

# Moore scrutiny sought

# City council to take closer look at oversight of economic development entity

### **By THOMAS JENKINS**

### Staff Writer

Discussion concerning a possible increase in oversight by city over Moore the Development tops the agenda for Tuesday's meeting of the **Big Spring City Council, as city** leaders take a closer look at the

economic development agency. The topic, which was approached by the council during its Feb. 27 meeting, stems from the corporation's involvement in the renovation of the historic Settles Hotel, according to city officials.

"Councilwoman (JoAnn) Staulcup asked that we look at

Moore Board and its expenditures and see if we should be more actively involved in that particular issue," said Mayor Russ McEwen. "Our city attorney is looking at that very thing and we just need to have a more firm position on what we can and can not do, and what we must and must not

do."

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. directors voted unanimously Dec. 8 to provide up to \$3 million to help Brint 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 fulfilled the contract by paying the \$75,000 agreed upon, despite initial reports the tab would be paid by the end of December.

See COUNCIL, Page 3A



# Native American culture to be celebrated at event By THOMAS JENKINS

### Staff Writer

Native American heritage will be the focus at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Saturday and Sunday, as the third annual Big Spring Powwow opens to the sounds of drums and war cries.

According to event spokesperson Connie

Schedule of Events

Saturday, March 17 Lesser, who 10 a.m. Gourd Dancing also serves 11 a.m. Grand Entry as secretary **Contest Dancing** for the com-5 p.m. Dinner Break mittee that 6:30 p.m. Gourd Dancing holds the 7 p.m. Grand Entry annual **Contest Dancing** event, everything 10 p.m. Close gets going at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 18 Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Christian March 17, Worship Service with gourd 11 a.m. Gourd Dancing dancing, fol-12 a.m. Grand Entry lowed by the Grand **Contest Dancing** Entry 5 p.m. Closing where all the dancers enter.



County wants in pilot program

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Voting — or at least knowing where to go to vote - could get much easier in Howard County, as local elections administrator Saundra Bloom attempts to make the area part of a statewide pilot program.

Bloom said she hopes to add Howard County to the list of Texas counties participating in a program that would allow

"The Southern Drum host this year is Otter Trail from Oklahoma," said

See POWWOW, Page 3A

It's just about time for the Big Spring Powwow, celebrating Native American heritage. The event is set next Saturday and Sunday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

### centralization the of polling places.

"It was a pilot program that was in effect during 2006," said Bloom. Lubbock "However, County was the only county that participated in it. There is currently a bill that allows the extension of that pilot program. I'm hoping they will allow any county that wants to participate

See POLLS, Page 3A

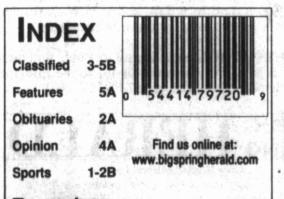
# Newborn kidnapped from Lubbock hospital returned

### By BETSY BLANEY

**Associated Press Writer** 

LUBBOCK - A newborn kidnapped from a Lubbock hospital by a woman wearing hospital scrubs and a hooded jacket was found safe Sunday in New Mexico and returned to her mother.

Four-day-old Mychael Darthard-



## To reach us:

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.

### N.M., by police following up on tips, a day after she was taken from Covenant Lakeside Hospital. "It's a joyous time," Gwen Stafford,

senior vice president of Covenant Health System, said at a news conference Sunday. "This has been a roller coaster of emotions. Today there's not

SCAVENGER HUNT NIXED

LAREDO (AP) - A scavenger hunt turned sour for 40 high school students when Laredo police learned of it and arrested them on felony charges of theft and engaging in organized criminal activi-

ty. Police accused the students --- most of them Laredo high school seniors - of swiping up to five truckloads of loot from across town. The list included items such as city traffic signs and pinatas.

Officers first uncovered the escapade when a group of five students was pulled over for speeding. Their car contained stolen stop signs, a garden hose and other items, police said.

## Dawodu was found in a home in Clovis, many happy stories; this is certainly one in Lubbock, Texas."

Rayshaun Parson, 21, of Clovis, was arrested on suspicion of kidnapping and jailed in Curry County, N.M., where she had been interviewed by Lubbock and FBI investigators, authorities said. Federal charges also could be pursued, Lubbock police Lt. Scott Hudgens said.

# **New London Reunion**

NEW LONDON (AP) — Survivors of a 1937 gas explosion that claimed the lives of about 300 students and faculty at a school in this small East Texas town will gather next weekend for a reunion marking the 70th anniversary of the disaster.

While the reunion is for all alumni of the New London School and what has become the West Rusk Independent School District, much of the focus will be on remembering those who died and survived, said Jean Davidson, secretary-treasurer of the school's alumni association.

Events for the three-day reunion will be held in Longview and at the school auditorium in New London.

Phone numbers at Parson's address were disconnected Sunday.

Before being flown back to Texas and her parents, Caisha Darthard and Michael A. Dawodu, Mychael was checked at Plains Regional Medical Center in Clovis and found to be in good

See BABY, Page 3A

# GOOD, HEALTHY FUN



Washington Elementary students Jump Rope for Heart

See photos, Page 5A



# **Obituaries**

# **Ruby Wood**

Ruby Wood, 82, of Comanche, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, March 12, 2007, in Comanche. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

# Sheriff's report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 48 inmates at the time of this report.

• DARIN SEAN TUCKER, 48, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of contempt of court - disobedience of a court order.

· JIMMY HUDSON, 34, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a habitation and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• ADOLFO HUANTE LOPEZ JR., 34, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.

• RANDY ROBLEDO JR., 19, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for a motion to revoke probation for resisting arrest.

 CHRISTOPHER JACKSON, 25, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone, evading arrest or detention and revocation of probation.

• DAVID RYAN SANFORD, 30, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a coin operated machine.

• STEPHANIE OBRIEN, 19, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone.

· JOEY RUBIO HERRERA, 41, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of no driver's license, bondsman off bond for resisting arrest and bail jumping - failure to appear.

 KATRINA KAY GONZALES, 30, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.

 MICHAEL TERRELL RANDALL, 34, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of forgery of a financial instrument and failure to identify as a fugitive from justice.

• MARIO IDLEFONSO SALAZAR, 17, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.

• RICARDO ARGUELLO, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

 TONY DELAGARZA, 41, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury - family violence.

FIDENCIO RODRIGUEZ JR., 38, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation fro driving while intoxicated - second offense.

FABIAN DUKE TREJO, 22, was arrested Sunday

# LOCAL

# **Police blotter**

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

· RICARDO ARGUELLO, 22, of 2614 Larry, was arrested Saturday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

 FRANCISCO OLIVARES, 45, of 2602 Carleton, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

· ROBERT SANCHEZ, 42, of 1023 Stadium, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication. JOHNNY STONE, 56, of Stanton, was arrested

Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

• STEVEN KEE WEIMER, 32, of La Grange, was arrested Saturday on charges of possession of marijuana and warrants.

• EARNEST CLARK, 66, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Saturday on a charge of criminal trespass.

• TRANQUILINO MENDOZA, 54, of 101 Carey, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

• THEFT was reported:

- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- in the 900 block of Willia.
- in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

 POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES **OR LESS** was reported:

- in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

- in the 300 block of Fifth Street.

 CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.

TRESPASS OF CRIMINAL Α HABITATION/SHELTER CENTER was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:

- in the 1500 block of Fifth Street.

in the 400 block of State.

- in the 1400 block of Tucson.

· BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 4800 block of Highway 80.

 ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY **INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 600 block of McEwen.

# Fire/EMS

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

· TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Anna. One person was transported to SMMC.

· TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area of Third Street and Main. Service refused.

· GAS LEAK was reported in the 2400 block of Alabama.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Donaly. Service refused.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. Service refused.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of

# **Bulletin Board**

**BIG SPRING HERALD** 

Monday, March 12, 2007

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

TODAY

 Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.

· Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

 Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library meeting room.

The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at

7 p.m. at TravelCenters of America truck stop. Archeology Society for Howard and Borden coun-

ties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

· Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacieants meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

•Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

### TUESDAY

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

• 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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• 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.

 Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. 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.

# Take Note

 JIMMY FISHER AND CALCULUS have booked the Big Spring Memorial Auditorium for 8 p.m. Saturday, March 24. The band plays a variety of

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**BIG SPR** 

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by the HCSO on charges of assault - family violence and warrants (two) for violation of a protective order.

BRIANNA MICHELLE GUAJARDO, 27, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on an Ector County warrant for securing execution of document by deception.

• JOE RICHTER, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to maintain a safe speed.

# Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-8-22-29-47. Number matching six of six: 0.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$56 million.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-3-9-13-29. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 9-3-8 ...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 2-4-7

# 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.

 Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.



Wasson, One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of S, Main Street. Service refused.

MEDICAL was reported in the 3800 block of Collins. One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Harvard. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of E. 24th Street. Service refused.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.

 MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of E. 25th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 2600 block of Ent. One person was transported to SMMC.

# Weather

Today — Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 50s. Northeast winds around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Tonight - Mostly cloudy. Chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms in the evening - Then a chance of showers after midnight. Patchy fog after midnight. Lows in the upper 40s. Light and variable winds. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

Tuesday — Patchy fog in the morning. Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 60s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Tuesday night - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Wednesday — Mostly sunny. Warmer. Highs around 80. West winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Thursday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Friday - Mostly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the lower 60s.

Friday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Saturday — Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Saturday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Sunday - Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.



music, including rock and blues. Tickets will be \$20 each.

• IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC **CHURCH** will have Stations of the Cross today at 6 p.m. A fish fry will follow in the church hall. Plates are \$5 per adults and \$2.50 per child.

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

· CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COL-LECTING 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.

• NEW LIFE MINISTRIES Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• THE PET PATROL helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

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## BIG SPRING HERALD Monday, March 12, 2007

# LOCAL/STATE

# Halliburton CEO moves from Houston to Dubai

### **By JIM KRANE**

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## Associated Press Writer

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Oil services giant Halliburton Co. will soon shift its corporate headquarters from Houston to the Mideast financial powerhouse of Dubai, chief executive Dave Lesar announced Sunday.

"Halliburton is opening its corporate headquar-

BABY

### Continued from Page 1A

condition, Clovis police Lt. James Schoeffel said. She had earlier been reported to be suffering from jaundice, a common complication in newborns in which a buildup of pigment in the blood causes a yellowing of the skin.

We're ecstatic to be able to locate the child still in good health and to be able to reunite her mother," with her Hudgens said.

The infant was kidnapped early Saturday by a woman posing as a med-

taining a corporate office in Houston," spokeswoman Cathy Mann said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "The chairman, president and CEO will office from and be based in Dubai to run the company from the UAE."

Lesar, speaking at an energy conference in nearby Bahrain, said he

> ical worker who walked out of Covenant Lakeside with the 5-pound baby hidden in her purse,

police said. Law enforcement officials had received information from more than one source that the baby was in Clovis, about 100 miles northwest of Lubbock, said FBI spokeswoman Lori Bailey in Dallas. Bailey declined to elaborate because the investigation was continuing.

Police in Clovis conducted surveillance on an area pinpointed by at least one of the tips and found the baby in a home with an adult female early

Sunday, Hudgens said. The suspect was found at another residence in Clovis, he said.

from Texas to oversee

Halliburton's intensified

focus on business in the

Mideast and energy-hun-

gry Asia, home to some of

the world's most impor-

tant oil and gas markets.

"As the CEO, I'm

responsible for the global

business of Halliburton in

both hemispheres and I

will continue to spend

quite a bit of time in an

Will Larson, who moved to Clovis recently and lives near Parson's home, said he told police that he had seen her before without a baby but noticed her with a stroller on Saturday and thought that was unusual.

An extradition hearing scheduled was for Monday in Clovis.

Parson has had dealings with the law before. In May 2004, a protective order was issued against her in a domestic violence incident involving a boyfriend, according to

New Mexico online court documents. A call to him was not immediately returned Sunday.

attentive to our cus-

tomers, shareholders and

employees around the

world," Lesar said. "Yes, I

will spend the majority of

Lesar's announcement

appears to signal one of

the highest-profile moves

by a U.S. corporate leader

to Dubai, an Arab boom-

town where free-market

capitalism has been

my time in Dubai."

In January 2005, she was charged with fraud. according to the online documents. court Information about the disposition of the case was unavailable Sunday.

Hospital surveillance footage showed a woman wearing blue and flowerprint hospital scrubs and a gray, puffy jacket with a hood walking out of the hospital around 1:20 a.m. Saturday. She fled in a red pickup truck, possibly with a male accomplice, police said.

The abductor had gone

"I'm not taking any-

ters in Dubai while main- will relocate to Dubai airplane as I remain paired with some of the world's most liberal tax, investment and residency laws.

"The eastern hemisphere is a market that is more heavily weighted toward oil exploration and production opportunities and growing our business here will bring more balance to Halliburton's overall portfolio," Lesar said.

into Mychael's mother's

room several times before

the baby was taken,

telling her the baby need-

are tagged with a security

bracelet. said Stafford.

who did not give details

on how the bracelet

"As soon as the baby

and this security piece

were separated we were

alarmed and knew,"

what enabled us to be able

to get the visual of the

"Clearly we need to take

security to a higher stan-

dard," she said. "We're

not going to rest until we

Final reading of a res-

olution authorizing con-

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the steering committee of

cities served by TXU and

authorizing payment of

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Final reading of a res-

olution authorizing and

directing the mayor to

execute a an agreement

with Parkhill, Smith and

Cooper for professional

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olution approving the

city's investment policy.

expected to discuss:

Stafford said.

"That's

worked.

pickup."

fee.

Newborns at Covenant

ed tests, Stafford said.

In 2006, Halliburton once headed by Vice President Dick Cheney earned profits of \$2.3 billion on revenues of \$22.6 billion.

More than 38 percent of Halliburton's \$13 billion oil field services revenue last year stemmed from sources in the eastern hemisphere, where the firm has 16,000 of its 45,000 employees.

take it up a notch, another level. I don't know that we can ever have anything perfect."

Susanne Moore, a former Covenant nurse who had a baby Friday at the same hospital, told the Avalanche-Lubbock Journal that the hospital placed an electronic band on her newborn girl's ankle. She said she was told that if the baby were taken too close to a door or elevator, a sensor would cause the door to lock or the elevator to shut down.

Moore said she also was told that if the band were cut off before it was deactivated, the hospital

# COUNCIL

### Continued from Page 1A

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.

Discussions during the February meeting were limited, however, as city attorney Linda Sjogren asked the council for more time to get her information on what the

ic development firm. Larry McLellan, who was present at the previous meeting, said putting limitations on the body will only defeat the system of checks and balances already in place.

"The council has a say in the members on the Moore Board, and the makeup of the board changes annually, so it's not a lifetime thing," said McLellan. "If the Moore Board is going to function to create economic devel-

opment, I think that's council can and cannot do in relation to the economwhat the board should do. The council approves our Moore Board President budget and our minutes. and I feel like that's working out really well.

"However, if it ever got to the point the council actually had to be a part of every decision process, I think we're going to muddy the water so much the corporation won't be

effective. What good does it do to go to the Moore Board and get its blessings when it won't mean anything because it still has to go before the city council?

thing away from the city council," he added. "They have to put the people on the board that they believe will do the job. The checks and balances are working well, and I think that's the way it should be for the board to create jobs. I think it would be pretty cumbersome for the board to do something like that, and if you're taking authority away from the board. you're really defeating the reason it was created in the first place."

The council is also

"We just have so many places, much like the sys- election, and then some- accommodate the voters down for these polling reduced their cost by locations it can make it really hard," she added. "Right now — and probably in the future — we're going to have to have computerized locations, and many of our polling places don't have Internet access readily available." Bloom said Lubbock County test of the program in 2006 yielded posi-

lution authorizing the mayor to execute a lease agreement with Abusaab Companies.

• First reading of an ordinance annexing a 4.82 acre tract of land out of the S/2 of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, into the city limits.

The meeting is slated for 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

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

one polling location. They had several, but they approximately 30 to 40 percent in the election, and it didn't hurt voter turnout in any way they could tell. "Instead of having to go to the polling place where you were registered, it allowed people to go to one closer to their home or work, or even on the way to the grocery store. So most counties are really wanting this now."

# Continued from Page 1A

POLLS

tem currently used by

would allow the county to voters get burned out on polling place at Coahoma centralize its polling going one place for this and one at Forsan to requirements coming where else for the next the best we can. However, election. We're trying to make it all uniform, so you know when there's an election, this is where you will go to vote." While the program could certainly help cut down on the confusion among residents within the city limits, Bloom said her office is still keeping the outlying communities in mind. "If we get the pilot program, it certainly wouldn't limit us to having just one location," said Bloom. "We could still have a

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er: n. t. 250 t. 230 t. 229 t. 244 t. 256 g Area Texas n, The rnings, ld, P.O. at Big 42 year monthto do so. The one requirement is that we have public hearings and send it to the secretary of state to show if there was any opposition.

'The other requirement is that we're fully networked so when you sign in, it's in the computer you've voted. That would keep anyone from going to more than one polling place, because this would allow voters to use any of the polling places that are open."

Bloom said the program

# cities and school districts on election day.

"It would allow us to have a countywide polling place," said Bloom. "That way, everyone could go vote at the (Dorothy Garrett) Coliseum, no matter where they live or what precinct they were

"I think this would really help with voters knowing where they are supposed to go vote. The city and school already use one polling place for their election day. I think the

Native American religion

involved; there will be no

medicine men and no cer-

McKinney. "A powwow is

a wonderful experience;

the drum alone will lift

DREXEL HERITAGE.

