

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY
March 9, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 43°-47°
FRIDAY 68°-72°

'Dance Real Slow' to debut tonight

The Howard College Theater Department, under the direction of Clay Grizzle, will present the critically acclaimed "And They Dance Real Slow In Jackson" tonight at 8 p.m. in the Settles Building.

Admission is \$3 per person. Performances are also scheduled Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Coahoma Lions set pancake feed

The Coahoma Lions Club will be holding its annual Pancake Supper tonight at the Coahoma Elementary School Cafeteria.

The supper will be served from 5-7 p.m. and it will be an all-you-can-eat affair with pancakes, sausage, bacon and milk being served. Cost is \$3.50 per person with preschool children eating free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Advance tickets are available at the Lil' Sooper, located on 101 South First in Coahoma. Those who do not purchase tickets in advance can get them at the door.

VFW chili supper slated for Saturday

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2013 will have a chili supper Saturday from 4-8 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

The supper, which will include chili, cornbread and beans, is available for a \$4 donation. It is a fund-raiser for projects of the VFW, which benefit veterans in the area.

For information or tickets, call Leo Welch at 267-5290. Tickets will also be available at the door.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY
□ Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

THURSDAY
□ Gideons International, Hermans, 7 a.m.
□ Big Spring Senior Citizens Center Art Classes, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.
□ Christmas in April noon, Lions Bingo Bldg. 1607 East Third.

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Vol. 97, No. 115

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.

Clerk reminds those taking time off at spring break to cast vote first

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Howard County residents who plan on being out of town next week might want to make a note to cast their ballot Friday in the March 14 Republican and



WRIGHT

Democratic Party primaries if they haven't already done so.

"Next week is spring break and a lot of people will be going out of town Tuesday, which is election day," reminded Donna Wright, county clerk. "They can still vote early from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday."

Some 1,248 ballots had been cast at the early voting box by 5 p.m. Wednesday, which is located at the county clerk's office in Howard County Courthouse. Of those, 1,049 were cast in the

Republican Primary; 199 in the Democratic Primary.

While more than a thousand ballots have been cast, voter turnout has been trailing 1996 numbers, said Wright.

"There were two more early voting days in 1996 than we have this year. But with three days left in 1996 we had 1,719 ballots in both primaries combined. Through yesterday (Tuesday) we had 1,097 ballots cast," she said.

Another difference is that

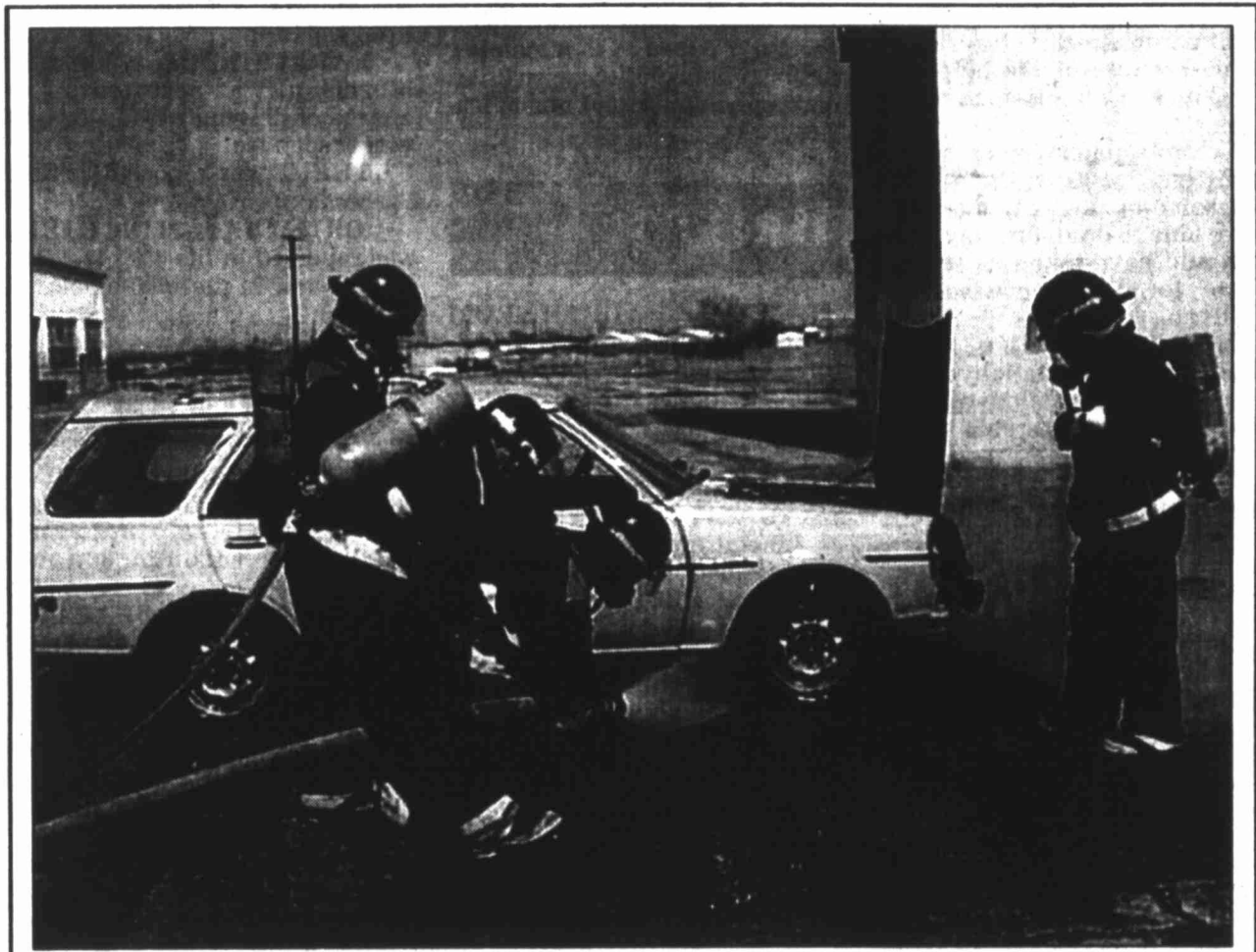
there is only one county wide contested race Tuesday. That's in the Republican Primary where incumbent Howard County Sheriff Bill Jennings is facing a challenge from police detective Dave Mohn. The victor will face former police officer Javier Becerra, who is unopposed on the Democratic ticket.

Voters in the Tubbs Addition and those living south past Forsan, will choose between Boyce Hale and Joseph "Butch" Lesueur, who are both seeking

the Precinct 3 constable's post on the Republican ticket. There is no Democratic candidate.

There are several other contested races on the ballot of a state and national nature, including the office of president. On the Republican ticket are George W. Bush, John McCain, Steve Forbes, Gary Bauer, Alan Keyes, Orrin G. Hatch and Charles Bass Urban. On the Democratic ballot are Al

See **ELECTION**, Page 2A



Rookie firemen Marcus Tatro, Danny Whitehead, Dustin Layman and Pete Ortega extinguish a car fire in a training session at the airpark fire station Wednesday. The class began training Jan. 3 and is due to graduate April 6.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham

Denim and Diamonds Fiesta mailers out

By **VALERIE AVERY**
Herald Correspondent

The first mailing for Big Spring State Hospital's Denim and Diamonds Fiesta will be sent out this week to more than 1,500 Howard County residents.

