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# HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

MONDAY  
March 24, 1997

50 cents

## Counts says state budget contains \$2.6 billion increase

HERALD Staff Report

State Rep. David Counts says the recent passage of an \$83.3 billion budget by the Texas House of Representatives for the 1998-99 biennium is a minimal increase of \$2.6 billion (3.2 percent) compared to the last biennium.

According to Counts' office, the increase is due to continued population growth in the state.

Growth in the last 10 years has included a 17 percent increase in public school enrollment; an 8 percent increase in higher education; and a 36 percent increase in community college enrollment. The state has also experienced a significant increase in the



COUNTS

number of people being served with health and human services.

Despite Texas' size, Counts is still concerned about the tax burden.

"I find it interesting that even with Texas being the second largest state in the nation, we rank 46th in the nation with our overall total tax burden," Counts said.

The new budget includes several changes compared to the 1996-97 biennium, according to Counts' office.

Public education spending increased

by \$1.5 billion or 7.7 percent.

"Of the total increase to education, approximately \$1 billion is to fully fund the Foundation School Program, as well as \$200 million to maintain equity standards and \$11 million to increase funding for the Safe Schools Program," Counts said.

The budget also includes an increase of more than \$212 million for the Teacher Retirement System and \$31.2 million for the Optional Retirement Program.

According to Counts, much of the spending increase in education is simply an effort to keep Texas' growing schools adequately funded.

Higher education spending is also increased in the new budget by 1.7 per-

cent, with a \$5.2 million increase for community college growth.

The state budget may also receive some help through several recommended cost cutting measures.

Measures detailed in the comptroller's performance review to eliminate vacant state jobs could save taxpayers \$322.8 million.

"The changes recommended in the performance review could add up to \$351.7 million in savings to the state, as well as, \$43.1 million in gross revenue," Counts said. "As a businessman, I understand the need to be fiscally responsible, while preserving the service level that our state must maintain."

The state has also established a \$200

million contingency fund to cover unexpected increases in school enrollment and health and human service caseloads.

According to Counts, this provision is simply a safety net. "We hope two years from now the money is still there," he said, "but we understand more than ever, our local school districts cannot handle the added expense of a surprise increase in enrollment."

Federal funding increases of approximately 5.5 percent or \$1.2 billion, constitutes 28.9 percent of the overall budget of \$24.1 billion.

Many provisions discussed during budget talks were left out of the budget

Please see COUNTS, page 2

## Gateway seeking PC clout

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gateway 2000 emerged from the South Dakota prairie to become one of the hottest players in the personal computer industry, enticing mail-order customers with the slogan: "You've got a friend in the business."

Now Gateway is looking for some friends of its own in Washington.

Gateway, company founder Ted Waitt and members of his family showered both political parties and various congressional candidates with more than \$300,000 in contributions last year.

Recently, the company hired a well-connected Republican operative, John Heubusch, to open Gateway's first office in Washington. Until last year, Heubusch was director of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, which counted \$100,000 from Gateway and Waitt among its contributions.

"We're a large, fast-growing company, and the government has an influence on large and fast-growing companies, and we want to be at least part of the story when they're looking at businesses like ours," said Jim Taylor, a Gateway vice president.

Gateway, based in North Sioux City, S.D., sells PCs the same folksy way Ben & Jerry's sells ice cream, playing up its country roots with grazing cattle in its commercials and a spotted-cow motif on everything from its factories to its shipping cartons.

Seeking to sustain its growth, the company has started opening plants and showrooms in Europe and the Pacific Rim, while aggressively marketing to U.S. schools.

## LUNAR ECLIPSE



Sunday's lunar eclipse lasted more than an hour and was part of a rare event as Mars was closer to Earth Sunday than it had ever been and the Comet Hale-Bopp was also visible.

## Seguin mulls how to resolve downtown parking problems

SEGUIN (AP) — For years, downtown parking has been one of the biggest problems for Seguin — a town of 17,000 on Interstate 10, 35 miles northeast of San Antonio.

Monica Mochado remembers the day last month when she got two \$15 parking tickets on the Seguin square while she worked inside Covington Credit.

After payroll deductions, her salary for the day barely covered the cost of the tickets, she said. It was like she worked all day for nothing.

"Thirty dollars, that's grocery money. That's a day's work," she told the San Antonio

Express-News.

"Being employees who have to work downtown, we should get a permit."

But just a couple of doors down, Gene Vivroux, owner of True Value Hardware Store, has a different perspective.

He remembers the day last month when the four parking spots right in front of his business were taken up all day by people who work on the square — people he knew would not be shopping in his store.

"It's been a problem for many, many years," he said. "I have customers tell me they had to drive around the whole square three or four times trying to

find a place to park.

"I wish people who worked on the square would not take those parking spots. It hurts business."

Like many small cities, Seguin removed the downtown parking meters several years ago, Mayor Mark Stautzenberger said.

Business owners said it was unfair for customers to have to pay to park, while shoppers at strip shopping centers parked for free. It put downtown businesses at a competitive disadvantage.

So the parking meters came

Please see PARKING, page 2

## Senate could OK House's proposal without changes

AUSTIN (AP) — Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock said today that the Senate may be willing to accept House tax and school funding proposals without major changes.

Bullock said the House Select Committee on Revenue and Public Education Financing has done a good job on its tentative tax and funding options.

"The Senate may be very inclined because of the excellent work that they have done, favorably inclined, to accept or to follow their recommendations ... without really major changes," Bullock told the Texas Daily Newspaper Association's convention.

House Speaker Pete Laney said Bullock's staff and senators have been involved in the process and that House members have asked Bullock for advice.

In a statement, Bullock added that the House committee has "tackled these issues in a very short time, covering more ground and offering more alternatives in two months than the governor's committee did in nine months."

Gov. George W. Bush appointed a committee last summer to take testimony on rising school property taxes. The committee also sought public input on how

*'(Committee) tackled these issues in a very short time, covering more ground and offering more alternatives in two months than the governor's committee did in nine months.'*

Bob Bullock  
Lt. Governor

those taxes could be lowered and replaced.

Bush this year proposed a half-cent state sales tax increase, a new business tax and the use of \$1 billion to pay for a \$3 billion cut to local school property taxes.

The House committee reviewed the plan and now is working on its own proposal. It would eliminate numerous exemptions to the state sales and business taxes, expand the current business tax, lower local residential and business-school property taxes.

Business property would be taxed by the state.

## Republic of Texas now claiming parts of other states

FORT DAVIS — Richard Lance McLaren, who calls his trailer home the Republic of Texas embassy, says more than half of New Mexico and parts of four other states are an independent nation.

McLaren said he has sent an official public document to New Mexico's Gov. Gary Johnson, ordering him to hand over everything east of the Rio Grande.

And he seeks \$93 trillion from the United States in reparations from the Civil War.

He says the U.S. violated

terms of the federal Constitution in 1845 and signed an illegal resolution accepting Texas as a state.

Texas — which sided with the Confederacy in the Civil War — was considered a captive nation by the U.S. after that war. Congress has never acted, said McLaren, to officially make Texas a state and end its independent status as a sovereign nation.

McLaren also sent letters with similar demands to Wyoming, Colorado, Oklahoma and Kansas.

Spokesmen for Johnson said the governor would have no immediate response.

McLaren has also contacted the German government, ordering that nation to remove its Air Force pilot training center at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, N.M.

"Germany has military forces on our soil without permission, and they have refused to recognize the Republic of Texas," he said. "We've asked them repeatedly. If they fail to recognize us, we're going to file liens on all assets of German-held compa-

nies in Texas."

McLaren, 43, is supported by about 200 active followers across Texas.

He is the subject on an investigation at the Texas Attorney General's office for allegedly filing illegal liens against state leaders including Gov. George Bush and Attorney General Dan Morales.

He's also made a number of purchases on checks drawn on the "Republic of Texas Trust," based on assets that the Texas Attorney General's office says don't exist.

## Inmate manages escape from South Texas prison

BEEVILLE (AP) — Thick brush hampered the continuing search today for a prison inmate who escaped from a minimum-security recreation yard over the weekend.

Jose Salaz climbed over a fence at the Garza East Unit Saturday night. More than 300 searchers on the ground and pilots of two helicopters and a plane have failed to find him.

"He's still at large. We are facing thick vegetation down

there," said David Nunnelee, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville. "But we still think he's in the area."

Nunnelee said Salaz, 21, was serving a 35-year sentence for two counts of aggravated assault and one count of aggravated kidnapping.

The aircraft were brought in Sunday to augment the ground search that also involved tracking dogs.

## GIFTED ROUNDUP



Georgia Kate Lombardo cuts ribbon for a quilt during the Big Spring Independent School District's Gifted/Talented Roundup at Bauer Magnet School Saturday.

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### TODAY'S WEATHER

80 ▲ Highs 40  
Lows ▼

Today: Partly cloudy, turning windy and colder tonight. High near 80. Low around 40.

Tuesday: Windy and colder. High around 60. Low in the 30s.

Extended outlook: Wednesday, partly cloudy and warmer. High in the 70s. Thursday and Friday, warmer still. Highs in the 80s.

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Call us at:

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## OBITUARIES

Steve Edward  
Boyce Jr.

Graveside service for Steve Edward Boyce, Jr., 77, Stanton, will be 3 p.m. today in the Lorraine Cemetery with Rev. Robert Boyce officiating.

Mr. Boyce died Saturday, March 22, 1997, in Big Spring. He was born June 28, 1919, in Clarendon and was a longtime resident of Martin and Mitchell Counties.

Survivors include: two sons, Rev. Robert Boyce, Warda, and Royce Boyce, Midland; their mother, Helen Boyce, Snyder; two sisters, Lillie Smith, Amarillo, and Lucy Dalton, Littlefield; two brothers, Oliver Boyce and Daymon Boyce, both of Stanton; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Martin County Senior Citizen's Center, 210 Convent, Stanton, Texas, 79782.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton.

Carroll G. (Red)  
Kinman

Service for Carroll G. (Red) Kinman, 63, Comanche, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 1997, in the Hall & Sons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Paul Doerschuk officiating. Interment will follow in the Comanche Gardens of Memory Cemetery.

Mr. Kinman was born on Dec. 16, 1933, in Big Spring. He was a retired industrial electrician with American Petrofina Refinery in Big Spring, having retired in 1988 after 33 years of service. He moved to Comanche in 1988. He was a Baptist, a member of the Fraternal Order of the Elks Lodge in Brownwood, and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles in Big Spring. He was an avid Domino player and fisherman.

Survivors include: one daughter, Donna Kingsbury, Decatur, Ala.; three sons, Mike Kinman, Hawley, Steve Kinman, Big Spring; and Kelly Mauldin, Birmingham, Ala.; three sisters, Peggy Hill, Selma, Ala., Sandra Phillips, San Antonio, and Shirley Barley, Panama City, Fla.; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to CCS Hospice, P.O. Box 389, Dublin, Texas, 76446.

Arrangements under the

direction of Hall & Sons  
Funeral Home, Comanche.  
Virgil L. Priddy

Service for Virgil L. Priddy, 75, Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He died Monday, March 24, 1997, in a local hospital.

Jacob John  
Roberts

Service for Jacob John Roberts, 16-month-old son of Mark and Sherry Roberts, Sand Springs, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He died Sunday, March 23, 1997, in Lubbock.

