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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 80

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2007

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND



INSIDE
Howard College Hawks clip SPC in final WJCAC tilt

Page 1B

House considering bill to cap automatic admissions

By LIZ AUSTIN PETERSON
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — For a third straight session, a legislative fight is brewing over proposals to cap the number of students automatically admitted to Texas universities under the state's top 10 percent law.

The University of Texas at Austin has campaigned to change the law for years, saying it limits their ability recruit talented students who aren't at

the top of their graduating classes. But several key senators have blocked any attempt to change the bill and vow to do the same this year.

The House Higher Education Committee met Monday to discuss several bills that would tweak the law in different ways.

The leading proposal would require universities to accept only 50 percent of their freshman classes under the admis-

sions rule. Priority would be given to students who complete the advanced high school curriculum. The rest of the students would be admitted according to their percentile rank until the cap is reached.

The measure is similar to one the House passed and the Senate killed in 2005.

Another proposal would cap automatic admissions at 40 percent of a university's incoming freshman class, while a third

"Someone's going to have to show me it's broken and needs to be fixed."



West

Geanie Morrison, a Republican from Victoria who is sponsoring the 50 percent cap bill, said she will work with the other proposals' authors to find a middle ground.

But Democratic Sens. Royce West of Dallas and Rodney Ellis of Houston said they remain unconvinced that any change is necessary.

"Someone's going to have to

would limit the guarantee to students in the top 7.5 percent of their high school class.

Committee chairwoman

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College to put \$21.6 million bond to vote

Extensive renovation and rehabilitation of buildings and facilities needed

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

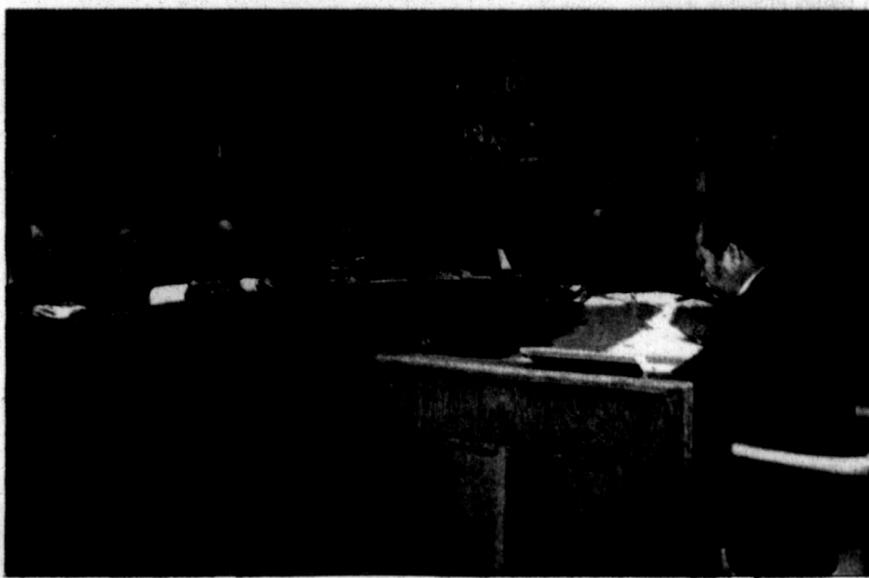
Howard College trustees voted unanimously Monday afternoon to put a general obligation bond for more than \$21.6 million on the May ballot, as the junior college attempts to move forward with the first phase of renovations at its Big Spring campus.

Trustees gave the nod to the bond election — slated for May 12 — after more than two years of reviewing a facilities master plan that calls for extensive renovation and rehabilitation of college buildings and facilities.

The bond would pay for building renovations and utility upgrades. Targeted for renovation are the Practical Arts, Music, Administration, Student Union and Science



Dr. Cheryl Sparks



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Howard College trustees give the nod to a \$21.7 million general obligation bond during the group's Monday afternoon board meeting, moving forward with a number of renovation and rehabilitation projects for the school's campus, which is more than 50 years old.

buildings, while officials plan to upgrade sewer, electric and HVAC systems throughout the campus.

"If I understand correctly, the intent of this bond is to rehabilitate or renovate these buildings," said trustee Murray Murphy. "However, if we find out later on that it would be less costly or better to simply construct a new building, then we'll have that option."

And while the bond would be almost \$21.7

million, Jason Hughes, a banker with bond specialists First Southwest Company, said that number is a conservative one.

"This is based on a 5 percent interest rate," said Hughes. "However, we really feel like we can go to the market and get around 4.25 percent on these bonds. We simply wanted to be conservative about the numbers we brought you. If the total cost is less than the

See BOND, Page 3A

BACK TO SQUARE ONE

Proposed jail site unavailable; costs for old facility mounting

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Back to square one. That's how County Judge Mark Barr described the current

search for a site to build or renovate a building to serve as a new Howard County Jail, as the court was informed Monday morning its top choice was no longer available.

"As you know, we've been looking at the old Kmart building for this," Barr told the court. "We also knew that Trinity Baptist Church had been looking at the building. The church voted on buying the building, and it's now off our list. This situation is going to make it a little bit harder for us to find a site and we're pretty much back to square one."

The court had been considering the site, which came highly recommended by project architect

See JAIL, Page 3A



Barr

Moore directors to mull requests Wednesday

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The board of directors for Moore Development is expected to take a second look at funding a welding program for Howard College, as the group prepares to meet Wednesday evening.

The board voted unanimously during its Jan. 24 meeting to table consideration of a \$300,550 request from Howard College to fund the creation of a new weld-

ing program.

The program would pick up training where local high school programs leave off, sending students into a workforce where welders are in high demand, according to Dr. Jamie Peterson, dean of workforce development for Howard College.

"We've done a considerable amount of research on this, and there certainly is a demand for welders in Howard County," said Peterson. "And even if these peo-

ple did go to work in Midland or Odessa, they would come home to Howard County at night, and that's where they would spend the majority of the money they make.

"I've talked with officials from the school districts in Big Spring and Forsan, and they support this program as well. The students at those schools who are taking the welding classes they offer are learning the basics, but this program would help them

achieve a much higher level of training."

Peterson said the college hopes to offer the course in late August.

In Moore Development's previous meeting, board member Frank Parker expressed concerns as to whether the economic development corporation could fund the project under state 4A laws.

"It's a good program, don't get

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

COUNCIL MEETS TONIGHT

The Big Spring City Council is expected to give the go-ahead to a new layout plan for McMahon-Wrinkle Airport when it holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. tonight in council chambers on East Fourth Street.

The layout plan is a small but vital ingredient for any airport that wants the Federal Aviation Administration's approval, said Jim Little, airport director.

The new plan must be approved for the airport to qualify for a new aircraft approach system, Little added.

Also Tuesday, council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed annexation of property.

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR BUS TRIP TO AUSTIN

Time is running out for Crossroads 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 having been extended to Thursday at noon.

The bus is expected to leave Big Spring at 4:30 a.m. and return at 10 p.m.

Among the activities planned for the Wednesday, March 7 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 will perform in the Capitol 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.

Tickets for the bus ride are \$40 and include lunch. Supper will be dutch treat at Cooper's BBQ in Llano. Area residents planning to attend but who will be taking their own transportation are also asked to register with the Chamber.

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

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Obituaries

Manuel Vargas



Manuel Vargas, 83, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Funeral mass will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Vigil services will be 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born May 31, 1923, in San Pablo, Zacatecas, Mexico. He married Severa Guererro on March 18, 1959, in Cerrito Del Agua, Zacatecas, Mexico. They came to Big Spring in 1963. He worked several years on farms and ranches, before beginning work with the Big Spring Independent School District until retirement. He was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife Severa G. Vargas of Big Spring; and several brothers and sisters in Mexico.

The family will be at 4218 Dixon and 3200 Parkway.

The family expresses their appreciation to Home Hospice and suggests memorials to 111 E. 7th St., Suite A, Big Spring 79720.

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

Mary Ann Jones

Mary Ann Jones, 76, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at the Home Hospice House in Odessa. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Roger Turner

Roger Turner, 56, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Feb. 25, 2007, in Temple. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Carlos "Charlie" Rodriguez

Carlos "Charlie" Rodriguez, 81, died Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8-16-23-27. Bonus Ball: 20. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$225,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-16-17-19-26.
Number matching five of five: 0.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-2-7

Weather

Tonight...Increasing clouds. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 40. West winds 15 to 25 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

Thursday...Sunny...Cooler. Highs in the mid 60s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the mid 50s. Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows around 30.

Saturday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s. Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Sunday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

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

Support Groups

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

TUESDAY

• The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) support group meets from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. Anyone who has a mental illness or has a friend or family with mental illness is invited to participate. Call Felicia Talley at 268-3835 for more information.

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Police blotter

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

• **MARISSA OLALLA SOTO**, 26, of 1605 Kentucky Way, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ABNER HOLLIS SHELLMAN**, 61, of 1101 N. Goliad, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• **STEPHEN HEATH GREGORY**, 23, of 3303 Cornell, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **STEPHEN ATHERTON**, 32, of 2619 Ent, was arrested Monday on a charge of assault Class C - family violence.

• **APRIL ANGELO**, 31, of 2619 Ent, was arrested Monday on a charge of assault Class C - family violence.

• **LORENZO FERRERA YANEZ**, 32, of 502 State, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **WESTON KEITH GRAHAM**, 17, of 1310 Virginia, was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.

• **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:

- in the 2600 block of Ent.

- in the 1400 block of Lancaster.

- in the 2600 block of Chanute.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 3600 block of Hamilton.

• **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:

- in the 1100 block of Sycamore.

- in the 2600 block of Ent.

Sheriff's report

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

• Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 49 inmates at the time of this report.

• **CANDICE MARIE KILCOLLINS**, 21, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft, bond forfeiture for theft by check and a capias pro fine for theft.

• **ALFREDO LANCE CASTILLO**, 22, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear and bail jumping.

• **MARK PEREZ**, 21, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of issuance of a bad check.

• **MARISSA OLALLA SOTO**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended.

• **EARL P. HANKE**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license suspended and open container - speeding.

• **RAYMOND FORD JR.**, 43, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence.

• **LONNIE GREEN**, 51, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **NATHAN CAHOON**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense and driving while license suspended/invalid.

• **RUFUS ANDREW DAVIS**, 36, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a warrant for failure of a sex offender to comply and possession/delivery of drug paraphernalia.

• **ARMONDO AVINA**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a warrant for burglary.

• **PATRICK RIOS**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify.

• **STEPHEN HEATH GREGORY**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ABNER HOLLIS SHELLMAN**, 61, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• **WILLIAM JOSH CHILDERS**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of racing on highway.

Fire/EMS

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

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Morrison. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of N. Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• State of the City Community Luncheon, noon in the East Room, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

• Wet Texas A&M University Symphonic Band, noon, Big Spring High School. No admission.

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.

• Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 2701 Rebecca. Bring a salad. 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 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.

Take Note

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

• **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.

• **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.

• **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.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BOND

Continued from Page 1A

amount allowed by the bond election, if it's approved, then that's what we'll take to the market."

According to college officials, the average value of a home in Howard College during the 2006 tax year was \$34,847. At an estimated tax rate increase of .0857 cents per \$100 valuation — if the bond passes — and considering a 20 percent homestead exemption, the average increase in cost to taxpayers would be approximately \$24 a year.

This would mark the first bond election in the junior college district since 1975, when voters approved construction of Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Other bond elections were held in 1946, 1955 and 1965.

Most renovations target buildings more than 50 years old, said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College president.

