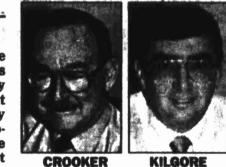


ARLTON JOHNSON VFD's use of Rescue 10 as a ing the VFD to get out of the "What Jerry (Kilgore) and I plan on occasion, but the

By CARLTON JOHNSON **Staff Writer**

For the second time in a little more than two weeks, members of the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) will meet with county commissioners discuss problems between the VFD and the county concerning equipment and equipment maintenance.

Commissioners Jerry Kilgore and Bill Crooker will meet with the group at 7 p.m. today in the county courtroom to discuss these two issues and to estab-



lish written policies and guide-

lines for the VFD to follow. The problems with the VFD began in January when commissioners questioned the backup unit to assist the Big **Spring Fire Department on calls** in the county.

On Feb. 11, during a business meeting of the VFD, members voted unanimously to take some type of decisive action in order to get the attention of the **Howard County Commissioners'** Court, and parked five VFD vehicles at the county barn stating the vehicle were in disrepair and would be moved until they were repaired.

The protest was also in response to commissioners ask-

ambulance business and stick to fighting fires, and commissioners' 4 to 1 vote to deny the department's request to sponsor bingo games as a source of revenue for needed equipment.

According to VFD members, the vehicles in question were old dump trucks and not usable for the county's Road and Bridge Department, but were put on line with the VFD.

"We met on Feb. 13 and discussed mutual problems involving equipment and equipment maintenance." Crooker said.

"What Jerry (Kilgore) and I plan on occasion, but this has not to do tonight is address the problem, seek solutions with the Volunteer Fire Department and come up with some written policies and guidelines for the department to follow."

According to Crooker, a lot of the problems are because of a lack of communication between the VFD and the county.

One of the problems includes airpacks supplied to the VFD by the county in case they have to enter a smoke-filled environment because of a fire. "These packs need to be tested been done in some time," Crooker said. "We (commissioners) recently gave the VFD permission to do this."

As for the trucks that were parks at the county barn earlier this month, Crooker said they have been returned to the VFD in working order, with the exception of Rescue 10.

"It needs a considerable amount of work and needs to be inspected," Crooker said. "It is being kept at the county barn pending the outcome tonight's meeting."

Funding for new dorm at SWCID hits snag

By CHRYS GOFF

Staff Writer

It looks like plans to build a new dorm at the SouthWest **Collegiate Institute for the Deaf** have been put on hold following a Howard College Board of Trustees meeting Monday.

Board officials met with Ray E. Williams, chairman and CEO of the D.S.A. Incorporated Construction Management, who told trustees there wasn't enough money to build the type of facility they had planned. Williams' company is in charge of the dorm project that has now been put on hold until more funds become available. Currently, the college is short \$250,000 of the amount needed for a 60-room dorm. College officials have said they would prefer a 76-room dormitory be built at an additional cost of \$114.098. The total cost for the 76-room project is estimated at \$1,582,489.

We don't even have enough to start with the basic dorm (60 rooms)," HC President Dr. Cheryl T. Spark**s said**. "We are at the mercy of what is going to happen in Austin." College officials would like to have the money come from the Legislature's appropriations bill, but will have to wait until May to get results. If everything goes according to plan. the construction of the dorms would begin in June or July. As a result, the bids will have to be put on hold.



Howard College president Dr. Cheri Sparks updates college trustees on the availability of funding for the construction of new dorms at SWCID. At left is Linda Conway while Board Chairman Don McKinney is at right.

"Most contractors will hold bids and two months is a reasonable time," he said. "There

If all taxing entities approve the abatement plan, New tem produces 22,000 megawatts World's taxes will be abated for a year and the wind farm will

The current TU Electric sys-

County officials plan to install security alarms

By CARLTON JOHNSON **Staff Writer**

Howard County officials plan to install a new security device in the offices of State District Judge Robert Moore, County Tax Assessor-Collector Kathy Sayles and Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray, as a way of protecting the county from possible trouble with irate residents and groups.

According to Ray, whose office did receive a letter last week with a Midland postmark from the anti-government group **Republic of Texas in opposition** to the authority of Attorney General Dan Morales, the security device is something she has

my deputies."

Ray added that Moore approached her with the idea about a year ago, but she has not heard anything else until recently when she found out the buzzer-type devices would be installed in Moore's office as well as the tax office.

"In 1992, we started collecting a courthouse security fee, and since then have collected more than \$12,000 from our filling of documents, which will be used for the devices in the courthouse," Ray said.

"You never know what you'll get on a daily basis," Ray added. "I just want my deputies to be protected. We have had irate people come into our office on ocassion and I wanted a way for the deputies to be able to alert the Sheriff's Office without having to run down the hall." Once the devices are installed, each other the offices will be able to hit a buzzer. which will notify the sheriff's office of possible trouble.

Williams told trustees that a two-month wait until the Legislature approves appropriations should not force the college to seek new bids.

shouldn't be any cost increase on material between now and May."

Trustees approved the New World Power Corporation tax abatement and guidelines presented by Moore Development **Executive Director Danette** Toone and grant writer Leigh Corson. Moore representatives are making the rounds to each taxing entity requesting a tax abatement for the power company.

According to Toone, Moore's ideas have brought more than \$87,000 in taxes to the college in five years.

construction and will provide seven new full-time jobs.

The contractors building the facility are from out of town, but Toone said, "They (contractors) will be here for quite a while and will be staying in local hotels and eating at local restaurants."

The plan is for New World to lease 11,000 acres, most of it is located on the Morgan Ranch south of Big Spring, to build a wind-generated power facility. In turn, TU Electric will buy for grounds upkeep on the camthe power it produces.

the first five years of operation. produce 40 megawatts. There is In May, New World starts a 15-year contract with TU Electric and the wind farm project is estimated at \$42 million. The board also accepted the

low bids on a tractor and the electrical service upgrade for the administration building. After the building was evaluated by electrical contractors, college officials decided the system needed to be upgraded.

B&B Electric was awarded the bid of \$8,700 and the Case Tractor was purchased from Abilene Ag New Holland for \$10,955. The tractor will be used DUS.

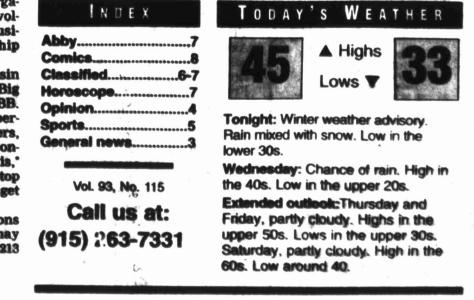
been interested in for some time

"This device is not because of any group in particular, but we just need security in here as with any other office," Ray said. "We have to have a way to alert the Sheriff's Office in the event of trouble. I want security for



HERALD phto/Jonathan Garrett

Sycar-old Heather Gotcher enjoys the playoff basketball game between Miles and Sands last Friday at Sterling City.



Commissioners grant abatement to New World Power

By CARLTON JOHNSON

Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners unanimously granted a tax abatement to the \$42 million New World Power Texas Renewable Energy project during Monday's commissioners' court meeting, completing the necessary approvals needed from local taxing entities

Moore Development For Big

Danette Toone said the county is the lead entity on the abatement for the project and its approval was the last needed Spring the Big since **Independent School District is** not asked to abate.

The 67-turbine wind power project is expected begin construction around May 1 on the Mark Morgan Ranch in Howard County, producing several con-

that the contrac-

work.

her

"One

Spring Executive Director struction jobs during the two year construction period and seven permanent full-time jobs once the project is completed.

Toone added the new reinvestment zone covers most of the southeast side of Howard County, excluding the cities of Coahoma and Forsan.

New World Power will receive a 100 percent tax abatement during the two year construction phase, and for the five years following construction

estimate.

job,'

the abatement will be scaled down 10 percent a year from 100 percent the first year after construction to 60 percent the fifth vear

"At the point where the abatement hits 60 percent, the project will then go onto the tax rolls at its appraised value," Toone said. "This project has been in the works for approximately three years and will be bringing some very specific technology."

Better Business Bureau warns of contractor scam

By CARLTON JOHNSON Staff Writer

Local residents are warned to be on the lookout for a contractor in the area who may be operating a scam.