## Vernia Mae Fann

Service for Vernia Mae Fann, 85, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She died Monday, March 24, 1997, at Comanche Trail Nursing Center following a long illness.

## MARKETS

May cotton 73.60 cents a pound, up 25 points; May crude oil 21.31 down 20 points; Cash hogs at 50, up 2; slaughter steers at 67; 177 lean hog futures 74.05, up 177 points; April live cattle futures 68.60, up 45 points.

Courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Non quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.

Index 6793.46	
Volume 127,482,310	
ATT	34% -
Amoco	89% -
Atlantic Richfield	130% -
Atmos Energy	26% nc
Cabot	24% nc
Chevron	69% +
Chrysler	30% +
Citric	1.36-1.40
Coca-Cola	59% -
De Beers	36% nc
DuPont	111% +
Excel Comm.	13% -
Exxon	103% -
Fina	64% -
Ford Motors	31% nc
Halliburton	68% nc
IBM	130% -
Laser Indus LTD	12% -
Medical Alliance	11% nc
Mobil	134% +
Norwest	50% +
NUV	9% -
Phillips Petroleum	41% -
Pepsi Cola	32% nc
Polaris	22% -
Rural/Metro	33% -
Sears	53% +
Southwestern Bell	55% +
Sun	27% -
Texaco	104% +
Texas Instruments	72% -
Texas Utils. Co	34% -
Unocal Corp	38% -
Wal-Mart	29% -
Amcap	14.45-15.33
Euro Pacific	26.24-27.84
I.C.A.	25.51-27.07
New Economy	17.09-18.13
New Perspective	18.67-19.81
Van Kampen	14.26-14.97
Prime Rate	8.25%
Gold	350.20-350.70
Silver	5.09-5.12

## PARKING

Continued from page 1  
down and two-hour parking limit signs went up.

But shoppers continue to complain they can't find a place to park when they want to shop downtown.

Business owners complain that workers just move their cars whenever the parking attendant is spotted.

"It's pretty funny," courthouse employee Kathy Pape said. "We keep our eyes open for the parking attendant. She marks the tires and we move the cars. She marks and we move. It's just a game we play. I haven't gotten a ticket in

months. I'm beating the city at their own game by doing it."

Several downtown workers said an informal warning network has developed.

"All you have to say is 'she's walking' and everyone knows what you mean," one worker said.

"There are usually three or four of us parked in a row," Pape said. "The front one pulls out and backs up to the rear and everyone else moves up one space."

Police Chief Gary Hopper said moving cars one space is a legal way around the two-hour limit, but it is frowned upon.

Melinda McCulloch was the city's parking attendant for three years before getting a job in the county courthouse last November.

"Sometimes it seemed like I was the most hated person in town, but I took the job knowing I'd never win any popularity contests," she said, noting she gave her mother-in-law two tickets.

## SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRINGBOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT 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 264-7305.

**TODAY**  
•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 263-9633.

•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 preparation 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 others 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 1996 tax return. This is a free service. Call 398-5522 or 263-4211 for more information.

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

**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.

## H.S. Royalty Exchange

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BIG SPRING  
AROUND THE TOWN

## POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents during a time period from 6 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Monday:

•BRIAN COSBY, 22, of 612 Caylor, was arrested for driving with an invalid driver's license.

•ANTONIO ARMIJO, 18, of P.O. Box 1944, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•RICHARD BOLLINGER, 63, a transient, was arrested for criminal trespassing.

•AMY HOWELL, 19, of 1503 E. Third, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•VERNON GARCIA, 26, of 1901 Runnels, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•JUAN LOSOYA, 43, of 503A Bell, was arrested for assault.

•ANNA JACKSON, 40, of Lamesa, was arrested for assault.

•JERRY RAY RUIZ, 17, of Odessa, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces.

•ANTONIO BANDA SALANIA, 53, of 810 Willia, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance with the intent to deliver.

•PAUL DAVIS, 35, of 104 E. 21st, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•ELVIS JOHNSON, 39, of 1102 N. Main, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•DEBORAH KAY RUEDA, 36, of 4208 Muir, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•PONCIANO TORRES III, 26, of Odessa, was arrested for driving with an invalid license and possession of a controlled substance.

•JAMIE CRUZ, 30, of 1601 Eubanks, was arrested for criminal mischief.

•STEVEN ESTEBAN PEDROZA, 18, no address given, was arrested for public intoxication.

•JOE LOPEZ CHAVEZ, 27, no address given, was arrested for public intoxication and possession of marijuana under two ounces.

•FRANCIS MCKISKE, 43, of 4217 Hamilton, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

•RUDY JOE RODRIGUEZ, 34, of 315 N.E. Ninth, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.

•PATRICIA LABELLE MORROW, 34, of Coahoma, was arrested for public intoxication and outstanding local warrants.

•BURGLARY OF A BUILDING in the 1100 block of E. 11th Place.

•BURGLARY OF A HABITATION in the 1800 block of State and 900 block of E. 15th.

•BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE in the 800 block of E. 13th.

•CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 1800 block of State, 600 block of N.E. 10th, 200 block of N. Birdwell, 1500 block of E. 11th Place, 1600 block of Stadium and 1500 block of E. 11th.

•INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES in the 400 block of State, 2400 block of Morrison, 100 block of Canyon, 1200 block of Gregg, 1800 block of E. Marcy, 400 block of Birdwell, 600 block of Birdwell, 2600 block of Albrook, 1000 block of Lamesa, West Eighth and Lorilla, 600 block of W. Interstate 20 and 1300 block of Wright.

•LOUD PARTY/NOISE in the 1900 block of Johnson, 1400 block of Virginia, 800 block of W. 16th and 1200 block of Ridgeroad.

•DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 700 block of E. Marcy, 1100 block of E. Sixth and 1500 block of Kentucky Way.

•THEFTS in the 1400 block of Wood, 1600 block of Avion, 1800 block of E. Marcy, 1100 block of E. 11th Place, 500 block of Birdwell, 2300 block of Wasson and 2000 block of Gregg.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCES in the 1600 block of Virginia, 2000 block of N. Monticello, 1600 block of Canary and 100 block of Canyon.

•CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNINGS ISSUED in the 700 block of W. Interstate 20, 1700 block of Cottonwood and

1700 block of W. First.

•THEFT OF GAS in the 400 block of Gregg.

•ASSAULT in the 600 block of N.E. 10th.

## SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following incidents during a time period from 6 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Monday:

•SUSPICIOUS JUVENILES at Town and Country in Coahoma. The teenagers were gone by the time deputies arrived.

•FOUR CARS DRAG RACING in the area of Rockhouse.

•MAJOR ACCIDENT on Interstate 20 at mile marker 163.

•PERSONS IN A CAR drinking and throwing the cans out of the windows on Old Mill Road.

## COUNTS

Continued from page 1  
due to the legislature's efforts to find additional funds to provide for property tax relief, Counts said.

"Although the budget does not currently contain a provision for a state employee pay raise, the final version will provide a flat increase for state employees," Counts said. "However, until we make headway on the property tax reform issue, it's impossible to know exactly how much of a raise we can afford."

The House budget also contains several riders that are of particular interest to Big Spring and Howard County.

Riders authored by Counts include one providing an additional \$250,000 for the South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, needed for the completion of the campus dormitory, as well as, a rider for \$2 million for each year of the biennium for use as matching funds for construction of a veterans care home.

## WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Members of area women's clubs gather at the East Room in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum last Friday to attend the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Western District Conference. The Big Spring Woman's Club hosted the two-day event that included guest speakers, entertainment, arts and crafts show and meetings.

## DUNLAPS

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Mobile Mammography Clinic  
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at Carriage Inn  
Retirement Center  
April 2, 1997



Mammography can save your life through early detection of breast cancer.

Mobile Mammography Clinic provides both screening and diagnostic mammograms and free educational seminars on breast health awareness and the importance of mammography.

If you would like to schedule an appointment for a mammogram and/or arrange for a speaker to come to your hospital, business, organization or group, please call 1-800-222-8388.

## SPECIAL THANKS

To Rodney Phillips and the Big Spring Fire Department for the wonderful job they did in putting out the fire at my house. Also, thanks to the City Inspector Kenny Davis & TU Electric for getting the electricity turned on Saturday; State Farm Adjuster Scott Scharsenberg for the promptness in handling my claim.

Thanks to All friends who came by and offered assistance.

Carl Knappe

## RECORDS

Sunday's high 80  
Sunday's low 50  
Average high 72  
Average low 42  
Record high 88 in 1922  
Record low 24 in 1962  
Precip. Sunday 0.00  
Month to date 0.09  
Month's normal 0.48  
Year to date 3.64  
Normal for the year 1.80  
\*\*Statistics not available

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& WELCH  
Funeral Home

Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory  
906 Gregg St.  
(915) 267-6331

Jacob John Roberts, 16 month old son of Mark and Sherry Roberts, Sand Springs, died Sunday, March 23 in Lubbock. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Virgil L. Priddy, 75, Big Spring, died Monday, March 24 in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

MYERS & SMITH  
FUNERAL HOME  
& CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Vernia Mae Fann, 85, died Monday. Services are pending.

## WHEAT

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TEXAS BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Three men dead in spring break crash

HOPE — For the second time in as many weeks, North Texans have been killed in a one-car accident on a spring break trip to South Padre Island.

In the latest incident, officials said three men were killed Saturday evening on U.S. Highway 77 in Lavaca County when their BMW left the roadway and slammed into a tree.

Jason Zachary Wright, 20, of University Park; Peter Edward Bernhill, 18, of Dallas; and Todd Lawrence Dino, 17, of University Park, were pronounced dead at the scene.

Officials said Wright tried to pass another vehicle at a high rate of speed on the shoulder when the car's right wheel slipped off the road, sending the vehicle careening into a ditch. The car then smashed into a tree just outside the community of Hope.

The incident comes two weeks after two Irving high school students on spring break were killed when their vehicle careened off a highway north of Corpus Christi.

The MacArthur High School students were headed to South Padre Island with a group of friends when the driver of their car apparently fell asleep, according to highway troopers.

Report: Fines enforced leniently against lottery contractor

HOUSTON — The Texas Lottery's prime contractor accumulated more than \$3 million in poor-performance fines before state officials moved to collect, according to the Houston Chronicle.

One state spokesman said the fines were used as leverage to improve GTECH Corp.'s performance.

But timely collection of the fines would have cut into commissions that GTECH paid to its top Texas lobbyist at the time, former Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes, and former national sales manager J. David Smith, the newspaper reported Sunday.

The uncollected penalties included a \$100,000 fine against GTECH for a two-hour crash in its scratch-off ticket validation system in May 1992.

By the time then-Texas Lottery Director Nora Linares negotiated a settlement with GTECH in June 1994, fines totaled \$4.7 million.

Linares traded \$3.4 million in cash payments on those fines in exchange for the company's agreement to install 3,000 more lottery sales terminals and 1,000 electronic billboards in stores.

Managed care means shorter stays for psychiatric patients

HOUSTON — The rise of managed care programs has meant drastically shorter hospital stays and, possibly, inadequate care for psychiatric patients, critics contend.

"It's pure hypocrisy when people are discharged quicker and sicker to the bosoms of their families, ill-equipped to care for them," American Psychiatric Association President Harold Eist is quoted as saying in Sunday editions of the Houston Chronicle.

