

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Gabriel Schlechte, right, Mason Schlechte and Braedon Schlechte take a moment out of their afternoon to play on the tire swing at Comanche Trail Park's Kid's Zone. The three brothers, grandsons of local resident Katie Grimes, are visiting Big Spring from their home in Qatar, in the United Arab Emirates, where their mother is a teacher.

Jumper, Scott file for council

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The race for Big Spring City Council District 5 has drawn a pair of contestants, as local election officials prepare for the May 12 election.

Former Big Spring City Council member Woody Jumper, who previously served in District 2, recently filed his candidacy for the District 5 seat. Jumper is a patients rights advocate with the Big Spring State Hospital.

Also filing for the District 5 seat is local resident David Scott, who is the manager of Smith's Transmissions in Big Spring.

Incumbent Joann Knox has announced she will not run for re-election.

While Knox — who was recently targeted by a recall petition spurred by the councils approval of a

city ordinance that effectively banned smoking in public places — has decided not to run for re-election, Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen stayed true to his word to run for the office once again, filing his candidacy Tuesday.

McEwen will have at least on challenger in the May election, as local resident Shannon Thomason filed his candidacy last week.

Thomason was one of the driving forces behind the recall petition — and subsequent recall election — which will give the mayor the distinction of having his name on the ballot twice, as voters will be asked to vote for or against a recall that was triggered by the petition in addition to the regular election.

See **ELECTION**, page 3A

Deadline approaches to reserve spot on Big Spring Day charter

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Time is running out for area residents planning to ride the chartered bus to the state capitol for Big Spring Day in Austin, with the deadline to reserve a seat just around the corner.

Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the local Chamber, said there are still plenty of seats ready for eager residents wanting to show their support.

"Sign up for the bus has been slower this year than in the past," said ValVerde. "We have a lot more people taking their own vehicles this year, so there are still plenty of seats available."

ValVerde said the deadline to reserve a seat and pay for the bus trip is Tuesday at 5 p.m.



ValVerde

"The Chamber will be chartering a bus for the trip, and a special \$40 trip rate includes round-trip transportation and lunch at the capitol," said ValVerde. "This is a great way to go because it alleviates the worry of driving. Everyone going on the bus will need to bring their own breakfast, and any food on the bus must be in closed containers. All drinks must have a twist-on top. On the trip back to Big Spring, we will stop for dinner at Cooper's BBQ in Llano, which will be Dutch treat."

The bus is expected to

See **AUSTIN**, page 3A

Hitting the books for a good cause

Kentwood students to hold Math-A-Thon to benefit St. Jude's Hospital

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Kentwood Elementary students will be exercising their brain muscles for a good cause this spring.

The students will participate in the St. Jude's Math-A-Thon, solving mathematics problems to raise money for the world famous children's research hospital.

During the Math-A-Thon, Kentwood students will try to solicit donations by correctly answering mathematics problems from a 250-



Saunders

problem workbook. Students will seek either donations on a per-question basis or by a flat rate, said Lisa Dimidjian, one of the event organizers.

"This is our major fundraiser for the year," Dimidjian said. "And we figured this would be a good way to get the community involved."

"The children will find sponsors

... who will pay, for example, 25 cents for each problem they solve, or 50 cents, whatever they pledge," said Kentwood Principal Karen Saunders. "One hundred percent of the money raised goes to St. Jude's. None of the money will go to Kentwood. This is just our way of helping ... this wonderful, worthy cause."

The booklets with the math problems won't arrive until early

See **MATH**, page 3A

Vision tests proposed for senior drivers

AUSTIN (AP) — The Senate transportation committee has approved a bill establishing increased scrutiny of older drivers, including a vision test at age 79 and the possibility of driving tests starting at age 85.

The bill filed by Sen. John Carona, R-Dallas, would also require dri-

vers to renew their licenses every two years after they turn 85. The fee would be \$10, and officers would have the discretion to order a driving test as well.

Carona said statistical evidence supports the need for the bill, which the committee passed unanimously on

Wednesday.

"Older drivers, per mile driven, have far more accidents than any other classification of driver," said Carona, chairman of the transportation committee. "While there will be senior citizens who have reservations about

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"Older drivers, per mile driven, have far more accidents than any other classification of driver."

Sen. John Carona

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BILLION-DOLLAR TYPO

WEATHERFORD (AP) — Perhaps his \$24 billion electric bill will teach Richard Redden to turn down the thermostat a bit. Redden and more than 1,300

Weatherford utility customers this week received billion-dollar electric bills marked as late notices. The mega-charges were attributed to a printing error.

Irving-based DataProse, which prints customer bills for Weatherford Electric, said the company was embarrassed by the error.

"Obviously, this is not something we are pleased about," said Curtis Nelson, DataProse vice president and general manager.

CHOIR TO PERFORM

The internationally acclaimed African Children's Choir will be performing at Baptist Temple in Big Spring.

The public is invited to the concert, set for 7 p.m. Friday, March 2. There is no admission fee. A love offering will be taken.

Since its inception in 1984, the purpose of the African Children's Choir has been to bring hope and joy and the love of God to people and communities throughout the world, shining the spotlight on the millions of children of Africa living in conditions of extreme poverty, war or AIDS.

For more information, contact Baptist Temple at 267-8287.

HC FINANCIAL WORKSHOP

Don't let the name fool you, College Goal Sunday is, well ... actually Saturday, but it is goal-oriented, for sure.

A free financial aid workshop, College Goal Sunday is set from noon to 4 p.m. — Saturday — at Howard College.

In a brief period of time, students and potential students can learn how they can afford a college degree.

Those attending will have the opportunity to meet with financial aid professionals who will help them apply for assistance using Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For information on the free workshops, call 264-5034.

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Obituaries

Dennis E. Black



Dennis E. Black, 63, of Waxahachie, formerly of Midland died Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007, at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Pastor Wayne Frost, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Jan. 11, 1944, in Midland to Marge and Elvin Black. He was a veteran having served in the Navy. At the time of his death he owned the Sears store in Waxahachie and had also been an auctioneer and real estate agent.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Elaine Black formerly of Big Spring; two sons, Randall Eugene Black of Lovington, N.M. and David Warren Black and his wife, Gayle D'Ann of El Reno, Okla.; one daughter, Kristian Renee Roemer and her husband, John of Big Spring; two grandsons, Taylor Sterling Black and Trace Cameron Black of El Reno, Okla.; three granddaughters, Brittney Lauren Roemer, Shelby Nichole Roemer and Victoria Elaine Roemer, all of Big Spring; mother, Marge Black of Kansas City, Mo.; and one sister, Ruth Fetters and her husband, Phil of Platte City, Mo.

He was preceded in death by his father.

The family will be at 4403 Chaparral Road.

The family suggests memorials to their favorite charity.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Ruthie Nell Smith

Ruthie Nell Smith, 48, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007, at Mountain View Lodge. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 6, 1958, in Big Spring. She was a homemaker, a member of Shiloh House of Praise and was a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

She is survived by four sons, Mike D. Williams and his wife, Erika, Dijuan Ausbie, Dominique Ausbie, and Chello Williams all of Big Spring; one daughter, Rene Williams of Big Spring; five brothers, John D. Smith and his wife, Pricillia, and Larry Smith and his wife, Phyllis all of Temple, Albert Smith and his wife, Fern, Charles Smith and his wife, Ruby and Alvin Williams and his wife, Marilyn all of Big Spring; two sisters, Debra Swanson and her husband, Wayne of Midland and Sheila Williams of Big Spring; one uncle, and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, John D. Smith; her mother, Irma Mae Williams; one brother; and one aunt.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Maria Elia Bustamante-Gomez

Maria Elia Bustamante-Gomez, 56, of Midland, died Monday, Feb. 19, 2007, in Glasscock County. Funeral services will be 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23, 2007, at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Midland. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Midland. A rosary will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel in Midland.

Maria was born June 2, 1950, to Jesus and Ofelia Acosta in Mulato, Mexico. She married Eliseo Gomez Sr. on April 29, 1972, in Mulato, Mexico.

Survivors include her husband, Eliseo Gomez Montoya of Midland; a son and daughter-in-law, Jesus Antonio and Bernice Gomez of Garden City; a daughter, Rosario Gomez of San Angelo; a son, Eliseo Gomez Jr. of Midland; three grandchildren; three sisters, Eulalia Dominquez of Marfa, Luzmila Garcia of Midland and Rosario Olivas of Andrews; and six brothers, Eduardo, Jose, Petronilo, Natalio and Alfredo Bustamante, all of Andrews and Armando Bustamante of Marfa.

Elia was preceded in death by her parents.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at:

Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-17-21-31-47-51.
Number matching six of six: 0.

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-7-9-12-19.
Number matching five of five: 2.
Prize per winner: \$13,002.
Winning tickets sold in: Richardson, Houston.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-3-9

www.npwelch.com

Marcellus Christopher

Marcellus Christopher, 73, of Millington, Tenn., died Feb. 16, 2007, at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis. Public viewing will be held from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at Jefferson Mortuary. Family hour will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and a second viewing will be Saturday, Feb. 24, at Fullview Missionary Baptist Church from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. with services to begin there at noon.

He was a retired machine operator for Cargill Inc. Burial will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, in West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Mr. Christopher leaves his wife, Charlie Mae Christopher of Millington; six daughters, Sylvia Bonds of Houston, Victoria Barbee, Vivian Diane Christopher and Bernadette Stewart, all of Millington, Luvenia Foster of Maysville, N.C., and Venessa Spearman of Millington; one sister, Marjorie Ann Christopher of Millington; six brothers, Sylvester Christopher Sr. of Millington, Willie Frank Christopher of Big Spring, Jesse Christopher, Jimmy Christopher and Bishop Roger Christopher, all of Millington, and Rymond Christopher of Arlington, Tenn.; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Mid South Parkinson's Foundation, 6580 Poplar Ave., Suite 122, Memphis Tenn., 38111 or the Alzheimer's Association, 326 Ellsworth St., Memphis, Tenn., 38111.

George Christopher

George Christopher, 70, of Millington, Tenn., died Feb. 16, 2007, in Millington. Public viewing will be held from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at Jefferson Mortuary. Family hour will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and a second viewing will be Saturday, Feb. 24, at Fullview Missionary Baptist Church from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. with services to begin there at noon.

He was a retired Army sergeant.

Burial will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, in West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Mr. Christopher leaves his wife, Hallie "Lillie" Christopher of Mesquite; a son, Malcom Christopher Sr. of Mesquite; one sister, Marjorie Ann Christopher of Millington; six brothers, Sylvester Christopher Sr. of Millington, Willie Frank Christopher of Big Spring, Jesse Christopher, Jimmy Christopher and Bishop Roger Christopher, all of Millington and Rymond Christopher of Arlington, Tenn.; and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Fisher House Foundation, 1401 Rockville, Suite 600, Rockville, Md, 20852.

Virginia Taylor

Virginia Taylor, 79, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Reginald 'Reggie' Overman

Reginald 'Reggie' Overman, 59, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2007, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

• **NORTH BIRDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** Angelood Ministry pickup date is Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 2702 N. Birdwell. Doors close at 1 p.m. and all orders not picked up will be donated.

• **BIG SPRING SYMPHONY CHORUS REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN** at the first United Methodist Church upstairs choral rehearsal room. The rehearsals are for the April 21 concert and will feature spiritual music and Mozart.

• **THE 5TH ANNUAL RELAY RASCAL RAZZMATAZZ** will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 24, in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at KBST and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Entry deadline is today.

