

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY
February 23, 1999

Tonight:



TONIGHT **WEDNESDAY**
30°-35° 67°-72°

Moore Development convenes Wednesday

Moore Development for Big Spring, Inc. board will convene at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

Agenda items include a resolution in support of increasing funding for the Skills Development Fund, a resolution in support for InvestTexas, bids for a Big Spring industry brochure, a report from the retention and expansion committee and the director's report. The board is also to go into executive session to discuss employee evaluation.

Juvenile to go on trial for vandalism

The first defendant accused of the vandalism that occurred at the Vietnam Memorial discovered Dec. 1 is expected to go to court Wednesday.

County judge Ben Lockhart said he has a juvenile hearing scheduled for 10 a.m., but the court room will be closed, as the defendant is a minor.

This juvenile is being represented by Don Richard and Harvey Hoesser, Lockhart said. Evidence will be presented by county attorney Mike Thomas, and juvenile probation officers are expected to attend and make recommendations, he said.

WHAT'S UP...

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room
- Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room. Call Terry Hansen at 264-5175.
- Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 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 to 11:30 a.m. for 55 and older.
- Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.
- Masonic Lodge NO. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch.
- Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

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Vol. 96, No. 106

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.

HC trustees approve computers, wind farm tax abatement request

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Trustees for Howard College Monday approved purchasing 29 computers, as well as one computer that will act as a watchdog for the others.



HANSEN

"The CISCO PIX firewall computer will protect the college

computer system from illegal intrusion. This is a CPU itself, connected to our system. We have more than 100 outside users on our system legally every day, and this will monitor outside access," said Terry Hansen, executive vice president for fiscal affairs.

The CISCO PIX firewall computer, so named from its manufacturer Cisco Systems Inc. in North Carolina, will cost the college \$15,962. Dennis Churchwell, purchasing director, said seven bids were requested, and five returned.

The low bid was awarded to Enstar Networking Corporation from Irving.

And 29 computers were also purchased for the college. Of those, 12 will remain with Nancy Stout and the workforce training center, while 17 will be placed at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo.

"The 12 that remain here will be purchased with a grant. The 17 going to San Angelo for the laboratory we have at Goodfellow Air Force Base will be purchased from budget," said Dr. Cheri Sparks, president of

the college.

These computers will cost a total of \$47,125, with the low bid awarded to Farsight Computer Systems in Odessa.

"The state recognizes a computer's life as about five years," Churchwell said.

Also, trustees approved renewing employee insurance, at a savings of about \$10,000 for the next fiscal year, Hansen said.

"This is the earliest I've ever received an insurance contract renewal, but we've suffered no losses, we've had a very good

year," Hansen said.

Some of the savings to the junior college district came from the efforts of an agent, who found cost-saving measures in automobile insurance, Hansen said.

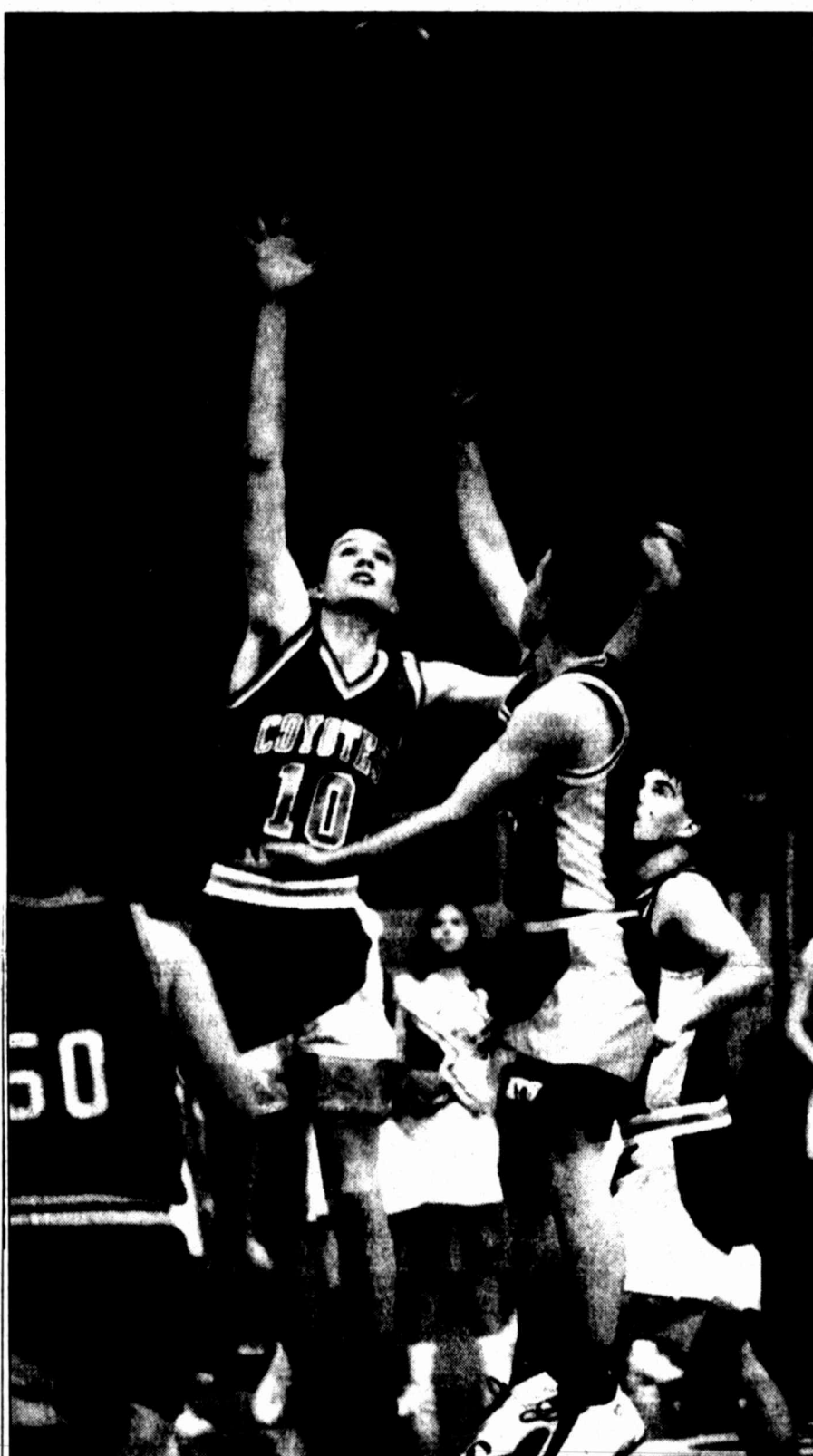
Also, trustees approved a tax abatement request made by Kent Sharp, director of Moore Development for Big Spring, representing the builders of the wind turbines.

"This is the most state of the art project in North America

See COLLEGE, Page 2

Borden County's Jeff Dennis (10) leaps up in an attempt to force a change in trajectory by Wellman's Josh Burris (44) during the second quarter of their Class 1A bi-district playoff game at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. A crowd of approximately 300 were on hand to watch the Coyotes take a 64-36 win. Please see related story and photo on Page 5. Two more high school playoff games are slated tonight at the coliseum, as Anthony and Albany square off in a Class 2A bi-district boys' game at 6 and Ira's Bulldogs and Klondike's Cougars play a 1A bi-district game at 8.

HERALD photo/Jlm Fierro



Port to Plains

Commissioners sign off on agreement to establish designated trade route

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners Monday agreed to sign the interlocal agreement for a Port-to-Plains Corridor, and eliminated the county trapper position, thus saving the county \$21,300 annually.

"We need to give him 30 days notice, according to the terms of the contract, so the contract will be terminated April 1," said county judge Ben Lockhart.

Commissioners said the services of a county trapper, who was responsible for trapping coyote primarily, are no longer needed.

And commissioners voted unanimously to join the Port-to-Plains Corridor project.

"This agreement holds a considerable amount of promise for us," said commissioner Bill Crooker.

Crooker, who agreed to represent the county in this endeavor, said the primary objectives are to establish a designated trade route that will originate in Colorado and traverse Texas on South U.S. 87, through Amarillo, Lubbock, Big Spring

and San Angelo.

The route continues south through Laredo and Del Rio, designating an official trade route for goods through the North American continent that enriches NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement.)

"I think this is a project of economic development that we should sign. I believe it is a worthwhile project," Crooker said.

The county's portion of the project will be \$3,370, which commissioners agreed to fund. Each participant in the project will contribute funds based on population, Crooker said.

"This is not an annual fee. We think this is a one-time fee," he said.

The City of Lubbock, which is heading the project in conjunction with a federal highway plan, has dedicated \$120,000 to the fund. Amarillo has contributed \$101,000.

"This will be on the city's (Big Spring) agenda, and their part will be \$14,353," Crooker said.

Crooker also said he anticipates the project will not be completed for 10 to 15 years, but once completed would be an economic boon to the county and the city.

Commissioners also approved funding the district court coordinator position for the second

See COUNTY, Page 2



CROOKER

Three more file for Coahoma board

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Candidate filing for area public school boards has been relatively quiet except for Coahoma ISD, where five people have thrown hats into the ring to fill just two seats.

The latest to file are Cindy Neff, a Mental Health/Mental Retardation worker; Eddy Corse, U.S. Department of Agriculture; and Joe Mansfield, with Sid Richardson. They join two who filed early on, John Wayne Metcalf, a city employee, and Ronnie Dodson, who is employed by Saga Petroleum.

The five are seeking to fill two seats up for election on May 1. Neither incumbent — Brian Marlar and Bill Gressett — has

filed for re-election.

Elsewhere, candidate filing has been slow, or nonexistent. There is still plenty of time, however. Candidate filing continues through March 17.

Stanton ISD has received a candidate in District 7, an at-large seat to complete an unexpired term. Rocky Barnes, service manager for Wheeler Motor, has filed for that spot, currently held by Randy Moore.

Last week, longtime Stanton ISD trustee Johnny Louder filed for another term in District 3. A farmer, Louder has served on the board since June of 1986. No one has yet filed for the District 4 seat, currently held by Todd Smith.

Big Spring ISD incumbents remain unchallenged. Irene

Bustamante, who is employed at The Medicine Shoppe, is seeking another term as District 1 representative. Larry McClellan, a pharmacist with Professional Pharmacy, is running for his second full term in District 3. He currently serves as the board president.

No one has yet filed at Forsan, Grady, Sands or Glasscock County ISD.

At Sands, there are two at-large seats to be decided at the polls. They are currently held by Martin Nichols and Billy Reed.

In Forsan, there are three at-large positions up for election, currently held by Donnie Andrews, Domingo Rios and

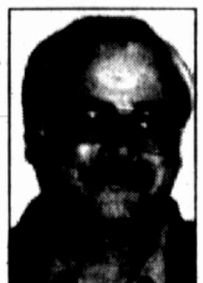
See FILING, Page 2

CISD won't be spared loss in values; board hears report on science building

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Coahoma Independent School board of trustees Monday night joined the ranks of other local taxing entities who may now expect a 40 percent loss in revenue, due to declining mineral values.