The hospital's major fund-raising event is scheduled for May 5 and is sponsored by the Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council.

A reception at the home of Don Newsom and the law office of Troyce G. Wolfe, 1001 Scurry St., at 7 p.m., will precede a 9 p.m. dance by Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys at the Stampede.

This year's reception will carry a touch of Old Mexico, said Kathy Johnson, BSSH director of community development. The Familia Ramirez Mariachi Band of Odessa will

stroll among party-goers on the patio adjoining Newsom's home and Wolfe's offices.

Mexican finger foods, including taquitas, chips and salsa, miniature tacos and tamales, and chocolate-covered strawberries will be catered by longtime volunteer Newsom and a number of hospital volunteers.

"The food is always wonderful," Johnson said.

Following the reception, party-goers can dance at the Stampede from 9 p.m. until midnight.

Dress for both events is casual.

Honorary project chairmen are Stan and Sue Partee. Mrs. Partee's mother, Dorothy Garrett, was a longtime honorary chairperson of the fund-raiser and the Partees have

See **FIESTA**, Page 2A



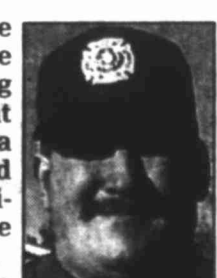
Elmira Forman is one of a number of volunteers who have been stuffing more than 1,500 envelopes for the state hospital's Denim and Diamonds Fiesta.

Courtesy photo

Cause of fire that destroys \$200,000 home under investigation

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

The State fire marshal's office is investigating a fire that destroyed a south Howard County residence late Monday night.



SULLIVAN

"We have been here all day sifting through the rubble that is left," Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan said Wednesday. "It will be a long, drawn-out affair I would imagine but we will resume the

investigation on Friday morning when the fire marshal returns."

Sullivan said his Howard County unit was the first to arrive on the scene at 206 Todd Road after the call came in at approximately 10:59 p.m.

"We were the first people to arrive on site at 11:06 and by that time the structure was fully involved. At approximately 11:30 I pulled my crews off the fire and went into a defensive mode from outside to prevent any of my firemen from getting injured," said Sullivan. "At that time it was my determination that the home was unsalvageable and there was a lot popping noise going off, so for safety factors I pulled them



Howard County VFD members Kim Brown, Misty Peterson, Laura Arpin and Terry Rumpff shovel away debris left from a structural fire that destroyed a residence at 207 Todd Road. The state fire marshal's office is assisting Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan with an investigation to determine the cause.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham



Forsan High School student David Higginbotham took a photo of the residence when it was engulfed in flames.

back."

Sullivan said once the fire was extinguished he was able to begin a preliminary investigation. At that point he decided to call the state fire marshal's office for help in determining the cause and why the structure went up so quickly. The house was unoccupied and

is valued at approximately \$200,000. The couple who own the house live in Midland, according to Sullivan.

Sullivan said the investigation could be a long one, depending on how well everything goes.

"I would estimate it will take about a week to two weeks

before a final determination of the cause will be forthcoming," said Sullivan. "We are about finished for today and start back again on Friday when the investigating team returns."

According to Sullivan, things went a lot faster in getting the

See **FIRE**, Page 2A

Amtrak

City officials anxious to get more information; excited about possibilities

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

There's still no timeline for Amtrak's rerouting of the Sunset Limited through Big Spring, but city officials are expecting to hear some word soon.

"They've told us that there is no firm timeline right now, but we're encouraged about the news that they are coming through here," said Leigh Corson, city of Big Spring planning coordinator. "In visiting with them, I feel Amtrak is very serious about wanting to work in close coordination with the city."

Amtrak intends to send information packets to cities along the new route.

"Hopefully they will get those to us by the end of March," Corson said.

Those packets will include information about depot recommendations, funding sources and other details, she said.

"Mary Jennings, Amtrak governmental affairs manager in Chicago, said Amtrak will be getting together with cities along the route to discuss those things. I don't know whether it will be one-on-one yet, or whether it will be one meeting with all of the cities present," said Corson.

"We're anxious to get information on what type of facility we might need to have, what the guidelines might be, square footage, what time of amenities need to be there."

Big Spring no longer has a depot. Rail passenger service

was discontinued here in the 1960s. The old depot site located near downtown is a logical spot for a new one, but there are some problems, Corson noted.

"It's in a flood plane and that has to be dealt with. There may also be some environmental remediation involved. There are several factors that have to be addressed whenever you consider constructing a facility like this," she said. "Of course our first thought is that it would be ideal if it could be located close to downtown, but that will have to be studied."

The route change through Big Spring is part of a sweeping Amtrak reorganization that establishes Fort Worth as a major rail hub, restores full service to the Texas Eagle and promises to establish a rail link from San Antonio to Mexico.

Big Spring is in the system because the Jacksonville, Fla. to Los Angeles Sunset Limited will take a new route through Texas under the plan. Amtrak has announced it will eliminate service to Del Rio, Alpine and Sanderson, and instead route through Eastland, Abilene, Big Spring, Odessa and Pecos.

Amtrak officials said the reason for the route change is to serve more populated areas and to shave 10 hours off the Fort Worth to Los Angeles leg.

Kevin Johnson, Amtrak manager of media relations in Chicago said he has not been given any timeline on when the changes might take place.

"We still don't know at this point. I know they are working out the details, but as far as a timeline, I still don't have one," Johnson said.

Amtrak's Crescent Limited, which links New York with

See **AMTRAK**, Page 2A

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Lawmakers seek way to lower gasoline prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some lawmakers are proposing that a 1993 gas tax of 4.3 cents a gallon be lifted temporarily to ease the burden of motorists having to cope with soaring gasoline prices this summer.

House and Senate tax writing committees were cool to the idea, but a number of Republican senators said the proposal might gain momentum if prices at the pump, now at more than \$1.50 a gallon in many places, continue to climb.

"We've got to take down the price of gas this summer," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, suggesting one way to help do that was suspending the 1993 excise tax.

And the tax could become an issue in the presidential campaign.

Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., said Wednesday that the tax was imposed in 1993 when the Democrats held a majority with solid GOP opposition, and he made a point to say that Vice

President Al Gore cast the tie-breaking vote.

"That was (the administration's) energy policy," Nickles said. But some Republican lawmakers also questioned whether tampering with the federal gas excise tax might be an overreaction, especially if it gets reimposed once gas prices decline.

"I am for tax reduction whenever you can put them on the books. I'm a little concerned when we say we're going to do it, then we're going to take it back," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, which considers tax legislation.

And Archer questioned how much good a 4.3 cent difference would make when gasoline — as some predict — hits \$2 a gallon during the peak driving period this summer.

Sen. William Roth, R-Del., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, has not made a decision and will discuss the proposal with other lawmakers

in the coming days, an aide to the senator said Wednesday.

While it might be politically attractive, such a tax cut, even if temporary, also would take billions of dollars away from the federal trust fund for highway construction, something that does not set well with lawmakers planning the transportation budget, nor the powerful highway lobby.

Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, another senator favoring the idea, said lost revenue could be made up later when gas prices go down.