• **MY WAY, A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA**, will be held at Howard College's Hall Center for the Arts at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26-27 and 7:30 p.m. March 5-7.

• **MOSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** will host a retirement party for Kaye Clawson from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, in the school's library.

• **THE POWWOW COMMITTEE OF BIG SPRING** is planning its 2007 Powwow and is in need of new members and volunteers. Anyone interested in Native American dancing or just interested in helping to bring an exciting weekend event to Big Spring is encouraged to contact Robert Downing at 263-3255 or Randy McKinney at 267-4843.

• **CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS.** These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them.

To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

- **LINDA SUSAN PAYNE**, 47, of 2712 Cindy Lane, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of Wasson.
 - in the 500 block of Westover Road.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 48 inmates at the time of this report.
- **LINDA SUSAN PAYNE**, 47, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **ELIZABETH LAREZ**, 30, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
- **DANIEL SCOTT STEINBERG**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3700 block of Wright. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 50. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Windy. Highs in the upper 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph increasing to 25 to 30 mph in the afternoon.

Friday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s. South winds 20 to 25 mph.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Very windy. Cooler. Areas of blowing dust. Highs in the mid 60s. West winds 25 to 40 mph with gusts to Around 55 mph.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s.

Sunday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Monday...Mostly sunny. Highs around 70.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Tuesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

• Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 221 Main. Meal served. Meeting at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Spring City Senior Citizens Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

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AN EN

DRIVERS

Continued from page 1A

this bill, all we're doing is making them come in and have a vision test at 79. And that will be good for six years."

The bill was placed on the Senate's uncontested calendar, which means the full Senate will vote on it without a debate unless a senator objects.

Also Wednesday, the House Law Enforcement Committee passed a similar companion bill. The House version sets a required vision test for drivers renewing their licenses at age 90.

If both bills pass, a compromise would be forged between the House and Senate versions.

The proposal has faced little opposition, but AARP-Texas spokesman Rafael Ayuso cautioned against rules that discriminate against older people. The group did not testify against the bill.

"Research shows that younger drivers have much higher accident

rates than older drivers, and to some extent, these efforts (to pass legislation) can be seen as using older people as an easy target," Ayuso said.

Ayuso also questioned Carona's proposal that a DPS officer could require a driving test for an 85-year-old based on the officer's observations.

"This is particularly a concern given the importance of driving to the independence of many older Texans," he said.

The House and Senate bills have been dubbed "Katie's Law" for 17-year-old Katherine "Katie" Bolka. The Dallas teenager died last spring, five days after her car was struck by a 90-year-old driver who was speeding and ran a stoplight that had been red for almost 30 seconds.

"My daughter's death touched the entire community," said her mother, Johna Bolka, during testimony in favor of the new rules. "It was about recognizing that this could have happened to anyone."

ELECTION

Continued from page 1A

The city of Stanton has had a single filing since Feb. 12, as council member Tommy Haislip filed to run for re-election. Stanton will also offer a second seat during the election, currently held by Steven Villa, who has not yet filed his candidacy.

While Big Spring and Stanton have both seen

lone filings, the city of Coahoma has yet to have a candidate — incumbent or otherwise — step forward. Seats held by David Elmore, Ricky Stone and Mayor Bill Read are all expected to be on the May ballot.

The deadline to file for the May ballot is March 12.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

AUSTIN

Continued from page 1A

leave Big Spring at 4:30 a.m. and return at 10 p.m.

Among the activities planned for the visit to the capitol are:

• Reading of a resolution on the floor of House and Senate proclaiming March 7 "Big Spring Day" in Austin.

• The Howard County School Choir to perform in the Rotunda.

• Box lunch to be served on the east grounds of the Capitol.

• Coca-Cola and Blue Bell Ice Cream reception on east grounds of the Capitol.

• Group photo on the steps of the Capitol with legislators.

ValVerde said the dress code for the day will be the usual denim Big Spring shirts and khaki pants.

"Special denim shirts with the Big Spring logo are available in varied sizes at the Chamber and Moore Development Offices," said ValVerde. "We only have a few left, so if you haven't already gotten your shirt you'll need to hurry."

"Everyone that plans to attend, whether going by chartered bus or their own vehicle, needs to register at the Chamber by Wednesday," said ValVerde. "If they plan to join us for lunch on the capitol grounds they will also need to pay \$9 when they register."

For more information on Big Spring Area Day in Austin, call the Big Spring Chamber at 263-7641 or Moore Development at 264-6032.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

MATH

Continued from page 1A

March, but students have already begun to line up sponsors for their efforts, Dimidjian said.

Students in all grade levels at Kentwood will participate in the event.

The event will be held from March 6 through March 23.

For more information, contact Dimidjian at 263-6240 or Saunders at 264-4130.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

To subscribe, call 263-7331
Amy E. Reese, D.D.S., P.C. 432-267-4102

Texas news in brief

Soldier gets 10 months for desertion

FORT HOOD (AP) — An Army soldier faces less than a year in a military prison for fleeing before his second deployment to Iraq.

In a plea deal that caps his punishment at 10 months, Spc. Mark Wilkerson pleaded guilty to desertion and missing troop movement after the military decided last month that he would be court-martialed. He is to be sentenced by a judge Thursday.

Wilkerson, 23, surrendered at Fort Hood in August, about a year and a half after failing to return from an approved two-week leave.

He said he was tired of running and wanted to face the consequences to move forward with his life, published reports state.

Convicted killer of couple set to die Thursday evening

LIVINGSTON (AP) — Frank and Bertha Cobb had lived in their rural East Texas home for more than 20 years without a break-in, their daughter, Carolyn Sanders, recalled.

On March 4, 1999, they came home to find a burglar, Newton Anderson, in their house.

"Then it just got crazy," Anderson said, describing a frenzy that ended with the couple tortured and killed. Anderson, 30, faced lethal injection Thursday evening for their deaths.

"I'm guilty," he told *The Associated Press* from death row. "I just can't explain why all this took place."

The bodies of Cobb, 71, and his wife, 61, were found in the rubble of their burned home, which authorities said he torched.

Rehabilitated green sea turtles returned to Gulf

HARLINGEN (AP) — About 90 green sea turtles that nearly died from a sudden cold snap last month have been rehabilitated and returned to the waters near South Padre Island.

Scores of volunteers carried the comatose turtles from the beaches and surf during the dramatic rescue. Temperatures in the Laguna Madre bay had dropped 30 degrees in 48 hours during a January weekend, and at least 130 turtles stunned from the cold were rescued the following week. Seven were found dead.

Jeff George, curator at Sea Turtle Inc., said 42 were released Tuesday and 46 were released Wednesday.

Perry's staff discussed vaccine on day Merck donated to campaign

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry's chief of staff met with key aides about the human papillomavirus vaccine the same day its manufacturer donated money to his campaign, documents obtained by The Associated Press show.

Chief of staff Deirdre Delisi's calendar shows she met with the governor's budget director and three members of his office for an "HPV Vaccine for Children Briefing" on Oct. 16.

That day, New Jersey-based Merck & Co.'s political action committee donated \$5,000 to Perry and \$5,000 total to eight state lawmakers.

The calendar and other documents obtained by the AP show Perry's office began meeting with Merck lobbyists about the vaccine as early as mid-August, months before social conservatives — who are now those most outraged by the order — helped re-elect him in November.

Perry spokesman Robert Black said Wednesday afternoon that the timing of the meeting and the donation was a coincidence. He said Delisi had asked budget director Mike Morrissey to update her on the cost of providing the newly FDA-approved HPV vaccine free to young women on Medicaid.

"There was no discussion of any kind of mandates," Black said.

On Wednesday night, Black issued the following statement: "The Associated Press has tried to create a conspiracy where none exists, and they have offered not one shred of evidence to their baseless accusations that

the governor's office has done anything wrong."

The order the governor issued earlier this month directed the Texas Health and Human Services to adopt rules requiring the shots for girls entering sixth grade as of September 2008. The vaccine protects girls and women against the HPV strains that cause most cases of cervical cancer.

The mandate inflamed conservatives, who say it contradicts Texas' abstinence-only sexual education policies and intrudes too far into families' lives. They also say the shots are too new and too costly to force on young girls.

On Wednesday, the House public health committee voted 6-to-3 in favor of a bill that would override Perry's mandate by barring state officials from requiring the vaccine for school attendance. Ninety-one state representatives — or nearly two-thirds of the House — are co-sponsoring the bill, which now can be considered by the full House.

Perry has repeatedly said the vaccine's lifesaving potential far outweighs opponents' concerns. He has declined to say whether he would veto the bill but has said he is open to changes.

The documents obtained Wednesday by The AP

under Texas' open records law provide new detail about the relationship between the governor's office and Merck, which makes the only HPV vaccine on the market.

Critics had previously questioned Perry's ties to the company. Mike Toomey, Perry's former chief of staff and Delisi's predecessor, lobbied for the drug company. And the governor accepted a total of \$6,000 from Merck during his re-election campaign.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD
By Eddy Pitchford

Failure to properly maintain a car can prove expensive and inconvenient. The same principle is true of life for you and me. Failure to care for priorities, attitudes and relationships can result in frustration, heartache and grief. Just as an owners manual gives information about car care, so the bible gives direction for life. "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John 2:1).

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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.

Ronnie Cupetid
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

College Goal Sunday worth consideration

Interested in a college education? Are you graduating from high school this May or this summer? Perhaps you went straight into the workforce after high school and have decided to pursue your education. Maybe you started college years ago but stopped for some reason. Maybe that reason was financial.

Well, whatever the reason, if you are interested in obtaining a college education, then you'll want to take advantage of College Goal Sunday, a program actually set Saturday — this Saturday, in fact — at Howard College.

It runs from noon until 4 p.m., though you can expect to spend just a couple of hours or so there, not four.

College Goal Sunday is a free financial aid workshop. Volunteers, who are professionals in the field of financial assistance will help potential students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

FAFSA is used to determine an applicant's eligibility for state and financial programs such as grants, loans and work study.

There is no age requirement, so don't let it deter you if you are older than most college students. You do have to have a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate. To be eligible you must also have a Social Security number.

Felons need not apply.

You'll need to bring that aforementioned Social Security card along with other forms of identification such as a driver's license to the college Saturday. You'll need financial information such as W-2 forms for 2006, bank statements, business and investment mortgage information, farm records.

Parents are encouraged to attend, both to help provide financial information and to learn about the program.

College Goal Sunday — remember, it is actually Saturday — is a great tool to help you afford a higher education and something you as a student or parent will want to consider.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, may we not get so caught up in our own position and status in life that we forget our real future.

Amem

Remembering U.S. in Iwo Jima

Clint Eastwood is "growing" as a movie director. And we know what that means — he is going to the politically correct left. And that has led him to some strange conclusions, which are worth addressing.

The onetime archetypal tough guy — his "Dirty Harry" cop character took wrathful justice into his own hands decades before Jack "24" Bauer — has been sliding over to liberalism for the past 15 years. And, of course, equally predictably, he has been showered with Academy Awards ever since.

His "growth" was notable in 1992, when "Unforgiven," his nihilistic deconstruction of the western, won a bunch of Oscars, including best picture and best director. In 2003, his "Mystic River" gave audiences a curiously sympathetic portrait of a child-murderer, gaining Oscars for liberal lions Sean Penn and Tim Robbins. And, in 2004, Eastwood's tribute to euthanasia, "Million Dollar Baby," swept the top awards offered by the Motion Picture Academy.