"Our main problem in the county is the price of oil. It's great to be paying 89 cents to 94



TOOMIRE

cents per gallon, but I would rather be paying \$1.39, to get our value back," said Keith Toomire, chief appraiser for the county.

Coahoma ISD will sustain about a \$400,000 loss in revenue, according to Toomire's "best case scenario."

Trustee Brian Marlar asked Toomire for the worst case scenario, and learned the reduction in funds may increase to as much as 50 percent.

Trustees also learned the decrease will continue into the next school year, as funding will be based on mineral values established this year.

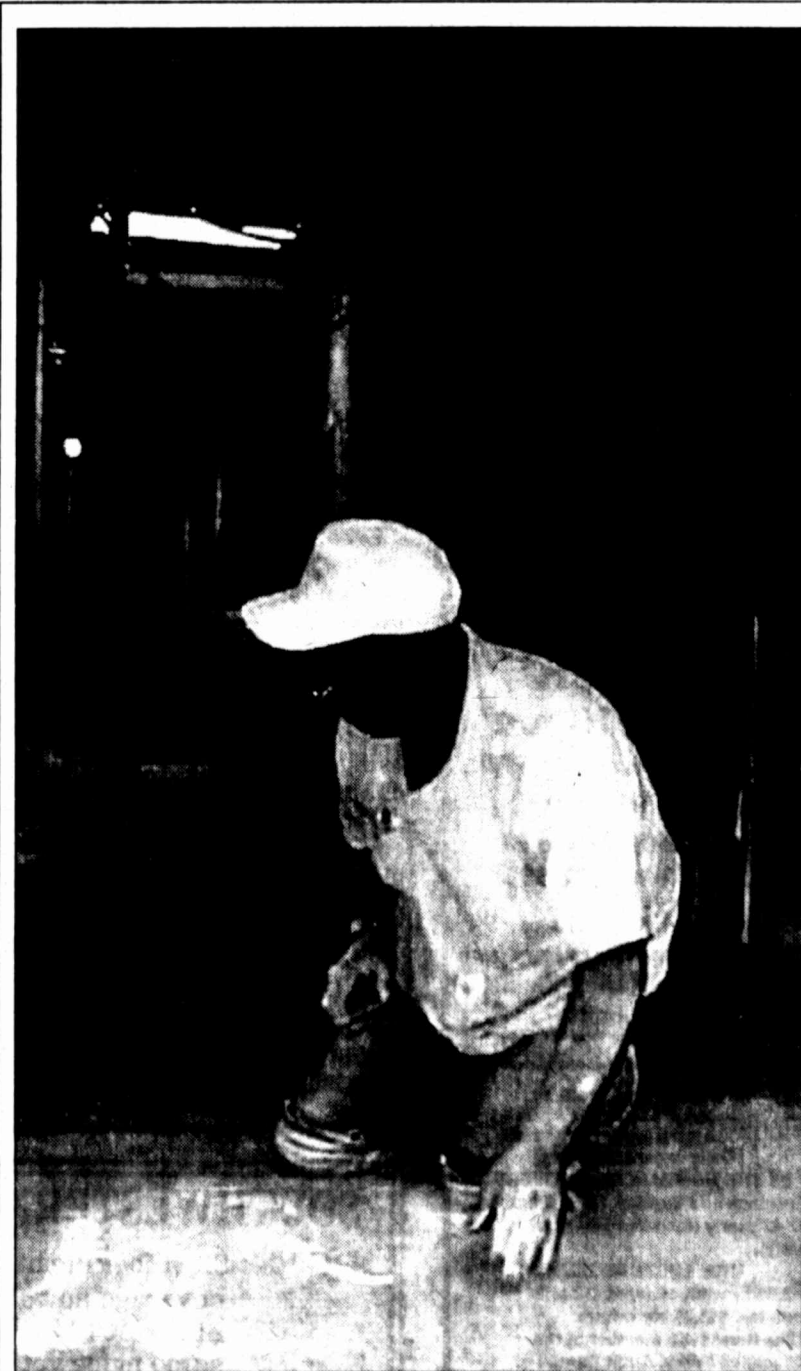
"Honestly, there's not much I

can add to the tax roll. You are all aware that the value of your house hasn't gone up as we've expected. And then we also have another problem, no rain," Toomire said.

Toomire said his office is cutting its budget and tightening its belt. An appraiser who retired in January will not be replaced, to save salary and benefits, and all purchasing for the appraisal office is being done by a bid process now, he said.

"All of us are going to have to learn to live differently until oil comes back. I wish I had better

See CISD, Page 2



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
Jerry Soria works on the floor leading to the locker areas on the south side of the gym at Big Spring Junior High. Big Spring ISD officials say construction of the school is about 90 percent complete.

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WASHINGTON "and grappled with the Internet se Washington the impeach Clinton co were trying debate "in terms and tr sides." He to work with Republican — groused too many co from Washi ment should general pa George W. F by many Re dent in 2000 money back

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WASHINGTON Technology schools to equipment year, a r schools will times as n and Intern on traini such high-t On aver; about \$88 p uters and ing, accord the CEO F and Techni business ar That examir And whil schools ha computers ; of the sch

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U.S.

WASHINGTON U.S. govern find peacefu scientists Soviet Unio a success, w of the \$63.5 ting to the s sional audit The Ge Office revie some of the been used continue to

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SANTA F looks like July before waste per for a nucleu near Carlsb state Enviro The pro includes a public hea Carlsbad, a under way tioning of Electric Co. Robert Kehr is the oper the U.S. De on the sti Isolation Pil The state could wrap mid-June Environme spokesman following th ings. "We are c front end o he said, sug early July.

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Now's T Time to Weed & Prevents Summ Kille Spring Wee HOWARD C FEED & S 701 E. 2nd I

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

OBITUARIES

Alfredo Brito

Funeral services for Alfredo Brito, 57, Stanton, will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1999, in St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton, with Rev. Arturo Pestin officiating. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Rosary will be 7 p.m. Tuesday at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

He died Monday, Feb. 22, in a Big Spring Hospital.

Mr. Brito was born Oct. 17, 1941, in Stanton, and grew up there. He served in the Marine Corps for 13 years and moved back to Stanton from St. Louis, Mo., in 1984. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Survivors include: four daughters, Robin Brito of St. Louis, Mo., Elizabeth Brito of Corpus Christi, Nancy Rodriguez and Sandra Brito, both of El Paso; a sister, Aurora Sanchez of Stanton; a brother, Eleno Brito of Stanton, seven grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton.

Lottie V. Gilmore

Funeral service for Lottie V. Gilmore, 70, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. She died Monday, Feb. 22, 1999, in Centralia, Wash., after a long illness.

Dave Nelson

Funeral service for Dave Nelson, 89, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. He died Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1999, at a local hospital following a long illness.

Florence K. Hallam

Funeral service for Florence K. Hallam, 94, Stanton, formerly of Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. She died Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1999, in a local hospital.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

This is a big opportunity for Big Spring to be the epicenter of future research and development in renewable energy. For once, the wind here helps us," Sharp said.

He also told trustees the Danish company that builds the wind turbines has discussed locating a manufacturing plant in Big Spring.

"We're building our base, and it is nice to continue to diversify," Sparks said following trustee approval.

In the president's report, Sparks told trustees she and other officials with the college have traveled to San Antonio to view theaters, with an idea toward remodeling the Howard College theater.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Lottie V. Gilmore, 70, died Monday. Services are pending.
Dave Nelson, 89, died Tuesday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home

Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331

Florence K. Hallam, 94, died Tuesday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

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"We've been out on a fact-finding mission in the way of the theater and auditorium renovation. We need renovation of not only the basic infrastructure of our theater and auditorium, but also a cosmetic need as well," Sparks said.

Trustee Rob Ethridge said he hopes to see a remodeled theater as an asset to the other facilities at Howard College.

"I would like this to be a facility the community could use and something we could be proud of," he said.

Board president Don McKinney said the theater was built in 1951-52, and except for roofing and new curtains, little has been done to the building since that time.

Trustees also renewed contracts for the district administrative officers. They are Linda Conway, vice president for institutional advancement, Ron Brasel, provost for the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, Terry Hansen, and Ken Tunstall, vice president for instruction.

FILING

Continued from Page 1

Dale Humphreys.

For Grady ISD, positions up for election are District 3, held by Tony Sawyer, and District 4, held by Brad Tunnell, board president.

Two teams up for election at Glasscock County ISD. They are held by Lillie Havlak and Jimmy Bednar.

Anyone interested in filing should contact the administration office in the school district where they reside.

Early voting in the May 1 elections will be April 14-27.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

year, at a cost of \$10,320. Along with a grant, this position is partly funded through county monies from Dawson and Martin counties.

"The state pays for the district judge, but felt that since the county benefits from the district court, meaning the cases are county cases, then the county should pay for this," Olson said.

Commissioners speculate that the state may begin paying this salary and support services in the future.

Olson also received approval to have an auction of unwanted items the county no longer uses on March 20. Viewing will be March 19, and the auction will take place that Saturday in the old county library building, where much of the merchandise is stored.

"We're hoping the sheriff's department will help us with this auction," she said.

In other action, commissioners agreed to post a 45-mile an hour speed limit sign on the 11th Place extension, and agreed to contract with Drug Screen Compliance for employee drug testing within the road and bridge department.

Also, the resignation of constable Stan Hughes was approved, and no plans are anticipated to replace him.

"This is a position we have tried to eliminate in the past," Crooker said.

Lockhart said Hughes was unable to complete his certificate training for the position, and had therefore resigned.

Commissioners grudgingly agreed to purchase insurance for underground fuel storage tanks, at a cost of a \$945 annually, as required by the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission.

Eddy Jameson, road and bridge administrator, said the county must have financial responsibility insurance, which costs the same if the tanks are above ground or below.

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Big Spring, Texas

Jameson also told commissioners he is seeking proposals for bringing the fueling system into compliance with the Y2K phenomena.

"Our card system is not Y2K compliant, and this may be expensive," Jameson said.

Routine business included hearing the quarterly report from county treasurer Bonnie Franklin. She told commissioners all departments are now making daily deposits into the county's general fund, instead of monthly, to receive interest.

Commissioners postponed purchasing new vehicles for the road and bridge department, as well as the sheriff's department.

CISD

Continued from Page 1

news," Toomire said.

Also, trustees met with Arthur Woodside of Speed Fab Crete, and learned the punch list items on the new science laboratory building have nearly been completed.

"The two items we are still working on are the restaining of the microscope cabinet and the restaining of a door. If we can not get the stain to match exactly, we will take it all down and redo it," Woodside said.

