

Council sets Aug. 12 date for budget hearing

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**
Staff Writer

Meetings of the Big Spring City Council are shorter and shorter during summer budget sessions, which are continuing, but area residents will get their first chance to address the council about the 1997-98 fiscal budget during a public hearing at the council's Aug. 12 meeting.

The council voted at Tuesday's meeting to hold the public hearing during its regular meeting time rather than schedule a special meeting.

Section 102.006 of the Local

Government Code requires a public hearing be held on the proposed budget on a day after the 15th day following the filing of the proposed budget with the city secretary, meaning the budget should be filed no later than July 29.

In other council business, the council accepted a bid of \$12,948 from Big Spring's ALH Computers to provide the Big Spring Police Department with a digital booking system.

The system will be shared with the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

Please see **COUNCIL**, page 2A

TWC figures show slight rise in unemployment

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**
Staff Writer

The latest Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) unemployment figures show that Howard County's unemployment rate for the month of June was 5.1 percent, 1.2 percent higher than May's 3.9 percent and 1.5 percent higher April's rate of 3.6 percent.

In June 1996, Howard County reported an unemployment rate of 4.7 percent.

The city of Big Spring reported a June unemployment rate of 5.6 percent, a 1.2 percent increase over May's unemployment rate of 4.4 percent and 0.9 percent lower than it was in April.

For the month of June Howard County reported a civilian labor force of 14,359 with an employment level of 13,632 people, leaving 727 unemployed.

In May, Howard County reported 13,482 people from a civilian labor force of 14,031 were employed. In April 13,479 people from a labor force of 13,988 were employed.

June's 6.3 percent unemployment rate for the Odessa-Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is 1.2 percent higher than May's 5.2 percent, placing it 16th among the state's 27 MSAs, which means the Odessa-Midland MSA held steady from February through June.

Other counties in the Permian

Basin reported various unemployment rates for the month of June, included Andrews, 6 percent; Borden, 1.2 percent; Dawson, 6.9 percent; Ector, 7.7 percent; Glasscock, 4.1 percent; Martin, 5.2 percent; and Midland, 4.8 percent.

By city, Permian Basin unemployment rates for June include Andrews, 6.3 percent; Lamesa, 8.3 percent; Odessa, 7.6 percent; Pecos, 11.1 percent; Stanton, 6.1 percent; Midland, 4.8 percent; and Rankin, 5.9 percent.

Overall, the state's unemployment rate increased one percentage point to 6.1 percent, according to the TWC.

The state's 6.1 percent unemployment rate for June was three-tenths of a percent lower

than the unemployment rate for June 1996 (6.4 percent).

The state's lowest unemployment rate for June was in the Bryan-College Station MSA at 2.6 percent. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA recorded the highest unemployment rate at 18.5 percent.

Rates of unemployment in the urban areas of Texas as announced by the TWC for June include: Abilene, 4.7 percent; Amarillo, 4.5 percent; Austin-San Marcos, 3.5 percent; Beaumont-Port Arthur, 9.2 percent; Brazoria, 8.8 percent; Brownsville-Harlingen, 14.2 percent; Corpus Christi, 9 percent; Dallas, 4.3 percent; Lubbock, 5.4 percent; and San Angelo, 4.1 percent.

SWING TIME



The famed Western Swing band, "Asleep at the Wheel," performs during a free concert at the Big Spring Wal-Mart Supercenter Tuesday evening. The concert, one of a series throughout the country sponsored by Wal-Mart, attracted a large crowd of local enthusiasts. Bill Young, an up-and-coming gospel singer, was the opening act, while local Western Swing musician Jody Nix joined Asleep at the Wheel during its performance.

Trustees OK \$31.59 million budget package

BSISD expenditures to rise 2.8 percent next fiscal year

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring school trustees have hammered out a new budget that's both different and similar to last year's financial package.

Trustees put their stamp of approval on a \$31.59 million budget for the 1997-98 school year at the end of a four-hour workshop Tuesday night.

The package includes \$8.5 million in bond money for construction of the new junior high — action which was approved by voters last September.

Take away the bond money, however, and the new budget represents only a 2.8 percent increase over the 1996-97 package.

Teacher pay raises more than account for the increase. The state legislature mandated \$669,000 in teacher raises during its last session, and trustees added \$72,000 in raises for teachers not covered by the state mandates. Add that figure to \$64,000 in raises approved for administrators, and that means that every district employee will get a raise this next school year.

"We decided to go with (the raises) ... because the teachers deserved it," board president Al Valdes said. "And the administrators worked really hard this last year, putting in a lot of extra time on the bond and the new athletic facility. We felt they deserved a raise, too."

Salaries account for about 75 percent of the new budget. Trustees also decided to obtain a loan from the Texas Association of School Board's Capital Acquisition Program to cover purchase of \$1.45 million worth of equipment for the new junior high.

The board had the option of

paying for the equipment directly out of the district's \$4.6 million fund balance, but Superintendent Bill McQueary said such action would not have been advisable.

"Past experience has shown us that we want \$3.5 million or more in the balance so that we'll always have our payroll covered," McQueary said. "We definitely don't want to milk the fund balance below \$3.5 million."

The new package is not without a few drawbacks, however. McQueary said there will be a built-in deficit with this budget, although the amount of red ink won't be known until after a new tax rate is set in September.

The tax rate will likely rise next school year, McQueary conceded. The anticipated passage of the Aug. 9 referendum increasing homestead exemptions by \$10,000 will force a drop in taxable values within the district, meaning the tax rate will have to rise just to raise the same amount of revenue as last year.

"I think the trustees will have to go with at least the effective tax rate (the rate which will raise the same amount of money as last year) to master this budget," McQueary said. "But there is a possibility they'll go a cent or two higher than that."

The effective tax rate for the 1997-98 budget cycle is \$1.526 per \$100 valuation, 3.3 cents above the standing tax rate, business manager Ron Plumlee said.

Also complicating matters is an expected drop of \$184,000 in state revenue because of a decrease in the district's average daily attendance (ADA). State aid to school districts is determined largely through ADA.

A public hearing on the new budget will be held at noon on Aug. 29 in the board room. Copies of the new package will be available to the public.

Sanchez: Business booming at nursery

By **JOHN A. MOSELEY**
Staff Writer

While Sand Springs might not be most people's idea of a "garden spot," Moss Lake Nursery owner Mike Sanchez has plans on changing that.

Sanchez, who opened his business after 15 years of working for other nursery and landscape operations two years ago with a 20-foot by 50-foot greenhouse on the north access road of Interstate 20, says he couldn't be happier with the success he's enjoyed this summer.

In fact, he's in the process of moving and expanding the operation.

"This was a great year for bedding plants and that's what I've tried to focus my efforts on this year," Sanchez said, noting that abundant rains earlier this year were as big a boon to the home gardener as they were to local cotton farmers. "I'm not making a killing, because I'm trying to always have the lowest prices

around here, but this was a good year."

Good enough, in fact, that in moving Moss Lake Nursery to its new location, 6911 North Service Road, Sanchez is in the process of building three 24x100 greenhouses and searching for a location in Big Spring for still another.

"You have to spend money to make money," Sanchez smiled, hinting that his plans, like most business ventures, involve some risk. "And you have to spend a lot of hours ... have to be there day and night."

However, Sanchez says those risks, coupled with the dedicated hours, will be the key to success — particularly when growing his own bedding plants.

"There are two major reasons for growing your own instead of buying from a wholesaler," he explained. "First, you can make a better profit, but it is also better for the customer. Not only can you offer a better price than you can if you've bought the

plants from a wholesaler, but you're providing them with a plant that's been grown in this climate ... they're going to do better when people get them home and plant them in their beds."

It's important to Sanchez that he can provide lower prices for his customers.

"I want to make sure that a customer wants to come back," he explains. "I sure hate to walk in a place that's 'high-dollar.' I figure most people do."

The summer of 1997 is almost enough to help Sanchez forget the drought of 1996 ... almost.

"Last year was tough. People aren't going to buy plants if you're in the middle of a drought ... it makes it tough as a nurseryman," Sanchez said. "People can spend a lot of money watering with sprinklers and keep plants alive, but there really is no substitute for rain."

Another reason for Sanchez's

Please see **NURSERY**, page 2A



Mike Sanchez checks frame connections at Moss Lake Nursery, the business he operates in Sand Springs.

West Texas Centers for MHMR to change personnel policy

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**
Staff Writer

An upcoming policy change at the West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) has prompted a few employees to question the impending move.

On Sept. 1, West Texas Centers for MHMR will become an "employment at will" employer, meaning Chief Executive Officer Shelley Smith will reserve full authority to discharge any employee from his or her position, either with or

without cause, if the dismissal is regarded as in the best interest of the center.

The center is in the process of making revisions to its current personnel policies to reflect the change and will forward a copy to each employee once the revisions have been completed.

Also, Smith will retain the right to involuntarily transfer, demote or reduce the salaries of individual employees at any time in order to meet changing organizational needs.

According to local Texas Workforce Representative Vicki

Ditmore, questions people may have about such a policy are common, but, in fact, every employer in Texas is a hire-and-fire employer and can do so as long as the practice is not done in a discriminatory manner.

Texas is also a right-to-work state, which refers to labor unions.

"The right-to-work law in Texas is geared toward unions, but also in Texas there are no closed shops," Ditmore said. "Employers also cannot discriminate against employees who do belong to unions."

Ditmore added one thing people also have to realize is that the West Texas Centers for MHMR was once the community services programs for the Big Spring State Hospital and the Abilene State School, but recently became privatized to form the center, which serves a 23-county area in West Texas.

"The center was part of a state agency prior to being privatized, but is now an independent business that receives state funding for its own programs and as

Please see **POLICY**, page 2A

WEATHER

| Today: | Thur: | Fri: | Sat: |
|--------|-------|------|------|
| | | | |

Tonight, fair. Lows 68-75. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs 90-95. Thursday night, a slight chance of thunderstorms, otherwise fair. Lows mid 60s to lower 70s. Extended forecast, Friday through Sunday, isolated mainly afternoon and evening thunderstorms, otherwise fair.

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To reach all departments, please call 263-7331

OBITUARIES

Arthur "Jay" Sturgill

Graveside service for Arthur "Jay" Sturgill, 64, Big Spring, will be 10:30 a.m. MDT, Thursday, July 24, 1997, at Fort Bliss National Cemetery in El Paso.

Mr. Sturgill died Monday, July 21, in a local hospital.

He was born on July 5, 1933, in Livingston, Ky. He came to Big Spring in 1972 and was a retired carpenter. He was a Baptist. He served in the United States Army for 14 years and had served in Korea.

Survivors include: his wife, Marjorie Sturgill, Big Spring; two daughters, Tracy Lynn Sturgill, Big Spring, and Judy, Fort Leonardwood, Mo.; one son, Arthur Jason Sturgill, Big Spring; his mother, Clara Sturgill, Corydon, Ind.; three sisters, Irene McKenna, Arkansas; Faye DeMent, Dallas, and Carol, Indiana; three brothers, Claud Sturgill, English, Ind., Shelby Sturgill and Kenneth Sturgill, both of Corydon, Ind.; one grandson and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Veterans Administration Medical Center, 300 Veterans Blvd.; Attn: Fred Cox Volunteer Services; Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

John D. Connell

Graveside service for John D. Connell, 83, Dallas, will be 10 a.m. Thursday, July 24, 1997, in St. Joseph Cemetery in Stanton with Rev. Tom Kelly, of Midland, officiating.

Mr. Connell died Sunday, July 20, in Dallas.

He was born on Nov. 4, 1913, in Stanton. He married Winnie Deavenport. She preceded him in death on April 15, 1997. They moved to Dallas in 1952 where he was employed by Temco which later became Ling Temco, Yought, LIV and presently Northrop Grumman & Aerospace. He served in the US Air Force during World War II from 1942-1946 and served in the Reserves and was called to serve in the Korean Conflict in 1950. He was a long-time member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and Oak Cliff Lions Club.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton.

For home delivery of the Herald, call 263-7331

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331

Arthur "Jay" Sturgill, 64, died Monday, July 21, 1997. Graveside services will be 10:30 AM MDT, Thursday, July 24, 1997 at Fort Bliss National Cemetery, El Paso, Texas.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-6288

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COUNCIL

Continued from page 1A

"The booking system will link the booking records of the police department and the sheriff's office, which should make processing prisoners much easier," BSPD Lt. Terry Chamness said.

The council also heard a quarterly report from Moore Development For Big Spring Inc.

Moore Assistant Director Pam Welch stood in for Director Danette Toone, who was out with a potential economic development prospect.

The prospect could potentially bring more than 100 jobs to Big Spring and is considering the city primarily because of the availability of land.

Welch also updated the council on the progress of Signal Homes.

"Signal Homes has been in operation since March and as of this date 102 people are employed at Signal," Welch said. "This computes to an annual payroll of \$2,184,000."

Signal is currently producing one manufactured home each day — a process that should increase as Signal proceeds with its training process, according to Welch.

"Howard College has received funding for the Skills Development Program from the state of Texas and will begin a training program with Signal as soon as possible," Welch said.

"Signal is also utilizing other sources for employees such as JTPA (the Job Training Partnership Act) as they employ three people through this program."

Welch also told the council that Toone's recent trip to Austin to present the Texas Veterans Land Board with Big Spring's proposal for one of four state veterans homes was positive as Toone was accompanied by State Rep. David Counts.

A total of 18 proposals were presented to the board for consideration as one of the four sites in the north, south, east and west regions of the state, according to Welch.

"Two of the homes will be built in 1999 and the other two will be completed by the year 2000," Welch said. "A 10-person committee has been formed by the Veterans Land Board and will review the 18 proposals. They hope to have the top four sites (selected) by the middle of August or the first part of September."

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton.

NURSERY

Continued from page 1A

decision to expand the nursery, he said, was the desire to expand not only his planting operation, but to be able to offer and expanded product selection.

"I had to focus on bedding plants initially because we didn't have the room for tree stocks," he explained. "Next season, we'll have room for trees, shrubs and roses."

Of course, Sanchez will still be specializing in bedding plants, since he's already sold a large portion of what he'll be able to produce in his new greenhouses.

Adding a Big Spring greenhouse to his new Sand Springs location is not the limit to Sanchez's dreams, however. He believes even bigger and better things are in store.

"Hopefully, by this time next year, I'd like to have 10 greenhouses and be able to be doing a wholesale business, as well as our retail operation," he explained. "That's the goal."

POLICY

Continued from page 1A

such has the right to develop its own policies and procedures as does any other business," Ditmore said.

Employees worried about safeguards should be aware of the fact that employers are required to abide by their past practices or written policies.

"Even with an employment at will policy employers will have to have sufficient reason to dismiss an employee because of unemployment insurance purposes," Ditmore said. "To its credit, the center has maintained its salaries and benefits, which are comparable to the state agency it once belonged to."

It's REFRIGERATOR TIME WHEAT Furniture & Appliance Co. 111 E. 29th 267-6722

BRIEFS

A DRAMA AND OUTDOOR concert will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday outside the Big Spring Mall.

The event is presented by Cornerstone Church.

THERE WILL BE TEEN night from 7 to 11 p.m., every Friday during the summer, at the Eagles Lodge on Third Street. This will be a non-alcoholic dance.

The cost is \$4 and concessions will be available. All teens are invited.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN HOME HEALTH sponsors a Community Health Screening monthly at local churches.

Tuberculosis screening is available Tuesday, July 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Annex, 809 Scurry.

ST. JOSEPH'S ANNUAL SUMMER Festival, 108 S. Fourth, Coahoma, will be Saturday. There will be games, fun, rides, music, food booths, cake walk, bingo, prizes and more. There will also be a Mexican dinner at noon.

BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL cafeteria will serve lunch free to local youth (ages 18 and under) from now through Aug. 1.

Serving hours are 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Enter through the north exterior cafeteria door.

The free lunch is part of the Summer Food Service Program, an extension of the National School Lunch Program. No proof of residence or income required.

A CORRECTIONAL OFFICER TRAINING course will be offered beginning Aug. 12 at Howard College. The class is designed to prepare employees to work at the Big Spring Correctional Center and to staff the new facility to be built in April 1998.

Taking the course does not guarantee work with Cornell Corrections, which operates the local facilities. For more information, call the continuing education office at Howard College, 264-5131.

For more information, call 563-4144.

LITTLEST COWGIRL



Country music fans came in all sizes at Tuesday night's concert in the Wal-Mart parking lot. This little cowgirl got a good view above the crowd.

Price Correction!
The price of 79¢ in the Ground Beef Value Pack listing in Lawrence IGA ad of 7/22/97 was in error. It should have read...
79¢ per pound.
The Big Spring Herald regrets and inconvenience this error might have caused. Thank you.

DERMATOLOGY
is coming to
BIG SPRING
WILLIAM H. RADENTZ, M.D., will be available to diagnose and treat diseases of the skin and skin cancer beginning August 4, 1997.
The office address will be at the Medical Care Plaza, 1300 Gregg Street
Please call to schedule an appointment at 915-264-6860

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

BIG SPRING FAMILY YMCA offers its facilities for a party, reunion or other event.

The Y has an indoor swimming pool, gymnasium and room for refreshments. Prices will vary depending on the length of the party and the facilities used. Call the Y at 267-8234 for more information.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR nominations are needed for Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas.

A family will be chosen to represent Big Spring, along with one each from Midland and Odessa, at the center's October banquet. This family should be nominated for its strong values and community as well as religious involvement.

