

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

THURSDAY
May 9, 1996

50 cents

Voters ... how to get more of them to participate in elections is the question of the day

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

How to get people to participate in local elections could become an issue for the Big Spring City Council.

After canvassing the votes from last Saturday's District 1 and District 3 council races, City Manager Gary Fuqua told the council he would cherish any idea as to how the city can get more people out to vote.

Eleven percent of the eligible voters in District 1 voted and only 12 percent of the eligible voters in District 3 voted.

Fuqua said what concerned him the most was the 89 percent of the voters in District 1 and the 88 percent of the voters in District 3 that didn't get out to vote.

Including early votes a total of 365 registered voters cast ballots in the May 4 election, 185 votes in the District 1 race and 180

votes in the District 3 race.

Early voting for the May 18 runoff began today at 8 a.m. at City Hall and will continue through 5 p.m. Early voting for the runoff will continue through May 14.

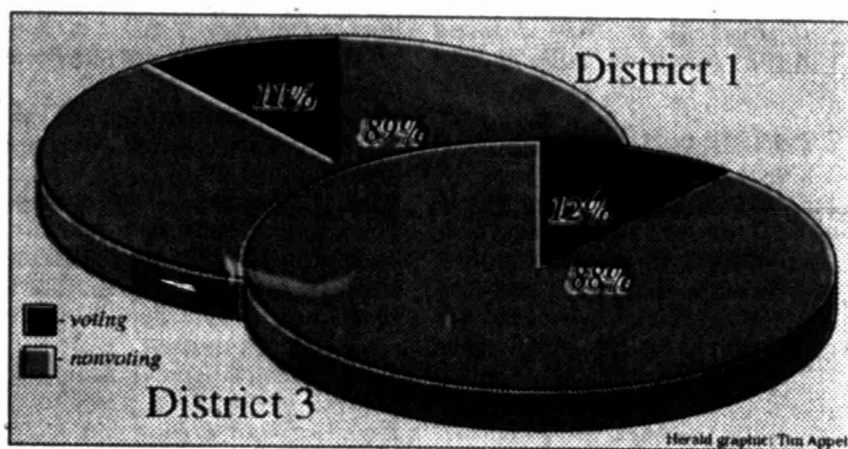
During the May 18 runoff District 3 voters will cast their ballots at the Big Spring High School Cafeteria.

Fuqua also informed the council he has been in the process of doing a mid-year fiscal budget review.

"This is an attempt to simplify our reports so that they may be used as a quick reference and or report card on how the city is using its budgeted funds," Fuqua said.

He added that as of March 31 (the half way point of the fiscal year) the city would have liked each department at 50 percent or less of its budget.

As of March 31, Fuqua said the city's general fund was on line at 50.18 percent, expending



\$4,589,408 of a budgeted \$9,145,906. Utility funds stood at 48.41 percent expended, and all other non-departmental or miscellaneous accounts stood at 71.93 percent expended, giving the city a half way budget status of 53.06 percent expended.

Another issue the council took time to discuss and vote in favor of Tuesday was whether or not to pledge funding for the

Permian Basin Drug Task Force.

According to Big Spring Police Chief Jerry Edwards, since the inception of the task force, Ector County (home base for the task force) has guaranteed the matching funds for the task force budget.

Task Force Commander Tom Finley said in the eight years of the task force's existence it has

always been able to meet its budget match.

Edwards said Ector County has never had to pay for any part of the match requirements. The match is met through seizures of money and by auctioning off seized property.

For the 1996-97 budget year, the Ector County Auditor's Office has requested that each member agency of the task force pledge a portion of the match for the task force.

"This match was determined on the population represented by each agency. Should the task force make no seizures and generate no funds for the entire upcoming year our portion of the match would be \$18,428," Edwards said.

Edwards also told the council the task force has assisted the Big Spring Police Department on numerous occasions and made several cases.

He added having the task force gives the BSPD new faces

to do narcotics work because people tend to recognize local officers.

Other local counties' and cities' share of the grant match for the upcoming year include Andrews County and the city of Andrews \$16,830; Borden, \$900; Cochran, \$4,635; Crane County and the city of Crane, \$4,950; Dawson, \$16,740; Ector, \$133,965; Gaines County and the cities of Seminole and Seagraves, \$14,491; Garza, 5,850; Glasscock, \$1,350; Howard and the city of Big Spring, \$36,856; Jeff Davis, \$1,800; Loving, \$67; Lynn and Tahoka, \$9,406; Martin and the city of Stanton, \$5,356; Midland, \$113,715; Presidio and the city of Marfa, \$5,716; Reagan, \$4,545; Reeves and the City of Pecos, 16,020; Terrell, \$1,755; Terry and the city of Brownfield, \$15,616; Upton, \$5,175; Ward and the city of Monahans, \$15,166; Winkler and the cities of Kermit and Wink, \$9,316; and Yoakum and the city of Denver City, \$9,732.

Workers & tools — things Kids' Zone needs now

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

In the middle of day one of building the Kids' Zone Creative Playground, Kids' Zone Coordinator Katy McAteer said, "It looks like we've planted a bunch of tall trees with no leaves out here."

McAteer was referring to the dozens of poles that were placed and set during the first day of construction.

Volunteers also began setting up frames around the playground.

The volunteers who are helping build the playground are having a wonderful time according to McAteer, but the turnout of volunteers for day one was very low considering the minimum number of people needed to build each day.

"We're on schedule now, but we were ahead Tuesday. We need people because if we get behind we may have to cut out some of the neat things," McAteer said.

Some of the neat items McAteer mentioned that are planned as part of the multi-level wooden playground include a three story tree house, a pirate ship, several slides, a zipline and tunnels. The playground has also been designed to be safe, durable and able to easily accommodate approximately 100 children at a time.

Tools are still needed at the playground site, especially orbital jigsaws and impact wrenches, according to Kids' Zone Committee members.

Also for the first time, Big Spring will have a playground that children in wheelchairs and walkers will be able to play

in and enjoy.

McAteer said the committee would like to see the building of this playground be a community-wide effort with all segments of Big Spring getting involved in substantial ways.

The city has provided the land for the playground and the prisoners in the inmate work program cleared the land and were a valuable asset during day one of the build.

The city has also donating some machinery to help with the project and has offering to allow their employees to use comp time to participate in the build.

At the end of today's construction, more framing will be complete; fence posts are expected to be in place; sand ladders, slides and other equipment will be assembled; and the site that was an empty lot Tuesday should be taking the shape of a playground.

According to McAteer, the project is up and running, but big numbers of volunteers are still needed so that everything that was designed for the playground can be included within the five days of building.

The committee is still seeking a specific number of volunteers during each shift of the build.

This morning's construction began with the committee seeking 40 skilled and 70 unskilled workers; 40 skilled and 60 unskilled workers this afternoon; and 50 skilled and 90 unskilled workers to build this evening.

Friday morning 40 skilled and 80 unskilled workers are needed; afternoon, 50 skilled and 70 unskilled workers are needed; and Friday evening 60 skilled and 100 unskilled workers are needed.



Volunteers measure, level and stabilize one of the dozens of posts that were being put into the ground Wednesday during the first construction day of the new Kids' Zone playground. The equipment is expected to be completed this weekend.

Saturday morning and afternoon, 100 skilled workers and 250 unskilled are needed and Saturday evening 60 skilled and 200 unskilled workers are needed.

Sunday as the build concludes, 60 skilled and 200

unskilled workers will be needed to build; and 120 skilled and 300 unskilled workers will be needed.

McAteer said anyone wanting to volunteer should report to the tool tent at the site and they will be put to work.

Forsan, Coahoma students win big

By SARA SOLIS
Staff Writer

Forsan and Coahoma high school students brought home a collective 26 best of state awards from the Technology Student's Association

(TSA) State Convention and Project Competition held last weekend in Waco.

Mark Reeh, industrial technology teacher at Forsan High School, said 10 students from Forsan qualified at the regional competition April 27 in Odessa and advanced to state competition.

Reeh said there are a variety of areas in which students compete. "We've got everything from desk top publishing ... to public speaking, maybe 20,000 different divisions."

Different people have different interests, so someone who is interested in computers might design a program for animation, someone who isn't into computers might build a 20-foot horse trailer, or a dining room table with a hutch, he said.

Industrial technology at Forsan High School comprises courses in communications systems, production systems, manufacturing systems and power transportation systems. He said schools of all sizes compete against each other, 5-A schools compete against 2-A schools.

"A lot of people misunderstand industrial technology, it actually encompasses the whole curriculum in this school," Reeh said. He said students document each project they complete; plan sheet; steps; and what they learned. "There's a lot of thought and planning that goes into each project that they (the students) do."

Cody Ward, freshman, won first place and best of state in the research and development of mechanical gear systems division. Cody took a transmission from an old Toyota pickup that was given to the school and made a cutaway from it to show

the power transfer through gear systems, Reeh said. A cutaway is where the casing on one side of the transmission is removed so that the inner-workings of the transmission may be observed, he said.

Cody also placed third in the special effects color photo division where he entered an enlarged double exposure photograph. Paul Kinsey, sophomore, also won first place and best of state in the metal working, 20 to 40 pound, division. Kinsey built a light bar to sit upon the top of an escort vehicle, Reeh said.

Brian Fielder, sophomore, won first place and best of state in the remote control car race. "He built it and raced it up there (in Waco)," Reeh said. Fielder was aided by Paul Kinsey and Gary Simer, sophomore, who served as turn marshals and pit crew members. "They (the cars) run for four minutes, then they come into the pit and change the battery, and then run another four minutes. The car that turns the most laps wins," he said. Reeh said the cars were also judged on appearance and documentation of their construction.

Heath Harrison, freshman, placed third in four different photography divisions; special effects, black and white; portrait; action; and landscape.

Coahoma High School students also participated at the state convention. Industrial technology teacher for Coahoma High School, Mark McLean, said the school's industrial technology students received a total of 23 best of state awards, 44 first place awards, 26 second place awards and 14 third place awards. He said the following students placed at the convention: Brandi Self; Ryan Wright; Namon Blevins; Jason L. Henry; Sherman Moseley; Joe Best; Bo Reagan; Kevin Ramsey; Keith Brockman; B.J. Batson; Randy Overton; and Daniel Clark.

"A lot of people misunderstand industrial technology, it actually encompasses the whole curriculum in this school."

Mark Reeh
Forsan IT teacher

Students: Advertising works as teen smoking increases

By SARA SOLIS
Staff Writer

A recent study concluded that teens are three times more responsive than adults to cigarette advertising. According to Big Spring High School students and administration, cigarette smoking has increased among local teenagers and

advertising gimmicks could be a contributing factor.

In the study, published in the Journal of Marketing, Richard Pollay, of the University of British Columbia in Canada, looked at 20 years of cigarette advertising of nine brands. He found that whenever advertising of a specific brand increased, teen smoking of that brand was three times more

likely than adult smoking to increase.

Pollay's study indicated that the most advertised brands were those most often purchased by teens, citing the top three brands of choice as Marlboro, Camel and Newport. Marlboro accounted for 12.7 percent of industry advertising over 20 years and won 59.5 percent of the teen market vs. 21.9 percent of the adult market. Camel accounted for 4.9 percent advertising and won 8.7 percent of the teen market vs. 3.7 percent of adults, while Newport accounted for 4.7 percent of advertising and won 11.1 percent of the teen market vs. 3.8 percent of adults.

According to a Washington Associated Press story, an estimated 3 million teens are smokers, consuming nearly 1 billion packs a year.

Kent Bowermon, Big Spring High School principal said smoking among students has increased. "We've had more problems this year (with smoking) than we've had in a long time ... In the last two years we've seen a steady increase in smoking," he said.

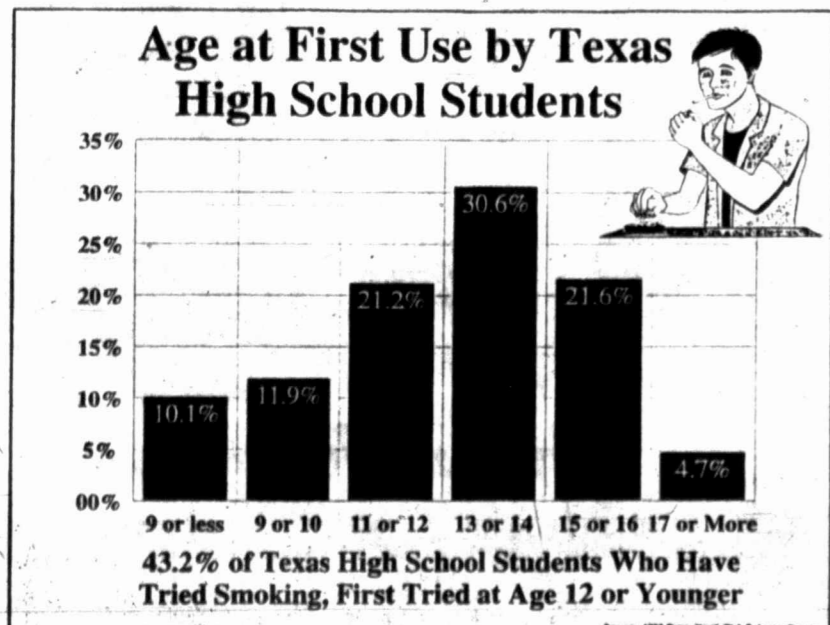
Bowermon said Marlboro cigarettes are by far the cigarette of choice for students at the high school, judging by the many butts found on campus.

Jane Smith, not her real name, senior at Big Spring High School, said she thinks most teenagers smoke in order to relax. She down-played the importance of smoking cigarettes. "I think a lot more people are experiencing with other things ... Right now weed (marijuana) is the main thing."

Smith said she noticed an increase in student smokers during her junior year. "There's people age 16 and 17 just walking in and buying it at 7-11 and Town and Country" convenience stores. "My younger brother went in one and they sold it to him."

Smith agreed with Mr. Bowermon about the cigarette of choice, Marlboro. "I've never seen anybody smoke anything else," she said. Smith said she feels smoking begins at an even younger age than high school.

