

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

April 25, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 58°-60° WEDNESDAY 84°-87°

Senior Circle slates seminar

The Scenic Mountain Medical Center chapter of Senior Circle will sponsor a seminar Wednesday on preventing and dealing with falls.

Topics will include home safety and falling prevention, with information from Companion Service, a personal emergency response system.

A fee of \$5 will be charged non-members. Call Pam Stephens, 268-4721, for more information.

FCI Big Spring sets mock job fair

Federal Correctional Institution Big Spring will hold its second Mock Job Fair Thursday from noon until 3 p.m.

The event is the culmination of an extensive program that allows inmates to prepare for employment after being released.

FCI Big Spring has scheduled more than 15 local business persons to help with the project.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 East Third.

TUESDAY

□ Intermediate line dance classes, 9 a.m. Senior Citizens Center.

□ Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

WEDNESDAY

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

□ Senior Circle Big Spring Mall walkers meet 9:15 a.m. in front of movie theater box office.

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

□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center.

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

THURSDAY

□ Gideons International, Big Spring Camp No. U42060, Hermans, 7 a.m.

□ Big Spring Senior Citizens Center Art Classes, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for 55 and older.

□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

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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.

Howard College board decides to seek bids for SWCID residences

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Howard College trustees on Monday gave a green light to go out for bids on residence hall annexes at the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and reviewed plans for a new softball complex.



FURQUERON

In an expanded meeting held in the SWCID board room, trustees also approved a bid for asbestos removal from the Howard College Diagnostic Center and supported the plan to continue with the Risk Management Academy.

Phil Furqueron, architect, briefed trustees on plans for the residence hall annexes, including the addition of a storage area and computer room. Bids are expected to be returned in time for the June board meeting.

Furqueron also got approval

from the board to continue with plans on his design for a new softball complex that will be used by the Lady Hawks fast-pitch softball team. The team now shares the Big Spring ISD softball complex with the Big Spring Lady Steers.

The new facility would be located just east of Jack Barber Field.

The board also approved a bid of \$20,000 from ARC Abatement Inc. of Dallas for removal of asbestos from the Diagnostic Center at Howard College.

Also given the go-ahead was

continuation of the Risk Management Academy — a pilot program. One course has already been given with much success, said Dr. Cheri Sparks, Howard College president. Plans are in the works and have been approved for a Industrial Technology Program.

Dr. Sparks told the board that there are currently 288 students enrolled in distant learning programs at Howard and various satellite facilities and the WINGS programs is running and in good shape.

Howard College Nursing

Program Director Cindy Stokes addressed the board on the status of the nursing program. She said the program has been given full accreditation and taken off warning status. Seventy-six percent of the last graduation class passed their state exams on their first attempt, Stokes told the board. Stokes also told the board that Texas has a shortfall of some 40,000 nurses and Howard was doing its part in trying to reduce that number.

See COLLEGE, Page 2



Amber Tafoya, center, gives her brother Lane White a taste of an ice cream float while her friend Ashley Barnett enjoys a treat. The two sixth graders at Goliad Elementary School were enjoying a "no zero" party at the school, honoring students with no zeros during the last six weeks.

Big Spring swimming pool may close, but city contemplates building new one

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

The jury's still out, but it appears the city swimming pool at Comanche Trail Park will be closed, not just for this summer, but permanently.

The good news for local swimmers is that the city is looking into building a new one.

All of that is contingent on cost estimates which will be provided to the Big Spring City Council over the next few weeks. What the council saw during a workshop on Monday, however, will prompt some action — that's for certain.

"My understanding is that it costs about \$35,000 to run the pool during the summer. In addition, in order to open it, we will have to spend in the neigh-

borhood of \$30,000 to re-grout the crack in the middle," said Mayor Russ McEwen. "We need to decide whether to open the pool or not."

At least some council members were clear that they believe the city should provide a pool for citizens.

"I personally hate to see us take anything from our youth," said Joann Smoot.

"Our youth don't have anything to do as it is," said Stephanie Horton. "And now we are going to take the pool away?"

"No, I didn't say that. I said we need to determine what we want to do," said McEwen.

Statistics showed that last year there were as few as 21 swimmers and as many as 106 utilizing the pool on any given day.

Last year, the pool closed early because water seepage was causing problems keeping the water chlorinated.

A suggestion that the city consider a liner was quickly discarded — the price would be

about \$100,000.

Councilman Oscar Garcia proposed the idea of having Wilderness Camp inmates tear out the pool and having a new, smaller one installed. Council members liked the idea.

"With a new pool, we're going to save in the long run. My question is, does it make sense — and we can't do it for \$60,000-\$65,000 are we prudent to look at keeping it closed now, and putting that money toward a new pool?" said McEwen.

"For 20, 25 years now, we've thrown good money after bad."

City officials said the water lines to the pool are old and will soon have to be replaced as well.

Council members asked the city staff to come up with some cost estimates on constructing a new pool. That may take some doing, however. Some officials say they have been told there is a cavern under the current pool, and that it may have to be moved to another site. That won't be known until the existing pool has been removed.

EMS

Cost of ambulance service may have council looking at bids by private providers

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

After discussing ambulance service at length Monday, Big Spring City Council appears poised tonight to give the go-ahead to seek bids from private contractors.

Council members spent about an hour and a half on the volatile topic Monday. Faced with the knowledge the current contract expires later this year, they agreed that seeking bids from private contractors would be prudent.

What the council also seemed in agreement with is that Big Spring currently has good ambulance service as provided by the fire department.

"The past five years, I have been able to sleep at night knowing that our EMS is doing a good job," said Councilman Chuck Cawthon.

"The vast majority of calls are being handled in under six minutes. I don't think we have a problem with response time. They are doing a fantastic job," said Mayor Russ McEwen.

Response times were one of the touchy points during Monday's work session, with staff-supplied figures indicating that 90 percent of the responses have been in the eight-to-nine-minute range and a local firefighter saying they are quicker than that.

"I dispute those response times by city staff," said Paul Brown, president of the Big Spring Professional Fire Fighters Association. Brown charged that the numbers used weren't strictly 911 calls and didn't address "survivability." He said the logbooks would show an average response time of 3.9 minutes in the city and 6.7 minutes in the county.

At one time, during a response by interim Fire Chief Brian Jensen to a council member's question, Brown interrupted, saying, in essence, that Jensen wasn't giving straight answers.

"You're out of order Paul."



CAWTHON HORTON

McEwen admonished. He later said "This is a very difficult and very volatile issue. What we have to understand here is all we are trying to do is come up with some numbers that we can use to go out for proposals. We're not making a decision on this. We just need information so we can compare figures."

The dispute on response times led council member Stephanie Horton to ask for new figures, making sure that only emergency response times were used.

"If we can beat what we have now, I am all for it. But I can't make that decision like this. If you give me a picture of what we have now — a true picture — I can make a better decision," Horton said.

The problem with the current service has been the cost. After five years under the fire department, the service is showing a deficit of some \$410,000. Currently the city subsidizes the EMS some \$125,000 a year while the county chips in \$65,000.

Council members are considering going out for proposals from private providers as one of several options. Another would be to keep the service in-house and find other ways to cut costs. A third would be to raise taxes to help pay for it.

Monday, City Manager Gary Fuqua said the city had contacted 12 private providers and eight have shown an interest in bidding.

"I don't expect to get eight bids in but I would sure like to see three or four at least," he

See EMS, Page 2

County transfers property to Big Spring Main Street

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

In an abbreviated session lasting only 20 minutes Monday, Howard County Commissioners Court approved transfer of the Howard House Hotel building and made an appointment to Big Spring Main Street Inc.

An approval to seal coat Howard College parking lots was passed by a vote of 3-2. Voting for approval were commissioners Jerry Kilgore, Bill Crooker and Judge Ben Lockhart.

Commissioners Gary Simer and Emma Puga Brown voted against the measure.

Last month, the issue was tabled after a 2-2 vote, with Crooker and Lockhart casting "for" votes and Simer and Brown casting "against" votes. Commissioner Kilgore was

unable to attend last month's meeting.

According to Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson, the project is a joint effort with the city and county. The county provides the equipment and personnel needed to complete the project.

Commissioners approved transfer of the Howard House Hotel building to Big Spring Main Street Inc. The group may use the building for whatever purpose it desires, commissioners said.

In addition, Commissioner Kilgore was appointed as a member to Big Spring Main Street and will assume those additional duties at the non-profit corporation's next scheduled meeting.

In other activities, Howard

See COUNTY, Page 2



Department of Public Safety Trooper Grant Hickman talks with Nadine Wilmut, a passenger in this westbound vehicle that came to rest on a guardrail about a mile past Rip Griffin's Truck Stop. The other passengers were removed with the help of the Jaws of Life. There were no major injuries. Wilmut, from Colleyville, said they were en route to a hospital in Midland.

APR 25 2000

OBITUARIES

Michael Wayne Pearson

Michael Wayne Pearson, 19, of Big Spring, died on Monday, April 24, 2000, in a local hospital. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 26, 2000, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Greg Taylor, pastor of Miracle Revival Center, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



Michael was born on Nov. 21, 1980, in Big Spring. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. He had attended Gulf Coast Trade School and received his degree in masonry and brick laying. He loved playing baseball and excelled in the sport.

He was a member of Miracle Revival Center.

Survivors include: his mother, Sharon Pearson of Big Spring; his stepfather, Steven Wayne Watson of Big Spring; his brother, Steven Ray Watson of Big Spring; his grandmothers, Elizabeth Pearson and Laquita Watson, both of Big Spring; his grandparents, Levi and Betty Pearson of Big Spring; three uncles, Tim Pearson and wife, Kendra, of Lubbock, Jon Pearson and wife, Lisa, and Bobby Pearson and wife, Terri, all of Big Spring; five aunts, Donna Lee and husband, Jimmy, of Big Spring, Sandra Hayman and husband, Jimmy, of Midland, Rhonda Paredes and husband, Ismael, and Pamela Hayes and husband, Anthony, all of Big Spring, and Sheila Palmer and husband, Tom, of Fort Worth; and many, many cousins.

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

Paid obituary

J.I. Suggs
Funeral service for J.I. Suggs, 88, Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. He died on Tuesday, April 25, 2000, in a local nursing home.

Dee Mario Cerda
Funeral service for Dee Mario Cerda, 18, Big Spring, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 26.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8278

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

J. Walter Unger, 89, died Saturday. Graveside services will be 10:00 AM, Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Dee Mario Cerda, 18, died Monday. Services will be at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Carl Henry Bankston, 69, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 4:00 PM Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Michael Wayne Pearson, 19, died Monday. Services will be at 10:00 AM Thursday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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2000, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Randy Gee, pastor of Crestview Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Mr. Cerda died on Monday, April 24.

He was born on Aug. 2, 1981, in Big Spring. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School. At the time of his death, he was working at StarTek and at Cantu Body Shop. He was also trained in carpentry and construction and had worked at Signal Homes and McDonalds. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include: his mother, JoAnne Cerda of Big Spring; his father, Alfredo Torres of Levelland; two brothers, Shaylon Tobias Cerda and Gabriel Garcia, both of Big Spring; his grandmothers, Bernice Agnes Scaggs of Big Spring and Francis Torres of Levelland; one aunt; and two uncles.

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

Carl Henry Bankston

Carl Henry Bankston, 69, went to be with the Lord at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2000. Graveside funeral service will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, 2000, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Herb McPherson, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating.

He was born on Aug. 9, 1930, in Dawson and married Eva IdaBelle Sundy on June 24, 1950, at Westside Baptist Church, Big Spring.

Mr. Bankston had worked for Phillips Petroleum Company in maintenance service for five years and had worked for Williams Sheetmetal for several years. He worked for the Big Spring State Hospital for 17 years, retiring in 1990 as a supervisor in the maintenance department.

A family man, he loved his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by: his wife, Eva IdaBelle (Sundy) Bankston of Big Spring; two daughters and sons-in-law, Karen Bobette and Larry Don McMurtrey of Mertzon, and Brenda and Tommy Joe McMurtrey of Big Spring; four grandchildren, Kenny and Vanessa Duffer of Big Spring, Landon and Kim

McMurtrey of Mertzon and Joe Paul McMurtrey and Lacy Jill McMurtrey, both of Big Spring; two great-grandchildren, Stephanie and Melissa Duffer of Big Spring; one brother, Steve Bankston of Waco; and one sister, Dorothy Hayley of Overland Park, Kan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, E.S. "Dude" and Lillie Bankston and a brother, Doug Bankston, and an infant brother.

Honorary pallbearers will be all former maintenance co-workers at Big Spring State Hospital.

The family suggests memorials be made to: Calvary Baptist Church, 1200 West Fourth, Big Spring 79720 or to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

Dennis Churchwell advised the board that Dell Computers had submitted a low bid and would be awarded a contract to supply Title V Servers for the college at a price of \$13,278 and six laptop computers for San Angelo Title V at a total cost of \$17,040.

The board also approved the sale of property located at 1507 Oriole that was donated to SWCID by Dr. Robert Hayes. The bid on that property was \$10,206.

In other action taken by the board, trustee Dr. Charles Warren was appointed to the membership of Big Spring Main Street Inc.

They board also approved the renewal of district faculty and professional staff members for another year contract.

EMS

Continued from Page 1

One thing made clear Monday was that the public would have an opportunity to give their input.

"We're going to have to hear from the citizens on this because this is too big," said Tommy Tune, councilman. The other council members readily agreed.