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said

emonies,"

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Fabian

all the voters inside the city limits could go to one polling place.

"It would help with the number of machines we would need and the number of (election) workers we would need. It would also allow us to meet the recommendations as far as the number of bilingual workers are concerned. We could ensure we have those and it ADA would be (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant

tive results. "Lubbock County had the project in November 2006 and it was very sucthere," cessful said "Of Bloom. course, Lubbock didn't have just

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

# POWWOW

### Continued from Page 1A

Lesser. "The Northern Drum host is Eagle Point Singer from Austin. The treasurer drum hosts are responsible for keeping the event flowing without interruptions, and the names indicate what type of music their spirits. and songs the hosts perform.

"The Southern Drum host plays music that is low in pitch and slow, while the Northern Drum host will provide music that is fast-paced with a high pitch. is director Arena

Amy E. Reese

D.D.S., P.C.

432-267-4102

Galvan of your heart and make your Lubbock and emcee for feet want to dance. the event is Tim Harjo of "Dancing has always

Ada, Okla. The Head been a big part of the Female Dancer is Nicole Native American culture, Shultz of Norman, Okla. as it has in many cul-According to committee tures. Most people thin of Randy dances or rain war McKinney, the powwow dances. However, Native is not a religious event, Americans dance for but will certainly help many reasons — a good those in attendance lift hunt or harvest, marriage or childbirth, or just for "The powwow is a social the fun of it. These dances event and there is no would last for days.'

900 Scurry

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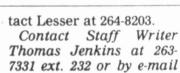
different wares will also be available and a food drive is scheduled with all donated canned goods given to local food banks. Sunday the event begins with a special Christian worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the arena, followed by gourd dancing and the Grand Entry.

Admission to the event is \$2 and children under 12 are free.

432-263-

714-4510

For more information about the powwow, con-



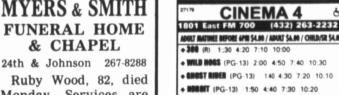
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OPINION

**CYNTHIA** 

CLEMENTS

HALL

# **BIG SPRING HERALD** Monday, March 12, 2007

**BIG SPRI** 

Monday,

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# Clearly an appeal to bigotry

y 10-year-old son and I had a conversation recently about the Ku Klux Klan. His fourth grade class is studying the Civil **Rights era in his Social Studies** class, and he wanted to know why some whites hated and still hate African-Americans and do "really bad things" to them. In typical mom, answer-a-question-by-asking-

a-question mode (as in, I was stalling for "How did you decide what color you wantwere born?" And, in son thought the answer to my quesby whites. Hispanic is the new pariah race. Yes, illegal immigration into our

country is a problem. Yes, we need a bipartisan approach to deal with it, like the revised version of Sens. John McCain's (R-Ariz.) and Ted Kennedy's (D-Mass.) comprehensive package that emphasizes border security and addresses the economic and social realities of the 21st Century, by acknowledging the need for a temporary worker program. No, punishing children for the alleged sins of their mothers-for wanting better lives for themselves and their babies—is not the answer.

Berman and bigots similar argue that illegal immigrant women who are expecting rush across the border (more likely a pregnant waddle) to birth their babies in the nick of U.S. citizenship time. These children suck the vast resources of state government spent on health and educational services that should be reserved for the good, taxpaying folk of Texas (read here: whites only, the "original" settlers of this land). It's incumbent upon duly elected politicians like Berman to protect our way of life here in Texas from the swarms of leeches at the border.

"I'm a U.S. citizen," Rep. Berman said recently. "I don't want to see the most precious benefit we have given away erroneously.'

Just one pesky little problem with Berman's bill, and it's called the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1868, which guarantees birthright citizenship. But let's not get hung up on constitutional technicalities, like this one that affirms babies born to illegal immigrant mothers have the same citizenship rights - at the moment of their birth as the good state representative from Tyler has had for his entire life. No, let's not focus on the law when there are cost savings for the state of Texas to be had by legislating discrimination against Hispanics. There are morals, and then there is money. The two don't meet in Berman's mind.

"So why do members of the KKK wear white robes and hoods?" my son asked next, as our conversation continued.

And I said, "If you are doing something of which you are proud, you want everyone to know. KKK members don't want people to see their faces because they are ashamed of their hatred and prejudice, so they cover up."

So Rep. Berman can cloak his hatred and prejudice in the rhetoric of state fiscal responsibility, but he might as well be wearing a white robe and hood on the floor of the Texas State House. Rep. Berman would be truer to his nature, and we wouldn't have to see the smug look of self-satisfaction on his face as he tries to rain down the punitive power of state government upon helpless children who have no say in where or what color they are born.

White is a good color for Rep. Berman. He wears his bigotry too well, unfortunately.

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the Lufkin Daily News. She is presently attending law school. She can be emailed at

cynthiahallclements\_mmm@yahoo.c om

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

**Bill McClellan** 

News Editor

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

Ron Midkiff

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

# **OUR VIEWS**

# **Trustees need** to get on with laptop project

t's a big decision ... no doubt about it. And it's one members of the Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees don't want to get wrong – deciding on whether or not to put laptop computers in the hands of every Big Spring High School student and teacher.

Come to think of it, nobody wants to get things wrong when it comes to the education of the children in our community.

And that's why we're pleased the board took a major step toward putting those computers in students' hands when they met last week, approving in principle the program, which is scheduled to begin with the 2007-2008 school year.

Trustees decided to seek sealed-bid proposals rather than specific quotes for the laptop program — another good move, we believe.

However, we wish the vote had shown more of a consensus in the board's thinking. Instead, that decision was made by a 4-3 vote.

Seeking proposals rather than quotes, you see, would allow the computer purchase to occur sooner than later.

Unfortunately, it was clear during Thursday night's meeting that dissension exists on just when to implement the program, as trustees Mike tion to be self-evident, and said,

"Mom, you can't decide what color you want to be. You are born whatever color your mom and dad are.'

Then I asked, "So why dislike someone because of their skin color, if he or she didn't have a choice in deciding it?"

"Yeah," he said, "that's kind of silly.'

Maybe someone should have the same conversation with state Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler, who has sponsored a bill this legislative session to deny birthright citizenship, and state health and education benefits to babies born to illegal immigrant mothers. Berman lacks what my 10-year-old has, common sense and compassion. But Berman counterbalances it with an abundance of bigotry, not toward African-Americans, but toward Hispanics. Being Hispanic is the neo-outlet for discrimination

time), I asked him, ed to be before you typical pre-teen, know-it-all fashion (as in "Duh!"), my

Dawson, Allan Partee and Irene Galan voted against seeking sealed bids

Dawson says he sees no reason to rush into the project and wants "to slow the process down a bit and take a more in-depth look at the expenditures involved."

Trustee Phil Furqueron, expressing the viewpoint of what is now a slim majority of the board, says the laptop program is a proven learning tool and needs to get into the hands of students as soon as possible.

We agree whole-heartedly, because we, too, believe putting laptops in the hands of all students will go a long way toward closing the gap between economically disadvantaged students and those who are not economically handicapped.

And, to use Furgueron's words, we too are "selfish." We also "want to live in a community full of educated people."

Despite differing on how to pay for the program, trustees did reach a consensus on its value.

"There is no dissension on its educational value," Board President Tony Kennedy said. "Everyone agrees that it's a very effective learning tool ... The issue now is whether we can afford it as a school district."

To our way of thinking, how can we not afford it?

Trustees will take up the issue of financing when they meet again in April. Hopefully, by that time, all seven members of the board will come to agree on that point, as well.

# **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 emailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

# **A SMALL PRAYER**

## by K. Rae Anderson

The evils of this world can cost us our life, Lord, may we always walk with You.

Amen

# **Oscar win a springboard for Gore?**

his late-breaking news just in: It seems that Al Gore did not — I repeat NOT win an Oscar for his global-warming film, "An Inconvenient Truth."

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who ruled that the vote from Pasadena had not been properly counted, overturned the decision of the Motion

Picture Academy on appeal. Scalia instead awarded the prize for best documentary to Vice President Dick Cheney for his autobiographical video, "Is Peace Necessary?"

Mr. Cheney accepted his Oscar at an undisclosed underground location.

where he held up the statue and said: "I'd like to hit Nancy Pelosi over the head with this.

DONALD

KAUL

Other than that, the Oscars went pretty much according to plan, with few surprises. Ellen DeGeneres was a winning host and she tried her best to keep things moving but expecting the Oscars to run on time is like hoping an elephant will win the Kentucky Derby. It's just not built for speed.

I have an idea to shorten it by an hour or two, however. I would have the host issue a disclaimer at the top of the show saying that it is understood that all winners thank their co-workers, the people who hired them and all the people who voted for them. It is further understood that they are grateful

to wives, husbands, companions and children for believing in them when no one else did.

They would be allowed to thank teachers and parents for helping them along the way but not anyone who got paid for his or her help.

And if a winner thanked an agent, he or she would be shot on the spot.

