the playoffs, but the Cougars might have Crossroad Country's most exciting young player in sophomore Tanner Etheredge, who scored more than 24 points per game this season.

On the junior college front, Howard's Lady Hawks are currently playing in the National Junior College Athletic Association basketball tournament for the second straight season. Howard's men's team made it to the Region V Tournament in Waco despite having no sophomores

at the end of the season, but the Hawks lost to Temple in the first round.

Football

Any local discussion about high school football is likely to start with the Big Spring Steers.

Big Spring (7-3) was a dominant team in District 3-4A but narrowly missed out on a playoff berth. Senior tailback Lonnie Jackson broke the 1,000-yard mark for the Steers, who had the best defense in the district.

Wes Hughes had a fabulous year at quarterback for Big Spring, while Torbin Lancaster and Louis Bustamante were just two of the many stars on defense. Losses to Andrews and Sweetwater kept the Steers out of the playoffs.

The Sands Mustangs went the farthest in the playoffs among area teams, reaching the area round before losing to Sierra Blanca in Monahans. Sands was led by senior running back Heath Gillespie, who will be playing in the Texas Six-Man All-Star Game this summer.

Klondike and Borden County also reached the six-man playoffs. Klondike survived a mid-season injury to running back Mike Lee, another local player heading to the All-Star Game, to reach the playoffs. The Cougars lost in the first round in Big Spring to Loraine.

Borden County had perhaps the most exciting player in Crossroads

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By JOHN A. M
News Editor

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Museum

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Big

Ride'm cowboy! Big Spring home to one of West Texas' oldest rodeos

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

The Rodeo Bowl ... come rodeo time, it's the only place to be in Big Spring.

One of the oldest continual rodeos in the United States, the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo celebrated its 60th year in 1993 and plans are in full swing for the 1994 event set for June.

Nightly performances begin at 8:30 each evening during the rodeo's run at the Rodeo Bowl, located just off FM 700 on the west side of town.

For the second consecutive year, Don Gay and his All-Star Rodeo Company of Mesquite produced the 1993 rodeo, and the rough stock proved all one might have expected from Gay — an eight-time bull-riding world champion.

When the bull-riding competition began Wednesday night, only two of eight riders were able to stay onboard for the required eight seconds, and on the second night, just one cowboy managed to stay atop his bull.

It's that type of man against animal contest that has always kept fans coming to the rodeo, but that doesn't mean the sport hasn't kept pace with the times.

And during the 1993 run of the rodeo, the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo entered the computer age.

The sport's high-tech side was on display in the Copenhagen/Skoal Pro Rodeo Scoreboard, which relayed instantaneous information to rodeo fans, represented a considerable investment in rodeo by the U.S. Tobacco Co.

The program made its debut in Pocatello, Idaho, in 1990 and now consists of four boards in operation throughout the country.

The nine-by-28 foot boards are illuminated for day or night use and feature computerized animation and an information source to keep rodeo goers abreast of scoring in all events.

Of course, no Big Spring rodeo would be complete without famed

One of the oldest continual rodeos in the United States, the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo celebrated its 60th year in 1993 and plans are in full swing for the 1994 event set for June.

rodeo clown Quail Dobbs. Coahoma native Dobbs and his exploding car have been fixtures at the local rodeo for years.

Dobbs was featured on the cover of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association's 1993 convention program and is one of only two men who have been selected to perform at the National Finals Rodeo as both a clown and barrel man.

He was named PRCA Clown of the Year in 1978 and 1988, and has been named Coors' "Man in the Can," an award given to rodeo's top barrel man.

But the real stars of rodeo, of course, are the cowboys and cowgirls who compete. In past years, rodeo greats such as bull riders Tuff Hedeman, Charles Sampson and Coahoma's Wacey Cathey, barrel racer Charmayne James Rodman and former saddle bronc champ Billy Etbaur have performed at the Big Spring rodeo.

However, rodeo week activities are not restricted to the arena. The event is always kicked off by a parade.

The Third Annual Cowboy Poets reading drew considerable crowds during its Saturday and Sunday run at the county fair building, and is expected to only improve in its fourth run this year.

Cowboy crafts, collectibles and memorabilia are always on display during the rodeo and a chuckwagon cook-off is always held on Saturday with the public having an opportunity to purchase a cowboy meal.

In addition, contests for area youth are also staged annually. A stick horse parade and show, rodeo clown contest and best-dressed buckaroo and belle contest are always big draws with the kids.

Country club puts best golfing foot forward

Herald Staff Report

Life at the Big Spring Country Club isn't always fun and games for its golf professional, Lanny Turrentine. He's too busy trying to make the club fun and games for everyone else.

Whether its hosting the Summerfest Pro/Am or a members-only scramble, Big Spring CC puts its best foot forward. In reality, running a golf course is a bit like any other business - you help the customers, in this case the players, as best you can, and you make sure things are running smoothly.

"If a person is going to be in the golf business, there is one thing that person better understand," said Turrentine. "There is no clock to watch or to punch. If the job takes five hours a day, so be it. If it takes 15 hours, so be it."

Turrentine's day at Big Spring CC starts around 7:30 a.m., when he meets with his assistants to go over the day's activities. He also uses the morning hours to work on tournament schedules.

He's "in and out" during the afternoon, checking on the course, and he normally takes a break around 5:30 p.m. to squeeze in a few holes. Then it's back to work, usually until about 10 p.m.

It's a different life than you would expect for a guy that once considered a career in the ministry.

Turrentine was leaning toward the ministry, but a brother-in-law and a job at a Fort Worth-area country club during his junior year at Texas Christian University changed his mind.

"If I had not had a brother-in-law in the golf business and got hooked on the game, I would have probably found something else to do," Turrentine said. "But I have no regrets."

Turrentine has been at Big Spring CC since July 1988 after stops in Dallas, Mesquite and Iowa. He has been a member of the Professional Golf Association since 1971, is on the PGA's West Texas Chapter Board of Directors and is the 1991 winner of the Horton Smith Award, given to golf pros who best contribute to the continuing golf education of fellow pros and club members.

Helping Turrentine with day-to-day operations are assistant pros David Turrentine and Paul Berringer. Even with the help, Turrentine finds little time to play golf.

"I'll go out to play with the intention of playing nine holes, then I'll notice things that need working on," he said. "Suddenly the game of golf is no longer relevant... You go get a spray can and start spraying greens - it's as simple as that."

It's that kind of attention to detail that make Big Spring CC a place where golf can be enjoyed to the fullest. When the players at the club are enjoying the course, that make Turrentine's job enjoyable as well. Of course, it's hard not to be happy when your job constantly involves the game you love, Turrentine said.

"There's good days and bad days, but since I made the decision to be a golf pro, I never have woke up and said, 'God, I don't want to go to work today.'"

Sports

Continued from page 12E

Country - senior All-Everything, Cody Cox, was simply phenomenal, rushing 272 times for 1,908 yards and 30 touchdowns. Borden lost to Sands in the first round of the playoffs.

Baseball

The Big Spring Steers also highlighted the baseball season, winning their third straight District 3-4A title. Just like '92, Big Spring started slowly, compiling a losing record in non-district action. But once league

play began, the Steers put their losing ways behind them, winning their first eight district games.

Frenship beat Big Spring in the first round of the playoffs.

At Coahoma, the Bulldogs captured their first-ever District 6-2A baseball title. Coahoma compiled a 12-6 overall record before losing to Presidio in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

Howard College won 39 games in coach Brian Roper's first season, but the Hawks narrowly missed a playoff berth. Howard may change that this year - the Hawks have won 25 of their first 26 games.

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Back in 1929, Cecil Thixton opened up in Howard County what was to become Texas' oldest Harley Davidson Motorcycle Shop. The shop has had many locations in its history, most presently 908 W. 3rd. The shop is deep in history and has lots of interesting tales. Today, the shop is owned by Howard and Marijo Walker, Mr. Thixton's son-in-law and daughter. Howard continues the tradition established 64 years ago, the tradition of providing Howard County with the finest quality American made motorcycles.



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Patterson, Comanche Trail winning combination

Herald Staff Report

Al Patterson, golf profession at the Comanche Trail Golf Course, can often be seen mowing the rough on the course.

Or you'll find him in the pro shop. Or you'll find him representing Big Spring, greeting out-of-town visitors and telling them about Comanche Trail. Or you'll find him...

You get the idea. If it involves Comanche Trail, it involves Patterson, and that combination has been working since Patterson arrived in Big Spring in 1983.

Patterson, a golf pro since 1956, spent 21 years as a club pro in Fort Myers, Fla. During that time, he served as vice president of the Florida section of the Professional Golfers Association, and he even hosted a golf show on television for three years. Patterson gave his all in Fort Myers, and he's doing the same here.

"I try to promote the course as much as possible, and try to make people feel at home," Patterson said.

That mission is accomplished, and Patterson couldn't be much happier. Patterson could have joined the PGA Tour, but he gets more rewards

being a club pro. "My golf pro once told me that if I wanted to play golf, I should go on tour. And if I wanted to do my community a service, I shouldn't," he said. "I took his advice, and I've now had two jobs in 31 years."

Since coming to Big Spring, Patterson is proudest of upscaling Comanche Trail.

"When I first got here, I said 'What have I gotten myself into,'" he said. "People used to call the course 'Comanche Rocks.' Since then, I've seen it progress to one of the better golf courses in West Texas."

Of course, the job is not without its downside for Patterson.

"My worst pet peeve is people who abuse the golf course, who don't play by the rules. Golf can give so much to people. It's just you and the

golf course - you're on your own. When someone has a bad day, they blame the golf course."

Patterson is not only proud of Comanche Trail - he's proud of Big Spring. He said Big Spring is fortunate to have two great golf courses - Comanche Trail and Big Spring Country Club. It's this kind of golfing environment that keeps Patterson going strong.

"I'll do it as long as I can and as long as they'll have me," said Patterson of his job. "I'd like to see the course continue to improve. I'd like people who are non-golfers to realize the economic impact the course has...people coming into Big Spring to play golf and spend money."

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Museum

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Frontier Days at the Museum and Big Spring State Park

Murder Mystery Nights at the Pottin House

Houston Watercolor Society 1994 Showing.

Big Spring Country Club

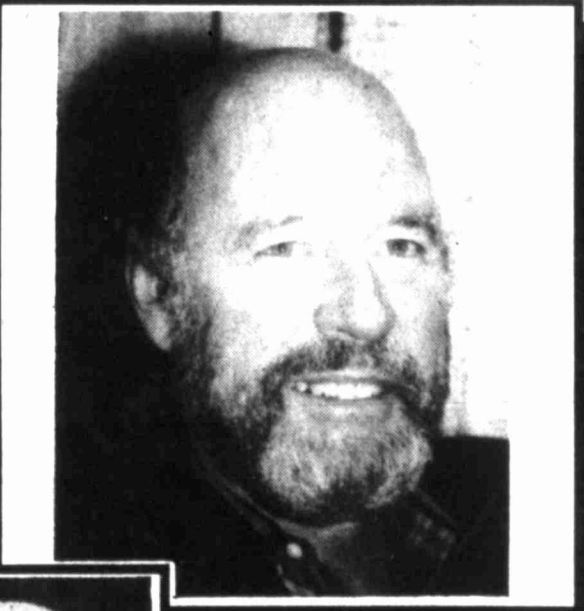
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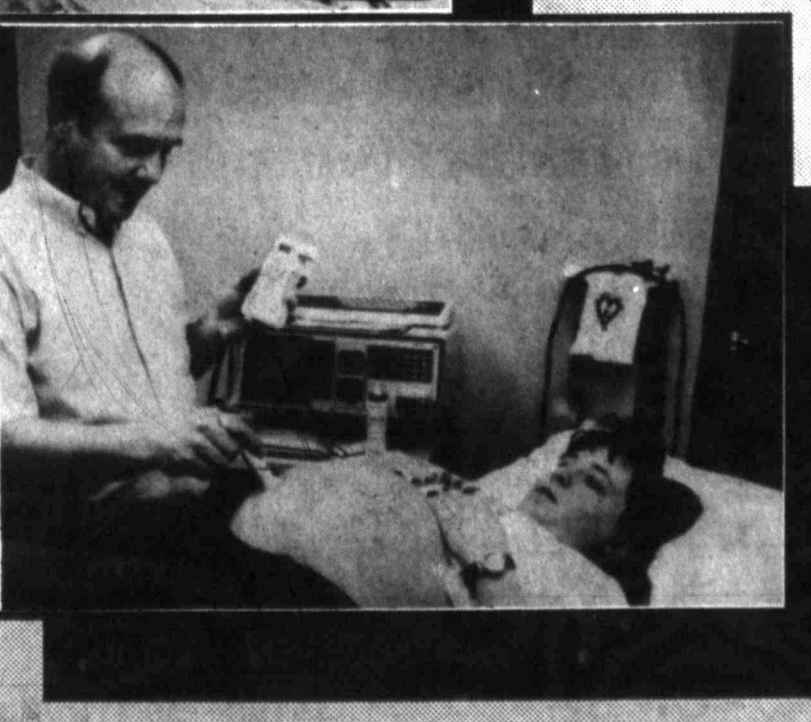
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Angie

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Angie Way

Angie Way, Heritage Museum time at the job sh erally lives in the

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Howard Cou Lockhart started 1991 and was recent Democr page 2F.