Also, patching a section of sheetrock that was cut to check pipes will be replaced. Woodside explained the delays with the building were actually caused by unpreventable problems outside the control of the district and the contractor.

Electric utility access required a change order to connect the building with the main electrical transformer. This was a cost-saving measure, as a separate electric meter would have cost the district more in utilities, he said.

Also, water and sewer access required additional work, as the water located was unpotable, and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission refused to allow a small septic system for the building.

"There are no bathrooms in this building, but TNRC canceled the septic tank anyway," Woodside said.

Any problems with the roof were repaired, and Woodside said there was never a leak in the roof. He explained that an electrician had drilled a hole in the heating and air conditioning unit that was not sufficiently sealed to prevent condensation from the unit dripping onto the ceiling tiles.

"There were only two or three tiles that were effected," Woodside said.

These repairs are typical for a punch list once the building is completed and occupied, and the new owners, in this case teachers, found things about the building that needed additional work, Woodside said. Students moved into the science building in January, he said.

And, at cost to the Speed Fab Crete, an addition, \$1,600 sliding wall board was installed, he said.

"We learned the board was installed in the biology room, not the chemistry lab, where it was supposed to be. We have included that as an extra, because it was our fault it was placed in the wrong room," he said.

Woodside asked trustees to release the the \$27,000 still remaining on the contract, so the subcontractors will be paid. He suggested the district keep \$2,600 until the final work is complete.

"This now becomes a warranty issue. You will be provided with all warranty information, which includes a bumper to bumper warranty for the first year, and an extended warranty there after," Woodside said.

Speed Fab Crete will receive the final payment through normal business check-writing procedure.

In other business, trustees approved a student holiday for

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March 29 and an early dismissal for March 30, to facilitate University Interscholastic League academic competition.

"I don't like changing the school calendar after it's been set, but this is the nearest solution we can find," said interim superintendent Wayne Mitchell.

Also, contracts for elementary principal Cindy Fowler, junior high school principal Ron Baker, elementary vice-principal Brad Jones, business manager Gina McEnderree and athletic director Jim Edwards were approved by trustees.

Hundreds attend funeral for Gene Siskel

HIGHLAND PARK, Ill. (AP) — Film critic Gene Siskel was remembered as a public man who loved his private life.

More than 1,200 people attended his funeral Monday, including Oprah Winfrey, Christie Hefner and Siskel's longtime television partner, Roger Ebert.

Mayor Richard M. Daley canceled scheduled campaign stops to attend the service at a Jewish synagogue on the wooded shore of Lake Michigan.

"He breathed and slept Chicago and his love of our sports, love of politics," Daley said. "And of course, always his review of films was a highlight for myself and, I think, not only for Chicagoans, but for people who truly loved the arts."

Siskel died Saturday at 53 from complications following surgery to remove a growth from his brain in May.

In a eulogy, Rabbi Vernon Kurtz spoke of Siskel's dedication to his family and his faith.

"In the same manner that you have used these many years — Gene Siskel, you lived a life that was indeed two thumbs up," Kurtz said.

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.

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

•"Most Excellent Way," an addiction support group, 3610 Dixon, call 264-9900.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 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 Rannels. For more information call Shannon Nabors at 263-0027.

•The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 409 Rannels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220

•Samaritan Counseling 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

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 4,3,4
CASH 5:3,4,20,29,39

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

MARKETS

May cotton 57.60 cents, up 21 points; April crude 12.57, up 50 points; Cash hogs steady at 28 cents even; cash steers steady at 62 even; April lean hog futures 45.27, down 52 points; April live cattle futures 66.87, up 42 points. courtesy: Delta Corporation. Other markets were unavailable by press time.

POLICE

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

•MINOR ACCIDENTS were reported in the 500 block of Manor, 1600 block of Martin Luther King, at the intersections of Third and Scurry, and 15th and Lexington.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 700 block of East 11th, 1300 block of Stadium, 500 block of Lancaster and 700 block of East 12th.

•CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was issued in the 200 block of West Marcy.

•CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1300 block of Harding.

•MANUEL CHAVARIA, 23, was arrested for local warrants.

•POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported at the police station.

•BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported at the police station.

•SHOTS FIRED was reported in the 1000 block of Johnson.

•CLASS C ASSAULT was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson.

•ISMAEL MUNIZ, 35, was arrested for local warrants.

•BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1400 block of Park. A .22 rifle, a .22 single shot rifle, a 410 shotgun, a 25-inch television, a microwave and a box of personal checks, all valued at \$550, was reported stolen between Jan 1, and Jan. 15.

•WEEKEND SUMMARY reported three assault, one burglary of a habitation, four criminal mischief and 12 incidents. Also, one driving while license suspended, three convenience store thefts, one burglary of a vehicle, seven thefts and one criminal mischief were reported.

And one failure to identify, one runaway, three possession of marijuana, two major accidents, three minor accidents, and 22 arrests were reported.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following incidents between noon Saturday and 8 a.m. today:

•MICHAEL SHANE WEBB, 32, was arrested for judgment

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FIRE/EMS

Following is a summary of Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reports:

MONDAY

9:53 a.m. — 1800 block Scurry, medical call, patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

2:08 p.m. — 1700 block S. Monticello, structure fire.

5:37 p.m. — 500 block W. 17th, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

5:54 p.m. — SMMC, medical call, patient transported to Odessa Medical Center.

6:34 p.m. — 700 E. Third, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

9:03 p.m. — Five miles north on Hwy. 350, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

10:42 p.m. — 3200 block Parkway, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

RECORDS

Monday's high 77
Monday's low 25
Average high 63
Average low 33
Record high 88 in 1996
Record low 14 in 1953
Precip. Sunday 0.00
Month to date 0.00
Month's normal 0.50
Year to date 0.28
Normal for the year 1.13

Scenic Mountain Medical Center
1601 W. 11th Place
263-1211

Horse Liniment Eases Arthritis Pain

OCALA, FL -- An ingredient derived from hot peppers that decreases inflammation in a horse's legs, is now recognized as safe and effective for human use. The ingredient has been formulated into a product called ARTH-Rx™ and comes in a strength designed for humans. Researchers are excited and say the formula can relieve arthritis pain for millions.

Developed by the Phillips Gulf Corporation, ARTH-Rx is a breakthrough in the treatment of painful disorders ranging from minor aches and pains to more serious conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, tendonitis, backache and more.

Although the mechanism by which ARTH-Rx works to relieve pain is not totally clear, scientists suggest that pain is relieved because ARTH-Rx intercepts the messenger substance that sends pain signals to the brain.

ARTH-Rx is available in a convenient roll-on applicator without a prescription. According to a spokesperson for the company, due to the overwhelming demand for ARTH-Rx, supplies are sometimes limited. ARTH-Rx can also be ordered by calling 1-800-729-8446 • 1999 POC ARTH-Rx is available locally at:

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Clinton, governors clash on education, tobacco settlement

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and the nation's governors grappled with differences over education policy, tobacco money and Internet sales taxes Monday, as Washington went back to work after the impeachment fight.

Clinton complained that some critics were trying to frame the political debate "in partisan or ideological terms and try to force everyone to take sides." He told the governors, "I want to work with you."

Republicans — and some Democrats — grouched that Clinton was imposing too many conditions on school money from Washington. "The federal government should be a limited partner not a general partner," said Texas Gov. George W. Bush, who has been urged by many Republicans to run for president in 2000. "If they feel like sending money back to the states, fine. But

don't tell us how to run things." On Tuesday, the Republican leaders of the Senate and House will get their first chance in 19 months to sit down with the president. Many GOP lawmakers are still licking their wounds from their failed struggle to drive Clinton from office.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey said Republicans would push Clinton for more details of his plans to save Social Security and the possible deployment of U.S. troops to Kosovo, if a peace accord can be reached there.

"I don't know if we are capable of fulfilling another deployment responsibility" without a clearer idea of the terms and conditions, as well as an accounting of how it would be paid for, Armey said.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., told reporters he hoped Clinton would use the White House meeting to

respond to a letter Lott sent him Feb. 5 expressing GOP concerns about a U.S. deployment in Kosovo.

"I think it's critical we know exactly how this will evolve," Lott said. "We've not known that in the past. We now have spent almost \$10 billion in Bosnia, and we still don't know exactly what the end game is there."

Assembled for their winter meeting, the governors piled onto three buses in sunny if frigid weather and rode to the White House for a roundtable discussion with Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. Later, the president was invited to address a Democratic Governors' Association fund-raiser expected to net \$3 million. Republicans were holding their own fund-raiser, bringing in \$5 million.

The governors are unhappy that Washington wants to grab a big share of the \$206 billion tobacco settlement

reached between the states and the tobacco industry last year.

"This is state money," said Utah Gov. Michael Leavitt, a Republican. "The federal government was invited to participate but declined."

Presidential spokesman Joe Lockhart said the federal government is required by law to try to recoup Medicaid spending.

But he said Clinton told the governors he's willing to consider waiving that requirement if states guarantee they will use their proceeds for health care, programs that reduce teen smoking and assisting tobacco farmers whose livelihoods are hurt by the anti-smoking campaign.

The governors also are pushing for a system to collect sales taxes on Internet commerce. Michigan Gov. John Engler, a Republican, said that was "the most difficult issue to solve."

The computer industry largely opposes taxes on the Internet. An advisory commission created by Congress is to report recommendations on the tax issue in 2000.

Some governors also raised doubts about Clinton's education initiative to build more schools, hire more teachers and penalize states for poor classroom performance.

Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, a Republican, said the federal government's role in education should be to "do as much as they can to stay the heck out of it. I'm for funds to build schools where school buildings need to be built. But what we need to be building is better kids."

Engler said different states have different priorities. "So it became apparent — the impossibility of the federal government designing a one-size-fits-all system," he said.

Study: classrooms wired but teachers unprepared

WASHINGTON (AP) — Technology's expense can force schools to choose between equipment and training. This year, a recent study says, schools will spend more than 10 times as much on computers and Internet connections than on training teachers to use such high-tech tools.

On average, schools spend about \$88 per student on computers and \$6 on teacher training, according to the study by the CEO Forum on Education and Technology, a group of 20 business and education leaders that examined education data.

And while the nation's 87,000 schools have about 6 million computers and about 80 percent of the schools have Internet

access, the report said few teachers are ready to use technology in their lessons.

"Ultimately this is about whether your child is experiencing the fruits of the information technology revolution," said Alan G. Spoon, president of The Washington Post Co. and co-chair of CEO Forum, which released its report on Monday.

Moreover, 25 states require computer classes for teachers seeking a license, but only two states — North Carolina and Vermont — require teaching hires to prove they can use the technology.

Earlier this year, an Education Department survey found that just 20 percent of

teachers felt they could use the technology in their classrooms.

The group recommended Monday that teacher training in technology be mandatory by 2002.

"If we don't get smart with technology, there is little doubt our kids won't have the advantages they need," said Kevin Cooling, who oversees licensing standards for Vermont's 8,000 teachers. That state added the technology requirement for teacher licensing last year.

