

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

FRIDAY
April 11, 1997

50 cents

Early morning storms drop hail on Big Spring area

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**
Staff Writer

It was not *deja vu* of last year's devastating hailstorm, but Big Spring residents were awakened at about 1:38 this morning to the area's first major spring thunderstorm. The storm swept through the area, followed by a second storm an hour later.

The National Weather Service (NWS) in Midland reported hail ranging from one-inch to one and three-quarter inches in the Big Spring area. Other areas of Howard County received pea-sized to dime-sized hail.

This morning's activity was part of a line of thunderstorms that extended on a southeast-northeast line from around Rankin to just below Big Spring.

High winds and rain hit Big Spring around 1:38 a.m. dumping three-tenths of an inch of rain in the Hillside Drive area and up to three-quarters of an inch of rain at Luther.

The second storm cell hit Big Spring at about 2:22 a.m., but stayed mostly south and east of the city.

High winds accompanied this storm,

but only a trace of rain was reported. Strong lightening and ominous clouds also accompanied this storm moving east and then swung around to the north.

All of the storm activity was also followed by the entrance of a cold front into the area. At 2:22 a.m., it was 66 degrees, at 3 a.m. it was 54 degrees and by 3:30 a.m. it was 39 degrees — a 29-degree drop in 68 minutes.

According to NWS Forecaster Brian Francis, the line of storms developed along a dry line near Seminole in Gaines County.

"At 4:50 p.m. Thursday, Gaines County was reporting golf ball-sized hail and at 5:35 p.m., a tornado touched down near Fairview Community seven miles east-northeast of Seminole, destroying some power lines and destroying a storage shed," Francis said.

That storm moved along FM 1429. Francis added people in the area were given enough time to prepare for the storm because a tornado warning was issued at 5:14 p.m., 21 minutes before it actually touched down.

At 6:20 p.m. the storm had moved to near Welch in Dawson County and produced golf ball-sized hail there as well.

The storm moved into the Lubbock area, but redeveloped in an area from Midland to Wink around 10 p.m.

"Several reports came in up until about 2 a.m. this morning of high winds and hail up to golf ball-size in various locations in the Permian Basin," Francis said. "Rainfall amounts ranged from .86 inches southeast of Midland to .38 inches at Midland International Airport and areas east of the airport."

According to Francis, the storms were a result of an unstable air mass, strong upper-level disturbances and the dry line, which is a common feature in West Texas.

"We had the right amount of moisture in the atmosphere and a very unstable air mass," Francis said. "The cold front that blew in was also a factor in the storms."

"Everything came together just north of us, so the Lubbock area had several more severe weather reports than the 19 we had here," Francis added.

Memories of May '96 storm return

By **JOHN H. WALKER**
Managing Editor

It probably didn't help that the movie "Twister" opened on HBO Tuesday night, or that we were within a month of the year anniversary of last May's hailstorm, but when severe weather warnings went out Thursday people paid more than a little attention.

But it was shortly after midnight, when weather scrolls on Midland-Odessa television stations informed viewers that a string of thunderstorms containing high winds, period of heavy rain and possible hail that the city's streets started to fill.

It was the unprotected — those without garages or carports — who were scrambling about as they looked for protective cover for their vehicles.

In the blink of an eye, the covered spots along South Gregg filled — Glass Masters, the gasoline canopy at HEB, the drive-thru at 1st Big Spring Banking Center and Security State Bank ... but, as always, the most popular were State National Bank's parking garage and the drive-thru at Norwest.

"As soon as I heard that hail popping down, I put on my shoes and got over here," said one woman at State National who was in house coat and house shoes. "My car hasn't been fixed but three or four months from last year and I didn't want it all beat up again."

For some, there was an hour or more of watching the clouds roll across the sky ... straining for sight of something fearful every time the sky lit up with lightning. For others, the wait was shorter ... but all did the same thing in that they kept their eyes on the sky for whatever Mother Nature might deliver.

Bill passed supporting vets' home

By **JOHN H. WALKER**
Managing Editor

A possible Veterans Home in Big Spring moved a step closer to reality Thursday when the House Committee on Pensions and Investments voted in support of House Bill 2358.

HB 2358, authored by State Rep. David Counts, D-Knox City, would establish veterans assistance centers or care homes in Texas. Texas has the largest percentage of veterans, but has no veterans homes.

"Now that the bill has passed out of the committee, we just need to have it set for a vote before the full House," Counts said. "The membership understands the need for this legislation and the cost savings it will provide. I do not anticipate any objections. This legislation just makes good sense."

Local officials have been keeping a close watch on the legislative process because of the potential for more than 150 jobs and a \$4.5 million payroll for the local economy.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, along with Moore Development For Big Spring, the city of Big Spring, Howard County, the Big Spring Independent School District and Howard College in seeking to acquire a veterans home.

The Texas Veterans Land Board has requested proposals from communities across the state for VA homes to be built in four locations.

According to Chuck Williams, chamber vice president for governmental affairs, areas that were being discussed for the four homes include San Antonio, Houston and two locations in West Texas.

Current legislation would provide funding for two homes this biennium and one home in each of the next two bienniums.

"A report indicates that three 150-bed facilities, operating at 90 percent capacity, would save the state \$30 million over a 10-year period," Williams said.

The proposed homes would be 65 percent funded by the federal

Please see **HOME**, page 2A

IMPROVEMENTS AT JACK BARBER FIELD



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett
Joe Land puts finishing touches on a new set of bleachers down the first base line at Howard College's Jack Barber Field. The addition, which was ready for fans during the Frank Phillips series two weeks ago, increased chairback seating at the facility to 263.

Trustees formally OK seventh, eighth grade sex ed curriculums

By **KELLIE JONES**
Features Editor

At a packed house Thursday evening, the Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved the sex education curriculum for seventh and eighth graders.

After months of studying various curriculums, the Health Advisory Council recommended the board members approve "Sex Respect" for seventh graders and "Choosing the Best" for eighth graders. The students will begin learning the courses during the 1997-98 school year.

Assistant Superintendent Murray Murphy said the support of these two curriculums by the council and the public "compelled us to make these recommendations to you (the board)."

Curriculum Director Helen Gladden said the slides used in Please see **BOARD**, page 2A

OTHER MATTERS:

The Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees discussed or approved the following items during its regular meeting Thursday:

- Approved the new Professional Development and Appraisal System to be used to evaluate teachers in the 1997-98 school year. Board Secretary Larry McLellan said he felt the board should approve this system then use it as a model to make improvements for the following year.

- Accepted the resignation of Valerie Shreves, a teacher at Anderson Kindergarten Center, who is relocating to another area. Accepted the retirements of: Shirley Bell,

Please see **ACTION**, page 2A

Jeter cites three main concerns for seeking seat on school board

By **JOHN A. MOSELEY**
News Editor

Political newcomer Steve Jeter cited three main concerns — school finance, testing requirements and sex education programs — for his decision to seek the District 2 seat in the May 3 Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees election.

Challenging incumbent Trustee Larry Hollar, Jeter acknowledges that all three of his main concerns are in large part dictated by the Texas Legislature.

"Locally, we're limited as to the impact we can have, especially on the finance issue," said Jeter, who owns Steve Jeter & Associates, an insurance and investments firm with offices in Big Spring and Lubbock. "But we can control spending. It's not



JETER

the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS), are "a fact of life," Jeter noted that a number of local teachers have expressed concerns that they are often put in the position of having to "teach tests rather than educating their students."

"I don't know the solution, but it is a problem and it's something I want to investigate and be a part in finding solutions," he continued. "There has to be a

monitoring system, but our teachers shouldn't be rated solely on how their students do on a standardized test."

Jeter and his wife, Carol, have three children — Danielle, a first grader at Moss Elementary, and 3-month-old twins Breanna and Jensen. And as a father, he says he is very concerned that sex education courses taught by the district place a strong emphasis on abstinence.

"The state has us teaching sex education in the schools because too many parents aren't taking the responsibility at home," Jeter said. "I think we need to educate those who aren't being taught at home, but never conflict or get in the way of what parents are teaching at home."

Please see **JETER**, page 2A

FINISHING TOUCHES



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett
Rafael Orozco (front) and Juan Franco are painting the new Big Spring Independent School District's multi-purpose athletic facility for Big Spring High School as the project nears completion.

Gospel Opry's return, high school sports in spotlight

HERALD Staff Report

Looking for something to do this weekend? Here's your ticket to weekend activities in and around Big Spring.

This feature is published each Friday and will include a variety of activities. It is limited to activities of a general nature, community fund-raisers, community functions, free performances, etc. It is not available to commercial ventures.

To submit your activity, send it to "Weekend Ticket," Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431,

WEEKEND TICKET

Big Spring, 79721.

If you wish, you may fax your listing to 264-7205 or bring it by the Herald offices at 710 Scurry. No information will be taken over the phone.

- Spring City Senior Center dance, tonight, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center. Music will be provided by CW & Co. All senior citizens in the area are invited.

- Big Spring Gospel Opry, tonight, 7 p.m., Howard College Auditorium. Admission is free.

- District 4-4A Track and Field Meet, 10 a.m. today, Andrews High School. Finals in the 3,200 meters begins at 10 a.m. Field events are slated for 10:45 a.m. Running event preliminaries are slated to begin at 1 p.m. with finals at 4 p.m.

- District 4-4A Tennis Tournament, Friday and Saturday, Midland College. First-round singles matches begin at 8:30 a.m. Friday and semifinal pairings begin at 9 a.m. Saturday.

- Third annual Hit and Run Softball Tournament, Friday and Saturday, Cotton Mize Field at Comanche Trail Park. Entry fees are set at \$100 per team.

- District 8-2A Track and Field Meet, today, at Ozona High School. Teams from Coahoma and Forsan will be competing.

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Vol. 93, No. 154

Call us at:
(915) 263-7331

TODAY'S WEATHER

47 ▲ Highs 29
Lows ▼

Today: Mostly cloudy. High in the upper 40s. Low in the upper 20s.

Saturdayday: Mostly cloudy. High in the upper 40s. Low in the 30s.

Extended outlook: Sunday, a slight chance of showers. High in the 50s. Low near 40. Monday, fair. High in the 60s. Low around 40. Tuesday, fair and warmer. High in the 70s. Low in the 40s.

APR 11 1997

OBITUARIES

Lester Morece
Hightower

Graveside service for Lester Morece Hightower, 87, Odessa, will be 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 12, 1997, in the Ector County/Rosehill Cemetery.

Mr. Hightower died Wednesday, April 9, at Comanche Trail Nursing Center in Big Spring.

He was born on May 11, 1909, in Comanche. He married Beatrice Hardin on Jan. 16, 1970. He moved to Odessa in 1950 from Monahans. He was a retired Maytag repairman and had owned Hightower Appliance Repair for 20 years. He had also worked in the oil field. Mr. Hightower was a member of Andy G. Vaughn Masonic Lodge No. 1485 El Maida Temple, and past patron of Floyd Easterling Order of Eastern Stars No 1074.

Survivors include: his wife, Beatrice Hightower, Odessa; two sons, Robert Hightower, Grandprairie, and Raymond Hightower, San Angelo; two daughters, Juanita Harrington and Treva Cathey, both of Plano; one brother, Tom Gregg, Big Spring; one sister, Opal Covington, Big Spring; 16 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; four stepsons, Leon and Delbert Hardin, both of Palestine, Odell Hardin, Odessa, and Lynn Hardin, Lipan; four stepdaughters, Mollie Jeanne Hardin and Barbara Brooks Ray, both of Odessa, Ruby Hardin Burns, Brenham, and Dana Meeks, Bastrop; 13 step-grandchildren; and nine step-great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Family Hospice, 3210 E. 11th Place; Big Spring, Texas; 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home, Odessa.

Syble Mackey

Graveside service for Syble Mackey, 77, Midland, will be 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12, 1997, at Trinity Memorial Park with Dr. Ed Williamson, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating.

Mrs. Mackey died Wednesday, April 9, in a Midland hospital following a three-month illness.

She was born on Dec. 23, 1919, in Beinville, La. She married Cecil L. Mackey on April 23, 1938, in Colorado City. She moved to Midland in 1994 from Marble Falls after living there for 16 years. Prior to that, she had lived in Levelland for 14 years, from 1963 to 1978. She was a homemaker and a member of the Methodist church.

She is survived by: her hus-

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME
& CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Syble Mackey, 77, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be 2:00 P.M., Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE
& WELCH
Funeral Home

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

Sam A. Posey, 69, died Tuesday. Services were at 10:00 AM Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

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ISSN 0746-6811
USPS 0055-940
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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
\$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin
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The Herald is a member of the
Associated Press, Audit Bureau of
Circulation, American Newspaper
Association and West Texas Press.
Periodicals postage paid at Big
Spring, Texas, 79720-9998.

POSTMASTER: Send changes of
address to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box
1431, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

TICKET

Continued from page 1A
Field events and 3,200 meters
finals begin at 11 a.m., with pre-
liminary running events set for
3 p.m. and finals to begin at 6
p.m.

• District 6-2A Track and Field
Meet, today, at Iraan High
School. Stanton's thinclads will
be participating. Field events
begin at 10:30 a.m. with prelimi-
nary running events and 3,200
meters finals set to begin at 1:30
p.m. Running events finals are
set for 5:30 p.m.

• District 7-1A Track and Field
Meet, today, at Borden County
High School in Gail. Teams
from Borden County and
Klondike will be competing.
Field events and the 3,200
meters finals began at 9 a.m.
with preliminary running
events set for a 1 p.m. start.
Finals are slated for 5 p.m.

• District 15-1A Track and
Field Meet, today, at Sands
High School in Ackerly. Teams
from Sands, Grady and
Westbrook will be competing.
Finals in the 3,200 meters began
at 10 a.m. and preliminary run-
ning events started at 10:30 a.m.
Field events are slated for a 1
p.m. start and finals will begin
at 5 p.m.

• District 4-4A Boys' Golf
Tournament, 8 a.m. Saturday,
Big Spring's Steers will host the
third and final round of the
tournament at the Comanche
Trail Golf Course.

• Heritage Museum, today
from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and
Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
510 Scurry. For additional infor-
mation, contact the museum at
267-8255.

• Recycle Day in Coahoma, 9
a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, on the
empty lot west of the Little
Sooper grocery store. Sponsored
by Coahoma, Clean and Proud,
the event's organizers will be
collecting all types of paper, alu-
minum, steel, No. 1 and No. 2
plastic and carpet padding. The
group is also collecting
Campbell Soup labels for the
schools and eyeglasses for the
Lions Club.

• Forsan Rabies Vaccination
Clinic, 8 a.m. to noon Saturday,
the fire station in Forsan. All
residents of Forsan are encour-
aged to bring their pets and
have them vaccinated.

• Big Spring Steers varsity
baseball vs. San Angelo Lake
View, 1 p.m. Saturday, in San
Angelo.

• Teenage/Pony League base-
ball registration, 10 a.m. to 3
p.m. Saturday, Big Spring Mall.
Players who have already
signed up for a team should
bring their money from the
candy sale to the mall.

• Lions Club Eyeglass Clinic,
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Lions
Club building at 1603 E. Third.
Members of the service club
will be providing used eyeglasses
and examinations for indig-
ent residents of the communi-
ty.

• American Legion Auxiliary
barbecue dinner, noon to 4 p.m.
Saturday at 3203 W. Highway
80. Meals are priced at \$5 per
plate. Carry out orders will be
available.

• Ladies Day Shoot, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, the Western
Sportsman Club located 9 1/2
miles west of Big Spring on
Highway 176. No fee is required
and the club will provide .22-cal-
iber pistols, ammunition, tar-
gets and instruction for all
women interested in learning
how to shoot a handgun.

BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

ACTION

Continued from page 1A
fifth grade teacher at Kentwood;
L.K. Gladden, math teacher at
Runnels Junior High and D.
Valcee Cox, history teacher at
Big Spring High School. The
three teachers will retire at the
end of this school year.

• Approved a survey that will
be conducted in select classes in
fifth, seventh, ninth and 11th
grades. The survey is from
Region 18 and asks the students
to answer questions about
school safety. The students will
volunteer to take the survey
and it is confidential.

• Approved the bids and ven-
dors to purchase educational
instructional aids and office
supplies for approximately
\$80,000.

