

BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY
April 28, 1997

Reflecting A Proud Community

50 cents

McLaren digs in after trading hostages for jailed cohort

FORT DAVIS (AP) — A militant separatist group swapped two hostages for one of its two jailed members early today, more than 12 hours after invading a neighbor's home and triggering a standoff with police.

But the self-styled Republic of Texas "ambassador" said the group wouldn't give up and was "digging in."

"They released one of our people, our captain," Richard McLaren told the San Antonio Express-News by cell phone from his so-called "embassy" in the rugged Davis Mountains.

"He's back at the embassy. All our boys are back. We're digging in."

The Republic released hostages Joe Rowe and his wife, Margaret Ann Rowe, in a swap for Robert Jonathan

Scheidt, arrested early Sunday on a weapons violation, Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Lauren Chernow said.

At least three dozen state and local police who surrounded the remote subdivision called Davis Mountains Resort remained in position and would resume negotiations with the group later this morning, Mrs. Chernow said.

Reporters were kept at a rest stop several miles from the entrance to the site, 75 miles north of the Mexico border and 220 miles south of El Paso, the nearest major city.

Joe Rowe, who suffered a minor gunshot wound to the shoulder, was wheeled on a stretcher into Big Bend Regional Medical Center in Alpine. He

was listed in stable condition.

The standoff began about noon Sunday, and McLaren said hours later that the Rowes would be released in exchange for two Republic members: Scheidt, a 43-year-old identified as "captain of the embassy guard," and Jo Ann Canady Turner, arrested in Austin last week on two contempt charges. Ms. Turner remains in custody.

McLaren also demanded another concession.

"We want them to ... agree to a referendum to allow Texans to vote on the independence issue," he told San Antonio radio station WOAI.

McLaren apparently was not part of the assault on the Rowes and remained

about 15 miles away at the "embassy," a ramshackle trailer surrounded by trees. Richard Keys, the "militia lieutenant commander," claimed to be in charge at the Rowe house.

The group has refused to specify its numbers, and the DPS declined to speculate.

Chernow said the Rowes' home, which overlooks the only road into the development, remained occupied early today.

Although the hostages were released, other residents remained in some 90 homes scattered over thousands of acres of rugged high-desert terrain covered with prickly pear cacti in lower elevations and thick stands of pines up higher.

Some of the residents said Sunday that they would be afraid to traverse the road because that would mean passing the Rowe house.

"We would like to advise them to stay calm," DPS spokeswoman Lucila Torres said of the residents.

Residents had been complaining for months about McLaren, a wild-haired, lanky 43-year-old who has filed property liens against his neighbors and threatened them with machine guns. He had been avoiding an arrest warrant since last December for filing bogus liens.

"We've been telling people ... this was going to happen," area resident

Please see **STANDOFF**, page 2

GETS A PATCH



Bert Piper (right), loadmaster of a C-130 Hercules transport, gives Chance Urias a patch from his unit as Sam Castro looks on. Piper and other members of the C-130 Hercules crew flew in for the Hangar 25 Static Display Saturday and spent much of the day explaining operations aboard their plane.

HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

TxDOT will rename 11th Place Extension Farm-to-Market 3374

HERALD Staff Report

Sometime in fiscal year 2001, 11th Place Extension in Big Spring will become Farm-to-Market 3374.

That's because the Texas Transportation Commission, in its regular monthly meeting last Wednesday in Austin, officially made the designation of the roadway.

The new 2.5-mile road, scheduled for construction in fiscal year 2001, will start at the intersection of FM 700 and 11th Place Extension and will go east and then north, connecting with FM 20 east of the Fina Refinery.

"This is something the Transportation Committee has been working on for a number of years," said Herald managing editor John H. Walker. Walker is chairman of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee.

"This is something that has had the involvement of a number of people," Walker said. "The city, the county, every one has made TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) aware of our community's needs in regards to this project."

David Laney, chairman of the Texas Transportation Commission, said, "When this

roadway is built, it will provide an alternative route for FM 20 traffic in an event of emergency at the refinery and industrial complex necessitates closing the interstate. TxDOT's mission is to provide safe, effective and efficient transportation to the citizens we serve. This roadway will help us do that."

The upgrading of 11th Place Extension to Farm-to-Market status is one of two major projects the Transportation Committee has been promoting to TxDOT, Walker explained.

"This means our efforts will continue to push for the construction of a reliever route to the west of McMahon Winkle Airport," Walker said. "That hazardous cargo route is, we feel, the missing link in the completion of the upgrading of US 37."

"We've just seen work begin on the next to last segment of US 37 in Howard County and we're fortunate that the staff in TxDOT's district office have understood our needs."

"(District engineer) Maribel Chavez has been very supportive of our efforts and, I think, has been appreciative that we have only come to TxDOT with what we feel are projects of legitimate need."

Tuesday is final day for early voting

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Only five days remain until voters cast their ballots to fill three positions on the Big Spring City Council and three spots on the Big Spring Independent School District (BSISD) Board of Trustees.

The deadline for local residents wishing to vote early is 5 p.m. Tuesday. Early voters may vote at the city secretary's office for council races and at the Howard County Clerk's office for school board races.

As of 5 p.m. Friday, approximately 200 ballots had been cast in council races, which includes races in District 2,

District 4 and District 6. According to Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray, a total of 493 ballots had been cast in school board races, including 310 ballots in the At-Large race; 83 ballots in the District 2 race; and 100 ballots in the District 4 race.

During the campaign season, voters have had the opportunity to see where the candidates stand on various issues through candidates forum.

On April 21, the Herald, Big Spring Cable and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored a candidates forum for city council candidates.

The local chapter of Concerned Women For America sponsored a candidates forum

for school board candidates on April 22.

Voters needing a final look at the candidates in all six races can review the candidates, including candidate qualifications, their views on what the pressing problems are in the community and within the school district and why candidates are seeking their respective offices, in the Sunday, April 27 edition of the Herald.

The candidates seeking office and the order in which they will appear on Saturday's ballot include:

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL
•District 2 — Pat DeAnda (incumbent) versus Bob Taylor

and Oscar Garcia.
•District 4 — Tom Guess (incumbent) and Tommy Tune.
•District 6 — Gregg Biddison versus Ray Rinard and Randy Mason.

BSISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

•At-Large — Steve Fraser (incumbent) and Mike Robinson.
•District 2 — Larry G. Hollar (incumbent) and Steve Jeter.
•District 4 — Donnie Baker (incumbent) and Frank A. Long.
Local voters will again use a central voting location during Saturday's election and will cast ballots in the Big Spring High School cafeteria from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Time winds down for getting concert tickets

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

The U.S. Army Field Band's group, The Jazz Ambassadors,

will perform a free concert Tuesday night at 7:30 at the Big Spring City Auditorium.