So it's not surprising that Eastwood now has his own revisionist take on a famous World War II battle in "Letters From Iwo Jima," told from the Japanese point of view. Last year, he released an English-language movie about Iwo Jima, "Flags of Our Fathers," but it's the



JAMES P. PINKERTON

Japanese-language "Letters" that has grabbed Hollywood's attention. "Letters" has been nominated for four Academy Awards, including best picture, best director and best screenplay. By contrast, "Flags" has been shunted aside, nominated for only two minor awards, sound editing and sound mixing.

For his part, Eastwood has been eager to document the "evolution" of his thinking. As he told Agence-France Presse earlier this month, "I grew up in the war pictures in the 1940s where everything was propagandized. In all the movies, we were the good guys and everybody else were bad guys." So Eastwood is now determined to counteract such "propaganda" by creating propaganda of a different kind.

Reporting on the rapturous reception given to "Letters" at the Berlin Film Festival, The Financial Times was clear-eyed enough to call the film "gaga with political correctness," depicting the Japanese as "vulnerable, misunderstood victims of history." But, in addition to improving the image of imperial Japan, Eastwood had another mission for "Letters." As he told the same French press agency, "Every war has a certain parallel in the futility of it, and that's one of the reasons for telling these stories — they are not pro-war stories." That last point is worth pausing over, because it's popular in some circles to emphasize the "futility" of war. Yet, in fact, wars frequently resolve vital issues — that is, international ambition, aggression and conquest. Japan, for example, began dreaming of dominating

Asia in the late 19th century. First, it took over Taiwan and Korea; then, it defeated Russia. Starting in 1931, it attempted to conquer all of China. And in 1941, of course, came Pearl Harbor. Had America not defeated Japan, all of Asia and the Pacific might still be bowing down to the Rising Sun.

But today, many Americans, thinking about Afghanistan and Iraq, are prone to see war as futile. But the better conclusion is this: Wars fought incompetently are futile. As The Washington Post reported last week, after nearly four years of fighting in Iraq, fewer than half of the U.S. Humvees have the latest "up armoring." Indeed, for a war not to be futile, it must be fought competently — which, in this case, means being backed up by top-to-bottom economic and industrial mobilization. That's how wars are won.

In the meantime, on Feb. 23, we might pause to reflect on the 62nd anniversary of the iconic flag-raising at Mount Suribachi. Nearly 7,000 U.S. Marines died on Iwo Jima during that month of fighting, and they gave us, through their sacrifice, an object lesson in accomplishing a mission. No amount of retroactive Hollywood political correctness can ever detract from what was done there. By Americans — also known, in that battle, as the good guys.

James P. Pinkerton is a columnist for Newsday.

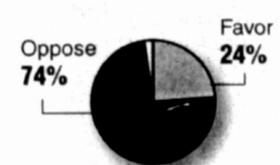
Distributed by the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

Let it be known, the buck stops here

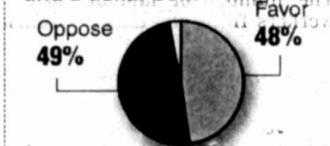
Coins or bills?

How Americans feel about coins and bills, as a new dollar coin honoring U.S. presidents goes into circulation:

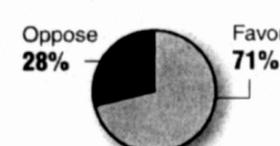
Most oppose replacing the dollar bill with the new coin ...



... But are evenly split on the idea of having a dollar bill and a dollar coin



Most think the penny should stay...



... And are just about evenly split in saving or spending loose change



Presidential dollars to be released in 2007

Coins not shown actual size



Source: AP-Ipsos telephone interviews with 1,000 U.S. adults, Nov. 28-30, 2006; error margin: +/- 3 percentage points, The U.S. Mint
Graphic: Pat Carr, Tim Goheen

© 2007 MCT

like a cheese-ball country trying to make a cheap buck off souvenirs. Plus, because the Constitution specifies that only dead people can be on money, I worry that these coins will lead to a very lame 15th season of "24," in which the secretary of the Treasury plots to assassinate President Jack Bauer "to save the seigniorage of the country I love."

But, I will embrace the Millard Fillmore coin because I'm disgusted that such a simple piece of public policy has been stymied by our political system. That's right, there are lobbies fighting to keep our dollar bill around. Lobbies that, undoubtedly, get beaten up at lunchtime by other lobbies.

The Coin Coalition, which supports killing both the dollar bill and the penny (which costs more than a penny to produce and is reused so infrequently we have to mint 8 billion new ones a year), is funded by the vending-machine and soft-drink industries, which are even more frustrated by trying to slip dollars into soda machines than you are.

The are battled by Save the Greenback, paid for by the paper and ink suppliers. Save the Greenback ultimately prevented a phaseout of the dollar bill thanks in part to Trent Lott (Mississippi's cotton industry makes the dollar's

fabric) and Ted Kennedy (Massachusetts' Crane Paper Co. produces the dollar's paper). If dollar bill lobbies can bring Lott and Kennedy together, I'll bet we can get them to make out for a mid-sized military contract.

Sure, these are just coins and, yes, by the time the Gerald Ford dollar comes out, we'll be using our cellphones to pay for everything anyway. But if we can't pass legislation this obvious, I worry about all the decisions Congress makes when we aren't paying incredibly close attention: doling out sugar subsidies that impoverish African farmers, outlawing online poker, invading Iraq.

I used to think that such inefficiencies were a fair trade-off for not having to pay attention to our government. I was wrong. Sometimes, it takes currency redundancy to wake a nation from its stupor.

So now I have hope. So much so that I'm working on a solution to the only major problem with eliminating the dollar bill. Starting soon, get ready to experience the world's sexiest stripper fanny pack. You don't even want to know.

Joel Stein is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. E-mail him at jstein@latimescolumnists.com

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News in brief

Rice says U.S., Europe and Russia agree to encourage Iran back to bargaining table

BERLIN (AP) — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Thursday the United States, European and Russian diplomats have a common goal to encourage Iran back to the bargaining table over its disputed nuclear program.

"We reconfirmed we will use available channels and the Security Council to try to achieve that goal," the top U.S. diplomat said. Rice spoke following a breakfast meeting with her counterparts from Germany, Russia and the European Union.

The group reviewed Iran's compliance with a U.N. Security Council demand that it stop enriching uranium, a key step toward producing either nuclear power or a nuclear weapon.

The U.N. nuclear watchdog finalized a report that is to be released Thursday and is expected to formally confirm the Islamic republic's refusal to freeze enrichment.

Officials at the International Atomic Energy Agency said the report would say that Iran has expanded enrichment efforts instead of freezing them.

Iran calls for talks with U.S. but continues defying U.N. Security Council on enrichment

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The United States and other world powers on Thursday worked on a response to Tehran's defiance of a U.N. Security Council ultimatum on mothballing its uranium enrichment program, while Iranian dissidents presented a list of alleged front companies they said were set up by the Islamic republic to evade U.N. sanctions.

With Tehran showing no signs it had met the council's Wednesday deadline on an enrichment freeze, the U.N. nuclear watchdog finalized a report to be released later in the day.

Officials at the International Atomic Energy Agency said the report by Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the Vienna-based agency, would say that Iran has expanded enrichment efforts instead of freezing them, a conclusion that could trigger tougher U.N. sanctions against Tehran.

Once released, the report will be sent to the agency's 35-nation board and to the U.N. Security Council, which — in setting the deadline — had said that any enrichment related activities past Wednesday could lead to sanctions in addition to those imposed last month.

The United States and its allies suspect Iran is using

its nuclear program to produce an atomic weapon — charges Iran denies, saying its aim is to generate electricity. Enriched to a low level, uranium is used to produce nuclear fuel, but further enrichment makes it suitable for a bomb.

Indonesian passenger ferry fire kills at least 15, injures dozens

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A fire broke out on an Indonesian ferry carrying 300 passengers Thursday, killing at least 15 people and sending scores of passengers jumping into the sea, officials said.

Scores of survivors were plucked from the water and the ship's charred hull, but more than a dozen remained unaccounted for following the country's second major maritime disaster in as many months.

The fire started in a truck on the Levina 1's car deck, hours after the 2,000-ton vessel left the capital, Jakarta, for the northwestern island of Bangka, said port official Sato Bisri.

Aerial footage showed a raging fire and heavy black smoke pouring from the 27-year-old ferry. The cause was not immediately known.

"It was terrifying," said Yas Rijal, 33, who was with his wife and son on the upper deck when the fire broke out. "Suddenly flames burst from the lower deck. The crew ordered us to put on yellow life vests and we jumped."

Second case of rape allegations leveled against Iraqi forces this week

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Four Iraqi soldiers have been accused of raping a 50-year-old Sunni woman and the attempted rape of her two daughters in the second allegation of sexual assault leveled against Iraqi forces this week, an official said Thursday.

Brig. Gen. Nijm Abdullah said the attack allegedly occurred about 10 days ago in the northern city of Tal Afar during a search for weapons and insurgents.

A lieutenant and three enlisted men denied the charge but later confessed after they were confronted by the woman, a Turkoman. Abdullah said a fifth soldier suspected something was wrong, burst into the house and forced the others at gunpoint to stop the assault.

"They have been referred to the judicial authorities so they can receive their just punishment," said Abdullah, who effectively serves as mayor of the city.

Regardless of the truth, a second allegation within a single week is likely to undermine further the reputa-

tion of Iraq's security services, which the U.S. hopes can take over from coalition troops so the Americans and their allies can go home.

Protesters, prime minister to greet Cheney on rare visit to Australia

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney arrives in Australia on Thursday to thank one of Washington's staunchest supporters of the increasingly unpopular Iraq war — an ally that has become a rarity by offering more, not fewer, troops for Iraq and Afghanistan.

Iraq and other security issues are expected to dominate Cheney's three-day visit and talks with Prime Minister John Howard, who is under increasing political pressure to set an exit strategy for Australia's 1,400 troops in and around Iraq.

The focus intensified Wednesday when the British government and other allies announced plans to start withdrawing forces from Iraq, leaving Howard to explain why he is not doing the same.

Opinion polls show the Iraq conflict is deeply unpopular among Australians, and anti-war demonstrations are planned outside venues in Sydney where Cheney is to speak or hold meetings.

Obama, Clinton camps trade accusations over Hollywood donor David Geffen

WASHINGTON (AP) — The rival presidential campaigns of Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama traded accusations of nasty politics Wednesday over Hollywood donor David Geffen, who once backed Bill Clinton but now supports his wife's top rival.

The Clinton campaign demanded that Obama denounce comments made by the DreamWorks movie studio founder, who told New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd in Wednesday's editions that while "everybody in politics lies," the former president and his wife "do it with such ease, it's troubling."

The Clinton camp also called on Obama to give back Geffen's \$2,300 contribution.

Campaigning in Iowa, Obama refused. "It's not clear to me why I'd be apologizing for someone else's remark," the Illinois senator said.

Jobless claims fall sharply last week

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of laid-off workers filing for unemployment benefits dropped sharply last week after having been driven higher the previous week by storm-related layoffs.

The Labor Department reported that applications for jobless benefits totaled 332,000 last week, down by 27,000 from the previous week.

The prior week jobless claims had jumped by 46,000, the biggest one-week surge since September 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Part of that big increase occurred because of winter storms which boosted layoffs in such industries as construction.

The four-week moving average for claims edged up from 326,700 to 328,000, the highest level for this average since early December.

The nation's unemployment edged up to 4.6 percent in January, the highest level in four months, and economists believe that rate will rise further perhaps as high as 5 percent in coming months as a slowing economy increases layoffs. Already the slump in housing and weakness in auto manufacturing are triggering layoffs in those industries.