This would make for a lot shorter, more entertaining show.

I guess the other thing wrong with the Oscars is that movies aren't as good as they used to be. The Oscar-nominated films this year were all pretty good, but not a patch on the movies of my youth - "Birth of a Nation," for example. One need look no further that the acceptance speech of one of the winners, Michael Arndt the screenwriter of "Little Miss

Sunshine," to see what the problem is. He said: "When I was a kid my family

drove 500 miles in a van with a broken clutch. It ended up being one of the funnest things we did together."

Funnest? Movies today are not only being written for 12-year-olds, but by them.

I was just kidding, by the way, about Gore and Scalia and Cheney. Gore's film did actually win the Oscar.

There was some speculation that he might use the occasion - and his newfound Hollywood-style celebrity - to announce that he's running for president. You know, of the United States. But he didn't. He made some jokes about the idea, but in the end, he denied he

had any interest in the job. Of course he doesn't. Like all defeated candidates for the presidency, he just walked away from it all with a shrug and a wave. Doesn't ever want to do it again. Ha! Never happens. One of the most persistence viruses known to man or woman is the presidential virus. It may not be fatal, but it's terminal.

Walter Mondale, about a year after having been beaten by Ronald Reagan in the 1984 election, asked his friend George McGovern, who had suffered a similar fate at the hands of Richard Nixon in 1972, how long before the defeat stops hurting.

"I'll let you know when it happens." McGovern answered.

Imagine then how it must gnaw on Gore, who lost the 2000 election despite the fact he got more votes than George W. Bush, an idiot. So there he stands, an Academy

Award in one hand, the other ready to accept a Nobel Peace Prize, while the Democratic candidates are fighting like kindergarten kids over who said what to whom.

And you're telling me he's not thinking about running for president?

I'm not saying it's a sure thing, mind you, but it's looking better every day.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. He can be e-mailed at dkaul1@verizon.net DISTRIBUTED BY MINUTEMANMEDIA.ORG.

# **BIG SPRING HERALD** Monday, March 12, 2007

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# HEALTH

Washington Elementary **School students** held a Jump-athon on Thursday March. The event was for the Jumprope for Heart. Amy **Meadors coordi**nated the efforts for healthier hearts and minds at Washington.







# Protect yourself from surprise medical bills, physicians advise

hysicians have new advice for patients: Protect yourself against unexpected bills for medical care in spite of having health insurance.

Too often a patient receives medical care in a hospital covered by his or her health insurance plan but is later shocked to receive an additional bill for care.

Patients who receive medical care in a hospital often discover many of the physician specialists who work in hospitals, such as emergency medicine physicians,

health plan.

In the course of her hospital stay, her obstetrician-gynecologist treats her, and depending upon the delivery, she might receive anesthesia from an anesthesiologist, a blood test examined by a pathologist, and an xray analysis by a radiologist, all of whom may or may not be in her health plan network.

"Those patients who are in the hospital often don't feel well. They expect to be cared for, and they expect they've paid their money to provide that insurance coverage so that they don't have a lot of out-of-pocket expenses," reasoned Dr. Speer. What can patients do? Dr. Speer suggests patients educate themselves ahead of time. "They need to ask questions of their health insurer and their employer's human resource department. Learn what the patient will and will not be responsible for," Dr. Speer advised. "Is there a high deductible? Does it cover the physicians within the hospital? Does it cover accidents? Does it cover new-

Often several weeks into the baby's stay, the insurer announces the hospital is outside of the plan's network and demands action.

"The insurer wants that baby transferred as soon as possible to an in-network hospital," Dr. Speer said. "The insurer will put pressure on the family, saying, 'You now are responsible for all the costs if the baby stays in this out-of-network hospital."' In addition to being jarring to the parents, the situation can be more difficult if the baby is not healthy enough for trans-

Physicians would like insurers to inform patients about which hospitals and physicians are in or out of the network of coverage. Meanwhile, they advise patients to be diligent in asking ques-

point forward."

tions. "They should hold their insurer's feet to the fire," said Dr. Speer. He adds that TMA is working with legislators to require health insurers to disclose accurate, current, and honest information to employers and employees on health plan networks, as well as

# su do ku © Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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anesthesiologists, or pathologists, are not included in their health plan. Unfortunately, most patients do not find out until they receive a bill.

"They're appalled," said Michael Speer, MD, member of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) board of trustees. "Quite properly: I would be appalled, too. How many people can you think of who can just reach in their pocket and pay thousands of dollars?"

How can this happen? **Employers** and patients pay health insurance premiums expecting a large list of all types of physician specialties to be accessible to care for them. This list is called an "adequate network" and should consist of primary care physicians, surgical and medical specialists, hospitals and hospital-based physicians such as radiologists, pathologists and emergency room physicians. When health plans do not provide adequate networks, patients are stuck with expensive insurance premiums and unexpected medical expenses if they receive care from a physician who is not a member of the network.

Hospitals and physicians each must decide whether to join a health plan's network. Just because a hospital is included in a patient's health plan does not mean every physician working in the hospital is in the network. Unfortunately, most people are under the mistaken impression that if a hospital is covered by their health insurance, so are the physicians. For example, a woman

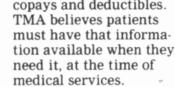
having a baby enters a hospital covered by her

born care?" TMA physicians suggest patients do the homework now so they can make informed decisions in the event of an unexpected emergency.

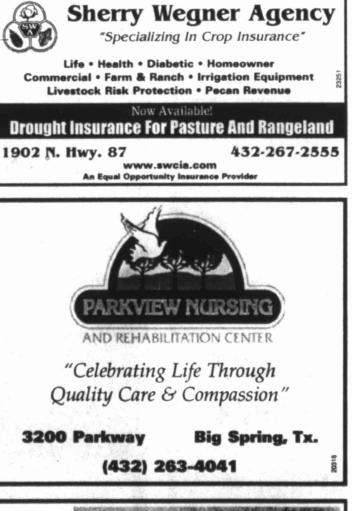
Dr. Speer, a Houston neonatologist, sees many tiny patients transferred to the hospital where he works. He cares for premature newborn babies who need intensive care. If the hospital has space for the patient, it must accept the baby without prior discussion of payment. Fragile babies born as many as 12 weeks early often require a 10to 12-week hospital stay.

fer.

"That is a bit of a shock for the parents," described Dr. Speer. "They paid for insurance, they thought their baby was covered, but they may be responsible for all of the costs of that baby's care from that



TMA, represents nearly 42,000 physician and student medical members.





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This deal occurred in the semifinal of the 1995 Spingold Knockout eam championship. It demonstrates tramatically how a slight difference n judgment can radically affect the ome of a deal

The auction was identical at both ables: South arrived at three notrump after East opened with a weak two-heart bid. Both Wests led he heart ten, and both declarers

played the eight from dummy. It was here that the play diverged. At one table, Mike Passell, East, elected not to take his king in order to stop declarer from scoring three heart tricks. This could have been the winning play on another layout, but on this occasion the duck proved Declarer, Lew Stansby, won the

orrow: Forewarned is forearmed C2007 King Features Syndicate I

ten with the queen and played the A-Q-7 of clubs. West took his king on the third round and returned a low spade to East's queen, which held. The nine-of-spades return was also ducked by declarer, who still needed a ninth trick.

West won the spade with the king but found himself badly placed. He could not return a spade from the 10-7 into Stansby's A-8, so he shifted to a diamond. This helped South establish dummy's diamonds, and with the heart ace still in dummy as an entry, he had no trouble scoring nine tricks

At the other table, East, Zia Mahmood, grabbed the heart king at trick one and continued with a second heart, dislodging dummy's ace. Declarer, Chuck Burger, led the jack of clubs to the queen, but West, Michael Rosenberg, followed low. Burger tried the ace and another club, but he was fighting a losing

After taking the club king, Rosenberg returned the king of pades, ducked by declarer. A second spade was covered by the jack and en, ducked again by South, and a third spade was taken by the ace.

Burger could do no better than cash his Q-J of hearts and exit with a spade, hoping West would win and be forced to yield a diamond entry to dummy. But with East holding the diamond K-J, declarer had no chance, and he finished down two Plus 200 at this table combined with 600 more at the other gave Zia's team a 13-IMP pickup, and helped put them into the final.

# FEATURES

**BIG SPRING HERALD** Monday, March 12, 2007

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# Spring activities in full swing at Forsan High School

orsan debate teams, consisting of Clint Lockhart and Rachael Wheeler and Alex Newsom and Michael Leal, left Sunday for the state debate tournament in Austin. The tournament is Tuesday and Wednesday.

...

Seth Johnson has been selected to participate in the Big Country FCA All-Star Football game in Abilene on June 2. Johnson was Forsan's male Optimist Club student of the year, an all-district team selection at quarterback and kicker, an all-district basketball selection and an academic UIL participant.

The tennis team took part in state team tennis competition in Round Rock last week. They placed third in the district team tennis competition last weekend.