Tentatively, the bids would be opened June 6, scored the following week, and a public hearing held June 20. Awarding of the bid — if the council decided to go with a private provider — could occur on first reading as early as June 27.

Other items on tonight's agenda include:

• requests to keep ornamental chickens at 1802 Wasson Drive and pigeons at 1615 Young,

• an emergency ordinance to determine pay for election judges and clerks for the May 6 council election,

an amended investment policy,

• a request to rename Kids Zone to Katy McAteer Kids Zone,

• and, a resolution approving personnel policies for city.

On second reading, the council will consider:

• annexing a tract of land in the Highland Hills Subdivision,

• an ordinance providing for an additional 15 percent penalty to defray costs of collecting delinquent taxes,

• a proposed budget for the county tax assessor-collector,

• an agreement with the Men's Church Softball League,

• approval of a partial residence homestead exemption for the tax year 2000,

• and, a request for intervention by the city in an upcoming TXU Electric transmission and distribution rate case.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

County Treasurer Teresa Thomas attended the 27th annual seminar for county treasurers and has now received her certification. In addition, Thomas recently earned two continuing education units for completion of 20 hours of organized instruction in the 1999 correspondence course for county treasurers at the V.G. Young Institute of County Government.

Architect Phil Furquerson was on the agenda to give commissioners an update on the courthouse library renovation project but he was unable to attend. Commissioner Kilgore said the renovation project should be ready for bids by next month's commissioner's court meeting.

BRIEFS

55 ALIVE MATURE DRIVING class will be held at the Senior Citizen Center, Industrial Park, May 8 and 9 from 8 a.m. until noon. It is taught by state-certified instructors.

The two-day course of four hour sessions includes no tests. You must attend both days to receive a certificate which will be accepted by most insurance companies for a three-year discount.

Call 267-1628 or 263-1491 for more information.

SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL Class Reunion of 1950 is looking for the following graduates: Norman Brown, Gray Nichols, Wayne Brown, Bill Cook, Larry Dillon, Joe Miller, Vernon Smith, Mary Jane Couch, Delores Franklin, Margaret Hurt, Lou Ann Miller, Doris Ann Stevens, Mozelle Day, Betty Jo Ledlow, Pat Miller, Maudean Pinkerton, Betty Hamrick and Janice Montgomery.

If you know about these people, please call, Joyce Kilpatrick Choate, 393-5722.

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

BIG SPRING MOVIE HOTLINE
For showtimes call
263-2479

The Company Store
PAINT SALE & CLOSE-OUT ITEMS
Several Brand Names
UP TO 30% OFF
267-5811
Bob's Custom Woodwork
409 East 3rd Big Spring
Hrs. 8 to 5:30 Mon.-Fri.

K.C. Steak House
OPEN FOR LUNCH ON SECRETARIES DAY
Wednesday, April 26, 11 am-1 pm
Bring Your Secretary Out To Dine
Full Menu Available
N. Service Road Phone 263-1651
Open Wednesday, April 26, 11:00 am till 1:00 pm

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 4,3,0
Cash 5: 4,5,7,22,39

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

FIRE/EMS

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

MONDAY

3:16 a.m. — 2900 block South Highway 87, traffic accident, one patient refused service, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

3:16 a.m. — 2900 block South 87, extrication.

8:39 a.m. — 1700 block State, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

8:44 a.m. — 2100 block Nolan, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

8:57 a.m. — 3200 Block Parkway, medical call, patient transported to Midland Memorial Hospital.

10:15 a.m. — Midland Memorial Hospital, medical call, patient transported to 3200 block Parkway.

10:22 a.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to Midland.

12:57 p.m. — 3200 block Parkway, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

1:33 p.m. — 3200 block Parkway, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

2:29 p.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to residence.

3:55 p.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to Airpark.

4:10 p.m. — 500 block Gregg, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

4:40 p.m. — 2000 block Morrison, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

5:28 p.m. — SMMC, patient transferred to residence.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities in the weekend report:

Assault/Family Violence, 5

Aggravated Assault, 1

Burglary of Habitation, 2

Burglary of Building, 4

Criminal Mischief, 6

Driving While Intoxicated, 1

Driving While License Suspended, 4

Forgery, 1

Possession of Drugs, 2

Runaway, 1

Theft, 20

Information, 14

Arrests, 14

Accidents, 5

Major, 1

Minor, 4

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

DUNLAPS Your Fashion Headquarters
111 E. Marcy 267-8283

ALLAN'S FURNITURE
100 Miles Free Delivery
202 Scurry PH. 267-6278
Big Spring, Texas

Come Celebrate a Grand Occasion!

You're invited to help me celebrate the grand opening of my new Edward Jones office. Although we may be new to Big Spring, we've been providing investments for people just like you since 1871. Today our firm includes more than 5,000 offices in all 50 states...and we're still growing. Please join us for the festivities!

Tuesday, April 25 4:00-6:00 pm
1714 Gregg St. • 263-4707
Big Spring, Tx.
www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

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BCBS CHAMPUS HMO BLUE BLUE CHOICE
TED L. PARKER BEECH STREET HUMANA TRAVELERS
ACCEPTS MEDICAID
Obstetrical Care at Westwood-Midland & Odessa
267-8226 1-888-729-BABY
616 GREGG STREET
Serving Big Spring 10 Years
NEXT CLINIC VISIT 4-27-00

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111 E. Marcy 267-8283

Lockheed Martin, striking machinists reach tentative agreement

FORT WORTH (AP) — Striking machinists don't know all the details about the latest contract offer from Lockheed Martin, but those on the picket lines early today are optimistic that they could soon be returning to work.

"Everything we are hearing so far is good, not bad, so we're emotionally high," said W.T. Swanzy, who has worked at the plant for 17 years. "We hope it's viable. We didn't want to strike anyway."

After meeting more than 10 hours with a federal mediator, Lockheed officials and representatives for about 2,500 members of Local 776 of the International

Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers announced a tentative agreement Monday night.

Details of the proposed contract weren't revealed. But talk at the union hall early today — as pickets continued at the Fort Worth plant across the street — was that the new offer includes a \$2,000 ratification bonus the union had sought.

The offer that union members will vote on at noon CDT Wednesday also apparently includes a 10-percent pay raise over three years and cost-of-living adjustments that were also included in Lockheed's last offer before the strike.

Pat Lane, the union's president, said the proposal is different than the one his members previously rejected April 9. He did not elaborate.

"We're pleased that we've reached a tentative agreement and hopeful that this will get all of our employees back to work," Lockheed spokesman Joe Stout said.

Union negotiators and Lockheed officials both refused to release details of the proposed contract.

The two sides met Monday for only the second time since the strike began April 10. A 10-hour session with a mediator on April 15, with parties for both

sides actually in different rooms, ended with no results.

This time, representatives for the union and Lockheed met face-to-face at a motel about two miles from the Fort Worth plant.

Jerry Vidrine was walking the picket line Monday night when word came of the tentative agreement.

"I think everybody got a little more relaxed. Most of the people want to go back to work," said Vidrine, who has worked at the plant for 15 years.

"The past three years they've been telling us we are the best, better than everybody else and do great work," he said. "Then

they turn around and give us a bad offer up front."

Executives of Bethesda, Md.-based Lockheed originally offered a 10-percent pay raise over three years and changes in insurance benefits.

But union members always wanted assurances about job security, cost-of-living adjustments, equality with plants doing the same work and a ratification bonus. It appears the new contract offer addresses some of those concerns.

"They didn't take us serious; now they do," said Sherman L. Calder, who has worked at the plant for 23 years.

Swanzy and Calder both feel

that Lockheed could have averted the walkout had they included a ratification bonus in their original offer.

The most recent contract between the company and the workers, in 1997, included a \$1,500 per worker ratification bonus.

The Fort Worth facility is Lockheed's largest manufacturer of F-16s. The company has a 204-plane backlog for the F-16, but most of the new orders won't begin production for at least 18 months.

Despite the strike, Lockheed maintains that it will deliver four F-16s as scheduled this month and two more in May.

Judge in Davidian case denies plaintiff, government requests

WACO (AP) — The federal judge presiding over the Branch Davidians' wrongful death lawsuit against the government has denied plaintiffs' request to reinstate as defendants two of the FBI's on-scene commanders during the 1993 siege and its fiery conclusion.

U.S. District Judge Walter Smith's order, made public Monday at the conclusion of a pre-trial hearing in Waco, said lawyers for the Branch Davidians have presented "nothing to justify reinstating any claims against defendants Jeffrey Jamar and Richard Rogers."

Plaintiffs have contended that Jamar and Rogers did little to prepare for the possibility of

fire despite Attorney General Janet Reno's directive that they be ready for all emergency contingencies.

Jamar also told Congress he kept the local volunteer fire department's personnel and fire trucks away from the burning sect compound out of concern that the firefighters could be hit by Davidian gunfire or exploding ammunition.

More than 80 Branch Davidians died during the inferno that consumed their flimsy wooden retreat on April 19, 1993, several hours into an FBI tear-gassing operation intended to end the 51-day siege.

In the four-page order, Smith also rejected the Justice Department's request to throw

out three of the five major aspects in the civil lawsuit — that federal agents erred in not bringing in armored firefighting equipment; that they wrongly held back firefighters as the compound burned; and that using tanks to push into the compound deviated from the operations plan the attorney general approved.

Smith's order said: "The court has determined that too many material fact issues are presented to justify dismissal or summary judgment as to the claims remaining in the lawsuit."

Earlier on Monday, Smith confirmed that a preliminary review of infrared videotape recorded during the final hours of the 1993 siege identified no

muzzle flashes from either federal agents or sect members.

Preliminary results from the court experts' analysis, which compared the 1993 aerial footage to recordings made during a March 19 field test at Fort Hood, showed the flashes most likely were sunlight reflecting off debris — not gunfire, the judge said.

However, Smith said he does not consider the preliminary analysis by Vector Data Systems indisputable evidence.

Michael Caddell, lead counsel for the Branch Davidian plaintiffs, shrugged off the preliminary findings.

"I've been doing this a long time. You get good news. You get bad news ...," Caddell said.

O'Hair figure pleads guilty to federal weapons charge

FORT WORTH (AP) — A North Texas ex-convict who allegedly played a role in the disappearance of atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair in 1995 has pleaded guilty to an unrelated federal weapons charge.

Gerald Lee Osborne had pleaded innocent to the same charge in January. Osborne changed it to one of a conditional plea of guilt on Thursday. He admitted to the factual elements of the offense but reserved the right to present certain legal issues in his defense.

"We still think we have a good claim on appeal," his attorney, Robert J. Herrington, said.

Osborne, 49, of Weatherford was scheduled to be sentenced on Aug. 7 in U.S. District Judge Terry Means' court.

A federal grand jury in Fort Worth indicted Osborne, an ex-convict, in December on charges of possessing five rounds of .357-caliber ammunition in March 1999. The indictment did not link Osborne directly to the O'Hair case.

But federal officials suspect Osborne of renting an Austin storage unit that may have

been used to dispose of the bodies of O'Hair, her son, Jon Garth Murray, and her adopted daughter, Robin Murray O'Hair, who have been missing more than four years.

A federal agent in a March 1999 affidavit alleged that Osborne conspired with others to kill the three, who disappeared from San Antonio on Sept. 29, 1995, after accepting delivery of \$500,000 in gold coins. Authorities believe they may be dead, but none of their bodies has been found.

In 1963, O'Hair gained international attention for her part in a lawsuit that resulted in restrictions on organized prayer in public schools.

Besides Osborne, the federal affidavit in March implicated David Waters, a former O'Hair employee who was accused of fantasizing about seeing her suffer and "snipping off her toes."

Two other suspects were named in the affidavit. They are Gary Karr, the first person charged in connection with the atheist's disappearance, and Danny Fry, whose headless and handless body was found in Dallas County shortly after the O'Hair disappearance.

Officials found liable in deaths of couple who drove off pier

HOUSTON (AP) — Families of a Galveston couple who died when the car they were in plunged off a hotel pier in 1996 will receive \$10.5 million from the Gulf coast city under a jury award in a negligence lawsuit.

Jurors also took the unusual step Monday of urging the judge to order a stronger railing be built on the city-owned pier.

"In the 35 years that the Flagship pier has been operating, no one has ever driven off the pier before," Galveston City

Manager Steve LeBlanc said. "Are we coming to the point where no one is responsible for their actions?"

Relatives of Kenneth Garza and Dorey Fabain sued the city of Galveston and Flagship Hotel Ltd., accusing them of negligence for failing to install a railing that would stop a car from going off the pier. The city owns the pier and hotel building while the company leases and operates the hotel.

Jurors concluded that the city

was 50 percent negligent, the hotel firm 40 percent negligent and Garza, 34, who apparently drove backward off the pier, 10 percent negligent, attorney Alton Todd told the newspaper.

Todd, who represented the families, said the finding on Garza's negligence will reduce the city's and the hotel firm's liability to \$9.45 million.

The pier's 1964 curb and railing — a 6-inch-high warning curb and railing designed only to keep pedestrians from falling

off — were exempted when stricter building codes were enacted. But jurors agreed with the families' contention that a stronger railing should have been installed on the pier.

The defense showed that a half-empty quart of whiskey and a shot glass were found in the car.

But medical examiners could not determine whether the victims were intoxicated when they died because of body decomposition.

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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.