Nevertheless, a seasonally adjusted civilian jobless rate of 4 percent to 5 percent is low by historical standards.

The hope of the Federal Reserve is that a two-year campaign to raise interest rates will work to slow the economy enough to keep inflation under control.

While overall inflation

has eased as energy prices have retreated from last year's highs, the government reported Wednesday that core inflation, which excludes volatile energy and food, jumped by 0.3 percent in January, a bigger-than-expected increase that was driven by a huge jump in medical costs.

If these inflation pressures persist, analysts said the Fed will be forced to resume raising interest rates.

The increase of 46,000 claims for the week ending Feb. 10 reflected the fact that 29 states and territories saw claims increase while 24 saw a decrease in claims.

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

	5	4	9		
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9				5	
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Contract Bridge

Sylvia Plays Duplicate

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K Q J
♥ 10 7 6 4 3 2
♦ 10 7 6 4 3 2
♣ 8 7 4

EAST
♠ —
♥ K J 9 7 4 3 2
♦ Q 8 5
♣ Q 10 2

SOUTH
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3
♥ —
♦ A
♣ A 6 5 3

The bidding:
West: 1♥, 5♥, 5♣, Dble
North: Pass, 5♦
East: 4♥, 6♥
South: 4♣, 6♦

Opening lead — jack of spades.

The night Sylvia played in her first duplicate tournament was a night to remember. She had been a member of the club only two or three weeks, but even in that short period of time the membership had become aware of her extraordinary exploits.

We had never previously seen such a player. It wasn't that Sylvia was a poor player — we had lots of them at the club — it was just that her thought processes were so different from those of any other player. Her mistakes were so far removed from ordinary human error that it was clear that her approach to the game was totally unique.

Despite this, Sylvia's frequent misadventures occasionally resulted in a sensational triumph, and it was these victories that made her the most-talked-about member of the club.

A few of the members were opposed to allowing Sylvia to play in the duplicate for fear she would spoil the game, but most were in favor of the idea. They were curious to see what would happen, and they didn't have long to wait. On the very first board, Sylvia became declarer at six spades on the hand shown, and West led the jack of spades.

It is hard to explain what happened now. I don't know whether it was the tension of the moment, or the excitement of playing in her first duplicate, or what the reason was that caused her to do what she did, but the fact is that Sylvia played the two from dummy!

This astonishing play was greeted by a strange and eerie silence on all sides. West then shifted to a club. Sylvia took the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds, played a spade to the queen, ruffed a diamond, played a spade to the king and ruffed another diamond, establishing dummy's last three diamonds. She then led a spade to the ace and discarded three clubs on the 10-7-6 of diamonds to make the contract.

Of course, if she had won the opening lead with one of dummy's honors, she would have gone down!

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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	2004 Chrysler Town & Country Tour Van 44K, Must See! \$13,950		2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 70K, New Car Trade, Very nice. \$12,950
2004 Dodge Ram 2500 Hemi 22K, Factory Warranty \$15,950		2002 Dodge Ram 2500 Camping Diesel, Great Buy. \$13,950	

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Love it or hate it

Volvo C30 ads invite buyers to choose

By KORTNEY STRINGER
Detroit Free Press

Mary Anne Housey viewed something this month that made her not want to buy the Volvo C30, which is to go on sale in the United States this summer.

Her source? Volvo's own commercials, including one called "Tomatoes," in which the C30 is pulled off the stage "Showtime at the Apollo" style after a seemingly angry audience throws tomatoes at the hatchback.

"I got the impression that you don't want to take a look at this car because people don't like it," said Housey, a Roseville, Mich., resident who drives a Buick LaCrosse.

Ford Motor Co.'s Volvo plans to launch its Product of Freewill campaign in the United States during the second or third quarter of this year, after it began running in Europe last year. The campaign, which will precede the launch of the 2008 Volvo C30 in the United States, features several ads that ask people to consider whether they like the vehicle, rather than just telling them why they should.

For instance, one ad, called "Love it/Hate it," flashes back and forth between a cuddly white rabbit sitting in the grass next to the C30 under sunny skies, and a dark, thundery day with a dirty, rat-like creature perched near the car.

Another spot, called "Hiss it/Kiss it" pans slowly from animated dark shadows of people firing axes, frogs and arrows at the C30 to a crowd on the other side of the car hurling hearts, butterflies and X's and O's. The ads can be viewed at www.volvocars.com/freewill.

John Maloney, a vice president at Volvo Cars of America, the marketing arm of Ford's Volvo brand in the United States and Canada, said the ads are indicative of consumers' reactions to the vehicle.

"The campaign is very tongue-and-cheek, love it

or hate it, because the car is not a middle-ground car," he said. "We want people to make a frank assessment of the car. It's not for everyone, and we're not going to tell you how to feel about this car."

Volvo's campaign illustrates how eager advertisers are to stand out as consumers grow increasingly savvy and weary of traditional advertising. Volvo, which is targeting 25- to 34-year-olds with the campaign, is hoping the ads will attract consumers who want a car that stands out in a crowded parking lot, even if not everyone is crazy about it.

But taking the approach of "we'll show you our flaws and let you decide what you think about our product" can be risky, said Hugh Cannon, a Wayne State University advertising professor.

"You don't want to give

people permission to think bad things," he said. "It can backfire. On the other hand, some people in America like quirky advertising and quirky products."

Indeed, advertisers in the past have tried to capitalize on their flaws, quirks and peculiarities in ads — with mixed results. In the late 1960s, when Dr. Pepper Co.'s "the most misunderstood soft drink" highlighted the product's oddities, consumers embraced the brand.

Conversely, last year when General Motors Corp.'s Chevy tried to set itself apart by offering consumers the opportunity to make their own Web video commercials about the Tahoe SUV, some consumers dished the truck openly in ads.

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2006 Chevrolet HHR LT

Sandstone, Running Boards, Chrome Appearance Package, Automatic, 6-Disk CD Player w/Pioneer Sound System

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\$325⁰⁰ / Mth



2006 Chevrolet Malibu 2LT

Sandstone Metallic, 4-DR Sedan, Luxury & Convenience Package, Rear Spoiler, 6-Disk CD Player



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\$359⁰⁰ / Mth

2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 2WD Ext. Cab

Sandstone Metallic, Tan Interior, WT Package, 5.3 Flex Fuel, Automatic, Cruise Control



Sale Priced @
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2006 Chevrolet Impala 3LT

Superior Blue, Split Front Seats, Automatic, XM Radio

Sale Priced @
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The Good Ol' Boys



Isaac



Ron



Manny

Save Some Cash On Our Used Car Markdowns

★ CARS ★	★ SPORT UTILITY ★
2004 Mercury Sable Sedan 4D - Stk# 249A. Was \$9,995. SOLD	2005 Chevrolet TrailBlazer - Stk# F059. Was \$23,995. NOW \$16,995
2004 Chevrolet Impala Sedan 4D - Stk# F218A. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995	2006 Chevrolet TrailBlazer Ext. 4D - Stk# F197. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995
2005 Ford Focus - Stk# 252A. Was \$11,995. NOW \$10,995	2005 Chevrolet Tahoe - Stk# F121. Was \$29,995. NOW \$23,495
2005 Chevrolet Impala Sedan 4D - Stk# F238. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,495	2005 Chevrolet Tahoe 4D - Stk# F110. Was \$26,995. NOW \$23,495
2005 Pontiac Grand AM SE - Stk# F065. Was \$14,495. NOW \$11,995	2005 GMC Yukon XL Denali - Stk# F105. Was \$36,995. NOW \$29,995
2004 Ford Mustang - Stk# F292. Was \$13,995. SOLD	
2004 Pontiac Vibe - Stk# F293. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995	★ PICKUPS ★
2006 Pontiac Grand Prix 4D - Stk# F254. Was \$16,495. NOW \$14,495	2004 GMC Sierra 1500 Ext. Cab - Stk# F124A. Was \$18,995. NOW \$17,995
2005 Buick LaSabre - Stk# F101. Was \$17,495. NOW \$14,495	2003 Ford F150 SuperCrew Lariat - Stk# F107A. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,495
2005 Buick LaSabre Custom Sedan 4D - Stk# F251. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,495	2004 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab - Stk# F273. Was \$19,995. SOLD
2006 Chevrolet HHR LS Sport Wagon 4D - Stk# F253. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995	2003 Chevrolet Aveo 4D - Stk# F289. Was \$22,995. SOLD
2006 Chevrolet Impala LT - Stk# F199. Was \$19,995. NOW \$14,995	2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 - Stk# H004. Was \$23,995. SOLD
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IN BRIEF

Howard Hawks athletic schedule

The Howard College women's basketball team will face New Mexico Junior College at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum tonight at 6 p.m.

The women are now 12-15 on the season and 2-9 in conference while New Mexico is 12-13 and 2-7.

The men's team will face New Mexico Junior College tonight at 8 p.m. at the Coliseum.

The men are in fourth place in conference with a 21-6 overall record and a 8-5 conference record.

New Mexico is 13-13 and 4-8 in conference.

Hawks fundraiser has been set

Tuesday the Howard College Rodeo team will conduct a Cow Pattie Bingo fundraiser.

The event will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the east grounds of the Student Union Building and all squares are \$ 10. Tickets are now available.

For more information contact Coach Greg Kernick at 816-9477.

Big Spring girl's softball registration

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association will be holding sign-ups to register for the upcoming 2007 season.

Females from ages 4 to 14 (as of Jan. 1st) are eligible to participate in the league.

Sign-ups will be held each Saturday, beginning Feb. 24th, through March 17th at the Big Spring mall.

The registration fee is \$40 and there is a discount for the second child. This fee will cover all uniforms.

A division for boys between 4 and 6 years old will be available this season.

For more information contact Ron Shafer at 213-3747.

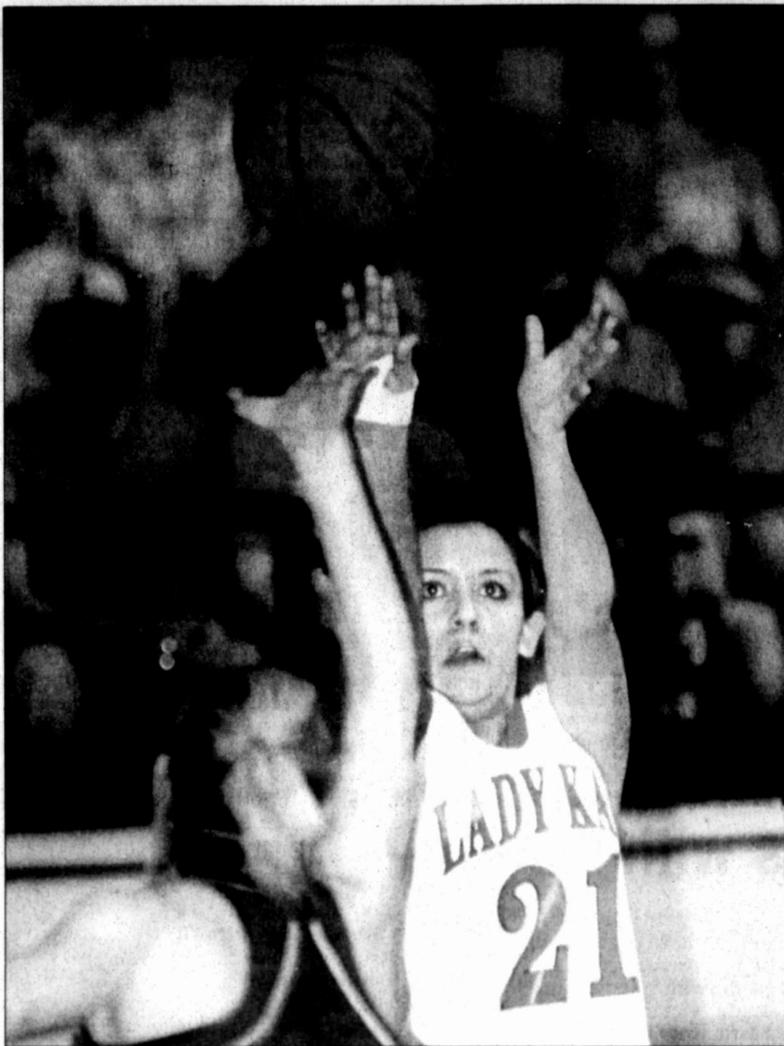
Tech women lose to Texas A&M

Morenike Atunrase had 18 points and five rebounds to lift No. 16 Texas A&M to a 67-51 victory over Texas Tech on Wednesday night.