Meanwhile, Murkowski on Wednesday used the brouhaha over high oil and gasoline prices to once again push legislation that would open up an environmentally sensitive Alaskan wildlife refuge to oil drilling.

He long has argued that drilling could be conducted on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in northern Alaska without harm-

ing wildlife or the area's ecology. His bill was introduced with 31 Senate sponsors, but its chances of becoming law this year are slim.

President Clinton previously has vetoed legislation to drill for oil in the refuge.

Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt quickly issued a statement saying he strongly opposed oil development in the refuge and that Clinton again would veto such legislation.

"We've made it clear again and again. We will protect this last undeveloped fragment of America's arctic coastline," Babbitt said.

Meanwhile, the Senate was expected shortly to consider a nonbinding resolution calling on Clinton to communicate the need for increased oil production to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries before their meeting March 27. The OPEC members are expected to decide at the meeting on whether to boost production.

Flameout on B-1 bomber sparks fires near Dyess AFB

ABILENE (AP) — An engine fire forced a B-1 bomber from Dyess Air Force Base to cut a training flight short and return to the base Wednesday morning.

But before the plane landed safely, molten material dripped from the aircraft and onto the ground, igniting 15 small brush fires in and around the base and forcing evacuation of an elementary school, base officials said.

No injuries or major property damage were reported, said Major John Boyle, chief of public affairs at Dyess Air Force Base. The cause of the fire was under investigation.

A damage estimate was unavailable on the \$200 million jet, which had no weapons on board, Boyle said.

"Shortly after 10 a.m. as the plane left the ground, the control tower noticed flames from

one of the engines on its right side," he said. "The four-man crew shut down two of the plane's engines."

The plane landed about 30 minutes later.

As it circled the airfield to land, melted material from the engine fell to the ground, igniting a dozen small brush fires in a grassy area near the runway and three small brush fires on private ranch land next to the base.

About 600 students from nearby Dyess Elementary School were evacuated, and classes were canceled for the rest of the day, said Deputy Superintendent Robert Glover. The school is about 1 1/2 miles east of where the brush fires burned.

"The school was evacuated because of the extremely dry conditions in the area," Boyle said.

Palestinians, Israelis making major concessions to rekindle peace talks

SHARM EL-SHEIK, Egypt (AP) — In a summit today hosted by the Egyptian president, the Israeli and Palestinian leaders formally embarked on what they hope will be the final phase of more than six years of stop-and-go peace talks.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat both made concessions this week to end the latest crisis, with Israelis allowing greater U.S. involvement in the negotiations and the

Palestinians accepting territory that wasn't bordering Jerusalem.

The compromise was to be sealed today in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheik, under the auspices of two key mediators — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Even though the original peace timetable was already outdated in large parts, Barak and Arafat agreed in two summit meetings this week to stick to the most important deadline

— a full peace treaty by Sept. 13.

Under a new timetable, Israel will withdraw from 6.1 percent of the West Bank in the next few days. Negotiations on a final peace treaty will resume in Washington around March 20, after the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha. May is the new target for a treaty framework originally due Feb. 13, to be followed in June by an additional Israeli pullback.

Still, the compromise appears to delay the next crisis and does

not take the two sides closer to agreement. Negotiators are far apart on the key issues of a peace treaty — borders, the status of Jerusalem, the future of Jewish settlements and the status of Palestinian refugees.

"We are not talking about a breakthrough, but a resumption of talks," said Israeli Arab legislator Ahmed Tibi, a former adviser to Arafat. "There isn't any drastic change in the Israeli position."

Arafat had suspended the

talks early last month over the 6.1 percent pullback.

The Palestinians wanted the withdrawal to include three West Bank suburbs bordering Jerusalem, a pullback that would enhance their stake in the disputed city. Israel resisted, offering the Palestinians unpopulated patches of land. Arafat said if he could not trust the Israelis on relatively minor matters, there was no way he could work with them on the major issues.

Under U.S. pressure, Arafat backed down. Palestinian officials said Barak has handed Arafat a map featuring 10 percent of the West Bank, out of which Arafat could choose the 6.1 percent he wanted. The new map includes populous areas near, but not those adjoining Jerusalem.

Barak's chief policy adviser, Danny Yatom, said today it was possible Israel would hand the suburbs to the Palestinians at a later time.

Police track alleged murder suspect to small hotel, but search turns up empty

BALTIMORE (AP) — A man suspected of killing three people while kidnapping his estranged girlfriend was at large today after a shooting rampage in which he shot three other people, one of whom later died.

The girlfriend was found safe at the Elridge Hotel, where her alleged abductor, Joseph Palczynski, 31, became engaged in a standoff with police late

Wednesday.

Early today, a room-by-room search of the small hotel didn't turn up the suspect. Police said they found an automatic rifle and a pistol-grip shotgun believed to have been used in the slayings.

George and Gloria Shenk were sheltering Palczynski's girlfriend, Tracy Whitehead, when a gunman walked into

their apartment in Bowleys Quarters, about 10 miles east of Baltimore, on Tuesday night.

"The gunman told Whitehead: 'Tracy, get up, you're going,' according to police reports. The Shenks were fatally shot, as was David Meyers, 42, a neighbor who tried to help Whitehead, police said.

The gunman and Whitehead were seen leaving in a van

police said.

By Wednesday night, police say, Palczynski had gone on a shooting rampage east of Baltimore. Major Jeff Caslin said the spree began about 7:45 p.m. when the suspect shot at and injured a woman traveling in her car with her husband.

About 15 minutes later, the man shot at a Chrysler LeBaron he was trying to steal, hitting a

woman and her 2-year-old daughter who were driving by. The suspect took the LeBaron, but the driver was unharmed, Caslin said. A short time later, the man stole another car from an elderly woman, police said.

The woman injured in the first attack Wednesday later died at Franklin Square Hospital Center in Baltimore, hospital officials said.

Conditions of the others injured in Wednesday's attacks were not immediately known.

Whitehead has told police that Palczynski beat her when she tried to move out of their apartment on Friday. He was arrested but was later released, according to police documents. The circumstances of the release weren't immediately explained.

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GRADES

School district recruiting overseas to alleviate shortage of teachers

Continued from Page 5A

"I think the current system allows the slackers to hide, and I think that attracts a lot of students to this campus. Grades provide a lot more precision," said Jordan Benjamin, who is studying biochemistry and molecular biology.

Under the new system, set to begin in fall 2001, each new student would have to take 75 percent of his or her classes for a grade. The rest could be taken on a pass/fail basis.

The requirements are similar to those in place at the University of California, San Diego. Other University of California schools require students to take two-thirds of their classes for grades.

Opponents may have a chance to reverse the vote. Just 231 of the 588 professors voted Wednesday, and opponents are expected to petition for mail balloting in an attempt to get more to participate.

UC-Santa Cruz, which opened in 1965 as an alternative to the more traditional University of California campuses, remains one of the most liberal schools in the nation, with no ROTC military training, no football team, and a banana slug for a mascot. The '60s radical Angela Davis is a professor in the History of Consciousness Department.

Instead of letter grades, UC-Santa Cruz has given students narrative essays evaluating their work. Students could get a grade if they want one, but last year only one in three of the 11,000 students took that option.

The nontraditional grading system has long been a selling point for UC-Santa Cruz, which reported receiving a record 20,000 applications from prospective students for the fall quarter.