John H. Walker Publisher
John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Debbie Jensen Features Editor
Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Your help with census is important

Workers are out and about in Howard and surrounding counties, looking for residents who have yet to mail in their census forms. The goal is to get as many as possible returned to the government.

Why? The census count serves a number of purposes, not the least of which is to determine how more than \$185 billion in federal funds is distributed each year. The count also helps determine underserved areas, and is used in deciding where to build hospitals, senior centers and the like.

It also determines how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives go to each state.

With all of that at stake, it only makes sense that residents participate in filling out the forms and returning them.

If a census taker comes to your door for information, please take the time to answer his or her questions. It only takes a minute, and the visit won't be as intrusive as you might imagine.

It's not necessary, for instance, for the census taker to enter your home. All questions can be handled at the door.

Census takers should introduce themselves as such and be ready to show you their census identification badge. It is red, white and blue and features the Department of Commerce seal and the name of the census taker.

If you have doubts as to the authenticity of the census taker, ask to see a personal photo identification card, such as the driver's license. You could also call the local census office. The census taker can provide you with that number, and if he or she can't, then close the door.

All information taken by census takers is confidential.

Please, take the time to participate. The census impacts all of us.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

On Saturday, April 15, the Big Spring Eagles Lodge Aerie No. 3188 hosted a barbecue to benefit the Harbour family. We are proud to say that the barbecue was a huge success. Once again, the town of Big Spring turned out to help a neighbor.

We would like to thank the following people and businesses for helping us make the barbecue a success: the Big Spring Herald, Liberty Machine and Fabrication, Trimway, John Lilley and Blue Bell Ice Cream, Harris Lumber and Hardware, Lil Sooper of Coahoma, Executives of Midland, Butcher Block, Big Spring Water and Ice, Flowers Baking Co., Jack Himes and Shroyer Motor Co., Mark Hyatt, Don Mereness, H-E-B, and last but not least, all of the members of the Eagles Lodge and Ladies Auxiliary who donated time, money, food and effort.

Thank you again Big Spring. TOMMY TILLEY, PRESIDENT, EAGLES LODGE AERIE NO. 3188

TO THE EDITOR:

The sponsors of the Big Spring High School Prom thank the many parents and businesses who helped and supported this year's activities.

Special thanks go to Sue Partee for the pre-prom picture party, Karen Fraser and her phone committee, Cactus Paints, HEB, Culligan Water, Stan Feaster of Howard College, Allan's Furniture, Marcy School and especially the many moms who climbed ladders to hang those decorations, painted the buildings, arranged the plants, asked for donations and helped keep smiles on our faces.

We appreciate all the hard work and extra hours that our fellow sponsors put into working on the prom.

Thank you to all the others who gave support throughout the planning and implementation.

We hope the students enjoyed themselves. MARY ELLEN ATKINSON JUDY TERELETSKY

This bed of lights will survive a nuclear blast

If someday some madman blows the world to smithereens with nuclear parts kept hidden in a baby-formula factory, surely a few suntanning beds will escape annihilation and become the basis for starting an entire new civilization. Not even a nuclear blast could destroy them all.

In the future, man will be few but not pale. My theory is grounded in an observation that every burg large enough to limit itself with signs now has a suntanning salon. At least one.

A town might not have a grocery store, a firetruck, a library, a swap shop or a post office, but there is sure to be a suntan bed with a flashing advertisement outside that says: "New HOT bulbs!"

The craze is international. I recently spent one day in Wales, in the small seaport of Holyhead.

The town was so cute and quaint that my shutter finger soon got a cramp.

To my amazement, along with cozy pubs, a nothing-over-1-pound store and a Holyhead

hardware, there was a tanning salon. It was housed in a bright blue building painted with a seashore mural, a bikini-clad woman and the words "Tan-Fastic."

For all I know, the whole thing started in Wales.

Regardless of where it began, the rural South these days has more tanning salons than John Deeres; I do know that much. One day I was getting a shampoo and trim at Marvena's His & Her Hair Center & Tans in Bowdon, Ga. I asked about the crowd of cars I'd seen in the parking lot the day before. One look at the packed lot and I had driven on, quite sure I'd never get a haircut without an appointment that day.

"Most of that was suntanning-bed business," Marvena said. It's that time of year. Men as well as women climb into those coffins and bake for however long their personal tanning recipes dictate.

This is a sexist statement, admittedly, but I cannot imagine men worrying about tan lines. Apparently they do. It must have something to do with the insidious nature of the fashion industry.

When teen-age boys started aping the whippet-weight runway models and wearing jeans low on their hips, I guess the natural, waist-high demarcation between tanned and untanned parts dropped. Dramatically.

Male, female, or both. Somebody's sure burning a lot

of bulbs. E.B. White once wrote that the car "more than any other object is the expression of the nation's character and the nation's dream."

It's not often that I disagree with White's perfect words, but I'd have to say we've evolved as a nation since his day. America's character and dreams are no longer best represented by Thunderbirds and Buicks. They now appear to be wound up in three kinds of bizarre, nonautomotive businesses: suntanning beds, false-nail emporiums and videos.

They are everywhere, like mushrooms on a dank forest floor. (There are 10 suntan salons and six nail-art joints listed in the Yellow Pages in my town of Carrollton, Ga. The video stores are too numerous to count.)

I'm not sure what it says about the culture, other than that we the people like to look evenly tanned and elaborately manicured while we sit on our couches and watch action-adventure movies.

There are even combination stores, where you can bake yourself and then pick up a loaf of bread on the way out. The popular and ubiquitous dual-purpose video-and-tanning bed outlet sometimes has confusing messages on the portable sign out front.

"New bulbs. Pitch Black. \$5 for 20 Minutes. Price of Glory. New Beds. Body Heat."

Whether you're cooking or

looking, the price is right. I wish I could say I never roasted myself beneath a broiling sun, prematurely aging my skin and sending up a skin cancer invitation. I did so often and with great enthusiasm when I was young.

But if you're going to do something unhealthy, you might as well wring the enjoyment from it. Any vice should be savored, not gulped.

If I still had the nerve to try, I'd miss the old, slow days of building an entire day around getting a suntan — the ceremonial first outing, the unfurling of the beach blanket, the smell of the baby oil. Life was better before the easy-bake ovens.

(Don't get me started on the false-nails part of our economic equation. Sales clerks now devote their professional lives to protecting — and examining — Morticia-length nails while the customer waits. And waits.)

"I am fascinated by the anatomy of decline," White wrote, "by the spectacle of people passively accepting a degenerating process which is against their own interests."

He was writing about the redesign of the automobile — longer and lower with bigger fenders. He also objected to replacing the car window crank with a lazy push button.

If he could see us now, jumping into our foreign cars and speeding down to the tanning bed and nail-art studio. Lost, buffed souls.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

WHO'S THE GUY IN THE BLACK ROBE STANDING NEXT TO GLORIA ESTEFAN?



These kids don't make good revolutionaries

I couldn't help but laugh. One of the demonstrators arrested in Washington, D.C., told National Public Radio in an outraged and indignant voice that the only food offered to them by the cops was a baloney sandwich, and "most of us are vegetarians!"

Wow, what heinous treatment. I have one word of advice for this kid: Don't ever, ever leave the United States. Anybody whose idea of cruel and unusual punishment is a baloney sandwich does not want to know what it's like to be arrested in most countries.

One night in a Tijuana jail would, I think, convince this kid that the jail in Washington was heaven, the cops were angels, and the baloney sandwich was ambrosia from the gods. And there are lots and

lots of worse places to be arrested than Tijuana.

Now, by and large, I agree with the demonstrators that the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank serve the cause of multinational corporations, but I point out the young man's protest as an example of how soft and naive a lot of young Americans have become.

They seem to be exceedingly short on life experiences. That's one argument for bringing back the draft and making it a no-exceptions, universal, military-training program. A few weeks of basic training, even in today's effeminate forces, would probably be enough to teach appreciation of a baloney sandwich.

I don't recall exactly when my moment of truth came, but I believe it was when I was crawling under barbed wire after a heavy rain during gas-warfare training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

The muddy water was about a half an inch below my mouth and nose, and the tea gas was burning the heck out of the part of my face that wasn't submerged. This was in the

late 1950s.

"These (expletives deleted)," I muttered to myself. "Don't give a flying (expletive deleted) whether I live or die. They are totally indifferent to my fate, much less to my comfort."

Now that is a moment of truth every young American boy should reach — the sooner the better. American kids, if they are halfway lucky, tend to live comfortable lives surrounded by people who care about them. They need desperately to know that that is not a universal condition in the world at large. And few people are better qualified to teach them that lesson than a drill instructor or basic-training platoon sergeant.

Having seen all those Hollywood films in which there is a moment of reconciliation between the recruits and their DI, I kept waiting for mine during the dark hours at Fort Jackson as we waited to board buses for our next duty stations.

The moment never came. The last words from the first sergeant boomed across the mess hall: "If you aren't putting food in it, keep your

(expletive deleted) mouth shut." The cadre was glad to see us go.

We were glad to see them stay behind. They despised us. We returned the feeling. So much for Hollywood bravo sierra.

But they had done their jobs. They had de-civilianized us. We had become aggressive. We'd fight at the drop of a word or a wrong look.

And people who plan to go head to head with police need to know that they can expect a tap on the head or a stick in the gut. That's the way the game is played. No hard feelings, but if you plan to be a lawbreaker, then do not expect law enforcers to treat you like a kindergartner.

That's probably why upper-middle-class American kids don't make good revolutionaries. It never occurs to them that whomever or whatever they are opposing has the right to self-defense. They seemed genuinely shocked to discover that if you get in somebody's face, that person is likely to put a fist in your face. Or worse, give you a baloney sandwich.

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Reno

WASHINGTON Attorney General voicing "no regret" for the return of Elian G. Cuban father, questioning today's Republican...

The attorney meet in Capitol bipartisan group selected by Trent Lott, R-Mi came as prelude into Saturday have started in and the Senate. Republicans, a Democrats align seeking to block

Gunfire one

WASHINGTON boy is brain dead young people from gunshot during a possible shooting at the police said.

The popular continued their The National People is offered reward. "This violence is re must not be unpunished."

President Kwe The Associated He added that organization re to take a more j on incidents li Police said th gating whether were gang rela at least one te who fired a groups of you frontation esc throwing and th

A police sou not to be iden said early today; dence that n shooter was investigators identify and h arrest today.

The shooting in age from 11 attending a c Easter gatheri celebrating black Police said a teen-ager, she pital overnight a gunshot wou that he said w ing the zoo sho A high-rank

Jury flip

LOUISVILLE, Jurors who c whether to con murder or mans shooting death flipped a coin; guilty of murder

However, the j mistrial after fu the coin toss.

Phillip J. Give have faced life i victim of murder Monica Briggs, new trial was Sept. 12.

The jury of seven women de nine hours over week before issi Friday.

Jury foreman

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Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY



Reno stands firm under attack from skeptical Republican lawmakers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Janet Reno, voicing "no regrets whatsoever" for the raid that helped return Elian Gonzalez to his Cuban father, is facing tough questioning today from skeptical Republican lawmakers.

The attorney general was to meet on Capitol Hill with a bipartisan group of 11 senators selected by Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss. The session came as preliminary inquiries into Saturday's pre-dawn raid have started in both the House and the Senate.

Republicans, and a handful of Democrats aligned with those seeking to block Elian's return

to Cuba, stepped up their criticism for what they see as the Justice Department's strong-arm tactics.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., decried "the grotesque image" of the seizure at gunpoint. And Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind., chairman of the House Government Reform Committee, called Reno's decision "reckless."

The administration in turn accused Republicans of playing politics, with White House spokesman Joe Lockhart denouncing "wild statements" by House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas, and others.

"The top Republican leadership with one voice and very loudly condemned the operation and now they are saying, 'Let's find out about it,'" Lockhart said today on ABC's "Good Morning America." "That's backwards. I think most average Americans outside the Beltway will understand normal people get information first and then make a judgment."

Interviewed on NBC's "Today," Lockhart said that despite an assertion by Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., President Clinton had not promised that the boy would not be seized from the Miami relatives.

Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla., who

has bitterly criticized the operation asked on CBS' "The Early Show": "How can anyone justify using a gun to rip this boy away from his Miami family?"

Reno on Monday defended her actions anew in several television interviews.

"It was time he was returned to his daddy," Reno said of the 6-year-old shipwreck survivor. Interviewed on PBS's "News Hour with Jim Lehrer," Reno said she struggled with different options before giving the go-ahead for the seizure — including "going up there myself" to claim the boy.

She said it was clear that the crowds outside the house "were

going to intervene in any attempt to extract Elian from the house."

She said she believed she had no realistic choice but to proceed with the armed seizure. "What you saw was a law enforcement operation that went the right way," she said.

If necessary, Reno said, she would enforce the federal order that the boy not be removed from the United States until a federal court rules on the issue of whether he can be granted political asylum over the objections of his father.

Elian was removed Saturday from his great-uncle's home in Miami, where he has been stay-

ing since his rescue from the Atlantic last November.

He is in seclusion with his father at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. Florida family members, rebuffed twice in weekend attempts to see the boy, waited until late afternoon Monday to try again. Again they were not allowed on the base.

Lott invited 10 other senators to today's meeting. Most of them have been critical of the administration's handling of the case. Two on the list — Democratic Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota and Patrick Leahy, D-Vt. — have previously been supportive of the administration.

