TUESDAY February 16, 1999

Tonight:



TONIGHT 28°-30° **WEDNESDAY** 65°-70°

Chamber board meets Wednesday: reports on agenda

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce board will convene at noon Wednesday in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Agenda items include reports on tourism, business development, governmental affairs, membership development and public affairs.

There will also be a report on the community center.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

☐ High school girls basketball playoffs — Lubbock Coronado vs. Abilene High at 6 p.m. and Slaton vs. Crane at 8 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., county

Big Spring Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star meeting, 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room

☐ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room. ☐ Line dancing, 1 p.m.,

Senior Citizens Center. Industrial Park. ☐ Fraternal Order of

Eagles Aerie, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

THURSDAY

☐ Gideons International Big Spring Camp No. 4206, 7 a.m., Hermans.

☐ Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classes, 9:30 a.m., for 55 and older.

☐ Kiwanis Club, noon, **Howard College Cactus** Room.

☐ Junior college basketball — South Plains College at Howard College, 6 and 8 p.m., Dorothy Garrett

Coliseum. □ Rackley-Swords Chapter No. 379, Vietnam Veterans of America, 7 p.m., 124

Jonesboro Road. ☐ American Legion Post 506, 7 p.m. Call 263-2084.

☐ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

□ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

☐ Eagles Lodge Pot Luck

Supper, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. ☐ Dance 8:30 p.m., Eagles

Lodge, 704 W. Third. Everyone welcome.

INSIDE TODAY...

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Annual festival provides chance to show off your culinary talents

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Features Editor

Big Spring, put on your chef's hats, it's time for Around the World in 80 Bites.

The food festival at the Heritage Museum slated for Feb. 27, and cook sign-up going on now. Volunteer chefs are need-

ed to prepare

tasty

tidbits



from anywhere in the world for about 300 visitors.

"It's a lot of fun, and it's a great way to show off your cooking skills," said Angie Way, curator of the museum. The immensely popular festival benefits the museum's operating budget, raising up to \$2,500 each year.

Cooks can prepare any dish, from any country, or a region of the United States.

"This could be a dish they are proud of, something that's been in the family for a long time," Way said. "That always makes

But if you want to cook, and don't have an idea, call the museum and they will give you

"We've actually inherited a whole set of international cookbooks," Way said. "We have a lot of ideas to share.'

Visitors will have a chance to vote on World's Greatest Chef during the event.

Cooks will receive two chef's passes and two free tickets to the event. Tickets to eat all you want at "80 Bites" are \$7.50 for adults and \$5 for students. It takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. before the Big Spring Symphony concert.

"This is a really fun event, and everybody looks forward to it every year," Way said. "It's also a time to see all your friends. It might seem like a lot of work for the chefs, but remember, you are not making 300 servings, it's just 300 tastes."

Cooks hand out small samples of each dish, and guests are free to wander the museum trying a taste of whatever strikes their

"This is great for businesses," Way said. "You can hand out cards, and people do remember that special food they tried."

To sign up for cooking, contact the museum by Feb. 24. Buy your tickets for "Around the World in 80 Bites" as soon as possible, because they go quickly.

This year, the Big Spring Symphony and museum are offering a special ticket price that will allow visitors to attend both events for one price.

The symphony concert will feature "World's Greatest Choruses" with the Big Spring Chorale and Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. For \$12, an adult

See FESTIVAL. Page 2



In search of food, hundreds of sandhill cranes were in the 800 Block of West 3rd this morning. The lack of food caused by the drought has caused the birds to become bolder.

Big Spring Rotary Club donation will provide free swimming lessons

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Swimming lessons will be free for area youth at the YMCA during Spring Break, thanks to the Big Spring

Rotary Club. "The Spring Rotary Club has given the YMCA a \$1,500 contribution in order for us to be able to have a splash week,

YMCA said executive director Pete Thiry.

"We will call this Rotary Splash Week," he said.

Thanks the generosity of the 70-member organiza-







lessons will be offered to about 140 youth during spring break, March 8-12, he said. Swim lessons will be offered

in the morning and afternoon, and Thiry said he is still finalizing details about the program. Ben Bancroft, who is chair-

man for the community service committee for the Big Spring Rotary Club, said the organization selected this because members considered it a worthwhile project. "This deserves our support,"

Bancroft said. The Big Spring Rotary often

contributes to community projects, such as Christmas food baskets, he said. "We are also involved in other

community projects such as youth relations and we support the United Way," Bancroft said. The swim lessons will be divided into age groups, with 3-

5 years olds comprising the younger groups, said Jeremy

tion, five free swimming Blount, aquatics coordinator for the YMCA.

> Younger-aged groups will have 15 students each 30-minute session, divided among the instructors available. The olderaged group will have 20 students per session, he said.

"We will have 30-minute lessons, and we will try to do a five to one ration of students with instructor," Blount said. Classes will be offered from 10

a.m. until noon, and from 5-7 p.m. beginning March 8. The smaller, instructional pool may be used during the evening classes, to coordinate with the YMCA swim team practices, he said.

The YMCA has four swim instructors employed who will be providing the lessons, Each of these instructors is certified through the YMCA for swimming, he said. Registration for the free

lessons will begin March 1, Blount said.

Search

Coahoma ISD trustees to use service center in search for superintendent

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Coahoma Independent School board trustees Monday agreed to utilize the services of Region 18 Service Center in their search for a superintendent, and approved a reassignment for former superintendent Michael Hartman.

"He has been named director of operations, which basically means he's a consultant, and we can call on him if we need him,"



no bearing on previous action the board has taken regarding Michael Hartman." Following an executive session, trustees agreed to hire Bryan La Beff, executive director of Region 18, and the service

a new superintendent for the "We will engage Region 18 to do a full blown executive search, at a cost of \$2,500," Wells said, following a unanimous

center, to solicit applicants for

approval by trustees. La Beff, working through Region 18, will provide all the advertising for the position, as well prepare a color brochure

for the district. Also, La Beff will be responsible for checking professional and personal references, preparing trustees with interview questions and offering suggestions for the interview process.

Also, he will meet directly with employees and community members to solicit ideas for what Coahoma needs in a superintendent. La Beff and trustees discussed

at length the time line involved in securing a superintendent, and finalized the deadline for the applications as April 9.

Keeping within the regulations imposed by the Texas Education Agency, finalists should be announced by April 15, which will allow the district to make an offer and hire a superintendent in May, La Beff

"This is critical, with the budget coming up," said trustee Bill Gressett.

And Brian Marlar agreed. "The election notwithstanding, we need to get on with this."

In their last search, trustees had a few weeks to select a superintendent, and La Beff is working to provide more time for applications and interviews. while keeping within the traditional school employee calen-

Also, with a trustee election May 1, and possibly two new board members, trustees discussed the need for a smooth transition.

David Elmore said it might be difficult for new board members to vote for a superintendent without being involved in the entire hiring process.

Wells and other trustees agreed, and said the timeline should allow final interviews with any new trustees and prospective superintendents before the final decision is reached.

Trustees have also determined that before a final offer is made for a superintendent, trustees will visit the site where an applicant currently works.

In other business, interim superintendent Wayne Mitchell said the new science laboratory building has some cosmetic problems, but assured trustees the work will progress.

"The visual details of the building are not too good, but we have a good building. There have been people here, working, and installing a sliding board and the vent-a-hood being completed are really the major problems," Mitchell said. His investigation of the roof

See COAHOMA, Page 2

Candidate filing for city council elections ongoing

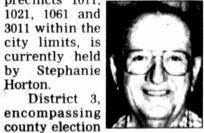
HERALD Staff Report

Candidate filing for city council and alderman is under way for communities in Howard

County. Up for election on the Big City Spring Council District 1 and District District which represents county election precincts 1011 1021, 1061 and 3011 within the city limits, is currently held

Horton.

precincts 1073



CAWTHON

HORTON

and 3033 within the city limits, is held by Chuck Cawthon. A candidate for Big Spring

City Council may reside anywhere within the city limits. Election is for a three-year Three at-large positions are up for election on the Coahoma

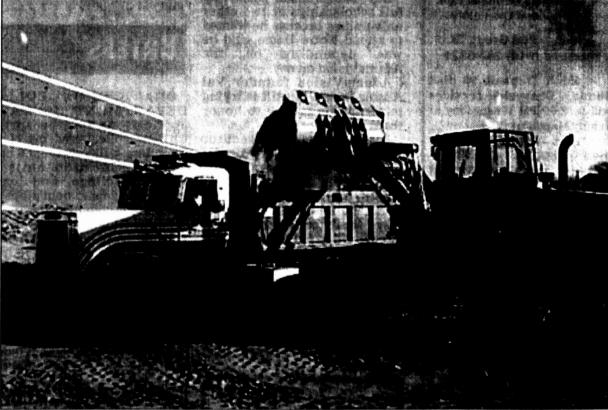
City Council. They are council positions held by Bruce Allen and Warren Wallace, and the mayor's post, held by Bill Read. Up for election at Forsan are three alderman positions. They

Fred Holguin. Candidate filing takes place at city offices in Big Spring and Coahoma and Forsan school business office during normal business hours.

are currently held by Clarence

Williams, Mary Gressett and

The filing period runs through March 17. Early voting in all three elections is April 14-27, with election day setMay 1.



An frontend loader loads dirt in a Cline Construction truck as clean-up gets under way for landscaping at the new Big Spring Junior High School.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

CRIMINAL TRESPASS

was reported in the 3300 block

WARNING was issued in the

· DANIEL FLORES, 30, was

ROBERT BORROWS, 42,

· WELDON DANIELS, no

age given, was arrested for no

insurance, no seat belt and fail-

WEEKEND SUMMARY

assault/family violence, one

burglary of a habitation, three

burglary of a building and

eight criminal mischief reports.

Also, two driving while

license invalid, two driving

while intoxicated, two posses-

sion of drug and one runaway

And 11 thefts, eight conve-

nience store thefts, one unlaw-

fully carrying a weapon, four

minor accidents, one major

accident and 20 arrests report-

The Howard County Sheriff's

Department reported the follow-

ing incidents between noon

DAVIN DON DURAN, 17,

was arrested for possession of

JUAN VINCENT RANGEL.

