

TUESDAY
June 22, 1999



**Positively ...
Big Spring**

Moore board meets Wednesday

Moore Development for Big Spring board members will resume their meeting to discuss the StarTek incentive package at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

The board met several times last week, reconvening each time. Wednesday's meeting is at the board's regularly scheduled time.

In addition to considering incentives for StarTek, a telephone communications firm that primarily offers software technical support, the board will also hear a report from the retention and expansion committee and consider financial assistance for the U.S. Flight Academy.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

Howard County Democratic Party, 6 p.m., Howard County Courthouse second floor courtroom.

WEDNESDAY

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

Luncheon seminar, 11:30 a.m., Big Spring Country Club. The topics include "The Market and Economy Today," and "Using Mutual Funds in Retirement Planning." RSVP at 267-2501 by this afternoon.

Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

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.

Senior Circle beginner line dancing class from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at the Spring City Senior Center. This is for the month of June only.

Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT WEDNESDAY
63°-65° 85°-88°

INSIDE TODAY...

- Abby 7
- Classified 6-7
- Comics 8
- General 3
- Horoscope 7
- Obituaries 2
- Opinion 4
- Sports 5

Vol. 96, No. 206

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.

Rainfall greeted with mixed emotions by area cotton producers

ALLISON THOMAS
Staff Writer

In addition to cooling the normally scorching June temperatures, the rain that fell over Howard County last weekend has improved pastureland in the area. However, cotton growers express mixed feelings about the abundant downpour.

"As far as cotton production goes, we don't need any more rain," said David Kight, the extension



KIGHT

agent for Howard County. "We need more sunshine and dry conditions. I would definitely like to see warm, dry conditions for three weeks, then a good, timely rain."

However, some cotton farmers feel that the rain will have a beneficial effect on Howard County crops, and compare the rainfall of this summer to the severe drought of last summer.

"We've had some good rains, and everyone has gotten their crops started," said Rob Haney, president of Howard County Cotton Growers. "God has really showed us his power. We didn't get much rain last year, now look at what we have this year."

Horace Tubbs, an area cotton farmer, is also pleased with the rain over the weekend.

"It's good," he said. "I don't holler about too much."

Kight is optimistic about the effects of the recent rainfall on area grasslands and pastures. The rains should provide some much-needed moisture to grazing lands that are usually in danger of being too dry at this time of year.

"As far as the grasslands, and beef and cattle production, they can really use the rain," said Kight.

The official rainfall for the weekend was 0.95 inches, recorded all day Saturday. The rainfall for June of this

year already exceeds the average number of inches for June.

The average is 2.12 inches, and so far this month Howard County has received 2.2 inches.

Most area farmers are right on schedule with the yearly planting, and are optimistic about the future of the crops, despite the threat posed to cotton crops by too much rainfall.

"Compared to other areas, we have as good a crop, especially the part in the north section of Howard County, as anywhere in the South Plains," said Kight.

"Of course, we have a long way to make a crop," he added. "It's been as good a crop as anybody else has so far."

VA Center recognized for service

By RICK MCLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

Recognition for 50 years of past service, a new name for the hospital and a new title for the director have all come to the Big Spring VA Medical Center.

Cary D. Brown, formerly known as the medical center director, now director and chief executive officer, announced Monday that the hospital is one of only four in Texas and one of only two Texas VA hospitals, to be recognized for 50 years of membership in the American Hospital Association.

Brown also announced that, in recognition of the huge area the hospital serves and its six community clinics, the facility's name is now the West Texas VA Health Care System. The plaque and certificate for 50 years of service was presented to Brown June 14 at the Texas Hospital Association convention in Austin by the president-elect of the American Hospital Association.

"It was a special honor for me to go to Austin and accept the award for the hospital for 50 years of service. Not many hospitals have been open that long," said Brown.

He also said, "It is important to remind the community of how long and how much this hospital has contributed to the community."

That contribution includes a substantial economic boost with some 446 employees serving an average of 100 patients, including the 40-bed nursing home. The Big Spring hospital was built starting in 1948 for



Cary D. Brown, director and chief executive officer of the West Texas VA Health Care System, displays a plaque the hospital received in recognition of its 50 years of membership in the American Hospital Association. The hospital was recognized during the Texas Hospital Association convention in Austin on June 14.

300 patients.

The only other VA hospital in Texas to be so recognized was the Houston VA hospital, originally built for 1,000 patients and now serving 500 patients.

"The (Big Spring) hospital has changed dramatically since 1950," said Brown. "We are experiencing some problems

with parts of the building associated with aging," he added, "but we are addressing those."

In the meantime, the patient load has declined from those original 300 beds in the immediate post-World War II period to the current patient census of

See VA, Page 2

Lockdown

Inmate brawl prompts investigation at local federal corrections facility

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor

Federal Corrections Institute Big Spring is in lockdown, following a fight early this morning broken up only after correctional personnel fired a series of warning shots.

The incident occurred about 1:50 a.m. and was quelled 20 to 30 minutes later, said Alan Booth, FCI Big Spring executive assistant.

"Everything is still under investigation," said Booth. "We don't have a lot of detail yet, but I can tell you inmates were observed by morning watch shift fighting with one another outside the inmate housing units. They were in the middle of the compound, fighting."

Booth estimated that 40 inmates participated in the brawl. He said several attempts were made to order the inmates to quit fighting. When that didn't work, chemical agents were used to try and disperse the inmates. The fighting wasn't broken up, however, until warning shots were fired by perimeter patrol officers.

"After the warning shots were fired, the inmates dispersed and discontinued fighting," said Booth. "After they ceased, staff was able to separate and identify

the inmates involved and subsequently remove them from the general population."

Booth said about 20 inmates were treated for injuries sustained during the fight. None of the injuries were life-threatening, he said. No FCI staff members were injured.

Booth would not comment on reports that some inmates were taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center and treated for, among other injuries, buckshot wounds.

"It's under investigation and I cannot comment on that," he said.

Booth also would not comment on weapons involved during the fighting, except to say "When you have a fight, fists are utilized and whatever might be available — chairs, broom handles, whatever — and those items were confiscated."

He said Big Spring Police Department and Fire Department are to be commended for responding to the facility, although the quelling of the fight was handling utilizing FCI Big Spring staff.

No institution property was damaged, Booth said.

"The institution remains secure and an investigation into the incident continues," Booth said.

Vietnam Memorial Committee needs help with chapel materials

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

Big Spring and Howard County residents are being asked to help members of the Vietnam Memorial Committee pay for the display cases in the new Gold Star Chapel after a funding request was turned down by the



PRATHER

Permian Basin Foundation.

"We don't have a letter saying their request was denied, but, by word of mouth, we understand that funding requests for the Vietnam Memorial, Hangar 25 and the Settles project were all turned down," explained Mel Prather.

As a result, Prather, who serves as vice president-tourism for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, is sending out 450 letters asking local and area residents to help the committee pay for the materials used in the chapel.

"Grants were requested to pay for the six display cases where photographs are displayed," Prather said. "Unfortunately, the primary foundation that was solicited, while giving to the Permian Basin Vietnam memorial, did not feel the same need to do so in Big Spring. As a result, we are now undertaking efforts to raise the funds to pay for those display cases."

The Vietnam Memorial is quickly becoming one of the most visited sites in the community as persons across the country learn about it on the

internet.

"Recently, one man drove from Arizona just to visit the Memorial after he learned about it and saw pictures of it on the internet," Prather said.

"There's no doubt that the Memorial is a valuable part of our community," Prather said. "And not just because of the people it brings to Big Spring, but because it is local and it pays tribute to the men and women who so proudly served our country."

Prather said persons wishing to make a donation to the tax

HOW TO HELP

**Send donations to:
Big Spring
Vietnam Memorial
Fund
P.O. Box 2854
Big Spring, 79721**

exempt organization may do so by sending them to: Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 2854, Big Spring, 79721.

Business After Hours resumes on Thursday

By ALLISON THOMAS
Staff Writer

To promote business, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring another Business After Hours event, a program to encourage networking.

Business After Hours will be hosted by Dakota's Flowers and Gifts, 1110 11th Place, from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday.

The community is invited to attend, and encouraged to bring a guest. The purpose is to showcase the host, Dakota's Flowers, and to promote the chamber businesses and members.

"We hold a Business After Hours quarterly each year," said Lanelle Witt, who is in charge of organizing the event. "The first one of the year was held at Merle Norman."

A casual setting, which

includes door prizes and refreshments, will give the people of Big Spring the opportunity to promote their businesses among other members of the community, while at the same time learning about the host business and the chamber.

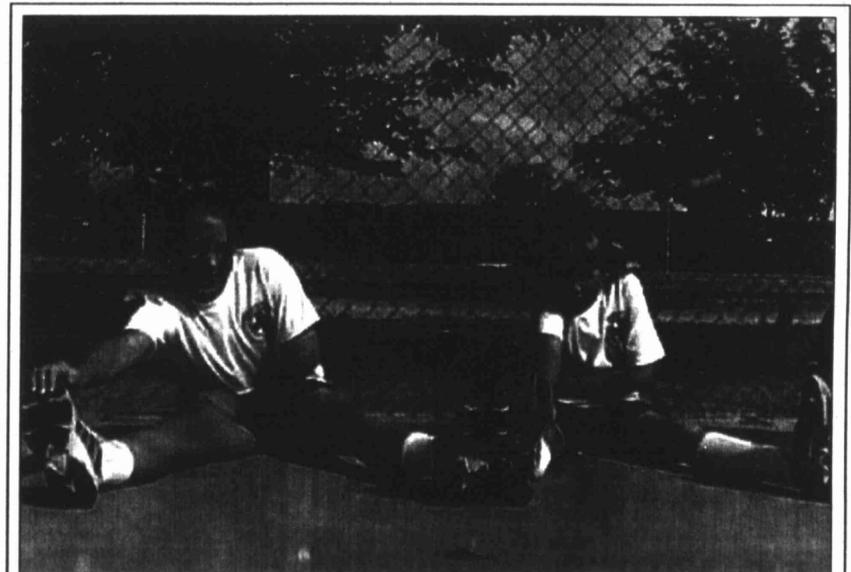
"We provide a group setting for business people to network," said Witt. "Anyone in the community is welcome to come."

Another goal of the Business After Hours event is to keep business in Big Spring, and to let shop owners and residents know what merchandise is available in the community.

"Everyone can come grab a handful of business cards and exchange ideas with other business owners," said Debbie Sheppard, who owns Dakota's Flowers.

"We're all so busy, we don't

See CHAMBER, Page 2



Eleven-year-olds Elizabeth Conley (left) and Drew Wells warm up with exercises Tuesday morning while taking part in the City Pool's junior rescue team program.

JUN 22 1999

OBITUARIES

Mona Norflee Pierce

Service for Mona Norflee Pierce, 86, Snyder, will be 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, 1999, at the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home with Rev. Larry McAden officiating. Burial will be in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Mrs. Pierce died Sunday, June 20, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

She was born on Jan. 26, 1913, in Alabama. She married D.T. Pierce on Dec. 1, 1930, in Snyder. He preceded her in death on June 8, 1989. Mrs. Pierce was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Snyder.