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Denver City regroups after controversial city manager quits

DENVER CITY (AP) — This is where King Cotton meets the oil patch on the West Texas countryside and, according to the former city manager, billion-dollar decisions were made with divine intervention.

The city's leadership was to become more earthly this morning when a new city council takes over. Its first task was to replace Ray Hohstadt, who would have been fired as city manager had he not quit Monday.

Hohstadt has refused comment since citing "personal difficulties and ... stress" in his resignation letter two days after the election.

The outspoken forces against him say open government and fiscal responsibility are about to

return to this city of about 5,000 people 90 miles southwest of Lubbock on the rim of the oil-rich Permian Basin.

"It's a sign that the citizens of Denver City are involved once again in their town," said Dr. Larry Boyd, who was elected to the council Saturday with businessmen John Madden and Kenny Harris.

The three, teamed with councilman Sid Reinert, formed an anti-Hohstadt majority.

Critics blasted Hohstadt, the city manager for the last decade, for his pursuit of the unit of the Wasson Oil Field near the city even after lawyers and advisers told him it was unlikely to work.

The failed attempt could cost the city around \$500,000.

More recently, Hohstadt was criticized for paying \$37,000 in unapproved bonuses and claiming that Jesus Christ typed — through Hohstadt's fingers — the city's five-year plan, which included buying the oil field.

"I had spots — at the time I had some illness, and I had spots that was in my eyes that I couldn't see the screen well, and I said that ... Jesus Christ ... gave me the words, because I couldn't really see the screen well," Hohstadt said in a sworn deposition, referring to the city's financial plan.

Hohstadt defenders, including Mayor Royce Hemmeline, the defeated council members and Midland attorney William Kerr, who was retained by the city, either declined to comment or

were unavailable.

The Wasson Oil Field was valued at about \$650 million, but Denver City officials were willing to pay more than \$1 billion had they secured tax-exempt status for bonds which they planned to use to buy the property.

The deal's feasibility hinged upon gaining the tax-free status, which Austin-based financial adviser Melinda Ballard said the Internal Revenue Service could have taken three years to determine.

"They should have checked the legalities of it before pursuing anything else," said Ms. Ballard, adding that the deal, which could have been worth more than \$1 billion, wasn't a pipe dream originally.

She expressed confidence that investment bankers would support it because the bond value would have been protected by the land's vast petroleum resources.

City Attorney Jerry Corbin resigned when Hohstadt maintained pursuit of the deal even after receiving advice from him and others to the contrary.

Meanwhile, Shell Oil, the land's principal owner, maintained all along it didn't seek to sell.

"I can't imagine we wouldn't have willing sellers," said Ms. Ballard, who is suing the city for a \$150,000 fee she says the city owes her.

Her contract stipulated that the city had to pay her if it didn't terminate her deal by Oct.

15, 1995, which it didn't. She says she met the terms, which were to find a bond backer and a willing seller, which she believes Shell would have been.

The city already has paid \$216,000 to New York consultant Jeff Ader. Hohstadt compared Ader to Moses because he could lead Denver City "out of the economic wilderness that we were in."

Other attorneys' fees and expenses, including a possible settlement with Ms. Ballard by the new city government, could cost the city about \$500,000.

Boyd wants the city to move past the lawsuits and into the future.

"We have a lot of work to do," he said. "We want to change a lot of things."

TEXAS BRIEFS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Annual space station fight to House floor
WASHINGTON — The space station's merit is being challenged once again as House opponents of the multibillion-dollar program mount the first of their annual attempts to kill it.

Rep. Tim Roemer, a dogged critic of the huge NASA project, was to offer an amendment later today that would strip the science authorization bill of the \$2.1 billion earmarked for the space station next year.

Should that measure fail, as is expected, the Indiana Democrat would return with a second amendment that would slash up to \$100 million from the space station's budget authorization.

It's only fair that the space station take a financial hit at a time when spending for education and other programs is being trimmed, Roemer spokesman Chris Mehl said Wednesday.

"It is a fairly modest cut," he said. "The idea is that everything (in the budget) will take a shot."

Tejeda pulls punch on depot law repeal
WASHINGTON — A Texas congressman opted Wednesday against seeking a House vote on Pentagon-backed legislation that would give the private sector a bigger piece of the military's annual \$15 billion repair work.

Rep. Frank Tejeda, D-San Antonio, had been prepared to seek permission to offer an amendment to the 1997 defense authorization bill the House will debate next week. The amendment would have lifted the law mandating that the Pentagon perform at least 60 percent of its repair work

in the military depot system. But Tejeda stayed his hand when opponents threatened to counter with legislation prohibiting the Clinton administration from privatizing work at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio. Thousands of Kelly workers live in Tejeda's district.

Tejeda described his action as a strategic retreat. But the author of the so-called "60-40" law, Rep. Solomon Ortiz of Corpus Christi, said Tejeda's move improves the chances for 60-40 supporters to prevail during the inevitable fight when House and Senate negotiators reconcile their differing defense bills.

The battle has ramifications well beyond depot maintenance, affecting the future of Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio and McClellan AFB in Sacramento. Under last year's base-closing round, the military will pull out of Kelly and McClellan by 2001.

Unique effort to fight transborder pollution
EL PASO — An agreement by the United States and Mexico to join forces to combat air pollution on the border may be one of a kind now, but that won't always be the case, the head of the EPA says.

"This is a precedent-setting agreement that will serve as a model" for other programs to come, Carol Browner, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, said Wednesday.

U.S. and Mexican officials meeting in Mexico City finalized an unprecedented accord Tuesday that created a binational committee to formulate joint strategies to fight pollution in the El Paso-Ciudad Juarez area.

It is the first time the two nations have agreed to ignore political boundaries to attack common environmental problems

together.

Austin council considers network deal
AUSTIN — The first of three Austin City Council votes was scheduled today on a proposed deal that would allow a private company to build a communications network to every home and business in the city.

The network could carry two-way video, high-speed computer transmissions, Internet connections, regular voice telephone calls and cable television signals.

The company, CSW Communications, plans to use fiber optic and coaxial cable lines to build the system at a cost of at least \$150 million.

External managers bought tobacco stock
AUSTIN — The Permanent School Fund had no tobacco holdings when the state hired private companies to manage part of the multibillion-dollar trust fund. Now it has \$9 million invested in tobacco.

State Board of Education members next week will discuss the issue, following a call by Texas Attorney General Dan Morales for state investment funds to consider unloading tobacco stocks.

Morales has sued tobacco companies in federal court. He said the stocks reasonably could be considered a poor investment because of such litigation.

He also said Texas shouldn't invest in an industry "that so callously seeks to benefit from the innocence and addictions of unknowing citizens and children."

"I think it'll help in my efforts to eliminate all tobacco stocks," State Board of Education Chairman Jack Christie of Houston said Wednesday of Morales' position.

Source: Pilot error responsible for jet slide

HOUSTON (AP) — Pilot error apparently caused a Continental Airlines DC-9 to land on its belly and slide off a runway at Houston Intercontinental Airport in February, a source has told The Associated Press.

The crew of Continental Flight 1943 failed to turn on a hydraulic pump that controls flaps and landing gear, so neither was working as they approached, the source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, told the AP on Wednesday.

The jet, with 82 passengers and a crew of five, slid more than 7,000 feet down a runway Feb. 19, coming to rest just off the landing strip. There were no serious injuries.

Georgia Snyder, an investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board in Fort Worth, would not comment on the cause of the incident.

"The board has not yet released a report on the accident," she said.

In Washington, NTSB spokesman Mike Benson said, "Our investigation is still open."

Houston-based Continental

refused to comment on what caused the accident, but did confirm that the two pilots at the helm were fired.

"Within days of the incident, this airline made a decision to

terminate the pilots based on our own internal investigation," spokesman Ned Walker said.

"Any deviation from established policies and procedures will not be tolerated," he said.

KHOU-TV reported Wednesday that the crew of the flight from Washington's National Airport did not switch on the hydraulic pump to its proper setting, a critical item on the pre-landing checklist.

Unidentified sources said that as the airplane approached the runway, the captain noticed the wing flaps had not extended even though controls were in the proper position.

The captain reportedly was so focused on the flap problem that he did not see red lights on the control panel, indicating the landing gear was not deployed, KHOU said. And because the pump was not set correctly, the warning horn had become inoperable.

"Within days of the incident, this airline made a decision to terminate the pilots based on our own internal investigation."

Ned Walker
Continental Airlines

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MAY 1996

EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"The Bible is God's revelation to man, his guide, his light."
-Alfred Armand Montapert

The opinion expressed is that of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise noted. Other opinions are those of the respective columnist or writer.

Charles C. Williams
Publisher

John H. Walker
Managing Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Another fine mess in California

Ye Gads. Women who retained their maiden names following marriage knew they were repudiating centuries of tradition by not adopting their husband's last name — and sometimes offending in-laws in the process. Now, due to a silly statistical quirk in California, it seems they've also condemned their children to statistical purgatory and social obloquy as the products of unwed mothers. California is one of five states that does not include marital status on birth certificates. As a result, state and federal analysts trying to calculate the rate of children born out of wedlock must resort to statistical inference: If the mother and father have different last names, analysts presume the parents are not married. No surprise, then, that the most recent federal data indicates that a whopping 35 percent of children born in California are born to unwed mothers ... what Gov. Pete Wilson calls "an exploding epidemic." But before we wring our hands about an "epidemic," let's get our figures straight.

-LOS ANGELES TIMES

Dusan Tadic goes on trial ... in The Hague for war crimes in Bosnia, the first defendant to face the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Mr. Tadic, a Bosnian Serb, is accused of specific acts of murder and torture, but not of masterminding the brutal human rights abuses that were the signature of the Balkan War. That distinction belongs to others, and the work of the tribunal should be measured by whether it is given the support necessary to pursue and prosecute them. The unspoken price of the Dayton peace agreement seems to be indifference about the atrocities committed by all parties during the war. But while the United States and other nations may be defeated in the end by these impediments, they should be stubborn in the pursuit of justice. The individuals who carried out the Bosnian War's worse crimes ... should be held accountable.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES

Until President Boris Yeltsin shot it down himself, he appeared to be floating a trial balloon about postponing the June 16 presidential election. That was a bad idea and Yeltsin came to his senses none too soon. True democrats don't postpone elections. ... Gen. Alexander Korshakov, Yeltsin's security chief and one of his closest confidants, ... argued that too many Russians in remote areas of that vast nation were uninformed about the issues and candidates for this pivotal election. ... Perhaps he's right, but ... it's hard to believe that a postponement would have been bruited about by Yeltsin's camp if Yeltsin were leading comfortably in opinion polls. A month ago, Yeltsin trailed (Communist Party leader Gennady) Zyuganov badly. Now they are almost neck-and-neck, with Yeltsin holding a minuscule edge.

-NEWSDAY

... the Senate has joined the House in passing illegal immigration reforms. While the vote says more about legislative timidity in dealing with the issue of legal immigration, that is yesterday's news. Rather than discussing "woulda-coulda-shoulda," the choice now boils down to producing a half-loaf of reforms, or none at all. President Clinton's views on the legislation should be considered by House and Senate conferees, who must now meet to hammer out the final version of the bill. Mr. Clinton is particularly concerned about the House provision that would give states the right to deny public education to undocumented immigrant children. In truth, such a cutoff is wrong-headed. As both sides jostle for political advantage (using illegal immigrants), they would be well advised to forget the side games and do what is in the national interest: agree on a veto-proof immigration package.

-THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

LETTER POLICY

The Big Spring Herald welcomes and encourages your letters to the editor. We ask that you adhere to our policies so that we might have the opportunity to share your opinion with others.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words, or about two handwritten pages.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- Faxed or computer-generated letters must be signed and

also provide telephone number and address.

- We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered for publication.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79720.

THE THREE-PARTY SYSTEM



Gas-crisis hysteria may be case of sniffing fumes

I'm using the year 1956 as my point of comparison because that's when I got my first newspaper job and drove to work every morning in a rusted old beater.

There was a gas station where I'd stop when the gauge said I was nearing empty. Usually I'd say, "Two bucks, regular." But if I had mostly lint in my pocket, I'd say, "One buck, regular."



Mike Royko
Syndicated Columnist

I remember that because one cold day the station owner said, "Hey, if you're just going to get one buck, go somewhere else."

So from then on, I made sure I had at least two bucks when I stopped for gas. I didn't want him to think I was a piker.

If two bucks, or even one buck, seems like a ridiculously small amount of gas to buy, you're wrong.

At the time, a gallon of regular cost about 28 or 30 cents. So two bucks would get me about six or seven gallons — enough to get me to and from the job for the whole week.

Of course, if we went some-

where on the weekend — to a movie or a relative's house for a free dinner — I'd have to buy an extra dollar's worth.

No, no, wait, this is not a boring "those were the good old days" column. Just the opposite.

If anything, I was spending more on gas in 1956 than I'm spending today.

That's because economists say that the 28 or 30 cents I paid in 1956 translates to about \$1.80 in today's dollars.

I mention this for the benefit of those who might be caught up in the gas-crisis hysteria that seems to have gripped the tiny brains that run the TV network newscasts.

Just about every news show I watched on Tuesday of this week had an excited reporter standing at a gas station, saying something like: "Here in California, where everyone drives, some people are paying as much as \$2 a gallon for full-service premium."

So what? Only a ninny in California would pay someone to fill his tank when he can save 20 or 30 cents a gallon by doing it himself. And, presumably, most people have enough sense and hand-eye coordination to use a self-serve pump.

Then the TV creature shoves a microphone in the face of a startled customer and says, "Why do you think the prices have gone up?"

One man, looking as aston-

ished as if he had just learned that the Earth is round, indignantly said, "I think the oil companies are trying to make a bigger profit."

Ah, he had stumbled upon the old increase-the-bottom-line trick. What a shocker. And in the United States, of all places.

What I didn't hear any reporter say was: "Of course, in this country, we pay far less for gasoline than they do in Canada, Europe or just about any other developed nation."

Nor did they point out that when you factor in inflation, the price of gas is less than it was 40 years ago.