Atunrase was 5-of-8 from the field and 6-of-7 from the free-throw line. Danielle Gant added 13 points and seven rebounds, while A'Quonesia Franklin had 11 points and seven rebounds for the Aggies (21-5, 11-3 Big 12). La Toya Micheaux led Texas A&M with 13 rebounds.

Jordan Murphree had 19 points and six rebounds to lead the Lady Raiders (15-13, 6-8). She hit 6-of-14 from the field and made all seven of her free throws.

Garden City rolls through playoffs



Garden City's Erin Hirt led the Lady Kats with 17-points in Wednesday night's playoff win over Westbrook High School. The Lady Kats will head to Fort Worth to continue their chase for the state title.

Garden City 72 Westbrook 39

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

It took the Garden City Lady Kats almost four minutes to score a point, but it took them less than two quarters to turn the basketball game around and blow-out Westbrook, 72-39.

The Lady Kats (30-3) are heading to Fort Worth Friday behind a team effort that started on the defensive end of the court. According to coach Brent Kirland, facing Westbrook means facing one of the toughest players in the state — Allison Bray.

Bray is a 5-foot-10 senior that has led the Wildcats for four years. She scored over 35-points the last time she laced up her sneakers and she managed to lead her team in scoring against Garden City (23-points).

The contest started with Westbrook scoring the first six points and pulling out to a 14-7 lead halfway through the first quarter.

That's when the Lady Kats began applying full court pressure and turned Dorothy Garrett Coliseum into their personal playground.

"We were worried when the game started, but we knew we just needed to slow down and be patient," senior guard Marissa Schwartz said.

"Coach told us this was a great opportunity and that this should be an exciting time for us. I mean, we have wanted this since we were freshman. That really helped to hear that we were supposed to enjoy everything."

With the game tied at 14-14, Garden City went on an 18-0 run and never looked back.

By halftime there was little doubt as to which school had the best basketball team, as GC led 35-18.

"We were just excited about being here," explained Kirland, when asked about the first quarter. "We knew we would have a lot of adrenaline and we talked about that before the game. Once the second quarter began we calmed down and played much better, of course it sure helped that Bray was in foul trouble. That was big and really helped us make our big run."

In the second half the Garden City lead was never challenged and ballooned to 29 points by the end of the third quarter.

Erin Hirt led the Lady Kats by scoring 17-points and K'Lann Niehues added 16 more.

"We knew we needed to play for all four quarters no matter the score was," Niehues said, as the rest of her team celebrated court-side. "Westbrook

See **KATS**, Page 2B

Hawks sweep two from Weatherford

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

The Howard Hawks baseball team welcomed Weatherford College to Jack Barber Field Wednesday by sweeping the double-header 9-4 and 14-6.

In game one the Hawks sent Ryan Robinson out to the mound and the lefty continued to give the Hawks solid pitching. He is now 4-0 on the season and went another 6-innings for the win on Wednesday.

In the bottom of the first inning, Matt Curry continued to swing a hot bat and blasted one out of the

park for an early Hawk lead. Curry finished the game by going 2-for-3 and had 2 RBI.

Tyler Ladendorf continued to impress Hawk fans. He leads the nation in steals with 23 and has yet to be thrown out.

Despite Weatherford holding him down on the bases, the short-stop went 4-for-4 at the plate — missing the cycle by only a home run. He had two singles, a double and a triple in game one.

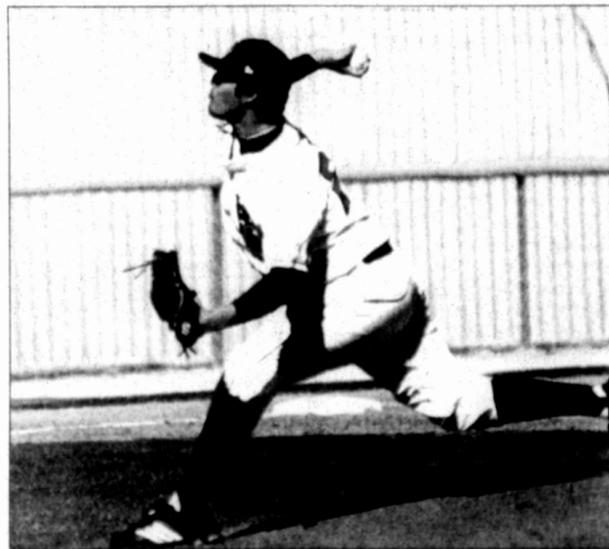
"We're just taking it one bat at a time right now," Ladendorf explained. "One bat and one game. That's

how its done on this team. The chemistry on the team is great and we're always loose. That helps. We're still a young team, but all we can do is grow-up in a hurry and that's what we've done."

Josh Riley went 2-for-4 at the plate with two singles. He had 2 RBI and Nathan Brian was 2-for-3 and he picked up 1 RBI.

The Hawks are now 12-2 on the season.

The next time Howard hits the diamond they will face Lubbock Christian College at Jack Barber Field, Saturday at 1 p.m.



The Howard baseball team won the first game 9-4 and the second game 14-6. The Hawks are now 12-2 on the season.

Howard softball team loses two conference games to Midland

Chaparrals sweep Hawks 8-0 and 3-2

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

The Howard College softball team opened Western Junior College Athletic Conference play by getting swept 8-0 and 3-2, by arch rival Midland.

The Hawks had a 13-2-1 record on Wednesday morning, but the Lady Chaparrals (15-1-1) rolled into Big Spring and hung four runs on the scoreboard in the first inning and then held the Hawks to only three hits and zero runs for an easy game-one route.

Starting pitcher Jennifer Osso was tagged with the loss, as the young pitcher failed to get out of the first inning.

Kayla Hitchcock was 2-for-3 with three RBI in the game and Mindy Scott pitched all five scoreless innings to garner the win for Midland.

In the third inning the Hawks threatened as

Alisha Rams and Osso each had singles and reached safely, but the offense could do no more damage.

After the fifth inning the game was called due to the 8-run rule.

"We really didn't deserve to win either game we played today," Hawks head coach Kelly Raines said after the double header was over. "Midland deserved to win and that's about all I can say. We made way too many mistakes to win."

In game two the Hawks were able to stay within striking distance of the Lady Chaparrals. Down 3-0, the Hawks continued to battle and after being held scoreless for 10 consecutive innings, the Howard women were finally able to post a run — make that two runs — in the bottom of the sixth inning.

With Hawk base-runners on first and second, Alejandra Rodriguez



Alejandra Rodriguez fouls off a pitch in the early innings of the second game of the Hawks doubleheader Wednesday afternoon. The Hawks are now 13-4-1 and 0-2 in conference.

Forsan rips Iraan; playoffs continue

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

Adam Bailey and Blake Grantham led Forsan past Iraan 63-44, Wednesday night to advance to the next round of the basketball playoffs.

Forsan, advancing deep into post season for the second year in a row, used a 18-9 spurt in the third quarter to open up a lead they would not surrender.

Bailey led the Buffaloes (18-7) in scoring with 17-points and led the team in rebounds with 10, but according to the coaching staff, Grantham's performance was the key.

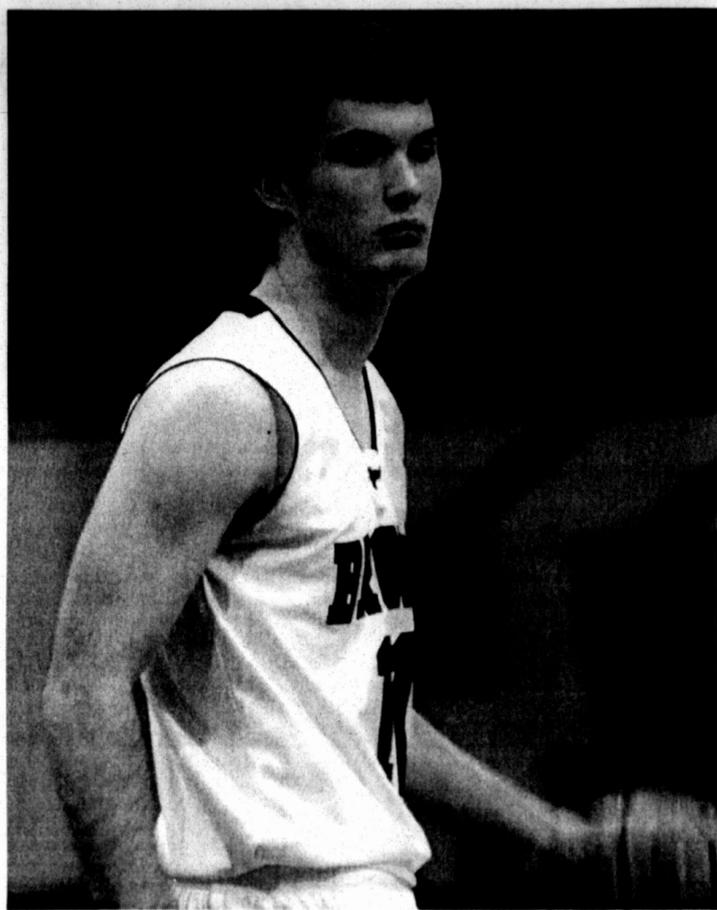
"Blake really came to play tonight," Forsan head coach Terry McDonald said. "Adam Bailey played tough inside and had another great game, but Blake is the one who got us going early. He had 8-points in the first quarter and he played smart basketball for us tonight. That's what we need."

Grantham finished the game with 13-points and 9-rebounds.

In the fourth quarter the

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B

See **WOMEN**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Mike Grimes
Bronte High School star, Logan Rawls, was calm and cool as he led the Longhorns past Westbrook high, 71-39, Wednesday night at Dorothy Garrett coliseum. Rawls finished the game with 16-points

Rockets cool off Heat

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Tracy McGrady scored 32 points Wednesday night to lead the Houston Rockets to a 112-102 victory over the Miami Heat, who had Pat Riley back on the bench but lost Dwyane Wade late in the game.

Wade injured his left shoulder in the fourth quarter and was in so much pain that he had to be taken off in a wheelchair.

The Heat were 13-17 when Riley stepped down nearly seven weeks ago for operations to replace his left hip and repair cartilage in his right knee. They had gotten back on track recently, winning seven of their last eight games, but trailed by as many as 18 Wednesday and dropped back below .500.

Wade, who left with 27 points, got tangled up with Shane Battier and grimaced in pain before going to the bench. A couple of minutes later he was helped into a wheelchair and taken off the bench. He was not moving his left arm and appeared to be in severe pain as he was wheeled away.

