

## Early voting up 56 percent compared to last county judge election

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

Compared to 1994, the last time voters went to the polls to elect a county judge and commissioners in precincts 2 and 4, Howard County voters have been virtually chomping at the bit to get a ballot in their hands.

Through the close of early voting Friday, a total of 1,728 persons cast early ballots — 623 more than 1994. In addition, 71 ballots were mailed out.

That represents an increase of 56.4 percent over the last type an election was held for the same offices.

Republican cast 1,198 ballots with 39 mailed out and 28 returned while Democrats cast 530 ballots with 32 mailed and 27 returned.

And with early voting over, it is now up to the respective candidates to turn

out their vote when polls open at 7 a.m. Tuesday across the county.

More than 18,000 persons are registered to vote in Howard County, although elections officials have said as many as 1,000 of those may no longer reside in the county or otherwise be eligible. Federal law prohibits the purging of voter registration files.

In the previous few elections, county residents have enjoyed the luxury of having consolidated polling places, but Tuesday's primary, all 21 polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All outstanding mailed out ballots must be returned to County Clerk Margaret Ray's office by 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Residents casting ballots on Tuesday will need to remember to take their voter registration cards to their polling place or have some type of photo identification before they can vote.

### WHERE TO VOTE TUESDAY:

#### REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

•Precincts 301, 302, 303, 304, 305 and 306 at Marcy Elementary School.

•Precincts 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 202, 203, 204 and 205 at Goliad Middle School.

•Precincts 207 and 409 at Coahoma City Hall - Coahoma.

•Precinct 208 at Forsan High School - Forsan.

•Precincts 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408 and 410 in the foyer at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the Howard College campus.

#### DEMOCRAT PRIMARY

•Precincts 101, 106, 109, 110, 111 and 112 at the North Side Fire Station.

•Precincts 102, 107 and 108 at the Anderson Kindergarten Center.

•Precinct 103 at the Wesley Yater residence on the I-20 North Service Road near KC Steak House.

•Precinct 104 at Prairie View Baptist Church.

•Precinct 105 at the Knott Fire Station - Knott.

•Precinct 203 at Goliad Middle School.

•Precinct 202 and 204 at

Washington Place School.

•Precinct 205 at the Kentwood Older Activity Center.

•Precinct 207 at the Coahoma Community Center - Coahoma.

•Precinct 208 at Forsan School - Forsan.

•Precinct 301, 302 and 306 at the 18th & Main Street Fire Station.

•Precinct 303 and 305 at the Wasson Road Fire Station.

•Precinct 304 at Elbow School at County Road 818 off the Garden City Hwy.

•Precinct 401, 402 and 410 at the Big Spring High School Library (enter building at flag

pole).

•Precinct 403 at the 11th & Birdwell Fire Station.

•Precinct 404 at the Jonesboro Road Fire Station.

•Precinct 405 at the L.A. Hillbrunner residence (Snyder Hwy left on Gail Rt. 2.2 miles left on paved road then one mile).

•Precinct 406 at the Luther Country Store on Hwy 669.

•Precinct 407 at Salem Baptist Church.

•Precinct 408 at Vincent Baptist Church - Vincent.

•Precinct 409 at the Sand Springs Lions Club Community Center - Sand Springs.

## In the event of a hazardous materials spill, are we prepared to handle it?

# Emergency! Emergency!

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

Picture a nice sunny afternoon along Interstate 20 just east of Big Spring when truck after truck passes by carrying cargo from one destination to the next.

A vast majority of the time, the vehicles and their respective loads pass through without incident ... but what happens if one, carrying a hazardous chemical, loses control and jackknifes just outside of town?

Is Big Spring and Howard County prepared?

The spill near Sonora on Feb. 10 that closed 56 miles of Interstate 10 and forced several hundred residents from their homes could very well happen in Big Spring or any community that lies near a highway, railroad or pipeline.

The Sonora accident involved a tractor-trailer carrying 40,000 pounds of anhydrous hydrogen fluoride, which is commonly known as hydrofluoric acid.

Big Spring officials say they are ready, but to handle such a situation, the community as a whole must be willing to cooperate with agencies in charge.

"A wreck or a spill would normally be called into the police department or 9-1-1 emergency system," Big Spring Police Chief Lonnie Smith said. "Our standing rule is to notify the fire department of the situation and we then take our directions from them."

Emergency Planning Committee Chairman C. Roy Wright said the first priority is to take care of people.

"Our main priority is to take care of the citizens of the community in a situation like this whether its through evacuation or getting people to close their houses," Wright said.

"Lonnie (Smith) and his people would handle traffic and evacuation situations."

According to Smith, the police department dispatchers can tell emergency personnel headed to an accident/spill what the placard number is on a truck.

The North American Emergency Response Guidebook is what most areas, including Howard County, use



Big Spring Fire Department firefighter Richard Grove (right) helps fellow firefighter Richard LeClair get in the department's hazardous materials protective clothing.

in order to determine the proper precautions needed in the event of an accident/spill.

A placard (a diamond shaped symbol) or orange rectangular panel identifies the load or chemical being carried or shipped and is displayed on the ends and sides of a cargo tank, truck or rail car.

Howard County does not have a specifically designated hazardous cargo route, but most

truck traffic stays on Interstate 20 and U.S. Hwy 87, according to Community Development Director Todd Darden.

"Any real hazardous loads have escort vehicles as well as approval and permits from the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)," Darden said.

According to Wright, precautionary tools are excellent tools as far as being prepared, but

nothing can ever really prepared you for a real life emergency.

Wright carries telephone numbers to the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) with him at all times and this is the state agency that will be contacted in the event of a spill.

A hazardous waste company See **SPILL**, Page 2A

## Depending on emergency, list of responders lengthy

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

In the event of a hazardous chemical accident/spill in Howard County, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) License and Weight Division is probably the first state agency area resident will see respond.

Emergency Planning Committee Chairman C. Roy Wright said local officials would also depend on the media as their main line of communication with area residents.

Big Spring Police Chief Lonnie Smith said people have to keep cool in such a situation.

"People need to remain calm and follow instructions," Smith said. "If people are ordered to leave their homes, they should leave and make evacuation procedures as orderly as possible."

The accident near Sonora on Feb. 10 that involved leaking hydrofluoric acid killed a passenger in the truck and injured the driver, and could have been a lot worse had more acid leaked or weather conditions deteriorated.

A worse spill may have required a mass evacuation.

Referring to Howard County, Wright said, "A mass evacuation would involve the American Red Cross and we would also contact local churches and schools as far as shelter and transportation is concerned."

In accidents involving hazardous chemical spills, better than 90 percent of the time, closing doors and turning off the air conditioning/heating unit will take care of the situation.

"Should an incident occur at Fina Refinery, the company would place calls to residents in the neighborhood based on the direction of the wind," Wright said. "It's amazing how much hazardous material comes through Big Spring annually (an estimated 10,000 hazardous cargo loads)."

Area businesses with haz-



HERALD photo/Linda Choate  
The Union Pacific Railroad is just one way hazardous materials are transported through the community.

ardous materials (certain amounts) are required to file what is called a Tier 2 report with the Texas Department of Health, according to Wright. "The information on the report tells what the chemical or agent is, how much a business has on hand and where it is stored."

"The first of March is the due date for these reports and I have a thick stack on my desk already," Wright said.

As a way of knowing what's going on in a hurry, each member of the Big Spring Fire Department, Big Spring Police Department as well as each city department carry a copy of the North American Emergency Response Guidebook.

"We issue this to all of our officers as they come on to the police force," Smith said.

"Trucks are not the only methods by which a disaster can happen."

"We have everything right here that can bring hazardous materials to Big Spring," Wright said.

The correctional centers in Big Spring have agreements

See **LIST**, Page 2A

### WEATHER

**Today:** Mostly sunny and breezy. Highs in the 50s. Tonight, fair. Lows around 30. **Monday:** Mostly sunny. Highs mid to upper 50s. **Monday night:** fair. Lows around 30. **Tuesday:** partly cloudy. Lows in the 30s. **Highs in the 60s.** **Wednesday:** partly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon showers. Lows in the 30s and highs in the 60s. **Thursday:** fair. Lows 30-35.

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## Peter Rasmussen arraigned, enters 'not guilty' plea

By **KATHY GILBERT**  
Staff Writer

Suspected bank robber Peter Howard Rasmussen III was arraigned Tuesday before U.S. Magistrate Judge J. Q. Warnick in Lubbock.

Rasmussen listened to the charges against him and entered a plea of not guilty, U.S. District Attorney Roger McRoberts said.

A jury trial before U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings of the Northern District of Texas, Lubbock



RASMUSSEN

Division, has been set for April 6.

Rasmussen is alleged to have robbed the Glasscock County Bank in Garden City on Feb. 2. After stealing a pickup in Houston, he traveled to Garden City where he held Glasscock County Farm Service Administration employees hostage before stealing \$104,000, locking bank employees in a vault, and using a customer's Jeep Cherokee as a getaway car, the FBI says.

Because no double jeopardy penalties exist, Rasmussen could be brought to trial on both federal and state charges.

Rasmussen was brought to the Lubbock County Jail on Feb. 19, the U.S. Marshall's office said.

He was arrested at a Hilton Hotel in

Houston on Feb. 6. He had checked in under his name, and parked the Jeep Cherokee stolen from the bank customer in the parking lot. He was also carrying a large amount of cash.

Rasmussen was identified by the FBI and Texas Rangers as the chief suspect on Feb. 6. A pickup stolen in Houston was found in Garden City at about the time of the robbery. A pay stub and credit card belonging to Rasmussen were found in the glove compartment of the truck.

Rasmussen was identified by the pickup truck owner, a Glasscock County Farm Service Agency employee, a bank teller and a bank customer in photo lineups conducted on Feb. 5, court documents show.



# Thousands of hazardous materials pass through area on highways daily

By KATHY GILBERT  
Staff Writer

There is probably no way to know which hazardous chemicals are on the road. The only thing that's certain is — there are a lot of them.

"There are thousands of different materials (on the road), Trooper Mike Dawson, a hazardous materials specialist for the Texas Department of Public Safety based in Big Spring said. "We stop all kinds of different stuff."

Any attempt to list the types of hazardous materials traveling on Big Spring area roads is doomed, Dawson predicted.

"Each trucking company documents what they transport, and there are no records publicly filed," he explained. "And trucking companies don't want to alarm the public, so they're not

likely to tell you what they're carrying."

There are no restrictions on materials that can be trucked through the Big Spring area, Dawson said.

One hazardous material that will begin crossing through Big Spring in May will be nuclear waste destined for a salt dome facility — the Waste Isolation Pilot Project, or WIPP — just east of Carlsbad, N.M.

The new facility, part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Project Plan, will store nuclear waste from across the country.

"Waste from nuclear weapons development, missiles, spent nuclear products, and other nuclear waste from all over the United States will be coming through here starting in May," Dawson said.

Waste from the country's first nuclear generator in Oakridge,



HERALD photo/Linda Choate

Vehicles carrying hazardous materials are required to also carry a placard (inset) that tells the particular dangers for the material. Emergency personnel can then check their emergency guidebooks and see how to handle the materials.

Tenn., and generators in Mound, Ohio and Savannah River, Ga. will pass through the city.

He plans to attend a special class this Spring to learn emer-

gency procedures for dangerous radioactive materials.

The oil industry brings fewer hazardous materials through the area than it has in the past, Dawson explained.

FINA moved most of its dangerous chemicals to the coast about 10 years ago, he recalled.

Ominously, DPS troopers frequently have problems with truckers mislabeling the cargo they are carrying.

Once or twice a week truckers are found with cargos mislabeled or not labeled at all, Dawson reports.

Most often, truckers are using a local name for the substance rather than the required "shipping name."

"In Big Lake yesterday we found a trucker using a local name for corrosion inhibitor in oil fields," he said. "If there had been an accident, we would have had no idea what we were

dealing with."

Shipping names are standard names used in the troopers' emergency response book. The book stores the name, chemical makeup, hazards, dangers, and emergency procedures for a given substance.

Without the exact name for the chemical, troopers cannot respond effectively. "We're not chemical experts," Dawson said.

Transporters are responsible for the clean up of the chemicals they carry, he said. "They're the experts."

Placards and shipping experts are the only tools troopers have to work with to identify chemicals and respond in case of emergency.

"We're very fortunate in this area," Dawson said, noting that Big Spring had not seen any spills such as the one on I-10 last month. "But it could happen anytime."

## First rule in hazmat emergency: Get the patient 'cold' quickly

For medical personnel, treating a person in a hazardous material situation means getting the patient "cold" as quickly as possible.

Treatment of a patient in a hazardous material environment poses almost as many risks to the rescuers as it does to the victim. If, for example, ambulance personnel become contaminated by the same material as the patient, they are of little effective use to anyone.

So, one of the first priorities among medical personnel is to safely transport the patient from the "hot zone" — where the risk of contamination is the greatest — to the "cold zone" — where it is safe to begin treatment.

"If we get contaminated, we're not going to do anybody any good," said Brian Jensen, head of the local Emergency Medical Service staff. "First and foremost in our training is personal safety. If one of our people is overcome, we've lost valuable personnel."

Jensen said state and federal

guidelines offer a wide variety of scenarios in dealing with a hazardous material situation.

In most situations, however, it is the responsibility of the first responder to decontaminate and transport the patient to technicians waiting in the "cold zone."

There, victims are treated, then transported to the hospital as routinely as possible.

Another important duty EMS personnel must perform is to inform the hospital of the situation and what to expect.

Of course, decontaminating a patient before treatment may not be feasible, Jensen admits. In that case, EMS personnel would need to don protective clothing to lessen the chance of contamination.

There have been no major hazardous material incidents that EMS personnel have been involved in, Jensen said, but crews regularly undergo training to deal with such situations.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center personnel also undergo regular training to learn how to

deal with hazardous material situations, said Bill Bargfeldt, assistant director of plant operations and the hazardous material response coordinator.

Keeping medical personnel uncontaminated also is a priority at the hospital, but Bargfeldt admits such a situation is not always feasible. In such instances, protective "space suits" are made available to keep the contamination risk down, and a special room is set aside for that purpose, as well.

Training also covers a variety of responses to different hazardous materials. How personnel treat patients depends a great deal on what material was involved.

Bargfeldt, who came to Big Spring from Cheyenne, Wyo. three weeks ago, said the scariest scenario hospital employees might face is one involving radioactive material, simply because the lifespan of such material might exceed 1,000 years.

-STEVE REAGAN

## Guidebook directs emergency responders

A hazardous chemical spill such as the tractor-trailer that turned over on I-10 near Sonora on Feb. 10 and began leaking hydrofluoric acid is considered dangerous and potentially deadly because of the cargo and nature of the accident.

Most communities, including Big Spring and Howard County, have a response team in place in the event a similar accident should occur, but the utilization of safety measures in approaching a spill situation can also save lives.

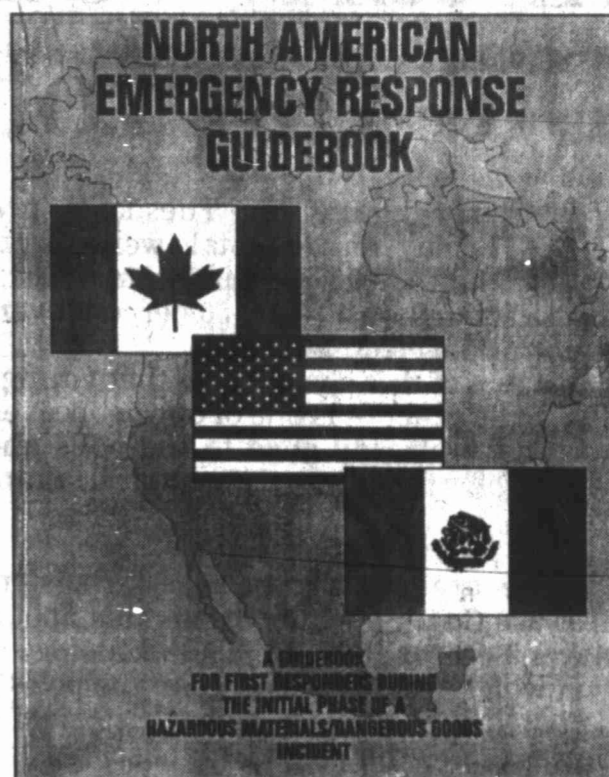
According to the North American Emergency Response (NAERG) Guidebook, those involved with handling a spill situation should approach the area cautiously from upwind because others involved cannot be helped until the situation has been fully assessed.

Officials in such a situation should, without entering the area, isolate it and assure the safety of people and the environment; keep onlookers away and outside the safety perimeter; and allow room to move and remove safety equipment.

Because the guide provides only the most important and worst case scenario for the initial response, a complete evaluation the situation is necessary.