"Water, sewer and gas lines of this 55-plus-year infrastructure are failing with increased regularity," she said in an interview last year. "Sections of utilities had to be replaced in recent years because of major failures. The underground electrical service has failed three times in recent years."

Officials also want to spend \$7 million to replace the men's and women's dormitories, but will likely finance those projects through revenue bonds, which would be repaid through student fees, Sparks said.

The college conducted tours in June 2006 to show local officials and residents a multitude of problems with the school's infrastructure.

"We're having to compete with a number of other colleges, and we have to compete with their dormitory facilities," said Terry Hansen, executive vice president of the college, during a

tour of the college dormitories. "Years ago, students came with a radio and a desk lamp. Now, they bring refrigerators, microwaves, computers and toaster ovens, which put an increased demand on the electrical systems in the dorms."

"It's not uncommon for someone in the dorms to turn on their microwave or hair dryer and the dorm supervisor will get a call that a breaker has been thrown. These are the types of problems we were facing when it comes to the infrastructure of these facilities."

Monday's call for the bond election is the fourth such issue placed before county voters within the last year — the others being Coahoma Independent School District, city of Big Spring and Howard County.

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

Rotary Club seeks area professionals for goodwill exchange to Argentina, Uruguay

Special to the Herald

Rotarians of District 5730, which includes the Big Spring and Greater Big Spring Rotary clubs, are seeking four outstanding professionals to visit Argentina and Uruguay in May as part of the Group Study Exchange (GSE) program of The Rotary Foundation.

Through the program, teams of professionals exchange visits between paired areas in different countries. The awards involve four-week visits May 1 through May 29, during which team members share personal knowledge of their own country and experience the customs, vocations and lifestyles in other countries.

The purpose of a Group Study Exchange is to promote international understanding and goodwill through person-to-person contact. While abroad, team members stay in Rotarian's homes and have the opportunity to meet their professional counterparts. They will also give presentations to Rotary clubs

and other groups about their home country.

The Rotary Foundation provides a round-trip ticket and local Rotarians in the host country provide meals, lodging and group travel in their district. Team members pay for personal and incidental expenses.

People interested in applying should be employed full-time in a recognized business or profession. Young professionals within the age range of 25 to 40 are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must live or be employed in Rotary District 5730, which includes Andrews, Big Spring, Brownfield, Colorado City, Kermit, Lamesa, Midland, Monahans, O'Donnell, Odessa, Pecos, Post, Seagraves, Seminole, Snyder, Sweetwater and Tahoka.

For an application and additional information, contact Rosemartha Cates at GSE Team Leader, 2807 S. Parker, Amarillo 79109, or call (806) 433-1132 or e-mail rosemartha@cox.net.

TOP 10

Continued from Page 1A

show me it's broken and needs to be fixed," said West, who filibustered a bill in 2003 that would have capped automatic enrollment at 60 percent of the freshman class.

The top 10 percent law was adopted after a 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision made affirmative action illegal in Texas college admissions. In 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed that decision, allowing universities to use race as one

of many decision-making factors.

The current law primarily affects UT-Austin and, to a lesser degree, Texas A&M University in College Station.

University of Texas at Austin president William Powers Jr. said Monday that his school can't handle the number of top-ranked students seeking admission. Seventy-two percent of this year's UT-Austin freshmen who are from Texas were admitted under the law, he said.

A cap of 40 to 50 percent would let UT-Austin recruit more students who are out-

standing leaders, talented musicians or award-winning poets but aren't at the top of their class, Powers said.

"There are a whole variety of things that make for a rich campus that are in addition to just grade point average," he said.

Michelle Hayner and Johnny Zhao, high school students from suburban Austin, said the top 10 percent law has led some of their classmates to quit extracurricular activities to focus on their grades. Others have loaded up on Advanced Placement classes over fine arts electives to boost their GPAs,

they said.

Some have even considered moving to attend a less competitive high school, said Zhao, a junior who is first in his class at Westlake High School. Meanwhile, hard working band leaders, newspaper editors and athletic team captains can't break into the top 10 percent of their competitive high school, Hayner added.

"We think this bill allows more admission opportunities for those very types of students who have lots to give the university and to Texas," said Hayner, who is second in her junior class.

Luis Figueroa, an attorney with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, said the holistic review Powers envisions for UT-Austin couldn't be fair unless all Texas high schools were equal. Instead, he said, rich school districts can offer a range of courses and programs that give their students an edge over those from poor districts.

"Let's not take a step backwards when we don't know what those impacts would be," Figueroa said.

"Let's wait for high schools to catch up."

JAIL

Continued from Page 1A

Jeffrey Heffelfinger, for renovation into a new jail facility. Among several locations previously considered by commissioners, it was the only one which garnered Heffelfinger's approval.

County commissioners also received bad news during Monday's meeting on the ongoing effort to bring the existing county jail — which was closed by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards in November because it presented "life threatening conditions."

"We had been waiting for Anthony Mechanical to give us an estimate on

the mechanical portion of the smoke evacuation system," said Commissioner Bill Crooker. "They contacted us and told us it's going to cost \$223,000."

"After reading the fax and picking myself up off the floor, I spoke with the engineer in charge of working on that system, Nick White. He said this is most definitely on the high side, and we've requested that Anthony Mechanical break their estimate down to show what it includes. That way we can look at it and see if it's really a fair bid and what we can do to decrease it. We're waiting on that fax now."

Commissioners had hoped the price of the equipment would come in below the state mandated

cost that would require putting the project out for bids, slowing down the court's efforts. The cost of electrical wiring for the smoke evacuation system has been estimated at \$24,600.

According to Commissioner Jerry Kilgore, Anthony Mechanical's cost estimate may put the county in a tough position.

"We'll have to put this out for bids if it costs that much," Kilgore said. "Unfortunately this situation doesn't constitute what the state considers an emergency situation, so we will have to go out on bid for it, and that's going to greatly add to how long it will take to complete."

Barr said the cost esti-

mate from Anthony Mechanical pushes the total price tag for renovations to the existing jail past a quarter-million dollars.

"When you include the price of the standpipe, that puts us over \$300,000," said Barr. "I want some assurance that when this smoke evacuation system is completed, it's going to work."

The court voted in favor of recessing until 1 p.m. today, when commissioners were expected to meet with project coordinators in an effort to review the estimate provided by Anthony Mechanical.

Following renovations to the system in November, including the addition of a damper to bring in fresh air to flush

out smoke and fumes in the event of a fire, a second test of the system also failed state expectations.

The second failure brought on a remedial order from Adan Munoz, executive director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, closing the facility and limiting use of its jail cells to holding cells, usable only several hours at a time.

Since the jail's closure, inmates of the Howard County Jail have been housed in other counties, including Dickens, Glasscock and Lamb

counties.

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

MOORE

Continued from Page 1A

me wrong," said Parker. "However, this board is charged with creating economic development in Howard County, and I'm just not sure that's what this program would do. I'm also not sure if this would be allowed under 4A (economic development) law. Sure, we've done several programs similar to it in the past, but this is a lot more money."

The board is also expected to go over a letter of intent, presented to the board by the Dallas-based Settles Hotel Development Company.

"We've received the letter of intent from (Brint) Ryan," said Board President Larry McLellan. "We plan to take a look at that, but there's still not much movement on the project at this point. I had honestly hoped to see things move forward at a quicker pace, but there are some property matters still being taken care of."

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors voted unanimously Dec. 8 to provide up to \$3 million to help Ryan — manager of the Dallas company and the founder and CEO of Ryan & Company — renovate the Settles Hotel, which he agreed to

purchase for \$75,000 from the city of Big Spring.

According to city officials, Ryan has not yet paid the \$75,000 tab.

SHDC announced plans for a \$12 million renovation project which includes plans for commercial and residential use of the property, with retail space available on the first and second floors.

The board is also expected to consider financial

and investment reports for January and will meet in an executive session to discuss ongoing efforts to hire a new executive director for the economic development agency.

The meeting is to begin at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce board room, located at 215 W. Third Street.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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Manuel Vargas, 83, died Monday. Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Wednesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Vigil Services will be at 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Carlos "Charlie" Rodriguez, 81, died Monday, February 26, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

The Big Spring Prospector Club

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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 Cupstid
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Gem Show place to be this weekend

Looking ahead hoping to dig up something to do this weekend? You are in the right place because the 38th annual Gem and Mineral Show staged by the Big Spring Prospectors Club is Saturday and Sunday.

The show is the place to go if you have any interest at all in rocks. From fine-crafted jewelry to rough materials that have only been cleaned up a bit, the show features something from everyone. There will be demonstrations in wire-wrapping, faceting and bead making, and even the fashioning of arrowheads and spears. You'll even be able to purchase a gem and have it mounted before you leave.

The talents displayed at this annual show are nothing short of amazing and all of the demonstrations are free to the public.

It's a great place for gifts, as well. Dealers — 13 of them from Texas, New Mexico and Alabama — will have finished jewelry, rough rock, mountings, crystals, novelty items and more for sale.

You'll find things you never dreamed could be fashioned out of rock — from small animals to wall decorations that burst with color.

There's always a concession stand for those who get hungry.

Hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. It will all be going on at the Howard County Fairbarns adjacent to the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl, off FM 700.

The Big Spring Prospector's Club is one of the best-kept secrets in our community. They also have one of the longest-running activities in the area. Make plans now to pay them a visit this weekend and join in the fun.

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

May our lives shine for You, Lord, always showing Your love.

Amen

Democrats' dilemma on Iraq

A sorta kinda presidential debate in February 2007? At least this beats covering Anna Nicole Smith and undergoing a root canal. Or after 20 months, will the 2008 campaign season feel like a root canal?

Before the event, I thought Illinois Sen. Barack Obama, D-Swim trunks, was smart not to show up at the Nevada AFSCME-sponsored Democratic presidential forum here Wednesday. Play a little hard to get and voters may not get so tired of you — and with that long of a campaign season, people will tire of anyone.

Obama should have shown up. If Obama, who says he would have voted against the war in Iraq, had been here, he would have been able to talk straight to this crowd in a way that senators who voted for the war resolution cannot.

Personally, I don't understand how these candidates — Sens. Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton and Christopher Dodd, and John Edwards — can talk with a straight face.

Both Clinton and Edwards made a big deal about taking "responsibility" for their war votes. And how do they take responsibility? By running for the highest office in the land. Go figure.

Edwards told moderator George Stephanopoulos: "I voted for this war. I was wrong to vote for this war. I should never have voted for

this war. I take responsibility for that" — and he blames no one, except he keeps mentioning George W. Bush.

Seconds later, Edwards added that America needs a leader who is "honest, open and decent" when it's hard to figure what is decent about wrongly voting for a war.

And, "I think I was the first, at least close to being the first, to say very publicly that I was wrong." Are Americans supposed to be impressed that he was among the first politicians to backpedal?

Clinton is a good campaigner and she knows how to hit the right buttons when addressing the base. Ergo, "I'm in to win." But I didn't buy it when she explained her support for the Iraq war resolution as "a sincere vote based on the facts and assurances I had at the time. And I have taken responsibility for my vote." How is she taking responsibility? By asking voters for a promotion.

It doesn't help that Clinton was married to a president who air bombed Iraq, which means she should have had a strong sense — not to mention her genius husband's expertise — about the threat posed by Iraq. She is the last person who should claim to have been misled by Bush.

Biden and Dodd also said they were wrong to vote for the war. That didn't stop Biden from warning Democrats that they need to pick someone with his credentials because President Bush will leave the country in such a mess that the next president will have "no margin for error."

No margin for error? So vote for

the guy who wrongly voted for war? Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, glibly observed, "You know, it must be really tough for candidates for president to come before the American people and to complain that they were tricked, deceived and misled by George Bush.