And that doesn't even include the fact that today's cars, even those that are considered gas guzzlers — are far more fuel-efficient than those that Detroit made until recent years.

Even today's luxury cars give you better gas mileage than the cheapest Chevies, Fords and Plymouths did not that long ago.

And, thanks to the Japanese for forcing Detroit to learn how to create quality, the cars no longer start rusting out or falling apart after a year or two.

But if the broadcast hysterics took note of these few simple facts, there wouldn't be any talk of a gas pump crisis.

Of course, they say that they are just reacting to President Clinton talking about using

government gasoline reserves and the Republicans yapping about cutting the federal gas tax.

But in this case, the politicians are just reacting to the media's blather. If CNN insists, every half hour, that helpless American motorists might suddenly be sputtering to a stop on the shoulder of the road, is the White House or Congress going to deny that we are suddenly fuel-starved? Is any self-respecting politician going to stand up and say: "Hey, what's the fuss? You want to see high gas prices, go to Canada or Europe. What are you network magpies chirping about?"

Of course not. When the nation's broadcast babblers, from whom the majority of Americans get their news, say we have a crisis, it's time for the political speech writers to crank out something, even if it is something stupid.

That stupidity includes the instant-investigation into the vague possibility that the oil companies have somehow conspired to pick our pockets. All that the investigation will show is that if there was a conspiracy, they've somehow conspired to give us the world's cheapest fuel for our cars.

I don't understand why the network news chiefs and anchor creatures don't know that. All they have to do is ask their chauffeurs.

China trade: Between rock and hard place

By HOLGER JENSEN
Scripps Howard News Service

Although China has warned Washington not to "smash its own feet with a rock," sanctions will be announced next week.

The Clinton administration feels it must do something about Chinese copyright piracy, which costs the U.S. film, software and music industries anywhere from \$1.5 billion to \$2.3 billion in lost earnings every year.

Relations will, of course, plummet, aggravating already tense disputes about human rights, China's threats against Taiwan and its export of nuclear components to Pakistan. But Beijing will also get the message that it has to live up to the copyright agreement it signed in March 1995.

It clearly has not. China's announcement that it had closed down seven factories producing pirated compact disks was offset by this week's discovery of many more, previously unknown, plants reproducing American software, videos and music.

The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, for example, says 88 percent of the 40 million CDs that come out of China are illegal copies.

Every dip in Illego-American relations is bad for business. Last month, Boeing complained of losing an order for 33 jetliners because of the standoff with China over Taiwan. The deal was won by the rival Airbus Industrie consortium of French,

British, Spanish and German companies.

Even so, Boeing still has a 70 percent share of the Chinese aviation market, compared to 60 percent worldwide. This illustrates the importance of American technology to China's modernization drive as much as it illustrates China's value as a customer to U.S. manufacturers.

Simply put, both sides need each other too much to engage in a full-blown trade war. And whatever Chinese feathers are ruffled by copyright sanctions will be smoothed by Washington's renewal of China's Most Favored Nation trading status.

China's MFN expires July 3. President Clinton must inform Congress no less than 30 days prior to that date, i.e. June 4, of his intention to renew or withdraw the trading privileges. Should Congress decide to overrule him, it must do so by Sept. 30.

Revoking MFN would raise tariffs on Chinese-made products from an average 6-8 percent

to 40-50 percent, rates established in the 1930s under the highly protectionist Smoot-Hawley law. Chinese footwear, toys and clothes would become prohibitively expensive, forcing U.S. importers to buy elsewhere, and the Chinese would, of course, retaliate in kind.

Overall, \$57 billion worth of two-way trade and \$25 billion in U.S. investments committed to China would be jeopardized. Even in an election year, such figures are too big to kick around on a political playing field.

With 1.2 billion people, China is not only the world's biggest market for consumer goods but also the third-largest economy after the United States and Japan. The International Monetary Fund says it will be the world's largest sometime in the 21st century.

Last year, according to the U.S. Commerce Department, American exports to China grew 27 percent to a total of \$12 billion, and another \$5 billion worth reached the mainland

through Hong Kong. These exports supported 200,000 high-paying American jobs.

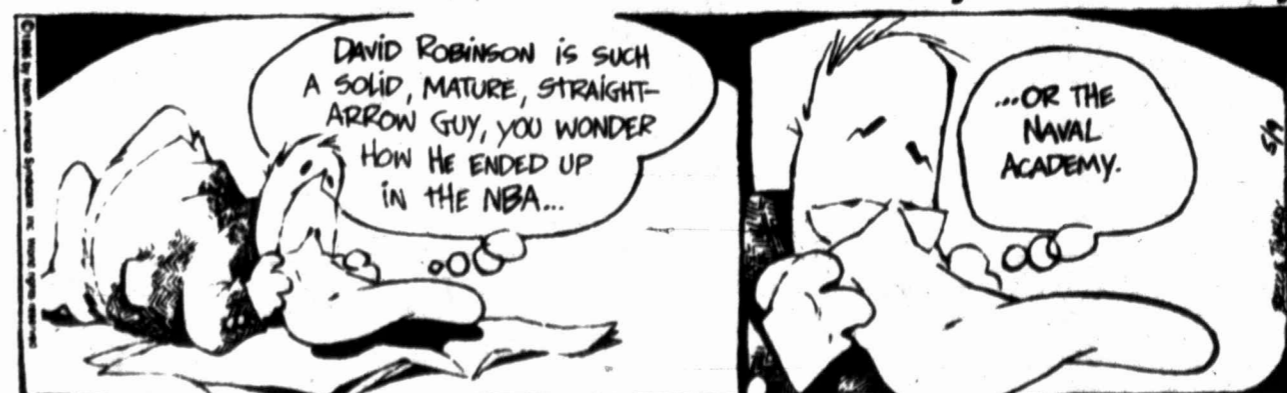
China currently sells three times more goods to the United States than it buys, another source of friction with Washington. But the \$34 billion trade deficit will be quickly erased — even reversed — if American firms capture a share of China's infrastructure buying over the next 10 years.

The World Bank estimates that China will spend \$750 billion in the next decade on aircraft, power generation, telecommunications, computers and other high-tech imports. To deny American businessmen a crack at that market is something no politician, Democrat or Republican, would want to be held responsible for.

Hence, Clinton, Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole all agree that China's MFN should be renewed. Even Hong Kong Gov. Christopher Patten, whose battles with the Chinese are legendary, says it would be folly to do otherwise.

MALLARD FILMORE

By Bruce Tinsley



Postal Service considers end to postage due

WASHINGTON (AP) — Postage due may be done. The Postal Service is considering ending the practice of delivering underpaid mail "postage due." Instead, mail with insufficient postage would return to sender, just like mail with no postage at all.

Currently, while mail with no postage is sent back, items with postage — but not enough — are marked "postage due" and sent to the intended recipient. The letter carrier then tries to collect the shortage.

America's shifting society, with more two-earner families and apartment and townhouse living, is a major reason the change may be needed, postal officials say.

Letter carriers are often unable to find someone at home to pay for postage due during normal business hours, the agency said.

In addition, more and more mail is being delivered to boxes grouped in apartment lobbies or clustered at the end of streets. An end of postage-due mail is likely to attract little notice from individuals, for whom such letters are relatively rare, or even small business that receive larger volumes in the post.

"We do get it, maybe two or three times a month," said Ginger Oehrlein, a medical receptionist in Mount Vernon, Va. "We just pay it" and forget it, she said.

Michelle Black said the Washington dental office where works gets "hardly

any" postage-due mail and receptionist Vicki Ammann she sees little if any such mail at her Washington ophthalmologist's office.

"Surprisingly we often see stamps come through not even canceled," she said. "Most things we receive only require a 32-cent stamp."

Angelo Wider, manager of revenue assurance for the post office, says the change could benefit both the post office and people who send mail.

"There is a cost (to the post office) associated with each attempt to deliver," he noted.

And for the sender, short-paid items can be returned right away for more postage rather than being delayed by an attempt to collect from the recipient. That time saving may be important in the case of bill payments, he said.

"If they inadvertently put the wrong postage on, we want to get it back to them as fast as we can," he said.

Currently, the carrier may sometimes try to collect more than once, holding onto the letter and trying to locate the recipient, especially if they know the people, he said.

"Sometimes they leave the letter with a note asking for the money due, especially in areas that have a down-home mentality and everybody knows everybody," he went on. "Sometimes the carrier pays out of his own pocket."

New budget battle ahead

WASHINGTON (AP) — House and Senate Republicans bracing for an election-year fiscal battle with President Clinton say their new budget-balancing plans, not his, do an honest job of erasing federal deficits and revamping costly programs.

But as they've done since last year, Clinton and fellow Democrats are casting GOP plans as extremist and warning Republicans not to savage programs that polls show are beloved by the voters.

"While there are some signs of movement away from the extreme positions they took last year, they are once again calling for unacceptable cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, educa-

tion and the environment, as well as increased taxes on working families," White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta said Wednesday.

The House and Senate budget committees planned to approve like-minded blueprints today for fiscal 1997 that claim to end federal shortfalls by 2002.

The packages would trim taxes and pluck savings from Medicare, Medicaid, welfare and a host of other domestic programs. And though details were sparse, GOP aides said their plans would contract planned expenditures by \$700 billion over the next six years.

Congressional budgets are nonbinding guides that do not require the president's signature and must be followed by bills making actual changes in spending and taxes. But in spelling out lawmakers' overall fiscal priorities, they achieve major political significance,

especially in a campaign year.

Clinton also has proposed a road map to a balanced budget by 2002, relying on reductions in many of the same programs. But in unveiling their plans to reporters Wednesday, GOP leaders said the president's package would rely on many savings that would not occur and would delay too many cuts until its final two years — after a possible second Clinton term.

"We choose to be responsible," said Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., chairman of the Senate Budget Committee.

This year's GOP budget will become an important campaign emblem for Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., Clinton's likely rival for the White House. Republicans knew that when they designed it.

"We will be proceeding with what we will call Senator Dole's plan for strengthening

America," Domenici said.

Aiming to draw contrasts with the president, the GOP would cut taxes more and extract deeper savings than Clinton wants, plus make policy changes he opposes in programs like Medicare, Medicaid and welfare.

"This budget draws clearly the line between wasteful Washington spending and emphasizes spending smart, rather than spending more," House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said.

In hopes of fending off Democratic accusations that their cuts would go too far, the GOP plans also call for smaller tax cuts and slightly shallower reductions in many areas than Republicans themselves sought in the marathon fiscal 1996 budget fight that ended only weeks ago.

But that didn't prevent Democratic attacks Wednesday.

Gas tax rollback coming ... maybe

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton is ready to go along with a gasoline tax rollback, but Democratic and Republican lawmakers still can't agree on how to make it happen. Some economists doubt the savings will be passed along to motorists anyway.

With soaring pump prices generating election-year heat, a key House committee today was ready to vote on temporarily repealing a 4.3 cent per gallon gasoline surcharge that was imposed three years ago as part of a Clinton deficit-reduction package.

In the Senate, the issue continued to be bogged down in squabbling over whether the tax should be linked to a proposal increasing the federal minimum wage.

On Wednesday, Clinton said he would agree to the temporary tax repeal, but would sign the bill only if he also got from Congress separate legislation increasing the \$4.25 an hour minimum wage. And he said both bills must be without added, unrelated provisions — which he called "poison pills" — that would force a presidential veto.

"I am offering a way to break the logjam," Clinton declared at a White House news conference. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., today accused the president of "phony posturing" in claiming his remarks were non-political. Interviewed on ABC's "Good Morning America," Gingrich said, "I think that's why people some-

times are tired of Washington, because so much of it is misleading and phony and so much of it is posturing. I frankly think it's sad."

Gingrich also defended the proposed gas tax cut. He said Republicans would cut spending to offset the loss of revenue and said the plan is consistent

with GOP thinking.

Some economists told lawmakers that the tax savings might never make it to the nation's gas pumps and have little real impact on prices as long as gasoline supplies remain tight because of summer driving demand.

New Cuban sanctions draw fire from allies

WASHINGTON (AP) — A year ago, when congressional Republicans were proposing tough new sanctions against Cuba, the Clinton administration was solidly opposed because of objections from key allies.

Now, with the legislation signed into law thanks to a policy shift by President Clinton, the administration's initial fears about a backlash from friendly foreigners has been borne out.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel complained about the law on Wednesday during a meeting with Secretary of State Warren Christopher. In Mexico City on Monday, Foreign Minister Jose Angel Gurría told Christopher that Mexico "firmly rejects" the legislation as an attempt to impose the domestic laws of the United States beyond its borders.

In addition to Mexico, the European Union, Canada, Japan and other nations have all called on the U.S. government to repeal the law.

The legislation takes aim at foreigners who invest in the thousands of properties in Cuba that were confiscated from Americans by Cuban authorities a generation ago. It denies U.S. visas to foreigners who "traffick" in such properties and authorizes Americans from whom the properties were taken to sue the "traffickers" in U.S. courts.

Supporters see it as a laud-

able attempt to stop foreign businesses from profiting off stolen property. But when the legislation was introduced a year ago, the administration resisted it on grounds that alienation of allies was too high a price for punishing Cuba.

Clinton had a change of heart last February after a Cuban jet fighter shot down two Miami-based private planes north of Cuba over international waters. Four Cuban-Americans died.

Clinton felt that, given public outrage at the time, a stern response against Cuba was appropriate, and the Helms-Burton legislation provided a handy weapon. Congress quickly approved the bill and Clinton signed it 18 days after the planes were shot down.

A co-sponsor of the legislation, Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., called it a "slap in the face to a tyrant" and urged Clinton to enforce the sanctions "to the hilt."

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National Party to withdraw from Mandela's unity government

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — The National Party, which governed South Africa for four decades under apartheid, said today that it would withdraw from President Nelson Mandela's national unity government.

Mandela's African National Congress has a majority in Parliament and can continue to govern with a wide base of support. But the participation of the white-led National Party and other minority parties in the ANC government had been a stabilizing factor in the transition from apartheid to democracy.