38. was arrested for unlawful

possession of a firearm by a

felon, delivery of marijuana

less than or equal to five

pounds, more than one-fourth

· LINDA CAROL CHOATE,

GUILERMO A. HERNAN-

DEZ, 73, was arrested for dni-

ving while intoxicated, second

offense, and driving while

• FELIPE HERNANDEZ, 45,

was arrested for driving while

• THOMAS FIGUEROA, 31,

was arrested for motion to

revoke probation/burglary of a

building, and driving while

WILLIS FLOYD GILETTE.

32, was arrested for motion to

revoke probation/possession of

• ERIC PAUL KRUEGER, 28,

was arrested for a warrant for

driving while license suspend-

ed or invalid, for driving while

license suspended, for posses-

sion of marijuana less than two

ounces and for manufacturing,

delivery, with intent to sell/pos-

Following is a summary of

1:48 a.m. — 1200 block

5:22 a.m. - 1700 block

Lancaster, medical call, patient

transported to Scenic Mountain

5:27 p.m. -- 500 block W. 17th,

6:26 p.m. - FM-700 and

medical call, patient transport-

Harding, medical call, service

Spring

Department/EMS reports:

sess a controlled substance.

FIRE/EMS

Big

refused.

MONDAY

Medical Center.

ed to SMMC.

a controlled substance.

license suspended or invalid.

36. was arrested for driving

Saturday and 8:30 a.m. today:

SHERIFF

marijuana.

ounces.

while intoxicated.

intoxicated.

license invalid.

indicates two

was arrested for driving while

arrested for assault/family vio-

Ruth Olene Ezell

Funeral service for Ruth Olene Ezell, 80, Snyder, will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Coahoma Cemetery with Barry Ezra, her nephew and a Church of Christ minister, officiating. Burial will follow under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Ezell died Monday, Feb. 15, 1999, at Cogdell Memorial Hospital in Snyder after a lengthy illness.

She was born March 12, 1918, in Brown County, where she grew up. She married Jack J. Ezell on June 8, 1940, in Brownwood and moved to Snyder in 1969. She was a housewife and member of West 30th Church of Christ in Snyder.

Survivors include: her husband, Jack J. Ezell, Snyder; a son, Johnnie Ezell of Coahoma; a brother, Gerald Ezra of May; three sisters, Nelda Nagle of Pecos, Pearl Harvey of Midland and Martha Ezra of Ira; and one grandson.

Arrangements under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home, Snyder.

James William Greene

James William Greene, 86, of Big Spring, died on Monday, Feb. 15, 1999, at his residence. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1999, at Colorado City Cemetery with the Rev. James Liggett, Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Big Spring and Bryans Fitzhugh, minister of missions at University Baptist Church in Fort Worth, officiat-

He was born on Sept. 5, 1912, in Colorado City, and married Cleo Shepherd on May 7, 1937, in Colorado City. She preceded him in death on Nov. 7, 1992.

Mr. Greene was a member of First Baptist Church in

Survivors include: two daughters and sons-in-law. Jo Anne and Reg Hyer of Big Spring, and Brenda and Bryans Fitzhugh of Fort Worth; four grandchildren, Lesli Nichols of Knott, John Guitar of Abilene, Andy Fitzhugh and Matt Fitzhugh, both of Fort Worth, and five great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Reg Hyer, John Guitar, Martin Nichols, Steven Nichols, Garrett Nichols, Andy Fitzhugh and Matt Fitzhugh.

The family suggests memorials to: St. Mary's Episcopal Retirement Homes Memorial Fund (Canterbury and Canterbury North), 1700 Lancaster, Big Spring.

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

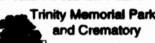
MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Olga J. Leos Lopez, 45, passed away Sunday. Services were 10:30 AM Tuesday at Scared Heart Catholic Church.Burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH

Funeral Home



906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

Edith Trapnell, 93 died Sunday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Wednesday at

Trinity Memorial Park.

James William Greene, 86, died Monday. Graveside services will be 2:30 PM Wednesday at Colorado City Cememtery.

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

can attend both the concert and the food festival beforehand. The symphony will perform at 8 the Municipal in Auditorium.

Buy your combination ticket at the museum, or call 267-8255 for more information.

The Symphony Guild also plans a booth at this year's food festival, featuring cheeses from around the world.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1

leaks point to poor sealants around the heating and air conditioning vents, and he said the work has progressed. 'We'll have to wait to see if it

leaks when it rains again, and a flat roof may always leak somewhat," he said.

Mitchell also thanked the trustees for their work.

"I believe we are making progress and working together,"

Student gets replacement for stiffed scholarship

SAN ANTONIO (AP) Former Gov. Dolph Briscoe and H-E-B Food Stores have pledged to replace the \$40,000 college scholarship a Uvalde student received never from AdamsVision USA.

One student from every state and the District of Columbia each were told they won a \$10,000-a-year scholarship from the Houston-based company. But AdamsVision now admits there is no money and never

Justin Burt of Uvalde, a freshman at Notre Dame University, was worried he wouldn't get to remain at the school after learning Sunday night there was no scholarship

"I called Justin ... and he was disappointed for sure. He asked, 'Am I going to get to stay at Notre Dame?" " said his But by Monday, the family

got some news that should keep Justin Burt at Notre Dame until he graduates in 2002. Briscoe, who is from Uvalde.

called Burt's family and offered to replace the scholarship money. H-E-B, based in San Antonio, did the same thing.

"We've committed \$40,000 to be paid to Notre Dame University over the next four years to replace the money promised by this previous group," said H-E-B spokesman Mike De La Garza.

"As long as he attends Notre Dame and remains in good academic standing, we'll continue that scholarship. We're feeling very good about this," De La Garza said.

Gary Burt said in his call from the former governor, Briscoe said he and his wife, Janie, didn't think it was right that the scholarship money never came through and that they wanted to pay the \$40,000.

Now, Gary Burt said, he will try to figure out what to do with the two offers. He said he hopes both Briscoe and H-E-B will provide the money they offered because expenses at Notre Dame are about \$26,000 a

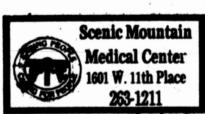
year. Burt said his son passed up full scholarships at two other universities because he wanted to attend Notre Dame, and he was depending on the

Adams Vision money. Adams Vision founder Val Adams insists he still is trying to scrape up money to honor

the scholarships. John Boone, a prosecutor with the Harris County district attorney's office, doesn't think the students should hold their breath. Boone described Adams as a habitual criminal, convicted of theft for writing bogus checks on six different occasions. Adams remains on pro-

bation for a 1993 case. The students who won the Adams Vision scholarships are among the brightest in the country.

Justin Burt was valedictorian of his 1998 class at Uvalde High



School. At Notre Dame he plays in the marching band and the university orchestra and had a 4.0 grade point average his first

Fat-bashing ads draw protests

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -More than 30 overweight people chanted "Eat me!" while performing aerobics on the sidewalk in front of a health club to protest a new ad campaign they say demoralizes fat people.

The "fat advocates" banded together to protest a 24 Hour Fitness billboard campaign that depicts a hungry space alien and reads "When they come, they will eat the fat ones first."

Company officials say they didn't intend to offend anyone. 'Sometimes humor helps make things easier, and can even be motivational," 24 Hour Fitness officials said in a release.

But the protesters said they saw little humor in the ad.

"It's really hard for fat people to get into the gym anyway. To alienate them before they even walk in the door is cruel," said Rebekah Bridges, who handed out lollipops to passersby.

"I may be fat, but I'm fit, I'm happy, I'm sexual, I'm all of those things. How dare an ad man decide for society that we're not allowed to be someplace," Ms. Bridges said.

Others waved handwritten signs that read "Bite My Fat, Alien Butt," "Fat and Fit" and 'Honk If You're Fat," which received loud support from traffic on the busy downtown street.

A fitness trainer for the rival World Gym ran a low impact aerobics session at the sidewalk protest, leading heaty participants through a rigorous high-kneed, arm-pumping rou-

Marilyn Wann organized the event and is the author of "Fat!So?," a book that seeks strip away the common cultural notion that fat is bad. Wann said the 24 Hour Fitness ad is not funny and took her "fat rebels" to the front lines to be seen and heard.

"We've got an epidemic of eating disorders, an epidemic of exercise disorders, people who have to work out twice a day or they're not worthy human beings," Ms. Wann said. "It really makes me sad to think the fitness isn't about health, they're just about

looks.' Wann said she'd like to see the company retract the ads and work with advocates to fill

out its membership. Carlsbad-based 24 Hour Fitness has 284 gyms in 10 western states, Europe and Asia.

As a row of lithe, Lycra-clad gym members streamed out the club's doors past protesters, most agreed the ad was an unusually demeaning stab at

potential customers. 'The ad is very derogatory. The ad is abusive. The ad is prejudicial," said club member Nancy Cook, who heard about protest on television and joined

in a show of support. But Heather Mulhall, who left the gym on her mountain bike, said the ad was simply "catty or joking." She said the club has many plus-sized members and some are in better shape

than her. "I will get on the treadmill next to people who weigh a little bit more, and they can go twice as long as I can," she

BRIEFS

BIG SPRING POLICE **DEPARTMENT** is taking applications for the spring Citizens Police Academy class. The class will receive 3.6 continuing education units at Howard College, and learn about the department's operations in the community.

Applications are now available on the police department's web page at police.big-

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

spring.tx.us. Select patrol division, then citizens police academy, and you can download the application to your computer.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Call Sgt. Lee Everett at the police department at 264-

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) volunteers have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and will be preparing 1998 income tax returns for individuals.

They will help individuals each Monday from 9 a.m. until noon through March 29 at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive in the Industrial Park.

The service is for all citizens, not only senior citizens, officials said.

Those requesting assistance are asked to bring their tax booklet received from the IRS. all W-2s, 1099s and other documents received showing their 1998 income, as we as last year's tax return.

Those who are handicapped, cannot make it to the Senior Citizens Center, and who need help are invited to call Dorothy Kennemur at 398-5522, the Senior Citizens Center at 267-1628, or First Presbyterian Church at 263-4211.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

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

Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles. Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.