Golfers finished third at the Anson Tournament on March 3. Jake Moore led Forsan with a round of 87 and



placed third in the individual medalist standings. Other team members were Josh Hatfield, Rick Bailey and Brantley Cahoon.

### Freshmen Evan Burton and Shelby Jones set the pace for Forsan's fledgling baseball program last weekend with the first ever home runs for the new squad.

Burton's homer came in the game against the San Angelo Lake View

junior varsity, while Jones' blast came in the game against Cornerstone at the San Angelo tournament.

The following day, Shelby Jones hit the Lady Buff squad's first ever grand slam, followed in the same tournament by a second grand slam by twin sister Kelsey Jones.

The Lady Buffs took fifth place in their bracket in the San Angelo Tournament, beating Ozona, 25-3, and San Angelo Lake View, 12-5.

The boys' baseball team moved to a 2-2 record following a doubleheader in Ira, losing in game one, 9-6, and win-

ning the nightcap, 11-6. The Lady Buffs lost their first district game against Winters' Lady Blizzards Tuesday by a 12-9 score, leaving them with a 6-7 record.

Shelby Jones led the Buffs with four hits including a triple in the third inning, while Amanda Longorio had three hits with a triple in the fifth inning.

Pitching were sophomores Haylie

Burleson and Alyx Pappajohn and freshman Amanda Longorio. ...

The Forsan Student Council presided over the District VIII area student council convention on Wednesday. The council earned a sweepstakes rating at the convention and will receive recognition at the state convention set for April 28-29.

**Courtney Holdampf received a \$500** scholarship from the district for outstanding work in student council.

### ...

The Forsan prom will be held March 24 at the Senior Citizen's Center. The after prom party will follow from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. at Forsan High School. ...

Following spring break, Forsan will host the Zone One Act Play Contest. Schools from Miles, Hamlin, Rotan, Roscoe and Forsan will compete. The two ranking plays will advance to the district competition which will be hosted by Forsan the following week.

# Texas hit-maker doesn't let MS slow him down

### By MATT CURRY

# **Associated Press Writer**

DALLAS – More than a decade after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, country singer Clay Walker's voice sounds stronger than ever on his first new studio album in four years.

"Fall," filled with twangy honky tonk songs and ballads that test his range, is set for an April release. The CD's disturbingly funny "Fore She Was Mama," in which a 10-year-old discovers old photos of his mother's bikini-clad partying days, has already hit the singles charts.

Walker worked with singer-songwriter/producer Keith Stegall on "Fall," his eighth studio album and his first on Curb Records.

"It's exactly what I wanted," the Texan said during a recent phone lapse of time between interview from Nashville. releases.

Teardrop Falls" in which red tape leaving one Walker croons Spanish, He began learning the language four years ago.

"That will always be his song, but there was total magic in the studio whenever it was cut," Walker said.

"He put his hand on my shoulder and said he had been asked to do it hundreds of time but had never done it, but that he felt that this was the right moment....It was the last song he ever recorded, so I'm proud to be part of his legacy."

The duet – Walker's first — was recorded last year. Fender, who was diagnosed with lung cancer in early 2006, died in October.

Walker, whose long string of hits include "If I Could Make a Living" and "Rumor Has It," acknowledged an uncomfortable "A Few "We didn't leave anything Questions" came out on

in record label and going to another one. It was a process that was excruciating," he said.

> The black-hatted singer, who stays active by riding cutting horses and playing basketball, said his illness has not affected his work. He boasts never missing a show due to MS (or any other reason).

> "It used to be a death sentence," Walker said. "I'm living proof you can manage the disease."

Walker, 37, was diagnosed with MS in 1996 and takes a daily injection of Copaxone to keep the disease in check. MS occurs when patients' immune systems go awry and attack the fatty layer insulation, called of myelin, that protects nerve fibers in the brain and spine, thus damaging or even destroying nerves.

Some patients, including Walker, have "relaps-

"I would say, if anything else, it has inspired me to want to do more," he said.

In 2002, Walker started nonprofit Band the Against MS Foundation to raise money for research. Last week, he presented a check for \$100,000 on behalf of the foundation to Jerry S. Wolinsky, interim dean of the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, during a performance at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

"We are delighted that Clay continues to have the confidence in our research programs in multiple sclerosis, particularly in imaging research that is leading to a better understanding of the disease," said

Wolinsky. "And I am particularly happy to see how well Clay is able to run around on stage."

Walker, who is divorced and has two daughters ages 10 and 7, grew up in southeast Texas and lives in Houston.

"I never questioned if I was going to be in political science, or a lawyer, doctor, whatever," he said. "I knew I was going to be a singer.'

Like Mark Chestnutt and Tracy Byrd, Walker got his start on the honky tonk circuit before his first single on Giant, "What's It To You," hit No. 1 in 1993.

Walker, who has sold 8 million albums and had 11 No.1 country hits, likes the sound of his latest release.

It seemingly includes

something for everyone, including the heart-tugging "It Ain't Pretty (But It's Beautiful)" written by Johnson Doug and Walker's playful "She Likes It in the Morning.' He said "Fore She Was Mama" - in which the family matriarch won't admit to having smoked marijuana — elicits a strong response on the road.

"It's great when a song can be humorous without being hokey, and the writers made a good country song without it being a novelty," he said. "Anytime we do it, it gets a huge reaction. I think a lot of moms are looking in the rearview mirror saying, 'I hope the kids aren't looking at my face right now, because I'm blushing.



out as far as our fans. The album includes a duet with the late Freddy Fender on his classic "Before the

RCA in 2003. His six earlier albums were all on Giant Records. "Yeah, I think it was too almost totally recover Next long. There was a lot of until the next attack.

ing-remitting MS,' periods of severe symptoms after which patients

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Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Mike Grimes at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

> Page 1B Monday, March 12, 2007

# IN BRIEF Hawks shot down by Texans

## **Comanche Trail** has last hurrah

sports

The Comanche Trail Golf Course is announcing its final day of golf by throwing a "chili ball" tournament on Sunday March 11, at 1 p.m. It will be a shotgun start and all entries must be paid by noon Sunday. Entry fee is \$25 per player and you may sign-up in the pro shop.

Teams will be randomly chosen by the "A" player for each group. For additional information call the Comanche Trail pro shop at 264-2366.

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# **Tim Siegel slates** Tennis Camps

Tim Siegel, the Big 12 Tennis Coach of the Year in 2005, will conducting be overnight tennis camps on June 2-6 and June 17-21. The camp is for children ages 8 to 17 and is open to players with all ability levels. Siegel has been Director of the TTU **Tennis Camps since** 1993. For additional information, contact Mr. Siegel at (806) 742-



Mavericks streak

The

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Mavericks

to 17 straight wins

rolling, playing the

best ball in team his-

The Los Angeles

Lakers are nearing

the other end of the

spectrum, but help

might soon be on the

Josh Howard scored

24 points, Dirk

Nowitzki added 19,

and the Mavericks

took control early in

Lakers 108-72 Sunday

night to extend their

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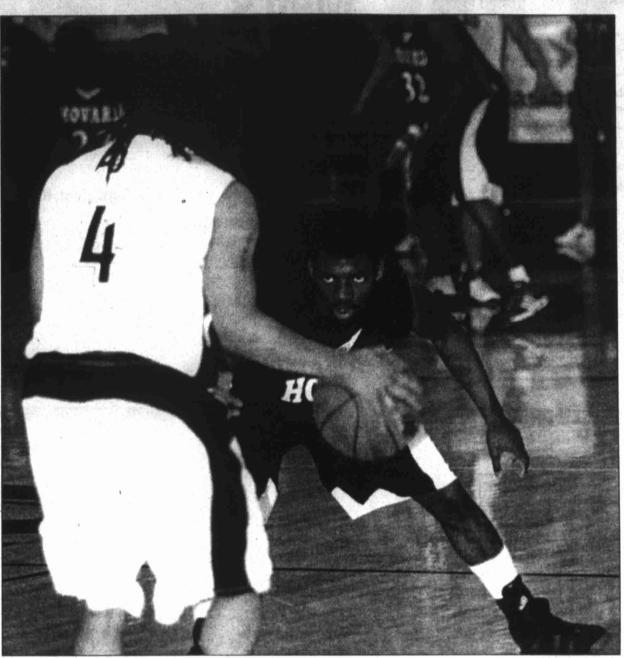
team through the

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**HERALD photo/Mike Grimes** 

Howard guard Corey Almond plays man-to-man defense against All American Steve Harley of the South Plains Texans. Harley scored 21 points and led the Texans past the Hawks, 55-46, Saturday night in Belton.

# South Plains 55, **Howard College 46**

### **MIKE GRIMES** Sports Editor

**BELTON** — Saturday the Howard Hawks had no answer for All-American guard Steve Harley and the South Plains Texans, as they lost 55-46 in the Region V Basketball Tournament.