"You would think that change is painful, but my experience has been that teachers are hungry for this," Cooling said. "They know technology has a tremendous amount to offer to kids."

For example, Louise Archer Elementary School, in Vienna, Va., has managed to make its technology work.

The school spends at least \$10,000 of its \$40,000 budget on technology. Each of the 25 classrooms has at least two computers. But the 600-student school, cited in the school technology report as a success story, also pays substitute salaries to give teachers time to work with a district trainer who comes in to observe their lesson plans and practices.

The trainer helps teachers decide how best to use their computers.

"They know their classes," said Dawn Young, the school's assistant principal.

Safety precautions lacking on railroads, study reveals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vicky Moore believes that lights and gates could have meant the difference between life and death for her son Ryan.

But those safety signals were not in place at the railroad crossing in Ohio where Ryan Moore was killed by an oncoming train while in a car four years ago, said his mother.

"Had there been gates and lights there that day, I fully believe the accident wouldn't have happened," she said.

According to a study released Monday, more than 80 percent of the nation's railroad crossings — about 130,000 — lack such signals to warn pedestrians and motorists of trains. Rail crossings were the sites of more than 500 deaths and 1,800 injuries in 1998, says the report by RailWatch, a Houston-based coalition of 300 local officials from across the country.

The study, which also found that a train collides with a motor vehicle every 90 minutes, blamed the poor safety of the nation's railroads on reductions in maintenance crews and outdated technology. The group called for a congressional investigation into rail safety, saying that federal and state regulators fail to effectively oversee the rail system and railroad companies do not take enough action to prevent accidents.

According to the report, one-third of all states experienced more rail-related fatalities in 1998 than six years earlier.

During the first eight months of 1997, one of the nation's major rail carriers, Union Pacific, had six serious train collisions resulting in five crew fatalities.

The transportation of hazardous materials, a growing component of the railroads' business, presents another set of problems. Every two weeks, a train carrying hazardous materials runs off the tracks, spills some of its load and forces an evacuation, the study says. Railroads frequently transport dangerous cargo, ranging from poisons to pesticides, through densely populated urban areas.

Steve Moss, author of the report, said local officials are sometimes unaware of what trains are transporting through their towns and cities.

"There's a remarkable amount of ignorance about exactly what's being carried, and a lot of it is being carried," Moss said.

The study points to cutbacks in the staffs that operate, maintain and inspect railroads as a serious problem. These reductions have come as rail traffic has increased by 40 percent since 1990 and as trains have been forced on to fewer miles of tracks, causing more congestion and wear on the railroads.

Railroads also rely heavily on outdated technology, from as far back as the 1930s, said the study, which added that current available technology could forestall a large number of rail accidents.

In letters, murder defendant all but admits guilt

JASPER, Texas (AP) — In the eight months since his arrest for the dragging death of a black man, John William King has all but admitted his guilt in letters to inmates and the media.

"Regardless of the outcome of this, we have made history and shall die proudly remembered if need be," King wrote one inmate, co-defendant Lawrence Russell Brewer.

King's case was headed to a jury today after lawyers give their final arguments. If jurors convict King of capital murder, they must then decide if he is sentenced to life in prison or death by injection.

King is the first of three white

men to be tried for James Byrd Jr.'s gruesome slaying last June 7. Byrd's tortured body was torn in two — a head and right arm severed from his torso — after he was dragged nearly three miles from a pickup truck.

An ex-convict with dreams of starting his own racist group in Jasper, King had been waiting for an opportunity to make a name for himself and his fledgling white supremacy group, the Texas Rebel Soldiers.

While imprisoned at Texas' Beto I unit near Palestine, King told one inmate he wanted to "take a black out" to prove himself as a white supremacist. He covered himself in racist tattoos, his defense attorneys con-

tended, to defend himself against attacks from the mostly black population at Beto.

Beto, with 3,319 inmates, is 51 percent black, 25 percent white and 24 percent Hispanic.

The 24-year-old unemployed laborer's fondness for writing severely jeopardized his case. Before his letters surfaced, investigators had only a cigarette lighter and his DNA on cigarette butts to tie him to the crime scene.

Both easily could have been explained. Those items could have bounced out of co-defendant Shawn Berry's truck. Or the three men could have gathered at that scene at another time.

But King revealed more information.

In letters to Brewer, he revealed how there was bloodstained clothing still in his apartment, which had been missed initially by police. The blood was Byrd's, DNA tests showed.

In a November letter to The Dallas Morning News, King admitted he had been riding in the truck with friends Brewer and Berry on June 7 when they offered a ride to Byrd.

Until that letter, there were no eyewitnesses to place King in the truck at the same time as Byrd. One eyewitness saw three men in a truck with Byrd but could not identify them.

U.S. program may fund Russian weapons researchers, Congress told

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government program to find peaceful work for nuclear scientists from the former Soviet Union has been far from a success, with less than a third of the \$63.5 million actually getting to the scientists, a congressional audit says.

The General Accounting Office review also found that some of the money may have been used by scientists who continue to work on Russia's

weapons programs and in some cases possibly chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction.

The report was sought by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who said Monday the findings put the 5-year-old program in jeopardy.

"It is absolutely unacceptable for the Clinton administration to donate the U.S. taxpayers' money to Russian scientists

who spend their time working on poison gas, biological agents and new nuclear weapons designs for the Russian government," Helms said. "That must stop."

Leonard Spector, director of arms control and nonproliferation at the Energy Department, said in response to the GAO findings that the report provided "valuable insight ... to better manage this valuable program."

But the department in a

detailed response took exception to the GAO finding that U.S. funds were being used to support Russian weapons programs or development of biological or chemical weapons.

"The implicit criticism of the program is that this practice is subsidizing Russian weapon-of-mass-destruction activities.

"We believe this implication is misplaced," the department said.

"We have been particularly

sensitive to the dual-use potential of projects" when they involve scientists working in the chemical and biological institutes.

But the GAO auditors said while more than half of the money was spent on U.S. efforts to oversee and monitor the program, U.S. officials don't always know which scientists are receiving assistance or whether key scientists are being targeted.

The report raised particular concern that some of the assistance was funneled to scientists who continued to work on Russian nuclear weapons programs or chemical and biological programs.

"Some scientists currently working on Russia's weapons of mass destruction are receiving program funds," said the auditors, adding that these projects "may not be adequately reviewed by U.S. officials."

Westinghouse adviser tackles WIPP queries as hearings get under way

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — It looks like mid-June to early July before a state hazardous waste permit may be approved for a nuclear waste repository near Carlsbad, according to the state Environment Department.

The projected time line includes a possible month of public hearings here and in Carlsbad, and the hearings got under way Monday with questioning of a Westinghouse Electric Co. regulatory adviser, Robert Kehrman. Westinghouse is the operating contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy on the still-unopened Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

The state permit's time line could wrap up anywhere from mid-June to September, Environment Department spokesman Nathan Wade said following the first day of hearings.

"We are currently toward the front end of that time frame," he said, suggesting mid-June to early July. "We have the one

time line of WIPP that stands a chance of being accurate."

Some waste could begin moving next month to WIPP, depending on a federal court in Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Energy spokesman Dennis Hurtt said Monday night.

The DOE contends no hazardous waste permit is needed for purely radioactive waste, which is regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA already certified WIPP.

But the state insists on having its hazardous waste permit in place, contending it would be hard to prove which waste might include regulated chemicals and which might not.

The DOE had said it might begin moving WIPP waste already confirmed as strictly radioactive — non-chemical — from Los Alamos National Laboratory this month.

But shipment was delayed pending a court hearing set for

March 12 before U.S. District Judge John Garrett Penn in Washington.

"We could be moving waste by mid-March, but we just don't know yet. It will depend on when the judge makes his ruling," Hurtt said.

Kehrman, testifying on behalf of the DOE, opened Monday's hearing by describing the site 26 miles east of Carlsbad where the DOE hopes to bury transuranic waste. That includes plutonium-contaminated material such as gloves used in the production of nuclear weapons and other nuclear research.

The waste would be stored 2,150 feet underground in salt caverns.

Kehrman was questioned by Lokesh Chaturvedi of the Environmental Evaluation Group, a state WIPP watchdog organization. Kehrman explained reasons for WIPP design and the location, for example, of monitoring wells.

Among others who testified were supporters of WIPP, who argued that it is safer to dispose of the radioactive waste underground than it is to leave the waste where it is.

"Instead of having it in our back yard where it is exposed, I'd rather have it down in

Carlsbad, where it might be a little safer," said Max Lucero, who said he lives 15 miles from Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Opponents, meanwhile, argued that WIPP is an unsafe dump being pushed on a poor state by powerful political inter-

ests. "I'm coming from a deeper place, an emotional place, a more feminine place," said Elizabeth Durham of Santa Fe. "Listen to your heart. Listen to the land. Listen to your children before you listen to money."

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EDITORIAL

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

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

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OUR VIEWS

County's vote on Port-to-Plains is good for future

Howard County commissioners helped Howard County and Crossroads Area take a step forward Monday when they voted to fund their portion of the Port-to-Plains Highway Project.

The highway, which would run from Denver through southeastern Colorado to Amarillo, Lubbock, Big Spring, San Angelo, Sonora and on to the Mexican border at Del Rio, follows the most logical route for opening up the near West and Canada to Texas and Mexico.

It's a route "pitched" for a number of years — going back to a June 1992 luncheon at the Big Spring Country Club — by the Transportation Committee of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

At that time, we called it the "US 87/I-27 Coalition" and the purpose of the effort was to upgrade U.S. 87 south of Lubbock to interstate status.

Then, when the Texas Transportation Department directed TxDOT to conduct a route feasibility study for the possible extension of I-27 north of Amarillo and south of Lubbock, the route was "pitched" once again.

Now, the route doesn't have to be "pitched" any more ... it's the official route designated on the U.S. Department of Transportation's master highway map for the United States.

What remains is the building of a coalition, just as we began doing in 1992, of communities and counties along the route.

Population-wise, we have 600,000 people — more than 500,000 in West Texas. Included along the route is Denver, the business hub of the Rocky Mountain region, as well as the most direct route to the majority of the population in Mexico — which just happens to run through the heart of West Texas along U.S. 87.

It is now up to the Big Spring city council to sign-on and join in supporting this effort that can help our community take advantage of its location at "The Crossroads of West Texas."

Funding for the economic studies to promote development of this route must be made available — not just locally, but from communities all along its route — for while we are spending the money today, we are providing for the future of our region.

No better investment can we make for our children and grandchildren.

OTHER VIEWS

Rules proposed for the nation's financial institutions dubbed "Know Your Customers" should be renamed "Spy On Your Neighbor."

In a nutshell, the proposed rules by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation would require banks to create profiles on its customers' accounts, and when a customer steps outside that profile, he or she must be reported to the federal government for "suspicious" activity. In addition, banks will have to track the source of the deposits and, again, report that information to the government.