Eist says managed mental health care companies — not doctors — are the culprits.

That's a reverse of the situation in 1991, when critics blamed hospitals for keeping psychiatric patients longer than necessary in order to take advantage of generous insurance policies.

In Lubbock County, charges don't always match names

LUBBOCK — A cranky county computer has resulted in some minor traffic scofflaws being listed in official records as drug offenders, child molesters or burglars, according to the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

The computer has been mismatching the names and charges of some defendants, including one man who was cited for not wearing a seat belt but listed in the county computer as an accused child molester.

A recent check of 300 names in the Lubbock County computer database showed that eight names were mismatched with their actual criminal cases.

All eight of the mismatched cases have been removed.

# Panhandle water fight spurs reforms

MIAMI (AP) — Roberts County, perfectly content to remain a throwback to when the Panhandle was mostly unfettered range, didn't mean to set an example for water law in Texas.

Nonetheless, the statewide water conservation bill that's expected to clear the state Senate this week in many ways mirrors the experiences of folks here, where the Ogallala Aquifer runs deep and tempers once ran short.

"My dad would tell me that there's two things that kept him on the High Plains: One was the cool summer nights, and the other was the good drinking water," lifelong area farmer Lewis Davis said. "He didn't know whether, once the water was gone, if the cool nights would keep him here."

The Ogallala extends from

Texas up into South Dakota, quenching thousands of farms and towns along the way. Most of the Roberts County land is too gouged and harsh for farming, but the water below is unusually plentiful.

That's why Southwestern Public Service Co., the regional power provider, bought a slew of water rights around here in the 1970s. The reservoir below was perfect to help cool the nuclear power generator it planned nearby.

The Carter Administration nixed the plan, and the rights remained dormant until 1993, when an SPS subsidiary sold them to the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority.

The water authority wanted to pipe water from area ranches to 11 cities in the Panhandle and South Plains, including Lubbock and Amarillo.

That didn't go over well with many locals.

"My grandfather bought this ranch in 1907, and the water and mineral rights went with it. That was just standard," said former U.S. Rep. Bob Price, a rancher who sold most of his rights to SPS in the early 70s.

"No one ever thought water would ever be worth anything, but it's worth more than oil, because human beings can't do without water."

The 460,400 human beings in cities served by the water authority need a lot more water than the 940 residents of Roberts County. Most of those live in Miami, the only town among the county's scenic hills and gorges.

People here always had resisted joining the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District for fear that it would

exert unwanted controls upon them. But the prospect of their water flowing as far as 220 miles south changed their minds, and the conservation district won a heated election in 1994 to represent their interests.

With the threat looming that their water transfers would be curtailed, the water authority fought back. Opponents agreed to a compromise rather than risk losing a court fight and the possibility that they would lose all control over the water.

The compromise allowed the water authority to tap the aquifer but only with certain conservation measures and pumping limits.

The deal is similar to what would be enacted statewide with Senate Bill 1, which encourages regional water districts to develop extensive management strategies.

## GOP leaders say they will get tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republican leaders are standing behind embattled Speaker Newt Gingrich, saying his proposal to put off tax-cut legislation was only a strategic retreat and the GOP remains "bedrock solid" for lower taxes.

But former Republican vice presidential candidate Jack Kemp, a chief spokesman for lower taxes, contended Sunday that Gingrich is leading the party astray by saying a balanced-budget agreement with the Clinton administration should come before tax reductions.

"This week, we had a discussion about strategy and there

was a little emotion, surprising for Republicans on that issue, but our goals are bedrock solid," Rep. Bill Paxon, R-N.Y., a member of the House GOP leadership, said on ABC's "This Week."

He said those goals remain tax relief, a balanced budget and government deregulation.

Gingrich set off a storm within GOP ranks last week when he suggested that the party should work out a balanced-budget deal with the administration before taking up tax-cut legislation.

Gingrich and other Republicans argued that they got hammered during the last

Congress when they tried to put their top priorities — including tax cuts, Medicare and welfare reform — in one big budget package vetoed by President Clinton, and it was smarter to achieve one goal at a time.

The idea was endorsed earlier by House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas. But the open criticism of Gingrich from Republicans both in and out of Congress raised further questions on whether the speaker, battered by ethics charges and complaints about the legislative pace this year, can hold onto his job.

Kemp, one of the first to criticize Gingrich, said on ABC that

it is time for Gingrich to exert his leadership. "He's got to step forward, in my opinion, and not get wobbly in the knee about this very important issue facing America."

Kemp said his concern was that "by putting budget and balance first and tax rate reductions second, we never get to the tax rate reductions."

But DeLay, speaking on "Fox News Sunday," insisted that "we're not giving up a commitment to cut taxes."

DeLay said Kemp "worships at the altar of tax cuts. ... What I'm saying is Jack has always said that deficits don't matter. We think deficits do matter."

## Federal Reserve expected to boost interest rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — As the United States enters a seventh year of economic expansion, the Federal Reserve is preparing to do something it has never before accomplished — bring the \$7 trillion economy in for a second "soft landing" to keep both inflation and recession at bay.

Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues at the central bank will meet behind closed doors Tuesday, and the betting is they will emerge with an announcement that interest rates are going up. The purpose

will be to keep the expansion from overheating, and thus extend its life.

While a rise in rates is not totally assured, Greenspan seemed to be sending some strong rate-increase signals last week.

"He left no uncertainty in my mind that he is going to tighten," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co. in New York. "He basically said that the economy is growing a lot stronger than we thought and the Fed needs to act now."

While testifying before Congress, Greenspan stressed what he called the "importance of acting promptly — ideally pre-emptively — to keep inflation low."

That was the same reasoning the Fed used in its last round of credit tightening in 1994 and early 1995 when it doubled a key interest rate.

It worked. Greenspan and the Fed won kudos for accomplishing a soft landing — slowing economic growth enough to keep inflation in check but not enough to push the country into

a recession. Only twice since the central bank was created in 1913 has it been able to achieve soft landings — in 1966 and 1986.

Those two successes gave the United States its two longest periods without a recession — nearly nine years of uninterrupted growth in the 1960s and nearly eight years in the 1980s.

But Fed policy-makers could not repeat either time. A second round of rate increases, instead of stretching out expansions, plunged the country into recessions.

## Israel demands crackdown on militants

JERUSALEM (AP) — Yasser Arafat has failed to crack down on Islamic militants, top Israeli security officials charged, adding that Israel was preparing for more deadly attacks following a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv.

Israeli troops patrolled shopping centers and parks today, and enforced a ban blocking Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering Israel.

"We will face more terrorist attacks in the coming days" unless Arafat makes it clear to Islamic militant groups that they no longer have his tacit approval to carry out attacks, said Maj. Gen. Moshe Yaalon, head of Israeli military intelligence.

Still, Israel's government stopped short of suspending the already faltering peace talks with the Palestinians.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the condition for getting back on track was a new Palestinian approach.

"There cannot be peace if this goes on," he said. "If we rein in the terrorists, we can proceed with peace."

Arafat, speaking to a conference of Islamic leaders in Islamabad, Pakistan, accused Israel of bowing to "extremist religious parties, who we know are hostile to the peace process and to the rights of the Palestinian people."

Netanyahu launched a media blitz that apparently was designed to counter the international support Arafat had built up following Israel's decision to build a neighborhood for 30,000 Jews in east Jerusalem, the sector the Palestinians seek as a future capital.

Netanyahu's message: Arafat had encouraged militants to

carry out terror attacks.

Yaalon said Arafat met with leaders of Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip on March 9. The militants walked away with "an understanding ... that they have the green light from Chairman Arafat to commit such acts."

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Brought To You By ALLAN JOHNSON  
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Years ago, some people thought of using sleep sofas only in such places as a den or spare room - but today so many of these sleep sofas are made so beautifully, that you can certainly use them in your living room for all the advantages they give you.

In fact, there are now even combinations of matching sleep sofas and love seats that can be used beautifully in your living room.

The main point to remember is that sleep sofas are manufactured in all kinds of designs, styles and sizes and come in marvelous and pretty fabrics, so they can look good in your living room, family room, or any room.

Many people are surprised at how well sleep sofas score in decorating these days. They can enhance a decor - and of course they give you wonderful convenience. They also have many mechanical improvements to make them easier to work, and they are far more comfortable for both sleeping and sitting than they used to be.

Thus, you can turn any room - including a living room - into an extra bedroom instantly and you don't have to sacrifice beauty.

We think it will be worth your while to take a look at the new sleep sofas; and to shop for this or any furniture for your home you always have a cordial invitation to come in and browse here.

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Vinegar, praised nature's miracle solution for thousands of years, seems to remedy many ills of the world!

This golden solution is an anti-septic and antibiotic and was one of our first medicines. Even in 400 BC, Hippocrates, the father of medicine, used vinegar to treat his patients.

Rich in potassium, and 93 other vitamins, minerals and amino acids, apple cider vinegar blends with natural ingredients to soothe painful arthritis and rheumatism, helps improve blood circulation, AND lowers the risk of heart disease!

Recent research from Japan's Shizuoka University proved vinegar helps maintain good health and slows down aging by helping prevent the formation of fatty peroxides!

Now, in the only collection of its kind, "The Vinegar Book", by health author Emily Thacker, compiles hundreds of documented uses for this miracle solution. She discusses everything from using vinegar to help fight disease, improve memory to natural health and beauty aids.

You'll find how organic vinegar may also help eliminate traces of unwanted cholesterol from the body. Vinegar can help you add beta carotene into your daily diet.

Try these trusted vinegar recipes to maintain weight and comfort painful arthritis.

"You'll get over 300 healing and cleaning recipes and remedies compiled about this golden solution. Clean as never before, making household chores simple.

Make air freshener, glass cleaner, saddle soap and furniture polish to cover scratches.

Enjoy the history of this mysterious solution and its earliest medical uses dating back 10,000 years ago!

Uncover fascinating stories of how Cleopatra, Hannibal, the Babylonians, and Civil War Soldiers... used vinegar in historical moments.

Did you know there's even a Bible named after Vinegar and that it's mentioned in this glorious book 7 times?

A teaspoon of vinegar along with other natural ingredients provide you with trusted home remedies that help:

- Ward off ear infection
- Ease itchy welts, hives & blemishes
- Relieve discomfort of varicose veins
- Settle a disturbed digestive system
- Help improve memory
- Prevent leg cramps
- Comfort athletes foot
- Fade headaches & dizziness
- Soothe aching muscles
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- And much, much more...

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For only pennies a piece, make Emily's trusted organic cleaners. They're environmentally safe unlike chemical company copies of these old time cleaners.

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### PRECIOUS METALS

Learn how to use vinegar to rid iron pans from rust, clean

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Canton, Ohio 44701

You may charge your VISA or MasterCard by including your card number, expiration date, and signature. For even faster service on VISA/MasterCard, call TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-7285 Ext. F8919.

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**Big Spring Specialty Clinic**  
of  
**ORII**  
ODESSA REGIONAL HOSPITAL

These doctors will be in our office on the following days...

Tuesday, March 25th.....Dr. Jose Bueno  
Pediatrician

Wednesday, March 26th.....Dr. David Morehead  
OB/GYN

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY,  
MARCH 28, 1997

For appointment call (915) 267-8226  
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If you're dissatisfied for any reason, you may return the cover only within three months for a full refund.