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

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

addiction support group, 3610 Dixon, call 264-9900. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and

• "Most Excellent Way," an

8 p.m. closed meeting. ·Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 319 Runnels. For more information

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

call Shannon Nabors at 263-

267-7220 Counseling Samaritan Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients in Midland. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

·Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager

WEDNESDAY •Gamblers Anonymous, 7

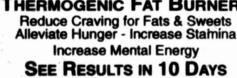
p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920. •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

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

 Narcotic Anonymous, 8 p.m. Mary's **Episcopal** Church.Call 268-4189 (pager no.) Step study.

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

DON'T WAIT FOR ANOTHER NEW YEAR! THIN TAB 100 & THIN TAB PLUS THERMOGENIC FAT BURNERS



Find Thin Tab and other natural "Health & Nutrition" products at a retail location near you:

The Medicine Shoppe LOSE WEIGHT NATURALLY FOR \$1.00/DAY - FREE SAMPLES AVAILABLE!!! TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 0,5,6 CASH 5:4,14,21,22,23

of East I-20.

intoxicated.

ure to appear.

REPORT

reported.

1800 block of Gregg.

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

MARKETS

March cotton 56.80 cents, up 18 points; March crude 11.44, down 44 points; Cash hogs \$1 lower at 27 cents; cash steers steady at 64 even; April lean hog futures 45.50, down 127 points; Feb. live cattle futures 65.05, down 10 points. courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Noon quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.

Index 9347.75 Volume 213,210,670 86% +4 131/16 + 1/16 Asarco Inc Atmos Energy 25% 84% + 1%BP Amoco Calenergy Inc. 28% -4 Chevron 80 + 1/8 12¼ to 12½ Cifra Coca Cola $64\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{2}$ Compaq Computer 431/16 + 15/16 Cornell Correc. Dell 92 15/16+ 31/ **DuPont** 53% - 1/16 69 -7/16 Exxon Halliburton 30% -% **IBM** 177% + 4%Intel Corp 129% + 2%Mobil 86 - 34 913/16 +1/16 NUV Palex Inc. $7\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{8}$ Pepsi Cola $37\frac{3}{4} + 5/8$ Petrofina Phillips Petroleum SBC Com. Sears Texaco Texas Utils. Co

46% + 1% $39^{13}/_{16} + \frac{1}{8}$ 50% + 1/8411/8 + 11/16 50% +% Texas Instruments 95% + 2411/16 + 13/16 Unocal Corp 29% 871/2 + 31/8 Wal-Mart Amcap 17.77-18.85 Europacific 28.87-30.63 **Prime Rate** 7.75% 285.00-286.00 Gold Silver 5.40-5.45

POLICE

The Big Spring police reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Monday and 8 a.m. today:

 ASSAULT/FAMILY VIO-LENCE was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. and the 1500 block of Wood.

· THEFT was reported in the 800 block of West 16th. A lawn mower, valued at \$200, was reported stolen.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 600 block of Drake. Graffiti was spray painted on an outside wall. • JOE SANCHEZ, 59, was

arrested for driving while license invalid or suspended. MICHAEL HUNTER, 59, was arrested for public intoxi-

 MINOR ACCIDENTS were reported in the 1500 block of Wood, 200 block of West Marcy, 400 block of Goliad and at the intersection of Gregg and FM

• THEFT was reported at the police station.

 JUVENILE PROBLEM was reported in the 1300 block of

 CHILD ABUSE was reported as an incident in the 1500 block of Sycamore. GEORGE GANDER, 34.

was arrested for local warrants. ASSAULT was reported in the 500 block of Northwest Seventh.

DOMESTIC DISTUR-BANCE was reported in the Gregg, traffic accident, two 500 block of Northwest Seventh.

ALLAN'S FURNITURE

Best Prices In West Texas PH. 267-6278 202 Scurry Big Spring, Texas

DUNLAPS

patients transported to SMMC.

"Your Fashion Headquarters" 111 E. Marcy 267-8283 Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

NORMAN HARRIS, M.D.

OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY Board Certified PPO PROVIDER FOR:

BCBS CHAMPUS HMO BLUE BLUE CHOICE

TED L. PARKER BEECH STREET **HUMANA TRAVELERS**

ACCEPTS MEDICAID

Obstetrical Care at Westwood-Midland 267-8226 1-888-729-BABY 616 GREGG STREET

NEXT CLINIC VISIT 2-18-99

BIG SPRING Tuesday, F

Farmers str living despit cannot hope nomic Agriculture mist says. Keith Col

ment's chief Hou U.S. Committee Monday that in the farm e ed this year crop yields demand.

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Struggling farm economy to see no quick fix

Farmers struggling to make a living despite low crop prices cannot hope for a quick ecoturnaround, Agriculture Department econo-

Keith Collins, the department's chief economist, told a House Agriculture Committee field hearing Monday that little improvement in the farm economy is expected this year because of high crop yields and weak export demand.

The committee's chairman, Rep. Larry Combest, R-Texas, said his panel would seek changes in crop insurance coverage to better protect against low prices and natural disasters like drought. Combest also wants to include livestock in federally supported farm insur-

Increased government assis-

tance helped maintain farm farm prices continued through income in 1998 as export demand weakened in Asia and record yields depressed prices, Collins said.

- But areas of the country that price supports that carried agriweathered difficulties last year, culture programs until the including the Corn Belt of the Midwest, probably will be hurt in 1999, Collins said.

Over a two- to four-year period, economic recession in Asia should give way to economic recovery, increasing demand for U.S. farm products and improving farm incomes, Collins said.

In Nebraska, economists predicted that up to 20 percent of the state's farmers would be out of business in the next two years if commodity prices remained low.

In Iowa, one study predicted as many as one-third of that state's farmers could be forced to restructure or liquidate if low

There appeared to be little support, even among producers who testified, for returning to GOP-driven Freedom to Farm Act passed in 1996. That farm law weaned farmers away from price supports in exchange for more freedom to plant what they want.

The Freedom to Farm law received its first test last year as crop prices plummeted, and Congress responded to the farm crisis with more than \$6 billion in emergency farm aid. There were calls by some Democrats for a return to price supports.

Mark Kepler, a wheat and corn farmer in Nebraska's Panhandle, said he supports changes in the crop insurance

program will stand as a firm foundation for future farm policy," said Kepler. "As American farmers, we greatly need an economical insurance policy that will be tied to lost income as

well as lost production.' At the hearing, which spanned issues across the agricultural spectrum, several livestock producers called for mandatory price reporting for meatpacking companies and warned that increased consolidation of agriculture into large corporations will hurt the family farmer — and the country.

'We, as family farmers, care about the food we are producing," said Scott VanderWal, a cattle and grain farmer from Volga, S.D. "If you take your crystal ball out and look out 20 years, you find two corporations handling the nation's food, and prices go up and qual-

"An improved crop insurance ity goes down." Panel: New crime laws having minor impact

avalanche of new laws Congress has passed since 1970 to make America's streets safe has

failed, a report concludes. 'There is no persuasive evidence that federalization of local crime makes the streets safer for American citizens," says a report prepared by a blue-ribbon task force sponsored by the American Bar Association and chaired by former Attorney General Edwin Meese III.

The report was to be made public today.

The 16-member task force says a Congress worried about being called "soft on crime" actually may be hurting the fight against street violence by passing federal laws that duplicate state and local efforts

WASHINGTON (AP) - The by hundreds of pages of statistical findings, calls on Congress to resist its political impulses.

> "There is an understandable pressure on Congress not to vote against crime legislation even if it is misguided, unnecessary and harmful," the report's executive summary says. "But there must be a recognition that a refusal to endorse a new federal crime is not a sign that a legislator is soft on crime.'

> The report notes with alarm that more than 40 percent of all federal criminal laws enacted since the Civil War were passed since 1970.

"Highly publicized criminal incidents are frequently accompanied by proposals for congressional responses for no reason other than that the conduct is serious, even if the activity is The 56-page report, backed up already handled by state law,"

"Federalization Criminal Law" report mirrors criticism raised by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist in his year-end report on the federal judiciary in December. He blamed the trend on pressure in Congress "to appear responsive to every highly publicized societal ill or sensational crime."

The report states: "Increased federalization is rarely, if ever, likely to have any appreciable effect on the categories of violent crime that most concern Americans, because in practice federal law enforcement can reach only a small percent of such activity."

enforcement State law accounts for about 95 percent of all prosecutions nationwide.

"Inappropriate federalization" can contribute to "long-range damage to real crime control"

by diverting federal money better spent on state law-enforcement systems, the report says, and can deplete funding of federal law-enforcement efforts not duplicated by the states.

"The expanding coverage of federal criminal law, much of it enacted in the absence of a demonstrated and distinctive federal justification, is moving the nation rapidly toward two broadly overlapping, parallel and essentially edundant sets of criminal prombitions. ... Such a system has little to com-

mend it and much to condemn it," the report says. "Sampling of the latest avail-

able statistics demonstrates that several recently enacted federal statutes, championed by many because they would have a claimed impact on crime, have hardly been used at all," the

Clinton speaks of 'new season' of renewal

Linda Tripp says she is thinking about doing a book

Clinton.

works

Department.

a time of self-renewal and forand New Hampshire's familiar political terrain be with talk of a "new season" and "this tide of

The president's words as he sat opposite Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo on Monday were not new. The aftermath of his impeachment and acquittal should, for the nation, be a "time for reconciliation and renewal," Clinton reiterated during his quick trip to Merida, Mexico.

But his brimming confidence this time suggested he feels he's won not only a second chance but a stronger hand.

From commanding the world stage on his 23-hour mission to Mexico, Clinton takes the policy

Tripp is reviving the idea of

writing a book and says she

thinks President Clinton "will

think twice" before engaging in

any improper behavior in the

aftermath of the Monica

Appearing Monday night on

CNN's "Larry King Live" pro-

gram, Mrs. Tripp said that

"from what I'm seeing, the

truth is just never going to get

out there, so to the extent that I

Lewinsky scandal.

WASHINGTON (AP) - For helm of his Democratic Party President Clinton, this appears on Wednesday, with a Social Security forum at the White ward focus as he claims the House — the centerpiece of a day when Democrats fan out to Social Security town meetings nationwide.

> Friday, he welcomes French President Jacques Chirac at the White House and is planning his first news conference since last summer. In between, Clinton will spend

> all of Thursday making stops around New Hampshire, where in the 1992 campaign he coined his own nickname as "The Comeback Kid." "I never saw him act like a

> man in trouble in the first place," Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said Monday evening as he boarded Air Force One behind Clinton en route home from Mexico. "But he sure had a great day today.'