In assessing a hazardous situation, emergency officials should consider the following:

- Is there a fire, a spill or a leak?
- What are the weather conditions?
- What is the terrain like?
- Who/what is at risk: people, property or the environment?
- What actions should be taken: Is an evacuation

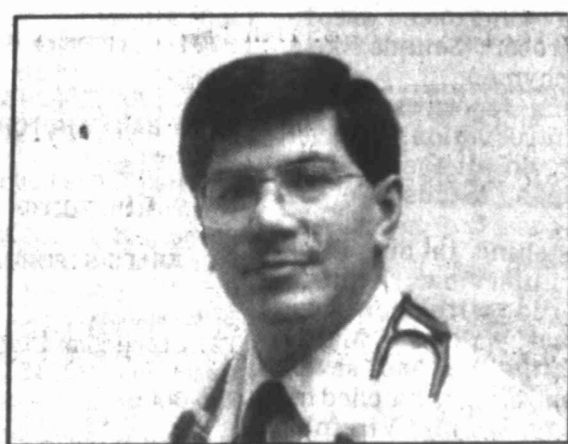


necessary? Is diking necessary? What resources (human and equipment) are required and are readily available?

-CARLTON JOHNSON

### Big Spring, meet Dr. Toscano!

Dr. Toscano was recruited here from Colorado. He specializes in adult medicine and can treat you for many specialized conditions.



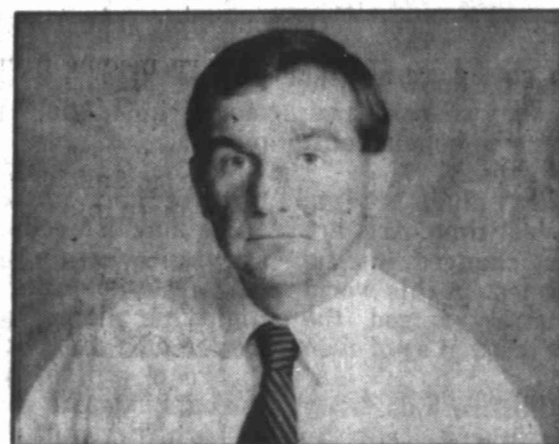
**Guido R. Toscano, M.D.**  
Board Certified  
Internal Medicine

Dr. Toscano welcomes the opportunity to treat patients for various conditions, including the following:  
Heart Diseases, Cholesterol Problems, Respiratory Diseases, Smoking Cessation, Headaches, Nutritional Disorders, Alcohol-Related Disorders, Obesity, and Endocrine Disorders.

**Guido R. Toscano, M.D.**  
1605 West 11th Place  
(1st building Northwest of the hospital)  
264-1400

### Big Spring, meet Dr. Koop!

Dr. "Koop" is from New York. He is the first lung specialist to ever be recruited for Big Spring.



**Cezary Kuprianowicz, M.D.**  
**Dr. "Koop"**  
Board Certified  
Pulmonology ♦ Internal Medicine ♦ Critical Care

Dr. "Koop" can help you manage your asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, or other lung disease. He also treats pneumonia and lung tumors, and can help you stop smoking.

**Cezary Kuprianowicz, M.D.**  
1605 West 11th Place  
(1st building Northwest of the hospital)  
264-1300

### Big Spring, meet Dr. Minck!

Dr. Minck comes to us from Arizona, where he has been in practice for more than 14 years.



**Rory Noel Minck, M.D.**  
Board Certified  
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Dr. Minck can help you with family planning and care for you during your pregnancy or after your child-bearing years. Call to schedule your appointment.

**Rory Noel Minck, M.D.**  
1603 West 11th Place  
Located in Scenic Mountain Medical Clinic  
(2nd Building Northwest of the hospital)  
268-0200

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ballot count up in early voting; Did you vote?

Early voting for Tuesday's primary ended Friday, and the totals were encouraging. More than 1,700 registered voters cast ballots at the courthouse — up 56 percent over the last non-presidential election.

Readers of this space know that voting — or not voting, to be exact — is one of our pet peeves. So, to those who have already gone to the polls and made their voices heard, we say, "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Now, for the rest of you ...

There are more than 18,000 registered voters in Howard County, which means that about 16,000 of you haven't cast ballots yet. And, if history holds, most of you won't even bother to go to the polls Tuesday.

That's a shame, because historical changes are occurring to the political landscape, and you have a chance to be more than just an uninterested bystander.

This is shaping up to be a watershed year in area politics. The Republican Party, for so long just a nasty rumor in Howard County and Texas, has made steady gains in recent years and now stands on the threshold of holding the same position of dominance that the Democrats held just a few decades ago.

If Republicans continue, the Democratic Party could go on the endangered list, at least in Howard County. Early voting totals showed that a great majority of you voted Republican, something your parents or grandparents wouldn't have dreamed of doing.

For many, this a change that is long overdue. For many others, however, it is a disturbing trend. How do you feel about this? Is it a good thing? Or a sign of the coming apocalypse?

Well, if you haven't voted, there's no way we'll find out. Take the time to vote, make your choice known, and you can become an active participant in history. But if you stand on the sidelines and do nothing, the parade will pass you by.

There's two ways to look at it — support the changing landscape, or oppose it. Either way, you're doing something, which is a darned sight better than the alternative.

OTHER VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I enjoyed the recent package "A Walking Tour of Big Spring," but I want to make a correction about the Comanche Trail Lake. I quote, "the old Cosden Lake that was constructed by the refinery" is incorrect. The lake was constructed many years before by the Texas & Pacific Railroad to provide water for their steam engines. It was only after the steam engines were replaced by the diesel engines that Cosden acquired the lake.

CHOLE (Mrs. J.C.) Pierce  
Big Spring

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you!

TO THE EDITOR:

I read with a great deal of interest, syndicated columnist Charley Reese article of Feb. 24, "No Patience for today's brand of 'nationalism'...and as I read...I kept saying 'Right On'...and 'Amen.' Great going Charley Reese for your thought provoking and common sense opinion. The gist of his column said "The generation that fought and won World War II set high standards not only on the battlefield but in politics, in journalism and in industry. It's hard to imagine

today's pamper, ever complaining multimillionaire athletes and entertainers voluntarily going off to war the way the Ted Williamses and the Jimmy Stewarts did."

Charley also commented: "I can't abide, a Federal Government that frets and fumes about people smoking or putting too much salt on the French fries."

Neither can I, Charley. The way it's going now, we will have government in our bedrooms, and our bathrooms. They are already in our vehicles.

Charley pointed out that he was a "World War II Kid." So was I, and you want to know who our real heroes are? They are NOT the high priced basketball or football stars. They are those guys out at our Veterans Administration Hospital. Guys who put their lives on the line in World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm. And you know what else...These guys...are sent outdoors whenever they want to smoke a cigarette.

I can't believe that this is what we fought for.

AL B. SCOTT  
Big Spring

The Denver buffalo was supernal (and costly)

Several months ago The Denver Post carried a review on the Palace Arms restaurant, an upscale eatery in the legendary Brown Palace Hotel. A reader sent me the clipping, with a paragraph ringed in red:

"Grilled buffalo tenderloin (\$38) is such a staple hereabouts that you might be tempted to skip the Arms' super-pricey version. But this splurge buys you a slice of history as well as supernal cookery."

Supernal? What say? My correspondent looked up "supernal," and found that it means heavenly, celestial, divine; lofty, of more than human excellence; ethereal, superlatively good. The gentleman said he had never met an ethereal buffalo in his life and wasn't wild to meet one now.

Yes, we're back on a topic that has sorely divided my readers for many years. To what extent should writers indulge their affection for what Westbrook Pegler once called "out-of-town words"? Critic Dwight

MacDonald called them words "from the zoo section of the dictionary." I myself assemble them in a file marked "Hard Words."

Well, then, what about "supernal" cookery? In context the meaning of "supernal" was abundantly clear. The Post's restaurant critic gave the Palace Arms four stars. It was no problem to deduce that supernal cookery must be elegant cookery.

All the same, readers stumbled over the unfamiliar word. The question is asked: Why should writers deliberately cause their readers to stumble? One answer is, "Because it's good for them." Readers who are sufficiently curious, or sufficiently irked, will go to a dictionary and look up the hard word. They will have added to their own vocabulary and benefited from the experience.

There is this further argument — it is columnist William F. Buckley's argument — that a writer owes his readers his best effort. The writer who is confident that he is employing not just a satisfactory word, but the precise word, has an obligation to himself. Use the word!

On the other side of the argument are writers who contend that their first obligation is not to their egos, but to their readers. The primary purpose of writing is to communicate. If I

use a word that derails the reader's train of thought, that purpose is ill served.

In making a choice of roughly synonymous words, writers must envision their audience. We employ one vocabulary for a daily newspaper and another, harder vocabulary for National Review. People magazine is one thing, the Phi Beta Kappa magazine is something else, and a novel in the style of Marcel Proust is something yet again. Taste is a factor — one vocabulary for the Morning Gazette, another for Penthouse.

My brother Buckley, for whom I cherish the warmest affection, has been known to remark in his column that "the afflatus is historically distinguished." The victim of a mail bomb is entitled to unleash a "salvific firehose of contempt." The Pentagon often "makes Congress sound like an assembly of solipsists." In the case of Air Force Lt. Kelly Flinn, who was court-martialed for lying about her adultery, "there is the factor of the incubus."

Columnist George F. Will has described Thomas Jefferson as "a paladin of political freedom." In 1793 Jefferson wrote a rapturous defense of the French Revolution. Said Will: "It is meretricious to treat an epistolary extravagance as an index of implacable conviction." In The Philadelphia Inquirer,

the paper's book editor said of "A History of Reading" that the work left him elated by his time "in an exotic souk." (A souk is a Mideastern market or bazaar.)

A reporter for The Wall Street Journal, covering the transfer of Hong Kong, described the office of financier Ely Kadoorie. It is painted in "celadon hues." (Celadon is a pale gray-green.) Another Journal reporter, writing from Australia, spoke of "the tenebrous Antarctic months from February through October."

John Simon, film critic for National Review, praised the Japanese movie "Shall we Dance?" An aging gentleman goes to a dancing school. "He gallantly stumbles through the two propaedeutic party dances." He experiences "a bittersweet peripetias."

A Scripps-Howard correspondent reported that as governor of Arkansas, Bill Clinton had urged a plan of product liability reform "that would ward off the legal Nosteratu who bleed companies with punitive lawsuits." Nosteratu? Who he? Who they?

Let it go for today. I will continue to preach the virtues of clarity, and Bill will continue to preach the virtues of precision, and we will stay friends. The master of "Firing Line" is mightily persuasive, but I still think I'm right.



James J. Kilpatrick  
The Writer's Art



We all need to learn to listen

TIGER, Ga. — In a brick school on a high hill a classroom is devoted to learning to listen, one of life's most valuable lessons.

Most of us don't know how to listen. We talk, we ask questions. But we don't listen.

And every day much is being said for the last time. Arts are lost, ways are changed, institutions are leveled. In this world where technology is god, the past is not revered; it's not even remembered.

Enter the Foxfire kids. They look like any others — slightly bored, thoroughly modern, in clumsy tennis shoes and denim uniform. They drift one by one into the room where dozens of blank, blue computers stare back at them. They giggle and punch one another.

But these teens at Rabun County High School up in the Georgia mountains are different from most. They have a mission.

Each year they start with an idea or two and end up with a slick magazine, a magazine devoted to memories. Their patrons and readers hail from all over — Brooklyn Heights, N.Y., Rogue River, Ore., Atlanta. Their subjects come from their own backyards.

"When Candi Forester said

she was interviewing the governor, all of us laughed," fellow student Amy York recalls. For one thing, a chat with a bigtime politician was atypical fare for Foxfire Magazine, known for more nostalgic, downhome pieces.

But Candi sat straight up in a leather chair in Zell Miller's office and listened to him talk about growing up in the mountains. He told her about the night his mother was elected mayor of Young Harris, about the room where they counted the ballots late at night: "I can remember being huddled over in the corner, and she would be the only female in that whole room. I can remember kind of how they respected her and were nice to her..."

The Miller piece would share an issue with reminiscences of Rabun County folks who were in the 1956 movie "The Great Locomotive Chase," filmed here. Erik Lunsford conducted those interviews, getting this wry bit from Johnnie Eller, age 71:

"Fess Parker looked up at the sky and looked down at me and said, 'It's a cloudin' over. You think it'll rain?' I looked up at the sky and at him. Then I had to say, 'Might cloud. Rains one minute and shines the next.' Well, that was my part I had to

say." There also were interviews with a banjo maker, an apple farmer, a Cherokee arrow-maker, a grocer. (Sounds like a jumprope rhyme.)

The young reporters always write an introduction, then let the subject do all the talking. It's a clean, Studs Terkel approach.

Most touching in one issue was the interview Jennifer Wilburn did with her own grandmother, "Mema," Mattie Sae McCall: "We had seven girls; Helen, she was hatched on my birthday; Bonnie; Virginia; Alice, but we call her Bo; Lucille — we call her Cricket; Linda; an' Jewel. I love 'em all, but they's all jackasses..."

There was no reason to interview Mattie Sae McCall, other than to share that funny little woman, whose own mother died when she was "about 9 years old." Mattie had no claim to fame, no crisis or crown. But Jennifer's Mema imparted great wisdom.

This crop of Foxfire kids is nervous. That issue raised the bar. They mention in near-whispers a few tentative ideas.

They'll do fine. Already they know how to listen.

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Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY  
...AND COMING UP NEXT, TAMMY WYNETTE'S NEWEST HIT...  
...ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ALREADY...  
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Big Spring Sunday, 1998  
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# Judge rules that TABC cannot enforce Morales' ban on eight-liners

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission cannot go after the liquor licenses of businesses with eight-liner machines, a federal judge has ruled.

Kent of Galveston issued a temporary restraining order Friday. Kent said that Attorney General Dan Morales' ban of eight-liners probably will not withstand court scrutiny.

month against the 1995 Fuzzy Animal Act, which legalized amusement machines that offer non-cash prizes worth \$5 or less.

policy. "There is a strong likelihood (Evetts) will prevail at the trial on the merits," Kent ruled Friday.

"We had been notifying people that the attorney general ruled them illegal and have asked them to comply," he said. "We have been getting great cooperation."

State District Judge John Marshall, who banned Comptroller John Sharp from using Morales' legal opinion to prevent an owner of eight-liner machines from getting tax permits that are required for all amusement machines.

## Teen-age vandals claim to be vampires

DALLAS (AP) — A church's charring, amid a drug-fueled rampage by four teen-agers claiming to be vampires, has netted two of the youths federal charges for hate crimes.

Kinnard and Ramsey were also charged with federal arson. The FBI's Evidence Response Team and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms had helped police and firefighters gather evidence, Dallas ATF spokesman Steve Steele said.

Relying on Morales' decision, the TABC warned license holders that they could lose approval to sell alcohol if they have eight-liners, which look like casino slot machines and offer players eight ways of winning certificates that can be traded for prizes.

The commission will abide by the judge's decision, said Randy Yarbrough, TABC assistant administrator. Noting that eight-liners have been the subject of several lawsuits, Yarbrough said the issue eventually will be handled in the state's appellate courts.

Three of the suspects remained in custody Saturday. Neighbors said a loud party at a 16-year-old's house preceded the youths' Thursday rampage across several blocks near Bethany Lutheran Church.

"The rapid response by the Dallas Police and Fire Departments and the FBI and ATF sends a clear message that those who attack our churches will be hit by the full artillery of the federal and state authorities," said U.S. Attorney Paul Coggins in Dallas.

Milton Evetts of Galveston, who has 20 eight-liners in various veterans' organization halls, challenged the agency's

Lynetta Littleton's eldest son went into her back yard and traced the noise two doors up the street. "I told my three boys to stay away from his house and we kept our distance," Mrs. Littleton, who had to replace seven tires that were slashed on two vehicles, said Friday.

More than a dozen other residents in the neighborhood of brick homes and well-tended lawns had car tires slashed, windows broken and racial slurs spray-painted on doors and walls. An elementary school was also hit.

Church member Garland Spitzberger said Nazi symbols and racial slurs had appeared on fences near one of the teens' homes a year ago.

Law officers say the teens smoked methamphetamine-laced marijuana before racing into the quiet neighborhood overnight, defacing and torching Bethany Lutheran, smashing car windows and spraying racist graffiti and obscenities on buildings and autos.

The principal at Wallace Elementary School, north of the church, said children playing at recess found racially derogatory graffiti on a portable building.

Church member Garland Spitzberger said Nazi symbols and racial slurs had appeared on fences near one of the teens' homes a year ago.

In the morning, they spied on arson investigators poking through rubble of the church's fellowship hall and offices.

"They wondered who would do that," Teresa Gafford said. "Some of the African-American kids said, 'They wrote some things about us.'"

Dallas police arson Capt. Don Howard said the teens admitted lacing crystal methamphetamine with marijuana before going on the violent spree along several blocks near Lake Highlands Junior High School.

"The word was that the party broke up around 3 a.m. after they smoked marijuana laced with something and believed they were vampires," said Steve Clausen, president of Bethany Lutheran's congregation, as he surveyed damage Friday.