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Clarence Hart of the Howard Co National Asso Advancement of experienced sev King rallies first tance. See page 3

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Margaret L

Area underdog or animal, have a Lloyd. See page 5

Don Richard

Don Richardson County Extension for Howard Cour his job title long, duties and achiev 5F

Rhapsody

"Rhapsody" is musical term - of Big Spring Hig choir. See page 7F

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Angie Way

Cheryl Sparks

Sunday, March 27, 1994

PROGRESS '94

Ben Bancroft

Activities

Section F

BIG SPRING HERALD

DIGEST

The people, the town!

Big Spring. What do those two words imply? A congregation of buildings, separated by pavement, dirt and concrete?

Do those words only imply businesses, places to work and homes to live in? No, not just that. Implied in those two words is

much more than just a group of buildings, on a spot of West Texas soil.

It implies people of all types, ages, nationalities, living, working, playing, fighting together. It implies neighbors, co-workers, volunteers, children, friends.

People make a town what it is, give it its character, its drive, its difference from all the other

towns in this nation.

A town is simply a reflection of the people who make their homes there.

And it is the people who make the town, for without them there would be no need for the buildings, the roads, the homes.

Here are just a few of the people who make Big Spring and West Texas what they are.

Angie Way

Angie Way, curator of the Heritage Museum, spends so much time at the job she loves that she literally lives in the past. See page 2F.

Ben Lockhart

Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart started his job in January 1991 and was unopposed in the recent Democratic primary. See page 2F.

Cheryl Sparks

She might not have gotten the first job she applied for at Howard College, but Dr. Cheryl Sparks was not one to give up. See page 3F.

Clarence Hartfield Jr.

Clarence Hartfield Jr., president of the Howard County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, experienced several Martin Luther King rallies firsthand, but at a distance. See page 3F.

Craig Fisher

For now, the only thing stopping Craig Fisher from attending all Big Spring High School games is an inability to be two places at one time. See page 3F.

Ben Bancroft

They say that if you want something done, ask a busy man. Big Spring attorney G. Ben Bancroft is a man who gets asked a lot. See page 4F.

Margaret Lloyd

Area underdogs, whether human or animal, have a friend in Margaret Lloyd. See page 5F.

Don Richardson

Don Richardson's official title is County Extension Agent-Agriculture for Howard County and not only is his job title long, but so is his list of duties and achievements. See page 5F.

Rhapsody

"Rhapsody" is more than just a musical term — it is also the name of Big Spring High School's premier choir. See page 7F.

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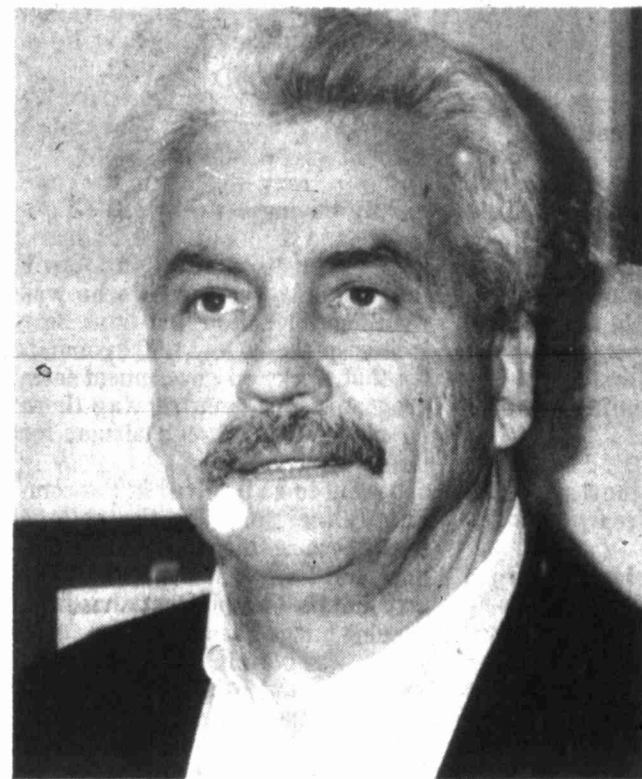
Man of the year Richard Atkins

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Richard Atkins has been named Man of the Year by the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce. Atkins has been a chamber member since 1967, when he returned to Big Spring to manage Big Spring Hardware, at 117 Main.

"It's humbling to receive this award and be in a line of succession of leaders that helped shape Big Spring," Atkins said, receiving the prestigious award from outgoing chamber President G. Ben Bancroft and executive director Terry Burns.

Please see ATKINS, page 6F



RICHARD ATKINS



MAIME LEE DODDS

Woman of the year Maime Lee Dodds

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

Mamie Lee Dodds, a part-time and volunteer worker at the Chamber of Commerce who is active in the community, has won the Chamber's "Woman of the Year" award for 1993.

Dodds will be formally recognized at the Chamber's annual banquet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, along with the Chamber's "Man of the Year," who has yet to be announced.

Since 1972, the Chamber has selected a man and woman each year who have contributed to the community not just as part of his or her job, but as individuals. Please see DODDS, page 6F

Click, click - Clay Kingston is saying hello

Honorary Bearkat gives life an heroic battle

By BARBARA MORRISON
Staff Writer

All you hear when you enter his room is the repetitive whooshing noise of the respirator. Suddenly, another sound becomes distinct, a little faint at first, then more insistent. Click. Click. And again, click. Click.

Clay Kingston is saying hello. Unable to speak and attached to a respirator to breathe since 1985, Clay can only mouth words and make a clicking noise to communicate. He is able to slightly move one small finger. His eyes and his mother tell his story.

Patrick Clay Kingston was five years old when he was diagnosed with a degenerative disease of the muscles for which there is no known cure. One of a kind, unique and heroic, known affectionately to his family and friends as "Clay," he is the ultimate Dallas Cowboys fan.

His parents, Judy and Glen Kingston of Garden City, speak lovingly of the boy they have raised. Judy explains, "I just can't put into words how much I admire him. I don't know how much longer we'll have him, but he's here forever anyway."

Clay is now 33-years-old. His passion is for sports. No, he was never physically able to play, but indeed he

has been in the game. Where most fans scream from their mouths and shout words of encouragement for their teams, when the Cowboys play, Clay screams from his heart. Click. Click. Click.

Someone once said of clay that he plays every game on the offense and the defense—he is so intense and involved in the games he watches. It might be more correct to say that Clay lives every day on the offense and the defense. While it may appear to some that he is losing the game, the battle is not lost. He doesn't give up. His mother says that he never complains.

Clay's room is filled with Cowboy memorabilia. One of his fondest memories is attending a charity basketball game which starred the "Dallas Legends"—members of the Dallas Cowboys who played the local police department.

His mother fondly remembers Clay's high school days. "He was already in a wheelchair," she recalls, "but they made him an Honorary Bearkat. He got to sit on the sidelines and root his team on. He loved that. Oh, how I worried that he'd get run over!"

Clay has two younger, healthy brothers. Judy confirms they have provided great strength and encouragement throughout the years. "Two of the events which have helped Clay

survive have come about through Clay and Jody," she explains. "Clay lived for the birth of Greg's daughter who is named Patricia after him, and for Jody's wedding recently."

Judy speaks proudly of Clay's silent determination to accomplish a few determined tasks. "He's always planning," she says, "that's how he lives his life—from one event to another. He's just made it through the Super Bowl so now he's set his goal to make it through the baseball playoffs. He saw his Cowboy's win, so now he wants to see the Rangers do it too."

Once, several years ago, Clay decided that he wanted to go on a high school trip to New York and Washington, D.C. Clay's father was skeptical, fearing the trip couldn't be made. "But he was wrong," Judy said. "We did it. Clay did it. With the help of a kind friend, Richard Light, Clay was able to visit our country's capital."

It is the unspoken determination of Clay Kingston that helps his family to grow, to continue day by day. "If Clay can do it and never once in his life ask 'Why me?', then the rest of us can do it, too," Judy contends.

There is a horrible amount of pain and sadness Judy will admit. Hospitals and ambulances have become routine in the Kingston life. "I Please see CLAY, page 6F



Clay Kingston, the ultimate Dallas Cowboys fan, is a winner in life.

Edwards moves up to chief

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Jerry Edwards has been with the Big Spring Police Department for almost 20 years and has gone from rookie patrol officer to chief of police during that time.

Edwards was among 114 people applying for the chief's job that was vacated when Joe Cook resigned last September. City Manager Lanny Lambert appointed Edwards to the position permanently on March 23.

Edwards was serving as a lieutenant in the records and identification department when he received the temporary promotion to chief.

Edwards became interested in law enforcement when a friend of his asked Edwards to come to work with him at the Lubbock Police Department and see how things operate. His friend was a radio dispatcher at the time and Edwards found the work fascinating.

"The more I got into it, the more I like it. When I was growing up, I did not have a burning desire to be a police officer, but once I saw what it was about, I became interested."

Edwards was born and raised in Lubbock and graduated from Lubbock High School. He worked for the



Big Spring Police Chief Jerry Edwards, right, is congratulated by City Manager Lanny Lambert on his promotion to police chief.

Lubbock Police Department in a civilian capacity as a radio operator, dispatcher and jailer.

Edwards then attended the Wayland Baptist College Academy in Plainview during 1972 to earn his certification as a police officer. His first job out of the academy was with the Slayton Police Department for two and a half years. He was promoted to sergeant while working in Slayton.

Edwards said he worked for the Department of Public Safety for one year before being hired as a rookie patrol officer in July 1975 in Big Spring.

He was an officer for about a year and a half before being moved to the traffic division. While there, he was promoted to sergeant and was sergeant of patrol for about four

years. Edwards then moved into another department, this time the detective division where he was promoted to lieutenant and was there for five years. Edwards then switched gears and was the lieutenant of the records and identification division, while in this department he was temporarily promoted to acting chief.

Edwards is married to Janie who works for the state hospital here in Big Spring. They have one son, Christopher, who is four years old. Edwards also has two stepdaughters, Randi who lives in Hawaii and Jacki who lives in Michigan.

"My goal is to make the department the best I can make it. We continue to be a better department and I feel we are one of the better ones in this area for its size."

Brian Brown puts his convictions on the line

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Brian Brown may only be 19, but he is already learning how to fight the system.

Encouraged by his algebra teacher at Howard College, Brown went to the Howard County Courthouse and requested a resolution supporting the return of prayer in school be submitted for voting during the Commissioners' Court meeting Monday, Feb. 14.

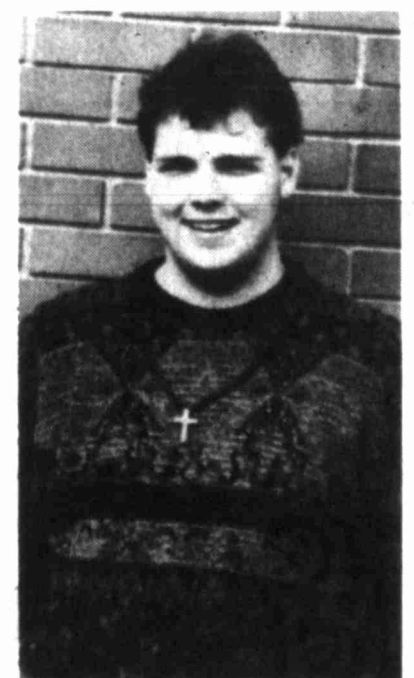
His efforts were rewarded by a unanimous vote by the commissioners to adopt the resolution supporting school prayer.

Brown, who attends Hillcrest Baptist Church and plans to major in music ministry at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, has felt strongly for years that prayer in schools should once again be allowed.

His strong feelings did not go unnoticed by algebra teacher Linda Buchanan, who shares his opinion about prayer in school.

Buchanan had expressed her concern to a friend about Howard County not having adopted such a resolution, in contrast to many area counties that have passed resolutions supporting prayer in school.

The friend put Buchanan in



BRIAN BROWN

contact with County Clerk Margaret Ray, who then told her to contact Kay Kenemur, secretary to County Judge Ben Lockhart.

In the meantime, Buchanan became aware of Brown's beliefs—"a T-shirt he had on, something he was wearing that let me know"—and after informing Brown what she had learned, Please see BROWN, page 6F

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Price has eye for unusual

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

John Price, owner of Big John's Feed Lot on West Third Street, would be the last to admit he has an eye for the unusual and interesting. Price is more soft-spoken than one would expect from a man for whom the nickname "Big John" is entirely accurate. He is friendly and welcoming to customers and guests, but a little hesitant to speak about himself. "This has always been Big John's Feed Lot for as long as I've owned it," said Price about the restaurant's unusual name. "No real reason I called it that, I guess." Price said the name "Big John" dates back to his days as a car salesman.

Price is amused by the calls and visits he receives from people who believe he sells animal feed. "It's funny sometimes," he said. "People from out of town, especially radio people wanting to make a tape for an ad, think this place really is a feed lot."