> ing" doing a book. She says Ms.

Lewinsky is "protecting" the

president by not revealing all

that she knows about their rela-

In raising the book possibili-

ty, Mrs. Tripp is providing her

critics with yet another issue to

Mrs. Tripp's supporters have

spent much of the past year say-

ing she did not have a profit

motive in mind in tape-record-

WASHINGTON (AP) - Linda out," she is "seriously consider-

may decide to let the truth come ing Ms. Lewinsky's confidences

tionship.

use against her.

Thousands and thousands of proclaimed: "This tide of spring Mexicans, many setting up mariachi-style bands on the sidewalk, lined the streets of Merida to cheer Clinton's Mexico relations, but the sentimotorcade with flags and banners wishing him and "su broadly. esposa (your wife) Hillary." happy returns.

"This joy, this warmth, this affection is reserved only for our dearest friends," Zedillo said. Clinton thanked the congres-

sional delegation with him including Republican Reps. Mark Sanford of South Carolina, Rob Portman of Ohio and Kevin Brady of Texas, each of whom voted in favor of Clinton's impeachment — for their show of "America's commitment for the common future we will make together.'

To officials from both Mexico

about her relationship with

Mrs. Tripp had gone to New

York literary agent Lucianne

Goldberg in 1996 with a book

proposal about the Clinton

White House, but says she did-

n't go through with it because

she was afraid she would lose

her government job. She still

The book project came before

Ms. Lewinsky told Mrs. Tripp

about her involvement with the

the Defense

for

has brought a new season of friendship.

He was talking about U.S. ment appeared to apply more

In a comfortable exchange Monday with the same reporters he dodged for most of last year, Clinton mused from his seat at the lavish Hacienda Temozon (Whirlwind Estate) about his wife's political future and his own.

"She and I both would like to continue to be useful in public affairs when we leave office,' he said in between private meetings with Zedillo.

As for the prospect that Mrs. Clinton would be a shoo-in to replace New York Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Movnihan. "I think she would be terrific in and the United States, Clinton the Senate," the president said.

It was Mrs. Goldberg who first

suggested the taping when Mrs.

Tripp was about to become a

witness in the Paula Jones sex-

ual harassment case against

Asked about the ultimate

impact of betraying a friend by

recording their phone calls,

Mrs. Tripp said, "I can't say

that I stopped anything that he

may or may not be doing right

now, but I think he'll think

Clinton

twice about it."

TEXAS BRIEFS

New Handbook of Texas goes online

AUSTIN (AP) - Now Texans can get the skinny on the history, geography and culture of the Lone Star State in one quick trip to the library.

The virtual library, that is.

The online version of the New Handbook of Texas, a 7,000-page six-volume encyclopedia, was announced by University of Texas at Austin officials on Monday.

Like its 1996 printed form, the online version offers some 23,500 articles about the men and women who shaped the state. Some 8,000 community entries include histories of all 254 counties and all major cities - from agriculture to urbanization.

In addition, some 7,000 biographies are accessible from prehistoric Texans to 20th century immigrants. The main requirement, other than fame, is death: No matter how wellknown a Texan might be, they have to be dead before they qual ify for a biographical entry.

More than 3,000 authors and editors worked on the New Handbook of Texas, which focuses more closely on the historical traditions of the African American and Mexican American communities as well as contributions made by women and women's organizations.

Users may select entries by scrolling through an alphabetical

list or via a search mechanism.

According to Paul Gervais Bell Jr., president of TSHA, the association will continue to publish The New Handbook of Texas in book form and, later, as a CD-ROM.

The online version of the New Handbook of Texas can be accessed through the Texas State Historical Association at http://www.tsha.utexas.edu or through the University's General Libraries at http://www.lib.utexas.edu/.

Police seek whereabouts of sex offenders

AUSTIN (AP) — Information about Texas' 15,500 registered sex offenders was made available on the Internet last month, but authorities said that list is missing the addresses of nearly 1,000 sex offenders.

Police said they have been unable to verify the whereabouts of 986 sex offenders — some of whom were convicted of offenses against children. They said they are considering turning to other law enforcement agencies and parole officers, as well as going door-to-door, to track them down.

Police said it's especially important to know where convicted sex offenders are living because they frequently are repeat

"Studies have shown they repeat the same offense or become more aggressive in their crimes," Austin Police detective Donald Baker told the Austin American Statesman.

Sex offenders convicted on or after Sept. 1, 1970, are required to notify authorities and provide them with addresses and other information within seven days of moving. They are also supposed to register annually. Failure to register as a sex offender is a felony punishable by

up to two years in jail and a fine up to \$10,000. Authorities sent letters to 1,272 registered sex offenders in

October asking them to verify their addresses. By the January deadline, 360 offenders had not responded and the post office had returned 508 letters because of incorrect addresses Baker said 118 sex offenders returned the letters, but failed to

provide proof of residency. Baker, who works in the Austin police child abuse unit, said

he sent the letters to verify addresses after he took a sample of registered sex offenders and found that most of them were convioted of offences against children. HOf 154 sex offenders who registered with police from January

to August of 1998, 187 percent had committed offenses against chil-

Firefighters remembered for their spirit

LAKE WORTH (AP) - Phillip Dean was a firefighter and Sunday school teacher who was looking forward to the birth of his first child this week.

Brian Collins, who taught children about fire safety, was a father of two, with his wife due to deliver a third this summer. Gary Sanders learned everything he could about firefighting, and at age 19 already had two years of experience under his belt.

All three died Monday in a three-alarm blaze — which investigators believe was deliberately set — that destroyed a Lake Worth church. And in the smoky haze of the smoldering remains, moist-eyed firefighters struggled to balance their sense of duty with an agonizing feeling of loss. "It's something that is going to obviously take a toll on many

departments, not just ours," Fort Worth fire Lt. Kent Worley said. "The brotherhood and sisterhood is such that we all lost a family member, irregardless of which department they are Two of the men — Collins, 35, and Dean, 29 — were Fort Worth

firefighters who were volunteering for the River Oaks department on their day off. Collins was a 14-year veteran, and Dean a 6-year veteran.

Sanders, the youngest of the three, worked for the Sansom Park Fire Department.

They died when the roof of the non-denominational Precious Faith Church collapsed on top of them. Fellow firefighters formed an "honor line," standing in paral-

lel rows along a path from the charred church to the mortician's van as the first victim's body was carried up the middle.

Four other firefighters were hospitalized with minor injuries. Three of them were trying to extinguish flames on the roof when it caved underneath them.

Family and friends of the victims gathered in a parking lot across the street from the church to console each other.

Iraq says U.S. allies will pay for hosting planes

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Baghdad warned U.S. allies today that they will pay a high price for playing host to American and British warplanes that patrol "no-fly" zones over Iraq.

The warnings carried by Iraq's state-controlled media came one day after Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan said Baghdad would attack a Turkish base for U.S. warplanes if the jets continue patrolling Iraqi skies. It was the first time in years Iraq has threatened to attack its north-

ern neighbor. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has promised swift U.S. retaliation in the event of an Iraqi attack.

U.S. jets based at Incirlik, in southern Turkey, have struck almost daily at Iraqi defense sites after being targeted while patrolling the no-fly zone over the Iraq's north.

today defended his government's threat.

are killing Iraqis, are destroy- price.'

ing Iraqi property and this is not acceptable," Aziz said. "A Turkish airbase should not be used by the Americans and British to hurt Iraqis.'

Iraq has also threatened to strike at bases in Saudi Arabia and K wait, from which U.S. and British jets patrol a southern no-fly zone. "Time has run out for

In Ankara, Deputy Iraqi American and British aggres-Prime Minister Tariq Aziz sors and those supporting them," the al-Jumhouriya newspaper said in a front-page edito-"The U.S. and British planes rial. "They shall pay a heavy

Advice: Start looking at your crop insurance

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Big Spring Mall Saturday, Feb. 20th

10 am-6 pm Monday, Feb. 22nd thru Friday, Feb. 26th 5 pm-7 pm Saturday, Feb. 27th 10 am-6 pm Ages 4-18

\$25.00 Registration Fee

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

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

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OUR VIEWS

Personnel policy needed in place before hiring freeze

then Howard County commissioners made the decision a few weeks ago to implement a hiring freeze, little could they know how soon they would have to deal with the issue.

The freeze, we feel, was a normal management reaction to the news from chief county tax appraiser Keith Toomire regarding lost revenues because of the county's declining mineral values.

And with toughening economic times, one would think personnel would stay in place.

But that's not necessarily the case, as commissioners discovered last week.

Faced with an overcrowded jail and severe personnel shortages, Howard County Sheriff Bill Jennings told commissioners he either had to do something personnel-wise or look at the most costly option of farming prisoners out to other jails for a daily fee.

And County Indigent Health Care Director Irene Dominguez, looking down the road to a mid-summer personnel problem, took her concerns to commission-

And now, much sooner than they would have liked, we're sure, commissioners are faced with coming up with a personnel plan to deal with shortages, such as in the sheriff's department, in the midst of a hiring

This is a problem that won't go away this year ... we already know the mineral values are down and the revenues are out for this year. And unless things get better in the oil patch, mineral values will continue to

Personnel problems in any place of business are as sure as death and taxes and you can bet if you're in a hiring freeze, you're going to wind up short-handed.

Perhaps these problems this time will help the county develop a plan that can be implemented whenever a freeze is necessary, rather than implementing the freeze and then having to come back and address the question of "How do we deal with it now that we're short-handed?"

Your Views

TO THE EDITOR:

As a vetern of World War II. I proudly salute the Vietnam Veterans of Big Spring. They fought a very unpopular war and when they came home they were critized and ridiculed. They were not very well appreciated by many people in the United States, yet they became a part of our com-

munity and fitted in well

where they were needed. They built and erected a very attractive and meaningful memorial in our city. We thank them for all that they have done.

"To You From Falling Hands, We Throw The Torch. Be Yours To Hold It High." (From IN FLANDERS FIELDS)

> BOB DEAN Big Spring

LETTER POLICY

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 ver-
- We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period
- · Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or
- address will not be considered for publication. We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431,
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- Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

In impeachment, hyperbole was in full flower

By WALTER R. MEARS

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Reading Republican forecasts, the acquittal of George Washington's 41st successor may have put every cherry tree at risk of chopping by youths who will lie rather than con-

For if President Clinton can get by with dishonesty, the House impeachment prosecutors said, the message will be that children can too.