According to Dick Rowland. president of the Better Business Bureau of the Permian Basin (BBB), phone calls coming into the BBB office indicate a traveling concrete contractor was recently in the Permian Basin area, selling sidewalk, driveway and parking lot repairs with some overstock supplies from a previous major contract.

The contractor in question began in Pecos, but Rowland and the BBB aren't sure which direction the contractor headed after leaving.

"These types of people gener-ally don't stick around," Rowland said. "They do their business in a week or so and then they move on," Rowland said complaining

consumers reported to the BBB

tor will get permission to begin The contractor will working, tears get permission to up the existing concrete, and begin working, tears then realizes he up the existing conunderestimated crete, and then realthe amount of material needed ises he underestimatfor the job and ed the amount of has to go get more supplies to material needed for complete the the job and has to go caller get more supplies to went into great complete the work. detail describing how the con- He never returns.

tractor tore up driveway and left," Rowland said. "The

contractor had the additional money the woman had given him to purchase more supplies, but never came back.

The BBB, according to Rowland, always urges anyone considering hiring a contractor for any type of home or busi-ness remodeling to get a written

"Be sure the estimate includes a time to start, an estimated time to completion and the total cost of the Rowland said. 'Also, get some references of other jobs the contractor has done and check them out. This is your home or business we're talking about, and this is the type of problem

that you don't need, at any cost." The BBB has a brochure available, at no cost, which gives other hints on how to avoid problems when looking for a contractor of any type.

"The best advice we can give is to check out a company or individual before you hire them." Rowland said. "Check

references and see what type of permits are required in your area before any work begins, and be sure a contractor is properly bonded and insured before work begins."

The BBB's purpose, according to Rowland, is to give consumers and businesses an outlet to protect themselves against fraudulent business practices.

nization funded through the voluntary support of local businesses that pay membership dues.

businesses, including 34 in Big Spring, are member of the BBB. We are on a major member-

ship effort to get new members. so we can continue to alert consumers about scams like this," Rowland said. "We want to stop scams like this before they get

started." Residents with questions about scams or the BBB may contact Rowland at (915)563-0213 or (800)592-4433.

The BBB is a non-profit orga-**Currently, 725 Permian Basin**

OBITUARIES

Byron O. McCracken

Service for Byron O. McCracken, 81, Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. He died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1997, in a local hospital.

BRIEFS

COAHOMA CLEAN AND PROUD, a Keep Texas Beautiful organization, meets Monday, March 3, at 7 p.m. If you are interested in recycling and/or making Coahoma a prettier, cleaner place to live, come to the meeting at First Bank of West Texas' Signal Mountain Community Room. For more information, call Irene at 394-4424.

BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1967 is planning its 30th reunion for June 21. A number of our classmates are "lost" and cannot be found. If anyone knows the addresses of any of the following people, please contact Deanna Foresyth at 267-5420. Maiden names of females are in parentheses.

Missing classmates are:

Linda (Caldwell) Aeron, Rodrigo Armendariz, Larry Amhart, Harolene Cindy Bailey, David Beard, Tommy Bell, Larry Bentley, Gary Bevill, Sandra Biffle, Linda Gay Blackwell, Bobby Bowers. William Boyett, Dennis Brewer, Kristine Britain, Rodney Buchanan, Linda Burnett, Vicki (Holland) Canfil, Frank Chavez, John Cockerham, Jerry Cook, Lonnie (Fullbright) Cox, Janice Elaine Craig, Jimmy Cunningham, Debbie (Douglas) Curry, Jerry Dalton, Allen Daniels, Adele Deming. Gregg Devlin, Benny Dixon, Ronald Dooley, Florentino Doporto, Sara (Holloway) Dubose, Frank Fierro, Judy (Aleman) Fierro, Larry Foster, Pam (Faulkner) Franklin, Kevin Fryer, Anice Fulcher, Susie Garcia, Concha Garza, Russell Gary Hamm, Lela (Neill) Harding, Judy Hart, Janie Hartman, Thomas Heaton, Joe Hernandez, Rosemary (Arguello) Hernandez, Felix Hilario, Danny Hooten, T.C. Hudgins, Debbie Jones, Mary Juarez, Lucy Keene, Wayne Kennedy, Donna (Smith) Krenek, Glynda (Kilgore) Lang, Jon Lebkowsky, Lawrence Long, Ruben Lopez, Myra (Harris) Mann, Hughlon Marberry, Toni Mayberry, Burma McCarta, Georgia McDonald, Marion Butch McMains, Sally Miller, Tommy Moore, Wanda (Williamson) Moss, Ricky Olsen, Bill Owens,

Berry Olen Parker, Brian Peay, Cooper Proctor, Bobby Ray, Barbara (Crenshaw) Richmoud, Eddie Rogers, Carol Russell, Mike Russell, Mike Shafer, Linda (Teague) Shaw, John Howard Smith, Diane Lynn Smith, Glenda Smith, Grover Smith, David Sowell, Linda Steagald, Arlena (McCartney) Stevens, Steve Stinson, Pamela Sue Sutton, Jerry Tate, Larry Allen Tatum, Cindi (Bool) Taylor, Mary (Forman) Taylor, Diane Todd, Janet (James) Tucker, Gary Turner, Rayfield Turner, Ron Walker, Sally (Wade) Warrick, Albert Weinkave, Carolyn West, Glenda (Cass) Wheeler, Donna White, Donna Whitten, Becky Williams, James Worthan, Marcy (Dement) Wright and Jesse Zapata.

FORSAN ELEMENTARY (ELBOW) IS having Kindergarten pre-registration p.m. Thursday in the Elbow School Cafeteria. All district residents and accepted transplease fers attend. Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before Sept. 1, 1997, to be eligible to attend kindergarten next school year. You should bring your child's birth certificate, immunization record, and social security card (card with the number on it, not just the number).

RAPE CRISIS/VICTIM SERVICES is currently recruiting individuals who want to make a difference in the community and someone's life. The agency depends on volunteers to be the initial contact and support of victims of crime, such as assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Those interested must be at

least 18 years old, complete an application, interview and 40hour orientation, be willing to commit to a minimum of three "on call" 12-hour shifts per month and pass a criminal background check prior to becoming a volunteer.

Orientation for volunteer advocate trainees is each Saturday in March from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, contact Ann Farley Addy, assistant director, by calling 263-3312.

ANYONE WHO IS INTER-ESTED in participating in the 1997 Relay For Life event May 16 and 17 should contact Judi Johnston at 267-1014 (work) or 267-1904 (home). The committee needs help with on-site events. It is now time to assemble walking teams for the relay. Information is available from Jay or Kim Phinney at 267-1480. ther information call 305-5528 or 263-4211 or come to the First Presbyterian Church on Monday mornings.

TACO BELL AND KEN-TUCKY Fried Chicken is sponsoring a Spring fling and Easter egg hunt March 29 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the park located by the YMCA. Children between the ages of two and 10 can hunt. There will be clowns and face painting for children of all ages. Hot dogs and sodas will be served for lunch. The Easter Bunny who visits the mall is also attending the hunt.

THE TEXAS DEPART-MENT OF Health is sponsoring daytime prenatal classes starting Monday, March 3, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The instructor is Laurie Burks, B.S.N. All expectant parents are welcome. Call 263-9775 to register.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR **RETARDED** Citizens, Texas Advocates and the Association for the Mentally Ill is sponsoring a meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. Don **Rettberg from the Austin ARC** will discuss how to set up trusts, how to become involved in advocacy groups and how to gain information about the service needs for family members. More information will be available about the new 23-county MHMR center opening in Big Spring March 1 as well. This is an important meeting for all families who are planning for the financial stability of a family member in the future.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRING-BOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CON-TACT GINA GARZA, 263-7331 ext. 238, BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 2 P.M. All Springboard items must be submitted in writing. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79720; bring it by the office at 710 Scurry; or fax it to 264-7205.

TODAY

AROUND THE TOWN

THURSDAY •Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, has free food for area needy, 10 a.m. to noon. •Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classed, 9:30 to 11:30

a.m., 55 and older. •Support Group for Depression, 7 p.m., Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Third and Lancaster.

•Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center small cafeteria.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting, 615 Settles. 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at Scenic Mountain Medical

Center cafeteria. •Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30

p.m., 219 Main.