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## EDITORIAL

## Quote of the Day

"To be able to fill leisure intelligently is the last product of civilization."

-Arnold Toynbee

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

Charles C. Williams  
Publisher

John H. Walker  
Managing Editor

John A. Moseley  
News Editor

Kellie Jones  
Features Editor

## OUR VIEWS

## Keeping city cleaner more important now

Spring has sprung, and that means West Texas' seemingly ever present winds make it even more important than ever that we make a concerted effort to make Big Spring as attractive as possible.

The season's gusty breezes mean trash that's not kept gathered and placed in cans, plastic bags and dumpsters will make the rounds throughout the small canyon in which our city is located.

And the only hindrance for that wind-blown refuse will be obstacles primarily afforded by the brush on overgrown lots, in unkempt alleys and overlooked and right-of-ways for utilities and roadways.

In Sunday's edition of the *Herald*, "Code Patrol" offered an update on its activities, noting that it will be meeting on the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The members of that patrol are simply concerned citizens, interested in making sure that local citizens observe city ordinances and codes that pertain to the appearance of Big Spring's neighborhoods.

Patrol members noted that the city council recently passed an ordinance aimed at eliminating high weeds, grass and rubbish throughout the community by requiring property owners to keep their alleys and right-of-ways clean. Fines for violations of the ordinance will cost as much as \$500.

Hopefully, it won't take fines in the hundreds of dollars to get Big Spring's residents ... that means all of us, not just the owners of property ... to make this a more beautiful city.

We should always remember that Big Spring is home to each of us. Its appearance has an effect on us all, not only in our community's ability to recruit new business and industry, but in the way we perceive ourselves.

If all of us simply do our part — making sure our lawns are mowed, undeveloped property is cleared of high weeds and brush and that any loose trash is picked up — the *Herald* will continue to live up to its creed of "Reflecting a Proud Community."

## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

## BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

**CITY HALL** — 264-2401.  
**TIM BLACKSHEAR**, mayor — Home: 263-7961; Work (Blackshear Rentals): 263-4095.

**PAT DEANDA** — Home: 267-7839; Work (College Heights Elementary): 264-4115.

**STEPHANIE HORTON** — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.

**CHUCK CAWTHON** — Home: 263-7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-1142.

**TOM GUESS** — Home: 263-3097.

**JIMMY CAMPBELL** — Home: 267-7895; Work (Big Spring FCI): 263-8304.

**JOHN PAUL ANDERSON**, mayor pro tem — Home: 267-7123; Work: 267-3538.

...

## HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**OFFICE** — 264-2200.  
**BEN LOCKHART**, county judge — Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202.

**EMMA BROWN** — Home: 267-2649.

**JERRY KILGORE** — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.

**BILL CROOKER** — Home: 263-2566.

**SONNY CHOATE** — Home: 267-1066.

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The Big Spring 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 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 are given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

...

## OUR POLITICAL GUIDELINES ...

- Each candidate filing for office will receive one story and one mug-size photo.
- The story will be approximately 350 words and will be published in a weekday edition on the bottom half of page one.
- In addition, candidate's profiles will run on Sunday, April 27.
- Candidates are responsible for contacting the Herald to schedule the interview and photo for the story.
- We will not publish any letters in support of or opposition to any candidate.

MIKE SMITH  
LIFE SIZE, 1997



## Town's mayor a hero that prevailed

Last time I was in William Faulkner's Mississippi hometown its residents were squabbling over whether or not the mayor had the right to cut a magnolia to make room for a statue honoring the late author's 100th birthday.

The argument was academic. The tree was a stump.

Veteran Oxford Mayor John Leslie said he had planted the tree and he could by golly cut it, a declaration that rang with truth — and an admirably obstinate Admiral Farragutian quality. Leslie's been mayor almost as long as Faulkner wrote books. What good is a dynasty without a little absolute authority?

The magnolia grew in front of the city hall, on a square that grows itself as incessant-

ly as an Ole Miss coed. The mayor might have anticipated a debate.

All of us who have lived in them know that university towns are not happy unless engaged in long, heated discussions over niggling detail. Professors love the music of their own words, especially while nibbling asparagus finger sandwiches.

Maybe practical John Leslie foresaw a committee to form a committee to decide where to plant Faulkner. Rather than wait till Willie turned 200, the mayor grabbed his Poulan.

This is not the first time there's been controversy over an attempt to spend the town's most valuable currency: its association with Faulkner. I thought way back, to Oxford's interstate billboard, which 15 or so years ago evoked Faulkner and proclaimed itself Mississippi's "most cultural town."

There was a juicy rhubarb over that, too. Other towns took exception. The Faulkner family protested. And though I can't remember all the particu-

lars, I do recall some wit suggesting that if you had to raise a billboard to proclaim you are cultured, you ain't.

Faulkner himself, while amongst the living, had declined to have his name painted on the Oxford water tower. He tactfully suggested that they paint the name of the football team instead.

But it's not his business now. A statue, a water tower, what difference can it make to the great, late Faulkner?

Gen. Robert E. Lee probably would have preferred that his likeness not stand outside my Montgomery, Ala., high school, facing north lest the Yankees try to return. But there he stood. And each year before the Big Game, the cross-town rabble from Sidney Lanier High came and painted poor Robert E. Lee blue. Such is the indignity of fame.

Besides, I figure nobody writes to achieve anonymity. You write to achieve immortality, you just don't realize when you start that about all that's good for is a hometown pigeon roost.

I say Oxford won the Native Son Lotto and deserves to spend the loot. The statue is a fine idea. And in a town lousy with magnolias, one can be spared.

At any rate, this latest stink over statuary has all the elements of southern society as we know and love it. A magnolia tree. A great writer. Hilarity. And a town divided. You can't get more southern than that.

John Leslie says he won't run for mayor again. I suppose he's had it with controversy and protracted debate over civic detail. The birthday party for Faulkner can be Leslie's final hurrah, the granddaddy of groundbreakings.

I know it's none of my business, really. But I'm thinking they ought to cut the magnolia on the other side of the city hall lawn and raise a statue to John Leslie. He didn't endure. He prevailed.

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## What's this new 'Yellow Peril' of China's

WASHINGTON — Who's Afraid of China's big, bad economic machine? Nobody.

Most American businessmen would do backflips to be a major part of the emerging growth of this colossal nation of more than a billion people.

So how do we get suckered into this nonsense about a new "yellow peril," personified in a Little Rock restaurateur, Charles Yah Lin Trie, and a couple of Washington political hustlers, John Huang and Johnny Chung?

In their efforts to make the 1996 political fund-raising excesses — especially some Democrat stupidities — appear to be worse than Watergate and Teapot Dome combined, some pols and media maniacs have tried to portray "Chinese economic

espionage" and "China's attempts to influence our elections" as grave threats to our nation's future.

What a foolish fuss! What could Chinese economic spies steal that would endanger us? They could only learn things that might help them to use better the money, ideas and skills that Americans are so eager to invest in China. But certainly no "secrets" that would allow China to produce chips superior to those of Intel or Advanced Micro Devices, or airplanes or computers superior to ours.

When Germany claims we have some 90 economic spies there, and when we have agents probing for scientific, technological and economic secrets within every allied nation, can anyone seriously argue that China is guilty of some great international crime?

As for political meddling, there isn't a country on earth, friend or foe, that holds elections where the United States has not tried to influence decisions about who holds power. The idea that China or any other country imperils us or

our democracy with campaign donations is asinine.

It ought to be expected that China pays people to find out to whom and for what Taiwan is funneling money into the United States. Or what the chances are that China will retain a most-favored-nation trade status. Or what Vice President Gore will emphasize when he visits China.

The Republicans who are pushing the "China peril" line may not want to admit it, but Beijing had logical reasons for using its money to help certain Democrats to retain power. Republicans Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger may have brought about the opening to Communist China, but Chinese officials are smart enough to know that the Democratic Party is traditionally less hostile to Asian countries and socialist regimes and more friendly and helpful to emerging and third-world nations than is the Republican Party.

So China didn't need any promise or hint of a direct quid pro quo if it sneaked some money into U.S. political campaigns. It figured the ben-

efits would just be there if "understanding" people stayed in office.

And while China may never admit to providing political donations to U.S. candidates, its leaders surely decided that they would play the game the way the U.S. has played it abroad for generations.

Our fund-raising furor isn't remotely about stopping economic espionage or foreign meddling in democratic elections. It isn't really about cleaning up a corrupt U.S. system which those pretending to be most horrified will fight to keep just the way it is.

This election scandal is mostly about partisan politics by the losers, and dog-pack journalism American style in which the tiniest form of money-grubbing is portrayed as a great new scandal.

Most Americans have clung to a ho-hum response to the "revelations." I hope they don't fall victim to the stupid, destructive cries of a new "yellow peril."

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# SPORTS

The Sports Herald  
MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1997

## SCOREBOARD

Tuesday  
Baseball — Little Rock at Big Spring, 4 p.m.  
Baseball — Coahoma at Cana, 4:30 p.m.  
Soccer — Fort Stockton at Big Spring, 5 p.m.  
Soccer — Coahoma vs. Alpine at Marshfield

NCAA women's tournament  
East — Georgia vs. Washington, 3:30, ESPN  
Midwest — Old Dominion vs. Florida, 6 p.m., ESPN  
Midwest Regional — Connecticut vs. Tennessee, 6 p.m., ESPN  
West Regional — Stanford vs. Georgia, 10:30, ESPN

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# 5A

## North Carolina, Arizona join Kentucky, Minnesota in Final Four

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Carolina and Arizona, which met in their season opener, will play a rematch at the Final Four.

The top-seeded Tar Heels beat sixth-seeded Louisville 97-74 Sunday in the East Regional to advance to their 13th Final Four. Fourth-seeded Arizona recovered after blowing a big lead and edged No. 10 Providence 96-92 in overtime at the Southeast Regional to reach its third Final Four in nine years.

Shammond Williams scored 22 points for North Carolina (28-6), which will play Arizona (23-9) in the national semifinals next Saturday in Indianapolis. The Wildcats beat the Tar Heels 83-72 in the Hall of Fame Tipoff Classic on Nov. 22.

North Carolina, which has won 16 straight, turned around its season following an 0-3 start in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"This was a great feeling to cut down those nets after the way we started the ACC season," forward Antawn Jamison said. "We came together as a team and put all our differences aside. It shows how hard we worked and that hard work pays off."

Arizona, which finished fifth in the Pac-10 with an inexperienced lineup, squandered a 10-point deficit in the final 3 1/2 minutes of regulation before rebounding to beat Providence. Miles Simon scored 30 points for the Wildcats, who knocked off top-ranked Kansas in the previous round.

"Certainly, this was not expected," said coach Lute Olson, whose team began the season with four new starters and has no seniors in the playing rotation. "Everybody kept saying, 'Next year, they're going to be pretty good.' Well, next year got here a little early."

The other Final Four matchup on Saturday is defending national cham-

pion Kentucky (34-4) vs. Minnesota (31-3). The semifinal winners will play for the championship on Monday night.

Kentucky, down to eight players because of injuries, pressured Utah into poor shooting and 17 turnovers for a 72-59 victory Saturday in the West Regional final at San Jose, Calif.

Ron Mercer scored 21 points for Kentucky, which limited All-American Keith Van Horn to 15 points on 5-for-12 shooting.