• Approved the Howard
County tax collection budget for
1997-98.

JETER

Continued from page 1A
"I want people to know what I
believe in, and if they believe
I'd be a good school board mem-
ber, they should vote for me," he
added. "If they don't, they
shouldn't vote for me."

Jeter also stressed that teach-
ers should have the ability to
maintain discipline in their
classrooms.

"I believe teachers should
have the right and the power to
demand discipline in their
classrooms," he explained. "I
think teachers are doing the
best they can with the rules
they've been given, but they
need to be empowered to do
more."

HOME

Continued from page 1A
government, leaving state and
local entities to fund the
remaining 35 percent.

Counts said that after final
passage, the next step would be
to obtain the federal funding.

"I have worked with
Congressman (Charles)
Stenholm (D-Stamford) to
ensure that these funds will be
available," Counts said. "He is
currently working in
Washington to make sure that
Texas will be top priority for
funding."

(Staff writer Carlton Johnson
contributed to this report.)

BRIEFS

THE BIG SPRING BAND
boosters meet Tuesday, April
15, in the BSHS band hall at 7
p.m. For more information call
Cyndi Marsh at 263-6705.

RECORDS

Thursday's high 73
Thursday's low 35
Average high 77
Average low 47
Record high 96 in 1948
Record low 30 in 1932
Precip. Thursday 0.12
Month to date 0.14
Month's normal 0.35
Year to date 4.31
Normal for the year 2.49
**Statistics not available

Texas Lottery

PICK 3: 9, 8, 2
CASH 5: 4, 6, 16, 28, 34

POLICE

The Big Spring Police
Department reported the follow-
ing incidents during a 24-hour
period ending 8 a.m. Friday:

• JOHN HENRY ZANT, 32,
of 2405 Gunter Circle, was
arrested for assault/family vio-
lence.

• GREGORY FLYNN, 37, of
Knott, was arrested for public
intoxication.

• JUAN RODRIGUEZ, 30, of
804 Lancaster, was arrested for
public intoxication and out-
standing local warrants.

• CHAD STRICKLAND, 30,
of 407 E. Seventh, was arrested
for public intoxication.

• TERRY POINDEXTER, 43,
of 111A Donnelly, was arrested
for public intoxication.

• ASSAULT in the 2500 block
of Gunter and 2500 block of
Cindy.

• ASSAULT WITH A DEAD-
LY WEAPON in the 3000 block
of W. Eighth.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the
600 block of Dallas, 1300
block of W. Fourth, 1500 block
of Tucson, 1000 block of
Johnson and 300 block of Price.

• THEFTS in the 2500 block
of Wasson and 1500 block of E.
Fourth.

• DOMESTIC DISTUR-
BANCE in the 800 block of N.
Scurry.

• INVESTIGATING SUSPIC-
IOUS ACTIVITIES in the 400
block of Main, 500 block of N.
Birdwell, 900 block of Willia,
1800 block of State, 1300 block
of Wood, 500 block of San
Antonio, 1100 block of W.
Fourth, 1100 block of N.
Lamesa, 200 block of W. Marcy,
1100 block of N.W. Seventh,
2700 block of Coronado and 800
block of W. 18th.

• AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
in the 900 block of Willia.

• LOUD PARTY/NOISE in the
600 block of Dallas.

• DOG BITE in the 2500 block
of Chanute.

• DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the
500 block of Aylesford.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's
Department reported the follow-
ing incidents during a 24-hour
period ending 8 a.m. Friday:

• LONETTA KEELEY, 25, of
Midland, was arrested for theft
over \$1,500 and later released
on a \$4,500 bond.

• MICHELLE YVONNE
MARTINEZ, 22, of 2627
Langley, was arrested on an
Attorney General's writ of
attachment for failure to
appear in court. She was later
released on a \$250 cash bond.

SCOUTS
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We'll Donate 25¢ To The
Boy Scouts For Each Carryout Meal You
Buy Between Now And May 7, 1997.

Carryout meals include:
Choice of 1 entrée, 2 sides and a bread

Select from:
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\$4.99

Hot Sides:
Whole Kernel Corn
Macaroni & Cheese
Mashed Potatoes
Swiss Spinach
Sage Dressing
Green Beans

Cold Sides:
Salad of the Day
Strawberries & Peaches
Tossed Salad
Cucumber Salad
Broccoli & Cauliflower

Breads:
Jalapeño Corn Bread
Dinner Roll

Furri
MARKET

2503 SOUTH GREGG
267-2895

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WATCH FOR OUR GRAND OPENING
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ALI
FURN
100 Miles
202 Scurry
Big Sp
Exper
Tz
Nails &
TANNI
NO1
9 AM-10
By Ap
or
NAILS
S,
OPEN
307 Uno

TEXAS BRIEFS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man sentenced to for sexually assaulting neighbors

DALLAS — An Irving man — described by a prosecutor as "every woman's worst nightmare" — has been sentenced to 55 years in prison for raping two neighbors.

Roy E. Daniels Jr., 36, pleaded guilty to two aggravated sexual assault charges, but asked that a jury set his punishment. He was eligible for probation.

In one of the attacks, a victim was held captive and tormented for three hours and in the other the victim was beaten severely while she slept.

Daniels admitted that in the first attack he covered the woman's face with a coat and tied a belt around her neck. He also admitted that he rubbed a knife blade across her neck several times during the three-hour ordeal.

The second victim testified that she was sleeping in her apartment when Daniels entered and struck her 10 times in the head with a metal pipe before sexually assaulting her.

Assistant warden chases down, tackles prison escapee

CUERO — Assistant warden Williams Stephens knew what was happening when he heard shotgun blasts as he prepared to leave his home next to the Stevenson Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Stephens was preparing to take his children to day care early Thursday.

Then he heard the shots being fired, meaning that someone was trying to escape from the minimum security prison.

Stephen put his children, ages 5 and 2, on the floorboard of his truck and drove toward the man.

Inmate Cesar Briseno didn't stop, not when guards fired five shots nor when Stephens told him to stop.

Officials say Edwards Aquifer is recharged in areas

AUSTIN — The northern segment of the Edwards Aquifer is above drought stage for the first time in 16 months, thanks to plenty of wet weather during the first part of 1997.

Directors of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District voted unanimously Thursday to lift water-use restrictions in effect since January 1996 for portions of the aquifer beneath Travis and Hays counties.

"We're thrilled," said board President Sue Johnson. She said spring rains have brought water back to normal levels for the underground spring that is the sole source of drinking water for more than 40,000 people.

Recent heavy rains have helped the aquifer recharge the huge rock formation that holds water.

The drought that gripped Central Texas and the rest of the state last year was declared over months ago. Only the aquifer district remained under a drought alarm, which called for water conservation measures.

Sadler: Bill won't change regressive tax system

AUSTIN — A proposed overhaul of the state tax system won't change the fact that it depends largely on levies paid more by poor and middle-class Texans, according to the head of a House committee writing the changes.

Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, is chairman of the committee trying to find a way to lower local school property taxes by increasing the state's share of the cost of educating children.

To pay for the property tax cuts, about \$3 billion a year, the committee is considering a plan to expand the state business tax to all companies except sole proprietorships. It also would raise some taxes and increase the number of goods and services subject to the sales tax.

Sadler on Thursday said the changes would make the tax system more fair for residential property owners. But he said it will do little to balance the tax burden more evenly between wealthy Texans and everyone else.

Board gives preliminary OK to rewrite

AUSTIN (AP) — While State Board of Education members wrangled over rewriting requirements for vocational courses, Deborah Gwathmey of Brownwood talked about what worked for her child.

Gwathmey testified before the board Thursday that a marketing course helped her eldest daughter get back on track when she fell into depression following a friend's suicide.

Involvement in a marketing-related student group and participation in leadership conferences "allowed her to put her past where it belonged and challenged her to embrace something brighter and more promising," Gwathmey said.

"Marketing did not restore Crystal. God did. However, marketing played a major part in helping her get back up with purpose, vision, self-worth and confidence," she said.

The State Board of Education gave preliminary approval Thursday to the so-called enrichment curriculum, including career and technology courses, fine arts and foreign languages. The vote was 9-5, with one member abstaining.

Board members backed by religious conservatives, who didn't vote for the rewrite, contend the rewrite is tied to a federal school-to-work program and is will weaken academics.

"If we are able to make the enrichment curriculum... academically rigorous and knowledge-based, we could derail the federally encouraged movement to make schools merely training centers for business and industry," said board member Robert Offutt of San Antonio.

After proposing changes in the document that weren't adopted, he voted against the rewrite, along with board mem-

bers Donna Ballard of The Woodlands, David Bradley of Beaumont, Richard Neill of Fort Worth and Richard Watson of Gorman. Randy Stevenson of Bullard abstained.

But member Jack Christie of Houston said the overall curriculum rewrite known as Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills sets rigorous standards.

"It is very academically challenging," Christie said. He said education decisions remain in the hands of state and local officials under the plan.

Thursday's action didn't include a curriculum rewrite for core academic subjects, including math and English.

The enrichment-curriculum rewrite was supported by a number of business representatives and parents at a Thursday board hearing, while other parents lined up against it.

Bob Digneo of Southwestern

Bell said the enrichment curriculum "will make the (academic) courses relevant to the real world" for students.

Cinda Nichols of Colleyville said that as a parent and former teacher she opposes the rewrite. She added that concern about the curriculum change comes from a broad group.

"Parents of all races, colors, creeds and national origins are demanding quality education for their children," she said. "We are on the verge of substituting vocational training for academic achievement."

The six most conservative board members have raised concerns over Texas' ties to the New Standards Project, a project of the Washington-based, non-profit National Center on Education and The Economy and the University of Pittsburgh's Learning Research and Development Center.

Appeals court throws out redistricting ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — The 3rd Court of Appeals has thrown out a lower court ruling that would have required all of the state's senators to run for re-election in 1998.

The court ruling Thursday stems from a settlement reached in 1995 by Republican legislators and state officials in a lawsuit over legislative district lines that were alleged by the GOP lawmakers to have been racially gerrymandered.

After both sides in the lawsuit agreed to redraw districts and submitted the so-called "Thomas plan" to a three-judge panel in federal court, state District Judge John Dietz in

Austin ruled that all the senators would have to run for re-election in 1998 if the Legislature adopted the plan.

The ruling was based on the fact that the constitution requires all state senators to run for re-election each time districts are redrawn — also known as "apportionment" — usually once every 10 years after the U.S. census count is released.

But the 3rd Court of Appeals ruled on Thursday that if the 1997 Legislature adopts the plan reached in the settlement, the senators wouldn't all have to run for re-election next year.

"The court said that when you

have federal court-ordered lines and the Legislature adopts them, you don't have apportionment," said David Edmondson, general counsel for the Senate Redistricting Committee.

Due to redistricting changes in 1994, the state's 31 senators drew lots to determine two-year and four-year terms. The state "tags" the terms to ensure that the Senate always has the service of experienced members.

Fifteen senators were required to run in 1996, while 16 drew lots to run in 1998. With the 3rd Court ruling, those lots would remain intact if the Legislature approves a bill by

Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin, that would adopt the Thomas plan.

"Those Senate members who ran in 1996 will not have to run until the year 2000 and the other half will run in 1998," said Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, chairman of the Senate Redistricting Committee.

"Congratulations to those of you who have four-year terms, and I'm sure those of you who have two-year terms will do well."

Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco, has proposed legislation that would redraw Senate lines to make McLennan County all part of one district.

Senate approves bill for diverse college admissions

AUSTIN (AP) — Race-neutral factors such as economic status and family background would be emphasized in college admissions under a bill approved by the Texas Senate.

The bill by Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, attempts to address a court ruling that has resulted in the elimination of race as a consideration in admissions and financial aid policies in Texas.

The measure was approved by the Senate 23-7 on Thursday and sent to the House for consideration.

The ruling in a case known as

Hopwood has become a lightning rod of controversy after Texas Attorney General Dan Morales interpreted the ruling to apply to all schools.

Assistant U.S. Secretary of Education Norma Cantu has said the ruling should apply only to the University of Texas law school, which was successfully sued by four white students who argued the school's admissions policy unfairly favored minorities.

Several lawmakers pointed to declining minority enrollments at Texas colleges in the wake of

Hopwood while arguing in favor of West's bill.

"It wasn't that many years ago that our country kept people in bondage," said Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin. "This legislation is not about trying to give one person an advantage over another. This legislation is essentially going to provide people who haven't had all the breaks in life a chance to go to college."

The bill says that 50 percent of a college's enrolling class should be admitted based on traditional criteria.

Forty percent should have their academic record considered along with factors such as family background, socioeconomic status or whether a student is bilingual, according to the bill.

The remaining 10 percent of the enrolling class would be made up of students whose academic record may be borderline, but who show potential to succeed.

Students who finish in the top 10 percent of their high school class would automatically qualify for admission.

Morales subpoenas Republic of Texas e-mail

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Attorney General Dan Morales is combing cyberspace for evidence the Republic of Texas has taken its "paper terrorism" onto the Internet.

Ten Texas Internet providers received subpoenas this week asking them to hand over electronic mail and other documents pertaining to their customers who happen to be Republic of Texas members.

"This organization (Republic of Texas) has a history of violating the law and a history of paper terrorism," said Ron Dusek, a Morales spokesman. "It is associated with some militias. It would be irresponsible for us not to pay close attention to their activities and their main way of communicating with each other is through the Internet."

A call to a telephone number listed on the Republic of Texas' Web page was not immediately returned Thursday to The Associated Press. Another number rang without answer.

The attorney general's office has been waging war in civil court against the militia group and 25 of its members since last year.

After granting a temporary

injunction against the group, a state district judge in Austin found Republic of Texas officials in contempt of court.

The state is seeking a permanent injunction forbidding the group from filing documents that purport to be from an official government agency.

The group has filed bogus liens against the state, public officials and private residents.

The Republic of Texas believes Texas never legally joined the United States of America.

The subpoenaed members are not under any kind of investigation. The providers are being asked only to supply the electronic mail or account information's office.

Eight providers so far have responded to the Morales request.

The subpoenas went out to the providers April 2. The providers, including Chemical Electrical & Mechanical Corporation, or CEM of Brazoria, began receiving the requests for account information and e-mail belonging to certain Republic of Texas members this week.

CEM operates Republic.Net, a small Brazoria Internet provider. CEM owner Joel Leathers said he chose the company name as a tip of the hat to early Texas history, not because of affection for the Republic of

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Exuberance is beauty."

-William Blake

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

We salute:

Each Friday, the *Herald* salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.

This week we salute:

• **FIBERGLASS SYSTEMS INC.**, which this week rolled out its first truckload of pipe from its Big Spring plant in more than 10 years.

While the pipe could have been manufactured in San Antonio, the company — with the help of Moore Development for Big Spring — reaffirmed its commitment to our community.

As a result, upwards of 50 jobs will be created at the facility.

• **H.O.G.**, the **HARLEY OWNERS GROUP**, for their continued efforts to work on behalf of worthwhile projects within our community. On Monday the group presented a check for \$3,750 to the Mount the Huey Fund for the Vietnam Memorial's UH-1 helicopter.

• Longtime Kiwanians **DON MCGONAGILL**, **DON GREEN**, **ED CORSON** and **ROBERT STRIPLING**, who were recently recognized on their years of membership in the service organization.

McGonagill is a 25-year member, Green 30, Corson 35 and Stripling 60 years.

• **KYNA COSBY** and **NIKI SHERLOCK**, both student-athletes at Howard College, on their signing of Division I college scholarships.

Cosby, who was also named first-team All-America this week, signed with Texas Tech while Sherlock signed with Texas-San Antonio.

• Coahoma's **BLAKE NICHOLS**, District 8-2A boys golf medalist, and the Goahoma **GIRLS GOLF TEAM**, which qualified for its first-ever trip to the regional tournament.

• **MEL PRATHER**, who once again brought thousands of visitors to our community with his 8th Spring City Arts and Crafts Show.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

LETTER POLICY

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.

Shouting and shoving on the road to civility in nation's capitol

By **WALTER R. MEARS**
AP Special Correspondent

Before there was a Congress, John Adams wrote of his fear that when it assembled, members would seek influence with noise not sense, meanness not greatness.

It's been 201 years, and House civility campaigners still are trying to overcome those tendencies. Their challenge was dramatized by a shouting episode on the House floor Wednesday.