For more information, call 563-4144.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRINGBOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GINA GARZA, 263-7331 ext. 238, BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 2 P.M. All Springboard items must be submitted in writing. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79720; bring it by the office at 710 Scurry; or fax it to 264-7205.

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

Line dance classes, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, following lunch. For more information call 398-5522 or 267-1628.

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

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

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

Open birthday night, covered dish 7 p.m. and birthday meeting 8 p.m., 615 Settles. This is to celebrate AA sobriety yearly birthdays.

SUNDAY
Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting.

Texas Lottery PICK 3: 8,3,9 CASH 5:21,28,31,32,37

Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, has free food for area needy, 10 a.m. to noon.
Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classed, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., 55 and older.
Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center small cafeteria.
Alcoholics Anonymous, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting, 615 Settles. 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at Scenic Mountain Medical Center cafeteria.
Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.
Alzheimer's Association support group, 7 p.m., Comanche Trail Nursing Center.

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

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

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

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MARKETS

Oct. cotton 74.55 cents a pound, down 23 points; Aug. crude oil 19.57, up 9 points; Cash hogs \$1 higher at 61; slaughter steers steady at 63; Aug. lean hog futures 80.40, up 5 points; Aug. live cattle futures 65.80, up 2 points.
courtesy: Delta Corporation.
Nook-quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.

Index 8070.01
Volume 211,777,720
ATF 35% nc
Amoco 90% +
Atlantic Richfield 70 %
Atmos Energy 24% nc
Chevron 76% -
Chrysler 35% -
Cifra 1.83 - 1.86
Coca-Cola 69% -
De Beers 35% -
DuPont 66% +
Excel Comm. 23% -
Exxon 61% - 1
Fina 65% nc
Ford Motors 40% -
Halliburton 45% +
IBM 104% + 1
Laser Indus LTD 16% -

Scenic Mountain Medical Center
1601 w. 11th Place
263-1211

Medical Alliance 3 -
Mobil 75 -
Norwest 62% -
NUV 9% -
Phillips Petroleum 45% +
Palex Inc. 13% -
Pepsi Cola 37% -
Rural/Metro 28 nc
Sears 59 nc
Southwestern Bell 59% +
Sun 31 -
Texaco 114% + 1
Texas Instruments 112% - 1
Texas Utils. Co 34% nc
Unocal Corp 38% -
Wal-Mart 36% +
Amcap 15.69-16.65
Euro Pacific 29.32-31.11
I.C.A. 29.55-31.35
New Economy 19.85-21.06
New Perspective 21.47-22.78
Van Kampen 14.55-15.28
Prime Rate 8.50%
Gold 324.50-325.00
Silver 4.25-4.28

POLICE

The Big Spring Police department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

ELVIS WELLITO, 35, of 2107 S. Main, was arrested for assault and family violence.

RANDY ULRICH, 21, of 600 Douglas, was arrested for driving with a suspended license and possession of marijuana under two warrants.

KEVIN WILLIAMS, 25, no known address, was arrested for failure to identify.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 3600 block of Calvin; and the 1500 block of W. 4th.

THEFT in the 1900 block of Wason; 200 block of Main; 200 block of W. 4th; 1100 block of N. Lamesa; and the 400 block of Birdwell.

BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE in the 300 block of State.

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

DANIEL RAY HECKLER, 44, of 2904 Stonehaven, was arrested for revocation of probation for possession of a controlled substance, and released on a \$5,000 bond.

RECORDS

Tuesday's high 94
Tuesday's low 72
Average high 94
Average low 70
Record high 102 in 1954
Record low 59 in 1946
Precip. Tuesday 0.00
Month to date 0.33
Month's normal 1.17
Year to date 13.88
Normal for the year 9.95
**Statistics not available

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Arme y, DeLay face firestorm in wake of failed GOP coup

WASHINGTON (AP) — A week after word leaked that House Republican dissidents were given a wink and a nod from leadership in their mulling of a bid to oust Speaker Newt Gingrich, GOP lawmakers are meeting behind closed doors.

And the chances are good that House Majority Leader Dick Arme y, R-Irving, Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, and other leaders will be called to account during today's Republican conference meeting and asked to explain their roles during the cabal.

For the last week, Washington has been gripped by the palace intrigue, with Republicans in turmoil over the finger-pointing and shifting loyalties sparked by the failed coup.

Even as Gingrich aides put out the word that their boss isn't seeking to unseat any of his lieutenants immediately, there were rumors that some disgruntled Republicans would try to engineer the ouster of one or the other leaders.

Arme y issued a stiff defense Tuesday, once again denying complicity in the plot.

"At this point, I couldn't care

less whether I'll be speaker, majority leader or dogcatcher, but I'll be damned if I'll let my name and honor be destroyed," he wrote his GOP colleagues.

Arme y's claims of non-involvement stirred outrage among some rebels. Some accused him of pulling the plug on the insurrection only after he realized that he wouldn't be the likely beneficiary of Gingrich's downfall.

In his two-page letter, Arme y reiterated his assertion that he informed Gingrich of the uprising before a pivotal July 10 late-night meeting organized by the

dissidents. "The speaker is well aware of my actions over the past two weeks, and he knows that I did not participate in any effort to dump him," Arme y wrote.

The rebels' session was attended by DeLay, whom aides said was there operating as an honest broker.

The dissidents said DeLay encouraged their efforts and that it was their understanding that the revolt had the backing of the rest of leadership.

Also linked to the plotters were conference Chairman John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Rep.

Bill Paxton, R-N.Y. Paxton last week surrendered his leadership position in the post-coup fallout.

He denied plotting against the speaker, as did Arme y and Boehner, but said he was resigning because he had lost Gingrich's trust.

DeLay has maintained public silence on the episode, though spokesman John Feehery said his boss is "getting a bum rap."

In advance of today's meeting, DeLay worked the phones and met privately with colleagues to shore up support, explain his actions and mend fences. So did

Boehner. Relations between Arme y and DeLay, who have been longtime friends and allies, have been strained amid the blame game that erupted last week when word of the plot leaked.

Arme y's letter underscored the finger-pointing that's flourished in recent days. "I apologize for my initial belief that the dissidents were solely responsible for starting this mess," he said in a statement that cast blame in the direction of DeLay, Boehner and Paxton without mentioning them by name.

Jury begins deliberations in priest sex-abuse case

DALLAS (AP) — Jurors completed their first day of deliberations Tuesday in a priest sex-abuse lawsuit in which 11 plaintiffs are seeking more than \$146 million in damages.

The jury was told to return Wednesday for a second full day of work toward a verdict in the case.

Eleven plaintiffs are seeking \$146.5 million from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas and the suspended Rev. Rudolph Kos, who is accused of sexually abusing boys between 1977 and 1992 while a seminarian and at three churches.

After closing arguments on Monday, District Judge Ann Ashby poured out her feelings about the case with trial participants, telling the plaintiffs: "I've been so close to your tragedy it just breaks my heart."

The judge had the informal chat after jurors left the courtroom. The Dallas Morning News reported in a copyright story.

After jurors were dismissed for the day, Ashby asked all parties in the case to stay put for a little talk. She removed her robe, then took a seat in a chair and began pouring

"If anything like this can ever be positive, then let there be healing, and let there be hope," the judge said.

She said she'd felt throughout testimony that "everybody in this courtroom has been grieving. ... You've been horrified. You've been hurt."

"I've been so close to your tragedy it just breaks my heart," she said. She also spoke of a "wonderful young man" who committed suicide; his parents, who are part of the lawsuit, blame Kos.

Attorneys on both sides agreed that they'd never seen a judge take such action before a verdict had been reached.

Defense lawyer Randal Mathis, who has defended the diocese against allegations that it covered up a decade of abuse, turned red and said he shouldn't comment when asked about the speech.

In his closing argument, Mathis had said that Catholic officials are "good people" who merely made a mistake when they concluded Kos was innocent of the accusations against him. He called Kos a "smart, manipulative person."

"The diocese clearly was wrong, but at the time it was making what it thought were

appropriate, fair and reasonable judgments," he said.

Lawyer Windle Turley, who represents a majority of the plaintiffs, called the judge's remarks "so sincere. I don't think it's improper, but it is unusual."

The plaintiffs allege the episodes happened between 1977 and 1992 while Kos was a seminarian at Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas and while he was at All Saints Catholic Church in Dallas, St. Luke's Catholic Church in Irving and St. John's Catholic Church in Ennis.

Kos, who now lives in San Diego, did not appear to defend himself in the civil trial and already has been found liable. He awaits a criminal trial in cases involving two children.

Linda Eads, a law professor at Southern Methodist University, said she didn't think the judge had violated any judicial codes, but "it will cause people to wonder about her objectivity. What's the benefit of doing it? Frankly, I don't see any."

The judge, a Presbyterian, said she felt she was "working for the Lord" during the case and urged plaintiffs not to give up their faith.

Ranchers begin restocking herds

HOUSTON (AP) — Cattle ranchers are restocking their herds now that meadows are lush again after a wet spring and summer broke the 1996 drought.

That has sent beef prices skyrocketing. Beef calves are selling for some \$40 more per hundredweight than they were a year ago.

That worries some economists, the Texas Journal of The Wall Street Journal reported today. Some say the rebuilt herds could cause a meat glut that could bring on a collapse in beef prices.

"If we don't have a liquidation (of cattle), we'll have tremendous increases in prices in 1997, and in 1998 the first half will be good," said Ernest Davis, a livestock economist at Texas A&M University. "But then those prices will really collapse in the last half of 1998" because of oversupply.

Davis estimated the size of the nation's beef herd this year will total 34.3 million head, 1.8 million more than what is needed to support currently strong

prices.

The state ended 1996 with 5.46 million beef cows, down nearly 8 percent from 1995, and some experts fear that anxious ranchers will more than replace what they rid themselves of last year.

During last year's drought, rancher Jamie Donnell of Fowlerton sold 70 percent of his 1,500-head breeding herd and nearly all of his 4,000 stocker cattle. Now, he is planning to restore his herd to 2,200 head as feed prices stay low and beef prices stay high.

"I'm not sure if it's the right thing to do," he said. "But people have been making some money here lately."

Rancher Johnny Wales of Merton sold a third of his 700-head herd during the drought. Now, he is scouting for 100 new cows.

"We don't pay a whole lot of attention to the market," he says. "We pay attention to the grass, and when we've got it we try and turn it into pounds of beef."

Some farm lenders are turning cautious. South Plains

Financial Inc. in Lubbock has granted loans to about 15 ranchers this year, fewer than usual, said chief executive Mike Linder. Most of the loans that were approved were for equipment, not livestock, he said.

"I think our ranch borrowers don't have as big a picture of the industry as the economists have," he says. Ranchers "are just trying to put something back onto that land to make them some money."

No crisis looms because ranchers outside Texas are cutting their herds or holding them steady, said Jim Rob, director of the Livestock Marketing Information Center in Denver.

"It takes several years for things to fundamentally turn," Mr. Rob says.

Talk like that worries rancher Chaunce Thompson of Breckenridge, who didn't have to sell off his 1,500-head herd of heifers last year.

"There is nobody more optimistic than a rancher with green grass and no cows," he said.

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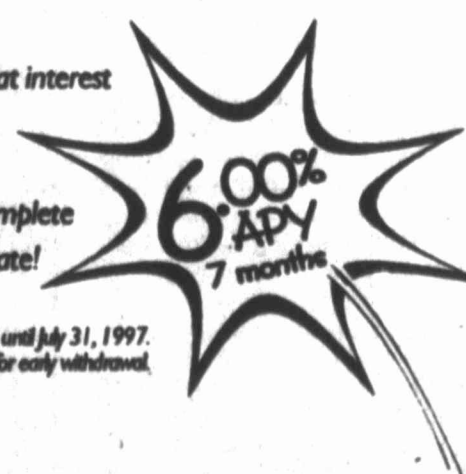
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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Like parents, the film industry cannot avoid dealing with issues of right and wrong."
-Alan F. Klepper, transportation executive

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

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OUR VIEWS

Ted, don't mess with our anthem

Have you heard about the latest idea of Ted Turner, husband of Hanoi Jane Fonda ... that we change our country's national anthem. Turner feels that "America The Beautiful" is the way to go instead of "The Star Spangled Banner." Ted, we'd rather you ruin some more movies by coloring them rather than try your hand as our great nation's director of patriotic music. There are things you don't do — step on Superman's cape ... spit into the wind or mess with our national flag or national anthem among them.

Over the years, detractors of the Anthem have said that it is too difficult to sing ... yet go to a Little League ballpark before an All-Star game and watch Dads and their sons doff their caps, place their hands over their hearts and raise their eyes toward the flag. Then listen. Listen proudly, won't you, as voices blend together in an American mix of pitch and tone — in-key and off-key in a salute to our great land.

We don't sing the Anthem with perfect pitch, but that doesn't stop us from thinking about the brave men and women who died to defend America over the years.

If it's a bit difficult to sing, so what? What price to pay is that to remember the efforts of those who gave their lives for our great land?

In addition to being too difficult to sing, Turner says the Anthem is violent by its very nature.

"The Star Spangled Banner," is a war song written by a prisoner of war of the British at Fort McHenry. It's all war," he said.

"It's time to change with the times, because brotherhood is a lot more important than military force and that's what 'America The Beautiful' is all about."

America is about a lot of things — brotherhood and freedom included. America is about tradition ... it is about remembering our brothers and sisters who fell defending our freedoms.

Part of that tradition is Francis Scott Key's "The Star Banged Banner."

OTHER VIEWS

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on gutting arts endowment:

The current leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives has had an obsession with the National Endowment for the Arts for some time now, and, with the help of a growing number of conservative colleagues, has managed to make the arts a favorite target of their brutish attacks.

Last week's decision in the House to eliminate the endowment — by a one-vote margin — was the latest assault on a national program that not only has proved successful in invigorating arts programs in communities nationwide but has been one of the major catalysts for the tremendous increase in private funding for cultural programs.

As it turned out, a Tarrant County representative's vote could have reversed this misguided venture. Rep. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth, said she voted as she did because she wanted to vote for a later proposal, which was killed the very next day in the House, that would send block grants directly to the states.

It was no surprise that House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Irving, Rep. Joe Barton, R-Ennis, or Rep. Ralph Hall, D-Rockwall, favored the decision to gut the NEA. We were mildly surprised by Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Stamford, for his vote on the issue, but deeply disappointed in Granger, who as mayor of Fort Worth was always a strong supporter of the arts.

Granger should have risen to the occasion by showing some independence from her short-sighted Republican leaders by voting to keep the endowment intact. Her vote alone would have made the difference. We know that ambitious rookie representatives have to bend to imperatives of political expediency, but that doesn't make it right. Her constituents deserve better.

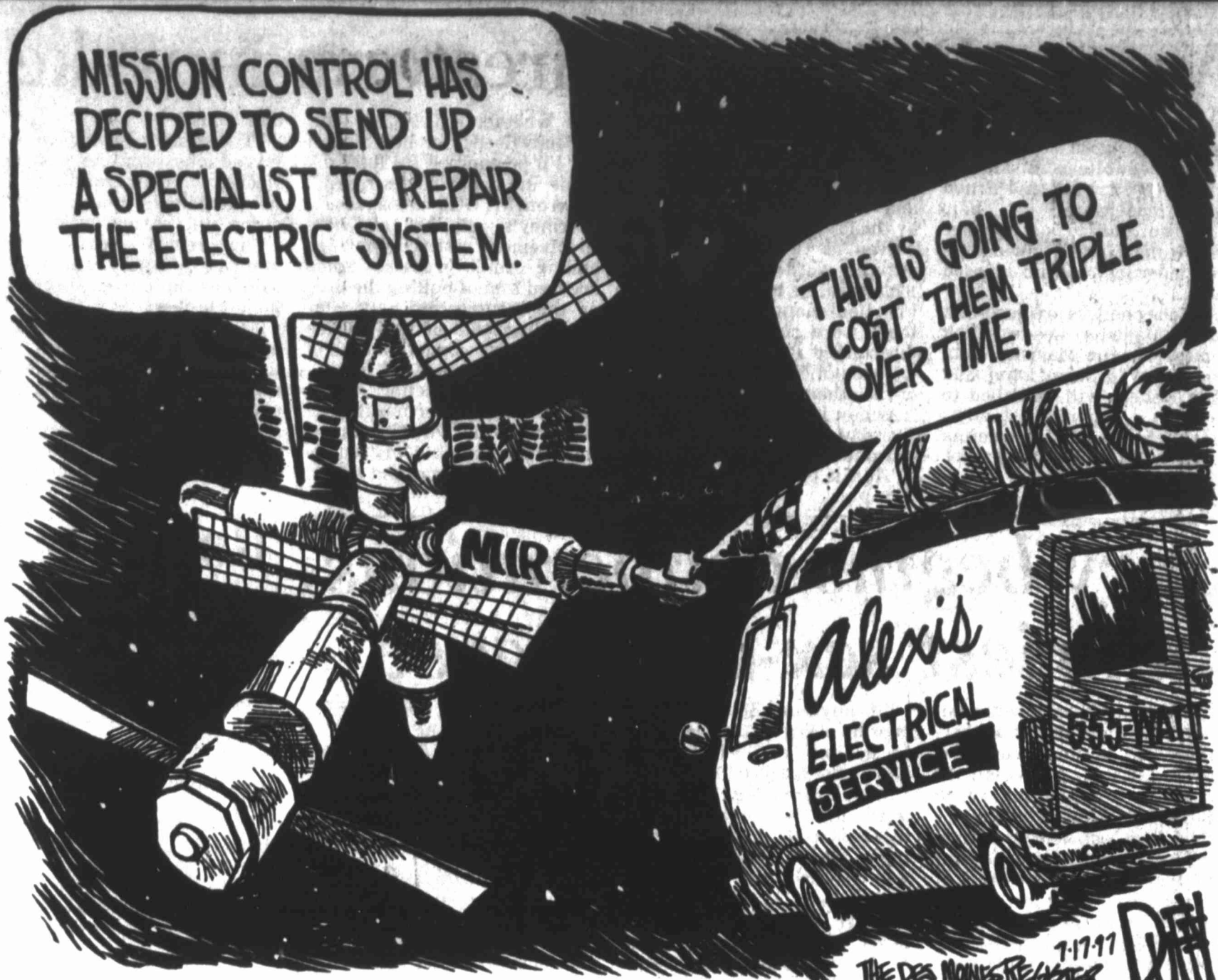
While we expect the Senate to restore the NEA's funding, it is still frustrating to see Congress wage this seemingly endless battle against an agency that continues to stimulate the arts in our community and throughout the nation.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Sharing the joys of country mouse life

There's a sweet little child's tale about a Country Mouse and a City Mouse. The exact plot eludes my addled brain, but it had something to do with the advantages of each lifestyle, urban versus rural.