Unlike the previous two meetings, which were tight games down the stretch and ended on last second shots, this one didn't come down to a buzzer-beater. It was decided in the first 10 minutes of the second half when the Hawks struggled to find the basket.

The Texans (26-6), trailing Howard for the entire first half of the elimination game, held the Hawks offense to only five points during the first 10 minutes of the second half and went from down four points, to by 10, 40-30.

 Benson Akpan, who left the game early in the second half with the Hawks up six, finished as the game's leading rebounder with eight boards. He made 3-of-6 from the floor and finished with nine points and a game-high four blocked shots, but in his absence the Texans went on a 19-3 run to open a lead they would not relinquish.

Howard (25-7) had its season come to an end just one night after knocking out the Northern Texas Junior college Athletic Conference No. 1 seed Temple 81-72 the night before.

"It's disappointing when you don't play your best," Howard coach Mark Adams said after the loss. "You have to give South Plains some of the credit, but we had such an emotional game yesterday and then trying to turn around and come

See HAWKS, page 2B

# Kansas nips Texas to capture Big 12 crown and No. 1 seed

### By JEFF LATZKE **AP Sports Writer**

OKLAHOMA CITY - After surviving two scares from Texas' Kevin Durant in a week, Kansas coach Bill Self was looking forward to facing anyone else in the NCAA tournament. "There's some opponents we could play in the early rounds that have guys that can go for big numbers," Self said. "But we are not going to see another one like this." Durant, the Big 12 player of the year, matched his career high with 37 points but didn't score in overtime as Kansas escaped with an 88-84 win and its second straight Big 12 tournament championship on Sunday. Sherron Collins scored 20 points, and Brandon Rush and Julian Wright each added 19 points to help Kansas rally from a 22-point, first half deficit built mostly by Durant, the Longhorns' national player of the year contender.

"I don't want to play him again," Self said.

The only chance for another rematch would be in the NCAA championship game, with Kansas a No. 1 seed on one half of the bracket and Texas a No. 4 seed on the opposite side. The Jayhawks have lost in the tournament's first round each of the past two seasons, but head in on a season-best 11-game winning streak.



MCT photo/Rich Su

Kansas guard Sherron Collins (4) drives and reverses between Texas defenders A.J. Abrams (3) and Damion James (5) late in the Big 12 Tournament Championship game. Kansas defeated Texas, 88-84, at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, Sunday.

"Our confidence level is pretty high right now," Kansas guard Brandon Rush said. "Just making big plays at the right time."

(30-4) on top 83-81 with 2:19 left in the extra period, and Wright added a free throw to push the Russell Robinson hit a jumper lead to three. D.J. Augustin had

from the left wing to put Kansas a 3-point attempt and a runner in the lane blocked on consecutive Texas possessions, and Darnell Jackson's two free throws extended Kansas' lead to 86-81.

# Johnson makes it three straight in Vegas

### **By JENNA FRYER**

**AP Auto Racing Writer** 

LAS VEGAS - A new track configuration and hard tires that made it difficult to drive. A pit road penalty and a brush against the wall.

Jimmie Johnson faced all of it Sunday, and came out on top yet again at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

The defending series champion beat teammate Jeff Gordon to win his third straight Nextel Cup race at Las Vegas - only this one came under extremely different conditions.

"It was obviously a good day for us - we had some issues," said Johnson. "To overcome the adversity this weekend of com-

having any experience on it, and working through all the issues we did, it was a very good weekend."

Oh yes it was.

Johnson, who led Gordon across the finish line for a 1-2 finish that gave Hendrick Motorsports its 150th NASCAR victory, navigated his way around a track that was under intense scrutiny all weekend because of changes owner Bruton Smith made to the 1.5mile speedway.

The changes included an increase in the banking from 12 degrees to 20, and a curved pit lane unlike anything the drivers had seen before. Because the new

ing back on a new tire and not speeds, Goodyear had to bring a drive," David Stremme said. very hard left-side tire that was capable of withstanding the loads.

It created a perfect storm of slick asphalt, little grip and a garage full of grumbling drivers. "I felt like I was on ice from lap one until the last one," said Gordon, the four-time series champion. "There is no reason for us to show up at racetracks and be at a white-knuckle experience for an entire weekend.'

That sentiment was echoed over and over as drivers climbed from their cars.

"It was out of control pretty much all day," Clint Bowyer said.

"It was the poorest race I've surface produced such fast ever been in. It wasn't fun to

"You couldn't run side-by-side. When you got alongside of somebody, you were scared to death you were going to wreck," Matt Kenseth said.

The race was marred by nine cautions, most of them products of the new configuration and tough tire. David Ragan spun on the opening lap, and Casey Mears, Robby Gordon and Ward Burton were in a three-car accident 10 laps in.

Joe Nemechek and Dave Blaney wrecked eight laps after that.

"There's just no grip at all," said Mears, who blamed Gordon for the accident. "Everybody is having a hard time getting a hold of their cars."

ning streak to 17 games and match the longest winning streak in the NBA this season. "We've been able to do a lot of good things with our defense. Jerry Stackhouse, who had 13 points for the

the

# SPORTS

**BIG SPRING HERALD** Monday, March 12, 2007

# Big schools hold ground 2007 NCAA March Madness Bracket for NCAA

## By MICHAEL MAROT

**AP Sports Writer** 

2**B** 

**INDIANAPOLIS** - The mid-major nation's schools had hoped this would be their year.

Instead, they were nearly as surprised as Syracuse when the seleccommittee tion announced the NCAA men's basketball tournament field.

" "I think it's the shock of country," said the Syracuse athletic director \*Daryl Gross, whose team was excluded despite 22 victories and a 10-6 Big East conference record. , Sunday, it seemed the 10-member NCAA selection committee was forced to defend everyorthing from game sites to Even "selections. "Tuesday's play-in game, <sup>C</sup>between Florida A&M and Niagara, drew com-

plaints. "Nothing makes sense

to me," said Niagara coach Joe Mihalich, whose team is 22-11 and has won 11 straight. "Let me be diplomatic here -I'm confused."

**Chairman Gary Walters** had acknowledged for weeks that deciphering the maze at the top of the brackets would be nearly as difficult as picking the final teams.

"It's not an easy decision," Walters said. "Every year you have three or four teams who have a strong argument that can be made about their inclusion. I understand the disappointments; it disappoints the heck out of us. But we have a 65-team field." But when Florida. Ohio

State, North Carolina and Kansas all won, the No. 1 seed were set.



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and connected on 3-of-5 as he left the court. "This

# HAWKS

Continued from 1B

back to play a team we beat a couple of weeks ago was tough. I think it was difficult for us to get physically, emotionally and mentally ready to play a team like South Plains after the Temple game. And I just don't think we were playing at the top of our game. "I'm not taking any-

thing away from South Plains — they are a really good team and they played a good game tonight, but I'm disappointed that we didn't play our best. That's a tough way to end the season.

Harley, the Texans' sharp-shooting guard heading to the University of Nebraska next season, was the game's leading scorer with 21 points. He was 9-of-14 from the field from the free throw line was just a tough night to lead his team into the shooting and that hapchampionship game.

"Howard was a team that everyone was definitely scared of coming into this tournament," Harley admitted. "I just love to play against Howard and everyone knows they are one of the best teams in the country. They always bring out the best in me and this has been the best rivalry we've had over the last couple of years. They are a good team and I am glad we don't have to face them again."

For the Hawks, Sean Watson led the team in scoring with 12 points and Brandon Sampay added 11 more in the losing effort.

"I'm not sure what happened tonight," Terrence Hill, who went 0-for-6 from the 3-point line, said

pens — it's just part of the game, but this was the

wrong time to go cold." Hill finished with four points, three assists and one steal.

"This was a tough loss and not the way I wanted my last game at Howard to end," Sampay said. "It has been fun out here in the Big and I really think its been cool to spend a couple of years here. I like the teachers, the coaches and the people here. I really appreciate all the support the last two seasons and I want to thank the college for giving me the opportunity to come here and play."

On Sunday afternoon the Midland Chaparrals upset South Plains 90-82, to punch a ticket to the NJCAA National Tournament.