Gunfire erupts at National Zoo; one left brain dead, six wounded

WASHINGTON (AP) — One boy is brain dead and six other young people are recovering from gunshot wounds suffered during a possibly gang-related shooting at the National Zoo, police said.

The popular tourist attraction was closed today as police continued their investigation.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is offering a \$25,000 reward. "This type of random violence is repulsive and it must not be allowed to go unpunished," NAACP President Kweisi Mfume told The Associated Press today.

He added that the civil rights organization recently "decided to take a more proactive stance on incidents like this."

Police said they were investigating whether the shootings were gang related and sought at least one teen-age gunman who fired a handgun into groups of youths after a confrontation escalated to bottle throwing and then shots.

A police source who asked not to be identified by name said early today there is no evidence that more than one shooter was involved, that investigators believe know his identity and hope to make an arrest today.

The shooting victims ranged in age from 11 to 16 and were attending a century-old post-Easter gathering at the zoo celebrating black families.

Police said a seventh person, a teen-ager, showed up at a hospital overnight for treatment of a gunshot wound to the thumb that he said was suffered during the zoo shooting.

A high-ranking police offi-

cial, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a boy, either 11 or 12 years old, was shot in the head and declared brain dead at a hospital. The boy was being kept alive by machines to allow his family to donate his organs, the official said.

Officials at Children's Hospital National Medical Center, where the boy was being treated, would say only that the boy remained in very critical condition.

A 12-year-old girl was in serious condition with a wound to the pelvis, a 14-year-old boy was in serious condition with a leg wound, and three other youths were hospitalized with less serious injuries, according to officials at the hospitals where they were treated.

Hours later, police still circled the zoo in helicopters. "We are looking into the possibility that it is gang-related, but we are not certain," Police Chief Charles Ramsey said.

The 111-year-old zoo, a unit of the Smithsonian Institution, is one of the most visited sites in Washington, drawing 3 million local residents and tourists each year. Nestled on 163 acres in one of Washington's wealthiest neighborhoods, it has seldom experienced violence and was better known for the rare Chinese pandas it housed for over two decades.

The gunfire broke out shortly after 6 p.m. EDT in broad daylight and stunned visitors.

"I am not bringing them back. These are my grandkids. It is not safe," said Sandra Edwards, who was visiting the zoo with her grandchildren when she heard the shots and saw youths fighting.

Edwards said she thought some of the teen-agers appeared to be gang members, because they wore matching clothing. For instance, she said one group of teens all wore blue bandanas.

In addition to the gunshot wounds, a seventh victim in the vicinity of the melee suffered a seizure and a pregnant woman was taken to the hospital after experiencing abdominal pain, authorities said.

Assistant Chief Terrance Gainer said police suspected a 9 mm handgun might have been used. Police roped off two shooting scenes — one just outside the zoo entrance and the other inside the zoo.

Nakisha Johnson, 17, said she saw one young man open fire after a feud between youths became violent. She said the children who were wounded were caught in the middle of the two groups.

"He was just shooting at the people he was fighting" but struck the children bystanders, Johnson said.

Witnesses said the shooting occurred when a bottle was thrown from one group of youths at some other youths in a crowd near the zoo gate. A piece of glass struck a young woman in the face, and then shots rang out, the witnesses said.

"Everybody started grabbing their babies and running," said Kristyl Nelson, 14.

Vice President Al Gore announced the shootings about an hour after they occurred, while he was attending a Democratic fund-raiser in New York City. The news brought gasps from the audience.

Government weighs breakup of Microsoft

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposal to split up Microsoft Corp. into separate companies is being considered as remedies against the software maker.

A Microsoft spokesman denounced the proposal as "extreme and radical."

Attorneys for the Justice Department and the 19 states that successfully sued Microsoft for antitrust violations are considering ways to break up the company as a method to curb anticompetitive practices. One reported option would be to split the company into two or three parts, each selling separate products, such as the Windows operating system and Internet content. Another alternative would be for Microsoft to

divest its popular Office software.

Any kind of divestiture is part of a "full array of options" being discussed, a source close to the talks said Monday.

The news of a possible breakup contributed Monday to a 16 percent plunge in Microsoft shares, by \$12.31 to a share of \$66.62, in trading on the Nasdaq stock market. Investors also were disheartened by a mediocre earnings report last Thursday and resulting stock downgrades by analysts at SG Cowen Securities Corp. and the Goldman Sachs Group.

The government and the states have the option of filing separate recommendations, but both sides hope to turn in a single proposal. Each has until

Friday to submit proposed remedies to U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, who ruled April 3 that Microsoft illegally used its dominance in the operating systems market to hurt competition. The ruling came after a 78-day trial that began in October 1998.

"There is nothing in the trial record or in this case that would justify such an extreme and radical remedy," Microsoft spokesman Jim Cullinan said Monday. "This would be bad for Microsoft, consumers and the entire industry."

A court hearing to consider remedies has been scheduled for May 24.

Plaintiffs in the case also are considering temporary sanctions.

Jury flips coin to decide murder over manslaughter

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Jurors who couldn't decide whether to convict a man of murder or manslaughter in the shooting death of his girlfriend flipped a coin and found him guilty of murder.

However, the judge declared a mistrial after finding out about the coin toss.

Phillip J. Givens II, 28, would have faced life in prison if convicted of murder in the death of Monica Briggs, 29, last May. A new trial was scheduled for Sept. 12.

The jury of five men and seven women deliberated about nine hours over two days last week before issuing the verdict Friday.

Jury foreman David Melton

told The Courier-Journal for today's editions the jurors decided to flip a silver dollar to avoid a hung jury. Because all agreed on the coin toss, they thought it was legal, he said.

"Realistically, I didn't think we had anything to lose," Melton said. "We were going to be hung without it."

But when the jurors returned to court Monday to recommend a sentence, Jefferson Circuit Judge Kenneth Conliffe ordered a new trial after telling Melton he had heard about the coin toss, and Melton confirmed that it happened.

Brian Butler, one of the prosecutors in the case, said one of the jurors apparently told someone about the coin toss, and that

person told a Jefferson County court employee. The court employee told a judge, who brought it to Conliffe's attention, Butler said.

Three of the jurors declined to comment to the newspaper. The others could not be reached by the newspaper.

Conliffe also declined to be interviewed.

Givens' lawyer, Mark Chandler, said it's "scary" to think that 12 people would decide to flip a coin to reach a verdict, especially in a murder case.

"It kind of blows your mind," he said. "I think they had a lapse in judgment, and I'd like to think it doesn't go on very often."

BUSINESS REVIEW

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John R. Fish, MD Board-Certified Ophthalmologist

Eyesight is one of the most precious gifts we possess. If your sight or the sight of a family member is endangered by an injury, defect or disease, make an appointment to consult with Dr. John R. Fish, located in Big Spring at 207 East 7th Street, phone 267-3649 or 1-800-542-5058.

Dr. John R. Fish is an ophthalmologist, a physician specially trained to diagnose and treat problems of the eye such as cataracts, glaucoma and retinal diseases. This eye specialist is completely knowledgeable in both medical and surgical treatments. He is skilled in delicate eye surgery such as cataract removal and the implantation of intraocular lenses. Using modern laser technology, Dr. John R. Fish utilizes the YAG laser to treat secondary cataracts which sometimes cloud vision following cataract surgery, and the Diode laser to treat glaucoma. Laser treatments generally take only a few minutes and are painless. He is also available to give a second opinion if eye surgery has been recommended to you.

Take that first step toward better vision! For professional ophthalmological care to restore, preserve or enhance your vision, call the office of Dr. John R. Fish for an appointment or more information today.

A-Bob's Bail Bonds

Robert Smith, Bail Bondsman • Family Owned & Operated For 18 Years

No one likes to consider the possibility of ever spending a night in jail, but an unexpected speeding ticket or misunderstanding could result in your having to face two or three days in custody. In the event of such an occurrence, it is comforting to know that a reputable bail bondsman service is ready, willing and able to serve you. In this area, people have come to know they can depend on A-Bob's Bail Bonds, located in Big Spring at 110 East 3rd Street, phone 263-3333.

Licensed in local, state, district and federal courts, A-Bob's Bail Bonds has won the respect of attorneys, judges, police and prosecutors for reputable service. The owner of this business has had many years of experience with bail bonds and is thoroughly competent in every necessary detail. His advice pertaining to bonding is sought after and respected. He offers the people of this area a 24-hour service and is always available to serve you.

In this day and age, many innocent people are jailed. For this type of emergency, a bail bondsman is an invaluable asset and friend to have. When you need a reputable, professional bail bondsman, remember A-Bob's Bail Bonds.

Mountain View Lodge "Where Everybody Is Somebody"

One of the most difficult decisions for any family is placing a loved one in a nursing home. They want the assurance that their family member will be receiving quality medical care and an opportunity to continue their lives with true meaning.

Mountain View Lodge, located in Big Spring at 2009 Virginia Avenue, phone 263-1271, was designed to provide comfort, safety and a home-like atmosphere for those requiring skilled nursing and/or rehabilitation services. In the company of companions the same age, you or your loved one will have the opportunity to experience planned daily activities and recreational programs geared to their interests and abilities. Their team of qualified professionals provides 24-hour nursing care and rehabilitative therapy with personalized attention to each resident. At Mountain View Lodge, both private and semi-private rooms are available, and wonderful, nutritious meals are prepared daily. Special diets are carefully followed and the facility is equipped with modern alarm systems to ensure the safety of their residents.

Mountain View Lodge is locally owned and operated, and they invite you to visit their fine facility when you are faced with the decision of choosing nursing care or therapy for yourself or your loved one. The goal of the entire staff is to personally care for and professionally serve each of their residents.

Generations Home Care Serving Western Texas Since 1992

When it comes to health care for a loved one—there's no place like home! When a patient requires basic day-to-day nursing care, special therapy, or must have a prolonged convalescence, they are frequently happier and recover more quickly in their own home. At Generations Home Care, newly located in Big Spring at 1510 Scurry Street, Suite C, phone 263-1870, they are dedicated professionals who specialize in providing quality home care services.

This home health agency features a full range of in-home care including skilled nursing, rehabilitation services and personal care by home health aides. Generations Home Care also offers home IV therapy for pain management and nutrition. These qualified, competent personnel provide services under direct orders from the patient's physician. They are dedicated to bringing together people who care with people who need care.

Generations Home Care will handle your particular requirements in a professional, confidential manner. Every patient and family has unique needs, and the dedicated personnel here can provide them with an individualized care plan reflecting their needs as a whole. For that extra special attention you deserve, and that touch of excellence you expect, call Generations Home Care. Remember, peace of mind begins with personal care.

Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service

Oldest AAA-Approved Towing Service In Texas

For fast, reliable towing services, call the pros at Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service, located in Big Spring at 700 West 4th Street, phone 267-3747. They have many years of experience in this field and can handle your every towing need, whether it be a simple jump start, tire change or the towing of your car or truck. Your vehicle will be taken to the destination of your choice. In addition, if you've broken down and you need to get somewhere quickly, call Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service for transport services to your destination.

For most people, it is not often that they need to call a towing service, but when you do, rely on Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service for prompt and courteous service. They will be there for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and may be reached by calling 267-3747. They specialize in local and long distance damage-free towing for commercial or private towing services. These experts have all the necessary equipment to perform any wrecker operation needed. Two of their drivers recently went to Wreck Master training school and received their certification.

It's nice to know that the trucks and personnel at Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service are available when you need them the most. For professional damage-free towing service and competitive prices, Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service is the name to remember. Clip this reader ad and put it in your wallet for the next time you need the services of a competent and reliable towing service.

Saddleridge Lodge Assisted Living

Viola Adams, Executive Director

There is a need in this area for affordable living facilities for older residents who are mobile and active, but no longer want to cope with the responsibilities of maintaining a home. These individuals need the freedom that is every one's right, but they may require safe and secure surroundings and some amount of assistance.

This need is met at Saddleridge Lodge Assisted Living, located in Midland at 1808 West Loop 250 North, phone 687-0480. This home-like adult living facility provides private apartments with three floor plans to choose from. Their accommodations are climate-controlled, well-maintained and relaxing. Laundry, housekeeping and three nutritious meals a day free their residents to enjoy planned activities, their own personal projects, and each other's companionship. Saddleridge Lodge Assisted Living's caring staff believes in dignified and personalized care and provides assistance with bathing, dressing, personal care, and medication management as needed. Medical care can be arranged immediately. Most importantly, their assistance is unobtrusive, with respect for the individual.

Should your loved one require independence in a safe and caring environment, you are invited to contact Saddleridge Lodge Assisted Living to discuss their services or to arrange a visit to their facilities. Let them help ease your mind about caring for your loved one. They are CBA Certified. License No. 00000323.



Under the Sea Open House

St. Mary's Episcopal School
118 Cedar Road
Thursday, April 27

6:30 - 7:30 Visit the classrooms, computer room, art exhibits and more.
7:00 - 7:45 Meal served - Hot Dog, chips, ice cream & drink - \$2.50 each
7:45 Music Program

Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy the meal and show!

Fall registration due by Open House

APR 25 2000

IN BRIEF

Lady Steers suffer 2-1 loss in practice game

Big Spring's Lady Steers simply couldn't come up with the big hit, or keep their hands on the ball following crucial strikeouts, as they suffered a 2-1 loss to Breckenridge's Lady Buckaroos.

A pair of third strike passed balls in the second inning provided the opening Breckenridge needed to spoil a 14-strikeout, 2-hitter tossed by Big Spring's Christina Gwyn.