Survivors include: two daughters, Bobbie Stokes of Snyder, and Barbara Sutton of Brownwood; three sisters, Naomi Peters of Pecos, Emma Jean Choate of Odessa, and Faynell Hill of California; four brothers, Edwin Davis, Calvin Davis, both of California, Marion Davis of Odessa, and Edgar Davis of Odessa; four grandchildren, including Danny Stokes and Debra Boecharth, both of Big Spring; and six great-grandchildren.

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

Billy Leroy Reed

Service for Billy Leroy Reed, 73, Abilene, was 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 9, 1999, in an Abilene funeral chapel with Rev. David Cason officiating. Burial was in the Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Reed died Sunday, June 6, at his home.

He was born in Goldthwaite and attended school in Robert Lee. He was an Army veteran of World War II. Mr. Reed worked for Thornton Grocery Store, Dyess Air Force Base and the U.S. Postal Service, retiring in 1984. He was a Baptist. He married Billie Jean McCollum in 1950, in Breckenridge.

Survivors include: his wife, Billie Jean of Abilene; one son, Noel Lee Reed of Abilene; one sister, Wanda Keene of Bonham; two grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and his mother-in-law, Hazel McCollum of Big Spring; and a brother-in-law, Weldon McCollum of Big Spring.

Martina Balderas

Martina Talamantes Balderas, 97, Big Spring, died on Monday, June 21, 1999, in a local nursing home.

Rosary will be 7 p.m. tonight at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Rev. Jeremiah

McCarthy, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born on Jan. 30, 1902, in Mexico, and was married to Rodolfo Balderas who preceded her in death in 1948.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and had been a resident of Big Spring for 51 years.

Survivors include: one daughter, Blanch Balderas of Big Spring; one son and daughter-in-law, Rodolfo "Role," Jr. and Consuelo Balderas of Big Spring; one brother; one sister; several grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by two daughters, Carolina Guardiola and Dora Armendariz; and one son, Leonard Balderas.

Grandchildren will serve as pallbearers.

The family will be at 806 Douglas.

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

CHAMBER

Continued from Page 1

even know what is in each other's shops. But if we've been to Business After Hours, we can know if something specific is in another shop in town, and we can send customers there," said Sheppard.

Giving business owners the chance to network after their stores have closed raises awareness of what Big Spring has to offer.

"We need to keep people shopping in Big Spring," said Sheppard.

Business After Hours is open to the public, and is a free event.

VA

Continued from Page 1

about 100, not counting the outpatient load at the hospital and in six outpatient clinics.

"We do a better job of medicine today," Brown said of the lighter load, "and I attribute that to three basic factors."

Better preventative medicine, due in part to the outpatient clinic services, more "sophisticated" testing, and better trained clinicians were cited by Brown as evidence of the facility's "better job."

Brown also took note of the mortality of the largest group of veterans, the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines of World War II. The director was reminded at the Austin convention that currently 1,000 World War II veterans are dying every day.

He also noted that the VA system is increasingly serving veterans of Vietnam, while veterans of the Gulf War are beginning to become more common. True to the nature of war, Brown expects to see patients from service in Kosovo at the Big Spring hospital in the near future.

Police accuse man of putting skin-dissolving chemical on carousel

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Eleven children and an adult suffered burns to their faces, hands and legs after a man allegedly spread a skin-dissolving chemical on a playground merry-go-round.

Police arrested Delin

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Swanigan, 51, who witnesses said was at Watkins Park playground Saturday with a jar containing a bluish substance. He was charged with 12 counts of battery Sunday.

"He was sitting at the picnic table near the playground equipment. He was acting strangely, chanting," police Sgt. Paul Ciesielski told The Indianapolis Star.

REUNIONS

THE BIG SPRING HIGH School Class of 1959 will have a 40th reunion Oct. 15-16. We need the address for the following people: Carol Aston, Jerry Baird, Karen Baldwin, Dorene Bledsoe, W.L. Bowen, Warren Boyd, Nancy Branch, Charles Briggs, Lewis Burns, Shirley Burns, Charlene Campbell, Brent Clark, Linda Conwell, Bill Cooper, Jeanette Culwell, Joe Davis, Nancy Eldridge, Cliff Epps, Austin Ferguson, Vincent Friedewald, Beatrice Gonzales, Marilyn Hall, Jimmy Harris, Joan Heise, Rosie Hinojos, Jo Ann Lane, David Leppert, Joe McCowan, Larry McNeill, Joe McWilliams, Don Payne, Don Pederson, Ross Plant, Betsy Pool, James Pujo, Don Richardson, Dorothy Robinson, Tommy Roger, Amelia Rosas, Irene Rudd, Marvin Simmons, Bessie Smith, Lougenia Smith, Sylvia Valdez, Thomas Williams, Charlene Williamson, Carol Ann Wilson.

Please Call Toni at 267-7737 if you have any information about these '59 graduates.

BSHS CLASS OF 1949 will be having its 50th class reunion on Oct. 14-16.

The following is a list of missing classmates: John Brinkkaer, Roy Burke, Beverly Campbell, Winona Fincher, Helen Eubanks Harris, Irvin Hurt, Myrl Lou McGuire, Rodman Roberts, Voria "Scottie" Scott, Jean Seiler, Jo Ann Tanner, and Jean (Waldrop) Womac.

If you have any information of these classmates, please contact Katie Jones Cathey at 263-4611 or Jane Stripling Jones at 263-3078.

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 Sue Jones, 263-7361 ext. 7179 or 264-7518.

•"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.

•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

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

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A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager no.)

•Innovators in glyconutritionals are an independent group focusing on sickness prevention and management utilizing non-toxic simple saccharides to help our body heal itself. Training sessions are the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at 1909 S. Gregg. For more information call 267-3013 or 267-2424.

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. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager no.) Step study.

•Diabetes Support Group, 7 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center first floor classroom, will meet Wednesday, June 23. There will be a guest speaker to talk on new changes and new research on diabetes. For more information call 268-4581.

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

BRIEFS

ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE invited to a dance at Canterbury on Thursday, from 7 to 10 p.m. at 1700 Lancaster. The New Company Band will be playing for everyone's dancing and listening pleasure. There will be a cover charge of \$3.

COAHOMA LIONS CLUB WILL sponsor a blood drive Wednesday, June 30 from 4-8 p.m. at Coahoma Church of Christ Fellowship Building. Call 394-4277 for an appointment.

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF Health will have a Saturday shot clinic on June 26, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. Please bring a note from school or your child's shot record. For more information call 263-9775.

COAHOMA EXES LIVING IN the county need to provide their new 911 addresses for a mail-out in late fall about the reunion. Also, if you have addresses or other information about someone living out of town, call Shyrlee Reid, 393-5545; or Rae Nell Best, 394-4316.

HOWARD COLLEGE IS

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

ALLAN'S FURNITURE 12 Months No Interest 202 Scurry PH. 267-6278 Big Spring, Texas

Apple Casket Stores Save \$ Buy Direct Up to 50% Off 1-888-680-2329 Memorial Monuments

TEXAS LOTTERY

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

NOW taking registrations for Kids' College, which offers classes such as astronomy, art and computers for children ages 6-13.

Classes are Monday-Thursday, June 28-July 8 from 8 a.m.-noon at the Howard College campus. Cost is \$74 for the first child from a family and \$60 for each additional child from the same family. The cost includes supplies, T-shirt, snacks and certificates in the program.

Parents can register a child at the registrar's office Monday-Thursday from 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

THE BIG SPRING STATE Park will have a nature walk on Saturday from 8 to 9 p.m. There will also be story telling at 9 p.m. Meet at the State Park pavilion located near the playground.

SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAVE witnessed the effects of childhood diseases are needed to staff a new volunteer program that will promote immunizations.

Volunteers 55 and older are sought for the effort, to be known as the Seniors for Childhood Immunization Program. RSVP volunteers will visit new mothers at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and remind them of the importance of the immunizations.

To find out more about the program or to volunteer, call 264-2397.

MARKETS

July cotton 55.70 cents, up 30 points; July crude 17.68, down 2 points; cash hogs steady at \$2 higher at 36; cash steers steady at 67 even; July lean hog futures 51.32, up 32 points; Aug. live cattle futures 63.60, up 7 points.

Other markets were unavailable by press time.

RECORDS

Monday's high 80 Monday's low 68 Average high 94 Average low 69 Record high 109 in 1960 Record low 60 in 1945 Precip. Monday 0.05 Month to date 1.84 Month's normal 1.54 Year to date 6.39

PICK 3: 0,4,2 CASH 5:9,11,14,24,34

Normal for the year 7.78 Sunrise Wednesday 6:40 a.m. Sunset Wednesday 8:56 p.m.

POLICE

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

•THEFT was reported 11th and Settles, 4800 block of West Highway 80, the 800 block of Willa.

•MATHEW GILLIAN, 17, was arrested in the 2300 block of Wasson for criminal mischief of more than \$500 but less than \$1,500.

•MINOR ACCIDENTS in the 1100 block of Lamar, 700 block of W. IH-20 and 500 block of FM-700.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1100 block of Benton.

•ASSAULTS were reported in the 700 block of Creighton and the 1100 block of N. Nolan.

•THREATS were reported in the 400 block of Dixon.

•WILBERT POWELL, 56, was arrested for public intoxication on Scurry.

•TOTTIE WILLIAMS, 29, was arrested on a Taylor County warrant in the 3000 block of Old Highway 80.

•AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 4100 block of Parkway.

•PHONE HARASSMENT reported to the police at the station.

•MICHAEL HUNTER, 59, was arrested for public intoxication in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

•BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in Hanger 18 at the airport.

•BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon.

FIRE/EMS

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

MONDAY 5:55 a.m. — Scenic Mountain Medical Center, medical call, patient transported to Midland Memorial Hospital.

7:30 a.m. — 7000 block North County Rd 41, medical call, patient transported to Lubbock.

2:19 p.m. — 2600 block Albrook, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8283

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

Martina Talamantes Balderas, 97, died Monday. Rosary will be at 7:00 PM tonight at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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Clinton

SKOPJE, Macedonia — NATO could not be going home and autonomy was achieved here as well else to say thank you," he said in Macedonia parlance. "The people of not be going home and autonomy was achieved here as well else to say thank you," he said in Macedonia parlance.

Clinton was a personal plea to the refugees he was muddy tent encampment than 10 miles from border: recon rebuilding — not Clinton announced bursment of \$12

Senate

WASHINGTON Nearly \$1 billion U.S. payments Nations would under a bill no approval. But the attached: a cut contributions to nization.

The bill, exp Senate approval a reduction in the regular U.N. the present 25 percent; and a drop peacekeeping op 31 percent to 25 p

In exchange, Nations would delayed payments The United warned the Unite will lose its Gen voting rights if at

Russia

WASHINGTON sought KGB files Oswald just hand U.S. government fresh — informa whether Oswald p President Kenn was a doctor, Soviet Union, hi

The papers, a from Boris Yeltsi Clinton, are a breakthrough." Hall, a former n Assassination Re Board, a now-d panel that tried, obtain the docum

The review boar out of business l was created to and eventually

Author

GORHAM, Ill. authorities searc a rail-rider suspe of killings, angu have taken hold Illinois town charged with kill his daughter.