Four leaders of the civility movement, organizers of a weekend retreat that drew 300 of the 435 House members to Hershey, Pa., a month ago, said they're trying to broaden the effort now.

"We're not trying to avoid controversy," Rep. David Skaggs, D-Colo., told the American Society of Newspaper Editors on Wednesday. He said controversy is built into the system, but that it should be "purged of the venom that has characterized it more and more."

Hence, the private, foundation-financed retreat, which Rep. Ray LaHood, R-Ill., said

fostered contacts and friendships that have been elusive at the Capitol.

The system itself is not as collegial as in earlier days when information was passed person to person, without the computer links and televised sessions that make it possible to operate almost solo.

Besides, Skaggs said, many of the new members of the House, where more than 60 percent were first elected in the '90s, won after campaigning against the federal government and even the Congress in which they serve. He said that can create "a surreal working environment."

Anger, confrontation and even violence have flared before, the incivility problem is not new business. "As a nation, we have been here before," said Rep. Amo Houghton Jr., R-N.Y.

Two congressmen got there again on Wednesday.

Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, pushed Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., with both hands after a shouted argument over allegations that lobbyists had written proposed laws in the Republican's Capitol office. DeLay angrily denied it

WE ARE LIVE WITH A NEIGHBOR OF A GENTLEMAN WHO ACTUALLY HAD LUNCH WITH A PERSON WHO ONCE SHARED A CAB WITH THE BROTHER-IN-LAW OF A CULT MEMBER SUICIDE.



School creates megasquad to avoid uproar

There's dumb and then there's dumber. And none of it relates to Hollywood films.

It does, however, describe quite a few offerings. The Associated Press preferred for our perusal this past week.

Somehow, I believe we can hear the chant now: "We've got 66 cheerleaders, yes we do! We've got 66 cheerleaders, how 'bout you?"

Seems that Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa, has created a huge squad of cheerleaders to prevent a possible pom-pom uprising over the mishandling of tryouts.

Cheerleaders were told no one connected to the school would judge last month's try-out, yet two of three judges had past involvement with the cheerleading squad.

Contestants were also supposed to be judged equally in three areas, but some categories were given more weight than others.

Instead of honoring the results, all those who tried out were allowed on a team. That means 24 varsity cheerleaders, 21 junior varsity cheerleaders and 21 freshman cheerleaders.

None of those students will be studying Madonna 101 next fall, however.

They could if they were going to be in the Netherlands and attending the University of Amsterdam, but they're all a little too young.

Not to worry, however, 50 students have signed up for the

latest pop culture course at the university: a 40-hour class examining just what makes pop star Madonna tick.

"As a media phenomenon, she's really intriguing," student Monique Tolk, told one newspaper.

The for-credit course examines Madonna's lyrics, voice and ventures into film as well as her persona as a sex symbol, her religious beliefs — and most of all her media presence.

In Sunnyside, Wash., however, something else is stopping traffic.

To the faithful, it's an image of the Virgin Mary. But to state transportation officials, it's a chemical film on the back of an aluminum road sign — and it's tying up traffic.

Believers began gathering after a Sunnyside police officer said he saw a Madonna image from rainbow hues on the unpainted, metal back of the sign. State officials offer a more secular solution to the markings — a chemical film applied to prevent oxidizing.

Now the crowds have authorities worried. On Monday, the state patrol closed a section of Washington 241 after 400 people turned out to gawk. Officials warn they may move the sign if the congregation continues.

"Our hope is that the novelty will fade and the crowds will fade," patrol Sgt. Eric Killian said.

Seems there's a better chance the chemical film will fade first.

What if they held an election and nobody came? It happened in Pottawatomie County, Kan.

Nobody, not even the candidate, showed up to vote in the Rock Creek School Board election Tuesday. That leaves the

board short a member.

"I can't explain it," County Clerk Susan Figge said Wednesday. "I don't understand it, I really don't."

None of the 327 voters in the district who were eligible to vote showed up — including the candidate, Mike Sotelo, who was running unopposed. Figge said the seat will be filled by a vote of the board.

Some believe voters were not aware of the election — and those who were may have been confused by the relocation of the polling place.

Apparently elections just don't mean that much in Kansas, which possibly explains Bob Dole.

Anyhow, in Latham, Kan., his honor the mayor isn't so sure his new job is much of an honor at all.

Nobody filed to run for the office, and so it was a very unenthusiastic Brett Calvin who wound up with the job after he was elected with 17 write-in votes Tuesday.

"I was hoping somebody else would do it, but nobody wants to," he said.

Calvin, 37, has lived in the south-central Kansas community of 170 since 1969, and can pretty much guess who elected him to office — "probably my mom, my dad, the other city council members and their families."

Latham residents, it turns out, are passionate about not wanting to be mayor, said David Corbin, who works at the Latham Saloon. He said everyone abhors the unpaid job, which involves having to pitch in when Latham's lone city employee is sick or unavailable to mow lawns and read water meters.

"I wouldn't have it as a gift," he said.

Corbin didn't vote for Calvin,

but the mayor shouldn't take it personally.

"I voted for another guy because I thought it would be very nice if he got stuck with the job," Corbin said.

With friends like those...

The dumbest stories — yes, Virginia, there was a tie — came from Baltimore and involve that city's finest.

Police thought they had their man when during a burglary investigation last year they found a strange thumb print on a door frame.

But the man who belonged to the print turned out to be an officer who investigated the break-in.

That did not stop police from issuing an arrest warrant for him.

Officer William Scott Kern was criminally charged in December with the June 25 burglary of Rosa Parker's home, and it took four more months before anyone realized it.

The mistake was corrected this week, when a judge recalled the warrant.

And that's why they need more bank robbers like 35-year-old Jeffrie Thomas.

Bank robbers, you see, usually take the money and run.

Not Thomas.

He walked into a Signet Bank Monday and handed a teller a note demanding money.

When police arrived and asked which way did he go, employees pointed to a man counting cash near a teller's station.

It was Thomas, adding up the take.

Thomas, who was unarmed, was taken into custody.

(John A. Moseley is news editor of the Herald. His column appears on Fridays.)

Mallard Fillmore
by
BRUCE TINSLEY



Cong with

WASHINGTON to force Repub tough political c sional Democr President Clint ing concessions until the GOP detailed balan print.

The presi Thursday night congressional L egy. He did, n ally their grow their policy cc ignored becaus ness to strike a l Republicans.

Clinton's deci week's talks by tional \$18 billi cuts was round series of ir Democratic mee according to lea

Several Democ ers criticized th posal on policy others said Cl least have dema Republican con ularly in the ar More broa Democrats obje

Palesti

WASHINGTON State Departm peacemaking i despite lengthy diplomacy here

But spokes Palestinian offi Burns said Pal tors on TI Secretary of S Albright "stron Palestinians w they can to stop The negotiat another round with Ameri Dennis B. Ross.

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Congressional Democrats uneasy with Clinton's strategy on budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eager to force Republicans to detail tough political choices, congressional Democrats are urging President Clinton to stop making concessions in budget talks until the GOP offers its own detailed balanced-budget blueprint.

The president refused Thursday night to embrace the congressional Democrats' strategy. He did, however, seek to allay their growing worries that their policy concerns will be ignored because of his eagerness to strike a budget deal with Republicans.

Clinton's decision to open this week's talks by offering an additional \$18 billion in Medicare cuts was roundly criticized in a series of internal House Democratic meetings Thursday, according to leadership.

Several Democratic lawmakers criticized the Medicare proposal on policy grounds, while others said Clinton should at least have demanded reciprocal Republican concessions, particularly in the area of tax cuts.

More broadly, several Democrats objected that Clinton

was open to negotiating with Republicans at all without first insisting that they detail how they would deal with Medicare, education and taxes in a balanced-budget plan.

Mindful of how Democrats in 1995 turned Republicans' budget to political advantage, Republicans chose this year not to draft their own plan and instead to use Clinton's blueprint as the starting point for negotiations.

"I commend the president, again, for being willing and able to be out there to try to find a compromise," said House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri. "But I think we're all getting pretty frustrated again that the other side does not have a proposal."

Said Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn.: "The White House is negotiating with a ghost. The White House ought to ask the Republicans to put their budget on the table."

Gephardt relayed the complaints of his caucus to Clinton at a brief White House meeting Thursday night. According to Democratic sources, Senate

Democratic leader Tom Daschle joined Gephardt in suggesting the White House increase political pressure on Republicans to offer a formal budget plan.

But Clinton did not commit to that, administration and Capitol Hill aides said. Instead, they said he tried to reassure the Democratic leaders by saying he was adamant that budget negotiations produce a deal that can win majority support from both parties.

The trepidation among House Democrats is reminiscent of early 1996, when Clinton was trying to negotiate a budget deal with GOP congressional leaders. Then, Democrats complained that Clinton appeared so eager for a deal that he was too willing to compromise.

As talks resumed this week, Gephardt was not informed in advance that the White House planned to offer additional Medicare cuts, although Daschle was.

Angry at what they considered a deliberate slight, Gephardt aides complained Wednesday to several White House officials.

Palestinians continue talks with mediator

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department says Mideast peacemaking is at an impasse despite lengthy revolving door diplomacy here with Israeli and Palestinian officials.

But spokesman Nicholas Burns said Palestinian negotiators on Thursday gave Secretary of State Madeleine Albright "strong assurances the Palestinians will do everything they can to stop terrorism."

The negotiators were due for another round of talks today with American mediator Dennis B. Ross. "We have a cer-

tain confidence we can revive these talks," Burns said.

The postponed peace talks were designed to deal with the future of Jerusalem, refugees, Palestinian demands for statehood and other touchy issues.

Albright, in a speech Thursday, said "the starting point must be a recognition that there is no room in the process for terrorism or violence as a tool of negotiation."

She also called on Israel not to take unilateral actions on issues that are supposed to be on the negotiating table. But

Albright did not specifically call for a halt in construction of new Jewish housing on land the Palestinians claim is theirs.

She and Ross then met with Palestinian negotiators Mahmoud Abbas and Saeb Erekat. Burns described the talks as serious, detailed and thorough, and told reporters, "The Palestinian-Israeli negotiations are at an impasse."

He said "there is a need to stop the suicide bombers," and Israeli and Palestinian security forces are stepping up their cooperation.



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◆ To decorate your dinner with edible beauty, try vegetable flowers. Cut pared small turnips into thin slices, cut out circle with scalloped or round cutter. Make v-shaped notches around plain circles to form petals. Attach thin carrot shapes to center of each circle with a dab of cream cheese.

Do you have a good story idea for the life! section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 235.

Former Big Spring minister makes escape from Albania

Special to the HERALD

Editor's Note: This article was written by Tommy D. Williams who was born in Big Spring in 1941 and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1959. In 1963, he, his wife Jo Ann and their two daughters Terina and Cembra entered into full-time ministry. For more than three decades, they have traveled in this land and abroad ministering the Lord Jesus. Williams pastored at Christ Fellowship Center from 1968 to 1978. The church was located at 11th Place and FM 700.

Seven ministers including myself, Brian Sanders (my son-in-law), Allen Shook, David Bruner, Richard (Bear) Morgan, Will Ramsey, all of Fort Worth, and Mike Bayles of Michigan escaped Albania on March 13 by fleeing into Greece.

We already knew there was trouble in the nation before we arrived, however, it had remained about four hours south from our ministry base in Elbasan. In Elbasan, police armed with automatic weapons walked the streets day and night in groups of three or four. The nation was under martial law with a 6 p.m. curfew. No more than five people in a group were allowed to be on the street. Orders were to shoot on sight anyone carrying a rock, stick, or anything that could be considered a weapon. Still things were relatively peaceful in Elbasan.

Then on Monday and Tuesday, March 10 and 11, we began to hear rumors the revolutionaries were taking over villages closer and closer to Elbasan. We talked to the American Embassy and were told at that time it was recommended, though not ordered, for Americans to leave the country.

About 9 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, battles broke out in the streets of Elbasan. Gunfire was constant and at times, the sky would light up with tracer bullets. We heard bullets as they flew past our windows and hit the wall of the ministry compound. The electricity went off and all that remained was darkness and gunfire.

By 2 a.m., the city and the military base had fallen to the revolutionaries. Three were dead and 18 were seriously wounded. No one in our team

was injured. By morning there were no police nor military. Automatic weapons had been distributed to every male civilian (including pre-adolescent males), many of which were firing randomly in the air.

At daylight on Thursday, we began searching for a way out of the country. We spoke with a representative of the American Embassy. He told us to get out right now anyway we could. I wanted to call home but an international call would not go through. Then about 7 a.m., my wife Jo Ann called us. How good it was to hear her voice. We told her to find us a way out and that we would wait for two hours to hear from someone before we left. Within an hour, we received word Air Italia was holding seven seats for us.

No more law

At 9 a.m. we loaded into the van. Pastor Irfan Toska drove us to the airport in Tirana. As we were entering the capital city of Tirana, the military base surrendered. We saw the revolutionaries entering the base and distributing automatic weapons. This was the last military base and police force in the nation. There was no more law in Albania.

We went on to the airport. It had fallen and was closed. We were met by a car from the British Embassy and they told us to leave the airport quickly. We then drove to the seaport of Durres to leave by ship. It was also closed. The only other choice was to drive back across the nation to exit into Macedonia, or Greece.

As we began our journey back through the war-ridden country, we smiled and waved at some of the revolutionaries. They wave the revolutionary sign for victory back to us. From then on, each time we came upon a group we would wave and give the sign for victory. We were never stopped. We came upon mobs, riots and robbers who stopped cars, robbed the people, took the car and left the people standing by the road. We would smile, wave and continue on our way.

As we drove through Korca near the Greek border, I saw a .50 caliber machine gun that was mounted on a roof top. They lowered the gun and pointed it directly at our van. I began to softly pray Isaiah



Courtesy photo
Tommy Williams ministers in one of the villages in Albania. People stood or sat on rocks or the ground. They also had open air meetings in remote villages.

54:17, "No weapon formed against us will prosper," they never fired.

After six and a half hours of driving through a completely lawless land of gunfire, mob rule, rioting, looting and robbing, we arrived at the Macedonian border. There was much rioting and turmoil. We could not get out.

Our last chance

We continued on to our last chance, the border into Greece. The Albanian side of customs was being looted and burned. The revolutionaries paid no attention to us as we decided to drive through the turmoil to customs on the Greek side. The Greek border guards cautiously came out to meet us.

When they realized we were seven Americans desiring only to walk across their border, they received us. At last, we were out! We learned later within two hours of our crossing, they closed their border also.

Had we not gotten across this border before it closed, the next step would have been to spend the night. We would then sneak out by walking over the mountain in Greece. This journey would have taken three days of walking.

All modes of communication had been shut off in Albania. We did not have the luxury of

the Internet, CNN or any other newscast.

It was only after we were out we learned Friday the American Embassy started evacuating people by helicopter.

After a tearful goodbye with Pastor Irfan, he turned around and drove back into the chaos as we walked across the border. One of the hardest parts of the whole trip for me was to watch him drive off alone. It was two days later before we received word he was back home safely.

Far from over

Our trip was far from over. We hired a taxi at the border for a nine-hour ride to the city of Athens, Greece, where we would catch an international flight.

We arrived in Athens at 2 a.m. Friday and were able to get a few hours of sleep before boarding a plane for Vienna, Austria. We spent Friday night in Vienna and boarded a plane Saturday bound for the United States of America.

After three grueling days of travel, we were suddenly home. I have been in the ministry for 35 years and ministered in many parts of the world.

In doing so, I have returned home and many times said, "It is good to be home," but there is something different this time. After "walking through the valley of the shadow of death" and proving once again the word of God works in any situation, I say, "It's GOOD to be home."

New freedom

I am persuaded the circumstances are a result of a people who had been under a communistic government control for many years.

The government was responsible for everything that happened to them (good or bad). Now they must learn how to handle their new found freedom.

The Albanian people are not comprehending when you have the freedom to make investments, you are also accountable for worthless investments.

They are in an adjustment period of learning the liberties and the responsibilities of freedom. I am looking forward to returning to Albania as the turmoil and rioting passes and the borders open again.



Courtesy photo
This is some of the border guards on the Greek side of customs.



