

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY

April 6, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 50°-55° FRIDAY 83°-87°

Concert series slated Sunday in Coahoma

The Coahoma Community Concert series will present folk duo Dave Carter and Tracy Grammer on Sunday. The award-winning duo from Portland, Ore., will perform at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 205 First St. in Coahoma. Suggested donation for the concert is \$7 per person, \$15 for the immediate family. Carter and Grammer were winners of a prestigious folk music competition at Kerrville a couple of years ago. For more information about the concert, call the church at 394-4450.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY
 □ Genealogical Society of Big Spring 7:15 p.m., Howard College Library.
 □ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY
 □ The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.
 □ AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Restaurant.
 □ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
 □ Howard County Scottish Rite Club, 7:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21 and Lancaster, breakfast served.
 □ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 9 a.m. until 12 p.m., free used eye glasses for adults, Evening Lions Bingo Building, 1607 East Third.
 □ Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Members and guests welcome.

MONDAY
 □ Texas Tech Exes meeting, 6 p.m., 309 South Main in the Sparenberg Building. Come hear the latest from Texas Tech. Special report regarding the golf tournament in June.
 □ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 East Third.
 □ Big Spring Comandery No. 31, 6:30 p.m., dinner, 7:30 meeting, Masonic Temple, 221 1/2 Main.
 □ Big Spring Assembly No. 211, Social Order of the Beauceant, 6:30 p.m., dinner, 7:30 p.m., meeting, Masonic Temple, 221 1/2 Main.

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

Statewide runoff elections draw little voter interest in Howard County

By BILL McCLELLAN
 News Editor

People in Howard County aren't exactly rushing to the polls to vote in the Democratic and Republican runoff elections. "Any time we just have statewide races



WRIGHT

— especially like those for Court of Criminal Appeals — we have a real low turnout," said Donna Wright, Howard County clerk. "People tell me they don't have enough information on the candidates and unless they know who they are voting for, they aren't going to vote. But we do want to encourage our citizens to take advantage of the process." The only recognizable name in the bunch is Gene Kelly, and in this case, he's a 73-year-old retired Air Force lawyer. He's running against former

one-term state legislator Charles Gandy for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senator. The winner will face Republican incumbent Kay Bailey Hutchison in November. That's the only race in the Democratic runoff in Howard County, and since early voting began Monday, just four people have walked into the courthouse to cast a ballot. There have also been nine votes returned by mail, according to the county clerk's office.

See RUNOFFS, Page 2A

Despite locally-contested races, turnout low in Martin County

By BILL McCLELLAN
 News Editor

Despite a couple of locally-contested runoff races, people in Martin County haven't beaten down the courthouse door to go vote. "It's been a little disappointing," said Susie Hull, Martin County district and county

clerk. "We've had about 190 ballots cast and I really thought we'd have more than that. But maybe people are waiting until the last minute, or until election day." As of this morning, she said some 189 votes had been cast in the Democratic Party runoff and just one in the Republican

See RACES, Page 2A



Sherry Flanary of United Blood Services in San Angelo draws blood from Patty Flores, assistant admissions registrar at Howard College, on Wednesday. UBS reported a good drive with their appointments being full.

\$20,000 for State Veterans Home, telecommunications pact approved

By CARL GRAHAM
 Staff Writer

A change in the telecommunication contract with StarTek and an agreement to contribute \$20,000 as a part of a request from the Texas State Veterans Home were approved by Moore Development for Big Spring board members Wednesday. StarTek originally signed a six-month contract with Southwestern Bell Telephone to be the carrier of their PS3 line — a requirement for the operation at StarTek, at an initial cost of \$7,500 a month. The board decided Wednesday it would be beneficial to both parties to change to a 60-month contract with SWB at a price of \$4,100 a month, a savings of about \$3,400 a month.

In other items, the board agreed to contribute \$20,000 of the \$47,000 requested by the Texas State Veterans Home to help with an unappropriated \$94,000 for a booster pump, a water softener and an reverse osmosis water system. Noting that Moore Development has contributed about \$100,000 to the State Home project already, board members decided to contribute only \$20,000. The 76,000-square-foot home will add about 200 jobs to Big Spring when it is completed in October or November. A proposal for a new Big Spring Chamber of Commerce sign made of limestone as well as planting of shrubbery and a new drip irrigation system beside the building that the chamber shares with Moore

Development was tabled until more study and data are collected. Kent Sharp, executive director of Moore Development, gave a following monthly status report. He noted that since October of 1999, Moore Development has been in contact with more than 25 prospects concerning expansion of existing industry and attraction of new industry to Big Spring. Seventeen proposals were sent out to industries requesting information on Big Spring. Of the 17 sent out, Big Spring facilitated seven site visits from prospects. Of those, Moore Development had successful negotiations with two firms. They are

See MOORE, Page 2A

USDA announces release of disaster program funds

By CARL GRAHAM
 Staff Writer

U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm announced Tuesday that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin issuing the final installment of the 1999 Crop Disaster Program funds this week. According to Rick Liles, executive director of the Howard County Farm Service Agency, several Howard County producers will be receiving those funds. "We will have several producers that are eligible for that funding," said Liles. "In fact we are in the process of calculating that funding at the present time." Having already issued \$500 million as advance payments, USDA will distribute the remaining \$1.3 billion in funds to approximately 260,000 U.S. farmers hit by natural disasters. He can be reached at 267-2557.

Because the total of the claims filed exceeds \$1.3 billion, producers will be paid 69.6 percent of the amount for which they are eligible. In response to the nation's farm crisis, USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation has already issued over \$17 billion in direct payments this fiscal year for ongoing programs and for programs with emergency funding. Liles said that though the recent rains helped area producers, they still are in need of more of it. "In my opinion we still need more rain," said Liles. "It's a good start and it allowed producers to go out and work their fields but it is the consensus of our area producers that it is not enough rainfall to do any planting." Liles said that producers should contact his office for any additional information about any of these USDA programs.

Grand jury

14 indictments handed down in Howard County; also some re-indictments

By CARL GRAHAM
 Staff Writer

A Howard County grand jury handed down 14 indictments in cases presented by District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson and Assistant DA Robin Orr Wednesday.



ORR

In addition to those indictments, three individuals were re-indicted on seven counts to correct flaws in their original indictments. Assistant DA Robin Orr said the re-indictments were done as an act of caution. "There was a question about the composition of the grand jury," said Orr. "There were a couple of the members absent and a couple of alternates used and a question arose on the propriety of the people who voted on those indictments, so out of an abundance of caution we decided to go back to the original grand jury we had the week before." Orr said as a result, Santiago Flores, who had been indicted the week before on two counts of indecency with a child was not indicted Wednesday and was released from all charges. In addition, the indictment of 66-year-old Marvin Wise, who had been charged with of making a false report to a police officer, was considered a misdemeanor and was transferred to Howard County Attorney Mike Thomas to review and determine the appropriate charges. The grand jury also took the following action: "David Villareal, 35, was indicted on one count of aggravated sexual assault with a child. "Pablo Rodriguez, 60, of Colorado City, was indicted on one count of driving while

intoxicated (third or more offense). "Danny Rodriguez, 24, of 708 N. Douglas, was indicted on one count of assault on a public servant. "Daniel Reyes, 38, of Colorado City, was indicted on one count of driving while intoxicated (third or more offense). "Sonny Olivio (a.k.a. Robert Lopez), of 501 Lancaster, was indicted on one count of burglary of a habitation. "Donald Wheat, 54, of 1314 Mobile, was indicted on two counts of delivery of a controlled substance. "Guadalupe Ledesma, 49, of 1206 Elm, was indicted on one count of delivery of a controlled substance. "Orlando Ledesma, 18, of 1308 Colby, was indicted on one count of burglary of a building. "Roger Henry, 35, of 1302 Sycamore, was indicted on one count of burglary of a building. "Tommy E. Dixon, 37, of 1305 Kindle, was indicted on two counts of forgery. "Robert Diaz, 17, of 1111 Ridgeroad, was indicted on one count of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. "Slaten Broyles, 19, of 103 Jefferson, was indicted on one count of credit card abuse. "Vicky Bradley, 30, of 502 E. Fifth, was indicted on one count of delivery of a controlled substance. "Luciano Arellano, 32, of Tarzan, was indicted on one count of driving while intoxicated (third or more offense). The following were re-indictments: "Rudy Holguin, 44, was indicted on four counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child and one count of indecency with a child. "Oscar Pippens, 60, of 4111 Parkway, was indicted on one count of aggravated sexual assault with a child. "Verlin W. Harrington, 25, of 5700 Cedar Road #20, was indicted on one count of sexual assault on a child.



These four retired nurses enjoyed some time together at the Big Spring Mall. They have a combined total of 124 years of nursing experience. From left, they are Estela Ruiz, 24 years in health care; Helen Crandall, 45 years; Helen Walters, 50 years; and Gloria Jordan, 15 years.

APR 6 2000

OBITUARIES

Jack Berry
Jack Berry, 67, of Stanton, died on Wednesday, April 5, 2000, in a Stanton nursing home. Graveside service will be 2 p.m. Friday, April 7, at Garden City Cemetery with the Rev. Raymond Bugg, chaplain with Vista Care Family Hospice, officiating.

He was born Sept. 15, 1932, in Big Spring, and married Mary Kimbell Lee on Sept. 13, 1991, in Stanton.

Mr. Berry grew up in Garden City and graduated from Garden City High School. He ranched in Howard and Glasscock counties for many years.

He was a Methodist and had served in the United States Army.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Berry of Stanton; a son, Kent Berry of Port O'Connor; a stepson, Randy Clay of Merkel; two stepdaughters, Danetta Wesley of Amarillo and Melissa Clarke of Fort Worth; and six stepgrandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Carl Miles Berry in 1990, and by his parents, Clyde and Pauline Cook Berry.

The family suggests memorials to: Vista Care Family Hospice, 3210 E. 11th Place, Big Spring.

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

Paula Robinson

Garland Green Sr.

Service for Garland Green Sr., 91, Big Spring, will be 2 p.m. Friday, April 7, 2000, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Michael Willard, pastor of Mount Bethel Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Green died Tuesday, April 4, at a local hospital. He was born Aug. 12, 1908, in Sandy. He married Dorothy Miller in 1951. Mr. Green was a Baptist, serving as a deacon at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church for many years. In 1949, he came to Big Spring from Lovington, N.M., and had worked for a dairy company. He also was self-employed as a plumber and worked for Robinson Plumbing and Hubert Rowden.

Mr. Green served on the board that established the Northcrest Apartments in Big Spring.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy Green of Big Spring; seven sons, Earnest Green of

Houston, Theodis Green of Amarillo, Willie Green of Dallas, Earnest Henry and Fred Williams, both of Big Spring, Hubert Williams of El Paso and Garland Green Jr. of Dallas; seven daughters, Velma McClendon and Minnie McClendon, both of Amarillo, Alice Barnes of Wichita, Kan., Lula Byrd and Kathy Meeks, both of Dallas, and Kay Conner and Donna Cole, both of Big Spring; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

Loudell Castle

Graveside service for Loudell Castle, 70, Big Spring, will be 10 a.m. Friday, April 7, 2000, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with Rev. R. C. Cunniff, minister of 14th and Main Church of Christ, officiating.

Mrs. Castle died Wednesday, April 5, in a Midland hospital after a long illness. She was born Oct. 16, 1929, in Martin County. She was a lifetime resident of Martin and Howard counties. She married T.J. Castle on Oct. 20, 1945, in Lamesa. She was a member of the 14th and Main Church of Christ.

Mrs. Castle had worked at local Dairy Queen stores for 17 years and retired in 1988. She also farmed with her husband.

Survivors include her husband, T.J. Castle of Big Spring; a brother, J.B. Motley of Eunice, N.M.; two sisters, Edna Laster of Snyder and Joyce Wright of Colorado City; two grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Prayer service for Federico "Lico" Ramirez, 72, Midland, is 7:30 p.m. today at Reyes-Garcia Funeral Chapel. Mass will be 2 p.m. Friday, April 7.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with the Rev. Jerome Burnett officiating. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

Mr. Ramirez died Tuesday, April 4, at a Midland hospital after a lengthy illness. He was born March 2, 1928, in Del Rio. He worked as a roofer for Branch Roofing Co. for many years, and had been a shoe-repairman from an early age in the family business, Ramirez Brothers Boot Shop in Midland.

Survivors include three brothers, Canuto Ramirez of Big Spring, Guadalupe Ramirez of Midland, Rodolfo Ramirez of Midland; three sisters, Enriqueta Amaya of Aurora, Ill., Amelia Ramirez of Frankfort, Ill., and Ernestina Ramirez of Midland; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be sent to: Our Lady of Guadalupe Grotto, P.O. Box 7, Midland 79702. Arrangements are with Reyes-Garcia Funeral Home.

Federico Ramirez

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Republican Primary may vote in the Republican runoff but not the Democratic. Registered voters who did not cast a ballot in the primary elections may vote in either the Democratic or the Republican runoff, but not both.

According to the county clerk's office, 2,800 ballots were cast in the Republican primary and 778 were cast in the Democratic Primary for a total of 3,578. That amounts to 18.9 percent of the 18,863 registered voters. It also means that 15,285 Howard County residents are eligible to vote in either runoff. Early voting ends at 5 p.m. Friday.

Election day is Tuesday and polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. On that day, voting in both the Democratic and Republican runoffs will be conducted at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

MOORE

Continued from Page 1A

StarTek USA and Solitaire Homes.

Four of the 25 prospects were requests from existing industries desiring assistance on retention or expansion of their operations. To date, Moore Development has reached successful negotiations with two of these while two are still being negotiated.

Big Spring was disqualified automatically by five of the prospects because the community lacked a suitable building already in existence.

"Moore Development will continue to proactively promote Big Spring while also striving to provide the best possible resources to our existing industrial community," said Sharp. "The doors of Moore Development are always open to the public and we value your input toward the economic development process."

The board adjourned into executive session to discuss real estate development of Airpark property and Moore Development property.

RACES

Continued from Page 1A

The interest is in the Democratic runoffs, where Miles Tollison is facing incumbent Mike Welling for county sheriff and Jesus "Sonny" Garza is taking on incumbent Doyle Hale for Precinct 1 county commissioner.

The normal early voting period runs through 5 p.m. Friday. However, the county has also been given an extension to hold early voting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

"It's Trades Day this weekend and we are hoping a lot more people will be out enjoying that. We'll be here, too," said Hull.

The victors in Tuesday's runoffs will both face opponents in November. Randy Cozart is the Republican nominee for sheriff while Kyle Averitt is the GOP nominee for Precinct 1 commissioner. Neither was opposed in the primary.

Martin County residents also are voting in the statewide runoffs. Democrats need a runoff to pick a U.S. Senate nominee between Gene Kelly, 73, a retired Air Force lawyer, and former one-term state legislator Charles Gandy.

There also are runoffs in all three Court of Criminal Appeals elections from the Republican Primary.

Sharon Keller and Tom Price are facing off for the presiding judge nomination, with the winner meeting Democrat Bill Vance in November. The winner of the Place 1 nomination — Charles Holcom or Guy Williams — faces no November opponent. The Place 2 winner — Barbara Parker Hervey or Jim Wallace — meets Democrat William Barr in November. Election day is Tuesday.

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MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co. ATT 55 1/2 + 1/4 Atlantic Richfield 83 1/2

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BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Atmos Energy, BP Amoco, Chevron, Compaq Computer, Dell, DuPont, Exxon, Halliburton, IBM, Intel Corp, Mid Amer Energy, NUV, Palex Inc., Patterson Ener, Pepsi Cola, Phillips Petroleum, SBC Com, Sears, Texaco, Texas Instruments, Total Fina SA, Unocal Corp, Wal-Mart, Wal-Mart De Mexico, Amcap, Europacific, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 9,0,2

Lotto: 20,21,25,38,39,49

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

available. The cost will be \$5 per plate.

PLANS ARE IN THE works for the annual dog show sponsored by the Big Spring Kennel Club. The event is set for April 29-30 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Judging will begin Saturday morning, and spectators are always welcome to attend. There is no admission fee.

There will also be opportunity to talk with dog breeders and owners, exhibitors and vendors.

COAHOMA'S 22ND ANNUAL KINDERGARTEN Stick Horse Rodeo, April 18, at 9 a.m., in the Coahoma Elementary Gym. Everyone is welcome.

SUPPORT GROUPS

THURSDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

A.D.A.P.T. non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

Alzheimer's support group, noon, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, third Thursday of the month. Call Janice Wagner at 263-1211.

Grief Support related to the death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-6523.

Alzheimer's Association Support Group, last Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m. Call 267-9459.

Narcotics Anonymous, 4 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager no.)

Al-Anon support group, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

FRIDAY

Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:15 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

Al-Anon support group, noon, 615 Settles.

BRIEFS

THE BIG SPRING EVENING Lions Club will have free eyeglasses for all adults Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Big Spring Evening Lions Club bingo building, 1607 East Third.

All adults needing eyeglasses who don't have the income to purchase the exam or glasses are welcome. The recycled eyeglasses are donated by the community as a service project of the Lions.

The Lions group offers the eyeglasses the second Saturday of each month. For more information call Donna Groenke at 393-5298.

THE BIG SPRING EAGLES Lodge No. 3188 will host a barbecue to benefit the Harbour family on Saturday, April 15. Barbecue dinners, served from noon to 4 p.m., will consist of brisket, sausage, coleslaw, potato salad, beans and bread. Dine in and carry-out will be

the 400 block of E. 4th.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT /LANGUAGE was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2000 block of Johnson.

ASSAULT BY THREAT was reported in the 400 block of W. 6th.

THEFT OF SERVICES was reported in the 400 block of E. 4th.

THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willa, in the 400 block of Birdwell, in the 400 block of Johnson, in the 700 block of E. 11th and in the 1800 block of Gregg.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. today:

ISMAEL RIVERA, 18, of Victoria, was arrested on a charge of graffiti. (HCSO)

MIGUEL LOSOYA, 19, of Harlingen, was arrested on a charge of graffiti. (HCSO)

KATHERINE DELORES SCAGGS, 29, of 209 N. Johnson, was arrested on charges of failure to identify and parole violation. (BSPD)

JEREMIAH COKER, 24, of 3001 Collins, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.

MANUEL REY CHAVARRIA, 17, of 1202 Main, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended. (BSPD)

CAROL ANN MIEARS, 38, of 200 E. 11th, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana. (BSPD)

ROBERT MARVIN CARSON, 32, of 1410 Scurry, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana. (BSPD)

KORI SHADE LOCKHART, 33, of 500 State Street, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated, no liability insurance, driving while license suspended, and unlawful carry of a weapon. (DPS)

DANNY RAY CROSBY, 40, of 508 N. San Antonio, was arrested on a charge of parole violation. (Paroles and Pardons)

RECORDS

Wednesday's high 87
Wednesday's low 53
Average high 75
Average low 46
Record high 95 in 1954
Record low 30 in 1933
Precip. Wednesday 0.00
Month to date 0.49
Month's normal 0.14
Year to date 5.20
Normal for the year 2.99
Sunrise Friday 7:26 a.m.
Sunset Friday 8:10 p.m.

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BIG SPRING MOVIE HOTLINE

For showtimes call 263-2479

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

Country Peddler Show
Presented by American Country Shows, Inc.
Odessa, Texas
April 7-9, 2000
Ector County Coliseum
42nd & Andrews Hwy
Listen to KODD, KGBE & KNFM
to win a weekend in Fredericksburg
The Original Folk Art & Craft Show
SHOW HOURS
Friday 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
ADMISSION
Adults - \$4.00 • Seniors (65+) - \$2.00 • Children under 12 - Free
For the safety of all, strollers are not recommended.
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FAX 830/997-0453 • www.americancountryshow.com • peddler@tsc.com

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331
Jack Berry, 67, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Friday at Garden City Cemetery.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
21th & Johnson 267-8238
Ronny "Chub" Moser, 59, died Tuesday. Services are 2:00 PM today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial in Trinity Memorial Park.
Garland Green, Sr., 91, died Tuesday. Services are 2:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.
Loudell Castle, 70, died Wednesday. Graveside services are 10:00 AM Friday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Big Spring Herald
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Clinton

WASHINGTON
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Clinton urged to sign 'partial birth' abortion bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Echoing a political battle fought before, Republicans urged President Clinton to "do the right thing" and sign a bill banning so-called partial-birth abortions.

But their call is certain to go unheeded. Clinton has vetoed the bill twice before and the White House earlier released a statement saying he would do so again.

The latest vote Wednesday, a bipartisan 287-141, was enough to override a veto, which the House has done each time. The Senate, however, has narrowly sustained Clinton's vetoes in the past.

Supporters insisted they were wading into the politically charged debate again as a matter of conscience.

"Partial birth abortion is a barbaric procedure that has no place in a civilized society," said House Majority Leader

Dick Armey of Texas. "I hope the president will search his heart and do the right thing."

Added Rep. Henry Hyde, D-Ill., "God put us in the world to do noble things, to love and to cherish our fellow human beings, not to destroy them. Today we must choose sides."

Democratic opponents countered that Republicans were playing politics in an election year, particularly by offering gruesome accounts of the procedure. They said it was part of an overall goal by the GOP to ban all abortions.

"Here we go again. Every election cycle, the Republicans want the House to participate in their ritualistic attack on women," said Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif.

"Do not be fooled," added Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y. "This is nothing less than an attempt to outlaw all abortion."

The Senate approved a similar

bill last fall, and a compromise is expected before fall. The only difference between the two bills is a Senate-passed provision — engineered by Democrats — declaring that the high court's Roe vs. Wade ruling in 1973 established "an important constitutional right" and should not be overturned.

As drafted, the House bill seeks to ban abortions in which a doctor "vaginally delivers some portion of an intact living fetus until the fetus is partially outside the body of the mother" and "kills the fetus while the intact living fetus is partially outside the body of the mother."

The only exceptions would be in cases in which the life of the mother was threatened.

The congressional debate comes as the Supreme Court prepares later this month to consider a Nebraska case that could determine the fate of 30 states' bans on a surgical procedure opponents call "partial birth abortion."

Bellevue, Neb., doctor Leroy Carhart has challenged his state's law, saying it is written so broadly it could be enforced against more than one abortion procedure and is too vague to let doctors know just what abortion techniques are outlawed.

While there is no direct connection between the court case and the pending legislation, sponsors say the measure before the House was crafted to meet objections of federal appeals court judges who said the Nebraska statute failed to meet constitutional standards.

Since gaining their majority in the House and Senate in 1994, Republicans have twice pushed partial birth measures to Clinton desk, causing political anguish in the process for many Democrats who favor abortion rights but found the bills impossible to oppose.

Elian's father arrives in U.S. to reclaim son

WASHINGTON (AP) — Juan Miguel Gonzalez stood on U.S. soil today and laid claim to son Elian, the 6-year-old Cuban shipwreck survivor who sparked a four-month international tug of war over his fate. "I hope I will soon be able to embrace my son," he said.

Gonzalez said his son had been forced to live for 137 days with "some distant relatives who have never seen him before."

"I merely appeal to U.S. authorities to have my son returned to me," he said through an interpreter in a combative statement accusing U.S. politicians, journalists and Miami's Cuban community of exploiting the boy.

Speaking to reporters shortly after arriving in Washington with his wife and 6-month-old baby and the top Cuban official stationed in the United States, Gonzalez alleged that anti-Castro elements in the United States had been trying to "obtain political advantage from this tragedy."

In a stark indication of the bitter custody fight yet to come with Elian's great-uncle Lazaro Gonzalez and his other Miami relatives, protesters shouted over the father's remarks. "Welcome to freedom," they said.

"It's been an agonizing experience to see my son submitted to cruel psychological pressures," Gonzalez said.

While criticizing the Miami relatives who have cared for Elian, he expressed gratitude to average Americans, who he

said have been in favor of his reunification with his son. It was not clear when a reunion between father and son might take place.

"It cannot happen in one or two days ... that would be like Elian losing his mother a second time," said Linda Osberg-Braun, a lawyer for the boy's Miami relatives.

Speaking on NBC's "Today" show, she said the family would not give up their quest to get Elian political asylum in the United States. "They believe strongly that he will be harmed if he is returned to Cuba."

Although some U.S. politicians have been eager to offer Gonzalez permanent residency status and thought he might want to stay in the country once out of the clutches of Cuban President Fidel Castro's communist regime, the father did not appear to have anything like that in mind.

He said Castro has been "like a brother, giving me advice and support during these days of uncertainty."

Castro personally saw Gonzalez off as he left Havana in a private jet, saying afterward, "This is undisputedly the final stage" in the fight to bring Elian back to Cuba.

The elder Gonzalez's trip was worked out by his lawyer, Gregory Craig, during a 24-hour visit to Cuba. Craig said Wednesday night that an Immigration and Naturalization Service statement on Monday had made the trip possible.

Commissioner Garza proposes rule to plug more wells

AUSTIN (AP) — The Railroad Commission should stop its policy of allowing oil and gas companies to leave their wells unplugged for years, Commissioner Tony Garza said Wednesday.

The commission now allows companies to leave their wells unplugged nearly indefinitely, provided the companies pay a \$100 annual fee and promise the wells are not polluting.

Garza said the commission should change the rules so that companies can only get a one-year extension then "its either plug or pump."

The rule would apply to wells that have already received

extensions. He said he will present his idea to the other two members of the commission at their April 11 meeting.

The rule exists so oil and gas companies can respond to market forces by cutting back pumping when the price of oil is low, then activate more loans when the prize rebounds, he said.

But the program has been abused.

He said that as of Jan. 25, there are more than 15,600 wells that have been unplugged for two or more years— 6,400 of them have been unplugged for five years or more.

He said leaking wells are

immediately plugged with money from the Oil Field Cleanup fund. "If a well is leaking and presents a clear and present danger, we plug it immediately," Garza said.

Garza said producers on the verge of bankruptcy sometimes put their wells into the extension program, for \$100 a year, rather than spend thousands to plug their wells properly, he said.

Eventually, the abandoned wells become the state's responsibility to plug. Garza called the extension program a "government-funded bailout for some operators."

The major players in the

Texas oil and gas business acknowledge there is a problem, but have no solution.

"We recognized that there are definitely problems with the number of unplugged wells in the state of Texas," said Foster Wade, manager of governmental affairs for Texaco Inc., who also sits on the executive committee of the Texas Oil and Gas Association.

He said the industry will be happy to work with the Railroad Commission and the Legislature on the problem, but was unsure about Garza's proposal.

"I haven't really studied it yet," he said.

Census officials believe privacy debate may be affecting response rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Census Bureau is getting back long forms at a slower rate than the less-detailed short forms, prompting the agency's director to worry that claims by critics that census questions are too intrusive could hamper the collection of essential demographic information.

As of Tuesday, 60 percent of the short forms, which went to 100 million households, were

returned, compared with 48 percent of the 20 million long forms sent out, Kenneth Prewitt told the House Government Reform census subcommittee on Wednesday.

The 12 percentage point difference is twice that of the response rates between the two forms at a similar point in the 1990 census, he said.

"I pledged ... that I would bring to your attention any

development which could be the census at risk. Nothing in our current operations poses such a risk, but the widespread attack on the long form could have serious consequences," Prewitt said.

Some congressional Republicans last week reported hearing from constituents who complained that census questions were too intrusive. Aides to Senate Majority Leader Trent

Lott, R-Miss., said they suggested that worried callers send back partially completed forms because "it was better than throwing it in the trash."

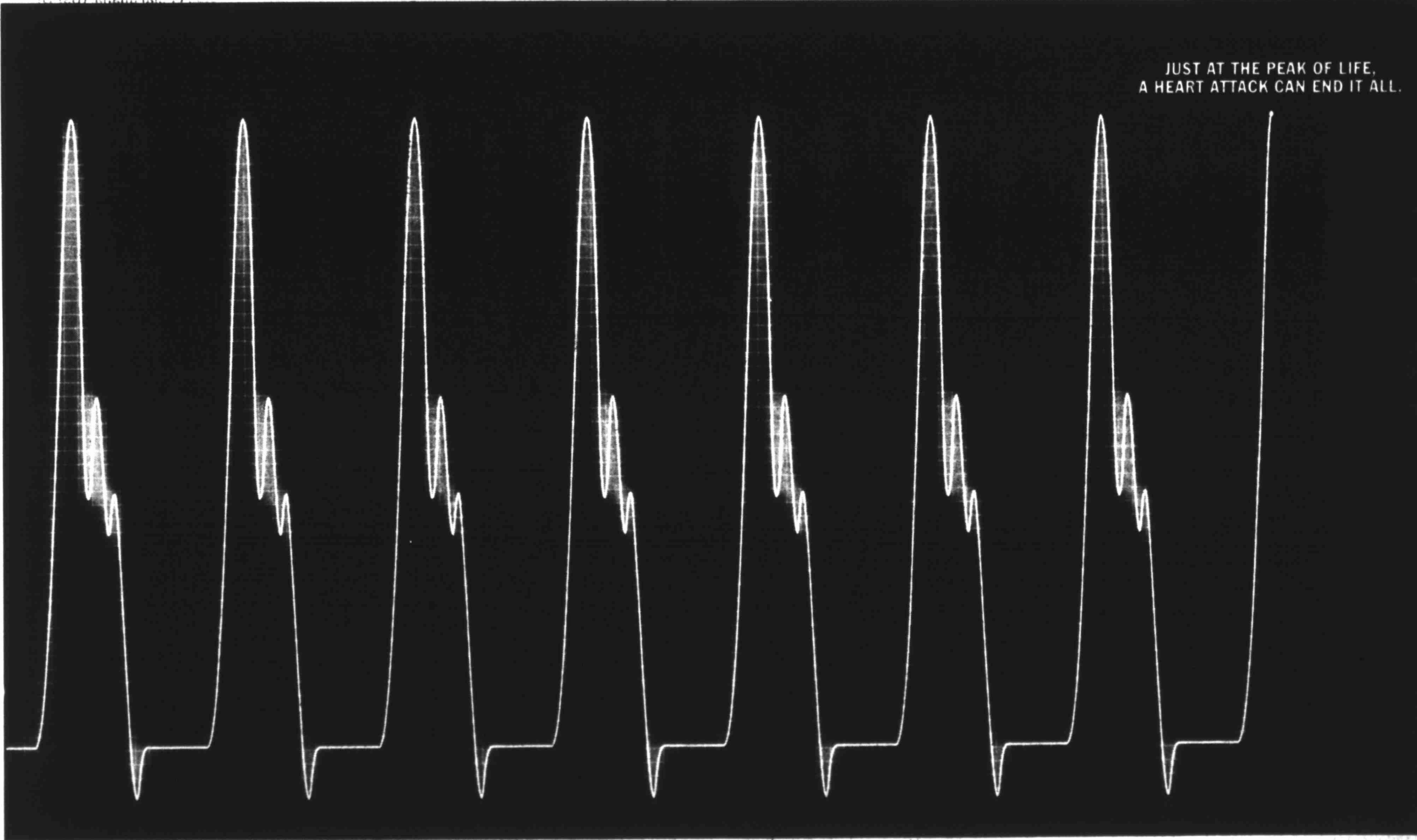
The short form is eight questions long and takes roughly 10 minutes to fill out. The long form has 53 questions that ask for more detailed information. It takes about 35 minutes to complete, census officials say. Some critics have questioned

why people are asked on the long form, for example, about their home's plumbing. That information, Census Bureau officials say, is used in part to determine areas in danger of ground water contamination.

A question found on both forms that some consider intrusive asks for a person's race. Responses are used as a basis for federal voting rights and civil rights regulations.

Long forms usually come back more slowly than short forms because it takes more time to complete, and people tend to put it off, Prewitt said.

Still, concerns over privacy could lead to lower-than-expected long-form response rates, he said. And that may cause the Census Bureau to hire more workers to send out and gather information from households that did not send in a form.



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EDITORIAL

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

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

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John A. Moseley Managing Editor
Debbie Jensen Features Editor
Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

One-act play troupe makes all of us proud

Big Spring is about to do some dancing over in Snyder. Well, not exactly. What's happening is that the Big Spring High School drama department is going to perform "And They Danced Real Slow In Jackson" at the University Interscholastic League Area One-Act Play Contest on Friday.

Late last month, the local high school theater group was one of two selected from the District 5-4A contest to advance to this level. If they do as well Friday, they'll move on to regional competition April 14 at Angelo State University.

The outlook is good. Theater director Tim Haynes is one of the most successful drama instructors around and he has assembled a talented group of students.

The cast and crew are Lauren Fraser, Julie Adams, Priscilla Flores, Laura Davis, Haley Haynes, Sarah Smith, George Williams, Toryn Haynes, Anna McLaughlin, Amanda Sheedy, Chris Trevino, Andy Rodriguez, Eric Gamble, Leandro Sanchez, Lacey Knight, Jeremy Knight, Cynthia Shipman, Sabrina Lopez, Shasta Fuqua, Theresa Porras, Laura Schnake and Holli Cobb.

They deserve our praise for their already impressive accomplishment, as well as our support in the future.

We hope a number of Big Spring residents will show their support by attending the contest. "Danced Real Slow" will be the last of six plays to take the stage. That means that with an expected 6 to 6:30 p.m. curtain time, even residents who get off work at 5 o'clock can make the short trip.

The contest is at Worsham Auditorium on the campus at Snyder High School, and begins at 1:15 p.m.

We're sure the students would welcome all the support we can give them. We hope you'll make it to Snyder if you can, but if not, join us in wishing these fine young representatives of Big Spring High School our best.

OTHER VIEWS

One in six American households has received the Census Bureau's dreaded "long form" in recent weeks, and most are reacting to its 52 detailed questions with an understandable combination of patience, impatience and procrastination.

But a handful of conservative lawmakers in Washington have come up with a more creative response. They're urging constituents to simply ignore the questions they don't like.

That's a cynical and irresponsible approach from elected officials who should know better. The census long form might be a nuisance, but there is no question that it provides useful — sometimes required — information for federal agencies to allocate taxpayers' money, for private scholars to conduct important research and for the government to serve citizens more effectively.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott has led the attack, arguing that the census questionnaire is overlong and intrusive. But the Census

Bureau has added only one item since 1990, and it provided all the questions for congressional review two years ago, as required by law. Rep. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., says the questions are too personal. When pressed for an example last week, a Coburn aide cited a question about bathing habits. But it turns out that the question is actually about mental and physical disability.

What's most depressing about the Lott-Coburn critique is that it's one more effort to depict the government as an enemy of the people, not an extension of their will. Americans who want their government to function more effectively should support a thorough census. A sophisticated society cannot function without good information about itself. And for those busy souls who haven't labored through the long form yet, we trust they'll approach the task more responsibly than some of their leaders in Washington.

STAR TRIBUNE OF MINNEAPOLIS

People must take a realistic look at police officers

Lots of people are yapping about police brutality. Many of them have hidden agendas (like discrediting Hillary Clinton's opponent in the Senate race in New York). But let's look at the subject anyway.



CHARLEY REESE

The first point one must realize is that the police officer is given the most terrible burden of any public official, high or low, state or federal. The police officer is given a firearm and authorized to make a life-and-death decision in a matter of seconds under stress, usually in the dark and with the information only his own eyes can supply.