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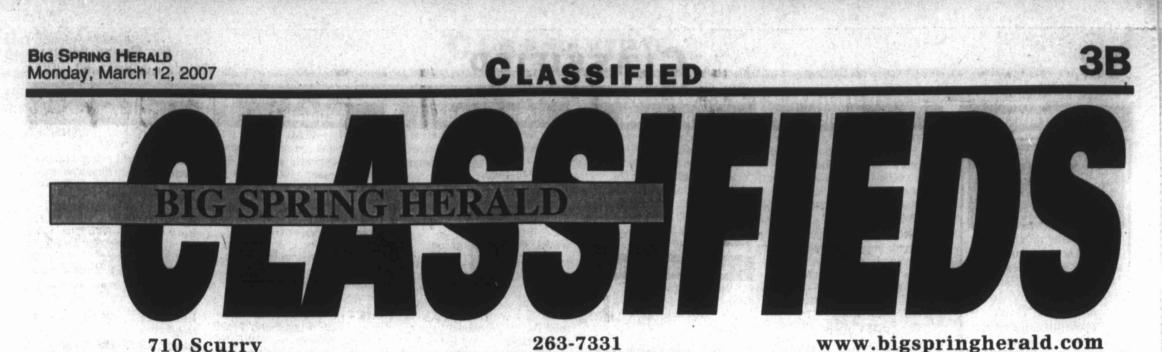
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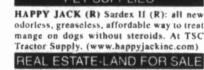
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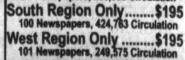
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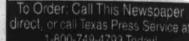
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**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS** It seems we can't obvious that sometimes sleepwalk through a Pisces solar transit no

matter how much we need our beauty rest. The wise old sun refuses to let us be completely unconscious of our motivation and

the motivation others, of and with consciousness

comes responsibility. It's cool to recognize mistakes because there's a chance to remedy them.

HOLIDAY

MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're so electrically charged that you could set off the security gate in the grocery store for reasons that have nothing to do with shoplifting. Apply your super-energy to a project that's been long neglected.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your charm is your weapon of choice. When you really want something, you know how to "work it." You give longing and adorable looks that could melt titanium.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In some ways, you're still trying to protect yourself from the one who hurt you long ago. You may even privately have a "no emotional entanglements" rule, but that all goes out the window now.

22). It's obvious that you Libra or Cancer person.

# have many choices. So you forget. What you're

Tomorrow's Horoscope

doing out of habit is getting old. Your association with an Aquarius person can help you see another way. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

Eager to be a generally breathtaking and profound creative force, you do some selfdiscovery work to that aim. Getting in touch with your feelings allows others to be touched when they experience you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your exceptional qualities shine through. Embrace your uniqueness, and others will celebrate you for how you're different, instead of encouraging you to be like them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). With your finger on the pulse, you're the "alphapup" of your crowd. Expect them to imitate This is you. a compliment, as irritating as you might find it. You're better off sharing all you know.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Humor heals! Give your brain a break and shell out the 10 bucks to see the latest comedy. Or, invite over some friends, crack open the root beer, and yuck it up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have an unencumbered channel of expression, and the ideas are clearly flowing. If you want to make a living at something new, talk CANCER (June 22-July about your aims with a

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Ideas are more than brain impulses. They are paths. Many of them lead to greatness. Make sure you've written everything down before you go to bed tonight, or bright inspiration could get lost.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The most powerful person is the one who doesn't mind serving others. There's nothing wrong with yielding to the requests of others if it's easy for you to do so. You show your strength by being flexible.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March** 20). Pressure brings out the best in people. This is proven in the biographies of accomplished people, in the lives of those you look up to and in your own life this afternoon.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Leo, and it seems like every time I really like someone I can't get enough of them until they're mine, and then when they are. I get bored and don't like them anymore. When am I going to find someone I'm truly in love with?"

The cycle you describe isn't as negative as you're making it out to be. It's a natural growth process and could be your habit clear through your late-Virgo give you a practical romance that happens to *visit* be masked to the outside world - and often even to you, by your © 2007 CREA passionate Leo sun and SYNDICATE, INC.

moon. You feel and behave as though you're overwhelmingly

infatuated or "in love" with a person, heart, soul and body, when basically this is actually a much psychological more You don't attraction. want the person; you want to know what they know or have the status, talent or success they have. Once you catch up to them or learn all they have to teach you, the quickly infatuation deflates. Once you get a . handle on your own talents and roles in life, you'll love in a more healthy, lasting way.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Landon Donovan is a Piscean athlete, but his reveals six chart luminaries in air signs. Water-sign energy is emotional and deep, but air-sign energy is quick and full of intention. As a high-scoring player on the U.S. Men's National soccer team, Donovan uses this blend to keep his statistics high even when his mood is low.

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 20s. Your Mars in send her a postcard in the Capricorn and Venus in mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and edge in matters of read her past columns, the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox -: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I've been with "Jerry" for eight years. We have created a loving family that includes our four kids two from my first marriage and two from his. The problem is Jerry's ex-wife, "Geraldine."

Geraldine has been a constant pain in the

backside from day one.

It's bad enough the

woman calls Jerry eight

to 10 times a day, but she

is constantly asking him

to go places with her and

has even been caught on

more than one occasion

suggesting they have sex.

considers

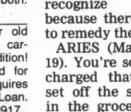
and



nearly 90.

Mom is now 91 and still going strong. P.S.: I just finished my master's degree in neuroscience at the age of 51. What goes around, comes around. — A Good Role Model's feelings for the other Daughter

she and my father were lots of time. So far, you the guest performers in are doing everything the local figure skating right - you are in ice show. Mom taught me counseling and making how to play racquetball the necessary changes to when she was well into your marriage, and we her 60s, and continued trust your wife is her exercise classes at the learning how to better YMCA until she was communicate her needs strengthen her and commitment to you. It may help remember that heavy drinking lowers inhibitions. Your wife may not have any man, and turned to him solely because he was attentive and affectionate at the time. You are now filling that void, and she has no reason to look at him again. If his image appears in your head, substitute a better one. Dear Annie: I'm in my mid-80s and on a fixed When income. my husband died, I sold my house. I then moved to be near my son, who lives 10 miles away. He has a wife whom I have bent over backward to get along with. My son and his wife wanted me to buy them a new car with that money, and when I explained that I put it into savings for health care emergencies, they became angry, and I haven't heard from them in three years. They also have severed contact with his siblings. I've tried emails and birthday cards, telling them I love and miss them, to no avail. Please tell young people to keep in touch with their parents, because they are always loved and missed. Do you have any suggestions? - Sad Heart Dear Sad: We're so sorry that your son and daughter-in-law are so greedy and selfish, and that your son apparently has no backbone. It sounds as if you've made all the right gestures, and unfortunately, there's not much you can do if they are determined to cut you out of their lives. Someday, we suspect your son will regret his disregard for his mother. and we only hope it won't be too late.



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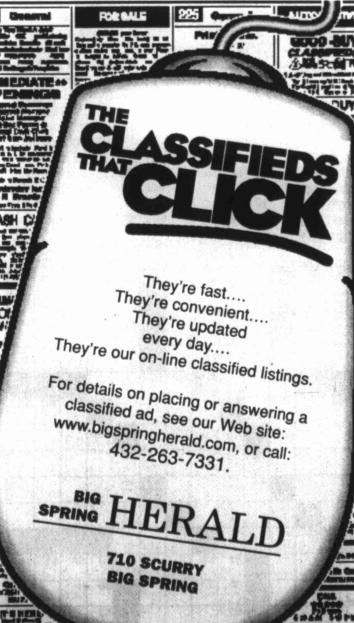
inground pool. 3 car detached garage with shop. 2181 sq. ft. Asking \$159,000.00. (432)268-9436.

264-0051.

ext F906.

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(432)267-1953, 270-0348.

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4 2 3 1 8 7 9 5 6 8 9 5 3 2 6 1 4 7 6 1 7 9 5 4 8 2 3 7 3 6 4 1 9 5 8 2 1 5 8 7 3 2 6 9 4 2 4 9 8 6 5 3 7 1 961248735 372591468

Geraldine Jerry her 24-hour-a-day helpline. I have had discussions arguments with him and Geraldine alike, to no 584673219 avail. I have become very

and find suspicious myself constantly accusing him of being with her. He denies it.

We have talked of marriage, but so far, there has been no actual proposal and I'm not holding my breath, either. Jerry has asked me to move in with him, and I won't, because that is not the message I want give my kids. to Commitment does not mean a trial living arrangement, and I want to show my daughters that marriage is more than just a piece of paper, as Jerry sometimes says.

Geraldine took him to the cleaners during their divorce, so I understand that he's gun shy. I also believe Jerry is running hot and cold because Geraldine has made it so obvious that he can have her any time he wants. One of the men she dated told me he broke it off because of the strange relationship she has with Jerry.

Should I ignore Geraldine's constant interference, or tell Jerry that he cannot have any contact with her other than for the children? -In the Bermuda Triangle Dear Bermuda: Geraldine isn't the problem. Jerry is. By not putting an end to the



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

constant phone calls and seductive behavior, he is encouraging her to keep at it. There is no future for this relationship unless you can trust Jerry completely, and part of that involves his willingness to terminate the flirtation with his ex. Tell him so.

Dear Annie: What can you do with a 29-year-old daughter who won't keep her room straight? "Carmie" is a sweet, caring girl in so many ways, but she throws her clothes, magazines, bills, etc., on the floor. We get along fine, and she contributes money to the household. She always says, "Tomorrow, I'm going to get it straightened up," but she never does.