FRIDAY

•Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Music by CW & Co. Area seniors invited. •Good Shepherd Fellowship

Church, 610 Abrams, 7 p.m. Bible study. •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. Big

Book Study. •Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch.

SATURDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open meetings at noon, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

•West Texas Writers Club, 2 p.m., Midland County Library, second floor, 301 W. Missouri. Meetings are open to anyone interested in writing any kind. Guests are welcome. Membership due are available for \$10.

SUNDAY •Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting

and 7 p.m. open meeting. MONDAY Call 398-5522 or 263-4211 for more information. •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Texas Lottery

Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor.

•Gospel singing, 7 p.m., Kentwood Center, 2805 Lynn. Call 267-6764. Guest singers from Stanton, Midland and Colorado City.

TUESDAY

•Comanche Lake Duplicate, 1 p.m., Dora Roberts Civic Center.

•Most Excellent Way, a chemical dependency support group, 7 p.m., Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

•Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, 7 p.m.; Spanish services.

•Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., 615 Settles.

•Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor.

•VFW Post No. 2013, 7 p.m., VFW Hall.

•Cancer support group, 7 to 8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077.

WEDNESDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. 12&12 Study.

THURSDAY

•Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, has free food for area needy, 10 a.m. to noon.

•Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classed, 9:30 to 11:30 a m 55 and older. The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m Monday and 8 a.m. Tuesday. • JAUN GILBERTO HER-NANDEZ, 19, of Huntsville, Ala., was arrested for interfering with custody.

POLICE

G SPANG HERALD

• RICARDO ARTEMYO URANGA, 37, no address was given, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

• KAREN ANN RUIZ, 20, of 608 State, was arrested for assault by family violence.

• INVESTIGATING SUSPI-CIOUS ACTIVITIES in the 3200 block of Ave. C, the block of N. Monticello and Barnes, 800 block of State, 600 block of Goliad, 400 block of Gregg and the 1000 block of Bluebonnet.

• ASSAULT in the 1100 block of Lamesa and the 1900 block of N. Hwy 87.

• THEFT in the 400 block of Gregg.

• BURGLARY OF A VEHI-CLE in the 700 block of W. Fourth and the 900 block of W. Fifth.

• BURGLARY OF A HABI-TATION in the 1300 block of Harding.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 1200 block of E. 18th and the 1700 block of Settles.

• GAS THEFT in the 800 block of W. I-20 and the 3300 block of W. Hwy 80.

MARKETS

March cotton 73.65 cents a pound, up 45 points; Feb. crude oil 21.02 up 31 points; Cash hogs steady at 75 cents higher at 50.75; slaughter steers steady at 66; April lean hog futures 74.30, down 35 points; Feb. live cattle futures 69.85, up 12 points.

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906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

Byron O. McCrackon, 81, died Tuesday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickie & Welch Funeral Home.

Mike Tovar, 48, died Thursday. Besary will be at 7:00 PM Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Weich Resewood Chapel. Funeral service will be at 10:00 AM Saturday at SL Thomas Catholic Church. Interment will follow in ML. Olive Messerial Park.

THE BIG SPRING FAMILY YMCA is taking registration for Youth Indoor Soccer League. There are no try-outs. The YMCA emphasis is on participation not winning. Fundamentals will be stressed. This is for boys and girls kindergarten through sixth grade. The registration deadline is March 8. For more information call the YMCA at 267-8234.

THE CITY-WIDE LITTLE League Baseball and United Girls' Softball Association signups are now through Saturday at the Big Spring Mall from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays and from 5 to 7 p.m. on weekdays. Ages five and up are welcome and you must have birth certificate and current utility bill.

LOCAL HUNTERS EDUCA-TION INSTRUCTOR Boyce Hale is teaching a gun and bow safety course in the Chamber of Commerce conference room March 13-15, beginning at 5 p.m.

Anyone born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, is required to successfully complete this course before they can legally hunt in Texas.

The cost is \$10 and is a lifetime certification.

For further information call 267-6967 or pre-register at Dibrell's Gun Shop at 1307 Gregg.

VOLUNTEERS WITH THE VOLUNTEER Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program assist in the proparation of 1995 income tax returns at First Presbyterian Church, Eighth and Runnels, each Monday from 9 a.m. to nean through April 34.

This program is articulate to odd sender citizents, and others the have brooms from veges, the same is able to receive an observal from coeffit, a could for the obligity or child core credits. Bring all your W-2's, 1997's and your 2006 to restors. This is a free services. For far•Comanche Lake Duplicate, 1 p.m., Dora Roberts Civic Center.

•Most Excellent Way, a chemical dependency support group, 7 p.m., Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. •Good Shepherd Fellowship

Church, 610 Abrams, 7 p.m.; Spanish services. •Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., 615

Settles. •Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor.

•Advocacy meeting for Association for Retarded Citizens, Texas Advocates and Association for the Mentally III, 7 p.m., Dora Roberts Community Center.

WEDNESDAY •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. 12&12 Study.

•Big Spring Evening Lion's Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third. Call Jan Noyes, 267-5811.

•Project Freedom, Christian support group, 7 p.m. Call 263-

5140 or 263-2241. •TOPS Clubs (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30 to 6 p.m. weigh in and 6 p.m. meeting, Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th. Call 263-1340 or 263-8633. •Daytime prenatal classes,

Texas Department of Health, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Call 263-9775 to register. All expectant parents welcome. Class instructor will be Laurie Burks, BSN.

 Volunteers with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will assist in the prepareation of 1996 income tax returns, 9 a.m. to noon, First Presbyterian Church, 8th and Runnels. This program is available to all senior citizens and tohers who have income from wages, tips, interest or dividends and who may be able to receive an earned income credit. Bring all W-2's, 1099's and your 1995 tax

return. This is a free service.

-Support Group for Depression, 7 p.m., Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Third and Lancaster.

•Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center small cafeteria.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting, 615 Settles. 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at Scenic Mountain Medical Center cafeteria.

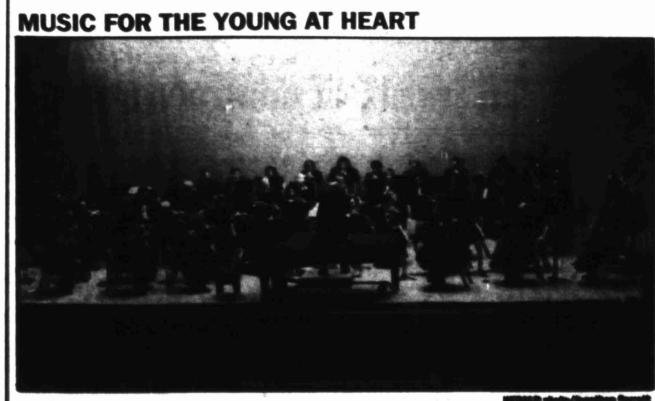
•Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7:15 p.m., Howard County Library. Call Bernice Cason, 267-8542 or 267-7236. •Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30

p.m., 2101 Lancaster. Call Preston Harris, 263-7136.

FRIDAY

•Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Music by CW & Co. Area seniors invited. •Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, 7 p.m. Bible study.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. Big Book Study.



to Big Spring Symphony performed Saturday night for a packed crowd at the Municipal utilization. The context, "Music for the Young at Heart," featured a variety of sange from the Music Man," "Madamo Butterfly" and many other selections.



Horn quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.