"There's a lot o around here," sai friend of one of suppose if he choose another p

Clinton pledges U.S. help to rebuild Balkans

SKOPJE, Macedonia (AP) — Venturing as close to the Kosovo border as security would allow, President Clinton thanked Macedonians today for supporting NATO forces and sheltering Kosovo refugees. He pledged millions of dollars to help build a better future in the Balkans.

"NATO could not have achieved its mission without you," he said in address at the Macedonian parliament house. "The people of Kosovo would not be going home to security and autonomy without you. I came here as much as anything else to say thank you."

Clinton was also making a personal plea to the war-scarred refugees he was meeting in the muddy tent encampments less than 10 miles from the Kosovo border: reconciliation and rebuilding — not revenge.

Clinton announced the disbursement of \$12 million in food

commodities to assist Macedonia, in addition to \$72 million in relief that the United States has sent to Macedonia since last year.

He said the United States and its European allies were committed to investing in Macedonia and its neighbors "in order to build a future of freedom and prosperity" in the Balkans.

Clinton noted an executive from the Liz Claiborne company was accompanying U.S. officials and that the clothing firm intended to open a facility in Macedonia that would employ more than 2,000 people.

"We must create real opportunities for ordinary citizens throughout Southeastern Europe," he said.

Macedonia, an impoverished state of some 2 million residents, housed up to 140,000 refugees as NATO airstrikes sought to drive the forces of

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic from Kosovo.

The Macedonians also provided space for NATO to launch its peacekeeping mission once the air war ended.

In a brief meeting with Clinton, Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov said he accepted "the essential need for the presence of the United States of America in Southeastern Europe. The war in Bosnia and now in Kosovo have confirmed this."

Clinton arrived in Skopje today for his first trip to the front lines of the battle he and his NATO allies won against what he called the "murderous rule" of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

Arriving at Skopje's airport, the military personnel aboard Air Force One donned bullet-proof vests, and Apache helicopter gunships escorted the presidential motorcade.

Reminders of the region's long, volatile history surrounded Clinton.

After a ceremonial handshake with Gligorov who bears the deep facial scars of a would-be assassin's bullet to his head, Clinton was asked by a reporter about Monday's blast in Kosovo that killed four people, including two Nepalese peacekeepers with the British army.

Clinton said he telephoned his concern to British Prime Minister Tony Blair hours after the deaths. "This is dangerous work," Clinton said.

Clinton is wrapping up a weeklong trip that won commitment from the European Union to help in the costly reconstruction of Kosovo.

"We must build a Europe with no front-line states, a Europe undivided, democratic and at peace for the first time in history," he declared before going to Skopje, Macedonia.

Auditors find confusion conducting fraud detection

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government should establish guidelines that spell out the roles of state agencies and managed care organizations in detecting fraud and abuse in Medicaid managed care plans, according to a report by government auditors.

The Health and Human Services Department's inspector general concluded that Medicaid managed care plans face many of the same types of fraud and abuse found in traditional Medicaid programs. Unlike traditional plans, there are no clear guidelines detailing who is responsible for spotting and referring potential fraud cases for investigation.

In a study of 10 states using managed care for recipients of Medicaid, the health insurance program for the poor, most state agencies reported limited oversight and fraud identification efforts. Few said they reviewed the efforts by managed care organizations to check for fraud.

"Although requirements exist for detection and investigation of claims related fraud cases occurring in traditional Medicaid programs, there have been few requirements developed to specifically address fraud detection and referral in the managed care setting," the auditors concluded.

The report called on the Health Care Financing Administration to create guidelines that clearly define the responsibilities of state agencies, managed care plans and fraud control units in detecting abuse and fraud. It also recommended that states monitor compliance of managed care organizations.

"As managed care plans pro-

vide medical services for more and more individuals who are on Medicaid, we must work closely with the managed care organizations and state agencies to ensure that they are fully equipped to deal with emerging fraud and abuse problems," House Commerce Committee Chairman Tom Bliley, R-Va., said.

According to the report, many of the same types of fraud found in traditional Medicaid programs — kickbacks, billing for services not rendered and duplicate billing — also exist in managed care plans. In addition, it said, Medicaid managed care plans are open to such abuses as enrollment fraud or failing to provide necessary covered medical care to recipients.

Under Medicaid's traditional fee-for-service method of paying doctor and hospital bills, state agencies must have a unit that conducts post-payment reviews of claims to look for any aberrations. But for states with special waivers that enable them to place Medicaid recipients in managed care plans, there are few guidelines that spell out which party is responsible, the report said.

The report highlighted the efforts of Tennessee and Arizona for proactive efforts to detect fraud in Medicaid managed care plans. Those states conduct training for managed care plans and meet with the organizations regularly to discuss potential fraud cases.

Besides Arizona and Tennessee, the states studied were Delaware, Hawaii, Minnesota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Senate ready to pass bill to pay back dues to U.N.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly \$1 billion in delinquent U.S. payments to the United Nations would be authorized under a bill nearing Senate approval. But there's a string attached: a cut in future U.S. contributions to the world organization.

The bill, expected to win Senate approval today, calls for a reduction in the U.S. share of the regular U.N. budget from the present 25 percent to 20 percent; and a drop in the share of peacekeeping operations from 31 percent to 25 percent.

In exchange, the United Nations would get the long-delayed payments.

The United Nations has warned the United States that it will lose its General Assembly voting rights if at least \$250 mil-

lion of the back dues isn't paid by December. The United States has been late on its payments for the past 13 years.

By U.N. calculations, that leaves the United States \$1.69 billion in arrears, nearly 60 percent of the total debt owed to the 185-nation organization. U.N. officials have complained that makes it hard for the United Nations to pay its own bills.

The United States disputes some of the arrears, but concedes owing at least \$1 billion.

The demands for a reduction in the U.S. share supporting the United Nations were the result of a compromise between Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Senate leaders.

Albright agreed to support the proposed cut in the U.S. share and, in exchange, Senate

Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., agreed to back away from more ambitious demands for changes at the United Nations.

Sen. Rod Grams, R-Minn., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on international operations, on Monday called the United Nations "a bloated bureaucracy" and said that, without housekeeping reforms, "the U.N. will collapse under its own weight."

Before voting on the overall bill, legislation authorizing a variety of State Department programs for fiscal 2000, the Senate was first expected to vote on an amendment by Sen. Paul Sarbanes, D-Md., to keep the U.S. share of the U.N. budget at its current levels.

It was not expected to pass.

The compromise bill would allow payments of \$819 million in U.S. debts to the United Nations over three years and forgive \$107 million that the United Nations owes the United States; for a total of \$916 million.

The bill also calls for spending \$3 billion over the next five years to beef up security at U.S. embassies around the world — the same amount requested by the administration in the aftermath of last year's attacks on U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Veteran diplomat Richard Holbrooke, President Clinton's nominee to be U.N. ambassador, has voiced support for the lower U.S. share of the United Nations budget.

Russian files may shed light on JFK assassination

WASHINGTON (AP) — Long-sought KGB files on Lee Harvey Oswald just handed over to the U.S. government could provide fresh information about whether Oswald plotted to shoot President Kennedy while he was in the Soviet Union, historians say.

The papers, a surprise gift from Boris Yeltsin to President Clinton, are a "monumental breakthrough," said Kermit Hall, a former member of the Assassination Records Review Board, a now-defunct federal panel that tried, but failed, to obtain the documents in 1996.

The review board, which went out of business last September, was created to locate, gather and eventually release to the

public all known assassination records.

Hall said the Russian records — declassified papers containing information gathered by Soviet intelligence agencies about Oswald — could show what Oswald was thinking and doing in the years leading up to the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas.

"This could tell us if he was scheming to do anything," said Hall, an Ohio State University historian.

Oswald, a former Marine, defected to the Soviet Union in 1959. That attracted the attention of the KGB, which bugged his apartment in the Belarus capital city of Minsk, paid neighbors to inform on him and

kept Oswald and his Russian wife, Marina, under constant surveillance.

The KGB amassed a six-volume file on Oswald's activities in Minsk, Hall said.

Disenchanted with his life in Russia and his menial factory job, Oswald returned to the United States in 1962, settling in Dallas with his wife and baby. Some assassination researchers concluded that Oswald did not decide to kill Kennedy until he moved to Dallas.

The Warren Commission, which conducted the official U.S. government investigation of Kennedy's slaying, concluded that Oswald was the sole gunman.

Two days after the assassina-

tion, Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot Oswald to death as police transferred him from the city jail to the county jail.

In Moscow, the Interfax news agency said Yeltsin gave Clinton 80 documents, which also detailed the Soviet government's reaction to Kennedy's assassination.

Although the assassination review board members were turned down when they sought copies of the files in 1996, writers Norman Mailer and Lawrence Schiller were allowed to examine some of them and used them for their 1995 book, "Oswald's Tale." The book traces Oswald's life but sheds no light on his plot to kill Kennedy.

Authorities expand Illinois serial killer investigation

GORHAM, Ill. (AP) — As authorities search the state for a rail-rider suspected in a series of killings, anguish and relief have taken hold in the southern Illinois town where he is charged with killing a man and his daughter.

"There's a lot of people scared around here," said Ray Miller, a friend of one of the victims. "I suppose if he was going to choose another person, though,

he would have moved on."

Authorities think Rafael Resendez-Ramirez may have done just that: Hours after he was charged Monday in the Gorham killings, the FBI said it was investigating whether he was involved in two killings 335 miles away in northern Illinois.

Resendez-Ramirez, put on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list Monday, is wanted for questioning in five killings in Texas and

one in Kentucky since August 1997. Authorities suspect he has been hitching rides on trains, finding his victims on or near the rails.

Federal agents in Texas say they are getting calls about Resendez-Ramirez from all over the country. The FBI in Wisconsin warned law enforcement agencies to be on the lookout.

Resendez-Ramirez was

charged in the June 15 deaths of George Morber Sr. and his daughter, Carolyn Frederick, Jackson County State's Attorney Mike Wepseic said.

Morber, 80, was shot in the head with a shotgun in his mobile home yards from a Union Pacific rail line. Investigators say they believe Resendez-Ramirez used the gun to fatally beat Frederick, 52, in the head.