Each mouse thought the other had it made. And so they traded places, only to discover some mice are meant for the country, some for the city.

That old book came to mind while watching my cousin Donna Fitzpatrick and family move to rural Roopville from suburban Atlanta, from the city to the country, the longest distance you can travel.

Excited to have them close by, I kept giving silly pep talks, extolling the virtues of carry-

ing off your own garbage, rhapsodizing over dirt roads where you can walk without worry. (I learned long ago I'm a Country Rat.)

Donna had grown up in tiny Arlington, Ga., and she wasn't at all sure that moving so far from the shopping malls and movies and restaurants was progress. As a child, the highlight of her summers was visiting my family in Montgomery, where there were a few museums and fast-food restaurants and movie theaters.

Her husband, Walt, was a lot more gung-ho about leaving the city. He had had it with close neighbors and no place to park his car.

They found it in Roopville: three acres and a fixer-upper, far off the highway up a gravel drive that needs more gravel. There were fruit trees and blackberry bushes and a charming covered bridge over a brook. (City mice would call it a brook; country mice would call it a branch.)

Donna is nothing if not a

sport, and she loaded up the two cats and two boys and said a fond if quick goodbye to suburbia. She had a weak moment or two leaving the spacious, two-story brick house where the family had lived for a decade, but by now she, too, was committed.

Everything went wrong. The house sprung a leak in a wall and ruined three rooms of carpet, not to mention the wall. The air conditioner went dead during the heat wave.

For a few miserable days the entire family slept in one room under a small window unit that seemed to create more noise than cool. The sour carpet only reminded them that the insurance adjuster was taking his sweet time coming around. The wet paneling hung from the ceiling like a flowing cloth tapestry. Boxes were stacked everywhere, ready to be moved all over again if the new carpet ever arrived.

So the plucky Fitzpatricks decided to focus on the beautiful yard until repairs could be made inside.

You don't really know how big a three-acre yard is until you try to cut it with a small push mower. They cut for two days, in shifts.

Then a cool front moved through. If this were a movie instead of real life, chirping birds would be heard over cheerful music as the happy family picnics in the freshly mown meadow.

A repairman showed up on time to fix the air conditioning for a pittance. A clerk at a country store took Walt's check without asking for his life history. Kevin, the younger son, learned to love hearing a neighbor's rooster crow in the cool mornings. And Donna found time to go blackberry picking with the boys.

I breathed a deep sigh of relief. The Fitzpatricks were going to make Country Mice after all.

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Rating system will not improve parenting

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Supreme Court has said that Congress cannot control what is on the Internet -- not even in the lofty pretense of protecting our children from smut. Yet we have Congress dictating what is a proper warning about the content of the television programs watched on regular networks every day.

Congress, probably the least respected of American institutions, got its neck under the First Amendment tent in the infancy of television, and it has been bullying television programmers incessantly in ways that indicate some congressmen want to control the content of what is broadcast.

With a threat of passing harsh legislation, some lawmakers have browbeaten TV programmers into accepting a

system of "stronger advisories" to inform parents as to whether a program contains sex, violence or crude language. Some congressmen promised that with industry acceptance of this deal they will not pass any legislation restricting the TV industry "for a few years."

This show of congressional muscle clearly inhibits free speech and free expression, and I find it more a threat to our children's future than the terrible fare that is on the tube. So I applaud NBC for refusing to join in this latest charade about protecting children, even though some lawmakers are making unsubtle remarks about denying license renewals to networks and stations that won't accept the new ratings system.

Programmers have agreed to flash at the start of a broadcast a sizable "S" to warn of sexual depictions, "V" for acts of violence, "L" for coarse language, and a "D" for dialogue that has sexual suggestions and innuendoes.

Can anyone really pretend that parents will protect their children better because the letters S, L, V and D are added to a

TV-14 warning for "NYPD Blue"? Parents are hopeless if they don't already know that "NYPD Blue" is a mature, sophisticated program that reflects the real lives of urban policemen, criminals and victims. Likewise, any parent who really cares has figured out the reality that sexual double entendres and suggestions are at the heart of the success of almost all sitcoms, including "Seinfeld" and "The Nanny," because that is what the public wants to see. Nobody tunes in Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show" expecting Sunday School fare.

I find it pathetic that parental groups would demand that a network warn them that the cartoon programs they use as baby-sitters contain "fantasy violence." Don't parents sit with their children enough on Saturday mornings to know the content of what their kids watch regularly?

While we believe that more information is useful to parents, NBC is concerned that the ultimate aim of the current (rating) system's critics is to dictate programming content," the network said in a statement.

I agree with NBC, even though I think that the current content is shamefully below what this society ought to be able to produce. The labels M, L and WT seem more appropriate for the current fare -- for mediocre, lousy and waste-of-time -- but I just don't believe it is in the interest of a free people for any politician to dictate programming, or force programmers to label it with symbols that could often be self-wounding but will almost always be phony.

Nothing in this "stronger" rating system is going to make many people better parents, and it won't satisfy the forces that have their special views as to how television programs should deal with, or ignore, issues like homosexuality, rape, race, sex education and more.

So the critics will soon be back, not influencing television by what they watch or refuse to watch, but imploring Congress to make laws that the Constitution forbids them to enact.

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Testimony: Hong Kong businessman gave millions to GOP

WASHINGTON (AP) — Given their first chance to go on the offensive in Senate campaign finance hearings, Democrats are highlighting foreign-based money that helped Republicans win the 1994 congressional elections.

In deposition testimony obtained by The Associated Press, a Hong Kong businessman described how he wired \$2.9 million to a U.S. subsidiary and used some of it to make a \$100,000 donation to the Republican Party before returning most of the rest back to Hong Kong after a U.S. business deal fell through.

The first witnesses summoned by Democrats were testifying today, once senators considered whether to defy Justice Department objections and vote to grant immunity to four Buddhist nuns. The limited protection against prosecution would allow them to testify before the Governmental Affairs Committee about a fundraiser at their temple attended by Vice President Al Gore.

Witnesses were being questioned about overseas donations to the National Policy Forum, a GOP think tank started by Haley Barbour in 1993 when he also headed the Republican National Committee. Barbour will likely testify Thursday.

Democrats contend that the policy forum and the RNC were linked so closely that the party itself benefited from donations sent through Taiwan's government; from contributions by an Indonesian businessman with strong ties to China, and a Hong Kong real estate developer.

The Associated Press

obtained portions of the deposition testimony of the Hong Kong developer, Ambrous Tung Young. His contributions became a major source of embarrassment for Republicans in May, when the national party returned \$122,400 of his 1991-93 donations.

And in 1994, his guarantee of a \$2.1 million U.S. bank loan to the GOP think tank has become an embarrassment to Barbour. Most of the money went to the Republican Party to repay a loan, and the party sent it to state GOP organizations around the country, according to committee Democrats.

Young, who was interviewed in London and will not appear in Washington, described how he wired money from Hong Kong to a Coral Gables, Fla., subsidiary that had virtually no assets. He testified he returned most of it to Hong Kong when a U.S. shopping center deal fell through.

Young said a U.S. businessman suggested he use some of the money to join Team 100, the GOP organization for \$100,000-plus contributors.

Young said he asked his business associate, Washington lobbyist and former RNC Chairman Richard Richards, for advice.

"He suggested to go ahead," Young testified. "Remember, we wired \$2.9 (million). I believe we wired back something like \$2.7 because we left some money in the YBD (Young Brothers Development) USA for operational expenses, of which \$100,000 they proceed(ed) with the payment" to the Republicans.

European Union OKs aircraft merger

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The European Union approved "in principle" today the main points of Boeing's \$15 billion merger with McDonnell Douglas, but delayed formal approval of the deal until next week.

The EU's antitrust chief Karel Van Miert said more time was needed to study new concessions from Boeing before granting final approval of the deal.

But he said the formal green light was expected next week following Boeing's last-minute offer to scrap exclusive supply contracts with U.S. airlines that the European's strongly opposed.

"We have reached a satisfactory conclusion with Boeing," Van Miert told reporters.

"I'm confident we'll have a formal decision next week." U.S. officials had warned of a trade battle with Europe if the

EU's executive agency, the European Commission, had voted to outlaw the deal in Europe.

Van Miert said antitrust experts from the 15 EU nations would have to consider the package of changes to the deal that Boeing agreed to Tuesday before formal approval would be granted.

To make the merger palatable to the Europeans, Boeing offered to make a commitment to drop exclusive aspects of long-term contracts signed with three U.S. airlines and a pledge not to negotiate such contracts in the future.

Boeing also agreed to other EU demands, including a pledge to grant competitors access to certain aviation technologies and a legal separation of McDonnell Douglas's civil aircraft business, Douglas Aircraft, from Boeing's own civil unit, Van Miert said.

Until Boeing made the surprise concessions Tuesday, the Commission widely had been expected to outlaw the megamerger as a danger to free competition in the aviation industry and the survival of European plane-making consortium Airbus Industrie.

Officials from France, which had led calls for the commission to take a firm stance, still expressed opposition to the deal today.

"The Americans have made some last-minute concessions, but in my mind they don't go far enough," European Affairs Minister Pierre Moscovici told French radio.

The deal, he said, would "throw up intolerable barriers to competition."

The United States, which earlier approved the deal, had warned it could retaliate with counter sanctions if the EU took action against Boeing.

It reportedly had been considering measures including duties on European aircraft imports and restrictions on flights from Europe.

From Washington, President Clinton and other senior officials tried to resolve the dispute Tuesday with telephone calls to European leaders.

Administration officials said Clinton spoke to Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi and Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker, current chairman of the EU council.

Boeing long has dominated the world's jetliner market.

Last year it took orders for 717 planes, compared with 350 for Airbus and 38 for McDonnell Douglas.

Boeing officials say McDonnell Douglas' small share of the civil aviation market does little to increase the combined company's overall position.

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More than 2,000 UAW workers strike GM plant

DETROIT (AP) — The United Auto Workers went on strike today against General Motors Corp. for the sixth time this year — this walkout at a plant that builds transmissions for most GM vehicles built in North America.

A tentative agreement was reached early today at another key GM parts plant in Indiana, averting a strike that also could have crippled North American production.

At the GM Powertrain Group plant in the Detroit suburb of Warren, 2,800 members of UAW Local 909 went on strike shortly after midnight Tuesday.

The strike could force GM's North American assembly plants to shut down by Friday, according to a company source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We've been at it all day and into the night, but it does not appear that we have made enough progress to avert a strike at this particular moment," UAW spokesman Reg McGhee said early today.

Talks were to resume this morning, GM spokeswoman Christine D'Angela said. "We're going to continue to bargain in good faith toward an agreement that will meet our needs and the needs of our employees."

The Warren plant makes transmissions for several front-wheel drive vehicles, including the hot-selling Pontiac Grand Prix and GM's new generation of minivans. It also produces steel wheels and control arms.

The union is upset over the

No. 1 automaker's plan to transfer wheel-making operations from the Warren plant and replace it with work transferred from the Buick City complex in Flint, Mich., The Oakland Press of Pontiac, Mich., reported Tuesday. GM is expected to announce plans soon to close Buick City, which has no products scheduled after 1999.

At the GM Delphi Interior & Lighting Systems plant in Anderson, Ind., a tentative agreement on a contract covering 2,650 members of UAW Local 663 was announced early today after a strike deadline was extended twice.

"Nobody ever left work or anything," said Fred Haney, a Local 663 trustee. "The shop committee and region worked hard to get this. Everybody's real happy about this."

Issues under negotiation at Anderson included production speedups, workplace safety and numerous individual grievances, but terms of the settlement were not released.

Company officials could not be reached for comment and calls to union officials on when a ratification vote by the rank-and-file would be held went unanswered.

The plant produces brake lights and rear signal lamps. Like the Warren transmission plant, it supplies almost every assembly plant GM operates in North America.

The GM source had said a walkout at Anderson could mean a North American shut-down in less than a week.

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Diplomate, American Board Obstetrics & Gynecology

MASTITIS

Nursing mothers who experience flu-like symptoms along with a red-tened streak on one breast that may be noticeably hotter than the surrounding skin may have mastitis. Other signs of this bacterial infection of the breast include twinges or shooting pains that develop as the baby begins to nurse. Any of these symptoms should prompt nursing mothers to immediately schedule an appointment to be examined. If mastitis is diagnosed, antibiotics may be prescribed. If so, the symptoms may clear up quickly (within 48 hours), but care should be taken to finish the entire course of antibiotics to reduce the risk of recurrence. In the meantime, breast-feeding may continue because regular emptying of the affected breast prevents an abscess.

If you experience any breast discomfort or problems while you are nursing during the post-partum period, even if you are not nursing, please call your obstetrician. Good post-partum care, to ensure the well-being of new moms, is just as important as receiving good prenatal care in the interest of the baby. If you have questions regarding mastitis or are looking for a practice that provides complete OB/GYN services, our office is currently accepting new patients. Call (915) 622-2222 for an appointment. We're located at the Medical Care Plaza, 1300 Gregg Street, every Tuesday, here in Big Spring.

◆ Walt Disney's first attempt at film-making was a failure. He set up his first studio in his garage and struggled to meet his expenses.

◆ Dame Agatha Christie is the world's top selling author of fiction, with her estate generating royalties of \$4.25 million a year.

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

Cruisin'

Farm Bureau sends Luces, Bursons on trip to Russia, Sweden, Denmark

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

When the temperature soars into triple digits next week, and everything seems to wilt, picture the Bursons and Luces.

And just see if you can keep your cool.

The two Big Spring couples will be cruising the Baltic next week, boarding a ship at Helsinki, Finland with stops planned at St. Petersburg, Russia, Stockholm, Sweden and Copenhagen, Denmark.

"We would never have planned a trip like this," said Linda Luce, wife of Brandon Luce, agency manager for Farm Bureau insurance. He and John Burson, an agent for the company, along with Burson's wife, Charlotte, are taking the trip free as a reward from their employer for meeting top sales goals.

The 1997 Round Table Convention, as it is called by the company, is Farm Bureau's reward for its best agents.

"They send you on this trip and just pamper you," explained Mrs. Burson, whose husband has earned two other trips in past years — one to London and another to Hawaii. "It's just wonderful."

But the agents said the

rewards come well-deserved after a year of hard work.

"We work hard to get to do these things," said Mr. Luce. "We work this into our yearly goals and we plan for it."

While on the cruise, the agents said they don't expect to talk "shop" much. In fact, the only official Farm Bureau gathering is a formal gala that requires black tie attire.