Index 7002.42 Volume 162,944,100 ATT 41 -5 Amoco 85% - } **Atlantic Richfield** 127 -Atmos Energy 24 nc Cabot 243 +1 Chevron 661 +1 Chrysler 351 -1 Cifra 1.58-1.62 Coca-Cola 621 - h 351 +1 De Beers DuPont 109% +% Excel Comm. 181 -1 101 -Exton Fina 50 -Ford Motors 331 -1 Halliburton 661 -1 IBM 1443 + 1 Laser Indus LTD 123 +} **Medical Alliance** 161 +1 Mobil 1271 -1 513 + 1 Norwest NUV 91 -1 421 nc **Phillips Petroleum** Pepsi Cola Polaris 341 +1 254 +1 **Rural/Metro** 321 -1 Sears 54 + % Southwestern Bell 56% nc Sun 273 +3 Texaco 101 3 - 3 **Texas Instruments** 81) -1 **Texas Utils.** Co 40% nc Unocal Corp 40 +1 Wal-Mart 251 +1 Amcap 14.87-15.78 Euro Pacific 26.78-28.41 LC.A. 26.24-27.84 New Economy 17.59-18.66 **New Perspective** 19.08-20.24 Van Kamper 14.50-15.22 **Prime Rate** 8.25% Gold 353.30-353.80 Silver 5.14-5.17

RECORDS

Monday's high 44 Monday's low 31 Average high 64 Average how 33 Record high 80 in 1918 Record how 8 in 1960 Precip. Monday 0.60 Month to date 1.40 Month's normal 0.61 Year to date 4.06 Normal for the year 1.23 "Statistics not available



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day, February 25, 1997

GENERAL NEWS

FORT worth Carpy — The proving the proving

not catrying bomb angking components and cancelled the The FBI office in Dallas could

not confirm the report, but said agents will hold a news conference later today.

interview the men to be sure, once because of the possibility that the materials in the truck according to reports in The Dallas Morning News and sevwere meant only for innocent use." "It looks as though they were

The statement said a witness told police that the men were loading diesel fuel into contain-

three blue plastic containers that appeared to be filled with ammonium nitrate fertilizer, the FBI said.

The materials spotted in the truck could produce an explosion big enough to destroy a be farmers for all we know."

cent use. (1) (1)

"This is very soft, very speculative information," said a federal law enforcement official in Washington, requesting anonymity, "These guys may

yet to sit down for a formal

interview with police, although

student at the University of

Colorado until the slaying and

the attorneys," Korten said.

The FBI released a sketch of one of the men, of average build and in his mid-50s. He was described as having slickedback, salt-and-pepper hair, being about 5-feet-10 and clean

The other man, in his mid-30s, was described as clean shaven with short brown hair, about 5-feet-9.

A spool of wire, a small box of what appeared to be red road flares and some type of generator also were spotted in the medium-sized truck, the FBI said.

TEXAS BRIEFS

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The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman, husband, 10-year-old son fight off intruder

DALLAS - With the help of her husband and 10-year-old son, a woman shot and killed a man who robbed them and had begun raping her; police were told.

eral other media outlets.

going about legitimate busi-ness," a federal law enforce-

The assailant dived through a back window of the first-floor apartment and collapsed in a parking lot outside. The man, identified as Kedrian Myers, 18, died a short time later.

The 27-year-old woman told police that family members were getting ready for work and school about 6 a.m. Monday when the man barged through their front door and fired two shots, narrowly missing her husband.

With the couple's three young children hiding in a bedroom, the man demanded and received cash before turning his attention to her, the couple told police.

"Apparently, his original intent was a home-invasion robbery but once he was in the house, he committed the sexual assault," homicide Sgt. Larry Lewis said.

Report: Bush ally may benefit from privatization plan

HOUSTON - A Fort Worth billionaire who is a former business partner and major campaign contributor to Gov. George W. Bush stands to benefit from a Bush proposal to privatize state mental hospitals, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

A real estate investment trust headed by Richard Rainwater arranged on Jan. 30 to buy 95 psychiatric hospitals from Magellan Health Services Inc. for \$400 million, the Chronicle reported.

The hospitals would be operated jointly by the Rainwater trust and Magellan, formerly known as Charter Medical Corp.

The deal came one day after Bush, in his proposed state budget, recommended that the state to look into private management of a state mental hospital.

State agency targets colonias for home-improvement loans

AUSTIN - With an interest in not only putting a roof over Texans' heads but improving the quality of those roofs, a state agency has introduced a home-improvement loan program for poor families.

"What we're talking about here is basic quality of life issues," Larry Paul Manley, executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, said Monday.

"Just getting people into homes isn't enough," added Linda Nessie, president of the Federal Housing Administration Homeowners Center in Denver.

The federal government is participating in the state program, as is with HOME. Inc., a private home improvement lender that

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - A before Berrigan or go to the 5th judge refused Monday to throw U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The tobacco industry has suggested that the clock for lawsuits started ticking when the addiction issue became wellpublicized, with a 1988 Surgeon General's report labeling nicotine as addictive.

But lawyers for Dianne Castano, whose husband, Peter, died of lung cancer, and pharmacist Ernest Perry, who claims addiction to nicotine. said the issue is when the plaintiffs became aware of the nicotine-manipulation issue.

The lawsuit was filed in 1994, one week after the head of the and Drug U.S. Food

dence about the addictive qualities of cigarettes.

"The plaintiffs' earlier knowledge of an inability to quit, or 'addiction,' does not preclude a later claim against (the tobacco industry) for supplying the cause of that inability," the judge wrote.

The suit had been given classaction status at one point by another federal judge, meaning that smokers from across the country could join in. Last year, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the suit could not be expanded to classaction.

attorneys has filed similar suits manipulated, and says class Administration told a congres- -asking for class-action status in sional committee that the tobac- otherdourts of 17 states: are real co industry had suppressed evi- yeiAll of the suits contend the differently to cigarettes.

industry knew that nicotine was addictive and nicotine levels in cigarettes were manipulated to keep smokers hooked.

In addition, 22 states have sued tobacco companies in an attempt to recover millions of dollars of public funds spent to treat smoking-related health problems.

Defendants in the federal and state suits are Philip Morris Inc., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., The American Tobacco Co. Inc., Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. and the industry's lobbying arm, The Tobacco Institute.

The tobacco industry insists Since then, a consortium of nicotine is neither addictive nor actions are inappropriate because every smoker reacts

lived with his parents on the same block as his fraternity house. Jefferson Sentinel The ONLINE, in a copyright story, La. judge won't toss out lawsuit against tobacco companies

the two sides remain in con-John Andrew was in Georgia tact. "All dealings are through when the girl was killed. The Jefferson Sentinel ONLINE is Also Monday, a newspaper the daily electronic edition of reported that Boulder police the Jefferson Sentinel weekly. returned to Atlanta with ques-A team of investigators left tions about the alibi for Boulder on Feb. 13 to make a JonBenet's half-brother, John Andrew Ramsey, who was a

as saying police had doubts

about the family's claims that

In addition, the parents have quoted an unidentified source

second trip to the Atlanta area to conduct interviews. They then continued on to an undisclosed location.

John Andrew and his sister, Melinda, 25, are the children of Lucinda and John Ramsey. who were divorced in 1978.

Boulder DA seeking experienced investigator to direct JonBenet Ramsey's murder investigation

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — The parents of JonBenet Ramsey believe they top the police list of suspects in the brutal murder of their 6-year-old daughter, a family spokesman reiterated Monday.

"As I've said all along, it's pretty obvious that from what the police and district attorney have said in recent weeks, they consider the Ramseys at the top of their potential suspect list," Pat Korten said Monday. Search warrants for the Ramseys' home and automobiles will remain sealed for 90 days or until an arrest is made in the case, a judge ruled their daughter's murder.

out a lawsuit accusing the

nation's largest tobacco compa-

nies of manipulating nicotine

levels in cigarettes to keep

U.S. District Judge Ginger Berrigan rejected arguments by

the tobacco industry that the

plaintiffs waited too long under

Louisiana's one-year time limit

to sue, even though their law-

"We think the ruling by the

court is incorrect. We're going

to be looking at ways to get it

reviewed," said Michael York, a

lawyer for Philip Morris Inc.,

the maker of Marlboro, the

York said the tobacco compa-

nies could ask for a rehearing

nation's top-selling brand.

suit is in federal court.

smokers hooked.

asked to keep the details secret. It has been nearly two months since JonBenet's body was found strangled in the basement of her family's 15room home here. John Ramsey found her body about eight hours after her mother discovered a ransom note seeking \$118,000.

Monday after prosecutors

An autopsy revealed the former Little Miss Colorado may have been sexually assaulted.

Korten said the seals on the

search warrants remain

because the Ramseys haven't

been eliminated as suspects in

would originate and service the loans

Manley introduced the Texas Home Improvement Loan Program combining private and public money to provide \$13.3 million for low-income families in small towns, defined as areas with less than 50,000 residents.

Senator says he's embarrassed; ready to move on

AUSTIN - Back to work for the first time since his arrest on sex and firearms charges, Sen. Drew Nixon says he was embarrassed but ready move on.