Minnesota wore down UCLA 80-72 to win the Midwest Regional at San Antonio. Five Gophers scored in double figures, led by Bobby Jackson's 18 points. And nine Minnesota players played more than 10 minutes as the school advanced to its first Final Four.

North Carolina built a 21-point half-time lead against Louisville, then pulled away again in the second half after the Cardinals (26-9) cut the margin to three with 8:19 left.

"That win came over a courageous, gutsy team that was down by 21 points and came back," said coach Dean Smith, who has guided the Tar Heels to four Final Fours this decade. "You also have to hand it to our players for the way they responded and played great over the last seven minutes. You have to admire that for a team that's been like that all year."

Louisville star DeJuan Wheat, playing with a sprained ankle he injured in his previous game against Texas, scored only six points on 2-for-11 shooting.

"I just wanted to play," Wheat said. "If we were going to lose, I wanted to be out on the court."

Alex Sanders scored 20 points for Louisville, which lost for the first time in seven regional finals under Denny Crum.

"Even without DeJuan at full strength we didn't play bad," Crum said. "They just played very well."

Providence (24-12), trying to become the lowest-seeded team to reach the Final Four since No. 11 LSU in 1986, had a chance to beat Arizona in the closing seconds of regulation after stealing the ball. But Corey Wright's 3-pointer was off target and the game went to overtime, where the Friars finally ran out of steam.

"Clearly, it was an uphill battle the whole game," said Providence coach Pete Gillen. "The kids kept scratching and clawing and with 3.9 seconds left, we had a chance to steal the game."

Providence star Austin Croshere fouled out midway through the second half with only 12 points, and the Friars then fell behind by 12 after two of them were hit with technical fouls. The Friars still trailed 82-72 with 3 minutes left before starting their amazing comeback.

God Shammog and Jamel Thomas scored 23 points apiece for Providence, while Mike Bibby had 17 for Arizona.

## Hawks top Odessa, 12-9, in 10 innings

By KEVIN CARMODY

Herald Correspondent

ODESSA — Brandon Plumlee never heard from Odessa College while he was playing baseball at Odessa High School. Instead, conference rival Howard College signed the 1996 OHS grad, who came home and helped the Hawks beat the Wranglers, 12-9, in 10 innings at American Legion Stadium.

"I like to come back and do good against them," said Plumlee, whose three-run double ignited a six-run, two-out rally in the seventh inning that gave the Hawks (17-11) overall, 5-8 Western Junior College Athletic Conference) a 9-5 lead. "He (OC reliever Ricky McCormack) put a curveball right down the inside corner, and he hung it. He started me with a curveball and I knew he'd end it with another in that situation."

Eric Absher finished the outburst with a two-run home run — Howard's first in 11 games — and the Hawks added an unearned run in the eighth to pad the lead to 9-5. But the Wranglers (17-11, 7-6) rallied for four in the ninth, capped by Damon Beaird's two-run single that tied the game at 9-9.



Howard College's Nathan Nelson slides into second base in an earlier game this year against McElennan Community College at Jack Barber Field. On Sunday, Nelson went 4-for-6 with three doubles and 2 RBI as the Hawks came from behind to beat Odessa, 12-9, in 10 innings on the road.

Paul Boykin, and Brian Moore had chances to end it with the potential winning run in scoring position, but neither could get the big hit.

Then Howard put the game away and won the three-game series, two games to one.

T.J. Runnels' single to center just past shortstop Miguel Bustos scored Bryan Phillips, who walked to start the inning against Brandon Swinney (1-2). Then, Nathan Nelson stroked a two-run double off the center-field wall, completing the scoring and a 4-for-6, three-double day.

Court Killian, OC's fourth reliever, surrendered both RBI hits.

"We haven't had too many big hits this year," Howard head coach Brian Roper said. "That (Plumlee's hit) might

have been the first hit with the bases loaded this year. But that game was pretty sloppy. They had so many mistakes and we had so many mistakes. It was watered-down baseball, but we pulled it out of the hat."

Howard College 12, Odessa College 9 (10)									
HOWARD (12)					ODESSA (9)				
	A	B	R	E		A	B	R	E
Acosta 2b	4	1	0	0	Hart 2b	4	0	1	0
Hawkins 1b	4	2	0	1	Farrow 1b	2	0	0	0
Runnels ss	4	2	3	1	Bustos 3b	0	0	0	0
Nelson c	6	0	4	2	Pohle dh	4	2	0	0
Leibertor of	0	1	0	0	Bustos ss	5	2	2	2
Plumlee if	6	1	2	4	Bennett c	3	1	3	2
Absher if	5	1	2	2	Cohen of	0	1	0	0
Rohr dh	5	0	0	0	Beard 3b/2b	5	0	2	2
Phillips 2b	4	3	3	0	Ramirez if	4	1	1	1
Beaird of	3	1	1	0	Boykin if	5	1	1	0
Totals	42	12	18	10	Moore 1b	5	0	0	0
					Leite 3b	0	0	0	0
					Knight of	5	1	1	0
					Totals	42	9	13	7
						000 000 010 010			
						102 002 004 0			

## SPORTS BRIEFS

HERALD Staff Reports

### Injuries sidetrack Sidewinders

RICHARDSON — Big Spring's Sidewinders' dreams of a state gymnastics championship were sidetracked this past weekend when Tami John suffered a torn ACL in her left knee. The injury came during her floor routine.

In Level 9 competition, Mikelle Farris qualified for the Level 9 Regionals, scheduled for April 9 in Austin. She finished the weekend with an all-around score of 34.975, tying for 15th statewide.

In Level 10 competition, both Stephanie Stewart and Brooke Lawrence qualified for regionals in Houston on April 12.

Stewart finished 12th in the 13-14 year-old division with an all-around score of 36.1, while placing second on the bars with a score of 9.5.

Lawrence finished third in the 9-12 year-

old division with a score of 36.7 after finishing first in the vault and fifth on the beam.

John and Casey McKim, who was also injured, are hopeful of being petitioned into regional competition if they are sufficiently recovered to compete.

Gymnasts from Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico and Wyoming will compete in the regionals.

### Coahoma wins C-City tournament

COLORADO CITY — Coahoma's Bulldogs ran their season record to 7-6 here this past weekend with three straight wins and the championship of the Colorado City Baseball Tournament.

After opening with a 17-2 win over the Monahans JV team on Thursday, the Bulldogs came back to take a 15-7 win over Jim Ned on Friday.

In the championship game, Coahoma shut out host Colorado City 2-0 behind the pitching of starter Delvin White and reliever Mike McMullan.

Coahoma took a 1-0 lead in the second on a solo home run by Shawn Rye and added another run in the fourth when Scott Goodblanket scored on an error after slugging a double.

The Bulldogs are at Crane Tuesday.

### Coahoma softballers split two games

Coahoma's softball team split a pair of games this weekend — losing 3-2 on Friday to the Midland Lee JV before ripping Greenwood 16-7 on Saturday.

Misty Baker had three hits and Cassy Rich two in the loss while Cassie Tindol and Tori Elmore each had three hits Saturday, including a Tindol homer.

Julie Hernandez and Tara Sterling both had good defensive outings.

## Rutgers to talk with UT's Penders

AUSTIN (AP) — Tom Penders, who has led the Texas Longhorns to eight NCAA Tournament appearances in nine seasons, will interview this week for the vacant coaching job at Rutgers.

Penders told the Austin American-Statesman on Sunday that he will meet with Rutgers Athletic Director Fred Gruninger on Tuesday.

Rutgers officials already have interviewed Old Dominion's Jeff Capel and Drexel's Bill Herrierson and will meet with Xavier's Skip Prosser today or Tuesday, Gruninger said.

The Dallas Morning News, quoting an unidentified member of Rutgers' athletic department, reported that Penders is the leading candidate to succeed Bob Wenzel, who was fired after Rutgers went 11-16 during the regular season.

The News also said Rutgers will make a strong push to Penders and quoted an unidentified source as saying the school is prepared to pay him a base salary of about \$700,000. Penders' total package at Texas is about \$400,000, plus bonuses for reaching the NCAA Tournament.

Penders has five years remaining on a seven-year contract, but Texas is in the process of renegotiating the deal. UT officials have been reworking his contract to add another \$100,000 to his annual

salary.

"We aren't going to get into a bidding war," said Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds, who said he gave Rutgers permission to contact Penders. "We are doing our thing (with Penders' contract) regardless of that. We were already planning on doing it."

Dodds said Penders, whose annual financial package ranks fifth among Big 12 coaches, deserves a pay increase to rank higher among conference coaches. "We need to get him into the top two or three," he said, but added UT would not match Rutgers' reported offer.

"We could do it, but we're not going to do it," Dodds said. "We've got our limits and we know what we can do. We're going to stay inside those parameters."

Penders' has rebuilt basketball programs at four prominent East Coast universities: Tufts, Columbia, Fordham and Rhode Island. He interviewed with Rutgers while he was at Fordham in 1985. He spoke with Rutgers again while at Rhode Island, before taking the Texas job in 1988.

"I've coached games at Rutgers a number of times," said Penders, whose wife, Susie, has a sister who lives in Princeton, N.J., near Rutgers' New Brunswick, N.J., campus. "It's a great school and has all the resources."



Manuel Marquez, left, and his brother Raul, right, are congratulated by tournament director Chuck Reeve after placing third in Class B Doubles at the recent 39th annual Houston Invitational and Pro Stop Handball Tournament.

## Robert Lee's boys, Water Valley's girls take Bearkat Relay championships

HERALD Staff Report

GARDEN CITY — Robert Lee's boys and Water Valley's girls took team titles here Saturday at the Bearkat Relays.

Robert Lee rolled up 157 points to easily outdistance second-place Sterling City's 97 points while Water Valley's girls claimed a 125-99 win over Stanton.

Results include:

BOYS  
Totals — Robert Lee, 157; Sterling City, 97; Wink, 74; Water Valley, 53; Forsan, 51; Bronte, 36; Iron Co., 26; Sanderson, 22; Garden City, 20; Stanton JV, 14; Highland, 10; O'Donnell, 4.  
Long Jump — 1. Thixton, Forsan, 20-4; 2. Oleksuk, Robert Lee, 20-3.25; 3. Baker, Wink, 19-7; Rodriguez, Sanderson, 19-6.75; Matthews, Wink, 19-2.75; 6. Martinez, Sanderson, 19-2.25.  
Discus — 1. McDaniel, Sterling City, 137-8; 2. Edging, Robert Lee, 134-2; 3. McCrea,

Sterling City, 129-11; 4. Pitcock, Robert Lee, 129-9; 5. Watts, Wink, 120-4; Tankersley, Iron Co., 116-9.

Shot Put — McDaniel, Sterling City, 46-2.5; 2. Pitcock, Robert Lee, 45-4.5; 3. D. Edging, Robert Lee, 44-2; 4. Parker, Water Valley, 43-9; 5. Lipham, Forsan, 42-8; 6. J. Edging, Robert Lee, 41-9.

Pole Vault — 1. Jones, Wink, 13-0; 2. Oleksuk, Robert Lee, 12-6; 3. Simpson, Robert Lee, 11-6; 4. J. Pitcock, Robert Lee, 11-6; 5. McCallister, Wink, 11-6; 6. Mitcham, Sterling City, 10-0.