Now compare that with a judge in a capital case. The judge is calm and not under stress. He or she has the bene-

fit of all the information developed during the trial. The judge gets a pre-sentence investigation report and in most states hears testimony from people — pro and con — during the sentencing phase. Only after all of that does the judge have to make that terrible decision: Does this person live or die? And if the judge makes a mistake, the defendant doesn't get to kill the judge.

In the dark on the street, if a cop makes the wrong decision, he or she can get killed or be permanently disabled. Well, if you are going to put that terrible burden on the shoulders of police officers, you're going to have to cut them some slack. They're human, and, given enough confrontations, mistakes will be made.

It is grossly unfair of people, politicians and news-media types, with all the benefit of hindsight, to rush to judgment on an officer. To arrive at a fair evaluation of an officer's actions, you have to be where the officer was and know only what the officer knew at the moment. Because that's what drives the decision to shoot:

the officer's perception at the moment of the threat against him or her and others, based on the only information the officer has — what he or she can see and hear.

Unfortunately, in a gunfight, you can't call timeout and go confer with a coach. It is really, really unhealthy to be the person who hesitates. And, unlike movie gunfights, real gunfights usually start and are over in a matter of seconds.

So, now that we are clear on the police officer's burden, let's clear up something else. Real cops hurt when they have to kill somebody. They are not like the actors in the movies who mow people down and make wisecracks. In real life, taking a human life is traumatic and an emotional experience, unless you are a sociopath or in war, where killing becomes routine. Some cops have a hard time getting over it, even when the person they shot deserved it.

But lots of people don't know that. They've never seen a real killing. They've just seen thousands of simulated killings on television and in the movies.

The motion-picture and television industries continuously distort reality. It's probably not an exaggeration to say that too much exposure to visual fiction over many years can induce a mild case of insanity.

So, don't be so quick to judge when a police officer is accused of acting wrongly. Look for the hidden agendas. It could be political. It could be people angling to hit the lawsuit jackpot. It could be a leftist trying to inflame racial and ethnic hatred as part of his long-term campaign to bring down the system.

There are some bad cops, but they are far fewer than chronic critics of police work say.

And one more thing: If a cop with a drawn gun ever confronts you, do what the officer says and don't make any sudden or unannounced moves with your hands.

Remember that you're a sixteenth of an inch of a trigger pull and one second from death. You don't want to make the officer with the gun nervous. Staying calm will ensure that a confrontation will end peacefully.



The twain shall never meet again

They don't make movies like "Cool Hand Luke" anymore, so I never expect too much.

But about twice a year I screw up my courage and go to the real Raisinettes-on-your-shoe movies, usually just before Oscars, to make sure I remain completely out of sync with American popular culture.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

I do. We went our separate ways about the time "Out of Africa" beat "The Color Purple" for Best Picture. (1985. What a travesty.) From that point on, the Oscars have done nothing but disappoint.

Meryl Streep had a farm in Africa, and I had an epiphany. That particular Oscar night marked what self-help books call a "life passage." My era of "getting it" was done. Finished. I was an out-of-touch geezer.

It's as if I suddenly stopped dead in my tracks, and the rest of the world kept marching. Or, maybe I kept marching and the rest of the world stopped. I am at a crowded football game, sitting on the wrong side of the stadium with fans for the other team cheering and hollering and having a great time all around me. My team is losing

77-0. It's not only movies, but also TV commercials, music, political candidates, cellular telephones, sandal styles. If the majority finds something hip, I don't understand it. And, what's worse, I've about quit trying.

This year I saw two talked-about movies I thought I really might like. And I did enjoy one of them. I consider "The Cider House Rules" one of the best movies of late — in fact, the most eloquent pro-choice statement ever articulated.

But Sinclair Lewis has already preached much the same sermon as "American Beauty," only without all the cliches and the gore. He long ago blasted small-town (or suburban) bigotry, greed, intolerance and loveless marriages. And he did it with a much lighter hand.

So, naturally, "American Beauty" won almost everything the Oscars offer.

The rave reviews should have been a tip-off. Movie reviewers are mostly graduates of the Robert Altman School of Contrived Weirdness.

But I do admire both Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening as skilled actors. Also, I had just seen "Cider House" and was on a roll. Maybe this was the year to get back in lock step.

But no. The Best Picture choice didn't leave out a single stereotype. The cast of characters included a cold, materialistic wife, a middle-aged, crazed husband, an in-the-closet mean Marine, a sexy, blond, pom-pom

girl, an office-efficiency expert with a sharp ax and an angry teen-age daughter. Even the minor characters — the coiffed cad of a real-estate mogul, the gay partners with their herb-and-pasta basket — were direct from Central Casting. Only the psycho neighbor boy was halfway dimensional, and as Barney Fife would say, "He's a nut."

I guess flying litter was an original touch, but I don't mind being the only person in America with popcorn on my breath to admit that the significance of that white plastic bag purely eluded me.

Forgive me, but I saw no joy or profound beauty in Lester's bloody brains on the floor, either.

Maybe everyone (but Pauline Kael) who reaches a certain age has a movie demarcation. For some it might have been "The Philadelphia Story." For others, "Old Yeller" or "Shane."

I made it fine through "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Annie Hall" — even "Amadeus."

Soon after, things went haywire, and I could predict what movie would win big by how much I hated it.

It's best just to keep your mouth shut past a certain point. If the rest of the world thinks a "Titanic" is great entertainment, cross your fingers and nod in agreement.

What you have here — now, and for the rest of your lifetime — is a failure to communicate.

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- Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

Mallard Fillmore by **BRUCE TINSLEY**

Still aboard Air Force Two:

I think you'd better take a look at this, Al. That guy was serious.

When he threatened to sell pictures to the tabloids that could ruin your campaign!

Let me see... AAAAAH!!!

Bill and Al in same room! Photo casts doubt on Veep's claim he'd never met President!

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By DEBBIE L. JER
Features Editor

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LICE
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life!

◆If you could straighten out the average spider web, it would span more than 300 miles.

◆Texas-born President Lyndon Johnson inspired a boom in the popularity of wearing cowboy hats.

Got an item?

Do you have a story idea for the life! section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 236.

Parting gift Intern says 'thanks' with mural for kids, staff at Proffitt Day Care

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

Since she was little more than a child herself, Casee Guill has enjoyed taking care of children.

"I have been working with kids since I was about 12," said Casee, 21, who will graduate from Howard College in May with a major in intergenerational studies. Throughout two years of school, she has been working at an internship at Proffitt Day Care, learning about the real day-to-day job of taking care of children.

The student said Dan and Linda Proffitt, who have owned the day care center for 20 years, have helped her immensely.

"They have taught me so many things," Casee said. "They've taught me it's OK to hug the kids and love them. I have learned that you are not just meeting their physical needs, but their emotional needs, too."

Since her May graduation is near, and Casee plans to return to her hometown of Amarillo, she and her mother, Christi,

wanted to say thanks to the Proffitts in some way.

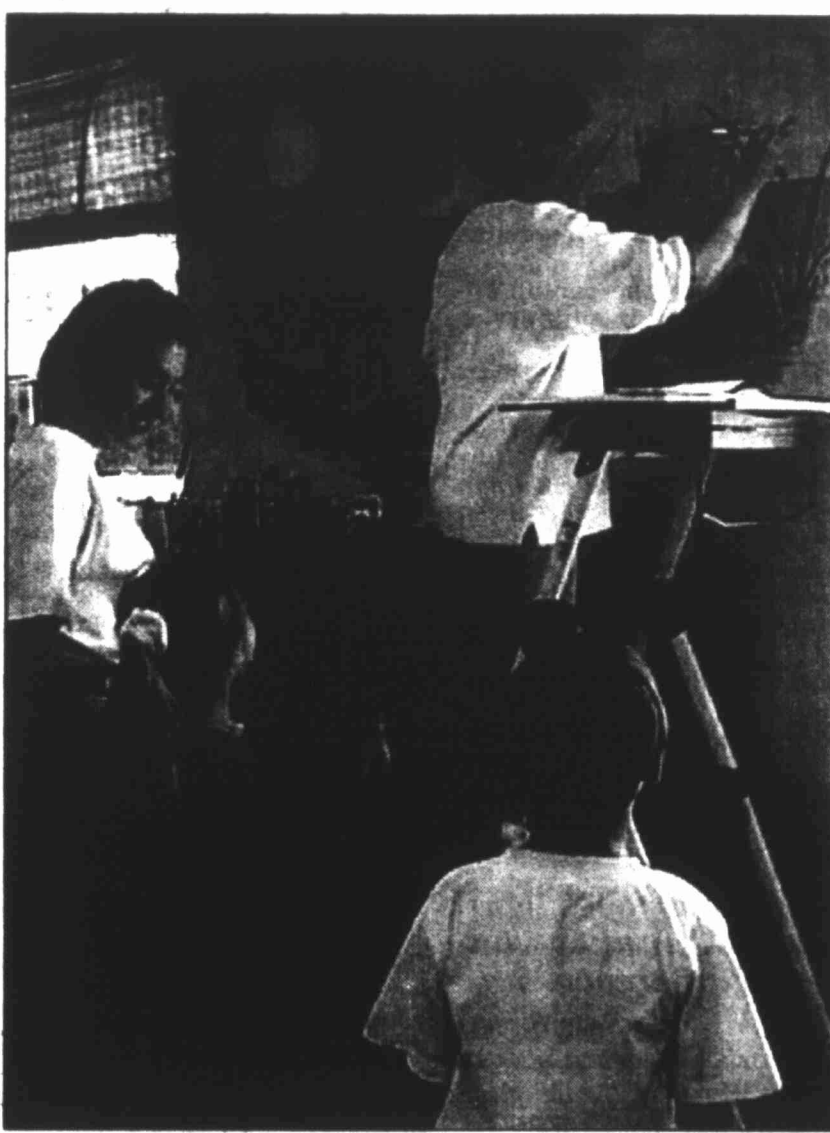
"My mother asked me, 'Well, what do you want to do for them?'" Casee said. "We went through the whole list of things we could do."

They decided on a unique thank-you card — Christi, an interior designer, would design and paint a large mural on a wall of the day care center. They decided it would feature some characters from their favorite nursery rhymes.

"We had talked about what I would want my day care to look like, and I had said I wanted to have a mural," Casee said.

So for the last several days, Christi has been hard at work painting the mural in bright paint along one wall. Casee's mother said she was glad to do it for the Proffitts, whom she believes have helped her daughter learn so much.

"It has been so nice sending her off to school and knowing they would take good care of her," Christi said. She added she has no doubt her daughter will go on to a successful career in caring for children. "That's her gift."



Casee Guill, left, intern with Proffitt Day Care and Howard College student, shows Kate Rice, Ivory Clemons, Kaley Duncan and Caleb Pirkle the mural being painted by her mother, Christi Guill.

VA VITAL SIGNS

Each month Cary D. Brown, chief executive officer, recognizes an "Employee of the Month." These employees are nominated based on their exemplary service to our veterans and fellow co-workers.

March 2000 Employee of the Month is Jimmy Hollimon, RN, Nursing Service. "Mr. Hollimon has shown to be knowledgeable, willing to help co-workers and has made several major contributions to improve patient care and documentation. Mr. Hollimon is very dependable, positive and cheerful. He shows excellent clinical and organizational skills as the Assistant Head Nurse for the Nursing Home Care Unit." Congratulations, Mr. Hollimon.

West Texas VA Health Care System will be celebrating America's most valuable natural resource April 9-15 during National Volunteer Week.

The theme is "Celebrate Volunteers!" and that is what the medical center staff and patients plan to do as they honor the volunteers and volunteer service organizations which make up the center's volunteer force.

"America was built on the spirit of volunteerism," said Brown, "and so is veterans health care. Voluntary Service has been an integral part of VA medical care since World War II and it touches virtually every veteran we serve."

As summer approaches, the medical center is reminding teenagers of the opportunities to both serve and learn as VA student volunteers.

Young or old-student, office worker or retiree, Brown said there is a fulfilling volunteer role for everyone at the VAMC. "Our youngest volunteer last year was only 14 and our oldest is 86 and there's plenty of room in our program for all those in between," he said.

National Volunteer Week is a good time to find out more about becoming a VA volunteer, just call 264-4824.

Engraved on the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, are the words, "Freedom Is Not Free." On Sunday, we will pay tribute to very special American heroes who, unlike anyone else, fully understand the

meaning behind these words.

We at the VA are dedicated to all veterans, but we hold a special place in our hearts for those who endured the suffering of captivity. For it is in the hearts of our former Prisoners of War that we find unparalleled courage, loyalty and allegiance to America. In their hearts, we find an unyielding faith in the democratic ideals of America. In their hearts, we find the indomitable spirit that is America.

In the last century, more than 142,000 Americans, including 83 women, were captured and interned as POWs. Today, 52,000 are still alive.

The staff of the Big Spring VAMC would like to say to each POW, "Thank you." Our country is indebted to you for what you did...for what you endured.

We encourage former POWs to share their personal histories of captivity. By recounting their experiences, the words, "Freedom Is Not Free," take on their full impact and we understand the price exacted for their liberties we all enjoy.

Our former POWs remained true to themselves and to America. Today, VA is proud to lead the nation in providing the best possible health care, and other services to them. As research findings on the long-term medical problems in POWs continue to emerge, we apply that knowledge to develop new and better treatments. We will continue to make advances across our array of services and programs.

While we can never adequately express our gratitude to our former POWs or to your families who lived those times in constant anxiety and anguish, we thank each of you for your selfless service and sacrifice.

Big Spring VAMC welcomes the following new employees: John Cantu, environmental management service; Tommy Gartman, nursing service; Kenneth Hagins, environmental management service; Brian Moore, information resource management service; and Anita Morales, physical therapy service.

Iva Jo Hanslik is temporarily the Community Relations Coordinator at the VA Medical Center.

Some kids are born to achieve success

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Question No. 1 is a continuation from last week's column.)

QUESTION: Last week you talked about why some kids with every advantage and opportunity seem to turn out bad, while others raised in terrible homes become pillars in the community. You cited the life of David Hernandez as an example. What happened to him?

DR. DOBSON: Given his beginning, how can we explain the man that Dave Hernandez became? He graduated near the top of his class in high school and was granted a scholarship to college. Again, he earned high marks, and four years later entered Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Once more, he scored in the top 10 percent of his class and continued in a residency in obstet-

rics and gynecology. Eventually he served as a professor of OB/GYN at both Loma Linda University and the Southern California medical schools. Then at the peak of his career, his life began to unravel.

"I'll never forget the day Dr. Hernandez called me on the telephone. He had just been released from the hospital following a battery of laboratory tests. The diagnosis? Sclerosing cholangitis, a liver disorder that was invariably fatal at that time. We lost this fine husband,

father and friend six years later at the age of 43. I loved him like a brother and still miss him today.

Again, I ask, how could such discipline and genius come from these infertile circumstances? Who would have thought that this deprived Mexican boy sitting out there in the dirt would someday become one of the most loved and respected surgeons of his era? Where did the motivation originate? From what bubbling spring did his ambition and thirst for knowledge flow? He had no books, took no educational trips, knew no scholars. Yet he reached for the sky. Why did it happen to David Hernandez and not the youngster with every advantage and opportunity?

Why have so many children of prominent and loving par-

ents grown up in ideal circumstances, only to reject it all for the streets of Atlanta, San Francisco or New York? Good answers are simply not available. It apparently comes down to this: God chooses to use individuals in unique ways.

Beyond that mysterious relationship, we must simply conclude that some kids seem born to make it and others are determined to fail. Someone pointed out recently that the same boiling water that softens the carrot also hardens the egg. Likewise, some individuals react positively to certain circumstances and others negatively. We don't know why.

Two things are clear to me from this understanding. First, parents have been far too quick to take the credit or blame for

See DOBSON, Page 6A



DR. JAMES DOBSON

'N Sync fans show buying power

NEW YORK (AP) — It's been nothing but "buy buy buy" for N Sync fans.

In a remarkable display of teen-age buying power, the pop heartthrobs sold 2.4 million copies of their new disc in seven days — more than double the previous record. The disc features their latest hit "Bye, Bye, Bye."

Sales of their "No Strings Attached" album swamped the 1.13 million sold by N Sync's fellow boy band, the Backstreet Boys, last year.

In fact, executives at N Sync's label, Jive Records, suspect the sales record was broken in just one day, when "No Strings Attached" first appeared in stores March 21. But they have no figures to confirm this.

"It's pretty staggering," Barry Weiss, Jive Records president, said Wednesday. "It's pretty amazing, it's pretty numbing, it's pretty great. This is really what the music business needs

— it's getting young people interested in music again."

Since N Sync came from the same Orlando-based hit factory as fellow Jive artists Backstreet Boys, they have long been considered junior partners at best, knockoffs at worst. Not anymore.

"It's like going into the Super Bowl," said N Sync's manager, Johnny Wright. "You always want to come out on top. If you have defending champions, you want to knock them off."

A burgeoning teen population — the children of the original rock 'n' roll generation — and a booming economy combined to trigger the explosion of sales, said Alan Light, editor of Spin magazine.

The success of the Backstreet Boys, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera have paved the way for mainstream media acceptance of N Sync, Light said. The band has appeared on magazine covers, was on "Saturday Night Live" three

weeks ago and is a regular on MTV.

N Sync touched off a mini-riot outside MTV's Times Square studio when it performed there the weekend before the album was released.

Band members are personable and accessible to their fans, particularly girls aged 8 to 18 who worship them, Weiss said.

Besides the Backstreet Boys' "Millennium," only two other albums are known to have sold more than 1 million copies in a week: Garth Brooks' "Double Live" album and the soundtrack to "The Bodyguard," according to Soundscan. The company has been measuring album sales in the U.S. since 1991; precise sales figures before then may be unreliable.

Jive, which pressed more than 6 million copies of the CD to be ready for the rush, will try to break its own record with the Backstreet Boys' new album in October.