The Heat said Wade

would not accompany the team on their trip to Dallas for Thursday night's game, instead going to a Houston hospital to have his injury diagnosed.

A basket by Wade with 11:15 to go got Miami within 89-80 and Alonzo Mourning hit one free throw to cut the lead to eight.

The Rockets then added four 3-pointers, including two on consecutive possessions by McGrady to go ahead 103-88, and the Heat wouldn't threaten again.

Wade scored 13 points in the third quarter, including two straight three-point plays late in the period to cut Houston's lead to 82-74. Bonzi Wells stunned the crowd when he made a 70-foot, desperation heave at the end of the period to extend Houston's lead to 89-75. Wells, who was at the 3-point line on the opposite end of the court when he launched the shot, broke into a huge smile when he saw it fall.

Rafer Alston, who had six 3s and 20 points, got the crowd into it early in the second half when he put a move on Wade that left him standing at the free throw line while he

breezed in for the easy layup.

McGrady tweaked a groin midway through the first quarter and left the game briefly to have it taped. He returned about three minutes later and said at halftime that he was fine.

The 40-year-old Dikembe Mutombo looked more spry than the younger O'Neal at times and provided a highlight of the first half when he finished a reverse layup despite being fouled hard by the Miami center. O'Neal, who finished with 20 points, has played just 14 games this season after missing two months early following knee surgery.

Late in the game, O'Neal got a bit of revenge when he had a one-handed dunk over Mutombo. But O'Neal taunted him with the trademark finger wag Mutombo does after getting a block and was given a technical foul.

The Rockets, spurred by nine quick points by McGrady, went on a 15-4 run in the first quarter that gave them a 18-8 lead. Houston outscored the Heat 9-2 late in the second quarter to push their lead to 63-48 at halftime.

Ginobili leads Spurs with 40

By GEORGE HENRY

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Manu Ginobili scored a season-high 40 points, including 24 straight for San Antonio in the first half, and Tim Duncan had 30 to help the Spurs beat the Atlanta Hawks 103-96 on Wednesday night.

The Spurs, who are 8 1/2 games behind Dallas in the Southwest Division, have won four straight after losing four of five.

Entering the game late in the first quarter, Ginobili missed two of his first four shots before hitting six straight from the field and all seven attempts on free throws. The Spurs led 39-23 at the end of his flurry, and Ginobili had 27 points on 9-of-13 shooting before halftime.

Joe Johnson scored 30 points for the Hawks, who

have lost two straight.

Zaza Pachulia scored 15 of his 23 points in the third quarter. He went 6-for-7 from the field, twice helping Atlanta tie the game in the final minute of the period.

San Antonio never trailed after Tony Parker's layup made it 4-3. Parker missed eight straight shots before his 20-footer gave the Spurs a 91-82 lead with 3:51 remaining.

A flagrant foul by Johnson led to a five-point possession for the Spurs, as Brent Barry hit three foul shots and Duncan had two. Hawks coach Mike Woodson was hit with a technical foul during the possession, which came with 8:07 left and made it 92-73.

That did the Hawks in and all but secured another victory for San Antonio.

Ginobili never scored more than 29 points in all of last season before finishing with 32 points in a Spurs victory over the Sacramento Kings in the first round of the playoffs.

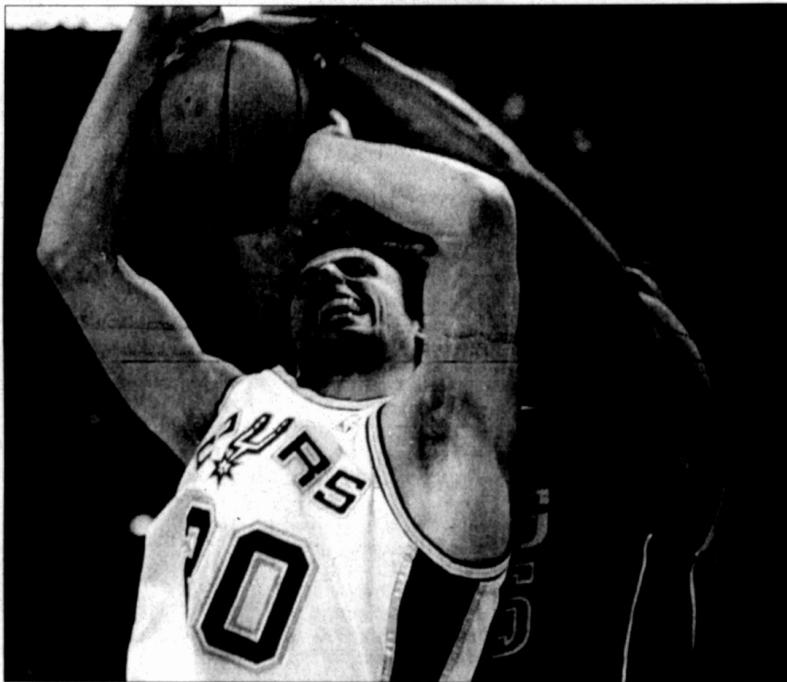
In his first nine games as San Antonio's sixth man, Ginobili averaged 17.4 points in 25 minutes to become the NBA's second-most productive reserve of all time.

Only the Chicago Bull's Ben Gordon, with 22.5 points in 31.1 minutes, had a better average than Ginobili.

Atlanta, which won three of four before the All-Star break, closed within five points on Josh Childress' putback dunk with 2:47 remaining in the game.

That was a close as the Hawks would get.

Josh Smith had 11 rebounds for the Hawks.



MCT photo/Jeffery Washington/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Spurs' Manu Ginobili is fouled by Josh Howard of the Dallas Mavericks. Ginobili has made a career out of coming off the bench and contributing.

WOMEN

Continued from 1B

stepped to the plate and roped a line drive that sailed over the left fielders glove and rolled to the fence. The at bat was ruled as an error, but two runs came home and Rodriguez was in position to score the tying run.

"I think we came out cocky and overconfident because of our record

today," Hawks catcher Vanessa Justin said after the two losses. "Looking back I think we just went through the motions and that's not how you win games in this conference."

The Hawks failed to deliver with Rodriguez in scoring position.

In the top of the seventh Howard set down the Lady Chaparrals and still had a chance to steal a win.

In the bottom of the inning the Hawks put the tying run on second.

Facing their final out of the game, the Hawks sent Osso to bat with two outs.

With Justin standing on second base and representing to the tying run, Osso appeared to have delivered the big hit the Hawks needed. It was a ground ball up the middle of the diamond and heading into centerfield when the Chaparral second

baseman made a diving stop, wheeled around and fired a strike to the catcher.

Justin was rounding third and heading for home.

When the dust cleared, the umpire called Justin out as she tried to slide in for the tying run.

"We had two outs and I was running on any contact," Justin explained.

"When I was halfway home I realized there was going to be a play at the plate and I really thought I could beat the tag and get to the corner. In retrospect, I probably should have just made contact with their catcher."

"This was a big wake-up call for us. Nobody likes to go home a loser. I'm sure we'll bounce back, we're ready to start win-

ning games again."

On Friday the Hawks will travel to face Frank Phillips College.

in Borger. The first pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m.

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KATS

Continued from 1B

never gave up — not till the very end, but we wanted to finish this game our way — by playing tough basketball to the very end."

Birtney Chudej added 7-points from the post position and Lauren Plagens scored 6 for the Lady Kats. By the time the clock ran down, everyone on the Garden City bench was having a good time and looked ready to go cut down the

nets. In fact, coach Kirkland had to remind his team to go accept the game winning trophy.

"This just feels great," Schwartz hollered. "I'm excited and we're all excited. We're going to Fort Worth."

FORSAN

Continued from 1B

Buffaloes continued to pull away, outscoring Iraan 14-11 over the final 8:00 for the 63-44 win.

Seth Johnson nailed three 3's in the game and finished the night with 15-points.

With the victory, the Buffaloes have earned another playoff game

tomorrow night. Sundown High (18-8) and Forsan will meet in Andrews, with the tip-off scheduled for 7 p.m.

"We match-up well with Sundown," McDonald said Thursday morning. "We are both similar in size and they like to run man-to-man defense. We're going to need another good crowd behind us, but I feel like we have an excellent

opportunity for success. We are going to have to make more free throws now that we're in the playoffs, especially down the stretch and we need to keep from turning the ball over. It should be a good game and I want to thank everyone for coming out and cheering for us.

"I hope to see everyone in Andrews, Friday night."

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THURSDAY

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	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odeasa	Odeasa	Talamundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odeasa	Odeasa	Discovery	Classics	Spila TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Science Fic.
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Noche de Estrellas	King of the Hill The Simpsons	Survivor: Fiji (CC)	Vuda de Blanco	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lesher	A Haunting (CC)	Stone	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	NBA Basketball: Live (CC) Black Carpet	Phil of Future	High School Basketball	College Basketball: Rice at Memphis	Movie: Spiders (CC)	
7	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Premio lo Nuestro 2007	American Idol (CC)	The O.C. (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Zorro - La Espada y la Rosa	Scrubs (CC) 30 Rock	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Best Evidence	Movie: Jurasic	Chicago Bulls at Cleveland	Top 25-Black America	Movie: Zeron: The Zequel (CC)	Super Bowl	College Basketball: Duke at Clemson	Movie: Arachnid (CC)
8	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy																	
9	Oprah Winfrey Oscar Special	Oprah Winfrey Oscar Special																	
10	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Tulares y Mas	News Tonight Show	(CC) (DVS)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Stunt Junkies		Inside the UFC Wild World	Dallas Mavericks	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Zack & Cody That's-Raven	Star Challenge (CC)	SportsCenter NFL Live	Movie: Spiders 2 (CC)
11	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid. My Write-Kids	Letterman Late Late	12 Corazones (AI Rojo Vivo!)	Late Night	10 Movie: Batman	Betty Swann Y. Salamanca	Sign Off	A Haunting (CC)		Inside the UFC Whacked Out (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	Phil of Future Kim Possible	NASCAR Now 2006 World Series of Poker 2006 World	Gamenight NFL Live		
12	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Mercury Media	El Privilegio de Amar		Show The Insider	Pagado	Conan O'Brien Apex	Returns (CC)	Update/Israel John Hagee				Movie: Hoosiers	MXC Whacked Out	SI Swimsuit Movie: BET After Dark (CC)	Proud Family Sister, Sister			

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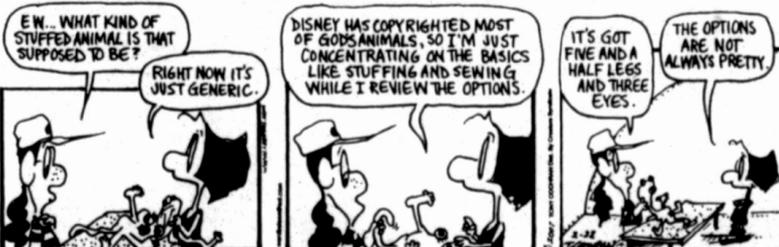
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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 22, the 53rd day of 2007. There are 312 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 22, 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born at his parents' plantation in the Virginia Colony.

On this date:

In 1819, Spain agreed to cede Florida to the U.S. under the Adams-Onis Treaty.

In 1857, German physicist Heinrich Hertz, the discoverer of radio waves for whom the unit of frequency is named, was born in Hamburg.

In 1889, President Grover Cleveland signed an omnibus bill to admit the Dakotas, Montana and Washington state to the Union.

In 1935, it became illegal

for airplanes to fly over the White House.

In 1967, more than 25,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops launched Operation Junction City, aimed at smashing a Vietcong stronghold near the Cambodian border.