Suspicious activity is defined as large deposits or withdrawals.

Under the proposal, bank tellers would be turned into secret agents for the government. Not only that, the rules would create a costly unfunded burden for the nation's financial institutions to bear.

The proposed regulations are intended to assist the government in its efforts to combat money laundering and other illegal activities occurring at banks.

But, trampling on the Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable search and seizure in the name of crime-fighting borders on police state mentality.

These rules must not be enacted.

To prevent this bad lawmaking, U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, R-Lake Jackson, introduced a legislative package last week that would block the proposed anti-money-laundering rules that would track the habits of bank customers.

"We proclaim that American citizens have the right to be free of the snooping, spying, prying eyes of government bureaucrats," Paul told reporters. He said his legislation would "give Americans the peace of mind that comes from knowing that their every financial step is not being filed away and viewed as potentially criminal."

Paul, House Majority Whip Tom DeLay of Texas and several congressmen are co-sponsors of the bill — so prospects look good for passage.

But there is another way to apply pressure. Tell the FDIC what you think. Tell them large deposits of cash aren't always made by drug dealers. That, in America, we are innocent until proven guilty. That bank teller spies aren't needed.

Otherwise, it's welcome to the First National Bank of Big Brother.

THE FACTS, Brazosport

That 360-degree turnaround is little too far

Two years ago, in a small town in North Carolina, a colorful old fellow at last went off to glory. Early in life he had achieved a reputation as a terrible drunk. He gambled. He fooled around with women. Then he surprised everyone. He went on the wagon, became a part-time preacher and ran for town council. His obituary noted a remarkable fact: "He credited Althea, his wife of 20 years, with helping him make a 360-degree turnaround."



JAMES KILPATRICK

The clipping has been languishing in the Numbers file since 1989. I resurrect the item to return to a topic I have ruefully addressed before. People who write for a living should never be left alone with mathematics. They are almost bound to mess up.

The reformed boozier from Buncombe County made a 180-degree turnaround, not a 360-degree turnaround. This is the kind of thing one is expected to learn no later than the fourth grade. We literary types seem never to learn it at all.

A restaurant reviewer in Boca Raton, Fla., liked a new diner with its cow-patterned table tops and servers dressed as mechanics. "The chicken quesadilla (\$5.95), presented in triangle squares, came filled with tomatoes, corn and peppers." The square of the quesadilla, as I recall, is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two enchiladas.

An advertisement is at hand for a Valentine's Day sale of television sets. A new model is "more rectangular" than its predecessor. OK by me. We literary types have trouble with long division. In South Carolina some years ago, the governor proposed a series of cuts in the income tax. The first cut of \$770,000 wouldn't amount to much. "It would save the typical taxpayer \$1 this year, about 4 cents per week."

We have trouble with the two-times table, too. In Knoxville, a photographer from the News-Sentinel took a picture of 700 runners as they assembled on Neyland Drive. Headline: "14,000 feet in 5K run." This was because each runner had 20 feet. More or less.

For many of us, "feet" is a mysterious unit of measurement. A young woman who had just graduated from Xavier University contributed a guest column to the Cincinnati Enquirer. She had spent three months living in Nicaragua. She described a poor community: "In one house with a floor space of about 15 square feet, there were 25 people living."

There's a significant difference — at least I believe there is — between square feet and feet square. There's also something to be said for round feet, and feet round, which is more expensive than chuck but not as expensive as sirloin. We literary types are not altogether dummies.

It is all so difficult. Things get worse when we try to simplify by example. Some years ago, a publisher of textbooks proposed to educate city pupils in the realities of country living. In a manual for teachers, the authors commented that 10th-graders "had no real idea of how large or small a farm may be."

The authors undertook to explain. A 40-acre field, they said, could accommodate 10 typical classrooms. On examination, the example seemed a bit bizarre. Each classroom would cover 174,240 square feet (that term again!), or about 417 feet per side if the classroom were square. Some classroom.

If you posit one square foot per square Nicaraguan, you have a lot of square Nicaraguans. And more mathematicians.

Maybe "acre" is the culprit. Two years ago we had a considerable discussion in this column about a cubic acre. No one had ever seen a cubic acre, which made the calculations more interesting. Today I cite a savings and loan institution that went belly up. Among its assets was "a professional, one-story office building in Lubbock, Texas, with 7,406 acres of rentable space." On one story? These were Texas acres, so the story may be true.

We literary types know the difference between diameter and circumference. Sure we do. Don't we? A couple of years ago The Associated Press provided a feature story on a stand of timber in Idaho. "The survey indicates that some trees were more than three centuries old, with a circumference of 21 inches or more."

Twenty-one inches? That is the collar size of the governor of Minnesota. A 21-inch circumference suggests a diameter of 6.68 inches, which approximates the governor's forearm, though if you have a 360-degree turnaround it's an altogether different matter. At least it's something to think about.

ADDRESSES

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- **JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY**
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- **ROBERT DUNCAN**
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- **DAVID COUNTS**
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Listen to what the women are saying

For years, conservatives have claimed that the national feminist organizations don't represent the views of most American women on issues ranging from abortion to women's role in the family.



LINDA CHAVEZ

Now, a new poll confirms how out-of-sync with the average women groups like the National Organization for Women really are. But what's most surprising is that the poll was paid for by the Center for Gender Equality, a group headed up by former Planned Parenthood director Faye Wattleton — every bit a strident feminist in the Patricia Ireland mode.

Wattleton admitted during a press conference to release the study earlier this month that she "found disturbing the more conservative positions that women hold." So what were these disturbing views?

The study, conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates, set out to measure women's attitudes about religion, religious organizations and public policy. Among its findings, the study showed that women are quite religious and becoming more so. Three quarters of women said religion is very important in their lives, up from about two thirds who responded similarly to the same question just two years ago. But from its sponsor's viewpoint, even more unsettling were the study's revelations concerning women's attitudes toward conservative religious organizations.

According to the survey, women hold a very favorable view of religious groups and denominations, from the Catholic Church to the Christian Coalition. Overall, 76 percent of the women polled think religious organizations play a positive role in American life. When asked specifically, "Would the things this group stands for improve the lives of most women, or make the lives of most women worse?" by more than two-to-one, women said the Southern Baptists and the Christian Coalition would improve women's lives, and 48 percent of those surveyed said the Catholic Church would, as well.

Nearly half of all women want to see more involvement of religion and religious organizations in politics — not less — a marked change in attitudes from previous surveys, which showed two thirds of women

believed that religion and politics don't mix. Even more troublesome for its sponsors, however, were the study's findings on specific public policy issues, especially abortion.

Wattleton has been a leader in the abortion rights movement for a generation. How galled she must be that the survey she commissioned reveals her own position is poles apart from that of most American women. The center's study isn't the first to confirm that a large majority of American women want to see more restrictions on abortion — 70 percent in this poll. But the fact it was commissioned by a pro-abortion group makes it clear the numbers are real and haven't been manipulated by any pro-life language in the survey itself. What's more, 40 percent of those polled said they oppose all abortions, except those performed to save the mother's life or in cases of rape and incest — a position identical to the Republican Party platform position — and another 13 percent said abortion should never be permitted for any reason.

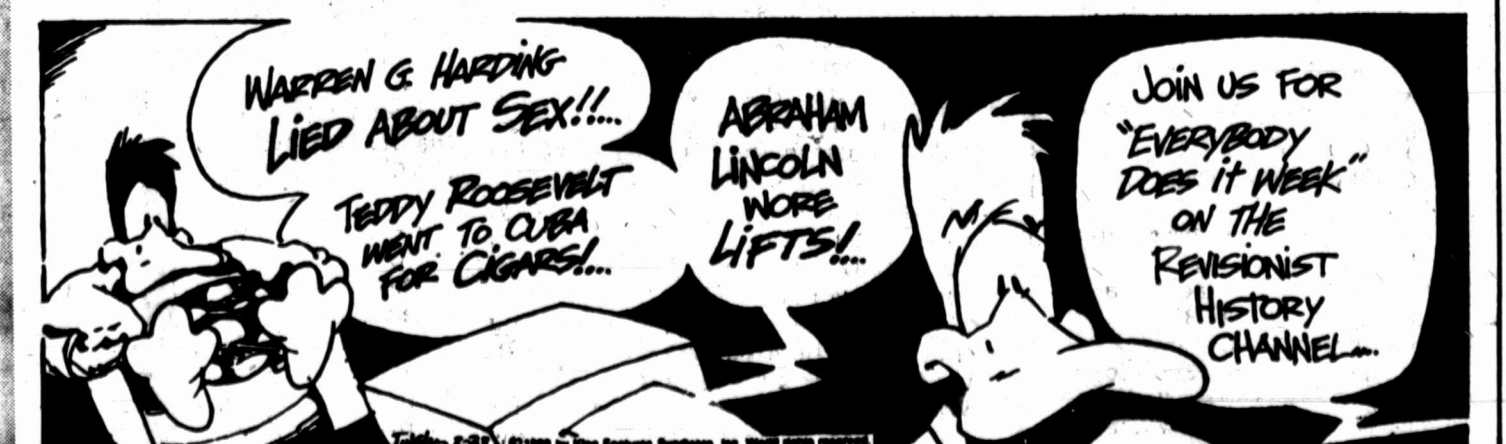
These results would seem to be good news for organized religion — especially the more conservative denominations. The study shows women have been heeding their church's message. Or maybe not. Surprisingly, the survey

found that women's views on moral issues were little affected by their church's teaching or preaching. Only about one third of women said their own views of abortion, for example, were primarily influenced by their religion's teachings on the issue. And less than one quarter of women said their religion's tenets influenced their views about marriage.

The reason churches have so little direct influence may be that clergy today seem generally hesitant to speak out on controversial moral issues. The study found, for example, that a majority of women who attend church regularly reported their pastors either never spoke about divorce or spoke in its favor. And although church-going women are more likely to hear their pastors speak against abortion, even among Catholics, fully one quarter say they never hear any statements against abortion from the pulpit.

Maybe it's not just feminist organizations that are out of step with women's conservative views. It seems women may be more conservative than the eager-to-please, let's-not-be-too-judgmental clergy who have gained such a strong foothold in many religious denominations in recent years. Both the feminists and the clergy would do well to listen to what these women are saying.

Mallard Fillmore
by
BRUCE TINSLEY



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IN BRIEF

Dorothy Garrett playoff games resume tonight

Basketball fans will be treated to more high school basketball playoff action at Dorothy Garrett tonight. The evening's first game will feature Abernathy and Albany squaring off in a Class 2A boys' bi-district game at 7 p.m. followed by Ira and Klondike in an 8 p.m. Class A boys' bi-district game. Ozona's Lions will take on either Tahoka or Sundown in a boys' 2A area game at 8 p.m. on Friday. And on Saturday, Iraan will play either Hale Center or Wall in a Class 2A boys' area playoff at 7 p.m.