"Well," he deadpanned, "here's one person who wasn't." Kucinich noted that he saw "the same information all these other candidates saw," and he voted against the war resolution.

Kucinich may call the war "the occupation," and his proposal for America to pay reparations to Iraqi families isn't likely to play well with the average voter, but at least he's not saying: I wrongly voted for the war, make me your leader.

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack and former Alaska Sen. Mike Gravel also argued against the war. And while I disagree with their position — I still support the war — I can respect their clarity on the issue.

I cannot respect senators who voted for a war, then walked away from it when public support deflated. At a press meeting after he made his formal remarks, Edwards told reporters, "We have too many politicians and not enough leaders."

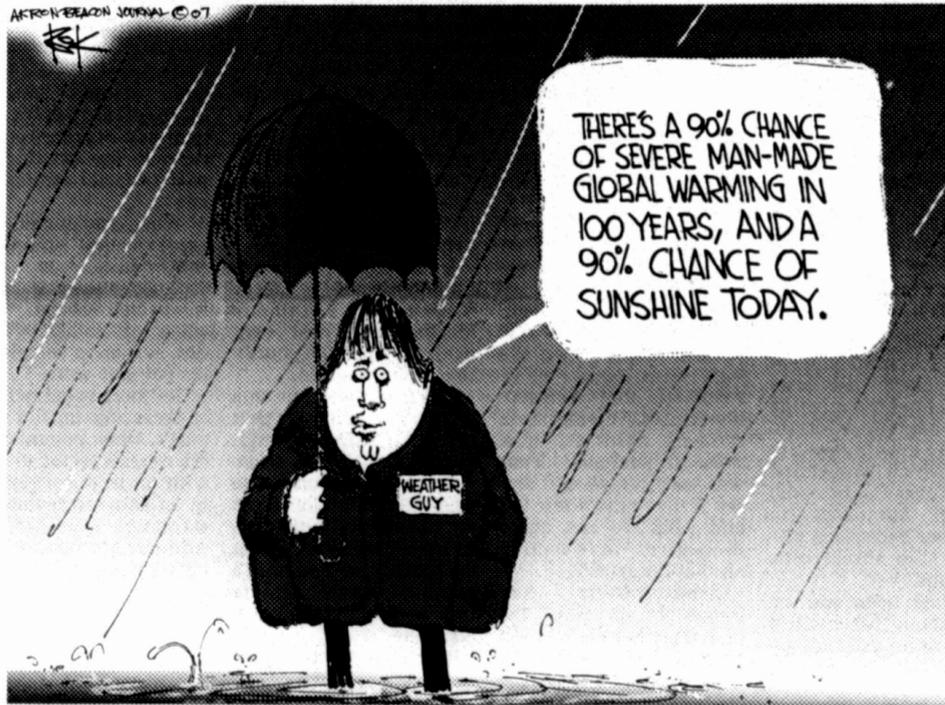
No lie.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@schronicle.com.

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DEBRA SAUNDERS



Some people above fashion

It's Fashion Week in New York, a wild and crazy time when everyone seems desperate to know: Is the babydoll dress back? Leggy gals spill out of limos. Modeling agencies throw wild feasts. ("Tic-Tacs for everyone!") In billowing tents covering an entire park in mid-Manhattan, designers are sewing, swearing, sweating and shrieking. But three flights above it all, things are moving at a very different pace.

"I've been working on my book for five years," said Jonathan Gill, poring over a century-old volume of Harlem Life in the ornate and enormous Main Reading Room of the New York Public Library. The fashion tents below disturbed him not a jot.

Gill is writing a book about the history of Harlem. Actually, he's already written it. "It was three times too long," he said.

So why is he doing even more research?

"Don't put that in! If my editor sees that he'll go crazy!" cried Gill, eliciting a nasty stare from a woman trying to concentrate at the next table. "You'll notice," he continued, sotto voce, "I have no note-taking materials with me." He's just reading every single issue of the long-dead magazine because that's what scholars do. They research. Then they research

some more. Once they end up in the Main Reading Room, they have reached research nirvana.

Take Senta Driver. She's been researching her family history for 10 years. What makes the subject so fascinating?

"Remarkably little," Driver said. "They saw everything happening in the history of America — all the major events — but they didn't fight, they didn't get into politics."

That might be enough to dampen some folks' genealogical enthusiasm, but Driver arrived at the Reading Room the other day with receipt from 1701 for her great-great-great-somebody's coat. She was dying to find out what kind of material it might have been made of. That's a research junkie for you.

The junkies here even have an enabler: David Smith, a librarian ready to help just about anybody with just about any question.

"Somebody asked how to make a bullwhip," Smith said. "I pointed him in the right direction." Another inquirer wondered, "Were horseflies used in the cockpits of fighter planes as an indicator of air pressure?"

After great study, Smith determined: Uh, no. And then there was a guy, Smith said, "who was doing years of research to prove that a black Jewish woman named Amelia Bassano Lanier wrote some of Shakespeare's plays."

Okaaaaay. Another Shakespeare scholar was hard at work in the Reading Room near Smith. He's writing a

play about the person he thinks wrote Shakespeare's plays (neither black nor Jewish nor female). "I'm in touch with the Royal Shakespeare Company," said the man, who would only give his name as Charles. "I'd like them to produce it first and then move it to Broadway."

Let's hope it happens soon. Charles is 85, a former accountant. Like just about everyone else in the Reading Room (except Gill, of course), he was taking notes and having the time of his life.

L.J. Davis was working on his history of the assembly line. He's written three books in the Reading Room, even though he only meant to write one. Mabel Gonzalez was researching the Spanish Inquisition — the one in Peru in the 1700s. Lyda Abonte de Zacklin had come in to track down a book by her favorite philosopher.

"It has to do with how our identity is getting lost and everybody is just a number," she said. "But just at that moment when you think there is nothing, you feel desperation. And that moment saves you."

Saved by desperation. That sounds more like the fashion world. Up in the Main Reading Room, the people don't need saving.

They're already in heaven.

Lenore Skenazy is a contributing editor at the New York Sun.

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LENORE SKENAZY

Oil-drenched owl clear indicator everyone threatened

The night provided a hunting bonanza for the large bird. Clutched in its talons, a cottontail rabbit was one of several that had scampered across its vision. As the raptor finished tearing the remaining flesh from the carcass, the mesquite, in which it was perched, shook. Suddenly the ground beside it erupted.

Instinctively, the bird of prey tightly gripped the limb and hunkered down while the sudden rain covered its head, back, and wings.

Trying to fling the moisture from its feathers, the bird struggled with the burning sensation in one eye. Accustomed to weathering downpours, the raptor endured the brief but heavy deluge.

In the control room at the refinery, the worker had just poured himself another cup of coffee. Glancing back at the monitor, the man noticed a pressure loss. Having to react immediately to what would become a major problem, he spilled the hot liquid onto his lap. Not able to leave the emergency, he immediately started the procedures in handling a ruptured pipeline.

After a severe December and early January, the weather had seemed almost spring-like, even into the first three weeks of February. What was usually a slow time of the year for bird rescue ended with a phone call. "There's a black owl out here and it won't fly," said the lady. Since she had seen the bird hanging around her property for several days, she decided something could be wrong. Knowing there is no such owl, I was very concerned about what she had seen.

Nestled among the native junipers, the woman's home was secluded from the road. Offering privacy and a natural beauty, the surrounding terrain was hilly, rocky, and filled with even more junipers, grasses, cactus, and a few scraggly mesquites. A cleared area between the house and greenery allowed for a yard. At the end of this lawn, where the juniper dominated, stood what appeared to be two gold eyes looking out from the top of a large, black cookie jar.

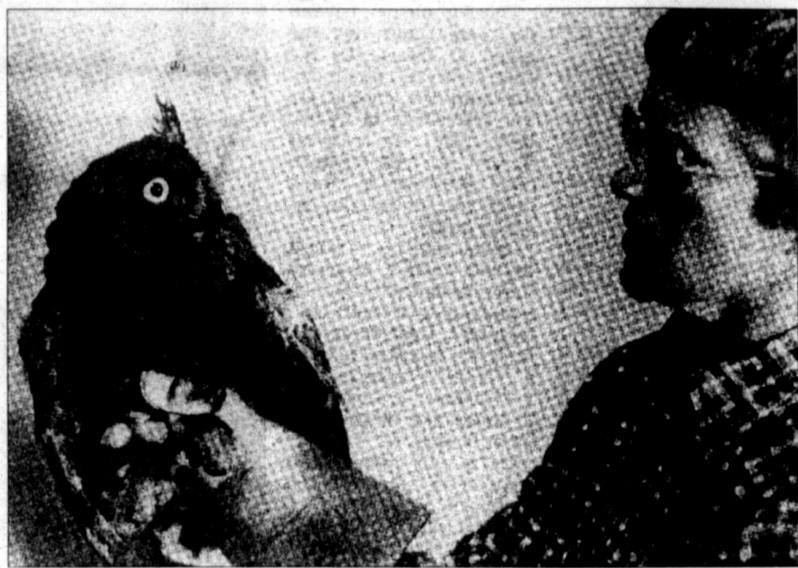
With one "horn," or tuft of feathers plastered to its head and the other standing straight up, a great horned owl glared back at us. As I netted the raptor, I was troubled by its condition. Coated with crude oil and grit, its wings, tail, head, and chest looked as if it were wearing a big, black coat. Remarkably, my leather gloves had very little residue from the bird.

The coating had hardened and encapsulated the feathers.

After placing the owl in a carrier, I asked the lady if there had been an oil spill. Taking me to another part of her property, she showed me an area where, in January, earth moving equipment had moved junipers and covered the rock with dirt. As I walked further into the dense growth, I could see the effects of the spill had traveled much further.

Assured that I would let her know the outcome, the lady waved as the owl and I headed back to town. Once home, after failing to reach the game warden, I contacted the sheriff's department for assistance in locating him. Since a spill was probably common knowledge, I called my friend at the Herald. He knew nothing of any oil spills, but would start checking.

On his way to the spill site, the game warden called and said he would be back in touch. Later that day, he notified us that the spill, traveling downhill, had gone 1 1/2 miles from Silver Heels to the edge of the municipal golf course. Without the ability to shut down the pipeline, the spill theoretically could have coursed through the golfing area and city park to Comanche lake. By closing valves and relieving the pressure moving the crude through the pipe, the operator had prevented a serious event from



HERALD photo
A great horned owl was living proof of a pipeline rupture in 1984. Not only detrimental to wildlife, the spill could have been an environmental headache to Big Spring. An alert operator and technology stemmed the flow.

becoming an even larger environmental problem.

The contractor, hired by the pipeline company, had tried to cover up rather than remove the effects of the rupture. The game warden knew the extent of the damage. Since a federally and state protected specie had suffered the consequences of the failure of the line, an agreement was reached that the length of the spill would be cleaned.

Thin from existing a month on the ground, from the time of the rupture until its rescue, the great horned owl had no evidence of oil in its mouth. Somehow it had

managed to catch animals that had not been affected by the spill. Miraculously, the owl had no oil on its skin thanks to its dense feathers. If it had, the oil would have been absorbed by its body and damaged internal organs. Once at my home, it readily ate freshly thawed mice and looked for more.

Chemicals in the crude had affected the bird's eyes. The pupil of one eye was a pinpoint, while the other was wide open. Having handled other raptors with the same

problem, I had seen some recover with time. With the healing of the eye, and removal of the caked mess on its feathers, the great horned owl would be considered for release.