Total damage will exceed \$300,000. The teens used a cigarette lighter, Molotov cocktails and several gallons of gasoline at Bethany Lutheran before the church caught fire about 3 a.m. Thursday, police said.

Resident Jerry Hejl found all tires punctured on his three vehicles and rocks thrown through two windshields, along with racial slurs and the words "2 Foot Bong Krew" spray-painted on a mobile home.

"And we were the closest church," said Clausen, standing outside the gutted hall where a red pentagram was painted near a cross.

After a review by the lead U.S. attorney for a national church task force late Friday,

A 16-year-old boy whose home is across an alley from the church remained in juvenile custody. Authorities detained him as he and others watched investigators sift through rubble after Thursday's arson.

"After daybreak, they were just across an alley from the church, sitting on a balcony above a carport, watching from lawn chairs," Howard said. "They were pretty interested in what was going on at the church and one of the police sergeants said, 'You might want to talk to those boys up on the balcony.'"

"I heard he was involved in vandalism before with satanic symbols," Mrs. Littleton said. "And he's killed squirrels in his front yard with a BB gun."

Resident Jerry Hejl found all tires punctured on his three vehicles and rocks thrown through two windshields, along with racial slurs and the words "2 Foot Bong Krew" spray-painted on a mobile home.

Lucas Charles Simms, 17, was released Friday on \$4,500 bond. Brandon Lee Ramsey, 18, and 19-year-old Charles Randal Kinnard remained in custody in lieu of \$4,500 bonds each on state arson charges, the Dallas County Sheriff's Department said.

Resident Jerry Hejl found all tires punctured on his three vehicles and rocks thrown through two windshields, along with racial slurs and the words "2 Foot Bong Krew" spray-painted on a mobile home.

After a review by the lead U.S. attorney for a national church task force late Friday,

### lifel policies

Sunday items are due to the Herald office by Wednesday at noon. Birth announcement, engagement, wedding and anniversary forms are available at the Herald office. We will include only information listed on our forms. There is no charge for these announcements, and we reserve the right to edit them as space requires.



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# Starr County convictions add to South Texas corruption reputation

RIO GRANDE CITY (AP) — When Starr County Sheriff Eugenio "Gene" Falcon and five officials pleaded guilty in rapid succession to federal conspiracy charges, some citizens were surprised — by the admissions of guilt, not the crimes.

"You know politics around this area," said Herald Garza, as he stood outside the Starr County courthouse Friday, campaigning for his father-in-law, a county commissioner candidate. "It's not something new to us. It happens very often."

Falcon, a justice of the peace and four Starr County jailers pleaded guilty last week in a bail bond kickback scheme. A fifth jailer is on trial in Brownsville, also charged with conspiracy and several counts of bribery.

The Starr County scandal follows a series of high-profile cases in the Rio Grande Valley, where indictments involving law enforcement officers, jailers and elected officials appear to be routine.

In late 1997 and early 1998, six former Rio Grande Valley

police officers, including two former Donna police chiefs, pleaded guilty to taking payoffs from drug traffickers to allow marijuana to move through South Texas.

In 1994, Hidalgo County Sheriff Brig Marmolejo was convicted on money laundering, bribery and racketeering charges. He was accused of accepting \$151,000 in bribes to allow a convicted drug trafficker to have conjugal visits in the jail. The former chief jailer was convicted on racketeering conspiracy and bribery charges.

Also that year, the Zapata County judge, county clerk and sheriff were convicted on charges of drug trafficking, official corruption and money laundering.

"That doesn't mean people who live along the Texas-Mexico border, where drug trafficking traditionally has gone hand in hand with political corruption, approve of the distinction.

"We're sick of always getting the wrong reputation for drug dealing," said Garza, a lifelong Starr County resident. "We're

fed up. We have honest citizens."

Some residents said they believe Falcon's fate was a long time coming.

"For so many years, the people of Starr County have trusted him," said Octavio Castaneda, a bail bondsman who sued Falcon in 1992 over the way bonds were distributed at the Starr County Jail. "But the badge was just a way for him to make money, and everybody saw it."

Justice has taken place in Starr County, and it's about time," Starr County resident David Jones said. "This is an example of what should happen to corrupt politicians. It will be a rude awakening for a lot of people who had put their trust in Gene Falcon and found he'd betrayed them."

U.S. Attorney James DeAtley called this week's developments "a serious violation not only of law, but just the sheer public trust."

He has made cracking down on official corruption a priority for his office.

"We've clearly made a target-

ed effort to address corruption in the Southern District of Texas," he said. "The public has got to be able to trust their public officials or else what good is it?"

In Starr County, Falcon and the other officials admitted to taking part in a plot to identify prisoners and refer them to bondsman Homero Arturo Longoria. Once bonds were posted, Longoria paid the officials a "referral fee."

"If the inmates couldn't afford the bond amount, Longoria, who also has pleaded guilty to conspiracy and was expected to be a star witness in the case, would ask Justice of the Peace Adan Garcia to reduce the amount and also pay him a kickback.

Falcon, Garcia, two jailers and two other county officials will be sentenced May 26.

The reasons for corruption in South Texas are hard to pin down, but certainly widespread poverty — which makes people susceptible to the lure of easy money — and little education are contributing factors, said

Jerry Polinard, a political science professor at the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg and a longtime South Texas.

Polinard also notes that there's corruption all over the state, but the Rio Grande Valley gets the notoriety. "When public officials are corrupt in South Texas, people say 'What's new?'" he said.

Federal officials cite Starr County as one of the country's most impoverished and Rio Grande City — the county seat with about 14,000 residents — does indeed have some rundown shacks. But the heart of town looks like any other city with the requisite Wal-Mart, McDonald's and Dairy Queen, along with beautiful historic buildings and churches.

Rio Grande City is also a place where large houses rumored to belong to drug traffickers sit atop hills along one side of U.S. Highway 83.

Falcon, who did not return a message left by The Associated

Press, lives in a sprawling ranch-style house once owned by drug kingpin Ramon Garcia Rodriguez. Since buying the home in 1985, Falcon has put himself on other law enforcement officials' radar.

That year, Falcon was indicted on state charges of official oppression and assault after a Starr County district attorney's investigator alleged he struck him on the back and neck. The charges were later dropped.

In 1986, Falcon was charged in Mexico with killing a man who allegedly witnessed a triple killing in Texas. A witness identified Falcon as one of the gunmen, but charges were eventually dismissed.

Despite the allegations and the plea, some residents believe he should get a second chance.

"We all make mistakes, said Laurentina Pina Luera, a candidate for Starr County commissioner who has known the sheriff since he was first elected in 1981. "No one is perfect in this world."

## Feds seize drug-plagued hotel, but file no charges

HOUSTON (AP) — The Red Carpet Inn on the city's southwest side is under new management — by the federal government.

Using a broad interpretation of drug-forfeiture laws, federal agents in Houston seized the hotel, thought to be the center of area drug activity.

Now the U.S. attorney's office here is trying to obtain a forfeiture of the property on the grounds its owners gave "tacit consent" to illegal activity by not stopping it when notified by

police and the city.

However, no criminal charges have been filed against the hotel's owners. So can the government take control of it?

"It violates fundamental fairness and due process," said Jay Jacobson, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "You're requiring people to act as police officers or agents of the police. They're saying you do what police say or we take your property."

Agents seized the hotel Feb. 17

so drug dealers would have one less place to deal and because the owners didn't listen to police who suggested more security. Police say they suggested the owners install mirrors on each side of the hotel, aim a video camera at the parking lot, put on more guards at night, screen their guests more and increase room rates.

But by not implementing those suggestions, the government says, the owners gave their tacit approval to the drug trafficking.

On 32 visits to the hotel between Jan. 1, 1996, and Dec. 8, 1997, police made arrests and seized drugs and cash. Even after that period, other drug arrests were made and other crimes were reported at the business.

"They were on notice. They had a responsibility to take appropriate steps to prevent illegal activities from going on at their establishment," said James DeAtley, acting U.S. attorney for the Houston area.

But attorney Matt Hennessy, who represents the owners, GWJ Enterprises, along with hotel management Hop Enterprises, says his clients are just being penalized for doing business in a rough part of town.

"These are all good people trying to run an honest business that just happens to be in a tough neighborhood," Hennessy said.

He says the owners signed a trespass affidavit that gave police officers free rein to roam the grounds to question patrons and others. That affidavit was in effect from Dec. 12, 1995,

until Jan. 26, 1998, Hennessy said.

The owners withdrew it, he said, because they felt police were harassing innocent customers.

The period of time the affidavit was in effect corresponds with the time period where they say all the bad stuff happened," Hennessy said. "This was when the HPD had greater authority on the property. They're now using that against the owners and management."

Ultimately, Hennessy said, the case could determine whether the government can say how much businesses should spend on security.

"I think that's what it's all about," he said. "I don't know why they picked this hotel, but I do think seizing someone's business under these circumstances is overreaching."

But DeAtley said the government is not punishing a business for something it can't control. The owners, he said, could have controlled the crime taking place on their property by implementing the police suggestions.

The case is about responsibility, he says.

"With property, you're holding yourself out to the public and the community as responsible, and these are responsibilities that are not surprises to anybody," DeAtley said. "The owners were put on notice and given the opportunity to take reasonable steps. They chose not to."

Hennessy intends to fight the case, which is expected to go to trial this year.

## Father sentenced to four life sentences for sexual abuse

AUSTIN (AP) — A man who sexually abused his five children by forcing them to have sex with each other and himself has been sentenced to life in prison.

District Judge Mike Lynch referred to the man as a "predator."

The Travis County man, whose name was withheld to protect his children's identities, was convicted on eight counts for repeatedly molesting his 12-year-old daughter.

Lynch sentenced the man to four life prison sentences, three 20-year sentences and a 10-year sentence.

The man must serve 30 years in prison before he is eligible for parole.

"I believe that the community demands that justice be done in this case," Lead Prosecutor Amy Casner told the judge. "He shattered the lives of five children. They will never have a childhood; he took that away from them."

Defense attorney Walter Prentice, however, asked the judge to assess a sentence that would allow the 37-year-old man an opportunity, "for redeeming his life."

Lynch postponed the sentenc-

ing until Friday so a psychologist could evaluate the man. The judge heard testimony from three of the man's five children.

Lynch said the psychological report indicates the man is in deep denial. Lynch believes that denial is beyond redemption.

"The obligation of a parent to a child is like no other," Lynch said. "To abdicate that obligation is bad. To not only abdicate it, but to become a predator to your children, is the worst."

All five children were removed from their home in July when the eldest girl told a relative about the abuse. The four girls, ages 12, 11, 7 and 4 and their 8-year-old brother were divided among foster homes and treatment facilities.

They all suffer from an array of emotional and psychological problems.

The children's mother had pleaded guilty to five counts of abandonment. She testified against her husband and is expected to be sentenced to six months in jail and 10 years' probation Monday.

The Travis County district attorney's office is seeking to terminate the couple's parental rights.

## UT suspends anti-affirmative action group

AUSTIN (AP) — A University of Texas student group that held the news conference in which law professor Lino Graglia made his controversial remarks has been suspended from holding campus-wide events the rest of the semester.

Students for Equal Opportunity, which opposes affirmative action in college admissions, is suspended until May 31.

The suspension stems from the groups sponsorship of a lecture by conservative author David Horowitz, according to a letter signed by UT Associate Dean of Students Glenn

Maloney.

According to the letter, the group violated rules prohibiting student groups from sponsoring campus events with non-UT groups, selling merchandise on behalf of anyone who is not affiliated with the university and distributing literature that promotes an off-campus group.

## Scenic Mountain Medical Clinic

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## UT suspends anti-affirmative action group

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# Feds seek Israeli master hacker in Pentagon, university cyberattacks

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — In a high-stakes game of Internet cat and mouse, the FBI is hunting an Israeli master hacker who orchestrated the penetration of military and university research computers.

Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre said last month that although the intrusion appeared to have been aimed at systems that contained unclassified personnel and payroll records, it was "the most organized and systematic attack the Pentagon has seen to date."

And computer experts noted that because information is shared within any organization, classified data could be available even on unclassified systems. And even unclassified data could be changed or erased.

The computer whiz, who uses the Internet name "Analyzer," boldly gave an interview with an online magazine.

And Analyzer supporters have

threatened retaliation if the FBI cracks down on the hackers responsible for the electronic break-ins.

Those threats should be taken seriously, warns computer expert Dane Jasper, a partner in Sonic, a Santa Rosa Internet provider. He helped the FBI track down two Sonoma County teen-agers who Analyzer allegedly coached through the series of military computer raids.

Most government and university computers are woefully unprotected, he says.

"If these systems are so important to the federal government, why isn't someone paying attention to patch the security?" he asks.

Analyzer and the two teens penetrated computers in February using a weakness that already had been identified by computer security teams. The teams provided a quick software patch — but the hacked

systems didn't use it.

The first report came Feb. 3 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's plasma energy lab, followed by break-ins at a series of military locations, including the Naval Undersea Warfare Center. They were followed by reports from NASA and other universities.

One of the teen-agers has claimed 200 institutions were hacked.

In the interview with the Internet magazine AntiOnline, Analyzer says the penetrations were innocent and even helpful to their targets.

"I always kinda help the servers I hack," Analyzer said. He claimed he patches the holes he finds — but hints that a malicious hacker could have done much more.

In NASA's computer, he boasted he found "the name of the guards... and in what times they do their patrolling."

And Analyzer and the two

teen-agers he coached planted "back door" program instructions in some computers that could be used in the future by anyone knowing their codes.

"They could delete everything on the hard drives, the file systems — they could insert false data," Jasper says.

An unknown ally of the hackers has already done some damage. The Web site of Internet service provider NextDex was taken over by someone purporting to be Analyzer who defended the teen-agers in what amounted to a warning shot.

"It would have been a lot easier to remove everything on their hard drives than it was to change their Web page — that's frightening," Jasper says.

It was Jasper and his Sonic experts who identified the Sonoma hackers and discovered the existence of Analyzer.

After receiving a warning from MIT that someone using Sonic had penetrated the plas-

ma lab — and a court order obtained by the Air Force demanding data on the penetrators — Sonic monitored all calls coming through its system from the Sonoma County town of Cloverdale.

The Israeli hacker had frequent online communications with the teen-agers, Jasper says.

"At least two of those were step-by-step tutorials on how to penetrate servers," he says.

On Feb. 25, FBI agents raided the boys' homes and carted away evidence.

In an interview with AntiOnline, one of the boys, a 16-year-old Cloverdale High School student who uses the code name "Makaveli," gave a simple explanation for their deeds:

"It's power, dude. You know power."

## Path is paved for historic vote on school prayer

By JOAN LOWY  
Scripps Howard News Service

WASHINGTON — A constitutional amendment that would return official prayer to public schools and permit government funding of religious activity passed an important test Wednesday, clearing the way for a historic vote by the House this spring.

The House Judiciary Committee approved the Republican-sponsored amendment 16 to 11 on a party line vote. Republican leaders have promised religious conservatives a vote by the House in late April or early May.

It has been 27 years since the House last voted on a school prayer constitutional amendment, and never on one so broadly worded as the amendment authored by Rep. Ernest Istook, R-Okla.

It is unlikely the amendment will be able to gain the required two-thirds majority, but supporters have promised to wage a fierce battle for passage.

Televangelist Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition is planning a multimillion-dollar television ad campaign targeting lawmakers in closely contested districts.

Even if the amendment fails,

the coalition is expected to cite the vote in the approximately 45 million voter guides it distributes to church-goers just before election day.

The floor vote would fulfill a promise that House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., made to religious conservatives three years ago. The delay has been partly attributable to infighting among conservatives over the amendment's wording and partly to the reluctance of GOP leaders to tackle the emotionally charged issue.

Most legal and religious authorities agree that there already is a significant amount of religious expression permitted in public schools under existing Supreme Court interpretations of the "free exercise" and "establishment" of religion clauses of the First Amendment.

Students are legally permitted to pray before and after class, say grace over meals, read Bibles, and express their religious views to other students so long as they are not disruptive. Groups of students may meet to pray on school property, such as "see you at the flagpole" prayer groups. And Bible clubs have the same right to use school property and announce their meetings in student newspapers as other clubs, although teachers are not permitted to participate in an official capacity.

In general, the court has forbidden religious activity that can be construed as coercive and disruptive, or that makes students captive audiences for proselytizing.

However, supporters of the

amendment say the court has gone too far, robbing government of all but the most innocuous religious references and sometimes making government outright hostile to religious expression.

"The court has usurped the Constitution and converted it into a tool to drive religion from the public arena," said Christian Coalition Executive Director Randy Tate.

Both sides agree that the amendment would allow students to lead their classmates in sectarian prayer in the classroom the same way teachers lead students in the pledge of allegiance now. Morning prayers over intercoms, prayers from the podium at graduations and other school events, and expressions of personal religious views by teachers during class would also be permitted.