In November, in a move that stunned many students, 187 faculty members asked the Academic Senate to dump narrative evaluations altogether, saying they are time-consuming and are disregarded by graduate schools.

"The Narrative Evaluation System has an honorable history, but times have changed and a new approach to grading is required," the professors wrote.

UC-Santa Cruz students have held demonstrations and spoken at public meetings during the past few months in opposition to the grades.

While UC-Santa Cruz moves toward grades, there is a national movement under way to put less emphasis on A's and F's.

"Grades can be limiting and not provide nearly enough information about what the student is doing or thinking or how they are progressing," said Karen Hartke at the Cambridge, Mass.-based Coalition for Authentic Reform in Education on Wednesday.

"A lot of schools, particularly elementary and high schools, are introducing portfolios and even student self-assessments because of the weakness of letter grades."

SUGAR LAND (AP) — Like almost every school system in the country, the Fort Bend Independent School District is struggling to overcome a severe shortage of teachers.

To help fill the ranks, Manuela Pedraza is willing to go halfway around the world — literally.

Pedraza, 55, travels to Spain to hire instructors who can help make up for the domestic teacher deficit.

Pedraza, associate superintendent of human resources for the Fort Bend district, spends one week each spring in Madrid, where she interviews candi-

dates and hires a dozen or so to teach Spanish and bilingual classes.

"We are selling them on the opportunity to have an adventure over here," she said.

The program is a joint effort between the Texas Education Agency and the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture.

While some districts in other states have been recruiting teachers from Spain for as long as 10 years, the Fort Bend district began its program two years ago. Twelve other Texas districts, including Houston, also participate.

Pedraza said there is a national shortage of teachers, especially in math, science and foreign languages.

"There was a time when we were able to recruit out of state and go to Michigan, Iowa, Ohio, Minnesota, where they had a surplus of teachers," she said.

She blames the teacher shortage mainly on the strong economy and the fact that teachers are retiring in record numbers.

"We lose a lot of veteran teachers," Pedraza said. "I tell them they could teach another 20 years and that they are

going to be bored playing golf all the time, but they don't listen to me."

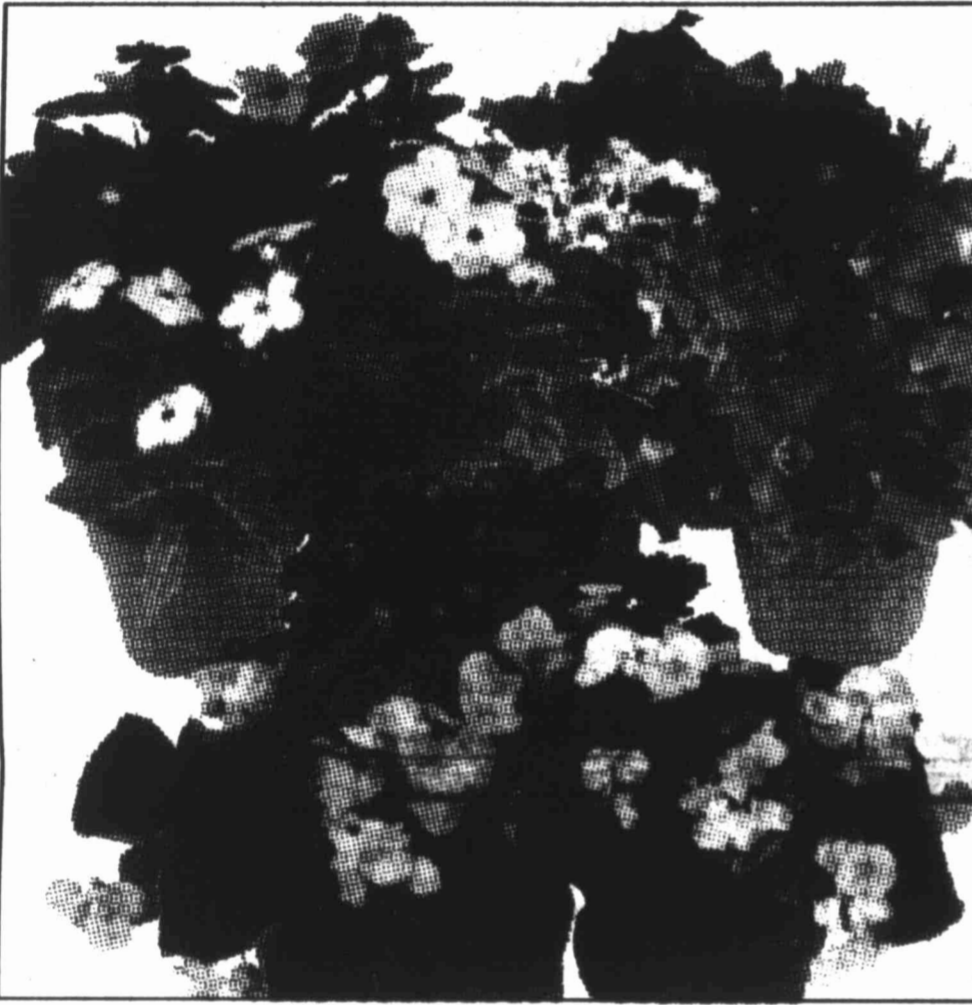
To make matters worse, enrollment is growing and half of all people who become teachers leave the profession in their first five years, she said.

The recruitment program eventually is expected to work on an exchange basis, with teachers from the Fort Bend district swapping places with their Spanish counterparts.

"That may be a few years from now. Because of our tremendous growth, we cannot afford to lose teachers right now," Pedraza said.



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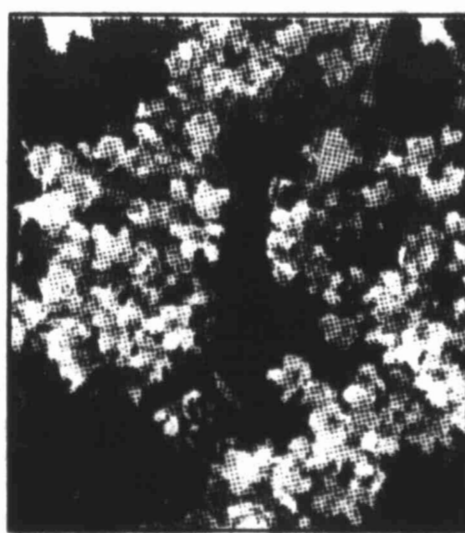
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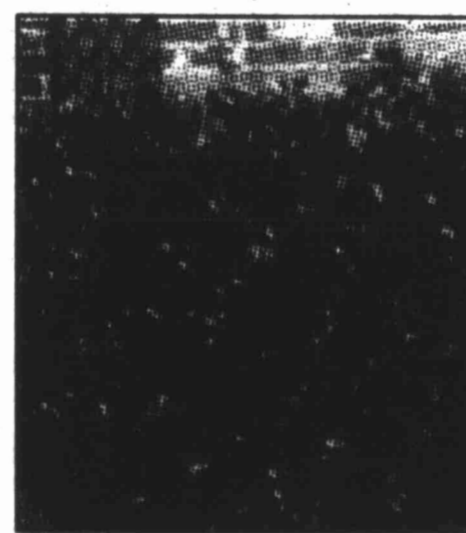
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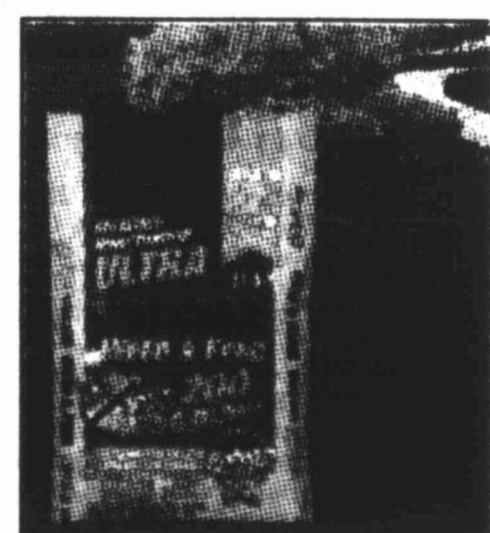
\$367 Gal.
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• Pink and white blooms in early to mid spring
• Grows 3'-5' tall; 4' wide
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(668-281)