It was unclear how the National Party's defection would affect the perception of stability the government has

enjoyed. Financial markets were extremely volatile today as investors weighed the implications. Just the expectation of a National Party withdrawal triggered an 11-cent drop in the rand against the dollar since late Tuesday.

Party leader F.W. de Klerk, the country's deputy president and its last apartheid president, announced the decision a day after South Africa adopted a new constitution that his party approved despite strong reservations.

There had been indications earlier that the party would withdraw. Mandela said before the announcement that the move would be regrettable.

"It will help neither them nor ourselves," he said.

De Klerk said he and other National Party ministers would resign from the government on June 30 to give Mandela time to appoint successors and insure an orderly transition.

"It would be unnatural to continue in the government of national unity when everybody knows the principles on which it rests have already been decided in the new constitution," de Klerk said.

Much was vested in having the post-apartheid government viewed as being stable, and the National Party and other minority parties were included in a transitional government as a confidence-building measure as the country moved to majority rule.

Although the ANC controls

more than 60 percent of the 490 seats in Parliament, the National Party had been instrumental in policy-making because the ANC lacked the two-thirds majority necessary to approve the constitution.

Having got the constitution through, the National Party now sees itself free to function as a true opposition party. The move to break from the government appears, at least in part, to be motivated by the party's desire to position itself as an independent force before parliamentary elections in 1999.

De Klerk said the decision was not made in a negative spirit; that it was not a crisis; and that it was just time to become a formal opposition party.

The National Party and some

smaller parties had major objections to the new constitution adopted Wednesday, fearing it will give the ANC exclusive control over government decisions and fail to protect minority rights.

The new charter calls for a majority-rule government, giving the party that wins more than half the seats in Parliament the power to choose a president, who would form the government.

Under the current system, Mandela was required to include in the Cabinet minority parties that received at least 10 percent of the vote in the 1994 election.

Mandela accepted the news of the National Party's pullout with gratitude for de Klerk's

role in bringing about majority government after four decades of repression under apartheid. De Klerk was the president who released Mandela from prison and began the negotiations that led to majority rule.

"I thank him for his contribution," Mandela told the South African Press Association.

The Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party, the third-largest political party, said it was not worried about the decision.

"We always have been skeptical about the value of the government of national unity, but I don't think the presence or not of the National Party will affect our position one way or another," said party spokesman Walter Felgate.

Hindu nationalists could form India's next government

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The secular party that led India to independence and held it together for decades conceded today that it has lost a parliamentary election — and probably the government — to Hindu nationalists.

The biggest winner in three days of balloting was the Bharatiya Janata Party, which in 1992 helped organize a rally that touched off deadly Hindu-Muslim riots.

But incomplete election returns and potential problems the party could have finding partners for an alliance left it unclear who would govern this nation of 920 million people, the world's most populous democracy.

"We accept defeat. There is no denial of this fact that people have rejected us," said Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee, the campaign manager for the governing Congress Party, which has dominated Indian politics since independence.

An exit poll indicated that the Bharatiya Janata Party — which wants to develop nuclear weapons, restrict foreign investment and reduce special rights for India's Muslim minority — would overtake the

Congress Party for the first time.

But the party was unlikely to gain an absolute majority in the 545-seat parliament, and would need to find coalition partners in order to form a government. A spokesman said the party had started to formulate a plan to do that.

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, who revived India's faltering economy with free-market reforms, was re-elected to Parliament in a district of Andhra Pradesh state by a huge margin.

Mukherjee, the foreign minister, said that with powerful politicians like Rao in Parliament, the Congress Party would continue to be a strong force in Indian politics.

An estimated 300 million of India's 590 million eligible voters cast ballots in the three-round election on April 25, May 2 and May 7. About 90 people were killed in violence linked to balloting and campaigning.

Final results were not expected until the weekend.

The exit poll indicated that the BJP was likely to win about 192 seats and Congress only 142. The National Front-Left Front, an alliance of leftist,

lower-caste and regional parties, was running third.

Results, which were largely from the south where Congress has traditionally been strong, showed Congress trailing in 99 districts it won in 1991.

The Bharatiya Janata appears to have increased its support by appealing directly to the ancient traditions of Hindus, who make up more than 80 percent of India's population.

Party members argue that Hindu culture should dominate and that minorities — particularly the 12 percent of Indians who are Muslim — should not have their cultural and religious practices protected by laws.

The Bharatiya Janata has criticized economic reforms for bringing more Western consumer goods to India and promised to slow down consumerism by limiting foreign investment.

Since it exploded a nuclear bomb in 1974, India has worked hard to develop a missile system, but has not conducted new bomb tests. The Bharatiya Janata has pledged to resume them, citing threats from India's neighbors — Pakistan and China.

Passengers evacuate cruise ship after fire in Bahamas

FREEPORT, Bahamas (AP) — About 800 passengers ended "the cruise from hell" after a fire broke out in the ship's engine room just offshore from this resort town. No one was injured.

The passengers safely evacuated the Discovery I on Wednesday after tugboats towed the vessel three miles to Freeport, where Discovery Cruise Lines was making alternate travel plans for the tourists.

"It was the cruise from hell," said Roz Kessler, of Cooper City, who was among 200 passengers who returned to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on the SeaEscape late Wednesday. "It was horrible. It was really scary."

Thick black smoke could be seen as tugboats went out to help the ship, which had sailed for a day cruise from Port Ever-

glades in Fort Lauderdale.

Some passengers opted to stay in the Bahamas, others left on other cruise ships or were flown home, Discovery Cruise spokeswoman Roberta Baccas said.

"It was really nerve-racking being on the boat," said passenger Cindy Maze, who left the ship in Freeport. "It's been real-

ly bad. There was smoke everywhere and 10-foot flames. It was really scary."

"They ignited their CO2 (carbon dioxide) system when they knew the fire was down there and that put it out," U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Jeff Hall said. "But they opened the compartment too quickly and it refashed."

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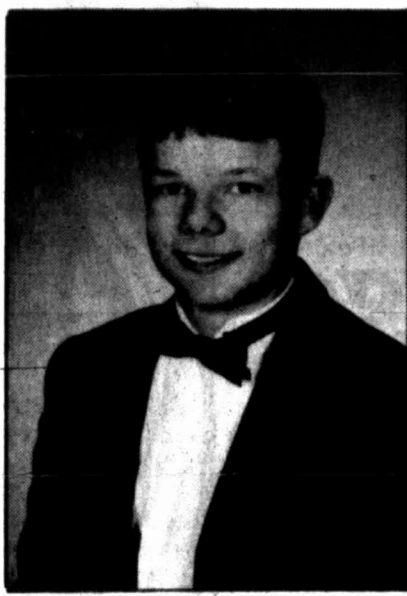
Big Spring Herald

Thursday May 9, 1996

Garden City High School names its top two graduates

By KELLIE JONES
Features Editor

May is the month for high school graduations and the announcement of the two stu-



PHILLIPS

dents who will graduate with the highest honors.

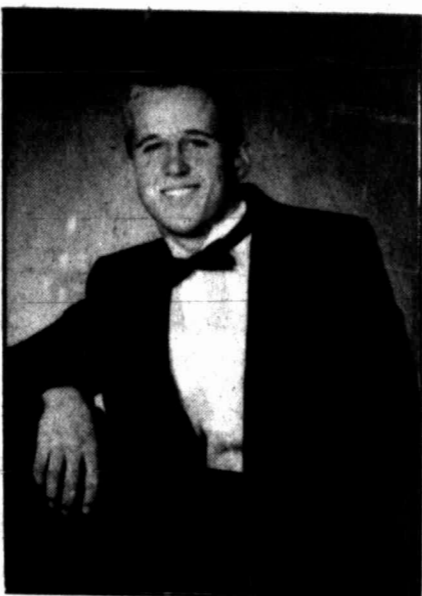
Garden City High School's valedictorian is Jason Phillips and Allan Fuchs is salutatorian. Phillips, son of John and Carol Phillips, plans to attend Texas Tech University majoring in Animal Science. Fuchs, son of Dennis and Barbara Fuchs, will attend Texas A&M

this fall. Phillips has been involved in numerous school activities including football captain and varsity letter, track varsity letter, cross-country varsity letter, basketball, class officer, National Honor Society, Beta Club, student council, University Interscholastic League Scholar Award, Academic Decathlon Team regional winner, Who's Who Among High School Students and National Science Merit Award winner.

The valedictorian is also busy in 4-H serving as the president of the Glasscock County 4-H Council, state delegate to Texas 4-H Congress, awarded the Cap Rock Electric Top Hand Award for Glasscock County, Texas 4-H Gold Star Award and 4-H Outstanding Senior Award. He is also president of the Texas Junior Simmental/Simbrah Association.

Fuchs, as a senior, has been involved in football, track as regional qualifier, academic decathlon advancing to state, entomology team, National Honor Society, National Beta Club and student council. He is currently the president of the senior class, National Honor Society president, National Beta Club president and secretary of the District VI 4-H Council. He has been honored as a

scholastic athlete, national scholar, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Mr. Bearkat, Mr. Garden City High School, National Congressional Young



FUCHS

Leaders Award, Coca-Cola Scholar Award, National Science Merit Award, National Foreign Language Merit Award and Region 18 Gifted/Talented Award.

Fuchs is also a member of the St. Lawrence Catholic Church and involved in the Catholic Youth Organization.

YOUNG ARTISTS



Six Big Spring elementary students recently placed third at the state level of the Parent/Teacher Association Literary Awards contest. Pictured on the top row (left to right) are: Crystal Sturm and Shyam Mehta; middle row: Breck Simmons, left, and Andrea Torres; bottom row: Cambrie Cooke, left, and Paige Gainey. Elementary students from all over Texas entered the contest at their respective schools, with a total of 80,000 entries and of those, 24 were taken to the state level, including the ones from Big Spring.

Howard County Library gearing up for summer

By GLENDA CUMMINGS
HERALD Correspondent

It's time again for the Howard County Library's summer reading program to be hosted by the library's Texas Reading Club.

This year's theme is "Ready, Set, Read!" and is sports-related. The program has three divisions with first graders and younger in the Read to Me group meeting on Wednesdays at the library from 10-10:45 a.m. There will be storytime, puppet shows, finger plays and crafts.

The second graders and up will meet on Thursdays from 10-11 a.m. at the library and will have speakers including Sidewinders gymnastics, Big Spring police officers on bicycle safety, Quail Dobbs on being a rodeo clown and a special surprise guest.

The third part includes movies scheduled to be shown on Mondays from 10-11 a.m. and all will be sports-oriented.

Readers must have a library card and are allowed to read at their level. There is no competition between readers and all are winners who will be given certificates and coupons from Aladdin's Castle, Little Caesar's and Pizza Inn.

Last year the program was hosted by the Johnson Space Center's traveling exhibit and this year a sports exhibit is already in place at the library.

Readmore, the dog, will be visiting the area schools to encourage the students to attend.

Martha Vierra, children's librarian, and Karen McIntyre, program coordinator, urge everyone to preregister May 20-25 and get ready for a great time.

Vierra thanks all the sponsors and adds any individual or business wanting to be a sponsor may call 264-2260. They



Howard County Children's Librarian Martha Vierra, left, shows Jennifer Payne one of the many books available during the summer reading program. This year's theme is based on sports and titled, "Ready, Set, Read!"

have used the help to pay for treats and supplies for the program and Vierra adds, "We've been pleased with the

response." The kick-off program will be May 28 at 10 a.m. with a movie and popcorn.

Marj Carpenter to speak at annual Presbytery

Special to the HERALD

Big Spring resident Marj Carpenter will be the guest speaker at the Palo Duro Presbytery Friday and Saturday.

The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Snyder is hosting the 74th annual meeting. Carpenter, moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church, will speak from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Friday. She will also deliver the sermon at the worship service beginning 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Carpenter is the highest elected official in the Presbyterian Church (USA), a 2.7 million member group. She has been in this position for almost one year and has traveled to large and small Presbyterian pulpits and to remote church outposts around the world. Carpenter said, "I want to strengthen world mission, evangelism, church development, minority education and youth work."

About 200 commissioners from the Palo Duro Presbytery are expected to attend this weekend's event. Palo Duro serves 60 churches in an area bounded by Wichita Falls, Eastland, Perryton, Lamesa and Colorado City.

Contact Nan Swenson, pastor of the Snyder church, at (915) 573-6915 for more information.

Piano students to compete in national event next week

By KELLIE JONES
Features Editor

Local piano students will participate in the National Piano Playing Auditions May 13-15 at Howard College. The event is sponsored by the National Guild of Piano Teachers.

The judge for the audition is Jeannine Greene of Plainview. She has a bachelor's degree from Wayland Baptist church and a master's degree from Baylor University. She has participated in international piano workshops in Italy and Austria.

She is also a member of Music Teachers National Association, Texas Music Teachers Association along with Lubbock and Plainview Music Teachers Associations.

Pins, certificates and report cards will be given to 59 students in different categories on completion of their programs. The participants will receive their honors and memberships in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians, according to the number of standard baroque, classic, romantic and contemporary pieces chosen from the masters of piano literature. Local chairman for the audition center is Marie-Louise Barnes.