Grateful for the survival of our walking evidence, we recognized the strength of its perseverance. From a night like no other, we had been alerted by the dingy, comical-looking owl that our, and its environment, had been threatened.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.



BEBE
MCCASLAND

Getting a good nutritional start

Ever wonder why kids are so picky with their eating habits? This is a question that haunts parents on a consistent basis but it does have some validity.

For instance, Kevin just sat down for a cheeseburger with ketchup. It's the same thing he's had for dinner and lunch almost every day for the past year. It's the only thing this 4-year-old will eat.

Psychologists say that most children shun new and unknown foods, and can be nasty in their refusal to try them. So, if your child yells "no" at your dinner table, you're not alone. It's normal that most children will go through picky eating phases where they're very wary of trying things that are new.

There is a name for this reluctance. It's called "neophobia," the fear of trying anything new and unknown, including food.

As children become more aware of the world around them, they become pickier eaters.

Generally, parents will say, "When my child was a baby she would eat anything." However, that agreeable nature usually doesn't last.

Dr. Elizabeth Capaldi, editor of "Why We Eat What We Eat" and a psychologist at the University of Florida, says, "By age 2, children have a routine of familiar, safe foods. Once you have a familiar routine, you don't want to try anything new or different."

Psychologists have taken a long time to fig-

ure out that we eat what tastes good. However, what kids like also has a lot to do with science.

Scientists figure that it takes about 200 to 500 milliseconds for our taste buds to determine whether we like what is on our tongue. Our sense of taste tells our brains the four basic tastes — sweet, salt, sour and bitter.

People have a genetic preference for sweet and salty and a genetic dislike for bitter and sour; that's why children often list sweet foods like ice cream as one of their favorite foods and place

bitter foods at the bottom.

Psychologists say a dislike of bitter foods may also be a survival measure. Most naturally occurring poisons taste bitter and initiate a gag reflex. That initial "bitter food banishment" does change, psychologists say, after kids are exposed to those foods over a period of time.

The other senses, smell, sight, touch and texture also contribute to children accepting certain foods.

Flavor is a combination of smell and taste, with smell often being the

most important factor. Kids like spaghetti because it has both salty

See RYAN, Page 6A



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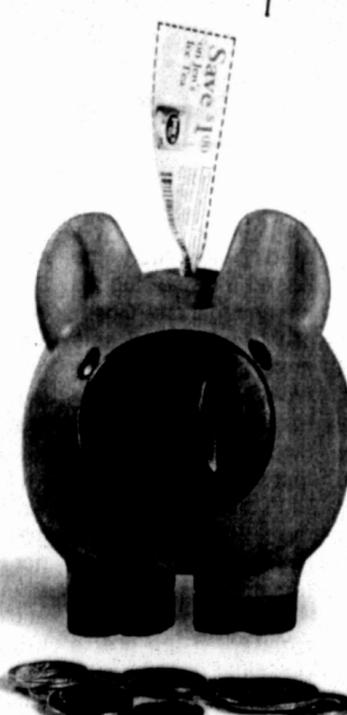
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Ranchers hoping to preserve purity of Texas longhorns

By **BETSY BLANEY**

AP Agriculture Writer

LUBBOCK — Hondo rancher Debbie Davis has no beef with those who want to see their Texas longhorns, well, beefier.

Her passion, though, lies with preserving the traditional longhorn breed that survived on little grass and water as it roamed Texas and other parts of the West during the mid-1800s.

"A true Texas longhorn is endangered right now," said Davis, president of the Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Registry which is striving to keep the bloodline of the traditional longhorn as pure as possible.

The longhorn isn't on any endangered lists, but visit any livestock show and all the competition is between longhorns that have far more heft and girth than the traditional rangy and gaunt animal.

Davis and other ranchers believe crossbreeding with other cattle species is diminishing the traditional's numbers.

Others say a longhorn is a longhorn is a longhorn.

"You're always going to have people giving you an opinion of what a longhorn looks like," said Larry Barker, general manager of the Fort Worth-based Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America, which also registers the animals. "If you asked six people, you'd get six different answers, and all six of them would be correct."

There's plenty beyond the name that ties the breed to Texas. It's the state's official large mammal and the mascot for the University of Texas. Bevo XIV, the current mascot, is a true longhorn and lives on a ranch northwest of Austin, its owner said.

Davis' registry is working on a DNA database that will define the genetic makeup of a traditional longhorn. Until then, animals are required to have a visual inspection as well as blood-typing to see if there are markers of other breeds.

Davis and others have registered about 3,500 longhorns since 1990.

"What they're doing is real important, to retain as close as possible" the true longhorn, said Dr. Phil Sponenberg, a veterinarian and professor of pathology and genetics at Virginia Tech University.

Mixing traditional longhorns with cattle breeds such as Angus and Hereford for show purposes began about 20 years ago, Barker said. It's created bigger animals, some with longer horns, that are winning livestock show competitions across the state and the country.

Davis said she believes livestock shows are "responsible for the degradation" of the traditional animal.

Progenitors of the traditional longhorn go back to Neolithic times and were first domesticated in Europe from Asiatic stock. The cattle were brought to North America



A group of longhorn steers are held in a pen surrounded by the state flower, Bluebonnets, at the Winscott Ranch southwest of Fort Worth.

MCT photo/Ron T. Ennis/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

from southwestern Spain around 1500. They spread from Mexico and some eventually became feral. They became hardier and thrived wherever they roamed, from swamplands in Louisiana to deserts in California.

Some ranchers say the longhorn saved Texas. After the Civil War, beef was a hot commodity in the north. Because of their hardiness and longer legs, the longhorns

needed less water and food than other species, enabling them to survive long trail drives. Texas climbed out of the post-war depression from the money longhorn sales brought back to the state.

But the true longhorn began to decline by the end of the 19th century when railroads replaced cattle drives. The animals' horns meant fewer could fit inside a railcar. Also, breeds of English

cattle, which matured physically more quickly, began arriving in the U.S. and were crossbred with longhorns.

Longhorns also had a natural resistance to tick fever, a cattle disease since eradicated in the U.S. but still monitored for incursion from Mexico. Ranchers outside Texas wanted nothing to do with longhorns because they carried ticks to their more vulnerable

cattle.

In 1927, the federal government appropriated \$3,000 to establish a protected herd. Nowadays, about 300 longhorns live in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in southwest Oklahoma.

Texas also has a state herd, established in 1941 with the help of folklorist J. Frank Dobie. The 175-head herd resides in Fort

See **LONGHORNS**, Page 7A

RYAN

Continued from Page 5A

and sweet components, garnished with an intoxicating odor.

Sight, or whether something looks good or "gross" in a child's eyes, greatly contributes to flavor. That's why a child might immediately like a pretty food found in an advertisement or menu.

Touch and texture round out

the flavor senses. Spicy foods taste "hot" and trigger pain fibers in the mouth, which makes most kids cringe. Fatty foods such as ice cream have a smooth texture that children like because it feels good on their tongues.

For kids, a lot of food rejections don't have anything to do with food, instead, it's a sign of exerting independence and imposing control.

Another influence on a child's eating habits is peer

pressure.

In one study a child who does not like peas but eats corn is placed next to one who eats peas but not corn for a series of lunches. By the end of one week, the two are eating and enjoying both foods equally.

However, there are some foods even the strongest of children's stomachs cannot grow to like, such as those that they associate with making them sick. A child goes to the

amusement park and eats a pickle. Then he or she goes on the roller coaster and gets sick from the ride. Even if the child realizes the pickle didn't cause the sickness, he or she will most likely develop an aversion to pickles.

We are funny that way, aren't we?

It is said that up to a third of cancers could be prevented with improvements in diet, with an increase in fruit and vegetable consumption the top

priority. Since people often form their eating habits very early in life, and it can be difficult to persuade them to eat more healthily later on, we must keep in mind that children need active persuasion that veggies and fruits really are good for them.

Maybe we adults do to!

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.



I CAN'T REMEMBER

Did I give my mommie and daddy a hug when they tucked me into bed last night? I can't remember.

Yesterday I fell off my bike and scraped my knee. My mommie came running to me right away. She washed off my knee, and made it stop hurting. She smiled at me. She gave me a big hug. She told me she loves me. She made me feel so good inside. Did I smile back? Did I thank her for making the hurt go away? Did I give her a big hug right back? I can't remember.

Last night, my daddy read a very good bedtime story to me. He smiles all the time. He seems to smile even more when he looks at me. When he finished

reading the story, he kissed me and hugged me and told me "Good Night." I felt so safe and loved and quickly fell asleep. Did I smile back at him? Did I thank him for reading that nice story to me? Did I tell him I love him, too? Did I give him a big hug? I can't remember.

Last week was my birthday. I am now a big girl. I am seven years old. My Grandpa brought a very nice present for me. He told me he loves me. He gave me the very special hug that only a Grandpa can give. Did I give him our special hug back? Did I say "Thank You" for the nice present he gave me? I can't remember.

On my birthday, my Grandmother had made my very favorite

cookies and brought them to me. I have loved these cookies ever since my wonderful Grandmother gave me the first one on my first birthday. She never forgets to make my cookies on my birthday. Sometimes, she makes them when it is not my birthday and asks me to come over and have some cookies with her. She always has a glass of milk waiting for me when I do go to her home. She always hugs me. Her hugs are so special, like Grandpa's. She always tells me she adores me. Did I tell her how much I love her cookies? Did I tell her how much I love her? Did I tell her that I know she never forgets to make my favorite cookies on my birthday? I can't remember.

When I was only six years old, my big brother was very nice to me. Sometimes he teases me. Sometimes he rides my bike without asking me. But he said that he will always love me. I love him, too. Did I ever tell him that I love him? Did I ever tell him that I am glad he is my big brother?

Did I ever tell him that he could ride my bike whenever he wanted to? I can't remember.

When I was five years old, my little sister helped me fix my broken dollhouse. She loves helping me fix things. She is a good little sister. She gave me her best doll and told me that it was okay to put it in my dollhouse. Did I tell her how much I liked her doll, and did I say, "Thank You" for want-

ing to share it with me? Did I ever tell her that I love her?

Did I ever tell her that I am so glad she is my little sister? I can't remember.

I do not want to be a selfish person. I want to be a better little girl than I am right now. I will change. I will tell my mommie how much I love her. I will give her my best hug tonight. I will hug my daddy even before he reads a nice bedtime story to me tonight. I will tell them I love them.

The next time my Grandpa visits me, the first thing I will do is give him our special hug. I think he will be happy. The next time my wonderful Grandmother makes my favorite cookies for me, I will tell her how much I love her

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Texas news in brief

Man facing execution after 25 years on death row

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A quarter-century since the bullet-riddled body of a furniture salesman was found by a fisherman near Lake Houston, the man condemned for the slaying in Harris County was poised for a trip Tuesday evening to the Texas death chamber.

Donald Miller was 19 when he and two accomplices were arrested for the robbery and execution-style shootings of Michael Mozingo, 29, and Kenneth Whitt, 19. Now at age 44, Miller is one of the longest-serving of Texas' nearly 400 death row inmates.

"Very disappointing," said Bert Graham, one of the Harris County prosecutors who in 1982 tried Miller for capital murder for Mozingo's killing. "It's 25 years he's been living and Mr. Mozingo has been gone for 25 years and his family hasn't had the opportunity to share that 25 years with him."

Mozingo and Whitt, who prosecutors said were from North Carolina, traveled the country selling furniture out of the back of their 18-wheel tractor-trailer truck. Mozingo, the driver, was carrying at least \$5,000 in cash. The furniture in their truck was valued at some \$40,000.

Miller would be the sixth condemned Texas prisoner put to death this year and the third this month in the nation's busiest capital punishment state. Five more are set to die in March, including two next week.