\$298 Gal.
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• Semi disease resistant
(938-389)



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Lake View football gets 60-day jail

San Angelo La ball player Bruce 19, pleaded guilty to a charge of s that occurred on campus last fall. tenced to a 60-day Tom Green Cour

Perez, who also a second sexual i campus on Jan never charged Judge Dick Alca the admission i Perez.

In addition to term, Perez was 10 years of defen tion with stipul leave the county judge's permissi a 10 p.m. cur restricted from with females yo Perez is sched his jail term Fri

Softball boost meeting for

The Big Spr Boosters Club w 6:30 tonight at t High School Ath Center.

Parents of al softball player interested perso

Steers baseball to recognize

The Big Spr Boosters Club h the Steers' home Monahans at 2 as the "Law Recognition Gar

All law enforc in Howard Coun to attend the gar given free admis

Little League to meet on S

The Big S League Umpire will have its fir the year at 9 a.m the American L Anyone intere ing is vited to For more info Kevin Pirtle at 2 0241.

Volunteer fire golf touney f

The Howa Volunteer Fire will hold its fir golf tournament March 18, at t Country Club.

Entry fees wi team for the fo ble which will b teams. Registre Tuesday.

For more info Tommy Sullivan Richard Willads

'Break Clay f shoot set for

A 2000 "Bre MDA" sporting ment has been March 25 at Farms in Stant Tuesday will l for entries.

For more inf 915-570-

AREA G

TODAY HIGH SCHOOL BA * Coahoma Bul Lockney Tournam * Big Spring St Tournament.

ON THI

Television

COLLEGE BASKE

Men 6 p.m. — ACC Georgia Tech vs. ESPN, Ch. 30.

8 p.m. — Big E quarterfinal, ESP 9:30 p.m. — S Arizona, FXS, Ch. 11 p.m. — Mo

Tournament quar Diego vs. UNLV, I

Women

5 p.m. — Big 1 semifinal, Iowa S Nebraska, FXS, C 7:30 p.m. — B Tournament semi Tech vs. Texas, F

SPORTS EXTRA

FISHING

Here is the week's fishing report from the Texas Department of Game Warden available on Web at www.tdgwr.com

ANHEIM ANGELS—Reassigned OF Darren Blaney, OF Nathan Hayes, OF Juan Tolentino and INF Brian Oler to their minor-league camps.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Agreed to terms with RHP Lou Livan, RHP Carlos Castillo, LHP Scott Ege, RHP Keith Foulke, RHP Bob Howry, RHP Sean Lowe, RHP Kip Wells, C Josh Paul, INF Mike Canuso, INF Joe Creel, INF Paul Konerko, INF Jeff Liefer, INF Greg Norton, INF Craig Wilson, OF Jeff Abbot, OF McKay Christensen, OF Carlos Lee, OF Magglio Ordonez, OF Brian Simmons and OF Chris Singleton.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed with INF Denny Hocking to a two-year contract extension. SEATTLE MARINERS—Reassigned P Jeff Heaverlo, P Marc Kroon and P Jake Meyer and C Ryan Christianson to their minor-league camps.

NEW YORK METS—Named Mark Deway pitching coach for Kingsport of the Appalachian League. PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Reassigned RHP Travis Baptist, RHP Alex Pena, RHP Danilo Leon, LHP Mike Gonzalez, INF Jarrod Patterson, INF Rico Washington, C Yarnid Head, OF Alex Hernandez, OF Adam Hyzdu, and OF Ray Montgomery to their minor-league camps.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION DALLAS MAVERICKS—Waived F Dennis Rodman. SACRAMENTO KINGS—Placed C Scott Pollard on the injured list. Activated C Bill Wennington from the injured list.

PORTLAND THORNTONS—Signed LB Marcus Buckley, re-signed RB Winslow Oliver. BALTIMORE RAVENS—Signed QB Trent Dilfer to a one-year contract. CAROLINA PANTHERS—Announced the retirement of O Nate Newton.

DENVER BRONCOS—Released S Darius Johnson. GREEN BAY PACKERS—Named Bruce Warwick director of football administration. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS—Claimed WR Ryan Thelwell off waivers from the Pittsburgh Steelers.

HOCKEY NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE DALLAS STARS—Recalled G Marty Turco from Michigan of the IHL. Placed C Guy Carbonneau on injured reserve.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Signed LW Claude Lapointe to a three-year contract. OTTAWA SENATORS—Assigned LW Jeff Shewalter to Grand Rapids of the IHL.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Traded RW Rick Tocchet to the Philadelphia Flyers for RW Mikael Renberg. TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Traded LW Jeff Shewalter to the Ottawa Senators for future considerations.

NBA STANDINGS

Table with columns: Conference, Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Eastern Conference Atlantic Division and Central Division, and Western Conference Northwest Division.

TOP 25 - MEN

Table with columns: Rank, Team, Record. Lists top 25 men's college basketball teams.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table with columns: Rank, Team, Record. Lists top 25 women's college basketball teams.

UIL STATE TOURNAMENT

The University Interscholastic League on Sunday released the pairings and schedule for the 2000 boys' state basketball tournament, being played Thursday through Saturday at the Frank Erwin Center.

WOMEN'S SCORES

Championship Ball St. 61, Miami, Ohio 58. All-Southern Athletic Conference Quarterfinals: Florida, March 5: Iowa State vs. Nebraska-Baylor winner.

WOMEN'S SCORES

Tournaments America East Conference First Round: Boston U. 84, Towson 69. Big 12 Conference Quarterfinals: Iowa St. 82, Oklahoma St. 58.

WOMEN'S SCORES

Big 12 Conference First Round: Long Beach St. 70, Boise St. 65. Big 12 Conference Quarterfinals: Iowa St. 82, Oklahoma St. 58.

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ROUNDUP

Continued from page 1B games, but bounced back after an eight-day break. A year ago, UConn beat Seton Hall in Big East quarters 57-56 and the Huskies swept both regular-season meetings.

ROUNDUP

Notre Dame 74, Rutgers 62. Six Notre Dame players hit 3-pointers as the Fighting Irish won their first Big East tournament game ever after four straight first-round rebuots.