The teachers and students who will participate in the audition include:

•Brenda Bedell (teacher) - Elizabeth Bernabe, Krista Blagrove, Shanna Dickins, Alex Edgemon, Shasta Fuqua, D.J. Graves, Pokey Graves, Brandon Greathouse, Sarah

Haney, Chelsea Helsley, Allison Lester, Annette Richardson, and Kristen Thixton

•Ann Cheatham (teacher) - Julie Ann Cadenhead, Andrea DeLeon, Patrick Farquhar, Megan Fishback, Vanessa Ochoa, Heidi Robinson, Melody Rutledge and Holly Walker

•Ginger Cook (teacher) - Rachel Ray, Melissa Ray, Jessica Ray, Lacey Wilkinson, Sarah Wilkinson, Whitney Weir and Jessi Weir

•Dolores Lillard (teacher) - Tanya Adusumilli, Jossna

Adusumilli, Stacey Anderson, Yuching Li, Mollie Mayberry, Lindsay Phillips and Joseph Saiz

•Vicky McDowell (teacher) - Lacey Eggleston, Kandice Fryar, Suzanne Gilstrap, Heather Hise, Jaclyn Hise, Ashley Richardson, Dane Richardson and Shayla Simmons

•Sallie Wilson (teacher) - Whitney Anderson, Linda Branham, James Branham, Terri Branham, Jerod Flohr, Kelly Gartman, Hamilton Hartfield and Allen Risner

•Marie-Louise Barnes (teacher) - Landon Adkins, Larissa Adkins, Brennan Bailey, Lauren Chesworth, Megan Knight, Chris Painter, Laura Rutherford and Kirsten Williams

THE LAST WORD

Chance is a riddle fate asks man to solve.
—Friedrich Nietzsche

It is only possible to live happily ever after on a day to day basis.
—Margaret Bonnamo

Motives and consequences are in the brain and heart of man. Consequences are in the world of fact.
—Henry Geary

After I'm dead I'd rather have people ask why I have no monument rather than why I have one.
—Cato the Elder (234-149 B.C.)

SLICE of life!

TIPS 'N' TRIVIA

Lyme disease

(NAPS)—How to take bite out of Lyme disease:

- Wear light-colored clothing so ticks can be easily spotted.
- Tuck pant legs into socks or boots and tuck shirt into pants.
- Spray insect repellent on exposed skin and clothing.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and hat for added protection.
- Always stay on trails when walking in the woods.
- Avoid brushing up against low bushes and tall grass, where ticks lurk.
- Mow your lawn regularly and trim the edges.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Mobile Meals needs volunteers

The Mobile Meals Program, also known as Meals on Wheels, needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 267-4503 or 263-4016.

Stanton monastery celebration

The re-dedication of the Historic Carmelite Monastery and Our Lady of Mercy Academy will be 2 p.m. Sunday, May 19 at 200 East Carpenter Street in Stanton. The building will be open for tours at 11:30 a.m. prior to the program. For more information call 915-459-2686 or 915-756-3316.

DAV needing donated items

The Disabled American Veterans Chapter #47 is going to have a rummage sale at the VFW Hall on Driver Road and needs donations of usable and saleable items. Call 263-1625 or 267-7773 for pick up.

Cauble School Reunion

Cauble School friends and alumni will meet at the Elbow School cafeteria on June 1 at 10 a.m. Guests are encouraged to bring covered dish lunch to be served at 12 p.m.

Gifts and door prizes will be awarded and gifts will be accepted for these drawings.

All alumni are encouraged to meet with the group. Contact Mildred Callihan (reporter) at 267-6023 for more information.

Teens can pitch in to clean up dirty city

Scripps Howard News Service

Q: During the Easter break I had relatives who live in the northern part of the United States come to El Paso and they were appalled at where we live. All they kept talking about was how dirty and ugly our city is.

The tagging and the graffiti was another thing they talked about all of the time. They asked us how we could stand to live here, in all of the trash, and why our city doesn't do something about the way people are destroying the property and ultimately destroying our city.

After listening to them, I felt really bad about where I live and I am embarrassed about the bad impression my city gave my relatives. They said from now on we should come visit them, where people respect where they live more.

A: After reading your letter and taking a drive around the city to see what your relatives saw, I must say that whatever our city is trying to do, it doesn't appear to be successful.

First, it should be noted taking care of any community must first come from the people who live there themselves. It must not be considered OK by community residents to throw trash out one's car window or tag your neighbor's wall, or even climb to the top of the freeway sign and spray paint it.

In some parts of the country these sorts of problems either don't exist or they exist in limited areas of the community.

As always, a great deal of what is going on in our cities start and end at home: People have to want to keep tabs on their children and get involved enough to not let their kids get involved in gangs, a frequent source of this kind of ugliness.

Taxpayers and businesses spend tons of money in cities across the nation trying to keep up with the spray painting, and many, many citizens spend their free time sandblasting the graffiti and trying to make a difference.

Other cities, Phoenix as an example, have created and strongly enforce rigid laws

regarding how long tagging can remain on a building before the owner is fined.

In addition, when building in Phoenix, local ordinances require a set percentage of the funding for the construction go toward landscaping, creating a prettier environment for all and then making it possible for landlords to keep up the property.

Neither El Paso citizens nor those anywhere else will have a lovely city until citizens begin to demand it.

We suggest that you, as well as teens everywhere, decide the direction toward which you want your city to move and then get actively involved in community projects that would steer it in that direction. The cities ultimately will be where you live. And it will matter in the long run, but it takes all of us to care.

Teen Talk is a weekly feature of the El Paso Herald-Post written by teachers Carolyn Lea Wilson and Rose Mary Carbajal. Questions may be mailed to Teen Talk, P.O. Box 371965, El Paso, TX 79937. Answers can be given only through this column.

All About Readers Corner

Submissions for the next Readers Corner page should be at the Herald office by May 20. The next Readers Corner page is scheduled for May 29. Readers are encouraged

to submit stories, poems and pictures.

Stories and poems should be no longer than a page and a half in length.

Photos should be in focus and not too light

or too dark; please identify the subject and who took the photo.

For more information, call Kellie Jones, 263-7331, ext. 112.

JUNIOR OLYMPIANS



Stephanie Stewart, left, and Hayley Whiteside recently competed at the National USA Gymnastics Junior Olympics. This is the first time for any YMCA Sidewinder to participate at the national competition.

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SBA Meeting to be held
May 9th

First Bank of West Texas will be hosting a Small Business Workshop on Thursday, May 9th, at 7:00 PM in the Tumbleweed Room at the Student Center at Howard college. Armando Garcia, acting supervisor of loan services with the Small Business Administration in Lubbock, will be the guest speaker. He will also be the guest speaker at the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club at noon Friday, May 10th, in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

Garcia's topic of discussion is "SBA's Financing Alternative for Small Businesses." Information shall also be presented about the SBA Disaster Loan Program, which makes low-interest loans available to small businesses affected by drought conditions in West Texas.

The public is invited to attend both programs. Admission is free Thursday night. Rotary luncheon is \$5.50.

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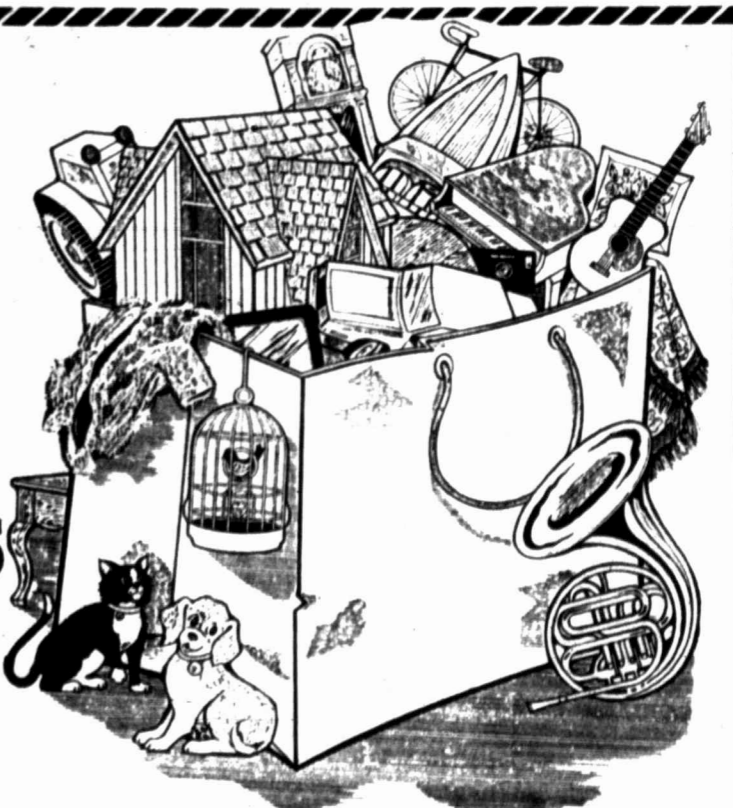
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From foil to calves liver, drivers will do anything to beat radar

By NICHELE HOSKINS
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — Traffic, Carl Fors of Fort Worth says, is a lot like water.

"It'll go at its own speed unless there is an obstruction, like road construction or bad weather conditions," Fors, a consultant to the radar detector industry, said as he worked to complete a Texas speed survey on Interstate 30 in Fort Worth.

Apparently motorists don't consider speed limits an obstruction because they'll go to great lengths to avoid them — containers of calves' liver on the front seat, aluminum foil on the wheels, laser shields on the license plates and laser detectors.

None work. But those who think they do drive faster. Consider Fors' findings:

- Cars with radar/laser detectors travel 3 to 5 mph faster than cars without detectors, before and after the recent speed limit increases across the state. Heavy trucks with detectors traveled an average of 3 to

4 mph faster before and after the speed limit increase.

- 90 percent of motorists who use radar/laser detectors are men.

- Radar/laser detectors are in Chevrolet and GMC Suburbans more than other vehicles.

On Dec. 8, President Clinton signed a law repealing the national 55-mph speed limit. In Texas, speed limits reverted to 70 mph on most open highways.

Although farm-to-market and ranch-to-market roads remain at 55, said Jim Walling, traffic section supervisor for the Texas Department of Transportation, Fort Worth District.

Fors' research on motorists' habits before and after recent speed limit changes supports previous findings that motorists don't drive faster when speed limits increase.

But, he said, "The control of speed below 70 mph is ridiculous because people are going to go the speed they think is safe and reasonable."

Fors, who said he is one of two people in the country who test detectors, also found that

detector use in cars dipped by 50 percent since speed limits rose. Although the use of detectors in trucks is illegal, Fors found that detector use remained constant at about 19 percent.

Radar detectors do their jobs well, but "there is nothing on the market that can detect a laser," Fors said. "All a laser detector can do is tell you that you're about to get a ticket."

Here's why: At 500 feet, a laser has a beam a foot wide, compared with a radar's 105-foot-wide beam.

On an I-30 overpass, Fors demonstrated that a "laser detector" can detect a laser beam shot directly at it. But the detectors are usually attached to the windshields, and traffic officers aim their laser guns at the flat surface of the license plates.

When Fors shot a laser beam at the plate of a minivan with a laser detector, the detector was silent as the laser accurately recorded the van's speed and distance. The plate was even covered with a "laser plate," a 1/4-inch thick frosted plastic

shield meant to diffuse a laser beam.

Fors said radar detector sales have dropped about 40 percent in the past year, but a manager at Wal-Mart Tire and Lube Express Center in Cleburne disagreed.

"I think we're selling about as many as we did before," said David Breshears, whose center tracks all sales of electronic equipment. "The sales haven't slowed down in our store, especially people who have to drive real far."

Not everybody relies on high technology.

In December, a truck driver called Fors on a St. Louis radio program, saying he didn't need a radar detector because the container of calves' liver he keeps in his truck absorbs radar waves.

"Man, if it works for you, do it," Fors said.

Speed Labs, Fors' speed measurement and analysis company, grew out of his obsession with the measurement of speed. "When I was 11 years old, I'd go out on my bike with my dog

and my stopwatch and clock cars, trains, birds to see how fast they were going," he said.

Today, he owns two \$4,600 laser guns, a radar detector and a radar gun. He uses them to test different types of radar/laser detectors as well as license plate accessories that makers say diffuse a laser beam. He accepts no money for his tests, earning his living as starting of Trademark Services, a Fort Worth advertising firm.

Starting in November, Fors used his two laser guns to test the speed of traffic on Interstate 10 outside Kent in West Texas, U.S. 287 near Decatur and on I-30 before and after the speed

limit increase. Within city limits, speeders don't follow patterns, said Sgt. Billy Samuel, an officer with the Fort Worth Police Department's Traffic Division.

"We stop just as many Suburbans as we do pickup trucks as we do small foreign cars," Samuel said.

The Fort Worth Police Department does not keep statistics comparable to Fors' highway data, but drivers within city limits have been slow to speed up, Samuel said.

"Just now in the last two or three weeks, we're starting to see the traffic flow increase speed," Samuel said. "It's going to take a while."

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Spotlight back on Biosphere 2 — in courtroom

FLORENCE, Ariz. (AP) — More than three years after a controversial science project in closed-environment living drew international attention, Biosphere 2 is under public scrutiny again — in a courtroom.

The focus now is on an April 1994 management takeover that ousted many of the people who helped create and build the 3-acre glass-and-steel terrarium. Officials said the change was needed to achieve stability, scientific credibility and sound economic footing.

Jurors in a Pinal County Superior Court civil trial heard one lawyer promise in opening statements Wednesday they will hear "vitriolic" conversations secretly tape-recorded through an engineer's underwear.

Attorney William Bass said evidence will show Biosphere takeover officials, including then-acting chief executive officer Steve Bannon, defamed former Biosphere 2 crew members Abigail Alling and Mark Van Thillo, who were fired.

A defense attorney, however, said the takeover was instituted because the project was hemorrhaging financially. Alling and Van Thillo staged a break-in

into Biosphere 2 out of revenge, the attorney said.

Opening statements were to resume today. The trial could last until the end of May, with 38 potential witnesses.

They include Biosphere 2's financial lynchpin, Texas billionaire Edward Bass; former top official Margret Augustine, and John Allen, credited with dreaming up the sealed mini-world with its own atmosphere.

Alling is seeking \$315,000 and Van Thillo \$201,500 for breach of contract, along with compensatory and punitive damages for defamation, abuse of process and other alleged wrongs.

The suit also alleges invasion of privacy and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

A countersuit seeks \$100,000, including lost tourist revenues. Walker said defendant Bannon used "vitriolic language" and that he and others lied about events during the takeover and Alling's and Van Thillo's dismissal.

Walker quoted Bannon as saying on tape, "I taught these people a lesson on April 1," and allegedly saying of Alling, "No blonde bimbo is going to teach me how to run this place."

Meanwhile, Glen Johnson, a lawyer representing Fort Worth, Texas-based defendant Decisions Investment Corp. operated by Bass, said Bass had sunk more than \$200 million into the Biosphere 2 project. The company is Bass' principal investment vehicle.