The concert is co-sponsored by the Big Spring Herald and the Cultural Affairs Committee

of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.
"We're really excited to have the opportunity to bring the Jazz Ambassadors to Big Spring," said Herald publisher Chuck Williams. "We think people will really enjoy the music, which ranges from traditional jazz to big band music from groups like Benny Goodman's to current-era music."

Although the concert is free, tickets are required for admission and are available either at the Herald, 710 Scurry, or at the chamber, 215 West Third.

Ticket holders are required to be seated by 7:15. At that time, the doors will be opened to those persons wanting to attend, but who have no tickets.

Chief Warrant Officer Freddie Vinson Jr. is the group's director and is a 1974 graduate of Grambling State College. He joined the group in 1975 as a

trumpet player and has been director of the group since July 1993.

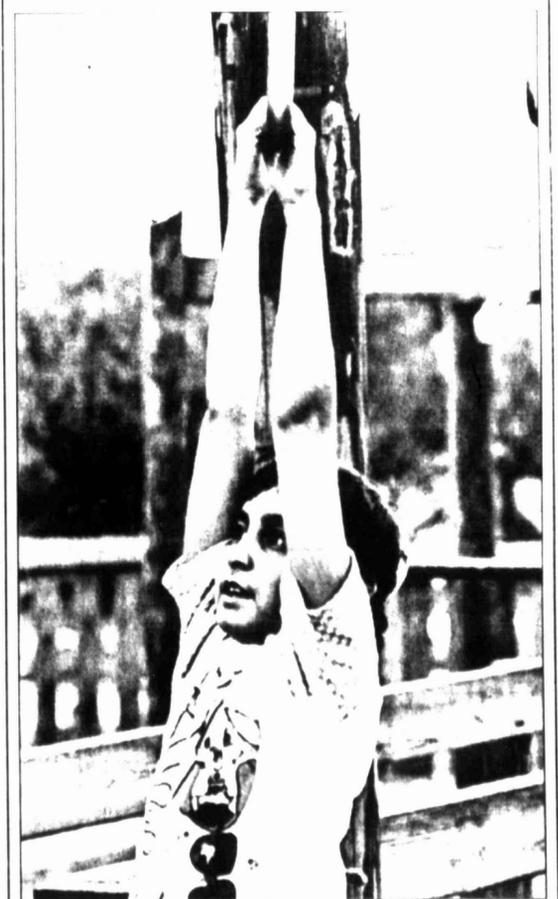
The organization is a group of select military musicians who try out for the group and who use their talents to bring the Army to the American public.

All of the members are chosen through competitive audition. They come from the country's leading musical programs at universities such as the University of North Texas, Towson State and the University of Miami.

The 19-piece band had toured all 50 states and a number of foreign countries since being established in 1969, including Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Canada, India, Japan, France and The Netherlands.

In the summer of 1992, the Jazz Ambassadors were the first group from the Field Band to tour the interior of Mexico.

KIDS' ZONE FUN



Eba Grave swings on the rings at Kids' Zone, as she and other youngsters enjoyed equipment at the part, even playing hide and seek later in the afternoon.

HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

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TODAY'S WEATHER

85 ▲ Highs 55
Lows ▼

Today: Fair with gusty winds 10-20 mph. High in the mid 80s. Low in the mid 50s.

Tuesday: Sunny and windy. Gusting winds 20 to 30 mph. High around 90. Low in the lower to mid 50s.

Extended outlook: Wednesday through Friday. Continued fair. Highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s each day. Lows each evening in the 50s.

Vol. 93, No. 168

Call us at:
(915) 263-7331

APR 28 1997

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Kemp

Service for Kenneth Kemp, 36, is pending with Nalley Pickle & Welch Funeral Home...

Marlin A. Moore

Funeral service for Marlin A. Moore, 82, Champion, will be 2 p.m. today at the Crockett and Smiley St. Church of Christ...

Mr. Moore died Saturday, April 26, 1997, in Abilene. He was born on Jan. 19, 1915, in Rising Star...

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Moore; a daughter, two daughters, Mary G. Berkton, Turkey, and Wendy Bynum, Junction...

Arrangements under the direction of Kiker Seale Funeral Home Inc., Lottam.

Standoff

Continued from page 2

Michelle Behrendt said. They each finished, sat on their thumbs and did nothing.

McLaren, however, began pushing the back against the wall, and continued his efforts until he was stopped at the wall by a guard.

McLaren said he was not sure if he was in a room with a guard, but he was sure he was in a room with a guard.

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BRIEFS

THERE IS A NOON meeting of the Howard County Cotton Growers Association at St. Paul Lutheran Church...

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF Retired Persons 55 Alive Mature Driving course is being presented at the Big Spring Mall...

THE AARP's eight-hour class room refresher course is designed for drivers 50 years of age or older...

Preregistration is required. To register, mail or fax to Midland College, Continuing Education, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, Texas, 29205...

ON TUESDAY, MAY 6, Anderson's Kindergarten Center will host a spring picnic...

Kindergarten, Pre-K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, and students who will be attending the school during the 1997-98 school year.

ABOUT PTA meetings is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the school cafeteria. The main purpose is to assist in the PTA efforts for the next school year.

THE FRIENDS OF THE Library of Howard County are sponsoring a book sale...

THE 25TH ANNUAL BIG Spring Fair will be held at the Big Spring Fairgrounds...

SLIDING TIME



Quinn Hammer goes down one of the slides at Wild Zone. Wild Zone's first anniversary will be May 22.

YOUR ALIGNMENT SPECIALIST FRANKLIN & SON GOODYEAR

Why Not Use Your Credit Card? WHEAT

until 10:30 p.m. A round dance workshop is Saturday from 1-3 p.m. followed by a square dance workshop...

There is an "After Party" brisquet dinner with all the trimmings for the dancers. The public is invited. Admission is free...

THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, IN conjunction with Midland College, presents Alzheimer's Disease Treatment and Management for the Health Care Professional and the Family...

Preregistration is required. To register, mail or fax to Midland College, Continuing Education, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, Texas, 29205...

THE HALE FAMILY REUNION is July 2 at 10 a.m. in the VFW Hall in Gordon. Each individual should bring some food for themselves and their party...

For more information, call Florence Hale Palmer at (915) 862-2190.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRINGBOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GINA GARZA...

Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m. 1607 E. Third. Call Jan Neves, 267-5811.

Project Freedom Christian support group, 7 p.m. Call 265-1540 or 265-8655.

TROPS Clubs (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 5:30 to 6 p.m. weight in and 6 p.m. meeting. Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th. Call 265-1540 or 265-8655.

Daytime prenatal classes, Texas Department of Health.

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

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

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

Comanche Lake Duplicate, 1 p.m., Dora Roberts Civic Center. Most Excellent Way, a chemical dependency support group, 7 p.m., Living Water Church...

Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7:15 p.m., Howard County Library. Call Bernice Cason at 267-8542 or 267-7236.

Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., 615 Settles. Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

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

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room. Call Archie Kountz, 267-3821.

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

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

MARKETS

May cotton 71.80 cents a pound, down 8 points. June crude oil 19.92, down 7 points. Cash hogs steady at 50 cents lower at 58.50...

Table with market data including Index 6755.73, Volume 116,74,970, and various commodity prices like ATT, Amoco, Atlantic Richfield, etc.

Table with market data including Phillips Petroleum, Panlex Inc, Pepsi Cola, Rural Metro, Sears, Southwestern Bell, Sun, Texaco, Texas Instruments, Texas Tools Co, Universal Corp, Wal-Mart, Amway, Elmer Pacific, U.C.A., New Economy, New Perspective, Var Kampen, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

POLICE REPORT

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 1 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Monday. ROBERT EARL POLK, 34, of 3808 Hamilton, was arrested for assault family violence.

Sophia Mungler Medical Center, 1811 W. 10th Place, 263-1211

BRANHAM FURNITURE, Big Selection, Lowest Prices On New Furniture, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, 2004 W. 4th, 263-1489

CELLULAR PHONES, FREE Activation, FREE Programming, FREE Long Distance, FREE Voice Mail, From 39.95, SOUND DECISION, 2601 Wesson, 267-8883

Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classed, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., 55 and older.

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

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

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

Masonic Lodge No 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster. Call Preston Harris, 263-7136.

VA Medical Center Volunteer Banquet, 6 p.m., Garret Hall at First United Methodist Church. All 402 active VA Medical Center volunteers are invited.

Herald gets six awards at state APME contest

HERALD Staff Report

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND — The Big Spring Herald was awarded one first place and five honorable mentions during the 68th annual meeting of the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors Association.

The convention began Friday and ended Sunday with the awards presentations for work published in calendar year 1996.

Former long-time Herald photographer Tim Appel won a first place for his infographic on the strange weather Howard Countians experienced in January and February 1996.

Appel was also awarded an honorable mention for an infographic on Big Spring crime statistics as well as an honorable mention for an infographic comparing area ambulance fees.

The Herald staff was awarded two honorable mentions in the team effort and community service categories.

In the team effort category, the staff was recognized for its work in the coverage of the May 10 hailstorm while the newspaper was also awarded an honorable mention in community service for its efforts in reporting on the school bond election.

Herald managing editor John H. Walker was awarded an honorable mention in editorial writing. Walker's entry consisted of an editorial encouraging community support of Kids Zone, one raising questions about the sale of the local prisons and one calling the absence of state candidates at a local political forum a snub of the community.

PAUL DANIEL LEE, 24, of 101 E. 3rd, was arrested for disorderly conduct fighting.

CARLTON SPIVEY, 24, of 1540 E. 3rd, was arrested for disorderly conduct fighting.

JOAQUIN DUENEZ, 28, of P.O. Box 868, was arrested on local warrants.

GARY FLORES, 30, of 3800

Calvin, was arrested for unauthorized use of a vehicle.

KRISTINA KAY HEMBREE, 23, of 412 Hillside, was arrested on local warrants.

ANN MARIE THOMPSON, 48, of 9001 Kay Road, was arrested on local warrants.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 1600 block of Wood; 500 block of Westover; 600 block of Craigmont; 800 block of Dallas; and the 1300 block of Colby.

THEFT in the 2300 block of Wasson.

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE in the 700 block of Dallas.

DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 600 block of N.E. 9th.

CREDIT CARD ABUSE in the 1800 block of Gregg.

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE in the 1300 block of Kindle; and the 900 block of W. 9th.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION in the 1400 block of Tucson; and the 1100 block of Lloyd.

BURGLARY OF A BUILDING in the 1100 block of Johnson.

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity between 2 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Monday.

LUIS LEIJA, 27, of 1203 W. 2nd, was arrested for assault/family violence, and released on a \$3,000 bond.

RONALD STACEY PAYNE, 25, of Rt. 2 Box 117 A, was arrested on a judgment cause, and given 10 days in jail.

TERRY LYNN PAYNE, 29, of Coahoma, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces, and released on a \$1,500 bond.

ANGELIA FLORENCE PAYNE, 29, of Coahoma, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces, and released on a \$1,500 bond.

JIMMY DOYLE TRAWICK, 31, of Rt. 1 Box 683, was arrested for theft by check (Travis County), and released on a \$500 surety bond.

DANIEL EMERSON JR., 51, of 3304 W. 80 #18, was arrested for driving with a suspended license, and released on a \$500 bond.

MARCUS EUGENE GARCIA, 22, of Odessa, was arrested on Young County warrant for failing to appear child support.

ESTEBAN JUAREZ III, 17, of Rt. 3 Box 389, was arrested on two counts of burglary of a habitation and four counts of burglary of a building, and had six bonds set at \$2,500 each.

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ALLAN'S FURNITURE, 800 W. 11th, Big Spring, TX, 267-7416, Mon-Sat, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TEXAS B

The ASSOCI

Bill propose

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TEXAS BRIEFS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill proposes license plates for out-of-state schools

AUSTIN — If Rep. Glen Lewis has his way, Texans who want to pledge their allegiance to out-of-state universities soon will be able to — on Texas license plates.

The Fort Worth Democrat is supporting a bill that would allow the state to produce license plates that carry the logos of other states' schools.

"These folks are citizens of the state," Lewis said of people clamoring for out-of-state university plates. "They just chose to go to school outside the state of Texas."

Specialized plates raise millions of dollars for the state and the schools every year.

Convicted smuggler of immigrants says 'it's easy'

HOUSTON — Over drinks in a Mexico City bar, Gladys Perdomo Board bragged how she bribed top Mexican officials, carried a gun, even hired federal police to hunt down those who betrayed her.

She had no idea she was talking to a pair of agents from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service posing as out-of-work "coyotes," slang for transporters of illegal immigrants.

After that meeting 14 months ago, Board's comfortable and very profitable life came crashing down around her.

Along with it fell an entire smuggling gang that earned millions each year transporting about 50 illegal immigrants a month — usually from India and Pakistan — to Houston and other U.S. cities.

Drought drags on in South Texas despite recent rains

WESLACO — Ask vegetable producer Bobby Lackey whether the Rio Grande Valley is still in a drought and his response is, "What drought?"

His carrot crop is so drenched from weeks of above-average rainfall it can't be harvested. Onions that should have been shipped off weeks ago lie in damp fields, caked with mud.

"The drought's over here for sure," said Lackey, disgustedly rubbing muck off an onion.

Ask Rio Grande Watermaster Cindy Martinez the same question, and her response is not only is the drought not over, but conditions are worse this year than last.

Trucker to appear in court Tuesday to determine transfer

BEAUMONT — Not much in this world belongs to Ronald Dean Coy.