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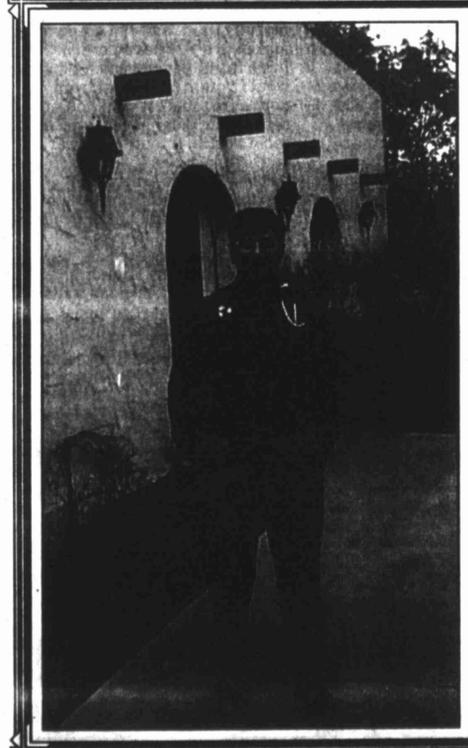
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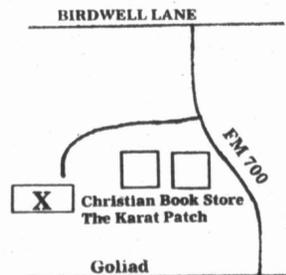
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JUN 22 1999

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

Combining fed agencies makes common sense

Last week's announcement that the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service will be moving into the USDA Research Station as part of a near \$500,000 renovation project is a good deal for everyone. Yes, it is a major change, and there are sure to be a few problems, as there are with any change. But the pluses would seem to far outweigh the negatives in this decision.

First, it ensures the stability of the Research Station for years to come. That's important, because the work done at that facility has been a major contributor to soil erosion research for a number of years now. Through the work conducted at the Big Spring USDA Research Station, crop producers are learning how to more effectively protect their greatest asset — the land. Better crops mean a better economy, and that impacts all of us.

Second, the move puts three federal agencies that crop growers and livestock producers rely on in one location. That means a savings of both time and money. It gives those agencies a better opportunity to interact and gives the producer one location to go instead of two or three. U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm calls it "one-stop shopping," and that's a pretty good way to define it.

There is a move under way to streamline agencies to cut costs and at the same time, make them more accessible. It seems that by combining these three agencies under one roof, all of that can be accomplished. The Research Station is paid for, whereas the FSA and NRCS offices are rented. Moving them into one building saves on monthly rent. The agencies will be able to share electricity, water, telephones and other costs. The FSA and NRCS will also have the benefit of several hundred acres of land controlled by the Research Station, where together the agencies can conduct field tests. Further, the station is centrally located, off the Interstate 20 north service road.

Along with this comes the government's decision to upgrade the Research Station to the tune of almost a half-million dollars. As Dr. Dan Upchurch, who heads up the facility in Lubbock, said, the renovations will make the Big Spring station a state-of-the-art center.

We note also, that Upchurch recently hired one soil scientist, and expects to hire another within the next few weeks, perhaps even days. That's great news, and further ensures that the government is committed to the Big Spring USDA Research Station.

Having the three agencies in one location makes good sense all the way around. We're glad it's happening here, in Big Spring.

OTHER VIEWS

Families should not have to pay a tax when a family member dies on assets that have already been taxed before.

Today's battle cry: No taxation without respiration.

Death to the "death tax," the federal levy on the transfer of a dead person's assets to his heirs and beneficiaries. The estate tax, also known as the death tax, is an inefficient tax that discourages saving, investment and job growth, unfairly penalizes small businesses, fails to redistribute income or wealth in any meaningful way and raises little revenue for the federal government. Therefore, this tax — the highest rate of tax in our tax system — should be abolished.

The death tax often forces family businesses, ranchers and farmers to sell off and close down their operations in order to pay the tax. With rates starting at 37 percent and quickly rising to 55 percent, it is little wonder that 70 percent of family businesses don't survive through the second generation and 87 percent are not passed on to a third? Since the estate tax con-

tributes less than 1.4 percent of total federal revenues, and 65 percent of the revenue raised goes to government enforcement of the tax, it makes sense to end this burdensome tax now.

Furthermore, rich people rarely pay this tax.

The rich can afford to hire the tax lawyers and accountants who specialize in tax avoidance through estate planning. It is the middle class, including small business owners, farmers and ranchers who end up paying the tax because they often are "cash poor" despite the liquidation value of a small business or family farm.

We strongly support legislation which would gradually reduce the estate tax by 5 percent each year until it reaches zero by the year 2010.

Ending the death tax should be a non-partisan issue that Republicans and Democrats can support.

There can be no doubt that repealing the estate tax will spur economic growth and increase the nation's prosperity.

THE (BRAZORIA COUNTY) FACTS

Making laws that survive the court system

The cultural elite could hardly contain its derision last week when Congress passed an amendment to permit the posting of the Ten Commandments in public schools. The amendment, attached to a juvenile justice bill in the House of Representatives, was sponsored by freshman Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.), whose district includes Littleton's Columbine High School.

The Washington Post snidely reported, "The House did not entertain measures to make parents pay more attention to their children, or to expand mental health coverage, or to encourage jocks to treat Goths with more respect, but it discussed just about every other Columbine explanation." New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd snickered at Congress' prescription for teen violence: "Take two tablets; slap them above every blackboard in American classrooms."

And virtually every commen-

tator agreed that the law will be struck down by the courts.

They're probably right on the last point.

The courts have been prime movers in the cultural revolution of the last 25 years, which has led to a breakdown in discipline and civility in the public schools. In addition to the courts' assault on religious expression, federal courts have diminished school officials' authority to remove disruptive students and to enforce codes of behavior and dress.

Just this month, a federal court in Richmond, Va., ordered a local school district to permit a 16-year-old boy to return to school despite his outlandish attire, which violated the school's dress code. The boy dyed his hair bright blue and frequently wore a skirt and ghoulish makeup to imitate the violent rock singer Marilyn Manson. In a strange twist, the court ruled that although the boy could come back to classes, school authorities could search him before he entered school each morning. It seems the young man had previously rigged a brick above a doorway, which nearly hit a teacher, and sports a tattoo that reads, "Kill 'em all."

Liberals would like to think there is no connection between antisocial dress or language and antisocial behavior. But of

course there is. Students who pierce their eyebrows, wear rings through their noses, dye their hair purple and paint their faces to look like cadavers are doing more than exhibiting bad taste. They're screaming their contempt for social norms. They're rule breakers, and they want everyone to know it.

Schools are rife with students who curse, make out in the hallways, sleep in class, and threaten each other and their teachers.

And teachers and school administrators are largely impotent to do much about it.

It's going to take more than the posting of the Ten Commandments to change the atmosphere in U.S. classrooms. Congress should explore ways to return authority to school principals and allow teachers and administrators to enforce civil behavior and appropriate dress and manners in the nation's public schools. The trick will be crafting rules that will withstand the courts' twisted reading of the Constitution.

But perhaps there is room for hope.

A few years ago, a spiraling violent crime rate that seemed destined to continue its 30-year upward climb suddenly began to plateau and even decline in most major cities. Most ana-

lysts agree that the turnaround came, in part, because the police got tougher in enforcing the laws against minor infractions, as well as levying harsher penalties for major crimes.

New York City's policy represents the best example. The police cracked down on subway fare cheaters, and the city began removing graffiti from buses and subway cars. The city cleaned up vacant lots, fixed broken windows in abandoned buildings and evicted squatters.

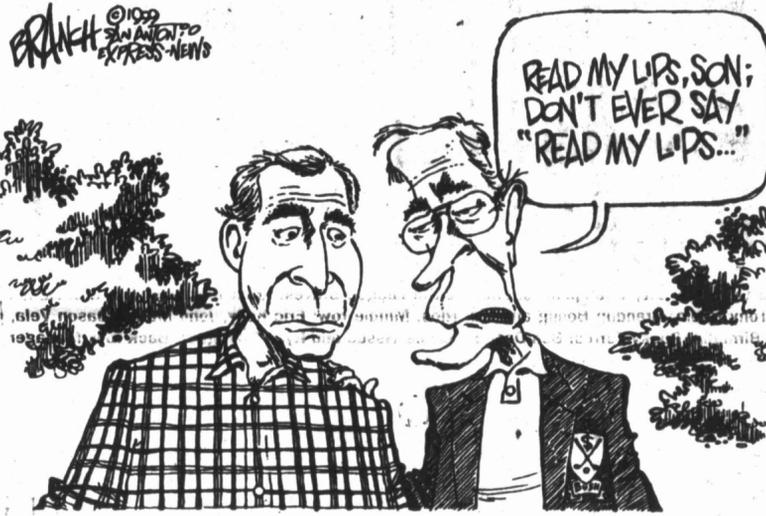
Even many of New York's notorious legions of homeless men and women, many of them drug addicts or mentally ill, decamped from the city's doorways to shelters under stricter enforcement of city ordinances against panhandling.

Congress will have another opportunity to affect the school environment when it considers the massive re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary School Act later this year.

Congress could make a real difference by requiring school districts that receive federal funds to come up with student standards of conduct that enforce proper discipline and decorum. If a similar approach could work to bring down crime in New York City, it's worth a try to make U.S. schools safer and more civil.



LINDA CHAVEZ



Neototalitarians have demonized the NRA

The argument over gun-control measures is an argument over how many restrictions will be placed on the rights of honest citizens. The argument has nothing to do with the National Rifle Association.

The neototalitarians in America are nothing if not unoriginal. They follow a fixed pattern. They create a straw man, demonize the straw man, then frame the argument as a contest between good and the evil demon.

In the case of gun control, the NRA is the designated demon. In the case of the illegal bombing of Yugoslavia, the designated demon was Slobodan Milosevic.

The NRA is one of America's oldest organizations, but it never intended to be a "gun lobby." That role was forced on

the organization when politicians, beginning in the fatal 1960s, embarked on the continuing effort to disarm the American people.

The NRA was created in the 19th century by national guardsmen for the purpose of encouraging marksmanship and gun safety. Its main functions today remain just that. The bulk of its resources is devoted to sports shooting, gun safety, collecting and hunting.

The purpose of demonization is to avoid an honest debate. Instead of proving the benefits of proposed gun-control legislation, those who demonize simply assert that there are benefits, and only the evil NRA and its puppets oppose the bills. It is a handy technique when neither facts nor logic are on your side. Of course, unsaid by the neototalitarians is that even as a lobby, the NRA is way down on the list of lobbies both in terms of its influence and in terms of the amount of money devoted to lobbying. But as part of the demonization, it is made out to be more powerful than it really is.

Another lie that is part of the demonization is the claim that the NRA has an unreasonable or extremist position on any kind of gun legislation. Listen, the NRA has always and continues to be a strong advocate of law enforcement and harsh penalties for the criminal use of a firearm. The NRA was advocating mandatory sentences for the criminal use of a firearm long before politicians were willing to consider it.

You will observe, however, that the gun-control crowd never backs tough enforcement but is always wanting to add more legislation to the more than 20,000 gun-control laws already on the books. That's because their true goal has nothing to do with crime. Their true goal is to prohibit the private ownership of firearms — all firearms if possible, but at least handguns.

But if gun control reduced crime, then America would have had more crime when there was no gun control and less crime after it was put in place. The exact opposite is the reality. That's because

humans, not inanimate objects, commit crimes.

Americans who value freedom had better be more concerned about the gun-control crowd than the criminals. Criminals may want your money; the neototalitarians want your freedom.