High Jump — 1. Landford, Garden City, 8-6; 2. Pentecost, Robert Lee, 8-10; 3. Millican, Robert Lee, 8-10; 4. Scott, Bronte, 8-5; 5. McCabe, Robert Lee, 8-8.

Triple Jump — 1. Thixton, Forsan, 40-9; 2. Matthews, Wink, 40-0; 3. Pentecost, Robert Lee, 38-1.5; 4. Morrow, Water Valley, 36-8.25; 5. Coates, Robert Lee, 36-5; 6. Edlen, Robert Lee, 36-0.

3,200 Run — 1. Coates, Robert Lee, 11:24.88; 2. Escamilla, Sanderson, 11:46.32; 3. Eady, Water Valley, 11:56.82; 4. Bern, Bronte, 11:57.05; 5. Morey, Water Valley, 12:15.60; 6. Ortega, Robert Lee, 12:36.50.

400 Relay — 1. Sterling City, 44:65; 2. Iron County, 45:28; 3. Wink, 46:16; 4. Robert Lee, 46:22; 5. Forsan, 46:47; 6. Sanderson,

46:69.

800 Run — 1. Rutland, Water Valley, 2:05.13; 2. Millican, Robert Lee, 2:08.09; 3. Harrison, Forsan, 2:08.33; 4. Villa, O'Donnell, 2:10.01; 5. Coates, Robert Lee, 2:12.90; 6. Kinney, Iron Co., 2:15.94.

110 Hurdles — 1. Pentecost, Robert Lee, 15:30; 2. Washington, Stanton JV, 15:90; 3. Treadaway, Bronte, 16:16; 4. McDaniel, Sterling City, 16:64; 5. Murrem, Sanderson, 16:80; 6. Morrow, Water Valley, 17:46.

100 Dash — 1. Muncy, Highland, 11:66; 2. Lipham, Forsan, 11:81; 3. Stucker, Sterling City, 11:82; 4. Saldívar, Stanton JV, 11:88; 5. Perez, Stanton JV, 11:93; 6. Wink, 11:97.

400 Run — 1. Leja, Sterling City, 52:25; 2. Matthews, Wink, 54:35; 3. Millican, Robert Lee, 55:03; 4. Scott, Bronte, 55:38; 5. Rutland, Water Valley, 55:53.

300 Hurdles — 1. McDaniel, Sterling City, 42:06; 2. Pentecost, Robert Lee, 42:17; 3. Treadaway, Bronte, 42:33; 4. Morrow, Water Valley, 43:51; 5. McCabe, Robert Lee, 45:90; 6. Stubbs, Water Valley, 46:47.

200 Dash — 1. Thompson, Wink, 23:42; 2. Clark, Iron Co., 24:08; 3. Cox, Garden City, 24:41; 4. Stucker, Sterling City, 24:61; 5. Castro, Sanderson, 24:69; 6. Mills, Forsan, 24:78.

1,600 Run — 1. Rutland, Water Valley,

4:54.59; 2. Eady, Water Valley, 5:11.34; 3. Bern, Bronte, 5:12.61; 4. Helwig, Robert Lee, 5:15.31; 5. King, Forsan, 5:17.36; Ortega, Robert Lee, 5:19.60.

1,600 Relay — 1. Robert Lee, 3:35.68; 2. Sterling City, 3:39.66; 3. Wink, 3:40.70; 4. Forsan, 3:41.84; 5. Garden City, 3:44.81; 6. Sanderson, 3:45.72.

DISCUS  
Totals — 1. Water Valley, 125; 2. Stanton, 99; 3. Wink, 80; 4. Garden City, 72; 5. Iron Co., 58; 6. Bronte, 54; 7. Sanderson, 25; 8. Robert Lee, 22; 9. Highland, 20; 10. O'Donnell, 18; 11. Klondike, 12; 12. Forsan, 4.

Shot Put — 1. Waldrop, Robert Lee, 37-4.5; 2. Carper, Bronte, 31-8; 3. Minton, Water Valley, 31-4; 4. Beck, Bronte, 30-6; 5. Moore, Stanton, 29-8.5; 6. Pardo, Iron Co., 29-0.

Long Jump — 1. Woods, Water Valley, 16-1; 2. Farmer, O'Donnell, 15-9; 3. McGeehe, Iron Co., 15-0; 4. Cozart, Klondike, 14-8; 5. Henderson, Wink, 14-6.5; 6. Goodwin, Garden City, 14-4.

Triple Jump — 1. Fernandes, Wink, 34-10; 2. Counts, Water Valley, 32-8; 3. Adams,

Stanton, 32-7; 4. Luevano, Sanderson, 32-

3.5; 5. Counts, Water Valley, 31-9.5; 6. Smith, Iron Co., 31-5.5.

High Jump — 1. Fernandes, Wink, 5-2; 2. Bolding, Robert Lee, 5-0; 3. Harp, Garden City, 5-0; 4. Nicheus, Garden City, 5-0; 5. S. Counts, Water Valley, 4-10; A. Counts, Water Valley, 4-10.

3,200 Run — 1. Pierce, Iron Co., 13:03.48; 2. Wiese, Water Valley, 13:24.18; 3. Kujawski, Garden City, 13:36.90; 4. Woodfin, Stanton, 14:44.70; 5. Gonzales, Iron Co., 14:55.40; 6. McGeehe, Wink, 16:01.93.

400 Relay — 1. Water Valley, 12:53; 2. Stanton, 14:54; 3. Wink, 14:59; 4. Garden City, 14:59; 5. Klondike, 15:26; 6. Highland, 15:46.

800 Run — 1. Chandler, Stanton, 2:40.72; 2. McCutcheon, Iron Co., 2:43.35; 3. Benevides, Stanton, 2:45.73; 4. Hawkins, Wink, 2:46.19; 5. Woodfin, Stanton, 2:47.37; 6. Bohannon, Robert Lee, 2:51.53.

100 Hurdles — 1. Maxie, Garden City, 17:36; 2. Harp, Garden City, 17:70; 3. Guelker, Highland, 18:17; 4. Bryant, Garden City, 18:38; 5. Hall, Bronte, 18:77; 6. Johns, Wink, 18:88.

1,600 Run — 1. Billings, Sanderson, 13:65;

2. McGeehe, Iron Co., 13:69; 3. Sturgill, Bronte, 13:90; 4. Feaster, Highland, 13:96; 5.

Luevano, Sanderson, 13:98; 6. Hull, Stanton, 13:99.

800 Relay — 1. Water Valley, 1:50.45; 2. Stanton, 1:56.17; 3. Garden City, 1:57.19; 4. Highland, 1:58.26; 5. Wink, 1:58.74; 6. Klondike, 1:58.79.

400 Dash — 1. Fernandes, Wink, 62.01; 2. McGeehe, Iron Co., 64.62; 3. Ayers, Water Valley, 65.90; 4. Nicheus, Garden City, 66.27; 5. Sexton, Water Valley, 66.91; 6. Lane, Water Valley, 67.19.

300 Hurdles — 1. Renteria, O'Donnell, 50.45; 2. Counts, Water Valley, 51.49; 3. Hall, Bronte, 54.95; 4. Madison, Stanton, 55.29; 5. Bryant, Garden City, 55.44; 6. Simer, Stanton, 55.53.

200 Dash — 1. Water Valley, 4:23.11; 2. Wink, 4:27.65; 3. Stanton, 4:27.67; 4. Iron Co., 4:36.98; 5. Garden City, 4:40.98; 6. Bronte, 4:41.45.



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**Midland Community College**  
Truck Driving Academy  
Better Training-Less Cost  
Conditional Hiring Available  
915-570-4767  
888-501-5100

**FINANCIAL**  
\*\*\*LOW INTEREST RATES\*\*\*  
\$2,500-\$50,000  
AS LOW AS \$79.64 MONTHLY  
NO FEE, FOR APP.  
24 HRS.  
1-888-660-1919  
TOLL FREE

**CORNELL CORRECTIONS / BIG SPRING CORRECTIONAL CENTER**  
Has an opening for a Security Clerk, \$6.39 hr. Full-time, Mon.-Fri. 8-5. Exlt benefits. Apply in person from 8-11 & 1-4 at 610 Main, Suite B. No phone calls please. EOE, M/F/V/D.

**B&R SEPTIC**  
Septic Tanks, Grease, Rent Port-a-Potty.  
267-3547 or 393-5439

**TREE SERVICE**  
Tree Trimming, Hauling, Removal & Pruning.  
\*\*\*FREE ESTIMATES\*\*\*  
Call 263-4441 or 263-0260

**EXPERIENCE** Tree trimming & removal, more than 17 yrs. experience. For quality work. Call Lupo 267-8317 FREE ESTIMATE.

**PAINTING**  
TONN PAINTING QUALITY PAINTING AT A REASONABLE PRICE! FREE ESTIMATES & REFERENCES 263-3373

**PEST CONTROL**  
SOUTHWESTERN A-T PEST CONTROL  
Since 1984, 263-6514  
2008 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79726  
PLUMBING  
GROSS PLUMBING  
Honest & Dependable. Repair, Repipe, Remodel. 267-2009  
REMODELING  
Bob's Custom Woodwork  
Remodeling Contractor Doors • Kitchens • Baths • Garage Doors • Openers • Sales & Service 613 N. Warehouse Rd. 267-5811

**RENTALS**  
VENTURA COMPANY 267-3665  
Houses/Apartments, Duplexes, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms furnished or unfurnished.

**ROOFING**  
JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING  
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All types of repairs. Work guaranteed!!! Free estimates. 267-1110, 267-4289

**FULLMOON ROOFING**  
Composition & Wood Shingles, Tar & Gravel 360 Completed Jobs  
FREE ESTIMATES Bonded & Insured Call 267-5478.

**SEPTIC REPAIR**  
CHARLES RAY  
Septic Tanks, Grease, Rent Port-a-Potty. 267-3547 or 393-5439

**MEAT PACKING**  
HUBBARD PACKING CO.  
Custom Slaughterhouse • Home Processor Service • Half Hogs • and Quarter Beefs for your Home Freezers. North Birdwell Lane 267-7781

**MOBILE HOME SVC**  
West Texas Largest Mobile Home Dealer Now "Used" & Repaired Homes of America - Odessa (800) 728-0881 or 363-0881

**MOVING**  
CITY DELIVERY FURNITURE MOVERS  
Tom & the guys can move anything anywhere still here after 40 yrs. 906 Lancaster 600 W. 3rd Tom & Julie Coates 1 263-2225

**PAINTING**  
"DORTON PAINTING"  
Interior/Exterior Painting, Drywall & Acoustic, FREE ESTIMATES. Call 263-7303.

**For Your Best House**  
Painting & Repairs Interior & Exterior \*\*\*Free Estimates\*\*\* Call Joe Gomez 267-7887 or 267-7881

### AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE

**CLARK'S HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**  
AFF. with A-1 Ref., Apollo  
Call Shino Clark 1-800-440-3348 or 264-7400  
TACLB000282C

### ANTIQUES

**ESTATE SALE SERVICE OF BIG SPRING**  
15 years experience in Antique & Estate Sale Business. For info call 268-9309

### BATHTUB RESURFACING

**WESTEX RESURFACING**  
Make dull bathtubs sparkle like new on tubs, vanities, ceramic tiles, sinks and formica. 1-800-774-9998 (Midland)

### CARPET

**H & H CARPETS**  
Corner of 4th & Benton 267-2840

Carpet Special!!! \$11.95 installed Several colors to choose from

**DEE'S CARPET**  
Carpet Remnants for sale. Call 267-7707

**CARPET SALE!**  
Push or Berber, \$11.95 a yard. Free Estimates!! 267-9310

### CAR WASH

Yes! Wash & Wax your car without water! For only \$3.00. Award winner as used by Professional Detailers. Dealer inquiries welcome. 1-888-787-4680.