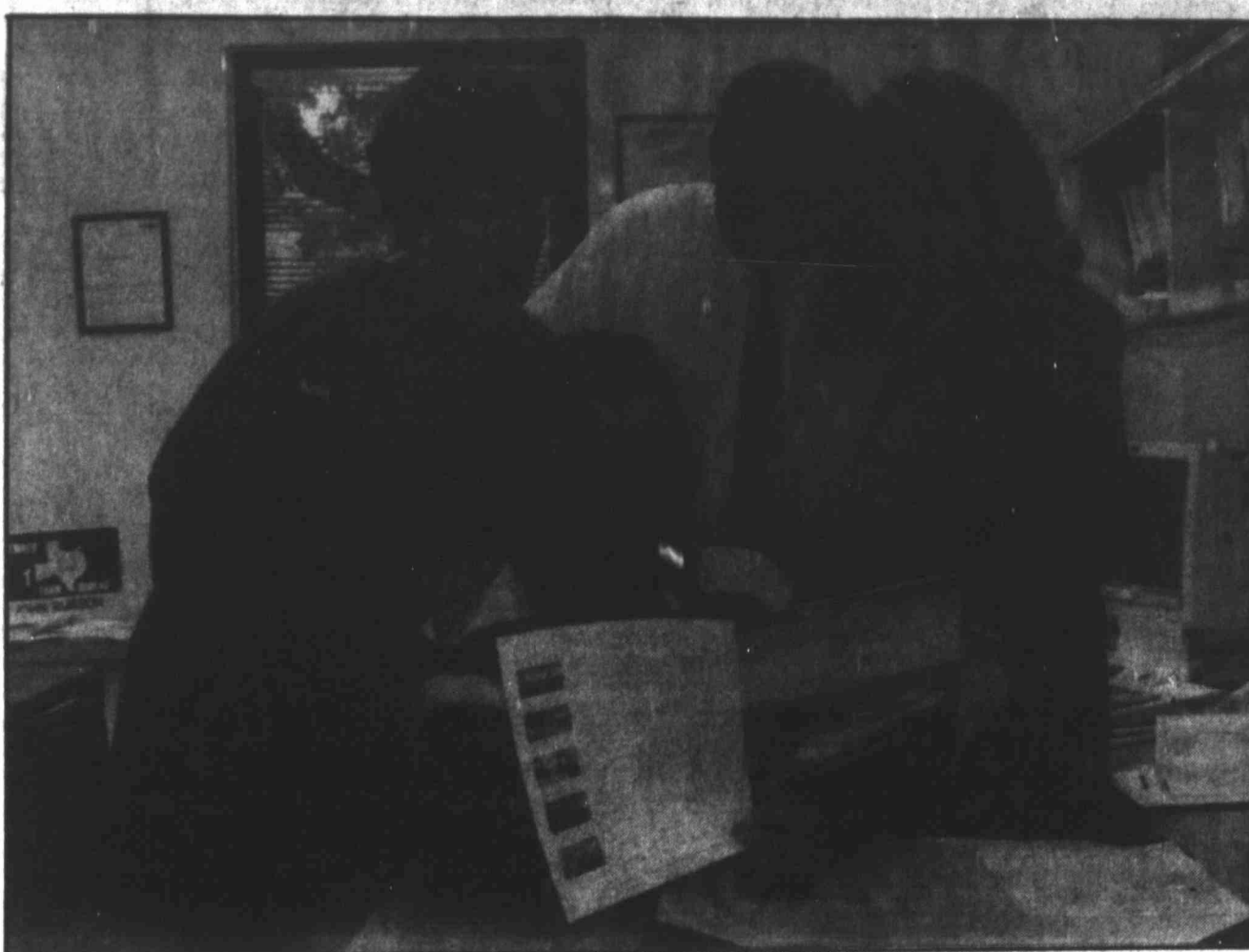
Their are organized tours in each stop, but in most places, the travelers are free to explore on their own if they prefer.

While in Russia, the group has learned they'll be following some pretty unusual — and non-negotiable — restrictions. They must stay with their group at all times, and will be kept under armed guard. They have been told not to drink the water and given restrictions on how much cash they can carry in the country.

The four were also told Farm Bureau has to provide toilet paper for all of its travelers while they are in Russia.

"I can just see us now, touring St. Petersburg in this big group with an armed guard," Mr. Burson said, "and following after us is a case of Charmin."

Sales made during 1996 won Burson and Luce this trip. Now the entire Farm Bureau office



Travelers, from left Charlotte Burson, John Burson, Brandon Luce and Linda Luce, examine a cruise brochure for the trip they will be making next week. Mr. Burson and Mr. Luce earned the trip for meeting top sales goals at Farm Bureau insurance.

is planning for next year's Round Table, a trip to Germany. The local office is said to be one of the top producers in the state.

"We know what it takes to get to do this," Mr. Burson said. "And we get it done."

Mrs. Luce said the trips can be a reward for the spouses of agents, as well, since agents can work a lot of late hours trying to meet sales quotas.

The sights will be wonderful, the food all-you-can-eat and the expenses paid, but the four are

looking forward to something else they couldn't hope to get in Big Spring during the next week.

"We've heard the high (temperatures) will be in the 70s," Mr. Burson said, "and the lows in the 40s and 50s."

Fun in sun calls for care

Use sunscreen, teach children skin safety

Along with summer come more outside activities; swimming, camping, playing baseball and working in the garden. While sun safety is important any time of the year, awareness of the sun and its harmful effects become heightened during these few months we spend playing in the sun.

Skin cancer has become the most common type of cancer in the United States. Statistics show that one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. Living in a sunbelt state such as Texas increases risk to one in three. Certain risk factors for developing skin cancer such as light, fair skin, blonde or red hair, tendency to freckle in the sun and family history of skin cancer are beyond one's control. However, controlling the amount of sun exposure, especially before age 18, and avoiding blistering sunburns is especially important.

Melanoma is the most serious skin cancer, and incidence is increasing 5 percent each year.

If not detected early, melanoma can spread quickly to other parts of the body. Only lung cancer is more deadly. Sun exposure is the only risk factor for melanoma that can be avoided.

Children, teens and their parents must take precautions to lower the risk of skin cancer by reducing sun exposure. If possible, limit the amount of time exposed to the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., since this is when the sun's rays are especially harmful.

Wear protective clothing and sunscreen of at least 15 SPF. Apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours especially if swimming or perspiring. Wear a hat that shades face, tops of ears and back of the neck.

Remember that cloudy days do not provide any added protection, because 80 percent of the sun's rays will come through light clouds. Protect your skin even when under an umbrella, canopy or awning — the sun's rays that reflect off concrete and the sand are just as damaging as direct rays.

To catch problems early, examine skin regularly for moles, dark patches or long lasting, pearly-looking bumps. Pay particular attention to the face, neck ears and arms where sun exposure tends to be the greatest. Promptly report any suspicious areas to your health professional.

Parents, teach your children by being a good example. Practice preventative sun protection habits yourself and these habits will carry over to your children.



Dana Tarter
Extension Agent

Rural docs plug into telemedicine

ALPINE (AP) — Dr. James Luecke approaches his young patient with a long, antenna-like instrument, provoking a fearful grimace.

"It won't hurt. I'm not going to touch you," he reassures the boy on the metal gurney.

Anticipating pain anyway, 8-year-old Jake Shoemaker tenses his body. But the doctor is telling the truth, the odd camera with the prongs standing out from the front never touches the boy's burned inner thigh.

It isn't necessary since all Luecke is trying to do is transmit a live picture of Jake's raw, red skin back to a burn specialist 250 miles away.

The distant doctor watches the examination on a video monitor at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center in Lubbock. His own intent face is visible on a monitor in the emergency room where Jake is being examined.

The effect is that of a disembodied head looking over Luecke's shoulder, which in a sense is exactly what's going on.

Luecke is using the TeleDoc telemedicine equipment at Big

Bend Regional Medical Center to hook up with another doctor who can evaluate his treatment of Jake's burns and make suggestions for further care.

"It's just a valuable weapon in your arsenal," Luecke said later. "Especially out here, you can get yourself in some pretty tight binds and you feel pretty alone."

Since being installed in 1990, the system has often proved invaluable to Luecke, one of only four doctors serving the Big Bend region, a 16,000-square-mile area larger than Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island combined.

The local doctors can almost literally just flick a switch and consult with authorities in just about any medical field thanks to the two-way TV equipment and the cooperation of Texas Tech's complement of physicians.

Before the advent of the university's telemedicine program, called HealthNet, patients had to take tiring roadtrips to see a specialist, or their doctors would consult other physicians over the phone, not always an ideal situation.

Even getting to the sole local hospital is a burden for some because of the distances between the small towns scattered throughout the area.

Jake's mother, Jenni Shoemaker of Alpine, said she was grateful HealthNet allowed her son to be treated in town after a firework exploded near his groin.

It also made her feel better to have another physician second her doctor's decisions.

"They (local doctors) have been right," Mrs. Shoemaker said. "But sometimes it helps to hear from a specialist."

But telemedicine is about more than just convenience.

The use of distance technology is growing worldwide, with Texas being a leader in this country, because it can save money while bringing medical care to those who might not otherwise receive it.

"We now have the capability to electronically transport a medical specialist from any place in the world to any other location," said Dr. Jay Sanders, president of the American Telemedicine Association.

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAY

•Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615 Settles.

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.

•TOPS Club (Take off pound sensibly), weigh-in 5:30 to 6 p.m., Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th, meeting starts at 6 p.m. Call 263-1340 or 263-8633.

•Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates/times of upcoming groups.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

•Encouragers Support Group (formerly Widow/Widower support group) first and third Mondays each month. First Monday meetings are at a local restaurant at 6 p.m. Third Monday meetings are at 5:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church Seventh and Runnels (enter through north door). We have various activities, such as guest speakers, play games, have covered dish supper, visit or go out to eat. For more information call 398-5522 or 399-4369.

•Big Spring Group of Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

•Alzheimer's Association support group, 7 p.m., Marcy House on Wasson Road, second Monday.

•Parents of Special Children will meet on June 23 at 7 p.m. in the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad. Free child care provided by the church for this meeting. The subject will be about how to be an effective advocate for my special child.

TUESDAY

•Support for MS and Related Diseases, 6:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Canterbury South. Public invited. Call Leslie, 267-1069.

•Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

•Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury

South. Call 263-1265.

•Compassionate Friends support group for parents who have experienced death of a child, 7:30 p.m. first Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December in the Family Life Center Building, First Baptist Church, 705 West Marcy. Enter by southeast door. Call 267-2769.

•Cancer support group, first Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077.

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

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. closed meeting.

•Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 319 Runnels. For more information call Shannon Nabors at 263-0027.

•The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 409 Runnels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220

•Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients at the First Christian Church. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

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

WEDNESDAY

•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Please see SUPPORT, page 8A.

Gardening? Just use your mouse

POUND RIDGE, N.Y. (AP) — Can a gardener get help online? Definitely, and there are various ways to go.

The burgeoning World Wide Web can be fun, but also pesky and time-consuming. Expect a lot of mouse work before hitting pay dirt. Information services such as CompuServe and America Online usually get answers much faster through their gardening bulletin boards.

You post a question on the bulletin board, and the answers come from fellow members, sometimes in a matter of hours.

The gardening forum on CompuServe, to which I subscribe, is run by the National Gardening Association. Over the years, I've always had pertinent answers to queries I've posted. The forum has a substantial library of gardening articles and you can also participate in online conferences.

The Web is something else. For your search, one way to go is just to submit a word, say broccoli, to one of the search engines, such as www.altavista.digital.com. The number of home pages with

links to broccoli that are offered is staggering and can lead you on intriguing and novel journeys.

Fortunately, sites exist that put some measure of order in an otherwise grab-bag situation. One of the best is the Garden Gate (<http://www.prairienet.org/garden-gate>).

The Gardening Launch Pad (<http://www.tpoint.net/neighbor/>) provides links to other gardeners who may be able to answer your questions in bulletin board fashion.

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TIPS FOR LIVING

Vacation check list

(NAPS) — Before you go away for any extended period of time, check out this handy reference list from the experts at Kampgrounds of America (KOA).

1. Make sure your car is in good working order. Check brakes, fluids, windshield wipers and belts. You can't be prepared for any emergency, but check what you can.
2. Call ahead for reservations. Don't rely on drop-in visits, even when camping.
3. Put a stop order on your mail. Fill out a postcard at the post office and have mail delivery stopped while you are gone. Ask the newspaper to hold delivery as well.
4. Check your vacation gear before you leave. Fishing rods, day packs, sports equipment and supplies that have not been used in a while may need some adjustments, or even replacing, before you can do your favorite leisure activities.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Cowboy music, poetry

Brownfield's Rialto Theatre will host an evening of cowboy music and poetry at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Admission is \$3 per person.

Paul Davidson and Andy Hedges will perform. The event is part of a renovation project for the theater, which is located at 408 W. Main in downtown Brownfield.

Summer festival Saturday

St. Joseph's Annual Summer Festival, 108 S. Fourth, Coahoma, will be Saturday. There will be games, fun, rides, music, food booths, cake walk, bingo, prizes and more. There will also be a Mexican dinner at noon.

THE LAST WORD

Those who are of the opinion that money will do everything may very well be expected to do everything for money.

Lord Halifax

A lot of parents pack up their troubles and send them to summer camp.

Raymond Duncan

God works in moments.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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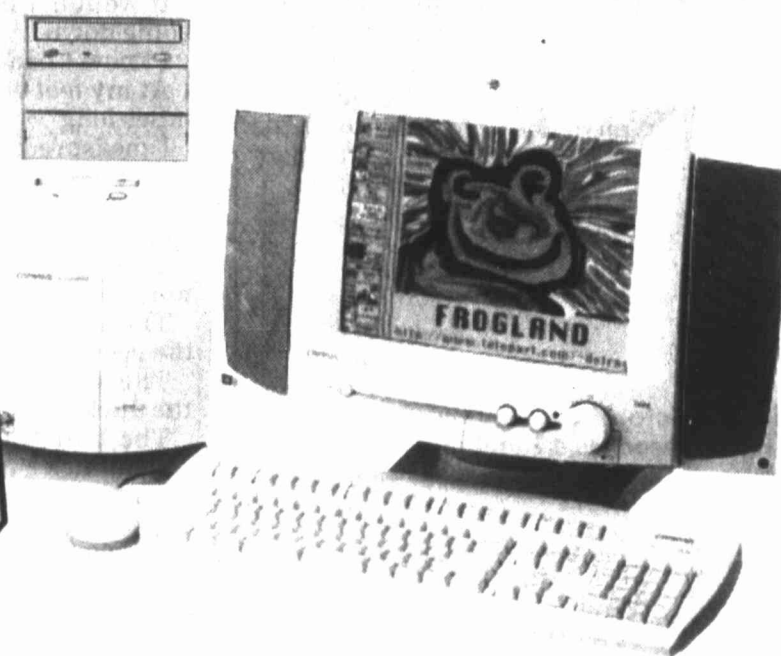
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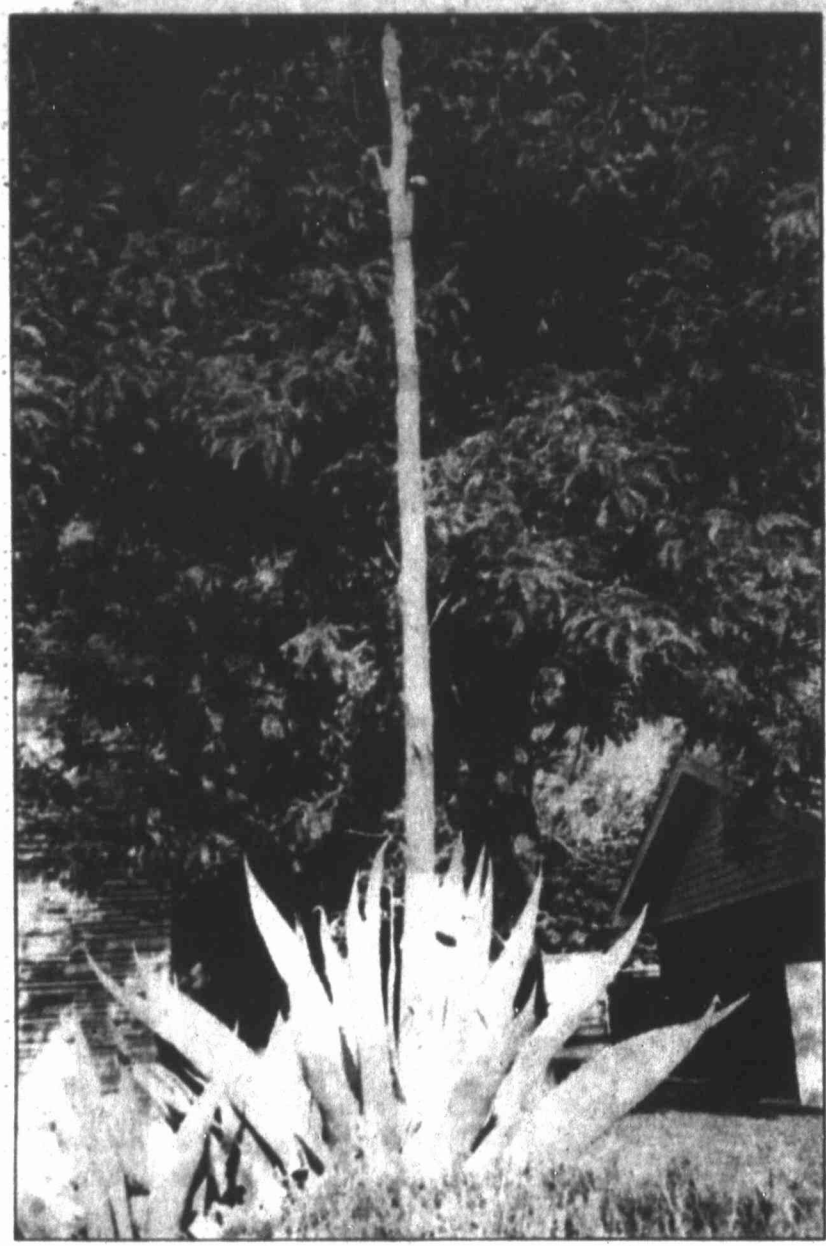
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CENTURY AT ITS PEAK



COURTESY photo
Sig Rogers submitted this photo of his century plant earlier this summer. He wrote that it reached 12 feet in height.

A Hunters Dream
By: Sig Rogers
I wanted to go hunting
I wanted to find a bear
and that would really be
some, um
But someone had already
been there
So I settled for anything I
could find
So I grabbed my ole trusty
shot gun
and started looking for signs
I walked, walked and walked
But nothing I could find
That looked like a rabbit,
a bird, bear, deer of any kind.
I sat down at the edge of the
creek
I set down and fell asleep
I dreamed I heard a noise to
my right
10,000 geese it was a sight
I pulled to shoot
An other noise to my left to
boot
10,000 ducks on a roost
so I pulled to shoot.
Across the creek a 10-point
deer
I started shaking with fear
Now this is hunting you can
bet
But you haven't hear nothing
yet.
It wouldn't be long the sun is
going down
I knew I had to shoot or scoot
At my feet was a moccasin, 10
miles long
I measured him I couldn't be
wrong
This is it so I bit my lip
and I pulled
The gun exploded and I
unloaded
The right hand barrel killed
the geese
The left hand barrel killed
the ducks
The bullet killed the buck, I
was in luck
As the ram rod killed the
snake, kicked me back on
10,000 Jack rabbits and I
smothered everyone.