He left his wife months ago, drained their bank account and maxed out his credit cards. Even the Kentworth tractor-trailer rig he was driving was \$50,000 away from being his own, according to federal documents released Saturday.

The Ohio truck driver was arrested Friday near the Texas-Louisiana border after ditching four unarmed Air Force missiles in Ranger. The disappearance of the shipment and the driver sparked a nationwide search by the FBI.

The events began unfolding last Monday when Cheetah Trucking Co. of Mooresville, N.C., refused to advance him \$500, the records say. Coy was three days late on the delivery. They had advanced him \$750 just a few days before for truck repairs.

Coy waited a few more days.

Then, last Thursday, now six days late, Coy dumped the shipment, the documents say.

Presidents look to start wave of service

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Clearing away the grime and graffiti on Germantown Avenue was the easy part. Now President Clinton and his predecessors are trying to transform their summit on community service into a must-do movement to save the nation's most vulnerable children.

"Yes, we're a great volunteering country, but we can do more, more of us can do it and we've got to focus on the children," Clinton said in a taped interview on ABC today that previewed the "call to action" he was sounding later in the day at Independence Hall.

Former Presidents Bush, Carter and Ford and former first lady Nancy Reagan were joining him to give a bipartisan

stamp of approval to the effort. Celebrities from Oprah Winfrey and Wynonna Judd Kelley to Tony Bennett and John Travolta lent their star power to the effort at an evening gala Sunday celebrating those who serve.

"It's about teaming those who do with those who have for those who need," Winfrey told a cheering crowd.

The high-octane emphasis on community service reflects a change in the political landscape: Democrat Clinton has joined Republicans in endorsing smaller government and greater personal initiative to help solve America's problems.

"I believe in the combination of the government doing its jobs and citizens doing their jobs.

And that's how the country works best," Clinton said in a taped interview today on NBC's "Today" show. He told ABC's "Good Morning America" that some problems simply can't be solved by government: "Kids still need one-on-one involvement with caring adults," he said.

The summit's long-range goals: improving the lives of at least 2 million of America's 15 million at-risk children by the year 2000 through mentors, safe places to learn, medical attention, job skills and chances to serve.

Retired Gen. Colin Powell, the chairman of the summit, acknowledged the outcome is uncertain: "For those who say, 'How far can you get?' the

answer is: not sure yet. There are 15 million young Americans in need, and we should not be satisfied until we have touched the life of every one."

Clinton was unveiling two new efforts today to reinforce the effort by:

Expanding by 50,000 the number of scholarships available for AmeriCorps workers over the next five years by spending less per participant in the national service program. Clinton is encouraging corporations to help pay the difference.

Providing \$20 million in federal grants to triple to more than 600 the number of students who can get college tuition in exchange for agreeing to work as police officers for four years after graduating.

Seven of richest nations want dollar stabilized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Finance ministers and central bankers from seven of the world's richest nations want the soaring U.S. dollar to stabilize on exchange markets. But their warning was vague, and currency traders began at once to test their resolve.

After a five-hour meeting at the Treasury Department Sunday, officials from the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan issued a statement saying they had "agreed to monitor developments and to cooperate

as appropriate in exchange markets."

But the statement provided no specific targets for stemming the dollar's rise against the yen, which is essentially what is bothering officials from the Group of Seven.

Currency traders in Tokyo pushed the dollar to 126.74 yen in late afternoon trading today, up from around 126.25 late Friday in New York.

Analysts said the G-7 statement was a veiled threat to support U.S. and Japanese intervention in currency markets, if

necessary, by purchasing massive amounts of yen and selling dollars.

"What they've done is throw down the gauntlet," said Robert Dederick, an economist with Northern Trust Co. of Chicago. "But they've also set themselves a considerable task because if the markets think they have made a mistake then they will have to act."

A Tokyo-based dealer at a Dutch bank said nothing new came from the G-7 communique.

"It's a yen-selling factor so

gradually the market will test the upside" or see if the dollar will go through the psychological resistance point of 127 yen to the dollar, the banker said.

Before the G-7 meeting, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin met with Hiroshi Mitsuoka, Japan's finance minister. In a statement, the two "reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate closely in exchange markets as appropriate."

Japanese officials hinted two weeks ago they were prepared to intervene.

More grim testimony expected in bombing trial

DENVER (AP) — Step by step, witnesses of the Oklahoma City bombing already have painted for jurors a vivid picture of a normal day at the office that was transformed into a bloody nightmare.

Nine witnesses took the stand Friday at the trial of Timothy McVeigh. They described how they greeted co-workers, dropped their kids off at day care and sipped coffee before the blast ripped through the

Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995.

McVeigh faces murder and conspiracy charges in the explosion that killed 168 people.

The trial was to resume today with testimony from Danny Atchley, a fire department photographer who pulled injured children from the rubble.

Grim details of the explosion and the deaths brought tears to some in the courtroom Friday. As witnesses testified, U.S.

Attorney Patrick Ryan had them mark a floor plan of the building with spots where their colleagues died.

Susan Hunt ended her account by reading the names of 35 fellow Department of Housing and Urban Development employees killed in the blast. Her voice sometimes shook.

Michael Norfleet, a Marine Corps recruiting officer, was speaking to his commanding

officer when the bomb hit.

"I took a piece of glass from the top of my head, and it flayed open my right eye," Norfleet said. "It cut an artery in my forehead. It cut an artery here in my cheek, and at the same time, it cut an artery on my wrist."

"I could feel the life ebb out of my veins. I just knew that I was losing strength and that if I stayed in the building, that I would die."

Floodwaters are receding, cleanup looms

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Dawne Dueck wouldn't let herself break down. But seeing her cedar chest under water, the one her mother gave her on her wedding day, was just too much.

A few tears escaped Sunday when she talked about that, standing in front of her home as drenched photographs pulled from her hope chest dried on the hood of a car. But Mrs. Dueck tries not to dwell on what was left behind when the flooded Red River forced her family and 47,500 others to flee.

"We just decided that our lives were more important and we left," she said. The watery misery moved north today as the 30-mile-long crest pushed into Canada. Thousands of people in southern Manitoba were ordered to leave their homes in what is already the region's worst flood this century.

Upstream, devastated Grand Forks has begun to recover.

The river has dropped 6 feet since cresting here a week ago. Authorities reopened 70 percent of the 10-square-mile city, allowing many people to move back into homes with no electricity or running water.

And while there is still no drinking water, there is enough pressure in some taps for people to take showers.

"It does make you feel more like your city's coming together," Mayor Pat Owens said.

Officially, parts of North Dakota's third-largest city are still closed. But authorities aren't likely to throw people out.