Like father, like son on the force

ABILENE (AP) — When Chad Jenkins was a boy, all he ever wanted to be was a police officer. His father, a young cop himself, put little stock in his son's desire.

Nearly eight years passed and young Chad still wanted to be a cop, so Mom and Dad made a little maroon uniform for their son. Chad wore it with pride.

That feeling though a new uniform was back recently when he graduated from the Abilene police academy, making him and his father, Tony Jenkins, the first father-son duo to serve together on Abilene's police force as brothers in blue.

Tony said that while he never pushed his son to become a police officer, he wasn't disappointed when Chad told him of his decision.

"I think it is in his blood," Tony said. "When he was younger, he was interested in police work. Its just one of those things where he saw me and he really seemed to keep an interest in it."

Applicants to the academy undergo a laundry list of requirements before being admitted. This year, 140 people applied, 114 tested, and 18 started and finished the academy.

At 21, Chad admitted his father can probably lick him in a short foot race, but still chided that "he's pretty old."

Laughing, the elder Jenkins, who joined the department a year after his son was born, recalled a time when the academy was different. Specifically, he described a mock scenario that wouldn't happen in today's academy.

The cadets received a call to report to a secluded location, with a warning that there had been a rash of burglaries in the area. Tony's team responded to find a man at a barn loading up his truck.

"As (the training officer) walked up, the subject got pretty combative and all of a sudden the guy pulls out a gun and pow! the officer goes down," Tony said. "I was in the back seat, my training officer was down, we're unarmed and then the guy turns the weapon to us."

After hearing the weapon fire but not seeing any glass shatter or feeling any pain, Tony realized he and his partner were in a training session. The man loading the truck was in cahoots with the training officer.

The incident was a gut check to see if they truly wanted to be in so dangerous a line of work.

"They told us that we do this for your own good, and we want you to go home and do some soul searching," Tony said.

See SON, Page 6A

TELEVISION NEWS

NEW YORK (AP) — Even God gets canceled if he can't pull in the ratings. NBC has pulled the plug on "God, the Devil and Bob," the cartoon that several network affiliates refused to run because of its controversial subject matter, the network said Thursday.

The cancellation was because of low ratings, not because of the boycott by its affiliates, spokeswoman Maria Battaglia said.

The midseason replacement comedy featured God as a character, drawn to look suspiciously like the late Grateful Dead singer Jerry Garcia, who meets Bob in a bar and helps him tackle moral dilemmas. The show ran into another deity — Regis Philbin. Last week, "God, the Devil and Bob" drew just under 6 million viewers, an audience one-fifth the size of ABC's competing "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" on Tuesday night.

Only four episodes of the cartoon were aired. A religious advocacy group denounced the show for its "tasteless and trivial portrayal of God." Nearly two dozen of NBC's 220 affiliates decided not to run it.

NBC didn't seem to mind, figuring any attention helps. The show received mediocre reviews, and audiences didn't bother seeking it out.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE BIG SPRING EAGLES Lodge No. 3188 will host a barbecue to benefit the Harbour family on Saturday, April 15. Barbecue dinners, served from noon to 4 p.m., will consist of brisket, sausage, coleslaw, potato salad, beans and bread. Dine in and carry-out will be available. The cost will be \$5 per plate.

CLASS OF 2001 GRADUATION dance for Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan is being planned. There will be a meeting held on Sunday at Comanche Trail Park at 4 p.m. Anyone interested in participating is asked to attend. If you have any questions, please call: Norma Hilario at 267-9421, Patsy Rodriguez at 267-8307 or Junior Moreno at 267-5177.

Volumes of Missouri sources

I went to the Midland County Library on Tuesday and found the following books on Missouri family history records. I hope it will help not only the reader who requested these sources, but other researchers as well.

Some of the sources are: Missouri Pioneers, 29 volumes and an index; 800 Missouri families, index of purchasers of United States land in Missouri; Missouri miscellany, 17 volumes; Missouri obituaries, five volumes; early Missouri ancestors; 1,300 missing Missouri marriage records; first settlers of the Missouri territory; Bible records of Missouri, eight volumes; Missouri marriages to 1850, various titles of 16 volumes by Sherida K. Eddlemon (very good source material).

Many books were available on specific counties in Missouri, a total of more than 600 books just in the Missouri section of the Midland library.

Without specific names to work with, there was no way to tell just how much information on each family can be found in this source.

I found my Cox & Johnson families in these records, although they were there briefly.

As I work seven days a week, it was a quick trip. I did not have time I wanted or needed to get more specific details of these books, dates, publishers, contents, etc., or to rate them. On my next trip, I will go into more detail.

Many of the pioneers of Missouri had gone there from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky.



BOBBY RAWLS

These states may also hold the key to finding your ancestors beyond your Missouri connections. I will also check out the sources in these states, and how to best use them.

I will also search the Internet to find more sources for these states as well as the other main paths of our ancestors. The chances of any two people in a city finding common ancestors are amazingly high.

Who knows, the person sitting next to you in a library or courthouse doing their research could very well be a distant cousin. It happens.

More next week.
EDITOR'S NOTE: Bobby Rawls writes a weekly column on genealogy for the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, call the Life! desk at 263-7331, ext. 236 and leave a message; e-mail to: brrawls@crcom.net; or check out his web page at www.crcom.net/~brrawls.

Mr. Potato Head beckons visitors to Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Meet Rhode Island's official travel ambassador: Mr. Potato Head.

The plastic spud with the interchangeable features is homegrown, produced by Pawtucket-based toymaker Hasbro Inc. As part of a campaign dubbed "Rhode Island — The Birthplace of Fun," 6-foot statues of him will greet visitors around the state and ads will be placed in national magazines.

But what about Idaho, where spuds come in 50-pound bags, not 160-pound statues?

"We're not trying to usurp their territory," said Becky Bovell of the state Economic Development Corp.

Male elementary teachers thrive despite challenges

DALLAS (AP) — Steve Lichtenwalter isn't just one of the guys at his workplace. He is the guy.

Although there are a handful of male teachers in the seventh and eighth grades at Harry Stone Montessori Academy, a Dallas public school, Mr. Lichtenwalter, 39, is the only man at the pre-kindergarten through sixth-grade level.

And, it's not an unusual situation for him and other male elementary school teachers throughout the country.

"In college there were many (education) classes where I was the only male," Mr. Lichtenwalter said. "For me it really hasn't been a problem. I've always worked well with younger children. And people are very supportive. Most people really want a male role model in the school."

Experts note that while there has been progress for women going into traditionally male work roles, the reverse has not happened for men.

Nationwide, women make up 90 percent to 95 percent of elementary school teachers. And when it comes to the earlier grades — pre-kindergarten through third — the percentages are even higher.

In Dallas public schools, 14 percent of elementary teachers are men. All but one of the other North Texas school districts contacted reported that

"When they learn something, their faces light up. It's fun to see that, and it makes you realize that you are making a difference."

Cory Wilson

male teachers make up less than 10 percent of elementary school faculty; Fort Worth officials said 22 percent of their elementary teachers are men.

Those who have studied the phenomenon say the reasons for the disparity are varied and complex — from perceived or real sexism to society's stereotypical expectations of men to men's sense of what it means to be masculine.

Several male teachers in the Dallas area said they cherish their jobs, despite the challenges and that they are an extreme minority.

"It's fun to come to work," said 24-year-old Cory Wilson, a Kansas native who teaches third grade at Grapevine Elementary School. "It's a job you just like to do because of the kids. They're really excited and happy that you're here."

"When they learn something, their faces light up. It's fun to see that, and it makes you realize that you are making a difference."

Mr. Wilson said he originally wanted to teach high school. But during college he did some work in a second-grade class

and was hooked.

Some men acknowledged that they initially had misgivings about what was expected of them. Elementary school is still seen as a nurturing environment and, as second-grade teacher Gary Mantz said, a lot of men don't see themselves in "nurturing-mothering" roles.

He said he is in elementary education because he believes that it establishes the foundation upon which all formal education is based.

"It was hard at first, and I did feel kind of goofy when you sing nursery rhymes and things like that," said the 28-year-old Grapevine teacher. "But you know what, the kids don't even notice. All they care about is that you're there and they can depend on you."

Mr. Lichtenwalter, a Dallas elementary school teacher for 10 years, said it depends on an individual style.

"Even as a pre-K teacher or whatever, you can focus your teaching toward your own style and the way you want to do it," he said. "I didn't do a lot of that (singing and nursery rhymes). ... It's just not my

style." Rachael Gray, president of a Plano teachers group, said there is no question that male elementary teachers are greatly valued in most schools.

"I think it's extremely important for men to be in the elementary grades," Ms. Gray said.

"Yes, there is a great deal of nurturing and mothering that does take place at that level, but there also is a great need for daddying, especially in today's world when there are so many kids who don't have a father at home."

Mr. Mantz said he views education as a partnership between parent and teacher. But he said it's a challenge to gain acceptance from parents whose children have never had a male teacher.

"At first some of them are kind of wary and it may take them longer to be open about their child to me," he said.

Several of the men said they believe that they must be more guarded than women in their behavior around children.

"I think it is unfortunate, but I do feel like I need to be more careful about things like hugs," Mr. Mantz said. "I will still occasionally hug a child, but I'm very careful about it. And, one of the things I make sure about is to never be alone in the room with a student with the door closed."

SCHOOL NEWS

Big Spring Junior High

On Wednesday March 29, the Region 6 University Interscholastic League Choir Concert and Sight-Singing competition was held in Odessa.

Big Spring Junior High mixed choir brought home a high second division rating for their concert performance.

Big Spring Junior High treble choir received a Sweepstakes award and trophy by earning a first division rating in both concert and sight-singing. This is the highest honor given at Region competition.

Members of the Treble Choir are: Kendal Adams, Keiona Ausbie, Jackie Bowen, Jessica Brown, Randi Carson, Emily Copeland, Tiffany Emerson, Cheridan Felty, Laura Ferguson, Zabrina Freeman, Kim Hilario, Courtney Hudgins, Jessica Hughey, Cierra Landin, Krystle Lopez, Karissa Magers, Meagan Matthews, Jenna Mathis, Carissa Mattson, Sonya Ortega, Heather Parnell, Kate Smiley, Krystal Smith, Jessica Tipton, Veronica Villareal, Lindsay Wagner, Kelli Warrington, Melissa White, Crystal Wingert, Kristina Woodruff, and Chelsey Yarbar.

DOBSON

Continued from Page 5A

the way their children turn out. Those with bright, young superstars stick out their chests and say, "Look what we accomplished." Those with twisted and irresponsible kids wonder, "Where did we go wrong?" Well, neither is entirely accurate. No one would deny that parents play an important role in the development and training of their children. But they are only part of the formula from which a young adult is assembled.

Second, behavioral scientists have been far too simplistic in their explanation of human behavior. We are more than the aggregate of our experiences. We are more than the quality of our nutrition. We are more than our genetic heritage. We are more than our biochemistry. And certainly, we are more than our parents' influence.

God has created us as unique individuals, capable of independent and rational thought that is not attributable to any source. That is what makes the task of parenting so challenging and rewarding. Just when you think you have your kids figured out, you had better brace yourself! Something new is coming your way.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. James C. Dobson's "Focus on the Family" appears each Thursday as a cooperative effort of Scenic Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring Herald. Letters to Dr. Dobson may be sent to P.O. Box 444; Colorado Springs, Colo.; 80903.

Proud of your kids? Let the community know about their accomplishments in "Who's Who." Announcements are printed free of charge in the Sunday edition of the Big Spring Herald.

CHURCH NEWS IS PRINTED EVERY FRIDAY.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED INCREASE ENVIRONS GAS RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

On March 8, 2000 Energas Company filed a statement of intent with the Railroad Commission of Texas to increase its gas rates in the unincorporated areas ("Environ's") surrounding the sixty-seven West Texas Cities listed below. The proposed increase would affect all classes of environs tariff customers including Residential, Commercial, Public Authority, Small Industrial and Air Conditioning customers and would be identical in relative magnitude to those proposed by the Company for the sixty-seven West Texas cities in the Company's pending Appeal at the Railroad Commission. The proposed effective date for the increases April 27, 2000. The Railroad Commission may delay the proposed effective date for up to 150 days. However, the environs rates will not be changed until the rates inside the sixty-seven West Texas Cities are changed. There are approximately 22,275 Environ's customers in the unincorporated areas surrounding the sixty-seven West Texas Cities from which the Company has appealed to the Railroad Commission. The proposed charges in environs rates are expected to increase the Company's annual revenues by approximately \$1.0 million or 8.5%, adjusted for normal weather. The change is a "major change" under state law only in the environs of Lubbock and Odessa.

Energas proposes to restructure its gas rates to moderate bill variability during the heating season, to increase its revenues from gas service by increasing the customer charges and lower pricing blocks, and to increase its charges for miscellaneous services such as reconnecting gas services following nonpayment. The Company also proposes changes to its Gas Cost Adjustment ("GCA") Clause to collect all of the gas cost and related taxes instead of just the difference between actual gas cost and a base cost of gas in the base rates. Copies of the proposal may be obtained at the Energas Office at 5110 80th, Lubbock, Texas, 79424.

Customers who are affected by the proposed environs rate changes may, within 30 days following the proposed effective date, file written comments or a protest with:

Docket Services Section
Legal Division (Re: Docket No. 9002-9068)
Railroad Commission of Texas
P.O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Any such protest must be received by the Commission no later than May 27, 2000. The deadline to file a petition to intervene in the case as a party is May 27, 2000.

Abernathy	Lamesa	Quitaque
Amherst	Lovelland	Rails
Anton	Littlefield	Ransom Canyon
Big Spring	Lockney	Ropesville
Bovina	Lorenzo	Seagraves
Brownfield	Los Ybanes	Seminole
Buffalo Spring Lake	Lubbock*	Shallowater
Canyon	Meadow	Silverton
Coahoma	Midland	Slaton
Crosbyton	Muleshoe	Smyer
Dimmitt	Nazareth	Springlake
Earth	New Deal	Stanton
Edmonson	New Home	Sudan
Floydada	Odessa*	Tahoka
Forsan	O'Donnell	Timbercreek Canyon
Friona	Otton	Tulia
Hale Center	Opdyke West	Turkey
Happy	Pallasades	Vega
Hart	Pampa	Wellman
Hereford	Panhandle	Wilson
Idalou	Petersburg	Wofforth
Kress	Plainview	
Lake Tanglewood	Post	

SON

Continued from Page 5A

"After talking with him," Chad said, "I don't think (our training) was as bad. We know ours is a scenario. But the first time you mess up a search or miss a gun in a house really gets cadets thinking."

Tony beamed that the whole Jenkins clan is proud of Chad's decision to wear a badge and enforce the law.

"But me especially, because he is kind of following in my footsteps," Tony said. "I don't have any reservations at all about Chad becoming an Abilene police officer. If I had it to do over again, I'd sign back up tomorrow."

Tony compared the police force to a family. That, he said, is why he's confident in his son's decision.

"I couldn't ask for a better group of people to work with," the veteran officer said.

Weddings, engagements, anniversaries and birth announcements are printed free of charge in Sunday life! Stop by the office at 710 Scurry

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IN B

Bulldoggettes win over Lad
Coahoma's Bulldogs continued their District 2-2 Tuesday with Jim Ned's Lady Bulldogs from junior pitcher Buchanan, who threw a three-inning 2-for-3 at 10:00. Brandi Hart double for Co improves to 19-0 in district play. The Bulldoggettes won 4-1 Friday and will take on Hobbs on Saturday.

BSHS softball set to meet
The Lady Softball Boosters will meet tonight at the BSHS School Athletic Center. Parents of all softball players interested in attending are invited.

Women's softball meeting slated
An organization for women interested in softball is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Roy Anderson Center. Women 19 and over are eligible to join. For more information contact Thelma Fanning.

Time for Steers at Andrews
The Big Spring Steer Tractor baseball season is complete. When the season ended earlier in the year one game was scheduled with a date and time to be determined — the Steers at Andrews. That game is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on April 15.

'HOG Day' re by baseball
Due to rains the last Saturday's Big Spring Steer Tractor baseball booster have rescheduled their honor member Harley Owners Members of now be honor Steers' game. Stockton set Saturday. All Harley admitted free of charge to the baseball booster.

Teen League registration
Registration for the American League baseball scheduled for the American field. Registration p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Fees are \$50 per birth certificate for registration. For more information contact Sheri Nichols 263-2552, or Call 263-0170.

Softball tour for April 7-9
The "Let's go" softball tournament is scheduled for Cotton Miz Comanche Trail. Entry fees are \$10. Team trophies and individual trophies will be presented to a Player and a Coach. Award will be presented to the Amador Rios 263-0358.

ON TH

Television MAJOR LEAGUE
8:30 p.m. — Phillies at Arizona
FXS, Ch. 29.

IN BRIEF

Bulldogettes post 3-0 win over Lady Indians

Coahoma's Bulldogettes continued their dominance in District 2-2A softball play Tuesday with a 3-0 win over Jim Ned's Lady Indians.

Playing in Tuscola, the Bulldogettes took their lead from junior pitcher Kenni Kay Buchanan, who not only threw a three-hit shutout, but went 2-for-3 at the plate.

Brandi Hart added an RBI double for Coahoma, which improves to 19-5 overall and 8-0 in district play.

The Bulldogettes travel to Miles for a 4:30 p.m. game Friday and will again be on the road Saturday when they take on Hobbs (N.M.) at 1 p.m.

BSHS softball boosters set to meet tonight

The Lady Steers Softball Boosters will meet at 6:30 tonight at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

Parents of all Lady Steers softball players and other interested persons are encouraged to attend.