Little League coaches clinic slated for Sunday

Howard College head baseball coach Brian Roper will conduct a clinic for Little League coaches and parents from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at Jack Barber Field. The free clinic will provide fundamentals and teaching skills to help volunteer coaches better prepare their players for the upcoming season.

Tennis carnival scheduled at Figure 7 on Saturday

The Crossroads Tennis Association and Jim Blacketer Tennis will host a free tennis carnival from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

More than 50 local businesses have donated prizes for the carnival.

Youngsters in the first through fifth grades will be able to sign up for the upcoming USA Tennis midgets program set to begin Monday, March 1, with a 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. session.

The cost for the midgets program is an unopened can of Wilson Championship or Penn Championship balls.

For more information, call Blacketer at 264-6834.

Miller takes top finish at bass club tourney

Elden Miller topped the field of 35 fishermen from the Big Spring Bass Club who held their monthly tournament at Oak Creek Lake, hauling in the event's big bass of 8.99 pounds and hooking a total of 10.34 pounds.

Todd Tubb finished second in the standings with 7.09 pounds, while Randy Klaus was third with 6.83 pounds. Marty Whetsel was fourth with 3.65 pounds.

LOCAL GAMES

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFFS TONIGHT

- 6:30 p.m.**
 - Coahoma vs. Farwell at Lubbock Monterey HS (girls' regional quarterfinal).
 - Borden County vs. Windthorst at Clyde (girls' regional quarterfinal).
- 7 p.m.**
 - Garden City vs. Vega at Plainview (girls' regional quarterfinal).
- 7:30 p.m.**
 - Stanton vs. Hale Center at Seminole (girls' regional quarterfinal).
- 8 p.m.**
 - Coahoma vs. Farwell at Lubbock Monterey HS (boys' area playoff).

ON THE AIR

- Radio**
- HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**
- 6:30 p.m. — Coahoma Bulldogettes vs. Farwell Lady Steers in Lubbock, KBST-FM 95.9.
- 7:30 p.m. — Stanton Lady Buffaloes vs. Hale Center Lady Owls in Seminole, KTBS-FM 94.3.
- 8 p.m. — Coahoma Bulldogs vs. Farwell Steers in Lubbock, KBST-FM 95.9.
- Television**
- COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
- Men**
- 6:30 p.m. — Northwestern at Iowa, ESPN, Ch. 30.
- 8:30 p.m. — Tennessee at Georgia, ESPN, Ch. 30.
- NBA BASKETBALL**
- 7 p.m. — Seattle SuperSonics at Houston Rockets, TNT, Ch. 28.
- 7 p.m. — Atlanta Hawks at Dallas Mavericks, FXS, Ch. 29.

Houston's Alou injures knee, may miss entire baseball season

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Houston Astros knew Moises Alou would be absent for the start of spring training. Now, the NL Central champions might be missing him for the whole season.

The Astros learned Monday that their All-Star outfielder, who fell off a treadmill last week, has a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

"This is a devastating blow for our team," Astros general manager Gerry Hunsicker said from training camp in Kissimmee, Fla. "Clearly, this was the worst-case scenario we could have imagined."

"He's probably facing missing most of the year, possibly the whole season," Hunsicker said. "I think the best we

could hope for is that he returns sometime in late August or early September."

Alou, 32, hit .312 with 38 home runs and 124 RBIs. Carl Everett and young Richard Hidalgo will try to take Alou's place in left field.

Alou was hurt last Thursday at his home in the Dominican Republic when he lost his balance trying to adjust a treadmill that was going too fast. He hoped the injury was not serious, but an MRI in Houston showed the damage.

The Anaheim Angels and Texas Rangers also were struck by injuries, though nothing as serious as the one to Alou. And Florida rookie Mike Lowell was recovering after undergoing surgery for testicular cancer.

Angels shortstop Gary DiSarcina will miss at least a month after breaking his left forearm in a freak accident at camp

in Tempe, Ariz.

DiSarcina, a sound fielder who batted .287 last season, was hurt Sunday. After taking batting-practice swings, he blindly turned and walked into the swing of first-base coach George Hendrick, who was hitting ground balls to infielders.

DiSarcina was confident he would be back before the Angels' opener April 6.

"I'll be around all the time, running a lot, because I want to be with the guys," he said. "This is not going to ruin our frame of mind entering the season. I'm determined to make sure of it."

Texas will be minus closer John Wetteland for the next week or two after he strained his right ankle during a workout at Port Charlotte, Fla.

"It's frustrating because I put in a lot of sweat and hard work to get back to where I was feeling pretty good,"

Wetteland said. "It just shows that the ankle is an important part of the body, too."

Wetteland, who had 42 saves and was 3-1 with a 2.03 ERA, had elbow surgery in the offseason and has been throwing without any problems.

Lowell, a third baseman acquired from the New York Yankees on Feb. 1, had a testicle removed Sunday in an outpatient surgery.

"The prognosis for recovery is excellent," general manager Dave Dombrowski said. "It's not a life-threatening situation."

Lowell was expected to be the Marlins' starting third baseman. He is scheduled to begin workouts Friday.

Among the players showing up in camps Monday were Mark McGwire, Albert Belle and David Wells.

Coyotes romp in bi-district win

Baeza's 29 points leads way in 64-36 shock of Wellman

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Sports Editor

Borden County's No. 9-ranked Coyotes unveiled a seemingly new weapon Monday night as senior Fernando Baeza scored 29 points in leading the way to a 64-36 bi-district playoff win over Wellman-Union's Wildcats at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Coyotes, who improved to 17-4 with the victory, had gone unbeaten in District 18-1A play primarily on the scoring strength of guards Colt McCook and Kevin Pinkerton and an occasional big night by 6-foot-8 post Jeff Dennis.

But Baeza's offensive explosion that included five three-point shots clearly came as a surprise to the Wildcats.

"I don't think they expected Fernando to shoot like he did tonight," admitted Coyotes head coach Trey Ritchey, shaking his head almost in disbelief. "He hasn't had a game like this all year, but last he did this last season. Just about this time he started getting hot."

While the Coyotes came into the game with a decided height advantage — Borden County's McCook, a 6-foot-3 point guard, was as tall as any player on the Wellman roster — it was perimeter shooting that doomed the Wildcats.

In the game's opening minutes, however, Borden County literally couldn't buy a basket, while the Wildcats jumped out to an early lead on point guard Clark Kelcy's drives to the basket.

By the time McCook scored Borden County's first points with a three-point shot at the 4:46 mark of the first quarter, the Wildcats had scored seven points and a Bryan Chrestman field goal made it 8-3 a few seconds later.

Baeza erased that lead in less than a minute, however, as he nailed a three-pointer and powered up a shot from the lane 25 seconds later to deadlock the game at 8-8, prompting a Wellman timeout.

Following the break, the Wildcats rattled off four unanswered points, but moments Borden County took its first lead when Baeza ripped his second three-pointer and Justin Lawrence scored from underneath the basket.

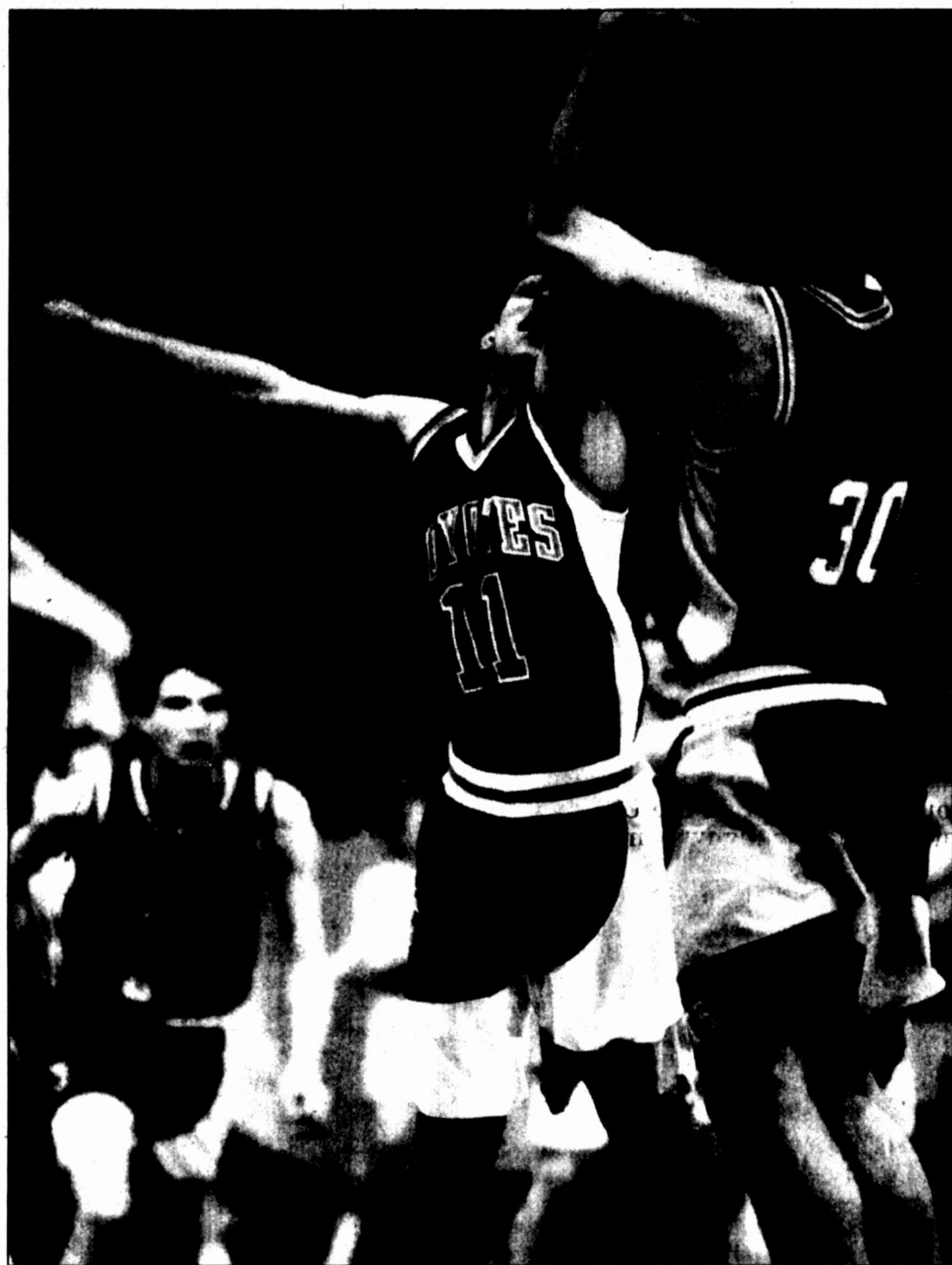
A pair of Kelcy free throws allowed Wellman to take a 14-13 lead into the second period, but an 11-5 fueled run by Dennis gave the Coyotes a 24-19 lead and Borden County never looked back.