Students of minority religions or non-believers would have to remain silent or leave the room if they did not wish to participate.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., an opponent, said sponsors had no reason for backing the amendment except as a means to inculcate students they feel have been given no, or insufficient, religious direction at home.

Other expressions of faith by government officials and on government property would also be permitted under the amendment, including the posting of the Ten Commandments and crucifixes and the display of nativity scenes. Judges would be permitted to lead jurors and courtroom personnel in prayer.

"I think a lot of Americans are looking to go backward to get a feeling that we had when they were young, where you had a sense of community, where you could acknowledge your God if you choose to without forcing anybody else to do it your way," said Rep. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a supporter.

"That's what this would do."

The amendment would also clear the way for public funding of religious schools and other religious activity by making it unconstitutional for the government to "discriminate against religion, or deny equal access to a benefit on account of religion."

Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., charged that the amendment's "ultimate goal" is the "defunding of public education" in favor of religious schools.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., warned: "If you had direct funding for religious schools, it would be the Baptists against the Methodists against the Jews against everybody else. You'd have every different religious group at each other's throats over the allocation formula every year. I can think of nothing worse in terms of the balkanizing and dividing of this country."

Supporters, however, said it is wrong for the government to favor "the secular over the sacred" by denying assistance to religious schools and other religious activities, such as drug counseling programs, just because they have a religious content.

(Joan Lowy covers Congress for Scripps Howard News Service.)

Today's News Shows

ABC's "This Week" — Topics: The deal with Saddam Hussein, the campaign finance scandal and the leaked deposition. Guests: U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan; Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn.; former Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and former White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler.

CBS' "Face the Nation" — Topics: Leaking the president's deposition; the Ken Starr investigation and the Paula Jones sexual harassment case. Guests: James Fisher, attorney for Paula Jones; Joseph DiGenova, former independent counsel, and Jane Sherburne, former special counsel to the president.

NBC's "Meet the Press" — Topics: American values, character and the Clinton investigation. Guests: Empower America co-director William Bennett, former White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and historian and author Doris Kearns Goodwin.

CNN's "Late Edition" — Topics: Budget surplus, Social Security, tax reform and Clinton allegations. Guests: Rep. John Kasich, R-Ohio; former White House counsel Larry Davis, George Terwilliger, former deputy attorney general, and Reps. John Conyers, D-Mich., and Bill McCullum, R-Fla.

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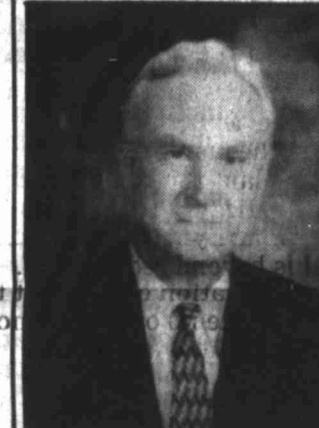
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# American-led team inspects suspected weapons sites in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A U.N. team led by an American at the heart of the last Iraqi crisis went into the field today for a second day of inspections, searching for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Officials at the Iraqi Press Center banned reporters from covering Scott Ritter's activities. They did not say why the ban was imposed.

An official with the U.N. Special Commission confirmed that Ritter's team toured sites today but would not give details of the expected destinations.

In January, the Iraqis accused Ritter of being a spy and of including too many American and British inspectors on his teams. They then prevented him from working by denying him necessary Iraqi escorts, and he left the country without

completing his work. Iraq's refusal to open presidential sites to inspection prompted the United States to move troops and warships to the Gulf and to threaten military strikes. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan brokered a deal Feb. 23 to ease the crisis.

At U.N. headquarters in New York on Friday, Annan was considering a Russian request to appoint a Russian to a key position on the commission that oversees the weapons inspections.

That would give Russia — Iraq's strongest supporter on the Security Council — an important role in managing the inspection program. The U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Bill Richardson, told CNBC television "we are not very crazy" about the proposal.

The deal, signed by Annan and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, commits Iraq to cooperate with U.N. inspections of all suspected weapons sites. It also calls for the creation of a special committee of U.N. diplomats and inspectors that will look at eight presidential compounds.

Pentagon officials have said that the 38,000 U.S. troops in the Gulf will remain to ensure that the Baghdad regime complies with the Annan-Aziz agreement.

Ritter's inspections began Friday, when he led his team through three suspected weapons sites classified as "sensitive" by the Iraqi authorities, U.N. Special Commission spokesman Alan Dacey said.

So-called sensitive sites include Iraqi ministries and the headquarters of intelligence and

military operations. At least one of the sensitive sites visited Friday was a barracks of the elite Republican Guard, a source told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. Previously the Iraqis have resisted attempts to inspect such quarters.

Ritter is accompanied by 50 inspectors and is expected to spend a week in Baghdad, U.N. officials in New York said. It is one of the largest teams ever sent to Iraq.

The inspectors must certify that Iraq has destroyed its weapons of mass destruction before the U.N. Security Council will lift punishing trade sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. That invasion sparked the 1991 Gulf War.

Also Saturday, Iraqi Foreign

Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf left Baghdad for New York where he will begin negotiations with U.N. officials on a plan to vastly expand the amount of oil Iraq may sell for food and medicine, INA said.

In New York, Al-Sahhaf will also discuss with Annan ways to implement the Feb. 23 accord, the agency added.

The U.N.-approved oil-for-food program allows Iraq to sell \$2.1 billion worth of crude oil over six months to buy needed food,

medicine and other supplies for its 22 million people.

The program is an exception from the U.N. sanctions.

A new U.N. plan calls for boosting the amount of oil Iraq may export from \$2.1 billion to \$5.26 billion over six months.

But Iraq says it can export only \$4 billion worth of oil in that time, and is opposed to elements in the plan that Baghdad says usurps its authority to decide how to spend money raised through the oil sale.

# Albright demands 'firm action' against Serbia

ROME (AP) — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, heading for a key international meeting on the Kosovo crisis, said Saturday "decisive and firm action" against Serbia is necessary to end the violence against the province's ethnic Albanian majority.

"We are not going to stand by and watch the Serbian authorities do in Kosovo what they can no longer get away with doing in Bosnia," Albright said at a joint news conference with Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini.

Albright, on the second leg of a seven-nation foreign tour, also had what she called a "fabulous" meeting with Pope John Paul II in which they discussed Cuba and other issues.

On Kosovo, Albright worries that lack of international resolve could embolden Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to step up his campaign to tame the independence movement in the Yugoslav province.

"We condemn the violence and believe Milosevic bears responsibility for this," she said. "We have a broad range of options available to us."

Of the six nations assembling Monday in London to discuss Kosovo, Russia is regarded as the strongest opponent of tough action against Milosevic. Italy is seen as reluctant.

An administration official accompanying Albright said her first goal in London will be to convince the six, known informally as the contact group, of the need for a firm response, then to seek diplomatic and economic penalties against the Serbs. In addition to the United States, Russia and Italy, the group's other members are France, Britain and Germany.

Albright believes a discussion of military action is premature at this point and did not discuss that option in her meeting with Dini. The Italian denounced Serb actions in Kosovo as "bru-

tal and violent" but did not recommend punitive measures. As of Friday, an estimated 45 ethnic Albanians and six Serb police had died in the recent unrest.

Russia sees the violence as largely an internal matter, and, in an apparent signal of opposition to a stiff response, will send a deputy foreign minister to London instead of Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

The violence in Kosovo has triggered fears that neighboring countries, including Albania, Greece and Macedonia, could be drawn into the conflict.

It also has dampened considerably an upbeat mood in Washington less than two weeks ago about its overall policy toward the former Yugoslavia.

After Milosevic signaled support for Milorad Dodik, the new moderate prime minister of the Serb entity in Bosnia, the Clinton administration decided to ease sanctions against Milosevic's Yugoslav government.

These included giving Belgrade permission to open a consulate in the United States, to give its national airline Jat U.S. landing rights and to expand its U.N. mission.

Outraged by the upsurge in violence in Kosovo, the administration reimposed the sanctions. Albright told the Rome news conference that action was taken to ensure that Serbia "pays the price" for its conduct in Kosovo.

While seeking a more cautious approach on Kosovo than does the United States, Italy also is at odds with Washington on Iran.

Dini showed up in Tehran a few days after the European Union ended a ban on high-level visits to Iran last month. But with Albright, Dini insisted Saturday that Iran must implement its moderate words with concrete deeds.

Albright, in an apparent dig

at Dini's foray to Tehran, said, "In our effort to encourage change (in Iran), declaring success prematurely is the surest way to delay success indefinitely."

She and Dini also discussed Iraq and agreed that Baghdad must give free access to U.N. weapons inspectors consistent with Security Council resolutions.

"No one is going to give peace an unlimited number of

chances," Albright said.

According to a U.S. official, Albright told the pope his recent visit to Cuba could be a "point of departure" on the island for political change.

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said Albright stressed to the pope "America's desire to find ways to help the Cuban people without strengthening their repressive government."



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**Four**  
By JOHN H. WA  
Managing Editor

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**Steer**  
By STEVE REAG  
Staff Writer

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**Howe**  
By JOHN H. WA  
Managing Editor

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Big Ten Tournament championship — 2 p.m., ch. 7.  
Big 12 Tournament championship — 2 p.m., ch. 30.  
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## Four Lady Hawks earn postseason honors

By JOHN H. WALKER  
Managing Editor

Four members of Howard College's Region V champion Lady Hawks basketball team have earned post-season honors.

Sophomore Shawnta Johnson and freshman Karlita Washington were both named to the All-Region Team as well as to the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) all-conference team.

In addition, sophomore Latraica Spencer and freshman Ricka McKee were named to the WJCAC honorable mention team.

Johnson, of Fresno, Calif., finished the regular season as the No. 3 scorer in the WJCAC while Washington, from Washington, D.C., was the No. 6 scorer at 14.4 points per

game. Johnson and Washington were the scoring leaders on the team, which finished in a three-way tie for the conference championship with South Plains and Midland.



JOHNSON

Washington also led the conference in assists at 6.3 per game and 3-point field goal shooting at 45.9 percent. In addition, she was third in steals at 3.2 per game and fourth in free throw percentage at 73.6 percent.

Johnson was also sixth in field goal percentage at 54.1 percent.

Spencer finished second in the conference in field goal per-

centage at 57.8 percent while McKee wound up third in 3-point percentage at 35.4 percent and fifth in steals at 3.1 per game.

Jeanine Horton and Donelle Jones, both sophomores, and freshman Latasha Moore also ranked among the conference statistical leaders.

Horton was ninth in assists with 3.6 per game while Moore was eighth in field goal percentage at 52.7 and Jones 10th at 52.1 percent.

Howard finished the season as the No. 2 offensive team in the conference, averaging 82.2 points per game. The Lady Hawks led the league in

defense, allowing just 49.9 points per outing.

Howard, 31-2, next plays at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17 in the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament in the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kan.

Howard reached the national tournament by defeating No. 11-ranked Grayson, 75-72, in the first round of the regionals and followed that up with wins over unranked Temple, 78-56, and Midland, 61-53 to claim the regional title.

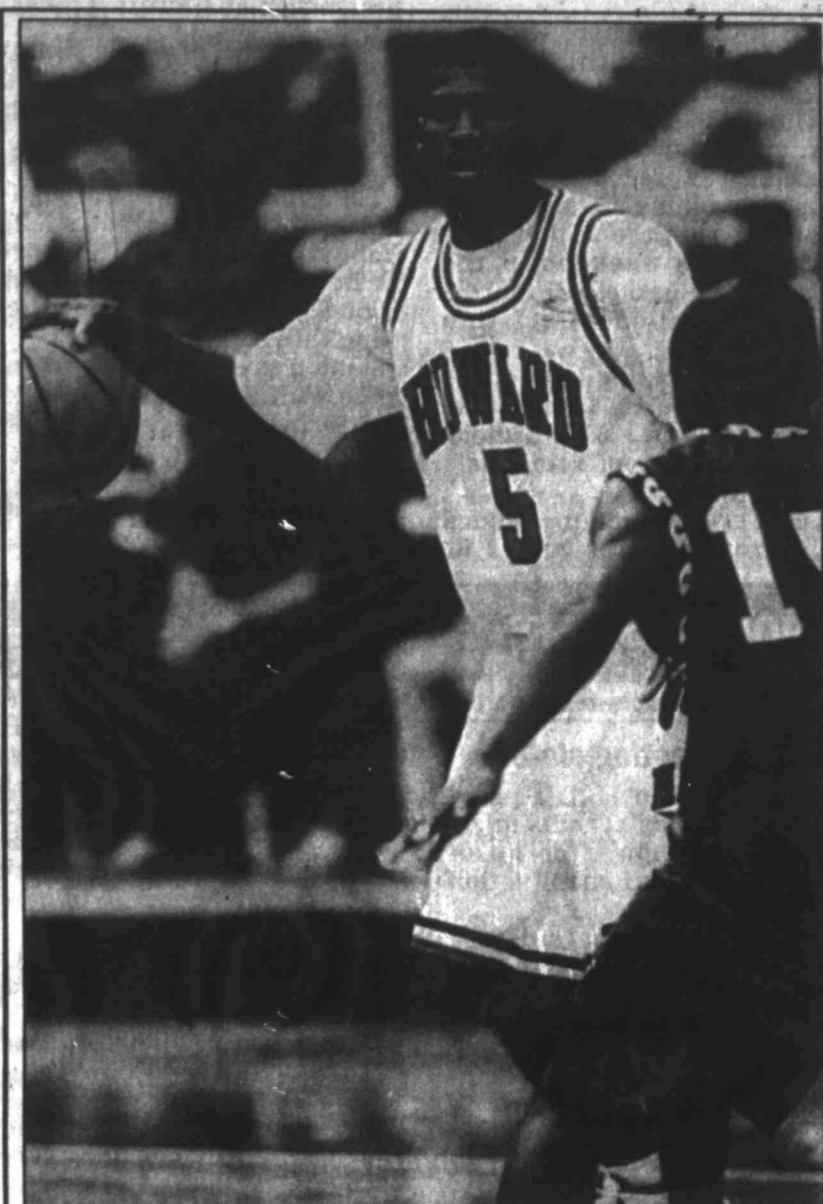
### REGION V

All-Region Team

(Listed in order of votes)

Alicia Johnson, South Plains; Jennifer Boniol, Grayson; Karlita Washington, Howard; Olga Firsova, Weatherford; Shawnta Johnson, Howard; Reda Kakerenakte, Weatherford; Andrea Watson, Clarendon; Tiffany Moss, Grayson; Janice Thomas, Midland; Patty Cantella, Weatherford; Pashon Murray, Odessa and Dainora Umbrasaitte, Weatherford.

See HONORS, page 11A



Howard College's Clifton Cook (5) brings the ball downcourt against Clarendon College earlier this season. The Hawks begin play at the Region V tournament today in Waco against McLennan Community College.

## Steers outlast Levelland, 11-9

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

On a wind-blown Saturday afternoon, the Big Spring Steers took a step forward in their early season search for consistency.

After blowing a four-run lead and falling behind to Levelland, the Steers rallied to take an 11-9 victory in non-district baseball action Saturday at Steer Park.

The win boosts Big Spring's record to 3-3, while the Loboes fall to 5-2 with the loss.

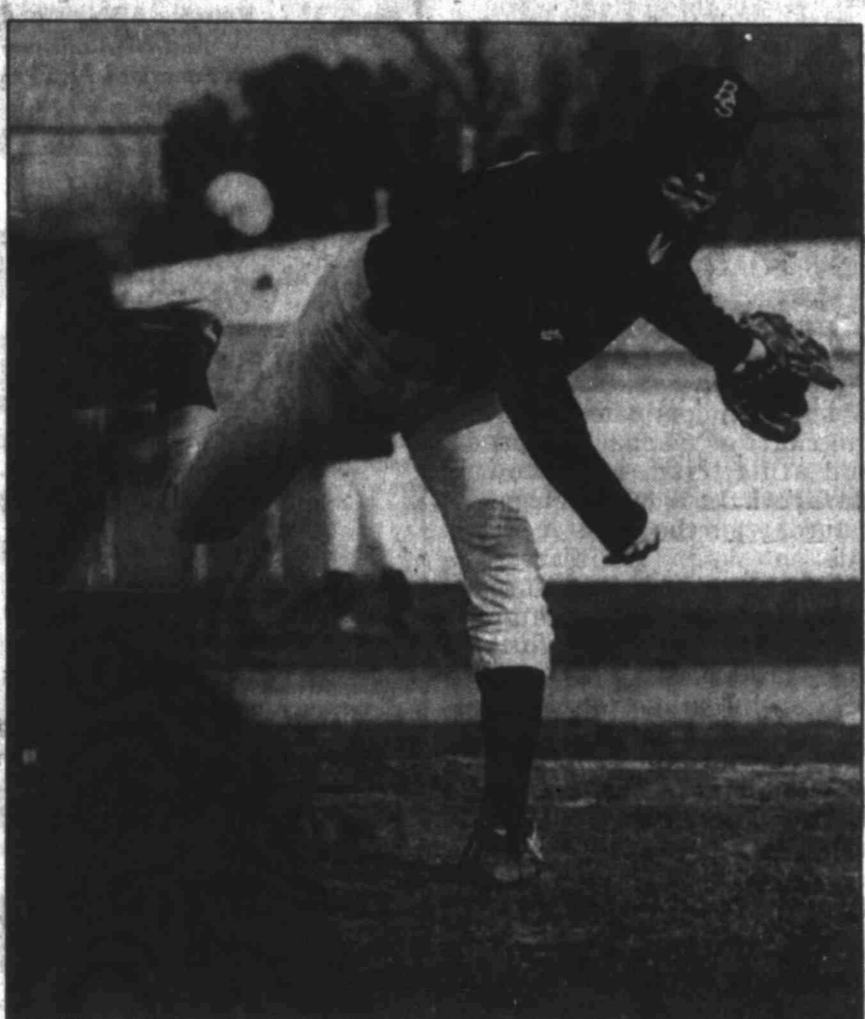
Gale-force winds had fans scurrying for cover, and turned routine fly balls into adventures, but head coach Bobby Doe said the game was a step in the right direction for his team.