The U.S. Supreme Court in October refused to review Miller's case. On Monday, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals dismissed a late appeal to the state courts that contended prosecutors suppressed evidence and the trial judge made erroneous rulings on defense requests to see some evidence.

"He's probably going to be executed," said lawyer James Rytting, who had described the appeal as a long-shot. No additional appeals were planned, he said.

Miller declined to speak with reporters in the weeks preceding his scheduled execution. In a letter to the Houston Chronicle, however, Miller said he didn't "mean to imply I'm a saint."

"I'm connected to this case just not to the degree portrayed at trial," he wrote. "A tale I'll continue to hold close as a fool becomes a skeleton in the family closet!"

TXU, after agreeing to sale, to report 2006 earnings

DALLAS (AP) — In what could be its last annual earnings report as a publicly traded company, utility TXU Corp. is expected to post a 2006 profit of about \$2.5 billion when it discloses financial results Tuesday.

TXU, which announced Monday it has agreed to be acquired for about \$32 billion in the largest private buyout ever, has been helped by high electricity rates in Texas.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial expected the company to report earnings of \$1.20 per share in the fourth quarter and \$5.54 per share for all of 2006.

TXU's board has approved a \$69.25 per share buyout led by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. and Texas Pacific Group. The buyers would also assume more than \$12 billion in debt. Shareholders and federal regulators would have to approve the sale.

1 dead, 2 injured in home invasion in Brownsville

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — One person was killed and

two people, including a Brownsville police officer, were injured Monday as police broke up a home invasion in which six people were held hostage.

Officer Rolando Trujillo was in stable condition after undergoing surgery. He was struck in the hand, knee and stomach.

One assailant, later identified by police as Jose Limon, was shot dead. The other, Cecilio Mendoza, was shot in the foot and escaped through a window before police arrested him. Mendoza faces felony charges of burglary, attempted capital murder and aggravated robbery, Police Chief Carlos Garcia said.

Trujillo was shot three times around 1 a.m. Monday when he responded to the home invasion where six people were held hostage by armed robbers, police said. Trujillo and another officer sneaked into the home and surprised the assailants, who began shooting, police said.

Supreme Court refuses state appeal

AUSTIN (AP) — A man serving life in prison in the slayings of four teenage girls in Austin's "Yogurt Shop Murders" moved closer to a new trial Monday when the Supreme Court refused to reinstate his conviction.

The court refused to consider the state's appeal to overturn a 2006 decision by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. The state court had ruled that Robert Springsteen IV got an unfair trial because he was not allowed to cross-examine co-defendant Michael Scott, who had given a statement to police incriminating him.

The Texas court said Springsteen's constitutional right to confront his accuser was violated.

Springsteen, who was 17 when the crime was committed, was convicted of capital murder and sentenced to death in 2001. His sentence was commuted to life in prison in 2005 when the Supreme Court ruled executing juvenile killers is unconstitutional.

Bill would limit use of stun guns

AUSTIN (AP) — As Texas police agencies increasingly turn to Tasers as a tool for subduing suspects, lawmakers have filed several bills that would require greater oversight of the stun guns or suspend their use.

Taser supporters say they'll fight efforts to limit Taser use. Police officials argue the stun guns give officers a safer option for subduing unruly suspects when they might otherwise have to fight or shoot someone.

"It would be a mistake to limit the alternatives that officers have to bring resolution to stressful situations," Houston police Capt. Dwayne Ready said. "It has proven to be a useful tool that saves injury to officers and to suspects."

But Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, said state regulators need time to work with police to establish a statewide policy for stun guns. His HB 1304 would stop police agencies from using Tasers between Jan. 1, 2008, and Jan. 1, 2009.

"We need a one-year moratorium on Tasers to ensure the public safety of our citizens," Coleman said Monday. "At times, Tasers have been used improperly by law enforcement officers."



A Psychological Ploy

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ 7
♥ K 8 7 3
♦ K Q 2
♠ A K J 8 2

WEST
♦ Q J 8 6 2
♥ 2
♦ J 9 5 4
♠ 10 7 5

EAST
♠ A 10 4 3
♥ J 9 6 5
♦ 10 7 3
♣ 6 4

SOUTH
♦ K 9 5
♥ A Q 10 4
♠ A 8 6
♣ Q 9 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
3♦ Pass 4NT Pass
5♦ Pass 6♥ Pass

Opening lead — queen of spades.

There are times when a defender must make what is called a "mandatory falsecard." The purpose of the falsecard is to present declarer with an alternative line of play in a position where he could not otherwise go wrong.

Consider today's deal where East won the spade lead with the ace and returned a spade to South's king. With 12 tricks assured if the trumps were divided normally, declarer

turned his attention to the heart suit. He planned to follow the standard procedure with this combination: cash the ace and then cross to the king. This would leave him in position to finesse against East's jack if West showed out on the second round.

But when South played the trump ace at trick three, East shrewdly dropped his nine on the trick! This presented declarer with an entirely different way to play the suit, since if East's nine was a singleton it would be possible to overcome West's remaining trumps by continuing with the queen. Then, after East showed out, declarer could finesse against West's jack on the third round.

South realized, of course, that if the missing trumps were actually divided 3-2, the contract was safe regardless of how he continued. He was also aware that East might have dropped the nine from J-9-x-x. After agonizing over his options, declarer finally chose to play the queen, and the slam went down the drain.

While East's play of the nine on the first trump lead was not guaranteed to succeed, the fact remains that if East had woodenly followed suit with the five or six, declarer would have had no choice but to find the winning line of play. That's why the nine is a mandatory falsecard.

Tomorrow: Two different approaches.
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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

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

LONGHORNS

Continued from Page 6A

Griffin State Park in Albany, northeast of Abilene. Periodically, some animals are disbursed to range in other state parks.

John T. Baker, a central Texas rancher, has been in the longhorn business for more than three decades. He went to Spain in the 1990s and saw six Spanish breeds of horned cattle, which he believes are the progenitor of the Texas longhorn.

He's not opposed to those who breed for specific longhorn traits, such as longer horns or color.

"I've watched the breed change dynamically," said Baker. "The good thing about longhorns is you can raise a certain flavor."

One of Mike Warner's flavors is a red and white bull named Mongo, a beefier 1,700-plus pound longhorn that the Fort Worth attorney used to show but now calls his "pet." Warner spends time sitting on Mongo's back and talking to him each weekend on his ranch.

In 2001 Mongo, then 2, weighed 1,800 pounds and was crowned Senior Champion Bull at the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America World Show.

Warner's not interested in stepping into the debate on which type of longhorn is more true. He believes, though, that

those outside Texas remember the longhorn as those that "John Wayne hung around with" in Western movies. "I love them all," he said. "I think they each serve their own function."

On the Net:
Cattlemen's Texas Registry: <http://www.ctr.org>
Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America: <http://www.tbaa.org>

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Leah Hughes

NOT PICTURED
Lana Webster

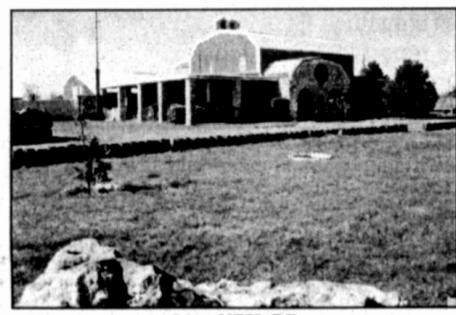


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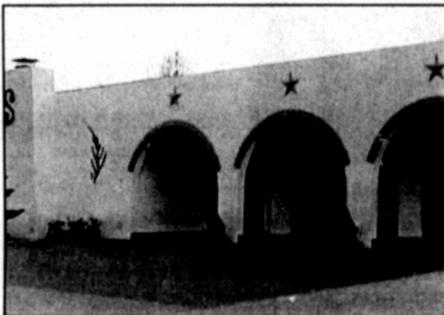
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IN BRIEF

Garden City boy's playoff schedule

The Bearcats (16-8) will play Sterling City (24-5) tonight at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Garden City is led by Taylor Niehues, a forward that averaged 17.5 ppg. and 7 rebounds during the regular season.

Grady Wildcats playoff schedule

Grady High (29-2) will play Lorenzo (28-3) today at 7 p.m. at Seminole High School.

Grady is led by junior Justin Tubbs. The center is averaging 18 ppg. and 12 rebounds.

Hawks fundraiser has been set

The Howard College Rodeo team will conduct a Cow Pattie Bingo fundraiser today.

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 still 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. 1) are eligible to participate in the league.

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

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

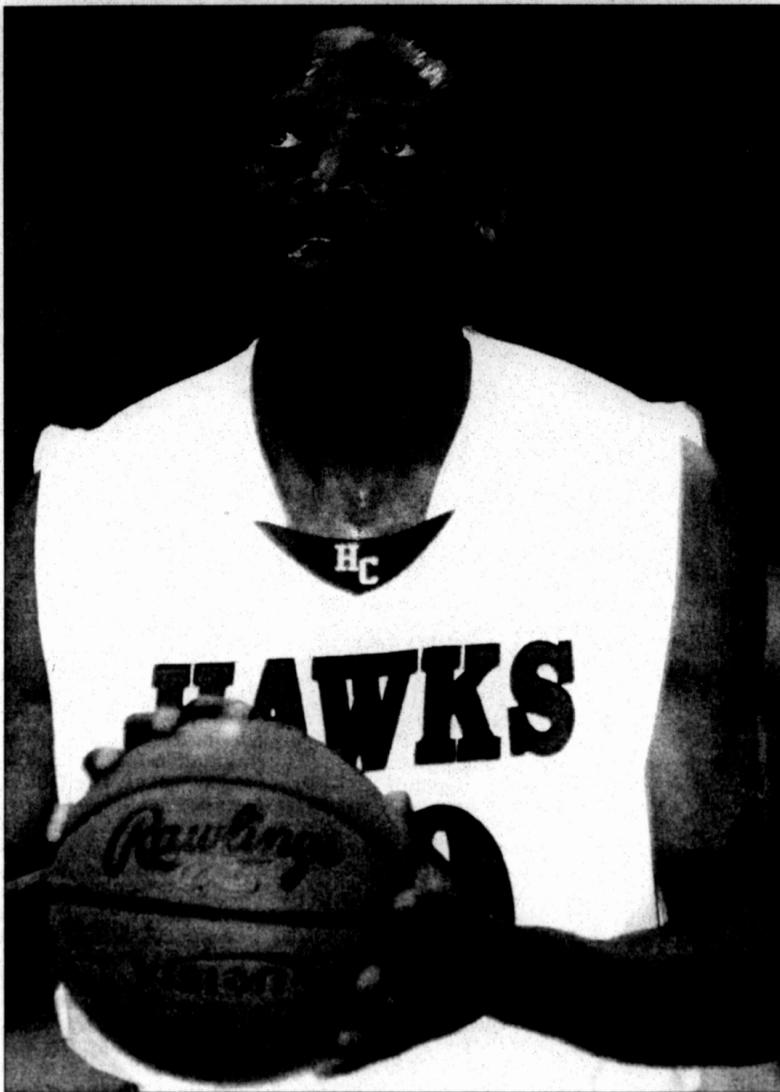
Rangers sign six players to contract

Brandon McCarthy, the No. 3 starter the Texas Rangers acquired in an off-season trade, was among six players signed to 2007 contracts.

Also signed for this season were starting catcher Gerald Laird, outfielders Nelson Cruz and Victor Diaz and right-handers Kameron Loe and Wes Littleton. All six players were already in camp and participating in spring training.