ROUNDUP

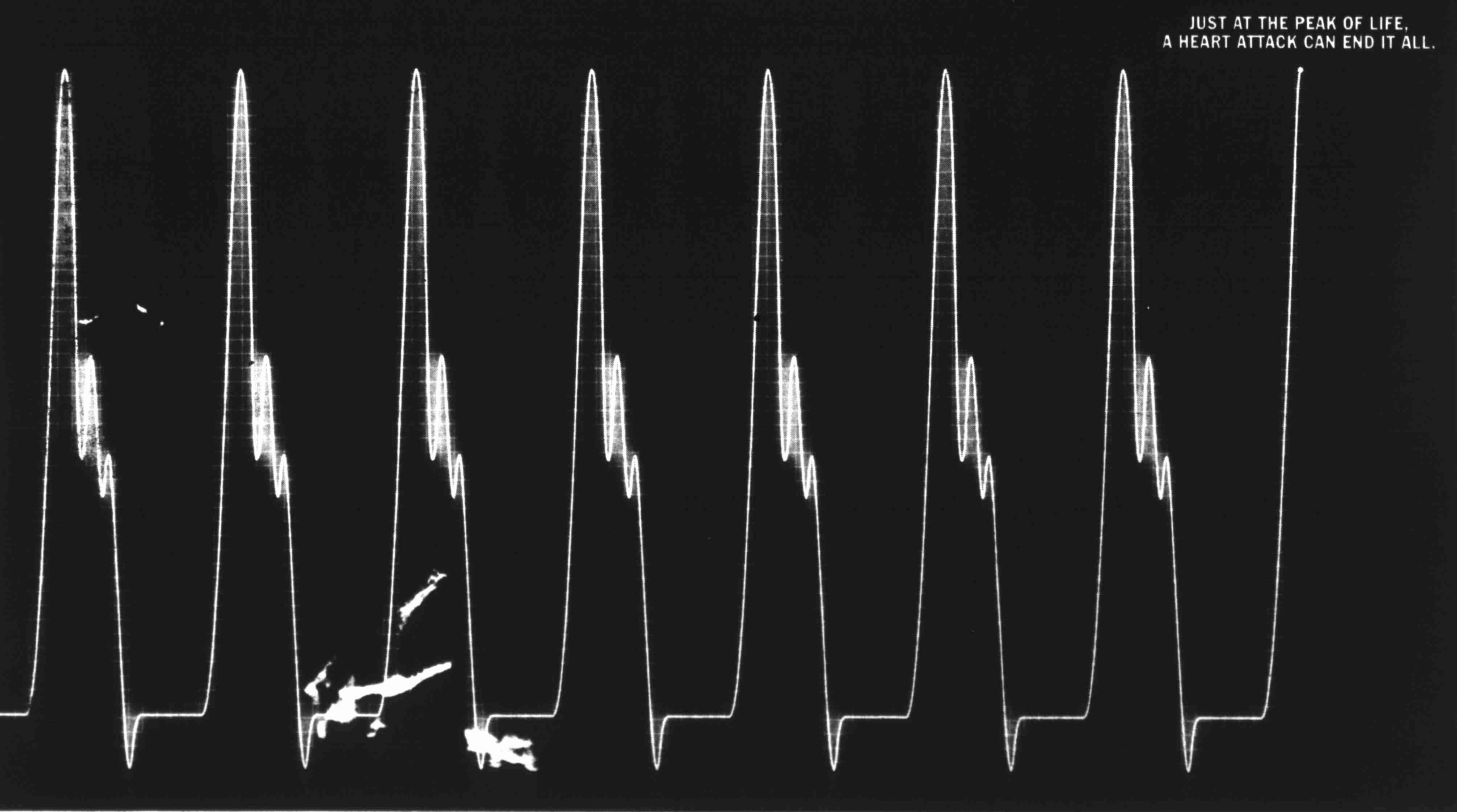
Troy Murphy, the conference Player of the Year, had just one of the 10 Notre Dame 3s, but led all scorers with 25 points and 14 rebounds.

ROUNDUP

It was major payback for the Irish, who were beaten by 25 points earlier in the season.

Advertisement for Woods Boots featuring 'All Men & Women's Long Sleeve Shirts 20% - 50% OFF', 'Year End Closeout Large Group Felt Hats 50% OFF', and 'All Straw Hats 20% OFF'. Includes contact info for Wood's Boots in Colorado City.

Advertisement for 'BIG SPRING Thursday, M' and 'FISHING' section. Lists various fishing reports for different species and locations, including Black bass, minnows, crappie, and bluegill.



Advertisement for Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Text: 'Imagine a killer so brutal that the number of lives it claims per year in America is greater than the amount claimed from cancer, car accidents, and strokes. The killer's name is heart disease. Learn about the warning signs of coronary heart disease before it claims your life or leaves you permanently disabled.' Includes contact information for Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Advertisement for Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Text: 'JUST AT THE PEAK OF LIFE, A HEART ATTACK CAN END IT ALL.' Includes contact information for Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for March 8. (Report also available on Web as www.tdshing.com.)

CENTRAL
BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 62 degrees; Black bass are excellent on Chug Bugs and Pop-R's (If the fish are following the baits speed up your retrieve to make the fish strike). Crappie are good on minnows and small white jigs fished around the docks at night in 10 to 15 feet of water. Hybrid strippers and white bass are excellent on Chug Bugs and Pop-R's fished in the mornings around Flat Rock Park.

BUCHANAN: Water clear; 66 degrees; 1007.69; Black bass are fair to good on 1/4oz. silver/blue spinnerbaits, 1/4oz. Rat-L-Traps and pumpkinseed worms fished in 4 to 8 feet. Crappie are slow on minnows. White bass are good vertically jigging 1/4oz. Horizon Pink Minnows and casting 1/8oz. Spin Traps upriver under diving birds. Striped bass are fair drifting live bait and trolling bucket jigs in 28 feet on the points of the creeks and blue crabs on Maxwell and Shaw Island. Channel and blue catfish are fair on live bait. Yellow catfish to 13 pounds are good on trotlines with live perch.

PROCTOR: Water clear; 62-64 degrees; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps and spinnerbaits fished early. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished at the dam in 10 to 20 feet of water. Hybrid strippers are slow.

SOUTH
AMISTAD: Water fairly clear; 60-64 degrees; 30' low; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps and watermelon or pumpkinseed worms fished in 4 to 12 feet of water. Crappie are slow to fair on minnows fished around the trees in 20 feet of water. White bass are fair on slabs and minnows. Striped bass are good on live shad fished early and late by the dam. Channel and blue catfish are good on cheesebait, chicken livers and shrimp fished in 5 to 20 feet of water. Yellow catfish to 30 pounds are good on trotlines and droplines baited with live perch or goldfish set in 20 to 30 feet of water.

WEST
ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 60 degrees; Black bass are good on worms and lizards fished in 2 to 5 feet around the mouths of creeks. No reports on small-mouth or Alabama Spotted Bass. Crappie are fair on live minnows and jigs fished off the crappie dock. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows and shrimp.

ARROWHEAD: Water fairly clear; 59-62 degrees; 12' low; Black bass are good on shiners and spinnerbaits fished in 6 to 8 feet. Crappie are excellent on minnows and chateaux jigs fished in 2 to 5 feet of water around the rip-rap, Henrietta Bridge and at the state park. White bass are good on minnows and jigs fished in 6 to 12 feet. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on nightcrawlers, cheese bait and shrimp fished in 8 to 10 feet in the river. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with goldfish and perch set on the south end of the lake.