The restaurant's decor, which features old signs, license plates and antique household implements, bears a surprising resemblance to that found in trendy restaurants around the country.

"I had this decor going before it was trendy," said Price. "It's popular now. The longer you can keep something, the more you appreciate it."

He credits his customers and visi-



John Price, owner of Big John's, stands by an antique Wurlitzer jukebox, just one of the interesting items that grace his barbecue restaurant.

tors with many of the decorations. "People bring these things in so I can put them up," he said. "A lot of younger people have never seen this stuff and like to look at it."

Price particularly appreciates the effect antique items have on his customers. "It's interesting how things like that will jog people's memories," he said, pointing to a wooden icebox sitting next to a table.

"One man who was in here saw that and it got him talking about his parents. They used to have an icebox just like it. He hadn't thought about them in years."

The restaurant takes up most of Price's time. "I like to garden and piddle around the house once in a while," he said. Las Vegas is a

favorite spot for Price and his wife Bea to vacation when he can take a few days away from work.

A collection of pictures of Price, Bea and fellow employees in Las Vegas adorns a wall in the kitchen. "My wife hit the biggest jackpot; she won \$5,000," Price said proudly. "The chances of winning are slim and none, but it's fun."

Price hopes to visit Las Vegas again soon. "It's a fantasy world. You get away from reality for a few days."

The restaurant's lobby is adorned with autographed pictures of people who have visited the restaurant. Some, like Ken Curtis (Festus on the television show "Gunsmoke") are Please see BIG JOHN'S, page 6F

Barr serves community, college

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

"Howard County Junior College is very essential and a great need for our community," according to Board of Trustees Chairman James "Buddy" Barr.

"I want to see it stay and this gives young people a chance for an education they would not normally have if the college wasn't here," he said.

Barr has served on the board for 20 years and as chairman for almost 4, with his term expiring in May.

He is actively involved in the community having served on the Coahoma State Bank board for 21 years, and on the Federal Land Bank Board for 31 years where he was chairman for half of that time. Barr is also on the county ASCS committee that works on government farm programs—he's been serving there for nine years and as chairman for three.

"I want to be involved in the community and serve on the college board because the college is needed here and I am real happy with the way that Dr. Cheryl Sparks has been running things," said Barr.

Barr was born in Callahan County and moved to Howard County when he was seven years old and has lived here ever since. "Unless of course, you count the 28 months and 12 days I served in the United States Army during World War II."

Barr owns ranch and farm land in Howard, Castro and Martin counties. "I'm not ready to retire, I still tend to the cattle but others are handling the farming now."

He and his wife, Betty, are members of the First United Methodist Church in Coahoma. Betty is the daughter of former county judge and state representative Ed Carpenter. They have two sons, Mark and Maxwell who are both married.

Mark and his wife Stacy live in Hobbs, New Mexico and have two children. Maxwell is married to Kay and they have three children. Barr's oldest grandchild is a freshman at Texas Tech in Lubbock.

When asked why he chose to serve on the college board, Barr replied, "It just happened. I want to see the community do well and it's enjoyable. As I mentioned, Howard College is very important for the community to be here and I want to help it to succeed."

Judge Lockhart works to solve county's problems

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

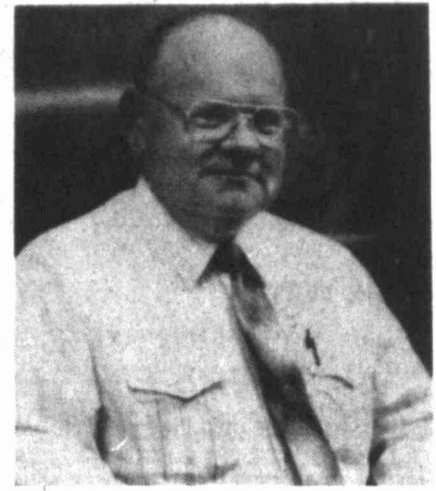
Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart started his job in January 1991 and was unopposed in the recent Democratic primary.

Lockhart said he planned to always keep the door open to his office, encouraging public input at any time. He welcomed comments or questions.

Some of Lockhart's priorities in his leadership agenda then are still his focus today. They include economic development, encouraging cooperation among county department officials and clearing out the criminal court docket. His overall goal is still to increase productivity and cooperation with city government on key issues and projects.

Lockhart had a 27 year-long career in law enforcement. He began at the Big Spring Police Department, working there for 31/2 years.

He then joined the Texas Department of Public Safety where he worked for more than 21 years. He served 14 years as a highway patrolman then served as a DPS license



BEN LOCKHART and weight station officer.

After leaving the DPS, Lockhart served with the Howard County Sheriff's Office until being elected county judge.

He and his wife, Sandee, have a daughter, Kelly who is a sophomore at Howard College, where her primary interest is computer science.

Lockhart said "I've been working hard on this county jail project, and we are down to the fine hairs now. My focus is on completing the jail."

Hartfield spreads message

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

Clarance Hartfield of the Howard County



HARTFIELD

Spring native earned a child because swimming style while lake during a Boy

trip. "I found out late enough I could have but I didn't know he laughed.

While in the Army on standby in riot protect government notably in Selma, ning of the march Montgomery.

"It never got to violence," said Hartfield. "I was sometimes as far half from the center."

Agitators were out of the crowd and However, when was used to control people in front tended back.

Hartfield sometimes the consequences of a crowd of panicking was not involved dents.

"It was really frustrating news clips with unleashed on the bus," he said. "I was rank to drive a car to take the bus."

Later, while standing he encountered proved of the actions against civil in the United States realize the treatment Germany was just and racist.

"They couldn't resist," he said.

His interest in civil was sparked during in Alabama, where acquainted with NAACP and the S Leadership Conference

However, he did of the groups. "We the military, the groups they didn't said.

After returning discussed the rally er, who attended times she would call he recalled.

He inquired about NAACP chapter and ber. It was reorganized Hartfield has been 1992. He is a life vice president of the

Hartfield said the local NAACP is dents to pursue several years, he and members have go High School to teach college and scholarships available to the

He credits his encouraging him to nities outside of "They told me to see the world, and come back, fine."

For Angie Way, the past is life

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

Angie Way, curator of the Heritage Museum, spends so much time at the job she loves that she literally lives in the past.

But that's not so bad, according to Way. She enjoys solving the mysteries held by the past. "There is as much in every day of the past as there is in the present," she says.

Way developed her love of history and museums early in life. "I grew up in an antique shop, and I was raised to be an archeologist, but I didn't want to spend all my time around snakes and bugs, digging things up," she quipped.

Her father has been a rancher most of his life but would have loved to be an archeologist, she added.

Way took a different path to discovering the past. After obtaining her bachelor's and master's degrees in history and museum studies, she

found her place seven years ago at the Heritage Museum.

"I'm doing what I've always wanted to do. I can't imagine what it would be like not to do this," says Way.

She is especially intrigued by the personal artifacts left behind by people who lived years ago. "You can get a real sense of these people by the things they left and little quirks that show up," she explains.

"You can start to piece together who that person was."

Way concedes the past may hold an attraction for people because it is safer. "Everything is over and done with. You know how it all came out."

But what Way describes as "a romantic vision of the past" also attracts her and other devotees of days gone by. Way recalls one of her first tasks as a museum intern while obtaining her master's degree.

"I had to go through a judge's Please see ANGIE, page 6F



ANGIE WAY

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Hartfield spreads the message

By JANET AUSBURY
Staff Writer

Clarence Hartfield Jr., president of the Howard County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, experienced several Martin Luther King rallies firsthand, but at a distance.



Known to many as "Frog," the Big Spring native earned his nickname as a child because of his panicky swimming style when pushed into a lake during a Boy Scout camping trip.

"I found out later it was shallow enough I could have stood up in it. But I didn't know that at the time," he laughed.

While in the Army, Hartfield was on standby in riot control squads to protect government property, most notably in Selma, Ala. at the beginning of the march from Selma to Montgomery.

"It never got to the point of using violence," said Hartfield, who was sometimes as far as a mile and a half from the center of the action.

Agitators were usually in the rear of the crowd and not in the front. However, when water or tear gas was used to control the crowds, people in front tended to run toward the back.

Hartfield sometimes worried about the consequences of being caught in a crowd of panicking rioters, but he was not involved in any such incidents.

"It was really frustrating to see the news clips with dogs being unleashed on the crowds and so on," he said. "I was lucky I had enough rank to drive a car and didn't have to take the bus."

Later, while stationed in Germany, he encountered people who disapproved of the segregation and actions against civil rights activists in the United States, but who did not realize the treatment of Gypsies in Germany was just as segregatory and racist.

"They couldn't make the correlation," he said.

His interest in civil rights activism was sparked during his Army days in Alabama, when he became acquainted with members of the NAACP and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

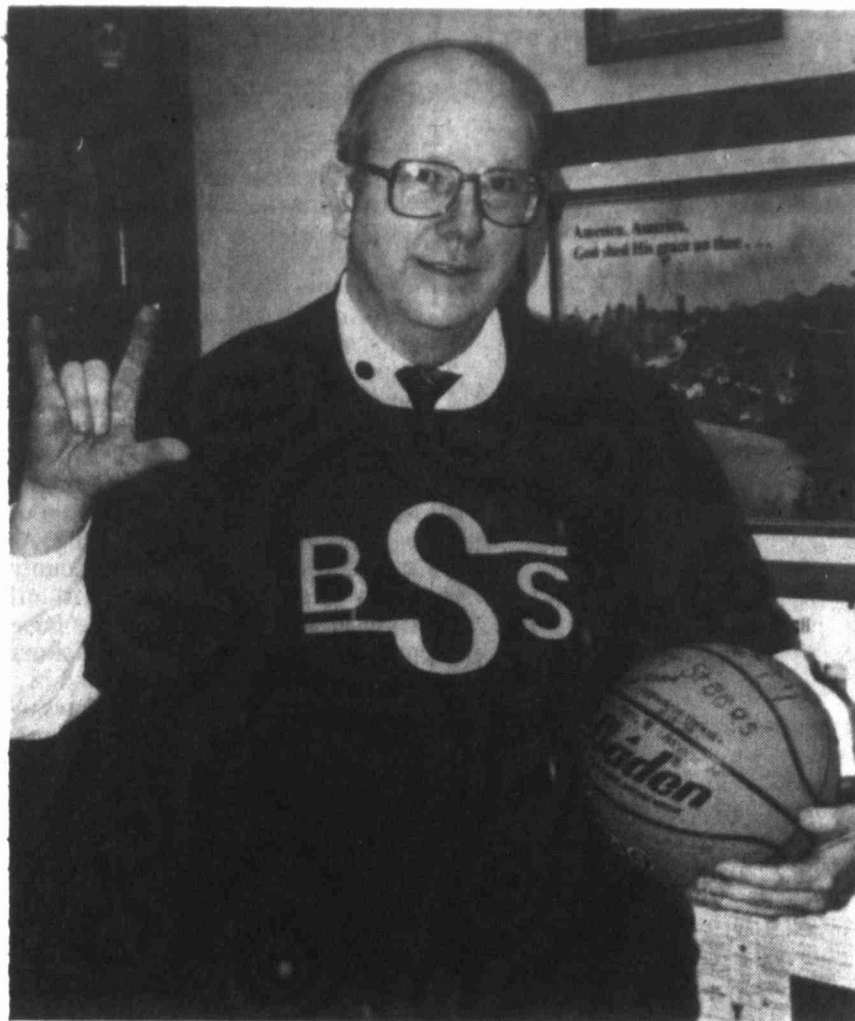
However, he did not become part of the groups. "When you were in the military, there were certain groups they didn't let you join," he said.

After returning to Big Spring, he discussed the rallies with his mother, who attended several. "Sometimes she would come back angry," he recalled.

He inquired about joining the local NAACP chapter and became a member. It was reorganized in 1983 and Hartfield has been president since 1992. He is a life member and past vice president of the chapter as well.

Hartfield said the main mission of the local NAACP is encouraging students to pursue education. For several years, he and other NAACP members have gone to Big Spring High School to teach students about college and scholarship opportunities available to them.

He credits his parents with encouraging him to explore opportunities outside of his hometown. "They told me to leave Big Spring, see the world, and if I wanted to come back, fine."



Craig Fisher, an assistant principal at Big Spring High School, was awarded for being the Steers and Lady Steers 'most devoted fan' with a signed basketball and a Steers t-shirt.

Fisher: A devoted fan

DD TURNER
Managing Editor

For now, the only thing stopping Craig Fisher from attending all Big Spring High School games is an inability to be two places at one time.

Fisher, an assistant principal at the high school, was given a basketball from the Steers for being "their most devoted fan" prior to the start of their San Angelo Lake View game. Earlier in the season the Lady Steers had given him a Big Spring Steer t-shirt to wear on Black and Gold days.

"It was a shock," said Fisher. "This is the first team to ever have given me a basketball." The ball was signed by all the team members and coaches. Fisher added the score of the game to it later.

Fisher has been with the school district for 21 years and during that time has not missed much that the students are involved in.