"It was encouraging," Doe said. "To be a good team, you've got to be able to come from behind. I'm not saying we're a good team yet, but we did come from behind."

The Steers bolted out to a 4-0 lead in the first behind a pair of singles from Clayton Pate and Brock Gee, and two-run wild pitch by Levelland starter Josh Faulkner.

But Levelland came right back in the top of the second, scoring five runs of Big Spring starter James Darling. The biggest blow to the Steers was self-inflicted — Darling threw high and wide to first on a come-backer by Russell Thomman, allowing three runs to score.

After that inning, however,



Big Spring pitcher Jeff Denton throws home during the Steers' game with Lubbock High School Friday at Steer Park. Saturday, the Steers defeated Levelland, 11-9.

Darling and the Steers settled down. Darling allowed only two more runs for the rest of his stint, striking out nine and walking four.

His teammates, meanwhile,

reclaimed the lead with a five-run outburst in the fourth inning. Trailing 6-4, the Steers tied the game on a two-run home run to left by first baseman Joe Owens, then became

the beneficiaries of erratic Levelland pitching.

The Steers loaded the bases on a pair of walks and a single by Pate, then Faulkner and reliever Eric Tienda proceeded to walk in three more runs, giving the Steers the lead for good.

Big Spring extended its lead to 11-6 to RBI singles by Jeremy Wright and Brock Gee before the Loboes rallied one more time.

Levelland finally chased Darling in the top of the eighth, then greeted reliever Clint Bambert with three straight hits to cut Big Spring's lead to 11-9. But Bambert escaped the inning without further damage and retired three straight batters in the ninth to seal the victory.

"Darling wasn't real focused in the second inning because he had such an easy time in the first," Doe said. "Of course, you can't count on having an easy game every time out."

Levelland coach Hector Limon said the key to victory was very simple.

"With or without the wind, (Big Spring) played well enough to win, and we didn't," Limon said.

The win came on the heels of Friday's 14-9 loss to Lubbock High, and Doe said his team still has work to do before the district campaign starts.

"What's kind of aggravating to me as a coach is that we'll play good one game, then bad the next. We've got to find a deeper level of consistency."

## Howard takes 2 of 3 from Odessa

By JOHN H. WALKER  
Managing Editor

A doubleheader split Saturday afternoon allowed Howard College's Hawks to capture its weekend series with Odessa College, 2-1.

Howard won the Friday opener 9-8, scoring three runs in the bottom of the eighth.

On Saturday, amid gale-like conditions, Odessa won the first game by a 17-12 score before Howard came back to take the nightcap, 13-2.

It was a hitter's park on Saturday, with 10 home runs in the first game and another six — all by Howard — in the second.

Howard jumped on Odessa starter Robbie Sterling in the first game, scoring four runs in each of the first two innings.

In the first, Will Hawkins hit a two-run home run, plating

Dane Rau ahead of him, while two batters later, Ryan Matthews hit a round-tripper with Brandon Plumlee aboard.

Odessa got a run back in the second on a Raymond Ibarra homer before the Hawks' bats came to life once again.

In Howard's half of the inning, Shane Webb and Rau each doubled with one out before Scott Fahey was hit by a pitch to load the bases. After Hawkins struck out for the second out of the inning, Plumlee hit a towering home run over the left field fence to clear the bases and make the score 8-1.

It was then that what had looked like a Howard runaway freight train jumped the tracks. Odessa got three runs back in the third and added another in the fourth to pull to within 8-5 as the Wranglers headed into the fifth.

Then, sending 13 batters to

the plate, OC exploded for nine runs off eight hits — including a grand slam by Matt Colerick.

In the meantime, Odessa reliever Dean Marquardt had stymied Howard's bats, retiring eight in a row and allowing just one run in 3 2/3 innings.

Howard would come back to score five runs in the sixth inning, but it was too little, too late.

Marquardt got the win in relief for Odessa while Brandon Clausens, who came on in relief of Duite Welch in the fourth, was saddled with the loss.

In the nightcap, Howard cranked out nine hits and scored five runs in both the third and sixth innings to dump the Wranglers.

Plumlee, Matthews and Robert Ramos each had one

See HOWARD, page 11A



Howard's Dane Rau, right, steals third base on Odessa's Jesse Robles during their game Friday at Jack Barber Field.

## With pomp and tradition, NCAA completes field for basketball tourney today

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Syracuse fell. Then Maryland took a tumble. A short time later, UCLA dropped like a rock.

Chaos was threatening to engulf the NCAA tournament.

The reason? Faulty adhesive tape.

While choosing, seeding and bracketing the 64-team field every year, the NCAA's selection committee spends a week-end moving teams around on big poster boards, searching with a diamond-cutter's caution for just the right matchups in just the right places at just the

right times.

It's all done with such reverence and care that only one person — known as "the traffic cop" — is authorized to touch the boards or move the teams.

Former NCAA staffer Dave Cawood recalled the incident 10 years ago when, to the committee's horror, the names suddenly began falling to the floor.

"It was crazy," he said.

"Here we were trying so hard to be efficient, and the teams just kept falling off the board."

As the traffic cop, Cawood was the only person authorized

to even pick the team names off the floor and stick them back.

The next year, the committee used dependable Velcro.

This year's traffic cop is long-time NCAA staffer Bill Hancock.

"He's the only one who touches that board," committee chairman C.M. Newton said. "We have committee members as well as NCAA staff who make sure our principles are followed, like if somebody had a game in the regular season and we've got them paired off. We're all alert to things like that."

"But when a team is moved on the board, or put up there, or removed, only Bill can do it."

And traffic cop Hancock stands at the intersection of happiness and heartbreak for many fans.

From Thursday night until Sunday afternoon, the committee weighs and scrutinizes.

Decisions are made that spell the difference between a successful season or a bust, between a team having a decent chance or very little hope of reaching the Final Four.

Contrary to popular opinion,

the committee's job is not to select the best 64 teams.

It's to select the best 34 that did not gain automatic entry by winning one of 30 conference tournaments.

Then they break the 64-team field down to what amounts to four 16-team tournaments: the East, West, Midwest and South regionals.

Each is seeded 1 through 16 — four No. 1 seeds, four No. 2 seeds, etc.

Throughout the process, the committee, through Hancock, is constantly fiddling with the boards.

On one side of the room is the board with the names of every school considered for an at-large berth.

Next to it is the board listing every team that's already captured one of the 30 automatic berths.

On the other side of the room are four boards representing each 16-team bracket, and four that keep track of the seedings, making sure, for example, that a No. 6 seed does not show up on a seventh-seed line.

At 10 p.m. Thursday, the tedious process begins when everybody submits two ballots.





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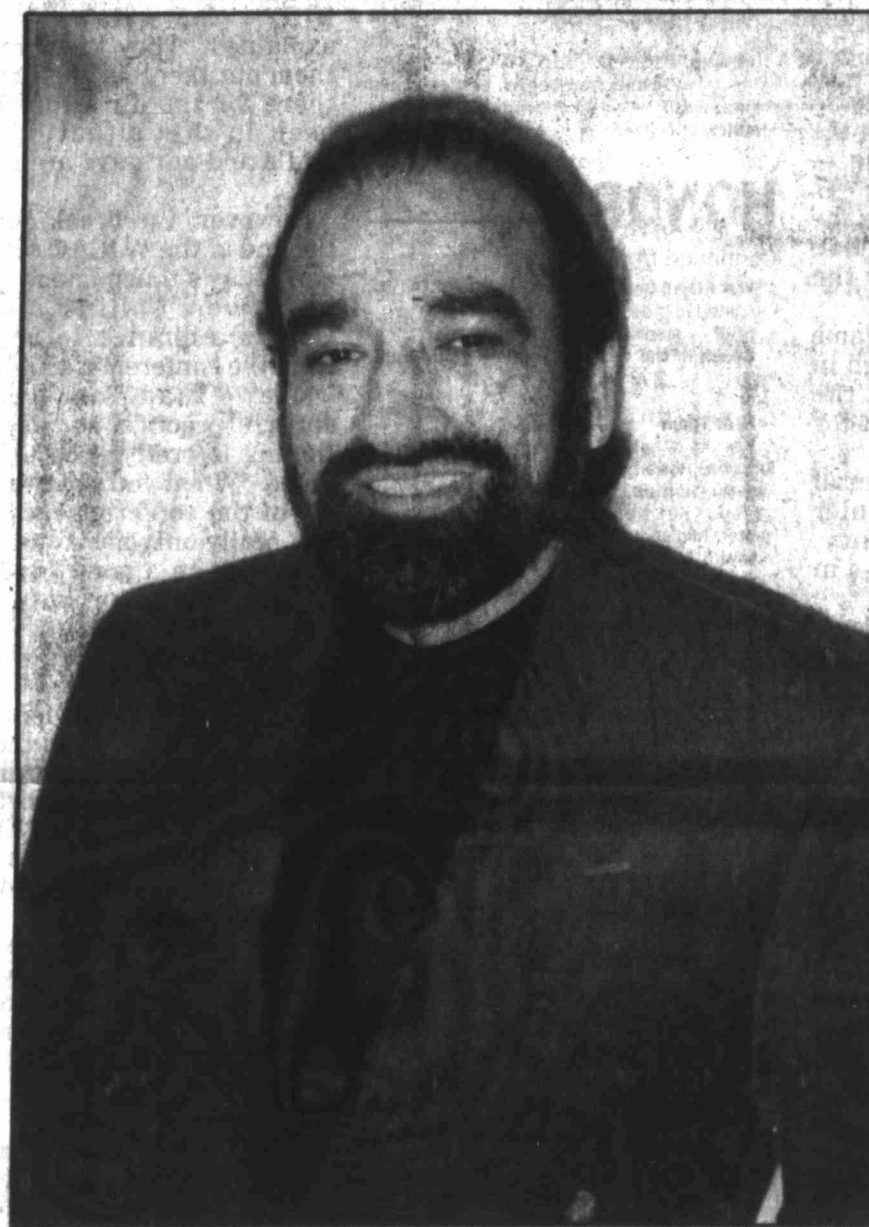
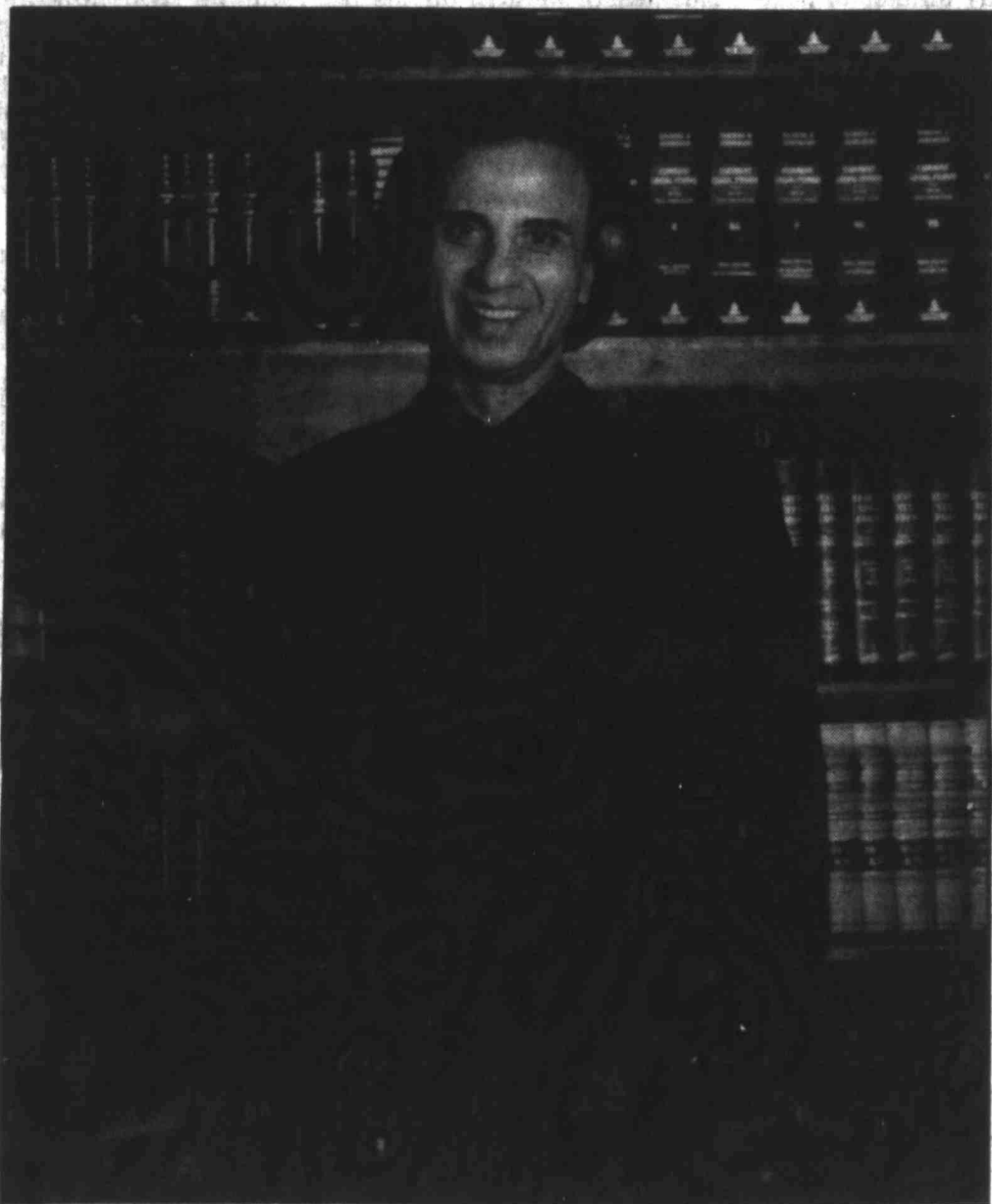
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## MEET OUR COURTEOUS STAFF

(Left to Right) JoAnn, Elizabeth,  
Amanda, Spanky and Margie



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for Howard

◆Some breeds of sheep and goats resemble each other, but in general goat's tails stand up, while sheep's tails hang down.

◆Because it grows on a vine, the watermelon is considered a vegetable. It consists of about 93 percent water.

Do you have a good story idea for the *life!* section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 236.

## Letting them fly

### Mental retardation support programs are about training, quality of life, and freedom

Years ago, the parents of a mentally retarded child were often advised to have him or her institutionalized — or at least sent to a special school.

But as understanding of mental retardation has increased, so have support programs. These days, the goal is integration, as much as possible, into a community.

People with mental disabilities are trained for jobs, taught living skills, and guaranteed the same rights to leisure and a fulfilling life.

"Our philosophy has changed 180 degrees," said Gene Bilbrey, director of mental retardation services for West Texas Centers for MH/MR. "We're taking more services to where the person is."

That includes a home setting, where several men or women live together with full-time staff to assist them. In local group homes run by West Texas Centers, mentally retarded citizens — with assistance — do their own cooking, laundry and cleaning.

They can decorate their own rooms, go to work, participate in hobbies and visit with friends and family.

In job training programs, they learn basic skills that increase in difficulty depending on their abilities. They earn a paycheck, promotions, vacations and other benefits. Some work directly for West Texas Centers, others work at local businesses, with jobs supported by the center's programs.

West Texas Centers has contracts for cleaning crews in buildings and along local highways. They receive contracts for short-term and long-term projects, including assembly of products for shipping.

Lou Warren, regional director for mental retardation services, said they have found training works, to some extent, for even the most profoundly retarded.

"They can be trained," she said. "It's just a matter of repeating the action." And working, she continued, often provides the person with an important element that

was missing in past treatment methods.

"This provides them a sense of dignity," she said. "It's about making choices."

Bilbrey said all of the center's programs for the mentally retarded are about improving quality of life.

"We work very hard to make their life as full as possible," he said.