"If they're in their homes, we're not going to bother them," said Scott Carlson, a National Guardsman manning the only traffic checkpoint.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, scheduled a tour today. President Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., already visited Grand Forks, which some predict will cost \$1 billion to clean up and rebuild.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Habit is a great deadener."

-Samuel Beckett

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

OUR VIEWS

Read the responses, exercise your vote

Voters in Big Spring have until 5 p.m. Tuesday to cast ballots in city council and school district elections.

Three positions are up on each elective body — districts two, four, and six on the council and districts two and four, as well as the at large spot.

On Sunday, this newspaper presented the candidates' responses to a variety of questions pertaining to the races. We encourage you to review the responses offered by the candidates and see how their answers compare to your thoughts and ideas.

In addition to the candidates' profiles in Sunday's newspaper, voters have had the opportunity to see and hear council candidates in a public forum as well as school board challengers in the same format.

If you live in one of the five specific districts, we encourage you to participate in the electoral process while, of course, voters district wide will have the opportunity to cast ballots in the at large race.

When it comes to leadership in a smaller community, every election is vital and this one is no different.

Look at the candidates' look at the issues and concerns and then look at their responses. Make your decision as to which candidate you believe can best do the job for our community and go to the polls — either Tuesday for the final day of early voting or on Saturday for the general election.

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Now let's go after the 'welfare kings'

WASHINGTON We've all heard former President Ronald Reagan's stories of the "welfare queen" who drives around in a Cadillac and uses food stamps to buy gin and vodka and steaks.

But we haven't heard a lot of stories about the ethanol subsidies given to farmers who grow corn, or the billions in government help for road repair and construction projects specifically requested by individual lawmakers or about a \$1.4 billion Energy Department program to develop new technology for oil, coal, and natural gas companies or the \$47 million in tax money that goes to help Amort and...



Carl Rowan
Senator

in business subsidies.

At the same time, Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., are sponsoring a bill to create a Corporate Subsidy Reform Commission. The commission — patterned after a panel that studied and recommended which military bases to close — would target questionable programs and tax loopholes that should be reformed or ended.

"As a matter of simple fairness, Congress has an obligation to ensure that corporate interests share the burden of deficit reduction," McCain says. "This commission will give Congress an enormous, one-time opportunity to restore fairness, plug loopholes and end these programs once and for all."

which cost the Treasury more than \$1 billion a year each.

While both Democrats and Republicans have backed reform, they come at it from different angles. The GOP generally wants to end government subsidies and loans to businesses, the Democrats want to target the tax breaks those businesses get.

Even with bipartisan support, change will not be easy. Many business leaders balk when someone suggests cutting subsidies to big corporations, if it means forcing them to suffer a little. Many of these people, mind you, are the same ones who saw nothing wrong with revamping welfare even if it meant forcing millions of people into poverty.

That is starting to change. An unlikely bipartisan coalition that has linked Republicans such as budget cutting Rep. John R. Kasich of Ohio and Chairman of the House Budget Committee, with the likes of consumer advocate Ralph Nader, has launched a campaign to end \$100 billion

"No one is really sure just how much 'corporate welfare' there is, because no one has a clear definition of just what it is. But estimates range all the way up to \$150 billion a year, including special subsidies and tax breaks. According to the Cato Institute, a libertarian Washington research center, the federal government spends about \$60 billion a year on special subsidies to businesses and \$30 billion on tax breaks for industries."

A Congressional Budget Office study found more than 60 tax breaks written into law for specific businesses, 14 of

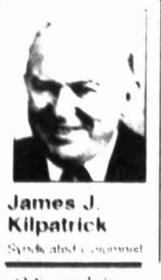
"Dismantling or reducing these programs (which encourage overseas trade) would amount to unilateral disarmament in the battle for world markets," complains Edmund Rice, executive director of the Coalition for Employment through Exports, a group of major exporters.

At this point, it's too early to know if the corporate welfare reformers will get anywhere. But Ralph Nader was probably right when he predicted, "There are going to be a lot of sparks flying as a result of this effort."

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Thwarting the people's discriminatory will

In his case against Proposition 209, Judge Donald O'Scannlain laid down the law about as clearly as law can be laid down. He was writing for a panel of the 9th federal circuit in the case of California's Proposition 209. He said some things about the 14th Amendment, and about the role of judges, that simply need to be said.



James J. Kilpatrick
Syndicated columnist

The people of California adopted Proposition 209 last November as an amendment to their state constitution. The amendment says that neither the state nor its localities may discriminate against or grant preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race or sex.

Act of 1964 pre-empted the whole field of legislation dealing with race or gender. Acts of Congress that are made "pursuant to the Constitution" are part of the supreme law of the land, and all state judges are bound thereby.

How then, asked Judge O'Scannlain, may it be said that an amendment that prohibits preferential treatment for blacks and women denies equal protection to blacks and women?

He quoted another precedent from 1941: "Distinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry are odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality."

Judge O'Scannlain's panel ruled that Judge Henderson's decision rested upon erroneous premises. At two points in the Civil Rights Act specifically disclaims pre-emption. The district court's reasoning on "equal protection" was equally flawed.

Those who assert that they have been denied equal protection must begin by showing that they have been treated unequally. The whole thrust of 209 is to treat all persons alike in the field of state action — in state contracts, in higher education, and so on.

Any governmental action that classifies persons by race is presumptively unconstitutional and subject to the most exacting individual scrutiny, said Judge O'Scannlain. To be constitutional, a racial classification, regardless of its purported motivation, must be narrowly tailored to serve a compelling governmental interest.

The case of Proposition 209 is a landmark case. The disappointed opponents of 209 will first seek rehearing before the full 9th Circuit. Failing at that effort, they will head for the Supreme Court. If the high court finally affirms Judge O'Scannlain, it lets his opinion stand without review. It may be the beginning of an end to state-sanctioned racial discrimination. Other states are eager to follow California's lead. Is the Supreme Court likely to affirm? Who can say? Obviously the high court is deeply divided. It's ruling against federal

LETTER POLICY

- The Big Spring Herald welcomes and encourages your letters to the editor.
- We ask that you adhere to our policies so that we might have the opportunity to share your opinion with others.
- 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 will be given priority.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1401, Big Spring, TX 79401.



MINN Mitchell Kevin Timber tactics sprawl playoff Rockets Mitch team it takes son. Mitch playoff on the his har break quarter tory Sat The fe

TALL Bobby Andrett front is qualify Both row sta 500 wer when Supers poneme today. More could fo the rac open Su The Wi slated to Sonoma must al trucks coast.