Suppose your neighbor showed up one day and said: "I don't trust you. I'm going to conduct a criminal background investigation, and I'm going to make sure you have no firearms in your house." What would you think? Would you not be insulted? Would you not think your neighbor may have some hostile intentions toward you?

Perhaps most Americans don't realize that from 1776 to the recent passage of the Brady Bill, background checks for gun buyers was never a requirement. The Founding Fathers boasted of the fact that all Americans were armed. Of course, they governed free men, not a herd of sheep.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREESE@aol.com.



CHARLEY REESE



IN I

YMCA base slated to b

The Big Sp conduct a b for youngst ages of 5 at Saturday.

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Games in will be play mornings Elementary International field.

Registration will be \$32 for the YMCA. For more the YMCA at

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Entry fees plus cart rer for entries is For more the Comancl at 264-2366.

Figure 7 T sets clinic

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Clinic sess 9 a.m. to noc Bramlett, Midland, is coach at Cla San Antonio

Entries for limited. Fo tion, contac 6834.

Softball, n rescheduk

The Sprin Ragball Tou rescheduled July 10, at Baseball/Sol

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Entry fee softball to \$100 per te for the 12-te ment will b

For more Chris Cole Rios at 264-4

Coahoma seeks nev

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IN BRIEF

YMCA baseball program slated to begin Saturday

The Big Spring YMCA will conduct a baseball program for youngsters between the ages of 5 and 12 beginning Saturday.

The program will have 5- and 6-year-olds playing T-ball, while those between the ages of 7 and 9 playing coach pitch baseball. Those between the ages of 10 and 12 will play with youngsters pitching.

Games in the seven-week will be played on Saturday mornings at Washington Elementary School and at the International Little League field.

Registration for the program will be \$32 for non-members of the YMCA.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Best of the Rest tourney scheduled for weekend

The annual Best of the Rest Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament's championship flight will be a two-man low ball event, while the rest of the flights will play a scramble format.

Entry fees are \$160 per team plus cart rental. The deadline for entries is Friday.

For more information, call the Comanche Trail pro shop at 264-2366.

Figure 7 Tennis Center sets clinic for July 7-8

Jeff Bramlett, the national high school tennis coach of the year, will join local professional Jim Blacketer in conducting a Doubles Tennis Clinic on Wednesday and Thursday, July 7-8, at the Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

Clinic sessions will be from 9 a.m. to noon on both days.

Bramlett, a native of Midland, is the varsity tennis coach at Class 4A powerhouse San Antonio Alamo Heights.

Entries for the clinic will be limited. For more information, contact Blacketer at 264-6834.

Softball, ragball tourneys rescheduled for July 10

The Spring City Softball and Ragball Tournament has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 10, at the Roy Anderson Baseball/Softball Complex.

Stated as a fundraiser for the complex, the tournament is being sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Sports Committee, the tournaments were originally scheduled for this weekend.

Entry fees for the 20-team softball tournament will be \$100 per team, while the fee for the 12-team ragball tournament will be \$80 per team.

For more information, call Chris Cole at 264-2100 or Jesse Rios at 264-6129.

Coahoma booster club seeks new softball field

Members of the Coahoma Booster Club are currently soliciting help for constructing a softball field on the Coahoma High School campus.

School officials and booster club members say they want to build the softball field adjacent to the Bulldogs' baseball park.

Organizers are asking local businesses to help by purchasing billboards that will be hung on the outfield fence.

Those 4x8 signs will be \$400 for the first year and \$100 annually thereafter.

For more information, call David Elmore at 394-4759, Gary Stovall at 263-3880 or Don Evans at 393-5578.

ON THE AIR

TELEVISION
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
6:35 p.m. — Montreal Expos at Atlanta Braves, TBS, Ch. 11.
7:30 p.m. — Oakland A's at Texas Rangers, TCA Ch. 97.
WNBA
7 p.m. — Los Angeles Sparks at Houston Comets, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Ward hired to head both Big Spring golf programs

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

Big Spring High School's new golf coach won't be a stranger to many Steers fans... at least not those who can remember the 1989 football season.

Steve Ward, who quarterbacked Monahans' Lobos in two losses to the Steers that year, one in district play and the other in the state quarterfinals, has been hired to fill the vacancies created when Gary Simmons left the Big Spring boys' program to take the golf coach's position at Frenship and Mike Scarbrough, who had coached the Lady Steers program, accepted a teaching position in San Angelo.

For the past two years, Ward has been the golf coach at Bullard High School — one of East Texas' traditional Class 3A

links powerhouses.

In his first year at the Bullard helm, he guided the Lady Panthers to district and regional championships, as well as a fifth-place finish at the UIL state tournament in Austin.

This year Ward coached both the girls' and boys' programs to postseason appearances. The Panthers qualified for regional tournament play and the Lady Panthers finished as Region II runners-up, again advancing to the state tournament where they finished sixth.

A native of Monahans, Ward is the son of long-time Monahans coach Doug Ward. He attended McLennan Community College in Waco where he was a junior college all-American in golf. He then played golf at the University of Texas-San Antonio where he was a two-time NCAA regional qualifier.

Ward will be a full-time golf coach, heading both the boys' and girls' programs — the same role Simmons was expected to fill this season prior to his decision to leave for Frenship.

"We're extremely excited about being able to hire Steve," Big Spring athletic director Dwight Butler said in announcing the decision to hire Ward. "He's a great young man. We feel like he's going to start right where Gary left off, not only in putting competitive teams on the golf course, but stressing discipline and hard work."

"We feel like we're very fortunate to get him," Butler added. "Granbury was trying to hire him, but he wanted to get back home to West Texas."

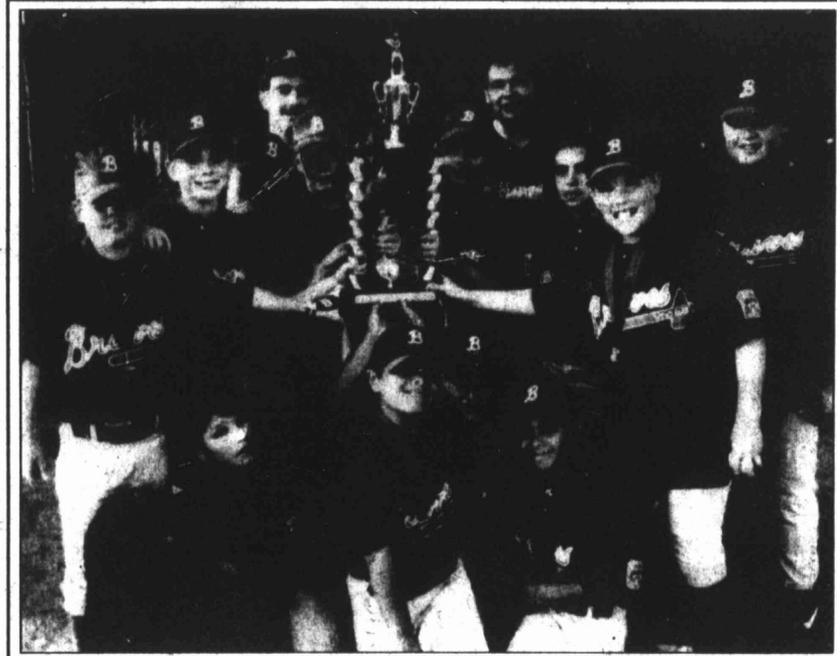
Ward and his wife will be moving to Big Spring as soon as they find a home. Ward's hiring leaves Butler with just

one of the three vacancies on his coaching staff unfilled.

"We're still looking for a new tennis coach and they are extremely difficult to find," Butler said Tuesday morning, noting that he immediately began his search after Ralph Davis announced his decision to take the tennis coach's position at Tuloso-Midway.

The football assistant's position vacated when Tommy Gibson accepted an assistant principal's position at Forsan has been filled by Tony Truelove, who had been the head football coach at Nueces Canyon High School for the past two years.

Truelove will also serve as Ward's assistant in golf. The assistant girls' track duties Gibson filled will now be handled by Lady Steers basketball coach Kathy Loter.



Here are the 1999 City Champion American Little League Braves. Front row, from left, are: Adrian Yanez, Tony Sabo, Brandon Boling and D.J. Rios. Middle row: Eric Kelly, John Watkins, Jason Vela, Clayton Birmelin, Rocky Torres, Ben Daanda, Lance Tissue and Ryan Rodriguez. Back row: Manager Edwin Vela and coach Victor Rodriguez.

Knicks convincing in spoiling Spurs' anticipated sweep

NEW YORK (AP) — Brooms are now back in their closets all over San Antonio. The NBA Finals are a real series.

With a convincing victory in Game 3, the New York Knicks shattered the Spurs' invincible aura and perhaps rescued a series that seemed all but decided and anything but intriguing when it arrived at Madison Square Garden.

The Knicks beat the Spurs 89-81 Monday night with yet another lineup change and 34 points from Allan Houston, pulling to 2-1 in the best-of-7 series. For one thrilling night, the sound of remote controls clicking across America was drowned out by signs of life at the Garden.

Notice to those who jammed San Antonio's streets in a broom-waving traffic jam only three nights ago: We may have ourselves a series, after all.

"It's always been a series," said Marcus Camby, who didn't do much with his first start for the Knicks until he threw down a thunderous dunk in the fourth quarter. "The only thing San Antonio did down there was solidify home court. You're supposed to win on your home court. Now, they just put the emphasis on us. We have three games at the Garden."

That is a certainty now as Houston had one of the best games of his career and the Knicks did justice to the building Michael Jordan used to call "The Mecca of Basketball."

The Garden was nothing but a menace to the Spurs, who lost for the first time in 41 days. Tim Duncan had his worst game of the series, scoring 20 points, but getting shut out on 0-for-4 shooting in the fourth quarter.

Aside from David Robinson's 25 points and 10 rebounds, Duncan didn't get much help as San Antonio saw its NBA-record 12-game winning streak in these playoffs come to an end. It was the Spurs' first loss since dropping Game 2 to Minnesota in the first round on May 11, and their first after six consecutive road victories.

It was the first time in the series that the Knicks shot more free throws than the Spurs. New York was 23-for-30, and the Spurs 18-for-22. Duncan was only 4-for-4. In Games 1 and 2, the Spurs shot 66 foul shots to the Knicks' 31.

"I don't know what you'd call this tonight," Robinson said. "Our team absolutely hates to

lose, and we always respond well after a loss. Always. Hopefully, guys are going to take this personally and come back with some more focus and energy on Wednesday."

That is when the Spurs, the Knicks and the formerly comatose finals return to the Garden for — an intriguing game that will go a long way toward determining the first NBA champion of the post-Jordan, post-Bulls dynasty era. After TV ratings for Games 1 and 2 were down drastically from last season, maybe more will watch now.

"You saw the true character of the Knicks," New York coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "We hung in there when they were making runs, and we were very resilient."

Houston was 10-for-24 from the field in an electrifying performance that included a 3-pointer that broke the only tie of the game as the shot clock expired in the third. New York stopped every Spurs comeback, refusing to give them the lead after the Knicks opened a 14-point advantage in an explosive first quarter.