Her brother keeps his room very orderly, and so do my husband and I. Carmie is pretty and always neat in her appearance, has friends, dates and gets along well with everyone. However, when it comes to cleaning, she can't find the time. What should I do? - At a Loss

Dear At a Loss: You close the door and forget about it. Do not pick up after her. Do not do her laundry. She is 29 years old, and whatever mess she makes inside her own room is her own business. (Seems like it's time Carmie moved out.) Dear Annie: I had a good laugh about the mom who wanted to go back to work at 71 years of age. In her 70s, my mother tried downhill skiing and surfing for the first time, and at age 75,

Dear Daughter: We suspect you've inherited a strong set of genes to go with that role-modeling. Good for all of you.

Dear Annie: I've been married for 10 years and have two young children. This past summer, at a party where there was heavy drinking, I caught my wife kissing a married man who thought was a friend.

We got into a big fight over this. I swallowed my pride and told my wife how much she meant to me. She and I went to counseling and I talked with my pastor, and things seem to be getting better. My wife admitted she has been unhappy for a while and said I wasn't attentive or affectionate enough. I attribute this to a stressful job, young children and the fact that I grew up in an unaffectionate household. My wife and this man swore to me nothing sexual happened. The problem now is how to get the image of her kissing him out of my head, not to mention the thought that she has feelings for this man.

I feel guilty for this mess. I wasn't giving her what she needed because I took our marriage for granted. I don't want to break up our family. Annie, will I be able to forgive and forget? Can I ever trust her again? **Heart Broken in Ohio** 

Dear Broken: Trusting your wife requires three things - her complete fidelity and honesty, your ability to forgive with your whole heart, and

# SODING HERALD

MONDAY	
WFAA (2) KMID (3) UNI (4) KPEJ (5) KOSA (7) KTLE (8) KWES (9) WTBS (11) KMLM (12) KPBT (13) DISC (20) AMC (21) SPIKE (22) TNT (23) BET (26) DISN (27) ES Delles Midland Spanish Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Odessa Discovery Classics Spike TV Atlanta Black Ent. Disney	Sports Sports Science F
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8 30 (CC) (CC) Fieras Engagement Espada y la Friends (CC) Southwest Zone (CC) (DVS) Surface Series Cone (CC) (DVS)	dators College Star Trek: ongest Man Gamenight Enterprise ongest Man (CC) Star Trek:
9 30 Brian (CC) Brian (CC) "Friends (CC) (CC) Decisiones Donnellys Family Guy "Program Stunt Junkies Movie: "(CC) (DVS) (CC) Phil of Future Str.	ongest Man Enterprise
10 30 Nightline Noticlero Univ. Raymond Late Show- 12 Corazones Tonight Show Seinfeld (CC) Healing (CC) (CC) Stone Whacked Out (CC) (DVS) Jamie Foox That's-Raven Stro ONA The Instrument La Hora de la King of the Hill Letterman "Movie: I Spy N. McBride Sign Off Dirty Jobs "CS: Crime Law & Order In Living Color Phil of Future NA	ongest Man (CC) Files (CC) SCAR Now NBA Fastbreak The Outer
11 30 Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC) Pisa Malcolm-Mid. Late Late IAI Rojo Vivo! Late Night- (CC) Scrivner "." "Movie: Splash Scene Invstgtn. (CC) (DVS) In Living Color Kim Possible 200 AM If ve (CC) Et Privilegio de Malcolm-Mid. Show "Conan O'Brien "Update/Israel "Futureweapons" Star Trek: Law & Order Comic/view Proud Family Ser	Morid NFL Live Limits (CC)   ries of Poker SportsCenter Twilight Zor   X6 World (CC) Twilight Zor
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THE REAL DREAM DISCOURSE AND DREAM DISCOURSE A	Soft start F
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C 2007 Bi Kawa, HC. Dat by Rog Rayman Byru www.instructions.com	
"How 'BOUT A PAJAMA PARTY!" "I CAN'T stop! My mouth is full of giggles."	SORRY, DEAR, BUT I
How bout A TADAMA PARTY! I'll of giggles.	OPTIONS .
BC	SI ATTA
WHAT IS THE SECRET	
TO BEING AN ALL- KNOWING GURU? (LOCATION.) BETWEEN A SAGE AND AN ORACLE.	
	Massile 234
Mar 100	und John Wayne Gacy
TIMIS Date In 1864, Ulysses S. Grant gubecame commander in chief	uilty of the murders of en and boys. (The r
In Listory of the Union armies in the da	ay, Gacy was sentenced eath; after years on de

WIZARD OF ID



AGNES

Low founded the Girl Today is Monday, March Guides, which later became the Girl Scouts of America. In 1930, Indian political spiritual Today's Highlight in and leader Mohandas K. Gandhi began

History: a 200-mile march to protest a On March 12, 1933, President Roosevelt deliv-British tax on salt. In 1938, the Anschluss ered the first of his radio took place as German troops "fireside chats," telling

12, the 71st day of 2007.

There are 294 days left in the

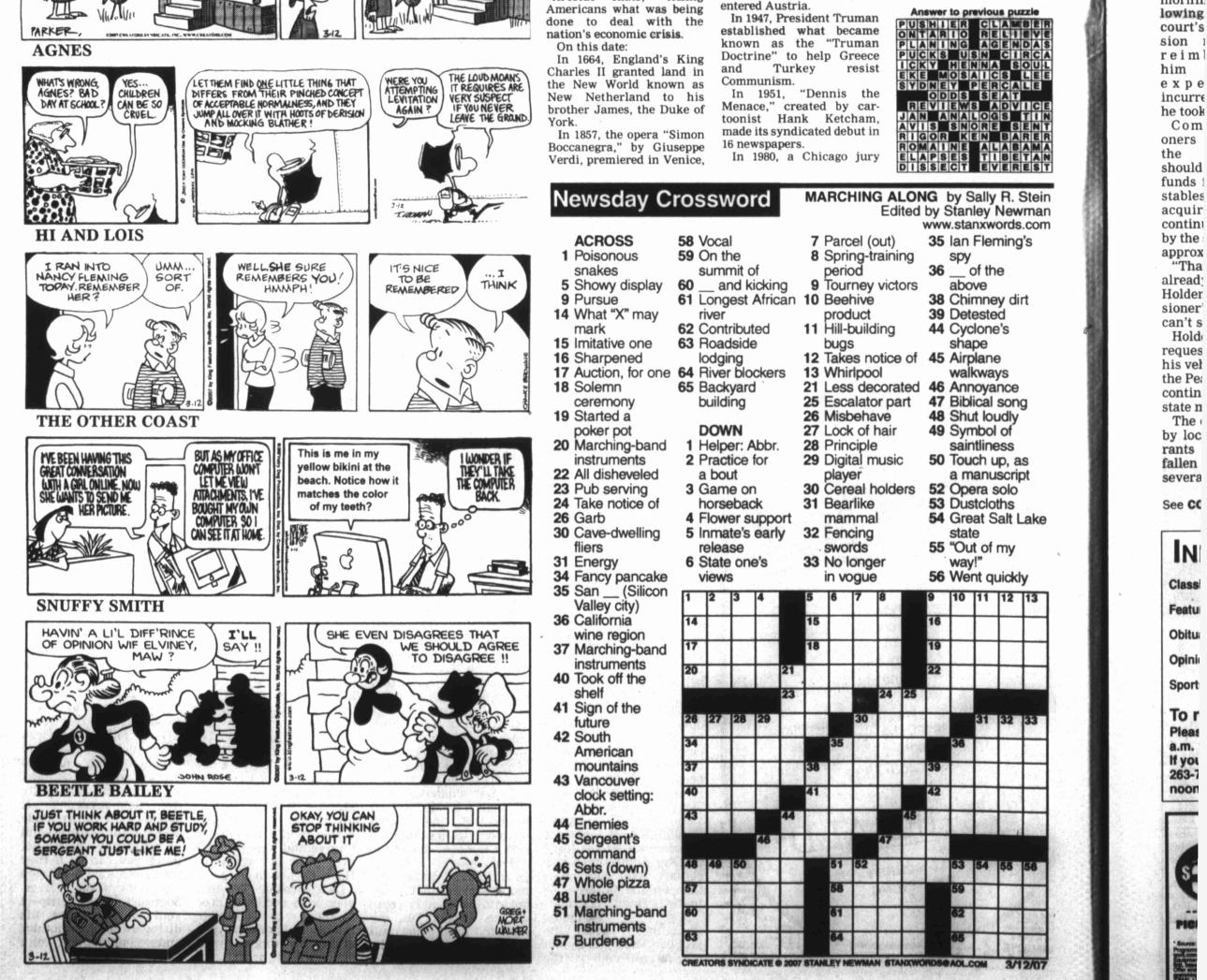
year.

of the Union armies in the day, Gacy was sentenced to death; after years on death In 1912, Juliette Gordon row, he was executed in May 1994.)

In 1987, the musical play "Les Miserables" opened on Broadway.

Today's Birthdays: Former astronaut Wally Schirra is 84. Playwright Edward Albee is 79. Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young is 75. © 2007 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle



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**BIG SPRING** 

**VOLUME** :

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