Women's softball league meeting slated tonight

An organizational meeting for women interested in a fast-pitch softball league has been scheduled for 7 tonight at the Roy Anderson Complex.

Women 19 years and older are eligible to play in the league.

For more information, call Thelma Fannin at 267-2396.

Time for Steers game at Andrews announced

The Big Spring Steers' district baseball schedule is finally complete.

When the schedule was released earlier this year, only one game was not firmly set with a date and starting time — the Steers' game at Andrews.

That game has now been scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, April 15.

'HOG Day' rescheduled by baseball boosters

Due to rains that washed out last Saturday's game between Big Spring's Steers and San Angelo Lake View's Chiefs, baseball booster club officials have rescheduled the day to honor members of the local Harley Owners Group.

Members of the group will now be honored during the Steers' game against Fort Stockton set for 2 p.m. Saturday.

All Harley riders will be admitted free as guests of the baseball boosters.

Teen League baseball registration scheduled

Registration for Teenage League baseball has been scheduled for April 10-14 at the American Little League field.

Registration will be from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. each day. Fees are \$50 per player and a birth certificate is required for registration.

For more information, call Sheri Nichols at 263-2917 or 263-2552, or Craig Caudill at 263-0170.

Softball tournament set for April 7-9 at Mize Field

The "Let's Do It for Fun" softball tournament has been scheduled for April 7-9 at Cotton Mize Field in Comanche Trail Park.

Entry fees are \$110 per team. Team trophies and individual trophies will be awarded. An all-tournament team will be selected and awards will be presented to a Most Valuable Player and a Golden Glove Award will be given.

For more information, call Amador Rios at 263-5955 or 263-0358.

ON THE AIR

Television

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
8:30 p.m. — Philadelphia Phillies at Arizona Diamondbacks, FXS, Ch. 29.

Zimmerman loses fourth as White Sox beat Rangers, 12-8

ARLINGTON (AP) — The start of Jeff Zimmerman's major league career seemed too good to be true. Maybe it was.

Zimmerman came out of nowhere — well, actually, Canada, France and an independent minor league — to make the AL All-Star team as a rookie last year. Using a nasty slider, he won his first nine decisions, not losing until Aug. 6.

Things haven't been the same since. The Texas reliever still has nine wins, and on Wednesday he lost his fourth straight decision, imploding in the ninth inning of a tie game as the Chicago White Sox beat the Rangers 12-8.

Zimmerman made the team last season in spring training as a long reliever, but ended it as the top setup man for closer John Wetteland. With Wetteland now in the final year of his contract, there was talk Zimmerman could take over as the

stopper next season.

But Zimmerman had a bad spring, allowing a bullpen-worst six homers in 11 appearances. In Monday's season opener, he allowed two inherited runners to score before getting the final out in a 10-4 victory.

He actually got off to a good start Wednesday, ending the seventh by getting Greg Norton and Ray Durham to strike out swinging with a man on second. After giving up a leadoff double in the eighth, he got the next three guys out.

The Rangers finished a rally from a 7-1 deficit to tie the game in the bottom of the eighth, but Zimmerman wasted it right away. His first pitch to Chris Singleton wound up in the right-field seats and the rout was on.

He walked the next batter, allowed an RBI single to Ray Durham, then walked

Jose Valentin. Manager Johnny Oates saw enough and brought in Francisco Cordero, who allowed a two-run double and an RBI single.

"It wasn't fatigue, it was a lack of aggressiveness," Zimmerman said. "I started trying to nibble away at the corners instead of going right at hitters."

Oates said Zimmerman wore out. "Zim said he felt good, but the third inning he went out, he put a fastball on a tee and watched it go out, then he just got tired," Oates said.

White Sox manager Jerry Manuel was happy to see his club rebound after losing its big lead.

"I like the spirit and the chemistry of this club, the way our guys continue to fight — 7-1, 7-6, 7-7, and then we go out there and score five runs," he said. "Last year, we always seemed to fall short in these games. Today, we got one."

Durham went 3-for-6 with three RBIs and Frank Thomas was 2-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs. Magglio Ordonez drove in two runs with sacrifice flies, including one on a bases-loaded pop up to short center field.

Craig Wilson crashed into Texas catcher Ivan Rodriguez to score in the second. Rodriguez had the plate blocked, but couldn't handle the one-hop throw from left fielder Chad Curtis. When Wilson stood up, Rodriguez shoved him down with both hands and his right foot. He later apologized.

Rodriguez and Rafael Palmeiro each went 2-for-5. Rodriguez had two RBIs and Palmeiro hit a three-run homer for the second straight game.

Neither starter finished the fifth; Chicago's Jim Parque allowed five straight runs to open that inning and was charged with six on nine hits.



Howard College's Kristina Dejos makes the play on a ground ball at third base during the Lady Hawks' doubleheader sweep of UTPB on March 21. The Lady Hawks resume Western Junior College Athletic Conference play Friday when they begin a weekend series with El Paso Community College's Tejanas with a 1 p.m. Friday doubleheader in El Paso. The two teams will play another twinbill beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Lakers knock off Golden State, clinch home court for playoffs

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two weeks before the end of the regular season, the Los Angeles Lakers' work is already done. Even if they lose the rest of their games, they will have home-court advantage throughout the playoffs.

Los Angeles got another monster game from Shaquille O'Neal — 49 points, 13 rebounds, three blocks — and had Kobe Bryant back in the lineup as they defeated the Golden State Warriors 111-104 Wednesday night for their 11th consecutive victory.

"Kobe couldn't shoot and couldn't get anyone else going for us out there," coach Phil Jackson said. "They tried everything against (O'Neal) and he found a way to get to the basket."

In other games, Houston stunned Portland 118-105, Sacramento defeated San Antonio 108-98, Indiana held off New Jersey 105-101,

Philadelphia beat Atlanta 107-86 and Detroit defeated Boston 111-106.

The Lakers' victory was their 30th in 31 games. Combined with Portland's loss, it gave Los Angeles a nine-game lead in the Pacific Division.

Devean George hit all four of his 3-point attempts and scored 14 points for the Lakers. The rookie hit just 10 3-pointers all season before Wednesday night.

"Now that we have the playoffs wrapped up for home court, I think we're going to rest some more people and that gives me a chance to play a little more," George said.

Bryant, suspended for fighting New York's Chris Childs on Sunday, went 5-for-14 from the field for 16 points — six below his average. The Lakers trailed most of the game, regaining the lead only in the final second of the third period.

Brian Shaw and George hit consecutive 3-pointers to open the fourth period and give the Lakers an 83-75 lead, and two

straight baskets by O'Neal made it 87-77. Another 3-pointer by George made it 95-81 with 6:21 remaining.

Marshall hit a 3-pointer with 2:50 left to cap a 15-7 run that pulled the Warriors within six points, and Sam Jacobson's follow shot with 2:13 left pulled Golden State to 102-98. But O'Neal added two more baskets and Bryant hit five foul shots as the Lakers held on for the win.

Rockets 118, Blazers 105

Shandon Anderson had 30 points and 10 rebounds, and the Rockets used a blistering second half to stun the Trail Blazers.

"I've never been in the playoffs, but the atmosphere was wonderful," said rookie Steve Francis, who scored 18 points. "They couldn't stop Shandon."

Cuttino Mobley added 22 points and Walt Williams 18 for the Rockets, who shot 74 percent in the final two quarters.

See NBA, page 2B

Masters

Augusta National's changed, but Tiger is biggest difference

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Sam Snead will hit an honorary drive off the first tee at Augusta National, hoping to avoid the rough that didn't exist when he won the first of three Masters titles 51 years ago.

When the rest of the field follows today for real, they'll find a course that is slicker, hairier, longer and more full of trees than anyone could have imagined more than a half century before.

It will also contain one Tiger, of course, and that might be the biggest difference by itself.

"He's going to be a hard guy to beat," Greg Norman said.

Tiger Woods is the most dominant favorite for the Masters since Jack Nicklaus was in his prime, bringing a game to Augusta National this spring that is far more refined than the one he used to rout the field three years ago.

He's won 10 times since finishing nine shots behind Jose Maria Olazabal here last year. Woods has finished either first or second 10 times in his last 11 tournaments.

Even the latest changes to the course seem to favor his kind of game, as if Woods needs any help.

"It's helping anybody who can hit the ball long and high," said Woods, who does just that.

A year after first introducing a light cut of rough, Augusta National's grass looks like it is on steroids, spreading out into fairways that in the past were carefully coiffed.

It's a far cry from 1949 when the greens were a bumpy bermuda and the big news was the construction of Ike's Pond so Dwight Eisenhower could have a place to fish.

"I've seen more changes this year than I have in a long time," said Tom Watson, who has won twice here in 26 appearances. "Some people call them subtle changes, but I've seen a lot of change."

The rough is meant to test accuracy and protect par, and indeed players are predicting higher scores this week. But Jose Maria Olazabal won last year at only 8-under-par, and he

and others would just as soon see Augusta National left alone for once.

"I think this is a true piece of art, this golf course," Olazabal said. "You know, when you have a great painting or what, ever, you don't try to change much on it."

Woods would be a prohibitive favorite even if all the trees were bulldozed from Augusta National. It was his 18-under-par out in 1997 that set the most recent changes in motion.

"I don't see the need to always have to change it every year," Woods said. "I guess that's something they like to do around this place. I don't know maybe they get bored."

Boredom wasn't the issue, insisted Masters chairman Hootie Johnson.

"Those young men hit the golf ball a long ways and we felt we could no longer let them swing from the heels," Johnson said. "We had to require more accuracy off the tee."

That's fine with Hal Sutton, who hasn't been able to find a way to play well at Augusta in the past.

"It makes you do things you don't normally do," Sutton said. "You have to hit a high, long ball here. It makes you want to try to alter your game to fit the golf course."

Sutton comes into the Masters with a bit of a reputation as a Tiger killer, after beating Woods head-to-head in the Player's Championship two weeks ago.

That gave the rest of the field some hope, something David Duval insisted he did not need.

"I came in last year expecting to win the golf tournament and I came in this year expecting to win the golf tournament," Duval said.

Winning is something Duval hasn't done since his streak of four titles in eight tournaments leading into last year's Masters. He was the world's top-ranked player at the time, a title he soon lost as Woods went on his winning binge.

The course changes don't bother Duval as much as the fact he hasn't yet won a major

Post boys, Tahoka girls take 3-2A golf championships

HERALD Staff Report

SEMINOLE — Post's Antelopes and Tahoka's Lady Bulldogs literally ran away from the rest of the field Monday to claim the District 3-2A team golf championships.

The Antelopes, paced by 3-2A medalist Marcus Lopez, turned in a 314 score on the Gains County Golf Course layout, a full 41 strokes better than the 355 team totals turned in the runner-up Tahoka and Stanton's Buffaloes.

As a result, the Antelopes finished with a 325-314, 629 total and a 63-stroke margin of victory over Tahoka, which finished at 337-355, 692.

Stanton was 11 strokes further back with a 348-355, 703 score, while Plains finished fourth in the boys' field with a 712 total.

Coahoma's Bulldogs were fifth at 724 following a 356 round on Monday, while Stanton's No. 2 team finished sixth at

827, Coahoma No. 2 was seventh at 853 and Seagraves rounded out the team field with a 919 total.

Lopez took medalist honors with an impressive 68-67, 135 total, 17 strokes ahead of Stanton's Kenneth Hull. As the district runner-up, Hull advances to the regional tournament later this month following his 76-76, 152 showing.

Hull finished tied with Tahoka's Matt Sanders for the runner-up medalist's honor and claimed the No. 2 spot in a playoff. He'll advance to regional along with teammate Will Harris, who finished sixth in the individual standings with an 84-81, 165.

The Buffaloes also got a two-day total of 192 from Michael Harris, while Jon Cotton finished the tournament at 195 and Keith Cook rounded out the team's scoring with a 199.

Coahoma's No. 1 team was paced by Chase Ward's 176 total over two rounds, while Travis Hipp had a 179, Blane Wright closed at 184, Stephen Binion

carded a 185 total and Jay Chadwell posted a 209.

Stanton's No. 2 squad was paced by Colton Pardue's 36-hole total of 196, while Cody Robertson finished a 204, Brad Bryan had a 211, Ryan Kelley finished with a 216 and Jeremy Hull rounded out the scoring with a 239.

Coahoma's No. 2 team was topped by Taylor Parrish's 205 total, while Casey Reid finished the tournament at 207, Matt Marlar had a 216, Derek Ward posted a 228 total and Ken Hogan was one stroke back at 229.

Stanton also had two players entered in medalist competition, Jody Robertson finishing the two-day tournament with a 206 total, while Clayton Baker had a 218.

Tahoka's girls proved almost as dominant as Post's boys, as the Lady Bulldogs finished with a 436-442, 878 total, 41 strokes ahead of Plains' runner-up squad.

Coahoma's Bulldogettes finished third with a 494-475, 969 total, while Stanton's

Lady Buffs were fourth at 526-531, 1,057.

Post's Yvonne Lopez took the girls' medalist title with a 91-97, 188 total — 16 strokes better than the 204 totals posted by Seagraves' Coby Middleton and Coahoma's Jayci Roberts.

Roberts, who had entered the final round with a four-stroke lead over Middleton for second-place standing, soared to 105 Monday, while Middleton rebounded from an opening-round 103 for a 101 and then won a playoff to advance into regional competition.

In addition to Roberts' 204, the Bulldogettes had a total of 249 from Lauren Nichols and 270 scores by both Kara Jeffcoat and Carmen Hipp.

Coahoma's Marilana Blair, competing for medalist honors only, finished with a 253 total.

Stanton's girls were led by Kenzie Williams' 243 total, while Stephanie Williams added a 256, Jessica Thompson finished at 274 and Merida Koonce posted a 284 total.

APR 6 2000

Here is the weekly compiled by the Wildlife Department for also available on Web (ing.com.)

CENTRAL
BROWNWOOD: Water 62-64 degrees; Black bass are good on watermelon lizards, black/char and minnows fished around the boathouse under light. White tippers are good on Pop-R's fished early in beginning.

BUCHANAN: Water 62-64 degrees; Black bass are good on watermelon lizards, black/char and minnows fished around the boathouse under light. White tippers are good on Pop-R's fished early in beginning.

PROCTOR: Water 62-64 degrees; Black bass are good on watermelon lizards, black/char and minnows fished around the boathouse under light. White tippers are good on Pop-R's fished early in beginning.

SOUTH
AMSTAD: Water 62-64 degrees; Black bass are good on watermelon lizards, black/char and minnows fished around the boathouse under light. White tippers are good on Pop-R's fished early in beginning.

WEST
ALAN HENRY: Major are stained; 62-64 degrees to 9 pounds are good blue trailers fished in Grape and Gobbler Creek near the edge of nels. No reports on Alabama Spotted Bass striped crankbaits. Cr good on live minnows the crappie dock. Chai fish are fair on night-paired baits.

ARROWHEAD: No BRADY: No report available.
COLORADO CITY: 62-64 degrees; No report available.
FT. PHANTOM HILL: 62-64 degrees; 16.5' low; Bl slow. Crappie are fair jigs fished in 7 feet White bass are slow, catfish to 39 pounds perch.

HUBBARD CREEK: 62-64 degrees; 10' low; Bl on Carolina-rigs and jigs fished in 4 to 10 feet. Crappie are fair on slat Channel catfish are fair worms fished from the KEMP: Water murky 10' low; Black bass are fair on slat Channel catfish are fair worms fished from the NAWORTHY: Water 62-64 degrees; 1.5' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the NOCONA: No report available.
OAK CREEK: Water 62-64 degrees; 17.5' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the OH. IVE: Water 62-64 degrees; 10' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the POSSUM KINGDOM: Water 62-64 degrees; 5.46' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the SPENCE: Water 62-64 degrees; 10' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the TWIN BUTTES: No report available.
WHITE RIVER: Water 62-64 degrees; 10' low; Bl good on cut baits and worms fished from the

Orioles, Johnson give Hargrove a win over former Indians team

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charles Johnson has a new approach this season, and it paid off for manager Mike Hargrove and the Baltimore Orioles.

"I'm just trying to relax," Johnson said after hitting two home runs with five RBIs in the Orioles' 11-7 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Wednesday night. "This year, I feel comfortable around the guys and feel good about being in Baltimore."

Hargrove is more comfortable, too, after picking up his first win in his new job against the team that fired him despite five straight trips to the playoffs.

"This feels great," Hargrove said, about to light up a big, fat victory cigar. "It tasted pretty good when I lit it up earlier, but it's going to taste a lot better now."

On Monday, Cleveland beat Baltimore 4-1 in Hargrove's first game as the Orioles manager, and the smoke was put on hold. Until Johnson's bat heated up, that is.

Last year, Johnson came to the Orioles and hit .176 with one homer in April and was 2-for-27 with one RBI against the Indians. He was intent on getting off to a strong start, and figured he'd make sure his boss got win No. 1 sooner rather than later.

"We all wanted to get that first win out of the way," Johnson said. "But for him, coming to a new ballclub after being in Cleveland all those years, you can see the excitement in him."

Johnson hit a three-run homer in the sixth off Steve Reed to give the Orioles a 7-6 lead, and his two-run shot in the eighth off Scott Kamieniecki broke a 7-all tie.

In other American League games, Chicago beat Texas 12-8; Oakland defeated Detroit 8-2; Kansas City edged Toronto 4-3;

Minnesota beat Tampa Bay 10-7; Seattle defeated Boston 9-3; and Anaheim beat New York 12-6.

In National League games, Atlanta topped Colorado 9-6, Milwaukee beat Cincinnati 8-5, Arizona routed Philadelphia 11-3, St. Louis defeated Chicago 10-4, Montreal edged Los Angeles 6-5, San Francisco beat Florida 11-9, San Diego defeated New York 4-0 and Houston routed Pittsburgh 11-2.