Worse still, the Lady Steers failed to capitalize on a bases-loaded situation with an out in their half of the second inning.

A one-out RBI double by Lady Steers catcher Lindsey Marino in the sixth inning provided Big Spring with its only run.

The Lady Steers, now 23-6 on the season, will play the winner of today's bi-district play-off game between Denton and Forth Worth Brewer in an area playoff game at 6 p.m. Friday in Abilene.

Bulldogettes set to face Windthorst on Thursday

Coahoma's Bulldogettes will begin their bid for a return trip to the Class 2A state softball tournament on Thursday when they face Windthorst's Lady Trojans in a Region I area playoff showdown.

That game is slated for a 6 p.m. start at Abilene Christian University.

Steers' Langford, Smiley fall in first regional round

Big Spring's boys' doubles team of Aaron Langford and Zach Smiley found their stay at the Region I, Class 4A tennis tournament a short one Monday at the Bentwood Country Club in San Angelo.

Langford and Smiley, the runners-up at the District 5-4A tournament two weeks ago, were eliminated in a marathon match with Burleson's Brandon Thompson and Brian Roberts. Thompson and Roberts advanced to the quarterfinals with a 7-6, 5-7, 7-5 win.

Bearkats doubles teams eliminated at regional

Garden City doubles tennis teams were eliminated during Monday's opening rounds of the Region I, Class 1A tennis tournament in Levelland.

The Bearkats' boys tandem of Max Batla and Jason Smith experienced a little better luck than Lady Bearkats Summer Eoff and Lora Braden, however.

Batla and Smith opened the tournament with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 win over Eric Beatty and Jason Key of Munday, but were eliminated in the quarterfinals, as they dropped a 6-1, 6-3 decision to Lance Martin and Andy Messamore of Sudan.

Eoff and Braden were eliminated in the opening round of the girls' doubles, suffering a 2-6, 6-3, 7-5 loss to Nazareth's Carrie Birkenfield and Sara Schuelke.

AREA GAMES

TODAY

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

5 p.m.
• Coahoma Bulldogs at Midland Christian Mustangs, non-district game.

6 p.m.
• Big Spring Steers at Fort Stockton Panthers, District 5-4A game.

ON THE AIR

Radio

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

5:45 p.m. — Big Spring Steers at Fort Stockton Panthers, KBST-AM 1490.

Television

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

6:35 p.m. — Los Angeles Dodgers at Atlanta Braves, TBS, Ch. 11.

NBA PLAYOFFS

6 p.m. — Detroit Pistons at Miami Heat, TNT, Ch. 28.
8:30 p.m. — Phoenix Suns at San Antonio Spurs, TNT, Ch. 28.

Rangers beat Red Sox, but now face Pedro Martinez tonight

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers survived one Martinez brother. Tonight's assignment figures to be a whole lot tougher.

Texas defeated the Boston Red Sox 5-4 Monday night with Ramon Martinez the Red Sox starter.

Martinez, making his first start in nine days because of four straight rain-outs, did not get the decision, throwing 88 pitches in four innings before loser Tim Wakefield came on in relief. Martinez allowed two runs and three hits and walked five.

The Rangers viewed Monday night as almost a must-win situation since they must face Ramon's brother, Pedro, tonight. Pedro Martinez was the unanimous Cy Young Award winner in 1999.

"I'd like to say it's no big deal, but it

is," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said of Monday night's victory. "This was a nice game for us to get."

The Rangers won the first game of the three-game series on the strength of Rafael Palmeiro's two homers and Luis Alica's tiebreaking single.

"It's big," Palmeiro said. "We'll need to scratch for some runs against Pedro. We're going up against the best. He has three great pitches he can throw for strikes, and you don't know what he's going to throw. Hopefully, he can make some mistakes."

Palmeiro hit a two-run shot in the third inning and added a solo blast in the seventh for the 23rd two-homer game of his career. Palmeiro's 369 homers tie him with Ralph Kiner for 47th on the career list, two behind Gil Hodges.

"I wasn't looking for them," Palmeiro said of the homers. "They just gave me some pitches I was able to drive."

Said Oates: "I've seen that many times before. When he gets to swing the bat, he can do a lot of damage."

With two outs in the sixth and the game tied at 2, Mike Lamb singled off Wakefield (1-1), and Royce Clayton walked. Alica lined a single in front of center fielder Carl Everett, scoring both runners, who were running on the pitch.

Palmeiro's eighth homer and sixth in his last four games against Boston made it 5-2 in the seventh.

Boston rallied in the eighth on Brian Daubach's two-run double off reliever Tim Crabtree.

The Red Sox played for the first time after getting rained out of a game against

Detroit and a three-game series against Cleveland, but manager Jimmy Williams refused to pin the loss on the layoff.

"We have no excuses," Williams said. "We played good, we just got beat 5-4. It's a nine-inning game."

Rangers starter Kenny Rogers (2-3) allowed two runs and six hits in seven innings.

John Wetteland pitched the ninth for his second save in four opportunities.

Wetteland hadn't appeared in a game in a week since blowing back-to-back save opportunities.

"It's been tough and I've added to that frustration over the last couple of weeks," Wetteland said. "It's tough on your head — one run, one pitch, one hit away from a victory. So this was nice. It's something we haven't done a lot of."



Gus Jacobs (left) and Wesley Hart, both of Coahoma, display just some of the catfish they caught on a recent fishing trip on the Nueces River just above Lake Meredith. According to Jacobs, they caught more than 1,200 pounds of fish on the trip including 37- and 32-pound blue catfish.

Coleman gives Hornets edge in OT win over Philadelphia

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

All Derrick Coleman ever wanted was to play for a contender. Now that he's got his chance, he'll do anything to make it last.

Coleman scored eight of his 29 points in overtime, leading the Charlotte Hornets to a 108-98 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers to tie their playoff series Monday night.

It's the first time in the playoffs in six years for Coleman, who was last in the postseason with New Jersey in 1994.

"Derrick just wants to play for a winner," Charlotte coach Paul Silas said. "I thought he'd come up big in this series, and he did tonight. I can't say enough about his performance."

Coleman was unstoppable in the extra period, hitting four straight baskets and helping the Hornets take the series to Philadelphia for Game 3 on Friday night.

In the other playoff game Monday night, Utah routed Seattle 101-87 for a 2-0 lead in their Western Conference series.

Coleman spent almost three years with the Sixers before the club failed to exercise his option after the 1998 season. He instead signed with Charlotte.

After the game, the surly nine-year veteran went through the Hornets' locker room congratulating every player.

"It's playoff basketball, man. You can't help but be pumped," he said.

Allen Iverson, who scored a career playoff high 40 points in Game 1, tied his career playoff low with 13 points. It was the first time in Iverson's 10 playoff games he failed to lead the 76ers in scoring.

"I just missed shots," Iverson said. "I missed layups. I missed wide-open shots. I don't feel like anybody can stop me but myself. I did a pretty good job of doing that."

Charlotte used its huge front line of Coleman, Anthony Mason and Elden Campbell to dominate the 76ers in overtime. The Hornets hit their first six shots and eight of nine in the extra period.

Mason opened the OT with a bruising layup that gave the Hornets a 93-91 lead. Coleman then took over, scoring six straight points on a layup and two 15-foot jumpers for a 99-95 lead with 2:47 to play.

Coleman then took away a rebound at the other end from Tyrone Hill, and Charlotte capitalized when Eddie Jones hit a 3-pointer. Coleman added a turnaround jumper, and Mason and Campbell dunked to even the series 1-1.

Campbell finished with 20 points, Jones had 19 and Mason scored 14.

"D.C. and myself would have one of us go up for the block and the other hit the boards," said Campbell. "He got into a groove and we went with it. It's hard to stop us inside."

Iverson was held in check the entire night by Jones, who unlike Game 1 stayed out of foul

trouble and in Iverson's face.

Iverson was off from the outset, missing badly on a 3-point attempt and bricking a layup while scoring just seven points in the first half.

He wasn't any better in the second half.

His first shot of the third quarter didn't even hit the rim, and he struggled to get anything off on Jones — who has a six-inch height advantage on him.

What shots he could take either rattled off the rim or grazed the glass and bounced into Charlotte's hands. He missed a 3-point attempt with under a minute to play in overtime and shot just 5-for-21 for the game.

"I had the same game plan — keep him on the court, stay on him and contest his shots," Jones said.

The rest of the Sixers picked up the slack for Iverson and had an 89-84 lead with four minutes to play.

But David Wesley hit a 3 and the Hornets tied it at 89 when Mason dunked with one second left on the shot clock and 1:01 to play in regulation. The Hornets then took a 91-89 lead, their first since early in the fourth quarter, on Campbell's tip-in with 26 seconds to play.

The 76ers tied it on Eric Snow's jumper with 12 seconds to go. Jones missed an 18-foot fadeaway jumper over Aaron McKie, who was in on defense in place of Iverson, as time expired in regulation.

See NBA, page 7

Howard College honors athletes, fans at banquet

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

Howard College athletes and fans reaped a number of awards Monday night as the school staged its annual athletic banquet, all of them drawing praise not only from Hawks and Lady Hawks coaches, but from the college's top administrators, as well.

The biggest winners of the night proved to be Hawks pitcher Danny McMurtry and his baseball teammates, long-time Howard College fans J.D. and Leona Thompson and mathematics instructor Terry Robertson.

McMurtry, who'd earlier been selected as the recipient of the Golden Arm award in baseball, was named the winner of the Academic Excellence Distinguished Student Athlete of the Year award by Howard College president Dr. Cheri Sparks.

The Hawks baseball team was the first recipient of the Academic Excellence Distinguished Team of the Year award, for having turned in the highest cumulative grade point average of all the Howard sports programs.

In presenting the Thompsons with their induction into the Howard College Athletic Hall of Fame, Sparks noted that they have been avid followers of all Hawks and Lady Hawks sports programs since 1952.

Robertson was selected as the first recipient of the Above and Beyond Award for his efforts at helping the student athletes and coaches in a variety of ways.

In addition to McMurtry's pitching award, new Hawks head baseball coach Justin Hays presented plaques to five other players on the team. Center fielder Kennard Bibbs was named the team's Most Valuable Player, while catcher Jason L. Jurgens was given the Academic Excellence Award. Caleb Reger was given the Big Stick Award, while pitcher Matt Burris was selected as Newcomer of the Year and outfielder/third baseman/shortstop Jay Alsop was selected for the Golden Glove Award.

Hawks head basketball coach Tommy Collins was next to present awards to his players, the most highly-sought Most Valuable Player honor going to sophomore point guard Darryl Martin.

Three other sophomores also received basketball awards, as Donald "Yogi" Caesar was

given the Unsung Hawk Award, while Derrick Franklin was named Chairman of the Boards and Justin Rhodes was named Mr. Defense.

The basketball team's Academic Excellence Award went to Kresimir Tomorad, while fellow freshmen Steve Bonner was given the Top Gun Award, Vasilis Tsimpliaridis was selected as the Most Improved Award winner and Chris McKelvey was given the Hawk Award.

First-year Hawks rodeo coach Greg Kernick presented the Academic Excellence Award for his team to Michael D. Galaviz. The Women's High Point Award went to Renea Rasberry, while Matt Burrow was the Roughstock High Point Award winner; Todd Loesch was selected as Timed Event High Point Award honoree; and Jeremy Hughes was selected for the Top Hand Award.

Howard athletic trainer Everett Blackburn announced that Joshua Young had been selected for the Academic Excellence Award in his program, while Kevin Park was honored as the Outstanding Student Athlete Trainer and David Bagley was picked as Outstanding Student Manager.

Charlie Rudinger was picked as Most Improved Scholastic Student Athletic Trainer, while Park, Lee Martinez, Tiffany Barnett and Becky Casarez received Sophomore Trainer Awards.

While Lady Hawks softball coach Andy Mace did not award an MVP award this season, sophomore Teresa Johnson had perhaps the equivalent in many ways.

Not only did Johnson share the Big Stick Award with teammate Josie Rosovich, but was also named winner of the Downtown and the Clean Slate awards, signifying her as the team's leading home run hitter and RBI leader.

Sophomore first baseman Kara Brand was the recipient of the Academic Excellence Award, while Renee Valiere won the Golden Hands Award, Andrea Padias was the Silver Heels Award winner and DeShaun Drake was selected Newcomer of the Year.

Lady Hawks head basketball coach Ron Mayberry was last on the list. Freshman Koretha Johnson was selected as the team's Most Valuable Player, was Tashean Thomas earned the Academic Excellence

See AWARDS, page 7

Neither potential second-round opponent appealing to Stars

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Stars will either face the San Jose Sharks or the Colorado Avalanche in the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs. Dallas has a losing record against both teams during the regular season, but it's not hard to determine which team the Stars would rather face.

The outcome of Tuesday's Game 7 of the Western Conference quarterfinals between San Jose and St. Louis will determine Dallas' next opponent. The Stars will face San Jose should the Sharks win. They'll play Colorado if the Blues win.

In San Jose, the Stars get a team that beat them four out of six times during the regular season and stretched them to six games in the first round of last year's

playoffs. But should Dallas face San Jose in the second round, it would mean St. Louis, the top seed in the Western Conference, is out of the picture.

The Stars then would have the home-ice advantage for the rest of the Western Conference playoffs. They also would face a team that nearly blew a 3-1 advantage in the first round.