The Rangers got the 23-year-old McCarthy from the White Sox in a five-player deal in December. He has already been slotted into the rotation behind Kevin Millwood and Vicente Padilla even though he pitched primarily out of the bullpen in Chicago last season.

Hawks rally to upset South Plains



Howard's leading rebounder this season, Benson Akpan connects from the free throw line in early season action. The Hawks upset South Plains College Monday night, 71-69. The Hawks next game will be in the Region V tournament against top seeded Temple.

Hawks 71, Texans 69

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — Terrence Hill scored 23 points and Sean Watson added 22 more as the Howard Hawks upset South Plains College on Monday night 71-69, to extend their winning streak to seven games.

Over the last two seasons, the Hawks (24-6, 11-5) are the only team to beat South Plains (23-6, 12-3) on the Texans' home court.

"I thought our guys showed a lot of heart and I thought we played the hardest and the most aggressive tonight," Howard coach Mark Adams explained during the post game interview.

Winning the opening tip, the Hawks jumped to a quick 5-0 lead before being outscored 11-5 over a four-minute span that saw the lead change hands.

At the break the Hawks were trailing 32-26.

In the opening minutes of the second half the Texans could not miss and connected on four straight 3-pointers to rattle the Hawks and open up the lead. With 8:12 to play South Plains held a 14-point lead before the Hawks began to rally.

Watson made a steal — he led the Hawks with four, and as a team Howard had 13 swipes —

and converted the lay-up to close the gap.

Down 12 points with 7:01 left, Hill got hot and connected on back-to-back 3s. A rebound and put back by Brandon Sampay, the Hawks' 6-foot-8 sophomore, sliced the lead to four.

"They (SPC) have a lot of firepower and they can shoot the three," Adams said after the win, "but Terrence really wanted to win this game and he put it all out there on the floor tonight. We still need to play smarter basketball — this is still a work in progress, but we're starting to peak at the right time."

Down the stretch, with the game tied 69 apiece, Dan Sencanski made a game-changing lay-up to give Howard its first lead and the Hawks came up with a defensive stand to hold on and escape South Plains with the win.

"We have an uphill battle in front of us," Adams stressed moments after the victory. "We have to face the No. 1 seed in Temple in the regional tournament and that is almost like a home game for them. Right now I think we have some confidence in close ball games and back in January we had no confidence in them. We still have to stop turning the ball over, but I think we're going to be a tough team to beat."

The Region V tournament will be played the weekend of March 9-11, in Belton.

Howard women lose to No. 1 team

MIKE GRIMES
Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — The Howard women ended their season with another tough loss against a Western Junior College Athletic Conference foe, this time to No. 1 ranked South Plains, 52-38.

Candace Lambert and Kandace Griffin have led the Hawk basketball team all season and Monday night, as the season came to an end, the duo scored 8 points apiece to pace the team.

In the opening minutes of the game South Plains (28-1) took an early lead and maintained a seven point advantage throughout the first half. With 1:35 before intermission, the Hawks (13-17) were down 10 points, 25-15. As

the horn sounded and the teams sprinted to the locker rooms, Howard trailed 26-19.

"This was two teams that played tough defense," Hawks coach Earl Diddle explained during the post game interview. "We just couldn't take care of the ball and that has been the story all season. We just struggle getting the number of shots we need."

In the second half the results were the same.

With under 5:00 on the clock the Hawks cut the lead to nine, but a 3-pointer on the South Plains following possession all but sealed the loss.

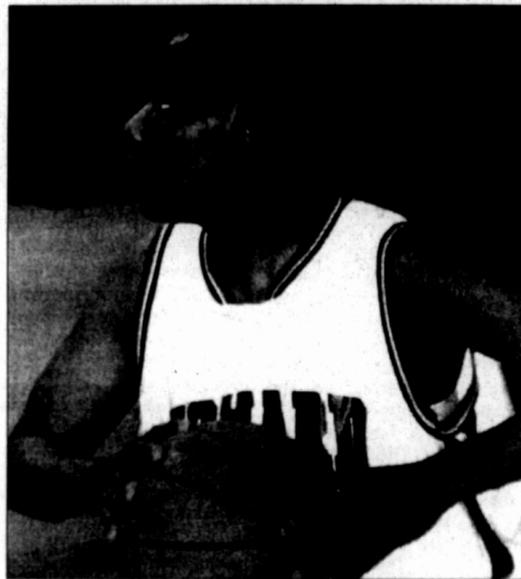
Carole Bapoo, the 6-foot-4 sophomore playing her final game in a Hawk uniform, scored 5 points and led the team with 5

rebounds. Nicole Lined, another sophomore, tied Bapoo for the team lead with 5 rebounds.

It was not enough and in the second the Hawks were once again outscored 26-19, for a 52-38 loss.

"From top to bottom this is one tough league," Diddle said. "We have two teams that are capable of winning it all and only one of them is going to make it out of regionals. Right now we are going to start on recruiting and we're looking for players who can move with the ball. We're a better basketball team than we were last year and next year we are going to be better than this year."

See HAWKS, Page 2B



Howard's Candace Lambert looks to pass to an open teammate in the Hawks win over Clarendon College. The Hawks lost to South Plains, 52-38, Monday night in the season finale.

Bagwell adjusts to life beyond playing days



Jeff Bagwell will have a new position in the Astros' organization this season. Bagwell will move from first baseman to the club's new hitting instructor.

By CHRIS DUNCAN
AP Sports Writer

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Jeff Bagwell walked into the Houston Astros clubhouse on Monday as if he'd never been gone, hugging former teammates and catching up.

But after a few minutes, Bagwell was off to the coaches' locker room around the corner to begin his new life — the one that follows one of the greatest playing careers in franchise history.

The 38-year-old retired in December, forced to give up baseball because of an arthritic right shoulder. He's a coach now, a job that's part of a personal services contract that kicked in when he quit.

On Monday, with a fungo bat in one hand and

a simmering cup of coffee in the other, the Astros' career leader in home runs, RBIs and extra-base hits took the field as a supervising instructor.

"It's already a little weird just kind of walking out here, with no tape on my wrist, not in that little circle," Bagwell said. "But I'm not really that sad about that."

Bagwell, who played 15 seasons in Houston, will split time between the major and minor league complexes, advising hitters and offering tips on fielding and baserunning.

By his own admission, Bagwell didn't do much on his first day. He leaned on his bat and made wisecracks to assistant coach Matt Galante as his former teammates

See BAGWELL, Page 2B

Mavericks make history with winning streaks

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks' 20th consecutive home victory and 12th straight overall was the picture of precision.

Dirk Nowitzki had 27 points and eight rebounds and Jason Terry added 21 points as the Mavericks extended their club-record home winning streak by easing to a 110-87 victory over the Atlanta Hawks on Monday night.

The Mavericks are the first team in NBA history with three winning streaks of 12 or more in a season, having already had runs of 12 and 13 games. The Milwaukee Bucks (1970-71), Philadelphia 76ers (1980-81) and Los Angeles Lakers (1999-2000) have had three winning streaks of 10 or more in a season.

Dallas shot 54 percent from the field, went 7-for-14 from 3-point range, and converted 18 Atlanta turnovers into 25 points.

"When the ball is moving side to side so well, it's fun basketball to play," Terry said. "That's what you see from this team consistently, night in and night out."

The only bad news for the Mavericks came in the fourth quarter when Josh Howard sprained his right ankle. He finished with 20 points.

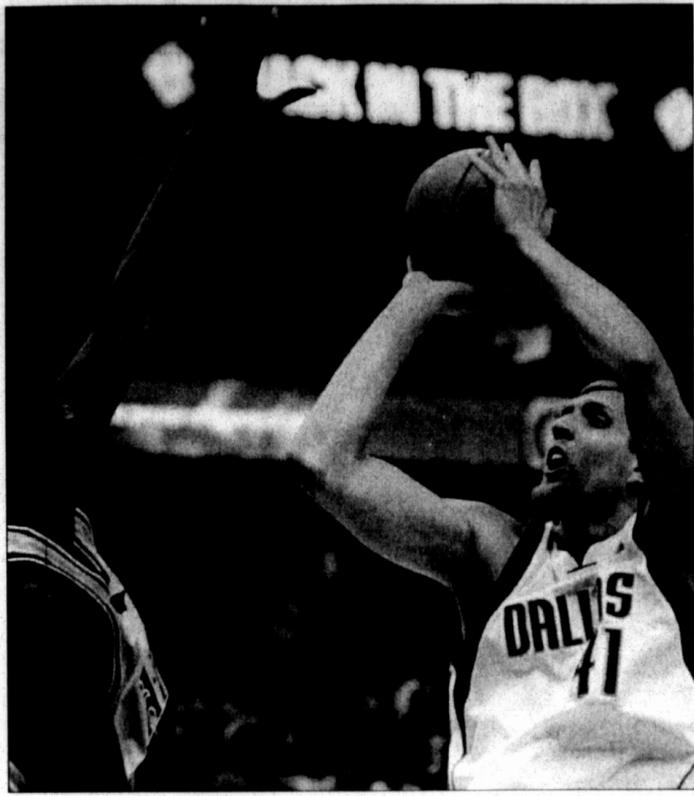
Howard was helped off the court with 6:11 to play after he took a jumper and landed on the foot of Atlanta's Joe Johnson. X-rays were negative and Howard made the trip to Minnesota where the Mavericks meet the Timberwolves on Tuesday night. Howard, who's been playing on a sore right ankle sustained under similar circumstances in a game last week against the Miami Heat, is listed as day-to-day.

"Hopefully he should be OK," Mavericks coach Avery Johnson said.

Reserve Jerry Stackhouse, playing extended minutes with starting guard Greg Buckner out with a bruised left knee, contributed 19 points and a season-high nine assists for the Mavericks.

"Dallas is good, they try to do things the right way," Atlanta coach Mike Woodson said. "They have so many weapons, it's like, pick your poison out there."

Also out for the Mavericks was swingman Devean George, recover-



Dirk Nowitzki (41) of the Dallas Mavericks shoots over Atlanta Hawks Marvin Williams (left) and Josh Childress during game action at the American Airlines Center in Dallas Monday night.

ing from a sprained ligament in his right knee.

Dallas had only eight players with 10 minutes or more, and the Mavericks needed their reserves to grind out the victory.

"We shouldn't have anybody out there who's tired when you're winning and having the success we are," Stackhouse said. "When Chicago was on its great runs, they didn't know it was cold outside. That's how we feel right now. We can't wait 'til the next game."

Dallas has won 47 of 52 after losing its first four games, improving to a league-best 47-9 record. The Mavericks haven't been beaten at home since a 92-83 defeat to the Detroit Pistons on Dec. 7.

The Hawks were on the second

leg of a tough back-to-back, having lost at home to the Phoenix Suns 115-106 on Sunday night.

Johnson's 29 points and Zaza Pachulia's season-high 24 points and nine assists paced the Hawks, who've lost four of their past five.

"We can't get over the hump in back-to-back games," Woodson said. "More than anything, we were mentally exhausted and did things we shouldn't be doing. We have to grow and learn to push through that."

Dallas trailed by five early but led after one quarter, 27-23.

Howard scored 12 points while the Mavericks were taking control with a 22-8 run that bridged the first and second quarters, pushing Dallas' lead to 58-42.

McGrady sits out, Rockets get upset

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Paul Pierce scored 28 points to lead the Boston Celtics to a 77-72 win over the short-handed Houston Rockets on Monday night and break a 12-game road losing streak.

The Celtics, who have the NBA's worst record, rallied from a 13-point fourth quarter deficit to avoid matching the franchise mark for most consecutive road losses. The win, against a Rockets team playing without both Yao Ming and Tracy McGrady, is just their second in the last 24 games.