Although Wellman would manage to pull to within one at 24-23, Baeza answered with a three-pointer and drove the lane for five quick points to give the Coyotes a 29-23 halftime lead.

From there, the rout was on.

The Coyotes returned to the floor in the third quarter and immediately went on a 13-4 run, not only scoring from everywhere on the court, but dominating the boards and forcing a number of Wellman turnovers with its trapping and pressing defenses.

Only a pair of goals from Kelcy in the final minute of the period allowed the Wildcats to pull within 13 points, 44-31, with 10 seconds remaining in the third



Borden County's Fernando Baeza (11) goes up to block a shot by Wellman's Bryan Chrestman (30) during the second quarter of Monday's Class 1A bi-district playoff game at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Baeza finished the game with 29 points, leading the Coyotes to a 64-36 win.

quarter. Baeza wasn't through, however, and answered with a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Coyotes a 47-31 lead going into the final eight minutes of play.

The last of Baeza's three-pointers opened the fourth quarter and Wellman answered with a three of its own when Josh Burris ripped mesh from the corner.

But the Wildcats would score just two more points, while McCook, Baeza, Pinkerton and Lawrence combined for a 10-point run to add insult to injury.

Kelcy was Wellman's only player to finish in double figures, scoring 16 points, while Burris' two three-point shots allowed him to finish with eight.

The Wildcats, who qualified for the playoffs as the runners-up in District 17-1A, finished their season with a 15-13 record.

The Coyotes, though, provided plenty of double-digit support for Baeza's astounding 29-point total. Dennis finished the game with 11 points and McCook added 10 more.

Lawrence scored eight points before Ritchey called on his reserves for mop up duty.

"It really helped when we finally started hitting our outside shots," Ritchey said as he could begin looking ahead to the Coyotes' area round playoff game. "We'll be playing the Miles-Trent winner ... really don't care who it is. I'm just glad to be playing after the way we got started tonight."

HERALD photo/Jim Fiero

Borden County 64, Wellman-Union 36

WELLMAN — Clark Kelcy 7 0 2 3 16, Jeremy Harlan 0 0 0 0 0, Justin Woolley 0 1 0 0 3, Josh Winslow 0 0 0 0 0, Jeremy Webb 2 0 2 2 6, Cliff Neill 0 0 0 0 0, Bryan Chrestman 1 0 1 2 3, Lorenzo Mancilla 0 0 0 0 0, Josh Burris 1 2 0 1 8, David Dyer 0 0 0 0 0. Totals 11 3 5 8 36.

BORDEN COUNTY — Trent Pepper 1 0 0 0 2, Kevin Pinkerton 1 0 2 2 4, Jeff Dennis 5 0 1 3 11, Fernando Baeza 6 5 2 4 29, Colt McCook 2 2 0 0 10, Robert Stamer 0 0 0 0 0, Ed Rodriguez 0 0 0 0 0, Cody Nowlan 0 0 0 0 0, Dale Grant 0 0 0 0 0, Justin Lawrence 4 0 0 0 8, Ryan Grant 0 0 0 0 0, Preston Sharp 0 0 0 0 0, Nick Flanigan 0 0 0 0 0, Tom Griffin 0 0 0 0 0. Totals 19 7 5 9 64.

Score by Quarters:

Wellman-Union 14 9 8 5 36

Borden County 13 16 18 17 64

Three-point goals:

Wellman: 3 (Woolley, Burris, 2); Borden County: 7 (Baeza 5, McCook 2). Total Fouls: Wellman: 13, Borden County: 12. Fouled Out: None. Technical Fouls: None. Records: Wellman finishes at 15-13. Borden County is 17-4.

For second time, Lady Vols loss puts Purdue atop women's poll

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Purdue once again was the beneficiary of a Tennessee loss.

For the second time this season, Tennessee fell out of the No. 1 spot in The Associated Press women's basketball poll. And for the second time, Purdue replaced the Lady Vols at the top.

Purdue returned to No. 1 on Monday, one day after Tennessee suffered a 72-69 loss at LSU. The Boilermakers gained their first-ever No. 1 ranking in the second poll of the season after beating Tennessee in their opener, but they lasted only one week in that spot.

While coach Carolyn Peck wouldn't mind staying there a little longer this time — there are only two more polls

this season — she insisted that's not her team's primary concern.

"As I said in November, it's a tremendous honor to be ranked No. 1 and it's a real tribute to the commitment by our 16 players," Peck said. "But the ranking is not going to help us score any points or come up with any steals. Our focus is on the Big Ten tournament, where everyone is 0-0."

Purdue (25-1) received 38 of 41 first-place votes and 1,021 points from a national media panel. Tennessee (25-2) slipped to second with one first-place vote and 973 points.

It was the fourth time this season the lead has changed hands. The poll has not seen that many changes at No. 1 since there were four in the 1992-93 season.

Tennessee, winner of the last three

national championships, was No. 1 in the preseason poll. Then came Purdue, which lost at Stanford by one point less than a week later and was replaced at No. 1 by Connecticut.

Connecticut held the lead for seven weeks before a loss to Tennessee sent the Lady Vols back to the top.

Tennessee routed Memphis by 74 points and Vanderbilt by 36 before stumbling at LSU, the Lady Vols' first loss to a Southeastern Conference team since the 1997 league tournament.

The only other change in the Top 10 was a switch in positions by No. 9 Virginia Tech and No. 10 Notre Dame. There were few big changes in the rest of the list except for LSU's jump from 23rd to 17th.

Louisiana Tech (22-2) held at No. 3

with one first-place vote and 951 points, while No. 4 Colorado State (27-1) received its first-ever vote for No. 1 and had 893 points. Old Dominion was fifth, followed by Connecticut, Rutgers, Duke, Virginia Tech and Notre Dame.

Texas Tech remained 11th. UCLA climbed one spot to 12th and North Carolina slipped one place to 13th after losing to Duke. Then it was Georgia, Penn State, Clemson and LSU, followed by Oregon, Virginia and Iowa State.

The final five were UC Santa Barbara, Kansas, Auburn, Alabama and Florida International.

LSU's move of six places was the biggest jump in the poll. The biggest drop was just two places — by Clemson (14th to 16th), Virginia (17th to 19th) and Florida International (23rd to 25th).

Howard sweeps Clarendon

HERALD Staff Report

CLARENDON — Howard College's Hawks rallied from a 34-29 halftime deficit Monday night to take an 80-57 win over Clarendon's Bulldogs.

The win improves the Hawks' record to 23-5 overall and leaves them in a position to finish the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJAC) schedule unbeaten with a home win over Frank Phillips' Plainsmen on Thursday.

Although Howard got 11 first-half points from Donald "Yogi" Caesar and eight more from Greg Lewis, the Hawks couldn't keep up with the balanced scoring provided by Clarendon's Danny Anaya, Nate Jones, Chris St. Rose and Byron Dixon.

In the second half, however, freshman point guard Darryl Martin caught fire, scoring 19 of his game-high 23 points as the Hawks pulled away for their 13th straight WJAC victory.

In addition to Martin's 23 points, the Hawks got 21 from Caesar and 16 more from Lewis.

Anaya paced Clarendon with 19 points, while Dixon finished with 16. The Bulldogs also had three players in double figures, as Jones finished with 11 points, but the best support the remainder of Clarendon's line-up could provide was four-point showings by Jauron Moreland and Tim Marshall.

Howard also got scoring from Derrick Franklin, Justin Rhodes, Larry Allaway, Myron Brown and Don Peace.

The Hawks' victory wasn't Howard's only come-from-behind effort of the night, though.

In the evening's opener, the No. 9-ranked Lady Hawks got off to a frustratingly cold start, allowing her Lady Bulldogs to take an early 8-0 lead.

Howard's women managed to rally from the slow start and battled their way to a 69-52 win, improving their record to 26-3 overall and 11-2 in WJAC play.

The Hawks and Lady Hawks will close out the regular season Thursday playing host to Frank Phillips. Women's action is slated for a 6 p.m. tip, with the men taking over the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum spotlight at 8 p.m.

College officials have deemed the final home games of the season as "Pack The Dorothy Night" and are encouraging fans to wear red clothing by offering free admission to those doing so.

Herald Classifieds

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24
Allow more concrete methods
to mark your life. Refuse to let
anything, especially involving
finances, to be whimsical.
Avoid risks; use proven, tested,
classical methods. Build security
this year. You're likely to get
that pay raise or promotion if
you play your cards right. You
might have a tendency to be
negative. Be aware of the
impact you have on others. If
you are single, a summer love
could be quite passionate. Your
creativity and imagination
make this an even more roman-
tic tie. If attached, romance
blossoms this summer. You
have an opportunity to resolve
problems between you. Work
together on an important proj-
ect. Cancer adores you.
The Stars Show the Kind of
Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-
Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-
Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
****Your ability to reach out
and touch others is magnified.
Don't let another hold you
back. Your sense of what is
right is important. Build stabili-
ty. A family member gives you
important information. Abun-
dance surrounds you, if you
are ready to accept it.

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something that's not
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1/2 bath apartment, better
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water included in rent, two
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YOU DESERVE THE
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Apartment, 801 W. Marcy,
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Marquis fully loaded, all
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HOROSCOPE
Tonight: Consider some new
home decor.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
****Intuition serves you
well, especially with a boss or
someone you find a bit confus-
ing. Your sensitivity to others
and your willingness to take a
leap of faith opens doors. Avoid
being critical or difficult. Let
your positive, trusting nature
come forth. Tonight: Meet
friends at a favorite spot.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
****Your happier side
emerges and allows you greater
options. A dream paves the way
for you. Make a phone call; be
willing to take a new course.
Your sense of direction and
dedication will pay off, if it has-
n't already. You'll get some-
thing you really want. Tonight:
Treat yourself.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
****Take a back seat. Let oth-
ers express their financial and
professional ideas. You make
headway because you are will-
ing to risk and do things differ-
ently. A boss could load way too
much work on you. Look at
it this way: he trusts your judg-
ment. Tonight: Out and about.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
****Aim for what you want.
Your imagination allows you to
draw a partner in. Share your
vision. You are able to walk
another through a plan.
Network and reach out for
friends. Your ability to touch
others lets you get what you
want. Do some needed
research. Tonight: A night off.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
****Maintain a high profile.
Exchange information with oth-
ers. Sometimes you don't want
to hear others' opinions, but
right now, great ideas are in
the morsels of conversations.
Build better unity within the
workplace. Schedule an impor-
tant meeting. Tonight: Tell oth-
ers what you want.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
****Take an overview, even
when brainstorming. Your
ingenuity surges. A loved one
or friend understands much
more than you realize. He
sometimes indulges you, allow-
ing you to weave your own
world. Take a reality check,
especially before dealing with
another in charge. Tonight: All
eyes turn to you.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
****You don't have to agree
with a partner, but today, you
might prefer peace. Be realistic
about what you want, especial-
ly concerning a domestic mat-
ter or your work. Emotional
extremes punctuate communi-
cation. Tonight: Talk to a loved
one or friend about a special
project or trip.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.
21)
****You might be energized to
go in a certain direction.
However, logic might not get
you there. Thinking might nul-
lify a psychic premonition.
Creativity and caring mix. You
aren't apt to make an emotional
mistake. A partner urges you to
take a gamble. Tonight: A mid-
week romp.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.
19)
****Sometimes money deci-
sions elude even you. Stay on
target. Stay connected to what
is important. Spending money
on your home and enhancing
the caliber of your life are
important. Allow a family
member to nudge you in the
right direction. Tonight: Say
"yes."
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
****Let your imagination
loose. You come up with amaz-
ing ideas and solutions. High
charisma and creativity place
you in the winner's circle.
Don't forget to do the mundane
tasks at work, though other
things will appeal to you.
Tonight: Getting it ALL done!
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
****Handle a domestic matter
first. Be fastidious in handling
funds. Leave nothing up in the
air. You can't carry your check-
book balance in your head, no
matter what you think. Build
on solid ground, not on elusive
ideas or thoughts. Creativity
remains important. Tonight: Be
a little naughty!
BORN TODAY
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actor Edward James Olmos
(1947), singer Rupert Holmes
(1947)
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horoscope, recorded by
Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-
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ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