Colorado had similar success against Dallas, finishing the season 3-1-1 against the Stanley Cup champions, and battled the Stars to seven games in last year's Western Conference finals.

But a second-round series with the Avalanche would mean a much harder road for the Stars. Not only would Dallas have to face one of the hottest teams in

hockey, but the reward for winning that series would be a possible conference final without the home-ice advantage.

Colorado won six of its final 10 games during the regular season and defeated Phoenix in five games during the first round.

Neither opponent seemed to appease Stars coach Ken Hitchcock.

"That will be an interesting challenge to us early in the playoffs," Hitchcock said. "They are different teams, but both are awfully good."

The good news is that the Stars at least will be rested and may even be at full strength.

With the next round expected to start Friday, Dallas will have had a week off after ending a physical five-game series

with Edmonton. Wing Blake Sloan missed Game 5 against the Oilers with a fractured jaw, but was back in practice Monday with two plates in his mouth and is expected to be on the ice for Game 1.

Defenseman Sergei Zubov, who has not played since spraining the medial collateral ligament in his right knee March 29, also was back at practice and could be ready as early as the first game.

The only question remaining is wing Jere Lehtinen, who played just 17 regular-season games because of lingering problems with a fractured ankle.

He has been skating on his own this week and Hitchcock hoped he could return at some point in the second-round series.

SPORTS

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
ANAHIM ANGELS—Act Gary DiSarcina from the 1-abled list. Options INF Matt to Edmondson of the PCL.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—RHP Jason Rakers from Om PCL.

NEW YORK YANKEES—P Allen Watson on the 15-day list. Recalled LHP Ed Val Columbus of the International League.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—P John Jaha on the 15-day list. Options OF Jeremy G Sacramento of the PCL.
League. Recalled 3B Adam Terrence Long from Sacramento.

National League
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Ac Kory DeHaan from the 15-day list. Options INF OF John I Las Vegas of the PCL.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ATLANTA HAWKS—Ac resignation of Lenny Wilkens.
DENVER NUGGETS—Ac sale of the team to Stan Kroger approval of the league.

Football
National Football League
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Ac terms with CB Wasswa Sew two-year contract. Signed LB Jackson.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS—WR Andre Hastings.
NEW YORK JETS—Signed Bristol T Anthony Bowd. FS Pe WR Matt Farmer, WR Eric Gr RB Vaughn Sanders.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Michael Allen, WR Jerome D T James Brumbaugh, LI Dunlap, RB Jonas Lewis, I Merritt, LB Jake Michael, P T LB Al Rice, LB Brennan Sw, DL Antonio Williams.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—S Omar Evans, QB Kevin F Anthony Green, DB Warner F Maurice Kelly, LB Mac Morr Yapper Warren.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Jim Connolly director of team services, Kimbery Herber game operations and Michell administrative assistant for development.

COLORADO AVA Announced the sale of the team, pending approval of the league.

EDMONTON OILERS—A the retirement of G Bill Clark. MINNESOTA WILD—Name Lynn director of hockey adm and legal affairs.

ALL LEADERS

BATTING—Estrad, Anah Thomas, Chicago, .397; Seattle, .383; Javier, Seat Fullmer, Toronto, .377; Boston, .373; Lawton, h .370.

RUNS—Rodriguez, Sei Durham, Chicago, 19; Toronto, 19; CGuzman, Minn Konekko, Chicago, 18; Toronto, 18; CDeGado, Toron RBI—JaGambi, Oakla Borkick, Baltimore, 24;

Toronto, 23; Coomer, Minn Fullmer, Toronto, 21; Bell, New York, 21; EMartinez, Seattle, HITS—Estrad, Anahim, 3 Minnesota, 30; Thomas, Ch Akerman, Anaheim, 2; Name City, 27; Mondesi, Torc TBarista, Toronto, 26; I Texas, 26; Sunoff, Baltimore

DOUBLES—TBarista, Tc Claus, Anaheim, 8; Estrad, A Dye, Kansas City, 8; Toronto, 8; Welford, To MVaughn, Anaheim, 8; Oleru 8.

TRIPLES—Thurmer, Milr Polonia, Detroit, 3; Anahim, 2; CGuzman, Minn Koskie, Minnesota, 2; Chicago, 2; Martinez, New DMartinez, Tampa Bay, 2.

HOME RUNS—JoCruz, T TBarista, Toronto, 8; Dye, KJ 8; RAlamero, Texas, 8; A Kansas City, 7; JaGambi, O CDeGado, Toronto, 7.

STOLEN BASES—I Baltimore, 8; Akennedy, Ar Estrad, Anaheim, 6; Dano City, 6; Jeter, New York, 4 Minnesota, 5; Durham, C McLemore, Seattle, 4.

PITCHING (3 De Schoeneweis, Anaheim, 3; 3.76; O Hernandez, New 1.000, 3.13; Baldwin, Ch 1.000, 3.37; PMartinez, Bc 1.000, 1.27; Nelson, New 1.000, 2.70; Carrasco, Minn 750, 59; DWells, Toronto, 3.69.

STRIKEOUTS—CFinley, 35; PMartinez, Bostt O Hernandez, New York, 31 Toronto, 30; Clemens, New Nussana, Baltimore, 25; Kansas City, 24.

SAVES—M Rivera, New Perceval, Anaheim, 5; Sasaki 3; Koch, Toronto, 3; D Lowe, Innghausen, Oakland, 3; Minnesota, 3; TBJones, Detr

NL LEADERS
BATTING—VGuerro, 439; Owens, San Diego, 4 New York, 395; Reese, 382; Edmonds, St. Lou Piazza, New York, 379; Lous, 373.

RUNS—Martan, San I Bonds, San Francisco, 20; Lous, 19; Vidro, Mont Edmonds, St. Louis, 18 Arizona, 18; Helton, Colc Bagwell, Houston, 17.

RBI—Tatis, St. Louis, 25; Montreal, 25; Helton, Col Lowell, Florida, 19; Gallera, 19; Kent, San Francisco, 18 Connors, 18.

HITS—DeBell, New V Guerrero, Montreal, 29; Lous, 29; AlMartin, San I Owens, San Diego, 27; Chicago, 27; 5 are tied with

NBA
Continued from p
Toni Kukoc le with 20 points, S and Hill had 10.

Jazz 101, Super!
Karl Malone 1 fewer than half t in Game 1. Still, ed at home.

Game 3 is Satu which trailed by Tuesday and 27

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SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
ANAHM ANGELS—Activated SS Gary DiSarcina from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned INF Keith Johnson to Edmonton of the PCL.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Recalled RHP Jason Rakers from Omaha of the PCL.
NEW YORK YANKEES—Placed LHP Allen Watson on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled LHP Ed Yamall from Columbus of the International League.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Placed DH John Jaha on the 15-day disabled list. Optioned OF Jeremy Giambi to Sacramento of the Pacific Coast League. Recalled 3B Adolfo Huijard and OF Terrence Long from Sacramento.
National League
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Activated OF Kory DeHaan from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned INF John Roskos to Las Vegas of the PCL.

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

Table with columns: League, Division, Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes American League East, Central, West and National League East, Central, West divisions.

Table with columns: League, Division, Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes American League Monday's Games and Wednesday's Games.

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Lowell, other Marlins to miss tonight's game in Elian protest.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Lowell has not missed a game this season for the Florida Marlins. That's about to change because of a protest of the Elian Gonzalez case.

Lowell and several other Marlins plan to skip tonight's home game against San Francisco. They'll honor a call by local Cuban-Americans for a work stoppage about the way the 6-year-old Gonzalez was taken from his great-uncle's home on Saturday.

The Marlins organization gave its OK to front-office workers, players and coaches being absent with pay. The team will close its downtown merchandise store for the day.

Lowell, the starting third baseman, leads the club with 19 RBIs in 21 games. He is married to a Cuban woman and his parents are Cuban exiles.

"I think a lot of Americans and Latinos feel this way. You don't have to be Cuban to support this," Lowell, born in Puerto Rico, said Monday night.

Alex Fernandez, the winning pitcher Monday night in a 3-1 victory over Philadelphia, will miss the game. So will pitchers Vladimir Nunez and Michael Tejera, who's on the disabled list.

Third base coach Fredi Gonzalez, infield coach Tony Taylor and bullpen Luis Perez also plan to be absent, as does Cuban-American Hall of Famer Tony Perez, an assistant to general manager Dave Dombrowski.

"I agree with it 100 percent," Marlins manager John Boles said. "The skids were greased when I recommended them to do it. There are more important things in the world than our game with the San Francisco Giants. Not a lot, but this is one of them."

Fernandez (2) gave up seven hits in 7 2/3 innings, his longest outing of the season.

In the only other National League game, New York beat Los Angeles 1-0.

In American League games, Toronto edged Oakland 3-2, Anaheim downed Detroit 10-4, Cleveland blanked Seattle 6-0, Chicago beat Baltimore 8-2.

Texas defeated Boston 5-4 and Minnesota beat New York 5-3. Fernandez struck out three and walked two, but he was more concerned with a 6-year-old boy's welfare than baseball statistics.

"I can't defend, and am very against, what they did and what they're doing," Fernandez said of the U.S. government's role in the Gonzalez case. "It's great that the Marlins did this and they know what a big part of the Cuban community loves the Marlins and supports baseball."

"I wouldn't have pitched," he said. "I'm making it a point as a Cuban-American, and I'm proud to say that. You won't be seeing me here (tonight)."

Said Dombrowski: "Anyone who's passionate about the situation, we will respect their wishes."

"We have also alerted the Giants of the situation because they'll be flying into this. They also have Livan (Hernandez) and we wanted to make them aware."

Nunez will start Wednesday night against Hernandez, the hero of Florida's 1997 World Series win. Both pitchers were born in Cuba.

In March 1999, Marlins owner John Henry joined a protest outside Baltimore's spring training camp in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., after the Orioles announced their intention to play an exhibition game against a Cuban team in Havana.

"Everybody has to account for their own actions, and if they feel the need to do it," said Preston Wilson, who hit a two-run homer in the first inning against the Phillies. "A situation like this is a lot bigger than one baseball game."

That's how Perez sees it. "Something big like this, you might have to do it. The Cubans here have to support it," he said.

The Marlins have won seven of nine. The Phillies, who won the series opener before dropping the last three, wrapped up a 1-6 road trip.

Antonio Alfonseca pitched the ninth and got his eighth save.

Mets 1, Dodgers 0
Matt Franco's infield single in the bottom of the ninth inning gave the Mets their eighth straight victory.

Los Angeles made a one-game trip to New York to make up a

snowout earlier this month. Robin Ventura opened the ninth with a double off Terry Adams (1-1), and Jon Nunnally walked. Jay Payton hit a grounder in the hole to shortstop Kevin Elster, who made a backhand flip to third base.

But Adrian Beltre's foot was off the bag, and he missed the tag on pinch-runner Melvin Mora. Dodgers manager Davey Johnson argued the call and was ejected.

After a forfeit at the plate, Franco hit a chopper off Adams' glove that let Nunnally score without a play.

Blue Jays 3, Athletics 2
David Wells proved the Toronto Blue Jays can win with pitching, too.

"I'm more of a defensive fan," Wells said Monday night after a 3-2 win over Oakland. "I love low-scoring games with good defense because that's the side I'm on. Isn't that what they say? Good defense and pitching win ballgames."

Toronto's streak of scoring at least six runs was stopped at 11 games. It was the longest such string in the majors since the California Angels did it 11 in a row in 1979.

Wells (3-1) pitched 6 2/3 innings and gave up six hits. He struck out eight and walked none. The Blue Jays began the night with a 6.90 ERA, worst in the league.

The Athletics lost for the sixth time in seven home games.

Angels 10, Tigers 4
Scott Spiezio homered twice as Anaheim sent visiting Detroit to its eighth straight loss.

Tigers manager Phil Garner was ejected in the third inning for arguing with third base umpire Fieldin Culbreth. Hitting coach Bill Madlock and third base coach Doug Malsol were tossed in the sixth for arguing with plate umpire Bill Welke.

Mo Vaughn homered, doubled twice, and drove in four runs. Tim Salmon also homered for the Angels.

Indians 6, Mariners 0
Chuck Finley shut down Seattle on two singles for eight innings and struck out 10.

Cleveland improved its road record to 8-2.

ALL LEADERS

BATTING—Erasd, Anaheim, 451; Thomas, Chicago, 423; Olerud, Seattle, 383; Javier, Seattle, 378; Fullmer, Toronto, 377; Ceverett, Boston, 373; Lawton, Minnesota, 370.

RUNS—Rodriguez, Seattle, 20; Durham, Chicago, 19; Mondesi, Toronto, 19; Guzman, Minnesota, 18; Konecny, Chicago, 18; Tbatista, Toronto, 18; Cdelegado, Toronto, 18.

RBIs—Jagambi, Oakland, 24; Bordick, Baltimore, 23; Tbatista, Toronto, 23; Coomer, Minnesota, 22; Fullmer, Toronto, 21; BerWilliams, New York, 21; ElMartinez, Seattle, 21.

HITS—Erasd, Anaheim, 37; Lawton, Minnesota, 30; Thomas, Chicago, 29; Akennedy, Anaheim, 27; Dye, Kansas City, 27; Mondesi, Toronto, 27; Tbatista, Toronto, 26; Rodriguez, Texas, 26; Surhoff, Baltimore, 26.