The Spurs got within one point near the end of the third and cut the deficit to 81-77 on Sean Elliott's 3-pointer with 3:13 left in the fourth. But Camby, who soared for a tremendous dunk on an offensive rebound for his first points early in the fourth, followed Houston's jumper with an 11-footer that gave New York an 85-77 lead with 2:20 left.

The Spurs cut it six points twice — on a running one-hander by Elliott and a free throw by Robinson — but that was all.

Duncan, suddenly tentative in the post after two dominant games, passed to Mario Elie and then got the ball back, only to toss up an errant 3-pointer that would have cut it to 88-84 if it hadn't clunked off the front rim.

"It was just a stupid play," said Duncan, realizing that he should have shot the ball when he was closer to the basket. "I should have turned around and shot the ball. I made the wrong decision."

New York's Larry Johnson, who deserved much of the credit for containing Duncan, scored 16 points.

"We showed a lot of heart and character," Johnson said. "This is the NBA Finals. There isn't any lay-down-and-quit in this team. We are still in this."

Texas style: Stars celebrate Stanley Cup with fans

DALLAS (AP) — The 50th straight full house at Reunion Arena was the most satisfying for Dallas Stars fans, even though a puck was never dropped.

A standing-room-only crowd enjoyed an hour-long celebration Monday in honor of the Stanley Cup champions. It was the first chance for most fans to see the team and the trophy since the title was won early Sunday.

"This is what happens when you get everyone pulling the rope in the same direction," general manager Bob Gainey said.

The Stars, who moved to Dallas six years ago after 26 seasons in Minnesota, are the southern-most champions the NHL ever had. Monday's parade and pep rally definitely had a Texas flair.

Team owner Tom Hicks proudly tugged his pant legs to reveal black boots with shiny Stanley Cups emblazoned on each shin and the team's logo on the back of each calf. Forward Dave Reid wore a black cowboy hat throughout the festivities.

The Stars won their first title early Sunday with a 2-1 triple-overtime victory over the Buffalo Sabres. The clinching game was on the road and it ended around 12:30 a.m., after many fans were asleep and too late to make some editions of the local newspapers. Only about 200 fans made it to the airport to greet the plane at 6:45 a.m. Sunday.

More than 75,000 people lined the route for the 45-minute parade from City Hall to Reunion Arena. Another 20,000 packed the arena.

The players walked onto a stage one by one, passing through a giant star-shaped structure. The last one out was team captain Derian Hatcher, who ushered in the Cup beneath a shower of fireworks and a burning, revolving star.

Hatcher placed the trophy on a 5-foot pedestal

in the center of the stage.

"Now we have it here and it looks good here," he said. "Hopefully, we can build a nice little house for it."

Each player got a turn hoisting the Cup, and most of them kissed the trophy. Mike Modano doing so several times.

Goalie Ed Belfour, serenaded by cheers of "Eddie! Eddie!" throughout the hour-long show, savored the Cup the longest. He circled the stage while Hicks, team president Jim Lites and Gainey led a standing ovation.

Fans goaded Belfour into speaking and, with a voice hoarse from 36 hours of celebrating, he thanked the crowd for its support.

"This has been an unbelievable year," said Belfour, who inspired one fan to write "In Eddie We Trust" on the back of a car. "This is a great moment."

Mayor Ron Kirk read a letter from Gov. George W. Bush, then Lites and Hicks addressed the crowd.

"We have never, ever for a minute regretted coming here," said Lites, who joined the organization following the move from Minneapolis. "It's been a great, great, great experience."

Among the parade participants were the Reunion Arena Zamboni and the heavy metal band Pantera.

Band members are fans of the team and friends with several players. During the parade, the group played their song featuring only the words "Dallas! Stars!"

A much different sort of singer performed at the pep rally.

B.J. Thomas, best known for "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head," sang the national anthem for the seventh time this season.

Red Sox take 'ugly' 5-4 win over Rangers behind Wasdin

BOSTON (AP) — John Wasdin was upset when he was sent to the minors in spring training. It might have been the best thing for him.

Since returning from Triple-A Pawtucket in early May, he's 7-0 in 15 appearances, all in relief, and is second in wins only to Pedro Martinez's 13 on Boston's staff.

"It does surprise me," he said after getting the win in the Red Sox's 5-4 victory over the Texas Rangers on Monday night. "Right now, I'm having a good time and going with the flow."

"The first thing I told him when he came back from Pawtucket is, 'John, you can't get rid of me,'" Boston manager Jimmy Williams said.

The Red Sox have no intention of getting rid of Wasdin, who allowed two hits

in two scoreless innings before Tim Wakefield worked a perfect ninth for his sixth save in six chances.

Wasdin was 4-6 in his first full season with Boston in 1997 after being traded from Oakland for Jose Canseco. He was 6-4 last season in 47 games, but struggled in spring training this year.

"Going down to the minor leagues was, as I look at it now, the best thing that happened to me," Wasdin said. "Had I been here, I probably wouldn't have gotten the innings in to work out some things."

Nomar Garciaparra's numbers are just as impressive, but hardly as surprising as Wasdin's. He went 4-for-4 Monday and is on an 18-for-31 tear that raised his average to .350. He hit .306 and .323 his other two seasons.

"Sometimes you feel good and you get certain pitches and get the bat on the ball the way you want it," he said.

He started the second with a RBI double before a sacrifice fly by Trot Nixon against Rick Helling (6-7). Todd Zeile's run-scoring groundout made it 2-1 in the fifth.

Two Boston fielding mistakes led to three unearned runs in the sixth that gave Texas a 4-2 lead. Royce Clayton was credited with a double when his popup to short right field fell between Nixon and second baseman Jose Offerman.

Clayton took third on Mark McLemore's groundout and scored on a two-base error by Offerman, who let Ivan Rodriguez's grounder roll under his glove for his fourth error in five games.

Boston tied the game 4-4 in the bottom half when Garciaparra led off with a single and scored on O'Leary's 14th homer.

"It would have been nice to get Nomar out," Helling said. "There's really no way to pitch to the guy."

The winning run scored in the seventh when Offerman walked, stole second and threw the ball when catcher Rodriguez threw the ball into center field for an error. John Valentin singled in Offerman.

"I double-clutched and threw it away," said Rodriguez, the AL leader each of the last four years in percentage of runners caught stealing.

"The curveball that Helling threw was really outside," Valentin said. Rodriguez "had to reach for it and that put him in a tough position to throw the guy out."

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Barcelona
Apartment
Homes
Special
Summer Rates
1 Bd's. starting at
\$269
2 Bd's. starting at
\$329
538 Westover Road
263-1252

LOVELY
NEIGHBORHOOD
COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carpets,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen
Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished

KENTWOOD
APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

UNFURNISHED
HOUSES
2 bdr. 2 bath house, 2 stall
garage, fenced back yard
\$200. deposit, \$350 mon.
Call 264-9522.

2 bedroom, CH/A. Very
clean! 2904 Cherokee.
Call 263-5818.

2 bedroom house @ 2103
Johnson. Fenced yard,
new paint. \$350./mo.,
\$200/dep. Call 264-7016.

3 bdr. remodeled Mobile
Home in a quiet park, lot's
of trees, fenced yard,
storage shed, w/water &
trash paid. \$250/mn.
264-9306.

3 bedroom, 1 bath 1609
Orlote. Call 267-3841 or
270-7309.

Unfurnished
Houses
3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A
nice neighborhood. 2501
Carlton. \$525/mn + dep.
Call 263-6997 or
263-4367.

3 bedroom, 2 baths, den,
Nice area. Stove, No pet!
\$495. 267-2070.

3 bedroom house for rent.
Call 263-2937 after
6:00pm.

3308 Drexel, 3 br. 2 bath,
fenced yard. \$475/mn.
\$250/dep. no indoor pets,
references required.
263-4948 leave message.

4 bedroom, 2 bath. 1206
Johnson. Call 267-3841 or
270-7309.

Clean, 2/3 bdrm., 1bth.
1304 Ridgwood. \$325/mn.
+ dep. 267-5386.

Clean 3 bdr. 2 bath CH/A,
good neighborhood.
\$475/mn. \$200/dep. 2511
Carlton. 267-1543

Doublewide Mobile Home
For Sale 3/2 Oak Creek
excellent condition, close
to Coahoma School. Call
394-4924 or 394-4290 and
ask for Linda.

RENTERS WANTED
\$500 dn. allows you to
own a 3 or 4 bedroom
Mobile Home With
Approved Credit. Stop
throwing money away and
start investing.
1-800-698-9003.

Two Unf. Houses For
Lease
3 bed, 1 1/2 bath. CH/A,
fenced yards. No indoor
petal 2210 Lynn & 4220
Hamilton. 263-6514
Owner/Broker.

TOO LATES
1993 Pontiac Grand Am.
Excellent condition. 59,000
miles. \$5500. 263-8622
after 5:00.

2 bedroom, 2 bath,
separate dining room.
Close to schools. 1106
Nolan. \$25,000. Call
263-0318 or 263-2033.

4 Wide is here! 1999
Fleetwood. Must see!
\$2000 cash back to you!
A-1 Homes 800-626-9978
or 653-1152.

Apartment Manager &
maintenance person
needed to work & live in
an apartment complex.
Call 915-267-4217.

Free to a good home. Half
Boxer & Pit. Brindle
white chest about 3 or 4
months old. Call 268-9495
after 5:30pm.

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR BIDS ON
TEXAS HIGHWAY
CONSTRUCTION
Sealed proposals for 5.044 mi of
asphalt concrete pavement overlay
on US 180 from FM 1238 to FM
600 covered by CPM 286-5-24 in
Jones County, will be received at
the Texas Department of
Transportation, 200 E. Riverside
Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00
P.M., July 6, 1999, and then pub-
licly opened and read. It is the bid-
der's responsibility to ensure that
the sealed proposal arrives at the
above location and is in the hands
of the letting official by the spec-
ified deadline regardless of the
method chosen by the bidder for
delivery.

Plans and specifications, including
minimum wage rates as provided
by Law, are available for inspection
at the office of Tommy Joe
Higgins, Area Engineer, Hamlin,
Texas, and at the Texas
Department of Transportation,
Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals
are to be requested from the
Construction Division, 200 East
Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas
78704-1205. Plans are available
through commercial printers in
Austin, Texas, at the expense of
the bidder.

The Texas Department of
Transportation hereby notifies all
bidders that it will insure that bid-
ders will not be discriminated
against on the ground of race,
color, sex or national origin, in
having full opportunity to submit bids
in response to this invitation, and in
consideration for an award.