A tr EDIT umn or July 21

Then are pla and 19c Dad I planne Hale F with hi ing on Verde (As so Hale rc Pacific where Dad an met his We dro to Fors where lived of the Roy Oil & C lease. In the days, almost of the c compan- ies ha was no these c pear. Early June 3, fishing north was a l Howe planne the we River b Hale. to get o but Dau you see We use, f to be a before we had rigged to the r feet wh deep. The r with m bottom cracks deep, a deep 9 were in We dr eddy be where? By sun about 2 In the walked Walk ing for charge

SPORTS

Big Spring Herald
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1997

SCOREBOARD

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Softball playoffs — Big Spring vs. El Paso Yuleta, 4 p.m., Fort Stockton.
Baseball — Fort Stockton at Big Spring, 5 p.m.
Baseball — Odessa College at Howard College, 1 p.m.

TODAY ON THE TUBE
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Colorado at Houston, 7 p.m., ch. 29.
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Timberwolves: Let's get physical

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Sam Mitchell did more than show Kevin Willis the Minnesota Timberwolves were tired of his tactics when he sent him sprawling in Game 2 of their playoff series with the Houston Rockets.

Mitchell showed his young teammates the kind of attitude it takes to win in the postseason.

Mitchell, whose 38 career playoff games are second most on the Wolves, was ejected for his hard foul on Willis on a breakaway during the fourth quarter of Houston's 96-84 victory Saturday.

The foul and Mitchell's ejection

had little impact on the outcome of the game, but Wolves coach Flip Saunders hopes his team learned something from the sequence.

"It definitely showed that this is what it's all about," Saunders said Sunday. "Sam chased down a guy not to let him have a layup. Every possession becomes important in the playoffs."

Mitchell was more interested in sending a message to Willis than anyone else. The Wolves have been frustrated by Willis' play, including a shot to Kevin Garnett's throat in Game 1. Mitchell said Willis has hit him in the face three times

during the series without getting whistled for a foul.

"I'm not a punching bag," Mitchell said. "He thinks this is the wild, wild West. I wasn't surprised at the (ejection), but what else am I supposed to take."

Learning lessons is what this maiden postseason trip has been about for Minnesota. The Wolves seem to be doing that, following Thursday night's worse-than-it-sounds 17-point loss with a gutsy performance Saturday.

Making the first network television appearance in its eight-year history, Minnesota led 79-78 with 5:47 remaining, but the

Rockets' experience took over down the stretch.

"They're not in the playoff because they're lucky," Houston's Mario Elie said. "They're in the playoffs because they're good. These young guys are playing like veterans. It's a fun series. I think we just have a little too much for them. But a couple of years down the line they're going to be a force to be reckoned with."

Both teams had the day off Sunday before resuming preparations for Tuesday night's Game 3 at Target Center, the first home playoff game in Timberwolves history.

Davis, Lankford jump to spot in state meet

HERALD Staff Report

ABILENE — Tyron Davis' gain was Aaron Barr's loss at the Region I-2A track meet Sunday, while Kelly Lankford was in a class by himself in Region II-1A.

Stanton High School's Davis edged out Coahoma's Barr for second place in the Region I-2A triple jump and a spot in the UIL state track meet.

At the Region II-1A meet at McMurry University, meanwhile, Garden City's Lankford won the high jump and a return trip to the state meet, while Sands' Josh Richter barely missed qualifying in three events.

At Region I-2A, Davis jumped 45 feet, 1/4 inch to claim second place in the I-2A triple jump behind Devon Phillips of Lockney, who jumped 45-6. Barr, meanwhile, finished third at 44-9.

Barr's teammate, Tara Sterling, also failed in her bid to qualify for the state meet, finishing fourth in the girls' triple jump.

Lara Woods of Albany won the event with a jump of 38-0 1/4, while Sally Jett of West Texas High School was second at 35-10. Sterling's jump measured 35-3 1/4.

The II-1A high jump came

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

down to a battle between Lankford and Todd Tinney of Bryson. Each finished with a best height of 6 feet, 4 inches, with Lankford winning on the basis of fewer misses.

Richter, who had already qualified for the state meet in the triple jump a day earlier, competed in two more events Sunday, but fell just a bit short in each.

The Sands senior finished fourth in the high jump, clearing 6-0 in his best effort, and third in the long jump.

His best effort of 22-1 1/2 was an inch behind second place Bobby Armstrong of Saint Jo.

Also at the II-1A meet, Garden City's Tiffany Maxie finished fifth in the girls' long jump, clearing 16-1 3/4, while her teammate, Kim Harp, was sixth in the high jump with a best height of 4-10.

The top two finishers in each event qualify for the state meet, to be held May 9-10 in Austin.

Bad weather forced both regional meets to move some of their events to Sunday.

Rain forces pole-sitter to sit and wait

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) — Bobby Hillin Jr. and John Andretti know that racing up front is just as important as qualifying there.

Both of the surprising front row starters for the Winston 500 were disappointed Sunday when rain at Talladega Superspeedway forced postponement of the race until today.

More rain in the forecast could force NASCAR to move the race to May 11, the next open Sunday on its schedule. The Winston Cup teams are slated to race next weekend in Sonoma, Calif., and officials must allow time for the team trucks to drive to the west coast.

NASCAR

But the gloom and rain didn't dampen the spirits of Hillin, whose surprising performance in qualifying on Friday earned him a start from the outside of the front row of the 43-car field.

"It means a lot (to start up front), but I haven't gotten excited over a good qualifying before," said Hillin, whose only Winston Cup victory came in the July 1986 Talladega race. "My attitude is that I've got to keep the intensity level up and stay focused and not jump up and whoop and holler and say, 'We've done great.'"

"We've only taken one little

step on a real tall ladder. We've got a long way to go. That's the way I look at it, and I want my team to be as serious as I am."

Hillin is in his third season driving for Doug Bawel's Jasper Motorsports team.

So far this season, the 32-year-old racer has failed to make two of eight races and has finished no better than 33rd in last week's Goody's 500 at Martinsville, Va.

"We need to realize what got us here, because if we put this kind of effort into every race, I think we would be more successful in every race," Hillin said. "I'm not saying that we put more effort into this race, but because we went home from the restrictor plate races

last year and really struggled at them, I think we worked hard on those."

Talladega and Daytona International Speedway are the two NASCAR tracks where the sanctioning body mandates carburetor restrictor plates to slow the cars down.

Hillin said he would love to show that the team can be as competitive in the race as it was in qualifying.

"A lot of it depends on how strong our car is," said Hillin, whose Ford will start alongside the pole-winning Thunderbird of John Andretti. "If our car is just the least bit off, the competitors will take advantage of that and they'll all gain against me and go on down the road."

A memorable fishing trip to Devil's River

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column originally appeared in the July 21, 1987 Herald.

Then as now, fishing trips are planned well in advance, and 1937 was no different.

Dad had talked about and planned to take my cousin Hale Foster of Strawn and I with him for a few days fishing on Devil's River in Val Verde County.

As soon as school was out, Hale rode the Texas and Pacific train to Big Spring where Dad and I met him. We drove to Forsan where we lived on the Royal Oil & Gas lease.