"I have seen more than 200 football games but, since they split up

the boys and girls basketball teams, it is hard to make all those game," he explained.

Why? Fisher said he is interested in what the students do. "Being an old bachelor, when people ask me about my kids I tell them the whole student body of Big Spring High School are my students. I tell them I have 1,000 plus kids," he explained.

He added being interested in the students, what they are doing and supporting them also helps in his work.

And, when not rooting for the Steers or Lady Steers, Fisher gives his support to other teams for towns in the county such as Coahoma and Forsan.

"They are a part of Howard County also. I want them to do well, also, unless, of course, they are playing the Steers or Lady Steers," noted Fisher.

Fisher started with Big Spring Independent School District in 1973 as Student Activities Director. During that time, working with the stu-

Please see FISHER, page 6F

Sparks climbs to HC's top spot

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

She might not have gotten the first job she applied for at Howard College, but Dr. Cheryl Sparks was not one to give up.

A month later, she was given a part-time job as a teacher coordinator and 16 years after that, Sparks was named as president of Howard College.

Sparks said she applied for her first job at the college to be director of the Upperbound Program but was turned down. A month later, she became a teacher coordinator of the adult basic education program and one year later, she went to full time coordinator.

From there, Sparks continued to climb the ladder of success by being promoted to the Dean of Students, then Associate Vice President for Student Life, Vice President for Student Services, and Vice President for Institutional Advancement which she was for two years before being named president in August of 1992.

"I am interested in people and believe in education and the difference education can make in people's lives. Education is people and what I do fits nicely with those two things which I enjoy," said Sparks.

Sparks is a Big Spring native and graduated from Big Spring High School. From there, she continued her education by taking courses at Howard College for one summer, then two years at the University of Texas at the Permian Basin before transferring to Texas Tech in Lubbock.

Sparks received her Bachelor's of

Psychology degree from Tech as well as a Master's in Educational Psychology.

She and her husband John Richard, whom she met at Tech, moved back to Big Spring in May of 1976. They have one son, J. Rich who is six years old.

Sparks went back to school and received her Doctorate in Higher Education in August of 1986. "I may have these degrees, but there is still lots to learn. The concept of learning is important and I favor structured learning. But you can learn so much outside of the classroom by reading books and being involved with people," said Sparks.

Sparks has been a member of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce since she returned to the city



CHERYL SPARKS

Please see SPARKS, page 6F

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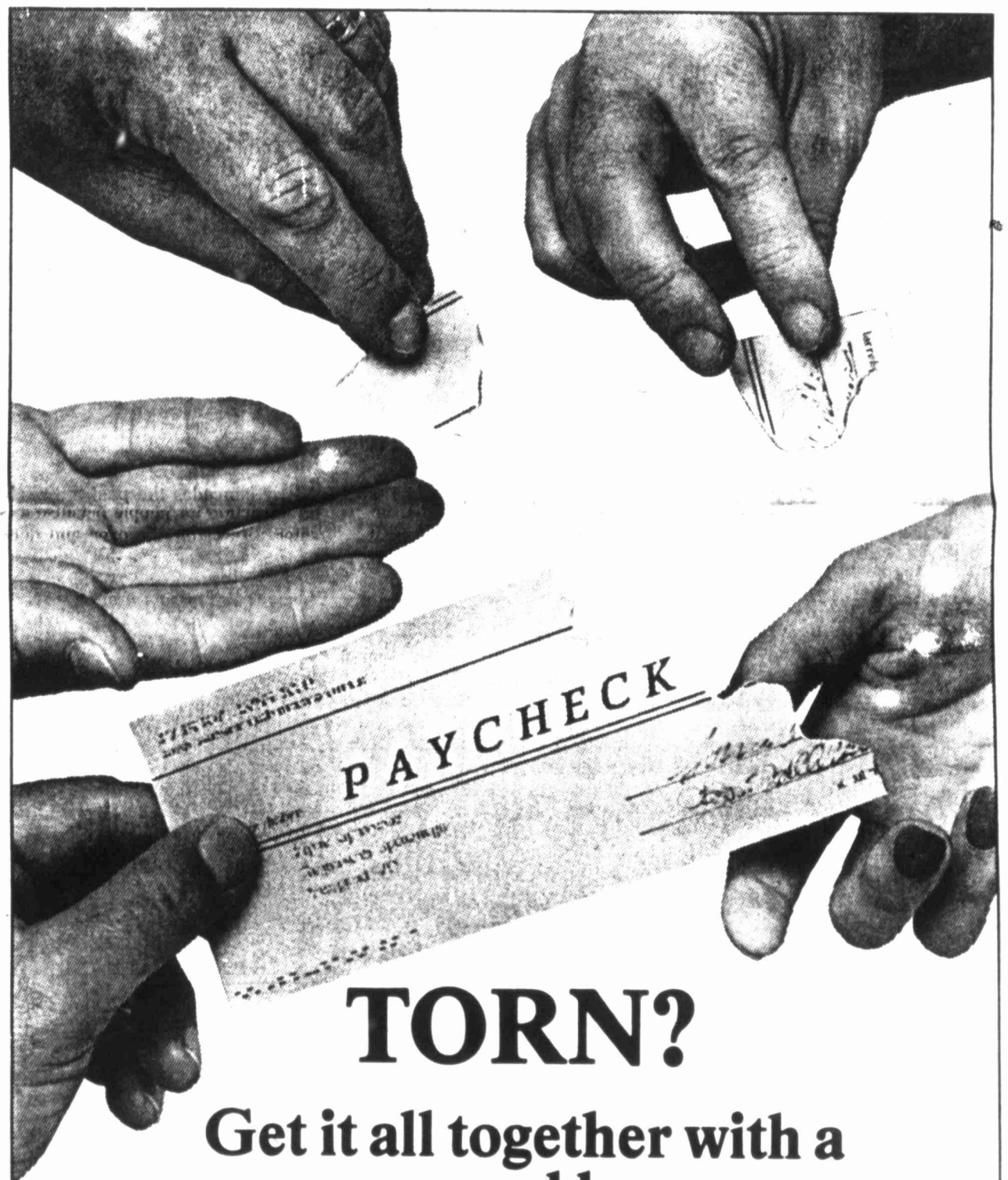
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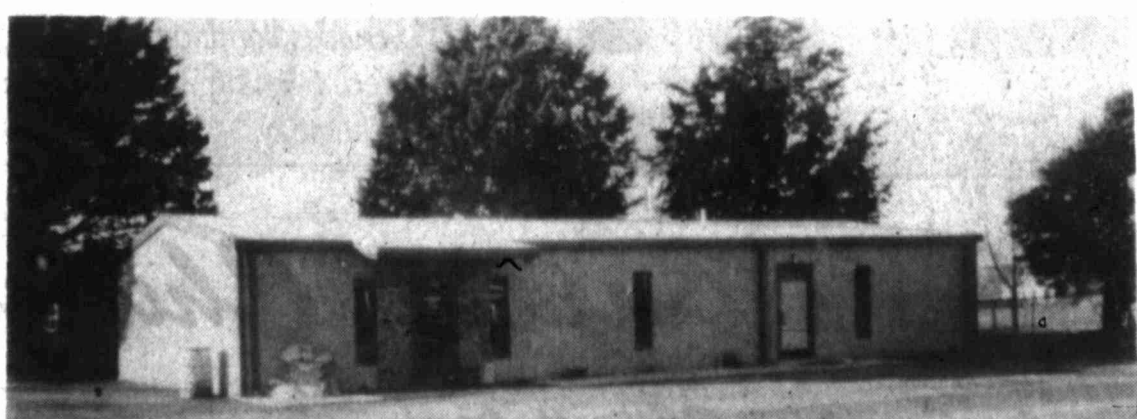
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Weaver finds unexpected job source of enjoyment

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

While Citizens Federal Credit Union president Jim Weaver had prepared for a career in business, he admits he could not have dreamed of the experiences that institution has afforded him.

In fact, Weaver admits to having made no plans other than to relax and take a break when he moved to Big Spring after receiving his law degree from Baylor University in December of 1977.

"My parents had moved back here and I naturally moved here with the idea of taking a little break and getting some rest after having finished my law degree in two years," Weaver explained.

However, officials at the credit union offered him a position as Citizens' general counsel and he went to work in January 1978, never once thinking it would be the only employer he's had since.

The institution, originally named the Webb Air Force Base Federal Credit Union, had seen its existence threatened by the base's closure and reformation through the acquisition of a community charter.

Three years later, at the age of 28, Citizens' board of directors offered him the job of president.

"I look back on it now and never cease to be amazed," Weaver said. "I'd never have expected this, but I couldn't be happier with any job and couldn't ask for better people to work with."



JIM WEAVER

"We now have 28 employees and it's a great staff," he continued. "By the end of this year, more than 70 percent of them will have been with the credit union for at least five years."

Weaver attended elementary and junior high schools in Big Spring before his family moved to LaJoya, Calif. He graduated from LaJoya High School and then entered Austin College in Sherman, a small liberal arts college operated by the Presbyterian Church and known for its outstanding pre-med and pre-law programs.

Following graduation from Austin College in 1975, Weaver immediately entered the Baylor University School of Law.

Please see WEAVER, page 5F

Change a constant for Taylor

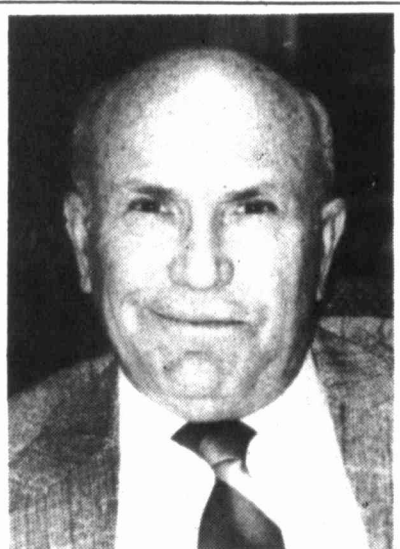
By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Change ... it's a constant. And during his 33 years with the First National Bank of Big Spring, the past 25 spent as its president and chief executive officer, Jimmy Taylor has seen numerous changes in the area, its population and its economy.

But perhaps the most striking change he's seen since joining the bank's staff as agricultural representative in 1961, has been in the growth of First National itself.

"We were a \$27 million bank when I first got here," he said in somewhat understating just how significant the change has been. "And today we're the largest independently operated bank between Fort Worth and El Paso."

What Taylor left unsaid, was that First National has grown from having \$27 million in assets in 1961 to the almost \$228 million level reported in its Dec. 31, 1993, statement of condition.



JIMMY TAYLOR

That does not mean, however, that agricultural customers are no longer an important part of First National's business.

"Agriculture has always been an integral part of our business and it continues to be an important part of our business," Taylor explained. "I don't see that changing any time in the near future."

One can certainly understand Taylor's sentiment. A native of Monahans, he attended public schools there and graduated from Monahans High School in 1944. He received his bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University in 1948 and moved to Big Spring in 1950.

Please see TAYLOR, page 5F

Work, chamber keep Bancroft a busy man

By MARY MCATEER
Contributing Writer

They say that if you want something done, ask a busy man. Big Spring attorney G. Ben Bancroft is a man who gets asked a lot.

Bancroft was raised in San Antonio, received his bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University, where he was a baseball All-American. He returned to San Antonio to get his law degree from St. Mary's University.

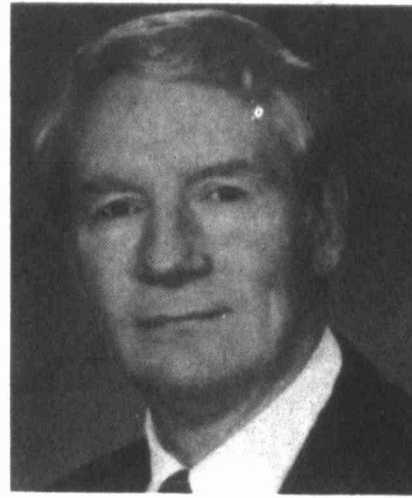
After law school, Bancroft spent three years on active duty with the Marine Corps, serving in Washington D.C., Virginia, California, Okinawa and Vietnam, the last two years as a captain and legal officer. He remained active in the reserve program for several years and was eventually promoted to the rank of major.

Upon his return from Vietnam, Bancroft began his law practice with a firm in San Antonio and remained there for two years until a good friend from law school, Lanny Hamby, invited Bancroft to come to Big Spring and he's been here ever since.

When asked if he'd ever considered criminal practice, he replied that he practiced some criminal law in the service and for a while after he moved to Big Spring but that for the law few years he has concentrated on courtroom work in the areas in which he is board certified—civil trial law and personal injury trial law. Bancroft finds this challenging and interesting.

Bancroft explained that an attorney who is board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization is much like a doctor who practices a medical specialty.

After graduating from law school and passing the bar examination, a lawyer who wishes to hold himself out as a specialist must receive additional continuing education, gain



BEN BANCROFT

experience in the area of specialization and pass a written test.

Bancroft says that he is sure the same is true of a doctor who is board certified as an Orthopedic surgeon, a cardiologist or in some other area of specialization.