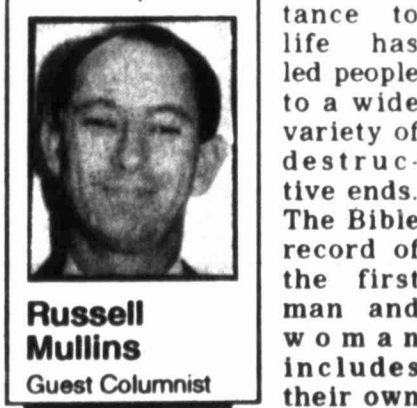
Courtesy photo
Armed police officers, under martial law, walked the streets in groups with orders to shoot on sight any violators.



Courtesy photo
Robbers took tanks, cars, weapons and anything they wanted.

Christians should pick up, rather than throw in, the towel

People are searching for meaning in their lives. That is the age old quest. Sadly, man's pursuit of that which will give



Russell Mullins
Guest Columnist

importance to life has led people to a wide variety of destructive ends. The Bible record of the first man and woman includes their own search for significance. The tempter said to the woman in regard to the forbidden fruit, "God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God" (Genesis 3:5). It was this promise of something that would give meaning to life that lured her to disobedience and

downfall.

The recent mass suicide of 39 members of the group that called themselves Heaven's Gate is being viewed by some as evidence of a resurgence of spirituality.

Not finding significance in this life, however, these people came to believe it would be found only by taking their lives. Others still, view this mass suicide as proof all religion is meaningless. Ted Turner commented after the Heaven's Gate suicide, "Is there much difference in other religions saying you're going to Heaven?"

Jesus Christ died. He himself said He laid His life willingly (John 10:17). But Jesus did not lay down His life in a desperate attempt to find meaning for His own life. He died and then was raised from the grave to give meaning to our lives, to give us reason to live, not a reason to take their own lives. Because of

His resurrection, a reality of history as credible as any other historical fact, man can possess

his disciples' feet. Then He said to them, "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet,

Not finding significance in this life, however, these people came to believe it would be found only by taking their lives.

hope. Hope is what enables people to live productive lives. For the Christian, Heaven is awaiting beyond the grave, but that hope never calls for people to give up on this life or this world.

The hope of resurrection instills value in people's lives by transforming their lives. The One who died for our sins and was raised again came to serve, not to be served (Matthew 20:28). And He taught His followers to be servants of mankind, not give up on mankind. On the night in which Jesus was betrayed, He picked up a towel and washed

you also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14). That meaningful mandate can only be fulfilled by disciplined living.

Christianity, then, which holds out the hope of going to Heaven is different from any religion that calls for people to give up on life. Christ gives meaning to life by challenging us to become servants. So, the hope of Heaven is strong encouragement to the followers of Christ to go on living, to pick up the towel, not throw in the towel.

Russell Mullins is minister at the Coahoma Church of Christ.

CLUB NEWS

Club news is due by Wednesday at noon for Friday publication.

The Western Sportsman Club

The Western Sportsman Club is sponsoring a Ladies Day Shoot. The club invites all women who would like to learn to shoot a handgun. The club furnishes the 22 cal. pistols, ammunition and hearing protection. Shooters will need to furnish their own eye protection. Individual instructions. Everyone welcome. No fee involved. It begins 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12 at the Western Sportsman Club, nine and a half miles west of Big Spring on Hwy. 176 (Andrews Hwy.).

Big Spring Art Association

The Big Spring Art Association meets Tuesday, April 15 at the West Texas Center for the Arts. There will be a demonstration by one of the members.

There is a watercolor workshop at the center April 19. Instructor will be Jo Beth Gillian. For more information call 264-5195.

Officers will be installed for the next year. They are: Estelle Howard, president; Sheree Moates, vice president; Elnora Hart, secretary; Bonita Lyght, treasurer; Linda Rupart, program chairman and Betty Conley, reporter.

The Big Spring Area Art Show is May 17 for entries and showing is May 19-24. This is a juried show.

The Artist of the Month for April is Estelle Howard. Her paintings are on display at the Heritage Museum. The March

Please see CLUB, page A8

S L I C E of life!

TIPS 'N' TRIVIA

Air bag equipped automobiles

(NAPS) - Restraining children properly:

- The positioning of child safety seats in the front seat of a vehicle places the child in close proximity to a deploying air bag.
- Children tend to become restless and are more likely to unbuckle themselves or lean at awkward angles.
- Because children are usually shorter than adults, a child's neck and head are more likely to contact the deploying air bag.
- Always place children 12 years of age and under in the center of the back seat in safety belts or in properly buckled safety seats appropriate for their age and size. If a back seat is not an option, children should ride in the front with the passenger seat adjusted as far back from the dashboard as possible.
- Never place a child in a rear-facing safety seat in the front seat of a passenger-side air bag-equipped car.
- Always use both shoulder and lap belts.
- For more information on air bag safety contact the Air Bag Safety Campaign at (202) 625-2570.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Rabies vaccination clinic

The city of Forsan is having their annual rabies vaccination clinic Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at the fire station. All Forsan residents are encouraged to get their pets vaccinated for their own protection.

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation is having their Annual Walk-a-thon in Midland at the Chapparral Center on May 10. We are trying to raise money for research to find a cure. If you would like to participate in the walk or like to make a tax deductible donation contact Karen Davila at 264-7938 or Laurie Churchwell at 263-0087.

THE LAST WORD

I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart.
e e cummings

Some people can stay longer in an hour than others can stay in a week.
William Dean Howells

There is something about a cupboard that makes a skeleton truly restless.
Anonymous

Man prefers to believe what he prefers to be true.
Francis Bacon

By The ASSOCIATION

BEAUMONT Martin Nelson high school re who spent mos ing 20 years a priest.

That in itself extraordinary Father Nelson Catholicism tw is just three mc tests — away one of only abo turned-Catholi United States and has childre

The native c was raised in church. His Episcopal pri lowed in his fa after "giving year in college.

"Did I alway priest? Absolu Heck, no," he s baritone chuck God calling me direction, kick ing."

Eventually, I said he realize happy and full thing else. He January 1975.

"It's difficult some Episcopa belief and pra Catholics. I was said Nelson,

CHURCH

Big Spring Opry

The Origin Gospel Opry Howard Colle 1001 Birdwell 7.

Gospel mus: the Opry, in : is included fee us comedi Davis," and l your funny bo local talent fo the Singing P of Robert Pru and granddaa Heckler, hor now attending Within the Heckler has 1 project enti Gospel for S Also, Bap Maranatha of

several stud playing. Out c the Smith Sh Danny Rande other talent.

Free give prizes will be vided by Cor Resource (Corral, Flow and Taco V encouraged evening of in: and fellowst family. Adm cert is free.

First Baptist Stanton

A remind Round-Up Attendance First Bapt Stanton. Evi aged to dres up your faml meet for Su

SERIES

HILL

SUNDAY

Former Episcopal priest finds new home in Catholic church

By The ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEAUMONT — The Rev. Martin Nelson is a Catholic high school religion teacher who spent most of the preceding 20 years as an Episcopal priest.

That in itself may not seem extraordinary, except that Father Nelson converted to Catholicism two years ago and is just three months — and two tests — away from becoming one of only about 60 Episcopal-turned-Catholic priests in the United States who is married and has children.

The native of Tampa, Fla., was raised in the Episcopal church. His father was an Episcopal priest, and he followed in his father's footsteps, after "giving up" his junior year in college.

"Did I always want to be a priest? Absolutely not. Uh-uh. Heck, no," he said with a clear, baritone chuckle. "When I felt God calling me, I ran the other direction, kicking and screaming."

Eventually, however, Nelson said he realized he couldn't be happy and fulfilled doing anything else. He was ordained in January 1975.

"It's difficult to express, but some Episcopalians are close in belief and practice to Roman Catholics. I was in that group," said Nelson, 48. "I really

believe in Christian unity and it just made sense for the Anglican community to reunite with the church of Rome."

The Episcopal Church has its roots in the Church of England, or Anglican Church.

During his years as an Episcopal priest, Nelson became involved in ecumenical activities, later did a stint as a Navy chaplain with a Marine Corps infantry battalion, and then wound up in a Fort Worth parish. It was on an early morning flight back from a New York meeting that Nelson said his "goose was cooked."

"I looked at what the early church writers said and I had a copy of the letters of Pope Leo the Great. . . I was reading letters he wrote to the bishops throughout the world and it was obvious this guy had jurisdictional authority," Nelson explained. "I thought, 'Wait a minute. Here's a guy in the mid-fifth century and here's someone who had real authority over these other people. Now, is this (papal primacy) a humanly concocted scheme or a divine plan?' It was not a bolt of lightning. It was just revelation."

Nelson accepted the primacy of the Pope, and had no problem with the Catholic Church's emphasis on Mary, Jesus' mother. Nelson said he already held great appreciation for the

Catholic church's stance on the sanctity of life.

"I just became convinced that what the Roman Catholic church said was true. Once you get to that point, you have no choice but to go in," he said. "I left the Episcopal church at the end of 1994, quietly, with no dramatics. I simply told my (congregation) that I had personally become convinced of the truth of the Catholic Church."

The next Sunday Nelson, his wife Sharon, and their two daughters went to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Arlington, a church that previously was Episcopal and whose whole parish voted to become

Catholic. Nelson later was received into the Catholic Church there.

"I came in with no deals with the Roman Catholic Church, no promises," he said. "There were no stumbling blocks in terms of faith or doctrine. The only problem I had was that I felt God called me to be a priest and I wanted to remain a priest. If the Pope had said 'no' then I would have remained a layman in the Catholic Church."

But Pope John Paul II didn't say no. With the support of Beaumont's Bishop, the Most Rev. Joseph Galante, the Pope allowed Nelson to train for the Catholic priesthood under what

is called Pastoral Provision, a special process for Episcopal priests who wish to become Catholic priests. The pope also dispensed Nelson from the promise and commitment of celibacy.

"I accepted him for service in the diocese and I had to get special permission from Rome to ordain him," Galante said.

"Why did I accept him? Because for one he's a very fine man and we certainly are in need of priests. He has great dedication and a great sense of service and also I feel our people will be very accepting of someone who is a Roman Catholic priest but is also married."

Before he is ordained, Nelson must pass a written test, administered locally in April, and an oral test in Boston at the end of May.

The first time an Episcopal priest was ordained a Roman Catholic priest was in June 1982, and there are only 62 or 63 such rare cases in the country out of the more than 53,000 Catholic priests in the United States. This is the first time it is happening in Beaumont's 30-year-old diocese.

"Well, yes, I'm excited, but I don't count my chickens before they hatch. When I pass both tests, then I'll get excited," Nelson said.



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Pastor

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CHURCH NEWS

Big Spring Gospel Opry

The Original Big Spring Gospel Opry is tonight at the Howard College Auditorium, 1001 Birdwell Lane, starting at 7.

Gospel music is the focus of the Opry. In addition, comedy is included featuring the hilarious comedians, "Grandpa Davis," and Mr. Ed to tickle your funny bone. Some of our local talent for this month are: the Singing Pruitts, consisting of Robert Pruitts, his daughter and granddaughter and Jason Heckler, home grown talent now attending Texas Tech.

Within the last few months, Heckler has recorded his first project entitled, "Southern Gospel for Southern Hearts." Also, Baptist Academy Maranatha of Big Spring has

several students singing and playing. Out of town guests are: the Smith Sisters of Lubbock, Danny Randall of Lamesa and other talent.

Free giveaways and door prizes will be given away provided by Cornerstone Christian Resource Center, Golden Corral, Flower Mart, Subway and Taco Villa. The public is encouraged to attend for an evening of inspiration, laughter and fellowship for the whole family. Admission to the concert is free.

First Baptist Church of Stanton

A reminder to everyone, Round-Up Day for High Attendance is Sunday at the First Baptist Church in Stanton. Everyone is encouraged to dress western. Round up your family and friends and meet for Sunday School and

worship. Afterward, there is a barbecue lunch in the

Fellowship Hall with all the trimmings provided by the following classes: Adult I, potato salad; Adult II, salads; Adult III, dessert; Adult IV, pinto beans; Adult V, homemade bread and Adult VI, dessert.

First Presbyterian Church

Teachers and leaders are being honored at a teacher's appreciation breakfast Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Eighth and Runnels. Everyone is invited. This is a great opportunity to learn about some of the volunteers who serve this congregation.

The church is sponsoring a Christmas in April project on Saturday, April 26. Opportunities for service include painting, light roof repair, window trim work and other odd jobs. Volunteers are needed, skilled and unskilled. A nursery is provided on an as-needed basis. Call the church to make the necessary arrangements.

The Women's Spring Gathering is April 19 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event brings women in our Presbytery together to organize and set goals for the year.

Hillcrest Baptist Church

A spring revival is scheduled for Sunday through Wednesday at Hillcrest Baptist Church, 2000 W. FM 700. The times on Sunday are 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Monday-Wednesday at 7 p.m. The revival is led by Rev. Ken McMeans, former pastor of College Baptist Church and Kevin Cook, music director of College Baptist Church. A nursery is provided and everyone is invited to attend.

Please see CHURCH, page A8

SPRING REVIVAL

JOHN 12:46



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Church

Continued from page A7

First United Methodist Church

"A Return to Life" (John 11:1-44) is Dr. Ed Williamson's message Sunday at the First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry. The message is about spiritually recapturing the breath of life. Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. Visit our Internet site at <http://www.xroadstx.com/users/fumc/index.htm>

Now is a great time to get started in a class of friendly learning Christians. The church has several Sunday School classes for adults, youth and children. All visitors and residents of Big Spring are welcome.

First Church of the Nazarene

Last weekend, a number of teens from Big Spring Nazarene Church represented the West Texas District Church of the Nazarene in competition in several events at the Southwest Region Extravaganza on the campus of Southern Nazarene University.

The West Texas Junior High Girls Volleyball team was defeated. Tiffany Hancock was the West Texas All-Star player from our local church and was a gold medalist.

Other Big Spring gold medalists include Leticia Doll, senior high vocal; Michael Garza, junior high tennis and David Lee, junior high mime.

Also placing at the regional contest were Brandon Hancock, senior high men's basketball and Brad Long, junior high men's basketball.

These teens were chosen to represent the West Texas District out of competitors from 90 churches. The regional competition was against 11 other districts in the Southwest Region.

Next week, the West Texas District Church of the Nazarene has its annual Missionary Assembly and General Convention in Lubbock First Church of the Nazarene. Elected delegates from the local church are attending the missionary rally Wednesday evening at 7 and business-related to missions during the day Thursday. Thursday evening and Friday is the time delegates deal with general church business and come together for services of inspiration and challenge.

Club

Continued from page A6

meeting was attended by several visitors. Guest artist was Ed Jordan who gave a demonstration on cartoon drawing and members helped in drawing a large cartoon of Moss Lake and surrounding hills.

Howard County Youth Horseman Club

The Howard County Youth Horseman Club is having a benefit team roping competition April 19. Books open at 1 p.m. and roping starts at 2 p.m. There is 12-by-12 round robin, No. 2 cap, three-head progressive after one. The cost is \$100, cash only. The event takes place at the club's arena on the Garden City Highway. Call Kaddo Kothmann at 394-4202 or Leigh Powell at 263-5947 for entries and more information.

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN ZEHTI
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WITH THE ISRAELITES GATHERED AROUND HIM, ELIJAH TOLD THE PRIESTS OF BAAL TO PREPARE A SACRIFICE TO THEIR FALSE GODS AND HAVE THEIR GODS STRIKE FIRE ON THE SACRIFICE...



O' BAAL, THY LOYAL SERVANTS ASK OF THEE - LET THERE BE FIRE!

AFTER ALL, BAAL IS A GOD, YE SAY - HE MUST HEAR THEE - CRY LOUDER!

AND NOW, SPURRED ON BY THE BITING WIT AND LAUGHING JEISTS OF ELIJAH, THE PRIESTS OF BAAL LEAP UPON THE ALTAR IN A FRENZY OF MOTION, MOUTHING LOUD SUPPLICATIONS, SLASHING THEIR GARMENTS AND BODIES WITH KNIVES, GESTICULATING, PLEADING FOR AN ANSWER FROM THEIR PAGAN DEITY...