In those days, almost all of the oil companies had oil field camps and it was not until the mid-50's that these camps began to disappear.

Early on the morning of June 3, we departed for our fishing hole about 12 miles northwest of Del Rio. The trip was a long, hot drive.

However, we arrived as planned and made camp near the west end of the old Devil's River bridge on US 90.

Hale and I could hardly wait to get our lines into the water, but Dad said, "No, not until you seine minnows."

We used a 20-foot minnow seine, and made what seemed to be a couple hundred drags before Dad was satisfied that we had enough. Then we rigged our cane poles and took to the river. It was about 800 feet wide but only 6 inches deep.

The river bed was solid rock with many crevasses on its bottom. In some places, the cracks would be a few inches deep, and in others several feet deep. Strewn about the river were large boulders.

We dropped our lines in the eddy behind these boulders, where we found good fishing. By sundown we had caught about 20 channel catfish.

In the meantime, Dad walked upstream to Lake Walk. There he enjoyed fishing for black bass in the discharge waters below the dam.

When he returned to camp, Hale and I were skipping rocks on the water and he asked, "I thought you boys wanted to fish?"

We told him that we already had caught a good mess of fish. But he was skeptical until we pulled the two full stringers from the water.

Dad asked us to select a few good ones for supper and directed us to clean them - work that we hadn't bargained for.

By the time we were finished, Dad had the grease hot, and in a short while, we sat down to a meal of fish, potatoes, sliced onions and iced tea.

After the meal and the dishes were washed, we took a bath in the river and soon were asleep.

We arose before light, eager to fish, but Dad had other ideas for us. "Fix the breakfast," he said.

Neither of us had much experience cooking, but we managed to fry bacon and scrambled eggs. With Dad's strong coffee, we had a good meal.

We fished most of the morning, but caught only two small fish. So we had sandwiches for lunch.

Later, we went to Lake Walk and there found Dad fishing in the spillway. He showed us three nice black bass - just enough to agitate our fishing fever.

We had been fishing about 10 minutes when a game warden approached.

"I checked Dad's license and then drifted over to see what we were doing. 'You boys got a license?' he asked.

"No sir," we replied. "You know that if you are 17 or over, you need a license," the game warden warned.

"I'm only 16," I told him. But Hale couldn't wait to tell the warden that he became 17 that very day. It was his birthday.

Very quickly he was informed that he needed a license.

The warden told him that he could take care of it. When he finished writing the license, he told Hale that it would cost him 25 cents.

"But I don't have a quarter," Hale responded. So he asked his Uncle Raymond, and Dad had to dig out the money, then continued fishing.

Stars stave off elimination with 3-2 victory over upstart Edmonton

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) Home-ice advantage has meant very little through the first six games of the playoff series between the Dallas Stars and Edmonton Oilers.

Dallas had a chance to take command of the best-of-7 Western Conference quarterfinal in Game 5, but they were beaten on their own ice in double overtime. The Oilers, holding a 3-2 lead, could have wrapped things up Sunday on home ice, but instead the Stars forced a deciding game back in Dallas on Tuesday with a 3-2 win, disappointing a sellout crowd.

Even with the raucous fans supporting them in Game 7, the Stars say there's no guaranteed result.

"It doesn't mean one thing," Dallas head coach Ken Hitchcock said of playing at home. "You're hoping from management and coaches that it does, but from the players the focus is so defined now."

"You can see it in people's eyes. The crowd is irrelevant. Everything is now on the ice. There is not one player on our team who is not going to look at anything past their shift."

However, the Oilers have looked their best in Dallas' Reunion Arena. They shutout the Stars 4-0 in Game 2, then depended on outstanding play from Curtis Joseph — 43 saves — to win Game 5. They won't change their game plan now.

"There's worry for both teams and there's probably positives, too," Edmonton defenseman Luke Richardson said. "It's a one-game series, you have to be ready for the first shift and just follow it up one shift at a time and go as hard as you can because it may be your last one."

Stars' top scorer Mike Modano, who had the winning goal Sunday with just over five minutes remaining in the third, is excited about the opportunity of winning at home. After a grueling, eight-month season fighting for home ice, Modano hopes his team can put it to good use.

"Sixty minutes, whoever does the job wins," Modano said. "We've lost games we should have won and likewise with them. We've been able to keep our composure and keep with our game."

Jere Lehtinen gave Dallas a 1-0 lead 3:49 into the game when he kept the puck on a 2-on-1 break with Modano before

TEXAS TEAMS

snapping a shot over Joseph's shoulder. Oilers' captain Kelly Buchberger helped his club get even when he picked up the puck in the corner and whipped a backhand pass in front of the net for Mike Grier's tip past Andy Moog.

Bob Bassen put the Stars back on top when he took a pass from Pat Verbeek and knocked home his second goal of the series at 14:33 of the second. But Mariusz Czerkawski tied it at 2:2 with just 18 seconds left in the period.

Rangers 7, Twins 3

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) With slugger Juan Gonzalez still sidelined, Texas Rangers manager Johnny Oates has had to approach games a little differently.

"You guess who's going to be the star today," Oates said. So far, it's working.

Warren Newson had three hits and reliever Dan Patterson stopped a late rally as the Rangers won their fifth straight game Sunday, 7-3 over the Minnesota Twins.

"That's a good thing," said Newson about having a different player step forward every day. "We can't depend on just one person, and the other team can't try to pitch around one person. Anybody can hurt you in this lineup."

The fact that the Rangers had many good hitters has been well known. Only recently have these players showed some consistency.

"The beginning of the season, we were leaving a lot of guys on base," third baseman Dean Palmer said. "Now, it seems like guys are coming through in key situations. We're swinging the bat as a team better than we were in the first two weeks of the season."

Despite the turnaround, Oates feels more can be done.

"I think we have a chance of being better than we are right now," Oates said. "There have been a (few) ballgames that we could have won that we didn't win."

Among the things Oates feels has carried the Rangers to a winning record is the defense.

"We're making the plays consistently," he said. "Hardly a day goes by when somebody doesn't make a catch off his feet."

For nearly a week, the Twins

have been looking for some consistency. During the three-game weekend sweep by the Rangers, starting pitchers Bob Tewksbury, Scott Aldred and Brad Radke each had their moments. But the Rangers put together a couple of big innings, including a five-run eighth Sunday when the Minnesota bullpen failed.

Giants 3, Astros 2

HOUSTON (AP) Houston manager Larry Dierker figured the San Francisco Giants were about to cool off from a stretch that saw them win 14 of 18 games.

"But then I thought maybe we were ready to cool off, too," Dierker said of his first-place Astros. "Unfortunately, it looked like I was right about us and wrong about the Giants."

The Giants used excellent pitching and clutch hitting to defeat the Astros 3-2 Sunday to take the three-game series two games to one. Damon Berryhill provided the winning run with a run-scoring single in the seventh.