They argued as well that the American legacy of duty and honor would be so damaged as to leave doubt that people would be willing to defend it.

According to Democratic prophecies, Clinton's impeachment demeaned the process, weakened the presidency itself, opened a path to political pros-

In impeachment, hyperbole was part of the rhetoric of Republican prosecution and Democratic defense. The warnings of doom were not credible, then or now.

But they were part of the argument.

"I wonder if, after this culture war is over, an America will survive that will be worth fighting to defend?" Rep. Henry Hyde said in closing the case against Clinton, knowing the Senate would not convict the

The list of dire predictions grew steadily over the 13 months from the beginning of the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal to the Senate votes acquitting Clinton on House articles of impeachment for perjury and obstruction of justice.

Now that it is done, and Clinton has been spared conviction, the grimmest of those forecasts are being toned down. "Only time will tell," said Hyde, the chief House prosecutor, who had claimed prior to the Senate's two not guilty verdicts that acquittal would permanently undermine fair and equal justice.

And Democrats say that despite the damage to this president, there probably will be no lasting harm to the office of the presidency.

"We really upheld the presidency," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., "and therefore, I think the damage to it will be temporary and minimal.

What time has told about forecasts in the entire impeachment case is that almost every prediction has been wrong.

Except the one about the ver dicts. Nobody thought there were or would be 67 Senate votes to convict Clinton and force him from office.

The warning that American youth would see unpunished lying by the president as a

license to do it themselves was threaded through GOP arguments to the end.

"What do we say to the kids about truth and justice, about honesty and integrity, about the political and governmental heritage they should admire and emulate?" Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., asked after voting to convict.

Logically, that none of those standards have changed, and that Clinton's conduct was neither to be admired nor emulat-

Washington, of course, was the president who could not tell a lie, and so, legendarily, admitted as a boy that he had chopped down the cherry tree.

Clinton is a president who can tell one, more than one, although not, his lawyers maintained, under oath. The oath, to tell the truth.

would be a casualty of acquittal, the prosecutors argued. "We have reduced lying under oath to a breach of etiquette, but only if you are the president," Hyde said.

"The impact of allowing a president to stand above the law will be felt for generations to come," argued Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis.

But after the Senate voted against ousting Clinton, Hyde said he could only hope and pray that the oath against lying would remain a strong pillar of American justice.

"Only time will tell what effect all of this has had on the efficacy, the enforceability of the oath," he said.

Ironically, one of the few impeachment forecasts that stood up was Hyde's, more than a year ago — and it held despite his best efforts to disprove it. Hyde said at the start, long before Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr gave the House a case for impeaching Clinton, that impeachment would have to elicit bipartisan support. "So nothing much will happen until the Democrats decide something should hap-

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pen," Hyde said. They didn't. Republicans drove impeachment through the House, and in the Senate trial, which ended with all 45 Democrats voting not guilty. What bipartisanship there was came in the votes of 10 GOP senators to acquit on the perjury count, five on obstruction of justice.

Then, of course, there is the ancestor of all flawed forecasts, the Supreme Court decision that Clinton could be sued in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case while serving as president.

"It appears to us highly unlikely to occupy any substantial amount of petitioner's time," the court said in the 1997 decision, opening the path -that ultimately led to impeachment.

ADDRESSES

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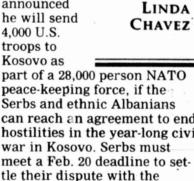
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Not the time to abandon our commitment

ore U.S. troops may soon head to the Balkans to monitor yet another fragile peace agreement in that war torn region, this time to

Kosovo -- a region of southern Serbia bordered by Albania and Macedonia.

On Saturday, President Clinton announced he will send 4,000 U.S. troops to



Serbs and ethnic Albanians can reach an agreement to end hostilities in the year-long civil war in Kosovo. Serbs must meet a Feb. 20 deadline to settle their dispute with the Kosovo Liberation Army or face likely U.S.-supported NATO air strikes. Either way, the United States is now deeply enmeshed in the Kosovo situation, which troubles many members of Congress and foreign-policy experts.

The recent fighting between Serbian troops and the Kosovo Liberation Army is only one year old, but the hostilities go

back centuries. Like much of the region, ethnic and religious differences have divided one group from the other since the Ottoman invasion in the 14th Century.

Kosovo itself was the sight of two famous battles, one in 1389 and the other in 1448, in which Serbian Christians were defeated by the Ottoman Moslems. Today, the Serbs are still Orthodox Christians, while the ethnic Albanians, who make up 90 percent of the population of two million people living in Kosovo, are Moslem.

For years under former Yugoslavian dictator Josef Broz Tito, Kosovans were allowed some ethnic autonomy. But in 1989, Kosovans lost their status when Serbian strong-man Slobodan Milosevic began his own campaign to create a Greater Serbia out of the former Yugoslavia, first taking on Slovenians, Croatians, and Bosnians, and now ethnic Albanians. What makes the current situation so volatile is that fighting could spread beyond the borders of Kosovo into neighboring Albania and Macedonia, which might in turn ignite age-old hostilities between Turkey and Greece.

Although Clinton asserted in his Saturday address that it is in the "national interest" to send U.S. troops to Kosovo, he has done a poor job explaining why. Even those members of

Congress who support his action are wary. "The Balkans is a place you can go and you can get lost and never be seen again or heard from again," cautioned New York Democrat Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain said he supports the troop deployment in order to prevent armed conflict from spreading in the region, but warned: "We have no exit

strategy. We have no concept

of how we want to settle this

situation. Ever since the Vietnam War, it has become almost an article of faith of American foreign policy that the we must know how to extricate ourselves before we commit troops anywhere. But this so-called exit strategy is "an utterly false issue," according to foreign policy expert Joshua Muravchik, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise

Muravchik observes that the United States has successfully stationed troops in Europe and Japan for more than 50 years with no serious thought about an exit strategy. If a few more American troops dispersed to the Balkans can prevent violence from spreading, it is well worth the investment in Muravchik's view.

"It doesn't cost much more to station them there than in Kansas," he told me in an

interview, noting that the U.S. presence in Western Europe for the last 50 years has essentially ended the pattern of war between European nations that has gone on for centuries.

"When we send U.S. troops somewhere it ought to be the other guys who start thinking about their exit strategy," he

The prospect of a widening war -- especially one that could ultimately pit NATO allies Turkey and Greece against each other -- makes it imperative that the United States step into the Kosovan conflict now. But the president must do a better job than he has so far of explaining to the American people why this intervention is necessary. He could do that first by asking Congress to vote to support his deployment of U.S. troops, rather than asserting that he can make the decision on his own. And he should avoid making a phony promise that he will bring them home quickly, as he did when he sent U.S. troops to Bosnia three years ago. That promise, since broken, will be used against him now.

ed more than 50 years and trillions of dollars in keeping the peace in Europe. The president must now convince the American people that this is not the time to abandon our commitment

 Borden County at Seagraves (girls playoff game). The United States has invest-

ON THE

SCHOOLGIRL PLA 5:45 p.m. — Gra Wildcats vs. Wellm Wildcats at Seagra

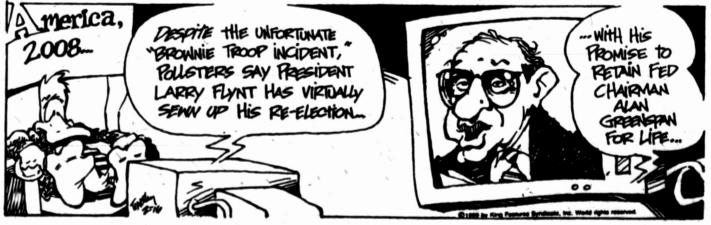
95.9 6:45 p.m. — Sta Buffaloes vs. Olton Mustangs at Lubbo KBTS-FM 94.3.

Television COLLEGE BASKETI

6:30 p.m. - Pur Michigan State, ES 8:30 p.m. — Ark Florida, ESPN, Ch. NBA BASKETBALL

7 p.m. — Miami Indiana Pacers, TN





now.

ne

Indiana Pacers, TNT, Ch. 28.

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item or story idea for sports? Call John Moseley, 263-7331, Ext. 233.

> Page 5 Tuesday, Feb. 16, 1999

IN BRIEF

SPORTS

Lady Stęers JV opens with win over Odessa

Big Spring's Lady Steers junior varsity opened their 1999 softball season with a 14-2 romp over Odessa High's Lady Broncos JV on Monday.

The Lady Steers needed just four innings to end the game on the 10-run rule, as Nicole Chesworth and Bridgette Cain combined to limit the Lady Broncos to just three hits.

Cain also paced the Big Spring offense, pounding a pair of doubles, while Val Aguirre finished the game with two singles and Candace Cerda added an RBI double.

Brock eighth in feature

race at Abilene Speedway Rondel Brock of Big Spring drove his car to an eighthplace finish in the IMCA "B" feature race Sunday at the Abilene Speedway.

Jimmy Rather of Hobbs, N.M., took the first feature race's win, while Monte Bolton was the winner of Sunday's second feature race.

Postseason cage tilts slated at 'The Dorothy'

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum will be the site for a number of postseason high school basketball games this week.

"The Dorothy" will be the site for two bi-district girls' playoff games tonight. Abilene's Lady Eagles take

Lubbock Lubbock Coronado's Lady Mustangs in a Class 5A playoff at 6 tonight, followed by a. Class 3A showdown between Slaton's Lady Tigers and Crane's Lady Golden Cranes at 8

As many as three games may be played on Friday. Ira's Bulldogs and Rankin's Red Devils are slated to play a practice game at 4:30 p.m. In addition, a pair of girls' playoff games are tentatively set for 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Coahoma's Bulldoge slated to play Ozona's Lady Lions at 6 p.m. if Ozona manages to beat Anthony in bi-district play on Tuesday, and the 8 p.m. game would match Wall's Lady Hawks and Stanton's Lady Buffaloes if the Lady Buffs knock off Olton in their Tuesday bi-district

Bi-district playoff game set in Coahoma tonight

Coahoma Elementary School's gymnasium will be the site for a Class 2A girls' bidistrict playoff game at 7 tonight.