Bass, he said, was Biosphere 2's "only financial partner," who turned to instituting a management takeover after being tapped incessantly for funds without administrators giving him a full audit.

Johnson said Bass was asked "month after month, year after year, to write a check for \$10 million, \$20 million, \$40 million, a never-ending request for funds." It was the first public acknowledgement that Bass put more than \$150 million into the venture.

Johnson also told jurors a break-in at Biosphere 2 could have caused an implosion, "with millions and millions of dollars of damage and with threat to the safety of the people inside."

Walker said that at about 4 a.m. on April 4, 1994, Alling ordered Van Thillo to break seals and open five sets of doors.

"She needed to neutralize the playing field inside Biosphere 2," Walker said. Alling has said she was feared for the safety of crew members inside.

She and Van Thillo were arrested three days later.

In addition to Decisions Investment and Bannon, defendants are Space Biospheres Ventures, which operated the project; Decisions Team Inc., the project's original managers, and Chris Helms, a former spokesman.

Alling and Van Thillo, who were senior project officials after their two-year stint on the original eight-member crew, were in Japan when the takeover occurred but returned to Arizona as soon as then-chief engineer William Dempster told them there was trouble.

They maintain they weren't named among those initially ousted, despite defense contentions, and that they were acting in positions of authority during the break-in.

A Pinal County judge said last week that the conversations Dempster taped with a mini-cassette recorder in his underpants would be allowed.

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READ ALL ABOUT IT

Test your reading comprehension by reading the story below and answering the questions that follow.

CHICAGO (AP) — Is too. Is not. Is too! Is NOT!

So goes the discussion over the world's tallest building.

Is it in Chicago, home of the 1,450-foot Sears Tower (antennas not included)? Or is it in Malaysia, where the upstart Petronas Towers are nearing completion? Without spires, the Petronas complex is 209 feet shorter than the Sears Tower. With spires, it's 33 feet taller.

If Sears' antennas are allowed, which the experts don't want, it will remain the ranking behemoth. And if Petronas' spires are included, why aren't Sears' antennas?

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (yes, there really is such an organization) has never considered antennas or TV and radio towers essential to a structure. Members met in Chicago on Friday to revisit the issue.

How important is the Sears Tower to Chicago? How does the phrase "Chicago, Home of the World's Second-Largest Building" strike you?

"People may think 'Well, we don't really need a key chain from the Sears Tower. It's not tallest anymore,'" said John Rice, spokesman for the Chicago Architecture Foundation.

Gerald Johnson, chairman of the Chicago Committee on High Rise Buildings, said the issue is a matter of ego and politics.

"Everybody wants to be tall — the biggest, the best," Johnson said.

But, he said, having the tallest building won't make tourists choose Kuala Lumpur over Chicago.

"I don't think anybody has not gone to New York in the last 25 years because the Empire State Building is the second- or third-tallest building," he said.

"While there still is a dispute over what qualifies as the tallest building in the world, there is no disputing the fact that Chicago would still have the highest observation deck in the world," said Noelle Gaffney, spokeswoman for Mayo Richard Daley.

About 1.5 million people visit the Sears Tower's top floor each year. Since it opened in 1974, it's seen about 31.5 million visitors, said Phil Dominico, the building's manager.

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, based at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, is devoted to high-rise design and construction. Members voted Friday, but the official tally probably won't be in for a month because many members cast absentee votes.

The battle is unlikely to subside no matter how the board rules.

Construction begins next year on the Shanghai Financial Center, which is designed to stand 1,509 feet — 26 higher than Petronas and 59 feet taller than the Sears Tower.

Or is it 9 feet shorter than the Sears Tower (1,518 feet with antenna)?

Use the facts from the story to complete each of the following statements below.

1. Chicago and Malaysia are arguing over which city has the

a) best television programs
b) highest antennas
c) world's tallest building

2. In paragraph three, the word "behemoth" refers to

a) radio broadcasting stations
b) something that is huge
c) a famous department store

3. Experts must decide if the height of a building includes

a) spires (tops of towers)
b) antennas
c) both a) and b) are correct

4. If spires are allowed, then the Petronas Towers in Malaysia would

a) be ranked the tallest
b) measure about 1,000 feet
c) gain 209 feet

5. The Sears Tower is

a) just about complete
b) located in Chicago
c) about 33 feet high

Answer key 1)c 2)b 3)c 4)a 5)b

Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

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By BETTY DEBNAM

Happy Mother's Day
Twins Double the Love

Mother's Day, May 12, has a special meaning for all mothers and their children. It has a double meaning for mothers of twins.

Today, there are more twins, triplets and quadruplets than ever before.

What's it like being the mother of twins? The Mini Page asked some mothers.

"It's like being a parade everywhere you go."

"It's being able to pour any liquid into two glasses and always come up with equal amounts."

"It's a balancing act. It's trying to remember who you dressed first the last time so the other one will be first the next time."

"It's maintenance times two."

"It's saying and listening to everything twice."



Twins Colbern and Hart with their mother.



"It's beaming with pride when the first stranger asks, 'Are they twins?' Later, it's trying to be polite when the millionth stranger asks the same question."
"It's trying to convince relatives that it's not strange that 'this one' likes olives and 'that one' doesn't."
"It's finding out that the amount of love you share is more than doubled."

Twin fact-a-roonies

• There are two types of twins:

Identical twins are always of the same sex and look very much alike.

Fraternat twins are like any other brother or sister, but they were born at the same time. They can be the same sex or different sexes.

• In the United States, twins are born in one out of every 80 births. Identical twins are born in one out of every 250 births.

• Identical twins are not really identical. They have different fingerprints and teeth. One might be taller than the other.

Rookie Cookie's Recipe
Popeye's Passion

You'll need:

- 1 10-ounce box frozen spinach
- 1 tablespoon onion, grated
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 tablespoon Parmesan cheese

What to do:

1. Microwave spinach following directions on box. Drain well.
2. Combine cooked spinach and remaining ingredients in a medium, microwave-safe bowl. Mix well.
3. Microwave on HIGH 1 minute or until heated. Serves 3.



How Moms Felt About Having Twins

Any kid is special to his or her mom. We asked some boys and girls to tell us how their moms felt about having two at once.



Denise: "We have other relatives who are twins, so my mom was very glad that we were born as twins."
Donte: "I think my mom was surprised and very happy."



Aphrodite: "She was very happy that there were two of us, not one."
Paul: "Very tired, but glad!"



Josimar: "It was a dream come true because she really wanted to give birth to twins."
Edson: "My mom was so excited because she thinks that having twins is a great thing."



Elisabeth: "Excited and happy that she didn't have to go through two pregnancies to make two kids."
Christopher: "She was happy but she knew that it would take a lot of work caring for the two of us."



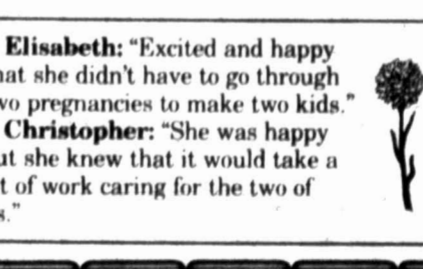
Sammy: "She felt so delighted because she considers twins to be a really special gift."
Joey: "Happy, happy, and more happy."



Katie: "It was the greatest thrill of her life."
Jessica: "Excited and very happy."



Matthew: "She was thrilled but exhausted."
Michael: "Relieved when the delivery was finally over with."



Kathleen: "My mom felt that we were the greatest gifts that she could ever have in her life."



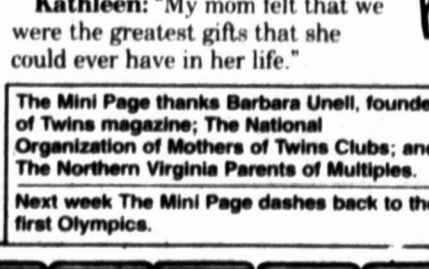
Matthew: "Very happy that there were two of us."
Margaret: "Happy because most mommies don't have two children at the same time."



Jade: "Very happy because she loves children and she always wanted to have kids."
Sara: "Very proud and pretty surprised."



Maureen: "When she found out she was going to have twins, my mom was pretty tense. After we were born, she felt glad that it was over."



The Mini Page thanks Barbara Unell, founder of Twine magazine; The National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs; and The Northern Virginia Parents of Multiples.
Next week The Mini Page dashes back to the first Olympics.

Meet Cynthia Daniel



Cynthia Daniel is a twin in real life and on the TV show "Sweet Valley High." She and her twin sister, Brittany, are the stars of the show. Cynthia plays Elizabeth Wakefield.

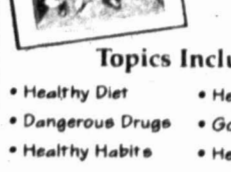
The Daniel twins were born on St. Patrick's Day and grew up with an older brother, Brad, in Gainesville, Fla. There were nine sets of twins in their high school freshman class!

In high school she became a model, and she and Brittany appeared in TV commercials and magazine ads. They soon got parts on TV. Cynthia has also been in a movie.

The twins live in the San Fernando Valley near Los Angeles. Cynthia likes in-line skating and bike riding.

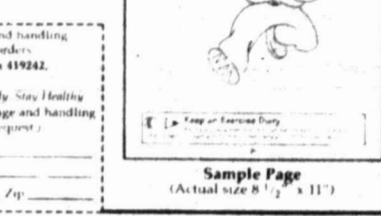
From The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 1996 Universal Press Syndicate

Love Your Body, Stay Healthy
A Mini Page Resource Book With 32 Pages of Facts and Fun!



Topics Include:
• Healthy Diet
• Dangerous Drugs
• Healthy Habits

• Healthy Teeth
• Good Exercise
• Healthy Systems



MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes



WHY DO SEAGULLS FLY OVER THE SEA AND NOT THE BAY?
IF THEY FLEW OVER THE BAY, THEY'D BE CALLED BAYGULLS!
(sent in by Jason Flinn Coggdale)

Q: How do you cool off at a football game?
A: Stand beside a fan!

Q: What nut sounds like a sneeze?
A: A cashew!
(both sent in by Mona Kumar)

From The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 1996 Universal Press Syndicate

BARBARA'S
MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS...
JUST FOR HER!
AND DON'T MISS OUR SALE RACKS
10 - 5:30 M - F
10 - 4 Sat
STANTON
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Reading.
Everyone needs it.

The Mini Page
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"WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOU"

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By STEVE RE
Sports Editor

The Big Sp girls' track team at least one droughts Friday. There's not Steers can do rain this area sheer number the group could first state tea sports history.

The Lady S only girls' 4.



Keesha Lott, 14A triple jump

Westy

DALLAS (A search for a Dallas Maverick toward f Suns coach P the leading con Indiana Pac Brown was N but he appears a candidate Donnie Walsh, Pacers, angrily lished reports contacted him talk to Brown.

Range
THE ASSOCIAT

Texas won it game and imp home against th a 4-2 win over th Jays Wednesday Bobby Witt b his 100th career eight hits innings, with 1 and one walk Rangers to the secutive victory Jays.

Witt had the ting the ball in did not record 1 ball out until grounded out 1 enth.

Darryl Hamill and reached by and Mickey Te RBIs for the Ran Yankees 10, Tl After five sta York Yankees, run average a trouble, Dwight a victory.

"This is defin est one of my c said after defeat for his first vic two years and l American Lea one."

Gooden allow and two hits in Wednesday nigh 3-0, but he retir Tigers before eight innings.

Elsewhere in Minnesota 7, 5 innings; Chicago 2; Texas 4, Toron

SCOREBOARD

AREA SCHEDULE		ON THE TUBE	
Today	Big Spring vs. El Paso (baseball), 6 p.m., Alpine. Cochran vs. Albany (softball), 6 p.m., Hawley.	Baseball	Toronto at Texas, 7:30 p.m. (ch. 42).
Friday	UIL state track and field meet, Austin.	Basketball	Teams TBA, 7 p.m., TNT (ch. 28).
Saturday	Howard College vs. Northeast Texas CC (baseball) 1 p.m., Abilene.	Golf	Byron Nelson Classic, 3 p.m., USA (ch. 38).
		Hockey	Teams TBA, 6:30 p.m., ESPN (ch. 30).

Got an item?

Do you have an interesting story idea? Call Steve Reagan, 263-7331, Ext 113.

B

Lady Steers aim at first team title in BSHS history

By STEVE REAGAN
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School girls' track team hopes to end at least one of Big Spring's droughts Friday.

There's not much the Lady Steers can do about the lack of rain this area's suffered, but if sheer numbers mean anything, the group could bring home the first state team title in school sports history.

The Lady Steers will be the only girls' 4A team with all

three relays competing at Friday's UIL state track meet at Memorial Stadium in Austin. With relay points double that of individual events, a good showing there could aid Big Spring's chances immeasurably.

"It's going to be tough," girls' coach Jay Kennedy said. "There's some great teams running some great times ... but if we can keep our emotional level up, we may win."

The Lady Steers may have numbers on their side, but posted times are against them. In all three relays, Big Spring has

the seventh-best time of the eight teams entered in each event.

But Kennedy countered that fact with another important one: The major thing is not necessarily to win, but to earn enough points along the way to put the Lady Steers over the top.

Besides fielding entrants in the 400, 800 and 1,600 relays, Big Spring also has contestants in four individual events: Keesha Lott in the triple jump; Krissi McWherter in the high jump; Dee Hill in the 100 hur-

dles; and Stephanie Henderson in the 800 run.

"Keesha, on paper, has a great chance of winning the triple jump," Kennedy said. "But we think they can all medal. If they do that, we've got a great shot at winning."

If there's a surprise among the Lady Steer contingent, it's Henderson, who transferred from Forsan this year and has dominated middle distance events for Big Spring this season.

"This is the first year she's been able to get a lot of weight

training in," Kennedy said. "She really can do a lot of things."

Of Lott, Kennedy is even more direct.

"She's not a very pretty jumper, but she's a very strong jumper," he said. "She's such a competitor; she kind of wills herself to win. She's one of those you'd like to have backing you up in a fight."