He says that the nature of this practice has changed several times over the years, depending on the needs of his clients and that at times he has had varying degrees of practice in the areas of domestic relations, business and commercial work, probate matters and oil and gas.

However, most of his practice now involves commercial and personal injury trials. He is admitted to practice in all Texas state courts and before the federal district courts for the Northern and Western Districts of Texas, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans and the United States Supreme Court.

Outside of his law practice, Bancroft has served as president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, the Westside Community Center, the Howard County Bar Association and the Big Spring High School.

Please see BANCROFT, page 5F

Nelson puts down strong roots

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Security State Bank president J.D. Nelson may be a West Texas transplant from his native Erath County, but he's put down pretty good roots during the past 24 years.

That means more than half of his 40 years in banking have been spent in Big Spring. As a result, he's seen Howard County enjoy the good times when oil boomed and Webb Air Force Base pumped millions of federal dollars into the local economy.

He's also seen the harder times—the early 1980s when oil went bust, the base closed and interest and inflation seemed destined to soar ever upward.

Consequently, Nelson's opinion concerning current economic trends in Howard County should be viewed with importance.

"I think our local economy is stabilizing and that we can expect to see an upswing in our economy," Nelson said recently. "Interest rates are the lowest I've seen in more than 30 years."

"What's more," he added, "our small community has several fine, strong financial institutions. All of our banks are strong, and although we're naturally competitive, we get along well, and realize that though we're competitive, we're at the same time interested in having the same thing—a productive community with an economically sound foundation."

"I think for a town our size, we have three of the strongest banks in Texas," he added.

Nelson moved to Big Spring in 1970 after having spent two years as

Please see NELSON, page 5F

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Weaver

Continued from page

At the age of 41 the area's largest \$46 million in totaling a 75 percent ratio.

He is single, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has twice served as president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for two years and is currently president-elect.

Like other financial institutions in the area, he firmly believes that the future of the community is now headed in the right direction.

He cites expansion of private prison and correctional facilities as positive signs for the area, noting that the opening of a Wal-Mart Supercenter and additional Supercenters are also positive signs.

"We've got to stay with the people of this area and continue working to bring innovative ideas for the local economy," he added, "as a result of recent months' fluctuations were finding ways to make a profit and returned substantial new deposits and new investments."

"Interest rates are still high, but people feel good about their future in general."

Taylor

Continued from page

Spring as the Howard County Cultural Extension Center.

After joining the agricultural world, he spent two years before beginning his own business, which would put him in the chair in 1994.

Taylor has also been active in a public school and past president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Industrial Foundation, served as president of the Rotary Club and the YMCA Board of Directors.

served as a trustee of the Spring Independent School District and as a director of the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, also a past board member of the Howard County School District.

Having kept a finger in the area's economic pulse for years, Taylor is confident in the area's economic future and conveys an optimistic outlook on the upswing.

"Just looking at the bling of the size of the area, plans for a new jail and what plans to double the size of the area, tells you that from a standpoint, things are good," he explained.

Taylor also pointed to the excellent sign of locally, as well as increased sales in Big Spring and Howard County.

"I think you'd pretty positive people."

Taylor and his wife have one daughter, a graduate of Southwest Texas State University and currently in Big Spring, and are members of the Baptist Church of Big Spring.

Nelson

Continued from page

president of the Security State Bank in Fort Worth. Prior to that, he served as an officer in the Austin, San Antonio and Houston areas.

And since taking over the Security State Bank in 1975, he has seen the 1975 expansion of the bank's footprint, occupied since first.

He has also been active in the community and is a member of the Baptist Church of Big Spring.

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Services continue.....1:00-3:00
Wed. Evening.....7:00 p.m.
Thursday.....9:00-Noon

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Thursday.....9:00-Noon

Weaver

Continued from page 4F

At the age of 41, he is president of the area's largest credit union with \$46 million in total assets and boasting a 75 percent loan-to-deposit ratio.

He is single, a member of the Presbyterian Church, an ordained elder and has twice served on the Session.

Weaver has been a member of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for three years and is currently the chamber's president-elect.

Like other leaders of financial institutions in the area, Weaver said he firmly believes the area's economy is now headed in a positive direction.

He cites expansion for the city's private prison and several local businesses as positive indicators, and noted that the opening of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter will bring additional business to the city.

"We've got to stress the need for the people of this community to continue working together and find innovative ideas for diversifying our local economy," Weaver explained, adding that as a non-profit entity, Citizens faced difficult times in recent months when financial institutions were finding it impossible not to make a profit, as old loans returned substantially higher rates than new deposits required in interest payments.

"Interest rates are excellent, people feel good about the economy and their future in general."

Taylor

Continued from page 4F

Spring as the Howard County Agricultural Extension agent in 1955.

After joining the bank in 1961 as an agricultural representative, he spent two years in that position before beginning a string of promotions that would put him in the president's chair in 1969.

Taylor has also been extremely active in a public sense. He's a member and past president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Big Spring Industrial Foundation, and has also served as president of the Big Spring Rotary Club and the Big Spring YMCA Board of Directors. He has served as a trustee on both the Big Spring Independent School District board and the Howard College board and as a director of the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. He is also a past board member of the Howard County South Plains Hereford Association.

Having kept a finger to the pulse of the area's economy for more than 30 years, Taylor is convincing when he conveys an opinion that it is again on the upswing.

"Just looking at a projected doubling of the size of our private prison, plans for the construction of a new jail and Western Container's plans to double the size of its facility tells you that from a construction standpoint, things are looking pretty good," he explained.

Taylor also pointed to strong home sales during the past year as an excellent sign of financial health locally, as well as substantially increased sales tax receipts in both Big Spring and Howard County.

"I think you'd have to say it's a pretty positive picture today," he said.

Taylor and his wife, Mary Ann, have one daughter, Kristi, a graduate of Southwest Texas State University and current resident of Big Spring, and are members of the First Baptist Church of Big Spring.

Nelson

Continued from page 4F

president of Tarrant State Bank in Fort Worth. Prior to that, he had served as an officer of banks in Austin, San Antonio and Corpus Christi.

And since taking over the top spot at Security State in 1970, Nelson has seen the 1975 expansion and remodeling of the bank on the site it's occupied since first opening in 1956.

He has also been extremely active

Underdogs have friend in Lloyd

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Area underdogs, whether human or animal, have a friend in Margaret Lloyd.

In addition to her activities with the Humane Society and its animal shelter, Lloyd also serves as surrogate mother to troubled teens at Big Spring State Hospital and is a member of the Children's Services mental health committee headed by Tish Long.

She is currently a member and corresponding secretary of the Humane Society's board. She is also the past president and one of several co-founders of the Humane Society in Big Spring.

Lloyd recalled the shelter that existed more than a decade ago in a low-lying part of Second Street. "When it rained, the dogs would get soaked and the puppies would drown," she said. "It was awful."

She and other concerned residents continually went to City Council to request a new shelter. "We pestered the council and the city manager," she said. Dorothy Garrett had money in the city budget for a new shelter and Don Bailey drew up plans for construction.

The current shelter on West 80 was finally built about 10 or 11 years ago. Several dogs went from the old shelter to the new one. The shelter has always had a no-kill poli-



MARGARET LLOYD

cy except for very vicious or ill animals.

Animals that are not particularly adoptable because of age or minor illnesses often find a home with Lloyd.

When not performing tasks for the shelter or the Humane Society, Lloyd can be found acting as mom or confidant to teenagers at the state hospital. She studies their school plans, attends meetings and tries to take the young patients out to dinner for

their birthdays.

Lloyd was a diagnostician and English teacher at the state hospital for six years before retiring 18 months ago. She thinks highly of the education program for teens at the hospital and enjoys her continued involvement with the students, teachers and staff. "If I went back to work again, that's where I'd want to go," she said.

She also taught at the Federal Correctional Institution, through Howard College, for a semester or two. She still substitute-teaches at Big Spring schools and at the state hospital. The hospital still remains her favorite place to teach.

Part of Lloyd's work with the students included involving them in work with the animal shelter. Some worked out better than others, she said, but many of the teenagers seemed to come out of their shells around each other and around the animals.

As if all that were not enough, Lloyd is also a lay reader at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Her husband, Larson, was president of Security State Bank until he died in 1984. Her oldest son, Larson, is president of Big Spring Cable TV. She has a daughter, Lisa Emerson, and a son, Les, who attends Angelo State University and plans to become a registered nurse with a specialty master's degree.

Richardson, leader in agriculture

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Don Richardson's official title is County Extension Agent-Agriculture for Howard County and not only is his job title long, but so is his list of duties and achievements.

Richardson was born in Slayton and raised in Post where he graduated from Post High School. After high school, Richardson moved to Lubbock and received his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech. He then attended Texas A&M in College Station where he earned a master's degree.

When asked why he chose this line of work, he responded "I was raised on a farm and ranch and very active in my local 4-H Club and I admired extension work."

"My main goal as an extension agent and person is to try and bring the latest in research to local agriculture producers and do this through the adult and 4-H programs," Richardson said.

The West Texas Ag Expo and Howard County Junior Livestock Show in January, the Howard County Junior Rodeo in July and the Howard County Fair in September are just some of the activities he is

involved in that help Richardson achieve his goal.

Richardson is also a 1986 graduate of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program and says, "the program helped me become acquainted with people I normally would not have come in contact with and gave me a better insight to the community." He works closely with the chamber to help improve the livestock shows and fairs that he is involved in.

Richardson is married to Sharon who is a math teacher and student council sponsor at Big Spring High School. They have two children: a son Blair and a daughter Shawna. Blair and his wife Jill live in Bakers-

field, Calif., and work for CALCOT. His daughter is employed with the Lubbock Independent School District as a pre-K teacher.

Richardson was the first Texan to be named the winner of the National Achievement Award which is handed out by the National County Agriculture Agents Association. He received that honor in 1974.

He also received the Distinguished Service Award in 1980 from the Texas County Agriculture Agents Association. The most recent award he received was last year from the Texas Agriculture Extension Service. He was honored with the Superior Service Award which is the highest award an agent can receive.

Bancroft

Continued from page 4F

School Booster club. He has also served as chairman of the Howard County Republican Party, president of the Kiwanis Club, membership chairman of the YMCA, member of the local Planning and Zoning Board and as chairman of the Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas for the district in which Howard County is located.

As to future plans, now that last year's chamber activities no longer occupy his time - he said at the chamber banquet that his partners, Drew Mouton and Troyce Wolf, had asked him if he was thinking of practicing law again - he said he doesn't have any specific responsibilities as a chamber board member this year but he is a member of the Retirement Solicitation Committee chaired by Curt Mullins and plans otherwise to just help out where he's needed. He says he enjoys the practice of law and intends to keep practicing in the foreseeable future.

Bancroft believes Big Spring has a bright future, because it is populated by good, positive, hardworking

people, has a great climate and a lot of natural resources that are often overlooked or taken for granted by the citizens.

"We have hunting, fishing, a state park, Comanche Trail and Moss lakes, a beautiful and spacious amphitheatre, an outstanding museum, fine medical facilities, Howard College, a crossroads geographical location and many other assets," he noted.

Ben's wife, Kay, has owned her own interior design business for the past several years but is presently in the process of closing her business to be a full time wife and mother.

The Bancrofts have three children: daughter Merribeth, who, after graduating as Student Body President of Big Spring High school, went on to become a school teacher in Houston; son George, who was Senior Class president at Big Spring High School and now teaches in San Antonio; and younger daughter Holly, 3, who is "not yet employed," he explained. "But, she keeps me working."



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9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Nursing Home Ministry
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Children's Extended Session
5:00 p.m. Youth Choir (Grades 7th-12th)
Adult Bible Study
Sign Language Classes
Royal Ambassadors (Grades 1st-6th)
Girls in Action (Grades 1st-6th)
Mission Friends (4-5 yr. olds)
Teacher's Meeting

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service

TUESDAY
7:00 p.m. Church Visitation

WEDNESDAY
10:00 a.m. "Golden Years of Zest" (Sr. Adult Ministry)
7:00 p.m. "Body Life" - Prayer Time
Graded Choirs: Preschool (3yr-Kindergarten), Younger (1-3rd grades), Older (4th-6th grades), Youth Bible Study
8:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

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Clay

Continued from page 1F
remember one time when Clay was hurting very badly," she recalls, "and he cried that he wanted to die. Well, then I started bawling...and he looked up at me and very clearly mouthed the words, 'Momma, I'm sorry, don't be worrying about me.'"

The Kingstons plan to move to "the top of the Cap Rock" in Borden County this April. Glen is retiring from the department of Agriculture and returning to cotton farming. "We're kind of in a hurry," Judy explains. "I want me and Clay out there so that we can get Clay's satellite set up before baseball officially begins."

After baseball? "Who knows?" asks Judy. "But he'll have another goal," she says his heart is failing, that he has good days and bad ones. His heart is failing—mechanically, that is, but it's certainly not failing in courage—not for anyone in the Kingston household. Death, perhaps, may take him but it really can't defeat him. The memory of Patrick Clay Kingston is engraved in the hearts and minds of every resident of Garden City, Texas...and everyone else who knows him.