Boston scored eight straight points to take a 70-68 lead on a layup by Delonte West with 1:23 remaining. West blocked a shot by Juwan Howard for the fast break that led to the go-ahead score.

A 3-pointer by Pierce with 25.9 seconds left pushed the lead to 73-68 and West made four free throws in the final seconds to assure the win.

Houston never trailed in the first three quarters and often led by double-digits before the Celtics comeback.

Bonzi Wells led the Rockets with a season-high 27 points, starting in place of McGrady, who was out with flu-like symptoms. He also had nine rebounds.

It was an ugly game, filled with poor shooting, bad passes and traveling. At one point in the second half after a problem at the scoring table, Celtics coach Doc Rivers looked at the scorers and said "You guys are as bad

as this game."

Houston shot a season-low 32.1 percent and the Celtics weren't much better, shooting 34.2 percent. The Rockets also set a season-worst mark for 3-point shooting, making just 1 of 22.

West and Al Jefferson added 16 points apiece for Boston and Jefferson had 17 rebounds.

Boston cut the lead to five points twice in the third quarter, the second coming when Kendrick Perkins sunk a hook shot with 2:04 left. But the Rockets responded with five quick points to end the quarter ahead 53-44.

There was little to excite the sparse crowd at this game, with the biggest cheers of the night coming when a scantily clad Rockets dancer used a trampoline to flip and dunk during a break in the fourth quarter.

The Celtics didn't score in the second quarter until a 3-pointer by Pierce with about seven minutes left that made it 27-17.

About a minute later the Rockets had their own scoring drought, going almost five minutes between points and allowing Boston to go on a 10-2 run to close the gap to 35-29 at halftime.

Tracy McGrady missed the game against the Celtics because of flu-like symptoms.

It's the ninth game this season McGrady has missed after the All-Star sat out seven with back spasms in December and one with a sore lower back in January. He scored 34 points in the Rockets' 97-93 win over Orlando on Sunday.

BAGWELL

Continued from 1B

ran the bases.

"Matty," Bagwell yelled, already smiling, "you brought me down here to do this?"

Bagwell said the days leading up to his arrival felt just as unusual, as he sat at home knowing he was missing the start of spring training.

"It's been a little strange, picking up the paper," Bagwell said. "I think I've been a little grumpy at the house. But I'm OK with it. It's just different."

At midday, Bagwell made the short walk to the minor league side, a role he takes much more seriously.

"It's going to be over there that I'll have the most influence, where I can go and talk to those kids," Bagwell said.

"That's what I'm looking forward to."

He gave third basemen — including Roger Clemens' son, Koby, some fielding tips — then watched several hitters from behind a batting cage.

When he spoke, the young players listened to his every word.

"You know these things work," outfielder Eli Iorg said. "He says things, and they stick with you, because you know he knows what he's talking about."

Bagwell, a Boston native, came up through the Red Sox minor league system. He remembers when he was an impressionable rookie in nearby Winter Haven in 1989 and Boston legends Carl Yastrzemski and Ted Williams watched him in batting practice.

"That was a big deal for me," Bagwell said. "In no

way, shape or form am I Yastrzemski or Williams. But that was a huge deal for me. It's kind of neat seeing people like that walking around."

Bagwell hopes he can make a similar impact on the Astros minor-leaguers.

"With these kids, it's kind of neat because you can give them your thoughts and your experiences and they kind of go, 'No way you felt like that,'" Bagwell said. "You can see it means something to them and that's been what's great. That's what kind of drives me to keep being around those kids."

Bagwell came to spring training last season under very different circumstances. The Astros said he was too injured to play another season, but Bagwell wanted a chance to at least try.

By the end of spring

training, Bagwell still couldn't throw and knew he was finished. But the Astros and their insurance company wrangled for months over the \$17 million Bagwell was due last season.

A year later, Bagwell has gained perspective and acceptance of how his playing career ended.

"It's something you've got to go through," Bagwell said. "It's just the fact that I physically cannot do it. So, it's no big deal. It's been a lot easier for me."

Even if he excels at coaching — and he's not yet sure if he does — Bagwell said he has no interest in becoming a manager in the future.

The best thing about retiring from baseball, he said, is the extra time it gives him with his two daughters in Houston.

"I don't want to be away from my family for that long," Bagwell said. "My two girls, I enjoy picking them up from school."

HAWKS

Continued from 1B

"Howard College has the best fans and the best support in the league and I want to thank everyone for their support this season."

The Hawks finished the season with a home win against Clarendon College on Saturday, something that Lambert said was important to all the players and for the Hawks' future.

An upset win over the No. 1 ranked team in the country would have been the icing on the cake for the young Hawks.

The Hawks leading scorers, Griffin and Lamert, have said they plan on

returning to get Howard into the Region V tournament next season.

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APPLICATIONS BEING accepted at Paradigm Physical Therapy, 602 Main St., for physical therapy technician afternoon and evening shift. Will train. (432)268-9800.

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BLAST MASTERS has a position available for:
* Crew Technician
Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test.

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Big Spring, TX 79720

COOKS. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

LOCAL MANUFACTURING facility has an opening for a Clerk Position. Skills must include proficiency in MS Word, Excel, and Window based applications. Experience in warehouse and/or parts inventory desired but not required. Must pass a drug screen. Salary will be 20-25k depending on experience. Benefits package is available. Apply with application and resume at 1211 N. Midway Road, Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Company. For questions, call 432-263-7389, ext. 25.

Help Wanted

D.H. BLATTNER & Son's (est. in 1907) is seeking the following experienced, safety-oriented individuals for our Wind Project in Roscoe, TX:
Laborers
Forklift Operators
Equipment Operators (Dozer, Blade, Excavator, Roller)
Water Truck Drivers (must have CDL)
NCCO certified Crane Operators
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.
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EOE

DRIVER PART TIME CDL Local. Ideal for Retiree to earn extra income. Call (432)267-3217. or 325-660-4304.

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DRIVERS NEEDED

Big Spring bases
Drivers wanted. Must have 2 years experience over the road. Must have class A and Tank Endorsements. To apply call Jack Murphy at Andrews Transport Inc. 800-364-2018 Lubbock, Texas. Call between 9am and 5pm Monday thru Friday.

DRIVERS WANTED

Find out why our Average Length of Driver Employment is 9 years. Reagent Chemical, a Family Owned Company dedicated to providing great service to our customers and taking care of our employees, is currently hiring Professional Drivers in West Texas. Requirements include Class A CDL with tank and hazmat endorsements. Minimum of 2 years driving or 1 year tanker experience. Paid weekly by Check or Direct Deposit. Benefits include Family Health & Dental Insurance with no premium contribution by the employee. 401K with company match plus profit sharing. Life insurance and Long Term Disability is available thru Group Coverage. 10 Days Vacation starting First Year plus 10 Paid Holidays. Uniforms provided. Call 432-458-3446 or 432-661-4079.

NEED Someone to help organize Storage Shed. Good Pay. Call (432)263-6292.

Help Wanted

ENJOY COOL Colorful Colorado - Summer Employment
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. (Salary/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.

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_primer@ezcorp.com

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GOOD BENEFITS!
A Great Career Opportunity. Now Hiring Drivers for: Pump Trucks, Transports, Hot Oiler, 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.

HOWARD COUNTY Appraisal District
HIRING:
Full Time Receptionist. Requirements: High School Diploma or GED. Ability to work with Microsoft word and Excel. Salary is contingent on experience. Comprehensive benefits package included. Interested parties need to apply at the Workforce Network. Submit with a resume.

I NEED furniture movers. Part-time & Full time. Job requires heavy lifting, fast-paced work. Call City Delivery, 908 S. Lancaster, (432)263-2225.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 7 days- 7 days off. Must have own car. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for RN with home health or related experience preferred but will train. We offer:
* Health and Life Insurance
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Help Wanted

JOB OPENING(S) Part-time positions for Wellness Trainer(s), early morning and afternoon hours. Successful applicants will be fitness-minded and dependable. Experience is not necessary but preferred. Responsibilities include assisting with wellness classes and programs, educating new members, daily upkeep of equipment and department. Apply in person at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. 3rd Street, Big Spring, TX.

LOCAL MANUFACTURING facility has a need for occasional janitorial relief duties. Hours will vary. Pay rate starts at \$10/hour. Could work into a permanent position. Must pass a drug screen. Apply with application at 1211 N. Midway Road, Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Company. For questions, call (432)263-7389, ext. 25.

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.

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.



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 mental health aide for assisted living facility. Come by 2607 Chanute and ask for Paula.

Help Wanted

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

PARKVIEW 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.

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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.

RAINBOW CHRISTIAN Pre-School needs full time Child worker. Must be 18 with HS Diploma and experience required. Come by 409 Goliad to apply.

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.

TexaStone 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 night positions. Please contact Rance Ramsey, DON at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or (432)756-3345 ext. 228.

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 background 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.

WIS INTERNATIONAL is now hiring for Inventory Clerks. Starting pay \$7.00/hr. up to \$9.00/hr. for Crew Manager. No experience required for inventory clerks. Must have some management experience for Crew Manager. All applicants must be able to travel starting at 2:00am. All who are interested please call Natasha, (806)543-1778. Apply, Monday, Feb. 28, 10:00-3:00pm, at the Workforce Network of Big Spring.

Items for Sale

A NEW QUEEN Pillow top mattress set. \$129.00 Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

CAMPER 1988 Prowler Trailer, 28 ft Self-contained. Excellent condition. \$4,250.00 Cash. 1800 N. Birdwell, 432-263-6292.

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.

WOMEN'S 5-speed bike for sale. Hardly ridden. \$30. Call (432)264-0308.

YAMAHA MOTORCYCLE 2005 V-STAR Classic- \$3500. 2001 Red Camero- \$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: 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.

Miscellaneous

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

5-PC BEDROOM set. Still in boxes. Must move, \$499. 806-549-3110.

A KING PILLOWTOP Mattress Set. Must Sell \$249. Brand New still in Plastic. Full Factory Warranty. 432-349-4043.

A NASA MEMORY FOAM Mattress Set. List \$1399.00 Sacrifice \$350.00. Conforms to body. New in plastic. 432-349-4043.

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

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

CAKES; Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceaneros. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

DINING ROOM and chairs, cherry mirror finish, brand new in box. Must sell now \$249. 806-549-3110.

FOR SALE: Mahogany gun case. Holds 10 guns, 2 glass doors that lock. Storage below includes one drawer that locks. Call (432)263-4342.

FULL MATTRESS and box \$129. Twin mattress set \$99. Brand Name, in plastic. (806)4549-3110.

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

MICROFIBER SOFA, loveseat, & coffee table set. Stain resistant. NEW, lifetime warranty, \$489. (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.

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

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

805 ROSEMONT. 3/2, fenced backyard, carport, \$400/month, \$250/deposit + 1 year lease. No HUD. Call (432)268-3103.

THE OFFICE Building, 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/Owner.