JOHN ZEHTI

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SP
BSHS
By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer
If you wanted opposites, Big School track team wasn't a bad place. One one side of al spectrum, y Kennedy, who is ented, deep Lady after their th District 4-A title. On the other Spring boy c

Steer
life
By STEVE REAGA
Staff Writer
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The Steers use Hull and a little thing else in Eagles. Hull was mound, strik scattering 5 hits complete game v. "Blake's reall for us the past

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Tiger Wo birdies and back nine i stroke ahead al trio consis Jose Mari; Costantino R The group Fred Couples and Davis Lc "It was a t through it," ing in the M time as a p doing his defending Faldo.
Faldo only over 72 hole five three-pi got to the 10 Greg Nor competitive year's disa

Today
Track — Big Spring at District 4-4A meet, Andrews.
Track — Coahoma, Forsan at District 8-2A meet, Ozona.

Baseball — Atlanta at Chicago, 2:15 p.m., ch. 11.
Golf — The Masters, 3 p.m., ch. 38.
NBA — Charlotte at Detroit, 7 p.m., ch. 28.
Baseball — Houston at St. Louis, 7 p.m., ch. 29.

Got a story idea or a sports news tip?

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B

BSHS track teams taking opposite approaches to District 4-4A

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

If you wanted a study in opposites, Big Spring High School track team practice wasn't a bad place to be.

One side of the emotional spectrum, you had Jay Kennedy, who is leading a talented, deep Lady Steers squad after their third straight District 4-4A title.

On the other hand, Big Spring boy coach Randy

Britton, who's team has been hampered all season by injuries and a lack of depth, is trying to figure out how to make a little go a long way.

The two teams' efforts will be on display today at the District 4-4A track meet in Andrews. Field event finals were this morning, with running event finals scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at Mustang Stadium.

The Lady Steers, who are the defending district and

Region 1-4A champion, go into today's meet with almost an embarrassment of talent. They won last year's district meet by almost 100 points and may be even better this year.

The team, which is the undisputed favorite to make it three district crowns in a row, is ready to run, Kennedy said.

"We talked to the kids, and we told them that unless we fall flat on our face, we should win the district championship," Kennedy said. "And

we want to see every kid that competes to contribute."

As in the recent past, the Lady Steers are especially strong in the field events and relays. What makes them even better this year is the emergence of distance runners Bridgette Wilson (1,600 meter and 3,200 meter runs) and Tonya Phifer (800 and 1,600).

"It's the strongest distance group I've had," Kennedy said. "I think the team may be even better than last year."

Both Kennedy and Britton say the main strategy at the district meet will be to qualify as many people as possible for the regional meet two weeks from now in San Angelo. So team strategy kind of takes a back seat, especially if you're fighting Britton's battle against lack of numbers.

"If you don't have the numbers, there's not any strategy," Britton said. "You just go out there and run."

Britton's 10-member squad

heads into today's meet nursing injuries to sprinter/jumper Toma McVae (quadriiceps pull) and distance runner Marco Torres (groin pull). Both will compete, though neither is at 100 percent.

The Steers' best bets for points include Tory Mitchell in the 100 and 200 dash, Torres in the 3,200 and 1,600 runs, Antwoyne Edwards in the 110 meter hurdles and Dan Brewster in the discus.

Steers roar back to life in district race

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Steers got exactly the kind of game they needed exactly when they needed it.

Faced with the unpleasant possibility of becoming irrelevant in the District 4-4A baseball race, the Steers instead put themselves firmly back in play-off contention with a 5-1 victory over the Pecos Eagles Thursday at Steer Park.

The Steers used a lot of Blake Hull and a little bit of everything else in defeating the Eagles. Hull was superb on the mound, striking out 12 and scattering 5 hits in gaining the complete game victory.

"Blake's really thrown well for us the past few games,"

STEERS 5, EAGLES 1

PECOS	ab	r	h	e	r	bb	k	so
E. Abila rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R. Gutierrez 3b	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Rodriguez lf	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
J. Abila ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J. Gutierrez dh	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M. Abila c	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Luna cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strawn 1b	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mendoza 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chabarra ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	25	1	5	1	0	0	0	1

CHICAGO	ab	r	h	e	r	bb	k	so
Mouton 2b	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Boadle 3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hanson dh	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
Lopez ss	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Clements ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garret lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Pate c	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Wright rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bowerman 1b	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hyatt cf	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	24	5	7	2	0	0	0	1

Score by Innings:
Pecos 000 000 1 1
Big Spring 002 120 x 8

E—J. Abila 3, M. Abila, Luna, Martinez, Lopez, Hull. DP—none. LOB—Pecos 9, Big Spring 5. 2B—R. Gutierrez, M. Abila. 3B—R. Gutierrez. HR—Pate. SB—R. Gutierrez, Rodriguez. J. Abila, Hanson. 2, Lopez. 5—Boadle.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Martinez (L)	3	6	3	1	1	1
Valencia	3	1	2	0	0	3
Hull (W)	7	5	1	1	3	12

Martinez pitched to one batter in the fourth. WP—Martinez, Hull. HBP—by Hull (M. Abila).

BSHS coach Bobby Doe said, "He threw a two-hitter against Fort Stockton (a 1-0 defeat) ... and we finally gave him a little run support."

The victory was doubly huge for Big Spring, coming on the heels of a 10-0 whitewash at the hands of district leader Andrews Tuesday. But Hull said he didn't feel any extra pressure to produce against Pecos.

"You've just got to go into every game taking them one at a time," Hull said. "If things happen for you, you win. If they don't, you lose. I pretty much knew in the first inning that we were here to play."

It was Bobby Doe-style baseball at its finest: The Steers backed up Hull's pitching with solid defense (they committed only one error) and just enough offense to win.

The Steers broke a 16-inning scoreless streak in the second



Big Spring first baseman Kade Bowerman stretches for the throw from third base that put out Pecos' Eric Abila (15) during the third inning of their game Thursday at Steer Park.

No putting, no problem: Huston fires way to lead

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The tee shot flew through the pine branches and settled near the adjacent fairway, which didn't concern John Huston. Trouble at Augusta National doesn't begin until the putter comes out of the bag.

Huston took care of that problem with a 5-iron that hopped over a mound at the 18th green and rolled dead into the cup for an eagle, giving him a 5-under-par 67 and a 1-stroke lead after the first round.

"There was quite an adrenaline rush," said Huston, the first player to make eagle on No. 18 in 23 years.

"There's also a relief that you don't have to putt."

The rest of the players in the field would have killed to know that pleasure Thursday.

Hardly anyone believed the Masters official who said the greens were "substantially the same" as previous years, which didn't keep jaws from dropping when balls slid off the greens almost as quickly as they arrived.

Paul Stankowski, who shot a 68, took one of his two bogeys from the bunker on the par-3 fourth hole.

"When I first made my bunker shot, I thought it was 3 feet short of the hole, but it went about 12 feet past," he said. "It looked good at one time, but then it was bad again. But that's the Masters."

Paul Azinger only three-putted once, from 60 feet after reaching the par-5 13th hole in two, and finished with a 69, his best start ever at the Masters.

Tiger Woods made five birdies and an eagle on the back nine to shoot 70, one stroke ahead of an international trio consisting of Nick Price, Jose Maria Olazabal and Costantino Rocca.

The group at 72 included Fred Couples, Bernhard Langer and Davis Love III.

"It was a tough day, but I got through it," said Woods, playing in the Masters for the first time as a professional and outdoing his playing partner, defending champion Nick Faldo.

Faldo only three-putted once over 72 holes last year. He had five three-putts by the time he got to the 10th hole.

Greg Norman, in his first competitive round since last year's disastrous 78, had a 6-

MASTERS

foot putt for par at No. 2 that crept past the hole, leaving him a 66-foot putt coming back. He made double bogey and finished at 77.

Stankowski had the best solution. The week before the Masters, he swept out his garage and putted on concrete.

"It was a slight slope," he said. "I tried to put 7-footers that broke 2 feet just to get a feel for the ball breaking like that. Then it would run all the way to the end of the garage, and I'd have to go get it — just like a couple of putts out there today."

Even so, Huston had the best solution — don't putt at all. It wasn't just the 18th.

On the first hole, he tried to play a 60-foot chip from the front of the green with a 4-iron. The ball didn't quite climb the slope and rolled back to his feet. He chipped again and holed it for a par.

"It started off almost as exciting as if finished," he said.

And it was a thrill a minute for just about everybody else. No one expects Arnold Palmer to be a factor, but the 89 he shot Thursday was his worst round anywhere in a golf tournament.

U.S. Open champion Steve Jones, who shot an 82, four-putted from 40 feet on No. 8. "The fourth putt was a 4-footer — if I miss that one, I seven-putt," he said.

The names on the first-round leader board were surprising. Stankowski said he had been hitting the ball terribly until the final 30 minutes of his session on the range Wednesday night.

Azinger hasn't been in serious contention at any tournament since chemotherapy treatments from cancer shortly after winning the PGA Championship in 1993. Olazabal sat out 18 months with feet problems and returned to competitive golf only last month, and Augusta is no place to play for a man with sore feet.

Equally surprising is that the majority of leaders played in the afternoon.

But then, when the greens are as incredibly fast as they were Thursday, it hardly mattered.

Well-rested Witt shuts down Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Because of two weather postponements, the Texas Rangers haven't played often enough to get into any kind of rhythm.

But starter Bobby Witt and closer John Wetteland weren't complaining about the cold conditions following the Rangers' 2-0 shutout of Milwaukee on Thursday.

Witt, the Rangers' fifth starter who twice was bumped from his first start of the season by inclement weather, scattered three hits in eight innings, and Wetteland, signed by Texas in the offseason after winning the World Series MVP award with the Yankees, pitched a perfect ninth for his first save with the Rangers.

"Since I haven't thrown in a while, I wanted to go out and use my strength," Witt said. "I haven't started in two weeks and I had a lot of energy."

Combine Witt's power that with a strong wind blowing straight in from center field

RANGERS

and home plate umpire John Hirschbeck's wide strike zone, and Witt was nearly unhittable.

A gametime temperature of 38 degrees and 12 mph winds kept the crowd down. Although the announced attendance was 5,638, there were only about 1,000 fans on hand, and the upper deck was closed.

"The weather played into my hands," Witt said. "I only threw two changeups. I just tried to get ahead with the fastball and slider and stay with the hard stuff."

Witt, who struck out five and walked one, didn't give up a hit until the fourth, when Fernando Vina and Dave Nilsson singled. He then retired 10 straight batters before Marc Newfield singled with two outs in the seventh.

Texas manager Johnny Oates said he bumped scheduled starter John Burkett for Witt

because "it's much easier for a power pitcher to pitch in weather like this."

Witt acknowledged he took advantage of Hirschbeck's expansive strike zone that didn't let hitters settle in.

"Borderline pitches were being called today," Witt said. "They were strikes on both sides. The umpire had a nice strike zone for a pitcher today. He established that early. If you were coming up, you had to swing."

Mark McLemore and Ivan Rodriguez hit consecutive RBI singles off Scott Karl (0-2) with one out in the fifth to drive in the Rangers' runs.

Karl surrendered just five hits — all singles — in 6 1/3 innings, but three of those came in succession. He struck out four and walked three.

"For the most part I was pleased," Karl said. "I was happy to get a lot of ground balls."

"He had one tough inning,"

Brewers manager Phil Garner said. "But our hitters had a whole bunch of tough innings."

Because of the weather postponements, the Rangers and Brewers have had four days off so far. Wetteland had only made one appearance since opening day.

"It's ridiculous," he said. "You're ready to get the season underway and we've played six out of 10 days. It messes with your head because you're ready to go. A game here or there doesn't work. Every day seems like opening day."

At least the Rangers got out of town for a three-game series at Baltimore. The Brewers are scheduled to begin a weekend series at County Stadium against Toronto tonight, but with rain and snow in the forecast, they might be facing yet another postponement.

If that happens, the teams will try to make it up with a double-header on Sunday, blustery weather permitting.

Rookie Holt out-duels Cy Young Award winner

ATLANTA (AP) — On paper, it appeared to be a mismatch. John Smoltz, the reigning NL Cy Young award winner vs. Chris Holt, a rookie making his second major-league start.

But it wasn't. And thanks to Jeff Bagwell, who went 3-for-3 and drove in two runs, the Houston Astros and Holt beat the Atlanta Braves and Smoltz 5-3 Thursday night.

Holt (1-0) got the win despite giving up 13 hits in seven innings. It ended Atlanta's six-game winning streak and also put an end to the Braves' five-game unbeaten string at their new home, Turner Field.

"My chances going in didn't look too good," said Holt, who didn't walk any and struck out three in throwing 113 pitches. "It turned out to be an enjoyable evening, though. I had a little case of the nerves, but I came out on top."

Houston manager Larry Dierker called Holt's outing "gutsy."

"A lot of young pitchers would have been affected emotionally and given in, but not Chris. He made some mistakes early in the game, but later was

ASTROS

finding his spots," Dierker said.

In addition, Holt had Bagwell on his side.

Bagwell had a double, an RBI triple in the seventh and solo homer in the fifth inning off Smoltz (1-2), who allowed six hits, three runs, walked four and struck out five in six innings.

Bagwell's homer, his first of the season and his first ever off Smoltz in 63 at-bats, gave Houston a 3-2 lead.

"I've really never come close to a homer off Smoltz," Bagwell said. "My first time up, I just missed on a couple of fat pitches. The homer was middle of the plate, away. That's as hard as I can hit a ball."

"I didn't have my best stuff," Smoltz said. "It was frustrating. We had a chance to win, but I'm still not clicking just right."

The Astros have handed Smoltz both his losses in 1997, winning 2-1 in the season opener in Houston. The Atlanta

I've really never come close to a homer off Smoltz. My first time up, I just missed on a couple of fat pitches. The homer was middle of the plate, away. That's as hard as I can hit a ball.

Jeff Bagwell

right-hander was 24-8 in winning the Cy Young last season and didn't lose his second game until June 24.

"Smoltz had some tough luck," Braves shortstop Jeff Blauser said. "This just goes to show you that getting a lot of hits don't always win games. Holt managed to pitch out of

some problems." Braves manager Bobby Cox was ejected in the seventh inning for arguing balls and strikes while the Astros' Luis Gonzalez was at bat. First he got the heave-ho from third base umpire Larry Vanover, then by home plate umpire Ed Montague, who apparently missed his partner's signal tossing Cox.

"I thought we had the guy struck out three times," Cox said. "But you're not supposed to argue called strikes."

The Astros sealed the game on Bagwell's RBI triple off reliever Brad Clontz in the seventh. Bagwell then scored when Alan Embree threw a wild pitch.

Bill Spitters gave the Astros a 2-0 lead in the second inning with a two-run homer, his first of the year and just the second of the season for the Astros in their ninth game. Bagwell made it three.

The Braves got runs in the second on a solo homer by Fred McGriff, his second of the season, and a double by Ryan Klesko in the third and a run-scoring double by Jones.

APR 11 1997

SPORTS BRIEFS

From staff and wire reports

Steers host 4-4A golf stop

The Big Spring boys' golf team hosts the third and final round of the District 4-4A golf tournament Saturday at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Big Spring is currently in fourth place. The top three teams advance to the regional tournament in San Angelo.

Sands holds hunter course

ACKERLY — The Sands Future Farmers of America will offer the Texas Mandatory Hunter Education Program and training.

The class will be held at the Sands High School agriculture department starting Monday. Cost of the course is \$5.

Students under 17 must have a parent's permission. For more information, contact Miss Scott at 353-4745 during the day and 353-4264 at night.

Big Spring city Little League report

There were no Little League results reported to the Herald Friday morning.

Little League coaches are requested to turn in result forms to the Herald between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. Result forms are available at the Herald's front desk.

Mesa wins in court again

CLEVELAND — Cleveland Indians reliever Jose Mesa is ready to return to the bullpen. His trial on a weapons charge was put on hold when a judge ruled that a revolver seized from his vehicle could not be used as evidence.

Mesa, who won his second court victory in as many days Thursday, said the timing of his return to the mound will be determined by Indians manager Mike Hargrove.

"That's up to the Indians to decide. My arm feels good," Mesa said.

Mesa, 30, didn't say if he would be in uniform today at Jacobs Field for the team's home opener.