Splendid in the a.m.
With the bright and morning
stars
Spectacular in the p.m.
With the full moon and red
planet mars.

They say its made of chunks
of ice,
I wonder how they know,
Regardless its been very nice
This Hale-Bopp Comet show.
By: Ramona Harris

Tullie-Lingo'
I once knew a cowboy
from old Mexico
he came from the border to
Tullie-Lingo.

So dark and so handsome
and I called him Joe
we sat by the river
singing, Tullie-Lingo.

He brought me a lizard
with a tail, oh, so long
the lizard he like
my 'ole Tullie songs

The lizard like chilli
and he like it hot
he thought Tullie-Lingo
a beautiful spot.

Sometime he dance
and he drank tequila
I pick my banjo,
singing, Tullie-la-lo.

But Joe had to go
back to old Mexico
and he left the lizard
in Tullie-Lingo.

Now me and the lizard
we dance all around
He like to live here
in 'ole Tullie-town
Down by the river,
I pick my banjo
he dance when I sing,
Tullie-Lingo:
Tullie-Lingo-La-Lo.

By: Bernice Jones

The Shadow of Me
I'm just a shadow
of the self
I keep inside
of me,
A fleeting apparition
of a being
no one can see.
But if I were
to let the world
know the real me,
The hurt I've felt
the sorrow, too
Would be there for all to see.
So I remain a shadow-
it's the safest way
to be-
Protecting from
the world's eyes
The self inside of me.
By: Clara Justice

light rain falling down
young girls crying
old man laughing loud
what is happening
what is happening now
i see not
i hear not
i know not why
i take not
i give not
i know not why
fear is fleeing
people kneeling today
faith is healing
love is leading our way
i see not i hear not i know
not i fear not why not why not

I know not why
bright sun shining
bright sun shining

bright sun shining
light rain falling down
By: Joshua Caleb Peters

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| '96 Chevy Corsica Auto, power locks, am/fm cassette. NOW \$9488 \$219 per mo. (E) S#K#P119 | '94 Plymouth Laser Auto, am/fm cassette NOW \$7988 \$249 per mo. (C) S#K#C-129A | '92 Dodge Shadow ES 4 door, V6, auto, a/c, am/fm cassette. NOW \$7988 \$249 per mo. (C) S#K#T-21X |
| '96 Olds Achieva V6, auto, all power, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette. NOW \$10,988 \$249 per mo. (E) S#K#U109 | '97 Dodge Neon 5 speed, am/fm cassette, a/c. NOW \$10,988 \$249 per mo. (E) S#K#T-125A | '91 Mitsubishi Eclipse 16V turbo, all wheel drive. NOW \$7488 \$259 per mo. (D) S#K#C-101A |
| '96 Ford Contour Auto, all power, tilt, cruise, cassette. NOW \$11,988 \$269 per mo. (E) S#K#U114 | '96 Plymouth Breeze All power, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette. NOW \$12,988 \$289 per mo. (E) S#K#U117 | '96 Olds Cutlass V6, all power, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette. NOW \$12,988 \$289 per mo. (E) S#K#P101 |
| '95 Mitsubishi Galant V6, auto, all power, spoiler NOW \$11,988 \$299 per mo. (A) S#K#T-164A | '96 Mercury Cougar XR7 Auto, all power, am/fm cassette, a/c NOW \$13,988 \$319 per mo. (E) S#K#P116 | '95 Dodge Dakota Ext. Cab Auto, power windows & locks, tilt, cruise. NOW \$13,988 \$319 per mo. (E) S#K#T-199A |
| '95 Plymouth Voyager V6, auto, am/fm cassette, tilt, cruise NOW \$12,988 \$329 per mo. (A) S#K#P110 | '97 Jeep Wrangler 4x4, auto, a/c, am/fm cassette, soft top NOW \$15,988 \$339 per mo. (F) S#K#U104 | '95 Chrysler LeBaron Convertible, V6, auto, all power, tilt, cruise, cassette. NOW \$13,988 \$349 per mo. (A) S#K#P112 |
| '96 Ford Windstar GL V6, auto, all power, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette NOW \$16,988 \$379 per mo. (E) S#K#P114 | '94 Jeep Wrangler 31,000 miles, 6 cyl, a/c, 5 speed NOW \$14,988 \$399 per mo. (B) S#K#C-127A | '94 Chevy S-10 Blazer 4x4, power windows, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette. NOW \$14,988 \$409 per mo. (B) S#K#T161A |
| '94 GMC Truck SLE, auto, all power, LMB, tilt, cruise NOW \$16,988 \$459 per mo. (B) S#K#U125 | '97 Jeep Grand Cherokee Power windows & locks, am/fm cassette, tilt, cruise NOW \$22,988 \$479 per mo. (F) S#K#T121A | '90 Ford Crown Victoria LX, power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, electric seats, one owner, 33,500 miles. \$6988 S#K#T-196A |
| '97 Dodge Neon 1100 miles, 4 cylinder, 5 speed. \$10,988 S#K#T-125A | '97 Dodge Dakota 850 miles, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, a/c \$11,988 S#K#T-154A | '94 Jeep Wrangler 8 cyl, 5 speed, a/c Like new. \$13,988 S#K#C-127A |
| '95 Dodge Dakota SLT Power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette. \$13,988 S#K#T-193A | '95 Dodge 2500 Ext. Cab 4x4, SLT, power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, am/fm cassette, 11,400 miles. \$22,988 S#K#T-169A | (A) 54 mos. @ 13.5% APR. (B) 48 mos. @ 13.5% APR. (C) 42 mos. @ 14.9% APR. (D) 36 mos. @ 14.9% APR. (E) 30 mos. @ 11.9% APR. (F) 60 mos. @ 11.9% APR. *Down payment, \$500 down with approved credit plus T.T.A.L. All vehicles subject to prior sale. Expires 7/31/97 |

SUPPORT

Continued from page 6A.

Settles, noon open meeting and
8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

•Samaritan Counseling
Center of West Texas will have
Sharon Beam, who is a licensed
professional counselor interim
specializing in play therapy for
children, adolescent counseling
and women's issues, available
for clients at the First
Presbyterian Church, Runnels
and Eighth St. Appointments
for counseling services are
made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

THURSDAY
•Salvation Army drug educa-
tion program, sponsored by
Permian Basin Regional
Council on Alcohol and Drug
Abuse, 7 p.m., Salvation Army
building, 308 Aylford.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615
Settles, noon open meeting.

•A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit sup-
port and learning organization
about attention deficit disorder,
learning disorders and dyslex-
ia. Meets second Thursday of
September, October, November,
January, February, March,
April and May, Cerebral Palsy
building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

•Grief Support related to the
death of a loved one. Call
Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-
6523.

•Alzheimer's Association
Support Group, fourth
Thursday of the month,
Comanche Trail Nursing
Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30

p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal
Church, 10th and Goliad. Open
to all substance abusers.

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

SATURDAY

•Alzheimer's Association
Support Group, second
Saturday of the month,
Carriage Inn Retirement
Center, 501 W. 17th, 10 a.m.

•Family support group for
current and former patients
and their families, 1 p.m. week-
ly, Reflections Unit of Scenic
Mountain Medical Center, Call,
Beverly Grant, 263-0074.

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

•"So I Forget," Attention
Deficit Disorder support group
for individuals and couples,
first Saturday of the month
from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Samaritan
Counseling Center of West
Texas, Inc., Midland. Call the
center at (915) 563-4144 or 1-800-
329-4144. Cost is \$15.

•West Texans Living with
Chronic Fatigue & Immune
Dysfunction
Syndrome/Fibromyalgia, 1-3
p.m., on different Saturdays
of the month, HealthSouth facili-
ty at Hwy. 191 and Loop 250,
Midland. Call Joann Carney,
(915) 686-7977, or Marsha
Brunet, (915) 337-4829 to get the
correct meeting date.

SUNDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615
Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting
and 7 p.m. open meeting.

Comet Viewing

I got up early, early last week
It was way before sunrise
I went out in the yard to see
it
Up high in the Eastern sky.

I was glad that I could find it
Way up in the morning sky
Since I'd never seen one
before
Except on the Fourth of July.

We saw it again that evening
This time using a scope
It looked like a noon snowball
With neon beaded ropes.

The Wind and I

The wind blows through the
pine trees
and chills me to the bone;
It echoes how I've felt inside
each day since you've been
gone.

It seems to me it's crying
as I too, want to cry -
We share a kindred spirit
the lonesome wind and I.
The wind which blows can
not return
to where it used to be;
I can't go back to yesterday
when you were here with me.
By: Clara Justice

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Got a story idea or a sports news tip?

Call Sports,
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Abilene Juniors bring close to Big Spring AL Blue run

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

ABILENE — There was no story-book ending.

Big Spring American's "too good to be true" run in the Junior League playoffs came to an abrupt halt Tuesday, as Abilene Junior's hitting one again proved too much in an 11-1 sectional tournament championship win.

"We simply got beat by a better baseball team ... an awfully good one," Big Spring manager Delvin Guinn said following the loss. "They hit the ball so well, it's going to take tremendous

pitching to shut them down. We hope they go on and win it all."

In fact, it was Abilene's hitting in the top of the first that seemed to bode no good for Big Spring starter Steven Franco, who had entered the game with a 3-0 record through district and sub-sectional play.

The first three batters Franco faced came up with singles, and when first baseman Scott Foreman hit a one-out shot to center field, Abilene had all the runs it would need with a 3-0 lead.

Abilene added another run in the fourth inning, while pitching ace Kurtis Lay kept Big Spring in check until the fifth inning.

Shortstop Willis Morrison scored the Blue All-Stars' only run, ripping a two-out triple to the corner in right field and scoring when Abilene second baseman Brian Holamon was unable to cleanly field a Franco grounder.

But it was a towering shot off the bat of Dusty Floyd that hit the top of the 20-foot fence in dead center field and bounced back into play, leaving the Big Spring first baseman with nothing more than a single, that left Guinn shaking his head.

"You just know it isn't your night when Dusty hits a shot like that in the sixth, winds up with a single and then gets forced out at second a couple of

minutes later ... then their guy stands up there and hits a three-run shot that just barely clears the fence in the same place," Guinn said.

Going into the seventh inning, Franco had limited the host team to just six hits. But the dam broke in that final frame, as Abilene began to hit him and hit him hard.

He would face five batters in the top of the seventh without retiring a single — giving up two singles, a walk, a double and Joel Wells' home run.

Franco was replaced by Ryan Guinn, who finally got the bleeding stopped, but not without surrendering two more runs on three more Abilene hits.

Lay, who was somewhat workman-like at the plate with a 2-for-4 showing and three runs batted in, sparked on the mound. He allowed just five Big Spring hits, walked just three and struck out seven in going the distance.

Big Spring was not without its defensive gems, however, as Tye Butler — playing at the unusual position at third base — almost single-handedly snuffed out potential Abilene rallies in the third and fourth innings, ending both opportunities for the hosts by snaring hard-hit grounders, forcing runners at third and then throwing to second for the double play.

GETTING READY FOR WEEKEND



Mike Reid of Big Spring makes a few last-minute adjustments to his boat in preparation for this weekend's second annual Duel in the Desert at Moss Lake. The event, sanctioned by the Southern Drag Boat Association, is expected to draw approximately 100 boats from several states competing in 19 classes. Qualifying is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, with eliminations beginning at noon Sunday.

HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

Palmeiro powers Orioles' payback to Rangers for '96

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON — The Texas Rangers should consider this payback.

Jeffrey Hammonds tied a career high with four hits and Rafael Palmeiro had a two-run homer and three RBIs as the Orioles beat the Rangers for the sixth time in seven games this season, 9-3 on Tuesday night.

The Orioles lost 10 of 13 meetings with the Rangers last season.

"We wanted to get even," Orioles manager Davey Johnson, a native Texan, said. "I don't like to lose here. When I managed in the National League, I didn't like losing in Houston. Of course I don't like losing anywhere."

Johnson has made changes in his lineup, and he likes the way it is performing with Roberto Alomar leading off, Hammonds hitting second and Brady Anderson moving from the leadoff spot to No. 4 for the first time in his career.

Anderson responded with three hits Tuesday night, including a three-run sixth-inning double.

"My lineup worked," Johnson said. "I think everybody kind of liked it. Definitely, a lot of good things happened. Jeffrey seems to be liking it."

Hammonds has hit safety in eight of the last nine games and had his 21st multi-hit game of the season.

"I feel very confident at the plate," Hammonds said. "Hitting between those two guys, you're going to get a lot of good pitches to hit. There are worse places to be. I do what I'm told to do, which is to bat second."

Geronimo Berroa also had three hits as Baltimore had 16 hits against Texas.

Palmeiro has four homers and 12 RBIs in seven games this season against his former team, and 11 homers and 32 RBIs for his career. Palmeiro also homered Monday night.

Scott Erickson (12-5) allowed nine hits in 5 1-3 innings for the Orioles to earn the victory.

"It was like the old football term, bend but don't break," Erickson said. "I had a lot of runners on base, but I was able to get out of most of those situations."

The Rangers have lost five of six and seven of nine to fall to four games under .500 (47-51) for the first time since May 14, 1995.

Palmeiro had a two-run homer against Texas for the second consecutive game when

Please see RANGERS, page 2B

Rockies' power pays off, Griffey still at 30

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

That Colorado power finally paid off. The Rockies had 11 runs and 19 hits, yet still needed 12 innings and a dramatic home run Tuesday night to win for just the third time in 19 games in July.

The Rockies, whose midsummer slump has dropped them into last place in the NL West, beat the Montreal Expos 11-9 on Vinny Castilla's second homer of the game, a two-run, two-out shot in the 12th.

Fortunately for Colorado, manager Don Baylor decided not to rest Castilla, who had a swollen left elbow after getting hit with a pitch Monday night.

Instead, Castilla had the first five-hit game of his career, going 5-for-7 with four RBIs, including his 26th and 27th homers.

"Last night I was so sore I couldn't bend my arm. I couldn't tip my cap," Castilla said. "I came early today for ice. I got good treatment and I felt pretty good."

It was Castilla's 13th multihomer game of his career and his second in four days. The game-winner came off Dave Veres (2-3).

"It never fails," Rockies manager Don Baylor said. "A guy might want to take himself out of a game, then he goes 5-for-7 with two home runs. You have to play to get those numbers. You can't do it sitting on the bench."

Elsewhere in the NL, it was Atlanta 4,

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Chicago Cubs 1 in the first game of a doubleheader and Cubs 5, Atlanta 4 in the second game; Cincinnati 7, Florida 6; Houston 4, St. Louis 2; Los Angeles 8, the New York Mets 3; San Diego 3, Pittsburgh 2; and San Francisco 8, Philadelphia 5.

In American League games, Cleveland beat Seattle 6-2, Baltimore beat Texas 9-3, New York routed Anaheim 9-2, Boston beat Oakland 4-3, Detroit beat Chicago 6-3, Toronto beat Milwaukee 5-2 and Minnesota beat Kansas City 3-2.

Trailing 9-7, the Expos tied it in the eighth on Darrin Fletcher's two-out homer off Jeff McCurry and Mike Lansing's infield single with the bases loaded, his fourth hit of the game.

Steve Reed (2-4) allowed one hit and one walk in three innings for the victory. He allowed the winning run to reach second in the 11th, but retired Lansing and Henry Rodriguez to escape the jam.

"I had one of the hits that helped tie the game," Lansing said. "But I'm more disappointed that I had a chance to win it in my last at-bat and didn't come through."

Castilla hit his 26th homer and added an RBI single in Colorado's four-run third, and Harvey Pulliam recorded his first

career four-hit game. Andres Galarraga had three hits and Kirt Manwaring two RBIs for the Rockies.

Larry Walker, who leads the majors with a .392 batting average, popped out in the ninth inning and walked in the 11th after entering the game in the eighth. He didn't start because of a sore right knee.

Dodgers 8, Mets 3

Los Angeles snapped New York's five-game winning streak as Raul Mondesi, Tom Prince and Billy Ashley homered and Tripp Cromer added a three-run double at Dodger Stadium.

Tom Candiotti (6-3) won despite allowing Mets homers by Butch Huskey, Carlos Baerga and Edgardo Alfonzo.

Giants 8, Phillies 5

Jeff Kent put San Francisco ahead in the seventh with his second two-run homer of the game, and J.T. Snow added a three-run shot later in the inning.

Jerry Spradlin (1-6), who failed to retire any of the four batters he faced, gave up Kent's go-ahead homer, his 22nd of the season and 100th of his career.

Mark Gardner (11-4) won his third straight decision, giving up four runs and seven hits in seven innings. Rod Beck got

Please see ROUNDUP, page 2B

OU-Texas stays in Dallas

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFTON, Okla. — Count the University of Oklahoma athletic director among those who are happy that OU regents have decided to keep the Sooners' annual football game with Texas in Dallas until at least 2006.

"I'm excited about it," OU athletic director Steve Owens said Tuesday. "Of all the games I remember playing in Oklahoma, that OU-Texas game, in Dallas, around the fair, was not just a football game, it was a big event. I've seen in surveys in regard to great rivalries that show the OU-Texas game at the Cotton Bowl is at the top."

The 10-year extension, which was approved Tuesday and includes options to terminate the agreement after 1999 and 2002, would also allow Cotton Bowl officials to secure more sponsors for the contest.