Before a crowd of 33,833 at Camden Yards, Albert Belle hit a three-run homer in the first off Chuck Finley, making his debut with Cleveland after 14 seasons with the Angels.

In the third, Charlie Manuel, Hargrove's replacement in Cleveland, was ejected after complaining about the strike zone.

Jim Thome homered and Omar Vizquel had three hits for the Indians, who scored two runs on wild pitches and two on bases-loaded walks.

B.J. Ryan got the last out in the eighth to earn his second major league win.

Athletics 8, Tigers 2
At Oakland, Calif., the A's power lineup has a new member in 5-foot-9 Frank Menechino, who hit his second homer in three games and added an RBI groundout in a three-run third.

Menechino, substituting for the injured Randy Velarde, is tied with Jason Giambi for the team lead in homers and tops the A's with a 1.100 slugging percentage.

Brian Moehler (0-1) allowed five runs — three earned — and seven hits in six innings; Omar Olivares (1-0) gave up two runs and six hits in 7 1-3 innings.

Royals 4, Blue Jays 3
At Toronto, Joe Randa had two homers and Ricky Bottalico picked up a shaky save for Kansas City.

Last season, the Royals were the first major league team to

SPORTS EXTRA

NCAA BASEBALL

The Top 25 college baseball teams as determined by the staff of Baseball America magazine with records through Apr. 2 and previous ranking (the games are not included in records):

1. Florida State	Record
2. South Carolina	28-4
3. Texas	29-6
4. Arizona State	28-8
5. Cal State Fullerton	19-8
6. Louisiana-Lafayette	28-2
7. Stanford	21-9
8. North Carolina	27-6
9. Clemson	24-6
10. Louisiana State	21-10
11. Auburn	28-8
12. Houston	22-9
13. Baylor	24-10
14. Southern California	22-10
15. Mississippi State	21-5
16. Miami	24-9
17. East Carolina	28-5
18. Wake Forest	24-9
19. Fresno State	25-8
20. Georgia Tech	23-8
21. Nevada	20-12
22. Long Beach State	20-10
23. Central Florida	26-9
24. UCLA	20-11
25. Georgia	19-10

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Claimed INF Luis Ortiz off waivers from the Arizona Diamondbacks.
NEW YORK YANKEES—Placed 3B Scott Brosius on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled INF Alfonso Soriano from Columbus of the International League.
SEATTLE MARINERS—Sent OF Anthony Sanders outright to Tacoma of the PCL.
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms with SS Ozzie Guillen. Announced INF Bobby Smith cleared waivers and assigned him to Durham of the International League. Claimed SS Felix Martinez off waivers from the Philadelphia Phillies and assigned him to Durham. Released SS Rafael Domingal. Transferred INF Damian Ricks from the 15 to the 60-day disabled list.
TEXAS RANGERS—Signed OF Morfy Lee and 1B/INF Matt Halloran to minor league contracts and sent them to extended spring training.
National League
FLORIDA MARLINS—Sent OF Derrick Gibson outright to Calgary of the PCL.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Agreed to terms with CF Marvin Benard on a three-year contract extension through 2003.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
PHILADELPHIA 76ERS—Signed Billy King, general manager, to a multiyear contract extension.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed C Frank Winters to a multiyear contract.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Signed WR Marvin Harrison to a four-year contract.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Agreed to terms with QB Bobby Brester.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Re-signed WR Dettich Jels to a one-year contract.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
DETROIT RED WINGS—Signed LW Brendan Shanahan to a four-year contract extension.
EDMONTON OILERS—Recalled G Mike Milner from Hamilton of the AHL.
NEW YORK RANGERS—Assigned G Maria Malhotra to Hartford of the AHL. Recalled RW Jason Dawe and LW Gabriel Goulet from Hartford.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
COLORADO RAPIDS—Waived D Taly

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-Miami	47	26	.644
x-New York	45	28	.616
Philadelphia	43	31	.581
Orlando	38	36	.514
New Jersey	31	44	.413
Boston	30	45	.400
Washington	27	47	.365

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Midwest Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-Utah	50	23	.685
x-San Antonio	47	28	.627
x-Minnesota	45	29	.608
Dallas	33	41	.446
Denver	30	44	.405
Houston	29	45	.392
Vancouver	20	53	.274

Pacific Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-L.A. Lakers	64	12	.842
x-Portland	54	20	.730
x-Phoenix	48	26	.649
x-Sacramento	43	31	.581
x-Seattle	42	32	.568
Golden State	17	58	.227
L.A. Clippers	14	60	.189

NBA STANDINGS (Continued)			
Central Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-Indiana	50	24	.676
Charlotte	42	31	.575
Toronto	40	34	.541
Detroit	39	35	.527
Milwaukee	36	38	.486
Cleveland	29	45	.392
Atlanta	26	48	.351
Chicago	15	59	.203

NBA STANDINGS (Continued)			
Southwest Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-Memphis	47	28	.627
x-Denver	45	29	.608
San Antonio	43	31	.581
Houston	33	41	.446
Portland	30	44	.405
Phoenix	29	45	.392
Utah	20	53	.274

NBA STANDINGS (Continued)			
Northwest Division			
Team	W	L	Pct
x-San Jose	47	28	.627
x-Oakland	45	29	.608
Golden State	43	31	.581
Los Angeles	33	41	.446
Los Angeles	30	44	.405
San Jose	29	45	.392
Portland	20	53	.274

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS—Signed Billy King, general manager, to a multiyear contract extension.

NHL

Cincinnati (Villone 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
San Diego (Clement 0-0) at N.Y. Mets (Hampton 0-1), 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia (Person 0-0) at Arizona (Dahl 0-0), 8:35 p.m.
Only games scheduled

HS BASEBALL POLL

Team	W	L	Pct
Houston	17	1	.941
Florida	16	2	.889
San Diego	15	3	.833
Arizona	14	4	.778
Los Angeles	13	5	.722

COLLEGE

EASTERN WASHINGTON—Named Ray Giacocci men's basketball coach.
GEORGIA TECH—Named Paul Hewitt men's basketball coach.
INCARNATE WORD—Named Al Gushkin men's basketball coach.
INDIANA PURDUE INDIANAPOLIS—Announced the resignation of Reuben Nau, men's and women's cross-country coach.
MARYMOUNT—Named Steve Aggers men's basketball coach.
NEBRASKA—Named Barry Collier men's basketball coach.
PRINCETON—Announced the resignation of Don Cahoon, men's hockey coach, to take the same position at Massachusetts.
ROBERT MORRIS—Named Susan Hofacre athletic director.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Wednesday's Games
Oakland 8, Detroit 2
Chicago White Sox 12, Texas 8
Kansas City 4, Toronto 3
Baltimore 11, Cleveland 7
Minnesota 10, Tampa Bay 7
Seattle 9, Boston 3
Anahem 12, N.Y. Yankees 6

Today's Games
Kansas City (Durbin 0-0) at Toronto (Escobar 0-0), 11:35 a.m.
Tampa Bay (Wheeler 0-0) at Minnesota (Mays 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Nagy 0-0) at Baltimore (Rapp 0-0), 6:05 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Houston 11, Pittsburgh 2
Montreal 6, Los Angeles 5
San Francisco 11, Florida 9
Milwaukee 8, Cincinnati 5
St. Louis 10, Chicago Cubs 4
San Diego 4, N.Y. Mets 0
Atlanta 9, Colorado 6
Arizona 11, Philadelphia 3

Today's Games
San Francisco (Nathan 0-0) at Florida (Sanchez 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Frasarworth 0-0) at St. Louis (Stephenson 0-0), 12:10 p.m.
Houston (Holt 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Cordova 0-0), 12:35 p.m.
Los Angeles (Perez 0-0) at Montreal (Pavano 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Navarro 0-0) at

NBA

Continued from page 1B

and 85 percent in the fourth when they made 11 of 13 shots. The Rockets also broke a nine-game losing streak and beat a winning team away from home for just the second time this season. Steve Smith scored 24 points and Rasheed Wallace had 21 to lead the Trail Blazers, who had won three straight to bounce back from a rough 6-8 stretch.

Kings 108, Spurs 98
At San Antonio, the Kings beat the Spurs for the third

time this season. "This is a heck of a win for us," Sacramento coach Rick Adelman said. "I would have to say this is one of the biggest wins of the year. It goes to show how if you play hard and put out a great effort good things can happen for you in this league."

Sacramento won despite the absence of leading scorer Chris Webber, who missed his second straight game with a strained left hamstring. Corliss Williamson had 28, Vlade Divac added 20 while Jason Williams scored 18.

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FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for April 5. (Report also available on Web as www.tfwishing.com.)

CENTRAL
BROWNWOOD: Water murky; 65-70 degrees; Black bass are good on chartreuse Baby 1 Minus fished in 2 to 5 feet around the boat houses and off the rocky points. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows fished in 2 to 5 feet around the boat houses and at night under light. White bass and hybrid strippers are good on Rat-L-Traps and Pop-R's fished early (the spring runs are beginning).

BUCHANAN: Water clear; 73 degrees; 1007.70'; Black bass to 6.4 pounds are good on watermelon/chartreuse tail lizards, black/chartreuse Creme Scremer worms and 1/4oz. blue/chartreuse spinnerbaits fished in Morgan and Beaver Creeks and on the flats inside of secondary points. Crappie are slow on minnows. White bass are good vertically jigging 1/4oz. Horizon Pirk Minnows, casting 1/8oz. Spin Traps and trolling along main channel and creeks. Striped bass are good drifting live bait or trolling the midlake area along main channel in 28 feet. Channel and blue catfish are fair on live baits.

PROCTOR: Water stained; 62-65 degrees; Black bass are fair on black and chartreuse Power Craws fished around the bank edges. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished around the front edge and the base of the dam. Hybrid strippers are slow. The hybrids should pick up soon if the weather stays warm. Look for them around the dam with live shad in about 14 feet.

SOUTH
AMISTAD: Water clear; 68 degrees; 30' low; Black bass are good on jerkbaits, spinnerbaits and watermelon or pumpkinseed worms fished in 5 to 20 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows fished up the Devil's River. White and striped bass are good on live shad and slabs fished up the Devil's and Rio Grande Rivers. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cheesebait and shrimp fished in 10 to 20 feet. Yellow catfish are slow on trotlines baited with live perch or goldfish.

WEST
ALAN HENRY: Main lake clear, creeks are stained; 62-64 degrees; Black bass to 9 pounds are good on black jigs with blue trailers fished in Big Grape, Little Grape and Gobbler Creek in 10 to 12 feet near the edge of the creek channels. No reports on smallmouth bass. Alabama Spotted Bass are fair on tiger striped crankbaits. Crappie are fair to good on live minnows and jigs fished off the crappie dock. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared baits.

ARROWHEAD: No report available.
BRADY: No report available.
COLORADO CITY: Water muddy; 64 degrees; No report available.
FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water murky; 62 degrees; 16.5' low; Black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs fished in 7 feet over brushpiles. White bass are slow. Blue and yellow catfish to 39 pounds are fair on live perch.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water murky; 59 degrees; 10' low; Black bass are good on Carolina-rigs and jigs fished in 5 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished in 4 to 10 feet. White bass are fair on slabs and minnows. Channel catfish are fair on cut baits and worms fished from the bank.
KEMP: Water murky; 58-62 degrees; 10' low; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits, shad pattern crankbaits and Rat-L-Traps fished around the rocks. Crappie are fair on minnows fished over the rocks. White bass are slow. Catfish are good on cut baits and nightcrawlers.

NASWORTHY: Water stained; 65 degrees; 1.5' low; Black bass to 12 pounds are good on Power Worms and jig-n-pigs fished in the reeds. Redfish to 8 pounds are fair to good on cut baits and Rat-L-Traps fished up the river.
NOCONA: No report available.
OAK CREEK: Water murky; 58 degrees; 17.5' low; Black bass to 8 pounds are good on crankbaits and live minnows fished in 5 to 12 feet. Crappie are good on white jigs and minnows fished in 4 to 13 feet. White bass are very good on crankbaits, minnows and jigs fished in 4 to 10 feet. Channel and blue catfish are fair on stinkbait, worms and liver fished in 4 to 12 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with goldfish or minnows.

OH. RIVE: Water clear; 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 Rouges fished on steep rocky banks on the main lake. Crappie are fair at night on minnows and jigs fished under lights. Catfish are fair on trotlines baited with cut shad and live perch.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 60 degrees; 5.46' low; Black bass are good on Sluggos, french fries and live shad fished in 8 to 15 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 10 feet. White bass are fair on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 15 feet. Striped bass are good on live shad fished in 20 to 40 feet. Blue catfish are good on cut shad fished in 20 to 40 feet. Yellow catfish are slow on perch fished in 20 to 30 feet.

SPENCE: Water off color; 58-62 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits and lizards fished in the creeks. Crappie are slow. Striped bass to 28 pounds are fair to good on live shad and slabs. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cut shad.

STAMFORD: No report available.
SWEETWATER: Water off color; 56 degrees; 10' low; Black bass to 7 pounds are good on white spinnerbaits and Texas-rigged worms fished in the shallows. Crappie are good on minnows. White bass are fair on live minnows. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cheesebait and chicken livers.

TWIN BUTTES: No fishing report due to extreme low lake level.

WHITE RIVER: Water stained; 62-64 degrees; Black bass to 13.26 pounds (new lake record) are good on waterdogs, tiger striped crankbaits and chartreuse spinnerbaits fished on the north side and around the dam. Walleye are slow on live minnows. Crappie are fair to good on live minnows fished near the dam. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cut baits.

Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM



Running for President
The Campaign Trail

The year 2000 is a presidential election year. February through June

Searching for candidates
In each state, Republicans and Democrats hold primaries to select their candidates. A few states hold caucuses.

• A primary is a secret-ballot election.
• A caucus is a gathering where people vote in public.

August

Naming the candidates
Both parties hold national conventions to make their final selection for their presidential candidate.

September and October

The final campaign
The candidates travel around the country trying to attract voters.

November

Election Day
The presidential election day is always the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.



The first primary election was held in New Hampshire in February. Here former senator Bill Bradley, a Democratic candidate who later withdrew, greets voters having breakfast at a restaurant.



Vice President Al Gore talked with a group of children when he campaigned in New Hampshire. Candidates always welcome good photo "ops," or opportunities.

What's it like to run for president?

To find out, The Mini Page interviewed a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, David Shribman. He has covered many candidates on the campaign trail.

"Candidates have to be different from us," Mr. Shribman, who writes for The Boston Globe, told us. Running for president is ...

• "Exhausting, and a huge burden on their family. They might be away from home as long as 19 months. While correspondents can rotate and go home, candidates cannot."

• "Eating every sort of food imaginable."

• "Smiling and having to be nice when people are not nice to you. Some people are unpleasant."

• "Making speeches. As difficult as it is for reporters to listen to the same speech four times a day, seven days a week, it is even more difficult for a candidate to deliver it."

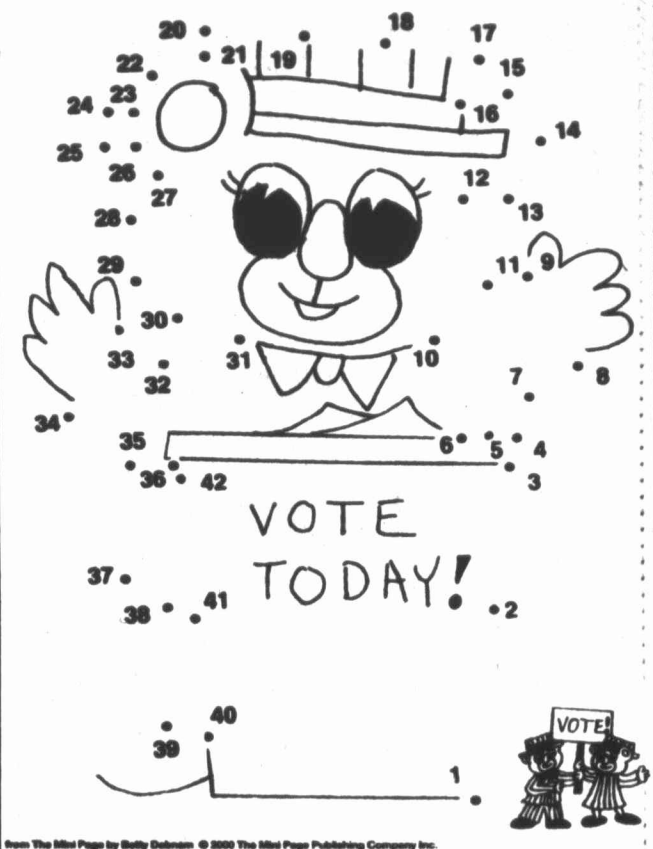
• "Shaking every last hand in the rope line." (Rope separates the candidate from the crowds.)

• "Flying to the next stop even when you are too exhausted to move on."

• "Sleeping in a different room each night. (One candidate told of checking the cover of his phone book each morning to find out where he was.)"

How the U.S. Government Works guides readers to what happens in Washington, D.C., including how to contact Congress and the executive branch. This Mini Page includes topics such as Lawmakers, Justice, President, The Constitution, Governmental Jobs, Checks and Balances, and Key Washington Buildings. **Order now!** Send check or money order for \$4.95 plus \$1 postage and handling per copy to: How the U.S. Government Works, P.O. Box 419243, Kansas City, MO 64141. Make checks payable to Andrews McNeil Publishing.

Go dot to dot and color.



MIGHTY FUNNY'S Funny Phonics

It's fun to learn phonics, or the sounds that letters make. This week's target sound is the one made by the letter I. It is a vowel that has two sounds, long and short. This week we are using the long I sound, as in the word "ice."

Q: Why did Benjamin Franklin fly a kite?
A: He thought it was a shocking idea!