DOUBLES—Tbatista, Toronto, 9; Glas, Anaheim, 8; Erasd, Anaheim, 8; Dye, Kansas City, 8; Cdelegado, Toronto, 8; Madlock, Toronto, 8; MVaughn, Anaheim, 8; Olerud, Seattle, 8.

TRIPLES—Thunter, Minnesota, 3; Folsom, Detroit, 3; Akennedy, Anaheim, 2; Guzman, Minnesota, 2; Koshie, Minnesota, 2; Durham, Chicago, 2; Tmartinez, New York, 2; DMartinez, Tampa Bay, 2.

HOME RUNS—Tbatista, Toronto, 8; JBatista, Toronto, 8; Dye, Kansas City, 8; RPalmeo, Texas, 8; MJSweeney, Kansas City, 7; Jagambi, Oakland, 7; Cdelegado, Toronto, 7.

STOLEN BASES—DeShields, Baltimore, 8; Akennedy, Anaheim, 6; Erasd, Anaheim, 6; Damon, Kansas City, 6; Jeter, New York, 6; Lawton, Minnesota, 5; Durham, Chicago, 4; McLemore, Seattle, 4.

PITCHING (12 Decisions)—Schoeneweis, Anaheim, 30, 1.000; J76, Olerud, New York, 40, 1.000; J33, Balfanz, Chicago, 30, 1.000; J37, Pmartinez, Boston, 30, 1.000; J27, Nelson, New York, 30, 1.000; J20, Carrasco, Minnesota, 31, 750; 59, Dweils, Toronto, 31, 750; 369.

STRIKEOUTS—Cfayles, Cleveland, 35; Pmartinez, Boston, 32; Olerud, New York, 30; Dweils, Toronto, 30; Clemens, New York, 28; Mussina, Baltimore, 25; Suppan, Kansas City, 24.

SAVES—Mlvera, New York, 6; Percival, Anaheim, 5; Sasaki, Seattle, 3; Koch, Toronto, 3; Dowe, Boston, 3; Venghausen, Oakland, 3; Bweils, Minnesota, 3; TBjones, Detroit, 3.

NL LEADERS

BATTING—Vguerrero, Montreal, 439; Owens, San Diego, 403; DeBell, New York, 395; Reese, Cincinnati, 382; Edmonds, St. Louis, 379; Piazza, New York, 379; Tatis, St. Louis, 373.

RUNS—AMartin, San Diego, 20; Bonds, San Francisco, 20; Vma, St. Louis, 19; Vidro, Montreal, 18; Edmonds, St. Louis, 18; Sfinley, Arizona, 18; Helton, Colorado, 17; Bagwell, Houston, 17.

NBA PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-5)
Saturday, April 22
Miami 95, Detroit 85. Miami leads series 1-0.
Phoenix 72, San Antonio 70. Phoenix leads series 1-0.
Philadelphia 92, Charlotte 82. Philadelphia leads series 1-0.
Sunday, April 23
New York 92, Toronto 88. New York leads series 1-0.
Portland 91, Minnesota 88. Portland leads series 1-0.
L.A. Lakers 117, Sacramento 107. L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0.
Indiana 88, Milwaukee 85. Indiana leads series 1-0.
Monday, April 24
Charlotte 108, Philadelphia 98. OT. series tied 1-1.
Utah 101, Seattle 87. Utah leads series 2-0.
Tuesday, April 25
Detroit at Miami, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 26
Toronto at New York, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Portland, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 27
Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

NHL PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7)
Wednesday, April 12
Dallas 2, Edmonton 1
Toronto 2, Toronto 1
St. Louis 5, San Jose 3
Thursday, April 13
Philadelphia 3, Buffalo 2
Pittsburgh 7, Washington 0
New Jersey 4, Florida 3
Dallas 2, Los Angeles 0
Colorado 6, Phoenix 3
Friday, April 14
Philadelphia 2, Buffalo 1
Saturday, April 15
Pittsburgh 2, Washington 1, OT
San Jose 4, St. Louis 2
Colorado 3, Phoenix 1
Detroit 8, Los Angeles 5
Toronto 5, Ottawa 1
Sunday, April 16
Edmonton 5, Dallas 2
Philadelphia 2, Buffalo 0
New Jersey 2, Florida 1
Monday, April 17
Pittsburgh 4, Washington 3
Ottawa 4, Toronto 3
Detroit 2, Los Angeles 1
Colorado 4, Phoenix 2
San Jose 2, St. Louis 1
Tuesday, April 18
Buffalo 3, Philadelphia 2, OT
New Jersey 2, Florida 1

TEXAS LEAGUE

Monday's Games
No games scheduled
Today's Games
Kingsport at Midland
Round Rock at Tulsa
San Antonio at Wichita
Shreveport at El Paso
Wednesday's Games
Arkansas at Midland
Round Rock at Tulsa
Shreveport at El Paso
Friday, April 28
San Antonio at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 11:30 a.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 2 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 4:30 p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 30
New York at Toronto, 11:30 a.m.
Portland at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
LA Lakers at Sacramento, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 1
Charlotte at Philadelphia, TBA, if necessary
Indiana at Milwaukee, TBA, if necessary
LA Lakers at Sacramento, TBA, if necessary
New York at Toronto, TBA, if necessary
Portland at Minnesota, TBA, if necessary
San Antonio at Phoenix, TBA, if necessary
Wednesday, May 3
Miami at Detroit, TBA, if necessary
Utah at Seattle, TBA, if necessary
Thursday, May 4
Milwaukee at Indiana, TBA, if necessary
Minnesota at Bushport, TBA, if necessary
Philadelphia at Charlotte, TBA, if necessary
Detroit at Miami, TBA, if necessary
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, TBA, if necessary
Seattle at Utah, TBA, if necessary
Toronto at New York, TBA, if necessary

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

The top 25 teams in the Collegiate Baseball poll with records through April 23:

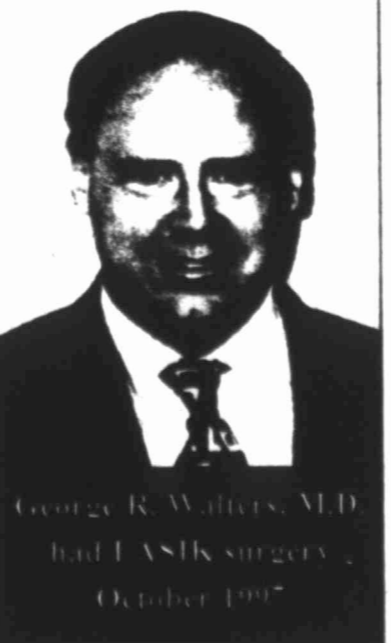
Table with columns: Rank, Team, Record. Includes South Carolina, Florida State, Arizona State, Stanford, Georgia Tech, Baylor, Clemson, Auburn, Louisiana State, Houston, Georgia, Auburn, Mississippi State, Wake Forest, Long Beach State, Cal State Fullerton, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Long Beach State, Fresno State, Fresno State, Fresno State, Fresno State.

BASEBALL AMERICA

The top 25 teams in the Baseball America poll with records through April 23 (not including tie games):

Table with columns: Rank, Team, Record. Includes South Carolina, Florida State, Arizona State, Stanford, Georgia Tech, Baylor, Clemson, Auburn, Louisiana State, Houston, Georgia, Auburn, Mississippi State, Wake Forest, Long Beach State, Cal State Fullerton, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Long Beach State, Fresno State, Fresno State, Fresno State, Fresno State.

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October 1997

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Transportation & lodging paid for out going GUYS & GALS. West/East coast travel, no exp. necessary. Paid training. Above average income. Casual atmosphere. Must be 18 & able to START NOW! Mrs. Faith 888-285-2544

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Northcrest Apts. 1002 N. Main needing a dependable assistant maintenance person. Please apply at Northcrest office. Criminal background checks are done.
Now hiring all positions. Apply in person. 8-10am. Furr's Catalena 2503 Gregg

HELP WANTED

San Angelo Standard times is in need of an early morning Big Spring carrier. Please call 800-588-1884 ext. 296 for more info.

Secretary/Office Manager FT for a fast paced, multi-faceted, Hospital based free standing Home Health agency. Home Health agency experience desirable but not required. Will report to the Director of the Home Health Agency. Will handle correspondence, report tracking, report generators, time tracking of staff visits, prepare track and file visit reports, patient billing and collection tracking. Must possess the ability to deal effectively with staff referring physicians and patients both in person at the telephone. Heavy computer use. Working knowledge of Windows 95 word processing and data entry required. Training in the specific database used will be provided. Ability to accomplish task with a minimum of supervision a highly sought trait. For the right experienced secretary/office manager, regardless of which industries you now or have worked in, this is an opportunity to broaden your skill base. Attractive salary. Resumes only. Sylvia Jones, Scenic Mountain Medical Center 1601 West Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or FAX resume to (915) 263-0151 ATTN: Sylvia Jones, EOE

Security Person. Clean record, trustworthy, good health. References needed. Full or part time. Call 263-2456 for appl.

The City of Big Spring will be accepting applications for the position of Fire Chief through May 5, 2000. Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in fire science, public administration or a closely related field. At least seven (7) years of experience in fire service. Three (3) of which must have been equivalent to Fire Lieutenant or higher. Must hold at least an intermediate certification or an equivalent or an equivalent combination of education and experience. For more detailed qualifications and further information contact City Hall Personnel at (915) 264-2346. Fax or send resume to Personnel, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 (Fax # 915-263-8310) The City of Big Spring is an equal opportunity employer.

Town & Country Food Store, Full & Part time positions open in Coahoma & Big Spring. All shifts. Apply at 1101 Lamesa Hwy, Big Spring or 101 E. Broadway, Coahoma. EOE., Drug test required.

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263-1138

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2 Door refrigerator, 5 lb. ice machine, 1 merchandise freezer. Call 915-728-2746
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Two Steel Building Engineered Certified 40x100 was \$16,880 now \$7,990. 40x40 was \$8,330 now \$3,990. Must sell, call deliver 1-800-292-0111

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All applicants must have the following: A reliable car, liability insurance, a good contact telephone number, and a current Texas Drivers License.
Contact: Big Spring Herald Circulation Department Scurry (915) 263-7331 (Call Please)

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Loans from \$50-\$450
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Phone Apps. Welcome
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Loans \$100-\$430. Open
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2 Door refrigerator, 500
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merchandise freezer. Call
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**Moving: 22 cu.ft. frost
free refrigerator, 9 yrs old.**
Cost \$975 - Sell \$290.
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Two Steel Buildings
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40x100 was \$16,880 now
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DOGS, PETS, ETC.
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Weeks Old, 1 Male, 3
Females. Call After
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**FOUND / LOST
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REWARD! Male blue
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In Bedroom, living room
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Many amenities.
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Swimming pool,
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Owens No Pets!! Call
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\$200/dep. After 4pm call
264-0793 or 661-6721

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\$150/dep. ALSO 2 bdr
with same appliances
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16'x80' 2 w/ 2 b. 2 bth.
fireplace, set up w/carpot
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8:00 AM THE DAY THE
CHANGE IS TO OCCUR.
OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE
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PUBLIC NOTICE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HOWARD
By virtue of a Writ of Execution
issued out of the Justice Court,
Howard County, Texas, on a judgment
rendered in said Court on
September 6, 1991, in favor of
RANDY P. RANDALL and LOIS
RANDALL, and against LONNIE
D. PITTS, in the case of LONNIE
D. PITTS, in the case of BILL POL-
LARD vs LONNIE OR PHYLLIS
PITTS, No. 870 in said Court, and
by virtue of a separate and distinct
Writ of Execution issued out of the
County Court at Law of Tom Green
County, Texas, on a judgment
rendered in said Court on April 21,
1992, in favor of NATHAN S. JEW-
ELLERS, JR. and against LONNIE D.
PITTS, in the case of NATHAN S.
JEWELLERS, JR. vs LONNIE D.
PITTS, No. 14049-1 in said Court,
The undersigned did on the 07
day of April, 2000, at 3:48 o'clock
p.m., levy upon the following
described real estate lying and
being situated in Howard County,
Texas, in the property of said
LONNIE D. PITTS:
Three (3) acres out of Section 43,
Block 31, T-1-N, as more com-
pletely described in a Warranty
Deed Book in Volume 700, Page
363 of the Deed Records of
Howard County, Texas.
All 406.5 acres in Section 31 and
all 251.5 acres in Section 38, all in
Block 31, T-1-N, T&P Ry. Co.
Survey as more completely
described in a memorandum filed
of record at Volume 671, Page 589,
in the Deed Record at Howard
County, Texas.
160 acres in the NW/4 Sec 11, N
Block 31, T-1-N, T&P Ry. Co.
Survey, as described in an in-
strument recorded in the Deed
Records of Howard County, Texas
at Volume 680, Page 702.
You are further notified that on the
2nd day of May, 2000, being the
first Tuesday of said month, 2000,
at 10:00 a.m. on said day, at the
courthouse door of said county,
all the right, title and interest of
said LONNIE D. PITTS in and to the
above described property will
be offered for sale and sold at pub-
lic auction, for cash.
2713 April 11, 18, 25, 2000

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY for
Wednesday, April 26:**
You often act in inspired
ways. Listen, and share ideas.
Your goals and personal needs
could easily be at cross-purpos-
es with your professional life.
Juggling them will take talent
and inner confidence. Your
career undergoes some
unprecedented changes. A wish
could easily become a reality,
but in an odd way. If you are
single, you could meet someone
at work who lights your fire.
Be careful about mixing busi-
ness and pleasure, though. Be
as discreet as possible. If
attached, work demands atten-
tion. Let a partner know more
about and share more of your
professional life. AQUARIUS
could be vague, yet full of
ideas.