Idalou (22-7) the runner-up in District 7-2A will face Jim Ned (14-13), the third place team in District 8-2A.

LOCAL GAMES

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

TONIGHT 6 p.m.

· Grady vs. Wellman at Seagraves (girls' bi-district playoff game).

6:30 p.m. · Garden City vs. Marathon at McCamey (girls' bi-district playoff

game). 7 p.m. Stanton vs. Olton at Lubbock

Cooper (girls' bi-district playoff game).

7:30 p.m. Big Spring at Snyder (boys). 8 p.m.

· Borden County vs. Klondike at Seagraves (girls' bi-district playoff game).

ON THE AIR

Radio **SCHOOLGIRL PLAYOFFS**

5:45 p.m. — Grady Lady Wildcats vs. Wellman Lady Wildcats at Seagraves, KBST-FM 95.9

6:45 p.m. — Stanton Lady Buffaloes vs. Olton Lady Mustangs at Lubbock Cooper. KBTS-FM 94.3.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6:30 p.m. - Purdue at Michigan State, ESPN, Ch. 30.

7 p.m. — Miami Heat at

For first time in history, both Miamis ranked in AP's Top 25 The ASSOCIATED PRESS November, the RedHawks' first appear—its first ranking because of a knee injury with Duke, Connecticut and Auburn. The Place Parille (25.1) stayed a

For the first time in the 50-year history of the AP college basketball poll, there are two Miamis in the rankings.

Miami of Florida, a member of the Big East, was 15th Monday, the Hurricanes' highest ranking since joining the Top 25 last month for the first time in 39 years.

Miami of Ohio, a member of the Mid-American Conference, was back in the poll at No. 25 after a two-week run in

ance in 21 years.

"It's good," RedHawks guard Damon Frierson said of what it means to put a temporary end to being the "other" Miami. "We're finally seeing some recognition. We thought we were good a

few years ago. Miami of Ohio (19-4) was ranked in the second and third polls of the regular season, but dropped out following losses to

Xavier and Wisconsin-Green Bay. Frierson said the team struggled after

ners of seven straight and 12 of 13. "Rob does a great job for us providing leadership," Frierson said. "We're playing as a team now. We're winning basketball games and we don't care who

sustained by point guard Rob Mestas,

who has returned to the RedHawks, win-

scores the points." While the return to the rankings of Miami of Ohio and No. 22. Missouri were among the many changes in the Top 25 this week, the top three spots held steady

The Blue Devils (25-1) stayed a resounding No. 1, receiving 64 first-place votes and 1,744 points from the national media panel after breaking the 100-point mark twice and winning by an average of 38.5 points in their two games last

Connecticut (22-1), which also won twice last week, got the other six No. 1 votes and 1,677 points, 72 more than Auburn (24-1), which also went 2-0 last week, winning by an average of 35

Hawks lock up WJCAC championship

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Sports Editor

Howard College's Hawks clinched their first Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) men's basketball championship since 1991 Monday night with a 72-68 win over New Mexico Junior College's Thunderbirds.

The Hawks, now 21.5 overall and 11-0 in WJCAC play, got a little help in wrapping up the title from Odessa College's Wranglers in Levelland. The Wranglers took a 70-62 win over South Plains' Texans that gave Howard a four-game lead in the conference standings with three games remaining in the regular season.

The Hawks play host to South Plains at Dorothy Garrett

Coliseum on Thursday. After having seen his team handle every threat that's been thrown at them this season, particularly NMJC's repeated bids to take control Monday, Hawks head coach Tommy Collins says he's convinced they'll capable of finishing the conference schedule undefeat-

"I'm convinced our guys realize they're going to win it and are keeping something in reserve ... saving it for the regional tournament," Collins said after seeing the Hawks finally put the Thunderbirds to rest in the final three mir of play.

"There's been a lot of pressure on these guys and they've found a way to respond every time, Collins added. "When you're winning every game, there's a lot of pressure to keep winning. Once you've lost one in conference, you start picking out games that you have to win ...

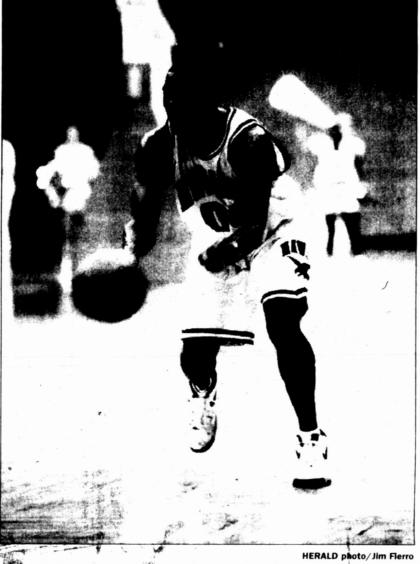
start prioritizing.' What's more, Collins noted that the conference's front runner steps onto the court, dangling a carrot in front of every opponent - getting the best effort every rival can muster.

Such was the case Monday, as the T-birds — making their final appearance in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum under the guidance of Ron Black, who's coaching his 22nd and final season at NMJC - continually threatened the Hawks, never falling behind by more than five points and taking the lead on several occasions.

"We didn't have a great defensive performance, but we didn't play bad defense, either," Collins noted. "They (T-birds) can make you look bad because they shoot the ball so well ... everytime they're open, they knock the ball down.

Offensively, the Hawks had their problems with NMJC's zone defense during the first half, Collins noted, but did a little better job of attacking the Thunderbird zone in the second half.

opening In Monday's moments, it appeared as if the Hawks would jump out to a



loward College's Derrick Franklin makes a pass to a teammate during action at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in this file photo. Franklin scored 13 points Monday as the Hawks clinched the WJCAC championship with a 72-68 win over New Mexico Junior

of his game-high 23 points, and

the Hawks a six-point lead with

While Franklin was the

with 13 points, they managed to

get enough scoring from

Rhodes, post Donald Ceasar

and point guard Larry Allaway

to offset double-digit scoring by

Thunderbirds with 18 points,

while Criss added 12. Russell

and post Rafi Stevens added 11

points each in the loss that left

the Thunderbirds with a 10-17

mark overall and a 4-7 confer-

In other WJCAC men's games

Monday, Midland College took

a 62-48 win over Clarendon and

New Mexico Military Institute

11. Chris Riley 2 0 0-0 4, Kenny Tate 0 0 0-0 0

4 11, Chris Riley 2 0 0.0 4, Kenny Tate 0 0 0.0 0. Totals 23 5 7-12 68.

HÖWARD — Derrick Franklin 2 3 0.0 13, Justin Rhodes 1 2 1 2 9. Scooter Owens 0 1 0.0 3, Lamont Roberts 0 0 0.0 0, Larry Allaway 2 1 0.0 7, Don Peace 0 0 0.0 0, Greg Lewis 10 0 3.4 23, Darryl Martin 2 0 0.1 4, Donald Ceasar 3 0 2-2 8, Myron Brown 1 0 0.2 Fred Lewis 1 0 1 2 3. Totals 22 7 7 13 7.2.

Halftime score: Howard 33, NMIC 33.

Three-mont graphs: NMIC 5, Bussell 2, Ames 31.

Three-point goals: NMJC 5 (Russell 2, Ames 3

3. Rhodes 2. Owe Total Fouls: NMJC 13, Howard 15. Fouled Out: None Technical Fouls: None. Records: NMJC is 11-16 over

defeated Frank Phillips 88-73.

Ames led the way for the

four NMJC players.

ence record.

HAWKS 72. NMJC 68

51 seconds left.

comfortable lead as Derrick Darryl Martin, a Lewis drive Franklin and Justin Rhodes down the lane for the final two nailed three-point shots and post Greg Lewis scored on another Lewis layup that gave three opportunities from the paint to take a 14-9 edge. But the Thunderbirds rallied

behind the scoring of Chas Hawks' only other player to Criss and William Ames to notch double figures, finishing score eight unanswered points for a 17-14 margin As a result, the Hawks would

not retake the lead until Lewis drove the line with 9:33 left in the first half, only to fall behind again when Ames blistered the nets for six more unanswered points for a 31-25 NMJC margin with 5:49 remaining.

The Hawks came back with eight straight, Franklin draining another three and then bracketing a Lewis baseline jumper with nothing but net from 16 feet.

The result was a 33-31 Hawks lead that evaporated in the final minute of the half when NMJC's Brian Russell scored from the crease to send the two teams into intermission tied at

There would be nine more lead changes in the second half, the last of them coming with less than three minutes remaining when Rhodes hit a 3-pointer with 2:45 showing.

What followed was a steal and layup by reserve point guard

Early second-half run gives Lady Hawks win Managing Editor

Howard College's Lady Hawks opened the second half with an 18-4 run en route to a 77-66 Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) win Monday night over New Mexico Junior College in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The win lifted the Lady Hawks to a 24-3 mark overall and 9-2 in WJCAC play. New Mexico fell to 17-9 and 5-6 with The Lady Hawks raced to a 6-

0 lead in the game's first minute off a pair of baskets by freshman Yolanda Grant sand. wiched around an inside basket by Karlita Washington. It looked as if Howard was

off to the races when the lead was stretched to 10, 16-6, just five minutes into the contest. Howard got the lead up to 12 when Sharlenia Charles scored following a Thunderbird

turnover, but NMJC began to fight back Apparently learning a lesson from Midland's inside success Howard, Thunderbirds began to work

the ball inside to Genevieve Swedor and Vanessa Dunn. trimming the lead to five when Swedor completed a threepoint play with 6:18 left in the game. three-pointer Washington stretched the lead

back to eight before the Thunderbirds scored six quick points, including four off turnovers, to close to within two, 37-35, with 4:20 left in the Following a 20-second time out, Caryn Ross tipped a

rebound to Grant, who hit a short jumper from inside the paint to put Howard back up by four, 39-35. That set the stage for NMJC to take its only lead of the night, coming after Erica Gonzalez hit a three and

Thorian Buchanan scored on a fast break layup to make the score 40-39 with 3:07 left. On Howard's next trip up the court, Ross scored on a turnaround jumper to give Howard a lead it would never again

relinquish, 41-40. A Washington jumper made the lead three before a Dunn free throw and Swedor basket on an inbounds play tied the score at 43-43 with 1:21 left in

the half. Washington then hit a field goal before Swedor connected on a pair of free throws to knot the score again, 45-45, with 19.36 seconds left in the half.