The Cowboys aren't the only winners this year. Click. Click.

Brown

Continued from page 1F
he took the initiative to visit the courthouse.

Kenemur suggested to Brown that he obtain a copy of a resolution passed by one of the other counties. He remembered reading that Mitchell County had passed such a resolution and contacted County Judge Ray Mayo. Arrangements were made for Mayo to send a facsimile copy of the resolution to Kenemur, who would type a version appropriate for Howard County and have the resolution ready for Brown to present at the Feb. 14 meeting.

Supported by community religious leaders and friends, Brown presented the resolution requesting "freedom of religion rather than freedom from religion."

Brown wants people to know he is not fighting to force students to pray in school but rather to give the option to those who wish to pray.

"I'm not saying force it down people's throats, but rather just let us praise God the way we want to, with Christian T-shirts, prayer at graduation and so on," he said.

Dodds

Continued from page 1F
her job but with outside activities.

"This is an effort by the Chamber to recognize people who go out of their way to improve the quality of life in the community for no pay," said Chamber President Ben Bancroft.

Terry Burns, the Chamber's executive director, said past winners were announced at the banquets but this year the Chamber decided to announce the winners ahead of time.

"In the past, the people who won got lost in the banquet publicity," said Burns. "Now they will get their share of publicity for what they've done for the community."

Bancroft added that friends and relatives of past winners often had not made the effort to attend the banquet, not realizing who the award winner would be.

"Now the friends and relatives know they can come see this person receive an award," he said. "I think in the past, people who didn't attend might have if they realized they knew the person being honored."

Dodds has lived in Big Spring since she was a high school sophomore—"back in the Dust Bowl days," she said. She retired from teaching after 30 years and continues to teach Sunday school.

Dodds serves on the city government's Traffic Commission and Parks and Recreation boards. She also serves on several Chamber committees, including the Clean Committee, Athletic Committee and the decorations committee for the Chamber's annual banquet.

She is the Chamber's coordinator for the Tourist Information Center. In addition to preparing information packets for out-of-towners who request information about Big

Big John's

Continued from page 2F
celebrities. "We've had a lot of interesting customers," said Price as he surveyed the pictures of weightlifters and cowboys tacked up high on the walls.

He is especially proud of a letter Curtis wrote in character as Festus. "My wife said to hang on to that because it doesn't happen often," said Price.

Some celebrity visitors are not represented by pictures on the walls. "Dan Seals from Seals and Crofts was in town one time buying a Cadillac for his daddy," recalled Price. "We thought he was a bum when he walked in here."

His favorite anecdote, however, involves a celebrity who never even entered the restaurant. "A long time ago, before Willie Nelson was famous all over the country, his band stopped in to eat and bring him back a plate," said Price.

"They said Willie was drunk in his room. He never did get out! This was back in the early 1970s, when we knew about him down here."

Before customers and visitors leave, Price makes sure they receive one of his unique business cards: a colored, plastic miniature fly swatter with the restaurant's address and the phrase "Help Save Big John's—Swat A Fly."

He smiled broadly as he handed out two of the swatters. "I've got these scattered all over the world," he said.

Angie

Continued from page 2F
papers from about 80 years ago, and he had personal correspondence from his wife," says Way.

"She was in a sanitarium, she had one of their kids with her, and she wrote about how much she missed her life and how she looked forward to coming home and being with him again."

The letter, more than any dry legal briefs from nearly a century ago, touched Way. "I feel like it's my job to remember these people," she said.

Way collects antiques and artifacts primarily for the museum but occasionally will pick something up for herself if it is an item the museum would not need. "I just got a pink hooked rug," she says, describing it as possibly from the 1920's or 1930's.

"I didn't figure the museum probably had a need for one of those," she joked.

Way's family encourages her personal collections, but not necessarily

Atkins

Continued from page 1F
"I've not done anything out of the ordinary," Atkins insisted. "I've been a volunteer in a community filled with volunteers. I'd hate to think where Big Spring would be without volunteers."

Atkins has been involved in many aspects of service to the community over the years. He currently is on the board of Big Spring Main Street Inc. which is revitalizing the downtown area.

"I think that in two to three years we'll see no vacancies in the downtown business district," Atkins predicted.

He is a layreader and has been a junior and senior warden of the vestry at St. Mary's Episcopal church. He has been on the board of directors of the YMCA, and is current president of the board of directors of the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. He is a past member of the Moore Development for Big Spring's business retention committee.

He is a member and past president of the Ambassador club. Member of the chamber of commerce since 1967, he has served four terms on the board of directors and one term as chairman of the business committee.

"My best friendships have grown out of partnerships formed in the chamber's activities," Atkins said.

He promotes new businessmen and women becoming involved, cit-

ing the chamber's Leadership Big Spring training course as an excellent development tool.

He said the chamber advocates for local development at the level of state and national legislatures, brings the community leaders together, and improves the community's overall quality.

"Every positive thing that's happened in the 26 years I've been here has been in part the chamber's doing," he said.

He said he's excited about the long-term economic impact the tourism study Jeff Morris, new chamber president, recently presented means in the future of the local economy.

"We've bottomed out, and we're building back up," Atkins said. "I look optimistically to the next two to three years of economic development as being the best ever."

Atkins graduated from Big Spring High school in 1961, and received a bachelor of science degree in economics from Texas Tech in 1965. He also attended the University of Texas. He worked as an assistant trust officer for Citizens National bank in Lubbock before returning here in 1967.

Atkins and his wife Judi are parents of five grown children, and are grandparents twice.

Fisher

Continued from page 3F
dent council and members of the Big Spring Exes, he has put together a hall of fame. The hall of fame memorializes students of Big Spring High School who have been outstanding in their endeavors including football, band or other activities.

He is also an historian for the school, putting together histories of the football teams since the school began and is working to complete histories on the other sports.

Fisher is originally from Kermit.

He majored in history, part of the reason he is fascinated with completing the history of the school, and minored in English.

Although he has no set plans concerning retirement, Fisher plans to stay in Big Spring, maybe teaching at the college.

"Big Spring is a pretty West Texas town with the Cosden lights, the prison lights and the hills. I stayed here because of the people, the climate and especially the students," said Fisher.

Sparks

Continued from page 3F
in 1976. The Chamber asked her to be on the Education Committee three or four years ago because of her association with Howard College and her enthusiasm for learning.

She was named as Vice President of the Chamber in January of this year. And perhaps the greatest

honor she has received is being named as the 1993 Woman of the Year by the Chamber.

"Education can make a difference in people's lives. I enjoy being a servant as far as doing whatever I can to improve the quality of life of the students. I believe education can open doors for people and broaden their world."

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Cent Seniors

By KELLIE JON Staff Writer

The Spring City place that senior for socializing an But not enough p and are not taking the fun activities the week.

At least 130 to the daily trip to the meal and another citizens receive a for lunch. The c two "new" vans f the meals and tw teens drive people ments, to the gr other type of erra run.

One of the var the county thro department wh vehicle anymore. bought when the 100,000 was tra van.

The center i through Friday fr Lunch is served and usually follw ty. Bingo is playe Thursdays after



Ceramic classe Center. Seniors advantage of th other forms.

'Rhap harmc Premier hi, choir walls

By JANET AUSE Features Editor

"Rhapsody" is musical term — 1 of Big Spring Hig choir.

The choir has years; current BS Linda Lindell ca years ago. Memb is by audition. o must also be pa other mixed (boy the Meister Singe

Because memb tion only, it is rar make the cut. Th six members who oped. This year 15—"possibly t we've ever had."

The members 1993-1994 seaso Anna Castaned juniors Karl Davi Stephanie Moss, Peters and Ann seniors Jamie Fe Green, Bobby Mendez, Leah Se and Hank Tonn.

Rhapsody usu numbers for the l certs at the high! The group's bigg comes at their en May, at which tid

However, Chris time for Rhapso their Christmas s they perform fo clubs, nursing organizations. repertoire includ hymns to pop son

Right now, the to enter the distr at Midland Lee choir, along w Singers, will trav 27 to perform. Al spring concert a concert.

Between Chris trict contest, me also perform so allowing indivi showcase their ta

In May, auditi for the 1994-95 v Last year, 23 stud will make the cut in about six mo High School's fall

Center underutilized

Seniors can find much to do at center

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

The Spring City Senior Center is a place that senior citizens can go to for socializing and a good, hot meal. But not enough people know about it and are not taking advantage of all the fun activities scheduled during the week.

At least 130 to 140 seniors make the daily trip to the center for a noon meal and another 70 homebound citizens receive a hot meal every day for lunch. The center recently got two "new" vans for use in delivering the meals and twice a week, volunteers drive people to doctor appointments, to the grocery store or any other type of errands that need to be run.

One of the vans was donated by the county through the sheriff's department who did not use the vehicle anymore. The other van was bought when the 1981 van with over 100,000 was traded in for a 1984 van.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served every day at noon and usually followed by some activity. Bingo is played on Tuesdays and Thursdays after lunch, anyone can

play cards or participate in dance classes on Wednesday.

The center also has several pool and domino tables set up all day for people to play a game or two. If you have a creative flair, you might be interested in ceramic classes on Tuesday mornings, art classes on Thursday mornings or fashion painting on Friday mornings. Some of the items made by the seniors are used for fund raisers and door prizes.

There is also two opportunities a week for seniors to kick up their heels when live bands perform Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. for country and western dances.

Of course, with all of these activities and meals that are served, the center relies on federal monies and donations from the area. "The federal government provides us with about 40 percent of our funds and we have to come up with the rest. Everyone who works here are volunteers. We have 12 that work full time helping to serve lunch, call bingo, answer the phones and things like that. We have eight part time volunteers who help with numerous things as well," said director Bobbie Leonard.

Leonard added that the center also

Please see CENTER, page 8F



Ceramic classes are just one of the many activities offered at the Senior Center. Seniors can socialize, play pool or enjoy a hot meal or take advantage of the help available with insurance, welfare or a myriad of other forms.

Council serves youth, adults through JTPA

Special to the Herald

The Permian Basin Private Industry Council operates the Job Training Partnership Act programs in 17 West Texas counties for individuals between the ages of 14 and 72.

Youth programs are carried out in alternative schools featuring self-paced curriculum designed to prevent students from dropping out of school.

Students who are experiencing difficulty keeping up with classwork in their regular school may enter the alternative program. There they can upgrade their subject matter and return to their home school.

Other students may return to school via the alternative school program and complete all requirements to graduate or obtain their GED. Year-round youth programs prepare students for the school-to-work transition.

The PIC's summer youth programs provide career exploration and academic enrichment to students between the ages of 14 and 21.

Classroom training and work-site based learning opportunities are available to adults through JTPA programs, providing entry level

workers with skills needed to get and keep that first job.

Workers who have experienced economic layoffs that left them without the jobs they have worked at for many years often need skills upgrad-

ed and retraining to successfully return to the workplace.

The council is a public-private partnership formed by county judges, mayors and key business

Please see COUNCIL, page 8F



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'Rhapsody' harmonizes

Premier high school choir walls good tune

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

"Rhapsody" is more than just a musical term — it is also the name of Big Spring High School's premier choir.

The choir has existed for several years; current BSHS Choral Director Linda Lindell came on board two years ago. Membership in the choir is by audition only and members must also be part of the school's other mixed (boys and girls) choir, the Meister Singers.

Because membership is by audition only, it is rare for a freshman to make the cut. The choir has about six members when it was first developed. This year the choir numbers 15—"possibly the largest group we've ever had," said Lindell.

The members of Rhapsody for the 1993-1994 season are sophomores Anna Castaneda, Stephanie Cox, juniors Karl Davis, David Foresyth, Stephanie Moss, Chris Ochoa, Josh Peters and Ann Marie Scott, and seniors Jamie Faulkner, Stephanie Green, Bobby Hogue, Sandra Mendez, Leah Sealy, Jeremy Smith and Hank Tonn.

Rhapsody usually performs two numbers for the fall and spring concerts at the high school, said Lindell. The group's biggest audience usually comes at their end-of-year concert in May, at which tickets are sold.

However, Christmas is the busiest time for Rhapsody. In addition to their Christmas show at the school, they perform for local hospitals, clubs, nursing homes and other organizations. Their year-round repertoire includes everything from hymns to pop songs.

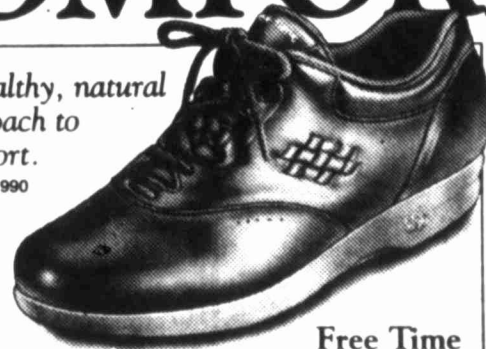
Right now, the choir is preparing to enter the district contest April 12 at Midland Lee High School. The choir, along with the Meister Singers, will travel to Nashville April 27 to perform. After that will be the spring concert and the end-of-year concert.