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)
*** Neither you nor anyone
else can see the forest for the
trees. Laugh and stay calm.
You will be far more pleased
with the results. A friend goes
out of his way for you. Attend
an important meeting; good
news follows. Tonight: Be care-
ful with spending.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** You might not be sure
what works best for you. Bos-
ses confuse you, but certainly
not intentionally. Others
have a difficult time as well.
Brainstorm; write down "to-
dos." You could easily forget
your ideas. Tonight: Escape
work as quickly as possible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** Plans change radically,
but don't let that concern you.
They could change yet again!
Write down messages; take
notes more frequently.
Brainstorm and share ideas
with others. Process a strong
reaction. Tonight: Get into a
favorite fun game.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** Another means well, but
he ultimately muddles things
even more. You know what is
important to you. Don't let
yourself be thrown off. Stay
centered on your goals. Use
extreme caution with finances
- you could pay dearly for an
error. Tonight: Where others
are

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
*** Others confuse situations
more than usual. Trying to
achieve clarity could be frus-
trating. Deal with authority fig-
ures. Worry less about coming
to conclusions or making deci-
sions. A laissez-faire attitude
works best. Tonight: Defer to
another.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** Your nerves could be fried.
Schedule a day off soon to re-
cycle. Understand where another
is coming from. Take a step
back. Connecting with another
at a distance becomes a major
task. Laugh rather than fret.

HOROSCOPE
Tonight: Work through stress
at the gym.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
*** Taking risks can cause an
unforeseen problem. A partner
or associate plays devil's advo-
cate. You don't see a situation
clearly. Take your time; don't
feel pressured to make a deci-
sion. Write down ideas. Make a
to-do list. Tonight: Join a friend
for a midweek break.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
** Tension builds. Others
don't make it easy for you.
Your sense of humor comes out
with a family member. Don't
get too enmeshed in a problem.
Others try to help, but they are
unsuccessful. Let bygones be
bygones. Tonight: Cocoon at
home.
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.
21)**
*** What you think you say
and what another hears are
totally different. No one person
is the problem. Chaos reigns,
especially at work and in daily
matters. Getting your work
completed takes talent and
endurance. Tonight: Join
friends for munchies.
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.
19)**
** Be especially cautious with
financial matters. Another
might think he is giving you
sound information, but some-
how a fact or two might not be
correct. Avoid risks right now,
even for a loved one. Stay solid
and anchored. Tonight: Spend
little.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
*** You see events, conversa-
tions and people differently
than others see them. Thinking
is hazy, and some of this hazi-
ness is projected onto you. Stay
secure in a personal matter,
even though all signs don't look
positive presently. Tonight:
Whatever makes you happy.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
** You might be hearing all
the words, but you might be
interpreting them differently
than they were intended.
Understand exactly what another
means or wants by reiterat-
ing his statements. Your
instincts and feelings could be
right on, but don't act on them
yet. Tonight: Curl up with a
good book.
BORN TODAY
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TV journalist Boyd Matson
(1947), musician Gary Wright
(1943)
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linebigar.com.
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**Becoming wiser with age is
sometimes a matter of degree**
DEAR ABBY: This May, my
grandmother, Elizabeth
Eichelbaum, will receive her
Ph.D. in art therapy from the
University of Tennessee. At
graduation, she will be 90 years
old! Abby, she received her
bachelor's degree at age 69 and
her master's at age 81. She has
been attending classes the last
two years in spite of macular
degeneration (she is severely
blind).
Grandmother was separa-
ted from her mother when
she was a small child in
Russia. She lived in the
czar's palace during the
Russian Revolution, but eventu-
ally came to America.
Some time after coming to this co. ntry,
she was reunited with her
mother.
Our entire family is extreme-
ly proud of her accomplish-
ment, and she is an inspiration
to all who know her. If you
print this letter, it may inspire
others to continue their educa-
tion no matter what stumbling
blocks may be in the way. -
DENNIS J. EICHELBAUM,
PLANO, TEXAS
DEAR DENNIS: Your grand-
mother is an amazing woman,
and I admire her determina-
tion. My heartfelt congratula-
tions to her for her inspiring
accomplishment. Readers,
Elizabeth has proved it can be
done, so what's stopping you?
Go back to school if that is
your dream.
Abby shares her favorite
recipes in two booklets:
"Abby's Favorite Recipes" and
"Abby's More Favorite
Recipes." To order, send a busi-
ness-size, self-addressed enve-
lope, plus check or money
order for \$3.95 per booklet
(\$4.50 each in Canada); to Dear
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61054-0447. (Postage is included
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about sex, drugs, AIDS, and
getting along with peers and
parents is in "What Every Teen
Should Know." To order, send a
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to Dear Abby, Teen Booklet,
P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL,
61054-0447. (Postage is included
in price.)
Good advice for everyone -
teens to seniors - is in "The
Anger in All of Us and How to
Deal With It." To order, send a
business-size, self-addressed
envelope, plus check or money
order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada);
to Dear Abby, Anger Booklet,
P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL,
61054-0447. (Postage is included
in price.)
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ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

TAKE TIME OUT
FOR YOURSELF READ
THE
BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

APR. 25

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 7 rows of program listings with times and descriptions.

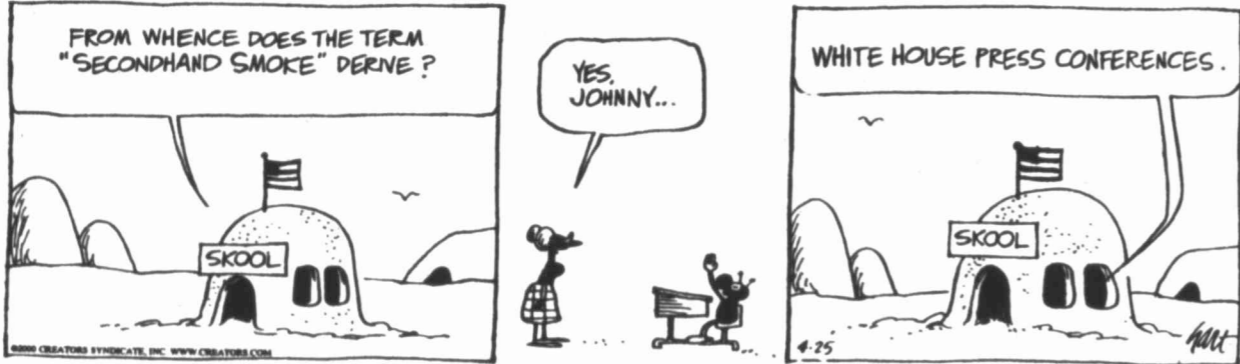
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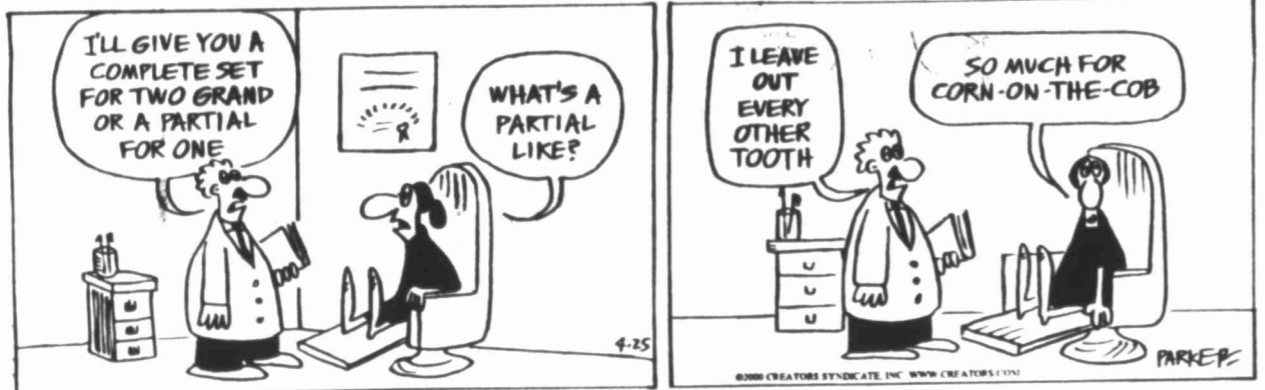
GEECH



"Y'mean my whole life I've been sayin' 'AMINAL' wrong?"

"How come you're so late? Our computer said we had mail a long time ago."

WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today's Highlight in History: On April 25, 1945, delegates from some 50 countries met in San Francisco to organize the United Nations. On this date: In 1792, highwayman Nicolas Jacques Pelletier became the first person under French law

to be executed by the guillotine. In 1859, ground was broken for the Suez Canal. In 1874, radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi was born in Bologna, Italy. In 1898, the United States formally declared war on Spain. In 1901, New York became the first state to require automobile license plates; the fee was one dollar.

THE Daily Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

HI AND LOIS



Monday's Puzzle Solved grid with words like TREE, TAPS, EQUIP, HART, OBOE, LUNGE, ASIA, RULE, LETON, THELASTEMPEROR, LOS, ANY, AUDIO, LOGS, LAB, STENO, LIMA, REDO, THEAFRICANQUEEN, REDS, EMIR, UNCLE, ORS, AINT, MESHES, ETC, DIE, ALLTHEKINGSMEN, MIAMI, PING, TIDE, ADDER, ELAL, ANEW, CADRE, ETRE, BENT.

GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



- ACROSS: 1 Unruly kid, 5 Pond coating, 9 Doorstop, 14 Five-star review, 15 Ballet skirt, 16 Loop of land, 17 Type of rug or code, 18 Spoken, 19 Group of fish, 20 Karl Marx's pets?, 23 Omega's cousin, 24 Cave-dwelling fish, 25 Ruffles on shirts, 29 Does something, 31 Aussie bird, 34 Sun-dried brick, 35 Flesh mark, 36 Moran of "Happy Days", 37 Pancho Villa's pet?, 40 On the sheltered side, 41 Property claim, 42 Opening letters, 43 "Viva Vegas", 44 Swiss peaks, 45 Fixed part of a dynamo, 46 "Much About Nothing", 47 Grammatical starter?, 48 St. Patrick's pets?, 57 Significance, 58 Landscape dip, 59 Hoodwink, 60 Afterwards, 61 Actor Sharif, 62 Progress like The Blob, 63 Overact, 64 Cost per unit, 65 Slant, 5 Gems and gravel, 6 Anathematize, 7 Flaming Gorge state, 8 Open slipper, 9 Does dishes, 10 Singer Merman, 11 Portal, 12 Pleased, 13 Building add-ons, 21 Earlier Central American, 22 Lab dish, 25 Malcolm Warner, 26 Ms. Rogers St. Johns, 27 Cartons, 28 Theater award, 29 Sore points, 30 "Thief" star, 31 Upright, 32 Perform incorrectly, 33 Al or Bobby of auto racing, 35 Cut, 36 Italian island, 38 Sanction, 39 Relation in degree, 44 Hold together, 45 Domain, 46 Advantage, 47 D sharp, 48 Small landmass, 49 Paper quantity, 50 Keen on, 51 Smell, 52 Himalayan mystic, 53 E.T. vehicles, 54 Breakfast area, 55 Rest fitfully, 56 Offed.

BIG SPRING HERALD advertisement with contact information: 915-263-7331, 915-263-7335, 915-264-7205. Includes publisher, managing editor, and circulation manager details.

In 1915, during World War I, Allied soldiers invaded the Gallipoli Peninsula in an unsuccessful attempt to take the Ottoman Turkish Empire out of the war. In 1945, during World War II, U.S. and Soviet forces linked up on the Elbe River, a meeting that dramatized the collapse of Nazi Germany's defenses. In 1959, the St. Lawrence Seaway opened to shipping. In 1983, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov invited Samantha Smith to visit his country after receiving a letter in which the Manchester, Maine, schoolgirl expressed fears about nuclear war. In 1983, the Pioneer 10 spacecraft crossed Pluto's orbit, speeding on its endless voyage through the Milky Way. Ten years ago: Violeta Barrios de Chamorro was inaugurated as president of Nicaragua, ending 11 years of leftist Sandinista rule. The Hubble Space Telescope was deployed from the space shuttle "Discovery". Five years ago: Show business legend Ginger Rogers died in Rancho Mirage, Calif., at age 83. One year ago: On the third and final day of their Washington summit, NATO leaders promised military protection and economic aid to Yugoslavia's neighbors for standing with the West against Slobodan Milosevic. More than 70,000 mourners gathered in Littleton, Colo., to remember the victims of the Columbine High School massacre. Lord Killanin, former president of the International Olympic Committee, died in Dublin, Ireland, at age 84.

Today's Birthdays: Country musician Vassar Clements is 72. Movie director-writer Paul Mazursky is 70. Former Harlem Globetrotter Meadowlark Lemon is 68. Songwriter Jerry Leiber is 67. Actor Al Pacino is 60. Rock musician Stu Cook (Creedence Clearwater Revival) is 55. Singer Bjorn Ulvaeus (ABBA) is 55. Actress Talia Shire is 54. Actor Jeffrey DeMunn is 53. Rock musician Michael Brown (The Left Banke) is 51. Country singer-songwriter Rob Crosby is 46. Actor Hank Azaria is 38.