Jim: I'd like to buy a pair of alligator shoes.
Clerk: What size does your alligator wear?

Q: Where will the cat be when the lights go out?
A: In the dark!

Go on an I word hunt. What other words can you find with the long I sound?

Rookie Cookies Recipe
Caucus Cake

You'll need:
• 2 cups all-purpose flour
• 1 1/2 cups sugar
• 1 teaspoon salt
• 1 teaspoon baking soda
• 2 eggs, beaten
• 1 (20-ounce) can crushed pineapple
• 3/4 cup brown sugar
• 1/2 cup pecans, chopped

What to do:
1. Combine the first four ingredients in a large bowl. Mix well.
2. Stir in eggs and pineapple. Mix well.
3. Pour into greased 9-by-12-inch baking pan.
4. In a medium bowl, combine brown sugar and nuts. Mix well.
5. Sprinkle mixture evenly on top.
6. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 40 minutes.

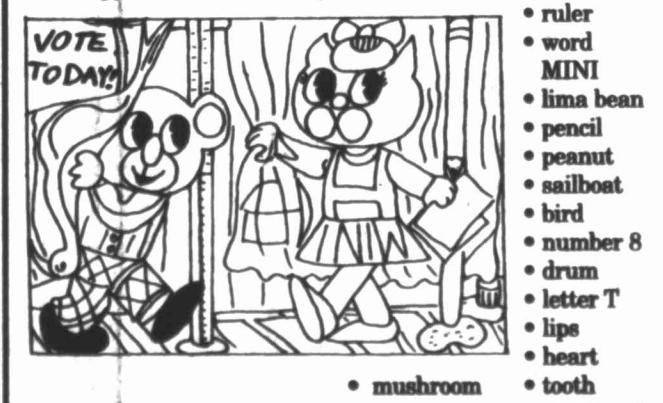
TRY 'N FIND ELECTIONS

Words that remind us of elections are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: PARTY, REPUBLICAN, DEMOCRAT, PRIMARY, TRAVEL, CAUCUS, CONVENTION, CAMPAIGN, MEDIA, RUN, ELECT, VOTE, CANDIDATE, POLLS, SPEECH, ISSUES.

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

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and Dot are voting! See if you can find:



- ruler
- word MINI
- lima bean
- pencil
- peanut
- sailboat
- bird
- number 8
- drum
- letter T
- lips
- heart
- mushroom
- tooth

Who's Who in a Campaign

We asked reporter David Shribman to tell us more about the campaign trail.

TESTING, ONE TWO THREE.
Sound people make certain the candidate can be heard.

STAND BACK, PLEASE.
Security people protect the candidate.

CAN WE DRAW A CROWD?
Advance people make the arrangements as to where the candidate stays and speaks.

THIS WILL HELP PAY FOR TV COMMERCIALS.
Fund-raisers raise money for the candidates.

WE WANT LOWER TAXES.
Strategists figure out which primaries to enter and which ones to avoid. They help the candidate to present his ideas in the most appealing way.

What candidates need

• **Supporters** are important not only on election day, but also along the campaign trail, to stuff envelopes, attend rallies and make telephone calls.
• **Stamina.** Politicians like to say that running for president is not a sprint, but a marathon. Candidates have to get up every morning and be "up" even when things are down.
• **To be fast on their feet.** They have to respond to questions they have not expected and to events they have not foreseen.
• **Ideas and policies.** Candidates can't run for office if they do not know what they would like to do if they get elected.

A kid's point of view

The Mini Page asked 12-year-old Elizabeth Shribman, who went to New Hampshire with her reporter-dad, to tell us about what goes on in a campaign.

This year, I went on the campaign trail with my dad. We went to hear the candidates give speeches and argue their points.

Being on the campaign trail is interesting and loud! At speeches, people are very enthusiastic. They applaud frequently and hold up signs that say the candidates' names.

While we were traveling from speech to speech, we saw lots of buses. Many of them held reporters. Occasionally, we were lucky enough to see a bus that held a candidate.

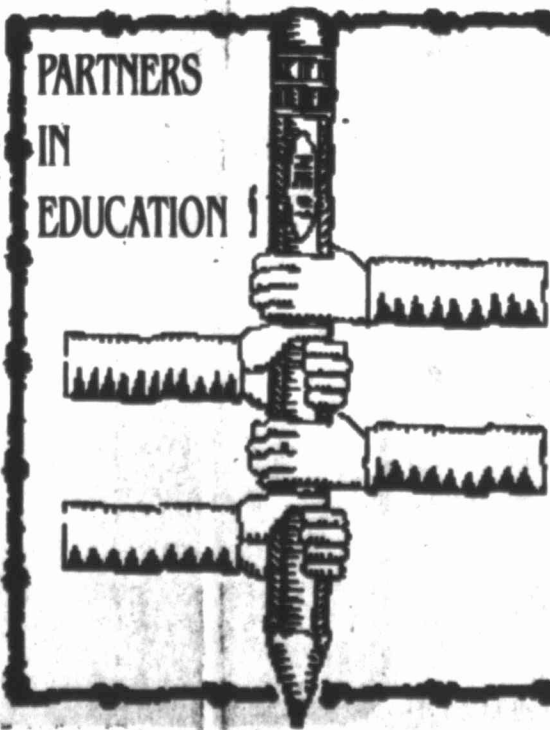
Everywhere around us at speeches, we saw reporters scribbling notes into note pads or laptops, or talking on cell phones.

A lot of cameramen and other people from television stations were there, too.

— by Elizabeth Shribman
Special to The Mini Page

To do: Look through your newspaper for news about the campaigns.

Next week, The Mini Page celebrates National Library Week with a story about the Caldecott and Newbery medal winners.



Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms.

The Mini Page

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Herald Classifieds

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1992 GMC Jimmy 4 door, good condition, \$3000. Day 264-4177 and after 6pm. 268-9372

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'96 Ford F150 XLT 4x4, black, lots of chrome. Pioneer Sound System (Extra Clean). Call 363-5510 or 270-5394.

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Hit the road in this 95 Prowler 25.5 5th. wheel, electric jacks, awning, C/H/A, excellent condition. \$10,500. 263-0569

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SPECIAL NOTICES

ATTENTION - THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made, we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed your advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount actually received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

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HELP WANTED

✓ DENTAL BILLER \$15 - \$45/hr
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Accounts Manager & Delivery Help Needed
Must have a neat appearance, clean driving record and some lifting involved. Computer skills a plus. Apply in person to Credit World, 1611 S Gregg.

Apartment Manager prefer husband and wife team to manage and maintain 65 units. Please pick up applications at Heather Apartments, 2911 W. Hwy 80, Big Spring, between the hours of 5:00pm and 7:00pm Monday through Friday, or between the hours of 10:00am and 5:00pm Saturday. references required. Salary DOE.

Are you looking for a E-COMMERCE BUSINESS? \$300 - \$800 weekly PT/FT www.get-in-shape.com 888-756-2818

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Attention: Home, Int'l. Internet Business. Earn P/F \$200-600, F/T \$2000-6000 per month. www.success-builder.com

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Truckdrivers needed for oil field work. Prefer ex-Dowell, ex-BJ, ex-Halliburton hands. Must be able to travel. No CDL, clear driving record, 2 years truck driving experience a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. No calls after 5pm.

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is now hiring CNA's *Excellent benefits *10 days vacation after one year *Great starting pay *Quarterly and Shift bonuses Apply in person at 2009 Virginia

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WEST TEXAS CENTERS for MHMR is seeking Contract Foster Care Providers for adults with mental retardation in Big Spring, Sweetwater, Snyder and Brownfield. Applicants will be required to process through a screening, home study and criminal history check. Rates based on person's level of need. Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels, or by calling 264-2650 ext 227. 01 visit www.wtcmhmr.org

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Maintenance/make-ready person needed. Basic carpentry, plumbing, and a/c skills helpful. Painting and yard work included. Apply in person 538 Westover. No phone calls please.

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Route 194 All or parts of Ann and Larry

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A reliable car, liability insurance, a good contact telephone number, and a current Texas Drivers License.

Contact: Big Spring Herald Department Scurry

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GOVT FORECLOSURES GUARANTEED APPROVAL! 1-800-360-4620 EX

NO CREDIT NEEDED

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FURNITURE

Z's BASIC FURNITURE
Living room, bedroom suites, dining room sets, at unbelievable low prices. Located in old Wheat's building. Come see us today.
115 E. 2nd. 263-4563.

MISCELLANEOUS

Shop Smith belt sander, jig saw, band saw, lathe, lot's of accessories. 2 boxes - patterns. Call 267-8409.

WEDDING CAKES!!

Arches, silk bouquets, catering. Order now to reserve your date.
The Grishams
267-8191

PORTABLE BUILDINGS

SIERRA MERCANTILE
For all your building needs.
Portable
On site - Carpents
I-20 East - 263-1460

ACREAGE FOR SALE

8 acres w/trailer, metal storage bldg. near Coahoma 263-4410.

COLORADO MNT. LAND

Over 9 Ac's near Wolf Creek Ski Area adjoins the National Forest - Walk to Fly Fish or Elk Hunt - \$89,000 970-731-9413 L.P.I.

BUILDINGS FOR RENT

FOR LEASE: 5600 sq ft. warehouse with 3 offices on 2 acres. fenced land. Hwy 350 1/2 mile No. 1-20. \$550 + dep. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

FOR LEASE: building on Snyder Highway. Approx. 1800 square feet with office on 1 acre. \$250 per month 100 deposit. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

For lease, small building on Snyder Hwy, with overhead door, \$250/mo + \$100/dep. Call Westex Auto Parts, 263-5000

HOUSES FOR SALE

1206 Ridgeway For Sale by Owner
Owner will Finance with low down & low monthly payments. Very nice clean 2 bdr. 1 bth. home. Call Kelly @ 915-425-9994

3 BR. 21/2bth, brick in Ackerly. Fireplace, 2 car garage, basement, RV carport, tile fence, on 3 lots. 353-4801.

3/2/2 living area, study 2800 sq. ft., storage in Coronado. \$178,500. 267-8615.

FORECLOSED HOMES

Low or 0 down! Gov't and bank repo's being sold Now!
Financing available. Call Now!
1-800-355-0024 ext 8040

NO CREDIT NEEDED! GOVT FORECLOSURES! GUARANTEED APPROVAL!

1-800-360-4620 EXT 8509

HOUSES FOR SALE

REPOSESSED 2 ONLY!! Must sell. 100% steel framing for 2 pre-fab homes, one is a 1560 sq ft. Extremely easy to assemble, brand new, never erected, in original packing crates. Sacrifice prices. 1-800-560-9919

Beautiful Executive home 1008 Driver Rd. 2.69 acres pool, priced below cost. 268-9696 or 263-0064.

BY OWNER: 4 bdr or 3 bdr with study. 2 bths fireplace. 2 car garage 700 Sq. Ft. Highland South. Appt. 267-6126

By Owner
Large older home good location 3 bdr. 2 bth new carpet, large kitchen/den combo., formal dining area, detached garage & workshop, fenced back yard. \$41,500. Approx. \$1300 down. 267-8078

Fixer upper
Owner Finance
1015 E 21st ST
915-363-8243

OPEN HOUSE

1507 Onole
Friday April 7th
3-5:00 p.m.
Saturday April 8th
1-5:00 p.m.

This is lovely contemporary home @ 209 Washington Blvd. Ideal for single or retired couple. 2 bdr. 2 full bth. sun room, jacuzzi, total electric energy efficient low maintenance yard. \$59,000. Call 263-0569

MOBILE HOMES

\$399 per mo. LAST CHANCE thru 3-31-00.
Full House Promo 3 bed 2 bath doublewide 5/8 fridge, range, freezer, washer dryer, microwave, fireplace. Call 653-7800 or 800-698-8003 for appt. 10% dn. 360 mos at 8.99%. A P R (W A C / p m.) se habia espanol.

4 Bdr/2 Bath Mobile Home
Unbelievable use of space.
Beautiful Glamour Bath.
Pick your colors
1-800-698-8003

Abandon Home Take over payment. Call 915-668-2924.

Buy Factory Direct and Save!! 1 bed 2 bath 299.00. 1-800-698-8003 Local 653-7800 (Model #1777) www.PalmHarbor.com

By Owner
Beautiful doublewide on 2 acres in country. Call Laura 915-665-3544

Cute little house Very affordable Call 915-673-7353

Don't have much down?? Palm Harbor can help. Call now for details 653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003 Se habia espanol

DONT Settle for a stock home! Order what you deserve from Palm Harbor Village 1-800-698-8003

FREE CREDIT APPROVAL HOTLINE

1-800-755-9133

HELP! One 1999 left Bells and Whistles included. Easy Terms. Priced to sell. Call 653-7800 or 800-698-8003 for appointment

\$99 MOVE IN plus deposit

1,2,3 bdr. Partially furn. 263-7811 a.m. 393-5240 evenings

MOBILE HOMES

Immediate Move In! Repo's 3 bdr & 4 bdr Single's and Doubles. Already Set-Up 1-800-698-8003

Living in a Singlewide? Want a Doublewide? We take trades Over 150 different floorplans To choose from Call Today 1-800-698-8003

Make Offer! 2 Used homes left 1-800-698-8003

Renters Wanted Own a 3 or 4 Bdr Mobile Home All Applications Accepted W.A.C. 1-800-698-8003

Retiring or Starting Out? 2 bdr Mobile Home Very AFFORDABLE! 1-800-698-8003

Save Thousands!! Invest in an Energy Star compliant home at Palm Harbor Homes San Angelo. Call 653-7800 or 1-800-8003 (W A C / se habia espanol)

Used 2x2 \$15,000 firm. Call (915) 653-7800.

Value, Quality, Service Where? www.palmharbor.com 1-800-698-8003

SHOP TIL YOU DROP... or come to USA Homes, Odessa, for the best deal in the Permian Basin. Call 1-888-981-9595. With approved credit!

LAKE PROPERTY

For sale: 56 ft 2BR mobile home on deeded water front property on Lake C. City. 263-2168 or 394-4666.

FURNISHED APTS.

1408 Donley Extra nice 1 bdr. furnished with gas & water paid. Sorry No Pets! \$275/mo. \$100/dep. Call 263-4922

Apartments, Unfurnished houses, Mobile Home. References required. Call 263-6944, 263-2341.

Furnished 1 BR trailer. Large utility room, w/d connections. No Pets! Inquire at 1213 Harding.

OFFICE SPACE

For lease, approx. 1600 sq. ft. on FM 700. Very reasonable. Call 263-1709 or 512-750-7125.

Office space for rent. Choice location. Call 267-8696 or 263-6021.

RENT TO OWN HOMES

1610 Lark, 2BR, 1 bath. Rent to Own. \$200/mo or \$5,500 cash as is. Call 267-7449.

UNFURNISHED APTS.

1 bedroom duplex w/patio, small yard, carport. Call Lisa @ 264-5114 or 263-0287.

2/1 Apts. unfurnished \$295/mo + deposit monthly plus electric 263-7621

\$99 MOVE IN plus deposit. 1,2,3 bdr. Partially furn. 263-7811 a.m. 393-5240 evenings

UNFURNISHED APTS

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

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

Quiet 2 bdr. 1 bth. apt., carpeted, ref. air C/A, ref. & range furnished, carport. Water Pd. \$375/mo \$200/dep. Call 263-7850.

SUPER SPRING SPECIAL

\$150 TOTAL MOVE IN 1 & 2 BR APT. WITH C/A, CARPET CEILING FANS AND MINI BLINDS 915-267-4217

UNFURNISHED HOMES

2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1102 Lancaster. No Pets!! Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

2509 Albrook 3br/2 bath 2 large living areas C/H/A, \$450/mo American Realty Local 268-1349

2521 Dow - 3 bdr. ceiling fans, C/H/A, \$400/mo. \$200/dep. Call 264-0793 or 661-6721 after 4pm

2BR/1bth, fenced yard, garage, 803 Rosemont. Call 806-592-5024.

3 bdr. mobile home. Midway area for rent w/washer & dryer, stove & ref. C/H/A. \$350/mo. \$150/dep. 267-3114 after 2pm. 393-5585 anytime.

FOR RENT 2111 Furness 3 bdr. 1bth. HUD ok! 915-363-8243

For sale or rent possible owner finance. Live in one side rent out the other. 3 bd. 1 ba. \$450, 2 bd. 1 ba \$350. 264-9907

House for rent. 711 Johnson. 2 bdr., remodeled, fenced backyard, garage. \$350. mon. 425-1800.

Nice 3br. 2 bath. No pets. \$450 mn. Also: 2 bdr. upstairs downtown. No pets. \$325 mn. Also: 3 room commercial 2409 Scurry \$300 mn. Call 263-8513

Nice home in Highland 3 bdr. 2 bth. \$950/mo. \$400/dep. Call or 263-4528.

DIET & HEALTH

SWIMSUIT SEASON IS NEAR
Lose Weight Now!
1-888-707-7593

TOO LATES

Q Sale: queen mattress, boxspring, frame, couch, blankets 1/2 price, lots of misc. 2210 Main. Fri-Sat.

TOO LATES

Q Yard Sale: 1609 Owens. Sat. & Sun. Trailer, bbq's, electronic goodies, misc.

Q Back yard Sale: 1200 Stanford Ave. Fri. 8-3pm. Sat. 8-12 noon, misc., home made burritos on Sat.

Q Multi Family Garage Sale 2610 Cindy. Saturday, 8-7 Men's work clothes, Rocky Mtns. Ladies/Mens jeans (Wranglers, Levi's -small to large) Men's Dockers (large sizes), Games, Barbies, Stuffed Animals. Good Stuff. Benefit Salem Baptist Youth Group.