### COMPUTERS

Computer Service, Repair & Upgrades Software Support Call Steve Strain 263-2470 The Best Deal With The Best

### CONCRETE WORK

**IDEAL CONCRETE**  
Exposed Redwood Aggregate Detail. Design - Landscaping. Rehab. Concrete. 267-6150

### COPIERS

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### DIRT CONTRACTORS

**SAN FLORES DIRT CONTRACTOR**  
Sand, Gravel, Top Soil, Driveway Curbins. 615-263-4818

Herald Classifieds work. Call us at 263-7331.

### DEFENSIVE DRIVING

**GOT A TICKET?**  
Defensive Driving Class, \$25. 10% Insurance Discount - \$20. Classes held at Days Inn every 3rd Saturday. Classes Start March 15 9:00-3:30pm Days Inn 1-800-725-3039 ext. 2707 MIP & DWI classes in Odessa

### FENCES

**B & M FENCE CO.**  
Chainlink/Wood/Tile/Metal Repairs & Gates. Estimates Available. Free Estimates. Day Phone: 915-263-1615 Night Phone: 915-264-7000

### MARQUEZ FENCE CO.

Wood, Chainlink, Tile, Rod Iron. Fence Repairs & Concrete Work 267-5714 Benny Marquez Owner

**QUALITY FENCE**  
Terms available. Free estimates. Cedar Redwood Spruce • Chainlink Day 267-3349, night 267-1173.

**Brown Fence Co.**  
Cedar, Tile, Chain Link. FREE Estimates!! Financing. Check our Specials on Chain link. 263-6445. Nite 263-6517

### FIREWOOD

**DICK'S FIREWOOD**  
Serving Residential & Restaurants Throughout West Texas We Deliver. 1-915-453-2151 FAX 1-915-453-4322

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**JUAN CASPER GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
PLASTER & CONSULTANT BATHS, KITCHENS, SIDING, WINDOW REPLACEMENTS, ADDITIONS, GARAGES, DECKS, CARPORTS, HOME REPAIRS. CALL JUAN, 267-2304

### HOUSE LEVELING

**HOUSELEVELING**  
B&B HOUSELEVELING & FOUNDATION REPAIR Bonded & registered FREE ESTIMATES 20 year guaranteed Owner Rick Burrow Abilene, Tx. Toll Free 1-800-335-4052

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**LOCAL UNLIMITED INTERNET SERVICE**  
NO LONG DISTANCE NO 800 CHARGE NO CONNECTING FEE FREE SOFTWARE ALL SERVICES ON INTERNET AVAILABLE WEB PAGES FOR BUSINESS & PERSONAL USE  
CROSSROADS COMMUNICATIONS 264-0305 (fax) 264-0333 WE make it EASY for YOU to get on the INTERNET "BIG SPRING'S PATH TO THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY"  
LAWN CARE  
YVES'S LAWN SERVICE  
Mowing, Edging, hauling trash, trimming trees, all yard work. Reasonable rates. Call 264-0568 or 267-7177

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**Bob's Custom Woodwork**  
Remodeling Contractor Doors • Kitchens • Baths • Garage Doors • Openers • Sales & Service 613 N. Warehouse Rd. 267-5811

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### PEST CONTROL

**SOUTHWESTERN A-T PEST CONTROL**  
Since 1984, 263-6514  
2008 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79726  
PLUMBING  
GROSS PLUMBING  
Honest & Dependable. Repair, Repipe, Remodel. 267-2009

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REGISTERED NURSE  
NEEDED

Texas RN license required, prefer one year psychiatric experience. Provide medication monitoring, coordinate medical and non-medical aspects of a client's treatment and case management activities. \$2444 per month. For details call our job line 915-570-3424 or submit application to: Permian Basin Community Centers, 401 E. Illinois Suite 301, Midland TX 79701. R.O.E.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE** currently has an opening for a Medication Aide. Benefits includes 2 weeks paid vacation after 1 year, insurance plan available and quality performance bonuses. Apply in person, 2009 Virginia, Big Spring, TX. BOE.

**JOBS WANTED**  
**DALTON CLEANUP**  
Before the city calls you, call me!  
For estimates 398-5329.

**LOANS**  
**DELTA LOANS**  
\$100 TO \$396.88  
Customer Service is our #1 Priority.  
Call or come by!  
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Phone Applications Welcome

**LOAN OFFICERS**  
\$100.00 TO \$435.00  
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Phone applications welcome  
SE HABLA ESPANOL

**FARM EQUIPMENT**  
**WANT TO BUY**  
Side rolls & irrigation pipe. Call  
1-800-331-9523.

**GRAIN HARVEST**  
Round Bales of Red Top Cane Hay, Johnny Middleton, 267-7625

**APPLIANCES**  
Green G.E. Electric Stove. Good condition. Call 264-6315 after 5:00pm.

**AUCTIONS**  
**WTBA Brangus Sale**: Reg. Bulls (60), Females (55) Show HF/ST (15), Commer Fem (500), Sat 3-29-97 12:00 noon Abilene Auction Barn, Jack Luther 915-698-2301.

**BUILDING MATERIALS**  
Reposited 2 Steel Bldgs. 30x40, 40x60. Never erected. Sell for balance. Larry 1-800-221-0615.

**DOGS, PETS, ETC.**  
**FREE KENNEL CLUB BREEDER REFERRAL SERVICE**  
Helps you find reputable breeders/quality puppies. Purebred rescue information. 263-3404 daytime.

**TERMITE AND INSECT CONTROL**  
2006 BIRDWELL  
263-6514

**PRICE**  
**FOR SALE**  
**TOPSOIL**  
Delivered to your residence or construction site.  
Call:  
**Price Construction, Inc.**  
for cost & delivery schedule.  
915-267-1691

**Yard Sale: Sun & Mon.**  
March 23 & 24. Small men's clothes, misc. items. 1512 S. Main St. 10am-3pm.

**FOUND** medium size mother dog with 2 puppies, light tan sheep dog type. Found in the south Baylor and Kentwood area. Call 263-1324 or 267-4657.

**Dining Table**, 4 chairs \$250; 17cu. Ref. \$250. 16" boys bike \$20. 263-3022.

**Refrigerated Window units** from 5,000 to 12,000 BTU's. Prices start at \$150.00. 2906 Parkway. 263-8229.

**FOR SALE**, 7 pc. sofa group. Beige color. \$250. 267-7003.

**MOVING - MUST SALE**: Sears Coldpack 19.1 cu. ft. side by side refrigerator, \$250.00. Kenmore electric range \$50.00, white Westinghouse washing machine \$75.00, Ladies golf clubs and bag \$250.00, cellular bag phone \$40.00, snake boxes \$40.00 each. 267-2486 after 5:00pm weekdays, after 9:00am Sat. & Sun.

**New storm doors 32"**, still in box. Top quality. Reg. \$226, asking \$175. Call 267-7707.

**WEDDINGS, ETC.**  
Cakes, Flowers, Arches, Abras.  
Order Now!  
267-8191

**GIN TRASH COMPOST**  
Delivery Available for Truckloads  
Mustang Farmers Club  
915-398-5536

**ACREAGE FOR SALE**  
For Sale: 4.33 acres on Val Verde. Great building site. Free raw water. BARGAIN PRICE! 263-3930.

**Approx. 23 acres** South of town. Excellent well, phone & electricity ready, established yard w/trees. \$1250 an acre. 263-0175.

**6 Acres**, Net wire fences, 600 concrete blocks, good water but, no well. Wildlife Rd. South of big Spring. Kenny Thompson Homes 263-4548 \$10,000.

**BUSINESS PROPERTY**  
**FOR LEASE**, 1 fenced 1 acre yards with small building. Call 263-5000. Wes-tex Auto Parts, Inc.

**FOR RENT**: Small building or car lot, 810 E. 4th. \$200.00/month, \$100.00 / deposit. Call 263-5000.

**CENETRY LOT FOR SALE**  
Two cemetery lots for sale. Good location. 915-728-5435.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**  
2 Bedroom house near schools available to see. Cash offer only. 264-9233.

**Price Drastically Reduced** on this wonderful 4 bedroom 2 story brick home with a guest house as an added bonus on Washington Blvd. Call Judy Fortenberry, Agent, at South Mountain Agency, Realtors, 267-6905 on 263-8419.

**3 bd., 1 bth**, central heat/air. \$24,000. 433 Dallas. 267-7347 after 5:00.

**COAHOMA SCHOOLS**: 4 1/2 about 3 ac., Outriga, covered patio, yard, fence, sprinkler, lots of storage. 267-6776.

**BY OWNER**: 3/2, almost new brick home w/ many extras in C.I.S.D. 264-7022.

**CASH FOR YOUR HOUSE**  
Regardless of condition. (806) 794-5964

**WAS 27, Now 16 HOME SITES LEFT** in Coronado Hills!!! Very competitive pricing! Don't be fooled by others misleading ads. Know your true bottom loan & payment up front. Call Key Homes Inc. 1-915-520-9848.

MOBILE HOMES

**DOUBLEWIDE SIDE MUST SELL!** 1997 28x52 doublewide. Three bedroom, two bath, steel front door, dishwasher, upgrade carpet. Options galore! \$29,000. Will move to your location. STARDUST MOBILE HOMES. (800)-727-9760.

**MUST BE MOVED**: 1997 three bedroom sixteenwide. "Front and rear" floor plan, with appliances and furniture. Full factory warranty. Never lived in. Asking \$17,900. Will finance. Call (800)837-8079

**Guaranteed financing** on new or used manufactured homes. No credit, bad credit, bankruptcy, NO PROBLEM! Call Todd or Jose for details at 450-5850 or 800-456-8944.

**See the all new Oak Creek 32x80 doublewide!** Over 2300 square feet of living area. The very best built home on the market today. Come see for yourself at Nationwide Homes of Midland, 6910 West Business I-20. Open 7 days a week till dark.

**Used 1996 American Homstar 28x60 Doublewide**. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with all appliances and air. Only \$39,000 and only \$1995.00 down cash or trade. \$370.00 per month for 300 months at 10.25% Var. APR. This home sells new for \$49,000.00 -- SAVE \$10 GRAND Nationwide of Midland 520-5850 or 800-456-8944.

**\*\$161.75 month** will buy a 1992 3 bedroom furnished mobile home. 180 months, 13.25% apr, \$1405.00 down, HOMES OF AMERICA Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881. Ask for Troy Tolifson.