Kandi Cline, Jaclyn Owusu, Rita Casillas and Lott will compete in the 400 relay, while Charlotte Bumbulis might supplant one of those four in the

800 relay. Cline, Casillas, Lott and Henderson are the prime candidates for the 1,600 relays, although Kennedy might put either Latisha Hall or Mari Carnero into the event.

Much has been made of Austin's infamous heat and humidity, but Kennedy hopes the area's recent windy conditions continue through this weekend.

"I'd love to have 30 mph winds down there," he said. "That wouldn't bother our girls a bit."



Keesha Lott, right, shown anchoring the Big Spring Lady Steers' 800 meter relay, will be among the favorites in the girls' Class 4A triple jump at the UIL state track and field meet in Austin Friday.

Farr, Mitchell carry Steers' track hopes

By STEVE REAGAN
Sports Editor

The Big Spring boys' track contingent at Friday's state meet won't be the biggest around, but it may be one of the fastest.

Cousins Tory Mitchell and Randy Farr will carry the Steers' banner at Memorial Stadium in Austin Friday for the UIL state track meet.

Mitchell, a freshman, and Farr, a senior, own some of the fastest times in their respective events. Farr has the best posted time among qualifiers for the Class 4A 400 run, while Mitchell's 10.53 seconds in the 100 dash puts him in the upper half of that field.

Few are surprised at the duo reaching the state meet.

"I'm a little disappointed we're not sending more down there, but it's not a surprise (about Farr and Mitchell)," BSHS coach Randy Britton said. "One's a veteran of the state meet, and the other one's about to find out what it's all

about."

Both have been hampered by recent injuries, but Britton expects both to be at near-peak speed Friday.

Farr competed in the state meet last year and has tried to prepare his cousin for the mental aspects of the event.

"I've been telling him about it, how it's going to be, what it's like," Farr said. "Last year, I was really nervous, but this year, I feel pretty good about going down there."

Britton said Mitchell's age won't be the telling factor Friday.

"I don't know if him being a freshman is a factor," Britton said. "I've taken freshmen and sophomores down there and they've been successful, and I've taken juniors and seniors down there and they haven't."

"It should be a confidence builder for him," Britton said. "Tehre's not a lot of freshmen at this level who make it to the state meet — especially in the 100 meter dash."

Westphal moves to top of Mavericks' head coach wish list; Magic cruise

DALLAS (AP) — In their search for a new coach, the Dallas Mavericks appear turning toward former Phoenix Suns coach Paul Westphal as the leading contender.

Indiana Pacers coach Larry Brown was No. 1 on the list, but he appeared to no longer be a candidate after an irate Donnie Walsh, president of the Pacers, angrily reacted to published reports that the club had contacted him for permission to talk to Brown. He said he had

NBA

n't been asked, but if he is, there's no way he would agree to it.

Kentucky coach Rick Pitino also appeared no longer a candidate because of the belief his demands would be unrealistic, but both Westphal and current Mavericks assistant Brad Davis expressed their interest.

There also was interest in

Chicago Bulls assistant Jim Cleamons, but Bulls general manager said recently teams would have to wait until Chicago's playoff run ends before asking for permission to talk to him.

Westphal said Wednesday that he hasn't been contacted about the job, but hopes to be.

"They've got a great nucleus with Jamal (Mashburn), Jason Kidd and Jim Jackson, and a lot of coaches would be attracted to that job, including me,"

Westphal told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram from his home in Phoenix.

Magic 117, Hawks 105
ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The Shaq & Penny show is gearing up for a long playoff run.

"We had eight days off," Shaquille O'Neal said Wednesday night after his play-off career-high 41 points keyed the Orlando Magic's 117-105 victory over the Atlanta Hawks in the opening game of their sec-

ond-round NBA series.

"I think we lost our killer instinct just a little bit," the Magic center added. "But we've got the first game out of our system, so I think we'll be all right."

Penny Hardaway, the other half of Orlando's young All-Star tandem, equaled a career play-off best of 32 points as the defending Eastern Conference champions beat the Hawks for the sixth straight time at Orlando Arena.

Game 2 of the best-of-7 matchup is Friday night, also at the O-rena — where the Magic have the best home record in the league the past two years.

"A win is a win, but the way we won the game ... we didn't care too much for it, especially in the first half," Orlando's Horace Grant said after the Magic squandered most of a 10-point lead before pulling away for good in the third quarter.

Rangers win fifth straight; Yanks cruise

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas won its fifth straight game and improved to 11-0 at home against the AL East with a 4-2 win over the Toronto Blue Jays Wednesday night.

Bobby Witt beat Toronto for his 100th career victory, allowing eight hits in seven-plus innings, with nine strikeouts and one walk, to send the Rangers to their seventh consecutive victory over the Blue Jays.

Witt had the Blue Jays hitting the ball in the air. Toronto did not record its first ground-ball out until Otis Nixon grounded out to end the seventh.

Darryl Hamilton went 3-for-4 and reached base four times, and Mickey Tettleton had two RBIs for the Rangers.

Yankees 10, Tigers 3

After five starts for the New York Yankees, a 6.39 earned run average and a world of trouble, Dwight Gooden needed a victory.

"This is definitely the sweetest one of my career," Gooden said after defeating Detroit 10-3 for his first victory in nearly two years and his first in the American League. "Number one."

Gooden allowed three runs and two hits in the first inning Wednesday night to fall behind 3-0, but he retired the next 22 batters before leaving after eight innings.

Elsewhere in the AL, it was Minnesota 7, Seattle 5 in 10 innings; Chicago 11, Baltimore 2; Texas 4, Toronto 2; Cleveland

AL

7, Oakland 3; and Kansas City 3, California 1 in 14 innings.

When he left the game after the eighth, Gooden tipped his cap after receiving a loud ovation from the Yankee Stadium crowd.

"It's been a long time since I've heard that after getting a win," Gooden said. "It was just another reward for coming back from all I've been through."

Gooden walked two and struck out a season-high eight. He won 157 games in the NL with the New York Mets before drug problems derailed his career.

Wade Boggs went 3-for-4 and scored four runs, Tim Lincecum hit his first homer and Bernie Williams hit a two-run shot as the Yankees won their fourth straight.

"Right now, we're in a zone that I like," New York manager Joe Torre said.

The Tigers have lost six in a row and 18 of their last 20.

Royals 3, Angels 1

David Howard doubled home two runs in the 14th inning after Kansas City tied the game against Lee Smith in the ninth at California.

Jose Offerman capped his second three-hit game in three nights with a one-out single in the 14th off Mark Eichhorn (1-2), and he advanced to second on a balk. Bip Roberts was intentionally walked before Howard lined his game-winning double to right-center.

Tenth-inning single shuts down Astros

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jim Eisenreich singled with the bases loaded in the 10th at Veterans Stadium to lead Philadelphia to a 2-1 victory over Houston Wednesday.

Jeff Tabaka (0-2) struck out Kevin Stocker to start the 10th, but then hit Mark Whiten with a pitch, and Whiten stole second. Lenny Dykstra and Mickey Morandini walked, loading the bases, and Eisenreich followed with the game-winning hit.

Ken Ryan (2-1) pitched a perfect 10th.

Reds 5, Dodgers 0

With two weeks of rest, Pete Schourek looked invincible.

Schourek rebounded from a sore shoulder to combine with Jeff Shaw on a three-hitter Wednesday night, and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-0 for their first shutout this season.

"I didn't feel any pain," said Schourek (4-1), who allowed three hits in six innings.

"While I was throwing on the side the last couple of days, it didn't bother me, but it's always in the back of your mind until you test it. I did that tonight, and it didn't bother me, so I won't think about it any more."

Eric Davis and Jeff Branson drove in two runs apiece as the Reds won their season-high fifth straight.

In other NL games, Atlanta beat Colorado 5-1, Montreal edged Chicago 4-2, Florida defeated New York 6-3, Philadelphia beat Houston 2-1

NL

in 10 innings, San Francisco beat St. Louis 10-7 and Pittsburgh and San Diego split a doubleheader, with the Padres winning the opener 5-4 and Pittsburgh winning the second game 4-3.

Braves 5, Rockies 1

Jeff Blauser hit a two-run homer in the seventh and a two-run double in the eighth as the Braves completed a three-game sweep of visiting Colorado.

Tom Glavine (3-3) gave up four hits in eight innings and didn't allow an earned run.

Armando Reynoso (2-3) gave up three runs and seven hits in 6 2/3 innings.

Expos 4, Cubs 2

Henry Rodriguez drove in two runs and Rheal Cormier (2-2) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings, helping Montreal complete a three-game sweep.

Rodriguez hit a sacrifice fly in the first and an RBI single in the fifth, raising his RBIs total to 37. Montreal won its 10th straight at Olympic Stadium and fifth straight overall.

Jaime Navarro (2-4) allowed all four runs — three earned — and nine hits in six innings. Chicago lost for the fourth time in five games.

Mel Rojas got three outs for his third save.

Marlins 6, Mets 3

Jeff Conine's two-out, three-run homer capped a four-run seventh as Florida completed a

three-game sweep at Joe Robbie Stadium. Conine atoned for a first-inning error that led to two unearned runs.

Alex Arias also homered and had two RBIs for the Marlins, who have won six straight against New York.

Florida trailed 3-2 when pinch-hitter Joe Orsulak and Quilvio Veras singled to start the seventh against Doug Henry (1-1). Greg Colbrunn singled in the tying run.

Giants 10, Cardinals 7

Barry Bonds had three hits and two RBIs as visiting San Francisco overcame a grand slam by pinch-hitter Ron Gant.

Mark Carreon drove in three runs for the Giants, who had 15 hits. They led 8-0 on the way to sending St. Louis to its 12th loss in 15 games.

Mark Gardner (3-1) allowed just one hit and one runner in the first five innings before tiring in the sixth, when the Cardinals scored seven runs and closed to 8-7.

Andy Benes (1-5) was pounded for seven runs and nine hits in 5 2/3 innings, losing his fifth straight start.

Rod Beck pitched 1 1/3 innings for his seventh save.

Padres 5, Pirates 4

Pirates 4, Padres 3

Ken Caminiti hit two-run homers in his first two at-bats of the doubleheader opener.

Bob Tewksbury (4-1) gave up four runs and six hits in 6 2/3 innings. Darrell May (0-1) allowed five runs and four hits in five innings.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Da Brats edge Mambas

Da Brats defeated the Mambas 7-6 in local UGSA softball action Tuesday. Julie Garza had three hits - including a triple - and an RBI, while Jessica Canales and Krystal Shuttlesworth each had a pair of hits for Da Brats. Heather Gibbs had a triple and Ashlie Simmons had a pair of singles for the Mambas.

Astros top Braves

The Astros took a 5-4 extra inning decision over the Braves in recent American Little League action.

The Astros came from behind in the sixth to tie the game at 4-4, then took the lead in the eighth when Richard Martinez was driven home by Stephen Rushing. Rushing had four RBI for the night.

Leading hitter for the Braves was Willis Morrison, who had a home run.

Stars fall on Rangers

The American League Stars breezed to a 16-3 victory over the Coahoma League Rangers in recent interleague action.

Antoine Scott, Jud Oppgaard and Grayson Cauley all had three hits for the Stars, while Kelby Kemper had a pair of hits for the Rangers. Ryan Vela had the win for the Stars, while Kemper took the loss for the Rangers.

Hoops touney slated

The second annual For Players Only Classic will be held Saturday in San Angelo. The tournament is a 5-on-5 full-court basketball

competition, and entry fee is \$100. For more information, contact Chris Cardenas at (915) 942-7661 or (915) 659-0004.

KOC hosts softball tournament

The Knights of Columbus will hold their second annual men's softball tournament May 17-19 at Hildaigo Park, located on Orchard and Tyler streets in Midland. Entry fee is \$110, and entry deadline is May 15. Mail entry fee to: Knights of Columbus 9215, Attn: softball tournament, P.O. Box 50743, Midland, Texas 79710.

YMCA offers services

The Big Spring YMCA will have a summer swim team league open to boys and girls in grades K-12.

Other services on tap for this summer include: • Free swim lessons May 20-23. Space is limited.

• Summer camp program open to children in grades K-6.

• Co-ed power sand pit volleyball league. Organizational meeting will be Tuesday at the YMCA.

A recreational sand pit volleyball league also is forming. Organizational meeting is Monday at the YMCA.

• The co-ed softball league will hold its organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at the YMCA.

• For more information on these services, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Pedini: Wild parties norm for Cowboys

DALLAS (AP) - A confidant-turned-informant says he ran the operation of a residence, known as "the White House," where Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin and other players had wild parties. Dennis Pedini, 31, made the revelation in a taped interview shown Wednesday night on KXAS-TV on the Fort Worth station's fourth installment of a "Tarnished Star" investigative series on Irvin, who was indicted April 1 for possession of drugs.

Pedini appeared in court Wednesday in answer to a subpoena Tuesday from Irvin's attorney and was sworn in as a potential witness in Irvin's trial, scheduled for June 24. State District Judge Manny Alvarez instructed him to abide by a gag order in the case. However, that action did not bar KXAS from broadcasting the tape. Pedini and Irvin's attorney, Michael Irvin, were seen in a hidden camera footage that purports to show Irvin discussing with Pedini his acquisition and use of drugs.

KXAS-TV revealed Tuesday night that it paid Pedini \$6,000 "for licensing and assigning rights" for his secretly recorded footage. Pedini told the station he clandestinely filmed Irvin and got him to talk about drug use because after all he'd done for the players, it became clear they had no respect for him.

KXAS said records show "the White House" to which Pedini referred was leased by former Cowboys receiver Alvin Harper. After Harper went to Tampa Bay, KXAS said, the two-story brick residence in Valley Ranch, near the Cowboys' practice facility, went into the control of a property management company and of a company by the name of Spectrum Foundation, owned by Pedini.

Asked why the house was in his company's name, Pedini said: "So that if anyone looked into it, there would be stumbling blocks. ... I basically ran everything, to keep everything private and protect them from the public, from prying eyes."