Howard then worked the ball up the floor, working the perimeter before swinging it back to Aeisha Love, who connected for a three-pointer from the left wing as the buzzer sounded to end the half.

'Aeisha's three at the buzzer was a little momentum lift for us," Lady Hawks Coach Matt Corkery said. "Then we got a little run to start the second half.

But Corkery was concerned over Howard's inability to maintain its intensity.

"I really felt like we did it to ourselves," he said. "We'd get a little run, then we'd let them back. In the first half, we gave up too many easy baskets ... we got up and then we let them back in the game ... Swedor had too many baskets inside."

The start of the second half was vintage Lady Hawks, with three quick baskets - by Ricka McKee, Love and Jovanae St. Cyr — all being set

NMJC managed a basket by Connie Beyer before a free throw by Grant, a pair of free throws by Love and an inbounds basket Washington put Howard up by a dozen, 59-47, with 14:17 left in the game

"I think we got good bench play," Corkery said, "I think Jo (St. Cyr) did a good job defensively and rebounding in the second half. You could certainly tell in the first half when she wasn't in there.'

Corkery also cited Grant's

"Yo was able to get some offensive rebounds. We wereable to free her up ... free our post players up a bit and make something happen.

Washington led Howard with 22 points, while Love added 17 and Grant 13 - both career highs for the freshmen. Swedor had 22 for NMJC while Dunn added 13 and Buchanan

free throws kept NMJC in the game over the first 20 minutes. as the Thunderbirds hit 12 of 17 free throws while Howard was just two of three Howard's win, coupled with

As much as the inside game,

Odessa's 60-58 upset of South Plains at Levelland, gives the Lady Hawks a two-game lead for the No. 2 playoff spot for the conference with three games to play.

South Plains (16-11, 7-4) comes to town Thursday.

LADY HAWKS 77, NMJC 66

NMJC — Lynn Gonzales 1 5.6 8, Thoriar Buchanan 5 0.2 10, Connie Beyer 2 7.7 C. Enic Gonzalez 2 1.2 7, Vanessa Dunn 6 1 2 13, Genevieve Swedor 9 4-5 22, TOTALS 25 13-19 66 HOWARD — Ricka McKee 2 0-0 4, Shaketha Ashley 0 0-0 0, Ashanti Nix 0 0-0 0, Karita Washington 9 22 22, Latasha Moore 1 00 3 Jovanae St. Cyr 3 22 8, Kim Robertson 0 0-0 0

goals — NMJC 3 (E. Gonzalez J). Howard 1 (Washington 2, Love 2). Total fouls NMJC 1: Howard 18. Fouled out — None Technical fouls None. Rebounds — Howard 36, NMJC 18. Turnover — Howard 20, NMJC 26. Steals — Howard 16, NMJC 4. Blocks — Howard 5, NMJC 1. Att. — 600.

Stanton, Coahoma prime for playoffs with practice wins

HERALD Staff Reports

LAMESA — Stanton's Buffaloes knocked off Ira's Bulldogs, the runnersup to Borden County in District 18-1A, in a practice game Monday night in the

Lamesa Middle School gymnasium. The Buffs, who owned just a two-point advantage going into the final eight minutes of play, outscored Ira 26-10 in the fourth quarter to win going away and improve their record to 13-5.

Senior post Justin Cobb paced the Buffs with 18 points, while Chad Smith scored 13 and Kyle Herm added 10 more. Stanton, the District 3-2A champion, will take on Kermit at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Odessa College gymnasium before returning to Lamesa on Saturday for still another practice game against O'Donnell.

AREA ROUNDUP

IRA - Smith 2 0-0 5, Brown 5 0-0 10, R. Wilkins 2 8-9 12, Gainor 0 0 2 0, Juarez 2 0 0 5, Wall 1 0 0 2, Daves 7 3 3 17. Stewart 1 0-0 2. Totals 20 11-14 53.

STANTON — J. Smith 1 0-0 2, Herm 3 4-5 10, Cobb 8 2-4 18, Martinez 1 1-4 3, B. Smith 0 2-2 2, Harris 1 0-0 2, Kelly 3 0-0 7, Jenkins 1 0-0 2, Hull 4 0-2 8, Cook 2 0-0 4, C. Smith 5 3-4 13. Totals 29 12-21 71. Score by Quarters: 13 18 14 26 - 71

Three-point goals: Ira 2 (Juarez, Smith); Stanton 1 (Kelly).

Total Fouls: Ira 18, Stanton 18. Fouled Out: None

Big fourth quarter gives Bulldogs win

MIDLAND — Coahoma's Bulldogs

scored 30 points in a wild fourth quarter while Blake Nichols added 19 more Monday night to take a practice game win over Rankin's Red Devils in the Midland Christian High School gymnasi-

The Bulldogs, runners-up to Stanton in District 3-2A, overcame a 17-14 Rankin lead at the first period's close to take a 29-25 halftime advantage and held on for a 45-40 lead going into the final eight

minutes of play. But what an eight minutes!

Coahoma and Rankin, the District 4-1A champions, combined for 52 points in an exciting final period. One Bulldogs starter and three Red Devils made early exits after fouling out of the contest and Coahoma coach Kim Nichols drew a

Guard Ryan Peckham paced the Bulldogs with a game-high 25 points.

Brandon Hancock also finished in double figures with 11.

Coahoma, now 21-8 overall, will play Sudan at 7 p.m. Thursday in Brownfield in its final warm up before facing Farwell, the District 4-2A runner-up in a bi-district playoff game at 7:30 p.m Thursday in the Lubbock Monterey gym

Coahoma 75, Rankin 62 COAHOMA — Garcia 6, Green 2, Marshall 2, Harding 5

nasium.

Nichols 19, Hancock 11, White 5, Peckham 25, Totals 2

RANKIN - Valencia 5, Mendez 10, Smith 5, Armendari 3, De La Paz 23, Castillo 13, Sánchez 4. Totals 20 17-23

Score by Quarters:

17 8 15 22 - 62

Three-point goals: Coahoma 5 (Nichols 3, Harding Peckham); Rankin 5 (De La Paz 3, Mendez, Valencia). Total Fouls: Coahoma 22, Rankin 25. Fouled Out: White, Smith Castillo, Sanchez. Technical Fouls: Coahoma bench

Herald lassifieds

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Big Spring Herald

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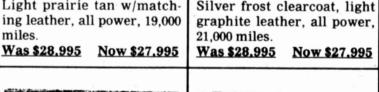
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3/2/1 den, clean ext. large, no pets. \$595. 267-2070 COAHOMA ISD: 1 bd., 1 bath. Stove & refrigerator furnished. \$250./mo. \$100./dep. No bills paid Call 267-1802 after 5:00.

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Large one bedroom ,2 bath wibuilt ins. Extra clean. \$275 /mo. \$150/dep. NO Call for appt

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267-6500.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR but it helps you with a boss. Tonight: Where the action is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You have a wide variety of ***Remain on top of work choices to make this year. Take problems. You will find another a hard look at your finances difficult and, at times, challengand long-term expectations. ing. Listen carefully to a dis-You might opt for a change in your lifestyle or life goals. gruntled associate, but contin-Question certain friendships ue to aim for what you want. that could ultimately be toxic Maintain your focus as you for you. If you are single, you seek new paths to the same offer a lot, though you someend. Break past self-imposed times get uptight or shy. Jump restrictions. Tonight: In the past barriers and let others in. limelight. Defensiveness won't help you CANCER (June 21-July 22) ****Pressure builds at work. relate, no matter what your sta-However, you can deal with a tus. If attached, review objec-

good movie.

important chat.

commitment to working as a special partner. He has a differ-

team. Happiness will come ent perspective; it serves you to

from a new sense of direction. be open-minded. Investigate the

Pisces could cost you! The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-

tives together. Renew your

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17:

Difficult ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***Stop pushing where it isn't ships, finances and getting a working. Why waste your energy? You'll gain a new perspective, given time and space. is out of control. At the Detach, observe and refuse to moment, even taking an react for now. Information overview might not help. Keep from a friend is far more important than you know. Tonight: Do something by your-

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

it means canceling personal pushy. Refuse to involve any of

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *****Allow others to give you *****Attend meetings, even if important feedback, even if you aren't up for the implications.

difficult associate. Listen to a

possibility of reorganizing your

*****One-to-one relating

proves instrumental to relation-

problem resolved. This could

involve a child or person who

communication active with

partners. Tonight: Have an

work. Tonight: Escape with a

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

plans. Listen to your inner A family member or domestic voice with a friend who can be issues bear down on you. Getting together with a partner your funds at this time. Know and discussing the ins and outs when to halt spending. Your of a personal matter helps you intuition might be negative, clear the air. Tonight: Work as **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

HOROSCOPE

***Your pace is continually interrupted by work and by others. You'll need to screen your calls to get anything done. A personal matter might trigger you. A partner or associate is a handful to deal with. Develop a greater sense of inde-

pendence and direction. Tonight: Clear your desk. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*****Information takes you in a new direction. Pressure at work might be difficult to handle. You might wonder exactly what you need to do. Change is possible, but it will come from rearranging your finances, more than anything else. A family member will support you during a change. Tonight: On the prowl

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.

***Take the lead, even if you are out of sorts. Don't let problems spill over from one area of your life into another. It might not be easy to sort through what is happening. Others trust your judgment. Depend on what you hear. Favor research over a purely creative notion. Tonight: Smile -- someone's watching!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

*****Communications are starred. You might feel pushed by another and have to regroup. Make it okay to pull away and gain distance. Instead of a coffee break, take a brisk walk around the block.

Building security remains primary. Don't think you are alone in this project. Tonight:

Socializing the night away. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***What you say might be received with difficulty. What to do? Continue keeping the paths of communication open. You might not have all the answers, but you certainly offer food for thought. Pressure from

a friend about finances could

have you fried. Tonight: Go shopping. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *****Allow others to express themselves without taking it personally. A boss is difficult, and you can't change him. Financial matters have you out of sorts; don't take a risk or gamble. Don't complain any more about work -- make

BORN TODAY

want.