In 1973, the U.S. and Communist China agreed to establish liaison offices.

In 1980, the U.S. Olympic hockey team upset the Soviets at Lake Placid, N.Y., 4-3. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

Five years ago: Police in San Diego arrested David Westerfield in connection with the disappearance of 7-year-old Danielle van Dam.

One year ago: Insurgents destroyed the golden dome of one of Iraq's holiest Shiite shrines, the Askariya mosque in Samarra, setting off an unprecedented spasm of sectarian violence.

Today's Birthdays: Announcer Don Pardo is 89. Actor Paul Dooley is 79. Hollywood "ghost singer" Marni Nixon is 77. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., is 75. Movie director Jonathan Demme is 63.

Actor John Ashton is 59. Actress Miou-Miou is 57. Actress Julie Walters is 57. Basketball Hall-of-Famer Julius Erving is 57. Actor Kyle MacLachlan is 48. Actress-comedian Rachel Dratch is 41. Actress Jeri Ryan is 39. Actor Thomas Jane is 38. Actress-singer Lea Salonga is 36. Actor Jose Solano is 36. Tennis player Michael Chang is 35. Actress Drew Barrymore is 32. Actress Liza Huber is 32. Singer James Blunt is 30. Actor Daniel E. Smith is 17.

Thought for Today: "Authority without wisdom is like a heavy ax without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish." — Anne Bradstreet, American poet (1612-1672).

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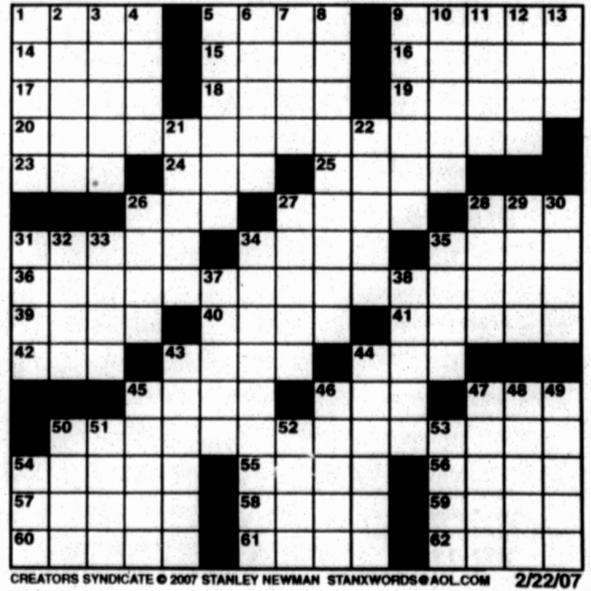
Answer to previous puzzle

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OLIN	LURK	OTHER
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| ACROSS | 1 Get together | 5 It's often beaten | 9 Diver's device | 14 Something repetitive | 15 Medicinal plant | 16 Window parts | 17 Undergrad, perhaps | 18 Horse hue | 19 Messengers, e.g. | 20 Outstanding ones | 23 Hill dweller | 24 Keyboard key | 25 The yoke's on them | 26 Ill temper | 27 Humble homes | 28 Water holder | 31 Muscat man | 34 Not great | 35 It's a long story | 36 Top dog | 39 Low card | 40 Asian nation | 41 Poised to perform | 42 Down in the mouth | 43 Cricketers use them | 44 Laid eyes on | 45 Literary pen name | 46 Piece of legislation | 47 Newsstand item | 50 Party VIP | 54 From the country | 55 Green shade | 56 Enthusiastic about | | | |
| | 57 In existence | 58 Dutch treat | 59 Stocking stuffers | 60 Military group | 61 Prescribed amount | 62 Slips up | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 Reverse, as an action | 12 Traffic-jam sound | 13 Equus member | 21 Classic video-game character | 22 Praise | 26 Very dark | 27 Santa sounds | 28 Body of information | 29 Like fine wines | 30 Peter and Paul partner | 31 Makes a choice | 32 Actress Sorvino | 33 Passed with flying colors | 34 Posted, as soldiers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 35 Goulash, for instance | 37 Speck of cereal | 38 In an angry mood | 43 Balanchine's field | 44 Plan of action | 45 Toil too hard | 46 Cartography collection | 47 Lord's property | 48 Change | 49 Explain away, with "over" | 50 Headstrong one | 51 Buffalo's lake | 52 Friend of Rover | 53 Small taste | 54 Battle of Britain heroes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



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D.H. BLATTNER & Son's (est. in 1907) is seeking the following experienced, safety-oriented individuals for our Wind Project in Roscoe, TX:
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Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply at the Workforce Center, 606 E. Broadway St., Sweetwater; apply on-line at HYPERLINK www.dhblattner.com; or call 1-888-356-2307 to request an application.
Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply
EOE

Help Wanted

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 23 with class A & One year driving experience. Inquire about Sign-on Bonus up to \$4000. Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

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Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado needs **STUDENTS, YOUNG ADULTS** and **ADULTS** for the full season or part of the 2007 season for all types of jobs: Kitchen, dining room, housekeeping, stores, maintenance, horse wrangler, office. (Salaray/room or RV site/meals/activities. **ADULTS** must have their own RV for their housing. **STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS** live in the girls or boys dorm. For information, write Personnel Director, Fun Valley Family Resort, 6315 Westover Drive, Granbury, Tx 76049.

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ENTRY LEVEL COMMUNITY SUPERVISION OFFICER (CSO), minimum requirements as stated in Texas Government Code 76.005.

- (1) Must have a bachelor's degree; and
 - (2) Unless the degree is in criminal justice, criminology, corrections, counseling, human services, law, law enforcement, police science, pre-law, public administration, rehabilitative studies, social work, psychology, sociology, the person must have:
 - (a) one year of graduate study in one of those fields; or
 - (b) one year experience in full-time casework, counseling, or community group work.
 - (3) Cannot be employed as a peace officer or work as a reserve or volunteer peace officer; and
 - (4) Cannot be currently on community supervision or parole or serving a sentence for a criminal offense.
- Must reside in Howard, Martin, or Glasscock County or be willing to relocate. Resumes due Wednesday, February 28, 2007 at 118th District CSCD, 315 Main, Suite B, P.O. Box 1951, Big Spring, TX 79721-1951. Only those selected for an interview will be connected.

EVENING DISHWASHER supervisor. Apply in person 2401 S. Gregg. Good pay to the right person.

EZMONEY ONE of the fastest growing signature loan companies is in search of experienced retail/service industry CSRs. Starting wage is based on experience to a max of \$9.50/hr. Associates will work a 40 hr week. Stores are closed on Sunday and work a limited schedule on Saturday. Mon-Fri hrs of operation are 9am-7pm. E-mail resumes to roger_primera@ezcorp.com

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT LIVING is hiring Front Desk Staff. Part-time 12:30am-8:30am. Guaranteed 16 hours per week. Perfect for college student. Please apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street, Big Spring, Texas.

Help Wanted

FIBER GLASS Systems on the Lamesa Hwy is hiring 15 production workers for a new pipe row. Great benefits, starting wages at \$9.50, \$1 shift differential for nights. All job applicants must be processed thru the Workforce Network of Big Spring and present their referral card to the Human Resources Administrator at Fiber Glass Systems for consideration.

FIBERCOMPOSITE COMPANY, Inc. d/b/a FIBEROD has 15 openings for Floor Team Assemblers from 4/18/07-2/01/08: Work as part of team having responsibility for assembling manufactured fiberglass rods. Responsible for station for preparing rod ends, gluing on steel fittings, rod testing and placing finished rod into boxes for delivery. \$7.50/hr, 8am-4pm. Apply at the WF Network of Big Spring, in Big Spring, Texas or send resume to 117 Trinity, Room 120T, Austin, Texas 78701, Job Posting #TX2468338. Ad paid by an Equal Opportunity Employer.

GREAT PAY! GOOD BENEFITS!
A Great Career Opportunity. Now Hiring Drivers for: Pump Trucks, Transports, Hot Oilers, Vacuum Trucks. Requirements: Valid CDL, 21 years of age, Clean MVR. Must pass drug screen. Call 432-756-2875. Apply in person at Key Energy, West I-20 South Service Road, Stanton, TX.

HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATOR
Assisted Living Facility located in Big Springs, Tx is currently searching for an experienced Administrator. Must have experience in a residential health care setting.

Must be high energy with a track record of proven results, love being with older people and enjoy training and staff development. Degree preferred. We offer competitive salary and benefits. For consideration, please submit resume and salary requirements to: msherman@alcco.com or fax to (414)287-5517 EOE.

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED part-time for Assisted Living facility. Marcy House is now accepting applications. Experience in institutional housekeeping a plus. Part-time, flexible hours. Applications accepted in person at Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Rd., Big Spring, TX. Background check required.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for RN with home health or related experience preferred but will train. We offer:
* Health and Life Insurance
* Paid Vacation
* Sick leave
* 401K
* Mileage paid
Please come by or send resume to: InHome Care, Inc. 1104 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720.

KITCHEN & Wait Staff needed. Phoenix County Club Cafe in Stanton. Call 432-756-2556 or 432-756-3444.

Help Wanted

LANDSCAPE HELP needed. Starting pay \$10/hr. Decker's Farm Supply & Nursery in Stanton. Please call 432-967-2413.

MOUNTAIN VIEW Lodge is seeking professional and dependable employees for the following positions: C.N.A.'s all shifts, 2-10 M-F Charge Nurse & Weekend only Charge Nurse 6:00am-10:00pm. Full time Assistant Maintenance Worker. Please contact Lana at 432-263-1271 for further details.

NEED FEMALE sitter to live-in for home health care and housework for elderly lady. Call (432)399-4770.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NOW HIRING
Big Spring Insurance Agency seeking office help. Competitive wage rate and incentive program. Computer skills a must. Apply by submitting resume to one of the following:
Email: krissy@harrisonmillerinsurance.com
Fax: 325-658-9001
Mail: 1814 Ward Street, San Angelo, Texas 76901.

StarTek
Now hiring English & Bilingual Customer Care Representative. StarTek is offering Great NEW pay rates and benefits. Come by 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 30 or call 432-264-2700

NOW HIRING all Positions. Please apply in person at Dairy Queen, 1506 East 4th Street or 1009 Lamesa Hwy. Between 2:00-5:00pm. No Phone Calls.

NOW HIRING COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION JOB SUPERINTENDENT must be professional and experienced in all phases of construction. Drug test, pre-employment physical and travel required. Mail resume to: GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PO BOX 60708 MIDLAND; TX 79711;

NOW HIRING Customer Service Reps for TravelCenters of America (TA). Full-time and part-time. All shifts available. Starting wage \$7.25 and up DOE with merit increases at 90 days, 180 days and 1 year. Benefits include medical/dental/vision insurance, holiday pay, vacation pay, 401k w/company match and employee discounts. Must pass pre-employment drug test and have demonstrated history of reliability/dependability. Serious inquiries apply in person at I-20 and Highway 87.

OPENING for Derrick person/floorhand. Excellent wages with lots of overtime. Call Gene (432)517-0784.

PARKWAY NURSING & REHABILITATION
Now hiring for the following positions:
* LVN - morning shift
* Dietary Cook
* Nursing Assistants
Experience preferred, but not required. Great working environment and competitive salary. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

Help Wanted

PERSONAL SERVICE attendant/care giver desired for an Assisted Living. Responsibilities include providing quality service to the such elderly such as housekeeping, meal services, social-recreational activities and delegated tasks. Apply in person, Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Rd. Background check required.