OU officials said corporate sponsorship resulted in a payment to each school of more than \$100,000 last year.

University surveys have shown that 80 percent of the game's supporters want the 67-year tradition to continue at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas. But some people, citing the game's economic impact, had pushed for the game to be held in Norman and Austin, Texas, on a home-and-home basis.

SPORTS BRIEFS

From staff and wire reports

Duel in the Desert set at Moss Lake

The second annual Duel in the Desert drag boat races are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at Moss Lake.

Sanctioned by the Southern Drag Boat Association, Duel in the Desert is expected to draw more than 100 boats which will race in 16 different classes.

Qualifying will begin at 7 a.m. Saturday and continue until 6 p.m. Elimination runs will commence at noon Sunday and continue until champions are named in each of the event's classifications.

A two-day pass for the event are priced at \$12 each. Purchased individually, the weekend's tickets would be \$15, since Saturday's racing is priced at \$5 and Sunday's eliminations ticket running \$10.

Sands PTO slates basketball tourney

The Sands Parent-Teacher Organization will host a junior high and high school girls' basketball tournament July 24-26 in the Sands High School gymnasium in Ackerly.

Teams from Stanton, Snyder, Coahoma, Shallowater, Robert Lee, Colorado City, Denver City and Sands will be competing.

Thursday and Friday schedules call for games to begin at 10 a.m. and continue through 9 p.m. Saturday's games are slated from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Crossroads Summer League results

Stanton knocked off Big Spring II in a low-scoring 17-6 affair in junior division Crossroads Summer Girls' Basketball League play Monday, while Big Spring I managed a forfeit win over Forsan.

Monday's nightcap was the marquee game, however, and lived up to its billing as Sands I took a 36-34 win over Big Spring, taking sole position of first place in the senior division standings with an unblemished 9-0 record.

Big Spring falls to 8-1 and second place, but still holds a two-game lead over Coahoma's third-place team, which dropped a 33-31 loss to Grady Monday.

In the evening's other senior division game, Stanton received a forfeit win over Forsan.

Thursday's schedule calls for Greenwood to play Forsan in junior division play at 5:30 p.m.,

while Big Spring I and Big Spring II square off in the 6:30 junior division game.

Greenwood and Forsan will open the senior division slate at 7:30, followed by Stanton and Garden City at 8:30 and Coahoma and Sterling City closing out the schedule at 9:30.

Hunting permit applications accepted

Applications for public hunting permits on O.H. Ivie Reservoir Wildlife Management Areas are being accepted by mail beginning July 15 and continuing through Aug. 15 at the O.H. Ivie Reservoir Field Office.

Applications will be accepted by mail only. The number of permits issued will be limited, and requests for information and application packets should be made by calling the Colorado River Municipal Water District by calling 267-6341 or writing to CRMWD, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

A public drawing for the permits has been scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sept. 17 at the field office located near the north end of the dam. Applicants are welcome to attend the drawing if they so desire.

For the 1997 season, only archery hunting will

be allowed during both the archery and gun season on the Talpa WMA.

Both shotgun and archery hunting will be permitted on the Riverside WMA, but only during the gun season, Nov. 1 through Jan. 4.

Volleyball camp set for July 28-Aug. 2

The Rose Magers Volleyball Camp has been scheduled for July 28-Aug. 2 at Big Spring High School's Steer Gymnasium.

Registration forms are available at Athletic Supply and at Neals Sporting Goods. The fee for registering is \$75 per participant.

The camp will be structured with girls of different ages taking part in different sessions. Seventh through ninth graders will attend 8 a.m. until noon sessions, while fifth and sixth graders will have a session from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Junior varsity and varsity players will attend sessions from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

For additional information, contact coach Traci Pierce at 267-4047. Registration forms should be mailed with fee payments to 2711 Rebecca, Big Spring, Texas 79720 not later than July 24. Registrations received after July 24 will require a late fee of \$10.

ROUNDUP

Continued from page 1B

one out for his major league-leading 31st save for the Giants, who have won six straight home games.

Padres 3, Pirates 2

Greg Vaughn, who homered in the eighth inning as a pinch-hitter, won it with a bases-loaded infield single, capping a two-run ninth off Rich Loiselle (1-2).

Trevor Hoffman (4-4) pitched one-third of an inning for the victory, the Padres' sixth in seven games.

Francisco Cordova, just 10 days after taking part in the first combined extra-inning no-hitter in major league history, allowed four hits and no runs in 7 1-3 innings, but the visiting Pirates couldn't hold a 2-0 lead.

Astros 4, Cardinals 2

Mike Hampton broke a tie with a two-run single in a four-run fifth as Houston improved to 9-3 since the All-Star break with a victory at St. Louis.

Hampton allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings, and Billy Wagner pitched a perfect ninth for his 18th save for the Astros, 6-2 against the Cardinals this season after going 2-11 against them last year.

Andy Benes (6-5) started with four perfect innings before allowing four runs in the fifth.

Braves 4, Cubs 1
Cubs 5, Braves 4

Greg Maddux needed just 78 pitches — the fewest in a complete game in nearly seven years — to win the first game at Chicago.

The Cubs won the second game by scoring the go-ahead run in the eighth on consecutive errors by shortstop Jeff Blauser and third baseman Chipper Jones.

Maddux (14-3) pitched a five-hitter, needing just 2 hours, 7 minutes to become the NL's first 14-game winner. His pitch total, according to Stats Inc., was the lowest in a major league complete game since 1990, when Bob Tewksbury threw 76 for St. Louis against Cincinnati.

Kent Bottenfield (2-2) won the second game despite allowing the second of two homers by Andrew Jones.

Reds 7, Marlins 6

At Cincinnati, Reggie Sanders returned from a two-month stay on the disabled list by hitting a pair of homers and driving in three runs.

Mike Kelly and Bret Boone also homered as the Reds stopped a four-game losing streak.

John Smiley (9-10) gave up three runs and five hits in seven innings to win his fourth consecutive start.

Indians 6, Mariners 2

Ken Griffey hasn't homered in 12 games and sounds a little cranky.

At Cleveland, the Mariners remained a half-game ahead of Anaheim in the AL West despite the loss.

David Justice put Cleveland ahead 4-2 in the sixth with a two-run homer off Jeff Fassero (8-6), who allowed five runs — four earned — and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings.

David Weathers (1-1) pitched two scoreless innings for his first victory since Cleveland acquired him from the Yankees on June 9. Mike Jackson got five outs for his 14th save.

RANGERS

Continued from page 1B

his 20th homer gave the Orioles a 2-0 first-inning lead. Hammonds was on base with a double to set the stage for Palmeiro, whose two-run shot in the sixth Monday put Baltimore ahead for good in a 5-1 victory.

The Orioles knocked out John Burkett (7-9) with a four-run second. Roberto Alomar, Hammonds and Cal Ripken had RBI singles and Palmeiro added a sacrifice fly as Baltimore built a 6-0 lead.

"When you're struggling and you're down 6-0 before you can turn around, it makes for a long night," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said.

Orel Hershiser held Seattle hitless for 4 2-3 innings before allowing consecutive homers to Russ Davis and Jose Cruz Jr. and leaving after five innings with a strained right groin.

"We have so many people hurt right now, it wouldn't be too smart on my part to push it," Hershiser said.

Yankees 9, Angels 2

David Cone (11-4) allowed five hits in 7 2-3 shutout innings, sending visiting Anaheim to just its second loss in 14 games.

Pat Kelly hit a three-run homer and Paul O'Neill added a

solo shot as the consecutive homers helped the Yankees build a 9-0 lead after five innings.

Dennis Springer (5-4) was rocked for nine runs and eight hits in four innings.

Red Sox 4, Athletics 3

Jeff Frye broke a 3-3 tie in the eighth at Fenway Park with his third hit of the game after Scott Hatteberg's double off Buddy Groom (1-2). Boston wasted a 3-0 lead before rebounding to win for the sixth time in seven games.

Butch Henry (3-2) allowed one

hit in 1 1-3 innings, and Heathcliff Slocumb pitched the ninth for his 16th save, sending Oakland to its fourth consecutive loss.

Tigers 6, White Sox 3

Tony Clark hit his 24th homer and Bobby Higginson added his 16th as Detroit took a 5-0 lead at Tiger Stadium.

Rookie Brian Moehler (7-8) allowed three runs and six hits in six innings, walking a season-high five. Todd Jones pitched the ninth for his 17th save, matching his career high. Danny Darwin (4-8) gave up

five runs and seven hits in 2-2-3 innings.

Blue Jays 5, Brewers 2

Shawn Green hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the seventh at SkyDome.

With Milwaukee leading 2-1, Cal Eldred (9-10) walked Carlos Delgado leading off the seventh and Ed Sprague singled. Mike Fetters relieved and Green's homer made it 4-2.

Pat Hentgen (10-7) gave up two runs and four hits in 7 2-3 innings with six strikeouts, and rookie Kelvin Escobar got three outs for his third save.

Twins 3, Royals 2

Darrin Jackson beat out a potential inning-ending double play grounder in the seventh to drive in the deciding run at the Metrodome. Minnesota, on its longest winning streak this season, has won seven of eight. Kansas City has lost 18 of 20 overall and nine of its last 10 one-run games.

Greg Swindell (6-2) pitched 2 1-3 perfect innings, and Rick Aguilera got three outs for his 19th save.

Jose Rosado (7-7) gave up all three runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings.

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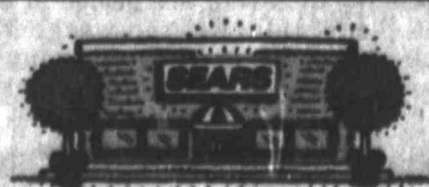
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| AUTOS FOR SALE 1992 Chevy S-10 Blazer Tahoe. Pkg-gray leather, tinted windows, low mileage. Excellent condition. \$11,500.00. 264-0058. 95 Chevy Suburban. Loaded. Exc. cond. \$2000 under book. Call 263-2879. 1995 GMC SUBURBAN. Am/Fm CD, leather seats, like new condition, all extras, excellent condition. Call 263-0033 - 9-5, after 5 - 267-2941. | AUTOS FOR SALE 95 Honda Accord EX V Tech engine, Moon roof, 37K. Fully loaded, \$17,500. 267-6768. 1994 Dodge Grand Caravan, primate conversion. Asking \$14,000. Sealed bids thru July 14th. Call Teresa or Jodie at 264-2600. Must sale 1993 Ford Taurus GL 4 door V6. Mechanically excellent. Some hail damage. \$3,900. 615 Colgate 263-2764 or 263-8862 after 5:30. NEW 1997 FORD PROBE SE - auto, cassette & more. \$13,995 BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4TH | AUTOS FOR SALE 94' Blk Camero. 43K, asking \$9,000. Call 263-0286 or 634-1793 after 5:00p. For sale 89 Cadi Coupe Deville. White on white, White int., Sunroof. 62k. 263-2209 1991 TOYOTA PREVIA LE van, loaded clean, \$9,000. 267-8782. 84 Delta 88; Fully loaded, good condition. Asking \$1300. Call 267-1040 PICKUPS FOR SALE. 1986 Ford F150 Lariat Pick-up. 2-tone brown, custom wheels, p.w., a/c, cloth interior. 71,000 miles. Good back to school vehicle. \$3900.00 O.B.O. 264-9907 before noon or after 8pm. | TRUCKS Like new 1995 S-10 Ext. Cab w/ matching Campershell. 33k, \$14,000. Call after 5p. 263-4433. PERSONAL START DATING TONIGHT Play the Texas Dating Game 1-800-Romance EXT.5132 ADOPTION BECOMING PARENTS IS OUR DREAM You can make it a reality. Our security, love & happy home awaits your baby. Legal, Confidential, Expenses paid. Corrine & Dennis. 1-800-201-5542. | INSTRUCTION ACT TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL JTPA APPROVED/VA APPROVED. 1-800-282-8658 273 CR 287, Merkel, Tx. 79536. Did You Miss Your HERALD? Call 263-7331 & ask for Circulation. HELP WANTED Taking applications: for experienced Truck tire man & Diesel Mechanic. Excellent pay. Don's Tire & Truck Service. S. Service Rd. 1-20 915-267-5205. Experienced only. Glasscock CO. ISD, located in Garden City, Texas, has an immediate opening for a elementary teacher. Our school is a class A high school with a reputation for academic excellence. We are located approximately 30 miles southwest of Big Spring, TX, and 40 miles southeast of Midland, TX. Salary will be state schedule plus \$6,000 and health insurance. For more information contact Charles Zachary, Supt. or Dean Munn, elementary principal. Please call 915-354-2230. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicable state and federal laws apply. Certified Nurse Aides. Immediate openings for all shifts. Big Spring Care Center 901 Goliad. Apply in person. No phone calls. DOMINOES PIZZA is looking for Full/Part time help. Please call 267-4111 for further information. F.T. position. Insurance experience helpful. Apply in person only at 408 E. FM 700. | HELP WANTED Rainbow Christian Pre School is in need of a caring, dedicated individual to care for children. Come by 409 Goliad to apply. Please bring resume. Long established water conditioning company looking for salesperson. Must be aggressive and must have own transportation. Please send resumes to C/O Big Spring Herald, Box 1431-1281-B, Big Spring, Texas 79720. Southwest Coca Cola is now hiring for the positions of: Route driver/Merchandiser. MUST HAVE GOOD DRIVING RECORD! ANY AT FAULT ACCIDENTS OR D.W.I. IN THE LAST(3) THREE YEARS NEED NOT APPLY! RECORDS WILL BE CHECKED! Must be willing to become C.D.L. & D.O.T. with successful completion of requirements within 14 days of employment. Must pass drug, strength, & endurance test. Must work weekends & holidays. ALL FORMER APPLICANTS NEED TO REAPPLY! COME & JOIN A WINNING TEAM! Apply at T.E.C. 3rd & Owens. We are an AA/EOE Employer. Ad paid for by employer. THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS is accepting applications for the positions of Secretary I in the Police Department and Utility Maintenance Repairman in the Utilities Department. For information, or to apply, contact City Hall Personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call 264-2346. Application will be accepted through Friday, August 1, 1997. As isant promoter position available for arts & crafts shows on weekends. Must be able to work most Fridays thru Sundays and work well with people. Moderate lifting required. Must have neat appearance and communication skills. Seek self-motivated individual. Entry level and mature college students welcome. Good starting salary, expenses paid, and advancement potential. Call 263-7690 for appointment. Friend's Convenience Store NOW HIRING!! We are looking for motivated, hardworking individuals who want to move up. We have openings for a Manager Trainee & Clerks for all shifts. Good starting pay. Regular raises. Good benefits. Friendly smoke-free environment. Apply now at Friend's 4th & Gregg |
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Commercial & Residential. Remodeling & New Const. Concrete Pouring.
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Sand, Gravel, Top Soil, Driveway Caliche.
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GOT A TICKET? Class, \$25. 10% Ins. Discount-\$20. July 19, 9:00-3:30pm
Days Inn - Odessa 1-800-725-3039 ext. 2707

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QUALITY FENCE Terms available, Free estimates. Cedar Redwood Spruce Chainlink Day 267-3349, night 267-1173.
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DICK'S FIREWOOD Spring Cut Mesquite. \$100 a cord. We Deliver!! 1-915-453-2151
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HYDRO-MULCHING IS A GRASS PLANTING PROCESS. CALL TO HAVE YOUR LAWN PLANTED TODAY. 263-5638. ALSO ROTO-TILLING LAWN CARE GRASS ROOTS LAWN CARE 267-2472 MOWING - TREE PRUNING - LAWN CLEAN UP FREE ESTIMATES

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Landscaping, Mowing, Pruning, Light Hauling. Insured * 263-1146

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West Texas Largest Mobile Home Dealer Now Used Reposes Homes of America Odessa (800)725-0881 or 363-0881

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CITY DELIVERY FURNITURE MOVERS Tom & the guys can move anything-anywhere Honest-Dependable 26 yrs. exp. 908 Lancaster 600 W. 3rd Tom & Julie Coates 263-2225

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For Your Best House Painting & Repairs Interior & Exterior * Free Estimates * Call Joe Gomez 267-7867 or 267-7831

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2008 Birdwell Lane, Max F. Moore

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VENTURA COMPANY 267-2655 Houses/Apartments, Duplexes, 1,2,3 and 4 bedrooms furnished or unfurnished.

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Composition & Wood Shingles, Tar & Gravel 300 Completed Jobs
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CHARLES RAY Dirt and Septic Tank Service. Pumping, repair and installation. Topsoil, sand, and gravel. 267-7378.