**\* Home of the month**, 1997 Fleetwood 3 bedroom, 2 bath, storm windows, energy efficient, and a whole lot more for money. \$189.66 month, \$1053.00 down, 240 months, at 9.75% apr var. HOMES OF AMERICA Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

**CALL MOBILE HOME CREDIT HOTLINE FOR PRE-APPROVAL** 1-800-725-0881.

**Special • Special**  
**BARCELONA APARTMENT HOMES**  
\$99  
Move In Special w/ 1 month lease  
• 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments  
• Lighted Tennis Courts  
• Pool • Sauna  
• Friendly Community  
530 WESTOVER ROAD  
263-1252  
Special • Special

**Special • Special**  
**BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD**  
• Swimming Pool  
• Private Patios  
• Carports  
• Appliances • Most Utilities Paid • Senior Citizen Discount • On Premise Manager • 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Unfurnished  
**PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS**  
800 W. Marcy Drive  
263-5555 263-5000  
Special • Special

**Managers Special**: 3 doublewide, singlewide to choose from, these homes all need families. Must be adopted this month. Call Dave, today. HOMES OF AMERICA Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

**\* Most beautiful mobile home** in West Texas, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, formal dining, hunter green upgrade carpet, great home, only 5% down, 360 months, 9.25% apr var, \$486.00 month. Call Jeff Hatfield, HOMES OF AMERICA, Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

**\* Spectacular savings** on this new 1997 Fleetwood doublewide, 1421 sq. ft., storm windows, island kitchen, oak cabinets, beautiful master bedroom, with seated separate shower, garden tub, 3 spacious bedrooms, for as little as \$342.00 month, 5% down, 9.25% apr var, 360 months. Ask for Joe Hernandez, HOMES OF AMERICA, Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

**\* USED Mobile Home**... Nice... ONLY \$3,000.00. Homes of America, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

**BUSINESS BUILDINGS**  
60x90 SHOP on 5 acres with separate office. Located on Snyder Hwy. 263-6021 or 267-8696.

**For lease** 510 East 1st. Large building with offices, overhead door. 300.00 month, 150.00 deposit. call 263-5000.

**OFFICE SPACE** or Retail, located at 4th & Benton. 263-6021 or 267-8696.

**FURNISHED APTS.**  
Apartments, houses, mobile home. References required. 263-6944, 263-2341.

**FURNISHED HOUSES**  
**SMALL 2 bdr** Mobile Home outside city on private lot. \$325 + dep. 267-6347.

**UNFURNISHED APTS.**  
\$99 MOVE IN plus deposit.  
1,2,3 bdr. 2 bills paid. HUD ok.  
263-7811

**UNFURNISHED HOUSES**  
1 Bedroom, carport, extra clean, 1709 Owens, \$275/month, 263-5818.

2-1 With garage near college. \$275 \$150/deposit plus utilities. 263-2202 or come by 805 E. 13th

3-1, good area, new carpet, paint. \$550. 267-2296 or 268-9313.

**MOBILE HOME FOR RENT OR SALE**. Not sold if rented. 2 bdr, 1 bath, water and gas paid. 267-1867.

**NOW AVAILABLE**  
Largest, nicest two bedroom apartment in town. 1300 square feet. 1 1/2 baths FREE use heat and water. two car attached carport, washer-dryer connections, private patio, beautiful courtyard with pool and party room. furnished or unfurnished. **YOU DESERVE THE BEST**.  
**Coronado Hills Apartments**  
801 E. Marcy  
267-4995

**BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD**  
• Swimming Pool  
• Private Patios  
• Carports  
• Appliances • Most Utilities Paid • Senior Citizen Discount • On Premise Manager • 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Unfurnished  
**PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS**  
800 W. Marcy Drive  
263-5555 263-5000

**4 bedroom**: 2 bath, 1502 Lincoln. Call 267-3841 or 266-4022.

**All sizes**: 5 bd, 2 1/2 bath, 2 bd, den! Guest house! 267-8745.

**AVAILABLE** 3-1-2 bd, 1 bth, New carpet/paint, central h/a. \$400/mo., \$250/dep. 263-8742.

**We have a 3 bedroom house** (\$385), 2 bedroom house (\$275), 2 bedroom triplex (\$275) & 1 bedroom apartment (\$230) for rent. HUD ok. 264-6155

**FOR LEASE**: 3/bedroom 2/bath house. Available April 1st. \$425/month, \$200/deposit. Call 263-7221.

**VERY NICE house & beauty shop** for rent. Shown by appointment only. 263-6902, 263-3825.

**3 Bedroom, 2 bath**, central heat & air, den, fenced yard, utility room. 702 W. 18th, \$565/mth, \$250/dep. 267-7449.

**PONDEROSA APARTMENTS**  
\*Furnished & Unfurnished  
\*All Utilities Paid  
\*Covered Parking  
\*Swimming Pools  
1425 E. 6th St. 263-6319

**ALL BILLS PAID**  
1 Bedroom - \$358  
2 Bedroom - \$422  
Refrigerated Air, Laundryroom, Adjacent to Marc's Elementary  
1905 Wesson 267-4421  
**PARK VILLAGE**  
EID

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

**Smart Sellers choose Herald SUPER CLASSIFIEDS!**

**SUPER CLASSIFIED'S are:**  
**CONVENIENT**. Just pick up the phone and our experienced professionals can help you develop an ad that sells.  
**Economical**. Our reach and readership ensure that you'll receive a good return on your advertising investment. Remember, when your items sell, you profit.  
**Current**. Our columns change daily, reflecting the most current sales information available.  
**Timely**. You can choose your schedule and sell your items whenever you want.  
**Flexible**. Our sales representatives can help you design an advertising plan that meets your needs.  
**Effective**. People turn to the classified ads every day to find all kinds of items. The next ad they see could be yours.  
**Immediate**. In most cases, your ad appears the next day. You can begin receiving results at once!  
**Informative**. Our pages provide up-to-date information on important areas of the economy - jobs, housing, services, automotive and merchandise markets. Capture this attentive audience with your next ad.  
**Well received**. Your ad will be delivered to readers who welcome classified ads because they're a convenient way to shop.  
**Area's shopping center**. Buyers and Sellers rely on Herald Super Classified's for an effective way to reach buyers regularly!  
**Call Today!**  
263-7331

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 25:

You will be pulled in two different directions frequently this year. Bone up on your diplomatic skills, especially when dealing with partners. You are strong-willed and determined; know when to step back. You will be able to see the whole picture once you detach emotionally. Then, you gain an entirely new perspective. If you are single, you will have your share of admirers. But you might not want to settle down. If attached, you will encounter differences of opinions that you both have ignored for too long. Learn to be more empathetic toward partners. LIBRA encourages you to move past your limitations.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
Confusion marks partnerships, so reiterate what you say in more than one way. You get your point across when you try new communication techniques. News from a distance infuses enthusiasm into work, and facilitates a new venture. Tonight: Dine with a friend.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
Be aware of what is going on with a friendly co-worker. Though you are sure you understood what he said, in reality there could be a misunderstanding. Confirm all meetings and appointments. Also, be careful with money matters. Tonight: Go for together.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
Your lively imagination aids a loved one. This quirkiness might not help you complete what you need to. Stay on top of priorities, and juggle all aspects of your life more effectively. A partner needs to learn he can't always have instant gratification. Tonight: It's play-time.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
Resolve a high-pressure problem that seems to be disturbing you. Others do not always understand your message. You might feel pulled in two different directions. Focus on priorities, and you will make good choices. Tonight: It might be time for a little reorganization.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
You are unable to grasp all the facts simultaneously. Be direct about what you want. Eliminate confusion, which runs rampant. You have many ideas and solutions that you need to freely vent. Brainstorming proves fruitful. Tonight: Go to a favorite spot.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
Expenses seem out of whack.

Understand your limits, as well as another's. You need to verify information, especially when it concerns finances and a partnership. Check out an investment with care; consider the long-term implications. Tonight: It's your treat.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
Another could upset you with his ideas. Be direct. What seems like a great idea might not be. The unexpected occurs easily. Adapt plans, and roll with changes. Excitement can mark this day, if you stay open. Someone close has wild ideas. Tonight: It is entirely your choice.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
Taking a back seat might be necessary under the circumstances. Follow-through counts. Be clear about what is expected of you at work. Clarify details before you start a project. Aim for precision and efficiency at work. Recognize your limits. Tonight: Make it an early night.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
Be more direct in how you deal with others, especially friends. They appreciate your honesty and directness. Use your imagination and creativity to help make what you want happen. There are many different paths to the same end. Tonight: Head for where the gang is.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

Take the lead at work. You cannot be too direct with others. People appreciate your accuracy and attention to details. Stay calm when you feel wedged between a rock and a hard place. Someone close to you could be creating confusion. A discussion is in order, to sort things out. Tonight: Work late.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
Both sides of a story seem viable to you, but you feel forced to choose. Demonstrate your flexibility. Look at the long-term implications. Make goals a higher priority. Discussions concern your desires. Expand your horizons, and stay in touch with feelings. Tonight: Be where the fun is.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
You work better as a team, though another might test your priorities to an extreme. Consider alternatives, so that you feel less in the clutches of this person. When others sense your lack of energy, the situation will turn around. Tonight: Put in extra hours.

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Heads-up reaction at crime scene results in falling down

**DEAR ABBY:** A few days ago here in Eugene, a woman was abducted from a small one-employee store. She was forced at gunpoint into the gunman's vehicle. It is unlikely she will ever again be seen alive.

Here is a suggestion that could possibly save lives under these circumstances: Fall down! That's right - fall down. And stay down. Anything is better than getting into a thug's vehicle and vanishing. Very few men are capable of lifting a limp body and putting it into a vehicle. And a few screams might help, too. — MR. HOLLY K. ROBINSON, EUGENE, ORE.

**DEAR HOLLY:** I checked with the police, who said that in general, "playing possum" — going limp or pretending to faint — can be an effective way to keep from being taken from "crime scene A" to "crime scene B." The police stressed that one should avoid getting into a perpetrator's vehicle if at all possible. Calling attention to the crime by screaming or crying for help can also scare off some assailants.

They cautioned, however, that every crime situation is unique. The unfortunate store employee had no options, but usually the best way to avoid becoming a victim is to stay alert in the first place.

**DEAR ABBY:** I was suddenly awakened to the fact that nowhere else did I see or hear of George Washington on Feb. 22, except for reading the head-

ing of your column, "Happy Birthday, George."

It made me stop and think about what has happened to our country when we overlook respectful recognition in exchange for our three-day holiday weekend. It's a sad day for us when we fail to even mention the birthday of the father of our country.

Abby, your "Happy Birthday, George" revived my proud-to-be-an-American spirit, so I hung my American flag out on the balcony of my apartment for all to see. Thank you, Abby, for reminding me and many others, I hope, of our precious American heritage. — JACK R. ROBINSON, KENNEWICK, WASH.

**DEAR JACK ROBINSON:** Thank you for your thank-you. Perhaps some formerly forgetful folks will remember to mark their calendars at the beginning of 1998 that on Feb. 12 we honor Abraham Lincoln and on the 22nd we honor George — and President's Day honors them both.

**DEAR READERS:** Earlier this month, an incorrect address for ordering "PLEASE CALL POLICE" banners for your car was printed. The post office box number contained an error, and the shipping and handling cost was omitted.

The post office has assured me that orders mailed to the incorrect box number will be forwarded to the correct one, and WCIL has agreed to ship those orders without the \$1 for shipping and handling. (One banner is shipped as a premium for a \$5 donation, plus one banner per each additional \$4.)

In the future, please send your orders to: WCIL, P.O. Box 92501, Los Angeles, Calif. 90009, and include \$1 per order for shipping and handling.  
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Abigail Van Buren  
Columnist