Lisa Brooks, community relations director for West Texas Centers, said there are a variety of programs available for people of all ages with mental retardation.

"If there is somebody out there who needs our services, they can call," she said. "We tailor our services around what the needs are. We are as individual as the community."

Bilbrey said with the change in attitude toward mental retardation services, the goal is freedom.

"We have a tendency to let them go," he said. "We want to let them fly as much as possible."



Story by Debbie L. Jensen • • • Photography by Linda Choate

#### FACTS ABOUT MENTAL RETARDATION

- Mental retardation can be found in men and women of all races, ages and cultures.
- Mental retardation is not the same as mental illness. Mental retardation is associated with limited intellectual capacity, and is permanent.
- An estimated 3 percent of the population has mental retardation. In 1998, approximately 536,500 Texans had some form of mental retardation.
- About 87 percent of those affected are only mildly retarded, or seen as "a little slower than average."
- Those with IQs under 50 will have serious limitations in functioning.
- Mental retardation can be caused by any condition which impairs development of the brain before birth or in childhood years. In about one-third of the cases, the cause is unknown.
- The three major known causes of mental retardation are Down's syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome and fragile X.
- Newborn screenings can identify biochemical or other inherited conditions that may lead to mental retardation. That includes screening at the hospital, and a test when they are seven to 14 days of age, that is usually done in a doctor's office.
- For more information about mental retardation, call West Texas Centers for MH/MR, 263-0007.



### Support programs provide many benefits for Wylie family

D'Lene Wylie is a happy, busy 37-year-old with a job, hobbies and friends.

She also has a form of mental retardation.

D'Lene and her family have been involved with Special Olympics since 1972. Her parents, Kay and Robert, are coaches, and she participates in basketball, track and field, and bowling.

"It's a great program," said Kay. "It's really cool," agreed D'Lene.

The motto of Special Olympics is, "Let me win. If I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

"This really builds up their self esteem," Kay said. "This gives them a chance to be themselves, participate in something and sometimes, win."

To participate, an athlete must complete 10 hours of practice. They travel to various competitions in the area, winning medals and meeting many other athletes.

D'Lene also participates in other support programs for mentally retarded cit-

izens of Howard County. She got job training, and is learning life skills like cooking, money management and personal care.

D'Lene works at Wal-Mart.

"She loves her job," Kay said. "She has really progressed a lot in the last few years, and the support programs that are available are a big part of that."

"There's a lot of help out there, and I'm not sure everybody's aware of it."

In the program, trainees set goals for themselves that range from learning a life skill to pursuing a hobby or special interest.

D'Lene is learning about weather, and how to do CPR. She is also preparing to move out of her parents' home and live on her own.

"It's been a challenge," said Kay, who occasionally is called upon to advise the parents of a mentally retarded child.

"I always tell them," she said. "It's a different world, but it's a very rewarding world."

In the photos: At top, D'Lene Wylie gets ready for a standing long jump at Special Olympics practice. At right, Kay, D'Lene and Robert Wylie work together in Special Olympics. Above, left, athletes, from left, Steve Lawson, Cynthia Velasquez, Geneva Capetillo and Chola Baker stretch before Special Olympics workout. At left, Kathy Yarbrough, left, vocational trainer, works with Flora Wells on job skills.



## Artist's delicate touch, ancient craft create eggs-quisite designs

In recent weeks, Howard County Library patrons had the opportunity to see exquisite example of the ancient art of eggry by local artist, Deanna Foresyth.

When I saw the exhibit, I wondered if they were real eggs. How could anyone draw or paint on such a surface?

I talked with Deanna about her art. She assured me they are indeed "real" eggs. She prepares them by making a tiny hole in one end and a larger hole in the other. She inserts a small wire or tiny stick and stirs the contents, breaking the yolk. Then she blows out the egg.

She showed me an emu egg she had just prepared, adding that her husband, Jimmy, had used an air compressor to blow it out. "Trying to blow out an egg that large can give you a headache," she explained.

Jimmy, who drives a mower for Howard County, is always

on the lookout for unusual eggs for her. She has used many kinds—including quail, guinea, turkey, duck, and goose eggs as well as hen eggs.

Using an engineer's technical drawing pen, which has a very fine point, Deanna draws the design on the egg. Then she paints the design with water colors, using a tiny brush. Acrylics dry too fast and oil paints too slowly for her work.

I thought, admirably, that she must have very steady hands. One mistake, or accidentally dropping an egg, would mean starting over.

Deanna chooses Christmas and Easter scenes, ocean views, and Southwest scenes for the miniature pictures that she draws on the eggs. There is a peacock done in metallic colors, and a goose egg studded with faux pearls.

For the fancier eggs, those with gold hinged doors that open to reveal a surprise

inside, she uses goose, duck or emu eggs. She drills the holes and cuts the doors with a Dremel tool with a diamond bit. Eggs like this are often lined with velvet and used as jewelry cases.

She uses bread dough art to fashion tiny birds, flowers, and leaves to embellish her creations. The dough is made from white bread, crusts removed, kneaded with Elmer's glue.

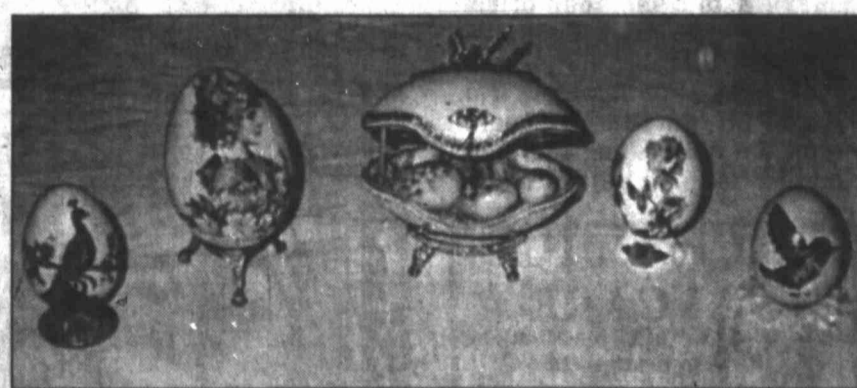
Historically, eggry is best known for the jewel-encrusted Easter eggs created by Faberge for the Russian Czars in the 19th century. Deanna's interest



Jean Warren  
Columnist



in the art was inspired by her grandmother, who painted hundreds of eggs in her lifetime. Some of these were included in the display at the library; they are still true-colored and lovely, despite their age.



Artist Deanna Foresyth, left, works on an egg that will become one of her unique works of art. Above, some of her intricate designs are brightly painted, others are gold encrusted.

Artistic talent seems to run in the family. Deanna's great-grandmother was a successful milliner in an era when designing women's hats was an artistic endeavor. Her mother, Marjorie Morris, is remembered by fellow teacher Elfa Cantrell as an elementary instructor with a real talent for

helping her students with unusual art projects.

"Eggs by Deanna" have been shown at numerous craft fairs; some are currently available at a local gift shop. Deanna does other kinds of art work including ink on glass, cross stitch, and quilting. In addition, she is a professional cake decorator.

# WEDDINGS

## Griffin-Eaker

Lisa Lynette Griffin, Midland, and Robert Glenn Eaker, O'Donnell, exchanged wedding vows on March 7, 1998, at Kelview Heights Baptist Church, Midland, with Rev. Russ Hale, associate pastor of Kelview Heights Baptist Church, officiating.

She is the daughter of Connie Griffin, Midland, and the late Bill Griffin, and the granddaughter of Neva Shaffer, Big Spring, and the late Roy Shaffer.

He is the son of Kenneth and Ann Eaker, O'Donnell.

The couple stood before a large tree candelabra holding cathedral candles and decorated with casa blanca lilies. On either side were two fan candelabras and two small tree candelabras.

Pianist was Gary Stidham, and Robert Reed, Russ Hale, both of Midland, and Cody Bissett, San Angelo, were the vocalists.

Given in marriage by her mother, the bride wore an Italian satin gown, heavily embellished by embroidered Italian hand-cut lace on the neckline. It had long tapered sleeves and a basque waistline, a full skirt edged with lace and a long cathedral train elegantly enhanced with hand-cut lace, pearls and tiny sequins.

She carried a cascading bouquet of white roses and dandorfan orchids centered with ivy.

Matron of honor was Kim Thomason, St. Lawrence.

Bridesmaids were Chrystal Bales, Amy Stockwell, and Jennifer Henderson, all of Midland.

Lexi Reeves, Midland, was the flower girl, and Brenon Nichols, nephew of the groom, Hale Center, was the ringbearer.

Cameron Childress, O'Donnell, was the best man.

Cody Bissett and Tyson Edwards, both of San Angelo, served as groomsmen.

Serving as ushers were Peter Fain of Lubbock, Joel Skaggs of Bryan, Greg Anderson of San Angelo, and Nathan Lowe of



MRS. ROBERT GLENN EAKER  
Amarillo.

David Eaker and Melvin Eaker, brothers of the groom, both of O'Donnell, were the candlelighters.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the fellowship hall.

The wedding cake was a four tiered Italian Creme cake with "floating in air" cake stands and topped with fresh flowers. The bride's table was decorated with candles and fresh cut flowers.

The groom's table featured a chocolate cake with basket weave design topped with chocolate dipped strawberries. The table was centered with antique epergne holding fresh cut flowers.

The bride is a graduate of the Lee High School and Angelo State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood. She is a teacher with the Midland Independent School District.

The groom is a graduate of O'Donnell High School and Angelo State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology. He plans to attend medical school in the fall.

Following a wedding trip to Winter Park, Colo., the couple will make their home in Midland.

# HUMANE SOCIETY



Pictured: "Sapphire" Female Calico with blue-blue eyes, very loving, 9 months old, spayed. Special Note: All dogs and

cats presently available for adoption at the shelter have received their vaccinations, including rabies.

"Dainty Lady" Female white with cream Color Point, 1 year old, spayed.

"Coquette" Female black and white, short hair, 9 months old.

"Gretchen" Female medium hair black cat, 4-5 months old.

"Sunshine" Male long hair, orange Tabby with six toes, 6 months old.

"Serenity" Female, 7 months old, black with white blaze on chest.

"Regina" Female, cream Color Point, 2 years old, spayed.

"Fluffy Tail" Maine Coon Cat, male, 1 year old, neutered.

"Fido" Male short hair, black with yellow eyes, 6 months old.

These, plus many more dogs

# WHO'S WHO

McMurry University has announced its Dean's List recipients for the 1997 Fall semester. To be selected for the Dean's List, a student must take 12 or more credit hours and have a 3.5 or better G.P.A.

Those listed include Heather C. Anderson of Big Spring.

Winter graduates of Tarleton

# IN THE MILITARY

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Samuel E. Watson, son of Mary H. Watson of Big Spring, recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea aboard the guided missile cruiser USS San Jacinto.

The 1985 graduate of Big Spring joined the Navy in August 1996.

Marine Lance Cpl. Thomas L. Purcell, son of Jim R. and Vickie Purcell of Big Spring, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.

Purcell successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

He is a 1996 graduate of Big Spring High School.

Jacob M. Saldivar has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station.

Saldivar, a student at Stanton High School, will report to Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga., for basic training on June 11. He is the son of Audon M. and Mary E. Saldivar, Stanton.

Air Force Airman Miguel A. Mata has completed the airlift aircraft electrical and environmental systems apprentice course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls.

Mata is the son of Miguel F. Mata Jr. of Big Spring, and Pauline Santos of Dallas. Mata is a 1996 graduate of Big Spring High School.

His wife, Vanessa, is the daughter of Frank and Dora Hilario of Big Spring.

**Deadline for church and club news is Wednesday at noon for Friday publication.**

State University on Dec. 19, 1997, included Amy Jo McIntosh with a BBA in Management.

Kathleen Gayle Meadors and Courtney Ranae Munn of Big Spring were named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall 1997 semester at Abilene Christian University.

To make the Honor Roll, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours for grades and earn 3.45 or higher grade point average.

# GETTING ENGAGED



Stacie Wilkie, Big Spring, and Billy Quinn, San Angelo, will exchange wedding vows on June 20, 1998, at First Assembly of God in Lamesa with Roy Smeys, uncle of the bride-to-be, officiating.

She is the daughter of Shirley Wilkie, Lamesa.

He is the son of David and Alice Quinn, Blessing.

# life! policies

Weddings, anniversaries, engagements, birth announcements and other Sunday items are due at the life! desk by Wednesday at noon.

We publish these announcements free of charge, and only if they are printed on our forms. Pick up needed forms at the Herald office, 710 Scurry.

Photos are accepted with engagements, anniversaries and weddings. They can be in color or black and white. Pick up your photo within 30 days of publication.

# Is your pet's collar too tight?

After the rescue of an abandoned dog whose too-tight collar had literally cut his throat, Big Spring Humane Society workers are warning people about the problem.

"This dog was reported to us as having had his throat cut," explained board member Margaret Lloyd. "And when we saw him, we thought the same thing."

But a veterinary examination revealed that "Stephani," as the dog is now known, had her neck cut by a collar she

had outgrown. The dog also had been abandoned by its owners. Neighbors alerted authorities.

"Your dog can't tell you if his collar is choking him," Lloyd said. "Please check it, and make sure there is room to fit two fingers underneath it."

Stephani is being treated with antibiotics for infection caused by the cut, and is expected to heal. She is staying at the Humane Society shelter.

and cats are awaiting adoption. Adoption fees for dogs are just \$50 and cats are \$40. Includes

spaying or neutering, vaccinations, worming, rabies shots, feline leukemia tests for cats.

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Tuesday, March 10th.....Randy Pat Russell, MA, CCC-A Audiologist

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# ANNIVERSARIES

## Wise

Marvin and Margaret Wise will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary March 8, 1998.

He was born in Coahoma, and she was born as Margaret Winkler in Alpine. They met when Marvin was with the U.S. Army National Security Agency in December 1947, and was invited to a "Panacea" in Petaluma, Calif., that Margaret was participating in. After the show and the cast party, he was introduced to Margaret. It was love at first sight. They were married on March 8, 1958, in Two Rick Ranch, Calif., a church built for the community by the U.S. Army. They have three children, Mariella Levinson of Ruidoso, N.M., Morgan Wise of Big Spring, and Monette Wise of Seattle, Wash.; and six grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Wise have lived in Petaluma, Calif., San Angelo, Dallas, Denton and were transferred to Big Spring in 1974. They are affiliated with Trinity Baptist Church.

Marvin is a member of the Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598, R.A.M. No 178 - R.S.M. No. 117, I.T. Commandery No. 31, and Margaret was a member of the ABWA and the Desk and Derrick. He enjoys flying



MR. AND MRS. MARVIN WISE

racing pigeons, and they both enjoy golfing, and helping their son with his four children.

This was the comment made about their 40 years of marriage, "Margaret is not only Marvin's wife, but she is also his best friend. They both agree that being able to talk to each other and having God on their team has helped with their lives."

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In lieu of a gift for Gail, she requests that you bring a stuffed animal for distribution to abused children.

**Can**  
By JIM O'C  
Scripps Ho

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**NEW**

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# Campaign aims to curb 'road rage'

By JIM O'CONNELL

Scrapps Howard News Service

Motorists fighting through heavy traffic will soon hear soothing radio messages urging them to calm down and obey traffic signals.

The non-profit AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety was scheduled to unveil Wednesday a series of radio public service announcements aimed at curbing aggressive driving.

The foundation has calculated that the traffic-related violence called "road rage" killed 218 motorists, passengers and pedestrians and injured another 12,000 between 1990 and 1996.

"If we can convince millions of calm, mature motorists not to get sucked into encounters with angry drivers, many lives can be saved and injuries reduced on our nation's roads," said David Willis, president of the foundation.

The foundation is depending on radio stations to broadcast the public service announcements for free.

"It's a hot topic right now," said Stephanie Faul, a spokeswoman for the foundation,

which is affiliated with the American Automobile Association.

Two radio spots urge motorists to "drive with the same courtesy we extend to people in the rest of our lives," and "stop the senselessness of road rage."

Two others urge motorists to stop at red lights "whether you feel like it or not."

The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that two-thirds of the quarter-million traffic fatalities since 1990 have to some degree been related to aggressive driving.

One contributing cause: roads have become more traffic-clogged. The number of traffic miles driven nationwide has climbed 35 percent over the past 10 years while the number of road miles constructed has not kept pace.

A study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found aggressive driving incidents rose more than 50 percent between 1990 and 1995.

The study defined aggressive driving incidents as when an angry or impatient motorist deliberately injures or kills another motorist or pedestrian

in response to a traffic dispute. Aggressive driving is "sort of an epidemic right now," said Carol Rodriguez, of Fairfield County, Conn., a reformed aggressive driver.

Until about a year ago, Rodriguez was constantly speeding, running red lights and cutting through parking lots to avoid traffic lights, she said.

"I was always running from one end of the town to the other, always late, always tired and always angry at all the other drivers ahead of me," she said.

A seminar for aggressive drivers helped her change her attitude, so that she now gives herself enough time to travel to appointments, and uses tape recorded books to help her slow down and enjoy the trip.