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We pump & install state approved septic systems PUMPING \$70.00 267-7944

WELDING
H.W. Smith Welding Carports* Heavy Corrals* Heavy Equipment Repairs* 263-8644

Immediate full-time position for District Sales Manager. Must be highly motivated, self-starter with strong selling ability. Computer knowledge a plus. Apply in person at **The Big Spring Herald Circulation Dept. 710 Scurry**

Bookkeeper needed. Must have office skills, typing skills, check register, 10-Key. Good Benefits, Insurance. 8-5 no weekends. Apply with resume and references to **KBST Radio Station.** EOE

CELLULARONE
A leader in the telecommunications field SALES
Expansion and growth requires us to add to our sales team. We are now recruiting energetic, enthusiastic, motivated outside sales representatives for the Big Spring/West Texas area. Experience preferred but not required, will train. Bilingual a plus. We offer a great opportunity within one of the fastest growing industries that includes: stability of a base salary, plus an attractive commission/bonus structure, vehicle allowance, cellular telephone, medical/dental/life, 401(k) retirement savings plan, vacation and more. Rapid advancement opportunities. EOE. Please submit your resume and cover sheet to:
Human Resource, 501 Birdwell Lane #22 Big Spring, Tx. 79720

HELP WANTED
Kate's Fina Mart & Buffalo Country Fina are accepting applications for the positions of cashiers. Must be self-motivated and willing to work. Please apply 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy. & South Hwy. 87.
PERSONAL BANKER
Major financial institution in the Big Spring area. Duties will include: actively soliciting new business with prospects. Generating applications for all types consumer loan products. Retains positive customer relationships in all phases of daily customer contact. Performing other functions as assigned by supervisor. Qualifications required: Min. 1 year exp. in direct sales of financial products/services OR comparable experience. Strong customer service skills. Professional in appearance, actions and speech. Previous banking experience a plus. Please fax resume to (210) 930-3160 or call Professional at (210) 930-3200.
WANTED
Ophthalmic Assistant. Will train. Call 915-267-3649.
Coahoma ISD is accepting applications for the following positions: Elementary PE Teacher, Jr. High English Teacher, Accounts Receivable Clerk. For an application and job vacancy notice call (915) 394-4290 or write to Coahoma ISD, P.O. Box 110, Coahoma, TX 79511.

HELP WANTED
THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS is accepting applications for the positions of Temporary General worker in the Street Department. For further information or to apply contact City Hall Personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call 264-2346. Applications will be accepted through July 25, 1997 at 5:00 p.m.
RECEPTIONIST / PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.
INFANT CAREGIVER
Part / Full Time position. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.
Visiting Nurses of Del Rio, Inc. is now accepting applications for providers. For more information or applications, call 1-800-532-0421 or write us at 403 W. 6th, Monahans, Texas 79756
PRE-KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
Part-Time position. Teaching certificate required. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.
DENTAL ASSISTANT / RECEPTIONIST
No experience necessary. Will train. Send resume to BOX 625, c/o Big Spring Herald, Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas.
Welder needed. Welding equipment not a must. Apply at Ackerly Service Company located at 2206 N. Hwy 87. Big Spring, Texas. 264-1212.

HELP WANTED
MAINTENANCE MAN needed for apartment complex. Must have own tools, able to do make ready, and all types of maintenance. Must have a/c & heating knowledge. Can be part-time. Send resume to: Big Spring Herald, Box 1431-710, Big Spring, Texas.
NOW HIRING: Line Attendants. Must be friendly, outgoing & willing to work flexible hours. Apply in person between 8-10am., Furr's Family Dining, 2503 Gregg.
Security State Bank, Big Spring branch located at 1411 Gregg. Has an immediate opening for a Loan Secretary. This is a Full Time position and you may make application Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.
Sales Order Clerk
A manufacturer of thermoplastic powder coatings in Big Spring, Texas is looking for an organized, dependable individual to perform coordination of all sales lead follow-up. Must have good word processing skills and excellent phone skills. Excellent benefits.
Forward updated resume with salary history to:
PFS Thermoplastic Powder Coatings, Inc. Attn: Personnel P.O. Box 1714 Midland, Tx. 79702 Fax # 915/686-1503
Need Backhoe operator at least 2 years experience and must have CDL. Call 270-1017 or 268-9840 after 5pm.
LONG JOHN SILVERS
Part-Time & full-time service & delivery positions available. Day & Night shifts, must be energetic & dependable. Apply at 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please!
"AVON" & AVON OUTLET Representative's Needed! No Inventory Required, IND/SALES/REP. Toll Free 800-236-0041.
DRIVERS - TST Paraffin Service Co. (Div. of Yale Key) Looking for Truck Driver with CDL Licensed with less than 3 tickets in 5 years. Will have to pass DOT Physical and Drug Test. Must be 21 years old. Will take applications at the Stanton and Lamesa offices or call 1-800-522-0474 or 756-2975. Benefits include: Health Insurance, Uniform's furnished, Profit Sharing Plan, 1 week vacation, after 1 year employment, 2-week vacation after 2 year employment. Will train qualified applicants with oil field experience.

EARN EXTRA SPENDING MONEY
The Big Spring Herald has a route open in these areas:
1100 Block to 1500 Block of Nolan, Johnson & Runnels. 15th Street thru 18th Street, 500 Block to the 1200 Block
1900 Block to 2300 Block of Nolan, Johnson & Runnels 3000 Block and 3700 Block of Parkway, Calvin, Hamilton & Dixon
Old Airbase Housing-Ent, Berksdale, Hunter, Gunter Etc...
If you are interested in any of the above routes please come to the Big Spring Herald Circulation Office or call 263-7331 for an appointment.

Team & Single Drivers Wanted
We offer an excellent benefit package: \$500 Sign-on-bonus, competitive wage package, 401k with company contribution, retention bonus, Health/Dental/Life Insurance, and uniforms.
REQUIREMENTS
ARE: 23 years old with 2 years semi driving experience of completion of an accredited truck driver school, CDL with haz-mat and tanker endorsements, pass DOT and company requirements. We will help train you for a successful future in the tank truck industry.
Apply in person at **STEERE TANK LINES INC., 1200 ST. Hwy 176, Phone # (915) 263-7656.**

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DRIVERS - TST Paraffin Service Co. (Div. of Yale Key) Looking for Truck Driver with CDL Licensed with less than 3 tickets in 5 years. Will have to pass DOT Physical and Drug Test. Must be 21 years old. Will take applications at the Stanton and Lamesa offices or call 1-800-522-0474 or 756-2975. Benefits include: Health Insurance, Uniform's furnished, Profit Sharing Plan, 1 week vacation, after 1 year employment, 2-week vacation after 2 year employment. Will train qualified applicants with oil field experience.

HELP WANTED

Local Co. seeks to fill full time janitorial & maintenance position. For more info call 264-7030.

Orthodontic Asst. wanted P-T, about 10 hours per week. Experience helpful. 263-7111

Waitress Needed: Must be 18, work split-shifts Mon - Sat. Apply at Red Mesa Grill, 2401 Gregg.

ATTENTION! Lubbock Avalanche Journey has a opening for motor route carrier in Big Spring. If interested, please contact Mike Knotts at 1-800-692-4021 ext. 8766.

DRIVERS: Long haul, our top drivers make over \$900.00 per week, great pay, equipment, benefits. Based out of Odessa call for details. 1-800-749-1180.

Insurance Sales/Service Rep. needed. Must be pleasant with good work ethic. College helps. Experience preferred, but will train the right individual. Send resume to P.O. Box 2947 Big Spring, TX

AVIS LUBE FAST OIL CHANGE 24 HR. JOB HOTLINE 1-800-583-4063 X371

ACT NOW! AVON avg. \$8-\$15/hr. Benefits, flex hrs. 1-800-557-2866 ind/rep.

Big Spring Herald is seeking part time help in Business Office. Duties include: Daily Cash Sheet, Accts. Rec., Collections, Posting to Ledger Accts., Computer Input, Filing. Proficiency w/10 Key & Computer Input Required. Apply in person See Bus. Ofc. Mgr. for application

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DELTA LOANS LOANS \$100 TO \$396.88 Customer Service is our #1 Priority. Call or come by! Se Habla Espanol 115 E. 3rd 268-9090 Phone Applications Welcome

SECURITY FINANCE \$100.00 TO \$435.00 CALL OR COME BY Security Finance 204 S. Goliad 267-4591 Phone applications welcome SE HABLA ESPANOL

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Birdseye Maple Chest w/mirror \$515. Lamog (French Porcelain) pitcher \$225 264-0412.

DOGS, PETS, ETC

For Sale, female German Shepherd puppy. Call 263-4645.

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

GARAGE SALES

1905 Todd Rd. in Tubbs Addition. Last house on left, look for signs. Sat. only 8-3. Furn., toys, childrens clothes and much more.

1997 CHICAGO BULLS CHAMPIONSHIP EDITION

Get your 28-page Championship Section with comprehensive coverage of the NBA Playoffs and Finals. PLUS, the June 18 Collector's Edition of the Chicago Sun-Times - complete with local and national news and one of the best sports sections in America. All for only \$3.95 including shipping and handling. To order, call 1-800-945-5000. Ask for Operator 23.

GARAGE SALES

2605 Carol, Sat. 8a. Ski exerciser, Ping Pong Table, Gas Range, Queen headboard, TV, Deer-Animal Feeder, cameras.

1801 Duquoin Fri & Sat 8-5. Rocker, desks, couch, dishes, tent, Ford motor 351 (modified), misc.

2812 Chanute-Sat & Sun 8-5. Furn., washer, clothes, books & comp. acc.

EVERYTHING MUST GO! 421 Hillside, Sat. 8-3 and Sun. 1-3.

LOST & FOUND

\$100 REWARD! Lost Boston Terrier. Lost in 1000 block of Stadium. Just want him back no questions asked. 631-2494

LOST Large Rhodesian Ridgeback Hound. Brown, Neutered & is a family pet. Ratliff Road. Please call 263-5904

LOST Brown Chihuahua, 10 miles North of Coahoma REWARD \$200.00. Please call Anytime 399-4384.

MISCELLANEOUS

Just arrived large load of used solid heavy wood dressers, chests and headboards. Branham Furniture ** 2004 W. 4th * 263-1469.

New window Evap. coolers \$199. to \$335. We now have new side duct models. Branham Furniture ** 2004 W. 4th * 263-1469.

pay up to \$1,000 for Levi Jeans 20 yrs. old or older. Check your closet or attic. 972-636-1021.

CREATIVE CELEBRATIONS

20th Anniversary Discounts! Cakes, Flowers, Arches, Abras. 267-8191

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Emerson Flute For Sale \$385. Excellent condition. 267-1325.

PORTABLE BUILDINGS

PORTABLE BUILDINGS 12X24 OFFICE A/C, heat, 1/2 bath, used. Several demo bldgs., reduced. SIERRA MERCANTILE 263-1460

PRODUCE

BENNIE'S GARDEN Now has Tomatoes, Squash, Onions, Pepper, Cucumbers, Egg Plant, Shelled Pecans & Honey. 267-8090.

SWIMMING POOLS

Free Solar and Winter Covers with all above ground pools - starting at \$9.00 a month. Delivery and installation available. 563-3108.

Price Greatly Reduced on all HotTub/Spas - Plus Free Cover, Chemicals - and Steps- Financing and Delivery Available. 563-3108.

BUSINESS PROPERTY

For rent car lot 700 E. 4th (formerly Enterprise Car Rental) Call 263-4884

FOR SALE: Colorado City TX, 4 bay shop, restaurant, warehouse. All at \$25,000.00. 915-394-4727.

HOUSES FOR SALE

As low as \$2,000!!! Several under \$5,000!!! Bring your cash and save thousands today on all pre-owned homes. 4608 W. Wall Midland, TX 520-2177. 1-800-5202177.

NO MONEY DOWN!!!!

Bring a title to a home or deed to land to start owning your home TODAY! USA Homes, 4608 W. Wall Midland, TX 520-2177. 1-800-5202177.

HOUSES FOR SALE

FOR SALE BY OWNER \$199,000 "U" SHAPED PATIO HOME: 3 BDRM, 2 BTH, LRG LR, DR 18X10 STORAGE ROOM OFF GARAGE AND 8X12 STORAGE BUILDING IN BACK. INCLUDES LOT ACROSS STREET TO PROJECT BEAUTIFUL VIEW. 1ST TIME ON MARKET. 9 HIGHLAND HEATHER 267-3268.

Inventory Reduction Sale... Manager says ALL 1997 models MUST GO!!! Doublewide as low as \$29,999 and singlewide as low as \$19,999. Hurry in for best selection. U*S*A* Homes, 4608 W. Wall Midland, TX 520-2177. 1-800-5202177.

Start owning your own home for as low as \$100. per month. 10% down, 12.75% APR. 60 mos. USA Homes. 4608 W. Wall Midland, TX 520-2177. 1-800-5202177.

4bd/2bth Home. Lrg. kit., carport, shed. For sale by owner. 1606 Sunset. 263-7807.

1302 Wood St. 2bd/1bth. Large kit. & living area. \$16,000. 267-4677.

Forsan School District 3 bd. 2 bth, fireplace, 3.4 acres, \$62,500. Call Doris at 263-6525 or at Home Realtors 263-1284.

FOR SALE OR LEASE: 2716 Central Drive, 3 bd, 2 bath, 2 car garage, central heat/air, \$67,500. Call Harry for Showing 915-520-9848.

1406 E. 14th 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, carport, auto heat. \$300 dn., \$275/Mo. Must have excellent credit history. 806-794-5964.

3603 La Junta 3 bdr, 1 bath, fireplace. Call 267-9940.

4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, home in the country. With 3 acres. Pipe fence around it. call 263-3765 or (915)573-0819.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, 2/living areas, laundry room, patio, cinderblock fence on large corner lot in Highland South. 263-1246/263-1126.

OWNER MUST SELL!! 709 Douglas. Will look at any offer. Call 1-800-900-6683.

MOBILE HOMES

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

BUSINESS BUILDINGS

FOR LEASE, shop building with office, 2 acres, fenced yard. 120 & Sand Springs. \$350/month, \$250/deposit. Call 263-5000 for more information.

FURNISHED APTS.

Spacious 1 bd., wash/dry connections, walk-in closet, cel. fan. \$200. Lease/deposit/ref's. No pets. Mc Donald Realty. 263-7616. See at 611 Rannels.

2 Furn. Apts at 605 E. 13th., 2 at 505 Nolan. Call before 6:00pm M-F 263-7648.

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

FURNISHED HOUSES

Outside city on private lot 2bd furn. mobile home. \$325/mo + dep. 267-6347

UNFURNISHED APTS.

1998 3 bedroom Fleetwood, 5 yr. warranty, only 10% down, 10% apr. 10 yrs. only \$208.00 month. Call Jeff Hatfield for more info. 1-800-725-0881 or 1-915-363-0881.

Call Tim! 1992 3 bedroom furnished mobile home. Like New, storm window, free table & chairs, couch and beds. Homes of America Odessa, Texas 1-915-363-0881or 1-800-725-0881.

1908 Johnson Fri-Sat 8-4, Bunk beds, houseware, glassware, 93 Topaz, etc.

SCHOOLS OUT SPECIALS

All Bills Paid 1-Bd - \$295. 2-Bd - \$375. Refrigerated A/c, Laundry, Adjacent to Many Elementary 1905 Wason * 267-6421

PARK VILLAGE

1301 Utah. Women clothes & shoes, pots & pans, curtains, nic-nacs, & lots of misc. Thurs. & Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-2.

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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, JULY 24:
Relationships are especially harmonious in this banner year; whether a romantic tie or a group association, you fit in and work together almost magically. Opportunities are abundant, and friends steer you in the direction of prosperity and fulfillment. Be willing to lend a hand and impart your characteristic enthusiasm; the universe seems to provide the rest. If you are single, you aren't likely to remain so. A love match could become an engagement, or you might make a stronger commitment. If attached, a new baby or domestic expansion is likely. ARIES makes your spirits soar.
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)
You see results you patiently have waited for! Celebrate the arrival of good news with friends; you have plenty to be thankful for. Extend a hand to a bummed-out loved one. You can elicit a dazzling smile from anyone. Tonight: It's an endless party.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Play it low-key; the time is not right to leap. Go with your natural rhythms, which tell you to take it easy. Take advantage of flex time or an early departure from work. Rest is a necessity for sanity's sake. Tonight: Write a letter to a friend.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Everything you touch sparkles; you are open-minded and ready for anything. First impressions matter. You present yourself as a team player, and receive others' cooperation. Plans run smoothly, and you end the day satisfied. Tonight: Slumber with a smile.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Nothing is wrong, but you don't feel like participating in the whirlwind of activity. It's quite all right to sit out the nonessentials. Make your token appearance, then hole up with a book or some work you have wanted to finish. Everyone will understand. Tonight: Indulge in blessed sleep.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You're the first to arrive at the office, the last to leave and the liveliest throughout the day. You don't want to leave an attractive someone you've had your eye on. Use your charm, and throw your hat in the ring. How can anyone refuse? Tonight: Enjoy sweet success.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Work is easy, and you reach accord without trouble. Days like this are a pleasure. You properly handle financial matters when you must attend to them. A lunchtime walk helps you stay focused. Tonight: Take an aerobic class.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Someone pursues you with a vengeance. You are flattered but unsure how to proceed. Let another take the reins; he knows what to do. A group setting provides the perfect atmosphere for getting to know another. Tonight: Get into the groove.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Start a new health regimen, and be on top of your game. Nothing can slow you down. A friend has a different idea from you about how things should be. There's room for more than one opinion. Tonight: Have a cup of tea while watching TV.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
It is as if you have awakened from a long, fitful sleep. Pieces of a puzzle fall into place. You feel revitalized. Doors open that once were tightly closed. Reach out to others, and spread good cheer. You're back! Tonight: Stay out late.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
A respite does a world of good. Nothing earth-shattering calls you away from personal projects. Do what you must to stay on top of work, then have an early dinner out with a date or friend. Enjoy this easy, lazy time. Tonight: Do whatever suits you.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You have many opportunities to serve the masses — something you do better than anyone. You can benefit others, personally and professionally. Later in the day, a romantic interlude presents itself. Why decline so much fun? Tonight: It could be a dream come true.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Blessings flow into your life like manna from heaven. Accept the limelight graciously. It might feel awkward to get this much attention, but it becomes you. In a short time, you'll be dancing with everyone else. Tonight: The excitement tuckers you out.
BORN TODAY
Actress Lynda Carter (1951), basketball player Karl Malone (1963), actor Michael Richards (1949)
For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 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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Woman's passion for bingo gives husband time to cheat

DEAR ABBY: Bingo players, beware! What does your husband or wife do while you are playing bingo five nights a week?