The house gave Irvin and other Cowboys players a place to do anything they wanted, including drugs, Pedini said. "There was a lot of drugs ... a lot of marijuana, cocaine."

Asked if players used the house as a place to have sex with women, Pedini said, "Yeah, it was like going there instead of going to a hotel."

The station quoted two other men, including an unnamed former Cowboys player, as saying they had been in the house during parties and saw heavy use of drugs and witnessed "group sex" in which as many as eight to 10 women were having sex with players.

But the two also said this was not unique to the Cowboys, that similar activities were occurring all over the league. The Cowboys players also used a house in nearby Coppell and an apartment in Valley Ranch, the unidentified former Cowboys player told the station.

"It's amazing what goes on, but when you have that kind of money and access to whatever you want, anything is possible," Pedini said.

Pedini said he ran the house and has phone recordings, photographs, films and other documents to prove it.

The station played what it said were recordings of messages left for Irvin on an answering machine at the house.

Most of messages were from women: "Hi, Michael, this is Jennifer ..."; "Hi, Michael, this is Courtney ..."

One was from a male caller, who said: "Michael, I understand you've been with my sister. I would like to talk to you."

Pedini said the players who used the Valley Ranch residence stopped using it last July, as well as the Valley Ranch apartment, which he said was used by the same players.

Pedini until recently lived down the street from the Cowboys' Valley Ranch facility and once had an office in a building near the practice field.

According to county records, he formerly operated the non-profit Spectrum Foundation Inc. and a business, The Dallas Cigar Lovers Association.

Officials with the building's management company said he was evicted last July for not paying his rent.

Pedini's attorney, Mike Heiskell, said after Pedini's court appearance Wednesday that his client was "holding up real well."

A Dallas County prosecutor indicated Wednesday the video and other documents aired by KXAS might become part of the evidence against Irvin, who was indicted after a raid of an Irving motel room on March 4 where cocaine and marijuana were found.

"Our office is in the process of procuring video-audio tapes as aired on (KXAS) relating to Michael Irvin for grand jury review to determine whether one or more provable criminal offenses occurred," assistant district attorney Mike Gillett said.

Irvin's defense team also is pursuing leads stemming from the tapes and Pedini's involvement.

BASEBALL

American League

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes East, Central, West, and Tuesday's Games.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes Orlando 92, Detroit 77, San Antonio 110, Phoenix 105.

(NBC) Seattle at Houston, 3 p.m. (NBC) Chicago at New York, 5:30 p.m. (NBC) San Antonio at Utah, 8:30 p.m. (TNT)

TRANSACTIONS

Wednesday

BASEBALL American League NEW YORK YANKEES-Placed RHP David Cone on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to May 3. Recalled LHP Paul Gibson from Columbus of the International League. Signed SS Felix Fermin to a minor-league contract.

CINCINNATI REDS-Designated RHP Tim Lincecum for assignment. Purchased the contract of LHP Derek Lilquist from Indianapolis of the American Association.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-Sent P Rich Hunter to Scranton-WiLeke Barre of the International League. SAN DIEGO PADRES-Activated INF-OF Craig Shipley from the 15-day disabled list. Placed INF-OF Archi Lanterotto on the 15-day disabled list.

NBA-Fined Houston Rockets center Hakeem Olatunji \$5,000 for entering Seattle SuperSonics forward Delfino Schimpf in a game on Saturday.

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS-Named Brad Greenberg general manager and director of basketball operations, replacing John Lucas, who was retained as coach.

FOOTBALL National Football League SAN DIEGO CHARGERS-Signed P Dan Bannett to a four-year contract. Signed S Eric Carle and C David Bink to two-year contracts.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE SAN JOSE SHARKS-Signed RW Owen Nolan to a multiyear contract. TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS-Agreed to terms with RW Sergei Berzin and LW Fredrik Modin.

BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs

Table with columns: Round, Team, Opponent, Date, Time. Includes First Round (Best-of-5) and Thursday, April 25.

HERALD Classified Ads WORK! Ask about our 7 day special... Call 263-7331

WEST TEXAS HUNTERS EXPO. If You Are A Hunter, You Will Not Want To Miss This Event! May 10th, 11th & 12th. ECTOR COUNTY COLISEUM FAIRGROUNDS-BUILDING "B". Includes list of services like Taxidermists, Hunting Equipment, Game Processors.

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Big Spring Thursday, May 9, 1996. AFFORDABLE APPL... AFFORDABLE... ANSWER... 25-HOUR... Don't miss... Experience... 1 Hour... Terrie... AUTOMO... Jim's Au... Foreign, Dom... Overhauls/Air... Transmissions/... 101... Big Sp... BACKH... AFFORD... State Licen... Certification, Sa... Minor concrete... 264-9900... BA... RESU... WESTEX... Make dull finish... tubs, vanities, c... fornic... 1-800-777... CARPE... INST... Quali... Shown in... anytime. A... The lowest p... Free measu... DEE... 2... H &... E. 4th &... WAREHO... CAR... As I... CARPE... Car... Water &... Odor Co... 91... 1-80... 24 hr. E... WE WA... CLEA... CO... COMP... Installation... Computer Tr... Preven... Contact Brian... CON... CLASS... Concrete-W... Cinderblock-F... Carports-Patio... Trailers-Me... Driveways-Wal... Porches-H... Decorations... Call... M... IMPROV... INCR... DEFEN... G... Defen... Class... 9:00-3:3... 1-... DIRT C... SAM FRO... Sand, Gravel... BRO... Resid... Cedar, S... **Qu... *Spring Sp... installed at... F... E... GU... Call... 1... All... Dry 267... Cedar/Ret... TA... FOR

THURSDAY

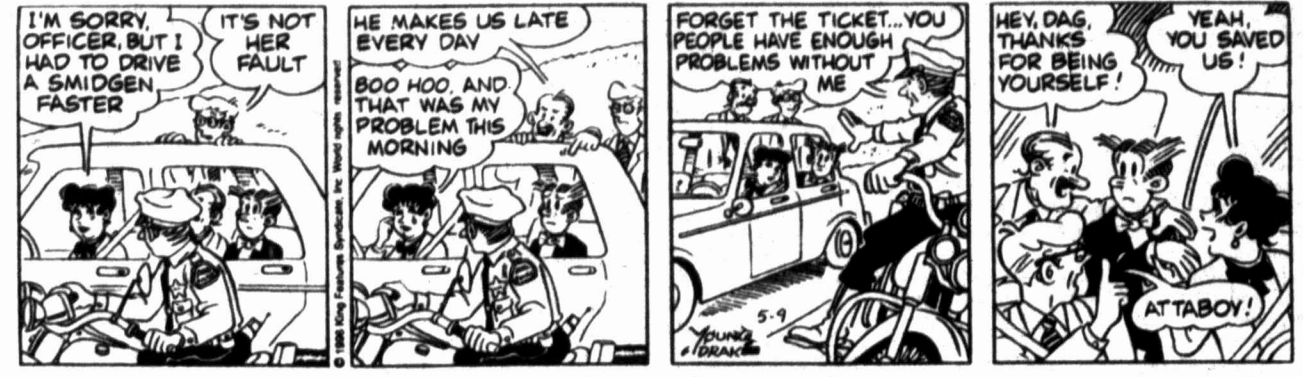
MAY 9

Table with 20 columns (KMD, KPE, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, HSE, ESPN, AMC, BET) and 12 rows of program listings.

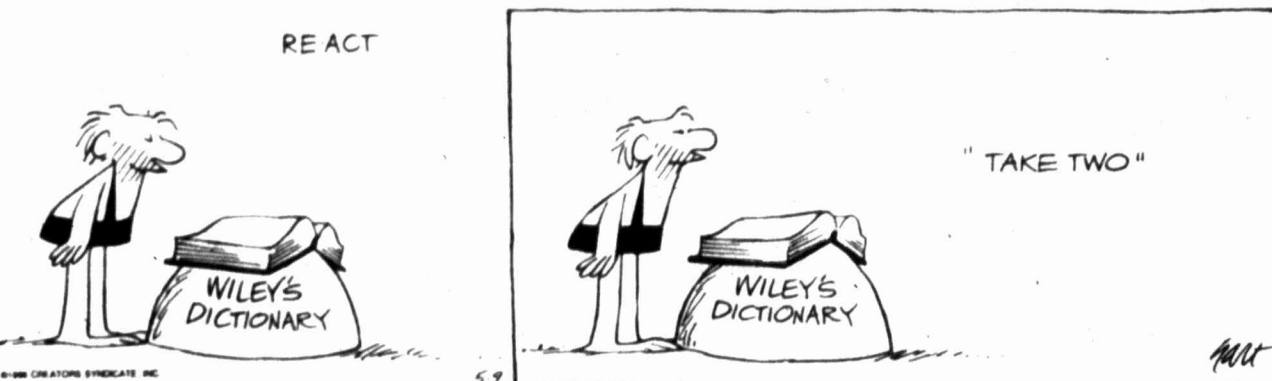
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCLE



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, May 9, the 130th day of 1996. There are 236 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On May 9, 1754, the first American newspaper cartoon was published. The illustration in Benjamin Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette showed a snake cut into sections, each part representing an American colony; the caption read, "Join or die."

In 1502, Christopher Columbus left Cadiz, Spain, on his fourth and final trip to the Western Hemisphere. In 1926, Americans Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett became the first men to make an airplane flight over the North Pole. In 1936, Italy annexed Ethiopia as Benito Mussolini celebrated in Rome. In 1945, U.S. officials announced that the midnight entertainment curfew was being lifted immediately.

In 1961, in a speech to the National Association of Broadcasters, Federal Communications Commission chairman Newton N. Minow condemned television programming as a "vast wasteland."

In 1974, the House Judiciary Committee opened hearings on whether to recommend the impeachment of President Nixon.

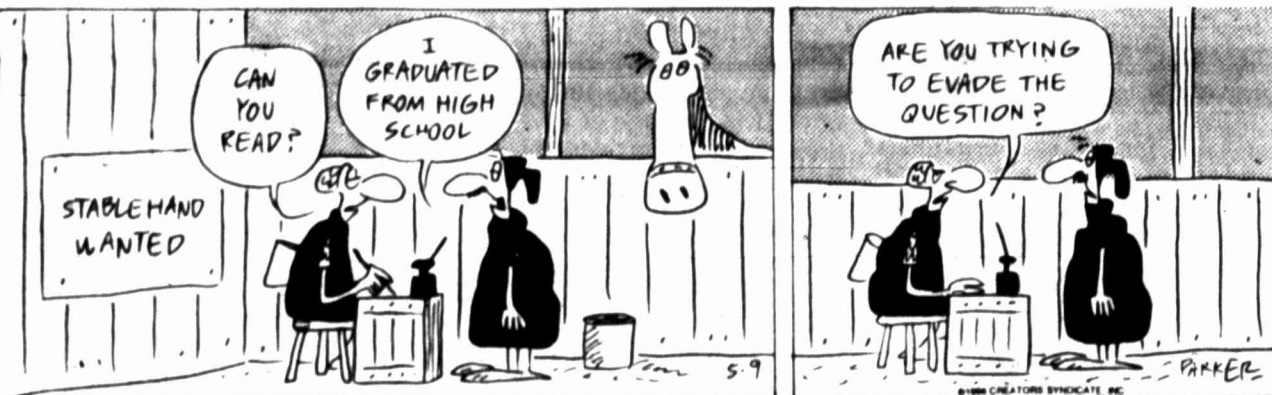
In 1978, the bullet-riddled body of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro, who had been abducted by the Red Brigades, was found in an automobile in the center of Rome.

In 1980, 35 motorists were killed when a Liberian freighter rammied the Sunshine Skyway Bridge over Tampa Bay, Fla., causing a 1,400-foot section of the bridge to collapse.

In 1994, South Africa's newly elected parliament chose Nelson Mandela to be the country's first black president.

Today's Birthdays: CBS News correspondent Mike Wallace is 78. Actor Albert Finney is 60.

WIZARD OF ID



THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Wednesday's Puzzle solved:

Solved crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



- ACROSS: 1 Foundation, 5 Chinese house idol, 9 Minute quantity, 13 City on the Thames, 14 Say, 16 Eatery order words, 17 Criminal lawyer, 19 Lounge, 20 Value, 21 Diminished, 23 NYC time abbr, 24 Salad ingredient, 26 One of nine, 30 Naval abbr, 31 Mink or sable, 34 Melville novel, 35 Stock market item abbr, 37 Sawyer of TV, 39 Liquid measures, 41 Bat wood, 42 Derogatory, 43 Show backer, 44 Swimming hole, 46 Pacific islands, 47 "— Grant", 48 Anger, 50 Late-night flights, 52 NY city, 55 Flying prefix, 56 Strong cotton fabric, 58 Repudiate, 63 Wiesel of literature, 64 Playing detective, 66 Always, 67 Fence steps, 68 Hebrew month, 69 Apartments, 70 Fires, 71 Swampy land.

- DOWN: 1 Synagogue platform, 2 Over, 3 Minestrone, e.g., 4 Steak selection, 5 Solar system member, 6 Elevator man, 7 Guide, 8 NYSE watchdog, 9 Book of maps, 10 Dental buyer?, 11 Stare at flirtatiously, 12 Shape, 15 Understands, 18 Jumble, 22 Fastens, 25 Book writer, 26 Varnish ingredient, 27 — acid, 28 Speechless, 29 Farmer, at times, 32 Excessive, 33 Fumes, 36 Equal: pref., 38 Blank book page, 40 Muck, 45 Dog restraints, 49 Circles, 51 Art —, 53 Lascivious looks, 54 Blend, 56 Ooze, 57 T.A.E. name, 59 Man or Wight, 60 Adjutant, 61 — instant (immediately), 62 Bus. VIPs, 65 Actress Hagen.

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information: (915) 263-7331, Fax #915-264-7205.

RITZ advertisement for movie screenings: ED PG, FEAR R, THE CRAFT R.

CINEMARK THEATRES advertisement for MOVIES 4 BIG SPRING, TX, listing movies like CELTIC PRIDE and THE QUEST.