Nixon, R-Carthage, missed two days last week after his arrest for allegedly trying to hire an Austin police officer posing as a prostitute.

Police also said Nixon was carrying a loaded, 9mm handgun in his car at the time of his arrest last Tuesday night. Nixon has been charged with solicitation of prostitution, a

Class B misdemeanor. He also faces a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon, a Class A misdemeanor.

Cult leader's conspiracy trial begins

HOUSTON — Prosecutors say the leader of a polygamous cult directed the 1988 slayings of three defectors and an 8-year-old witness as part of the sect's belief in blood atonement.

Aaron LeBaron, 28, is charged with conspiracy to commit murder in the deaths of Ed Marston, brothers Mark and Duane Chynoweth, and Duane Chynoweth's young daughter, Jenny. They were shot to death minutes apart in suburban Dallas and

at two sites in Houston.

Texas chief justice says election reforms are needed

AUSTIN (AP) - High-dollar, partisan races for Texas judgeships are lowering Texans' confidence in their courts and damaging the state's reputation. **Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Tom Phillips says.**

Delivering his State of the Judiciary Address to lawmakers Monday, Phillips said the Legislature needs to consider comprehensive reforms in the judicial selection system.

"Although serious reforms have been mounted for more than 100 years, the need for change has become more urgent with the increased size of the judiciary and the advent of twoparty politics," Phillips said.

Speaking to the three House and Senate committees that deal with judicial affairs, the chief justice said the nation's secondlargest state has outgrown its old system of direct, partisan election of judges.

not comment

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The state has

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have been acceptable in 1876. At that time, there were six appellate and 26 trial judges in the entire state." he said.

But in 1994, he noted, Harris County voters alone had to make 45 judicial decisions in primary elections, eight in runoffs and 59 in the general elections.

"It could have been worse, 16 more judicial races were unopposed," he said. "Sadly, the results of these races are determined far more by party strength than by individual merit.'

In 1994, 31 of 40 opposed **Democratic district and appeals** court judges in Texas were defeated, while all Republican incumbents won. In 1996, Democrats lost only three of 18 opposed judgeships, while Republicans lost eight of 28.

"Thus, the shifting tides of

"Our current system may party fortune, which have almost nothing to do with judicial performance, have caused the defeat of almost 10 percent of the state judiciary in the last two years," Phillips said.

Phillips said campaign contributions also raise questions about the impartiality of Texas courts.

"Another major problem with the current system is the perception of unequal justice that inevitably arises when judges and judicial candidates accept campaign contributions from lawyers and litigants who have a stake in current or future court decisions," he said.

"With such a large electorate and with so many contested elections, the sums raised and spent are enormous."

Phillips said candidates for Texas' appeals courts alone raised more than \$50 million from 1988 to 1994.

The judge noted that national experts have pointed to Texas' wide-open campaign financing and said such races "discourage out-of-state investment and job creation here."

Another problem, Phillips said, is a continuing lack of racial diversity among judges.

"Although more than 40 percent of all Texans are minorities, only one-ninth of the state judiciary is Hispanic or African American. ... A successful system must encourage more minority lawyers to seek judicial positions, and once in office, afford them a more reasonable prospect of remaining there."

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Federal judge rules Confederate flag can stay on special Maryland plates

BALTIMORE (AP) – The Confederate battle flag on special Maryland license plates is protected by the First Amendment and cannot be banned, a federal judge ruled Monday.

U.S. District Judge Frederic Smalkin agreed with the Sons of Confederate Veterans that the Motor Vehicle Administration should not have recalled the plates following complaints from blacks, who said the flag is offensive because of its ties to slavery.

discriminate this symbol of chivalry and against group because honor and the government of its political viewpoint," said David Melton, viewpoint it finds to be coran attorney who rect.

represented the confederate group.

"The flag was simply a symbol of chivalry and honor and the government cannot pick and choose the viewpoint it finds to be correct," Melton said.

"The court just made it real A motor vehicles spokes-

clear you can't "The flag was simply a cannot pick and choose the

plates to more than 300 nonprofit organizations. About 80 plates had been issued to members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans over the past several years.

After black lawmakers complained. Motor Vehicles **Administrator Ronald Freeland**

DHS Seminars

recalled the plates on Jan. 2. woman would The Sons of Confederate Veterans filed a lawsuit Jan. 21 asking that the recall be lifted.

Only one logo has been rejected since the program started in 1990, said MVA spokeswoman Marilyn Corbett. It depicted a naked Buddha to represent the Royal Order of the Jesters. The group agreed to a non-logo plate, she said.

Another logo, using the letters FU" was modified by the Anne Arundel County Professional

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OUR VIEWS

Signs of Boydstun gone; Groundbreaking set

It seems like it was just yesterday that a lone workman arrived at the old Boydstun Elementary School - also known to many as the old East Ward School — site to begin dismantling awnings in preparation for demolition of the school.

Today, the site is cleared and there's little evidence that a school ever stood on the site.

All that will change, of course, when contractors begin work constructing the Big Spring Independent School District's new junior high school on the site next month. A groundbreaking ceremony is set for 11 a.m. Thursday,

March 6, on the site.

According to Tommie Huckabee, the district's architect, contracts with Monterey Construction Co. Inc. of Wolfforth may be signed that day and construction could begin approximately 10 days later.

BSISD trustees and administrators have proved to be particularly progressive of late - approving construction of a new athletic facility on the Big Spring High School campus, as well as successfully enlisting support for the bond issue that will finance the new junior high school building and provide air conditioning and heating improvements on several other campuses.

It has almost become cliche to mention that schools hold our children's future, and in so doing, hold all our futures. From all appearances today, we as a community seem to have placed our schools and our children's futures in

capable and progressively-minded hands. Members of the school board and Superintendent W.A.

Bill" McQueary's administrative team should take a collective bow. They deserve congratulations, we we hereby offer ours.



There are consequences of letting people of bad character govern

The day after the State of the Union speech my newspaper ran color pictures of three psychopaths

- O. J.

Simpson, Newt Gingrich and Bill Clinton. You won't find one conscience among the three of **Charley Reese** them. Syndicated

It says a Columnist lot about the bank-

ruptcy of the American culture that it is obsessed by three individuals who in a normal society would be hardly worthy of notice. But as polls have confirmed, character counts for nothing these days. Just fame, money and position

There was a time in America when even a divorce could damage or end a public career. Today, almost nothing can damage one. Edwin Edwards, a colorful former governor of Louisiana, once quipped to the press. "The only thing that

In Massachusetts, even that probably wouldn't matter. Rep. Gerry Studds got caught in bed with a live boy and was handily re-elected. Rep. Barney Frank fell in love with a mailorder male prostitute and got re-elected. Sen. Edward Kennedy would have gotten caught with a dead girl, but he left her to drown and then lied about it. He's considered the state's most distinguished son.

Well, liberals who wanted to convince Americans that tolerance was the only virtue required of postmodern man ought to be happy. Americans are about the most tolerant people since the Romans of the fifth century.

It doesn't strike me as virtuous, however, to be tolerant of incompetence, stupidity, greed, vice, lying, irresponsibility and the breaking of oaths and vows. But what do I know? I'm well outside the mainstream, and considering what's floating in that mainstream, I'm darn glad I am.

It does kind of puzzle me, though, why folks think that they can be well-governed by liars, cheats, thieves and profitbetween the quality of government and the quality of the governors.

The system of government is just a mechanism. Whether the mechanism of the Justice Department, for example, is used to pursue justice or commit injustice depends on the character of the people in charge of it. Whether the power of an army defends liberty or snuffs it out depends on the character of its commanders.

The bureaucracy of the Third Reich was not evil. It was just a bureaucracy. It was used to commit evil acts. The government apparatus in any country, including ours, can also be used to commit evil if evil people command it.

Character doesn't matter? Great God, what a stupid belief that is!

Better take a tour of the killing fields and bone yards in Europe and the former Soviet Union, in Cambodia, in Africa and in Asia. Do you think Fidel Castro's character doesn't matter? Hitler's? Stalin's? Pol Pot's? There you can see just what an evil government can

do when men of bad character

are in charge of it.

they alone are immune to the consequences of allowing people of bad character to occupy the seats of government power? Do they think we can't lose our liberty? Do they think our economy cannot be looted and our families bankrupted? Do they think our children cannot be reduced to serfs? Do they think we can never know the firing squad and labor camp?