Indians spokesman Bart Swain said while Mesa would not be activated for today's game, pitching coach Mark Wiley would watch Mesa throw before the game and evaluate his conditioning and arm strength.

Hargrove, Wiley and the Indians front office would then make a decision as to whether Mesa should go to extended spring training in Winter Haven, Fla., or pitch simulated games with the big league club to get into game shape.

A judge ruled Thursday that a loaded 9 mm handgun found by police who arrested Mesa Dec. 27 on a sex assault warrant cannot be used as evidence because it was seized illegally.

Lineman returns from crippling injury

CINCINNATI — Cincinnati Bengals offensive lineman Scott Brumfield, who sustained a spine injury last season that made it uncertain whether he would walk again, now has been told he can return to football.

Brumfield was initially unable to move after colliding with teammate Troy Sadowski during a Nov. 3 game at Baltimore. He was diagnosed with a spinal cord concussion injury.

After months of determined physical therapy and rehabilitation, Brumfield was given official medical clearance Thursday to resume playing football.

A group of orthopedic and neurological doctors examined him in Cincinnati. Then, he performed drills for coaches at the Bengals' Spinney Field training complex.

"It's a hell of a story, it really is," Bengals coach Bruce Coslet said. "A couple of months ago, he was struggling to walk on crutches."

"Right now, I feel 100 percent normal and thankful beyond words that I'm able to do the stuff I'm doing," Brumfield said.

Brumfield, 26, has been doing physical therapy recently at his home in Spanish Fork, Utah.

Redskins owner buried

UPPERVILLE, Va. — Friends of Washington Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke eulogized him as a charmer, a bully, a bon vivant and keen competitor at his invitation-only funeral in a tiny country church.

More than 400 family members and friends, including some of pro football's biggest names, filled the pews and extra chairs Thursday and stood along the walls for the 45-minute service.

Cooke, 84, died Sunday of heart disease.

His son and heir as Redskins owner, John Kent Cooke, said he regretted that his father didn't live to see the team play its first game in a new stadium that will bear his name.

The Redskins will play their first games in Jack Kent Cooke Stadium this year in Landover, Md.

"Many have said, kindly, that they wish my father could have lived to see the completion of his last great accomplishment. I say to you that he saw it more clearly than we all will this coming fall. He envisioned it a decade ago. He fought for it over that time, and he built it in a hurry," Cooke said.

"It was his creation. It is his stadium and it will bear his name. Let this be the final tribute."

The elder Cooke sought to build the stadium in Virginia and the District of Columbia before finding a home for it in Washington's Maryland suburbs.

"There's going to be a lot of emotion when we play our first game," said Redskins quarterback Gus Frerotte, who attended the funeral.

Heat claim division title

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Miami Heat won their first division title, and the Minnesota Timberwolves clinched their first playoff berth.

Miami's 93-83 victory over Detroit, combined with Chicago's 105-103 win over New York, gave the Heat the Atlantic Division championship Thursday night.

"It's a great day for the franchise," Miami coach Pat Riley said. "I'm proud of the players and what they've done, but I know it's just the first step. I've been around the league a long time, and I know they don't give you anything for division titles."

Rookie Stephon Marbury had 29 points, seven rebounds and eight assists as the Timberwolves clinched the first playoff berth in their eight-year history with a 108-96 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers.

"Finally, baby, finally! Eight years. I don't have to read that crap in the papers no more!" shouted Doug West, the only player remaining from the team's inaugural 1989-90 season.

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Orlando 105, Toronto 69; New Jersey 93, Milwaukee 88; Seattle 90, Dallas 82; Houston 102, Vancouver 94; Portland 98, San Antonio 81; Phoenix 101, Sacramento 99; and Golden State 109, Denver 107.

Heat 93, Pistons 83

At Miami, Tim Hardaway scored 30 points and Alonzo Mourning 26 as the Heat clinched the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference. That means Miami will have home-court advantage through the first two rounds, and won't have to play the Bulls before the conference finals.

Detroit's Grant Hill had 21 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. The Heat have won six in a row and 14 of their past 15, while Detroit has lost three straight

NBA

and eight of 12.

T-wolves 108, Clippers 96

At Los Angeles, Tom Gugliotta had 23 points and 15 rebounds for Minnesota, which never finished higher than 11th in the Western Conference prior to this season. Rodney Rogers scored 30 points for the Clippers, who despite the loss maintained their three-game lead over Sacramento for the eighth and final playoff spot in the West.

Bulls 105, Knicks 103

Michael Jordan scored 20 of his 34 points in the final 7 minutes and Luc Longley made two free throws with 5.4 seconds left to complete Chicago's comeback victory. Scottie Pippen scored 33 points for the Bulls, who improved to 68-10 with their fifth straight victory.

Patrick Ewing had 20 points for New York, which lost its third straight home game.

Nets 93, Bucks 88

At East Rutherford, Jimmy Jackson had 24 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists for his first career triple-double as New Jersey snapped a five-game losing streak. Kendall Gill added 23 points for the Nets, including a clinching 3-pointer with 12 seconds left.

Vin Baker had 24 points and 15 rebounds for the Bucks, who have lost four straight and 20 of 24.

Magic 105, Raptors 69

At Toronto, the Raptors were held to their lowest point total ever in a loss to the Magic. Dennis Scott scored 20 points for Orlando, which tightened its hold on the seventh playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. That's important for the Magic because it would mean avoiding the top-seeded Bulls in the first round. Sharonne Wright led the Raptors with 17 points.

Sonics 90, Mavericks 82

Seattle won at Dallas despite a six-point game by Shawn

Kemp. Kemp was 0-for-4 from the field, scoring all his points from the free-throw line. But the Sonics got 17 points from Hersey Hawkins and 16 from Gary Payton to hand the Mavericks their 12th loss in 13 games. Michael Finley scored 25 and Sasha Danilovic added 22 for the Mavs.

Rockets 102, Grizzlies 94

Charles Barkley had 21 points and 12 rebounds in his first home game in six weeks after suffering a hip injury. Hakeem Olajuwon added 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Rockets, who won for the fourth straight time to keep pace with Seattle for the second-best record in the Western Conference. Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored 20 points for Vancouver, which has lost nine straight overall and 13 in a row on the road.

Blazers 98, Spurs 81

At San Antonio, Portland's starters outscored the Spurs' starters 75-27. All five Trail Blazers starters scored in double figures, while no San Antonio starter scored more than seven. Rasheed Wallace scored 19 points and Arvydas Sabonis had 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Blazers, who used runs of 12-0 and 10-0 in the second period to take command. Jamie Feick and Will Perdue each scored 13 points for the Spurs.

Warriors 109, Nuggets 107

Joe Smith scored 25 points, including two free throws with nine seconds left in overtime. Latrell Sprewell had 22 points and Chris Mullin added 21 for the Warriors, who have won 14 of their last 16 games at home against Denver. Antonio McDyess had a career-high 35 points for the Nuggets. Both teams already have been eliminated from playoff contention.

Suns 101, Kings 99

At Sacramento, Kevin Johnson's layup with 4.7 seconds left gave Phoenix its 11th straight victory and dealt a severe blow to the Kings' playoff hopes.

Dent remembers a different sort of Masters

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUR LAKE — Years of playing professional golf at posh country clubs haven't taken the country out of Jim Dent.

Dent's cadence is casual. Strictly southern. Exactly what you would expect from someone raised in Augusta, Ga.

Dent, who turns 55 in May, spent the first 20 years of his life in that town, a well-picked golf spot from the South Carolina border.

Today, golf brings Dent to the Senior Series at Lakewood Golf Club. But talk about his hometown, especially during the week of the Masters, brings back memories.

Once a year, the atmosphere in Augusta borders on hysterical. It's the local reaction to a national phenomenon — the playing of perhaps the most prestigious of all professional golf tournaments.

"Dent's Augusta is a little different. He's never played at Augusta National. God bless the name of the Masters, but he's never tried to negotiate Arlen Chamber. Never did a catastrophe at Ken's Creek."

Of course, Dent's best at Augusta National. He bought a ticket and went to the Masters 11 years ago. These days, that's the only way Dent can get in.

the course. But in his earlier days Dent was a regular at Augusta National — a regular paddy. Twice, Dent helped a Masters participant to a top 25 finish.

Dent doesn't talk about the racism that prevented any black golfers from playing in the Masters until 1975. Dent prefers to remember his childhood in Augusta as one that lifted him up instead of kept him down.

I got in a little trouble like all of the rest of the kids, and did a little of everything," said Dent, who still owns a house in Augusta and spends about a month a year there. "I was around the greatest golfers in the world. I didn't know that until later on in life. You always dream that you put on your pants the same way they do and get up the same way."

That racism was something we were never aware of. When you were young you did not look at race the same way as we do today. You didn't even think about it. You just enjoyed the game. I didn't even think about that. You do things best that you're not supposed to do.

It's an impression he shares. His age hasn't deteriorated his focus. He's a model of a man in his school, he excelled in football. But his athletic ability transferred well to the golf course. And you would have to be living in a well in Augusta not to be affected by golf.

I was roaming around seeing a guy hit a golf ball at Augusta Country Club," Dent said. He hit it 200 yards and it would look like a 1,000. We'd sign out there. Augusta Country Club and play, probably like every kid does some where along the line. We thought it was fun to go out there and have the man run us off. When I got to school some around and I got back, we would go to playing golf.

Dent started his PGA Tour career in 1971, making his first two cuts at the Los Angeles Open and at Pebble Beach. He earned \$58,245 in 15 years on the pro tour but never qualified for the Masters. He turned 50 and joined the Senior PGA Tour in 1988. In his first two years he almost doubled his career earnings, but the amount of winning on the Senior Tour can't match a player at invitation to the Masters.

Despite an appreciation this week at the Senior Series, Dent's days on the Senior PGA Tour are far from over. He just got back last weekend at the Tradition on the Senior PGA's first major of the year.

As far as the PGA's first major — the Masters — Dent says there is nothing like it.

Fenway: From bandbox to brandbox

BOSTON (AP) — Lauded by John Updike as a "lyric little bandbox," Fenway Park is fast becoming a little bit of a brandbox now that three 20-foot high Coke bottles have been hung conspicuously above its famous Green Monster.

The advertisement covers three sides of a light standard, just above the net that keeps home runs from pelting Lansdowne Street below. The Red Sox have said the bottleboards will bring in more than \$1 million (some of it for charity) — money necessary to compete with big-market teams with their layers of luxury boxes and megabucks marketing deals.

"Anything that brings in that kind of revenue, I'm for," general manager Dan Duquette said Thursday as his team prepared for Friday's home opener against Seattle. "It's a Classic Coke for a classic ballpark."

But others wonder if the presence of the bottles is defacing the beloved ballpark.

If this is the way they're going to treat Fenway, they might as well tear it down," said John Carroll, head of the Carroll Creative Inc. advertising firm in nearby Brookline. "There's no question the Red Sox are getting squeezed. But you would hope that some things would be off-limits."

Red Sox marketing vice president John Buckley did not return a call seeking comment. But CEO John Harrington said during spring training that the team decided the ads are less intrusive than the rotating signs behind home plate that other ballparks are using to maximize TV exposure.

Harrington also noted that the New York Yankees had signed a deal with adidas for \$95 million over 10 years to put its name and logo all over Yankee Stadium.

Other arenas — including the FleetCenter, which replaced the beloved Boston Garden — have sold their names outright. And nothing is more recognizable than Kenmore Square's landmark Citgo sign, visible over the Wall.

The Citgo sign is arguably there for some historical value. It's not as blatant a marketing tool, even though it once was, Carroll said. "There's only one reason for this money."

He also noted that the Citgo sign is not on the ballpark premises, which makes it different in his mind than advertising on the back of a turnpike toll ticket or in a subway car. "Why is it different?" he asked. "Because Fenway has a different position in people's experience and there's an attachment to it more than a toll ticket."

Carroll's objections notwithstanding, advertising is as much a part of the ballpark experience as trampled peanut shells. Old parks, as well as many minor-league and spring training sites, have their entire outfield walls covered with ads, including Fenway's 37-foot-high Monster before it was painted green in 1947.

"Those look almost charming at this point," Carroll said. "It's one thing to sell every inch of space inside the ballpark, but I think this is worse. There's something about the high-tech relentlessness of the advertising now that I think strikes the wrong cord."

Harrington stressed that some of the money — at least \$100,000 — will go to the Jimmy Fund, a cancer charity long favored by the Red Sox. Additional donations will be made for each time a player hits one of the bottles with a home run.

First baseman Mo Vaughn is already taking aim — with his mouth. After seeing the bottles for the first time on his drive to the workout, he said, "They already look stupid."

Taking the field, he upgraded his assessment to "disgusting."

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STEEERS

Continued from page 1B

when they struck for a pair of unearned runs. Marcus Brown and Wes Mouton reached on a walk and later Brown scored on a throwing error by Peoria catcher Mark Atz. Wes Mouton came home on a single by Eric Hanson.

They even threw it some way powered in the home at Clinton Peoria's star Yarny but in the fourth inning Peoria's towering slug to left, which came in a game-winning fashion. Peoria started with one run. Wes Mouton made the score 1-1.

After that, it was a matter of putting things in the hands of Hall and the defense, and that were up to the task. Hall didn't allow a multiple-inning error, he gave up a meaningless run in the seventh, and Big Spring's defense was spotless down the stretch.

"This was a big, big win for us, because it puts us in a three-way tie for third." Dent said. "And we're only one game out of second place."

The Steers return to action Saturdays in San Angelo against Lake View, which shares third place with the Steers and Peoria. Game time is 7 p.m.

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MASSAGE THERAPIST wanted to take appointments Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday...

Team & Single Drivers Wanted We offer an excellent benefit package: \$500 Sign-on bonus...

COMMITTED SELF STARTER Well known restaurant need more workers to join our team...

MLM Brokers Needed \$5000/mo. possible Fee required. Needed in outer areas...

Full or part time drivers Domino's Pizza, 2202 S. Gregg...

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SPECIAL HORSE, SADDLE & TACK AUCTION Sat April 12, 1:00pm. Horse commission 5%...

AKC Adult Male Sheltie. Shots current. \$100.00. 263-3877.

FREE PUPPIES TO GOOD HOME 8 wks. old. color black & white. 602 Circle.

FREE KENNEL CLUB BREEDER REFERRAL SERVICE Helps you find reputable breeders/quality puppies...

2413 E. 25th, Sat. only. 8:00 till. Honda scooter, some furniture, clothes, tools...

2509 Carol Dr. (Kentwood Addn.) Lots of misc., Antiques, adult & jr. clothing, recliner...

2611 E. 24th St. Fri.-Sat. 8:30-4:00. Small kitchen appliances, stereo, toys, elect. typewriter...

2611 E. 24th St. Fri.-Sat. 8:30-4:00. Small kitchen appliances, stereo, toys, elect. typewriter...

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale -Saturday Only 1 714 Craigmont, Please "No Checks". OFFICE SALE: 306 Scurry. Sat., April 12, 8-11. 3 desks, sofas, etc.

AVON STOCK SALE Sat. April 12 9am-6pm. 614 Dallas. Great prices on skin-so-soft, Anew and more! Drawing for \$30 worth of Avon.

FOR SALE 100% AMERICAN JUNK THE STUFF THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF. 2210 Main Fri. & Sat.

Garage Sale 1602 Mesquite 9:00 to 5:30. Fri. and Sat.

LARGE ESTATE SALE Friday & Saturday 3 bd. suite (1) antique - (2) Dining table & chairs...

2604 CARLETON, 3 bd, 2 bath. Easy purchase. Boosie Weaver Real Estate 263-3093.

COAHOMA LIONS CLUB SELL THE TOWN. COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE, MAY 3rd. SIGN-UP SHEETS AT THE LITTLE SOOPER MARKET.

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

HOUSES FOR SALE

1906 Winston, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, garage, carport, central heat/air. Near Marcy School. \$400 down, \$295/Mo. Must have excellent credit history. (806) 794-5964.

Doctor Owner Being Transferred, 3 bd-2bth, fp, hot tub, ref. air, new roof/outside siding. Could be commercial property. Call Joe Hughes, Home Realtors, 263-1284 or 353-4751.