Between Christmas and the district contest, members of the choir also perform solo or in ensembles, allowing individual members to showcase their talents.

In May, auditions will take place for the 1994-95 version of Rhapsody. Last year, 23 students tried out. Who will make the cut this year? Find out in about six months at Big Spring High School's fall concert.

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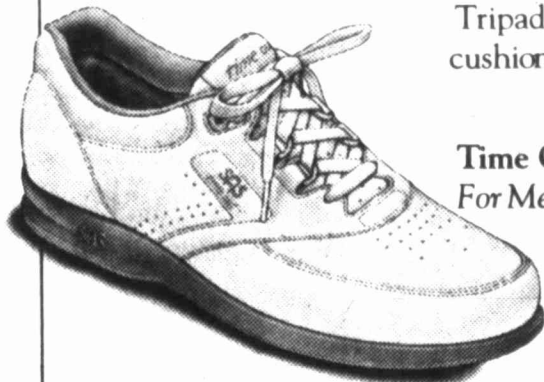


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Clay

Continued from page 1F
remember one time when Clay was hurting very badly," she recalls, "and he cried that he wanted to die. Well, then I started bawling...and he looked up at me and very clearly mouthed the words, 'Momma, I'm sorry, don't be worrying about me.'"
The Kingstons plan to move to "the top of the Cap Rock" in Borden County this April. Glen is retiring from the department of Agriculture and returning to cotton farming. "We're kind of in a hurry," Judy explains. "I want me and Clay out there so that we can get Clay's satellite set up before baseball officially begins."
After baseball? "Who knows?" asks Judy. "But he'll have another goal," she says his heart is failing, that he has good days and bad ones.
His heart is failing—mechanically, that is, but it's certainly not failing in courage—not for anyone in the Kingston household. Death, perhaps, may take him but it really can't defeat him. The memory of Patrick Clay Kingston is engraved in the hearts and minds of every resident of Garden City, Texas...and everyone else who knows him.
The Cowboys aren't the only winners this year. Click. Click.

Brown

Continued from page 1F
he took the initiative to visit the courthouse.
Kennemur suggested to Brown that he obtain a copy of a resolution passed by one of the other counties. He remembered reading that Mitchell County had passed such a resolution and contacted County Judge Ray Mayo.
Arrangements were made for Mayo to send a facsimile copy of the resolution to Kennemur, who would type a version appropriate for Howard County and have the resolution ready for Brown to present at the Feb. 14 meeting.
Supported by community religious leaders and friends, Brown presented the resolution requesting "freedom of religion rather than freedom from religion."
Brown wants people to know he is not fighting to force students to pray in school but rather to give the option to those who wish to pray.
"I'm not saying force it down people's throats, but rather just let us praise God the way we want to, with Christian T-shirts, prayer at graduation and so on," he said.

Dodds

Continued from page 1F
her job but with outside activities.
"This is an effort by the Chamber to recognize people who go out of their way to improve the quality of life in the community for no pay," said Chamber President Ben Bancroft.
Terry Burns, the Chamber's executive director, said past winners were announced at the banquet but this year the Chamber decided to announce the winners ahead of time.
"In the past, the people who won got lost in the banquet publicity," said Burns. "Now they will get their share of publicity for what they've done for the community."
Bancroft added that friends and relatives of past winners often had not made the effort to attend the banquet, not realizing who the award winner would be.
"Now the friends and relatives know they can come see this person receive an award," he said. "I think in the past, people who didn't attend might have if they realized they knew the person being honored."
Dodds has lived in Big Spring since she was a high school sophomore—"back in the Dust Bowl days," she said. She retired from teaching after 30 years and continues to teach Sunday school.
Dodds serves on the city government's Traffic Commission and Parks and Recreation boards. She also serves on several Chamber committees, including the Clean Committee, Athletic Committee and the decorations committee for the Chamber's annual banquet.
She is the Chamber's coordinator for the Tourist Information Center. In addition to preparing information packets for out-of-towners who request information about Big

Big John's

Continued from page 2F
celebrities. "We've had a lot of interesting customers," said Price as he surveyed the pictures of weightlifters and cowboys tacked up high on the walls.
He is especially proud of a letter Curtis wrote in character as Festus. "My wife said to hang on to that because it doesn't happen often," said Price.
Some celebrity visitors are not represented by pictures on the walls. "Dan Seals from Seals and Crofts was in town one time buying a Cadillac for his daddy," recalled Price. "We thought he was a bum when he walked in here."
His favorite anecdote, however, involves a celebrity who never even entered the restaurant. "A long time ago, before Willie Nelson was famous all over the country, his band stopped in to eat and bring him back a plate," said Price.
"They said Willie was drunk in his room. He never did get out! This was back in the early 1970s, when we knew about him down here."
Before customers and visitors leave, Price makes sure they receive one of his unique business cards: a colored, plastic miniature fly swatter with the restaurant's address and the phrase "Help Save Big John's—Swat A Fly."
He smiled broadly as he handed out two of the swatters. "I've got these scattered all over the world," he said.

Angie

Continued from page 2F
papers from about 80 years ago, and he had personal correspondence from his wife," says Way.
"She was in a sanitarium, she had one of their kids with her, and she wrote about how much she missed her life and how she looked forward to coming home and being with him again."
The letter, more than any dry legal briefs from nearly a century ago, touched Way. "I feel like it's my job to remember these people," she said.
Way collects antiques and artifacts primarily for the museum but occasionally will pick something up for herself if it is an item the museum would not need. "I just got a pink hooked rug," she says, describing it as possibly from the 1920's or 1930's.
"I didn't figure the museum probably had a need for one of those," she joked.
Way's family encourages her personal collections, but not necessarily

Spring, Dodds also selects and trains volunteers for the center.
She regularly gives programs about flag etiquette and the history of the United States flag.
She is also active in the First United Methodist Church, has been a lay speaker for 23 years and serves as lay speaker coordinator for the Big Spring district. She also serves as a 4-H Club sponsor.
Please see DODDS, page 8F

Atkins

Continued from page 1F
"I've not done anything out of the ordinary," Atkins insisted. "I've been a volunteer in a community filled with volunteers. I'd hate to think where Big Spring would be without volunteers."
Atkins has been involved in many aspects of service to the community over the years. He currently is on the board of Big Spring Main Street Inc. which is revitalizing the downtown area.
"I think that in two to three years we'll see no vacancies in the downtown business district," Atkins predicted.
He is a layreader and has been a junior and senior warden of the vestry at St. Mary's Episcopal church. He has been on the board of directors of the YMCA, and is current president of the board of directors of the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. He is a past member of the Moore Development for Big Spring's business retention committee.
He is a member and past president of the Ambassador club. Member of the chamber of commerce since 1967, he has served four terms on the board of directors and one term as chairman of the business committee.
"My best friendships have grown out of partnerships formed in the chamber's activities," Atkins said.
He promotes new businessmen and women becoming involved, cit-

ing the chamber's Leadership Big Spring training course as an excellent development tool.
He said the chamber advocates for local development at the level of state and national legislatures, brings the community leaders together, and improves the community's overall quality.
"Every positive thing that's happened in the 26 years I've been here has been in part the chamber's doing," he said.
He said he's excited about the long-term economic impact the tourism study Jeff Morris, new chamber president, recently presented means in the future of the local economy.
"We've bottomed out, and we're building back up," Atkins said. "I look optimistically to the next two to three years of economic development as being the best ever."
Atkins graduated from Big Spring High school in 1961, and received a bachelor of science degree in economics from Texas Tech in 1965. He also attended the University of Texas. He worked as an assistant trust officer for Citizens National bank in Lubbock before returning here in 1967.
Atkins and his wife Judi are parents of five grown children, and are grandparents twice.

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Fisher

Continued from page 3F
dent council and members of the Big Spring Exes, he has put together a hall of fame. The hall of fame memorializes students of Big Spring High School who have been outstanding in their endeavors including football, band or other activities.
He is also an historian for the school, putting together histories of the football teams since the school began and is working to complete histories on the other sports.
Fisher is originally from Kermit.

Sparks

Continued from page 3F
in 1976. The Chamber asked her to be on the Education Committee three or four years ago because of her association with Howard College and her enthusiasm for learning.
She was named as Vice President of the Chamber in January of this year. And perhaps the greatest

He majored in history, part of the reason he is fascinated with completing the history of the school, and minored in English.
Although he has no set plans concerning retirement, Fisher plans to stay in Big Spring, maybe teaching at the college.
"Big Spring is a pretty West Texas town with the Cosden lights, the prison lights and the hills. I stayed here because of the people, the climate and especially the students," said Fisher.

honor she has received is being named as the 1993 Woman of the Year by the Chamber.
"Education can make a difference in people's lives. I enjoy being a servant as far as doing whatever I can to improve the quality of life of the students. I believe education can open doors for people and broaden their world."

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Cent Seniors

By KELLIE JOH Staff Writer

The Spring City place that seniors socialize at is not enough and are not taking the fun activities the week.
At least 130 to the daily trip to a meal and another citizens receive a for lunch. The two "new" vans the meals and tyteers drive people, to the other type of errun.
One of the va the county thr department wh vehicle anymore. bought when the 100,000 was trvan.
The center through Friday Lunch is served and usually follo ty. Bingo is play Thursdays after



Ceramic classe Center. Senior advantage of t other forms.

'Rhapsody'

By JANET AUS Features Editor

"Rhapsody" is musical term — of Big Spring High choir.
The choir has years; current B Linda Lindell c years ago. Meml is by addition c must also be p other mixed (b the Meister Singe Because meml tion only, it is r make the cut. T six members wh oped. This year 15— "possibly t we've ever had." The members 1993-1994 seas Anna Castaned juniors Karl Dav Stephanie Moss, Peters and Ann seniors Jamie F Green, Bobby Mendez, Leah S and Hank Tonn.
Rhapsody usu numbers for the certs at the high The group's bigg comes at their en May, at which ti However, Chr time for Rhaps their Christmas they perform f clubs, nursing organizations. repertoire includ hymns to pop sor

Right now, the to enter the distr at Midland Lee choir, along v Singers, will trav 27 to perform. A spring concert a concert.
Between Chr district contest, me also perform sol allowing indivi showcase their t
In May, audit for the 1994-95 v Last year, 23 stu will make the cut in about six mo High School's fall

Center underutilized Seniors can find much to do at center

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

The Spring City Senior Center is a place that senior citizens can go to for socializing and a good, hot meal. But not enough people know about it and are not taking advantage of all the fun activities scheduled during the week.

At least 130 to 140 seniors make the daily trip to the center for a noon meal and another 70 homebound citizens receive a hot meal every day for lunch. The center recently got two "new" vans for use in delivering the meals and twice a week, volunteers drive people to doctor appointments, to the grocery store or any other type of errands that need to be run.

One of the vans was donated by the county through the sheriff's department who did not use the vehicle anymore. The other van was bought when the 1981 van with over 100,000 was traded in for a 1984 van.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served every day at noon and usually followed by some activity. Bingo is played on Tuesdays and Thursdays after lunch, anyone can

play cards or participate in dance classes on Wednesday.

The center also has several pool and domino tables set up all day for people to play a game or two. If you have a creative flair, you might be interested in ceramic classes on Tuesday mornings, art classes on Thursday mornings or fashion painting on Friday mornings. Some of the items made by the seniors are used for fund raisers and door prizes.

There is also two opportunities a week for seniors to kick up their heels when live bands perform Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. for country and western dances.

Of course, with all of these activities and meals that are served, the center relies on federal monies and donations from the area. "The federal government provides us with about 40 percent of our funds and we have to come up with the rest. Everyone who works here are volunteers. We have 12 that work full time helping to serve lunch, call bingo, answer the phones and things like that. We have eight part time volunteers who help with numerous things as well," said director Bobbie Leonard.

Leonard added that the center also

Please see CENTER, page 8F



Ceramic classes are just one of the many activities offered at the Senior Center. Seniors can socialize, play pool or enjoy a hot meal or take advantage of the help available with insurance, welfare or a myriad of other forms.

Special to the Herald

The Permian Basin Private Industry Council operates the Job Training Partnership Act programs in 17 West Texas counties for individuals between the ages of 14 and 72.

Youth programs are carried out in alternative schools featuring self-paced curriculum designed to prevent students from dropping out of school.

Students who are experiencing difficulty keeping up with classwork in their regular school may enter the alternative program. There they can upgrade their subject matter and return to their home school.

Other students may return to school via the alternative school program and complete all requirements to graduate or obtain their GED. Year-round youth programs prepare students for the school-to-work transition.

The PIC's summer youth programs provide career exploration and academic enrichment to students between the ages of 14 and 21.

Classroom training and worksite based learning opportunities are available to adults through JTPA programs, providing entry level

workers with skills needed to get and keep that first job.

Workers who have experienced economic layoffs that left them without the jobs they have worked at for many years often need skills upgrad-

ed and retraining to successfully return to the workplace.

The council is a public-private partnership formed by county judges, mayors and key business Please see COUNCIL, page 8F



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'Rhapsody' harmonizes Premier high school choir walls good tune

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

"Rhapsody" is more than just a musical term — it is also the name of Big Spring High School's premier choir.