Radio announcements could help too to make aggressive drivers realize that they are part of the problem.

"At least half of all drivers are taking risks they shouldn't take or speeding," Rodriguez said. "They're burning themselves out and they're headed for health problems and misery."

# Con offers advice to first-time hard-timers

TENAFLY, N.J. (AP) — Frank Sweeney's lies landed him in prison.

There was the time he put an ad in a gun magazine, claiming to deal in exotic weapons, to bilk buyers. And the cat scam he ran, bobbing house cats' tails and selling them as rare breeds for \$300 apiece.

Twenty-four years and 27 prisons later, Sweeney has pulled almost every con imaginable. Now his swindler's skills have led him to a legal and lucrative career: prison consulting.

From his sparse apartment in the town he grew up in, Sweeney does out advice to first-time criminals. Since he started more than three years ago, he says he has counseled 500 clients, for fees ranging from \$200 to \$3,500 each, on how to get by on the inside.

"I have some experience in the field," said Sweeney, 54. "Maybe I can alleviate some of their fears and make some money."

Ask him anything and Sweeney has an answer for getting around the prison system.

Want better food? Say you're Jewish and you can eat kosher. "The meals are sumptuous," he says.

Want a better bunk? Say you have epilepsy. They'll be afraid to put you on top.

Want to get out of dishwashing duty? Say you have herpes. No one will want you near the glasses and plates.

"It makes life a little easier

and it doesn't hurt anybody," Sweeney says of the "white lies" he advises.

He may have tapped into a bottomless market, and he's not the only one.

A few years ago, a magazine called Prison Life began publishing in Houston. An ex-inmate has published a survival guide. Three years ago, a former Philadelphia councilman who did time for corruption set up a \$2.50-a-minute hot line with touch-tone options: how to reduce your sentence, what to bring to prison, who to see before going.

"The most terrifying thing a person can face is to go to jail," said Frank Lucianna, who for years was Sweeney's defense attorney and now informally advises him in his new job.

"Mr. Sweeney has been so well indoctrinated and oriented from jail that he can tell a person what to expect almost with certainty."

The consultant talks easily about the worst jail he's been in — his first, a violent juvenile facility — and the best, which was coed and even had dances.

He advertises in The National Law Journal and USA Today, hoping to attract felons and their lawyers. He limits his advice to federal prison, because he served most of his time there and because the standards are consistent nationwide.

He says he currently has 47 cases.

# St. Mary's plans guest speaker

The Rev. Bill Nix, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Amarillo, will be featured speaker at this week's Lenten series at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Colliad.

Nix is a native of Amarillo and a graduate of Texas A&M and the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin. Prior to ordination, he served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army, as vice president and ranch manager of the Nix Cattle Company in Canadian, and Secretary to the Board of Beef Cattle Company.

Stage production, he has served as Curate and Day School Chaplain of St. John's Church, Odessa, rector of St. Stephen's Church, Lubbock; Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Northwest Texas; Dean and Rector of All Saints' Cathedral, Fort Worth, and since 1992, Rector of St. Andrews in Amarillo.

This year's program is titled, "Christian Ministry, Yours Mine and Ours," and Nix will discuss the topic, "What is the Ministry of Priest?"

The program begins with evening prayer at 5:30 p.m., followed by a pot luck supper at 6 p.m.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m., and everyone is invited to all or part of the series.

# NEWCOMERS

Kent and Kendra Sharp, son Austin and daughter Bailey, Stamford. He is employed by Moore Development for Big Spring.

Mark and Tracie Anaya, son Mark Jr. and daughter Mia, Odessa. He is employed by Howard College.

Shirley Adams, son John and mother Irene Reynolds, Lamesa. She is a RN at the VA Medical Center.

Frank Lesley, Odessa. He works for Signal Homes.

Charles Charles, Norman, Okla. He works for Fiesta Dodge.

Johnnie Hardyman, San Antonio. He is retired from the U.S. Army.

Frank and Ida Garcia, daughters Auredy and Chelsea and

sons Bobby and Frank Jr., Mesquite. He is employed by Davis Hot Oil.

George and Carolyn Jewett and daughters Cassandra and

Alicia, Wynnewood, Okla. He is employed by Midnight Overland Express.

— Joy Fortenberry and the Newcomer Greeting Service.

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## ON THE MENU

**SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**  
 MONDAY-Baked chicken breast, rice, brussel sprouts, fruit, milk/rolls, pie.  
 TUESDAY-Catfish, potatoes, spinach, coleslaw, milk/rolls, fruit.  
 WEDNESDAY-Chicken fried steak, shipped potatoes, squash, tossed salad, milk/rolls, cake.  
 THURSDAY-Enchiladas, rice, beans, salad, milk/cornbread, fruit.  
 FRIDAY-Brisket, potato salad, beans, waldorf salad, milk/roll, apple crisp.

**GARDEN CITY SCHOOLS**  
 MONDAY-Tamales, pinto beans, salad, fruit, milk.  
 TUESDAY-Beef stew, cheese sticks, coleslaw, peanut butter bar, crackers, milk.  
 WEDNESDAY-Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, hot rolls, milk.  
 THURSDAY-Sloppy joes, ranch style beans, fries, fruit roll-up, milk.

## WHO'S WHO

Winter graduates of Tarleton State University on Dec. 19, 1997, included Amy Jo McIntosh with a BBA in Management.

Kathleen Gayle Meadors and Courtney Ranae Munn of Big Spring were named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall 1997 semester at Abilene Christian University.

To make the Honor Roll, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours and earn 3.45 or higher grade point average.

Big Spring native Stacy Armstrong recently graduated from Western Texas College's Licensed Vocational Nursing program in ceremonies held recently at Trinity United Methodist Church in Snyder.

Upon completion of classes, graduates are eligible to take the state examination qualifying them as licensed vocational nurses.

## STORK CLUB

Grandparents are Jim and Claudine Tucker and Marion and Sherry Newton, all of Big Spring.

Faith Abigail Parum, girl, Jan. 29, 1998, 4:04 p.m., eight pounds seven ounces and 20 inches long; parents are Russell and Stacey Parum.  
 Grandparents are Nancy and Jimmie Wood, Big Spring, and Wayne and Yvonne Parum, Wolforth.

Great-grandparents are Jim and Odessa Wood, Allene Hamner, all of Big Spring, and Lorene and Bud Rasco, Levelland.

She is also the little sister of Brett Griffin and Erin Griffin.  
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## Howard County's Latest Arrivals

A SPECIAL DELIVERY Alexia Born 1/30/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Richard Born 2/3/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Derek Born 2/4/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Jayson Born 2/5/98
A SPECIAL DELIVERY Isaiah Born 2/6/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Stacy Born 2/7/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Miranda Born 2/10/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Marvel Born 2/10/98
A SPECIAL DELIVERY Hannah Born 2/10/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Sky Born 2/11/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Timothy Born 2/13/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Fernando Born 2/13/98
A SPECIAL DELIVERY Trinnon Born 2/16/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Morgan Born 2/17/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Christopher Born 2/22/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Megan Born 2/22/98
A SPECIAL DELIVERY Jessica Born 2/23/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Ashley Born 2/23/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Kappi Born 2/26/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Brooks Born 2/26/98
A SPECIAL DELIVERY Joseph Born 2/26/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Michael Born 2/27/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY Caitlin Born 2/28/98	A SPECIAL DELIVERY TBA

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MAR 08 1998

## Veggie libel laws ready for second and third tests

AMARILLO (AP) — If "veggie libel" laws really are for the birds, the next two cases could prove it.

The Texas cattlemen's case against Oprah Winfrey was supposed to be the first major test of food defamation laws, but the judge turned it into a routine business dispute.

That means that either East Texas emus or Ohio chicken eggs could be the big test for the food-disparagement laws on the books in 13 states.

What ruffled the emu ranchers' feathers was a 1997 TV commercial featuring a man named Joe driving his Honda Civic from one wacky job interview to another. One of the

stops is an emu ranch called Fowl Technology, where the owner says: "Emus, Joe. It's the pork of the future."

"Basically, Honda made people stop and look at emu meat, emu products and the emu business as a joke," said Huntsville-area emu raiser John Hamby, who with nine others is suing the U.S. arm of the Japanese automaker. Hamby also noted that emu meat, unlike pork, is low-fat red meat.

Each emu rancher is claiming more than \$75,000 in losses they blame on the commercial.

Art Garner, spokesman for California-based American Honda, said the commercial was "very much a tongue-in-

cheek, lighthearted advertisement."

The other veggie libel case was brought by Buckeye Egg Farm, which is suing a consumer organization, the Ohio Public Interest Research Group, for saying last spring that Buckeye illegally repackaged old eggs and sold them as new. The egg producer is seeking unspecified damages.

Buckeye president Andy Hansen said his company followed federal guidelines that allow repackaging under certain circumstances. He noted that OPIRG leveled its allegations just before Easter, a peak sales season.

"If there was no intent to disparage this product, why was it

done at that time?" Hansen asked.

The Texas and Ohio laws require those suing to show that the defendants knowingly made false and defamatory statements about a product.

The cattlemen had sued Ms. Winfrey over a 1996 show about mad cow disease. They claimed the show implied American beef was risky to eat. A jury last week ruled against them.

No trial dates have been set for the egg and emu lawsuits, which are believed to be the nation's only two pending veggie libel cases.

Experts say the emu ranchers don't have much of a chance in light of the Oprah case.

In Ms. Winfrey's case, U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson ruled that live cattle didn't meet the "perishable food" requirement of the veggie libel law. The same judge will preside over the emu case.

Emus "are not going to be held perishable, either," said Frank Newton, president of the State Bar of Texas and dean of Texas Tech Law School.

"The emu raisers argue that they, unlike the cattlemen, market the meat themselves, and the meat is perishable.

The egg producers' claim is seen by some as a stronger case, even though OPIRG called it a "complete waste of time."

"If we lose on this set of facts, people had better batten down

the hatches," said Mark Finnegan, a lawyer with the Equal Justice Foundation, a civil rights legal aid group. "If a food production plant can backdate its product and you're not allowed to say anything about that, we're all in trouble."

Although the judge in the Oprah case didn't find the law unconstitutional, observers said the verdict might make agriculture producers think twice before suing.

"After this outcome, I think Las Vegas odds on this kind of lawsuit are going down," said Thomas Baker, a professor of constitutional law at Texas Tech. "They don't look so attractive."

## Over-wintering boll still threatens cotton

This year is no different from most of the past. Each year the agriculture producer is faced with increased pressure from the boll weevil. Over-wintering populations are above normal due to a mild winter.

Due to the fact that there is not widespread control of the cotton boll weevil, it will be up to each producer to address his or her needs on their particular farm. We do know some definite facts about weevils that may be beneficial when trying to control them.

The cotton boll weevil must have cotton squares or bolls to reproduce. Therefore, treatment of any populations will not be cost effective till the cot-

ton starts squaring, this usually occurs 35 to 40 days after planting.

We know keeping weevil numbers low early in the season is the most cost-effective method of control. Therefore, if weevil traps on a farm indicate a large population of weevils then treatment should be made.

Plains Cotton Growers have funded a line of traps that will be run in Howard County as well as surrounding counties. This information will be available within two to three days of the line having been run. This will provide general information about weevil numbers. But it will be extremely important that producers monitor their own fields to enable them to treat their prospective fields accurately. Early treatment of weevil populations when they reach economic thresholds can significantly delay the build up of weevil populations to controllable treatment levels.

For more information on this or other issues, contact the local extension office at 264-2236.



David Kight  
County Agent

## Kirby being sued in rape case involving salesman

AUSTIN (AP) — A vacuum-cleaner company requires its products to be sold through in-home demonstrations. Does it then have a duty to require its distributors to do background checks on the salesmen they hire?

A woman who says she was raped in 1993 by a Kirby vacuum-cleaner salesman believes so.

The lawsuit brought by Dena Kristi Read against the Scott Fetzer Co., doing business as The Kirby Co., was heard Thursday by the Texas Supreme Court.

The court took the case, which involves whether Kirby should pay damages to Mrs. Read, under advisement.

"I would like to prevent this from happening to other women. That prevention can come if these people will do a background check on the people that they're sending into women's homes," said an emotional Mrs. Read, 33.

Her husband by her side, Mrs. Read said she was willing to have her name used because she believes she can have a bigger impact that way.

David A. Kutik, a lawyer for Kirby Co., questioned how the company could enforce a contract requiring its distributors — the ones who hire the salespeople — to do background checks.

He suggested it is Kirby's duty to hire competent distributors, but the distributors' duty to hire competent salespeople, known as dealers.

The case could determine how responsible companies should be for independent contractors and could affect numerous industries that involve in-home transactions.

The case was brought by Mrs. Read after, she said, a door-to-door vacuum salesman raped her in her Seguin home as her children slept in the next room. The Reads since have moved out of state and decline to say where they now live.

The salesman wasn't prosecuted for rape, but the accusation was used to revoke his probation on an unrelated charge of indecency with a child. He is now at a halfway house in Austin, said Tommy Jacks, a lawyer for Mrs. Read.

Mrs. Read argued in her lawsuit that the company should have performed a background check.

Richard Mithoff, another lawyer representing her, said a check would have shown the salesman was on probation as a result of a conviction on two felony counts of indecency with a child, had lied about his work history and had been accused of sexual improprieties at previous jobs.

A jury found in Mrs. Read's favor in 1994, awarding her \$200,000 in actual damages and \$1.5 million in punitive damages. Those damages later were reduced to \$160,000 actual and \$800,000 punitive.

The company appealed to the 3rd Court of Appeals in Austin. The 3rd Court allowed the actual damages to stand, saying Kirby had a responsibility to customers receiving in-home demonstrations from strangers.

However, the 3rd Court said the punitive damages were improper because Kirby didn't knowingly expose the customer to a likely danger of rape.

Mithoff told the Supreme Court that Kirby was in a position to know there was a serious risk of injury without background checks, citing a case decided in 1992 by the North Dakota Supreme Court in favor of another woman who said she was raped.

In response to the 1992 case, Mithoff said, Kirby inserted a warning about background checks into a training manual that was available only if purchased by the distributors. He said that was one of the "clearly inadequate" steps taken by the company.

Kutik said the company has had seminars and counsels distributors to be careful in selecting dealers.



HERALD photos/Linda Choate  
The signs of spring are popping up all over Big Spring as trees, shrubs and flowers begin to bloom. The areas highlighted in these photographs are the Howard County Courthouse square, the Heritage Museum and the Pocket Park just east of the courthouse. The landscaping around the courthouse was completed just last summer and includes the addition of new trees, shrubs, flowers and a new lawn.

## Childless employees may resent benefits to families

By GARY T. PAKULSKI  
Toledo Blade

— With everyone in the office sweating to make a deadline, childless co-workers cringe as the world's greatest mom has a leisurely telephone chat with a daughter fresh home from advanced-placement English class.

— Executives distribute a detailed report on rising health-insurance premiums. Far from meekly accepting higher copays, singles zero in on the fact that the company pays twice as much for coverage for co-workers with families.

— A middle manager stew as she listens for the umpteenth time as an airline flight attendant explains how to apply an emergency oxygen mask. Why does it seem that workers without children are asked to make these unpleasant last-minute overnight trips while those with families escape scot-free, she wonders.

The office water cooler is the scene of growing grumbling among childless workers convinced that they are becoming second-class citizens who are forced to carry more of the workload, travel more, work more hours, and subsidize benefits for co-workers with children, says the Conference Board, a leading business research group.

Fifty-six per cent of the group's 78-member work-family research and advisory panel say childless workers harbor some resentment of colleagues with children.

A majority said that companies aren't adequately addressing the needs of childless employees. They also agreed

that many popular, new benefits, such as flexible work schedules and working from home, appeal more to workers with children than those without.

Conference Board panel members — company personnel executives involved in work-family programs — aren't alone in their views.

"It has created something of a hornet's nest," said Mary B. Young, a Boston-based consultant and former university researcher who studies work-family issues.

Seeking to learn the degree of resentment, Young, formerly of Boston University, put together focus groups organized according to life status: childless workers and those with children. Her fears that no one would bring up the resentment issue were quickly dispelled. "It came up in every group very early," she said.

Everyone agreed — incorrectly, as it turns out — that childless couples put in more hours than those with children. Many participants said that children provided an excuse for turning down added hours and placing limits on the work day.

Revealing their own prejudices, some parents claimed that singles "care only about work." "They have nothing in their lives and they don't care about work place issues," these parents claimed.

Young said that notion is as false as the suggestion that parents aren't carrying their share of the workload.

"Studies show that there is no statistical difference in hours worked," she said. "Parents, however, are more likely to do work out of sight of

others. They get up early and work at home or they come in early. They work at home when the kids go to bed and they work while commuting. Ultimately it nets out to the same number of hours."

Researchers say resentment is partly fueled by the rising number of childless workers.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 60 per cent of workers are childless or have adult children who left home at 18. The number of never married people between 25 and 44 has doubled over the past two decades, according to the Conference Board.