BRADY: No report available.
COLORADO CITY: Water fairly clear; 61 degrees; 14.5' low; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits. White bass are good on minnows and small spinners fished early and late. Crappie are poor on minnows. Redfish are good on Rat-L-Traps and cut baits. Channel catfish are fair.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water fairly clear; 60 degrees; 17' low; Black bass are fair on minnows and spinnerbaits fished in 6 to 7 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished in 4 to 5 feet. White bass are excellent on jigs and minnows fished in 2 to 3 feet. Hybrid strippers are fair on shad and chicken livers fished in 7 to 10 feet. Blue catfish are good on shad, minnows, shrimp and chicken livers fished in 7 to 10 feet.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water lightly stained on the lower end, murky on the upper end; 58 degrees; 10' low; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps fished in 2 to 4 feet and Carolina-rigged lizards fished around the hardwoods in 8 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on small spinner and crankbaits fished in the back of Hubbard Creek. Channel catfish are fair on cut baits and worms fished from the bank.

KEMP: Water stained; 62 degrees; Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps fished in 2 to 5 feet. White bass are good on minnows fished in 4 to 6 feet. Crappie are excellent on minnows fished in 4 to 5 feet around boat docks. Catfish are fair on worms and shrimp.

NASWORTHY: No report available.
NOCONA: No report available.
OAK CREEK: Water off-color; 59 degrees; 17.8' low; Black bass are excellent on worms, crankbaits, lizards and minnows fished in 4 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on small jigs and minnows fished in 5 to 15 feet. White bass are excellent on minnows and jigs fished in 6 to 12 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows, nightcrawlers and stinkbaits fished in 5 to 12 feet. Yellow catfish are excellent on goldfish and shad fished in 5 to 10 feet.

OH. RIE: Water clear; 60-62 degrees; Black bass are good on Carolina-rigged lizards or worms and waterdogs fished in 4 to 10 feet. Smallmouth bass are fair on Carolina-rigs and Suspending Ranges fished on steep rocky banks on the main lake. Crappie are fair at night on minnows and jigs fished under lights. White bass are poor on minnows and slabs fished in 40 feet of water. Catfish are fair on trotlines baited with cut shad and live perch.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 59-63 degrees; 8.5' low; Black bass are excellent on Slugs, worms and spinnerbaits fished in 5 to 10 feet. White bass are slow on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 20 feet. Striped bass are good on live shad fished in 20 to 40 feet. Crappie are slow on minnows fished in 5 to 10 feet. Blue catfish are good on cut shad fished in 10 to 30 feet. Yellow catfish are slow on perch fished in 10 to 30 feet.

SPENCE: Water clear; 60 degrees; Black bass are good on dark colored plastic worms fished in 1 to 5 feet. White bass are good on minnows, slabs and crankbaits fished in 6 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows fished in 6 to 12 feet. Striped bass are fair on white Rat-L-Traps and crankbaits fished in 15 to 20 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows and cut shad fished in 5 to 10 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with perch and goldfish.

STAMFORD: Water stained; 59-62 degrees; Black bass are fair on plastic worms and minnows. Crappie are fair on minnows fished in shallow water. White bass are poor on minnows fished near the power plant. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with shiners, shad and perch.

SWEETWATER: Water lightly stained; 61 degrees; Black bass are good on tube baits and worms fished in shallow water. Crappie are fair in minnows fished in 10 feet. White bass are good on minnows and slabs fished around boat docks. Blue and channel catfish are fair on minnows and stinkbaits fished on bottom.

TWIN BUTTES: No fishing report due to extreme low lake level. Boats can be launched from Salibout Point but caution is advised on entire lake.
WHITE RIVER: No report available.

The Mini Page

Celebrate NIE Week How to Write a News Story

Putting out a school newspaper is a cool way to learn about newspapers and also to develop many skills.

<h3>1. Plan</h3> <p>A SCIENTIST DISCOVERED DINOSAUR BONES NEARBY. I'LL COVER THE STORY.</p> <p>Meet with the staff to discuss what's happening. Out of the meeting comes your story idea.</p>	<h3>4. Draft</h3> <p>WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE.</p> <p>Write down your facts and organize your information.</p> <p>Newspaper stories are different from stories that tell a tale.</p> <p>Tale-telling stories Stories that tell a tale are in this style, or form. The story pyramid is inverted, or upside down.</p> <p>Example of the beginning of a story telling a tale: "Once upon a time there lived a young girl who ..."</p>	<h3>5. Check</h3> <p>Check the facts to make certain they are correct.</p> <p>DR. JONES, DID YOU SAY THAT THE DOME WAS 5 FEET LONG?</p>
<h3>2. Think</h3> <p>I ALREADY KNOW A LOT ABOUT DINOSAURS.</p> <p>Make a list of what you already know about the subject. Then make a list of what you want to find out.</p>	<h3>7. Submit</h3> <p>IT'S FUN PASSING ON FACTS TO MY READERS.</p> <p>Submit your story to an editor to be checked. Meet your deadline.</p> <p>The Mini Page thanks Pat Fage, administrator of language arts, Fairfax County, Va., Public Schools; and Dr. Carole Flege, Ed. D., principal, Willow Springs School, Fairfax County Public Schools, for help with this issue.</p>	<h3>6. Revise</h3> <p>I WILL USE SPELL-CHECK AND ALSO DOUBLE-CHECK THE PUNCTUATION.</p> <p>Revise your story and read for correct form.</p>

Rookie Cookie's Recipe Brown Sugar Bars

You'll need:

- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 egg, beaten

What to do:

1. Combine the first three ingredients together in a large bowl. Mix well.
2. In a medium bowl, combine the next three ingredients. Mix well.
3. Add ingredients in the medium bowl to the large bowl. Mix well.
4. Add pecans. Mix well.
5. Spread batter into a greased 8-by-8-inch pan.
6. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 30 minutes. Cool and cut into squares. Makes about 16.

SCHOOL NEWS TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of school newspapers are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: BANNER, BEAT, COPY, DETAINEE, WHO, EDITION, LEAD, HEADLINE, SECTION, ADVISER, PAPER, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, STORY, REPORTER, TIMES, NEWS, POST, STAR.

MINI SPY ...