The choir has existed for several years; current BSHS Choral Director Linda Lindell came on board two years ago. Membership in the choir is by audition only and members must also be part of the school's other mixed (boys and girls) choir, the Meister Singers.

Because membership is by audition only, it is rare for a freshman to make the cut. The choir has about six members when it was first developed. This year the choir numbers 15—"possibly the largest group we've ever had," said Lindell.

The members of Rhapsody for the 1993-1994 season are sophomores Anna Castaneda, Stephanie Cox, juniors Karl Davis, David Foresyth, Stephanie Moss, Chris Ochoa, Josh Peters and Ann Marie Scott, and seniors Jamie Faulkner, Stephanie Green, Bobby Hogue, Sandra Mendez, Leah Sealy, Jeremy Smith and Hank Tonn.

Rhapsody usually performs two numbers for the fall and spring concerts at the high school, said Lindell. The group's biggest audience usually comes at their end-of-year concert in May, at which tickets are sold.

However, Christmas is the busiest time for Rhapsody. In addition to their Christmas show at the school, they perform for local hospitals, clubs, nursing homes and other organizations. Their year-round repertoire includes everything from hymns to pop songs.

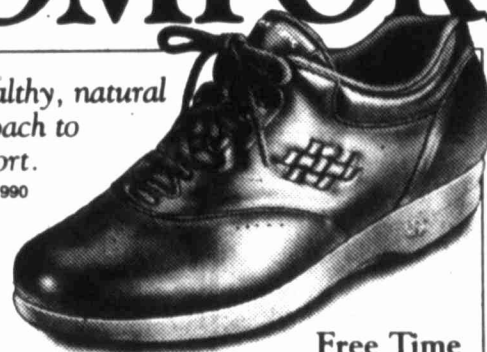
Right now, the choir is preparing to enter the district contest April 12 at Midland Lee High School. The choir, along with the Meister Singers, will travel to Nashville April 27 to perform. After that will be the spring concert and the end-of-year concert.

Between Christmas and the district contest, members of the choir also perform solo or in ensembles, allowing individual members to showcase their talents.

In May, auditions will take place for the 1994-95 version of Rhapsody. Last year, 23 students tried out. Who will make the cut this year? Find out in about six months at Big Spring High School's fall concert.

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Slim	Narrow	Medium	Wide	W:Wide
8-15	7-15	6-15	6-15	6-14

Not all sizes available in all colors.

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ACTIVITIES

NIE uses newspaper to teach students

Herald Staff Report

Newspaper in Education, a program designed to help teachers in the classroom and utilize the newspaper as a teaching tool for students.

Big Spring, Coahoma, Stanton, Forsan, Grady, Sands, Garden City, Sterling City, Marantha Christian, Howard College and Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf are area schools participating in the Newspaper in Education program.

NIE participation includes 196 teachers and 5,100 students receiving more than 20,000 papers per month.

It is a proven program, bringing the newspaper into the classroom as an educationally sound teaching tool.

The program is available at no cost to area schools.

The Big Spring Herald with support from area businesses and civic leaders underwrite the cost of the program.

The 1993-94 NIE sponsors include Dorothy Garrett, Marie Hall, Fina Refinery, Cosden Credit Union, First National Bank, Westex Auto Parts Inc., Coahoma State Bank, Fraser Industries, Inc., Gamco Industries, Inc., Fiberglass Technologies, Inc. and Otto Meyer's Big Spring Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge-Jeep-Eagle.

NIE planned special activities include: Design An Ad; an NIE special edition to explain the program to community; Black History Month classroom activities published in the Herald; creation of classroom newspapers; a spring special section to be prepared in entirety by students from area schools; and increased coverage of student events in the Herald.

Teachers have available to them 11 specialized curriculum guides provided by the Big Spring Herald. Subjects include: Fundamentals For Elementary Students (K-5), Dinosaurs And The Newspaper (K-5), Along Came A Spider (K-6), Celebrate! Every Day Is A Holiday (K-6), Fundamentals For Secondary Students (6-12), Measuring Up In Mathematics (K-8), Geography In The Newspaper (6-12), Special Education And Cooperative Learning (K-12), Survival Skills For Students At Risk (6-12) and Literacy - Adult Basic Education.

Center

Continued from page 7F

has pancake and chili suppers throughout the year to help raise money. "We also have a booth at the county fair and will raffle off something. We raffled a TV-VCR combination last year. We are working on something different for this year's fair. Also, we are working on getting a cookbook together and will hopefully sell that at the fair as well," Leonard said.

"This is a chance for people that have lost their mates to come and socialize. Sure, they come for a meal but mostly to talk with other seniors in the city. They need the social activity and we are here for them otherwise those who are alone would stay at home and never get out of the house," said Leonard.

"We encourage all people 55 or older to join our activities. If someone is 55 to 59 years of age, they can eat at the center for lunch for \$3.75. If you are 60 or older, the meal is free but you can make a \$2.00 donation to the center if you want," Leonard added.

The center also offers a defense driving course throughout the year as well as glaucoma and cataract screenings. Blood pressure checks are done once a month and hearing tests are given regularly.

The staff is also available to help with insurance, welfare, Medicaid and other forms for the seniors.

The center is located in Industrial Park, Building 487 and the phone number is 267-1628.

Council

Continued from page 7F

leaders in the region. These individuals have oversight responsibilities for this year's \$4 million federally-funded operation that maintains field offices in five locations with a staff of 32 people.

This year the PIC programs will serve more than 2,000 individuals in the Permian Basin.

Counties served by the council include Howard, Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Loving, Martin, Midland, Upton, Pecos, Reeves, Terrell, Ward and Winkler.

For services in Howard, Glasscock, Borden or Dawson counties contact the PIC-JTPA office at 421 Main St. in Big Spring or call 263-8373.

Dodds

Continued from page 6F

In the past, Dodds was parade assistant chair for the Big Spring Centennial Committee. She coordinated the first Christmas parade and organized the July 4 "Let Freedom Ring" pageant from 1965 to 1976.

She received the Mayor's Commendation Award in 1976.

Dodds initially said she felt "ridiculous" about receiving the Woman of the Year award. "Why would they honor someone for doing what they love?" she asked.

Nelson

Continued from page 6F

in civic and church affairs. A former member of the Big Spring Kiwanis Club, he served as a president of that club, as well as president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, Big Spring Country Club, the Big Spring YMCA Board and the Salvation Army Board. He is also a past president of the Big Spring Industrial Foundation.

Nelson and his wife, Pauline, have two children — a son, Scott, who is a bank officer at Victoria Bank and Trust, and a daughter, Sandra Alvis of Abilene. They are grandparents of four-year-old Robert Alvis and one-week-old Wesley Alvis.

The Nelsons attend the St. Paul Lutheran Church where he serves as an elder and lay minister.



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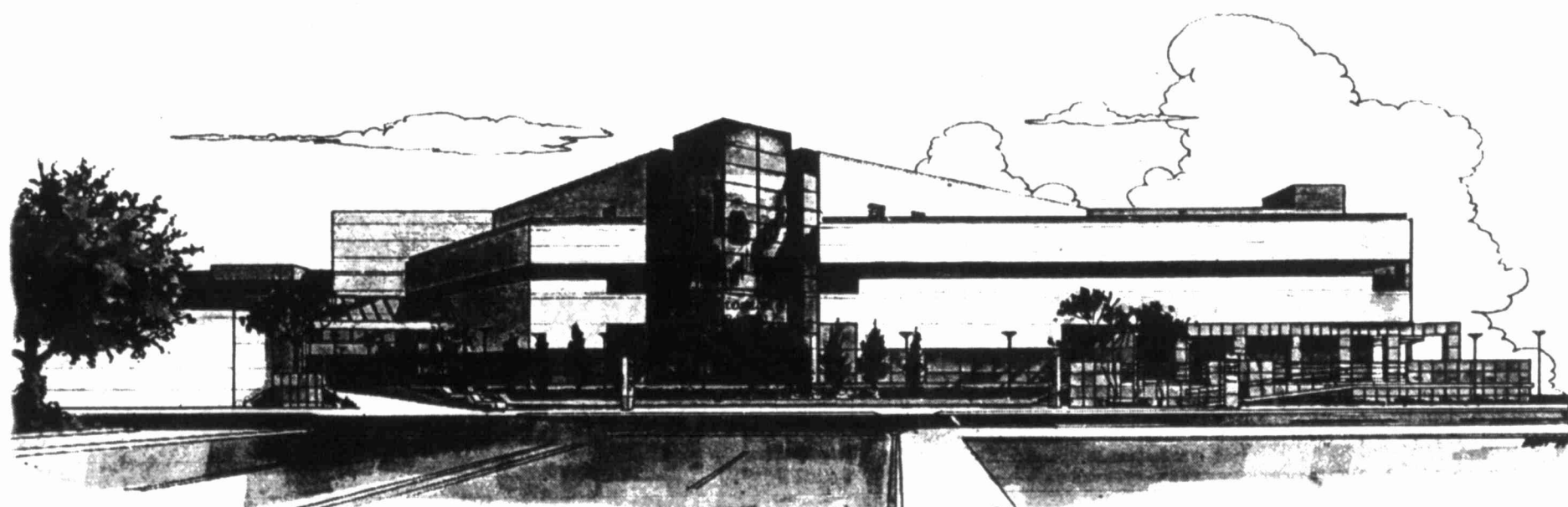


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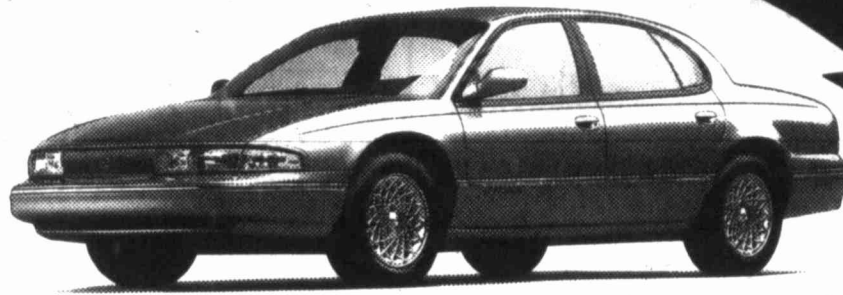
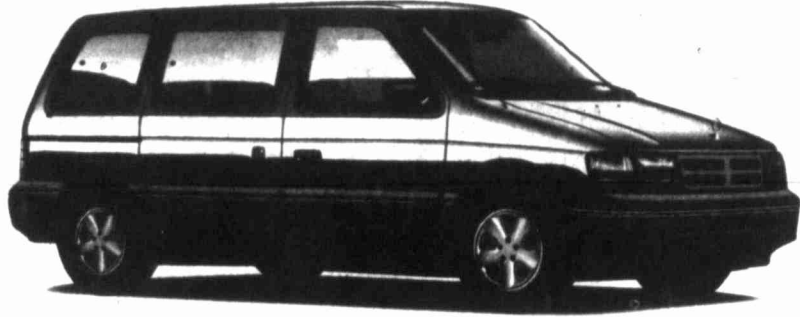
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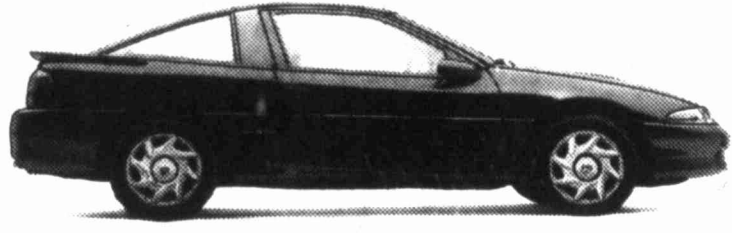


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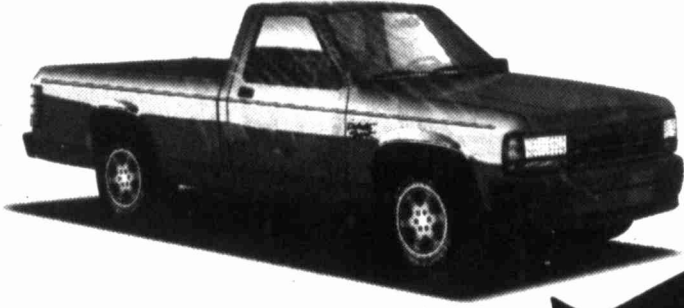


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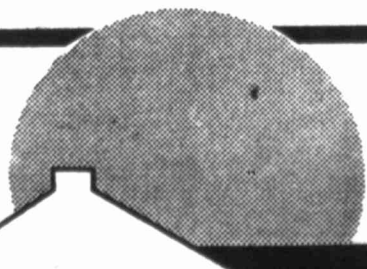
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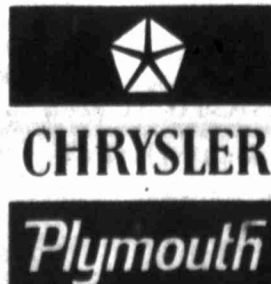
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