The Census Bureau reports that after 2005 the most common U.S. household will be made up of singles or couples without children.

Chuck Gallagher, a Toledo, Ohio, personnel executive, said resentment is an outgrowth of corporate America's efforts to begin programs that "help individuals manage the family-work place situation."

Gallagher said he hasn't encountered open resentment among the 3,000 employees of the Maumee, Ohio-based Andersons, Inc., where he is vice president for personnel. But he recognizes that childless workers might find the nation's "focus on the family" as unfair.

Robin Wooddall, a 34-year-old Toledo bank executive without children, said that childless workers have no reason to be resentful of colleagues with children. "I really don't understand people who feel that way," she said. "There are so many challenges for people trying to manage both work and family."

Surveys show that, even if somewhat resentful, childless workers are understanding of their colleagues.

Sixty-three per cent of participants in the Conference Board survey, for example, said childless employees were willing to fill in when co-workers have parental emergencies.

Like many childless workers, Tiruayer Badgett, a 26-year-old Toledo social service executive, isn't resentful. But she wonders if her concerns would be given the same weight as those of co-workers with children. For example, she helps care for aged grandparents, often spending lunch hours at their home. But if she asked for a day off to be with them, she isn't sure the request would be seen as important as a parent seeking time off to be with a child.

There are plenty of examples of the work place tension. Lois Mitten, a Toledo day-care executive said working parents are sometimes hesitant about leaving work when called to pick up a sick child. She said she has seen evidence of the problem while consulting at corporations seeking assistance with day care programs.

Childless workers sometimes balk at company proposals to begin day care centers or subsidize day care services, she said. Corporate managers have told her resentment often surfaces at 3 p.m. when school ends. "Children come from school and they're busy calling parents at work," Mitten said.

Workers with children make greater use of most benefit programs than childless employees, according to the Conference Board study.

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remain until all fines have been paid. If  
any problems with this list, please contact  
China Long's office at 264-2226.

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Coates, Daryle, P.O. Box 1558,  
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Crow, Kenneth Charles, 1310  
Tucson, Big Spring or Box 634,  
Forsan  
Croy, Stacy Y., 2101 Grace, Big  
Spring  
Cruz, Stephen, 901 Runnels, Big  
Spring  
Esco, Darrel Y., 1202 Mesquite,  
Big Spring  
Flores, Elizabeth A. Vasquez, 928  
Waco No. 19, Colorado City  
Garner, Van Burk, 501 N. Birdwell,  
Big Spring, or 601 George Ave. No.  
106, Midland  
Hartman, Maria Christy, 2610  
Fairchild, Big Spring  
Holtz, David, 1002 N. Main No.  
29, Big Spring  
Lujan, Patsy, 601 McEwen, Big  
Spring  
Newsom, Jasmitta, 2109 Carl St.,  
Big Spring  
Olivas, Jose Lewis, Rt. 1, Box 444,  
Big Spring  
Pavlovsky, Ronald, 2506 N.  
Abroad, Big Spring  
Quintanilla, Sidney, 3404 29th St.,  
Lubbock  
Roberts, Ross, 3701 Hamilton, Big  
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Ross, Robert 2403 Alabama, Big  
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Salas, Sylvia, 224 1/2 S. Cecil,  
Hobbs, N.M.  
Sneed, Carol A., Rt. 1 Box 748,  
Big Spring  
Urtsang, Kimberly A., 811 E. 15th,  
Big Spring  
Wilson, Fred Lee, General Delivery,  
Colorado City

Howard County Clerk's Office:  
Marriage Licenses:  
Serrano Garcia, Jr., 22, and Jodi  
Lee Gage, 16  
Blake E. Lance, 27, and Jennifer  
Lynn Pierce, 28  
Patrick Eugene Rodriguez, 22, and  
Allison Elizabeth Alcantar, 20

County Court:  
Court Records:  
Deed Records:  
Warranty Deeds:  
grantor: William Gregory  
grantee: Santa Cruz Diaz, Sr.  
property: lot 21, blk. 4, Wright's  
Airport Addition  
filed: Feb. 23, 1998

grantor: Fern Smith Hurn and  
Richard W. Hurn  
grantee: Exxon Corp.  
property: the west 1/2 of section  
44, blk. 31, T-3-N, T&P Ry Co.  
filed: Feb. 24, 1998

grantor: Nelson C. Hallford and  
Irene R. Hallford  
grantee: Robert R. Resman  
property: all of lot 3, blk. 9,  
Monticello Addition  
filed: Feb. 24, 1998

grantor: Betty Jo Petty and Nancy  
Joann Roney and Harold Houston  
Roney, Jr.

grantor: James Michael Roman  
property: a tract of land in the  
northeast part of section 31, and the  
southeast part of section 32, blk.  
33, T-1-S, T&P Ry Co.  
filed: Feb. 26, 1998

grantor: Edith Opal Blackshear,  
Bobby Joe Blackshear, Tim  
Blackshear and Debra Wallace  
grantee: Bill Sharp  
property: a 2.161 acre tract of land  
out of the north 1/2 of section 46,  
blk. 32, T-1-N, T&P Ry Co.  
filed: Feb. 24, 1998

grantor: Annie Elaine Potter  
grantee: Annie Elaine Potter,  
Trustee  
property: land described in book  
760 pages 544  
filed: Feb. 24, 1998

grantor: Laura Woods Gall  
grantee: The Gall Family Trust  
property: section 1-30, blk. A,  
B&C Survey, Howard County  
filed: Feb. 25, 1998

grantor: Teresa Nichols Ashley and  
Jeremy Ashley  
grantee: Gregory Quinn Settler,  
Deborah Jean Settler and Robert  
Micks Harvey  
property: the west 1/2 of lot 9, and  
all of lot 9, blk. 3, La Loma Addition  
filed: Feb. 25, 1998

grantor: Joni Lynn Avery  
grantee: Johnnie Lou Avery  
property: lot 19, blk. 1, Highland  
South Addition No. 6  
filed: Feb. 26, 1998

grantor: Sarah Rotert  
grantee: Gary Cole, Rick Mitchem,  
Lennie Moore and Bob Rumpf,  
trustees of the East Side Baptist  
Church  
property: all of lot 11, blk. 26,  
College Park Addition  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: William N. Wood and Lois  
L. Berry  
grantee: Swartz & Brough, Inc.  
property: lot 5, blk. 7, Stanford  
Park Addition  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: R.E. McKinney  
grantee: Richard E. Jr. and Patricia  
McKinney  
property: SC 44, blk. 32, in 89' x  
215' 167'  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: Georgia Carolyn Maichette  
grantee: Marcellous Weaver  
property: tract 1 - a tract of land  
out of the southwest 1/4 of section  
41, blk. 31, T-1-N, T&P Ry Co.;  
tract 2 - a tract of land out of section  
41, blk. 31, T-1-N, T&P Ry Co.  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: Denise H. Ross, D/B/A  
Ross Construction, John Ross  
grantee: Ross Builders, Inc.  
property: the south 60' of lot 6 and  
the north 1/2' of lot 9, blk. 6, Muir  
Heights Addition  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: Michael D. and Carrie E.  
Conley  
grantee: Ernest O. Jr. and Jane L.  
Smith  
property: lot 1, and the north 1/2  
of lot 2, blk. 2, Clawson Addition,  
Coshims  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

Warranty deed with vendor's lien:  
grantor: Donald E. Hankins

grantor: Royce L. Carson  
property: lot 29, blk. 7, Stanford  
Park Addition  
filed: Feb. 23, 1998

grantor: American Equity Funding,  
Inc.  
grantee: Holly L. Meeks  
property: lot 19, blk. 6, Monticello  
Addition  
filed: Feb. 23, 1998

grantor: Robert P. Shaffer  
grantee: Ron and Brandy Letcher  
property: lot 7, blk. 8, Monticello  
Addition  
filed: Feb. 23, 1998

grantor: Chuck Rosenbaum  
grantee: Mark Mac.  
property: all of lot 3, blk. 9,  
Monticello Addition  
filed: Feb. 24, 1998

grantor: Holly L. Meeks  
grantee: Jackie L. and Anita S.  
Myers  
property: lot 20, blk. 7, North  
Behave Addition  
filed: Feb. 26, 1998

grantor: Johnnie Lou Avery  
grantee: Wesley D. and Kathleen L.  
Robbins  
property: lot 19, blk. 1, replat of  
lots 18-30, blk. 1, and lots 13-14,  
blk. 6, Highland South Addition No. 6  
filed: Feb. 26, 1998

grantor: Nancy Payton  
grantee: Larry D. and Carolyn  
Beegs  
property: lot 9, blk. 11, Coronado  
Mills Fifth Filing Addition  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

grantor: Ross Builders  
grantee: Kelly G. O'Dell and Sandy  
L. O'Dell  
property: the south 60' of lot 6 and  
the north 1/2' of lot 9, blk. 6, Muir  
Heights Addition  
filed: Feb. 27, 1998

Quit claim deed:  
grantor: Richard Waller Burns  
grantee: Robert E. Davis  
property: the East Vealmoor Unit,  
Howard County  
filed: Feb. 26, 1998

grantor: Sherry Sanders  
grantee: Duane Sanders  
property: a 1/2' I.R. in the center  
line of a 60' wide east-west county  
road and in the east line of section  
41 and the west line of section 40,  
blk. 32, T-1-S, T&P Ry Co.  
filed: Feb. 23, 1998

118th District Court  
Court Filings:  
Family:  
Saline Jane Dalton vs. Robert Gene  
Dalton  
Ronda Shaw vs. Jimmy D. Shaw  
Vanessa Malu Holguin vs. Joe  
Torres  
Divorce:  
Penelope Iris Moran vs. Justin Kelly  
Moran  
Wesley Beauchamp vs. Tracee  
Beauchamp  
Sylvia Martinez vs. Jose Luis  
Ontiveros  
Frances Aline Madry vs. Jerry  
Madry  
Accounts, notes & contracts:  
Howard County Employees Federal  
Credit Union vs. Gregoria Villa  
Gonzales  
Injuries & Damages:  
Injuries & Damages with a  
motor vehicle:  
Clara Garcia vs. Keyin James  
Menges  
Esperanza Garcia vs. Francisco  
Alcantar

# Americans love their pickups, Ford F-Series leads the pack

By JOHN HUGHES  
Associated Press

Detroit (AP) — Pickups are changing — they're getting bigger, faster and more luxurious — but Americans' devotion to the four wheelers is becoming an auto industry constant.

While sport utility vehicle sales have surged and car sales have fallen, pickup sales have remained a steady 2.7 million or more for four straight years. About one of every five new vehicles sold is a pickup.

The Ford F-Series truck in 1997 was the best-selling vehicle in America for the 16th straight year. F-Series sales nearly doubled those of the top-selling car, the Camry, and topped sport utility vehicle, the Explorer.

The second-best seller was a pickup, too — the Chevrolet C/K.

"The pickup has been a constant," said Michael Marsden, arts and sciences dean at Northern Michigan University. "It's the blue jeans of automotive culture."

Only pickup use and styles have changed. With roomier cabs, they are as likely to be hauling children as bales of hay. They also can come with less-than-rustic features such as remote keyless entry, CD players and leather seats.

Buyers may find even more to like about pickups this year and next year as Chevrolet rolls out the first redesign of its full-size pickups in a decade and Toyota releases an all-new T150.

Still, some auto buffs have a hard time getting excited about the four wheelers.

"What is the most American vehicle? I'm almost embarrassed that it's a pickup," said Jim Hall, an analyst with AutoPacific Inc. "Pickups are the hamburgers of automobiles."

But automakers are trying to make sure pickups get proper respect. Ford has held a series of celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the venerable F-Series, including one with a mock 50-foot birthday cake last

fall at the State Fair of Texas. Among the devotees at the Texas event was Donna Giebler, a rancher from Gatesville near Waco, who has an F-Series named LeRoy. "In Texas when you have a truck you like, you name it," she said.

Giebler, 59, said she likes the vehicles for their high ride and ability to haul stuff. "I feel safer in a pickup than I do in a car," she said.

Reginald Pope, 34, has an F-Series, too. But the computer consultant lives in Ypsilanti, far removed from cattle country, and rarely leaves city or suburban roads.

He said he and his wife were lured to the truck last year after driving sports cars for years.

"When we drove that thing it was just like driving a car," Pope said. "I just think it's a very classy truck."

Paul Morel, Ford's truck brand manager, said the F-Series is most popular with rural males, but has drawn support from every niche. "People are coming from everywhere," he said.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. Ford launched the F-

Series with farmers and laborers in mind.

But the pickup since the 1960s has caught on with campers, hunters and families. "The pickup in a lot of cases has replaced the second car," said James K. Wagner, a Ford truck historian.

Hall said the popularity lies deep within the American psyche.

"It's almost a social thing," he said. "Everyone grabbed a broomstick and pretended to be a cowboy, whether it was in Southampton or in Harlem."

Marsden, who has studied automotive culture, said the pickup also represents Americans' long love affair with the land.

"It's a beautiful merger of the country and the city," Marsden said. "We don't flee from the city, we make the city meet us on our terms."

"What other vehicle would Clint Eastwood have driven in the 'Bridges of Madison County'?" It was perfect for the image he represented — that sophisticated countryness.

Four of the top ten selling vehicles in the United States last year were pickups: the F-Series, C/K, Ram and Ranger.

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## Working with a spouse can be good business as well as a tricky affair

By REPP HUDSON  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Doug and Angela Mayfield can laugh now about the first two weeks they spent together on the open road.

They were logging thousands of tense miles in "Isabella," Doug's 1994 Kenworth tractor-trailer early last year. As movers for United Van Lines, their circuit took them to Virginia Beach, Va.; rural Iowa; Waco and Amarillo in Texas; and finally Colorado Springs, Colo., and Denver, before heading home.

Though they may not have realized it, Angela and Doug also were laying the foundation for their future livelihood. They were solving some of those inevitable problems that arise when couples go into business together.

As Joyce Brockhaus, a family management consultant in St. Louis put it, "The intensity in home-based businesses is much, much more than when the couple works outside the home."

That intensity can be a well-spring of energy and inspiration, or it can be a wearing nuisance and an impediment to good performance.

Setting up a business with a spouse can be especially tricky,

management consultants say, because the person you call partner is also the person you have vowed to love and cherish.

"In a normal job," said Bob Brockhaus, Joyce's husband and partner in their consulting company, the Brockhaus Group, "you can go home to your wife and get things off your chest. Then you go back to work the next day."

"When you are in business together, there is no one to talk to about problems when you go home."

That means couples really have to talk honestly with one another if they are to succeed. Getting to know one another as business partners can take on new dimensions, even for couples who have been together for many years. Running a home-based business requires love, humor, respect for each other and a lot of intuition and understanding.

Sometimes the dynamics of the core relationship change drastically when a couple goes into business together.

An example is Terrol and Carol Zomphier, partners in Z's Layout Design Graphics in St. Louis. He was a credit manager with Brown Shoe Co. and she had held a variety of jobs at Ralston Purina Co. when they decided to go into business for

themselves.

They cashed in their pensions and opened their computer-graphic design studio five years ago in the living room of their home. Terrol, 53, took over the books and the computers while Carol, 52, assumed the lead with clients and the creative design role. Terrol also found himself turning over some of the control to his wife of 20 years.

"This time," I said to her, "I'll follow you." And it keeps getting better every day," Terrol said.

"I tell this to all of my friends: Most men think they are running things when their wives really are," Terrol said. "Since I got behind (Carol), things are better than ever."

Their client list includes the city of St. Louis, Lambert Field, Lucent Technologies, Southwestern Bell, the St. Louis Public Schools and the St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission.

After four years as restaurateurs, Gail and Keith Kitsis like what is happening to their lives. As they prepare to open their fifth Crazy Bowls & Wraps in four years, Gail and Keith have found that complementing each other's strengths is a great asset.

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues. ACROSS: 1 Open a crack, 5 Calas and Shriver, 11 Contagious malady, briefly, 14 Pierce with a horn, 15 "Lawrence of Arabia" star, 16 Sportscaster Berman, 17 Color gradations, 18 Get lost!, 19 In the past, 20 Beheaded Boleyn, 21 H.H. Munro, 22 Faucet, 23 View quickly, 24 Hipster, 26 Make possible, 28 Precedent-setting court action, 30 Horse shade, 31 Rescuer, 32 Mar, 34 Vegetable ball, 37 Salton or Caspian, 38 Put in stitches, 39 Mack or Williams, 40 Hosts, 42 Disorderly mess, 44 Pre-school lesson, 45 TWA and El Al, e.g., 49 Moves on hands and knees, 52 Secret agent, 53 Tabloid, 54 Galactic time period, 55 "She Sweet", 57 Places, 58 Healthy, 59 Well-known fact, 62 Periods of time, 63 Caps or glob ending?, 64 Bank employee, 65 Evaluate, 66 Psychedelic drug.

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