Wake up, brothers and sisters. Happiness and good government are the exceptions of human history, not the rule. We have been a lucky people and blessed surely beyond what we merit. Millions have died in our own century because of the evil character of men who ran their governments.

This nonchalant, flippant, cynical attitude that character doesn't matter can land us in a hellish situation if we don't wake up and attend to our civic responsibilities. Self-government means just that -- that we have to attend to public business, and we do that by putting not the worst or most mediocre but the best and most outstanding people we can find in public office.

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YOUR VIEWS

Outdoor column brings tale from Indiana woods back

TO THE EDITOR:

I read in Boyce Hale's column about the snake that turned out to be a frog. It was very interesting indeed. I can imagine the scare the lad got from thinking it was snake, and the surprise to all how it turned out.

Mr. Hale, you sound like a person who has spent lots of time roaming the woods and loves the outdoors

When I was a lad about 10 years old I loved the woods, as we called them in Indiana. There were big trees with low hanging branches. One could walk through the woods and see strange birds, hawks, owls, and coons perched on these limbs. I was out, as usual, from sun up to sun set seeking out these beautiful creatures. I came across a hollow log and looked up to see a large bird flying over me. Now and then it would dip down as if to tell me something. I figured there must be another one somewhere near. Sure enough I found three birds big enough to be chickens; white and fluffy. This mother bird didn't like the idea of me nosing around her home. I thought these, whatever they were, were very pretty and gathered up the three of them and started off. I had to cross a stream between there and home and wondered if they could swim. I tossed one in the water and found out they were not ducks

- the poor thing drowned. I kept hold of the other two to show Dad what I picked up in the woods. Dad took one look at what I had and he said, "Get hose buzzards out of here!" So they were buzzards, ch?

I took for the woods gain and back to the big b. ds log nome. Sure enough the bird was still flying around. I care-ully placed the white birds ack in the log and then stood If a distance to see what id happen. I watched the ir descend and disappear

that a mother's love is pure and not to be disregarded, even if the mother is a buzzard. SIG ROGERS

Big Spring

February sun on VA windows paints beautiful picture

TO THE EDITOR:

Last evening my neighbor, Velma Lloyd, knocked at my door. We live at Canterbury South She said, "Can you come with me?" "I have something to show you."

She seemed very excited! Thinking something may be wrong, I put down the potato peeler and followed across the hall. Entering the room she said, "See the VA fireworks?" Fireworks in February? We looked out the south window and stood in amazement! The VA Hospital windows were ablaze with an amazing display of brilliant, flashing, white lights. Beautiful! Astounding! We watched in awe until the suns moving directed its ray elsewhere.

A memorable few moments caught in just the right time space.

> GLENNEE GREFFTTH **Big Spring**

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor

Please: 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.

 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 comdered for publication

 We do not acknowledge receipt of let · Letters from our circulation

area will be given preference. . Letters should be submitte

would hurt me politically would be to get caught in bed with a dead girl or live boy.'

gates. It may sound revolutionary in these dumbing-down days, but there is a connection

We should take strength from others' wise words

By BILL MAXWELL

St. Petersburg Times

Many young African-American readers of this column often ask me to explain how I – a black male born into a migrant farm-working family during the 1940s in the South - managed to become successful. They also ask me to explain how I maintain a positive attitude.

Because we are nearing the end of Black History Month, I thought that now is a good time to share my response to a wider audience.

Actually, I have no secret formula. Nor do I do anything special. I simply do, among other things, what most other successful black people do. Listen to my own heart; trust my perceptions and instincts. hold myself to extremely high standards; avoid hubris, measure my circumstances and environment logically and honestly; emulate those I admire. be as self reliant as possible. enjoy the beauty of nature. serve others, and surround myself with positive thinkers and self-starters

I also study the insights and analyze the wise counsel of other people of color Throughout the years, I have filled many notebooks and journals with the words of thoughtful people. Following is some of the wisdom that I have made a part of my life, that I regularly make the themes of my

'He who conceals his disease

cannot expect to be cured." --Ethiopian proverb

"Language used correctly ... expands the brain, increases one's knowledge bank, enlarges the world, and challenges the vision of those who may not have a vision." -- Haki Madhubuti

'Bad language brings bad problems." - Ugandan proverb

"Be diligent as long as you live, always doing more than is commanded of you." - African proverb

"He who starts behind in the great race of life must forever remain behind or run faster than the man in front." Benjamin E. Mays

Blacks must earn their way to higher achievement." Thurgood Marshall

"First forget inspiration. Habit is more dependable. Habit will sustain you whether you're inspired or not Habit is persistence in practice." - Octavia E. Butler

"What motivates me is a sense of accountability to people who are important in my life. There are a lot of people I can't let down." -- Richard D. Parsons,

"Take responsibility for every area of your life." --Axiom

"It doesn't matter what you are trying to accomplish. It's all a matter of discipline." -

ed, I was at Columbia Pictures for an eight-week internship. I saw a dearth of faces of color. I just knew that if I wanted to get through, I would have to go the independent route." -Spike Lee

'The right mental attitude is more important than knowledge." — Dennis Kimbro

"The pleasure you get from your life is equal to the attitude you put into it." --Anonymous

"People who expect to achieve their goals don't stand around talking about them." -Les Brown

"Your world is as big as you make it." - Georgia Douglass Johnson

"I come from a line of industrious people. I don't mind hard work, for you see I believe it develops character and one of its more sterling traits: dignity." -- Monifa Hakim

"It doesn't work in practice. You can't give something to somebody to have. Then they don't value it. Value is associated with hard work." ---**Richard D. Parsons**

'When rungs were missing, I learned to jump." - Williams Warfield

"Never accept the negative thought, 'I can't make it because I'm black.' You can't concede defeat before you even start." - James Earl Jones

The next eight gems are from the book "Message to the Blackman in America", by Elijah Muhammad, a founder of the Nation of Islam. More than any other person, he has given me essential rules by

Remember, even God's patience has its limits, and What makes Americans think luck changes.

which to live as an individual

"Pool your resources, educa-

"Make your own neighbor-

"Recognize the necessity for

"Stop buying expensive cars,

and as a member of black

tion and qualifications for

hood a decent place to live.

unity and group operation

"Build your own homes.

schools, hospitals and facto-

fine clothes and shoes before

"Build an economic system

"Observe the operations of

the white man. He is success-

ful. He makes no excuses for

a collective manner. You do

his failures. He works hard in

I wish that my young readers

would buy their own notebooks

Above all else, learn to make

"Good things happen to posi-

... as you put out positive

and journals. Then, read wide-

ly and listen to wise people.

use their wisdom to create

solid, honest views of life.

thinking positive second

powerful forces we have.

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Listen to the truth in these

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too." - Everette Harp

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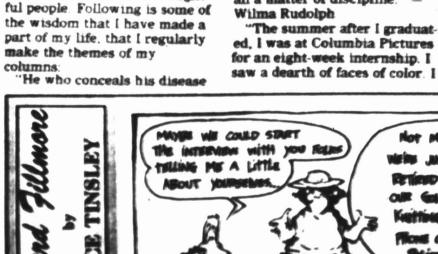
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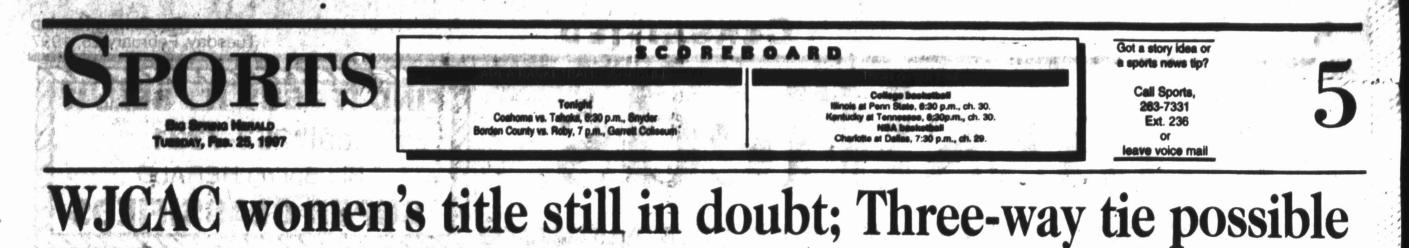
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Hale p LUB head f Texas He s







All season long, people were saying that the Howard College, Midland **College and South Plains College** women's teams were so close, you could flip a coin to decide which one was best.