MANAGER'S SPECIAL... Only one left and priced so low only the Manager can quote the price. 1996, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Hurry, it won't last long. USA Homes, 4608 W. Wall, Midland, TX, 1-800-520-2177, 520-2177. Se habla Espanol.

3 bd., 2 bt. brick house. CH/A, 4 car carport, 2 storage bldgs. Good well water, new carpet/paint. 19th & Virginia. Call 399-4274 for appt.

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.

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

WE TURN HOUSES INTO HOMES... New doublewide homes as low as \$300/mo. 5% down, 10.5% APR, 360mos. USA Homes, 4608 W. Wall, Midland Tx. 520-2177, 1-800-520-2177. Buy down financing with approved credit. Se habla Espanol!

1996 Redman doublewide repo. 3 bedroom 2 full baths. Bank said sell this month for \$38,900.00 only 5% down and up to 360 month financing at 11.50% APR Nationwide of Midland 915-520-5850 or 800-456-8944.

MOBILE HOMES

ATTENTION: BARGAIN HUNTERS!! LOW, LOW priced pre-owned homes. Bring your cash and we'll bargain. USA Homes, 4608 W. Wall, Midland TX. 1-800-520-2177, 520-2177. Se habla Espanol.

REPO REPO REPO, 1987 18'X76' Oak Creek. USA Homes, 4608 W. Wall, Midland, TX, 1-800-520-2177, 520-2177. Se habla Espanol.

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

Clearance Sale! Everything discounted, Free Air conditioning & skirting, with every home purchase. Manager's gone crazy, he says everything must go. Choose your payment and terms, hurry before he comes to his senses. Call Dave at 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

LOOK! \$248.00 month, and you can own a new 1997 Fleetwood, 18' wide 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 5% down, 9.75% apr. var. 360 months. Don't wait any longer. Homes of America Odesa, TX 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

Only \$245.00 month, 1997 new 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Kit renting, and start owning your own home, 12 years to pay 9.75% apr var. 5% down. Homes of America, Odesa, TX 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

Used 1992 3 bedroom, all included, only 10% down, \$177.00 month, 13.75% apr, 120 month. Homes of America, Odesa, TX 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

Used Mobile Homes starting at \$995.00, come pick yours out today, hurry they won't last. Homes of America, Odesa, TX 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

FURNISHED HOUSES

SMALL 2 bd Mobile Home outside city on private lot. \$325 + dep. 267-6347.

ROOMMATE WANTED to share expenses, female preferred, over 18. Room and board, \$225 mo. 267-4209 or page 268-2021.

UNFURNISHED APTS. 1 BEDROOM adult community unfurnished apartments. Complexly remodeled, new carpet, new paint, all utilities paid, carport, no pets please. GOOD LOCATION. Call 264-0978 for more information.

399 MOVE IN plus deposit. 1,2,3 hdr. 2 bills paid. HUD okay. 263-7811

ALL BILLS PAID 1 Bedroom \$358 2 Bedroom - \$422 Refrigerated Air, Laundromat, Adjacent to Park, Elementary 1008 Wason 207-AA21 PARK VILLAGE E130

NOW AVAILABLE Largest, nicest two bedroom apartment in town. 1,300 square feet, 1 1/2 baths FREE gas heat and water, two car attached carport, washer dryer connections, private patio, beautiful courtyard with pool and party room, furnished or unfurnished and REMEMBER... YOU DESERVE THE BEST! Coronado Hills Apartments 801 W. Marcy, 267-6500

UNFURNISHED HOUSES Available immediately!! 11 Bedroom alley way Apartment. Call 267-5646.

FOR RENT: 2BR/1BTH, MOBILE HOME, COAHOMA SCHOOL DIST., 350/MONTH, 200/DEPOSIT. CALL AFTER 5:00, 263-5808.

TOO LATES

1 bedroom apartment, all bills paid including cable, \$150 /dep. \$350/mo. 263-5409. No pets.

PART-TIME Administrative Assistant Service oriented business. Computer skills necessary. Send resume to P.O. Box 2241.

PARTIAL ESTATE SALE. Furniture and more. Inside 1510 Sunset Ave. Sat. & Sun. Noon - 5:00 RESPONSIBLE ADULT SEEKS INDIVIDUAL to carry note on home. References available. Looking for 2/3 bedroom with fenced yard. John H. Walker. 263-7331.

Public Notice Notice of Bid West Texas Centers For MH/MR is now accepting bids for the following items: 1997 Truck, 200 Horsepower, 28' wheelbase, GVWR 25,050. Hydraulic brakes, 28' box installed, 25000 lb lift installed. Delivery date: May 1, 1997. Bids must be submitted by April 15, 1997 to: West Texas Centers For MH/MR ATTN: Shelby Smith, CEO 318 Runnels Big Spring, TX 79720 (915) 263-0007 1332 April 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11, 1997

Public Notice The Howard County Auditor is now accepting bids until 10:00 A.M. on April 25, 1997 for Two (2) Motor Graders for the Road and Bridge Department. Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, 300 Main St., Big Spring, TX, 79720 or by calling (915) 264-2210. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on April 28, 1997 for their consideration. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. 1330 April 11 & 18, 1997

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 69, TEXAS PROPERTY CODE, AMERICAN SELF STORAGE WHICH IS LOCATED AT 3314 EAST FM 700, BIG SPRING, TX 79720 WILL HOLD A PUBLIC AUCTION OF PROPERTY BEING SOLD TO SATISFY A JUDICIAL LIEN. SALE WILL BE AT 11 O'CLOCK A.M. ON SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1997 AT AMERICAN SELF STORAGE, 3314 E. FM 700, BIG SPRING, TX 79720. PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH. SELLER RESERVES RIGHT TO NOT ACCEPT ANY BID AND TO WITHDRAW PROPERTY FROM SALE. PROPERTY TO EACH SPACE MAY BE SOLD ITEM-BY-ITEM, IN Batches, OR BY THE SPACE. ALL SALES ARE SUBJECT TO TEXAS STATE SALES TAX. SALE IS ON THE CONTENTS OF: TENANT: JOSEPH D. LATTIMORE CONSISTING OF: KING MATTRESS SET, DINING TABLE, BED, TV, STEREO, LAMP, MISC. HHG.

TENANT: FLOYD BROWNFIELD CONSISTING OF: FLOURECENT FIXTURES & BULBS, WINDOWS, LAVATORY, TRAILER HITCHES, MISC. BOXES. TENANT: ANNE HILL CONSISTING OF: VICTORIAN SOFA & 2 CHAIRS. TENANT: DARYL COATS CONSISTING OF: SHELVEING, WILDBIRD PROUS, SUITCASE, ES. TRUNK, FISHING EQUIP., MISC. BOXES. TENANT: ANNA GUTIERREZ CONSISTING OF: CHINA CABINET, COFFEE TABLE, PIANO, SEC. CHAIR, DRESSER, CHESTS, BICYCLE, BOXES & MISC. HHG.

TENANT: WILLIE BOWERS CONSISTING OF: METAL DESK, FILING CABINET, RANGE, REFRIG. TENANT: FLOYDE CLEMONS CONSISTING OF: COMPLETE THIS DATE: APRIL 2, 1997 1326 APRIL 4 & 11, 1997

Make Money Place a Herald SUPER CLASSIFIED AD

"LUCKY 7" CAR SALE Do you have a car, pickup or motorcycle you need to sell? If you do, here's a deal especially for YOU!! 1st Week: You pay full price - If car doesn't sell... 2nd Week: You get 25% off - If car doesn't sell... 3rd Week: You get 50% off - If car doesn't sell... 4th-7th Week: Run your car ad Free!!!! (First 3 weeks Must be paid in advance) Call our Classified Department for more information at (915) 263-7331

Smart Sellers choose Herald SUPER CLASSIFIEDS! SUPER CLASSIFIEDS 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 Classifieds for an effective way to reach buyers regularly! Call Today! 263-7331

Huge Garage Sale Morgan Ranch E. 25th & Baylor (Kentwood) One mile past entrance White building on left Antiques, Used Furniture, Glassware, Kitchenware, Store Fixtures, Lamps, Clothes, Exercise Equipment, Rugs, Luggage, Much More. Thurs. April 10th: 5-8:00pm Fri., Sat. & Sun.: 10am-5:00pm Sun.: Everything 1/2 price • This is a CASH ONLY Sale • Dealers Welcome Sales Services Provided By ESTATE SALE SERVICE OF BIG SPRING 268-9309 • NO EARLY SALES!! •

SATURDAY NIGHT BEER SPECIAL 7:00-10:00 P.M. LUCKY CLOVER 1310 W. 4TH (NEAR THE OLD POST OFFICE) SPECIAL

SPAS HOT TUBS under \$3000. Seats 5 to 6 cover and chemical kit included. 563-3108

SWIMMING POOLS PRE-SEASON above ground pool sale. All sizes to choose from. 563-3108

ABOVE GROUND POOLS As low as \$75/mo. W.A.C. 0 down. Best quality. Vision Makers 264-7233

ACREAGE FOR SALE 23.68 acres, south of town, excellent water, established yard w/trees, storage building, fenced \$1250 per acre. Call 263-0175

BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR LEASE, 1 fenced 1 acre yards with small building. Call 263-5000. Westex Auto Parts, Inc. FOR RENT: Small building or car lot, 810 E. 4th \$200.00/month, \$100.00 / deposit. Call 263-5000 Herald Classifieds work. Call us at 263-7331

Special • Special BARCELONA APARTMENT HOMES \$99 Move In Special w/6 month lease • 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments • Lighted Tennis Courts • Pool • Sauna • Friendly Community 538 WESTOVER ROAD 263-1252 Special • Special

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

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX Swimming Pool Carpets, Most Utilities Paid, Senior Citizen Discounts, On Premise Manager. 1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished KENTWOOD APARTMENTS 1904 East 25th Street 267-5444 263-5000

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD • Swimming Pool • Private Patios • Carpets • 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

HA! SATU Be (your i diplo other a fin) world the l your priori to or tions might more attac for be ment is an i Day! Diffic ARU Sta need: you r is a n about up w Make even home TA! Rea long-with ment long-clear most Po DE this read powe At Va Col rela part som guar I s fath that ed. stop of a che bill leas hor I gua wer con sim shij Di eme will to t affa can NO not The you attf for des wal to r enj sloj ly eld

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 12:
Be direct when expressing your feelings. Worry less about diplomacy and how you handle others. This year, you will have a finger on the pulse of the world. Your domestic life, and the investments supporting your home life, become a high priority. You might want to add to or build upon your foundations. If you are single, you might be getting ready for a more committed relationship. If attached, this is a special year for both of you, where you augment what you have. **CANCER** is an anchor.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Stay centered about your needs. Talks are active, and you receive good news. There is a mellow tone to the day and the moment. Be imaginative about a discussion. You come up with unusual solutions. Make plans for a mellow evening. Tonight: Stay home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Reach out for another for that long-overdue talk. Set the mood with a gift, card or gentle statement of appreciation. Examine long-term goals. Make calls, clear your desk and make the most of an invitation. Tonight:

Go to a favorite spot. *****
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You are personality-plus, and you make the most of the moment. You enjoy yourself, and everything falls into place. Be careful about expenditures, as you could easily go overboard. Talk with friends, and make plans that you can enjoy. Tonight: It could be expensive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Your loving side emerges. You can discuss whatever comes into your mind in this congenial atmosphere. Touch base with others. Plan fun activities. Examine objectives while popularity is high. Tonight: A smile gets you all you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Reach out for a friend early in the day. As the day goes on, you pull back, seeking to be slightly more reclusive.

Determine exactly what you want. Relax, and get centered. You need time off from the grind. Tonight: Take a night to yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Be more forthright about what is happening. You might want to touch base with a loved one whom you put on a pedestal. Make plans after this discussion, and hook up with friends. Wherever you are, you have a great time. Play the day

away. Tonight: Find a party. *****
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Make a long-distance call, and connect with a dear friend. You are in the limelight, enjoying yourself all day. Don't let a boss rope you into doing more work. Others come to you for feedback, and you feel empowered. Make the most of the moment. Tonight: Be out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
This morning, you will feel snugly. Talks are bonding. You might want to make plans for a long-term trip. A new beginning is possible, if you are willing to let go and take a risk. Discussions are animated and fulfilling. Tonight: Go where the music is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Listen to all offers and invitations, then make a decision. Yes, you must choose! Popularity is high, but you enjoy yourself best on a one-to-one level. Comparison shop; you can find a better deal if you look closely. Tonight: Plan a romantic night for two.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Your awareness of responsibilities always seems to take precedence for you. Perhaps you cannot relax unless you have your "must-do" list com-

pleted. Make time for friends. From the afternoon on, you are up for lots of fun. Tonight: Hit the party circuit. *****
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Go with playfulness early in the day. You accomplish a lot easily. Carefully think through a decision that could involve your day-to-day life. A loved one or child plays into it. Trust your judgment. You seem more together than usual. Tonight: Do things for yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Expect a mellow morning at home, perfect for a key discussion or for sharing information. You also might want to start rearranging furniture or plant pansies to get in spring mode. Make time for a loved one who adores being with you. Tonight: Make it romantic.

BORN TODAY
Singer David Cassidy (1950), bandleader Lionel Hampton (1913), comedian David Letterman (1947)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 000-0000, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.
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League tells Sanders to get uniform in line

CINCINNATI (AP) — The National League has ordered Deion Sanders' to end his uniform-altering tribute to Jackie Robinson.

The Cincinnati Reds center fielder cut off the sleeves of his road jerseys so they barely covered his shoulders and made his pants knee-length to combine the styles worn by Robinson and other players 50 years ago, when Robinson entered the league.

Sanders also plays football for the Dallas Cowboys. Katy Feeney, NL senior vice president, told Reds general manager Jim Bowden on Thursday that Sanders' sartorial statement was forbidden and that he must wear the same uniform as other Reds — at least as far as the sleeves are concerned.

"Deion will be wearing the same uniform," Feeney said. "We did not say anything about pants. That hasn't been an issue."

Baseball's rule book says nothing about pants length. But it has more than 300 words about the uniformity of uniforms.

"All players on a team shall wear uniforms identical in color, trim and style," the book says. "Sleeve lengths may vary for individual players, but the sleeves of each individual player shall be approximately the same length. No player whose uniform does not conform to that of his teammates shall be permitted to participate in a game."

Sanders said he was surprised by the stir. "I'm not looking for any trouble," he said through a spokesman Thursday in Denver, where the Reds were playing Colorado. "I'm just trying to honor a man who has given a lot to this game." Baseball this month is celebrating the 50-year anniversary of Robinson breaking major-league baseball's color barrier.

All major league teams are wearing patches on their uniforms this season to commemorate Robinson's big-league debut in 1947.

Feeney said Sanders is free to honor Robinson in other ways. "Jackie wore the uniform the rest of the Brooklyn Dodgers wore, and there are many ways to honor Jackie, such as work in the community," she said.

Reds spokesman Rob Butcher said Sanders got the idea for the uniform change after seeing Robinson's picture on a box of Wheaties cereal.

Bowden said through a spokesman that he will comply with Feeney's order.

"The Reds have always supported the rules and regulations of the National League and will continue to do so," Bowden said.

The Reds made their home jerseys sleeveless in 1993 in tribute to the style worn by the team in the 1950s and 1960s.

First baseman Ted Kluszewski, who played for the Reds from 1947 to 1957, began wearing sleeveless jerseys before the team did.

"Kluszewski was a big man. He had big arms, big pipes," Reds spokesman Mike Ringer said. "It was just the way he felt comfortable."

Ringer said the team has no record of the league questioning the length of Kluszewski's sleeves.

It's not just baseball that takes uniforms seriously. The NFL over the years has admonished players on several teams for violations such as not tucking their jerseys into their pants or not wearing the correct style of socks.

In 1995, the Chicago Bulls' Michael Jordan decided before a game that he wanted to wear his old No. 23 instead of the No. 45 he had been wearing since coming out of retirement. The NBA fined the Bulls \$25,000 for failing to report the change before the game.

Media, owners, lack of values blamed at forum

DALLAS (AP) — Tired of bad-boy athletes in the news?

Blame it on permissive team owners, frenzied media, misplaced community values, the NFL players' union and — oh, yeah — players who misbehave.

Those targets and others took the blame for the increasingly tarnished reputations of sports figures Thursday during a forum of athletes, journalists and other experts.