PHILLIPS FABRICATION is now expanding business. Looking for welders, fitters & helpers. We have a 401K and training program for any one interested in a new career. Contact us at 432-264-6600.

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NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

POLLARD CHEVROLET is seeking a Finance & Insurance Sales person. Sales experience required. Benefits, 401K, Health Ins.. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid training, vacations. PT/FT. 1-800-584-1775 Ext. 6901 USWA

SERVICE TECHNICIAN to change GCS and filters for surrounding areas. No experience necessary. Mandatory drug testing & good driving record. Apply at 1711 Hwy 350.

SHELL STAR STOP looking for new team members. Full & Part time cashiers and assistant managers. Apply in person at any Shell Star Stop in Big Spring. Drug Free Environment.

STATE LICENSED JOURNEYMEN ELECTRICIANS and HELPERS
Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. All interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

TexasStone Quarries is hiring full time laborers to work in the plant and also in the quarry. Benefits available. Apply in person 1400 Sherrod Road, Garden City or call 432-354-2569.

THE MARTIN County Hospital District is seeking Registered Nurses, for full-time high positions. Please contact Rance Ramsey, DON at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or (432)756-3345 ext. 228.

TRUCK DRIVERS needed - 2 years experience, current CDL Class A, current DOT physical, clear record. Apply at Price Construction 2701 North Hwy. 350, Big Spring, TX.

VACUUM TRUCK driver needed at Westbrook, TX. CDL & tanker endorsement. 6 Months experience a plus. Please call JD's Services (325)575-0851.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Items for Sale

FIREWOOD. PREMIUM OAK FIREWOOD. Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$275.00 Full Cord & \$175.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 325-648-2818 or 512-913-8297.

JUST IN Time for the Summer! Tanning bed for sale. Wolff system, Model SunQuest Pro 16SE. \$1,000. Call (432)264-0520.

YAMAHA MOTORCYCLE 2005 V-STAR Classic- \$3500. 2001 Red Camaro- \$6500. New 13 Wedding Dresses (still in bag) at cost. Call (432)264-6160. OBO on any item.

Lost and Found

REWARD \$100!! Golden Retriever lost 20 miles out of Big Spring toward Colorado City. 15 weeks old., collar with pink rhinestone answers to Maddie. (806)632-3822.

REWARD: \$500 for the return of "Fido," black & white Boston Terrier Bulldog. Missing since February 13th, from Edwards Ranch off of FM 461. No questions asked if returned.

REWARD: MINIATURE (Black) Cocker Spaniel. Missy, 7 months old. Call 432-267-3130 Last seen on Duke St.. Owner- 4 yrs. old-Crying for her return.

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\$199. KING/ Cal King Pillow-Top mattress set. In plastic, warranty. (806)549-3110

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A NEW CHERRY Sleigh bed \$259.00. Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

ALL WOOD. Complete bedroom set. 6-pc. List \$2550. Sacrifice 4749. 806-549-3110.

BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set. In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. Sacrifice \$175.00. 432-349-4043.

BUTTERFLY LEAF pub table and chairs, Brand new in crate. List \$899. Sell \$399. 806-549-3110.

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CAN DELIVER LEATHER SOFA & love, Never uses. LIFETIME WARRANTY! List \$1899. Sacrifice \$649. 806-549-3110.

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MEMORY FOAM mattress set. Conforms to body. \$399. Never used. In plastic. (806)549-3110.

NEW BEDROOM SET 5 pieces. Still in boxes. List \$2250. Sell \$550. **BEDROOM SET** Brand new. All wood. Retail \$3800, Sell \$999. 432-349-7945.

NEW PUB TABLE Solid wood, butterfly leaf, still in box. List \$899. Sell \$390. **DINING ROOM SET** Table, chairs. New and boxed. Sacrifice \$475. Can deliver. 432-349-7945.

UP TO 80% SAVINGS POSSIBLE on many medications. Generics now available for Celebrex, Crestor, Lipitor, Nexium, Plavix, Zoloft and many more. Canada Drug Topeka 1-866-804-6100.

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ENGLISH POINTER, registered. 5 months old. All shots. \$350.00. Wanted chain link dog kennel. Call 832-233-4873.

FOR SALE- Bearded Dragon with cage and accessories. \$300. Two Leopard Gecko's with cages and accessories. \$100. Experienced keepers only please. 267-8929, leave a message.

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407 East 8th- 1/1 bath. Stove & refrigerator. \$275. month, \$175. deposit. CH/A. No HUD and no pets. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

602 LINDA LANE, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, carport. New paint, tile and carpet. CH/A. \$535. month, \$450. deposit. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

712 GOLIAD. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$550. month, +deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE for rent-421 Main, approx. 2500 sq. ft. of executive offices, reception area and storage. Call (432)263-7676.

SEVERAL OFFICES available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

Real Estate for Sale

#30 MEADOWBROOK Rd. C.I.S.D. 3/2, large 2 car garage, large front verandah. New Carpet & Paint. 3 Extra Lots. \$129,500. Vicki Dahmer 432-264-8048 or Dana Baker 432-816-6258.

1.05 ACRE. 305 Driver Rd. Water well, great view. Forsan District. Call (432)213-2400.

1812 BENTON. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, 1224 sq. ft. Close to Goliad school. Covered patio and yard. \$44,900. No Owner Finance. Call (432)264-8983, (432)263-0118.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

803 E. 15th., 2 Bedroom, 1 bath w/garage & carport. Updated Bath. Call (432)816-1107 or 264-0051.

FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$49,500! Spacious Must See! For listing Call 800-544-6258 ext F906.

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Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

EXCEL ENERGY CO. P.O. Box 258, Coahoma, TX 79511 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the San Angelo - Clearfork, T.L. & M. Co., Well Number 5R. The proposed injection well is located 5 Miles Southeast of Coahoma, Texas in the Snyder, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2630 to 2835 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #5262 February 22, 2007

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

As the sun and Mercury shake hands, a feeling of mutual appreciation emanates.

It's obvious what we're grateful for, whom we like and where we feel our best. This is communicated clearly, even by those who like to emotionally mumble about. Choosing the right words isn't so important. It's intention that really puts your message through.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Work is more of a challenge than you might care to take on, but that's just the way it goes. If not you, then who? The answer is no one. You're better off for taking responsibility.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The best way to avoid snags is maintenance. That means getting your car worked on before it completely breaks down and buying flowers for your girlfriend before she

cries, "Neglect!"

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You love the prospect of building each "now" moment to the hilt, but you're a bit gun-shy when it comes to making plans. However, you could make an exception for Leo, Libra and Capricorn people.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's easy to pass the blame (even when it's not your fault), but it takes too long. Handle what you have control over, and miraculous good luck sets in. Tonight, time away from a partner allows you to think.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You temporarily forgot about something on your to-do list, but it catches up to you. The cure for being overwhelmed is to add a new responsibility to your list - it's a crazy idea, but it works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You know what you're all about. But if you didn't know this, others would fill in the blank for you. When someone attempts to steal your freedom, remind yourself and the world what you stand for.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What if there were a benevolent force supporting your every action? Well, there is. So dare to name the thing you've been wanting to do, but were previously afraid to even say it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). "Right as rain" is a farmer's saying from the Old South. The appearance of something unwanted often brings untold beauty and richness with its passing. Recognize the fertile ground an obstacle brings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be careful not to negate the powerful forces at work. When those forces are on your side, it makes no sense to insult them. Be grateful for what's working, and give credit where it's due.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in a romantic mood. Focus on intimacy and communication. Social tip: It isn't necessary to invite a large number of people for an upcoming party to be a success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's a terrific day to sit back and accept the good things that happen without feeling you must always pay people right back. People help you because they want to, not because they're getting something in return.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Opposites attract, but have a hard time working together. Would you rather have an agreeable "yes" person on your team, or turn out a higher quality of work because a stickler personality is examining your every move?

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Will my boyfriend ever marry me? I was born Aug. 10, 1962. He's an Aries who keeps saying he needs more time."

You're a Leo, and an Aries/Leo combination starts off on the right foot. Notice I said "starts off." Both fire signs, you can keep up with each other's fast pace and need to be the catalyst that makes things happen. Unfortunately, Aries men have a tendency to mistrust their own judgment. I feel your guy's fears about marriage have to do

with a not-so-distant ex. She's no rival for his love, but since she's always available, it gives him an escape hatch. You and many Leo and Libra women will be sought after by marriage-minded men in March. However, if you want this Aries man, create some distance between you. Spend more time with family and friends than you spend with him. Aries men respond to spectacle: They want to have their drama (your mutual relationship) played out on a large stage. When he makes the suggestion of marriage, don't start planning a lavish wedding. That will make him doubt again!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: One of the qualities Pisces people are well known for is precociousness. It's not that they try to be smarter, wiser and more talented than their years on the planet would normally dictate; it's that they can't help it. The golden-throated Charlotte Church is one such Pisces, with four luminaries in that gifted sign. A star at the age of 11, her following continues to grow in numbers along with her.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2007 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1988 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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ANSWERS

6	8	5	1	4	7	9	2	3
1	3	7	9	6	2	8	4	5
4	2	9	3	5	8	6	1	7
2	5	1	7	3	9	4	8	6
8	6	4	2	1	5	7	3	9
7	9	3	6	8	4	2	5	1
5	1	2	4	7	6	3	9	8
3	4	6	8	9	1	5	7	2
9	7	8	5	2	3	1	6	4

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Truck Month Price **\$14,395**



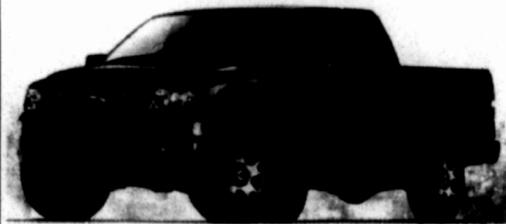
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"TRUCKS AND SUV'S"



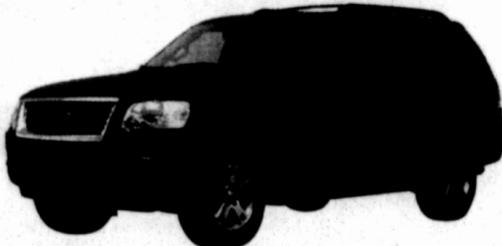
TBD.....\$21,340
Pkg. Discount.....\$1,095
MSRP.....\$20,245
Customer Cash.....\$2,000
Ford Credit Match.....\$1,000
Truck Month Discount.....\$250

Truck Month Price **\$16,995**



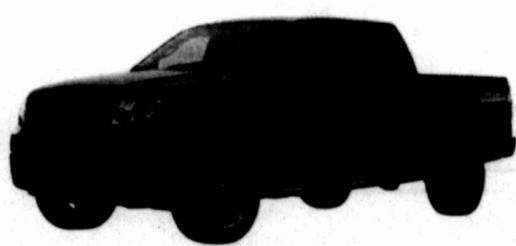
06 F150 4X4 Supercrew XLT Pkg
Chrome Pkg - 6-CD - Trailer Tow 5.4 Liter - V8 - Sat. Radio - Limited Slip Axle #718
MSRP.....\$38,960
Customer Cash.....\$4,500
Truck Month Discount.....\$4,465

Truck Month Price **\$29,995**



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MSRP.....\$29,985
Customer Cash.....\$500
Ford Credit Match.....\$1,000
Truck Month Discount.....\$990

Truck Month Price **\$27,495**



TBD.....\$33,315
Pkg. Discount.....\$2,000
MSRP.....\$31,315
Customer Cash.....\$2,000
Ford Credit Match.....\$1,000
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