That may not be be so far-fetched an idea.

Depending on what happens in the final week of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference basketball season, Howard, Midland and South Plains could end up in a three-way tie for first. If that happens, a convoluted system of tie-breakers would go into affect to determine seeding for next month's Region V tournament in

Cisco.

As things stand now, South Plains holds a half-game lead over both Howard and Midland. If South Plains wins Thursday's game at Midland and Howard wins its season finale at Frank Phillips — the Lady Texans will claim the WJCAC title and top seeding

at the regional tournament. Howard would end the regular season in second place, while Midland would slip to third. If Midland defeats South Plains, however, and the Lady Hawks win at

Frank Phillips, the three teams would end the season in a three-way tie for first with identical 15-3 conference records. That's where a three-part tie-break-

ing process would kick in: • Step one would be to compare the

teams' "power points," which are awarded to teams based on their victories over high-ranked opponents this season

WJCAC Commissioner John Green said a team will receive 10 points for defeating the conference's top team, 9 for beating the second place team, 8 for defeating the third-place team, and so on.

Green will make a final power point determination Friday.

• If the teams are still tied, head-tohead records will be considered, but that factor is a dead heat among the three teams. If Midland wins Thursday, they'll have beaten SPC twice, while South Plains has defeated Howard twice and Howard has downed Midland twice, giving no team the advantage.

system is a coin flip.

This tie-breaker would only affect seeding for the regional tournament the three teams would be considered WJCAC co-champions.

The regional tournament, scheduled for next month at Cisco High School, will pit the top four teams from the WJCAC against the top four squads from the North Texas Junior College Athletic Conference.

The top Western team will face the No. 4 seed from the NTJCAC (probably Cisco), while the WJCAC's No. 2 seed will face McLennan Community College, the third-ranked team from the NTJCAC.

The rest of the draw will feature the WJCAC's No. 3 team facing Grayson Community College, second in the

• The final step in the tie-breaker NTJCAC, while New Mexico Junior College, fourth in the WJCAC, will take on Weatherford College, the champion from the NTJCAC.

For Howard's men, the situation is much simpler - win, and the Hawks qualify for the Region V tournament as the fourth seed from the WJCAC; lose, and Howard stays home for the postseason.

Howard men's coach Tommy Collins said the Hawks must win Thursday at Frank Phillips to qualify for the regional tournament. The Hawks could lose and tie for the the fourth spot, but any tie-breaker situation would go against the Hawks, Collins

"We can't beat anybody on a tiebreaker, so we have to get in on our own." Collins said

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UConn still atop women's Top 25 listing The ASSOCIATED PRESS

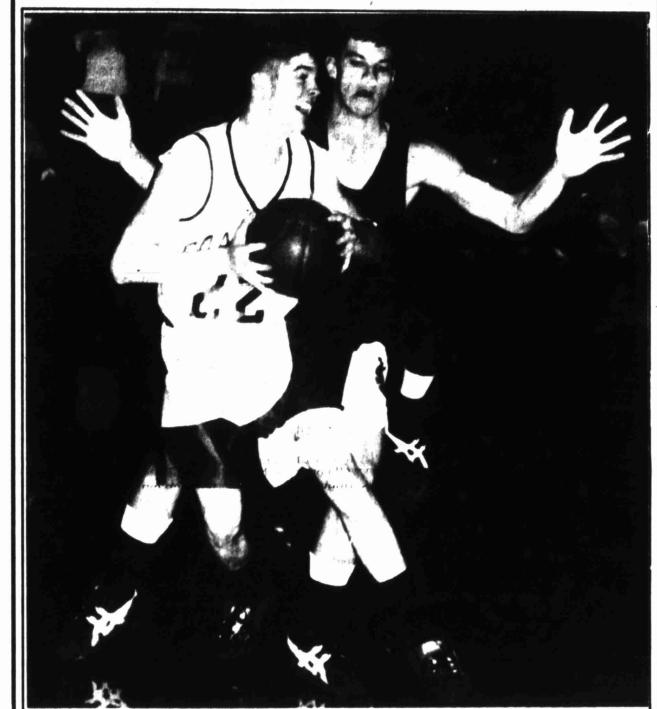
Purdue's Nell Fortner inherited a mess and turned it into a champion.

Taking over a program that was reeling from the firing of coach Lin Dunn and had only three returning players, Fortner guided Purdue to a share of the women's Big Ten championship.

The Boilermakers were rewarded for their effort Monday with the No. 24 spot in The Associated Press women's basketball poll, which for the 10th straight week had Connecticut on top.

"I'm a little overwhelmed," said Fortner, an assistant at Louisiana Tech before spending last season as an assistant with the U.S. Olympic team. "We were picked to finish eighth in the league, so this is incredible. While Purdue joined the poll near the bottom, Connecticut (26-0) remained an overwhelming choice for the top spot, receiving 38 of 42 first-place votes and 1,045 points from a national media panel. Old Dominion (26-1), a winner of 25 straight, remained second with 1,006 points and Stanford (27-1) held on at No. 3 with 973. Three voters made Old Dominion No. 1. Stanford received one vote for first. No. 4 Georgia and No. 5 North Carolina traded places. as did No. 6 Louisiana Tech and No. 7 Alabama. Tennessee remained eighth. LSU jumped four places to ninth and Florida stayed at No. 10.

AREA PLAYOFF TONIGHT



Big 12 coaches hoping to get six conference teams in NCAA tourney

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -Maybe there's a reason Danny Nee is the head basketball coach at Nebraska and his assistants are still assistants.

After the Huskers played Minnesota last December, long before the Gophers rated much mention in the national polls, Nee was sure he'd seen a special team.

'I walked off the court and I felt they were a strong and dominating a team," Nee said. "I said to my staff, 'This team is one of the top 10 teams in the country."

Even though Minnesota beat the Huskers that day 70-56, Nee said his staff did not agree.

Now, of course, they are ranked No. 2 in the country, right behind Big 12 champion Kansas.

about Minnesota was their of Big Eight coaches and is overall depth and strength, Nee said. "Their overall He's never been one to hide his strength.

team in the country that have played both No. 1 Kansas and No. 2 Minnesota.

In the meantime, Big 12 coaches are hoping to get at least six teams into the NCAA tournament next month.

Kansas, No. 13 Iowa State and No. 19 Colorado are all a cinch to get bids. Texas and Texas Tech, which were both ranked earlier in the season, also could be in good shape.

"I hope that we have a number that would exceed what we had in the Big Eight," said Missouri coach Norm Stewart. "We picked up four teams (Texas, Texas Tech, Baylor, Texas A&M). Two or three of those teams are playing very well and have got a number of wins.

Completing his 30th season at "The thing that impressed me Missouri, Stewart was the dean now the dean of Big 12 coaches opinion of how the conference The Huskers are the only was being marketed.

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HERALD file phot

Coahoma's Matt Hamilton (22) looks for a teammate to pass the ball during last week's 64-51 bidistrict playoff win over Hawley Thursday. The Bulldogs take on Tahoka in area playoff action tonight at 6:30 in the Scurry County Coliseum in Snyder.

Arkansas denies losing control of basketball program

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) -University of Arkansas officials, while denying a loss of control of the school's men's basketball program, have frozen the salaries of basketball coach Nolan Richardson and the athletic director.

The university released Monday its response to a letter of inquiry from the National Collegiate Athletic Association accusing the school of several violations of NCAA rules. The school's response admitted four violations, but denied

control. The school also said it would forfeit a basketball scholarship this year and next, and would deny scholarships to junior-col-

lege transfers for two years. In the 100-page-plus document sent to the NCAA, the university said it froze salaries for Richardson, athletic director Frank Broyles and four other athletic department employees for a year.

The university, which won the NCAA men's basketball

Richardson's program is out of championship in 1994, did not elaborate on the reason for the salary freeze for the 1996-97 fiscal year.

The admitted violations include improper typing assistance by Kim Wood, daughter of Arkansas chancellor Dan Ferritor, and a separate allegation that she lied to NCAA investigators. Ms. Wood resigned Aug. 26 as academic adviser for men's basketball.