It was San Francisco's 12th win in 14 games and allowed the Giants to keep pace with Atlanta for the best record in the majors (16-5).

"They're not blowing anybody out, they're scraping to get by, which is what winning teams do," Dierker said. "They're winning close games, which is another sign of a good team."

The Giants are 8-2 in one run games. Reliever Rod Beck, who picked up his major league-leading 11th save (in 11 opportunities), doesn't believe the number of close games the Giants have been involved in is cause for concern.

"I think this is a team that needs to be pushed to be at its best," Beck said.

Glenallen Hill, whose third home run of the season started the scoring for the Giants on Sunday, also sees nothing missing.

"As far as I'm concerned, I think we have a great team," Hill said. "We've done the small things all year. The pitching staff is outstanding. The bullpen has been tremendous and we've had timely hits. I don't think you can ask any more."

"Slowly but surely our key guys are getting going. When we have our offense, defense and pitching all rolling, I expect a lot of good things from this team."

Jordan's 55 points sink Washington

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People have called his team vulnerable. People have said the MVP resides elsewhere. People have convinced themselves that this year will be different.

How dare they.

Michael Jordan proved again Sunday

that his era is far from over. The greatest basketball player in the world scored 55 points, including 20 of his team's 23 in the fourth quarter, to lead the defending champion Chicago Bulls to a 109-104 victory over the Washington Bullets for a 2-0 lead in their best-of-5 series.

"I got into that zone and I couldn't get out," Jordan said. "I just felt compelled to stay in that mode."

Lakers 107, Trail Blazers 93
At Inglewood, Calif., the Lakers got a little less from Shaq and a little more from everyone else.

Eddie Jones had 19 points, Elden Campbell added 16 and Nick Van exel had 13 points and nine assists to back up O'Neal's 30 points.

The Blazers did a better job of containing O'Neal, who had 46 points in Game 1, but the Lakers went ahead for good by outscoring the Blazers 13-2 to start the second half, giving them a 62-53 lead. They blew the game open early in the fourth quarter.

"We really turned it on in the second half," Lakers coach Del Harris said. "In the fourth quarter, we put it in overdrive. We did that in both games."

Game 3 is Wednesday night at Portland.

"Hopefully, we can come back with a little more energy on our home floor, do what we need to do to play a 48-minute game," Portland's Clifford Robinson said. "No one wants to get swept."

Heat 104, Magic 87

At Miami, it was Blowout II.

A 22-3 run at the start of the second period gave the Heat a 42-21 lead. They outscored Orlando 36-13 in the quarter, hitting 13 of 19 shots, and led 56-31 at halftime. The margin reached 32 points in the third period.

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MONDAY

APR. 28

Table with 33 columns representing different TV channels (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows listing various programs and their times.

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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, April 28, the 118th day of 1997. There are 247 days left in the year.

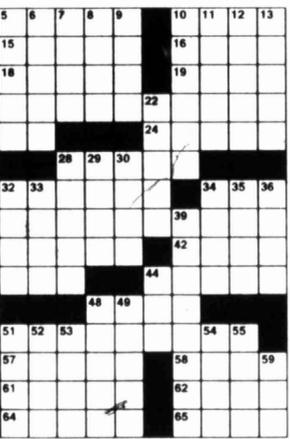
Today's Highlight in History: Fifty years ago, on April 28, 1947, a six-man expedition sailed from Peru aboard a balsa wood raft named the Kon-Tiki on a 101-day journey across the Pacific Ocean to Polynesia.

the United States, James Monroe, was born in Westmoreland County, Va. In 1788, Maryland became the seventh state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. In 1789, there was a mutiny on the Bounty as the crew of the British ship set Captain William Bligh and 18 sailors adrift in a launch in the South Pacific.

THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Surrounded by
5 Musical groups
10 Gets started
14 Peter Lorre character
15 In regard to
16 Be unafraid
17 Shelley product
18 Fancy pastry
19 Toward the mouth
20 With "Don't," plea to the weatherman
23 Muse number
24 Kind of maid
25 Argue frivolously
28 Is an also-ran
31 Melville opus
32 Add salt and pepper
34 Narrow bed
37 Pour
40 Terminus
41 Chemical compounds
42 A Fitzgerald
43 Aisle attendant
44 At a later time
45 In short supply
48 Do in
50 "— stays mainly in the plain"
56 Extreme anger
57 Tree trunks
58 "Bells on her —"
60 Egyptian goddess
61 Farewell, Pierre
62 Pitcher
63 Mosquito
64 Della or Peewee
65 Pedestal section

- DOWN
1 Elec. unit
2 Wasteland area
3 Virginia willow
4 Sovereignty
5 Wand
6 Have — to pick
7 Standard
8 Obligation
9 Short distance
10 Is extremely fond of



by Frank Jackson 04/28/97



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- 47 Protection
48 Leg joints
49 Edition
51 Construction worker's item
52 Protuberance
53 — Nastase
54 Hawkeye State
55 Necessity
59 Full house sign

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Reflecting A Proud Texas Community
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In 1940, Glenn Miller and his orchestra recorded "Pennsylvania 6-5000" for RCA Victor. In 1945, Italian dictator Benito Mussolini and his mistress, Clara Petacci, were executed by partisans as they attempted to flee the country. In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon and his wife, Pat, began a goodwill tour of Latin America. In 1967, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali refused to be inducted into the Army, the same day Gen. William C. Westmoreland told Congress the United States "would prevail in Vietnam." In 1969, French President Charles de Gaulle resigned his office. In 1980, President Carter accepted the resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who had opposed the failed rescue mission aimed at freeing American hostages in Iran. Ten years ago, Contra rebels in Nicaragua killed Benjamin Ernest Linder, an American engineer working on a hydroelectric project for the Sandinista government.

Five years ago: President Bush and Bill Clinton won the Pennsylvania presidential primary. The Agriculture Department unveiled its pyramid-shaped recommended-diet chart that had cost nearly \$1 million to develop.

One year ago: President Clinton gave 4 hours of videotaped testimony as a defense witness in the criminal trial of his former Whitewater business partners. A man armed with a semiautomatic rifle opened fire on tourists on the Australian island of Tasmania, killing 35 people; he was captured by police after a 12-hour standoff.

Today's Birthdays: Syndicated columnist Rowland Evans is 76. Former Secretary of State James A. Baker III is 67. The president of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, is 60. Actress-singer Ann-Margret is 56. Actress Marcia Strassman is 49. Actor Bruno Kirby is 48. Jay Leno is 47. Actress Mary McDonnell is 44. Rock singer-musician Kim Gordon (Sonic Youth) is 44. Rapper Too Short is 31. Rapper Big Gipp (Goodie Mob) is 24. Actress Melissa Joan Hart ("Sabrina the Teenage Witch") is 21.