New wife cannot understand husband's generosity to his ex

DEAR ABBY: Three years ago, I married "Earl," a man with two children. We had both been single parents for years. Earl divorced in 1982. I divorced in 1987. I have four children. Only one is still living at home, and he's in college.
Abby, every Christmas since his divorce, Earl has given his children money to buy their mother a present. I assumed he had discontinued this after we married. However, this year I discovered that Earl gave them a blank check to buy something for their mother. (Her gift wound up costing \$215.)
Earl insists he's teaching them an important lesson about Christmas and giving. Abby, his children don't have to pay for college, gas, clothing, food or car insurance. They each drive a sport utility vehicle.
I don't understand the lesson he's trying to teach them, and he seems unable to explain it to me. Can you? -HURT IN KANSAS
DEAR HURT: Old traditions die hard. Your husband has probably always "slipped" his children money to buy their mother a Christmas present. He apparently can afford it. Perhaps on some level he feels guilty about the breakup of the marriage -- or he simply may want to stay in her good graces. If he's taking good care of you, don't make an issue of it.
DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently left our 2-year-old daughter with my mother-in-law while we went shopping. When we returned, we reclaimed our daughter and went home.
After we arrived, I noticed my mother-in-law had cut my daughter's bangs. I have been growing her bangs since she had hair, and I intended for her hair to be all one length without bangs. (I kept her hair pulled back deliberately while it was growing out.)
Abby, I am furious. I feel that as her mother I have a right to choose my daughter's hairstyle without outside interference. My husband agrees with me, but he is unwilling to speak to his mother. He says that I can "chew her out" at my peril. How should I handle this? --EXASPERATED IN INDIANA
DEAR EXASPERATED: The nicest thing about hair is that it grows constantly. The damage isn't permanent. I agree

that your mother-in-law should not have cut your daughter's bangs without your permission, but it's not worth a scene.
To prevent it from happening again, tell your mother-in-law that you're trying to grow your daughter's hair to one length, so please refrain from trimming it.
DEAR ABBY: I want to thank you for a wonderful gift you gave me. Let me explain:
When I was a small child, my father would insist that my twin sister and I read aloud to him. He'd sit us on his lap at the dining room table, and we'd each take turns reading your column aloud to him. That special time with my father was a very precious gift.
Abby, Dad is now terminally ill and doesn't have the promise of tomorrow. Your columns presented us with a golden opportunity to spend time with our father, and for that I thank you. Sign me ...
BLESSED AND LOVES TO READ, LAKE LAND, FLA.
DEAR BLESSED: I am touched by the use to which your father put my column, and impressed that at this difficult time you are dwelling on the happiness you shared with him. Thank you for the compliment.
DEAR ABBY: I would like you to settle an argument that has been going on for a very long time. A member of my family insists that you make up all the letters you put in the paper. I know this is not true.
Will you please print this letter and settle it once and for all? This has been going on long enough. --UPSET IN VIRGINIA
DEAR UPSET: Although the letters that appear in my column are edited for language and length, there is no way I could make up the thousands of problems that come across my desk every week. And every letter that's published in my column provokes more letters from other readers. The volume and variety are enormous.
Good advice for everyone -- teens to seniors -- is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)
Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.
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TUESDAY												FEB. 23															
KRMD (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFDA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISH (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (17)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC (31)	BET (33)						
6:30 PM News (CC) Fortune	6:30 PM Home Imp. Highways	6:30 PM Spin City (CC) Sports Night	6:30 PM NYPD Blue (CC) Nanny (CC)	6:30 PM News (CC) Nightline	6:30 PM Politically Inc. Hollywood	6:30 AM (12:06) Ricki Lake	6:30 PM News (CC) Fortune	6:30 PM Home Imp. Highways	6:30 PM Spin City (CC) Sports Night	6:30 PM NYPD Blue (CC) Nanny (CC)	6:30 PM News (CC) Nightline	6:30 PM Politically Inc. Hollywood	6:30 AM (12:06) Ricki Lake	6:30 PM News (CC) Fortune	6:30 PM Home Imp. Highways	6:30 PM Spin City (CC) Sports Night	6:30 PM NYPD Blue (CC) Nanny (CC)	6:30 PM News (CC) Nightline	6:30 PM Politically Inc. Hollywood	6:30 AM (12:06) Ricki Lake	6:30 PM News (CC) Fortune	6:30 PM Home Imp. Highways	6:30 PM Spin City (CC) Sports Night	6:30 PM NYPD Blue (CC) Nanny (CC)	6:30 PM News (CC) Nightline	6:30 PM Politically Inc. Hollywood	6:30 AM (12:06) Ricki Lake

HAGAR

HE SAYS HE LET HIS HOMEOWNERS POLICY LAPSE... AND COULD WE HOLD OFF UNTIL HE GETS IT REINSTATED?

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HERE QUITE A WHILE, HAVEN'T YOU, JEFF?

AFTER A CERTAIN TIME ARE THERE ANY INCREASED BENEFITS?

OH YEAH! AND I'LL TELL YOU THE BEST ONE...

AFTER SIX MONTHS YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY SICK OF BURGERS AND FRIES

B.C.

WHATTA YA GOT THERE?

IT'S MY NEW DIARY.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR OLD ONE?

EVER HEARD OF SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION?

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Live with it, Jeffy. We don't have enough parents to go around."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"MOM SAYS I CAN HAVE FUN AS LONG AS I BEHAVE. DOES THAT MAKE ANY SENSE TO YOU?"

GEECH

WHAT'S THE CATCH OF THE DAY?

SALMONELLA.

SALMONELLA...?

I DIDN'T SAY WHICH DAY WE CAUGHT IT.

WIZARD OF ID

HALT! WHO GOES THERE?

A FRIEND OF THE KING!

WHO REALLY GOES THERE?

HI AND LOIS

YOUR TRANSMISSION'S SHOT, YOUR BRAKES ARE SHOT, AND YOUR FUEL PUMP IS SHOT...

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

GIVE IT ONE MORE SHOT AND PUT IT OUT OF ITS MISERY!

GASOLINE ALLEY

May I help... Oh! It's you again!

We'd like to see th' Mayor!

Mayor! That pariah is out here again!

A pariah? Must be a foreign potentate! Send him in!

Rufus! Yo ain't no pariah! Don't kid my secretary!

SNUFFY SMITH

I'M DESPRIT FER THUTTY CENTS, MAW !!

HOW DESPRIT?

NOW, THAT'S DESPRIT !!

BETLE BAILY

IF ANYONE CALLS, TELL THEM I'M IN A MEETING, ZERO

HE CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE, HE'S MEETING SOMEONE IN THE MEN'S ROOM

ZERO!!

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 1999. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 23, 1945, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi, where they raised the American flag.

On this date: In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Hot tubs
- Rib
- Painful thro
- Buckeye State
- Cove
- Dutch South African
- Talk-show neophyte
- Gore and Jolson
- Robert and Alan
- Frogs' kin
- Pizza order
- Excessively
- Copilot, e.g.
- To pieces
- Meg of "Sleepless in Seattle"
- Tweedle ending?
- Piers
- Mr. Baba
- Lama
- Play part
- Egyptian god of the sun
- Muse of lyric poetry
- Davis Love III, e.g.
- Swallow
- Conjunctions
- Tabernacle table
- Middle measurement
- Blockhead
- Punt situation
- British princess
- Fred Astaire's sister
- Young adult
- Marsh growth
- Seamstress
- Identical
- Ata, Kazakhstan
- Dates regularly
- Mbre indicator, briefly
- Flowering
- Soft drink flavor
- Pay attention to
- Goofs
- Contaminates
- Particle
- barrel
- legislation
- Heavy weight
- Martyr of Egypt
- Time period
- Desert plants
- Enraged
- Synthetic fabric
- "Blame It on Rio" star
- '50s candidate Stevenson
- Peachy
- Sanders of football and baseball
- Lack
- Marital
- Author's rep.
- Stood on hind legs
- Flit
- Team makeup
- From a distance
- Word with star or ranger
- Melody
- Walk in the water
- Once more
- Not working
- Neighborhood
- Pipe part
- "Auld Lang"
- Possesses
- Part of TGIF

Monday's Puzzle Solved

T	O	N	G	S	S	H	A	H	T	T	W	I	T
A	D	O	R	E	O	O	Z	E	H	O	N	E	
R	O	M	A	N	D	A	T	A	E	M	U	S	
P	R	E	Y	E	R	R	E	D	A	L	E	R	T
A	C	E	S	C	H	I	M	N	E	Y			
U	P	G	R	A	D	E	S	U	M	A			
G	O	R	E	S	D	O	W	N	S	A	P	E	
L	E	I	A	A	G	L	E	T	B	I	L	L	
I	M	P	S	N	E	V	A	A	L	D	A	S	
L	L	U	G	E	V	A	L	U	A	T	E		
S	T	A	I	N	E	D	E	R	L	E			
P	I	N	K	S	L	I	P	E	U	C	L	I	D
I	N	G	E	I	V	E	S	R	H	O	D	A	
K	E	E	N	C	O	L	A	E	I	D	E	R	
E	A	R	S	O	T	T	O	S	P	E	A	K	

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Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Onofri is 59. Singer-musician Johnny Winter is 55. South African activist Allan Boesak is 54. Country-rock musician Rusty Young is 53. Actress Patricia Richardson ("Home Improvement") is 48. Rock musician Brad Whitford (Aerosmith) is 47. Singer Howard Jones is 44.