Real Estate for Sale

#30 MEADOWBROOK Rd. CISD. 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.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The Cancer moon and Pisces sun are water-sign soul mates in perfect harmony. They teach that the way to spiritual oneness is through the emotions. This is illustrated in a crowd at a rock concert, when the first chord of a moving ballad is struck and cigarette lighters (or the modern light prop, cell phones) go ablaze.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're celebrating a job well done. Perhaps not a big job. Maybe a job like washing the dishes or spreading a little sunshine between friends. No, not a big job — but one worth celebrating, nonetheless.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's not a fabulous day for systems working smoothly, technology happening without a glitch or messages imparted as told. However, the important stuff gets done. The rest falls through the cracks, where it should be.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Sometimes a favor is given, no strings attached. Really. Accept and acknowledge the help, and be glad that you have a true friend. Spread the good karma by performing a selfless act for someone in need.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You want to deliver a flawless performance. But reconsider. Flawless is boring. Part of your charm is that you laugh off your weaknesses and even invite others to join in the chuckle.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your senses are honed, and your powers of observation are outstanding. That makes it a fine day for people watching. Linger in public places. Notice how souls are revealed through the way people walk, sit and talk.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your friends gravitate toward you. They don't need anything; they only want to be near you. Tonight could feature an entertaining emergency. A simple recipe can get you out of a bind.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Seriousness has its time and place — but that time is not today, and that place is nowhere you should be. Others readily respond to your light and hilarious attitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You can't get rich from dreaming up original ideas, but you can get rich by acting on one. Once you state your intention, business details may come at you fast and furious.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're someone who likes to make a little trouble now and then. Raise a few eyebrows. Wake the sleeping. Catch the confident off guard. Mischief is your playmate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you were to be annoyingly honest, you'd have to admit that your problem amuses you. You chose it for this very reason. And you could undo your choice at any time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your activities aren't random. They're conscious and purposeful plans. Your involvement

in them is a matter of personal pride. Loved ones need to understand this before they go changing everything.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Taurus considering a hot affair with another Taurus. Good or bad idea?" Good idea, as long as your idea of an "affair" means getting married and having 2.5 children together. Taurus, as you know, is extremely traditional. Even if your present intentions are just to have a little fun, if there are any true feelings at all, things get serious and committed quickly.

Therefore, if you're involved with someone else currently, or the other Taurus is, expect that your partners will find out (your simple way of putting your feelings across makes it impossible for you to hide your deep affection for someone else), and know that the ensuing complications will make you have to

choose sooner rather than later. Another note, people born under Taurus usually need so much encouragement, you might find that getting the romance off the ground takes a while. Taurus people who meet while working have the best chance of getting together. And if all this seems too much for you, consider making this Taurus person your business partner instead. Taurus is honest and loyal. Although somewhat inclined to postpone decisions, when they do make one, they stand by it.

CELEBRITY PROFILE: It takes a special kind of strength and early maturity to have a normal childhood even though you're the daughter of the president of the United States. Chelsea Clinton gracefully did just that and continues to experiment in "normal" life even as her mother gears up for the next election year. Pisces is the sign of wizened old souls of all ages, and young Pisces are known for their precociousness.

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.

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 47-year-old divorced woman. About six months ago, I put an ad in the personals and "Travis" answered. We had a lot in common and really hit it off. I fell head over heels for him. We would see each other almost every night and sometimes Saturdays. We always went to my place and ordered out or rented a movie. I could only



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

reach him on his cell. He had no land line. Recently, I found out two things: I have genital warts (I don't know from whom and Travis refuses to get checked) and Travis lives with a girlfriend, and has for four years.

I want Travis to tell the girlfriend about the warts, but he won't. He says she would throw him out and then get revenge by destroying his life. He wants to continue seeing me on the sly. I love him, but I feel guilty about this. What's the right thing to do? — Stuck in the Middle

Dear Stuck: Get unstuck immediately. Travis is a snake. He's cheating on his girlfriend and cheating on you, and he obviously has no intention of being faithful to anyone. You'd be a fool to keep seeing him on the side. Meanwhile, genital warts (HPV) can cause cervical cancer, so be sure to see your gynecolo-

gist. For more information, contact the American Social Health Association, (ashastd.org) at 1-800-227-8922.

Dear Annie: Please tell me if I am being petty because I'm still stewing over this. My husband of six years went to his daughter's house last Christmas. (I couldn't go due to illness.) Upon returning home, there was no gift for me, not even a \$1 bottle of bubble bath. Nor was there a phone call saying, "Thanks for all the presents you sent for my family." I spent over \$600 and even had to return some of the gifts beforehand because I didn't purchase exactly what she had requested.

I am the one who remembers all his children's birthdays. When they visit, I am the one who takes care of the cooking and cleaning up the mess they leave behind. I am the one who makes sure their father keeps his promises, picks them up on weekends and takes them to certain places. When his married daughter sends the grandchildren here for the weekend, I am the one who takes care of them. I am always nice, polite and welcoming. Am I overreacting, or is this daughter just clueless? — Getting Tired of It

Dear Tired: On the assumption that she likes you, it's cluelessness. Many children neglect to purchase gifts for parents. For them, gift-giving

has always been a one-way street. This doesn't excuse such thoughtlessness, but it makes it less personal. For the next such occasion, ask your husband to remind his daughter how much it would mean to him if she remembered you with a gift or card.

Dear Annie: I couldn't agree more with the writer who says women should definitely not take men into the women's dressing room while shopping. And on the flip side, women should stop going into the men's dressing rooms to check out their husband's or son's clothes. Your husband is old enough to walk back out and get your opinion if he wants it, and if your son is too young to do so, take him into the women's side. I can't tell you how many times I've had to use the men's dressing room with a woman standing outside the door. These doors have little real privacy, and seeing a woman perched so close makes me uncomfortable. I'd be willing to bet these same women would be quite agitated if I accompanied a female into the women's dressing room while she tried on clothes. I'll stay out of theirs if they'll stay out of mine. — Richard in Gulf Breeze

Dear Richard: Well put. Ladies, take note.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ANSWERS

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

Legals

Advertisement for Sealed Proposals
The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting proposals for the following:
RFB# 07-002 Roping Calves
RFB# 07-003 WTTTC Internet Upgrades
Documents may be obtained from Chris Olson, Purchaser, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2007, in the Practical Arts Building, room 105 A, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the proposals submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting. All questions should be directed to Chris Olson, Purchaser, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail olson@howardcollege.edu, (432)264-5167. Howard College Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #5265 February 27 & March 6, 2007

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Call
263-7331 and place your garage sale in the **Herald Classified** section and receive a **Garage sale kit Free!**
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TUESDAY

Table with 28 columns (WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 12 rows (6-12 PM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



It's not fair! When Ruff misbehaves he gets to go outside!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



Mr. Gordon is called Mayor because he tells people what he MAY-OR may not do.

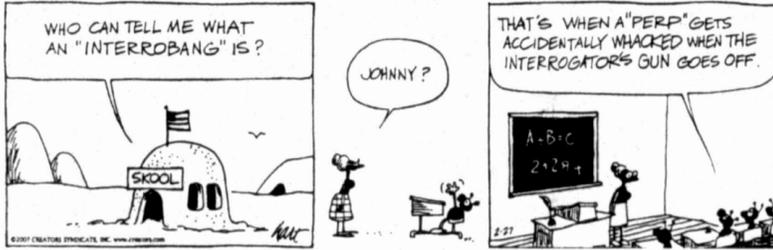
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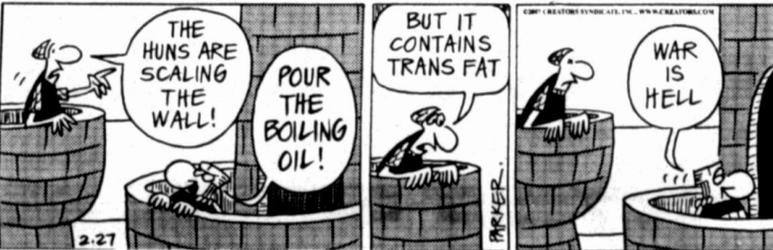
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 27, the 58th day of 2007. There are 307 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: Two hundred years ago, on Feb. 27, 1807, poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was born in Portland, Maine. On this date: In 1801, the District of Columbia was placed under the jurisdiction of Congress. In 1902, American author John Steinbeck was born in Salinas, Calif. In 1922, the Supreme Court, in Leser v. Garnett, unanimously upheld the 19th Amendment to the Constitution that guaranteed the right of women to vote. In 1933, Germany's parliament building, the Reichstag, was gutted by fire. The Nazis, blaming the Communists, used the fire as justification for suspending civil liberties.

In 1939, the Supreme Court outlawed sit-down strikes. In 1951, the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, limiting a president to two terms of office, was ratified. In 1960, the U.S. Olympic hockey team defeated the Soviets 3-2 at the Winter Games in Squaw Valley, Calif. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.) In 1973, members of the American Indian Movement occupied the hamlet of Wounded Knee in South Dakota, the site of the 1890 massacre of Sioux men, women and children. (The occupation lasted until May.) In 1979, Jane M. Byrne confounded Chicago's Democratic political machine as she upset Mayor Michael A. Bilandic to win their party's mayoral primary. (Byrne went on to win the election.) In 1991, President George H.W. Bush declared that "Kuwait is liberated, Iraq's army is defeated," and announced that the allies would suspend combat operations at midnight.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Joanne Woodward is 77. Actress Elizabeth Taylor is 75. Consumer advocate Ralph Nader is 73. Actress Barbara Babcock is 70. Actor Howard Hesseman is 67. Actress Debra Monk is 58. Rock singer-musician Neal Schon (Journey) is 53. Rock musician Adrian Smith (Iron Maiden) is 50. Actor Timothy Spall is 50. Rock musician Paul Humphreys (Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark) is 47. Country singer Johnny Van Zant (Van Zant) is 47. Basketball Hall-of-Famer women and children. (The occupation lasted until May.) Actor Adam Baldwin is 45. Actor Grant Show is 45.

Answer to previous puzzle: HALO SOFA STALE OREO TIES OARED WISHFUL THINKING EISEL FEET EASY DALI NESS ATT PIES MEADOW LAID SLOT TBONE THEALADDINHOTEL AORTA SAME WEND REISAID BEED DDS DRAG CRAB ASEA BETA REACH RUBSTHEWROWWAY AMBER NADA AARP BOSSY ASST NYSE

Newsday Crossword

CRUMMY CARS by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Away from the office 6 Pretzel topping 10 Airline to Tel Aviv 14 Musical drama 15 Not false 16 Boy or man 17 Water vapor 18 Actor Alda 19 Fencing weapon 20 Very antsy one 23 Glide on snow 26 "Little piggie" 27 Buckets 28 Pretend to be 30 Coral island 32 Citrus-fruit container 34 Tit for 37 Sit down with a book 38 Feedbag bit 39 Like margarine 40 Tic-toe 41 Trash pile 45 Broad valleys 46 Make certain 47 Lunch hr. for some 49 Doberman's warning 50 British govt. leaders 51 Iced-tea garnish 55 Toy with a tail 56 Lunch hour for some 57 Rental agreement 61 Smooth out 62 "Doggone it!" 63 Not right now 64 Sunset direction 65 Some members of Congress: Abbr. 66 Do the driving DOWN 1 Negative responses 2 Select, with "for" 3 Golf-ball platform 4 Teheran's country 5 Luggage attachment 6 Barrel strip 7 Singer Guthrie 8 Hawaiian party 9 Sawbuck 10 Food Network star 11 Boutonniere site 12 Baldwin and Guinness 13 Onion relative 21 Valentine flower 22 Corduroy ridge 23 Volleyball or soccer 24 Where Seoul is 25 Sir ___ Newton 29 Conclusion 30 Some Mideasterners 31 "So long!" in London 33 Apple discard 34 Traffic jam 35 Clock-radio feature 36 Uses a keyboard 39 Sounds of surprise 41 Stare in wonder 42 Nuts in cookies 43 Virus source 44 Signs up 45 Pretty good 47 Martini garnish 48 Evenings, informally 49 Polite fellows 51 Veer off course 52 Golfer's shout 53 Mortgage, for example 54 Clutter-free 58 Had dessert 59 Take notice of 60 Be incorrect