Actress Brenda Fricker (1945), actor Lou Diamond Phillips (1962), basketball legend Michael Jordan (1963)

changes. Tonight: Do what you

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Girl's claims of molestation set family members at odds

to my son. My son had an accident and gave cus-

tody of Natasha to me because he could no longer take

care of her. When turifed 57, I . ABIGAIL sent Natasha

to live with my daughter and son-inlaw because I thought I was getting too old to

have a 9-year-old. A year ago, I found out that my son-in-law had been molesting Natasha, and I took her back. We went to the prosecuting attorney. After a year of counseling and trials, my sonin-law was found guilty of child

molestation in the first degree. Abby, when will my daughter stop blaming Natasha and me?

DEAR ABBY: I have custody She's telling everybody that granddaughter, Natasha lied -- that her hus-"Natasha," because my son and band never touched the child. daughter-in-law divorced when She insists Natasha lied Natasha was 3 months old. My because she never liked her daughter in law got involved uncle. It has been a year now. with drugs and gave the baby Will my daughter ever get over it? -- TROUBLED MOM IN

> WASHINGTON DEAR TROUBLED MOM Your daughter is in denial, and there's no guarantee she'll ever get over it. Had there not been corroborating evidence to back up the accusation, I'm sure there wouldn't have been a con-

viction. It seems that you are the only stable adult in Natasha's life. Although raising a child alone is difficult at your age, I hope you'll find the strength to do it.

alone in having to assume the role of parent to a grandchild. According to U.S. Census Bureau figures, the number of children being raised by grandparents increased by 44 percent between 1980 and 1990. That figure went up 23 percent between 1990 and 1997. As of 1999, 1.4 million children live apart from their parents in households headed by grandparents.

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attorney do not file a writte

answer with the Clerk who issue

this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expira-

tion of 20 days after you wer

served this citation and petition,

default judgment may be take

The Petition of Rose Edwards

etitioner, was filed in the District

Court of Howard County, Texas.

against Michael Lee Rawls and

numbered 99-01-40258-CV, and

Zeeandra Rawls, a child who is the

subject of the suit. The child's date of birth is Dec. 15, 1997 and place

of birth is Big Spring, Texas. The

"The court has authority in this suit

o enter any judgment or decree

the child's interest which will be

binding upon you, including the ter-mination of the parent child rela-

tionship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a

conservator with authority to co

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY

sent to the child's adoption

District Clerk,

suit requests conservatorship

ntitled "In the Interest of De

HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HOWARD

TO: Unknown Father

267-6856 after 3pm.

plus dep. Call 267-2296.

be seen at 314 NE 9th.

contact them. Grandparents Information

So: "Gung Hay Fat Choy,"

Hsin Hsi," "Hsin Nien Kuai Le," "San Ni Fei Lo" and "Chuc Mung Nam Moi." I wish happiness and prosperity to

DEAR ABBY: I am writing to todial parent has moved out of

Clinton signed into law a bill authored by Rep. Rob Andrews, D-N.J., that guarantees grandparents the right to visit their grandchildren anywhere in the United States, so long as a state court has provided for grandparent visitation. The law, known as the Visitation Rights Enforcement Act, requires states to recognize one another's visitation findings.

I was one of the thousands of grandparents who have experienced devastating difficulties ordered visitation to my grandter-in-law moved from New Jersey to North Carolina, I had to repeat the legal process all over again in North Carolina. I was granted visitation, but only after incurring three years of exorbitant legal fees, travel expenses and bureaucratic

delay. Enforcement Act mandates the reciprocal recognition of grandparents' rights once a state has ruled that those rights ought to exist, but please point out what this new law will not do: It will not impose a federal decision about grandparents' visitation rights on any state. The new law also does not preclude a new finding that changed circumstances or newly discovmight warrant the reversal of an earlier visitation order.

I urge grandparents to use this new law cautiously, but DO use it. - JOSEPHINE M. D'ANTONIO, PRESIDENT OF GRANDPARENTS COUNT,

DEAR JOSEPHINE: More than 75 percent of older Americans are grandparents. Congressman Rob Andrews advised me he sponsored the legislation because he had heard from many grandparents who had lost their relationship with their grandchildren when the state to which the custodial parent had moved would not grant visitation rights. I'm pleased to spread the news about the Visitation Rights Enforcement Act, which was designed to help frustrated grandparents keep in touch with their beloved grandchil-

DEAR ABBY: I have some advice for the adult son of "Dad, the Morning Rooster." who can't - or won't - get himself up in the morning. I used to have the same problem. I, too, just couldn't wake up in

turned it off.

I realized I had to do something to keep from missing

dishpan. The noise shocked me awake. I leaped out of bed to locate the source of the racket and shut it off. (By then I had forgotten where I had put the clock.) By the time I was down on my knees, flailing around beneath the bed, I was so wideawake I couldn't have fallen

my solution. I can almost guar-Sign me ... OLE SLEEPYHEAD FROM FLORIDA

DEAR OLE SLEEPYHEAD: Thank you for the helpful anecdote. For slow risers who would prefer a less radical wake-up, placing the alarm out of reach — for instance, on the other side of the bedroom - is a valuable suggestion.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a businesssized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill 61054-0447. (Postage is includ-

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Parents) was founded that facilitates the sharing of experiences and feelings between grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. It provides information and referrals, a telephone support network, group member listing and

assistance in starting groups. To contact them, write: GAP, P.O. Box 964, Lakewood, Calif. 90714. (Please enclose a long. self-addressed, stamped enve-

lope.) A service sponsored by AARP called the Grandparents Information Center also refers custodial grandparents to sup port groups nationwide, and provides free publications on a variety of issues related to raising grandchildren, financial assistance and advocacy. To write:

Center, 601 E St. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20049. CONFIDENTIAL TO MY ASIAN FRIENDS: It's the Year of the Hare (Rabbit), and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year. "Kung Hsi Fa Tsai," "Kung Ho

you all. you in order to reach grandparents of divorce who have been victimized by tangled state laws that make it difficult and expensive for them to visit their grandchildren if the cus-

state. On Nov. 12, 1998, President

trying to exercise my courtchildren. When my ex-daugh-

The Visitation Rights ered inappropriate behavior

called GAP (Grandparents as

CHERRY HILL, N.J.

the morning. The alarm clock on my nightstand would go off, and I'd reach over, turn it off and go back to sleep. Most of the time, I never remembered having

work, so I decided to make my alarm clock harder to turn off. I bought an alarm clock (a wind-up Big Ben) with bells on the outside. That night, I set the alarm, then placed the clock in a metal dishpan and shoved it under my bed. The next morning the alarm went off and started rattling the

back to sleep if I had wanted to. That young man should try antee it'll work every time.

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FEB. 16

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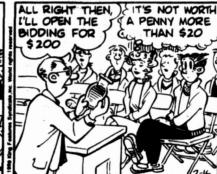
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"Snow days are better than holidays 'cause we don't know they're comin'."

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Camp beds

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 1999. There are 318

days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 16, 1862, during the Civil War, some 14,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered at Fort Donelson, Tenn.

On this date:

which had fallen into the hands of pirates. In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

led a successful raid into

Tripoli Harbor to burn the U.S.

Navy frigate Philadelphia,

In 1918, Lithuania proclaimed its independence.

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed

in Egypt. In 1937, Dr. Wallace H. Carothers, a research chemist for Du Pont who invented nylon, received a patent for the synthetic fiber.

In 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines

during World War II. In 1948, NBC began airing its first nightly newscast, "The Camel Newsreel Theatre." which consisted of Fox

Movietone newsreels. In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba after the over-

throw of Fulgencio Batista. In 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated, in Haleyville,

Ala. In 1987, John Demjanjuk went on trial in Jerusalem, accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," a guard at the Treblinka Nazi

concentration camp. Ten years ago: Investigators in Lockerbie, Scotland, said a bomb hidden inside a radio-cassette player was what brought down Pan Am Flight 103 the previous December, killing all 259 people aboard and 11 on the

ground. Five years ago: At least 217 people were killed when a powerful earthquake shook Indonesia's Sumatra island. Figure skaters Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan encountered each other at the Winter Olympic Games in Norway before posing for the U.S. team photograph.

One year ago: A China Airlines Airbus A300-600R trying to land in fog near Taipei, Taiwan, crashed, killing all 196 people on board and six people on the ground.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Patty Andrews is 79. Movie director John Schlesinger is 73. Actor Pete Postlethwaite is 53. Actor William Katt is 48. Actor James Ingram is 43. Actor LeVar Burton is 42. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 41. Actress Lisa Loring is 41. Tennis player John McEnroe is 40. Rock musician Andy Taylor (Duran Duran) is 38. Singer Sam Salter is 21.

Thought for Today: "Anybody can make history. Only a great man can write it." - Oscar Wilde (1854-1900).

HI AND LOIS



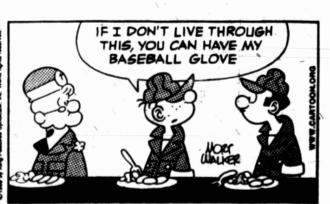
SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILY





In 1804, Lt. Stephen Decatur



3 Exclude 4 English Channel island 5 Limps Soap plant Scarlett's place

By Stanley B. Whitten

Northbrook, IL

8 No-trump bridge hands 9 Gene of "The French Connection* 10 Hurry 11 Dolly's

22 Old crone

24 Surefire shots

27 Vigoda and

Lincoln 28 Luges 29 RN's niceness

dressing 54 Branch of the Amazon greeting? 55 Top-drawer 56 Whimpered 57 Affirmative 13 Disorderly

58 Took to court Point of contention 60 Jot 61 Form a vortex 62 Requires

63 Fight for honor DOWN

1 Lake Volta location 2 Boring tool

34 Donkey 35 "Norma 37 Ballerina

colony 33 Ronstadt hit

30 Aussie hopper 32 New Mexico ar

thumbtack 41 Gives one's consent 42 NYSE

watchdog 44 Humiliate 45 Smoke mass

46 Put into proper 38 Lingerie buys 40 Item akin to a pitch 47 Thin-voiced 48 Sharf: pref. 50 Mountain ridge

Monday's Puzzle Solved

51 Twangy 53 So what 54 Bill stamp

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