Q CHURCHWIDE GARAGE SALE: Midway Baptist Church 6200 S. Ser. Rd. Saturday, 8am-7 Little bit of everything!! (Benefiting building fund)

1987 Nissan P/U 5 spd. great shape, runs great, excellent gas mileage, \$2500. Call 264-7352. Ask for Ron

Q Garage Sale: Sat only, 8-7 1809 Johnson. Kids clothes, baby blankets, women clothes, misc. homemade burritos.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENTS FOR BIDS
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bids proposals until 2:00 p.m., April 20, 2000, for the following annual contracts:

Educational Instructional Supplies
Educational Office Supplies

Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4610, phone number (915) 264-3640. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after their opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on April 27, 2000, at 12:00 noon at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

2706 April 6 & 13, 2000

TOO LATES

Q Yard Sale: 504 Aylford. Sat. 8-7 New lumber, paint, tools, new misc. cards, crafts, lots of misc.

Old Gal Rd. 2 bdr, 1 bath, carport, horse barns. \$375. month, \$300 deposit. 267-5952.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)
District: Abilene
Contract 0088-08-047 for REHABILITATION OF EXISTING ROADWAY IN HOWARD County will be opened on May 03, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office Contract 0518-01-015 for WIDEN SUBGRADE, ADD SHOULDERS AND SEALCOAT IN MITCHELL County, etc. will be opened on May 04, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 6054-70-001 for RIPRAP REPAIR IN HOWARD County, etc. will be opened on April 27, 2000 at 3:00 pm at the District Office listed below. Bidders must submit pre-qualification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available at reproduction Contract Offices listed below. At the expense of the contractor. NPO 84

State Office
Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
District Office(s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
5250 N. Clark
Abilene, Texas 79603
Phone: 915-676-8800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
2701 March 30 & April 6, 2000

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, April 7:

Your mind runs like a ticker tape this year. You have a better sense of direction than you realize. At times, you feel more scattered than you actually are. You think of many ways to make money and enhance your security. Your sense of humor melts barrier s. Others find you unusually cheerful. If you are single, romance builds easily. Communication flourishes. You are more gregarious and magnetic than you know. If attached, your partner is quite taken by you. Work on your relationship, and it will come back in multiples. GEMINI stimulates your intellect.

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)

**** Communication sparkles. Your ability to understand what is going on changes considerably as talks begin. Deal with money matters first. Take the initiative. Make a neighbor or sibling feel more comfortable. Tonight: Get together with friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Your ability to understand others helps you get what you want. Reach out for friends. Talk about what you want. Don't stand on ceremony. Your softer side emerges with a loved one. Share your feelings. Let another know who you are. Tonight: Indulge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Lister to your instincts. Remain aware of what is going on. Stay in touch with what you want. Make up your own mind. There's no need to take a poll! Working a project through without bouncing every idea off of others is more effective today. Tonight: Do some "detail work."

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Use the daytime hours to get what you want. Bring others together for a meeting or social event. You could find yourself very busy on the phone or computer. Popularity soars. Tonight: Order new business cards or letterhead stationery.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** An associate confides in you and makes his position clear. Listen. You'll receive important, worthwhile information. Consider different financial options. Make strong choices that benefit the long term. Tonight: A celebration is in order.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Establish stronger communication with the close ties who are most important in your life. Discussions are lively, and they open many doors. Willingly break a pattern. Be honest with yourself about how to set boundaries. Tonight: In the limelight!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Work with others on an intense one-on-one level. You make headway rapidly, although another sees a situation quite differently than you do. Both of you hold important pieces of the puzzle. Together, you make an excellent team. Save calls for the later afternoon. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Others seek you out as popularity builds. You add mirth and lightness where others can't. What you find funny and witty, another reads as flirtation. Be more in touch with other views. A loved one goes all out to attract your attention. Tonight: A close encounter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Dig into work, and you'll get a lot done very quickly. Take time with details. Handle problems in the most effective manner. Reading the fine print could make or break your security and long-term goals. Another makes an overture. Tonight: Out on the town.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** Allow your intensity to speak. Put that extra energy into your work. Your sense of humor comes out when dealing with others. Touch base with friends. Make an extra effort to clear your desk. Schedule a social lunch. Tonight: Get errands done first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Handle money, security and domestic matters. Do not back down. Know what you want and expect from others. Step No. 1 is asking for what you need. Your sense of humor comes out with a child or new friend. A flirtation begins unexpectedly. Tonight: Where the good times are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

**** You are verbal, and you make a strong impression on others. Don't hesitate to ask questions and make calls. Your wit entertains another. Your inquiries meet with favorable response. Consider a purchase, but price the item before leaving work. Tonight: Errands, then home.

BORN TODAY

**** Filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola (1939), singer John Oates (1948), author Daniel Ellsberg (1931)

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.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures?
Junk? Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7331

10 Reasons Why Smart Sellers choose Herald SUPER CLASSIFIEDS!

SUPER CLASSIFIED'S are:

- 1. CONVENIENT.** Just pick up the phone and our experienced professionals can help you develop an ad that sells.
- 2. ECONOMICAL.** Our reach and readership ensure that you'll receive a good return on your advertising investment. Remember, when your items sell, you profit.
- 3. CURRENT.** Our columns change daily, reflecting the most current sales information available.
- 4. TIMELY.** You can choose your schedule and sell your items whenever you want.
- 5. FLEXIBLE.** Our sales representatives can help you design an advertising plan that meets your needs.
- 6. EFFECTIVE.** People turn to the classified ads everyday to find all kinds of items. The next ad they see could be yours.
- 7. IMMEDIATE.** In most cases, your ad appears the next day. You can begin receiving results at once!
- 8. INFORMATIVE.** Our pages provide up-to-date information on important areas of the economy - jobs, housing, services, automotive and merchandise markets. Capture this attentive audience with our next ad.
- 9. WELL RECEIVED.** Your ad will be delivered to readers who welcome classified ads because they're a convenient way to shop.
- 10. AREA'S SHOPPING CENTER.** Buyers and Sellers rely on Herald Super Classified's for an effective way to reach buyers regularly!

Call Today!
263-7331
Get Results Tomorrow!

Blood donation helped to save the life of new mother

DEAR ABBY: Last month I gave birth to a healthy baby girl. Unfortunately, after the delivery, I hemorrhaged so severely I needed an emergency hysterectomy.

I am alive today thanks to the quick action and skill of my physicians and nurses, and to the selfless gift of six units of blood from anonymous donors. My ability to hold and care for my beautiful daughter hinges on the fact that I received blood transfusions, a fact that makes me realize what a precious gift blood is.

When I finally regain my strength, I pledge to donate blood, and hope this letter will prompt others to follow my example.

Thank you, blood donors one and all, for a priceless gift. (By the way, my baby's name is Abby, and she is also a dear!)
— LITTLE ABBY'S MOM

DEAR MOM: I am pleased that you and your dear "little Abby" are doing well. Thank you for the reminder that life-saving blood is in short supply and donations are needed across the country. Potential blood donors should contact their nearest Red Cross Center or hospital with a blood bank.

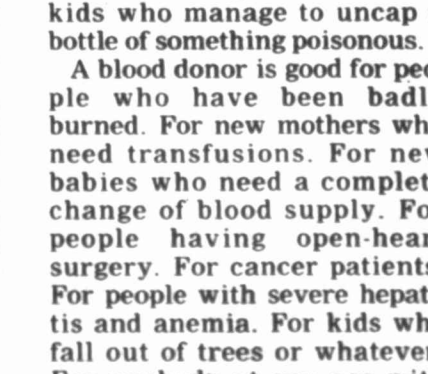
P.S. If you've never thought of being a blood donor, please consider this:
WHAT GOOD IS A BLOOD

DONOR?
A blood donor is good for people who go through windshields and red lights. For somebody with leukemia. For people being operated on. For barefoot kids who aren't careful. For people who are into feudin' and fightin'. For hemophiliacs and daredevils. For people undergoing dialysis while waiting for a kidney transplant. For people who fool around with guns. For little kids who manage to uncup a bottle of something poisonous.

A blood donor is good for people who have been badly burned. For new mothers who need transfusions. For new babies who need a complete change of blood supply. For people having open-heart surgery. For cancer patients. For people with severe hepatitis and anemia. For kids who fall out of trees or whatever. For anybody at any age with bleeding ulcers. For people who were in the wrong place at the wrong time.

A blood donor is good for people who are in a lot worse shape than most people you know.

A blood donor is good for life! Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 per booklet (\$4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Booklets, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)
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ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

THURSDAY

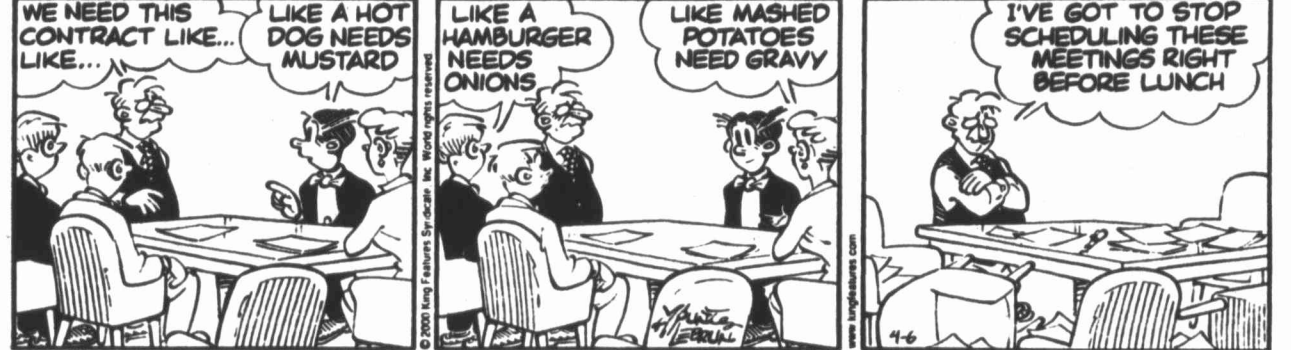
APR. 6

Table with 24 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, USA, SCIFI, LIFE, TLC) and 4 rows of program listings including titles, times, and channels.

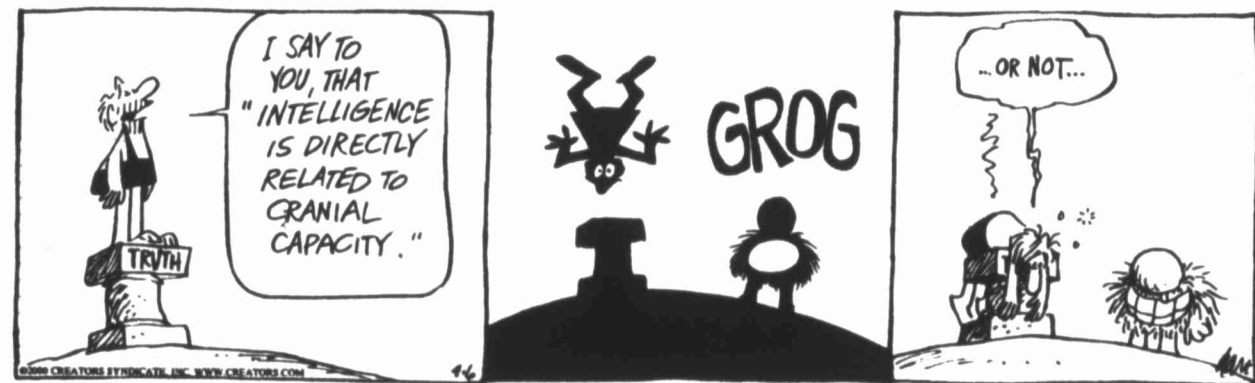
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



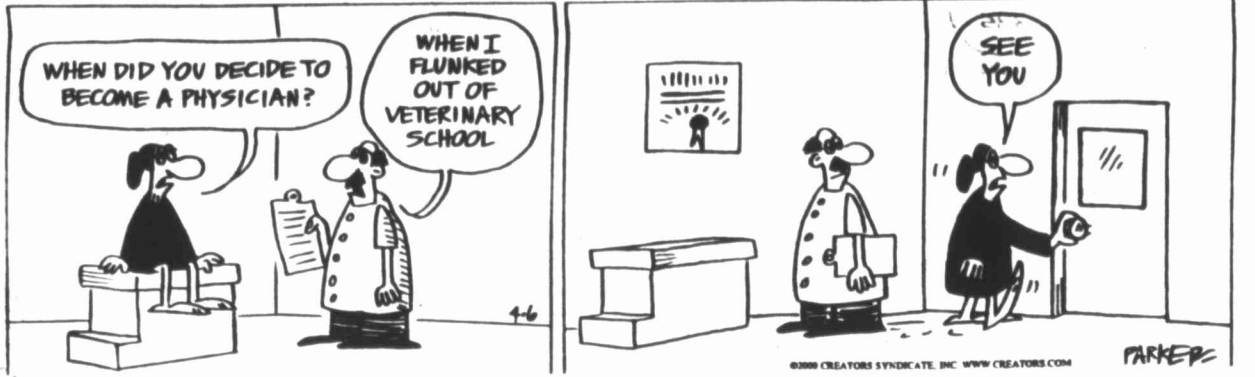
THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Thursday, April 6, the 97th day of 2000. There are 269 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 6, 1909, explorers Robert E. Peary and Matthew A. Henson became the first men to reach the North Pole.

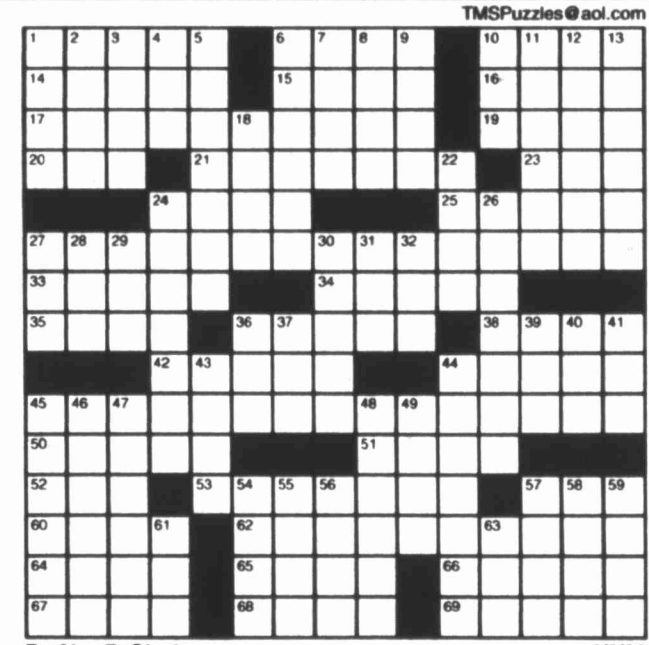
In 1830, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints was organized by Joseph Smith in Fayette, N.Y.

WIZARD OF ID



THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS 1 Took a swig 6 French father 10 Security for freedom 14 Dude from Dubuque 15 Oblong circle 16 Sea eagle 17 Start of Evan 19 Incongruous literary movement 20 Round Table knight 21 Pekoe piece 23 Bridge opening 24 Greek letters 25 French river 27 Part 2 of quote 33 Dieter's lunch, perhaps 34 Tasty tidbit 35 Fateful day in the Forum 36 Prairie dweller, once 38 Monthly payment 42 Entertainer Massey 44 Part of LEM 45 Part 3 of quote 50 Thread from flax 51 Without: Fr. 52 Scope out 53 Sombre and grave 57 "Road to ..." 60 Lure 62 End of quote 64 Icelandic work 65 Millennia 66 One archangel 67 Herring's kin 68 Yard-work tool 69 Garlic-basil sauce



- DOWN 1 Floppy storage device 2 Working work schedule 3 First to putt 4 Natalie's father 5 Furrowed, as brows 6 Fertilizer compound 7 Wickleness 8 Speed contest 9 "Born Free" lioness 10 ... & breakfast 11 Jordan's language 12 Mrs. Gandhi 13 Sluggish 18 Fix in place 22 Icy sheet 24 Intentionally vague 26 Escapes from 27 Greek letter 28 Way cool! 29 Corrida cry 30 Analyze chemically 31 Tango team 32 Craving 36 Python or anaconda 37 Hostelry 38 Part of the U.K. 40 Collar 41 Give it a go 43 Home or Olin 44 Makes ready 45 Annapolis freshmen 46 Saudi Arabia's capital 47 Lake near Ulica 48 African fly 49 Mala 54 PC operator 55 Greek portico 56 Combat vehicle 57 Journalist 58 Jacob August 59 Nordic capital 61 Small boy 63 Italian three

HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



BIG SPRING HERALD Reflecting A Proud Community 915-263-7331 (Main switchboard) 915-263-7335 (Circulation calls only) (Fax) 915-264-7205 Publisher: John H. Walker Ext. 250 Managing Editor: John A. Mosley Ext. 230 Advertising Sales Manager: Edwin Vela Ext. 225 Circulation Manager: Mark Sheedy Ext. 240 Production Manager: Tony Hernandez Ext. 256 Business Office Manager: Dianne Marquez Ext. 255 Office Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Today's Birthdays: Composer-conductor Andre Previn is 71. Actor Ivan Dixon is 69. Country singer Merle Haggard is 63. Actor Billy Dee Williams is 63. Actor Roy Thinnes is 62. Movie director Barry Levinson is 58. Singer Michelle Phillips is 56. Actor John Ratzenberger is 53. Actress MariLu Henner is 48. Figure skater Janet Lynn is 47. Actor Michael Rooker is 45. Actress Ari Meyers is 31. Actor Paul Rudd is 31. Actor Jason Hervey is 28. Actress Candace Cameron is 24.

Thought for Today: "After the age of 80, everything reminds you of something else." - Lowell Thomas, American author and broadcaster (1892-1981).

TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELF READ