Usual rights reserved.
9-D-72061 8-76-0296-05-024
2340 June 15 & 22, 1999

PUBLIC NOTICE
ATTENTION TCA CABLE
TV SUBSCRIBERS
Beginning with the August 1999
cable bills, the following monthly
service prices will be in effect.
Basic service will increase from
\$13.50 to \$13.95 per month.
Standard service will increase from
\$12.58 to \$13.00 per month. All
prices quoted without franchise
fees and/or sales tax. Inquiries
concerning these changes or any
other cable related issue can be
made at the TCA Cable TV office
located at 2008 Birdwell Lane or by
calling 267-3821.
2347 June 17, 20, 22, 24,
27 & 30, 1999

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Coahoma ISD will receive
proposals for the purchase of Bread,
Milk, Student Insurance, Janitorial
Supplies for the 1999-00 school
year. Proposals will be received in
the Business Office or at PO Box
110 Coahoma, Texas 79511 until
2:00 PM July 9, 1999.
Specifications and proposal forms
may be received by interested par-
ties from the Business Office. The
proposals will be opened publicly
at 2:00 PM July 9, 1999, and read
aloud. The Board of Trustees will
take action regarding any and all
proposals on July 20, 1999, in its
regular monthly meeting. The
Board reserves the right to accept
or reject any and all proposals.
2355 June 21 & 22, 1999

Kids visiting their dad turn to mom for help with airfare

DEAR ABBY: I am an airline employee and have the privilege of giving my children (over age 25) discount airline passes. I am divorced, and their dad lives in Oregon. He is very wealthy.

My children have asked for passes to visit him this summer. Abby, the cost will come out of my paycheck, amounting to \$300. Also, these passes are standby, which means they may or may not get on the airplane. It seems to me that if he wants to see his children and grandchildren, he should pay for the airline tickets so that they will have assured seats on whatever flight they take.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

How can I communicate this to my children without any hurt feelings or animosities? I have a good relationship with them, and I'd like to keep it that way. -- IN A BIND IN TEXAS

DEAR IN A BIND: Explain your position to your children as you explained it to me. Tell them of the very real possibility that some of their party will be "bumped" if they try to fly using your passes, and that the cost of them will put you in a financial bind. Therefore, their father should be a good grandpa and spring for the tickets, since he can well afford to.

DEAR ABBY: I recently read in your column about children running wild in a restaurant. This situation is familiar to me because I am a server at a five-star resort.

Abby, I'm not against children -- I have two of my own -- but I strongly object to children running freely in a busy establishment.

Children are in real danger when they run loose in a restaurant. The trays we carry can weigh upward of 20 pounds when loaded with hot entrees, and the coffee in the pots would most definitely scald a child. Also, a server could be seriously injured were he or she to stumble over a child.

Of course, the parents would never admit the child caused the accident; servers are always made out to be the bad guys. I blame the parents for not protecting their children by insisting they sit at the table out of harm's way.

In the interest of child safety (and server safety), please print my letter. -- MIKE ALLEN, ALDERSON, W.VA.

DEAR MIKE: I'm pleased to print your letter. In the interest of everyone's safety -- including the establishment's -- I'm surprised more of them don't post a disclaimer that the restaurant refuses to accept responsibility for injuries to unaccompanied

children. It might serve as a reminder to parents who bring small children and then become so engrossed in conversation that they tune their little ones out.

Wise parents make sure they are prepared in advance when taking their child to an "adult" environment. They bring along children's books, paper and crayons to keep the little ones amused, because children have short attention spans and it's unfair to expect them to sit in silence through a long meal.

Parenthood is hard work. It takes patience, diligence and sacrifice to do the job properly. Parents who allow their children to run loose in restaurants are shirking their responsibility.

DEAR ABBY: I agree with your advice to "Still Steaming in S.F.," who was publicly snubbed by the wife of her husband's business partner. I had a similar experience.

The social event at which I was snubbed eight years ago was a lovely outdoor wedding shower that was being held for my fiancé and me. The "snubber" fancied herself to be a major mover in local political circles. She was not even on the list of suggested guests we had given the hostess. She was a good friend of the host and hostess, and my fiancé was casually acquainted with her.

When he attempted to introduce me to this woman, she was extremely rude and acted as if I were invisible. I was shocked and embarrassed.

I later learned that during my fiancé's bachelorhood, this woman had tried repeatedly -- but unsuccessfully -- to fix him up with her various girlfriends. I now realize that the snub had nothing to do with me -- and everything to do with her frustration at failing in her match-making efforts. She was being a poor loser. "Steaming" might very well find a similar history between her husband-to-be and the law partner's wife. -- SNUBBED AND HAPPY IN ST. PAUL

DEAR SNUBBED AND HAPPY: Indeed she might. It's also possible that the law partner's wife was herself attracted to the woman's fiancé. However, that's no excuse -- it is the duty of the hostess to make sure all her guests enjoy themselves. Not only did she fail at that, she behaved so badly other guests commented on it. That's hardly a social triumph.

DEAR ABBY: "Confused in Richmond" wrote that her parents insist on bringing their cat and dog when they come to visit because they don't want to put their "babies" in a kennel.

I am a 78-year-old senior citizen and I supplement my income by pet sitting. I stay in the pet owners' home while they are gone. The demand is so great I often have to refer jobs to other senior citizens who also do this kind of work. It's a great job. The pets are happy to be in their own home.

The owners are happy, the people they visit are happy and I am happy.

Those parents should check with their church, senior center and/or other pet owners to find a reliable sitter. -- LOVES DOGS AND CATS

DEAR LOVES DOGS AND CATS: If you are happy, the owners are happy and the pets are happy -- then I am happy for ALL of you, and I won't pick a bone with you.

However, some people are uneasy at the thought of a "stranger" staying in their house. For pet owners who suffer from separation anxiety, a motel that caters to pets is the ideal situation.

DEAR ABBY: When my mother was in her 50s, she came to me to get her hair cut. My father's sister had told her she was getting too old to wear it long. I'm sure my aunt was only trying to be helpful and bring Mother a little more up-to-date. I told my mother it was her hair, and she should wear it however she liked it best.

The next time I saw her, she had short hair. She had been so afraid of looking foolish to others that she hadn't thought of the most important person -- herself.

Her hairstyle may have been more "modern," but she felt like Samson. She had always been proud of her long, thick hair, but was now too self-conscious to wear it that way. She kept her hair short after that even though she didn't like it.

I wish my aunt had kept her mouth shut. Hair is only an adornment, and it was much better to see Mother self-confident than stylish.

"Loving Granddaughter" should be glad she has a living grandmother. My poor mother passed away about 10 years after that. She had metastatic breast cancer and lost all her hair from chemo and radiation. -- MOTHERLESS DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: "Constructive criticism" is best digested when it's offered in sparing doses. Those who offer it should first use a magnifying mirror to examine themselves.

DEAR ABBY: I am 11 years old and I'm doing a project on the skeletal system. Part of my project is osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is called the "silent disease" because there are cases when you don't know you have it until you break a bone. One of the ways to prevent a fall that could result in a break is to keep rooms free of clutter and mess.

I am concerned about "Distraught Husband." Does his wife realize how dangerous it is for rooms to be cluttered? I suggest "Distraught" start by saying to his wife, "I'm concerned about your health." -- SKELETAL SMARTY IN JERSEY

DEAR SMARTY: Not only do you have a caring heart, you are intelligent. Slip-and-fall injuries can be life-threatening (and certainly life-altering) to

trail seniors, and they should install grab bars in bathrooms, make sure there is adequate lighting on stairways, and remove scatter rugs that might cause serious accidents. A stitch in time saves nine.

DEAR ABBY: My husband (I'll call him Nick) fathered a daughter out of wedlock 23 years ago. Nick and the mother were both very young and marriage was not an option. The child, "Sherry," was placed for adoption.

Sherry located her birth parents about six months ago. Only a few people (mostly relatives) know about this young woman. Nick and I have been married 18 years and have two children, 16 and 12. He and Sherry have a close relationship, and she has met our children.

Abby, we're unsure how we should explain this to people. Nick would like to have a large party and introduce her to our friends and family. I'm not certain that a large "coming out" party is the best way to go.

We have read your column for years and would appreciate your opinion. What would you do in our situation? -- NICK'S WIFE

DEAR WIFE: I commend you for your mature, healthy attitude. Since Sherry and her father now have a close relationship, your friends and relatives are sure to find out about her one way or another. Rather than giving Sherry a "coming out" party, a diplomatic way to introduce her might be to host a party during one of the holidays, when friends and family usually gather anyway. As the invitations are extended and accepted, all prospective guests should be told exactly who Sherry is to avoid any surprised reactions that could make her feel uncomfortable or unwelcome.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: If you have time to read only one book this year, make it "Front Row at the White House" by veteran White House correspondent Helen Thomas. Helen has known every president from Kennedy to Clinton. The publisher is Simon & Schuster; you are sure to find it on the shelf at your favorite bookstore.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable -- and most frequently requested -- poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, 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 included.)

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23:

You'll have to work past some interference from partners, especially where money is concerned. You might wonder why financial agreements have become so difficult. Perhaps you aren't seeing the other party clearly or are having trouble receiving his message. Take charge; you can do it best on your own. Your creativity is very high, although sometimes your wit could become sarcastic. If you are single, romance makes your life go around. Cupid's arrow can strike any time after June 28. If attached, your relationship may need work from time to time; be willing to do it. You will bond on a deeper level. SCORPIO makes your life sizzle!

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)
***The best-laid plans go awry when you least expect it. Events give you a strong insight into your personality. Do you laugh? Go with the flow? Tantrum? No one, not even you, sees the whole picture right now! Others feel as you do, and quite strongly. Find your best friend. Tonight: Passions run high!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***You can meet today's challenges. Still, a work-related matter knocks your socks off. Expectations fail to materialize. Lose any hopes for stability, professionally. Everyone wants his say; why bother to make

sense of it all? Avoid sarcasm, however tempting it may be. Tonight: Dance away frustration!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***The work ethic can get boring, but keeping your nose to the grindstone is the only safe way to go. Be careful as pressure builds. You might say something you'll regret. Loosen up, worry less about details. Go for a walk, if need be. Tonight: Find a stress-buster.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***Allow your imagination to take over, but be careful about financial commitment or risk. A major money backfire could result. Better safe than sorry! Confusion affects your perspective of another and his skills. Observe more and say less right now. Tonight: Transform anxiety into wildness!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***Rigidity won't work. Be easy-going. Whenever you insist that something should happen a certain way, you are setting yourself up for uproar. Partners have continually been unpredictable and testy. You might think news will be different; perhaps you see another through rose-colored glasses. Tonight: Home, quickly!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***Communication counts, as others get distracted. Maintain a perspective. You could be making more out of a passing phase than necessary. Laughter and lightness can mark present confusion, unless you opt for sarcasm and frustration. It's your call. Tonight:

HOROSCOPE

Swap war stories over dinner.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
**Play Scrooge for a day. Hide your checkbook (even from yourself) before disaster hits. You could easily be tempted to overspend. Waiting several days won't hurt you. Understand what is motivating others and why they want you to take risks. Be realistic about a loved one for your sake. Tonight: Inexpensive fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***Profound confusion alternates with flashes of awareness in your daily life. Despite this, you hold up. Home life takes another turn; recognize how little is under your control. Your strength and personality break through barriers. Count on yourself. Avoid a difficult discussion. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**Sometimes you need to take a back seat; right now, be smart and do just that. When the unexpected occurs, buck it by simply not playing into events. You could be stunned, but responding won't benefit you. More is yet to be revealed. Buckle your seat belt! You won't be bored. Tonight: Why not indulge?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***Aim for goals, but stay in touch with financial limitations. Sometimes knowing when to say no is very important. Establish boundaries -- not only for others, but for yourself, too. Tempers flare; you

could have a problem with associates. Needless to say, they are out of kilter. Tonight: Where your friends are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**Though you might be reactive, consider that others are responding to your sometimes volatile energy. You are an enigma to many. Pressure builds with co-workers; a change in thinking or in plans could be most appropriate. Others look to you for answers. Assume responsibilities. Tonight: Working late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***Establishing limits proves to be instrumental in making the right decision. Sometimes, others simply don't understand where you are coming from. No surprise! You often aren't sure yourself. A grumpy associate is difficult; opt to distance yourself. You don't need to deal with this person. Tonight: Go to the movies.