My friend told me she saw my husband, who is 71, get into a car with a "hussy" who is about 50. I decided to see if there was any truth to her story, so after my husband and I had dinner one night, I had him drop me off at the bingo parlor. He said he was going home, so I said I would ride home with a friend. I had hired a detective who waited in a parking lot nearby and we followed my husband. Soon he parked his car and got into hers. What we saw made me ill, but I have never confronted him with my knowledge. Our religion frowns on divorce, so I just pray the old goat wakes up before he kills himself. He has broken my heart and if I were younger, he would be following me in the dust.

Do you think I did the right thing to quit bingo? — B-9 in TENNESSEE
DEAR B-9: Only if giving up your game forced your husband to give up the game HE was playing.
DEAR ABBY: I agree with "Sally B." who finds exposed bra straps absolutely disgusting and tacky.

I wonder why women dress this way, especially in this day and age when you can walk into virtually any department store (even discount stores) and find bras of all shapes, styles and colors designed to function invisibly under almost any type of garment on the market. Many bras have convertible straps so they can be worn X-back, halter-style, one strap or strapless. They make bustiers to be worn under backless dresses, and when all else fails, they have ones like giant lace Band-Aids so one doesn't "jiggle." So the only excuse for exposed bra straps is plain laziness.

I'd like to add my pet peeve: white bras showing plainly through thin blouses. Don't these women know flesh tones exist? I hate seeing professional women who wear beautiful white blouses ruining the effect because their undergarments show through. Do they really want people looking at their bras all day? — D.B. IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

DEAR D.B.: I was caught off guard by the number of people who responded to that letter — there have been hundreds. Most of the writers agree with you and "Sally B." but a few wrote to tell me they think exposed bra straps are sexy. Go figure. Read on.
DEAR ABBY: I'm in complete agreement with "Sally B.'s" disgust with exposed bra straps. Many women do this consciously, especially teenage girls. For some reason, they think it is sexy or attractive for everyone to know what color or how lacy their bras are. It disgusts me. Not only is it incredibly tacky, it shows complete disregard for the fact that underwear is supposed to stay under the clothing. To top it off, the women who expose their most intimate apparel act as if they didn't know there was a solution.

I worked in lingerie for about a year, and I happen to know there are bras especially made for those revealing tops. There is absolutely no need to walk around displaying your undergarments. All it takes is one quick trip to a department or specialty store to correct this embarrassing problem. Ask the salesclerk for a convertible bra — she'll be happy to help.

Is it just me, Abby, or are panty lines equally disgusting? — REPULSED 19-YEAR-OLD IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
DEAR REPULSED: I suspect that teen-agers do it out of ignorance of the fact that there's a solution to the problem, or because they are imitating Madonna — who originated the underwear-as-outerwear fad. Or, perhaps, they're so proud of the fact that they finally need to wear a bra they can't resist drawing attention to it.

DEAR ABBY: Law enforcement officers and their actions have been and always will be targets for criticism, skepticism and controversy. Two of the most newsworthy topics involving law officers are the use of physical force and deadly force on criminals. It is easy for the general public or the media to second-guess what was right or wrong. They have hours or days to do it — while an officer has only seconds. The stakes are high on the street. Hesitation or a wrong decision may very well cost an officer his/her life. This brings me to a recent letter you published:
"Wayne in Santa Rosa, Calif." said he thinks cops should carry tranquilizer guns instead of firearms. Well, Wayne, in our "Wild Kingdom," the animals — a.k.a. car-jackers, armed robbers and drug dealers — carry guns. REAL guns. And they do not hesitate to use them on innocent people, as well as on cops. The animals you see on "Wild Kingdom" are potentially dangerous because they are instinctively trying to protect their lives or the lives of their offspring. The "animals" we deal with are predators — preying on innocent, honest citizens, and they are dangerous because they choose to be.
Abby, it's obvious that Wayne is ignorant of how violent these people can be, and how quickly a situation can turn on an officer in any given situation. I can only suggest that he get a job in law enforcement, because I'm sure his outlook on tranquilizer guns would change.

Law enforcement can always use good advice on how to improve. Most of us and our bosses welcome good advice. But tranquilizer guns? I'm 30 years old, have been a cop for eight years, and I thought I'd heard it all. — CPL. DONALD PALLISER, ST. TAMMANY PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE, COVINGTON, LA.
DEAR CPL. PALLISER: Be patient. By the time you're ready to hang up your firearm, you'll have heard more.
For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)
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Lean, clean Daly making return to golf

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CROMWELL, Conn. — The punishing tee shots that drew fans to John Daly when he burst into the PGA spotlight six years ago still can out-distance those of most of his opponents.
But after years of following Daly's attempts to navigate the rocky road of his alcoholism, fans watching him prepare for his first tournament since abruptly leaving the U.S. Open say they are sticking with the 30-year-old for something less tangible.
"I think he deserves another chance. I think he's good for the game. Tiger Woods is good, but John Daly is still special for me because he's coming from a lot of troubles," Fred Rafanelli, a 70-year-old retired policeman from Inverness, Fla., said Tuesday.

Daly, slimmed to 198 pounds and saying he has been sober since March, is expected to tee off Thursday at the TPC at River Highlands, site of this week's Greater Hartford Open. He has not played on the tour in five weeks.
"I'm looking forward to this one, really to be back," he said. Daly's golf bag carries more than just his clubs this time, bearing the words "God, Serenity, Courage, Wisdom." He said he has been attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings as often as five days a week.
"Everybody for the last three years has been saying go out and have fun. It's easy to say that," Daly said. "The only fun I used to have is what got me suspended."

Daly was suspended in 1993 after quitting during the second round of the Kapalua International. After fighting with a 62-year-old man at the World Series of Golf in August 1994, he agreed to sit out the rest of the year.
He underwent alcohol rehabilitation for the second time in four years after a drinking binge at the Players Championship in March.
The rocky road continued at the U.S. Open last month when he quit at the turn in the second round. He said he withdrew because of shakes brought on by anti-depressant medication.

Tennis, swimming and dieting have helped Daly shed more than 40 pounds in four months.
He and caddie Brian Alexander arrived in Connecticut on Monday after a nearly 19-hour drive from Tennessee. They spent the previous three weeks working on every aspect of Daly's game. The Daly that will tee off during Thursday's first round is a more mellow man, Alexander said.
"It's all going to work out for the best," Alexander said.
There were no shakes Tuesday as a steady Daly, cigarette dangling from his mouth, sank 10-foot putts on the practice green.

"The mental thing really wears on all of us to an extent," Daly said. "It just kills your mind. Everyone thinks it's all glamorous ... It takes a lot out of each individual here."
On Tuesday, Daly played in a nine-hole Skins Game — paired with Fuzzy Zoeller — and his walloping tee shots were once again crowd pleasers.
He out-drove the rest of the field, including defending champion D.A. Weibring and Paul Azinger, by more than 20 yards with a 316-yard drive on the 411-yard 12th hole. On the 158-yard 11th, he put a 9-iron within five feet for a birdie. The two won \$8,000 of the \$10,500 purse.
Bob Fluegel, a 52-year-old consultant from Glastonbury, said a family member with a similar problem makes Daly important to him.

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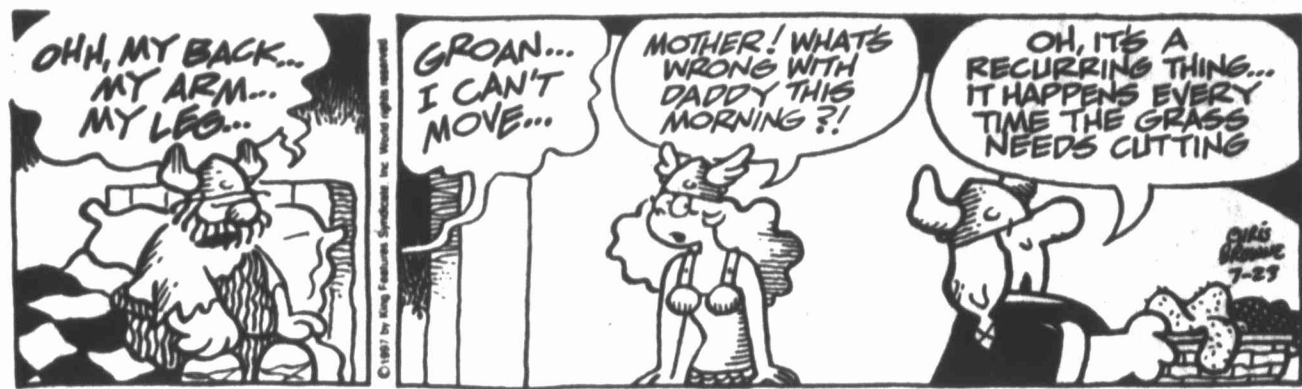
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WEDNESDAY JULY 23. TV schedule table with columns for station, time, and program name.

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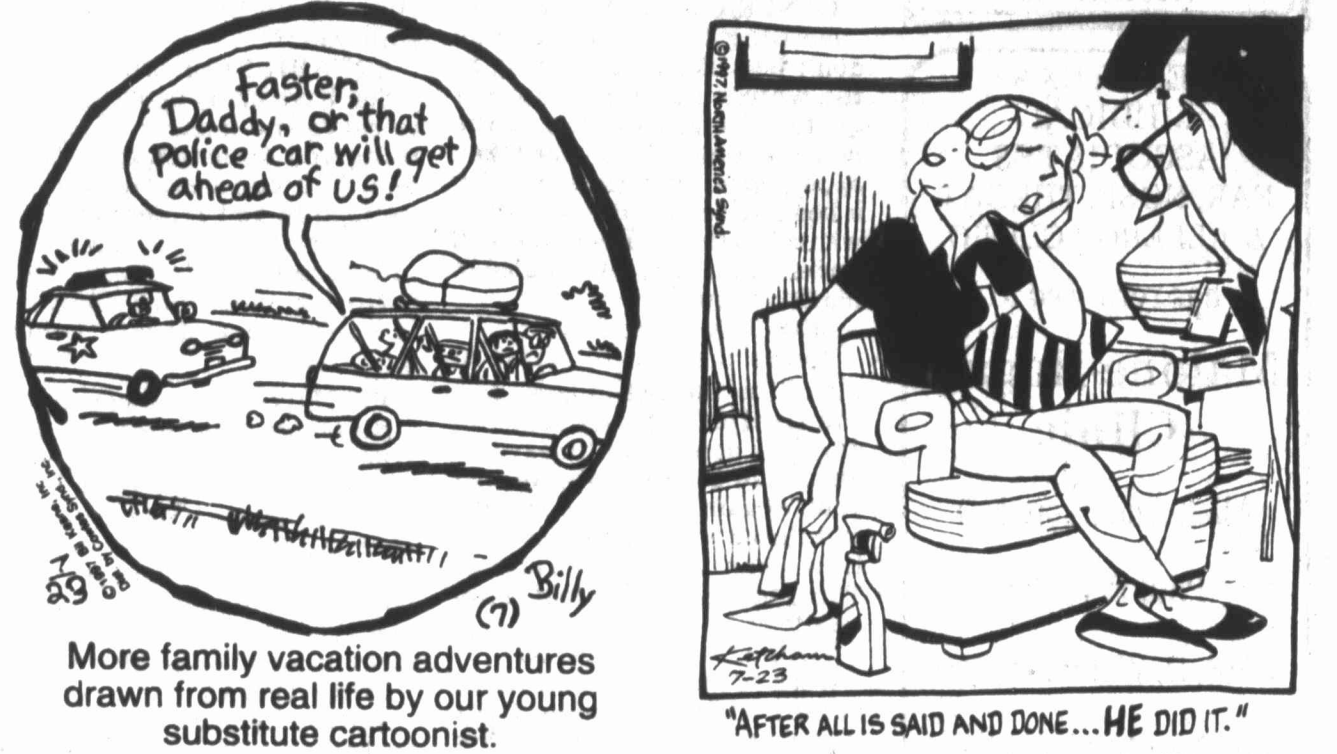
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Wednesday, July 23, the 204th day of 1997. There are 161 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On July 23, 1886, New York saloonkeeper Steve Brodie claimed to have made a daredevil plunge from the Brooklyn Bridge into the East River.

received a patent for his typographer, a forerunner of the typewriter.

In 1885, Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States, died in Mount McGregor, N.Y., at age 63.

In 1904, by some accounts, the ice cream cone was invented by Charles E. Menches during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Francis Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; the dispute led to World War I.

In 1952, Egyptian military officers led by Gamal Abdel Nasser overthrew King Farouk I.

In 1967, rioting that claimed 43 lives erupted in Detroit.

In 1977, a jury in Washington, D.C., convicted 12 Hanafi Muslims of charges stemming from the hostage siege at three buildings the previous March.

In 1984, Vanessa Williams became the first Miss America to resign her title, because of nude photographs published in Penthouse magazine.

In 1986, Britain's Prince Andrew married Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey in London. The couple divorced in 1996.

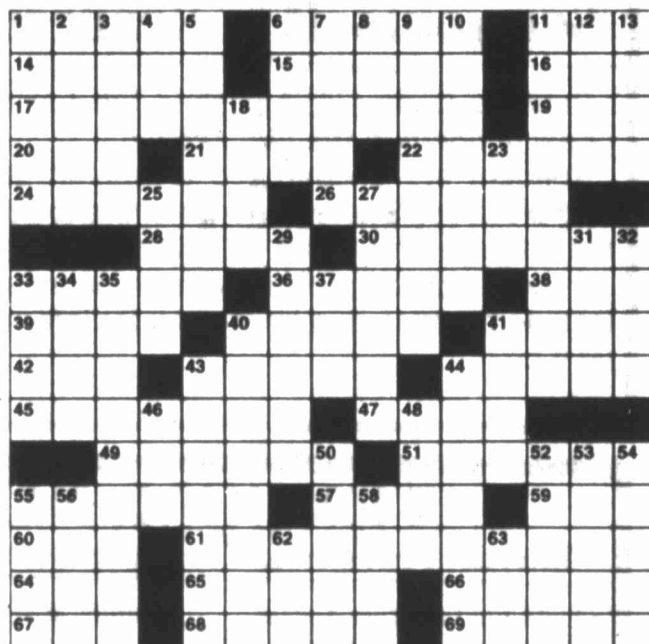
Ten years ago: President Reagan named nearly a dozen people to complete the ranks of his commission on AIDS.

Five years ago: Secretary of State James A. Baker III, touring the Middle East, made a secret visit to Lebanon.

One year ago: At the Atlanta Olympics, Kerri Strug made a heroic final vault despite torn ligaments in her left ankle as the U.S. women gymnasts clinched their first-ever Olympic team gold medal. The Senate passed a welfare overhaul bill.

THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Household members 6 Hoofed mammal 11 Evil 14 Madonna role 15 Miss Pappas 16 Beam 17 Mediocore 19 Wrath 20 Timetable abbr. 21 Embankment 22 Pith helmets 24 Ranges 26 Actor Omar 28 Principal 30 Diplomat 33 Faulty 36 British ones 38 Make public 39 Solitary 40 Ski lifts 41 Thin Man's dog 42 Boastful talk 43 Snapshot 44 Pinnacle 45 Name in dancing 47 'The Way We ...' 49 Matt Dillon portrayal 51 Lassoes 55 Macarena and twist 57 Wine casks 59 In the manner of 60 Aesthetic pursuit 61 Curt 64 Zilch 65 Sky pad 66 Turn inside out 67 Lighthearted 68 Supports 69 — earth (captured) DOWN 1 Flat-topped elevations 2 Ward off 3 Small-scale 4 From — Z 5 Barry or Deion 6 — off (anger) 7 City on the Rhine 8 Pod occupant 9 Puts in office 10 Spas 11 Document carrier 12 Swiss stream 13 Changes the color 18 Plate 23 — mater 25 Flower holder 27 Farm implement 29 Vagrants 31 Smashes 32 OED word 33 Kelp 34 Extinct birds 35 At once 37 Hood's piece 40 Farm machine 41 Vicinity 43 Parasitic plant 44 Refrigerator item 46 Rainbow 48 Sea birds 50 Denude 52 Conquered 53 On the qui vive 54 — Domingo 55 Mild oath 56 Melody 58 Western Indians 62 Gold: Sp. 63 Eggs



by Don Johnson 07/23/97

Tuesday's Puzzle solved:



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Today's Birthdays: Actress Gloria DeHaven is 72. Actor Calvert DeForest ("Late Show with David Letterman") is 69. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy is 61. Country singer Tony Joe White is 54. Rock singer David Essex is 50. Actor Larry Manetti ("Magnum, P.I.") is 50. Actress Belinda Montgomery is 47. Rock musician Blair Thornton (Bachman Turner Overdrive) is 47. Actor Woody Harrelson is 36. Rock musician Martin Gore (Depeche Mode) is 36. Actor-comedian Marlon Wayans is 35. Actor Eric LaSalle ("ER") is 35. Rock musician Nick Menza (Megadeth) is 33. Rock musician Slash is 32. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sam Watters (Color Me Badd) is 27. Country singer Alison Krauss is 26. Rhythm-and-blues singer Mr. Dalvin (Jodeci) is 26. Rock musician Chad Gracy (Live) is 26.

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