Mini Spy and her friends are using newspapers in their history class. See if you can find:

- fish
- pineapple
- lemon
- grapes
- saw
- orange
- cherry
- kite
- apple
- watermelon
- strawberry
- word MINI

How to Start a School Paper

<h3>1. Line up an adult to be your adviser.</h3> <p>THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. THANK YOU.</p>	<h3>4. Visit the paper.</h3> <p>THIS IS A REPORTER.</p>	<h3>7. Name the staff.</h3> <p>I WOULD LIKE TO BE THE EDITOR.</p>	<h3>9. Set the type.</h3> <p>Use the computer to set the type in columns, or students can carefully hand-print the copy if you don't have access to a computer.</p>
<p>Here are some ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher• Principal• Reading teacher• Volunteer parent• Librarian	<h3>5. Decide on a name.</h3> <p>Remember that the name, or title, should have the date, the number of the issue and the school name.</p>	<h3>8. Gather the news.</h3> <p>HOW DID YOU WRITE THAT?</p>	<h3>11. Lay out the paper.</h3> <p>How your paper looks, or the "layout," is important. Be sure to carefully plan how the words, art and photos look on the page. Use your computer to type the articles in columns and paste them to create your layout. Some schools have special computer software for creating layouts. You will want to include an index on the front page.</p>
<h3>2. Decide who will do it.</h3> <p>MR. JOHNS' FOURTH-GRADE CLASS</p>	<h3>3. Study your local paper.</h3> <p>Talk about the sections, ads, and how the paper looks. Study how stories are written. Look on the Internet. How are stories covered there? What is the difference between the Hot coverage and the paper's?</p>	<h3>6. Decide what goes in.</h3> <p>I LIKE INFO AND TRAINING. WE ARE DONE A TEACHER FEATURE. TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.</p>	<h3>10. Proof the copy.</h3> <p>Proofreaders carefully check the copy for spelling, facts and punctuation.</p> <h3>12. Advertising.</h3> <p>Put up posters advertising the paper, its price and when it will be for sale.</p> <h3>13. Print, assemble and deliver.</h3> <p>Print your paper by routing it off on a computer printer or duplicating machine, or taking it to a professional printer. The circulation staff assemble, staple and deliver the copies.</p> <p>To do: Study your local newspaper and make a list of subjects that interest you the most.</p>

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION | **Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms.** | The Mini Page Sponsored by: Fina Refinery, Parlee Enterprises, Scenic Mountain Medical Center

THURSDAY

MAR. 9

Table with 24 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DSN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, USA, SCIF, LIFE, TLC) and 12 rows of program listings.

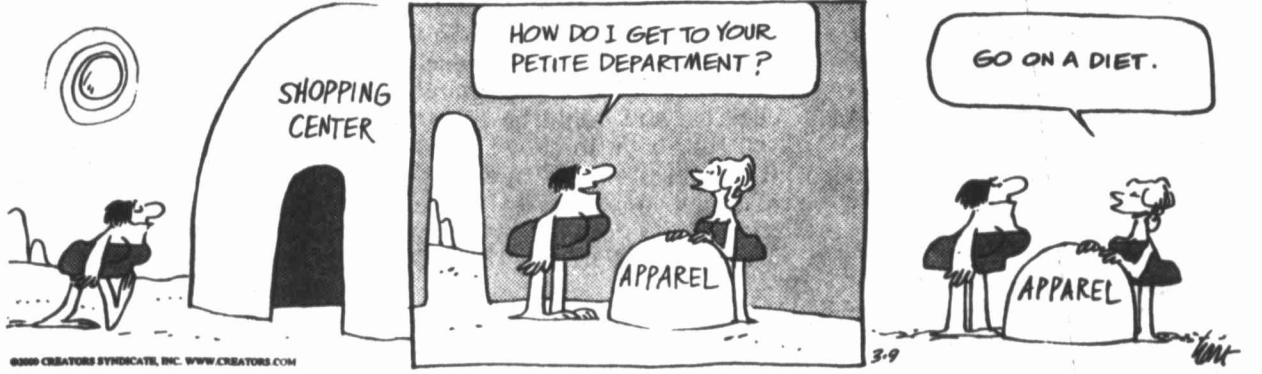
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



"MUDmen are a lot messier to make than SNOWmen."

"UH OH. LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE 'QUALITY TIME' DAYS."

WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Thursday, March 9, the 69th day of 2000. There are 297 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 9, 1862, during the Civil War, the ironclads Monitor and Virginia (formerly Merrimack) clashed for five hours to a draw at Hampton Roads, Va.

On this date: In 1796, the future emperor of France, Napoleon Bonaparte, married Josephine de Beauharnais. (The couple divorced in 1809.) In 1916, Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa attacked Columbus, N.M., killing more than a dozen people. In 1933, Congress, called into special session by President Roosevelt, began its "hundred days" of enacting New Deal legislation. In 1945, during World War II, U.S. B-29 bombers launched incendiary bomb attacks against Japan. In 1954, CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow critically reviewed Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's anti-Communism campaign on "See It Now." In 1975, work began on the Alaskan oil pipeline. In 1977, about a dozen armed Hanafi Muslims invaded three buildings in Washington D.C., killing one person and taking more than 130 hostages. The siege ended two days later. In 1989, the Senate rejected President Bush's nomination of John Tower to be defense secretary by a vote of 53-47. In 1996, comedian George Burns died in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 100. In 1997, gangsta rapper The Notorious B.I.G., whose real name was Christopher Wallace, was killed in a drive-by shooting in Los Angeles; he was 24. Ten years ago: Dr. Antonia Novello was sworn in as surgeon general, the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the job. Five years ago: House Republicans unveiled their long-promised tax cut for families, businesses and investors. President Clinton eased travel restrictions on Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and invited him to the White House for St. Patrick's Day. Los Angeles police detective Mark Fuhrman took the stand at the O.J. Simpson murder trial, denying ever meeting a woman who had accused him of making racist remarks. One year ago: RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp., the food-and-tobacco conglomerate, announced it was getting out of the cigarette business. Today's Birthdays: Author Mickey Spillane is 82. Singer Lloyd Price is 67. Actress Joyce Van Patten is 66. Actor-comedian Marty Ingels is 64. Country singer Mickey Gilley is 64. Singer Mark Lindsay (Paul Revere and the Raiders) is 58. TV personality Charles Gibson is 57. Chess player Bobby Fischer is 57. Actress Trish Van Devere is 55. Rock musician Robin Trower is 55.

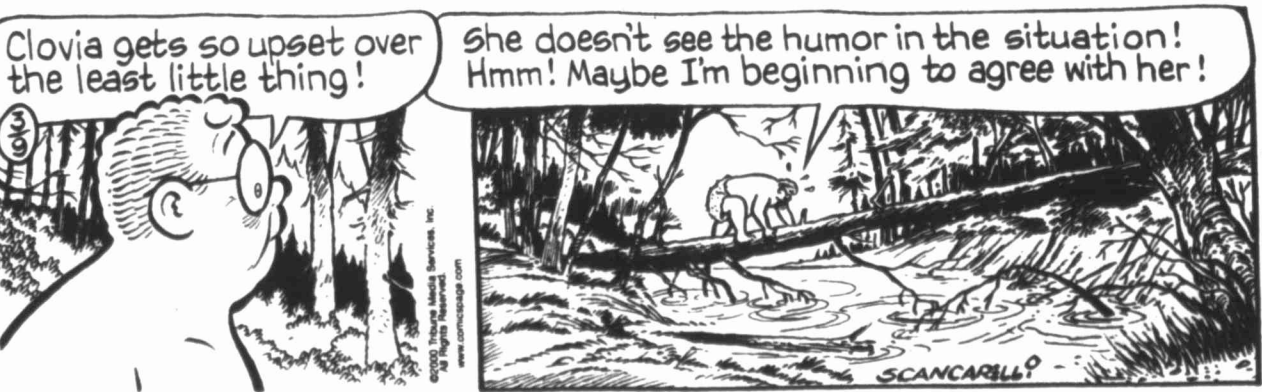
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information and staff list.