BORN TODAY
Actor Bryan Brown (1947), singer June Carter Cash (1929), Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas (1948)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.cool-page.com/bigar>.

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TUESDAY

JUNE 22

	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (4)	FAM (5)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (18)	HBO (20)	YELM (21)	ABC (23)	WISC (24)	TNT (25)	FBN (26)	ESPN (28)	AMC (31)	BET (33)
6:30	News (CC) Fortune	Simpsons Home Imp.	Science Guy Zaboombafoo	Shir-Funny Show-Funny	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Roseanne (35) Major League Baseball	Preciosa	So Weird (CC) Movie: Jungle	Waltons (CC)	As Good as It Gets (CC)	Stalking Susan	World's Best Tennis	Faye Herd John Hage	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	ER (CC)	Sports News Last Word	50 Greatest	Incident	Planet Groove
7:30	Home Imp. Hugsays	Stanley Cup Playoffs	Nova (CC)	Life, Camera Life, Camera	JAG (CC)	Home Imp. Hugsays	3rd Rock-Sun Newsradio	League Baseball	Camila	2 Jungle (CC)	Life of Keith Whiteley	Movie: I Got the Hook-Up	Happy Biter Crossover	Fish Planks God	Biography (CC)	Secret Service	Movie: A River Runs Through It	Tennis: Wimbledon	Worldwide	WNBA Basketball	Movie: Strategic Air	Hit List
8:30	Spin City (CC) Sports Night	Finals Game 7 - Buffalo	Gargoyles: Guardians	Spice Girls: Wild!	60 Minutes II (CC)	Spin City (CC) Sports Night	Just Shoot Me Will & Grace	Montreal Expos at Atlanta	Angela	(20) Movie: Prime Time Country (CC)	Movie: Dogboys	(CC) Movie: George Jones (CC)	Senseless (CC)	Shelton Holmes	FBI Files	New Detectives	Through It	Senior Circuit	Sparks at Comets	Command	Sparks (CC) Thru	
9:30	NYPD Blue (CC)	Sabres at Dallas Stars	Frontline (CC)	700 Club (CC)	JAG (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	DateLine (CC)	Braves (CC) (35) Movie: Primer Impacto Nac.	Toothless (CC)	Dallas (CC)	Naked Lies	I Love You... Don't Touch	Sex and City Pines (CC)	Law & Order (CC)	Secret Service	The Desperate	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	wood Goes to War (CC)	BET Tonight	Comelov	
10:30	News (CC) Nightline	Jany Springer (CC)	News-Laher (CC)	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Tonight	Police Academy	P. Impacto Noticiero Uni.	Walt Disney Presents	Dallas (CC)	Naked Lies	I Love You... Don't Touch	Sex and City Pines (CC)	Law & Order (CC)	Secret Service	The Desperate	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	wood Goes to War (CC)	BET Tonight	
11:30	Politically Inc. Hollywood	Cops (CC) Newsradio	P.O.V. (CC)	Show-Funny Show-Funny	Show (CC) (37) Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (37) Late	(40) Movie: Major-Rimo	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Dukes of Hazzard (CC)	(10) Movie: Psycho Cop	Mal Woman	Movie: Made Men (CC)	News Anna Nash	Biography (CC)	New Detectives	Trail (45) Movie: A	FOX Sports News	Baseball 50 Greatest	Movie: The Victors	Sparks (CC) 227 (CC)	
12:30	(12:06) Ricki Lake	Martin (CC) Judge-Brown	Movie: Before Stonewall	Paid Program	Show (CC) Married... With	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) Frasier	Police Academy 3: Back	Gordo y Flaca El Blazoo	Movie: Polyanna	Prime Time Country (CC)	2 Movie: The	Beverly Hills (45) Movie: (35) Movie:	Fish Planks God	Inside Story	FBI Files	River Runs Through It	Last Word Ultimate	Sportscenter (CC)		Midnight Love	

HAGAR



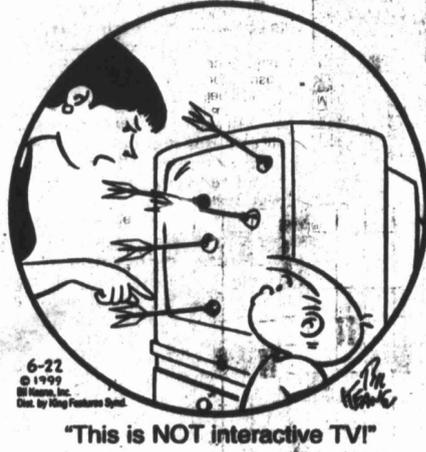
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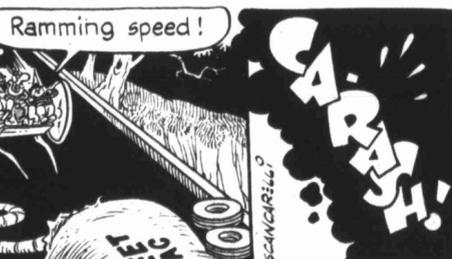
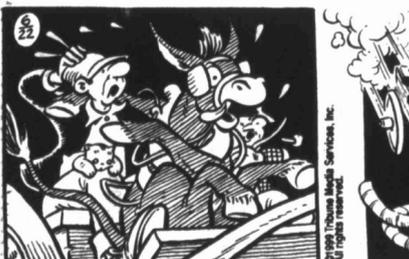
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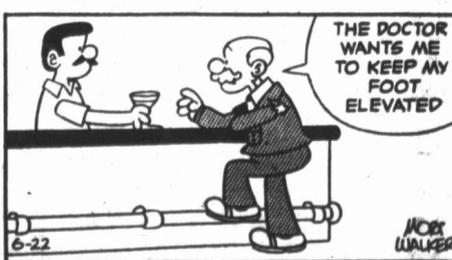
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, June 22, the 152nd day of 1999. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On June 22, 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa officially ended; 12,520 Americans and 110,000 Japanese were killed in the 81-day campaign.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 Chooses the actors
- 6 Lean-to
- 10 "Mia"
- 14 Scheduled next
- 15 Gilpin of "Frasier"
- 16 Ardent
- 17 Italian novelist
- 18 Afflictions
- 19 Do roadwork
- 20 Washington landmark
- 23 Young girl
- 24 Armpit
- 25 Spanning
- 29 Priest's vestment
- 30 Spoils taken
- 31 Work for
- 34 Milo or Tessaie
- 39 San Francisco landmark
- 42 Burning crime
- 43 dixit
- 44 Swenson of "Benson"
- 45 California fort
- 47 Frankness
- 49 Handel opera
- 53 Campus military grp.
- 55 London landmark
- 61 Actor Julia
- 62 Island near Corsica
- 63 Digestive-system malady
- 64 Government farm grp.
- 65 "Hud" co-star
- 66 Patricia
- 67 Change starter?
- 68 Singer Diana
- 69 Get together
- 69 French head
- 69 Undertakings

Monday's Puzzle Solved

LEVI	BANTU	HERS
AYER	ONION	EXIT
MEGA	DENEB	ACNE
TEQUILA	SUNRISE	
POT	SEE	TATTER
LOADED	DITCHERS	
OTTO	TABOR	
THESUNSHINE	BOYS	
PEALS	OVUM	
ESCAPERS	TUPELO	
NEARED	ERR	REG
CANADIANSUNSET		
AVER	EGEST	PAIL
SERA	SARAH	USDA
ERST	TROYS	DYED

- DOWN
- 1 Wire spiral
- 2 Opposing position
- 3 Lee of comics
- 4 Dusting powder
- 5 Thread holders
- 6 Turns around
- 7 Ships' tillers
- 8 First name in mysteries
- 9 Dreary
- 10 Italian isle
- 11 Effective use
- 12 Beau number two
- 13 Ms. Rogers St. Johns
- 21 "Star Wars" weapon
- 22 "The Incident"
- 25 "Romeo (Italian car)
- 26 Pope fiber
- 27 Singer Diana
- 28 Roman antipope
- 29 Blyth and Millan
- 32 "In the thick of"
- 33 Bum
- 35 Something we may bark
- 36 Round of applause
- 37 Therefore: Lat.
- 38 From a distance
- 40 "Gay"
- 41 Splinter groups
- 46 Ease off
- 48 Exonerate
- 49 Play guitar
- 50 Re-create blank tape
- 51 Bee Arthur silcom
- 52 D sharp
- 53 Capital near Casablanca
- 54 Pope's fanon
- 56 Merriment
- 57 Arm bone
- 58 Play divisions
- 59 Slink and then some
- 60 Goofs

BIG SPRING Herald

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In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte abdicated a second time.

In 1868, Arkansas was re-admitted to the Union.

In 1870, Congress created the Department of Justice.

In 1938, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at Yankee Stadium.

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1941, Germany invaded the Soviet Union during World War II.

In 1944, President Roosevelt signed the "GI Bill of Rights."

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1970, President Nixon signed a measure lowering the voting age to 18.

In 1993, former first lady Pat Nixon died in Park Ridge, N.J., at age 81.

Ten years ago: The government of Angola and the anti-Communist rebels of the UNITA movement agreed to a formal truce in their 14-year-old civil war.

Five years ago: President Clinton announced North Korea had confirmed its willingness to freeze its nuclear program. The Houston Rockets defeated the New York Knicks 90-84 to win the NBA championship.

One year ago: The Supreme Court made it much harder for students who are sexually harassed by teachers to hold school districts financially responsible, ruling 5-4 that a key anti-bias law applies only if administrators know about the misconduct. Actress Maureen O'Sullivan died in Scottsdale, Ariz., at age 87.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Billy Wilder is 93. Author Anne Morrow Lindbergh is 93. Fashion designer Bill Blass is 77. Actor Ralph Waite is 71. Country singer Roy Drusky is 69. Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Cal., is 66. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 63. CBS News correspondent Ed Bradley is 58. Actor Michael Lerner is 58. Fox News correspondent Brit Hume is 56. Actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is 55. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 55. Actor Andrew Rubin is 53. Actor David L. Lander is 52. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 52. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 51. Actress Meryl Streep is 50. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 50. Singer Alan Osmond is 50. Actor Murphy Cross is 49. Actor Graham Greene is 47.