Fullback Daryl Johnston, the milk and cookies poster boy of America's Team, told a roomful of lurching lawyers that what ever line exists between athletes' personal and professional lives was unfairly breached last year in the case of teammate Michael Irvin.

After Irvin was arrested on drug charges in March, Marty Griffin, a reporter for Dallas Fort Worth television station KXAS, broadcast hidden-camera footage of Irvin discussing the purchase and use of cocaine. The tape was made by an Irvin confidant turned informant who sold it to the station for \$5,000.

"I'll comment on Marty Griffin crossing the line," Johnston heatedly told the audience at "Athletes, Press and the Law: Whose Life Is It Anyway?" which was sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association and Dallas radio station KJIF.

"I think he crossed it and kept on going. Because what he did, to me, was totally out of line, and to me it became a

vendetta. It was a personal attack on somebody's character."

Then in December, Griffin was first to report rape allegations made to Dallas police by former topless dancer Nina Shahravan against Irvin and Cowboy Erik Williams. She reportedly later recanted her allegations and police cleared both players.

"The story that came out the first time — yeah, Michael did wrong and he got caught and I don't think he (Griffin) was satisfied," Johnston said. "I think he was upset by the way everything happened. He was going to go back after him."

Williams has since sued Griffin and the station, claiming that he was defamed by news reports of the false allegations.

KXAS lawyer Chip Babcock — another of the eight lawyers, players, agents and other panel experts — said he couldn't discuss details of the case. But he did defend the station's reports as factual.

"To me that is a case of a news organization reporting about what the police did and what the justice system did," Babcock said.

The panel also fingered other culprits for the spate of bad publicity showered on the Cowboys.

"A city deserves the kind of professional sports teams that it gets," intoned sports ethicist Don Berk, director of the National Values Center in Denton.

Power of attorney can relieve stress of family emergency

DEAR ABBY: I am writing this letter to suggest that your readers think about giving a power of attorney to a trusted relative to be used in case of emergency. This is especially important for single adults.



Abigail Van Buren
Columnist

The cost of having this document prepared is relatively inexpensive compared to what you will pay if someone must petition for guardianship.

I speak from experience. My father suffered a major stroke that left him totally incapacitated. Legally I could not even stop his mail without a power of attorney, let alone access his checking account to pay his bills, cancel his apartment lease or admit him to a nursing home.

I was forced to initiate guardianship proceedings that were costly, stressful and time-consuming. The cost for our simple uncontested guardianship was \$3,000. — SUSAN

DEAR SUSAN: Good advice. None of us knows when an emergency may arise when we will need the help of someone to take care of our financial affairs until such time as we can resume responsibility. NOTE: Powers of attorney are not necessarily permanent. They can be revoked any time you wish.

DEAR ABBY: As a flight attendant for a major airline for the past 16 years, I have dealt with people from all walks of life. I sincerely strive to make each passenger's flight enjoyable, and I feel compassion for those who are physically or mentally challenged, elderly, and children traveling

alone. For the past five years I have struggled with a weight problem and have been working hard to regain my self-esteem and healthy physique. My sensitive nature has been sorely challenged with comments from well-meaning individuals, due to my weight. Remarks such as, "When are you due?" "How much do you weigh?" and "How much longer do you have before you go on maternity leave?" hurt me deeply.

Abby, can you suggest an appropriate response to such comments? Regaining my self-worth has become crucial, and I must discover a way to continue my job as a flight attendant without further damage to my self-esteem. — HURTING IN CINCINNATI

DEAR HURTING: The most appropriate response to questions about your pregnancy would be, "I'm not pregnant." People who make insulting comments about your weight are cruel, but if you appear to be pregnant when you are not, take it as a wake-up call. I urge you to seriously consider a diet and exercise program immediately. Please, make your first order of business a call to your physician, requesting a referral to a dietitian registered with the American Dietetic Association.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are having a disagreement and hope you will settle it. We have both been married before. For my first marriage, I wore a plain dress because we were married at the courthouse by a judge. I was told a bride could never wear white at her wedding if she had been married before. My boyfriend says I can. What do you think? — GETTING MARRIED SOON

DEAR GETTING MARRIED: Wear whatever makes you happy. Traditionally, first-time brides wore white. But nowadays brides wear whatever they want when they walk down the

aisle. Brides have been known to marry in everything from bathing suits to fur coats — to nothing at all!

DEAR ABBY: Your answer to "Upset Mother Down South," the woman who was concerned because her daughter's husband failed to acknowledge birthdays, Valentine's Day and other "special occasions" with a card, was right on the money. My husband rarely thinks to send flowers or cards on those special occasions. However, he does remember Dec. 23 as the day of our first date. He can even remember the table at which we sat and the movie we saw before dinner. He can recite dates, times and the clothes I wore on occasions special to just the two of us. He also remembers the details associated with each child's birth.

Even though I am not "remembered" on the special dates printed on calendars, I feel very loved. After all, those dates were chosen by our government, our religious institutions and the greeting card companies. They do not automatically carry personal significance. Perhaps women who are upset by what their husbands forget should listen to what they remember. — RITA SEIFERT, CINCINNATI

DEAR RITA: You have your priorities well organized, and you said it very well. When a couple loves and cherishes each other, every day is Thanksgiving and every night is New Year's Eve.

DEAR ABBY: Last year a close friend and her husband took early retirement, bought an RV and have been traveling ever since. She has always written lots of letters to relatives and friends, but now she writes daily diaries, detailing what they had for meals each day, what she bought at the discount store and the daily temperature. Then she photocopies and sends the same "letter" to everyone. Sometimes we get as many as 12 typed, single-spaced sheets (front and back) of their daily activities.

Abby, I do not have the time or desire to hear what they ate (in one letter she gave us a full description of their illness after a bad meal!) and how much mileage they made on a tank of gas. I suppose I could just toss the letter when it arrives, but I worry that she will say something important somewhere.

Son's
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rovide up-to- it areas of the ervices, auto- ie markets. nce with your
l be delivered lassified ads nient way to
Buyers and r Classified's buyers regu-

FRIDAY

APR. 11

Table with 33 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, FSN, ESPN, AMC, BET) and 12 rows of program listings.

HAGAR



BLONDIE



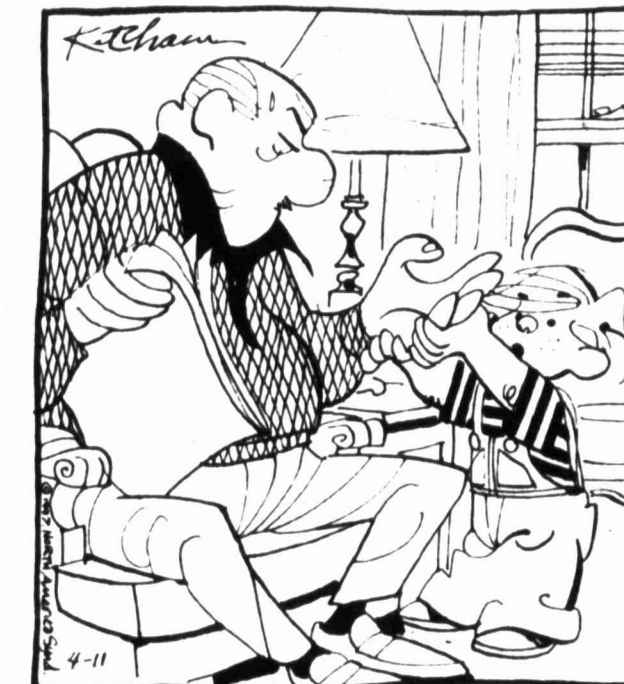
B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



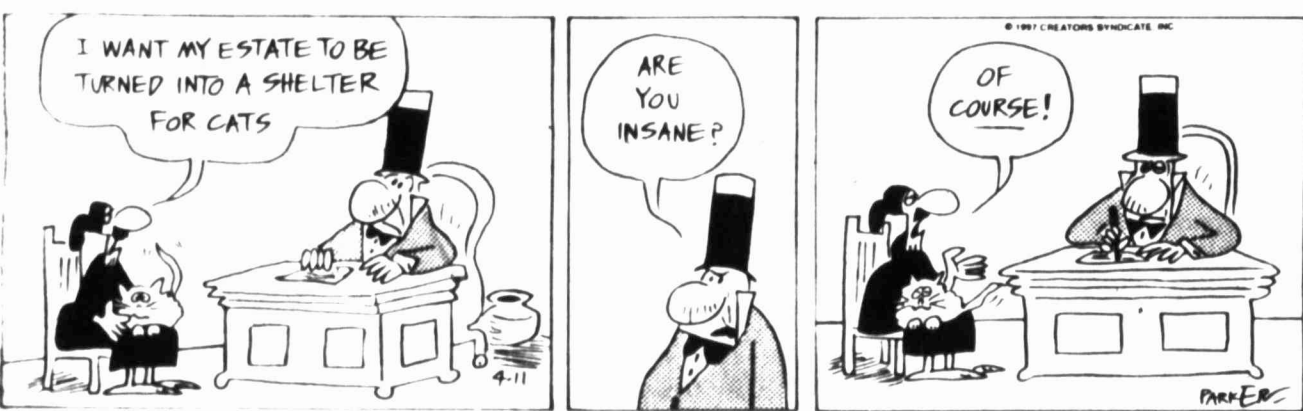
GEECH



"Daddy, how many fingers do I hold up for five and a half?"

"THAT'S FUNNY... MY DAD SAYS YOU HAVE GREEN FINGERS AND BUTTER THUMBS."

WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, April 11, the 101st day of 1997. There are 264 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 11, 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Nazi concentration camp of Buchenwald in Germany.

In 1814, Napoleon Bonaparte abdicated as emperor of France and was banished to the island of Elba.

On this date: In 1689, William III and Mary II were crowned as joint sovereigns of Britain.

In 1898, President McKinley asked Congress for a declaration of war against Spain.

In 1899, the treaty ending the Spanish-American War was declared in effect.

In 1921, Iowa became the first state to impose a cigarette tax.

In 1947, Jackie Robinson played in an exhibition between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Yankees.

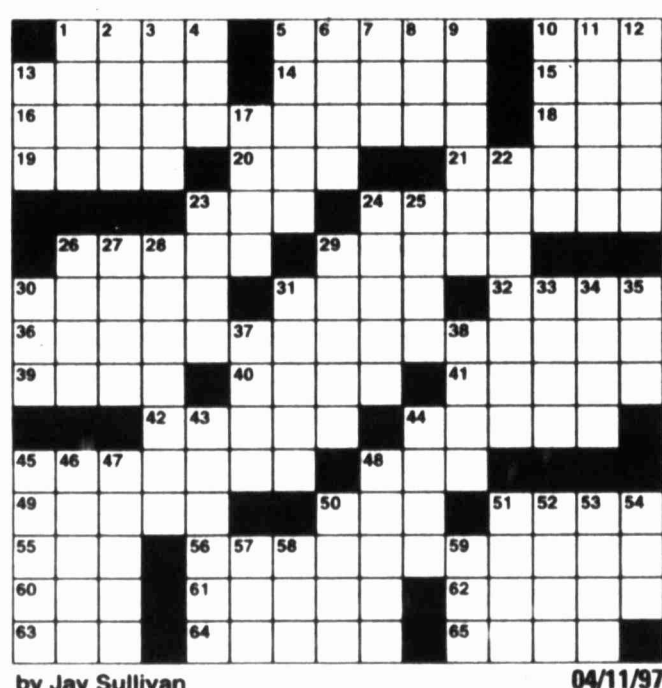
In 1951, President Truman relieved Gen. Douglas MacArthur of his commands in the Far East.

In 1953, Oveta Culp Hobby became the first Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

In 1979, Idi Amin was deposed as president of Uganda as rebels and exiles backed by Tanzanian forces seized control.

THE Daily Crossword

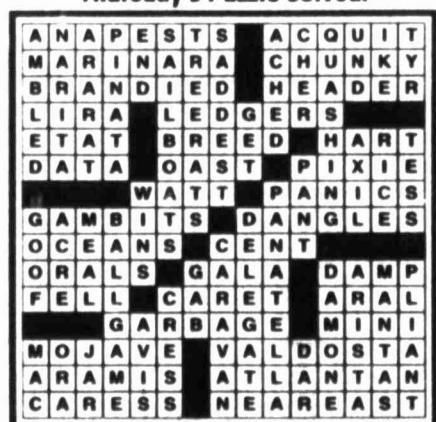
- ACROSS
1 Island near Java
5 Zeno was the first
10 Western school letters
13 energy
14 Ancient Greek district
15 WKRP, e.g.
16 Partner of 45A
18 "a Camera"
19 Gaelic
20 Suffers from
21 Palmer, to fans
23 canto
24 Lively, musically
26 Mead's milieu
29 Tile-shaping stand
30 Peace prize
31 Japanese city
32 Soft drink
36 Work by puzzle subjects
39 Brnk transports
40 Fly sky-high
41 Lease anew
42 Acts as an accomplice
44 Deceived
45 Partner of 16A
48 Far out!
49 Anesthetic
50 Small whale
51 Bulge
55 From - Z
56 Work by puzzle subjects
60 Animation frame
61 Navajo dwelling
62 Obloquy
63 Otto's realm: abbr.
64 Solar features
65 Woman



by Jay Sullivan

04/11/97

Thursday's Puzzle solved:



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HI AND LOIS



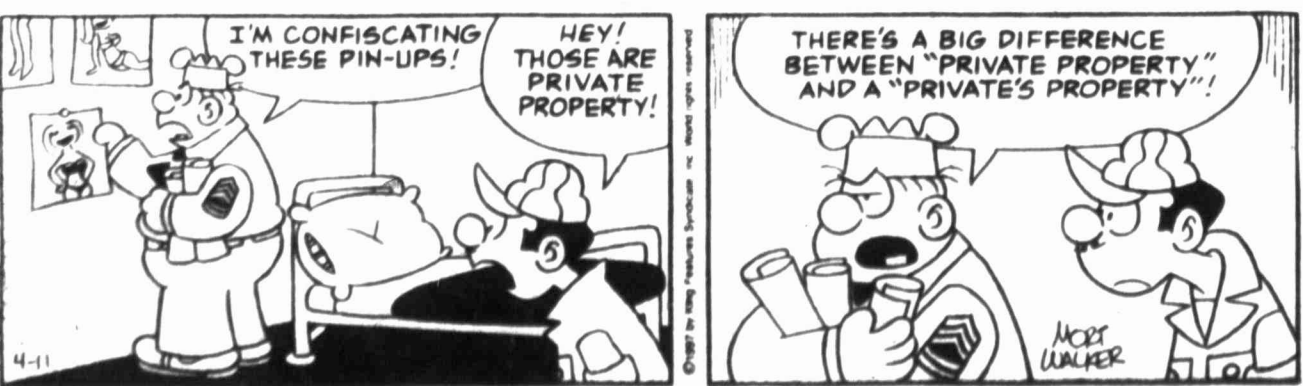
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



OPENING FRIDAY April 4th Park & Putt Miniature Golf Park 7 days a week Mon.-Fri. 6 pm-10 pm Saturday 12 pm-10 pm Sunday 2 pm-10 pm

RITZ 401 S. Main 263-7488 Child 2* Adult 4* SELENA (PG) Fri. & Sat. Times: 4:20-7:10-9:50 Sun.-Thurs. Times: 4:20-7:10 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:30

CINEMA 1 BIG SPRING, TX 160 E. FM RD. BIG SPRING, TEXAS 75630 \$2.75 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM \$2.75 SENIORS & CHILDREN - \$4.75 ADULTS STEREO SURROUND SOUND IN ALL AUDITORIUMS *THE SAINT (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. Times: 4:00-7:10-9:50 Sun.-Thurs. Times: 4:00-7:10 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:30 LIAR, LIAR (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. Times: 4:30-7:30-10:00 Sun.-Thurs. Times: 4:30-7:30 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:45 JUNGLE 2 JUNGLE (PG) Fri. & Sat. Times: 4:10-7:00-9:30 Sun.-Thurs. Times: 4:10-7:00 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:15 THE DEVILS OWN (R) Fri. & Sat. Times: 4:20-7:20-9:40 Sun.-Thurs. Times: 4:20-7:20 Sat. & Sun. Mat. 2:00

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