The school also admitted "the inadvertent and technical administrative miscertification," of junior college transfer players Jesse Pate and Sunday Adebayo.

The school voluntarily declared Pate and Adebayo ineligible, shortly after the NCAA investigation began. Pate is playing minor-league pro basketball and Adebayo transferred to Memphis.

The university also admitted that Brad Dunn, one of Richardson's assistants whose salary was frozen, improperly transported a friend of a student-athlete about two miles.

TOURNEY WIN



Manuel Marquez of Big Spring, right, receives a trophy from Dallas Downtown YMCA Director Tom Easterland after winning the Master's Division at the 51st Annual George Lee Invitational Handball Tournament Feb. 14-16 in Dallas.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Drexeli Owusu wins WAC triple-jump crown

Big Spring High School graduate Drexell Owusu, now a sophomore at Rice University, finished first in the triple jump at last weekend's Western Athletic Conference indoor track and field meet in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Owusu, who won two state triple jump titles while at BSHS, won the event with a leap of 51 feet, 2 1/4 inches. Merek Samseli of Brigham Young was second with a jump of 49 feet, 10 1/2 inches.

Owusu also was fourth in the long jump at the meet with a leap of 23-6 3/4. Cedric Lusk of Tulsa won the event with a jump of 23-9.

Hale picked to coach Red Raider offensive line

LUBBOCK - Former Big Spring High School head football coach Clovis Hale has returned to Texas Tech as offensive line coach.

He succeeds Ted Unbehagen, a 10-year Tech

veteran who left to join Houston's staff.

The Loraine native began his career as a Lubbock High assistant in 1966 before Dykes hired him away at Big Spring. Hale succeeded Dykes at Big Spring before taking over at San Angelo Lake View.

He coached under Hayden Fry at North Texas and Iowa before his first stop at Texas Tech.

Hale coached Tech's offensive line from 1984-86 before serving five seasons at Texas. After a stint with the Detroit Drive of the Arena Football League, Hale has spent the last five seasons at SMU.

Stallings wins SEC mile run

Stanton High School graduate Jeremy Stallings, now a senior at the University of Florida, won the mile run at the 1997 SEC Indoor Track and Field Championships held at UF last weekend.

Stallings' winning time was 4:04.77 and helped the Gators to a second-place finish behind No. 1 Arkansas. Arkansas won the meet with 147 points, while Florida scored 101 points.

Stallings' next meet will be the USA Track and Field Indoor Championships at Atlanta March 1.

He also will compete at the NCAA Indoor Championships at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis March 7-8.

Forsan High powerlifters place at two meets

FORSAN — Forsan High School's powerlifting team competed at two meets this past weekend.

At a meet in Kermit, Connie Rios placed first in the girls' division with a total lift of 455 pounds. Jackie Brown placed 10th in the division with a total lift of 380 pounds.

In the boys' division, Daniel Smith was second at 114 pounds with a 710-pound total lift, while Dale Dolloff placed third in the 275-pound class with a total lift of 1,130 pounds.

Competing at Grape Creek, Brian Mims won the 181-pound class with a total lift of 965 pounds, and Chris Rios lifted a total of 635 pounds to take first in the 114-pound class.

Derek Wash was third at 132 pounds with a total lift of 665 pounds, while Chris King was fifth at 148 pounds with a total lift of 645 pounds.

Weather gets best of Howard baseball series

The four-game baseball series between Howard **College and Northeast Texas Community College** scheduled for last weekend was postponed because of inclement weather

The series has been tentatively rescheduled as a doubleheader at NETCC's home field in Mount Pleasant April 6.

The Hawks open Western Junior College Athletic Conference action Saturday and Sunday when they host El Paso Community College at Jack Barber Field. The series begins with a noon doubleheader Saturday and concludes with a single game at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Gun and bow safety course to begin March 13

Local hunter education instructor Boyce Hale will teach a gun and bow safety course at the Chamber of Commerce of BigSpring and Howard County conference room March 13-15, beginning at 5 p.m.

Anyone born after Sept. 2, 1971, is required to successfully complete this course before legally hunting in Texas.

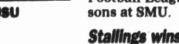
Cost of the course is \$10 and covers a lifetime certification.

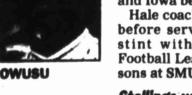
For more information, call 267-6957 or preregister at Dibrell's Gun Shop at 1307 Gregg St.











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ilver, 6cly., auto trans., ilt, cruise, air, cassette. 7,500. 264-9613	1991 Mercury Sable GS. 3.8 V6 motor, 74K. Asking \$5700. Call	interior & top. Automatic : \$3750.00 a possible owner finance.	1993 NISSAN KINGCAB, 5 SPEED, AIR ,CASSETTE,	PERSONAL	employed in work experience situations and classroom training (if necessary), for 5 - 6	ONLY THE BEST! FRY GRILL COOK	able to type 40 WPM. For further information or to apply, contact City Hall Personnel at 310	WORKPLACE Job opening for REGISTERED NURSE. Will provide nursing
94 Ford Mustang LX, e-door, V-6, Power : vindows & seats. Tilt, ruise & tape. 29k	after 6pm call 393-5283. JEEPS	263-8229. Pickups	76,000 MI. \$6995.00 268-9954.	D START DATING TONIGHT Play the Texas Dating Game 1-800-Romance	weeks during the summer months. Applicants must meet JTPA income guildlines and be between 14 - 21 years	Needed for local restaurant team.	Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call 915-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity. Employer	assessment, treatment, and consultation to people with mental retardation in the Big
610,900 Call 64-6114.	Smoker. 267-6422		ADOPTION Happily married couple	EXT.5132 BUSINESS OPPT	old. Limit 1 member per family. Appointment is required and individuals	required. Health ins. Call for appt. 267-5020.	Opportunity Employer. WEST TEXAS CENTERS FOR MHMR Salary \$2816.00 PER MONTH	Spring area. Will work closely with other human service professionals to develop and implement
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GEECH	I CAN'T REMEMBER THE WAY I CAME.	WELL, DON'T ASK ME AUSSE I WASN'T EVEN WITH YOU.	h *HEY! WAKE UP! LET'S GO EVERYWHERE AND DO EVERYTHING!" 6th day of 1997. There are In 1570, Pope Pius V excom-

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unexpired term of Jefferson Davis.

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In 1901, U.S. Steel Corp. incorporated by J.P. Morgan.

In 1919, Oregon became the first state to tax gasoline.

In 1948, Communists seized power in Czechoslovakia.

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In 1983, playwright Tennessee Williams was found dead in his New York hotel suite; he was 71. In 1986, President Ferdinand E. Marcos fled the Philippines after 20 years of rule in the

wake of a tainted election; Corazon Aquino assumed the presidency.

In 1990, Nicaraguans went to the polls in an election that resulted in an upset victory for opponents of the ruling Sandinistas.

In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, 28 Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud missile hit a U.S. barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

In 1994, Jewish settler Baruch Goldstein opened fire with an automatic rifle inside the Tomb of the Patriarchs in the West Bank, killing 29 Muslims before he was beaten to death by worshippers.

Ten years ago: The U.S. Supreme Court upheld an affirmative action program in Alabama that provided for promoting equal numbers of black and white state troopers.

Five years ago: President Bush won the South Dakota Republican primary, Bob Kerrey the Democratic primary. Natalie Cole won seven awards at the 34th annual Grammys, including best album for "Unforgettable."

One year ago: Blasts set off by suicide bombers in Jerusalem and Ashkelon killed 27 people. A 12-mile tether connecting a half-ton satellite to the space shuttle Columbia broke loose as it almost completely unreeled. Cambodian activist Dr. Haing S. Ngor, who won an Academy Award for his performance in the 1984 movie "The Killing Fields," was shot to death out-

side his Los Angeles apartment. Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ralph Stanley is 70. Musician Tommy Newsom is 68. Actor Tom Courtenay is 60. **CBS newsman Bob Schieffer is** 60. Actress Diane Baker is 59. Rock singer-musician George Harrison is 54. Talk show host Sally Jessy Raphael is 54. Actress Karen Grassle ("Little House on the Prairie") is 53. Rock singer-musician Mike Peters (The Alarm) is 38. Actor Sean Astin is 26.

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